

MATH 502 Notes

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Throughout the notes, we 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 $n \geq N$, $M_n = M_{n+1}$.

- (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 $x_2 \in N \setminus (x_1)$, 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 $N = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ 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 $n \geq N$, $M_n = M_{n+1}$.

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

Proof. Again, Zorn's lemma. \square

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)

$$\left\langle \frac{1}{p} \right\rangle \subseteq \left\langle \frac{1}{p^2} \right\rangle \subseteq \cdots \subseteq \left\langle \frac{1}{p^n} \right\rangle \subseteq \cdots$$

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 $\pi : M \rightarrow M/N$ 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 Noetherian (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 $n \geq m_0, n_0$, then $N \cap M_n = N \cap M_{n+1}$, hence $M_n = M_{n+1} = \cdots$ for such n . \square

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 $\mathcal{J} \neq \emptyset$, 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 $J + Aa, J + Ab \notin \mathcal{J}$, 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 \mathfrak{J} . 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 $\pi : A \rightarrow A/J$, 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. ■

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. □

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

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

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

This homomorphism is injective if A is a domain.

Remark 0.27. Let I be an ideal of A .

- Consider the ring homomorphism $f : A \rightarrow S^{-1}A$ above, then

$$S^{-1}I = IS^{-1}A = f(I)S^{-1}A.$$

In particular, $f^{-1}(IS^{-1}A) \supseteq I$.

- If $I \cap S \neq \emptyset$, then $IS^{-1}A = S^{-1}A$.
- If P is a prime ideal of A such that $P \cap S = \emptyset$, 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 $0 \rightarrow N \xrightarrow{f} M$, 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

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

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 $\varphi\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_i}{s_i} \otimes m_i\right) = 0$ (since this is a finite sum), then $\varphi\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_i}{s_i} \otimes m_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_i m_i}{s_i} = 0$. 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 $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_i}{s_i} \otimes m_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{b_i}{s} \otimes m_i$, therefore

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

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

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

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

□

Proposition 0.30. The map $A \rightarrow S^{-1}A$ 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 $S = A \setminus \mathfrak{p}$ 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 $M_{\mathfrak{m}}$, then there exists $t \in A \setminus \mathfrak{m}$ 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 $m_a : M \rightarrow M$ 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 $P = \{a \in A \mid a : M \rightarrow M \text{ is nilpotent}\}$, then P is a prime ideal of A .

Proof. For $a, b \notin P$, $a, b : M \rightarrow M$ are injective maps, so $ab : M \rightarrow M$ 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

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

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 $P = (a_1, \dots, a_r)$, then $a_i^{t_i} \cdot x = 0$ for all i and some t_i 's. Let $t = t_1 + \dots + t_r$, 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 $y \in P^{j-1} \setminus I$, so $\bar{y} \neq 0$ in A/P , taking the injection into M , then $\text{Ann}_A(\bar{y}) = P$. 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

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

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 $x = \text{im}(X)$ and $z = \text{im}(Z)$. 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 not 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., $\bigcap_{j \neq i} N_j \not\subseteq N_i$.

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., $N = \bigcap_{i=1}^s N'_i$ 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 $T = T_1 \cap \dots \cap T_l$ 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 $W_1 = T_1 \cap \dots \cap T_r$ for irreducible T_i 's, and $W_2 = T'_1 \cap \dots \cap T'_s$ 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 $a : \bar{M} \rightarrow \bar{M}$ is either nilpotent or injective. Note that (0) in \bar{M} is irreducible. To see this, we take the ascending chain

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

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

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

Subproof of Subclaim. Let $x \in \ker(g) \cap \text{im}(g)$, 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 $N = N'_1 \cap \cdots \cap N'_s$ 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 , $p \in \{P_1, \dots, P_r\}$ if and only if there exists an injection $A/p \hookrightarrow M/N$.

Subproof. Let $p \in \{P_1, \dots, P_r\}$, 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 $p \in \{P_1, \dots, P_r\}$, it suffices to show $A/p \hookrightarrow M/N_i$ is injective for some $1 \leq i \leq r$. We have

$$\begin{array}{c} \varphi_i \\ \curvearrowright \\ A/p \xrightarrow{\varphi} M/N = \bar{M} \xrightarrow{\eta_i} \bar{M}/\bar{N}_i = M/N_i \end{array}$$

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

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

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

□

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 $\{P_1, \dots, P_r\}$ 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 $\text{Ass}_A(M) = \{P_1, \dots, P_r\}$.

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 $a : M/N_i \rightarrow M/N_i$ 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 $i : A/p \rightarrow M$.

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 $A/p \rightarrow M \rightarrow M/N$ 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 an associated prime of M .

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

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

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 $\{P \mid P \text{ prime ideal such that } P \supseteq I = \text{Ann}_A(M)\}$.

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

Proof. Note that $P \in \text{Ass}_A(M)$ 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 $\text{Ass}_A(L) = \emptyset$.

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

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & & A/q & & \\ & & & & \downarrow j & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & T & \longrightarrow & M & \xrightarrow{\eta} & M/T \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

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 $A/I \rightarrow A/I$ 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 $S \cap P = \emptyset$, then $S^{-1}M$ is $S^{-1}P$ -coprimary;
 - if $S \cap P \neq \emptyset$, then $S^{-1}M = 0$.

Proof. Indeed, suppose $S \cap P \neq \emptyset$, let $a : M \rightarrow M$ 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 $\frac{a}{s} : S^{-1}M \rightarrow S^{-1}M$ 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 $s^n : M \rightarrow M$ is the zero map, therefore $s^n : S^{-1}M \rightarrow S^{-1}M$ 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 $S \cap P = \emptyset$, then $S^{-1}N$ is $S^{-1}P$ -primary in $S^{-1}M$;
 - if $S \cap P \neq \emptyset$, 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}, \dots, P_{i_r} are prime ideals for which $S \cap P_j = \emptyset$, where $P_j \in \{P_1, \dots, P_t\}$.

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

- if $S \cap P = \emptyset$, then $i_M : M \rightarrow S^{-1}M$ and $i_N : N \rightarrow S^{-1}N$ gives $i_M^{-1}(S^{-1}N) = N$;
- if $S \cap P \neq \emptyset$, 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 $\{P_1, \dots, P_t\}$, then $N_1 = N'_1$.

Proof. Let $S = A \setminus P_1$, then $S^{-1}N = S^{-1}N_1 = S^{-1}N'_1$. Now consider $i_M : M \rightarrow S^{-1}M$, this descends to $N_1 \rightarrow S^{-1}N_1 = S^{-1}N'_1$ and $N'_1 \rightarrow S^{-1}N'_1$, so $i_M^{-1}(S^{-1}N_1 = S^{-1}N'_1) = N_1 = N'_1$. \square

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

Lemma 1.33. Let $A \rightarrow B$ 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

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & N_1 \cap N_2 & \longrightarrow & N_1 & \longrightarrow & N_1/(N_1 \cap N_2) \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & N_2 & \longrightarrow & M & \longrightarrow & M/N_2 \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & N_2/(N_1 \cap N_2) & \longrightarrow & M/N_1 & \longrightarrow & M/(N_1 + N_2) \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{array}$$

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

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & (N_1 \cap N_2) \otimes_A B & \longrightarrow & N_1 \otimes_A B & \longrightarrow & (N_1/(N_1 \cap N_2)) \otimes_A B \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & N_2 \otimes_A B & \longrightarrow & M \otimes_A B & \longrightarrow & M/N_2 \otimes_A B \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & N_2/(N_1 \cap N_2) \otimes_A B & \longrightarrow & M/N_1 \otimes_A B & \longrightarrow & (M/(N_1 + N_2)) \otimes_A B \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{array}$$

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

Corollary 1.34. Suppose we have a primary decomposition $N = N_1 \cap \cdots \cap N_t$ in M , let $A \rightarrow A[x]$, 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 $M[x] = \sum_{i \geq 0} m_i x^i$ 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 $[f(x)]^p : M[x] \rightarrow M[x]$, 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 $m_0 + m_1 x + \cdots$, 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 $i_P : R \rightarrow R_P$ 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 n th symbolic power of P , then $P^{(n)}$ is P -primary. (Indeed, we note that P is disjoint from $R \setminus P$, so given $M \rightarrow S^{-1}M$ pulling $S^{-1}P$ -primary module $S^{-1}N$ back to M gives a P -primary module.) In particular, $P^{(n)} \supseteq P^n$.²

Exercise 1.36. 1. • Let R be Noetherian and M be finitely-generated. Show that $\ell_R(M) < \infty$ if and only if $\text{Ass}_R(M)$ 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) $P \supseteq \text{Ann}_R(M)$.

² $P^{(n)}$ is the unique P -primary component in the primary decomposition of P^n , and is the smallest P -primary ideal containing P^n . Therefore, $P^{(n)} = P^n$ if and only if P^n is primary.

- (iv) P contains some $Q \in \text{Ass}(M)$.
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

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

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 $a : M \rightarrow M$ 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 $\text{Ass}_R(M)$ 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 $P \in \text{Ass}_R(M)$, there exists a P -primary submodule $N(P)$ of M such that $(0) = \bigcap_{P \in \text{Ass}_R(M)} N(P)$, 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 $\varphi : B \rightarrow A$. 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 $\varphi : B \rightarrow A$ 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 $\text{Ass}_A({}_{\varphi}M) = \varphi^{-1}(\text{Ass}_A(M))$.

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

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

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 $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ such that

1. $d(x, y) + d(y, z) \geq d(x, z)$,
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 $\varphi : X \rightarrow \hat{X}$ such that

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

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & \hat{X} \\ & \searrow \psi & \swarrow \theta \\ & Y & \end{array}$$

that is, given any complete metric space Y and a continuous map $\psi : X \rightarrow Y$, there exists a unique map $\theta : \hat{X} \rightarrow Y$ 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, \leq) 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 $\alpha \leq \gamma$ and $\beta \leq \gamma$.

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

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_\gamma & \xrightarrow{\varphi_{\alpha\gamma}} & X_\alpha \\ & \searrow \varphi_{\beta\gamma} & \swarrow \varphi_{\alpha\beta} \\ & X_\beta & \end{array}$$

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

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\varphi_\alpha} & X_\alpha \\ & \searrow \varphi_\beta & \nearrow \varphi_{\alpha\beta} \\ & X_\beta & \end{array}$$

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

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{\psi_\alpha} & X_\alpha \\ & \searrow \psi_\beta & \nearrow \varphi_{\alpha\beta} \\ & X_\beta & \end{array}$$

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

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{f} & X \\ & \searrow \psi_\alpha & \nearrow \varphi_\alpha \\ & X_\beta & \end{array}$$

commutes for all α .

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

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

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 $\varprojlim X_n = \bigcap_{n \geq 0} X_n$.

Exercise 2.11. Let A be a commutative ring, and consider $A[x]$ or $A[x_1, \dots, x_n]$. Let $I = (x)$, or respectively the maximal ideal (x_1, \dots, x_n) . Then we have a map $\cdots \rightarrow A[x]/I^{n+1} \rightarrow A[x]/I^n \rightarrow A[x]/I^{n-1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow A[x]/I$, 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 $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ of subgroups such that

- $A_i \cdot A_j \subseteq A_{i+j}$,
- $A = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} A_i$.

By definition, this implies A_0 is a subring of A , and $A_+ = \bigoplus_{i \geq 1} A_i$ 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 $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 0}$ 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 $A \sim \{A_n\}_{n \geq 0}$, 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 $f : M \rightarrow T$ 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 $f : M \rightarrow N$ is called a filtered map if for all n , $f(M_n) \subseteq N_n$.

If $f : M \rightarrow N$ 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 $\bigcap_{n \geq 0} N + M_n$.

Proof. Let $x \in \bar{N}$, then there exists n such that $(x + M_n) \cap N \neq \emptyset$. 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 $x \in \bigcap_{n \geq 0} N + M_n$. 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 $(x + M_n) \cap N \neq \emptyset$. \square

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

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

Let $0 < c < 1$.

If we assume A (or M) is Hausdorff, i.e., $\bigcap_{n \geq 0} A_n = 0$ ($\bigcap_{n \geq 0} M_n = 0$). 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., $\bigcap_{n \geq 0} A_n \neq 0$ ($\bigcap_{n \geq 0} M_n \neq 0$). We can still define the notion of distance as above, but in addition we need: if $x - y \in \bigcap_{n \geq 0} M_n$, 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 $n, m \geq N$. Therefore, given by M_n , there exists N such that for all $s, r \geq N$, 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 $\{x_n - x_{n-1}\} \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

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

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 $N = \bar{N} = \bigcap_{n \geq 0} (N + M_n)$. Consider $\eta : M \rightarrow \bar{M}$, 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 $n \geq N$, for some $i(n)$ corresponding to n . In particular, $i(n) \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. 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 $n \rightarrow \infty$, we have large enough $i(n) \gg 0$, therefore the sequence $\{y_n\}$ satisfies $y_n \in M_{i(n)}$, therefore $y_n \rightarrow 0$ for $n \rightarrow \infty$, thus the sequence $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} y_n$ converges. Hence, as $n \rightarrow \infty$, we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bar{x}_n = \bar{x}_1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \bar{y}_n + \tilde{z} = \bar{x}_1 + \bar{y}$. \square

2.3 COMPLETION

Definition 2.27 (Null Sequence, Completion). A Cauchy sequence $\{x_n\}$ with $x_n \rightarrow 0$ 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 $d(x_n, y_n) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. 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

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

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 \hat{M} of M satisfies the following property: given any complete space T , there is $g : M \rightarrow T$ and $f : \hat{M} \rightarrow T$ such that $g = f \circ i$ 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 $g(x_n) \rightarrow y$ 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 $\bar{i}_n : M / M_n \rightarrow \hat{M} / \hat{M}_n$. Now $\text{im}(\bar{i}_n)$ is dense in \hat{M} / \hat{M}_n , then $\overline{M / M_n} = \hat{M} / \hat{M}_n$. 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 $M \setminus M_n$ 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 $M / M_n \cong \hat{M} / \hat{M}_n$, i.e., isomorphic to the completion. In particular, $i^{-1}(\hat{M}_n) = M_n$ (with $M \cap \hat{M}_n = M_n$).

Remark 2.33. $\bigcap \hat{M}_n = (0)$ and $\{\hat{M}_n\}$ constitutes a fundamental system of open neighborhoods in \hat{M} .

Definition 2.34. Let $A \sim \{A_n\}$ and $M \sim \{M_n\}$, with $\bar{A} \sim \{\bar{A}_n\}$ and $\bar{M} \sim \{\bar{M}_n\}$. We define $E_0(A) = A / A_1 \oplus A_1 / A_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus A_n / A_{n+1} \oplus \cdots$ as a graded ring, and similarly we can define $E_0(M)$. This is called the graded ring (respectively, module) associated to the filtration.

Remark 2.35. In particular, $E_0(M)$ is a graded $E_0(A)$ -module. We have

$$\begin{aligned} A_i/A_{i+1} \times A_j/A_{j+1} &\rightarrow A_{i+j}/A_{i+j+1} \\ (\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\mu}) &\mapsto \overline{\lambda\mu} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} A_i/A_{i+1} \times M_i/M_{i+1} &\rightarrow M_{i+j}/M_{i+j+1} \\ (\bar{\lambda}, \bar{x}) &\mapsto \overline{\lambda x} \end{aligned}$$

We have $E_0(A) \cong E_0(\hat{A})$ and $E_0(M) \cong E_0(\hat{M})$ since $A_i/A_{i+1} \cong \hat{A}_i/\hat{A}_{i+1}$ and $M_i/M_{i+1} \cong \hat{M}_i/\hat{M}_{i+1}$.

Remark 2.36. Note that $k[x]$ has transcendental degree 1 over k and $k[[x]]$ has infinite transcendental degree over k , but by [Remark 2.35](#) we know

$$\bigoplus \frac{x^n \cdot k[x]}{x^{n+1} \cdot k[x]} \cong \bigoplus \frac{x^n \cdot k[[x]]}{x^{n+1} \cdot k[[x]]}.$$

Definition 2.37 (Inverse Limit). Let $A \sim \{A_n\}$ and $M \sim \{M_n\}$, then we can construct the completion of A (and similarly of M) via inverse limit. We denote $M^* = \varprojlim M/M_n = \{\prod \bar{x}_n : (\bar{x}_n) \in \prod M/M_n, \eta_{n+1}(\bar{x}_{n+1}) = \bar{x}_n \forall n\}$ associated with the directed system

$$\cdots \longrightarrow M/M_{n+1} \xrightarrow[\bar{x}_{n+1} \mapsto \bar{x}_n]{\eta_{n+1}} M/M_n \xrightarrow{\eta_n} M/M_{n-1} \longrightarrow \cdots$$

Therefore this is true if and only if $x_{n+1} - x_n \in M_n$ for any n , so we obtain a Cauchy sequence as mentioned previously. Now M/M_n is discrete hence complete, therefore the associated topology $\prod M/M_n$ of countable products is complete in the product topology. Therefore, since each M/M_n is a metric space, then the countable product is still a metric space $\prod M/M_n$.

Exercise 2.38. Show that M^* is a closed submodule of $\prod M/M_n$. In particular, since $\prod M/M_n$ is complete, then M^* is also complete.

Remark 2.39. The associated map is

$$\begin{aligned} i : M &\rightarrow M^* \\ x &\mapsto (\bar{x}, \bar{x}, \bar{x}, \dots) \end{aligned}$$

and $i(M)$ is dense in M^* . For any M_n , the image $i(M_n) = (\bar{0}, \dots, \bar{0}, \bar{x}, \bar{x}, \dots)$ for some $x \in M_n$ with the first n coordinates as 0. In general, we have the mapping

$$M^* \xleftarrow{j} \prod M/M_n \xrightarrow{\pi_n} M/M_n$$

and $\overline{i(M_n)} = (\pi_n j)^{-1}(\bar{0}) = j^{-1} \pi_n^{-1}(\bar{0})$. For any $Z_n \in M/M_n$, the preimage

$$\pi_n^{-1}(Z_n) = M/M_1 \times M/M_{n-1} \times Z_n \times M/M_{n+1} \times \cdots,$$

so

$$j^{-1}(\pi_n^{-1}(0)) = j^{-1}(M/M_1 \times M/M_{n-1} \times \bar{0} \times M/M_{n+1} \times \cdots) = \overline{j(M_n)} = M_n^*.$$

It now follows that $\bigcap M_n^* = (0)$.

Remark 2.40. We now have the following universal property: for any $M \rightarrow M^*$ and mapping $f : M \rightarrow N$ for some complete Hausdorff space N , then there exists a unique $g : M^* \rightarrow N$ such that the diagram commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{\quad} & M^* \\ & \searrow f & \swarrow \exists! g \\ & & N \end{array}$$

Indeed, M^* is the set of elements (\bar{x}_n) with $\eta_{n+1}(\bar{x}_{n+1}) = \bar{x}_n$, therefore this is the set of elements (x_n) with $x_{n+1} - x_n \in M_n$ for all n , therefore $\{x_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence, so for $y = \varprojlim f(x_n)$, therefore $g((\bar{x}_n)) = y$. Now if $\{x'_n\}$ is another lift of $(\bar{x}_n) \in M^*$, then we can check that $\{x_n - x'_n\} \rightarrow 0$ for $n \rightarrow \infty$, hence $\varprojlim f(x_n) = \varprojlim f(x'_n)$, so $M^* = \bar{M}$, $M_n^* = \bar{M}_n$ and so on.

Lemma 2.41. Let $R = A[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, $I = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$, then the I -adic completion is equivalent to the completion with respect to I -adic filtration corresponding to the topology. i.e., the completion of $A[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is $\hat{A}[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$.

Lemma 2.42. Say $A \sim \{A_n\}$, and suppose A is Hausdorff, i.e., $\bigcap A_n = (0)$, then if $E_0(A)$ is a domain, then A is also a domain.

Proof. Suppose not, then we can pick $x \neq 0$ and $y \neq 0$ such that $xy = 0$, then $x \in A_n \setminus A_{n+1}$ and $y \in A_m \setminus A_{m+1}$ for some n, m , then considering the decomposition of $E_0(A)$ we have $\bar{x} \neq 0$ in A_n/A_{n+1} and $\bar{y} \neq 0$ in A_m/A_{m+1} , so $\bar{y}\bar{x} = \overline{yx} = 0$, this is a contradiction to the fact that $E_0(A)$ is a domain, therefore A is a domain. \square

Definition 2.43. Let A and M be filtered and Hausdorff, say $x \in M$ be such that $x \in M_n \setminus M_{n+1}$ with largest such n , then we say n is the filtered degree of x .

Theorem 2.44. Let $A \sim \{A_n\}$ and $M \sim \{M_n\}$ and $N \sim \{N_n\}$, and $f : M \rightarrow N$ be a filtered map. Suppose that M is complete, N is Hausdorff, and $E_0(f) : E_0(M) \rightarrow E_0(N)$ is onto, so we can write $E_0(M) = M/M_1 \oplus M_1/M_2 \oplus \dots \oplus M_n/M_{n+1}$ and $E_0(N) = N/N_1 \oplus N_1/N_2 \oplus \dots \oplus M_n/M_{n+1}$, then we have corresponding maps

$$E_0(f)_n : M_n/M_{n+1} \rightarrow N_n/N_{n+1} \\ (\bar{x}) \mapsto \overline{f(x)},$$

then f is onto, N is complete, and f is strict.

Proof. Since $E_0(f)$ is onto, take $x \in N$ and since N is Hausdorff, then $x \in N_n \setminus N_{n+1}$ for some n . Therefore, the induced mapping $E_0(f)_n : M_n/M_{n+1} \rightarrow N_n/N_{n+1}$ is onto. Therefore, for $\bar{x} \in N_n/N_{n+1}$, we can pick $y_n \in M_n$ such that $x - f(y_n) \in N_{n+1}$. Therefore, on the level of $E_0(f)_{n+1}$, we know $x - f(y_n) \in N_{n+1}/N_{n+2}$, therefore we can pick $y_{n+1} \in M_{n+1}$ such that $x - f(y_n) - f(y_{n+1}) \in N_{n+2}$. Proceeding inductively, we have a sequence of elements with $y_{n+t} \in M_{n+t}$ such that $x - \sum_{k=0}^t f(y_{n+k}) \in N_{n+t+1}$. Hence, we have a Cauchy sequence in M , and so this is a Cauchy sequence in M_n , so $y_{n+t} \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$, then $\sum_t y_{n+t}$ converges, thus the sum $y \in M_n$. One can check that $f(y) = \bar{x}$, so f is onto. But that means $f(M_n) = N_n$, so f is strict. We also note that $f^{-1}(0)$ is a closed submodule of M since N is Hausdorff, therefore by [Theorem 2.26](#) we know N is complete. \square

Corollary 2.45. Let A be complete with respect to the filtration, let M be Hausdorff. Suppose $E_0(M)$ is a finitely-generated graded module over $E_0(A)$, that is, there exists x_1, \dots, x_t , where the degree of \bar{x}_i is r_i , such that $E_0(M)$ is a graded module over $E_0(A)$ generated by $\bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_t$. If this is the case, then M is generated by x_1, \dots, x_t over A .

Proof. Denote $F = \bigoplus_{i=1}^t Ae_i$, then this induces a mapping

$$\varphi : F \rightarrow M \\ e_i \mapsto x_i$$

defined on the generators. Since this is a finite sum over complete ring A , then F is complete. Let r_i be the degree of x_i , then this imposes a filtration on Ae_i as follows:

$$(Ae_i)_j = \begin{cases} 0, & j \leq r_i \\ A_{j-r_i}e_i, & j > r_i \end{cases}$$

We implement this on all i 's, then the filtered degree of e_i is just r_i . Using this filtration, we induce a filtration on F , then we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E_0(F) & \xrightarrow{E_0(\varphi)} & E_0(M) \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ E_0\left(\bigoplus_{i=1}^t Ae_i\right) & \xrightarrow{\varphi'} & E_0(M) \end{array}$$

with induced map φ' , where φ' sends $\bar{\varphi}_i \mapsto \bar{x}_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq t$. Therefore, φ is onto as a $E_0(A)$ -module map. By [Theorem 2.44](#) we are done. \square

Corollary 2.46. Let $A \sim \{A_n\}$ be complete with respect to filtration, let M be Hausdorff with filtration $\{M_n\}$, and suppose $E_0(M)$ is Noetherian, then M is Noetherian as well.

Proof. Take submodule $N \subseteq M$, define $N_n = N \cap M_n$, then we have an induced filtration of N , therefore $E_0(N)$ is a submodule of $E_0(M)$ with $N_n/N_{n+1} \hookrightarrow M_n/M_{n+1}$ for all n . Hence, N is Hausdorff with respect to $\{N_n\}$, and $E_0(N)$ is a finitely-generated $E_0(A)$ -module, since $E_0(N)$ is a submodule of $E_0(M)$. By Corollary 2.45, this implies N is finitely-generated and complete. \square

Corollary 2.47. Under the same assumptions as in Corollary 2.46, every submodule N of M is a closed submodule.

Proof. By Corollary 2.46, N is complete, and every complete subspace of a Hausdorff space is closed, thus N is closed. \square

Corollary 2.48. Let (A, \mathfrak{m}) be quasi-local, i.e., \mathfrak{m} is the unique maximal ideal of a commutative ring (not necessarily Noetherian) A . In addition, suppose A is complete and Hausdorff with a \mathfrak{m} -adic filtration, i.e., $\bigcap \mathfrak{m}^n = (0)$. Let M be an A -module with respect to the filtration $\{\mathfrak{m}^n M\}$, and assume M is Hausdorff. If $\dim_{A/\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{m}M)$ is finite, and suppose \mathfrak{m} is a finitely-generated ideal in A , then M is a finitely-generated A -module.

Proof. We write down the decomposition

$$E_0(M) = M/\mathfrak{m}M \oplus \frac{\mathfrak{m}M}{\mathfrak{m}^2 M} \oplus \cdots \oplus \frac{\mathfrak{m}^n M}{\mathfrak{m}^{n+1} M} \oplus \cdots$$

and

$$E_0(A) = A/\mathfrak{m} \oplus \frac{\mathfrak{m}}{\mathfrak{m}^2} \oplus \cdots \oplus \frac{\mathfrak{m}^n}{\mathfrak{m}^{n+1}} \oplus \cdots$$

Denote $\mathfrak{m} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ to be the finitely-generated ideal, and since $A/\mathfrak{m} \cong k$ is a field, then we have a ring homomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \eta : k[x_1, \dots, x_n] &\rightarrow E_0(A) \\ x_i &\mapsto \bar{x}_i \in \mathfrak{m}/\mathfrak{m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

then η is onto, hence $E_0(A)$ is Noetherian. If we write $M/\mathfrak{m}M = k\{\bar{\alpha}_1, \dots, \bar{\alpha}_r\}$, then one can check that $E_0(M)$ is generated by $\bar{\alpha}_1, \dots, \bar{\alpha}_r$ for $\bar{\alpha}_i \in M/\mathfrak{m}M$ over $E_0(A)$. This implies $E_0(M)$ is Noetherian and thus M is finitely-generated over A by Corollary 2.46. \square

2.4 I-ADIC COMPLETION

Corollary 2.49. Let A be a commutative ring and I be a finitely-generated ideal over A such that A/I is Noetherian. Suppose A is I -adically complete, i.e., A is complete with respect to the filtration $\{I^n\}$, then A is Noetherian.

Proof. We write down

$$E_0(A) = A/I \oplus I/I^2 \oplus \cdots \oplus I^n/I^{n+1} \oplus \cdots$$

for $I = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$, then using the same argument we have a ring homomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \eta : A/I[x_1, \dots, x_n] &\rightarrow E_0(A) \\ x_i &\mapsto \bar{x}_i \in I/I^2 \end{aligned}$$

which is also surjective. Since A/I is Noetherian, then $A/I[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is also Noetherian, thus $E_0(A)$ is Noetherian, and by Corollary 2.46, we conclude that A is Noetherian. \square

Remark 2.50. Suppose A is Noetherian, and consider the completion $B = A[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$ of $A[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ with respect to the I -adic filtration where $I = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$. Therefore, $A[[x_1, \dots, x_n]] = \varprojlim A[x]/I^n$. Now B/IB is A -Noetherian, so by Corollary 2.49 we conclude that $A[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$ is also Noetherian.

Exercise 2.51. Let A be a commutative ring, and we assume it is Noetherian. Let $I \subsetneq J$ be ideals of A , and that $\bigcap J^n = (0)$. Suppose A is complete with respect to the J -adic topology. Prove that A is complete with respect to the I -adic topology as well.

Remark 2.52. We saw in [Remark 2.50](#) that $A[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$ is complete with respect to (x_1, \dots, x_n) , then the completeness holds for any $I \subseteq (x_1, \dots, x_n)$.

Proposition 2.53. Let A be commutative ring and M be a finitely-generated A -module, and suppose I is an ideal of A such that $M = IM$, then there exists $a \in I$ such that $(1 - a)M = 0$.

Remark 2.54. [Proposition 2.53](#) itself is a direct application of Cayley-Hamilton Theorem, and the proof below follows the same approach. This is also sometimes referred to as Nakayama Lemma (c.f., [Corollary 2.55](#)).

Proof. We write $M = \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \rangle$ and let I be such that $IM = M$, then

$$\alpha_1 = a_{11}\alpha_1 + \dots + a_{1n}\alpha_n$$

where $a_{1i} \in I$. In general, we have

$$\alpha_j = a_{j1}\alpha_1 + \dots + a_{jn}\alpha_n$$

for $a_{ji} \in I$. Therefore,

$$\begin{cases} (1 - a_{11})\alpha_1 - a_{12}\alpha_2 - \dots - a_{1n}\alpha_n &= 0 \\ -a_{21}\alpha_1 + (1 - a_{22})\alpha_2 - \dots - a_{2n}\alpha_n &= 0 \\ &\vdots \\ -a_{n1}\alpha_1 - a_{n2}\alpha_2 - \dots + (1 - a_{nn})\alpha_n &= 0 \end{cases}$$

and this gives a matrix

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - a_{11} & -a_{12} & \dots & -a_{1n} \\ -a_{21} & 1 - a_{22} & \dots & -a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -a_{n1} & -a_{n2} & \dots & 1 - a_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$

such that

$$CX := C \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

If we do the cofactor decomposition with respect to the first column, we have $\det(C) \cdot \alpha_1 + 0 \cdot \alpha_2 + \dots + 0 \cdot \alpha_n = 0$, hence $\det(C) \cdot \alpha_1 = 0$. If we do this for each column, we have $\det(C) \cdot \alpha_i = 0$ for all i , hence $\det(C) \cdot M = 0$. But note that $\det(C) = 1 - a$ for some $a \in I$, therefore $(1 - a)M = 0$.³ \square

Corollary 2.55 (Nakayama Lemma). Suppose I is an ideal of A contained in the Jacobson radical of A , and M is a finitely-generated A -module such that $M = IM$, then $M = 0$.

Proof. By [Proposition 2.53](#), there exists $a \in I$ such that $(1 - a)M = 0$. Note that the Jacobson radical is the intersection of all maximal ideals of A , so I is contained in all maximal ideals of A . Since $a \in I$, then $1 - a$ is a unit in A , so $M = 0$. \square

Exercise 2.56. Let A be a commutative ring and M be a finitely-generated A -module. Suppose $f : M \rightarrow M$ is a surjective A -linear map, then f is an isomorphism. *Hint:* use [Proposition 2.53](#).

From now on, we assume A is Noetherian, M is a finitely-generated A -module. Usually, we assume A and M have I -adic filtrations for some ideal $I \subseteq A$.

Lemma 2.57 (Artin-Rees). Let A be Noetherian and M is a finitely-generated A -module, and $I \subseteq A$ is an ideal. Given submodule $N \subsetneq M$, suppose there exists $k > 0$ such that for every n we have $N \cap I^{n+k}M = I^n(N \cap I^kM)$.

Remark 2.58. The proof essentially refers to the blow-up algebra, i.e., Rees algebra.

³The cleanest way to finish the proof would be to observe that $I \cdot \det(C) = (\text{adj}(C))C$ and so $I \cdot \det(C)X = (\text{adj}(C))CX = 0$. In particular, $\det(C) \cdot X = 0$ and since X generates M , then $\det(C) \cdot M = 0$. Note that this is equivalent to the given approach since the cofactor matrix induces $\text{adj}(C)$.

Proof. Note that the (\supseteq) direction is true by definition, so we only need to show the (\subseteq) direction. Let us write $\tilde{A} = A \oplus I \oplus I^2 \oplus \cdots$, more formally this is $A \oplus It \oplus I^2 t^2 \oplus \cdots \oplus I^n t^n \oplus \cdots \subseteq A[t]$.⁴ This is a graded ring. Similarly, we write $\tilde{M} = M \oplus IM \oplus I^2 M \oplus \cdots \oplus I^n M \oplus \cdots$.

Claim 2.59. \tilde{A} is a graded Noetherian ring.

Subproof. Let $I = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$, then the ring homomorphism

$$\eta : A[x_1, \dots, x_n] \rightarrow \tilde{A}$$

$$x_i \mapsto x_i,$$

is onto. Since A is Noetherian, then $A[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ is also Noetherian. Therefore, \tilde{A} is a graded Noetherian ring. \blacksquare

Suppose M is generated by $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$, then \tilde{M} is a finitely-generated graded \tilde{A} -module, generated by $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r \in M$ by the surjectivity of η . This implies that \tilde{M} is a graded Noetherian module. Now define

$$\tilde{N} = N \oplus (N \cap IM) \oplus (N \cap I^2 M) \oplus \cdots \oplus (N \cap I^k M) \oplus \cdots \oplus (N \cap I^{n+k} M) \oplus \cdots,$$

then $\tilde{N} \subseteq \tilde{M}$, so \tilde{N} is a finitely-generated graded \tilde{A} -module. Now each generator is a finite sum given by decomposition above, so each of the generating set must be a graded element. Hence, \tilde{N} is generated by finitely many elements, which are graded elements, say β_1, \dots, β_t where $\deg(\beta_i) = r_i$. Let $k = \max_{1 \leq i \leq t} r_i$, and we think of ways to obtain elements in $N \cap I^{n+k} M$. Considering the multiplicity of the degree, we know $I^{n+k-r_i} \beta_i \subseteq N \cap I^{n+k} M$ for each $1 \leq i \leq t$. Therefore, we have

$$N \cap I^{n+k} M = I^{n+k} N + I^{n+k-1} (N \cap IM) + \cdots + I^n (N \cap I^k M) = \sum_{j=0}^k I^{n+k-j} (N \cap I^j M).$$

Each $I^{n+k-j} (N \cap I^j M) = I^n \cdot I^{k-j} (N \cap I^j M) \subseteq I^n (N \cap I^k M)$, so the sum $N \cap I^{n+k} M \subseteq I^n (N \cap I^k M)$. \square

Corollary 2.60. Using the same assumption as in Lemma 2.57, let I be an ideal of A contained in the Jacobson radical of Noetherian ring A , then $\bigcap I^n M = (0)$.

Proof. Let $N = \bigcap I^n M$, then by Lemma 2.57, $I^n N = N = N \cap I^{n+k} M = I^n (N \cap I^k M)$, then by Corollary 2.55, $N = 0$. \square

Remark 2.61. In particular, Corollary 2.60 implies M is Hausdorff with respect to the I -adic topology, so the map $M \hookrightarrow \hat{M}$ is an injection by the mapping

$$M \rightarrow \varprojlim M/I^n M \subseteq \prod M/M^n M$$

$$x \mapsto (x, x, \dots)$$

Corollary 2.62. Using the same assumption as in Lemma 2.57, let A be a domain with ideal I , then $\bigcap I^n = (0)$.

Proof. Let $J = \bigcap I^n$, then $J \cap I^{n+k} A = I^n (J \cap I^k)$, so $J = I^n J$, then by Proposition 2.53 there exists $a \in I^n$ such that $(1-a)J = 0$, and since A is a domain, then $J = 0$. \square

Remark 2.63. Corollary 2.62 implies that under I -adic topology, the map $A \rightarrow \hat{A}$ is injective.

Definition 2.64. Let $A \sim \{I^n\}$ and $M \sim \{M_n\}$, not necessarily with respect to the I -adic filtration, then $\{M_n\}$ is called I -good if there exists $h > 0$ such that $M_{n+h} = I^n M_h$.

Remark 2.65. By Lemma 2.57, induced filtration is I -good. Topologically, given $A \sim \{I^n\}$ and $M \sim \{M_n\}$ such that $\{M_n\}$ is I -good, then $I^n M \subseteq M_h$ for some $h > 0$, so $M_{n+h} = I^n M_h \subseteq I^n M$. In this case, $\{I^n M\}$ and $\{M_n\}$ are cofinal with respect to each other and hence give the same topology on M . Moreover,

$$\varprojlim M/I^n M \cong \varprojlim M/M_n.$$

That is, the I -adic completion of M is equivalent to the completion of M with respect to $\{M_n\}$.

⁴For instance, we usually write $A[t]$ for $A \oplus At \oplus At^2 \oplus \cdots$.

Remark 2.66. Given an I -good filtration and a submodule N of M , $\{I^n N\}$ and $\{N \cap I^n M\}$ define the same topology on N , and hence the I -adic completion of N is equivalent to the completion of M with respect to $\{M_n\}$.

Proposition 2.67. Let A be Noetherian and a short exact sequence

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

of finitely-generated A -modules, and let I be an ideal of A , then we have a short exact sequence

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

where all completions are I -adic completions.

Proof. By Lemma 2.57, we know $\hat{N} = \varprojlim N/I^n N = \varprojlim N/(N \cap I^n M)$, then we have a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow N/(N \cap I^n M) \longrightarrow M/I^n M \longrightarrow T/I^n T \longrightarrow 0$$

for every $n > 0$. It now suffices to show that

$$0 \longrightarrow \varprojlim N/(N \cap I^n M) \longrightarrow \varprojlim M/I^n M \longrightarrow \varprojlim T/I^n T \longrightarrow 0$$

Exercise 2.68. $\ker(\bar{f}) = 0$ and $\text{im}(\hat{f}) = \ker(\hat{f})$.

We now show that \hat{g} is onto. Taking $\{z_n\}$ in $\varprojlim T/I^n T$, we want to show that there exists $\{y_n\}$ in $\varprojlim M/I^n M$ with image $\{z_n\}$, and we proceed inductively. Suppose we have constructed $\{y_i\}_{i \leq n}$ such that $\text{im}(y_i) = z_i$ with system $y_n \rightarrow y_{n-1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow y_1$, then there is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & N/(N \cap I^{n+1}M) & \xrightarrow{f_{n+1}} & M/I^{n+1}M & \xrightarrow{g_{n+1}} & T/I^{n+1}T \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & N/(N \cap I^n M) & \longrightarrow & M/I^n M & \longrightarrow & T/I^n T \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

where $y_n \in M/I^n M$ and $z_n \in T/I^n T$. Here all rows are exact and the vertical mappings are surjective. We proceed by diagram chasing. To find $y_{n+1} \in M/I^{n+1}M$ such that $\text{im}(y_{n+1}) = z_{n+1}$, since $g_{n+1} : M/I^{n+1}M \rightarrow T/I^{n+1}T$ is onto, then we lift it back to $x_{n+1} \in M/I^{n+1}M$ such that $g_{n+1}(x_{n+1}) = z_{n+1}$, and now there is x_n landing in $M/I^n M$ by the vertical mapping. Note that by definition x_n now lands in z_n by the vertical mapping, so we have both $y_n \rightarrow z_n$ and $x_n \rightarrow z_n$, therefore $y_n - x_n \rightarrow 0$, now we lift it back to w_n in $N/(N \cap I^n M)$, which lifts to $w_{n+1} \in N/(N \cap I^{n+1}M)$, and let the image of w_{n+1} with respect to f_{n+1} be x'_{n+1} , then the element $x'_{n+1} + x_{n+1}$ in $M/I^{n+1}M$ is now such that we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x'_{n+1} + x_{n+1} & \longrightarrow & z_{n+1} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ y_n & \longrightarrow & z_n \end{array}$$

via diagram chasing as desired. This is the element y_{n+1} we want. \square

Remark 2.69. Refer to the Mittag-Leffler condition, as well as the complex analysis analogue, i.e., Mittag-Leffler Theorem.

Proposition 2.70. Let A be Noetherian and M be a finitely-generated A -module, and let I be an ideal of A . Let \hat{A} and \hat{M} be I -adic completions of A and M , respectively, then

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi : \hat{A} \otimes_A M &\xrightarrow{\sim} \hat{M} \\ \{a_n\} \otimes x &\mapsto \{a_n x\} \end{aligned}$$

Remark 2.71. If we are working over direct limits, we would note

$$(\varinjlim M_\alpha) \otimes_A N = \varinjlim M_\alpha \otimes_A N.$$

This is not the case here, we do not necessarily have

$$(\varprojlim M_\alpha) \otimes_A N = \varprojlim M_\alpha \otimes_A N.$$

Proof. Since M is finitely-generated over Noetherian ring A , then we have an exact sequence

$$A^r \xrightarrow{\psi} A^s \xrightarrow[e_i \mapsto m_i]{\eta} M \longrightarrow 0$$

where M is generated by m_1, \dots, m_s . Tensoring by \hat{A} , we have an exact sequence

$$\hat{A} \otimes A^r \longrightarrow \hat{A} \otimes A^s \longrightarrow \hat{A} \otimes M \longrightarrow 0$$

Let $K = \ker(\eta)$ and take L to be the kernel of $A^r \rightarrow K$, then we have exact sequences

$$0 \longrightarrow L \longrightarrow A^r \longrightarrow K \longrightarrow 0$$

and

$$0 \longrightarrow K \longrightarrow A^s \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow 0$$

By [Proposition 2.67](#), the I -adic filtration gives exact sequences

$$0 \longrightarrow \hat{L} \longrightarrow \hat{A}^r \longrightarrow \hat{K} \longrightarrow 0$$

and

$$0 \longrightarrow \hat{K} \longrightarrow \hat{A}^s \longrightarrow \hat{M} \longrightarrow 0$$

therefore

$$\hat{A}^r \longrightarrow \hat{A}^s \longrightarrow \hat{M} \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact and we have a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \hat{A} \otimes A^r & \longrightarrow & \hat{A} \otimes A^s & \longrightarrow & \hat{A} \otimes M & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \varphi_{A^r} \downarrow & & \downarrow \varphi_{A^s} & & \downarrow \varphi_M & & \\ \hat{A}^r & \longrightarrow & \hat{A}^s & \longrightarrow & \hat{M} & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{A} \otimes A^s &= \hat{A} \otimes (A \oplus \dots \oplus A) \\ &= (\hat{A} \otimes_A A) \oplus \dots \oplus (\hat{A} \otimes_A A) \\ &= (\hat{A})^s \end{aligned}$$

and similarly $\hat{A} \otimes A^r = (\hat{A})^r$. One can check that φ_{A^r} and φ_{A^s} are isomorphisms. Now the mapping $A^s = \bigoplus_s A \rightarrow \bigoplus_s \hat{A}$ has dense image, which implies φ_M is an isomorphism by diagram chasing. \square

Theorem 2.72. Let A be Noetherian and I be an ideal, then $A \rightarrow \hat{A}$, the mapping into the I -adic completion, is a flat map, that is, \hat{A} is a flat A -module.

Proof. For flatness, we can assume that

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

is a short exact sequence of finitely-generated modules (since we are working over Noetherian rings), and we want to show that

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

is a short exact sequence as well. But we know this is just

$$0 \longrightarrow \hat{N} \longrightarrow \hat{M} \longrightarrow \hat{T} \longrightarrow 0$$

by [Proposition 2.70](#), which is exact by [Proposition 2.67](#). □

Corollary 2.73. The map

$$A[x_1, \dots, x_n] \rightarrow A[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$$

is flat.

2.5 FAITHFULLY FLAT MODULES

Proposition 2.74. Let A be a commutative ring and M be an A -module, then the following are equivalent:

1.

$$N_1 \xrightarrow{f} N_2 \xrightarrow{g} N_3$$

is exact if and only if

$$M \otimes N_1 \xrightarrow{f} M \otimes N_2 \xrightarrow{g} M \otimes N_3$$

is exact;

2.

$$0 \longrightarrow N_1 \xrightarrow{f} N_2 \xrightarrow{g} N_3 \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact if and only if

$$0 \longrightarrow M \otimes N_1 \xrightarrow{f} M \otimes N_2 \xrightarrow{g} M \otimes N_3 \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact;

3. M is an A -flat module and for any A -module N , $M \otimes_A N = 0$ implies $N = 0$;

4. M is an A -flat module and for any ideal I of A , $M \otimes_A A/I = 0$ implies $A = I$.

Proof. The equivalence of (1) and (2) is obvious.

(1), (2) \Rightarrow (3): the flatness is obvious. Suppose $M \otimes_A N = 0$, then consider

$$0 \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow 0$$

and we tensor it with M , then we have

$$0 \longrightarrow M \otimes N \longrightarrow 0$$

which is exact, so

$$0 \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact and so $N = 0$.

(3) \Rightarrow (4): obvious, take $N = A/I$.

(4) \Rightarrow (3): let $N = \varinjlim N_\alpha$ where each N_α is a finitely-generated submodule of N , then $N = \bigcup_\alpha N_\alpha$. We know $M \otimes_A N = \varinjlim M \otimes_A N_\alpha$, and by flatness this is just $\bigcup_\alpha (M \otimes_A N_\alpha)$. It is now enough to show that if N is finitely-generated, then $M \otimes N = 0$ implies $N = 0$. We proceed by induction. This is obvious when N is cyclic; suppose N is generated by a minimal set of generators $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$, then let N' be generated by $\{x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}\}$, so $N' \neq N$, now we have a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow N' \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow A/I \cong N/N' \longrightarrow 0$$

for some ideal I of A , and since M is A -flat, then we have a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow M \otimes N' \longrightarrow M \otimes N \longrightarrow M \otimes (A/I) \cong 0 \longrightarrow 0$$

but that means $A = I$, so $N' = N$, which is a contradiction unless $M \otimes_A N = 0$ implies $N = 0$.

Exercise 2.75. Show that (3) \Rightarrow (1), (2). □

Definition 2.76 (Faithfully Flat). Let A be a commutative ring, an A -module M is called faithfully flat if M satisfies one of the (equivalent) conditions in [Proposition 2.74](#).

Definition 2.77 (Faithful). Let A be a commutative ring, an A -module M is called faithful if $\text{Ann}_A(M) = \{a \in A \mid aM = 0\} = (0)$.

Remark 2.78. Faithfully flat implies faithful. Indeed, let M be faithfully flat, let $I = \text{Ann}_A(M)$, then consider the short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow I \longrightarrow A \longrightarrow A/I \longrightarrow 0$$

and therefore

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & I \otimes_A M & \longrightarrow & A \otimes_A M & \cong & M \longrightarrow A/I \otimes_A M \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \searrow x \otimes m \mapsto xm & & \downarrow \cong a \otimes m \mapsto am & & \\ & & & & M & & \end{array}$$

is a short exact sequence. In particular, $I \otimes_A M = 0$ by definition, therefore $I = 0$ since M is flat, hence M is faithful.

Example 2.79. Note that M being flat and faithful does not imply M is faithfully flat. Let $A = \mathbb{Z}$ and $M = \mathbb{Q}$, so \mathbb{Q} is faithful and is \mathbb{Z} -flat, but \mathbb{Q} is not faithfully flat over \mathbb{Z} since $\mathbb{Q} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} = 0$ but $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \neq 0$ for $n > 1$.

Theorem 2.80. Let $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a homomorphism of commutative rings. The following are equivalent:

- (i) B is a faithfully flat A -module via f ;
- (ii) B is A -flat, and for every ideal I of A , $f^{-1}(IB) = I$;
- (iii) B is A -flat, and for every A -module M , $M \rightarrow M \otimes_A B$ is injective;
- (iv) f is injective and $B/f(A) \cong B/A$ is A -flat.

Proof. (i) \Rightarrow (ii): B being A -flat is obvious; let $J = f^{-1}(IB)$, then there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow I \longrightarrow J \longrightarrow J/I \longrightarrow 0$$

and tensoring it with B gives

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & I \otimes_A B & \longrightarrow & J \otimes_A B & \longrightarrow & J/I \otimes_A B \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \searrow & & \downarrow j \otimes b \mapsto jb & & \\ & & & & B & & \end{array}$$

where $J \otimes_A B \cong B \cong A \otimes_A B$, and so $\text{im}(J \otimes_A B) = JB$, and $\text{im}(I \otimes_A B) = IB$, therefore having $J = f^{-1}(IB)$ implies $JB = IB$. We have $I \otimes_A B = J \otimes_A B$, so $J/I \otimes_A B = 0$. Since B is faithfully flat, then $J/I = 0$, so $I = J$.

(ii) \Rightarrow (iii): we want to show that $i_M : M \rightarrow M \otimes_A B$ is injective. Suppose, towards contradiction, that there exists some element $0 \neq x \in M$ such that $i_M(x) = x \otimes 1 = 0$, then define $I = \{a \in A \mid ax = 0\}$. We have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A/I & \xrightarrow{\bar{f}} & A/I \otimes_A B \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ M & \longrightarrow & M \otimes_A B \end{array}$$

Note that $A/I \otimes_A B \hookrightarrow M \otimes_A B$ is injective since B is A -flat. This gives a diagram chasing

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \bar{1} & \xrightarrow{\bar{f}} & \bar{1} \otimes 1 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ x & \longrightarrow & x \otimes 1 = 0 \end{array}$$

By the commutative diagram, $\bar{f}(A/I) = 0$, so \bar{f} is the zero map, and since $A/I \otimes_A B = B/IB$, then $f^{-1}(IB) = A \supsetneq I$, contradiction.

(iii) \Rightarrow (iv): let B be A -flat and suppose every A -module M , every map $M \rightarrow M \otimes_A B$ is an injection, then $A \rightarrow A \otimes_A B = B$ is injective. Consider

$$0 \longrightarrow A \longrightarrow B \longrightarrow B/A \longrightarrow 0$$

to show that B/A is A -flat, take the following short exact sequence

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

and by tensoring via the first short exact sequence we obtain

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & N & \longrightarrow & T & \longrightarrow & M \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & N \otimes_A B & \longrightarrow & T \otimes_A B & \longrightarrow & M \otimes_A B \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & N \otimes_A B/A & \longrightarrow & T \otimes_A B/A & \longrightarrow & M \otimes_A B/A \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{array}$$

and it suffices to show exactness at $N \otimes_A B/A$. Let $x \in N \otimes_A B/A$ map to 0 in $T \otimes_A B/A$, then lift it to $y \in N \otimes_A B$, send it to z in $T \otimes_A B$, by exactness it sends to 0 in $M \otimes_A B$. Now z has a preimage of w in T , sending it to m in M , but injectivity of $M \rightarrow M \otimes_A B$ implies $m = 0$, therefore w lifts to some $n \in N$, here $n \in N$ is mapped to y' in $N \otimes_A B$, but that means n is mapped to 0 in $T \otimes_A B$ as well, by injectivity of $N \otimes_A B \rightarrow T \otimes_A B$, we have $y' = y$. Hence, n maps to $y' = y$ maps to x in the column, and by exactness this forces $x = 0$.⁵

(iv) \Rightarrow (iii): it suffices to show the following lemma.

Lemma 2.81. Let

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

be a short exact sequence of A -modules, and suppose T is A -flat, then for all A -module L , we have the short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow L \otimes_A N \longrightarrow L \otimes_A M \longrightarrow L \otimes_A T \longrightarrow 0$$

to be exact.

⁵Instead of diagram chasing, one can apply the snake lemma instead.

Subproof. Suppose we have a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow V \longrightarrow F \longrightarrow L \longrightarrow 0$$

where F is free. Then consider

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & 0 & & 0 & & \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & V \otimes N & \longrightarrow & F \otimes N & \longrightarrow & L \otimes N \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & V \otimes M & \longrightarrow & F \otimes M & \longrightarrow & L \otimes M \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & V \otimes T & \longrightarrow & F \otimes T & \longrightarrow & L \otimes T \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 \end{array}$$

We want to show $L \otimes N$ is exact in the column, i.e., $L \otimes N \rightarrow L \otimes M$ is injective. Note that the last row is exact since T is A -flat. We can use a similar argument. Take x in $L \otimes N$ mapping to 0 in $L \otimes M$, lift it to y in $F \otimes N$, map it to z in $F \otimes M$ with image 0 in $L \otimes M$, lift it to w in $V \otimes M$, send it to $t \in V \otimes T$ which maps into 0 in $F \otimes T$ by exactness of middle row, by injectivity we know $t = 0$, then lift it to n in $V \otimes N$, send it to y' in $F \otimes N$ which maps to z in $F \otimes M$. The middle row is exact since F is free, so $y' = y$ by injectivity, so by exactness of the row we know $x = 0$. ■

Therefore, consider

$$0 \longrightarrow A \longrightarrow B \longrightarrow B/A \longrightarrow 0$$

where B/A is A -flat.

Exercise 2.82. If A and B/A are both A -flat, then B is also A -flat.

By [Lemma 2.81](#), we know the exact sequence

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & M \otimes_A A & \longrightarrow & M \otimes_A B & \longrightarrow & M \otimes_A B/A \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \parallel & & \nearrow & & \\ & & M & & & & \end{array}$$

is exact, therefore $M \rightarrow M \otimes_A B$ is injective.

(iii), (iv) \Rightarrow (i): let B be A -flat and $M \rightarrow M \otimes_A B$ be injective. We want to show that for any N such that $N \otimes_A B = 0$, we have $N = 0$. Consider

$$0 \longrightarrow A \longrightarrow B \longrightarrow B/A \longrightarrow 0$$

to be a short exact sequence, and we know B/A is A -flat, so we now know that

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & N \otimes_A A & \longrightarrow & N \otimes_A B & \longrightarrow & N \otimes_A B/A \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \parallel & & \nearrow & & \\ & & N & & & & \end{array}$$

is exact, therefore $N \otimes_A B = 0$ implies $N = 0$ by injectivity. □

Theorem 2.83. Let A be a Noetherian ring and I be an ideal of A . Then $A \rightarrow \hat{A}$ is faithfully flat if and only if I is contained in the Jacobson radical of A .

Proof. Suppose I is contained in the Jacobson radical of A , then I is contained in the intersection of all maximal ideals of A . For any finitely-generated A -module M , we know $\bigcap_{n \geq 1} I^n M = (0)$. Therefore, $M \hookrightarrow \tilde{M} \cong M \otimes_A \hat{A}$ is an injection by [Theorem 2.80](#). Suppose M is not necessarily finitely-generated, then M is the union (hence direct limit) of finitely-generated A -modules M_α 's. We want to show that $M \rightarrow M \otimes_A \hat{A}$ is an injection. Suppose $x \in M$ is mapped to 0, so let $N = Ax = A/J$ where $J = \text{Ann}_A(x)$, then we have a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 \in N & \hookrightarrow & y \in N \otimes_A \hat{A} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ x \in M & \longrightarrow & 0 \in M \otimes_A \hat{A} \end{array}$$

Since $N \hookrightarrow M$ and since \hat{A} is A -flat, so $N \otimes_A \hat{A} \hookrightarrow M \otimes_A \hat{A}$ is injective as well. By chasing the diagram, we know $y = 0$, therefore by the injection we know $N = 0$, hence $x = 0$.

Suppose I is not contained in the Jacobson radical of A , then there exists some maximal ideal \mathfrak{m} of A such that $I \not\subseteq \mathfrak{m}$. Consider A/\mathfrak{m} with I -adic topology of filtration, then $\mathfrak{m} + IA = A$, therefore $\mathfrak{m} + I^n A = A$, hence $A/(\mathfrak{m} + I^n) = 0$. Therefore, $(\widehat{A/\mathfrak{m}}) = \varprojlim (A/(\mathfrak{m} + I^n)) = 0$. But note that $(\widehat{A/\mathfrak{m}}) = A/\mathfrak{m} \otimes_A \hat{A} = 0$, with $A/\mathfrak{m} \neq 0$, therefore \hat{A} is not faithfully flat. \square

Example 2.84. The map $k[x_1, \dots, x_n] \rightarrow k[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$ is flat but not faithfully flat. Indeed, the ideal (x_1, \dots, x_n) , the ideal is not contained in $(x_1 - a_1, \dots, x_n - a_n)$ whenever a_i 's are non-zero.

However, if we factor it via the localization

$$\begin{array}{ccc} k[x_1, \dots, x_n] & \longrightarrow & k[[x_1, \dots, x_n]] \\ \downarrow & \nearrow & \\ k[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{(x_1, \dots, x_n)} & & \end{array}$$

then $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]_{(x_1, \dots, x_n)} \rightarrow k[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$ is faithfully flat.

3 DIMENSION THEORY

Definition 3.1. Let \mathcal{F} be the set of functions $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$, let \mathcal{P} be the set of functions $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ such that there exists a polynomial $g \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ such that $f(n) = g(n)$ for $n \gg 0$.

Remark 3.2. Obviously such g is unique, since any such choices would agree for all sufficiently large values.

Definition 3.3. $f \in \mathcal{P}$ is called an essentially polynomial, or an essentially polynomial function.

Definition 3.4 (Degree). We define the degree of f to be the degree of function g .

Remark 3.5. If $f = 0$ for $n \gg 0$, then $\deg(f) = -1$; if $f = a$ is a non-zero constant function, then $\deg(f) = 0$.

Example 3.6. Say $f(n) = \binom{n}{i}$ where we fix i . For $n \geq i$, $f(n)$ is an integer; for $n < i$, $f(n) = 0$. Therefore, the function $f(x) = \binom{x}{i}$ is a function with rational coefficients.

Definition 3.7. For $f \in \mathcal{F}$, we define $\Delta f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ to be a function such that $\Delta f(n) = f(n+1) - f(n)$.

Remark 3.8. If $f \in \mathcal{P}$, then $\Delta f \in \mathcal{P}$. For $n \gg 0$, $f(n) = a_0 n^r + a_1 n^{r-1} + \cdots + a_r$ for $a_i \in \mathbb{Q}$, then $\Delta f(n) = r a_0 n^{r-1} + \cdots$. Hence, $\Delta^r(f) = r! a_0$. But we know $\Delta^r : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ if we proceed inductively, so $r! a_0$ is an integer. Note that $\Delta^{r+1}(f) = 0$.

Definition 3.9 (Multiplicity). We say $\Delta^r(f) \equiv \mu(f)$ is the multiplicity of f , that is, $\mu(f) = r! a_0$.

Lemma 3.10. The following are equivalent:

- (i) $f \in \mathcal{P}$;
- (ii) $\Delta(f) \in \mathcal{P}$;
- (iii) there exists $r > 0$ such that either $\Delta^{r+1}f = 0$ for $n \gg 0$, or $\Delta^r(f)$ is constant.

4 INTEGRAL EXTENSIONS

5 NOETHER'S NORMALIZATION LEMMA

6 HOMOLOGICAL ALGEBRA

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