

Week #7

Algebra V - Galois theory

Oct 30, 2025

Problem 1. Let n be any positive integer and let $\Phi_n(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{\phi(n)} (x - \zeta_i)$ denote the n -th cyclotomic polynomial. That is, $\Phi_n(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ is a monic polynomial, and its roots are exactly the primitive n -th roots of unity in \mathbb{C} . Prove that $\Phi_n(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ and that $\Phi_n(x)$ is irreducible over \mathbb{Q} .

Problem 2. Let n be any positive integer and let $\mathbb{Q}_n := SF_{\mathbb{Q}}(x^n - 1)$.

(i) Prove that $[\mathbb{Q}_n : \mathbb{Q}] = \phi(n)$ and $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}_n/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$.

(ii) If m is an odd (positive) integer, prove that $\mathbb{Q}_{2m} = \mathbb{Q}_m$.

(iii) Find n such that \mathbb{Q}_n contains a subfield which is not a cyclotomic extension of \mathbb{Q} .

(iv) Find all intermediate fields between \mathbb{Q} and \mathbb{Q}_8 , and between \mathbb{Q} and \mathbb{Q}_{12} .

Problem 3. Prove that $\mathbb{Q}(\cos(2\pi/n))/\mathbb{Q}$ is a Galois extension for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Problem 4. Consider a radical extension $K = K_0 \subset K_1 \subset \dots \subset K_n = L$ as defined in the lecture, where each K_{j+1}/K_j is obtained by extracting an m_j -th root. Let $m = \prod_{j=1}^n m_j$ (assume that $\text{char}(K)$ does not divide the m_j 's) and consider the field $F = K(\mu_m)$. Prove that the tower of composite fields

$$K \subset F = FK_0 \subset FK_1 \subset \dots \subset FK_n = FL$$

is a radical tower and that each FK_{j+1}/FK_j is Galois with cyclic Galois group.

Problem 5. Let L/K and M/K be two finite field extensions such that $L, M \subset \bar{K}$ and M/K and LM/M are solvable. Prove that L/K is solvable as well.

Problem 6. Let L/K and M/K be two finite Galois extensions. Prove that LM/M and $L/L \cap M$ are also Galois and that

$$\text{Gal}(LM/M) \simeq \text{Gal}(L/L \cap M)$$

Problem 7. Let L/K be a finite separable extension of prime degree p . Let $\alpha \in L$ be such that $L = K(\alpha)$ and let $\alpha_1 = \alpha, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_p$ be the K -conjugates of α in \bar{K} . Prove that if $\alpha_2 \in L$, then L/K is Galois with cyclic Galois group.