



# MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2018/2019

SCHOOL OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, STATISTICS AND ACTUARIAL SCIENCE

THIRD YEAR SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (MATHEMATICS)

SMA 303 – RING THEORY

DATE: 22/7/2019

TIME: 8:30 – 10:30 AM

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## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer Question One And Any Other Two Questions

### SECTION A: (COMPULSORY)

#### QUESTION ONE(30 MARKS)

- a) Define a ring as used in mathematics (4 marks)
- b) Find the addition and multiplication tables for  $Z_6$  (4 marks)
- c) Show that in a commutative ring  $R$  with unity  $1 \neq 0$  an ideal  $P$  is prime if and only if the factor ring  $R/P$  is an integral domain (6 marks)
- d) Let  $\phi: R \rightarrow R$  be a ring map proof that  $\phi$  injective IF and only IF  $\ker \phi = \{0\}$  proof (4 marks)
- e) Show that if  $I$  is an ideal of a ring  $R$ , then the canonical map  $T: R \rightarrow R/I$  given by  $T(a) = a + I$  for  $a \in R$  is a ring homomorphism (4 marks)
- f) Proof the theorem which states that a multiplicative inverse of a unit  $x$  of a ring with unity  $1$  is unique (4 marks)

- g) Which of the following rings is a field?
- (i)  $[a + b\sqrt{2} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Q}] = A$  (2 marks)
- (ii)  $[a + b\sqrt{2} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}] = B$  (2 marks)

**SECTION B: ANSWER ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS**  
**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

Given that  $S = \{(a, b) \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$  with operations addition (+) and multiplication (.) forms a ring where the operations + and . defined by

$$(a, b) + (c, d) = (a + c, b + d)$$

$$(a, b) \cdot (c, d) = (ac + bc + ad, bd).$$

- i) Show that S is commutative with unity e (5 marks)
- ii) Find all the elements in S of the form  $x.x = e$  (6 marks)
- iii) Determine the multiplicative inverse for (a, b) in S where it exist and a relation between a and b when the inverse does not exist (6 marks)
- iv) Is S a field. Give reasons (3 marks)

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Let  $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow M_2(\mathbb{R})$  be defined by  $f(a + bi) = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix}$  show that f is a ring homomorphism (6 marks)
- b) Show that all ideals in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$  of integers are principal ideals (8 marks)
- c) The polynomial  $x^4 + 3x^3 + 2x + 4 \in \mathbb{Z}_5[x]$  can be factorised into linear factors. Find this factorization (6 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) Show that a field is an integral domain (6 marks)
- b) i) Define a nilpotent element in a ring R (2 marks)
- ii) Find all the nilpotent elements in  $\mathbb{Z}_{12}$  (2 marks)
- $\mathbb{Z}_{24}$  (3 marks)

- c) Proof that all ideals in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$  of integers are principal ideals that is  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a principal ideal domain (7 marks)
- d) Given that  $R$  is a commutative ring with unity. Then  $M$  is a maximal ideal of  $R$  if and only if  $R/M$  is a field (7 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- a) i) Define the meaning of irreducible polynomials (3 marks)
- ii) Show that  $f(x) = x^3 + 3x + 2$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_5[x]$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Z}_5$  (6 marks)
- b) Let  $f(x) \in F[x]$  and let  $f(x)$  be of degree 2 or 3. Prove that  $f(x)$  is reducible over  $F$  if and only if it has a zero in  $F$  (7 marks)
- c) Suppose  $f: R_1 \rightarrow R_2$  is a ring homomorphism if  $R_1$  possesses unity 1 and  $R_2$  possesses unity  $1^1$  then  $f(1) = 1^1$  (4 marks)