

Star reductions of ideals and Prüfer v -multiplication domains

Evan Houston
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Definitions. Let R be a domain and I a nonzero ideal of R .

- (Northcott/Rees, 1954) An ideal $J \subseteq I$ is said to be a *reduction* of I if $JI^n = I^{n+1}$ for some positive integer n .
- (Northcott/Rees) I is *basic* if it has no proper reductions.
- R has the *basic ideal property* if each ideal of R is basic.

It is difficult for a domain R to be basic:

- For $a, b \in R$, we have $(a^2, b^2)(a, b) = (a, b)^3$.
- Hence $(a^2, b^2)(a, b)^2 = ((a, b)^2)^2$,
- so (a^2, b^2) is a reduction of $(a, b)^2$.

Theorem. But in a Prüfer domain, we do have $(a^2, b^2) = (a, b)^2$ for all a, b .

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Theorem (Hays). Let R be a domain.

- (Hays, TAMS, 1973) R is a Prüfer domain $\Leftrightarrow R$ has the finite basic ideal property.
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More definitions. Let \star be a star operation on R .

- An ideal $J \subseteq I$ is a \star -reduction of I if $(JI^n)^\star = (I^{n+1})^\star$ for some n .
- I is \star -basic if it has no proper \star -reductions, i.e., if an equation above implies $J^\star = I^\star$.
- R has the \star -basic ideal property if each nonzero ideal of R is \star -basic.
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What we thought we could prove:

(Very Wrong) "Theorem". Let R be a domain.

- R is a Prüfer v -multiplication domain $\Leftrightarrow R$ has the finite t -basic ideal property.
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Definition. A star operation on R is a map $*$ from the set of nonzero fractional ideals of R to itself such that:

1. $(aI)^* = aI^*$ and $R^* = R$ for all a, I .
2. $I \subseteq I^*$ and $I \subseteq J \Rightarrow I^* \subseteq J^*$ for all I, J .
3. $I^{**} = I^*$ for all I .

Lemma (Hays). Let R have the finite \star -basic ideal property. Then R is integrally closed.

Proof. Suppose $a, b, \{r_i\} \in R$ with
 $(a/b)^n + r_{n-1}(a/b)^{n-1} + \cdots + r_0 = 0$.

Then $a^n = -(r_{n-1}a^{n-1}b + \cdots + r_0b^n) \in (a^{n-1}, \dots, b^{n-1})(b)$

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More definitions. Let I be a fractional ideal of F .

- $I^{-1} = (R : I) = \{x \in K \mid xI \subseteq R\}$.
- $I_v = (I^{-1})^{-1}$.
- $I_t = \bigcup \{J_v \mid J \subseteq I, J \text{ finitely generated}\}$.
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$$\begin{aligned} I_w &= \bigcup \{(I : J) \mid J \text{ finitely generated}, J_v = R\} \\ &= \{x \in K \mid xJ \subseteq I \text{ for some finitely generated ideal } J \text{ with } J_v = R\} \\ &= \bigcap \{IR_M \mid M \in \text{Max}_t(R)\} \end{aligned}$$

- A domain R is a Prüfer v -multiplication domain (PvMD) if it satisfies any of the following equivalent conditions:
 - Each nonzero finitely generated ideal of R is t -invertible.
 - R_M is a valuation domain for each maximal t -ideal M of R .
 - (Kang) R is integrally closed and $t = w$.

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- $I^{-1} = (R : I) = \{x \in K \mid xI \subseteq R\}$.
- $I_v = (I^{-1})^{-1}$.
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Recall that a domain R is *completely integrally closed* if every nonzero ideal of R is v -invertible.

Proposition. Let \star be a star operation on an integral domain R .

1. If R has the \star -basic ideal property, then R is completely integrally closed.
2. R has the v -basic ideal property if and only if R is completely integrally closed.

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So here's the correct result:

Theorem. Let R be a domain.

1. R is a Prüfer v -multiplication domain $\Leftrightarrow R$ has the finite w -basic ideal property.
2. R is a Prüfer domain v -multiplication domain of t -dimension 1 $\Leftrightarrow R$ has the (full) w -basic ideal property.

Sketch of proof:

1. (\Rightarrow) It is easy to show that \star -invertible ideals are \star -basic. Since finitely generated ideals are t -invertible, they are $t = w$ -basic. (\Leftarrow) R has the finite w -basic ideal property implies that R is integrally closed. Let $M \in \text{Max}_t(R)$, and let $a, b \in M$. Since (a^2, b^2) is a reduction of $(a, b)^2$, we have $(a^2, b^2)_w = ((a, b)^2)_w$ and hence $(a^2, b^2)R_M = (a, b)^2R_M$. Therefore, R is a PvMD.
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