

## 2. RRT and Tower of fields (from chapters 8 and 12)

a) Prove  $\sqrt[4]{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ .By definition:  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) = \{a + b\sqrt{2} : a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ .Assume  $\sqrt[4]{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ , which  $\exists a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$ , s.t.  $a + b\sqrt{2} = \sqrt[4]{2}$ .

$$\Rightarrow (a + b\sqrt{2})^4 = 2, \text{ which}$$

$$\Rightarrow (a^2 + 2b^2 + 2ab\sqrt{2})^2 = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow a^4 + 4b^4 + 12a^2b^2 + 4a_1b_1a_1^2\sqrt{2} + 8a_1b_1b_1^2\sqrt{2} = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{2}(4a_1b_1a_1^2 + 8a_1b_1b_1^2) = 2 - (a_1^4 + 4b_1^4 + 12a_1^2b_1^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{2} = \frac{2 - (a_1^4 + 4b_1^4 + 12a_1^2b_1^2)}{4a_1b_1a_1^2 + 8a_1b_1b_1^2}$$

Since  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$ , from definition of a field, its addition and multiplication is close, which,  $\frac{2 - (a_1^4 + 4b_1^4 + 12a_1^2b_1^2)}{4a_1b_1a_1^2 + 8a_1b_1b_1^2}$  is in  $\mathbb{Q}$ . However, from theorem 8.2.7, since 2 is a prime,  $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$ , contradicts. Therefore,  $\sqrt[4]{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ .

b) Looking for a field extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  that contains  $\sqrt[4]{2}$ , naturally we consider  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt[4]{2}] = \{a + b\sqrt[4]{2} : a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ .Prove that  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt[4]{2}]$  is not a field.WTS:  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt[4]{2}] = \{a + b\sqrt[4]{2} : a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$  is not a field.Assume  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt[4]{2}]$  is a field. I'll check its property from definition.Let  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}[\sqrt[4]{2}]$ , which  $x = a_1 + b_1\sqrt[4]{2}$ .

$$y = a_2 + b_2\sqrt[4]{2}, \text{ where } a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2 \in \mathbb{Q}.$$

$$x \cdot y = (a_1 + b_1\sqrt[4]{2})(a_2 + b_2\sqrt[4]{2})$$

$$= a_1a_2 + a_1b_2\sqrt[4]{2} + a_2b_1\sqrt[4]{2} + b_1b_2(\sqrt[4]{2})^2$$

$$= a_1a_2 + (a_1b_2 + a_2b_1)\sqrt[4]{2} + b_1b_2\sqrt{2}$$

Since  $b_1b_2\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$  and can't be written as  $b\sqrt[4]{2}$ , where  $b \in \mathbb{Q}$ , gives  $x \cdot y \notin \mathbb{Q}[\sqrt[4]{2}]$ , doesn't satisfy the property of a field, which  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt[4]{2}]$  is not a field.

c) Read Definition 12.2.16. If possible, find a shortest tower of fields such that the final field contains  $\sqrt[4]{2}$ , and if not, explain why it is impossible.

$$\text{Let } F_0 = \mathbb{Q}; F_1 = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}); F_2 = F_1(\sqrt[4]{2}).$$

From (a),  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  is a field, which  $F_1$  is a field.WTS:  $F_2$  is a field, which  $F_2 = F_1[\sqrt[4]{2}] = \{a + b\sqrt[4]{2} : a, b \in F_1\}$ .① WTS:  $0, 1 \in F_1[\sqrt[4]{2}]$ .Since  $F_1$  is a field,  $0, 1 \in F_1$ .Take  $a=0, b=0; a=1, b=0$ , gives  $0, 1 \in F_1[\sqrt[4]{2}]$ .

② WTS: Closed addition and multiplication.

Let  $x, y \in F_1[\sqrt[4]{2}]$ ,  $x = a_1 + b_1\sqrt[4]{2}$ ,  $y = a_2 + b_2\sqrt[4]{2}$ .where  $a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2 \in F_1$ .

$$x + y = a_1 + b_1\sqrt[4]{2} + a_2 + b_2\sqrt[4]{2} = (a_1 + a_2) + (b_1 + b_2)\sqrt[4]{2}$$

Since  $F_1$  is a field, its closed addition, which

$$(a_1 + a_2), (b_1 + b_2) \in F_1, \text{ gives } x + y \in F_1[\sqrt[4]{2}].$$

$$xy = (a_1 + b_1\sqrt[4]{2})(a_2 + b_2\sqrt[4]{2})$$

$$= a_1a_2 + a_1b_2\sqrt[4]{2} + a_2b_1\sqrt[4]{2} + b_1b_2(\sqrt[4]{2})^2$$

$$= (a_1a_2 + b_1b_2\sqrt{2}) + (a_1b_2 + a_2b_1)\sqrt[4]{2}$$

Since  $F_1$  is a field, its closed addition and multiplication, which  $(a_1a_2), (a_1b_2 + a_2b_1) \in F_1$ .

Since  $F_1 = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) = \{p + q\sqrt{2} : p, q \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ , gives  $\sqrt{2} \in F_1$  when  $p=0, q=1$ . gives  $(b_1b_2\sqrt{2}) \in F_1$ , which  $xy \in F_1[\sqrt[4]{2}]$ .

③ WTS:  $-x \in F_1[\sqrt[4]{2}]$ .Let  $x \in F_1[\sqrt[4]{2}]$ , i.e.  $x = a + b\sqrt[4]{2}$ , where  $a, b \in F_1$ .Thus,  $-x = -a - b\sqrt[4]{2}$ , where  $-a, -b \in F_1$ . $\therefore -x \in F_1[\sqrt[4]{2}]$ .④ WTS:  $\frac{1}{x} \in F_1[\sqrt[4]{2}]$ .Let  $x \in F_1[\sqrt[4]{2}]$ , i.e.  $x = a + b\sqrt[4]{2}$ , where  $a, b \in F_1$ .

$$\frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{a + b\sqrt[4]{2}} = \frac{a - b\sqrt[4]{2}}{(a + b\sqrt[4]{2})(a - b\sqrt[4]{2})} = \frac{a - b\sqrt[4]{2}}{a^2 - b^2\sqrt{2}} = \frac{a}{a^2 - b^2\sqrt{2}} - \frac{b}{a^2 - b^2\sqrt{2}}\sqrt[4]{2}$$

Since  $F_1 = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) = \{p + q\sqrt{2} : p, q \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ , gives  $\sqrt{2} \in F_1$ .Since  $a, b, \sqrt{2} \in F_1$ ,  $(\frac{a}{a^2 - b^2\sqrt{2}}), (\frac{-b}{a^2 - b^2\sqrt{2}}) \in F_1$ , gives

$$\frac{a}{a^2 - b^2\sqrt{2}} - \frac{b}{a^2 - b^2\sqrt{2}}\sqrt[4]{2} \in F_1[\sqrt[4]{2}], \text{ which } \frac{1}{x} \in F_1[\sqrt[4]{2}].$$

Therefore,  $F_1[\sqrt[4]{2}]$  is a field.  $F_1(\sqrt[4]{2})$ , i.e.  $F_2$ .Take  $a=0, b=1$ , gives  $\sqrt[4]{2} \in F_2$ .