

MATH 602 (HOMEWORK 5)

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Exercise. (1) This can be proved using induction. The base case $m = 1$ is trivial. Suppose that the proposition has been shown for some $m \in \mathbb{N}$. We will show the $(m + 1)$ case. By the definition of a determinant,

$$\Delta = \sum_{k=1}^{m+1} (-1)^{k+1} \det(M_{k,1})$$

where $M_{k,1}$ is the matrix obtained by deleting the k th row and 1st column. We can apply the inductive hypothesis to each $M_{k,1}$ because, for instance, when $k = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} \det(M_{1,1}) &= \det \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_2 & \alpha_2^2 & \cdots & \alpha_2^m \\ & \ddots & & \\ \alpha_{m+1} & \alpha_{m+1}^2 & \cdots & \alpha_{m+1}^m \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \alpha_2 \cdots \alpha_{m+1} \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_2^2 & \cdots & \alpha_2^{m-1} \\ & \ddots & & & \\ 1 & \alpha_{m+1} & \alpha_{m+1}^2 & \cdots & \alpha_{m+1}^{m-1} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \alpha_2 \cdots \alpha_{m+1} \prod_{2 \leq i < j \leq m} (\alpha_j - \alpha_i). \end{aligned}$$

A similar argument can be applied to other cases and we obtain

$$\Delta = \sum_{k=1}^{m+1} (-1)^{k+1} (\alpha_1 \cdots \hat{\alpha}_k \cdots \alpha_m) \prod_{i < j, i \neq k, j \neq k} (\alpha_j - \alpha_i).$$

It can be observed that, for each $k = 1, \dots, m+1$, the k th term $(\alpha_1 \cdots \hat{\alpha}_k \cdots \alpha_m) \prod_{i < j, i \neq k, j \neq k} (\alpha_j - \alpha_i)$ does not contain any α_k . On the other hand, for any $l \neq k$, every term that we obtain when expanding the l th term contains α_k . Therefore, it suffices to show that, for each k , the sum of all the terms in $\prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq m+1} (\alpha_j - \alpha_i)$ that do not contain α_k is equal to the k th term in the above expression.

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq m+1} (\alpha_j - \alpha_i) &= \prod_{k+1 \leq j} (\alpha_j - \alpha_k) \prod_{j \leq k-1} (\alpha_k - \alpha_j) \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq m+1, i \neq k, j \neq k} (\alpha_j - \alpha_i) \\ &= (-1)^{k-1} \prod_{j \neq k} (\alpha_j - \alpha_k) \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq m+1, i \neq k, j \neq k} (\alpha_j - \alpha_i) \\ &= (-1)^{k-1} (\alpha_1 \cdots \hat{\alpha}_k \cdots \alpha_{m+1}) \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq m+1, i \neq k, j \neq k} (\alpha_j - \alpha_i) + \alpha_k F(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{m+1}) \\ &= (-1)^{k+1} (\alpha_1 \cdots \hat{\alpha}_k \cdots \alpha_{m+1}) \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq m+1, i \neq k, j \neq k} (\alpha_j - \alpha_i) + \alpha_k F(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{m+1}) \end{aligned}$$

for some polynomial F .

$\Delta^2 \neq \prod_{i \neq j} (\alpha_j - \alpha_i)$ in general. Let $\alpha_1 = 0, \alpha_2 = 1$. Then $\det(A)^2 = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^2 = 1$. On the other hand, $\prod_{i \neq j} (\alpha_j - \alpha_i) = (0 - 1)(1 - 0) = -1$.

Exercise. (6) Let $ab \in \sqrt{q}$. Then $a^n b^n \in q$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then $a^n \in q$ or $(b^n)^m \in q$ for some $m \in \mathbb{N}$. If $a^n \in q$, then $a \in \sqrt{q}$. If $b^{nm} \in q$, then $b \in \sqrt{q}$. Therefore, \sqrt{q} is prime.

Let $f : A \rightarrow B$ be given and q be a primary ideal of B . Let $ab \in f^{-1}(q)$. Then $f(a)f(b) \in q$, so $f(a) \in q$ or $(f(b))^m \in q$ for some $m \geq 1$. If $f(a) \in q$, then $a \in f^{-1}(q)$. If $f(b^m) \in q$, then $b^m \in f^{-1}(q)$. Therefore, $f^{-1}(q)$ is primary.

Exercise. (7) Since \sqrt{I} is maximal, $I \neq R$.

Let $x + I, y + I \in A/I$ be two nonzero elements such that $(x + I)(y + I) = 0$. In other words, $xy \in I$. Since $I \subset \sqrt{I}$, $(x + \sqrt{I})(y + \sqrt{I}) = 0$. Since \sqrt{I} is maximal, A/\sqrt{I} is a field. Therefore, $x + \sqrt{I} = 0$ or $y + \sqrt{I} = 0$. In other words, $x \in \sqrt{I}$ or $y \in \sqrt{I}$. If $x \in \sqrt{I}$, then $x + I$ is nilpotent in $A + I$. Suppose $x \notin \sqrt{I}$. Since \sqrt{I} is maximal, $(x) + \sqrt{I} = (1)$. Therefore, $ax + b = 1$ for some $a \in R$ and $b \in \sqrt{I}$. Since $b \in \sqrt{I}$, $b^n \in I$ for some $n \geq 1$. Therefore $1 = ((ax + b) + I)^n = (ax + b)^n + I = xc + I$ for some element c since $b^n + I = 0$. However, this implies $0 = (x + I)(y + I)(c + I) = y + I$, which is a contradiction. Therefore, $x + I$ must be nilpotent in $A + I$. By symmetry, $y + I$ must be nilpotent in $A + I$.

We have shown that every zero divisor in A/I is nilpotent, which is precisely the definition of a primary ideal.