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## LN 19

### Prime Ideal

- Definition: Prime Ideal An ideal  $I \subseteq R$ ,  $R$  is a ring is called prime if whenever  $a, b \in I$  then  $a \in I$  or  $b \in I \forall a, b \in R$ .

- Proposition For a commutative ring  $R$ ,  $I \subseteq R$  is a prime ideal iff  $\frac{R}{I}$  is an integral domain (no-zero divisors)

– Proof

\*  $\Rightarrow$

Suppose that  $(a + I)(b + I) = 0$  ie  $ab \in I$  but  $I$  is prime So  $a \in I$  or  $b \in I$  which means  $a + I = 0$  or  $b + I = 0$ .

\*  $\Leftarrow$  if  $ab \in I$  then  $(a + I)(b + I) = 0$  in  $\frac{R}{I}$

TODO<sub>sc1</sub>

- Example  $\mathbb{Z}$  as a ring - it has ideals  $n\mathbb{Z}$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  which ones are prime?  $p\mathbb{Z}$  for  $p$  a prime are the prime ideals.

What is  $\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{p\mathbb{Z}}$ ? By the “Proposition”, this is an integral domain. This is a field!

- Fact Any finite integral domain is a field.

– Proof (By “Pigeon Hole Principle”) Suppose that  $R$  is a finite integral domain and  $a \in R, a \neq 0$ . We need to find  $b$  such that  $ab = 1$ .

\* Define:  $F : R \rightarrow R, r \mapsto ar$ .

\* Claim:  $F$  is a 1-1.

Suppose  $ar = as$  for some  $r, s \in R$  then  $a(r - s) = 0$

But  $R$  is an integral domain. So either  $a = 0$  or  $r - s = 0$ .

But  $a \neq 0$  so  $r = s$

$R$  is finite so  $F$  is onto!

So for some  $B \in R, ab = 1$ .

So  $R$  is a field!

## Maximal Ideal

- Definition: Maximal ideal We call an ideal  $I \subseteq R$  maximal if  $I \neq R$  but if  $I \subseteq J \subseteq R$ ,  $J$  is an ideal, then  $I = J$  or  $J = R$

- Proposition: For a commutative ring with 1,  $I$  is maximal iff  $\frac{R}{I}$  is a field.

– Proof

\*  $\Leftarrow$  The only ideals in a field  $F$  are  $F$  and  $\{0\}$ . Because non-zero elements have multi-inverse TODO If a TODO

\*  $\Rightarrow$  Suppose that  $a + I \neq 0$  ie  $a \notin I$  ( $I$  is maximal). Generate the smallest ideal containing  $a$  and  $I$ .

$$\langle a, I \rangle = \{ra + rb : r \in R, b \in I\} \subset I.$$

So  $R = \langle a, I \rangle$  so  $1 = ra + rb$  for some  $r \in R, b \in I$

This means  $(r + I)(a + I) = 1 + I$  in  $\frac{R}{I}$

Si  $a + I$  has multiplicative inverse and  $\frac{R}{I}$  is a field.

- Carollary: If  $R$  is a commutative ring with 1 then any maximal ideal is prime

– Proof If  $I$  is maximal then  $\frac{R}{I}$  is a field hense an integral domain

So  $I$  is prime.

- Example  $\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{p\mathbb{Z}}$  is both a field and an integral domain for  $p$  a prime so  $p\mathbb{Z}$  is both prime and maximal in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

## PID: principiæ ideal domain

Notice in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , every ideal is 1-generated - of the form  $\langle n \rangle$  where  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $n =$  the smallest ideal, ie  $n\mathbb{Z}$ .

- Definition: PID

A integral domain  $M$  where all ideals are 1-generated is called a principle ideal domain. (PID).

TODO

- Example

- Division algorithm If  $f, g \in F[x]$  then there are unique  $q, r \in F[x]$  such that  $g = fq + r$  with  $\deg(r) < \deg(f)$ .

– Long division algorithm  $f = a_n x^n + \dots + a_0$   $g = b_n x^n + \dots + b_0$

TODO<sub>sc3</sub>

– Ideals in  $F[x]$  Suppose  $I \subseteq F[x], I \neq \{0\}$

What does  $I$  look like?

$I = \langle f \rangle$  the ideal generated by  $f$ .

where  $f$  has the least degree among elements of  $I$ .

- \* Why? Suppose  $g \in I$ . Use the division algorithm to divide  $g$  by  $f$ , ie  $g = fq + r$  with  $\deg(r) < \deg(f)$

But notice  $g \in I, fq \in I$  so  $r$  must be in  $I$ . So  $r = 0$

Which means,  $g = fq$ . So  $g \in \langle f \rangle$