

$x$  and  $y$  have a highest common factor  $d$  say, that is  $x = x_1 d$ ,  $y = y_1 d$  and  $(x_1, y_1) = 1$ . Obviously  $x_1, y_1$  are non unit factors of a quantum and so by the definition of a quantum there exist  $m, n$  such that  $q | x_1^m$  and  $q | y_1^n$ , so that  $x_1 | y_1^m$  and  $y_1 | x_1^n$ , which in view of the HCF property implies that  $(x_1, y_1) \neq 1$ . a contradiction and so for all  $x, y$  dividing  $q$ ,  $x | y$  or  $y | x$ . Further we see that if  $x | q^n$  for some  $n$  then by the HCF property if  $x$  is a non unit then it has a non unit factor  $d$  common with  $q$ . But  $q | d^n$  for some  $n$  because  $q$  is a quantum and it follows that  $q | x^n$  and that  $q | x^{2n}$ , that is  $q^n$  is a quantum for all  $n$  and it can be shown on the same lines as above that for each pair  $u, v | q^n$ ,  $u | v$  or  $v | u$ , which is exactly (1) of Def. 3. Moreover since an HCF domain is also Schreier every factor of  $q^n$  for each  $n$  is primal that is (2) of Def. 3, also holds and  $q$  is a prime quantum.

Lemma 9. If  $R$  is an HCF domain and  $S$  is a multiplicative

set in  $R$  then  $R_S$  is an HCF domain.

Proof. It is well known that if  $A$  and  $B$  are ideals of an integral domain  $R$  and  $S$  is a multiplicative set in  $R$  then

$$(A \cup B)R_S = AR_S \cup BR_S \quad (\text{cf [9] p 34}).$$

Moreover the necessary and sufficient condition for an

integral domain  $R$  to be an HCF domain is that the intersection of every two principal ideals is principal (can be verified easily).

Now let  $x, y \in R_S$ , where  $R$  and  $S$  are as in the hypothesis. We can write  $x = r_1/s_1$ ,  $y = r_2/s_2$  where  $(r_1, s_1) = 1$ , and

similarly  $y = r_2/s_2$ . Consider  $xR_S \cup yR_S = (r_1/s_1)R_S \cup (r_2/s_2)R_S$ ,  $s_1$  being

units we can write the RHS as  $r_1R_S \cup r_2R_S$  but since

$$r_1R_S \cup r_2R_S = (r_1R \cup r_2R)R_S = [r_1, r_2]R_S \text{ where } [r_1, r_2] \text{ is the}$$