

## Practice Exam 1

1. (i) Find  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $0 \leq r < 7$  and  $3^{100} \equiv r \pmod{7}$ .  
(ii) Let  $a, b, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Suppose that  $a$  and  $n$  are relatively prime. Prove that the congruence  $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$  has solutions.
2. (i) Write the Cayley table of  $D_4$ .  
(ii) Prove or disprove the following statement:  $D_4$  is Abelian.
3. (i) Produce an example of a set  $S$  with a binary operation  $*$  such that  $S$  is closed under  $*$ .  
(ii) Produce an example of an associative binary operation. Produce an example of a non-associative binary operation.  
(iii) Produce an example of a commutative binary operation. Produce an example of a non-commutative binary operation.  
(iv) Find the inverse element of 5 in  $U(12)$ .
4. Let  $G$  be a group, and assume that  $\forall a, b \in G, (ab)^2 = a^2b^2$ . Prove that  $G$  is an Abelian group.
5. (i) List the subgroups of  $\mathbb{Z}_{30}$ .  
(ii) Produce a generator for each subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_{30}$ .  
(iii) List all of the elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_{30}$  that have an order of 5.
6. Let  $G$  be a group. Prove that the center  $Z(G)$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .
7. Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Show that  $A_n$  is a subgroup of  $S_n$ .

## Solutions to Practice Exam 1

1. (i)

$$3^{100} \equiv (3^2)^{50} \equiv 9^{50} \equiv 2^{50} \equiv 2^{48}2^2 \equiv (2^3)^{16}4 \equiv 8^{16}4 \equiv 1^{16}4 \equiv 4 \pmod{7}. \quad (1)$$

(ii) By Bézout's lemma, we know that  $\exists s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $as + nt = 1$ . Therefore,  $abs + nbt = b$ . We deduce that  $abs - b = n(-bt)$ , so  $n|abs - b$ . This implies that  $a(bs) \equiv b \pmod{n}$ , so  $x \equiv bs \pmod{n}$  is the desired solution.  $\square$

2. (i) See page 33 of the text.

(ii)  $D_4$  is not Abelian, since  $VR_{90} = D'$ , but  $R_{90}V = D$ .

3. (i) Possible answers include:  $\mathbb{R}$  under addition,  $\mathbb{R}$  under multiplication,  $\mathbb{Z}$  under multiplication

(ii) Possible associative binary operations include: multiplication of real numbers, matrix multiplication, function composition, addition of integers; possible non-associative binary operations include: subtraction, division, cross products

(iii) Possible commutative binary operations include: multiplication of real numbers, addition of real numbers; possible non-commutative binary operations include: matrix multiplication, function composition, cross products

(iv)  $U(12) = \{\bar{1}, \bar{5}, \bar{7}, \bar{11}\}$ . We notice that  $(\bar{5})(\bar{5}) = \bar{25} = \bar{1}$ , so  $\bar{5}$  is the inverse of  $\bar{5}$ .

4. Let  $a, b \in G$ . We know that  $(ab)^2 = a^2b^2$ , so  $abab = aabb$ . Therefore, by multiplying on the left by  $a^{-1}$ ,  $bab = abb$ . By multiplying this on the right by  $b^{-1}$ , this gives us  $ba = ab$ . Thus,  $G$  is Abelian.  $\square$

5. (i) The subgroups of  $\mathbb{Z}_{30}$  are:

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle \frac{30}{30} \rangle &= \mathbb{Z}_{30} \\
\langle \frac{30}{15} \rangle &= \{2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 0\} \\
\langle \frac{30}{10} \rangle &= \{3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 0\} \\
\langle \frac{30}{6} \rangle &= \{5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 0\} \\
\langle \frac{30}{5} \rangle &= \{6, 12, 18, 24, 0\} \\
\langle \frac{30}{3} \rangle &= \{10, 20, 0\} \\
\langle \frac{30}{2} \rangle &= \{15, 0\} \\
\langle \frac{30}{1} \rangle &= \{0\}
\end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

(ii) The generators are 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 15, and 0.

(iii) The elements with order 5 must be elements of  $\langle 6 \rangle$ . We notice that

$$\langle 6 \rangle = \langle 12 \rangle = \langle 18 \rangle = \langle 24 \rangle, \tag{3}$$

so 6, 12, 18 and 24 are the elements with order 5.

6. First, we know that  $Z(G) \neq \emptyset$ , since  $e \in Z(G)$ . Let  $a, b \in Z(G)$ , and let  $x \in G$ . This means that  $ax = xa$  and  $bx = xb$ .

We claim that  $b^{-1}x = xb^{-1}$ . First, we know that  $bx = xb$ , so  $bx b^{-1} = x$ . Therefore,  $x b^{-1} = b^{-1}x$ . This establishes the claim.

By the claim,  $ab^{-1}x = a x b^{-1}$ . At the same time,  $ax = xa$ , so  $ab^{-1}x = x a b^{-1}$ . Thus,  $ab^{-1} \in Z(G)$ . This shows that  $Z(G)$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .  $\square$

7. Let  $\sigma, \tau \in A_n$ . In that case,  $\sigma = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_r$  for some even  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$  and some transpositions  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_r \in S_n$ . At the same time,  $\tau = \beta_1 \beta_2 \dots \beta_s$  for some even  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$  and some transpositions  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_s \in S_n$ . Thus,  $\sigma \tau = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_r \beta_1 \beta_2 \dots \beta_s$  is a product of  $r + s$  transpositions. As  $r$  and  $s$  are both even, so is  $r + s$ , and so  $\sigma \tau \in A_n$ . Since  $S_n$  is finite,  $A_n$  is also finite, and therefore, this shows that  $A_n$  is a subgroup of  $S_n$ .  $\square$

## Practice Exam 2

1. Let  $E : \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Q}, E(x + y) = E(x)E(y)$ . Show that  $\forall x \in \mathbb{Q}, E(x) = E(1)^x$ .

2. (a) Find all cosets of  $\langle 3 \rangle$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{18}$ .

(b) Let  $K$  be a proper subgroup of  $H$ , and let  $H$  be a proper subgroup of  $G$ . If  $|K| = 7$  and  $|G| = 42$ , what are the possible orders of  $H$ ?

3. (a) List the elements of order 3 in  $\mathbb{Z}_{300}$ .

(b) Prove or disprove the following statement:  $\mathbb{Z}_{120} \simeq \mathbb{Z}_6 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{20}$ .

4. (a) Let  $H \leq S_4$  defined via  $H = \{(1), (1, 2, 3), (1, 3, 2)\}$ . Prove or disprove:  $H \triangleleft S_4$ .

(b) Let  $G$  be a group, and let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$  such that  $[G : H] = 2$ . Prove that  $H \triangleleft G$ .

5. List all group homomorphisms  $\varphi : \mathbb{Z}_4 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_6$ .

6. Consider the groups  $\mathbb{Z}_{81}, \mathbb{Z}_{27} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_9 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_9$ . List the elements of order 3 of each group. Show that none of these groups are isomorphic.

7. Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  be even. Define the set  $S = \{x + n\mathbb{Z} \mid x \text{ is even}\}$ . Show that  $S$  is a subring of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ .

8. (a) Produce an example of a ring  $R$  and an element  $x \in R$  that is a zero divisor. Produce an example of an element  $y \in R$  that is a unit.

(b) Let  $D$  be an integral domain. Given  $a, b \in D$ , assume that  $a^3 = b^3$  and  $a^4 = b^4$ . Show that  $a = b$ .

## Solutions to Practice Exam 2

1. Let  $x = \frac{m}{n} \in \mathbb{Q}$ . We notice that

$$E(x) = E\left(\frac{m}{n}\right) = E\left(\sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{n}\right) = \prod_{k=1}^m E\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) = E\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^m. \quad (4)$$

Also,

$$E(1) = E\left(\frac{n}{n}\right) = E\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^n. \quad (5)$$

This implies that  $E\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) = E(1)^{\frac{1}{n}}$ . Thus,

$$E(x) = E\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^m = \left(E(1)^{\frac{1}{n}}\right)^m = E(1)^{\frac{m}{n}} = E(1)^x. \quad (6)$$

□

2. (a)

$$\langle 3 \rangle, 1 + \langle 3 \rangle, 2 + \langle 3 \rangle. \quad (7)$$

(b) Let  $|H| = n$ . By Lagrange's theorem,  $7|n$  and  $n|42$ . Moreover,  $n \neq 7$  and  $n \neq 42$ . Therefore,  $n \in \{14, 21\}$ . □

3. (a)  $\overline{100}, \overline{200}$ .

(b) Since  $\gcd(6, 20) = 2 \neq 1$ , we have that  $\mathbb{Z}_{120} \not\cong \mathbb{Z}_6 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{20}$ . □

4. (a) We notice that

$$\begin{aligned} (1, 4)H &= \{(1, 4), (1, 2, 3, 4), (1, 3, 2, 4)\} \\ H(1, 4) &= \{(1, 4), (1, 4, 2, 3), (1, 4, 3, 2)\}. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Thus,  $H \not\triangleleft S_4$ .

(b) Let  $x \in G$ . If  $x \in H$ , then  $xH = H = Hx$ . If  $x \notin H$ , then  $xH \neq H$ . At the same time,  $Hx \neq H$ , so since there exists only one other coset of  $H$ ,  $Hx = xH$  must be true. Either way,  $H \triangleleft G$ . □

**5.** We know that a group homomorphism  $\varphi : \mathbb{Z}_4 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_6$  is determined by  $\varphi(\bar{1})$ . There exist six possibilities:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_1(\bar{1}) = \bar{0} \quad \varphi_2(\bar{1}) = \bar{1} \quad \varphi_3(\bar{1}) = \bar{2} \\ \varphi_4(\bar{1}) = \bar{3} \quad \varphi_5(\bar{1}) = \bar{4} \quad \varphi_6(\bar{1}) = \bar{5}. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

We note that, if  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism, then

$$2\varphi(\bar{1}) = \varphi(\bar{2}) = \varphi(\bar{6}) = 6\varphi(\bar{1}) = \bar{0}. \quad (10)$$

However, the only maps satisfying this condition are  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_4$ . These are the only homomorphisms.  $\square$

**6.** In  $\mathbb{Z}_{81}$ :

$$\overline{27}, \overline{54}. \quad (11)$$

In  $\mathbb{Z}_{27} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3$ :

$$(\bar{0}, \bar{1}), (\bar{0}, \bar{2}), (\bar{9}, \bar{0}), (\bar{9}, \bar{1}), (\bar{9}, \bar{2}), (\overline{18}, \bar{0}), (\overline{18}, \bar{1}), (\overline{18}, \bar{2}). \quad (12)$$

In  $\mathbb{Z}_9 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_9$ :

$$(\bar{0}, \bar{3}), (\bar{0}, \bar{6}), (\bar{3}, \bar{0}), (\bar{3}, \bar{3}), (\bar{3}, \bar{6}), (\bar{6}, \bar{0}), (\bar{6}, \bar{3}), (\bar{6}, \bar{6}). \quad (13)$$

Since  $\mathbb{Z}_{81}$  has two elements of order 3 and both  $\mathbb{Z}_{27} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_9 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_9$  have eight, we see that  $\mathbb{Z}_{81} \not\cong \mathbb{Z}_{27} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_{81} \not\cong \mathbb{Z}_9 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_9$ . Additionally,  $\mathbb{Z}_{27} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \not\cong \mathbb{Z}_9 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_9$ , since  $\mathbb{Z}_{27} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3$  contains an element of order 27 (namely,  $(\bar{1}, \bar{0})$ ), while  $\mathbb{Z}_9 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_9$  contains no such element.  $\square$

**7.** We notice first that  $S \neq \emptyset$ , since  $0 + n\mathbb{Z} \in S$ . Now, let  $x + n\mathbb{Z}, y + n\mathbb{Z} \in S$ . In that case,  $(x - y) + n\mathbb{Z} \in S$ , since if  $x$  and  $y$  are even, then  $x - y$  is also even. Additionally,  $xy + n\mathbb{Z} \in S$ , since if  $x$  is even or  $y$  is even, then  $xy$  is also even. Thus,  $S$  is a subring of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ .

8. (a) Consider  $M_2(\mathbb{Z})$ , and

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (14)$$

Now  $AB = 0$ , thus  $A$  is a zero divisor. The identity matrix  $I_2$  is a unit, since  $I_2 I_2 = I_2$ .

(b) We consider two cases: either  $a = 0$  or  $a \neq 0$ . If  $a = 0$ , and  $a^3 = b^3$ , then  $b^2 b = b^3 = 0$ . This implies that either  $b^2 = 0$  or  $b = 0$ , since  $D$  is an integral domain. However, if  $b^2 = 0$ , then  $b = 0$ , so either way,  $b = 0 = a$ .

Consider the case that  $a \neq 0$ . Since  $a^4 = b^4 = b^3 b = a^3 b$ , we can write

$$a^3(a - b) = a^4 - a^3 b = 0. \quad (15)$$

Now, as  $a \neq 0$ , we know that  $a^2 \neq 0$ , and so  $a^3 \neq 0$ . We deduce that  $a - b = 0$ , and therefore,  $a = b$ .  $\square$

## Practice Exam 3

1. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring, and let  $I$  and  $J$  be ideals of  $R$ . Prove that  $I \cap J$  is an ideal of  $R$ .

2. Let  $\varphi : \mathbb{Z}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$  be a ring homomorphism. Show that  $\forall m \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\varphi(\overline{m}) = m\varphi(\overline{1})$ .

3. Let  $D$  be an integral domain, and let  $f, g \in D[X]$  be nonzero polynomials. Prove that

$$\deg(fg) = \deg f + \deg g. \quad (16)$$

4. Determine which of the following polynomials are irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

(a)  $f(X) = X^6 - 5X^5 + 10X^2 + 5X + 5$

(b)  $g(X) = X^4 - X + 1$

(c)  $h(X) = X^5 + X^4 + X^3 + X^2 + X + 1$ .

5. Show that 9 does not factor uniquely as a product of irreducibles in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-8}]$ .

6. Find the splitting field of  $X^4 + 1$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

7. Find the extension degree of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}, \sqrt[3]{7})$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

8. Let  $f(X) = X^3 + X^2 + 1 \in \mathbb{Z}_2[X]$ . Let  $\alpha$  be a root of  $f$  in an extension field of  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ . Find another root of  $f$  in the same extension field.



### Solutions to Practice Exam 3

1. First, since  $I$  and  $J$  are ideals of  $R$ , we know that  $I$  and  $J$  are subrings of  $R$ . This indicates that  $0 \in I$  and  $0 \in J$ . We deduce that  $I \cap J \neq \emptyset$ .

We claim that  $I \cap J$  is an additive subgroup of  $R$ . Let  $a, b \in I \cap J$ . We notice that since  $a, b \in I$ ,  $a - b \in I$ , as  $I$  is an ideal. Similarly, since  $a, b \in J$ ,  $a - b \in J$ . We deduce that  $a - b \in I \cap J$ . This establishes the claim.

We claim that  $I \cap J$  is an ideal of  $R$ . Let  $a \in I \cap J$ , and let  $r \in R$ . In that case,  $a \in I$ , so since  $I$  is an ideal of  $R$ , we have that  $ra \in I$ . Similarly, since  $a \in J$  and  $J$  is an ideal of  $R$ ,  $ra \in J$ . Thus,  $ra \in I \cap J$ . This establishes that  $I \cap J$  is an ideal of  $R$ .  $\square$

2. Let  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We consider two cases: either  $m \geq 0$ , or  $m < 0$ .

Consider the case that  $m \geq 0$ . In that case,  $m = \sum_{i=1}^m 1$ . Therefore,  $\overline{m} = \sum_{i=1}^m \overline{1}$ . Now, since  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism,

$$\varphi(\overline{m}) = \varphi\left(\sum_{i=1}^m \overline{1}\right) = \sum_{i=1}^m \varphi(\overline{1}) = m\varphi(\overline{1}). \quad (17)$$

Consider the case that  $m < 0$ . In that case,  $-m > 0$ , so by the first case,  $\varphi(\overline{-m}) = -m\varphi(\overline{1})$ . Now, we note that  $\overline{m} + \overline{-m} = \overline{0}$ , so since  $\varphi$  is a homomorphism,

$$\varphi(\overline{m}) - m\varphi(\overline{1}) = \varphi(\overline{m}) + \varphi(\overline{-m}) = \varphi(\overline{m} + \overline{-m}) = \varphi(\overline{0}) = \overline{0}. \quad (18)$$

We deduce that  $\varphi(\overline{m}) = m\varphi(\overline{1})$ .  $\square$

3. Define  $\deg f = m$  and  $\deg g = n$ . In that case,

$$\begin{aligned} f(X) &= a_m X^m + a_{m-1} X^{m-1} + \dots + a_1 X + a_0, \\ g(X) &= b_n X^n + b_{n-1} X^{n-1} + \dots + b_1 X + b_0, \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

for some  $a_m \neq 0$  and  $b_n \neq 0$ . By definition of polynomial multiplication in  $D[X]$ ,

$$f(X)g(X) = \sum_{k=0}^{m+n} c_k X^k, \quad (20)$$

where for each  $k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, m+n\}$ ,

$$c_k = \sum_{i+j=k} a_i b_j. \quad (21)$$

In particular, the coefficient of  $X^{m+n}$  in  $f(X)g(X)$  is

$$c_{m+n} = \sum_{i+j=m+n} a_i b_j = a_m b_n. \quad (22)$$

As  $D$  is an integral domain and neither  $a_m$  nor  $b_n$  is 0, we know that  $a_m b_n \neq 0$ . Therefore,  $a_m b_n$  is the leading coefficient of  $fg$ , and so  $\deg(fg) = m+n$ .  $\square$

4. (a)  $f$  is irreducible by Eisenstein's criterion with  $p = 5$ .

(b) We claim that the polynomial  $g$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . We consider the polynomial  $\bar{g}(X) = X^4 - X + 1 \in \mathbb{Z}_2[X]$ . Assume, with the expectation of a contradiction, that  $\bar{g}$  is reducible over  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ . We notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{g}(0) &= 1 \\ \bar{g}(1) &= 1 \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

This shows that  $\bar{g}$  has no linear divisor over  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ . Therefore,  $\bar{g}$  factors into quadratic polynomials:

$$\bar{g}(X) = (X^2 + bX + c)(X^2 + eX + f) \quad (24)$$

for some  $b, c, e, f \in \mathbb{Z}_2$ . Ergo,

$$X^4 - X + 1 = X^4 + (e+b)X^3 + (f+be+c)X^2 + (bf+ce)X + ef. \quad (25)$$

This tells us that

$$\begin{aligned} e + b &= 0 \\ f + be + c &= 0 \\ bf + ce &= -1 = 1 \\ cf &= 1 \end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

Now, if  $cf = 1$ , then  $c = f = 1$ . Thus, the system becomes

$$\begin{aligned} e + b &= 0 \\ 1 + be + 1 &= 0. \\ b + e &= 1 \end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

Ergo,  $b + e = 0$  and  $b + e = 1$ . This contradiction leads us to conclude that our assumption that  $\bar{g}$  is reducible is false;  $\bar{g}$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ . Thus,  $g$  is also irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

(c) We notice that

$$h(X) = \frac{X^6 - 1}{X - 1}, \tag{28}$$

so  $h(-1) = 0$ . This shows that  $X + 1 | h(X)$ , and so  $h$  is reducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .  $\square$

5 We notice that

$$(3)(3) = 9 = (1 + \sqrt{-8})(1 - \sqrt{-8}). \tag{29}$$

We claim that 3 is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-8}]$ . Suppose that  $3 = xy$ . In that case,  $9 = N(3) = N(x)N(y)$ . If  $N(x) = 3$  or  $N(y) = 3$ , then  $a^2 + 8b^2 = 3$  for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . As no such  $a$  and  $b$  exist, we see that one of  $N(x)$  and  $N(y)$  must be 1. Ergo, one must be a unit, and so 3 is irreducible.

Similarly, since  $N(1 \pm \sqrt{-8}) = 9$ , we see that  $1 \pm \sqrt{-8}$  are also irreducible.  $\square$

6 Let  $K$  be the splitting field of  $X^4 + 1$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . We notice that

$$X^4 + 1 = (X^2 + i)(X^2 - i) = \left(X - e^{i\frac{3\pi}{4}}\right) \left(X + e^{i\frac{3\pi}{4}}\right) \left(X - e^{i\frac{\pi}{4}}\right) \left(X + e^{i\frac{\pi}{4}}\right). \tag{30}$$

Now,  $e^{i\frac{\pi}{4}} = \frac{1+i}{\sqrt{2}}$  and  $e^{i\frac{3\pi}{4}} = \frac{-1+i}{\sqrt{2}}$ . We notice that  $e^{i\frac{\pi}{4}} - e^{i\frac{3\pi}{4}} = \sqrt{2}$ . Therefore,  $\sqrt{2} \in K$ . Additionally  $i = \sqrt{2}e^{i\frac{\pi}{4}} - 1 \in K$ , since  $K$  is a field. We deduce that the splitting field is  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, i)$ .

**7.** By the tower theorem,

$$\left[ \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}, \sqrt[3]{7}) : \mathbb{Q} \right] = \left[ \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}, \sqrt[3]{7}) : \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}) \right] \left[ \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}) : \mathbb{Q} \right]. \quad (31)$$

Since  $\{1, \sqrt{3}\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , we see that

$$\left[ \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}) : \mathbb{Q} \right] = 2. \quad (32)$$

Since  $\{1, 7^{\frac{1}{3}}, 7^{\frac{2}{3}}\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}, \sqrt[3]{7})$  over  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$ , we see that

$$\left[ \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}, \sqrt[3]{7}) : \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}) \right] = 3. \quad (33)$$

Therefore,

$$\left[ \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}, \sqrt[3]{7}) : \mathbb{Q} \right] = 6. \quad (34)$$

□

**8.** Define  $K = \mathbb{Z}_2(\alpha)$ . As  $f(\alpha) = 0$ , we know that  $\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + 1 = 0$ . Thus,  $\alpha^3 = \alpha^2 + 1$ , since  $\text{char}K = 2$ .

We claim that  $\alpha^2$  is a root of  $f$ . We notice

$$f(\alpha^2) = \alpha^6 + \alpha^4 + 1. \quad (35)$$

We have

$$\alpha^4 = \alpha(\alpha^3) = \alpha(\alpha^2 + 1) = \alpha^3 + \alpha = \alpha^2 + \alpha + 1. \quad (36)$$

and

$$\alpha^6 = (\alpha^3)^2 = (\alpha^2 + 1)^2 = \alpha^4 + 2\alpha^2 + 1 = \alpha^4 + 1 = \alpha^2 + \alpha. \quad (37)$$

Thus,

$$f(\alpha^2) = (\alpha^2 + \alpha) + (\alpha^2 + \alpha + 1) + 1 = 0. \quad (38)$$

Ergo,  $\alpha^2$  is a root of  $f$ .  $\square$