

1. Let  $V \neq 0$  be a finite-dimensional vector space over a field  $F$  and  $T : V \rightarrow V$  be a linear transformation. Recall that a cyclic vector for  $T$  is a vector  $v$  in  $V$  such that  $\{v, Tv, T^2v, \dots\}$  spans  $V$ .
  - (a) **(10 points.)** Suppose that every nonzero vector of  $V$  is a cyclic vector for  $T$ . Prove that the characteristic polynomial of  $T$  must be irreducible over  $F$ .
  - (b) **(10 points.)** Suppose that the characteristic polynomial of  $T$  is irreducible over  $F$ . Prove that every nonzero vector  $v$  in  $V$  is a cyclic vector for  $T$ .
2. Let  $p$  be a prime and  $G$  be a finite  $p$ -group.
  - (a) **(5 points.)** Prove that the center  $Z(G)$  of  $G$  is nontrivial.
  - (b) **(5 points.)** Prove that if  $G/Z(G)$  is cyclic, then  $G$  is abelian.
  - (c) **(15 points.)** Assume that  $p$  is an odd prime. Classify groups of order  $p^3$  up to isomorphisms.
  - (d) **(5 points.)** Assume that  $p$  is an odd prime. Can a non-abelian group of order  $p^3$  be embedded into  $\text{GL}(2, \mathbb{C})$  as a subgroup? Explain your reasoning.
3. **(10 points.)** Let  $R$  be a Noetherian integral domain. Prove that every nonzero element of  $R$  can be factored into a product of irreducibles.
4.
  - (a) **(5 points.)** Let  $f(x)$  be a monic irreducible polynomial of degree 4 over  $\mathbb{Q}$  such that the Galois group of  $f$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is cyclic of order 4. Prove that the discriminant of  $f$  is not equal to the square of a rational number.
  - (b) **(20 points.)** Let  $a$  be a squarefree integer with  $a \neq 1$ . Prove that  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{a})$  is contained in some cyclic extension of degree 4 of  $\mathbb{Q}$  if and only if  $a = b^2 + c^2$  for some  $b, c \in \mathbb{Q}$ . (*Hint for the "only if" direction:* Assume that  $K/\mathbb{Q}$  is a cyclic extension of degree 4 such that  $K$  contains  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{a})$ . Let  $\alpha \in K$  be a primitive element and  $f(x)$  be its irreducible polynomial over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . What does Part (a) say about the discriminant of  $f$ ?)
5. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with 1. Suppose that

$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \longrightarrow 0$$

is an exact sequence of  $R$ -modules. Let  $r$  and  $s$  be elements of  $R$  such that  $R$  is generated by  $r$  and  $s$  and  $rA = sC = 0$ .

- (a) **(5 points.)** Show that the map  $C \rightarrow C$  given by  $c \mapsto rc$  is an isomorphism.
- (b) **(5 points.)** Show that the restriction of  $g$  to  $rB$  gives an isomorphism  $rB \simeq C$ .
- (c) **(5 points.)** Show that  $B \simeq A \oplus C$ .