

Prime ideals and Noetherian properties in vector lattices

Mark Roelands, joint work with Marko Kandić

Positivity XI

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A proper ideal P in E is called *prime* if one of the following equivalent conditions holds

- If $x \wedge y \in P$, then either $x \in P$ or $y \in P$.
- If $x \wedge y = 0$, then either $x \in P$ or $y \in P$.
- E/P is totally ordered.

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Some facts

- Every maximal ideal in E is prime.
- Every proper ideal containing a prime ideal is prime.
- The collection of ideals containing a fixed prime ideal is totally ordered by set inclusion.

Lemma (Prime avoidance lemma)

Let I be a proper ideal in E and $x \in E \setminus I$. Then an ideal that is maximal w.r.t. not containing x and containing I is prime.

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Note: all nonzero vector lattices contain prime ideals.

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- In $c_{00}(\Omega)$, the prime ideals are precisely of the form

$$P_{\omega} := \{x \in c_{00}(\Omega) : x(\omega) = 0\}.$$

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$$P_\omega := \{x \in c_{00}(\Omega) : x(\omega) = 0\}.$$

Hence, all prime ideals in $c_{00}(\Omega)$ are maximal.

- Any maximal multiplicatively closed set F not containing 0 in $C(K)$ yields an algebraic prime ideal $C(K) \setminus F$.

Theorem

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Idea

- Any principal ideal I_x contains finitely many prime ideals.
- A norm dense sublattice of $C(K)$ is finite dimensional if there are only finitely many prime ideals.
- Now $E \cong c_{00}(\Omega)$ and Ω must be finite.

From commutative rings to vector lattices

A vector lattice E is said to be *Noetherian* if every ascending chain of ideals in E is stationary.

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Ideal structure is $\text{Lex}(\mathbb{N}) = I_{e_1} \supsetneq I_{e_2} \supsetneq I_{e_3} \supsetneq \dots$ and $I_{e_k}/I_{e_{k+1}} \cong \mathbb{R}$.

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Let R be a commutative ring.

- **Cohen:** *R is Noetherian if and only if every prime ideal is finitely generated.*
- **Kaplansky:** *If R is Noetherian, every ideal is principal if and only if every maximal ideal is principal.*
- **Cohen-Kaplansky:** *If every prime ideal is principal, then every ideal is principal.*

Theorem

Let E be a vector lattice.

- (i) E is finite dimensional.*
- (ii) Every proper ideal in E is principal (same as finitely generated).*
- (iii) Every prime ideal in E is principal (same as finitely generated).*

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Then (i) \implies (ii), (i) \implies (iii), (iii) \implies (ii), and if E is Archimedean, then (ii) \implies (i).

Theorem

Let E be a vector lattice.

- (i) E is finite dimensional.
- (ii) Every proper ideal in E is principal (same as finitely generated).
- (iii) Every prime ideal in E is principal (same as finitely generated).

Then (i) \implies (ii), (i) \implies (iii), (iii) \implies (ii), and if E is Archimedean, then (ii) \implies (i).

Hence if E is Archimedean,

- then (i) and (iii) are equivalent (Cohen's theorem for vector lattices).
- the equivalence between (ii) and (iii) is the Cohen-Kaplansky theorem for vector lattices.

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Idea

- Being prime Noetherian passes down to ideals, so I_x is prime Noetherian.
- If $C(K)$ is prime Noetherian, then it is finite dimensional.
- If every principal ideal is finite dimensional, $E \cong c_{00}(\Omega)$.

Prime Noetherian vector lattices

For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, denote by $\text{PPol}^n([a, b])$ the vector lattice of continuous piecewise polynomials of degree at most n on $[a, b]$.

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Theorem

In $\text{PPol}^n([a, b])$ every ascending chain of prime ideals has at most length n , and $\text{PPol}([a, b])$ is prime Noetherian, and contains ascending chains of prime ideals of arbitrary finite length.

Prime Noetherian vector lattices

Define $E \subsetneq C([0, 1])$ by $f \in E$ if there is an $\varepsilon > 0$ such that for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$f(t) = a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^n a_k t^{\frac{1}{k}} \quad (t \in [0, \varepsilon)).$$

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In E we have the ascending chain of prime ideals

$$I_t \subsetneq I_{t^{1/2}} \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq I_{t^{1/n}} \subsetneq I_{t^{1/(n+1)}} \subsetneq \cdots$$

so it is not prime Noetherian.

The paper can be found here:



Marko Kandić and Mark Roelands. Prime ideals and Noetherian properties in vector lattices, *Positivity*, 26(1), 13, 2022.

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Thank you for your attention!