

Answer all questions. Your answers should be complete and to the point.

1. Define elementary symmetric functions in variables over a field K . Show that they are algebraically independent over K . [10]
2. Let $R_n = M_n(K)$ be the ring of $n \times n$ -matrices over a field K . Show that K^n is an irreducible R_n -module with the usual module structure. If T_n is the subring of R_n consisting of upper triangular $n \times n$ -matrices over K , then show that K^n is not an irreducible T_n -module. [6 + 6 = 12]
3. (a) Define the following concepts: Noetherian ring, Artinian ring, unique factorization domain, Local ring. [3 + 3 + 3 + 3 = 12]
(b) With justification, give an example for each of the following:
 - (i) An Artinian ring which is not Noetherian;
 - (ii) A Noetherian ring which is not Artinian;
 - (iii) A local ring which is not a field;
 - (iv) A commutative ring without multiplicative identity.[4 + 4 + 4 + 4 = 16]
4. (a) For a ring R , define a free R -module of rank n .
(b) Show that any two free R -modules of rank n are isomorphic.
(c) Which of the modules M are free R -modules:
 - (i) $M = \mathbb{Q}$ and $R = \mathbb{Z}$;
 - (ii) $M = K[X_1, X_2]$ and $R = K[X_1]$, K a field. [5 + 8 + 7 + 7 = 27]
5. (a) Construct a field of order 27.
(b) Show that there is no field of order 12.
(c) Does there exist a nonabelian group of order 24? How many abelian groups of order 24 exist. Justify your answer. [8 + 7 + 8 = 23]