# A Book of Abstract Algebra (2nd Edition)

Chapter 24, Problem 2EA

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#### **Problem**

REMARK ON NOTATION: In some of the problems which follow, we consider polynomials with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  for various n. To simplify notation, we denote the elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  by 1, 2, ..., n-1 rather than the more correct  $[1, 2, \ldots, n-1]$ 

Find the quotient and remainder when  $x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$  is divided by  $x^2 + 3x + 2$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  and in  $\mathbb{Z}_5[x]$ .

## Step-by-step solution

### **Step 1** of 2

Consider the polynomial  $p(x) = x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$  and  $q(x) = x^2 + 3x + 2$ .

Objective of this question is to find quotient and remainder when  $p(x) = x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$  divided by  $q(x) = x^2 + 3x + 2$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_5[x]$ .

First consider the ring  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

Given polynomials p(x) and q(x) are the elements of  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

Now do long division.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x-2 \\
 \hline
 x^3 + x^2 + x + 1 \\
 \underline{x^3 + 3x^2 + 2x} \\
 -2x^2 - x + 1 \\
 \underline{-2x^2 - 6x - 4} \\
 5x + 5
 \end{array}$$

Then, quotient and remainder when  $p(x) = x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$  divided by  $q(x) = x^2 + 3x + 2$  in

$$\mathbb{Z}[x]$$
 are  $x-2$  and  $5x+5$  respectively.

Comment

## **Step 2** of 2

Consider the ring  $\mathbb{Z}_5[x]$ .

Change polynomials p(x) and q(x) as the element of  $\mathbb{Z}_5[x]$ .

$$p(x) = 1 \pmod{5} x^3 + 1 \pmod{5} x^2 + 1 \pmod{5} x + 1 \pmod{5}$$

$$= x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$$

$$q(x) = 1 \pmod{5} x^2 + 3 \pmod{5} x + 2 \pmod{5}$$

$$= x^2 + 3x + 2$$

Now do long division. Here the operations multiplication and addition are multiplication modulo 5 and addition modulo 5.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x - 2 \\
 \hline
 x^3 + x^2 + x + 1 \\
 \underline{x^3 + 3x^2 + 2x} \\
 -2x^2 - x + 1 \\
 \underline{-2x^2 - x - 4} \\
 0
 \end{array}$$

Then, quotient and remainder when  $p(x) = x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$  divided by  $q(x) = x^2 + 3x + 2$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_5[x]$  are x-2 and x=3 respectively.

Comment