

Problem Set #9

Exercise 2:

If L/K is a Galois extension of algebraic number fields, and \mathfrak{P} a prime ideal which is unramified over K (i.e. $\mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{P} \cap K$ is unramified in L), then there is one and only one automorphism $Frob_{\mathfrak{P}} \in G(L/K)$ such that

$$Frob_{\mathfrak{P}}(a) = a^q \pmod{\mathfrak{P}} \quad \forall a \in B$$

where $q = |k(\mathfrak{p})|$. It is called the **Frobenius automorphism**. The decomposition group $G_{\mathfrak{P}}$ is cyclic and $\phi_{\mathfrak{P}}$ is a generator of $G_{\mathfrak{P}}$.

Solution:

Each $\sigma \in D = D_{\mathfrak{P}}$ acts in a well-defined way on the finite field $k(\mathfrak{P}) = \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{P}$ with $|k(\mathfrak{p})| = p^n = q$ and $|k(\mathfrak{P})| = p^{fn}$, so we obtain a homomorphism

$$\varphi : D_{\mathfrak{P}} \rightarrow \text{Gal}(k(\mathfrak{P})/k(\mathfrak{p})).$$

We pause for a moment and derive a few basic properties of $\text{Gal}(k(\mathfrak{P})/k(\mathfrak{p}))$, which are in fact general properties of Galois groups for finite fields. Let $f = [k(\mathfrak{P}) : k(\mathfrak{p})]$. The group $\text{Aut}(k(\mathfrak{P})/k(\mathfrak{p}))$ contains the element $Frob_{\mathfrak{P}}$ defined by $Frob_{\mathfrak{P}}(x) = x^q$, because $(xy)^q = x^q y^q$ and $(x+y)^q = x^q + q x^{q-1} y + \dots + y^q \equiv x^q + y^q \pmod{p}$. It is well known that the group $k(\mathfrak{P})^*$ is cyclic, so there is an element $a \in k(\mathfrak{P})^*$ of order $p^{nf} - 1$. Then $Frob_{\mathfrak{P}}^m(a) = a^{q^m} = a$ if and only if $(p^{fn} - 1) \mid p^{mq} - 1$ which is the case precisely when $f \mid m$, so the order of $Frob_{\mathfrak{P}}$ is f . Since the order of the automorphism group of a field extension is at most the degree of the extension, we conclude that $\text{Aut}(k(\mathfrak{P})/k(\mathfrak{p}))$ is generated by $Frob_{\mathfrak{P}}$. Also, since $\text{Aut}(k(\mathfrak{P})/k(\mathfrak{p}))$ has order equal to the degree, we conclude that $k(\mathfrak{P})/k(\mathfrak{p})$ is Galois, with group $\text{Gal}(k(\mathfrak{P})/k(\mathfrak{p}))$ cyclic of order f generated by $Frob_{\mathfrak{P}}$. (Another general fact: Up to isomorphism there is exactly one finite field of each degree. Indeed, if there were two of degree f , then both could be characterized as the set of roots in the compositum of $x^{p^{nf}} - 1$, hence they would be equal.)

Suppose that L/K is a finite Galois extension with group G and \mathfrak{p} is a prime ideal such that $e = 1$ (i.e., an unramified prime ideal). Then $I_{\mathfrak{P}} = 1$ for any $\mathfrak{P} \mid \mathfrak{p}$, so the map φ is a canonical isomorphism $D_{\mathfrak{P}} \cong \text{Gal}(k(\mathfrak{P})/k(\mathfrak{p}))$. By what we have done before, the group $\text{Gal}(k(\mathfrak{P})/k(\mathfrak{p}))$ is cyclic with canonical generator $Frob_{\mathfrak{P}}$. The corresponding to \mathfrak{P} is $Frob_{\mathfrak{P}} \in D_{\mathfrak{P}}$. It is the unique element of G such that for all $a \in \mathcal{O}_K$ we have $Frob_{\mathfrak{P}}(a) \equiv a^q \pmod{\mathfrak{p}}$, the unicity comes from the isomorphism $D_{\mathfrak{P}} \simeq \text{Gal}(k(\mathfrak{P})/k(\mathfrak{p}))$ since $Frob_{\mathfrak{P}}(0) = 0 \pmod{\mathfrak{p}}$ implies that $Frob_{\mathfrak{P}}(\mathfrak{P}) = \mathfrak{P}$.

Exercise 1:

If L/K is a Galois extension of algebraic number fields with noncyclic Galois group, then there are at most finitely many non split prime ideals of K .

Solution:

Let $G = \text{Gal}(L/K)$, \mathfrak{p} prime ideal of \mathcal{O}_K . Suppose \mathfrak{p} is unramified and nonsplit. (Since only finitely many primes are ramified, it suffices to show that this cannot occur.) Since \mathfrak{p} is unramified and nonsplit and $efg = |G|$, we see that $f = |G|$ and the decomposition group $D_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is isomorphic to G . But we also have that $D_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is isomorphic to the Galois group of the residue field of L/K at \mathfrak{p} , which is cyclic of order f . This contradicts our hypothesis on G .

Exercise 5:

Let L/K be a solvable extension of prime degree p (not necessarily Galois). If the unramified prime ideal \mathfrak{p} in L has two prime factors \mathfrak{P} and \mathfrak{P}' of degree 1, then it is already totally split.

Hint: Use the following result of Galois: if G is a transitive solvable permutation group of degree p , then there is no nontrivial permutation $\sigma \in G$ which fixes two distinct letters.

Solution:

Let \mathcal{O}_K be a Dedekind domain, L the fraction field of \mathcal{O}_K . Let L/K be a finite, separable extension, not necessarily Galois, of degree p . Let N be the normal closure of L/K . Let $G = \text{Gal}(N/K)$ and $H = \text{Gal}(N/L)$. Let \mathfrak{p} be a prime of K (i.e. of \mathcal{O}_K). Let \mathfrak{P} be a prime of N above \mathfrak{p} . Let $G_{\mathfrak{P}}$ denote the decomposition group of \mathfrak{P} over K . Then, there is a bijection from the set of double cosets $H \backslash G / G_{\mathfrak{P}}$ to the set $P_{\mathfrak{p}}$ of primes of L above \mathfrak{p} , given by:

$$H \backslash G / G_{\mathfrak{P}} \rightarrow P_{\mathfrak{p}}, \quad H \sigma G_{\mathfrak{P}} \mapsto \sigma \mathfrak{P} \cap L$$

Now suppose the prime \mathfrak{p} is unramified in L . Then \mathfrak{p} is also unramified in N .

Note that there are p cosets $H \sigma_1, \dots, H \sigma_n$ of $H \backslash G$ where $n = [L : K]$. There is an action of G that permutes the cosets $H \sigma_i$ by right multiplication. The key observation is this: The size of the orbit of the coset $H \sigma_i$ under the right action of the decomposition group $G_{\mathfrak{P}}$ equals the inertia degree of the prime $\sigma_i \mathfrak{P} \cap L$ over \mathfrak{p} .

To show this, first observe that, for $\rho \in G_{\mathfrak{P}}$ and $\sigma_i \in G$,

$$H \sigma_i \rho = H \sigma_i \Leftrightarrow \rho \in \sigma_i^{-1} H_{\sigma_i(\mathfrak{P})} \sigma_i$$

where $H_{\sigma_i(\mathfrak{P})}$ is the decomposition group of $\sigma_i(\mathfrak{P})$ over L .

Thus the size of the orbit of $H \sigma_i$ is

$$[G_{\mathfrak{P}} : \text{Stab}(H \sigma_i)] = [G_{\mathfrak{P}} : \sigma_i^{-1} H_{\sigma_i(\mathfrak{P})} \sigma_i] = [\sigma_i G_{\mathfrak{P}} \sigma_i^{-1} : H_{\sigma_i(\mathfrak{P})}] = [G_{\sigma_i(\mathfrak{P})} : H_{\sigma_i(\mathfrak{P})}]$$

$[G_{\sigma_i(\mathfrak{P})} : H_{\sigma_i(\mathfrak{P})}]$ equals the inertia degree of $\sigma_i(\mathfrak{P} \cap L)$ over \mathfrak{p} , proving the highlighted claim above.

Now assume the degree p of L/K is prime, and assume that \mathfrak{p} has two prime factors \mathfrak{P}_1 and \mathfrak{P}_2 in L of degree 1. This implies we have two cosets $H \sigma_1$ and $H \sigma_2$ whose orbits under the action of $G_{\mathfrak{P}}$ are of size 1. G is a solvable group with a transitive action on

the p cosets $H\sigma_1, \dots, H\sigma_p$. Thus each element of $G_{\mathfrak{p}}$ fixes the two cosets $H\sigma_1$ and $H\sigma_2$, so by the theorem given in the Hint, each element of $G_{\mathfrak{p}}$ must fix all the cosets, so $G_{\mathfrak{p}}$ partitions the $H\sigma_i$ into p distinct orbits of one element each. Thus, every prime factor of \mathfrak{p} in L is of degree 1 over \mathfrak{p} .

Exercise:

Let L/K be a normal finite extension of finite fields of characteristic p and L^s/K the maximal separable sub extension. Prove that

$$G(L/K) = G(L^s/K)$$

Solution:

We know that $|G(L/K)| \geq |G(L^s/K)|$.

Since a element of $G(L/K)$ send a separable element to a separable element it induces by restriction an element of $G(L^s/K)$. This permits to define the morphism:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Phi : G(L/K) & \rightarrow & G(L^s/K) \\ \sigma & \mapsto & \sigma|_{L^s} \end{array}$$

We will prove that Φ is injective so that $|G(L/K)| = |G(L^s/K)| < \infty$ and we have an isomorphism.

For if, we have to prove that if $\sigma \in G(L/K)$ is such that $\sigma(a) = a$, for any $a \in L^s$, then we want to prove that for any $u \in L \setminus L^s$ $\sigma(u) = u$. But since L/K is normal, then L/L^s is purely inseparable, but then for any $u \in L$, there is a n , such that $u^{p^n} \in L^s$, so that $\sigma(u^{p^n}) = u^{p^n}$ and $(\sigma(u)^{p^n}) = u^{p^n}$, which implies $\sigma(u) = u$, by injectivity of the Frobenius element. We also have the surjectivity of the map from the normality of L/K .