

**Chapter 13 Problems:** 3, 6, (7), (8), 9, 12, (17), 19, 21, (22), 23, 40, 46, 48, 54

7. Show that the three properties listed in Exercise 6 are valid for  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ , where  $p$  is prime.

To reiterate, those properties are:

- a.  $a^2 = a$  implies  $a = 0$  or  $a = 1$ .
- b.  $ab = 0$  implies  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ .
- c.  $ab = ac$  and  $a \neq 0$  imply  $b = c$ .

*Proof.*

(a.) B.W.O.C. Assume  $a^2 \mod p = a$  and  $a \neq 0$  and  $a \neq 1$   
 $\implies a^2 = (p+1)a$   
 $\implies ap + a \mod p = 0 + a = a$   
 however  $p+1 \notin \mathbb{Z}_p$

$\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$

$\therefore a = 0$  or  $a = 1$

(b.) B.W.O.C. Assume  $a \neq 0$  and  $b \neq 0$   
 $\implies a \cdot b = k \cdot p$ , for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$   
 $\implies a$  or  $b = p \notin \mathbb{Z}_p$

$\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$

$\therefore a = 0$  or  $b = 0$

(c.)  $ab = ac$ ,  $a \neq 0 \implies b = c$   
 $\implies ab = ac$   
 $\implies ab - ac = 0$   
 $\implies a(b - c) = 0$   
 and we know that  $a \neq 0$   
 $\implies b - c = 0$   
 $\therefore b = c$

Q.E.D.

8. Show that a ring is commutative if it has the property that  $ab = ca$  implies  $b = c$  when  $a \neq 0$ .  
 This is actually a chain of implications of the form:

$$ab = ca, a \neq 0 \implies b = c \implies R \text{ is commutative}$$

What we need to show is that for any arbitrary element  $x \in R$ ,  $ax = xa$ .

*Proof.*

We know that  $ab = ca, a \neq 0 \implies b = c$ .

Using  $b = c$ ,

$\implies ab = ac$  however, by our assumption,  $ab = ca$ , this implies that,

$$ab = ca = ac$$

$\therefore ca = ac$ , which shows  $R$  is commutative.

Q.E.D.

17. Show that a ring that is cyclic under addition is commutative.

*Proof.*

Let  $R = \langle a \rangle$ ,  $|R| = n$ ,  $n_1, n_2 < n$ , and  $n_1 < n_2$  for  $n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$

which means  $R = \{i \cdot a \in R \mid i \in [n]\}$ ,

$(n_1 \cdot a) + (n_2 \cdot a)$

$\implies (a + \cdots + a) + (a + \cdots + a)$

which by associativity implies,

$\implies (n_1 - (n_1 - n_2)) \cdot a + (n_2 - (n_2 - n_1)) \cdot a$

Q.E.D.

22. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with unity and let  $U(R)$  denote the set of units of  $R$ . Prove that  $U(R)$  is a group under the multiplication of  $R$ . (This group is called the *group of units of  $R$* .) Let  $a, b \in U(R)$ ,

$a^{-1}, b^{-1} \in U(R)$ , by definition *unit*,

Show  $a \cdot b^{-1} \in U(R)$ ,

*Proof.*

We know that  $a, a^{-1}, b, b^{-1} \in U(R)$ .

This implies that  $a \cdot b^{-1} \cdot b \cdot a^{-1} \in R$ ,

$\implies a \cdot 1 \cdot a^{-1}$ ,

$\implies a \cdot a^{-1} = 1$ ,

$\implies a \cdot b^{-1} \in U(R)$ ,

$\therefore U(R) \leq R$

Q.E.D.