

1.(a) Proof: Recall that  $\text{char}(R)$  is the unique nonnegative integer  $n$  such that  $\text{Ker}(\phi_R) = n\mathbb{Z}$ , where  $\phi_R: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow R, n \mapsto n1_R$  is a ring homomorphism.

$$\text{Now } m1_R = 0_R \Rightarrow m \in \text{Ker}(\phi_R) \Rightarrow m \in n\mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow n|m$$

(b) Proof: Assume that  $\text{char}(R/I) = k$  and  $\text{char}(R) = n$ , want to show  $k|m$ .

It suffices to show  $m1_{R/I} = 0_{R/I}$ , i.e., to show  $m(1_R + I) = I$ .

Notice that  $m(1_R + I) = (m1_R) + I = 0_R + I = I$ , and we are done.

2.(a) Proof: For all  $r \in R$ :

$$r \in [\text{All zero divisors}] \cap [\text{All units}]$$

$\Rightarrow r$  is a zero divisor and  $r$  is a unit

$\Rightarrow r \neq 0_R$ , and for some  $r' \neq 0_R$ ,  $rr' = r'r = 0_R$

and for some  $r'' \in R$ ,  $rr'' = r''r = 1_R$

$\Rightarrow r' = 1_R r' = r'' r r' = r'' 0_R = 0_R \Rightarrow \text{contradiction.}$

Hence,  $[\text{All zero divisors}] \cap [\text{All units}] = \emptyset$

(b) Proof: Define  $G = R^\times = [\text{All units}]$  and  $X = R$ .

Take an arbitrary  $x \in X$ , and assume to the contrary that  $G_x$  contains a nontrivial element  $g \in G \setminus \{e\}$ , where  $e = 1_R$

$$g \in G_x \Rightarrow g * x = x \text{ in set } X$$

$$\Rightarrow gx = 1_R x \text{ in ring } R$$

$$\Rightarrow x(g - 1_R) = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  If  $x = 0_R$ , then the equation is satisfied.

If  $x \neq 0_R$  then  $x \neq 0_R, g - 1_R \neq 0_R, x(g - 1_R) = 0_R$  suggests that  $x$  is a zero-divisor.

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(c) (i). Solution:

$$R^G = [\text{All } G\text{-fixed points}] \subseteq [\text{All } r \in R \text{ with a nontrivial stabilizer subgroup } G_r] \subseteq \{0_R\} \cup [\text{All zero divisors}]$$

In  $\mathbb{Z}_{2p}$ ,  $r$  is a zero divisor iff  $\gcd(r, 2p) \neq 1$ , so:

$$\{0_R\} \cup [\text{All zero divisors}] = \{0, 2, 4, \dots, 2p-2\} \cup \{p\}$$

This implies  $R^G \subseteq \{0, 2, 4, \dots, 2p-2\} \cup \{p\}$  <sup>1<sup>st</sup> part</sup> <sup>2<sup>nd</sup> part</sup>

Case 1: Consider the first part  $\{0, 2, 4, \dots, 2p-2\}$ .

On one hand, every  $r \in R^X$  fixes 0, so  $0 \in R^G$ .

On the other hand, the set  $\{2, 4, \dots, 2p-2\}$  contains no solution of the equation  $(2p-1)*x = x$ , where  $2p-1 \in R^X$ , so  $\{2, 4, \dots, 2p-2\}$  contains no element in  $R^G$ .

Case 2: Consider the second part  $\{p\}$ .

For all unit  $r \in R^X$ , our argument in Case 1 suggests that  $r \notin \{0, 2, 4, \dots, 2p-2\}$ , so  $r = [\text{Some even integer}] + 1_R$ .

This implies the identity:

$$\begin{aligned} r * p &= ([\text{Some even integer}] + 1_R) * p \\ &= ([\text{Some even integer}] + 1)p \\ &= [\text{Some even integer}]p + 1p = 0 + p = p. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $p \in R^G$ .

To conclude,  $R^G = \{0, p\}$ .

(ii) Solution:  $\#(\text{Element } x \in R \text{ with } G_x < G)$

$$= |R| - \#(\text{Element } x \in R \text{ with } G_x = G) = 2p - 2$$

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3.(a): Proof: It suffices to prove that every ideal of  $R$  is  $\{0\}$  or  $R$ , both of which are principal ( $\{0\} = 0_R R = R 0_R$ ,  $R = 1_R R = R 1_R$ ).

For all nonzero ideal  $I$  of  $R$ , take a nonzero element  $r$  from  $I$ . As  $R$  is a field, there exists  $r' \in R$ , such that  $rr' = r'r = 1_R$ . This implies  $1_R = \sum_{r \in I} r' r \in I$ , which gives  $I = R$ .

(b) Proof:  $R$  is an integral domain  $\Leftrightarrow [\forall a, b \in R, ab = 0 \Rightarrow a = 0 \text{ or } b = 0]$

$$\Leftrightarrow [\forall a, b \in R, \{0\} \ni ab \Rightarrow \{0\} \ni a \text{ or } \{0\} \ni b]$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \{0\} \text{ is prime in } R$$

(c) Proof:  $R$  is a field  $\Leftrightarrow [\forall a \in R \setminus \{0\}, \exists b \in R, ab = ba = 1]$

$$\Leftrightarrow [\forall a \in R \setminus \{0\}, \{0\} + \langle a \rangle = \langle a \rangle + \{0\} \ni 1]$$

$$\Leftrightarrow [\forall a \in R \setminus \{0\}, \{0\} + \langle a \rangle = \langle a \rangle + \{0\} = R]$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \{0\} \text{ is maximal in } R.$$

4. (a) Proof: We may divide our proof into two parts.

Part 1: In this part, we prove that  $\langle 2 \rangle \subsetneq \langle 2, t \rangle$ .

Every  $2r(t) \in \langle 2 \rangle$  can be written as  $2r(t) + t \cdot 0 \in \langle 2, t \rangle$ , so  $\langle 2 \rangle \subseteq \langle 2, t \rangle$ .

Note that  $t$  has at least one odd coefficient, so  $t \notin \langle 2 \rangle$ ,  $\langle 2 \rangle \subsetneq \langle 2, t \rangle$ .

Part 2: In this part, we prove that  $\langle t \rangle \subsetneq \langle 2, t \rangle$ .

Every  $t r(t) \in \langle t \rangle$  can be written as  $2 \cdot 0 + t r(t) \in \langle 2, t \rangle$ , so  $\langle t \rangle \subseteq \langle 2, t \rangle$ .

Note that  $2$  has order  $0 \notin \{-\infty\} \cup \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ , so  $2 \notin \langle t \rangle$ ,  $\langle t \rangle \subsetneq \langle 2, t \rangle$ .

(b) Proof: For all principal ideal  $\langle r(t) \rangle$ , we wish to show that  $\langle 2, t \rangle \subseteq \langle r(t) \rangle \Rightarrow r(t) = \pm 1$ .

On one hand,  $\langle t \rangle \subseteq \langle r(t) \rangle \Rightarrow$  every polynomial with  $\deg \geq 1$  is in  $\langle r(t) \rangle$ ,

so  $\deg r(t) \neq -\infty$  and  $\deg r(t) \leq 1$ .

On the other hand, if  $\deg r(t) = 1$ , then  $2 \notin \langle r(t) \rangle$ , which is a contradiction.

If  $\deg r(t) = 0$  and  $r(t) \neq \pm 1$ , then  $t \notin \langle r(t) \rangle$ , another contradiction. Hence,  $r(t) = \pm 1$  and we are done.





(c) Proof: We may divide our proof into two parts.

Part 1: In this part, we prove that  $\mathbb{Z}[t]/\langle 2, t \rangle$  is a field.

Note that  $r(t) \in \langle 2, t \rangle \Leftrightarrow \exists p(t), q(t) \in \mathbb{Z}[t], r(t) = 2p(t) + tq(t)$

$\Leftrightarrow$  The constant term of  $r(t)$  is even,

so  $\mathbb{Z}[t]/\langle 2, t \rangle = \{ [\text{All } r(t) \text{ with even constant term}] ,$

$[\text{All } r(t) \text{ with odd constant term}] \} \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 = \{0, 1\}$  is a field.

Part 2: In this part, we prove that  $\mathbb{Z}[t]/\langle 2 \rangle$  is not a field.

Recall that (i)  $I$  is maximal in  $R$  iff  $R/I$  is a field.

(ii)  $I$  is prime in  $R$  iff  $R/I$  is an integral domain.

Note that  $\langle 2 \rangle + \langle t \rangle = \langle 2, t \rangle \subsetneq \mathbb{Z}[t]$  for some  $t \notin \langle 2 \rangle$ ,

so  $\langle 2 \rangle$  is not maximal in  $\mathbb{Z}[t]$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}[t]/\langle 2 \rangle$  is not a field.

(d) Proof: The following argument shows that  $\forall a(t), b(t) \in \mathbb{Z}[t], a(t)b(t) \in \langle 2 \rangle \Rightarrow a(t) \in \langle 2 \rangle$  or  $b(t) \in \langle 2 \rangle$

$a(t) \notin \langle 2 \rangle$  and  $b(t) \notin \langle 2 \rangle$

$\Rightarrow$  Some coefficient  $a_i$  of  $a(t)$  is odd, now take  $a_i$  with largest index  $i$

and some coefficient  $b_j$  of  $b(t)$  is odd, now take  $b_j$  with largest index  $j$

$$\Rightarrow a(t)b(t) = \sum_{(p,q) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}} a_p b_q t^{p+q} = \dots + \underbrace{(a_0 b_{i+j} + a_1 b_{i+j-1} + \dots + a_{i-1} b_{j+1} + a_i b_j + a_{i+1} b_{j-1} + \dots)}_{\text{even} \quad \text{even} \quad \text{even} \quad \text{odd} \quad \text{even}} t^{i+j} + \dots$$

The coefficient  $a_0 b_{i+j} + a_1 b_{i+j-1} + \dots + a_{i-1} b_{j+1} + a_i b_j + a_{i+1} b_{j-1} + \dots$  IS ODD

$\Rightarrow a(t)b(t) \notin \langle 2 \rangle$ , so  $\langle 2 \rangle$  is prime in  $\mathbb{Z}[t]$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}[t]/\langle 2 \rangle$  is an integral domain.

(e) Proof: We've constructed an ideal  $\langle 2 \rangle$  of  $\mathbb{Z}[t]$ ,

such that  $\langle 2 \rangle$  is nonzero, prime and not maximal.

