

$\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$  is  
a ring  
with these operations

$$(a,b) + (x,y) = (a+x, b+y)$$
$$(a,b)(x,y) = (ax, by)$$

distributive rule:

$$(a,b)((x,y)+(w,z))$$

$$= (a,b)(x+w, y+z)$$

$$= (ax+aw, by+bz)$$

$$= (ax, by) + (aw, bz)$$

$$= (a,b)(x,y) + (a,b)(w,z)$$

associative

$$(a,b)[(x,y)(w,z)]$$

$$= (a,b)(xw, yz)$$

$$= (a(xw), b(yz))$$

$$= ((ax)w, (by)z) = (ax, by)(w,z)$$

$$= [(a,b)(x,y)](w,z)$$

Ex: Let  $\varphi : \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

be given by  $\varphi(a,b) = a$

$\varphi$  is a ring hom.

Let  $x = (a_1, b_1)$  and  $y = (a_2, b_2)$  be in  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ .  
Then,

$$\varphi(x+y) = \varphi(a_1+a_2, b_1+b_2) = a_1+a_2 = \varphi(a_1, b_1) + \varphi(a_2, b_2) = \varphi(x) + \varphi(y)$$

and

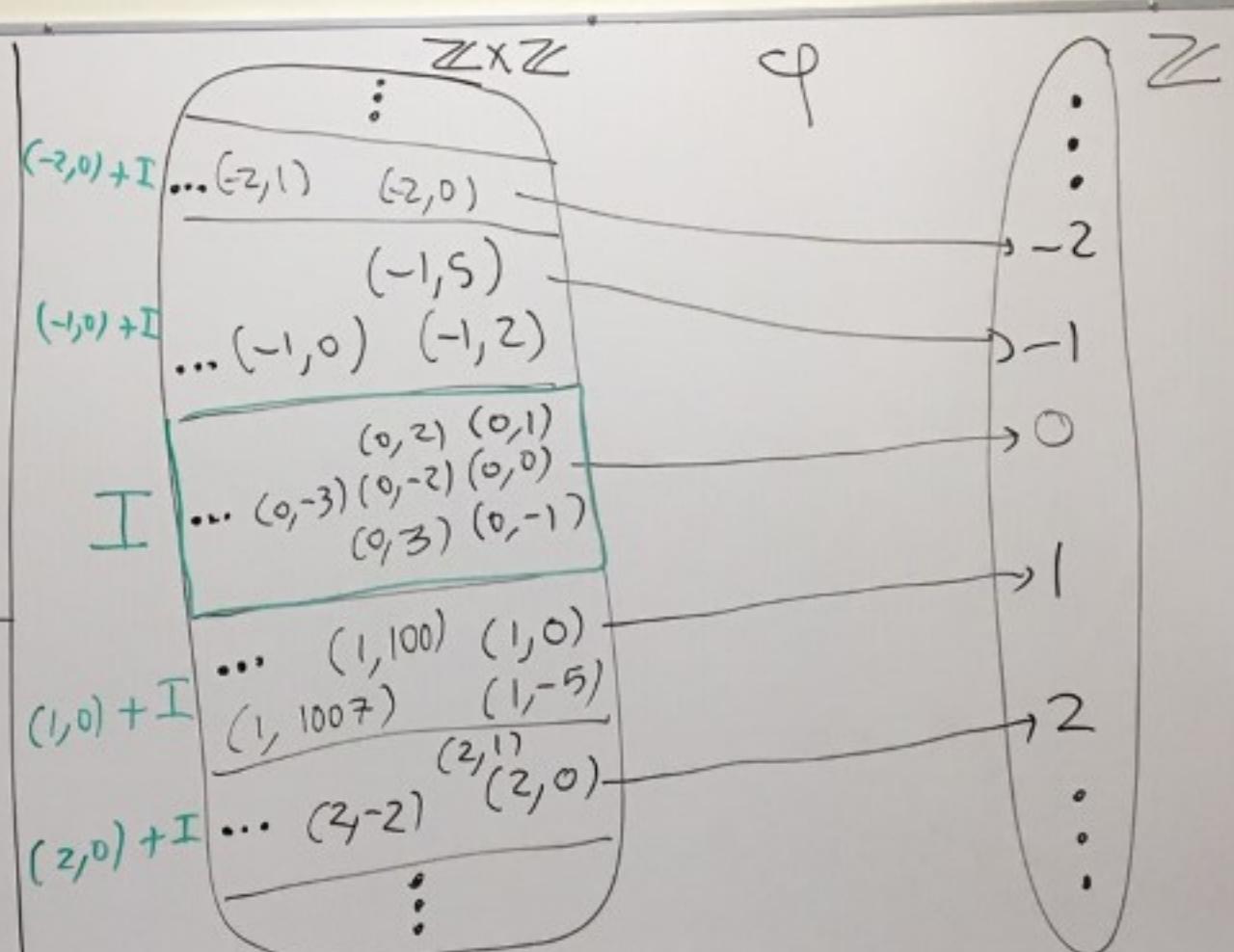
$$\varphi(xy) = \varphi(a_1a_2, b_1b_2) = a_1a_2 = \varphi(a_1, b_1)\varphi(a_2, b_2) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y)$$

kernel of  $\varphi$

$$\begin{aligned}\ker(\varphi) &= \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \mid \varphi(a, b) = 0\} \\ &= \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \mid a = 0\} \\ &= \{(0, b) \mid b \in \mathbb{Z}\}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So, } I = \ker(\varphi) = \{(0, b) \mid b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

is an ideal of  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ .



1st iso.  
Thm

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} / I &\cong \text{im}(\varphi) \\ &= \mathbb{Z}\end{aligned}$$

## 7.4 - Properties of ideals

Def: Let  $R$  be a commutative ring.

We say that an ideal  $I$  of  $R$  is principal if there exists  $a \in R$  where

$$I = \{ra \mid r \in R\}$$

notated by  $Ra$  or  $(a)$

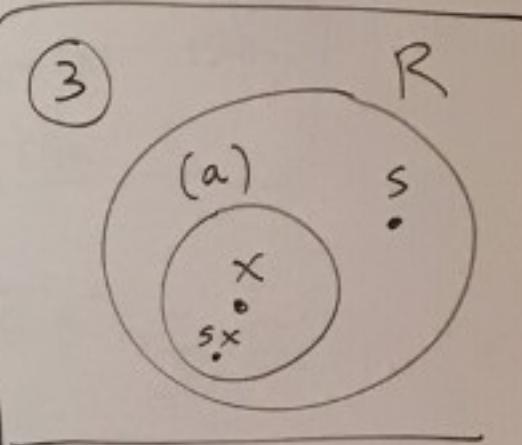
ideal generated by  $a$

$R$  is commutative

Prop: If  $R$  is a commutative ring and  $a \in R$  then  $(a) = \{ra \mid r \in R\}$  is an ideal of  $R$ .

proof:

- ① Since  $R$  is a ring,  $\exists 0 \in R$ . Thus,  $0 = 0 \cdot a \in (a)$ .
- ② Let  $x, y \in (a)$ . Then  $x = r_1 a$  and  $y = r_2 a$  where  $r_1, r_2 \in R$ . Then  $x - y = r_1 a - r_2 a = (r_1 - r_2)a \in (a)$
- ③ Let  $x \in (a)$  and  $s \in R$ . Then  $x = ra$  for some  $r \in R$ . Then,  $sx = s(ra) = (sr)a \in (a)$  and  $xs = (ra)s = (rs)a \in (a)$ .



By ①, ②, ③  
 $(a)$  is an ideal of  $R$ .

Ex: All the ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}$  are principal.

Any ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}$  is of the form

$$n\mathbb{Z} = \{nk \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}\} \\ = (n)$$

where  $n \geq 0$ .

Prop: Let  $R$  be a ring with identity  $1 \neq 0$ .

- ① Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $R$ .  
Then  $I = R$  iff  $I$  contains a unit of  $R$ .
- ② Suppose further that  $R$  is commutative.

Then,  $R$  is a field iff the only ideals of  $R$  are  $\{0\}$  and  $R$ .

Proof:

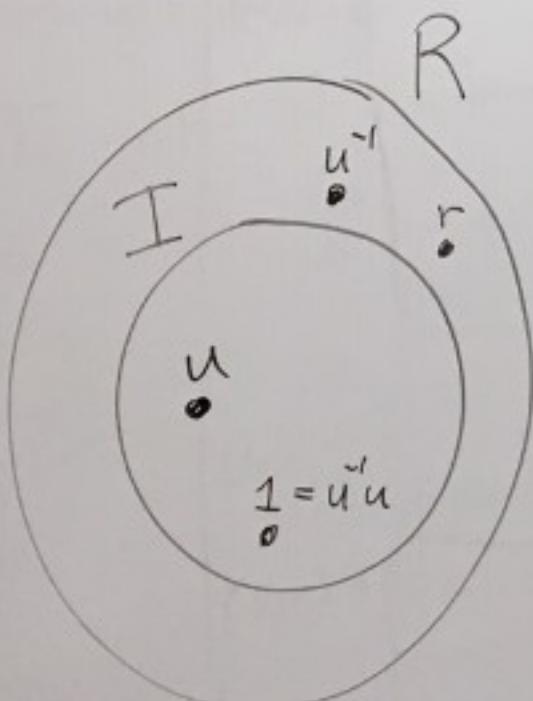
① Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $R$ .

$\Leftrightarrow$  If  $I=R$ , then  $1 \in I$ .

So,  $I$  contains a unit.

$\Leftarrow$  Suppose  $I$  contains a unit of  $R$ . Let  $u \in I$  be a unit. So,  $\bar{u}$  exists in  $R$  with  $\bar{u}u = u\bar{u} = 1$ . Since  $I$  is an ideal

$$1 = \bar{u}u \underset{\text{in } R}{\underset{\text{in } I}{\in}} I.$$



Let  $r \in R$ .

Then,  $r = \underbrace{r}_{\text{in } R} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{1}{u}}_{\text{in } I} \in I$ .

So,  $R \subseteq I$ .

Thus,  $R = I$ .

Side note:

1-step method of proof

$$r = \underbrace{(r \cdot \bar{u})}_{\text{in } R} \underbrace{u}_{\text{in } I} \in I$$

② Suppose  $R$  is a commutative ring with  $1 \neq 0$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Suppose  $R$  is a field.

Let  $I$  be an ideal of  $R$ .

Either  $I = \{0\}$  or  $I \neq \{0\}$ .

Suppose  $I \neq \{0\}$ . Then there exists  $x \in I$  with  $x \neq 0$ .

Since  $R$  is a field and  $x \neq 0$  we have that  $x$  is a unit.

So by part 1,  $I = R$ .

Thus, either  $I = \{0\}$  or  $I = R$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Suppose the only ideals of  $R$  are  $\{0\}$  and  $R$ .

We want to show that  $R$  is a field.

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

We need to show that  $x$  is a unit.

Consider the ideal

$$I = (x) = \{xr \mid r \in R\}$$

By assumption either  $I = \{0\}$  or  $I = R$ .

We know  $x = x \cdot 1 \in I$  [Here we are using that  $1 \neq 0$  is in  $R$ ]

And  $x \neq 0$ .

So,  $I \neq \{0\}$ . ← since  $x \in I$  and  $x \neq 0$

Thus,  $I = R$ .

So,  $1 \in I$ .

Thus,  $1 = xr$  for some  $r \in R$ .

So,  $x$  is a unit.

Thus every non-zero element of  $R$  is a unit. So,  $R$  is a field.  $\square$