

When writing a proof, be sure to cite all of the properties, theorems, corollaries, and definitions you use. Be sure to write all of your answers in complete sentences (even the non-proof questions).

1. Prove that  $x^2 + 1$  is reducible in  $\mathbb{Z}_p[x]$  if and only if there exists integers  $a$  and  $b$  such that  $p = a + b$  and  $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .

Let  $p$  be a prime. Then  $x^2 + 1$  is reducible in  $\mathbb{Z}_p[x]$  exactly when there exist integers  $a$  and  $b$  such that  $x^2 + 1 = (x+a)(x+b)$ . Multiplying these out we have that  $x^2 + 1 = x^2 + (a+b)x + ab$ . This is true in  $\mathbb{Z}_p[x]$  exactly when  $a+b \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  and  $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  by theorem 2.3.

Now assuming  $(x+a), (x+b) \in \mathbb{Z}_p[x]$ , we know that  $0 \leq a < p$  and  $0 \leq b < p$ . Obviously,  $a+b \neq 0$  since that would mean that  $a=0=b$ , which contradicts  $ab \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . Hence,  $0 < a+b < 2p$ . Thus,  $a+b=p$  using the definition of congruence.

2. Prove or disprove: If  $p(x)$  is relatively prime to  $k(x)$  and  $f(x)k(x) \equiv g(x)k(x) \pmod{p(x)}$ , then  $f(x) \equiv g(x) \pmod{p(x)}$ .

Let  $F$  be a field and  $p(x), k(x), f(x), g(x) \in F[x]$ ,

where  $p(x)$  is relatively prime to  $k(x)$  and  $f(x)k(x) \equiv g(x)k(x) \pmod{p(x)}$ .

By definition,  $f(x)k(x) - g(x)k(x) = p(x)h(x)$  for some  $h(x) \in F[x]$ .

Hence  $[f(x) - g(x)]k(x) = p(x)h(x)$ . Since  $\gcd(p(x), k(x)) = 1$ , we apply Theorem 4.7 to get that  $p(x)$  divides  $f(x) - g(x)$ . By definition, this means that  $f(x) \equiv g(x) \pmod{p(x)}$ .

However, consider the case when  $p(x) = x^2 + 1$ ,  $k(x) = 2x + 1$ ,  $f(x) = 3x + 2$ , and  $g(x) = x + 3$ . Then in  $\mathbb{Z}_6[x]$ , we have that  $f(x)k(x) = x + 2$  and  $g(x)k(x) = x + 1$ . Here  $f(x)k(x) \not\equiv g(x)k(x) \pmod{p(x)}$ .

3. Answer the following two questions:

- a. List all of the monic irreducible polynomials of degree 2 in  $\mathbb{Z}_3[x]$ .

$$x^2 + 1$$

$$x^2 + x + 2$$

$$x^2 + 2x + 2$$

- b. Is  $[2x - 3]$  a unit in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]/\langle x^2 - 2 \rangle$ ? If so, find its inverse.

$[2x - 3]$  is a unit in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]/\langle x^2 - 2 \rangle$ ,

$$\text{and } [2x - 3]^{-1} = [-2x - 3]$$

4. Let  $f(x), g(x)$ , and  $p(x)$  be in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ . Determine whether  $f(x) \equiv g(x) \pmod{p(x)}$ .

a.  $f(x) = x^5 - 2x^4 + 4x^3 - 3x + 1$ ;  $g(x) = 3x^4 + 2x^3 - 5x^2 + 2$ ;  
 $p(x) = x^2 + 1$

$$f(x) - g(x) = p(x) \cdot (x^3 - 5x^2 + x + 10) + (-4x - 11)$$

Hence  $f(x) \not\equiv g(x) \pmod{p(x)}$ .

b.  $f(x) = x^5 + 4x^4 - x^3 + 13x^2 + 20x + 1$ ;  $g(x) = x^3 - x^2 - 7x - 4$ ;  
 $p(x) = x^2 + 5x + 1$

$$f(x) - g(x) = p(x) \cdot (x^3 - x^2 + 2x + 5)$$

Hence  $f(x) \equiv g(x) \pmod{p(x)}$ .

5. Write out the multiplication and addition tables for each ring given below. Is the ring a field?

a.  $\mathbb{Z}_2[x]/\langle x^2 + 1 \rangle$

+	[0]	[1]	[x]	[x+1]
[0]	[0]	[1]	[x]	[x+1]
[1]	[1]	[0]	[x+1]	[x]
[x]	[x]	[x+1]	[0]	[1]
[x+1]	[x+1]	[x]	[1]	[0]

•	[0]	[1]	[x]	[x+1]
[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]	[0]
[1]	[0]	[1]	[x]	[x+1]
[x]	[0]	[x]	[1]	[x+1]
[x+1]	[0]	[x+1]	[x+1]	[0]

The ring  $\mathbb{Z}_2[x]/\langle x^2 + 1 \rangle$  is not a field because  $[x+1][x+1] = [0]$  or by Theorem 5.10 since  $x^2 + 1 = (x+1)^2$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_2[x]$ .

b.  $\mathbb{Z}_3[x]/\langle x^2 + 1 \rangle$

The ring  $\mathbb{Z}_3[x]/\langle x^2 + 1 \rangle$  is a field.

- In the multiplication table, each nonzero element has an inverse.
- $x^2 + 1$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Z}_3[x]$ . Then Theorem 5.10, tells us that we have a field.

See attached for tables.