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CANCELLATION IDEALS AND MINIMAL CANCELLATION IDEALS
OF SOME COMMUTATIVE RINGS WITH IDENTITY



Miss Kulprapa Kongpeng

สถาบันวิทยบริการ
จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

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ถ้า R เป็นวงสลบที่ซึ่งมีเอกลักษณ์ และ J เป็นไลต์ลของ R แล้ว เราเรียก J ว่าเป็น
ไลต์ลการตัดออกของ R เมื่อ J มีสมบัติว่า $JA = JB$ ทำให้ได้ผลว่า $A = B$ ทุกๆไลต์ล A, B ของ R
ถ้า I เป็นไลต์ลของ R และ J เป็นไลต์ลการตัดออกของ R โดยที่ $I \subseteq J$ แล้ว เราเรียก J ว่าเป็น
ไลต์ลการตัดออกพาดพิงกับ I

ในงานวิจัยนี้ เราได้ผลลัพธ์ที่สำคัญคือ ทฤษฎีบทต่อไปนี้

- 1) ให้ D เป็น unique factorization domain และ $a, b \in D \setminus \{0\}$ ซึ่ง $d = (a, b)$ จะได้ว่า
 $\langle a, b \rangle$ เป็นไลต์ลการตัดออกของ D ก็ต่อเมื่อ $\langle d \rangle = \langle a, b \rangle$
- 2) สำหรับทุกๆ $m \in \mathbb{N}$, ถ้า J เป็นไลต์ลการตัดออกของ $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ พาดพิงกับ $\langle 2, x^m \rangle$ แล้ว
 $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$

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Let R be a commutative ring with identity. An ideal J of R is called a cancellation ideal if whenever $JA = JB$ for ideals A and B of R , then $A = B$. And J is called a cancellation ideal belonging to I if J is a cancellation ideal and $I \subseteq J$.

In this reserch, we obtain the important results as the two following theorems.

- 1) Let D be a unique factorization domain and $a, b \in D \setminus \{0\}$ such that $d = (a, b)$. Then $\langle a, b \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of D if and only if $\langle d \rangle = \langle a, b \rangle$.
- 2) For all $m \in \mathbb{N}$, if J is a cancellation ideal belonging to $\langle 2, x^m \rangle$ of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$, then $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARIES

An introduction of cancellation ideals may be found in [2]. Characterization of cancellation ideals was given by D.D.Anderson and M.Roitman in [1], but checking a given ideal is a cancellation ideal, or not, is not easy to show by using their theorem. We can found some interesting notion for ideals in [3].

In this chapter, we give precise definitions, quoted results, and give some results for using in the next two chapters.

Definition. Let R be a commutative ring with identity. An ideal I of R is called a **cancellation ideal** if whenever $IB = IC$ for ideals B and C of R , then $B = C$.

Definition. An integral domain R is a **unique factorization domain** provided that:

- (i) every nonzero nonunit element a of R can be written $a = c_1c_2 \cdots c_n$, with c_1, \dots, c_n irreducible,
- (ii) if $a = c_1c_2 \cdots c_n$ and $a = d_1d_2 \cdots d_m$ (c_i, d_i irreducible), then $n=m$ and for some permutation σ of $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, c_i and $d_{\sigma(i)}$ are associates for every i .

Definition. A ring R is called a **Boolean ring** if for every $a \in R$, $a^2 = a$.

Definition. A ring R is **Artinian** if R satisfies the descending chain condition on ideals.

The Theorem 1.1 is a well-know result.

Theorem 1.1. *If D is a unique factorization domain, then $D[x]$ is a unique factorization domain.*

Since \mathbb{Z} is a unique factorization domain, $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ and $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ are unique factorization domains.

The next two results are given in [1]. The first lemma is easy to see and we always refer to it in the next chapter.

Lemma 1.2. *Let R be a commutative ring with identity and $a \in R$. Then $\langle a \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of R if and only if a is not a zero divisor of R .*

Theorem 1.3. *Let R be a commutative ring with identity. An ideal I of R is a cancellation ideal of R if and only if I is locally a regular principal ideal.*

From Lemma 1.2, we have that every ideal of \mathbb{Z} , except $\{0\}$, is a cancellation ideal of \mathbb{Z} . The following theorem is an interesting result.

Theorem 1.4. *Every proper ideal in \mathbb{Z}_m is not a cancellation ideal of \mathbb{Z}_m .*

Proof. Let I be an ideal in \mathbb{Z}_m such that $I \neq \mathbb{Z}_m$ and $I \neq \{\bar{0}\}$. Since \mathbb{Z}_m is a principal ideal ring, $I = \langle \bar{k} \rangle$ for some $\bar{k} \in \mathbb{Z}_m \setminus \{\bar{0}\}$. Let d be the g.c.d. of k and m . Then $d \neq 1$, $d \mid k$ and $d \mid m$. There exist nonzero elements x and y of \mathbb{Z} such that $k = dx$ and $m = dy$. Thus $ky = dxy = xdy = xm$, so $\bar{k}\bar{y} = \overline{ky} = \bar{0}$. Hence \bar{k} is a zero divisor of \mathbb{Z}_m . By Lemma 1.1, $I = \langle \bar{k} \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of \mathbb{Z}_m .

Clearly, $\{\bar{0}\}$ is not a cancellation ideal of \mathbb{Z}_m for $m > 1$ and $\{\bar{0}\}$ is a cancellation ideal of \mathbb{Z}_m for $m = 1$.

Next, we have to show that \mathbb{Z}_m is a cancellation ideal of \mathbb{Z}_m for $m > 1$. Let \bar{n}_1 and \bar{n}_2 be elements of \mathbb{Z}_m such that $\mathbb{Z}_m \langle \bar{n}_1 \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_m \langle \bar{n}_2 \rangle$. Since $\bar{1}$ is the multiplicative identity of \mathbb{Z}_m , $\langle \bar{n}_1 \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_m \langle \bar{n}_1 \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_m \langle \bar{n}_2 \rangle = \langle \bar{n}_2 \rangle$.

Therefore, \mathbb{Z}_m is a cancellation ideal of \mathbb{Z}_m . □

Theorem 1.5 is one that easy to prove but in order to check whether a given ideal is a cancellation ideal, is not practical.

Theorem 1.5. *Let R be a commutative ring and I an ideal of R such that I contains an element which is not a zero divisor of R . Then I is a cancellation ideal of R if and only if for every ideals A, B of R such that $A \cup B \subseteq I$, $IA = IB$ implies $A = B$.*

Proof. (\rightarrow) Clearly.

(\leftarrow) Let A and B be ideals of R such that $IA = IB$ and k an element of I which is not a zero divisor of R . Then $\langle k \rangle IA = \langle k \rangle IB$, so $I\langle k \rangle A = I\langle k \rangle B$. Since $k \in I$, $\langle k \rangle A \cup \langle k \rangle B \subseteq I$, so $\langle k \rangle A = \langle k \rangle B$. By Lemma 1.2, $\langle k \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of R , so $A = B$. \square

We give the precise definition for a cancellation ideal belonging to an ideal which we consider in Chapter III here.

Definition. Let I be an ideal in the commutative ring R with identity.

A cancellation ideal J of R is said to be a **cancellation ideal belonging to ideal I** if $I \subseteq J$.

The following statements are facts about cancellation ideals of some familiar rings.

1. A maximal ideal in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ need not be a cancellation ideal.

An example is the maximal ideal $\langle 2, x \rangle$ of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ (see Chapter II for $\langle 2, x \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal).

2. For any field F , $F[x]$ is a PID, so all ideals of $F[x]$, except $\{0\}$, are cancellation ideals of $F[x]$ (by Lemma 1.2).

3. For $a \in \mathbb{Z}$, $|a| \geq 1$ and a is not prime, the ideal $\langle a \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal but not a maximal ideal of \mathbb{Z} (by Lemma 1.2).

4. Let R be a subring of an integral domain T . If I is a cancellation ideal of R , then IT is a cancellation ideal of T . This fact is quoted from [1].
5. The ideal $I = \langle 2, x^2 \rangle$ of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ is not a cancellation ideal and a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ belonging to I must be $\mathbb{Z}[x]$, see Chapter III.



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CHAPTER II

CANCELLATION IDEALS OF SOME RINGS

In this chapter, we consider ideals of arbitrary commutative ring in Theorem 2.1-2.3, and we consider ideals in some special forms of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ and $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ in Theorem 2.4-2.16. Ideals of Boolean rings with identity and ideals of an Artinian rings with identity have considered in Theorem 2.17-2.18.

Theorem 2.1. *Let I_1, I_2, \dots, I_n be ideals of a commutative ring R .*

Then $I_1I_2\dots I_n$ is a cancellation ideal of R if and only if I_j is a cancellation ideal of R for each $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.

Proof. Assume that $I_1I_2\dots I_n$ is a cancellation ideal of R .

Let $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ and B and C be ideals such that $I_jB = I_jC$.

Then $I_jBI_1\dots I_{j-1}I_{j+1}\dots I_n = I_jCI_1\dots I_{j-1}I_{j+1}\dots I_n$, so $I_1I_2\dots I_nB = I_1I_2\dots I_nC$. Since $I_1I_2\dots I_n$ is a cancellation ideal of R , $B = C$. Thus I_j is a cancellation ideal of R .

Next, assume that for all $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, I_j is a cancellation ideal of R .

Let B and C be ideals such that $I_1I_2\dots I_nB = I_1I_2\dots I_nC$.

Since I_1 is a cancellation ideal of R , $I_2I_3\dots I_nB = I_2I_3\dots I_nC$.

Since I_2 is a cancellation ideal of R , $I_3I_4\dots I_nB = I_3I_4\dots I_nC$. By the same argument, we must have $B = C$.

Thus $I_1I_2\dots I_n$ is a cancellation ideal of R . □

Theorem 2.2. *Let R be a commutative ring.*

(i) If A, B and C are ideals of R such that $A+B, A+C$ and $B+C$ are cancellation

ideals of R , then $A + B + C$ is also a cancellation ideal of R .

(ii) If every ideal generated by two elements of R is a cancellation ideal, then every finitely generated ideal of R is a cancellation ideal of R .

Proof. (i) Assume that A, B and C are ideals of R such that $A + B, A + C$ and $B + C$ are cancellation ideals of R . By Theorem 2.1, $(A + B)(A + C)(B + C)$ is a cancellation ideal of R . Since $(A + B + C)(AB + AC + BC) = (A + B)(A + C)(B + C)$, $A + B + C$ is a cancellation ideal of R .

(ii) Assume that each ideal generated by two elements of R is a cancellation ideal. Let k be an integer greater than 1 and suppose that every ideal generated by a set of k elements is a cancellation ideal of R . Let x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{k+1} be arbitrary elements in R . We have that $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{k+1} \rangle = \langle x_1 \rangle + \langle x_2, \dots, x_k \rangle + \langle x_{k+1} \rangle$ and by assumption $\langle x_1 \rangle + \langle x_2, \dots, x_k \rangle, \langle x_1 \rangle + \langle x_{k+1} \rangle$ and $\langle x_2, \dots, x_k \rangle + \langle x_{k+1} \rangle$ are cancellation ideals of R . By (i), $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{k+1} \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of R . \square

Theorem 2.3. Let I be a proper ideal of a commutative ring R with identity.

If I is a cancellation ideal of R , then I is not a minimal ideal.

Proof. Assume that I is a cancellation ideal of R . We have that $\{0\} \subseteq I^2 \subseteq I$.

If $I^2 = \{0\}$, then $II = \{0\} = I\{0\}$, so $I = \{0\}$. A contradiction since $\{0\}$ is not a cancellation ideal of R . If $I^2 = I$, then $II = I = I\langle 1 \rangle$, so $I = R$, a contradiction. Thus $\{0\} \subsetneq I^2 \subsetneq I$, so I is not a minimal ideal. \square

Example. Every nonzero ideal of \mathbb{Z} is a cancellation ideal of \mathbb{Z} , so it is not a minimal ideal.

Converse of Theorem 2.3 is not true. For example, $\{0\} \subsetneq \langle x \rangle \subsetneq \langle 2, x \rangle$ in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ and $\langle 2, x \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Theorem 2.4. $\langle 2, x \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Proof. We have that

$$\begin{aligned}\langle 2, x \rangle \langle 4, x^2 \rangle &= \langle 8, 2x^2, 4x, x^3 \rangle \\ &= \langle 2, x \rangle \langle 4, 2x, x^2 \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

Suppose that $2x \in \langle 4, x^2 \rangle$. Then there exist $f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ such that

$$2x = 4f(x) + x^2g(x).$$

Let $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^m a_i x^i$ and $g(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n b_j x^j$ where $a_i, b_j \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then

$$2x = \sum_{i=0}^m 4a_i x^i + \sum_{j=0}^n b_j x^{j+2}.$$

By comparing the coefficients, we get $2 = 4a_1$ which is impossible. Hence $2x \notin \langle 4, x^2 \rangle$, so $\langle 4, x^2 \rangle \neq \langle 4, 2x, x^2 \rangle$. Therefore $\langle 2, x \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$. \square

Theorem 2.5. *Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$. Then $\langle a, bx \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ if and only if $a \mid b$.*

Proof. Assume that $\langle a, bx \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$. Since

$$\begin{aligned}\langle a, bx \rangle \langle a^2, abx, b^2x^2 \rangle &= \langle a^3, a^2bx, ab^2x^2, b^3x^3 \rangle \\ &= \langle a, bx \rangle \langle a^2, b^2x^2 \rangle,\end{aligned}$$

$\langle a^2, abx, b^2x^2 \rangle = \langle a^2, b^2x^2 \rangle$. So $abx \in \langle a^2, b^2x^2 \rangle$. There exist $f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ such that

$$abx = a^2f(x) + b^2x^2g(x).$$

Then $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^m a_i x^i$ and $g(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n b_j x^j$ for some $a_i, b_j \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$. Thus

$$abx = \sum_{i=0}^m a^2 a_i x^i + \sum_{j=0}^n b^2 b_j x^{j+2}.$$

By comparing the coefficients, we get $ab = a^2 a_1$, and so $b = aa_1$, that is $a \mid b$.

Assume that $a \mid b$. We have $\langle a, bx \rangle = \langle a \rangle$ which is a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ by Lemma 1.2. \square

In Theorem 2.4, we consider an ideal generated by two elements of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ which have no nonunit common factor. Next we will consider an ideal generated by two elements of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ which have a nonunit common factor.

Example. $\langle (x-1)^2, x^2-1 \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle (x-1)^2, x^2-1 \rangle \langle (x-1)^4, (x^2-1)(x-1)^2, (x^2-1)^2 \rangle \\ &= \langle (x-1)^6, (x^2-1)(x-1)^4, (x-1)^2(x^2-1)^2, (x^2-1)^3 \rangle \\ &= \langle (x-1)^2, x^2-1 \rangle \langle (x-1)^4, (x^2-1)^2 \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that $(x^2-1)(x-1)^2 \in \langle (x-1)^4, (x^2-1)^2 \rangle$. Then $(x^2-1)(x-1)^2 = f(x)(x-1)^4 + g(x)(x^2-1)^2$ for some $f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$. So

$$(x-1)(x+1) = f(x)(x-1)^2 + g(x)(x+1)^2,$$

$$(x-1)((x+1) - f(x)(x-1)) = g(x)(x+1)^2. \quad (2.1)$$

Since $x-1$ and $(x+1)^2$ are relatively prime, $x-1 \mid g(x)$. There exists $h_1(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ such that $g(x) = h_1(x)(x-1)$.

From (2.1), we get

$$(x-1)((x+1) - f(x)(x-1)) = h_1(x)(x-1)(x+1)^2,$$

$$(x+1) - f(x)(x-1) = h_1(x)(x+1)^2,$$

$$(x+1)(1 - h_1(x)(x+1)) = f(x)(x-1). \quad (2.2)$$

Since $x - 1$ and $x + 1$ are relatively prime, $x + 1 \mid f(x)$. There exists $h_2(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ such that $f(x) = h_2(x)(x + 1)$.

From (2.2), we get

$$(x + 1)(1 - h_1(x)(x + 1)) = h_2(x)(x + 1)(x - 1),$$

$$1 = h_1(x)(x + 1) + h_2(x)(x - 1).$$

Let $h_1(x) = \sum_{i=0}^m a_i x^i$ and $h_2(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n b_j x^j$ where $a_i, b_j \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $a_m, b_n \neq 0$ and $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Since $1 = (\sum_{i=0}^m a_i x^i)(x + 1) + (\sum_{j=0}^n b_j x^j)(x - 1)$, $m = n$ and

$$1 = (a_0 - b_0) + (a_0 + a_1 + b_0 - b_1)x + (a_1 + a_2 + b_1 - b_2)x^2 + \dots + (a_{n-1} + a_n + b_{n-1} - b_n)x^n + (a_n + b_n)x^{n+1}.$$

Thus

$$a_0 - b_0 = 1,$$

$$a_0 + b_0 + a_1 - b_1 = 0,$$

$$a_1 + b_1 + a_2 - b_2 = 0,$$

...

$$a_{n-2} + b_{n-2} + a_{n-1} - b_{n-1} = 0,$$

$$a_{n-1} + b_{n-1} + a_n - b_n = 0,$$

$$a_n + b_n = 0,$$

so $2(a_0 + a_1 + \dots + a_n) = 2a_0 + 2a_1 + \dots + 2a_n = 1$, a contradiction. Then $(x^2 - 1)(x - 1)^2 \notin \langle (x - 1)^4, (x^2 - 1)^2 \rangle$.

Therefore, $\langle (x - 1)^2, x^2 - 1 \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$. \square

Theorem 2.6 gives a necessary and sufficient condition for ideals generated by two nonzero elements of a unique factorization domain to be cancellation ideals.

Theorem 2.6. *Let R be a unique factorization domain, $a, b \in R \setminus \{0\}$ and d the greatest common divisor of a and b . Then $\langle a, b \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of R if and only if $\langle a, b \rangle = \langle d \rangle$.*

Proof. Assume $\langle a, b \rangle = \langle d \rangle$. By Lemma 1.2, $\langle d \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of R . Thus $\langle a, b \rangle$ is cancellation ideal of R .

Next, assume that $\langle a, b \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of R . Since d is the greatest common divisor of a and b , $a = h_1d$ and $b = h_2d$ for some $h_1, h_2 \in R$ and h_1 and h_2 have no common factor. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle a, b \rangle \langle a^2, b^2 \rangle & \\ &= \langle a^3, a^2b, ab^2, b^3 \rangle \\ &= \langle a, b \rangle \langle a^2, ab, b^2 \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\langle a, b \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of R , $ab \in \langle a^2, b^2 \rangle$. Thus $ab = \alpha a^2 + \beta b^2$ for some $\alpha, \beta \in R$. So

$$\begin{aligned} d^2 h_1 h_2 &= \alpha d^2 h_1^2 + \beta d^2 h_2^2, \\ h_1 h_2 &= \alpha h_1^2 + \beta h_2^2, \text{ since } d \neq 0, \\ h_1(h_2 - \alpha h_1) &= \beta h_2^2. \end{aligned} \tag{2.3}$$

Since h_1 and h_2 have no nonunit common factor, $h_1 \mid \beta$. There exists $B \in R$ such that $\beta = h_1 B$.

From (2.3), we get

$$\begin{aligned} h_1(h_2 - \alpha h_1) &= h_1 B h_2^2, \\ h_2 - \alpha h_1 &= B h_2^2, \text{ since } h_1 \neq 0, \text{ and so} \\ h_2(1 - B h_2) &= \alpha h_1. \end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

Since h_1 and h_2 have no nonunit common factor, $h_2 \mid \alpha$. There exists $A \in R$ such that $\alpha = h_2 A$.

From (2.4), we get

$$\begin{aligned} h_2(1 - Bh_2) &= h_2Ah_1, \\ 1 &= Ah_1 + Bh_2, \text{ since } h_2 \neq 0, \text{ and so} \\ d &= Ah_1d + Bh_2d \\ &= Aa + Bb. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $\langle a, b \rangle = \langle d \rangle$. □

Corollary 2.7. *Let $f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x] \setminus \{0\}$ and $d(x)$ the greatest common divisor of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$. Then $\langle f(x), g(x) \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ if and only if $\langle f(x), g(x) \rangle = \langle d(x) \rangle$.*

Example. The ideal $\langle f(x)^n, f(x)^{n-1}g(x), \dots, f(x)g(x)^{n-1}, g(x)^n \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ for all $f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ such that $\langle f(x), g(x) \rangle$ is not a principal ideal. This is because

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle f(x)^n, f(x)^{n-1}g(x), \dots, f(x)g(x)^{n-1}, g(x)^n \rangle \\ &= \underbrace{\langle f(x), g(x) \rangle \cdots \langle f(x), g(x) \rangle}_{n \text{ copies}} \end{aligned}$$

and $\langle f(x), g(x) \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ by Corollary 2.7 for all $f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ such that $\langle f(x), g(x) \rangle$ is not a principal ideal.

Theorem 2.8. *Let $f(x), g(x), h(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x] \setminus \{0\}$ be such that ax^m, bx^n and cx^l are the minimum degree monomials in $f(x), g(x), h(x)$, respectively. Suppose that $a \neq 0, a \nmid b$ and $0 \leq m < n \leq l$. Then $\langle f(x), g(x), h(x) \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$.*

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \langle f(x), g(x), h(x) \rangle \langle f(x)^2, g(x)^2, h(x)^2, g(x)h(x) \rangle \\
&= \langle f(x)^3, f(x)g(x)^2, f(x)h(x)^2, f(x)g(x)h(x), g(x)f(x)^2, g(x)^3, g(x)h(x)^2, \\
&\quad g(x)^2h(x), f(x)^2h(x), h(x)^3 \rangle \\
&= \langle f(x), g(x), h(x) \rangle \langle f(x)^2, g(x)^2, h(x)^2, g(x)h(x), f(x)g(x) \rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

Suppose that $f(x)g(x) \in \langle f(x)^2, g(x)^2, h(x)^2, g(x)h(x) \rangle$. Then there exist $f_1(x)$, $f_2(x)$, $f_3(x)$, $f_4(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ such that

$$f(x)g(x) = f_1(x)f(x)^2 + f_2(x)g(x)^2 + f_3(x)h(x)^2 + f_4(x)g(x)h(x).$$

Note that the minimum degree monomial in $f(x)g(x)$ is abx^{m+n} .

Since each nonzero term in $f_2(x)g(x)^2 + f_3(x)h(x)^2 + f_4(x)g(x)h(x)$, if exist, has degree at least $2n$, we have that abx^{m+n} is a term in $f_1(x)f(x)^2$. Since the minimum degree monomial in $f(x)^2$ is a^2x^{2m} and $a \neq 0$, the minimum degree monomial in $f_1(x)$ is dx^{n-m} for some $d \in \mathbb{Z}$. Thus $ab = a^2d$, so $a \mid b$, a contradiction.

Hence $f(x)g(x) \notin \langle f(x)^2, g(x)^2, h(x)^2, g(x)h(x) \rangle$,

so $\langle f(x)^2, g(x)^2, h(x)^2, g(x)h(x) \rangle \neq \langle f(x)^2, g(x)^2, h(x)^2, g(x)h(x), f(x)g(x) \rangle$, that is $\langle f(x), g(x), h(x) \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$. \square

Example. Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$. Then $\langle 2, x^m \rangle = \langle 2, x^m, x^m \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ by Theorem 2.8.

Example. Let $h(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x] \setminus \{0\}$ be such that its minimum degree monomial has degree at least 2. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle 2+x, 2x+4x^2, h(x) \rangle &= \langle 2+x, (2x+4x^2) - (2+x)x, h(x) \rangle \\
&= \langle 2+x, 3x^2, h(x) \rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

Then $\langle 2+x, 2x+4x^2, h(x) \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ by Theorem 2.8.

We consider ideals of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ in Corollary 2.9-Theorem 2.16. Since \mathbb{Z} is a unique factorization domain, $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ is a unique factorization domain. Corollary 2.9 follows from Theorem 2.6 directly.

Corollary 2.9. Let $f(x, y), g(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y] \setminus \{0\}$ and $d(x, y)$ the greatest common divisor of $f(x, y)$ and $g(x, y)$. Then $\langle f(x, y), g(x, y) \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ if and only if $\langle f(x, y), g(x, y) \rangle = \langle d(x, y) \rangle$.

Theorem 2.10. Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$ and $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$.

If $a \mid b$ and $a \mid c$, then $\langle a, bx^m, cy^n \rangle$ and $\langle a, cx^m, by^n \rangle$ are cancellation ideals of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$.

If $a \nmid b$ or $a \nmid c$, then $\langle a, bx^m, cy^n \rangle$ and $\langle a, cx^m, by^n \rangle$ are not cancellation ideals of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$.

Proof. Clearly, if $a \mid b$ and $a \mid c$, then $\langle a, bx^m, cy^n \rangle = \langle a \rangle = \langle a, cx^m, by^n \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ by Lemma 1.2.

Consider the cases $a \nmid b$ and $a \nmid c$.

Case 1: $a \nmid b$.

We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle a, bx^m, cy^n \rangle \langle a^2, b^2x^{2m}, acy^n, c^2y^{2n} \rangle \\ = & \langle a^3, ab^2x^{2m}, a^2bx^m, ac^2y^{2n}, b^3x^{3m}, c^2bx^my^{2n}, ca^2y^n, cb^2y^nx^{2m}, abcx^my^n, c^3y^{3n} \rangle \\ = & \langle a, bx^m, cy^n \rangle \langle a^2, abx^m, acy^n, b^2x^{2m}, bcx^my^n, c^2y^{2n} \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that $abx^m \in \langle a^2, b^2x^{2m}, acy^n, c^2y^{2n} \rangle$. Then there exist $f_1(x, y),$

$f_2(x, y), f_3(x, y), f_4(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ such that

$$abx^m = a^2f_1(x, y) + b^2x^{2m}f_2(x, y) + acy^nf_3(x, y) + c^2y^{2n}f_4(x, y).$$

Since each term in $b^2x^{2m}f_2(x, y)$ has degree at least $2m$ and each term in $acy^nf_3(x, y) + c^2y^{2n}f_4(x, y)$ is a multiple of y , abx^m must be a term of $a^2f_1(x, y)$.

$$\text{Let } f_1(x, y) = \sum_{j=0}^l \sum_{i=0}^k a_{ij}x^i y^j.$$

Then $ab = a_{m,0}a^2$, so $b = a_{m,0}a$ which contradicts to the fact that $a \nmid b$. Thus

$$\langle a^2, b^2x^{2m}, acy^n, c^2y^{2n} \rangle \neq \langle a^2, abx^m, acy^n, b^2x^{2m}, bcx^my^n, c^2y^{2n} \rangle.$$

Hence $\langle a, bx^m, cy^n \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal.

By interchanging x and y we can also that $\langle a, cx^m, by^n \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$.

Case 2: $a \nmid c$.

By Case 1, we have immediately that $\langle a, cx^m, by^n \rangle$ and $\langle a, bx^m, cy^n \rangle$ are not cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$. \square

Theorem 2.11. *Let $l = ni$ where $i, n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n \geq 2$. Then $\langle x^i - y^i, x^l, y^l \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$.*

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle x^i - y^i, x^l, y^l \rangle \langle (x^i - y^i)^2, x^{2l}, y^{2l}, x^l y^l \rangle \\ &= \langle (x^i - y^i)^3, (x^i - y^i)x^{2l}, (x^i - y^i)y^{2l}, (x^i - y^i)^2 x^l, x^{3l}, x^l y^{2l}, (x^i - y^i)^2 y^l, x^{2l} y^l, y^{3l}, \\ & \quad (x^i - y^i)x^l y^l \rangle \\ &= \langle x^i - y^i, x^l, y^l \rangle \langle (x^i - y^i)^2, x^{2l}, y^{2l}, (x^i - y^i)x^l, (x^i - y^i)y^l, x^l y^l \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that $(x^i - y^i)x^l \in \langle (x^i - y^i)^2, x^{2l}, y^{2l}, x^l y^l \rangle$. Then there exist $f_1(x, y)$,

$f_2(x, y), f_3(x, y), f_4(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ such that

$$(x^i - y^i)x^l = f_1(x, y)(x^i - y^i)^2 + f_2(x, y)x^{2l} + f_3(x, y)y^{2l} + f_4(x, y)x^l y^l.$$

Since each term in $f_2(x, y)x^{2l} + f_3(x, y)y^{2l} + f_4(x, y)x^l y^l$ has degree at least $2l$, $x^{l+i} - x^l y^i$ must be a term in $f_1(x, y)(x^{2i} - 2x^i y^i + y^{2i})$.

$$\text{Let } f_1(x, y) = \sum_{j=0}^k \sum_{m=0}^p a_{mj} x^m y^j.$$

We may assume that $k \geq l$

Note that for all $0 \leq j \leq k$,

$$a_{0,j} = 0. \tag{2.5}$$

By comparing the coefficients of x^{l+i} and $x^l y^i$, we get

$$a_{(l-i),0} = a_{(n-1)i,0} = 1 \tag{2.6}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and } a_{(l-2)i,i} - 2a_{(l-i),0} &= a_{(n-2)i,i} - 2a_{(n-1)i,0} \\ &= -1. \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

From (2.6) and (2.7), we have

$$a_{(n-2)i,i} = 1. \quad (2.8)$$

Let $r \neq n$ and $2 \leq r < n$.

By comparing the coefficients of $x^{l-(r-1)i}y^{ri} = x^{(n-(r-1))i}y^{ri}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} a_{(n-r-1)i,ri} - 2a_{(n-r)i,(r-1)i} + a_{(n-r+1)i,(r-2)i} &= 0, \\ a_{(n-r-1)i,ri} &= 2a_{(n-r)i,(r-1)i} - a_{(n-r+1)i,(r-2)i}. \end{aligned}$$

If $r = 2$, then

$$a_{(n-3)i,2i} = 2a_{(n-2)i,i} - a_{(n-1)i,0} = 1, \quad (2.9)$$

from (2.6) and (2.8).

If $r = 3$, then

$$a_{(n-4)i,3i} = 2a_{(n-3)i,2i} - a_{(n-2)i,i} = 1, \quad (2.10)$$

from (2.8) and (2.9).

Continue this process, if $r = n - 1$, then $a_{0,(n-1)i} = 2a_{i,(n-2)i} - a_{2i,(n-3)i} = 1$, contradict to (2.5). Hence $(x^i - y^i)x^l \notin \langle (x^i - y^i)^2, x^{2l}, y^{2l}, x^l y^l \rangle$, so $\langle (x^i - y^i)^2, x^{2l}, y^{2l}, x^l y^l \rangle \neq \langle (x^i - y^i)^2, x^{2l}, y^{2l}, (x^i - y^i)x^l, (x^i - y^i)y^l, x^l y^l \rangle$. Therefore, $\langle x^i - y^i, x^l, y^l \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$. \square

Theorem 2.12. *Let $i, l \in \mathbb{N}$ be such that $i < l$. If $a \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{1, -1\}$, then $\langle x^i + a, x^l, y^l \rangle$ and $\langle y^i + a, x^l, y^l \rangle$ are not cancellation ideals of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$.*

Proof. Assume that $a \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{1, -1\}$. We prove only the case $\langle x^i + a, x^l, y^l \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$.

If $a = 0$, then $\langle x^i + a, x^l, y^l \rangle = \langle x^i, y^l \rangle$. By Corollary 2.9, $\langle x^i + a, x^l, y^l \rangle$ is not a

cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$.

Consider the case $a \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{1, -1, 0\}$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle x^i + a, x^l, y^l \rangle \langle (x^i + a)^2, x^{2l}, y^{2l}, x^l y^l \rangle \\ &= \langle (x^i + a)^3, (x^i + a)x^{2l}, (x^i + a)y^{2l}, (x^i + a)x^l y^l, (x^i + a)^2 x^l, x^{3l}, x^l y^{2l}, x^{2l} y^l, \\ & \quad (x^i + a)^2 y^l, y^{3l} \rangle \\ &= \langle x^i + a, x^l, y^l \rangle \langle (x^i + a)^2, x^{2l}, y^{2l}, (x^i + a)x^l, (x^i + a)y^l, x^l y^l \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that $(x^i + a)y^l \in \langle (x^i + a)^2, x^{2l}, y^{2l}, x^l y^l \rangle$. Then there exist $f_1(x, y), f_2(x, y), f_3(x, y), f_4(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} (x^i + a)y^l &= f_1(x, y)(x^i + a)^2 + f_2(x, y)x^{2l} + f_3(x, y)y^{2l} + f_4(x, y)x^l y^l, \\ x^i y^l + ay^l &= f_1(x, y)(x^{2i} + 2ax^i + a^2) + f_2(x, y)x^{2l} + f_3(x, y)y^{2l} + f_4(x, y)x^l y^l. \end{aligned}$$

Since each term in $f_2(x, y)x^{2l} + f_3(x, y)y^{2l} + f_4(x, y)x^l y^l$ has degree at least $2l$, $x^i y^l + ay^l$ must be terms in $f_1(x, y)(x^{2i} + 2ax^i + a^2)$.

$$\text{Let } f_1(x, y) = \sum_{j=0}^k \sum_{m=0}^p a_{mj} x^m y^j.$$

By comparing the coefficients of y^l , we get $a = a^2 a_{0,l}$. Since $a \neq 0, 1 = aa_{0,l}$.

This implies that $a = 1$ or $a = -1$, a contradiction.

Thus $\langle (x^i + a)^2, x^{2l}, y^{2l}, x^l y^l \rangle \neq \langle (x^i + a)^2, x^{2l}, y^{2l}, (x^i + a)x^l, (x^i + a)y^l, x^l y^l \rangle$.

Hence $\langle x^i + a, x^l, y^l \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$. \square

Corollary 2.13. *Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}, i \in \mathbb{N}$ and $l = 2i$. Then $\langle x^i + a, x^l, y^l \rangle$ is a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ if and only if $a \in \{1, -1\}$.*

Proof. (\rightarrow) Assume that $a \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{1, -1\}$. By Theorem 2.12 and $l = 2i > i$, $\langle x^i + a, x^l, y^l \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$.

(\leftarrow) Assume that $a \in \{1, -1\}$. Then $x^l - 1 = x^{2i} - 1 = (x^i - 1)(x^i + 1) \in \langle x^i + a, x^l, y^l \rangle$, so $1 = x^l - (x^l - 1) \in \langle x^i + a, x^l, y^l \rangle$.

Thus $\langle x^i + a, x^l, y^l \rangle = \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$, which is a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$. \square

Theorem 2.14. $\langle x^k y^l, x^m, y^n \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ for $1 \leq k < m$ and $1 \leq l < n$.

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle x^k y^l, x^m, y^n \rangle \langle x^{2k} y^{2l}, x^{2m}, y^{2n}, x^{k+m} y^l \rangle \\ &= \langle x^{3k} y^{3l}, x^{2m+k} y^l, x^k y^{2n+l}, x^{2k+m} y^{2l}, x^{3m}, x^m y^{2n}, x^{2k} y^{2l+n}, x^{2m} y^n, \\ & \quad y^{3n}, x^{k+m} y^{l+n} \rangle \\ &= \langle x^k y^l, x^m, y^n \rangle \langle x^{2k} y^{2l}, x^{2m}, y^{2n}, x^{k+m} y^l, x^k y^{l+n}, x^m y^n \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that $x^k y^{l+n} \in \langle x^{2k} y^{2l}, x^{2m}, y^{2n}, x^{k+m} y^l \rangle$.

Then there exist $f_1(x, y), f_2(x, y), f_3(x, y), f_4(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ such that

$$x^k y^{l+n} = f_1(x, y) x^{2k} y^{2l} + f_2(x, y) x^{2m} + f_3(x, y) y^{2n} + f_4(x, y) x^{k+m} y^l. \quad (2.11)$$

Since each term in $f_1(x, y) x^{2k} y^{2l} + f_2(x, y) x^{2m} + f_4(x, y) x^{k+m} y^l$ has degree of x greater than k and each term in $f_3(x, y) y^{2n}$ has degree of y greater than $l + n$, it is impossible to write $x^k y^{l+n}$ as the sum in (2.11), a contradiction.

Thus $\langle x^{2k} y^{2l}, x^{2m}, y^{2n}, x^{k+m} y^l \rangle \neq \langle x^{2k} y^{2l}, x^{2m}, y^{2n}, x^{k+m} y^l, x^k y^{l+n}, x^m y^n \rangle$,

so $\langle x^k y^l, x^m, y^n \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal. \square

Theorem 2.15. Let $f(x, y), g(x, y), h(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y] \setminus \{0\}$ be such that $ax^{m_1} y^{m_2}, bx^{n_1} y^{n_2}$ and $cx^{l_1} y^{l_2}$ are the minimum degree monomials in $f(x, y), g(x, y), h(x, y)$, respectively, where $a \neq 0, a \nmid b$ and $0 \leq m_1 + m_2 < n_1 + n_2 \leq l_1 + l_2$.

Then $\langle f(x, y), g(x, y), h(x, y) \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$.

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle f(x, y), g(x, y), h(x, y) \rangle \langle f(x, y)^2, g(x, y)^2, h(x, y)^2, g(x, y)h(x, y) \rangle \\ &= \langle f(x, y)^3, f(x, y)g(x, y)^2, f(x, y)h(x, y)^2, f(x, y)g(x, y)h(x, y), g(x, y)f(x, y)^2, \\ & \quad g(x, y)^3, g(x, y)h(x, y)^2, g(x, y)^2h(x, y), f(x, y)^2h(x, y), h(x, y)^3 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$= \langle f(x, y), g(x, y), h(x, y) \rangle \langle f(x, y)^2, g(x, y)^2, h(x, y)^2, g(x, y)h(x, y), f(x, y)g(x, y) \rangle$$

Suppose that $f(x, y)g(x, y) \in \langle f(x, y)^2, g(x, y)^2, h(x, y)^2, g(x, y)h(x, y) \rangle$. Then there exist $f_1(x, y), f_2(x, y), f_3(x, y), f_4(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ such that

$$f(x, y)g(x, y) = f_1(x, y)f(x, y)^2 + f_2(x, y)g(x, y)^2 + f_3(x, y)h(x, y)^2 + f_4(x, y)g(x, y)h(x, y)$$

Consider the term $abx^{m_1+n_1}y^{m_2+n_2}$ in $f(x, y)g(x, y)$.

Since each nonzero term in $f_2(x, y)g(x, y)^2 + f_3(x, y)h(x, y)^2 + f_4(x, y)g(x, y)h(x, y)$, if exist, has degree at least $2n_1 + 2n_2$, we have $abx^{m_1+n_1}y^{m_2+n_2}$ is the term in $f_1(x, y)f(x, y)^2$. Since the minimum degree monomial in $f(x, y)^2$ is $a^2x^{2m_1}y^{2m_2}$ and $a \neq 0$, the minimum degree monomial in $f_1(x, y)$ is $dx^{n_1-m_1}y^{n_2-m_2}$ for some $d \in \mathbb{Z}$. Thus $ab = a^2d$, so $a \mid b$, a contradiction.

Hence $f(x, y)g(x, y) \notin \langle f(x, y)^2, g(x, y)^2, h(x, y)^2, g(x, y)h(x, y) \rangle$, so

$$\langle f(x, y)^2, g(x, y)^2, h(x, y)^2, g(x, y)h(x, y) \rangle \neq \langle f(x, y)^2, g(x, y)^2, h(x, y)^2, g(x, y)h(x, y), f(x, y)g(x, y) \rangle,$$

that is $\langle f(x, y), g(x, y), h(x, y) \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal. \square

Theorem 2.16. *Let $f(x), g(x), h(y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y] \setminus \{0\}$ be such that $h(y)$ is a polynomial which has no the constant term.*

Assume that $\langle f(x), g(x), h(y) \rangle$ is not an ideal generated by one or two polynomials in $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$. Then $\langle f(x), g(x), h(y) \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$.

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle f(x), g(x), h(y) \rangle \langle f(x)^2, g(x)^2, h(y)^2, g(x)h(y) \rangle \\ &= \langle f(x)^3, f(x)g(x)^2, f(x)h(y)^2, f(x)g(x)h(y), g(x)f(x)^2, \\ & \quad g(x)^3, g(x)h(y)^2, g(x)^2h(y), f(x)^2h(y), h(y)^3 \rangle \\ &= \langle f(x), g(x), h(y) \rangle \langle f(x)^2, g(x)^2, h(y)^2, g(x)h(y), f(x)g(x) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that $f(x)g(x) \in \langle f(x)^2, g(x)^2, h(y)^2, g(x)h(y) \rangle$. Then there exist $f_1(x, y),$

$f_2(x, y), f_3(x, y), f_4(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} f(x)g(x) &= f_1(x, y)f(x)^2 + f_2(x, y)g(x)^2 + f_3(x, y)h(y)^2 + f_4(x, y)g(x)h(y) \\ &= (f_{1x}(x, y) + f_{1y}(x, y))f(x)^2 + (f_{2x}(x, y) + f_{2y}(x, y))g(x)^2 + \\ &\quad f_3(x, y)h(y)^2 + f_4(x, y)g(x)h(y), \end{aligned}$$

where $f_{ix}(x, y)$ is the partial polynomial of $f_i(x, y)$ which has no terms in y and $f_{iy}(x, y) = f_i(x, y) - f_{ix}(x, y)$ for all $i = 1, 2$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } f(x)g(x) &= (f_{1x}(x, y)f(x)^2 + f_{2x}(x, y)g(x)^2) + (f_{1y}(x, y)f(x)^2 \\ &\quad + f_{2y}(x, y)g(x)^2 + f_3(x, y)h(y)^2 + f_4(x, y)g(x)h(y)). \end{aligned}$$

This implies $f_{1y}(x, y)f(x)^2 + f_{2y}(x, y)g(x)^2 + f_3(x, y)h(y)^2 + f_4(x, y)g(x)h(y) = 0$, so

$$f(x)g(x) = f_{1x}(x, y)f(x)^2 + f_{2x}(x, y)g(x)^2. \quad (2.12)$$

We can write that $f(x) = d(x)\alpha(x)$ and $g(x) = d(x)\beta(x)$ for some $d(x), \alpha(x), \beta(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$, and $\alpha(x)$ and $\beta(x)$ have no nonunit common factor in $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$.

By (2.12),

$$\begin{aligned} d(x)\alpha(x)d(x)\beta(x) &= f_{1x}(x, y)d(x)^2\alpha(x)^2 + f_{2x}(x, y)d(x)^2\beta(x)^2, \\ \alpha(x)\beta(x) &= f_{1x}(x, y)\alpha(x)^2 + f_{2x}(x, y)\beta(x)^2, \\ \alpha(x)(\beta(x) - f_{1x}(x, y)\alpha(x)) &= f_{2x}(x, y)\beta(x)^2. \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$

Since $\alpha(x)$ and $\beta(x)$ have no nonunit common factor, $\alpha(x) \mid f_{2x}(x, y)$. Then $f_{2x}(x, y) = \alpha(x)h_1(x, y)$ for some $h_1(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$.

By (2.13),

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(x)(\beta(x) - f_{1x}(x, y)\alpha(x)) &= \alpha(x)h_1(x, y)\beta(x)^2, \\ \beta(x) &= f_{1x}(x, y)\alpha(x) + h_1(x, y)\beta(x)^2, \text{ since } \alpha(x) \neq 0, \\ \beta(x)(1 - h_1(x, y)\beta(x)) &= f_{1x}(x, y)\alpha(x). \end{aligned} \quad (2.14)$$

Since $\alpha(x)$ and $\beta(x)$ have no nonunit common factor, $\beta(x) \mid f_{1x}(x, y)$. Thus $f_{1x}(x, y) = \beta(x)h_2(x, y)$ for some $h_2(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$.

By (2.14),

$$\beta(x)(1 - h_1(x, y)\beta(x)) = \beta(x)h_2(x, y)\alpha(x),$$

$$1 = h_1(x, y)\beta(x) + h_2(x, y)\alpha(x), \text{ since } \beta(x) \neq 0,$$

$$d(x) = h_1(x, y)d(x)\beta(x) + h_2(x, y)d(x)\alpha(x),$$

$$d(x) = h_1(x, y)g(x) + h_2(x, y)f(x).$$

That is $\langle d(x) \rangle = \langle f(x), g(x) \rangle$, so $\langle f(x), g(x), h(y) \rangle = \langle f(x), g(x) \rangle + \langle h(y) \rangle$
 $= \langle d(x) \rangle + \langle h(y) \rangle$
 $= \langle d(x), h(y) \rangle$, a contradiction.

Then $f(x)g(x) \notin \langle f(x)^2, g(x)^2, h(y)^2, g(x)h(y) \rangle$,

so $\langle f(x)^2, g(x)^2, h(y)^2, g(x)h(y) \rangle \neq \langle f(x)^2, g(x)^2, h(y)^2, g(x)h(y), f(x)g(x) \rangle$.

Hence $\langle f(x), g(x), h(y) \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x, y]$. \square

Theorem 2.17. *Every proper ideal I in any Boolean ring R with 1 is not a cancellation ideal of R .*

Proof. Let I be a proper ideal in a Boolean ring R with 1. Then $I^2 = I = IR$.

But $I \neq R$, so I is not a cancellation ideal of R . \square

Theorem 2.18. *Let R be a commutative Artinian ring with 1, and suppose that R is not a field. Then the following statements hold.*

(i) *For all $a \in R$ such that $\langle a \rangle \neq R$, $\langle a \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of R .*

(ii) *For all $b, c \in R$ such that $\langle b, c \rangle \neq R$, $\langle b, c \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of R .*

Proof. (i) Let $a \in R$. We have $\langle a \rangle \supseteq \langle a^2 \rangle \supseteq \langle a^3 \rangle \supseteq \dots$. Since R satisfies the descending chain condition, choose the smallest positive integer n such that $\langle a^n \rangle = \langle a^{n+1} \rangle$.

Case 1: $n = 1$.

Since $\langle a \rangle R = \langle a \rangle = \langle a^2 \rangle = \langle a \rangle \langle a \rangle$ and $\langle a \rangle \neq R$, $\langle a \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of R .

Case 2: $n > 1$.

Since $\langle a \rangle \langle a^{n-1} \rangle = \langle a^n \rangle = \langle a^{n+1} \rangle = \langle a \rangle \langle a^n \rangle$ and

$\langle a^{n-1} \rangle \neq \langle a^n \rangle$, $\langle a \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of R .

(ii) We have $\langle b, c \rangle \supseteq \langle b^2, bc, c^2 \rangle \supseteq \langle b^3, b^2c, bc^2, c^3 \rangle \supseteq \dots$. Since R satisfies the descending chain condition, choose the smallest positive integer n such that $\langle b^n, b^{n-1}c, \dots, bc^{n-1}, c^n \rangle = \langle b^{n+1}, b^n c, \dots, bc^n, c^{n+1} \rangle$.

Case 1: $n = 1$.

Since $\langle b, c \rangle R = \langle b, c \rangle = \langle b^2, bc, c^2 \rangle = \langle b, c \rangle \langle b, c \rangle$ and $\langle b, c \rangle \neq R$, $\langle b, c \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of R .

Case 2: $n > 1$.

Since $\langle b, c \rangle \langle b^{n-1}, b^{n-2}c, \dots, bc^{n-2}, c^{n-1} \rangle = \langle b^n, b^{n-1}c, \dots, bc^{n-1}, c^n \rangle$

$= \langle b^{n+1}, b^n c, \dots, bc^n, c^{n+1} \rangle = \langle b, c \rangle \langle b^n, b^{n-1}c, \dots, bc^{n-1}, c^n \rangle$ and

$\langle b^{n-1}, b^{n-2}c, \dots, bc^{n-2}, c^{n-1} \rangle \neq \langle b^n, b^{n-1}c, \dots, bc^{n-1}, c^n \rangle$, $\langle b, c \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of R . □

CHAPTER III

CANCELLATION IDEALS BELONGING TO IDEALS

In this chapter, we consider cancellation ideals of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ belonging to ideals $\langle 2, x^m \rangle$, which we have already showed in the example follow from Theorem 2.8 that it is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$.

Theorem 3.1. *Let $a \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$ and J a cancellation ideal belonging to ideal $\langle x + a, x^2 \rangle$. Suppose that $J \cap \mathbb{Z}$ is a prime ideal of \mathbb{Z} . Then $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.*

Proof. Since $x^2 - a^2 = (x + a)(x - a)$ and $x^2 \in J$, $a^2 = x^2 - (x^2 - a^2) \in J$.

By the assumption, $a \in J$, so $x = (x + a) - a \in J$.

If $a = 1$ or $a = -1$, then $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Next, consider the case $a \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0, 1, -1\}$.

Clearly, $|a| \in J$. Assume that $|a| = p_1^{r_1} p_2^{r_2} \cdots p_n^{r_n}$, where p_i is a prime divisor of a , and $r_i \in \mathbb{N}$ for all $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.

Since $p_1^{r_1} p_2^{r_2} \cdots p_n^{r_n} = |a| \in J$, $p_i \in J$ for some $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, by the assumption.

Thus $\langle p_i, x \rangle \subseteq J \subseteq \mathbb{Z}[x]$. By Theorem 2.5, $\langle p_i, x \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$. Since J is a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ and $\langle p_i, x \rangle$ is a maximal ideal in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$, $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$. □

The following two examples give us for the motivation of Theorem 3.2.

Example. Let J be a cancellation ideal belonging to ideal $\langle 2, x^2 \rangle$. We claim that $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Let $I = \langle 2, x^2 \rangle$. Since I is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$, $I \subsetneq J$. Since $x^2 \in I$, there exists $g(x) = a + bx \in J \setminus I$ for some $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Case 1: b is even.

Then $a = a + bx - 2mx \in J \setminus I$ where $m = \frac{b}{2}$, so a must be odd and $a \in J \setminus I$. Now J is an ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ contains 2 and the odd number a , so $1 \in J$. Thus $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$ as required.

Case 2: b is odd.

Subcase 2.1: a is even.

Then $bx \in J$ and $x = bx - (b-1)x \in J \setminus I$ since $b-1 \in \langle 2 \rangle \subseteq J$. This implies that the maximal ideal $\langle 2, x \rangle$ is contained in J . Since $\langle 2, x \rangle$ is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$, $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Subcase 2.2: a is odd.

Then $a-1, b-1 \in \langle 2 \rangle$ and $1+x = a+bx - [(a-1) + (b-1)x] \in J \setminus I$. Now $1+x, x^2 \in J$ and $x = (1+x)x - x^2 \in J$, we have that $\langle 2, x \rangle \subseteq J$. Hence $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$. Therefore, $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ is the only cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ belonging to ideal I .

Example. Let J be a cancellation ideal belonging to ideal $\langle 2, x^3 \rangle$. We claim that $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

As in the previous example, there exists a polynomial $a + bx + cx^2 \in J \setminus I$ where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$. Since $a + bx + cx^2 \notin I$, at least one of integers a, b, c must be odd.

Case 1: a is even.

Then $bx + cx^2 \in J \setminus I$ and one of b or c must be odd. Since $2 \in J$, we may assume that $b, c \in \{0, 1\}$

Subcase 1.1: $b = 1$ and $c = 0$.

Then $x \in J$. Since $\langle 2, x \rangle$ is a maximal ideal which is not a cancellation ideal, $\langle 2, x \rangle \subsetneq J$. Thus $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Subcase 1.2: $b = 0$ and $c = 1$.

Then $x^2 \in J$, so J is a cancellation ideal belonging to the ideal $\langle 2, x^2 \rangle$. By the previous example, $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Subcase 1.3: $b = c = 1$

We have $x + x^2, x^3 \in J$. Since

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x + x^2, x^3 \rangle &= \langle x + x^2, x^3 - (x + x^2)x \rangle \\ &= \langle x + x^2, x^2 \rangle \\ &= \langle (x + x^2) - x^2, x^2 \rangle \\ &= \langle x, x^2 \rangle \\ &= \langle x \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

$x \in J$.

Thus $\langle 2, x \rangle \subsetneq J$, so $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Case 2: a is odd.

We may assume that $a = 1$ and $b, c \in \{0, 1\}$.

Subcase 2.1: $b = c = 0$.

Thus $1 = a + bx + cx^2 \in J$, so $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Subcase 2.2: $b = 0$ and $c = 1$.

We have $1 + x^2, x^3 \in J$. Since

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 1 + x^2, x^3 \rangle &= \langle 1 + x^2, x^3 - (1 + x^2)x \rangle \\ &= \langle 1 + x^2, x \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

$x \in J$. Then $\langle 2, x \rangle \subsetneq J$ and we get $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Subcase 2.3: $b = 1$ and $c = 0$.

We have $1 + x \in J$. Since $\langle 1 + x, x^3 \rangle \subseteq J$ and

$$\begin{aligned}\langle 1 + x, x^3 \rangle &= \langle 1 + x, x^3 - (1 + x)x^2 \rangle \\ &= \langle 1 + x, x^2 \rangle,\end{aligned}$$

$x^2 \in J$. Thus $\langle 2, x^2 \rangle \subseteq J$, and we have $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$ by the previous example.

Subcase 2.4: $b = c = 1$.

We have $1 + x + x^2 \in J$. Since

$$\begin{aligned}\langle 1 + x + x^2, x^3 \rangle &= \langle 1 + x + x^2, x^3 - (1 + x + x^2)x \rangle \\ &= \langle 1 + x + x^2, x + x^2 \rangle, \\ &= \langle (1 + x + x^2) - (x + x^2), x + x^2 \rangle \\ &= \langle 1, x + x^2 \rangle \\ &= \mathbb{Z}[x],\end{aligned}$$

$J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Therefore, $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ is the only cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ belonging to I .

Theorem 3.2. *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and J a cancellation ideal belonging to the ideal $\langle 2, x^m \rangle$.*

Then $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Proof. We will prove the theorem by induction on m . Assume that J is a cancellation ideal belonging to ideal $\langle 2, x^m \rangle$.

The case of $m = 1$ is obtained from the fact that $\langle 2, x \rangle$ is a maximal ideal which is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$. Next, let $m \geq 2$. Suppose that the statement is true for $\langle 2, x^l \rangle$ for all $l \in \{1, 2, \dots, m - 1\}$.

Let $I = \langle 2, x^m \rangle$. Since I is not a cancellation ideal of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$, $I \subsetneq J$. Then there exists $f(x) \in J \setminus I$, say $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i$, where $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ for all $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$.

If $n \geq m$, then let $g(x) = a_m + a_{m+1}x + \dots + a_n x^{n-m}$.

Thus $h(x) := f(x) - x^m g(x) \in J \setminus I$ and $\deg h(x) < m$.

If $n < m$, then let $h(x) := f(x)$.

Assume that $h(x) = b_{m-1}x^{m-1} + b_{m-2}x^{m-2} + \dots + b_1x + b_0$, $b_j \in \mathbb{Z}$ for all $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$.

Since $2 \in J$, we may assume that $b_j \in \{0, 1\}$ for all

$j \in \{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$. Clearly, there exists $p \in \{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$ such that $b_p \neq 0$.

Let $s =$ the number of nonzero coefficients of $h(x)$.

Case 1: $s = m$.

Then $x^m - 1 = (x-1)(x^{m-1} + x^{m-2} + \dots + x + 1) = (x-1)h(x) \in J$.

Since $x^m - 1 \in J$ and $x^m \in J$, $1 = x^m - (x^m - 1) \in J$. Then $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Case 2: $s = 1$.

That is, there exists $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$ such that $b_k = 1$ and $b_j = 0$ for all $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, m-1\} \setminus \{k\}$.

If $k = 0$, then $1 = h(x) \in J$, so $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

If $1 \leq k \leq m-1$, $h(x) = b_k x^k = x^k$, so $\langle 2, x^k \rangle \subseteq J$. By induction hypothesis, $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Case 3: $1 < s < m$.

Let $r = \deg h(x)$. Since $x^m \in J$ and $x^{m-r}h(x) \in J$, $h_1(x) := x^{m-r}h(x) - x^m \in J$.

Let d_1 be the number of nonzero terms of $h_1(x)$.

If $d_1 = 1$, then $h_1(x) = x^{i_1}$ for some $i_1 \in \{1, \dots, m-1\}$. Thus $\langle 2, x^{i_1} \rangle \subseteq J$, so $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$, by induction hypothesis.

If $d_1 > 1$, let $n_1 = \deg h_1(x)$. Since $x^m \in J$ and $x^{m-n_1}h_1(x) \in J$, $h_2(x) := x^{m-n_1}h_1(x) - x^m \in J$. Thus the number of nonzero terms of $h_2(x)$ is less than the number of nonzero terms of $h_1(x)$.

Let d_2 be the number of nonzero terms of $h_2(x)$.

If $d_2 = 1$, then $h_2(x) = x^{i_2}$ for some $i_2 \in \{1, \dots, m-1\}$. Thus $\langle 2, x^{i_2} \rangle \subseteq J$, so $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$, by induction hypothesis.

Continue this process, there exists $t \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $h_t(x) = x^{i_t} \in J$ for some $i_t \in \{1, \dots, m-1\}$. Thus $\langle 2, x^{i_t} \rangle \subseteq J$, so $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$, by induction hypothesis.

Therefore, $J = \mathbb{Z}[x]$ for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$. \square



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