

Problem Set 7  
Math 4281, Spring 2014  
Due: Wednesday, March 12

---

**Ring homomorphisms and ideals**

1. Find all ring homomorphisms:

a.  $\phi: \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

b.  $\phi: \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_6$

c.  $\phi: \mathbb{Z}_6 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2$

2. Prove that if  $p$  is prime and  $\phi: \mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p, \phi(a) = a^p$ , is a ring homomorphism.

3. Find all ideals in  $\mathbb{Z}$  and in  $\mathbb{Z}_6$ .

4. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with 1, and let  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in R$ . Show that

$$\langle a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle := \{r_1 a_1 + \dots + r_n a_n \mid r_i \in R \text{ for all } i\} \subseteq R$$

is an ideal in  $R$ .

5. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with 1, and let  $I, J \subset R$  be ideals. Define

$$I \cap J = \{a \in R \mid a \in I \text{ and } a \in J\} \quad \text{and} \quad I + J = \{a + b \in R \mid a \in I, b \in J\}.$$

a. Prove that  $I \cap J$  and  $I + J$  are ideals.

b. Suppose  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  or  $F[x]$  for a field  $F$ ,  $I = \langle a \rangle$ , and  $J = \langle b \rangle$ . Identify  $I \cap J$  and  $I + J$  in terms of  $a$  and  $b$ .

c. Let  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in R$ . Prove that  $\langle a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle = \langle a_1 \rangle + \dots + \langle a_n \rangle$ .

6. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with 1.

a. Prove that if  $I \subseteq R$  is an ideal and  $1 \in I$ , then  $I = R$ .

b. Prove that  $a \in R$  is a unit if and only if  $\langle a \rangle = R$ .

c. Prove that the only ideals in  $R$  are  $\langle 0 \rangle$  and  $R$  if and only if  $R$  is a field.

Throughout the course of this assignment, I have followed the guidelines of the University of Minnesota Student Conduct Code.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_