

①

MATH 407

4/30/18

* Def. Monic polynomials: leading coefficient is 1 (so poly non-zero)

* If $\deg(p) = n$

$$p = a_0 + \dots + a_n x^n$$

$$\text{then is } a_n \left(\frac{a_0}{a_n} + \dots + \frac{a_{n-1} x^{n-1}}{a_n} + x^n \right)$$

* $F[x]$ satisfies all of field axioms except multiplicative inverses.

If $\deg(p) \geq 0$ and $p(x)f(x) = p(x)g(x)$, then $f(x) = g(x)$

* No zero divisors: $p(x)g(x) = 0$ iff either $p = 0$ or $g = 0$.

* $\deg(pq) = \deg(p) + \deg(q)$

* $F[x]$ is integral domain

* Divisibility: $f(x) \mid g(x)$ iff there is $q(x)$

s.t. $f(x)q(x) = g(x)$

$$\langle f \rangle = f F[x] = \{ f q : q \in F[x] \}$$

* Def. $f \in F[x]$, $\deg(f) \geq 1$ is irreducible iff $f(x) = g(x)h(x)$ implies that either g is constant or h is constant

* Thm. If $f \in F[x]$ has a multiplicative inverse

(2)

* Lemma: Any polynomial $f(x)$ (w/ $\deg(f) \geq 1$) has an irreducible factor

Pf. Let $D_f = \{g \in F[x] : g \mid f, \deg(g) \geq 1\}$

There is a polynomial $d \in D_f$ of minimum degree
 Assert d is irreducible, else $d = a(x)b(x)$,
 a, b lesser $\deg \geq 1$

* Lemma: a) Divisibility of polynomials is transitive
 b) If $f \mid g$ and $g \mid f$, then $\deg(f) = \deg(g)$

* If $p(x)$ is linear, $\deg(p) = 1$

$$\Rightarrow p = mx + b = m(x + \frac{b}{m})$$

Any linear polynomial is irreducible

* Def. If $c \in F$ and $f(c) = 0$, then c is a root, or zero of f

* Lemma $(x - c) \mid (x^k - c^k)$, any $k \geq 1$, $c \in F$

$$\text{Pf. } (x - c) \underbrace{\left(x^{k-1} + cx^{k-2} + \dots + c^{k-2}x + c^{k-1} \right)}_{q_k}$$

$$= x^k + cx^{k-1} + \dots + c^{k-2}x^2 + c^{k-1}x$$

$$- (cx^{k-1} + \dots + c^{k-1}x)$$

$$= x^k - c^k$$

③

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$$\text{If } x=1, (1+c+\dots+c^{k-1})(1-c) \\ \Rightarrow 1-c^k, \text{ so } (1+c+\dots+c^{k-1}) = \frac{1-c^k}{1-c}$$

* Thm $(x-c) \mid (f(x) - f(c))$ for any f , $\deg(f) \geq 1$

Pf. $f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k x^k$

$$f(c) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k c^k$$

$$(f(x) - f(c)) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k (x^k - c^k)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^n a_k q_k(x-c)$$

$$= \left(\sum_{k=0}^n a_k q_k(x) \right) (x-c)$$

* Remainder thm. a) $f \in F[x]$, $(x-c) \mid f$ iff $f(c) = 0$

b) $f(x) = (x-c)q(x) + f(c)$

Pf. a) $f(x) = f(x) - f(c)$

Conversely, $(x-c) \mid f(x)$

$$f(x) = (x-c)q(x)$$

$$f(c) = (c-c)q(c) = 0$$

(4)

$$b) f(x) - f(c) = (x-c)q(x) \quad \text{let } = (x/2)q$$

$$\text{so } f(x) = (x-c)q(x) + f(c)$$

* Cor. Let $c \neq d$, $f(x) = (x-d)g(x)$
 then $f(c) = 0 \Rightarrow g(c) = 0$

* Cor. If $f \in F[x]$ and $\deg(f) \geq 1$ then f has at most n distinct zeros.

Pf. Let $\{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ distinct zeros of f
 $f(x) = (x-x_1)g(x)$

$\{x_2, \dots, x_k\}$ roots of g

$$\deg(g) = n-1$$

$$\text{so } k-1 \leq n-1$$

$$\text{so } k \leq n$$

* Thm. $T: f \rightarrow \hat{f}$, $\hat{f}(c) = f(c), \forall c \in F$
 is linear from $F[x]$ to F^F .

T is 1-1 iff F is infinite.