

Exercises : Rings, Integral Domains, Fields.

1. Show that in a ring R with a unit element 1 :
 - i) $a \cdot 0 = 0 \cdot a = 0$.
 - ii) $a(-b) = (-a)b = -ab$
 - iii) $(-a)(-b) = ab$
 - iv) $(-1)a = -a$,
 - v) $(-1)(-1) = 1$
 - vi) $(na)b = a(nb) = n(ab)$; $na = (n1)a = a(n1)$
 where $a, b \in R$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$
2. Let R be a ring . Suppose $a^2 = a$ for every $a \in R$. Prove that R is a commutative ring.
3. Let R be ring with unit element 1 .We make R into another ring R' by defining
 $a \oplus b = a + b - 1$; $a \cdot b = ab + a + b$.
 Verify that R' is a ring.
4. Let I and J be ideals in R . Prove that $I + J = \{x + y \mid x \in I, y \in J\}$ and $I \cap J$ are also ideals in R .
5. Show that the only ideals in a field K are $\{0\}$ and K .
6. A complex number $a + bi$ where a, b are integers is called a Gaussian integer. Show that the set G of Gaussian integers is an integral domain.
7. Show that $S = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b \text{ reals} \right\}$ is a subring of $M_2(\mathbb{R})$ isomorphic to \mathbb{C} .
8. i) Find all the ring morphism from \mathbb{Q} to \mathbb{Q} .
 ii) Find all the ring morphism from $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ to $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$.
 iii) Find all the ring morphism from $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ to $\mathbb{Q}(i)$.
9. Use the euclidean algorithm to find the gcd $(f(x), g(x))$ in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$, $\mathbb{Z}_5[x]$:
 - i) $f(x) = 4x^4 - 2x^3 - 16x^2 + 5x + 9$; $g(x) = 2x^3 - x^2 - 5x + 4$.
 - ii) $f(x) = x^5 + 3x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + 3x + 1$; $g(x) = x^4 + 2x^3 + x + 2$.
 - iii) $f(x) = 4x^4 - 8x^3 + 9x^2 - 5x + 1$; $g(x) = 4x^4 + x^2 + 3x + 1$.
10. Solve the following equations:
 - i) $21\bar{x} + \bar{24} = \bar{101}$ in \mathbb{Z}_{103} .
 - ii) $68(\bar{x} + \bar{24}) = \bar{102}$ in \mathbb{Z}_{492} .
 - iii) $78\bar{x} - \bar{13} = \bar{35}$ in \mathbb{Z}_{666} .
11. (i) Let $\phi : A \rightarrow R$ be an isomorphism, and let $\psi: R \rightarrow A$ be its inverse. Show that ψ is an isomorphism.
 (ii) Show that the composite of two homomorphisms (isomorphisms) is again a homomorphism (isomorphism).

- (iii) Show that $A \cong R$ defines an equivalence relation on the class of all commutative rings
12. Let R, R' be rings. Let $R \times R'$ be the set of all pairs (x, x') with $x \in R$ and $x' \in R'$. Show how one can make $R \times R'$ into a ring, by defining addition and multiplication componentwise. In particular, what is the unit element of $R \times R'$?
 13. Let R be a ring, and Z the set of all elements $a \in R$ such that $ax = xa$ for all $x \in R$. Show that Z is a subring of R , called the *center* of R .
 14. Let R be a ring and $a \in R$. Let J be the set of all $x \in R$ such that $xa = 0$. Show that J is a left ideal.
 15. An element x is called *nilpotent* if there exists a positive integer n such that $x^n = 0$.
If R is commutative and x, y are nilpotent, show that $x + y$ is nilpotent.
 16. **Chinese Remainder Theorem.** Let R be a commutative ring and let I, J be ideals. They are called *relatively prime* if $I + J = R$. Suppose I and J are relatively prime. Given elements $a, b \in R$ show that there exists $x \in R$ such that $x \equiv a \pmod{I}$ and $x \equiv b \pmod{J}$ [This result applies in particular when $R = \mathbb{Z}$, $I = m\mathbb{Z}$ and $J = n\mathbb{Z}$ with relatively prime integers m, n .]
 17. Let R be a commutative ring. An ideal P is said to be a *prime ideal* if $P \neq R$, and whenever $a, b \in R$ and $ab \in P$ then $a \in P$ or $b \in P$. Show that a non-zero ideal of \mathbb{Z} is prime if and only if it is generated by a prime number.
 19. Let R be a commutative ring. An ideal M of R is said to be a *maximal ideal* if $M \neq R$, and if there is no ideal J such that $R \supset J \supset M$ and $R \neq J, J \neq M$. Show that every maximal ideal is prime.
 20. Let R be a commutative ring.
 - (a) Show that an ideal P is prime if and only if R/P is integral.
 - (b) Show that an ideal M is maximal if and only if R/M is a field.
 21. Let K be a field and let $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow K$ be the homomorphism of the integers into K . If the kernel of f is $\{0\}$, then K contains \mathbb{Z} as a subring, and we say that K has *characteristic 0*. If the kernel of f is generated by a prime number p , then we say that K has *characteristic p* .
Let K be a field of characteristic p . Show that $(x + y)^p = x^p + y^p$ for all $x, y \in K$.
 22. Let K be a finite field of characteristic p . Show that the map $x \mapsto x^p$ is an automorphism of K .
 23. Show that a ring-homomorphism of a field K into a ring $R \neq \{0\}$ is an isomorphism of K onto its image.