

**Exercise 1.**

1. Let  $f \in \mathbb{R}[T]$  be a polynomial without a root in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Show that  $f$  has even degree.
2. Show that  $T^5 + 4T + 14$  is without a root in  $\mathbb{Q}$ , though it has odd degree.

**Exercise 2.**

Let  $A$  be a unique factorization domain and  $K = \text{Frac}A$ . Let  $f = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i T^i$  be a polynomial of degree  $n$  in  $A[T]$  and  $a \in K$  a root of  $f$ . Write  $a = \frac{b}{c}$  such that 1 is a greatest common divisor of  $b, c \in A$ . Show that  $b$  is a divisor of  $a_0$  and  $c$  is a divisor of  $a_n$ . In particular, if  $a_n = 1$ , then  $a \in A$  and  $a$  is a divisor of  $a_0$ .

**Exercise 3.**

Show that the following polynomials are irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[T]$ .

- $T^2 + 1$ ;
- $2T^4 - 18T - 12$ ;
- $T^3 + T^2 + 1$ ;
- $T^3 - 13T + 5$ ;
- $T^5 + 3T^3 + 6T^2 + 1$ ;
- $T^{12} - 2$ .

Which of them are irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[T]$ ? Which of them are irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[i][T]$ ?

**Exercise 4.**

For which  $a \geq 0$  is  $T^4 + aT^2 + 1$  irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[T]$ ?

**Exercise 5.**

Let  $p$  be a prime number. Show that  $T^{p-1} + \dots + T + 1$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[T]$ .

**Hint:** Show that  $f(T + 1)$  is irreducible and conclude that  $f = f(T)$  is irreducible.

**Exercise 6.**

1. Find a greatest common divisor of  $T^4 + T^3 + 2T^2 + T + 1$  and  $T^3 + 4T^2 + 4T + 3$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[T]$ .
2. Find a greatest common divisor of  $4T^5 + 7T^3 + 2T^2 + 1$  and  $3T^3 + T + 1$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[T]$ .

**Exercise 7.**

Let  $a + bi \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ .

1. Show that  $(a + bi)^{-1} = \frac{a-bi}{a^2+b^2}$ , as an element of  $\mathbb{Q}[i] = \text{Frac } \mathbb{Z}[i]$ .
2. Find a greatest common divisor of  $3 + 2i$  and  $2 - i$ .
3. Find a greatest common divisor of  $8 + 9i$  and  $-1 + 7i$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ .

**Exercise 8.**

Which of the following rings are integral domains, unique factorization domains, principal ideal domains, Euclidean rings, fields or local rings?

1.  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ ;
2.  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$ ;
3.  $\mathbb{Z}_{(2)} = \{\frac{a}{b} \in \mathbb{Q} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ and } b \text{ odd}\}$ ;
4.  $\mathbb{R}[T]/(T^2 + 1)$ ;
5.  $\mathbb{C}[T]/(T^2 + 1)$ ;
6.  $S^{-1}\mathbb{C}[T]$  for  $S = \{\sum a_i T^i \in \mathbb{C}[T] \mid a_0 \neq 0\}$ ;
7.  $\mathbb{C}[T_1, T_2, T_3, T_4]/(T_1T_2 - T_3T_4)$ .

**Exercise 9.**

Show that  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}] = \{a + b\sqrt{2} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is a subring of  $\mathbb{C}$ . Show that  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]$  is a Euclidean ring and that it is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}[T]/(T^2 - 2)$ .

**Exercise 10.**

Give three examples of

1. an integral domain that is not a unique factorization domain;
2. a unique factorization domain that is not a principal ideal ring;
3. a local principal domain that is not a field;
4. a local ring that is not an integral domain.

**Exercise 11.**

Let  $\mathbb{F}_2 = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  be the field with two elements 0 and 1.

1. Show that  $f = T^2 + T + 1$  is an irreducible polynomial in  $\mathbb{F}_2[T]$ .
2. Show that  $\mathbb{F}_4 = \mathbb{F}_2[T]/(f)$  is a field with four elements.
3. Show that  $\mathbb{F}_4^\times$  is a cyclic group with 3 elements.
4. Show that  $T^4 - T = \prod_{a \in \mathbb{F}_4} (T - a)$  (as a polynomial in  $\mathbb{F}_4[T]$ ).
5. Find a factorization of  $T^4 - T$  in  $\mathbb{F}_2[T]$ .

**Remark:** The polynomial  $f$  is called the *third cyclotomic polynomial*.

**Exercise 12.**

Let  $A$  be a ring.

1. If ideals  $I$  and  $J$  are coprime then, also  $I^m$  and  $J^n$  are coprime for all  $m, n \geq 1$ .
2. Given pairwise coprime ideals  $I_i$  and elements  $a_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , there exists an  $x \in A$  such that  $x - a_i \in I_i$ .

**Exercise 13.**

Let  $A$  be a ring and let  $n\mathbb{Z}$  be the kernel of the unique ring homomorphism  $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow A$  where  $n \geq 0$ . The number  $\text{char} A = n$  is called the *characteristic of  $A$* .

1. Show that if  $n$  is positive, then  $n$  is the smallest positive integer such that

$$n \cdot 1 = \underbrace{1 + \dots + 1}_{n\text{-times}} = 0.$$

If  $n = 0$ , then  $k \cdot 1 \neq 0$  for any  $k \geq 0$ .

2. Show that  $n$  is zero or a prime number if  $A$  is an integral domain.
3. Let  $L/K$  be a field extension. Show that  $K$  and  $L$  have the same characteristic.
4. Let  $K$  be a field of characteristic 0. Show that there is a unique ring homomorphism  $\mathbb{Q} \rightarrow K$ .
5. Let  $p$  be a prime number and  $\mathbb{F}_p = \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  the field with  $p$  elements. Let  $K$  be a field of characteristic  $p$ . Show that there is a unique ring homomorphism  $\mathbb{F}_p \rightarrow K$ .
6. Give an example of a ring homomorphism  $A \rightarrow B$  where  $A$  and  $B$  have different characteristics.

**Remark:** The image of the unique homomorphism  $\mathbb{Q} \rightarrow K$  (if  $\text{char} K = 0$ ) or  $\mathbb{F}_p \rightarrow K$  (if  $\text{char} K = p > 0$ ) is called the *prime field of  $K$* .

**Exercise 14.**

Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a surjective ring homomorphism and  $A$  a local ring. Show that  $B$  is also a local ring.

**Exercise 15.**

Let  $A$  be a ring. Show that the set of all zero divisors of  $A$  is a union of ideals.

**Hint:** The kernel  $I_a$  of the multiplication map  $m_a : A \rightarrow A$  by  $a$  consists of zero divisors if  $a \neq 0$ .

**Exercise 16.**

Prove the following stronger version of the statement of the previous exercise: the set of all zero divisors of a ring  $A$  is a union of prime ideals. This can be done along the following lines.

1. Let  $I_a$  be the kernel of the multiplication map  $m_a : A \rightarrow A$ . Show that  $I_0 = A$  and that all elements of  $I_a$  are zero divisors if  $a \neq 0$ .
2. Let  $\mathcal{S} = \{I_a | a \in A - \{0\}\}$ , which is partially ordered by inclusion. Show that for every  $I_a \in \mathcal{S}$ , there is a maximal element  $I_b$  in  $\mathcal{S}$  containing  $I_a$ .
3. Show that the set of zero divisors is the union of all maximal elements  $I_a$  of  $\mathcal{S}$ .
4. Show that  $I_a \subset I_{ab}$  for any  $a, b \in A$ .
5. Show that every maximal element  $I_a$  in  $\mathcal{S}$  is a prime ideal.