

## Polynomial Rings etc (everything is commutative)

$R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  has the universal property: given  $u_1, \dots, u_n \in S$ ,

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 R & \xrightarrow{\eta} & S \\
 \downarrow & \nearrow \exists! \eta_{u_1, \dots, u_n} & \\
 R[x_1, \dots, x_n] & & 
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \eta_{u_1, \dots, u_n}(x_i) = u_i.$$

Def if  $R \xrightarrow{\text{id}} S$  then  $u_1, \dots, u_n \in S$  are algebraically independent over  $R$  if  $\text{Ker}(\text{id}_{u_1, \dots, u_n}) = 0$ .

i.e.  $R[u_1, \dots, u_n] \cong R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

## Polynomial Rings II

Thm if  $D$  is a domain, so is  $D[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

Pf  $\deg(fg) = \deg(f) + \deg(g)$ . Induct.

Thm if  $D$  is a domain, then the units of  $D[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  are just the units of  $D$ .

pf  $fg = 1 \Rightarrow \deg(f) + \deg(g) = 0$ . Induct.

Thm (division alg) Let  $R$  be a comm. ring,  $f(x), g(x) \in R[x]$  with  $g(x) \neq 0$ . Let  $b_m \neq 0$  be the leading coeff of  $g(x)$ . Then  $\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $q(x), r(x) \in R[x]$  s.t.

$$b_m^k f(x) = q(x)g(x) + r(x), \quad \deg(r(x)) < \deg(g(x)).$$

Proof induct on  $\deg(f(x))$ . If  $\deg(f(x)) < \deg(g(x))$ , then

$$f(x) = 0 \cdot g(x) + f(x).$$

Suppose  $\deg(f(x)) \geq \deg(g(x))$ . If  $f(x) = a_0 + \dots + \overset{\neq 0}{a_\ell} x^\ell$ ,  $g(x) = b_0 + \dots + \overset{\neq 0}{b_m} x^m$

$$b_m f(x) - a_\ell x^{\ell-m} g(x) = f_1(x). \quad (*)$$

then  $\deg(f_1(x)) < \deg(f(x))$ , so apply inductive hypothesis:

$\exists k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $q_1(x), r(x) \in R[x]$  s.t.

$$b_m^k f_1(x) = q_1(x)g(x) + r(x), \quad \deg(r(x)) < \deg(g(x)).$$

Substituting back into  $(*)$ , we get

$$b_m^{k+1} f(x) - a_\ell b_m^k x^{\ell-m} g(x) = q_1(x)g(x) + r(x).$$

$$\text{Let } q(x) = q_1(x) + a_\ell b_m^k x^{\ell-m}.$$

□

Remark: An upper bound for # iterations this takes is

Remark: An upper bound for # iterations this takes is  $\max \{0, l-m+1\}$ .

Corollary if  $R=F$  is a field,  $0 \neq g(x)$ ,  $f(x) \in F[x]$ , there are unique  $q(x), r(x)$  s.t.

$$f(x) = q(x)g(x) + r(x), \quad \deg(r(x)) < \deg(g(x)).$$

Remark This is also true if the leading coeff of  $g$  is a unit.

Corollary if  $f(x) \in R[x]$ ,  $a \in R$ , then  $\exists$  unique  $q(x) \in R[x]$  s.t.

$$f(x) = (x-a)q(x) + f(a).$$

Def  $\overset{0}{\neq} g(x)$  divides  $f(x)$  if  $\exists q(x)$  w/  $f(x) = g(x)q(x)$ .

Ex if  $R=F$  is a field,  $g(x) \mid f(x) \iff r(x) = 0$  ↙ remainder of div. alg.

Corollary Let  $a \in R$ ,  $f(x) \in R[x]$ .  $(x-a) \mid f(x) \iff f(a) = 0$ .

Def A domain  $D$  is called a principal ideal domain (PID) if every ideal in  $D$  is principal (generated by one element).

Thm  $F$  is a field  $\Rightarrow F[x]$  is a PID.