Math 395

Homework 7
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Name: Avinash Iyer

Collaborators: Antonio Cabello, Timothy Rainone, Nate Hall, Nora Manukyan, Jamie Perez-Schere

Problem 1

We say a field K/F is normal if K is the splitting field of a collection of polynomials. Equivalently, every polynomial in $F[x]$ that has a root in K splits into linear factors over K. Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $\alpha^4 = 5$. We will show that $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + i\alpha)$ is normal over $\mathbb{Q}(i\alpha^2)$, but $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + i\alpha)$ is not normal over $\mathbb{Q}$.

Note that $(\alpha + i\alpha)^2 = 2i\alpha^2$. Thus, $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + i\alpha) = \text{Spl}_{\mathbb{Q}(i\alpha^2)}(x^2 - 2i\alpha^2)$, so $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + i\alpha)$ is normal over $\mathbb{Q}(i\alpha^2)$.

Problem 2

The roots of $(x^5 - 2)(x^2 - 2)$ are $\pm\sqrt{2}, \zeta_5^k \sqrt[5]{2}$ for $k = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$. Thus, the splitting field of $(x^5 - 2)(x^2 - 2)$ is $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_5, \sqrt{2}, \sqrt[5]{2})$.

For $x^6 + x^3 + 1$, we have that $x^6 + x^3 + 1 = \frac{x^9 - 1}{x^3 - 1}$. Therefore, the roots of $x^6 + x^3 + 1$ are ζ_9^d, where $\gcd(d, 9) = 1$, meaning $\text{Spl}_{\mathbb{Q}}(x^6 + x^3 + 1) = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_9)$.

Problem 3

For any prime p and any nonzero $a \in \mathbb{F}_p$, we will prove that $f(x) = x^p - x + a$ is irreducible and separable over $\mathbb{F}_p$.

First, we have that $D_x(f(x)) = px^{p-1} - 1 = -1$, meaning that $\gcd(f(x), D_x(f(x))) = 1$, so f is separable.

Let α be a root of f. Then, we have that $\alpha^p - \alpha + a = 0$. Notice that for $j \in \mathbb{F}_p$, $(\alpha + j)^p = \alpha^p + j^p = \alpha^p + j$, meaning that $(\alpha + j)^p - (\alpha + j) + a = 0$, so $\alpha + j$ is a root of f.

Suppose toward contradiction that f is reducible over $\mathbb{F}_p$. Then, for some $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_p$, we must have

$$x^p - x + a = (x - \alpha)(x - (\alpha + 1))(x - (\alpha + 2)) \cdots (x - (\alpha + p - 1)),$$

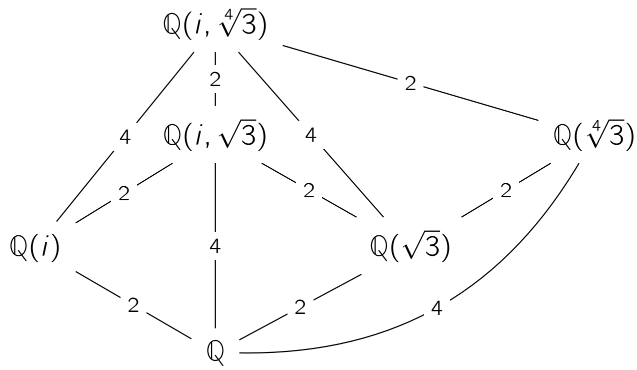
However, by definition, this means that there is some $k \in \mathbb{F}_p$ such that $\alpha + k = 0$, meaning $a = \prod_{i=0}^{p-1}(\alpha + i) = 0$. $\perp$

Problem 4

Let K be a finite extension of $\mathbb{Q}$. We will prove there are only a finite number of roots of unity in K.

Problem 6

To find the subfields of $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt[4]{3})$, we see that the basis of $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt[4]{3})$ over $\mathbb{Q}$ is $\{1, \sqrt[4]{3}, \sqrt{3}, \sqrt[4]{27}, i, i\sqrt[4]{3}, i\sqrt{3}, i\sqrt[4]{27}\}$, meaning $[\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt[4]{3}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 8$. Finding subspaces of $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt[4]{3})$, we arrive at the following diagram.



For any subfield $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq F \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt[4]{3})$, it must be the case that $[F : \mathbb{Q}] = 2^k$ for some $k = 0, 1, 2, 3$. Therefore, it must be the case that all subfields are of degree $1, 2, 4, 8$.

Suppose there is any subfield $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq E \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(i)$. Then, it must be the case that $[E : \mathbb{Q}] = 1$ or $[E : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$, meaning $E = \mathbb{Q}$ or $E = \mathbb{Q}(i)$. The same argument applies for all degree 2 extensions in the above diagram.