

1. Exercise 10.1.20. Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a field.

(a) Show that the following are equivalent for a polynomial  $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}[x]$ .

- i.  $f(x)$  has no repeated root in any extension field of  $\mathbb{F}$ .
- ii.  $f(x)$  has no repeated root in some splitting field over  $\mathbb{F}$ .
- iii.  $f(x)$  and  $f'(x)$  are relatively prime in  $\mathbb{F}[x]$

i.  $\implies$  ii. Suppose  $f$  has no repeated root in any extension of  $\mathbb{F}$ .  $f$  has a splitting field, and by assumption it must have no repeated roots in this field.

ii.  $\implies$  iii. Suppose  $f$  has no repeated roots in an extension  $\mathbb{E}$  in which it splits. Then suppose for the sake of contradiction that there exists some  $g \in \mathbb{F}[x]$  so that  $g|f$  and  $g|f'$ , and that  $g$  is nonconstant. By Kronecker's Theorem, take a root  $\alpha \in \mathbb{E}$  of  $g$ . Then  $x - \alpha|g$  and so  $x - \alpha|f$ ,  $x - \alpha|f'$ . But if  $x - \alpha|f'$ , then  $(x - \alpha)^2|f$ , a contradiction since we assumed that  $f$  had no repeated root.

iii.  $\implies$  i. Suppose that  $f, f'$  are relatively prime in  $\mathbb{F}[x]$ . Then suppose for the sake of contradiction that there is some extension  $\mathbb{E}$  of  $\mathbb{F}$  so that  $f$  has a repeated root in  $\mathbb{E}$ . Then  $(x - \alpha)^2|f$ . But then  $(x - \alpha)$  would divide  $f'$ , contradicting  $f, f'$  being coprime.

(b) If  $f(x)$  is as in (a), show that  $f(x)$  is separable, but not conversely.

**Solution:** Let  $f$  have no repeated roots in its splitting field. Then clearly none of its factors can have repeated roots, so it must be separable.

Counterexample: Take  $f(x) = x^2 + 2x + 1$  which has a repeated root in the trivial extension  $\mathbb{F}$  of  $\mathbb{F}$ , but its irreducible factor  $(x + 1)$  has no repeated root in any extension  $\mathbb{E}$  of  $\mathbb{F}$ .

2. Exercise 10.1.26 (a) (b)

(a) Show that the following conditions are equivalent for a field  $\mathbb{F}$  (then called a perfect field):

- i. Every algebraic extension of  $\mathbb{F}$  is separable.
- ii. Every finite extension of  $\mathbb{F}$  is separable.
- iii. Every irreducible polynomial in  $\mathbb{F}[x]$  is separable.

i.  $\implies$  ii. Suppose that every algebraic extension of  $\mathbb{F}$  is separable. Then, if  $\mathbb{E}$  were a finite extension, it would have to be algebraic and as such it would be separable.

ii.  $\implies$  iii. Suppose that every finite extension of  $\mathbb{F}$  is separable, and that  $f$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{F}[x]$ . Let  $\mathbb{E}$  be the splitting field of  $f$  over  $\mathbb{F}$ . Then  $\mathbb{E}$  is a finite extension, and by hypothesis  $\mathbb{E}$  must be separable. Since the minimal monic polynomial for any root  $u_i$  of  $f$  is  $x - u_i \in \mathbb{E}[x]$ , and these are all separable since  $\mathbb{E}$  is separable, we can say  $f$  is separable since it is the product of all these and a constant in  $\mathbb{F}$ .

iii.  $\implies$  i. Suppose that every irreducible polynomial in  $\mathbb{F}[x]$  is separable. Then let  $\mathbb{E}$  be an algebraic extension of  $\mathbb{F}$ .

(b) Show that every field of characteristic 0 is perfect.

**Solution:** Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be of characteristic 0. Then an irreducible  $p$  is separable (Nicholson Chapter 10, Theorem 4), satisfying iii. Therefore  $\mathbb{F}$  is perfect.

3. Exercise 10.2.12 If  $\mathbb{E}$  is a finite extension of  $\mathbb{F}$  and  $G = \text{gal}(\mathbb{E} : \mathbb{F})$ , show that the extension  $E$  of  $F$  is Galois if and only if  $|G| = [\mathbb{E} : \mathbb{F}]$ .

$\implies$  : Let  $\mathbb{E}$  be a finite extension of  $\mathbb{F}$  and  $G = \text{gal}(\mathbb{E} : \mathbb{F})$ . Then suppose  $\mathbb{E}$  is Galois

$\Leftarrow$  : Let  $\mathbb{E}$  be a finite extension of  $\mathbb{F}$  and  $|G| = [\mathbb{E} : \mathbb{F}]$ . Then suppose  $|G| = [\mathbb{E} : \mathbb{F}]$ .