

**Introduction to Galois Theory**  
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**Lecture No. 13**  
**Theorem II on Fixed Field**

(Refer Slide Time: 00:14)

prime field


$K$   
 $| \geq n$   
 $F$


let  $K, L$  be two fields.  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n: K \rightarrow L$  distinct field homom.

The fixed field  $F := \{a \in K \mid \sigma_1(a) = \dots = \sigma_n(a)\}$ . This is a subfield of  $K$ .

**Theorem:** let  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n: K \rightarrow L$  be distinct field homom., and let  $F$  be their fixed field. Then  $[K:F] \geq n$ .

**Proof:** (1) The proof will use the fact that  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$  are independent over  $F$ .  
 (2)  $K = L = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, i)$ . Recall  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2: K \rightarrow K$   
 $\sigma_1: i \mapsto -i, \sqrt{2} \mapsto \sqrt{2}$   
 $\sigma_2: i \mapsto i, \sqrt{2} \mapsto -\sqrt{2}$   
 Hence  $K^{\{\sigma_1, \sigma_2\}} = \mathbb{Q}$   
 $[K:F] = 4 > 3$





Welcome back in the last video, we proved an important theorem about fixed fields for a bunch of homeomorphisms from one field to another field. So, if  $\sigma_1$  to  $\sigma_n$  are homomorphisms, distinct homomorphisms from  $K$  to  $L$  and  $F$  is the fixed field, then the degree of  $K$  or  $F$  is at least  $n$ . So, we are now going to prove the second important theorem about fixed fields that I mentioned last time. So, let me write the theorem here and we will prove it in the next slide.

(Refer Slide Time: 00:40)

Theorem II: Let  $K$  be any field, and let  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n : K \rightarrow K$  be  $n$  distinct mappings.  
Suppose that  $\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}$  forms a group under composition. If  $F$  is the  
fixed field of  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$ , then  $[K:F] = n$ .  
Proof: By the first theorem we have  $[K:F] \geq n$ . We know, in general,  
it can happen that  $[K:F] > n$ . But this theorem says that  
if  $\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}$  is a group then  $[K:F] = n$ .  
As we prove this, note where we are using the hypothesis that  
 $\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}$  forms a group.



So, let now  $K$  be any field and let  $\sigma_1$  through  $\sigma_n$  be field automorphisms remember, I use the word automorphism last time. Automorphism is simply an isomorphism from  $K$  to  $K$ . So, let these be distinct field automorphisms. So, let me put that here because that is important I need to take only different ones distinct field automorphisms. If  $F$  is their fixed field that means  $F$  is the So, I am not omitting the main hypothesis.

Suppose that  $\sigma_1$  through  $\sigma_n$  forms a group so, this is a crucial additional hypothesis forms a group under composition. So, in the language of Galois groups here, of course, I am not starting with a field extension, so, I cannot talk about Galois group, but suppose you did, and the all the  $\sigma_i$  are automorphisms over that base field, then, the hypothesis that the forming group is simply the hypothesis that this is a subgroup of that Galois group.

I am not fixing a base field, so I do not want to talk about Galois group here. Suppose that these set forms a group under composition. Now, if  $F$  is a fixed field of these  $n$  automorphisms, then  $[K:F]$ , this is the equality so  $[K:F]$  is equal to  $n$ . So, we remarked that by the first theorem, so, think of this as theorem 2, theorem 2 about Fixed Fields. By the first theorem we have a  $[K:F]$  is at least  $n$ . So, we have now to show that it cannot be strictly more than  $n$  and we also know in general it can happen that  $[K:F]$  is strictly bigger than  $n$ , but, this theorem says if is a group so, this is a new hypothesis, then equality must hold.

So,  $K:F$  is always at least  $n$  and it can be strict as I told you last time, if you take the field  $\mathbb{Q}$  adjoin root 2 comma  $i$  and take 3 automorphisms, 3 homomorphisms or automorphisms actually, in that case, identity sigma 1 sigma 2, the fixed field has degree 4, whereas there are only 3 automorphisms but there they do not form a group because sigma 1 sigma 2 is not in that sector. So, if they form a group, then  $K:F$  is and.

So, as we prove this we will note where we are using the hypothesis about group that this forms a group I mean we have let us not just for fun where we are explicitly using the hypothesis hypothesis because without that hypothesis, the statement is false as that example shows. So, let me start the proof.

(Refer Slide Time: 04:53)

Pf: Suppose  $[K:F] > n$ . choose  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{n+1} \in K$  which are lin ind over  $F$ . Consider the following homog system of linear equations with coefficients in  $K$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1(\alpha_1) & \sigma_1(\alpha_2) & \dots & \sigma_1(\alpha_{n+1}) \\ \sigma_2(\alpha_1) & \sigma_2(\alpha_2) & \dots & \sigma_2(\alpha_{n+1}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sigma_n(\alpha_1) & \sigma_n(\alpha_2) & \dots & \sigma_n(\alpha_{n+1}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

( $n \times (n+1)$  matrix entries in  $K$ )

$n$  equations  
 $n+1$  variables  
 $\# \text{ eqns} < \# \text{ var}$   
Hence there is a nontrivial solution.



Proof: Let  $r = [K:F]$ . Suppose  $r < n$ . Choose a basis  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r \in K$  of  $K$  as an  $F$ -vector space.

Consider the following homogeneous system of linear equations with coefficients in  $L$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1(\alpha_1) & \sigma_2(\alpha_1) & \dots & \sigma_n(\alpha_1) \\ \sigma_1(\alpha_2) & \sigma_2(\alpha_2) & \dots & \sigma_n(\alpha_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sigma_1(\alpha_r) & \sigma_2(\alpha_r) & \dots & \sigma_n(\alpha_r) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$r$  equations  
 $n$  variables  
 $r < n$

$A$  is an  $r \times n$  matrix with entries in  $L$ .  $AX=0$

Pf of claim: Let  $\alpha \in K$ . So write  $\alpha = a_1\alpha_1 + a_2\alpha_2 + \dots + a_r\alpha_r$ ,  $a_i \in F$ .

this system is unique  $\leftarrow$  Multiply the first equation by  $\sigma_1(\alpha_1)$ .

$$\sigma_1(\alpha_1)\sigma_1(\alpha_1)\beta_1 + \sigma_1(\alpha_1)\sigma_2(\alpha_1)\beta_2 + \dots + \sigma_1(\alpha_1)\sigma_n(\alpha_1)\beta_n = 0$$

Important fact:  $a_i \in F \leftarrow$  fixed field of  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$ .

So  $\sigma_1(\alpha_1) = \sigma_2(\alpha_1) = \dots = \sigma_n(\alpha_1)$

$$\sigma_1(\alpha_1)\beta_1 + \sigma_2(\alpha_1)\beta_2 + \dots + \sigma_n(\alpha_1)\beta_n = 0$$

$$\sigma_1(\alpha_2)\beta_1 + \sigma_2(\alpha_2)\beta_2 + \dots + \sigma_n(\alpha_2)\beta_n = 0$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\sigma_1(\alpha_r)\beta_1 + \sigma_2(\alpha_r)\beta_2 + \dots + \sigma_n(\alpha_r)\beta_n = 0$$



Let me also remark a priori that the proof is actually just linear algebra. It is exactly like theorem 1 except it is a slightly more involved, but it is still elementary linear algebra. So, I will try to go slowly and try to cover all the facts. But you might want to carefully do this, follow this on your own. And if you need it, go over the video again, or ask questions in the forum. The best way to understand these kind of things is to work it out yourself. So, read what I mean, listen to what I am saying, but pause if needed and work it out on your own. So, let  $r$  be the index as we actually I am not going to give it a name, because I do not need to.

So, suppose for a contradiction, that  $K$  colon  $F$  is strictly more than  $n$  because we know it is at least  $n$  and we are trying to show that it is equal to  $n$ . We are we were required to do anything only if  $K$  colon  $F$  is strictly more than  $n$ . Then let or choose  $n+1$  independent elements. So,  $\alpha_1$  to  $\alpha_{n+1}$  over elements in  $K$ , which are linearly independent, over  $F$ . This basic linear algebra, you have  $K$  is a vector space over  $F$ , its dimension is strictly more than  $n$ , which is to say that there are  $n+1$ , at least  $n+1$  linearly independent elements, maybe the dimension is  $n+3$ , I do not care. It is at least  $n+1$ .

So, I can take  $n+1$  linearly independent elements. Now, just like in the previous theorem, we want to cleverly consider homogeneous system of equations, consider the following homogeneous system of equations of linear equations with coefficients again in, in this case, the  $L$  is also  $K$  so coefficients in  $K$ . And what is this equation? So here, it is a homogeneous system of equations. So, as I remarked earlier, these are these 2 are brilliant proofs. So, this is part of the

beauty of the whole subject. So, please make sure that you understand this and enjoy the proofs as much as I do, because this is really wonderful.

So, what is the little system that I want to consider? See earlier, if you just go back to the proof, I looked at this system where I fixed  $\alpha_1$  in the first row  $\alpha_2$  in the second row,  $\alpha_r$  in the  $r$ th row, and I fixed  $\sigma_1$  in the first column,  $\sigma_2$  in the second column,  $\sigma_n$  in the last column. Here, I am going to fix  $\sigma_1$  in the first row. So, the equation the system is  $\sigma_1 \alpha_1$ ,  $\sigma_1 \alpha_2$ ,  $\sigma_1 \alpha_{n+1}$  and second row, we will deal with  $\sigma_2 \alpha_1$ ,  $\sigma_2 \alpha_2$ ,  $\sigma_2 \alpha_{n+1}$ .

So, I am fixing  $\sigma$ 's in the rows now, as opposed to columns in the previous theorem, the last row will be  $\sigma_n \alpha_1$ ,  $\sigma_n \alpha_2$ ,  $\sigma_n \alpha_{n+1}$ . So,  $\alpha_i$ 's are fixed in the column. So,  $\alpha_1$  takes care of the first column  $\alpha_2$  takes care of the second column  $\alpha_{n+1}$  takes care of the last column.  $\sigma_1$  is the first  $\sigma_2$  is first row  $\sigma_2$  is the second row and so on. So, the system is this.

So, now, what is the size of this matrix, this is there are  $n$  rows and  $n+1$  columns there is an  $n$  by  $n+1$  matrix with entries in  $K$  of course. So, in terms of equations and variables, there are  $n$  equations  $n+1$  variables. So, again, number of equations, just like in the previous case, is strictly less than number of variables. Remember, here, our supposition is the opposite of what we suppose in the previous theorem, there, we assume that  $K : F$  is strictly less than  $n$ . And by arranging the matrix in a clever way, we got number of equations less than number of variables there.

Here we are assuming the opposite  $K : F$  is strictly more than  $n$ . That means there are more  $\alpha$ 's than  $\sigma$ 's. But then by, I mean the transposing the matrix, we still have this hypothesis that the number of equations is strictly less than the number of variables. So hence I am just separating these. So hence, there is a non trivial solution. So, there are non trivial solutions, there is at least 1 non trivial solution. Now, here is where we are to be. This is, as I said this proof is a little more tricky than the previous one. So, I am not going to pick any arbitrary non trivial solution, but I am going to choose a non trivial solution of the following type.

(Refer Slide Time: 10:34)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1(a_1) & \sigma_2(a_1) & \dots & \sigma_n(a_1) \\ \sigma_1(a_2) & \sigma_2(a_2) & \dots & \sigma_n(a_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sigma_1(a_{n+1}) & \sigma_2(a_{n+1}) & \dots & \sigma_n(a_{n+1}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_{n+1} \\ \vdots \\ x_{n+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(n x (n+1) matrix entries in K)

# eqns < # var  
Hence there is a nontrivial solution.

Choose a nontrivial solution with the least number of nonzero coordinates.

$K^{n+1} \ni (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_r, 0, \dots, 0) \mid \begin{cases} \bullet a_1 \neq 0, a_2 \neq 0, \dots, a_r \neq 0 \\ \bullet \text{there is nontrivial solution with fewer than } r \text{ nonzero entries.} \end{cases} \quad (r \geq 1)$

If  $r=1$ , then the first eqn looks like:  $a_1 \sigma_1(a_1) = 0$ .



Choose a non trivial solution beta 1, so non trivial solution with the least number of nonzero coordinates. What do I mean by this? So, I am going to choose a non trivial solution. And I am going to say I am completely with rearranging the variables. That means I am completely with the order of alpha i's is irrelevant here. So, I am going to rearrange so, take any nonzero solution and arrange rearrange the variables in such a way that the last few the tail of this solution is 0s. So, least number of nonzero coordinates. So here, beta 1 through beta r are all nonzero.

And there is so that is a first statement and there is no nonzero or non trivial solution with fewer than r nonzero entries. So, remember that there is a nonzero solution means 1 of the coordinates is nonzero. So of course, r is greater than equal to 1. So, I am only interested in non trivial solutions, that means at least 1 entry is nonzero. So, I take maybe there is an entry with if, if n is 5, each solution will have 6 entries.

Because these are n here I have n plus 1. So, which I should, so there are n plus 1 increase in the solutions. Maybe there is 1 with 5 non 0s, 0s non nonzero coordinates, there is another solution with 6 nonzero coordinates, there is 1 with 3 nonzero coordinates. So, I pick the least number of nonzero coordinates. So, if there is 3, if it is 3, then there will be beta 1, beta 2, beta 3 followed by 0s, and there is no solution with 1 or 2 nonzero entries. So, that is what I mean.

So, this is the first conceptual point that you have to understand. So, I pick among all non trivial solutions, the one with the least number of nonzero coordinates, remember, the number of

nonzero coordinates is a number between 1 it can be 1 to up to  $n + 1$ , maybe there is no nonzero solution. Maybe every nonzero solution is all the entries nonzero, in which  $r$  is  $n + 1$ . But maybe there is a solution with 1 nonzero entry, 1 0 entry all others non 0s, in which case I take  $r$  to be  $n$  and so on, so I do not care what it is. But I take  $r$  this,  $r$  is a number between 1 and  $n + 1$ . And I am choosing a particular solution which has the exact number of nonzero entries.

So, we will first quickly dispose of the case that are equal to 1, if  $r$  equal to 1, then that means you have  $\beta_1$  equal to 0 nonzero,  $\beta_2$  and  $\beta_3$  up to be  $n + 1$  are all 0s. So this of course, is an element of  $K$  power  $n + 1$ , there are  $n + 1$  entries. So, what are the equations the first equation looks like so,  $\sigma_1 \alpha_1$  times  $\beta_1$ ,  $\sigma_1 \alpha_2$  times  $\beta_2$ ,  $\sigma_1 \alpha_3$  times  $\beta_3$   $\sigma_1 \alpha_1$  times  $\beta_{n+1}$ , but  $\beta_2$  onwards, everything is 0. So, we just have  $\beta_1$  times  $\sigma_1 \alpha_1$  equal to 0.

But then, so actually, I, I do not want to call them  $\beta_i$ 's. I do not want to change my the notation in my notes. I will call them  $a$ . So,  $a_1, a_2, a$  up to  $a_r$  and  $a_1$  is nonzero,  $a_2$  is nonzero,  $a_r$  is nonzero. So, the first equation will be  $a_1$  times. So, this you can put a 1 here, here to here,  $n + 1$  here. So,  $a_1$  times  $\sigma_1 \alpha_1$   $a_2$  times  $\sigma_1 \alpha_2$ , but  $a_2$  onwards everything is 0.

(Refer Slide Time: 15:37)

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Let } \vec{a} = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_r, 0, \dots, 0) \in K^{n+1} \text{ where } a_i \neq 0 \text{ for } i=1, \dots, r. \\ \left| \begin{array}{l} \bullet \text{ there is nontrivial solution with fewer than } r \text{ non-zero entries.} \end{array} \right. \quad (r \geq 1) \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{Since } \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{n+1} \\ \text{are lin ind,} \\ \alpha_1 \neq 0. \\ \text{Hence } \sigma_1(\alpha_1) \neq 0 \end{array} \right. \\ \text{If } r=1, \text{ then the first eqn looks like: } a_1 \sigma_1(\alpha_1) = 0. \\ \Rightarrow a_1 = 0 \text{ this is absurd.} \\ \text{So we can assume } r \geq 2. \end{array}$$



So, this is what we have. But note that, since,  $\alpha_1$  through  $\alpha_{n+1}$  are linearly independent  $\alpha_1$  must be nonzero in particular, any linear independent set cannot contain a 0 vector. So,  $\alpha_1$  is nonzero and hence,  $\sigma_1 \alpha_1$  is non 0,  $\sigma_1$  being a field

homomorphism, it must send nonzero elements nonzero elements. So, that means  $a_1$  is 0. But that is a contradiction, because we are taking a non trivial solution and if  $a_2$  onwards everything is 0,  $a_1$  better be nonzero, so, this is absurd. So, we can assume  $r$  is at least 2.

So, again to recall the setup is we consider a homogeneous system of equations, where the number of equations is strictly less than the number of variables. And hence, we are guaranteed that there is a non trivial solution. And among all the solutions, we are picking one, which has the least number of non 0 entries. And that  $r$ , which is the number of nonzero entries is at least 2 is what I just if  $r$  is 1 we are done. So, we are now going to assume  $r$  is at least 2. So, now, let us get into the proof really the heart of the proof.

(Refer Slide Time: 17:05)



The equations look like this:

$$a_1 \sigma_1(x_1) + a_2 \sigma_1(x_2) + \dots + a_{r-1} \sigma_1(x_{r-1}) + a_r \sigma_1(x_r) = 0$$

$$a_1 \sigma_2(x_1) + a_2 \sigma_2(x_2) + \dots + a_{r-1} \sigma_2(x_{r-1}) + a_r \sigma_2(x_r) = 0$$

Note that we don't have any terms after the  $r$ th term  
 $\therefore a_{r+1} = \dots = a_n = 0$





$K = 1, 2, \dots, r$  | there is no  $\dots$  ( $r \geq 1$ ) | since  $a_1, a_{r+1}$  are lin ind,  $a_1 \neq 0$ . Hence  $\sigma_1(a_1) \neq 0$ .

this is a soln |  $r$  non zero entries.

If  $r=1$ , then the first eqn looks like:  $a_1 \sigma_1(a_1) = 0 \Rightarrow a_1 = 0$  this is absurd.

So we can assume  $r \geq 2$ .

Further simplification: since  $a_r \neq 0$ , we can multiply by  $a_r^{-1}$  and assume  $a_r = 1$ .

The equations look like this:

$$a_1 \sigma_1(a_1) + a_2 \sigma_1(a_2) + \dots + a_{r-1} \sigma_1(a_{r-1}) + a_r \sigma_1(a_r) = 0$$

$$a_1 \sigma_2(a_1) + a_2 \sigma_2(a_2) + \dots + a_{r-1} \sigma_2(a_{r-1}) + a_r \sigma_2(a_r) = 0$$

Note that we don't have any terms after the  $r$ -th term.  $\therefore a_{r+1} = \dots = a_n = 0$



So, I am going to rewrite the equations just for clarity look like this. Equations look like this. So, the previous slide contains the matrix, but I want to write it directly as equations. So, the equations look like this.  $a_1 \sigma_1 \alpha_1$ , plus  $a_2$ . So, I am just going to replace the variables by  $a_i$ 's because that is the solution. This is a solution, so that means  $a_1$  times  $\sigma_1 \alpha_1$ ,  $a_2$  times  $\sigma_1$ , remember  $\sigma_1$  is fixed  $\sigma_1 \alpha_2$  plus  $a_n$  so here is where I am going to use the fact that everything after  $a_r$  is 0. So I am going to start with  $a_r$ , so  $a_r \sigma_1 \alpha_{r-1}$  plus  $a_r \sigma_1 \alpha_r$  is 0. So the point is note that we do not have any terms after the  $r$ th term. Because this is because  $a_{r+1}$  and up to  $a_n$  are all 0. So, if this is  $r$ , everything below that is 0, so I do not need to try this later part of this.

So, beyond the  $r$ th column, so if this  $r$ th column, anything beyond that, is not going to contribute to the equations. So, I will stop with this. So, the second equation, just so that, I mean, I am going to write this just for your clarity, so I have  $\sigma_2$  is fixed in this row. So,  $\sigma_2 \alpha_1$ ,  $a_2 \sigma_2 \alpha_2$  plus, I am going to write these terms because it will become clear what we do later  $\sigma_r \alpha_{r-1}$  plus  $a_r \sigma_r \alpha_r$ . So now, actually, I should have said this here.

I want to make a further simplification since here or is nonzero, so the last entry in the last nonzero entry in the solution, we can multiply by  $a_r$  inverse and assume here  $a_r$  equal to 1. So we can multiply by  $a_r$  inverse and assume that you  $a_r$  equal to 1 that is because every time you have a solution, if you multiply by a nonzero if you have a solution to homogeneous linear system of

equations, multiply the solution by a nonzero scalar what you get is still a solution. So, multiplying by  $a_r$  inverse, we can assume that  $a_r$  equal to 1, so I am going to skip that.

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$$(*) \begin{cases} a_1 \sigma_1(\alpha_1) + a_2 \sigma_1(\alpha_2) + \dots + a_{r-1} \sigma_1(\alpha_{r-1}) + \sigma_1(\alpha_r) = 0 \\ a_1 \sigma_2(\alpha_1) + a_2 \sigma_2(\alpha_2) + \dots + a_{r-1} \sigma_2(\alpha_{r-1}) + \sigma_2(\alpha_r) = 0 \\ \vdots \\ a_1 \sigma_n(\alpha_1) + a_2 \sigma_n(\alpha_2) + \dots + a_{r-1} \sigma_n(\alpha_{r-1}) + \sigma_n(\alpha_r) = 0 \end{cases}$$

any terms with  $i=1, \dots, r-1, n$  are zero  
 $\therefore a_{r+1} = \dots = a_n = 0$

Since  $\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}$  is a gp of automorphisms of  $K$ , one of them is Identity

$\sigma_2 = \text{Id}: a_1 \alpha_1 + a_2 \alpha_2 + \dots + a_{r-1} \alpha_{r-1} + \alpha_r = 0$

If  $a_i \in F, i \geq r, r-1$

$\Rightarrow$  nontrivial linear relation among  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$  over  $F$

But we know  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$  are lin ind over  $F$



So, that is what that is a simplification. So, I have simply  $\sigma_1 \alpha_r, \sigma_2 \alpha_r$  equal to 0. The last equation, so I have written first second, the last equation will be  $a_1 \sigma_n \alpha_1, a_2 \sigma_n \alpha_2, \dots, \sigma_n \alpha_{r-1},$  and  $a_r$  is 1, so  $\sigma_n \alpha_r$  equals 0. So, let us call this star. So, star is the original set of equations applied, I mean, a very, very written in terms of this solution that we have chosen  $a_1$  through  $a_r$ , which is the least number of nonzero entries.

So, just to give you an update about what we will do later, we are going to construct a solution with fewer nonzero entries, and thereby getting a contradiction. So, this is the equations after you plug in the very solution for the variables. Now, I am going to observe a few things here. So, if and just also recall that we have so far not use the fact that  $\sigma_i$ 's form my group, and this is the first place now we are going to use that.

So, the point is so I am going to write it here. Since  $\sigma_1$  through  $\sigma_n$  is a group of automorphisms of  $K$  one of them is Identity map, one of them is identity. Let us say  $\sigma_2$  is identity just for simplicity, and  $\sigma_2$  is identity. What is the second equation going to look like  $a_1 \alpha_1, a_2 \alpha_2, \sigma_2$  is identity. So,  $a_2 \alpha_r$  minus 1 is  $\alpha_r$  minus 1  $a_r$  minus 1  $\alpha_r$  minus 1 plus  $\alpha_r$  equal to 0. So, second equation will look like this.

But now remember, here  $\alpha_1$  through  $\alpha_r$  are independent.  $\alpha_1$  through  $\alpha_{n+1}$  are independent, but this is a linear relation, that is non trivial linear relation among, because  $\alpha_r$  has appears with coefficient 1, in fact, all of them are nonzero  $\alpha_1$  through  $\alpha_r$ . So, these are non trivial relation on this, but we know  $\alpha_1$  through  $\alpha_{n+1}$  linearly independent. So, that means what?

I should have said that this is a non trivial relation. So, I should write if you  $a_i$  is in  $F$  for all  $i$ . Otherwise, that is not a relation, non trivial relation among this over  $F$ . They are linearly independent over  $F$ . So, if they are not enough, there is no problem. But because they are linearly independent over  $F$ . They cannot have a linear relation, non trivial integration with coefficients in  $F$ . So, if all the  $F$ 's are in  $a_i$  is in  $F$ , we do get a non trivial relation among all of them.

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2-  
If  $a_i \in F$   
 $\forall i=1, \dots, r-1$   
 $\Rightarrow$  nontrivial linear relation among  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$  lin ind over  $F$   
over  $F$ .  
Hence not all  $a_i$  can be in  $F$ . So at least one  $a_i$  is  
not in  $F$ . Without loss of generality assume that  $a_1 \notin F$ .  
So  $a_1 \in K \setminus F$ , So  $a_1$  is not in the fixed field.  
That means:  $\exists$  index  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  st  $\sigma_k(a_1) \neq a_1$ .  
(if  $\sigma_i(a_1) = a_1 \forall i$ , then  $a_1 \in F$ )  
Apply  $\sigma_k$  to all eqns in (\*)  
eg:  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, i)$   
 $S = \{1, \sigma_1, \sigma_2\}$   
 $[K : K^S] = 4,$   
 $K^S = \mathbb{Q}$



So hence, not all your  $a_i$ 's can be in  $F$ . So, at least one  $a_i$  is not in  $F$ . So, I am going to simply assume without loss of generality, assume that  $a_1$  is not in  $F$ . So,  $a_1$  is in  $K$ , of course, but not in  $F$ . So, just a word about why I can choose it to be  $a_1$ . We know that  $a_1$   $a_2$   $\dots$   $a_r$  minus 1, 1 of them is not in  $F$ , because they are all in  $F$ , we get a contradiction to the linear independence of  $\alpha_i$ 's over  $F$  capital  $F$ . So, one of them is not  $F$  if  $a_2$  is not in  $F$ , I am just going to interchange and call that  $a_1$  I will call  $a_1$   $a_2$ . So, there is no problem.

So, just for simplicity, I am going to assume that  $a_1$  is not in  $F$ . Now, this is the first point where we use the form a group. In fact, we have not used the full force of the group axioms, we have

just assumed, we have just used that there is identity. But remember, this is not enough because in the example of  $K$  equal to  $\mathbb{Q}$  adjoint root 2 comma  $i$  and  $s$  equal to 1,  $\sigma_1 \sigma_2$  that I mentioned in the previous video,  $K^s$  is actually  $K$  colon  $K^s$  is 4, because  $K^s$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

So, here also there is identity, but still, the equality does not count. So, we have to use more group axioms later on. Nevertheless, let us just assume that for now that  $a_1$  is not in  $F$ . But if so,  $a_1$  is not in the fixed field,  $a_1$  is not in the fixed field. So, that means  $\sigma_i$ 's of  $a_1$  is not equal, they are not all the same elements. So, in particular, one of the elements is identity. So, there exists an index  $K$  among the  $n$  linear I mean,  $n$  homomorphisms such that  $\sigma_K$  of  $a_1$  is not equal to  $a_1$ , because if this is true, I mean, this must be the case because otherwise, they it must be in the fixed field.

So, if  $a_1 \sigma_K a_1$  is equal to 1 for every  $K$ , that means  $a_1$  is fixed by all the group elements,  $\sigma_1$  to  $\sigma_n$  so there is at least 1  $K$  so that  $\sigma_K a_1$  is not equal to  $a_1$ . This, you think about this, if  $\sigma_K a_1$  equal to  $a_1$  for all  $K$ , or let me write it like this  $\sigma_1, \sigma_i$  equals  $a_1$  equals  $a_1$  for all  $i$ , then  $Kr 1$  is in the fixed fields. So, that is really what I am saying. So, if that is the case, then  $a_1$  will be in the fixed field, which we know is not the case, that means  $\sigma_K a_1$  is not equal to 1 for some  $K$ , I am going to fix that  $K$ .

And now, the clever thing that we will do is apply  $\sigma_K$  to all equations in star. So, star is this. So, I play  $\sigma_K$  to this. So, unfortunately, I have to go down and write this, but you can pause the video and go back. And I suggest that you take a paper and pen and write all this down and apply  $\sigma_K$  to this. So, I am going to maybe instead of writing all the equations separately, just combine them like this. What is the equations?

(Refer Slide Time: 28:10)

$$(**): a_1 \sigma_j(\alpha_1) + a_2 \sigma_j(\alpha_2) + \dots + a_{r-1} \sigma_j(\alpha_{r-1}) + \sigma_j(\alpha_r) = 0 \quad \forall 1 \leq j \leq n$$

Apply  $\sigma_k$  to these  $n$  equations:

$$(***): \sigma_k(a_1) \sigma_k \sigma_j(\alpha_1) + \sigma_k(a_2) \sigma_k \sigma_j(\alpha_2) + \dots + \sigma_k(a_{r-1}) \sigma_k \sigma_j(\alpha_{r-1}) + \sigma_k \sigma_j(\alpha_r) = 0 \quad \forall 1 \leq j \leq n$$

$\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}$  is a group  $\Rightarrow \{\sigma_k \sigma_1, \sigma_k \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_k \sigma_n\}$  is a permutation of  $\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}$ .

$\sigma_k \sigma_i = \sigma_k \sigma_j \Leftrightarrow \sigma_i = \sigma_j$

a:  $\{1, a, b, ab\}$   
 $\begin{matrix} a & 1 & a & a^2 \\ 1 & a & a^2 & a^3 \end{matrix}$

Star can be captured by this star is actually  $\sigma_j \alpha_1$ . So, I am going to write  $j$  varies over 1 to  $n$ . So,  $j$  varies over 1 to  $n$ . So, I get  $\sigma_j \alpha_1$  rather I get  $\alpha_j$  see, remember  $\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3 \dots \alpha_n$ . So,  $\alpha_i$ ? So I, I should write this as  $\alpha_1 \sigma_j, \alpha_2 \sigma_j, \dots, \alpha_{r-1} \sigma_j, \alpha_r \sigma_j$ . So, let me just get this correct, so that I do not make a mistake. So, I get,  $\alpha_1 \sigma_j \alpha_1$  plus  $\alpha_2 \sigma_j \alpha_2$  plus  $\alpha_{r-1} \sigma_j \alpha_{r-1}$  plus  $\alpha_r \sigma_j \alpha_r$  equal to 0, for all.

So, I am just trying to write all the equations in a single line. So, you vary  $j$  equal to 1 to  $n$ , you get all the equations, and you put  $j$  equal to 1, you get the first equation, you get  $\alpha_1 \sigma_1 \alpha_1$  plus  $\alpha_2 \sigma_1 \alpha_2$  plus  $\alpha_{r-1} \sigma_1 \alpha_{r-1}$  plus  $\alpha_r \sigma_1 \alpha_r$ , which is this and finally,  $\alpha_1 \sigma_r \alpha_1$  plus  $\alpha_2 \sigma_r \alpha_2$  plus  $\alpha_{r-1} \sigma_r \alpha_{r-1}$  plus  $\alpha_r \sigma_r \alpha_r$ , which is the last term, if you take  $j$  equal to  $n$ , you get the last equation.

So, this is just a convenient way of writing all the equations. Now, you apply  $\sigma_K$  to these equations, these  $n$  equations. So, I am going to go over 30 minutes for this video, but I want to finish this so, that this will become a self contained video to prove this theorem. So, if we apply  $\sigma_K$  to this, now, I am going to call that star star this looks like this  $\sigma_K$ ,  $\sigma_K$  is that fixed  $K$  remember that that fixed  $K$  which has this property  $\sigma_K \alpha_1 \sigma_K$  is a blue field automorphism. So,  $\sigma_K$  of this will be  $\sigma_K$  of  $\alpha_1$  times  $\sigma_K$  of  $\sigma_j \alpha_1$ .

So, that is just composition this is composition, second term will be  $\sum_k a_{2k} \sum_j \alpha_{r-1}^{kj}$  and finally,  $\sum_j \alpha_r^{kj} = 0$  again this holds for, for all  $i$  for all  $j$  between 1 to  $n$ . So,  $j$  equal to 1 you get all if you apply  $\sum_k$  to the first equation;  $j$  equal to 2, you apply  $\sum_k$  to the second equation and so on.

So, this is again a compact way of writing really  $n$  different and distinct equations. So, I hope this is not becoming too complex or too messy for you, but, if needed, please stop and think about what we are doing here. So, we have now, these equations. Now, this is where we want to use the fact that there is a group earlier we use that there is identity, but now we are going to use more axioms of group.

So, when you take a group, this is some standard things that you have learned in group theory, take a group and multiply all the elements by a single group element. Namely,  $\sum_i$  in our case is a permutation of this. So, if you take a group and you multiply all group elements by a fixed element, you just get the same group, I mean, they are all group elements, but in a different order perhaps.

So, for example, if you take the client for group, so, this is an example, multiply everything by  $a$ , so, you get  $a \cdot 1, a \cdot a, a \cdot b, a \cdot ab$ , but this is  $a, a^2, ab, a^2b$ , and this is  $b$ . So, this is just a permutation of the group. So, in general,  $\sum_k \alpha_i^{kj} = \sum_j \alpha_j^{ki}$  implies this if and only if  $\sum_k \alpha_i^{kj} = \sum_j \alpha_j^{ki}$ , this is the feature of the group because if that has happened, then cancel by  $\sum_k$  multiply by  $\sum_k$  inverse on the left you get this and if this happens, multiply by  $\sum_k$  on the left to get this. So, this is just a permutation of  $\sum_i$ 's. In other words, if you look at  $\sum_k \alpha_i^{kj}$ ,  $\sum_j \alpha_j^{ki}$  is some other  $\sum_j \alpha_j^{ki}$ . As you vary  $k$ , you get all the group elements.

(Refer Slide Time: 33:54)



The equations look like this:

$$\begin{cases}
 \alpha_1 \sigma_1(\alpha_1) + \alpha_2 \sigma_1(\alpha_2) + \dots + \alpha_{r-1} \sigma_1(\alpha_{r-1}) + \sigma_1(\alpha_r) = 0 \\
 \alpha_1 \sigma_2(\alpha_1) + \alpha_2 \sigma_2(\alpha_2) + \dots + \alpha_{r-1} \sigma_2(\alpha_{r-1}) + \sigma_2(\alpha_r) = 0 \\
 \vdots \\
 \alpha_1 \sigma_n(\alpha_1) + \alpha_2 \sigma_n(\alpha_2) + \dots + \alpha_{r-1} \sigma_n(\alpha_{r-1}) + \sigma_n(\alpha_r) = 0
 \end{cases}$$

(\*)

Note that we don't have any terms after the  $r$ th term.  $\therefore \alpha_{r+1} = \dots = \alpha_n = 0$

Since  $\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}$  is a gp of automorphisms of  $K$ , one of them is Identity.

$\sigma_2 = \text{Id}$ :  $\alpha_1 \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_{r-1} \alpha_{r-1} + \alpha_r = 0$ .

If  $\alpha_i \in F$   $\forall i \geq 2, \dots, r-1$   $\Rightarrow$  nontrivial linear relation among  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$  over  $F$ . But we know  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$  are lin ind over  $F$ .

Hence not all  $\alpha_i$  can be in  $F$ . So at least one  $\alpha_i$  is  $\notin F$ .  
 i.e. assume that  $\alpha_1 \notin F$ .



So, this explaining here, you have let us say 10 elements sigma 1, sigma 2 sigma 10. And K is 5. So multiply sigma 1 the first equation by sigma 5, sigma 5 sigma 1 second equation will be sigma 5 sigma 2, 10th equation will be sigma 5 sigma 10, but sigma 5 sigma 1 will be sigma 6, let us say. So, it will be sigma 6 and sigma 6 will never appear again in the 10 equations, sigma 5 sigma 2 will be sigma something else not sigma 6, it might be sigma 8.

So, sigma 8 will be there, it will not appear again third will be sigma 2 maybe, and the last 1 will be the missing sigma i. So, when really what we have done by multiplying by sigma is sort of interchange the equations. But the first entry will be different, because you are taking sigma K a1.

(Refer Slide Time: 34:48)

Apply  $\sigma_k$  to these

$$(\star\star): \sigma_k(a_1) \sigma_k \sigma_j(a_1) + \sigma_k(a_2) \sigma_k \sigma_j(a_2) + \dots + \sigma_k(a_{r-1}) \sigma_k \sigma_j(a_{r-1}) + \sigma_k \sigma_j(a_r) = 0$$

$\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}$  is a group  $\Rightarrow \{\sigma_k \sigma_1, \sigma_k \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_k \sigma_n\}$  is a permutation of  $\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}$ .

Hence  $(\star\star)$  becomes:

$$(\star\star\star) \quad \sigma_k(a_1) \sigma_i(a_1) + \sigma_k(a_2) \sigma_i(a_2) + \dots + \sigma_k(a_{r-1}) \sigma_i(a_{r-1}) + \sigma_i(a_r) = 0$$

$\# 1 \leq i \leq n$

$\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_r\}$  is a permutation of  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ .

$\sigma_k \sigma_i = \sigma_i \sigma_j$   
 $\Leftrightarrow \sigma_i = \sigma_j$



So, so this star, star becomes. So, basically the upshot is that I do not need to really talk about sigma K sigma j. So, star star becomes triple star which looks like this. So, star, star, star it will be sigma K a1, but sigma K sigma j i replaced by i. So, original order is replaced by a different order, if you just look at these terms. If you look at this term, I am not touching the sigma K a1 those terms this will be sigma i alpha 1 plus sigma K a2 sigma i alpha 2 r minus 1 term will be sigma K ar minus 1 times sigma i alpha r minus 1.

And the last term will be sigma i alpha r equal to 0 where i goes from so, i's are again going from 1 to n, like j's, j's are going from 1 to n, but it is possible a different order. So, I hope this is the really somewhat tricky part, but I hope this is clear. So, we are taking sigma K sigma j, but sigma K sigma j is just another ordering of the group elements. So, I am just using a different letter for the index. So, we have this.



(Refer Slide Time: 36:45)

$$\begin{aligned}
 (*) &: a_1 \sigma_i(\alpha_1) + a_2 \sigma_i(\alpha_2) + \dots + a_{r-1} \sigma_i(\alpha_{r-1}) + \cancel{\sigma_i(\alpha_r)} = 0 \\
 (*) - (k \text{th}) &: \left( a_1 - \sigma_k(a_1) \right) \sigma_i(\alpha_1) + \underbrace{\left( a_2 - \sigma_k(a_2) \right) \sigma_i(\alpha_2)}_{\text{second term}} + \dots \\
 &\quad \underbrace{\left( a_{r-1} - \sigma_k(a_{r-1}) \right) \sigma_i(\alpha_{r-1})}_{(r-1)\text{th term}} = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$1 \leq i \leq n$   $\rightarrow$  first term

Now we conclude: we have a new solution to the original



And now I am going to subtract star minus star, star, star single star minus triple star if I do that, what do I get? So, star was all the way here. So, star maybe I will write star just for in this compact fashion. So, that it becomes clear star is really  $a_1 \sigma_i \alpha_1, a_2 \sigma_i \alpha_2$  ar minus  $1 \sigma_i \alpha_r$  minus  $1$  plus  $\sigma_i \alpha_r$  minus  $\alpha_r$ . So, this is star,  $a_1 \sigma_i a_2 \sigma_i$  index subscript of  $a$  and  $\alpha$  are same.

$a_1 \alpha_1, a_2 \alpha_2$  ar minus  $1 \alpha_r$  minus  $1$ , ar  $\alpha_r$  but ar is  $1$ . So, subscript of  $a$  and  $\alpha$  are same the first equation as  $\sigma_1$ , second equation has  $\sigma_2$ , third equation has  $\sigma_3$ , nth equation has  $\sigma_n$  so  $\sigma_i$ . So, again it goes  $i$  from  $1$  to  $n$  for both of these. So, now you do star minus triple star so, if you do star minus triple star, we are almost done. So, we are getting there. So, if you do that, again I am going to write the compact form.

So, the first column will have sigma the first equation will have  $\sigma_1 \sigma_K a_1 \sigma_1$  here it will be  $a_1 \sigma_1 \alpha_1$ . So, it will be  $a_1$  minus  $\sigma_K a_1$  times  $\sigma_i \alpha_1$ . So,  $\sigma_i \alpha_1$  is common. So, you remove that and write  $\sigma_K a_1$  or  $a_1$  minus  $\sigma_K 1$  because you are doing star minus star star star. The second term will be  $a_2$  minus  $\sigma_K a_2 \sigma_i \alpha_2$  plus dot, dot, dot  $r$  minus  $1$ th term will be  $a_r$  minus  $1$  minus  $\sigma_K a_r$  minus  $1$ ,  $\sigma_i \alpha_r$  minus  $1$  and this is the way that we have arranged this the last rounds will go away. Because  $\sigma_i \alpha_r, \sigma_i \alpha_r$  plus there is nothing basically so, that is equal to  $0$ .

Now, again this is for all  $i$  from 1 to  $n$ . So, again I invite you to just write down all of them if needed. There any questions? Now, stare at this carefully. Now, what we get is we conclude a new equation new solution to the, a new solution to the original system. What is the new solution? New solution has only  $r$  minus 1 terms now, this is the first coordinate of the new solution, this is the second coordinate of the solution, this is  $r$  minus first coordinate, because if you plug this in the column vector corresponding to the variables, you get exactly the solution because  $\sigma_1 \alpha_1 \sigma_2 \alpha_2 \sigma_n \alpha_n + 1$  is the row in any particular row. So, when you multiply that with this entry this vector you get the solution.

(Refer Slide Time: 40:54)



Now we conclude: we have a new solution to the original system:  $(a_1 - \sigma_K(a_1), a_2 - \sigma_K(a_2), \dots, a_{r-1} - \sigma_K(a_{r-1}), 0, \dots, 0)$  is a solution to the original system. Moreover:  $a_1 - \sigma_K(a_1) \neq 0$ . This is a nontrivial solution which has at most  $r-1$  nonzero entries.



So, that means solution is  $a_1 - \sigma_K(a_1), a_2 - \sigma_K(a_2)$  all the way up to  $a_{r-1} - \sigma_K(a_{r-1})$  comma 0, 0, 0. So, this is a solution to the original system. Moreover,  $a_1 - \sigma_K(a_1)$  is nonzero that we assumed that is how we chose  $K$ . So, the first entry is nonzero. So, that means, this is a non trivial solution which has at most  $r$  minus 1 nonzero entries, because this is 1 first 1, second 1,  $r$  minus first 1. So, there are at most  $r$  minus 1 maybe even this is 0 I do not, I do not care but it cannot have more than  $r$  minus 1 nonzero entries.

(Refer Slide Time: 42:13)

is a solution ...  
 Moreover:  $a_1 - p_k(a_1) \neq 0$ . This is a nontrivial solution which has at most  $r-1$  nonzero entries. This contradicts the choice of  $r$ .  
 Another approach: take any nontrivial solution; repeat the above process to get another solution with fewer nonzero entries.



Moreover: ...  
 at most  $r-1$  nonzero entries. This contradicts the choice of  $r$ .  
 Another approach: take any nontrivial solution; repeat the above process to get another solution with fewer nonzero entries.  
 The proof is complete.  $\square$



This contradicts because remember and  $r$  was chosen so that you have the least number of 0 nonzero entries in any solution is  $r$ . So if you do not like this contradiction method, what you can really interpret what we have done is you take any solution non trivial solution, take any non trivial solution. So, another approach take any nonzero solution repeat the above process to get another solution, take any non trivial solution and repeat the process to get us another solution with fewer nonzero entries.

Another interpretation of this is we originally started with a solution with  $r$  entries,  $r$  nonzero entries, these are all 0 and 2. So, these  $n$  plus 1 minus  $r$  0 entries, we started with a solution with  $r$

positive nonzero entries, and ended up with  $r$  minus 1 nonzero entries or less, in fact. So, we can always start with maybe there are 100 nonzero entries, repeat this process to get it down to 99. Repeat it again to get it down to 98. And keep all the way to get it to 1. And once it is 1, we get a contradiction directly. So, that is another way to read this proof.

So, take any solution which is non trivial. Repeat the above process of rearranging equations, applying  $\sigma_K$ , and so on to get a solution with fewer nonzero entries. And repeat it, because it is a finite vector, eventually, you will get 1 nonzero entry which will give you the contradiction. So, the proof is complete. Theorem 1 talks about some lower bound on the degree of the field over the Fixed Field. Theorem 2, if you assume that they form a group, then it gives you an exact equality. So these 2 statements are critical for us.

We will repeatedly use them throughout the course, and the proofs are beautiful. So, please make sure that you understand the proof. And if you have any questions, please feel free to ask doubts, but really, there is nothing more than elementary linear algebra here. So, I hope you carefully follow this and work it out yourself if needed to understand the proof. So, let me stop this video here and in the next video, we are going to now make use of these very important theorems and study Galois theory. Thank you.