

## POW 2021-05

### Finite generation of a group

2018 김기수

Let  $k = \mathbb{F}_2$  be the field with two elements, namely 0 and 1. Claim that the ring of polynomials  $k[x]$  on one variable  $x$  as an additive group gives a counterexample for the statement. Clearly, as we have  $x^n \in k[x]$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ ,  $k[x]$  is an infinite group. Observe that for each element  $\sum_{i=0}^n c_i x^i \in k[x]$  we have

$$\left( \sum_{i=0}^n c_i x^i \right) + \left( \sum_{i=0}^n c_i x^i \right) = \sum_{i=0}^n 2 \cdot c_i x^i = \sum_{i=0}^n 0 \cdot x^i = 0$$

hence every element of  $k[x]$  has degree at most 2, in particular less than 3.  $k[x]$  satisfies the assumptions of the statement.

Let  $S$  be a finite subset of  $k[x]$ . Exploiting the finiteness, there exists an integer  $n \geq 0$  such that every element of  $S$  has degree at most  $n$ . Every element of  $\langle S \rangle$  has degree at most  $n$ . Therefore,  $x^{n+1} \notin \langle S \rangle$  and  $S$  does not generate  $k[x]$ . As we cannot choose any finite subset of  $k[x]$  that generates  $k[x]$ , it is not finitely generated as an additive group.