

Theorem 2.1.1. (The Schönemann-Eisenstein Criterion)
Let $f(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j x^j \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ where n is a positive integer. Suppose there exists a prime p such that $p \nmid a_n$, $p \mid a_j$ for all $j < n$, and $p^2 \nmid a_0$. Then $f(x)$ is irreducible over \mathbb{Q} .

A polynomial $f(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j x^j \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ is in *Eisenstein form* (with respect to the prime p) if there is a prime p such that $p \nmid a_n$, $p \mid a_j$ for $j < n$, and $p^2 \nmid a_0$.

An *Eisenstein polynomial* is an $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ for which there is an integer a and a prime p such that $f(x + a)$ is in Eisenstein form with respect to the prime p . In this case, we say $f(x)$ is *Eisenstein with respect to the prime p* .

Example.

$$f(x) = x^3 + 5x^2 + 2x - 1 \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = 3x^2 + 10x + 2$$

$$\begin{aligned} R(f, g) &= \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 5 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 & 2 & -1 \\ 3 & 10 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 10 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 10 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 5 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -5 & -4 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 & -4 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 10 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 5 & 2 & -1 \\ -5 & -4 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & -5 & -4 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 10 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 5 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 21 & 13 & -5 \\ 0 & -5 & -4 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 10 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} 21 & 13 & -5 \\ -5 & -4 & 3 \\ 3 & 10 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 21(-38) - 13(-19) + (-5)(-38) \\ &= 19(-42 + 13 + 10) = -19^2 \end{aligned}$$

Algorithm: Given $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ of degree $n \geq 2$, determine whether $f(x)$ is an Eisenstein polynomial.

Steps:

- Calculate $R(f, f')$.
 - If $R(f, f') = 0$, then $f(x)$ is not Eisenstein with respect to any prime.
 - If $R(f, f') \neq 0$, then proceed as follows.
 - ▶ Factor $R(f, f')$.
 - ▶ For each prime p dividing $R(f, f')$ and each $a \in \{0, 1, \dots, p - 1\}$, check if $f(x + a)$ is in Eisenstein form with respect p .
 - ⋃ If it is for some such p , then $f(x)$ is an Eisenstein polynomial (with respect to p).
 - ⋃ If it is not for every such p , then $f(x)$ is not an Eisenstein polynomial.

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> f := x -> x^3 + 5*x^2 + 2*x - 1;
```

$$f := x \rightarrow x^3 + 5x^2 + 2x - 1$$

```
> sort(expand(f(x+11)));
```

$$x^3 + 38x^2 + 475x + 1957$$

```
> ifactor(475); ifactor(1957);
```

$$(5)^2 (19)$$

$$(19) (103)$$

Note: The prime $p = 19$ is the only p that can “work”. From $f(x) \equiv (x - 11)^3 \pmod{19}$ and unique factorization in $\mathbb{F}_{19}[x]$, we get 11 is the only a that can “work”.

$$f(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j x^j \in \mathbb{C}[x], \quad g(x) = \sum_{j=0}^r b_j x^j \in \mathbb{C}[x]$$

$$n \geq 1, \quad r \geq 1, \quad a_n b_r \neq 0$$

$$R(f, g) = \left(\begin{array}{cccccccc} a_n & a_{n-1} & a_{n-2} & \cdots & a_0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & a_n & a_{n-1} & \cdots & a_1 & a_0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_n & \cdots & a_2 & a_1 & a_0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ b_r & b_{r-1} & b_{r-2} & \cdots & b_0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & b_r & b_{r-1} & \cdots & b_1 & b_0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_r & \cdots & b_2 & b_1 & b_0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{l} \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} a_n \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ b_r \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{array}} \right\} r \text{ rows} \\ \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} b_r \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{array}} \right\} n \text{ rows} \end{array}$$

Comment: If $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ are the roots of $f(x)$, then

$$R(f, g) = a_n^r g(\alpha_1) \cdots g(\alpha_n).$$

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(Maple Time)

0, 1-Polynomials

$$f_0(x) = 1$$

$$f_1(x) = 1 + x^3$$

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$$f_7(x) = 1 + x^3 + x^{15} + x^{16} + x^{32} + x^{33} + x^{34} + x^{35}$$

~~Problem: Prove that this sequence is infinite.~~

Definitions and Notations: Let $f(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ with $f(x) \neq 0$. Define $\tilde{f}(x) = x^{\deg f} f(1/x)$. The polynomial \tilde{f} is called the *reciprocal of $f(x)$* . The constant term of \tilde{f} is always non-zero. If the constant term of f is non-zero, then $\deg \tilde{f} = \deg f$ and the reciprocal of \tilde{f} is f . If $\alpha \neq 0$ is a root of f , then $1/\alpha$ is a root of \tilde{f} . If $f(x) = g(x)h(x)$ with $g(x)$ and $h(x)$ in $\mathbb{C}[x]$, then $\tilde{f} = \tilde{g}\tilde{h}$. If $f = \pm \tilde{f}$, then f is called *reciprocal*. If f is not reciprocal, we say that f is *non-reciprocal*. If f is reciprocal and α is a root of f , then $1/\alpha$ is a root of f . The product of reciprocal polynomials is reciprocal so that a non-reciprocal polynomial must have a non-reciprocal irreducible factor. For $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$, we refer to the *non-reciprocal part of $f(x)$* as the polynomial $f(x)$ removed of its irreducible reciprocal factors having a positive leading coefficient. For example, the non-reciprocal part of $3(-x+1)x(x^2+2)$ is $-x(x^2+2)$ (the irreducible reciprocal factors 3 and $x-1$ have been removed from the polynomial $3(-x+1)x(x^2+2)$).

Lemma 9.1.1. Let $f(x)$ be an arbitrary polynomial in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$. If the non-reciprocal part of $f(x)$ is reducible, then there exist polynomials $u(x)$ and $v(x)$ in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ satisfying $u(x)$ and $v(x)$ are both non-reciprocal and $f(x) = u(x)v(x)$.

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Lemma 9.1.2. Let $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ with $f(0) \neq 0$, and suppose $f(x) = u(x)v(x)$ where each of $u(x)$ and $v(x)$ is non-reciprocal. Then the polynomial $w(x) = u(x)\tilde{v}(x)$ has the following properties:

(i) $w(x) \neq \pm f(x)$ and $w(x) \neq \pm \tilde{f}(x)$.

(ii) $w(x)\tilde{w}(x) = f(x)\tilde{f}(x)$.

(iii) $w(1)^2 = f(1)^2$.

(iv) $\|w\| = \|f\|$.

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Lemma 9.1.3. *Suppose $f(x)$ is a 0,1-polynomial with $f(0) \neq 0$ and $f(x) = u(x)v(x)$ where each of $u(x)$ and $v(x)$ is non-reciprocal and each of $u(x)$ and $v(x)$ has a positive leading coefficient. Then the polynomial $w(x) = u(x)\tilde{v}(x)$ also has the following properties:*

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$$F(x) = x^n + x^{35} + x^{34} + x^{33} + x^{32} + x^{16} + x^{15} + x^3 + 1$$