

### 1.10 Tutorial 8 MAST30005 Semester I Year 2024: Polynomials and field extensions

1. Show that the following polynomials are irreducible in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ :

$$x^2 - 12, \quad 8x^3 + 4399x^2 - 9x + 2, \quad \text{and} \quad 2x^{10} - 25x^3 + 10x^2 - 30.$$

2. List all monic polynomials of degree  $\leq 2$  in  $\mathbb{F}_3[x]$ . Determine which of these are irreducible.
3. Let  $f(x) = x^3 - 5$ . Show that  $f(x)$  does not factor into three linear polynomials with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt[3]{5}]$ .
4. (a) Find a degree four polynomial  $f(x)$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$  which has  $\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}$  as a root.  
 (b) Find the degree of the field extension  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}]$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . (Possible Hint: Any factor of  $f(x)$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$  is also a factor of  $f(x)$  in  $\mathbb{C}[x]$ , and we can list all these factors)
5. Show that a finite field has order a power of a prime.
6. Show that there are infinitely many irreducible polynomials of any given positive degree in  $\mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

7. Let  $F$  be a field of characteristic  $p$  and let  $q$  be a power of  $p$ . Show that

$$X = \{x \in F \mid x^q = x\} \quad \text{is a subfield of } F.$$

8. Let  $\alpha$  be a complex root of the irreducible polynomial  $x^3 - x + 4$ . Find the inverse of  $\alpha^2 + \alpha + 1$  in  $\mathbb{Q}[\alpha]$  explicitly, in the form  $a + b\alpha + c\alpha^2$ , with  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Q}$ .
9. Let  $F$  be a field, and  $\alpha$  an element that generates a field extension of  $F$  of degree 5. Prove that  $\alpha^2$  generates the same extension.
10. Let  $a$  be a root of the polynomial  $x^3 - x + 1$ . Determine the minimal polynomial for  $a^2 + 1$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
11. (a) Let  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $ad - bc \neq 0$ . Prove that there exists an automorphism  $\sigma$  of  $\mathbb{C}(z)$  with  $\sigma(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$  (these are called Möbius transformations)  
 (b) Determine the relationship between composition of Möbius transformations and matrix multiplication.  
 (c) Show that the automorphisms  $\sigma(t) = it$  and  $\tau(t) = t^{-1}$  of  $\mathbb{C}(t)$  generate a group  $G$  that is isomorphic to the dihedral group  $D_4$ .  
 (d) Let  $u = t^4 + t^{-4}$ . Show that  $u$  is fixed under  $H$ .  
 (e) What is  $[\mathbb{C}(t) : \mathbb{C}(u)]$ ?
12. Let  $F$  be a field and let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  be the roots of a polynomial  $f \in F[x]$  of degree  $n$ . Prove that  $[F[a_1, \dots, a_n] : F] \leq n!$ .
13. Let  $R$  be an integral domain that contains a field  $F$  as a subring and is finite dimensional when viewed as a vector space over  $F$ . Prove that  $R$  is a field.