

**ABSTRACT ALGEBRA  
EXERCISE SHEET 13**

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**Problem 1** (10 points). Let  $F$  be a field. Let  $p$  be its characteristic. We call  $F$  *perfect* if every algebraic extension of  $F$  is separable. Show that the following assertions are equivalent.

- (i) The field  $F$  is perfect.
- (ii) If  $p$  is positive then the Frobenius homomorphism of  $F$

$$x \in F \mapsto x^p \in F$$

is surjective.

**Problem 2** (10 points). (i) Let  $E|F$  be a finite field extension and  $E_1$  be an intermediate field, i.e.

$$F \subseteq E_1 \subseteq E.$$

Let  $\alpha$  be an element of  $E$  which is separable over  $F$ . Show that  $\alpha$  is separable over  $E_1$ .

- (ii) Let  $E|E_2|E_1|F$  be algebraic field extensions and suppose that  $E_2|E_1$  is finite. Let  $\phi$  be a field homomorphism from  $E_1$  into an algebraic closure  $\bar{F}$  of  $F$ . Prove that the following assertions are equivalent.
  - (a)  $E_2|E_1$  is separable.
  - (b) There are exactly  $[E_2 : E_1]$  extensions of  $\phi$  to  $E_2$ .

**Problem 3** (10 points). Let  $E|F$  be an algebraic field extension and  $E_1|F$  and  $E_2|F$  be separable subextensions. Prove that the compositum  $E_1E_2$  is separable over  $F$ ,

**Problem 4** (10 points). Let  $p$  be an odd prime number and  $F$  be a finite field of characteristic  $p$ . Find the largest field  $E_1$  in between  $F(X)$  and  $F(X^{\frac{1}{2p}})$  such that  $E_1|F(X)$  is separable.