

Introduction to Modern Algebra

Part X. Automorphisms and Galois Theory

X.49. The Isomorphism Extension Theorem

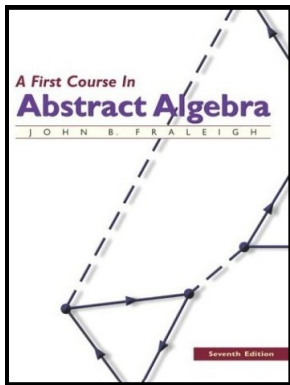


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Theorem 49.3

Theorem 49.3. Let E be an algebraic extension of a field F . Let σ be an isomorphism of F onto a field F' . Let \bar{F}' be an algebraic closure of F' . Then σ can be extended to an isomorphism τ of E onto a subfield \bar{F}' such that $\tau(a) = \sigma(a)$ for all $a \in F$.

Proof. Consider all pairs (L, λ) where L is a field such that $F \leq L \leq E$ and λ is an isomorphism of L onto a subfield of \bar{F}' such that $\lambda(a) = \sigma(a)$ for all $a \in F$. Let S be the set of all such pairs. S is nonempty since $(F, \sigma) \in S$.

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Proof (continued). Claim \leq is a partial ordering of S .

For any $(L, \lambda) \in S$ we have $L \leq L$ and $\lambda(a) = \sigma(a)$ for all $a \in F \leq L$, so $(L, \lambda) \leq (L, \lambda)$ and \leq is reflexive. If $(L_1, \lambda_1) \leq (L_2, \lambda_2)$ and $(L_2, \lambda_2) \leq (L_1, \lambda_1)$ then $L_1 \leq L_2$ and $L_2 \leq L_1$, so $L_1 = L_2$.

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Suppose $(L_1, \lambda_1) \leq (L_2, \lambda_2)$ and $(L_2, \lambda_2) \leq (L_3, \lambda_3)$. Then $L_1 \leq L_2 \leq L_3$ and so $L_1 \leq L_3$. Also, $\lambda_1(a) = \lambda_2(a) = \lambda_3(a)$ for all $a \in F$. So $(L_1, \lambda_1) \leq (L_3, \lambda_3)$ and \leq is transitive.

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Proof (continued). Let $T = \{(H_i, \lambda_i) \mid i \in I\}$ be a chain in S . Claim $H = \bigcup_{i \in I} H_i$ is a subfield of E .

Let $a, b \in H$ where $a \in H_i$ and $b \in H_j$. Then either $H_i \leq H_j$ or $H_j \leq H_i$ since T is a chain (definition of “chain”). WLOG, say $H_i \leq H_j$ then $a, b \in H_j$, so $a \pm b$, ab , and a/b for $b \neq 0$ are in H_j since H_j is a field.

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Theorem 49.3. (continued 3)

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Proof (continued). Define $\lambda : H \rightarrow \bar{F}'$ as $\lambda(c) = \lambda_i(c)$ for each $c \in H$ where $c \in H_i$. We need to show that λ is well defined (and hence independent of the choice of H_i). Notice that if $c \in H_i$ and $c \in H_j$ then either $(H_i, \lambda_i) \leq (H_j, \lambda_j)$ or $(H_j, \lambda_j) \leq (H_i, \lambda_i)$ since T is a chain. In either case $\lambda_i(c) = \lambda_j(c)$ and so $\lambda(c)$ is well defined.

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Proof (continued). Claim $\lambda : H \rightarrow \bar{F}'$ is an isomorphism of H onto a subfield $\lambda[H]$ of \bar{F}' . If $a, b \in H$ then there is (as above) an H_j such that $a, b \in H_j$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda(a + b) &= \lambda_j(a + b) = \lambda_j(a) + \lambda_j(b) \text{ since } \lambda_j \text{ is an isomorphism} \\ &= \lambda(a) + \lambda(b) \\ \lambda(ab) &= \lambda_j(ab) = \lambda_j(a)\lambda_j(b) \text{ since } \lambda_j \text{ is an isomorphism} \\ &= \lambda(a)\lambda(b) \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

So λ has the homomorphism property with respect to addition and multiplication.

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Proof (continued). Next, if $\lambda(a) = 0$ for $a \in H$, then $a \in H_i$ for some $i \in I$ and so $\lambda_i(a) = \lambda(a) = 0$ implies that $a = 0$ since λ_i is an isomorphism and hence one to one (by Corollary 13.18). Therefore (by Corollary 13.18) $\text{Ker}(\lambda) = 0$ and λ is onto $\lambda[H]$ and therefore λ is an isomorphism with $\lambda[H]$ a subfield of \bar{F}' .

Since each λ_i fixes F , then λ fixes F . So $(H, \lambda) \in S$. By construction (since $H_i \subseteq H$ for all $i \in I$), (H, λ) is an upper bound for chain T .

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Theorem 49.3 (continued 6)

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Proof. (Continued) Applying Zorn's Lemma, there is a maximal element of S , say (K, τ) . Denote $\tau[K]$ as K' and so $K' \leq \bar{F}'$. ASSUME $K \neq E$. Let $\alpha \in E/K$. Since E is an algebraic extension of F , α is algebraic over K . Let $p(x) = \text{irr}(\alpha, K)$.

Theorem 49.3 (continued 6)

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Proof (continued). Let ψ_α be the canonical isomorphism mapping $K[x]/\langle p(x) \rangle$ onto $K(\alpha)$ which corresponds to φ_α . The elements of $K[x]/\langle p(x) \rangle$ are cosets of $\langle p(x) \rangle$, say of the form $r(x) + \langle p(x) \rangle$. Since $p(\alpha) = 0$, then $\psi_\alpha(r(x) + \langle p(x) \rangle) = r(\alpha) \in K(\alpha)$. Notice that ψ_α is one to one since it maps cosets to elements of $K(\alpha)$ (whereas φ_α is not one to one; it maps elements from the same cosets of $\langle p(x) \rangle$ onto the same element of $K(\alpha)$).

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Theorem 49.3 (continued 8)

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Proof (continued). If $p(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \cdots + a_nx^n$, consider $q(x) = \tau(a_0) + \tau(a_1)x + \tau(a_2)x^2 + \cdots + \tau(a_n)x^n \in K'[x] = \tau[K][x]$ where τ is from the maximal element (K, τ) of S . Since τ is an isomorphism, $q(x)$ is irreducible in $K'[x]$. Since $K' \leq \bar{F}'$, there is a zero α' of $q(x)$ in \bar{F}' .

Theorem 49.3 (continued 8)

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Theorem 49.3 (continued 8)

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Proof (continued). Then $\psi_{\alpha'} \bar{\tau} \psi_{\alpha}^{-1} : K(\alpha) \rightarrow K'(\alpha')$ is an isomorphism of $K(\alpha)$ onto a subfield $K'(\alpha')$ of \bar{F}' , since $K \leq K(\alpha)$ and $\psi_{\alpha'} \bar{\tau} \psi_{\alpha}^{-1}$ “extends” τ from K (and so $\psi_{\alpha'} \bar{\tau} \psi_{\alpha}^{-1}(a) = \tau(a) = \sigma(a)$ for all $a \in F$). So $(K, \tau) < (K(\alpha), \psi_{\alpha'} \bar{\tau} \psi_{\alpha}^{-1})$, which is a contradiction to the maximality of (K, τ) . Therefore the assumption that $K \neq E$ is false and $K = E$.

Theorem 49.3 (continued 9)

Theorem 49.3. Let E be an algebraic extension of a field F . Let σ be an isomorphism of F onto a field F' . Let \bar{F}' be an algebraic closure of F' . Then σ can be extended to an isomorphism τ of E onto a subfield \bar{F}' such that $\tau(a) = \sigma(a)$ for all $a \in F$.

Proof (continued). Then $\psi_{\alpha'} \bar{\tau} \psi_{\alpha}^{-1} : K(\alpha) \rightarrow K'(\alpha')$ is an isomorphism of $K(\alpha)$ onto a subfield $K'(\alpha')$ of \bar{F}' , since $K \leq K(\alpha)$ and $\psi_{\alpha'} \bar{\tau} \psi_{\alpha}^{-1}$ “extends” τ from K (and so $\psi_{\alpha'} \bar{\tau} \psi_{\alpha}^{-1}(a) = \tau(a) = \sigma(a)$ for all $a \in F$). So $(K, \tau) < (K(\alpha), \psi_{\alpha'} \bar{\tau} \psi_{\alpha}^{-1})$, which is a contradiction to the maximality of (K, τ) . Therefore the assumption that $K \neq E$ is false and $K = E$. So τ is an isomorphism of $E = K$ onto a subfield $\tau(E) = \tau(K)$ of \bar{F}' such that $\tau(a) = \sigma(a)$ on F , and the result follows. \square

Theorem 49.3 (continued 9)

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Theorem 49.7

Theorem 49.7. Let E be a finite extension of field F . Let σ be an isomorphism of F onto a field F' , and let \bar{F}' be an algebraic closure of F' . Then the number of extensions of σ to an isomorphism τ of E onto a subfield of \bar{F}' is finite, and independent of F' , \bar{F}' , and σ . That is, the number of extensions is completely determined by the two fields E and F .

Proof. Consider two isomorphisms $\sigma_1 : F \rightarrow F'_1$ and $\sigma_2 : F \rightarrow F'_2$ and let \bar{F}'_1 and \bar{F}'_2 be the algebraic closures of F'_1 and F'_2 respectively. Then $\sigma_2\sigma_1^{-1} : F'_1 \rightarrow F'_2$ is an isomorphism.

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Theorem 49.7 (continued 1)

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Proof (continued). Now for each such τ_1 we can define $\tau_2 = \lambda\tau_1$ where $\tau_2 : E \rightarrow \tau_2[E] \subset \bar{F}'_2$.

Since λ extends $\sigma_2\sigma_1^{-1}$ and τ_1 extends σ_1 , then $\tau_2 = \lambda\tau_1$ extends σ_2 . Similarly, we could have defined τ_1 in terms of τ_2 as $\tau_1 = \lambda^{-1}\tau_2$.

Theorem 49.7 (continued 1)

Theorem 49.7. Let E be a finite extension of field F . Let σ be an isomorphism of F onto a field F' , and let \bar{F}' be an algebraic closure of F' . Then the number of extensions of σ to an isomorphism τ of E onto a subfield of \bar{F}' is finite, and independent of F' , \bar{F}' , and σ . That is, the number of extensions is completely determined by the two fields E and F .

Proof (continued). Now for each such τ_1 we can define $\tau_2 = \lambda\tau_1$ where $\tau_2 : E \rightarrow \tau_2[E] \subseteq \bar{F}'_2$. Since λ extends $\sigma_2\sigma_1^{-1}$ and τ_1 extends σ_1 , then $\tau_2 = \lambda\tau_1$ extends σ_2 . Similarly, we could have defined τ_1 in terms of τ_2 as $\tau_1 = \lambda^{-1}\tau_2$. So for each $\tau_1 : E \rightarrow \tau_1[E] \subseteq \bar{F}'_1$ there is a $\tau_2 : E \rightarrow \tau_2[E] \subseteq \bar{F}'_2$, and conversely.

Theorem 49.7 (continued 1)

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Proof (continued). Now for each such τ_1 we can define $\tau_2 = \lambda\tau_1$ where $\tau_2 : E \rightarrow \tau_2[E] \subseteq \bar{F}'_2$. Since λ extends $\sigma_2\sigma_1^{-1}$ and τ_1 extends σ_1 , then $\tau_2 = \lambda\tau_1$ extends σ_2 . Similarly, we could have defined τ_1 in terms of τ_2 as $\tau_1 = \lambda^{-1}\tau_2$. So for each $\tau_1 : E \rightarrow \tau_1[E] \subseteq \bar{F}'_1$ there is a $\tau_2 : E \rightarrow \tau_2[E] \subseteq \bar{F}'_2$, and conversely. So there is a one to one correspondence between such τ_1 and τ_2 , independent of F' and \bar{F}' . So the number of extensions of σ to an isomorphism τ of E onto a subfield of \bar{F}' is independent of F' , \bar{F}' , and σ .

Theorem 49.7 (continued 2)

Theorem 49.7. Let E be a finite extension of field F . Let σ be an isomorphism of F onto a field F' , and let \bar{F}' be an algebraic closure of F' . Then the number of extensions of σ to an isomorphism τ of E onto a subfield of \bar{F}' is finite, and independent of F' , \bar{F}' , and σ . That is, the number of extensions is completely determined by the two fields E and F .

Proof (continued). We now show that the number of extensions of σ is finite. Since E is a finite extension of F , then $E = F(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$ for some $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ in E , by Theorem 31.11.

For $\alpha_j \in \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n\}$, let $\text{irr}(\alpha_j, F) = a_{j0} + a_{j1}x + a_{j2}x^2 + \dots + a_{jm_j}x^{m_j}$ where $a_{jk} \in F$.

Theorem 49.7 (continued 2)

Theorem 49.7. Let E be a finite extension of field F . Let σ be an isomorphism of F onto a field F' , and let \bar{F}' be an algebraic closure of F' . Then the number of extensions of σ to an isomorphism τ of E onto a subfield of \bar{F}' is finite, and independent of F' , \bar{F}' , and σ . That is, the number of extensions is completely determined by the two fields E and F .

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For $\alpha_i \in \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n\}$, let $\text{irr}(\alpha_i, F) = a_{i0} + a_{i1}x + a_{i2}x^2 + \dots + a_{im_i}x^{m_i}$ where $a_{ik} \in F$. Then

$$a_{i0} + a_{i1}(\alpha_i) + a_{i2}(\alpha_i)^2 + \dots + a_{im_i}(\alpha_i)^{m_i} = 0 \text{ and so}$$

$$\tau(a_{i0} + a_{i1}(\alpha_i) + a_{i2}(\alpha_i)^2 + \dots + a_{im_i}(\alpha_i)^{m_i}) = \tau(0) \text{ or}$$

$$\tau(a_{i0}) + \tau(a_{i1})\tau((\alpha_i)) + \dots + \tau(a_{im_i})(\tau(\alpha_i))^{m_i} = 0 \text{ or}$$

$$\sigma(a_{i0}) + \sigma(a_{i1})\tau((\alpha_i)) + \dots + \sigma(a_{im_i})(\tau(\alpha_i))^{m_i} = 0 \text{ since } \tau \text{ extends } \sigma \text{ and } a_{ik} \in F.$$

Theorem 49.7 (continued 2)

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Theorem 49.7 (continued 3)

Theorem 49.7. Let E be a finite extension of field F . Let σ be an isomorphism of F onto a field F' , and let \bar{F}' be an algebraic closure of F' . Then the number of extensions of σ to an isomorphism τ of E onto a subfield of \bar{F}' is finite, and independent of F' , \bar{F}' , and σ . That is, the number of extensions is completely determined by the two fields E and F .

Proof (continued). So the only possible value for $\tau(\alpha_i)$ is as a zero of $\sigma(a_{i0}) + \sigma(a_{i1})x + \sigma(a_{i2})x^2 + \dots + \sigma(a_{im_i})x^{m_i} \in F[x]$ and hence there are only m_i possible values for $\tau(\alpha_i)$. Therefore the number of values of τ on $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ are finite and since a basis for $E = F(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$ is $1, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$, then there are only a finite number of extensions of σ to E . □

Theorem 49.7 (continued 3)

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Corollary 49.10

Corollary 49.10. If $F \leq E \leq K$ where K is a finite extension field of the field F , then $\{K : F\} = \{K : E\}\{E : F\}$.

Proof. Let $\sigma : F \rightarrow \bar{F}$ (into) be an isomorphism of E with $\sigma[E] \leq \bar{F}$ which fixes F . By definition, there are $\{E : F\}$ such σ . Let $\tau : K \rightarrow \bar{F}$ be an isomorphism of K with $\tau[K] \leq \bar{F}$ which fixes E . By definition, there are $\{K : E\}$ such τ .

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$$u(x) = \begin{cases} \sigma\tau(x) & \text{if } x \in E \\ \tau(x) & \text{if } x \in K \setminus E \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

is an isomorphism of K with $u[K]$ which fixes F .

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So the number of such u is $\{K : F\} = \{K : E\}\{E : F\}$ by the Multiplication Rule. □

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