### Modern Algebra

Chapter V. Fields and Galois Theory V.3. Splitting Fields, Algebraic Closure, and Normality (Partial)—Proofs of Theorems



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**Theorem V.3.2.** If K is a field and  $f \in K[x]$  has degree  $n \ge 1$ , then there exists a splitting field F of f with dimension  $[F : K] \le n!$ .

**Proof.** We prove this by induction on  $n = \deg(f)$ . For the base step, if n = 1 (or if f splits over K) then F = K is a splitting field and  $[F : K] = [F : F] = 1 \le n!$ .

**Theorem V.3.2.** If *K* is a field and  $f \in K[x]$  has degree  $n \ge 1$ , then there exists a splitting field *F* of *f* with dimension  $[F : K] \le n!$ . **Proof.** We prove this by induction on  $n = \deg(f)$ . For the base step, if n = 1 (or if *f* splits over *K*) then F = K is a splitting field and  $[F : K] = [F : F] = 1 \le n!$ . If n > 1 and *f* does not split over *K*, let  $g \in K[x]$  be an irreducible factor of *f* of degree greater than one. By Theorem V.1.10 (Kronecker's Theorem) there is a simple extension field K(u) of *K* such that *u* is a root of *g* and  $[K(u) : K] = \deg(g) > 1$ .

**Theorem V.3.2.** If K is a field and  $f \in K[x]$  has degree  $n \ge 1$ , then there exists a splitting field F of f with dimension  $[F:K] \leq n!$ . **Proof.** We prove this by induction on  $n = \deg(f)$ . For the base step, if n = 1 (or if f splits over K) then F = K is a splitting field and  $[F:K] = [F:F] = 1 \le n!.$ If n > 1 and f does not split over K, let  $g \in K[x]$  be an irreducible factor of f of degree greater than one. By Theorem V.1.10 (Kronecker's Theorem) there is a simple extension field K(u) of K such that u is a root of g and  $[K(u): K] = \deg(g) > 1$ . Then by Theorem III.6.6 (the Factor Theorem) we have f(x) = (x - u)h(x) for some  $h \in K(u)[x]$  of degree n-1 (we have only used polynomial g in passing; notice deg(g)  $\leq n$ ). Repeating this process (and factoring f) we can produce (inductively) a splitting field F of  $h \in K(u)[x]$  of degree at most (n-1)!.

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**Theorem V.3.8.** Let  $\sigma : K \to L$  be an isomorphism of fields,  $S = \{f_i\}$  a set of polynomials (of positive degree) in K[x], and  $S' = \{\sigma f_i\}$  the corresponding set of polynomials in L[x]. If F is a splitting field of S over K and M is a splitting field of S' over L, then  $\sigma$  is extendible to an isomorphism  $F \cong M$ .

**Proof for** *S* a **Finite Set.** Suppose that *S* consists of a single polynomial  $f \in K[x]$ . Let *F* be a splitting field of *f* over *K*. Let n = [F : K]. We give an inductive proof on *n*.

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### Corollary V.3.9

**Corollary V.3.9.** Let K be a field and S a set of polynomials (of positive degree) in K[x]. Then any two splitting fields of S over K are K-isomorphic. In particular, any two algebraic closures of K are K-isomorphic.

**Proof.** With  $\sigma: K \to K$  as  $\sigma = 1_K$  (the identity on K) in Theorem V.3.8, we have that if L and M are splitting fields for K (so  $K \subset L, K \subset M$ ) then  $\sigma$  extends to an isomorphism  $\tau: L \to M$  and the two splitting fields are isomorphic.

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For the "in particular" claim, we need to consider the set S of all polynomials in K[x]. By Theorem V.3.4, the splitting field of S is the algebraic closure of K. Again, Theorem V.3.8 with  $\sigma = 1_K$  yields the result. (This is also shown in Theorem V.3.6.)

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**Theorem V.3.11.** If F is an extension field of K, then the following statements are equivalent.

- (i) F is algebraic and Galois over K.
- (ii) F is separable over K and F is a splitting field over K of a set S of polynomials in K[x].
- (iii) F is a splitting field over K of a set T of separable polynomials in K[x].

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) and (iii) If  $u \in F$  has irreducible polynomial f, then as in the proof of Lemma V.2.13 (up to the "Consequently, all the roots of f are distinct and lie in E" part) f splits in F[x] into a product of distinct linear factors. Hence (by definition) u is separable over K.

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**Proof (continued).** (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) So define set T to be the set of all monic irreducible factors in K[x] of polynomials in set S. We have just argued that set T consists of separable polynomials in K[x].

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**Proof.** (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) *F* is algebraic over *K* since any splitting field over *K* is (by definition of splitting field, Definition V.3.1) an algebraic extension of *K*. Let *X* be the set of all roots of polynomials in *K*. Then by the definition of splitting field, F = K(X).

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**Proof.** (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) *F* is algebraic over *K* since any splitting field over *K* is (by definition of splitting field, Definition V.3.1) an algebraic extension of *K*. Let *X* be the set of all roots of polynomials in *K*. Then by the definition of splitting field, F = K(X). Let  $u \in F \setminus K'$ . By Theorem V.1.3(vii) there is finite set  $\{v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n\} \subset X$  (so each  $v_i$  is a root of some  $f_j \in T$ ) such that  $u \in K(v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n)$ . Now consider the  $f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_n$  which have  $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n$  as roots (respectively). Let  $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_r$  be the set of all roots (in *F*) of  $f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_n$ . Thus  $u \in K(v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n) \subset K(u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_r) = E$ . By Theorem V.1.12, *F* is a finite dimensional extension of *K*; that is, [E : K] is finite.

**Proof (continued).** (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Since each  $f_i \in T$  splits in F by hypothesis, E is a splitting field over K of the finite set of polynomials  $\{f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_n\}$  (or equivalently, of the single polynomial  $f = f_1 f_2 \cdots f_n$ ). "Assume for now" that the theorem (i.e., (iii) $\Rightarrow$ (i)) holds in the finite dimensional case ([F : K] is finite). Under this assumption, then E is Galois over K; that is, the fixed field of Aut<sub>K</sub>E is E itself (Definition V.2.4). Since  $u \in E \setminus K$  (we are replacing field F with finite extension field *E* in the current discussion), then for some  $\tau \in Aut_K E$  we have  $\tau(u) \neq u$ . By Exercise V.3.2 ("If F is a splitting field of S over K and E is an intermediate field, then F is a splitting field of S over E.") F is a splitting field of T over E.

**Proof (continued). (iii)**  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Since each  $f_i \in T$  splits in F by hypothesis, E is a splitting field over K of the finite set of polynomials  $\{f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_n\}$  (or equivalently, of the single polynomial  $f = f_1 f_2 \cdots f_n$ ). "Assume for now" that the theorem (i.e., (iii) $\Rightarrow$ (i)) holds in the finite dimensional case ([F : K] is finite). Under this assumption, then E is Galois over K; that is, the fixed field of  $Aut_K E$  is E itself (Definition V.2.4). Since  $u \in E \setminus K$  (we are replacing field F with finite extension field *E* in the current discussion), then for some  $\tau \in Aut_{\mathcal{K}}E$  we have  $\tau(u) \neq u$ . By Exercise V.3.2 ("If F is a splitting field of S over K and E is an intermediate field, then F is a splitting field of S over E.") F is a splitting field of T over E. So by Theorem V.3.8 with  $\tau : E \to E$  ( $\tau$  is an automorphism of E and hence an isomorphism of E with itself) we have that  $\tau$  can be extended to isomorphism  $\sigma: F \to F$  (and so  $\sigma$  is an automorphism of F) where  $\sigma \in Aut_K F$  and  $\sigma = \tau$  on E. So

**Proof (continued).** (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Since each  $f_i \in T$  splits in F by hypothesis, E is a splitting field over K of the finite set of polynomials  $\{f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_n\}$  (or equivalently, of the single polynomial  $f = f_1 f_2 \cdots f_n$ ). "Assume for now" that the theorem (i.e., (iii) $\Rightarrow$ (i)) holds in the finite dimensional case ([F : K] is finite). Under this assumption, then E is Galois over K; that is, the fixed field of  $Aut_K E$  is E itself (Definition V.2.4). Since  $u \in E \setminus K$  (we are replacing field F with finite extension field *E* in the current discussion), then for some  $\tau \in Aut_{\mathcal{K}}E$  we have  $\tau(u) \neq u$ . By Exercise V.3.2 ("If F is a splitting field of S over K and E is an intermediate field, then F is a splitting field of S over E.") F is a splitting field of T over E. So by Theorem V.3.8 with  $\tau: E \to E$  ( $\tau$  is an automorphism of E and hence an isomorphism of E with itself) we have that  $\tau$  can be extended to isomorphism  $\sigma: {\it F} \rightarrow {\it F}$  (and so  $\sigma$  is an automorphism of F) where  $\sigma \in Aut_K F$  and  $\sigma = \tau$  on E. So  $\sigma(u) = \tau(u) \neq u.$ 

**Proof (continued). (iii)**  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Since *u* was an arbitrary element of  $F \setminus K$  at the very beginning of this proof, and there exists  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}_K F$  such that  $\sigma(u) \neq u$ , then the fixed field of  $\operatorname{Aut}_K F$  must be *K*. That is (by definition), *F* is Galois over *K*. So the theorem holds in general *if* it holds when [F : K] is finite.

**Proof (continued). (iii)**  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Since *u* was an arbitrary element of  $F \setminus K$  at the very beginning of this proof, and there exists  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}_K F$  such that  $\sigma(u) \neq u$ , then the fixed field of  $\operatorname{Aut}_K F$  must be *K*. That is (by definition), *F* is Galois over *K*. So the theorem holds in general *if* it holds when [F : K] is finite.

We now prove that the theorem holds for [F : K] is finite, hence completing the proof. With [F : K] finite, there exists a finite number of polynomials  $g_1, g_2, \ldots, g_t \in T$  such that F is a splitting field of  $\{g_1, g_2, \ldots, g_t\}$  over K. Furthermore  $\operatorname{Aut}_K F$  must be a finite group by Lemma V.2.8.

**Proof (continued). (iii)**  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Since *u* was an arbitrary element of  $F \setminus K$  at the very beginning of this proof, and there exists  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}_{K} F$  such that  $\sigma(u) \neq u$ , then the fixed field of  $\operatorname{Aut}_{K} F$  must be *K*. That is (by definition), *F* is Galois over *K*. So the theorem holds in general *if* it holds when [F : K] is finite. We now prove that the theorem holds for [F : K] is finite, hence

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**Proof (continued). (iii)**  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Since *u* was an arbitrary element of  $F \setminus K$  at the very beginning of this proof, and there exists  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}_{K} F$  such that  $\sigma(u) \neq u$ , then the fixed field of  $\operatorname{Aut}_{K} F$  must be *K*. That is (by definition), *F* is Galois over *K*. So the theorem holds in general *if* it holds when [F : K] is finite.

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**Proof (continued). (iii)**  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Since *u* was an arbitrary element of  $F \setminus K$  at the very beginning of this proof, and there exists  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}_{K} F$  such that  $\sigma(u) \neq u$ , then the fixed field of  $\operatorname{Aut}_{K} F$  must be *K*. That is (by definition), *F* is Galois over *K*. So the theorem holds in general *if* it holds when [F : K] is finite.

We now prove that the theorem holds for [F : K] is finite, hence completing the proof. With [F : K] finite, there exists a finite number of polynomials  $g_1, g_2, \ldots, g_t \in T$  such that F is a splitting field of  $\{g_1, g_2, \ldots, g_t\}$  over K. Furthermore Aut<sub>K</sub>F must be a finite group by Lemma V.2.8. If  $K_0$  is the fixed field of Aut<sub>K</sub>F, then F is a Galois extension of  $K_0$  by Artin's Theorem (Theorem V.2.15). By the Fundamental Theorem (Theorem V.2.5(i))  $[F : K_0] = |\operatorname{Aut}_{K_0} F|$ . Since  $K_0$ is the fixed field of Aut<sub>K</sub>F then we have Aut<sub>K\_0</sub> $F = \operatorname{Aut}_K F$  (this is a remark on page 245). So  $[F : K_0] = |\operatorname{Aut}_K F|$ . Now we have  $K \subset K_0 \subset F$ , and so by Theorem V.1.2 we have  $[F : K] = [F : K_0][K_0 : K]$ .

**Proof (continued). (iii)**  $\Rightarrow$  (i) So if we show that  $[F : K] = |\operatorname{Aut}_{K}F|$  then we will have that  $[K_0 : K] = 1$  and so  $K_0 = K$ , which implies the fixed field of  $\operatorname{Aut}_{K}F$  is  $K_0 = K$ ; that is, F is a Galois extension of K.

We proceed by induction on n = [F : K], with the case n = 1 being trivial (since this implies that F = K and  $Aut_K F$  consists only of the identity on F). If n > 1, then one of th  $eg_i$ , say  $g_1$ , has degree s > 1 (otherwise all the roots of the  $g_i$  lie in K an dF = K).

**Proof (continued). (iii)**  $\Rightarrow$  (i) So if we show that  $[F : K] = |\operatorname{Aut}_K F|$  then we will have that  $[K_0 : K] = 1$  and so  $K_0 = K$ , which implies the fixed field of  $\operatorname{Aut}_K F$  is  $K_0 = K$ ; that is, F is a Galois extension of K.

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**Proof (continued). (iii)**  $\Rightarrow$  (i) So if we show that  $[F : K] = |\operatorname{Aut}_K F|$  then we will have that  $[K_0 : K] = 1$  and so  $K_0 = K$ , which implies the fixed field of  $\operatorname{Aut}_K F$  is  $K_0 = K$ ; that is, F is a Galois extension of K.

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**Proof (continued).** (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) By the second paragraph of the proof of Lemma V.2.8 (with L = k, M = K(u) and  $f = g_1$ ) we have that there is an injective map from the set of all left cosets of  $H = \operatorname{Aut}_{K(u)} F$  (this is set S in Lemma V.2.8; and  $M' = H = \operatorname{Aut}_{K(\mu)}F$  in  $\operatorname{Aut}_{K}F$  (in Lemma V.2.8, with  $L' = \operatorname{Aut}_L F$  to the set of all roots of  $g_1$  in F (set T in Lemma V.2.8), given by  $\sigma H \mapsto \sigma(u)$  (in Lemma V.2.8, the mapping is  $\tau M' \mapsto \tau(u)$  so the  $\tau \in L' = \operatorname{Aut}_L F$  of Lemma V.2.8 equals the  $\sigma \in Aut_{K}F = K'$  here). Therefore since the mapping is injective (one to one) then the number of left cosets of  $H = \operatorname{Aut}_{K(u)} F$  in  $\operatorname{Aut}_{K} F$  is less than or equal to the number of roots of  $g_1$ ; that is,  $[Aut_K F : H] \leq s$ . Now if  $v \in F$  is any other root of  $g_1$  (which exists since deg $(g_1) = s > 1$ ), there is an isomorphism  $\tau: K(u) \cong K(v)$  with  $\tau(u) - v$  and  $\tau|_{K} = 1_{K}$  by Corollary V.1.9.

**Proof (continued).** (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) By the second paragraph of the proof of Lemma V.2.8 (with L = k, M = K(u) and  $f = g_1$ ) we have that there is an injective map from the set of all left cosets of  $H = \operatorname{Aut}_{K(u)} F$  (this is set S in Lemma V.2.8; and  $M' = H = \operatorname{Aut}_{K(\mu)} F$  in  $\operatorname{Aut}_{K} F$  (in Lemma V.2.8, with  $L' = \operatorname{Aut}_L F$  to the set of all roots of  $g_1$  in F (set T in Lemma V.2.8), given by  $\sigma H \mapsto \sigma(u)$  (in Lemma V.2.8, the mapping is  $\tau M' \mapsto \tau(u)$  so the  $\tau \in L' = \operatorname{Aut}_L F$  of Lemma V.2.8 equals the  $\sigma \in Aut_{\kappa}F = K'$  here). Therefore since the mapping is injective (one to one) then the number of left cosets of  $H = \operatorname{Aut}_{K(u)} F$  in  $\operatorname{Aut}_{K} F$  is less than or equal to the number of roots of  $g_1$ ; that is,  $[Aut_K F : H] \leq s$ . Now if  $v \in F$  is any other root of  $g_1$  (which exists since deg $(g_1) = s > 1$ ), there is an isomorphism  $\tau : K(u) \cong K(v)$  with  $\tau(u) - v$  and  $\tau|_{K} = 1_{K}$  by **Corollary V.1.9.** Since F is a splitting field of  $\{g_1, g_2, \ldots, g_t\}$  over K(u)and over K(v) (by Exercise V.3.2 since K(u) and K(v) are intermediate fields between K and splitting field F), then  $\tau$  extends to an automorphism  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}_{\kappa} F$  with  $\sigma(u) = v$  by Theorem V.3.8.

**Proof (continued).** (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) By the second paragraph of the proof of Lemma V.2.8 (with L = k, M = K(u) and  $f = g_1$ ) we have that there is an injective map from the set of all left cosets of  $H = \operatorname{Aut}_{K(u)} F$  (this is set S in Lemma V.2.8; and  $M' = H = \operatorname{Aut}_{K(\mu)}F$  in  $\operatorname{Aut}_{K}F$  (in Lemma V.2.8, with  $L' = \operatorname{Aut}_L F$  to the set of all roots of  $g_1$  in F (set T in Lemma V.2.8), given by  $\sigma H \mapsto \sigma(u)$  (in Lemma V.2.8, the mapping is  $\tau M' \mapsto \tau(u)$  so the  $\tau \in L' = \operatorname{Aut}_L F$  of Lemma V.2.8 equals the  $\sigma \in Aut_{\mathcal{K}} \mathcal{F} = \mathcal{K}'$  here). Therefore since the mapping is injective (one to one) then the number of left cosets of  $H = \operatorname{Aut}_{K(u)} F$  in  $\operatorname{Aut}_{K} F$  is less than or equal to the number of roots of  $g_1$ ; that is,  $[Aut_K F : H] \leq s$ . Now if  $v \in F$  is any other root of  $g_1$  (which exists since deg $(g_1) = s > 1$ ), there is an isomorphism  $\tau: K(u) \cong K(v)$  with  $\tau(u) - v$  and  $\tau|_{K} = 1_{K}$  by Corollary V.1.9. Since F is a splitting field of  $\{g_1, g_2, \ldots, g_t\}$  over K(u)and over K(v) (by Exercise V.3.2 since K(u) and K(v) are intermediate fields between K and splitting field F), then  $\tau$  extends to an automorphism  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}_{\kappa} F$  with  $\sigma(u) = v$  by Theorem V.3.8.

**Proof (continued).** (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Now the mapping of cosets takes  $\sigma H$  to  $\sigma(u) = v$  and so every root of  $g_1$  is the image of some coset of H in Aut<sub>K</sub>F; that is, the mapping is onto and so  $[Aut_KF : H] = s$ . Furthermore, F is a splitting field over K(u) of the set of all irreducible factors  $h_i$  (in K(u)[x]) of the polynomials  $g_i$  (by Exercise V.3.4). Each  $h_i$ is clearly separable since it divides some  $g_i$  (the  $g_i$  are separable by the hypotheses of (iii)). Now by Theorem V.1.2, n = [F : K] = [F : K(u)][K(u) : K] = [F : K(u)]s, or [F: K(u)] = n/s < n and so by the induction hypothesis we have that F is Galois over K(u) and so the fixed field of  $Aut_{K(u)}F$  is K(u) and by the Fundamental Theorem (Theorem V.2.5(i))  $[F : K(u)] = |\operatorname{Aut}_{K(u)}F| = |H|$ .

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**Proof (continued).** (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Therefore

$$[F:K] = [F:K(u)][K(u):K] \text{ by Theorem V.2.1}$$
  
=  $|H|s \text{ since } [K(u):K] = s \text{ and } H = \operatorname{Aut}_{K(u)}F$   
=  $|H|[\operatorname{Aut}_{K}F:H] \text{ since } [\operatorname{Aut}_{K}F:H] = s$   
=  $|\operatorname{Aut}_{K}F|$ 

with the last equality holding because  $[\operatorname{Aut}_{K} F : H]$  is the number of cosets of H in  $\operatorname{Aut}_{K} F$ , so  $[\operatorname{Aut}_{K} F : H] = |\operatorname{Aut}_{K} F|/|H|$ . We have now established what is required (namely,  $[F : K] = |\operatorname{Aut}_{K} F|$ ) for the previous paragraph to imply that F is Galois over K whenever [F : K] is finite. In turn, this result can be used in the paragraph before that to show that F is Galois over K for [F : K] not finite.

**Proof (continued).** (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Therefore

$$[F:K] = [F:K(u)][K(u):K] \text{ by Theorem V.2.1}$$
  
=  $|H|s \text{ since } [K(u):K] = s \text{ and } H = \operatorname{Aut}_{K(u)}F$   
=  $|H|[\operatorname{Aut}_{K}F:H] \text{ since } [\operatorname{Aut}_{K}F:H] = s$   
=  $|\operatorname{Aut}_{K}F|$ 

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**Theorem V.3.14.** If F is an algebraic extension field of K, then the following statements are equivalent.

- (i) F is normal over K.
- (ii) F is a splitting field over K of some set of polynomials in K[x].
- (iii) If  $\overline{K}$  is algebraically closed, contains K, and contains F, then for any K-monomorphism of fields  $\sigma : F \to \overline{K}$  (that is,  $\sigma$  is a one to one homomorphism and  $\sigma$  fixes K elementwise), then  $\operatorname{Im}(\sigma) = F$  so that  $\sigma$  is actually a K-automorphism of F(that is,  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}_{K}(F)$ ).

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) F is a splitting field over K of  $\{f_i \in K[x] \mid i \in I\}$  where  $f_i$  is the irreducible polynomial in K[x] for some  $u_i \in F$ , where  $\{u_i \mid i \in I\}$  is a basis of F over K (every vector space has a basis, so the set of  $u_i$ 's exists and since F is normal over K we have the splitting requirement; also, since the  $u_i$  form a basis we know that this covers every element in F).

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**Proof.** (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) Let F be a splitting field of  $\{f_i \mid i \in I\}$  over K and  $\sigma: F \to \overline{K}$  a K-monomorphism of fields. If  $u \in F$  is a root of  $f_i$  then so is  $\sigma(u)$  (as shown in the two-line proof of Theorem V.2.2). By hypothesis  $f_i$ splits in F, say  $f_i = c(x - u_1)(x - u_2) \cdots (x - u_n)$  (where  $u_i \in F$ ,  $c \in K$ ).

**Theorem V.3.14.** If F is an algebraic extension field of K, then the following statements are equivalent.

- (ii) F is a splitting field over K of some set of polynomials in K[x].
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**Proof (continued). (ii)**  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) Since  $\overline{K}[x]$  is a unique factorization domain by Corollary III.6.4 and  $\sigma(u_i)$  is a root of  $f_j$  for all *i*, then by the Factor Theorem (Theorem III.6.6),  $x - \sigma(u_i)$  must be a factor of  $f_j$  and so  $\sigma(u_i)$  must be one of  $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n$  for every *i*. Since  $\sigma$  is one to one, it must simply permute the  $u_i$ . But *F* is generated over *K* by all the roots of all the  $f_i$ . It follows from Theorem V.1.3(vi) that  $\sigma(F) = F$  and hence  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}_K F$  (so  $\sigma$  is a "*K*-automorphism of *F*").

**Theorem V.3.14.** If F is an algebraic extension field of K, then the following statements are equivalent.

- (ii) F is a splitting field over K of some set of polynomials in K[x].
- (iii) If  $\overline{K}$  is algebraically closed, contains K, and contains F, then for any K-monomorphism of fields  $\sigma : F \to \overline{K}$  (that is,  $\sigma$  is a one to one homomorphism and  $\sigma$  fixes K elementwise), then  $\operatorname{Im}(\sigma) = F$  so that  $\sigma$  is actually a K-automorphism of F(that is,  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}_{K}(F)$ ).

**Proof (continued). (ii)**  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) Since  $\overline{K}[x]$  is a unique factorization domain by Corollary III.6.4 and  $\sigma(u_i)$  is a root of  $f_j$  for all i, then by the Factor Theorem (Theorem III.6.6),  $x - \sigma(u_i)$  must be a factor of  $f_j$  and so  $\sigma(u_i)$  must be one of  $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n$  for every i. Since  $\sigma$  is one to one, it must simply permute the  $u_i$ . But F is generated over K by all the roots of all the  $f_i$ . It follows from Theorem V.1.3(vi) that  $\sigma(F) = F$  and hence  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}_K F$  (so  $\sigma$  is a "K-automorphism of F").

**Theorem V.3.14.** If F is an algebraic extension field of K, then the following statements are equivalent.

(i) F is normal over K.

(iii) If  $\overline{K}$  is algebraically closed, contains K, and contains F, then for any K-monomorphism of fields  $\sigma : F \to \overline{K}$  (that is,  $\sigma$  is a one to one homomorphism and  $\sigma$  fixes K elementwise), then  $\operatorname{Im}(\sigma) = F$  so that  $\sigma$  is actually a K-automorphism of F(that is,  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}_{K}(F)$ ).

**Proof.** (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Let  $\overline{K}$  be an algebraic closure of F. Then  $\overline{K}$  is algebraic over K by Theorem V.1.13 (since  $K \subset F \subset \overline{K}$ ). Therefore  $\overline{K}$  contains K and is algebraically closed and contains F. Let  $F \in K[x]$  be irreducible with a root  $u \in F$ . By construction,  $\overline{K}$  contains all roots of f.

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**Proof (continued). (iii)**  $\Rightarrow$  (i) By Theorems V.3.4 and V.3.8 and Exercise V.3.2,  $\sigma$  extends to a *K*-automorphism of  $\overline{K}$ . Now  $\sigma|_F$  is a monomorphism (one to one, since  $\sigma$  is hypothesized to be a monomorphism) mapping  $F \rightarrow \overline{K}$  and, since by hypothesis Im $(\sigma) = F$ , we have  $\sigma(F) = F$ . Therefore  $v = \sigma(u) \in F$  which implies that all roots of f are in F; that is, f splits in F. So F is normal over K.

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**Theorem V.3.16.** If E is an algebraic extension field of K, then there exists an extension field F of E such that:

(i) F is normal over K;

(ii) No proper subfield of F containing E is normal over K;

(iii) If E is separable over K, then F is Galois over K;

(iv) [F : K] is finite if and only if [E : K] is finite.

The field F is uniquely determined up to an E-isomorphism.

**Proof.** (i) Let  $X = \{u_i \mid i \in I\}$  be a basis of E over K and let  $f_i \in K[x]$  be the irreducible polynomial of  $u_i$ . If F is a splitting field of  $S = \{f_i \mid i \in I\}$  over E, then F is also a splitting field of S over K by Exercise V.3.3. Whence F is normal over K by Theorem V.3.14 (the (ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i) part).

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**Proof. (iii)** If *E* is separable over *K*, then each  $f_i$  above is separable over *F* (since  $K \subset E \subset F$ ). As explained above, *F* is a splitting field of  $S = \{f_i \mid i \in I\}$  (and *S* consists of separable polynomials in K[x]), so by Theorem V.3.11 (the (iii) $\Rightarrow$ (i) part), *F* is Galois over *K*.

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**Theorem V.3.16.** If E is an algebraic extension field of K, then there exists an extension field F of E such that:

(ii) No proper subfield of F containing E is normal over K. The field F is uniquely determined up to an E-isomorphism.

**Proof.** (ii) If  $F_0$  is a subfield of F that contains E, then  $F_0$  necessarily contains the root  $u_i$  of  $f_i \in S$  for every i (since E contains each  $u_i$ ). If  $F_0$  is normal over K (so that each  $f_i$  splits in  $F_0$  by definition) then  $F \subset F_0$  and hence  $F = F_0$  and subfield  $F_0$  of F is not proper.

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**Uniqueness.** Let  $F_1$  be another extension field of E (in addition to F) with properties (i) and (ii). Since  $F_1$  is normal over K by (i) and contains each  $u_i$  (since E contains each  $u_i$  and we have  $K \subset E \subset F_1$ ), then (by the definition of normal) each polynomial in S splits in  $F_1$ .

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The field F is uniquely determined up to an E-isomorphism.

**Proof (continued). (Uniqueness)** Therefore both F and  $F_1$  are splitting fields of S over K and hence (by Exercise V.3.2) are splitting fields of S over E. By Theorem V.3.8, the identity on E extends to an E-isomorphism  $F \cong F_1$ .