

QUALIFYING EXAM: ALGEBRA, SEPTEMBER 2016

Problem 1 (15 pts). Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 2 & -2 \\ 2 & 5 & 4 \\ -2 & 4 & 5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let $B \in M_{3 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$ and $C \in M_{2 \times 3}(\mathbb{R})$ such that $BC = A$. Find CB .

Problem 2 (15 pts). Let G be a non-trivial finite group. Let p be the smallest prime factor of the order of G . If H is a subgroup of G with index p , show that H is normal in G .

Problem 3 (20 pts). Let G be a finite group of order 455. Show that any 13-Sylow subgroup is in the center of G .

Problem 4 (15 pts). For any positive integer n and a group G , define

$$G[n] = \{x \in G \mid x^n = 1\}.$$

Let G_1 and G_2 be two finite abelian groups. Suppose that for every positive integer n , the cardinalities of $G_1[n]$ and $G_2[n]$ are the same. Show that G_1 and G_2 are isomorphic.

Problem 5 (15 pts). Let A be a Noetherian commutative ring and let B be a finitely generated A -algebra. Let G be a finite group acting on B as A -linear automorphism and let B^G be the set of elements in B fixed by G . Then B^G is an A -algebra. Show that B^G is finitely generated A -algebra.

Problem 6 (20 pts).

- (1) Let p be a prime. Show that the symmetric group S_p is generated by any 2-cycle and any p -cycle.
- (2) Let E be the splitting field of the polynomial $x^5 - x - 1$ over \mathbb{Q} . Show that the Galois group $\text{Gal}(E/\mathbb{Q})$ is isomorphic to S_5 .