

## MATH 8320 HOMEWORK

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### 0. PROBLEM SET 0

**Exercise 0.1.** There three notions of finite generation in play for a field extension  $l/k$ : (i)  $l$  is finitely generated as a  $k$ -module (equivalently, finite-dimensional as a  $k$ -vector space) – we also say that  $l/k$  has finite degree – (ii)  $l$  is finitely generated as a  $k$ -algebra: there are  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in l$  such that  $l = k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ : every element of  $l$  can be expressed as a polynomial in  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  with coefficients in  $k$ . (iii)  $l/k$  is finitely generated as a field extension.

- Show:  $l/k$  finitely generated as a module implies  $l/k$  finitely generated as a  $k$ -algebra implies  $l/k$  finitely generated as a field extension.
- Let  $k(t)$  be the rational function field over  $k$  – the fraction field of the polynomial ring  $k[t]$ . Show:  $k(t)/k$  is finitely generated as a field extension but is not finitely generated as a  $k$ -algebra.
- Show:  $k[t]/k$  is finitely generated as a  $k$ -algebra but not as a  $k$ -module. (However  $k[t]$  is not a field!)
- Can you exhibit a field extension  $l/k$  such that  $l$  is finitely generated as a  $k$ -algebra but not as a  $k$ -vector space?  
(Hint: no, you can't – this is a famous result of commutative algebra!)
- Suppose  $l/k$  is algebraic and finitely generated as a field extension. Show that  $l/k$  has finite degree.

**Exercise 0.2.** Show that every finitely generated field extension  $K = k(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is the fraction field of a quotient of  $k[t_1, \dots, t_n]$  by a (not necessarily principal) prime ideal.

**Exercise 0.3.** Let  $k$  be a field, and let  $k(a, b)$  be a field extension of  $k$  of transcendence degree 1.

- Let  $k[x, y]$  be the polynomial ring in two variables. Let  $f : k[x, y] \rightarrow k(a, b)$  be the unique  $k$ -algebra homomorphism such that  $f(x) = a$  and  $f(y) = b$ . Show that the kernel  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $f$  is a prime ideal, and let  $K$  be the fraction field of  $k[x, y]/\mathfrak{p}$ . Show that  $f$  induces a  $k$ -algebra isomorphism  $K \xrightarrow{\sim} k(a, b)$ .
- Show:  $\mathfrak{p}$  is generated by an irreducible polynomial, and deduce that there is an irreducible polynomial  $f \in k[x, y]$ , unique up to scaling by an element of  $k^\times$ , such that  $f(a, b) = 0$  and  $k(a, b)$  is the fraction field of  $k[x, y]/(f)$ .  
(Suggestion: by [CA, Cor. 12.17], the prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$  has height 0, 1 or 2. Rule out the possibilities of height 0 and height 2, and then find and use a fact about height one prime ideals in a UFD.)
- Show that if  $K/k$  is a separable one variable function field, then  $K = k(a, b)$  for some  $a$  and  $b$ .  
(Remark: In the third lecture I mention that in this case we can actually take the polynomial  $f$  to be geometrically irreducible.)

**Exercise 0.4.** Let  $k$  be a field, let  $G$  be a finite group of order  $n$ , and let  $G \hookrightarrow S_n$  be the Cayley embedding. Permutation of variables gives a natural action of  $S_n$  and hence also  $G$  on  $k(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ . Put  $l := k(t_1, \dots, t_n)^G$ , so  $k(t_1, \dots, t_n)/l$  is a finite Galois extension with automorphism group  $G$ . Notice that this is an instance of the Lüroth problem.

- Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}$ . Show: if  $l/\mathbb{Q}$  is purely transcendental, then  $G$  occurs as a Galois group over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .  
Thus: an affirmative answer to the Lüroth problem yields an affirmative answer to the Inverse

Galois Problem over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

(Suggestion: This holds whenever  $k$  is a Hilbertian field.)

- b) Alas,  $l/\mathbb{Q}$  need not be purely transcendental. Explore the literature on this – the first example was due to Swan, where  $G$  is cyclic of order 47.

**Exercise 0.5.** Let  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  be two  $k$ -algebras that are also domains, with fraction fields  $K_1$  and  $K_2$ . Show that  $R_1 \otimes_k R_2$  is a domain iff  $K_1 \otimes_k K_2$  is a domain.

**Exercise 0.6.** a) Let  $l/k$  be an algebraic field extension. Show:  $l \otimes_k l$  is a domain iff  $l = k$ .

- b) Let  $l/k$  be any field extension. Show:  $k(t) \otimes_k l$  is always a domain with fraction field  $l(t)$ . It is already a field iff  $l/k$  is algebraic.

**Exercise 0.7.** Describe the  $\mathbb{R}$ -algebra  $\mathbb{C}(t) \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C}$ .

**Exercise 0.8.** a) Show:  $k(t)/k$  is regular.

- b) Show: every purely transcendental extension is regular.  
 c) Show: every extension  $K/k$  is regular iff  $k$  is algebraically closed.  
 d) Show:  $K/k$  is regular iff every finitely generated subextension is regular.

**Exercise 0.9.** Let  $k$  be a field, let  $d \geq 2$  be such that  $4 \nmid d$ , and let  $p(x) \in k[x]$  be a polynomial of positive degree. In  $\bar{k}[t]$  we factor  $p$  as  $(x - a_1)^{e_1} \cdots (x - a_r)^{e_r}$  with  $a_1, \dots, a_r$  distinct elements of  $\bar{k}$  and  $e_1, \dots, e_r \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Suppose that there is some  $1 \leq i \leq r$  such that  $d \nmid e_i$ . Show that the

$$f(x, y) = y^d - p(x) \in k[x, y]$$

is geometrically irreducible and thus the fraction field of  $k[x, y]/(y^d - p(x))$  is a regular one variable function field over  $k$ .

(Suggestion: use [FT, Thm. 9.21].)

**Exercise 0.10.** Let  $k$  be a field of characteristic different from 2.

- a) Show that the function field  $K_f$  attached to  $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2 - 1$  is rational: i.e., there is  $z \in K$  such that  $K_f = k(z)$ .  
 b) Show that the function field  $K_f$  attached to  $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 - 1$  is rational.  
 c) If  $k = \mathbb{C}$ , show that the function field  $K_f$  attached to  $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 + 1$  is rational.  
 d) If  $k = \mathbb{R}$ , is the function field attached to  $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 + 1$  rational?

(Answer: it is not, but at the moment we have precisely no tools to show that a regular function field is not rational, so I don't know how you could prove this. But keep it in mind – as we develop more theory, it will become possible, then easy, then clear.)

**Exercise 0.11.** Give a purely algebraic proof of the Lüroth Theorem: for any field  $k$ , if  $K$  is a field such that  $k \subsetneq K \subset k(t)$ , then  $K = k(f)$  for some  $f \in K$ .

**Exercise 0.12.** Fix  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Exhibit a finite degree field extension  $l/k$  such that needs  $n+1$  generators: that is,  $l \neq k(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  for any  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in l$ .

I do not know how to do the following exercise:

**Exercise 0.13.** a) For each  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , find a one variable function field  $K/k$  that needs  $n+1$  generators or show that no such exists.

(Idea: As in Exercise 0.12, there is a finite degree field extension  $l/k$  that needs  $n+1$  generators. It seems likely that  $l(t)/k$  also needs  $n+1$  generators!)

- b) Prove or disprove: every one variable function field  $K/k$  with  $\kappa(K) = k$  is 2-generated.

## 1. PROBLEM SET 1

**Exercise 1.1.** Let  $k$  be any field, and let  $\frac{p(t)}{q(t)} \in k(t)$  be a nonconstant rational function. Show:

$$\deg[k(t) : k(p/q)] = \max \deg(p), \deg(q).$$

**Exercise 1.2.** Let  $R$  be a valuation ring with fraction field  $K$ . Let  $F$  be a subfield of  $K$ . Show:  $R \cap F$  is a valuation ring with fraction field  $F$ . We call it the “restriction of  $R$  to  $F$ .”

**Exercise 1.3.** Let  $(G, +, \leq)$  be a totally ordered commutative group, and let

$$v : K \rightarrow G \cup \{\infty\}$$

be a **Krull valuation** on  $K$ :

(VRK0) For all  $x \in K$ , we have  $v(x) = \infty$  iff  $x = 0$ .

(VRK1) For all  $x, y \in K^\times$ , we have  $v(xy) = v(x) + v(y)$ .

(VRK2) For all  $x, y \in K^\times$  such that  $x + y \neq 0$ , we have  $v(x + y) \geq \min v(x), v(y)$ .

Show that, as expected, if  $v(x) \neq v(y)$ , then we have  $v(x + y) = \min v(x), v(y)$ .

**Exercise 1.4.** Let  $k$  be a field, and let  $K = k(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  be a rational function field in  $n$  indeterminates. Let  $G := \mathbb{Z}^n$ , with the lexicographic ordering. Let  $G^{\geq 0} = \mathbb{N}^n$  (it is indeed the submonoid of non-negative elements for the given ordering).

- Observe/recall that the polynomial ring  $k[t_1, \dots, t_n]$  can be viewed as the semigroup algebra  $k[G^{\geq 0}]$ .
- Define a map  $v : k[G^{\geq 0}]^\bullet \rightarrow G^{\geq 0}$  by mapping each polynomial to the smallest monomial in its support.
- Extend  $v$  to a surjective map  $K^\bullet \rightarrow G$  that satisfies (VRK1) and (VRK2). Show that  $R_v := v^{-1}(G^{\geq 0}) \cup \{0\}$  is a valuation ring with value group  $G$ . In particular, if  $n \geq 2$  then  $K$  carries a valuation of rank  $n \geq 2$ .
- Suppose now that  $L/k$  is any function field in  $n$  variables. Show that  $L$  carries a valuation of rank  $n$ . (It suffices to know that higher rank valuations on a field can be extended to a finite degree field extension. This is true, although it is not discussed in [NTII].)

**Exercise 1.5.** Define a map  $v_\infty : k(t)^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}, x = \frac{p(t)}{q(t)} \mapsto \deg q - \deg p$ .

- Show that  $v_\infty$  is a  $k[1/t]$ -regular discrete valuation on  $k(t)$ .
- Deduce from the above discussion that the valuations  $v_\infty$  and  $v_{1/t}$  are equivalent: i.e., have the same valuation ring.
- Show that  $v_\infty = v_{1/t}$ .

**Exercise 1.6.** Let  $K/k$  be a one-variable function field.

- Show that  $\Sigma(K/k)$  is infinite.
- More precisely, show that the cardinality of  $\Sigma(K/k)$  is equal to the number of monic irreducible polynomials  $p \in k[t]$ , which is  $\# \max(\#k, \aleph_0)$ .

**Exercise 1.7.** Let  $K/k$  be a one variable function field, let  $v \in \Sigma(K/k)$ , let  $R_v$  be the valuation of  $v$ ,  $\mathfrak{m}_v$  its maximal ideal, and  $k(v) = R_v/\mathfrak{m}_v$  its residue field. We showed in the lecture that  $[k(v) : k]$  is finite using “afine grounding” and Zariski’s Lemma. In [St], Stichtenoth gives a different proof. He chooses  $f \in K$  such that  $v(f) = 1$  and shows that  $[k(v) : k] \leq [K : k(f)]$ . Show this by showing first that if  $\bar{v}$  is the restriction of  $v$  to  $k(f)$  then  $k(\bar{v}) = k$  and then applying the Degree Equality (??).

**Exercise 1.8.** Let  $K/k$  be a one variable function field with constant field  $\kappa(K)$ . Show that for all  $v \in \Sigma(K/k)$ , we have

$$[\kappa(K) : k] \mid \deg v.$$

In particular, if  $\kappa(K) \supsetneq k$ , then  $K$  has no degree one points.

**Exercise 1.9.** Let  $K/k$  be a one variable function field. Show that the following are equivalent:

- Every  $v \in \Sigma(K/k)$  has degree 1.
- The ground field  $k$  is algebraically closed.

**Exercise 1.10.** For any field  $k$ , let  $\mathbb{P}^1(k)$  denote the set  $k \cup \{\infty\}$ . (You can certainly go ahead and think of this as the set of lines through the origin in  $k^2$ . However it is not necessary, or even immediately helpful, to think in terms of algebraic varieties.) Show that there is a natural bijection

$$\Sigma_1(k(t)/k) = \mathbb{P}^1(k).$$

Combining with Exercise 1.9 we get:  $\Sigma(k(t)/k) = \mathbb{P}^1(k)$  iff  $k$  is algebraically closed.

**Exercise 1.11.** Show: If  $A$  is an affine Dedekind domain with fraction field  $K$ , then we have  $A = R^{\Sigma(K/k) \setminus \text{MaxSpec } A}$ .

**Exercise 1.12.** Let  $Z \subset \Sigma(K/k)$  be infinite and proper. Show:  $R^Z$  is a Dedekind domain with fraction field  $K$  that is not finitely generated as a  $k$ -algebra.

**Exercise 1.13.** Let  $K/k$  be a one-variable function field. Show: there are affine Dedekind domains  $A_1, A_2$  over  $k$  with fraction field  $K$  such that  $\Sigma(K/k) = \text{MaxSpec } A_1 \cup \text{MaxSpec } A_2$  (the union is very far from being disjoint).

## 2. PROBLEM SET 2

**Exercise 2.1.** Let  $K/k$  be a one variable function field.

- Show: If  $\Sigma_1(K/k) \neq \emptyset$ , then  $K$  has index 1.
- We will see later that if  $k$  is finite,  $K$  always has index 1 but  $\Sigma(K/k)$  may be empty. You can try to prove this now if you like!
- Deduce: if  $k$  is algebraically closed, then  $K$  has index 1.
- Show: The index of  $K$  is divisible by  $[\kappa(K) : k]$ .

**Exercise 2.2.** Let  $K/k$  be a one variable function field, and let  $f \in K^\times$ . Show that the divisor of  $f$  is 0 iff  $f$  lies in the constant subfield of  $K$ .

**Exercise 2.3.** Let  $f, g \in K^\times$ .

- Show:  $(\frac{1}{f}) = -(f)$ .
- Show:  $(fg) = (f) + (g)$ .
- Deduce the principal divisors form a subgroup of  $\text{Div}^0 K$ , denoted  $\text{Prin } K$ .

**Exercise 2.4.** a) Show that every degree zero divisor on  $k(t)$  is the divisor of a rational function.  
b) Deduce that the degree map induces an isomorphism  $\text{Cl } k(t) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{Z}$  and that  $\text{Cl}^0 k(t) = (0)$ .

**Exercise 2.5.** This exercise takes place in the setting of Rosen's Theorem [NTII, Thm. 3.28].

- Show:  $D^0(S) \cong \mathbb{Z}^{\#S-1}$ .
- Suppose that  $S = \{P\}$  consists of a single place, of degree  $d \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Show that (??) simplifies to

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Cl}^0(K) \xrightarrow{\alpha} \text{Cl } R^S \xrightarrow{\beta} C(d/I(K)) \rightarrow 0.$$

Deduce that in this case  $\alpha$  is an isomorphism iff  $I(K) = d$ .

- Deduce that if  $S$  consists of a single degree 1 place, then  $\alpha : \text{Cl}^0 K \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Cl } R^S$ .

**Exercise 2.6.** This exercise takes place in the setting of Rosen's Theorem [NTII, Thm. 3.28].

- Suppose that  $\text{Cl}^0 K$  is finite. Show that every affine Dedekind domain  $R^S$  in  $K$  has finite ideal class group.<sup>1</sup>
- Suppose  $\text{Cl}^0 K$  is infinite and finitely generated. Show that for any nonempty finite subset  $S \subset \Sigma(K/k)$ , there is a nonempty finite subset  $S' \supset S$  such that  $\text{Cl } R^{S'}$  is finite.

**Exercise 2.7.** a) Show:  $\mathbb{R}[\cos \theta, \sin \theta] \cong \mathbb{R}[x, y]/(x^2 + y^2 - 1)$ . Show that the latter is an affine Dedekind domain. By Exercise 0.10, its fraction field  $K$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}(t)$ .

- Use Rosen's Theorem to show that  $\text{Cl } \mathbb{R}[\cos \theta, \sin \theta] \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ .
- Show:  $\mathbb{C}[\cos \theta, \sin \theta] = \mathbb{C}[e^{i\theta}, e^{-i\theta}]$  and deduce that  $\mathbb{C}[\cos \theta, \sin \theta]$  is a PID.
- Use Rosen's Theorem to show that  $\text{Cl } \mathbb{C}[\cos \theta, \sin \theta]$  is trivial.

<sup>1</sup>Later we will show that  $\text{Cl}^0 K$  is always finite when  $k$  is a finite field. Thus this exercise shows the finiteness of all the class groups  $\text{Cl } R^S$ , which is the function field analogue of the finiteness of the class group of integers (or better, of the rings of  $S$ -integers; but the latter follows easily from the former) of a number field.

## REFERENCES

- [CA] P.L. Clark, *Commutative Algebra*. <http://math.uga.edu/~pete/integral2015.pdf>
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- [NTII] P.L. Clark, *Algebraic Number Theory II: Valuations, Local Fields and Adeles*. <http://math.uga.edu/~pete/8410FULL.pdf>
- [St] H. Stichtenoth, *Algebraic function fields and codes*. Second edition. Graduate Texts in Mathematics, 254. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 2009.