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Monday
Week 6

Last time

R is an integral domain

- $r \in R$, $r \neq 0$, r is not a unit
 r is irreducible if whenever
 $r = ab$ for $a, b \in R$

then either a is a unit or b is a unit.

- $r \in R$ is prime and (r) is a prime ideal.

if $r \neq 0$

Prop: Let R be an integral domain.
If $p \in R$ is prime, then p is irreducible.

proof: Let $p \in R$ be prime. So $p \neq 0$

and (p) is a prime ideal.
Let's show p is irreducible.

Suppose $p = ab$ for some $a, b \in R$.

Note that $ab = p \cdot 1 \in (p)$

Recall:

$$(p) = \{ px \mid x \in R \}$$

Since $ab \in (p)$ and (p) is
a prime ideal, either
 $a \in (p)$ or $b \in (p)$.

} Using
def
of prime ideal

case 1:

Suppose $b \in (p)$.

Then $b = pk$ where $k \in R$.

So, $p = ab = apk$.

Thus, $p(1 - ak) = 0$.

Since R is an integral domain, either $p = 0$ or $1 - ak = 0$.

Since $p \neq 0$ we have $1 - ak = 0$.

Thus, $ak = 1$. Therefore a is a unit.

case 2: If $a \in (p)$, the same proof as above would give that b is a unit. Therefore, p is irreducible. \square

Prop: Let R be a PID.

Let $p \in R$ with $p \neq 0$.

p is prime iff p is irreducible.

proof:

(\Rightarrow) A PID is an integral domain
So just showed prime
implies irreducible in this case.

(\Leftarrow) Let $p \in R$ with $p \neq 0$. Assume p
is irreducible.
We want to show that (p) is
a prime ideal, and hence p is prime.

We will show (p) is maximal.
We know maximal implies prime,
so that will take care of
the proof.

Suppose $(p) \subseteq I \subseteq R$.

Since R is a PID,
 $I = (d)$ where $d \in R$.

So, $(p) \subseteq (d) \subseteq R$.

Thus, $p \in (d)$.

Hence, $p = dl$ where $l \in R$.

Since p is irreducible either
 d is a unit or l is a unit.

Case 1:

So, $I =$

Thus, b

Case 2:

Then

Therefore

Since

So, $(p) =$

Case 1: Suppose d is a unit.

So, $I = (d)$ contains a unit.

Thus, by a previous result, $I = R$.

Case 2: Suppose d is a unit.

Then $d^{-1} \in R$ exists and $pd^{-1} = d$.

Therefore $(d) \subseteq (p)$.

Since $(p) \subseteq (d)$ and $(d) \subseteq (p)$.

So, $(p) = I = (d)$.

If $x \in (d)$, then
 $x = dk, k \in R$.
So, $x = dk = p(d^{-1}k) \in (p)$

So given an ideal I
with $(p) \subseteq I \subseteq R$
we have $(p) = I$
or $I = R$.

Thus, (p) is maximal
and hence prime. \square

Corollary: Let R be a PID,

Let $p \in R, p \neq 0$.

If p is irreducible, then (p) is maximal.

pf: See above proof. \square

