

Changing notations, we write here $\bar{A} = A/A \cdot (x^4 + 1)$. Define $\varphi : A \rightarrow M(2, \mathbb{C})$ by

$$\varphi(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \varphi(a) = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma(a) \end{pmatrix} \text{ for } a \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Since

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma(a) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i\sigma(a) \\ a & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma(a) & 0 \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

φ gives a ring homomorphism from A to $M(2, \mathbb{C})$. Again, φ induces a ring homomorphism $\bar{\varphi} : A \rightarrow M(2, \mathbb{C})$, since

$$\varphi(x^4 + 1) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^4 + I = \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix}^2 + I = 0$$

By a straightforward computation, for $b_k, c_k \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$\bar{\varphi} \left(\sum_{k=0}^3 \overline{(b_k + ic_k)x^k} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} b_0 + c_0i + i(b_2 + c_2i) & -(b_3 + ic_3) + i(b_1 + c_1i) \\ (b_3 - ic_3) + i(b_1 - c_1i) & b_0 - c_0i + i(b_2 - c_2i) \end{pmatrix}$$

Clearly, this is the zero matrix only if all $b_k, c_k = 0$. Therefore, φ is one-one. Since $\bar{\varphi}$ is an \mathbb{R} -homomorphism and both A and $M(2, \mathbb{C})$ have dimension 8 over \mathbb{R} , it follows that $\bar{\varphi}$ is an isomorphism.