Topology

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Rings

1.1 Definition and Theorems

Definition 1 (Ring). A ring is a set A equipped with two binary operations + (addition) and \cdot (multiplication) satisfying the following three sets of axioms, called the ring axioms.

- 1. (A, +) is an abelian group.
- 2. (A, \cdot) is a semigroup.
- 3. Multiplication is distributive with respect to addition, meaning that
 - $a \cdot (b+c) = (a \cdot b) + (a \cdot c)$ for all $a, b, c \in A$ (left distributivity).
 - $(b+c) \cdot a = (b \cdot a) + (c \cdot a)$ for all $a,b,c \in A$ (right distributivity).

A ring is called unitary if it contains the multiplicative identity and commutative if multiplication is commutative.

Ideals

Definition 2 (Ideal).

Definition 3 (Ideal Operation). Let \mathfrak{a} and \mathfrak{b} be ideals of a ring A.

1. The sum of two ideals $\mathfrak a$ and $\mathfrak b$ is defined by

$$\mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{b} = \{ a + b \mid a \in \mathfrak{a} \text{ and } b \in \mathfrak{b} \}$$

which is again an ideal. It is the smallest ideal in A that contains $\mathfrak a$ and $\mathfrak b$.

- 2. The product of an ideal
- 3. The intersection of
- 4. The radical of an ideal \mathfrak{a} is defined by

$$\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} = \{ x \in A \mid x^n \in \mathfrak{a} \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}^+ \}$$

which is again an ideal.

5. The transporter

Proof.

Example 3.1. The union of two ideals is **not** an ideal in general. Consider (2) and (3) in \mathbb{Z} . If (2) \cup (3) was an ideal, then 3-2=1 would be contained in (2) \cup (3). But $1 \notin$ (2) and $1 \notin$ (3), thus $1 \notin$ (2) \cup (3).

CHAPTER 2. IDEALS

Proposition 4. Let \mathfrak{a} and \mathfrak{b} be two ideals of a ring A.

- 1. $\mathfrak{a} \subset \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}$.
- $2. \ \sqrt{\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}} = \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}.$
- 3. If $\mathfrak{a} \subset \mathfrak{b}$, then $\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} \subset \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}$.
- 4. $\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} = A$ if and only if $\mathfrak{a} = A$.
- 5. $\sqrt{\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathfrak{b}} = \sqrt{\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}} = \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} \cap \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}$.
- 6. $\sqrt{\mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{b}} = \sqrt{\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} + \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}}$.

 ${\it Proof.}$ a.

- 1. Let $x \in \mathfrak{a}$, then trivially, $x^1 \in \mathfrak{a}$, so $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}$.
- 2. Since $\sqrt{\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}} \supset \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}$ from above, it suffices to verify the other inclusion. Let $x \in \sqrt{\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}}$, then $x^n \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}$ and in turn, $(x^n)^m \in \mathfrak{a}$. Thus, $x^{nm} \in \mathfrak{a}$, therefore, $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}$.
- 3. Suppose $\mathfrak{a} \subset \mathfrak{b}$ and let $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}$. Then, $x^n \in \mathfrak{a}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$, thus $x^n \in \mathfrak{b}$. It follows that $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}$.
- 4. " \Rightarrow ": Let $\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} = A$, then for all $x \in A$, we have that $x^n \in \mathfrak{a}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$. In particular, $1^n \in \mathfrak{a}$, but $1^n = 1$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$. Thus, $\mathfrak{a} = A$.
 - "\(\infty\)": On the other hand, let $\mathfrak{a} = A$. In general, it is $\mathfrak{a} \subset \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}$, therefore $A \subset \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}$ which immediately yields the desired equality $A = \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}$.
- 5. " $\sqrt{\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathfrak{b}} \subset \sqrt{\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}}$ ": If $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathfrak{b}}$, then $x^n \in \mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathfrak{b}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$. Since $\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathfrak{b} \subset \mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}$, we have $x^n \in \mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}$, and it follows that $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}}$.
 - " $\sqrt{\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathfrak{b}} \supset \sqrt{\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}}$ ": Let $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}}$, then $x^n \in \mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$. Hence it is $x^n \in \mathfrak{a}$ and $x^n \in \mathfrak{b}$, therefore $x^n \cdot x^n = x^{2n} \in \mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathfrak{b}$. Conclude $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a} \cdot \mathfrak{b}}$.
 - " $\sqrt{\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}} \subset \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} \cap \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}$ ": If $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}}$, then $x^n \in \mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}$, thus $x^n \in \mathfrak{a}$ and $x^n \in \mathfrak{b}$. We may write $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}$ and $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}$, therefore $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} \cap \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}$.
 - " $\sqrt{\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}} \supset \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} \cap \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}$ ": Finally, let $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} \cap \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}$. Then, $x\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}$ and $x\sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}$, so $x^n \in \mathfrak{a}$ and $x^m \in \mathfrak{b}$ for some $n, m \in \mathbb{N}^+$. Say $n \geq m$, then $x^n \in \mathfrak{b}$. This yields $x^n \in \mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}$, thus $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}}$.
- 6. " $\sqrt{\mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{b}} \subset \sqrt{\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} + \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}}$ ": Let $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{b}}$, then $x^n \in \mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{b}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$. By definition of sum of ideals, we have that $x^n = a + b$ for some $a \in \mathfrak{a}$ and $b \in \mathfrak{b}$. Since $\mathfrak{a} \subset \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}$ and $\mathfrak{b} \subset \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}$, we have $x^n \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} + \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}$, thus $x \in \sqrt{\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} + \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}}$.

" $\sqrt{\mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{b}} \supset \sqrt{\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} + \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}}$ ": Now let $x \in \sqrt{\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} + \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}}$, then $x^n \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} + \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$. Hence there exists $a \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a}}$ and $b \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}$ such that $x^n = a + b$. We have that $a^p \in \mathfrak{a}$ and $b^q \in \mathfrak{b}$ for some $p, q \in \mathbb{N}^+$. Consider

$$(x^n)^{(p+q-1)} = (a+b)^{(p+q-1)}$$
$$= \sum_{k=0}^{p+q-1} {p+q-1 \choose k} a^k \cdot b^{p+q-1-k}.$$

For each $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, p+q-1\}$, we have $a^k \in \mathfrak{a}$ or $b^{p+q-1} \in \mathfrak{b}$. Thus, the whole sum lies in $\mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{b}$ or in other words $x^{n(p+q-1)} \in \mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{b}$. Conclude $x \in \sqrt{\mathfrak{a} + \mathfrak{b}}$.

Anatomy of Rings

Definition 5 (Nilpotent Element and Nilradical). An element x of a ring A is called nilpotent if there exists some positive integer $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$, called the index or the degree, such that $x^n = 0$.

The set of all nilpotent elements is called the nilradical of the ring and is denoted by Nil(A).

3.1 Exercises and Notes

Example 5.1. Let *K* be a field and $A = K[X,Y]/(X - XY^2, Y^3)$.

1. Compute the nilradical Nil(A).

Solution. Denote $(X - XY^2, Y^3) =: \mathfrak{a}$.

$$\begin{split} X+\mathfrak{a}&=XY^2+\mathfrak{a} & \text{because } X-XY^2\Rightarrow X\sim XY^2.\\ &=XY^2Y^2+\mathfrak{a} & \text{because } XY^2-XY^2Y^2=Y^2(X-XY^2)=0\Rightarrow XY^2\sim XY^2Y^2\\ &=XY\cdot Y^3+\mathfrak{a}\\ &=XY\cdot 0+\mathfrak{a}\\ &=0+\mathfrak{a}. \end{split}$$

Thus, $X \in (X-XY^2,Y^3)$. We have therefore the isomorphism ${}^{K[X,Y]}/(X-XY^2,Y^3) \simeq {}^{K[Y]}/(Y^3)$. [I WANT A ELEGANT REASON FOR THIS. PROBABLY ISOMORPHISM THEOREM.]

Clearly, $Y \in \text{Nil}(A)$ or in other words $(Y) \subset \text{Nil}(A)$. But we also have that K[Y]/(Y) = K which is a field, therefore (Y) is a maximal ideal. Because $1 \notin \text{Nil}(A)$ conclude Nil(A) = (Y).

Polynomial Rings

Quotient

Localization

Hierarchy of Rings