

**MATH 101: GRADUATE LINEAR ALGEBRA**  
**WEEKLY HOMEWORK #6**

**Problem W6.1.** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring, let  $S \subset R$  be a multiplicatively closed set containing 1, and let  $S^{-1}R = R[S^{-1}]$  be the localization at  $S$ . Let  $\phi: R \rightarrow S^{-1}R$  be the ring homomorphism  $r \mapsto r/1$ .

- (a) Let  $I \subseteq R$  be an ideal. Then  $I$  is an  $R$ -module, so we have defined  $S^{-1}I \subseteq S^{-1}R$ , and

$$S^{-1}I = \{a/s : a \in I, s \in S\}.$$

Show that  $S^{-1}I$  is an ideal in  $S^{-1}R$ . Show that  $S^{-1}I = S^{-1}R$  if and only if  $I \cap S \neq \emptyset$ .

- (b) Show that every ideal  $I' \subseteq S^{-1}R$  is of the form  $I' = S^{-1}I$  for an ideal  $I \subseteq R$ .  
(c) Show that there is a bijection between the *prime* ideals of  $S^{-1}R$  and the prime ideals of  $R$  disjoint from  $S$ .

**Problem W6.2.**

- (a) Let  $R$  be a Euclidean domain with norm  $N$ . Let

$$m = \min(\{N(a) : a \in R, a \neq 0\}).$$

Show that every nonzero  $a \in R$  with  $N(a) = m$  is a unit in  $R$ . Deduce that a nonzero element of norm zero in  $R$  is a unit; show by an example that the converse of this statement is false.

- (b) Let  $F$  be a field and let  $R = F[[x]]$ . Show that  $R$  is Euclidean. What does part (a) tell you about  $R^\times$ ? What are the irreducibles in  $R$ , up to associates?

**Problem W6.3.** Let  $R$  be a domain and let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. Elements  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in M$  are  *$R$ -linearly independent* if whenever  $a_1x_1 + \dots + a_nx_n = 0$  with  $a_i \in R$ , then  $a_1 = \dots = a_n = 0$ .

The *rank* of  $M$  is the maximal number of  $R$ -linearly independent elements of  $M$ .

- (a) Suppose that  $M$  has rank  $n$  and that  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  is any maximal set of  $R$ -linearly independent elements of  $M$ . Let  $N = Rx_1 + \dots + Rx_n$  be the  $R$ -submodule generated by  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ . Prove that  $N$  is isomorphic to  $R^n$  and that the quotient  $M/N$  is a torsion  $R$ -module. [*Hint: Show that the map  $R^n \rightarrow N$  which sends the  $i$ th standard basis vector to  $x_i$  is an isomorphism of  $R$ -modules.*]  
(b) Prove conversely that if  $M$  contains a submodule  $N$  that is free of rank  $n$  (i.e.,  $N \cong R^n$ ) such that the quotient  $M/N$  is a torsion  $R$ -module then  $M$  has rank  $n$ . [*Hint: Let  $y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}$  be any  $n+1$  elements of  $M$ . Use the fact that  $M/N$  is torsion to write  $r_i y_i$  as a linear combination of a basis for  $N$  for some nonzero elements  $r_i$  of  $R$ . Use an argument like Proposition 12.1.3 to show that the  $r_i y_i$ , and hence also the  $y_i$ , are linearly dependent.*]

- (c) Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}[x]$  and let  $M = (2, x)$  be the ideal generated by 2 and  $x$ , considered as a submodule of  $R$ . Show that  $\{2, x\}$  is not a basis of  $M$ . Show that the rank of  $M$  is 1 but that  $M$  is not free of rank 1.

**Problem W6.4.**

- (a) Let  $N \leq \mathbb{Z}^2$  be the submodule generated by  $(2, 4)$  and  $(8, 10)$ . Write  $\mathbb{Z}^2/N$  as a product of cyclic groups.  
(b) Let  $R$  be a PID. Let  $M \subseteq R^n$  be an  $R$ -submodule such that

$$\#(R^n/M) = [R^n : M] = p$$

where  $p \in \mathbb{Z}$  is prime and  $p$  is a nonzerodivisor in  $R$ . Show that  $M$  is free of rank  $n$  and there is a basis  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  of  $R^n$  and  $q \in R$  such that  $M = Rx_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus Rqx_n$  and  $[R : (q)] = p$ .

**Problem W6.5.**

- (a) Prove that two  $2 \times 2$  matrices over  $F$  which are not scalar matrices are similar if and only if they have the same characteristic polynomial.  
(b) Prove that two  $3 \times 3$  matrices are similar if and only if they have the same characteristic and minimal polynomials. Give an explicit counterexample to this assertion for  $4 \times 4$  matrices.

**Problem W6.6.** Find all similarity classes of  $6 \times 6$  matrices over  $\mathbb{Q}$  with minimal polynomial  $(x + 2)^2(x - 1)$ . [It suffices to give all lists of invariant factors and write out some of their corresponding matrices.]