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EVERY ABELIAN GROUP IS A CLASS GROUP

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Let T be the set of minimal primes of a Krull domain A . If S is a subset of T , we form $B = \cap A_P$ for $P \in S$ and study the relation of the class group of B to that of A . We find that the class group of B is always a homomorphic image of that of A . We use this type of construction to obtain a Krull domain with specified class group and then alter such a Krull domain to obtain a Dedekind domain with the same class group.

Let A be a Krull domain with quotient field K . Thus A is an intersection of rank 1 discrete valuation rings; and if $x \in K$, x is a unit in all but a finite number of these valuation rings. If P is a minimal prime ideal of A , then A_P is a rank 1 discrete valuation ring and must occur in any intersection displaying A as a Krull domain. In fact, if T denotes the set of minimal prime ideals of A , then $A = \bigcap_{P \in T} A_P$ displays A as a Krull domain.

Choose a subset S of T ($S \neq \emptyset$) and form the domain $B = \bigcap_{P \in S} A_P$. It is immediate that B is also a Krull domain which contains A and has quotient field K . If one of the A_P were eliminable from the intersection representing B , it would also be eliminable from that representing A . Thus the A_P for $P \in S$ are exactly the rings of the type B_Q , where Q is a minimal prime ideal of B . If Q is minimal prime ideal of B , then $Q \cap A = P$ for the $P \in S$ such that $B_Q = A_P$.

Let A and B be generic labels throughout this paper for a Krull domain A and a Krull domain B formed from A as above. We recall that the valuation rings A_P are called the essential valuation rings, and we will denote by V_P the valuation of A going with A_P . We summarize and add a complement to the above.

PROPOSITION 1. With A and B as above, B is a Krull domain containing A , and the A_P for $P \in S$ are the essential valuation rings of B . Every ring B is of the form A_M for some multiplicative set M if and only if the class group of A is torsion.

Proof. Everything in the first assertion has been given above.

Suppose the class group of A is torsion; then for each Q_i in $T - S$ choose an integer n_i such that $Q_i^{(n_i)}$ is principal, say $Q_i^{(n_i)} = As_i$. Let M be the multiplicative set generated by all s_i . Then [3, 33.5,

p. 116] shows that $B = A_M$. On the other hand, if Q is a prime ideal of A whose class is not torsion, then the same reference shows that $B = \bigcap_{P \neq Q} A_P$ cannot be of the form A_M .

Let $C(A)$ denote the class group of A for any Krull domain A . Samuel [4] has shown how to define a homomorphism of $C(A)$ into $C(B)$ when B is a Krull domain such that $A \subseteq B$ and B is A -flat. Of course, our rings B are not necessarily A -flat, but we have nonetheless:

PROPOSITION 2. $C(B)$ is a homomorphic image of $C(A)$.

Proof. Let I be an ideal of A defined by essential valuation conditions. Although IB may not be defined by essential valuation conditions, $B:(B:IB)$ is and is quasi-equal to IB [5, p. 92]. If $P(A)$ and $P(B)$ denote the ideals of A and B defined by essential valuation conditions, let $g: P(A) \rightarrow P(B)$ be defined by $g(I) = B:(B:IB)$. It is easy to see that if I is the ideal $\{x: V_P(x) \geq n_P; P \in T\}$, then $g(I)$ is the ideal $\{x: V_P(x) \geq n_P, P \in S\}$. Since the product $I \circ I'$ (see [4]) is $A:(A:II')$, the above description yields immediately that $g(I \circ I') = g(I) \circ g(I')$. If $x \in A$, then $g(xA) = B:(B:xB) = xB$, so g induces a homomorphism $\bar{g}: C(A) \rightarrow C(B)$ which is obviously onto.

COROLLARY 3. With \bar{g} as defined in Proposition 2, the kernel of \bar{g} is the subgroup of $C(A)$ generated by all minimal primes Q of A for which $Q \notin S$.

Proof. If $Q \in S$, then $g(Q) = B$. If on the other hand $g(I)$ is principal, we have $g(I) = xB$ or $g(x^{-1}I) = B$. Thus $x^{-1}I$ is in the subgroup of $P(A)$ generated by certain $Q \notin S$.

In the next two propositions, we generalize to Krull domains certain results of [1] and [2].

PROPOSITION 4. If A is a Krull domain, then $A[X]$ is a Krull domain. $C(A)$ is isomorphic to $C(A[X])$, and every class of $C(A[X])$ contains a prime ideal of $A[X]$.

Proof. Everything but the last assertion is [4, Prop. 3., p. 158]. Let c be an element of $C(A[X])$; then c^{-1} can be represented by $IA[X]$, where I is an integral ideal of A defined by essential valuation conditions. Choose a_0 and a_1 in A so that I is quasi-equal to (a_0, a_1) [5, Exer. 4., p. 95]. Consider the prime ideal $P = (a_0 + a_1X)K[X] \cap A[X]$. It is clear that $P = I^{-1}A[X] \cdot (a_0 + a_1X)A[X]$ [6, p. 85]. So P is in c .

PROPOSITION 5. If G is the class group of a Krull domain and G' is a homomorphic image of G , then there is a Krull domain with class group G' .

Proof. Let A have class group G and let H be a subgroup of G such that $G' \cong G/H$. G is also the class group of $A[X]$; choose (Proposition 4) a minimal prime P_α of $A[X]$ representing each class c_α in H . Let T be the set of all minimal primes of $A[X]$ and let U be the set of primes $\{P_\alpha\}$. Then $B = \bigcap_{P \in T-U} A[X]_P$ has class group G' by Corollary 3.

PROPOSITION 6. If G is any abelian group, then there is a Krull domain A such that $C(A) \cong G$.

Proof. In view of Proposition 5, it is sufficient to show that there is a Krull domain whose class group is a free group on a base of given cardinality. We do so as follows:

Let J be any index set and form the polynomial ring $B = F[X_1, Y_1, Z_1, \dots, X_i, Y_i, Z_i, \dots]$ for $i \in J$. For each i , consider the subring $R_i = F[\dots, X_i, Y_i, W_i, \dots]$ where $W_i = X_i Z_i$. Let Q_i be the ideal (X_i, Y_i) in R_i and assign an order to any element r of R_i by $v_i(r) = t$ if $r \in Q^t$ and $r \notin Q^{t+1}$. It is immediate that v_i satisfies the requirements of a valuation, and so v_i may be extended uniquely to a discrete valuation on the quotient field of R_i (= the quotient field of B).

Let V_i denote the valuation ring of v_i for all $i \in J$. Form $A = (\bigcap_{i \in J} V_i) \cap B$. We assert that A is a Krull domain, and that $C(A)$ is the free group on J .

We note first that since $A \cong R_i$ for any $i \in J$, the quotient field of A is the same as the quotient field of B . Since B is a U. F. D., we can write $B = \bigcap B_P$ for P a minimal prime of B ; this shows that A is the intersection of discrete valuation rings. If $f \in A$, f involves only a finite number of the variables, and so f can be a nonunit in only a finite number of the $\{B_P\} \cup \{V_i\}$. The set $\Sigma = \{B_P\} \cup \{V_i\}$ is in fact, the set of essential valuation rings of A . To see this, we need only produce an element of the quotient field which is not in a particular ring of Σ but is in all the other rings of Σ . For V_i , Z_i will serve. If P is a minimal prime of B and $P = X_i B$ for some $i \in J$, Y_i/X_i demonstrates that B_P is essential.

Finally, let P be a minimal prime of B not of the above type and choose an $f \in B$ such that $P = fB$. f will be a unit in any other valuation ring of Σ of the type B_Q , so let V_{i_1}, \dots, V_{i_k} be the valuation rings of Σ in which f is not a unit. Let $n_{i_j} = v_{i_j}(f)$ for $j = 1, \dots, k$. The element $g = X_{i_1}^{\max(0, n_{i_1})} \dots X_{i_k}^{\max(0, n_{i_k})} / f$ yields that B_P is essential in this case.

Let P be a minimal prime of B , and choose $f \in B$ such that $P = fB$. As above, f is a unit except in B_P and some rings V_i for $i \in J$. This shows that the minimal primes going with the V_i generate $C(A)$. A relation among these minimal primes alone would come from an element f of the quotient field of A which is a unit in all B_P , i.e., a unit of B . But the units of B are the elements of the field F , and this relation can only be the trivial one.

REMARK. It is fairly easy to see that the restriction of the ring A constructed above to $F[X_i, Y_i, Z_i]$ is $F[X_i, Y_i, X_i Z_i, Y_i Z_i]$; this leads to an alternative description of A as $F[\dots, X_i, Y_i, T_i, U_i \dots]$ subject to the relations $X_i U_i = Y_i T_i$. Indeed, the results on A may be obtained by viewing A again as a subring of $F[\dots, X_i, Y_i, Z_i, \dots]$ where $Z_i = T_i/X_i = U_i/Y_i$. I am indebted to the referee for suggesting this point of view on the example.

THEOREM 7. *Given any abelian group S , there is a Dedekind domain D with $C(D) \cong S$.*

Proof. We show that if A is a Krull domain with class group S , we can alter A to obtain a Dedekind domain with the same class group.

Let N denote the natural numbers and set $A_1 = A[X_1, \dots, X_n, \dots]$ for $n \in N$. Let Q be a prime ideal of A , which is not minimal. Choose any element a of Q and let P_1, \dots, P_k be the minimal primes of A_1 which contain a . Since $Q \not\subseteq P_1 \cup \dots \cup P_k$ we can find b in Q such that $b \notin P_i$ for $i = 1, \dots, k$. Let X_Q be a variable not occurring in either a or b and form $f_Q = a + bX_Q$. Then f_Q is prime in A_1 [6, Th. 29, p. 85]. Let M be the multiplicative set generated by all f_Q , where Q ranges over the nonminimal primes of A_1 . Let $D = (A_1)_M$. D is a Krull domain in which minimal primes are also maximal, so D is a Dedekind domain [6, Th. 28, p. 84]. Further $C(A) \cong C(A_1) \cong C(D)$, the latter isomorphism following from [4, Prop. 2, p. 157].

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Pacific Journal of Mathematics

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April, 1966

Alexander V. Arhangel'skii, <i>On closed mappings, bicomact spaces, and a problem of P. Aleksandrov</i>	201
A. K. Austin, <i>A note on loops</i>	209
Lawrence Peter Belluce and William A. Kirk, <i>Fixed-point theorems for families of contraction mappings</i>	213
Luther Elic Claborn, <i>Every abelian group is a class group</i>	219
Luther Elic Claborn, <i>A note on the class group</i>	223
Robert Stephen De Zur, <i>Point-determining homomorphisms on multiplicative semi-groups of continuous functions</i>	227
Raymond William Freese, <i>A convexity property</i>	237
Frederick Paul Greenleaf, <i>Characterization of group algebras in terms of their translation operators</i>	243
Andrzej Hulanicki, <i>On the spectral radius of hermitian elements in group algebras</i>	277
Michael Bahir Maschler and Bezalel Peleg, <i>A characterization, existence proof and dimension bounds for the kernel of a game</i>	289
Yiannis (John) Nicolas Moschovakis, <i>Many-one degrees of the predicates $H_a(x)$</i>	329
G. O. Okikiolu, <i>nth order integral operators associated with Hilbert transforms</i>	343
C. E. Rickart, <i>Analytic phenomena in general function algebras</i>	361
K. N. Srivastava, <i>On an entire function of an entire function defined by Dirichlet series</i>	379
Paul Elvis Waltman, <i>Oscillation criteria for third order nonlinear differential equations</i>	385