

**M E T U**  
**Department of Mathematics**

Field Extensions and Galois Theory	
Midterm II	
Code : Math 368	Last Name :
Acad. Year : 2017-2018	Name : Student No :
Semester : Spring	Department :
Instructor : Karayayla	Signature :
Date : 02.05.2018	7 Questions on 5 Pages SHOW DETAILED WORK!
Time : 17.40	
Duration : 150 minutes	
S O L U T I O N S	

1. (12 pts.) Write down the definitions of a splitting field, a normal field extension, and a separable element of an algebraic field extension.

**Splitting field:**  $F \subseteq L$  a field extension,  $L$  is a splitting field of a polynomial  $f \in F[x]$  if for

- 1)  $f(x)$  splits completely in  $L[x]$  as  $f = c(x-\alpha_1)(x-\alpha_2)\dots(x-\alpha_n)$ ,  $\alpha_i \in L \subseteq F$
- and
- 2)  $L = F(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$

**Normal Extension:**  $L$  is a normal extension over  $F$  (where  $F \subseteq L$  is a field ext.) if every irreducible  $f \in F[x]$  which has a root in  $L$  splits completely over  $L$ .

**Separable Element:**

For an algebraic extension  $F \subseteq L$ ,  $\alpha \in L$  is called a separable element of  $L$  over  $F$  if the minimal polynomial  $f$  of  $\alpha$  over  $F$  is separable over  $F$ , that is, all roots of  $f$  in a splitting field of  $f$  over  $F$  have multiplicity 1.

2. (12 pts.) Let  $\alpha \in L$  be a root of  $x^7 + \sqrt[5]{3}x^4 + ix^3 + \sqrt[3]{5} + 2$  where  $L$  is a field extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Show that  $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] \leq 210$ .

Let  $M = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}, i, \sqrt[3]{5})$

Minimal polynomial of  $\sqrt[5]{3}$  over  $\mathbb{Q} = x^5 - 3 \Rightarrow [\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 5$

$i \Rightarrow x^2 + 1 \Rightarrow [\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}, i) : \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3})] \leq 2$

$\sqrt[3]{5} \Rightarrow x^3 - 5 \Rightarrow [\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}, i, \sqrt[3]{5}) : \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}, i)] \leq 3$

Then by Tower Theorem, we get  $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}, i, \sqrt[3]{5}) : \mathbb{Q}] \leq 5 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 = 30$   
(  $[M : \mathbb{Q}] \leq 30$ , indeed, we can show that  $[M : \mathbb{Q}] = 30$  )

$f = x^7 + \sqrt[5]{3}x^4 + ix^3 + \sqrt[3]{5} + 2 \in M[x]$ ,  $f(\alpha) = 0$

Thus  $[M(\alpha) : M] \leq \deg(f) = 7$  (since minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$  over  $M$  divides  $f$ )

Hence, by Tower Thm,  $[M(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] = [M(\alpha) : M] \cdot [M : \mathbb{Q}] \leq 7 \cdot 30 = 210$

Since  $\alpha \in M(\alpha)$ , we have extensions  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\alpha) \subseteq M \subseteq M(\alpha)$

$[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] \mid [M(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] \Rightarrow [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] \leq [M(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] \leq 210$

Therefore,  $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] \leq 210$ .

3. (2 x 7 pts.) a) Let  $\beta = \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2}} \in \mathbb{R}$ . Find the minimal polynomial  $f$  of  $\beta$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

$$\beta^2 = 2 + \sqrt{2} \Rightarrow \beta^2 - 2 = \sqrt{2} \Rightarrow (\beta^2 - 2)^2 = 2$$

$$\beta^4 - 4\beta^2 + 4 = 2$$

$$\beta^4 - 4\beta^2 + 2 = 0$$

$$f(x) = x^4 - 4x^2 + 2 \in \mathbb{Q}[x] \Rightarrow f(\beta) = 0$$

$f$  is irreducible by Schönemann-Eisenstein Criterion (take  $p=2$ )  
 $f$  is monic. Thus,  $f$  is the minimal polynomial of  $\beta$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

b) Show that  $L = \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$  is a splitting field of  $f$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

$$f = x^4 - 4x^2 + 2 = 0 \Rightarrow x^2 = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 8}}{2} = 2 \pm \sqrt{2} \Rightarrow x = \pm \sqrt{2 \pm \sqrt{2}}$$

(4 distinct roots, call them  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4$ )

$$\beta \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta), -\beta = -\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2}} \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$$

$$\beta^2 = 2 + \sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \Rightarrow (2 + \sqrt{2}) - 2 = \sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$$

$$\beta \cdot \sqrt{2 - \sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2}} \cdot \sqrt{2 - \sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{4 - 2} = \sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \text{ so } \sqrt{2 - \sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\beta} \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$$

$$\sqrt{2 - \sqrt{2}} \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \Rightarrow -\sqrt{2 - \sqrt{2}} \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$$

All 4 distinct roots  $\beta = \beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3$  and  $\beta_4$  are in  $\mathbb{Q}(\beta) \Rightarrow \mathbb{Q}(\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$

And since  $\beta = \beta_1$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\beta) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4)$

Thus,  $\mathbb{Q}(\beta) = \mathbb{Q}(\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4) =$  splitting field of  $f$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

4. (14 pts.) Show that  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{3}, \sqrt[3]{5})$  is not a splitting field of any  $f \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

$$\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{3}, \sqrt[3]{5}) \subseteq \mathbb{R} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$$

$x^3 - 5$  has one root, namely  $\sqrt[3]{5}$  in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{3}, \sqrt[3]{5})$

$x^3 - 5$  has 2 non-real roots in  $\mathbb{C}$ , thus the only root of  $x^3 - 5$  in

$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{3}, \sqrt[3]{5})$  is  $\sqrt[3]{5}$ , so  $x^3 - 5$  does not split completely in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{3}, \sqrt[3]{5})$

Since  $x^3 - 5$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$  (3 is prime, there is no root in  $\mathbb{Q}$ ),

this means that the extension  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{3}, \sqrt[3]{5})$  is not a normal extension.

But if it were a splitting field of some polynomial, it would be a normal extension (splitting fields are normal extensions)

Then,  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{3}, \sqrt[3]{5})$  is not a splitting field over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of any

$$f \in \mathbb{Q}[x].$$

5. (6 + 10 pts.) a) Write down a basis of  $L = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, i)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  considering it as a vector space.

Minimal polynomial of  $\sqrt{2}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ :  $x^2 - 2 \Rightarrow$  A basis of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is  $\{1, \sqrt{2}\}$

$g(x) = x^2 + 1 \in \mathbb{Q}[x] \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})[x]$ ,  $g(i) = 0$ ,  $g$  is monic

$\deg(g) = 2$  and  $g$  has no root in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  (since in  $\mathbb{C}$  all roots are  $\pm i \notin \mathbb{R}$ )

Therefore,  $g$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ , hence  $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, i) : \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})] = 2$

Thus a basis of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, i) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})(i)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  is  $\{1, i\}$

Then, a basis of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, i)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is

$$B = \{1, \sqrt{2}, i, \sqrt{2}i\} = \{1, i, \sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2}i\}$$

$$\text{and } [\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, i) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2 \cdot 2 = 4.$$

b) What is the condition on  $k \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $\alpha = k\sqrt{2} + i$  is a primitive element of the extension  $\mathbb{Q} \subset L$  (that is,  $L = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ ). (Hint: Use the basis from part a and use linear algebra.)

Let  $\alpha = k\sqrt{2} + i$  where  $k \in \mathbb{Q}$ , then  $\alpha \in L$ ,

$$\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\alpha) \subseteq L, \quad [L : \mathbb{Q}] = [L : \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)] \cdot [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}]$$

$$4 = [L : \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)] \cdot [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}]$$

$$L = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha) \Leftrightarrow [L : \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)] = 1 \Leftrightarrow [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] = 4 \Leftrightarrow \text{Minimal polynomial of } \alpha \text{ over } \mathbb{Q} \text{ has degree 4}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \{1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^3\} \text{ is a basis}$$

of  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) = L = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, i)$

So,  $L = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha) \Leftrightarrow \{1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^3\}$  is a linearly independent set over  $\mathbb{Q}$

Since  $1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^3$  are in  $L = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, i)$ , we can use the basis  $B$  from part a, and check for linear independence of  $1, \alpha, \alpha^2$  and  $\alpha^3$ :

$1$  is written as  $(1, 0, 0, 0)$  with respect to the basis  $B = \{1, i, \sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2}i\}$

$\alpha = k\sqrt{2} + i$  is written as  $(0, 1, k, 0)$

$\alpha^2 = (2k^2 - 1) \cdot 1 + 2k \cdot (\sqrt{2}i)$  is written as  $(2k^2 - 1, 0, 0, 2k)$

$\alpha^3 = [k(2k^2 - 1) - 2k] \cdot \sqrt{2} + [(2k^2 - 1) + 4k^2]i = (2k^3 - 3k) \cdot \sqrt{2} + (6k^2 - 1) \cdot i$

So  $\alpha^3$  is written as the tuple  $(0, 6k^2 - 1, 2k^3 - 3k, 0)$  w.r.t. to the basis  $B$ .

Then the condition that  $L = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  is  $\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^3\}$  is linearly indep. over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , which is equivalent to

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & k & 0 \\ 2k^2 - 1 & 0 & 0 & 2k \\ 2k^3 - 3k & 6k^2 - 1 & 2k^3 - 3k & 0 \end{vmatrix} \neq 0 \quad (4 \times 4 \text{ determinant is nonsingular})$$

6. (4 + 6 + 6 pts.) Let  $F$  be a field of characteristic  $p > 0$  and assume that  $f = x^p - x + c \in F[x]$  is irreducible over  $F$ .

a) Show that  $f$  is separable over  $F$ .

$$f'(x) = p \cdot x^{p-1} - 1 = -1 \quad \text{since } \text{char}(F) = p, \text{ hence } p \cdot x^{p-1} = p \cdot 1 \cdot x^{p-1} = 0 \cdot x^{p-1} = 0$$

$$\text{Then } \text{g.c.d.}(f, f') = \text{g.c.d.}(f, -1) = 1$$

Hence  $f$  is separable over  $F$ .

b) Show that if  $\alpha$  is a root of  $f$  in some extension field  $L$  over  $F$ , then  $\alpha + 1$  is also a root of  $f$ .

$$f(\alpha) = 0 \iff \alpha^p - \alpha + c = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } f(\alpha+1) &= (\alpha+1)^p - (\alpha+1) + c \\ &= \alpha^p + 1^p - \alpha - 1 + c \quad (\text{since } \text{char}(F) = p, (\alpha+1)^p = \alpha^p + 1^p) \\ &= \alpha^p - \alpha + c = f(\alpha) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

c) Show that  $F(\alpha)$  is a normal extension field over  $F$ .

This follows if we can show that  $F(\alpha)$  is a splitting field of a polynomial over  $F$ .

From part (b),  $f(\alpha) = 0 \implies f(\alpha+1) = 0$  or  $f(\alpha+2) = 0, f(\alpha+3) = 0, \dots$

Since  $\text{char}(F) = p$ ,  $L+L+L \dots L = 0$  if there are  $p$   $L$ 's.

Hence  $\alpha, \alpha+1, \alpha+2, \dots, \alpha+p-2, \alpha+p-1$  are  $p$  distinct roots of  $f$ .

Since  $\deg(f) = p$ , these must be all roots, and each has multiplicity 1.

So, splitting field of  $f$  over  $F$  is

$$F(\alpha, \alpha+1, \alpha+2, \dots, \alpha+p-1) = F(\alpha)$$

(since  $\alpha \in F(\alpha) \implies \alpha+k \in F(\alpha)$  for any  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  (k mod p))

so  $F(\alpha, \alpha+1, \dots, \alpha+p-1) \subseteq F(\alpha)$ )

(The other inclusion is obvious)

7. (2 x 8 pts.) Let  $L = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}, \zeta_5)$  where  $\zeta_5 = e^{2\pi i/5} \in \mathbb{C}$ .

a) For a  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q})$ , list the possible values of  $\sigma(\sqrt[5]{3})$  and  $\sigma(\zeta_5)$ .

$f = x^5 - 3$  is minimal polynomial of  $\sqrt[5]{3}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  ( $f$  is irred over  $\mathbb{Q}$  since 5 is prime and  $f$  has no root in  $\mathbb{Q}$ )

$\zeta_5$  is a root of  $x^4 - 1 = (x-1)(x^3 + x^2 + x + 1)$  hence of  $x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1 = g(x)$  and we know (proved as a Thm) that  $g(x)$  is irred over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . So minimal poly. of  $\zeta_5$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is  $g(x)$ .

Let  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q})$ ,  $\sqrt[5]{3}$  is a root of  $f \in \mathbb{Q}[x] \Rightarrow \sigma(\sqrt[5]{3})$  is a root of  $f$  in  $L$

All roots of  $f$  in  $L$  are  $\{\sqrt[5]{3} \zeta_5^k \mid k=0,1,2,3,4\}$

All roots of  $g$  in  $L$  are  $\{\zeta_5^k \mid k=1,2,3,4\}$

Therefore

$\sigma(\sqrt[5]{3}) \in \{\sqrt[5]{3} \zeta_5^k \mid k=0,1,2,3,4\}$  and  $\sigma(\zeta_5) \in \{\zeta_5^k \mid k=1,2,3,4\}$   
(5 choices) (4 choices)

b) How many elements does the Galois group  $\text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q})$  have?

$L$  is a splitting field of  $x^5 - 3$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  since

splitting field of  $x^5 - 3$  over  $\mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}, \sqrt[5]{3} \zeta_5, \sqrt[5]{3} \zeta_5^2, \sqrt[5]{3} \zeta_5^3, \sqrt[5]{3} \zeta_5^4) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}, \zeta_5) = L$ .

$x^5 - 3$  is separable over  $\mathbb{Q}$  (all of the 5 distinct roots have multiplicity 1)

Thus,  $L$  is a splitting field of a separable polynomial  $f$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  ( $f = x^5 - 3$ )

hence by a Theorem,  $|\text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q})| = [L:\mathbb{Q}]$

$$[ \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_5) : \mathbb{Q} ] = 4 = \deg(x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1)$$

$$[ \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}) : \mathbb{Q} ] = 5 = \deg(x^5 - 3)$$

$$\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}) \subseteq L \Rightarrow 4 = [ \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_5) : \mathbb{Q} ] \mid [ L : \mathbb{Q} ]$$

$$5 = [ \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}) : \mathbb{Q} ] \mid [ L : \mathbb{Q} ]$$

$$\text{so l.c.m.}(4, 5) \mid [ L : \mathbb{Q} ]$$

$$\text{Also } [ L : \mathbb{Q} ] = [ \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_5)(\sqrt[5]{3}) : \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}) ] \cdot [ \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}) : \mathbb{Q} ] \Rightarrow [ L : \mathbb{Q} ] \leq 20$$

$$\leq 4 \text{ since } g(\zeta_5) = 0 \qquad = 5$$

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3}) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_5)(\sqrt[5]{3}) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[5]{3})(\zeta_5)$$

$$20 = \text{l.c.m.}(4, 5) \leq [ L : \mathbb{Q} ] \leq 20 \Rightarrow [ L : \mathbb{Q} ] = 20$$

$$|\text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q})| = 20$$

so all possible choices in part a come from some  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q})$

8. (Bonus: 10 pts.) For a field  $F$  of characteristic  $p > 0$ , the Frobenius map  $\varphi: F \rightarrow F$  is defined by  $\varphi(x) = x^p$ , and it is a field homomorphism.

Assuming that  $\varphi: F \rightarrow F$  is onto, prove that any irreducible polynomial  $f \in F[x]$  is separable over  $F$ .

Assume  $\varphi: F \rightarrow F$  is onto and  $f \in F[x]$  is not separable over  $F$  for an irreducible  $f$  over  $F$ .

$f' \neq 0 \Rightarrow \deg(f') < \deg(f)$  and  $f$  is irred.  $\Rightarrow f \nmid f'$ , hence  $\text{g.c.d.}(f, f') = 1$  (since only irred. factors of  $f$  are constant ( $\neq 0$ ) multiples of 1 and  $f$ ).

But since we assumed that  $f$  is not separable, we cannot have

$\text{g.c.d.}(f, f') = 1$ . Thus,  $f' = 0$ .

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^d a_i x^i, \quad a_i \neq 0, \quad d = \deg(f)$$

$$f'(x) = \sum_{i=0}^d a_i \cdot i \cdot x^{i-1}, \quad f'(x) = 0 \in F[x] \Leftrightarrow p \mid i \text{ whenever } a_i \neq 0 \in F.$$

Therefore, in  $f$ , only terms of the form  $x^{p \cdot m_j}$  have nonzero coefficients in order to have  $f'(x) = 0 \in F[x]$ .

$$\text{Thus, } f(x) = \sum_{j=0}^e b_j \cdot x^{p \cdot m_j} = \sum_{j=0}^e b_j (x^p)^{m_j} = g(x^p) \text{ for some } g(x) \in F[x]$$

Then,  $b_j = (c_j)^p$  for some  $c_j \in F$  (Indeed  $g = \sum_{j=0}^e b_j x^{m_j}$ )

(since we assume  $\varphi: F \rightarrow F$  is onto,  $\exists c_j \in F \ni \varphi(c_j) = b_j$ )  
 $(c_j)^p = b_j$

Thus,

$$f(x) = \sum_{j=0}^e b_j (x^p)^{m_j} = \sum_{j=0}^e (c_j)^p (x^{m_j})^p$$

$$= \left( \sum_{j=0}^e c_j x^{m_j} \right)^p = (h(x))^p \text{ for some } h \in F[x]$$

So, we obtained:  ~~$f(x) = (h(x))^p$~~  since  $\text{char}(F) = p$

$$f(x) = (h(x))^p \text{ for some } h(x) \in F[x]$$

This contradicts  $f$  being irreducible since  $p > 1$  ( $p$  is a prime being  $p = \text{char}(F)$ )

Therefore,  $f$  is separable over  $F$ .