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Example $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R}) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$.

Theorem Let $p(x) \in F[x]$; $\deg p(x) = n$, then $\text{Gal}(E/F) \cong$ a subgroup of S_n .

Example If $\alpha \in \{e^{\frac{2\pi i}{5}}, e^{\frac{4\pi i}{5}}, e^{\frac{6\pi i}{5}}, e^{\frac{8\pi i}{5}}\}$, then $\text{Aut}(E) = \{\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \varphi_3, \varphi_4\}$. Is there a bigger field that φ_4 fixes?

Definition Fixed Field

Proposition E^S is a subfield of E .

Proposition $S \subseteq T \Rightarrow E^T \subseteq E^S$.

Example $S = \{\varphi_4\}$, $E^S = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)$, $H = \{\varphi_1, \varphi_4\}$, $E^H = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)$.

Theorem If $S \subseteq \text{Aut}(E)$ and $|S| = n$, then $[E:E^S] \geq n$.

Recall $\text{Gal}(E/F) \leq \text{Aut}(E)$.

Recall (*) Let $p(x) = x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$, and

$$X = \{\alpha | p(\alpha) = 0\} = \{e^{\frac{2\pi i}{5}}, e^{\frac{4\pi i}{5}}, e^{\frac{6\pi i}{5}}, e^{\frac{8\pi i}{5}}\}.$$

If E is a splitting field for $p(x)$, then $\text{Aut}(E) = \{\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \varphi_3, \varphi_4\}$.

Example (1) $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})/\mathbb{Q}) = \text{Aut}(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$.

(2) $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)/\mathbb{Q}) = \text{Aut}(\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)) \cong \mathbb{Z}_4$.

Example $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R}) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$.

Proof:

Let $a + bi \in \mathbb{C}$ where $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$. Let $\varphi \in \text{Gal}(\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R})$. Then φ fixes \mathbb{R} .

Then $\varphi(a + bi) = a + b\varphi(i)$

Let $f(x) = x^2 + 1 = (x + i)(x - i)$.

Since i is a root of f , then $\varphi(i)$ must be a root of $x^2 + 1$.

So $\varphi(i) = i$ or $\varphi(i) = -i$.

$$\mathbb{C} = \mathbb{R}(i) \cong \mathbb{R}[x]/(x^2 + 1) \cong \mathbb{R}(-i) = \mathbb{C}.$$

So $\varphi \in \text{Gal}(\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R})$ where $\varphi(i) = -i$ is an isomorphism.

Theorem Let $p(x) \in F[x]$ and $\deg p(x) = n$, and let E be a splitting field of $p(x)$ over F , then $\text{Gal}(E/F) \cong$ a subgroup of S_n .

Proof:

Let $X = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ be the roots of $p(x)$. $E = F(a_1, \dots, a_n)$.

So any element of $\text{Gal}(E/F)$ permutes the roots of $p(x)$.

That is, $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(E/F) \Rightarrow \sigma|_X \in S_X$.

Define $\varphi: \text{Gal}(E/F) \rightarrow S_X$ by $\varphi(\sigma) = \sigma|_X$.

φ is a homomorphism. You check.

Let $\sigma, \tau \in \text{Gal}(E/F)$. Let $a \in X$.

$\varphi(\sigma \circ \tau) = \sigma \circ \tau|_X$, where $\sigma \circ \tau|_X : X \rightarrow X$

and $\varphi(\sigma) \circ \varphi(\tau) = \sigma|_X \circ \tau|_X$ where $\sigma|_X : X \rightarrow X$ and $\tau|_X : X \rightarrow X$.

So $\sigma \circ \tau|_X(a) = \sigma(\tau(a)) = (\sigma|_X \circ \tau|_X)(a)$.

Thus $\varphi(\sigma \circ \tau) = \varphi(\sigma) \circ \varphi(\tau)$.

So then $\text{Gal}(E/F)/\ker \varphi \cong \varphi(\text{Gal}(E/F)) \leq S_X$.

Need to show $\ker \varphi = \{\text{Id}_E\}$. Note $\ker \varphi = \{\sigma \in \text{Gal}(E/F) \mid \varphi(\sigma) = \text{Id}_X\}$

Let $\gamma \in \ker \varphi$. Then $\varphi(\gamma) = \text{Id}|_X$.

So γ fixes F and γ fixes $a_i \forall i$.

By Monday's proposition, $\gamma = \text{Id}_E$. (as $E = F(a_1, \dots, a_n)$).

Thus $\ker \varphi = \{\text{Id}_E\}$.

So $\text{Gal}(E/F)/\ker \varphi \cong \varphi(\text{Gal}(E/F)) \leq S_X \cong S_n$ (as $|X| = n$).

Example For E referenced in Recall (*), $\text{Aut}(E) = \{\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \varphi_3, \varphi_4\}$.

$$\begin{array}{ll} & S_4 \\ \varphi_1(\alpha) = \alpha & (1) \\ \varphi_2(\alpha) = \alpha^2 & (1243) \\ \varphi_3(\alpha) = \alpha^3 & (1342) \\ \varphi_4(\alpha) = \alpha^4 & (14)(23) \end{array}$$

This is a subgroup of S_4 .

New Section Fixed Fields

Example For $\text{Aut}(E)$ reference in Recall (*), is there a bigger field that φ_4 fixes?
Yes.

Proof:

We know $\varphi_4(\alpha) = \alpha^4$; $\varphi_4(\alpha^2) = \alpha^3$; $\varphi_4(\alpha^3) = \alpha^2$; $\varphi_4(\alpha^4) = \alpha$.

We also have $\varphi_4(\alpha + \alpha^4) = \alpha^4 + \alpha$, and $\varphi_4(\alpha^2 + \alpha^3) = \alpha^3 + \alpha^2$.

Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)$.

Then $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$.

Since φ_4 fixes \mathbb{Q} and φ_4 fixes $\alpha + \alpha^4$, then φ_4 fixes K .

And since $\alpha + \alpha^4 = e^{\frac{2n\pi i}{5}} + e^{\frac{8n\pi i}{5}} = e^{\frac{2n\pi i}{5}} + e^{\left(2\pi - \frac{2\pi}{5}\right)ni} = \alpha + \bar{\alpha} = 2\cos^{2\pi/5} \notin \mathbb{Q}$,
then $\mathbb{Q} \subsetneq \mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)$.

Is there a bigger field than K that φ_4 fixes? No.

Proof:

Suppose $\exists L$, a field fixed by φ_4 such that $K \subsetneq L \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$.

We know $4 = [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha):\mathbb{Q}] = [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha):\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)] [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4):\mathbb{Q}]$.

So then $4 = [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha):\mathbb{Q}] = [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha):L] [L:\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)] [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4):\mathbb{Q}]$.

Since $\alpha + \alpha^4 \notin \mathbb{Q}$, then $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4):\mathbb{Q}] \neq 1$, hence $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4):\mathbb{Q}] > 1$.

And since $K \subsetneq L$, then $[L:\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)] \neq 1$, hence $[L:\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)] > 1$.

Thus, $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha):L] = 1$, hence $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) = L$.

Thus, φ_4 fixes all elements in $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$.

But this is a contradiction as $\varphi_4(\alpha) \neq \alpha$.

So there is no bigger field than K that φ_4 fixes.

Definition Let S be a subset of $\text{Aut}(E)$.

The *fixed field* of S is the set $E^S = \{x \in E \mid \varphi(x) = x \forall \varphi \in S\}$.

Example If $S = \{\varphi_4\}$, then $E^S = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)$.

Proposition E^S is a subfield of E .

Proof:

Clearly $E^S \subseteq E$. Let $\varphi \in S$.

$0 \in E^S$ and $1 \in E^S$ as $\varphi(0) = 0$ and $\varphi(1) = 1$ by homomorphism properties, so $E^S \neq \emptyset$.

Let $a, b \in E^S$. Then by homomorphism properties we have

$\varphi(a - b) = \varphi(a) - \varphi(b) = a - b$, $\varphi(ab) = \varphi(a)\varphi(b) = ab$, and $\varphi(a^{-1}) = \varphi(a)^{-1} = a^{-1}$.

Since φ was arbitrary, then $a - b$, ab , and $a^{-1} \in E^S$.

Hence E^S is a subfield of E .

Proposition $S \subseteq T \Rightarrow E^T \subseteq E^S$.

Proof:

Let $a \in E^T$. Let $\sigma \in S$. Since $S \subseteq T$, then $\sigma \in T$. Thus $\sigma(a) = a$.
Hence $a \in E^S$.

Example $S = \{\varphi_4\}$, $E^S = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)$, $H = \{\varphi_1, \varphi_4\}$, $E^H = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)$.
So $S = \{\varphi_4\} \subsetneq \{\varphi_1, \varphi_4\} = H$, and $E^H = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4) = E^S$.

Note $[E:E^S] = [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha):\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)]$.
 $4 = [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha):\mathbb{Q}] = [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha):\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)] [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4):\mathbb{Q}]$.
We know $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha):\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)] \neq 1$ as $\alpha \notin \mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)$ and φ_4 does not fix α ,
but φ_4 fixes everything in $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)$.
And, clearly $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4):\mathbb{Q}] \neq 1$. Thus, $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha):\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^4)] = 2$.

Theorem If $S \subseteq \text{Aut}(E)$ and $|S| = n$, then $[E:E^S] \geq n$.

Proof:

Let $S = \{\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n\} \subseteq \text{Aut}(E)$. Then $|S| = n$.

Suppose $[E:E^S] = r < n$.

Then there is a basis $\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_r\} \subseteq E$ for E over E^S .

Consider the following homogeneous system of equations in E .

$$\sigma_1(\alpha_1)x_1 + \dots + \sigma_n(\alpha_1)x_n = 0$$

$$\sigma_1(\alpha_2)x_1 + \dots + \sigma_n(\alpha_2)x_n = 0$$

\vdots

$$\sigma_1(\alpha_r)x_1 + \dots + \sigma_n(\alpha_r)x_n = 0$$

This is a homogeneous system with r equations and n unknowns.

Since $r < n$, there is a nontrivial solution to this system. Choose a

nontrivial solution $(c_1, \dots, c_k, 0, \dots, 0)$ that has the smallest number, k ,

of nonzero components. By reindexing the α_i 's, we may assume that the nonzero terms come first. Substituting our solution into the

system of equations above gives:

$$\sigma_1(\alpha_1)c_1 + \dots + \sigma_k(\alpha_1)c_k = 0$$

$$\sigma_1(\alpha_2)c_1 + \dots + \sigma_k(\alpha_2)c_k = 0$$

\vdots

$$\sigma_1(\alpha_r)c_1 + \dots + \sigma_k(\alpha_r)c_k = 0$$

Let $\beta \in E$. Then $\beta = b_1\alpha_1 + \dots + b_r\alpha_r$, where $b_i \in E^S$.

Let $\sigma_i \in S$.

Since σ_i fixes elements of E^S , we have

$$\sigma_i(\beta) = \sigma_i(b_1\sigma_i(\alpha_1) + \dots + \sigma_i(b_r)\sigma_i(\alpha_r))$$

$$= b_1\sigma_i(\alpha_1) + \dots + b_r\sigma_i(\alpha_r).$$

And now we multiply the first equation in the previous system by b_1 , the 2nd one by b_2 , and so on, and add the resulting columns.

$$b_1\sigma_1(\alpha_1)c_1 + \dots + b_1\sigma_k(\alpha_1)c_k = 0$$

$$b_2\sigma_1(\alpha_2)c_1 + \dots + b_2\sigma_k(\alpha_2)c_k = 0$$

\vdots

$$b_r\sigma_1(\alpha_r)c_1 + \dots + b_r\sigma_k(\alpha_r)c_k = 0$$

$$\sigma_1(\beta)c_1 + \dots + \sigma_k(\beta)c_k = 0 (**)$$

(Since each column gives a sum of $(b_1\sigma_i(\alpha_1) + \dots + b_r\sigma_i(\alpha_r))c_i$.)

Since β was arbitrary, then $(**)$ holds for each $\beta \in E$.

And note that c_i were chosen so that there is no shorter relation of this form for which $(**)$ holds.

We will now construct a shorter relation than $(**)$.

But, first note, $k \neq 1$. Otherwise, $\sigma_1(\beta) = 0 \forall \beta \in E$, but σ_1 fixes $E^S \subseteq E$.

So $k > 1$. Thus $\sigma_1 \neq \sigma_k$, hence $\exists \gamma \in E$ such that $\sigma_1(\gamma) \neq \sigma_k(\gamma)$.

For arbitrary $\beta \in E$, we have $\beta\gamma \in E$.

$$\text{So } 0 = \sigma_1(\beta\gamma)c_1 + \dots + \sigma_k(\beta\gamma)c_k = \sigma_1(\beta)\sigma_1(\gamma)c_1 + \dots + \sigma_k(\beta)\sigma_k(\gamma)c_k.$$

$$\text{And } \sigma_k(\gamma)(\sigma_1(\beta)c_1 + \dots + \sigma_k(\beta)c_k) - \sigma_1(\beta)\sigma_1(\gamma)c_1 + \dots + \sigma_k(\beta)\sigma_k(\gamma)c_k$$

$$= \sigma_1(\beta)(\sigma_k(\gamma) - \sigma_1(\gamma))c_1 + \sigma_2(\beta)(\sigma_k(\gamma) - \sigma_2(\gamma))c_2 + \dots + \sigma_k(\beta)(\sigma_k(\gamma) - \sigma_k(\gamma))c_k = 0.$$

Notice that the coefficient of c_1 is not 0, but the coefficient of c_k is 0.

So, we can rewrite the preceding equation as

$$\sigma_1(\beta)d_1c_1 + \dots + \sigma_{k-1}(\beta)d_{k-1}c_{k-1} = 0, \text{ where } d_i = \sigma_k(\gamma) - \sigma_i(\gamma) \text{ for each } i.$$

But this is a contradiction as there is no shorter relation of the form $(**)$ which holds.

$\therefore [E:E^S] \geq n$.