

# Galois theory: Pull-up the handout for weeks 11-12.

Roots of polynomials

Field automorphisms

Recall If  $L/K$  and  $f(x) \in K[x]$   
then  $\text{Aut}(L/K) \leftrightarrow$  roots of  $f \in L$

//  $\sigma(\alpha)$  is a root of  $f$  if  $\alpha$  is.

Field aut. of  $L$  that are the identity on  $K$   
If  $\sum a_n \alpha^n = 0 \quad a_n \in K$

$$\sigma(\sum a_n \alpha^n) = \sigma(0)$$

$$\sum \sigma(a_n) \sigma(\alpha)^n = 0$$

$$\sum a_n \sigma(\alpha)^n = 0.$$

Observation If  $L = K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$

$\sigma \in \text{Aut}(L/K)$  is determined

if  $\alpha_i$  are algebraic

by  $\sigma(\alpha_1), \dots, \sigma(\alpha_n)$ .

$m_{\alpha_i}$  the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha_i$   
over  $K$ .

$\sigma(\alpha_i) \in$  Roots of  $m_{\alpha_i}$   
in  $L$ .

$(\Rightarrow \text{Aut}(L/K)$  is finite

if  $[L:K]$  is finite).

Lemma: If  $L/K$  is the splitting field of  
an irreducible polynomial  $f$  then

$$\text{Aut}(L/K) \leq [L:K]$$

w/equality if and only if  $F$  is separable.

Idea: Let  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  denote the roots.

$$L = K(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$$

$\sigma \in \text{Aut}(L/K)$  is determined by how it permutes these roots.

$$\left( \text{Aut}(L/K) \leftrightarrow \text{Aut}(\text{roots of } F \text{ in } L) \right)$$

$S_n$

To build  $\sigma$ : First, what does it do to  $\alpha_1$ ?



So I get  $\sigma_1: K(\alpha_1) \rightarrow L$  for any  $i=1, \dots, n$   
 s.t.  $\sigma_1(\alpha_1) = \alpha_i$

$\sigma_2: K(\alpha_1, \alpha_2) = K(\alpha_1)(\alpha_2) \rightarrow L$   
 Where can I send  $\alpha_2$ ?  
 (extending  $\sigma_1$ )

$M(x) \leftarrow$  min polynomial of  $\alpha_2$  over  $K(\alpha_1)$

$$K(\alpha_1)(\alpha_2) \cong K(\alpha_1)[x]/M(x)$$

Can send  $x$  to any root of

$$\sigma_1(m)(x) \in L[x]$$

There are  $\deg m$  choices

$$m(x) \mid f(x) \quad \sigma_1(m)(x) \mid \sigma_1(f)(x)$$

$\downarrow$   
 $f(x)$

$\Rightarrow$  all roots in  $L$

$\sigma_2$  extending  $\sigma_1$  has  $n$  choices  
 $m = [K(\alpha_2, \alpha_1) : K(\alpha_1)]$

Repeat...

Prove that  $|\text{Aut}(L/K)| = [L:K]$ .

$$\mathbb{F}_p(t^{1/p})/\mathbb{F}_p(t), \text{Aut}(\mathbb{F}_p(t^{1/p})/\mathbb{F}_p(t)) = \{1\} \begin{cases} \text{if } f \text{ separable} \\ < \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Definition/Theorem:  $L/K$  finite is Galois if any of the following equivalent conditions hold.

- (1)  $[L:K] = |\text{Aut}(L/K)|$ .
- (2)  $K = L^{\text{Aut}(L/K)} (= \{l \in L \mid \sigma(l) = l \ \forall \sigma \in \text{Aut}(L/K)\})$
- (3)  $L/K$  separable & normal | if  $\alpha \in L$   
then  $m_\alpha(x) \in K[x]$   
has  $\deg m_\alpha(x)$  distinct roots in  $L$
- (4)  $L/K$  is a splitting field of a separable polynomial.

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) we basically just did

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) easy.  
 Proof if  $\alpha \in L$

$$f(x) = \prod_{\beta \in \text{Aut}(L/K) \cdot \alpha} (x - \beta) \quad \leftarrow \text{this is minimal polynomial}$$

Point: To see this has coefficients in  $K$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(f) &= \prod_{\beta \in \text{Aut}(L/K) \cdot \alpha} (x - \sigma(\beta)) \quad \text{for } \sigma \in \text{Aut}(L/K) \\ &= \prod_{\beta \in \text{Aut}(L/K) \cdot \alpha} (x - \beta) \end{aligned}$$

so all the coefficients are preserved by  $\text{Aut}(L/K)$   
 $\Rightarrow$  they are in  $K$ .

(3) ~~(4)~~ easy. (Take product of minimal polynomials of a set of generators)

Lemma: If  $L$  is a field  $G \leq \text{Aut}(L)$   
 a finite subgroup.  
 then  $[L : L^G] = |G|$

Proof: Uses independence of character + descent.

$$K \subseteq L^{\text{Aut}(L/K)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{so } [L : K] &= [L : L^{\text{Aut}(L/K)}] [L^{\text{Aut}(L/K)} : K] \\ &\stackrel{\text{By lem}}{=} |\text{Aut}(L/K)| [L^{\text{Aut}(L/K)} : K] \end{aligned}$$

If these are equal

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then } [L^{\text{Aut}(L/K)} : K] &= 1 \\ \text{so } L^{\text{Aut}(L/K)} &= K. \end{aligned}$$

Similar argument shows  $|\text{Aut}(L/K)| \leq [L : K]$ .

(in fact stable)  
always

Lemma shows  $L/L^G$  is Galois w/ group  $G$ .  
 $\text{Aut}(L/L^G) = G$ .

Note: If  $L/K$  is Galois then  
the roots of minimal polynomial of  
 $\alpha \in L$  are just the Galois orbits  
of  $\alpha$ .

In particular: If  $f \in K[X]$  is a separable polynomial  
and  $L/K$  is a splitting field  
then the irreducible factors of  $f$  in  $K[X]$   
are in bijection with the orbits  
of  $\text{Gal}(L/K)$  acting on  
 $(= \text{Aut}(L/K))$  the roots  
of  $f$ .

Fundamental theorem  $L/K$  Galois

Intermediate fields  $\leftrightarrow$  Subgroups of  $\text{Aut}(L/K)$

$U \rightarrow \text{Fix}(U)$

$L^H \leftarrow H$

$K(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)$

$\alpha_1^2 + 7\alpha_2 + 3\alpha_1\alpha_2 \dots$