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second proof of Wedderburn's theorem

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Entry type Proof Classification msc 12E15 We can prove Wedderburn's theorem, without using Zsigmondy's theorem on the conjugacy class formula of the first proof; let G_n set of n-th roots of unity and P_n set of n-th primitive roots of unity and $\Phi_d(q)$ the d-th cyclotomic polynomial.

It results

•
$$\Phi_n(q) = \prod_{\xi \in P_n} (q - \xi)$$

•
$$p(q) = q^n - 1 = \prod_{\xi \in G_n} (q - \xi) = \prod_{d \mid n} \Phi_d(q)$$

- $\Phi_n(q) \in \mathbb{Z}[q]$, it has multiplicative identity and $\Phi_n(q) \mid q^n 1$
- $\Phi_n(q) \mid \frac{q^n 1}{q^d 1}$ with $d \mid n, d < n$

by conjugacy class formula, we have:

$$q^{n} - 1 = q - 1 + \sum_{x} \frac{q^{n} - 1}{q^{n_{x}} - 1}$$

by last two previous properties, it results:

$$\Phi_n(q) \mid q^n - 1 , \ \Phi_n(q) \mid \frac{q^n - 1}{q^{n_x} - 1} \Rightarrow \Phi_n(q) \mid q - 1$$

because $\Phi_n(q)$ divides the left and each addend of $\sum_x \frac{q^n-1}{q^{n_x}-1}$ of the right member of the conjugacy class formula.

By third property

$$q > 1$$
, $\Phi_n(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x] \Rightarrow \Phi_n(q) \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow |\Phi_n(q)| |q-1 \Rightarrow |\Phi_n(q)| \leqslant q-1$

If, for n > 1, we have $|\Phi_n(q)| > q - 1$, then n = 1 and the theorem is proved. We know that

$$|\Phi_n(q)| = \prod_{\xi \in P_n} |q - \xi|, \text{ with } q - \xi \in \mathbb{C}$$

by the triangle inequality in \mathbb{C}

$$|q - \xi| \ge ||q| - |\xi|| = |q - 1|$$

as ξ is a primitive root of unity, besides

$$|q - \xi| = |q - 1| \Leftrightarrow \xi = 1$$

but

$$n > 1 \Rightarrow \xi \neq 1$$

therefore, we have

$$|q - \xi| > |q - 1| = q - 1 \Rightarrow |\Phi_n(q)| > q - 1$$