

Exercise 1. Let A be a ring and $\{I_i\}_{i \in I}$ be a family of ideals in A .

1. Show that the intersection $\bigcap_{i \in I} I_i$ is an ideal of A .
2. For finite I , show that the product $\prod_{i \in I} I_i = (\{\prod a_i \mid a_i \in I_i\})$ is an ideal of A that is contained in $\bigcap_{i \in I} I_i$. Under which assumption is $\prod I_i = \bigcap I_i$?
3. For finite I , show that $\sum I_i$ is indeed an ideal.
4. Let $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a ring homomorphism and I an ideal of B . Show that $f^{-1}(I)$ is an ideal of A . Show that $f^{-1}(I)$ is prime if I is prime. Is $f^{-1}(I)$ maximal if I is maximal? Is the image $f(J)$ of an ideal J of A an ideal of B ?

Exercise 2.

1. Describe all ideals of \mathbb{Z} . Which of them are principal ideals, which of them are prime and which of them are maximal?
2. Let $f \in \mathbb{R}[T]$ be of degree ≤ 2 . When is (f) a prime ideal, when is it a maximal ideal? When is the quotient ring isomorphic to \mathbb{R} ? When is it isomorphic to \mathbb{C} ?

Exercise 3.

Let e_1, \dots, e_n be pairwise coprime positive integers. Show that the underlying additive group of $\mathbb{Z}/e_1\mathbb{Z} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}/e_n\mathbb{Z}$ is a cyclic group.

Exercise 4.

Let A be an integral domain and $a, b, c, d, e \in A$.

1. Show that if d is a greatest common divisor of b and c and e is a greatest common divisor of ab and ac , then $(e) = (ad)$. Conclude that $\gcd(ab, ac) = (a) \cdot \gcd(b, c)$.
2. If A is a principal ideal domain, then d is a greatest common divisor of a and b if and only if $(a, b) = (d)$. Conclude that every two elements of a principal ideal domain have a greatest common divisor.
3. Find an integral domain A with elements $a, b, d \in A$ such that d is a greatest common divisor of a and b , but $(a, b) \neq (d)$.

Exercise 5 (Bonus exercise).

Show that the ring \mathbb{Z} satisfies the following universal property: for every ring A , there is a unique ring homomorphism $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow A$. Use this and the universal property of the quotient map $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ to show that for a ring A whose underlying additive group $(A, +)$ is isomorphic to $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}, +)$ (as a group), there is a unique ring isomorphism $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow A$.

Remark: We say that \mathbb{Z} is an *initial object in the category of rings*.

***Exercise 6** (Bonus exercise).¹

Show that the ring $\mathbb{Z}[T]/\langle T^2 - T + 5 \rangle$ is a principal ideal domain but not a Euclidean domain. This can be done along the following steps.

1. Reason that $N(a + bT) = a^2 + ab + 5b^2$ defines a map $N : \mathbb{Z}[T]/\langle T^2 - T + 5 \rangle \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$. Show that $N(0) = 0$, $N(1) = 1$ and $N(xy) = N(x)N(y)$. Use the map N to show that the units of $\mathbb{Z}[T]/\langle T^2 - T + 5 \rangle$ are ± 1 and that 2 and 3 are irreducible.

Note: an element a is *irreducible*, if it is not zero nor a unit and if $a = bc$ implies that either b or c is a unit.

2. Show that every Euclidean domain A that is not a field contains an element $a \notin A^\times \cup \{0\}$ such for every $b \in A$ there is an element $u \in A^\times \cup \{0\}$ such that $a|(b - u)$. Conclude that $\mathbb{Z}[T]/\langle T^2 - T + 5 \rangle$ is not a Euclidean domain, by considering the cases $a = 2$ and $a = T$.
3. Show that N is a *Dedekind-Hasse norm*, i.e. for all nonzero $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}[T]/\langle T^2 - T + 5 \rangle$ such that y does not divide x , there are $p, q, r \in \mathbb{Z}[T]/\langle T^2 - T + 5 \rangle$ such that $px = qy + r$ and $N(r) < N(y)$. Conclude that $\mathbb{Z}[T]/\langle T^2 - T + 5 \rangle$ is a principal ideal domain.

¹Starred exercises are hard problem for those of you that search for a challenge. To balance the amount of work required to solve these exercises, starred exercises they are worth twice as many points as normal exercises.