

# Factorisation in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ vs $\mathbb{Q}[x]$

~~irred in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$~~  does not factor into poly. of lower deg.

$R$  a ring  $r \in R$  is reducible if it has a non-trivial factorisation.

$$r = s \cdot t \quad s, t \in R \text{ neither a unit.}$$

Irreducible = Not ~~is~~ reducible.  
= No non-trivial factorisation.

$$\begin{aligned} 3x^2 + 3 &\in \mathbb{Z}[x] \quad \text{is } \underline{\text{reducible}} \\ &= 3 \cdot (x^2 + 1) \\ &\in \mathbb{Q}[x] \quad \text{is } \underline{\text{irreducible.}} \end{aligned}$$

Def:  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  is primitive if no prime  $p$  divides all the coeff.

Ex.  $x^3 + 27$  primitive,  $2x^2 + 4x + 3$  primitive

Thm: Let  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  be primitive polynomial.

Then  $f(x)$  is reducible in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  iff  
reducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

Obs: 1) Any  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  can be written as  
 $d \cdot g(x)$   $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $g(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  primitive.

unique up to sign. = unique upto units of  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

2) Any  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  can be written as

$f(x) = d \cdot g(x)$ ,  $d \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $g(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$   
unique up to sign.

primitive.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{2}{3}x &= \frac{1}{6} \cdot (3x^2 + 4x) \\
 &= \frac{1}{12} (6x^2 + 8x) \\
 &= \left( \frac{1}{12} \cdot 2 \right) \cdot (3x^2 + 4)
 \end{aligned}$$

Lemma (Gauss) :- Let  $f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  be primitive.

Then  $f(x)g(x)$  is primitive.

Pf: ~~Take~~ Take a prime  $p$ . Look at

$$\mathbb{Z}[x] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}[x]$$

$$f(x) \mapsto \bar{f}(x) \text{ non-zero}$$

$$g(x) \mapsto \bar{g}(x) \text{ non-zero}$$

$$f(x)g(x) \mapsto \bar{f}(x) \cdot \bar{g}(x) \text{ non-zero}$$

□ .

Pf of Thm:  $f(x)$  red. in  $\mathbb{Z}[x] \Rightarrow f(x)$  reducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ .  
 (easy).

$f(x)$  red in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ . Want  $f(x)$  red. in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

$$f(x) = g(x) \cdot h(x), \quad g(x), h(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$$

Write  $g(x) = r_1 \cdot g_1(x) \quad r_1 \in \mathbb{Q} \quad g_1(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x] \text{ prim.}$   
 $h(x) = r_2 \cdot h_1(x) \quad r_2 \in \mathbb{Q} \quad h_1(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x] \text{ prim.}$

$$1. \underbrace{f(x)}_{\text{prim.}} = (r_1 r_2) \underbrace{(g_1(x) \cdot h_1(x))}_{\text{prim.}} \quad \text{so } r_1 r_2 = \pm 1$$

$$f(x) = \pm g_1(x) \cdot h_1(x), \quad h_1, g_1 \in \mathbb{Z}[x].$$

□

$\mathbb{Z}[x]$ 

vs

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

vs

 $\mathbb{C}(t)[x]$  $F[t][x]$ 

vs

 $F(t)[x]$  $, F \text{ field.}$ 

$$P_0(t) + P_1(t)x + \dots + P_n(t)x^n$$

$P_i \in F[t] \quad \hookrightarrow$  primitive if no irr. poly in  $F[t]$   
 divides all.  $P_i(t)$ .

For prim. elt of  $F[t][x]$ , red. in

$$F[t][x] = \text{red. in } F(t)[x].$$

 $R[x]$ 

vs.

 $(\text{fr. field } R)[x]$  $R$  has unique factorisation.

Ex:  $x^3 + x^2 - t \in \mathbb{Q}(t)[x]$  is irreducible.

$$x^3 + x^2 - t \in \mathbb{Q}[t][x] \quad \text{primitive.}$$

~~not~~

$$\mathbb{Q} \stackrel{\parallel}{[t,x]}$$

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

$\parallel$

$$x^3 + x^2 - t \in \mathbb{Q}[x][t] \quad \text{primitive}$$

$$x^3 + x^2 - t \in \mathbb{Q}(x)[t]$$

$\hookrightarrow$  irreduc. (deg 1).