

1. Introduction

1.1. Cubic equations over \mathbb{C}

- For a polynomial equation, a **solution by radicals** is a formula for solutions using only addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and radicals $\sqrt[m]{}$ for $m \in \mathbb{N}$.
- For general cubic equation $x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0 = 0$:
 - **Tschirnhaus transformation** is substitution $t = x + \frac{a_2}{3}$, giving

$$t^3 + pt + q = 0, \quad p = \frac{-a_2^2 + 3a_1}{3}, \quad q = \frac{2a_2^3 - 9a_1a_2 + 27a_0}{27}$$

This is a **reduced** cubic equation.

- When $t = u + v$, $t^3 - (3uv)t - (u^3 + v^3) = 0$ which is in the reduced cubic form with $p = -3uv$, $q = -(u^3 + v^3)$.
- We have

$$(y - u^3)(y - v^3) = y^2 - (u^3 + v^3)y + u^3v^3 = y^2 + qy - \frac{p^3}{27} = 0$$

$$\text{so } u^3, v^3 = -\frac{q}{2} \pm \sqrt{\frac{q^2}{4} + \frac{p^3}{27}}.$$

- So a solution to $t^3 + pt + q = 0$ is

$$t = u + v = \sqrt[3]{-\frac{q}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{q^2}{4} + \frac{p^3}{27}}} + \sqrt[3]{-\frac{q}{2} - \sqrt{\frac{q^2}{4} + \frac{p^3}{27}}}$$

The other solutions are $\omega u + \omega^2 v$ and $\omega^2 u + \omega v$ where $\omega = e^{2\pi i/3}$ is the 3rd root of unity. This is because u and v each have three solutions independently to $u^3, v^3 = -\frac{q}{2} \pm \sqrt{\frac{q^2}{4} + \frac{p^3}{27}}$, but also $uv = -\frac{p}{3}$.

- **Remark:** the above method doesn't work for fields of characteristic 2 or 3 since the formulas involve division by 2 or 3 (which is dividing by zero in these respective fields).
- For general cubic equation $x^3 + a_3x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0 = 0$:
 - Substitution $t = x + \frac{a_3}{4}$ gives **reduced** quartic equation

$$t^4 + pt^2 + qt + r = 0$$

- We then manipulate the polynomial so that it is the sum or difference of two squares and use $a^2 + b^2 = (a + ib)(a - ib)$ or $a^2 - b^2 = (a + b)(a - b)$:

$$(t^2 + w)^2 + (p - 2w)t^2 + qt + (r - w^2) = 0$$

- $(p - 2w)t^2 + qt + (r - w^2) = 0$ is a square iff its discriminant is zero:

$$q^2 - 4(p - 2w)(r - w^2) = 0 \iff w^3 - \frac{1}{2}pw^2 - rw + \frac{1}{8}(4pr - q^2) = 0$$

- This **cubic resolvent** is solvable by radicals. Taking any of the solutions and substituting for w gives a sum or difference of two squares in t . The quadratic factors can then be solved.

1.2. Galois theory for quadratic equations

2. Fields and polynomials

2.1. Basic properties of fields

- **Definition:** ring R is **field** if every element of $R - \{0\}$ has multiplicative inverse and $1 \neq 0 \in R$.
- **Lemma:** every field is integral domain.
- **Definition:** field homomorphism is a ring homomorphism $\varphi : K \rightarrow L$ between fields:
 - $\varphi(a + b) = \varphi(a) + \varphi(b)$
 - $\varphi(ab) = \varphi(a)\varphi(b)$
 - $\varphi(1) = 1$

These imply $\varphi(0) = 0$, $\varphi(-a) = -\varphi(a)$, $\varphi(a^{-1}) = \varphi(a)^{-1}$.

- **Lemma:** let $\varphi : K \rightarrow L$ homomorphism.
 - $\text{im}(\varphi) = \{\varphi(a) : a \in K\}$ is a field.
 - $\ker(\varphi) = \{a \in K : \varphi(a) = 0\} = \{0\}$, i.e. φ is injective.
- **Definition:** **subfield** K of field L is subring of L where K is a field. L is a **field extension** of K .
- The above lemma shows the image of $\varphi : K \rightarrow L$ is a subfield of L .
- **Lemma:** intersections of subfields are subfields.
- **Prime subfield** of L : intersection of all subfields of field L .
- **Definition:** **characteristic** $\text{char}(K)$ of field K is

$$\text{char}(K) := \min(\{0\} \cup \{n \in \mathbb{N} : \chi(n) = 0\})$$

where $\chi : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow K$, $\chi(m) = 1 + \dots + 1$ (m times).

- **Example:** $\text{char}(\mathbb{Q}) = \text{char}(\mathbb{R}) = \text{char}(\mathbb{C}) = 0$, $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}_p) = p$ for p prime.
- **Lemma:** for any field K , $\text{char}(K)$ is either 0 or a prime.
- **Theorem:**
 - $\text{char}(K) = 0$ iff \mathbb{Q} is the prime subfield of K .
 - $\text{char}(K) = p > 0$ iff \mathbb{F}_p is the prime subfield of K .
- Note $p \mid \binom{p}{i}$ so $(a + b)^p = a^p + b^p$.

2.2. Polynomials over fields

- **Degree** of $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n$, $a_n \neq 0$ is $\deg(f(x)) = n$.
- $\deg(f(x)g(x)) = \deg(f(x)) + \deg(g(x))$ and $\deg(f(x) + g(x)) = \max\{\deg(f(x)), \deg(g(x))\}$ with equality if $\deg(f(x)) \neq \deg(g(x))$.
- Degree of zero polynomial is $\deg(0) = -\infty$.
- Only invertible elements in $K[x]$ are non-zero constants $f(x) = a_0 \neq 0$.
- Similarities between \mathbb{Z} and $K[x]$ for field K :
 - $K[x]$ is integral domain.
 - There is a division algorithm for $K[x]$: for $f(x), g(x) \in K[x]$, $\exists! q(x), r(x) \in K[x]$ with $\deg(r(x)) < \deg(g(x))$ such that

$$f(x) = q(x)g(x) + r(x)$$

- Every $f(x), g(x) \in K[x]$ have greatest common divisor $\gcd(f(x), g(x))$ unique up to multiplication by non-zero constants. By Euclidean algorithm for polynomials,

$$\exists a(x), b(x) \in K[x] : a(x)f(x) + b(x)g(x) = \gcd(f(x), g(x))$$

- Can construct field from $K[x]$: **field of fractions** of $K[x]$ is

$$K(x) = \text{Frac}(K[x]) = \left\{ \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} : f(x), g(x) \in K[x], g(x) \neq 0 \right\}$$

(We can construct the field of fractions for any integral domain).

- $K[x]$ is PID and UFD.
- **Definition:** $f(x) \in K[x]$ **irreducible** in $K[x]$ if
 - $\deg(f(x)) \geq 1$ and
 - $f(x) = g(x)h(x) \implies g(x)$ or $h(x)$ is constant

2.3. Tests for irreducibility

- If $f(x)$ has linear factor in $K[x]$, it has root in $K[x]$.
- **Rational root test:** if $f(x) = a_0 + \dots + a_n x^n \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ has rational root $\frac{b}{c} \in \mathbb{Q}$ with $\gcd(b, c) = 1$ then $b \mid a_0$ and $c \mid a_n$. This doesn't show f is irreducible for $\deg(f(x)) \geq 4$.
- **Gauss's lemma:** let $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$, $f(x) = g(x)h(x)$, $g(x), h(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$. Then $\exists r \in \mathbb{Q} : rg(x), r^{-1}h(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$.
- **Example:** let $f(x) = x^4 - 3x^3 + 1 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$. Using the rational root test, $f(\pm 1) \neq 0$ so no linear factors in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$. Checking quadratic factors, let

$$f(x) = (ax^2 + bx + c)(rx^2 + sx + t), \quad a, b, c, r, s, t \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ by Gauss's lemma}$$

So $1 = ar \implies a = r = \pm 1$. $1 = ct \implies c = t = \pm 1$. $-3 = b + s$ and $0 = c(b + s)$: contradiction. So $f(x)$ irreducible in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$.

- **Example:** let $f(x) = x^4 - 3x^2 + 1 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$. The rational root test shows there are no linear factors. Checking quadratic factors, let

$$f(x) = (ax^2 + bx + c)(rx^2 + sx + t), \quad a, b, c, r, s, t \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ by Gauss's lemma}$$

As before, $a = r = \pm 1$, $c = t = \pm 1$. $0 = b + s \implies b = -s$,
 $-3 = at + bs + cr = -b^2 \pm 2$. $b = 1$ works. So $f(x) = (x^2 - x - 1)(x^2 + x - 1)$.

- **Proposition:** let $f(x) = a_0 + \dots + a_n x^n \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$. If exists prime $p \nmid a_n$ such that $\bar{f}(x)$ is irreducible in $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$, then $f(x)$ irreducible in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$.
- **Example:** let $f(x) = 8x^3 + 14x - 9$. Reducing mod 7, $\bar{f}(x) = x^3 - 2 \in \mathbb{F}_7[x]$. No roots exist for this, so $f(x)$ irreducible in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$. For polynomials, no p is suitable, e.g. $f(x) = x^4 + 1$.
- Gauss's lemma works with any UFD R instead of \mathbb{Z} and field of fractions $\text{Frac}(R)$ instead of \mathbb{Q} : let F field, $R = F[t]$, $K = F(t)$, then $f(x) \in R[x]$ irreducible in $K[x]$ iff $f(x)$ has no proper factors in $R[x]$.

- **Eisenstein's criterion:** let $f(x) = a_0 + \dots + a_n x^n \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$, prime $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $p \mid a_0, \dots, p \mid a_{n-1}, p \nmid a_n, p^2 \nmid a_0$. Then $f(x)$ irreducible in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$.
- Eisenstein's criterion generalises to UFD R instead of \mathbb{Z} , $\text{Frac}(R)$ instead of \mathbb{Q} .
- **Example:** let $f(x) = x^3 - 3x + 1$. Consider $f(x-1) = x^3 - 3x^2 + 3$. Then by Eisenstein's criterion with $p = 3$, $f(x-1)$ irreducible in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ so $f(x)$ is as well, since factoring $f(x-1)$ is equivalent to factoring $f(x)$.
- **Example: p -th cyclotomic polynomial** is

$$f(x) = \frac{x^p - 1}{x - 1} = 1 + \dots + x^{p-1}$$

Now

$$f(x+1) = \frac{(1+x)^p - 1}{1+x-1} = x^{p-1} + px^{p-2} + \dots + \binom{p}{p-2}x + p$$

so can apply Eisenstein with p .

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3. Field extensions

3.1. Definitions and examples

- **Definition: field extension** L/K is field L containing subfield K . Can specify homomorphism $\iota : K \rightarrow L$ (which is injective)
- **Example:**
 - $\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Q}$.
 - $L = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) = \{a + b\sqrt{2} : a, b \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ is field extension of \mathbb{Q} . $\mathbb{Q}(\theta)$ is field extension of \mathbb{Q} where θ is root of $f(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$.
 - $L = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}) = \{a + b\sqrt[3]{2} + c\sqrt[3]{4} : a, b, c \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ is smallest subfield of \mathbb{R} containing \mathbb{Q} and $\sqrt[3]{2}$.
 - $L = K(t)$ is field extension of K .
- **Definition:** let L/K field extension, $S \subseteq L$. Then **K with S adjoined**, $K(S)$, is minimal subfield of L containing K and S . If $|S| = 1$, L/K is a **simple extension**.
- **Example:** $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{7}) = \{a + b\sqrt{2} + c\sqrt{7} + d\sqrt{14} : a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ is \mathbb{Q} with $S = \{\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{7}\}$.
- **Example:** \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Q} is not simple extension.
- **Definition:** a **tower** if a chain of field extensions, e.g. $K \subset M \subset L$.

3.2. Algebraic elements and minimal polynomials

- **Definition:** let L/K field extension, $\theta \in L$. Then θ is **algebraic over K** if

$$\exists 0 \neq f(x) \in K[x] : f(\theta) = 0$$

Otherwise, θ is **transcendental over K** .

- **Example:** for $n \geq 1$, $\theta = e^{2\pi i/n}$ is algebraic over \mathbb{Q} (root of $x^n - 1$).
- **Example:** $t \in K(t)$ is transcendental over K .

- **Lemma:** the algebraic elements in $K(t)/K$ are precisely K .
- **Lemma:** let L/K field extension, $\theta \in L$. Define $I_K(\theta) := \{f(x) \in K[x] : f(\theta) = 0\}$. Then $I_K(\theta)$ is ideal in $K[x]$ and
 - If θ transcendental over K , $I_K(\theta) = \{0\}$
 - If θ algebraic over K , then exists unique monic irreducible polynomial $m(x) \in K[x]$ such that $I_K(\theta) = \langle m(x) \rangle$.
- **Definition:** for $\theta \in L$ algebraic over K , **minimal polynomial** of θ over K is the unique monic polynomial $m(x) \in K[x]$ such that $I_K(\theta) = \langle m(x) \rangle$. The **degree** of θ over K is $\deg(m(x))$.
- **Remark:** if $f(x) \in K[x]$ irreducible over K , monic and $f(\theta) = 0$ then $f(x) = m(x)$.
- **Example:**
 - Any $\theta \in K$ has minimal polynomial $x - \theta$ over K .
 - $i \in \mathbb{C}$ has minimal polynomial $x^2 + 1$ over \mathbb{R} .
 - $\sqrt{2}$ has minimal polynomial $x^2 - 2$ over \mathbb{Q} . $\sqrt[3]{2}$ has minimal polynomial $x^3 - 2$ over \mathbb{Q} .

3.3. Constructing field extensions

- **Lemma:** let K field, $f(x) \in K[x]$ non-zero. Then

$$f(x) \text{ irreducible over } K \iff K[x]/\langle f(x) \rangle \text{ is a field}$$
- **Theorem:** let $m(x) \in K[x]$ irreducible, monic, $K_m := K[x]/\langle m(x) \rangle$. Then
 - K_m/K is field extension.
 - Let $\theta = \pi(x)$ where $\pi : K[x] \rightarrow K_m$ is canonical projection, then θ has minimal polynomial $m(x)$ and $K_m = K(\theta)$.
- **Definition:** let L_1/K , L_2/K field extensions, $\varphi : L_1 \rightarrow L_2$ field homomorphism. φ is **K -homomorphism** if $\forall a \in K, \varphi(a) = a$ (φ fixes elements of K).
 - If φ is isomorphism then it is **K -isomorphism**.
 - If $L_1 = L_2$ then φ is **K -automorphism**.
- **Example:**
 - Complex conjugation $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is \mathbb{R} -automorphism.
 - Let K field, $\text{char}(K) \neq 2$, $\sqrt{2} \notin K$, so $x^2 - 2$ is minimal polynomial of $\sqrt{2}$ over K , then $K(\sqrt{2}) \cong K[x]/\langle x^2 - 2 \rangle$ is field extension of K and $a + b\sqrt{2} \mapsto a - b\sqrt{2}$ is K -automorphism.
- **Proposition:** let L/K field extension, $\tau \in L$ with $m(\tau) = 0$ and $K_L(\tau)$ be minimal subfield of L containing K and τ . Then exists unique K -isomorphism $\varphi : K_m \rightarrow K_L(\tau)$ such that $\varphi(\theta) = \tau$.
- **Proposition:** let θ transcendental over K , then exists unique K -isomorphism $\varphi : K(t) \rightarrow K(\theta)$ such that $\varphi(t) = \theta$:

$$\varphi\left(\frac{f(g)}{g(t)}\right) = \varphi\left(\frac{f(\theta)}{g(\theta)}\right)$$

3.4. Explicit examples of simple extensions

- Let $r \in K^\times$ non-square in K , then $x^2 - r$ irreducible in $K[x]$. E.g. for $K = \mathbb{Q}(t)$, $x^2 - t \in K[x]$ irreducible. Then $K(\sqrt{t}) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{t}) \cong K[x]/\langle x^2 - t \rangle$. Then for $s = \sqrt{3}$, we have an extension $\mathbb{Q}(s)/\mathbb{Q}(s^2)$.
- Define $\mathbb{F}_9 = \mathbb{F}_3[x]/\langle x^2 - 2 \rangle \cong \mathbb{F}_3(\theta) = \{a + b\theta : a, b \in \mathbb{F}_3\}$ for θ a root of $x^2 - 2$.
- **Proposition:** let $K(\theta)/K$ where θ has minimal polynomial $m(x) \in K[x]$ of degree n . Then

$$K[x]/\langle m(x) \rangle \cong K(\theta) = \{c_0 + c_1\theta + \dots + c_{n-1}\theta^{n-1} : c_i \in K\}$$

and its elements are written uniquely: $K(\theta)$ is vector space over K of dimension n with basis $\{1, \theta, \dots, \theta^{n-1}\}$.

- **Example:** $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}) = \{a + b\sqrt[3]{2} + c\sqrt[3]{4} : a, b, c \in \mathbb{Q}\} \cong \mathbb{Q}[x]/\langle x^3 - 2 \rangle$. $\mathbb{Q}(\omega\sqrt[3]{2})$ and $\mathbb{Q}(\omega^2\sqrt[3]{2})$ where $\omega = e^{2\pi i/3}$ are isomorphic to $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})$ as $\omega\sqrt[3]{2}, \omega\sqrt[3]{4}$ have same minimal polynomial.

3.5. Degrees of field extensions

- **Definition:** degree of field extension L/K is

$$[L : K] := \dim_L(F)$$

Write $[L : K] < \infty$ if degree is finite.

- **Example:**
 - When θ algebraic over K of degree n , $[K(\theta) : K] = n$.
 - Let θ transcendental over K , then $[K(\theta) : K] = \infty$, so $[K(t) : K] = \infty$, $[\mathbb{Q}(\pi) : \mathbb{Q}]$, $[\mathbb{R} : \mathbb{Q}] = \infty$.
- **Proposition:** let $[L : K] < \infty$, then every element in L/K is algebraic over K (in this case, L/K is **algebraic extension**).
- **Tower theorem:** let $K \subseteq M \subseteq L$ tower of field extensions. Then
 - $[L : K] < \infty \iff [L : M] < \infty \wedge [M : K] < \infty$.
 - $[L : K] = [L : M][M : K]$.
- **Example:**
 - $K = \mathbb{Q} \subset M = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) \subset L = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{7})$. M/K has basis $\{1, \sqrt{2}\}$ so $[M : K] = 2$. Let $\sqrt{7} \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$, then $\sqrt{7} = c + d\sqrt{2}$, $c, d \in \mathbb{Q}$ so $7 = (c^2 + 2d^2) + 2cd\sqrt{2}$ so $7 = c^2 + 2d^2$, $0 = 2cd$ so $d^2 = \frac{7}{2}$ or $c^2 = 7$, which are both contradictions. So $[L : K] = 4$ with basis $\{1, \sqrt{2}, \sqrt{7}, \sqrt{14}\}$.
 - Let $K = \mathbb{Q} \subset M = \mathbb{Q}(i) \subset \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})$. We know $[\mathbb{Q}(i) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$, and $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$, $[\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$ (since $i \notin \mathbb{R}$) so $[\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2}) : \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})] = 2$.
 - Let $K = \mathbb{Q} \subset M = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) \subset L = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt[3]{3})$. Then $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$, $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{3}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$ so $2 \mid [L : K]$ and $3 \mid [L : K]$ so $6 \mid [L : K]$ so $[L : K] \geq 6$. But $[L : M] \leq 3$ and $[M : K] \leq 2$ so $[L : K] \leq 6$ hence $[L : K] = 6$.
- More generally, we have $[K(\alpha, \beta) : K] \leq [K(\alpha) : K][K(\beta) : K]$.
- **Example:**
 - Let $\theta = \sqrt[3]{4} + 1$. $\mathbb{Q}(\theta) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{4})$ so minimal polynomial over \mathbb{Q} , m , has $\deg(m) = 3$. $(\theta - 1)^3 = 4$ so minimal polynomial is $x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 5$.

- Let $\theta = \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}$. $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \theta) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3})$ which has degree 2 over $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ so minimal polynomial of θ over $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ has degree 2, $(\theta - \sqrt{2}) = \sqrt{3}$ so minimal polynomial is $x^2 - 2\sqrt{2}x - 1$.
- Let $\theta = \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}$. $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{Q}(\theta) \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{7})$ so $[\mathbb{Q}(\theta) : \mathbb{Q}] \mid [\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 4$ so $[\mathbb{Q}(\theta) : \mathbb{Q}] \in \{1, 2, 4\}$. Can't be 1 as $\theta \notin \mathbb{Q}$. If it was 2 then $1, \theta, \theta^2$ are linearly dependent over \mathbb{Q} which leads to a contradiction. So degree of minimal polynomial of θ over \mathbb{Q} is 4. $\theta^2 = 5 + 2\sqrt{6} \Rightarrow (\theta^2 - 5)^2 = 24$ so minimal polynomial is $x^4 - 10x^2 + 1$.

4. Galois extensions

4.1. Splitting fields

- **Definition:** for field K , $0 \neq f(x) \in K[x]$, L/K is **splitting field** of $f(x)$ over K if
 - $\exists c \in K^\times, \theta_1, \dots, \theta_n \in L : f(x) = c(x - \theta_1) \cdots (x - \theta_n)$ ($f(x)$ **splits over** L).
 - $L = K(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n)$.
- **Example:**
 - \mathbb{C} is splitting field of $x^2 + 1$ over \mathbb{R} , since $x^2 + 1 = (x + i)(x - i)$ and $\mathbb{C} = \mathbb{R}(i, -i) = \mathbb{R}(i)$.
 - \mathbb{C} is not splitting field of $x^2 + 1$ over \mathbb{Q} as $\mathbb{C} \neq \mathbb{Q}(i, -i)$.
 - \mathbb{Q} is splitting field of $x^2 - 36$ over \mathbb{Q} .
 - \mathbb{C} is splitting of $x^4 + 1$ over \mathbb{R} .
 - $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})$ is splitting field of $x^4 - x^2 - 2$ over \mathbb{Q} .
 - $\mathbb{F}_2(\theta)$ where $\theta^3 + \theta + 1 = 0$ is splitting field of $x^3 + x + 1$ over \mathbb{F}_2 .
 - Consider splitting field of $x^3 - 2$ over \mathbb{Q} . Let $\omega = e^{2\pi i/3} = (-1 + \sqrt{-3})/2$ then $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}, \omega)$ is splitting field since it must contain $\sqrt[3]{2}, \omega\sqrt[3]{2}, \omega^2\sqrt[3]{2}$.
- **Theorem:** let $0 \neq f(x) \in K[x]$, $\deg(f) = n$. Then there exists a splitting field L of $f(x)$ over K with

$$[L : K] \leq n!$$

- **Notation:** for field homomorphism $\varphi : K \rightarrow K'$ and $f(x) = a_0 + \cdots + a_n x^n \in K[x]$, write

$$\varphi_*(f(x)) := \varphi(a_0) + \cdots + \varphi(a_n)x^n \in K'[x]$$

- **Lemma:** let $\sigma : K \rightarrow K'$ isomorphism and $K(\theta)/K$, θ has minimal polynomial $m(x) \in K[x]$, θ' be root of $\sigma_*(m(x))$. Then there exists unique field isomorphism $\tau : K(\theta) \rightarrow K'(\theta')$ such that $\tau(\theta) = \theta'$ and $\forall a \in K, \tau(a) = \sigma(a)$.
- **Theorem:** for field isomorphism $\sigma : K \rightarrow K'$ and $0 \neq f(x) \in K[x]$, let L be splitting field of $f(x)$ over K , L' be splitting field of $\sigma_*(f(x))$ over K' . Then there exists a field isomorphism $\tau : L \rightarrow L'$ such that $\forall a \in K, \tau(a) = \sigma(a)$.
- **Corollary:** setting $K = K'$ and $\sigma = \text{id}$ implies that splitting fields are unique.

4.2. Normal extensions

- **Definition:** L/K is **normal** if: if $f(x) \in K[x]$ is irreducible and has a root in L then all its roots are in L . In particular, $f(x)$ splits completely as product of linear

factors in $L[x]$. So the minimal polynomial of $\theta \in L$ over K has all its roots in L and can be written as product of linear factors in $L[x]$.

• **Example:**

- If $[L : K] = 1$ then L/K is normal.
- If $[L : K] = 2$ then L/K is normal: let $\theta \in L$ have minimal polynomial $m(x) \in K[x]$, then $K \subseteq K(\theta) \subseteq L$ so $\deg(m(x)) = [K(\theta) : K] \in \{1, 2\}$:
 - If $\deg(m(x)) = 1$ then $m(x)$ is already linear.
 - If $\deg(m(x)) = 2$ then $m(x) = (x - \theta)m_1(x)$, $m_1(x) \in L[x]$ is linear so $m(x)$ splits completely in $L[x]$.
- If $[L : K] = 3$ then L/K is not necessarily normal. Let θ be root of $x^3 - 2 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$. Other two roots are $\omega\theta, \omega^2\theta$ where $\omega = e^{2\pi i/3}$. If $\omega\theta \in \mathbb{Q}(\theta)$ then $\omega = \frac{\omega\theta}{\theta} \in L$ so $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{Q}(\omega) \subset \mathbb{Q}(\theta)$ but $[\mathbb{Q}(\omega) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$ which doesn't divide $[\mathbb{Q}(\theta) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$.
- Let $\theta \in \mathbb{C}$ be root of irreducible $f(x) = x^3 - 3x - 1 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$. Let $\theta = u + v$, then $(u + v)^3 - 3uv(u + v) - (u^3 + v^3) \equiv 0$ implies $uv = 1 = u^3v^3$, $u^3 + v^3 = 1$. So $(y - u^3)(y - v^3) = y^2 - y + 1$ has roots u^3 and v^3 . So the three roots of f are

$$\begin{aligned} u + v &= e^{\pi i/9} + e^{-\pi i/9} = 2 \cos(\pi/9) \\ \omega u + \omega^2 v &= e^{7\pi i/9} + e^{-7\pi i/9} = 2 \cos(7\pi/9) \\ \omega^2 u + \omega v &= e^{13\pi i/9} + e^{-13\pi i/9} = 2 \cos(13\pi/9) \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, for each i, j , $\theta_i \in \mathbb{Q}(\theta_j)$, e.g.

$$\theta_2 = 2 \cos\left(\pi - \frac{2\pi}{9}\right) = -2 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{9}\right) = -2 \left(2 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{9}\right)^2 - 1\right) = 2 - \theta_1^2$$

So $\mathbb{Q}(\theta)$ contains all roots of $f(x)$.

- **Theorem (normality criterion):** L/K is finite and normal iff L is splitting field for some $0 \neq f(x) \in K[x]$ over K .
- **Example:**
 - $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}, \sqrt{5}, \sqrt{7})/\mathbb{Q}$ is normal as it is the splitting field of $f(x) = (x^2 - 2)(x^2 - 3)(x^2 - 5)(x^2 - 7) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$.
 - $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})/\mathbb{Q}$ is not normal but $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}, \omega)/\mathbb{Q}$ is normal as it is the splitting field of $x^3 - 2 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$.
 - $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2})/\mathbb{Q}$ is not normal but $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)/\mathbb{Q}$ is normal.
 - Let θ root of $f(x) = x^3 - 3x - 1 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$. Then $\mathbb{Q}(\theta)/\mathbb{Q}$ is normal as is splitting field of $f(x)$ over \mathbb{Q} .
 - $\mathbb{F}_2(\theta)/\mathbb{F}_2$ where $\theta^3 + \theta^2 + 1 = 0$ is normal.
 - $\mathbb{F}_p(\theta)/\mathbb{F}_p(t)$ where $\theta^p = t$ is normal as it is the splitting field of $x^p - t = x^p - \theta^p = (x - \theta)^p$ so $f(x)$ splits into linear factors in $L[x]$.