Problem Set 1 Math 410, Fall 2024

Reading Stewart §1.1-2.

- 1. Prove that every subfield $F \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ contains \mathbb{Q} .
- 2. Let $\phi: \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{C}$ be a field automorphism (i.e. an isomorphism from the field to itself), and assume that $\phi(a) = a$ for all $a \in \mathbb{R}$ (such ϕ is called a \mathbb{R} -automorphism of \mathbb{C}). Prove that $\phi(i)^2 + 1 = 0$, and therefore that $\phi(i) = \pm i$. Conclude that the only automorphisms of \mathbb{C} are the identity and complex conjugation.
- 3. Genearlizing the previous problem: let $F \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ be a subfield, and $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ a complex number such that $\alpha \notin F$ but $\alpha^2 \in F$. Prove that there are exactly two automorphisms $\phi : F(\alpha) \to F(\alpha)$ such that $\phi(a) = a$ for all $a \in F$.
- 4. Prove that $\{1, \sqrt{2}\}$ is a linearly independent set over \mathbb{Q} .
- 5. Denote by ζ_n the complex number $\zeta_n = e^{2\pi i/n}$. Prove that $\mathbb{Q}[\zeta_3] = \mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{-3}]$.
- 6. Prove that $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3})$.