

1.6 Lecture 6: Cyclotomic polynomials and cyclotomic extensions

Let n be a positive integer.

- A **primitive n th root of unity** is an element $\omega \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $\omega^n = 1$ and if $m \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and $m < n$ then $\omega^m \neq 1$.
- The **n th cyclotomic polynomial** is

$$\Phi_n(x) = \prod_{\omega} (x - \omega), \quad \text{where the product is over the primitive } n\text{th roots of unity in } \mathbb{C}.$$

- The **Euler ϕ -function** is $\phi: \mathbb{Z}_{>0} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ given by

$$\phi(n) = \deg(\Phi_n(x)).$$

Since the roots of unity are the primitive d th roots of unity for the positive integers d dividing n then

$$x^n - 1 = \prod_{d|n} \Phi_d(x).$$

HW: Use this formula, and induction on n , to show that $\Phi_n(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$.

HW: Show that $\Phi_n(x) = m_{\omega, \mathbb{Q}}(x)$, where $\omega = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}$.

HW: Let $\omega = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}$. Show that $\mathbb{Q}(\omega)$ is the splitting field of $\Phi_n(x)$ over \mathbb{Q} .

HW: Show that $\Phi_n(x)$ is irreducible in $\mathbb{Q}[x]$.

HW:. Let $\omega = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}$. Show that $\mathbb{Q}(\omega) \supseteq \mathbb{Q}$ is a Galois extension.

HW: Let $\omega = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}$. Show that $|\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{Q}(\omega))| = \phi(n)$.

HW: Let $\omega = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}$. Show that $\text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{Q}(\omega)) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^{\times}$.

Theorem 1.12. Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$.

(a) $\Phi_n(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ and $\Phi_n(x)$ is irreducible in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$.

(b) $\phi(n) = \deg(\Phi_n(x)) = \text{Card}((\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^{\times}) = (\text{the number of primitive } n\text{th roots of unity})$.

Theorem 1.13. Let ω be a primitive n th root of unity. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Q}(\omega) \text{ is the splitting field of } f(x) = x^n - 1 \text{ over } \mathbb{Q}, \\ \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{Q}(\omega)) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^{\times} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Card}((\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^{\times}) = \phi(n). \end{aligned}$$