

CHUKA

UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

SECOND YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELORS OF SCIENCE  
MATHEMATICS

MATH 204: ALGEBRAIC STRUCTURES

STREAMS: `` As above``

TIME: 2HRS

DAY/DATE: .....  
.....

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) Let  $*$  be a binary operation on the set of integers, defined by

for every  $a, b$ . Determine whether or not  $*$  is

- Commutative
- Associative
- Find an identity element with respect to  $*$  if it exists

(4 marks)

- b) Let denote the set of all  $2 \times 2$  matrices with integer coefficients, whose determinant is one. Verify whether or not is a group under matrix multiplication .  
(5 marks)
- c) Given a group  $G$ , define the centre of  $G, (z(G))$  and show that it is a normal subgroup of  $G$  (4 marks)
- d) Prove that a group  $G$  is abelian, then the map defined by , is a group homomorphism (2 marks)
- e) Suppose  $a, b$  and  $c$  are elements of an integral domain  $D$  such that  $ab=ac$  and . Prove that  $b=c$  (3 marks)
- f) Verify whether or not the following statements are true about groups
- A group of order 21 has a subgroup of order 10 (2 marks)
  - Every cyclic group is abelian (2 marks)
- g) The addition and part of the multiplication table for the ring  $R=\{a,b,c,d\}$  are given below. Use the distributive laws to complete the multiplication table below (4 marks)

+	A	B	C	D
A	A	A	C	D
B	B	C	D	A
C	C	D	A	B
D	D	A	B	C

.	A	B	C	D
A	A	A	A	A
B	A	C		D
C	A		A	
D	A		A	C

- h) Verify in each case whether or not the set  $I$  defined below is an ideal in the ring  $R$  where;
- $R$  is the ring of rational numbers and  $I$  is the set of all non-negative rational numbers (2 marks)
  - $R$  is the ring of polynomials with integer coefficients and  $I$  is the set of polynomials in  $R$  whose leading coefficient is even (2 marks)

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) Let  $n$  be a positive integer. Define  $\phi$  as  $\phi(k) = k \pmod{n}$  and where  $k \pmod{n}$  denotes the remainder of division of  $k$  by  $n$ .
- Show that  $\phi$  is a group homomorphism (2 marks)
  - Find  $\ker \phi$  (2 marks)
  - Find the index of  $\ker \phi$  (2 marks)
  - Find all the homomorphisms if any exists (2 marks)
- b) Consider the set  $R = \{a + b\sqrt{2} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .
- Construct addition and multiplication tables for  $R$  using operations as defined in  $\mathbb{Z}$  (4 marks)
  - Show that  $R$  is a commutative ring with unity. (2 marks)
  - Show that  $R$  is a subring of  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]$  (2 marks)
  - Does  $R$  have zero divisors? (1 marks)
  - Is  $R$  a field? If yes illustrate each element with its inverse (3 marks)

### **QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

Construct the multiplication table for the group of symmetries of a square

List all the subgroups of  $D_4$ . Which of these are normal subgroups? (20 marks)

### **QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- Let  $U$  be a fixed non-empty set and  $\mathcal{R}$  be the set of subsets of  $U$  with addition and multiplication defined by  $A+B = A \cup B$  and  $AB = A \cap B$ . Verify whether or not  $\mathcal{R}$  is a ring. (6 marks)
- Consider the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$  and let  $I$  be the even coset in  $\mathbb{Z}$  i.e.  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $r$  is an even integer. Show that  $I$  is an ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}$  (7 marks)
- Show that in any ring the zero element is unique (2 marks)
- Let  $R$  be a ring such that every element satisfies the equation  $x^2 = x$ , prove that  $R$  is commutative (4 marks)

### **QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

a) Let  $G$  be a group in which every element has order at most 2. Show that  $G$  is abelian (3 marks)

b) Show that in an abelian group  $G$ , the set of all elements with finite order in  $G$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . (5 marks)

c) Let  $G$  be the set of eight elements given by with multiplication given by,,, .

i. Construct a multiplication table for the group. (6 marks)

ii. Consider the cyclic group group . list all the distinct cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ . Is  $H$  a normal subgroup of  $G$ ? (6marks)