

Introduction to Galois Theory

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Introduction

The document keeps lecture notes on Introduction to Galois theory that was provided by Ekaterina Amerik (Higher School of Economics) via Coursera.

Each chapter corresponds to one lecture (or one week on Coursera). The appendix keeps useful info for the course that is absent in it i.e. requirements that are necessary for the course understanding.

I also tried to make all my comments as footnotes and in brackets '()' whenever it was possible.

Chapter 1

Generalities on algebraic extensions

We introduce the basic notions such as a field extension, algebraic element, minimal polynomial, finite extension, and study their very basic properties such as the multiplicativity of degree in towers.

1.1 Field extensions: examples

1.1.1 K-algebra

Definition 1.1 (K-algebra). *Let K be a field and A be a Vector space over K equipped with an additional binary operation $A \times A \rightarrow A$ that we denote as \cdot here. The A is an algebra over K if the following identities hold $\forall x, y, z \in A$ and for every elements (often called as scalar) $a, b \in K$*

- *Right distributivity:* $(x + y) \cdot z = x \cdot z + y \cdot z$
- *Left distributivity:* $z \cdot (x + y) = z \cdot x + z \cdot y$
- *Compatibility with scalars:* $(ax) \cdot (by) = (ab)(x \cdot y)$

Example 1.1 (Field of complex numbers \mathbb{C}). *The field of complex numbers \mathbb{C} can be considered as a K -algebra over the field of real numbers \mathbb{R} .*

1.1.2 Field extension

Definition 1.2 (Field extension). *Let K and L are fields. L is an extension of K if $L \supset K$*

and another definition

Definition 1.3 (Field extension). *Let K is a field then L is an extension of K if L is a K -algebra*¹

Why the 2 definitions are equivalent?

Lemma 1.1 (K-algebra and Homomorphism). *Given a K -algebra is the same as having Homomorphism $f : K \rightarrow A$ of rings.*

Proof. Really if I have a K -algebra I can define the Homomorphism $f(k) = k \cdot 1_A$, where 1_A is an identity element of A . Thus $k \cdot 1_A \in A$.

And conversely if I have the Homomorphism $f : K \rightarrow A$ I can define the K -algebra structure by setting $ka = f(k)a$ because $f(k), a \in A$ and there is a multiplication defined on A . As result I have a rule for multiplication a scalar ($k \in K$) on a vector ($a \in A$). \square

Lemma 1.2 (About Homomorphism of fields). *Any Homomorphism of fields is Injection.*

Proof. Lets proof by contradiction. Really if $f(x) = f(y)$ and $x \neq y$ then

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) - f(y) &= 0_A, \\ f(x - y) &= 0_A, \\ f(x - y)f((x - y)^{-1}) &= f\left(\frac{x - y}{x - y}\right) = f(1_K) = 1_A = 0_A \end{aligned}$$

that is impossible. \square

There are some comments on the results. We have got that a Homomorphism can be set between field K and its K -algebra. The Homomorphism is Injection therefore we can allocate a sub-field $A' \subset A$ for that we will have the Homomorphism is a Surjection and therefore we have an Isomorphism between original field K and a sub-field A' . This means that we can say that the original field K is a sub-field for the K -algebra.

Example 1.2 (Field extensions). \mathbb{C} is a field extension for \mathbb{R} . \mathbb{R} is a field extension for \mathbb{Q}

¹ L in the definition is not the same object with L from definition 1.2. Because L in the definition is a K -algebra i.e. a ring but L in the definition 1.2 is a field.

Example 1.3 (K -algebra is not a field). *In the example ² I will show that K algebra is not a field. Consider $K = \mathbb{R}$. Vector space $A = \mathbb{R}^2$ i.e. A consists of vectors of the following form*

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}$. I will define the multiplication for L (our K algebra) as follows

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \cdot y_1 \\ x_2 \cdot y_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

It can be seen that all requirements of K -algebra are satisfied

$$\begin{aligned} (x + y) \cdot z &= \left(\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} \right) \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} (x_1 + y_1)z_1 \\ (x_2 + y_2)z_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1z_1 + y_1z_1 \\ x_2z_2 + y_2z_2 \end{pmatrix} = x \cdot z + y \cdot z \\ &\quad z \cdot (x + y) = z \cdot x + z \cdot y \\ (ax) \cdot (by) &= \begin{pmatrix} ax_1 \\ ax_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} by_1 \\ by_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} abx_1y_1 \\ abx_2y_2 \end{pmatrix} = (ab)(x \cdot y) \end{aligned}$$

The multiplication identity element of L is the following

$$1_L = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The zero is the standard one from vector space

$$0_L = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

We can see that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 0_L$$

i.e. we have 2 divisor of zero which are not zero itself. The elements do not have invert ones and as result the L is not a field.

From other side if we define $L' \subset L$ as follows $L' = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} r \\ r \end{pmatrix} \right\}$, where $r \in \mathbb{R}$, then we will have that L' is a field and $L' \cong \mathbb{R}$.

²the example was not present in the lectures

1.1.3 Field characteristic

If L is a field there are 2 possibilities

1. $1 + 1 + \cdots \neq 0$. In this case $\mathbb{Z} \subset L$ but \mathbb{Z} is not a field therefore L is an extension of \mathbb{Q} . In the case $\text{char} L = 0$
2. $1 + 1 + \cdots + 1 = \sum_{i=1}^m 1 = 0$ for some $m \in \mathbb{Z}$. The first time when it happens is for a prime number i.e. minimal m with the property is prime. In this case $\text{char} L = p$, where $p = \min m$ - the minimal m (prime) with the property. In this case $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z} \subset L$. The $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ is a field denoted by \mathbb{F}_p . The L is an extension of \mathbb{F}_p .

No other possibilities exist. The \mathbb{Q} and \mathbb{F}_p are the prime fields. Any field is an extension of one of those.

1.1.4 Field $K[X]/(P)$

Let $K[X]$ Ring of polynomials. The $P \in K[X]$ is an Irreducible polynomial. (P) is an Ideal formed by the polynomial. ³ The set of residues by the polynomial forms a field that denoted by $K[X]/(P)$. How we can see it? If $Q \in K[X]$ is a polynomial that $Q \notin (P)$ when Q is prime to P . ⁴ Then with Bézout's lemma we can get $\exists A, B \in K[X]$ such that

$$AP + BQ = 1,$$

or

$$BQ \equiv 1 \pmod{P},$$

thus B is Q^{-1} in $K[X]/(P)$.

Example 1.4. *The example is not a part of the lectures but it's very usefully in future lectures.*

Let K is a field and $a \in K$ then $K[X]/(X - a)$ is also a field and there exists an Isomorphism between the field and K i.e.

$$K[X]/(X - a) \cong K \tag{1.1}$$

The $K[X]/(X - a)$ is a field just because $X - a$ is Irreducible polynomial (see example A.6).

³ I.e. $(P) = \{Q = GP\}$ where $G \in K[X]$

⁴ As soon as P is irreducible in $K[X]$ then there is only one possibility for Q and P to have common divisors: if $Q = GP$ where $G \in K[X]$ but this is in contradiction with $Q \notin (P)$

For the proof the main statement (1.1) lets consider a polynomial $P \in K[X]$ and define the following Homomorphism:

$$\phi : K[X] / (X - a) \xrightarrow{P(X) \rightarrow P(a)} K \quad (1.2)$$

The ϕ defined by (1.2) is Homomorphism. For the proof of the claim lets take $P_1, P_2 \in K[X] / (X - a)$. Clear that $\phi(P_1 + P_2) = P_1(a) + P_2(a) = \phi(P_1) + \phi(P_2)$. The same holds with the multiplication. Division is more complex but also can be shown: if $P_2 \neq 0$ when there exists P_2^{-1} as soon as $K[X] / (X - a)$ is the field then with $\phi(P_2^{-1}) = P_2^{-1}(a) = \frac{1}{\phi(P_2)}$ one can get

$$\phi\left(\frac{P_1}{P_2}\right) = \phi(P_1 P_2^{-1}) = \phi(P_1) \phi(P_2^{-1}) = \frac{\phi(P_1)}{\phi(P_2)}$$

We have $\ker \phi = (X - a)$ because for any polynomial P that is in the ideal $(X - a)$ has $P(a) = 0$ i.e. in the kernel of ϕ .

Next we should show that ϕ is Surjection it's easy because $\forall k \in K$ we can consider constant polynomial $P = k$ from $K[X]$. For the polynomial we will have $\phi(k) = k$.

Now (1.1) follows from the First isomorphism theorem.

1.2 Algebraic elements. Minimal polynomial

1.2.1 $K[X] / (P)$ field

Alternative proof that $K[X] / (P)$ is the Field. The (P) is a Maximal ideal⁵ but a quotient by a Maximal ideal is a Field (see theorem About Quotient Ring and Maximal Ideal).

$K[X] / (P)$ is an extension of K because it's K -algebra.

Example 1.5 ($K = \mathbb{F}_2 / (X^2 + X + 1)$). Lets consider the following field $\mathbb{F}_2 = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} = \{0, 1\}$ in the field polynomial $X^2 + X + 1$ is irreducible. It's very easy to verify it because \mathbb{F}_2 has only 2 elements that can be (possible) a root:

$$0^2 + 0 + 1 = 1 \neq 0$$

and

$$1^2 + 1 + 1 = 1 \neq 0$$

The polynomial has the following residues: $\bar{X} = X + (X^2 + X + 1)$ and $\bar{X + 1} = X + 1 + (X^2 + X + 1)$. Thus the field $\mathbb{F}_2 / (X^2 + X + 1)$ consists of 4 elements: $\{0, 1, \bar{X}, \bar{X + 1}\}$.

⁵ To prove that (P) is a Maximal ideal we have to use Bézout's lemma.

It's easy to see that the third element (\bar{X}) is a root of $P(X) = X^2 + X + 1$:

$$\bar{X}^2 + \bar{X} + 1 = P(X) + (P(X)) = (P(X)) \equiv 0 \pmod{P}.$$

$$\bar{X}^2 + \bar{X} + 1 = \bar{0},$$

therefore

$$\bar{X}^2 = -\bar{X} - 1 = \bar{X} + 1 = \overline{X + 1}.$$

This is because we are in field \mathbb{F}_2 where

$$2(X + 1) \pmod{2} = 0$$

and thus

$$-\bar{X} - 1 = \bar{x} + 1$$

Also

$$\overline{X + 1}^2 = \bar{X},$$

and they are inverse each other

$$\overline{X + 1}\bar{X} = 1,$$

So this is the structure of a field of four elements. The cardinality of $K = \mathbb{F}_2/(X^2 + X + 1)$ is 4, one writes then $K = F_4$. Well, this might be strange at the first sight, because we only know that K has four elements and if you write F_4 you somehow mean that there is only one field of four elements. Well, it is true, there is only one field of four elements. In fact, all finite fields of the same cardinality are isomorphic, and we will see it very shortly (see theorem 3.1).

1.2.2 Algebraic elements

Definition 1.4 (Algebraic element). Let $K \subset L$ and $\alpha \in L$. α is an algebraic element if $\exists P \in K[X]$ such that $P(\alpha) = 0$. Otherwise the α is called transcendental.

1.2.3 Minimal polynomial

Lemma 1.3 (About minimal polynomial existence). If α is Algebraic element then $\exists!$ unitary polynomial P of minimal degree such that $P(\alpha) = 0$. It is irreducible. $\forall Q$ such that $Q(\alpha) = 0$ is divisible by P ⁶

⁶ see also theorem About irreducible polynomials

Proof. We know that $K[X]$ is a Principal ideal domain and a polynomial $Q(\alpha) = 0$ forms an Ideal: $I = \{Q \in K[X] \mid Q(\alpha) = 0\}$, so the ideal is generated by one element: $I = (P)$. This is an unique (up to constant) polynomial minimal degree in I .

Lets prove that P is irreducible. If P is not irreducible then $\exists Q, R \in I$ such that $P = QR$, $Q(\alpha) = 0$ or $R(\alpha) = 0$ and $\deg R, Q < \deg P$ that is in contradiction with the definition that P is a polynomial of minimal degree. \square

Definition 1.5 (Minimal polynomial). *If α is Algebraic element then the unitary polynomial P of minimal degree such that $P(\alpha) = 0$ is called minimal polynomial and denoted by $P_{\min}(\alpha, K)$.*

1.3 Algebraic elements. Algebraic extensions

Definition 1.6. *Let $K \subset L$, $\alpha \in L$. The smallest sub-field contained K and α denoted by $K(\alpha)$. The smallest sub-ring (or K -algebra) contained K and α denoted by $K[\alpha]$.*

As soon as $K[\alpha]$ is a K -algebra it is a Vector space over K generated by

$$1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \dots, \alpha^n, \dots$$

Example 1.6 (\mathbb{C}).

$$\mathbb{C} = \mathbb{R}(i) = \mathbb{R}[i]$$

\mathbb{C} is also a Vector space generated by 1 and i : $\forall z \in \mathbb{C}$ it holds $z = x + iy$ where $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$.

Proposition 1.1. *The following assignment are equivalent*

1. α is algebraic over K
2. $K[\alpha]$ is a finite dimensional Vector space over K
3. $K[\alpha] = K(\alpha)$ ⁷

Proof. Lets proof that 1 implies 2. If α is algebraic over K then using lemma Minimal polynomial $\exists P_{\min}(\alpha, K)$:

$$P_{\min}(\alpha, K) = \alpha^d + a_{d-1}\alpha^{d-1} + a_1\alpha + a_0 = 0,$$

⁷ Contrary to the example 1.3 we see that K -algebra is a field there.

where $a_k \in K$. Then

$$\alpha^d = -a_{d-1}\alpha^{d-1} - a_1\alpha - a_0$$

this means that any α^n can be represented as a linear combination of finite number of powers of α i.e. $K[\alpha]$ generated by $1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{d-1}$ is a finite dimensional Vector space.

Lets proof that 2 implies 3. Its enough to prove that $K[\alpha]$ is a field because $K[\alpha] \subset K(\alpha)$.

Let $x \neq 0 \in K[\alpha]$ then lets look at an operation $x \cdot K[\alpha] \rightarrow K[\alpha]$. This is Injection.⁸ But the $K[\alpha]$ is finite dimensional Vector space and a Homomorphism between 2 vector spaces with the same dimension is Surjection⁹ thus $\exists y \in K[\alpha]$ such that $x \cdot y = 1_{K[\alpha]}$. Therefore x is invertable and $K[\alpha]$ is a Field.

Lets proof that 3 implies 1. Let $K[\alpha]$ is a Field but α is not algebraic. Thus $\forall P \in K[X] P(\alpha) \neq 0$. The we have an Injection Homomorphism $i : K[X] \rightarrow K[\alpha] = K(\alpha)$ which sends $P(X)$ to $P(\alpha)$.¹⁰ But $K[X]$ is not a field thus $K[\alpha]$ should not be a field too that is in contradiction with the initial conditions.¹¹ \square

Definition 1.7 (Algebraic extension). *L an extension of K is called algebraic over K if $\forall \alpha \in L - \alpha$ is algebraic over K.*

Proposition 1.2. *If L is algebraic over K then any K-subalgebra of L is a Field.*

Proof. Let $L' \subset L$ is a subalgebra and let $\alpha \in L'$. We want to show that α is invertable. α is algebraic therefore $\alpha \in K[\alpha] \subset L' \subset L$ and it's invertable.¹² \square

⁸ If $y, z \in K[\alpha]$ and $\dim K[\alpha] = d < \infty$ where $d = \deg P_{\min}(\alpha, K)$. Then $y = \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} y_i \alpha^i$ and $z = \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} z_i \alpha^i$ where $y_i, z_i \in K$. We have $y - z = \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} (y_i - z_i) \alpha^i \neq 0$ if $y \neq z$ (i.e. $\exists i : y_i \neq z_i$) because $y - z$ can be considered as a polynomial of degree $\leq d - 1 < \deg P_{\min}(\alpha, K)$ and cannot be equal to 0 by minimal polynomial definition. Continue we have $x \cdot (y - z) \neq 0$ because it also can be considered as a product of 2 polynomial of degree $< d$. Thus

$$x \cdot y \neq x \cdot z$$

i.e. Injection property is satisfied.

⁹ Two vector spaces with same dimension are isomorphic each other (see lemma A.2)

¹⁰ And if $P(X) \neq 0$ then $P(\alpha) \neq 0$

¹¹ Alternative prove is the following. Let $x \neq 0 \in K[X]$ and $K[\alpha]$ is a field then $\exists y \in K[X] : i(x)i(y) = 1$ or $i(xy) = 1$ or finally x - is invertable and $K[X]$ is a field.

¹² As soon as $K[\alpha] = K(\alpha)$ is a field then its any element (especially α) is invertable.

Proposition 1.3. *Let $K \subset L \subset M$. $\alpha \in M$ - algebraic over K then α algebraic over L and $P_{\min}(\alpha, L)$ divides $P_{\min}(\alpha, K)$.*

Proof. Its clear because $P_{\min}(\alpha, K) \in L[X]$.¹³ □

1.4 Finite extensions. Algebraicity and finiteness

Definition 1.8 (Finite extension). *L is a finite extension of K if $\dim_K L < \infty$. $\dim_K L$ is called as degree of L over K and is denoted by $[L : K]$*

Theorem 1.1 (The multiplicativity formula for degrees). *Let $K \subset L \subset M$. Then M is Finite extension over K if and only if M is Finite extension over L and L is Finite extension over K . In this case*

$$[M : K] = [M : L][L : K].$$

Proof. Let $[M : K] < \infty$ but any linear independent set of vectors $\{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n\}$ over L is also linear independent over K thus

$$[M : K] < \infty \Rightarrow [M : L] < \infty$$

also L is a vector sub space of M thus if $[M : K] < \infty$ then $[L : K] < \infty$.

Let $[M : L] < \infty$ and $[L : K] < \infty$ then we have the following bases

- L -basis over M : (e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n)
- K -basis over L : $(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_d)$

Lets proof that $e_i \varepsilon_j$ forms a K -basis over M . $\forall x \in M$:

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i e_i,$$

where $a_i \in L$ and can be also written as

$$a_i = \sum_{j=1}^d b_{ij} \varepsilon_j,$$

¹³ Thus $\exists P_L \in L[X]$ such that $P_L(\alpha) = 0$ i.e. α is algebraic over L .

As soon as $P_{\min}(\alpha, K) \in L[X]$ then using lemma About minimal polynomial existence one can get that $P_{\min}(\alpha, L)$ divides $P_{\min}(\alpha, K)$.

where $b_{ij} \in K$. Thus

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^d b_{ij} \varepsilon_j e_i,$$

therefore $\varepsilon_j e_i = e_i \varepsilon_j$ generates M over K . From the other side we should check that $\varepsilon_j e_i$ linear independent system of vectors. Lets

$$\sum_{i,j} c_{ij} \varepsilon_j e_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\sum_{j=1}^d c_{ij} \varepsilon_j \right) e_i,$$

then $\forall i$:

$$\sum_{j=1}^d c_{ij} \varepsilon_j = 0.$$

Thus $\forall i, j : c_{ik} = 0$ that finishes the proof the linear independence. The number of linear independent vectors is $n \times d$ i.e.

$$[M : K] = [M : L] [L : K].$$

□

Definition 1.9 ($K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$). $K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \subset L$ generated by $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ is the smallest sub field of L contained K and $\alpha_i \in L$.

Theorem 1.2 (About towers). L is finite over K if and only if L is generated by a finite number of algebraic elements over K .

Proof. If L is finite then $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d$ is a basis. In this case $L = K[\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d] = K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d)$. Moreover each $K[\alpha_i]$ is finite dimensional thus by proposition 1.1 α_i is algebraic.

From other side if we have a finite set of algebraic elements $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d$ then $K[\alpha_1]$ is a finite dimensional Vector space over K , $K[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$ is a finite dimensional Vector space over $K[\alpha_1]$ and so on $K[\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d]$ is a finite dimensional Vector space over $K[\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{d-1}]$. All elements are algebraic thus

$$K[\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_i] = K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_i)$$

Then using theorem 1.1 we can conclude that $K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d)$ has finite dimension. □

1.5 Algebraicity in towers. An example

Theorem 1.3. $K \subset L \subset M$ then M Algebraic extension over K if and only if M algebraic over L and L algebraic over K .

Proof. If $\alpha \in M$ is an Algebraic element over K then $\exists P \in K[X]$ such that $P(\alpha) = 0$ but the polynomial $P \in K[X] \subset L[X]$ thus α is algebraic over L . If $\alpha \in L \subset M$ then α is algebraic over K thus L is algebraic over K .

Let M algebraic over L and L algebraic over K and let $\alpha \in M$. We want to prove that α is algebraic over K . Lets consider $P_{min}(\alpha, L)$ the polynomial coefficients are from L and they (as soon as they count is a finite) generate a finite extension E over K thus $E(\alpha)$ is finite over E (exists a relation between powers of α) is finite over K thus α is algebraic over K .¹⁴ \square

Example 1.7 (\mathbb{Q} extension). $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}, \sqrt{3})$ algebraic and finite over \mathbb{Q} :

$$\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}) \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}, \sqrt{3})$$

Minimal polynomial

$$P_{min}(\sqrt[3]{2}, \mathbb{Q}) = x^3 - 2.$$

$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})$ is generated over \mathbb{Q} by $1, \sqrt[3]{2}, \sqrt[3]{4}$ thus $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$.

But $\sqrt{3} \notin \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})$ because otherwise $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$ must divide $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$ that is impossible.

Therefore $x^2 - 3$ is irreducible over $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})$ and

$$P_{min}(\sqrt{3}, \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})) = x^2 - 3.$$

$$[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}, \sqrt{3}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3 \cdot 2 = 6.$$

Proposition 1.4 (On dimension of extension).

$$[K(\alpha) : K] = \deg P_{min}(\alpha, K),$$

if α is algebraic.

¹⁴ $P_{min}(\alpha, L) = \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} l_i \alpha^i$ where $l_i \in L$ and each l_i is algebraic over K by algebraic extension definition 1.7. By theorem 1.2 there are finite number of l_i and they forms an algebraic extension $E = K(l_0, l_1, \dots, l_{d-1})$. The $E(\alpha)$ is finite over E and therefore finite over K . As soon as $E(\alpha)$ has a finite dimension over K thus there exists a relation for powers of α such that $\sum_{i=0}^n k_i \alpha^i = 0$ i.e. α is algebraic.

Proof. If $\deg P_{\min}(\alpha, K) = d$ then $1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{d-1}$ - d independent vectors and dimension $K(\alpha)$ is d . \square

Proposition 1.5 (About algebraic closure). *If $K \subset L$ (L extension of K). Consider*

$$L' = \{\alpha \in L \mid \alpha \text{ algebraic over } K\},$$

then L' sub-field of L and is called as algebraic closure of K in L .

Proof. We have to prove that if α, β are algebraic then $\alpha + \beta$ and $\alpha \cdot \beta$ are also algebraic. This is trivial because

$$\alpha + \beta, \alpha \cdot \beta \in K[\alpha, \beta]$$

15 \square

1.6 A digression: Gauss lemma, Eisenstein criterion

What we have seen so far:

- K is a field, α is an Algebraic element over K if it is a root of a polynomial $P \in K[X]$.
- L is an Algebraic extension over K if $\forall \alpha \in L$: α is an algebraic over K
- L is a Finite extension over K if $\dim_K L < \infty$.
- If an extension is finite then it is algebraic
- An extension is finite if and only if it is algebraic and generated by a finite number of algebraic elements (see theorem 1.2)
- $[K[\alpha] : K] = \deg P_{\min}(\alpha, K)$ (see proposition 1.4).

How to decide that a polynomial P is irreducible over K ? About polynomial $x^3 - 2$ it is easy to decide that it's irreducible over \mathbb{Q} , but what's about $x^{100} - 2$?

¹⁵ We also have that $K[\alpha, \beta]$ is a field: $K[\alpha, \beta] = K(\alpha, \beta)$. Really $K[\alpha] = K(\alpha)$ (see proposition 1.1). β is algebraic over K and therefore over $K(\alpha)$ thus we can construct $K(\alpha)[\beta] = K(\alpha, \beta)$ by proposition 1.1

Lemma 1.4 (Gauss). *Let $P \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$, i.e. a polynomial with integer coefficients, then if P decomposes over \mathbb{Q} ($P = Q \cdot R$, $\deg Q, R < \deg P$) then it also decomposes over \mathbb{Z} .*

Proof. Let $P = QR$ over \mathbb{Q} . Then

$$\begin{aligned} Q &= mQ_1, Q_1 \in \mathbb{Z}[X], \\ R &= nR_1, R_1 \in \mathbb{Z}[X], \end{aligned}$$

thus

$$nmP = Q_1R_1.$$

There exists p that divides mn : $p \mid mn$ thus in modulo p we have

$$0 = \overline{Q_1R_1}$$

but p is prime and the equation is in the field \mathbb{F}_p thus either $\overline{Q_1} = 0$ or $\overline{R_1} = 0$. Let $\overline{Q_1} = 0$ thus p divides all coefficients in Q_1 and we can take $\frac{Q_1}{p} = Q_2 \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$. Continue for all primes in mn we can get that

$$P = Q_sR_t,$$

where $Q_s, R_t \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$. □

Example 1.8 (Eisenstein criterion). *Lets consider the following polynomial $x^{100} - 2$. It's irreducible. Lets prove it. If it reducible then $\exists Q, R \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ such that*

$$x^{100} - 2 = QR \tag{1.3}$$

Lets consider (1.3) modulo 2. In the case we will have

$$QR \equiv x^{100} \pmod{2},$$

therefore

$$\begin{aligned} Q &\equiv x^k \pmod{2}, \\ R &\equiv x^l \pmod{2}, \end{aligned}$$

or

$$Q = x^k + \dots + 2 \cdot m$$

and

$$R = x^l + \dots + 2 \cdot n$$

thus

$$QR = x^{100} + 4 \cdot nm$$

that is impossible because $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $nm \neq -\frac{1}{2}$.

Lemma 1.5 (Eisenstein criterion). *Lets $P \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ and $P = a_n X^n + a_{n-1} X^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 X + a_0$. If $\exists p$ - prime such that $p \nmid a_n$, $p \mid a_i \forall i < n$ and $p^2 \nmid a_0$, then $P \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ is irreducible.*

Proof. the same as for example 1.8. □

Note: that both: Gauss and Eisenstein criterion are valid by replacing \mathbb{Z} with an Unique factorization domain R and \mathbb{Q} by its factorization field.

Chapter 2

Stem field, splitting field, algebraic closure

We introduce the notion of a stem field and a splitting field (of a polynomial). Using Zorn's lemma, we construct the algebraic closure of a field and deduce its unicity (up to an isomorphism) from the theorem on extension of homomorphisms.

2.1 Stem field. Some irreducibility criteria

2.1.1 Stem field

Definition 2.1 (Stem field). *Let $P \in K[X]$ is an irreducible Monic polynomial. Field extension E is a stem field of P if $\exists \alpha \in E$ - the root of polynomial P and $E = K[\alpha]$.*

Such things exist, for instance we can take $K[X]/(P)$. It is a field because P is an Irreducible polynomial moreover the root of the P is in the field (see example 1.5).

We also can say that for any stem field E :

$$K[X]/(P) \cong E.$$

We can use the following Isomorphism: $f : \forall \mathcal{P} \in K[X]/(P) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\alpha)$, there α is a root of polynomial P .¹

To summarize we have the following

Proposition 2.1 (About stem field existence). *The stem field exist and if we have 2 stem fields E and E' which correspond 2 roots of P : $E = K[\alpha]$,*

¹ In the case we have $f(P) = P(\alpha) = 0$ as expected

$E' = K[\alpha']$ then $\exists! f : E \cong E'$ (Isomorphism of K -algebras) such that $f(\alpha) = \alpha'$.

Proof. Existence: $K[X]/(P)$ can be took as the stem field.

Uniqueness of the Isomorphism is easy because it is defined by its value on argument α :²

$$\begin{aligned}\phi : K[X]/(P) &\cong_{x \rightarrow \alpha} E, \\ \psi : K[X]/(P) &\cong_{x \rightarrow \alpha'} E',\end{aligned}$$

thus

$$\phi^{-1} \circ \psi : E \cong_{\alpha \rightarrow \alpha'} E'.$$

□

Remark 2.1 (About stem field). 1. In particular: If a stem field contains 2 roots of P then $\exists!$ Automorphism taking one root into another.

2. If E stem field then $[E : K] = \deg P$

3. If $[E : K] = \deg P$ and E contains a root of P then E is a stem field

4. If E is not a stem field but contains root of P then $[E : K] > \deg P$ ³

2.1.2 Some irreducibility criteria

Corollary 2.1. $P \in K[X]$ is irreducible over K if and only if it does not have a root in Field extension L of K such that $[L : K] \leq \frac{n}{2}$, where $n = \deg P$.

² First of all if we have an isomorphism f between two K algebras $K[\alpha]$ and $K[\alpha']$ it should preserve the K -algebra structure, especially $\forall k \in K : k1_{K[\alpha]} \rightarrow_f k1_{K[\alpha']}$. As soon as $k \in K[\alpha]$ we can write the following

$$f(k1_{K[\alpha]}) = f(k)f(1_{K[\alpha]}) = f(k)1_{K[\alpha']}.$$

But from other side

$$f(k1_{K[\alpha]}) = kf(1_{K[\alpha]}) = k1_{K[\alpha']}$$

i.e. $\forall k \in K : f = id$.

α forms a basis such that $\forall \beta \in E = K[\alpha]$ we have $\beta = \sum_i k_i \alpha^i$ where $k_i \in K$. We also have $f(\beta) = \sum_i k_i [f(\alpha)]^i = \sum_i k_i [\alpha']^i$. Thus if $\exists f'$ isomorphism such that $f'(\alpha) = \alpha'$ then $f'(\beta) = \sum_i k_i [\alpha']^i = f(\beta)$ i.e. the isomorphisms are the same.

³ Let E' is a stem field of P . In the case we have $E' \subset E$ as soon as any element of E' is an element of E because E contains a root of P . From other side $E \neq E'$ as soon as E is not a stem field. Thus $\deg E > \deg E' = \deg P$.

Proof. \Rightarrow : If P is not irreducible then it has a polynomial Q that divides P and $\deg Q \leq \frac{n}{2}$.⁴ The Stem field L for Q exists and its degree is $\deg Q \leq \frac{n}{2}$. L should have a root of Q (as soon as a root of P) by definition.

\Leftarrow : If P has a root α in L then $\exists P_{\min}(\alpha, K)$ with degree $\leq \frac{n}{2} < n$ ⁵ that divides P (see lemma 1.3) i.e. P become reducible. \square

Corollary 2.2. $P \in K[X]$ irreducible with $\deg P = n$. Let L be an extension of K such that $[L : K] = m$. If $\gcd(n, m) = 1$ then P is irreducible over L .

Proof. If it is not a case and $\exists Q$ such that $Q \mid P$ in $L[X]$. Let M be a Stem field of Q over L .

So we have $K \subset L \subset M = L(\alpha)$. M is a stem field of Q therefore $[M : L] = \deg Q = d < n$. Thus

$$[M : K] = [M : L][L : K] = md$$

Lets $K(\alpha)$ is a stem field of P over K then $[K(\alpha) : K] = \deg P = n$.

$K(\alpha) \subseteq M$ and therefore $n \mid md$ ⁶ thus using $\gcd(m, n) = 1$ one can get that $n \mid d$ but this is impossible because $d < n$. \square

2.2 Splitting field

Definition 2.2 (Splitting field). Let $P \in K[X]$. The splitting field of P over K is an extension L where P is split (i.e. is a product of linear factors) and roots of P generate L

Theorem 2.1 (About splitting fields). 1. Splitting field L exists and $[L : K] \leq d!$, where $d = \deg P$.

2. If L and M are 2 splitting fields then $\exists \phi : L \cong M$ (an Isomorphism). But the Isomorphism is not necessary to be unique.

Proof. Lets prove by induction on d . The first case ($d = 1$) is trivial the K itself is the splitting field. Now assume $d > 1$ and that the theorem is valid for any polynomial of degree $< d$ over any field K . Let Q be any irreducible

⁴ $P = RQ$ and if $\deg Q > \frac{n}{2}$ then we can take R as Q

⁵ because $[L : K] \leq \frac{n}{2}$ (see remark 2.1)

⁶ $K \subset K(\alpha) \subset M$ and with The multiplicativity formula for degrees we have

$$md = [M : L][L : K] = [M : K] = [M : K(\alpha)][K(\alpha) : K] = [M : K(\alpha)] \cdot n$$

factor of P . We can create a Stem field $L_1 = K(\alpha)$ for Q that will be also a Stem field for P .

Over L_1 we have $P = (x - \alpha)R$, where R is a polynomial with $\deg R = d - 1$. We know (by induction) that there exists a Splitting field L for R over L_1 and its degree: $[L : L_1] \leq (d - 1)!$ We have $K \subset L_1 \subset L$. The L will be a splitting field for original polynomial P . Its degree (by The multiplicativity formula for degrees) is $\leq d \cdot (d - 1)! = d!$.

Uniqueness: Let L and M are 2 splitting fields. Let β is a root of Q (irreducible factor of P) in M . We have 2 stem fields: $L_1 = K(\alpha)$ and $M_1 = K(\beta)$. Proposition 2.1 says as that

$$L_1 = K(\alpha) \cong K(\beta) = M_1,$$

i.e. $\exists \phi$ - isomorphism such that $\phi(\alpha) = \beta$.

Over M_1 we have $P = (x - \beta)S$, where $S = \phi(R)$.⁷ M is a splitting field for S over $K[\beta]$ i.e. it is a $K[\beta]$ -algebra but it's also a $K[\alpha]$ -algebra⁸ and as result it's a splitting field for R over $K[\alpha]$ and by induction⁹ we have $K[\alpha]$ isomorphism $L \cong M$ and as result K isomorphism $L \cong M$.¹⁰ \square

Remark 2.2. *The Isomorphism considered in theorem 2.1 is not unique. A splitting field can have many Automorphism and this is in fact the subject of Galois theory.*

⁷ We have $\phi : K(\alpha) \rightarrow K(\beta)$. The $\phi : K \rightarrow K = id$ (see note 2). Therefore $\phi(P) = P$ because $P \in K[X]$. Thus

$$P = (x - \beta)S = \phi(P) = \phi((x - \alpha)R) = (x - \beta)\phi(R)$$

and $S = \phi(R)$.

⁸ via the existent Isomorphism between $K[\alpha]$ and $K[\beta]$

⁹ Induction steps are the following: we have a polynomial P with $\deg P = n$. For $n = 1$ the isomorphism exists by proposition 2.1. We suppose that the isomorphism is proved for polynomial with degree $n - 1$.

¹⁰ Lukas Heger comment about the prove: We can consider another roots: α_2 for R and β_2 for S and there is an isomorphism between the 2 stem fields also. Continue in the way we will get the 2 following chains

$$\begin{aligned} K &\subset L_1 \subset L_2 \subset \cdots \subset L_n \subset L \\ K &\subset M_1 \subset M_2 \subset \cdots \subset M_n \subset M \end{aligned}$$

On each step we have an isomorphism between L_i and M_i and as result the isomorphism between resulting fields L and M (via ϕ) as L_n algebras and therefore as K algebras.

2.3 An example. Algebraic closure

2.3.1 An example of automorphism

Example 2.1 ($x^3 - 2$ over \mathbb{Q}). Let we have the following polynomial $x^3 - 2$ over \mathbb{Q} . It has the following roots: $\sqrt[3]{2}, j\sqrt[3]{2}$ and $j^2\sqrt[3]{2}$, where $j = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{3}}$. Splitting field is the following $L = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}, j)$. Lets find Automorphisms of the field. $P_{\min}(j, \mathbb{Q}) = X^2 + X + 1$ thus using remark 2.1 $[\mathbb{Q}(j) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$. Using the same arguments one can get that $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$. As result the following picture can be got



As soon as L is a stem field for $\mathbb{Q}(j)$ and for $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})$ then 2 types of automorphism exist:

1. $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})$ Automorphism. We have $x^2 + x + 1$ as $P_{\min}(j, \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}))$. The polynomial has 2 roots: j and j^2 and there is an Automorphism that exchanges the root. Lets call it τ ¹¹
2. $\mathbb{Q}(j)$ Automorphism. In this case the automorphism of exchanging $\sqrt[3]{2}$ and $j\sqrt[3]{2}$.¹². Lets call it σ

The group of automorphism of L $\text{Aut}(L/K)$ is embedded into permutation group of 3 elements S_3 (see example A.2):

$$\text{Aut}(L/K) \hookrightarrow S_3.$$

It's embedded because the automorphism exchanges the roots of $x^3 - 2$. Moreover

$$\text{Aut}(L/K) = S_3,$$

because σ and τ generates S_3 because

¹¹ $j \rightarrow j^2$ thus $j^2 \rightarrow j^4 = j$. Therefore $j \leftrightarrow j^2$

¹² $\sqrt[3]{2} \rightarrow j\sqrt[3]{2}$ produces $j\sqrt[3]{2} \rightarrow j^2\sqrt[3]{2}$ and $j^2\sqrt[3]{2} \rightarrow -\sqrt[3]{2}$. This statement corresponds the fact that the minimal polynomial is $x^3 - 2$ there and thus we have 3 roots: $\sqrt[3]{2}, j\sqrt[3]{2}$ and $j^2\sqrt[3]{2}$

- $\sigma: \sqrt[3]{2} \rightarrow j\sqrt[3]{2} \rightarrow j^2\sqrt[3]{2} \rightarrow \sqrt[3]{2}$. This is a circle.
- τ - it keeps $\sqrt[3]{2}$ and exchanges j and j^2 : $\sqrt[3]{2}j \leftrightarrow \sqrt[3]{2}j^2$ (see note 11). This is a transposition.

2.3.2 Algebraic closure

Definition 2.3 (Algebraically closed field). K is algebraically closed if any non constant polynomial $P \in K[X]$ has a root in K or in other words if any $P \in K[X]$ splits

Example 2.2 (\mathbb{C}). \mathbb{C} is an Algebraically closed field. This will be proved later.

Definition 2.4 (Algebraic closure). An algebraic closure of K is a field L that is Algebraically closed field and Algebraic extension over K .¹³

Theorem 2.2 (About Algebraic closure). Any field K has an Algebraic closure

Proof. Lets discuss the strategy of the prove. First construct K_1 such that $\forall P \in K[X]$ has a root in K_1 . There is not a victory because K_1 can introduce new coefficients and polynomials that can be irreducible over K_1 . Then construct K_2 such that $\forall P \in K_1[X]$ has a root in K_2 and so forth. As result we will have

$$K \subset K_1 \subset K_2 \subset \dots \subset K_n \subset \dots$$

Take $\bar{K} = \cup_i K_i$ and we claim that \bar{K} is algebraically closed. Really $\forall P \in \bar{K}[X] \exists j: P \in K_j[X]$ thus it has a root in K_{j+1} and as result in \bar{K} .

Now how can we construct K_1 . Let S be a set of all irreducible $P \in K[X]$. Let $A = K[(X_P)_{P \in S}]$ - multi-variable (one variable X_P for each $P \in S$) polynomial ring.

Let $I \subset A$ is an Ideal generated by a set $P(X_P) \forall P \in S$.¹⁴ We claim that I is a Proper ideal i.e. $I \neq A$. If not then we can write (see theorem A.4)

$$1_A = \sum_i^n \lambda_i P_i(X_{P_i}), \quad (2.1)$$

¹³ If L is algebraic closure of K then the following conditions are valid

- $\forall P \in L[X] \exists \alpha \in L$ such that $P(\alpha) = 0$ (see definition of Algebraically closed field)
- $\forall \alpha \in L \exists P \in K[X]$ such that $P(\alpha) = 0$ (see definition of Algebraic extension)

¹⁴ $I = \sum_i \lambda_i P_i(X_{P_i})$, where $\lambda_i \in A$

where $\lambda_i \in A$ and the sum is the finite (see definition A.15). As soon as the sum is finite then I can take the product of the polynomials in the sum: $P = \prod_i^n P_i$ and I can create a Splitting field L for the polynomial P over K (see theorem 2.1).

A is a polynomial ring and it's very easy produce a homomorphism between polynomial algebra and any other algebra. Therefore there is a homomorphism between rings A and L such that $\phi : A \rightarrow L$ where $X_{P_i} \rightarrow \alpha_i$ ¹⁵ if $P = P_i$ and $X_{P_i} \rightarrow 0$ otherwise. From (2.1) we have

$$\phi(1_A) = \sum_i^n \lambda_i \phi(P_i(X_{p_i})) = \sum_i^n \lambda_i P_i(\alpha_i) = 0$$

that is impossible.

Fact: Any Proper ideal $I \subset A$ is contained in the Maximal ideal m (see proposition 2.2 below) and A/m is a field (see theorem A.7).

Thus I can take $K_1 = A/m$ and continue in the same way to construct $K_2, K_3, \dots, K_n, \dots$ \square

2.3.3 Ideals in a ring

The ring is commutative, associative with unity. Any Proper ideal is in a Maximal ideal. This is a consequence of what one calls Zorn's lemma

Definition 2.5 (Chain). *Let \mathcal{P} is a partially ordered set (\leq is the order relation). $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{P}$ is a chain if $\forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{C}$ exists a relation between α and β i.e. $\alpha \leq \beta$ or $\beta \leq \alpha$.*

Lemma 2.1 (Zorn). *If any non-empty Chain \mathcal{C} in a non-empty set \mathcal{P} has an upper bound (that is $M \in \mathcal{P}$ such that $M \geq x, \forall x \in \mathcal{C}$) then \mathcal{P} has a maximal element.*

Proposition 2.2. *Any Proper ideal is in a Maximal ideal*

Proof. We can use Zorn lemma to prove that any proper ideal is in a Maximal ideal.

Let \mathcal{P} is the set of proper ideals in A containing I . The set is not empty because it has at least one element I . Any Chain $\mathcal{C} = \{I_\alpha\}$ ¹⁶ has an upper bound: it's $\cup_\alpha I_\alpha$ (exercise that the union is an ideal). So \mathcal{P} has a maximal element m and $I \subset m$. \square

¹⁵ α_i is a root of P_i

¹⁶ The order is the following $I_\alpha \leq I_\beta$ if $I_\alpha \subset I_\beta$

If we take a Quotient ring by maximal ideal it's always a field ¹⁷ otherwise it will have a proper ideal: $\exists a \in A/m$ such that (a) is a proper ideal and its pre-image in $\pi : A \rightarrow A/m$ should strictly contain m ¹⁸.

2.4 Extension of homomorphisms. Uniqueness of algebraic closure

Some summary about just proved existence of algebraic closure. There exists $\bar{K} = \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} K_i$ - algebraic closure of K , where

$$K \subset K_1 \subset K_2 \subset \cdots \subset K_{i-1} \subset K_i \subset \cdots$$

K_i is a field where each polynomial $P \in K_{i-1}$ has a root. The field K_i is Quotient ring of huge polynomial ring $K_{i-1}[X]$ by a suitable Maximal ideal that is got by means of Zorn lemma.

Another question is the closure unique? The answer is yes. We start the proof with the following theorem

Theorem 2.3 (About extension of homomorphism). *Let $K \subset L \subset M$ - Algebraic extension. $K \subset \Omega$, where Ω - Algebraic closure of K . $\forall \phi : L \rightarrow \Omega$ extends to $\bar{\phi} : M \rightarrow \Omega$ ¹⁹*

Proof. Apply Zorn lemma to the following set (of pairs)

$$\mathcal{E} = \{(N, \psi) : L \subset N \subset M, \psi \text{ extends } \phi\}$$

\mathcal{E} is non empty because $(L, \phi) \in \mathcal{E}$.

The set \mathcal{E} is partially ordered by the following relation (\leq):

$$(N, \psi) \leq (N', \psi'),$$

if $N \subseteq N'$ and $\psi'/N = \psi$ (ψ' extends ψ). Any Chain (N_α, ψ_α) has an upper bound (N, ψ) , where $N = \cup_\alpha N_\alpha$ - field, sub extension of M . ψ defined in the following way: for $x \in N_\alpha$ $\psi(x) = \psi_\alpha(x)$.

Thus \mathcal{E} has a maximal element that we denote by (N_0, ψ_0) .

Lets suppose that $N_0 \neq M$, i.e. $N_0 \subsetneq M$. Now it's very easy to get a contradiction. Lets take $x \in M \setminus N_0$ and consider Minimal polynomial $P_{\min}(x, N_0)$. It should have a root $\alpha \in \Omega$. Now we extend N_0 to $N_0(x)$ and

¹⁷ We refer to it as a theorem with definition provided in A.7. The comments can be considered as a simple prove of the fact.

¹⁸ i.e. m is not a maximal ideal in the case

¹⁹ see also example 3.1.

define ψ' on $N_0(x)$ as follows: $\forall y \in N_0 : \psi'(y) = \psi_0(y)$ and $\psi'(x) = \alpha$. Thus we were able to find an element of the chain that is greater than maximal. Therefore our assumption about $N_0 \neq M$ was incorrect and we can conclude that $N_0 = M$ and therefore $\tilde{\phi} = \psi_0$. \square

Corollary 2.3 (About algebraic closure isomorphism). *If Δ and Δ' are 2 algebraic closures of K then they are isomorphic as K -algebras.*

Proof. Using theorem 2.3 one can assume $L = K$, $M = \Delta'$ and $\Omega = \Delta$ i.e. we have

$$K \subset K \subset \Delta'$$

in this case homomorphism $K \rightarrow \Delta$ can be extended to $\Delta' \rightarrow \Delta$ i.e. there exists a homomorphism (i.e. Injection) from Δ' to Δ .

If we assume $M = \Delta$ and $\Omega = \Delta$ then there exists a homomorphism (i.e. Injection) from Δ to Δ' . The Injection is also Surjection in another direction: $\Delta' \rightarrow \Delta$ and as result we have Isomorphism $\Delta' \rightarrow \Delta$ \square

Chapter 3

Finite fields. Separability, perfect fields

We recall the construction and basic properties of finite fields. We prove that the multiplicative group of a finite field is cyclic, and that the automorphism group of a finite field is cyclic generated by the Frobenius map. We introduce the notions of separable (resp. purely inseparable) elements, extensions, degree. We briefly discuss perfect fields.

3.1 An example (of extension)s. Finite fields

Corollary 3.1. *Algebraic closure of K is unique up to Isomorphism of K -algebras*¹

Corollary 3.2. *Any Algebraic extension of K embeds (see definition A.37) into the Algebraic closure*²

Example 3.1 (Of extension of homomorphism). *Let $K = \mathbb{Q}$ and $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ is the Algebraic closure of K . For instance we can consider $\overline{\mathbb{Q}} \subset \mathbb{C}$.*³

Let

$$L = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) = \mathbb{Q}[X] / (X^2 - 2),$$

α is a Class of X in L . L has 2 Embeddings into $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$

1. $\phi_1 : \alpha \rightarrow \sqrt{2}$

¹ There is a redefinition of corollary 2.3.

² i.e. $\forall E$ - algebraic extension of K , $\exists \phi : E \rightarrow \bar{K}$ - Homomorphism. The statement is a reformulation of theorem 2.3

³ Really $\overline{\mathbb{Q}} = \mathbb{A}$ - the set of all algebraic numbers, i.e. roots of polynomials $P \in \mathbb{Q}[X]$.

$$2. \phi_2 : \alpha \rightarrow -\sqrt{2}$$

Let

$$M = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}) = \mathbb{Q}[Y] / (Y^4 - 2),$$

β is a Class of Y in M . M has 4 Embeddings into $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$

$$1. \psi_1 : \beta \rightarrow \sqrt[4]{2} \text{ (extends } \phi_1)$$

$$2. \psi_2 : \beta \rightarrow -\sqrt[4]{2} \text{ (extends } \phi_1)$$

$$3. \psi_3 : \beta \rightarrow i\sqrt[4]{2} \text{ (extends } \phi_2)$$

$$4. \psi_4 : \beta \rightarrow -i\sqrt[4]{2} \text{ (extends } \phi_2)$$

This (“extends”) is because ⁴

$$M = L[Y] / (Y^2 - \alpha)$$

3.1.1 Finite fields

Definition 3.1 (Finite field). K is a finite field if it's characteristic (see section 1.1.3) $\text{char} K = p$, where p - prime number

Remark 3.1 (\mathbb{F}_{p^n}). If K is a finite extension of \mathbb{F}_p ⁵ and $n = [K : \mathbb{F}_p]$ then number of elements of K : $|K| = p^n$. The following notation is also used for a finite extension of a finite field: \mathbb{F}_{p^n} ⁶

Remark 3.2 (Frobenius homomorphism). If $\text{char} K = p$, then exists a Homomorphism $F_p : K \rightarrow K$ such that $F_p(x) = x^p$. Really if we consider $(x+y)^p$ and $(xy)^p$ then we can get $(x+y)^p = x^p + y^p$ ⁷ and $(xy)^p = x^p y^p$. The second property is the truth in the all fields (of course) but the first one is the special property of \mathbb{F}_p fields.

⁴ I.e. in our case we have $\mathbb{Q} \subset L \subset M$. We have $\phi_{1,2} : L \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ which can be extended (accordingly theorem 2.3) to $\psi_{1,2,3,4} : M \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$

⁵ i.e. $[K : \mathbb{F}_p] < \infty$

⁶ As we know $\mathbb{F}_p = \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$. From other side $\mathbb{F}_{p^n} \neq \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}$. For example $\mathbb{F}_4 \neq \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ because $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ is not a field ($2 \cdot 2 = 0$ i.e. zero divisors exist). You have to look at example 1.5 to see exact structure of \mathbb{F}_4 .

⁷

$$(x+y)^p = \sum_{k=0}^p \binom{p}{k} x^k y^{p-k} = x^p + y^p + p \cdot \left(\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} a_k x^k y^{p-k} \right),$$

where $a_k \in \mathbb{Z}$. I.e.

$$(x+y)^p \equiv (x^p + y^p) \pmod{p}$$

Remark 3.3. Also $F_{p^n} : K \rightarrow K$ such that $F_{p^n}(x) = x^{p^n}$ is also homomorphism (a power of Frobenius homomorphism.)

3.2 Properties of finite fields

Theorem 3.1. Lets fix \mathbb{F}_p and it's Algebraic closure $\overline{\mathbb{F}_p}$.

The Splitting field of $x^{p^n} - x$ has p^n elements. Conversely any field of p^n elements is a splitting field of $x^{p^n} - x$. Moreover there is an unique sub extension of $\overline{\mathbb{F}_p}$ with p^n elements.

Proof. Note that $F_{p^n} : x \rightarrow x^{p^n}$ is a Homomorphism (see remark 3.3) as result the following set $\{x \mid F_{p^n}(x) = x\}$ is a field containing \mathbb{F}_p ⁸ i.e.

$$\mathbb{F}_p \subset \{x \mid F_{p^n}(x) = x\}$$

or, in other words, the considered set is a Field extension of \mathbb{F}_p .

If $Q_n(X) = X^{p^n} - X$ then the considered set consists of the root of the polynomial Q_n . The polynomial has no multiple roots because $\gcd(Q_n, Q'_n) = 1$.⁹ This is because $Q'_n \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.¹⁰ As soon as Q_n has no multiple roots then there are p^n different roots and therefore the splitting field is the field with p^n elements.

Conversely lets $|K| = p^n$ and $\alpha \neq 0 \in K$. Using the fact that the multiplication group of K has $p^n - 1$ elements: $|K^*| = p^n - 1$ ¹¹ as result the multiplication of all the elements should give us 1: $\alpha^{p^n-1} = 1$ or $\alpha^{p^n} - \alpha = 0$

⁸ For $x \in \mathbb{F}_p^* = \mathbb{F}_p \setminus \{0\}$ we have that (see theorem A.3)

$$x^{|\mathbb{F}_p^*|} = x^{p-1} = 1$$

and therefore $\forall x \in \mathbb{F}_p : x^p = x$ ($x = 0$ also satisfied the equation). We can continue as follows

$$\begin{aligned} x^{p^2} &= (x^p)^p = x^p = x, \\ x^{p^3} &= (x^{p^2})^p = x^p = x \\ &\quad \dots \\ x^{p^n} &= (x^{p^{n-1}})^p = x^p = x \end{aligned}$$

and finally get $F_{p^n}(x) = x$. Thus $\forall x \in \mathbb{F}_p$ we also have $x \in \{x \mid F_{p^n}(x) = x\}$

⁹ If Q_n has a multiple root β then it is divisible by $(X - \beta)^2$ and the Q'_n is divisible by (at least) $(X - \beta)$ thus the $(X - \beta)$ should be a part of gcd.

¹⁰ Really we have the following one $Q'_n = p^n X^{p^n-1} - 1 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ but the sign is not really matter because $\gcd(Q_n, -1) = \gcd(Q_n, 1) = 1$.

¹¹ $K^* = K \setminus \{0\}$

(see theorem A.3). Therefore α is a root of Q_n . Thus the splitting field of Q_n consists of elements of K .

The uniqueness¹² of sub-extension of \mathbb{F}_p with p^n elements is a result of uniqueness of the splitting field (see theorem 2.1). \square

Theorem 3.2. $\mathbb{F}_{p^d} \subset \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$ if and only if $d \mid n$.

Proof. Let $\mathbb{F}_{p^d} \subset \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$ in this case $\mathbb{F}_p \subset \mathbb{F}_{p^d} \subset \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$ and

$$[\mathbb{F}_{p^n} : \mathbb{F}_p] = [\mathbb{F}_{p^n} : \mathbb{F}_{p^d}] [\mathbb{F}_{p^d} : \mathbb{F}_p]$$

or $n = x \cdot d$ i.e. $d \mid n$

Conversely if $d \mid n$ then $n = x \cdot d$ or $p^n = \prod_{i=1}^x p^d$ thus if $x^{p^d} = x$ then

$$x^{p^n} = x^{\prod_{i=1}^x p^d} (x^{p^d})^{\prod_{i=2}^x p^d} = x^{\prod_{i=2}^x p^d} = \dots = x^{p^d} = x,$$

i.e. $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{F}_{p^d}$ we also have $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$ or in other notation: $\mathbb{F}_{p^d} \subset \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$. \square

Theorem 3.3. \mathbb{F}_{p^n} is a Stem field and a Splitting field of any Irreducible polynomial $P \in \mathbb{F}_p$ of degree n .

Proof. Stem field K has to have degree n over \mathbb{F}_p i.e. $[K : \mathbb{F}_p] = n$ (see remark 2.1) i.e. it should have p^n elements (see remark 3.1) and therefore $K = \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$ (see theorem 3.1).

About Splitting field. Using the just proved result we can say that if α is a root of P then $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$ thus $Q_n(\alpha) = 0$. Therefore P divides Q_n ¹³ and as result P splits in \mathbb{F}_{p^n} . \square

Corollary 3.3. Let \mathcal{P}_d is the set of all irreducible, Monic polynomials of degree d such that $\mathcal{P}_d \subset \mathbb{F}_p[X]$ then

$$Q_n = \prod_{d \mid n} \prod_{P \in \mathcal{P}_d} P$$

¹² up to Isomorphism

¹³as soon as any root of P also a root of Q_n

Proof. As we just seen if $P \in \mathcal{P}_d$ and $d \mid n$ then $P \mid Q_n$.¹⁴ Since all such polynomials are relatively prime of course^{15 16} and Q_n have no multiple roots (as result no multiple factors) then

$$\left(\prod_{d \mid n} \prod_{P \in \mathcal{P}_d} P \right) \mid Q_n$$

From other side let R is an irreducible factor of Q_n . α is a root of R then $Q_n(\alpha) = 0$ thus $\mathbb{F}_p(\alpha) \subset \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$. From remark 2.1 we have

$$[\mathbb{F}_p(\alpha) : \mathbb{F}_p] = \deg R = d.$$

From remark 3.1 $\mathbb{F}_p(\alpha) = \mathbb{F}_{p^d}$. Theorem 3.2 says that $d \mid n$. As result $R \in \mathcal{P}_d$. Thus the polynomial should be in the product $\prod_{d \mid n} \prod_{P \in \mathcal{P}_d} P$. \square

Example 3.2. Let $p = n = 2$. The monic irreducible polynomials in \mathbb{F}_2 whose degree divides 2 are: X , $X + 1$ and $X^2 + X + 1$. As you can see

$$X(X + 1)(X^2 + X + 1) = X^4 + X = X^4 - X$$

because $2x = 0 \pmod{2}$ or $x = -x$.

Just another example [2]¹⁷

Example 3.3. In $\mathbb{F}_2[X]$, the irreducible factorization of $X^{2^n} - X$ for $n = 1, 2, 3, 4$ is as follows

$$\begin{aligned} X^2 - X &= X(X - 1), \\ X^4 - X &= X(X - 1)(X^2 + X + 1), \\ X^8 - X &= X(X - 1)(X^3 + X + 1)(X^3 + X^2 + 1), \\ X^{16} - X &= X(X - 1)(X^2 + X + 1) \\ &\quad (X^4 + X + 1)(X^4 + X^3 + 1)(X^4 + X^3 + X^2 + X + 1). \end{aligned}$$

You can compare the example with example 3.2 but you have to take into consideration the following fact $1 = -1 \pmod{2}$

¹⁴ Since stem field is $\mathbb{F}_{p^d} \subset \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$ (see theorem 3.2 and proof at the theorem 3.3)

¹⁵ As soon as $\mathbb{F}_p[X]$ is Unique factorization domain then any polynomial can be written as a product of irreducible elements, uniquely up to order and units this means that each $P \in \mathcal{P}_d$ (where $d \mid n$) should be in the factorization of Q_n . It should be only one time because there is no multiply roots.

¹⁶ We also can say that 2 irreducible polynomial $P_1, P_2 \in \mathbb{F}_p[X]$ should not have same roots. For example if α is the same root - it cannot be in \mathbb{F}_p because in the case the polynomials will be reducible. Thus it can be only in an extension of \mathbb{F}_p from other side $\gcd(P_1, P_2) = 1$ and therefore with Bézout's lemma one can get that $\exists Q, R \in \mathbb{F}_p[X]$ such that $P_1Q + P_2R = 1$ and setting α into the equation leads to fail statement that $0 = 1$.

¹⁷ There is not a part of the video lectures

3.3 Multiplicative group and automorphism group of a finite field

Theorem 3.4. *Let K be a field and G be a finite Subgroup of K^* then G is a Cyclic group*

Proof. Idea is to compare G and the Cyclic group $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$ where $N = |G|$.¹⁸

Let $\psi(d)$ - is the number of elements of order d (see also Order of element in group) in G . We need $\psi(N) \neq 0$ ¹⁹ and we know that $N = \sum \psi(d)$.

Let also $\phi(d)$ - is the number of elements of order d (see also Order of element in group) in $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$.²⁰ As $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$ contains a single (cyclic) subgroup of order d for each $d \mid N$.²¹ $\phi(d)$ is the number of generators of $\mathbb{Z}/d\mathbb{Z}$ i.e. the number of elements between 1 and $d-1$ that are prime to d . We know that $\phi(N) \neq 0$.

We claim that either $\psi(d) = 0$ or $\psi(d) = \phi(d)$ ²² If no element of order d in G then $\psi(d) = 0$ otherwise if $x \in G$ has order d then $x^d = 1$ or x is a root of the following polynomial $x^d - 1$. The roots of the polynomial forms a cyclic subgroup of G (by Cyclic group definition). So G as well as $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$ has a single cyclic subgroup of order d (which is cyclic) or no such group at all.²³

If $\psi(d) \neq 0$ then exists such a subgroup and $\psi(d)$ is equal to the number of generators of that group or $\phi(d)$ ²⁴ In particular $\psi(d) \leq \phi(d)$ ²⁵ but there should be equality because the sum of both $\sum \psi(d) = \sum \phi(d) = N$. In particular $\psi(N) \neq 0$ and we proved the theorem. \square

¹⁸ We also will use the fact that any cyclic group of order N is isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$

¹⁹ In this case we will have at least one element x of order N i.e. N different elements of G is generated by the x i.e. the G is cyclic.

²⁰ The function $\phi(d)$ is also called as Euler's totient function and it counts the positive integers up to a given integer d that are relatively prime to d

²¹ The one generated by N/d . Let $N = r \cdot d$ in the case $x^N = 1$ there x is a $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$ group generator. From other side

$$x^N = x^{r \cdot d} = \prod_{i=1}^r x^d$$

thus $x^d = 1$ i.e. there is a cyclic subgroup of order d .

²² suffices since $\sum \psi(d) = \sum \phi(d) = N$

²³ Several comments about the subgroup. There is a group because multiplication of any elements is in the set. It's cyclic because it's generated by one element. All x^i where $i \leq d$ are different (in other case the group should have an order less than d). Each element of the group x^i is a root of $x^d - 1$ because $(x^i)^d = (x^d)^i = 1^i = 1$. And the group is unique as well as we have d different roots of $x^d - 1$ in the group.

²⁴ Because the group is cyclic and any cyclic group is isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}/d\mathbb{Z}$ and as result has the same number of generators.

²⁵ because $\psi(d) = 0$ or $\psi(d) = \phi(d)$

Corollary 3.4. *If $\mathbb{F}_p \subset K$ and $[K : \mathbb{F}_p] = n$ then $\exists \alpha$ such that $K = \mathbb{F}_p(\alpha)$. In particular \exists an Irreducible polynomial of degree n over \mathbb{F}_p* ²⁶

Proof. We can take $\alpha =$ generator of K^* ²⁷ □

Corollary 3.5. *The group of automorphism of \mathbb{F}_{p^n} over \mathbb{F}_p is cyclic and generated by Frobenius map: $F_p : x \rightarrow x^p$ (see remark 3.2 where we showed that the Frobenius map is a field automorphism)*

Proof. As we know from theorem 3.1: $\forall x \in \mathbb{F}_{p^n} : x^{p^n} = x$ so²⁸ $F_p^n = id$. As result the order of $\langle F_p \rangle$ is no greater than n . Lets prove that the $ord F_p = n$. Really if $m < n$ then $x^{p^m} - x = 0$ has $p^m < p^n$ roots and²⁹ F_p^m cannot be identity. Finally (from corollary 3.4) we have $\mathbb{F}_{p^n} = \mathbb{F}_p(\alpha)$ where α is a root of an irreducible polynomial of degree n . I.e. there cannot be more than n automorphism³⁰ so

$$|Aut(\mathbb{F}_{p^n}/\mathbb{F}_p)| \leq n$$

and as we have n of them (Automorphisms)³¹ then

$$|Aut(\mathbb{F}_{p^n}/\mathbb{F}_p)| = n$$

and the group is cyclic generated by F_p . □

²⁶ The theorem 3.3 and remark 3.1 says that the stem field for any polynomial of degree n over \mathbb{F}_p exists and there is \mathbb{F}_{p^n} and $[\mathbb{F}_{p^n} : \mathbb{F}_p] = n$ i.e. $K = \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$. But we had not proved yet that an irreducible polynomial of degree n exists.

²⁷ This is because from theorem 3.4 $K^* = \langle \alpha \rangle$ i.e. any element of K except 0 can be got as a power of α . Moreover $\alpha \notin \mathbb{F}_p$ (in other case we will got $K = \mathbb{F}_p$) i.e. we really got $K = \mathbb{F}_p(\alpha)$. α is an Algebraic element because we can consider $1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}$ as a basis and α^n can be represented via the basis. I.e. $\exists P \in \mathbb{F}_p[X]$ such that $P(\alpha) = 0$. By lemma 1.3 there exists an irreducible polynomial $P_{min}(\alpha, \mathbb{F}_p)$.

²⁸ because

$$(F_p)^n(x) = (F_p)^{n-1}(F_p(x)) = (F_p)^{n-1}(x^p) = \dots = x^{p^n} = x$$

²⁹ because operates only with p^m elements i.e. not of all elements of \mathbb{F}_{p^n} .

³⁰ Each automorphism converts the root α into another one of n roots of the irreducible polynomial

³¹ We have n different elements of cyclic group $\langle F_p \rangle$. The generator of the group is an automorphism and as result each of n elements is also an automorphism.

3.4 Separable elements

Let E is a Splitting field of an irreducible polynomial P . We would like to say that it “has many Automorphisms”. What does this mean? This means the following thing: Let α and β be 2 roots of P then we have 2 extensions $K(\alpha) \subset E$ and $K(\beta) \subset E$.

There exists an Isomorphism (see proposition 2.1) over K

$$\phi : K(\alpha) \rightarrow K(\beta)$$

that is also extended to an Automorphism on E (see theorem A.9).

There is one problem with it: is that truth that an irreducible polynomial of degree n has “many” i.e. exactly n (it cannot have more than n) roots.

The answer is yes if $\text{char} K = 0$, but not always if $\text{char} K = p$ (where p is a prime number). P can have multiple roots in the case i.e. $\gcd(P, P') \neq 1$.

Why it's not a case for $\text{char} K = 0$ - it is because $\deg P' < \deg P$ and $P \nmid P'$ for $P' \neq 0$ (non constant polynomial) ³²

But for $\text{char} K = p$ there can be a case when $P' = 0$ for a non constant polynomial thus $P \mid P'$ and as result $\gcd(P, P') = P$. The $P' = 0$ i.e. it vanishes P is a polynomial in X^p . I.e. if $P = \sum a_i x^i$ and $p \mid i$ or $a_i = 0$. In that case ($P' = 0$) let $r = \max h$ such that P is a polynomial in X^{p^h} that is $a_i = 0$ whenever $p^h \nmid i$. See the following example ³³

Example 3.4. Let $p = 2$. The polynomial $P(X) = X^{16} + 1$ has the required property ($P' = 0$). The polynomial can be present in the following form

$$P(X) = X^{2^4} + 1 = Q(Y)$$

where $Y = X^{16}$ and $Q(Y) = Y + 1$. In the case $r = 4, p^r = 16 \mid 16$.

For polynomial $P(X) = X^{12} + 1$ we have

$$P(X) = \left(X^{2^2}\right)^3 + 1 = Q(Y)$$

where $Y = X^4$ and $Q(Y) = Y^3 + 1$. In the case $r = 2, p^2 = 4 \mid 12$ because $h = 3$ does not fit into the requirements: $p^h = 2^3 = 8 \nmid 12$.

Proposition 3.1. Let $P(X) = Q(X^{p^r})$ and $Q' \neq 0$ i.e. $\gcd(Q, Q') = 1$ then Q does not have multiple roots but all roots of P have multiplicity p^r .

³² Let P has multiply roots. As soon as it's irreducible a multiply root is in an extension of K . In this case the root should be also a root for P' thus by lemma 1.3 (or theorem A.5) one can get that $P \mid P'$ in $K[X]$ but that is impossible because $\deg P' < \deg P$ and can be only possible if $P' = 0$.

³³ The example is not a part of the video lectures.

Proof. If λ is a root of P then $\lambda: P(X) = (X - \lambda)R$ Thus $\mu = \lambda^{p^r}$ is the root of Q ³⁴ as result $Q(Y) = (Y - \lambda^{p^r})S(Y)$ therefore

$$P(X) = (X^{p^r} - \lambda^{p^r}) S(X^{p^r}) = (X - \lambda)^{p^r} S(X^{p^r})$$

and λ is not a root of $S(X^{p^r})$. ³⁵ Thus we just got that multiplicity of λ is p^r . \square

Definition 3.2 (Separable polynomial). $P \in K[X]$ irreducible polynomial is called separable if $\gcd(P, P') = 1$

Definition 3.3 (Degree of separability). $d_{sep}(P) = \deg Q$ (as above) ³⁶

Definition 3.4 (Degree of inseparability). $d_i(P) = \frac{\deg P}{\deg Q}$ ($= p^r$ in proposition 3.1)

Definition 3.5 (Pure inseparable polynomial). P is pure inseparable if $d_i = \deg P$. Then $P = X^{p^r} - a$ ³⁷

Definition 3.6 (Separable element). Let L be an Algebraic extension of K then $\alpha \in L$ is called separable(inseparable) if it's Minimal polynomial $P_{min}(\alpha, K)$ has the property. Note: the separable element is also Algebraic element because it has minimal polynomial.

Proposition 3.2 (On number of homomorphisms). If α is separable on K then the number of Homomorphisms over K from K to \bar{K}

$$|Hom_K(K(\alpha), \bar{K})| = \deg P_{min}(\alpha, K)$$

in general

$$|Hom_K(K(\alpha), \bar{K})| = d_{sep} P_{min}(\alpha, K)$$

Proof. It's obvious because d_{sep} is the number of distinct roots. \square

³⁴ $Q(\mu) = Q(\lambda^{p^r}) = P(\lambda) = 0$

³⁵ This is because Q does not have multiply roots and as result $\mu = \lambda^{p^r}$ is not a root of S or in other words $S(X^{p^r})_{X=\lambda} \neq 0$

³⁶ It requires some explanation compare to that one was got on the lecture video. If P is a Separable polynomial then $d_{sep}(P) = \deg P$. In other case P should be represented as $P(X) = q_1(X^p)$. If $q_1(Y)$ is separable than $Q = q_1$ otherwise we continue and represent $q_1(X) = q_2(X^p)$. We should stop on some q_r for which we will have $Q = q_r$ and $P(X) = Q(X^{p^r})$. In the case $d_{sep}(P) = \deg Q$.

³⁷ In the case $\deg Q = 1$ i.e. $Q(Y) = Y - a$ or $P = X^{p^r} - a$.

3.5 Separable degree, separable extensions

We want to generalize the proposition 3.2 for any field extension (not necessary $K(\alpha)$). Let L be a finite extension of K

Definition 3.7 (Separable degree). $[L : K]_{sep} = |Hom_K(L, \bar{K})|$

As we know if $L = K(\alpha)$ then Separable degree is a number of distinct roots of minimal polynomial $P_{min}(\alpha, K)$

Definition 3.8 (Separable extension). L is separable over K if $[L : K]_{sep} = [L : K]$

Definition 3.9 (Inseparable degree).

$$[L : K]_i = \frac{[L : K]}{[L : K]_{sep}}$$

Theorem 3.5 (About separable extensions). 1. If $K \subset L \subset M$ then $[M : K]_{sep} = [M : L]_{sep} [L : K]_{sep}$ and M is Separable extension over K if and only if M is separable over L and L is separable over K

2. The following things are equivalent

- (a) L is separable over K
- (b) $\forall \alpha \in L$ α Separable element over K
- (c) L is generated over K by a finite number of Separable elements
i.e. $L = K(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$, there α_i is separable over K
- (d) $L = K(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$, there α_i is separable over $K(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{i-1})$

Remark 3.4. That holds if we replace separability with pure inseparability.

Proof. About 1st part: If we have a Homomorphism $\phi : L \rightarrow \bar{K}$ then it is extended to $\tilde{\phi} : M \rightarrow \bar{K}$ (by extension theorem 2.3) it can be done with one way per each homomorphism from L to M i.e. it can be done by $|Hom_L(M, \bar{K})|$ ways but we have

$$|Hom_L(M, \bar{K})| = |Hom_L(M, \bar{L})| = [M : L]_{sep}$$

because \bar{K} is also \bar{L} (Algebraic closure over L) thus for the total number of homomorphisms one can get the following equations

$$\begin{aligned} [M : K]_{sep} &= |Hom_K(M, \bar{K})| = |Hom_K(L, \bar{K})| |Hom_L(M, \bar{K})| = \\ &= |Hom_K(L, \bar{K})| |Hom_L(M, \bar{L})| = [M : L]_{sep} [L : K]_{sep} \end{aligned}$$

We have the following inequality ³⁸

$$[E : K]_{sep} \leq [E : K]. \quad (3.1)$$

With the inequality (3.1) we also have

$$[M : K]_{sep} = [M : L]_{sep} [L : K]_{sep} \leq [M : L] [L : K] = [M : K]$$

The equality is possible if $[M : L]_{sep} = [M : L]$ and $[L : K]_{sep} = [L : K]$ i.e. if M is separable over L and L is separable over K . This finishes the proof of the first part.

About 2d part:

2a \Rightarrow 2b: Part 1 implies that a separable sub extension $K(\alpha)$ or a separable extension L is separable. ³⁹

2b \Rightarrow 2c: obvious ⁴⁰

2c \Rightarrow 2d: We know that $P_{min}(\alpha_i, K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{i-1}))$ divides $P_{min}(\alpha_i, K)$. ⁴¹ Thus if $P_{min}(\alpha_i, K)$ is separable (i.e. have distinct roots) then it's divisor $P_{min}(\alpha_i, K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{i-1}))$ also should have distinct roots i.e. α_i is a Separable element over $K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{i-1})$

2d \Rightarrow 2a: Induction as above ⁴² □

³⁸ The inequality can be proved by induction using the fact that it's true for $K(\alpha)$ because from general case of proposition 3.2

$$|Hom_K(K(\alpha), \bar{K})| = d_{sep} P_{min}(\alpha, K) \leq \deg P_{min}(\alpha, K) = [K(\alpha) : K]$$

Then let it was proved for $E = K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n-1})$ and we want to prove it for $K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n-1}, \alpha_n) = E(\alpha_n)$. It's easy because $\bar{E} = \bar{K}$ and we can use the same approach as for the first induction step.

³⁹ I.e. in the case we have $K \subset K(\alpha) \subset L$ and if L is separable then $K(\alpha)$ is separable and as result α is a Separable element because $P_{min}(\alpha, K)$ is separable.

⁴⁰ We consider finite extensions (see remark 3.1) i.e. which consists of finite number of elements

⁴¹ Let $K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{i-1}) = L$ then $K \subset L$ and $P_{min}(\alpha_i, K) \in L[X]$ From other side $P_{min}(\alpha_i, L)$ is the minimal irreducible polynomial in $L[X]$ and any other polynomial with α_i as root has to be divisible by it. see also lemma 1.3

⁴² The first induction step is trivial: $L = K(\alpha)$ where α is separable over K in this case $K(\alpha)$ is also separable. Now we have that $\forall k < n$: if $L = K(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_k)$, there α_i is separable over $K(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{i-1})$ then L is separable over K . Thus we have $K(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{n-1})$ separable and α_n is separable over $K(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{n-1})$ thus using the first part of the theorem we can conclude that $K(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$ is also separable over K

What's about not finite extension? For that case we can define separable extension as follows.

Definition 3.10 (Separable closure). *If L over K not necessary finite (but algebraic over K) we can define*

$$L^{sep} = \{x | x \text{ separable over } K\}$$

L^{sep} is a sub extension ⁴³ called separable closure of K over L

L is pure inseparable over L^{sep} .

Remark 3.5. 1. If $\text{char } K = 0$ then any extension of K is separable

2. If $\text{char } K = p$ then pure inseparable extension has degree p^r and always degree of inseparability $[L : K]_i = p^r$

3.6 Perfect fields

Definition 3.11 (Perfect field). *Let K is a field and $\text{char } K = p > 0$. K is perfect if Frobenius homomorphism is a Surjection*

Example 3.5. 1. Finite field is perfect because an Injection of a set into itself is always a Surjection

2. Algebraically closed fields are perfect because $X^p - a$ has a root α for any a particularly $a = F_p(\alpha)$ ⁴⁴

3. Not perfect field example. Let $K = \mathbb{F}_p(X)$ be a field of rational fractions in 1 variable over \mathbb{F}_p . I.e. elements of the field are $\frac{f(X)}{g(X)}$ where $f, g \in \mathbb{F}_p[X]$. It's not perfect because $\text{Im}(F_p) = \mathbb{F}_p(X^p) \neq \mathbb{F}_p(X)$

Theorem 3.6. *K is a Perfect field if and only if all irreducible polynomial over K are separable or in other words all Algebraic extensions of K are separable.*

Proof. Let K is perfect and $P \in K[X]$ is an irreducible polynomial. Let also

$$P(X) = Q(X^{p^r}) = \sum_i a_i (X^{p^r})^i$$

⁴³ $K \subset L^{sep} \subset L$

⁴⁴ $\alpha^p - a = 0$ as soon as α is a root of $X^p - a$. Thus $a = \alpha^p = F_p(\alpha)$.

but as soon as my field is perfect then I can extract p -root of a_i ⁴⁵ and do it repeatedly. I.e. $\exists b_i \in K$ such that $b_i^{p^r} = a_i$. Therefore

$$P(X) = \sum_i b_i^{p^r} (X^{p^r})^i = \sum_i (b_i X^i)^{p^r} = \left(\sum_i b_i X^i \right)^{p^r}.$$

The polynomial is not irreducible unless $r = 0$ ⁴⁶ so irreducible means separable.

If K is not perfect but all irreducible polynomial are separable. K is not perfect means that $\exists a \notin \text{Im}(F_p)$ and lets consider the following polynomial: $X^{p^r} - a$. It is irreducible and not separable.

About separability: in fact all roots are in \bar{K} are the same x with $x^{p^r} = a$ ⁴⁷ and of course $x^{p^{r-1}} \notin K$. ⁴⁸

About the polynomial is irreducible. We have already seen that in the case $[K(x) : K] = p^r$ so the polynomial is irreducible ⁴⁹ and this finishes ⁵⁰ the proof. \square

⁴⁵ The root b_i is a root of the following equation $X^p - a_i$ i.e. $b_i^p - a_i = 0$ or $a_i = F_p(b_i)$.

⁴⁶ In other case each root will have at least multiplicity p^r .

⁴⁷ We have $x^{p^r} = a$ thus polynomial $X^{p^r} - a$ can be written as $X^{p^r} - a = X^{p^r} - x^{p^r} = (X - x)^{p^r}$ thus x has multiplicity p^r

⁴⁸ as soon as any power of x (little x but not the big one X)

⁴⁹ Corollary 3.4 says that there exists an irreducible polynomial of degree p^r with x as the root. Theorem A.5 says that the polynomial should divide our polynomial $X^{p^r} - a$ as soon as they have the same root. The two polynomial have same degree and as result they are the same (up to a constant). Therefore the considered polynomial is irreducible.

⁵⁰ Because we found an irreducible polynomial that is not separable because has a root of multiplicity p^r

Chapter 4

Tensor product. Structure of finite K-algebras

This is a digression on commutative algebra. We introduce and study the notion of tensor product of modules over a ring. We prove a structure theorem for finite algebras over a field (a version of the well-known "Chinese remainder theorem").

4.1 Definition of tensor product

4.1.1 Summary for previous lectures

We considered finite Field extension L i.e $[L : K] < \infty$. We also saw that if L is generated by a finite number of Separable elements $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$ then the number of Homomorphisms over K from L to \bar{K} denoted by $|Hom_K(L, \bar{K})|$ is equal to $[L : K]$. In general

$$[L : K]_{sep} = |Hom_K(L, \bar{K})| \leq [L : K].$$

For $L = K(\alpha)$ it is clear because the number of homomorphisms is equal to the number of roots of the Minimal polynomial $P_{min}(\alpha, K)$. In general one can use induction and multiplicativity of the degree $[L : K]$ and number of homomorphisms (see theorem About separable extensions). Thus separable extension was exactly an extension which had the right number of homomorphisms into the algebraic closure.

Our next goal is to characterize the separability in the terms of tensor product.

4.1.2 Tensor product

Definition 4.1 (Tensor product). *Let A is a ring, N, M are A -Modules. The tensor product $M \otimes_A N$ is another A -Module together with an A -bilinear map $\phi : M \times N \rightarrow M \otimes_A N$ which has “Universal property” defined below*

Definition 4.2 (Universal property). *A -bilinear map $\phi : M \times N \rightarrow M \otimes_A N$ has “universal property” if $\forall P$ - A -Module and for A -bilinear $f : M \times N \rightarrow P$ (i.e. $\forall m, f_m : N \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow f(m,n)} P$ and $\forall n, f_n : M \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow f(m,n)} P$ are Homomorphisms of A -modules), then $\exists! \tilde{f}$ - homomorphism of A -modules such that $f = \tilde{f} \circ \phi$ ¹*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times N & \xrightarrow{f} & P \\ & \searrow \phi \quad \nearrow \tilde{f} & \\ & M \otimes_A N & \end{array}$$

The property characterize the pair $(\phi, M \otimes N)$. Really if have another pair $(\bar{\phi}, \overline{M \otimes N})$ like this one then by definition we have mutually inverse homomorphisms of A -modules between them

Lemma 4.1 (About uniqueness of object defined by universal property).
² *If we have two objects $(\phi, M \otimes N)$ and $(\bar{\phi}, \overline{M \otimes N})$ which both satisfies Universal property than there is an unique Isomorphism between them:*

$$(\phi, M \otimes N) \cong (\bar{\phi}, \overline{M \otimes N})$$

Proof. Let $P = \overline{M \otimes N}$ and $f = \bar{\phi}$. In the case we can consider the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & M \otimes_A N & & \\ & \nearrow \phi & \downarrow g = \tilde{\phi} & & \\ M \times N & \xrightarrow{\bar{\phi}} & \overline{M \otimes_A N} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\phi}} & P \\ & \searrow \phi & \downarrow \bar{g} = \tilde{\phi} & & \\ & & M \otimes_A N & & \end{array}$$

¹ That means that we have a Commutative diagram there

² It is out of the lecture video and can be considered as an explanation for the claim about having mutually inverse homomorphisms of A -modules. The proof was taken from [4].

As soon as we fixed $\overline{M \otimes_A N}$ we 2 unique homomorphisms (which are defined by the fixed $\overline{M \otimes_A N}$) - $g : M \otimes_A N \rightarrow \overline{M \otimes_A N}$ and $\bar{g} : \overline{M \otimes_A N} \rightarrow M \otimes_A N$. Both g and \bar{g} are linear as mentioned above the pair is unique (if we fix g we will have only one \bar{g} that corresponds to g). The composition $g \circ \bar{g}$ maps $\overline{M \otimes_A N}$ to itself. Thus if we fix g and choose $\bar{g} = g^{-1}$ we will get $g \circ \bar{g} = id_{\overline{M \otimes_A N}}$ that satisfied all requirements. The choice is final because we don't have a possibility to choose any other \bar{g} (it should be unique).

Thus we have an Isomorphism and the isomorphism is unique as soon as the function g is unique due the Universal property.

We just prove an isomorphism existence between $M \otimes N$ and $\overline{M \otimes N}$ but the tensor product is characterized not only by the module $M \otimes N$ but also a bilinear map ϕ . Let $P = \overline{M \otimes N}$ thus we can get that $\bar{\phi} = \tilde{\phi} \circ \phi$ is determined by the unique relation $\phi \rightarrow \bar{\phi}$ as soon as $\tilde{\phi}$ is unique. Analogues one can get the unique relation $\bar{\phi} \rightarrow \phi$. \square

The uniqueness does not mean existence and we should proof that such object exists.

Lemma 4.2 (About tensor product existence). *Tensor product defined via Universal property exists*

Proof. Lets consider \mathcal{E} the maps (functions) from $M \times N$ to A as sets which are 0 almost everywhere (i.e. outside of a finite set). For example we can consider delta functions:

$$\delta_{m,n} : M \times N \rightarrow A$$

such that

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{m,n}(m, n) &= 1, \\ \delta_{m,n}(m', n') &= 0 \text{ if } (m, n) \neq (m', n') \end{aligned}$$

Then \mathcal{E} is a A -Free module with basis $\delta_{m,n}$. Thus we have a map of sets $M \times N \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ such that $(m, n) \rightarrow \delta_{m,n}$ which is not bilinear but we can make it bilinear by means of changing \mathcal{E} .

Let $\mathcal{F} \subset \mathcal{E}$ a submodule generated by $\delta_{m+m',n} - \delta_{m,n} - \delta_{m',n}$, $\delta_{m,n+n'} - \delta_{m,n} - \delta_{m,n'}$, $\delta_{am,n} - a\delta_{m,n}$, $\delta_{m,an} - a\delta_{m,n}$.³

It can be shown that $M \times N \rightarrow \mathcal{E}/\mathcal{F}$ is bilinear⁴ and has the desired Universal property.

³ The basis is chosen to be a bilinear mod \mathcal{F} , for instance $\delta_{m+m',n} = \delta_{m,n} + \delta_{m',n}$ mod \mathcal{F}

⁴ Follows from the basis choice

Really lets we have the following bilinear map: $f : M \times N \rightarrow P$. Then we can consider the following linear map (Homomorphism) $f' : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow P$ that sends $\delta_{m,n}$ to $f(m, n)$. Using the fact that f is bilinear we can get

$$\begin{aligned} f'(\delta_{m+m',n}) &= f(m + m', n) = f(m, n) + f(m', n) = \\ &= f'(\delta_{m,n}) + f'(\delta_{m',n}). \end{aligned}$$

With the same approach one can get the following relations

$$\begin{aligned} f'(\delta_{m,n+n'}) &= f'(\delta_{m,n}) + f'(\delta_{m,n'}), \\ f'(\delta_{am,n}) &= af'(\delta_{m,n}), \\ f'(\delta_{m,an}) &= af'(\delta_{m,n}) \end{aligned}$$

with the f' linearity we have

$$\begin{aligned} f'(\delta_{m+m',n}) &= f'(\delta_{m,n} + \delta_{m',n}), \\ f'(\delta_{m,n+n'}) &= f'(\delta_{m,n} + \delta_{m,n'}), \\ f'(\delta_{am,n}) &= af'(\delta_{m,n}), \\ f'(\delta_{m,an}) &= af'(\delta_{m,n}) \end{aligned}$$

The kernel $\ker f' = \mathcal{F}$ thus if we want to have a homomorphism to P we have to replace \mathcal{E} with \mathcal{E}/\mathcal{F} that is also denoted by $M \otimes_A N$. In the case we will replace f' with $\tilde{f}(\delta_{m,n} \bmod \mathcal{F}) = f(m, n)$. As soon as the images for the basis is fixed the mapping is unique. \square

We will denote $\phi(m, n) = \delta_{m,n} \bmod \mathcal{F}$ as $m \otimes n$. I.e our tensor product can be considered as the $(\otimes, M \otimes_A N)$ pair.

Remark 4.1. *Wrong idea is to define $M \otimes_A N$ as a set of $m \otimes n$. I.e. $M \otimes_A N \neq \{m \otimes n\}$. The $M \otimes_A N$ is generated by $m \otimes n$ i.e. $\forall x \in M \otimes_A N$ we have $x = \sum_{i=1}^k m_i \otimes n_i$ i.e. each element is a finite sum of $m \otimes n$ and I cannot reduce these further ⁵.*

4.2 Tensor product of modules

4.2.1 Advantages of the universal property

Now, you can ask why haven't I just defined the tensor product by this construction? Why am I talking of this universal property? And the answer is because it is easier to prove things this way. So advantages of the universal property is as follows: the proofs become easy.

⁵ i.e. $\exists x \in M \otimes_A N$ such that $\exists! m \in M, n \in N : x = m \otimes n$ but $\exists m_1, \dots, m_k \in M, n_1, \dots, n_k \in N : x = \sum_{i=1}^k m_i \otimes n_i$

4.2.2 Several examples of universal property usage

Example 4.1 (Commutativity proof). *We want to prove that*

$$M \otimes_A N \cong N \otimes_A M$$

We have the following bilinear map: $M \times N \rightarrow N \otimes_A M$ for which the pair (m, n) is mapped to $n \otimes m$. Thus from Universal property we have that there is a linear map (homomorphism) $\alpha : M \otimes_A N \rightarrow N \otimes_A M$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times N & \xrightarrow{(m, n) \rightarrow n \otimes m} & N \otimes_A M \\ & \searrow (m, n) \rightarrow m \otimes n & \nearrow \alpha \\ & M \otimes_A N & \end{array}$$

With the same construction we can also get the inverse map α^{-1} that sends $N \otimes_A M$ to $M \otimes_A N$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times N & \xrightarrow{(m, n) \rightarrow m \otimes n} & M \otimes_A N \\ & \searrow (m, n) \rightarrow n \otimes m & \nearrow \alpha^{-1} \\ & N \otimes_A M & \end{array}$$

Also

Corollary 4.1.

$$A \otimes_A M \cong M$$

Proof. For the proof⁶ let's look at A . Really A can be considered as A -module because all requirements from definition A.28 are satisfied. The following diagrams show that there exist 2 homomorphisms: $\alpha : A \otimes_A M \rightarrow M$ and $\alpha^{-1} : M \rightarrow A \otimes_A M$ as result there is a homomorphism $A \otimes_A M \cong M$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \times M & \xrightarrow{(a, m) \rightarrow a \cdot m} & M \\ & \searrow (a, m) \rightarrow a \otimes_A m & \nearrow \alpha \\ & A \otimes_A M & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} A \times M & \xrightarrow{(a, m) \rightarrow a \otimes_A m} & A \otimes_A M \\ & \searrow (a, m) \rightarrow a \cdot m & \nearrow \alpha^{-1} \\ & M & \end{array}$$

In the diagrams $m \in M$, as usual, and $a \in A$.

□

⁶ The proof is missed in the lectures

If we have that M is generated by e_1, e_2, \dots and N is generated by $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \dots$ then $M \otimes_A N$ is generated by pairs $e_i \otimes \epsilon_j$. It's obvious.

More complex fact is the following

Proposition 4.1. *Let M and N are Free modules with corresponding bases e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n and $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \dots, \epsilon_m$ than $M \otimes_A N$ is also free module with basis $e_i \otimes \epsilon_j$ where $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $1 \leq j \leq m$.*

Proof. Lets define $f_{i_0, j_0} : M \times N \rightarrow A$ as a map that sends $(\sum a_i e_i, \sum b_j \epsilon_j)$ to $a_{i_0} b_{j_0}$. It's bilinear ⁷ so it factors through the tensor product $f_{i_0, j_0} : M \otimes_A N \rightarrow A$. The map \tilde{f}_{i_0, j_0} sends $e_{i_0} \otimes \epsilon_{j_0}$ to 1 and all others to 0. ⁸ So if

$$\sum \alpha_{ij} e_i \otimes \epsilon_j = 0$$

then applying \tilde{f}_{i_0, j_0} for all indices one can get that $\forall i, j : \alpha_{ij} = 0$. ⁹ □

In particular for the Vector space the tensor product is defined in the same way (as just proved in the proposition 4.1): the tensor product of 2 vector spaces with bases e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n and $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \dots, \epsilon_m$ is another vector space with the following basis $e_i \otimes \epsilon_j$ i.e. the definition does not take into consideration the Universal property.

Proposition 4.2 (Associative).

$$(M_1 \otimes_A M_2) \otimes_A M_3 \cong M_1 \otimes_A (M_2 \otimes_A M_3)$$

Proof. There is just a scratch of the proof. Introduce $M_1 \otimes_A M_2 \otimes_A M_3$ as a universal object for 3-linear maps and show that 2 considered parts are isomorphic each other. □

⁷ for example $(\sum (a_i + a'_i) e_i, \sum b_j \epsilon_j)$ is sent to $(a_{j_0} + a'_{j_0}) b_{j_0}$.

⁸ Because $f = \tilde{f} \phi$ i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} a_{i_0} b_{j_0} &= f_{i_0, j_0} \left(\sum a_i e_i, \sum b_j \epsilon_j \right) = \\ &= f_{i_0, j_0} \left(\phi \left(\sum a_i e_i, \sum b_j \epsilon_j \right) \right) = \\ &= \tilde{f}_{i_0, j_0} \left(\sum a_i e_i \otimes \sum b_j \epsilon_j \right) = \sum_{i, j} a_i b_j \tilde{f}_{i_0, j_0} (e_i \otimes \epsilon_j). \end{aligned}$$

⁹ because \tilde{f} should be linear.

4.3 Base change

Let A is a Ring and B is A -algebra. Let also M is an A -Module and N is B -module.

I can of course make N into A -module (just forgetting the additional A -algebra structure). But we can also make B -module of M , that is not a trivial thing, by considering $B \otimes_A M$. We can introduce B -module structure on $B \otimes_A M$ by ¹⁰

$$b \cdot (b' \otimes m) = (b \cdot b') \otimes m$$

Example 4.2 (The complexification of a real vector space). We can “make” \mathbb{R}^{2n} from \mathbb{C}^n by forgetting the complex structure. ¹¹ The \mathbb{C}^n has the following basis e_1, \dots, e_n . The \mathbb{R}^{2n} has the following one $e_1, \dots, e_n, ie_1, \dots, ie_n$. Now we forgot about multiplication rules for $i = \sqrt{-1}$ and denote ie_i as v_i . In the case the basis for \mathbb{R}^{2n} is the following one: $e_1, \dots, e_n, v_1, \dots, v_n$.

But we can also do the following constructions

$$\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n = \mathbb{C} \otimes \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2n}$$

for the \mathbb{C}^n basis we have $1_{\mathbb{C}} \otimes e_1, \dots, 1_{\mathbb{C}} \otimes e_n$ and for \mathbb{R}^{2n} - $1 \otimes e_1, \dots, 1 \otimes e_n, i \otimes e_1, \dots, i \otimes e_n$. ¹²

Proposition 4.3. In general we have the following. If M - free A - module with basis e_1, \dots, e_n then $B \otimes_A M$ is a free B module with basis $1_B \otimes e_1, \dots, 1_B \otimes e_n$.

Proof. The proof is the same as at proposition 4.1. Again we construct certain bilinear maps and say that those factor over the tensor product and this implies that certain families are linearly independent.

¹⁰ I.e. we introduced B -algebra operations for objects from $B \otimes_A M$. See also definition 1.1.

¹¹ In the case we have ring $A = \mathbb{R}$ and $B = \mathbb{C}$ - A algebra. A - module is the following vector space $M = \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ and B - module is $N = \mathbb{C}^n$.

¹² some additional clarification: $\forall x \in \mathbb{C} \otimes \mathbb{R}^n$ we have

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \otimes r_i e_i = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i r_i 1_{\mathbb{C}} \otimes e_i = \sum_{i=1}^n c'_i 1_{\mathbb{C}} \otimes e_i,$$

where $c_i, c'_i = c_i r_i \in \mathbb{C}, r_i \in \mathbb{R}$. Thus we just got \mathbb{C}^n . From other side we can write c_i as follows: $c_i = a_i + ib_i$, where $a_i, b_i \in \mathbb{R}$. Therefore

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i r_i 1 \otimes e_i + \sum_{i=1}^n b_i r_i i \otimes e_i.$$

I.e. $x \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ and the basis in \mathbb{R}^{2n} is formed by $1 \otimes e_1, \dots, 1 \otimes e_n, i \otimes e_1, \dots, i \otimes e_n$.

Really lets define bilinear map $f_{i_0} : B \times M \rightarrow A$ such that

$$f_{i_0} \left(b, \sum_{i=1}^n m_i e_i \right) = b m_{i_0} e_{i_0}$$

so there exists a linear map \tilde{f}_{i_0} such that $f_{i_0} = \tilde{f}_{i_0} \phi$ or

$$\begin{aligned} f_{i_0} \left(b, \sum_{i=1}^n m_i e_i \right) &= \tilde{f}_{i_0} \left(\phi \left(b, \sum_{i=1}^n m_i e_i \right) \right) \\ &= \tilde{f}_{i_0} \left(b \otimes \sum_{i=1}^n m_i e_i \right) = b \tilde{f}_{i_0} \left(1_B \otimes \sum_{i=1}^n m_i e_i \right) = b m_{i_0} \end{aligned}$$

i.e. it sends $1_B \otimes e_{i_0}$ to 1 and all others $1_B \otimes e_i$ to 0. Thus the following sum $\sum \alpha_i 1_B \otimes e_i$ is equal to 0 if and only if $\alpha_i = 0$ i.e. $\alpha_i 1_B \otimes e_i$ forms a basis. \square

Remark 4.2. *We have the following maps.*

- For A - modules: $\alpha : M \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow 1_B \otimes_A m} B \otimes_A M$ which makes a B -module from an A -module.
- For B - modules: $\mu : B \otimes_A N \xrightarrow{b \otimes n \rightarrow bn} N$.

Theorem 4.1 (Base-change). *Let A is a Ring and B is A -algebra. Let also M is an A -Module and N is B -module.*

$$\text{Hom}_A(M, N) \leftrightarrow \text{Hom}_B(B \otimes_A M, N)$$

I.e. the homomorphisms¹³ are the same or in other words the corresponding groups of homomorphisms are isomorphic:

$$\text{Hom}_A(M, N) \cong \text{Hom}_B(B \otimes_A M, N)$$

Proof. First of all we have¹⁴ Homomorphism $f : B \otimes_A M \rightarrow N$. We also have the following map (see remark 4.2): $\alpha : M \rightarrow B \otimes_A M$. Thus $f \cdot \alpha : M \rightarrow N$ i.e. we can set the following relation

$$\hat{f} : \text{Hom}_B(B \otimes_A M, N) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_A(M, N)$$

¹³ A -homomorphisms between A modules $\text{Hom}_A(M, N)$ are the same as B -homomorphisms between B modules $\text{Hom}_B(B \otimes_A M, N)$.

¹⁴ One homomorphism from $\text{Hom}_B(B \otimes_A M, N)$

such that $\hat{f}(f) = f\alpha$.

In other direction we have $g : M \rightarrow N$ thus $id_B \otimes g : B \otimes_A M \rightarrow B \otimes_A N$ but (see remark 4.2) we have $\mu : B \otimes_A N \rightarrow N$ i.e. we have the following relation

$$\hat{g} : Hom_A(M, N) \rightarrow Hom_B(B \otimes_A M, N)$$

such that

$$\hat{g}(g) = \mu \cdot (id_B \otimes g).$$

And we can check that those maps (\hat{f} and \hat{g}) are mutually inverse. For the proof ¹⁵ the fact consider the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} M & \xrightarrow{f\alpha} & N & & \\ & \xrightarrow{g} & & \nwarrow \mu & \\ & \searrow \alpha & & & \\ & & B \otimes_A M & \xrightarrow{id_B \otimes g} & B \otimes_A N \end{array}$$

One can conclude (as soon as the diagram commutes)

$$\hat{f}(\hat{g}(g)) = \mu \cdot (id_B \otimes g) \cdot \alpha = g.$$

□

4.4 Examples. Tensor product of algebras

Proposition 4.4. *If $I \subset A$ - is an Ideal so my B - A algebra will be $B = A/I$ then*

$$A/I \otimes_A M \cong M/IM$$

Proof. We have map $\alpha : M \rightarrow B \otimes_A M = A/I \otimes_A M$ (see remark 4.2) which sends m to $\bar{1} \otimes m$. ¹⁶ The map sends IM to 0 because $\forall i \in I, m \in M : im \rightarrow \bar{1} \otimes im = \bar{i} \otimes m$ because the tensor product is over A and everything is A linear and as result $\bar{1} \otimes im = \bar{i} \otimes m$, but $\bar{i} \otimes m = \bar{0} \otimes m = 0$. ¹⁷ Thus α sends IM to 0. So α induces $\bar{\alpha} : M/IM \rightarrow A/I \otimes_A M$ such that $\bar{\alpha}(\bar{m}) = \bar{1} \otimes m$.

For other direction we apply Base-change theorem. The following map (projection) of A -modules

$$M \xrightarrow{m \mapsto \bar{m}} M/IM$$

¹⁵ It's missed in the lectures

¹⁶ $\bar{1} = 1_A + I$

¹⁷ because $\bar{i} = 0 \mod I$

gives us the following map of B -modules ¹⁸

$$\bar{\beta} : B \otimes_A M \rightarrow M/IM$$

i.e.

$$\bar{\beta} : A/I \otimes_A M \rightarrow M/IM$$

that sends $\bar{a} \otimes m$ to $\bar{a}\bar{m}$ Ones check again that this inverse to $\bar{\alpha}$. ¹⁹ □

Several examples:

Example 4.3. Let $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ what will we obtain?

$$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} / (2) \cdot \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$$

but 2 is invertible: $2^{-1} = -1 \pmod{3}$ ²⁰ thus $(2)\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ and as result

$$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} / \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} = 0$$

Example 4.4. Another obvious example ²¹

$$B \otimes_A A[X] \cong B[X]$$

and more interesting one

$$B \otimes_A A[X] / (P) \cong B[X] / (P),$$

there (P) becomes an ideal generated by P in $B[X]$.

¹⁸ just ignore B : $B \otimes_A M \rightarrow M \rightarrow M/IM$.

¹⁹ For example $\bar{\beta}(\bar{\alpha}(\bar{m})) = \bar{\beta}(\bar{1} \otimes m) = \overline{1 \cdot m} = \bar{m}$

²⁰ I.e. there exist an invertible element $2^{-1} \in \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{F}_3$ therefore $1_{\mathbb{F}_3} \in 2 \cdot \mathbb{F}_3$ or $2 \cdot \mathbb{F}_3 = \mathbb{F}_3$ and as result $(2) \cdot \mathbb{F}_3 = \mathbb{F}_3$

²¹ $B \otimes_A A[X]$ has the following B -basis: $\{1_B \otimes X^i\}$ thus $\forall b \in B \otimes_A A[X]$ we can get

$$b = \sum b_i \cdot 1_B \otimes X^i$$

and there is an obvious isomorphism

$$f : B \otimes_A A[X] \xrightarrow{b \mapsto \sum b_i X^i} B[X]$$

4.4.1 Tensor product of A-algebras

Let B, C are A -algebras. The following maps form an algebra structure on A :

$$\alpha : A \rightarrow B$$

$$\beta : A \rightarrow C$$

New A -algebra $B \otimes_A C$: is a ring with respect to the following operation ²²

$$(b \otimes c) \cdot (b' \otimes c') = (b \cdot b') \otimes (c \cdot c') \quad (4.1)$$

The tensor product has the following

Definition 4.3 (Universal property). *Let we have the following maps*

$$\alpha : A \rightarrow B,$$

$$\beta : A \rightarrow C,$$

$$\phi : B \xrightarrow[b \mapsto b \otimes 1_C]{} B \otimes_A C,$$

$$\psi : C \xrightarrow[c \mapsto 1_B \otimes c]{} B \otimes_A C$$

Then for any A -algebra D one has

$$\text{Hom}_A(B \otimes_A C, D) \leftrightarrow \text{Hom}_A(B, D) \times \text{Hom}_A(C, D)$$

i.e. if I have some Homomorphism $h \in \text{Hom}_A(B \otimes_A C, D)$ this is the same as giving 2 homomorphisms $f \in \text{Hom}_A(B, D)$ and $g \in \text{Hom}_A(C, D)$ such that all maps in the following diagram commute (see Commutative diagram).



Thus if we have h then we can define $f = h \cdot \phi$ and $g = h \cdot \psi$. And conversely if I have f and g then I can define h by the following rule:

$$h(b \otimes c) = f(b) \cdot g(c)$$

²² that makes it A -algebra (see K-algebra)

The main point for us is that the tensor product of the A -algebras is itself an A -algebra by this very simple rule, component-wise multiplication (see (4.1)).

Let consider next example. We will start with the following

$$\mathbb{C} \cong \mathbb{R}[X]/(X^2 + 1)$$

therefore with result from example 4.4 one can get

$$\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C} \cong \mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{R}[X]/(X^2 + 1) \cong \mathbb{C}[X]/(X^2 + 1)$$

but by Chinese remainder theorem

$$\mathbb{C}[X]/(X^2 + 1) \cong \mathbb{C}[X]/(X + i) \times \mathbb{C}[X]/(X - i) \cong \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}$$

As result we have that $\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C}$ is not a field because it has zero divisors. How we can get the zero divisors? The element $\overline{X + i}$ is a zero divisor in $\mathbb{C}[X]/(X^2 + 1)$ because

$$(X + i)(X - i) \equiv 0 \pmod{(X^2 + 1)}$$

Another proof (not a part of the lecture) of the fact that $\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C}$ is not a field consider the following one

$$\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C} \cong \mathbb{C}[X]/(X^2 + 1)$$

but the polynomial $X^2 + 1 = (X + i)(X - i)$ is reducible in $\mathbb{C}[X]$ i.e. is not a Maximal ideal (see theorem A.6) and with the theorem A.7 the quotient by the polynomial is not a field (see also section 1.1.4).

4.5 Relatively prime ideals. Chinese remainder theorem

Definition 4.4 (Relatively prime ideals). *Let A - Ring and I, J are Ideals. I and J are relatively prime if $I + J = A$.*

Lemma 4.3. 1. *If I, J are relatively prime then $IJ = I \cap J$*

2. *If I_1, \dots, I_k relatively prime with J then $\prod_{i=1}^k I_i = I_1 \dots I_k$ is also relatively prime with J .*

3. *If I, J relatively prime then I^k and J^l are also relatively prime for any l and k .*

4.5. RELATIVELY PRIME IDEALS. CHINESE REMAINDER THEOREM 59

Proof. 1. The following one $IJ \subset I \cap J$ is clear ²³ If I and J are relatively prime then $1_A = i + j$ for some $i \in I$ and $j \in J$. Thus $\forall x \in I \cap J$ we have the following ones: $xi \in IJ$ and $xj \in IJ$ and as result

$$x = xi + xj \in IJ$$

i.e. $I \cap J \subset IJ$.

2. Suppose for simplicity that $k = 2$. In the case we have $1_A = i_1 + j_1 = i_2 + j_2$ where $i_1 \in I_1, i_2 \in I_2$ and $j_1, j_2 \in J$. we also have

$$1_A = (i_1 + j_1)(i_2 + j_2) = i_1i_2 + (j_1i_2 + j_2i_1 + j_1j_2) \in I_1I_2 + J$$

thus $\forall x \in A$ we have

$$x = 1_Ax = i_1i_2x + (j_1i_2 + j_2i_1 + j_1j_2)x \in I_1I_2 + J,$$

i.e. $I_1I_2 + J = A$ therefore I_1I_2 and J are relatively prime.

3. is obvious ²⁴

□

Theorem 4.2 (Chinese remainder theorem). *Let I_1, \dots, I_n - ideals and map $\pi : A \rightarrow A/I_1 \times \dots \times A/I_n$ defined as follows*

$$\pi(a) = (a \bmod I_1, \dots, a \bmod I_n)$$

The kernel $\ker \pi = I_1 \cap \dots \cap I_n$.

The π is Surjection if and only if I_1, \dots, I_n are pairwise relatively prime. In that case

$$A / \cap I_k \cong A / \prod I_k \cong \prod (A / I_k)$$

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²³ Assuming that I and J commute we have if $x \in IJ$ then $x \in I$ and if $x \in JI$ then $x \in J$ i.e. $x \in I \cap J$.

²⁴ It follows from the 2 because we can assume $I_i = I$ and will get that $\forall k, I^k$ is relatively prime with J . From other side we can assume $I_i = J$ and $J = I^k$ and conclude that J^l is relatively prime with I^k .

²⁵ See First isomorphism theorem where $G = A$, $H = A/I_1 \times \dots \times A/I_n$, $\phi = \pi$ and with lemma 4.3 (as soon as I_k pairwise relatively prime)

$$\ker \phi = \ker \pi = I_1 \cap \dots \cap I_n = I_1 \dots I_n.$$

Proof. Let π is Surjection. In the case $\exists a_i \in A$ such that

$$\pi(a_i) = (0, \dots, 1(\text{ in } i\text{-th place }), 0, \dots, 0)$$

i.e. $a_i \bmod I_j = 0$ or $a_i \in I_j$ for $i \neq j$. We also have $a_i \bmod I_i = 1$ thus $1 - a_i = kI_i$ i.e. $1 - a_i \in I_i$. Thus $\forall j, \exists a_i \in I_j, a_k \in I_i$ such that $1 = a_i + a_k$ thus $A = I_j + I_i$ i.e. I_i relatively prime with any I_j .

Conversely if I_i is relatively prime with any I_j where $j \neq i$ then it also relatively prime with the product (see lemma 4.3) $\prod_{j \neq i} I_j$. In the case $\exists x_i \in I_i, y_i \in \prod_{j \neq i} I_j$ such that $1 = x_i + y_i$ in the case

$$\pi(y_i) = (0, \dots, 1(\text{ in } i\text{-th place }), 0, \dots, 0)$$

and $\forall b_i \in A/I_i$

$$\pi \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i y_i \right) = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$$

i.e. π is surjective. □

Let K is a field and A is a finite (finite dimensional vector space) K -algebra.

Proposition 4.5. 1. If A is an Integral domain then A is a field.

2. (replacing the first one) Any Prime ideal of A is a Maximal ideal

Proof. Well, I shall prove only the first part, the second part is just a consequence of definitions. In fact, a factor over a prime ideal, a quotient over a prime ideal is an integral domain, and a quotient over a maximal ideal is a field. ²⁶ If you don't know this, please look it up in any book.

Lets prove the first part. Integral domain means that there is no zero divisors i.e. $\forall a \in A$ ²⁷ multiplication by a is Injection. A is finite dimensional Vector space (see above) that implies that $\times a$ is an Isomorphism, ²⁸ in particular Surjection i.e. $\exists b \in A$ such that $b \times a = 1$ i.e. a is invertible therefore A is field. □

²⁶ i.e. prime ideal is a maximal ideal

²⁷ $a \neq 0_A$

²⁸ $\times a$ sends a vector space into another vector space with the same dimension. But with lemma About vector space isomorphism one can get that the spaces are isomorphic each others and as result the operation $\times a$ is an Isomorphism.

4.6 Structure of finite algebras over a field. Examples

Theorem 4.3 (Structure of finite K -algebra). *Let A be a finite K -algebra i.e. $\dim_K A < \infty$. Then*

1. *There are only finitely many Maximal ideals m_1, \dots, m_r in A*
2. *Let $J = m_1 \cap \dots \cap m_r = m_1 \dots m_r$.²⁹ Then $J^n = 0$ for some n*
3. *$A \cong A/m_1^{n_1} \times \dots \times A/m_r^{n_r}$ for some n_1, \dots, n_r .*

Proof. 1. Let m_1, \dots, m_i are maximal ideals. By Chinese remainder theorem we have³⁰

$$A/m_1 \dots m_i \cong A/m_1 \times \dots \times A/m_i.$$

We know that A as well as $A/m_1 \dots m_i$ and A/m_k are finite dimensional K -Vector space³¹ thus we have the following relations

$$\dim_K A \geq \dim_K A/m_1 \dots m_i = \sum_{j=1}^i \dim_K A/m_j \geq i.$$

Therefore if N the number of maximal ideals then $\dim_K A \geq N$ i.e. the number of maximal ideal is limited by the vector space dimension.

2. $J = m_1 \cap \dots \cap m_r = m_1 \dots m_r$ is finite dimensional vector space over K as well as its powers J^k . We have the following sequence³²

$$\dots \subseteq J^k \subseteq \dots \subseteq J^2 \subseteq J.$$

and the sequence should stop somewhere³³ i.e. $\exists n$ such that $J^n = J^{n+1}$.

We claim that $J^n = 0$ in the case. Indeed if not we have the following

²⁹ Since the ideals are relatively prime the intersection is the same as the product of the ideals

³⁰ Maximal ideals are relatively prime because in a commutative ring with unity, every Maximal ideal is a Prime ideal see also proposition 4.5.

³¹ The theorem statement (see above) says that $\dim_K A < \infty$. A/m_1 is a projection i.e. $\dim_K A/m_1 < \dim_K A < \infty$.

³² Let $j \in J \subset A$ and $x \in JJ$. Then $\exists j \in J$ such that $x = jj$ but $jj \in J$ because $\forall y \in J : jy \in J$. As result $J^2 \subseteq J$.

³³ On each step we should decrease the dimension if we don't stop. The dimension is limited and as result the sequence should stop.

basis of J^n : e_1, \dots, e_s . And as soon as $J^n = JJ^n$ we can write a vector $e_i \in J^n$ as a vector from J^n multiplied on an object from J i.e.

$$e_i = \sum \lambda_{ij} e_j,$$

there $e_j \in J^n, \lambda_{ij} \in J$. Thus if $M = id - \lambda_{ij}$

$$M \cdot \begin{pmatrix} e_1 \\ \vdots \\ e_s \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

It's possible over ring ³⁴ to find a matrix \tilde{M} such that

$$\tilde{M}M = \det M \cdot id,$$

i.e.

$$\det M \cdot \begin{pmatrix} e_1 \\ \vdots \\ e_s \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

But $\det M = 1 + \lambda$ where $\lambda \in J$. ³⁵ Since $J = m_1 \cap \dots \cap m_r$ then $\forall i : \lambda \in m_i$ so $\nexists i$ such that $1 + \lambda \in m_i$ ³⁶ thus $1 + \lambda$ is invertable ³⁷ therefore $e_1 = \dots = e_s = 0$ ³⁸

3. Using part 2 $\exists n_1, \dots, n_r$ such that $m_1^{n_1} \dots m_r^{n_r} = 0$ (for example we can assume $n_i = n$). Then by Chinese remainder theorem

$$A \cong A/m_1^{n_1} \times \dots \times A/m_r^{n_r}.$$

We used the following facts:

- $A = A/m_1^{n_1} \dots m_r^{n_r}$ ³⁹

³⁴ ???

³⁵ Because the det consists of the following items $\prod (1 - \lambda_{ii}) = 1 + (-1)^s \prod \lambda_{ii}$ and $\prod \lambda_{ij}$. The sum of the items (det) consists of 1 and another sum in which all items are from J . Thus the second sum is an element of J i.e. $\det M = 1 + \sum \prod \lambda_{ij} = 1 + \lambda$.

³⁶ We have that m_i is a Maximal ideal and therefore (by its definition) it is a Proper ideal i.e. $1 \notin m_i$. From other side if $1 + \lambda \in m_i$ then $1 + \lambda - \lambda \in m_i$ as soon as $\lambda \in m_i$. I.e. we have a contradiction.

³⁷ $0 \in m_i$ thus if $1 + \lambda \notin m_i$ then $1 + \lambda \neq 0$.

³⁸ Because $\det M = 1 + \lambda \neq 0$

³⁹ Because $A = A/\{0\}$. For example if $I = \{0\}$ and $x \in A$ then $\bar{x} \in A/I$ if $\bar{x} = x + I$. In our case $\bar{x} = x + \{0\} = x$ i.e. $\forall x \in A$ we have $x \in A/\{0\}$. (See also Quotient ring)

- $m_i^{n_i}$ are pairwise relatively prime ⁴⁰

□

Remark 4.3. The n_i s are not uniquely defined. For example (see also example 5.1)

$$A = K[X] / (X^2(X+1)^3).$$

We have 2 ideals there: $m_1 = (X)$ and $m_2 = (X+1)$. We of course have

$$A \cong A/m_1^2 \times A/m_2^3$$

but also we have

$$A \cong A/m_1^3 \times A/m_2^3$$

as soon as $m_1^2 = m_1^3$ in A : $(X)^2 \subset (X)^3$ but also $(X)^3 \subset (X)^2$ ⁴¹

Several examples:

$$\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C} = \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}.$$

Another example

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3})$$

And you see that those algebras are Cartesian products of fields. So all n_i 's may be taken equal to 1 ⁴². In other words, we don't have Nilpotent elements in our algebra ⁴³. So, it is a reduced algebras. Reduced, by definition, is without nilpotents. It's general phenomena because the presence of nilpotents is due to the inseparability of extensions come from inseparable extensions.

⁴⁰ As soon as $\{m_i\}$ - Maximal ideals and as result Prime ideals then with lemma 4.3 one can get that $\forall i \neq j$ $m_i^{n_i}$ is relatively prime with $m_j^{n_j}$.

⁴¹ $(X)^3 \subset (X)^2$ - this is true for any polynomial $P(X)$ because if $P(X) \in (X)^3$ then $P(X) = X^3 P'(X) = X^2 \bar{P}(X) \in (X)^2$ where $\bar{P}(X) = X P'(X)$

$(X)^2 \subset (X)^3$ is the more complex one and it does not true for any polynomial ring but this is true for our A . Let $P(X) \in (X)^2 \subset K[X]$ then $P(X) = X^2 P'(X)$ but $X^2 P'(X) \equiv 0 \pmod{X^2}$. From other side $X^4 P'(X) \equiv 0 \pmod{X^2}$ therefore

$$P(X) \equiv X^3 X P'(X) \pmod{X^2}$$

i.e. $P(X) \in (X)^3$.

⁴² Because A/m^n (where m is a maximal ideal) is a field if $n = 1$

⁴³ Cartesian products of fields has no nilpotent elements except 0 [5].

Chapter 5

Structure of finite K-algebras continued

We apply the discussion from the last lecture to the case of field extensions. We show that the separable extensions remain reduced after a base change: the inseparability is responsible for eventual nilpotents. As our next subject, we introduce normal and Galois extensions and prove Artin's theorem on invariants.

5.1 Structure of finite K-algebras, examples (cont'd)

Last time we have seen that a finite K -algebra A ($[A : K] < \infty$) has only finitely many maximal ideals m_1, \dots, m_r and the following equation holds (see theorem 4.3):

$$A \cong A/m_1^{k_1} \times \cdots \times A/m_r^{k_r}$$

This is a general form of Chinese remainder theorem.

Example 5.1. *Let*

$$A = K[X] / (F)$$

And the polynomial F is not necessary irreducible so let's decompose into a product of irreducible factors: $F = P_1^{k_1} \dots P_r^{k_r}$. Then by the Chinese remainder theorem ¹ one can get

$$A \cong K[X] / (P_1)^{k_1} \times \cdots \times K[X] / (P_r)^{k_r},$$

¹ See also remark 4.3 and theorem 4.3

where $K[X]/(P_i)^{k_i} = A/m_i^{k_i}$ and $m_i = (P_i \bmod F)$ ² - an ideal.

Definition 5.1 (Nilpotent element). *Let A is a Ring than $x \in A$ is nilpotent if $x \neq 0$ but $\exists k : x^k = 0$.*³

Definition 5.2 (reduced). *K -algebra A is reduced if it has no Nilpotent elements. Or in other words⁴ if in the decomposition*

$$A \cong A/m_1^{k_1} \times \cdots \times A/m_r^{k_r}$$

$\forall i : k_i = 1$. Or⁵ if A is a product of fields.

Definition 5.3 (local). *Ring A is called local if it has only one Maximal ideal i.e. $A \cong A/m^k$.*

If A is local then all elements of A are nilpotents⁶ i.e. any element of A is a identity, zero or nilpotent.

Most of our last examples were examples of reduced K -algebras such as

$$\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C} = \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}$$

or

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}(i) = \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})$$

that is a field and if we start producing similar examples then mostly they are reduced. Well, why? Because in fact the presence of nilpotents has to do with inseparability. The presence of nilpotents reflects inseparability.

So let me give you one more example: tensor product of extensions which is not reduced. Let K be a field of characteristic p , for instance \mathbb{F}_p . Consider

² Using definition A.22 one can get that $P_i \in K[X]$ corresponds to $P_i \bmod F$ in $A = K[X]/(F)$ therefore we have (P_i) is a Maximal ideal for $K[X]$ and

$$A/(P_i)^{k_i} = K[X]/(P_i \bmod F)^{k_i}.$$

but $P_i \bmod F = P_i$ and as result

$$K[X]/(F) \cong K[X]/(P_1)^{k_1} \times \cdots \times K[X]/(P_r)^{k_r}.$$

³ Alternative definition from [9]: An element, x , of a ring, R , is called nilpotent if there exists some positive integer, n , such that $x^n = 0$.

⁴ Let we have an i -th element of the product $\prod A/m_i^{k_i}$ with $k_i > 1$ and $m_i = (p)$ when $p \in A/m_i^{k_i}$ and $p \neq 0 = p^{k_i}$ i.e. p is a nilpotent.

⁵ A/m_i is a field as soon as m_i is a Maximal ideal

⁶ ???

a field of rational functions over K ⁷ : $K(X)$. We will consider $K(X)$ as an extension of $K(X^p)$ (or with new variable $Y = X^p - K(Y)$). We will be interested in $K(X) \otimes_{K(Y)} K(X)$ where X is a p th root of Y so ⁸

$$\begin{aligned} K(X) \otimes_{K(Y)} K(X) &\cong \\ &\cong K(X) \otimes_{K(Y)} K[T] / (T^p - Y) \cong \\ &\cong K(X)[T] / (T^p - Y) = \\ &= K(X)[T] / (T^p - X^p) = K(X)[T] / (T - X)^p \end{aligned}$$

where T is another variable. As result we have got a ring with nilpotents for example $T - X$ and of course the reason is that our extension $K(X)$ is pure inseparable extension (see definition 3.9) of $K(Y)$.

5.2 Separability and base change

What is the reason for such a mysterious connection between presence of nilpotents and separability? If L is separable over K then the number of Homomorphisms $|Hom_K(L, \bar{K})|$ is maximal and equal to degree $[L : K]$ but in general it is less or equal to the degree. This is of course clear, because if we have a polynomial with distinct roots, then it's stem field for instance has exactly this number of homomorphisms into the-algebraic closure and this number is equal to the number of roots. So if some roots coincide, then the number of homomorphisms diminishes.

Lets also recall Base-change. If L and E are extensions of K and L is finite over K then

$$Hom_K(L, E) \cong Hom_E(L \otimes_K E, E).$$

In the formula, $L \otimes_K E$ is a finite E -algebra denoted as A below.

Remark 5.1. *The remark is not a part of the lectures but it is important to understand the below content.*

We have that $A = L \otimes_K E \cong E \otimes_K L$ is a free E module as soon as L is a free K module and with proposition 4.3 we have that $[A : E] < \infty$ (as soon as $[L : K] < \infty$) and as result with theorem 4.3 one can get that there are finitely many maximal ideals m_i and

$$A \cong A/m_1^{k_1} \times \cdots \times A/m_r^{k_r}$$

⁷ As it was shown in example 3.5 (part 3) it's not a Perfect field and as result of theorem 3.6 is not separable.

⁸ as soon as $K(X) = K[T] / (T^p - Y)$

Definition 5.4. *With Chinese remainder theorem theorem we have*

$$A \cong A/m_1^{k_1} \times \cdots \times A/m_r^{k_r}$$

Reduced algebra A_{red} is defined by the following equation

$$A_{red} = A/m_1 \times \cdots \times A/m_r$$

We have that ⁹

$$A_{red} = A/\eta(A)$$

where $\eta(A)$ is an Ideal of nilpotents in A .

It is clear that ¹⁰

$$\text{Hom}_E(A, E) = \text{Hom}_E(A_{red}, E)$$

because all homomorphism into a field must be zero on all nilpotents.

So again, we see that if there are nilpotents in the tensor product, then there is somehow fewer space for homomorphisms. Because if A is not reduced, then the dimension

$$[A_{red} : E] < [A : E].$$

So the maximal number of homomorphisms, so let's say the slogan "Maximal number of homomorphisms" is attained when A is reduced and all quotients

$$A/m_i \cong E \tag{5.1}$$

¹¹ because those quotients are of course extensions of E . ¹² In general, those quotients are extensions of E . We also have

$$A \cong A/m_1 \times \cdots \times A/m_r$$

but $\text{Hom}(A/m_i, E) = \{0\}$ if $[A/m_i : E] > 1$. This is because a field homomorphism is always injective. A field homomorphism a homomorphism of fields which are extensions of E an E -homomorphism is injective. So you cannot map an E -vector space of dimension greater than 1 into an E -vector space of dimension 1.

⁹ i.e. nilpotents become zeros in the A_{red} .

¹⁰ ???

¹¹ ???

¹² as it was mentioned above $A = L \otimes_K E$ is a finite E -algebra i.e. A is a E -extension. ??? What's about A/m

Lets take $E = \bar{K}$ then automatically we will get $A/m_i \cong E$ because an algebraically closed field does not have a non trivial finite extension.

So what have we had (see also example 5.2)?

$$A = L \otimes_K \bar{K},$$

$$A_{red} = \prod_{i=1}^r \bar{K}.$$

The following one $A = A_{red}$ is the same to r is maximal and equal to $[L : K] = [A : \bar{K}]$.¹³ In the case

$$r = |Hom_{\bar{K}}(A, \bar{K})| = |Hom_K(L, \bar{K})|$$

So this explains why seperability is the same thing as the absence of nilpotents. So let me formulate it as a theorem.

Theorem 5.1. *Let L is a finite extension over K then*

1. *L is separable if and only if $L \otimes_K \bar{K}$ is reduced. L is pure inseparable if and only if $L \otimes_K \bar{K}$ is local*
2. *L is separable if and only if for all algebraic extension Ω , $L \otimes_K \Omega$ is reduced. L is pure inseparable if and only if for all algebraic extension Ω , $L \otimes_K \Omega$ is local.*
3. *If L is separable then the map*

$$\phi : L \otimes_K \bar{K} \rightarrow \bar{K}^n$$

which sends

$$\phi(l \otimes k) = (k\phi_1(l), \dots, k\phi_n(l))$$

where ϕ_i are distinct homomorphisms from L to \bar{K} , is an isomorphism.

Proof. 1. L separable is the same thing that the algebra $A = L \otimes_K \bar{K}$ has $[L : K]$ factors¹⁴ \bar{K} which is the same as A is reduced since $\dim_{\bar{K}} A = [L : K]$.¹⁵

¹³ ??? May be it because there are $[L : K]$ roots of a polynomial and all the roots are in \bar{K} . Each root α_i forms a polynomial $X - \alpha_i$ which creates an ideal $m_i = (X - \alpha_i)$.

¹⁴ ??? If we have $L = K(\alpha)$ (see theorem 3.5) then there exists a minimal polynomial $P_{min}(\alpha, K)$ of degree $r = [L : K]$. The polynomial splits and has r roots: $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$. Thus we have r maximal ideals $m_1 = (X - \alpha_1), \dots, m_r = (X - \alpha_r)$. For each maximal ideal we have $A/m_i \cong A$ (see example 1.4) thus with theorem 4.3 and (5.1) we have

$$A \cong \prod_{i=1}^r \bar{K}$$

¹⁵ see example 1.4.

L is pure inseparable: this means that exists only one homomorphism of L into \bar{K} i.e. A has only one \bar{K} -homomorphism into \bar{K} thus only one factor and as result A is local.

2. If Ω is an algebraic extension then ¹⁶

$$L \otimes_K \Omega \hookrightarrow L \otimes_K \bar{\Omega} = L \otimes_K \bar{K}.$$

There is a sub-ring and so one easily checks, that a sub-ring of a reduced algebra is reduced and same for local.

3. Leave as an excises ¹⁷

□

Remark 5.2. *In general for modules M , N and P over a ring R **not true** that if $M \hookrightarrow N$ (M is a sub module of N) then $M \otimes_R P \hookrightarrow N \otimes_R P$. But this become the truth if R is a field and as result M, N, P are Vector spaces. So, for my field extensions, I can say that if I have an extension and then I take a base change, then it remains an extension, but you should not think that the same thing is true for arbitrary modules over a ring.*

Example 5.2. *The example is not a part of lectures and was taken from [3]. Consider extension $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ over \mathbb{Q} . Since*

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) \cong \mathbb{Q}[X] / (X^2 - 2)$$

tensoring with \mathbb{Q} gives

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \bar{\mathbb{Q}} &\cong \bar{\mathbb{Q}} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) \cong \\ &\cong \bar{\mathbb{Q}} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}[X] / (X^2 - 2) \cong \\ &\cong \bar{\mathbb{Q}}[X] / \left((X - \sqrt{2})(X + \sqrt{2}) \right) \cong \\ &\cong \bar{\mathbb{Q}}[X] / (X - \sqrt{2}) \times \bar{\mathbb{Q}}[X] / (X + \sqrt{2}) \cong \bar{\mathbb{Q}} \times \bar{\mathbb{Q}} \end{aligned}$$

We used the following fact (see example 1.4)

$$\bar{\mathbb{Q}}[X] / (X \pm \sqrt{2}) \cong \bar{\mathbb{Q}}$$

¹⁶ see definition A.37

¹⁷ ??? provide proof

5.3 Primitive element theorem

Definition 5.5 (Idempotent). *The element x is called idempotent if $x \cdot x = x$*

Theorem 5.2 (Primitive element). *Let L is a finite Separable extension of K then it has only finitely many sub extensions i.e. E such that $K \subset E \subset L$.*

Proof. So, let's base change to \bar{K} ¹⁸ :

$$E \otimes_K \bar{K} \hookrightarrow L \otimes_K \bar{K}$$

. We also have (see also example 5.2)

$$E \otimes_K \bar{K} \cong \bar{K}^m$$

and

$$L \otimes_K \bar{K} \cong \bar{K}^n$$

are reduced \bar{K} sub-algebras generated by Idempotents namely by $(0, 0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0)$ where 1 is in i -th place.

On the other hand $L \otimes_K \bar{K} \cong \bar{K}^n$ has only finitely many Idempotents because $(a_1, \dots, a_i, \dots, a_n)$ is an idempotent if and only if all a_i are 0 or 1 and therefore there are only finitely many ways to choose m idempotents out of them, so there is only finitely many ways to generate a subalgebra. \square

Corollary 5.1 (Primitive element theorem). $\exists \alpha \in L$ such that $L = K(\alpha)$ whenever L is finite and separable.

Proof. And this is easy to see, of course, because if L and K are infinite, then L cannot be a union, a finite union of proper subextension. A vector space over an infinite field is not a finite union of proper subspaces. For instance a plane is not a finite union of lines. ¹⁹

If L and K are Finite fields, then we have already described this situation completely. We have described all finite extensions and have seen that they are generated by one element. ²⁰ \square

¹⁸ see proof of theorem 5.1 (second part of it).

¹⁹ It will require some additional explanations. Let [1] $L = K(\alpha, \beta)$ (the case of $K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ with easy induction collapsed to the case with 2 elements). α and β have to be Algebraic elements over K and β has to be Separable element. Let $\lambda \in K$ and we want to show that $\gamma = \alpha + \lambda\beta$ is primitive element i.e. simple extension $K(\gamma)$ contains β as soon as $\alpha = \gamma - \lambda\beta$. ??? complete proof

²⁰ As it was mentioned in the proof of corollary 3.4 we can take $\alpha =$ generator of K^* . For more info see corollary 3.4.

5.4 Examples. Normal extensions

5.4.1 Examples

Example 5.3 (Primitive element).

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}).$$

We have $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 4$ so all subextensions are quadratic. As no quadratic polynomial has $\alpha = \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}$ for a root, α generates $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3})$.
21

This must be a primitive element, generates our field. It is not contained in any proper subextension.

Example 5.4 (Extension which cannot be generated by a single element). So, take K equal to \mathbb{F}_p and consider $K(x, y)$ as an extension of $K(x^p, y^p)$. It has degree p^2 i.e.

$$[K(x, y) : K(x^p, y^p)] = p^2.$$

We have $\forall \alpha \in K(x, y) \setminus K(x^p, y^p)$ is of degree p over $K(x^p, y^p)$. This is because $\alpha^p \in K(x^p, y^p)$. So, no element like these can generate our extension.

5.4.2 Normal extensions

Definition 5.6 (Normal extension). A normal extension of K is a Splitting field of a family of polynomials in $K[X]$.

Remark 5.3 (Normal extension). So, take a bunch of polynomials in K and we adjoin all their roots to K , and this is what is called a normal extension. For instance, a Splitting field of one polynomial is also a normal extension.

Theorem 5.3. The following conditions are equivalent for an extension L of K :

1. $\forall x \in L$ $P_{\min}(x, K)$ splits in L .
2. L is Normal extension
3. All Homomorphisms from L to \bar{K} have the same image.
4. The Group of Automorphisms $\text{Aut}(L/K)$ acts transitively (see definition A.10) on this set of homomorphisms $\text{Hom}_K(L, \bar{K})$.

21 ???

Proof. 1 implies 2: Take $(P_i)_{i \in I} = \{P_{\min}(x, K) \mid x \in L\}$ - the set of polynomials. L will be a splitting field of the set $(P_i)_{i \in I}$ and therefore (by definition) L is normal.

2 implies 3: Let $S = \{\text{roots of } P_i, i \in I \text{ in } L\}$ and $S' = \{\text{roots of } P_i, i \in I \text{ in } \bar{K}\}$ then any homomorphism $\phi : L \rightarrow \bar{K}$ sends S to S' , but S generates L over K , so $\phi(S)$ determines $\phi(L)$.

3 implies 4: Let $j, j' \in \text{Hom}_K(L, \bar{K})$ then they send L isomorphically to its image. So, these are isomorphisms from L to L' . So

$$L \xrightarrow{j'} L' \xrightarrow{j^{-1}} L,$$

take $j^{-1} \cdot j' \in \text{Aut}(L/K)$ and it sends j to j' .

4 implies 1: I have this Transitive group action and I have to prove that any minimal polynomial splits. Consider $P_{\min}(x, K)$. $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ - roots in \bar{K} . Then I have map $K(x) \rightarrow K(\alpha_i)$ that extends to $j_i : L \xrightarrow{x \rightarrow \alpha_i} \bar{K}$. This is by theorem About extension of homomorphism. $\exists \theta_i \in \text{Aut}(L/K)$ such that $j_1 \theta_i = j_i$ thus $\alpha_i \in j_1(L)$ or all roots are in $j_1(L)$ and the polynomial $P_{\min}(x, \bar{K})$ splits over $j_1(L)$ but this means that it splits over L \square

5.5 Galois extensions

Now we are ready to give a definition for central object of Galois theory

Definition 5.7 (Galois extension). *A Galois extension is a Normal extension and Separable extension.*

Theorem 5.4. *Let L be a finite over K then the number of automorphisms $\text{Aut}(L/K)$ is less or equal to degree $[L : K]$:*

$$|\text{Aut}(L/K)| \leq [L : K].$$

The equality holds if and only if L is Galois extension.

Proof. We know that the group of automorphisms $\text{Aut}(L/k)$ acts freely on $\text{Hom}_K(L, \bar{K})$, so the number of automorphisms $|\text{Aut}(L/K)|$ is equal to the number of Orbit of this action which is less or equal to the cardinality of the set it self: $|\text{Hom}_K(L, \bar{K})|$. The equality holds whenever (if and only if) Action is Transitive group action. We just seen in theorem 5.3 that this means that L is normal over K . So we have

$$|\text{Aut}(L/K)| \leq |\text{Hom}_K(L, \bar{K})| \leq [L : K].$$

The first inequality become equality if L is normal and the second one if L is separable²², thus

$$|\text{Aut}(L/K)| \leq [L : K]$$

and equality holds if L is both normal and separable i.e. if it's Galois extension. \square

Remark 5.4 (on normal extensions). *If L is normal over K then*

1. *If we have an Isomorphism of sub-extensions $(K \subset L_1, L_2 \subset L)$ $\phi : L_1 \cong L_2$ then it extends to an Automorphism of L . To see this, we embed L into an algebraic closure \bar{K} . And remark that ϕ extends to a map from L_1 to \bar{K} , but all those maps have the same image, namely L .*
2. *The group of automorphisms $\text{Aut}(L/K)$ acts transitively on the roots of any irreducible polynomial $P \in K[X]$. Again, an isomorphism of stem fields extends to an automorphism of L .*
3. *If the group $\text{Aut}(L/K)$ fixes (see definition A.9) some element $x \notin K$ then x is pure inseparable (see definition 3.6). Indeed $P_{\min}(x, K)$ has a single root x . In particular if L is Galois extension (i.e. is separable) then the set of elements which are fixed by the automorphisms of L over K is just K itself: $L^{\text{Aut}(L/K)} = K$. Notation: if group G acts on a set X then $X^G = \{x \in X \text{ such that } gx = x \forall g \in G\}$ - the set of invariants.*

Definition 5.8 (Galois group). *If L is Galois extension then Galois group $G = \text{Gal}(L/K)$ is the group of automorphisms $\text{Aut}(L/K)$.*

Thus we can write

$$L^{\text{Gal}(L/K)} = K. \quad (5.2)$$

5.6 Artin's theorem

Motivated by (5.2) let formulate and proof the important theorem

Theorem 5.5 (Artin). *L is a field and $G \subset \text{Aut}(L)$*

1. *If G acts with finite orbits, so, I mean all orbits of G are finite, then L is a Galois extension of L^G .*
2. *If $|G| = n < \infty$ then $[L : L^G] = n$ and G is a Galois group*

²² see definitions 3.7 and 3.8.

Remark 5.5. Well notice, that acting with finite orbits and being finite is not the same thing. So, a short remark before giving a proof: notice that finite orbits does not mean finiteness because it's typical for Galois groups to act with finite orbits. If we have some G , which is Galois of L over K : $G = \text{Gal}(L/K)$, and $x \in L$, then x is a root of a polynomial of some finite degree and it's splitting field is finite over K , so, the orbit of x is also finite because it's always sent to another root of the same polynomial and so consists of roots of the $P_{\min}(x, K)$. But of course the Galois group itself $\text{Gal}(L/K)$ can be infinite when L is not finite over K . For instance, if $K = \mathbb{F}_p$ and $L = \overline{\mathbb{F}_p}$. It is very easy to compute all the Galois groups, and in fact we shall see shortly what is exactly this Galois group of L over K .²³

Proof. 1. Let me take x , well say, $x_1 \in L$ which is not G -invariant: $x_1 \in L \setminus L^G$ and x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k - the G -Orbit of x . The polynomial $P(X) = \prod_{i=1}^k (X - x_i)$ is G -invariant. So, this is of course the G orbit, G just permutes the x_i , it permutes the factors of these polynomial, so the polynomial is G -invariant. Its coefficients are G -invariant then $P \in L^G[X]$ by definition. L^G is a field of G invariants, and it is separable. P is separable, because all x_i are distinct (there are distinct elements of the orbit). And L is splitting field of P , therefore L is a Galois extension over L^G .

2. We have $|G| = n$ then $\forall y \in L : |\text{Orb}(y)| \leq n$. Take x as above $[L^G(x) : L^G] \leq n$. Claim that this implies $[L : L^G] \leq n$. If I knew already, that L is finite over L^G , this would be very easy, this would be just a direct consequence of Primitive element theorem. I would say that L is generated by one element. I take this one element as my x and I see that L is of degree at most n over L^G . But I don't know yet that L is finite so I have to do some trick. So, proof of the claim: take x such that $[L^G(x) : L^G]$ is maximal then take $y \in L$. $L^G(x, y)$ is finite over L and I can apply Primitive element theorem. Therefore $L^G(x, y) = L^G(z)$. But

$$[L^G(x) : L^G] \geq [L^G(z) : L^G]$$

thus $L^G(x) = L^G(z)$ so $y \in L^G(x)$ and since I can do this for any y , I eventually conclude that $L = L^G(x)$, and in particular, $[L : L^G] \leq n$. Well, now if this is strictly less than n , then L cannot have n automorphisms over L^G but $G \subset \text{Aut}(L/L^G)$ so this is a contradiction. Therefore $[L : L^G] = n$ and $G = \text{Aut}(L/L^G)$

□

²³ ??? provide the proof

Chapter 6

Galois correspondence and first examples

We state and prove the main theorem of these lectures: the Galois correspondence. Then we start doing examples (low degree, discriminant, finite fields, roots of unity).

6.1 Some further remarks on normal extension. Fixed field

Some definitions from previous lecture. L over K is Galois extension if and only if it is a Separable extension and Normal extension or in other words L is a Splitting field of a family of separable irreducible polynomial over K . We also seen (see theorem 5.4) that in the case of finite extension $[L : K] < \infty$ the number of automorphisms $|Aut(L/K)| = [L : K]$.

There are several remarks on Normal extensions which show that the extensions behave sometimes differently compare to other types of extensions. Especially we have seen for that an extension L over M over K was finite or algebraic or separable or purely inseparable if, and only if, it was true for L over M and M over K . So, for a normal extensions, this is not the case anymore.

Remark 6.1. *Let we have a tower of extensions $K \subset L \subset M$. If M is normal over K then of course the M is normal over L . It is clear because if M is a splitting field of a family of polynomials over K the one can just consider them as being polynomials over L and say that M is a splitting field of ephemeral polynomials over L .*

But L does not have to be normal over K (see example 6.1).

Example 6.1. Consider

$$\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}) \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)$$

We have $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)$ to be a splitting field for polynomial $X^4 - 2$ but $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2})$ is just a Stem field (not Splitting field) for this polynomial. And as result $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2})$ is not a normal over \mathbb{Q} .

Remark 6.2. A quadratic extension is normal. This is by formula for roots of a quadratic equation.¹

If P quadratic over K has 1 root in L then its another root is also in L .

Remark 6.3. One often has $K \subset L \subset M$ with L normal over K , M normal over L but M not normal over K (see example 6.2).

Example 6.2. Consider

$$\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2})$$

We have $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ normal over \mathbb{Q} as well as $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2})$ normal over $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ because they both are quadratic extensions. But $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2})$ is not normal over \mathbb{Q} (as it was mentioned in example 6.2)

We also seen at last lecture the following definition:

Definition 6.1 (Fixed field). If L is a field and $G \subset \text{Aut}(L)$ then

$$L^G = \{x \in L \mid \forall g \in G : gx = x\}$$

is a fixed field

If we have a sub-field $K \subset L$ then we can consider the following group of automorphisms of L over K : $\text{Aut}(L/K)$ in the case if L is normal. Because otherwise the group will be too small to give information about L . But in the normal case it makes sense to consider the group of automorphisms of L over K .

We have seen (see (5.2)) that if L is separable over K then

$$L^{\text{Aut}(L/K)} = K$$

This is because of the group of automorphisms was permuting the roots over the minimal polynomial of x over K . So, if it was fix and x was on it, was

¹ ??? Extensions with degree 2.

meaning that x was the only root over its minimal polynomial. So this was meaning that x was purely inseparable over K .

We also have seen (see theorem 5.5) that if G is finite the L is Galois extension over L^G and $[L : L^G] = |G|$.

And now we are going to summarize all these in a theorem which is in fact the main subject of this lecture course and this theorem is called the Galois correspondence.

6.2 The Galois correspondence

6.3 Galois correspondence (cont'd). First examples (polynomials of degree 2 and 3)

6.4 Discriminant. Degree 3 (cont'd). Finite fields

6.5 An infinite degree example. Roots of unity: cyclotomic polynomials

6.6 Irreducibility of cyclotomic polynomial. The Galois group

Appendices

Appendix A

Course prerequisites

There are several prerequisites for the course there. They consists of definitions, theorems and examples mostly taken from Wikipedia.

A.1 Sets

Definition A.1 (Class). *A class is a collection of sets (or sometimes other mathematical objects) that can be unambiguously defined by a property that all its members share.*

A.2 Gropus

Definition A.2 (Monoid). *The set of elements M with defined binary operation \circ we will call as a monoid if the following conditions are satisfied.*

1. *Closure:* $\forall a, b \in M: a \circ b \in M$
2. *Associativity:* $\forall a, b, c \in M: a \circ (b \circ c) = (a \circ b) \circ c$
3. *Identity element:* $\exists e \in M$ such that $\forall a \in M: e \circ a = a \circ e = a$

Definition A.3 (Group). *Let we have a set of elements G with a defined binary operation \circ that satisfied the following properties.*

1. *Closure:* $\forall a, b \in G: a \circ b \in G$
2. *Associativity:* $\forall a, b, c \in G: a \circ (b \circ c) = (a \circ b) \circ c$
3. *Identity element:* $\exists e \in G$ such that $\forall a \in G: e \circ a = a \circ e = a$

Table A.1: Cayley table for $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$

\circ	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	0

4. *Inverse element:* $\forall a \in G \exists a^{-1} \in G$ such that $a \circ a^{-1} = e$

In this case (G, \circ) is called as group.

Therefore the group is a Monoid with inverse element property.

Example A.1 (Group $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$). Consider a set of 2 elements: $G = \{0, 1\}$ with the operation \circ defined by the table A.1.

The identity element is 0 i.e. $e = 0$. Inverse element is the element itself because $\forall a \in G: a \circ a = 0 = e$.

Definition A.4 (Cyclic group). A cyclic group or monogenous group is a group that is generated by a single element. Note that Group $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ is a cyclic group.

Definition A.5 (Order of element in group). Order, sometimes period, of an element a of a group is the smallest positive integer m such that $a^m = e$ (where e denotes the identity element of the group, and a^m denotes the product of m copies of a). If no such m exists, a is said to have infinite order.

Theorem A.1 (Lagrange). For any finite group G , the order (number of elements) of every subgroup H of G divides the order of G .

Definition A.6 (Subgroup). Let we have a Group (G, \circ) . The subset $S \subset G$ is called as subgroup if (S, \circ) is a Group.

Definition A.7 (Action). An action of a group is a way of interpreting the elements of the group as "acting" on some space in a way that preserves the structure of that space. See also [7].

Definition A.8 (Orbit). Consider [7] a group G acting on a set X . The orbit of an element $x \in X$ is the set of elements in X to which x can be moved by the elements of G :

$$\text{Orb}(x) = \{y \in X : \exists g \in G : y = g \cdot x\}$$

Definition A.9 (Fixed point). *The set of points of X fixed by a group action are called the group's set of fixed points, defined by*

$$\{x : gx = x, \forall g \in G\}.$$

see also [6].

Definition A.10 (Transitive group action). *The action of G on X is called [7] transitive if X is non-empty and if for each pair $x, y \in X$ there exists a $g \in G$ such that $gx = y$.*

A.2.1 Abelian group

Definition A.11 (Abelian group). *Let we have a Group (G, \circ) . The group is called an Abelian or commutative if $\forall a, b \in G$ it holds $a \circ b = b \circ a$.*

Theorem A.2 (About order of element of an Abelian group). *If G is a finite Abelian group and m is the maximal order of the elements of G then the order of every element of G divides m*

Theorem A.3. *Let G is an Abelian group and $n = |G|$ the group order (number of elements) then $\forall g \in G$ the following statement holds*

$$g^n = e,$$

there e is the group identity.

Proof. Let m is the maximal order of group G . In this case by Lagrange $m \mid n$ i. e. $n = k_1 m$ where $k_1 \in \mathbb{Z}$. Let l is the order of g i.e. $g^l = e$. By the theorem A.2 $l \mid m$ i.e. $m = k_2 l$. Thus

$$g^n = (g^m)^{k_1} = (g^l)^{k_2 k_1} = e.$$

□

Definition A.12 (Coset). *If G is a group, and H is a subgroup of G , and g is an element of G , then*

$$gH = \{gh | h \in H\}$$

is the left coset of H in G with respect to g , and

$$Hg = \{hg | h \in H\}$$

is the right coset of H in G with respect to g .

Table A.2: Cayley table for S_2

\circ	e	τ
e	e	τ
τ	τ	e

A.3 Permutations

Example A.2 (S_n group). If we have a permutation of n elements then it's possible to do by means of $n!$ ways.

S_1 permutation of 1 element consists of only one element e - the simplest possible group

S_2 permutation consists of 2 elements:

1. identity e :

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &\rightarrow 1 \\ 2 &\rightarrow 2 \end{aligned}$$

2. transposition τ :

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &\rightarrow 2 \\ 2 &\rightarrow 1 \end{aligned}$$

It's easy to see that the Cayley table has the form A.2

S_3 permutation consists of 6 elements: $e, \tau, \tau_1, \tau_2, \sigma, \sigma_1$. The most important are e, τ and σ and all others are represented via them.

1. identity e :

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &\rightarrow 1 \\ 2 &\rightarrow 2 \\ 3 &\rightarrow 3 \end{aligned}$$

2. transposition τ :

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &\rightarrow 2 \\ 2 &\rightarrow 1 \\ 3 &\rightarrow 3 \end{aligned}$$

3. circle σ :

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &\rightarrow 2 \\ 2 &\rightarrow 3 \\ 3 &\rightarrow 1 \end{aligned}$$

A.4 Rings and Fields

A.4.1 Rings

Definition A.13 (Ring). Consider a set R with 2 binary operations defined. The first one \oplus (addition) and elements of R forms an Abelian group under this operation. The second one is \odot (multiplication) and the elements of R forms a Monoid under the operation. The two binary operations are connected each other via the following distributive law

- Left distributivity: $\forall a, b, c \in R: a \odot (b \oplus c) = a \odot b \oplus a \odot c$
- Right distributivity: $\forall a, b, c \in R: (a \oplus b) \odot c = a \odot c \oplus b \odot c$

The identity element for (R, \oplus) is denoted as 0 (additive identity). The identity element for (R, \odot) is denoted as 1 (multiplicative identity).

The inverse element to a in (R, \oplus) is denoted as $-a$

In this case (R, \oplus, \odot) is called as ring.

The Ring is a generalization of integer numbers conception.

Example A.3 (Ring of integers \mathbb{Z}). The set of integer numbers \mathbb{Z} forms a Ring under $+$ and \cdot operations i.e. addition \oplus is $+$ and multiplication \odot is \cdot . Thus for integer numbers we have the following Ring: $(\mathbb{Z}, +, \cdot)$

A.4.2 Ideals

Definition A.14 (Ideal). Lets we have the Ring (R, \oplus, \odot) . Subset $I \subset R$ will be an ideal if it satisfied the following conditions

1. (I, \oplus) is Subgroup of (R, \oplus)
2. $\forall i \in I$ and $\forall r \in R: i \odot r \in I$ and $r \odot i \in I$

Example A.4 (Ideal $2\mathbb{Z}$). Consider even numbers. They forms an Ideal in \mathbb{Z} . Because multiplication of any even number to any integer is an even. The ideal's symbolic name is $2\mathbb{Z}$.

Example A.5 (Ring of integers modulo n : $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$). Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $n > 1$. Then $n\mathbb{Z}$ is an Ideal.

Two integer $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ are said to be congruent modulo n , written

$$a \equiv b \pmod{n}$$

if their difference $a - b$ is an integer multiple of n .

Thus we have a separation of set \mathbb{Z} into subsets of numbers that are congruent. Each subset has the following form

$$\{r\}_n = r + n\mathbb{Z} = \{r + nk \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

, thus

$$\mathbb{Z} = \{0\}_n \cup \{1\}_n \cup \cdots \cup \{n-1\}_n.$$

Very often use the following notation

$$\bar{r} = \{r\}_n.$$

We can define the following operations

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{k} \oplus \bar{l} &= \overline{k+l} \\ \bar{k} \odot \bar{l} &= \overline{k \cdot l}\end{aligned}$$

The Ring where the objects are defined is called as $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$.

Definition A.15 (Ideal generated by a set). Let R be a Ring and S is a sub set of R . Consider the following set

$$I = \{r_1 s_1 + \cdots + r_n s_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}, r_i \in R, s_i \in S\}$$

I is called by an ideal generated by set S if $\forall r \in R, i \in I : r \cdot i \in I$.

The sum in the definition of the ideal should be finite. The ring is assumed commutative in the definition.

Definition A.16 (Principal ideal). The ideal that is generated by one element a is called as principal ideal and is denoted as (a) i.e. left principal ideal: $(a) = \{ra \mid \forall r \in R\}$ and right principal ideal: $(a) = \{ar \mid \forall r \in R\}$

Definition A.17 (Integral domain). In mathematics, and specifically in abstract algebra, an integral domain is a nonzero commutative Ring in which the product of any two nonzero elements is nonzero.

Definition A.18 (Principal ideal domain). In abstract algebra, a principal ideal domain, or PID, is an Integral domain in which every ideal is principal, i.e., can be generated by a single element.

Definition A.19 (Maximal ideal). A maximal ideal is an ideal that is maximal (with respect to set inclusion) amongst all Proper ideals i.e. I is a maximal ideal of a ring R if there are no other ideals contained between I and R [8].

Definition A.20 (Prime ideal). *An ideal I of a commutative ring R is prime if it has the following 2 properties ¹*

1. *If $a, b \in R$ such that $ab \in I$ then $a \in I$ or $b \in I$*
2. *I is not equal the whole ring R*

Definition A.21 (Proper ideal). *I is a proper ideal of a ring R if $I \subsetneq R$.*

Theorem A.4 (About proper ideal). *An ideal I of ring R is proper if and only if $1_R \notin I$.*

Definition A.22 (Quotient ring). *Quotient ring is a construction where one starts with a ring R and a two-sided ideal I in R , and constructs a new ring, the quotient ring R/I , whose elements are the Cosets of I in R subject to special $+$ and \cdot operations.*

Given a ring R and a two-sided ideal $I \subset R$, we may define an equivalence relation \sim on R as follows: $a \sim b$ if and only if $a - b \in I$. The equivalence class of the element a in R is given by

$$\bar{a} = \{a\} = a + I := \{a + r : r \in I\}.$$

This equivalence class is also sometimes written as $a \bmod I$ and called the "residue class of a modulo I " (see also example A.5).

The special $+$ and \cdot operations are defined as follows

$$\forall \bar{x}, \bar{y} \in R/I : \bar{x} + \bar{y} = (x + I) + (y + I) = (x + y) + I = \overline{x + y}.$$

$$\forall \bar{x}, \bar{y} \in R/I : \bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} = (x + I) \cdot (y + I) = (x \cdot y) + I = \overline{x \cdot y}.$$

As result we will get the following ring $(R/I, +, \cdot)$ is called the quotient ring of R by I .

A.4.3 Polynomial ring $K[X]$

Let we have a commutative Ring K . Lets create a new Ring B with the following infinite sets as elements:

$$f = (f_0, f_1, \dots), f_i \in K, \tag{A.1}$$

such that only finite number of elements of the sets are non zero.

¹ There is a generalization of prime numbers in arithmetic

We can define addition and multiplication on B as follows

$$\begin{aligned} f + g &= (f_0 + g_0, f_1 + g_1, \dots), \\ f \cdot g &= h = (h_0, h_1, \dots), \end{aligned} \tag{A.2}$$

where

$$h_k = \sum_{i+j=k} f_i g_j.$$

The sequences (A.1) forms a Ring with the following identities:

- Additive identity: $(0, 0, \dots)$
- Multiplicative identity: $(1, 0, \dots)$

The sequences $k = (k, 0, \dots)$ added and multiplied as elements of K this allows say that such elements are elements of original Ring K . Thus K is sub-ring of the new ring B .

Let

$$\begin{aligned} X &= (0, 1, 0, \dots), \\ X^2 &= (0, 0, 1, \dots) \end{aligned}$$

thus if we have

$$f = (f_0, f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n, 0, \dots),$$

where f_n is the last non-zero element of (A.1), when one can get

$$f = f_0 + f_1 X + f_2 X^2 + \dots + f_n X^n.$$

Definition A.23 (Polynomial ring). *The Ring of sequences (A.1) with operations defined by (A.2) is called as polynomial ring $K[X]$.*

Lemma A.1 (Bézout's lemma). *Let a and b be nonzero integers and let d be their greatest common divisor. Then there exist integers x and y such that*

$$ax + by = d.$$

Definition A.24 (Monic polynomial). *Monic polynomial is a univariate polynomial in which the leading coefficient (the nonzero coefficient of highest degree) is equal to 1. Therefore, a monic polynomial has the form*

$$x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1x + a_0$$

Definition A.25 (Irreducible polynomial). *An irreducible polynomial is, roughly speaking, a non-constant polynomial that cannot be factored into the product of two non-constant polynomials.*

Example A.6 (Irreducible polynomial). *The following polynomial is irreducible in $\mathbb{R}[X]$: $X^2 + 1$. The following one is also irreducible despite it has a root: $X + 1$.*

Theorem A.5 (About irreducible polynomials). *Let $\pi(X)$ is an Irreducible polynomial in $K[X]$ and let α be a root of $\pi(X)$ in a some larger field. $\forall h(x) \in K(X)$ if have the following statement: $h(\alpha) = 0$ if and only if $\pi(X) \mid h(X)$ in $K[X]$.*

Proof. If $h(X) = \pi(X)g(X)$ then $h(\alpha) = 0$

From other side let $\pi \nmid h$ in $K[X]$ this means that they are relatively prime in $K[X]$ and by Bézout's lemma we can get $Q, R \in K[X]$ such that

$$\pi(X)R(X) + h(X)Q(X) = 1,$$

and especially for $X = \alpha$ we will get that $0 = 1$ that is impossible. \square

Theorem A.6 (About ideal generated by irreducible polynomial). *Let $P \in K[X]$ is a polynomial and $I = (P)$ is an Ideal generated by the polynomial. The I is Maximal ideal if and only if P is irreducible in $K[X]$*

Proof. Let P is reducible i.e. $P = GF$. In the case $(P) \subset (G)$ and $(P) \subset (F)$ i.e. by definition it is not a maximal ideal.

If P is irreducible then $K[X]/(P)$ is a field (see section 1.1.4) and by theorem A.7 (P) is a maximal ideal. \square

A.4.4 Fields

Definition A.26 (Field). *The ring (R, \oplus, \odot) is called as a field if $(R \setminus \{0\}, \odot)$ is an Abelian group.*

The inverse element to a in $(R \setminus \{0\}, \odot)$ is denoted as a^{-1}

Example A.7 (Field \mathbb{Q}). *Note that \mathbb{Z} is not a field because not for every integer number an inverse exists. But if we consider a set of fractions $\mathbb{Q} = \{a/b \mid a \in \mathbb{Z}, b \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}\}$ when it will be a field.*

The inverse element to a/b in $(\mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}, \cdot)$ will be b/a .

Definition A.27 (Unique factorization domain). *Unique factorization domain (UFD) is a commutative ring, which is an Integral domain, and in which every non-zero non-unit element can be written as a product of prime elements (or irreducible elements), uniquely up to order and units, analogous to the fundamental theorem of arithmetic for the integers.*

Theorem A.7 (About Quotient Ring and Maximal Ideal). *Let $(R, +, \cdot)$ is a commutative Ring with additive identity 0_R and multiplicative identity 1_R . Let I be an Ideal of R then I is Maximal ideal if and only if Quotient ring R/I is a Field*

Proof. See the end of section 2.3.3. □

A.5 Modules and Vector spaces

A.5.1 Modules

A module over a ring is a generalization of the notion of vector space over a field, wherein the corresponding scalars are the elements of an arbitrary given ring (with identity) and a multiplication (on the left and/or on the right) is defined between elements of the ring and elements of the module.

Definition A.28 (Module). *Let R is a Ring and 1_R is it's multiplicative identity. A left R -module M consists of an Abelian group $(M, +)$ and an operation $\cdot : R \times M \rightarrow M$ such that $\forall r, s \in R$ and $\forall x, y \in M$ the following relations are hold:*

1. $r \cdot (x + y) = r \cdot x + r \cdot y$
2. $(r + s) \cdot x = r \cdot x + s \cdot x$
3. $(rs) \cdot x = r \cdot (s \cdot x)$
4. $1_R \cdot x = x$

Example A.8 (Module). *If K is a Field then concepts of K -Vector space and K -module are the same*

Definition A.29 (Free module). *The Module that has a basic (i.e. linearly independent generating set) is called as free module.*

For a R -module M the set $E \subseteq M$ is a basic for M if

1. E is a generating set for M i.e. $\forall m \in M \exists n < \infty: \exists e_i \in E, r_i \in R: m = \sum_{i=1}^n r_i e_i$
2. E is linearly independent, i.e. if $r_1 e_1 + \dots + r_n e_n = 0_M$ for distinct elements $e_1, \dots, e_n \in E$ then $r_1 = \dots = r_n = 0_R$.

A.5.2 Linear algebra

Definition A.30 (Vector space). Let F is a Field. The set V is called as vector space under F if the following conditions are satisfied

1. We have a binary operation $V \times V \rightarrow V$ (addition): $(x, y) \rightarrow x + y$ with the following properties:
 - (a) $x + y = y + x$
 - (b) $(x + y) + z = x + (y + z)$
 - (c) $\exists 0 \in V$ such that $\forall x \in V: x + 0 = x$
 - (d) $\forall x \in V \exists -x \in V$ such that $x + (-x) = x - x = 0$
2. We have a binary operation $F \times V \rightarrow V$ (scalar multiplication) with the following properties
 - (a) $1_F \cdot x = x$
 - (b) $\forall a, b \in F, x \in V: a \cdot (b \cdot x) = (ab) \cdot x$.
 - (c) $\forall a, b \in F, x \in V: (a + b) \cdot x = a \cdot x + b \cdot x$
 - (d) $\forall a \in F, x, y \in V: a \cdot (x + y) = a \cdot x + a \cdot y$

Lemma A.2 (About vector space isomorphism). 2 vector spaces L and M with same dimension $\dim L = \dim M$ then there exists an Isomorphism between them

A.6 Functions aka maps

A.6.1 Functions

Definition A.31 (Surjection). The function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is surjective (or onto) if $\forall y \in Y, \exists x \in X$ such that $f(x) = y$.

Definition A.32 (Injection). *The function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is injective (or one-to-one function) if $\forall x_1, x_2 \in X$, such that $x_1 \neq x_2$ then $f(x_1) \neq f(x_2)$.*

Definition A.33 (Bijection). *The function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is bijective (or one-to-one correspondence) if it is an Injection and a Surjection.*

Definition A.34 (Homomorphism). *The homomorphism is a function (map) between two sets that preserves its algebraic structure. For the case of groups (X, \circ) and (Y, \odot) the function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is called homomorphism if $\forall x_1, x_2 \in X$ it holds $f(x_1 \circ x_2) = f(x_1) \odot f(x_2)$.*

Definition A.35 (Isomorphism). *If a map is Bijection as well as Homomorphism when it is called as isomorphism.*

We use the following symbolic notation for isomorphism between X and Y : $X \cong Y$.

Definition A.36 (Automorphism). *Automorphism is an isomorphism from a mathematical object to itself.*

Definition A.37 (Embedding). *When some object X is said to be embedded in another object Y , the embedding is given by some injective and structure-preserving map $f : X \rightarrow Y$. The precise meaning of "structure-preserving" depends on the kind of mathematical structure of which X and Y are instances.*

The fact that a map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is an embedding is often indicated by the use of a "hooked arrow", thus: $f : X \hookrightarrow Y$. On the other hand, this notation is sometimes reserved for inclusion maps.

Theorem A.8 (First isomorphism theorem). *Let G is a group and $\phi : G \rightarrow H$ is a surjective Homomorphism. Then if $N = \ker \phi$ we have*

$$H \cong G/N$$

Theorem A.9 (Isomorphism extension theorem). *Let F is a Field and E is an Algebraic extension of F . F' is another Field and E' the Algebraic extension of F' .*

If there exists an Isomorphism $\phi : F \rightarrow F'$ then it can be extended to an isomorphism $\tau : E \rightarrow E'$.

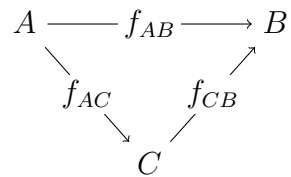
Proof. The proof of the isomorphism extension theorem depends on Zorn's lemma.

??? The theorem seems to be very close to the theorem 2.3. □

A.6.2 Category theory

Definition A.38 (Commutative diagram). *A commutative diagram is a diagram of objects (also known as vertices) and morphisms (also known as arrows or edges) such that all directed paths in the diagram with the same start and endpoints lead to the same result by composition*

The following diagram commutes if $f_{AB} = f_{CB}f_{AC}$ or $f_{AB}(x) = f_{CB}(f_{AC}(x))$.



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