

Worksheet #5

Algebra V - Galois theory

October 9, 2025

Problem 1. In what follows, let $L = SF_K(f)$ for some $f \in K[x]$. Determine $\text{Gal}(L/K)$ and find all intermediate subfields of L/k .

(i) $K = \mathbb{Q}$ and $f(x) = x^4 - 7$

(ii) $K = \mathbb{F}_5$ and $f(x) = x^4 - 7$

(iii) $K = \mathbb{F}_2$ and $f(x) = x^6 + 1$

(iv) $K = \mathbb{Q}$ and $f(x) = x^8 - 1$

Problem 2. Let L/K be a (finite) Galois extension such that $\text{Gal}(L/K) = A_4$. Prove that there is no intermediate field $K \subset F \subset L$ satisfying that $[F : K] = 2$.

Problem 3. Give examples of finite field extensions L/K with

(i) L/K normal but not separable,

(ii) L/K separable but not normal,

(iii) $[L : K] = 4$ and there is no intermediate field $K \subset F \subset L$ with $[F : K] = 2$.

Problem 4. Let $f(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ be irreducible of prime degree p and assume that f has exactly two non-real roots (in \mathbb{C}). Prove that $\text{Gal}(SF_{\mathbb{Q}}(f)/\mathbb{Q}) = S_p$ (the symmetric group on p letters).

Problem 5. Let $f(x) = x^4 + ax^2 + b$ be an irreducible quartic polynomial in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$, with roots $\pm\alpha, \pm\beta$ and let $L = SF_{\mathbb{Q}}(f)$.

(i) Prove that $\text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q})$ is isomorphic to a subgroup of D_8 .

(ii) Prove that this subgroup is isomorphic to C_4 if and only if $\alpha/\beta - \beta/\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}$.