

# A Book of Abstract Algebra | (2nd Edition)

Chapter 33, Problem 2EA

Bookmark

Show all steps: ☒ ON

## Problem

Show that the following polynomials in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$  are not solvable by radicals:

(a)  $2x^5 - 5x^4 + 5$

(b)  $x^5 - 4x^2 + 2$

(c)  $x^5 - 4x^4 + 2x + 2$

## Step-by-step solution

### Step 1 of 6

Here, objective is to prove that the polynomials in  $\mathbb{Q}(x)$  are not solvable by radicals.

[Comment](#)

### Step 2 of 6

A polynomial equation is solvable by radicals, if its roots are determined by applying finite number of additions, subtractions, multiplications, divisions,  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots to the integers.

Galois group:

If a polynomial  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Q}(x)$  has degree  $p$  and has only two non real roots, then its Galois group is  $S_p$ .

If the polynomial whose Galois group is  $S_5$  they are not solvable by radicals.

[Comment](#)

### Step 3 of 6

Generally the polynomials with degree five cannot be solved by radicals, except the polynomials of the form  $x^5 - px + q$

---

[Comment](#)

#### Step 4 of 6

(a)

Consider the polynomial  $2x^5 - 5x^4 + 5$

The above polynomial is irreducible over  $Q$  by Eisenstein's criterion.

Then the Galois group is symmetric

And has two complex roots and three real roots.

The polynomial has degree  $p = 5$  and has only two non real roots, then its Galois group is  $S_5$ .

$$G(K / F) = S_5$$

So, they are not solvable by radicals.

Hence,

The polynomials in  $Q(x)$  are not solvable by radicals.

---

[Comment](#)

#### Step 5 of 6

(b)

Consider the complex number  $x^5 - 4x^2 + 2$

The above polynomial is a degree five and it is irreducible over  $Q$  by Eisenstein's criterion.

Its Galois group is  $S_5$ .

The polynomial is not converted in to the form  $x^5 - px + q$

So, the polynomial is not solvable by radicals.

Hence,

The polynomials in  $Q(x)$  are not solvable by radicals.

---

[Comment](#)

#### Step 6 of 6

(c)

Consider the complex number  $x^5 - 4x^4 + 2x + 2$

The above polynomial is having degree five and it is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$  by Eisenstein's criterion.

Its Galois group is  $S_5$ .

$$G(K / F) = S_5$$

The polynomial is not converted in to the form  $x^5 - px + q$

So, the polynomial is not solvable by radicals.

Hence,

The polynomials in  $\mathbb{Q}(x)$  are not solvable by radicals.

---

[Comment](#)