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UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION, 2016/2017

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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) (i) Define an ideal  $N$  of a ring  $R$ . (5)
- (ii) Find all ideals  $N$  of  $\mathbb{Z}_{12}$  and all maximal ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}_{18}$  (5)
- (b) (i) Prove that every finite integral domains is field.
- (ii) Show that for a field  $F$ , the set of all matrices of the form
- $$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ for } a, b \in F$$
- is a right ideal but not a left ideal of  $M_2(F)$ . (5)
- A2. (a) In a ring  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  show that
- (i) divisor  $c$  of zero are those elements that are NOT relatively prime to  $n$ . (5)
- (ii) elements that are relatively prime cant be zero divisors (5)
- (b) (i) Given an example of a ring  $R$  with unity  $1$  that has a subring  $\mathbb{R}^1$  with unity  $1^1$ , where  $1 \neq 1^1$  (5)
- (ii) Describe all units in a ring  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Z}$  (5)

## SECTION B: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS

### QUESTION B3 [20 Marks]

- (a) Let  $f$  be a polynomial over  $\mathbb{Z}$  which is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Show that  $f$  considered as a polynomial over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is also irreducible. (10)
- (b) Classify each of the given  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  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)  $\alpha = \pi^2$ ,  $F = \mathbb{Q}(\pi)$
- (v)  $\alpha = \pi$ ,  $F = \mathbb{Q}(\pi^3)$  (10)

### QUESTION B4 [20 Marks]

- (a) Prove that if  $D$  is an integral domain, then  $D[x]$  is also an integral domain. (10)
- (b) Decide the irreducibility or otherwise of
- (i)  $x^3 - 7x^2 + 3x + 3 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  (5)
- (ii)  $2x^{10} - 25x^3 + 10x^2 - 30 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  (5)

**QUESTION B5 [20 Marks]**

- (a) (i) Show that the ring  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  is NOT a field. (5)  
(ii) Find a polynomial of degree  $> 0$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_4[x]$  that is a unit. (5)
- (b) (i) Show that  $(a+b)(a-b) = a^2 - b^2$  for all  $a$  and  $b$  in a ring  $R$ , if and only if  $R$  is commutative. (5)  
(ii) Show that the rings  $2\mathbb{Z}$  and  $3\mathbb{Z}$  are NOT isomorphic. (5)

**QUESTION B6 [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  $h$ . [10]
- (b) Let  $\varphi_\alpha : \mathbb{Z}_7[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_7$ . Evaluate each of the following for the indicated evaluation homomorphism.
- (i)  $\varphi_5[(x^3 + 2)(4x^2 + 3)(x^7 + 3x^2 + 1)]$  (5)  
(ii)  $\varphi_4[3x^{106} + 5x^{99} + 2x^{53}]$  (5)

**QUESTION B7 [20 Marks]**

- (a) Determine whether each of the following polynomials in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  satisfies an Eisenstein criteria for irreducibility.
- (i)  $8x^3 + 6x^2 - 9x + 24$  (5)  
(ii)  $2x^{10} - 25x^3 + 10x^2 - 30$  (5)
- (b) Let  $\alpha$  be a zero of  $x^2 + 1$  in an extension field of  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ . Give the multiplication and addition tables for the nine elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_3(\alpha)$ . (10)

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END OF EXAMINATION PAPER

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