

# Higher Algebra 1 : Exercises

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**Exercise 1:** In a category  $\mathbf{C}$ , a morphism  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is called a **monomorphism** if every object  $X$  and morphisms  $g_1, g_2 : X \rightarrow A$ ,  $f \circ g_1 = f \circ g_2$  implies  $g_1 = g_2$ . It is called an **epimorphism** if for every object  $X$  and morphisms  $g_1, g_2 : B \rightarrow X$ ,  $g_1 \circ f = g_2 \circ f$  implies  $g_1 = g_2$ . Prove that the following are correct:

- (a) In the category of sets, a morphism is mono if and only if it is injective, and it is epi if and only if it is surjective;
- (b) The natural inclusion  $\mathbb{Z} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  in the category of rings is both mono and epi, but it is not an isomorphism.
- (c) A morphism of topological spaces can be both mono and epi but not an isomorphism.

**Solution :**

- (a) Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a morphism in the category of sets, then it is a function from the sets  $A$  to  $B$ . Suppose that  $f$  is mono, let  $x, y \in A$  such that  $f(x) = f(y)$ , then if we let  $g_1 : \{x, y\} \rightarrow A : g \mapsto x$  and  $g_2 : \{x, y\} \rightarrow A : g \mapsto y$ , we get that  $f \circ g_1 = f \circ g_2$ . Since  $f$  is a monomorphism, then we get that  $g_1 = g_2$ , and in particular:  $x = g_1(x) = g_2(x) = y$ . Since it holds for all  $x, y \in A$ , then  $f$  is injective. Conversely, suppose now that  $f$  is injective, let  $X$  be a set and let  $g_1, g_2 : X \rightarrow A$  be two functions such that  $f \circ g_1 = f \circ g_2$ , then for all  $x \in X$ , we have that  $f(g_1(x)) = f(g_2(x))$  which implies that  $g_1(x) = g_2(x)$  by injectivity. Since it holds for all  $x \in X$ , then  $g_1 = g_2$ . Therefore,  $f$  is a monomorphism.

Suppose now that  $f$  is epi, and notice that if  $B$  is empty, then  $f$  is automatically surjective. It follows that we can assume that  $B$  is not empty and that it contains an element  $x_0$ . Define  $g_1 = 1_B$  and  $g_2 : B \rightarrow B$  by the fact that  $g_2$  is the identity on  $\text{Im}(f)$ , and sends every element  $x \notin \text{Im}(f)$  to  $x_0$ . Since  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  are equal on  $\text{Im}(f)$ , then we must have  $g_1 \circ f = g_2 \circ f$ . Since  $f$  is an epimorphism, then we must have  $g_1 = g_2$ , and hence,  $B = \text{Im}(g_1) = \text{Im}(g_2) = \text{Im}(f)$ . It follows that  $f$  is surjective. Conversely, suppose that  $f$  is surjective, let  $X$  be a set, and let  $g_1, g_2 : B \rightarrow X$  such that  $g_1 \circ f = g_2 \circ f$ . Let  $b \in B$  and  $a \in A$  such that  $f(a) = b$  by surjectivity, then  $g_1(b) = g_1(f(a)) = g_2(f(a)) = g_2(b)$ . Since it holds for all  $b \in B$ , then  $g_1 = g_2$ . Since it holds for all sets  $X$  and all morphisms  $g_1, g_2 : B \rightarrow X$ , then  $f$  is an epimorphism.

- (b) Let  $\varphi : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  be the natural inclusion in the category of rings. Let  $X$  be a ring, and  $g_1, g_2 : X \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  be two ring morphisms satisfying  $\varphi \circ g_1 = \varphi \circ g_2$ . Let  $x \in X$ , then  $g_1(x)$  and  $g_2(x)$  are integers. Since  $\varphi$  is the identity map on the integers,

then  $g_1(x) = \varphi(g_1(x)) = \varphi(g_2(x)) = g_2(x)$  by our assumption on  $g_1$  and  $g_2$ . Since it holds for all  $x \in X$ , then  $g_1 = g_2$ . It follows that  $\varphi$  is a monomorphism.

Now, let  $X$  be a ring, and let  $g_1, g_2 : \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow X$  be two ring homomorphisms such that  $g_1 \circ \varphi = g_2 \circ \varphi$ , then equivalently, this means that  $g_1(k) = g_2(k)$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Now, let  $a/b \in \mathbb{Q}$ , then  $g_1(a/b) = g_1(a)/g_1(b) = g_2(a)/g_2(b) = g_2(a/b)$  by properties of ring homomorphisms. Since it holds for all  $a/b \in \mathbb{Q}$ , then  $g_1 = g_2$ . Since it holds for all rings  $X$  and ring homomorphisms  $g_1$  and  $g_2$ , then  $\varphi$  is an epimorphism.

Finally, suppose by contradiction that  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism, then by definition, this implies that there exists a ring homomorphism  $\chi : \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $\varphi \circ \chi = 1_{\mathbb{Q}}$ . It follows that  $\varphi(\chi(1/2)) = 1/2$  and so  $1/2 \in \text{Im}(\varphi) = \mathbb{Z}$  which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $\varphi$  is not an isomorphism.

- (c) Consider the function  $\varphi : (0, 1) \cup [2, 3) \rightarrow (0, 2)$  defined by

$$\varphi(x) = \begin{cases} x, & \text{if } 0 < x < 1; \\ x - 1, & \text{if } 2 \leq x < 3. \end{cases}$$

Notice that  $\varphi$  is a continuous function from  $(0, 1) \cup [2, 3)$  to  $(0, 2)$ , and so it is a morphism in the category of topological spaces. From the fact that  $\varphi$  is a bijection, we can show that it is mono and epi. However,  $\varphi$  is not an isomorphism because otherwise, it would have a continuous inverse. This is impossible because the unique inverse of  $\varphi$  is not continuous as 1.

**Exercise 2:** Prove that in a category  $\mathbf{C}$ , an initial (respectively, final) object is unique up to unique isomorphism. Provide an example of a category with an initial but not a final object and a category with a final but not an initial object. Provide an example of a category that has both an initial and a final object, but no zero object.

**Solution :** Let  $A$  and  $A'$  be two initial elements, and define  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi'$  as the unique elements in the collections  $\text{Mor}(A, A')$  and  $\text{Mor}(A', A)$  respectively. By composition,  $\varphi' \circ \varphi \in \text{Mor}(A, A)$  and  $\varphi \circ \varphi' \in \text{Mor}(A', A')$ . Since  $A$  and  $A'$  are initial elements, and  $1_A \in \text{Mor}(A, A)$  and  $1_{A'} \in \text{Mor}(A', A')$ , then  $\text{Mor}(A, A) = \{1_A\}$  and  $\text{Mor}(A', A') = \{1_{A'}\}$ . It follows that  $\varphi' \circ \varphi = 1_A$  and  $\varphi \circ \varphi' = 1_{A'}$ . Therefore, by definition,  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism from  $A$  to  $A'$ . Thus,  $A$  and  $A'$  are isomorphic. Moreover, if  $\chi$  is an arbitrary isomorphism from  $A$  to  $A'$ , then both  $\chi$  and  $\varphi$  are in  $\text{Mor}(A, A')$ . Again, since  $A$  is an initial element, then  $\chi = \varphi$ . Thus, there is a unique isomorphism from  $A$  to  $A'$ .

Let  $A$  and  $A'$  be two final elements, and define  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi'$  as the unique elements in the collections  $\text{Mor}(A, A')$  and  $\text{Mor}(A', A)$  respectively. By composition,  $\varphi' \circ \varphi \in \text{Mor}(A, A)$  and  $\varphi \circ \varphi' \in \text{Mor}(A', A')$ . Since  $A$  and  $A'$  are final elements, and  $1_A \in \text{Mor}(A, A)$  and  $1_{A'} \in \text{Mor}(A', A')$ , then  $\text{Mor}(A, A) = \{1_A\}$  and  $\text{Mor}(A', A') = \{1_{A'}\}$ . It follows that  $\varphi' \circ \varphi = 1_A$  and  $\varphi \circ \varphi' = 1_{A'}$ . Therefore, by definition,  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism from  $A$  to  $A'$ . Thus,  $A$  and  $A'$  are isomorphic. Moreover, if  $\chi$  is an arbitrary isomorphism from  $A$  to  $A'$ , then both  $\chi$  and  $\varphi$  are in  $\text{Mor}(A, A')$ . Again, since  $A'$  is a final element, then  $\chi = \varphi$ . Thus, there is a unique isomorphism from  $A$  to  $A'$ .

To find an example of a category with an initial element but no final element, consider the category of sets from which we remove the singletons, then it has an initial element but no final element. Similarly, to find an example of a category with a final element but no initial element, consider the category of sets from which we remove the empty set, then it has a final element but no initial element. Finally, to find an example of a category that has both an initial and a final element but no zero element, consider the category of sets then it has an initial element which is the empty set, final elements which are the singletons, but the empty set is not a singleton so it has no zero element.

**Exercise 3:** Prove that the abelianization functor from the category of groups to the category of abelian groups is neither full, nor faithful.

**Solution :** First, notice that the commutator of  $S_3$  is  $\{1, (1\ 2\ 3), (1\ 3\ 2)\} \cong \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$  and so  $S_3^{ab} = S_3/\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ . Moreover, the commutator of  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  is  $\{1\}$  since  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  is abelian, hence,  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}^{ab} = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ . Consider the group homomorphisms  $f, g : \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow S_3$  defined by  $f(0) = g(0) = 1$ ,  $f(1) = (1\ 2)$  and  $g(1) = (1\ 3)$ . Under the abelianization functor  $F$ , the homomorphisms  $Ff, Fg : \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  are equal since they are both equal to the identity. This proves that  $F$  is not faithful since we have  $Ff = Fg$  but  $f \neq g$ .

To prove that the functor  $F$  is not full, let  $A$  be the abelian group  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  and consider the identity homomorphism  $1_A : A \rightarrow A$ . Notice that the abelianization of the quaternion group  $Q_8$  is precisely  $FQ_8 = Q_8/\{\pm 1\} = \{\{\pm 1\}, \{\pm i\}, \{\pm j\}, \{\pm k\}\} = A$  and so we can write that  $1_A \in \text{Mor}(FA, FQ_8)$ . By contradiction, suppose that  $F$  is full, then there exists a homomorphism  $\varphi \in \text{Mor}(A, Q_8)$  such that  $1_A = F\varphi$ . However, notice that if  $\varphi : A \rightarrow Q_8$  is a group homomorphism, then by looking at the order of the elements,  $\varphi$  must map every element of  $A$  to either 1 or  $-1$ . But since 1 and  $-1$  are equal in  $Q_8/\{\pm 1\}$ , then  $F\varphi$  must be the trivial map sending every element to the identity. It follows that  $F\varphi \neq 1_A$ . Therefore, the abelianization functor is not full.

**Exercise 4:** Let  $k$  be a field. Prove that the category  $\mathbf{k}[x]\mathbf{Mod}$  of left modules over the polynomial ring  $k[x]$  is equivalent to the category of pairs  $(V, T)$  where  $V$  is a  $k$ -vector space and  $T : V \rightarrow V$  is a  $k$ -linear map. (You would have to find the correct definition of morphisms for this category!).

**Solution :** Define  $\mathbf{C}$  as the category of pairs  $(V, T)$  where the morphisms in

$$\text{Mor}((U, T_U), (V, T_V))$$

are linear transformations from  $U$  to  $V$  such that  $\varphi \circ T_U = T_V \circ \varphi$ . Next, define  $\mathbf{D}$  as the category  $\mathbf{k}[x]\mathbf{Mod}$ .

Now, define the functor  $F : \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{D}$  that maps each pair  $(V, T)$  to  $V$ , where  $V$  is viewed as a  $k[x]$ -module by the action  $p(x) \cdot m := p(T)(m)$ , and where  $p(T)(m)$  is defined as  $a_n T^n(m) + a_{n-1} T^{n-1}(m) + \cdots + a_2 T^2(m) + a_1 T(m) + a_0 m$ . Moreover, the functor  $F$  is defined such that it maps any morphism from  $(U, T_U)$  to  $(V, T_V)$  to itself. We now have to prove that  $F$  is a well-defined covariant functor. First, given a pair  $(U, T_U)$ , it is already clear that the action defined above on  $F(U, T_U)$  makes it a  $k[x]$ -module (it follows from the linearity of  $T$ ). Next, we have to show that  $F$  maps any morphism in  $\mathbf{C}$  to a morphism in  $\mathbf{D}$ . Let  $(U, T_U)$  and  $(V, T_V)$  be two objects in  $\mathbf{C}$  and  $\varphi$  a morphism between these two objects, then  $F\varphi$  is simply defined as  $\varphi$ . To prove that  $F\varphi$  is indeed a morphism in  $\mathbf{D}$ , we have that for all  $u, v \in F(U, T_U)$ , by linearity,

$$F\varphi(u + v) = \varphi(u + v) = \varphi(u) + \varphi(v) = F\varphi(u) + F\varphi(v).$$

Moreover, given any  $p(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i \in k[x]$  and  $u \in F(U, T_U)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} F\varphi(p(x) \cdot u) &= \varphi\left(\sum_{i=0}^n a_i T_U^i(u)\right) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^n \varphi(a_i T_U^i(u)) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^n a_i \varphi(T_U^i(u)) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^n a_i T_V^i(\varphi(u)) \\ &= p(x) \cdot (F\varphi(u)) \end{aligned}$$

and so  $F\varphi$  is  $k[x]$ -linear. Therefore,  $F\varphi$  is a morphism in  $\mathbf{D}$  from  $F(U, T_U)$  to  $F(V, T_V)$ . Now, let  $(U, T_U)$  be an object in  $\mathbf{C}$  and let's show that  $F1_{(U, T_U)} = 1_{F(U, T_U)}$ . But this simply follows from the fact that  $1_{(U, T_U)}$  is the identity map on  $U$ , and  $F1_{(U, T_U)} = 1_{F(U, T_U)}$  and so it is also the identity map on  $U$ , which in turns proves that  $F1_{(U, T_U)} = 1_{F(U, T_U)}$  since  $1_{F(U, T_U)}$  is the identity map on  $U$ . Finally, let  $(U, T_U)$ ,  $(V, T_V)$  and  $(W, T_W)$  be three objects in  $\mathbf{C}$ , and  $f : U \rightarrow V$  and  $g : V \rightarrow W$  be two morphisms, let's show that  $F(g \circ f) = Fg \circ Ff$ . This follows from the fact that  $F$  is equal to the identity on morphisms. Therefore,  $F$  is indeed a contravariant functor from  $\mathbf{C}$  to  $\mathbf{D}$ .

Now, consider the functor  $G : \mathbf{D} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  defined as follows: any object  $M$  in  $\mathbf{D}$  is mapped to the pair  $(M, T_M)$  where  $T$  is defined as  $T_M : M \rightarrow M : u \mapsto x \cdot u$ , and any

morphism  $\varphi : M \rightarrow N$  is mapped to itself. Let's show that  $G$  is indeed a covariant functor from  $\mathbf{D}$  to  $\mathbf{C}$ . First, given an object  $M$  in  $\mathbf{D}$ , let's show that  $GM$  is an object in  $\mathbf{C}$ . To do so, notice that the action of  $k[x]$  on  $M$  induces an action of  $k$  on  $M$  that satisfies all the axioms of a vector space. Thus,  $M$  is indeed a  $k$ -vector space. Moreover, since  $M$  is a  $k[x]$ -module, then

$$T_M(u + v) = x \cdot (u + v) = x \cdot u + x \cdot v = T_M u + T_M v$$

and

$$T_M(\alpha u) = x \cdot (\alpha u) = (x\alpha) \cdot u = \alpha \cdot (x \cdot u) = \alpha T_M u.$$

Therefore,  $T_M$  is a linear transformation on  $M$ . It follows that  $GM$  is an object in  $\mathbf{C}$ . Similarly, let's show that for any morphism in  $\mathbf{D}$  is mapped to a morphism in  $\mathbf{C}$ . Let  $M$  and  $N$  be two  $k[x]$ -modules, and  $\varphi$  be a morphism from  $M$  to  $N$ , then  $G\varphi = \varphi$  is a map from  $M$  to  $N$  by definition. To show that it is a morphism, let  $u, v \in M$  be two elements and  $\alpha \in k$  be a scalar, then by  $k[x]$ -linearity:  $\varphi(u + v) = \varphi(u) + \varphi(v)$  and  $\varphi(\alpha u) = \alpha \varphi(u)$ . Moreover, again by  $k[x]$ -linearity,

$$(\varphi \circ T_M)u = \varphi(x \cdot u) = x \cdot \varphi(u) = T_N(\varphi(u)) = (T_N \circ \varphi)(u).$$

Therefore,  $\varphi$  is a morphism in  $\mathbf{C}$ . The two other properties of covariant functors follow from the fact that  $G$  is the identity map on morphisms. Hence,  $G$  is a covariant functor from  $\mathbf{D}$  to  $\mathbf{C}$ .

We are now ready to show that  $\mathbf{C}$  and  $\mathbf{D}$  are equivalent. First, notice that both  $F$  and  $G$  are the identity on morphisms. Similarly, both  $F$  and  $G$  are the identity on the underlying sets of the structure. Thus, if we let  $\varphi_A = 1_A$  for all objects  $A$  in  $\mathbf{C}$ , then we get that for all objects  $A$  and  $B$  and morphism  $f : A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathbf{C}$ ,  $\varphi_B \circ GFf = f \circ \varphi_A$ . It follows that  $G \circ F \cong 1_{\mathbf{C}}$ . The exact same argument shows that  $F \circ G \cong 1_{\mathbf{D}}$ . Therefore, the categories  $\mathbf{C}$  and  $\mathbf{D}$  are equivalent.

**Exercise 5: Bimodules.** The exercise here is to verify that all that follows is correct. Let  $R, S$  be rings, possibly equal. We define here the category of bimodules  ${}_{\mathbf{S}}\mathbf{Mod}_R$ . An object in this category is an abelian group  $M$  that is both a left  $S$ -module and a right  $R$ -module and the module structures are compatible in the sense that

$$(sm)r = s(mr), \quad \forall s \in S, r \in R, m \in M.$$

Morphisms are group homomorphisms  $f$  that satisfy  $f(sm)r = sf(m)r$ . For example,  $R$  itself is a bimodule over  $R$ . What are the homomorphisms of  $R$  as an  $R$ -bimodule?

If  $R$  is commutative then any left  $R$  module is a right  $R$ -module and a bimodule; we let  $mr := rm$ . Note that the identity  $(mr_1)r_2 = m(r_1r_2)$  holds true but requires the commutativity of  $R$ . Note, though that bimodules  ${}_{\mathbf{R}}\mathbf{Mod}_R$  could be more complicated.

**Solution :** There are three things to prove in this exercise:

1. ( $R$  is a bimodule over  $R$ ) First, it is already clear that  $R$  is both a left and a right  $R$ -module. Hence, we only need to prove that the modules structures are compatible. Take  $s, m, r \in R$ , then by associativity of the multiplication in  $R$ , we get that  $(sm)r = s(mr)$ . Therefore,  $R$  is a bimodule over  $R$ .
2. (What are the homomorphisms of  $R$  as an  $R$ -bimodule?) Let  $f : R \rightarrow R$  be an  $R$ -bimodule homomorphism, then for all  $s \in R$ , we have

$$f(s) = f(s \cdot 1 \cdot 1) = s \cdot f(1) \cdot 1 = sf(1),$$

and

$$f(s) = f(1 \cdot 1 \cdot s) = 1 \cdot f(1) \cdot s = f(1)s.$$

It follows that  $f(1)$  belongs to the center of  $R$ . Conversely, define  $f : R \rightarrow R$  to be the map that sends any element  $r$  to  $rc$  where  $c$  is in the center of  $R$ , then by distributivity,  $f$  is a group homomorphism since it preserves the addition. Moreover, for all  $s, r, m \in R$ , we have

$$f(sm)r = smrc = s(mc)r = sf(m)r.$$

Therefore,  $f$  is a homomorphism of  $R$  as a bimodule over  $R$ . Therefore, the homomorphisms of  $R$  as a bimodule over  $R$  are precisely the functions that act as multiplication by an element in the center of  $R$ .

3. ( $R$  commutative  $\implies$  any left  $R$  module is a right  $R$ -module and a bimodule) Suppose that  $R$  is a commutative ring, and let  $M$  be a left  $R$ -module. Define the right action of  $R$  on  $M$  as follows:  $mr := rm$  for all  $m \in M$  and  $r \in R$ . Let's show that  $M$  is a right  $R$ -module under this action. For all  $n, m \in M$  and  $r_1, r_2 \in R$ , we have

- $(m + n)r_1 = r_1(m + n) = r_1m + r_1n = mr_1 + nr_1$ ;
- $m(r_1 + r_2) = (r_1 + r_2)m = r_1m + r_2m = mr_1 + mr_2$ ;
- $m(r_1r_2) = (r_1r_2)m = (r_2r_1)m = r_2(r_1m) = r_2(mr_1) = (mr_1)r_2$ ;
- $m \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot m = m$ .

Thus,  $M$  is a right  $R$ -module under this action. To show that  $M$  is also an  $R$ -bimodule, it remains to show the following: let  $s, r \in R$  and  $m \in M$ , then

$$(sm)r = r(sm) = (rs)m = (sr)m = s(rm) = s(mr).$$

Therefore,  $M$  is also an  $R$ -bimodule.



**Exercise 6:**

- (a) Let  $\Phi : \mathbf{Top} \rightarrow \mathbf{Sets}$  be the forgetful functor. Prove that  $\Phi$  has a left adjoint and a right adjoint, but they are not equal.
- (b) Consider the forgetful functor  $\Phi : \mathbf{AbGps} \rightarrow \mathbf{Sets}$  from the category of abelian groups to the category of sets. Prove that it has a left adjoint that associates to a set  $S$  the free abelian group on  $S$ .

**Solution :**

- (a) First, let's show that  $\Phi$  has a right adjoint. Consider the functor  $G : \mathbf{Sets} \rightarrow \mathbf{Top}$  that maps each set  $B$  to the topological space  $(B, \{\emptyset, B\})$ , and that maps each function to itself. This is indeed a well defined covariant functor because for any set  $B$ , the pair  $(B, \{\emptyset, B\})$  is a topological space. Moreover, given any function  $f : A \rightarrow B$ , the same function is a continuous function with respect to the respective discrete topology of  $A$  and  $B$ , and so  $Gf \in \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Top}}(GA, GB)$ . Finally, since  $G$  is the identity on morphisms, then it satisfies the conditions  $G1_A = 1_{GA}$  and  $G(f \circ g) = Gf \circ Gg$  for all morphisms  $f$  and  $g$  and all objects  $A$ . Therefore,  $G : \mathbf{Sets} \rightarrow \mathbf{Top}$  is a well defined covariant functor. Let's now prove that  $G$  is right-adjoint to  $\Phi$ . Let  $\underline{A} = (A, \tau_A)$  be a topological space and  $B$  be a set, then the identity map  $\varphi_{A,B}$  from  $\text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(\Phi \underline{A}, B) = \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(A, B)$  to  $\text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Top}}(\underline{A}, GB) = \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Top}}(\underline{A}, \underline{B})$  is a bijection. To prove it, notice first that  $\varphi_{A,B}$  is well defined because for any function  $f : A \rightarrow B$ , the function  $\varphi_{A,B}f = f : A \rightarrow B$  is a continuous function since  $f^{-1}(\emptyset) = \emptyset \in \tau_A$  and  $f^{-1}(B) = A \in \tau_A$ . Moreover, it is obviously injective, and finally, it is surjective because any continuous function from  $\underline{A}$  to  $\underline{B}$  is the image of itself as a set function under  $\varphi_{A,B}$ . Finally, to prove that  $G$  is a right adjoint to  $\Phi$ , then we need to prove that, for all  $f \in \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Top}}(A, A')$  and  $g \in \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(B, B')$  the following diagrams commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(\Phi A, B) & \xrightarrow{\varphi_{A,B}} & \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Top}}(A, GB) \\ (-) \circ \Phi f \uparrow & & \uparrow (-) \circ f \\ \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(\Phi A', B) & \xrightarrow{\varphi_{A',B}} & \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Top}}(A', GB) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(\Phi A, B) & \xrightarrow{\varphi_{A,B}} & \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Top}}(A, GB) \\ g \circ (-) \downarrow & & \downarrow Gg \circ (-) \\ \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(\Phi A, B') & \xrightarrow{\varphi_{A,B'}} & \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Top}}(A, GB') \end{array}$$

However, this is trivial since  $\Phi$ ,  $G$  and the  $\varphi$ 's are the identity on morphisms. Therefore,  $G$  is a right adjoint of  $\Phi$ .

Let's now show that  $\Phi$  has a left adjoint. Consider the functor  $F : \mathbf{Sets} \rightarrow \mathbf{Top}$  that maps each set  $A$  to the topological space  $(A, \mathcal{P}(A))$ , and that maps each function to itself. This is indeed a well defined covariant functor because for any set  $A$ , the pair  $(A, \mathcal{P}(A))$  is a topological space. Moreover, given any function

$f : A \rightarrow B$ , the same function is a continuous function with respect to the trivial topologies on  $A$  and  $B$ , and so  $Ff \in \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Top}}(FA, FB)$ . Finally, since  $F$  is the identity on morphisms, then it satisfies the conditions  $F1_A = 1_{FA}$  and  $F(f \circ g) = Ff \circ Fg$  for all morphisms  $f$  and  $g$  and all objects  $A$ . Therefore,  $F : \mathbf{Sets} \rightarrow \mathbf{Top}$  is a well defined covariant functor. Let's now prove that  $F$  is left-adjoint to  $\Phi$ . Let  $A$  be a set and  $\underline{B} = (B, \tau_B)$  be a topological space, then the identity map  $\varphi_{A,B}$  from  $\text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Top}}(FA, \underline{B}) = \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Top}}((A, \mathcal{P}(A)), \underline{B})$  to  $\text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(A, \Phi \underline{B}) = \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(A, B)$  is a bijection. This map is well defined since any morphism of topological space is also a set function. To prove that it is a bijection, notice that it is clearly injective from the fact that it is the identity. To show that it is surjective, let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a set function, then notice that it is also a continuous map from  $(A, \mathcal{P}(A))$  to  $(B, \tau_B)$  since for all  $U \in \tau_B$ , we have  $f^{-1}(U) \in \mathcal{P}(A)$ . Thus,  $f \in \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Top}}(A, \underline{B})$  and so  $\varphi_{A,B}f = f$  by definition of  $\varphi_{A,B}$ . Therefore,  $\varphi_{A,B}$  is a bijection. The final step to show that  $F$  is left-adjoint to  $\Phi$  is as trivial as for  $G$  since all the functors or transformations are the identity on morphisms.

Now that we showed that the functors  $F$  and  $G$  are left and right adjoint of  $\Phi$  respectively, we can clearly see that they are not equal since one sends every set  $A$  to  $(A, \{\emptyset, A\})$  and the other sends every set  $A$  to  $(A, \mathcal{P}(A))$ .

- (b) First, recall that given a set  $S$ , the free abelian group  $F(S)$  on the alphabet  $S$  is the set of words of the form  $s_1^{e_1} s_2^{e_2} \dots s_n^{e_n}$  where the  $s_i$ 's are distinct elements in  $S$ , and the  $e_i$ 's are positive integers. The group operation is defined in the same way as the multiplication of positive integers in their canonical prime factorization form (adding the exponents pairwise). Define the functor  $F : \mathbf{Sets} \rightarrow \mathbf{AbGps}$  that maps each set  $S$  to the free abelian group  $F(S)$  on the alphabet  $S$ , and that sends each function  $f : A \rightarrow B$  to the group homomorphism

$$Ff(s_1^{e_1} s_2^{e_2} \dots s_n^{e_n}) = f(s_1)^{e_1} f(s_2)^{e_2} \dots f(s_n)^{e_n}.$$

This is a well-defined covariant functor because for any function  $f : A \rightarrow B$ ,  $Ff : F(A) \rightarrow F(B)$  is a group homomorphism:

$$\begin{aligned} Ff(\underline{a} * \underline{b}) &= Ff(s_1^{a_1} \dots s_n^{a_n} * s_1^{b_1} \dots s_n^{b_n}) \\ &= Ff(s_1^{a_1+b_1} \dots s_n^{a_n+b_n}) \\ &= f(s_1)^{a_1+b_1} \dots f(s_n)^{a_n+b_n} \\ &= f(s_1)^{a_1} \dots f(s_n)^{a_n} * f(s_1)^{b_1} \dots f(s_n)^{b_n} \\ &= Ff(s_1^{a_1} \dots s_n^{a_n}) * Ff(s_1^{b_1} \dots s_n^{b_n}) \\ &= Ff(\underline{a}) * Ff(\underline{b}). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, for any set  $A$ , we have that

$$F1_A(s_1^{e_1} \dots s_n^{e_n}) = 1_A(s_1)^{e_1} \dots 1_A(s_n)^{e_n} = s_1^{e_1} \dots s_n^{e_n} = 1_{F(A)}(s_1^{e_1} \dots s_n^{e_n})$$

and so  $F1_A = 1_{F(A)}$ . Finally, for any morphisms  $f$  and  $g$  that can be composed,

we have

$$\begin{aligned}
F(g \circ f)(s_1^{e_1} \dots s_n^{e_n}) &= (g \circ f)(s_1)^{e_1} \dots (g \circ f)(s_n)^{e_n} \\
&= g(f(s_1))^{e_1} \dots g(f(s_n))^{e_n} \\
&= Fg(f(s_1)^{e_1} \dots f(s_n)^{e_n}) \\
&= Fg(Ff(s_1^{e_1} \dots s_n^{e_n})) \\
&= (Fg \circ Ff)(s_1^{e_1} \dots s_n^{e_n}).
\end{aligned}$$

and so  $F(g \circ f) = Fg \circ Ff$ . Therefore,  $F$  is a well-defined covariant functor.

Next, let  $A$  be a set and  $B$  be an abelian group, let's show that the map  $\varphi_{A,B} : f \mapsto f|_A$  from  $\text{Mor}_{\mathbf{AbGps}}(F(A), B)$  to  $\text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(A, B)$  is a bijection. Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a set function, then it induces a group homomorphism from  $F(A)$  to  $B$  that extends  $f$  (the process is exactly the same as passing from a function  $f : C \rightarrow D$  to the homomorphism  $Ff : F(C) \rightarrow F(D)$ ). Since the induced map extends  $f$ , then its image with respect to  $\varphi_{A,B}$  is  $f$ . Thus,  $\varphi_{A,B}$  is surjective. Similarly, suppose that two homomorphisms  $f, g : F(A) \rightarrow B$  are mapped to the same function by  $\varphi_{A,B}$ , then  $f$  and  $g$  are equal on  $A$ . But since every element of  $F(A)$  can be written in terms of elements in  $A$ , then by the fact that both  $f$  and  $g$  are group homomorphisms, we get that  $f$  and  $g$  are actually equal on  $F(A)$ , and so  $f = g$ . Therefore,  $\varphi_{A,B}$  is a bijection.

Finally, let's show that for all sets morphisms  $f \in \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(A, A')$  and  $g \in \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{AbGps}}(B, B')$ , the diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{Mor}_{\mathbf{AbGps}}(F(A), B) & \xrightarrow{\varphi_{A,B}} & \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(A, B) \\
(-) \circ Ff \uparrow & & \uparrow (-) \circ f \\
\text{Mor}_{\mathbf{AbGps}}(F(A'), B) & \xrightarrow{\varphi_{A',B}} & \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(A', B)
\end{array}$$
  

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{Mor}_{\mathbf{AbGps}}(F(A), B) & \xrightarrow{\varphi_{A,B}} & \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(A, B) \\
g \circ (-) \downarrow & & \downarrow g \circ (-) \\
\text{Mor}_{\mathbf{AbGps}}(F(A), B') & \xrightarrow{\varphi_{A,B'}} & \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{Sets}}(A, B')
\end{array}$$

commute. The first diagram commutes because if we take an arbitrary homomorphism  $h : F(A') \rightarrow B$ , we get that

$$\varphi_{A,B}(h \circ Ff) = h \circ Ff \circ 1_A = h \circ f = \varphi_{A',B}(h) \circ f.$$

Similarly, the second diagram commutes because if we take an arbitrary homomorphism  $h : F(A) \rightarrow B$ , then

$$\varphi_{A,B'}(g \circ h) = g \circ h \circ 1_A = g \circ (h \circ 1_A) = g \circ \varphi_{A,B}(h).$$

Therefore, the forgetful functor from the abelian groups to the sets has a left adjoint that associates to a set  $S$  the free abelian group on  $S$ .

**Exercise 7:** Let  $F : \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{D}$  be a covariant (say) equivalence of categories. Prove that  $F$  is fully-faithful and essentially surjective.

**Solution :** First, recall that by definition, there exists a functor  $G : \mathbf{D} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  such that  $G \circ F \cong 1_{\mathbf{C}}$  and  $F \circ G \cong 1_{\mathbf{D}}$ , i.e., for all  $A \in \text{ob}(\mathbf{C})$ , there is an isomorphism  $\varphi_A : GFA \rightarrow A$  such that for all  $A, B \in \text{ob}(\mathbf{C})$  and  $f \in \text{Mor}(A, B)$ , we have  $\varphi_B \circ GFf = f \circ \varphi_A$ , and for all  $A \in \text{ob}(\mathbf{D})$ , there is an isomorphism  $\chi_A : FGA \rightarrow A$  such that for all  $A, B \in \text{ob}(\mathbf{D})$  and  $f \in \text{Mor}(A, B)$ , we have  $\chi_B \circ FGf = f \circ \chi_A$ .

- (Faithfull) Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two objects in  $\mathbf{C}$  and let  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  be two morphisms from  $A$  to  $B$  such that  $Ff_1 = Ff_2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} Ff_1 = Ff_2 &\implies GFf_1 = GFf_2 \\ &\implies \varphi_B^{-1} \circ f_1 \circ \varphi_A = \varphi_B^{-1} \circ f_2 \circ \varphi_A \\ &\implies f_1 = f_2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by definition,  $F$  is faithfull.

- (Full) Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two objects in the category  $\mathbf{C}$  and let  $f$  be a morphism from  $FA$  to  $FB$ . Let's prove that  $f = Fg$  for some  $g \in \text{Mor}_{\mathbf{C}}(A, B)$ . Define the morphism  $g = \varphi_B \circ GFf \circ \varphi_A^{-1} : A \rightarrow B$  and notice that by that we have the following equality:  $\varphi_B \circ GFg = g \circ \varphi_A$  which is equivalent to  $GFg = Gf$  by definition of  $g$  and by the fact that  $\varphi_A$  and  $\varphi_B$  are invertible. Since the proof that  $F$  is faithfull can be replicated to show that  $G$  is faithfull as well, then  $GFg = Gf$  implies that  $Fg = f$ . Therefore,  $F$  is full.
- (Essentially surjective) Let  $B$  be an object in the category  $\mathbf{D}$  and let  $A = GB$  be an object in the category  $\mathbf{C}$ . From the natural transformation  $\chi$ , we have that  $\chi_B : FGB \rightarrow B$  is an isomorphism. It follows that  $FA \cong B$ .

**Exercise 8:** Morita equivalence can be used to provide a quick and conceptual proof of the following statement. Let  $R$  be a ring,  $n, k$  be positive integers. Consider  $M_{n,k}(R)$  as a left- $M_n(R)$  module. Then its endomorphisms as an  $M_n(R)$ -module are  $M_k(R)$ , acting from the right.

$$\text{End}_{M_n(R)}(M_{n,k}(R)) = M_k(R).$$

**Solution :** Let's use the proof of Morita equivalence to prove this new statement. First, from the proof, we have that  $M_{n,k}(R) \cong N^n$  where  $N = E_{1,1}M_{n,k}(R)$  is an  $R$ -module. Here,  $N$  is the set of matrices in  $M_{n,k}(R)$  such that only the first row is non-zero. It is clear that  $N$  is isomorphic to  $R^k$ , and so its morphisms are  $M_k(R)$ . Now, to make  $M_k(R)$  act on  $N$  in the same way that it acts on  $R^k$ , we can act as follows :  $A \cdot n \mapsto nA^T$ . Since transposition of matrices is a bijection in  $M_k(R)$ , then we have that  $M_k(R)$  acts on  $N$  by right multiplication. Now, from the proof of Morita equivalence, we have that  $M_{n,k}(R) \cong N^n$  and every morphisms of  $N^n$  is simply a duplication of the morphisms of  $N$ . If we look at the right action of  $M_k(R)$  on  $M_{n,k}(R)$ , we see that it is simply the usual action of  $M_k(R)$  on  $N$  duplicated for each row. Hence, we must have that the endomorphisms of  $M_{n,k}(R)$  are precisely  $M_k(R)$  acting from the right.

**Exercise 9:** Let  $k$  be a field and  $V$  a two-dimensional vector space over  $k$ . (i) Show that there are elements in  $V \otimes_k V$  that cannot be written as "pure tensors", namely are not of the form  $v \otimes w$  for any  $v, w \in V$ . (ii) What can you say about the set of vectors in  $V \otimes V$  that *are* pure tensors ?

**Solution :**

- (i) Let  $e_1, e_2$  be a basis for  $V$ . Recall that the general form of a pure tensor is  $(ae_1 + be_2) \otimes (ce_1 + de_2)$  which we can expand to get

$$ac(e_1 \otimes e_1) + ad(e_1 \otimes e_2) + bc(e_2 \otimes e_1) + bd(e_2 \otimes e_2).$$

If we let  $u = ac$ ,  $v = ad$ ,  $w = bc$  and  $z = bd$ , we get that  $uz = vw$ . Thus, the tensor  $(e_1 \otimes e_1) + (e_2 \otimes e_2)$  is not a pure tensor since by writing it as

$$1 \cdot (e_1 \otimes e_1) + 0 \cdot (e_1 \otimes e_2) + 0 \cdot (e_2 \otimes e_1) + 1 \cdot (e_2 \otimes e_2),$$

we clearly see that the coefficients do not satisfy the equation above. This shows that there are elements in  $V \otimes_k V$  that cannot be written as pure tensors.

- (ii) As we saw in the previous part, any pure vector

$$x_1(e_1 \otimes e_1) + x_2(e_1 \otimes e_2) + x_3(e_2 \otimes e_1) + x_4(e_2 \otimes e_2)$$

satisfies the equation  $x_1x_4 = x_2x_3$ . Let's now prove the converse. Let  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \in k$  with  $x_2 \neq 0$  be such that  $x_1x_4 = x_2x_3$ , then we get that

$$\left(e_1 + \frac{x_4}{x_2}e_2\right) \otimes (x_1e_1 + x_2e_2) = x_1(e_1 \otimes e_1) + x_2(e_1 \otimes e_2) + x_3(e_2 \otimes e_1) + x_4(e_2 \otimes e_2)$$

which shows that the associated tensor is indeed a pure tensor. Suppose now that  $x_2 = 0$ , then either  $x_1 = 0$  or  $x_4 = 0$ . In the first case, we have that

$$x_3(e_2 \otimes e_1) + x_4(e_2 \otimes e_2) = e_2 \otimes (x_3e_1 + x_4e_2),$$

and in the second case,

$$x_1(e_1 \otimes e_1) + x_3(e_2 \otimes e_1) = (x_1e_1 + x_3e_2) \otimes e_1.$$

Therefore, for any such  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \in k$  with  $x_1x_4 = x_2x_3$ , the associated tensor is a pure tensor. This characterizes precisely the pure tensors as the set

$$\{x_1e_{1,1} + x_2e_{1,2} + x_3e_{2,1} + x_4e_{2,2} : x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \in k \text{ and } x_1x_4 = x_2x_3\}$$

where  $e_{i,j} = e_i \otimes e_j$ . This subset of  $V \otimes_k V$  is closed under scalar multiplication but not under addition because if we take  $x_1 = 1$ ,  $x_2 = x_3 = x_4 = 0$  and  $y_4 = 1$ ,  $y_1 = y_2 = y_3 = 0$ , we get that both are pure tensors but their addition  $x_1 + y_1 = x_4 + y_4 = 1$ ,  $x_2 + y_2 = x_3 + y_3 = 0$  is not. It follows that pure tensors do not form a subspace for  $V \otimes_k V$ .

**Exercise 10:** Let  $R$  be a commutative integral domain and  $Q = \text{Frac}(R)$  its field of fractions. Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and consider  $Q \otimes_R M$ . Prove that every element of  $Q \otimes_R M$  is a pure tensor. Namely, that it can be written as  $q \otimes m$  (as opposed to  $\sum q_i \otimes m_i$ ).

**Solution :** Consider the two pure tensors  $\frac{a}{b} \otimes m$  and  $\frac{c}{d} \otimes n$  where  $\frac{a}{b}, \frac{c}{d} \in Q$  and  $m, n \in M$ , then by the properties of fractions and tensors, we get that

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{a}{b} \otimes m\right) + \left(\frac{c}{d} \otimes n\right) &= \left(\frac{ad}{bd} \otimes m\right) + \left(\frac{bc}{bd} \otimes n\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{bd} \otimes adm\right) + \left(\frac{1}{bd} \otimes bcn\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{bd}\right) \otimes (adm + bcn) \end{aligned}$$

which is a pure tensor. Therefore, by induction, every element of  $Q \otimes_R M$  is a pure tensor.

**Exercise 11:** Let  $k$  be a commutative ring and  $I \triangleleft k[\underline{x}]$ ,  $J \triangleleft k[\underline{y}]$  ideals. Then

$$k[\underline{x}]/I \otimes_k k[\underline{y}]/J \cong k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]/(\langle I \rangle + \langle J \rangle),$$

where  $\langle I \rangle$  is the ideal generated by  $I$  in  $k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]$ . That is, the ideal  $Ik[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]$ .

**Solution :** First, define  $\varphi : k[\underline{x}]/I \times k[\underline{y}]/J \rightarrow k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]/(\langle I \rangle + \langle J \rangle)$  by

$$(\bar{p}, \bar{q}) \mapsto \overline{p(\underline{x})q(\underline{y})}$$

where the upper bar symbolizes the equivalence class of the given polynomial in  $k[\underline{x}]/I$ ,  $k[\underline{y}]/J$ , or  $k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]/(\langle I \rangle + \langle J \rangle)$  depending on the context which should be clear everytime. Let's show that  $\varphi$  is a well-defined  $k$ -biadditive map. It is well-defined because if we take  $p, p' \in k[\underline{x}]$  and  $q, q' \in k[\underline{y}]$  such that  $p' = p + i$  and  $q' = q + j$  with  $i \in I$  and  $j \in J$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{p'(\underline{x})q'(\underline{y})} &= \overline{(p(\underline{x}) + i(\underline{x}))(q(\underline{y}) + j(\underline{y}))} \\ &= \overline{p(\underline{x})q(\underline{y}) + (q(\underline{y}) + j(\underline{y}))i(\underline{x}) + p(\underline{x})j(\underline{y})} \\ &= \overline{p(\underline{x})q(\underline{y})} \end{aligned}$$

where we used the fact that  $(q(\underline{y}) + j(\underline{y}))i(\underline{x}) + p(\underline{x})j(\underline{y}) \in \langle I \rangle + \langle J \rangle$ . Thus,  $\varphi$  is well-defined. Finally, the  $k$ -biadditivity of  $\varphi$  simply follows from the fact that  $\overline{p + q} = \bar{p} + \bar{q}$ . Thus, by the universal property of the tensor product, we get a group homomorphism  $\varphi' : k[\underline{x}]/I \otimes_k k[\underline{y}]/J \rightarrow k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]/(\langle I \rangle + \langle J \rangle)$  that sends each  $\bar{p} \otimes \bar{q}$  to  $\overline{p(\underline{x})q(\underline{y})}$ . In fact, we can even conclude that it is a ring homomorphism. Since  $\varphi'(\bar{x}_i \otimes \bar{y}_j) = \overline{x_i y_j}$ , then  $\varphi'$  is surjective.

Define now the map  $\psi : k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}] \rightarrow k[\underline{x}]/I \otimes_k k[\underline{y}]/J$  as the unique homomorphism that extends the map that sends  $x_i$  to  $\bar{x}_i \otimes \bar{1}$  and  $y_j$  to  $\bar{1} \otimes \bar{y}_j$ . From this, we get that  $\psi(i(\underline{x})) = \psi(j(\underline{y})) = 0$  for all  $i \in I$  and  $j \in J$ . It follows that  $\langle I \rangle + \langle J \rangle \subset \ker \psi$ . Thus, by the first isomorphism theorem,  $\psi$  induces a well-defined homomorphism  $\psi' : k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]/(\langle I \rangle + \langle J \rangle) \rightarrow k[\underline{x}]/I \otimes_k k[\underline{y}]/J$ . By definition of  $\psi$  and by construction of  $\psi'$ , we have that  $\psi' \circ \varphi'$  is the identity map since it is the identity on the monomials. Thus,  $\varphi'$  is injective. Therefore  $\varphi'$  is an isomorphism that gives us

$$k[\underline{x}]/I \otimes_k k[\underline{y}]/J \cong k[\underline{x}, \underline{y}]/(\langle I \rangle + \langle J \rangle).$$



**Exercise 12:** Let  $p, q$  be prime numbers. Consider that  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}) \otimes \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{q}).$$

Prove that if  $p \neq q$  this is a field isomorphic to the subfield  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}, \sqrt{q})$  of  $\mathbb{C}$ . In contrast, if  $p = q$  show that this is an algebra isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}) \times \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})$  and thus is not even an integral domain. (It may be less confusing to start with any field  $L \supset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})$  and define a map  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}) \otimes L \rightarrow L \times L$  by sending  $(a+b\sqrt{p}) \otimes \ell \mapsto ((a+b\sqrt{p})\ell, (a-b\sqrt{p})\ell)$ .)

**Solution :** First, notice that using properties of the tensor product, we get that

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}) \otimes \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{q}) \cong \mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 - p) \otimes \mathbb{Q}[y]/(y^2 - q) \cong \mathbb{Q}[x, y]/(x^2 - p, y^2 - q).$$

Suppose that  $p \neq q$ , then the polynomial  $y^2 - q$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})$  and so we get

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}) \otimes \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{q}) \cong (\mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 - p))[y]/(y^2 - q) \cong \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})[y]/(y^2 - q) \cong \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}, \sqrt{q}).$$

This proves the first part of the question. Suppose now that  $p = q$ , then using the same method as above, we get that

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}) \otimes \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}) \cong \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})[y]/(y^2 - p).$$

However, the polynomial  $y^2 - p$  is now reducible into  $(y - \sqrt{p})(y + \sqrt{p})$  in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})$ . Thus, by the Chinese Remainder Theorem, we get that

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}) \otimes \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}) \cong \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})[y]/(y - \sqrt{p}) \times \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})[y]/(y + \sqrt{p}) \cong \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}) \times \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})$$

which is what we want to prove.

**Exercise 13:** Prove the following.

- (a) Let  $R$  be the ring  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$  and  $S$  the multiplicative set  $\{1, 2, 4\}$  of  $R$ . Prove that  $R[S^{-1}]$  (that we also denote  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}[1/2]$ , as per the notation  $R[f^{-1}]$  for the localization of a ring  $R$  by the multiplicative set  $\{1, f, f^2, \dots\}$ ) is the following

$$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}[1/2] \cong \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}.$$

- (b) Let  $R$  be any commutative ring with a multiplicative set  $S$  and  $M_1, M_2$  be  $R$  modules. Prove that

$$(M_1 \oplus M_2)[S^{-1}] \cong M_1[S^{-1}] \oplus M_2[S^{-1}].$$

- (c) Let  $n$  be an integer and  $p$  a prime number. Write  $n = p^r m$ , where  $(p, m) = 1$ , and  $r \geq 0$ . Prove that

$$(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})[p^{-1}] \cong \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z};$$

**Solution :**

- (a) First, define the ring homomorphism  $\varphi : \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}[1/2] : n \mapsto (2n)/1$ . This is an injective ring homomorphism because it is the injective ring homomorphism  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} : n \mapsto 2n$  composed with the injective ring homomorphism  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}[1/2] : n \mapsto n/1$ . Let's show that  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism by showing that it is surjective. To do so, let's first show that for every element  $m/2^a$  in  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}[1/2]$ , we have  $m/2^a = (m+3)/2^a$ . This follows from the definition of the equivalence relation because  $2(2^a m - 2^a(m+3)) = 0$ .

Next, let's show that every element in  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}[1/2]$  can be written as  $n/1$ . Given an arbitrary element  $m/2^a$ , if  $a = 0$ , we are done. If  $a = 1$  and  $m$  is even, then it suffices to cancel out the factor of two at the top and the bottom of the fraction, and if  $m$  is odd, it suffices to write  $m/2^a$  as  $(m+3)/2^a$  and then repeat the previous step. Similarly, if  $a = 2$  and  $m$  is even, then we can cancel out the 2's to be back to the case  $a = 1$ , and if  $m$  is odd, repeat the technique  $m/2^a = (m+3)/2^a$  to get back to the case  $a = 2$  again.

Next, now that we know that every element in  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$  is of the form  $n/1$ , we can also prove that every element is of the form  $n/1$  where  $n$  is even. For if  $n$  is even, we are done; if  $n$  is odd, replace  $n/1$  with  $(n+3)/1$ . From this, it directly follows that  $\varphi$  is surjective, and hence, an isomorphism.

- (b) **TODO**  
(c) **TODO**

**Exercise 22:** Find the  $I$ -adic completion of  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  for each of the following ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ :

- (a)  $I = \langle x \rangle$ .
- (b)  $I = \langle p \rangle$ .
- (c)  $I = \langle p, x \rangle$ .

(They can all be realized as subrings of  $\mathbb{Z}_p[[x]]$ .)

**Solution :**

- (a) First, notice that  $\langle x \rangle^n = \langle x^n \rangle$  and so  $\mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x \rangle^n$  is the ring of polynomials of degree at most  $n - 1$ . For all integers  $0 < a < b$ , define the morphism  $f_{ab} : \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^b \rangle \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^a \rangle$  as the morphism that removes the terms of degree higher than  $a - 1$ . This creates the following inverse system:

$$\mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x \rangle \xleftarrow{f_{12}} \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^2 \rangle \xleftarrow{f_{23}} \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^3 \rangle \xleftarrow{f_{34}} \dots$$

Let's prove that the limit of this system is  $\mathbb{Z}[[x]]$ . First, for all positive integer  $n$ , define the morphism  $\pi_n : \mathbb{Z}[[x]] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^n \rangle$  that removes all terms of degree higher than  $n - 1$ . Notice that this morphism commutes with  $f_{ij}$ 's as follows:  $\pi_a = f_{ab} \circ \pi_b$ .

Now, let  $D$  be a ring and let the  $\beta_i$ 's be morphisms from  $D$  to  $\mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^i \rangle$  that commutes with the  $f_{ij}$ 's as follows:  $\beta_i = f_{ij} \circ \beta_j$ . This last equation tells us that for all  $d \in D$ , the polynomial  $\beta_j(d)$  has the same terms of degree lower than  $a$  than the polynomial  $\beta_i(d)$ . Hence, we can view the sequence of polynomials  $\beta_1(d)$ ,  $\beta_2(d)$ , ..., as a sequence of polynomials converging to a polynomial in  $\mathbb{Z}[[x]]$  (each term of the sequence adds a term of higher degree without changing the previous terms). Define  $\gamma : D \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[[x]]$  to be the map that sends to each  $d \in D$  the "limit" of the sequence  $\beta_1(d)$ ,  $\beta_2(d)$ , ... . To show that  $\gamma$  is a morphism, we need to show that it is multiplicative (all the other requirements clearly hold). But to prove that it is multiplicative, it suffices to notice that the multiplication of two polynomials / series is defined using the Cauchy product which can be written as a sum. From this, multiplicativity follows as well:

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma(d_1 d_2) &= \lim_n \beta_n(d_1) \beta_n(d_2) \\ &= \lim_n \left( \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} a_k x^k \right) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} b_k x^k \right) \\ &= \lim_n \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left( \sum_{i=0}^k a_i b_{n-i-1} \right) x^k \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{i=0}^k a_i b_{n-i-1} \right) x^k \\ &= \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k \right) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b_k x^k \right) \\ &= \gamma(d_1) \gamma(d_2). \end{aligned}$$

Next, the morphism  $\gamma$  makes the following diagram commute

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
& & \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^a \rangle & \xleftarrow{f_{ab}} & \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^b \rangle \\
& \nwarrow \pi_a & & & \nearrow \pi_b \\
& & \mathbb{Z}[[x]] & & \\
& \nwarrow \beta_a & \uparrow \gamma & & \nearrow \beta_b \\
& & D & & 
\end{array}$$

because applying  $\beta_a$  to an element  $d$  in  $D$  is the same as applying  $\gamma$  to  $d$  and then taking the projection  $\pi_a$  of the resulting series (using the definition of  $\gamma$ ). Finally, since  $\gamma$  is uniquely determined by the values of the  $\beta_i$ 's, then it is unique. Therefore, we get that

$$\varprojlim \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^n \rangle = \mathbb{Z}[[x]].$$

- (b) First, notice that  $\langle p \rangle^n = \langle p^n \rangle$  and so  $\mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p \rangle^n$  is the ring of polynomials with entries in  $\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}$ . For all integers  $0 < a < b$ , define the morphism  $f_{ab} : \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p^b \rangle \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p^a \rangle$  as the morphism projects each coefficient in  $\mathbb{Z}/p^b\mathbb{Z}$  into its projection in  $\mathbb{Z}/p^a\mathbb{Z}$ . This creates the following inverse system:

$$(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})[x] \xleftarrow{f_{12}} (\mathbb{Z}/p^2\mathbb{Z})[x] \xleftarrow{f_{23}} (\mathbb{Z}/p^3\mathbb{Z})[x] \xleftarrow{f_{34}} \dots$$

Let's prove that the limit of this system is the subset  $C \subset \mathbb{Z}_p[[x]]$  of series for which for all  $n$ , all the coefficients are eventually divisible by  $p^n$ . First, for all positive integer  $n$ , define the morphism  $\pi_n : C \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z})[x]$  that projects every coefficient in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  into its projection modulo  $p^n$ . By definition of  $C$ , the image of  $\pi_n$  is indeed a set of polynomials, not series. Notice that this morphism commutes with  $f_{ij}$ 's as follows

$$\pi_a = f_{ab} \circ \pi_b$$

because transforming a coefficient in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  into its projection modulo  $p^b$  and then transforming the result into its projection modulo  $p^a$  is the same as transforming the coefficient in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  into its projection modulo  $p^a$  directly.

Now, let  $D$  be a ring and let the  $\beta_i$ 's be morphisms from  $D$  to  $(\mathbb{Z}/p^i\mathbb{Z})[x]$  that commute with the  $f_{ij}$ 's as follows:  $\beta_i = f_{ij} \circ \beta_j$ . This last equation tells us that for all  $d \in D$ , the coefficients of the polynomial  $\beta_j(d)$  are congruent to the coefficients of the polynomial  $\beta_i(d)$  modulo  $p^i$ . Hence, we can view the sequence of polynomials  $\beta_1(d)$ ,  $\beta_2(d)$ , ..., as a sequence of polynomials converging to a polynomial in  $C$  because and each coefficient can be seen as converging to a  $p$ -adic integer in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ , and at the same time, each term of the sequence is a polynomial, not a series. Hence, the resulting limit must satisfy the property to be in  $C$ .

Define  $\gamma : D \rightarrow C$  to be the map that sends to each  $d \in D$  the "limit" of the sequence  $\beta_1(d)$ ,  $\beta_2(d)$ , ... . To show that  $\gamma$  is a morphism, we need to show that

it is multiplicative (all the other requirements clearly hold). Notice that the limit of the  $\beta_n(d)$  is the same as the limit of the  $p_n$ 's where  $p_n$  is a polynomial in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  of degree at most  $n - 1$  where the coefficients are the limit coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ . From this fact, we get that  $\gamma(d_1 d_2) = \gamma(d_1) \gamma(d_2)$  using the same considerations as in part (a). Therefore,  $\gamma$  is a morphism.

Next, the morphism  $\gamma$  makes the following diagram commute

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (\mathbb{Z}/p^a\mathbb{Z})[x] & \xleftarrow{f_{ab}} & (\mathbb{Z}/p^b\mathbb{Z})[x] \\
 \nwarrow \pi_a & & \nearrow \pi_b \\
 & C & \\
 \nearrow \beta_a & \uparrow \gamma & \nwarrow \beta_b \\
 & D &
 \end{array}$$

because applying  $\beta_a$  to an element  $d$  in  $D$  is the same as applying  $\gamma$  to  $d$  and then taking the projection  $\pi_a$  of the resulting polynomial (using the definition of  $\gamma$ ). Finally, since  $\gamma$  is uniquely determined by the values of the  $\beta_i$ 's, then it is unique. Therefore, we get that

$$\varprojlim \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p^n \rangle = C.$$

- (c) First, notice that  $\langle p, x \rangle^n$  is the ideal generated by the elements of the form  $p^i x^j$  where  $i + j = n$ , and so  $\mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p, x \rangle^n$  is the ring of polynomials of degree at most  $n - 1$  where the first coefficient is in  $\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}$ , the second coefficient is in  $\mathbb{Z}/p^{n-1}\mathbb{Z}$ , the third coefficient is in  $\mathbb{Z}/p^{n-2}\mathbb{Z}$ , ..., in other words:

$$\mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p, x \rangle^n = \bigoplus_{k=0}^{n-1} (\mathbb{Z}/p^{n-k}\mathbb{Z}) x^k.$$

For all integers  $0 < a < b$ , define the morphism  $f_{ab} : \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p, x \rangle^b \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p, x \rangle^a$  as the morphism that removes the terms of degree higher than  $a - 1$  and that maps the coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}/p^j\mathbb{Z}$  into their projection in  $\mathbb{Z}/p^{j-(b-a)}\mathbb{Z}$ . This creates the following inverse system:

$$\mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p, x \rangle \xleftarrow{f_{12}} \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p, x \rangle^2 \xleftarrow{f_{23}} \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p, x \rangle^3 \xleftarrow{f_{34}} \dots$$

Let's prove that the limit of this system is  $\mathbb{Z}_p[[x]]$ . First, for all positive integer  $n$ , define the morphism  $\pi_n : \mathbb{Z}_p[[x]] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p, x \rangle^n$  that removes all terms of degree higher than  $n - 1$ , and that maps the coefficients of  $x^k$  into its projection modulo  $p^{n-k}$ . Notice that this morphism commutes with  $f_{ij}$ 's as follows

$$\pi_a = f_{ab} \circ \pi_b$$

because removing all terms of degree greater than  $b - 1$  and then removing all terms of degree greater than  $a - 1$  is the same as removing all terms of degree greater than  $a - 1$  directly. The same explanation holds for taking the projections.

Now, let  $D$  be a ring and let the  $\beta_i$ 's be morphisms from  $D$  to  $\mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p, x \rangle^i$  that commute with the  $f_{ij}$ 's as follows:  $\beta_i = f_{ij} \circ \beta_j$ . This last equation tells us that for all  $d \in D$ , the coefficient of  $x^k$  ( $0 \leq k \leq i - 1$ ) is congruent to the coefficient of  $x^k$  of the polynomial  $\beta_i(d)$  modulo  $p^{i-k}$ . Hence, we can view the sequence of polynomials  $\beta_1(d), \beta_2(d), \dots$ , as a sequence of polynomials converging to a polynomial in  $\mathbb{Z}_p[[x]]$  because each coefficient can be seen as converging to a  $p$ -adic integer in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  and each term of the sequence adds a new term of higher degree. Define  $\gamma : D \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p[[x]]$  to be the map that sends to each  $d \in D$  the "limit" of the sequence  $\beta_1(d), \beta_2(d), \dots$ .

Using the same arguments as in part (a) and (b), we can conclude that  $\gamma$  is multiplicative, and hence, a morphism. The morphism  $\gamma$  makes the following diagram commute

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & f_{ab} & & \\
 & \swarrow & & \searrow & \\
 \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p, x \rangle^a & & & & \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p, x \rangle^b \\
 & \nwarrow \pi_a & & \nearrow \pi_b & \\
 & & \mathbb{Z}_p[[x]] & & \\
 & \nwarrow \beta_a & \uparrow \gamma & \nearrow \beta_b & \\
 & D & & & 
 \end{array}$$

because applying  $\beta_a$  to an element  $d$  in  $D$  is the same as applying  $\gamma$  to  $d$  and then taking the projection  $\pi_a$  of the resulting series (by definition of  $\gamma$ ). Finally, since  $\gamma$  is uniquely determined by the values of the  $\beta_i$ 's, then it is unique. Therefore, we get that

$$\varprojlim \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle p, x \rangle^n = \mathbb{Z}_p[[x]].$$

**Exercise 25:** Let  $T$  be the circle group  $\{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}$ . Consider the inverse system

$$\dots \xrightarrow{f} T \xrightarrow{f} T \xrightarrow{f} T,$$

where each map is the squaring map  $f(z) = z^2$ . The inverse limit  $\mathbb{S}$  is known as the **dyadic solenoid**. In the category of topological group it is constructed as a closed subset of the infinite product  $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} T$ , where the product is endowed with the product topology. Therefore,  $\mathbb{S}$  is a compact Hausdorff, commutative topological group. One can show (not required here) that  $\mathbb{S}$  is connected but not path connected. It has uncountably many path-connected components (cardinality of the continuum). Each path connected component is a non-compact covering space of  $T$  - in fact homeomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}$  - and each such component is dense (!) in the solenoid. To get acquainted with this remarkable space, answer the following questions:

- (a) Find all elements of order 2 and 3 in  $\mathbb{S}$ .
- (b) **TODO**
- (c) **TODO**
- (d) **TODO**
- (e) **TODO**
- (f) **TODO**

**Solution :**

- (a) **TODO**
- (b) **TODO**
- (c) **TODO**
- (d) **TODO**
- (e) **TODO**
- (f) **TODO**

**Exercise 26: TODO**

**Solution : TODO**



**Exercise 27:** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. Prove that the open sets  $D(h)$  form a basis for the topology on  $\text{Spec}(R)$  as  $h$  varies over  $R$ . Prove further that if  $f : R \rightarrow S$  is a ring homomorphism, and  $f^* : \text{Spec}(S) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(R)$  is the induced map, then  $(f^*)^{-1}(D(h)) = D(f(h))$ . Conclude this way another proof that  $f^*$  is continuous.

**Solution :** Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $\text{Spec}(R)$ , then  $U = \text{Spec}(R) \setminus V(\mathfrak{p})$  for some prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $R$ . Since  $\mathfrak{p}$  is clearly equal to the ideal generated by its elements, we have the equality  $\mathfrak{p} = \sum_{h \in \mathfrak{p}} (h)$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} U &= \text{Spec}(R) \setminus V(\mathfrak{p}) \\ &= \text{Spec}(R) \setminus \bigcap_{a \in \mathfrak{p}} V((h)) \\ &= \bigcup_{h \in \mathfrak{p}} [\text{Spec}(R) \setminus V((h))] \\ &= \bigcup_{h \in \mathfrak{p}} D(h). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by definition, the  $D(h)$ 's form a basis for the topology on  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

Let's now prove that  $(f^*)^{-1}(D(h)) = D(f(h))$ . If we let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be a prime ideal of  $S$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} [\mathfrak{p}] \in (f^*)^{-1}(D(h)) &\iff f^*([\mathfrak{p}]) \in D(h) \\ &\iff [f^{-1}(\mathfrak{p})] \in D(h) \\ &\iff h \notin f^{-1}(\mathfrak{p}) \\ &\iff f(h) \notin \mathfrak{p} \\ &\iff [\mathfrak{p}] \in D(f(h)) \end{aligned}$$

which proves the equality between the two sets. The continuity of  $f^*$  follows from the fact that the inverse image preserves arbitrary unions and the inverse image of any element of the basis is open (as we just showed).

**Exercise 28:** Let  $X = \{x, y\}$  a set with two points. There are (basically) 3 different topologies on  $X$ ; call them  $\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2, \mathcal{T}_3$ , where  $\mathcal{T}_1$  is the discrete topology,  $\mathcal{T}_2$  has  $\{x\}$  as an open set (but not  $\{y\}$ ) and  $\mathcal{T}_3$  is the trivial topology.

- (a) Determine for which  $i$ , can the topological space  $(X, \mathcal{T}_i)$  be the spectrum of a commutative ring  $R_i$ .
- (b) Suppose that for  $i \neq j$  both  $(X, \mathcal{T}_i) = \text{Spec}(R_i)$  and  $(X, \mathcal{T}_j) = \text{Spec}(R_j)$ . Suppose also that the identity map  $(X, \mathcal{T}_i) = \text{Spec}(R_i) \rightarrow (X, \mathcal{T}_j) = \text{Spec}(R_j)$  is continuous. Can you find examples of rings  $R_i, R_j$  such that this map is induced from a ring homomorphism  $R_j \rightarrow R_i$ , or is that not possible?

**Solution :**

- (a) Since  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}) = \{[(2)], [(3)]\}$ , then  $V((2)) = \{[2]\}$  and  $V((3)) = \{[3]\}$  using the fact that none of the ideals contain the other. It follows that the two singletons in  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z})$  are closed, and hence, the two singletons are open. Thus, the topology on  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z})$  is the discrete topology. Hence, it holds for  $i = 1$ .

For  $i = 2$ , it suffices to use the example we saw in class where  $R_2 = \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$  for a prime  $p$ . In that case,  $\text{Spec}(R_2) = \{[0], [(p)]\}$  where  $\{[0]\}$  is open and  $\{[(p)]\}$  is closed. Hence, it holds for  $i = 2$ .

Finally, if a ring  $R_3$  has precisely two distinct prime ideals  $\mathfrak{p}$  and  $\mathfrak{q}$  such that  $\text{Spec}(R_3)$  has the trivial topology, then none of  $\{[\mathfrak{p}]\}$  and  $\{[\mathfrak{q}]\}$  are closed. It follows that  $V(\mathfrak{p}) = V(\mathfrak{q}) = \text{Spec}(R_3)$ . Hence,  $[\mathfrak{p}] \in V(\mathfrak{q})$  and  $[\mathfrak{q}] \in V(\mathfrak{p})$  which implies that  $\mathfrak{p} \subset \mathfrak{q}$  and  $\mathfrak{q} \subset \mathfrak{p}$ , and hence,  $\mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{q}$ , a contradiction. Thus, it doesn't hold for  $i = 3$ .

- (b) Define  $R_1$  to be a commutative ring such that  $\text{Spec}(R_1) = \{[\mathfrak{p}_1], [\mathfrak{q}_1]\} = \{x, y\}$  where the topology is the discrete topology, and let  $R_2$  be a commutative ring such that  $\text{Spec}(R_2) = \{[\mathfrak{p}_2], [\mathfrak{q}_2]\} = \{x, y\}$  where  $\{[\mathfrak{p}_2]\}$  is open but not  $\{[\mathfrak{q}_2]\}$ . In other words,  $\mathfrak{q}_2 \supset \mathfrak{p}_2$  while no such inclusion relation exist between  $\mathfrak{p}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{q}_1$ .

Let's show that any homomorphism  $f : R_1 \rightarrow R_2$  cannot induce the identity function. By contradiction, suppose that there is such a homomorphism  $f : R_1 \rightarrow R_2$  such that  $f^* : \text{Spec}(R_2) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(R_1) = id$ , then  $f^*([\mathfrak{p}_2]) = [\mathfrak{p}_1]$  and  $f^*([\mathfrak{q}_2]) = [\mathfrak{q}_1]$ , which implies that  $f^{-1}(\mathfrak{p}_2) = \mathfrak{p}_1$  and  $f^{-1}(\mathfrak{q}_2) = \mathfrak{q}_1$ . However,  $\mathfrak{p}_2 \subset \mathfrak{q}_2$  contains so for all  $x \in \mathfrak{p}_1 = f^{-1}(\mathfrak{p}_2)$ ,  $f(x) \in \mathfrak{p}_2 \subset \mathfrak{q}_2$ . It follows that  $x \in f^{-1}(\mathfrak{q}_2) = \mathfrak{q}_1$ , and hence,  $\mathfrak{p}_1 \subset \mathfrak{q}_1$ . But this is a contradiction with the fact that there are no inclusion relations between  $\mathfrak{p}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{q}_1$ . Therefore, such a function  $f$  cannot exist.

Let's now show that the only other possible case cannot happen. Suppose there is a homomorphism  $f : R_2 \rightarrow R_1$  such that  $f^* : \text{Spec}(R_1) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(R_2) = id$  is continuous, then  $f^*([\mathfrak{p}_1]) = [\mathfrak{p}_2]$  and  $f^*([\mathfrak{q}_1]) = [\mathfrak{q}_2]$ . Since there are no inclusion relations between  $\mathfrak{p}_1$  and  $\mathfrak{q}_1$ , then there is an element  $s \in \mathfrak{p}_1 \setminus \mathfrak{q}_1 \subset \mathfrak{p}_1 = f^{-1}(\mathfrak{p}_2)$ . It follows that  $s = f(x)$  where  $x \in \mathfrak{p}_2 \subset \mathfrak{q}_2 = f^{-1}(\mathfrak{q}_1)$ , and hence,  $s = f(x) \in \mathfrak{q}_1$  which contradicts the definition of  $s$ .

In conclusion, the identity map from  $(X, \mathcal{T}_i) = \text{Spec}(R_i)$  to  $(X, \mathcal{T}_j) = \text{Spec}(R_j)$  for  $i \neq j$  is never induced by a homomorphism from  $R_j$  to  $R_i$ .

**Exercise 29:**

- (a) Let  $X$  be the real numbers with the usual topology and let  $\underline{\mathbb{Z}}$  the sheaf of locally constant integer-valued functions on  $X$ . Calculate the ring of germs at every point of  $(X, \underline{\mathbb{Z}})$  and note that  $X$  is not a locally ringed space.
- (b) Do the same when  $X = \{0\} \cup \{2^{-n} : n = 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  (with the topology induced from  $\mathbb{R}$ ).

**Solution :**

- (a) Let  $x$  be a real number, then  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  is the set of pairs  $(U, f)$ , where  $U$  is an open set containing  $x$  and  $f$  is an integer-valued locally-constant function on  $U$ , with the equivalence relation that associates two pairs  $(U, f)$  and  $(V, g)$  when  $f = g$  on an open subset of  $U \cap V$ . Let's show that  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x} = \mathbb{Z}$ .

First, let  $I$  be an open interval containing  $x$ , then for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , the element  $(I, n)$  is clearly in  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ . Moreover, for  $m \neq n$ ,  $(I, n)$  is not isomorphic to  $(I, m)$  since the two constant functions disagree everywhere on  $I$  (and hence, on any open subset of the intersection).

Now, let  $(U, f)$  be an arbitrary element of the ring of germs at  $x$ , then there is an interval  $J \subset U$  around  $x$  on which the function  $f$  must be constant. If we let  $n$  be the value of  $f$  on  $J$ , then it is clear that  $(U, f)$  is equivalent to  $(I, n)$  since  $f \equiv n$  on  $I \cap J$ . Therefore, we have just proved that the ring of germs at  $x$  is precisely the ring of integers.

Since the ring of integers is not a local ring ((2) and (3) are distinct maximal ideals for example), then  $X$  is not a locally ringed space.

- (b) Notice that the locally-constant functions on  $X$  are precisely the functions which are constant for all  $x \leq 2^{-n_0}$  in  $X$  for some  $n_0 \geq 1$ , and completely arbitrary for  $x > 2^{-n_0}$ . As for part (a), let's show that for all  $x \in X$ , the ring of germs at  $x$  is the ring of integers.

First, for  $x \in X \setminus \{0\}$ , we have that  $(\{x\}, n)$  is an element of the ring of germs for all integer  $n$  (notice that the singleton  $\{x\}$  is open). Moreover, it is clear that the two pairs  $(\{x\}, n)$  and  $(\{x\}, m)$  are not equivalent when  $n \neq m$ . Next, let  $(U, f)$  be an arbitrary element, then if we let  $n = f(x)$ , then this pair is equivalent to the pair  $(\{x\}, n)$ . It follows that the ring of germs is precisely the ring of integers.

Next, consider the case  $x = 0$ . First, as before, we have that for all integers  $n$ , the incongruent pairs  $(X, n)$  are all in the ring of germs. Now, for any pair  $(U, f)$  in the ring, we know that  $f$  must be constant on a neighborhood  $V$  of 0. If we let  $n = f(0)$ , then the pair is equivalent to  $(X, n)$ . Therefore, the ring of germs is equal to the ring of integers.

Therefore,  $X$  is not a locally ringed space.

**Exercise 30:** Let  $f \in R$ ,  $X = \operatorname{Spec}(R)$ . Prove that  $D(f)$  with the induced sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_X|_{D(f)}$  is isomorphic to  $Y = \operatorname{Spec}(R[f^{-1}])$  with its sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_Y$ .

**Solution :** First, notice that by Theorem 3.3.1 and by definition of  $D(f)$ , we have  $D(f) = \operatorname{Spec}(R[f^{-1}])$ , hence, we can simply define  $g : D(f) \rightarrow \operatorname{Spec}(R[f^{-1}])$  to be the identity, which is continuous. **TODO**

**Exercise 31:** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. Show that the following conditions are equivalent:

- (a)  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is disconnected;
- (b) there exist nonzero elements  $e_1, e_2 \in R$  such that  $e_1 e_2 = 0$ ,  $e_1^2 = e_1$ ,  $e_2^2 = e_2$ ,  $e_1 + e_2 = 1$  (these elements are called orthogonal idempotents);
- (c)  $R$  is isomorphic to a direct product  $R_1 \times R_2$  of two nonzero commutative rings.

**Solution :**

((a)  $\implies$  (b)) Suppose that  $\text{Spec}(R)$  is disconnected, then **TODO**