

1. (a) **Claim:**  $I[x]$  is a proper ideal of  $R[x]$ .

We note that  $0 \in I$  and since  $I \subseteq I[x]$ , we get that  $0 \in I[x]$ .

Meanwhile, for  $a_n x^n + \cdots + a_0, b_m x^m + \cdots + b_0 \in I[x]$ . Assuming  $n \geq m$ , for each  $k > m$ ,  $a_k \in I$ . For each  $k \leq m$  that  $a_k + b_k \in I$ . Hence, we get that  $a_n x^n + \cdots + a_{m+1} x^{m+1} + (a_m + b_m) x^m + \cdots + (a_0 + b_0) \in I[x]$ . We note that  $I[x]$  is closed under addition.

Lastly, for  $a_n x^n + \cdots + a_0 \in I[x]$  and  $b_m x^m + \cdots + b_0 \in R[x]$ , we note that  $(a_n x^n + \cdots + a_0)(b_m x^m + \cdots + b_0)$  can be expressed as:

$$\sum_{k=0}^n a_k x^k (b_m x^m + \cdots + b_0)$$

For  $0 \leq i \leq m$ ,  $a_k b_i \in I$ , so  $a_k b_i x^{i+k} \in I[x]$ . This implies that  $a_k b_m x^{m+k} + \cdots + a_k b_0 x^k \in I[x]$  as each term is in  $I[x]$  and  $I[x]$  is closed under addition. Since each item in the sum is in  $I[x]$ , it further implies that the sum is in  $I[x]$ .

We proved that  $I[x]$  is an ideal of  $R[x]$ , so we now prove properness. Clearly,  $I[x] \subseteq R[x]$ . Since  $I$  is a proper ideal,  $1 \notin I$ , so  $1 \cdot x = x \notin I[x]$ . However,  $x \in R[x]$ , so we get that  $I[x] \neq R[x]$ , so it is a proper ideal.  $\square$

**Claim:**  $R[x]/I[x] \cong (R/I)[x]$

Our goal is to use the First Isomorphism Theorem to achieve this result.

By Proposition 9.5, a homomorphism  $\psi : R[x] \rightarrow (R/I)[x]$  is the same as defining a homomorphism  $\varphi : R \rightarrow (R/I)[x]$  along with an element  $\alpha \in (R/I)[x]$ . We define  $\varphi$  to be the natural projection map of  $r \mapsto [r]_I \in R/I$  for  $r \in R$ , which exists in  $(R/I)[x]$  due to the inclusion of constants. Meanwhile, we choose  $\alpha = x \in (R/I)[x]$ , so  $\psi(x) = \alpha$ .

We now prove that  $\text{im}(\psi)$  is surjective. Let  $a_n x^n + \cdots + a_0 \in (R/I)[x]$ . For each  $0 \leq k \leq n$ ,  $a_k = [r_k]_I$  for some  $r_k \in R$ . In other words,  $\psi(r_k) = a_k$ . Hence, considering that  $x = \psi(x)$ , we note that:

$$\begin{aligned} a_n x^n + \cdots + a_0 &= \psi(r_n) x^n + \cdots + \psi(r_0) \\ &= \psi(r_n) \psi(x^n) + \cdots + \psi(r_0) \\ &= \psi(r_n x^n + \cdots + r_0) \end{aligned}$$

Since  $r_n x^n + \cdots + r_0 \in R[x]$ , we proved that  $\text{im}(\psi)$  is surjective.

We now prove that  $\ker(\psi) = I[x]$ . Let  $b_n x^n + \cdots + b_0 \in I[x]$ . We note that  $\psi(b_n x^n + \cdots + b_0) = [b_n]_I x^n + \cdots + [b_0]_I$ . For  $0 \leq k \leq n$ , we note that  $b_k \in I$ , so  $[b_k]_I = 0$ . Hence,  $\psi(b_n x^n + \cdots + b_0) = 0x^n + \cdots + 0 = 0$ . This shows that  $I[x] \subseteq \ker(\psi)$ . Meanwhile, let  $b_n x^n + \cdots + b_0 \in \ker(\psi)$ . Clearly,  $\psi(b_n x^n + \cdots + b_0) = 0$ . This implies that for each  $0 \leq k \leq n$ , we get that  $\psi(b_k) = 0$ , which further implies  $[b_k]_I = 0$  and  $b_k \in I$ . Since each of its coefficients are in  $I$ ,  $b_n x^n + \cdots + b_0 \in I[x]$ . Thus, we showed that  $I[x] \supseteq \ker(\psi)$ . We can now conclude  $I[x] = \ker(\psi)$ .

We satisfied all the conditions for the First Isomorphism Theorem, so  $R[x]/I[x] \cong (R/I)[x]$ .  $\square$

- (b) Since the polynomial  $f(x)$  is a unit, there exists a  $g(x) \in R[x]^\times$  where  $f(x)g(x) = 1$ . Since a prime ideal is also defined to be a proper ideal, we can apply the homomorphism  $\psi : R[x] \rightarrow (R/I)[x]$  from (a). We note that  $\psi(f(x))$  is a unit in  $(R/I)[x]$  because  $\psi(f(x)) \cdot \psi(g(x)) = \psi(f(x)g(x)) = \psi(1) = 1$ . We then note that from HW6 3(c), since  $I$  is a prime ideal,  $R/I$  is an integral domain. From Lemma 9.3, this implies  $\psi(f(x))$  is a constant. Since  $\psi(f(x)) = [a_n]_I x^n + \cdots + [a_0]_I$  and its degree is 0 from being a constant, this implies that for  $i \geq 1$  that  $[a_i]_I = 0$ . In other words, it implies  $a_i \in I$  as desired.  $\square$
- (c) We note that for  $0 \leq r \leq 2024$ ,  $[r]$  represents each element in  $\mathbb{Z}/2025\mathbb{Z}$  bijectively.

**Claim:**  $[r]$  is nilpotent iff  $15 \mid r$ .

Let  $r$  be arbitrary and assume that for some positive integer  $n$  that  $[r]^n = [r^n] = 0$ . This implies that  $2025 \mid r^n$ . Since  $3 \mid 2025$  and  $5 \mid 2025$ , we get that  $3 \mid r^n$  and  $5 \mid r^n$ . By Euclid's Lemma, since 3 is prime, either  $3 \mid r$  or  $3 \mid r^{n-1}$ . If  $3 \mid r$ , we are done. If not, then  $3 \mid r^{n-1}$ , so we can repeat the process with  $3 \mid r$  or  $3 \mid r^{n-2}$ . Since  $3 \nmid r$ , it must be that  $3 \mid r^{n-2}$ . We can repeat this process until we reach  $3 \mid r$  or  $3 \mid r^0 = 1$ . Since  $3 \nmid 1$ , we reach a contradiction, so it must be that  $3 \mid r$ . Since 5 is also a prime, we can apply the same process to get  $5 \mid r$ . We note that  $\gcd(3, 5) = 1$ , so  $3 \cdot 5 \mid r$  as desired.

For the converse, assume  $15 \mid r$ , so there exists some integer  $q$  such that  $r = 15q$ . If we set  $n = 4$ , we notice that  $[(15q)^4] = [3^4 \cdot 5^4 \cdot q^4] = [25 \cdot 2025 \cdot q^4] = 0$ . Thus,  $[r]$  is a nilpotent element.  $\square$

The claim implies that we only need to look for multiples of 15 within the range of  $r$  to search for all nilpotent elements. Hence, there exist  $\lfloor 2025/15 \rfloor = 134$  nonzero  $r$ 's that are multiples of 15. Since  $15 \mid 0$ , we include it to get that there exist  $134 + 1 = 135$  nilpotent elements in  $\mathbb{Z}/2025\mathbb{Z}$ .  $\square$

- (d) Let  $I$  be a prime ideal of  $R$  and  $r$  be a nilpotent element in  $R$  where  $r^n = 0$  for some positive integer  $n$ . Since  $I$  is an ideal,  $r^n \in I$ . Since  $I$  is a prime ideal, either  $r \in I$  or  $r^{n-1} \in I$ . If  $r \in I$ , we are done. If not, then  $r^{n-1} \in I$ , so we can repeat the process with  $r \in I$  or  $r^{n-2} \in I$ . Since  $r \notin I$ , it must be that  $r^{n-2} \in I$ . We can repeat this process until we would reach  $r^1 = r \in I$ , a contradiction. Hence, it must be that  $r \in I$ . This implies that all nilpotent elements in  $R$  belong to every prime ideal of  $R$ .  $\square$
- (e) Let  $r$  be a nilpotent element in  $R$  where  $r^n = 0$  for some positive integer  $n$ . We note that  $n \geq 2$  because  $r$  is a non-zero element.

**Claim:**  $-rx + 1$  is unit in  $R[x]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (-rx + 1)(r^{n-1}x^{n-1} + \cdots + rx + 1) &= -(rx - 1)(r^{n-1}x^{n-1} + \cdots + rx + 1) \\ &= -(r^n x^n - 1) \\ &= -(-1) \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, there exist a polynomial  $f(x) \in R[x]$  where  $(-rx + 1)f(x) = 1$ . This proves  $-rx + 1$  is a unit in  $R[x]$ .  $\square$

Since  $-rx + 1$  is a non-constant unit, we proved the existence of an  $f(x) \in R[x]^\times$  that is not a constant.  $\square$

2. (a) We begin by noting that:

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha^m - 1 &= \prod_{d|m} \Phi_d(\alpha) \\
&= \prod_{\substack{d|m \\ d \neq m}} \Phi_d(\alpha) \cdot \Phi_m(\alpha) \\
&= \prod_{\substack{d|m \\ d \neq m}} \Phi_d(\alpha) \cdot 0 \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we get that  $\alpha^m = 1$ . This implies the existence of  $o(\alpha)$  and that  $o(\alpha) \mid m$ . This also implies that  $o(\alpha) \leq m$ . Let us denote  $b = o(\alpha)$  and assume that  $b < m$ . Since  $b \mid m$ , any divisor of  $b$  is also a divisor of  $m$ , which allows us to obtain this expression:

$$\begin{aligned}
x^m - 1 &= \Phi_m(x) \cdot \prod_{d|b} \Phi_d(x) \cdot \prod_{\substack{d|m \\ d \nmid b \\ d \neq m}} \Phi_d(x) \\
&= \Phi_m(x) \cdot (x^b - 1) \cdot \prod_{\substack{d|m \\ d \nmid b \\ d \neq m}} \Phi_d(x)
\end{aligned}$$

By its definition,  $\alpha^b = 1$ , so  $\alpha^b - 1 = 0$ . This implies that  $\alpha$  is a root for both  $\Phi_m(x)$  and  $(x^b - 1)$ . By Corollary 9.7, since  $F$  is an integral domain from being a field, there exist polynomials  $h(x), g(x) \in F[x]$  where  $\Phi_m(x) = (x - \alpha)h(x)$  and  $(x^b - 1) = (x - \alpha)g(x)$ . This allows us to obtain the expression that:

$$x^m - 1 = (x - \alpha)(x - \alpha)h(x)g(x) \prod_{\substack{d|m \\ d \nmid b \\ d \neq m}} \Phi_d(x)$$

This implies that  $\alpha$  is a repeated root of  $x^m - 1$ . However, we note that  $(\alpha^m - 1)' = m\alpha^{m-1}$ . Notice that  $m\alpha^{m-1} = m\alpha^m\alpha^{-1}$ . We note that  $m\alpha^m = m(1)$  and since  $p \nmid m$ ,  $m(1)$  must be non-zero. Since  $\alpha^{-1}$  is also a non-zero from being a unit and that  $F$  is an integral domain from being a field, this implies that  $m\alpha^{m-1}$  is a non-zero element. By Proposition 9.12, this implies that  $\alpha$  is not a repeated root for  $x^m - 1$ , which is a contradiction. Thus, it must be that  $b = m$ , so we get that  $o(\alpha) = m$  as desired.  $\square$

(b) **Claim:**  $\Phi_m(\alpha) = 0$

We note that:

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha^m - 1 &= \prod_{d|m} \Phi_d(\alpha) \\
&= \prod_{\substack{d|m \\ d \neq m}} \Phi_d(\alpha) \cdot \Phi_m(\alpha)
\end{aligned}$$

We then note that for every divisor of  $m$  that is not equal to  $m$ , we get that  $d < m$ , so  $\alpha^d - 1 \neq 0$  because of  $o(\alpha)$ 's minimality. Since  $\Phi_d(x)$  is a factor of  $x^d - 1$ , we get that  $\Phi_d(\alpha)$  must be non-zero. Since  $F$  is an integral domain from being a field we note that:

$$\prod_{\substack{d|m \\ d \neq m}} \Phi_d(\alpha) \neq 0$$

Thus, since  $\alpha^m - 1 = 0$ , with all other factors being non-zero, this implies that  $\Phi_m(\alpha) = 0$ .  
 $\square$

**Claim:**  $\Phi'_m(\alpha) \neq 0$

By contradiction,  $\Phi'_m(\alpha) = 0$ . By Proposition 9.12, this implies that  $\alpha$  is a repeated root for  $\Phi_m(x)$  as  $\Phi_m(\alpha) = 0$ . Since  $\Phi_m(x)$  is a factor of  $x^m - 1$ ,  $\alpha$  is also a repeated root of  $x^m - 1$ . By Proposition 9.12 again, this implies that  $(\alpha^m - 1)' = 0$ . However, since  $\alpha^m = 1$ , we can apply the same reasoning from (a) to deduce that  $m\alpha^{m-1} \neq 0$ , which is a contradiction. Hence, it must be that  $\Phi'_m(\alpha) \neq 0$ .  $\square$