



SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

Autumn Semester  
2019-20

Fields

2 hours 30 minutes

Attempt all the questions. The allocation of marks is shown in brackets.

- 1 (i) State the Subfield Criterion. (3 marks)
- (ii) Prove that the intersection  $K_1 \cap K_2$  of two subfields  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  of a field  $L$  is also a subfield of  $L$ . (2 marks)
- (iii) For each of the subsets  $J_1$  and  $J_2$  of  $\mathbb{C}$  specified below determine, with justification, whether it is a subfield of  $\mathbb{C}$ :
- (a)  $J_1 = \{a + b\sqrt{-2} : a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ . (5 marks)
- (b)  $J_2 = \{a + b\sqrt{3} + c\sqrt{5} : a, b, c \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ . (5 marks)
- (iv) Show that the following subfields  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  are equal where
- $$L_1 = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}) \text{ and } L_2 = \mathbb{Q}\left(\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}, \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{3}, \frac{5\sqrt{2} + 7\sqrt{3}}{2\sqrt{2} + 3\sqrt{3}}\right).$$
- (5 marks)
- (v) Is the element  $\alpha = 2\sqrt{2} - 3\sqrt{3} + 1$  equal to 0? Justify your response. (5 marks)

- 2**
- (i) State Gauss' Lemma. (2 marks)
  - (ii) Give a definition of the content  $c(f)$  of a polynomial  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  and prove Gauss' Lemma. (6 marks)
  - (iii) Let  $K \subseteq L$  be a field extension and  $\alpha \in L$  be an algebraic element over the field  $K$ .
    - (a) Define the *minimal polynomial*  $m(x) \in K[x]$  of the element  $\alpha$  over  $K$  and prove that the polynomial  $m(x)$  irreducible over  $K$ . (6 marks)
    - (b) Suppose that  $n = \deg(m(x))$ . Prove that the set of elements  $1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}$  form a basis for the vector space  $K(\alpha)$  over the field  $K$ . (8 marks)
    - (c) Find the minimal polynomial  $m(x) \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})[x]$  of the element  $\alpha = \sqrt{3} + 3\sqrt{2}$  over the field  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$ . (3 marks)
- 3**
- (i)
    - (a) State Eisenstein's Irreducibility Criterion. (2 marks)
    - (b) Prove Eisenstein's Irreducibility Criterion. (8 marks)
    - (c) Show that the polynomial  $13x^{10} - 6x^7 - 36x^3 + 12$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ . (2 marks)
  - (ii)
    - (a) State the 'Shifted Eisenstein's Irreducibility Criterion'. (3 marks)
    - (b) Prove the 'Shifted Eisenstein's Irreducibility Criterion'. (7 marks)
    - (c) Show that the polynomial  $f(x) = x^2 + 7x - 5$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$  by using the 'Shifted Eisenstein's Irreducibility Criterion' (or otherwise). (3 marks)
- 4**
- (i) Give a definition of a constructible point  $P \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . (2 marks)
  - (ii) State Standard Constructions I-IV (for each Standard Construction there is no need to give an algorithm for constructing points/lines). (4 marks)
  - (iii) Let  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . Give a criterion for constructibility of the point  $(a, b)$  (via quadratic fields). (3 marks)
  - (iv) Prove the criterion. (8 marks)
  - (v) Using **only** the criterion show that the point  $(\sqrt{1 + \sqrt[4]{5}}, 0)$  is a constructible point. (4 marks)
  - (vi) Is the point  $(\frac{3}{13}, \sqrt[3]{5})$  constructible? Justify your response. (4 marks)

**End of Question Paper**