

# **Maximal Ideals in Semilocal Categories**

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A category  $\mathcal{C}$  is *preadditive* if each of its Hom sets  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B)$  ( $A, B \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$ ) is endowed with an abelian group structure in such a way that composition is  $\mathbb{Z}$ -bilinear. That is,  $f \circ (h + \ell) = f \circ h + f \circ \ell$  and  $(f + g) \circ h = f \circ h + g \circ h$  for every  $f, g \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(B, C)$ ,  $h, \ell \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B)$ ,  $A, B, C \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$ .

An *additive category* is a preadditive category with a zero object in which any two pair of objects has a coproduct (equivalently, a product — in a preadditive category, product, coproduct and biproduct of any two objects coincide).

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category. An object  $Z$  is called:

- An *initial object* of  $\mathcal{C}$  if for every  $C \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$  there is exactly one morphism  $Z \rightarrow C$ .
- A *terminal object* of  $\mathcal{C}$  if for every  $C \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$  there is exactly one morphism  $C \rightarrow Z$ .
- A *null object* (or a *zero object*) if it is both initial and terminal.

In a preadditive category, an object is initial if and only if it is terminal.

Recall that a ring  $S$  is *semisimple artinian* if all right  $S$ -modules are injective; equiv., if all right  $S$ -modules are projective; equiv., if  $\exists$  positive integers  $t, n_1, n_2, \dots, n_t$  and division rings  $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_t$  such that  $S \cong \prod_{i=1}^t M_{n_i}(k_i)$ .

A *commutative* ring is *semilocal* if it has only finitely many maximal ideals.

An arbitrary (non-necessarily commutative) ring  $R$  is *semilocal* if  $R/J(R)$  is a semisimple artinian ring.

(The two notions agree on commutative rings!)

A category  $\mathcal{C}$  is *semilocal* if it is a preadditive category with a non-zero object such that the endomorphism ring of every non-zero object is a semilocal ring.

### **Examples of semilocal categories:**

(1) The full subcategory of  $\text{Mod-}R$  whose objects are all artinian  $R$ -modules.

(2) If  $R$  is a semilocal ring, the full subcategory of  $\text{Mod-}R$  whose objects are all finitely presented right  $R$ -modules.

(3) If  $R$  is a semilocal commutative ring, the full subcategory of  $\text{Mod-}R$  whose objects are all finitely generated  $R$ -modules.

(4) If  $R$  is a commut. noeth. semilocal domain of Krull dim. 1, the full subcategory of  $\text{Mod-}R$  whose objects are all torsion-free  $R$ -modules of finite rank.

(5) Recall that a module is *uniserial* if its lattice of submodules is linearly ordered under inclusion. The full subcategory of  $\text{Mod-}R$  whose objects are all finite direct sums of uniserial  $R$ -modules is a semilocal category.

If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a category, *idempotents split* in  $\mathcal{C}$  if for every object  $A$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  and every endomorphism  $f$  of  $A$  with  $f^2 = f$ , there exist an object  $B$  and morphisms  $g: A \rightarrow B$  and  $h: B \rightarrow A$  such that  $hg = f$  and  $gh = 1_B$ , where  $1_B$  denotes the identity morphism of  $B$ .

The previous five examples are all examples of semilocal additive categories in which idempotents split. (Since they are all full subcategories of  $\text{Mod-}R$ , this simply means that their classes of objects are classes of modules closed under direct summands and finite direct sums.)

A *commutative additive monoid* is a set  $M$  endowed with a binary operation  $+$  (addition) that is associative, commutative and has a neutral element  $0$ .

$\mathcal{C}$  additive category.

Fix a skeleton  $V(\mathcal{C})$ .

Then  $V(\mathcal{C})$  is a commutative additive monoid: if  $A, B \in V(\mathcal{C})$ ,

$$A + B = A \amalg B.$$

( $V(\mathcal{C})$  can possibly be a *large* monoid, i.e., it can be a proper class, not necessarily a set).



**Theorem 1** *If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a semilocal additive category in which idempotents split, the monoid  $V(\mathcal{C})$  is a Krull monoid.*

Krull monoids are the analogues for commutative monoids of what Krull domains are in Commutative Algebra.

# Valuations of abelian groups, Krull monoids

[Chouinard, 1981]

$M$  additive, commutative, cancellative  
monoid

$M \subseteq G(M)$  and  $G(M)$  is a torsion-free  
abelian group

A *discrete valuation* of an abelian group

$G$  is a surjective homomorphism

$v: G \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ .

[ $\Rightarrow G \cong \mathbb{Z} \oplus \ker v$ ]

$\{x \in G \mid v(x) \geq 0\}$  is the *valuation submonoid* of  $v$ .

[ $\Rightarrow$  it is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{N} \oplus \ker v$ ]

For a commutative monoid  $M$ , set  $U(M) = \{a \in M \mid a \text{ has an opposite } -a \in M\}$ .

$M$  is *reduced* if  $U(M) = \{0\}$ . For every monoid  $M$ , the monoid  $M_{\text{red}} = M/U(M)$  is reduced.

A *discrete valuation monoid* is a monoid  $M$  with  $M_{\text{red}} \cong \mathbb{N}$ .

$M$  is a *Krull monoid* if there exists a family  $\{v_i \mid i \in I\}$  of discrete valuations  $v_i: G(M) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  such that:

(1)  $M = \{x \in G(M) \mid v_i(x) \geq 0 \text{ for every } i \in I\}$ ;

(2) for every  $x \in G(M)$  the set  $\{i \in I \mid v_i(x) \neq 0\}$  is finite.

**Theorem 2** [Ulrich Krause, 1989]

*A commutative integral domain  $R$  is a Krull domain if and only if the monoid  $R^* := R \setminus \{0\}$  is a Krull monoid.*

principal fractional ideals

divisorial fractional ideals

$D(M)$  the set of all divisorial fractional ideals.

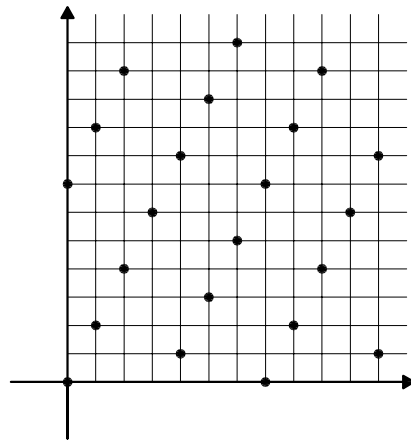
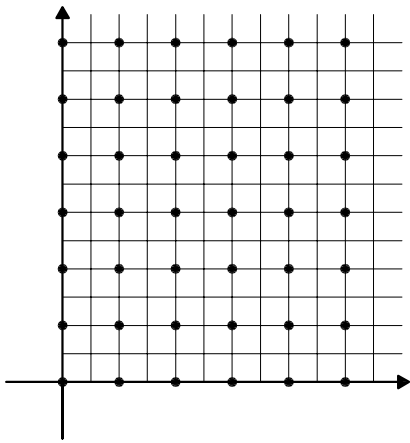
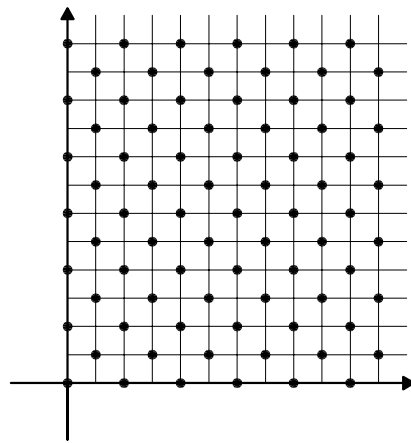
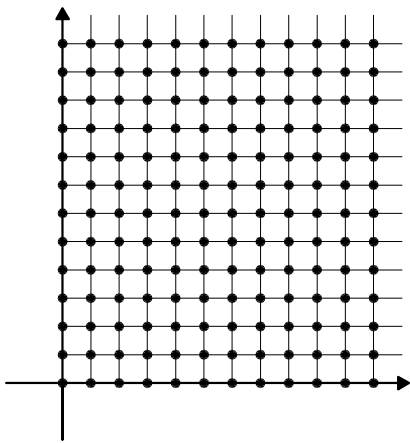
$D(M)$  is a commutative monoid with respect to the operation  $*$  defined, for every  $I, J \in D(M)$  by  $I * J :=$  the intersection of all the principal fractional ideals containing  $I + J$ .  $\text{Prin}(M) :=$  {non-zero principal fractional ideals}. It is a subgroup of  $D(M)$ .

divisor class semigroup  $\text{Cl}(M) := D(M)/\text{Prin}(M)$

essential valuations (for every  $x, y \in M$  with  $v(x) \leq v(y)$ , there exists an  $s \in M$  with  $x \leq y + s$  and  $v(s) = 0$ )

There is a natural pre-order  $\leq$  on every commutative additive monoid  $M$ , called the *algebraic pre-order*, defined by  $x \leq y$  if there exists  $z \in M$  such that  $x + z = y$ .

$M$  is a reduced Krull monoid if and only if there exist a set  $X$  and a subgroup  $G$  of  $\mathbb{Z}^{(X)}$  such that  $M \cong G \cap \mathbb{N}^{(X)}$ , if and only if there is a monoid morphism  $f$  of  $M$  into a free commutative monoid  $F = \mathbb{N}_0^{(X)}$  such that if  $x, y \in M$  and  $f(x) \leq f(y)$  in  $F$  implies  $x \leq y$  in  $M$ .  
 $[\Rightarrow$  reduced Krull monoid have a regular geometric structure.]



Four submonoids of  $\mathbb{N}_0^2$  that are Krull monoids. Notice their regular geometric pattern.

**Theorem.** *If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a semilocal additive category in which idempotents split, the monoid  $V(\mathcal{C})$  is a Krull monoid.*

Hence, for every semilocal category  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  
 $V(\mathcal{C}) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{N}^{(X)} \Rightarrow$  every object of a semilocal category can be described up to isomorphism by finitely many non-zero positive integers.



## The technique

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a preadditive category. An *ideal*  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ : a subgroup  $\mathcal{I}(A, B)$  of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B)$  for every  $A, B \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$ , such that, for every  $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B)$ ,  $\psi \in \mathcal{I}(B, C)$ ,  $\omega \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(C, D)$ , one has that  $\omega\psi\varphi \in \mathcal{I}(A, D)$ .

The *factor category*  $\mathcal{C}/\mathcal{I}$ :  $\text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}) = \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}/\mathcal{I})$   
and, for every  $A, B \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}) = \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}/\mathcal{I})$ ,  
 $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}/\mathcal{I}}(A, B) := \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B)/\mathcal{I}(A, B)$ .

Two examples:

(1) *The Jacobson radical.* It is the ideal  $\mathcal{J}$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  defined as follows. If  $A, B$  are objects of  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{J}(A, B) := \{ f \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(A, B) \mid 1_A - gf \text{ has a left inverse for all } g \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(B, A) \}$ .

(2) *The ideal of  $\mathcal{C}$  associated to an ideal  $I$  of  $\text{End}_{\mathcal{C}}(A)$ ,* where  $A$  is a non-zero object of  $\mathcal{C}$  [F.-Příhoda].

For a non-zero object  $A$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  and a two-sided ideal  $I$  of  $\text{End}_{\mathcal{C}}(A)$ , let  $\mathcal{A}_I$  be the ideal of the category  $\mathcal{C}$  defined as follows: a morphism  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  is in  $\mathcal{A}_I(X, Y)$  if and only if  $\beta f \alpha \in I$  for every pair of morphisms  $\alpha: A \rightarrow X$  and  $\beta: Y \rightarrow A$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ . We call  $\mathcal{A}_I$  the *ideal of  $\mathcal{C}$  associated to  $I$* . The ideal  $\mathcal{A}_I$  is the greatest of the ideals  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  with  $\mathcal{I}(A, A) \subseteq I$ . It is easily seen that  $\mathcal{A}_I(A, A) = I$ . Clearly, the ideals associated to two distinct ideals of  $\text{End}_{\mathcal{C}}(A)$  are two distinct ideals of the category  $\mathcal{C}$ .

What about the maximal ideals of  $\mathcal{C}$ ?

**Lemma 3** [F.-Perone] *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a preadditive category and  $\mathcal{M}$  be a proper ideal of  $\mathcal{C}$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}$  is a maximal ideal if and only if, for every object  $A$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  with  $\mathcal{M}(A, A) \neq \text{End}_{\mathcal{C}}(A)$ , one has that:*

*(1)  $\mathcal{M}(A, A)$  is a maximal ideal of  $\text{End}_{\mathcal{C}}(A)$ , and (2)  $\mathcal{M}$  is the ideal of  $\mathcal{C}$  associated to  $\mathcal{M}(A, A)$ .*

A preadditive category is *simple* if it has exactly two ideals, necessarily the trivial ones.

The factor category  $\mathcal{C}/\mathcal{M}$  is simple for every preadditive category  $\mathcal{C}$  and every maximal ideal  $\mathcal{M}$ .

**Proposition 4** *The following conditions are equivalent for a preadditive category  $\mathcal{C}$ :*

(1)  *$\mathcal{C}$  is a simple category.*

(2)  *$\mathcal{C}$  has a non-zero object, and every non-zero object of  $\mathcal{C}$  is a generator and a cogenerator for  $\mathcal{C}$  and has a simple endomorphism ring.*

(3)  *$\mathcal{C}$  has a non-zero object and there exists a simple ring  $R$  such that  $\mathcal{C}$  is equivalent to a full subcategory of the category  $\text{proj-}R$  of all finitely generated projective right  $R$ -modules.*

Maximal ideals may not exist (even in small preadditive categories).

**Example 5** Let  $k$  be a division ring and  $V_n$  a right vector space of dimension  $\aleph_n$  for every  $n < \omega$ . Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be the full subcategory of  $\text{Mod-}k$  whose objects are the vector spaces  $V_n$ ,  $n < \omega$ , so that  $\mathcal{C}$  is a small preadditive category with countably many objects. For every  $V_k, W_k \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$  and  $c \leq \aleph_\omega$ , set  $\mathcal{I}_c(V_k, W_k) := \{f \in \text{Hom}(V_k, W_k) \mid \text{rank}(f) < c\}$ . The ideals of  $\mathcal{C}$  are

$$0 = \mathcal{I}_1 \subset \mathcal{I}_{\aleph_0} \subset \mathcal{I}_{\aleph_1} \subset \mathcal{I}_{\aleph_2} \subset \cdots \subset \mathcal{I}_{\aleph_\omega}.$$

Maximal ideals do not exist in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

This example also shows that, though every maximal ideal of a category  $\mathcal{C}$  is the ideal associated to a maximal ideal of the endomorphism ring of a non-zero object of  $\mathcal{C}$  (Lemma 2), the converse is not always true.

The converse is true when the category  $\mathcal{C}$  is semilocal.

**Proposition 6** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a semilocal category. Then:*

(1) *Every ideal of  $\mathcal{C}$  associated to a maximal ideal of the endomorphism ring of a non-zero object of  $\mathcal{C}$  is a maximal ideal of  $\mathcal{C}$ .*

(2) *In  $\mathcal{C}$ , every proper ideal is contained in a maximal ideal.*

(3) *Maximal ideals exist in  $\mathcal{C}$ .*



Let  $\text{Max}(\mathcal{C})$  be the *maximal spectrum* of a preadditive category  $\mathcal{C}$ , that is, the “class” of all maximal ideals of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

$\mathcal{C}_\lambda$  a preadditive category for every  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , where  $\Lambda$  is a class. Define the *weak direct sum*  $\bigoplus_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \mathcal{C}_\lambda$  of the categories  $\mathcal{C}_\lambda$  as follows. The objects of  $\bigoplus_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \mathcal{C}_\lambda$  are the finite sets  $\{(\lambda_1, A_1), (\lambda_2, A_2), \dots, (\lambda_n, A_n)\}$ , where  $n \geq 0$  is an integer,  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  are distinct elements of  $\Lambda$  and  $A_i$  is a non-zero object of  $\mathcal{C}_{\lambda_i}$  for every  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . The set of all morphisms between two objects  $\{(\lambda_1, A_1), (\lambda_2, A_2), \dots, (\lambda_n, A_n)\}$  and  $\{(\mu_1, B_1), (\mu_2, B_2), \dots, (\mu_m, B_m)\}$  of

the category  $\bigoplus_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \mathcal{C}_\lambda$  is

$$\bigoplus_{\substack{i=1, \dots, n \\ j=1, \dots, m \\ \lambda_i = \mu_j}} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_{\lambda_i}}(A_i, B_j).$$

**Theorem 7** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a semilocal category. Then the Jacobson radical of  $\mathcal{C}$  is the intersection of all maximal ideals of  $\mathcal{C}$  and, for every object  $A$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ , there exist finitely many maximal ideals  $\mathcal{M}_1, \dots, \mathcal{M}_n$  ( $n \geq 0$ ) such that, for every maximal ideal  $\mathcal{M}$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $A$  is a non-zero object in  $\mathcal{C}/\mathcal{M}$  if and only if  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_i$  for some  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ .*

$\mathcal{C}$  a semilocal category  $\Rightarrow$  complete  $\mathcal{C}$   
 to an additive category  $\text{add}(\mathcal{C})$  in which  
 idempotents split (category of motives)  
 $\Rightarrow \text{add}(\mathcal{C})$  also is semilocal and  $\text{Max}(\mathcal{C}) =$   
 $\text{Max}(\text{add}(\mathcal{C})) \Rightarrow$  apply the functor

$$F: \text{add}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{\mathcal{M} \in \text{Max}(\mathcal{C})} \text{add}(\mathcal{C})/\mathcal{M},$$

which is isomorphism reflecting and di-  
 rect summand reflecting  $\Rightarrow$  apply the  
 functor  $V$  to get a monoid homomor-  
 phism

$V(F): V(\text{add}(\mathcal{C})) \rightarrow V(\bigoplus_{\mathcal{M} \in \text{Max}(\mathcal{C})} \text{add}(\mathcal{C})/\mathcal{M}) =$   
 $\bigoplus_{\mathcal{M} \in \text{Max}(\mathcal{C})} V(\text{add}(\mathcal{C})/\mathcal{M})$ , which is in-  
 jective and a divisor homomorphism. Now  
 each  $\text{add}(\mathcal{C})/\mathcal{M}$  is  $\cong \text{mod-}R$  for some  
 simple artinian ring  $\Rightarrow$  each object  $A$  of  
 the factor category  $\text{add}(\mathcal{C})/\mathcal{M} \cong \text{mod-}R$   
 is completely determined by its Goldie  
 dimension (equal to the Goldie dimen-  
 sion of the semisimple artinian ring  $\text{End}_{\mathcal{C}/\mathcal{M}}(A)$ ).  
 That is,  $V(\text{add}(\mathcal{C})/\mathcal{M}) \cong \mathbb{N}_0 \Rightarrow$  there is  
 a divisor homomorphism  $V(\text{add}(\mathcal{C})) \rightarrow$   
 $\mathbb{N}_0^{(\text{Max}(\mathcal{C}))} \Rightarrow V(\text{add}(\mathcal{C}))$  is a Krull monoid,  
 every object of  $\mathcal{C}$  can be described up  
 to iso. with natural numbers, geometric  
 regularity of finite d.-s. decompositions.

## Example

**Theorem 8** [F., TAMS 1996] *Let  $U_R$  be a uniserial module over an arbitrary ring  $R$ , let  $E = \text{End}(U_R)$  denote its endomorphism ring, and set*

*$I := \{ f \in E \mid f \text{ is not injective} \}$  and*

*$K := \{ f \in E \mid f \text{ is not surjective} \}$ .*

*Then  $I$  and  $K$  are two two-sided completely prime ideals of  $E$ , and every proper right ideal of  $E$  and every proper left ideal of  $E$  is contained either in  $I$  or in  $K$ . Moreover, exactly one of the following two conditions hold:*

(a) *Either  $I$  and  $K$  are comparable (that is,  $I \subseteq K$  or  $K \subseteq I$ ), in which case  $E$  is a local ring with maximal ideal  $I \cup K$ , or*

(b)  *$I$  and  $K$  are not comparable, and in this case  $E/I$  and  $E/K$  are division rings, and  $E/J(E) \cong E/I \times E/K$ .*

Two modules  $U$  and  $V$  are said to have

1. *the same monogeny class*, denoted

$[U]_m = [V]_m$ , if there exist a monomorphism  $U \rightarrow V$  and a monomorphism  $V \rightarrow U$ ;

2. *the same epigeny class*, denoted  $[U]_e =$

$[V]_e$ , if there exist an epimorphism  $U \rightarrow V$  and an epimorphism  $V \rightarrow U$ .

**Theorem 9** [F., TAMS 1996] *Let  $U_1, \dots, U_n, V_1, \dots, V_t$  be  $n + t$  non-zero uniserial right modules over a ring  $R$ . Then the direct sums  $U_1 \oplus \dots \oplus U_n$  and  $V_1 \oplus \dots \oplus V_t$  are isomorphic  $R$ -modules if and only if  $n = t$  and there exist two permutations  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  such that  $[U_i]_m = [V_{\sigma(i)}]_m$  and  $[U_i]_e = [V_{\tau(i)}]_e$  for every  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .*

If  $\mathcal{C} = \{\text{uniserial } R\text{-modules}\}$ , then  $V(\mathcal{C}) \hookrightarrow F_m \times F_e$  is a subdirect product of two free commutative monoids  $F_m$  and  $F_e$ .