§5.4—§5.5 Standard Factorization and Polynomial Functions

illusion

Especially made for smy

School of Mathematical Science, XMU

Monday 3rd March, 2025

http://illusion-hope.github.io/25-Spring-SMY-Discussion-Session/

HW-2

例 1

设 $f(x), g(x) \in F[x], (f(x), g(x)) = d(x)$, 求证:对于任意的正整数 n,

$$(f^n(x), f^{n-1}(x)g(x), \dots, g^n(x)) = d^n(x).$$

例 2

设非零多项式 $f(x), g(x) \in F[x]$. 证明: $(f(x), g(x)) \neq 1$ 的充分必要条件是存在 $p(x), g(x) \in F[x]$,使得

$$p(x)f(x) = q(x)g(x),$$

其中 $0 \le \deg p(x) < \deg g(x), 0 \le \deg q(x) < \deg f(x)$.

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例 3

Assume $f(x), g(x), h(x) \in F[x]$, prove that

- (1) (f(x), g(x), h(x)) = ((f(x), g(x)), h(x));
- (2) There exists $a(x), b(x), c(x), u(x), v(x), r(x) \in F[x]$ such that

$$(f(x), g(x), h(x)) = \det \begin{bmatrix} f(x) & g(x) & h(x) \\ a(x) & b(x) & c(x) \\ u(x) & v(x) & r(x) \end{bmatrix}.$$

Notes:

- 一般地, (1) 可以推广为 $((f_1(x), f_2(x), \cdots, f_{n-1}(x)), f_n(x)) = (f_1(x), f_2(x), \cdots, f_{n-1}(x), f_n(x)).$
- 存在 $u_i(x) \in F[x]$ 使 $\sum_{i=1}^n u_i(x) f_i(x) = (f_1(x), \dots, f_n(x)).$

Properties of Relatively Prime

The following statements are equivalent with (f(x), g(x)) = 1:

- (1) $u(x)f(x) + v(x)g(x) = 1 \leadsto 1 \mid f(x), 1 \mid g(x) \text{ is trivial;}$
- (2) We can conclude $f(x) \mid h(x)$ from $f(x) \mid g(x)h(x)$, for all $h(x) \in F[x]$;
- (3) We can conclude $f(x)g(x)\mid h(x)$ from $f(x)\mid h(x),\ g(x)\mid h(x),$ for all $h(x)\in F[x];$
- (4) $(f(x^n), g(x^n)) = 1$ for any given positive integer n;
- (5) $(f^n(x), g^n(x)) = 1$ for any given positive integer n;
- (6) (f(x) + g(x), f(x)g(x)) = 1;
- (7) For any $n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{N}^*$, we hold $(f^{n_1}, g^{n_2}) = (f, g)$;
- (8) f, g do not have common irreducible factors in their standard factorization;
- (9) f, g do not have common roots over C.



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- (4) $(f(x^n), g(x^n)) = 1$ for any given positive integer n;
- (5) $(f^n(x), g^n(x)) = 1$ for any given positive integer n;
- (6) (f(x) + g(x), f(x)g(x)) = 1;
- (7) For any $n_1, n_2 \in \mathbf{N}^*$, we hold $(f^{n_1}, g^{n_2}) = (f, g)$;
- (8) f, g do not have common irreducible factors in their standard factorization;
- (9) f, g do not have common roots over \mathbb{C} .



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Properties of Relatively Prime

Try

Just check them:

- (1) $(f(x), h(x)) = 1, (g(x), h(x)) = 1 \Leftrightarrow (f(x)g(x), h(x)) = 1.$
- (2) Assume $d(x) \neq 1$ is a common divisor of f(x) and g(x), let $f(x) = f_1(x)$ $d(x), g(x) = g_1(x)d(x)$, prove that $(f_1, g_1) = 1 \Leftrightarrow (f, g) = d$. (Important!)

Properties of Relatively Prime \rightsquigarrow $(f,q)=d\neq 1$ Case

Slogan: $d(x) \neq 1$ is a common divisor, $(f_1, g_1) = 1 \Leftrightarrow (f, g) = d$.

例 4

- (1) (f(x), g(x)) = d(x), then (f(x)h(x), g(x)h(x)) = d(x)h(x);
- (2) (f(x), g(x)) = 1, then (f(x)g(x), h(x)) = (f(x), h(x))(g(x), h(x));
- (3) Only use two conditions from $(f_i(x), g_j(x)) = 1$ (i, j = 1, 2) to prove that $(f_1(x)g_1(x), f_2(x)g_2(x)) = (f_1(x), f_2(x))(g_1(x), g_2(x)).$

例 5

Prove that $(x^n - 1, x^m - 1) = x^{(m,n)} - 1$, where m, n are given positive integers.

Hint: For $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$, there always exists $u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that um + vn = (m, n).

Monday 3rd March, 2025

Chinese Reminder Theorem (CRT)

Thm 6

Given polynomials $f_1(x), \dots, f_n(x)$, any two of which are relatively prime, then for $g_1(x), \dots, g_n(x)$ such that $\deg g_i(x) < \deg f_i(x)$, there exists a unique polynomial g(x) such that

$$g(x) \equiv g_i(x) \pmod{f_i(x)},$$

where $\deg g(x) < \sum_{i=1}^n \deg f_i(x)$.

- (1) Create one g(x) satisfying all the conditions $\leadsto \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ u_i(x) \prod_{j \neq i} f_j(x) \right\} \cdot g_i(x)$
- (2) Unique ~> Relatively Prime



Lagrange Interpolation Formula

例 7

Suppose $a_1, \dots, a_m \in F$ are different, for $b_1, \dots, b_m \in F$, there exists a unique polynomial L(x) such that $L(a_i) = b_i$ $(i = 1, 2, \dots, m)$:

$$L(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{m} b_j \prod_{i \neq j} \frac{x - a_j}{a_i - a_j},$$

where $\deg L(x) < m$.

Hint: $L(a_i) = b_i \Leftrightarrow L(x) \equiv b_i \pmod{x - a_i}$.

Outline of Chapter 5: Polynomial

Polynomial Algebra $\rightsquigarrow F[x]$ is a PID (Principal Ideal Domain)

- Division Theorem, Divisibility
- The (Not A!) Greatest Common Divisor (GCD) and Relatively Prime
- → Chinese Reminder Theorem (CRT) → Lagrange Interpolation Formula
- In PID, Irreducible ⇔ Prime
- (PID ⇒ UFD) Unique Factorization
- Repeated Factor $\rightsquigarrow (f(x), f'(x)) = 1$?

Polynomial Functions:

- Remainder Theorem
- Roots



Irreducible ⇔ Prime

Def 8

In F[x], a polynomial f(x) is called prime if for all $g(x), h(x) \in F[x]$, we can conclude $f(x) \mid g(x)$ or $f(x) \mid h(x)$ from $f(x) \mid g(x)h(x)$.

Def 9

In F[x], a polynomial f(x) is called irreducible if

- (1) f(x) is not a unit, i.e., $\deg f(x) > 0$;
- (2) If we hold f(x) = g(x)h(x) in F[x], then g(x) or h(x) must be a unit.

Notes:

• (Irreducible \Rightarrow Prime) If $f \mid gh$ and $f \nmid g$, we set (f,g) = d. Then, d is a divisor of $f \rightsquigarrow d = 1$ or d = cf. But we have $f \nmid g$, which implies (f,g) = 1 $\rightsquigarrow uf + vg = 1 \leadsto f \mid ufh = h - vgh \leadsto f \mid h$. (c is the reciprocal of the leading coefficient of f(x).)

Irreducible ⇔ Prime

- (Prime \Rightarrow Irreducible) If $f = gh \mid gh$. We have $f \mid g$ or $f \mid h$. WLOG, $f \mid g$. But we also hold $g \mid f \leadsto g, f$ are associate. Then, h can only be a unit.
- ullet (Cor.1) Assume p(x) is irreducible, then for all $f(x) \in F[x]$, we hold either $p(x) \mid f(x)$ or (p(x), f(x)) = 1.
- (Cor.2) Assume p(x) is irreducible, and we have $p(x) \mid f_1(x)f_2(x)\cdots f_n(x)$. Then, there must exists i such that $p(x) \mid f_i(x)$.

例 10

Prove that $f(x), g(x) \in F[x]$ are irreducible at the same time:

- (1) $g(x) = f(ax + b), \ a, c \in F, a \neq 0.$
- (2) $f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} a_k x^k, g(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} a_{n-k} x^k, \ a_i \in F, \ a_0 a_n \neq 0.$

Unique Factorization

Thm 11

Assume $f(x) \in F[x]$ is nonzero and not a unit.

(1) f(x) can be expressed as a product of irreducible polynomials, i.e.,

$$f(x) = p_1(x) \cdots p_n(x),$$

where $p_i(x)$ are irreducible polynomials.

(2) In any two such factorizations

$$f(x) = p_1(x) \cdots p_n(x) = q_1(x) \cdots q_m(x).$$

We have n=m and it is possible to rearrange the factors so that $p_i(x)$ and $q_i(x)$ are associate.

Note: F[x] satisfies ACC (Ascending Chain Condition) on ideals.



Unique Factorization

We write the common standard factorization of f(x) and $g(x) \in F[x]$:

$$f(x) = c_1 p_1^{e_1}(x) \cdots p_n^{e_n}(x), \ g(x) = c_2 p_1^{t_1}(x) \cdots p_n^{t_n}(x),$$

where

- $p_i(x)$ are irreducible polynomials that are pairwise relatively prime and have leading coefficients of 1;
- The constant $c_1, c_2 \in F$ represent the leading coefficients f(x) and g(x);
- $e_i, t_j \in \mathbf{Z}$ satisfy $e_i, t_j \ge 0, \ \underline{e_i} + t_j > 0.$
- (1) $(f(x), g(x)), [f(x), g(x)], \text{ when } f(x) \mid g(x)? \checkmark$
- (2) $F\subseteq K\leadsto p_1(x)=q_1^{m_1}(x)\cdots q_k^{m_k}(x)$ is the standard factorization of $p_1(x)$ in $K[x].\leadsto$ Does there exist $m_s\geq 2$?



例 12

Assume $f(x), g(x) \in F[x]$ and n is a given positive integer,

- (1) $f(x) \mid g(x) \Leftrightarrow f^n(x) \mid g^n(x);$
- (2) $(f(x), g(x)) = d(x) \Leftrightarrow (f^n(x), g^n(x)) = d^n(x)$.

Note: (§5.2) Recall that $x \mid f(x) \Leftrightarrow x^2 \mid f^2(x)$.

例 13

Given $f(x), h(x) \in F[x]$ such that $f^{27} \mid h^{29}$, if $\deg h(x) \le 13$, then $f(x) \mid h(x)$.

For cases that we hold $\deg h(x) \geq 14$, check that the conclusion may be wrong.

Hint: Divisibility remains unchanged under number field extensions.



Repeated Factors

$$f = c_1 p_1^{e_1}(x) \cdots p_n^{e_n}(x) \leadsto f' = c_1 p_1^{e_1 - 1}(x) \cdots p_n^{e_n - 1}(x) \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ e_i p_i'(x) \prod_{j \neq i} p_j(x) \right\}.$$

Slogan:
$$(f, f') = p_1^{e_1 - 1}(x) \cdots p_n^{e_n - 1}(x), \frac{f}{(f, f')} = p_1(x) \cdots p_n(x).$$

Notes:

- (1) $e_i \equiv 1 \Leftrightarrow (f(x), f'(x)) = 1; \rightsquigarrow$ 不随数域扩大而改变!
- (2) $\frac{f}{(f,f')}$ 与 f(x) 有完全相同的不可约因式且无重因式;
- (2') $g(x) = \frac{f}{(f, f')} \leadsto (g, g') = 1.$



例 14

Assume that an irreducible polynomial p(x) is a (k-1)-multiple factor of f'(x), then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) p(x) is a (k-1)-multiple factor of (f, f');
- (2) p(x) | f(x);
- (3) p(x) is a k-multiple factor of f(x).
- (3') $f(x) = p^k(x)h(x), (p(x), f(x)) = 1.$

Note: When we talk about repeated factors, p(x) should firstly be irreducible.

例 15

Assume $f(x) \in F[x]$ and $\deg f(x) = n$. If $f' \mid f$, prove that f has a n-multiple root over F.

Multiple Roots

- If f(x) has a multiple root a over F, then it must have repeated factors. But the converse is wrong.
- If a is a k-multiple root of f(x), then it's a (k-1)-multiple root of f'(x). But the converse is wrong.
- If a is a (k-1)-multiple root of (f',f), then it's a k-multiple root of f(x).

例 16

- (1) p(x) is irreducible over $F \Rightarrow p(x)$ has no multiple roots over C;
- (2) p(x) is irreducible over F and has common roots with f(x) over $\mathbf{C} \Rightarrow p \mid f$.

Slogan: p(x) 在 F 上不可约且在 C 上与 f(x) 有公共根 $\Rightarrow p \mid f$.

例 17

(1)
$$f(x) \in \mathbf{R}[x]$$
, $f(a+bi) = 0$ $(a, b \in \mathbf{R}) \leadsto f(a-bi) = 0$;

(2)
$$f(x) \in \mathbf{Q}[x], \ f(\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}) = 0 \leadsto f(\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{3}) = f(-\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}) = f(-\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{3}) = 0.$$

Hint: What is the standard factorization of $x^4 - 10x + 1$ in $\mathbf{R}[x]$?

例 18

 $f(x)\in F[x]$ 在 F 上不可约,若非零常数 a,a^{-1},b 为 f(x) 在 ${\bf C}$ 上的根,证明: $f(b^{-1})=0.$

Hint: Consider
$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k, g(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_{n-k} x^k, \ a_i \in F, \ a_0 a_n \neq 0.$$

Slogan: p(x) 在 F 上不可约且在 C 上与 f(x) 有公共根 $\Rightarrow p \mid f$.

例 19

 $f(x) \in F[x]$ 在 F 上不可约,对 $g(x) \in F[x]$,有 $\alpha \in \mathbf{C}$ 满足 $f(c) = 0, g(c) \neq 0$.

- (1) 存在 $h(x) \in F[x]$ 满足 h(c)g(c) = 1;
- (2) 求一个多项式 $h(x) \in \mathbf{Q}[x]$ 满足

$$h(\sqrt[3]{2}) = \frac{1}{3 + 2\sqrt[3]{2} + \sqrt[3]{4}}.$$

Hint: $p \mid f \Leftrightarrow \mathsf{All}$ the roots of p(x) are roots of f(x).



19 / 24

New View of Divisibility

Slogan: $p \mid f \Leftrightarrow \mathsf{All}$ the roots of p(x) are roots of f(x).

Revisit some examples:

(1)
$$x^2 + x + 1$$
 $\sum_{i \in I} x^{a_i} \Leftrightarrow a_i$ 除 3 余数为 0, 1, 2 的个数相等;

(2) $a \in F$, $x^d - a^d \mid x^n - a^n \Leftrightarrow d \mid n$.

例 20

设多项式 f(x), g(x), h(x), k(x) 之间有关系式

$$\begin{cases} (x+1)f(x) + (x+2)g(x) + (x^2+1)h(x) = 0, \\ (x-1)f(x) + (x-2)g(x) + (x^2+1)k(x) = 0. \end{cases}$$

证明: $(x^2+1) \mid (f,g)$.



20 / 24

More Examples

例 21

设 $f(x) = x^3 + 3x + 1$, 求满足同余方程 $v(x)f'(x) \equiv 1 \pmod{f(x)}$ 且次数最小的多项式 v(x).

例 22

设
$$(f(x),g(x))=1$$
, 证明: $f^2(x)+g^2(x)$ 的重根必是 $[f'(x)]^2+[g'(x)]^2$ 的根.

Hint: Consider over C.

例 23

设 f(x) 为 $\mathbf{R}[x]$ 上的任一实系数多项式. 证明: 存在唯一实系数多项式 g(x) 使得

$$((x^2 + 3x - 5)g(x))'' = f(x).$$

Synthetic Division

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} a_k x^k = (x-b) \left\{ \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} b_s x^s \right\} + f(b) \rightsquigarrow a_k = -b \cdot b_k + b_{k-1}, 1 \le k \le n-1.$$

Try

$$f(x) = x^5 - 2020x^4 - 2019x^3 - 4041x^2 - 2020x - 100, \text{ figure out } f(2021).$$

- $f(x) = (x 2021)(x^4 + b_3x^3 + \dots + b_0) + f(2021);$
- $-2020 = -2021b_3 + b_4 = -2021b_3 + 1 \leadsto b_3 = 1$;
- $-2019 = -2021b_3 + b_2 \rightsquigarrow b_2 = 2021 2019 = 2;$
- $\bullet -4041 = -2021b_2 + b_1 \leadsto b_1 = 1;$
- \bullet $-2020 = -2021b_1 + b_0 \leadsto b_0 = 1;$
- $-100 = -2021b_0 + f(2021) \rightsquigarrow f(2021) = 1921.$



Polynomial Functions

Lemma 24

Let f(x) be a polynomial over a field F with degree n>0. Then, f(x) has at most n distinct roots in F.

Note: Any polynomial of finite degree has only a finite number of roots. If a polynomial has infinitely many roots, it must be the zero polynomial.

Thm 25

Set $f(x)=a_nx^n+a_{n-1}x^{n-1}+\cdots+a_1x+a_0,\ g(x)=b_mx^m+b_{m-1}x^{m-1}+\cdots+b_1x+b_0,\ a_i,b_j\in F.$ Then, the following two statements are equivalent:

- (A) For all $c \in F$, we have f(c) = g(c);
- (A') For n+1 distinct numbers $c_1, \dots, c_{n+1} \in F$, we have f(c) = g(c);
- (B) $n = m, a_i = b_i \ (1 \le i \le n).$



Distinct Roots > Degree → Zero!

Slogan: If a polynomial has infinitely many roots \Rightarrow zero polynomial.

例 26

 $f(x) = \sin x$ is not a polynomial.

例 27

Figure out each f(x) satisfying the following conditions:

- (1) $f(x) = f(x+c), 0 \neq c \in F$;
- (2) f(a+b) = f(a) + f(b), for all $a, b \in F$.

例 28

 $\deg f(x) = n > 0, f(k) = k/(k+1), k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n.$ Find f(n+1).