

$$S^1aS^1 = SaS \cup aS \cup Sa \cup \{a\}.$$

CLAIM. aS^1 (S^1a, S^1aS^1) is the “smallest” right (left, two-sided ideal) containing a .

Proof. (for aS^1).

We have $a = a1 \in aS^1$ and $(aS^1)S = a(S^1S) \subseteq aS^1$. So, aS^1 is a right ideal containing a . If $a \in I$ and I is a right ideal, then $aS^1 \subseteq IS^1 = I \cup IS \subseteq I$. \square

DEFINITION 4.7. We call aS^1 (S^1a, S^1aS^1) the *principal right (left, two-sided) ideal generated by a* .

If S is commutative then $aS^1 = S^1a = S^1aS^1$.

EXAMPLE 4.8. In a group G we have

$$aG^1 = G = G^1a = G^1aG^1$$

for all $a \in G$.

EXAMPLE 4.9. In \mathbb{N} under addition we have

$$n + \mathbb{N}^1 = I_n = \{n, n+1, n+2, \dots\}$$

EXAMPLE 4.10. B is simple, so

$$B(m, n)B = B^1(m, n)B^1 = B$$

for all $(m, n) \in B$. However:

CLAIM. $(m, n)B = (m, n)B^1 = \{(x, y) \mid x \geq m, y \in \mathbb{N}^0\}$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} (m, n)B &= \{(m, n)(u, v) \mid (u, v) \in B\} \\ &\subseteq \{(x, y) \mid x \geq m, y \in \mathbb{N}^0\}. \end{aligned}$$

Let $x \geq m$ then

$$\begin{aligned} (m, n)(n + (x - m), y) &= (m - n + n + (x - m), y), \\ &= (x, y). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $(x, y) \in (m, n)B \Rightarrow \{(x, y) \mid x \geq m, y \in \mathbb{N}^0\} \subseteq (m, n)B$. Hence we have proved our claim. \square

Dually we have $B(m, n) = \{(x, y) \mid x \in \mathbb{N}^0, y \geq n\}$.

Lemma 4.11 (Principal Left Ideal Lemma). *The following statements are equivalent;*

- i) $S^1a \subseteq S^1b$,
- ii) $a \in S^1b$,