

E-Learning Materials for Sem - 6(I)

Unit - 1, CC - 1A

Topic - Ring theory and Linear Algebra - II

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An integral domain is said to be a principal ideal domain if every ideal of the domain is a principal ideal.

### Principal ideal in a ring:

Let  $s$  be a non-empty subset of  $R$ . The intersection of all ideals of  $R$  containing the subset  $s$  is an ideal of  $R$  and it is smallest ideal of  $R$  containing the subset  $s$ . This is said to be ideal generated by  $s$  and it is called principal ideal of  $R$ .

Ex-12 The ring  $\mathbb{Z}$  is an integral domain & is said to be principal ideal domain. and if

$\Rightarrow$  In the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$ , the ring of all integers, the subring  $m\mathbb{Z}$  ( $m$  being a positive integer) is a principal ideal.

Let  $m\mathbb{Z}$  be a subring of  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $m$  being a positive integer. The subring  $m\mathbb{Z}$  is an ideal of the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

Let  $U$  be any ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}$  containing the element  $m$ . Then  $ma \in U$  for all  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

In other words,  $m\mathbb{Z} \subset U$ .

This proves that the ideal  $m\mathbb{Z}$  is the smallest ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}$  containing the element  $m$ .

$\therefore m\mathbb{Z}$  is a principal ideal of the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

Since all ideals in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$  are given by  $m\mathbb{Z}$  where  $m$  is an integer  $\geq 0$ .

It follows that all ideals of the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$  are principal ideals, therefore the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$  is PID.

Ex. 13 The ring  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  is an integral domain and if it is not a principal ideal domain (PID). 14

Let us consider the ideal  $s$  of  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  generated by the element  $2$  and  $x$  of  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ . Then

$$s = 2f(x) + xg(x) : f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x], g(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x].$$

Let  $s$  be principal ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ , say  $\langle h(x) \rangle$  for some  $h(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

$$2 \in s \Rightarrow 2 \in \langle h(x) \rangle \Rightarrow 2 = h(x)h_1(x) \text{ for some } h_1(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$$

$$x \in s \Rightarrow x \in \langle h(x) \rangle \Rightarrow x = h(x)h_2(x) \text{ for some } h_2(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$$

$$\therefore 2h_2(x) = xh_1(x).$$

This shows that each coefficient of  $h_1(x)$  is an even integer. So  $h_1(x) = 2p(x)$  for some  $p(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$

consequently,  $2 = 2h(x)p(x)$ , therefore  $h(x)p(x) = 1$   
 $h(x)p(x) = 1 \Rightarrow 1 \in \langle h(x) \rangle$  - i.e.;  $1 \in s$

$$1 \in s \Rightarrow 1 = 2q(x) + x, r(x) \text{ for some } q(x), r(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$$

$$\text{Let } q(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots$$

$$r(x) = b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + \dots$$

$$\text{Then } 1 = 2(a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots) + x(b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + \dots)$$

$\therefore 1 > 2a_0$ , an impossibility since  $a_0$  is an integer.

$\therefore s$  is not a principal ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

Hence  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  is not a principal ideal domain.

### Theorem

In a ideal  $P$  of  $R$  is an irreducible

$\Rightarrow$  Let  $P$  be a prime ideal of  $R$ . Then  $\langle P \rangle$  is a prime ideal of  $R$ .

i.e.,  $\langle P \rangle$  is a prime ideal.

If  $\langle P \rangle$  is not a prime ideal,

If  $\langle P \rangle$  is not a prime ideal,

$\langle P \rangle$  is not a prime ideal.

$\Rightarrow$   $a$  is not an associate of  $P$ .

Thus  $a$  is not an associate of  $P$ .

Hence

Conversely

Let  $P$  be a prime ideal of  $R$ .

Let  $a$  be an element of  $R$ .

Since  $a$  is not an associate of  $P$ ,

Say  $a \in \langle P \rangle$

$\langle P \rangle \subset R/P$

$\Rightarrow P \in R/P$

$\Rightarrow P^2 \in R/P$

In a principal ideal domain  $D$ , a non-null principal ideal  $\langle p \rangle$  is maximal if and only if  $p$  is an irreducible in  $D$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Let a non-null ideal  $\langle p \rangle$  be maximal in  $D$ .

Then  $\langle p \rangle \neq \langle 0 \rangle$ ,  $\langle p \rangle \neq D$ . i.e.,  $p \neq 0$  and  $p$  is not a unit.

Let  $a \in D$  and  $a$  is division of  $p$ .  $a|p$  implies  $\langle p \rangle \subset \langle a \rangle$ .

i.e., either  $\langle p \rangle = \langle a \rangle$  or  $\langle p \rangle$  is properly contained in  $\langle a \rangle$ .

If  $\langle p \rangle = \langle a \rangle$ , then  $a$  and  $p$  are associates.

If  $\langle p \rangle$  is properly contained in  $\langle a \rangle$ , then  $\langle a \rangle = D$ . [Since  $p$  is maximal]

$$\langle a \rangle \supseteq D$$

$\Rightarrow a$  is unit

Thus  $a$  is a division of  $p$  implies either  $a$  is an associate of  $p$  or  $a$  is a unit.

Hence  $p$  is an irreducible in  $D$ .

Conversely,

Let  $p$  be an irreducible in  $D$ .

Let  $U$  be an ideal of  $D$  such that  $\langle p \rangle \subset U \subset D$ .

Since  $D$  is a PID,  $U$  is a principal ideal, say  $\langle q \rangle$  for some  $q$  in  $D$ .

$$\langle p \rangle \subsetneq U$$

$$\Rightarrow p \in \langle q \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow p = qr, \text{ for some } r \in D.$$

Since  $p$  be an irreducible in  $D$ ,  $p = qr$  implies either  $q$  is a unit or  $q$  is an associate of  $p$ .

If  $q$  is a unit then  $\langle q \rangle = D$ . If  $q$  is an associate of  $p$  then  $\langle q \rangle = \langle p \rangle$ .

$$\therefore \langle p \rangle \subsetneq \langle d \rangle$$

$\Rightarrow$  Either  $u \geq 0$  or  $v > \langle p \rangle$

This prove that  $\langle p \rangle$  is maximal.

This complet the proof.

Theorem 09 P - 265

In a PID, any two non zero element  $a, b$  have a gcd and if  $d$  be a gcd, then  $d = ua + vb$  for some  $u, v$  in the domain.

$\Rightarrow$  Let us consider the principal ideals  $\langle a \rangle, \langle b \rangle$  in  $D$ .

$\langle a \rangle + \langle b \rangle$  is also an ideal in  $D$ .

Since  $D$  is a PID,  $\langle a \rangle + \langle b \rangle \supseteq \langle d \rangle$ , for some  $d$  in

$$\langle a \rangle + \langle b \rangle = \langle d \rangle$$

$\Rightarrow \langle a \rangle \subset \langle d \rangle$  and  $\langle b \rangle \subset \langle d \rangle$

$$\langle a \rangle \subset \langle d \rangle \quad \text{or} \quad \langle b \rangle \subset \langle d \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow d \mid a \quad \Rightarrow d \mid b$$

Thus  $d$  is a common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$ .

Let  $c \mid a$  and  $c \mid b$ .

Then  $\langle a \rangle \subset \langle c \rangle$  and  $\langle b \rangle \subset \langle c \rangle$

$$\Rightarrow \langle a \rangle + \langle b \rangle \subset \langle c \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow c$$

$$\therefore c \mid d$$

Therefore  $d$  is a gcd of  $a$  and  $b$ .

2nd part

$$\langle d \rangle \supseteq \langle a \rangle + \langle b \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow d \geq ua + vb \quad \text{for some } u, v \in D.$$

16  
In a UF  
gcd and  
be expres

$\Rightarrow$  For example

The polynomial  
elements 2

Let  $1 = 2$

Let  $f(x) =$

Then  $1 =$

$= 1 = 2$

so  $1$  (i.e.

$2f(x) +$

Theorem

In a

$a, b$

$\Rightarrow$  Let

$\langle a \rangle$

$\therefore$  Since

$\langle a \rangle$

$\Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow$

Thus

Let

$\Rightarrow$  In a UFD, any two non-zero elements  $a, b$  have a gcd and if  $c$  be a gcd, then  $c$  may not be expressed as  $ua + bv$  for some  $u, v$  in  $D$ . 17

$\Rightarrow$  For example.

The polynomial ring  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  is a UFD and 1 is a gcd of the elements 2 and  $x$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

Let  $1 = 2f(x) + xg(x)$  for some  $f(x), g(x)$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

Let  $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots$ ,  $g(x) = b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + \dots$

Then  $1 = 2(a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots) + x(b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + \dots)$

$\therefore 1 = 2a_0$  but this is not possible, since  $a_0$  is an integer so 1 (i.e., gcd of 2 and  $x$ ) cannot be expressed as  $2f(x) + xg(x)$  for some  $f(x), g(x)$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

### Theorem 05 P - 206

In a principal ideal domain  $D$ , any two non-zero elements  $a, b$  have an lcm.

$\Rightarrow$  Let us consider the principal ideal  $\langle a \rangle$  and  $\langle b \rangle$  in  $D$ .

$\langle a \rangle \cap \langle b \rangle$  is also an ideal in  $D$ .

Since  $D$  is PID,  $\langle a \rangle \cap \langle b \rangle = \langle l \rangle$  for some  $l$  in  $D$ .

$$\langle a \rangle \cap \langle b \rangle = \langle l \rangle \text{ } \textcircled{S}$$

$\Rightarrow \langle l \rangle \subset \langle a \rangle$  and  $\langle l \rangle \subset \langle b \rangle$

$\Rightarrow a \mid l$  and  $b \mid l$

Thus  $l$  is a common multiple of  $a$  and  $b$ .

Let  $a \mid m$  and  $b \mid m$

$\Rightarrow \langle m \rangle \subset \langle a \rangle$  and  $\langle m \rangle \subset \langle b \rangle$

$\Rightarrow \langle m \rangle \subset \langle a \rangle \cap \langle b \rangle$

i.e.,  $\langle m \rangle \subset \langle l \rangle$

Therefore  $11m$  and  $-11m$  are in the principal ideal  $11\mathbb{Z}$ .  
This completes the proof.

Ex. 4 Express the ideal  $4\mathbb{Z} + 6\mathbb{Z}$  as a principal ideal in the integral domain  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

Since every ideal in the domain  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a principal ideal, the ideal  $4\mathbb{Z} + 6\mathbb{Z}$  is a principal ideal.

$$\text{Let } P\mathbb{Z} = 4\mathbb{Z} + 6\mathbb{Z}.$$

$$\text{Then } 4\mathbb{Z} \subset P\mathbb{Z} \quad \text{and} \quad 6\mathbb{Z} \subset P\mathbb{Z}$$

$$\Rightarrow 4|1 \quad \text{and} \quad 6|1$$

so  $p$  is a common divisor of 4 and 6.

Let  $d$  be any common divisor of 4 and 6.

$$\text{Then } d|4 \quad \text{and} \quad d|6$$

$d|4$  implies that the ideal  $4\mathbb{Z} \subset d\mathbb{Z}$  and

$d|6$  implies that the ideal  $6\mathbb{Z} \subset d\mathbb{Z}$

$$\therefore 4\mathbb{Z} + 6\mathbb{Z} \subset d\mathbb{Z}$$

$$\text{i.e., } P\mathbb{Z} \subset d\mathbb{Z}$$

$$\Rightarrow d|P$$

Thus  $p$  is a greatest common divisor of 4 and 6 i.e.,  $P=2$ .

Hence  $4\mathbb{Z} + 6\mathbb{Z} = 2\mathbb{Z}$ .

Ex. 15 Express the ideal  $8\mathbb{Z} \cap 12\mathbb{Z}$  as a principal ideal in the integral domain  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

Since every ideal in the domain  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a principal ideal, the ideal  $8\mathbb{Z} \cap 12\mathbb{Z}$  is a principal ideal.

$$\text{Let } P\mathbb{Z} = 8\mathbb{Z} \cap 12\mathbb{Z}$$

$$\text{Then } P\mathbb{Z} \subset 8\mathbb{Z} \quad \text{and} \quad P\mathbb{Z} \subset 12\mathbb{Z}$$

$$\Rightarrow 8|P \quad \text{and} \quad 12|P$$

so  $p$  is common multiple of 8 and 12,

Let  $m$  be any common multiple of 8 and 12. 19

Then  $8|m$  and  $12|m$

$\Rightarrow$  The ideal  $m\mathbb{Z} \subset 8\mathbb{Z}$  and the ideal  $m\mathbb{Z} \subset 12\mathbb{Z}$ .

$\Rightarrow m\mathbb{Z} \subset 8\mathbb{Z} \cap 12\mathbb{Z}$

i.e.,  $m\mathbb{Z} \subset P\mathbb{Z}$

$\Rightarrow P|m$ .

Thus  $p$  is a least common multiple of 8 and 12 i.e.,  $P=24$

Hence  $8\mathbb{Z} \cap 12\mathbb{Z} = 24\mathbb{Z}$ .

Ex. 16 Show that every proper ideal in a PID is contained in a maximal ideal.

Euclidean Domain  $\Rightarrow$  p - 270

$v$ : non-zero element of  $D$   
non-negative integers.

An integral domain  $D$  is said to be a Euclidean domain if there exist a function  $v$  that maps the non-zero elements of  $D$  into the non-negative integers satisfying the following conditions —

- 1)  $v(a) \leq v(ab)$  for all non-zero  $a, b \in D$ ; and
- 2) for all  $a, b \in D$  with  $b \neq 0$ ,  $\exists$   $q$  and  $r$  in  $D$  such that  $a = bq + r$ , where either  $r=0$  or  $v(r) < v(b)$ .

The function  $v$  is said to be a valuation function on  $D$ .

Ex. 17 The integral domain  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a Euclidean domain.

$\Rightarrow$  Let us define a function  $v$  by  $v(a) = |a|$  for all non-zero  $a$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

i) Let  $a, b$  non-zero elements in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $ab \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $v(ab) = |ab|$ ,  $v(a) \geq 0$ ,  $v(b) \geq 0$

$$\therefore v(ab) = v(a)v(b)$$

ii) Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $b \neq 0$ .

By division algorithm,  $\exists$  integers  $q$  and  $r$  such that  $a = bq + r$  with either  $r=0$  or  $0 < r < |b|$ .

$$0 < r < |b| \Rightarrow |r| < |b| \Rightarrow v(r) < v(b)$$

$\therefore$  For  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $b \neq 0$ ,  $\exists$  elements  $q$  and  $r$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$  such that  $a = bq + r$  with either  $r=0$  or  $v(r) < v(b)$

Thus  $v$  satisfies both the conditions of Euclidean valuation on  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$  becomes a Euclidean domain.

Ex-18 A field  $F$  is a Euclidean domain.

$\Rightarrow$  Let us define a function  $v$  by  $v(a) = 1$  for all non-zero  $a$  in  $F$ .

i) Let  $a, b$  be non-zero elements in  $F$ . Then  $ab \in F$  and

$$v(ab) = 1, v(a) = 1, v(b) = 1$$

$$\therefore v(ab) = v(a) v(b)$$

ii) Let  $a, b \in F$  and  $b \neq 0$ . Then  $b^{-1} \in F$  and  $a = (bb^{-1})a$ .

$$= b(b^{-1}a)$$

$$= bq + r,$$

where  $q = b^{-1}a$ ,  $r = 0 \in F$

Thus  $v$  satisfies both the conditions of a Euclidean valuation on  $F$  and  $F$  becomes a Euclidean domain.

Ex-19 Show that  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  is a Euclidean domain.

$\Rightarrow$  Let us define a function  $v$  by  $v(a) = N(a)$  for all non-zero  $a$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ .

$$\text{where } N(a+bi) = a^2 + b^2$$

i) If  $\alpha = a+bi$  and  $\beta = c+di$  be non-zero elements in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ .

$$\text{Then } N(\alpha\beta) = N(\alpha)N(\beta) = (a^2 + b^2)(c^2 + d^2) \geq (a^2 + b^2) = N(\alpha).$$

ii) Let  $a+bi, c+di$  belong to  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  with  $(c+di) \neq 0$ .  
i.e.,  $c \neq 0, d \neq 0$ .

$$\text{Let } \frac{a+bi}{c+di} = p+qi \quad @$$

Then  $p = \left[ \frac{ac+bd}{c^2+d^2} \right], q = \left[ \frac{bc-ad}{c^2+d^2} \right]$  are rational numbers.

There exist integers  $m, n$  such that

$$|p-m| \leq \frac{1}{2}, |q-n| \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Let  $p-m=\alpha, q-n=\beta$  Then  $\alpha, \beta$  are rational and

$$|\alpha| \leq \frac{1}{2}, |\beta| \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

$\textcircled{O}$  We have  $(a+bi) = (c+di)(p+qi)$  by  $\textcircled{a}$

$$= (c+di)(m+n + p+i)$$

$$\Rightarrow (c+di)(m+ni) + n$$

A  
if  
d

H Let  $n = s+ti$  for some  $s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$

Either  $n=0$ , or  $v(n) = N(s+ti) = s^v p^v > (c^v + d^v) \text{ (as since } v \text{ is an}$

$$\Rightarrow v(n) \leq (c^v + d^v) \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right) \text{ since } |x| \leq \frac{1}{2} - |p|.$$

$$\Rightarrow v(n) < (c^v + d^v)$$

$$\Rightarrow v(n) < v(c+di)$$

Thus  $a+bi = (c+di)(m+ni) + n$ , where  $m+ni, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $v_2(b), a$

and either  $n=0$  or  $v(n) < v(c+di)$ .

Hence  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  is Euclidean domain under the Euclidean valuation  $v$ .

$\textcircled{O}$  Theorem 26 : P - 273

Every Euclidean domain is a PID.

$\Rightarrow$  Let  $D$  be a Euclidean domain with a Euclidean valuation  $v$ .

Let  $U$  be an ideal of  $D$ .

Case - I

Let  $U = \{0\}$ , the null ideal.

Then  $U = \langle 0 \rangle$ , a principal ideal.

Case - II

Let  $U$  be a non-null ideal.

Then  $\exists$  a non-zero element  $b$  in  $U$  such that

$v(b)$  is the least of all  $v(x)$  for all non-zero  $x$  in  $U$ .  
such an element  $b$  exist by the well-ordering

### Theorem 07

Let  $D$  be a U. Then

i)  $v(1)$  is

ii) an el

erty of the set  $\mathbb{N}$

$a \in U$ .

Now by the condition ii) of the Euclidean valuation  $v$ ,  
there exist elements  $q$  and  $r$  in  $D$  such that  $a = bq + r$ ,  
where either  $r = 0$  or  $v(r) < v(b)$ .

Since  $U$  is an ideal  $a \in U, b \in U \Rightarrow a - bq \in U,$   
 $\Rightarrow r \in U$

$\because v(r) < v(b)$ , is not possible, by the choice of  $b$ .  
 $\therefore r = 0$  and  $a = bq$  for some  $q \in D$ .

Since  $a$  is an arbitrary element in  $U$ ,  
 $U = \langle b \rangle$ , a principal ideal.

Thus every ideal in  $D$  is a principal ideal.  
 $\therefore D$  is a pID.

This completes the proof.

### Theorem 07

Let  $D$  be a Euclidean domain with a Euclidean valuation  $v$ . Then

- i)  $v(1)$  is minimal along all  $v(a)$  for non-zero  $a$  in  $D$ .
- ii) an element  $u$  in  $D$  is a unit if and only if  $v(u) = v(1)$ .

## Polynomial Rings :- P - 292

Let  $R$  be a ring and  $x$  be undeterminate.

A polynomial in  $x$  over  $R$  is  $f(x)$ .

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n, \quad a_i \in R$$

- ① If for some  $i > 0$ ,  $a_i \neq 0$  and  $a_i = 0$  for all  $i > n$  then  
 $a_n$  is said to be **leading coefficient** of  $f(x)$ .  
 $n$  is said to be the degree of  $f(x)$ ,  $\deg(f) = n$  or  $\deg(f(x)) = n$ .
- ② If  $n$  such exist, then the polynomial is of the form  
 $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots$ , if it be a constant polynomial  
 $\deg(f(x)) = 0$ .
- ③ If  $a_i = 0$ , for all  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , it is be a zero-polynomial. and no degree assigned to it.

### Theorem 09 :-

If  $R$  be a ring with no division of zero, then the ring  $(R[x], +, \cdot)$  is a ring with no division of zero.

$\Rightarrow$  Let  $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n$  and  
 $g(x) = b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + \dots + b_mx^m$  be non-zero elements  
in  $R[x]$  with leading coefficients  $a_n, b_m$  respectively.

Let us consider the product  $f(x) \cdot g(x)$ .

The co-efficient of  $x^{n+m}$  in the product  $f(x) \cdot g(x)$ .  
is  $a_nb_m$  and it is non-zero,

since  $R$  contains no division of zero.

$\therefore f(x) \cdot g(x)$  is a non-zero polynomial in  $R[x]$ .

This prove that the ring  $(R[x], +, \cdot)$  contain no division of zero.

### ① Division Algorithm : $\Rightarrow$

P - 295

Let  $F$  be a field and  $f(x), g(x) \in F[x]$  with  $g(x) \neq 0$ . Then there exist unique polynomials  $q(x)$  and  $r(x)$  in  $F[x]$  such that

$$f(x) = g(x)q(x) + r(x)$$

where either  $r(x) = 0$  or  $\deg(r(x)) < \deg(g(x))$

i)  $q(x)$  is called the quotient,  $r(x)$  is called the remainder in the division of  $f(x)$  by  $g(x)$ .

### ② Zero on root : $\Rightarrow$

An element  $a$  in a field  $F$  is said to be zero (or root) of a polynomial  $f(x)$  in  $F[x]$  if  $f(a) = 0$  in  $F$ .

Ex:  $\bar{1}$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_5$  is a zero-element of the polynomial

$$f(x) = x^3 + \bar{2}x^2 + x + \bar{1}$$

$$= \bar{2}(\bar{1})^3 + \bar{2}(\bar{1})^2 + \bar{1} + \bar{1}$$

$$= \bar{1} + \bar{2} + \bar{1} + \bar{1}$$

$$= \bar{5}$$

$$= \bar{0}.$$

### ③ Irreducible polynomial : $\Rightarrow$

Let  $F$  be a field. A non-constant polynomial  $f(x)$  in  $F[x]$  is said to be an irreducible polynomial in  $F[x]$  if  $f(x)$  cannot be expressed as the product of two polynomials  $g(x)$  and  $h(x)$  in  $F[x]$  both of lower degree than  $f(x)$   $\deg(f(x))$ .

Since  $F$  is a field,  $F[x]$  is UFD and therefore there is no distinction between a prime element and an irreducible element in  $F[x]$ .

Ex: The poly  
but is not  
because  $x^2 - 2$

### Theorem 12 :

Let  $f(x)$  be  
Then  $f(x)$  is

a zero in  
 $\Rightarrow$  Let  $f(x)$

where  $\deg$

since  $\deg$

then one

If  $\deg$

then  $g(x)$

clearly  $g$

$f(x) - a$

### Conversely,

Let  $a \in$

then  $x -$

$f(x) \in$

This is

$\Rightarrow$

Since

the

poly

Q15: A polynomial  $f(x)$  in  $F[x]$  may be irreducible over the field  $F$ , but it may not be irreducible over a large field  $K$  containing  $F$  or a subfield.

Ex: The polynomial  $x^2 - 2$  is irreducible over the field  $\mathbb{Q}$  but is not irreducible over the field  $\mathbb{R}$ . because  $x^2 - 2 = (x - \sqrt{2})(x + \sqrt{2})$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Theorem 12  $\Rightarrow$  p - 297

Let  $f(x)$  be a polynomial in  $F[x]$  of degree 2 or 3. Then  $f(x)$  is reducible over  $F$  if and only if it has a zero in  $F$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Let  $f(x)$  be reducible over  $F$ . Then  $f(x) = g(x)h(x)$  where  $\deg(g(x)) < \deg(f(x))$  and  $\deg(h(x)) < \deg(f(x))$ . Since  $\deg(f(x))$  is either 2 or 3.

Then one of  $g(x)$  and  $h(x)$  must be of degree 1. If say  $g(x)$  is of degree 1.

Then  $g(x) = ax + b$ ,  $a \neq 0$ .  $a, b \in F$ .

clearly  $g(x)$  has a zero  $-a^{-1}b$ , in  $F$  and consequently  $f(x)$   $-a^{-1}b$  is a zero of  $f(x)$ .

Conversely,

let  $a \in F$  be a zero of the polynomial  $f(x)$  in  $F[x]$ .

Then  $x-a$  is a factor of  $f(x)$  and this proves that  $f(x)$  is reducible over  $F$ .

This completes the proof.

Ex:  $f(x) = x^3 + x + 1$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ , because since the polynomial  $f(x)$  is of degree 3, and none of the elements of the field  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  is a zero of the polynomial.

References - Higher Algebra - ⑧

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