Foreword

Usage

• Notes are presented in two columns: main notes on the left, and sidenotes on the right. Main notes will have a larger margin.

• The following is the color code for the notes:

Blue Definitions

Red Important points

Yellow Points to watch out for / comment for incompletion

Green External definitions, theorems, etc.

Light Blue Regular highlighting
Brown Secondary highlighting

• The following is the color code for boxes, that begin and end with a line of the same color:

Blue Definitions
Red Warning

Yellow Notes, remarks, etc.

Brown Proofs

Magenta Theorems, Propositions, Lemmas, etc.

Hyperlinks are underlined in magenta. If your PDF reader supports it, you can follow the links to either be redirected to an external website, or a theorem, definition, etc., in the same document.
 Note that this is only reliable if you have the full set of notes as a single document, which you can find on:

https://japorized.github.io/TeX_notes

34 Lecture 34 Jul 23rd 2018

34.1 Factorizations in Integral Domains (Continued 4)

34.1.1 *Gauss' Lemma (Continued)*

Lemma 104 (Role of the Content)

Let R be a UFD and let $0 \neq f(x) \in R[x]$.

1. f(x) can be written as

$$f(x) = c(f)f_1(x)$$

where $f_1(x)$ is primitive.

2. If $0 \neq b \in R$, then c(bf) = b c(f).

Proof

1. Let $c = c(f) \sim \gcd(a_0, a_1, ..., a_m)$, where we let $f(x) = a_m x^m + ... + a_0$. Since c is the \gcd , for $0 \le i \le m$, write

$$a_i = cb_i$$
.

Then $f(x) = cf_1(x)$ where

$$f_1(x) = b_m x^m + \ldots + b_0.$$

Then by **b** Proposition 97, we have

$$c \sim \gcd(a_0, a_1, ..., a_m) \sim \gcd(cb_0, ..., cb_m) \sim c \gcd(b_0, ..., b_m).$$

It follows that $gcd(b_0, ..., b_m) \sim 1$ and so $f_1(x)$ is primitive.

2. This is an immediate result from § Proposition 97.

Lemma 105 (Non-Trivial Irreducible Polynomials are Primitive)

Let R be a UFD and $l(x) \in R[x]$ be irreducible with $\deg l \geq 1$. Then $c(l) \sim 1$.

Proof

By Lemma 104, we can write

$$l(x) = c(l)l_1(x)$$

for some $l_1(x) \in R[x]$. Since l(x) is irreducible, by \bullet Proposition 92, we have either $c(l) \sim 1$ or $l_1(x) \sim 1$. However, since $\deg l = \deg l_1 \geq 1$, we have that $l_1(x) \not\sim 1$ and so $c(l) \sim 1$.

Example 34.1.1

The polynomial $2x + 4 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ is irreducible¹. However, the polynomial $2x + 4 \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ is not irreducible. For instance,

$$2x + 4 = 2(x + 2)$$

but both 2 and (x + 2) are not units of $\mathbb{Z}[x]$.

¹ Any factorization of 2x + 4 in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ will always result in one of the factors being a unit.

■ Theorem 106 (Gauss' Lemma)

Let R be a UFD. For any non-zero f(x), $g(x) \in R[x]$, we have

$$c(fg) \sim c(f) c(g)$$

Proof

By Lemma 104, let

$$f(x) = c(f)f_1(x)$$

$$g(x) = c(g)g_1(x),$$

where $f_1(x)$ and $g_1(x)$ are primitive. Then by part (2) of Lemma 104, we have

$$c(fg) = c(c(f)f_1 c(g)g_1) = c(f) c(g) c(f_1g_1).$$

From here, if $(f_1g_1) \sim 1$, our proof is complete. Thus, it suffices to show that f(x)g(x) is primitive when f(x) and g(x) are primitive, i.e. $c(f) \sim 1 c(g)$.

Suppose that we have that f(x) and g(x) are primitive but f(x)g(x)is not primitive. Since R is a UFD, by \blacksquare Theorem 98, $\exists p \in R$ such that p divides each coefficient of f(x)g(x). Write

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + \dots a_m x^m$$

$$g(x) = b_0 + b_1 x + \dots b_n x^n.$$

Since f(x) and g(x) are primitive, p does not divide each a_i or each b_i ². Then $\exists k, s \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ such that

- $p \nmid a_k$ but $p \mid a_i$ for $0 \le i < k$ and
- $p \nmid b_s$ but $p \mid b_i$ for $0 \leq j < s$.

Note that the coefficient of x^{k+s} in f(x)g(x) is

$$c_{k+s} = \sum_{i+j=k+s} a_i b_j.$$

From the two bullet points, we have that p divides all a_i and b_j with i+j=k+s except a_kb_s . It follows that $p\nmid c_{k+s}$, which contradicts the fact that p divides all coefficient of f(x)g(x). Therefore, f(x)g(x) is primitive.

² Otherwise, f(x) and g(x) would not be primitives since if p does divide all of the coefficients, then $c(f) \not\sim 1$ or $c(g) \not\sim 1$, i.e. they are not primitives.

Theorem 107 (Reducibility in the Field of Fractions)

Let R be a UFD whose field of fractions is F³. If $l(x) \in R[x]$ is irreducible in R[x], then l(x) is irreducible in F[x].

The contrapositive of this theorem is rather interesting: If $f(x) \in F[x]$ is reducible, then f(x) is also reducible in R[x]!

³ Note that we regard $R \subseteq F$ as a subring of *F*, as per usual.

Proof

Let $l(x) \in R[x]$ be irreducible. Suppose $l(x) = g(x)h(x) \in F[x]$ for some g(x), $h(x) \in F[x]$. If a and b ⁴ are the products of the denominators of the coefficients of g(x) and h(x), respectively, then

⁴ They are both in *F*.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} g_1(x) = ag(x) \\ h_1(x) = bh(x) \end{array} \right\} \in R[x].$$

Then $abl(x) = g_1(x)h_1(x)$ is a factorization in R[x]. Since l(x) is irreducible in R[x], we have that $c(l) \sim 1$ by Lemma 105. Then by

Theorem 106, we have

$$ab \sim ab c(l) \sim c(abl) \sim c(g_1h_1) \sim c(g_1) c(h_1).$$
 (34.1)

By Lemma 104, write

$$g_1(x) = c(g_1)g_2(x)$$

 $h_1(x) = c(h_1)h_2(x)$

where $g_2(x)$, $h_2(x) \in R[x]$ are primitive. Then we have

$$abl(x) = g_1(x)h_1(x) = c(g_1) c(h_1)g_2(x)h_2(x).$$

Then by Equation (34.1), we have

$$l(x) \sim g_2(x)h_2(x)$$
.

Since l(x) is irreducible in R[x], it follows, WLOG, that $g_2(x) \sim 1$, which then

$$ag(x) = g_1(x) = c(g_1)g_2(x) = c(g_1)v$$

for some unit $v \in R$. And so

$$g(x) = a^{-1} \operatorname{c}(g_1) v$$

is also a unit. Therefore, we have that

$$l(x) = g(x)h(x) \in F[x]$$

implies that either g(x) or h(x) is a unit, i.e. l(x) is irreducible in F[x]. \square