MA557 Problem Set 1

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Problem 1.1

Show that $\mathrm{rad}(R[x]) = \mathrm{nil}(R[x])$.

Proof. ■

Problem 1.2

Let I and J be R-ideals. Show that

$$\sqrt{IJ} = \sqrt{I \cap J} = \sqrt{I} \cap \sqrt{J}.$$

Proof. ■

Problem 1.3

Let S be a subset of a ring R. Show that the following are equivalent:

(i) $R \setminus S$ is a union of prime ideals.
(ii) $1 \in S$, and for any elements x, y of R, $x \in S$ and $y \in S$ if and only if $xy \in S$.

Proof. ∎

Problem 1.4

Show that the set of all zero divisors in a ring is a union of prime ideals.

Proof. ■

Problem 1.5

Let $\varphi\colon R \to S$ be a surjective homomorphism of rings.

(a) Show that $\varphi(\mathrm{rad}(R)) \subset \mathrm{rad}(S)$, but that equality does not hold in general.
(b) Show that $\varphi(\mathrm{rad}(R)) = \mathrm{rad}(S)$ if R is semilocal.

Proof. ■

Problem 1.6

An element $e \in R$is called *idempotent* if $e^2 = e$. Show that in a local ring, 0 and 1 are the only idempotents.

Proof. ∎

Problem 1.7

Let I be an R-ideal. Show that I is finitely generated and $I^2 = I$ if and only if $I = Re$ with e idempotent.

Proof. ■