

Math 395
Homework 6
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Problem 2

We will show that $\{1, \sqrt{5}, \sqrt{7}, \sqrt{35}\}$ is linearly independent.

Suppose $a + b\sqrt{5} + c\sqrt{7} + d\sqrt{35} = 0$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} (a + d\sqrt{35})^2 &= (b\sqrt{5} + c\sqrt{7})^2 \\ a^2 + 35d^2 - 5b^2 - 7c^2 &= 2\sqrt{35}(bc - ad). \end{aligned}$$

Since $2\sqrt{35} \notin \mathbb{Q}$ and $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Q}$, this equation is only true if $bc - ad = 0$, so $bc = ad$.

Case 1: Suppose $d = 0$ and $a = 0$. Then,

$$7c^2 + 5b^2 = 0,$$

which is only true if $b = c = 0$.

Case 2: Suppose $d = 0$ and a is not necessarily equal to 0. Then, it must be the case that either b or c is equal to 0.

If $b = c = 0$, then we have $a^2 = 0$, so $a = 0$.

If $b = 0$ with c not necessarily equal to 0, we have

$$\begin{aligned} a^2 - 7c^2 &= 0 \\ (a - c\sqrt{7})(a + c\sqrt{7}) &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

meaning $a = c\sqrt{7}$ or $a = -c\sqrt{7}$. Since $a \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $c\sqrt{7} \notin \mathbb{Q}$, this can only be the case if $a = c = 0$.

If $c = 0$ with b not necessarily equal to 0, we have

$$\begin{aligned} a^2 - 5b^2 &= 0 \\ (a - b\sqrt{5})(a + b\sqrt{5}) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

meaning $a = b\sqrt{5}$ or $a = -b\sqrt{5}$. Since $a \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $b\sqrt{5} \notin \mathbb{Q}$, this can only be the case if $a = b = 0$.

Case 3: Suppose $a = 0$ and d is not necessarily equal to 0. Then, it must be the case that either b or c is equal to 0.

If $b = c = 0$, we have $35d^2 = 0$, so $d = 0$.

If $b = 0$ with c not necessarily equal to 0, we have

$$\begin{aligned} 35d^2 - 7c^2 &= 0 \\ 7(5d^2 - c^2) &= 0 \\ 7(d\sqrt{5} - c)(d\sqrt{5} + c) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

meaning $d\sqrt{5} = c$ or $-d\sqrt{5} = c$. Since $c \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $d\sqrt{5} \notin \mathbb{Q}$, this can only be the case if $d = c = 0$.

If $c = 0$ with b not necessarily equal to 0, we have

$$\begin{aligned} 35d^2 - 5b^2 &= 0 \\ 5(7d^2 - b^2) &= 0 \\ 5(d\sqrt{7} - b)(d\sqrt{7} + b) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

meaning $d\sqrt{7} = b$ or $-d\sqrt{7} = b$. Since $b \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $d\sqrt{7} \notin \mathbb{Q}$, this can only be the case if $d = b = 0$.

Case 4: Suppose toward contradiction that $a \neq 0$ and $d \neq 0$. Then, $a = \frac{bc}{d}$. Substituting, we find

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{bc}{d}\right)^2 + 35d^2 - 5b^2 - 7c^2 &= 0 \\ b^2c^2 + 35d^4 - 5b^2d^2 - 7c^2d^2 &= 0 \\ b^2(c^2 - 5d^2) - 7d^2(c^2 - 5d^2) &= 0 \\ (b - d\sqrt{7})(b + d\sqrt{7})(c - d\sqrt{5})(c + d\sqrt{5}) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

meaning $b = \pm d\sqrt{7}$ or $c = \pm d\sqrt{5}$. Since $d\sqrt{7}, d\sqrt{5} \notin \mathbb{Q}$, and $b, c \in \mathbb{Q}$, this is only the case if $b = d = 0$ or $c = d = 0$, which is a contradiction.

Problem 3

We will show that $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{7}) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \sqrt{7})$.

Clearly, $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \sqrt{7}) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{7})$. We need to show that $\sqrt{7}$ and $\sqrt{5}$ can be written as elements of $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{7})$. By difference of squares, we have

$$\sqrt{7} - \sqrt{5} = \frac{2}{(\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{5})},$$

meaning

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{7} &= \frac{(\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{5}) + \frac{2}{(\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{5})}}{2} \\ \sqrt{5} &= \frac{(\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{5}) - \frac{2}{(\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{5})}}{2} \\ \sqrt{35} &= \frac{1}{2} (\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{7})^2 - 12 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{7}) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \sqrt{7})$.

Problem 4

Let $F = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$. Suppose $\alpha_i^2 \in \mathbb{Q}$ for all i . We will show that $\sqrt[3]{2} \notin F$.

If $\alpha_i^2 \in \mathbb{Q}$, then $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{Q}$ or $\alpha_i \notin \mathbb{Q}$. If $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{Q}$, then $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_i) : \mathbb{Q}] = 1$, and if $\alpha_i \notin \mathbb{Q}$, then $m_{\alpha_i, \mathbb{Q}}(x) = x^2 - \alpha_i^2$ is the unique monic irreducible polynomial over \mathbb{Q} , meaning $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_i) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$. Thus,

$$[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) : \mathbb{Q}] = [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) : \mathbb{Q}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n-1})][\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n-1}) : \mathbb{Q}],$$

meaning that, inductively, we have that $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2^k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$.

Suppose toward contradiction that $\sqrt[3]{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$. Then, since $m_{\sqrt[3]{2}, \mathbb{Q}}(x) = x^3 - 2$ (as it is irreducible by the Eisenstein criterion and monic, thus unique), we have that $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$. This implies that $3|2^k$ for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$, which is not possible. Thus, $\sqrt[3]{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$.

Problem 5

We will show that $x^3 - 2x - 2$ is irreducible over \mathbb{Q} , then compute $(1+\theta)(1+\theta+\theta^2)$ and $\frac{1+\theta}{1+\theta+\theta^2}$ in $\mathbb{Q}(\theta)$ for θ a root.

To start, we see that $x^3 - 2x - 2$ is a monic polynomial where $p = 2$, so by Eisenstein's criterion and Gauss's Lemma, $x^3 - 2x - 2$ is irreducible over \mathbb{Q} . Thus, we have that elements of $\mathbb{Q}[x]/\langle x^3 - 2x - 2 \rangle = a\theta^2 + b\theta + c$ for $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Q}$.

We have that $\theta^3 - 2\theta - 2 = 0$. So,

$$\begin{aligned} (1+\theta)(1+\theta+\theta^2) &= 1 + 2\theta + 2\theta^2 + \theta^3 \\ &= 3 + 4\theta + 2\theta^2 \in \mathbb{Q}(\theta). \end{aligned}$$

To find $\frac{1+\theta}{1+\theta+\theta^2}$, we find $\frac{1}{1+\theta+\theta^2}$ in $\mathbb{Q}(\theta)$ by polynomial long division. Note that $1 = \theta^3 - 2\theta - 1$, so

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1+\theta+\theta^2} &= \frac{\theta^3 - 2\theta - 1}{1+\theta+\theta^2} \\ &= \theta - 1 + \frac{4\theta - 1}{1+\theta+\theta^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we can find that $4\theta - 1 = 2\theta^3 - 5$, so

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1+\theta+\theta^2} &= \theta - 1 + \frac{2\theta^3 - 5}{1+\theta+\theta^2} \\ &= 3\theta - 3 + \frac{3}{1+\theta+\theta^2} \\ \frac{1}{1+\theta+\theta^2} &= \frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{2}\theta. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1+\theta}{1+\theta+\theta^2} &= \frac{3}{2}(1+\theta)(1-\theta) \\ &= \frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{2}\theta^2 \in \mathbb{Q}(\theta). \end{aligned}$$