

ALGEBRA PH.D. QUALIFYING EXAM

January 19, 2014

The

*A passing paper consists of five problems solved completely, or four solved completely plus significant progress on two other problems; in both cases at least two of problems solved completely must include one from each of Sections A, B and C.*

Section

*In this section you may quote without proof basic facts and classifications from group theory as long as you state clearly what facts you are using.*

1. Let  $G$  be a group of order 2457 (note that  $2457 = 3^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ ).
  - (a) Compute the number,  $n_p$ , of,

5. Let  $R$  be a Principal Ideal Domain with field of fractions  $F$  and assume  $R = F$ . As usual we may view  $F$  as a module over its subring  $R$ .
- (a) Prove that every finitely generated  $R$ -submodule of  $F$  is a cyclic  $R$ -module.
- (b) Deduce from (a) that  $F$  cannot be a finitely generated  $R$ -module.  
(You may quote results about modules over PIDs.)
6. Let  $\mathbb{F}_q$  be the finite field with  $q$  elements. Find the number of similarity classes of  $5 \times 5$  matrices  $A$  over  $F_q$  that satisfy  $A^q = I$ , where  $I$  is the identity matrix. (Justify your answer. You do not need to exhibit representatives of the classes.)

### Section C.

7. Let  $f(x) = x^6 - 6x^3 + 1$  and let  $\alpha, \beta$  be the two real roots of  $f(x)$  with  $\alpha > \beta$ . You may assume  $f(x)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ . Let  $K$  be the splitting field of  $f(x)$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ .
- (a) Exhibit all six roots of  $f(x)$  in terms of radicals involving only integers and powers of  $\alpha, \beta$ , where  $\omega$  is a primitive cube root of unity.
- (b) Prove that  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \beta)$  and deduce that  $[K : \mathbb{Q}] = 12$ . [Hint: What is  $\alpha^3$ ?]
- (c) Prove that  $G = \text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$  has a normal subgroup  $N$  such that  $G/N$  is the Klein group of order four.
8. Let  $n$  be a given positive integer and let  $E_{2^n}$  be the elementary abelian group of order  $2^n$  (the direct product of  $n$  copies of the cyclic group of order 2). Show that there is some positive integer  $N$  such that the cyclotomic field  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_N)$  contains a subfield  $F$  that is Galois over  $\mathbb{Q}$  with  $\text{Gal}(F/\mathbb{Q}) = E_{2^n}$ , where  $\zeta_N$  is a primitive  $N^{\text{th}}$  root of 1 in  $\mathbb{C}$ .
9. Let  $p$  be a prime and let  $q = p^n$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .
- (a) What is the degree of the extension  $\mathbb{F}_{q^2}$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ ? Describe how the Frobenius automorphism,  $\sigma$ , for this extension acts on the elements of  $\mathbb{F}_{q^2}$ .
- (b) Define the norm map

$$N : \mathbb{F}_{q^2}^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q^\times \quad \text{by} \quad N(a) = a \sigma(a).$$

Prove that this norm map is surjective. [Hint: Note that  $N$  is a homomorphism of multiplicative groups. Use (a) and facts about finite fields to find the order of its kernel.]