

# Algebra Qualifying Exam

August, 2012

Please answer all 10 problems and show your work. Each problem is worth 20 points. In your proofs, you may use any theorem from the syllabus for Algebra, except of course you may not use the fact you are trying to prove, or a mere variant of it. State clearly what theorems you use. Good luck.

1. Let  $G$  be a group of order  $pqr$ , where  $p < q < r$  are distinct primes. Prove that a Sylow  $r$ -subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is normal.

5. Let  $F$  be a finite field of cardinality  $q$  and let  $V$  be a four-dimensional vector space over  $F$ . The group  $G = GL(V) \cong GL_4(F)$  acts on  $V$ . Let  $U$  be a two-dimensional subspace of  $V$ . Compute the order of the subgroup  $\{g \in GL(V) \mid gU = U\}$  and determine the number of two-dimensional subspaces of  $V$ .

6. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity and  $I, J$  two ideals in  $R$ . Prove that

$$R/I \times R/J \cong R/(I \cap J).$$

7. Let  $R = F[x]$  and  $S = K[x]$  be polynomial rings over fields  $F$  and  $K$ , where  $F$  is a subfield of  $K$ . Suppose  $M = E = F$  is a Galois degree 3 extension of fields and  $K/F$  is a non-Galois degree 4 extension of fields and the compositum  $KE$  is Galois over  $F$ . Either prove that such a situation is impossible, or give an example of such  $F, E, K$  and prove that your example works.

9. Let  $R$  be a noetherian commutative ring with identity and  $E = R[x]$  the ring of invariants.

(a) Prove that  $S$  is integral over  $R$ .

(b) Let  $k$  be a field and suppose that  $S$  is a finitely generated  $k$ -algebra, and that  $G$  acts on  $S$  via  $k$ -algebra automorphisms. Prove that  $S$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module.