

① Suppose  $H \leq G$  is contained in every nontrivial subgroup of  $G$ . Show  $H \leq Z(G)$ .

Proof: We need to show that  $Z(G)$  is nontrivial; then it follows.

Suppose  $Z(G)$  is trivial. Since  $H$  is contained in every nontrivial subgroup, and  $|gHg^{-1}| = |H|$ ,  $H \leq gHg^{-1} \Rightarrow H = gHg^{-1} \forall g \in G$ .

Thus  $H$  is normal in  $G$ .

$\forall x \in G, H \leq \langle x \rangle$ . As cyclic groups are abelian,  $xh = hx \forall h \in H$ , thus  $H \leq Z(G)$ .  $\square$

② Let  $n$  be odd, and suppose  $G \leq S_n$  has order  $2^k$ . Prove that  $\exists i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  fixed by all  $\sigma \in G$ .

$n =$  sum of sizes of  $G$ -orbits.

But, the size of each nontrivial  $G$ -orbit is a power of 2 by orbit-stabilizer:  $|G(x)| = \frac{|G|}{|\text{Stab}_G(x)|}$

Since  $n$  is odd, there must be at least one orbit of size 1.  $\square$

③ Let  $p$  be an odd prime. How many elements can have square roots in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ ? cube roots?

If  $p=3$ , only 1:

$p=5$ :  $1^2=1, 2^2=4, 3^2=4, 4^2=1$  so 2 elements

• Multiplicative group is cyclic of even order  $p-1$ .

Consider  $\varphi: \mathbb{F}_p^* \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p^*$  which has kernel  $\{\pm 1\}$ , as  $x \mapsto x^2$   $x^2 - 1$  has exactly 2 roots in  $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$ .

Then  $\mathbb{F}_p^* / \ker \varphi \cong \varphi(\mathbb{F}_p^*)$  and  $|\varphi(\mathbb{F}_p^*)| = \frac{1}{2}(p-1)$  is the # of squares in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .

Now consider  $\psi: x \mapsto x^3$  which has as kernel the roots of  $x^3 - 1 = (x-1)(x^2+x+1)$

If  $3 \nmid p-1$ , then  $\ker \psi = 1$  and there are  $p-1$  cubes in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .

If 3 does divide  $p-1$ , then  $\mathbb{F}_p^*$  has an element of order 3, whose inverse has order 3, and there are thus  $\frac{1}{3}(p-1)$  cubes as  $|\ker \psi| = 3$ .  $\square$

④ Let  $W \subseteq V$  be vector spaces of degree  $m, n$  respectively. Let  $T: V \rightarrow V$  be a linear transformation s.t.  $T(V) \subseteq W$ . Let  $T_W$  be  $T|_W$ . Prove  $\det(I_n - xT) = \det(I_m - xT_W)$ .

Solution: • Note this is not asking about characteristic polynomials.

5) Let  $F_\theta = \mathbb{Q}(\sin \theta)$  for some  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $E_\theta = \mathbb{Q}(\sin \frac{\theta}{3})$ .

Show that  $E_\theta$  is an extension of  $F_\theta$  and determine the possibilities for  $[E_\theta : F_\theta]$ .

$$\sin(\alpha \pm \beta) = \sin \alpha \cos \beta \pm \cos \alpha \sin \beta$$

$$\cos(2\theta) = 1 - 2\sin^2 \theta$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sin \theta &= \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{3} + 2\frac{\theta}{3}\right) = \sin \frac{\theta}{3} \cos\left(2\frac{\theta}{3}\right) + \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{3}\right) \sin\left(2\frac{\theta}{3}\right) \\ &= \sin \frac{\theta}{3} (1 - 2\sin^2 \frac{\theta}{3}) + \cos\left(\frac{\theta}{3}\right) \cdot 2\sin \frac{\theta}{3} \cos \frac{\theta}{3} \\ &= \sin\left(\frac{\theta}{3}\right) (1 - 2\sin^2(\frac{\theta}{3})) + 2\sin \frac{\theta}{3} (1 - \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{3}) \end{aligned}$$

This shows that  $F_\theta \subseteq E_\theta$ .

$[E_\theta : F_\theta]$  can be 1:  $\theta = \pi/2$  gives  $F_\theta = \mathbb{Q}$

$$\text{and } E_\theta = \mathbb{Q}(\sin \pi/6) = \mathbb{Q}$$

6. Let  $g(x) = x^7 - 1 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ , and let  $K$  be a splitting field for  $g(x)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

(a) Show that  $g(x) = (x-1)h(x)$  where  $h(x)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ . (Hint: Study  $h(x+1)$  by first writing  $h(x) = g(x)/(x-1)$ . Use Eisenstein's criterion to show  $h(x+1)$  is irreducible.)

(b) Show that  $G = \text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$  is cyclic of order 6, and has as a generator the map that takes  $\omega \mapsto \omega^3$  for any root  $\omega$  of  $g(x)$ .

(c) Let  $\omega$  be a complex 7th root of 1. Let

$$x_1 = \omega + \omega^2 + \omega^4, \quad x_2 = \omega + \omega^6$$

Find subgroups  $H_1, H_2$  of  $G$  such that  $\mathbb{Q}(x_1)$  is the fixed field of  $H_1$  and  $\mathbb{Q}(x_2)$  is the fixed field of  $H_2$ . Find  $[\mathbb{Q}(x_1) : \mathbb{Q}]$  and  $[\mathbb{Q}(x_2) : \mathbb{Q}]$ .

(d) Show that  $\mathbb{Q}(x_1)$  and  $\mathbb{Q}(x_2)$  are the only fields  $M$  with  $\mathbb{Q} \subset M \subset \mathbb{Q}(\omega)$ . (Here  $\subset$  denotes proper containment.)

$$a) \quad g(x) = (x-1)(x^6 + \dots + x + 1)$$

$$h(x+1) = (x+1)^6 + (x+1)^5 + \dots + (x+1) + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= x^6 + \binom{6}{1}x^5 + \binom{6}{2}x^4 + \binom{6}{3}x^3 + \binom{6}{4}x^2 + \binom{6}{5}x + 7 \\ &\quad + \left(\binom{6}{1} + \binom{5}{3} + \binom{4}{2} + \binom{3}{1} + 1\right)x^2 + \left(\binom{6}{5} + \binom{5}{4} + \binom{4}{3} + \binom{3}{2} + \binom{2}{1} + 1\right)x + 7 \end{aligned}$$

$$= x^6 + 7x^5 + 21x^4 + 35x^3 + 35x^2 + 21x + 7$$

so  $h(x+1)$  is Eisenstein at 7, thus irreducible.

If  $h(x)$  were reducible:

$$h(x) = g(x)f(x) \text{ then } h(x+1) = g(x+1)f(x+1)$$

b) If  $\omega$  a primitive 7th root

then any  $\sigma \in G$  is determined by  $\sigma(\omega) = \omega^a$ .

$$\sigma_3^2(\omega) = (\omega^3)^3 = \omega^2$$

$$\sigma_3^3(\omega) = (\omega^2)^3 = \omega^6$$

$$\sigma_3^4(\omega) = (\omega^6)^3 = \omega^4$$

$$\sigma_3^5(\omega) = (\omega^4)^3 = \omega^5$$

$$\sigma_3^6(\omega) = (\omega^5)^3 = \omega$$

c) If  $x_1 = \omega + \omega^2 + \omega^4$ , then  $\mathbb{Q}(x_1)$  is the fixed field of  $\sigma_2$

$$\sigma_2(\omega + \omega^2 + \omega^4) = \omega^2 + \omega^4 + \omega = x_1$$

$\sigma_2$  has order 3, so

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Q}(\omega) & 1 & [G : \langle \sigma_2 \rangle] = 2 \\ | & | & \\ \mathbb{Q}(x_1) & H & \text{so } [\mathbb{Q}(x_1) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2 \\ | [G : H] & 1 & \\ \mathbb{Q} & G & \end{array}$$

d) Any intermediate field corresponds to

a subgroup of  $G$ , but as  $G$  is cyclic of order 6, it has a unique subgroup of order 2 and of order 3.

If  $x_2 = \omega + \omega^6$ , then  $\mathbb{Q}(x_2)$  is fixed by  $\langle \sigma_6 \rangle$ .

$$\sigma_6(\omega) = \sigma_6(\omega)^6 = \omega^{36} = \omega \text{ so } \sigma_6(\omega + \omega^6) = \omega + \omega^6$$

This map has order 2 so  $[\mathbb{Q}(x_2) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$ .