

PS9 - Galois examples

Math146 - George McNinch

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- 1 Let p be a prime number and let ζ be a root of $f_p = \frac{T^p - 1}{T - 1} \in \mathbf{Q}[T]$ in some extension field of $\mathbf{Q}$. Then we know that $L = \mathbf{Q}(\zeta)$ has $[L : \mathbf{Q}] = p - 1$.
- a. If $i \in \mathbf{Z}$ and $i \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ explain why ζ^i is a root of f_p .
 - b. For $i \in \mathbf{Z}$ with $i \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ show that there is an automorphism $\phi_i : L \rightarrow L$ with the property that $\phi_i(\zeta) = \zeta^i$.
 - c. Show for $i, j \in \mathbf{Z}$ with $ij \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ that $\phi_i = \phi_j$ if and only if $i \equiv j \pmod{p}$.
 - d. Show that the assignment $(\mathbf{Z}/p\mathbf{Z})^\times \rightarrow \text{Gal}(L/\mathbf{Q})$ given by $i + p\mathbf{Z} \mapsto \phi_i$ is a well-defined isomorphism of groups.
Deduce that $\text{Gal}(L/\mathbf{Q})$ is cyclic of order $p - 1$.
 - e. If $p = 7$ show that $\text{Gal}(L/\mathbf{Q})$ is generated by ϕ_3 .
 - f. Again if $p = 7$ find a subgroup $H \subseteq \text{Gal}(L/\mathbf{Q})$ such that $[L^H : \mathbf{Q}] = 3$ and show that $L^H = \mathbf{Q}(\zeta + \zeta^6)$.
Hint: Note that a typical element of L may be written uniquely in the form

$$x = a_0 + a_1\zeta + a_2\zeta^2 + \cdots + a_6\zeta^6$$

for $a_i \in \mathbf{Q}$. Notice that

$$\phi_3(x) = a_0 + a_1\zeta^3 + a_2\zeta^6 + a_3\zeta^9 + \cdots + a_6\zeta^{18} = a_0 + a_1\zeta^3 + a_2\zeta^6 + a_3\zeta^2 + \cdots + a_6\zeta^4$$

Now study $\phi_3^j(x)$ where ϕ_3^j is your generator from e.

2. Observe that $L = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3})$ is a splitting field over $\mathbf{Q}$ of the polynomial $(T^2 - 2)(T^2 - 3)$.
- a. Show that $[E : \mathbf{Q}] = 4$ and deduce that $\text{Gal}(L/\mathbf{Q})$ has order 4.
 - b. Recall that any group of order 4 is either cyclic or isomorphic to the group

$$K = \mathbf{Z}/2\mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z}/2\mathbf{Z}.$$

Decide whether $\Gamma = \text{Gal}(L/\mathbf{Q})$ is cyclic or is isomorphic to K .

- c. By finding all subgroups of Γ , use the fundamental theorem of Galois theory to list all intermediate fields of the extension $\mathbf{Q} \subseteq L = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3})$.

3. Consider the polynomial $g = T^4 - 3 \in \mathbb{Q}[T]$. According to Eisenstein's criteria, g is irreducible over $\mathbb{Q}$.

- Let α be a root of g and let i be a root of $T^2 + 1$. Show that $E = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha, i)$ is a splitting field of g over $\mathbb{Q}$.
- Show that $T^2 + 1$ remains irreducible over $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$, and conclude that $[E : \mathbb{Q}] = 8$. Deduce that the Galois group $\Gamma = \text{Gal}(E/\mathbb{Q})$ has order 8.
- Viewing $E = \mathbb{Q}(i)(\alpha)$ as an extension of $\mathbb{Q}(i)$, show that there is an automorphism $\sigma : E \rightarrow E$ for which $\sigma|_{\mathbb{Q}(i)} = \text{id}$ and for which $\sigma(\alpha) = i\alpha$.
- Show that $o(\sigma) = 4$ and describe $E^{\langle\sigma\rangle}$ as a primitive extension of $\mathbb{Q}$.

Hint: Remember that – according to the Fundamental Theorem – $[E : E^{\langle\sigma\rangle}] = |\langle\sigma\rangle| = 4$.

- Consider the non-trivial automorphism $\tau_0 : \mathbb{Q}(i) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}(i)$; thus τ_0 is given by “complex conjugation”;

$$\tau_0(a + bi) = \overline{a + bi} = a - bi.$$

Since E is the splitting field over $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ of g and since $\tau_0 g = g$, our result on automorphisms of splitting fields implies that there is an automorphism

$$\tau : E \rightarrow E$$

such that $\tau|_{\mathbb{Q}(i)} = \tau_0$ and $\tau(\alpha) = \alpha$.

Show that $o(\tau) = 2$ and describe $E^{\langle\tau\rangle}$ as a primitive extension of $\mathbb{Q}$.

- Explain why $K = E^{\langle\tau\rangle}$ is not a *normal* extension of $\mathbb{Q}$ by exhibiting a polynomial in $\mathbb{Q}[T]$ with a root in K that does not split over K . Deduce that $\langle\tau\rangle$ is not a normal subgroup of Γ and in particular deduce that Γ is not abelian.
- Show that $o(\sigma\tau) = 2$ and describe $E^{\langle\sigma\tau\rangle}$ as a primitive extension of $\mathbb{Q}$.

Hint: Note that the elements $1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^3$ form a $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ -basis for E , so a typical element $x \in E$ may be written uniquely in the form

$$x = s_0 + s_1\alpha + s_2\alpha^2 + s_3\alpha^3$$

for $s_i \in \mathbb{Q}(i)$.

Now, $x \in E^{\langle\sigma\tau\rangle}$ if and only if $\sigma\tau(x) = x$.

Check that

$$\sigma\tau(x) = \overline{s_0} + i \cdot \overline{s_1}\alpha - \overline{s_2}\alpha^2 - i \cdot \overline{s_3}\alpha^3$$

Then check that

$$(1 + i)\alpha \in E^{\langle\sigma\tau\rangle}.$$