

Exercise 1.1

Let $A \subset B$ be an integral extension of rings and assume that B is an integral domain. Suppose $\mathfrak{q} \subset B$ is a prime ideal and let $\mathfrak{p} := \mathfrak{q} \cap A \subset A$.

1. Prove that A is a field if and only if B is a field.

Proof. Assume A is a field and let's do this a little different. Let \mathfrak{m} be a maximal ideal in B and fix a nonzero element $b \in \mathfrak{m}$. Because b is integral over A , we have an expression

$$0 = a_0 + a_1b + a_2b^2 + \cdots + a_nb^n \iff -a_0 = a_1b + a_2b^2 + \cdots + a_nb^n.$$

On the right side, for each $1 \leq i \leq n$, we have that a_ib^i is in \mathfrak{m} , so the whole sum is in \mathfrak{m} . This implies the absurdity that $-a_0$, an unit, is contained in \mathfrak{m} . So there is no such thing as nonzero b in \mathfrak{m} and B is a field.

For the other direction of the implication, we will do it traditionally. Let B be a field and fix an $x \in A$. x is a unit in B , so there is a $y \in B$ with $xy = 1$. Again, for y we have the expression

$$0 = a_0 + a_1y + a_2y^2 + \cdots + a_ny^n$$

and if we multiply x^{n-1} on both sides, we yield

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= a_0x^{n-1} + a_1x^{n-2} + a_2x^{n-3} + a_ny \\ \iff -a_0x^{n-1} - a_1x^{n-2} - a_2x^{n-3} &= a_ny \\ \iff a_n^{-1}(-a_0x^{n-1} - a_1x^{n-2} - a_2x^{n-3}) &= y \end{aligned}$$

In other words, y is in A or in different words, A is a field. □

2. Show that \mathfrak{p} is a prime ideal of A and that A/\mathfrak{p} can be viewed as a subring of B/\mathfrak{q} .

Proof. (a) We simply have $A/(\mathfrak{q} \cap A) \cong (A + \mathfrak{q})/\mathfrak{q}$ and since \mathfrak{q} is prime in $A + \mathfrak{q}$, A/\mathfrak{p} is an integral domain.

(b) That A/\mathfrak{p} is a subring of B/\mathfrak{q} follows from above. □

3. Show that B/\mathfrak{q} is integral over A/\mathfrak{p} .

Proof. Should be clear.

□

4. Deduce that \mathfrak{q} is maximal in B if and only if \mathfrak{p} is maximal in A .

Proof. This is clear.

□

Exercise 1.2

Let K be a number field with $[K : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$.

1. Show that $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ where d is square-free.

Proof. Since every extension of a field of characteristic 0 is separable, K is separable, and by the primitive element theorem, we know that K is simple. Now the algebraic closure of \mathbb{Q} is \mathbb{C} , there is an element $x \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $K = \mathbb{Q}(x)$. If x^2 is not rational, then $[K : \mathbb{Q}] > 2$. Now assume that x^2 is not square-free, i.e. there is a prime $p \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $n \cdot p^2 = x^2$ for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then, $K = \mathbb{Q}(p\sqrt{n}) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{n})$. Moreover, if x^2 is not an integer, another primitive element that is an integer can be found. All in all, there is a square-free integer d such that $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$. \square

2. In this setting, show that $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ where

$$\alpha = \begin{cases} \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} & \text{if } d \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ \sqrt{d} & \text{if } d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4} \end{cases}. \quad (1)$$

Proof. Use minimal polynomials \square

3. No.

Exercise 1.3

Consider $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{3}]$ with the norm