

Thm SpS $\varphi: R_1 \rightarrow R_2$ is a ring homomorphism. Then

$\ker \varphi$ is an ideal in R_1 .

proof: Follows from property 4:

$\{0_{R_2}\}$ is an ideal in R_2 because $0_{R_2} s = 0_{R_2}$

for all $s \in R_2$.

So $\varphi^{-1}(\{0_{R_2}\})$ is an ideal in R_1 . But

$$\varphi^{-1}(\{0_{R_2}\}) = \ker \varphi.$$

Note: This tells us that if $\varphi: R_1 \rightarrow R_2$ is a ring

homomorphism, then

$R_1 / \ker \varphi$ is a ring.

Thm (First Isomorphism Theorem for Rings)

Sp. $\varphi: R_1 \rightarrow R_2$ is a ring homomorphism.

Then

$$R_1 / \ker \varphi \cong \varphi(R_1)$$

The isomorphism is given by $\bar{\varphi}(r + \ker \varphi) = \varphi(r)$.

Note! If $\varphi: R_1 \rightarrow R_2$ is onto, then $R_1 / \ker \varphi \cong R_2$.

