

Polynomials

1) $P(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0, a_n \neq 0$

If $a_n = 1$, it is called monic.

The set of polynomials (depending on coefficient ring) is denoted $\mathbb{C}[x], \mathbb{R}[x], \mathbb{Z}[x], \dots$

If $P \in \mathbb{C}[x]$, then it has n complex roots (counting the multiplicity)

If coefficients are real, then ~~is~~ complex roots must occur in conjugate pairs

Ex There is a polynomial P of degree 7 with integer coefficients. It is known that it is equal to ± 1 in 7 integer values. Prove that P cannot be factorized into the product of two polynomials of integer coefficients with degree ≥ 1 .

$\square P(x) = Q(x) R(x)$

~~At least~~ There is one polynomial of degree ≤ 3 , let it Q .
 $Q = \pm 1$ in 7 integer points, so at least four $+1$ or at least four -1 , which is impossible since $Q \neq 1$ has degree ≤ 3 and so cannot have 4 roots \blacksquare

2) Viète's Relations

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + \dots + x_n &= -\frac{a_{n-1}}{a_n} \\ x_1 x_2 + \dots + x_{n-1} x_n &= \frac{a_{n-2}}{a_n} \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

$$x_1 x_2 \dots x_n = (-1)^n \frac{a_0}{a_n}$$

~~Ex~~ Let $x+y+z=a$

Ex $x^4 + 3x^3 + 11x^2 + 9x + A$ has roots a, b, c, d such that $ab = cd$. Find A

$\square a+b+c+d = -3$

$-9 = abc + abd + acd + bcd = ab(c+d) + (a+b) \overset{ab}{cd} = \overset{ab}{ab} (a+b+c+d) \Rightarrow ab = 3$

$\Rightarrow A = abcd = (ab)^2 = 9$

Ex $x+y+z=0$. Prove

$$\frac{x^2+y^2+z^2}{2}, \frac{x^5+y^5+z^5}{5} = \frac{x^7+y^7+z^7}{7}$$

□ consider $t^3 + pt + q$ with roots x, y, z .

Then $x^3 = -px - q, \dots$

So $x^3 + y^3 + z^3 = (-px - q) + (-py - q) + (-pz - q) = -p(x+y+z) - 3q = -3q$

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = (x+y+z)^2 - 2(xy+xz+yz) = -2p$$

$$x^4 = -px^2 - qx$$

$$x^4 + y^4 + z^4 = -p(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) - q(x+y+z) = 2p^2$$

$$x^5 + y^5 + z^5 = -p(x^3 + y^3 + z^3) - q(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) = 5pq$$

$$x^7 + y^7 + z^7 = -p(x^5 + y^5 + z^5) - q(x^4 + y^4 + z^4) = -7p^2q$$

So we get

$$\frac{-2p}{2} \cdot \frac{5pq}{5} = \frac{-7p^2q}{7} \text{ which is true}$$

3) Derivative: if $P = a(x-x_1) \dots (x-x_n)$

$$\frac{P'(x)}{P(x)} = \frac{1}{x-x_1} + \dots + \frac{1}{x-x_n}$$

• if P has a double root a , then $P'(a) = 0$
(and if $P(a) = P'(a) = 0 \Rightarrow a$ has mult. ≥ 2)

• $P'(x)$ has root between any two roots of $P(x)$ (real case)

Ex Find all $P(x)$ s.t. $P(x)$ is a multiple of $P''(x)$

$$P(x) = Q(x)P''(x)$$

if a is a root of P'' , it should be a root of $P(x)$

Ex Prove that $P(x)$ is a multiple of $P'(x)$ iff $P(x) = a(x-x_0)^n$

$$\square nP(x) = (x-x_0)P'(x) \text{ (compare top coeff.)}$$

Let $P(x) = (x-x_0)^k Q(x)$, $Q(x_0) \neq 0$

$$nP(x) = (x-x_0)^k \cdot (k(x-x_0)^{k-1}Q + (x-x_0)^k Q') \Rightarrow nQ(x) = kQ(x) + (x-x_0)Q'(x)$$

$$n(x-x_0)^k Q(x)$$

Substitute $x=x_0$ and get $nQ(x_0) = kQ(x_0) \Rightarrow n=k$ (since $Q(x_0) \neq 0$)

Ex Is it possible that for each a $P(x) = a$ has even number of \dots

□ Take all horizontal tangent lines, and lines between

• polynomials has all properties of continuous functions

Ex $Q(x) = x$ has no solutions. Prove that $Q(Q(x)) - x$ has no solutions

$Q(x) - x$ has no roots, so $Q(x) - x > 0$ or $Q(x) - x < 0$ for all x .

Assume

$$Q(x) > x$$

Then $Q(Q(x)) > Q(x) > x$.

Ex $P(x) = a_n x^n + \dots + a_0$, $a_0 \neq 0$ has at least one real root.

Prove that one can erase all $a_i x^i$ one by one ^{to get a_0} in such a way that all intermediate polynomials have at least one real root.

~~□ We do inductively if n is even, erase a_0~~

We have $a_n x^n + \dots + a_0$ if n is even

□ Let $a_0 > 0$. if n is odd, we cross one by one everything except $a_n x^n + a_0$, and then $a_n x^n$ (all the time power is odd \Rightarrow ok)

So ~~n is even~~ Same thing if $a_n < 0$. So n is even and $a_n > 0$. Then erase $a_n x^n$, let $Q = a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$.

if Q was s.t. $P(a) = 0$, then $Q(a) = P(a) - a_n a^n < 0$, $Q(0) = a_0 > 0$
 \Rightarrow there is a root. ■

Ex • Lagrange interpolation formula

$$P(x) = a_1 \frac{(x-x_2)\dots(x-x_{n+1})}{(x_1-x_2)\dots(x_1-x_{n+1})} + a_2 \frac{(x-x_1)(x-x_3)\dots(x-x_{n+1})}{(x_2-x_1)(x_2-x_3)\dots(x_2-x_{n+1})} + \dots$$

Ex the Polynomial P has rational values in all rational numbers. Prove that it has rational coefficients.