

# Re: Integer-Valued Polynomials

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- *From:* "Chip Eastham" <[hardmath@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:hardmath@xxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* 28 Feb 2006 05:05:12 -0800
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Maury Barbato wrote:

Hello,  
let  $D$  be a domain,  $K$  its quotient field, and  $F$  an extension field of  $K$ . The ring of integer-valued polynomials in  $n$  indeterminates over  $D$  consists of those polynomials in  $K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  which give a value in  $D$  for every argument in  $D^n$  (standard definition). What happens if we replace  $K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  with  $F[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  in this definition? Do we obtain the same set of polynomials? What if  $D=Z$ ,  $K=Q$  and  $F=C$ ? Thank you very much for your ideas.

Hi, Maury:

I don't believe we do pick anything "extra" in polynomials over the extension field  $K$ , by an interpolation argument.

First let us note that one can have a "integer-valued" polynomial which is not simply integer coefficients:

$$f(x) = x(x+1)/2$$

for example. However a polynomial with coefficients in (for example) the complex field  $C$  and integer-valued for all arguments in  $Z$  must agree with a polynomial of equal degree with coefficients in  $Q$  (e.g. constructed by Newton divided differences) on all arguments  $Z$ , and hence be identical to that polynomial over  $Q$ .

regards, chip

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