CONTENTS

PREF	Preface	
Prer	Prerequisites	
	CHAPTER 1	
	The Structure of PI-Rings	
1.1.	Basic Concepts and Examples	2
	The Free Monoid M(X)	2
	The Free Algebra $\phi\{X\}$	3
	Identities	4
	Multilinearization	6
	Normal Polynomials	7
	Examples of PI-Rings	9
1.2.	Facts about Normal Polynomials	11
	Capelli Polynomials and Standard Polynomials	12
1.3.	Matrix Algebras	14
	Matrices and Algebras of Endomorphisms	14
	The Trace	15
	The Algebra $\phi_n\{Y\}$ of Generic Matrices	15
	Modifying the Algebra of Generic Matrices	16
	The General Cayley-Hamilton Theorem and Newton's Formulas	18
	The Regular Representation	19 19
1.4.	Nilpotent Subsets	19
1.7.	Identities and Central Polynomials for Matrix Algebras, and Their Applications to Arbitrary PI-Algebras	20
	The Amitsur-Levitzki Theorems	20
	The Role of the Capelli Polynomial	23
	Central Polynomials, Featuring gn	24
	Properties of n ² -Normal, Central Polynomials	24
	of Arbitrary Rings	27
	Linear Dependence through the Capelli Polynomial	31
1.5.	Primitive Rings, Kaplansky's Theorem, and Semiprimitive Rings	31
	Density	32
	Minimal Left Ideals	34
	The Closure (or Splitting) of a Primitive Ring	35
	Kaplansky's Theorem: Two Proofs and Applications	
	to Simple Algebras	35
	Primitive Ideals and the Jacobson Radical	38
	Semiprimitive Algebras	39

viii CONTENTS

	CHARTER	
	Exercises	103
1.11.	Identities of Rings without 1	100
	The "Big" Bergman-Small Theorem	96
	The "Little" Bergman-Small Theorem	95
	Algebras over Valuation Rings	92
	Valuation Rings and the Integral Closure	91
	The Completion of a Valuation Ring	90
	The A-adic Completion	89
	Lifting Idempotents	87
	Affine Rings of Generic Matrices	86
	Ranks of Affine PI-Rings	84
	The Transcendence Degree, and Its Application to Rank	82
1.10.	Valuation Rings	80
1.10.	Valuation Rings, Idempotent Lifting, and Their Applications	80
	Integral Extensions of Commutative Rings	78
	$Prime\ Ideals\ Minimal\ over\ g_n(R)$	77
	Spec _n (R)	75
	Ranks of Prime Ideals	74
1.7.	Comparing Prime Ideals of Related Rings	73
1.9.	The Prime Spectrum	72
	The Brauer Group	72
	The Tensor Product Question: An Introduction	71
	Proper Maximally Central Algebras A Strengthened Artin–Procesi Theorem and Its Applications	69
		68
	Tensor Products over a Field The Artin-Procesi Theorem—"Difficult Direction"	65
	Examples of Tensor Products	63
	Tensor Products of Algebras	62
	Tensor Products of Modules	60
1.8.	Tensor Products and the Artin-Procesi Theorem	59 59
	Semiprime PI-Rings	54
	Localizing at a Set Intersecting $g_n(R)R$ Nontrivially	53
	The Algebra of Central Quotients	52
1.7.	Central Localization of PI-Algebras	51
	Amitsur's Method of Obtaining Canonical Identities	48
	Nil Subsets of PI-Rings	47
	Semiprime PI-Rings	46
	The Sum of Nil Left Ideals of Bounded Degree (N(R))	45
	PI-Rings with Nilradical 0	43
	Admissible Algebras and the Injection Problem	41
1.6.	Injections of Algebras, Featuring Various Nil Radicals	40

CHAPTER 2

The General Theory of Identities, and Related Theories

109 111 114

2.1.	Basic Concepts	
	Generalized Identities	
	Identities and Generalized Identities of Rings with Involution	

CONTENTS	ix

	Special Rings with Involution	117
	Generalized Monomials	117
	Degree and Related Concepts	119
2.2.	PI-Rings Which Have an Involution	119
2.3.	Sets of Identities of Related Rings (with Involution)	123
	Stability of Identities	125
	The Vandermonde Argument and Its Applications	129
2.4.	Relatively Free PI-Rings and T-Ideals	133
	Building T-Ideals	133
	The Jacobson Radical of a Relatively Free PI-Ring Is Nil	134
	Relatively Free PI-Rings of Prime and Semiprime Rings	135
	Relatively Free Prime Rings with Involution	136
	Specht's Conjecture and Related Considerations	137
	Introduction to Trace Identities	139
2.5.	Identities of Matrix Rings with Involution	140
	Minimal Polynomials of Symmetric and Antisymmetric Matrices	141
	Some Identities of $(M_n(C), t)$ and $(M_n(C), s)$	143
	Minimal Identities	144
2.6.	Elementary Sentences of Algebraic Systems	145
	Exercises	148
	CHAPTER 3	
	Central Simple Algebras	
	The state of	151
3.1.	Fundamental Results The Skolem-Noether Theorem and Wedderburn's Theorem	152
		153
	Splitting Fields The Index of a Simple PI-Ring	155
	Crossed Products	157
	Exponents of Central Simple Algebras	163
	Cyclic Algebras	164
	The Reduced Trace	166
	Involutions of Central Simple Algebras	167
	Involutions and Maximal Subfields	171
	Characterization of Involutions of the First Kind	173
3.2.	Positive General Results about Maximal Subfields of Division Rings	174
	The Generic Division Rings	175
	Wedderburn's Method	178
	The Cases $n=3$ and $n=4$	180
	Generic Matrix Rings with Involution	183
	Simple PI-Rings with Involution of First Kind	185
3.3.	The Generic Division Rings	187
	Skew Polynomial Rings and Their Rings of Central Quotients	187
	Noncrossed Product Theorems	191
	Division Algebras over Fields Having a Complete, Discrete Valuation	191
	More Noncrossed Product Theorems	196
	The Center of the Ring of Generic Matrices	196
	Exercises	198

X CONTENTS

CHAPTER 4

Extensions of PI-Rings

4.1.	Integral and Algebraic Extensions of PI-Rings	202
4.2.	Integral PI-Extensions Formal Words and Shirshov's Solution to the Kurosch Problem	203
4.2.	The Characteristic Closure of a Prime PI-Ring	204
4.4.	Finitely Generated PI-Extensions	210
4.4.	Hilbert's Nullstellensatz Generalized, and Related Results	210
	ACC (Ideals) and Related Notions	210
	Nilpotence of the Jacobson Radical	212
	A Small Counterexample	215
	Going Down	215
	Affine PI-Rings Are Catenary	217
4.5.	Generalizing the Razmyslov-Schelter Construction	217
4.5.	Exercises	220
	CHAPTER 5	
	Noetherian PI-Rings	
5.1.	Sufficient Conditions for a PI-Ring to Be Noetherian	224
	Formanek's Theorem	224
	Cauchon's Theorem	225
	The Eakin-Formanek Theorem	226
	Noetherian Counterexamples	228
5.2.	The Theory of Noetherian PI-Rings	229
	The Principal Ideal Theorem	229
	Rank of Prime Ideals	232
	The Intersection of Powers of the Jacobson Radical	233
	Intersection of Powers of Ideals	236
	Exercises	237
	CHAPTER 6	
	The Theory of the Free Ring, Applied to Polynomial Identities	
6.1.	The Solution of the Tensor Product Question	239
	Relation of Codimensions to Specht's Problem	242
6.2.	Representations of $Sym(n)$	243
	Obtaining Polynomial Identities from Young Diagrams	246
6.3.	Finite Generation of Certain T-Ideals	248
	Higman's Theorem	249
	Application of the Combinatoric Method to Polynomials	250
	Exercises	252

CONTENTS	xi

CHAPTER 7

	The Theory of Generalized Identities	
7.1.	Semiprime Rings with Socle	254
7.2.	The Basic Theorem of Generalized Polynomials and Its Consequences	257
	Amitsur's Theorem	261
	Improper Generalized Identities	261
	Strong GIs	263
	The Modified Density Theorem and Its Consequences	264
7.3.	Primitive Rings with Involution	265
	A(*)-Analogue of the Density Theorem	266
	Matrix Algebras with Involution	270
7.4.	Identities and Generalized Identities of Rings with Involution	271
7.5.	Ultraproducts and Their Application to GI-Theory	276
	Injecting Prime [and (*)-Prime] Rings into Nicer Rings	279
7.6.	Martindale's Central Closure	282
	Exercises	286
	CHAPTER 8	
	Rational Identities, Generalized Rational	
	Identities, and Their Applications	
8.1.	Definitions and Examples	289
8.2.	Generalized Rational Identities of Division Rings	291
	Principal Left Ideal Domains and the Ore Condition	292
	The Division Ring Structure \overline{D} on $D(\lambda)$	293
	Identifying \overline{D} with the Division Ring of Laurent Series over D	294
	Lifting Generalized Rationalized Identities	295
	A Change of Division Rings	296
	The First Fundamental Theorem	296
	The "Generic" Division Ring $W_D(X)$	297
8.3.	Rational Identities of Division Rings of Finite Degree	299
	Rational Equivalence of Simple Algebras of the Same Degree	299
	The Second Fundamental Theorem	301
8.4.	Applications of the Theory of Rational Identities	302
	Group Identities	302
	Desarguian Geometry	304
	Intersection Theorems	306
	Exercises	312
	APPENDIX A	
	Central Polynomials of Formanek	315
	Exercises	319
	APPENDIX B	
	, , , <u> </u>	
	The Theory of ∀∃ Elementary Conditions on Rings	320 326
	Exercises	<i>34</i> 0

Exercises

xii CONTENTS

APPENDIX C

Nonassociative PI-Theory	327
NPI-Rings	328
Kaplansky Classes of Algebras	331
Application: Alternative Rings	332
Exercises	338
POSTSCRIPT	
Some Aspects of the History	339
BIBLIOGRAPHY	341
MAJOR THEOREMS CONCERNING IDENTITIES	355
MAJOR COUNTEREXAMPLES	358
LIST OF PRINCIPAL NOTATION	359
Index	361