

Algebra

Finite Field Extension

Theorem If L is a finite extension of F and K is a subfield of L which contains F , then $[K:F]$ is a divisor of $[L:F]$.

Soln Let F, K, L be the given fields such that $F \subseteq K \subseteq L$.

$\because L$ is a finite extension of F

$\Rightarrow L(F)$ is finite dimensional.

Let S be a finite basis of $L(F)$.

$\Rightarrow S$ generates $L(F)$.

Now, $F \subseteq K \Rightarrow S$ generates $L(K)$.

$\Rightarrow L(K)$ is a finitely generated and therefore, a finite dimensional space.

\because Every subspace of a finite dimensional vector space is finite dimensional

$\Rightarrow K(F)$ is finite dimensional subspace of $L(F)$.

So, $[L:K]$, $[L:F]$ and $[K:F]$ all are finite.

By transitivity of finite extensions,

$$[L:F] = [L:K][K:F]$$

$\Rightarrow [K:F]$ is a divisor of $[L:F]$.

Proved

SIMPLE FIELD EXPANSION

Let K be a field. Let $S \subseteq K$.

Then the smallest subfield of K containing S is said to be generated by S .

Let K be an extension of a field F and $S \subseteq K$. Then, the subfield of K generated by $F \cup S$ is called the subfield of K generated by S over F , denoted as $F(S)$.

If $\alpha \in K$, the subfield of K generated by $F \cup \{\alpha\}$ is called a subfield of K generated by α over F . It is denoted as $F(\alpha)$.

Thus, $F(\alpha)$ is the field obtained by adjoining α to F and this process of obtaining $F(\alpha)$ is called as

ADJUNCTION of α to F .

* Now, we define simple extension of a field:

The extension K of a field F is called a simple extension of F if

a simple extension of F if

$$K = F(\alpha) \text{ for some } \alpha \in K.$$

α is called a PRIMITIVE ELEMENT of K over F .

* ROOT OF A POLYNOMIAL

Let K be an extension of a field F .

Then, an element $\alpha \in K$ is called a root of the polynomial $f(x)$ in

$$F[x] \text{ if } f(\alpha) = 0.$$