

POLYNOMIALS AND VECTOR SPACES

Problem 1. Let $f(x) \in \mathbf{R}[x]$. Show that, if the degree of f is odd then f has at least one root in \mathbf{R} .

Problem 2. Calculate

- (a) $(x+1)^2$ in $\mathbf{Z}_2[x]$
- (b) $(x-1)^3$ in $\mathbf{Z}_3[x]$. Remember that in \mathbf{Z}_3 $(-1)=2$, so $x-1=x+2$.
- (c) $(1+x+x^2+x^3)(2-x+3x^2)$ in $\mathbf{Z}_2[x]$.

Problem 3. Perform the long division

- (a) $x^5 + 2x^4 + 3x^3 + 2x^2 + x + 1$ by $2x^2 + 3x + 1$
- (b) $x^4 + 1$ by $2x + 3$

in $\mathbf{Z}_3[x]$, then in $\mathbf{Z}_5[x]$ and then in $\mathbf{C}[x]$ ("3" is defined as $1+1+1$, "2" is defined as $1+1$).

Problem 4. Find all roots of

- (a) $x^4 + 1$
 - (b) $x^2 + 3x + 1$
 - (c) $x^5 + 2x^4 + 3x^3 + 2x^2 + x + 1$
- in $\mathbf{Z}_3[x]$, in $\mathbf{Z}_5[x]$.

Problem 5.

Problem 6. Prove that for every prime number n there exists a polynomial $f(x) \in \mathbf{Z}_n[x]$ such that for each $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ $f(k) \neq 0$.

Problem 7. Determine whether or not the following sets are vector spaces over indicated fields:

- (a) \mathbf{Z} over \mathbf{Z}_2 , with ordinary addition, and scalar multiplication defined as follows: $0r=0$, $1r=r$ for every $r \in \mathbf{Z}$,
- (b) \mathbf{Z}_4 over \mathbf{Z}_2 with natural operations,
- (c) \mathbf{C} over \mathbf{R} ,
- (d) \mathbf{R} over \mathbf{C} ,
- (e) $\mathbf{Q}_b[x]$ (all polynomials from $\mathbf{Q}[x]$ with degree $\leq n$) over \mathbf{R} ,
- (f) $\mathbf{Q}_n[x]$ over \mathbf{Q} ,
- (g) All polynomials from $\mathbf{R}[x]$ with exactly two different roots, over \mathbf{R} ,
- (h) $\mathbf{R}_b[x]$ (all polynomials from $\mathbf{R}[x]$ with degree $\leq n$) over \mathbf{R} ,
- (i) All functions $f: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ such that $f(0)=1$, over \mathbf{R} ,
- (j) All functions $f: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ such that $f(1)=0$, over \mathbf{R} ,
- (k) All continuous functions $f: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$, over \mathbf{R} ,
- (l) All functions $f: \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ which are discontinuous at 0, over \mathbf{R} ,
- (m) All subsets of a set X , over \mathbf{Z}_2 , with the symmetric difference as vector addition, and with $0A=\emptyset$ and $1A=A$ for every $A \subseteq X$,
- (n) All real sequences (a_n) such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$, over \mathbf{R} ,

Problem 8. Prove that in a vector space $p(v-u)=pv-pu$.

Problem 9. The intersection of any collection of subspaces of some linear space V is a subspace of V . Show that this is not necessarily true for the union of subspaces,

Problem 10. The real plane, \mathbf{R}^2 , is a vector space over \mathbf{R} . Describe, in geometrical terms, all subspaces of \mathbf{R}^2 .