

Last time (1) Products of ideals: if $I, J \subseteq R$ are ideals,

$$I \cdot J = \text{smallest ideal containing } \{ab \mid a \in I, b \in J\}$$

$$= \{a_i b_j + \dots + a_n b_m \mid n \geq 1, a_i \in I, b_j \in J\}$$

(2) direct sum $R_1 \oplus R_2$ of rings

(3) Quotient rings R/I ($I \subseteq R$ ideal)

Example $\varphi: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}[x]/\langle x^2+1 \rangle$ where $\langle x^2+1 \rangle := (x^2+1)\mathbb{R}[x]$

$$\varphi(a, b) = a + bx + \langle x^2+1 \rangle$$

is an isomorphism of abelian groups.

We check that φ is a homomorphism:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi((a, b) + (c, d)) &= \varphi(a+c, b+d) = (a+c) + (b+d)x + \langle x^2+1 \rangle \\ &= ((a+bx) + (c+dx)) + \langle x^2+1 \rangle = (a+bx + \langle x^2+1 \rangle) + (c+dx + \langle x^2+1 \rangle) \end{aligned}$$

$$\ker \varphi = \{(a, b) \mid a+bx + \langle x^2+1 \rangle = 0 + \langle x^2+1 \rangle\}$$

$$= \{(a, b) \mid a+bx \in \langle x^2+1 \rangle\} = \{(a, b) \mid a+bx = q(x) \cdot (x^2+1) \text{ for some } q(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x]\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Since } 1 \leq \deg(a+bx) &= \deg(q(x) \cdot (x^2+1)) = \deg(x^2+1) + \deg q \\ &= 2 + \deg q \end{aligned}$$

we must have $\deg q = -\infty$, i.e. $q=0$

$$\Rightarrow \ker \varphi = \{(0, 0)\} \Rightarrow \varphi \text{ is injective.}$$

$\forall p(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x] \exists q(x), r(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ s.t.

$$p(x) = (x^2+1)q(x) + r(x) \text{ and } \deg r < \deg(x^2+1) = 2.$$

$$\Rightarrow r(x) = a+bx \text{ for some } a, b \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow p(x) + \langle x^2+1 \rangle &= a+bx + q(x)(x^2+1) + \langle x^2+1 \rangle = a+bx + \langle x^2+1 \rangle \\ &= \varphi(a, b). \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow \varphi$ is onto.

Now, $\forall (a, b), (c, d) \in \mathbb{R}^2$

$$\varphi(a, b)\varphi(c, d) = (a+bx + \langle x^2+1 \rangle)(c+dx + \langle x^2+1 \rangle)$$

$$= (ac + (ad+bc)x + bd x^2) + \langle x^2+1 \rangle$$

$$= (ac + (ad+bc)x + bd(x^2+1 - bd)) + \langle x^2+1 \rangle =$$

$$= ac - bd + (ad + bc)x + \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle$$

$$= \varphi(ac - bd, ad + bc)$$

⇒ If we define $(a, b) \cdot (c, d) := (ac - bd, ad + bc)$

Then φ is an isomorphism of rings.

In other words: $\varphi: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}[x] / \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle$

$$\varphi(z) = \operatorname{Re} z + (\operatorname{Im} z)x + \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle$$

is an isomorphism of rings.

Note: $\varphi(-1) = x + \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle$ and

$$\begin{aligned} (x + \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle)(x + \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle) &= x^2 + \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle = (x^2 + 1 - 1) + \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle \\ &= -1 + \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle = \varphi(-1). \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 29.1 (homomorphism theorem for rings; a version of 1st isomorphism theorem for rings)

Let $\varphi: R \rightarrow R'$ be a unital ring homomorphism (i.e. $\varphi(1_R) = 1_{R'}$),

$$I = \ker \varphi.$$

(1) There is a unique injective ring homomorphism

$$\bar{\varphi}: R/I \rightarrow R' \text{ with } \bar{\varphi}(r + I) = \varphi(r) \quad \forall r \in R$$

(2) $\bar{\varphi}: R/I \rightarrow \varphi(R)$ is an isomorphism.

Proof We know that $\varphi(R) = \{ \varphi(r) \mid r \in R \}$ is a subring of R'

and $\bar{\varphi}: R/I \rightarrow \varphi(R)$ is a well-defined isomorphism of abelian groups. Moreover $\bar{\varphi}$ is unique.

It remains to check that $\forall a + I, b + I \in R/I$

$$\bar{\varphi}((a + I)(b + I)) = \bar{\varphi}(a + I)\bar{\varphi}(b + I).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } \bar{\varphi}((a + I)(b + I)) &= \bar{\varphi}(ab + I) = \varphi(ab) \quad \text{by def of } \bar{\varphi} \\ &= \varphi(a)\varphi(b) \quad \text{since } \varphi \text{ is a ring homomorphism} \\ &= \bar{\varphi}(a + I)\bar{\varphi}(b + I) \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Ex Recall the substitution principle: given commutative rings R, S , $\varphi: R \rightarrow S$, a unital ring homomorphism and $\alpha \in S$, $\exists!$ ring homomorphism $\varphi_\alpha: R[x] \rightarrow S$ with $\varphi_\alpha\left(\sum_{j=0}^n a_j x^j\right) = \sum_{j=0}^n \varphi(a_j) \alpha^j$.

Now consider $\varphi: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, $\varphi(a) = a$, $\alpha = \sqrt{-1}$

We get $\varphi_\alpha: \mathbb{R}[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, $\varphi_\alpha\left(\sum_{j=0}^n a_j x^j\right) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j (\sqrt{-1})^j$

Then φ_α is unital: $\varphi_\alpha(1) = 1$.

φ_α is onto: given $a + bi \in \mathbb{C}$, $a + bi = \varphi_\alpha(a + bx)$

Claim $\ker \varphi_\alpha = \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle = (x^2 + 1)\mathbb{R}[x]$.

Proof $\varphi_\alpha(x^2 + 1) = (\sqrt{-1})^2 + 1 = -1 + 1 = 0$.

$\Rightarrow x^2 + 1 \in \ker \varphi_\alpha \Rightarrow (x^2 + 1)\mathbb{R}[x] \subseteq \ker \varphi_\alpha$.

Conversely, suppose $g(x) \in \ker \varphi_\alpha$

By the division algorithm $\exists!$ $q(x), r(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ st.

$g(x) = (x^2 + 1)q(x) + r(x)$ and $\deg r < \deg(x^2 + 1) = 2$.

Note: $r(x) = a + bx$ for some $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$

Now, since $\varphi_\alpha(g) = 0$,

$$0 = ((\sqrt{-1})^2 + 1)q(\sqrt{-1}) + a + b\sqrt{-1} = a + b\sqrt{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow a = b = 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow g(x) = (x^2 + 1)q(x) \in \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle.$$

$$\therefore \ker \varphi_\alpha = \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle.$$

Homomorphism Theorem \Rightarrow

$$\bar{\varphi}_\alpha: \mathbb{R}[x] / \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$p(x) + \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle \mapsto p(\sqrt{-1})$$

is a well-defined isomorphism of rings.

Ex For any commutative ring R , $\mathbb{R}[x] / \langle x^2 + 1 \rangle \cong \mathbb{C}$

Consider $\varphi: R[x] \rightarrow R$, $\varphi(p) = p(0)$.

φ is a ring homomorphism by the substitution principle.

φ is onto since $\forall a \in R$, $\varphi(a) = a$.

$$\begin{aligned} \ker \varphi &= \{ a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n \mid a_0 + a_1 \cdot 0 + \dots + a_n \cdot 0^n = 0 \} \\ &= \{ a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n \mid n \geq 1, a_1, \dots, a_n \in R \} \\ &= x R[x] = \langle x \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Homomorphism Thm \Rightarrow

$$\bar{\varphi}: R[x]/\langle x \rangle \rightarrow R$$

$$\bar{\varphi}(p(x) + \langle x \rangle) = p(0)$$

is a well-defined isomorphism of rings.

Remark The ring $R \oplus R$ cannot be isomorphic to any field F .

Reasons (1) $R \oplus R$ has zero divisors: $\forall a, b \in R$, $a, b \neq 0$
 $(a, 0) \cdot (0, b) = (a \cdot 0, 0 \cdot b) = (0, 0)$.

No field has zero divisors: if F is a field, $a, b \in F$
 $a \neq 0$ and $ab = 0$, then $0 = a^{-1} \cdot 0 = a^{-1}ab = b$.

(2) $I = R \oplus 0 := \{ (a, b) \in R \oplus R \mid b = 0 \}$ is an ideal
and $R \oplus 0 \neq \{0\}$, $R \oplus 0 \neq R \oplus R$.

ie. I is a proper ideal in $R \oplus R$.

The only ideals in a field F are $\{0\}$ and F .

Note $(R \oplus R) / I \cong R$.

Reason $f: R \oplus R \rightarrow R$ $f(a, b) = b$ is a surjective
ring homomorphism and $\ker f = \{ (a, b) \mid b = 0 \}$.

Homomorphism Thm \Rightarrow

$$\bar{f}: (R \oplus R) / I \rightarrow R \quad \bar{f}((a, b) + I) = b$$

is an isomorphism.