

# MATH STUDIES ALGEBRA SPRING 2018: HOMEWORK 9

JC

This homework is due by class time on Monday 23 April. It must be typeset (preferably in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X) and submitted as a PDF file on the Canvas site, with a filename of the form

`andrewID_alg_homeworknumber.pdf`

For each minute that it is late, the grade will be reduced by 10 percent.

- (1) Let  $k = \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ , let  $k[t]$  be the ring of polynomials in one variable  $t$ , and let  $l = k(t)$  be the field of fractions of  $k[t]$ . Let  $f = x^p - t \in l[x]$ .
  - (a) Prove that  $f$  is irreducible in  $l[x]$ .
  - (b) Prove that the splitting field of  $f$  over  $l$  has the form  $l(\alpha)$  where  $\alpha^p = t$ , and describe how  $f$  splits in  $l(\alpha)[x]$ .
  - (c) Prove that  $f$  is not separable.
- (2) Let  $k$  be an extension field of  $l$ , and say that a set  $A \subseteq l$  is *algebraically independent over  $k$*  if for every distinct  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  and every nonzero  $f \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  we have  $f(a_1, \dots, a_n) \neq 0$ .
  - (a) Prove that there is a maximal algebraically independent set  $A \subseteq l$ .
  - (b) Prove that if  $A$  is a maximal algebraically independent subset of  $l$  then every element of  $l$  is algebraic over  $k(A)$ .
  - (c) One can show (using properties from HW8 Q1, similar to proofs in linear algebra) that any two maximal algebraically independent sets have the same size. We define the *transcendence degree of  $l$  over  $k$*  to be the size of a maximal algebraically independent set, and refer to such sets as *transcendence bases for  $l$  over  $k$* . Prove that the transcendence degree of  $\mathbb{R}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is uncountable.
- (3) Prove that if  $l$  is an algebraic extension of  $k$  and every monic irreducible  $f \in k[x]$  has at least one root in  $l$ , then  $l$  is algebraically closed. Such extensions of  $k$  are called *algebraic closures of  $k$* .
- (4) Fill in the details of the following proof that every field  $k$  has an algebraic closure.
  - (a) To every monic irreducible  $f \in k[x]$  associate a variable symbol  $t_f$ , let  $R$  be the ring of polynomials in the variables  $t_f$  with coefficients from  $k$ , and let  $J$  be the ideal of  $R$  generated by all the polynomials of the form  $f(t_f)$ . Then  $J \neq R$ .
  - (b) There is a maximal ideal  $M$  of  $R$  with  $M \supseteq J$ .
  - (c) The field  $l = R/M$  contains an isomorphic copy of  $k$ , given by  $\{a + M : a \in k\}$ .
  - (d) Identifying  $a \in k$  with  $a + M \in l$ ,  $l$  is an algebraic closure of  $k$ .
- (5) Let  $\alpha = 2^{1/3}$  and  $\beta = \exp(2\pi i/3)$ , and let  $E = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \beta)$ . As we saw in class,  $E$  is a splitting field for  $x^3 - 2$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $[E : \mathbb{Q}] = 6$ .
  - (a) Find a basis for  $E$  as a VS over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

- (b) Describe  $\text{Aut}(E/\mathbb{Q})$ .
- (c) For each subgroup  $H$  of  $\text{Aut}(E/\mathbb{Q})$ , compute  $\text{Fix}(H) = \{a \in E : \forall \sigma \in H \sigma(a) = a\}$ .