

A REMARK ON THE SUM AND THE INTERSECTION OF TWO NORMAL IDEALS IN AN ALGEBRA

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Let F be a quotient field of a commutative domain of integrity o in which the usual arithmetic holds.¹ Consider an algebra \mathfrak{A} with a unit element over F . Let $\mathfrak{S}_1, \mathfrak{S}_2, \mathfrak{S}_3, \mathfrak{S}_4$ be four arbitrary maximal orders in \mathfrak{A} and $\mathfrak{a}, \mathfrak{b}, \mathfrak{c}$ be three arbitrary normal ideals. We prove the following theorems.

THEOREM 1. *If $\mathfrak{S}_1 \cap \mathfrak{S}_2 = \mathfrak{S}_3 \cap \mathfrak{S}_4$ [or $(\mathfrak{S}_1, \mathfrak{S}_2) = (\mathfrak{S}_3, \mathfrak{S}_4)$], then either $\mathfrak{S}_1 = \mathfrak{S}_3, \mathfrak{S}_2 = \mathfrak{S}_4$ or $\mathfrak{S}_1 = \mathfrak{S}_4, \mathfrak{S}_2 = \mathfrak{S}_3$.*

THEOREM 2. *Both the left and the right orders of $(\mathfrak{S}_1, \mathfrak{S}_2)$ are $\mathfrak{S}_1 \cap \mathfrak{S}_2$. Also $\mathfrak{S}_1 \cap \mathfrak{S}_2 \subseteq \mathfrak{S}_3$ if and only if $(\mathfrak{S}_1, \mathfrak{S}_2) \supseteq \mathfrak{S}_3$; if this is the case the distance ideal \mathfrak{d}_{21} of \mathfrak{S}_2 to \mathfrak{S}_1 is divisible by the distance ideal² \mathfrak{d}_{31} of \mathfrak{S}_3 to \mathfrak{S}_1 .*

THEOREM 3. *The left, say, order \mathfrak{o} of the intersection $\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}$ [the sum $(\mathfrak{a}, \mathfrak{b})$] is an intersection of two suitable maximal orders.*

More precisely, if \mathfrak{r} and \mathfrak{s} are normal ideals such that $\mathfrak{b} = \mathfrak{r}\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{s}$ in the sense of proper multiplication and if \mathfrak{t} is the smallest two-sided ideal of the right order of \mathfrak{a} which divides \mathfrak{s} while \mathfrak{t}' is the largest two-sided ideal of the same maximal order which is divisible by \mathfrak{s} , then \mathfrak{o} is the intersection of the left orders of the two normal ideals $\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{r}\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{t}$ and $\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{r}\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{t}'$ [($\mathfrak{a}, \mathfrak{r}\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{t}$) and ($\mathfrak{a}, \mathfrak{r}\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{t}'$)].³ *The left order of $\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b}$ coincides with the right order of $(\mathfrak{a}^{-1}, \mathfrak{b}^{-1})$.*

THEOREM 4. *$\mathfrak{a} \cap \mathfrak{b} \subseteq \mathfrak{c}$ implies $(\mathfrak{a}^{-1}, \mathfrak{b}^{-1}) \supseteq \mathfrak{c}^{-1}$ and conversely.*

For the proof we have, according to the well known reduction, only to treat the case where F is a p -adic field $F = F_p$ and \mathfrak{A} is a normal simple algebra over F . Then \mathfrak{A} is a (complete) matric ring $D_r = \sum_{i,k=1}^r \epsilon_{ik} D$ over a division algebra D , where ϵ_{ik} is a system of matric units commutative with every element of D . D possesses a unique maximal order I , and I has a unique prime ideal P .

Notation. If $a_{ik}, (i, k = 1, 2, \dots, r)$, is a system of rational integers, we denote by $M(a_{ik})$ the ideal $\sum_{i,k} \epsilon_{ik} P^{a_{ik}}$ in \mathfrak{A} .

¹ In the following we shall adopt the terminologies used in M. Deuring, *Algebren, Ergebnisse der Mathematik*, vol. 4, no. 1, 1935.

² If the algebra is a quaternion algebra, then the converse is also valid. Cf. M. Eichler, *Journal für die reine und angewandte Mathematik*, vol. 174 (1936), §7.

³ Thus the intersection and the sum are no more normal ideals except for trivial cases; cf. Nakayama, *Proceedings of the Imperial Academy of Japan*, vol. 12 (1936).