MATH 502 Notes

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References:

- Atiyah and MacDonald, *Commutative Algebra*.
- J.P. Serre, *Local Algebra*.
- Zariski and Samuel, *Commutative Algebra* Volume 1 and 2.
- Matsumura, *Commutative Algebra*.
- Bourbaki, *Commutative Algebra*.

We always assume a ring R has a multiplicative identity and is commutative.

0 Noetherian, Artinian, and Localization

Proposition 0.1. Let R be a (commutative) ring, and let M be an A-module, then the following are equivalent:

(i) Given an infinite increasing chain of submodules of M
$$M_1 \subseteq M_2 \subseteq \cdots \subseteq M_n \subseteq M_{n+1} \subseteq \cdots$$
then there exists some $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $M_N = M_{N+1} = \cdots$, i.e., for all $n \geqslant N$, $M_n = M_{n+1}$.

(ii) Every non-empty family of submodules has a maximal element.

(iii) Every submodule of M is finitely-generated.

Proof. $(i) \Rightarrow (ii)$: This is a direct result of Zorn's lemma.

$(ii) \Rightarrow (i)$: Obvious.

$(i), (ii) \Rightarrow (iii)$: Take any submodule N of M and take $x_1 \in N$. If $(x_1) \neq N$, then there exists $x_2 \in N \backslash (x_1)$, so $(x_1, x_2) \subseteq N$, now we proceed inductively, but by the given property we know this stops in finite number of steps, hence we have $N = (x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$, thus N is finitely-generated.

$(iii) \Rightarrow (i)$: Note that the property implies M is finitely-generated, but that means the chain of submodules must be finite. $\square$

Definition 0.2 (Noetherian Module)**.** If any of the conditions in Proposition 0.1 holds, then M is said to be a Noetherian module. Alternatively, we say M satisfies the ascending chain condition.

Proposition 0.3. Let R be a (commutative) ring, and let M be an A-module, then the following are equivalent:

(i) Given an infinite decreasing chain of submodules of M
$$M_1 \supseteq M_2 \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_n \supseteq M_{n+1} \supseteq \cdots$$
then there exists some $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $M_N = M_{N+1} = \cdots$, i.e., for all $n \geqslant N$, $M_n = M_{n+1}$.

(ii) Every non-empty family of submodules has a minimal element.

Proof. Again, Zorn's lemma. □

Definition 0.4 (Artinian Module)**.** If any of the conditions in Proposition 0.3 holds, then M is said to be a Artinian module. Alternatively, we say M satisfies the descending chain condition.

Example 0.5.
- $\mathbb{Z}$ is Noetherian.
- $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ is not Noetherian.
- Let p be a prime. Let $\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty)$ be the union of chains (as direct limits)
$$\left\langle \frac{\bar{1}}{p} \right\rangle \subseteq \left\langle \frac{\bar{1}}{p^2} \right\rangle \subseteq \cdots \subseteq \left\langle \frac{\bar{1}}{p^n} \right\rangle \subseteq \cdots$$
then there is an embedding $\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$, where $\bar{a}$ is the image of a in $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$. With this construction, $\mathbb{Z}(p^\infty)$ is Artinian.

Exercise 0.6. Show that $\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} \cong \bigoplus_p \mathbb{Z}(p^\infty)$ where p traverses through all the primes.

Proposition 0.7. Let N be a submodule of M. Suppose M satisfies ascending (respectively, descending) chain condition, then N and M/N also satisfy ascending (respectively, descending) chain condition. If, for some submodule N of M, we know N and M/N satisfy ascending (respectively, descending) chain condition, then M also satisfies ascending (respectively, descending) chain condition.

Proof. Suppose M satisfies ascending (respectively, descending) chain condition, and let N be a submodule of M. Let $\{N_i\}$ be an increasing (respectively, decreasing) sequence of submodules of N, then they can be regarded as submodules of M, therefore by the Noetherian (respectively, Artinian) condition, we know N satisfies ascending (respectively, descending) chain condition. Now let $\bar{M} = M/N$, and take $\{\bar{M}_i\}$ be an increasing (respectively, decreasing) sequence of submodules of $\bar{M}$. Let $\pi : M \to M/N$ be the quotient map, then the preimages give an increasing (respectively, decreasing) sequence $\{M_i\}$ of submodules of M, where $M_i = \pi^{-1}(\bar{M}_i)$, but by the Notherian (respectively, Artinian) condition, we know the sequence stops in finite steps, therefore the original sequence stops in finite steps as well, hence $\bar{M}$ satisfies the ascending (respectively, descending) chain condition.

Suppose a submodule N of M is such that N and M/N both satisfy ascending chain condition. Take a submodule T of M, then we have a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow T \cap N \hookrightarrow T \longrightarrow T/(T \cap N) \longrightarrow 0$$

Now $T \cap N$ is finitely-generated as N is finitely-generated, therefore we have an embedding $T/T \cap N \hookrightarrow M/N$, thus $T/T \cap N$ is finitely-generated, therefore T is also finitely-generated by a vector space argument.

Suppose we have a decreasing sequence $\{M_n\}$ of M, then we have a decreasing sequence $\{N \cap M_n\}$. Let $\bar{M} = M/N$, then $\bar{M}_n := (M_n + N)/N$ defines a decreasing sequence of submodules in $\bar{M}$, but N satisfies the descending chain condition, so the sequence $\{N \cap M_n\}$ stops in finite number of steps, say n_0. Moreover, the sequence of $\bar{M}_n$'s also stops in finite number of steps, so by definition the sequence of $(M_n + N)/N$ stops in finite number of steps, say m_0, but by the isomorphism theorem this shows that the sequence of $M_n/(N \cap M_n)$ stops in m_0 steps. Therefore, whenever $n \geqslant m_0, n_0$, then $N \cap M_n = N \cap M_{n+1}$, hence $M_n = M_{n+1} = \cdots$ for such n. □

Remark 0.8. The final argument should also work in the Noetherian case.

Definition 0.9 (Simple Module)**.** An A-module M is simple if the submodules of M are either 0 or M.

Exercise 0.10. Let A be a commutative ring, and M is an A-module, then M is simple if and only if $M \cong A/\mathfrak{m}$ for some maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m}$ of A.

Definition 0.11 (Jordan-Hölder Chain)**.** Let A be a commutative ring and M be an A-module. We say M has a Jordan-Hölder chain if there exists a decreasing chain of submodules $\{M_i\}$ such that

$$M = M_0 \supsetneq M_1 \supsetneq \cdots \supsetneq M_{n-1} \supsetneq M_n = 0$$

such that M_i/M_{i+1} is simple. In such a situation, we know n is the length of the Jordan-Hölder chain, and such n is unique. We say M is a module of finite length, and the length is $\ell_A(M) = n$.

Exercise 0.12. Let A be a commutative ring, and let M be an A-module, then M is of finite length if and only if M is both Noetherian and Artinian.

Theorem 0.13. Let A be a commutative ring, then A is Artinian if and only if A is Noetherian and every prime ideal of A is maximal.

Proof. ($\Leftarrow$):

Lemma 0.14. Let A be Noetherian, then every ideal of A contains a product of prime ideals.

Subproof. Suppose, towards contradiction, that there exists some ideal I of A that does not contain a product of prime ideals. Let $\mathcal{J}$ be the set of such ideals of A, then $\mathcal{J} \neq \varnothing$, and we can take a maximal element of $\mathcal{J}$, namely J.[1] By definition, J is not prime, therefore there exists $a, b \in A$ such that $a \notin J$ and $b \notin J$, but $ab \in J$. Now $J \subsetneq J + Aa$ and $J \subsetneq J + Ab$, therefore $J + Aa, J + Ab \notin J$, therefore $J + Aa$ and $J + Ab$ both contain product of prime ideals. But now $(J + Aa)(J + Ab)$ should also contain products of prime ideals, but by distribution this is just $J^2 + Ja + Jb + Aab$, which is contained in J because every term is contained in J, so J contains a product of prime ideals as well, contradiction. ■

In particular, (0) contains a product of prime ideals, in particular (0) equals to this product, but every prime ideal is maximal, therefore $(0) = \mathfrak{m}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{m}_n$ becomes the product of maximal ideals (which may not necessarily be distinct), hence we have a descending chain of ideals

$$A \supseteq \mathfrak{m}_1 \supseteq \mathfrak{m}_1\mathfrak{m}_2 \supseteq \cdots \supseteq \mathfrak{m}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{m}_n = (0),$$

and in particular $(\mathfrak{m}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{m}_{i-1})/(\mathfrak{m}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{m}_i)$ is a finite-dimensional since A is Noetherian, and it has a natural structure as a $A/\mathfrak{m}_i$-vector space. From the short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathfrak{m}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{m}_i \longrightarrow \mathfrak{m}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{m}_{i-1} \longrightarrow (\mathfrak{m}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{m}_{i-1})/(\mathfrak{m}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{m}_i) \longrightarrow 0$$

we know the two sides of the sequence are Artinian, hence the central term is Artinian. Proceeding inductively, we know that $\mathfrak{m}_1$ is Artinian, and $R/\mathfrak{m}_1$ would also be Artinian, hence A is Artinian.

($\Rightarrow$): Now suppose A is Artinian, and we want to show that every prime ideal is maximal, and (0) is a product of maximal ideals. The result then follows from the argument above.

Lemma 0.15. Every Artinian domain is a field.

Subproof. Let $0 \neq a \in A$, then consider the chain

$$(a) \supseteq (a^2) \supseteq \cdots \supseteq (a^n) \supseteq \cdots$$

and by the Artinian property, for some large enough n the descending chain stops. Hence, we have $a^n = \lambda a^{n+1}$ for some large enough n and some $\lambda \in A$. Hence, $a^n(1 - \lambda a) = 0$, by the cancellation property of a domain, since $a \neq 0$, we must have $\lambda a = 1$, therefore a is a unit, as desired. ■

Corollary 0.16. Let A be Artinian, then every prime ideal of A is maximal.

Finally, it suffices to show that $(0) = \mathfrak{m}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{m}_n$. Let $\mathfrak{J}$ be the set of finite products of maximal ideals, then $\mathfrak{J}$ has a minimal element, and it suffices to show that this element is (0). Suppose not, let $I \neq (0)$ be a minimal element of R. For any two ideals α, β of A, let $(\alpha : \beta) = \{a \in A \mid a\beta \subseteq \alpha\}$. Note that this has a natural structure as an ideal of A. Let $J = ((0) : I)$, and suppose $J = A$, then $I = 0$, contradiction, so $J \neq A$ is a proper ideal of A, now consider A/J which is Artinian, then let $\mathfrak{G}$ be the set of all non-zero ideals of A/J, so $\mathfrak{G}$ has a minimal element as well, call it $\bar{H}$. Let $H = \pi^{-1}(\bar{H})$ where $\pi : A \to A/J$, so we have $J \subsetneq H$, thus let $P = (J : H)$.

Claim 0.17. P is a prime ideal.

Subproof. Given $c, d \notin P$, we want to show that $cd \notin P$. Indeed, consider $J \subsetneq J + cH \subseteq H$, then since H is minimal, then $J + cH = H$, and similarly we have that $J + dH = H$. Therefore, we have that $J + cdH = J + c(dH + J) = J + cH = H$, hence we know $cd \notin P$, as desired. ■

[1] The existence of this maximal element is the result of Zorn's lemma and ACC condition.

Now $P = (J : H)$ and $J = (0 : I)$, the by definition we have $PHI = (0)$. Since P is a prime ideal, then P is maximal, and now

$$(0 : PI) \supseteq H \supsetneq J = (0 : I)$$

Therefore $PI \subsetneq I$, where I is a minimal element, contradiction, hence (0) is a product of maximal ideals. $\square$

Definition 0.18 (Short Exact Sequence)**.** Consider the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow N \xrightarrow{f} M \xrightarrow{g} T \longrightarrow 0$$

This is called a short exact sequence if $\ker(f) = 0$, $\operatorname{im}(g) = T$, and $\ker(g) = \operatorname{im}(f)$. In particular, one slot of the sequence is said to be exact if the kernel of the previous map equals to the image of the subsequent map.

Definition 0.19 (Flat Module)**.** Let M be an A-module, then we say M is a flat A-module if for every short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow N_1 \longrightarrow N_2 \longrightarrow N_3 \longrightarrow 0$$

the tensored sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow M \otimes_A N_1 \longrightarrow M \otimes_A N_2 \longrightarrow M \otimes_A N_3 \longrightarrow 0$$

remains exact.

Remark 0.20. Recall that the properties of modules have the following implications: free $\Rightarrow$ projective $\Rightarrow$ flat $\Rightarrow$ torsion-free, and in the case of finitely-generated modules, torsion-free $\Rightarrow$ free.

Remark 0.21. We already know that the tensor functor is right exact, namely given the short exact sequence above, then

$$M \otimes_A N_1 \longrightarrow M \otimes_A N_2 \longrightarrow M \otimes_A N_3 \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact.

Exercise 0.22. Let M be an A-module, and if there exists a short exact sequence of A-modules

$$0 \longrightarrow N_1 \longrightarrow N_2 \longrightarrow N_3 \longrightarrow 0$$

where N_1 and N_2 are finitely-generated as A-modules, and such that tensoring M preserves the short exact sequence, then M is flat.

Definition 0.23 (Multiplicatively Closed Subset)**.** Let A be a commutative ring and M be an A-module. Let $S \subseteq A$ be a subset. We say S is a multiplicatively closed subset of A if $1 \in S$, $0 \notin S$, and whenever $s_1, s_2 \in S$, then $s_1 s_2 \in S$.

Definition 0.24 (Localization)**.** Let $S \subseteq A$ be a multiplicatively closed subset, and let M be an A-module, then $S^{-1}M = (M \times S)/\sim$, where $\sim$ is an equivalence relation defined by the following: $(m_1, s_1) \sim (m_2, s_2)$ if and only if there exists $t \in S$ such that $t(m_1 s_2 - m_2 s_1) = 0$. $S^{-1}M$ is said to be the localization of M at S.

Given $(m, s) \in M \times S$, we write $\overline{(m, s)}$ to be the equivalence class in $S^{-1}M$ represented by (m, s).

Exercise 0.25. Similarly, one can define the localization $S^{-1}A$ of A at S. In fact, $S^{-1}A$ inherits a ring structure from A, namely

- $\frac{a_1}{s_1} + \frac{a_2}{s_2} = \frac{a_1 s_2 + a_2 s_1}{s_1 s_2}$,
- $\frac{a_1}{s_1} \cdot \frac{a_2}{s_2} = \frac{a_1 a_2}{s_1 s_2}$,
- $\frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{s}{1} = \frac{1}{1} = 1$.

Remark 0.26. Note that a ring structure does not guarantee every element to have a multiplicative inverse. The localization of A at S ensures that every element of S now becomes invertible in the new ring $S^{-1}A$. In particular, this induces a ring homomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} f : A &\to S^{-1}A \\ a &\mapsto \frac{a}{1} \end{aligned}$$

This homomorphism is injective if A is a domain.

Remark 0.27. Let I be an ideal of A.

- Consider the ring homomorphism $f : A \to S^{-1}A$ above, then
$$S^{-1}I = IS^{-1}A = f(I)S^{-1}A.$$
In particular, $f^{-1}(IS^{-1}A) \supseteq I$.
- If $I \cap S \neq \varnothing$, then $IS^{-1}A = S^{-1}A$.
- If P is a prime ideal of A such that $P \cap S = \varnothing$, then $f^{-1}(PS^{-1}A) = P$.
- Let M be an A-module, then if $N \subseteq M$ is a submodule, then $S^{-1}N \subseteq S^{-1}M$. That is, given an exact sequence
$$0 \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow M$$
then we obtain an exact sequence
$$0 \longrightarrow S^{-1}N \longrightarrow S^{-1}M$$
Indeed, given $0 \to N \xrightarrow{f} M$, say we have it sending $\frac{n}{1} \mapsto \frac{f(n)}{1} = 0$, then there exists $s \in S$ such that $sf(n) = 0$, so $f(sn) = 0$, therefore $sn = 0$ by injection, hence $\frac{n}{1} = 0$ in $S^{-1}N$ as well.

Exercise 0.28. The localization functor is exact.

Lemma 0.29. Let A be a commutative ring and S be a multiplicatively closed subset of A, then $S^{-1}A \otimes_A M \cong S^{-1}M$.

Proof. We define

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi : S^{-1}A \otimes_A M &\to S^{-1}M \\ \frac{a}{s} \otimes m &\mapsto \frac{am}{s}. \end{aligned}$$

For any $\frac{m}{s} \in S^{-1}M$, we have $\varphi\left(\frac{1}{s} \otimes m\right) = \frac{m}{s}$, so the map is onto. Now suppose $\varphi\left(\sum\limits_{i=1}^{n} \frac{a_i}{s_i} \otimes m_i\right) = 0$ (since this is a finite sum), then $\varphi\left(\sum\limits_{i=1}^{n} \frac{a_i}{s_i} \otimes m_i\right) = \sum\limits_{i=1}^{n} \frac{a_i m_i}{s_i} = 0$. We make $s = s_1 \cdots s_n$, so

$$\frac{a_i}{s_i} \otimes m_i = \frac{a_i s_1 \cdots s_{i-1} s_{i+1} \cdots s_n}{s} \otimes m_i =: \frac{b_i}{s} \otimes m_i,$$

then $\sum\limits_{i=1}^{n} \frac{a_i}{s_i} \otimes m_i = \sum\limits_{i=1}^{n} \frac{b_i}{s} \otimes m_i$, therefore

$$\varphi\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{a_i}{s_i} \otimes m_i\right) = \varphi\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{b_i}{s} \otimes m_i\right) = \frac{\sum\limits_{i=1}^{n} b_i m_i}{s} = 0,$$

so there exists $t \in S$ such that $t\sum\limits_{i=1}^{n} b_i m_i = 0$, now

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{a_i}{s_i} \otimes m_i = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{b_i}{s} \otimes m_i$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{s} \otimes b_i m_i \\
&= \frac{1}{s} \otimes \sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i m_i \\
&= \frac{t}{ts} \otimes \sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i m_i \\
&= \frac{1}{ts} \otimes t \sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i m_i \\
&= \frac{1}{ts} \otimes 0 \\
&= 0.
\end{aligned}
$$

□

Proposition 0.30. The map $A \to S^{-1}A$ is A-flat, i.e., $S^{-1}A$ is a flat A-module.

Proof. Consider

$$0 \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow T \longrightarrow 0$$

By Lemma 0.29 (since the isomorphism is functorial), it suffices to show the exactness of

$$0 \longrightarrow S^{-1}N \longrightarrow S^{-1}M \longrightarrow S^{-1}T \longrightarrow 0$$

and this follows from Exercise 0.28. □

Definition 0.31 (Quasi-local, Local)**.** Let A be a commutative ring. We say A is quasi-local if A has exactly one maximal ideal. In particular, if A is also Noetherian, then we say A is a local ring.

Definition 0.32 (Localization)**.** Let A be a commutative ring and $\mathfrak{p}$ be a prime ideal of A. Note that $S = A \backslash \mathfrak{p}$ is a multiplicatively closed subset, then we write $S^{-1}A = A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ (in general, we have $S^{-1}M = M_{\mathfrak{p}}$, where $M \otimes_A A_{\mathfrak{p}} \cong M_{\mathfrak{p}}$) to denote the localization of A away from the prime ideal $\mathfrak{p}$.

Exercise 0.33. $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is quasi-local with unique maximal ideal $\mathfrak{p}A_{\mathfrak{p}}$.

Remark 0.34. Take $x \in M$, then the following are equivalent:

- $x = 0$;
- $\frac{x}{1} = 0$ in $M_{\mathfrak{m}}$ for any maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m}$ of A;
- $\frac{x}{1} = 0$ in $M_{\mathfrak{p}}$ for any prime ideal $\mathfrak{p}$ of A.

Proof. We will prove the first two are equivalent. The ($\Rightarrow$) direction is obvious. Conversely, let $I = \{a \in A \mid ax = 0\}$ to be the annihilator of x in A. Suppose, towards contradiction, that $I \neq A$, then I is contained in some maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m}$ of A, then consider $M_{\mathfrak{m}}$. Since $\frac{x}{1} = 0$ in $\mathfrak{m}$, then there exists $t \in A \backslash \mathfrak{m}$ such that $tx = 0$, but $I \subseteq \mathfrak{m}$ and $t \notin \mathfrak{m}$, then we reach a contradiction, hence $I = A$, and obviously we are done. □

Exercise 0.35. 1. Given the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow M \xrightarrow{f} N \xrightarrow{g} T \longrightarrow 0$$

the following are equivalent:

- the sequence is exact;
- the sequence

  $$0 \longrightarrow M_{\mathfrak{m}} \xrightarrow{f_{\mathfrak{m}}} N_{\mathfrak{m}} \xrightarrow{g_{\mathfrak{m}}} T_{\mathfrak{m}} \longrightarrow 0$$

  is exact for all maximal ideals $\mathfrak{m}$ of A;

- the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow M_{\mathfrak{p}} \xrightarrow{f_{\mathfrak{p}}} N_{\mathfrak{p}} \xrightarrow{g_{\mathfrak{p}}} T_{\mathfrak{p}} \longrightarrow 0$$

  is exact for all prime ideals $\mathfrak{p}$ of A.

  To see this, apply Remark 0.34.

2. Let A be a commutative ring and M be an A-module, then the following are equivalent:
   - M is A-flat;
   - $M_{\mathfrak{m}}$ is $A_{\mathfrak{m}}$-flat for all maximal ideals $\mathfrak{m}$ of A;
   - $M_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is $A_{\mathfrak{p}}$-flat for all prime ideals $\mathfrak{p}$ of A;

Hence, exactness is a local property.

Exercise 0.36. Let A be a commutative ring, then A is Artinian if and only if A as an A-module is of finite length, i.e., $\ell_A(A) < \infty$. Indeed, note that $(0) = \mathfrak{m}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{m}_n$, and write down the Jordan-Hölder series.

1 Primary Decomposition Theorem

Throughout Section 1, the commutative ring A is always Noetherian. In Section 1.1, M is a finitely-generated A-module; in Section 1.2, we drop this assumption.

1.1 Finitely-generated Case

Definition 1.1 (Coprimary)**.** We say M is a coprimary module if for all $a \in A$, the left multiplication $m_a : M \to M$ is either injective or nilpotent (i.e., there exists $n > 0$ such that $a^n M = 0$).

Remark 1.2. (i) If M is coprimary, then N is coprimary for all $N \subseteq M$.

(ii) If M is coprimary, let $P = \{a \in A \mid a : M \to M \text{ is nilpotent}\}$, then P is a prime ideal of A.

Proof. For $a, b \notin P$, $a, b : M \to M$ are injective maps, so $ab : M \to M$ is injective, hence $ab \notin P$. □

Hence, we usually say M is P-coprimary.

(iii) Let M be P-coprimary, then there exists an injection (as M-linear map) $A/P \hookrightarrow M$.

Proof. Take any $x \neq 0$ in M, then consider

$$\begin{aligned} a_x : A &\to M \\ 1 &\mapsto x \end{aligned}$$

Let $I = \ker(a_x)$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} A/I &\hookrightarrow M \\ \bar{1} &\mapsto x \end{aligned}$$

Now $I \subseteq P$ since I already kills x. Since A is Noetherian, P is finitely-generated, thus consider $P = (a_1, \ldots, a_r)$, then $a_i^{t_i} \cdot x = 0$ for all i and some t_i's. Let $t = t_1 + \cdots + t_r$, then $P^t \cdot x = 0$ by binomial theorem, so $P^t \subseteq I \subseteq P$, hence there exists j such that $P^j \subseteq I \subsetneq P^{j-1}$. Take $y \in P^{j-1} \backslash I$, so $\bar{y} \neq 0$ in A/P, taking the injection into M, then $\mathrm{Ann}_A(\bar{y}) = P$. We now have the composition

$$\begin{aligned} A/P \hookrightarrow A/I &\hookrightarrow M \\ \bar{1} &\mapsto \bar{y} \end{aligned}$$

to be injective. □

(iv) Suppose M is P-coprimary, and Q is a prime ideal such that $A/Q \hookrightarrow M$, then $P = Q$.

Proof. By definition of P, $Q \subseteq P$ is obvious: Q kills elements in M, therefore the mapping becomes nilpotent. The other direction is also easy. □

Definition 1.3 (Primary). Let $N \subseteq M$ be a submodule. We say N is a primary submodule of M if M/N is coprimary. If M/N is P-coprimary, we say N is P-primary.

Remark 1.4. Let $\mathfrak{p}$ be a prime ideal of A. We claim that $\mathfrak{p}^t$ is P-primary. Consider

$$m_x : A/\mathfrak{p}^t \to A/\mathfrak{p}^t$$

then $x^t = 0$ on $A/\mathfrak{p}^t$.

Example 1.5. Let $A = k[X,Y,Z]/(Z^2 - XY)$, let $\mathfrak{p} = (x,z)$ where $x = \operatorname{im}(X)$ and $z = \operatorname{im}(Z)$. Now $A/\mathfrak{p} = k[Y]$. $\mathfrak{p}^2$ is not P-primary. Indeed, note that $A/\mathfrak{p}^2 = k[X,Y,Z]/(z^2 - xy, x^2, z^2) \cong k[X,Y,Z]/(X^2, XY, Z^2, XZ)$. Now the mapping given by multiplication by y on this map is injective, so $\mathfrak{p}^2$ is not P-primary.

In particular, the represented surface is not smooth, since the origin $(0,0,0)$ is a singularity.

Theorem 1.6 (Primary Decomposition Theorem). By assumption, A is Noetherian and M is finitely-generated. Let $N \subseteq M$ be a submodule, then there exists a decomposition

$$N = \bigcap_{i=1}^{r} N_i$$

where each N_i is P_i-primary, and such that

1. all P_i's are distinct, and
2. this decomposition is irredundant, i.e., minimal. In particular, this means removing any of the N_i's gives a different intersection, i.e., $\bigcap\limits_{j \neq i} N_j \nsubseteq N_i$.

This is called a primary decomposition of N. Moreover, the primary decomposition is unique up to permutation of modules, that is, if there exists another primary decomposition, i.e., $N = \bigcap\limits_{i=1}^{s} N_i'$ where N_i''s are P_i'-primary, then $r = s$ and $\{N_1, \dots, N_r\} = \{N_1', \dots, N_s'\}$.

Proof.

Definition 1.7 (Irreducible). A submodule $T \subsetneq M$ is called irreducible if $T \neq T_1 \cap T_2$, where T_1, T_2 are distinct proper submodules of M.

Claim 1.8. Every submodule T of M can be expressed by $T = T_1 \cap \cdots \cap T_l$ where each T_i is irreducible.

Subproof. Suppose, towards contradiction, that there exists some T for which the claim fails, then the set of all such submodules T is a non-empty set $\mathcal{T}$. Since M is Noetherian, then $\mathcal{T}$ has a maximal element W, therefore W is not irreducible. By definition, $W = W_1 \cap W_2$ where W_1, W_2 are distinct proper submodules of M, so $W_1 \notin \mathcal{T}$ and $W_2 \notin \mathcal{T}$, therefore $W_1 = T_1 \cap \cdots \cap T_r$ for irreducible T_i's, and $W_2 = T_1' \cap \cdots \cap T_s'$ where T_i' are irreducible. Therefore, W becomes an intersection of irreducible submodules, a contradiction. ■

Claim 1.9. Suppose T is irreducible in M, then T is a primary submodule of M. That is, we need to show $\bar{M} := M/T$ is coprimary.

Subproof. It suffices to show the following: for all $a \neq 0$ in A, the multiplication map $a : \bar{M} \to \bar{M}$ is either nilpotent or injective. Note that (0) in $\bar{M}$ is irreducible. To see this, we take the ascending chain

$$\ker(a) \subseteq \ker(a^2) \subseteq \ker(a^3) \subseteq \cdots$$

and since A is Noetherian we know $\ker(a^n) = \ker(a^{n+1}) = \cdots$ for some large enough n, therefore for $g = a^n$ we know $\ker(g) = \ker(g^2)$.

Claim 1.10. $\ker(g) \cap \operatorname{im}(g) = (0)$ in $\bar{M}$.

Subproof of Subclaim. Let $x \in \ker(g) \cap \operatorname{im}(g)$, then $g(x) = 0$, and there exists $y \in \bar{M}$ such that $x = g(y)$, so $0 = g(x) = g^2(y)$, but that means $y \in \ker(g^2) = \ker(g)$, so $x = 0$. ■

Therefore, (0) is irreducible in $\bar{M}$, so either $\ker(g) = (0)$ or $\ker(g) = \bar{M}$. If $\ker(g) = (0)$, we have g to be injective, hence multiplication by a is injective; if $\ker(g) = \bar{M}$, we have $a^n \bar{M} = 0$, so a becomes nilpotent. ■

Claim 1.11. If N_1 and N_2 are both P-primary as submodules, then $N_1 \cap N_2$ is also P-primary.

Subproof. By definition, M/N_1 and M/N_2 are both P-coprimary, then it is easy to see that $M/N_1 \oplus M/N_2$ is also P-coprimary. We know there is an obvious inclusion

$$\begin{aligned} M/(N_1 \cap N_2) &\hookrightarrow M/N_1 \oplus M/N_2 \\ \bar{x} &\mapsto (\bar{x}, \bar{x}) \end{aligned}$$

so $M/(N_1 \cap N_2)$ is also coprimary by the inclusion, therefore $N_1 \cap N_2$ is P-primary. ■

Now by Claim 1.8 we have an irreducible decomposition $N = N_1 \cap \cdots \cap N_r$ and without loss of generality let it be of the smallest length, that is, the N_i's are irreducible modules that are irredundant. By Claim 1.9, we know each of the N_i's is primary with respect to some prime ideal. Now for any two P-primary modules N_i and N_j, we know the intersection is still P-primary according to Claim 1.11, therefore we obtain an irredundant intersection $N = N_1' \cap \cdots N_s'$ where each N_i' is P_i-primary (where P_i's are now distinct!), and this proves the existence.

For the uniqueness, suppose we have $N = N_1 \cap \cdots \cap N_r$ where N_i is P_i-primary, where P_i's are distinct, and suppose we have $N = N_1' \cap \cdots \cap N_s'$ where N_i' is P_i'-primary, where all P_i' are distinct as well. It is enough to show the following:

Claim 1.12. For any prime ideal p of A, $p \in \{P_1, \ldots, P_r\}$ if and only if there exists an injection $A/p \hookrightarrow M/N$.

Subproof. Let $p \in \{P_1, \ldots, P_r\}$, without loss of generality denote $p = P_1$, then we have an injection $A/p \hookrightarrow M/N_1$ by Remark 1.2. In $\bar{M} = M/N$, we have $(0) = N_1/N \cap \cdots \cap N_r/N =: \bar{N}_1 \cap \cdots \cap \bar{N}_r$, therefore $\bar{N}_2 \cap \cdots \cap \bar{N}_r \hookrightarrow \bar{M}/\bar{N}_1 = M/N_1$. But $M/N_1 = \bar{M}/\bar{N}_1$, so this gives an injection $\bar{N}_2 \cap \cdots \cap \bar{N}_r \hookrightarrow M/N_1$, but M/N_1 is P_1-coprimary, so $\bar{N}_2 \cap \cdots \cap \bar{N}_r$ is also P_1-coprimary, therefore $A/P_1 \hookrightarrow \bar{N}_2 \cap \cdots \cap \bar{N}_r \hookrightarrow \bar{M} = M/N$ by Remark 1.2.

Now suppose $A/p \hookrightarrow M/N$, to show $p \in \{P_1, \ldots, P_r\}$, it suffices to show $A/p \hookrightarrow M/N_i$ is injective for some $1 \leqslant i \leqslant r$. We have

$$\begin{tikzcd} A/p \arrow[r, hook, "\varphi"] \arrow[rr, bend left, "\varphi_i"] & M/N = \bar{M} \arrow[r, "\eta_i"] & \bar{M}/\bar{N}_i = M/N_i \end{tikzcd}$$

and we want to show there exists some injective φ_i. Suppose not, then $\ker(\varphi_i) \neq 0$ in A/p for all $1 \leqslant i \leqslant r$. But A/p is an integral domain, therefore $\bigcap_{i=1}^{r} \ker(\varphi_i) \neq 0$. Therefore, we have

$$A/p \xhookrightarrow{\varphi} M/N \xhookrightarrow{(\eta_1, \ldots, \eta_r)} \bigoplus_{i=1}^{r} M/N_i$$

Thus, the defined composition above is the injection $(\varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_r)$. This implies $\bigcap_{i=1}^{r} \ker(\varphi_r) = \ker(\varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_r) = 0$, a contradiction. Thus, there exists some injective φ_i, and therefore $p \in \{P_1, \ldots, P_r\}$. ■

□

Definition 1.13 (Zero-divisor)**.** Let A be Noetherian and M be a finitely-generated A-module. We say $0 \neq a \in A$ is a zero-divisor on M if there exists $0 \neq x \in M$ such that $ax = 0$. Otherwise, we say a is a non-zero-divisor on M.

Definition 1.14 (Essential prime ideal, Associated prime ideal)**.** Given a primary decomposition $N = \bigcap_{i=1}^{r} N_i$, the corresponding prime ideals $\{P_1, \ldots, P_r\}$ are called the essential prime ideals of N. In particular, if $N = (0)$, we say these are the associated prime ideals of M, denoted by $\operatorname{Ass}_A(M) = \{P_1, \ldots, P_r\}$.

Corollary 1.15. Let A be Noetherian and M be a finitely-generated A-module, and let $\text{Ass}_A(M) = \{P_1, \dots, P_r\}$, then $\bigcup_{i=1}^r P_i$ is the set of all zero-divisors on M.

Proof. If $p \in \text{Ass}_A(M)$, then there exists an injection $A/p \hookrightarrow M$ mapping $\bar{1} \mapsto x$ by Claim 1.12. Therefore, $px = 0$, so elements of p are zero-divisors of M. Let a be a zero-divisor on M, i.e., let $0 \neq x \in M$ be such that $ax = 0$. Take the primary decomposition $(0) = N_1 \cap \cdots \cap N_r$ in M, where N_i is P_i-primary, then there exists i such that $x \notin N_i$. Since $\bar{x} \neq 0$ in M/N_i, then $a : M/N_i \to M/N_i$ is such that $a\bar{x} = 0$, so a is nilpotent on M/N_i. Therefore, M/N_i is P_i-coprimary, and by definition $a \in P_i$. □

Exercise 1.16. Let $\text{Ass}_A(M) = \{P_1, \dots, P_r\}$, then the set of all nilpotent elements of M is $\bigcap_{i=1}^r P_i$.

Corollary 1.17. Suppose $N \subseteq M$ is a submodule, then

$$\text{Ass}_A(N) \subseteq \text{Ass}_A(M) \subseteq \text{Ass}_A(N) \cup \text{Ass}_A(M/N).$$

Proof. The first inclusion is obvious by $A/p \hookrightarrow N \hookrightarrow M$. We now show the second inclusion. Let $p \in \text{Ass}_A(M)$, and suppose $p \notin \text{Ass}_A(N)$, and we have an inclusion $i : A/p \to M$.

Claim 1.18. $i(A/p) \cap N = (0)$.

Subproof. Suppose not, then let $0 \neq x \in i(A/p) \cap N$, then $x \in N$ and $x \in i(A/p)$, but A/p is an integral domain and is p-coprimary, so $i(A/p) \cap N$ is p-coprimary. Therefore, we have

$$A/p \hookrightarrow i(A/p) \cap N \hookrightarrow N$$

and so $p \in \text{Ass}_A(N)$, a contradiction. ■

Therefore, we have the composition $A/p \to M \to M/N$ to be injection, thus $p \in \text{Ass}_A(M/N)$. □

Corollary 1.19. Let M be finitely-generated, and let $I = \text{Ann}_A(M)$, then the essential prime ideals of I is contained in I.

Proof. Note that the essential prime ideals of I are just $\text{Ass}_A(A/I)$, so if we write $I = I_1 \cap \cdots \cap I_r$ where I_i is a P_i-primary. Therefore, we have $A/I = \bar{I}_1 \cap \cdots \cap \bar{I}_r$, where $\bar{I}_i = I_i/I$, and $\bar{I}_i$ is P_i-primary.

Now let $M = \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \rangle$ be given by a set of generators, so $M = \{\sum a_i \alpha_i \mid a_i \in A\}$, now we look at the map

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi : A &\to \bigoplus_{i=1}^n M \\ 1 &\mapsto (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \end{aligned}$$

then the kernel $\ker(\varphi) = I$, so $\bar{\varphi} : A/I \hookrightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^n M$ is an injection. By Corollary 1.17, $\text{Ass}_A(M_1 \oplus M_2) = \text{Ass}_A(M_1) \cup \text{Ass}_A(M_2)$, hence we know

$$\text{Ass}(A/I) \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n \text{Ass}_A(M) = \text{Ass}_A(M).$$

□

Definition 1.20 (Support)**.** The support of M over A, denoted $\text{Supp}_A(M)$, is the set $\{P \mid P \subseteq \text{ prime ideal such that } P \supseteq I = \text{Ann}_A(M)\}$.

Theorem 1.21 (Prime Filtration)**.** Let M be finitely-generated, then we have a descending chain

$$M = M_0 \supseteq M_1 \supseteq \cdots \supseteq M_{n-1} \supseteq M_n = (0)$$

of prime ideals such that $M_i/M_{i+1} \cong A/P_{i+1}$, $0 \leqslant i \leqslant n-1$, where P_i's are prime ideals of A, and $\text{Ass}_A(M) \subseteq \{P_1, \dots, P_n\}$.

Proof. Note that $P \in \mathrm{Ass}_A(M)$ if and only if $i : A/P \hookrightarrow M$, therefore $i(A/P)$ satisfies the condition stated in the theorem. Therefore, take $\mathcal{A} = \{N \subseteq M \mid N \text{ satisfies the condition of the theorem}\}$. Since A is Noetherian, we take a maximal element T of $\mathcal{A}$.

Claim 1.22. $T = M$.

Subproof. Suppose, towards contradiction, that $T \neq M$, then we have a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow T \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow M/T \longrightarrow 0$$

such that $M/T \neq (0)$.

Exercise 1.23. Let L be a finitely-generated A-module, then $L = 0$ if and only if $\mathrm{Ass}_A(L) = \varnothing$.

Let $q \in \mathrm{Ass}_A(M/T)$, then we have

$$\begin{tikzcd} & & & A/q \arrow[d, hook, "j"] & \\ 0 \arrow[r] & T \arrow[r] & M \arrow[r, "\eta"] & M/T \arrow[r] & 0 \end{tikzcd}$$

and take $W = \eta^{-1}(j(A/q))$, so we have a new short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow T \longrightarrow W \longrightarrow j(A/q) \cong A/q \longrightarrow 0$$

Thus, $W \supsetneq T$ satisfies the condition in the theorem. By the maximality of T, we have a contradiction. ■

□

Remark 1.24. Let A be Noetherian and $\mathfrak{m} \subseteq A$ be a maximal ideal, then for any ideal $I \subseteq A$ such that there exists n with $\mathfrak{m}^n \subseteq I \subseteq \mathfrak{m}$, then I is $\mathfrak{m}$-primary.

Proof. Consider the map

$$A/I \xrightarrow{\cdot x^n} A/I$$

for $x \in \mathfrak{m}$, then this is the zero map. Therefore, multiplication by x is nilpotent. Now suppose $x \notin \mathfrak{m}$, then we want to show that $A/I \xrightarrow{\cdot x} A/I$ is injective. Indeed, since $x \notin \mathfrak{m}$, then $\mathfrak{m} + Ax = A$, hence we have that $y + ax = 1$ for some $y \in \mathfrak{m}$ and $a \in A$, so $(y + ax)^n = 1$, $y^n + \mu x = 1$, but that means the map $A/I \to A/I$ is given by multiplication by μx, so $\bar{\mu}\bar{x} = \bar{1}$ since y vanishes. That is, $\bar{x}$ is invertible over A/I, hence multiplication by x is an isomorphism. □

Exercise 1.25. Let A be a ring and S be a multiplicatively closed subset of A, and let M be an A-module, then $S^{-1}M$ is an $S^{-1}A$-module. Let $T \subseteq S^{-1}M$ be an $S^{-1}A$-submodule, then there exists $N \subseteq M$ such that $T = S^{-1}N$.

Remark 1.26. Localization functor is fully faithful.

Remark 1.27. Let A be Noetherian and S be a multiplicatively closed subset of A.

1. Let M be P-coprimary, then
   - if $S \cap P = \varnothing$, then $S^{-1}M$ is $S^{-1}P$-coprimary;
   - if $S \cap P \neq \varnothing$, then $S^{-1}M = 0$.

   Proof. Indeed, suppose $S \cap P \neq \varnothing$, let $a : M \to M$ be the multiplication map by a, so $a \in P$ gives $a^n M = 0$ for some n, and if $a \notin P$, then this is injective. Let $\frac{a}{s} : S^{-1}M \to S^{-1}M$ be the multiplication map, but $\frac{a}{s}$ is a unit, so multiplication by s or $\frac{1}{s}$ is an isomorphism, hence we can take this to be $\frac{a}{1}$ with $s = 1$. If $s \in P$, then $s^n : M \to M$ is the zero map, therefore $s^n : S^{-1}M \to S^{-1}M$ is also the zero map, so s is a unit. This only happens if $S^{-1}M = 0$. □

2. Let N be P-primary, then
   - if $S \cap P = \varnothing$, then $S^{-1}N$ is $S^{-1}P$-primary in $S^{-1}M$;
   - if $S \cap P \neq \varnothing$, then $S^{-1}N = S^{-1}M$.

Remark 1.28. Consider the localization $S^{-1}M$. Take a submodule T of $S^{-1}M$, then by Exercise 1.25, $T = S^{-1}N$ for some $N \subseteq M$. There is now a primary decomposition on N given by $N = N_1 \cap \cdots \cap N_t$ where N_i is P_i-primary.

Exercise 1.29. Let $W_1, W_2 \subseteq M$, then $S^{-1}(W_1 \cap W_2) = S^{-1}(W_1) \cap S^{-1}(W_2)$ in $S^{-1}M$.

Remark 1.30. This is true whenever we have a flat ring extension.

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} T &= S^{-1}N \\ &= S^{-1}N_1 \cap \cdots \cap S^{-1}N_t \\ &= S^{-1}N_{i_1} \cap \cdots \cap S^{-1}N_{i_r} \end{aligned}$$

where $S^{-1}N_{i_j}$ is $S^{-1}P_{i_j}$-primary, and $P_{i_1}, \ldots, P_{i_r}$ are prime ideals for which $S \cap P_j = \varnothing$, where $P_j \in \{P_1, \ldots, P_t\}$.

Exercise 1.31. Let N be P-primary in M.

- if $S \cap P = \varnothing$, then $i_M : M \to S^{-1}M$ and $i_N : N \to S^{-1}N$ gives $i_M^{-1}(S^{-1}N) = N$;
- if $S \cap P \neq \varnothing$, then $i_M^{-1}(S^{-1}N) = i_M^{-1}(S^{-1}M) = M$.

Corollary 1.32. Consider a primary decomposition $N = N_1 \cap \cdots \cap N_t$ where N_i is P_i-primary. Suppose we have a different primary decomposition $N = N_1' \cap \cdots \cap N_t'$ where N_i' is also P_i-primary. Suppose P_1 is a minimal element in $\{P_1, \ldots, P_t\}$, then $N_1 = N_1'$.

Proof. Let $S = A \backslash P_1$, then $S^{-1}N = S^{-1}N_1 = S^{-1}N_1'$. Now consider $i_M : M \to S^{-1}M$, this descends to $N_1 \to S^{-1}N_1 = S^{-1}N_1'$ and $N_1' \to S^{-1}N_1'$, so $i_M^{-1}(S^{-1}N_1 = S^{-1}N_1') = N_1 = N_1'$. □

Consider flat ring maps (as a ring extension) like $A \to A[x]$ and $A \to A[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ since as A-modules they are free, since we have a basis $\{x_1^{i_1}, \ldots, x_n^{i_n}\}$.

Lemma 1.33. Let $A \to B$ be a flat map, and let M be an A-module. Let N_1 and N_2 be A-submodules of M, then $(N_1 \otimes_A B) \cap (N_2 \otimes_A B) = (N_1 \cap N_2) \otimes_A B$.

Proof. Consider the chain complex

$$\begin{tikzcd} & 0 \arrow[d] & 0 \arrow[d] & 0 \arrow[d] & \\ 0 \arrow[r] & N_1 \cap N_2 \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & N_1 \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & N_1/(N_1 \cap N_2) \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & 0 \\ 0 \arrow[r] & N_2 \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & M \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & M/N_2 \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & 0 \\ 0 \arrow[r] & N_2/(N_1 \cap N_2) \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & M/N_1 \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & M/(N_1 + N_2) \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & 0 \\ & 0 & 0 & 0 & \end{tikzcd}$$

with exact rows and columns. We tensor this complex by $-\otimes_A B$, then since B is flat we obtain a new chain complex

$$\begin{tikzcd}
 & 0 \arrow[d] & 0 \arrow[d] & 0 \arrow[d] & \\
0 \arrow[r] & (N_1 \cap N_2) \otimes_A B \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & N_1 \otimes_A B \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & (N/(N_1 \cap N_2)) \otimes_A B \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & 0 \\
0 \arrow[r] & N_2 \otimes_A B \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & M \otimes_A B \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & M/N_2 \otimes_A B \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & 0 \\
0 \arrow[r] & N_2/(N_1 \cap N_2) \otimes_A B \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & M/N_1 \otimes_A B \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & (M/(N_1 + N_2)) \otimes_A B \arrow[r] \arrow[d] & 0 \\
 & 0 & 0 & 0 &
\end{tikzcd}$$

Via diagram chasing, if $x \in (N_1 \otimes_A B) \cap (N_2 \otimes_A B)$, then $x \in (N_1 \cap N_2) \otimes_A B$. □

Corollary 1.34. Suppose we have a primary decomposition $N = N_1 \cap \cdots \cap N_t$ in M, let $A \to A[x]$, then $N[x] = N_1[x] \cap \cdots \cap N_t[x]$ in $M[x]$ where $N_i[x] = N_i \otimes_A A[x]$.

Proof. We want to show that if N_i is P_i-primary, then $N_i[x]$ is $P_i[x]$-primary. Take a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow P \longrightarrow A \longrightarrow A/p \longrightarrow 0$$

then we tensor it by $-\otimes_A A[x]$, then we obtain a new short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow P \otimes_A A[x] \longrightarrow A[x] \longrightarrow A/p \otimes_A A[x] \longrightarrow 0$$

(Note that we are working over the commutative case, so the left tensor and the right tensor are canonically isomorphic.) We have $B \otimes_A A[x] = B[x]$, now we have $A[x] \otimes_A A/P = A[x]/PA[x] = (A/P)[x]$ which is a domain, so $PA[x]$ is a prime ideal. It now suffices to show that if M is P-coprimary, then $M[x]$ is $P[x]$-coprimary. This simplifies to showing that:

- if $f(x) \in P[x]$, then the multiplication map $M[x] \xrightarrow{f(x)} M[x]$ is nilpotent;
- if $f(x) \notin P[x]$, $M[x] \xrightarrow{f(x)} M[x]$ is an injection.

Note that $M[x] = \sum\limits_{i \geqslant 0} m_i x^i$ for some m_i's. Since $P[x]$ is a prime ideal, then $A[x]/P[x] \cong A/p[x]$. If $f(x) \in P[x]$, we have $f(X) = p_0 + p_1 x + \cdots + p_t x^t$ for p_i's in P. Consider the multiplication map via $[f(x)]^p : M[x] \to M[x]$, where $n = n_0 + n_1 + \cdots + n_t$ such that $p_i^{n_i} M = 0$ by the binomial theorem. Now suppose $f(x) \notin P[x]$, then let us write $f(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + \cdots + a_t x^t$, and we have two cases:

- if no a_i's are in P, then for all i, multiplication by a_i on M is an injection. If we multiply $f(x)$ by $m_0 + m_1 sx + \cdots$, then the constant term would be $a_0 m_0$, and for each term to be zero, we must have $f(x)$ equivalent to zero, hence that means multiplication by $f(x)$ on $M[x]$ would be injective as well.
- Now suppose there exists some a_i that is contained in P. We can write down $f(x) = u + v$ where u has coefficients in P and v does not have any coefficients in P. If possible, let $f(\alpha) = 0$ for $\alpha \in M[x]$, then we have $u\alpha = -v\alpha$, and so $u^2\alpha = v^2\alpha$ since $u^2\alpha = u(-v\alpha) = v(-u\alpha) = v^2\alpha$, and by induction we have $u^n\alpha = (-1)^n v^n \alpha$. Therefore, for large enough n such that $u^n\alpha = 0$, we know $v^n\alpha = 0$, and therefore we have a contradiction since v does not contain any coefficients in P.

□

Remark 1.35. Remark 1.24 would fail if P is not a maximal ideal: P^2 may not be P-primary in this case.

Let R be a Noetherian ring, we let $i_P : R \to R_P$ be the localization away from P, from R to the local ring with maximal ideal PR_P, then we have $(PR_P)^n = P^n R_P$ to be PR_P-primary. Therefore, this gives a mapping from P^n to $P^n R_P = (PR_P)^n$. We now denote $P^{(n)} := i_P^{-1}(P_n R_P)$ to be the nth symbolic power of P, then $P^{(n)}$ is P-primary. (Indeed, we note that P is disjoint from $R \backslash P$, so given $M \to S^{-1}M$ pulling $S^{-1}P$-primary module $S^{-1}N$ back to M gives a P-primary module.) In particular, $P^{(n)} \supseteq P^n$.

Exercise 1.36.

1.
   - Let R be Noetherian and M be finitely-generated. Show that $\ell_R(M) < \infty$ if and only if $\operatorname{Ass}_R(M)$ consists of maximal ideals only.
   - If $\ell_A(M) < \infty$, then M is a direct sum of coprimary submodules of M.
2. Now let R be a Noetherian ring and P be a prime ideal. Prove that the following are equivalent:
   (i) P is an essential prime ideal of some submodule N of M.
   (ii) $M_P \neq 0$.
   (iii) $P \supseteq \operatorname{Ann}_R(M)$.
   (iv) P contains some $Q \in \operatorname{Ass}(M)$.
3. Let $R = k[x, y, z]$ for some field k, and let $P = (xz - y^2, x^3 - yz, z^2 - x^2y)$.
   - Prove that P is a prime ideal of R.
   - Is P^2 P-primary?

   Hint: consider

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi : k[x, y, z] &\to k[t] \\ x &\mapsto t^3 \\ y &\mapsto t^4 \\ z &\mapsto t^5 \end{aligned}$$

   and show that $\ker(\varphi) = P$.

1.2 Infinitely-generated Case

Now let R be a Noetherian ring, and M is not finitely-generated.

Definition 1.37 (Coprimary)**.** M is called coprimary if for any $a \in R$, we have multiplication map $a : M \to M$ to be either injective, or locally nilpotent, i.e., for all $x \in M$, there exists n_x such that $a^{n_x} x = 0$.

Therefore, any submodule of M is coprimary. Now we define the associated primes to be $\operatorname{Ass}_R(M)$ to be the set of prime ideals in R such that there exists an injection $A/p \hookrightarrow M$, i.e., R/p is a cyclic submodule of M.

Theorem 1.38. Let R and M be as above. For any $P \in \operatorname{Ass}_R(M)$, there exists a P-primary submodule $N(P)$ of M such that $(0) = \bigcap_{P \in \operatorname{Ass}_R(M)} N(P)$, which may be infinite.

Example 1.39. Let A and B be Noetherian rings and M be a finitely-generated A-module, and we say have a ring homomorphism $\varphi : B \to A$. Via the pullback over φ, we make M into a B-module, but M may not be finitely-generated as a B-module. For instance, take $A = \mathbb{Z}$ and $B = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Exercise 1.40. Let $\varphi : B \to A$ be a homomorphism of Noetherian rings. If M is a finitely-generated A-module, then via the pullback of φ, M is a B-module. We write it as ${}_{\varphi}M$. Prove that $\operatorname{Ass}_A({}_{\varphi}M) = \varphi^{-1}(\operatorname{Ass}_A(M))$.

2 Filtered Rings and Modules, Completions

Definition 2.1 (Topological Ring)**.** Let R be a ring with addition φ and multiplication ψ. Suppose R has a topology such that φ and ψ are continuous, then we say R is a topological ring with respect to the given topology. That is, the topology respects the algebraic structure.

Similarly, we can define a topological group with respect to multiplication and inverse, and a topological module with respect to addition and scalar multiplication.

Remark 2.2. A topological ring R (respectively, topological group G, topological module M) is Hausdorff if and only if (0) is closed in R (respectively, (e) is closed in G, (0) is closed in M).

Let M be a topological module, consider

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi: M\times M &\to M\\ (x,y)&\mapsto x-y\end{aligned}$$

then the diagonal is given by $\varphi^{-1}(0)=\{(x,x)\mid x\in M\}=\Delta_M$. Now suppose (0) is closed, which gives Δ_M to be closed, hence M is Hausdorff.

Definition 2.3 (Pseudo-metric Space)**.** We say (X,d) is a pseudo-metric space if we have a function $d: X\times X\to\mathbb{R}^{\geqslant 0}$ such that

1. $d(x,y)+d(y,z)\geqslant d(x,z)$,
2. $d(x,y)=d(y,x)$,
3. $d(x,x)=0$.

This becomes a metric space if $d(x,y)=0$ if and only if $x=y$.

Remark 2.4. A pseudo-metric space is a Hausdorff if and only if it is a metric space.

Definition 2.5 (Completion)**.** Let (X,d) be a (pseudo-)metric space, then the completion $(\hat{X},\hat{d})$ of (X,d) is a complete (all Cauchy sequences converge) metric space $\hat{X}$ with a metric $\hat{d}$ with a map $\varphi: X\to\hat{X}$ such that

1. φ respects both d and $\hat{d}$,
2. $\varphi(X)$ is dense in $\hat{X}$, and
3. We have

$$\begin{tikzcd} X \arrow[rr, "\varphi"] \arrow[dr, "\psi"'] & & \hat{X} \arrow[dl, "\theta"] \\ & Y & \end{tikzcd}$$

that is, given any complete metric space Y and a continuous map $\psi: X\to Y$, there exists a unique map $\theta:\hat{X}\to Y$ such that the diagram commutes.

Remark 2.6. If $W\subseteq X$, then $\hat{W}\cong\overline{\varphi(W)}$.

Definition 2.7 (Directed Set)**.** Let $(I,\leqslant)$ be a poset, then I is called a directed set if for all pairs of $\alpha,\beta\in I$, there exists $\gamma\in I$ such that $\alpha\leqslant\gamma$ and $\beta\leqslant\gamma$.

Definition 2.8 (Inverse Limit)**.** We say $\{X_\alpha\}_{\alpha\in I}$ is an inverse family indexed by I if for all $\alpha\leqslant\beta$, there exists maps $\varphi_{\alpha,\beta}: X_\beta\to X_\alpha$ such that for all $\alpha\leqslant\beta\leqslant\gamma$, we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{tikzcd} X_\gamma \arrow[rr, "\varphi_{\alpha\gamma}"] \arrow[dr, "\varphi_{\beta\gamma}"'] & & X_\alpha \\ & X_\beta \arrow[ur, "\varphi_{\alpha\beta}"'] & \end{tikzcd}$$

An inverse limit of $\{X_\alpha\}_{\alpha\in I}$ is an object X with maps $\varphi_\alpha : X \to X_\alpha$ for all $\alpha \in I$ such that the diagram

$$\begin{tikzcd} X \arrow[rr, "\varphi_\alpha"] \arrow[dr, "\varphi_\beta"'] & & X_\alpha \\ & X_\beta \arrow[ur, "\varphi_{\alpha\beta}"'] & \end{tikzcd}$$

commutes for all $\alpha, \beta \in I$, and for all Y such that the diagram

$$\begin{tikzcd} Y \arrow[rr, "\psi_\alpha"] \arrow[dr, "\psi_\beta"'] & & X_\alpha \\ & X_\beta \arrow[ur, "\varphi_{\alpha\beta}"'] & \end{tikzcd}$$

commutes for all $\alpha, \beta \in I$, then there exists $f : Y \to X$ such that

$$\begin{tikzcd} Y \arrow[rr, "f"] \arrow[dr, "\psi_\alpha"'] & & X \arrow[dl, "\varphi_\alpha"] \\ & X_\beta & \end{tikzcd}$$

commutes for all α.

Remark 2.9. To construct such inverse limits, we take $\tilde{X} = \prod\limits_{\alpha\in I} X_\alpha$, then we have an embedding $X \hookrightarrow \tilde{X}$ where

$$X = \left\{ \prod_{\alpha\in I} X_\alpha \mid \forall \alpha \leqslant \beta, \varphi(X_\beta) = X_\alpha \right\}.$$

We denote the inverse limit to be $X = \varprojlim X_\alpha$.

Exercise 2.10. Consider $X_0 \supseteq X_1 \supseteq \cdots \supseteq X_n \supseteq \cdots$, then the inverse limit $\varprojlim X_n = \bigcap\limits_{n\geqslant 0} X_n$.

Exercise 2.11. Let A be a commutative ring, and consider $A[x]$ or $A[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$. Let $I = (x)$, or respectively the maximal ideal $(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$. Then we have a map $\cdots \to A[x]/I^{n+1} \to A[x]/I^n \to A[x]/I^{n-1} \to \cdots \to A[x]/I$, so $\varprojlim A[x]/I^n \cong A[[x]]$.

Remark 2.12. By Hilbert's theorem, we know if A is Noetherian, then so is $A[x]$; similarly, if A is Noetherian, then so is $A[[x]]$.

Definition 2.13 (Graded Ring)**.** We say a commutative ring A is graded if A contains a sequence of $\{A_n\}_{n\geqslant 1}$ of subgroups such that

- $A_i \cdot A_j \subseteq A_{i+j}$,
- $A = \bigoplus\limits_{i\geqslant 0} A_i$.

By definition, this implies A_0 is a subring of A, and $A_+ = \bigoplus\limits_{i\geqslant 1} A_i$ is an ideal, usually called the irrelevant ideal.

Exercise 2.14.
1. $1 \in A_0$,
2. A is Noetherian if and only if A_0 is Noetherian and A_+ is a finitely-generated ideal of A.

2.1 Filtrations of Rings and Modules

Let A be a commutative ring, not necessarily Noetherian, and let M be an A-module.

Definition 2.15 (Filtered Ring). A is called a filtered ring if it admits a filtration $\{A_n\}_{n\geqslant 0}$ where A_i's form a descending sequence of subgroups of A.

Since the descending chain satisfies $A_i \cdot A_j \subseteq A_{i+j}$, then each A_i for $i > 0$ is an ideal of A. We now write $A \sim \{A_n\}_{n\geqslant 0}$, associating A with its filtration.

Definition 2.16 (Filtered Module). M is called a filtered A-module if there exists a descending chain of subgroups $M_0 \supseteq M_1 \supseteq \cdots$ of M such that $A_i \cdot M_j \subseteq M_{i+j}$.

This implies each M_j is an A-submodule.

Example 2.17. Let I be an ideal of A, and let $A_n = I^n$. Let M be an A-module, with $M_n = I^n M$. The associated filtrations are called the I-adic filtration of A and of M.

Definition 2.18 (Induced Filtration, Image Filtration). Let $A \sim \{A_n\}$ and $M \sim \{M_n\}$. Let $N \subseteq M$ be a submodule. The induced filtration on N is given by $N_n = N \cap M_n$ for all n.

Let $f : M \to T$ be a surjective A-linear map of modules, then the filtration defined by $T_n = f(M_n)$ is the image filtration of T.

Definition 2.19 (Filtered Map, Strict Morphism). Let $M \sim \{M_n\}$ and $N \sim \{N_n\}$ be filtrations. A map $f : M \to N$ is called a filtered map if for all n, $f(M_n) \subseteq N_n$.

If $f : M \to N$ is a filtered map, suppose $f(M)$ has an induced filtration with $f(M)_n = f(M) \cap N_n$, as well as an image filtration of $\{f(M_n)\}$. We say f is a strict morphism if for any n, $f(M_n) = f(M) \cap N_n = f(M)_n$. Note that by definition we have $f(M_n) \subseteq f(M) \cap N_n$.

2.2 Topology and metric on Filtered Rings and Modules

Definition 2.20 (Fundamental System). Let $A \sim \{A_n\}$ and $M \sim \{M_n\}$. We declare $\{A_n\}$ (respectively, $\{M_n\}$) as a fundamental system of open neighborhoods of (0) in A (respectively, M). For any $x \in A$ (respectively, $x \in M$), $x + A_n$ (respectively, $x + M_n$) form a fundamental system of neighborhoods of x. This presumption defines a topology on A corresponding to $\{A_n\}$ (respectively, M corresponding to $\{M_n\}$).

Remark 2.21. A is a topological ring and M is a topological A-module with respect to this filtration.

Lemma 2.22. Let $M \sim \{M_n\}$ with $N \subseteq M$, and let $\bar{N}$ be the closure of N in M, then this is just $\bigcap\limits_{n\geqslant 0} N + M_n$.

Proof. Let $x \in \bar{N}$, then there exists n such that $(x + M_n) \cap N \neq \varnothing$. Therefore, there exists $y_n \in M_n$ and $z \in N$ such that $x + y_n = z$, therefore $x = z - y_n \in N + M_n$ for all n. Conversely, let $x \in \bigcap\limits_{n\geqslant 0} N + M_n$. When $x \in N + M_n$, then we can write $x = z + y_n$ for $z \in N$ and $y_n \in M_n$. Therefore, $x - y_n = z$, so $(x + M_n) \cap N \neq \varnothing$. □

Corollary 2.23. $\overline{(0)} = \bigcap\limits_{n\geqslant 0} M_n = \bigcap\limits_{n\geqslant 0} A_n$. Therefore, A (respectively, M) is Hausdorff if and only if $\bigcap\limits_{n\geqslant 0} A_n = 0$ (respectively, $\bigcap\limits_{n\geqslant 0} M_n = 0$).

Exercise 2.24. Let $f : M \to N$ be a filtered map, then f is continuous.

Let $0 < c < 1$.

If we assume A (or M) is Hausdorff, i.e., $\bigcap\limits_{n\geqslant 0} A_n = 0$ ($\bigcap\limits_{n\geqslant 0} M_n = 0$). Denote $d(x, y) = c^n$, where n is the largest integer such that $x - y \in M_n$.

If we assume A (or M) is not Hausdorff, i.e., $\bigcap\limits_{n\geqslant 0} A_n \neq 0$ ($\bigcap\limits_{n\geqslant 0} M_n \neq 0$). We can still define the notion of distance as above, but in addition we need: if $x - y \in \bigcap\limits_{n\geqslant 0} M_n$, then $d(x, y) = 0$.

Recall that a sequence $\{x_n\}$ is Cauchy if for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists N such that $d(x_n, x_m) < \varepsilon$ for all $n, m \geqslant N$. Therefore, given by M_n, there exists N such that for all $s, r \geqslant N$, then $x_r - x_s \in M_n$. Note that it suffices to have $x_{N+1} - x_N \in M_n$, since by telescoping we get what we want over the additive structure of the module. Hence, $\{x_n\}$ is Cauchy if and only if $\{x_n - x_{n-1}\} \to 0$ as $n \to \infty$.

Exercise 2.25. Let M be a complete metric space with respect to $\{M_n\}$, then $\{x_n\} \in M$ has a convergent sum $\sum_{n \geqslant 0} x_n$ if and only if $x_n \to 0$.

Theorem 2.26. Let $M \sim \{M_n\}$ be filtered and Hausdorff. Suppose M is complete with respect to $\{M_n\}$. Let N be a closed submodule of M, then $\bar{M} = M/N$ with respect to the image filtration $\{\bar{M}_n\}$ is also complete (Hausdorff).

Proof. $\bar{M}$ is Hausdorff since $N = \bar{N} = \bigcap_{n \geqslant 0} (N + M_n)$. Consider $\eta : M \to \bar{M}$, then this is Hausdorff and we want to show this is complete. Let $\{\bar{x}_n\}$ be a Cauchy sequence in $\bar{M}$, then $\bar{x}_{n+1} - \bar{x}_n \in \bar{M}_{i(n)}$ for all $n \geqslant N$, for some $i(n)$ corresponding to n. In particular, $i(n) \to \infty$ as $n \to \infty$. Let x_i be the lift of $\bar{x}_i$ in M, then we have $x_{n+1} - x_n = y_n + z_n$ for some $y_n \in M_{i(n)}$ and $z_n \in N$. By telescoping, we have $x_n - x_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} y_i + \tilde{z}$ for some $\tilde{z} \in N$. But for $n \to \infty$, we have large enough $i(n) \gg 0$, therefore the sequence $\{y_n\}$ satisfies $y_n \in M_{i(n)}$, therefore $y_n \to 0$ for $n \to \infty$, thus the sequence $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} y_n$ converges. Hence, as $n \to \infty$, we have $\lim_{n \to \infty} \bar{x}_n = \bar{x}_1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \bar{y}_n + \tilde{z} = \bar{x}_1 + \bar{y}$. $\square$

Definition 2.27 (Null Sequence, Completion)**.** A Cauchy sequence $\{x_n\}$ with $x_n \to 0$ is called a null sequence.

Let $M \sim \{M_n\}$ not necessarily be Hausdorff, then we obtain the completion $\hat{M}$ of M with respect to $\{M_n\}$ (or the metric defined on $\{M_n\}$) by defining $\hat{M}$ as the set of equivalence classes of all Cauchy sequences in M, over the submodules generated by null sequences.

Remark 2.28. Recall that we define the completion $\hat{X}$ of a space X as the equivalence class of sets of all Cauchy sequences over the relation $x = (x_n) \sim y = (y_n)$ if and only if $d(x_n, y_n) \to 0$ as $n \to \infty$. In our case, we have $\{x_n - y_n\}$ forming a null sequence.

Similarly, we can define the completion $\hat{A}$ of a ring A to be the equivalence class of the sets of all Cauchy sequences over the ideal generated by the null sequences.

Remark 2.29. $\hat{M}$ is a topological $\hat{A}$-module. In particular, if $\{a_n\}$'s define a Cauchy sequence in A and $\{m_n\}$'s define a Cauchy sequence in M, then $\{a_n m_n\}$'s define a Cauchy sequence in M.

The corresponding mapping is given by

$$\begin{aligned} i : M &\to \hat{M} \\ x &\mapsto \{x\}, \end{aligned}$$

that is, the image is the constant sequence defined by $x_n = x$ for all n. Note that this is not necessarily injective. However, $i(M)$ is dense in $\hat{M}$.

Remark 2.30. The completion $\tilde{M}$ of M satisfies the following universal property: given any complete space T, there is $g : M \to T$ and $f : \hat{M} \to T$ such that $g = fi$ is a commutative diagram. In particular, if $\{x_n\}$ is Cauchy in M, then the image $g(x_n)$ is Cauchy in T. If we define $f(x = (x_n)) = y$, then $g(x_n) \to y$ in T.

Note that given any M_n in M, we have $\overline{i(M_n)} = \hat{M}_n$.

Definition 2.31 (Hausdorffication)**.** The quotient $M/\ker(i)$ is called the Hausdorffication of M.

Remark 2.32. By Theorem 2.26, $\hat{M}/\hat{M}_n$ is complete, then there is an induced mapping $\bar{i}_n : M/M_n \to \hat{M}/\hat{M}_n$. Now $\operatorname{im}(\bar{i}_n)$ is dense in $\hat{M}/\hat{M}_n$, then $\widehat{M/M_n} = \hat{M}/\hat{M}_n$. Recall that M_n is defined to be open in M via the fundamental system, now cosets of M_n are of the form $x + M_n \cong M_n$ with respect to a homeomorphism, hence $M \backslash M_n$ is open, so M_n is also closed in M. Therefore, M/M_n is discrete, so $\overline{(0)}$ is clopen, therefore M/M_n is complete, therefore $M/M_n \cong \hat{M}/\hat{M}_n$.

3 Dimension Theory

4 Integral Extensions

5 Noether's Normalization Lemma

6 Homological Algebra