

**M.Sc. (MATHEMATICS WITH APPLICATIONS  
IN COMPUTER SCIENCE)  
M.Sc. (MACS)**

**Term-End Examination**

00832

**December, 2018**

**MMT-003 : ALGEBRA**

*Time : 2 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 50*

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**Note :** *Question no. 1 is compulsory. Answer any 4 of the remaining five questions.  $\mathbf{Q}$  denotes the field of rationals,  $\mathbf{R}$  the field of real numbers and  $\mathbf{Z}_p$  the finite field with  $p$  elements.*

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1. Which of the following statements are *true* ? Give reasons for your answers. Marks will be given for the correct reasons only.  $5 \times 2 = 10$
- (a) If  $G$  is the free group generated by  $\{a, b\}$  and  $H$  is the subgroup generated by  $\{a\}$ , then  $H$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ .
- (b)  $X^2 + \bar{1}$  factors into linear factors in  $\mathbf{Z}_{13}[X]$ .

- (c) The dimensions of all the irreducible complex representations of a group of order 49 must all be 1.
- (d) If  $k$  is a field, then so is  $k \times k$ .
- (e) The degree of  $\mathbb{Q}(\omega)/\mathbb{Q}$  is 3, where  $\omega$  is a primitive cube root of unity.
2. (a) Why is the polynomial  $X^8 - 2$  irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ? What is its splitting field  $K$  and what is the degree of the splitting field over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ? Write down an element of order 2 in the Galois group of  $K$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , giving the action of the group element on a set of generators of  $K$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . 6
- (b) Find all the non-isomorphic abelian groups of order 32. 4
3. (a) What is the degree of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{7}, \sqrt[5]{3})$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ? Justify your answer. Is the polynomial  $X^5 - 5 \in \mathbb{Q}[X]$  irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{7})$ ? Give reasons for your answer. 6

- (b) Let  $G = A_4$ , and  $H$  be the cyclic subgroup generated by the permutation  $(123)$ . Let  $G/H$  be the set of left cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ . What is the natural action of  $G$  on  $G/H$ ? Determine all the elements of the stabiliser of  $(12)(34)H$  under this action. Further, what is the cardinality of the orbit of  $(12)(34)H$ ?

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4. (a) Let  $S = \frac{\mathbb{Z}_5[X]}{(X^3 + X + \bar{1})}$ . How many elements

does  $S$  have? Justify your answer. Is  $S$  a field? Justify your answer.

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- (b) Determine the conjugacy classes of  $A_5$  and the class equation for  $A_5$ .

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- (c) Check whether or not  $(W, +)$  is a free semigroup, where  $W$  is the set of whole numbers.

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5. (a) Use the Sylow theorems to show that a group of order  $pq$  where  $p$  and  $q$  are prime numbers  $p < q$ ,  $p \nmid (q - 1)$  must be cyclic. Give an example to show that if  $p$  divides  $(q - 1)$ , then the group of order  $pq$  may not be cyclic.

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- (b) If  $a$  stands for a digit between 0 and 9, give one value of  $a$  for which 8278a19051 is a valid ISBN number. 2

6. (a) Let  $X = \mathbf{Z}_2^n$ . Define a subset of  $X$  to be a block if it has 4 elements that add up to  $\mathbf{0}$  in  $\mathbf{Z}_2^n$ . Find the values of the parameters  $v, k, \lambda$  for this design, where  $\tau = 3$ . Further, if  $\tau = 2$ , what will the values of these parameters be? 4

- (b) Complete the following character table of a group of order 12 :

	1 $x_1$	3 $x_2$	4 $x_3$	4 $x_4$
$\chi_1$	1	1	$\omega^2$	$\omega$
$\chi_2$	3	-1	0	0

where  $\omega$  is a primitive cube root of unity. 6