

The Structure of Commutative Algebra Has the Only One Regular Maximal Ideal

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to characterize the commutative algebra having the only one regular maximal ideal. We will show that the following two statements are equivalent:

- (1) There exists a nonzero idempotent $v \in A$ and a F -algebra homomorphism $f: A \rightarrow F$ such that $xy=f(x)f(y)v, \forall x, y \in A$.
- (2) 1. There exists a nonzero idempotent $u \in A$.
2. There exists a regular maximal ideal M such that $MA=0$.
3. $A/M \cong F$.

We first review some definitions and properties, which are used in the proof of conclusion and also we give an example to illustrate this result.

I want to dedicate this paper to my wife Hsieh Mei-Ling, I love her with all my heart.

I. Preliminaries

In this section, R denotes a commutative ring with identity.

Definition 1: A commutative R -algebra A is a unital R -module, that is also a commutative ring such that

$$r(ab) = (ra)b = a(rb) \quad \forall a, b \in A, r \in R.$$

If there is an element $e \in A$ such that $ae = a = ea \quad \forall a \in A$, then A is called R -algebra with identity e .

Definition 2: A R -submodule I of A is called an ideal of A . If I is stable under multiplication and $AI \subset I$. Here AI denotes the set of all elements ab , $\forall a \in A, b \in I$.

Definition 3: An element $e \neq 0$ in A is called an idempotent, if $e^2 = e$.

Definition 4: A proper ideal I of a commutative R -algebra A without identity is called a regular ideal, if there exists an element $a \in A$ such that $ar - r \in I, \forall r \in A$. Call a regular maximal ideal, if it is a maximal ideal or equivalently the quotient ring A/I is a field.

Definition 5: The intersection of all regular maximal ideals of a R -algebra A is the radical of A , denote $\text{Rad } A$.

Definition 6: Let A and B be two R -algebras, A R -module homomorphism $f: A \rightarrow B$ is called a R -algebra homomorphism, if $f(ab) = f(a)f(b), \forall a, b \in A$.

A bijective homomorphism is called an isomorphism. A surjective homomorphism is called an epimorphism. Note that e and e' denote the identities of A and B , we will always assume that $f(e) = e'$.

Through this section, A denotes a commutative R -algebra without identity.

Lemma 1: If I is an ideal of A containing a regular ideal K , then I is a regular ideal.

proof: Since K is a regular ideal, there exists $a \in A$ such that $ax - x \in K \subset I, \forall x \in A$.

Thus I is a regular ideal.

Lemma 2: Every regular ideal of A is contained in a regular maximal ideal.

proof: Let I be a proper regular ideal of A . Then there exists $a \in A$ such that

$ar - r \in I, \forall r \in A$. Set $\Sigma = \{K \mid K \text{ is a regular ideal of } A \text{ such that } a \notin K \text{ and } I \subseteq K\}$ Then $\Sigma \neq \Phi$, since $I \in \Sigma$. (If $a \in I$ then $ar \in I$ and $I=A$, hence $a \notin I$). Σ is

a poset with set inclusion. Let $\{I_\alpha\}$ be any chain in Σ , Then $\bigcup_\alpha I_\alpha$ is an upper

bound of the chain. We claim that $\bigcup_\alpha I_\alpha \in \Sigma$. It is clear that $\bigcup_\alpha I_\alpha$ is an ideal.

Since $\{I_\alpha\}$ is a chain, $I \subset \bigcup_\alpha I_\alpha$ and $a \notin \bigcup_\alpha I_\alpha$, hence $\bigcup_\alpha I_\alpha \in \Sigma$. By Zorn's lemma,

Σ has a maximal element M , then M is an ideal of A , $a \notin M$ and $I \subset M$. We claim that M is a maximal ideal. Let D be a regular ideal of A and $M \subsetneq D \subset A$, Then $a \in D$. Since $ar - r \in M \cap D \forall r \in A$, hence $r \in D$, thus $D=A$. M is a regular maximal ideal of A .

Lemma 3: If $f: A \rightarrow B$ is a homomorphism, then $\text{Ker} f$ and $A/\text{ker} f$ are R -algebras.

proof: Trivial.

Lemma 4: If $f: A \rightarrow B$ is an epimorphism, then $A/\text{Ker} f \cong B$.

proof: Trivial.

Lemma 5: Let A be a commutative R -algebra and u nonzero idempotent. Then u does not belong to the radical of A .

proof: We first show that $u \neq au - a \forall a \in A$. If $u = au - a$ then $a + u = au$ and $ua + u^2 = u(a + u) = u \cdot au = au \Rightarrow u^2 = u = 0$, a contradiction.

Let $S = \{ux - x \mid \forall x \in A\}$, We claim that S is a regular ideal of A.

For any $x, y \in A, r \in R, b \in A$

$$(ux - x) - (uy - y) = u(x - y) - (x - y) \in S$$

$$r(ux - x) = u(rx) - rx \in S$$

and

$$b(ux - x) = u(bx) - bx \in S$$

Thus S is a regular ideal. By lemma 2, there exists a regular maximal ideal M such that $S \subset M$. We claim that $u \notin M$. If $u \in M$ and M is a regular maximal ideal, then $\forall x \in A, ux - x \in S \subset M, ux \in M$ implies $x \in M$. Thus $M=A$, a contradiction.

II : Main Result

Now, we give a characterization of a commutative F-algebra without identity having exactly one regular maximal ideal. F denote a field.

Main theorem:

Let A be a commutative F-algebra. Then the following two conditions are equivalent :

1. There exists $v \in A$ such that $v \neq 0 \neq v^2$ and for any x, y in A, $x \cdot y = f(x)f(y)v$, where $f: A \rightarrow F$ is a F-algebra homomorphism such that $f(v) = 1$.

2. (1) There exists a non-zero idempotent $u \in A$.

(2) There exists exactly one regular maximal ideal $M \subset A$.

Furthermore, $\forall m \in M, x \in A, mx = 0$

(3) $A/M \cong F$.

proof: (1 \Rightarrow 2) Since $v \neq 0$ and any x, y in A, $xy = f(x)f(y)v, f(v) = 1$, then $v \cdot v = f(v)f(v)v = v$,

hence v is nonzero idempotent in A .

- (2) Let $M = \{m \in A \mid mx = 0, \forall x \in A\}$. We claim that M is a regular ideal. For any $m, n \in M, a, x \in A, r \in F$, we have

$$(m - n)x = mx - nx = 0, m - n \in M$$

$$(mn)x = m(nx) = m \cdot 0 = 0, mn \in M$$

$$(am)x = a(mx) = a \cdot 0 = 0, am \in M$$

$$(rm)x = r(mx) = r \cdot 0 = 0, rm \in M$$

For any $x, y \in A, (vx-x) \cdot y = (f(v)f(y)v-x)y = f(v)f(x)f(v)f(y)v - f(x)f(y)v = 0$

hence $vx-x \in M$, Thus M is a regular ideal of A .

We claim that M is a regular maximal ideal. If I is any regular ideal, then there exists $a \in A$ such that $ax-x \in I, \forall x \in A$. Since I is a proper ideal of A , there exists $b \in A$ and $b \notin I$ such that $a \cdot b - b = f(a)f(b)v - b \in I$, hence $f(a)f(b)v \notin I$ implies $v \notin I$. If there exists $a \in I$ such that $av \neq 0$, then $f(a)v = f(a)f(v)v = av \in I$; Since F is a field, hence $v \in I$, a contradiction. Thus $xv=0, \forall x \in I$ implies $I \subseteq M$. By lemma 1, we know that any ideal containing M must be regular ideal, hence $I=M$. Therefore M is the only regular maximal ideal.

- (3) Consider that $f: A \rightarrow F$ is an epimorphism. Since $f(v)=1$ and $f(rv) = rf(v) = r, \forall r \in F$; we claim that $\text{Ker } f = M$. For any $m \in M$,

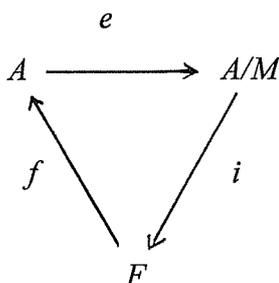
$$mv = f(m)f(v)v = f(m)v = 0 \text{ implies } f(m) = 0$$

that is $m \in \text{Ker } f$ and $M \subseteq \text{ker } f$. But M is the only regular maximal ideal, hence $\text{Ker } f = M$. By lemma 4, we have $A/M \cong F$.

Conversely, let u be a nonzero idempotent in A . Put $I = \{ux - x \mid \forall x \in A\}$, I is a regular

ideal and $I \subset M$, since M is the only one regular maximal ideal. By lemma 5, we know that $Rad A = M$, $u \notin Rad A = M$.

Let $i: A/M \rightarrow F$ be an isomorphism and $e: A \rightarrow A/M$ the natural epimorphism. Put $f = i \circ e$, it is clear that f is an epimorphism and $f(u) = 1$, since $u + M$ is the identity of A/M .



We claim that $A = M \oplus Fu$. For any $a \in A$, there exists

$$r = i(a + M) = f(a) \text{ such that } f(a - ru) = f(a) - rf(u) = r - r = 0, a - ru \in M.$$

We claim that $M \cap Fu = \{0\}$. If $x \in M \cap Fu$ then $x \in M$ and $x \in Fu$, hence

$$x = ru, r \in F. \text{ Since } u \notin M, r = 0 \text{ and } x = 0.$$

We show that $x \cdot y = f(x)f(y)u, \forall x, y \in A$. For any $x, y \in A$, we have $x = m_1 + r_1u, y = m_2 + r_2u$, where $r_1 = f(x), r_2 = f(y)$. Since $mx = 0, \forall x \in A, m \in M$, we have

$$x \cdot y = (m_1 + r_1u)(m_2 + r_2u) = m_1m_2 + r_1um_2 + r_2um_1 + r_1r_2u^2 = r_1r_2u = f(x)f(y)u.$$

The following example is to illustrate the existence of such algebra.

Example: let V be an inner product vector space over real field R and u a unit vector.

$$\text{Define the multiplication "o" by } mon = (m \cdot u)(n \cdot u)u, \forall m, n \in V.$$

It is easily check the $(V, +, o)$ is a commutative ring, We claim that $(V, +, o)$ has an identity.

If $\dim V=1$ then V is generated by u ; that is, for any $m \in V$ there exists $r \in R$ such that $m=ru$; Then

$$mou = (m \cdot u)(u \cdot u)u = (ru \cdot u)(u \cdot u)u = ru = m \quad \text{since} \quad u \cdot u = 1,$$

hence u is the identity in V .

If $\dim V = k \geq 2$, then V has no identity. Assume that e is an identity of V , then

$$e = eoe = (e \cdot u)(e \cdot u)u \in [u]$$

where $[u]$ denote the ideal generated by u . Hence $e=ru$, for some $r \in R$. Since $\dim V = k \geq 2$, there exists $m \notin [u]$, then

$$m = moe = (m \cdot u)(e \cdot u)u = (m \cdot u)ru \in [u], \text{ a contradiction.}$$

Therefore V has no identity.

Define $M = \{m \in V \mid m \cdot u = 0\}$. We claim that M is a regular maximal ideal of V .

Clearly, it is an ideal.

$$(m-mou) \cdot u = m \cdot u - (m \cdot u)(u \cdot u)(u \cdot u) = 0 \quad \forall m \in V$$

hence $m-mou \in M$, therefore M is a regular ideal.

Define $f: V/M \rightarrow R$ by $f(v+M) = v \cdot u, \forall v \in V$. We show that f is well-defined.

If $a+M=b+M$ then $a-b \in M$, $(a-b) \cdot u = (a \cdot u) - (b \cdot u) = 0$ implies

$$a \cdot u = b \cdot u \quad \forall a, b \in V.$$

Now we claim that f is isomorphism. Clearly f is a homomorphism;

$$f(ru+M) = ru \cdot u = r \quad \forall r \in R, ru+M \in V/M$$

and

$$\ker f = \{a + M \mid a \cdot u = 0\} = \{a + M \mid a \in M\} = \{M\}.$$

Thus

$$V/M \cong R$$

Since R is a field, hence M is the only one maximal ideal.

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在交換代數中僅有一個極大理想結構性的探討

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摘 要

本論文是探討在可交換 F -algebra 下，僅有一個正則極大理想必須具備的結構。

全文中，首先建立一些預備定理；然後提出兩等價條件，加以證明說明出只有一個正則極大理想的形態，最後再提出一個實例，說明其存在性。

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