

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

FOURTH YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN MATHEMATICS

MATH 405: ALGEBRA II

STREAMS: "AS ABOVE"

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: WEDNESDAY 31/3/2021

11.30 AM – 1.30 PM

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Answer Question **ONE** and any other **TWO** Questions
- Sketch maps and diagrams may be used whenever they help to illustrate your answer
- Do not write anything 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 (30 MARKS)**

- a) Verify whether or not the following are ideals in the given ring
- i.  $R$  is the ring of rational numbers and  $I$  is the set of non negative rational numbers
  - ii.  $R$  is  $Z[x]$  and  $I$  is the set of polynomials in  $Z[x]$  whose leading coefficient is even
  - iii.  $R$  is  $Z_6$  and  $I$  is the set of elements in  $Z_6$  of the form  $r + Z_6$  where  $r$  is an even number
- (6 marks)

- b) The addition and part of the multiplication table for the ring  $R = \{a, b, c\}$  are given below. Use the distributive laws to complete the multiplication table below

+	a	b	c
a	a	b	c
b	b	c	a
c	c	a	b

*	a	b	c
a	a	a	a
b	a	c	
c	a		

(5 marks)

- c) Working in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ , find the highest common factor of  $x^3 + x^2 - 8x - 12$  and  $x^3 + 5x^2 + 8x + 4$  and express it as a linear combination of the two functions (5 marks)
- d) ) If  $R$  is a commutative ring with identity, show that  $R[x]$  is also a commutative ring with identity (5 marks)
- e) Let  $R$  be the ring of all  $2 \times 2$  matrices over  $\mathbb{Z}$  with the usual addition and multiplication of matrices.
- Show that the subset of  $R$  consisting of all matrices of the form  $T = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \mid a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$  is a non-commutative subring with unity.
  - Which elements of  $T$  are invertible?
  - Find if  $I = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{bmatrix} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$  is an ideal of  $T$  (6 marks)

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) Consider the set  $R = \{[0],[2],[4],[6],[8],[10],[12],[14],[16]\} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_{18}$ .
- Construct addition and multiplication tables for  $R$  using operations as defined in  $\mathbb{Z}_{18}$  (2 marks)
  - Show that  $R$  is a commutative ring with unity. (2 marks)
  - Show that  $R$  is a subring of  $\mathbb{Z}_{18}$  (2 marks)
  - Does  $R$  have zero divisors? (1 marks)
  - Is  $R$  a field? If yes illustrate each element with its inverse (1 mark)
- b) Let  $P$  be an ideal in  $R$ .  $P$  is a prime ideal if and only if  $\frac{R}{P}$  is an integral domain. (6 marks)
- c) Let  $M$  be an ideal in  $R$ .  $M$  is a maximal ideal iff  $\frac{R}{M}$  is a field. (6 marks)

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Let  $F$  be a field, and let  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  be polynomials in  $F[x]$  where  $F$  is a field
- Prove that  $\deg(fg) = \deg(f) + \deg(g)$ . (4 marks)

Consider the polynomials  $f(x) = 2x^2 + 3x + 3$  and  $g(x) = 3x + 1$  in the polynomial ring  $\mathbb{Z}_6[x]$ . Find:

- $\deg(f)$
- $\deg(g)$
- $\deg(fg)$
- why is the theorem above not satisfied (4marks)

- b) Let  $X$  be a non-empty set and  $R$  be the set of all subsets of  $X$ . Define addition and multiplication in  $R$  as follows

$$A + B = A \cup B - A \cap B$$

$$A * B = A \cap B$$

For all  $A \in R$  define a function  $f : R \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2$  as  $f(x) = \begin{cases} \bar{1} & \text{if } x \in A \\ \bar{0} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

- i. Show that  $A + \phi = A$  and  $A + A = \phi$  (5 marks)  
 ii. Show that  $f$  is a homomorphism of rings (7 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) Let  $U$  be a fixed non-empty set and  $R$  be the set of subsets of  $U$  with addition and multiplication defined by  $A + B = A \cup B$  and  $A \times B = A \cap B$ . Verify whether or not  $(R, +, \times)$  is a ring. (6 marks)
- b) Let  $F$  be a field, and  $f(x)$  a non-zero polynomial in  $F[x]$ . Prove the following  
 i. If  $g(x) \in F[x]$  is an associate of  $f(x)$ , then  $\deg(g) = \deg(f)$ . (4 marks)  
 ii. There exists a unique monic polynomial that is an associate of  $f(x)$ . (4 marks)
- c) Let  $I$  and  $J$  be ideals in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$  of integers, Verify whether or not  
 i.  $I \cup J$  is an ideal  
 ii.  $I \cap J$  is an ideal (6 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- a) i. Use the Euclidean Algorithm to find  $hcf(x^3 + 2x^2 - x - 2, x^2 - 4x + 3)$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ . (4 marks)  
 ii. Hence, or otherwise, find polynomials  $s, t$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$  for which  $x - 1 = s(x^3 + 2x^2 - x - 2) + t(x^2 - 4x + 3)$  (4 marks)  
 iii. find  $lcm(x^3 + 2x^2 - x - 2, x^2 - 4x + 3)$  (4 marks)
- b) prove that in a ring of integers, every ideal is a principal ideal (8 marks)

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