

R denotes a ring.

30. A subset S of R is a *subring* if it is a ring under the (restrictions of) the operations in R . Notation: $S \leq R$.

- (a) How can we reformulate the first question asked in Problem 24 using subrings concerning parts 24b, c, f, and g?
- (b) Prove that a non-empty subset S is a subring in R iff
 - (b1) it is closed under addition, multiplication, and forming the negatives of the elements, i.e. $(a, b \in S \Rightarrow a + b, ab, -a \in S)$; or
 - (b2) it is closed under subtraction and multiplication, i.e. $(a, b \in S \Rightarrow a - b, ab \in S)$.
- (c) Verify that the zero element of S is necessarily the same as the zero element of R , and the analog holds for the negatives of the elements, as well.

31. Let $S \neq \{0\}$ be a subring in R . True or false:

- (a) If R is commutative, then so is S . (b) If S is commutative, then so is R .
- (c) If R is zero-divisor free, then so is S . (d) If S is zero-divisor free, then so is R .
- (e) If R is a field, then so is S . (f) If S is a field, then so is R .
- (g) If R has an identity, then so does S . (h) If S has an identity, then so does R .
- (i) If both R and S have identities, then these are equal.
- (j) If R is zero-divisor free and both R and S have identities, then these are equal.
- (k) If S is zero-divisor-free and both R and S have identities, then these are equal.

32. (a) Prove that the intersection of arbitrarily many subrings is a subring again.

(b) Find a (simple) necessary and sufficient condition for the union of two subrings to be a subring.

33. Assume that R has an identity. Show that the smallest subring containing the identity is (essentially) \mathbf{Z} or \mathbf{Z}_n for some n .

34. A subset I in R is an *ideal* if it is a subring and is closed under multiplication with any element of R , i.e. $i \in I, r \in R \Rightarrow ri \in I, ir \in I$. Notation: $I \triangleleft R$.

- (a) Find the number of subrings and ideals in (a1) \mathbf{Z} ; (a2) \mathbf{R} ; (a3) $\mathbf{Q}[x]$; (a4) \mathbf{Z}_{20} .
- (b) Which ideals of \mathbf{Z} contain both 18 and 45?

35. Verify the following propositions.

- (a) A field has exactly two ideals.
- (b) Also $\mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$ has exactly two ideals.
- (c) If a commutative ring with identity has exactly two ideals, then it is a field.

36. Let H_1 and H_2 subsets in R , and define $H_1 + H_2 = \{h_1 + h_2 \mid h_i \in H_i\}$. True or false:

- (a) If H_1 and H_2 are subrings, then so is also $H_1 + H_2$.
- (b) If H_1 and H_2 are ideals, then so is also $H_1 + H_2$.

37. (a) Prove that every subring is an ideal in \mathbf{Z} and \mathbf{Z}_n .

(b) If R has an identity, then also the converse of (a) is true.

In Problems 38 and 39, we assume that R is a commutative ring with identity.

38. The *principal ideal* generated by $c \in R$ is the set (c) of all multiples of c , i.e. $(c) = \{rc \mid r \in R\}$.

- (a) Prove that (c) is an ideal, $c \in (c)$, and if an ideal I contains c , then $I \supseteq (c)$, i.e. (c) is the *smallest* (or *tightest*) ideal containing c .
- (b) Show that all ideals in \mathbf{Z} and \mathbf{Z}_n are principal ideals.
- (c) Verify $a \mid b \iff (b) \subseteq (a)$ in \mathbf{Z} .

39. The ideal generated by c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k is $(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k) = \{r_1c_1 + r_2c_2 + \dots + r_kc_k \mid r_i \in R\}$.

- (a) Verify that (c_1, \dots, c_k) is the smallest ideal containing c_1, \dots, c_k .
- (b) Describe the ideal $(21, 35)$ in \mathbf{Z} . Generalize the observation.
- (c) Show that the ideal $(2, x)$ is not a principal ideal in $\mathbf{Z}[x]$, but it is a principal ideal in $\mathbf{Q}[x]$.