

**MATH 721  
SPRING 2004  
HOMEWORK 1**

*Due Friday January 23, 2004.*

1. (5 pt) Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity and  $M$  some  $R$ -module. Show that (as  $R$ -modules) there is an isomorphism

$$\text{Hom}_R(R, M) \cong M.$$

2. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with 1,  $M$  an  $R$ -module and  $m \in M$ .
- a) (5 pt) Show that  $I_m = \{r \in R \mid rm = 0\}$  is an ideal of  $R$ . (If  $I_m \neq 0$  then we say that  $m$  is a torsion element of  $M$ .)
- b) (5 pt) If  $R$  is a domain, then show that the set of torsion elements of  $M$  forms a submodule of  $M$  (and show that this may not be the case if  $R$  is not a domain).
3. (5 pt) *Is it only size that matters?* Consider the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules,  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\bigoplus_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{Z}$ . Both of these modules are torsion-free and of the same cardinality. Are they isomorphic?
4. (5 pt) Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be an  $R$ -module homomorphism. Show  $f$  is an isomorphism if and only if there is an  $R$ -module homomorphism  $g : B \rightarrow A$  such that  $fg = 1_B$  and  $gf = 1_A$ . Are both these conditions necessary?
5. (5 pt) Let  $f : A \rightarrow A$  be an  $R$ -module homomorphism such that  $f(f(x)) = f(x)$  for all  $x \in A$ . Show that  $A \cong \ker(f) \oplus \text{Im}(f)$ . Give a nontrivial (i.e.,  $f$  not the identity or the 0 map) example of such an  $f$  and show how the decomposition works.