## Mathematics 567

## Homework (due Apr 4)

$$S_{1}(x_{1},...,x_{n}) = x_{1} + x_{2} + x_{3} + \dots + x_{n}$$

$$S_{2}(x_{1},...,x_{n}) = x_{1}x_{2} + x_{1}x_{3} + \dots + x_{n-1}x_{n}$$

$$S_{3}(x_{1},...,x_{n}) = \sum_{i < j < k} x_{1}x_{j}x_{k}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$S_{n}(x_{1},...,x_{n}) = x_{1}x_{2} \cdot \dots \cdot x_{n}$$

The aim of this exercise is to prove the fundamental theorem of elementary symmetric polynomials: **Theorem:** Let  $f \in F[x_1, ..., x_n]$  symmetric, then exists  $g \in F[x_1, ..., x_n]$  such that

$$f(x_1,...,x_n) = g\left(S_1(x_1,...,x_n), S_2(x_1,...,x_n),...,S_n(x_1,...,x_n)\right).$$

**Example:**  $x_1^2 x_2^2 x_3 + x_1^2 x_2 x_3^2 + x_1 x_2^2 x_3^2 + x_1^2 + 2x_1 x_2 + 2x_1 x_3 + x_2^2 + 2x_2 x_3 + x_3^2 = S_1^2 + S_2 * S_3$ .

We define an ordering on monomials by setting:  $x_1^{d_1}x_2^{d_2}\cdots x_n^{d_n} > y_1^{e_1}y_2^{e_2}\cdots y_n^{e_n}$  if and only if for some *i*:  $d_j = e_j$  for j < i and  $d_i > e_i$  (lexicographic comparison of the exponent vectors).

a) Suppose that  $d_1 \ge d_2 \ge \cdots \ge d_n$  is a sequence of integers. Show that  $x_1^{d_1} x_2^{d_2} \cdots x_n^{d_n}$  is the largest (with respect to this ordering) term of the polynomial

$$T_{d_1,\ldots,d_n}(x_1,\ldots,x_n) := S_1^{d_1-d_2-d_3-\cdots-d_n} \cdot \cdots \cdot S_{n-2}^{d_{n-2}-d_{n-1}-d_n} \cdot S_{n-1}^{d_{n-1}-d_n} \cdot S_{n-1}^{d_{n-1}-d_n} \cdot S_n^{d_n}$$

b) Suppose that  $f(x_1, ..., x_n)$  is symmetric and  $c \cdot x_1^{d_1} x_2^{d_2} \cdots x_n^{d_n}$  is the largest (with respect to this ordering) term of f and let  $T_{d_1,...,d_n}(x_1, ..., x_n)$  for these  $d_i$  as in a). Show that the largest monomial of  $f(x_1, ..., x_n) - c \cdot T_{d_1,...,d_n}(x_1, ..., x_n)$  is strictly smaller than  $x_1^{d_1} x_2^{d_2} \cdots x_n^{d_n}$ .

c) Show that by iterating the process in b) you can build the polynomial *g* as claimed in the theorem. d) Express

$$f = x^{2}y + x^{2}z + 3xyz + y^{2}x + y^{2}z + z^{2}x + yz^{2} - 2x^{3}y^{3}z -4x^{3}y^{2}z^{2} - 4x^{2}y^{3}z^{2} - 2x^{3}z^{3}y - 4x^{2}y^{2}z^{3} - 2xy^{3}z^{3}$$

as a polynomial in the elementary symmetric polynomials in x, y and z.