

**MA 453**  
**Homework b**

---

1.  $5x^4 + 3x^3 + 4 = (4x^2 + 3x)(3x^2 + 2x + 2) = (x + 4)$

$$3x^2 + 2x + 2 = (3x + 4)(x + 4) + 0$$

$$gcd(f, g) = x + 4$$

2. a)  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$

$$x^4 - 1 = (x^2 - 1)(x^2 + 1) = (x - 1)(x + 1)(x^2 + 1) \text{ which are irreducible}$$

$x^4 + 1$  has no linear roots because it has no solution in  $\mathbb{Z}$

$$\text{so, } x^4 + 1 = (x^2 + ax + b)(x^2 + cx + d) = x^4 + (a+c)x^3 + (ac + b + d)x^2 + (ad + bc)x + bd$$

so our only choice is if  $b, d = \pm 1$

but if that happen then we need a  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $c^2 = 2$  which can't happen ouch.

Hence,  $x^4 + 1$  is already irreducible

b)  $\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$

$x^4 + 1$  has no linear factors and thus it must factor into two quadratics

$$x^4 + 1 = (x^2 + ax + b)(x^2 + cs + d)$$

$$= x^4 + (a + c)x^3 + (ac + b + d)x^2 + (ad + bc)x + bd$$

this happens  $\iff b, d = 1, 1$  or  $2, 3$  or  $3, 2$  ( $\leftarrow$  I'll omit this case it is the same as  $2, 3$ )

so if  $b, d = 1 \Rightarrow c^2 = 2$  but there is no such  $c \in \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$ , ouch

in the case where  $b, d = 2, 3$

$$c^2 = 5 \iff c = 5 \text{ and } a = 0, b = 2, d = 3$$

$$\text{so, } x^4 + 1 = (x^2 + 2)(x^2 + 5x + 3) = (x^2 + 2)(x^2 + 3)$$

$x^4 - 1$  has 4 linear factors

$$\text{so } x^4 - 1 = (x - 1)(x - 2)(x - 3)(x - 4)$$

3. So there are 8 possible choices

$$\{x^2, x^2 + x + 1, x^2 + 2x + 2, x^2 + x + 2, x^2 + 2x + 1, x^2 + x, x^2 + 2x, x^2 + 1, x^2 + 2\}$$

and out of the possible choices only  $\{x^2 + 2x + 2, x^2 + x + 2, x^2 + 1\}$  have no roots and thus irreducible monic polynomials.

4. So there are 8 possible choices

$$\{x^3, x^3 + x^2 + x + 1, x^3 + x^2 + x, x^3 + x^2, x^3 + x, x^3 + 1, x^3 + x + 1, x^3 + x^2 + 1\}$$

and out of the possible choices only  $\{x^3 + x + 1, x^3 + x^2 + 1\}$  are irreducible monic polynomials.