

Ex. splitting field of $x^3 - 2$ over \mathbb{Q}
 $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}, \sqrt[3]{2}\zeta_3, \sqrt[3]{2}\zeta_3^2) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2}, \zeta_3)$

13.6 Cyclotomic polynomials and extensions.

Recall. For $\zeta_n := e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}$,

$$x^n - 1 = \prod_{k=0}^{n-1} (x - \zeta_n^k) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$$

has the splitting field $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)$, the cyclotomic field of the n -th roots of unity.

The n -th roots of unity $1, \zeta_n, \zeta_n^2, \dots, \zeta_n^{n-1}$ form a cyclic multiplicative group $\langle \zeta_n \rangle$.

Generators of $\langle \zeta_n \rangle$ are called the primitive n -th roots of unity.

Question. What is $[\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n) : \mathbb{Q}]$?

Note.

$$\begin{aligned} x^n - 1 &= \prod_{k=0}^{n-1} (x - e^{k\frac{2\pi i}{n}}) \\ &= \prod_{d|n} \prod_{1 \leq k \leq d, \gcd(k,d)=1} (x - e^{k\frac{2\pi i}{d}}) \\ &\quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{=: \Phi_d(x)} \end{aligned}$$

$\Phi_d(x) := \prod_{\zeta \text{ primitive } d\text{-th root of unity}} (x - \zeta)$ is the d -th cyclotomic polynomial

$\deg \Phi_d(x) = \varphi(d)$ Euler's φ

Example. $\Phi_1(x) = x - 1$

$$\Phi_2(x) = x + 1$$

$$x^2 - 1 = (x - 1)(x + 1)$$

$$\{1, -1\} = \langle -1 \rangle$$

For prime, $x^p - 1 = (x - 1) \underbrace{(x^{p-1} + \dots + x + 1)}_{\Phi_{p-1}(x)}$

$$\langle \zeta_p \rangle \cong (\mathbb{Z}/p, +)$$

$$\Phi_4(x) = (x - i)(x + i) = x^2 + 1$$



Theorem. $\Phi_n(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ is monic of degree $\varphi(n)$, irreducible over $\mathbb{Q}[x]$.

Proof. Monic and $\deg \varphi(n)$ by definition.

1) $\Phi_n(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ by induction on n :

$$\Phi_1(x) = x - 1 \quad \checkmark$$

Assume $n > 1$. Then

$$x^n - 1 = \Phi_n(x) \cdot f(x)$$

where $f(x) = \prod_{\substack{d|n \\ d \neq n}} \Phi_d(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ by induction

By pd. division $\Phi_n(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ and $\Phi_n(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ by Gauss' Lemma.

Gauss' Lemma: Let R be a UFD with field of fractions \bar{R} , $f(x) \in R[x]$

If $f(x) = g(x) \cdot h(x)$ for $g, h \in \bar{R}[x] \setminus \bar{R}$, then $\exists a \in \bar{R}^*$:

$$f(x) = \underbrace{a g(x)}_{\in R[x]} \underbrace{a^{-1} h(x)}_{\in R[x]}$$

2) Assume $\Phi_n(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x)$ for $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ irreducible, $g(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Let ξ be a primitive n -th root of unity such that $f(\xi) = 0$.

Then $f(x) = m_{\xi, \mathbb{Q}}(x)$.

Claim: $f(\xi^m) = 0$ for all $1 \leq m \leq n$, $\gcd(m, n) = 1$.

Let p prime, $p \nmid n$. Then $\Phi_n(\xi^p) = 0$.

Suppose $g(\xi^p) = 0$. Then ξ is a root of $g(x^p)$.

Thus $g(x^p) = f(x) \cdot h(x)$ for some $h(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Modulo p $g(x^p) = f(x) \cdot h(x)$ in $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$

Since $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$ is a UFD, $\gcd(g(x), f(x)) \neq 1$ in \mathbb{F}_p

In \mathbb{F}_p , $\Phi_n(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x)$ has a multiple root, contradicting that $x^n - 1$ is separable over \mathbb{F}_p .
Thus $f = \Phi_n$ \square

Corollary. $[\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n) : \mathbb{Q}] = \varphi(n)$

Proof. $m_{\xi, \mathbb{Q}}(x) = \Phi_n(x)$ \square

Note. For p prime and $q = p^n$, F_q is the splitting field of

$$x^q - x = x(x^{q-1} - 1) = x \prod_{d|q-1} \bar{\Phi}_d(x) \in F_p[x].$$

If $F_q^* = \langle \alpha \rangle$, then $m_{\alpha, F_p}(x)$ divides $\bar{\Phi}_{q-1}(x)$ (not necessarily in \mathbb{F}_p , HW)