

## DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSION

### 1. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 1

For a field extension  $E$  of  $F$ , we let  $\text{Aut}_F(E)$  be the set of all  $F$ -isomorphisms from  $E$  to  $E$ .

#### 1.1. Some of the previous topics.

1. Suppose  $E$  is an extension field of  $F$  and  $\alpha \in E$  is algebraic over  $F$ . Suppose  $n$  is a positive integer,  $\gcd([F[\alpha] : F], n!) = 1$ , and  $f(x) \in F[x]$  is of degree  $n$ . Prove that  $F[\alpha] = F[f(\alpha)]$ .
2. Suppose  $F$  is a field,  $f(x) \in F[x]$  is irreducible, and  $E$  is a splitting field of  $f(x)$  over  $F$ . Suppose there is  $\alpha \in E$  such that

$$f(\alpha) = f(\alpha + 1) = 0.$$

Prove that  $\text{Aut}_F(E)$  has an element of order  $p$ .

3. Suppose  $p$  is a prime which does not divide  $n$ . Let  $\Phi_n(x)$  be the  $n$ -th cyclotomic polynomial and view it as an element of  $\mathbb{Z}_p[x]$ . Suppose  $E_{n,p}$  is a splitting field of  $\Phi_n$  over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .
  - (a) Suppose  $\alpha \in E_{n,p}$  is a zero of  $\Phi_n$ . Prove that  $E_{n,p} = \mathbb{Z}_p[\alpha]$ .
  - (b) Prove that  $\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Z}_p}(E_{n,p})$  is isomorphic to the subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_n^\times$  which is generated by  $[p]_n$ .
  - (c) Prove that all the irreducible factors of  $\Phi_n(x)$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_p[x]$  have the same degree and they are equal to the multiplicative order of  $p$  modulo  $n$ .

### 2. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 2

#### 2.1. Field of rational functions.

1. Suppose  $F$  is a field. Let

$$F(t) := \left\{ \frac{f(t)}{g(t)} \mid f, g \in F[t] \right\}$$

be the field of fractions of  $F[t]$ . Suppose  $u := \frac{f}{g} \notin F$  with  $f, g \in F[t]$  and  $\gcd(f, g) = 1$ . Let  $K := F(u)$  be the smallest subfield of  $L := F(t)$  which contains  $F$  and  $u$ .

- (a) Consider  $p(x) := ug(x) - f(x) \in K[x]$ . Argue that  $t$  is a zero of  $p$ . Deduce that  $L/K$  is a finite extension.
- (b) Argue that  $\deg p = \max\{\deg f, \deg g\}$ .
- (c) Argue that  $p$  is irreducible in  $F(x)[u]$ .
- (d) Notice that  $p$  is a primitive element of  $F(x)[u]$  and deduce that  $p$  is irreducible in  $F[x][u]$ .
- (e) Show that  $p$  is irreducible in  $K[x]$ .
- (f) Prove that  $[F(t) : F(u)] = \max\{\deg f, \deg g\}$ .

2. Suppose  $F$  is a field and  $\theta \in \text{Aut}_F(F(t))$ . Prove that there is  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \text{GL}_2(F)$  such that

$$\theta(t) = \frac{at + b}{ct + d}.$$

3. Prove that  $\text{Aut}_F(F(t)) \simeq \text{PGL}_2(F)$  where  $\text{PGL}_2(F) = \text{GL}_2(F)/F^\times I$ .

## 2.2. Automorphisms of a field extension and permutation groups.

1. Suppose  $f \in F[x]$  is a non-constant polynomial and  $E$  is a splitting field of  $f$  over  $F$ . Let  $R := \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\}$  be the set of zeros of  $f$  in  $E$ . Prove that  $\text{Aut}_F(E)$  can be embedded into the symmetric group  $S_n$ .
2. Suppose  $f \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  is an irreducible polynomial of prime degree  $p$  which has exactly two complex zeros. Let  $E \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  be a splitting field of  $f$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Prove that  $\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}}(E)$  can be identified with a subgroup  $G$  of the symmetric group  $S_p$  such that

$$(1, 2, \dots, p) \in G \text{ and } (1, a) \in G$$

for some  $a \in \{2, \dots, p\}$ .

## 3. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 3

### 3.1. Automorphisms of a field extension and permutation groups.

1. Suppose  $f \in F[x]$  is a non-constant polynomial and  $E$  is a splitting field of  $f$  over  $F$ . Let  $R := \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\}$  be the set of zeros of  $f$  in  $E$ . Prove that  $\text{Aut}_F(E)$  can be embedded into the symmetric group  $S_n$ .
2. Suppose  $f \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  is an irreducible polynomial of prime degree  $p$  which has exactly two complex non-real zeros. Let  $E \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  be a splitting field of  $f$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Prove that  $\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}}(E)$  can be identified with a subgroup  $G$  of the symmetric group  $S_p$  such that

$$(1, 2, \dots, p) \in G \text{ and } (1, a) \in G$$

for some  $a \in \{2, \dots, p\}$ .

### 3.2. Fundamental Theorem of Galois Theory.

1. Consider the extension  $\mathbb{Q}[\zeta_3, \sqrt[3]{2}]/\mathbb{Q}$ .
  - (a) Give an isomorphism  $\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{Q}[\zeta_3, \sqrt[3]{2}]) \simeq S_3$ .
  - (b) Use your isomorphism and the Galois correspondence to write down every intermediate subfield of  $\mathbb{Q}[\zeta_3, \sqrt[3]{2}]/\mathbb{Q}$ .
  - (c) Determine which intermediate subfields are Galois over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
2. Prove any intermediate subfield of  $\mathbb{Q}[\zeta_n]/\mathbb{Q}$  is Galois over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
3. Suppose  $E/F$  is a finite (not necessarily Galois) extension. Define  $\Psi$  and  $\Phi$  as in the fundamental theorem of Galois theory, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi : \text{Int}(E/F) &\rightarrow \text{Sub}(\text{Aut}_F(E)), & \Psi(K) &:= \text{Aut}_K(E), & \text{and} \\ \Phi : \text{Sub}(\text{Aut}_F(E)) &\rightarrow \text{Int}(E/F), & \Phi(G) &:= \text{Fix}(G). \end{aligned}$$

- (a) Prove in this generality one still has  $\Psi \circ \Phi = \text{id}$ , so  $\Phi$  is injective and  $\Psi$  is surjective.
- (b) Prove  $\text{Im}(\Phi) = \{K \in \text{Int}(E/F) \mid E/K \text{ is Galois}\}$ .

## 4. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 4

### 4.1. Fundamental Theorem of Galois Theory.

1. Prove any intermediate subfield of  $\mathbb{Q}[\zeta_n]/\mathbb{Q}$  is Galois over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

2. Suppose  $E/F$  is a finite (not necessarily Galois) extension. Define  $\Psi$  and  $\Phi$  as in the fundamental theorem of Galois theory, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi : \text{Int}(E/F) &\rightarrow \text{Sub}(\text{Aut}_F(E)), & \Psi(K) &:= \text{Aut}_K(E), & \text{and} \\ \Phi : \text{Sub}(\text{Aut}_F(E)) &\rightarrow \text{Int}(E/F), & \Phi(G) &:= \text{Fix}(G).\end{aligned}$$

- (a) Prove in this generality one still has  $\Psi \circ \Phi = \text{id}$ , so  $\Phi$  is injective and  $\Psi$  is surjective.  
 (b) Prove  $\text{Im}(\Phi) = \{K \in \text{Int}(E/F) \mid E/K \text{ is Galois}\}$ .

#### 4.2. Separable closure and purely inseparable extensions.

1. Suppose  $E/F$  is a field extension and  $K \in \text{Int}(E/F)$ . Prove that  $E/F$  is purely inseparable if and only if  $E/K$  and  $K/F$  are purely inseparable.

#### 4.3. Galois group of polynomials.

1. Suppose  $f \in F[x]$  is a separable irreducible polynomial of degree  $n$ ,  $K$  is a splitting field of  $f$  over  $F$ , and consider the action of  $\text{Aut}_F(K)$  on the set of zeros  $X$  of  $f$  in  $K$ . Prove that  $\text{Aut}_F(K)$  acts transitively on  $X$ ; that means for every  $x, x' \in X$  there is  $\theta \in \text{Aut}_F(K)$  such that  $\theta(x) = x'$ . Prove that  $n$  divides  $|\text{Aut}_F(K)|$ .  
 2. Suppose  $f \in F[x]$  does not have multiple zeros in a splitting field  $K$  over  $F$ , and consider the action of  $\text{Aut}_F(K)$  on the set of zeros  $X$  of  $f$  in  $K$ . Prove that number of  $\text{Aut}_F(K)$ -orbits in  $X$  is the same as the number of irreducible factors of  $f$  in  $F[x]$ .

### 5. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 5

5.1. **compositum.** Let  $\Omega/F$  be a field extension and  $E, K$  be intermediate subfields. We define the *compositum* of  $E$  and  $K$  in  $\Omega$ , denoted  $EK$ , to be the smallest subfield of  $\Omega$  containing both  $E$  and  $K$ , i.e. the intersection of all subfields of  $\Omega$  containing both  $E$  and  $K$ .

- Suppose  $K/F$  is finite, say  $K = F[\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m]$ . Write  $F_i = F[\beta_1, \dots, \beta_i]$  and  $F_0 = F$ , and similarly write  $E_i = E[\beta_1, \dots, \beta_i]$  with  $E_0 = E$ . Prove that  $[E_{i+1} : E_i] \leq [F_{i+1} : F_i]$  for each  $i \in [0, m-1]$ , and conclude that  $EK/E$  is finite with  $[EK : E] \leq [K : F]$ .
- Conclude if  $E/F$  and  $K/F$  are both finite then  $EK/F$  is finite with  $[EK : F] \leq [E : F][K : F]$ .
- Prove if  $E/F$  and  $K/F$  are both finite and  $\text{gcd}([E : F], [K : F]) = 1$ , then  $[EK : F] = [E : F][K : F]$ .
- Prove if  $E/F$  and  $K/F$  are both finite normal (resp. finite separable) then  $EK/F$  is also normal (resp. separable).
- Prove if  $K/F$  is finite Galois then  $EK/E$  and  $K/E \cap K$  are both finite Galois, and that we have an isomorphism  $\text{Aut}_E(EK) \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{E \cap K}(K)$  via restriction.
- Suppose  $E/F$  and  $K/F$  are both finite Galois, as then is  $EK/F$ . Show we have an injective homomorphism  $\text{Aut}_F(EK) \rightarrow \text{Aut}_F(E) \times \text{Aut}_F(K)$  sending  $\sigma \mapsto (\sigma|_E, \sigma|_K)$ . Prove if  $E \cap K = F$  then this map is an isomorphism.

#### 5.2. Solvability by radicals.

- Prove that  $f(x) = 2x^5 - 10x + 5$  is not solvable by radicals over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
- Prove that every polynomial of degree at most 4 over a characteristic zero field is solvable by radicals.

5.3. **Discriminant.** Suppose  $F$  is a field of characteristic 0. For  $f \in F[x]$ , suppose  $E$  is a splitting field of  $f$  and  $\alpha_i \in E$  are such that

$$f(x) = \text{ld}(f)(x - \alpha_1) \cdots (x - \alpha_n).$$

Let  $\Delta_f := \prod_{i < j} (\alpha_i - \alpha_j)$ . The discriminant  $D_f$  of  $f$  is  $D_f := \Delta^2$ .

1. Prove that  $D_f \in F$ .
2. Prove that  $\Delta_f \in F$  if and only if  $\mathcal{G}_{f,F}$  is a subgroup of the alternating group.

## 6. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 6

## 6.1. Solvability by radicals.

1. Prove that  $f(x) = 2x^5 - 10x + 5$  is not solvable by radicals over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
2. Prove that every polynomial of degree at most 4 over a characteristic zero field is solvable by radicals.

**6.2. Discriminant.** Suppose  $F$  is a field of characteristic 0. For  $f \in F[x]$ , suppose  $E$  is a splitting field of  $f$  and  $\alpha_i \in E$  are such that

$$f(x) = \text{ld}(f)(x - \alpha_1) \cdots (x - \alpha_n).$$

Let  $\Delta_f := \prod_{i < j} (\alpha_i - \alpha_j)$ . The discriminant  $D_f$  of  $f$  is  $D_f := \Delta_f^2$ .

1. Prove that  $D_f \in F$ .
2. Prove that  $\Delta_f \in F$  if and only if  $\mathcal{G}_{f,F}$  is a subgroup of the alternating group.
3. Find  $D_f$  where  $f(x) = x^3 - px + q$ .

## 6.3. Some Galois groups.

1. Find the Galois group  $\mathcal{G}_{f,\mathbb{Q}}$  where  $f(x) = x^3 - 4x + 2$ . (Hint: use discriminant.)
2. Prove that  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}]/\mathbb{Q}$  is a Galois extension and  $\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}]) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ .
3. Prove that there is a Galois extension  $F/\mathbb{Q}$  such that  $\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}}(F) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  where  $p$  is a prime.

## 7. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 6

Recall:

**7.1. Discriminant.** Suppose  $F$  is a field of characteristic 0. For  $f \in F[x]$ , suppose  $E$  is a splitting field of  $f$  and  $\alpha_i \in E$  are such that

$$f(x) = \text{ld}(f)(x - \alpha_1) \cdots (x - \alpha_n).$$

Let  $\Delta_f := \prod_{i < j} (\alpha_i - \alpha_j)$ . The discriminant  $D_f$  of  $f$  is  $D_f := \Delta_f^2$ .

1. Prove that  $D_f \in F$ .
2. Prove that  $\Delta_f \in F$  if and only if  $\mathcal{G}_{f,F}$  is a subgroup of the alternating group.
3. Find  $D_f$  where  $f(x) = x^3 - px + q$ . (Answer is  $4p^3 - 27q^2$ .)

## 7.2. Some Galois groups.

1. Find the Galois group  $\mathcal{G}_{f,\mathbb{Q}}$  where  $f(x) = x^3 - 4x + 2$ . (Hint: use discriminant.)
2. Prove that  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}]/\mathbb{Q}$  is a Galois extension and  $\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}]) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ .
3. Prove that there is a Galois extension  $F/\mathbb{Q}$  such that  $\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}}(F) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  where  $p$  is a prime.
4. Prove that  $x^p - 4x + 2$  is not solvable by radicals over  $\mathbb{Q}$  if  $p$  is a prime more than 3.

## 8. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 8

1. Suppose  $E/F$  be a finite extension and  $\bar{F}$  is an algebraic closure of  $F$ . Prove that  $[E : F]_s$  equals the number of distinct  $F$ -embeddings of  $E$  into  $\bar{F}$ .
2. Suppose  $E/F$  be a finite separable extension and  $\bar{F}$  is an algebraic closure of  $F$ . For  $\alpha \in E$  define

$$N_{E/F}(\alpha) := \prod_{\sigma \in \text{Embed}_F(E, \bar{F})} \sigma(\alpha).$$

- (a) Prove when  $E/F$  is Galois this agrees with the definition of  $N_{E/F}$  given in class.
  - (b) Prove one still has  $N_{E/F}(\alpha) \in F$  for all  $\alpha \in E$ .
  - (c) Prove that  $N_{E/F} : E^\times \rightarrow F^\times$  is a group homomorphism.
  - (d) Prove if  $K \in \text{Int}(E/F)$  one has  $N_{K/F} \circ N_{E/K} = N_{E/F}$ .
3. Let  $A$  be a commutative unital ring. Suppose  $S \subseteq A$  is multiplicatively close; that means  $1 \in S$  and  $s_1 s_2 \in S$  for every  $s_1, s_2 \in S$ . Suppose  $I_0 \trianglelefteq A$  and  $I_0 \cap S = \emptyset$ .
    - (a) Let

$$\Sigma_{I_0, S} := \{I \trianglelefteq A \mid I_0 \subseteq I, I \cap S = \emptyset\}.$$

Prove that  $\Sigma$  has a maximal element with respect to inclusion.

- (b) Suppose  $P$  is a maximal element of  $\Sigma_{I_0, S}$ . Prove that  $P$  is a prime ideal.
4. Let  $A$  be a commutative unital ring. Prove that the set of nilpotent elements of  $A$  is precisely the intersection of all prime ideals of  $A$ . [Hint: if  $a \in A$  is not nilpotent, consider  $S_a := \{1, a, a^2, \dots\}$  and the previous problem.]

## 9. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 9

## 9.1. Separable extensions and embeddings.

1. Suppose  $E/F$  be a finite extension and  $\bar{F}$  is an algebraic closure of  $F$ . Prove that  $[E : F]_s$  equals the number of distinct  $F$ -embeddings of  $E$  into  $\bar{F}$ . (This part we discussed in length in the previous session.)
2. Suppose  $E/F$  be a finite separable extension and  $\bar{F}$  is an algebraic closure of  $F$ . For  $\alpha \in E$  define

$$N_{E/F}(\alpha) := \prod_{\sigma \in \text{Embed}_F(E, \bar{F})} \sigma(\alpha).$$

- (a) Prove when  $E/F$  is Galois this agrees with the definition of  $N_{E/F}$  given in class.
  - (b) Prove one still has  $N_{E/F}(\alpha) \in F$  for all  $\alpha \in E$ .
  - (c) Prove that  $N_{E/F} : E^\times \rightarrow F^\times$  is a group homomorphism.
  - (d) Prove if  $K \in \text{Int}(E/F)$  one has  $N_{K/F} \circ N_{E/K} = N_{E/F}$ .
3. Let  $A$  be a commutative unital ring. Suppose  $S \subseteq A$  is multiplicatively close; that means  $1 \in S$  and  $s_1 s_2 \in S$  for every  $s_1, s_2 \in S$ . Suppose  $I_0 \trianglelefteq A$  and  $I_0 \cap S = \emptyset$ .
    - (a) Let

$$\Sigma_{I_0, S} := \{I \trianglelefteq A \mid I_0 \subseteq I, I \cap S = \emptyset\}.$$

Prove that  $\Sigma$  has a maximal element with respect to inclusion.

- (b) Suppose  $P$  is a maximal element of  $\Sigma_{I_0, S}$ . Prove that  $P$  is a prime ideal.
4. Let  $A$  be a commutative unital ring. Prove that the set of nilpotent elements of  $A$  is precisely the intersection of all prime ideals of  $A$ . [Hint: if  $a \in A$  is not nilpotent, consider  $S_a := \{1, a, a^2, \dots\}$  and the previous problem.]

## 10. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 10

### 10.1. Separable extensions and embeddings.

1. Suppose  $\bar{F}$  is an algebraic closure of  $F$  and  $E \in \text{Int}(\bar{F}/F)$  is a separable extension of  $F$ . Prove if  $K \in \text{Int}(E/F)$  one has  $N_{K/F} \circ N_{E/K} = N_{E/F}$ .

## 11. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 11

**11.1. Gauss sum, cyclotomic extensions, and quadratic reciprocity.** Suppose  $p$  is an odd prime and  $\zeta_p := e^{\frac{2\pi i}{p}}$ .

- (a) Prove that there is a surjective group homomorphism  $\chi_0 : \mathbb{Z}_p^\times \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$ . Show that  $\chi_0(a) = 1$  is  $a = b^2$  for some  $b \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$  and  $\chi_0(a) = -1$  if there is no  $b \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$  such that  $a = b^2$ . We often use Legendre symbol and write  $\chi(a) = \left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$ .
- (b) Let  $g_p := \sum_{a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times} \chi(a) \zeta_p^a$ . For  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$ , let  $\theta_a \in \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{Q}[\zeta_p])$  be such that  $\theta_a(\zeta_p) = \zeta_p^a$ . Prove that for every  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$ ,  $\theta_a(g_p) = \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) g_p$ .
- (c) Let  $K := \text{Fix}(\{\theta_a \mid a \in \ker \chi\})$ . Prove that  $K$  is the unique quadratic extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  in  $\text{Int}(\mathbb{Q}[\zeta_p]/\mathbb{Q})$  and  $K = \mathbb{Q}[g_p]$ .
- (d) Prove that  $g_p = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}_p} \zeta_p^{i^2}$ .
- (e) Use  $\sum_{a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times} \theta_a(g_p) \theta_{-a}(g_p)$  to prove that  $g_p^2 = \left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) p$ . (Notice that  $\sum_{a \in \mathbb{Z}_p} \zeta_p^{ia} = [i=0]p$  where  $[i=0]$  is 1 if  $i=0$  and 0 if  $i \neq 0$ .)
- (f) Suppose  $q$  is an odd prime. Use the fact that  $\mathbb{Z}_q^\times$  is cyclic to prove that for every  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $\gcd(a, q) = 1$ , we have that  $a^{\frac{q-1}{2}} = \left(\frac{a}{q}\right)$  modulo  $q$ .
- (g) Prove that  $g_p^{q-1}$  is equal to  $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right)^{\frac{q-1}{2}} p^{\frac{q-1}{2}}$  in the quotient ring  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]/\langle q \rangle$ ; and so  $g_p^{q-1} = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \cdot \frac{q-1}{2}} \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)$  modulo  $q$ . In particular,  $g_p$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]/\langle q \rangle$  is a unit and  $g_p^q = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \cdot \frac{q-1}{2}} \left(\frac{p}{q}\right) g_p$  modulo  $q$ .
- (h) Use the fact that  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]/\langle q \rangle$  has characteristic  $q$  to show  $g_p^q = \theta_q(g_p)$  modulo  $q$ .
- (i) (Quadratic reciprocity) Prove that  $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \left(\frac{q}{p}\right) = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \cdot \frac{q-1}{2}}$ .
- (j) (Very special case of Kronecker-Weber theorem) Suppose  $F \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  is a quadratic extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Prove that there is a positive integer  $n$  such that  $F \subseteq \mathbb{Q}[\zeta_n]$ .

## 12. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 12

**12.1. Gauss sum, cyclotomic extensions, and quadratic reciprocity.** Suppose  $p$  is an odd prime and  $\zeta_p := e^{\frac{2\pi i}{p}}$ . (we have already discussed the first 4 parts and part (f).)

- (a) Prove that there is a surjective group homomorphism  $\chi_0 : \mathbb{Z}_p^\times \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$ . Show that  $\chi_0(a) = 1$  is  $a = b^2$  for some  $b \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$  and  $\chi_0(a) = -1$  if there is no  $b \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$  such that  $a = b^2$ . We often use Legendre symbol and write  $\chi(a) = \left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$ .
- (b) Let  $g_p := \sum_{a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times} \chi(a) \zeta_p^a$ . For  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$ , let  $\theta_a \in \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{Q}[\zeta_p])$  be such that  $\theta_a(\zeta_p) = \zeta_p^a$ . Prove that for every  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$ ,  $\theta_a(g_p) = \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) g_p$ .
- (c) Let  $K := \text{Fix}(\{\theta_a \mid a \in \ker \chi\})$ . Prove that  $K$  is the unique quadratic extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  in  $\text{Int}(\mathbb{Q}[\zeta_p]/\mathbb{Q})$  and  $K = \mathbb{Q}[g_p]$ .
- (d) Prove that  $g_p = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}_p} \zeta_p^{i^2}$ .
- (e) Use  $\sum_{a \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times} \theta_a(g_p) \theta_{-a}(g_p)$  to prove that  $g_p^2 = \left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) p$ . (Notice that  $\sum_{a \in \mathbb{Z}_p} \zeta_p^{ia} = [i=0]p$  where  $[i=0]$  is 1 if  $i=0$  and 0 if  $i \neq 0$ .)
- (f) Suppose  $q$  is an odd prime. Use the fact that  $\mathbb{Z}_q^\times$  is cyclic to prove that for every  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $\gcd(a, q) = 1$ , we have that  $a^{\frac{q-1}{2}} = \left(\frac{a}{q}\right)$  modulo  $q$ .

- (g) Prove that  $g_p^{q-1}$  is equal to  $(\frac{-1}{p})^{\frac{q-1}{2}} p^{\frac{q-1}{2}}$  in the quotient ring  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]/\langle q \rangle$ ; and so  $g_p^{q-1} = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \cdot \frac{q-1}{2}} (\frac{p}{q})$  modulo  $q$ . In particular,  $g_p$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]/\langle q \rangle$  is a unit and  $g_p^q = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \cdot \frac{q-1}{2}} (\frac{p}{q}) g_p$  modulo  $q$ .
- (h) Use the fact that  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p]/\langle q \rangle$  has characteristic  $q$  to show  $g_p^q = \theta_q(g_p)$  modulo  $q$ .
- (i) (Quadratic reciprocity) Prove that  $(\frac{p}{q})(\frac{q}{p}) = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \cdot \frac{q-1}{2}}$ .
- (j) (Very special case of Kronecker-Weber theorem) Suppose  $F \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  is a quadratic extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Prove that there is a positive integer  $n$  such that  $F \subseteq \mathbb{Q}[\zeta_n]$ .

## 13. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 13

## 13.1. Gauss sum, cyclotomic extensions, and quadratic reciprocity.

1. (Very special case of Kronecker-Weber theorem) Suppose  $F \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  is a quadratic extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Prove that there is a positive integer  $n$  such that  $F \subseteq \mathbb{Q}[\zeta_n]$ .

13.2. **Determinant.** For this part, we go over some of the HW assignments for week 8 and use them for the following problems.

1. Suppose  $R$  is a unital commutative ring. Prove that  $X \in \text{GL}_n(R)$  (that means  $X \in M_n(R)$  is a unit) if and only if  $\det(X) \in R^\times$ .
2. Suppose  $R$  is a ring with only one maximal ideal  $M$ . Suppose  $f : R^n \rightarrow R^n$  is a surjective  $R$ -module homomorphism and  $f(\mathbf{e}_j) = \sum_{i=1}^n f_{ij} \mathbf{e}_i$ . Prove that  $[f_{ij}] \in \text{GL}_n(R)$ . Deduce that  $f$  is an isomorphism. (Recall that  $R^\times = R \setminus M$ .)
3. Suppose  $R$  is a unital commutative ring,  $A \in M_n(R)$ , and  $A = [a_{ij}]$ .

(a) Consider the following scalar product  $R[x] \times R^n \rightarrow R^n$ ,

$$\left( \sum_{s=0}^m c_s x^s \right) \cdot v := \sum_{s=0}^m c_s (A)^s v,$$

where  $A$  is the transpose of  $A$ . Convince yourself that  $V := R^n$  is an  $R[x]$ -module with respect to the above scalar multiplication. Notice that

$$x \cdot \mathbf{e}_j = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} \mathbf{e}_i.$$

Try to understand the following equation:

$$(1) \quad \begin{pmatrix} x - a_{11} & -a_{21} & \cdots & -a_{n1} \\ -a_{12} & x - a_{22} & \cdots & -a_{n2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -a_{1n} & -a_{2n} & \cdots & x - a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{e}_1 \\ \mathbf{e}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{e}_n \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

- (b) Use the previous part and deduce that

$$\text{adj}(xI - A^T) \cdot ((xI - A^T) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{e}_1 \\ \mathbf{e}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{e}_n \end{pmatrix}) = 0,$$

where  $A^T$  is the transpose  $A$ .

- (c) Prove that  $\det(xI - A^T) \cdot \mathbf{e}_i = 0$  for every  $i$ .
- (d) Prove that  $f(A^T) = 0$  where  $f(x) := \det(xI - A)$ , and deduce that  $f(A) = 0$  as well.

## 14. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 14

**14.1. Determinant.** A few remarks on the Cayley-Hamilton theorem based on the questions and discussions with some of the students during the previous session:

Suppose  $R$  is a unital commutative ring and  $A \in M_n(R)$ . Let  $f_A(x) := \det(xI - A) \in R[x]$  be the characteristic polynomial of  $A$ . In the lecture using a rational canonical form of  $A$  and in the previous Discussion and Problem session using an  $R[x]$ -module structure of  $R^n$  which comes out of multiplication by  $A$  we proved the Cayley-Hamilton theorem which states that  $f_A(A) = 0$ .

Here is one way of understanding this equation: let  $S$  be the subring of  $M_n(R)$  which is generated by  $R$  and the matrix  $A$ . This means  $S$  is the image of the evaluation map  $\phi_A : R[x] \rightarrow M_n(R)$ . This ring is denoted by  $R[A]$ . Notice that  $S := R[A]$  is a unital commutative ring which has  $R$  as a subring. Suppose  $A = [a_{ij}] \in M_n(R)$  and consider the following matrix in  $M_n(S)$ :

$$B := \begin{pmatrix} A - a_{11} & -a_{12} & \cdots & -a_{1n} \\ -a_{21} & A - a_{22} & \cdots & -a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -a_{n1} & -a_{n2} & \cdots & A - a_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$

The Cayley-Hamilton theorem states that  $\det B = 0$ . Notice that determinant of the above matrix and its transpose are the same, it is the same as what we have in (1) evaluated at  $x = A$ .

We can view  $B$  as an  $n^2$ -by- $n^2$  matrix with entries in  $R$ . In this case, we are having diagonal blocks of  $A$  subtracting by a block matrix where the  $(i, j)$ -block is a scalar matrix given by  $a_{ij}$ . Starting with two square matrices  $X := [x_{ij}] \in M_n(R)$  and  $Y := [y_{ij}] \in M_m(R)$ , we can create a new one in  $M_{nm}(R)$  using  $X$  as a block and multiplying it by entries of  $Y$ :

$$X \otimes Y := \begin{pmatrix} y_{11}X & \cdots & y_{1n}X \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_{n1}X & \cdots & y_{nn}X \end{pmatrix}.$$

With this notation,  $B = A \otimes I - I \otimes A$ . This does not quite help us get an easier proof of the Cayley-Hamilton theorem, but it might give us more insight on the involved subtleties.

**14.2. Module theory.**

1. Suppose  $R$  is a unital commutative ring and  $M$  is an  $R$ -module. Let

$$\text{Ann}_R(M) := \{r \in R \mid \forall m \in M, r \cdot m = 0\}.$$

- (a) Prove that  $\text{Ann}_R(M)$  is an ideal of  $R$ .
  - (b) Let  $(a + \text{Ann}(M)) \cdot m := a \cdot m$  for  $a \in R$  and  $m \in M$ . Prove that this is a well-defined operator and  $M$  is an  $(R/\text{Ann}(M))$ -module with respect to this scalar multiplication.
  - (c) We say  $M$  is a *faithful*  $R$ -module if  $\text{Ann}_R(M) = 0$ . Prove that  $M$  is a faithful  $R/\text{Ann}_R(M)$ -module.
2. Suppose  $R$  is a unital commutative ring and  $M$  is an  $R$ -module which is generated by  $m_1, \dots, m_n$ .
    - (a) Suppose  $J$  is an ideal of  $R$  and  $JM = M$  where

$$JM := \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m r_i x_i \mid \forall r_i \in J, x_i \in M, m \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \right\}.$$

Prove that there is  $A := [a_{ij}] \in M_n(J)$  such that

$$m_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} \cdot m_j,$$

and try to understand the following equation:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 - a_{11} & -a_{12} & \cdots & -a_{1n} \\ -a_{21} & 1 - a_{22} & \cdots & -a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -a_{n1} & -a_{n2} & \cdots & 1 - a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} m_1 \\ m_2 \\ \vdots \\ m_n \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

- (b) Prove that  $\det(I - A) \in \text{Ann}_R(M)$  and  $\det(I - A) = 1 + a$  for some  $a \in J$ .
- (c) (Nakayama's lemma) Suppose  $M$  is a faithful finitely generated  $R$ -module,  $J$  is an ideal of  $R$ , and  $JM = M$ . Prove that  $J = R$ .
- (d) Suppose  $M$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module and for every maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$  of  $R$ ,  $\mathfrak{m}M = M$ . Prove that  $M = 0$ .
3. Suppose  $R$  has only one maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$ , and  $M$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module.
- (a) Prove that  $M/\mathfrak{m}M$  is a finite dimensional vector space over  $R/\mathfrak{m}$  with respect to the following scalar multiplication  $(r + \mathfrak{m}) \cdot (m + \mathfrak{m}M) := r \cdot m + \mathfrak{m}M$ .
- (b) Prove that the minimum number of elements needed to generate  $M$  is equal to  $\dim_{R/\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{m}M)$ .

## 15. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 15

### 15.1. Module theory.

1. Suppose  $R$  is a unital commutative ring and  $M$  is an  $R$ -module which is generated by  $m_1, \dots, m_n$ .
- (a) Suppose  $J$  is an ideal of  $R$  and  $JM = M$  where

$$JM := \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m r_i x_i \mid \forall r_i \in J, x_i \in M, m \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \right\}.$$

Prove that there is  $A := [a_{ij}] \in M_n(J)$  such that

$$m_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} \cdot m_j,$$

and try to understand the following equation:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 - a_{11} & -a_{12} & \cdots & -a_{1n} \\ -a_{21} & 1 - a_{22} & \cdots & -a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -a_{n1} & -a_{n2} & \cdots & 1 - a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} m_1 \\ m_2 \\ \vdots \\ m_n \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

- (b) Prove that  $\det(I - A) \in \text{Ann}_R(M)$  and  $\det(I - A) = 1 + a$  for some  $a \in J$ .
- (c) (Nakayama's lemma) Suppose  $M$  is a faithful finitely generated  $R$ -module,  $J$  is an ideal of  $R$ , and  $JM = M$ . Prove that  $J = R$ .
- (d) Suppose  $M$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module and for every maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$  of  $R$ ,  $\mathfrak{m}M = M$ . Prove that  $M = 0$ .
2. Suppose  $R$  has only one maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$ , and  $M$  is a finitely generated  $R$ -module.
- (a) Prove that  $M/\mathfrak{m}M$  is a finite dimensional vector space over  $R/\mathfrak{m}$  with respect to the following scalar multiplication  $(r + \mathfrak{m}) \cdot (m + \mathfrak{m}M) := r \cdot m + \mathfrak{m}M$ .
- (b) Prove that the minimum number of elements needed to generate  $M$  is equal to  $\dim_{R/\mathfrak{m}}(M/\mathfrak{m}M)$ .

### 15.2. misc.

1. (Game of Chomps) Suppose there are cookies on the lattice points in the first quarter of the plane; that means  $\{(m, n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \mid m, n \geq 0\}$ . Two players are playing the following game: at players' turn they choose a square  $(m, n)$  and eat all the cookies that are located at  $(m', n')$  where either  $m' \geq m$

or  $n' \geq n$ . The cookie at  $(0, 0)$  is poisoned, and the player who eats it immediately loses. Prove that any game of Chomp ends after finitely many moves.

2. Suppose  $A$  is a unital commutative ring and  $I$  is an ideal of  $A$ . Let

$$\sqrt{I} := \{a \in A \mid a^n \in I \text{ for some positive integer } n\}.$$

- (a) Prove that  $\sqrt{I}$  is an ideal of  $A$ .  
 (b) Prove that  $\sqrt{I}$  is the intersection of all the prime ideals of  $A$  which contain  $I$ .
3. Suppose  $R$  is a unital commutative ring and  $a_{ij} \in M_n(R)$ . Let  $S$  be the subring of  $M_n(R)$  which is generated by  $R$  and  $a_{ij}$ 's. Suppose  $S$  is commutative. Let  $A := [a_{ij}]$  and view it both as an element of  $M_k(S)$  and  $M_{nk}(R)$ . Show that  $\det_R(A) = \det_R(\det_S(A))$ .

## 16. DISCUSSION AND PROBLEM SESSIONS 16

### 16.1. misc.

1. (Game of Chomps) Suppose there are cookies on the lattice points in the first quarter of the plane; that means  $\{(m, n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \mid m, n \geq 0\}$ . Two players are playing the following game: at players' turn they choose a square  $(m, n)$  and eat all the cookies that are located at  $(m', n')$  where  $m' \geq m$  and  $n' \geq n$ . The cookie at  $(0, 0)$  is poisoned, and the player who eats it immediately loses. Prove that any game of Chomp ends after finitely many moves.
2. Suppose  $A$  is a unital commutative ring and  $I$  is an ideal of  $A$ . Let

$$\sqrt{I} := \{a \in A \mid a^n \in I \text{ for some positive integer } n\}.$$

- (a) Prove that  $\sqrt{I}$  is an ideal of  $A$ .  
 (b) Prove that  $\sqrt{I}$  is the intersection of all the prime ideals of  $A$  which contain  $I$ .
3. Suppose  $R$  is a unital commutative ring and  $a_{ij} \in M_n(R)$ . Let  $S$  be the subring of  $M_n(R)$  which is generated by  $R$  and  $a_{ij}$ 's. Suppose  $S$  is commutative. Let  $A := [a_{ij}]$  and view it both as an element of  $M_k(S)$  and  $M_{nk}(R)$ . Show that  $\det_R(A) = \det_R(\det_S(A))$ .
4. Suppose  $D$  is an integral domain and  $f, g \in D[x] \setminus D$ . Then the resultant  $r(f, g) = 0$  if and only if they have a common divisor of positive degree.

### 16.2. Hilbert's Nullstellensatz. State various forms of Hilbert's Nullstellensatz.