

**Definitions:** Group homomorphism, isomorphism; kernel of a group homomorphism; Cayley map; subgroup generated by a subset; commutator; commutator subgroup; partition of a set; direct product; relation on a set; antisymmetric, reflexive, transitive and symmetric relations; partial ordering, poset; least/greatest element of a poset;  $n$ -ary operation; associative and commutative operation; identity; inverse; semigroup; monoid; conjugate; conjugacy class; ring; commutative ring; unital ring; unit; subring; group of units; ring homomorphism, isomorphism; kernel of a ring homomorphism; right ideal; left ideal; ideal; coset of an ideal; quotient ring; principal ideal; Euler totient ( $\phi$ -function); zero divisor; integral domain; characteristic of an integral domain; division ring; field; subfield; field extension; prime subfield; field of fractions; algebraic, transcendental over  $R$ ; degree of a polynomial; leading coefficient; monic polynomial; reducible/irreducible polynomial; associates; prime; root of a polynomial; multiplicity of a root; greatest common divisor of polynomials; relatively prime; simple extension (of fields); minimal polynomial; splitting field.

1. Let  $G = \langle g \rangle$  be a cyclic group of order 6, and let  $\varphi : G \rightarrow G$  be the map  $\varphi(x) = x^4$  for all  $x \in G$ .
  - a. List the elements of the image  $\varphi(G)$ .
  - b. List the elements of the preimage  $\varphi^{-1}(g^2)$ .
2. Let  $G = \langle (1324) \rangle \leq S_4$ . Define a map  $\varphi : \mathbb{Z}_4 \rightarrow G$  by setting  $\varphi(\bar{a}) = (1324)^a$  for  $\bar{a} \in \mathbb{Z}_4$ . Prove that  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism.
3. Let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$ , and let  $\pi : G \rightarrow G/N$  be the natural map  $\pi(g) = \bar{g} = gN$ . Prove that the order of  $\bar{g}$  divides the order of  $g$ .
4. Let  $G$  be a cyclic group of order 12.
  - a. Let  $s \in \mathbb{N}$ . Prove that the map  $\varphi_s : G \rightarrow G$  defined by  $\varphi_s(g) = g^s$  is a homomorphism.
  - b. Explain why  $\varphi_s$  is an isomorphism if and only if  $s$  is relatively prime to 12 (that is,  $\gcd(s, 12) = 1$ ).
5. Let  $Q = \{1, -1, i, -i, j, -j, k, -k\}$  be the quaternion group. By Lagrange's Theorem, any subgroup of  $Q$  has order 1, 2, 4, or 8.
  - a. Why is every subgroup of order 8 normal?
  - b. Why is every subgroup of order 4 normal?
  - c. Why is every subgroup of order 2 normal?
  - d. What is the center of  $Q$ ? Justify (*i.e.*, prove) your answer.
- 6.a. Let  $G$  be a group and let  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  be elements of  $G$ . Define the commutator  $[g_1, g_2]$  of  $g_1$  and  $g_2$ .
  - b. Let  $H = [G, G]$  be the commutator subgroup of  $G$ . Prove that  $G/H$  is abelian.
7. Let  $G = \langle g \rangle$  be a cyclic group of order 6, and let  $\varphi : G \rightarrow G$  be the map  $\varphi(x) = x^4$  for all  $x \in G$ .

- a. List the elements of the image  $\varphi(G)$ .
- b. List the elements of the preimage  $\varphi^{-1}(g^3)$ .
8. Let  $G$  be an abelian group. Show that the map  $\iota : G \rightarrow G$  defined by  $\iota(g) = g^{-1}$  (for all  $g \in G$ ) is a homomorphism.
- 9.a. Give an example of a homomorphism  $\varphi : G \rightarrow H$  such that the image  $\varphi(G)$  is not a normal subgroup of  $H$ .
- b. Suppose  $G$  is an abelian group. Prove that the image  $\varphi(G) \leq H$  is abelian.
- 10.a. Let  $G$  and  $H$  be groups. Define the direct product  $G \times H$ . That is, define  $G \times H$  as a set, and describe the group operation.
- b. Prove that  $\mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_5 \cong \mathbb{Z}_{10}$  by finding an explicit map and proving that it is an isomorphism.
- 11.a. Let  $G$  be a group and let  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  be elements of  $G$ . Define the commutator  $[g_1, g_2]$  of  $g_1$  and  $g_2$ .
- b. Compute the following commutators in  $S_4$ :  $[(12), (13)]$ ,  $[(1234), (12)]$ ,  $[(142), (134)]$ .
12. Let  $G$  be a group of order  $pq$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct positive primes, and let  $g \in G$ .
- a. What are the possible orders of  $g$ ? Why?
- b. Suppose  $G$  is *not* a cyclic group. What are the possible orders of  $g$ ? Why?
- 13.a. Let  $H$  and  $K$  be subgroups of  $G$ . Prove that  $H \cap K$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .
- b. Demonstrate that the union of two subgroups need not be a subgroup with an example.
14. Let  $X$  be the collection of all subgroups of  $S_3$ . Prove that  $\subseteq$  is a partial order on  $X$ , and draw the Hasse diagram.
15. Let  $\alpha$  be an antisymmetric relation on a set  $X$ . Prove that if  $s$  and  $t$  are elements of  $X$  such that  $x \alpha s$  and  $x \alpha t$  for every  $x \in X$ , then  $s = t$ .
16. Let  $X = \mathbb{R}^2$  and define a binary operation  $\star$  on  $X$  by setting  $(x, y) \star (w, z) = (xw, xz + y)$  for any elements  $(x, y)$  and  $(w, z)$  in  $X$ . Prove that  $\star$  is associative, and that  $X$  has an identity with respect to  $\star$ .
17. Let  $\mathbb{R}^\pm = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \neq 0\}$ ,  $\mathbb{R}^+ = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x > 0\}$ , and  $M = \{1, -1\}$ , all considered as groups under multiplication. Give an explicit isomorphism  $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^+ \times M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\pm$ .
18. Let  $G$  be a group of order  $p^2$ , where  $p$  is a positive prime, and let  $g \in G$ . Justify your answer to each part below.
- a. What are the possible orders of  $g$ ?
- b. Suppose  $G$  is *not* a cyclic group. What are the possible orders of  $g$ ?
- c. If  $G$  is not a cyclic group, exactly how many elements of order  $p$  does  $G$  have?

19. Let  $(X, \preceq)$  be a poset.
- Give a precise definition of a *least element* of  $X$ .
  - Prove that a poset can have at most one least element.
20. Let  $X = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and  $Y = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ . How many maps are there from  $X$  to  $Y$ ? Explain.
21. Let  $\sigma = (24)(35) \in S_5$  and  $\theta = (12)(45) \in S_5$ . Show that  $\sigma$  is conjugate to  $\tau$ , and explain why  $\text{Cl}(\sigma) = \text{Cl}(\tau)$ .
22. Let  $G$  be a group of order  $p^2$ , where  $p$  is a positive prime.
- Let  $g \in G$  be an element of order  $p$ . Prove that  $C_g(G)$  has at least  $p$  elements.
  - Prove that  $|\text{Cl}(g)|$  is either 1 or  $p$ .
23. Let  $\gamma : S_5 \rightarrow S_5$  be the mapping  $\gamma(\sigma) = (135)\sigma(153)$ . Prove that  $\gamma$  is an isomorphism.
24. How many quinary operations are there on  $X = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ ?
25. Let  $G$  be a group. For  $x, y \in G$ , define  $x \sim y$  if  $x = gyg^{-1}$  for some  $g \in G$ . Is  $\sim$  symmetric? Transitive? Justify your answers.
- 26.a. List the elements of each conjugacy class of the quaternion group  $Q = \{1, -1, i, -i, j, -j, k, -k\}$ .
- For each element  $q \in Q$ , how many elements of  $Q$  commute with  $q$ ?
27. Let  $R$  be the ring of  $2 \times 2$  matrices with coefficients in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Prove that the set
- $$I = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$
- is a left ideal of  $R$ , but not a right ideal.
28. Let  $\varphi : R \rightarrow S$  be a ring homomorphism.
- Prove that the image of  $\varphi$  is a subring of  $S$ .
  - Suppose  $R$  is unital. Prove that  $\varphi(1)$  is the multiplicative identity of the image of  $\varphi$ .
- 29.a. Give an example to show that a subring of a unital ring need not be unital.
- Give an example of a unital subring of a ring  $R$  whose multiplicative identity is not the multiplicative identity of  $R$ .
- 30.a. Given ideals  $I$  and  $J$  of a ring  $R$ , prove that the set  $I + J = \{i + j \mid i \in I, j \in J\}$  is an ideal.
- Suppose  $K$  is an ideal of  $R$  such that  $I \subseteq K$  and  $J \subseteq K$ . Prove that  $I + J \subseteq K$ .
- 31.a. Let  $R = \{0, 1, a, b\}$  be a commutative ring such that  $R^\times = \{1, a, b\}$ . Explain why  $R$  must be an integral domain. What is the characteristic of  $R$ ?
- Make addition and multiplication tables for  $R$ .

**32.** Let  $R$  be an integral domain of characteristic  $p > 0$ , and let  $R' = \{k \cdot 1 \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  be the cyclic subgroup of  $R$  generated by 1. Prove that  $R'$  is a subring of  $R$ .

**33.** Let  $F$  be a field and  $I \subseteq F$  an ideal. Prove that if  $I \neq \{0\}$ , then  $I = F$ .

**34.** Let  $U = \{\bar{2}x \mid x \in \mathbb{Z}_{12}\}$  and  $V = \{\bar{8}x \mid x \in \mathbb{Z}_{12}\}$ .

a. Make addition and multiplication tables for  $U$ . Is  $U$  a subring of  $\mathbb{Z}_8$ ? Is  $U$  an ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}_8$ ? Justify your answers.

b. Make addition and multiplication tables for  $V$ . Is  $V$  a subring of  $\mathbb{Z}_8$ ? If so, is it unital? If so, what is the multiplicative identity of  $V$ ?

**35.** Let  $\varphi : \mathbb{Z}_{20} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{10}$  be the map defined by  $\varphi(a) = \bar{5}a$ .

a. Prove that  $\varphi$  is a ring homomorphism.

b. Prove that the kernel of  $\varphi$  is  $(\bar{2})$ , the principal ideal generated by  $\bar{2} \in \mathbb{Z}_{20}$ .

**36.** Consider the following subset of the ring  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ :

$$I = \{f \in \mathbb{Z}[x] \mid f = (x^2 - 2)g \text{ for some } g \in \mathbb{Z}[x]\}$$

That is,  $I$  is the set of all multiples of the polynomial  $x^2 - 2$ .

a. Prove that  $I$  is a subgroup of the additive group  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

b. Prove that  $I$  is a subring of  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

c. Prove that  $I$  is an ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

**37.** Let  $R = M(3, 3, S)$  be the ring of  $3 \times 3$  matrices with entries in a commutative ring  $S$ .

a. Give an example to illustrate that  $R$  is not commutative.

b. Give an example to illustrate that  $R$  has zero-divisors.

c. Prove that if  $S$  is unital, so is  $R$ .

**38.** Let  $R$  be an integral domain, and let  $F$  be its field of fractions. Prove that the map  $\varphi : R \rightarrow F$  defined by  $\varphi(r) = \frac{r}{1}$  is an injective ring homomorphism.

**39.** Let  $a \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Prove that the real number  $a + \sqrt{2}$  is algebraic over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

**40.** Let  $\varphi : \mathbb{Z}[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_m[x]$  be the map defined by  $\varphi(a_d x^d + a_{d-1} x^{d-1} + \cdots + a_1 x + a_0) = \bar{a}_d x^d + \bar{a}_{d-1} x^{d-1} + \cdots + \bar{a}_1 x + \bar{a}_0$  (the bar denotes reduction modulo  $m$ ).

a. Prove that  $\varphi$  is a ring homomorphism.

b. Prove that the kernel of  $\varphi$  is ideal  $\langle m \rangle$  consisting of all polynomials such that each coefficient is divisible by  $m$ .

**41.** Let  $R$  be an integral domain. Prove that  $a_d x^d + a_{d-1} x^{d-1} + \cdots + a_1 x + a_0 \in R[x]$  has a monic associate if and only if  $a_d \in R^\times$ .

**42.** Let  $\varphi : \mathbb{Q}[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the ring homomorphism defined by  $\varphi(f) = f(\sqrt{5})$ . Prove that the kernel of  $\varphi$  is the principal ideal generated by  $\langle x^2 - 5 \rangle$ . [**Hint:** You can use the division algorithm to show that  $\ker \varphi \subseteq \langle x^2 - 5 \rangle$ .]

**43.** Find the rational roots of the following polynomials:

a.  $2x^4 + 5x^3 - 5x^2 + 7x - 3$

b.  $x^4 + 3x^2 + 2$

c.  $8x^3 + 4x^2 - 4x - 1$

d.  $\frac{1}{2}x^3 - 3x + 2$

**44.** Determine whether the given polynomial is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ . Justify your answer.

a.  $x^2 + 5x + 2$

b.  $x^3 - 3x + 4$

c.  $x^3 + x^2 - 2x - 1$

**44.a.** Let  $f = x^5 + 2x^4 + x^3 + 2x^2 + x + 2 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  and  $g = x^4 - x \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ . Find a monic polynomial  $h \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  such that  $\langle f, g \rangle = \langle h \rangle$ .

b. Express  $h$  in the form  $af + bg$  for some polynomials  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

**45.** Let  $F$  be a field, and let  $f, g \in F[x]$  be polynomials such that  $\langle f, g \rangle = F[x]$ . Prove that  $\langle f \rangle \cap \langle g \rangle = \langle fg \rangle$ .

**46.** Use the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra and mathematical induction to prove that every monic polynomial  $f \in \mathbb{C}[x]$  of degree  $d$  factors into a product  $f = (x - \alpha_1)(x - \alpha_2) \cdots (x - \alpha_d)$  for some complex numbers  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_d \in \mathbb{C}$ .

**47.** Determine if the given polynomial is irreducible in  $\mathbb{R}[x]$ .

a.  $3x^2 - 2x + 5$

b.  $x^2 + x + 1$

c.  $2x^2 + 8x + 1$

d.  $x^2 + x - 1$

c.  $2x^2 + 8x - 1$

**48.** Let  $F \subseteq K$  be fields and let  $\alpha, \beta \in K$  be algebraic over  $F$ . Suppose  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  have the same minimal polynomial  $f \in F[x]$ . Prove that  $F[\alpha]$  is isomorphic to  $F[\beta]$ .

**49.** Find the minimal polynomial of  $\sqrt{2} + i$

a. over  $\mathbb{C}$ .

b. over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

c. over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .