

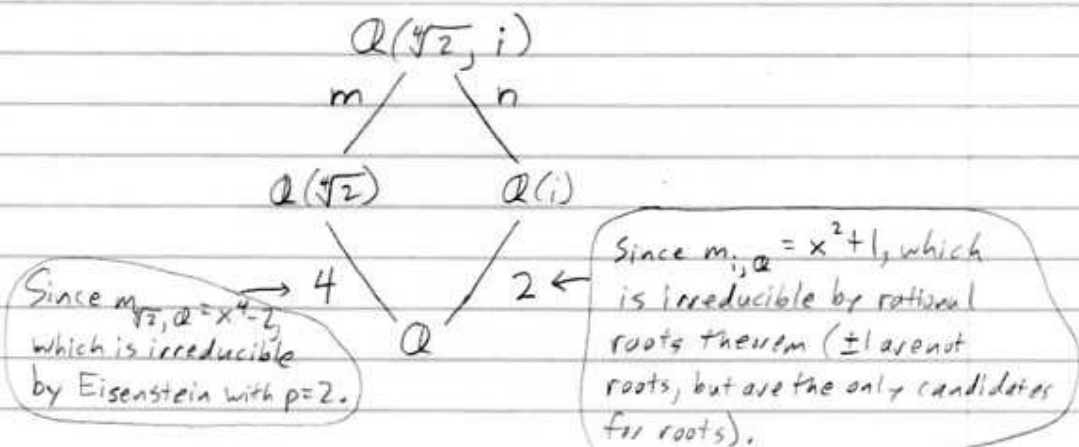
13.4-1, 2      13.5-2

**13.4** 1) [Determine the splitting field and its degree over  $\mathbb{Q}$  for  $x^4-2$ .]

First of all, the roots of  $x^4-2$  are:  $\sqrt[4]{2} e^{i\frac{(2k+1)\pi}{4}}$ ,  $k=0,1,2,3$ .  
 So, we have  $\sqrt[4]{2}$ ,  $\sqrt[4]{2}i$ ,  $-\sqrt[4]{2}$ ,  $-\sqrt[4]{2}i$ .

I claim that  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)$  is the splitting field over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $x^4-2$ .  
 Let  $F$  be a splitting field over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $x^4-2$ . Since  $\sqrt[4]{2} \in F$  and  $i = \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt[4]{2})^3(\sqrt[4]{2}i) \in F$ , we get that  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i) \subseteq F$ . And since all the roots of  $x^4-2$  are in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)$ , we get that  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i) \supseteq F$ .  
 So,  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i) = F$ , so  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)$  is a splitting field over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $x^4-2$ .  
 By uniqueness  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)$  is the splitting field over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $x^4-2$ .

Let's find the degree over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $x^4-2$  by constructing a tower of fields:



We know that  $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i) : \mathbb{Q}] = [\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i) : \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})][\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) : \mathbb{Q}] = 4m$   
 $= [\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i) : \mathbb{Q}(i)][\mathbb{Q}(i) : \mathbb{Q}] = 2n$ ,

so,  $n=2m$ . Note that  $m \leq 2$  since  $x^2+1 \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})[x]$  has  $i$  as a root. But  $m \neq 1$ , since if  $m=1$ , we would have  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)$  which is not true because  $i \notin \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ . So,  $m=2$ . Thus the degree over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $x^4-2$  is  $2 \cdot 4 = \boxed{8}$ .

(13.4 cont) 2) [Determine the splitting field and its degree over  $\mathbb{Q}$  for  $x^4+2$ .]

The roots of  $x^4+2$  are:  $\sqrt[4]{2} e^{i(\frac{\pi+2\pi k}{4})}$ ,  $k=0,1,2,3$ .

So, we have:  $\sqrt[4]{2}(e^{\frac{\pi}{4}i})$ ,  $\sqrt[4]{2}(e^{\frac{3\pi}{4}i})$ ,  $\sqrt[4]{2}(e^{\frac{5\pi}{4}i})$ ,  $\sqrt[4]{2}(e^{\frac{7\pi}{4}i})$ .

Expanding, we get  $\sqrt[4]{2}(\pm\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i) = \pm\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i$ . Here they are listed out:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i, \quad \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i, \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i, \quad \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i$$

I claim that  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)$  is the splitting field over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $x^4+2$ .

Let  $F$  be a splitting field over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $x^4+2$ . Since

$$\sqrt[4]{2} = \left[ \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i \right) / 2 \right]^{-1} \in F \text{ and } i = \sqrt[4]{2} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}i \right) / 2 \right] \in F,$$

we get that  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i) \subseteq F$ . And since all the roots of  $x^4+2$

can be made from  $\sqrt[4]{2}$  and  $i$ , we know that  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i) \supseteq F$ . So,

$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i) = F$ , so  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)$  is a splitting field over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $x^4+2$ .

By uniqueness,  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i)$  is the splitting field over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $x^4+2$ .

From #1, we get that  $[\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[4]{2}, i) : \mathbb{Q}] = 8$ , so

the degree over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $x^4+2$  is  $\boxed{8}$ .

**13.5** 2) [Find all irreducible polynomials of degree 1, 2, and 4 over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  and prove that their product is  $x^{16}-x$ .]

Degree 1:  $x, x+1$

Degree 2: Generally, these look like  $f(x)=x^2+ax+b$ . If  $b=0$ , then  $f$  factors:  $x(x+a)$ . So we must have that  $b=1$ .

If  $a=0$ , then  $f(x)=x^2+1=(x+1)(x+1)$ . The only choice we have left is  $f(x)=x^2+x+1$ . This is irreducible since  $f(0)=1$  and  $f(1)=1$ , so  $f$  has no roots in  $\mathbb{F}_2$ , so since  $f$  is of degree 2, it is irreducible.

$x^2+x+1$

Degree 4: In general, we have  $g(x)=x^4+ax^3+bx^2+cx+d$ .

If  $d=0$ , then  $g$  factors:  $x(x^3+ax^2+bx+c)$ . So,  $d=1$ , and we have  $g(x)=x^4+ax^3+bx^2+cx+1$ . We can either have a linear or <sup>irreducible</sup> quadratic factor, so let's rule those cases out. If  $g(1)=0$ , then we have a linear factor. This happens if  $g(1)=1+a+b+c+1=a+b+c=0$ .

There are 4 cases where this doesn't happen:

$$a=1, b=0, c=0 \quad (x^4+x^3+1)$$

$$a=0, b=1, c=0 \quad (x^4+x^2+1)$$

$$a=0, b=0, c=1 \quad (x^4+x+1)$$

$$a=1, b=1, c=1 \quad (x^4+x^3+x^2+x+1)$$

The only way  $g$  could break into irreducible quadratics would be  $(x^2+x+1)(x^2+x+1)=x^4+x^2+1$ .

So, we are left with the following irreducibles:

$$x^4+x^3+1, x^4+x+1, x^4+x^3+x^2+x+1$$

See next  
page  $\downarrow$

(13.5 cont) (2 cont)

The product of these irreducibles is computed as follows:

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

$$\begin{aligned} (x^4+x)(x^4+x^3+1) &= x^8+x^7+x^5+x^4+x \\ &= x^8+x^7+x^5+x \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (x^8+x^7+x^5+x)(x^4+x+1) &= x^{12}+x^9+x^8+x^{11}+x^8+x^7+x^9+x^6+x^5+x^5+x^2+x \\ &= x^{12}+x^{11}+x^7+x^6+x^2+x \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (x^{12}+x^{11}+x^7+x^6+x^2+x)(x^4+x^3+x^2+x+1) \\ = x^{16}+x^{15}+x^{14}+x^{13}+x^{12} \\ + x^{15}+x^{14}+x^{13}+x^{12}+x^{11} \end{aligned}$$

$$+ x^{11}+x^{10}+x^9+x^8+x^7$$

$$+ x^{10}+x^9+x^8+x^7+x^6$$

$$+ x^6+x^5+x^4+x^3+x^2$$

$$+ x^5+x^4+x^3+x^2+x$$

I lined these up  
to show cancellation  
more easily.

$$\begin{aligned} &= x^{16}+x \\ &= \boxed{x^{16}-x} \quad \left( \text{In } \mathbb{F}_2, x = -x \right) \end{aligned}$$