

**EXERCISES FOR CHARACTERISTIC  $p$  COMMUTATIVE ALGEBRA**  
**APRIL 3RD, 2017**

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- (1) Suppose  $R$  is an  $F$ -finite normal domain and that  $0 \neq \phi \in \text{Hom}_R(F_*^e R, R)$  and  $0 \neq \psi \in \text{Hom}_R(F_*^d R, R)$ . Find a formula for  $\Delta_{\phi \circ F_*^e \psi}$  in terms of  $\Delta_\phi$  and  $\Delta_\psi$ .
- (2) Suppose that  $\Delta \geq 0$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -divisor on a normal domain  $R$ . Consider the subset

$$S := \text{Hom}_R(F_*^e R(\lceil (p^e - 1)\Delta \rceil), R) \subseteq \text{Hom}_R(F_*^e R, R)$$

induced by contravariance of  $\text{Hom}$ .

Show that  $S$  is equal to:

$$\begin{aligned} &= \{ \phi \in \text{Hom}_R(F_*^e R, R) \mid \phi \text{ factors through the inclusion } R \subseteq R(\lceil (p^e - 1)\Delta \rceil) \} \\ &= \{ \phi \in \text{Hom}_R(F_*^e R, R) \mid \Delta_\phi \geq \Delta \} \end{aligned}$$

- (3) Suppose that  $L/K$  is a finite extension of characteristic  $p > 0$  fields and  $x \in L \setminus K$  but  $x^p \in K$ . Show that if  $\phi : K^{1/p^e} \rightarrow K$  extends to  $L^{1/p^e} \rightarrow L$ , then  $\phi$  is the zero map on  $K$ .
- (4) Using the previous problem, conclude in general that if  $L/K$  is finite and inseparable, then no nonzero  $\phi : K^{1/p^e} \rightarrow K$  can extend to  $L^{1/p^e} \rightarrow L$ .

*Hint:* Suppose such a map did extend to  $\phi_L$ . Let  $K'$  denote the separable closure of  $K$  in  $L$ . Show that  $\phi_L(K^{1/p^e}) \subseteq K'$  and then reduce to the previous exercise.

- (5) Now fix a normal  $F$ -finite Noetherian domain  $R$  (with  $\text{Hom}_R(F_* R, \omega_R) \cong F_* \omega_R$  if you'd like) and a nonzero  $\phi \in \text{Hom}_R(F_*^e R, R)$ . In this case we define the *test ideal* of  $(R, \phi)$  to be the smallest nonzero ideal  $J$  such that

$$\phi(F_*^e J) \subseteq J,$$

if it exists. The test ideal is denoted by  $\tau(R, \phi)$ . In the following steps, we will show that it always exists.

- i. Suppose first that  $R$  is strongly  $F$ -regular and that  $\phi$  generates  $\text{Hom}_R(F_*^e R, R)$  as an  $F_*^e R$ -module. Show that for every  $0 \neq c \in R$ , there is an  $n > 0$  such that  $\phi^n(F_*^{ne} cR) = R$ . Conclude that  $\tau(R, \phi) = R$ .

*Hint:* We know there exists a  $d > 0$  and  $\psi \in \text{Hom}_R(F_*^d R, R)$  such that  $\psi(F_*^e c) = 1$ . Show that you can choose  $d$  such that  $e$  divides  $d$ . In this case,  $\psi$  is a pre-multiple of some  $\phi^n$ .

- ii. Show there exists  $b \in R$  such that  $R_b = R[b^{-1}]$  is strongly  $F$ -regular and  $\phi_b$ , the image of  $\phi$ , generates  $\text{Hom}_{R_b}(F_*^e R_b, R_b)$  as an  $F_*^e R_b$ -module.

*Hint:* First invert some  $b'$  to make  $R_{b'}$  regular (and hence strongly  $F$ -regular). Then invert  $b''$  contained in all the ideals that make up  $D_\phi$ . Let  $b = b'b''$ . Show that the image of  $\phi$  in  $\text{Hom}_{R_b}(F_*^e R_b, R_b)$  corresponds to the zero divisor.

- iii. Now fix  $b$  as in the previous problem. For any  $0 \neq c \in R$ , show that  $b^{m_c} \in \phi^n(F_*^{ne} cR)$  for some  $n > 0$  ( $m_c$  depends on  $c$ ).

*Hint:* We know that  $1 \in \phi_b^n(F_*^{ne} cR_b)$  for some  $n$ . Clear denominators.

- iv. We can write  $b^{m_1} \in \phi^{n_1}(F_*^{n_1 e} R)$  for some integers  $n_1, m_1$ . Show that  $b^{2m_1} = (b^{m_1})^2 \in \phi^{ln_1}(F_*^{ln_1 e} R)$  for all integers  $l$ .  
*Hint:* Start by showing that  $b^{\lceil m_1/p^{n_1 e} \rceil} b^{m_1} \in \phi^{n_1}(F_*^{n_1 e} b^{m_1} R) \subseteq \phi^{2n_1}(F_*^{2n_1 e} R)$ . Then do the general case.
- v. Now fix  $0 \neq c \in R$ , and so  $b^{m_c} \in \phi^{n_c}(F_*^{n_c e} cR)$  for some integers  $m_c$  and  $n_c$ . Conclude that  $b^{3m_1} \in \phi^N(F_*^{N e} cR)$  for some integer  $N > 0$ .  
*Hint:* Apply  $\phi^{n_1}$  until the result is obtained.
- vi. Set  $a = b^{3m_1}$ . Suppose that  $J$  is any nonzero ideal such that  $\phi(F_*^e J) \subseteq J$ . Show that  $a \in J$ .
- vii. Show that  $\tau(R, \phi) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \phi^n(F_*^{n e} aR)$  and hence the test ideal exists.

**Remark.** Remember,  $\phi$  corresponds to a divisor  $\Delta_\phi$ . One can define  $\tau(R, \Delta_\phi) := \tau(R, \phi)$ , note that any two  $\phi$  defining the same divisor are unit multiples. Now, start with  $R$  of finite type over a field of characteristic zero with some divisor  $\Delta$  such that  $K_R + \Delta \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} 0$ , then for all  $p \gg 0$  we have that  $(1 - p^e)(K_R + \Delta) \sim 0$  for some  $e$ . Hence if one reduces<sup>1</sup>  $R$  to  $R_p$ , a characteristic  $p \gg 0$  ring, one can choose  $\phi_p$  corresponding to  $\Delta_p$  (the reduction mod  $p$  of  $\Delta$  – done for the primes defining  $\Delta$ ). In this case, it is a theorem that if  $\mathcal{J}(R, \Delta)$  is the multiplier ideal, then

$$\mathcal{J}(R, \Delta) \bmod p = \tau(R_p, \Delta_p)$$

for  $p \gg 0$ . This was proven by Takagi in this generality. Smith, Hara and Hara-Yoshida previously or simultaneously proved similar results.

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<sup>1</sup>In the case that  $R$  is finite type over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , we write that  $R = R_{\mathbb{Z}} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$  for some  $R_{\mathbb{Z}}$  of finite type over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , then  $R_p = R_{\mathbb{Z}} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ .