Problem Set 6 Math 410, Fall 2024

1. As we've discussed in class, the cyclotomic extension $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)$ has Galois group $\Gamma(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)/Q) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^{\times}$, where the element $a + n\mathbb{Z}$ corresponds to the automorphism characterized by $\zeta_n \mapsto \zeta_n^a$. Call this automorphism ϕ_a (note that $\phi_a = \phi_{a'}$ if $a \equiv a' \mod n$). Consider the order-two subgroup $H = \{\phi_1, \phi_{-1}\}$. Prove that for p prime, $H^{\dagger} = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})$, and that $[\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p) : H^{\dagger}] = 2$. (This should also be true for nonprime n, and you may find that your proof works just as well in that case.)

2. This problem is meant to add some specificity to a vague step in our characterizaton of constructible points in the plane. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$ be two distinct points. Prove that the line connecting a and b consists of all complex numbers z such that $z - a = \lambda(b - a)$ for some real number λ , and this in turn is equivalent to the equation

$$(\overline{a} - \overline{b})z - (a - b)\overline{z} = \overline{a}b - a\overline{b}.$$

Conclude that the line is characterized by an equation $\overline{z} = uz + v$, where $u, v \in \mathbb{Q}(a, b, \overline{a}, \overline{b})$.

- 3. Prove, as asserted in class, that if gcd(m,n) = 1, then there exists integers u, v such that $\zeta_{mn} = \zeta_m^u \zeta_n^v$. Deduce that $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{mn}) = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_m, \zeta_n)$.
- 4. Textbook exercise 7.8 (p. 96)
- 5. Textbook exercise 8.3 (p. 120; see p. 111 for a definition of elementary symmetric polynomials)
- 6. Textbook exercise 8.7
- 7. Textbook exercise 8.8