

# Correspondence Theorem for Rings

This article, taken from <http://math.stackexchange.com/questions/813978/correspondence-theorem-for-rings>, gives a full proof for the Correspondence theorem for rings.

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $A$  be a multiplicative ring with identity and  $I$  an ideal of  $A$ . Then there is a one-to-one correspondence between*

*the ideals of  $A$  that contain  $I$*

*and*

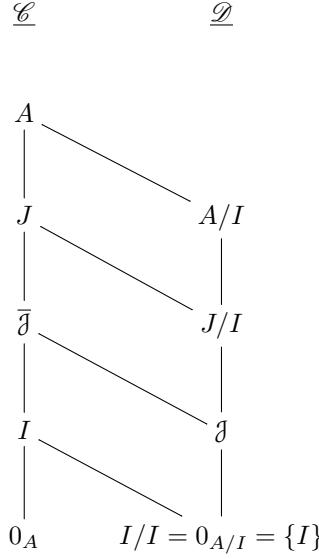
*the ideals of the factor ring  $A/I$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  denote, respectively, the collection of ideals of  $A$  containing  $I$ , and the collection of ideals of  $A/I$  and define

$$f: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D} \text{ by } f(J) = J/I = \{a + I \mid a \in J\} \subset A/I$$

$$g: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C} \text{ by } g(\mathcal{J}) = \bar{\mathcal{J}} = \{a \mid a + I \in \mathcal{J}\} \subset A.$$

The following diagram epitomises the situation.



If  $\mathcal{J} \in \mathcal{C}$ , then we have

$$(f \circ g)(\mathcal{J}) = \{a + I \mid a \in g(\mathcal{J})\} = \{a + I \mid a + I \in \mathcal{J}\} = \mathcal{J}.$$

If  $J \in \mathcal{C}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}(g \circ f)(J) &= \{a \mid a + I \in f(J)\} = \{a \mid a + I = b + I \text{ for some } b \in J\} \\ &= \{a \mid a \in b + I \text{ for some } b \in J\}.\end{aligned}$$

This last set clearly contains  $J$ . Now,

$$a \in b + I \implies (a - b) \in I \subset J \Rightarrow a = b + J \Rightarrow a \in J.$$

So  $(g \circ f)(J) = J$ , and we have shown that  $f$  and  $g$  establish a bijection between  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$ .  $\square$