

1.

(\rightarrow) First A field of characteristic 0 is perfect. Then let F be a field of characteristic $p \neq 0$. Suppose that a and b are elements of F . Then $(a + b)^p = a^p + b^p$. In particular, the function $\Phi_F : F \rightarrow F$ defined by $\Phi_F(x) = x^p$ is a homomorphism.

Proof. Expand $(a + b)^p$ using the binomial theorem. All of the binomial coefficients are divisible by p , except for the first and last ones.

(\leftarrow) First, let F be field and let $f(x) \in F[x]$ be an irreducible polynomial. If $f(x)$ is not separable then $f'(x) = 0$.

Proof. Suppose that $f(x)$ is not separable and that $f'(x) \neq 0$. Since $f(x)$ is irreducible, and $f'(x)$ has lower degree than $f(x)$, the greatest common divisor of f and f' is 1. Let $a(x)$ and $b(x)$ be polynomials in $F[x]$ such that $a(x)f(x) + b(x)f'(x) = 1$.

Since f is not separable, there is an extension K of F such that f has a repeated root $\alpha \in K$. Thus in $K[x]$ we have $f(x) = (x - \alpha)^2 h(x)$. By the product rule, $f'(x) =$

$2(x - \alpha)h(x) + (x - \alpha)^2 h'(x)$. Thus $f(\alpha) = f'(\alpha) = 0$

Since the equation $a(x)f(x) + b(x)f'(x) = 1$ holds in $F[x]$, it also holds in $K[x]$ when we regard a, b, f and f' as polynomials in $K[x]$. But this is absurd since $a(\alpha)f(\alpha) + b(\alpha)f'(\alpha) = 0$ in $K[x]$. This contradiction shows that $f'(x) = 0$.

Then let F be field and let $f(x) \in F[x]$ be a polynomial of positive degree. If $f'(x) = 0$ then $\text{Char } F = p$ for some prime p and $f(x) = g(x^{np})$ for some $n > 0$ and some polynomial $g(x)$ with $g'(x) \neq 0$. In particular, if f is monic and irreducible, but not separable, then $f(x) = g(x^{np})$ where $n > 0$ and g is monic, irreducible and separable.

Proof. Suppose that $f'(x) = 0$. Write $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_nx^n$. Consider a monomial a_kx^k where $a_k \neq 0$. Since $f'(x) = 0$ we have $ka_kx^k = 0$, so F must have non-zero characteristic p and k must be divisible by p . Thus the non-zero monomials in f all have degree divisible by p . Let np be the greatest common divisor of the degrees of the non-zero monomials that occur in f . We have $f(x) = g(x^{np})$, where the coefficients of g are the same as those of f , but of different degree. There is at least one non-zero monomial in g with degree not divisible by p . Thus $g'(x) \neq 0$. Any factorization of g yields a factorization of f by substituting x^{np} for x . Thus g is irreducible whenever f is irreducible.

Finally, if F is a field of characteristic $p \neq 0$ and if the Frobenius endomorphism $\Phi_F : F \rightarrow F$ is surjective, then F is perfect.

Proof. Let F be a perfect field and consider a monic irreducible polynomial $f(x) \in F[x]$ of degree m . Suppose that $f(x)$ is not separable. Then, according to first 2 part we must have $\text{Char } F = p \neq 0$ and we can write $f(x) = g(x^{np})$ for some separable polynomial g . A polynomial in x^{np} can also be regarded as a polynomial in x^p , so it implies that $f(x) = h(x)^p$ for some polynomial $h(x) \in F[x]$. This contradicts the irreducibility of f .

2.

a.

Assume that all fields are of characteristic p . Suppose that F/E_1 is separable, and E_1/E is separable. Let S be the set of all elements of F that are separable over E . Then $E_1 \subseteq S$, since E_1/E is separable.

Note that S is a subfield of F : indeed, if $u, v \in S$ and $v \neq 0$, then $E(u, v)$ is separable over E because it is generated by separable elements, so $u + v, u - v, uv$, and u/v are all separable over E . So S is a field.

I claim that F is purely inseparable over S . Indeed, if $u \in F$, then there exists $n \geq 0$ such that u^{p^n} is separable over E , hence there exists $n \geq 0$ such that $u^{p^n} \in S$. Therefore, the minimal polynomial of u over S is a divisor of $x^{p^n} - u^{p^n} = (x - u)^{p^n}$, so F is purely inseparable over S . But since $E_1 \subseteq S \subseteq F$, and F is separable over E_1 , then it is separable over S . So F is both purely inseparable and separable over S . This can only occur if $S = F$, hence every element of S is separable over E .

b.

Given the equivalent of above. If the implication holds for all finite dimensional extensions, then we would have that $E_1(u_1, \dots, u_n)$ is a Galois extension of E_1 , and therefore there exist $\tau \in \text{Aut}_{E_1}(E_1(u_1, \dots, u_n))$ such that $\tau(u) \neq u$. Since E_2 is a splitting field over E_1 , it is also a splitting field over $E_1(u_1, \dots, u_n)$, and therefore τ extends to an automorphism of E_2 . Thus, there exists $\tau \in \text{Aut}_{E_1}(E_2)$ such that $\tau(u) \neq u$. This would prove that the fixed field of $\text{Aut}_{E_1}(E_2)$ is E_1 , so the extension is Galois. Thus, we are reduced to proving the implication when $[E_2 : E_1]$ is finite. When $[E_2 : E_1]$ is finite, there is a finite subset of T that will suffice to generate E_2 . Moreover, $\text{Aut}_{E_1}(E_2)$ is finite. If E is the fixed field of $\text{Aut}_{E_1}(E_2)$, then by Artin's Theorem E_2 is Galois over E and $\text{Gal}(E_2/E) = \text{Aut}_{E_1}(E_2)$. Hence, $[E_2 : E] = |\text{Aut}_{E_1}(E_2)|$. Thus, it suffices to show that when E_2 is a finite extension of E_1 and is a splitting field of a finite set of separable polynomials $g_1, \dots, g_m \in E_1[x]$, then $[E_2 : E_1] = |\text{Aut}_{E_1}(E_2)|$. Replacing the set with the set of all irreducible factors of the g_i , we may assume that all g_i are irreducible.

We do induction on $[E_2 : E_1] = n$. If $n = 1$, then the equality is immediate. If $n > 1$, then some g_i , say g_1 , has degree greater than 1; let $u \in E_2$ be a root of g_1 . Then $[E_1(u) : E_1] = \deg(g_1)$, and the number of distinct roots of g_1 in E_2 is $\deg(g_1)$, since g_1 is separable. Let $H = \text{Aut}_{E_1(u)}(E_2)$. Define a map from the set of left cosets of H in $\text{Aut}_{E_1}(E_2)$ to the set of distinct roots of g_1 in E_2 by mapping σH to $\sigma(u)$. This is one-to-one, since $\sigma(u) = \rho(u) \implies \sigma^{-1}\rho \in H \implies \sigma H = \rho H$. Therefore, $[\text{Aut}_{E_1}(E_2) : H] \leq \deg(g_1)$. If $v \in E_2$ is any other root of g_1 , then there is an isomorphism $\tau : E_1(u) \rightarrow E_1(v)$ that fixes E_1 and maps u to v , and since E_2 is a splitting field, τ extends to an automorphism of E_2 over E_1 . Therefore, the map from cosets of H to roots of g_1 is onto, so $[\text{Aut}_{E_1}(E_2) : H] = \deg(g_1)$.

We now apply induction: E_2 is the splitting field over $E_1(u)$ of a set of separable polynomials (same one as we started with), and $[E_2 : E_1(u)] = [E_2 : E_1] / \deg(g_1) < [E_2 : E_1]$. Therefore, $[E_2 : E_1(u)] = |\text{Aut}_{E_1(u)}(E_2)| = |H|$.

Hence

$|\text{Aut}_{E_1}(E_2)| = [\text{Aut}_{E_1}(E_2) : H] |H| = \deg(g_1) [E_2 : E_1(u)] = [E_1(u) : E_1] [E_2 : E_1(u)] = [E_2 : E_1]$, and we are done.

3.

Proof. Choose a basis S for E_1 over E , and consider the subset E of F consisting of linear combinations of the elements of S with coefficients in E_2 :

$$E = \left\{ \sum_{s \in S} \lambda_s s \mid \lambda_s \in E_2 \right\}$$

Since 1 is in \bar{E}_1 and S spans \bar{E}_1 over E , there are elements ϵ_s of E such that

$$1 = \sum_{s \in S} \epsilon_s s$$

Hence for any x in E_2 ,

$$x = \sum_{s \in S} (x \epsilon_s) s$$

is an element of E . Since E_1 is closed under multiplication, for every t and u in S there are elements $\mu_s^{t,u}$ of E such that

$$tu = \sum_{s \in S} \mu_s^{t,u} s$$

Hence for elements $x = \sum_{s \in S} \lambda_s s$ and $y = \sum_{s \in S} \nu_s s$ of E ,

$$x + y = \sum_{s \in S} (\lambda_s + \nu_s) s$$

is in E and

$$\begin{aligned} xy &= \sum_{t \in S, u \in S} \lambda_t \nu_u tu = \sum_{t \in S, u \in S} \lambda_t \nu_u \left(\sum_{s \in S} \mu_s^{t,u} s \right) \\ &= \sum_{s \in S} \left(\sum_{t \in S, u \in S} \lambda_t \nu_u \mu_s^{t,u} \right) s \end{aligned}$$

is an element of E . So E contains E_2 and is closed under addition and multiplication. Furthermore, S spans E as a vector space over E_2 , so E is finitedimensional over E_2 , of dimension at most $|S| = [E_1 : E]$. Hence by Lemma 2.4, E is a subfield of F . Since E contains both E_1 and E_2 , and is generated by elements of $E_1 E_2$, $E = E_1 E_2$. By the Tower Law, $E_1 E_2 / E$ is finite, and $[E_1 E_2 : E] = [E_1 E_2 : E_2] [E_2 : E] \leq [E_1 : E] [E_2 : E]$ as required

4.

The largest Field is $\mathbb{F} \left(X^{\frac{1}{2p}} \right)$.

Proof. Let ζ be the primitive n -th root in F . We have $(-\zeta)^{2n} = 1$. Note that $\zeta \neq -\zeta$ because $\text{char}(F) \neq 2$. Let us denote $-\zeta$ by ω and we claim that ω is the required primitive $2n$ -th root of unity. If not, let ω be a primitive d -th root of unity for $d < 2n$. Hence

$$\omega^d = 1 \Rightarrow \zeta^d = (-1)^d.$$

Now there are two possibilities. If d is odd, then

$$\zeta^d = -1 \Rightarrow \zeta^{2d} = 1 \Rightarrow n \mid 2d$$

(by definition of ζ). As n is odd, we must have $n \mid d$. Hence the only possibility is $d = n$, but clearly $\omega^n \neq 1$. So we arrive at a contradiction. If d is even, then

$$\zeta^d = 1 \Rightarrow n \mid d$$

Following the same argument as before we again arrive at a contradiction. Hence ω is the required $2n$ -th root of unity contained in F .