



Galois Theory

Exercises

Please do 10 exercises in the list below.

Exercise 1

What is the automorphism group of the field $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})$? What are the field morphisms from $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})$ to \mathbb{C} ?

Exercise 2

Let p be a prime number, and let $L := \mathbb{F}_p(X)$ be the field of fractions of polynomials in one variable with coefficients in the finite field \mathbb{F}_p . Let $K := \mathbb{F}_p(X^p) \subseteq L$. What is the group of K -linear automorphisms of the field L ?

Exercise 3

Let K be a field, and let \bar{K} be an algebraic closure of K . Show that the extension \bar{K}/K is normal. Is it separable?

Exercise 4

Let L/K and M/L be field extensions. Suppose that the extension M/K is normal. Show that the extension M/L is normal.

Exercise 5

Let Ω/K be a field extension, and let L_0, L_1 be two subfields of Ω containing K . Assume that the extensions L_0/K and L_1/K are normal. Show that the extensions $L_0 \cap L_1/K$ and $L_0 L_1/K$ are normal. (Here, $L_0 L_1$ denotes the subfield of Ω generated by $L_0 \cup L_1$.)

Exercise 6

Prove that the extensions $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})/\mathbb{Q}$ and $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2})/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ are normal, and that $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2})/\mathbb{Q}$ is not normal.

Exercise 7

Let K be a field, and $P(X) \in K[X]$. Let L be a splitting field of P over K . Prove that $[L : K] \leq (\deg P)!$.

Exercise 8

Prove that any finite extension is contained in a finite normal extension.

Exercise 9

Let p be a prime number, and let $L := \mathbb{F}_p(X, Y)$ be the field of fractions of polynomials in two variables over \mathbb{F}_p . Let $K := \mathbb{F}_p(X^p, Y^p) \subseteq L$. Prove that the degree of the extension L/K is p^2 . Show that it is not a simple extension.

Exercise 10

Let L/K be a finite extension, and L_{sep} the subfield of elements of L separable over K . Denote by $[L : K]_s$ the number of K -linear field morphisms from L to an algebraic closure \bar{K} of K . Prove that $[L : K]_s = [L_{\text{sep}} : K]$ and that $[L : K]_s$ divides $[L : K]$.

Exercise 11

Prove that any algebraic extension of a finite field is Galois.

Exercise 12

Let L/K be a finite Galois extension. Let G be a subgroup of $\text{Gal}(L/K)$. Let $M := H^0(G, L)$. Let $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(L/K)$. Prove that σM corresponds to the subgroup $\sigma G \sigma^{-1}$ by the Galois correspondence.

Exercise 13

Let q be some power of a prime number, and let $d \geq 1$ be an integer. Let $\varphi_q: \mathbb{F}_{q^d} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_{q^d}$ be the field automorphism defined by $\varphi_q(x) = x^q$. What are the minimal and characteristic polynomials of the \mathbb{F}_q -linear map φ_q .

Exercise 14

Let K be a field, and $n \geq 1$ an integer not divisible by the characteristic of K . Let L be the extension of K generated by the n -th roots of unity. Denote by $\chi: \text{Gal}(L/K) \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$ the cyclotomic character. Prove that the n -th cyclotomic polynomial Φ_n is irreducible if and only if χ is an isomorphism.

Exercise 15 : Carlyle circle

Let s and p be two algebraic real numbers. In \mathbb{R}^2 , let $A := (0, 1)$ and $B := (s, p)$. Let \mathcal{C} be the circle of diameter $[AB]$. Prove that the intersections of \mathcal{C} and the line $\mathbb{R} \times \{0\}$ are the points $(x_0, 0)$ and $(x_1, 0)$, where x_0 and x_1 are the roots of the polynomial $X^2 - sX + p$. Explain how to make this construction with a compass only, starting with points of coordinates $(0, 0)$, $(1, 0)$, $(s, 0)$ and $(p, 0)$, when $p \neq -1$. Explain how to handle the case $p = -1$, for example by replacing (s, p) with $(2s, 4p)$.

Exercise 16

Let L/K be a finite separable extension of degree n . Let M be an extension of K containing a Galois closure of L .

- (i) Prove that there are exactly n K -linear field morphisms from L to M . These will be denoted by $\sigma_0, \dots, \sigma_{n-1}$ in the rest of the exercise.
- (ii) Prove the existence of $x \in L$ such that $L = K[x]$.
- (iii) Prove that $1, x, x^2, \dots, x^{n-1}$ is a basis of L as a K -vector space.
- (iv) What is the determinant of the matrix $(\sigma_i(x^j))_{0 \leq i, j < n}$? Prove that it is non-zero.

- (v) Prove that the determinant of the matrix $(\text{Tr}_{L/K}(x^{i+j}))_{0 \leq i, j < n}$ is the square of the previous determinant. Deduce from this that $x, y \mapsto \text{Tr}_{L/K}(xy)$ is a non-degenerate K -bilinear form on L .
- (vi) Let $(e_j)_{0 \leq j < n}$ be a basis of L as a K -vector space. Prove that the determinant of the matrix $(\sigma_i(e_j))_{0 \leq i, j < n}$ is non-zero. Same question for the matrix $(\text{Tr}_{L/K}(e_i e_j))_{0 \leq i, j < n}$.

Exercise 17

Let L/K be a finite extension, and let $x \in L$. Prove that if L is not separable over K , then $\text{Tr}_{L/K}(x) = 0$.

Exercise 18

Let M/L and L/K be finite extensions. Suppose that M/K is Galois. Using the formulas

$$\text{Tr}_{M/K}(x) = \sum_{\sigma \in \text{Gal}(M/K)} \sigma(x) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{N}_{M/K}(x) = \prod_{\sigma \in \text{Gal}(M/K)} \sigma(x),$$

prove that

$$\text{Tr}_{M/K} = \text{Tr}_{L/K} \circ \text{Tr}_{M/L} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{N}_{M/K} = \text{N}_{L/K} \circ \text{N}_{M/L}.$$

Exercise 19

Let G be a group acting on an A -module M . Denote by $Z^1(G, M)$ the set of 1-cocycles on G with values in M . Also denote by 1_G the neutral element of G , and by 0_M the neutral element of M . Let $c \in Z^1(G, M)$. Prove that $c_{1_G} = 0_M$.

Exercise 20

Let G be a group acting on an A -module M . Denote by $Z^1(G, M)$ the set of 1-cocycles on G with values in M , and $B^1(G, M)$ the set of 1-coboundaries on G with values in M . Prove that

$$B^1(G, M) \subseteq Z^1(G, M).$$

Exercise 21

Let G be a group, acting on a group H . Denote by

$$Z^1(G, H) := \{c: G \rightarrow H / \forall \sigma, \tau \in G \ c_{\sigma\tau} = c_\sigma \sigma(c_\tau)\}.$$

the set of cocycles. Two cocycles c and c' are said to be cohomologous if there exists $x \in H$ such that

$$\forall \sigma \in G \ c'_\sigma = c_\sigma \sigma(x).$$

Prove that this is an equivalence relation. Prove that if H is commutative, then this is the congruence relation modulo coboundaries.

Exercise 22

Let G be a cyclic group, and σ a generator. Assume that G acts on a commutative group M . Prove that the map

$$\begin{cases} H^1(G, M) & \longrightarrow & \text{coker}(\text{id} - \sigma) \\ c & \longmapsto & c_\sigma \end{cases}$$

is well defined, injective, and that its image is

$$\ker \left(\sum_{\tau \in G} \tau \right) / \text{im}(\text{id} - \sigma).$$

(Reminder: $\text{coker}(\text{id} - \sigma) := M / \text{im}(\text{id} - \sigma)$.)

Exercise 23

Let G be a group, H a subgroup of G , and M an $A[G]$ -module. Prove that the map

$$\begin{cases} M & \longrightarrow & \text{Ind}_H^G(M) \\ x & \longmapsto & (\sigma \mapsto \sigma(x)) \end{cases}$$

induces a morphism $H^1(G, M) \rightarrow H^1(G, \text{Ind}_H^G(M))$. Using Shapiro's lemma, this yields a morphism $H^1(G, M) \rightarrow H^1(H, M)$. Prove that this is the restriction map.

Exercise 24

Describe and prove an analogue of Kummer's theory for abelian extensions of exponent p , in characteristic $p > 0$.

Exercise 25

Let $(X_i)_{i \in I}$ be a family of topological spaces. Denote by $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$ their product, and $\pi_j: \prod_{i \in I} X_i \rightarrow X_j$ the projection onto X_j , for every $j \in I$. Endow $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$ with the product topology, whose open subsets are the unions (not necessarily finite) of subsets $\prod_{i \in I} U_i$ where U_i is an open subset of X_i and $\{i \in I / U_i \neq X_i\}$ is finite. Prove that a sequence $(y^{(n)})_{n \geq 0}$ of elements of $\prod_{i \in I} X_i$ converges if and only if, for all i , $(\pi_i(y^{(n)}))_{n \geq 0}$ converges.

Exercise 26

Let K be a field, and $M \in \mathcal{K}_n(K)$. Prove that the K -algebra $K[M]$ is diagonalizable if and only if the matrix M is diagonalizable over K .

Exercise 27

Let K be a field, and $P(X) \in K[X]$. Prove that the K -algebra $K[X]/(P(X))$ is diagonalizable if and only if P is fully split, squarefree, over K .

Exercise 28

Prove that $\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C}$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{C}^2 as a \mathbb{C} -algebra, and describe explicitly the isomorphism.

Exercise 29

Let L/K be a finite extension of degree n . Prove that it is Galois if and only if the L -algebra $L \otimes_K L$ is isomorphic to L^n .

Exercise 30

Let K be a perfect field, and A a finite K -algebra. Prove that A is étale if and only if it is reduced (i.e. has no nilpotent element).

Exercise 31

Let A be commutative ring with unity, and S a subset of A , containing the unit element and stable under multiplication. Denote by $S^{-1}A$ the localized of A where the elements of S become invertible. Prove that there is an increasing (for the inclusion) bijection between the the prime ideals of $S^{-1}A$ and the prime ideals of A that do not intersect S .

Exercise 32

Let K/\mathbb{Q} be the splitting field of $X^3 - 7$. Prove that its Galois group is isomorphic to \mathfrak{S}_3 , and find every intermediate extension between \mathbb{Q} and K .

Exercise 33

Prove that the fields $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7})$ and $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{11})$ are not isomorphic.

Exercise 34

Let L/K be a finite extension of a finite field K . Prove that the trace $\text{Tr}_{L/K}$ and norm $N_{L/K}$ are surjective.

Exercise 35

Let L/K be a Galois extension of degree 8100. Prove that there is a field M , with $K \subseteq M \subseteq L$, such that the extension M/K has degree 100.