

April 3rd

We proved

x is a constructible # $\iff x$ is a surd
i.e. $x \in F_n$ for some tower of fields.

$$F_0 \subseteq F_1 \subseteq F_2 \subseteq \dots \subseteq F_n$$

\mathbb{Q}

$$F_i = F_{i-1}(\sqrt{r_i})$$
$$r_i > 0, r_i \in F_{i-1}$$

• Constructible #'s are algebraic

Theorem: Let x be a root of a polynomial with constructible coefficients then x is algebraic.

$P(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$ if all a_i are constructible. & $P(x) = 0$ for some $x \Rightarrow x$ is algebraic

$$P(x) = a_n x^n + \dots + a_0$$

$a_i \in F_k$ for some tower of fields $\mathbb{Q} = F_0 \subseteq F_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq F_k$ then x is algebraic

induction in k

$\cup k=0$ — base of induction

$$P(x) = a_n x^n + \dots + a_0, a_i \in \mathbb{Q} — \text{rational}$$

x is a root of $P(x) = 0 \Rightarrow$

$$a_i = \frac{p_i}{q_i} \rightarrow \text{integers}$$

.....

both sides times $q_n q_{n-1} \dots q_0 \Rightarrow$ get a polynomial with integer coefficients. x is a root $\in F_{i-1} \Rightarrow x$ is algebraic

Induction step

Suppose we proved it for k , want to prove for $k+1$

$$F_0 \subseteq F_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq F_{k+1}$$

$$F_{k+1} = F_k(\sqrt{r_k}), r_k \in F_k$$

$$P(x) = a_n x^n + \dots + a_0, a_i \in F_{k-1}$$

$$a_i = b_i + c_i \sqrt{r_k}, b_i, c_i \in F_k$$

$$(b_n + c_n \sqrt{r_k})x^n + (b_{n-1} + c_{n-1} \sqrt{r_k})x^{n-1} + \dots + (b_0 + c_0 \sqrt{r_k}) = 0$$

$$b_n x^n + b_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + b_0 = -\sqrt{r_k}(c_n x^n + c_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + c_0) \text{ square both sides}$$

$$(b_n x^n + \dots + b_0)^2 = r_k(c_n x^n + \dots + c_0)^2, b_i, c_i, r_k \in F_k$$

\Rightarrow by induction assumption x is algebraic.

Cor: constructible numbers are algebraic.

if x_0 is constructible $\Rightarrow x_0$ is a root of $P(x)=x-x_0 \Rightarrow x_0$ is algebraic by the thm.

Cor: π is not constructible (b/c π is transcendental)

\Rightarrow Can not square a circle

$$S = \pi r^2 = a^2 \quad a = \sqrt{\pi} \cdot r$$

but $\sqrt{\pi}$ is not constructible if it was then $\sqrt{\pi} \cdot \sqrt{\pi} = \pi$ would be constructible too and it isn't.

$\pi^5 + 3\pi^2 + 1$ is not constructible. Why?

Suppose x_0 is constructible $\Rightarrow \pi^5 + 3\pi^2 + 1 - x_0 = 0$

$$\pi^5 + 3\pi^2 + 1 + (-x_0) = 0$$

π is a root

$\pi^5 + 3\pi^2 + 1 - x_0$ has constructible coefficients

$\Rightarrow \pi$ is algebraic by the theorem this is false.

$\Rightarrow \pi^5 + 3\pi^2 + 1$ is not constructible

$\dots (1+\sqrt{2})\pi^7 + (\sqrt{3}-5)\pi^2 + 2\pi - 1$ — is not constructible.

Suppose x_0 is constructible $\Rightarrow (1+\sqrt{2})\pi^7 + (\sqrt{3}-5)\pi^2 + 2\pi - 1 - x_0 = 0$

is a root of $(1+\sqrt{2})X^7 + (\sqrt{3}-5)X^2 + 2X + (-1-x_0) = 0$

constructible $\xrightarrow{\text{This is known to be also constbl.}}$

\Rightarrow by the Thm π is algebraic \Rightarrow false $\Rightarrow x_0$ is not constructible

If

Theorem: Let $P(x) = a_3x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0$, $a_i \in \mathbb{Q}$ — rational

if $P(x)=0$ has a constructible root \Rightarrow it also has a rational root.

Cor: $\sqrt[3]{2}$ is not constructible.

Proof: Sps $\sqrt[3]{2}$ is constructible.

$x^3 - 2 = 0 \quad \sqrt[3]{2}$ is a root

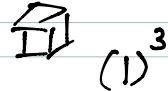
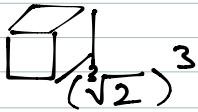
\Rightarrow by the thm $x^3 - 2 = 0$ has a rational root

if $\frac{P}{g}$ $\gcd(P, g) = 1$ is a root of $x^3 - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow$ by the rational root theorem $P \mid 2 \cdot g \mid 1$. $P = \pm 1, \pm 2$, $g = \pm 1$

$\frac{P}{g} = \pm 1, \pm 2$, none of these are roots of $x^3 - 2 = 0$

Hence, $\sqrt[3]{2}$ is not constructible.

⇒ Cannot double a cube



$\sqrt[3]{2}$? Not cons. Why? If cons. $⇒ \sqrt[3]{2} \cdot \sqrt[3]{2} = \sqrt[3]{2}$ would also be cons. and it's not!

Theorem: Let $P(x) = a_3x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0$, $a_i \in \mathbb{Q}$

if $P(x)=0$ has a constructible root $⇒$ also a rational one.

Observation: Let P_1, P_2 be polynomials with coefficients in a number field F .
divide P_1 by P_2 with remainder.

$P_1(x) = Q(x)P_2(x) + R(x)$ $\deg R < \deg P_2$
then $Q(x)$ and $R(x)$ have coefficients in F .

We'll prove by induction in K that if we have a tower of fields.

$$\mathbb{Q} = F_0 \subseteq F_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq F_K \rightarrow F_i = F_{i-1}(\sqrt{r_i})$$

$P(x)$ has a root in F_K $⇒$ has a root in \mathbb{Q}

(1) base of induction: $K=0$, $F_K = F_0 = \mathbb{Q}$

(2) induction step: s.p.s we proved it for F_K , want to prove for F_{K+1}

$$F_0 \subseteq F_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq F_K \subseteq F_{K+1}$$

$$F_{K+1} = F_K(\sqrt{r_K})$$

$$r_K \in F_K$$

$P(x) = a_3x^3 + \dots + a_0 = 0$ has a root in F_{K+1}

Let $x_0 \in F_{K+1}$ be a root of $P(x) = 0$

$$x_0 = a + b\sqrt{r_K}, a, b \in F_K$$

if $x_0 \in F_K$ $⇒$ we are done by the induction assumption

so suppose $x_0 \notin F_K$ ($b \neq 0$)

$$\begin{aligned} P_2(x) &= (x - a - b\sqrt{r_K})(x - a + b\sqrt{r_K}) = (x - a)^2 - (b\sqrt{r_K})^2 \\ &= x^2 - 2ax + a^2 - b^2 r_K \end{aligned} \quad \rightarrow \text{quadratic poly with coeffi in } F_K$$

$$P_2(x_0) = 0$$

$P = a_3x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0 = 0$ has coefficients $\in \mathbb{Q} \subseteq F_K$

divide P by P_2 with remainder

$$P(x) = Q(x)P_2(x) + R(x)$$

$$\downarrow \deg 1 \quad \deg R < 2: 1 \text{ or } 0$$

Q & R have coeff. in F_K

$$R(x) = \lambda_1 x + \lambda_2, \lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in F_K$$

$P(x) = Q(x)P_2(x) + \lambda_1 x + \lambda_2$. Plug in $x = x_0 = a + b\sqrt{r_k}$

$$P(x_0) = 0$$

$$P_2(x_0) = 0$$

$$0 = 0 + \lambda_1 x_0 + \lambda_2 \Rightarrow \lambda_1 \neq 0 \quad x_0 = -\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} \in F_k \text{ but } x_0 \notin F_k$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 = 0 \Rightarrow 0 = 0 + 0 \cdot x_0 + 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(x) &= Q(x)P_2(x)^2 \\ &\stackrel{3}{=} \deg 1 \end{aligned} \quad \begin{aligned} Q(x) &= C_1 x + C_2, C_1, C_2 \in F_k, C_1 \neq 0 \\ &\Rightarrow x = -\frac{C_2}{C_1} \in F_k \end{aligned}$$

$$P(x) = (C_1 x + C_2)P_2(x) \stackrel{Q}{=} \Rightarrow x = -\frac{C_2}{C_1} \text{ is a root of } P(x) \text{ and } x \in F_k$$

\Rightarrow by the induction assumption $P(x)$ has a rational root.



ex: $\sqrt[3]{2}$ is not constbl.

$\sqrt[3]{5}$ is not constbl

why? Sps $\sqrt[3]{\frac{3}{5}}$ is const.

$x^3 = \frac{3}{5}, 5x^3 = 3, x_0$ is a root of $5x^3 - 3 = 0$ has rational coeff.

$\Rightarrow 5x^3 - 3 = 0$ has a rational root

$$\frac{P}{g}, (P, g) = 1$$

\Rightarrow by the rational root theorem, p|3, g|5, $p = \pm 1, \pm 3, g = \pm 1, \pm 5$

$\frac{P}{g} = \pm 1, \pm 3, \pm \frac{1}{5}, \pm \frac{3}{5}$ plug these numbers into $5x^3 - 3 = 0 \Rightarrow$ none of these fits

$$x^3 - 6x + 2\sqrt{2} = 0$$

Claim: this has no constructible solutions

Cannot use the theorem directly because $\sqrt{2}$ is not rational

Suppose this has a constructible root x .

then, $y = \frac{x}{\sqrt{2}}$ is also constructible.

$$x = \sqrt{2}y$$

$$(\sqrt{2}y)^3 - 6(\sqrt{2}y) + 2\sqrt{2} = 0$$

$$2\sqrt{2}y^3 - 6\sqrt{2}y + 2\sqrt{2} = 0 / 2\sqrt{2}$$

$$y^3 - 3y + 1 = 0 \text{ cubic with rational coefficients}$$

$y^3 - 3y + 1 = 0$ has a constructible root \Rightarrow also has a rational root.

if p/q , $\gcd(p, q) = 1 \Rightarrow p \mid 1, q \mid 1, p = \pm 1, q = \pm 1$

$P_{\pm} = \pm 1$, plug in. $1^3 - 3 \cdot 1 + 1 = -1 \neq 0$

none of those are roots ...

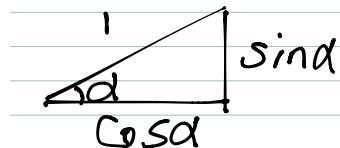
$\Rightarrow x$ is not constructible.

Trisecting an angle

want to divide α into 3 equal parts using a straight edge and a compass

• an angle α is constructible iff $\cos \alpha$ is a constructible number.

• if $\cos \alpha$ is constructible number, then $\sin \alpha = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \alpha}$ is also constructible



Sps we could trisect any angle \Rightarrow in particular we could then trisect the angle $\alpha = 60^\circ \frac{\pi}{3}$

$\Rightarrow 20^\circ$ would be constructible.

Now we want to show 20° is not constructible.

$\cos 20^\circ$ is not constructible.

$$(a+b)^3 = (a+b)^2(a+b) = (a^2 + 2ab + b^2)(a+b) = a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3$$

$$(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^n = (\cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^3 &= \cos 3\theta + i \sin 3\theta = \cos^3 \theta + 3\cos^2 \theta (i \sin \theta) + 3\cos \theta (i \sin \theta)^2 + (i \sin \theta)^3 \\ &= \cos^3 \theta - 3\cos \theta \sin^2 \theta + (3\cos^2 \theta \sin \theta - \sin^3 \theta)i \\ &= \cos 3\theta + i \sin 3\theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\cos 3\theta = \cos^3 \theta - 3\cos \theta \sin^2 \theta = \cos^3 \theta - 3\cos \theta (1 - \cos^2 \theta)$$

$$= 4\cos^3 \theta - 3\cos \theta$$

$$\text{put } \theta = 20^\circ \quad 3\theta = 60^\circ$$

$$\frac{1}{2} = 4\cos^3 20^\circ - 3\cos 20^\circ$$

$$\text{put } x_0 = \cos 20^\circ \Rightarrow 1 = 8x_0^3 - 6x_0 \Rightarrow 8x_0^3 - 6x_0 - 1 = 0$$

Claim: $x_0 = \cos 20^\circ$ is not constructible.

Suppose not i.e. Sps $x_0 = \cos 20^\circ$ is constructible

$y_0 = 2x_0$ is also constructible.

$$y_0^3 - 3y_0 - 1 = 0$$

$\Rightarrow y_0^3 - 3y_0 - 1 = 0$ has a constructible root

Cubic with rational coeff. } \Rightarrow also has a rational root

but $y^3 - 3y - 1 = 0$ has no rational roots
by rational root theorem

Therefore, y_0 is not constructible $\Rightarrow x_0$ is not constructible \Rightarrow not every angle can be trisected.

Then 1° angle is not constructible!

if so, every angle is constructible!