

## Problem Set 1

**Instructions:** You are encouraged to work together on these problems, but each student should hand in their own final draft, written in a way that indicates their individual understanding of the solutions. Never submit something for grading that you do not completely understand. You cannot use any resources besides me, your classmates, our course notes, and the textbook.

I will post the .tex code for these problems for you to use if you wish to type your homework. If you prefer not to type, please *write neatly*. As a matter of good proof writing style, please use complete sentences and correct grammar. You may use any result stated or proven in class or in a homework problem, provided you reference it appropriately by either stating the result or stating its name (e.g. the definition of ring or Lagrange's Theorem). Do not refer to theorems by their number in the course notes or textbook.

**Problem 1.** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and  $I$  be an ideal in  $R$ . Show that the set

$$N = \{m \in M \mid am = 0 \text{ for all } a \in I\}$$

is an  $R$ -submodule of  $M$ .

**Problem 2.** Show that the left  $R$ -module  $M$  is cyclic if and only if there exists a left ideal  $I$  of  $R$  such that  $M \cong R/I$ .

**Problem 3.** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with  $1 \neq 0$ . An  $R$ -module  $M$  is **simple** if it has no nontrivial submodules. Show that  $M$  is a simple if and only if there exists a maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$  of  $R$  such that  $M \cong R/\mathfrak{m}$ .

Note: recall that a proper ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$  is **maximal** if it is maximal with respect to inclusion, meaning that for any ideal  $I$ ,  $\mathfrak{m} \subseteq I$  implies  $\mathfrak{m} = I$  or  $\mathfrak{m} = R$ .

**Problem 4.** Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module,  $I$  an ideal in  $R$ , and let

$$N = \{m \in M \mid am = 0 \text{ for all } a \in I\},$$

which is an  $R$ -submodule of  $M$  by Problem 1. Show that

$$\mathrm{Hom}_R(R/I, M) \cong N.$$