

1. Determine if the following polynomials are irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

(a)  $f(x) = 4x^5 + 28x^4 + 7x^3 - 28x^2 + 14$

**Solution:** We can apply Eisenstein's Criterion directly with  $p = 7$  to show that  $f(x)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

(b)  $g(x) = x^p + p^2mx + (p - 1)$  where  $p \in \mathbb{Z}$  is a prime and  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Solution:** Consider  $g(x + 1)$ . Notice,

$$\begin{aligned} g(x + 1) &= (x + 1)^p + p^2m(x + 1) + (p - 1) \\ &= x^p + \binom{p}{1}x^{p-1} + \cdots + \binom{p}{p-1}x + p^2mx + p^2m + p \\ &= x^p + \binom{p}{1}x^{p-1} + \cdots + \binom{p}{p-1}x + p^2mx + p(pm + 1). \end{aligned}$$

We can see immediately that each non-leading coefficient divides  $p$ . It remains to show that  $p^2 \nmid p(pm + 1)$ , which is equivalent to  $p \nmid pm + 1$ . This follows as

$$pm + 1 \equiv 1 \pmod{p}.$$

Hence, Eisenstein's Criterion with  $p$  gives  $g(x + 1)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ , so  $g(x)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

(c)  $h(x) = x^4 + 4x^3 + 4x^2 + 4x + 5$

**Solution:** We can simplify  $h$  with the Binomial Theorem. Notice,

$$\begin{aligned} h(x) &= x^4 + 4x^3 + 4x^2 + 4x + 5 \\ &= (x + 1)^4 - 2x + 4. \end{aligned}$$

Now, consider  $h(x - 1)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} h(x - 1) &= x^4 - 2(x - 1)^2 + 4 \\ &= x^4 - 2(x^2 - 2x + 1) + 4 \\ &= x^4 - 2x^2 + 4x + 2 \end{aligned}$$

and here,  $h(x - 1)$  satisfies Eisenstein's Criterion with  $p = 2$ . It follows that  $h(x)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

2. Let  $F \subseteq K \subseteq E$  be fields. If  $E/K$  and  $K/F$  are algebraic, prove that  $E/F$  is also algebraic.

**Solution:**

*Proof.* This result follows immediately as

$$[E : F] = [E : K][K : F]$$

and  $E/K$  and  $K/F$  are finite extensions, so  $E/F$  is also a finite extension.  $\square$

3. Let  $F$  be a field. Let  $\alpha, \beta$  be algebraic over  $F$  with the minimal polynomial  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  respectively. Prove that  $f(x)$  is irreducible over  $F(\beta)[x]$  if and only if  $g(x)$  is irreducible over  $F(\alpha)[x]$ .

**Solution:** Since both directions follow a symmetric proof, it suffices to show one direction, so suppose  $f(x)$  is irreducible over  $F(\beta)[x]$ . We have that  $[F(\alpha, \beta) : F(\beta)] = \deg(f)$ . Also, since  $g(x)$  is the minimal polynomial of  $\beta$  over  $F[x]$ , we have that  $[F(\beta) : F] = \deg(g)$ . It follows that  $[F(\alpha, \beta) : F] =$

4. (a) Prove that  $\alpha = \sqrt[3]{7} + 2i$  is algebraic over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

**Solution:**

- (b) Prove that both  $\sqrt[3]{7}$  and  $2i$  are elements of  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ .

**Solution:**

- (c) Compute  $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}]$ .

**Solution:**

- (d) Write down the minimal polynomial in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$  for  $\alpha$ .

**Solution:**

5. Let  $E/F$  be a field extension and  $K, L$  be intermediate fields. Let  $KL$  denote the smallest subfield of  $E$  containing both  $K$  and  $L$ . Suppose  $L/F$  is finite.

- (a) Prove that all elements of  $KL$  are of the form  $\sum_{i=1}^r k_i l_i$ , where  $k_i \in K, l_i \in L$  and  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Solution:**

- (b) Prove that  $[KL : K] \leq [L : F]$ .

**Solution:**

- (c) Give an example of fields  $F \subseteq K, L \subseteq E$  which satisfy  $[KL : K] < [L : F]$ .

**Solution:**

6. Prove that  $e$  is transcendental.

**Solution:**