



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2010/2011

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF
SCIENCE

SMA 204: ALGEBRAIC STRUCTURES

DATE: THURSDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER 2010

TIME: 8.00 A.M. - 10.00 A.M.

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions.

QUESTION 1 (30 marks)

- a) Define $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-4}$. Determine the domain, range and $f^{-1}(x)$.
(6 marks)
- b) Let $f : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$, $g : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ defined by $f(n) = n^2 + 2n + 1$, $g(n) = 4n - 5$.
Show that $(g \circ f)(n) \neq (f \circ g)(n)$
(4 marks)
- c) Let $*$ be a binary operation defined on $\mathbb{R}$ by $x * y = xy - x - y$. Show that
 $*$ is commutative but not associative.
(4 marks)
- d) Let $*$ be a binary operation defined on a non-empty set A, with identity.
prove that the identity element is unique.
(4 marks)
- e) Suppose $\langle G, * \rangle$ is a group whose elements are $\{e, a, a^2, a^3, a^4, a^5\}$ with
 $a^6 = e$. Draw the Cayley table of G. Determine the inverse of each element
and all subgroups of G.
(7 marks)
- f) Differentiate between a **zero divisor** and a **unit** in a ring $\langle R, +, \cdot \rangle$. Determine
all zero divisors and units in $\langle \mathbb{Z}_{18}, +, \cdot \rangle$.
(5 marks)

QUESTION 2 (20 marks)

- a) Define $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $f(x) = \frac{x}{x+1}$
- (i) Find $f(-5)$, the domain and range of f . (4 marks)
 - (ii) Find $f^{-1}(x)$ and $f^{-1}(3)$ (3 marks)
 - (iii) Show that f is injective (3 marks)
- b) Let $A = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$, $B = \{3, 5, 7, 10, 13, 15, 18\}$ and $D = \{p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w\}$.
Define $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $g : B \rightarrow D$ by
- $f : a \mapsto 5, b \mapsto 7, c \mapsto 12, d \mapsto 15, e \mapsto 18, f \mapsto 10$
 $g : 3 \mapsto q, 5 \mapsto q, 7 \mapsto r, 10 \mapsto s, 12 \mapsto u, 15 \mapsto u, 18 \mapsto w$
- i) Find the composition map $g \circ f : A \rightarrow D$ using a diagram. (3 marks)
 - ii) Determine the inverse functions;
 $f^{-1} : B \rightarrow A$, $g^{-1} : D \rightarrow B$ and $(g \circ f)^{-1} : D \rightarrow A$ if they exist.
Explain. (3 marks)
 - (iii) Find all solutions to $(g \circ f)(x) = u$. (2 marks)
 - (iv) Determine $g^{-1}(E)$, where $E = \{p, r, u\}$ (2 marks)

QUESTION 3 (20 marks)

- a) Explain what is meant by a **commutative** and an **associative** binary operation. (2 marks)
- b) Which of the following binary operations defined on $\mathbb{R}$ (the set of real numbers) is commutative or associative.
- i) $x * y = xy + x + y$ (4 marks)
 - ii) $x * y = x^2 + 3y$ (4 marks)
- c) Differentiate between an **identity** and **zero element** for a binary operation $*$ defined on a set A . (2 marks)

- d) Determine the identity and zero elements if any for the binary operation in b(i) above. (4 marks)
- e) An element is said to be **idempotent** under a binary operation $*$ if $b * b = b$. Determine all idempotent elements in $\langle \mathbb{Z}_{10}, \bullet \rangle$ by first making a table for x^2 for all x in $\mathbb{Z}_{10}$. Here $\bullet$ is multiplication modulo 10. (4 marks)

QUESTION 4 (20 marks)

The tables below show the Cayley table of a ring $\langle R, +, \bullet \rangle$

+	k	l	m	n	p	q	r
k	p	k	n	r	q	m	l
L	k	l	m	n	p	q	r
m	n	m	k	p	r	l	q
n	r	n	p	q	l	k	m
p	q	p	r	l	m	n	k
q	m	q	l	k	n	r	p
r	l	r	q	m	k	p	n

$\bullet$	k	l	m	n	p	q	r
k	q	l	n	k	r	p	m
l	l	l	l	l	l	l	l
m	n	l	r	m	q	k	p
n	k	l	m	n	p	q	r
p	r	l	q	p	n	m	k
q	p	l	k	q	m	r	n
r	m	l	p	r	k	n	q

- (a) Determine the additive and multiplicative identities. (2 marks)
- (b) Find the additive inverse of each element. (3 marks)
- (c) Determine the multiplicative inverse of each element. (3 marks)