

NUMBER THEORY AND ALGEBRAIC STRUCTURES  
(MATH 2201)

Time Allotted : 3 hrs

Full Marks : 70

*Figures out of the right margin indicate full marks.*

*Candidates are required to answer Group A and  
any 5 (five) from Group B to E, taking at least one from each group.*

*Candidates are required to give answer in their own words as far as  
practicable.*

Group - A  
(Multiple Choice Type Questions)

1. Choose the correct alternatives for the following: 10 × 1=10

- (i) The notation \* defined by  $a*b = \frac{a+b}{5}$  is a binary relation on the  
(a) set of all integers (b) set of positive integers  
(c) set of negative integers (d) set of rationals.
- (ii) In  $\mathbb{Z}_7$ ,  
(a)  $\overline{7} = \overline{15}$  (b)  $\overline{7} = \overline{48}$  (c)  $\overline{7} = \overline{70}$  (d)  $\overline{7} = \overline{1}$
- (iii) In the additive group  $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$ ,  $2^{-3}$  is  
(a)  $1/8$  (b)  $-8$  (c)  $-6$  (d)  $8$
- (iv) A group  $G$  is a simple group if the order of  $G$  is  
(a) 6 (b) 8 (c) 10 (d) 13.
- (v) If the cyclic group  $G$  contains 11 distinct elements then the number of its generators are  
(a) 2 (b) 7 (c) 9 (d) 10.
- (vi) If  $a$  is prime to  $b$  and  $a$  is prime to  $c$ , then  $a$  is prime to  
(a)  $b^2 + c^2$  (b)  $b^3 + c^3$  (c)  $ab$  (d)  $a^2 - b^2$
- (vii) A connected planar graph with the same number of vertices and edges determines  
(a) 1 region (b) 2 regions  
(c) 3 regions (d) 4 regions.

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- (viii) In the field  $\mathbb{Z}_7 = \{\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}, \bar{4}, \bar{5}, \bar{6}\}$ , the multiplicative inverse of  $\bar{6}$  is  
(a)  $\bar{2}$  (b)  $\bar{3}$  (c)  $\bar{5}$  (d) none of the others.
- (ix) A divisor of zero in  $\mathbb{Z}_8$ , the ring of integers modulo 8, is  
(a) [7] (b) [3] (c) [5] (d) [4].
- (x) The number of subrings of  $2\mathbb{Z} = \{0, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 6, \dots\}$  is  
(a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 4 (d) infinite.

**Group - B**

2. (a) If  $p$  is a prime and is not a divisor of  $a$ , then prove that  $a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$   
(b) Find the greatest common divisor of 624 and 441 by using the Euclidean algorithm and express it as  $624x + 441y$ , where  $x$  and  $y$  are integers.
3. (a) State the Chinese Remainder Theorem. Use it to solve the following set of simultaneous congruences :  $x \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, x \equiv 2 \pmod{5}, x \equiv 3 \pmod{3}$ .  
(b) Prove that there is an infinite number of prime numbers.

$$6 + 6 = 12$$

$$7 + 5 = 12$$

**Group - C**

4. (a) (i) Determine whether  $*$  defined as  $a * b = ab + 3$  is a binary operation.  
(ii) Determine whether  $(\mathbb{R}^+, *)$ ,  $*$  given by  $a * b = \sqrt{ab}$  is a group.  
(b) Let  $G$  be a group and  $a, b \in G$ . Show that  $(aba^{-1})^n = aba^{-1}$  iff  $b = b^n$ .
5. (a) Show that all the roots of  $x^4 = 1$  forms a commutative group under the operation multiplication.  
(b) Prove that the order of a permutation on a finite set is the lcm of length of its disjoint cycles.

$$(3 + 3) + 6 = 12$$

$$6 + 6 = 12$$



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**Group - D**

6. (a) Prove that *intersection* of any two subgroups of a group  $(G, *)$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . Is a similar result true for *union*? Justify.
- (b) Show that every proper subgroup of a group of order 6 is cyclic.  
 $4 + 2 + 6 = 12$
7. (a) Let  $H$  and  $K$  be subgroups of a finite group  $G$ . Then prove that  
 $|HK| = \frac{|H||K|}{|H \cap K|}$ .
- (b) Show that the 8-th roots of unity form a cyclic group. Find all generators of this group.  
 $6 + 6 = 12$

**Group - E**

8. (a) Prove that every field is an integral domain.
- (b) If in a ring  $K$  with unity,  $(xy)^2 = x^2y^2$  for all  $x, y \in K$ , then prove that  $K$  is commutative.  
 $4 + 8 = 12$
9. (a) Prove that, for any positive  $n$ , the ring  $Z_n$  of all integers modulo  $n$ , is an integral domain if and only if  $n$  is a prime integer.
- (b) If  $a, b$  be two elements of a field  $F$  where  $b \neq 0$  and  $(ab)^2 = ab^2 + bab - b^2$ , then prove that  $a=1$ .  
 $6 + 6 = 12$