

DMath_U10_bf

10.5

Let $F = \mathbb{Z}_5[x]_{x^2+4x+1}$

(a) Prove that F is a field.

Proof:

\mathbb{Z}_5 is a field, since 5 is prime. (Theorem 5.23.)

Now, since we have shown \mathbb{Z}_5 to be a field, it remains to show that the polynomial $x^2 + 4x + 1$ on \mathbb{Z}_5 is irreducible (Theorem 5.37.). To do this, we must prove that $x^2 + 4x + 1$ has no roots in \mathbb{Z}_5 .

Since

$$\mathbb{Z}_5 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

we do this:

$$\begin{aligned}x = 0 &\implies 0^2 + 4(0) + 1 \not\equiv_5 0 \\x = 1 &\implies 1^2 + 4(1) + 1 \not\equiv_5 0 \\x = 2 &\implies 2^2 + 4(2) + 1 \not\equiv_5 0 \\x = 3 &\implies 3^2 + 4(3) + 1 \not\equiv_5 0 \\x = 4 &\implies 4^2 + 4(4) + 1 \not\equiv_5 0\end{aligned}$$

which concludes the proof, as the polynomial $x^2 + 4x + 1$ is congruent to zero over no element in the field \mathbb{Z}_5 .

□

(b) Prove that $F^* = \langle x + 3 \rangle$

Proof:

To prove that $F^* = \langle x + 3 \rangle$, we need to show two things:

1. $F^* \subseteq \langle x + 3 \rangle$

Every nonzero element in F can be represented as $a(x + 3) + b$, where $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_5$, and a is not congruent to 0. This is because $x^2 + 4x + 1$ is irreducible in $\mathbb{Z}_5[x]$. Let $f(x) = a(x + 3) + b$ be an arbitrary nonzero element in F^* . We need to show that $f(x)$ can be generated by $\langle x + 3 \rangle$.

Consider the polynomial $g(x) = x + 3$. Notice that $g(x)$ generates the ideal $\langle x + 3 \rangle$. Therefore, any multiple of $g(x)$ is in $\langle x + 3 \rangle$. Since $f(x)$ is a multiple of $g(x)$, we can conclude that $f(x) \in \langle x + 3 \rangle$, and thus, $F^* \subseteq \langle x + 3 \rangle$.

2. $\langle x + 3 \rangle \subseteq F^*$

Consider an arbitrary element $h(x) = c(x + 3)$ where $c \in \mathbb{Z}_5$ and c is not congruent to 0. This element is in $\langle x + 3 \rangle$. Since $x^2 + 4x + 1$ is irreducible, $c(x + 3)$ is nonzero, and thus, $h(x) \in F^*$. This is because every nonzero element in F can be expressed as $a(x + 3) + b$. Therefore, $\langle x + 3 \rangle \subseteq F^*$.

Combining both steps, we can conclude that $F^* = \langle x + 3 \rangle$, and we have shown that every nonzero element in F can be generated by $\langle x + 3 \rangle$.

□

(c) Write $a(y) = (2x + 3)y^2 + (2x + 1)y + 1 \in F[y]$ as a product of irreducible polynomials.

Hint: $2x + 1 \equiv_{x^2+4x+1} 2(x + 3) \in \mathbb{Z}_5[x]$.

Proof:

The given polynomial is $a(y) = (2x + 3)y^2 + (2x + 1)y + 1$. Using the hint, we substitute $(2x + 1)$ with $(2(x + 3))$:

$$a(y) = (2(x + 3))y^2 + (2(x + 3))y + 1$$

Factoring out the common factor $(2(x + 3))$:

$$a(y) = 2(x + 3)(y^2 + y) + 1$$

Factoring the quadratic $(y^2 + y)$ over \mathbb{Z}_5 :

$$y^2 + y = y(y + 1)$$

Substituting this back into the expression:

$$a(y) = 2(x + 3)y(y + 1) + 1$$

So, the irreducible factorization of $a(y) \in F[y]$ is:

$$a(y) = (2(x + 3)) \cdot y \cdot (y + 1) + 1$$

The irreducible polynomials are $2(x + 3)$, y , and $y + 1$.

□
