

Define a ring homomorphism φ from $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ to the field \mathbb{C} of complex numbers as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi : \mathbb{Q} &\rightarrow \mathbb{C} \\ f(x) &\mapsto f(i),\end{aligned}$$

where i is the imaginary unit $i^2 = -1$. Then we have $\text{Ker } \varphi = (x^2 + 1)$. Similarly, for $\bar{\varphi}$, defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\varphi} : \mathbb{Q} &\rightarrow \mathbb{C} \\ f(x) &\mapsto f(-i),\end{aligned}$$

we have $\text{Ker } \bar{\varphi} = (x^2 + 1)$. Hence the ideal $(x^2 + 1)$ does not describe a difference between φ and $\bar{\varphi}$.