

1. (a) Find the greatest common divisor  $(105, 133)$  of 105 and 133.

**Answer:** We can use the Euclidean algorithm to find  $(105, 133)$  as follows:

$$133 = 105 \cdot 1 + 28 \quad 0 \leq 28 < 105$$

$$105 = 28 \cdot 3 + 21 \quad 0 \leq 21 < 28$$

$$28 = 21 \cdot 1 + 7 \quad 0 \leq 7 < 21$$

$$21 = 7 \cdot 3 + 0$$

Therefore  $(105, 133) = 7$  by the Euclidean algorithm.

- (b) Find a pair of integers  $u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$  for which  $(105, 133) = 105u + 133v$ .

**Answer:** Using part (a), we can use backward substitution as follows:

$$7 = 28 - 1(105 - 3 \cdot 28) = 4 \cdot 28 - 105$$

$$7 = 4 \cdot (133 - 1 \cdot 105) - 105 = 4 \cdot 133 - 5 \cdot 105$$

Therefore  $u = -5$  and  $v = 4$ .

2. Compute the following remainders:

- (a) The remainder when  $25^{125}$  is divided by 13 in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Answer:** Since  $25 \equiv -1 \pmod{13}$ , we have

$$25^{125} \equiv (-1)^{125} \equiv -1 \equiv 12 \pmod{13}$$

by repeatedly applying Theorem 2.2. Therefore the remainder when  $25^{125}$  is divided by 13 is 12.

- (b) The remainder when  $642^{7531}$  is divided by 5 in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Answer:** By Fermat's Little Theorem (Homework 2 Q4), since  $5 \nmid 642$ , we have  $642^{5-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ . Then

$$642^{7531} \equiv 642^{4^{1882} \cdot 4^3} \equiv 4^3 \equiv 64 \pmod{5}.$$

Therefore the remainder when  $642^{7531}$  is divided by 5 is 64.

- (c) The remainder when  $f(x) = x^{100} - 2x^{50} + 3x^{15} - 4x^2 + 5$  is divided by  $g(x) = x^2 - x + 1$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

**Answer:** Since  $x^3 \equiv -1 \pmod{x^2 - x + 1}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= x^{100} - 2x^{50} + 3x^{15} - 4x^2 + 5 \\ &= x \cdot x^{33} - 2x^2 \cdot x^{316} + 3x \cdot x^{35} - 4x^2 + 5 \\ &\equiv x \cdot (-1)^{33} - 2x^2 \cdot (-1)^{16} + 3x \cdot (-1)^5 - 4x^2 + 5 \\ &\equiv -x - 2x^2 - 3x - 4x^2 + 5 \\ &= -6x^2 - 4x + 5 \\ &\equiv -10x + 11 \pmod{x^2 - x + 1}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the remainder when  $f(x) = x^{100} - 2x^{50} + 3x^{15} - 4x^2 + 5$  is divided by  $g(x) = x^2 - x + 1$

is  $-11x + 11$ .

3. Let  $R = \{0_R, a, b, c\}$  be a ring with 4 elements and additive identity  $0_R$ . The addition and multiplication tables for  $R$  are given below, with some entries missing. Fill in the missing entries. All of the entries in the tables should be one of the symbols ' $0_R$ ', ' $a$ ', ' $b$ ' or ' $c$ '. Do not give unsimplified answers like ' $b + c$ '.

**Answer:**

$+$	$0_R$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$\cdot$	$0_R$	$a$	$b$	$c$
$0_R$	$0_R$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$0_R$	$0_R$	$0_R$	$0_R$	$0_R$
$a$	$a$	$0_R$	$c$	$b$	$a$	$0_R$	$0_R$	$a$	$a$
$b$	$b$	$c$	$0_R$	$a$	$b$	$0_R$	$0_R$	$b$	$b$
$c$	$c$	$b$	$a$	$0_R$	$c$	$0_R$	$0_R$	$c$	$c$

4. In each part, determine whether or not the first ring is isomorphic to the second. Prove that your answer is correct:

- (a)  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \times (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  and  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})[x]/(x^2)$ .

**Answer:** Let  $f : (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \times (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})[x]/(x^2)$  be defined as  $f((a, b)) = [ax + b]$ . Note that we can also have  $f^{-1}([ax + b]) = (a, b)$ , so  $f$  is bijective. Now we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 f((a, b) + (c, d)) &= f((a + c, b + d)) \\
 &= [(a + c)x + (b + d)] \\
 &= [ax + b] + [cx + d] \\
 &= f((a, b)) + f((c, d))
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 f((a, b)(c, d)) &= f((ac, bd)) \\
 &= [(ac)x + (bd)] \\
 &\neq [ax + b][cx + d] \\
 &= f((a, b))f((c, d))
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \times (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  is not isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})[x]/(x^2)$ .

- (b)  $\mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 + 1)$  and  $\mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 + 4)$ .

**Answer:** Let  $f : \mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 + 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 + 4)$  be defined as  $f([ax + b]) = [ax + b] \in \mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 + 4)$ . Note that we can also have  $f^{-1}([ax + b]) = [ax + b] \in \mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 + 1)$ , so  $f$  is bijective. Now we

have

$$\begin{aligned}
 f([ax + b] + [cx + d]) &= f([(a + c)x + (b + d)]) \\
 &= [(a + c)x + (b + d)] \\
 &= [ax + b] + [cx + d] \\
 &= f([ax + b]) + ([cx + d])
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 f([ax + b][cx + d]) &= f([(ad + bc)x + bd]) \\
 &= [(ad + bc)x + bd] \\
 &= [ax + b][cx + d] \\
 &= f([ax + b])([cx + d])
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 + 1)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 + 4)$ .

5. Which of the following polynomials are irreducible in the given polynomial rings? Prove that your answer is correct.

(a)  $f(x) = x^{10} + \pi x^8 + 3x^3 + 2x^2 + \sqrt{110}$  in  $\mathbb{R}[x]$ .

**Answer:**  $f(x)$  is not irreducible in  $\mathbb{R}[x]$  by Theorem 4.30.

(b)  $f(x) = x^5 + x^4 + 1$  in  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})[x]$ .

**Answer:** Neither 0 nor 1 is a root of  $f(x)$ , so  $f(x)$  can only factor into the product of a quadratic polynomial and a cubic polynomial. Therefore one of  $x^2, x^2 + 1, x^2 + x, x^2 + x + 1$  must be a factor.

$g(x)$	is factor?	$f(x)/g(x)$
$x^2$	no	-
$x^2 + 1$	no	-
$x^2 + x$	no	-
$x^2 + x + 1$	yes	$x^3 + x + 1$

Therefore  $x^5 + x^4 + 1 = (x^2 + x + 1)(x^3 + x + 1)$  so  $f(x)$  is not irreducible.

(c)  $f(x) = x^4 + 3x^3 + 5x + 1$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

**Answer:**  $f(x)$  is irreducible; by contradiction: suppose  $f(x)$  is reducible, then it can be factored as the product of two nonconstant polynomials in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ . If either of those factors has degree 1, then  $f(x)$  has a root in  $\mathbb{Q}$ . But the Rational Root Test shows that  $f(x)$  has no roots in  $\mathbb{Q}$  (the only possibilities are  $\pm 1$  and neither is a root). Thus if  $f(x)$  is reducible, the only possible factorization is as a product of two quadratics, by Theorem 4.2. In this case Theorem 4.23 shows that there is such a factorization in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ . Furthermore, there is a factorization as a product of monic quadratics in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ , i.e.

$$(x^2 + ax + b)(x^2 + cx + d) = x^4 + 3x^3 + 5x + 1,$$

with  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Multiplying out the left-hand side, we have

$$x^4 + (a+c)x^3 + (ac+b+d)x^2 + (ad+bc)x + bd = x^4 + 3x^3 + 0x^2 + 5x + 1.$$

Equal polynomials have equal coefficients; hence,

$$a+c=3, ac+b+d=0, ad+bc=5, bd=1.$$

Since  $bd=1 \in \mathbb{Z}$  implies that  $b=d=1$  or  $b=d=-1$ , using the third equation we have two possibilities:  $ad+bc=5 \implies a+c=\pm 5$ . But this contradicts with the first equation, so a factorization of  $f(x)$  as a product of quadratics in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ , and, hence in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ , is impossible. Therefore,  $f(x)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

6. Give an example of a field of order 125 (that is, a finite field containing *exactly* 125 elements). Note that  $125 = 5^3$ .

**Answer:**  $(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}[x])/(x^3 + x^2 + 1)$  contains exactly 125 elements. Take  $x^3 + x^2 + 1$  in  $\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}[x]$ , it is irreducible since the only possible roots are  $\pm 1$  and neither is a root. So the possible remainders on division by  $x^3 + x^2 + 1$  in  $\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}[x]$  are the polynomials of the form  $a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2$ , with  $a_k \in \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$ . There are 5 possibilities for each of the 3 coefficients, so there are  $5^3$  different polynomials of this form. Consequently, by Corollary 5.5, there are exactly  $5^3 = 125$  distinct congruence classes in  $(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}[x])/(x^3 + x^2 + 1)$ .

7. Let  $I = \left\{ a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_nx^n \in \mathbb{Z}[x] \mid 5|a_0, 5|a_1 \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}[x]$  be the set of all polynomials with integer coefficients with constant *and* linear terms divisible by 5.

- (a) Prove that  $I$  is an ideal in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

**Answer:** Take  $p(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_nx^n \in I$  and  $q(x) = b_0 + b_1x + \cdots + b_nx^n \in I$  where  $5|a_0, 5|a_1, 5|b_0, 5|b_1$ . Then by definition of divisibility there must exist  $m_0, m_1$  and  $n_0, n_1$  such that  $a_0 = 5m_0, a_1 = 5m_1, b_0 = 5n_0, b_1 = 5n_1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) - q(x) &= a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_nx^n - b_0 - b_1x - \cdots - b_nx^n \\ &= 5m_0 + 5m_1x + \cdots + a_nx^n - 5n_0 - 5n_1x - \cdots - b_nx^n \\ &= 5(m_0 - n_0) + 5(m_1 - n_1)x + \cdots + (a_n - b_n)x^n. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $5(m_0 - n_0)$  and  $5(m_1 - n_1)$  are clearly divisible by 5,  $p(x) - q(x) \in I$ . Now take any  $r(x) = r_0 + r_1x + \cdots + r_nx^n \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} p(x)r(x) &= a_0r_0 + (a_0r_1 + a_1r_0)x + \cdots \\ &= 5m_0r_0 + (5m_0r_1 + 5m_1r_0)x + \cdots \\ &= 5m_0r_0 + 5(m_0r_1 + m_1r_0)x + \cdots \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} r(x)p(x) &= r_0a_0 + (r_1a_0 + r_0a_1)x + \cdots \\ &= 5r_0m_0 + (5r_1m_0 + 5r_0m_1)x + \cdots \\ &= 5m_0r_0 + 5(m_0r_1 + m_1r_0)x + \cdots \end{aligned}$$

Since  $5m_0r_0$  and  $5(m_0r_1 + m_1r_0)$  are divisible by 5, we have  $p(x)r(x) \in I$  and  $r(x)p(x) \in I$ . Therefore  $I$  is an ideal in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  by Theorem 6.1.

- (b) Find two polynomials  $f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{Z}$  which generate  $I$  (i.e.  $I = (f(x), g(x))$ ). Prove that they generate  $I$ .

**Answer:** Let  $f(x) = 5$  and  $g(x) = x^2$ , we will show that  $I = (f(x), g(x))$ . Since  $5|a_0$  and  $5|a_1$ , we can take  $m_0, m_1 \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $a_0 = 5m_0$  and  $a_1 = 5m_1$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_nx^n &= 5(m_0 + m_1x) + x^2(a_2 + a_3x + \cdots + a_nx^{n-2}) \\ &= f(x)(m_0 + m_1x) + g(x)(a_2 + a_3x + \cdots + a_nx^{n-2}) \in I \end{aligned}$$

by Theorem 6.1 since  $m_0 + m_1x$  and  $a_2 + a_3x + \cdots + a_nx^{n-2}$  are both in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ , so  $I = (f(x), g(x))$ .

- (c) Prove that  $I$  is not a principal ideal in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  (i.e.  $I$  cannot be written in the form  $I = (h(x))$  for any polynomial  $h(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ ).

**Answer:** By contradiction. Suppose that there is an  $h(x)$  such that  $I = (h(x))$ , then  $h(x)$  must be a constant or else it won't be able to generate the constant term in polynomials in  $I$  with a nonzero constant coefficient, i.e. we must have  $h(x) = h_0$  for some  $h_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Since  $h(x) \in I$ , we must also have  $5|h_0$  as  $h_0$  is a constant coefficient. However now we cannot generate polynomials where the  $x^2$  or higher terms have coefficients that are not divisible by 5 (e.g. we cannot generate  $x^2$  which should be in  $I$ ). Therefore there is no such  $h(x)$  and  $I$  is not a principal ideal in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

8. Let  $R$  and  $S$  be rings. If  $I \subseteq R$  and  $J \subseteq S$  are ideals in  $R$  and  $S$ , respectively, let

$$I \times J = \{(x, y) \mid x \in I, y \in J\} \subseteq R \times S$$

- (a) If  $I$  and  $J$  are any ideals in  $R$  and  $S$ , prove that  $I \times J$  is an ideal in  $R \times S$  and

$$(R \times S)/(I \times J) \cong (R/I) \times (S/J).$$

**Answer:** Take  $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2) \in I \times J$ , then

$$(x_1, y_1) - (x_2, y_2) = (x_1 - x_2, y_1 - y_2) \in I \times J$$

since  $x_1 - x_2 \in I$  and  $y_1 - y_2 \in J$  by Theorem 6.1 as  $x_1, x_2 \in I$  and  $y_1, y_2 \in J$ . Now take  $(r, s) \in R \times S$ , we have

$$(r, s)(x, y) = (rx, sy)$$

and

$$(x, y)(r, s) = (xr, ys).$$

Note that since  $x \in I$ , by Theorem 6.1  $rx$  and  $xr$  are also in  $I$ . Similarly, since  $y \in J$ ,  $sy$  and  $ys$  are also in  $J$ . Therefore both  $(rx, sy)$  and  $(xr, ys)$  are in  $I \times J$ , so  $I \times J$  is an ideal by Theorem 6.1.

- (b) Now assume that  $R$  and  $S$  have (multiplicative) identities  $1_R$  and  $1_S$ . If  $K \subseteq R \times S$  is any ideal of  $R \times S$ , prove that there are ideals  $I \subseteq R$  and  $J \subseteq S$  for which  $K = I \times J$ .

**Answer:** Take  $I = \{r \in R \mid (r, 0_R) \in K\}$  and  $J = \{s \in S \mid (0_R, s) \in K\}$ , clearly we have  $I \subseteq R$  and  $J \subseteq S$  by definition of  $K \subseteq R \times S$ , as well as  $I \times J \subseteq K$ . Now take  $r \in I$  and  $s \in J$ ; since  $R$  and  $S$  have multiplicative identities  $1_R$  and  $1_S$ , we have

$$r(1_R, 0_S) + s(0_R, 1_S) = (r, 0_S) + (0_R, s) = (r, s)$$

for every  $(r, s) \in K$ , so  $K \subseteq I \times J$ . Therefore  $K = I \times J$ .

Now we will show that  $I$  and  $J$  are ideals; take  $(r_1, 0_S), (r_2, 0_S) \in K$ , by Theorem 6.1 we have

$$(r_1, 0_S) - (r_2, 0_S) = (r_1 - r_2, 0_S) \in K,$$

so  $r_1 - r_2 \in I$ . Similarly for  $(0_R, s_1), (0_R, s_2) \in K$  we have  $s_1 - s_2 \in J$ . In addition, by Theorem 6.1 we also have

$$(r, s)(r_1, 0_S) = (rr_1, 0_S) \in K$$

and

$$(r_1, 0_S)(r, s) = (r_1r, 0_S) \in K$$

for  $(r, s) \in R \times S$ , so  $rr_1, r_1r \in I$  and similarly  $ss_1, s_1s \in J$ . Therefore  $I, J$  are both ideals by Theorem 6.1.

I assert, on my honor, that I have not received assistance of any kind from any other person, or given assistance to any other person, while working on the midterm.

Signature: 