

## Rings, Modules and Linear Algebra — Sample paper

Answer **four** questions. You are advised **not** to answer more than four questions: if you do, only your best four will be counted.

- 1 (i) Consider the following matrix over  $\mathbb{C}$ :

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (a) What is the characteristic polynomial of  $A$ ? *(5 marks)*  
(b) What is the minimal polynomial of  $A$ ? *(5 marks)*  
(c) Which direct sum of basic  $\mathbb{C}[x]$ -modules is isomorphic to  $M_A$ ? *(5 marks)*

- (ii) Now let  $a$  be a complex number and consider the matrix

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Determine the Jordan normal form of  $B$ , with careful attention to any special cases. *(10 marks)*

2 Consider the following matrix over  $\mathbb{Z}$ :

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 & 6 & 8 \\ 10 & 12 & 14 & 16 \\ 16 & 14 & 12 & 10 \\ 8 & 6 & 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $N$  be the quotient of  $\mathbb{Z}^4$  by the span of the columns of  $A$ .

- (i) Reduce the matrix  $A$  to normal form by row and column operations. **(9 marks)**
- (ii) Give a list of cyclic  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules whose direct sum is isomorphic to  $N$ . **(3 marks)**
- (iii) Prove that  $N$  is neither a free module nor a torsion module. **(6 marks)**
- (iv) Prove that any homomorphism from  $\mathbb{Z}_3$  to  $N$  is zero. **(7 marks)**

3 (i) List all the isomorphism types of Abelian groups of order 32. **(7 marks)**

(ii) State the value of  $f_p^k(\mathbb{Z}_{q^j})$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are primes, and  $k$  and  $j$  are natural numbers. **(5 marks)**

(iii) Let  $A$  be an Abelian group of order 32. Suppose that  $4A = \{0\}$  and  $f_2^2(A) = 2$ . Which of the groups in your list is isomorphic to  $A$ ? **(8 marks)**

(iv) Let  $A'$  be an Abelian group of order 32 such that  $g_2^1(A') = g_2^2(A') = 0$ . Show that  $A'$  is cyclic. **(5 marks)**

4 (i) Let  $R$  be a Euclidean domain. Prove that every ideal in  $R$  is principal. **(7 marks)**

(ii) Put  $I = \{f \in \mathbb{C}[x] \mid f(0) = f'(0) = f(1) = 0\}$ ; you may assume that this is an ideal. Find a polynomial  $g(x)$  such that  $I = \mathbb{C}[x]g(x)$  (and justify your answer). **(6 marks)**

(iii) Put  $M = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{Z}^3 \mid x = y = z \pmod{7}\}$ .

(a) By constructing a suitable homomorphism, show that  $\mathbb{Z}^3/M \simeq \mathbb{Z}_7 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_7$ . **(6 marks)**

(b) Find a basis for  $M$  (and justify your answer). **(6 marks)**

- 5 (i) Consider the following matrices:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Find all the homomorphisms of  $\mathbb{C}[x]$ -modules from  $M_A$  to  $M_B$ . *(7 marks)*

- (ii) Let  $M$  and  $N$  be modules over a Euclidean domain  $R$ , and suppose there are coprime elements  $a, b \in R$  such that  $aM = bN = \{0\}$ . Prove that any homomorphism from  $M$  to  $N$  is zero. *(7 marks)*

- (iii) Consider the following matrices:

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 5 & 6 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 8 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 10 \end{pmatrix} \quad D = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (a) Calculate  $\text{char}(C)$  and  $\text{char}(D)$ . *(4 marks)*
- (b) Deduce that any homomorphism of  $\mathbb{C}[x]$ -modules from  $M_C$  to  $M_D$  is zero, explaining your reasoning carefully. *(7 marks)*

**End of Question Paper**