

Math 331: Homework 7, Due Oct 21

1. Using only techniques discussed in class and/or the text, factor completely over \mathbb{C} :

(a) $x^5 - 19x^4 + 139x^3 - 485x^2 + 800x - 500 = (x - 5)^3(x - 2)^2$

(b) $x^6 - 12x^5 + 58x^4 - 144x^3 + 193x^2 - 132x + 36 = (x - 3)^2(x - 2)^2(x - 1)^2$

(c) $x^4 - 14x^3 + 71x^2 - 154x + 120 = (x - 5)(x - 4)(x - 3)(x - 2)$

(d) $x^5 - 5x^4 + 7x^3 - 2x^2 + 4x - 8 = (x - 2)^3(x^2 + x + 1)$

(e) $x^6 + x^5 + 5x^4 + 4x^3 + 8x^2 + 4x + 4 = (x^2 + 2)^2(x^2 + x + 1)$

(f) $x^4 + x^3 + 3x^2 + 2x + 2 = (x^2 + 2)(x^2 + x + 1)$

2. Let K be a field and $f, g \in K[x]$. Prove that for any $a, b \in K$:

$$D(af + bg) = aD(f) + bD(g)$$

3. Suppose characteristic of K is 0. Let $f \in K[x]$ be such that $\deg f > 1$. Show $\deg D(f) = (\deg f) - 1$.

4. Assuming the product rule, prove the chain rule (using induction):

$$D(p(x)^k) = k(p(x))^{k-1}D(p(x))$$

Solution: This is true for $k = 1$. Assume true for $k < n$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} D(p(x)^n) &= D(p^{n-1}p) = D(p^{n-1})p + p^{n-1}Dp \\ &= (n-1)p^{n-2}p'p + p^{n-1}p' = np^{n-1}p' \end{aligned}$$

5. Suppose characteristic of K is 0. Let $f \in K[x]$ is

$$f = p(x)^k q(x)$$

where $k > 1$ and $\deg p > 0$. Show that $p(x)^{k-1}$ is a factor of $D(f)$.

Solution: Take the derivative using the product rule:

$$\begin{aligned} Df &= D(p^k q) = D(p^k)q + p^k D(q) \\ &= kp^{k-1}p'q + p^k q' = p^{k-1}(kp'q + q') \end{aligned}$$

6. Find a non-zero polynomial in $\mathbb{Z}_3[x]$ that has zero as its derivative.

7. Let p be a prime. Characterize all nonconstant polynomials in $\mathbb{Z}_p[x]$ that have derivative 0.