

More Isomorphism Theorems plus Maximal Ideals

Third Iso. Theorem

Let R be a ring and I and J be ideals of R where $J \subset I$. Then

$$R/I \cong \frac{R/J}{I/J}$$

Correspondence Theorem

S a subring of R

Let I be an ideal in a ring R . Then

$S \rightarrow S/I$ is a 1-1 correspondence

$$\left\{ \text{Subrings } S \text{ of } R \text{ s.t. } I \subset S \right\} \xleftrightarrow{S \rightarrow S/I} \left\{ \text{Subrings of } R/I \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \text{ideals of } R \text{ cont. } I \right\} \xleftrightarrow{\quad} \left\{ \text{ideals of } R/I \right\}$$

Maximal and Prime Ideals

decide when R/I is
a field?
an integral domain?

Def | A proper ideal M of a ring R is called a maximal ideal if:

• M is not a proper subset of any ideal of R other than R .

\Updownarrow equivalently

• M is maximal if for any ideal I of R

$$\text{if } M \subsetneq I \Rightarrow I = R.$$

(Think: Fields R only have ideals $\{0\}$ and R)

Theorem | Let R be a commutative ring with $1 \in R$ and let M be an ideal in R . M is maximal if and only if R/M is a field.

Proof:

Let M be a maximal ideal in R .

R commutative $\Rightarrow R/M$ commutative

$1+M$ is the identity in R/M

Show inverses exist for non-zero ele. in R/M

If $a+M \neq 0+M$ in R/M

$\Rightarrow a \notin M$. Fix ^(arbitrary) $a+M \neq 0+M \in R/M$

Let
$$I = \{ ra + M \mid r \in R, m \in M \}$$

Show I is an ideal:

• I non-empty since $0 \cdot a + 0 = 0 \in I$

• Let $r_1 a + m_1 \in I$ $r_2 a + m_2 \in I$

$$r_1 a + m_1 - (r_2 a + m_2) = \underbrace{(r_1 - r_2)a + (m_1 - m_2)}_{\in I}$$

$\begin{matrix} \in R & & \in M \\ & & \\ & & \end{matrix}$

• For any $\tilde{r} \in R$

$$\tilde{r}(ra + m) = \underbrace{\tilde{r}ra + \tilde{r}m}_{\in I}$$

$\begin{matrix} \in R & & \in M \\ & & \\ & & \end{matrix}$

$\therefore I$ is an ideal

By construction $M \not\subseteq I$ since $a \in I$ $a \notin M$

M is maximal $\Rightarrow I = R$ Now $1 \in R$ and $I = R$

$\therefore \exists b \in R$ s.t. $\Rightarrow 1 \in I$
 $\exists m \in M$

$$ba + m = 1$$

(Remember we started with $a \notin M$ giving $a + M \notin M$)

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore 1 + M &= (ba + m) + M = a + M = ba + M = b + M = (a + M)(b + M) \\ &= (b + M)(a + M) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore (b + M) = (a + M)^{-1} \text{ in } R/M$$

$\therefore R/M$ is a field.

Now suppose M is an ideal, R/M is a field.

$$\Rightarrow 0 + M, 1 + M \in R/M$$

$\therefore M \neq R$ i.e. M is a proper ideal of R , $M \not\subseteq R$

Let I be any ideal of R s.t. $M \not\subseteq I$

Show $I = R$.

Pick some $a \in I$, $a \notin M$

$$\Rightarrow a+m \neq 0+m$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists \text{ some } b+m \text{ s.t. } (a+m)(b+m) = (b+m)(a+m) \\ (ab+m) = 1+m$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists m \in M \text{ s.t. } ab+m = 1$$

but

$$\begin{array}{c} \in I \text{ as } a \in I \\ ab+m \in I \\ \in I \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 \in I \Rightarrow r \cdot 1 = r \in I \quad \forall r \in R$$

$$\Rightarrow I = R. \quad \blacksquare$$

Ex) $p\mathbb{Z}$ is maximal in \mathbb{Z} for p prime

Since $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ is a field.

Def) A proper ideal P in a commutative ring R is called a prime ideal if whenever $ab \in P$ then either $a \in P$ or $b \in P$.

Ex) $P = \{0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10\}$ is a prime ideal of $\mathbb{Z}_{12} \cong \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$. $P = 2\mathbb{Z}$ in \mathbb{Z}_{12}

Proposition) Let R be a commutative ring. $I \in R, I \neq 0$

Then P is a prime ideal in R if and only if R/P is an integral domain.

Proof: First let P be an ideal of R

R/P is an int. dom.

Suppose $ab \in P$ then

$$(a+P)(b+P) = ab+P = 0+P \text{ in } R/P$$

But R/P is an integral domain

either $a+P = 0+P$ or $b+P = 0+P$

\Rightarrow either $a \in P$ or $b \in P$

$\Rightarrow P$ is a prime ideal.

Now suppose P is prime, show R/P has no zero divisors.

$$(a+P)(b+P) = 0+P = P$$

||

$$ab+P = 0+P$$

$$ab \in P$$

\Rightarrow either $a \in P$ or $b \in P$

\Rightarrow either $a+P = 0+P$ or $b+P = 0+P$

$\Rightarrow R/P$ is an integral domain.

□

Every field is in particular an integral domain

corr] Every maximal ideal in a commutative ring with identity is also a prime ideal.