
LECTURE 4

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1 Polynomials in Fields

$$p(x) \in K(x)$$

$$p = f \cdot g, f, g \in K(x)$$

$$\partial f, \partial g > 0$$

$$\partial f, \partial g < \partial p$$

$$\text{case 1 } \partial p = 2$$

$$p = f \cdot g$$

$$\partial f = \partial g = 1$$

p is irreducible $\leftrightarrow p$ doesn't have units in K (quadratic formula)

$$\text{case 2: } \partial p = 3$$

$$\partial f = 1,$$

$$\partial g = 2$$

p is irreducible $\leftrightarrow p$ doesn't have a root in K

$$\text{case 3: } \partial p = 4$$

$$\partial f = 2, \partial g = 2 \text{ or } \partial f = 1, \partial g = 3$$

$$\mathbb{Q}[x]$$

$$p \in \mathbb{Z}[x]?$$

Lemma 1.1 (Gauss' Lemma).

$h \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ irreducible $\Rightarrow h$ is irreducible in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$

(\Leftarrow): is this true? (no)

$$h = f \cdot g$$

$$h = 2x + 2 = 2(x + 1) \text{ where } \partial f, \partial g < \partial h$$

this constant is not a unit.

Proof.

Suppose $h = f \cdot g$ where $f, g \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$. Clear denominators in f, g .

There is the smallest positive integer k such that $k \cdot h = \bar{f} \cdot \bar{g}$ where $\bar{f}, \bar{g} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$

There is a prime p dividing k . Let's look at $kh = \bar{f}\bar{g}$ in $\mathbb{Z}_p(x)$

in $\mathbb{Z}_p, 0 = \bar{f}_p \cdot \bar{g}_p$ \mathbb{Z} : integral domain, so either one must be 0,

$\bar{f}_p = 0$ or $\bar{g}_p = 0 \rightarrow$ either all coefficients of \bar{f} or all coefficients of \bar{g} are divisible by $p \rightarrow k$ can be reduced. contradiction.

□

2 Eisenstein's Criterion

$$h \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$$

$$h = a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_nx^n$$

suppose that there exists a prime p such that:

$$1. \ p|a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}$$

$$2. \ p \nmid a_n$$

$$3. \ p^2 \nmid a_0$$

$\rightarrow f$ is irreducible in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$

Proof.

suffice to show that h is irreducible in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ (Gauss lemma)

Suppose $h = f \cdot g$, where $f, g \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ and $\partial f, \partial g < \partial h$

Let's look at $h = fg \pmod p$

$$h_p = f_p g_p$$

$$a_n x^n = f_p g_p$$

$$a_n \not\equiv 0 \pmod p$$

$$\text{look } a_0, p \mid a_0, p^2 \nmid a_0$$

$\rightarrow p$ divides constant term g, f or g but not both

WLOG,

$p \mid$ constant term of g and $p \nmid$ constant term of $f \rightarrow f_p$ is a polynomial with a constant term

$$a_n x^n = f_p \cdot g_p$$

$\mathbb{Z}_p[x]$ UFD but we have two different factorizations.. contradiction

□