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# UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION, 2015/2016

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**B.Sc. IV, BASS IV, BED. IV**

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**Title of Paper** : Abstract Algebra II

**Course Number** : M423

**Time Allowed** : Three (3) Hours

## **Instructions**

1. This paper consists of TWO (2) Sections:

a. SECTION A (40 MARKS)

– Answer **ALL** questions in Section A.

b. SECTION B

– There are FIVE (5) questions in Section B.

– Each question in Section B is worth 20 Marks.

– Answer **ANY THREE (3)** questions in Section B.

– If you answer more than three (3) questions in Section B, **only the first three questions answered in Section B will be marked.**

2. Show all your working.

**Special Requirements: NONE**

THIS EXAMINATION PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE INVIGILATOR.

## SECTION A [40 Marks]: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS

- A1. (a) Prove that every field is a integral domain (6)
- (b) Which of the following are rings with the usual addition and multiplication
- (i)  $\{a + b\sqrt{2} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$
- (ii)  $M_2(\mathbb{R})$  with zero determinant (8)
- (c) Mark each of the following true or false
- (i) Every finite integral domain is a field
- (ii) Every division ring is commutative
- (iii)  $\mathbb{Z}_6$  is not an integral domain (6)
- A2. (a) Use Fermat's theorem to computer the remainder when  $8^{123}$  is divided by 13 (6)
- (b) For each of the following, find irred  $(\alpha, \mathbb{Q})$  and  $\deg(\alpha, \mathbb{Q})$ .
- (i)  $\sqrt{3} + i$
- (ii)  $\sqrt{\frac{1}{5} + \sqrt{7}}$  (6)
- (c) Show that if a polynomial  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  is reducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$  then its also reducible over  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ . (8)

## SECTION B: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS

### QUESTION B3 [20 Marks]

- (a) Show that for a field  $F$ , the set of all matrices of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$   $a_{ij} \in F$  is a right ideal but not a left ideal of  $M_2(F)$  (6)
- (b) Let  $\varphi_\alpha : \mathbb{Z}_7[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_7$ . Evaluate each of the following for the indicated evaluation homomorphism
- (i)  $\varphi_2(3x^{79} + 5x^{53} + 2x^{43})$
- (ii)  $\varphi_3[(x^3 + 2)(4x^2 + 3)(x^7 + 3x^2 + 1)]$  (10)
- (c) Show that if  $D$  is an integral domain, then  $D[x]$  is also an integral domain. (4)

### QUESTION B4 [20 Marks]

- (a) Suppose  $F$  is a field,  $f$  is an irreducible polynomial over  $F$  and  $g, h$  are polynomials over  $F$  such that  $f$  divides  $gh$  show that either  $f$  divides  $g$  or  $f$  divides  $h$ . (10)
- (b) Define an ideal  $N$  of a ring  $R$  (2)
- (c) Find all ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}_{10}$  and all maximal ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}_{18}$ . (5)

**QUESTION B5 [20 Marks]**

- (a) Find the greatest common divisor of the polynomials  $f(x) = x^4 + 4x^3 + 7x^2 + 6x + 2$  and  $g(x) = x^3 + 4x^2 + 7x + 4$ . over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and express it as a linear combination of  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$ . (8)
- (b) Prove that if  $R$  is a ring with unity and  $N$  is an ideal of  $R$  containing a unit, then  $N = R$ . (6)
- (c) Describe all units in each of the following rings
- (i)  $\mathbb{Z}_7$
- (ii)  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Z}_3$  (6)

**QUESTION B6 [20 Marks]**

- (a) State whether or not each of the given function  $v$ , is an Euclidean evaluation for the given integral domain
- (i)  $v(n) = n^2$  for a non-zero  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,
- (ii)  $v(a) = s_0$  for a non-zero values  $a \in \mathbb{Q}$  (8)
- (b) State Kronecker's theorem [Do Not Prove]
- (c) Given that every element  $\beta$  of  $\beta = F(\alpha)$  can be uniquely expressed in the form  $\beta = b_0 + b_1\alpha + \dots + b_{n-1}\alpha^{n-1}$  where each  $b_i \in F$ ,  $\alpha$  algebraic over the field  $F$  and  $(\alpha, F) \geq 1$ . Show that if  $F$  is finite with  $q$  elements, then  $F(\alpha)$  has  $q^n$  elements. (8)

**QUESTION B7 [20 Marks]**

(a) Classify each of the given  $\alpha \in$  as algebraic or transcendental over the given field  $F$ . If  $\alpha$  is algebraic over  $F$  find  $\deg(\alpha, F)$

(i)  $\alpha = 1 + i, F = \mathbb{Q}$

(ii)  $\alpha = \sqrt{\pi}, F = \mathbb{Q}[\pi]$

(iii)  $\alpha = \pi^2, F = \mathbb{Q}$

(iv)  $\alpha = \pi^2, F = \mathbb{Q}(\pi^3)$

(v)  $\alpha = \pi^2, F = \mathbb{Q}(\pi)$

(10)

(b) Show that the ring  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  is NOT a field

(5)

(c) Find a polynomial of degree  $> 0$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_4[x]$  that is a unit.

(5)

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END OF EXAMINATION PAPER