

35. Galois Groups of Polynomials

By Mitsuo YOSHIZAWA

College of General Education, Keio University

(Communicated by Shokichi IYANAGA, M. J. A., April 12, 1984)

1. Let $f(x) \in K[x]$ be a monic irreducible polynomial of degree n over a field K of characteristic 0. Several theoretical algorithms for the determination of the Galois group $\text{Gal}_K(f)$ of $f(x)$ over K have been developed by many authors (cf. van der Waerden [5], Zassenhaus [7], Stauduhar [4]), but it is known that the practical determination is difficult for large n . In [1] a technique for determining the set-transitivity of the Galois group of a polynomial is described by Erbach, Fischer and McKay, and they prove that $x^7 - 154x + 99$ has the Galois group $PSL(2, 7)$. In [3] Jensen and Yui give a criterion characterizing $f(x)$ with $\text{Gal}_K(f) \cong D_p$ (the dihedral group of prime degree p).

In this paper we give criteria characterizing $f(x)$ which has as $\text{Gal}_K(f)$ a group with some properties as a permutation group. In particular, we give a formula giving the order of $\text{Gal}_K(f)$.

2. We state several terminologies [6] concerning the permutation group theory. Let G be a permutation group on Ω . We say that a subset Δ of Ω is an *orbit* of G if $(\Delta)G = \Delta$ and G acts transitively on Δ . G is called *t-transitive* on Ω if for every two ordered t -tuples $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_t$ and β_1, \dots, β_t of elements of Ω (with $\alpha_i \neq \alpha_j, \beta_i \neq \beta_j$ for $i \neq j$) there exists $g \in G$ with $(\alpha_i)g = \beta_i$ ($i = 1, \dots, t$). If G is transitive on Ω and if there is a subset Γ ($1 < |\Gamma| < |\Omega|$) of Ω satisfying $(\Gamma)g = \Gamma$ or $(\Gamma)g \cap \Gamma = \emptyset$ for all $g \in G$, G is called an *imprimitive group* on Ω with a *block* Γ . (Then $| \Gamma | \mid |\Omega|$ holds obviously.) We say G is *primitive* on Ω if G is transitive but not imprimitive on Ω . Obviously G is primitive if G is doubly transitive. For s elements $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_s \in \Omega$ we set $G_{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_s} = \{g \in G : (\alpha_i)g = \alpha_i, i = 1, \dots, s\}$, a subgroup of G .

3. From now on, we assume $G = \text{Gal}_K(f)$ and $\Omega =$ the set of roots of $f(x)$. For independent variables X_1, \dots, X_n

$$\prod_{(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \neq (\alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha'_n) \in \Omega \times \dots \times \Omega} \{(\alpha_1 - \alpha'_1)X_1 + (\alpha_2 - \alpha'_2)X_2 + \dots + (\alpha_n - \alpha'_n)X_n\}$$

is a non-zero polynomial in $K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ of degree $n^n(n^n - 1)$. Hence there exist distinct non-zero rational integers a_1, \dots, a_n with

$$\prod_{(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \neq (\alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha'_n) \in \Omega \times \dots \times \Omega} \{a_1(\alpha_1 - \alpha'_1) + a_2(\alpha_2 - \alpha'_2) + \dots + a_n(\alpha_n - \alpha'_n)\} \neq 0.$$

Hereafter we fix a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n . For each m ($1 \leq m \leq n$) we define

$$\Phi_{(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m)}(X) = \prod_{(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m) \in \Omega \times \dots \times \Omega} (X - (a_1\alpha_1 + a_2\alpha_2 + \dots + a_m\alpha_m)).$$

Then it is a polynomial in $K[X]$ of degree n^m of which all roots are distinct from one another.

Now there exist a natural number s and mappings Δ_i ($i=0, 1, \dots, s$) from Ω into the subsets of Ω , such that Ω decomposes into exactly $(s+1)$ G_α -orbits $\Delta_0(\alpha)=\{\alpha\}, \Delta_1(\alpha), \dots, \Delta_s(\alpha)$ for each $\alpha \in \Omega$ satisfying $(\Delta_i(\alpha))g = \Delta_i((\alpha)g)$ for all $\alpha \in \Omega, g \in G, i=0, 1, \dots, s$. We call Δ_i ($0 \leq i \leq s$) an *orbital* [2] of G . The number $|\Delta_i(\alpha)|$, which is independent of $\alpha \in \Omega$, is called the *length* $|\Delta_i|$ of Δ_i . Then we have

Theorem 1. $\Phi_{(a_1, a_2)}(X) = f_0(X)f_1(X) \cdots f_s(X)$ holds, where

$$f_i(X) = \prod_{\alpha \in \Omega} \prod_{\beta \in \Delta_i(\alpha)} (X - (a_1\alpha + a_2\beta)) \quad (0 \leq i \leq s)$$

is an irreducible polynomial in $K[X]$ with $\deg f_i/n = |\Delta_i|$ ($i=0, \dots, s$).

4. Let Δ_i be an arbitrarily fixed orbital with $i \geq 1$. Then there exist a natural number r and mappings $\Gamma_j = \Gamma_j^{(d_i)}$ ($j=0, 1, \dots, r$) from $T = \{(\alpha, \beta) : \alpha \in \Omega, \beta \in \Delta_i(\alpha)\}$ into the subsets of Ω , such that Ω decomposes into exactly $(r+1)$ $G_{\alpha\beta}$ -orbits

$$\Gamma_0(\alpha, \beta) = \{\alpha\}, \Gamma_1(\alpha, \beta) = \{\beta\}, \Gamma_2(\alpha, \beta), \dots, \Gamma_r(\alpha, \beta)$$

for each $(\alpha, \beta) \in T$ satisfying $(\Gamma_j(\alpha, \beta))g = \Gamma_j((\alpha)g, (\beta)g)$ for all $(\alpha, \beta) \in T, g \in G, j=0, 1, \dots, r$. The number $|\Gamma_j(\alpha, \beta)|$, which is independent of $\alpha \in \Omega$ and $\beta \in \Delta_i(\alpha)$, is called the *length* $|\Gamma_j^{(d_i)}|$ of $\Gamma_j^{(d_i)}$.

For $f_i(X)$ (corresponding to Δ_i) we define

$$\Phi_{(a_1, a_2, a_3)}^{(f_i)}(X) = \prod_{\gamma \in \Omega} f_i(X - a_3\gamma).$$

Then it is a divisor of $\Phi_{(a_1, a_2, a_3)}(X)$ in $K[X]$, and we get

Theorem 2. $\Phi_{(a_1, a_2, a_3)}^{(f_i)}(X) = h_0(X)h_1(X) \cdots h_r(X)$ holds, where

$$h_j(X) = \prod_{\alpha \in \Omega} \prod_{\beta \in \Delta_i(\alpha)} \prod_{\gamma \in \Gamma_j^{(d_i)}(\alpha, \beta)} (X - (a_1\alpha + a_2\beta + a_3\gamma)) \quad (0 \leq j \leq r)$$

is an irreducible polynomial in $K[X]$ with $\deg h_j / (n|\Delta_i|) = |\Gamma_j^{(d_i)}|$ ($j=0, 1, \dots, r$).

Remark. In Theorems 1 and 2, $s=1$ holds if and only if G is doubly transitive on Ω , and moreover $r=2$ holds if and only if G is triply transitive on Ω .

5. We can continue arguments of Theorems 1, 2, \dots similarly. Hence by this method we can get $|G|$ essentially because of the following lemma (cf. [6, Theorem 3.2, Proposition 3.3]).

Lemma. If $G_{\gamma_1 \dots \gamma_v} = \{1\}$ holds for v elements $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_v$ in Ω , we have $|G| = |(r_1)G| |(r_2)G_{\gamma_1}| \cdots |(r_v)G_{\gamma_1 \dots \gamma_{v-1}}|$ where $|(r_k)G_{\gamma_1 \dots \gamma_{k-1}}|$ is the length of the orbit of $G_{\gamma_1 \dots \gamma_{k-1}}$ containing γ_k .

6. Let us suppose that n is not prime and d is a divisor of n with $1 < d < n$. Assuming that $\varphi_i(X_1, \dots, X_d)$ ($i=1, \dots, d$) are the elementary symmetric polynomials of X_1, \dots, X_d and that $\Omega^{(d)}$ is the set of d -element subsets of Ω , then for independent variables Y_1, \dots, Y_d

$$\prod_{\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d\} \neq \{\alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha'_d\} \in \Omega^{(d)}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^d Y_i (\varphi_i(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d) - \varphi_i(\alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha'_d)) \right\}$$

is a non-zero polynomial in $K[Y_1, \dots, Y_d]$ of degree $\binom{n}{d} \left(\binom{n}{d} - 1 \right)$.

Hence there exist rational integers b_1, \dots, b_d with

$$\prod \left\{ \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d\} \neq \{\alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha'_d\}}}^d b_i (\varphi_i(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d) - \varphi_i(\alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha'_d)) \right\} \neq 0.$$

Hereafter we fix b_1, \dots, b_d . If we define

$$\Psi_{(b_1, \dots, b_d)}(X) = \prod_{\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d\} \in \Omega^{(d)}} \{X - (b_1 \varphi_1(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d) + \dots + b_d \varphi_d(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d))\},$$

then it is a polynomial in $K[X]$ of degree $\binom{n}{d}$ of which all roots are distinct from one another, and we get

Theorem 3. $\Psi_{(b_1, \dots, b_d)}(X)$ has an irreducible factor of degree n/d in $K[X]$ if and only if G is an imprimitive group whose block-size is d .

In Theorem 3 if $\lambda(X)$ is an irreducible factor of $\Psi_{(b_1, \dots, b_d)}(X)$ of degree n/d , then we may assume that G has n/d blocks $\Delta_i = \{\alpha_{i1}, \dots, \alpha_{id}\}$ ($i=1, \dots, n/d$) with $\Omega = \Delta_1 + \dots + \Delta_{n/d}$ satisfying

$$\lambda(X) = \prod_{i=1}^{n/d} \{X - (b_1 \varphi_1(\alpha_{i1}, \dots, \alpha_{id}) + \dots + b_d \varphi_d(\alpha_{i1}, \dots, \alpha_{id}))\}.$$

Let \bar{G} be the permutation group on $\bar{\Omega} = \{\Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_{n/d}\}$ induced by G . Then we have

Theorem 4. $\bar{G} \cong \text{Gal}_K(\lambda)$.

References

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