## Introduction to Algebraic Information Theory for Quantitative Finance Homework 5

August 30, 2025

Timothy Tarter
James Madison University
Department of Mathematics

## Proving the Fundamental Theorem of Galois Theory

**Theorem:** Let L be a Galois extension of a field K, with finite degree n. (1) For all subfields E of L containing K, and for all subgroups H of Gal(L:K),

$$\Phi(\Gamma(E)) = E \qquad \& \qquad \Gamma(\Phi(H)) = H. \tag{1}$$

(2) Also,

$$|\Gamma(E)| = [L:E]$$
 &  $|Gal(L:K)|/|\Gamma(E)| = [E:K].$  (2)

(3) Finally, A subfield E is a normal extension of K iff  $\Gamma(E) \triangleleft Gal(L:K)$ . (4) If E is a normal extension, then  $Gal(E:K) \simeq Gal(L:K)/\Gamma(E)$ .

Prove the following in order - it proves the whole theorem:

- 1. Show that  $|\Gamma(E)| = [L : E]$  (2.1). How does this prove (1)?
- 2. Use Theorem 3.3 and Corollary 7.29 in Howie to show (2.2),  $|Gal(L:K)|/|\Gamma(E)| = [E:K]$ .
- 3. Prove that  $\Gamma(E) \triangleleft Gal(L:K)$ .
- 4. Use FHT to show (4), that  $Gal(E:K) \simeq Gal(L:K)/\Gamma(E)$  if E is a normal extension.

## Solvability of Groups

- 1. Show that  $S_4$  is solvable.
- 2. Show that the alternating group,  $A_5$ , is simple. Why does that make  $S_5$  not solvable? (Link to a reference for  $A_5$ : https://groupprops.subwiki.org/wiki/Alternating\_group:A5).

3. Show that the Galois group of any monic irreducible polynomial of degree 5 is isomorphic to  $S_5$ . (Hint: pick arbitrary coefficients that make the polynomial irreducible. Don't torture yourself with abstraction - if it holds for one polynomial of degree 5, it holds for the general case.)

## What's It All About?

- 1. In class, we said that the core idea of Galois Theory to someone with a math background was that  $\Phi$  and  $\Gamma$  are mutually inverse if L is a Galois Extension of K. What happens if it isn't?
- 2. Are there any theorems about quotient groups that make (2), (3), and (4) easier to understand from finite group theory?
- 3. Why do we care about the set equality in (1)? I.e., how does that tie the idea of Gal(f) back to Gal(L:K), as well as solvability of f?
- 4. When we say that Galois theory proves the insolvability of the general quintic equation by  $S_5$  being a non-solvable group, we really mean that since  $S_5$  isn't solvable, the Galois group of a degree 5 monic irreducible polynomial isn't solvable. How do we generalize this idea of polynomial solvability from Gal(f) to  $Gal(L:K) \simeq S_n$ ?
- 5. If someone were to ask you, "why should I learn abstract algebra?", what would your answer be? What have you learned in this course so far? What did you / didn't you expect? Please be detailed here, it will help me teach better in the future.
- 6. Do you have any course feedback? Also, are you okay with me posting your answer to this question as a reference for the course?