

1. DUMMIT AND FOOTE

**Exercise 1.1** (13.4.(5)). Let  $K$  be a finite extension of  $F$ . Prove that  $K$  is a splitting field over  $F$  if and only if every irreducible polynomial in  $F[x]$  that has a root in  $K$  splits completely in  $K[x]$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $\{f_i\} \subset F[x]$  is the collection of polynomials over  $F$  that split over  $K$ . Suppose  $g \in F[x]$  is irreducible and has a root  $\alpha \in K$ . We must show that  $g \in \{f_i\}$ . Since  $K$  is a finite extension, we have  $K = F(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  for  $\alpha_i$  algebraic over  $F$ . Let  $K'$  be a splitting field for  $\{f_i\} \cup \{g\}$  over  $F$  which we can obtain by adjoining roots of  $g'$  to  $K$  if we write  $g(x) = (x - k)g'(x)$  for  $k \in K$ . Suppose we adjoin the roots  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m$ .  $\square$