



UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

SECOND YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF MASTER OF SCIENCE
(PURE MATHEMATICS)

MATH 812: FIELD THEORY

STREAMS: MSC (MATH)

TIME: 3 HOURS

DAY/DATE: TUESDAY 06/04/2021

2.30 P.M – 5.30 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Answer ANY three questions
- Sketch maps and diagrams may be used whenever they help to illustrate your answer
- Do not write on the question paper
- This is a **closed book exam**, No reference materials are allowed in the examination room
- There will be **No** use of mobile phones or any other unauthorized materials
- Write your answers legibly and use your time wisely

QUESTION ONE (20 MARKS)

a) i. Define a ring homomorphism (2 marks)

ii. Show that $\phi : C \rightarrow M_2(R)$ given by $\phi(a+bi) = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{bmatrix}$ for all $a, b \in R$ is a ring

homomorphism. (3 marks)

b) Let P and Q be primary ideals in a commutative ring R , then show that the product

PQ of P and Q defined by $PQ = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i q_i \vee p_i \in P, q_i \in Q$ is an ideal of commutative

ring R . (4 marks)

c) Define the ring of fractions of ring R and suppose $R = \mathbb{Z}_6 \wedge S = \{1, 5\}$, find the ring of fractions $S^{-1}R$. (5 marks)

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- d) i. Define a primary ideal. (2 marks)
- ii. Show that if Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_n are primary ideals in a commutative ring R , all of which are primary for the prime ideal P , then $\bigcap_{i=1}^n Q_i$ is also a primary ideal belonging to P . (4 marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) i. Define the terms maximal and prime ideal. (2 marks)
- ii. Find all the prime ideals and maximal ideals of Z_{12} . (4 marks)
- b) Prove that if R is a commutative ring with unity, then I is a maximal ideal of R if and only if $\frac{R}{I}$ is a field. (6 marks)
- c) Prove that if F is a field, then $F[x]$ is a principal ideal domain. (4 marks)
- d) Show that the field $F = Q(\zeta)$ is a simple extension given by $F' = Q(\zeta)$. (4 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) State the Eisenstein irreducibility criterion and hence show that $17x^3 + 5x^2 + 15x - 5$ is irreducible over Q . (4 marks)
- b) By solving for the irreducible monic polynomial $f(x) \in Q(x)$ such that α is a root of $f(x)$, find the degree of $\alpha = \sqrt{\sqrt{7}+3}$ over Q . (3 marks)
- c) Find all the conjugates of $\sqrt{1+\sqrt{2}}$ over Q . (5 marks)
- d) By considering an irreducible polynomial $f(x)$ over Z_2 of degree 3 construct $GF(8)$. (5 marks)
- e) Define a simple extension K of a subfield F if E is a field extension of F and $\alpha \in E$ and hence give an example of a simple field extension of the field of real numbers. (3 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Find the splitting field of $x^4 - 5x^2 + 6$. (4 marks)

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- b) Prove that if the element r is algebraic over the field F with minimum polynomial $f(x) \in F[x]$ then $o\dot{r}$. (6 marks)
- c) Show that a field F is algebraically closed if and only if every non-zero polynomial in $f(x)$ factors into linear factors. (6 marks)
- d) Show that if I is an ideal and if I has a primary decomposition then I has a reduced or normal primary decomposition. (4 marks)
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