

# Lecture 11. Splitting fields and normal extensions

$$f \in k[x], \text{ deg } f \geq 1.$$

Def (splitting field).

A field ext.  $k \subset K$  is called a splitting field of  $f$ , if

$$(i) f(x) = c(x-d_1) \dots (x-d_n), \quad d_i \in K$$

$$(ii) K = k(d_1, \dots, d_n)$$

Theorem: (1) For any  $f \in k[x]$ ,  $\text{deg } f \geq 1$ , there exists a splitting field  $K$  for  $f$ .

(2) Let  $K_i, i=1,2$  be two splitting fields of  $f$ . Then

$$\exists k\text{-isomorphism } \sigma: K_1 \cong K_2.$$

(2)': Assume  $k \subset K \subset \bar{k}$ .  $K$  a splitting field of  $f$ .

Let  $K'$  be another splitting field of  $f$ . Then  $\text{over } k \exists$

$k$ -embedding  $K' \hookrightarrow \bar{k}$  induces an isomorphism  $K' \cong K \in \bar{k}$  and it

Pf: (1) Let  $k \subset \bar{k}$  be an alg closure. Then over  $\bar{k}$

$$f(x) = c(x-d_1) \dots (x-d_n), \quad d_i \in \bar{k}.$$

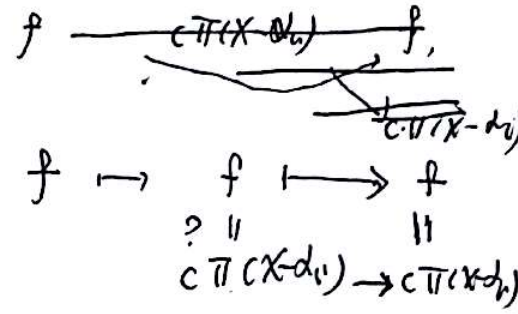
Set  $K = k(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ . Then clearly

(i) over  $K$ ,

$$f(x) = c(x - \alpha_1) \dots (x - \alpha_n)$$

(ii)  $K = k(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ .

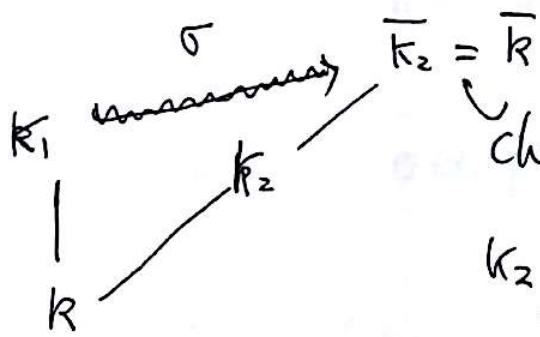
$$(k[x] \subset K[x] \subset \bar{k}[x])$$



Therefore  $K \subset k^a$  is a splitting field of  $f$ .

(2) follows from (2)':

Consider:



Check:  $\bar{K}_2$ , which is an alg. closure of  $K_2$ , is also an algebraic closure of  $K$ .

Then by the proof of Main Thm 2 in last lecture,

we know that,  $\exists K$ -embedding:  $K_1 \xrightarrow{\sigma} \bar{K}$

claim:  $\sigma(K_1) \subset K_2 \stackrel{\exists x}{\Rightarrow} \sigma: K_1 \xrightarrow{\cong} K_2$ . (ie.  $\sigma(K_1) = K_2$ )

Write: over  $K_1$ ,  $f(x) = c(x - \alpha_1) \dots (x - \alpha_n)$ ,  $\alpha_i \in K_1$ ,  $c \in K$

Write over  $k_2$  (and over  $\bar{k}_2 = \bar{k}$ ),

$$f(x) = c(x - \beta_1) \cdots (x - \beta_n).$$

$$c \in k \\ \beta_i \in k_2 \text{ (or } \bar{k}_2).$$

Since  $\sigma$  is a  $k$ -embedding,

$$f^\sigma = f \quad (\text{note})$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = c(x - \sigma(d_1)) \cdots (x - \sigma(d_n))$$

$$\sigma(d_i) \in \bar{k}, \quad i=1, \dots, n.$$

By the unique factorization property for  $\bar{k}[x]$ ,

$$\text{we get } \{\sigma(d_1), \dots, \sigma(d_n)\} = \{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n\}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma(d_i) \in k_2, \quad \forall i$$

$\Rightarrow$  claim

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Let  $\{f_i, i \in I\}$  be a family of polys in  $k[x]$ . A splitting field

$K$  of this family is similarly defined. (Exercise!).

Cor: For an arbitrary family  $\{f_i\}_{i \in I}$  of polynomials in  $K[X]$ ,

there exists a splitting field of this family, unique up to  $K$ -iso.

Pf: Exercise.

Thm:  $K \subset K \subset \bar{K}$ , TFAE

NOR 1: Every ~~of  $K$~~  embedding of  $K$  to  $\bar{K}$  induces an automorphism of  $K$ .

NOR 2:  $K$  is the splitting field of a family of polynomials in  $K[X]$ .

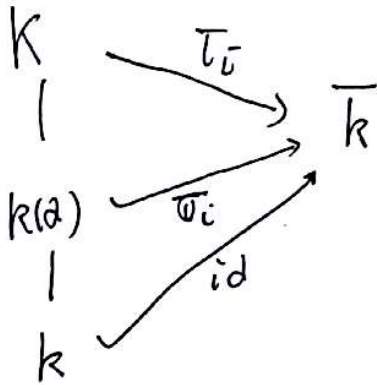
NOR 3: Every irred poly of  $K[X]$  which has a root in  $K$  splits into linear factors in  $K$ .

Pf: NOR 2  $\Rightarrow$  NOR 1 (Cor)

NOR 1  $\Rightarrow$  NOR 3.

Let  $f(x) \in K[X]$  irred. and  $\exists d \in K$ , s.t.  $f(d) = 0$ .  
monic

Consider:



Let  $f(x) = (x - \alpha_1)(x - \alpha_2) \cdots (x - \alpha_n)$  in  $\bar{k}[x]$ .

It is show:  $\alpha_i \in k$ ,  $i \geq 1$ .

Define  $k$ -embedding

$$\sigma_i: k(\alpha) \hookrightarrow \bar{k}$$

$$\text{by } \sigma_i(\alpha) = \alpha_i, \quad i \geq 1$$

By the extension theorem proven in the last lecture,

$$\exists \tau_i: k \hookrightarrow \bar{k}, \quad \tau_i|_{k(\alpha)} = \sigma_i$$

$$\text{Since } \sigma_i|_k = id, \quad \tau_i|_k = id.$$

Thus  $\tau_i$  is a  $k$ -embedding of  $k$  into  $\bar{k}$ .

$$\text{NOR } 1 \Rightarrow \tau_i: k \xrightarrow{\cong} \tau_i(k) = k$$



In particular

$$\tau_i(d) = \sigma_i(d) \quad \ominus = d_i \in K, \quad \forall i.$$

NOR 3  $\Rightarrow$  NOR 2

$\forall d \in K, \quad f_d \in K[X]$  irred poly of  $d$  over  $K$ .

Then  $K = K(S), \quad S = \{d \in K\}$

NOR 3  $\Rightarrow \quad f_d(x) = c(x-d_0)(x-d_1)\dots(x-d_n), \quad d_i \in K.$

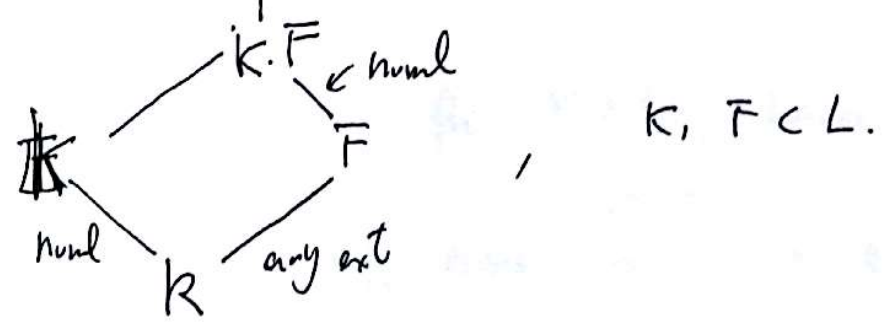
$\downarrow$   
 $\alpha_i$

Thus  $K$  is the splitting field of the family

$$\{f_d \mid d \in S\}.$$

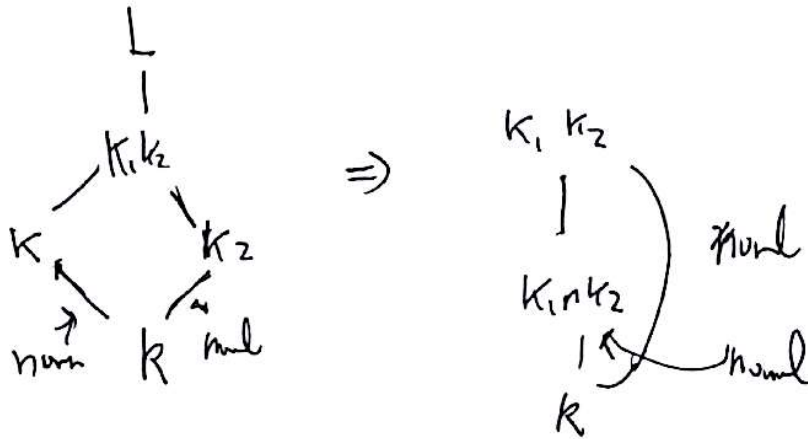
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Thm: (1) Normal extensions remains normal under lifting, i.e



(2)  $\left. \begin{matrix} K \\ \downarrow \\ E \\ \downarrow \\ K \end{matrix} \right\} \text{normal} \Rightarrow \left. \begin{matrix} K \\ \downarrow \\ E \end{matrix} \right\} \text{normal} \quad \left( \begin{matrix} E \\ \downarrow \\ K \end{matrix} \text{ not neces.} \right)$

(3)

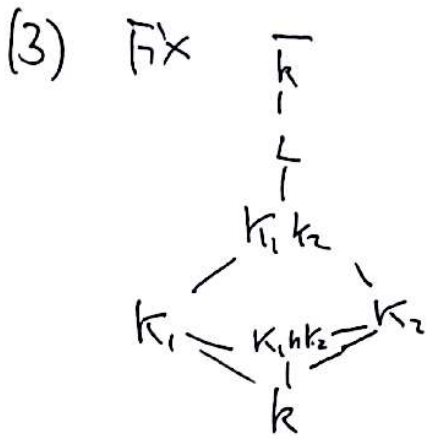


pf: (1)  $K \text{ normal} \Rightarrow \exists \{f_i\}_{i \in I}, f_i \in K[x]$   
 s.t (1)  $f_i = c_i \prod (x - \alpha_{ij})$   $\alpha_{ij} \in K$   
 (2)  $K = K(\alpha_{ij})$

Then  $K \cdot F / F$  is the splitting field of family  $\{f_i(x)\}_{i \in I}, f_i \in K[x] \subset F[x]$ .

Thus MRP 2 is satisfied for  $K \cdot F / F$ , hence it is normal.

(2)  $\bar{K} / K$  normal.  $\Rightarrow \forall K$ -embeddings of  $K$  into  $\bar{K}$  send  $K$  into  $K$ .  
 $\Rightarrow \forall E$ -embeddings of  $K$  into  $\bar{K}$  send  $K$  into  $K \Rightarrow K/E$  normal.



$\sigma: k_1 k_2 \rightarrow \bar{k}$  is a  $k$ -embedding

Note.  $\sigma(k_1 k_2) = \sigma(k_1) \cdot \sigma(k_2) \stackrel{\text{NOR 1}}{=} k_1 \cdot k_2$   
 $\uparrow$  check!

$\stackrel{\text{NOR 1}}{\implies} k_1 k_2 / k$  normal

Similarly,  $\tau: k_1 \cap k_2 \rightarrow \bar{k}$   $k$ -embedding,  $\exists \sigma: k_1 k_2 \hookrightarrow \bar{k}$   
 $\tau$  extends  $\sigma$

$\tau(k_1 \cap k_2) = \tau(k_1 \cap k_2) \stackrel{\text{check!}}{=} \sigma(k_1) \cap \sigma(k_2) \stackrel{\text{NOR 1}}{=} k_1 \cap k_2$

$\Gamma \subset$ : obvious

$\supset$ :  $\sigma^{-1}(\sigma(k_1) \cap \sigma(k_2)) \subset \sigma^{-1}(\sigma(k_1)) \cap \sigma^{-1}(\sigma(k_2)) = k_1 \cap k_2$ ,

where  $\sigma^{-1}: \sigma(k_1 k_2) \xrightarrow{\sim} k_1 k_2$

Thus,  $k_1 k_2 / k$  is normal

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Warning: (Normal extensions do not form a distinguished class) <sup>182</sup>

$$(1) \begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}) & & \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}) \\ | \leftarrow \text{normal} & \text{But} & | \\ \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) & & \mathbb{Q} \\ | & & \xrightarrow{\text{not normal !!!}} \\ \mathbb{Q} \leftarrow \text{normal} & & \end{array}$$

$$(2) \begin{array}{c} \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i) \\ | \leftarrow \text{normal} \\ \text{normal} \left( \begin{array}{c} \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}) \\ | \leftarrow \text{not normal !!!} \\ \mathbb{Q} \end{array} \right) \end{array}$$

Ex: Determine  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i) | \mathbb{Q})$

$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)$  is the splitting field of  $f(x) = x^4 - 2 \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ .

$$f(x) = (x - \underbrace{\sqrt[4]{2}}_{\alpha_1}) (x - \underbrace{\sqrt[4]{2}i}_{\alpha_2}) (x + \underbrace{\sqrt[4]{2}}_{\alpha_3}) (x + \underbrace{\sqrt[4]{2}i}_{\alpha_4})$$

$$\text{Note: } \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)) \times \underbrace{X}_{\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4\}} \longrightarrow \underbrace{X}_{\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4\}}$$

is a group action. (check this !!!)

Thus:

$$\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i) | \mathbb{Q}) \hookrightarrow S_4 = \text{Perm}(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4)$$

Note:  $\sigma \in G$  is determined by its image

$$\sigma(\sqrt[4]{2}) \text{ and } \sigma(i)$$

and  $\sigma(i)$  can take possible values  $\{i, -i\}$

|                        | $\sqrt[4]{2}$ | $\sqrt[4]{2}i$ | $-\sqrt[4]{2}$ | $-\sqrt[4]{2}i$ | $i$  |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|------|
|                        | $\alpha_1$    | $\alpha_2$     | $\alpha_3$     | $\alpha_4$      | $i$  |
| $\text{id} = \sigma_1$ | $\alpha_1$    | $\alpha_2$     | $\alpha_3$     | $\alpha_4$      | $i$  |
| $[1234] = \sigma_2$    | $\alpha_2$    | $\alpha_3$     | $\alpha_4$     | $\alpha_1$      | $i$  |
| $[12][34] = \sigma_3$  | $\alpha_2$    | $\alpha_1$     | $\alpha_4$     | $\alpha_3$      | $-i$ |
| $[13][24] = \sigma_4$  | $\alpha_3$    | $\alpha_4$     | $\alpha_1$     | $\alpha_2$      | $i$  |
| $[13] = \sigma_5$      | $\alpha_3$    | $\alpha_2$     | $\alpha_1$     | $\alpha_4$      | $-i$ |
| $[24] = \sigma_6$      | $\alpha_1$    | $\alpha_4$     | $\alpha_3$     | $\alpha_2$      | $-i$ |
| $[1432] = \sigma_7$    | $\alpha_4$    | $\alpha_1$     | $\alpha_2$     | $\alpha_3$      | $i$  |
| $[14][23] = \sigma_8$  | $\alpha_4$    | $\alpha_3$     | $\alpha_2$     | $\alpha_1$      | $-i$ |

check: they are automorphisms. !!!

$$G = \langle \sigma_2, \sigma_6 \rangle \cong D_4$$

Def: (normal closure)

For  $k \subset K \subset \bar{k}$ , the normal closure  $K^n$  of  $K$  over  $k$

is the smallest normal ext over  $k$  which contains  $K$ ; (if it exists)

Prop: For  $k \subset K \subset \bar{k}$ ,  $K^n$  exists and it is equal to

the compositum of all  $k$ -embeddings of  $K$  into  $\bar{k}$ .

pf: put  $K^n = \bigcap_{\substack{K \subset E \subset \bar{k} \\ E|k \text{ normal}}} E$ .

Then, it is clear that  $K^n|k$  normal (check this!)

Now we show that

$$K^n = \prod_{\sigma: K \hookrightarrow \bar{k}} \sigma(K) \cong K^\sigma$$

$\forall \sigma \in K \hookrightarrow \bar{k}, \exists \text{ ext } \tau: K^n \hookrightarrow \bar{k}$

$$K^n|k \text{ normal} \Rightarrow \tau(K^n) \subset K^n$$

$$\Rightarrow \tau(K) = \sigma(K) \subset K^n.$$

$$\Rightarrow \prod_{\sigma: K \hookrightarrow \bar{k}} \sigma(K) \subset K^n.$$

it remains to show

$$\pi\sigma(K) \text{ normal}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \sigma: K \hookrightarrow \bar{k} \\ \searrow \swarrow \\ K \end{array}$$

But this is clear:

$$\forall \tau: \begin{array}{ccc} \pi\sigma(K) & \longrightarrow & \bar{k} \\ \sigma: K \hookrightarrow \bar{k} & & \\ \searrow \swarrow & & \\ & K & \end{array}$$

$$\forall \sigma: K \hookrightarrow \bar{k},$$

$\tau\sigma$  is again a  $k$ -embedding of  $K$  into  $\bar{k}$ .

$$\text{Thus: } \tau(\pi\sigma(K)) = \pi\tau\sigma(K)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \sigma: K \hookrightarrow \bar{k} & & \tau\sigma: K \hookrightarrow \bar{k} \\ \searrow \swarrow & & \searrow \swarrow \\ & K & \end{array}$$

$$= \pi\sigma(K)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \sigma: K \hookrightarrow \bar{k} \\ \searrow \swarrow \\ K \end{array}$$

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# Lecture 12 Separable extensions

Def: (Separable polynomial)

$f(x) \in k[x]$  is separable if it has no multiple roots.

Prop:  $f(x) \in k[x]$  ~~irreducible~~. It is separable iff

$$(f(x), f'(x)) = k[x].$$

Pf: WLOG. assume  $f(x)$  monic. Note  $f'(x) \in k[x]$ .  
~~(\*)~~ over  $k[x]$ ,

$$f(x) = \prod_i (x - x_i)^{r_i}, \quad x_i \neq x_j, \quad x_i \in \bar{k}, \quad r_i \geq 1$$

$$f'(x) = \sum_i r_i (x - x_i)^{r_i - 1} \prod_{j \neq i} (x - x_j)^{r_j}$$

Now: If  $f(x)$  is separable, then  $r_i = 1, \forall i$ .

$$\Rightarrow f'(x_i) = \prod_{j \neq i} (x_i - x_j) \neq 0 \quad \forall i$$

$\Rightarrow$  over  $\bar{k}[x]$ ,

$$\text{GCD}(f(x), f'(x)) = 1 \iff (f(x), f'(x)) = \bar{k}[x]$$

$\Rightarrow$  ~~over~~  $k[x]$ ,  $(f(x), f'(x)) = k[x]$  (why?)



Conversely,

assume  $(f(x), f'(x)) = k[x]$ .

Then  $\exists a(x), b(x) \in k[x]$ , s.t

$$a(x) \cdot f(x) + b(x) f'(x) = 1 \quad (*)$$

~~#~~  $f(x)$  is NOT separable, then  $\exists \alpha_i \geq 2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } f'(\alpha_i) &= \sum_{l \neq i} \left[ r_l (\alpha_i - \alpha_l)^{r_l - 1} \prod_{j \neq l} (\alpha_l - \alpha_j)^{r_j} \right] \\ &\quad + \underbrace{r_i (\alpha_i - \alpha_i)^{r_i - 1}}_0 \prod_{j \neq i} (\alpha_i - \alpha_j)^{r_j} \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus } a(\alpha_i) \underbrace{f(\alpha_i)}_0 + b(\alpha_i) \cdot \underbrace{f'(\alpha_i)}_0 \stackrel{(*)}{=} 1.$$

Contradiction!

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Wt: Char  $k=0$ .

$f(x) \in k[x]$ , irreducible poly

Then  $f(x)$  is separable.

Pf: If char  $k=0$ , then

$$\deg f'(x) = \deg f(x) - 1 < \deg f(x)$$

Since  $f(x)$  irred,  $(f(x))$  maximal

But  $(f(x), f'(x)) \neq (f(x))$

$$(f(x), f'(x)) = k[x] \xrightarrow{\text{prop}} f(x) \text{ separable}$$

Example:  $k = \overline{\mathbb{F}_p}(t)$ ,  $f(x) = x^p - t \in k[x]$ .

Then  $f(x)$  is irreducible, but NOT separable.

Exercise: check  $f(x) \in k[x]$  irreducible polynomial:

Def:  $K|k$  alg ext. ~~is called separable, if~~:

$\alpha \in K$  is  $\hat{a}$  separable elt over  $k$  if  $f_\alpha \in k[x]$  is separable poly. ~~\*~~

$K|k$  is called separable ext, if any  $\alpha \in K$  is separable over  $k$ .

Theorem:  $\text{char } k = 0$ . Then any algebraic ext

$K|k$  is separable.

Example:  $k = \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p(t)$ ,  $K = \frac{\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p(t)[x]}{(x^p - t)} (= \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p(t^{\frac{1}{p}}))$

$K|k$  is inseparable extension.

Theorem: separable extensions form a distinguished class.

Coro:  $K|k$  algebraic. There exists a maximal separable subext

$k \subset K^S \subset K$ . i.e.  $\forall k \subset F \subset K$ ,  $F|k \text{ sep} \Rightarrow F \subset K^S$ .

pf: Define  $K^S = k(\alpha | \alpha \in K, \text{ separable over } k)$ .

which the compositum of  $\{k(\alpha)\}_{\alpha \text{ sep}}$  in  $K$ .

By Theorem,  $K^S|k$  is again separable.

clearly, it is the maximal subext, which is sep over  $k$

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pf of Theorem:

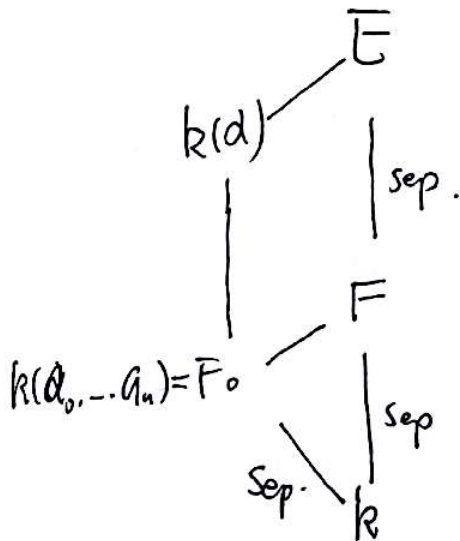
$$(1) \quad \begin{array}{c} \bar{E} \\ | \leftarrow \text{sep} \\ F \\ | \leftarrow \text{sep} \\ K \end{array} \Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{c} \bar{E} \\ | \leftarrow \text{sep.} \\ K \end{array}$$

( $\Leftarrow$ ) trivial.

( $\Rightarrow$ )  $\alpha \in \bar{E}$ . ( $f_{\alpha} \in K[X]$  irred poly of  $\alpha$  over  $K$ )

Let  $f_{\alpha}^F(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i \in F[X]$  be the irred. poly of  $\alpha$  over  $F$ .

Let  $F_0 = K(a_0, \dots, a_n) \subset F$ . Consider



Note:  $f_{\alpha}^F \in F_0[X]$ , and it is irreducible over  $F_0[X]$ .

~~The irreducible~~ as it is irreducible over  $F[X]$ .

Thus,  $f_{\alpha}^F$  is the irreducible poly of  $\alpha$  over  $F_0$ .

Thus, since  $\alpha$  is separable over  $\bar{F}$ ,  $\alpha$  is also separable over  $F_0$ .

Thus, we reduce ~~to~~ the following situation

$$\begin{array}{c} E \\ | \text{ finite sep} \\ F \\ | \text{ finite sep} \\ k \end{array} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{c} E \\ | \text{ sep.} \\ k \end{array}$$

To achieve this, we use the following criterion for <sup>finite</sup> separable extension

Prop:  $\begin{array}{c} E \\ | \\ k \end{array}$  finite extension. Then it is separable if and only if

the number of  $k$ -embeddings of  $E$  into  $\bar{k}$  is equal to  $[E:k]$ .

$$\stackrel{||}{=} [E:k]_s \quad (\text{separable degree})$$

pf: If  $E=k(d)$ , then we know that

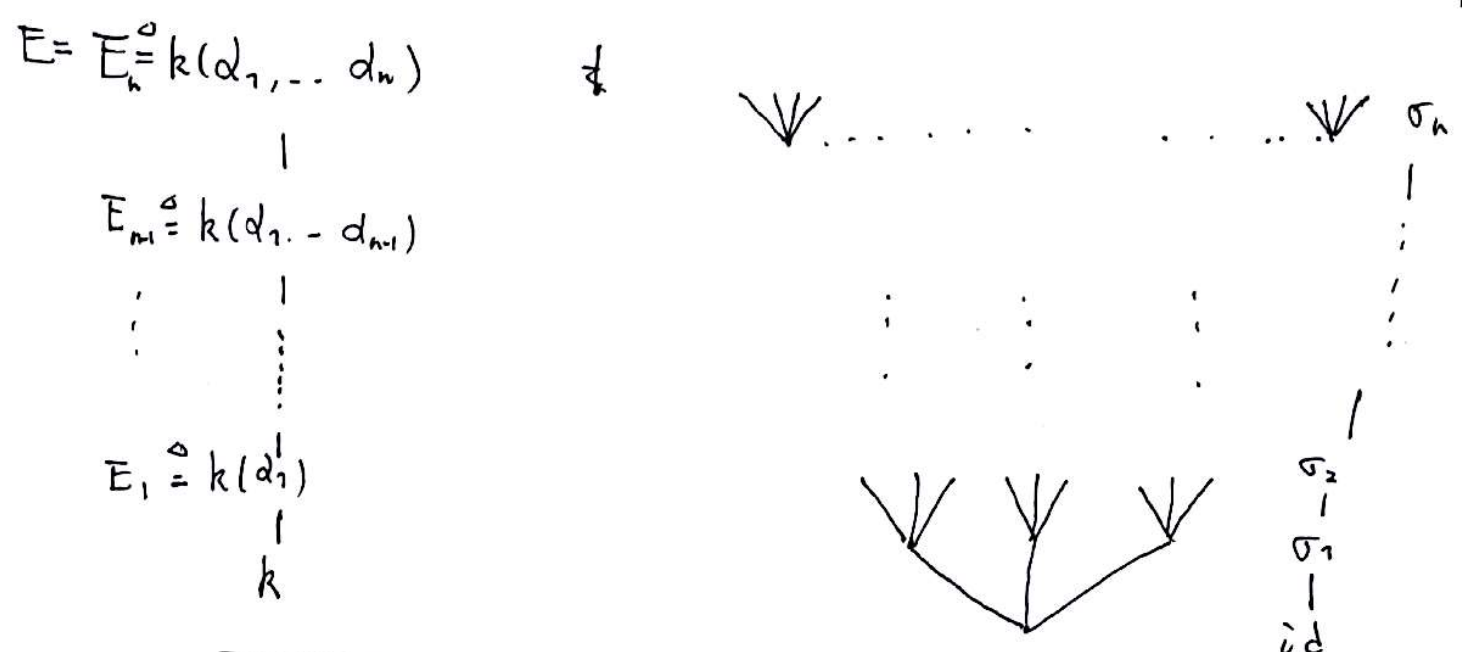
$$\# \left\{ \begin{array}{c} k(d) \hookrightarrow \bar{k} \\ \swarrow \searrow \\ k \end{array} \right\} = \# \{ \text{distinct roots of } f_d \}$$

$$\leq \# \{ \text{roots of } f_d \} = \deg f_d = [k(d):k]$$

Thus, this <sup>prop</sup> is clear for simple ext.

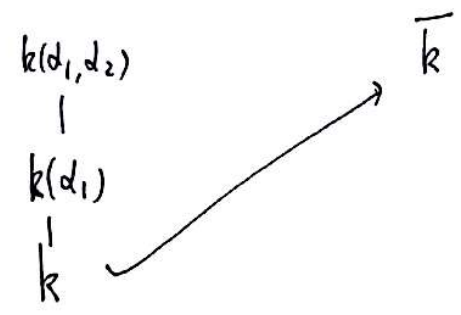
In general, we take a tower of simple extensions:





Or, we consider first the case

Tree like picture



$$[k(d_1) : k]_s$$

claim:

$$\# \{ k\text{-embeddings of } k(d_1, d_2) \hookrightarrow \bar{k} \} = \# \{ k\text{-embeddings of } k(d_1) \hookrightarrow \bar{k} \}.$$

$$\parallel$$

$$[k(d_1, d_2) : k]_s \qquad \# \{ k(d_1)\text{-embeddings of } k(d_1, d_2) \hookrightarrow \bar{k} \}$$

$$\parallel$$

$$[k(d_1, d_2) : k(d_1)]_s$$

why?

$$\tau : k(d_1, d_2) \hookrightarrow \bar{k}$$

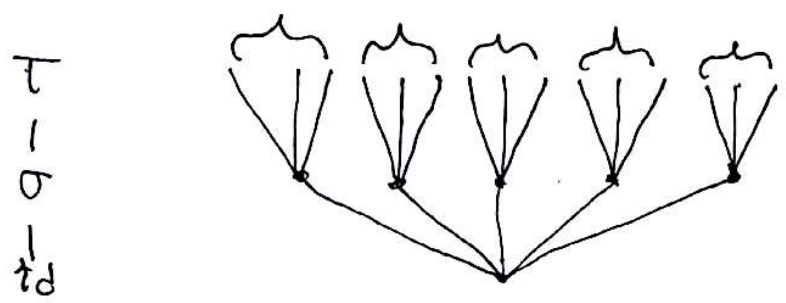
put  $\tau|_{k(d_1)} = \sigma : k(d_1) \hookrightarrow \bar{k}$ . Then  $\tau$  extends  $\sigma$

Fix  $\sigma : k(d_1) \hookrightarrow \bar{k}$ , there are  $\# \{ k(d_1)\text{-embeddings of } k(d_1, d_2) \hookrightarrow \bar{k} \}$  extensions of  $\sigma$  (Show this!)

Moreover

there are  $\# \{ k\text{-embeddings of } k(\alpha_1) \hookrightarrow \bar{k} \}$  of  $\sigma$  in total.

The claim follows. The picture looks as follows :



By induction: we get in general

$$[E:k]_S = \prod_{i=1}^n [E_i: E_{i-1}]_S, \quad E_0 = k$$

or in general:

$$\begin{array}{c} E \\ \leftarrow \text{like} \\ F \\ \leftarrow \text{like} \\ k \end{array} \quad [E:k]_S = [E:F]_S \cdot [F:k]_S$$

Since  $[E_i: E_{i-1}]$  is simple extension, let  $f_{\alpha_i}^{E_i}$  be the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha_i$  over  $E_{i-1}$ , it follows that

$$[E_i : E_{i-1}]_S = \# \{ \text{distinct roots of } f_{\alpha_i}^{E_{i-1}} \}$$

$$\leq \deg f_{\alpha_i}^{E_{i-1}} = [E_i : E_{i-1}]$$

$$\text{Thus } [E : k]_S = \prod [E_i : E_{i-1}]_S \leq \prod [E_i : E_{i-1}] = [E : k]$$

$$\text{"=" h.h.d.s } \Leftrightarrow \forall i: [E_i : E_{i-1}]_S = [E_i : E_{i-1}]$$

Now: assume  $E/k$  separable,  $\Rightarrow$   ~~$\alpha_i$~~   $\alpha_i$  is separable over  $k$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha_i \text{ is separable over } \bar{E}_{i-1}.$$

$$\Rightarrow [\bar{E}_i : \bar{E}_{i-1}]_S = [E_i : E_{i-1}]$$

$$\Rightarrow [E : k]_S = [E : k].$$

Conversely,  $[E : k]_S = [E : k]$ . Take any  $\alpha \in \bar{E}$ .

If  $\alpha$  were not separable over  $k$ . Then

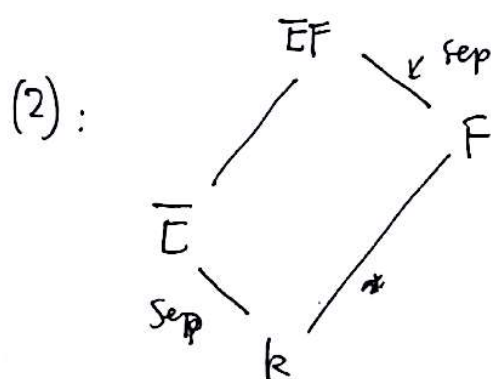
$$[k(\alpha) : k]_S \neq [k(\alpha) : k]$$

$$\text{But } [E : k]_S = [E : k(\alpha)]_S \cdot [k(\alpha) : k]_S$$

$$< [E : k(\alpha)] \cdot [k(\alpha) : k] = [E : k] \quad \downarrow$$

Thus, any  $\alpha \in E$  is separable over  $k$ .

#



Separable ext remains separable  
under lifting.

This is clear: since  $E = k(\alpha \mid \alpha \in E)$ ,

$$EF = F(\alpha \mid \alpha \in E)$$

The irred. poly of  $\alpha$  over  $F$  is ~~over~~ a factor  
of the irred poly of  $\alpha$  over  $k$ .

Thus,  $\alpha$  is sep over  $k \Rightarrow \alpha$  is sep over  $F$ .

#

To conclude this lecture, we summarize the above two lectures as follows:

$$k \subset K \subset \bar{k}$$

the normal closure of  $K$  over  $k$ .

$$(1) \quad \begin{array}{c} K \\ | \\ k \end{array} \text{ normal} \Leftrightarrow K^n = K \quad (\text{in } \bar{k})$$

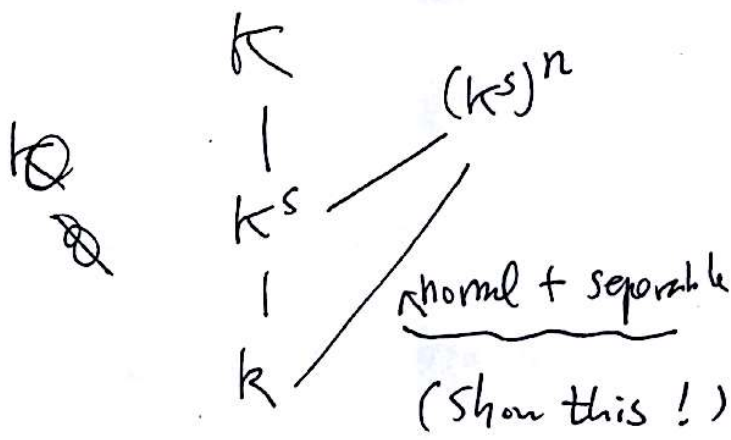
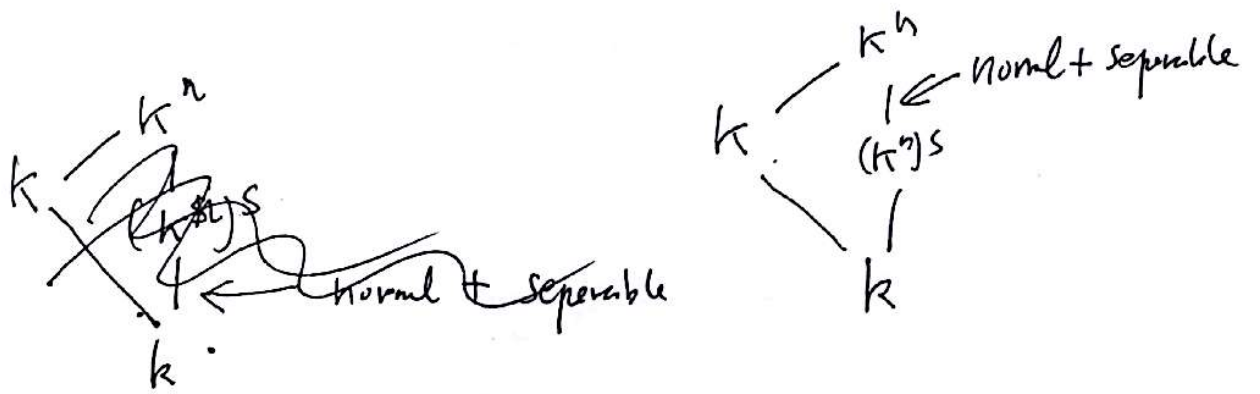
✗

$$K/k \text{ non-normal} \Leftrightarrow K^n \not\subseteq K \supset K$$

$$(2) \begin{array}{c} K \\ | \\ K \end{array} \text{ sep} \Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{c} K^S = K \\ \uparrow \\ \text{the maximal sep. subext.} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} K/k \\ \text{not} \\ \text{sep} \end{array} \text{ not sepable} \Leftrightarrow K \not\subseteq K^S \supset K$$

(3)  $K/k$  arbitrary ext. Then





Theorem (Primitive Element Theorem)

Let  $E/k$  be a finite extension. Then  $E = k(\alpha)$  for some  $\alpha \in E$  if and only if there exists only a finite number of fields  $F$  such that  $k \subset F \subset E$ . If  $E$  is separable over  $k$ , then there exists such an element  $\alpha$ .

pf: Step 1.  $|k| < \infty$ .  $k$  is a finite field.

Then  $E^*$  is cyclic (why?) the  $\exists \beta \in E^*$

st.  $E^* = k(\beta)$  and therefore  $E = k(\beta)$

Step 2.  $|k| = \infty$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Assume  $\exists$  only finitely many intermediate fields

Take any  $d, \beta \in E$ . Consider

$$k(d+\beta). \quad c \in k$$

$$\Rightarrow \exists c \neq 0 \in k, \text{ st.}$$

$$k(d+c\beta) = k(d+\beta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta \in k(d+c\beta) \Rightarrow (1-c)\beta \in k(d+c\beta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha \in k(d+c\beta)$$

Thus  $k(d+\beta) = k(d+c\beta)$ , for some  $c \in k$

Proceed inductively. Since  $E/k$  finite,  $\exists d_1, \dots, d_n \in E$   
 s.t.  $E = k(d_1, \dots, d_n)$

Now,  $\exists c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in k$ , s.t.

$$E = k(\xi), \quad \xi = d_1 + c_2 d_2 + \dots + c_n d_n$$

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Assume  $E = k(d)$ .

Let  $k \subset F \subset E = k(d)$

Set  $f_d^F \in F[X]$  be the irred of  $d$  over  $F$ .

Get a map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{k \mid k \subset F \subset E\} & \xrightarrow{\phi} & E[X] \\ \downarrow & \longmapsto & \downarrow f_d^F \\ F & & F \end{array}$$

Note:  $\forall F, f_d^F \mid f_d$

$$\frac{F}{f_d^F} \Rightarrow |\text{Im}(\phi)| < +\infty.$$

Claim:  $\phi$  is injective.

That is  $F$  is uniquely determined by  $f_d^F$

Let  $F_0 = k(a_i, 0 \leq i \leq \deg f_\alpha^F)$  be the

subfield of  $\mathbb{E}$  generated by the coeff. of  $f_\alpha^F$ .

Note  $f_\alpha^F \in F[X]$

Thus  $k \subset F_0 \subset F \subset \mathbb{E}$ .

$f_\alpha^F \in F_0[X]$  is irred, as  $f_\alpha^F \in F[X]$  irreducible.

Thus  $f_\alpha^{F_0} = f_\alpha^F$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } [E:F_0] &= [E:F][F:F_0] && \Rightarrow [F:F_0] = 1 \\ &\quad \parallel && \parallel \\ &\quad \deg f_\alpha^{F_0} && \deg f_\alpha^F && \Rightarrow F = F_0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $F$  is uniquely determined by  $f_\alpha^F$ .  $(*)$

Therefore  $|\{F \mid k \subset F \subset \mathbb{E}\}| < +\infty$ .

Step 3:  $\underbrace{|k| = +\infty, \text{ and}}_{E|k \text{ separable, finite.}} \quad \text{WLOG}$

Let  $\{\sigma_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  be the distinct embeddings to  $\bar{k}$ ,

where  $n = [E:k]$ .

WLOG.  $E = k(\alpha, \beta)$  (in general, by substitution).

Claim:  $\exists c \in k$ , s.t.  $k(\alpha, \beta) = k(\alpha + c\beta)$ .

For this, consider the polynomial

$$P(X) = \prod_{i \neq j} (\sigma_i \alpha + \sigma_i \beta \cdot X - \sigma_j \alpha - \sigma_j \beta \cdot X)$$

Note  $P(X) \neq 0$ .

Since  $|k| = +\infty$ ,  $\exists c \in k$ , s.t.

$$P(c) \neq 0.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus, } \sigma_i (\alpha + c\beta) &= \sigma_i \alpha + c \sigma_i \beta \neq \sigma_j \alpha + c \sigma_j \beta \\ &= \sigma_j (\alpha + c\beta), \quad i \neq j \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence } [k(\alpha + c\beta) : k] \geq n$$

$$\text{But } [k(\alpha + c\beta) : k] \leq [E : k] = n$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$$E = k(\alpha + c\beta).$$

#