

# Graduate Preliminary Examination

## Algebra II

18.2.2004: 3 hours

**Problem 1.** Let  $q$  be a prime power. Suppose  $f$  is an irreducible polynomial of degree  $m$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , and let  $\alpha$  be a root of  $f$ .

- Prove that  $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_{q^m}$ .
- Prove that  $\alpha^{q^n}$  is a root of  $f$  in  $\mathbb{F}_{q^m}$  for all integers  $n$ .
- Prove that  $\alpha, \alpha^q, \alpha^{q^2}, \dots, \alpha^{q^{m-1}}$  are distinct roots of  $f$ .

**Problem 2.** Suppose  $K$  is an algebraic extension of a field  $F$ . Prove that the following are equivalent:

- $K$  is algebraically closed.
- For every algebraic extension  $L$  of  $F$ , there is an  $F$ -monomorphism from  $L$  to  $K$ .

**Problem 3.** Let  $M$  be a module over a ring  $R$ . An element  $x$  of  $M$  is called **torsion** if  $rx = 0$  for some non-zero  $r$  in  $R$ . Let  $T(M)$  be the set of torsion elements of  $M$ .

- Prove that, if  $R$  is an integral domain, then  $T(M)$  is a submodule of  $M$ , and  $M/T(M)$  has no torsion elements.
- Find an example where  $T(M)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ .

**Problem 4.** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity, and let  $M$  be a non-zero (unitary)  $R$ -module. If  $m \in M$ , let

$$\text{ord } m = \{r \in R : rm = 0\},$$

and define

$$\mathcal{F} = \{\text{ord } m : m \in M \setminus \{0\}\}.$$

Then  $\mathcal{F}$  is partially ordered by  $\subseteq$ .

- Prove that  $\text{ord } m$  is an ideal of  $R$ .
- Prove that every maximal element of  $\mathcal{F}$  is a prime ideal.

# Graduate Preliminary Examination

## Algebra II

18.2.2005: 3 hours

**Problem 1.** Prove or give a counter-example to the following statement: If  $M/L$  and  $L/K$  are algebraic extensions of fields, then  $M/K$  is algebraic.

**Problem 2.** Let  $p$  be a prime and let  $GF(p^m)$  denote the finite field of order  $p^m$ .

- (a) Show that for any positive integer  $m$ , there exists a finite field of order  $p^m$ .
- (b) Show that if  $GF(p^m)$  is isomorphic to a subfield of  $GF(p^n)$ , then  $m$  divides  $n$ .
- (c) Let  $E$  be the algebraic closure of  $GF(p)$ . Show that there is an intermediate field  $L$  between  $GF(p)$  and  $E$  with  $|L : GF(p)| = \infty$  and  $|E : L| = \infty$ .

**Problem 3.** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity,  $I$  an ideal of  $R$  and  $L = \{a \in R : aI = 0\}$

- (a) Prove that each  $a \in L$  induces an  $R$ -module homomorphism

$$\bar{\lambda}_a : R/I \rightarrow R$$

- (b) Using (a), prove that the  $R$ -modules  $L$  and  $\text{Hom}_R(R/I, R)$  are isomorphic.

**Problem 4.** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity, and let  $M$  be a unitary  $R$ -module. Then  $M$  is called:

- **torsion-free**, if  $r \cdot m = 0$  implies either  $r = 0$  or  $m = 0$  where  $r$  in  $R$  and  $m$  in  $M$ ;
- **divisible**, if for all  $m$  in  $M$  and non-zero  $r$  in  $R$ , there is  $n$  in  $M$  such that  $r \cdot n = m$ .

Assume  $M$  is torsion-free and non-trivial.

- (a) Prove that  $R$  is an integral domain. Show that, the hypothesis that  $M$  is non-trivial is necessary.

Now let  $K$  be the quotient-field of  $R$ .

- (b) Prove that  $K \otimes_R M$  is torsion-free as a  $K$ -module.
- (c) Prove that, if  $M$  is divisible, then  $\phi : m \mapsto 1 \otimes m$  is an  $R$ -module epimorphism from  $M$  onto  $K \otimes_R M$ .

METU - Department of Mathematics  
Graduate Preliminary Exam  
Algebra II

February, 2009

**Duration:** 180 min.

1. Let  $\alpha$  be the real positive 16th root of 3 and consider the chain of intermediate fields

$$\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\alpha^8) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\alpha^4) \subseteq (\alpha^2) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\alpha) = F.$$

a) Compute the degrees of these five intermediate fields over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and conclude that these fields are all distinct.

b) Show that every intermediate field between  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $F$  is one of the above. (Hint: If  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq K \subseteq F$ , consider the constant term of the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$  over  $K$ ).

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2. Let  $p$  be a prime number and let  $w_p = e^{2\pi i/p}$  be the  $p$ th root of 1 in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

a) Show that  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(w_p)/\mathbb{Q})$  is isomorphic to the multiplicative group  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$ .

b) Let  $F$  be a field containing  $w_p$  and let  $a$  be an element of  $F$  which is not the  $p$ th power of any element of  $F$ . Show that if  $E$  is the splitting field of the polynomial  $x^p - a \in F[x]$ , then  $\text{Gal}(E/F)$  is isomorphic to the additive group  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .

c) If  $K$  is the splitting field of  $x^p - 2 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ , show that  $|K : \mathbb{Q}| = p(p-1)$ .

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3. Let  $R$  be a ring. Recall that an  $R$ -module  $P$  is called projective if for every  $R$ -module epimorphism  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and every  $R$ -module homomorphism  $g : P \rightarrow B$ , there exists an  $R$ -module homomorphism  $h : P \rightarrow A$  such that  $fh = g$ .

a) Let  $P$  be an  $R$ -module for a ring  $R$ . Show that if there is a free  $R$ -module  $F$  and an  $R$ -module  $K$  such that  $F \cong K \oplus P$ , then  $P$  is projective. (You may use the fact that every free module is projective).

b) Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. Suppose that  $R$ -modules  $P$  and  $Q$  are projective. Show that  $P \otimes_R Q$  is projective.

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4. Let  $R$  be a ring with unity and suppose that  $R$  can be written as the sum  $R = \sum_{i=1}^m I_i$ , where  $I_i$  are finitely many (two-sided) ideals of  $R$  satisfying  $I_i \cap I_j = 0$  whenever  $i \neq j$ .

a) Prove that, for every simple right  $R$ -module  $M$ , there exists a unique subscript  $k$  such that  $MI_k \neq 0$

b) Show that if  $i \neq j$ , then every right  $R$ -module homomorphism  $\theta : I_i \rightarrow I_j$  is the zero map.

## GRADUATE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

### ALGEBRA II Spring 2010

- Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity 1 and let  $Q$  be an injective  $R$ -module. If  $L \xrightarrow{\alpha} M \xrightarrow{\beta} N$  is an exact sequence of  $R$ -modules and  $R$ -homomorphisms with the property that  $f \circ \alpha = 0$  for an  $R$ -homomorphism  $f : M \rightarrow Q$ , show that there is an  $R$ -homomorphism  $g : N \rightarrow Q$  with  $g \circ \beta = f$ .
- A nonzero left module  $M$  (over some ring) is called
  - **simple**, if  $M$  has no proper nonzero submodule;
  - **complemented**, if every submodule of  $M$  is a direct summand of  $M$  (that is, for every submodule  $A$  of  $M$ , there is a submodule  $B$  of  $M$  such that  $M = A \oplus B$ , which means  $M = A + B$  and  $A \cap B = 0$ ).
  - Give an example of a simple module.
  - Give an example of a complemented module that is not simple.
  - Show that every nonzero submodule of a complemented module is complemented.
  - Show that every complemented module has a simple submodule.
- Suppose  $K, L$ , and  $M$  are fields, and  $K \subseteq L \subseteq M$ . Prove or disprove the following statements.
  - If  $M/L$  and  $L/K$  are normal, then so is  $M/K$ .
  - If  $M/K$  is normal, then so is  $M/L$ .
  - If  $M/L$  is normal, then so is  $M/K$ .
  - $(K, +) \not\cong (K^*, \cdot)$ .
- Consider the polynomial  $f(x) = x^5 - 6x + 3 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ 
  - Using Eisenstein's criterion, prove that  $f$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
  - Let  $E$  be the splitting field of  $f$ . Show that there exists  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(E/\mathbb{Q})$  of order 5.
  - Prove the following:  
There exists  $\tau \in \text{Gal}(E/\mathbb{Q})$  of order 2 and hence  $\text{Gal}(E/\mathbb{Q}) \cong S_5$ .  
(Hint : You may assume that  $f(x)$  has exactly one pair of complex conjugate roots.)
  - Is  $f(x)$  solvable by radicals over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ? Why?

TMS EXAM  
February 16, 2012  
ALGEBRA II

1. Prove that there is no field  $F$  such that  $F^+ \cong F^*$ .
  
2. Let  $F$  be a field with 16 elements.
  - (i) Show that there exists an element  $\alpha \in F$  with  $\alpha^4 = \alpha + 1$ .
  - (ii) Find the factorization of  $x^3 + x + 1 \in F[x]$  into irreducible polynomials over  $F$ .
  - (iii) Find all subfields of  $F$ .
  - (iv) Does there exist a quadratic, irreducible polynomial over  $F$ ? Explain your reasoning.

3. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with unity, and let

$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \longrightarrow 0$$

be an exact sequence of  $R$ -modules. Let  $r, s \in R$  be such that  $(r, s) = R$ . Suppose that  $rA = sC = 0$ .

- (i) Show that the map  $\alpha : C \longrightarrow C$  given by  $\alpha(c) = rc$  is an isomorphism.
  - (ii) Show that  $g|_{rB}$  is an isomorphism between  $rB$  and  $C$ .
  - (iii) Show that  $B \cong A \oplus C$ .
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4. Let  $R$  and  $S$  be two rings,  $A$  a right  $R$ -module,  $C$  a right  $S$ -module and  $B$  an  $(R, S)$ -bimodule. Show that  $\text{Hom}_S(A \otimes_R B, C)$  and  $\text{Hom}_R(A, \text{Hom}_S(B, C))$  are isomorphic abelian groups.

**GRADUATE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION  
ALGEBRA II, FEBRUARY 2013**

FEBRUARY 14, 2013

1.a. Show that  $f(x) = x^3 + x + 1 \in \mathbb{F}_2[x]$  is the unique irreducible polynomial of degree three so that sum of its roots in a splitting field is equal to zero, where  $\mathbb{F}_2$  denotes the field of two elements.

1.b. Show that  $E = \mathbb{F}_2[x]/(f(x))$  is the splitting field of  $f(x)$ , by finding all zeros of  $f(x) = x^3 + x + 1$  in  $E$ .

1.c. Show that the extension  $\mathbb{F}_2 \subseteq E$  is Galois, by determining its Galois group. Describe the action of the elements of the Galois group.

2.a. Construct a Galois field extension  $K$  of the field of rational numbers, so that  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq K \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  and the Galois group is isomorphic to the Klein four group  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ .

2.b. Determine the intermediate fields of this extension.

2.c. Show that  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2})$  is a degree four extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ , which is not Galois.

3.a. Let  $M$  denote the free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ . Determine the quotient module  $M/N$ , where  $N$  is generated by the vectors  $(1, 2, 3)$ ,  $(0, -2, 5)$ ,  $(2, 0, 8)$  and  $(0, 1, 2)$ . (Use Smith Normal Form.) Calculate the number elements of the quotient module if it is finite.

3.b. Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a field,  $R = \mathbb{F}[x]$  the polynomial ring over  $\mathbb{F}$ , and  $M = R \oplus \cdots \oplus R$  the free  $R$ -module of rank  $n$ , for some positive fixed integer  $n$ . For any  $n \times n$ -matrix  $A$  with entries in the field  $\mathbb{F}$ , consider the associated matrix  $A - xI_{n \times n}$ , with entries in the ring  $R$ , where  $I_{n \times n}$  is the  $n \times n$ -identity matrix. Let  $N_A$  be the submodule of  $M$  generated by the rows of  $A - xI_{n \times n}$ . Calculate the quotient modules,  $M/N_{A_i}$ , using Smith Normal Form again, for the matrices

$$A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix},$$

with entries in the field of rational numbers (i.e., we take  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{Q}$  and  $n = 3$ ). Are the quotient modules isomorphic? Relate the quotient modules to the characteristic and the minimal polynomial of the matrices.

4. Let  $R$  be an integral domain and  $M$  an  $R$ -module so that for any  $r \neq 0 \in R$  and  $m \neq 0 \in M$ , we have  $rm \neq 0$ . The  $R$ -module  $M$  is called divisible if for each  $m \in M$  and nonzero element  $r \in R$  there exists an element  $m' \in M$  such that  $m = rm'$ .

4.a. Prove that the direct sum of two divisible  $R$ -modules is also divisible.

4.b. An  $R$ -module  $M$  is called injective, if whenever  $i : M \rightarrow N$  is an embedding of  $R$ -modules and  $\phi : M \rightarrow L$  is an  $R$ -module homomorphism then there is an  $R$ -module homomorphism  $\Phi : N \rightarrow L$  so that  $\phi(m) = (\Phi \circ i)(m)$ , for all  $m \in M$ . Prove that an injective  $R$ -module is divisible.



**METU Mathematics Department**  
**Graduate Preliminary Examination**  
**Algebra II, January 2014**

1. Let  $I = (2, x)$  be the ideal generated by 2 and  $x$  in the ring  $R = \mathbb{Z}[x]$ . Note that the ring  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \cong R/I$  is naturally an  $R$ -module.

- Show that the map  $\phi : I \times I \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  defined by

$$\phi(a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n, b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_mx^m) = \frac{a_0}{2}b_1 \pmod{2}$$

is  $R$ -bilinear.

- Show that  $2 \otimes x - x \otimes 2$  is nonzero in  $I \otimes_R I$ .

2. Let  $I_n$  be the identity matrix of dimension  $n$ .

- Prove that there is no  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $A$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  such that  $A^8 = I_3$  but  $A^4 \neq I_3$ .
- Write down a  $4 \times 4$  matrix  $B$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  such that  $B^8 = I_4$  and  $B^4 \neq I_4$ .

3. Let  $\mathbb{F}_q$  be a finite field with  $q$  elements and let  $K/\mathbb{F}_q$  be a quadratic extension.

- For any  $\alpha \in K$ , show that  $\alpha^{q+1} \in \mathbb{F}_q$ .
- Show that every element of  $\mathbb{F}_q$  is of the form  $\beta^{q+1}$  for some  $\beta \in K$ .

4. Let  $p$  be an odd prime and let  $L = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)$  be the  $p$ -th cyclotomic field.

- Show that  $L$  has a unique subfield  $K$  such that  $[K : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$ .
- If  $p = 5$ , then find an element  $\alpha \in L$  such that  $L = K(\alpha)$  and  $\alpha^2 \in K$ .
- If  $p \geq 7$ , then show that there is no  $\alpha \in L$  such that  $L = K(\alpha)$  and  $\alpha^{(p-1)/2} \in K$ .

# Graduate Preliminary Examination

## Algebra II

22.9.2004: 3 hours

**Problem 1.** Let  $K_0 = \mathbb{F}_{11}[X]/(X^2 + 1)$  and  $K_1 = \mathbb{F}_{11}[Y]/(Y^2 + 2Y + 2)$ .

- (a) Show that the  $K_i$  are fields for  $i = 0, 1$ .
- (b) Find the orders of the  $K_i$  for  $i = 0, 1$ .
- (c) Either exhibit an isomorphism of  $K_0$  and  $K_1$ , or show that they are not isomorphic.

**Problem 2.** Show that the sum of all elements of a finite field is zero, except for  $\mathbb{F}_2$ .

**Problem 3.** Let  $L/K$  be a field-extension, and let  $\alpha$  be algebraic over  $K$  with minimal polynomial  $f$ . Let  $M = K(\alpha) \otimes_K L$ . We know that  $M$  is a vector-space over  $L$ .

- (a) Exhibit an embedding of  $L$  in  $M$  (as vector-spaces over  $L$ ).
- (b) Exhibit an embedding  $\iota$  of  $L$  in  $M$  and a multiplication  $\cdot$  on  $M$  such that the following conditions hold:
  - $M$  is a commutative ring with identity;
  - $\iota$  is a ring-homomorphism;
  - if  $m \in M$  and  $\ell \in L$ , then  $\iota(\ell) \cdot m$  is the product  $\ell m$  given by the vector-space structure.

- (c) Show that  $L[X]/(f)$  and  $K(\alpha) \otimes_K L$  are isomorphic as rings.

**Problem 4.** Let  $R$  be a ring with 1. If  $M$  is an  $R$ -module, the **uniform dimension** of  $M$  ( $\text{ud } M$ ) is the largest integer  $n$  such that there is a direct sum  $M_1 \oplus \dots \oplus M_n \subseteq M$  with all the  $M_i$  non-zero. If no such integer exists then we say that  $\text{ud } M = \infty$ . If  $M \subseteq N$  are  $R$ -modules,  $M$  is said to be **essential** in  $N$  if every non-zero submodule of  $N$  has non-zero intersection with  $M$ . Suppose the  $\text{ud } M < \infty$  and  $M \subseteq N$ . Prove that  $M$  is essential in  $N$  if and only if  $\text{ud } M = \text{ud } N$ .

**PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION**  
**ALGEBRA II**  
**Fall 2005**  
**September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

*Duration: 3 hours*

1. Let  $f(x) = x^3 - 2x - 2 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ . Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  where  $\alpha$  is a real root of  $f$ , and let  $F$  be the Galois closure of the extension  $K/\mathbb{Q}$ .
  - a) Determine the group of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -automorphisms of  $K$ .
  - b) Determine the Galois group  $G(F/\mathbb{Q})$ .
  - c) Determine the Galois group  $G(F/K)$ .
  
2. Let  $K$  be a field of characteristic  $p$  (where  $p$  is a prime number). Let  $K^p = \{b^p | b \in K\}$ .
  - a) Show that  $K^p$  is a subfield of  $K$  and  $K/K^p$  is an algebraic extension.
  - b) Let  $a \in K, a \notin K^p$ . Prove that  $[K^p(a) : K^p] = p$ .
  
3. Let  $R$  be a principal ideal domain,  $M$  a free  $R$ -module, and  $S$  a submodule of  $M$ .  $S$  is called a pure submodule if
$$\text{whenever } ay \in S \text{ (with } a \in R \setminus \{0\}, y \in M), \text{ then } y \in S.$$
  - a) Show that  $\{0\}$  and  $R$  are the only pure submodules of  $R$ , considered as an  $R$ -module)
  - b) Find a proper, nontrivial pure submodule of  $R \oplus R$  (considered as an  $R$ -module).
  - c) Let  $N$  be a torsion-free  $R$ -module and  $\varphi : M \rightarrow N$  be an  $R$ -module homomorphism. Prove that  $\text{Ker}\varphi$  is a pure submodule of  $M$ .
  
4. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity. Prove that every submodule of  $R$  is free iff  $R = \{0\}$  or  $R$  is a principal ideal domain. (**Warning:** To prove that  $R$  is a PID, you have to show  $R$  is an integral domain first.)

TMS  
Fall 2009  
ABGEBRA II

1. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity, and  $A, B, C_1, \dots, C_n$  be  $R$ -modules.
  - a) Assume  $A$  is a submodule of  $B$ , and  $B$  satisfies the *ACC* on its submodules. Show that  $B/A$  satisfies the *ACC* on its submodules.
  - b) Assume  $C_1, \dots, C_n$  satisfy the *ACC* on their submodules. Show that their direct sum also satisfies the *ACC* on its submodules.
  - c) If the ring  $R$  satisfies the *ACC* on its ideals, then show that every finitely generated  $R$ -module satisfies the *ACC* on its submodules.
  
2. Let  $M$  be a left  $R$ -module.
  - a) Prove that  $M$  is a simple module if and only if  $M = Rm$  for all nonzero  $m \in M$ .
  - b) Prove that  $M$  is simple if and only if  $M \cong R/I$  for a maximal left ideal  $I \subseteq R$ .
  - c) Prove that if  $M$  is simple, then  $\text{End}_R(M)$  is a division ring.
  
3. Let  $K$  be a subfield of a finite field  $L$ . Describe (as precisely as possible) the group of automorphisms of  $L$  when it is considered as:
  - a) a field
  - b) a vector space over  $K$ ,
  - c) an additive group
  
4. Let  $f(x) = x^5 - 2 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ .
  - a) Find the order of the Galois group  $G_f$  of  $f(x)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
  - b) Show that  $G_f$  is isomorphic to the group  $H$  given by generators  $a$  of order 5 and  $b$  of order 4, with the relation  $ba = a^2b$ .

TMS  
 Fall 2010  
 Algebra II

1. Let  $R$  be a principal ideal domain, and let  $M$  be a finitely generated module over  $R$ . We know that, for some non-negative integers  $n$  and  $s$ , there are nonzero non-units  $q_1, \dots, q_n$  of  $R$  such that  $q_k \mid q_{k+1}$  and  $M \cong R/(q_1) \oplus \dots \oplus R/(q_n) \oplus R^s$ .

- (a) Letting  $K$  be the quotient field of  $R$ , find the dimension of  $M \otimes_R K$  as a vector space over  $K$ .
- (b) Find the greatest integer  $t$  such that  $M$  has linearly independent elements  $x_1, \dots, x_t$ : this means, if  $a_1, \dots, a_t \in R$  and  $a_1x_1 + \dots + a_tx_t = 0$ , then  $a_1 = \dots = a_t = 0$ .

Suppose further that  $R$  has only one prime ideal different from  $\{0\}$ , namely  $(p)$ .

- (a) Give an example of such a ring  $R$ .
- (b) Show that  $R/(p)$  is a field.
- (c) Show that, for some integers  $k_i$  such that  $0 < k_1 < \dots < k_m$ ,  $M \cong R/(p^{k_1}) \oplus \dots \oplus R/(p^{k_m}) \oplus R^s$ .
- (d) Letting  $L$  be the field  $R/(p)$ , find the dimension of  $M/pM$  as a vector space over  $L$ .
- (e) Find the least integer  $t$  for which some subset  $\{x_1, \dots, x_t\}$  of  $M$  generates  $M$  over  $R$ .
- (f) Letting  $L$  be the field  $R/(p)$ , find the dimension of  $M/pM$  as a vector space over  $L$ .
- (g) Find the least integer  $t$  for which some subset  $\{x_1, \dots, x_t\}$  of  $M$  generates  $M$  over  $R$ .

2. Suppose  $E$  and  $F$  are finite extensions of a field  $K$ , and  $E$  and  $F$  are themselves subfields of some large field, so that the compositum  $EF$  is well defined:

$$E \otimes_K F \cong EF$$

Let us say that  $E$  is **free** from  $F$  over  $K$  if any elements of  $E$  that are linearly independent over  $K$  are still linearly independent (as elements of  $EF$ ) over  $F$ .

- i. If  $E$  is free from  $F$  over  $K$ , show that  $F$  is free from  $E$  over  $K$ .
- ii. Prove that the following are equivalent:
  - A.  $E$  is free from  $F$  over  $K$ ,
  - B.  $[E : K] = [EF : F]$ ,

C.  $[E : K][F : K] = [EF : K]$ .

Suppose now also that  $E/K$  is Galois.

- i. Prove that  $EF/F$  is Galois.
  - ii. Prove that  $E$  is free from  $F$  over  $K$  if and only if  $E \cap F = K$ .
3. Let  $p$  be a prime,  $q = p^t$  for some  $t \geq 1$ ,  $F(q^k)$  denote the field with  $q^k$  elements, and  $L(q) = \cup_{n \geq 1} F(q^{n!})$ .
- (a) Show that  $L(q)$  is a field. What is its prime subfield?
  - (b) Show that  $L(q)$  is an algebraic extension of  $F(q)$ .
  - (c) Is  $L(q)$  algebraically closed?
4. Let  $U$  be a right  $R$ -module and  $X \subseteq U$  be any subset. Then show that
- (1)  $\text{ann}_R(X) = \{r \in R \mid xr = 0 \quad \forall x \in X\}$  is a right ideal of  $R$
  - (2) If  $X$  is an  $R$ -submodule of  $U$ , then  $\text{ann}_R(X)$  is an ideal of  $R$ .
  - (3) If  $U$  is simple and  $0 \neq x \in U$ , then  $\text{ann}_R(x)$  is a maximal right ideal of  $R$  and  $U \cong R^\bullet / \text{ann}_R(x)$  where  $R^\bullet$  denotes  $R$  as an  $R$ -module.

# M.E.T.U

## Department of Mathematics

Preliminary Exam - Sep. 2011

### ALGEBRA II

Duration : 3 hr.

Each question is 25 pt.

1. Let  $n$  be a positive integer and  $F$  be a field of characteristic  $p$  with  $p \nmid n$ .

Let  $f(x) = x^n - a$  for some  $0 \neq a \in F$  and  $E$  be a splitting field for  $f(x)$  over  $F$ .

a) Show that  $f(x)$  has no multiple roots (that is  $f(x)$  has  $n$  distinct roots.)

b) Show that  $E$  contains a primitive  $n$ -th root of unity  $\epsilon$ .

c) Assume that  $\epsilon \in F$ . Show that all irreducible factors of factors of  $f(x)$  in  $F[x]$  have the same degree and  $[E : F]$  divides  $n$ .

2. Let  $\alpha$  be an element of  $\mathbb{C} - \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  where  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  is the algebraic closure of  $\mathbb{Q}$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

a) Show that  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  is the field of fractions of the integral domain  $\mathbb{Q}[\alpha]$ .

(Hint : Use the homomorphism  $\mathbb{Q}[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ,  $x \mapsto \alpha$ ).

b) Show that

- each matrix  $M = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \in GL(2, \mathbb{Q})$  defines an automorphism

$$\Phi_M : \mathbb{Q}(\alpha) \longrightarrow \mathbb{Q}(\alpha) \text{ given by } \alpha \mapsto \frac{a\alpha + b}{c\alpha + d}$$

- and we obtain a group homomorphism

$$\Psi : GL(2, \mathbb{Q}) \longrightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)), \Psi(M) = \Phi_M.$$

c) True or false? Explain.

$\Psi$  in (b) is an isomorphism.

3. Let  $M$  be a module over a commutative ring  $R$  satisfying the descending chain condition.

Suppose that  $f$  is an endomorphism of  $M$ . Show that  $f$  is an isomorphism if and only if  $f$  is a monomorphism.

4. Let  $R$  be commutative ring with unity and  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. For  $x \in M$  we define

$$\text{Ann}(x) = \{r \in R : rx = 0\}$$

and we set  $T(M) = \{x \in M : \text{Ann}(x) \neq 0\}$ .

a) Show that

- If  $x \neq 0$ , then  $\text{Ann}(x)$  is a **proper ideal** in  $R$ .
- If for each maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$  in  $R$  there exists some  $r \in \text{Ann}(x)$ ,  $r \notin \mathfrak{p}$ , then  $x = 0$ .

b) Let  $R$  be an integral domain with field of fractions  $F$ . Show that

- $T(M)$  is a submodule of  $M$ .
- $T(M)$  is in the kernel of the map  $M \rightarrow M \otimes_R F$ ,  $m \mapsto m \otimes 1$ .
- $T(M) = \{0\}$  if  $M$  is a **flat**  $R$ -module.

c) True or false ? Prove the statement or give a counter example.

For any  $R$  and an  $R$ -module  $M$ ,  $T(M)$  is a submodule of  $M$ .



**METU MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT**  
**ALGEBRA II**  
**SEPTEMBER 2012 - TMS EXAM**

1. Let  $f(x) = x^6 + 3 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ , and let  $\alpha$  be a root of  $f(x)$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ .
  - a) Find the splitting field  $E$  of  $f(x)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
  - b) Find the degree of the extension  $E$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
  - c) Find the automorphism group  $G$  of  $E$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Find the lattice of subgroups of  $G$ .
  - d) Choose one of nontrivial proper subgroups of  $G$  and find the intermediate field corresponding to this subgroup explicitly.
  
2. a) Prove that for a finite field  $F$  of characteristic  $p$ , the map  $u \mapsto u^p$  is an automorphism of  $F$ .  
  
b) For every integer  $n$ , show that the map  $u \mapsto u^4 + u$  is an endomorphism of the additive group of the finite field  $\mathbb{F}_{2^n}$ , and determine the size of the kernel and image of this endomorphism.
  
3. Let  $R$  be a ring with 1, and let  $N$  be a submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$ .
  - a) Prove that  $M$  is torsion if and only if  $N$  and  $M/N$  are both torsion.
  - b) Prove that if  $N$  and  $M/N$  are both torsion-free, then  $M$  is torsion-free. Give an example to show that the converse of this statement is false.
  - c) Prove that a free module over a PID is torsion-free. Give an example to show that the converse of this statement is false.
  
4. Let  $R$  be a ring with 1 and let  $M, N$  be  $R$ -modules.
  - a) Prove that if  $M$  and  $N$  are both free, then  $M \otimes_R N$  is free.
  - b) Let  $f : M \rightarrow N$  be an  $R$ -homomorphism and let  $W$  be an  $R$ -module. Show that if  $f$  is surjective, then the induced map  $f \otimes 1_W : M \otimes_R W \rightarrow N \otimes_R W$  is surjective. Give an example of  $M, N, W$  and an injective map  $f : M \rightarrow N$  to show that the induced map  $f \otimes 1_W$  is not injective.

METU-MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT  
GRADUATE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION  
ALGEBRA II, SEPTEMBER 2013

SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

1) Suppose that  $f(x)$  is irreducible in  $F[x]$  and  $K$  is a Galois extension of  $F$ . Show that all irreducible factors of  $f(x)$  in  $K[x]$  have the same degree.

2.a) Find the minimal polynomial of  $i\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{C}$  over the rational numbers. Determine the Galois group of the splitting field of the minimal polynomial over the field of rational numbers.

2.b) Find a primitive element over the field of rational numbers for the extension field  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \sqrt[3]{4})$ .

3.a) Suppose  $R$  is a commutative ring and  $M$  is an  $R$ -module. A submodule  $N$  is called pure if  $rN = rM \cap N$ , for all  $r \in R$ . Show that any direct summand of  $M$  is pure.

3.b) If  $M$  is torsion free and  $N$  is a pure submodule show that  $M/N$  is torsion free.

3.c) If  $M/N$  is torsion free show that  $N$  is pure.

4.a) Prove that any finitely generated projective module  $M$  over a PID  $R$  is free.

4.b) Is  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module of rational numbers  $\mathbb{Q}$  projective? What about the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -module of rational numbers  $\mathbb{Q}$ ?

**METU Mathematics Department**  
**Graduate Preliminary Examination**  
**Algebra II, Fall 2014**

1. Let  $A$  be an abelian group considered as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. If  $A$  is finitely generated then show that  $A \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} A \cong A$  if and only if  $A$  is cyclic. Is the same statement true if  $A$  is not finitely generated?
2. Let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear transformation of vector spaces over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ .
  - (a) Show that  $T$  is injective if and only if  $\{T(v_1), \dots, T(v_n)\}$  is a linearly independent set in  $W$  for every linearly independent set  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  in  $V$ .
  - (b) Show that  $T$  is surjective if and only if  $\{T(x) : x \in X\}$  is a spanning set for  $W$  for some spanning set  $X$  for  $V$ .
  - (c) Let  $D : \mathbb{F}[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{F}[x]$  be the derivative map on polynomials, i.e.  $D(f(x)) = f'(x)$ , which is a linear transformation. Investigate if  $D$  is injective, surjective using the previous parts.
3. Let  $K$  be the splitting field of the polynomial  $x^4 - x^2 - 1$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
  - (a) Show that  $\sqrt{-1}$  is an element of  $K$ .
  - (b) Show that the Galois group of  $K$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is isomorphic to the dihedral group  $D_8$ .
  - (c) Compute the lattice of subfields of  $K$ .
4. Let  $\mathbb{F}_q$  be a finite field of order  $q = p^n$  for some prime number  $p$ . Show that the set of subfields of  $\mathbb{F}_q$  is linearly ordered (i.e.  $L_1 \subseteq L_2$  or  $L_2 \subseteq L_1$  for every pair of subfields.) if and only if  $n$  is a prime power.

METU MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT  
GRADUATE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION  
ALGEBRA II, SEPTEMBER 2015

SEPTEMBER 29, 2015

1.a) Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with unity. A module  $P$  over  $R$  is called projective, if for every surjective module homomorphism  $f : N \rightarrow M$  and every module homomorphism  $g : P \rightarrow M$ , there exists a homomorphism  $h : P \rightarrow N$  such that  $f \circ h = g$ . Prove that every free  $R$ -module  $P$  is projective.

b) Show more generally that an  $R$ -module  $P$  is projective if and only if there is an  $R$ -module  $N$  such that  $P \oplus N$  is a free  $R$ -module.

c) Show that a finitely generated projective  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $P$  is indeed free. (This part of the question can be answered independently from the previous parts.)

2) Let  $A$  be a commutative ring with unity and  $M$  is a finitely generated  $A$ -module. Assume that  $f : M \rightarrow A^n$  is a surjective homomorphism. Show that  $\ker(f)$  is also finitely generated. (Hint: Choose a basis  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  for  $A^n$ , and let  $m_i \in M$  with  $f(m_i) = e_i$ . Show that  $M$  is isomorphic to the direct sum of  $\ker(f)$  and the submodule generated by  $m_1, \dots, m_n$ )

Is it true that a submodule of a finitely generated module is finitely generated?

3.a) Find the splitting field  $K$  of the polynomial  $f(x) = x^3 - 2 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

b) Determine the Galois group of the extension  $K/\mathbb{Q}$ .

c) Show that  $\sqrt[3]{2}$  cannot be written as a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -linear combination of  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity for any positive integer  $n$ .

4.a) Let  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  be an irreducible polynomial and let  $G = \text{Gal}(K : \mathbb{Q})$  be the Galois group of its splitting field  $K$ . Considering  $G$  as a subgroup of  $S_5$ , the symmetric group on five letters, show that  $G$  contains a five cycle.

b) Assume further that exactly three roots of  $f(x)$  are real. Show that the Galois group  $G$  contains a transposition.

c) Is the polynomial  $f(x)$  solvable by radicals? (Hint: It is a fact that any subgroup of  $S_5$  that contains a 5-cycle and a transposition is equal to  $S_5$ ).

METU Mathematics Department  
Graduate Preliminary Examination  
Algebra II, February 2016

1. Let  $R$  be an integral domain.
  - (a) Show that free  $R$ -modules are torsion free.
  - (b) Exhibit an  $R$ -module which is finitely generated and torsion free but not free.
  - (c) Suppose that  $R$  is a principal ideal domain and let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module. Show that  $M$  is torsion free if and only if  $M$  is free.
  
2. If  $f : A \rightarrow A$  is an  $R$ -module homomorphism such that  $f \circ f = f$ , then show that
$$A = \text{Ker}(f) \oplus \text{Im}(f).$$
  
3. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity. Let  $I$  and  $J$  be ideals of  $R$ . Prove that the  $R$ -module  $(R/I) \otimes_R (R/J)$  is isomorphic to  $R/(I + J)$ .
  
4. Let  $K$  be the splitting field of the polynomial  $f(x) = x^6 + 3$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Show that the Galois group of  $K$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is isomorphic to  $S_3$ .
  
5. Let  $F$  be a field.
  - (a) Suppose that  $K$  is an algebraic extension of  $F$  and  $R$  is a ring such that  $F \subseteq R \subseteq K$ . Show that  $R$  is a field.
  - (b) Suppose that  $L = F(x)$ , i.e. the field of rational functions over  $F$ . If  $u \in L \setminus F$ , then show that  $u$  is transcendental over  $F$ .