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Math 8201: General Algebra

Homework #5

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[1] Let  $A$  be a factorial ring and  $a \in A \setminus \{0\}$ . We will show that  $A[X]/(aX-1)$  is also a factorial ring.

To do so, we'll follow the following main steps.

Step 1: Describe the ideal  $(aX-1)A[X]$ .

Since  $A$  is an integral domain, it can be imbedded into a field, for example the field  $K$  of fractions ~~over~~ <sup>of</sup>  $A$ . Then each  $h(X) \in A[X]$  can be viewed as an element in  $K[X]$ . We'll show that

$$h\left(\frac{1}{a}\right) = 0 \iff \exists q(X) \in A[X] : h(X) = (aX-1)q(X). \quad (1)$$

In other words, this property characterizes the ideal generated by  $(aX-1)$ .

$$(aX-1)A[X] = \left\{ h \in A[X] : h\left(\frac{1}{a}\right) = 0 \right\}. \quad (2)$$

For each  $g(X) \in A[X]$ , we denote by  $[g(X)]$  the equivalence class of  $g(X)$  in  $A[X]/(aX-1)$ . Then we have an immediate consequence of (1) as follow.

"If  $f, g \in A[X]$  and  $f\left(\frac{1}{a}\right) = g\left(\frac{1}{a}\right)$  then  $[f(X)] = [g(X)]$ ."

Proof of the consequence. Put  $h(X) = f(X) - g(X) \in A[X]$ . Then

$$h\left(\frac{1}{a}\right) = f\left(\frac{1}{a}\right) - g\left(\frac{1}{a}\right) = 0. \text{ By (2), we get } h(X) \in (aX-1)A[X]. \text{ Therefore,}$$

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$$[f(X)] - [g(X)] = [h(X)] = 0.$$

Step 2: Show that  $A[X]/(aX-1)$  is an integral domain. The idea is to show that the ideal  $(aX-1)A[X]$  given by (2) is a prime ideal.

Step 3: Describe the units of  $A[X]/(aX-1)$ .

To each  $g(X) = a_0 + a_1X + \dots + a_nX^n \in A[X]$ , we associate  $\hat{g}(X) = a_0X^n + a_1X^{n-1} + \dots + a_n$ , which is obtained by reversing the order of coefficients of  $g(X)$ . We see that

$$g\left(\frac{1}{a}\right) = a_0 + \frac{a_1}{a} + \dots + \frac{a_n}{a^n} = \frac{a_0a^n + a_1a^{n-1} + \dots + a_n}{a^n} = \frac{\hat{g}(a)}{a^n}.$$

We will show that

$$"[g(X)] \text{ is a unit of } A[X]/(aX-1) \iff \hat{g}(a) \mid a^N \text{ for some } N \in \mathbb{N}." \quad (3)$$

Step 4: Develop a decomposition into prime factors.

~~For Each  $f(X) \in A[X] \setminus \{0\}$~~ , Each nonzero element  $[f(X)] \in A[X]/(aX-1)$  has

$\hat{f}(a) = a^n f\left(\frac{1}{a}\right) \neq 0$ . Since  $A$  is factorial, we can write  $\hat{f}(a)$  as a product

of a unit and prime elements in  $A$ :

$$\hat{f}(a) = u p_1 \dots p_k, \text{ where } u \text{ is a unit, } p_1, \dots, p_k \text{ are primes in } A.$$

By grouping the prime divisors of  $a$  which occur in the above product into  $\alpha$ ,

we get  $\hat{f}(a) = \alpha q_1 \dots q_k$ , where all prime divisors of  $\alpha$  are also divisors of

$a$ , and  $q_i \nmid a$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Since all prime divisors of  $\alpha$  are also

divisors of  $a$ , there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\alpha \mid a^N$ . Of course, we

can choose a such a number  $N$  that  $N > n$ . Then there exist  $\alpha' \in A \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $\alpha \alpha' = a^N$ . We put  $g(X) = \alpha' X^{N-n}$ ,

$$g_i(X) \equiv q_i \text{ for all } i=1, \dots, k$$

We will show that

(i)  $[g(X)]$  is a unit in  $A[X]/(aX-1)$ ,

(ii)  $[g_i(X)]$  is a prime in  $A[X]/(aX-1)$ ,

$$(iii) [f(X)] = [g(X)] [g_1(X)] \dots [g_k(X)].$$

Then (iii) says that  $[f(X)]$  can be written as a finite product of a unit and prime elements in  $A[X]/(aX-1)$ , whence the proof completes.

Details of proofs

Proof of (1) We take  $h(X) \in A[X]$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Suppose that there exists  $q(X) \in A[X]$  such that  $h(X) = (aX-1)q(X)$ .

By considering both sides as polynomials over  $K$ , the field of fractions over

$A$ , we can reevaluate them at  $X = \frac{1}{a}$ . Then

$$h\left(\frac{1}{a}\right) = \left(a \cdot \frac{1}{a} - 1\right) q\left(\frac{1}{a}\right) = 0.$$

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Suppose that  $h\left(\frac{1}{a}\right) = 0$ . Then there exists  $\tilde{q}(X) \in K[X]$  such that

$$h(X) = \left(X - \frac{1}{a}\right) \tilde{q}(X) \quad (*)$$

Because  $X - \frac{1}{a} = \frac{aX-1}{a}$ , the content  $\text{cont}\left(X - \frac{1}{a}\right) = \frac{1}{a}$ .

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We write  $h(X) = \text{cont}(h) \tilde{h}(X)$  and  $\tilde{q}(X) = \text{cont}(\tilde{q}) \tilde{\tilde{q}}(X)$ , where  $\text{cont}(h) \in A$  and  $\text{cont}(\tilde{q}) \in K$  and  $\tilde{h}(X) \in A[X]$  and  $\tilde{\tilde{q}}(X) \in A[X]$ .

By (\*) and Gauss's lemma, we get  $\text{cont}(h) = \frac{1}{a} \text{cont}(\tilde{q})$ . Then

$$(*) \Leftrightarrow \text{cont}(h) \tilde{h}(X) = \frac{1}{a} \text{cont}(\tilde{q}) (aX-1) \tilde{\tilde{q}}(X)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \tilde{h}(X) = (aX-1) \tilde{\tilde{q}}(X)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow h(X) = (aX-1) \underbrace{\text{cont}(h)}_{\in A} \underbrace{\tilde{\tilde{q}}(X)}_{\in A[X]}$$

Thus,  $\text{cont}(h) \tilde{\tilde{q}}(X) = q(X) \in A[X]$ .

Proof of Step 2

To show that  $(aX-1)A[X]$  is <sup>a prime ideal</sup> ~~an integral domain~~, we take  $f(X), g(X)$  in  $A[X]$  and assume that  $f(X)g(X) \in (aX-1)A[X]$ . Then there exists  $h_1(X) \in A[X]$  such that  $f(X)g(X) = (aX-1)h_1(X)$ . Then  $f(\frac{1}{a})g(\frac{1}{a}) = 0$ .

~~Using the result (2) for  $h(X) = f(X)g(X)$ , then  $f(\frac{1}{a}) = 0$  or  $g(\frac{1}{a}) = 0$ .~~

Assume without loss of generality,  $f(\frac{1}{a}) = 0$ . Using the result (1) with  $h = f$ , we get  $f(X) \in (aX-1)A[X]$ .

Proof of (3) Take  $g(X) \in A[X]$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Suppose that  $[g(X)]$  is a unit of  $A[X]/(aX-1)$ . Then there exists  $[h_1(X)]$  such that  $[g(X)][h_1(X)] = [1]$ . Thus, there exists  $h_2(X) \in A[X]$

such that  $g(X)h_1(X) = 1 + (aX-1)h_2(X)$ . Evaluating both sides at  $X = \frac{1}{a}$ , we get  $g(\frac{1}{a})h_1(\frac{1}{a}) = 1$ . Thus,  $\frac{\hat{g}(a)}{a^n} \frac{\hat{h}_1(a)}{a^m} = 1$ ,

where  $n$  is the degree of  $g(X)$  and  $m$  is the degree of  $h_1(X)$ . Then

$$\hat{g}(a)\hat{h}_1(a) = a^{m+n}$$

Thus,  $\hat{g}(a) \mid a^{m+n}$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Suppose that there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\hat{g}(a) \mid a^N$ . We can assume  $N \geq n$ , the degree of  $g(X)$ . Then there exists  $\alpha \in A$  such that  $\hat{g}(a)\alpha = a^N$ . Put  $g_1(X) = \alpha X^{N-n}$ . We'll show that  $[g_1(X)]$  is the inverse of  $[g(X)]$ . Put  $h(X) = g(X)g_1(X) - 1$ . We have

$$h(\frac{1}{a}) = g(\frac{1}{a})g_1(\frac{1}{a}) - 1 = \frac{\hat{g}(a)}{a^n} \alpha - 1 = \frac{\hat{g}(a)\alpha}{a^N} - 1 = 0.$$

By (2), we get  $h(X) \in (aX-1)A[X]$ . Thus  $[g(X)][g_1(X)] - [1] = [h(X)] = 0$ .

Proof of (i) in Step 4

With  $g(X) = \alpha^* X^{N-n}$  and  $\alpha^* \mid a^N$ , we'll show that  $[g(X)]$  is a unit.

We have  $\hat{g}(a) = a^{N-n} g(\frac{1}{a}) = a^{N-n} \frac{\alpha^*}{a^{N-n}} = \alpha^*$ . Thus  $\hat{g}(a) \mid a^N$ . By

property (3) that we have just proved in Step 2, we conclude that  $[g(X)]$

is a unit.

Proof of (ii) in Step 4

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What we need to show is as follow: "let  $\beta$  be a prime of  $A$  and  $\beta \nmid a$ .

Then  $g(X) \equiv \beta$  is a prime of  $A[X]/(aX-1)$ ."

Suppose that  $[\beta] = [u(X)][v(X)]$ . we'll show that  $[u(X)]$  or  $[v(X)]$  must be a unit. There exists  $w(X) \in A[X]$  such that

$$u(X)v(X) - \beta = (aX-1)w(X).$$

Evaluating both sides at  $X = \frac{1}{a}$ , we have  $u(\frac{1}{a})v(\frac{1}{a}) - \beta = 0$ . Thus,

$$\frac{\hat{u}(a)\hat{v}(a)}{a^n a^m} - \beta = 0, \text{ where } n \text{ and } m \text{ are degrees of } u(X) \text{ and } v(X).$$

Thus,  $\hat{u}(a)\hat{v}(a) = \beta a^{m+n}$ . Thus  $\beta \mid \hat{u}(a)\hat{v}(a)$ . Since  $\beta$  is a prime of  $A$ , we have  $\beta \mid \hat{u}(a)$  or  $\beta \mid \hat{v}(a)$ . Without loss of generality, we can assume  $\beta \mid \hat{u}(a)$ . Then there exists  $\beta' \in A$  such that  $\beta\beta' = \hat{u}(a)$ . Then

$$(\beta\beta')\hat{v}(a) = \beta a^{m+n}$$

Thus  $\beta'\hat{v}(a) = a^{m+n}$ . Thus  $\hat{v}(a) \mid a^{m+n}$ . By property (3),  $[v(X)]$  is a unit.

Proof of (iii) in Step 4

Because  $\hat{f}(a) = \alpha q_1 \dots q_k$  and  $\hat{g}(a) = \alpha$ ,  $\hat{g}_i(a) = q_i$ , we have

$\hat{f}(a) = \hat{g}(a)\hat{g}_1(a) \dots \hat{g}_k(a)$ . Thus  $a^n f(\frac{1}{a}) = a^n g(\frac{1}{a}) g_1(\frac{1}{a}) \dots g_k(\frac{1}{a})$ . Thus,

$$f(\frac{1}{a}) = g(\frac{1}{a}) g_1(\frac{1}{a}) \dots g_k(\frac{1}{a}). \text{ Thus } [f(X)] = [g(X) g_1(X) \dots g_k(X)] \\ = [g(X)] [g_1(X)] \dots [g_k(X)].$$

② Let  $k$  be a field. The problem has two parts. We'll solve part (b) first because the properties to be proved in (a) and (b) are the same, and  $Y^2 - X^3$  looks simpler than  $Y^2 - X^2 - X^3$ .

(b) Consider the quotient ring  $k[X, Y]/(Y^2 - X^3)$ . We will

- 1) show that this ring is an integral domain,
- 2) show that  $k[X, Y]/(Y^2 - X^3) \cong (k[X] \times k[X], +, *)$ , where

$$(f_1, f_2) + (g_1, g_2) := (f_1 + g_1, f_2 + g_2),$$

$$(f_1, f_2) * (g_1, g_2) := (f_1 g_1 + X^3 f_2 g_2, f_1 g_2 + f_2 g_1),$$

for all  $f_1, f_2, g_1, g_2 \in k[X]$ ,

- 3) show that the ring  $k[X] \times k[X]$  with the addition and multiplication above is not factorial,

- 4) show that  $K(k[X] \times k[X]) \cong K(k[X])$ , where  $K(A)$  denotes the field of fractions of an integral domain  $A$ .

### Proof of Step 1

To show that the quotient ring  $k[X, Y]/(Y^2 - X^3)$  is an integral domain, we will show that  $Y^2 - X^3$  is a prime element. Since  $k$  is a field, it's also a factorial ring. Thus  $k[X, Y]$  is factorial. Thus prime elements are the same as irreducible elements. Thus, we need to show that  $Y^2 - X^3$  is

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irreducible in  $k[X, Y]$ . Suppose that there are  $g, h \in k[X, Y]$  such that

$$Y^2 - X^3 = g(X, Y)h(X, Y). \quad (1)$$

We'll show that either  $g$  or  $h$  is a unit. That is, to show that  $\deg g = 0$  or  $\deg h = 0$ . Suppose by contradiction that  $\deg g, \deg h \geq 1$ . Equating the degree of both sides of (1), we get  $3 = \deg g + \deg h$ . Thus, one degree equals 1 and one degree equals 2. We can assume  $\deg g = 1$ . Then there exist  $a, b, c \in k$  with  $a$  and  $b$  not simultaneously equal to 0, such that  $g(X, Y) = aX + bY + c$ . Then (1) becomes

$$Y^2 - X^3 = (aX + bY + c)h(X, Y). \quad (2)$$

Evaluating both sides of (2) at  $X=0$ , we get  $Y^2 = (bY + c)h(0, Y)$ .

If  $b \neq 0$  then we evaluate both sides at  $Y = -cb^{-1}$  and get  $c^2 b^{-2} = 0$ .

Thus  $c = 0$ . Thus we always have  $c = 0$  or  $b = 0$ .

Similarly, we evaluate both sides of (2) at  $Y=0$  and get  $-X^3 = (aX + c)h(X, 0)$ .

If  $a \neq 0$  then we evaluate both sides at  $X = -a^{-1}c$  and get  $a^{-3}c^3 = 0$ .

Thus  $c = 0$ . Thus we always have  $c = 0$  or  $a = 0$ .

Since  $a$  and  $b$  cannot be zero at once,  $c$  must be zero. Then (2) becomes

$$Y^2 - X^3 = (aX + bY)h(X, Y). \quad (3)$$

If  $a \neq 0$ ,  
 $\checkmark$  by considering  $k[X, Y] = k[Y][X]$ , we can evaluate both sides of (3) at  $X = -a^{-1}bY$  and get  $Y^2 + a^{-3}b^3Y^3 = 0$ . This is a contradiction.



If  $b \neq 0$ , by considering  $k[X, Y] = k[X][Y]$ , we can evaluate both sides of (3) at  $Y = -b^{-1}aX$  and get  $b^{-2}a^2X^2 - X^3 = 0$ . This is a contradiction.

Proof of Step 2

For each  $f(X, Y) \in k[X, Y]$ , we denote  $[f(X, Y)]$  by the equivalence class of  $f(X, Y)$  in  $k[X, Y]/(Y^2 - X^3)$ . We can write

$$f(X, Y) = \sum_{i=1}^l c_i X^{n_i} Y^{m_i} \text{ where } c_i \in k, m_i, n_i \geq 0, l \geq 0.$$

For any integer  $m \geq 2, n \geq 0$ , we have  $Y^m X^n = (Y^2 - X^3) Y^{m-2} X^n + Y^{m-2} X^{n+3}$ .

Thus  $[Y^m X^n] = [Y^{m-2} X^{n+3}]$ . Thus, if  $m$  is even, i.e.  $m = 2k$ , we have

$$[Y^{2k} X^n] = [Y^0 X^{n+3k}] = [X^{n+3k}]. \text{ If } m \text{ is odd, i.e. } m = 2k+1, \text{ we have}$$

$$[Y^{2k+1} X^n] = [Y X^{n+3k}]. \text{ Thus,}$$

$$[f(X, Y)] = \sum_{i=1}^l c_i [X^{n_i} Y^{m_i}] = [f_1(X)] + [f_2(X)Y] = [f_1(X) + f_2(X)Y],$$

where  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are some polynomials in  $k[X]$ . We will show that  $f_1(X)$  and  $f_2(X)$  are uniquely determined by  $f(X, Y)$ . Suppose that we have

$$[f(X, Y)] = [f_1(X) + f_2(X)Y] = [\tilde{f}_1(X) + \tilde{f}_2(X)Y]$$

Then  $f_1(X) - \tilde{f}_1(X) + (f_2(X) - \tilde{f}_2(X))Y$  is divisible by  $(Y^2 - X^3)$ . Put

$$\tilde{\tilde{f}}_1(X) = f_1(X) - \tilde{f}_1(X) \text{ and } \tilde{\tilde{f}}_2(X) = f_2(X) - \tilde{f}_2(X). \text{ Then there exists } g(X, Y)$$

$$\text{such that } \tilde{\tilde{f}}_1(X) + \tilde{\tilde{f}}_2(X)Y = (Y^2 - X^3)g(X, Y).$$

Unless both sides are zeros, the degree of  $Y$  on the left hand side is at most one, while its degree on the right hand side is at least two, which is impossible. Since  $\tilde{f}_1(X) + \tilde{f}_2(X)Y = 0$ , we get  $\tilde{f}_1(X) = \tilde{f}_2(X) = 0$ . Thus  $f_1(X) = \tilde{f}_1(X)$  and  $f_2(X) = \tilde{f}_2(X)$ . Therefore, each  $f(X, Y) \in k[X, Y]$  will determine uniquely a pair  $(f_1(X), f_2(X))$  in  $k[X] \times k[X]$  such that  $[f(X, Y)] = [f_1(X) + f_2(X)Y]$ . This property determines a map as follows.

$$k[X, Y] \longrightarrow k[X] \times k[X]$$

$$f(X, Y) \longmapsto (f_1(X), f_2(X)).$$

Moreover, if  $[f(X, Y)] = [\tilde{f}(X, Y)]$  then  $[f(X, Y) - \tilde{f}(X, Y)] = 0$ . Then

$$[(f_1(X) + f_2(X)Y) - (\tilde{f}_1(X) + \tilde{f}_2(X)Y)] = 0. \text{ Then } [f_1(X) - \tilde{f}_1(X) + (f_2(X) - \tilde{f}_2(X))Y] = 0.$$

As shown above,  $f_1(X) = \tilde{f}_1(X)$ , and  $f_2(X) = \tilde{f}_2(X)$ . Thus we, in fact, have

$$\text{a map } \phi: k[X, Y] / (Y^2 - X^3) \longrightarrow k[X] \times k[X]$$

$$[f(X, Y)] \longmapsto (f_1(X), f_2(X)),$$

such that  $[f(X, Y)] = [f_1(X) + f_2(X)Y]$ . What we have shown results immediately

in that  $\phi$  is injective. Moreover, for each pair  $(f_1(X), f_2(X))$ , we have

$$\phi([f_1(X) + f_2(X)Y]) = (f_1(X), f_2(X)). \text{ Thus } \phi \text{ is surjective. Therefore, } \phi \text{ is a}$$

bijection. We can equip a ring structure on  $k[X] \times k[X]$  by the structure

on  $k[X, Y] / (Y^2 - X^3)$ . In particular, if  $[g(X, Y)] = [g_1(X) + g_2(X)Y]$  then

$$(f_1, f_2) + (g_1, g_2) := \phi([f] + [g]) = \phi([f+g]) = (f_1 + g_1, f_2 + g_2),$$

$$\begin{aligned} (f_1, f_2) * (g_1, g_2) &:= \phi([f]) * \phi([g]) := \phi([fg]) \\ &= \phi([(f_1 + f_2 Y)(g_1 + g_2 Y)]) \\ &= \phi([f_1 g_1 + f_2 g_2 Y^2 + (f_1 g_2 + f_2 g_1) Y]) \\ &= \phi([f_1 g_1 + f_2 g_2 X^3 + \underbrace{f_2 g_2 (Y^2 - X^3)}_{=0} + (f_1 g_2 + f_2 g_1) Y]) \\ &= (f_1 g_1 + f_2 g_2 X^3, f_1 g_2 + f_2 g_1). \end{aligned}$$

With this addition and multiplication,  $(k[X] \times k[X], +, *)$  is isomorphic to  $k[X, Y]/(Y^2 - X^3)$ . Thus, we can work on  $k[X] \times k[X]$  instead of  $k[X, Y]/(Y^2 - X^3)$  hereafter.

Proof of Step 3

We'll show that  $k[X] \times k[X]$  is not factorial. To do so, we'll point out an irreducible element that is not a prime. Such an element is  $(X, 0)$ . Suppose that  $(X, 0) = (f_1, f_2) * (g_1, g_2)$ . Then  $(X, 0) = (f_1 g_1 + f_2 g_2 X^3, f_1 g_2 + f_2 g_1)$ . Then

$$\begin{cases} X = f_1 g_1 + f_2 g_2 X^3 & (1) \\ 0 = f_1 g_2 + f_2 g_1 & (2) \end{cases}$$

Since  $X \neq f_2 g_2 X^3$ , we get  $f_1 g_1 \neq 0$ . Thus  $f_1 \neq 0$  and  $g_1 \neq 0$ . If  $g_2 = 0$  or  $f_2 = 0$ , (2) implies both of them are zeros. Then (1) gives  $X = f_1 g_1$ . Thus since  $X$  is a prime in  $k[X]$ , either  $f_1$  or  $g_1$  must be a unit. Thus  $(f_1, 0)$  or  $(g_1, 0)$

is a unit of  $k[X] \times k[X]$ . In case  $g_2 \neq 0$  and  $f_2 \neq 0$ , the coefficient of  $X^3$  in the right hand side of (1) must be vanished. Thus  $\deg(f_1 f_2) = \deg(f_2 g_2 X^3)$ .

$$\text{Thus } \deg f_1 + \deg g_1 = 3 + \deg f_2 + \deg g_2. \quad (3)$$

The ~~coeff~~ leading coefficients of the right hand side of (2) must be vanished.

$$\text{Thus } \deg(f_1 g_2) = \deg(f_2 g_1). \text{ Thus}$$

$$\deg f_1 + \deg g_2 = \deg f_2 + \deg g_1. \quad (4)$$

Summing up (3) and (4) gives us  $2 \deg f_1 = 3 + 2 \deg f_2$ . This is a contradiction.

Therefore,  $(X, 0)$  is irreducible in  $k[X] \times k[X]$ . We'll show that it is not a prime.

$$\text{Indeed, } (X, 1)(X, 1) = (X^2 + X^3, 2X) = (X, 0)(X + X^2, 2). \text{ If } (X, 0) \text{ divides}$$

$$(X, 1) \text{ then } (X, 1) = (X, 0)(f_1, f_2); \text{ then } 1 = X f_1, \text{ which is a contradiction.}$$

Thus,  $(X, 0)$  is not a prime.

#### Proof of Step 4

We'll show that  $K(k[X] \times k[X]) \cong K(k[X])$ . Consider the natural

$$\text{set-injection } \lambda: R[X] \longrightarrow k[X] \times k[X],$$

$$f \longmapsto (f, 0).$$

$$\text{We have } \lambda(fg) = (fg, 0) = (f, 0) * (g, 0) = \lambda(f) * \lambda(g) \text{ and}$$

$$\lambda(f+g) = (f+g, 0) = (f, 0) + (g, 0) \text{ and}$$

$$\lambda(1) = (1, 0).$$

Thus  $\lambda$  is a ring-monomorphism.

We have proved that from the ring's point of view,  $k[X]$  is "smaller" than  $k[X] \times k[X]$ . Thus,  $K(k[X])$  is intuitively smaller than  $K(k[X] \times k[X])$ . To see the converse, we need to make an injection from  $k[X] \times k[X]$  to  $k[X]$ . This is harder ~~by~~ but possible. We define the following map

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda': k[X] \times k[X] &\longrightarrow k[X], \\ (f_1(X), f_2(X)) &\longmapsto f_1(X^2) + X^3 f_2(X^2). \end{aligned}$$

We see that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda'((f_1(X), f_2(X)) + (g_1(X), g_2(X))) &= \lambda'(f_1(X) + g_1(X), f_2(X) + g_2(X)) \\ &= (f_1(X^2) + g_1(X^2)) + X^3(f_2(X^2) + g_2(X^2)) \\ &= (f_1(X^2) + X^3 f_2(X^2)) + (g_1(X^2) + X^3 g_2(X^2)) \\ &= \lambda'(f_1(X), f_2(X)) + \lambda'(g_1(X), g_2(X)). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda'((f_1, f_2) * (g_1, g_2)) &= \lambda'(f_1 g_1 + X^3 f_2 g_2, f_1 g_2 + f_2 g_1) \\ &= [f_1(X^2) g_1(X^2) + X^6 f_2(X^2) g_2(X^2)] + X^3 [f_1(X^2) g_2(X^2) + f_2(X^2) g_1(X^2)] \\ &= (f_1(X^2) + X^3 f_2(X^2)) (g_1(X^2) + X^3 g_2(X^2)) \\ &= \lambda'(f_1, f_2) \lambda'(g_1, g_2). \end{aligned}$$

$$\lambda'(1, 0) = 1 + X^3 \cdot 0 = 1.$$

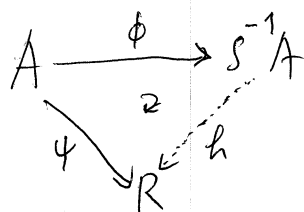
Thus,  $\lambda'$  is a ring-morphism. For  $(f_1, f_2) \in \ker \lambda'$ , we have

$$f_1(X^2) + X^3 f_2(X^2) = 0 \quad (1)$$

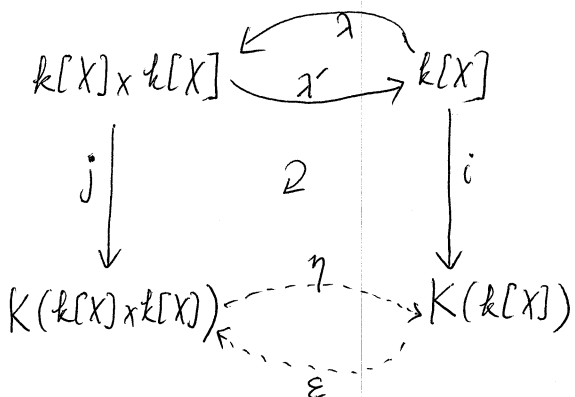
Thus all coefficients of LHS(1) are zeros. Since  $f_1$  contains all coefficients

of even degrees, and  $f_2$  contains all coefficients of odd degrees, we must have  $f_1(X) = f_2(X) = 0$ . Thus  $\lambda'$  is injective. We have proved that  $k[X] \times k[X]$  is intuitively smaller than  $k[X]$  from the viewpoint of rings. Let  $i: k[X] \rightarrow K(k[X])$  and  $j: k[X] \times k[X] \rightarrow K(k[X] \times k[X])$  be the canonical inclusions. We'll use the universal property of the rings of fractions to show that  $K(k[X]) \cong K(k[X] \times k[X])$ . That universal property is as follows.

Let  $A$  be a commutative ring and  $S$  be a multiplicative subset. Denote by  $\phi: A \rightarrow S^{-1}A$ ,  $\phi(a) = \frac{a}{1}$ . Then for any ring morphism  $\psi: A \rightarrow R$  such that  $\psi(s)$  is invertible in  $R$  for all  $s \in S$ , there exists a unique ring morphism  $h: S^{-1}A \rightarrow R$  that make the following diagram commute.



Return to the problem. Because  $i\lambda'$  maps every nonzero element of  $k[X] \times k[X]$



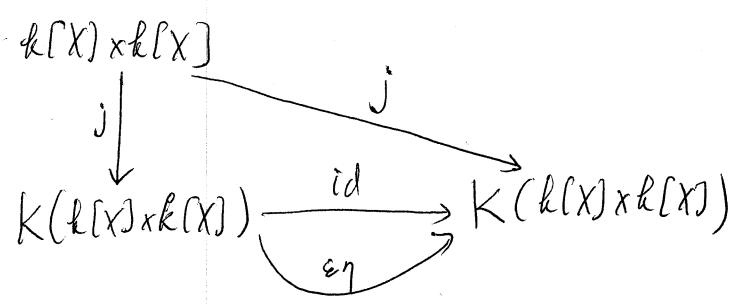
to a nonzero element of  $K(k[X])$  (because  $i$  and  $\lambda'$  are injective), it maps nonzero elements to invertible elements. Thus, there exists a unique (ring) morphism  $\eta: K(k[X] \times k[X]) \rightarrow K(k[X])$

such that the diagram with  $\gamma, i, \eta, j$  commutes.

Similarly, since  $\lambda$  and  $j$  are injective,  $j\lambda$  map nonzero elements in  $k[X]$  to nonzero (thus invertible) elements of  $K(k[X] \times k[X])$ . By the universal property, there exists a unique isomorphism  $\varepsilon: K(k[X]) \rightarrow K(k[X] \times k[X])$  such that the diagram with  $\lambda, j, \varepsilon, i$  commutes. Then we have

$$j = \varepsilon \circ \lambda' = \eta \circ \varepsilon \circ \eta^{-1} \circ j$$

Thus there are two morphism from  $K(k[X] \times k[X])$  to itself that make the following diagram commute. They are  $id$  and  $\varepsilon\eta$ .



By the universal property,  $\varepsilon\eta = id$ . Thus  $\varepsilon$  and  $\eta$  are ring isomorphisms. Therefore,  $K(k[X] \times k[X]) \cong K(k[X])$ .

(a) Consider the quotient ring  $k[X, Y] / (Y^2 - X^2 - X^3)$ .

We'll mimick the approach in part (b). We'll follow the same four steps, with modification in each step if needed.

Step 1 We'll show that  $k[X, Y] / (Y^2 - X^2 - X^3)$  is an integral domain. To do so, we'll show that  $Y^2 - X^2 - X^3$  is irreducible. We see that

$$Y^2 - X^2 - X^3 = Y^2 - X^2(X+1).$$

If we can show that  $X+1$  is a prime in  $k[X]$  and  $(X+1) \nmid X^2$  then we would conclude that  $Y^2 - X^2(X+1)$  is irreducible in  $k[X, Y]$  according to Eisenstein's criterion. Since  $k[X]$  is factorial, it suffices to show that  $X+1$  is irreducible. Any decomposition  $X+1 = g(X)h(X)$  will result in that either  $\deg g = 0$  or  $\deg h = 0$ . Thus  $g(X)$  or  $h(X)$  is invertible. Thus  $X+1$  is irreducible. Moreover,  $X^2 = (X+1)(X-1) + 1$  and  $(X+1) \nmid 1$ . Then  $(X+1) \nmid X^2$ .

Step 2 We will try to associate an element  $[f(X, Y)] \in k[X, Y]/(Y^2 - X^2 - X^3)$  with a pair  $(f_1(X), f_2(X)) \in k[X] \times k[X]$ . We see that

$$Y^m X^n = (Y^2 - X^2 - X^3) Y^{m-2} X^n + Y^{m-2} (X^{n+2} + X^{n+3}) \quad \forall m \geq 2, n \geq 0$$

Thus,  $[Y^m X^n] = [Y^{m-2} (X^{n+2} + X^{n+3})]$ . By continuing applying this rule, we can lower the exponent of  $Y$  from  $m$  to 0 or 1. Thus each monomial  $Y^m X^n$  satisfies  $[Y^m X^n] = [Y f(X)]$  or  $[Y^m X^n] = [f(X)]$ . Therefore, each  $f(X, Y) \in k[X, Y]$  associates with a pair  $(f_1(X), f_2(X)) \in k[X] \times k[X]$  such that

$$[f(X, Y)] = [f_1(X) + f_2(X)Y].$$

To show that this association is a map from  $k[X, Y]$  to  $k[X] \times k[X]$ , we need to

show that if  $f_1(X) + f_2(X)Y = (Y^2 - X^2 - X^3)g(X, Y)$  then  $f_1(X) = f_2(X) = 0$ .



This is true because the <sup>highest</sup> degree of  $Y$  on the left hand side is at most  $Y$ , while on the right is at least  $Y^2$ , unless  $f_1(X) = f_2(X) = 0$ .

Because of this property, this map from  $k[X, Y]$  to  $k[X] \times k[X]$  also factors through a map from  $k[X, Y] / (Y^2 - X^2 - X^3)$  to  $k[X] \times k[X]$ . We still call it  $\phi$  as in part (a).

$$\phi: k[X, Y] / (Y^2 - X^2 - X^3) \longrightarrow k[X] \times k[X],$$

$$[f(X, Y)] \longmapsto (f_1(X), f_2(X)).$$

The argument above also implies that  $\phi$  is injective. Since  $\phi([f_1(X) + Yf_2(X)]) = (f_1(X), f_2(X))$ ,  $\phi$  is surjective. Thus  $\phi$  is a set-theoretic bijection. Then we

impose the ring structure on  $k[X] \times k[X]$  by the one on  $k[X, Y] / (Y^2 - X^2 - X^3)$  to make  $\phi$  an isomorphism. Then

$$(f_1, f_2) + (g_1, g_2) := (f_1 + g_1, f_2 + g_2).$$

$$(f_1, f_2) \cdot (g_1, g_2) := \phi([f(X, Y)g(X, Y)]), \text{ where } \phi([f(X, Y)]) = (f_1, f_2),$$

$$\phi([g(X, Y)]) = (g_1, g_2).$$

$$= \phi([(f_1 + f_2 Y)(g_1 + g_2 Y)])$$

$$= \phi([f_1 g_1 + f_2 g_2 Y^2 + (f_1 g_2 + f_2 g_1) Y])$$

$$= \phi([f_1 g_1 + (X^2 + X^3) f_2 g_2 + \underbrace{(Y^2 - X^2 - X^3)}_{=0} f_2 g_2 + (f_1 g_2 + f_2 g_1) Y])$$

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$$= \phi([f_1 g_1 + (X^2 + X^3) f_2 g_2 + (f_1 g_2 + f_2 g_1) Y])$$

$$= (f_1 g_1 + (X^2 + X^3) f_2 g_2, f_1 g_2 + f_2 g_1).$$

In short, the operations on  $k[X] \times k[X]$  are

$$(f_1, f_2) + (g_1, g_2) = (f_1 + g_1, f_2 + g_2),$$

$$(f_1, f_2) \circ (g_1, g_2) = (f_1 g_1 + (X^2 + X^3) f_2 g_2, f_1 g_2 + f_2 g_1).$$

Thus, we can work on  $(k[X] \times k[X], +, \circ)$  instead of  $k[X, Y]/(Y^2 - X^2 - X^3)$ .

Step 3

We'll show that  $k[X] \times k[X]$  is not factorial. Again, we'll look for an irreducible element which is not prime. We'll show that it is  $(X, 0)$ .

Suppose that  $(X, 0) = (f_1, f_2) \circ (g_1, g_2)$ . Then

$$\begin{cases} X = f_1(X)g_1(X) + (X^2 + X^3)f_2(X)g_2(X), & (1) \\ 0 = f_1(X)g_2(X) + f_2(X)g_1(X). & (2) \end{cases}$$

We'll treat this exactly the same as in Part (a). If  $f_2 = 0$  or  $g_2 = 0$ , (2) implies both of them are zero. Then (1) implies  $f_1$  or  $g_1$  must be unit because  $X$  is a prime in  $k[X, Y]$ . If  $f_2 \neq 0$  and  $g_2 \neq 0$  then  $f_1 \neq 0$  and  $g_1 \neq 0$ . Comparing the leading exponents of two sides in (1) and (2),

we have

$$\begin{cases} \deg f_1 + \deg g_1 = 3 + \deg f_2 + \deg g_2 \\ \deg f_1 + \deg g_2 = \deg f_2 + \deg g_1 \end{cases}$$

Adding them up, we get  $2 \cdot \deg f_1 = 3 + 2 \cdot \deg f_2$ . This is a contradiction.

We have  $(X, 0)$  is irreducible. We see that

$$(X, 1) \circ (X, 1) = (X^2 + X^2 + X^3, 2X) = (X, 0) \circ (2X + X^2, 2).$$

If  $(X, 1)$  is divisible by  $(X, 0)$  then  $(X, 1) = (X, 0)(f_1, f_2)$ . Then  $1 = Xf_2$ .

This is a contradiction. Thus,  $(X, 0)$  is not a prime.

Step 4

We'll show that  $K(k[X] \times k[X]) \cong K(k[X])$ . If we can find a monomorphism from  $k[X]$  to  $k[X] \times k[X]$ , and a monomorphism from  $k[X] \times k[X]$  to  $k[X]$  then we can conclude  $K(k[X] \times k[X]) \cong K(k[X])$  by chasing the diagram as in Part (a).

The inclusion  $\lambda: k[X] \rightarrow k[X] \times k[X]$ , satisfies  
 $f \mapsto (f, 0)$

$$\lambda(fg) = (fg, 0) = (f, 0) \circ (g, 0) = \lambda(f) \circ \lambda(g),$$

$$\lambda(f) + \lambda(g) = (f, 0) + (g, 0) = (f+g, 0) = \lambda(f+g),$$

$$\lambda(1) = (1, 0).$$

Thus  $\lambda$  is a ring morphism, and hence a monomorphism.

To find a monomorphism from  $k[X] \times k[X]$  to  $k[X]$ , we will start from a rough manipulation

$$\begin{aligned} (f_1 g_1 + (X^2 + X^3) f_2 g_2, f_1 g_2 + f_2 g_1) &\rightsquigarrow f_1 g_1 + (X^2 + X^3) f_2 g_2 + \sqrt{X^2 + X^3} (f_1 g_2 \\ &= (f_1 + \sqrt{X^2 + X^3} f_2) (g_1 + \sqrt{X^2 + X^3} g_2) \end{aligned}$$

This hints us to define  $\lambda'(f_1, f_2) = f_1 + \sqrt{X^2 + X^3} f_2$ . But this is nonsense. We should change the variable to eliminate the square root. Since  $\sqrt{X^2 + X^3} = X\sqrt{1+X}$ , an excellent change of variable is  $X \mapsto X^2 - 1$ . Therefore,

we ~~no~~ officially define  $\lambda': k[X] \times k[X] \rightarrow k[X]$  such that

$$\lambda'(f_1, f_2) = f_1(X^2 - 1) + X(X^2 - 1)f_2(X^2 - 1).$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda'(f_1, f_2) + \lambda'(g_1, g_2) &= f_1(X^2 - 1) + X(X^2 - 1)f_2(X^2 - 1) \\ &\quad + g_1(X^2 - 1) + X(X^2 - 1)g_2(X^2 - 1) \\ &= (f_1 + g_1)(X^2 - 1) + X(X^2 - 1)(f_2 + g_2)(X^2 - 1) \\ &= \lambda'(f_1 + g_1, f_2 + g_2). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda'(f_1, f_2) \cdot \lambda'(g_1, g_2) &= [f_1(X^2 - 1) + X(X^2 - 1)f_2(X^2 - 1)] [g_1(X^2 - 1) + X(X^2 - 1)g_2(X^2 - 1)] \\ &= f_1(X^2 - 1)g_1(X^2 - 1) + X^2(X^2 - 1)^2 f_2(X^2 - 1)g_2(X^2 - 1) \\ &\quad + X(X^2 - 1)[f_1(X^2 - 1)g_2(X^2 - 1) + f_2(X^2 - 1)g_1(X^2 - 1)] \\ &= \cancel{f_1 g_1 + X(X^2 - 1)} \\ &= \left\{ f_1(X^2 - 1)g_1(X^2 - 1) + [(X^2 - 1)^2 + (X^2 - 1)^3] f_2(X^2 - 1)g_2(X^2 - 1) \right\} \\ &\quad + X(X^2 - 1)[f_1(X^2 - 1)g_2(X^2 - 1) + f_2(X^2 - 1)g_1(X^2 - 1)] \\ &= \lambda'(f_1 g_1 + (X^2 + X^3)f_2 g_2, f_1 g_2 + f_2 g_1) \\ &= \lambda'(\lambda'(f_1, f_2) \circ \lambda'(g_1, g_2)). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover,  $\lambda'(1,0) = 1$ . Thus  $\lambda'$  is a ring morphism.

For each  $(f_1, f_2) \in \ker \lambda'$ , we have  $f_1(X^2-1) + X(X^2-1)f_2(X^2-1) = 0$ .

Since  $f_1$  gives rise to monomials of even degrees, and  $f_2$  gives rise to monomials of odd degrees, both of them must be zero. Thus  $\ker \lambda' = 0$ . Thus  $\lambda'$  is a monomorphism.

③ Problem 5, Lang, page 213

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(a) We'll show that the polynomials  $X^4+1$  and  $X^6+X^3+1$  are irreducible over the rational numbers. Consider the following map

$$\begin{aligned} \phi: \mathbb{Z}[X] &\longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}[X], \\ f(X) &\longmapsto \phi(f)(X) = f(X+1). \end{aligned}$$

With this definition,  $\phi$  naturally becomes a ring morphism. Each  $g \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$  corresponds uniquely to  $f(X) = g(X-1)$  such that  $\phi(f) = g$ . Thus  $\phi$  is a bijection. Thus  $\phi$  is a ring automorphism. Thus, the irreducibility of  $f(X)$  is the same as the irreducibility of  $f(X+1)$ . We see that

$$(X+1)^4 + 1 = X^4 + 4X^3 + 6X^2 + 4X + 2, \quad (1)$$

$$(X+1)^6 + (X+1)^3 + 1 = X^6 + 6X^5 + 15X^4 + 21X^3 + 18X^2 + 9X + 3. \quad (2)$$

Note that 2 and 3 are prime elements of  $\mathbb{Z}$ , which is a factorial ring. Applying the Eisenstein's criterion for  $p=2$  in the first case, and  $p=3$  in the second case, we conclude that  $(X+1)^4 + 1$  and  $(X+1)^6 + (X+1)^3 + 1$  are irreducible over

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$\mathbb{Q}[X]$ . Therefore  $X^4+1$  and  $X^6+X^3+1$  are irreducible over  $\mathbb{Z}[X]$ .

(b) Let  $k$  be a field and  $f \in k[X]$  having degree 3. Suppose that  $f(X)$  is reducible. We'll show that  $f(X)$  has a root in  $k$ .

There exist  $g, h \in k[X]$  such that  $f(X) = g(X)h(X)$  and neither  $g(X)$  nor  $h(X)$  is a unit. Since  $k$  is a field, this happens only if  $\deg g, \deg h \geq 1$ . We have  $\deg g + \deg h = \deg f = 3$ . Thus either  $\deg g = 1, \deg h = 2$  or  $\deg g = 2, \deg h = 1$ . We can assume, by symmetry, that  $\deg g = 1$ . Then  $g(X) = aX + b$  with  $a \neq 0$ . Then  $g(-a^{-1}b) = a(-a^{-1}b) + b = 0$ . Thus  $f(-a^{-1}b) = 0$ . Thus  $f(X)$  has a root.

Next, we'll show that the polynomial  $f(X) = X^3 - 5X^2 + 1$  is irreducible over the rational numbers. Suppose by contradiction that  $f(X)$  is reducible, then  $f(X)$  has a root  $X = \frac{p}{q}$  with  $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $(p, q) = 1$  and  $q \neq 0$ . Then  $p$  divides the constant term and  $q$  divides the leading coefficient. Thus  $p | 1$  and  $q | 1$ . Thus  $p, q \in \{-1, 1\}$ . Thus  $\frac{p}{q} \in \{-1, 1\}$ . Since  $f(-1) = (-1)^3 - 5(-1)^2 + 1 = -5 \neq 0$  and  $f(1) = 1^3 - 5 \cdot 1^2 + 1 = -3 \neq 0$ , we get a contradiction.

(c) Put  $f(X, Y) = X^2 + Y^2 - 1$ . We'll show that  $f$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{C}$ , and hence irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Suppose by contradiction that  $f$  is

reducible. Then there exist  $g, h \in \mathbb{C}[X, Y]$  with  $\deg g, \deg h \geq 1$

such that  $f(X, Y) = g(X, Y)h(X, Y)$ . Since  $\deg g + \deg h = \deg f = 2$ ,

we have  $\deg g = \deg h = 1$ . Thus  $g$  and  $h$  are of the forms

$$g(X, Y) = aX + bY + c,$$

$$h(X, Y) = a'X + b'Y + c',$$

where  $a, b, c, a', b', c' \in \mathbb{C}$ . Thus we have the identity in  $\mathbb{C}[X, Y]$ :

$$X^2 + Y^2 - 1 = (aX + bY + c)(a'X + b'Y + c') \tag{1}$$

Equating the constant terms at (1), we get  $cc' = -1$ .

~~Evaluating both sides at  $Y = -1$ , we get  $X^2 = (aX - b + c)$~~

Equating the coefficients of  $X^2$ , we get  $aa' = 1$ . Thus  $a, a' \neq 0$ .

Equating the coefficients of  $Y^2$ , we get  $bb' = 1$ . Thus  $b, b' \neq 0$ .

Evaluating both sides of (1) at  $Y = -1$ , we get  $X^2 = (aX - b + c)(a'X - b' + c')$ .

Two roots on the right hand side are  $X = a^{-1}(b - c)$  and  $X = a'^{-1}(b' - c')$ ,

which are supposed to be zeros. Thus  $b = c, b' = c'$ .

Similarly, evaluating both sides of (1) at  $X = -1$ , we get

$Y^2 = (bY - a + c)(b'Y - a' + c')$ . Two roots on the right hand side are

$Y = b^{-1}(a - c)$  and  $Y = b'^{-1}(a' - c')$ , which should be zeros. Thus  $a = c$  and

$a' = c'$ . Thus (1) is now rewritten as

$$X^2 + Y^2 - 1 = (cX + cY + c)(c'X + c'Y + c')$$

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which is  $X^2 + Y^2 - 1 = c c' (X+Y+1)^2 = -(X+Y+1)^2$

$$= -X^2 - Y^2 - 2XY - 2X - 2Y - 1.$$

This is a contradiction.

□

④ Let  $A$  be a commutative entire ring. Let  $a, b \in A$  and assume  $a$  is a unit in  $A$ . We'll show that the map  $X \mapsto aX + b$  extends to a unique automorphism of  $A[X]$  inducing an identity on  $A$ .

Suppose that  $\phi: A[X] \rightarrow A[X]$  is a ring endomorphism such that  $\phi(X) = aX + b$  and  $\phi(c) = c$  for all  $c \in A$ . Then, for each  $f(X) = a_0 + a_1X + \dots + a_nX^n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(f) &= \phi(a_0 + a_1X + \dots + a_nX^n) \\ &= \phi(a_0) + \phi(a_1)\phi(X) + \phi(a_2)\phi(X)^2 + \dots + \phi(a_n)\phi(X)^n \\ &= a_0 + a_1(aX+b) + a_2(aX+b)^2 + \dots + a_n(aX+b)^n. \end{aligned}$$

Thus such a map  $\phi$ , if exists, is unique and given by the above formula. We'll show that this map  $\phi: A[X] \rightarrow A[X]$

$$\phi\left(\sum_{k=0}^n a_k X^k\right) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k (aX+b)^k,$$

is indeed a ring morphism. We have  $\phi(f) = f(aX+b)$ . Thus

$$\phi(f+g)(X) = (f+g)(aX+b) = f(aX+b) + g(aX+b) = \phi(f)(X) + \phi(g)(X),$$

$$\phi(fg)(X) = (fg)(aX+b) = f(aX+b)g(aX+b) = \phi(f)(X)\phi(g)(X),$$

$$\phi(1) = 1.$$

Thus  $\phi$  is a ring morphism. Moreover,  $\phi(c) = c$  for all  $c \in A$ . We'll



show that  $\phi$  is a ring isomorphism. It suffices to show that  $\phi$  is a set-theoretic bijection. For each  $g(X) \in A[X]$ , we have

$$\phi(f) = g(X) \Leftrightarrow f(aX+b) = g(X) \quad (*)$$

Assume that we proved  $Y = aX+b$  is a variable over  $A$ . Then

$$(*) \Leftrightarrow f(Y) = g(a^{-1}(Y-b)) \quad (**)$$

Then  $f$  exists and unique. Thus  $\phi$  is bijective.

Now we show that  $Y$  is a variable over  $A$ . Suppose that  $g$  is a polynomial over  $A$  with  $g(Y) = 0$ . We'll show that  $g = 0$ . Suppose by contradiction that  $g \neq 0$ . Then we can write  $g(X) = a_0 + a_1X + \dots + a_nX^n$  with  $a_n \neq 0$ .

We have  $0 = g(aX+b) = a_0 + a_1(aX+b) + \dots + a_n(aX+b)^n$ . Comparing the leading coefficients of both sides, we get  $a_n a^n = 0$ . Since  $a$  is invertible, this implies  $a_n = 0$ . This is a contradiction.

Therefore,  $\phi$  is an automorphism, and its inverse is given by (\*\*), namely

$$\phi^{-1}(g) = g(a^{-1}(X-b)) \quad \text{for all } g(X) \in A[X].$$

⑤ Let  $\phi: A[X] \rightarrow A[X]$  be an automorphism, where  $A$  is a commutative ring, such that  $\phi(c) = c$  for all  $c \in A$ . We will show that  $\phi(X) = aX+b$  where  $a$  is a unit of  $A$ . Put  $\phi(X) = f(X) \in A[X]$ . First we'll show

that  $f(X)$  is of degree 1. Since  $\phi$  induced an identity map on  $A$ , and  $X \notin A$ , we have  $f(X) \notin A$ . Thus  $f(X)$  has the degree  $q$  at least one. Put  $f(X) = a_0 + a_1 X + \dots + a_n X^n$  with  $a_n \neq 0$ . ~~Suppose by contradiction that  $n \geq 2$ .~~ Since  $\phi$  is surjective, there exists  $g \in A[X]$  such that  $\phi(g) = X$ . We write  $g(X) = b_0 + b_1 X + \dots + b_m X^m$ ,  $m \geq 1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(g) &= \phi(b_0 + b_1 X + \dots + b_m X^m) = \phi(b_0) + \phi(b_1) \phi(X) + \dots + \phi(b_m) \phi(X)^m \\ &= b_0 + b_1 \phi(X) + \dots + b_m \phi(X)^m \end{aligned}$$

Thus, 
$$X = b_0 + b_1 f(X) + b_2 f(X)^2 + \dots + b_m f(X)^m.$$

The term with highest degree on the righthand side is  $b_m a_n^m X^{mn}$ . Therefore,

$$X = b_m a_n^m X^{mn}.$$

Thus  $b_m a_n^m = 1$  and  $mn = 1$ . Thus  $m = n = 1$  and  $b_m a_n = 1$ .

Thus  $n = 1$  and  $a_n$  is invertible. Thus  $f(X)$  is of degree 1 and

$$f(X) = aX + b$$

with  $a$  invertible.

⑥ Let  $K$  be a field, and  $K(X)$  the quotient field of  $K[X]$ . Let  $\phi: K(X) \rightarrow K(X)$  be an automorphism such that  $\phi(\alpha) = \alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in K$ . We will show that 
$$\phi(X) = \frac{aX + b}{cX + d} \quad \text{for } a, b, c, d \in K.$$

Since  $\phi$  is an isomorphism, it maps nonzero elements to nonzero elements. Assume that  $u, v \in K[X]$  and  $v \neq 0$ . Then  $u = \frac{u}{v} \cdot v$ . Thus

$$\phi(u) = \phi\left(\frac{u}{v}\right) \phi(v). \text{ Since } \phi(v) \neq 0, \text{ we have } \phi\left(\frac{u}{v}\right) = \frac{\phi(u)}{\phi(v)}.$$

This formula appears to be very handy in our manipulation. Put

$$\phi(X) = \frac{f(X)}{g(X)},$$

where  $f(X), g(X) \in K[X]$ ,  $g(X) \neq 0$ . We can assume that this fraction was in the reduced form, i.e.  $f(X)$  and  $g(X)$  are relatively prime and  $g(X)$  has the leading coefficient 1. Since  $X \neq 0$ ,  $\phi(X) \neq 0$  and  $f(X) \neq 0$ . Thus we

can write  $f(X) = a_0 + a_1 X + \dots + a_n X^n$ , with  $a_n \neq 0, n \geq 0$ ,

$$g(X) = b_0 + b_1 X + \dots + b_m X^m, \text{ with } b_m = 1, m \geq 0.$$

We'll show that  $m, n \leq 1$ .

Since  $\phi$  is surjective, there exist  $p(X), q(X) \in K[X], q(X) \neq 0$  such that

$$X = \phi\left(\frac{p(X)}{q(X)}\right).$$

We can assume that this fraction was in the reduced form, i.e.  $p(X)$  and  $q(X)$  are relatively prime and  $q(X)$  has the leading coefficient 1. Since  $X \neq 0$ ,

$\phi^{-1}(X) \neq 0$  and thus  $p(X) \neq 0$ . We can write

$$p(X) = c_0 + c_1 X + \dots + c_r X^r, \text{ with } c_r \neq 0, r \geq 0,$$

$$q(X) = d_0 + d_1 X + \dots + d_s X^s, \text{ with } d_s = 1, s \geq 0.$$

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Since  $\phi$  is a ring homomorphism, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi(p(X)) &= \phi(c_0 + c_1 X + \dots + c_r X^r) \\
&= \phi(c_0) + \phi(c_1) \phi(X) + \dots + \phi(c_r) \phi(X)^r \\
&= c_0 + c_1 \phi(X) + \dots + c_r \phi(X)^r \\
&= c_0 + c_1 \frac{f(X)}{g(X)} + \dots + c_r \frac{f(X)^r}{g(X)^r} \\
&= \frac{c_0 g(X)^r + c_1 g(X)^{r-1} f(X) + \dots + c_r f(X)^r}{g(X)^r}
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\phi(q(X)) = \frac{d_0 g(X)^s + d_1 g(X)^{s-1} f(X) + \dots + d_s f(X)^s}{g(X)^s}$$

Since  $X = \phi\left(\frac{p(X)}{q(X)}\right) = \frac{\phi(p(X))}{\phi(q(X))}$ , we get

$$X = \frac{c_0 g(X)^r + c_1 g(X)^{r-1} f(X) + \dots + c_r f(X)^r}{d_0 g(X)^s + d_1 g(X)^{s-1} f(X) + \dots + d_s f(X)^s} \cdot \frac{g(X)^s}{g(X)^r} \quad (*)$$

Using (\*), we'll show that  $m, n \leq 1$ . By comparing  $r, s$  with 0, we have

four cases:

Case 1  $r = s = 0$ :

Then  $\frac{p(X)}{q(X)} = \frac{c_0}{1} = c_0$ . Thus  $X = \phi(c_0) = c_0$ . This is impossible.

Case 2  $r = 0, s \geq 1$ : Then (\*) becomes

$$X = \frac{c_0}{d_0 g(X)^s + \dots + d_{s-1} g(X) f(X)^{s-1} + f(X)^s} g(X)^s \tag{1}$$

Thus,  $X (d_0 g(X)^s + \dots + d_{s-1} g(X) f(X)^{s-1} + f(X)^s) = c_0 g(X)^s$ . Thus the left hand side is divisible by  $g(X)$ . Thus  $g(X) \mid X f(X)^s$ . Since  $(f(X), g(X)) = 1$ , we

we get  $(g(X), X) \mid f(X)^s$  or  $(g(X), X) = 1$  or  $(g(X), X) = X$ .

If  $g(X) = 1$ , (1) becomes  $X (d_0 + \dots + d_{s-1} f(X)^{s-1} + f(X)^s) = c_0$ . The left hand side is of degree  $1 + ns \geq 1$  while the right hand side is of degree zero. This is impossible.

If  $g(X) = X$ , (1) becomes  $X (d_0 X^s + \dots + d_{s-1} X f(X)^{s-1} + f(X)^s) = c_0 X^s$ . (2)

Since  $(g(X), f(X)) = 1$ ,  $X$  doesn't divide  $f(X)$ . Thus  $X^2$  doesn't divide the left hand side. Thus  $X^2$  doesn't divide the right hand side. Thus  $s \leq 1$ .

Since  $s \geq 1$ , we get  $s = 1$ . Then (2) becomes  $X (d_0 X + f(X)) = c_0 X$ . Thus  $d_0 = 0$  and  $d_0 X + f(X) = c_0$ . Thus  $f(X) = -d_0 X + c_0$ , which is of degree  $\leq 1$ .

$r > 1, s = 0$

Then  $q(X) = 1$ . Now (\*) becomes  $X = \frac{c_0 g(X)^r + c_1 g(X)^{r-1} f(X) + \dots + c_r f(X)^r}{g(X)^r}$

Thus  $X g(X)^r = c_0 g(X)^r + \dots + c_{r-1} g(X) f(X)^{r-1} + c_r f(X)^r$ . (3)

Since the left hand side is divisible by  $g(X)$ , so is the right hand side.

Then  $g(x) \mid c_r f(x)^r$ . Since  $(f(x), g(x)) = 1$ , that implies  $g(x) \mid f(x)$ , and thus  $g(x) = 1$ . Then (3) becomes  $X = c_0 + c_1 f(x) + \dots + c_r f(x)^r$ .

Comparing the degree on both sides gives us  $1 = nr$ . Thus  $n = r = 1$ .

•  $r \geq 1, s \geq 1$

By comparing  $r$  and  $s$ , we have three subcases

$$\underbrace{1}_{s=r}: \text{ Then } (*) \text{ becomes } X = \frac{c_0 g(x)^r + c_1 g(x)^{r-1} f(x) + \dots + c_r f(x)^r}{d_0 g(x)^r + d_1 g(x)^{r-1} f(x) + \dots + d_r f(x)^r}$$

$$\text{Thus } \underbrace{X(d_0 g(x)^r + \dots + d_r f(x)^r)}_{\equiv d_r X f(x)^r \pmod{g(x)}} = \underbrace{c_0 g(x)^r + \dots + c_r f(x)^r}_{\equiv c_r f(x)^r \pmod{g(x)}}. \quad (4)$$

Thus  $g(x) \mid (d_r X f(x)^r - c_r f(x)^r)$ . Thus  $g(x) \mid (d_r X - c_r) f(x)^r$ . Since

$(g(x), f(x)) = 1$ , we get  $g(x) \mid (d_r X - c_r)$ . Thus  $\deg g = m \leq 1$ .

Using the same treatment for  $f(x)$  at (4), we also get  $\deg f = n \leq 1$ .

$$\underbrace{1}_{s < r}: \text{ Then } (*) \text{ becomes } X = \frac{c_0 g(x)^r + \dots + c_{r-1} g(x) f(x)^{r-1} + c_r f(x)^r}{d_0 g(x)^s + \dots + d_{s-1} g(x) f(x)^{s-1} + d_s f(x)^s} \cdot \frac{1}{g(x)^{r-s}}$$

$$\text{Thus, } \underbrace{X(d_0 g(x)^s + \dots + d_s f(x)^s)}_{\equiv 0 \pmod{g(x)}} g(x)^{r-s} = \underbrace{c_0 g(x)^r + \dots + c_{r-1} g(x) f(x)^{r-1} + c_r f(x)^r}_{\equiv c_r f(x)^r \pmod{g(x)}}$$

Thus,  $g(x) \mid c_r f(x)^r$ . Thus  $g(x) \mid f(x)$  and hence  $g(x) = 1$ . Then the

identity becomes  $X(d_0 + d_1 f(x) + \dots + d_s f(x)^s) = c_0 + c_1 f(x) + \dots + c_r f(x)^r$ . Thus

$f(x) \mid (d_0 X - c_0)$ . Thus  $\deg f \leq 1$  unless  $c_0 = d_0 = 0$ . This case couldn't

happen because if so,  $X \mid p(X)$  and  $X \mid q(X)$ , which contradicts our ~~choice~~ assumption that  $p(X)$  and  $q(X)$  are relatively prime.

$\wedge r < s$ : Then (\*) becomes 
$$X = \frac{c_0 g(X)^r + \dots + c_r f(X)^r}{d_0 g(X)^s + \dots + d_s f(X)^s} g(X)^{s-r}$$

Thus  $X(d_0 g(X)^s + \dots + d_{s-1} g(X) f(X)^{s-1} + f(X)^s) = (c_0 g(X)^r + \dots + c_r f(X)^r) g(X)^{s-r}$ . (5)

Thus the left hand side should be divisible by  $g(X)$ . Thus  $g(X) \mid (X f(X)^s)$ .

Since  $(f(X), g(X)) = 1$ ,  $g(X) \nmid X$ . Thus  $g(X) = 1$  or  $g(X) = X$ .

If  $g(X) = 1$ , then (5) becomes 
$$X(d_0 + d_1 f(X) + \dots + d_{s-1} f(X)^{s-1} + f(X)^s) = c_0 + c_1 f(X) + \dots + c_r f(X)^r$$

The left hand side has degree  $1 + ns$ , and the right hand side has degree  $nr$ . This case couldn't happen because  $1 + ns > nr$ .

If  $g(X) = X$ , then (5) becomes 
$$X(d_0 X^s + \dots + d_{s-1} X f(X)^{s-1} + f(X)^s) = (c_0 X^r + \dots + c_r f(X)^r) X^{s-r}$$

The left hand side has degree  $1 + ns$ , while the right hand side has degree  $nr + (s-r)$ . This case couldn't happen <sup>when  $n > 0$</sup>  either because

$$1 + ns > 1 + (n-1)r + s = nr + s - r$$

thus  $n = 0$ .



Now we have shown that  $f(X)$  and  $g(X)$  are of degree at most 1. We can write  $f(X) = aX + b$ ,  $g(X) = cX + d$ . Then

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$$\phi(X) = \frac{aX+b}{cX+d}$$

Since  $\phi$  induces the identity map on  $K$  and  $\phi$  is injective,  $\phi(X) \notin K$ .

The condition for  $\phi(X) \in K$  is that  $\exists \alpha \in K$  such that  $\frac{aX+b}{cX+d} = \alpha$ ,

which is equivalent to say the vectors  $(a, b)$  and  $(c, d)$  are parallel. This is

equivalent to  $ad - bc = 0$ . Thus,

$$\phi(X) \notin K \Leftrightarrow ad - bc \neq 0.$$

We will show that this property characterizes any automorphism on  $K(X)$ , which is identity on  $K$ .

Let  $\phi(X) = \frac{aX+b}{cX+d}$  with  $a, b, c, d \in K$  and  $ad - bc \neq 0$ ,

we'll show that  $\phi$  extends to a unique automorphism of  $K(X)$  inducing identity on  $K$ . By these hypotheses, there is only one way to extend  $\phi$  in such

a manner, namely

$$\phi\left(\frac{a_0 + a_1 X + \dots + a_n X^n}{b_0 + b_1 X + \dots + b_m X^m}\right) := \frac{a_0 + a_1 \phi(X) + \dots + a_n \phi(X)^n}{b_0 + b_1 \phi(X) + \dots + b_m \phi(X)^m}$$

In other words, if  $f, g \in K[X]$  and  $g \neq 0$ , we have to define

$$\phi\left(\frac{f(X)}{g(X)}\right) := \frac{f(\phi(X))}{g(\phi(X))}$$

Assume that  $Y = \phi(X)$  is a variable over  $K$ . Then

$$\phi\left(\frac{f(X)}{g(X)}\right) = \frac{f(Y)}{g(Y)} \quad (**)$$

This means  $\phi$  is just a change of variable, in the fashion of linear fractions.



With the definition (\*\*), it is not hard to show that  $\phi$  is an automorphism.

Indeed,

$\phi$  is well-defined since we can choose to replace  $X$  by any variable we like.

$$\begin{aligned} \phi\left(\frac{f_1(X)}{g_1(X)} + \frac{f_2(X)}{g_2(X)}\right) &= \phi\left(\frac{f_1(X)g_2(X) + f_2(X)g_1(X)}{g_1(X)g_2(X)}\right) = \frac{f_1(Y)g_2(Y) + f_2(Y)g_1(Y)}{g_1(Y)g_2(Y)} \\ &= \frac{f_1(Y)}{g_1(Y)} + \frac{f_2(Y)}{g_2(Y)} \\ &= \phi\left(\frac{f_1(X)}{g_1(X)}\right) + \phi\left(\frac{f_2(X)}{g_2(X)}\right). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi\left(\frac{f_1(X)}{g_1(X)} \cdot \frac{f_2(X)}{g_2(X)}\right) &= \phi\left(\frac{f_1(X)f_2(X)}{g_1(X)g_2(X)}\right) = \frac{f_1(Y)f_2(Y)}{g_1(Y)g_2(Y)} = \frac{f_1(Y)}{g_1(Y)} \cdot \frac{f_2(Y)}{g_2(Y)} \\ &= \phi\left(\frac{f_1(X)}{g_1(X)}\right) \cdot \phi\left(\frac{f_2(X)}{g_2(X)}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$\phi(1) = 1$

$\phi\left(\frac{f(X)}{g(X)}\right) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{f(Y)}{g(Y)} = 0 \Rightarrow f(Y) = 0 \Rightarrow f(X) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{f(X)}{g(X)} = 0.$

$\phi$  is obviously surjective. For each  $\frac{u(X)}{v(X)} \in K(X)$ , we define the fraction

$$\frac{f(X)}{g(X)} = \frac{u\left(\frac{-dX+b}{cX-a}\right)}{v\left(\frac{-dX+b}{cX-a}\right)}$$

for some  $f(X), g(X) \in K[X], g(X) \neq 0.$

Then 
$$\phi\left(\frac{f(X)}{g(X)}\right) = \frac{f(Y)}{g(Y)} = \frac{f(\phi(X))}{g(\phi(X))} = \frac{u\left(\frac{-d\phi(X)+b}{c\phi(X)-a}\right)}{v\left(\frac{-d\phi(X)+b}{c\phi(X)-a}\right)} = \frac{u(X)}{v(X)}$$

Therefore  $\phi$  is an isomorphism.

Thus, all what we need to show is that  $Y = \phi(X) = \frac{aX+b}{cX+d}$  is a variable over  $K$ . Suppose that there exists  $f \in K[X] \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $f(Y) = 0$ .

We write  $f(T) = a_0 + a_1 T + \dots + a_n T^n$  with  $a_n \neq 0$ . Since  $f(Y) = 0$  and  $f \neq 0$ ,  $n \geq 1$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = f(Y) &= f(\phi(X)) = a_0 + a_1 \phi(X) + \dots + a_n \phi(X)^n \\ &= a_0 + a_1 \frac{aX+b}{cX+d} + \dots + a_n \frac{(aX+b)^n}{(cX+d)^n} \quad (***) \\ &= \frac{a_0 (cX+d)^n + a_1 (aX+b)(cX+d)^{n-1} + \dots + a_n (aX+b)^n}{(cX+d)^n} \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $a_0 (cX+d)^n + a_1 (aX+b)(cX+d)^{n-1} + \dots + a_n (aX+b)^n = 0$ . Thus,  $(cX+d) \mid [a_n (aX+b)^n]$ . Since  $a_n \in K \setminus \{0\}$ , it is just a unit in  $K[X]$ . Thus,  $(cX+d) \mid (aX+b)^n$  in  $K[X]$ . Since  $K[X]$  is a UFD, thus there exists  $g(X) \in K[X]$  such that  $(aX+b)^n = (cX+d)g(X)$ . If  $c \neq 0$  then we can ~~evaluate~~ evaluate both sides at  $X = -c^{-1}d$  to get  $(-ac^{-1}d + b)^n = 0$ . Thus  $ad = bc$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore  $c = 0$ . Then (\*\*\*) becomes

$$0 = a_0 + \frac{a_1}{d} (aX+b) + \dots + \frac{a_n}{d^n} (aX+b)^n$$

If  $a \neq 0$  then by problem (3) above,  $aX+b$  is a variable over  $K$ . Then

$a_0 = \frac{a_1}{d} = \frac{a_2}{d^2} = \dots = \frac{a_n}{d^n} = 0$ . Then  $a_i = 0$  for all  $i$ . Thus  $f(T) = 0$ .

If  $a = 0$ , then  $a d - b c = 0 \cdot d - b \cdot 0 = 0$ . This is impossible.

(7) A polynomial  $P(X) \in \mathbb{Q}[X]$  may satisfy  $P(n) \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all sufficiently large  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  without necessarily  $P$  having integer coefficients.

(a) An example of such a polynomial is  $P(X) = \frac{1}{2} X^2 + \frac{1}{2} X$ .

For each  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $P(n) = \frac{1}{2} n^2 + \frac{1}{2} n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ .

Since the numerator is always even, the fraction is actually an integer.

Thus  $P(n) \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(b) A polynomial  $P(X)$  satisfying the property above is called integral valued.

We'll show that  $P(X)$  is of the form

$$P(X) = c_0 \binom{X}{r} + c_1 \binom{X}{r-1} + \dots + c_r$$

for some  $c_0, \dots, c_r \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Before showing that, we'll prove the following lemma.

Lemma Let  $P(X) \in \mathbb{Q}[X]$  and  $P(X) = a_m X^m + \dots + a_1 X + a_0$  with  $a_m \neq 0$ . If  $P(X)$  is integral valued then  $m! a_m \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Proof For  $m = 0$ ,  $P(X) \equiv a_0$ .  $P(X)$  is integral valued if and only if  $a_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

For  $m = 1$ ,  $P(X) = a_1 X + a_0$ . For all  $n > N$ , where  $N$  is some positive integer, we have  $P(n) \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus  $P(n+1) - P(n) \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus

$$\underbrace{(a_n(n+1) + a_0) - (a_n n + a_0)}_{a_1} \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Thus  $a_1 \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $a_0 = P(n) - a_1 n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Now assume that the lemma is true for  $m$ . We'll show that it is true for  $m+1$ . Let  $Q(X) = b_{m+1} X^{m+1} + \dots + b_1 X + b_0$  be an integral valued polynomial of degree  $m+1$ . Then  $P(X) = Q(X+1) - Q(X)$  is also integral valued. We have

$$\begin{aligned} P(X) &= b_{m+1} \left( (X+1)^{m+1} - X^{m+1} \right) + b_m \left( (X+1)^m - X^m \right) + \dots + b_1 \left( (X+1) - X \right) \\ &= b_{m+1} (m+1) X^m + \text{terms of lower degree.} \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $P(X)$  is of degree  $m$ . By the induction hypothesis,  $m! (b_{m+1} (m+1)) \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Thus  $b_{m+1} (m+1)! \in \mathbb{Z}$ . □

Return to the problem. We will prove the following claim:

Let  $P(X) \in \mathbb{Q}[X]$  and  $P(X) = a_m X^m + \dots + a_1 X + a_0$  with  $a_m \neq 0$ . Then ~~that~~  
 If  $P(X)$  is integral valued then there exist  $c_0, c_1, \dots, c_m \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

$$P(X) = c_0 \binom{X}{m} + c_1 \binom{X}{m-1} + \dots + c_{m-1} \binom{X}{1} + c_m$$

For  $m=0$  or  $m=1$ , we have shown in the proof of the above lemma that all coefficients of  $P(X)$  are integers. Thus the claim holds for  $m=0, m=1$ .

Now assume that the claim holds ~~for~~ <sup>up to</sup>  $m$ . We'll show that it's also

true for  $m+1$ . Let  $Q(X)$  be an integral valued polynomial of degree  $m+1$ .

$$Q(X) = b_{m+1} X^{m+1} + \dots + b_1 X + b_0.$$

By the lemma,  $(m+1)! b_{m+1} \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Granted for a moment that  $\binom{X}{r}$  is ~~a~~ integral valued, we have  $\phi(X) = \binom{X}{m+1}$  is integral valued. The leading coefficient of  $\phi(X)$  is  $\frac{1}{(m+1)!}$ . Put

$$P(X) = Q(X) - b_{m+1}(m+1)! \phi(X).$$

Then  $P(X)$  is integral valued having degree of at most  $m$ . By the induction hypothesis, there exist  $c'_0, c'_1, \dots, c'_r \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $r \leq m$  such that

$$P(X) = c'_0 \binom{X}{r} + c'_1 \binom{X}{r-1} + \dots + c'_{r-1} \binom{X}{1} + c'_r.$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} Q(X) &= b_{m+1}(m+1)! \phi(X) + P(X) \\ &= b_{m+1}(m+1)! \binom{X}{m+1} + c'_0 \binom{X}{r} + \dots + c'_{r-1} \binom{X}{1} + c'_r. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the claim holds for  $m+1$ .

The proof would finish if we could show that  $\binom{X}{r}$  is integral valued for all  $r \geq 1$ . That is to show that  $\binom{n}{r} \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $r \geq 1$  and  $n$  sufficiently large. We see that  $\binom{n}{1} = n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . For  $r \geq 2$ , we have

$$\binom{n}{r} = \binom{n-1}{r-1} + \binom{n-1}{r}.$$

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Thus if  $\binom{n-1}{r} \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $r \geq 1$  then  $\binom{n}{r} \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $r \geq 1$ .

Thus, it suffices to show that  $\binom{0}{r} \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $r \geq 1$ . But this is trivial

because  $\binom{0}{r} = \frac{0(0-1)\dots(0-r+1)}{r!} = 0$  for all  $r \geq 1$ .

Therefore  $\binom{n}{r} \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $n \geq 0$  and  $r \geq 1$ . We see that

$$\binom{-n}{r} = (-1)^r \binom{n+r-1}{r}. \text{ Thus } \binom{-n}{r} \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ for all } n \geq 0. \text{ Thus } \binom{n}{r} \in \mathbb{Z}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}, r \geq 1$ . Consequently, any integral valued polynomial

$$P(X) = c_0 \binom{X}{m} + c_1 \binom{X}{m-1} + \dots + c_{m-1} \binom{X}{1} + c_m$$

has  $P(n) = c_0 \binom{n}{m} + c_1 \binom{n}{m-1} + \dots + c_{m-1} \binom{n}{1} + c_m \in \mathbb{Z}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(c) Let  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ . ~~We define~~ Assume that there exists an integral valued polynomial  $Q(X)$  and  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $f(n) - f(n-1) = Q(n)$  for all  $n > N$ . We will find an integral valued polynomial  $P(X)$  such that

$f(n) = P(n)$  for all  $n > N$ .

$$\text{For } n > N, \text{ we have } f(n) - f(N) = \sum_{k=N+1}^n (f(k) - f(k-1)) = \sum_{k=N+1}^n Q(k). \quad (*)$$

Since  $Q$  is an integral valued polynomial, there exist  $c_0, c_1, \dots, c_r \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

$$Q(X) = c_0 \binom{X}{r} + c_1 \binom{X}{r-1} + \dots + c_{r-1} \binom{X}{1} + c_r.$$

By the identity  $\binom{X}{s} = \binom{X+1}{s+1} - \binom{X}{s+1}$ , we have

$$Q(X) = c_0 \left( \binom{X+1}{r+1} - \binom{X}{r+1} \right) + c_1 \left( \binom{X+1}{r} - \binom{X}{r} \right) + \dots + c_{r-1} \left( \binom{X+1}{2} - \binom{X}{2} \right) + c_r \left( \binom{X+1}{1} - \binom{X}{1} \right) \quad [3]$$

$$= \tilde{Q}(X+1) - \tilde{Q}(X), \text{ where } \tilde{Q}(X) = c_0 \binom{X}{r+1} + c_1 \binom{X}{r} + \dots + c_r \binom{X}{1}.$$

Then  $\tilde{Q}$  is also an integral valued polynomial. From (\*), we have

$$f(n) - f(N) = \sum_{k=N+1}^n Q(k) = \sum_{k=N+1}^n (\tilde{Q}(k+1) - \tilde{Q}(k)) = \tilde{Q}(n+1) - \tilde{Q}(N+1).$$

Thus,  $f(n) = \tilde{Q}(n+1) + f(N) - \tilde{Q}(N+1)$  for all  $n > N$ .

Put  $P(X) = \tilde{Q}(X+1) + f(N) - \tilde{Q}(N+1)$ . Then  $P(X)$  is integral valued and

$f(n) = P(n)$  for all  $n > N$ .

