



Math for the people, by the people.

Chevalley-Warning Theorem

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Let \mathbb{F}_q be the finite field of q elements with characteristic p . Let $f_i(x_1, \dots, x_n)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$, be polynomial of n variables over \mathbb{F}_q . If $n > \sum_{i=1}^r \deg(f_i)$, then the number of solutions over \mathbb{F}_q to the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= 0 \\ f_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= 0 \\ &\vdots \\ f_r(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

is divisible by p . In particular, if none of the polynomials f_1, f_2, \dots, f_r have constant term, then there are at least p solutions.