

**Definition D1:** A ring is a set of elements with two binary operations, called addition and multiplication, such that:

- Addition is closed
- Addition is commutative
- Addition is associative
- There exists an additive identity. (Do NOT call it 0 unless we have the uniqueness theorem)
- There exist additive inverses (Do NOT call them  $-a$  unless we have the uniqueness theorem)
- Multiplication is closed
- Multiplication is associative
- Multiplication distributes over addition

**Definition D2:** Let  $R$  be a ring and  $S \subseteq R$ .  $S$  is said to be a subring of  $R$  if  $S$  is itself a ring with the same operations as  $R$ .

**Theorem T1:** Let  $a, b$ , and  $c$  be elements of a ring  $R$ . If  $a + b = a + c$ , then  $b = c$ .

**Theorem T2:** Let  $a$  and  $b$  be elements of a ring  $R$ . Then  $a + x = b$  always has a unique solution.

**Theorem T3:** Let  $R$  be a ring. If  $a + 0_1 = a$  and  $a + 0_2 = a$  for all elements  $a \in R$ , then  $0_1 = 0_2$ .

**Theorem T4:** For each element  $a$  in a ring  $R$ , it's additive inverse is unique.

**Theorem T5:** Let  $a$  be an element of a ring  $R$  and denote the additive identity as 0. Then  $a \cdot 0 = 0 \cdot a = 0$ .

**Theorem T6:** Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $a, b \in R$ . Denote the additive inverse of each element  $c \in R$  as  $-c$ , no matter what  $c$  is. Then  $a(-b) = (-a)b = -(ab)$ .

**Theorem T7:** Let  $R$  be a ring, and  $S$  a subset of  $R$ .  $S$  is a subring if and only if all of the following are satisfied for all elements  $a, b \in S$ :

1.  $S \neq \emptyset$
2.  $a, b \in S \Rightarrow a + b \in S$
3.  $a, b \in S \Rightarrow a \cdot b \in S$
4.  $a \in S \Rightarrow -a \in S$

**Definition D2:** Let  $R$  be a ring. A multiplicative identity of  $R$  is an element  $s \in R$  such that  $sr = rs = r$  for all  $r \in R$ . (Do NOT call it "1" until you justify that notation by proving that it is unique.)

**Theorem T8:** Let  $R$  be a ring. If  $R$  has a multiplicative identity, then it is unique.

**Definition D3:** Let  $R$  and  $S$  be rings. A function  $\varphi: R \rightarrow S$  is called a ring homomorphism if it satisfies:

1.  $\varphi(r + s) = \varphi(r) + \varphi(s)$  for all  $r, s \in R$ .
2.  $\varphi(rs) = \varphi(r)\varphi(s)$  for all  $r, s \in R$ .

**Definition D4:** Let  $R$  and  $S$  be rings. A ring homomorphism  $\varphi: R \rightarrow S$  is called a ring isomorphism if it is also one-to-one and onto. In this case  $R$  and  $S$  have an identical structure as rings.

**Definition D5:** Let  $R$  be a ring. An element  $b \neq 0$  in  $R$  is called a zero divisor if there is another nonzero element  $a \in R$  such that  $ab = 0$ .

**Definition D6:** A ring that is commutative with unity and no zero divisors is called an integral domain.

**Theorem T9:** Let  $R$  be an integral domain and suppose  $a \neq 0$ . If  $ab = ac$ , then  $b = c$ .

**Definition D7:** Let  $R$  be a ring with unity and  $x \in R$ . If there is some element  $y \in R$  such that  $xy = 1$ , we say that  $x$  is invertible, or a unit. The set of all units of  $R$  is denoted either  $U(R)$  or  $R^*$ .

**Definition D8:** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $a, b \in R$ . We say that  $a$  and  $b$  are associates of each other if there is some  $u \in R^*$  such that  $a = ub$ .

**Definition D9:** An integral domain in which every nonzero element is invertible is called a field.

Problem 1) Prove Theorem T2.

Problem 2) Let  $S = \{0, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18\} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_{21}$ . Show that the function  $\varphi$ , below, is a homomorphism.

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi: S &\rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_7 \\ [x]_{21} &\mapsto [x]_7\end{aligned}$$

(This problem comes after D4 before D5)