

LECTURE 20 : CYCLOTOMIC EXTENSIONS & POLYNOMIALS

①

The problem of factoring $f(x) = x^n - 1$ is made easy with the imaginary exponential $e^{i\theta} = \cos\theta + i\sin\theta$ for which $(e^{i\theta})^j = e^{ij\theta}$ for any $j \in \mathbb{Z}$. Observe $e^{i\theta} = 1$ only if both $\cos\theta = 1$ and $\sin\theta = 0$. Hence $e^{i\theta} = 1$ iff $\theta \in 2\pi\mathbb{Z}$. Consider then,

$$\begin{aligned}(e^{i\theta})^n - 1 = 0 &\iff e^{in\theta} = 1 \\ &\iff n\theta = 2\pi k \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{Z} \\ &\iff \theta = \frac{2\pi k}{n} \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{Z}.\end{aligned}$$

Thus $f(\exp(\frac{2\pi ki}{n})) = f(\zeta_n^k) = 0$ for $k \in \mathbb{Z}$

where $\text{Defn } \zeta_n = \exp(\frac{2\pi i}{n}) = \cos(\frac{2\pi}{n}) + i\sin(\frac{2\pi}{n})$

However, $\deg(x^n - 1) = n$ thus $\{\zeta_n^k \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ has at most n distinct roots for $f(x) = x^n - 1$.

Observe, $f'(x) = nx^{n-1} = 0$ only for $x = 0$ thus $f(x) = x^n - 1$ has no multiple roots, $f(x)$ is separable.

$\text{Defn } 1^{1/n} = \{1, \zeta_n, \zeta_n^2, \dots, \zeta_n^{n-1}\}$ are the n^{th} roots of unity. Any generator of this group is called a primitive n^{th} root of unity.

If K/\mathbb{Q} contains ζ_n then $1^{1/n} \subset K$ and $f(x) = x^n - 1$ completely splits in $K[x]$. It follows that $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)$ is a splitting field for $x^n - 1$.

Remark: Dummit & Foote use μ_n for $1^{1/n}$.

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Defⁿ The field $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)$ is called the cyclotomic field of n^{th} roots of unity.

By explicit construction $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n) \subset \mathbb{C}$, however we should think about ~~the~~ a splitting field for $X^n - 1$ as an abstract field K/\mathbb{Q} then that field K contains α, β for which $\alpha^n - 1 = 0$ and $\beta^n - 1 = 0$ thus $\alpha^n = 1, \beta^n = 1$ and $(\alpha\beta)^n = \alpha^n \beta^n = 1$ and we find $\{\alpha \in K^\times \mid \alpha^n = 1\}$ forms a subgroup of K^\times the group of n^{th} roots of unity within K . This is not surprising, after all \mathbb{C} contains $1^{1/n}$ which is isomorphic to the abstract group of units described above.

Remark: it is a times helpful to allow the abstraction above since an example may not reside within \mathbb{C} and yet it may have a splitting field like $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)$.

$$\zeta_1 = 1$$

$$\zeta_2 = -1$$

$$\zeta_3 = \frac{-1 + i\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$\zeta_4 = i$$

$$\zeta_5 = \frac{\sqrt{5} - 1}{4} + i \left(\frac{\sqrt{10 + 2\sqrt{5}}}{4} \right)$$

$$\zeta_6 = \frac{1 + i\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$\zeta_8 = \frac{\sqrt{2} + i\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

GOAL: explain why $[\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n) : \mathbb{Q}] = \varphi(n)$ where $\varphi(n)$ is Euler- φ function. In particular, $\Phi_n(x) = \prod_{\zeta_n, \mathbb{Q}}(x)$ is the n^{th} cyclotomic polynomial

The algebra of cyclotomic polynomials is very nice

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$$x^n - 1 = (x-1)(x^{n-1} + x^{n-2} + \dots + x + 1)$$

When p is prime then the formula above reveals $[\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p) : \mathbb{Q}] = p-1$

$$x^p - 1 = (x-1)(x^{p-1} + x^{p-2} + \dots + x + 1)$$

When n is composite we'll have to think about how the factors of n are reflected in the factorization of $x^n - 1$

$M_{\zeta_p, \mathbb{Q}}(x)$ since we showed this polynomial was irreducible in the previous lecture based on §9.4 Example 4 of D&F

Defⁿ The n^{th} cyclotomic polynomial $\Phi_n(x)$ is the polynomial whose roots are the primitive n^{th} roots of unity

Let's study the low cases of n to appreciate the structure,

$n=1$ $x-1 = \Phi_1(x)$

$n=2$ $x^2-1 = (x-1)(x+1) \therefore \Phi_2(x) = x+1$
 $= \Phi_1(x)\Phi_2(x)$

has root $-1 = \zeta_2$ the only 2nd primitive root of unity.

$n=3$ $x^3-1 = (x-1)(x^2+x+1) \therefore \Phi_3(x) = x^2+x+1$
 $= \Phi_1(x)\Phi_3(x)$

has roots ζ_3 and ζ_3^2 which are the primitive 3rd roots of unity.

$n=4$ $x^4-1 = (x^2-1)(x^2+1)$
 $= (x-1)(x+1)(x^2+1) \therefore \Phi_4(x) = x^2+1$
 $= \Phi_1(x)\Phi_2(x)\Phi_4(x)$

has roots $\zeta_4 = i$ and $\zeta_4^3 = -i$

n=5 | $x^5 - 1 = (x-1)(x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1) \therefore \Phi_5(x) = x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$
 $= \Phi_1(x) \Phi_5(x)$ it has roots $\zeta_5 = \exp(\frac{2\pi i}{5})$
 and $\zeta_5^2, \zeta_5^3, \zeta_5^4$ as well

n=6 | $x^6 - 1 = (x^3 - 1)(x^3 + 1) \therefore \Phi_6(x) = x^2 - x + 1$ and it
 $= (x-1)(x^2 + x + 1)(x+1)(x^2 - x + 1)$ has roots $\zeta_6 = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{6}} = \frac{1+i\sqrt{3}}{2}$
 $= \Phi_1(x) \Phi_3(x) \Phi_2(x) \Phi_6(x)$ and $\zeta_6^2 = \frac{1-i\sqrt{3}}{2}$

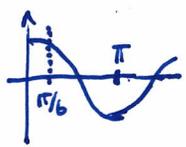
n=8 | $x^8 - 1 = (x^4 - 1)(x^4 + 1) \therefore \Phi_8(x) = x^4 + 1$ and it
 $= (x-1)(x+1)(x^2 + 1)(x^4 + 1)$ has roots $\zeta_8 = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{8}} = e^{\frac{\pi i}{4}}$
 $= \Phi_1(x) \Phi_2(x) \Phi_4(x) \Phi_8(x)$ and $\zeta_8^3, \zeta_8^5, \zeta_8^7$

n=12 | $x^{12} - 1 = (x^6 - 1)(x^6 + 1) \therefore \Phi_{12}(x) = x^4 - x^2 + 1$
 $= (x^3 - 1)(x^3 + 1)(x^2 + 1)(x^4 - x^2 + 1)$

gcd(k, 12) = 1 for k = 1, 5, 7, 11 hence $\zeta_{12}, \zeta_{12}^5, \zeta_{12}^7, \zeta_{12}^{11}$ are the primitive 12th roots of unity and so deg($\Phi_{12}(x)$) = 4

$\zeta_{12}^4 = [\exp(\frac{2\pi i}{12})]^4 = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{3}}$

$\Phi_{12}(x) = (x - e^{\pi i/6})(x - e^{5\pi i/6})(x - e^{7\pi i/6})(x - e^{11\pi i/6})$
 $= (x - e^{\pi i/6})(x - e^{-\pi i/6})(x - e^{5\pi i/6})(x - e^{-5\pi i/6})$
 $= (x^2 - (e^{\pi i/6} + e^{-\pi i/6})x + 1)(x^2 - (e^{5\pi i/6} + e^{-5\pi i/6})x + 1)$
 $= (x^2 - 2\cos(\pi/6)x + 1)(x^2 - 2\cos(5\pi/6)x + 1)$
 $= (x^2 - \sqrt{3}x + 1)(x^2 + \sqrt{3}x + 1)$
 $= x^4 + \cancel{\sqrt{3}x^3} + \underline{x^2} - \cancel{\sqrt{3}x^3} - \underline{(\sqrt{3})^2 x^2} - \cancel{\sqrt{3}x} + \underline{x^2} + \cancel{\sqrt{3}x} + 1$
 $= \underline{x^4 - x^2 + 1}$



Perhaps the pattern is clear, if n has d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k as positive divisors of n beginning with $d_1 = 1$ then

(excluding n in my current discussion)

$$x^n - 1 = \Phi_{d_1}(x) \Phi_{d_2}(x) \dots \Phi_{d_k}(x) \Phi_n(x)$$

Which yields

$$(x-1)(x^{n-1} + \dots + x + 1) = (x-1) (\Phi_{d_2}(x) \dots \Phi_{d_k}(x) \Phi_n(x))$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi_n(x) = \frac{x^{n-1} + \dots + x + 1}{\Phi_{d_2}(x) \dots \Phi_{d_k}(x)}$$

$n=12$ again, this time via long division
 12 is divided by 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 thus
 $d_2 = 2, d_3 = 3, d_4 = 4, d_5 = 6$ and

$$\Phi_{d_2}(x) \Phi_{d_3}(x) \Phi_{d_4}(x) \Phi_{d_5}(x) = \Phi_2(x) \Phi_3(x) \Phi_4(x) \Phi_6(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (x+1)(x^2+x+1)(x^2+1)(x^2-x+1) \\ &= (x^3+x^2+x+x^2+x+1)(x^4-x^3+x^2+x^2-x+1) \\ &= (x^3+2x^2+2x+1)(x^4-x^3+2x^2-x+1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= x^7 - x^6 + 2x^5 - x^4 + x^3 \\ &\quad + 2x^6 - 2x^5 + 4x^4 - 2x^3 + 2x^2 \\ &\quad + 2x^5 - 2x^4 + 4x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x \\ &\quad + x^4 - x^3 + 2x^2 - x + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$= x^7 + x^6 + 2x^5 + 2x^4 + 2x^3 + 2x^2 + x + 1$$

$$\Phi_{12}(x) = \frac{x^{11} + x^{10} + \dots + x + 1}{x^7 + x^6 + 2x^5 + 2x^4 + 2x^3 + 2x^2 + x + 1} = x^4 - x^2 + 1$$

Let's summarize the theory here,

If $d \mid n$ and ζ is an n^{th} root of unity ($\zeta \in \mu_n = 1^{\mu_n}$) then $\zeta^n = (\zeta^d)^{n/d} = 1$ where n/d is a positive integer

CLAIM: if $d \mid n$ then $\mu_d \subseteq \mu_n$

Proof: $d \mid n$ then $n = md$ for some $m \in \mathbb{N}$ (assume d, n positive)

Thus if $\alpha \in \mu_d$ with $\alpha^d = 1$ then $(\alpha^d)^m = \alpha^{dm} = \alpha^n = 1$

consequently $\alpha \in \mu_n \therefore \mu_d \subseteq \mu_n$.

Note also, if $\alpha \in \mu_n$ then $|\alpha|$ must divide $|\mu_n| = n$, and if $|\alpha| = d$ then $\alpha \in \mu_d$ where $d \mid n$.

$$x^n - 1 = \prod_{\zeta^n = 1} (x - \zeta) = \prod_{d \mid n} \prod_{\substack{\zeta \in \mu_d \\ \zeta \text{ primitive}}} (x - \zeta) = \prod_{d \mid n} \Phi_d(x)$$

where $\Phi_k(x) = \prod_{\substack{\alpha \in \mu_k \\ \alpha \text{ primitive}}} (x - \alpha)$ defines the k^{th} cyclotomic polynomial.

Remark: since $\deg(\Phi_d(x)) = \varphi(d)$ and $\deg(x^n - 1) = n$ we find from the above boxed formula that

$$n = \varphi(d_1) + \varphi(d_2) + \dots + \varphi(d_s)$$

where $d_1 = 1, d_2, \dots, d_s = n$ are the positive divisors of n .

(E1) $12 = \varphi(1) + \varphi(2) + \varphi(3) + \varphi(4) + \varphi(6) + \varphi(12)$
 $= 1 + 1 + 2 + 2 + 2 + 4 \quad \checkmark$

Lemma (40): The cyclotomic polynomial $\Phi_n(x)$ is a monic polynomial in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ of degree $\varphi(n)$

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PROOF: we've already argued $\Phi_n(x)$ is monic (by construction) and degree $\varphi(n)$. It remains to show the coefficients of $\Phi_n(x)$ are in \mathbb{Z} . We proceed by induction on n . Suppose inductively $\Phi_d(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ for all $1 \leq d < n$. Consider that $x^n - 1 = f(x) \Phi_n(x)$ where $f(x) = \prod_{\substack{d|n \\ d < n}} \Phi_d(x)$ is monic with coefficients in \mathbb{Z} by the induction hypothesis. Note $f(x) \mid x^n - 1$ in $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)[x]$ and both $f(x), x^n - 1$ have coeff. in \mathbb{Q} .
 $\Rightarrow f(x) \mid x^n - 1$ in $\mathbb{Q}[x] \Rightarrow f(x) \mid x^n - 1$ in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ (by §9.2)
 $\Rightarrow \Phi_n(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]. //$

Th^m (41): The cyclotomic polynomial $\Phi_n(x)$ is an irreducible monic polynomial in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ with degree $\varphi(n)$

Proof: it remains, after Lemma 40, to show $\Phi_n(x)$ is irred. Suppose $\Phi_n(x) = f(x)g(x)$ with $f(x), g(x)$ monic in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$, and $f(x)$ is an irreducible factor of $\Phi_n(x)$. If ζ is a primitive n^{th} root of 1 which is a root of $f(x)$ then $f(x)$ is minimal polynomial for ζ over \mathbb{Q} . Further, let p be a prime not dividing n . Then ζ^p is a primitive n^{th} root of 1 hence is either a root of $f(x)$ or $g(x)$.

① If $g(\zeta^p) = 0$ then ζ is root of $g(x^p)$ and as $f(x)$ is the minimal poly. for ζ we see $f(x) \mid g(x^p)$ in $\mathbb{Z}[x]$. That is, $g(x^p) = f(x)h(x)$ for some $h(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$. Reduce * modulo p , $\bar{g}(x^p) = \bar{f}(x)\bar{h}(x)$ in $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$ hence via Frub. Endo, $(\bar{g}(x))^p = \bar{f}(x)\bar{h}(x)$ in the UFD $\mathbb{F}_p[x] \Rightarrow \bar{f}(x), \bar{g}(x)$ share common factor in $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$.

We had $\Phi_n(x) = f(x)g(x)$ thus in $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$

$\bar{\Phi}_n(x) = \bar{f}(x)\bar{g}(x) \Rightarrow \bar{\Phi}_n(x) \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$ has a multiple root. But, then $x^n - 1$ would also have multiple root over \mathbb{F}_p since $\bar{\Phi}_n(x)$ is factor of $\overline{x^n - 1}$. But, we have shown $x^n - 1$ has n -distinct roots over any field with characteristic not dividing n .

② $\therefore \zeta^n$ must be root of $f(x)$ (going back to ① just before, we saw \exists two options either ζ^n is root of $f(x)$ or $g(x)$)

Hence, for each root ζ of $f(x)$

we have ζ^a is root of $f(x)$ for $a \in \mathbb{N}$ with $\gcd(a, n) = 1$,

Why? Well, suppose $a = p_1 p_2 \dots p_k$

where p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k are primes not dividing n

thus ζ^{p_1} is root of $f(x)$, $(\zeta^{p_1})^{p_2}$ also root of $f(x)$

and so forth ζ^a is root of $f(x)$. Therefore, every primitive n^{th} root of unity is a root

of $f(x) \Rightarrow f(x) = \Phi_n(x) \Rightarrow \Phi_n(x)$ is irreducible. //

Corollary (42)

The degree over \mathbb{Q} of the cyclotomic field of n^{th} roots of unity is $\varphi(n)$

$$[\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n) : \mathbb{Q}] = \varphi(n)$$

Proof: $\Phi_n(x)$ is an irreducible, monic poly. of degree $\varphi(n)$ for which serves as the minimal polynomial for ζ_n .

Apply Th^m 6 of §13.1, $\frac{\mathbb{Q}[x]}{(\Phi_n(x))} \cong \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)$ //

[E2] $[\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_8) : \mathbb{Q}] = \varphi(8) = 4$ and $\mathbb{Q}(i) \subset \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_8)$

and, fun fact, $\zeta_8 + \zeta_8^7 = \sqrt{2} \therefore \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_8) = \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})$

(we can argue this extension on \mathbb{RMS} has deg. 4 over \mathbb{Q})

Let's work out some details for $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)$ for small n ,

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[E3] $\zeta_2 = -1$ thus $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_2) = \mathbb{Q}(-1) = \mathbb{Q}$.

[E4] $\zeta_3 = \frac{-1+i\sqrt{3}}{2}$ thus $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_3) = \mathbb{Q}(i\sqrt{3})$

$2\zeta_3 + 1 = i\sqrt{3} \therefore i\sqrt{3} \in \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_3) \Rightarrow \mathbb{Q}(i\sqrt{3}) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_3)$

and $[\mathbb{Q}(i\sqrt{3}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2$ hence we obtain equality since

$[\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_3) : \mathbb{Q}] = \deg(\zeta_3) = \varphi(3) = 2$.

Let's return to the discussion of the splitting field of $x^p - 2$ where p is prime.

①. If $f(x) = x^p - 2$ then $f(\alpha) = \alpha^p - 2 = 0 \iff \underline{\alpha^p = 2}$.

②. Let $\zeta \in \mu_p$ then $(\alpha\zeta)^p = \alpha^p\zeta^p = 2(1) = 2$

thus $\alpha\zeta$ is a root of $f(x)$ for any $\zeta \in \mu_p$

③. For specificity's sake, let $\alpha = \sqrt[p]{2}$ then observe the zeros of $x^p - 2$ are $\sqrt[p]{2}, \zeta_p\sqrt[p]{2}, \zeta_p^2\sqrt[p]{2}, \dots, \zeta_p^{p-1}\sqrt[p]{2}$ where $\zeta_p = \exp\left(\frac{2\pi i}{p}\right)$ is the principal p^{th} root of unity.

④. The splitting field of $x^p - 2$ is given by $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[p]{2}, \zeta_p)$ where $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[p]{2}, \zeta_p) : \mathbb{Q}] \leq \underbrace{[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[p]{2}) : \mathbb{Q}]}_p \underbrace{[\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p) : \mathbb{Q}]}_{p-1}$

hence $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[p]{2}, \zeta_p) : \mathbb{Q}] \leq P(P-1)$ * $M_{\sqrt[p]{2}, \mathbb{Q}}(x) = x^p - 2$ $P-1$ as P prime given $\varphi(P) = P-1$.

⑤ $\gcd(P, P-1) = 1$ hence

$[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[p]{2}, \zeta_p) : \mathbb{Q}]$ divisible by P and $P-1 \Rightarrow \underline{[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[p]{2}, \zeta_p) : \mathbb{Q}] = P(P-1)}$

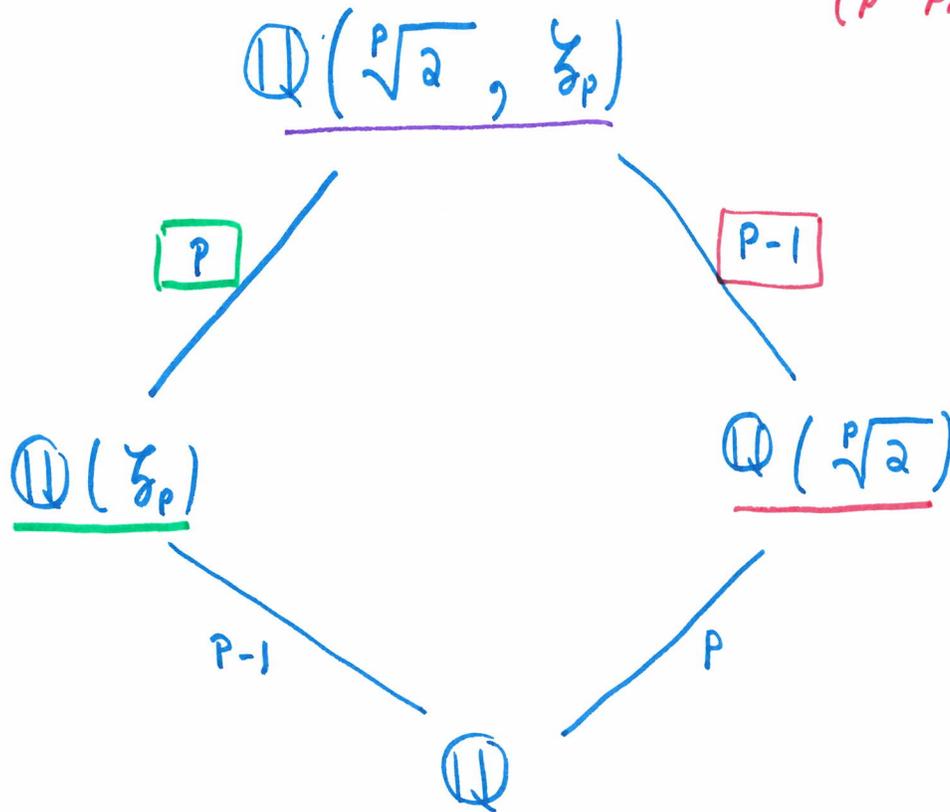
$[\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)(\sqrt[p]{2}) : \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)] = P \Rightarrow x^p - 2 \in \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)[x]$ is irreducible.

$[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[p]{2})(\zeta_p) : \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[p]{2})] = P-1$

SPLITTING FIELD FOR $X^P - 2$

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(P PRIME)



$X^P - 2 \in \mathbb{Q}[X]$ remains irreducible in $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)[X]$

$\mathbb{F}_p(X) = X^{P-1} + \dots + X + 1 \in \mathbb{Q}[X]$ remains irreducible in $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[p]{2})[X]$

$$[\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)(\sqrt[p]{2}) : \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)] = \deg(m_{\sqrt[p]{2}, \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)}^{(X)}) = P$$

$$[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[p]{2})(\zeta_p) : \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[p]{2})] = \deg(m_{\zeta_p, \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[p]{2})}^{(X)}) = P-1$$