

Last time :

Fun. Thm. of Galois theory

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \left\{ \text{int. fields} \right\} & \longleftrightarrow & \left\{ \text{sub gps.} \right\} \\ F \subseteq E \subseteq K & & H \leq G \\ E & \longmapsto & \text{Aut}(K/E) \\ \text{Fix } H & \longleftrightarrow & H \end{array}$$

& properties

Rest of this unit: use this information to study field extns

Today: When is the  $n$ -gon constructible by straightedge & compass?

Recall:  $\mathcal{C}$  = field of constructible numbers  $\subseteq \mathbb{C}$

$a \in \mathcal{C} \Rightarrow \sqrt{a} \in \mathcal{C} \Rightarrow$  If  $F \subseteq \mathcal{C}$ , any deg 2 extn

$$F(\alpha) \subseteq \mathcal{C}$$

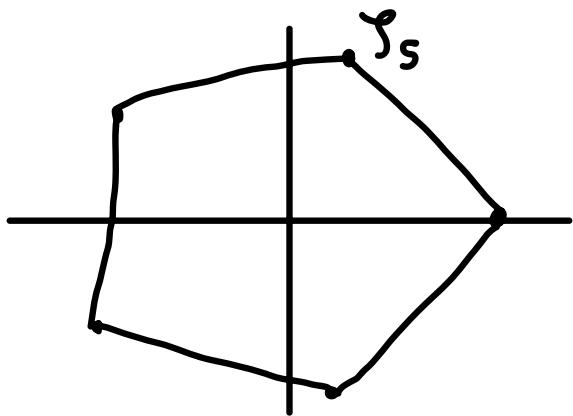
$\alpha \in \mathcal{C} \Rightarrow [\mathbb{Q}(\alpha) : \mathbb{Q}]$  is a power of 2

$\alpha \in \mathcal{C} \iff \exists \mathbb{Q} \subseteq E_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq E_k$  s.t.  $\alpha \in E_k$  and

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} [E_1 : \mathbb{Q}] = 2 \\ [E_2 : E_1] = 2 \\ \vdots \\ [E_n : E_{k-1}] = 2 \end{array} \right\}$$

use Galois theory  
to understand this

$n$ -gon constructible  $\Leftrightarrow \zeta_n = e^{2\pi i/n}$  constructible



$$\zeta := \zeta_n$$

Recall:  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta) = \text{Sp}_{\mathbb{Q}}(x^n - 1)$ , so  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta)/\mathbb{Q}$  is Galois

Prop:  $\underbrace{\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta)/\mathbb{Q})}_G \cong (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$

Pf:  $\sigma \in G$  determined by  $\sigma(\zeta) = \zeta^a$ ,  $\underbrace{\gcd(a, n) = 1}_{a \in (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times}$

$$\sigma_a(\zeta) = \zeta^a$$

$$\sigma_a \sigma_b(\zeta) = \sigma_a(\zeta^b) = (\zeta^b)^a = \zeta^{ab} = \sigma_{ab}(\zeta).$$

□

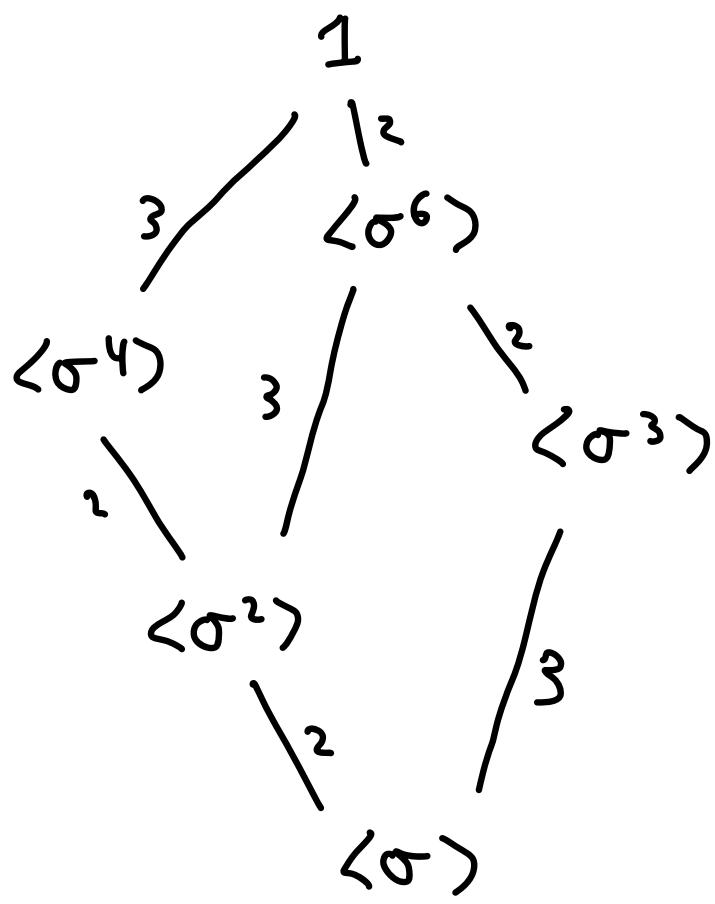
Cor:  $G$  is abelian!

Ex:  $n = 13$

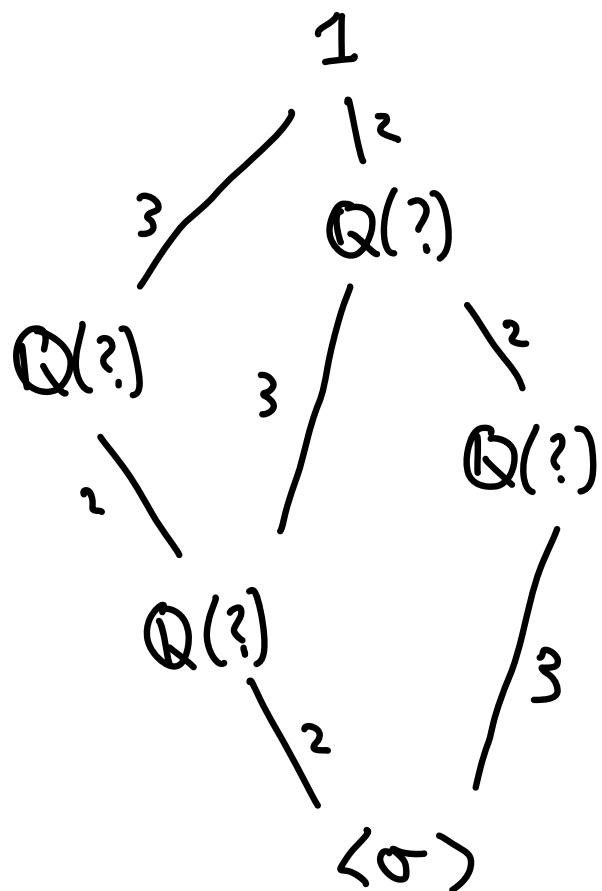
$$G = \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta)/\mathbb{Q}) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/13\mathbb{Z})^\times$$

cyclic w/ gen.  
 $\sigma = \sigma_2: \zeta \mapsto \zeta^2$

Subgp. lattice:



Int. field lattice



Need elts. of  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta)$  fixed by subgps of  $G$

Idea: sum over orbits

$$\langle \sigma^6 \rangle = \{1, \sigma^6\} \quad \langle \sigma^6 \rangle \zeta = \{\zeta, \sigma^6 \zeta\}$$

Claim:  $\zeta + \sigma^6 \zeta$  is fixed by  $\sigma^6$

$$\text{PF: } \sigma^{12} = 1, \text{ so } \sigma^6(\zeta + \sigma^6 \zeta) = \sigma^6 \zeta + \zeta$$

□

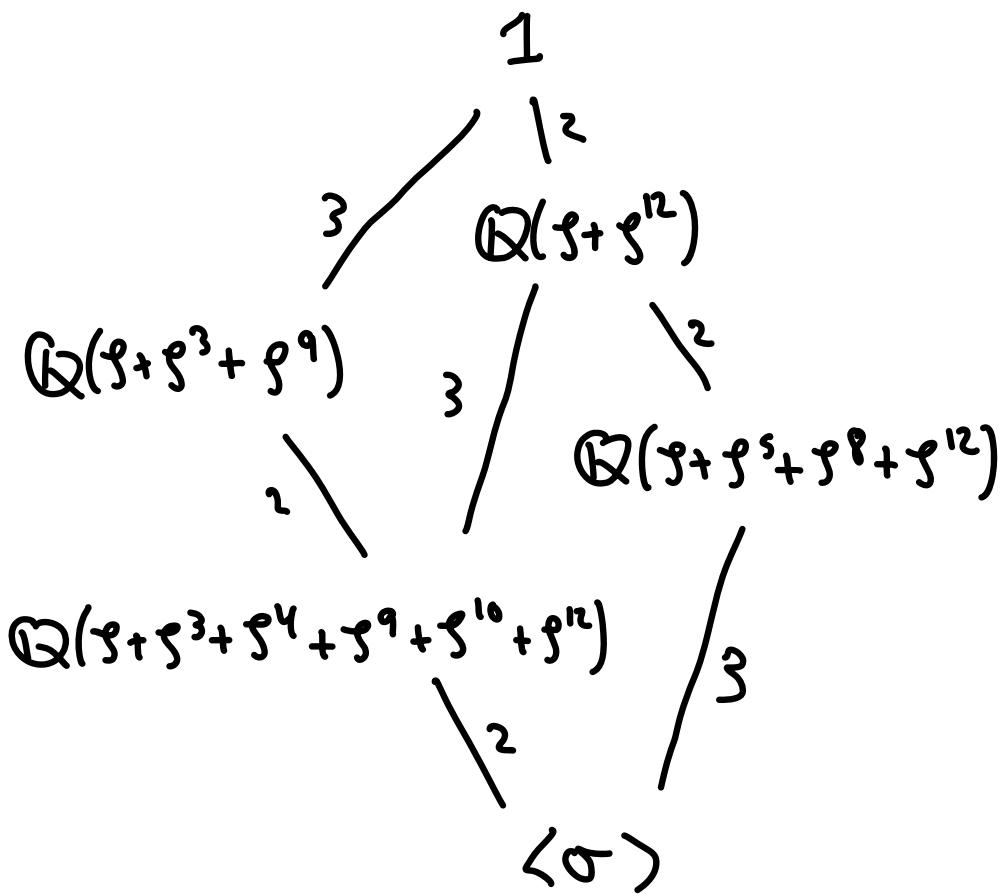
$$\sigma^6 \zeta = \zeta^2 = \zeta^6 = \zeta^{-1}$$

$$\text{Fix } \langle \sigma^6 \rangle = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta + \zeta^{-1}) \quad (\text{correct degree})$$

$$\langle \sigma^4 \rangle = \{1, \sigma^4, \sigma^8\} \quad \text{since } \zeta^2 + (\zeta + \zeta^{-1})\zeta - 1 = 0$$

$$\text{so } \text{Fix } \langle \sigma^4 \rangle = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta + \sigma^4 \zeta + \sigma^8 \zeta)$$

$$= \mathbb{Q}(\zeta + \zeta^3 + \zeta^9)$$



Thm: The  $n$ -gon is constructible if and only if  $\varphi(n)$  is a power of 2.

Pf:  $[\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n) : \mathbb{Q}] = \varphi(n)$ , and we've already shown that this must be a power of 2.

Conversely, if  $\varphi(n) = 2^k$ , then since

$\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)/\mathbb{Q}$  is Galois,

$G := \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)/\mathbb{Q})$  is an abelian gp. of order  $2^k$

Abelian gps. have subgps. of every "possible" order  
(by Fun. Thm. of abelian gps.), so  $\exists$

$$\text{id} = G_0 \leq G_1 \leq \dots \leq G_k = G \quad |G_i| = 2^i$$

$\uparrow$  Galois corresp.

$$\mathbb{Q}(\beta_n) = E_k \supseteq E_{k-1} \supseteq \dots \supseteq E_0 = \mathbb{Q}$$

$\begin{matrix} \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \end{matrix}$

$s_0, s_n \in \mathcal{C}$ .

Cor: The  $n$ -gon is constructible if and only if

$$n = 2^k p_1 \cdots p_r$$

Where the  $p_i$  are distinct primes of the form

$$p = 2^{2^s} + 1 \quad (\text{"Fermat prime"})$$

Pf: These are the numbers  $n$  s.t.  $\varphi(n)$  is a power of 2.

□