



**TRINITY COLLEGE FOR WOMEN  
NAMAKKAL  
Department of Mathematics**

**ADVANCED ALGEBRA  
23PMA04– EVEN SEMESTER**

**GALOIS THEORY**

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# **FIELDS AND AUTOMORPHISMS**

**A field  $F$  is a set with invertible multiplication and addition such that the distributive property holds. It is a generalization of  $Q$ .**

**A field homomorphism is a map to another field that commutes with both operations.**

**They are either injective or trivial.**

**A field automorphism is an isomorphism from  $F$  to itself.**

**Field automorphisms are invertible and can be composed, so they can form a group.**

**PRIME SUBFIELDS:**

**The field  $F$  has a multiplicative**

**identity 1. Let  $\sigma$  be any automorphism of  $F$ .**

**Let  $k$  be an element of the form  $(1 + \cdots +$**

**If  $F$  is finite, it is the ring  $Z/pZ$  for some prime  $p$ .**

## **FUNDAMENTAL IDEAS**

**An object's group of symmetries contains important information about that object.**

**Polynomials define algebraic behavior and thus can be used to create new mathematical**

**objects.**

**Galois theory is usually described as the study of field automorphisms and polynomials over fields.**

**FIELD EXTENSIONS:**

**When  $F$  is a subfield of  $E$ , we say that  $E$  is an extension of  $F$  and write  $E$  and  $E/F$ .**

**Extensions can be created by adjoining roots of**

**polynomials.**

**The automorphism group of a field is  $\text{Aut}(E)$ . The automorphism group of a field  $E$  fixing a subfield  $F$  is  $\text{Aut}(E/F)$ . For a prime subfield  $Q$ ,  $\text{Aut}(E) = \text{Aut}(E/Q)$ .**

**MORE ON FIELD EXTENSIONS:**

**Example:**

**Adjoining  $\sqrt{2}$  to  $Q$  to get  $Q(\sqrt{2})$**

$\sqrt{2}$  is a root of the irreducible polynomial  $x^2 - 2$ ; we define  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  as the set of elements of the form  $a + b\sqrt{2}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are rational.

This is isomorphic to the quotient  $\mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 - 2)$ .

Another example:

$x^2 + 1$  is irreducible over  $R$ . We define  $i$  as one of its roots and adjoin it to get



$\sqrt{2}$  is a root of the irreducible polynomial  $x^2 - 2$ ; we define  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  as the set of elements of the form  $a + b\sqrt{2}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are rational.

This is isomorphic to the quotient  $\mathbb{Q}[x] / (x^2 - 2)$ .

# THANK YOU

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