

POLYNOMIALS

EXERCISE 1

- For each of the following polynomials, state the constant term, the leading term, the leading coefficient and whether the polynomial is monic, the degree.
 - $3x^2$
 - 7
 - 0
 - $1 - x$
 - $x^2 - 2x - 3$
 - $(x + 2)^2 - (x - 2)^2$
 - $x^3(x^2 - 7)$
 - $(x + 1)^3 - (x - 1)^3$
 - $x(x^2 + x - 1) - x(x^2 - x + 1)$
 - $(x + 1)^3 - (x - 1)^3$
- Explain why each of the following is not a polynomial.
 - $7x^2 - 5x^{-3} + 3$
 - $4\sqrt{x} - 2x - 5$
 - $(x + 3)^3 - (x - 1)^{2/3}$
- If $A(x) = 2x + 3$, $B(x) = x^2 - x + 2$, $C(x) = (x - 2)^2$, write down the polynomials:
 - $A(x) + B(x)$
 - $B(x) - C(x)$
 - $A(x) \cdot B(x)$
 - $A(x)[B(x) + C(x)]$
- State the smallest field (Q, R, C) over which the polynomials are defined.
 - $3x^2 - 7x + 2$
 - $(3 + 2i)x^3 - 7x + 5$
 - $2\sqrt{3}x^4 + (1 + \sqrt{2})x - 8$
 - $3 + 4x - 5\sqrt[3]{2}x^3$
 - $ix + 7$
 - $\frac{1}{4}x + 8\sqrt{3}$
 - 3
 - $\frac{2}{3}x^7 - 5ix + 9$
 - $(2 + 3\sqrt{2})x^2 + (3 + 7\sqrt{2})$
- If $x^2 = a(x - 1)^2 + b(x - 1) + c$ find a, b, c
 - If $2(x - 1)^2 = c(x^2 + 1) + dx$ find c, d
 - If $a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 = 3x^2 - 5$ evaluate a_0, a_1, a_2
 - If the polynomials $(a + 2b) + (b + 3c)x - (2b + 5c)s^2$, $5 + 11x - 19x^2$ are equal, find a, b, c
- If $P(x) = x^2 - 4$, $Q(x) = x + 2$ and $P(x) = Q(x) \cdot R(x)$, find $R(x)$
 - If $a(x) = x^3 - 8$, $b(x) = x - 2$ and $q(x) = x^2 - 2x + 2$, find $r(x)$ where $a(x) = b(x) \cdot q(x) + r(x)$
 - If $A(x) = 4x^2 + 3x - 1$, $B(x) = 4x - 1$, $C(x) = kx + l$, where k, l are constants, find k, l if $A(x) = B(x) \cdot C$
- For the polynomial $(a + 3)x^8 - (7 - 2b)x^5 + (12 - 6c)$, find the constants a, b, c if the polynomial is:
 - monic
 - of zero degree
 - a zero polynomial

EXERCISE 2

1. Reduce where possible each of the following polynomials into irreducible factors over the field of:
- (i) rationals \mathbb{Q} (ii) reals \mathbb{R} (iii) complex numbers \mathbb{C}
- (a) $x^4 - 1$ (b) $x^4 - 9$ (c) $x^2 - x - 6$
(d) $x^2 + 4x + 2$ (e) $x^2 + 2x + 5$ (f) $3x^2 - 2x - 4$
(g) $3x^2 - 2x + 4$ (h) $x^3 - 27$ (i) $x^3 + 27$
2. Verify that $(x + 2)$ is a factor of $x^3 - x^2 + 4$ and hence find the prime factors over each of the fields \mathbb{Q} , \mathbb{R} , \mathbb{C} .
3. Show that:
- (a) $x^4 - 7x^2 + 1 = (x^2 + 1)^2 - 9x^2$ (b) $x^6 - 64 = (x^3 - 8)(x^3 + 8)$
(c) $x^4 - x^2 - 12 = (x^2 - 4)(x^2 + 3)$ (d) $x^4 - x^2 + 4x - 4 = x^4 - (x - 2)^2$
- and hence reduce each of these polynomials into prime polynomials over the field of real numbers.
4. Reduce each polynomial into irreducible factors over:
- (i) \mathbb{Q} (ii) \mathbb{R} (iii) \mathbb{C}
- (a) $x^4 - 6x^2 + 8$ (b) $x^4 + x^2 - 20$ (c) $x^4 - 10x^2 + 21$
(d) $x^4 - 3x^2 - 28$ (e) $x^4 + 7x^2 + 6$ (f) $x^6 - 9x^3 + 8$
(g) $x^8 - 6x^4 + 5$ (h) $(x^2 + 3x)^2 - (x^2 + 3x) + 20$
(i) $(2x^2 + 3x)^2 + 3(2x^2 + 3x) + 2$ (j) $(x^2 + 5x)^2 - 4$

EXERCISE 3

1. Show that $x^2 + 6x + 8$ properly divides $P(x) = x^3 + 5x^2 + 2x - 8$, and hence reduce $P(x)$ into Irreducible factors over the field of rationals.
2. Find polynomials $Q(x)$, $R(x)$ over the field F stated, such that $A(x) = Q(x) \cdot B(x) + R(x)$ Where $A(x)$, $B(x)$ are polynomials over F and $R(x) = 0$ or $0 \leq \deg R(x) < \deg B(x)$ when:
- (a) $A(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 + 7x - 2$, $B(x) = x + 3$; polynomials over \mathbb{Q}
(b) $A(x) = 3x^4 + 7x^3 - 8$, $B(x) = x^2 + 2$; polynomials over \mathbb{Q}
(c) $A(x) = 2\sqrt{3}x^5 - 4x^2 - 31$, $B(x) = x - \sqrt{3}$; polynomials over \mathbb{R}
(d) $A(x) = x^3 + 5ix^2 - 7ix - 3$, $B(x) = x - 2i$; polynomials over \mathbb{C}

EXERCISE 4

- Without dividing, find the remainder when each of the following is divided by the linear polynomial.
(a) $(x^3 - 5x^2 - 4x + 7)$ by $(x - 1)$ (b) $(x^4 - 9x^2 + 3x + 2)$ by $(x + 3)$
(c) $(x^2 + x - 1)$ by $(x + i)$ (d) $(x^3 + x^2 + x + 1)$ by $(x + 1 + i)$
- Show that $(2x - 1)$ is a factor of $6x^3 + 13x^2 + 2x - 5$. Hence factorise the polynomial to irreducible factors over the rational field \mathbb{Q} . What are the zeros of this polynomial in \mathbb{Q} ?
- (a) If $x^3 - ax^2 + 1$ leaves a remainder of -2 when divided by $(x - 1)$, find a .
(b) Find a if $(x + 1)$ divides $x^3 - ax^2 - 2ax + 8$.
(c) $f(y) = y^3 - by^2 - by + 2b$. Find b if $f(y)$ leaves a remainder of 12 when divided by $(y - 2)$.
(d) The polynomial $p(s) = ax^2 + bx - 6$ is divisible by $x + 1$. If $a + b = 20$, find a and b .
(e) $x^3 + ax^2 - 2x + b$ has $x + 1$ as a factor and leaves a remainder of 4 when divided by $x - 3$. Find a and b .
- A polynomial $P(x)$ has roots $2, 1 + i, 1 - i$. What are three factors of $P(x)$? If it is known that $P(x)$ is a monic polynomial of degree 3 , find $P(x)$. If $P(x)$ is a polynomial of degree 3 with a leading coefficient of 5 , find $P(x)$.
- Determine the rational zeros of the polynomial $f(x) = 4x^4 + 8x^3 + 7x^2 + 8x + 3$. Hence find the decomposition of $f(x)$ over the field of (a) \mathbb{Q} (b) \mathbb{C} .

EXERCISE 5

- Use the factor theorem to show that $x - i$ is a factor of $P(x) = x^4 + 3x^3 + 6x^2 + 3x + 5$. Name one other factor of $P(x)$. Hence reduce $P(x)$ to linear factors over the complex field.
- Show that $1 - 2i$ is a zero of the polynomial $p(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 + 11x - 15$. Hence resolve $p(x)$ into irreducible factors over the field of (a) \mathbb{C} (b) \mathbb{R} .
- Show that $1 + i$ is a zero of the polynomial $x^3 - x^2 + 2$ and find the other two zeros in \mathbb{C} .
- If $x - 2 - 2i$ is a factor of $x^3 - ax^2 + 20x - 24$, find a and the other zeros over \mathbb{C} .
- (a) $3 + \sqrt{5}$ is one root of a polynomial $P(x)$, which has rational coefficients. State one other root of $P(x)$
(b) $\sqrt{3}$ is one root of a polynomial $Q(x)$ with rational coefficients. State one other root of $Q(x)$.
(c) $3 - 2\sqrt{5}$ is one root of a polynomial $R(x)$ with rational coefficients. State one other root of $R(x)$.
- Find the polynomial of the least degree, with integral coefficients which have no common factor, having the roots (a) $\sqrt{5}$ and $2 - i$ (b) $3 - \sqrt{2}$ and $3 - 2i$

EXERCISE 6

- Find the roots of the polynomials:
 - $16x^3 - 12x^2 + 1$ given that it has a 2-fold root
 - $x^4 - 6x^3 + 12x^2 - 10x + 3$ given that it has a root of multiplicity 3
 - $x^5 + 2x^4 - 2x^3 - 8x^2 - 7x - 2$, if it has a 4-fold root
- Given that the polynomial $P(x) = x^4 + x^2 + 6x + 4$ has a rational root of multiplicity 2, find all the roots of $P(x)$ over the complex field.
- Find the value of c if the polynomial $5x^5 - 3x^3 + c$ has a repeated positive root.
- Prove that $ax^2 + bx + c$ has a double root if $b^2 - 4ac = 0$.
- Find the condition that $f(x) = x^3 - 3ax + b$ has repeated factors.

EXERCISE 7

- If α, β, γ are the roots of the polynomial $x^3 - x^2 + 5x - 3$ in the field of complex numbers, find the value of:
 - $\Sigma \alpha$
 - $\Sigma \alpha\beta$
 - $\Sigma \alpha\beta\gamma$
 - $\Sigma \alpha^2$
 - $\Sigma \alpha^3$
 - $\Sigma \alpha^4$
 - $\Sigma \alpha^5$
 - $\Sigma \frac{1}{\alpha}$
 - $\Sigma \alpha^{-2}$
 - $\Sigma \alpha^2\beta^2$
 - $(\alpha + \beta)(\beta + \gamma)(\gamma + \alpha)$
- If p, q, r are the zeros in the field of complex numbers of the polynomial $2x^2 - 3x -$, find the values of:
 - $(p + 1)(q + 1)(r + 1)$
 - $(p + q - r)(q + r - p)(p + r - q)$
 - $\Sigma (pq)^{-1}$
- If α, β, γ are the roots in a field F of the polynomial $x^3 + ax + b$, which is reducible to linear factors of F , find in terms of a and b :
 - $\Sigma \alpha$
 - $\Sigma \alpha^2$
 - $\Sigma \alpha^3$
 - $\Sigma \alpha^4$
 - $\Sigma \alpha^2\beta$
 - $\Sigma \alpha^2\beta^2$
 - $\Sigma \alpha^3(\beta + \gamma)$
 - $\Sigma (\alpha + \beta)^{-1}$
- If a, b, c, d are the roots of the polynomial $y^4 - 4y^2 - y + 2$, find the values of:
 - Σa
 - Σab
 - Σabc
 - $abcd$
 - Σa^{-1}
 - Σa^2
 - Σa^2b [first prove $\Sigma a^2b = (\Sigma a)(\Sigma ab) - 3(\Sigma abc)$]
 - Σa^3 [first prove $\Sigma a^3 = (\Sigma a^2)(\Sigma a) - \Sigma a^2b$]
 - Use the factor theorem to factorise $y^4 - 4y^2 - y + 2$ and state in which fields the results in (a) to (k) are valid.

EXERCISE 8

- If α, β, γ are the roots of $x^3 + 2x^2 - 2x + 3 = 0$, form the equation whose roots are:
(a) $\frac{2}{\alpha}, \frac{2}{\beta}, \frac{2}{\gamma}$ (b) $2\alpha, 2\beta, 2\gamma$ (c) $\alpha + 1, \beta + 1, \gamma + 1$
(d) $\alpha - 2, \beta - 2, \gamma - 2$ (e) $\alpha^2, \beta^2, \gamma^2$ (f) $\frac{\alpha}{2}, \frac{\beta}{2}, \frac{\gamma}{2}$
- If α, β, γ are the roots of $2x^3 + 3x^2 - x - 1 = 0$, form the equation whose roots are:
(a) $\alpha + 2, \beta + 2, \gamma + 2$ (b) $\frac{1}{\alpha+2}, \frac{1}{\beta+2}, \frac{1}{\gamma+2}$ [Hint: use (a)]
(c) $\alpha^2, \beta^2, \gamma^2$
- If α, β, γ are the roots of $ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0$, form the equation whose roots are $\alpha^{-1}, \beta^{-1}, \gamma^{-1}$ and hence evaluate:
(a) $\alpha^{-1} + \beta^{-1} + \gamma^{-1}$ (b) $\alpha^{-1}\beta^{-1} + \beta^{-1}\gamma^{-1} + \gamma^{-1}\alpha^{-1}$
(c) $\alpha^{-2} + \beta^{-2} + \gamma^{-2}$
- If $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$ are the roots of $x^4 - x^2 + 2x + 3 = 0$, form the equation whose roots are:
(a) $2\alpha, 2\beta, 2\gamma, 2\delta$ (b) $\alpha^{-1}, \beta^{-1}, \gamma^{-1}, \delta^{-1}$ (c) $\alpha^2, \beta^2, \gamma^2, \delta^2$
- α, β, γ are the roots of $x^3 - 2x + 3 = 0$
(a) From the equation whose roots are $\alpha^2, \beta^2, \gamma^2$
(b) Using the result of (a), now form the equation with roots $\alpha^2 + 1, \beta^2 + 1, \gamma^2 + 1$
(c) Hence evaluate $(\alpha^2 + 1)(\beta^2 + 1)(\gamma^2 + 1)$
- Use the fourth degree equation $ax^4 + bx^3 + cx^2 + dx + e = 0$ whose roots are $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$ to verify that:
(a) The equation $P\left(\frac{x}{m}\right) = 0$ has roots m times those of $P(x) = 0$
(b) The equation $P\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = 0$ has roots which are reciprocals of those $P(x) = 0$
(c) The equation $P(x + k) = 0$ has roots which are k less than those of $P(x) = 0$

EXERCISE 9

- Express $\cos 5\theta$ as a polynomial in $\cos \theta$, and obtain a similar expression for $\sin 5\theta$ as a polynomial in $\sin \theta$.
(a) Solve the equation $\cos 5\theta = 1$ for $0 < \theta < 2\pi$ and hence find the roots of the equation $16x^5 - 20x^3 + 5x - 1 = 0$. Hence prove that $\cos \frac{\pi}{5} \cos \frac{2\pi}{5} = \frac{1}{4}$ and $\cos \frac{\pi}{5} - \cos \frac{2\pi}{5} = \frac{1}{2}$.
(b) Solve the equation $\cos 5\theta = 0$ for $0 < \theta < 2\pi$ and hence find the roots of the equation $16x^4 - 20x^2 + 5 = 0$. Determine the exact value for $\cos \frac{\pi}{10} \cos \frac{3\pi}{10}$ and $\cos^2 \frac{\pi}{10} - \cos^2 \frac{3\pi}{10}$.
(c) Solve the equation $\sin 5\theta = 1$ for $0 < \theta < 2\pi$ and hence find the roots of the equation $16x^4 + 16x^3 - 4x^2 - 4x + 1 = 0$. Determine the exact value of $\sin \frac{\pi}{10} \sin \frac{3\pi}{10}$.
(d) Show that the roots of the equation $16x^4 - 20x^2 + 5 = 0$ are $x = \pm \sin \frac{\pi}{5} \sin \frac{2\pi}{5}$ and prove that $\sin^2 \frac{\pi}{5} \sin^2 \frac{2\pi}{5} = \frac{5}{4}$.
- Prove that $\cos 7\theta = 64\cos^7\theta - 112\cos^5\theta - 7\cos\theta$.
(a) Hence find the roots of the equation $64x^6 - 112x^4 + 56x^2 - 7 = 0$. Deduce that $\cos \frac{\pi}{14} \cdot \cos \frac{3\pi}{14} \cdot \cos \frac{5\pi}{14} = \frac{\sqrt{7}}{8}$ and $\cos^2 \frac{\pi}{14} + \cos^2 \frac{3\pi}{14} + \cos^2 \frac{5\pi}{14} = \frac{7}{8}$.
(b) Solve the equation $\cos 7\theta = 1$ for $0 < \theta < 2\pi$, and hence find the roots of the equation $64x^7 - 112x^5 + 56x^3 - 7 = 1$. Deduce that $\cos \frac{\pi}{7} + \cos \frac{3\pi}{7} + \cos \frac{5\pi}{7} = \frac{1}{2}$ and $\cos \frac{\pi}{7} \cdot \cos \frac{3\pi}{7} \cdot \cos \frac{5\pi}{7} = -\frac{5}{4}$.