

# Abel's Theorem

$F$  char 0 field.

$f(x) \in F[x]$  irr. poly.

$K/F$  the splitting field.

$G = \text{Aut}(K/F)$ .

Thm : The following are equiv.

① a root of  $f(x)$  is  
a nested radical over  $F$ .

② all roots of  $f(x)$  are  
nested radicals over  $F$

③  $G$  is solvable.

## Nested radical

$\alpha \in K$  is a nested radical if there is a chain

$$F_0 = F \subset F_1 \subset \dots \subset F_n$$

with  $\alpha \in \overline{F}_n$  and

$$\overline{F}_{i+1} = \overline{F}_i [a_i]$$

where  $a_i$  is a  $p^{\text{th}}$  root of an element of  $F_i$

that is  $a_i^p \in F_i$

for some prime  $p$ .

(equiv. to yesterday's def.)

Key : Understand  $p^{\text{th}}$  root extensions

$F$ ,  $a \in F$  adjoin  $a^{1/p}$   
i.e. a root of  $x^p - a$ .

↳ "Kummer theory"

Setup :  $F$  char 0  
 $p$  prime number.

Assume  $F$  contains all  
 $p^{\text{th}}$  roots of 1.

i.e.  $x^p - 1$  splits into  
linears over  $F$ .

Prop:  $x^p - 1$  has distinct roots in  $\mathbb{F}$ .

If:  $\gcd(x^p - 1, px^{p-1}) = 1$

Roots of  $x^p - 1 \subset \mathbb{F}^\times$

is a subgp of size  $p$

$\Rightarrow$  must be cyclic.

& any  $\zeta \neq 1$  with  $\zeta^p = 1$

generates it.

$\zeta$  is one  $p^{\text{th}}$  root of 1

$\zeta \neq 1$  then the others are

$1, \zeta, \zeta^2, \dots, \zeta^{p-1}$ .

$F$  contains  $p^m$  roots of 1

Take  $a \in F$

Thm: We have the two possibilities

①  $a = b^p$  for some  $b \in F$

then

$$x^p - a = (x - b)(x - sb) \cdots (x - s^{p-1}b)$$

②  $x^p - a$  is irreducible

& its Galois gp is cyclic  
of order  $p$ .

Say  $K/F$  is a splitting field

&  $b \in K$  is a root of  $x^p - a$

then

$$x^p - a = (x-b)(x-b\zeta) \cdots (x-b\zeta^{p-1})$$

in  $K[x]$  and the

Galois group acts by

$$b \mapsto b \cdot \zeta^i$$

for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, p-1$

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Proof: Say  $a$  is not a  $p^{\text{th}}$  power in  $F$ .

Let  $K/F$  be a splitting field of  $x^p - a$ .

Let  $b \in K$  be a root of  $X^p - a$ . Then the roots are  $b, b\zeta, \dots, b\zeta^{p-1} \in K$ .

$$(X^p - a) = (X - b)(X - b\zeta) \cdots (X - b\zeta^{p-1})$$

$$G = \text{Gal}(K/F).$$

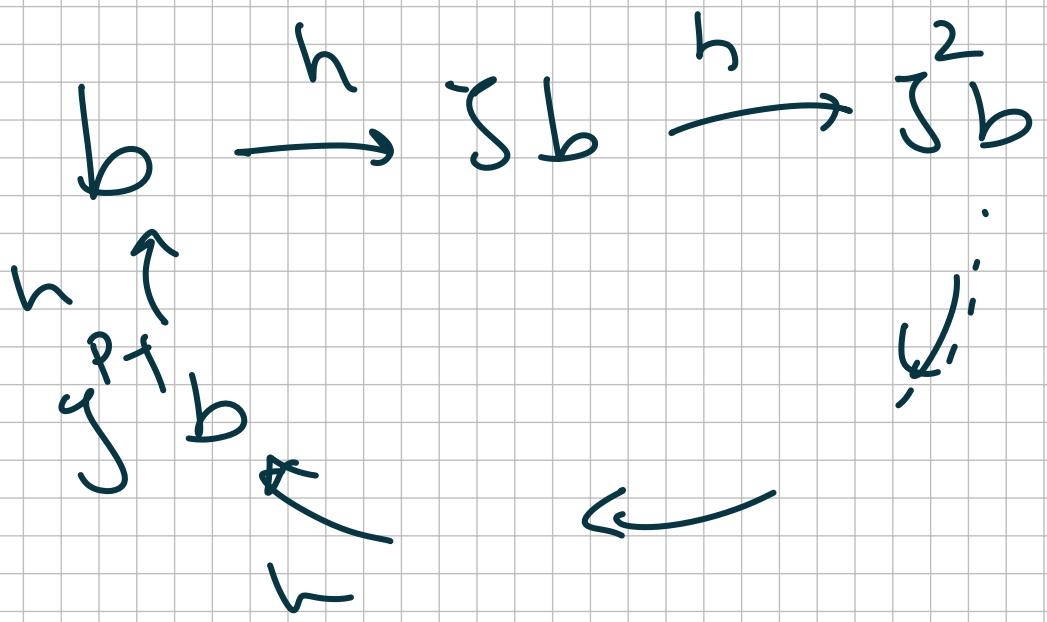
We see  $K = F[b]$

$g \in G$  is determined by where it sends  $b$ .

Say  $g \neq 1$ ,  $g: b \mapsto \zeta^i b$

$i \neq 0 \pmod p$ .  $\exists j \text{ s.t. } i^j \equiv 1 \pmod p$

$h = g^j$  sends  $b \mapsto \zeta^j b$ .



- $\Rightarrow$  All  $a \in J^2 b$  in one orbit.
- $\Rightarrow$   $K - a$  is irreducible. ( $F$ .)
- $\Rightarrow$   $b$  has  $\deg P$
- $\Rightarrow$   $K/F$  is of  $\deg P$
- $\Rightarrow$   $G$  is cyclic of order  $P$

Converse:  $F$  char 0

contains  $p^m$  roots 1.

Suppose  $K/F$  is Galois of

$\deg P$  ( $\Rightarrow G = \text{Aut}(K/F)$  is cyclic)

Then  $\exists b \in K, b \notin F$

with  $a = b^p \in F$ .

Then  $K = F[b]$

and  $b$  is a root of

$$x^p - a$$

Pf:  $K/F$  Galois

$$G = \text{Aut}(K/F) \cong \mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}.$$

Need  $b \in K$  s.t.  $b \notin F$   
and  $b^q \in F$ .

Take  $\sigma \in G$  a generator.

$\sigma: K \rightarrow K$  fixing  $F$ .

$K$  is an  $F$ -vector space

$\sigma$  is  $F$ -linear:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sigma(f_1K_1 + f_2K_2) \\ &= \sigma(f_1K_1) + \sigma(f_2K_2) \\ &= \sigma(f_1)\sigma(K_1) + \dots \\ &= f_1\sigma(K_1) + f_2\sigma(K_2) \end{aligned}$$

Plus:  $\sigma^P = \text{id.}$

eigenvalues of  $\sigma$  must be  
pmnd of unity  $\in F$ .

$\sigma \neq \text{id.}$

Linear algebra  $\Rightarrow$   $\exists$  eigenvector

whose eg value is  $\gamma^i$   
for  $i \neq 0 \pmod{P}$ .

$b \in K$  is a such eigen  
vector.

$$\sigma(b) = \gamma^i b \quad b \notin F$$

$$\sigma(b^P) = b^P \in F.$$

□

$V$  an  $\mathbb{F}$ -vector space  
of fin dim

$\sigma: V \rightarrow V$  linear  $\sigma \neq \text{id}$

s.t.  $\sigma^p = \text{id}$

then  $\sigma$  has an eigenvector  
with eigenvalue  $\zeta^i$ .

~~X~~

$$\cancel{X}^p - 1 = (X - 1) \cdot (X - \zeta) \cdot (X - \zeta^2) \cdots (X - \zeta^{p-1})$$

$$(\sigma^P - \text{id}) = 0.$$

$$= (\sigma - \text{id}) \underbrace{(\sigma - g \cdot \text{id})}_{-\dots} \underbrace{(\sigma - g^P \cdot \text{id})}$$

Want  $\sigma - g^i \cdot \text{id}$  has  
a Kernel.

$\sigma \neq \text{id} \Rightarrow$  at least  
one of the

factors  $(\sigma - g^i \cdot \text{id})$

must be non invertible

$\Rightarrow$  has a Kernel.