

Exercise 1.

Let $f : A \rightarrow B$ be a ring homomorphism.

1. Show that $f(0) = 0$, $f(-a) = -f(a)$ and $f(a^{-1}) = f(a)^{-1}$.
2. Show that f is injective if and only if $f^{-1}(0) = \{0\}$.
3. Show that the image of f is a subring of B .
4. Show that f is a ring isomorphism if and only if there is a ring homomorphism $g : B \rightarrow A$ such that $g \circ f$ is the identity of A and $f \circ g$ is the identity of B .

Exercise 2.

Show that every finite integral domain is a field.

Exercise 3 (Gaussian integers).

Let $i \in \mathbb{C}$ be a square root of -1 . Show that the subset $\mathbb{Z}[i] = \{a + bi \in \mathbb{C} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ is a subring of \mathbb{C} . Is $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ a domain? Is it a field? Show that $\mathbb{Q}[i] = \{a + bi \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ is a subring of \mathbb{C} that is a field.

Remark: $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ is called the *ring of Gaussian integers*.

Exercise 4.

1. Show that the set $C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ of all smooth functions $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a ring w.r.t. to value-wise addition and multiplication, i.e. $(f + g)(x) := f(x) + g(x)$ and $(f \cdot g)(x) := f(x) \cdot g(x)$. Which of the following maps are ring homomorphisms?
 - a) $\text{ev}_a : C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $\text{ev}_a(f) := f(a)$ where $a \in \mathbb{R}$;
 - b) $d : C^\infty(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ with $d(f) := \frac{df}{dt}$.
2. Show that the set $\mathbb{F}_p[T] = \{\sum_{i=0}^n a_i T^i \mid n \geq 0, a_i \in \mathbb{F}_p\}$ of polynomials with coefficients in \mathbb{F}_p forms a ring w.r.t. to the addition $\sum a_i T^i + \sum b_i T^i = \sum (a_i + b_i) T^i$ and the multiplication

$$\left(\sum_{i=0}^n a_i T^i \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{j=0}^m b_j T^j \right) := \sum_{k=0}^{n+m} \left(\sum_{i+j=k} a_i b_j \right) T^k.$$

Which of the following maps are ring homomorphisms?

- a) $\text{ev}_c : \mathbb{F}_p[T] \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p$ with $\text{ev}_c(\sum a_i T^i) = \sum a_i c^i$ where $c \in \mathbb{F}_p$;
- b) $\text{Frob} : \mathbb{F}_p[T] \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p[T]$ with $\sum a_i T^i \rightarrow \sum a_i^p T^i$.

Exercise 5 (Bonus exercise¹).

Show that the embedding $i : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}[T]$ of real numbers as constant polynomials is a ring homomorphism. Show that $\mathbb{R}[T]$ together with $i : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}[T]$ satisfies the following universal property. For every ring homomorphism $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow B$ and for every map $\tilde{f} : \{T\} \rightarrow B$, there is a unique ring homomorphism $F : \mathbb{R}[T] \rightarrow B$ such that $f = F \circ i$ and $F(T) = \tilde{f}(T)$.

¹Points for solutions of bonus exercises count as a bonus at the end of the course.