

**MATH 532**  
**EXERCISES 2**

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Unless otherwise stated  $K$  and  $k$  are fields and  $K/k$  is a field extension.

- (1) Determine the splitting field of  $X^3 - 2$ . Does this field contain  $\sqrt{-1}$ ?
- (2) Let  $p$  be a prime number. For the polynomial  $f(X) = \frac{X^p-1}{X-1} \in \mathbf{Q}[X]$  show that if  $\zeta_p$  is a root then the remaining roots are  $\zeta_p^2, \dots, \zeta_p^{p-1}$ . Deduce the splitting field of  $f$ .
- (3) Let  $k$  be a field of characteristic  $p$ ; where  $p$  is a prime number. Let  $f(X) = X^p - X - a$  for some  $a \in k$ .
  - ▶ If  $\alpha$  is a root of  $f$  then show that  $\alpha + 1$  is also a root of  $f$ .
  - ▶ Determine the remaining roots of  $f$ .
  - ▶ What is a splitting field for  $f$ .
- (4) Let  $k$  be a field of characteristic different from 2 and let  $K$  be an extension of  $k$  of degree 2, that is  $[K : k] = 2$ . Consider the set:
$$Q(K) = \{\alpha \in K^\times \mid \alpha = a^2 \text{ for some } a \text{ in } K\}.$$
  - ▶ Show that  $Q(K)$  is a multiplicative subgroup of  $K^\times$ .
  - ▶ Show that if  $K$  and  $K'$  are two quadratic extensions of  $k$ , then  $K$  and  $K'$  are isomorphic if and only if  $Q(K)$  and  $Q(K')$  are isomorphic (as multiplicative groups).
  - ▶ Show that there are infinitely non-isomorphic quadratic extensions of  $\mathbf{Q}$ .
  - ▶ Show that up to isomorphism, there is a unique extension of  $\mathbf{Z}/p\mathbf{Z}$  of degree 2.
- (5) Prove the usual differentiation rules for the formal derivative. Namely, for  $f(X), g(X) \in k[X]$ , prove that :
  - $(f + g)' = f' + g'$
  - $(fg)' = f'g + fg'$