

## Geometric constructions and elements of Galois' theory

### List 2

Number fields and quadratic extensions.

- (a) Let  $p = (2/3) + \sqrt{3/5}$  and  $q = 1 - (1/2)\sqrt{3/5}$ . Express the numbers  $p + q$ ,  $p - q$ ,  $pq$  and  $p/q$  in the form  $a + b\sqrt{3/5}$ , where  $a, b \in \mathbf{Q}$ .  
(b) Prove that  $\sqrt{3/5}$  is not a rational number, and that the set  $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{3/5})$  consisting of all numbers of form  $a + b\sqrt{3/5}$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are rational, is a field.  
(c) Show that the expression of any number  $x$  from the field  $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{3/5})$  in the form  $a + b\sqrt{3/5}$  for some rational  $a$  and  $b$  is unique.
- Show that the square roots of the numbers  $5$ ,  $\sqrt{3}$  and  $2 + \sqrt{3}$  do not belong to the field  $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{3})$ .
- Denote by  $F$  the field  $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{3})$ , and by  $k$  the number  $2 + \sqrt{3}$ .  
(a) Let  $p = 1 - \sqrt{3} - (1 + 2\sqrt{3})\sqrt{k}$  and  $q = 2 + \sqrt{3} + (1 + \sqrt{3})\sqrt{k}$ , so that we have  $p, q \in F(\sqrt{k})$ . Express their sum, difference, product and quotient in the form  $a + b\sqrt{k}$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  belong to  $F$ .  
(b) Does the number  $\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{6 + 3\sqrt{3}}$  belong to the field  $F(\sqrt{k})$ ?
- Let  $F_1 = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{3})$  and  $F_2 = F_1(\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{3}})$  be quadratic extensions. Find the general form for numbers from the field  $F_2$ . Do the same for  $F_1 = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{3})$  and  $F_2 = F_1(\sqrt{\sqrt{3}})$ .
- Let  $F$  be a field consisting of all numbers  $p + q\sqrt[4]{2}$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  both have forms  $a + b\sqrt{2}$  for some rational  $a$  and  $b$ . Express in the same manner the number

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt[4]{2} + \sqrt{2}\sqrt[4]{2}}$$

which belongs to this field.

- Find sequences of quadratic extensions for the following constructible numbers (so that the sequence starts with the field of rational numbers and terminates with a field which contains the given number):

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2/3} + 1}, \frac{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}}{1 + \sqrt{6}}, \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2}}, 2 - \sqrt{3} + \sqrt[4]{3}.$$

- Prove that the field  $\mathbf{K}$  of all constructible numbers does not have any quadratic extension.
- Prove that  $\sqrt[3]{2}$  is an irrational number. What about roots of higher degree?
- Give a proof of the following theorem of an ancient Greek mathematician Theaetetus (pol. Teajtet) from 4th century BC: *For a natural number  $n$ , its square root  $\sqrt{n}$  is rational if and only if  $n$  is a square of a natural number.* Is something similar true for roots of higher degree?
- Check if one can always construct a segment whose length is a. an arithmetic, b. a geometric, c. a harmonic, d. a quadratic mean of the lengths  $a, b, c$  of three given segments.
- We are given a segment  $a$  and a twice longer segment  $d$ . Is it possible to construct geometrically segments  $b$  and  $c$  such that the lengths  $a, b, c, d$  form a geometric progression?