

① For a ring R , write $GL_3(R)$ for the group of 3×3 matrices with entries in R and determinant in the units R^\times .

(a) Give, with reasoning, a matrix in $GL_3(\mathbb{Z})$ with first row $(6 \ 10 \ 15)$.

Pf: Note that $GL_3(\mathbb{Z}) = \{A \in M_3(\mathbb{Z}) : \det(A) = \pm 1\}$.

Consider M being the matrix in $GL_3(\mathbb{Z})$ w/ first row $(6 \ 10 \ 15)$.

Then $\det(M) = 6A - 10B + 15C = \pm 1$, where A, B, C are 2×2 determinants of 2×2 matrices.

Then $A=1, B=-1, C=-1$ gives $6(1) - 10(-1) + 15(-1) = 6 + 10 - 15 = 1 \checkmark$

Let $M = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 10 & 15 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Then $\det(M) = 6(1) - 10(-1) + 15(-1) = 1$

So the matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 6 & 10 & 15 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in GL_3(\mathbb{Z})$ as desired. \square

(b) Let $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ be the polynomial ring with coefficients in \mathbb{Z} . Show that no matrix in $GL_3(\mathbb{Z}[x])$ has first row $(6 \ 2x \ 3x)$.

Pf: Recall that $GL_3(\mathbb{Z}[x]) = \{A \in M_3(\mathbb{Z}[x]) : \det(A) = \pm 1\}$.

Consider $M \in GL_3(\mathbb{Z}[x])$ w/ first row $(6 \ 2x \ 3x)$.

Then $\det(M) = 6 \cdot A(x) - 2x \cdot B(x) + 3x \cdot C(x) = \pm 1$

($A(x), B(x), C(x)$ are the determinants of 2×2 matrices (minors).)

Evaluate at $x=0$: $6 \cdot A(0) - 2 \cdot 0 \cdot B(0) + 3 \cdot 0 \cdot C(0) = \pm 1$

$$\Rightarrow 6 \cdot A(0) = \pm 1$$

$$\Rightarrow A(0) = \frac{\pm 1}{6} \in \mathbb{Q} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{this means that the det. of} \\ \text{the matrix of } A(x) \text{ evaluated at} \\ x=0 \text{ is } \pm 1/6, \text{ which is not an integer.} \end{array} \right\}$$

Therefore, there does not exist such a matrix in $GL_3(\mathbb{Z}[x])$. \square

② (a) For prime p , define a p -Sylow subgroup of a finite group G .

Pf: Let G be a finite group s.t. $|G| = p^k m$, p prime, $p \nmid m$.

A subgroup of order p^k is called a p -Sylow subgroup.

(in other words, a p -Sylow subgp. is a subgp. of G w/ order the highest power of p that divides $|G|$). \square

(b) Prove that if a p -group H acts on a finite set X , then

$\#X \equiv \#\text{Fix}_H(X) \pmod{p}$, where $\text{Fix}_H(X)$ is the set of points in X fixed by all of H .

Pf: Let the different orbits in X be represented by x_1, \dots, x_n , so we can write $|X| = \sum_{i=1}^n |\text{Orb}_{x_i}|$. By the orbit-stabilizer thm, we have that

$|\text{Orb}_{x_i}| = [H : \text{Stab}_{x_i}]$. We also have that $|H|$ is a power of p , so

$|\text{Orb}_{x_i}| \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$, unless $H = \text{Stab}_{x_i} \Rightarrow [H : \text{Stab}_{x_i}] = 1 = |\text{Orb}_{x_i}|$, i.e., the orbit of x_i has length 1, which means that x_i is a fixed pt.

If we reduce $|X| = \sum_{i=1}^n |\text{Orb}_{x_i}| \pmod{p}$, we get that all terms on the RHS vanish except for a contribution of 1 for each fixed point.

So we have $|X| \equiv |\text{Fix}_H(X)| \pmod{p}$. \square

(c) For each prime p , prove that if P and Q are p -Sylow subgroups of a finite group G , then P and Q are conjugate in G . (That is, prove the second part of the Sylow theorems.) You may use part (b).

Pf: $P, Q \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$, let $|G| = p^k m$, $p \nmid m$, and $|P| = |Q| = p^k$.

Let Q act on G/P by left multiplication.

By fixed-point congruence,

$$|G/P| \equiv |\text{Fix}_Q(G/P)| \pmod{p} \quad \Rightarrow |\text{Fix}_Q(G/P)| \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

$$|G|/|P| = p^k m/p^k = m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad \Rightarrow \text{Fix}_Q(G/P) \neq \emptyset$$

Let $gP \in G/P$ be the fixed point in $\text{Fix}_Q(G/P)$.

Then $gqP = gP$ for all $q \in Q \Rightarrow g^{-1}qgP = P \Rightarrow g^{-1}qg \in P \Rightarrow qg = gP$

Equivalently, $qg \in gP$ for all $q \in Q$, so $Q \subset gPg^{-1}$. Therefore, $Q = gPg^{-1}$, since Q and gPg^{-1} have the same size, we are done. \square

③ Let F be a field.

(a) Prove that if $f(x) \neq 0$ in $F[x]$, then it has at most $\deg f$ different roots in F .

Pf: If $f(x) \neq 0$ had more than $n = \deg f$ roots, then by the division algorithm we can write $f(x) = (x-a_1)(x-a_2)\cdots(x-a_m)$ where $m > n$.

But then the RHS is a polynomial of degree m and the LHS is a polynomial of degree n . \downarrow

Therefore, $f(x)$ must have at most $n = \deg f$ different roots in F . \square

(b) If $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in F[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ where F is infinite and $f(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 0$ for all $a_1, \dots, a_n \in F$, then prove $f=0$ in $F[x_1, \dots, x_n]$. You may use part (a).

Pf: We will use induction. The case $n=1$ is part (a).

Now suppose the claim holds for all j s.t. $1 \leq j \leq n$.

Let $f(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}) \in F[x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}]$ and $f(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n+1}) = 0$ for all $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1} \in F$.

We may assume f contains all $n+1$ indeterminants x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n+1} or else we could invoke the induction by hypothesis.

Write f as a polynomial in $(F[x_1, \dots, x_n])[x_{n+1}]$.

That is, $f(x_1, \dots, x_n, x_{n+1}) = g_k(x_1, \dots, x_n)x_{n+1}^k + \dots + g_1(x_1, \dots, x_n)x_{n+1}^1 + g_0(x_1, \dots, x_n)$.

If for any tuple $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in F^n$ we have $f(a_1, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1}) = 0$, then

$g_j(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 0$ for all $0 \leq j \leq k$.

Since $g_j \in F[x_1, \dots, x_n]$, we conclude by induction that $g_j \equiv 0$ for all $0 \leq j \leq k$.

Hence, $f \equiv 0$ which would prove the claim for the $n+1$ case.

We claim that this must be the case.

If $\exists (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in F^n$ s.t. $f(a_1, \dots, a_n, x_{n+1}) \neq 0$, then define

$g(x) = f(a_1, \dots, a_n, x_{n+1})$. Note that $g(x) \in F[x_{n+1}]$, a poly. in one variable and since $f(a_1, \dots, a_n, a) = 0$ for any $a \in F$ by hypothesis, we see that $g(a) = 0$ for all $a \in F$.

Since f is infinite, this would imply that $g(x)$ has infinitely many roots. By part (a), $g \equiv 0$.

But this means $g_j(x_1, \dots, x_n) \equiv 0$ for each $0 \leq j \leq k$. \downarrow

Since $f(a_1, \dots, a_n, x_{n+1}) \neq 0$.

Therefore, we verified the claim for the $n+1$ case. Now apply induction to show it's true for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. \square

④ Let R be a commutative ring with identity.

(a) Define what it means for R to be a principal ideal domain.

Pf: R is a PID if every ideal in R is principal.

\square

(b) Prove that if R is a principal ideal domain, then every nonzero prime ideal in R is a maximal ideal.

Pf: Since R is a PID, it is also a UFD, so in R $\{\text{primes}\} = \{\text{irred.}\}$.

We want to show that if (a) is a nonzero prime ideal, then for an ideal I , $(a) \subset I \subset R$, either $I = (a)$ or $I = R$.

Let $(a) \subset I \subset R$ be a nonzero prime ideal. Then a is irredu. in R , so $a = uv$ where u or v is a unit in R .

Suppose $\exists (b) \in R$ s.t. $(a) \subset (b) \subset R$.

Then $b|a \Rightarrow b|uv$, so b is either a unit or an associate of a .

If b is a unit, then $(b) = R$.

If b is an associate of a , then $(b) = (a)$.

Therefore, we conclude that (a) is a maximal ideal. \square

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If b is a unit, then $(b) = R$.

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Therefore, we conclude that (a) is a maximal ideal. \square

⑥ Give examples as requested, with justification.

(a) A noncyclic group that is not isomorphic to a semidirect product of nontrivial groups.

Pf: Consider A_5 . The gp. A_5 is noncyclic and it does not have any normal subgroups. Therefore, it cannot be isom. to a semidirect product of nontrivial groups (b/c this requires a normal subgp.). \square

(b) A prime p such that the ideal $(p, x^2 - 3)$ in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ is maximal.

Pf: The maximal ideals in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ are of the form $(p, f(x))$ where p prime and $f(x)$ is monic, irred. mod p .

Consider the prime $p=5$. Then $0^2 - 3 \equiv -3 \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$

$1^2 - 3 \equiv -2 \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$

Therefore, $x^2 - 3$ is irred. mod 5. $2^2 - 3 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$

$3^2 - 3 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$

$4^2 - 3 \equiv 3 \pmod{5}$

Thus, $p=5$ is a prime s.t. $(5, x^2 - 3)$ in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ is maximal. \square

(c) A UFD that is not a Euclidean domain.