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**Theorem 17.2: Over  $\mathbb{Q}$  implies over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .**

Let  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ . If  $f(x)$  is reducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , then it is reducible over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

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(1) Show by counterexample that the converse of Theorem 17.2 is false. Refer carefully to the definition of reducibility (what are the units of  $\mathbb{Z}$ )?

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**Corollary: Irreducibility of  $p$ th Cyclotomic Polynomial.**

For any prime  $p$ , the  $p$ th cyclotomic polynomial

$$\Phi_p(x) = \frac{x^p - 1}{x - 1} = x^{p-1} + x^{p-2} + \cdots + x + 1$$

is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

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(2) Why does the corollary fail if  $p$  is a positive even number? (It also fails for  $p = 9$  since  $1 + x + x^2$  is a factor. Can you prove it fails for an odd composite  $p$ ?)

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**Theorem 17.5:  $\langle p(x) \rangle$  is Maximal iff  $p(x)$  is Irreducible.**

Let  $F$  be a field and let  $p(x) \in F[x]$ . Then  $\langle p(x) \rangle$  is a maximal ideal in  $F[x]$  iff  $p(x)$  is irreducible over  $F$ .

**Corollary 1:  $F[x]/\langle p(x) \rangle$  is a Field.**

Let  $F$  be a field and  $p(x)$  an irreducible polynomial over  $F$ . Then  $F[x]/\langle p(x) \rangle$  is a field.

**Corollary 2:  $p(x)|a(x)b(x)$  Implies  $p(x)|a(x)$  or  $p(x)|b(x)$ .**

Let  $F$  be a field and let  $p(x), a(x), b(x) \in F[x]$ . If  $p(x)$  is irreducible over  $F$  and  $p(x)|a(x)b(x)$ , then  $p(x)|a(x)$  or  $p(x)|b(x)$ .

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**Dynamic Programming Classification of Irreducible Polynomials in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .**

Given a prime  $p$ , the polynomials in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  can be classified as reducible or irreducible by exhaustively considering all polynomials of degree  $n$ , where  $n$  successively equals 0, 1, 2, etc.

**Initialization.** Fix  $p$  prime and set  $n = 1$ . All degree 1 polynomials are irreducible.

1. Replace  $n \leftarrow n + 1$ .
  2. For all  $i$  from 1 to  $n - 1$ , multiply all polynomials of degree  $i$  by all polynomials of degree  $n - i$ .
  3. Label the results of step 2 reducible, and the rest of the degree  $n$  polynomials irreducible.
  4. Go to step 1.
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(3) Use the dynamic programming method to find all irreducible degree 3 polynomials in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ .

(4)(a) Show that in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ ,  $x^4 + \langle x^3 + x^2 + 1 \rangle = x^2 + x + 1 + \langle x^3 + x^2 + 1 \rangle$ .

(b) Construct the multiplication table for the field  $\mathbb{Z}_2[x]/\langle x^3 + x^2 + 1 \rangle$ .

**Unique Factorization in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ .**

Every polynomial in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  that is not the zero polynomial or a unit in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  can be written in the form  $b_1 b_2 \cdots b_s p_1(x) p_2(x) \cdots p_m(x)$ , where the  $b_i$ 's are irreducible polynomials of degree 0, and the  $p_i(x)$ 's are irreducible polynomials of positive degree. Furthermore, if

$$b_1 b_2 \cdots b_s p_1(x) p_2(x) \cdots p_m(x) = c_1 c_2 \cdots c_t q_1(x) q_2(x) \cdots q_n(x),$$

where the  $b$ 's and  $c$ 's are irreducible polynomials of degree 0, and the  $p(x)$ 's and  $q(x)$ 's are irreducible polynomials of positive degree, then  $s = t$ ,  $m = n$ , and, after renumbering the  $c$ 's and  $q(x)$ 's, we have  $b_i = \pm c_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, s$ ; and  $p_i(x) = \pm q_i(x)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ .

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**(5)** (Rational Root Theorem) Let  $f(x) = a_n x^n + \cdots + a_1 x^1 + a_0 \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ , and  $a_n \neq 0$ . Let  $r, s$  be relatively prime integers with  $f(r/s) = 0$ .

**(a)** Simplify the form of  $f(r/s)s^n$ .

**(b)** Inspect the result of (a) to prove that  $r|a_0$  and  $s|a_n$ .

**(c)** Let  $f(x) = 4x^3 + 8x^2 + x - 3$ . Given that  $f(x)$  factors over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , what is the set of possible roots according to (b)?

**(d)** Give the factorization of  $f(x)$ ; try to ignore the quadratic formula and reverse foil.