

# Lecture 22: Ideals of ring of fractions, localization

Recall:  $R$  commutative,  $S$  multiplicatively closed subset of  $R$   
( $1 \in S$ ;  $0 \notin S$ ; if  $a, b \in S$  then  $ab \in S$ ) gives  $S^{-1}R = R \times S / \sim$  with  
 $(a, s) \sim (b, t) \iff \exists r \in S$  with  $r(at - bs) = 0$ . Write  $\frac{a}{s}$  for the class of  $(a, s)$

•  $S^{-1}R$  is a ring with  $\frac{a}{s} + \frac{b}{t} = \frac{at + bs}{st}$  ;  $\frac{a}{s} \cdot \frac{b}{t} = \frac{ab}{st}$

Neutral element:  $0 = \frac{0}{1}$  &  $1 = \frac{1}{1}$

Name: Ring of fractions relative to  $S$ .

•  $j_S: R \rightarrow S^{-1}R$   $j_S(r) = \frac{r}{1}$  (= class of  $(r, 1)$ ) is a ring hom  
&  $j_S(t) = \frac{t}{1}$  is a unit in  $S^{-1}R$  for each  $t \in S$  with inverse  $\frac{1}{t}$ .

• Same construction for module of fractions  $M$   $\rightsquigarrow S^{-1}M = M \times S / \sim$   
 $R$ -module  $\rightsquigarrow S^{-1}R$ -module

## §1. Ideals in $S^{-1}R$ :

Fix  $R$  commutative ring,  $S \subset R$  mult. closed &  $j_S: R \rightarrow S^{-1}R$   
the natural ring homomorphism.

Given  $\mathcal{A} \subset R$  ideal, we define:

$S^{-1}\mathcal{A}$  = ideal in  $S^{-1}R$  generated by  $j_S(\mathcal{A})$ .

Theorem: Every ideal in  $S^{-1}R$  is of this form (=  $S^{-1}\mathcal{A}$  for some  $\mathcal{A} \subset R$  ideal)

Furthermore,  $S^{-1}\mathcal{A} = S^{-1}R \iff S \cap \mathcal{A} \neq \emptyset$ .

Proof: Use  $j_S: R \rightarrow S^{-1}R$

Let  $\mathfrak{b} \subset S^{-1}R$  be an ideal & set  $\mathcal{A} = j_S^{-1}(\mathfrak{b})$ .

• We know  $\mathcal{A}$  is an ideal because  $j_S$  is a ring homomorphism

• Claim:  $S^{-1}\mathcal{A} = \mathfrak{b}$

Pf/ ( $\subseteq$ )  $a \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $\frac{r}{s} \in S^{-1}R \implies \frac{r \cdot a}{s \cdot 1} = \underbrace{\frac{r}{s}}_{\in S^{-1}R} \underbrace{\frac{a}{1}}_{\in \mathfrak{b}} \in \mathfrak{b}$  (ideal)

So  $S^{-1}\mathcal{A} = S^{-1}R(\frac{a}{1} : a \in \mathcal{A}) \subseteq \mathfrak{b}$ .

( $\supseteq$ ) Pick  $x \in b \subset S^{-1}R$ . Then,  $x = \frac{y}{s}$  for some  $y \in R, s \in S$

$\Rightarrow \frac{y}{1} = y = \frac{s}{1} \cdot \frac{y}{s} \in b$  so  $y \in \mathfrak{a}$  so  $b \subseteq S^{-1}\mathfrak{a}$ .  
 $\in R \in b$

For the last part:

If  $s \in S \cap \mathfrak{a}$ , write  $1 = \frac{s}{s} \in S^{-1}\mathfrak{a}$ . ( $\frac{1}{1} = \frac{s}{s}$  because  $1(s \cdot 1 - 1 \cdot s) = 0$ )

Conversely, assume  $1 \in S^{-1}\mathfrak{a}$ . Then,  $\exists a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathfrak{a}$  &  $\frac{r_1}{s_1}, \dots, \frac{r_n}{s_n} \in S^{-1}R$  with  $1 = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{r_i}{s_i} \cdot a_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(r_i a_i)}{s_i} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{b_i}{s}$

where  $s = \prod_{i=1}^n s_i$  &  $b_i = r_i a_i \prod_{j \neq i} s_j \in \mathfrak{a} \quad \forall i=1, \dots, n$

BUT  $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{b_i}{s} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n b_i}{s} = \frac{b}{s}$  with  $b = \sum_{i=1}^n b_i \in \mathfrak{a}$

So  $1 = \frac{b}{s}$  for  $b \in \mathfrak{a}, s \in S \iff \exists t \in S$  with

$0 = t(s \cdot 1 - b \cdot 1) = ts - tb$

So  $\frac{ts}{s} = \frac{tb}{s} \in S \cap \mathfrak{a}$ . □

Proposition: Prime ideals in  $S^{-1}R$  are of the form  $S^{-1}\mathfrak{p}$ , where  $\mathfrak{p} \not\subseteq R$  is a prime ideal with  $\mathfrak{p} \cap S = \emptyset$ .

Proof Let  $\mathfrak{q} \not\subseteq S^{-1}R$  be a prime ideal. By the proof of the previous Theorem, we know  $\mathfrak{q} = S^{-1}\mathfrak{a}$  where  $\mathfrak{a} = j_S^{-1}(\mathfrak{q})$ .

Since  $\mathfrak{q}$  is prime &  $j_S$  is a ring homomorphism, we know  $\mathfrak{a}$  is a prime ideal of  $R$ . Since  $\mathfrak{q} \not\subseteq S^{-1}R$ , we must have  $\mathfrak{a} \cap S = \emptyset$

Conversely, given  $\mathfrak{p} \not\subseteq R$  prime with  $\mathfrak{p} \cap S = \emptyset$ , we want to show  $S^{-1}\mathfrak{p} \subseteq S^{-1}R$  is a prime ideal.

- Properness follows since  $\mathcal{O} \cap S = \emptyset$
- $S^{-1}\mathcal{O}$  is an ideal of  $S^{-1}R$  by the Theorem.
- $\frac{a}{s} \cdot \frac{b}{t} \in S^{-1}\mathcal{O}$  with  $a, b \in R$   $s, t \in R$  we set  $\frac{ab}{st} = \left(\frac{st}{1}\right) \frac{ab}{st} \in S^{-1}\mathcal{O} \Rightarrow ab \in j_S^{-1}(S^{-1}\mathcal{O}) = \mathcal{O} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{O} \text{ prime}} a \in \mathcal{O} \vee b \in \mathcal{O} \Rightarrow \frac{a}{s} \in S^{-1}\mathcal{O} \vee \frac{b}{t} \in S^{-1}\mathcal{O}$ .

Summary: Rings & modules of fractions for  $R$  commutative ring  
 $S \subset R$  mult. closed set  $\rightsquigarrow S^{-1}R = \text{another comm ring}$   
 (HW7)  $M : R\text{-module} \rightsquigarrow S^{-1}M : \text{an } S^{-1}R\text{-module}$ .

Prop: (1) Every ideal of  $S^{-1}R$  is of the form  $S^{-1}\mathcal{O}$  for  $\mathcal{O} \subset R$  ideal  
 &  $S^{-1}\mathcal{O} = S^{-1}R \Leftrightarrow S \cap \mathcal{O} \neq \emptyset$ .  
 (2) Prime ideals of  $S^{-1}R \xleftrightarrow{1-\mathcal{O}^{-1}}$  prime ideals of  $R$  not meeting  $S$   
 $S^{-1}R(j_S(\mathcal{O})) = S^{-1}\mathcal{O} \xleftarrow{\quad} \mathcal{O}$

§2. Localization:

GOAL: Build suitable  $S$  for which  $S^{-1}R$  is a local ring (unique mxl ideal)

Geometrically: study a space  $X$  in the neighborhood of a point.  
 $R = \{ \text{polynomial functions } X \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \}$ .

Fix  $\mathcal{O} \subsetneq R$  a prime ideal and let  $S = R \setminus \mathcal{O}$ .

Lemma:  $S$  is multiplicatively closed.

Prf/  $1 \in S$  ( $1 \notin \mathcal{O}$ ) &  $0 \notin S$  ( $0 \in \mathcal{O}$ )  
 $a, b \in S$  means  $a, b \notin \mathcal{O}$  so  $ab \notin \mathcal{O}$  because  $\mathcal{O}$  is prime  $\Rightarrow ab \in S$ .  $\square$

Def:  $R_{\mathcal{O}} := S^{-1}R$  is called the localization of  $R$  at the prime ideal  $\mathcal{O}$ .

Proposition:  $R_{\mathcal{P}}$  is a local ring with unique maximal ideal  $\mathcal{P} R_{\mathcal{P}}$ . L22[9]

Proof: Let  $\mathfrak{b}$  be a proper ideal of  $R_{\mathcal{P}}$ . By Prop (1)  $\mathfrak{b} = S^{-1}\mathfrak{a}$  for  $\mathfrak{a} \subset R$  ideal. If  $\mathfrak{a} \cap S \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\mathfrak{b} = S^{-1}R$ . Contr!

So  $\mathfrak{a} \cap S = \emptyset$ , meaning  $\mathfrak{a} \subset \mathcal{P}$ . Hence  $\mathfrak{b} \subseteq \mathcal{P}(S^{-1}R)$

So every proper ideal of  $R_{\mathcal{P}}$  lies in  $\mathcal{P} R_{\mathcal{P}}$ . Thus  $(R_{\mathcal{P}}, \mathcal{P} R_{\mathcal{P}})$  is local.  $\square$

Obs: If  $R$  is a domain,  $j_S: R \hookrightarrow \text{Quot}(R) = (R \setminus \{0\})^{-1}R$

So  $R \hookrightarrow R_{\mathcal{P}} \hookrightarrow \text{Quot}(R)$

Examples ①  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  ( $\mathfrak{p}$ ) is prime ideal  $\leadsto S = \{b \in \mathbb{Z} : p \nmid b\}$

$\leadsto \mathbb{Z}_{(\mathfrak{p})} = \left\{ \frac{a}{b} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ gcd}(a, b) = 1, p \nmid b \right\}$  (HW 7)

②  $R = \mathbb{C}[x]$  ( $\mathfrak{m} = (x)$ ) is maximal ideal, so it's prime

$R_{(\mathfrak{m})} = \left\{ \frac{P}{Q} : P, Q \in \mathbb{C}[x] : x \nmid Q \right\}$

③  $R = \mathbb{C}[x, y]$   $\mathfrak{m} = (x, y)$  is maximal ideal, so prime

$R_{(\mathfrak{m})} = \left\{ \frac{P}{Q} : P, Q \in \mathbb{C}[x, y] \quad Q(0,0) \neq 0 \right\}$

Def: Given  $M$  an  $R$ -module, we define its localization at  $\mathcal{P}$  as  $M_{\mathcal{P}} = S^{-1}M$  where  $S = R \setminus \mathcal{P}$ .

Q: What is  $\ker \left( \begin{matrix} M \\ \downarrow \text{is} \\ M \\ \xrightarrow{\quad} S^{-1}M \end{matrix} \right)$ ?

A:  $\ker(\text{is}) = \{ m \in M : \exists s \in S \text{ with } s \cdot m = 0 \text{ in } M \}$

Def:  $\text{Ann}(m) = \{ r \in R : rm = 0 \}$  (Annihilator of  $m$ )

Lemma:  $\text{Ann}(m)$  is an ideal of  $R$ . It is proper  $\Leftrightarrow m \neq 0$ . (because  $1 \cdot m = m$ )

Consequence:  $m \in \ker(\text{is}) \Leftrightarrow \text{Ann}(m) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ .

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Localizations are useful tools to decide when modules are trivial

More precisely:

Theorem 1: (1)  $M = \{0\} \iff$  (2)  $M_{\mathfrak{p}} = 0 \quad \forall \mathfrak{p} \subsetneq R$  prime ideal  
 $\iff$  (3)  $M_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0 \quad \forall \mathfrak{m} \subsetneq R$  mxl ideal

Proof: (1)  $\implies$  (2)  $\implies$  (3) is clear (mxl ideals are prime)

To finish, we prove (3)  $\implies$  (1): We argue by contradiction.

Pick  $m \in M \setminus \{0\}$  & let  $\mathfrak{a} = \text{Ann}(m) \subsetneq R$ . Pick  $\mathfrak{m} \subsetneq R$  maximal ideal with  $\mathfrak{a} \subset \mathfrak{m}$ . By hypothesis  $M_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$ , so

$\frac{m}{1} = 0$  in  $M_{\mathfrak{m}}$  meaning  $\exists s \in R \setminus \mathfrak{m}$  with  $sm = 0$ . This cannot happen since  $(R \setminus \mathfrak{m}) \cap \text{Ann}(m) = \emptyset$ .  $\square$

Theorem 2: Assume  $R$  is an integral domain. Then:

$$R = \bigcap_{\mathfrak{m} \text{ mxl ideal}} R_{\mathfrak{m}} = \bigcap_{\mathfrak{p} \text{ prime ideal}} R_{\mathfrak{p}}$$

Proof: Next time.