

# MATH 601 (DUE 10/9)

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## 1. RINGS OF FRACTIONS

**Exercise.** (Problem 3) Let  $T \subset R$  be the subset consisting of all non zero divisors.

- Show that  $T$  is a multiplicative set.
- Let  $s \in T$  and let  $S = \{1, s, s^2, s^3, \dots\} \subset T$ . Show that the following rings are isomorphic:  $S^{-1}R$ , the subring  $R[1/s] \subset T^{-1}R$ , and the quotient ring  $R[x]/(sx - 1)$ .

*Proof.*

- – Let  $a, b \in T$ . Let  $c \in R$  be given. If  $(ab)c = 0$ , then  $a(bc) = 0$ . Since  $a$  is a non zero divisor,  $bc = 0$ . Since  $b$  is a non zero divisor,  $c = 0$ . Since  $R$  is a commutative ring throughout this handout, there is no need to check the case that  $c(ab) = 0$ . Thus  $ab$  is a non zero divisor, so  $T$  is closed under multiplication.  
–  $1 \in T$  since  $\forall c \in R, c \cdot 1 = 0 \implies c = 0$ .

Therefore,  $T$  is indeed a multiplicative set.

I have some idea, but I don't know how to solve this. There are a few mapping properties that we've covered:

- – The universal mapping property of the quotient. (Proposition 6 on Commutative Rings) Given  $\pi : R \rightarrow R/I$  and  $f : R \rightarrow S$  with some nice properties, there exists  $\bar{f} : R/I \rightarrow S$  such that  $\bar{f} \circ \pi = f$ .  
– The mapping property of polynomials. (Proposition 1 on Commutative Rings) Given  $\phi_0 : R \rightarrow S$  and  $s \in S$ , there exists  $\phi : R[x] \rightarrow S$ .  
– The universal property of rings of fractions. (Proposition (iv) of the Ring of Fractions.) Given  $i : R \rightarrow S^{-1}R$  and  $h : R \rightarrow T$  with some nice properties, there exists  $\lambda : S^{-1}R \rightarrow T$  such that  $h = \lambda \circ i$ .

Let  $\pi$  be the canonical map from  $R[x]$  into  $R[x]/(sx - 1)$ . Let  $f : R[x] \rightarrow S^{-1}R$  be the homomorphism associated to the inclusion map  $R \rightarrow S^{-1}R$  and the element  $1/s \in S^{-1}R$ . By the mapping property of polynomials, the existence of  $f$  is guaranteed.

By the universal property of the quotient, universal mapping property of the ring of fractions, there exist homomorphisms  $\bar{f}, \bar{\pi}$ , respectively, such that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 R[x] & \xrightarrow{\pi} & R[x]/(sx-1) \\
 & \searrow f & \uparrow \bar{\pi} \downarrow \bar{f} \\
 & & S^{-1}R
 \end{array}$$

Since  $\pi$  and  $f$  are both surjective,  $\bar{f}$  and  $\bar{\pi}$  must be surjective in order for the diagram to commute. Then  $\bar{f} \circ \bar{\pi} \circ f = \bar{f} \circ \pi = f$ . Since  $f$  is surjective, this implies that  $\bar{f} \circ \bar{\pi} = \text{Id}_{S^{-1}R}$ . Similarly,  $\bar{\pi} \circ \bar{f} = \text{Id}_{R[x]/(sx-1)}$ . Therefore,  $\bar{\pi}$  and  $\bar{f}$  are the inverse homomorphism of each other, so they are isomorphisms.

What about  $R[1/s]$ ?

□

## 2. MODULES

**Exercise.** (Problem 1) For each of the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules listed in the handout, answer the questions in the handout.

*Proof.*

- (a)  $M = \mathbb{Z}^3 \times \mathbb{Z}/86\mathbb{Z}$ .

Solve this problem!

- (b)  $M = \prod_{n \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ .

Solve this problem!

- (c)  $M = \mathbb{Z}[1/p] \subset \mathbb{Q}$ .

Solve this problem!

- (d)  $M = \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$ .

Solve this problem!

□

## 3. THE QUADRATIC EQUATION

**Exercise.** (Problem 20) Construct ring isomorphisms  $\mathbb{Z}[x]/(x^2-2) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]$  and  $\mathbb{Z}/(p)[x]/(x^2-2) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]/(p)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $i : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]$  be the inclusion and  $s = \sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]$ . By the mapping property of polynomials, there exists a ring homomorphism  $\phi : \mathbb{Z}[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]$  such that  $\phi(\sum_{i=0}^n r_i x^i) = \sum_{i=0}^n i(r_i) s^i$ . In other words,  $\phi$  maps  $f(x)$  into  $f(\sqrt{2})$ . We claim that  $\ker(\phi) = (x^2 - 2)$ .

- Since  $\sqrt{2}^2 - 2 = 2 - 2 = 0$ ,  $x^2 - 2 \in \ker(\phi)$ . Moreover,  $(x^2 - 2) \subset \ker(\phi)$ .
- Let  $f(x) \in \ker(\phi)$ . Since  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  is a Euclidean domain,  $f(x) = q(x)(x^2 - 2) + ax + b$  for some  $q(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x], a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Since  $ax + b = f(x) - q(x)(x^2 - 2)$ ,  $a\sqrt{2} + b = 0$ . Since  $a, b$  are integers,  $a = b = 0$ . This implies  $f(x) \in (x^2 - 2)$ .

Therefore,  $\ker(\phi) = (x^2 - 2)$ . By the first isomorphism theorem,  $\tilde{\phi} : \mathbb{Z}[x]/(x^2 - 2) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]$  induced by  $\phi$  is an isomorphism.

We will solve the second part using the same approach. We will first assume that  $p$  is an odd prime because Problem 20 does not specify what  $p$  is, but the previous and next problem says  $p$  is an odd prime. Consider the inclusion  $\mathbb{Z}/(p) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]/(p)$  and the element  $\sqrt{2} + (p) \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]/(p)$ . Let  $\Phi : \mathbb{Z}/(p)[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]/(p)$  be a ring homomorphism associated to the inclusion and element. In other words,  $\Phi(f(x)) = f(\sqrt{2})$ . We claim that  $\ker(\Phi) = (x^2 - 2)$ .

- Since  $\sqrt{2}^2 - 2 = 0$ ,  $(x^2 - 2) \in \ker(\Phi)$ .
- Let  $f(x) \in \ker(\Phi) \subset \mathbb{Z}/(p)[x]$ . Since  $p$  is a prime,  $\mathbb{Z}/(p)$  is a field. Thus  $\mathbb{Z}/(p)[x]$  is a Euclidean domain. Choose  $q(x) \in \mathbb{Z}/(p)[x]$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}/(p)$  such that  $f(x) = (x^2 - 2)q(x) + (ax + b)$ . Then  $a\sqrt{2} + b = f(\sqrt{2}) - (\sqrt{2}^2 - 2)q(\sqrt{2}) = 0$ . If  $a \neq 0$ ,  $\sqrt{2} = b/a \in \mathbb{Z}/(p)$ .

Actually, this doesn't seem to work because  $\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Z}/(p)$  for some  $p$ . For instance, when  $p = 7$ ,  $x^2 - 2 = (x+3)(x-3)$ . Thus  $x-3 + (x^2-2) \mapsto \sqrt{2}-3 + (x^2-2) = 0 + (x^2-2) = 0$  since  $3^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$ . This implies that the kernel contains  $(x-3)$  which is strictly larger than  $(x^2 - 2)$ . Umm... How can I make this work?

□

**Exercise.** (Problem 21)

**Exercise.** (Problem 22)

#### 4. FACTORIZATION IN INTEGRAL DOMAINS

**Exercise.** (Problem 5)

- Let  $k$  be a field and let  $a \in k$ . Construct a  $k$ -algebra isomorphism,  $k[x, y]/(x - a) \rightarrow k[y]$ . Justify your answer.
- Let  $f(x, y) \in k[x, y]$ . What is the image of  $f(x, y)$  under the above isomorphism?

*Proof.*

- Let  $\phi$  be defined such that  $\phi(f(x, y) + (x - a)) = f(a, y)$ .
  - Well-defined? Let  $f(x, y) + (x - a) = g(x, y) + (x - a)$ . Then  $g(x, y) = f(x, y) + h(x, y)(x - a)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \phi(g(x, y) + (x - a)) &= \phi((f(x, y) + h(x, y)(x - a)) + (x - a)) \\
 &= f(a, y) + h(a, y)(a - a) \\
 &= f(a, y) \\
 &= \phi(f(x, y)).
 \end{aligned}$$

–  $k$ -algebra homomorphism? Let  $c \in k, f, g \in k[x, y]$  be given.

$$\phi(cf + (x - a)) = \phi(cf + (x - a))$$

$$= cf(a, y)$$

$$= c\phi(f + (x - a)).$$

$$\phi((f + g) + (x - a)) = (f + g)(a, y)$$

$$= f(a, y) + g(a, y)$$

$$= \phi(f + (x - a)) + \phi(g + (x - a)).$$

$$\phi((fg) + (x - a)) = (fg)(a, y)$$

$$= f(a, y)g(a, y)$$

$$= \phi(f + (x - a))\phi(g + (x - a)).$$

- $\phi(f(x, y) + (x - a)) = f(a, y).$

□

**Exercise.** (Problem 6)

- Give an example of a field  $k$ , an element  $a \in k$  and a reducible polynomial  $f(x, y) \in k[x, y]$  of degree  $n$  in  $y$  such that  $f(a, y) \in k[y]$  is irreducible and has degree  $n$ .
- Suppose given a polynomial  $f \in k[x, y]$  which when viewed as an element of  $k(x)[y]$  has degree  $n$  (in  $y$ ) and content 1. Suppose there is some  $a \in k$  such that  $f(a, y) \in k[y]$  is irreducible and has degree  $n$ . Show that  $f(x, y) \in k[x, y]$  is irreducible.
- Give an example of a field  $k$ , an element,  $a \in k$ , and a reducible polynomial  $f(x, y) \in k[x, y]$ , which when viewed as an element of  $k(x)[y]$  has degree  $n$  and content 1 such that  $f(a, y) \in k[y]$  is irreducible.

*Proof.*

- Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}, a = 1, f(x, y) = xy$ . Then the degree of  $f(x, y)$  in  $y$  is 1.  $f(x, y) = xy \in k[x, y]$  is reducible since  $x$  and  $y$  are not units in  $k[x, y]$ . However,  $f(a, y) = 1y = y$  is irreducible in  $k[y]$ .
- Choose  $f_1, \dots, f_n \in k[x]$  such that  $f(x, y) = f_n(x)y^n + \dots + f_1(x)y^1 + f_0(x)$ . Then  $f(a, y) = f_n(a)y^n + \dots + f_1(a)y^1 + f_0(a)$ . Let  $h_1(x, y), h_2(x, y) \in k[x]$  be given such that  $f(x, y) = h_1(x, y)h_2(x, y)$ . Then  $f(a, y) = h_1(a, y)h_2(a, y)$ . Then  $h_1(a, y)$  or  $h_2(a, y)$  is a unit in  $k[y]$  since  $f(a, y)$  is irreducible in  $k[y]$ . Without loss of generality, we will assume  $h_1(a, y)$  is a unit in  $k[y]$ .

It is given that  $\deg_y(f(a, y))$ , the degree of  $f(a, y)$  in  $y$ , is  $n$ . Thus  $\deg_y(h_1(a, y)) + \deg_y(h_2(a, y)) = n$ . Since  $\deg_y(h_1(a, y)) = 0$ ,  $\deg_y(h_2(a, y)) = n$ . Therefore,  $\deg_y(h_2(x, y)) \geq n$ .

On the other hand,  $\deg_y(f(x, y)) = \deg_y(h_1(x, y)) + \deg_y(h_2(x, y))$ , so  $\deg_y(h_2(x, y)) \leq n$ . Thus  $\deg_y(h_2(x, y)) = n$ . Let  $g_1(x), \dots, g_n(x) \in k[x]$  such that  $h_2(x, y) = g_n(x)y^n + \dots + g_1(x)y^1 + g_0(x)$ . Then  $f(x, y) = h_1(x, y)h_2(x, y) = (h_1(x, y)g_n(x))y^n + \dots + (h_1(x, y)g_1(x))y^1 + h_1(x, y)g_0(x)$ .

Since  $\deg_y(h_2(x, y)) = n$ ,  $\deg_y(h_1(x, y)) = 0$ . Thus,  $h_1(x, y) \in k[x]$ , so  $h_1(x, y)g_i(x) \in k[x]$  for each  $i$ . Therefore,  $h_1(x, y)g_i(x) = f_i(x)$  for each  $i$ .

Let  $p \in k[x]$  be an irreducible. If  $p \mid h_1(x, y)$ , then  $p \mid f_i(x) = h_1(x, y)g_i(x)$  for each  $i$ , so  $\text{ord}_p(f_i) \geq 1$  for each  $i$ . Therefore,  $\text{ord}_p(f(x, y)) \geq 1$ , and thus  $p \mid \text{cont}(f(x, y))$ .

However, since  $\text{cont}(f(x, y)) = 1$ ,  $p \nmid h_1(x, y)$ . Thus  $h_1(x, y)$  is a unit in  $k[x]$  since it cannot be divided by any irreducibles. Since  $h_1(x, y)$  is a unit in  $k[x]$  and  $k[y]$ , it must consist only of a constant term, which is a unit in  $k$ . Hence,  $h_1(x, y)$  is a unit in  $k[x, y]$ .

We have shown that for any  $h_1(x, y), h_2(x, y) \in k[x, y]$ ,  $h_1 h_2 = f$  implies one of  $h_1$  or  $h_2$  is a unit. Therefore,  $f(x, y)$  is an irreducible in  $k[x, y]$ .

- Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $a = 1$ ,  $f(x, y) = (x - 1)y^2 + y$ . Then  $f(x, y)$ , which when viewed as an element of  $k(x)[y]$  has degree 1.

- The coefficient of  $y$  is 1, and  $\text{ord}_p(1) = 0$  for any  $p$  because  $1 \in k[x]^*$ .
- The coefficient of  $y^2$ , when  $f(x, y)$  is viewed as an element of  $k(x)[y]$  is  $x - 1$ .

Thus for any irreducible element  $p \in k[x]$ ,  $\text{ord}_p(x - 1) \geq 0$ .

Therefore,  $\text{ord}_p(f(x)) = 0$  for any irreducible element  $p \in k[x]$ . Thus  $\text{cont}(f(x, y)) = 1$ .

$f(a, y) = y \in k[y]$ . This is irreducible because if  $f_1 f_2 = y$  for some  $f_1, f_2 \in k[y]$ , then  $\deg(f_1) + \deg(f_2) = 1$  implies that one of  $f_1$  or  $f_2$  is a unit in  $k$ .

□