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3.6 #58(ii), 60, 61, 64

**3.58 (ii)** Show that 2 and  $x$  are relatively prime in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ , but that 1 is not a linear combination of them; that is, there do not exist  $s(x), t(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  with  $1 = 2s(x) + xt(x)$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $d(x)$  be a gcd of 2 and  $x$ . Then  $d(x)|2$  and  $d(x)|x$ .

So  $2 = (d(x))f(x)$  and  $x = (d(x))g(x)$  for some  $f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

Since  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  is an integral domain, then  $0 = \deg(2) = \deg(d(x)) + \deg(f(x))$ .

And  $\deg(d(x)) = 0$  as degrees are nonnegative. Hence  $d(x)$  is a constant, which are integers in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ . Thus,  $d(x) \in \{\pm 1, \pm 2\}$ .

If  $d(x) = \pm 2$ , then  $x = \pm 2g(x)$ . But every coefficient on the right side is even, while the coefficient of  $x$  on the left side is 1. And so  $d(x) = \pm 1$ .

$\therefore$  2 and  $x$  are relatively prime.

Suppose there exist  $s(x), t(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  with  $1 = 2s(x) + xt(x)$ .

Then for  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_m, b_0, b_1, \dots, b_n \in \mathbb{Z}, m, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= 2(a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_mx^m) + x(b_0 + b_1x + \dots + b_nx^n) \\ &= 2a_0 + (2a_1 + b_0)x + (2a_2 + b_1)x^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the constant term on the left side is 1, while the constant term on the right side is even, a contradiction to the integrity of the integers. ☺

$\therefore$  1 is not a linear combination of 2 and  $x$ . •

**3.60** Prove that there are domains  $R$  containing a pair of elements having no gcd. (See the definition on page 147.)

**Hint:** Let  $k$  be a field and let  $R$  be the subring of  $k[x]$  consisting of all polynomials having no linear term; that is,  $f(x) \in R$  if and only if  $f(x) = s_0 + s_2x^2 + s_3x^3 + \dots$ .

Show that  $x^5$  and  $x^6$  have no gcd in  $R$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $R$  be defined as in the hint above. Then the only factors of  $x^5$  are  $x^3$  and  $x^2$ . And the only factors of  $x^6$  are  $x^4, x^3, x^2$ .

Suppose  $x^3$  is the gcd of  $x^5$  and  $x^6$ . Then  $x^2 | x^5$  and  $x^2 | x^6$  and implies  $x^2 | x^3$ , a contradiction to the fact that no polynomial of  $R$  has a linear term.

Then suppose  $x^2$  is the gcd of  $x^5$  and  $x^6$ . Since  $x^3 | x^5$  and  $x^3 | x^6$  and implies  $x^3 | x^2$ , then we have another contradiction.

$\therefore$   $x^5$  and  $x^6$  have no gcd in  $R$ , hence  $R$  is a domain that contains a pair of elements having no gcd. •

**3.61** Prove that  $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}] = \{a + b\sqrt{2} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is a euclidean ring with  $\partial(a + b\sqrt{2}) = |a^2 - 2b^2|$ .

**Proof:**

We first show that  $\partial(\alpha) \leq \partial(\alpha\beta)$ .

Let  $\alpha = a + b\sqrt{2}$  and  $\beta = c + d\sqrt{2}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \partial(\alpha) &= |a^2 - 2b^2| \leq |a^2 - 2b^2||c^2 - 2d^2| \\ &= |(a^2 - 2b^2)(c^2 - 2d^2)| \\ &= |a^2(c^2 - 2d^2) + 2b^2(c^2 - 2d^2)| \\ &= |(ac + 2bd)^2 - 2(ad + bc)^2| \\ &= \partial(\alpha\beta), \text{ as desired.} \end{aligned}$$

Next, we show that for any  $\alpha, \beta \in R, \beta \neq 0, \alpha = \beta\gamma + \rho$  where  $\gamma, \rho \in R$  and  $\partial(\rho) < \partial(\beta)$ .

Let  $\alpha = q + r\sqrt{2}$  and  $\beta = s + t\sqrt{2}$ .

Note that  $\partial(\alpha) \leq \partial(\alpha\beta)$  is even true for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

Regard  $\alpha/\beta$  as an element of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Rationalizing the denominator gives

$\alpha/\beta = (q + r\sqrt{2})(s - t\sqrt{2})/\partial(\beta)$  so that  $\alpha/\beta = x + y\sqrt{2}$  where  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Write  $x = a + u$  and  $y = b + v$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  are integers closest to  $x$  and  $y$ , respectively; thus,  $|u|, |v| \leq 1/2$ . It follows that

$$\alpha = \beta(x + y\sqrt{2}) = \beta(a + u + (b + v)\sqrt{2}) = \beta(a + b\sqrt{2}) + \beta(u + v\sqrt{2}).$$

Notice that  $\beta(u + v\sqrt{2}) \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]$ , for it is equal to  $\alpha - \beta(a + b\sqrt{2})$ .

We have noted already that in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ ,  $\partial(\beta(u + v\sqrt{2})) = \partial(\beta)\partial(u + v\sqrt{2})$ .

And so  $\partial$  will be a degree function if  $\partial(\beta(u + v\sqrt{2})) = \partial(\beta)\partial(u + v\sqrt{2}) < \partial(\beta)$ , or equivalently, if  $\partial(u + v\sqrt{2}) < 1$ .

And this is so, for the inequalities  $|u| \leq 1/2$  and  $|v| \leq 1/2$  give  $u^2 \leq 1/4$  and  $v^2 \leq 1/4$ , and hence  $\partial(u + v\sqrt{2}) = |u^2 - 2v^2| \leq |u^2| + |2v^2| \leq 1/4 + 1/2 = 3/4 < 1$ .

$\therefore R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}] = \{a + b\sqrt{2} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is a euclidean ring with  $\partial(a + b\sqrt{2}) = |a^2 - 2b^2|$ . •

**3.64** Let  $R$  be a Euclidean ring with degree function  $\partial$ .

(i) Prove that  $\partial(1) \leq \partial(a)$  for all nonzero  $a \in R$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $a \in R, a \neq 0$ .

Then since  $R$  is a Euclidean ring,  $\partial(1) \leq \partial(1 \cdot a) = \partial(a)$ .

$\therefore \partial(1) \leq \partial(a)$  for all nonzero  $a \in R$ .

**3.64 (ii)** Prove that a nonzero  $u \in R$  is a unit  $\Leftrightarrow \partial(1) = \partial(u)$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $u \in R, u \neq 0$ .

Assume  $u$  is a unit.

Then  $uu^{-1} = 1$ . Since  $R$  is a Euclidean ring,  $\partial(u) \leq \partial(uu^{-1}) = \partial(1)$ .

By part (i),  $\partial(1) \leq \partial(u)$ .

$\therefore \partial(1) = \partial(u)$ .

Conversely, assume  $\partial(1) = \partial(u)$ .

Since  $R$  is a euclidean ring, then  $\exists q, r \in R$  such that

$1 = uq + r$  and  $\partial(r) < \partial(u)$  or  $r = 0$ .

By part (i),  $\partial(u) = \partial(1) \leq \partial(r)$ , hence  $r = 0$ .

$\therefore 1 = uq$  which implies that  $u$  is a unit.

$\therefore$  A nonzero  $u \in R$  is a unit  $\Leftrightarrow \partial(1) = \partial(u)$ .