

22. Prove Theorem 8.8.

Suppose  $K$  is a field and  $a(x), b(x) \in K[x]$  are associates. Hence  $a(x) = cb(x)$  for some  $c \in K$  with  $c \neq 0_K$ .

( $\rightarrow$ ) Assume that  $a(x)$  is irreducible over  $K$ . Suppose for a contradiction proof that  $b(x)$  is reducible, so that  $b(x) = d(x)q(x)$  for some nonconstant  $d(x), q(x) \in K[x]$ . Now let  $s(x) = cd(x)$ , then  $s(x)q(x) = cd(x)q(x) = cb(x) = a(x)$ . But also  $\deg(s(x)) = \deg(d(x)) \neq 0$  and  $\deg(q(x)) \neq 0$  which makes  $a(x)$  reducible, a contradiction. Hence  $b(x)$  is also irreducible.

( $\leftarrow$ ) Assume that  $b(x)$  is irreducible over  $K$ . Suppose for a contradiction proof that  $a(x)$  is reducible, so that  $a(x) = d(x)q(x)$  for some nonconstant  $d(x), q(x) \in K[x]$ . Since  $c \neq 0_K$  there is  $c^{-1} \in K$ . Now let  $s(x) = c^{-1}d(x)$ , then  $s(x)q(x) = c^{-1}d(x)q(x) = c^{-1}a(x) = b(x)$ .

But also  $\deg(s(x)) = \deg(d(x)) \neq 0$  and  $\deg(q(x)) \neq 0$  which makes  $b(x)$  reducible, a contradiction. Hence  $a(x)$  is also irreducible.

Therefore  $a(x)$  is irreducible over  $K$  if and only if  $b(x)$  is irreducible over  $K$ .

**23.** Prove Theorem 8.9.

Let  $K$  be a field and  $a(x) \in K[x]$  with  $\deg(a(x)) = 1$ . Clearly we know  $a(x) \neq 0(x)$ . Suppose we have  $b(x), c(x) \in K[x]$  with  $a(x) = b(x)c(x)$ . If  $b(x) = 0(x)$  or  $c(x) = 0(x)$  then we would have  $a(x) = 0(x)$  which is impossible. Thus we know  $\deg(b(x)) \geq 0$  and  $\deg(c(x)) \geq 0$ . Then by  $K$  a field we know  $\deg(a(x)) = \deg(b(x)) + \deg(c(x))$ . Thus  $1 = \deg(a(x)) = \deg(b(x)) + \deg(c(x))$  which can only happen if one of  $\deg(a(x))$  or  $\deg(b(x))$  equals 0. Thus either  $b(x)$  or  $c(x)$  is constant, and the other is an associate of  $a(x)$ . Thus every factor is either constant or an associate of  $a(x)$  so  $a(x)$  is irreducible over  $K$ .

## Section 8.2 Roots and Factors

30. Complete the proof of Theorem 8.15.

Let  $K$  be a field and  $a(x) \in K[x]$  with  $a(x) \neq 0(x)$ . Let  $c \in K$  and assume that  $b(x) = -c + x$  is a factor of  $a(x)$ . Thus there is  $q(x) \in K[x]$  with  $a(x) = b(x)q(x)$ . Using the substitution function  $h_c$  which is a homomorphism, we know  $a(c) = b(c)q(c)$ . But  $b(c) = -c + c = 0_K$  so we have  $a(c) = 0_K q(c) = 0_K$ . Thus  $c$  is a root of  $a(x)$  as needed.

31. Use the PMI to prove Theorem 8.17, for any  $n \geq 1$ . In the inductive step when you have  $a(x) = (-c_1 + x) \cdots (-c_k + x)q(x)$  be sure to show why  $q(c_{k+1})$  must equal  $0_K$ .

Let  $K$  be a field and  $a(x) \in K[x]$  with  $a(x) \neq 0(x)$ . Consider the statement  $P(n)$ : “If  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  are distinct roots of  $a(x)$  then  $b(x) = (-c_1 + x)(-c_2 + x) \cdots (-c_n + x)$  is a factor of  $a(x)$ ”. We want to prove that  $P(n)$  is true for all  $n \geq 1$ . When  $n = 1$  then  $P(n)$  is the statement of Theorem 8.15, and thus  $P(1)$  is true. Now for the inductive hypothesis suppose for some  $k \geq 1$  we have  $P(k)$  true. We need to show  $P(k + 1)$  is also true. Thus assume we have  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{k+1}$  distinct roots of  $a(x)$  in  $K$ . Now we have  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k$  dis-

tinct roots of  $a(x)$  so by  $P(k)$  we know  $p(x) = (-c_1 + x)(-c_2 + x) \cdots (-c_k + x)$  is a factor of  $a(x)$ . Let  $a(x) = (-c_1 + x)(-c_2 + x) \cdots (-c_k + x)q(x)$  for some  $q(x) \in K[x]$  and  $q(x) \neq 0(x)$ .

Since the  $c_i$  are distinct, we can only have  $-c_i + c_j = 0_K$  when  $i = j$ . Thus for all  $i < k + 1$  we know  $-c_i + c_{k+1} \neq 0_K$ . Hence  $p(c_{k+1}) \neq 0_K$ . However  $a(c_{k+1}) = 0_K = p(c_{k+1})q(c_{k+1})$ , so by  $K$  a field  $q(c_{k+1}) = 0_K$ . Thus  $c_{k+1}$  is a root of  $q(x)$  so by Theorem 8.15 we have  $q(x) = (-c_{k+1} + x)r(x)$  for some  $r(x) \in K[x]$ . Thus  $a(x) = (-c_1 + x)(-c_2 + x) \cdots (-c_k + x)q(x) = (-c_1 + x)(-c_2 + x) \cdots (-c_k + x)(-c_{k+1} + x)r(x)$  and we have  $(-c_1 + x)(-c_2 + x) \cdots (-c_{k+1} + x)$  a factor of  $a(x)$ . Thus by PMI, for all  $n \geq 1$ , if  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  are distinct roots of  $a(x)$  then  $b(x) = (-c_1 + x)(-c_2 + x) \cdots (-c_n + x)$  is a factor of  $a(x)$ .

37. Prove Theorem 8.19.

Assume  $K$  is a field. Let  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in K$  be distinct roots of the nonzero polynomial  $a(x) \in K[x]$ . Thus by Theorem 8.17 we know that  $b(x) = (-c_1 + x)(-c_2 + x) \cdots (-c_n + x)$  is a factor of  $a(x)$ . Thus we have  $q(x) \in K[x]$  with  $(-c_1 + x)(-c_2 + x) \cdots (-c_n + x)q(x) = a(x)$ . Since  $a(x) \neq 0(x)$  we also have  $q(x) \neq 0(x)$ . This gives us  $\deg(b(x)) = n$  and  $\deg(q(x)) \geq 0$ , so as  $K$  is a field we know  $\deg(a(x)) = \deg(b(x)) + \deg(q(x)) = n + \deg(q(x))$ . By  $\deg(q(x)) \geq 0$  we know  $n + \deg(q(x)) \geq n$ . Thus  $\deg(a(x)) \geq n$ .

38. Complete the proof of Theorem 8.22.

Suppose  $K$  is a field and  $a(x) \in K[x]$  with  $\deg(a(x)) = 2$  or  $\deg(a(x)) = 3$ . We need to show that if  $a(x)$  has a root in  $K$  then  $a(x)$  is reducible. So suppose  $a(x)$  has a root  $c \in K$ . Thus by Theorem 8.15  $b(x) = -c + x$  is a factor of  $a(x)$ . Thus we can write  $a(x) = b(x)q(x)$  for some  $q(x) \in K[x]$ . Since  $K$  is a field  $\deg(a(x)) = \deg(b(x)) + \deg(q(x)) = 1 + \deg(q(x))$ . But  $\deg(a(x)) > 1$  so we must have  $\deg(q(x)) > 0$  and  $a(x)$  is reducible.

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Let  $K$  be a field and  $a(x) \in K[x]$  with  $a(x) \neq 0(x)$ . Suppose  $\deg(a(x)) = n$  with  $n > 0$ . To prove there are at most  $n$  roots we assume instead there are more than  $n$  distinct roots of  $a(x)$  in  $K$ . Let  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{n+1}$  be distinct roots of  $a(x)$  in  $K$ . By Theorem 8.17 we must have  $b(x) = (-c_1 + x)(-c_2 + x) \cdots (-c_{n+1} + x)$  a factor of  $a(x)$ . Now  $a(x) = b(x)q(x)$  for  $q(x) \in K[x]$ . But by  $K$  a field we know  $\deg(a(x)) = \deg(b(x)) + \deg(q(x))$ , or  $n = (n+1) + \deg(q(x))$ . Thus is impossible since we cannot have  $\deg(q(x)) = -1$ . Hence by contradiction we can have at most  $n$  distinct roots of  $a(x)$  in  $K$ .

### Section 8.3 Factorization over $\mathbb{Q}$

47. Let  $a(x) = \frac{1}{3} + x + \frac{2}{3}x^2 + 3x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^4$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ . Find an associate of  $a(x)$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  then determine the possible roots for  $a(x)$  in  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Multiplying by 6 we have  $6a(x) = 2 + 6x + 4x^2 + 18x^3 + 3x^4$ . By Theorem 8.31, a root  $\frac{s}{t}$  must have  $s$  divide 2 and  $t$  divide 3. The only divisors of 2 are 1,  $-1$ , 2,  $-2$ , and the only divisors of 3 are 1,  $-1$ , 3,  $-3$ . Thus the only possible rational roots of  $a(x)$  are:

$$1, -1, 2, -2, \frac{1}{3}, -\frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, -\frac{2}{3}$$