

# ABELIAN EXTENSIONS

## LEMMA

If  $L/K$  is finite, then  $L/K$  is simple  $\Leftrightarrow \exists$  finitely many fields  $M$  s.t.  $L \supseteq M \supseteq K$

Proof

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Suppose  $L = K(\alpha)$  and  $L \supseteq M \supseteq K$

Let  $m_{\alpha, M} = x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$ ,  $a_i \in M$

We find that  $M = K(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1})$

Since  $[K(\alpha) : K(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1})] = \deg m_{\alpha, M} = [M(\alpha) : M] = [K(\alpha) : M]$ , thus  $M = K(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1})$ .

And  $m_{\alpha, M} | m_{\alpha, K} \Rightarrow$  There are finitely many monic divisors of  $m_{\alpha, K} \Rightarrow \exists$  finitely many fields  $M$  s.t.  $L \supseteq M \supseteq K$

" $\Leftarrow$ ": Case 1:  $|K| < \infty$

In this case,  $|L| < \infty$ . We know that  $(L \setminus \{0\}, \cdot)$  is a cyclic group, say  $L \setminus \{0\} = \langle x \rangle$

Then,  $L \setminus \{0\} = \langle x \rangle \subseteq K(\alpha) \setminus \{0\}$ , so  $L \setminus \{0\} = K(\alpha) \setminus \{0\} \Rightarrow L = K(\alpha)$

Case 2:  $|K| = \infty$

Let  $L = K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  and  $M = K(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)$

for  $\beta \in K$ , set  $F_\beta = K(\alpha_1 + \beta \alpha_2)$  and thus  $K \subseteq F_\beta \subseteq L$

Since  $|K| = \infty$ , by contradiction,  $\exists \beta \neq \alpha$  in  $K$ , s.t.  $F_\beta = K(\alpha_1 + \beta \alpha_2) = K(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) F_\alpha$ , i.e.  $\alpha_1 + \beta \alpha_2 - (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) \in F_\beta$

By induction,  $L = F(\alpha)$  and hence  $M = F_\beta$   $\square$

## THEOREM (PRIMITIVE ROOT THEOREM)

If  $L/K$  is finite and separable, then  $L/K$  is simple

Proof

Let  $L = K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  and  $f(x) = m_{\alpha_1, K} m_{\alpha_2, K} \dots m_{\alpha_n, K}$  be separable over  $K$

Take  $N$  to be a splitting field for  $f$  over  $K$ . Since  $|\text{Gal}(N/K)| = [N:K] < \infty$ ,  $\exists$  finitely many subgroups of  $(\text{Gal}(N/K))$

$\therefore \exists$  finitely many intermediate fields between  $N$  and  $K$

$\therefore \exists$  finitely many intermediate fields between  $L$  and  $K$ .  $\square$

## COROLLARY

If  $L/K$  is Galois, then  $\exists$  irr  $f$  in  $K[x]$ , s.t.  $L$  is the splitting field for  $f$  over  $K$

Proof

Finite, separable  $\Rightarrow L = K(\alpha)$ ,  $f = m_{\alpha, K}$  ( $\because L/K$  is normal)  $\square$

## DEFINITION

$L/K$  is called a cyclic (abelian) extension if  $L/K$  is Galois and  $\text{Gal}(L/K)$  is cyclic (abelian)

## PROPOSITION 1

Let  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$  be distinct in  $\text{Aut}(K)$  and  $k_1, \dots, k_n \in K^*$ . Then,  $\exists c \in K$ , s.t.  $(k_1 \sigma_1 + \dots + k_n \sigma_n)(c) \neq 0$

Proof

We want to show " $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$  are lin indep over  $K$ "

Assume it is not true.

Then,  $\exists$  a minimal nonempty subset  $\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_m\}$  which is lin indep over  $K$ , say  $b_1 \sigma_1(k) + \dots + b_m \sigma_m(k) = 0 \quad \forall k \in K$

If  $m=1$ , then  $b_1 \neq 0$ ,  $b_1 \sigma_1(k) = 0 \quad \forall k \in K \Rightarrow \sigma_1(k) = 0 \quad \forall k \in K \Rightarrow \sigma_1 = 0$   $\times$

So  $m > 1$ , choose  $0 \neq h \in K$ , s.t.  $\sigma_1(h) \neq \sigma_m(h) \neq 0$

$\therefore$  We have  $b_1 \sigma_1(hk) + \dots + b_m \sigma_m(hk) = 0$  and  $b_1 \sigma_1(h) \sigma_1(k) + \dots + b_m \sigma_m(h) \sigma_m(k) = 0 \quad \forall k \in K$ .

Subtract the two, we get  $b_1 (\sigma_1(h) - \sigma_1(h)) \sigma_1(k) + \dots + b_{m-1} (\sigma_{m-1}(h) - \sigma_m(h)) \sigma_{m-1}(k) = 0$   $\times$

## PROPOSITION 2

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Assume that  $\text{char } K = n$ . Let  $L$  be the splitting field for separable  $x^n - a$  over  $K$  and  $\zeta$  be a primitive  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity. Then,  $\text{Gal}(L/K(\zeta))$  is cyclic of order dividing  $n$ . Moreover,  $x^n - a \rightarrow \text{irr over } K(\zeta) \Leftrightarrow [L:K(\zeta)] = n$ , i.e.  $|\text{Gal}(L/K(\zeta))| = n$

Proof

Let  $\alpha$  be a root of  $x^n - a$ . Then  $\alpha, \alpha\zeta, \dots, \alpha\zeta^{n-1}$  are all roots of  $x^n - a$ . Thus,  $L = K(\alpha, \zeta) = K(\zeta)(\alpha)$

Consider  $\phi: \text{Gal}(L/K(\zeta)) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$

$$(\sigma: \alpha \mapsto \alpha\zeta^{j_\sigma}) \mapsto \bar{j}_\sigma$$

•  $\phi$  is a homo:  $(\tau \circ \sigma)(\alpha) = \tau(\alpha\zeta^{j_\sigma}) = \tau(\alpha)\tau(\zeta^{j_\sigma}) = \alpha\zeta^{j_\tau} \zeta^{j_\sigma} = \alpha\zeta^{j_\tau + j_\sigma} \mapsto \bar{j}_\tau + \bar{j}_\sigma$

•  $\phi$  is 1-1:  $\sigma \in \text{Ker } \phi \Leftrightarrow \bar{j}_\sigma = \bar{0} \Leftrightarrow \sigma(\alpha) = \alpha \Leftrightarrow \sigma = \text{Id}$

## THEOREM 1

Assume that  $\text{char } K = n$

If  $L/K$  is a cyclic extension of degree  $n$  with  $\zeta \in K$ , then  $L$  is a splitting field for some irr poly  $x^n - a$  over  $K$

Proof

Let  $\text{Gal}(L/K) = \langle \sigma \rangle$  with  $\text{ord}(\sigma) = n$

By prop 1,  $\exists c \in L$ , s.t.  $\alpha = c + \zeta\sigma(c) + \zeta^2\sigma^2(c) + \dots + \zeta^{n-1}\sigma^{n-1}(c) \neq 0$

$\therefore \sigma(\alpha) = \sigma(c) + \zeta\sigma^2(c) + \zeta^2\sigma^3(c) + \dots + \zeta^{n-1}c = \zeta^{-1}\alpha \Rightarrow \alpha \notin K$

But  $\sigma(\alpha^n) = \zeta^{-n}\alpha^n = 1(\alpha^n) = \alpha^n \in K$

$\therefore K(\alpha) = K(\zeta, \alpha) \subseteq L$  is a splitting field for  $x^n - a$  over  $K$ .

Also,  $\sigma: K(\alpha) \rightarrow K(\alpha) \Rightarrow \langle \sigma|_{K(\alpha)} \rangle \leq \text{Gal}(K(\alpha)/K)$

$$\alpha \mapsto \zeta^{-1}\alpha$$

Hence,  $n = [L:K] \geq [K(\alpha):K] = |\text{Gal}(K(\alpha)/K)| \geq n \Rightarrow [L:K] = [K(\alpha):K] \Rightarrow L = K(\alpha)$ ,  $[L:K] = n \Rightarrow x^n - a \rightarrow \text{irr. O}$

## DEFINITION

Say  $\text{char } K = n$  and  $\zeta$  is a primitive  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity

•  $L/K$  is a Kummer extension of exponent  $n$  if  $\zeta \in K$  and  $L$  is a splitting field for  $(x^n - a_1)(x^n - a_2) \dots (x^n - a_k)$  over  $K$ ,  $a_i \in K$

• Recall:  $e(G)$  is the least positive integer  $m$ , s.t.  $g^m = e \ \forall g \in G$

## THEOREM 2

If  $L/K$  is Galois s.t.  $\text{Gal}(L/K)$  is abelian of exponent  $n$  and  $\zeta \in K$ , then  $L/K$  is a Kummer extension of exponent  $n$

Proof

By induction on  $[L:K]$ ,  $[L:K] = 1$ ,  $n = 1 \Rightarrow \text{OK}$ . Assume that  $[L:K] > 1$ , by FTOTAG,  $\text{Gal}(L/K) \cong \mathbb{Z}/d_1\mathbb{Z} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}/d_s\mathbb{Z}$  with  $d_i | d_{i+1}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, s-1$   
 $\Rightarrow n = d_s$ ,  $e(H) = e = d_s - 1$   $N = \text{cyclic group of order } n$

If  $s = 1$ , then, by thm 1, it is done. Assume  $s > 1$ .

Set  $M = \text{Inv } N$ ,  $[M:K] < [L:K]$  and  $\text{Gal}(M/K) \cong \text{Gal}(L/K) / \text{Gal}(L/M) \cong N \cong H$

Also,  $(\zeta^{\frac{n}{e}})^e = \zeta^n = 1 \Rightarrow \zeta^{\frac{n}{e}} \in K$  is a primitive  $e^{\text{th}}$  root of unity

$\therefore$  By induction hypothesis,  $M$  is a splitting field for  $(x^e - b_1) \dots (x^e - b_{k-1})$  over  $K$ ,  $b_j \in K$

Note: if we set  $a_i = b_i \zeta^{\frac{n}{e}} \in K$ , then  $M$  is also a splitting field for  $(x^n - a_1) \dots (x^n - a_{k-1})$  over  $K$

Let  $N = \langle \sigma \rangle$ , then  $\text{Gal}(L/K) = \{ \sigma^i \tau \mid 0 \leq i < n-1, \tau \in H \}$

By prop 1,  $\exists c$ , s.t.  $\alpha = \sum_{\tau \in H} \tau(c) + \zeta \sum_{\tau \in H} \sigma \tau(c) + \dots + \zeta^{n-1} \sum_{\tau \in H} \sigma^{n-1} \tau(c) \neq 0$

$\therefore \sigma(\alpha) = \zeta^{-1}\alpha$ ,  $\tau(\alpha) = \alpha \ \forall \tau \in H$ ,  $\sigma(\alpha^n) = \alpha^n \Rightarrow \alpha \notin M$ ,  $\alpha^n = a_k \in M$ , so  $M(\alpha)$  is a splitting field for  $x^n - a$  over  $M$

Also,  $n = [L:M] \geq [M(\alpha):M] = |\text{Gal}(M(\alpha)/M)| \geq n \Rightarrow L = M(\alpha) \quad \square$

## REMARK

$L \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} (x^n - a_1) \dots (x^n - a_k) \Rightarrow \forall \sigma \in \text{Gal}(L/K)$ ,  $\sigma(\alpha_i) = \alpha_i \zeta^{j_{\sigma,i}}$ ,  $0 \leq j_{\sigma,i} < n-1 \Rightarrow \sigma^n(\alpha_i) = \alpha_i \zeta^{nj_{\sigma,i}} = \alpha_i \ \forall i \Rightarrow \sigma^n = \text{id}$   
 $\forall \tau \in \text{Gal}(L/K)$ ,  $\tau(\sigma(\alpha_i)) = \tau(\alpha_i \zeta^{j_{\sigma,i}}) = \alpha_i \zeta^{j_{\tau,i}} \zeta^{j_{\sigma,i}} = \sigma(\alpha_i) \ \forall i \Rightarrow \sigma \tau = \tau \sigma$