

GALOIS THEORY

MOTIVATION

- $ax^2+bx+c=0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2-4ac}}{2a}$
- $x^3+px+q=0$ ($x^3+ax^2+bx+c=0$, take $x=x'-\frac{a}{3}$)
Let $x=u+v$, we get $u^3+v^3+(3uv+p)(u+v)+q=0$
Let $\begin{cases} 3uv+p=0 \\ u^3+v^3+q=0 \end{cases}$, then we can solve it! Then, $x = \sqrt[3]{-\frac{q}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{q^2}{4} + \frac{p^3}{27}}} + \sqrt[3]{-\frac{q}{2} - \sqrt{\frac{q^2}{4} + \frac{p^3}{27}}}$
- $x^4+ax^3+bx^2+cx+d=0 \Rightarrow (x^4+ax^3+bx^2+cx+d) + (px+q)^2 = (px+q)^2 \Rightarrow (x^2+\frac{a}{2}x+k)^2 = (px+q)^2$
 $\Rightarrow 2k+\frac{a^2}{4}=b+p^2, ak=c+pq, k^2=d+q^2 \Rightarrow p^2=2k+\frac{a^2}{4}-b, 2pq=ak-c, q^2=k^2-d \Rightarrow 4(k^2-d)(2k+\frac{a^2}{4}-b)=(ak-c)^2$
 $\Rightarrow x^2+\frac{a}{2}x+k-px-q=0$ or $x^2+\frac{a}{2}x+k+px+q=0 \checkmark$
- Abel (1824): $\exists x^5+a, x^4+\dots+a_5=0$ with no root-formula!
- Galois (1811-1832): $f(x)=x^n+a_1x^{n-1}+\dots+a_{n-1}x+a_n=0$ with roots $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$.
Let $K=\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$, $L=K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$
 $\therefore f(x)$ has root-formula $\Leftrightarrow \text{Aut}_K(L)$ is solvable

SIMPLE EXTENSION

DEFINITION

- L/K is called an ^{subset} extension of fields if L is a field and K is a subfield of L .
- Given L/K and $A \subseteq L$, $K(A) :=$ the smallest subfield of L containing A and K

REMARK

- $A=\{\alpha\} \Rightarrow K(A)=K(\alpha)=\{\frac{p(\alpha)}{q(\alpha)} \mid p(x), q(x) \in K(x), q(\alpha) \neq 0\}$
- In general, $K(A)=\{\frac{p(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)}{q(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)} \mid k \in \mathbb{N}, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k \in A, p(x_1, \dots, x_k), q(x_1, \dots, x_k) \in K(x_1, \dots, x_k) \text{ with } q(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k) \neq 0\}$
- Given L/K , $A, B \subseteq L$, $K(A \cup B) = K(A)(B)$
- Given L/K , L can be regarded as a vector space over K .

DEFINITION

- The degree of L/K is $[L:K] = \dim_K L$
- L/K is a finite extension if $[L:K] < \infty$

EXAMPLE

- \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Q} is not a finite extension since \mathbb{R} is uncountable
- \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R} is of degree 2

PROPOSITION 1

Given M/L and L/K , then $[M:K] = [M:L][L:K]$

Proof

- Assume that $[M:L]=m < \infty$, $[L:K]=n < \infty$.
Let $\{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$ be a basis of M over L , $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$ is a basis of L over K
Claim: $\{y_j x_i\}_{i=1, \dots, m; j=1, \dots, n}$ forms a basis for M over K

Proof

- Lin indep: $\sum_{i,j} c_{ij} y_j x_i = 0$ with $c_{ij} \in K \Rightarrow \sum_{i,j} (\sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} y_j) x_i \stackrel{\text{OL}}{\Rightarrow} \sum_{i=1}^m z_i x_i = 0 \forall j \Rightarrow c_{ij} = 0 \forall i, j$
- Generating: $z \in M \Rightarrow z = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i x_i, a_i \in L, a_i = \sum_{j=1}^n b_{ij} y_j, b_{ij} \in K \Rightarrow z = \sum_{i,j} b_{ij} y_j x_i \square$

$$\therefore [M:K] = [M:L][L:K] \square$$

- Assume $[M:K] = l < \infty$ and $\{z_1, \dots, z_l\}$ be a basis for M over K
 $\therefore \forall k \in M/K : [L:K] < \infty$
 Also, $M = Kz_1 + \dots + Kz_l \subseteq Lz_1 + \dots + Lz_l \subseteq M \Rightarrow M = Lz_1 + \dots + Lz_l \Rightarrow [M:L] < \infty$
 \therefore This implies that if $[M:L] = \infty$ or $[L:K] = \infty$, then $[M:K] = \infty$ \square

DEFINITION

Given L/K and $\alpha \in L$, consider the evaluation map $ev_\alpha: K[x] \longrightarrow K(\alpha) \subseteq L$
 $f(x) \longmapsto f(\alpha)$

- Then, α is algebraic over K if $\text{Ker } ev_\alpha \neq \{0\}$ (intuition: This means \exists nontrivial polynomial s.t. α is a root)
 α is transcendental over K if $\text{Ker } ev_\alpha = \{0\}$

PROPOSITION 2

Given L/K and $\alpha \in L$, if α is algebraic over K , then $\exists!$ monic min poly $m_{\alpha,K}(x) \in K[x]$ of minimal degree, s.t. $m_{\alpha,K}(\alpha) = 0$ and $\forall f(x) \in K[x]$ with $f(\alpha) = 0 \Rightarrow m_{\alpha,K}(x) | f(x)$

Proof

P10

Consider $ev_\alpha: K[x] \longrightarrow K(\alpha)$, so $\text{Ker } ev_\alpha = \langle f(x) \rangle$

How about "irreducible"? If not, $\exists g, h$, s.t. $\deg g < \deg f$, $\deg h < \deg f$, s.t. $f(x) = g(x)h(x)$, i.e. $f(\alpha) = g(\alpha)h(\alpha)$
 $\therefore h(\alpha) = 0$ or $g(\alpha) = 0$ \times

REMARK

Every root of $m_{\alpha,K}(x)$ in L has the same minimal poly $m_{\alpha,K}(x)$

PROPOSITION 3

TFAE:

- α is algebraic over K
- $K(\alpha) = K(\alpha)$
- $[K(\alpha):K] < \infty$

Proof

(1) \Rightarrow (2): By first isom thm, $K[x]/\langle m_{\alpha,K}(x) \rangle \cong F(\alpha)$, which is a field

Also, by def, $K(\alpha) \subseteq K(\alpha) \Rightarrow K(\alpha) = K(\alpha)$
smallest

(2) \Rightarrow (1): $\because \alpha^{-1} \in K(\alpha) = K(\alpha)$

$\therefore \alpha^{-1} = p(\alpha) = a_0 + a_1\alpha + \dots + a_n\alpha^n \Rightarrow 1 = a_0\alpha + a_1\alpha^2 + \dots + a_n\alpha^{n+1} \Rightarrow \alpha$ is algebraic

(1) \Rightarrow (3): Assume $\deg m_{\alpha,K} = n$

Claim: $\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}\}$ forms a basis for $K(\alpha)$ over K

Proof

\bullet If $a_0\alpha + a_1\alpha^2 + \dots + a_{n-1}\alpha^n = 0$, then $a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} \in \text{Ker } ev_\alpha \Rightarrow a_1 = \dots = a_{n-1} = 0$

$\bullet \forall f(x) \in K(\alpha) = K(\alpha)$ with $f(x) \in K[x]$, let $q(x), r(x) \in K[x]$, s.t. $f = m_{\alpha,K}q + r$ with $\deg r < \deg m_{\alpha,K} = n \therefore f(\alpha) = r(\alpha) \in \langle 1, \dots, \alpha^{n-1} \rangle_K$

(3) \Rightarrow (1): Let $[K(\alpha):K] = n < \infty$

Consider $1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^n$

Case 1: $\exists \alpha^s = \alpha^t$, s.t. $0 \leq s < t \leq n$, then $x^t - x^s \in \text{Ker } ev_\alpha \Rightarrow \alpha$ is algebraic

Case 2: $1, \dots, \alpha^n$ are distinct $\because [K(\alpha):K] = n \therefore \exists a_0, \dots, a_n$ not all in K s.t. $a_0\alpha + a_1\alpha^2 + \dots + a_n\alpha^{n+1} = 0 \therefore \alpha$ is algebraic \square

DEFINITION

For L/K , define $L_a := \{\alpha \in L \mid \alpha \text{ is algebraic over } K\} \subseteq_{\text{subfield}} L$

Note: $\forall \alpha, \beta \in L_a$, $\alpha \pm \beta, \alpha\beta, \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \notin L_a$

Claim: $[K(\alpha, \beta):K] < \infty$ $\Leftrightarrow \alpha, \beta$ algebraic $\Rightarrow < \infty$

Proof: $[K(\alpha, \beta):K] = [K(\alpha)(\beta):K(\alpha)] [K(\alpha):K] < \infty$ \square

$\therefore \alpha \pm \beta, \alpha\beta, \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \in K(\alpha, \beta) \Rightarrow \alpha \pm \beta, \alpha\beta, \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \in L_a$

EXAMPLE

Shun/翔海 (@shun4mide)

$\overline{\mathbb{Q}} = \{\alpha \in \mathbb{R} \mid \alpha \text{ is alg over } \mathbb{Q}\}$: the field of alg numbers

- $[\overline{\mathbb{Q}} : \mathbb{Q}] = \infty$: $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[n]{2}) : \mathbb{Q}] = n$ $\forall n$ ^{$x^n - 2$ irred by Eisenstein}
- $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ is countable ($\therefore \overline{\mathbb{Q}} \neq \mathbb{R}$)
- \mathbb{Q} is countable $\Rightarrow \{x^n + a_1 x^{n-1} + \dots + a_n \mid a_i \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ is countable
 $\Rightarrow V_n = \{\alpha \in \mathbb{R} \mid \alpha^n + a_1 \alpha^{n-1} + \dots + a_n = 0, a_i \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ is countable
 $\Rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{Q}} = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} V_n$ is countable

EXAMPLE

Let $m_{\alpha, \mathbb{Q}}(x) = x^3 - x^2 + x + 2$ and $\beta = 1 + 2\alpha - \alpha^2$. Find $m_{\beta, \mathbb{Q}}, \beta^{-1}$

Consider $T: \mathbb{Q}(\alpha) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ which is a \mathbb{Q} -linear transformation, $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ has basis $\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\}$.
 $f \mapsto \beta f$

$$T(1) = 1 + 2\alpha - \alpha^2$$

$$T(\alpha) = \alpha + 2\alpha^2 - \alpha^3 = \alpha + 2\alpha^2 - (\alpha^2 - \alpha - 2) = 2 + 2\alpha + \alpha^2$$

$$T(\alpha^2) = 2\alpha + 2\alpha^2 + (\alpha^2 - \alpha - 2) = -2 + \alpha + 3\alpha^2$$

$$\therefore [T]_{\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2\}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = A, \text{ char poly of } A \text{ is } x^3 - 6x^2 + 4x + 17$$

By Cayley-Hamilton thm, $T^3 - 6T^2 + 4T + 17 = 0$. $\therefore T(1) = \beta \therefore \beta^3 - 6\beta^2 + 4\beta + 17 = 0$ (muh cuz can either deg 1 or 3 by divisibility, but very fucking clearly not deg 1)
Now, $\beta(\beta^2 - 6\beta + 4) = -17 \Rightarrow \beta^{-1} = -\frac{1}{17}(\beta^2 - 6\beta + 4)$

REMARK

If $[L:K] = p$. prime, then L/K is a simple extension

Proof

Pick $\alpha \in L \setminus K \Rightarrow [K(\alpha):K] > 1$ and $[K(\alpha):K] \stackrel{||p}{\mid} [L:K] = p \quad \square$