

10pt **Cf. 14.2.28.** Let  $f \in F[x]$  be an irreducible polynomial of degree  $n$  over a field  $F$ , let  $\alpha$  be a root of  $f$ , and let  $K/F$  be a normal extension. Show that  $f$  splits over  $K$  into a product of irreducible polynomials of the same degree  $d = [K(\alpha) : K]$ . (You may assume that  $f$  is separable and  $K/F$  is finite and separable.)

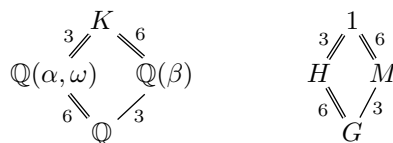
*Solution.* First, assume that  $f$  is separable. Let  $L$  be a splitting field of  $f$  over  $K$ , let  $E/F$  be the Galois closure of  $K/F$ . Let  $f = f_1 \cdots f_m$  be the factorization of  $f$  to irreducible components over  $K$ . Let  $\alpha$  be a root of  $f_1$ , let  $i \in \{2, \dots, m\}$ , and  $\beta$  be a root of  $f_i$ . Since  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are two roots of the same irreducible polynomial  $f$ , there exists an automorphism  $\varphi \in \text{Gal}(E/F)$  such that  $\varphi(\alpha) = \beta$ ; since  $K$  is normal,  $\varphi(K) = K$ , so  $\varphi$  maps  $f_1$  to a polynomial irreducible over  $K$  and having  $\beta$  as a root, that is,  $\varphi(f_1) = f_i$ . This implies that  $\deg f_i = \deg f_1$ , that is, the polynomials  $f_1, \dots, f_m$  have the same degree  $d = n/m = [K(\alpha) : K]$ .

If  $f$  is not separable, then  $f(x) = g(x^{p^k})$  for some separable  $g \in F[x]$  (where  $p = \text{Char } F$ ),  $g$  splits over  $K$  into a product of irreducible polynomials of the same degree, and so does  $f$ .

**Cf. 14.6.20.** Let  $K$  be the splitting field of  $f(x) = (x^3 - 2)(x^3 - 3) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ , let  $G = \text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$ . Let  $\alpha = \sqrt[3]{2}$ ,  $\beta = \sqrt[3]{3}$ ,  $\omega = e^{2\pi i/3}$ .

10pt (a) Consider  $K$  as the composite  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \omega)\mathbb{Q}(\beta)$  and represent  $G$  as a semidirect product of  $S_3$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ . (Don't specify the homomorphism that defines the semidirect product, if you don't want to.)

*Solution.* The splitting field  $K$  of  $f$  is  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \beta, \omega) = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \omega)\mathbb{Q}(\beta)$ . We have the following (noncomplete!) diagrams of subfields of  $K$  and of the corresponding subgroups of  $G$ :



(The degrees of the extensions are obtained from the fact that  $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] = [\mathbb{Q}(\beta) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) \cap \mathbb{Q}(\beta) = \mathbb{Q}$ , and  $\omega$ , being non-real, has degree 2 over each of  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\beta)$ , and  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \beta)$ .)  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \omega)$  is the splitting field of  $x^3 - 2$ , so the extension  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \omega)/\mathbb{Q}$  is normal,  $H$  is normal in  $G$ , and, as we know,  $G/H = \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \omega)/\mathbb{Q}) \cong S_3$ . Since  $|H| = [K : \mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \omega)] = 3$ ,  $H \cong \mathbb{Z}_3$ , and by the theorem about a “free composite of two extensions one of which is normal”,  $G$  is (isomorphic to) a non-direct semidirect product  $\mathbb{Z}_3 \rtimes S_3$ . Since there is only one nontrivial automorphism, of order 2, of  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ , such a semidirect product is unique: if  $S_3 = \langle \sigma, \tau \mid \sigma^3 = \tau^2 = 1, \tau\sigma\tau = \sigma^2 \rangle$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_3 = \langle \varphi \mid \varphi^3 = 1 \rangle$ , then it must be that  $\sigma\varphi\sigma^{-1} = \varphi$  and  $\tau\varphi\tau^{-1} = \varphi^2$ , so

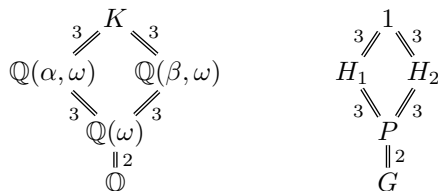
$$G = \langle \varphi, \sigma, \tau : \varphi^3 = \sigma^3 = \tau^2 = 1, \tau\sigma\tau = \sigma^2, \tau\varphi\tau = \varphi^2 \rangle$$

(which can also be seen as  $(\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_2$ ).

Let us, however, describe the elements of  $G$  in terms of their action on  $\alpha, \beta, \omega$ . Since  $|G| = [K : \mathbb{Q}] = 18$ , any choice of the conjugates of these elements defines an element of  $G$ . Put  $\sigma: \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \mapsto \omega\alpha \\ \beta \mapsto \beta \\ \omega \mapsto \omega \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\tau: \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \mapsto \alpha \\ \beta \mapsto \beta^2 \\ \omega \mapsto \omega^2 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\varphi: \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \mapsto \alpha \\ \beta \mapsto \omega\beta \\ \omega \mapsto \omega \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $|\sigma| = |\varphi| = 3$ ,  $|\tau| = 2$ ,  $\sigma\varphi = \varphi\sigma$ . Also  $\tau\sigma\tau: \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \mapsto \omega^2\alpha \\ \beta \mapsto \beta \\ \omega \mapsto \omega \end{pmatrix} = \sigma^2$  and  $\tau\varphi\tau: \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \mapsto \alpha \\ \beta \mapsto \omega^2\beta \\ \omega \mapsto \omega \end{pmatrix} = \varphi^2$ .

10pt (b) Consider  $K$  as the composite  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \omega)\mathbb{Q}(\beta, \omega)$  and represent  $G$  as a “relative direct product”  $S_3 \times_{\mathbb{Z}_2} S_3$ .

*Solution.* This time we use the following diagrams of subfields of  $K$ /subgroups of  $G$ :



The extensions  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \omega)/\mathbb{Q}(\omega)$  and  $\mathbb{Q}(\beta, \omega)/\mathbb{Q}(\omega)$  are normal with both  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \omega)/\mathbb{Q}) \cong S_3$  and  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\beta, \omega)/\mathbb{Q}) \cong S_3$ . We have the homomorphism  $\eta: G \rightarrow \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \omega)/\mathbb{Q}) \times \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\beta, \omega)/\mathbb{Q})$  defined by

$\eta(\varphi) = (\varphi|_{\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \omega)}, \varphi|_{\mathbb{Q}(\beta, \omega)})$ . Since every  $\varphi \in G$  is defined by its action on  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \omega)$  and  $\mathbb{Q}(\beta, \omega)$ ,  $\eta$  is injective. Since  $|G| = 18$  and  $|S_3 \times S_3| = 36$ ,  $\eta$  cannot be surjective; and indeed, if  $(\psi_1, \psi_2) = \eta(\varphi)$ , then  $\psi_1|_{\mathbb{Q}(\omega)} = \varphi|_{\mathbb{Q}(\omega)} = \psi_2|_{\mathbb{Q}(\omega)}$ , so the images of  $\psi_1$  and of  $\psi_2$  in the quotient group  $G/P = \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\omega)/\mathbb{Q}) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$ , where  $P = \text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q}(\omega))$ , coincide. So,  $\eta(G)$  is contained in the subgroup  $G' = \{(\psi_1, \psi_2) : \psi_1 \bmod P = \psi_2 \bmod P\}$  of  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \omega)/\mathbb{Q}) \times \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\beta, \omega)/\mathbb{Q})$ , and since  $|G'| = 18 = |G|$ , we have  $G = G'$ .

5pt (c) Find all the subfields of  $K$  that contain  $N = \mathbb{Q}(\omega)$ .

*Solution.* The subfields of  $K$  containing  $N$  correspond to the subgroups of  $P = \text{Gal}(K/N)$ . We have  $P \cong \mathbb{Z}_3^2$ , this is a 2-dimensional  $\mathbb{F}_3$ -vector space, and its subgroups are its subspaces. In addition to 0 (i.e.1) and itself,  $P$  has  $(9-1)/2 = 4$  1-dimensional subspaces (each subspace is defined by a nonzero element of  $P$  with only two nonzero elements in each subspace), and so, 4 nontrivial subfields. These clearly are  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \omega)$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\beta, \omega)$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha\beta, \omega)$ , and  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha^2\beta, \omega)$  (which is the same as  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha\beta^2, \omega)$ ).

**A1.** Let  $\alpha = \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{5}$ .

5pt (a) Find all the conjugates of  $\alpha$  over  $L = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3})$  and find the minimal polynomial  $m_{\alpha, L}$ .

*Solution.* The conjugates of  $\alpha$  over  $L$  are only  $\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} \pm \sqrt{5}$ , so

$$m_{\alpha, L} = (x - (\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{5}))(x - (\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} - \sqrt{5})) = (x - \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{3})^2 - 5 = x^2 + 2 + 3 - 2\sqrt{2}x - 2\sqrt{3}x + 2\sqrt{6} - 5 \\ = x^2 - 2\sqrt{2}x - 2\sqrt{3}x + 2\sqrt{6}.$$

5pt (b) Find all the conjugates of  $\alpha$  over  $N = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  and find the minimal polynomial  $m_{\alpha, N}$ .

*Solution.* The minimal polynomial  $m_{\alpha, N}$  splits over  $L$  into a product of irreducible polynomials, which are the conjugates over  $N$  of  $m_{\alpha, L}$  and are obtained by applying to  $m_{\alpha, L}$  the automorphisms  $\sqrt{3} \mapsto \pm\sqrt{3}$ ; these are  $x^2 - 2\sqrt{2}x - 2\sqrt{3}x + 2\sqrt{6}$  and  $x^2 - 2\sqrt{2}x + 2\sqrt{3}x - 2\sqrt{6}$ . So,

$$m_{\alpha, N} = (x^2 - 2\sqrt{2}x - 2\sqrt{3}x + 2\sqrt{6})(x^2 - 2\sqrt{2}x - 2\sqrt{3}x + 2\sqrt{6}) = (x^2 - 2\sqrt{2}x)^2 - 3(2x - 2\sqrt{2})^2 \\ = x^4 - 4\sqrt{2}x^3 + 8x^2 - 12x^2 - 24 + 24\sqrt{2}x = x^4 - 4\sqrt{2}x^3 - 4x^2 + 24\sqrt{2}x - 24.$$

5pt (c) Find the minimal polynomial  $m_{\alpha, \mathbb{Q}}$ .

*Solution.* It is the product of the conjugates of  $m_{\alpha, N}$ :

$$m_{\alpha, \mathbb{Q}} = (x^4 - 4\sqrt{2}x^3 - 4x^2 + 24\sqrt{2}x - 24)(x^4 + 4\sqrt{2}x^3 - 4x^2 - 24\sqrt{2}x - 24) = (x^4 - 4x^2 - 24)^2 - 2(4x^3 - 24x)^2 \\ = x^8 + 16x^4 + 24^2 - 8x^6 - 48x^4 + 8 \cdot 24x^2 - 32x^6 - 2 \cdot 24^2x^2 + 16 \cdot 24x^4 = x^8 - 40x^6 + 352x^4 - 960x^2 + 576.$$

5pt (d) Prove that  $\alpha$  is a primitive element of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}, \sqrt{5})/\mathbb{Q}$ .

*Solution.* Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}, \sqrt{5})$ .  $\deg_{\mathbb{Q}} \alpha = 8 = [K : \mathbb{Q}]$ , so  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ .

10pt **A2.** Let  $K$  be a cubic extension  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{D})$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Obtain the formula for the norm  $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha)$  of the element  $\alpha = a + b\sqrt[3]{D} + c\sqrt[3]{D^2}$ ,  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Q}$ , of  $K$ .

*Solution.* There are different ways to find the norm of  $\alpha$ : by computing the free term of its minimal polynomial, by finding the product of all its conjugates, ... I'll use "the determinant formula":  $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) = \det T$ , where  $T$  is the operator of multiplication by  $\alpha$ . For  $\alpha = a + b\sqrt[3]{D} + c\sqrt[3]{D^2}$  in the basis  $\{1, \sqrt[3]{D}, \sqrt[3]{D^2}\}$  the matrix of  $T$  is  $\begin{pmatrix} a & cD & bD \\ b & a & cD \\ c & b & a \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) = \det T = a^3 + b^3D + c^3D^2 - 3abcD$ .

**A3.** Prove the following:

5pt (a) If  $K/F$  is a  $p$ -extension and  $L/F$  is a subextension of  $K/F$ , then both  $K/L$  and  $L/F$  are  $p$ -extension.

*Solution.* Let  $K/F$  be a subextension of a Galois extension  $E/F$  with  $[E : F] = p^n$ . Then  $L/F$  is also a subextension of  $E/F$ , so is a  $p$ -extension. And  $K/L$  is a subextension of  $E/L$ , where  $E/L$  is also a Galois  $p$ -extension.

5pt (b) If  $L_1/F$  and  $L_2/F$  are  $p$ -subextensions of an extension  $K/F$ , then their composite  $L_1L_2/F$  is a  $p$ -extension.

*Solution.* If  $L_1/F$  and  $L_2/F$  are towers of Galois extensions of degree  $p$ , then  $L_1L_2/F$  is also a tower of Galois extensions whose Galois groups are isomorphic to subgroups of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ , so are either trivial or isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .

5pt (c) *If  $K/L$  and  $L/F$  are  $p$ -extensions, then  $K/F$  is also a  $p$ -extension.*

*Solution.* If  $K/L$  and  $L/F$  are towers of Galois extensions of degree  $p$ , then so is  $K/F$ .

5pt **14.7.12.** *Let  $K$  be a Galois closure of a finite extension  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)/\mathbb{Q}$  and let  $G = \text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$ . For every prime  $p$  dividing  $|G|$ , prove that there exists a subfield  $L$  of  $K$  such that  $[K : L] = p$  and  $K = L(\alpha)$ .*

*Solution.* Let  $G = \text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$ . By Sylow's and Galois's theorems, there exists a subfield  $L'$  of  $K$  such that  $[K : L'] = p$ .  $K$  is generated by the conjugates of  $\alpha$ ; if  $L'$  contained all these conjugates, then we would have  $L' = K$ , so there is a conjugate  $\alpha'$  of  $\alpha$  such that  $\alpha' \notin L'$ . Since  $[K : L']$  is prime, we have  $K = L'(\alpha')$ . Let  $\varphi \in G$  be such that  $\varphi(\alpha') = \alpha$ . Put  $L = \varphi(L')$ . Then  $[K : L] = [K : L'] = p$ , and  $L(\alpha) = \varphi(L'(\alpha')) = K$ .