

## GALOIS THEORY ANSWERS TO CHAPTER 3 EXERCISES

### Exercises 3.1

1. Let  $\tau$  be any automorphism of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ . By Proposition 3.1,  $\tau$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -automorphism.

$$(\tau(\sqrt{2}))^2 = \tau((\sqrt{2})^2) = \tau(2) = 2, \text{ so } \tau(\sqrt{2}) = \pm\sqrt{2}.$$

$\tau$  is determined by its effect on the basis  $\{1, \sqrt{2}\}$  for  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Clearly  $\tau(1) = 1$ , so the two possibilities for  $\tau$  are the identity  $\iota$ , which is certainly an automorphism, and  $\sigma$  which is shown to be an automorphism in Example 3.1.1.

Labelling the zeros of  $t^2 - 2$  as  $\alpha_1 = \sqrt{2}, \alpha_2 = -\sqrt{2}$ , the automorphisms  $\iota$  and  $\sigma$  correspond to the identity (1) and the transposition (1 2).

2. For any  $a, b, x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\phi(ax + by) = -(ax + by) = a(-x) + b(-y) = a\phi(x) + b\phi(y)$ , so  $\phi$  is a linear map of the real vector space  $\mathbb{R}$ .

If  $\phi(x) = \phi(y)$  then  $-x = -y$ , so  $x = y$ . Thus  $\phi$  is injective.

Every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  is  $\phi(-x)$  where  $-x \in \mathbb{R}$ , so  $\phi$  is surjective. Hence  $\phi$  is bijective.

However,  $\phi(xy) = -xy$  but  $\phi(x)\phi(y) = (-x)(-y) = xy$ , so  $\phi$  is not a field automorphism.

3. Let  $x = a + bi, y = c + di$  where  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  
 $\sigma(x + y) = \sigma((a + c) + (b + d)i)$   
 $= (a + c) - (b + d)i = (a - bi) + (c - di) = \sigma(x) + \sigma(y)$   
 and  $\sigma(xy) = \sigma((ac - bd) + (ad + bc)i) = (ac - bd) - (ad + bc)i$   
 $= (a - bi)(c - di) = \sigma(x)\sigma(y)$ . Thus  $\sigma$  is a homomorphism from  $\mathbb{C}$  to  $\mathbb{C}$ .

If  $\sigma(x) = 0$ , i.e.  $a - bi = 0$ , then  $a = b = 0$ , so  $x = 0$ . Thus  $\text{Ker } \sigma = \{0\}$ , so  $\sigma$  is injective. Clearly  $\sigma$  is also surjective and thus it is bijective, i.e.  $\sigma$  is an automorphism of  $\mathbb{C}$ .

4. Any automorphism  $\sigma$  of  $\mathbb{Q}(3^{1/5})$  must map  $3^{1/5}$  to some zero of its minimal polynomial  $t^5 - 3$ , by Proposition 3.3.

As  $3^{1/5}$  is the only real zero, the others are not in  $\mathbb{Q}(3^{1/5})$  so the only possible value of  $\sigma(3^{1/5})$  is  $3^{1/5}$ .

The effect of  $\sigma$  on  $3^{1/5}$  determines its effect on  $\mathbb{Q}(3^{1/5})$ , so  $\sigma$  can only be the identity map.

5. By Proposition 3.3, any automorphism  $\sigma$  of  $\mathbb{Q}(\varepsilon)$  maps  $\varepsilon$  to some zero of its minimal polynomial, which is the cyclotomic polynomial  $\Phi_p$ .

The zeros of  $\Phi_p$  are  $\varepsilon^k$  for  $k = 1, \dots, p - 1$ , so  $\sigma(\varepsilon)$  must be one of these.

### Exercises 3.2

1. By considering the splitting fields, and using Proposition 3.9 in the irreducible cases, the Galois groups are isomorphic to:

(a)  $S_3$ , (b)  $S_2$ , (c)  $\{\iota\}$ . (d)  $S_3$ , (e)  $A_3$ .

Note that in (b) the splitting field is  $\mathbb{Q}(\omega)$ . The Galois group is that of the irreducible quadratic factor  $t^2 + t + 1$ .

In (c) the splitting field is  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and the only  $\mathbb{Q}$ -automorphism of  $\mathbb{Q}$  is the identity.

2. (a) We find  $\mu = t^4 - 10t^2 + 20$ , which has zeros are  $\pm\sqrt{5 \pm \sqrt{5}}$ , i.e.  $\pm\alpha, \pm\beta$ .

$\alpha\beta = \sqrt{20} = 2\sqrt{5} = 2(\alpha^2 - 5)$  so  $\beta = \frac{2(\alpha^2 - 5)}{\alpha}$ . This is obtained by field operations on elements of  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\alpha$ , so it is in  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ .

Then  $-\alpha, -\beta \in \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ , so the splitting field of  $\mu$  is contained in  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ .

No proper subfield of  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  contains  $\alpha$ , so  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  is the splitting field of  $f$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .  $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] = \partial\mu = 4$ .

- (b) The Galois group  $\Gamma(\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q})$  is transitive on the set of zeros of  $f$ , so there is an element  $\sigma$  which maps  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(\alpha)\sigma(\beta) &= \sigma(\alpha\beta) = \sigma(2(\alpha^2 - 5)) = 2(\sigma(\alpha)^2 - 5) = \\ &2(\beta^2 - 5) = -2\sqrt{5} = -\alpha\beta, \text{ so } \sigma(\beta) = \frac{-\alpha\beta}{\sigma(\alpha)} = \frac{-\alpha\beta}{\beta} = \\ &-\alpha. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus } \sigma^2(\alpha) &= \sigma(\beta) = -\alpha, \quad \sigma^3(\alpha) = \sigma(-\alpha) = -\beta, \\ \sigma^4(\alpha) &= \sigma(-\beta) = \alpha. \end{aligned}$$

- (c) Since  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  is a normal, finite extension it is a Galois extension, so the Galois group has order 4. We have found four automorphisms, so there are no more.

$\Gamma(\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}) = \{\iota, \sigma, \sigma^2, \sigma^3\}$  where  $\sigma^4 = \iota$ , so the Galois group is cyclic, isomorphic to  $C_4$ .

3. (a)  $\alpha\beta = 1$  so  $\beta \in \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ . Hence  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  is the splitting field of  $f$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . By Proposition 3.2,  $\sigma(\alpha)$  determines the effect of  $\sigma$  on  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ .

$\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}$  is a Galois extension, so  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{Q}}(f) = \Gamma(\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q})$  has order 4.

Let  $\sigma(\alpha) = \beta$ ; there is such an automorphism by Proposition 3.6.

$$\text{Then } \sigma(\alpha)\sigma(\beta) = \sigma(\alpha\beta) = \sigma(1) = 1,$$

so  $\sigma(\beta) = \frac{1}{\sigma(\alpha)} = \frac{1}{\beta} = \alpha$ .

Let  $\tau(\alpha) = -\alpha$ ; there is such an automorphism by Proposition 3.6. Then  $\sigma\tau(\alpha) = -\beta$ .

We have found automorphisms which map  $\alpha$  to each of its conjugates. Each is self-inverse, so  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{Q}}(f) = \{\iota, \sigma, \tau, \sigma\tau\}$  which is isomorphic to the Klein 4-group  $V$ .

4. (a)  $\sigma(\gamma)$  is a conjugate of  $\gamma$ , i.e. a zero of  $f$ , so  $\sigma(\gamma)$  can be  $\gamma, -\gamma, \delta$  or  $-\delta$ .

$\sigma(i)$  must be a zero of  $t^2 + 1$  (the minimal polynomial of  $i$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ), i.e.  $i$  or  $-i$ .

$\{1, \gamma, \gamma^2, \gamma^3, i, \gamma i, \gamma^2 i, \gamma^3 i\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{Q}(\gamma, i)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . The effect of  $\sigma$  on  $\gamma$  and  $i$  determines its effect on each basis element, hence on all of  $\mathbb{Q}(\gamma, i)$ .

- (b)  $\mathbb{Q}(\gamma, i) : \mathbb{Q}$  is a Galois extension, so by Proposition 3.7  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{Q}}(f)$  has order 8. We have found 8 automorphisms (2 values of  $\sigma(i)$  for each of 4 values of  $\sigma(\gamma)$ ), so these must be all the elements of the Galois group, which is isomorphic to  $D_4$  - see Examples 3.2.2. (i).

### Exercises 3.3

1. (a) The zeros of  $f$  are the three cube roots of  $-2$ , i.e. they are  $-\varepsilon, -\varepsilon\omega, -\varepsilon\omega^2$ .

- (b) As  $\delta(f) \notin \mathbb{Q}$ , the Galois group is isomorphic to  $S_3$ .

The zeros of  $f$  are  $-\varepsilon, \varepsilon\omega, \varepsilon\omega^2$  so the splitting field of  $f$  is  $\mathbb{Q}(\varepsilon, \omega)$ .

If  $\sigma \in G$  then  $\sigma(\varepsilon)$  is a zero of  $t^3 - 2$  (the minimal polynomial of  $\varepsilon$ ) and  $\sigma(\omega)$  is a zero of  $t^2 + t + 1$  (the minimal polynomial of  $\omega$ ). Hence the six  $\mathbb{Q}$ -automorphisms in  $G$  are:

$$\begin{aligned}
\iota : \varepsilon \mapsto \varepsilon, \omega \mapsto \omega, & \quad \sigma : \varepsilon \mapsto \varepsilon\omega, \omega \mapsto \omega, & \quad \sigma^2 : \\
\varepsilon \mapsto \varepsilon\omega^2, \omega \mapsto \omega, & & \\
\tau : \varepsilon \mapsto \varepsilon, \omega \mapsto \omega^2, & \quad \sigma\tau : \varepsilon \mapsto \varepsilon\omega, \omega \mapsto \omega^2, & \quad \sigma^2\tau : \\
\varepsilon \mapsto \varepsilon\omega^2, \omega \mapsto \omega^2. & &
\end{aligned}$$

(c) Subgroup and subfield lattice structures as for Example 3.3.1. The only normal extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  is  $\mathbb{Q}(\omega)$ , corresponding to the normal subgroup  $A_3$ .

(d) Notice that  $t^3 + 3t^2 + 3t + 3 = (t + 1)^3 + 2$ , so if  $x$  is a zero of  $t^3 + 3t^2 + 3t + 3$  then  $x + 1$  is a zero of  $f$ .

Thus the zeros are  $-\varepsilon - 1, -\varepsilon\omega - 1, -\varepsilon\omega^2 - 1$ , the splitting field is  $\mathbb{Q}(\varepsilon, \omega)$  and the Galois group is  $S_3$  as in (b).

2. It is straightforward to show that  $f = t^4 + 1$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , e.g. by showing that it has no rational zeros and no quadratic factors in  $\mathbb{Q}[t]$ .

The zeros of  $f$  are the 4th roots of  $-1$ , which are  $\pm e^{\pi i/4} \pm e^{3\pi i/4}$  (or equivalent). Thus the splitting field of  $f$  is  $\mathbb{Q}(e^{\pi i/4})$ , which has degree 4 over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Let  $\alpha = e^{\pi i/4}$ . There are four automorphisms of  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ . They can be defined by their effect on  $\alpha$ , which must be mapped to a zero of  $f$ :

$$\iota : \alpha \mapsto \alpha, \quad \sigma : \alpha \mapsto -\alpha, \quad \tau : \alpha \mapsto \alpha^3, \quad \sigma\tau : \alpha \mapsto -\alpha^3.$$

These form a group  $G$  isomorphic to the Klein 4-group  $V$ .

The proper subgroups of  $G$  are  $\{\iota, \sigma\}$ ,  $\{\iota, \tau\}$ ,  $\{\iota, \sigma\tau\}$ . These respectively correspond to the fields  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha^2)$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha + \alpha^3)$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha - \alpha^3)$ , or equivalently  $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(i\sqrt{2})$ . All the subgroups are normal in  $G$  and all the subfields are normal extensions of  $\mathbb{Q}$ , being the splitting fields of  $t^2 + 1$ ,  $t^2 - 2$ ,  $t^2 + 2$  respectively. The lattices as in Example 3.3.2.

3. (a) If  $u = t^2$ ,  $f = u^2 - 30u + 25$ , whose zeros for  $u$  are  $\frac{1}{2}(30 \pm \sqrt{800}) = 15 \pm 10\sqrt{2}$ .  
 Now  $\alpha^2 = 5(3 + 2\sqrt{2}) = 15 + 10\sqrt{2}$ , so  $\alpha$  is a zero of  $f$ .  
 The other zeros of  $f$  are  $-\alpha = -\sqrt{5}(\sqrt{2} + 1)$ ,  $\sqrt{5}(\sqrt{2} - 1)$ ,  $-\sqrt{5}(\sqrt{2} - 1)$ .
- (b)  $\alpha\sqrt{5}(\sqrt{2} - 1) = 5(\sqrt{2} - 1)(\sqrt{2} + 1) = 5$ .  
 $\alpha - \frac{5}{\alpha} = 2\sqrt{5}$  so  $\sqrt{5} = \frac{1}{2}\left(\alpha - \frac{5}{\alpha}\right)$  is in  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ . Then  
 $\sqrt{2} = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\alpha} + 1 \in \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ , so  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \sqrt{2}) \subset \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ .  
 Clearly  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \sqrt{2})$ , so  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \sqrt{2})$ ,  
 All the zeros of  $f$  are in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \sqrt{2})$ , and the splitting field of  $f$  must contain  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ , so  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \sqrt{2})$  is the splitting field of  $f$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
- (c) The minimal polynomial of  $\sqrt{2}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is  $t^2 - 2$ , so a basis for  $M$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is  $\{1, \sqrt{2}\}$ .  $[M : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$ .  
 The minimal polynomial of  $\sqrt{5}$  over  $M$  is  $t^2 - 5$ , so a basis for  $L$  over  $M$  is  $\{1, \sqrt{5}\}$ .  $[L : M] = 2$ .  
 By the Tower law, a basis for  $L$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is  $\{1, \sqrt{2}, \sqrt{5}, \sqrt{10}\}$  and so  $[L : \mathbb{Q}] = 4$ .
- (d)  $(t^2 - 2)(t^2 - 5) = t^4 - 7t^2 + 10$  also has splitting field  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \sqrt{2})$ .
- (e) Yes. By the methods shown in Chapter 2 we can construct  $\sqrt{5}$  and  $\sqrt{2}$ , then  $\sqrt{2} + 1$ , then the product  $\sqrt{5}(\sqrt{2} + 1)$ .
- (f)  $L : \mathbb{Q}$  is a Galois extension, as  $L$  is the splitting field of  $f$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Hence  $|G| = [L : \mathbb{Q}]$ .
- (g)  $|G| = 4$ . Up to isomorphism the only groups of order 4 are  $C_4$  and  $V$  so, as  $G$  is not cyclic,  $G \cong V$ .

The elements of  $G$  are

$$\begin{aligned} \iota : \sqrt{2} \mapsto \sqrt{2}, \sqrt{5} \mapsto \sqrt{5}, \quad \sigma : \sqrt{2} \mapsto -\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{5} \mapsto \sqrt{5}, \\ \tau : \sqrt{2} \mapsto \sqrt{2}, \sqrt{5} \mapsto -\sqrt{5}, \quad \sigma\tau : \sqrt{2} \mapsto -\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{5} \mapsto -\sqrt{5}. \end{aligned}$$

(h) Lattices as in Example 3.3.2.

There are three intermediate fields  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{10})$ , both normal extensions of  $\mathbb{Q}$  as they are the splitting fields of  $t^2 - 2, t^2 - 5, t^2 - 10$ .

These are respectively the fixed fields of three normal subgroups of  $G$ , all isomorphic to  $S_2$ , namely  $\{\iota, \tau\}, \{\iota, \sigma\}, \{\iota, \sigma\tau\}$ .

4. (a) If  $x^2 - 4x + 6 = 0$ ,  $x = \frac{1}{2}(4 \pm \sqrt{-8}) = 2 \pm \sqrt{-2}$ .

Hence the four zeros of  $f$  are  $\pm\sqrt{2 \pm i\sqrt{2}}$ .

(b)  $\alpha\beta = (\sqrt{2 + i\sqrt{2}})(\sqrt{2 - i\sqrt{2}}) = \sqrt{(2 + i\sqrt{2})(2 - i\sqrt{2})} = \sqrt{6}$ .  
 $\beta = \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\alpha} \in L = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \sqrt{6})$ .

Also  $-\alpha, -\beta \in L$  so all the zeros of  $f$  are in  $L$ , hence the splitting field of  $f$  is contained in  $L$ .

No proper subfield of  $L$  can contain both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , so  $L$  is the splitting field of  $f$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

(c) Min. poly. of  $\alpha$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is  $f$ , so  $[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}] = 4$ . Min. poly. of  $\sqrt{6}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$  is  $t^2 - 6$ , so  $[L : \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)] = 2$ . Thus by the Tower Law,  $[L : \mathbb{Q}] = 8$ .

(d) We must have  $\sigma(\alpha\beta) = \sigma(\alpha)\sigma(\beta)$ , so  $\sigma(\sqrt{6}) = \beta\sigma(\beta)$ .

Thus  $\sigma(\beta) = -\frac{\sqrt{6}}{\beta} = -\alpha$ .  $\sigma^2(\alpha) = \sigma(\beta) = -\alpha$ ,

$$\sigma^2(\sqrt{6}) = \sqrt{6},$$

$$\sigma^3(\alpha) = \sigma(-\alpha) = -\beta, \quad \sigma^3(\sqrt{6}) = -\sqrt{6},$$

$$\sigma^4(\alpha) = \sigma(-\beta) = \alpha, \quad \sigma^4(\sqrt{6}) = \sqrt{6}.$$

(e)  $\sigma^4 = \iota$  so  $\{\iota, \sigma, \sigma^2, \sigma^3\} \cong C_4$ , so it is a cyclic subgroup of the Galois group.  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{Q}}(f)$  has order 8 so it is isomorphic to  $D_4$ .

(f)  $H = \Gamma(L : M)$  is a normal subgroup of  $G = \Gamma(L : \mathbb{Q})$ .  $G/H \cong \Gamma(M : \mathbb{Q})$ .

5. The zeros of  $f = t^4 + t^3 + t^2 + t + 1$  are the complex fifth roots of unity,  $e^{2\pi ik/5}$  for  $k = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . As these are all powers of  $\eta = e^{2\pi i/5}$ , the splitting field of  $f$  is  $\mathbb{Q}(\eta)$ , which has degree 4 over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Any  $\mathbb{Q}$ -automorphism of  $\mathbb{Q}(\eta)$  is determined by its effect on  $\eta$ , and must map  $\eta$  to a zero of  $t^4 + t^3 + t^2 + t + 1$ , i.e. one of  $\eta, \eta^2, \eta^3, \eta^4$ .

Let  $\sigma : \eta \mapsto \eta^2$ . Then  $\sigma^2 : \eta \mapsto \eta^4$ ,  $\sigma^3 : \eta \mapsto \eta^8 = \eta^3$  and  $\sigma^4 : \eta \mapsto \eta^{16} = \eta$ .

$\sigma$  generates all possible  $\mathbb{Q}$ -automorphisms of  $\mathbb{Q}(\eta)$ , so the Galois group  $G$  is cyclic of order 4, i.e. it is  $C_4$ .

The only proper subgroup of  $G$  is  $\{\iota, \sigma^2\}$ . This corresponds to the subfield  $\mathbb{Q}(\eta + \eta^4)$ , i.e.  $\mathbb{Q}(\cos(2\pi/5))$  or equivalently  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})$ .

The subgroup is normal in  $G$  and the subfield is a normal extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ , being the splitting field of e.g.  $t^2 + t - 1$  or  $t^2 - 5$ .

6. The splitting field of  $f = t^5 - 2$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \varepsilon)$  where  $\alpha = 2^{1/5}$ ,  $\varepsilon = e^{2\pi i/5}$ .

$[\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \varepsilon) : \mathbb{Q}] = 20$ , so  $|\Gamma_{\mathbb{Q}}(f)| = 20$ .

The elements of the Galois group can be defined by their effect on  $\alpha$  and  $\varepsilon$ , since this determines their effect on a basis for  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha, \varepsilon)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .



Any automorphism must map each of  $\alpha$  and  $\varepsilon$  to a zero of its minimal polynomial. There are five possibilities for the image of  $\alpha$  and four for the image of  $\varepsilon$ , giving the required 20, so all possibilities will occur.

Let  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  be the automorphisms defined by

$$\sigma(\alpha) = \alpha, \quad \sigma(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon^2, \quad \tau(\alpha) = \alpha\varepsilon, \quad \tau(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon.$$

Then  $\sigma^2(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon^4$ ,  $\sigma^2(\alpha) = \alpha$ ,

$$\sigma^3(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon^3, \quad \sigma^3(\alpha) = \alpha, \quad \sigma^4(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon, \quad \sigma^4(\alpha) = \alpha.$$

Hence  $\sigma^4 = \iota$ , so  $\sigma$  generates a cyclic subgroup of order 4.

$$\tau^2(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon, \quad \tau^2(\alpha) = \alpha\varepsilon^2, \quad \tau^3(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon, \quad \tau^3(\alpha) = \alpha\varepsilon^3,$$

$$\tau^4(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon, \quad \tau^4(\alpha) = \alpha\varepsilon^4, \quad \tau^5(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon, \quad \tau^5(\alpha) = \alpha\varepsilon^5 = \alpha.$$

Hence  $\tau^5 = \iota$ , so  $\tau$  generates a cyclic subgroup of order 5.

From a list of groups, e.g.

[http://www.math.niu.edu/~beachy/courses/algebra/pedersen/small\\_groups.html](http://www.math.niu.edu/~beachy/courses/algebra/pedersen/small_groups.html)

we find that  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbf{f}) \cong F_5$ , the Frobenius group of order 20.

$$\text{Fix}(\langle \sigma \rangle) = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha), \quad \text{Fix}(\langle \tau \rangle) = \mathbb{Q}(\varepsilon).$$

$\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}$  is not a normal extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ , as one but not all zeros of  $t^5 - 2$  are in  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ .

$\mathbb{Q}(\varepsilon) : \mathbb{Q}$  is normal extension, as  $\mathbb{Q}(\varepsilon)$  is the splitting field of  $t^4 + t^3 + t^2 + t + 1$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Hence  $\langle \sigma \rangle$  (the  $C_4$  subgroup) is a normal subgroup of  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbf{f})$ , but  $\langle \tau \rangle$  (the  $C_5$  subgroup) is not a normal subgroup of  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbf{f})$ .

Other subgroups (e.g.  $\{\iota, \sigma^2\}$ ) and corresponding subfields can be found with time and patience.

### Exercises 3.4

1. Following the method in the proof of Proposition 3.17 with  $\ell = 1$  and  $m = 4$ ,  
 $(2 \ 5 \ 3) = (4 \ 5 \ 2)^{-1}(1 \ 3 \ 2)^{-1}(4 \ 5 \ 2)(1 \ 3 \ 2)$ .
2. Labelling the vertices  $1, \dots, n$  in sequence around the perimeter, the  $n$ -cycle  $(1 \ 2 \ \dots \ n)$  represents a rotation through  $\frac{2\pi}{n}$  about the center of an  $n$ -gon, so it is a symmetry of the  $n$ -gon and is thus in  $D_n$ .

Suppose  $p$  is a prime greater than 3.  $D_p$  contains the  $n$ -cycle  $(1 \ 2 \ \dots \ p)$  and all powers of it, so  $D_p$  is transitive on  $\{1, \dots, p\}$ . If it also contained a transposition then by Proposition 3.18 it would be the whole of  $S_p$ , but  $|D_p| = 2p \neq p! = |S_p|$ . Hence there can be no transpositions in  $D_p$ .

Geometrically, a transposition would swap just two vertices of a regular  $p$ -gon, but for  $p \geq 3$  there is no symmetry which does this.

3.  $C_n$  is an abelian, hence solvable, group so a polynomial with Galois group  $C_n$  is solvable by radicals.

$\{\iota\} \triangleleft C_n \triangleleft D_n$ .  $C_n$  is solvable, and  $D_n/C_n$  is solvable as it has order 2, so  $D_n$  is solvable and thus a polynomial with Galois group  $D_n$  is solvable by radicals.

$A_n$  is not solvable for  $n \geq 5$ , since if it were then we would have a sequence  $\{\iota\} \triangleleft G_1 \triangleleft \dots \triangleleft A_n \triangleleft S_n$  with abelian quotients, but we know  $S_n$  is not solvable. Thus a polynomial with Galois group  $A_n$  is not solvable by radicals.

4. (a)  $f = t^5 - 10t + 2$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$  by EIC with  $p = 2$ .  
 $Df = 5t^4 - 10$  which has real zeros  $\pm 2^{1/4}$ .

The stationary points of  $f$  are at  $(-2^{1/4}, 11.5)$  and  $(2^{1/4}, -7.5)$ . From a graph  $f$  has three real zeros; the other two are a complex conjugate pair.

Thus  $f$  has exactly two non-real zeros, so by Proposition 3.19 its Galois group is isomorphic to  $S_5$ . By Proposition 3.17 this is not a solvable group, so  $f$  is not solvable by radicals over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

(b)  $f = t^7 - 7t^5 + 28t + 7$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$  by EIC with  $p = 7$ .

$Df = 7t^6 - 35t^4 + 28 = 7(t + 1)(t - 1)(t^4 - 4t^2 - 4)$  which has real zeros  $\pm 1, \pm\sqrt{2 + 2\sqrt{2}}$ .

The stationary points of  $f$  are at  $(-2.2, 56.7), (-1, -15), (1, 29), (2.2, -42.7)$ . From a graph  $f$  has 5 real zeros; the others are a complex conjugate pair.

Thus  $f$  has exactly two non-real zeros, so by Proposition 3.19 its Galois group is isomorphic to  $S_7$ . By Proposition 3.17 this is not a solvable group, so  $f$  is not solvable by radicals over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

5. Let  $f$  be the given polynomial.  $f(x) = 0$  iff  $x^2$  is a zero of  $at^4 + bt^3 + ct^2 + dt + e$ . As this is quartic, it is solvable by radicals so its splitting field  $M$  is contained in a radical extension  $L$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

The zeros of  $f$  are square roots of elements of  $M$ , each of which lies in  $L$  or in a radical extension of  $L$ , which is in turn a radical extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Hence the splitting field of  $f$  is contained in a radical extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ , so  $f$  is solvable by radicals over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

6.  $f = 4t^7 - 28t + 7$  is irreducible by EIC with  $p = 7$ . Its

degree is prime.

$Df = 28t^6 - 28 = 28(t^6 - 1)$  which has real zeros  $\pm 1$ .

The stationary points of  $f$  occur at  $(-1, 31), (1, -17)$ . By considering a graph,  $f$  has three real zeros. The other four are two complex conjugate pairs.

Thus  $f$  has neither just one real zero nor seven real zeros, so by the given fact it is not solvable by radicals over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .