

1. Suppose  $k \subset K$  is a separable field extension of degree  $n$ .
  - a) Show that  $K \approx k[x]/(f(x))$  for some  $f(x) \in k[x]$  of degree  $n$ .
  - b) Show that  $K \otimes_k K \approx K[y]/(f(y))$  as  $K$ -algebras. [Hint: Identify each side with  $k[x, y]/(f(x), f(y))$ .]
  - c) Deduce that if  $K$  is Galois over  $k$ , then  $f(y)$  splits over  $K$ , and  $K \otimes_k K \approx K^n$  as  $K$ -algebras. [Hint: Use separability and the Chinese Remainder Theorem.]
  - d) Verify (c) explicitly in the case that  $k = \mathbb{Q}$  and  $K = \mathbb{Q}(i)$ .
  - e) If  $K$  is not Galois over  $k$ , is it still necessarily true that  $K \otimes_k K \approx K^n$ ?
2. Let  $R$  be an ordered field (i.e. a field with an ordering " $\leq$ " that satisfies the usual compatibilities with addition and multiplication) whose squares are the non-negative elements. Suppose that the elements of  $R[x]$  satisfy the intermediate value theorem (as functions from  $R$  to  $R$ ). Let  $C = R[x]/(x^2 + 1)$ .
  - a) Show that  $R$  has characteristic 0, and that every odd degree polynomial over  $R$  has a root in  $R$ . Deduce that every non-trivial Galois extension of  $R$  has even degree.
  - b) Show that  $C$  is a field, that every element of  $C$  is a square of an element of  $C$ , and that  $C$  has no field extensions of degree 2. [Hint: Use the quadratic formula.]
  - c) Show that if  $R \subset C \subset L$  are finite field extensions and  $L$  is Galois over  $R$  with group  $G$ , then  $G$  is a 2-group. [Hint: Let  $H \subset G$  be a Sylow 2-subgroup, and let  $K$  be the fixed field of  $H$ .]
  - d) In the situation of (c), show that  $L = C$ . [Hint: If not,  $\text{Gal}(L/C)$  has a subgroup  $E$  of index 2; and considering the extension  $C \subset L^E$  (= fixed field) yields a contradiction.]
  - e) Conclude that  $C$  is algebraically closed. [Hint: If  $C \subset K$  is a non-trivial field extension, let  $L$  be the Galois closure of  $K$  over  $R$ , and apply (d).]
  - f) Deduce in particular that the field  $\mathbb{C}$  of complex numbers is algebraically closed.
3. Let  $p$  be a prime number, and let  $K \subset L$  be a field extension of degree  $p$  that is separable but not Galois. Let  $\tilde{L}$  be the Galois closure of  $L$  over  $K$ . Show that  $\tilde{L}$  does not contain *any* subfield  $M$  which is Galois over  $K$  of degree  $p$ . [Hint: Show that  $\text{Gal}(\tilde{L}/K) \subset S_p$ , and then consider the order of  $\text{Gal}(\tilde{L}/LM)$ .]
4.
  - a) Prove that any polynomial  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  of degree  $< 5$  is solvable by radicals.
  - b) Find an  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}$  whose irreducible polynomial over  $\mathbb{Q}$  has degree 5, and is solvable by radicals.
5.
  - a) Let  $p$  be a prime number, and let  $G$  be a subgroup of  $S_p$ . Suppose that  $G$  contains a transposition and a  $p$ -cycle. Show that  $G = S_p$ .
  - b) Suppose that  $f(x) \in K[x]$  is a separable irreducible polynomial of degree  $p$  (where  $p$  is prime), and let  $G$  be the Galois group of  $f$  over  $K$ . Show that  $G$  is a subgroup of  $S_p$ ; that  $p$  divides the order of  $G$ ; and that  $G$  contains a  $p$ -cycle. [Hint: What is  $[K[x]/(f(x)) : K]$ ?
  - c) Suppose that  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  is irreducible of degree  $p$  (where  $p$  is prime) and that exactly two of its roots do not lie in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Let  $G$  be the Galois group of  $f$ . Show that  $G$  contains a transposition, and deduce that  $G$  is isomorphic to  $S_p$ .
  - d) Deduce that  $3x^5 - 6x - 2$  is not solvable by radicals.
6. For which positive integers  $n$  is it possible, with straightedge and compass, to divide *any* given angle into  $n$  equal parts? Prove your assertion.