

A Book of Abstract Algebra | (2nd Edition)

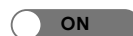


Chapter 30, Problem 3ED



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Problem

A polygon is called *constructible* iff its vertices are constructible points. Prove the following:
The regular polygon of nine sides is *not* constructible.

Step-by-step solution

Step 1 of 4

Here, objective is to prove that the regular polygon of nine sides is not constructible.

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Step 2 of 4

Regular n -gon has n equal length of sides and all angles are equal.

Regular n -gon is constructible if and only if the angle $\frac{2\pi}{n}$ is constructible

An angle $\frac{2\pi}{N}$ is constructible if and only if N is either a power of two or power of two and a set of

Fermat points

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Step 3 of 4

Consider nine-sided Polygon or **9 – gon**

Number of sides $n = 9$

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Step 4 of 4

To verify $\frac{2\pi}{n}$ is constructible or not:

$$\frac{2\pi}{n} = \frac{2\pi}{9}$$

$$9 = 3 \times 3$$

9 is not a product of two distinct 3's

Therefore, $\frac{2\pi}{9}$ is not a constructible angle, which Implies Regular **9 – gon** is not Constructible.

Hence,

regular polygon of nine sides is not constructible.

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