

Department of Mathematics

Field Extensions and Galois Theory				
Midterm I				
Code	: Math 368		Last Name	:
Acad. Year	: 2017-2018		Name	:
Semester	: Spring		Department	:
Instructor	: Karayayla		Signature	:
Date	: 28.03.2018		7 Questions on 5 Pages SHOW DETAILED WORK!	
Time	: 17.40			
Duration	: 120 minutes			
1	2	3	4	5

1. (16 pts.) For  $f \in \mathbb{R}[x]$  of degree 4, let  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  and  $x_4$  be the four roots of  $f$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ . Express the discriminant  $\Delta$  of  $f$  in terms of the roots of  $f$ , and show that  $\Delta < 0$  if exactly two of the roots of  $f$  are real and distinct.

$\Delta(f) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq 4} (x_i - x_j)^2 = (x_1 - x_2)^2 (x_1 - x_3)^2 (x_1 - x_4)^2 (x_2 - x_3)^2 (x_2 - x_4)^2 (x_3 - x_4)^2$

Let  $\alpha_1 \neq \alpha_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\alpha_3, \alpha_4 \in \mathbb{C} - \mathbb{R}$ , then  $\bar{\alpha}_3 = \alpha_4$  so  $\alpha_3 \neq \alpha_4$ ,  $\alpha_3 = a + bi, b \neq 0$   
 $\alpha_1 = c, \alpha_2 = d, c \neq d \in \mathbb{R}$

We know  $\Delta(f) \in \mathbb{R}$  since  $f \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ .  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_4$  are distinct so  $\Delta(f) \neq 0$ .

$\Delta(f) = \underbrace{(c-d)^2}_{>0} \underbrace{(2bi)^2}_{<0} \underbrace{((c-a-bi)(c-a+bi))^2}_{|z_1|^4 > 0} \underbrace{- ((d-a-bi)(d-a+bi))^2}_{|z_2|^4 > 0} \Rightarrow \Delta(f) < 0$

$(z_1 \cdot \bar{z}_1)^2 = (|z_1|^2)^2$   
 $z_1 = c - a + bi, c - a \in \mathbb{R}, b \in \mathbb{R}$

$(z_2 \cdot \bar{z}_2)^2 = (|z_2|^2)^2$   
 $z_2 = d - a + bi, d - a \in \mathbb{R}, b \in \mathbb{R}$

2. (16 pts.) Let  $f = x^3 + 2x^2 + 3x + 5$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  be its roots in  $\mathbb{C}$ . Find a polynomial  $g$  of degree 3 whose roots are  $\alpha\beta, \alpha\gamma$  and  $\beta\gamma$ .

$g = (x - \alpha\beta)(x - \alpha\gamma)(x - \beta\gamma)$

$f = (x - \alpha)(x - \beta)(x - \gamma) = x^3 - (\alpha + \beta + \gamma)x^2 + (\alpha\beta + \alpha\gamma + \beta\gamma)x - \alpha\beta\gamma$

$= x^3 + 2x^2 + 3x + 5 \Rightarrow \alpha + \beta + \gamma = -2, \alpha\beta + \alpha\gamma + \beta\gamma = 3, \alpha\beta\gamma = -5$

coefficients of  $g$ :

$-\alpha^2\beta^2\gamma^2 = -(\alpha\beta\gamma)^2 = -(-5)^2 = -25$

$\alpha^2\beta\gamma + \alpha\beta^2\gamma + \alpha\beta\gamma^2 = \alpha\beta\gamma(\alpha + \beta + \gamma) = (-5) \cdot (-2) = 10$

$-(\alpha\beta + \alpha\gamma + \beta\gamma) = -3$

So  $g(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 + 10x - 25$ .

3. (2 x 9 pts.) a) Assume  $f \in F[x]$  is irreducible where  $F$  is a field and  $f$  does not divide  $g \in F[x]$ . Show that there are  $A, B \in F[x]$  such that  $Af + Bg = 1$ . (Hint: Consider the ideal  $\langle f, g \rangle$  generated by  $f$  and  $g$  in  $F[x]$  and use the fact that  $F[x]$  is a PID.)

$\langle f, g \rangle = \langle h \rangle$  for some  $h \in F[x]$  since  $F[x]$  is a PID.

so  $h \mid f$  and  $h \mid g$ .

$h \mid f$  and  $f$  is irreducible, so  $f = h \cdot k$  for some  $k \in F[x]$

$f = hk$  and  $f$  is irreducible  $\Rightarrow$   $h$  is a unit or  $k$  is a unit in  $F[x]$   
(by definition of irreducibility).

units in  $F[x]$  are constants, so  $h = c$  or  $k = c$  for some  $c \in F$

$k = c \Rightarrow h = c^{-1} \cdot f$  so  $g = h \cdot l$  for some  $l \in F[x]$  (because  $h \mid g$  from above)

Thus  $k$  is not a constant, therefore  $h = c$ .  $\Rightarrow g = c^{-1} \cdot f \cdot l \Rightarrow f \mid g$  (contradiction)  $f \nmid g$  is given.

We get  $\langle f, g \rangle = \langle c \rangle$  for some  $c \in F$ . (we had  $h = c$  or  $k = c$ ).

$c \neq 0, c = 0 \Rightarrow \langle c \rangle = \{0\} \neq \langle f, g \rangle$ .

$\langle f, g \rangle = \langle c \rangle \Rightarrow c \in \langle f, g \rangle$ , so  $Af + Bg = c$  for  $A, B \in F[x]$

Note:  $\langle f, g \rangle = \{Af + Bg \mid A, B \in F[x]\}$

$(c^{-1}A) \cdot f + (c^{-1}B) \cdot g = 1$   $\left. \begin{matrix} c^{-1}A \\ c^{-1}B \end{matrix} \right\} \in F[x]$

b) For  $f, g, A, B$  as in part (a), show that  $B + \langle f \rangle$  is the multiplicative inverse of  $g + \langle f \rangle$  in the field

$\frac{F[x]}{\langle f \rangle}$ .

$f \nmid g$  in  $F[x] \Leftrightarrow g \notin \langle f \rangle \Leftrightarrow g + \langle f \rangle \neq 0 + \langle f \rangle$  in  $\frac{F[x]}{\langle f \rangle}$  - field since  $f$  is irred. in  $F$ .

$$(g + \langle f \rangle)(B + \langle f \rangle) = Bg + \langle f \rangle = 1 + \langle f \rangle$$

since  $1 - Bg = Af + Bg - Bg = Af \in \langle f \rangle$

$1 + \langle f \rangle$  is multiplicative identity of the field  $\frac{F[x]}{\langle f \rangle}$

Thus  $(g + \langle f \rangle) \cdot (B + \langle f \rangle) = 1 + \langle f \rangle \Rightarrow (g + \langle f \rangle)^{-1} = B + \langle f \rangle$

4. (3 x 6 pts.) Let  $F \subset L$  be a field extension and  $\alpha \neq 0, \alpha \in L$  be algebraic over  $F$ .

a) Show that  $1/\alpha$  is also algebraic over  $F$ .

$\alpha$  is alg. ov.  $F \Rightarrow f(\alpha) = 0$  for some  $f \in F[x]$

$$f = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0, f(\alpha) = 0$$

$$a_n \alpha^n + a_{n-1} \alpha^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 \alpha + a_0 = 0 \quad (\text{Divide by } \alpha^n \text{ (multiply by } \frac{1}{\alpha^n})):$$

$$a_n + a_{n-1} \frac{1}{\alpha} + \dots + a_{n-2} \frac{1}{\alpha^{n-2}} + a_{n-1} \frac{1}{\alpha^{n-1}} + a_0 \frac{1}{\alpha^n} = 0$$

$\frac{1}{\alpha}$  is a root of  $g(x) = a_n + a_{n-1} x + a_{n-2} x^2 + \dots + a_2 x^{n-2} + a_1 x^{n-1} + a_0 x^n$   
 $g(1/\alpha) = 0, g \in F[x] \Rightarrow 1/\alpha$  is alg. ov.  $F$ .

b) Show that  $[F(\alpha) : F] = [F(1/\alpha) : F]$ .

$F(\alpha)$  is a field,  $\alpha \neq 0 \Rightarrow 1/\alpha = \alpha^{-1} \in F(\alpha)$

$F \subseteq F(\alpha)$  and  $\alpha^{-1} \in F(\alpha) \Rightarrow F(\alpha^{-1}) \subseteq F(\alpha)$

( $F(\alpha^{-1})$ : smallest subfield in  $L$  containing  $F$  and  $\alpha^{-1}$ )

similarly

$\alpha^{-1} \in F(\alpha^{-1}) \Rightarrow \alpha \in F(\alpha^{-1})$   
 $\alpha^{-1} \neq 0$  thus  $F(\alpha) \subseteq F(\alpha^{-1})$

Therefore  $F(\alpha) = F(\alpha^{-1})$

Hence  $[F(\alpha) : F] = [F(\alpha^{-1}) : F]$

c) If  $f = x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1x + a_0 \in F[x]$  is the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$  over  $F$ , what is the minimal polynomial of  $1/\alpha$  over  $F$ ?

As in part a, we got  $1/\alpha$  is a root of

$$g(x) = 1 + a_{n-1}x + a_{n-2}x^2 + \dots + a_2x^{n-2} + a_1x^{n-1} + a_0x^n, g \in F[x]$$

$a_0 \neq 0$  unless  $f(x) = x$  since if  $a_0 = 0$  then  $x | f$  and  $f$  is irred.

But  $f = x \Rightarrow \alpha = 0$  (contradicting  $\alpha \neq 0$ )

So,  $a_0 \neq 0$ , hence  $\deg(g) = n = \deg(f) = [F(\alpha) : F] = [F(\alpha^{-1}) : F]$

$a_0^{-1}g \in F[x]$  satisfies  $a_0^{-1}g(1/\alpha) = 0$ ,  $a_0^{-1}g$  is monic and

$\deg(a_0^{-1}g) = [F(1/\alpha) : F] = \deg$  of min pol.  $h$  of  $1/\alpha$  ov.  $F$ .

so  $h | a_0^{-1}g$ ,  $\deg h = \deg a_0^{-1}g$  and they are both monic

implies  $h = a_0^{-1}g$ .

5. (2 x 7 pts.) a) Show that  $f = \frac{1}{3}x^4 + \frac{2}{5}x^3 + \frac{7}{2}x^2 + x + 2 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

$30 \cdot f = 10x^4 + 12x^3 + 105x^2 + 30x + 60 \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$   
 $30f$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$  by Eisenstein's criterion (choose  $p=3$   
 $p \nmid 10, p \nmid 12, p \nmid 105, p \nmid 30$   
 $p \mid 60, p^2 \nmid 60$ )  
 so  $30^{-1} \cdot 30f = f$  is irred. over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

b) If  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  is the product of distinct primes, then show that  $f = x^n - a \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

$a = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_k$  where  $p_i$  are distinct primes.

$x^n - a = x^n - p_1 p_2 \cdots p_k \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  is irred. over  $\mathbb{Q}$  by Eisenstein's criterion (take  $p = p_1$ )

$p_1 \nmid 1, p_1 \mid a_{n-1}, p_1 \mid a_{n-2}, \dots, p_1 \mid a_0, p_1^2 \nmid a_0$

6. (Bonus, 10 pts.) For a field extension  $F \subset L$ , assume that  $\alpha \in L$  is algebraic over  $F$  such that the degree of its minimal polynomial over  $F$  is odd. Prove that  $F(\alpha^2) = F(\alpha)$ .

$F \subseteq F(\alpha^2) \subseteq F(\alpha)$  field extensions ( $\alpha \in F(\alpha) \Rightarrow \alpha^2 \in F(\alpha) \Rightarrow F(\alpha^2) \subseteq F(\alpha)$ )

$$[F(\alpha) : F] = [F(\alpha) : F(\alpha^2)] \cdot [F(\alpha^2) : F]$$

odd

At most 2

since  $\alpha$  is a root of  $g(x) = x^2 - \alpha^2 \in F(\alpha^2)[x]$

$$d = \deg(g) = 2$$

$g$  irred. over  $F(\alpha^2) \Rightarrow [F(\alpha) : F(\alpha^2)] = 2$

$g$  reducible  $\Rightarrow [F(\alpha) : F(\alpha^2)] \leq 1$

2x odd number

$$\text{so } [F(\alpha) : F(\alpha^2)] = 1$$

Hence  $F(\alpha^2) = F(\alpha)$ .

(Note  $F(\alpha^2)(\alpha) = F(\alpha^2, \alpha) = F(\alpha)$ )

7. (10 + 8 pts.) a) Let  $[F(\alpha) : F] = r$  and  $[F(\beta) : F] = s$  for two elements  $\alpha, \beta \in L$  for an extension field  $L$  over  $F$ . Show that  $\text{lcm}(r, s) \leq [F(\alpha, \beta) : F] \leq rs$  where  $\text{lcm}(r, s)$  is the least common multiple of  $r$  and  $s$ .

consider  $F \subseteq F(\alpha) \subseteq F(\alpha)(\beta) = F(\alpha, \beta)$

By Tower Thm,  $\underbrace{[F(\alpha) : F]}_r \cdot \underbrace{[F(\alpha)(\beta) : F(\alpha)]}_{\leq s} = \underbrace{[F(\alpha)(\beta) : F]}_{[F(\alpha, \beta) : F]}$

so  $r \mid [F(\alpha, \beta) : F]$

and  $[F(\alpha, \beta) : F] \leq r \cdot s$

(since  $[F(\beta) : F] = s \Rightarrow g(\beta) = 0$ )

$\deg(g) = s$

$g \in F[x]$

$g$ : irred. poly. of  $\beta$  over  $F$

$g \in F[x] \subseteq F(\alpha)[x]$

so if  $h$  is irred. poly. of  $\beta$  over  $F(\alpha)$ ,  $h \mid g$ , hence

$\deg h \leq \deg g = s$

$[F(\alpha)(\beta) : F(\alpha)] \leq s$

similarly, considering

$F \subseteq F(\beta) \subseteq F(\beta)(\alpha) = F(\alpha, \beta)$

we get  $s = [F(\beta) : F] \mid [F(\alpha, \beta) : F]$

$r \mid [F(\alpha, \beta) : F] \wedge s \mid [F(\alpha, \beta) : F]$

$\Rightarrow \text{l.c.m.}(r, s) \mid [F(\alpha, \beta) : F]$

$\Rightarrow \text{l.c.m.}(r, s) \leq [F(\alpha, \beta) : F]$

combining the results,  $\text{l.c.m.}(r, s) \leq [F(\alpha, \beta) : F] \leq rs$

b) If  $\zeta_5 = e^{2\pi i/5}$ , what is  $[Q(\zeta_5, \sqrt[3]{2}) : Q]$ ?

$[Q(\zeta_5) : Q] = 4 \rightarrow$  min. poly. of  $\zeta_5$  over  $Q$  is  $x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$  - we had

$[Q(\sqrt[3]{2}) : Q] = 3 \rightarrow$  min. poly. of  $\sqrt[3]{2}$  over  $Q$  is

$x^3 - 2$  (irred. by Eisenstein's cr.)

proved this is irred. over  $Q$

and  $\zeta_5$  is a root since

Using part a:

$r = 4, s = 3$

$\text{l.c.m.}(r, s) = 12$

$\text{l.c.m.}(4, 3) \leq [Q(\zeta_5, \sqrt[3]{2}) : Q] \leq 4 \cdot 3 = 12 \neq 0$

$12 \leq \quad \leq 12$

so  $[Q(\zeta_5, \sqrt[3]{2}) : Q] = 12$

$\zeta_5^5 - 1 = 0$   
 $(\zeta_5 - 1)(\zeta_5^4 + \zeta_5^3 + \zeta_5^2 + \zeta_5 + 1) = 0$

