



Norwegian University of  
Science and Technology

Department of Mathematical Sciences

## Examination paper for **MA3202 Galois Theory**

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Informasjon om trykking av eksamensoppgave

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**Problem 1** Consider the field extension  $E = \mathbb{Q}[2^{\frac{1}{2}}, 3^{\frac{1}{3}}, e^{\frac{2\pi i}{3}}]$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

- Find  $[E : \mathbb{Q}]$  and show that  $E$  is a splitting field.
- Find the Galois group  $G(E/\mathbb{Q})$ .
- How many fields  $K$  exist with  $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq K \subseteq E$  and how many of them are normal extensions of  $\mathbb{Q}$ ?

**Problem 2** Consider the subring  $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}] = \{a + b\sqrt{2} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  of  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{2}]$ .

- Prove that the group of units in  $R$  is infinite.
- Prove that the minimal polynomial in  $\mathbb{Q}[X]$  of  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{2}]$  is in  $\mathbb{Z}[X]$ , if and only if  $\alpha$  is in  $R$ .
- Prove that  $R$  is an Euclidean domain where  $d : R \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is given by

$$d(a + b\sqrt{2}) = |a^2 - 2b^2|.$$

Hint: Prove that for  $a + b\sqrt{2} \neq 0$  in  $R$  and  $x + y\sqrt{2}$  in  $R$ ,  $d(x + y\sqrt{2} - (s + t\sqrt{2})(a + b\sqrt{2})) \leq \frac{3}{4}d(a + b\sqrt{2})$  where  $s$  is an integer closest to the fraction  $\frac{ya - 2xb}{a^2 - 2b^2}$  and  $t$  is an integer closest to the fraction  $\frac{xa - yb}{a^2 - 2b^2}$ .

**Problem 3** Consider a prime number  $p$  and a natural number  $n$ .

- Find a formula for how many monic irreducible polynomials  $f$  of degree  $n$  exist in  $\mathbb{Z}_p[X]$  with the property that if  $f(\alpha) = 0$  in  $GF(p^n)$ , then  $\alpha$  is a generator for  $GF(p^n)^*$ , the multiplicative group of units in  $GF(p^n)$ .
- Let  $n = q_1^2 q_2^2 q_3^2$  with  $q_i$  primes and  $q_i \neq q_j$  for  $i \neq j$ . Find a formula for the number of irreducible polynomials of degree  $n$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_p[X]$ .

**Problem 4** Let  $p$  be a prime number and let  $GL_3(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  be the group of invertible  $3 \times 3$ -matrices over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .

- Prove that the order of any element of  $GL_3(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  is less than or equal to  $p^3 - 1$ .
- Prove that if  $\alpha$  is an element of  $GL_3(p^n)$  of order  $p^3 - 1$ , then the subgroup  $\langle \alpha \rangle$ , generated by  $\alpha$ , together with 0 is a subfield of the ring of  $3 \times 3$  matrices over  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ .