

A non-maximal primary ideal in a unital commutative Banach algebra A .

Suppose that A is the algebra $C^m([0, 1])$ of the complex valued m times continuously differentiable functions on $[0, 1]$ with the norm $\|f\| = \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{1}{k!} \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |f^{(k)}(x)|$. Let $x_0 \in [0, 1]$ and $I = \{f \in A; f(x_0) = f'(x_0) = 0\}$. Then I is a closed two-sided ideal contained in only one maximal ideal; i.e. $\{f \in A : f(x_0) = 0\}$. Note that the maximal ideals of A are of the form $I_x = \{f \in A; f(x) = 0\}, x \in [0, 1]$.

A conclusion is that $C^m([0, 1])$ is not spectral synthesis, i.e. it has a closed two-sided ideal which is not the intersection of maximal ideals containing this ideal.

Comment. The disk algebra contains a nonmaximal prime ideal, namely $\{0\}$.