

M.Sc. DEGREE (C.S.S.) EXAMINATION, AUGUST 2014**Second Semester**

Faculty of Science

Branch I (a)—Mathematics

MTO 2C 06—ABSTRACT ALGEBRA

(2012 admission onwards)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum Weight : 30

Part A

*Answer any five questions.
Each question carries weight 1.*

1. Find all subgroups of $Z_2 \times Z_4$ of order 4.
2. How many polynomials are there of degree ≤ 2 in $Z_5[x]$?
3. Show that the polynomial $x^2 + 1$ is irreducible in $Z_3[x]$.
4. Find the degree and a basis for $Q(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{6})$ over $Q(\sqrt{3})$.
5. Find two sylow 2-subgroups of S_4 and show that they are conjugate.
6. Find all conjugates in C of $\sqrt{1+\sqrt{2}}$ over Q .
7. What is the order of $G((Q^{\sqrt[3]{2}})/Q)$?
8. The field $K = Q(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}, \sqrt{5})$ is a finite normal extension of Q . Find $|\lambda(Q(\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{6}))|$.

(5 × 1 = 5)

Part B

*Answer any five questions.
Each question carries weight 2.*

9. Let $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in \pi_{i=1}^n G_i$. If a_i is of finite order r_i in G_i , then show that the order of $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in \pi_{i=1}^n G_i$ is equal to the least common multiple of all the r_i .
10. Prove that the polynomial $x^2 - 2$ has no zeros in the rational numbers and thus $\sqrt{2}$ is not a rational number.

Turn over

11. Show that a finite extension field E of a field F is an algebraic extension of F .
12. State and prove fundamental theorem of algebra.
13. Let G be finite group. Prove that G is a p -group if and only if $|G|$ is a power of p .
14. If H and K are finite subgroups of G , show that :

$$|HK| = \frac{(|H|)(|K|)}{|H \cap K|}.$$

15. If $E \leq F$ is a splitting field over F , show that every irreducible polynomial in $F[x]$ having a zero in E splits in E .
16. Show that every field of characteristic zero is perfect.

(5 × 2 = 10)

Part C

Answer any three questions.

Each question carries weight 5.

17. Let F be a subfield of a field E , let α be any element of E , and let x be an indeterminate. Prove that the map $\phi_\alpha : F[x] \rightarrow E$ defined by $\phi_\alpha(a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n) = a_0 + a_1\alpha + \dots + a_n\alpha^n$ is a homeomorphism of $F[x]$ into E . Also show that $\phi_\alpha(a) = a$ for $a \in F$ and $\phi_\alpha(x) = \alpha$.
18. (a) State and prove Eisenstein criterion.
(b) Show that the polynomial $\phi_p(x) = \frac{x^p - 1}{x - 1}$ is irreducible over \mathbb{Q} for any prime p .
19. Let F be a field and let $f(x)$ be a non-constant polynomial in $F[x]$. Prove that there exists an extension field E of F and an $\alpha \in E$ such that $f(\alpha) = 0$.
20. (a) If F is a field of prime characteristic p with algebraic closure \bar{F} , then show that $x^{p^n} - x$ has p^n distinct zeros in \bar{F} .
(b) Let p be a prime and let $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Show that if E and E' are fields of order p^n , then $E = E'$.
21. Let F be a finite field of characteristic p , then show that the map $\sigma_p : F \rightarrow F$ defined by $\sigma_p(a) = a^p$ for $a \in F$ is an automorphism. Also show that $F(\sigma_p) = \mathbb{Z}_p$.
22. Prove that every finite field is perfect.

(3 × 6 = 18)