

Do 4 of the following problems:

1. (a) What fields can be a homomorphic image of  $\mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^4 - 4)$ ?  
(b) What fields can be a homomorphic image of  $\mathbb{R}[x]/(x^4 - 4)$ ?  
(c) What fields can be a homomorphic image of  $\mathbb{C}[x]/(x^4 - 4)$ ?
2. Let  $R$  be a PID and let  $I$  and  $J$  be ideals of  $R$ , with  $I = (a)$  and  $J = (b)$ . Show that  $IJ = I \cap J \Leftrightarrow ab = \text{lcm}(a, b)$ .
3. Let  $K$  be a splitting field for  $x^8 - 4 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ .  
(a) Find  $[K:\mathbb{Q}]$ .  
(b) Show that  $\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$  is not cyclic.
4. (a) Find a basis for  $\mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 + x + 1)$  as a vector space over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .  
(b) Find a multiplicative inverse for  $x + (x^2 + x + 1) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 + x + 1)$ .  
(c) Show that  $x + (x^3 + x^2 + x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^3 + x^2 + x)$  does not have a multiplicative inverse.
5. For  $R$  a commutative ring with 1, define  $N(R) = \{x \in R: x^n = 0 \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .  
(a) Show that  $N(R)$  is an ideal of  $R$ .  
(b) Show that  $N(R) \subseteq P$  for every prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$ .  
(c) Show that  $R/N(R)$  has no non-zero nilpotents.  
(d) For  $R = \mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^3 + 2x^2)$ , find  $N(R)$ .