

BONDO UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND ACTUARIAL  
SCIENCE

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION  
FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN  
PURE MATHEMATICS

SMA 823: COMMUTATIVE ALGEBRA

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. This paper consists of FIVE questions
2. Attempt any THREE questions.
3. Observe further instructions on the answer booklet.

**QUESTION 1** [20 Marks]

- (a) Consider the polynomial ring  $\mathbf{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . What are the ideals of this ring? [5 mks]
- (b) Show that any maximal ideal is prime. [5 mks]
- (c) Show that a commutative ring with  $1 \neq 0$  is a field iff it has only the ideal (1) and the maximal ideal (0). [5 mks]
- (d) Suppose a ring  $R$  is a module over itself and  $S$  is a subset of  $R$ . Find the ring structure of  $S^{-1}R$ . [5 mks]

**QUESTION 2** [20 Marks]

- (a) Let  $R$  be any commutative ring and  $J \subset R$  a prime ideal. Show that  $R_J$  is a local ring. [5 mks]
- (b) Let  $I$  be an ideal of a ring  $R$ . Define the radical of  $I$  and prove that the radical of  $I$  is an ideal if  $I$  is an ideal. [5 mks]
- (c) Let  $M$  and  $N$  be  $R$ -modules. Suppose  $f : M \rightarrow N$  is an  $R$ -module homomorphism, show that  $f$  is injective iff for every maximal ideal  $J \subset R$ ,  $f_J : M_J \rightarrow N_J$  is injective. [10 mks]

**QUESTION 3** [20 Marks]

- (a) Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $\text{Spec}R$  be the collection of prime ideals in  $R$ . Define  $U_f \subseteq \text{Spec}R$  as subset of  $\text{Spec}R$  consisting of primes not containing  $f$ . Show that  $U_f$  forms a basis for the Zariski topology. [6 mks]
- (b) Suppose  $f : M \rightarrow N$ ,  $g : N \rightarrow P$  and  $M \rightarrow N \rightarrow P$  is exact. Let  $S \subset R$  be multiplicatively closed. Proving all the results involved, show that  $S^{-1}M \rightarrow S^{-1}N \rightarrow S^{-1}P$  is exact. [14 mks]

**QUESTION 4** [20 Marks]

- (a) Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $M$  and  $N$  be  $R$ -modules. Define the tensor product of  $M$  and  $N$ . Hence or otherwise, show that:
- i) the tensor product is symmetric;
  - ii) there is a canonical isomorphism  $M \otimes_R N \rightarrow \otimes_R M, N$ , for each  $M, N$ .
  - iii) the tensor product is associative. [10 mks]
- (b) Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. Show that an irreducible submodule  $N \subset M$  is coprimary. [10 mks]

**QUESTION 5** [20 Marks]

- (a) Let  $R$  be a ring and  $S \subset R$  be a multiplicatively closed subset. Show that if  $R$  is noetherian, then  $S^{-1}R$  is noetherian. [5 mks]
- (b) Using an example, demonstrate that the formation of tensor products is in general, not exact. [5 mks]
- (c) i) Let  $(R, J)$  be a local artinian ring. Show that  $J$  is nilpotent [7 mks].  
ii) Show that if  $R$  is artinian, then there are only finitely many maximal ideals. [3 mks]