

$$k + [u] \geq 0, k + m + [u] \geq 0 \Rightarrow (u^{(k)})^{(m)} = u^{(k+m)} \quad (1.4)$$

$$k + [u] \geq 0, m - k + [v] \geq 0 \Rightarrow (u^{(k)} = v^{(m)} \Leftrightarrow u = v^{(m-k)} \quad (1.5)$$

$$k + [u] \geq 0 \Rightarrow (u^{(k)} \in R \Leftrightarrow u \in R) \quad (1.6)$$

We will also use the following two lemmas, which can be also easily shown.

Lemma 1.1. If $\varphi: \mathbf{Q} \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$ is a homomorphism, then

$$x \in \mathbf{Q}, m \geq 0 \Rightarrow \varphi(x^{(m)}) = \varphi(x)^{(m)}. \quad \square$$

Lemma 1.2. If $\mathbf{G} \in \mathcal{V}$ and $x, y \in G, m \geq 0$, then

$$(xy)^{(m)} = x^{(m)}y^{(m)}. \quad \square$$

Now we can prove *Theorem 1*.

First, if $u \in R$ is such that $[u] = m$, then by (1.4) we have

$$u * u = (u^{(-m)}u^{(-m)})^{(m)} = \left((u^{(-m)})^{(1)} \right)^{(m)} = u^2. \quad (1.7)$$

Let $u, v \in R$ be such that $u \neq v$, and $\min\{[u], [v]\} = m$. Then $[u^{(-m)}] = 0$ or $[v^{(-m)}] = 0$, which implies $u^{(-m)}v^{(-m)} \in R$, and by (1.6) we obtain $u * v \in R$. Thus:

$$u, v \in R \Rightarrow u * v \in R, \quad (1.8)$$

i.e. $\mathbf{R} = (R, *)$ is a groupoid.

Moreover, if $\min\{[u], [v]\} = m$, then:

$$\begin{aligned} (u * v) * (u * v) &= (u * v)^2 = (u * v)^{(1)} = \left(u^{(-m)}v^{(-m)} \right)^{(m+1)}, \\ (u * u) * (v * v) &= u^2 * v^2 = \left((u^2)^{(-m-1)}(v^2)^{(-m-1)} \right)^{(m+1)} \\ &= \left(u^{(-m)}v^{(-m)} \right)^{(m+1)}, \end{aligned}$$

and this implies that $\mathbf{R} \in \mathcal{V}$.

If $u, v \in R$ are such that $uv \in R$, then $u = v$ or $\min\{[u], [v]\} = 0$, and thus we have:

$$u, v, uv \in R \Rightarrow u * v = uv, \quad (1.9)$$

and so B is a generating set of R . Clearly, B is the set of primes in \mathbf{R} .