

1. Consider the veracity or falsehood of each of the following statements. For bonus, argue for those that you believe are true while providing a counterexample for those that you believe are false.

① There is an integral domain with 6 elements.

Let  $k$  be a positive integer. Let  $\bar{\cdot} : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_k$  be the mod function. Thus, *e.g.*, if  $k = 7$ , then  $\overline{25} = 4$ . This leads naturally to a homomorphism  $\bar{\cdot} : \mathbb{Z}[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_k[x]$ . Thus, *e.g.*, if  $k = 7$ , then  $\overline{25x^2 + 12} = 4x^2 + 5 = -3x^2 - 2$ . Consider the veracity or falsehood of each of the following statements. For those that are true give an argument, for those that are false, give a counterexample. Let  $p(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  be monic.

② If  $p(x)$  has a root in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , then  $\overline{p(x)}$  has a root in  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ .

③ If  $\overline{p(x)}$  has a root in  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ , then  $p(x)$  has a root in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

④ If  $p(x)$  is irreducible, then so is  $\overline{p(x)}$ .

⑤ If  $\overline{p(x)}$  is irreducible, then so is  $p(x)$ .

**Solution.**

① a

2. Consider the integral domain  $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{3}]$ . Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 3 \\ 9 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$ .

① Find a nontrivial unit, and show it has infinite order.

② Compute  $\frac{A}{\begin{pmatrix} 20 & 6 \\ 18 & 20 \end{pmatrix}}$  and its reciprocal  $\frac{\begin{pmatrix} 20 & 6 \\ 18 & 20 \end{pmatrix}}{A}$ . These elements may not be in the domain, but they are certainly in the field of quotients.

③ Decide if  $A$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} 19 & 11 \\ 33 & 19 \end{pmatrix}$  are associates.

④ Is  $\begin{pmatrix} 7789 & 4488 \\ 13464 & 7789 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 52 & 24 \\ 72 & 57 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{A}$ ? Give reasons for your answer.

**Solution.**

① a

3. Consider the following element  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  of  $GL(3, \mathbb{Z}_2)$ .

① Compute all of its powers.

- ② How many elements would you have to add for this set of powers to be closed under addition?
- ③ Find the characteristic polynomial of each of the powers.
- ④ Find the lowest degree polynomial that all of the powers satisfy.
- ⑤ Have you constructed a field?

**Bonus.** Show that every irreducible cubic over  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  has a root among these powers.

**Solution.**

- ① a

4. On  $\mathbb{Z}_2[x]$ . Consider the ring of polynomials  $\mathbb{Z}_2[x]$  with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ ,

$$p(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_nx^n.$$

- ① How many polynomials of degree  $n$  are there? **Hint.** Consider  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$
- ② Consider the function  $E : \mathbb{Z}_2[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2$  that sends any polynomial  $p(x)$  to  $p(1)$ . Decide if it is a (ring) homomorphism or not. Decide if it is one-to-one and onto. Argue your case.
- ③ Consider the function  $S : \mathbb{Z}_2[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2[x]$  that sends any polynomial  $p(x)$  to  $p^2(x)$ , its square. Decide if it is a (ring) homomorphism or not. Decide if it is one-to-one and onto. Argue your case.
- ④ Count the number of irreducible quadratics in  $\mathbb{Z}_2[x]$ .
- ⑤ Count the number of irreducible cubics in  $\mathbb{Z}_2[x]$ .
- ⑥ Count the number of irreducible quartics in  $\mathbb{Z}_2[x]$ .

**Solution.**

- ① a