

Chapter 1: Affine Algebraic Sets

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Problem 1.1*. *Let R be a domain.*

- (a) *If F, G are forms of degree r, s respectively in $R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$, show that FG is a form of degree $r + s$.*
- (b) *Show that any factor of a form in $R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ is also a form.*

Proof of (a).

- (1) Write

$$F = \sum_{(i)} a_{(i)} X^{(i)},$$
$$G = \sum_{(j)} b_{(j)} X^{(j)},$$

where $\sum_{(i)}$ is the summation over $(i) = (i_1, \dots, i_n)$ with $i_1 + \dots + i_n = r$ and $\sum_{(j)}$ is the summation over $(j) = (j_1, \dots, j_n)$ with $j_1 + \dots + j_n = s$.

- (2) Hence,

$$FG = \sum_{(i)} \sum_{(j)} a_{(i)} b_{(j)} X^{(i)} X^{(j)}$$
$$= \sum_{(i),(j)} a_{(i)} b_{(j)} X^{(k)}$$

where $(k) = (i_1 + j_1, \dots, i_n + j_n)$ with $(i_1 + j_1) + \dots + (i_n + j_n) = r + s$. Each $X^{(k)}$ is the form of degree $r + s$ and $a_{(i)} b_{(j)} \in R$. Hence FG is a form of degree $r + s$.

□

Proof of (b).

- (1) Given any form $F \in R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$, and write $F = GH$. It suffices to show that G (or H) is a form as well.
- (2) Write

$$G = G_0 + \dots + G_r,$$
$$H = H_0 + \dots + H_s$$

where $G_r \neq 0$ and $H_s \neq 0$. So

$$F = GH = G_0H_0 + \cdots + G_rH_s.$$

Since R is a domain, $R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ is a domain and thus $G_rH_s \neq 0$. The maximality of r and s implies that $\deg(F) = r + s$. Therefore, by the maximality of $r + s$, $F = G_rH_s$, or $G = G_r$, or G is a form.

□