

# Nonmonogeneity of number fields defined by trinomials

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ABSTRACT. Let  $f(x) = x^n - ax^m - b$  be a monic irreducible polynomial of degree  $n$  having integer coefficients. Let  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\theta)$  be an algebraic number field with  $\theta$  a root of  $f(x)$ . In this paper, we provide some explicit conditions involving only  $a, b, m, n$  for which  $K$  is not monogenic. Further, as an application, in a special case, we show that if  $p$  is a prime number of the form  $32k + 1, k \in \mathbf{Z}$  and  $\theta$  is a root of a monic polynomial  $x^{32n} - 64ax^m - p$  with  $2 \nmid n, p|a$ , then  $\mathbf{Q}(\theta)$  is not monogenic.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF THE RESULT

For a given algebraic number field  $K$ , it is a classical problem in Algebraic Number Theory whether  $K$  is monogenic or not. There are many results in the literature for testing the monogeneity of number fields using different approaches (cf. [1], [3], [5], [6], [7], [8], [9], [12], [16], [2]). Let  $\mathbf{Z}_K$  denote the ring of algebraic integers of an algebraic number field  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\theta)$  where  $\theta$  is a root of a monic irreducible polynomial  $f(x)$  of degree  $n$  having coefficients from the ring  $\mathbf{Z}$  of integers. It is well-known that  $\mathbf{Z}_K$  is a free abelian group of rank  $n$ . Let  $\text{ind } \theta$  denote the index of the subgroup  $\mathbf{Z}[\theta]$  in  $\mathbf{Z}_K$ . The index  $i(K)$  of the field  $K$  is defined as

$$i(K) = \gcd\{\text{ind } \alpha \mid \alpha \in \mathbf{Z}_K \text{ generates the field extension } K/\mathbf{Q}\}.$$

A prime number  $p$  dividing  $i(K)$  is called a prime common index divisor of  $K$ . A number field  $K$  is called monogenic if there exists an element  $\alpha \in \mathbf{Z}_K$  such that  $\{1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}\}$  is an integral basis of  $K$ ; if no such  $\alpha$  exists, then we say that  $K$  is not monogenic. In 2016, Ahmad, Nakahara, and Husnine [1] proved that

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the sextic number field generated by  $b^{\frac{1}{6}}$  is not monogenic if  $b \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and  $b \not\equiv \pm 1 \pmod{9}$ . In 2017, Gaál and Remete [9] provided some new results on monogeneity of number fields generated by  $b^{\frac{1}{n}}$  with  $b$  a square free integer and  $3 \leq n \leq 9$  by applying the explicit form of the index equation. In 2021, Yakkou and Fadil [2] studied the monogeneity of number fields generated by  $b^{\frac{1}{q}}$ , where  $b$  is a square free integer and  $q$  be a prime number. In this paper, using the splitting of primes in  $\mathbf{Z}_K$ , we prove some results regarding the non-monogeneity of a number field  $K$  defined by an irreducible trinomial of the type  $x^n - ax^m - b$  having integer coefficients. As an application of our results, we provide a class of non-monogenic number fields defined by irreducible trinomials (see Example 1.3).

For a prime number  $q$  and a non-zero  $a$  belonging to the ring  $\mathbf{Z}_q$  of  $q$ -adic integers,  $v_q(a)$  will be the highest power of  $q$  dividing  $a$  and  $v_q(a) = \infty$  when  $a = 0$ . Let  $\mathbb{F}_q$  denote the field with  $q$  elements and  $N(q, \ell)$  denote the number of irreducible polynomials of degree  $\ell$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . It is well known that

$$N(q, \ell) = \frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{k|\ell} \mu(k) q^{\frac{\ell}{k}},$$

where  $\mu$  is the Möbius function. Observe that

$$N(q, 1) = q, \quad N(q, 2) = \frac{q(q-1)}{2}, \quad N(q, 3) = \frac{q(q^2-1)}{3}.$$

We now state our main result.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\theta)$  be an algebraic number field with  $\theta$  a root of a monic irreducible polynomial  $f(x) = x^n - ax^m - b$  of degree  $n$  having integer coefficients. Let  $q$  be a prime factor of  $n$  with  $n = q^r u$ ,  $q \nmid u$ . Assume that  $q^{r+1}$  divides  $a$  and  $q \nmid b$ . Suppose  $\phi(x)$  is a monic irreducible factor of degree  $\ell$  of the polynomial  $x^u - b$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and  $N(q, \ell)$  is as above. If  $r_1$  stands for the integer  $v_q(b^{q-1} - 1)$ , then in the following cases  $q$  divides  $i(K)$ .*

- (1)  $q \neq 2$  and  $N(q, \ell) < r_1 \leq r$ .
- (2)  $q = 2$  and  $N(2, \ell) + 2 < r_1 \leq r$ .
- (3)  $N(q, \ell) + 1 < r < r_1$ .

In the special case when  $\ell = 1$ , the following corollary is an immediate consequence of the above theorem.

**Corollary 1.2.** *Let  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\theta)$ ,  $f(x) = x^n - ax^m - b$ ,  $r$  and  $r_1$  be as in Theorem 1.1. If  $q^{r+1}$  divides  $a$ ,  $b \equiv 1 \pmod{q}$  and  $\min\{r, r_1\} > q + 2$ , then  $K$  is not monogenic.*

It may be pointed out that if we have  $b = 1$  in the above corollary, then  $K$  is not monogenic for  $r > q + 2$ .

As an application, we provide a class of non-monogenic number fields defined by irreducible trinomials.

**Example 1.3.** Let  $p$  be a prime number<sup>1</sup> of the form  $32k + 1$  with  $k \in \mathbf{Z}$ . Consider a monic polynomial  $f(x) = x^n - ax^m - p \in \mathbf{Z}[x]$  with  $v_2(n) = 5$  and  $64p$  divides  $a$ . Note that  $f(x)$  is irreducible over  $\mathbf{Q}$  as  $f(x)$  satisfies Eisenstein criterion with respect to  $p$ . If  $\theta$  is a root of  $f(x)$  and  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\theta)$ , then as in the notations of Corollary 1.2, for  $q = 2$  we have  $r = 5$  and  $r_1 \geq 5$ . Therefore  $K$  is not monogenic in view of Corollary 1.2.

## 2. PRELIMINARY RESULTS

Let  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\theta)$  be an algebraic number field with  $\theta$  a root of an irreducible polynomial  $f(x)$  having integer coefficients and  $\mathbf{Z}_K$  denote the ring of algebraic integers of  $K$ . Let  $q$  be a prime number. If  $q$  does not divide  $\text{ind } \theta$ , then Dedekind [4] proved a significant theorem in 1878 which relates the decomposition of  $f(x)$  modulo  $q$  with the factorization of  $q\mathbf{Z}_K$  into a product of prime ideals of  $\mathbf{Z}_K$ . Precisely, he proved the following.

**Dedekind Theorem.** Let  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\theta)$  be an algebraic number field of degree  $n$  with  $\theta$  an algebraic integer. Let  $f(x)$  be the minimal polynomial of  $\theta$  over  $\mathbf{Q}$  and  $q$  be a rational prime not dividing  $\text{ind } \theta$ . Let  $\bar{f}(x) = \bar{g}_1(x)^{e_1} \cdots \bar{g}_t(x)^{e_t}$  be the factorization of  $\bar{f}(x)$  into powers of distinct irreducible polynomials over  $\mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}$ , where each  $g_i(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  is monic. Then  $\mathfrak{p}_i = \langle g_i(\theta), q \rangle$  for  $1 \leq i \leq t$  are distinct prime ideals of  $\mathbf{Z}_K$  and  $q\mathbf{Z}_K = \mathfrak{p}_1^{e_1} \cdots \mathfrak{p}_t^{e_t}$ ; moreover the norm of  $\mathfrak{p}_i$  is  $q^{\deg g_i(x)}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq t$ .

The following lemma is an immediate consequence of Dedekind's theorem. It plays a key role in the proof of Theorem 1.1. We shall denote by  $\mathbb{F}_q$  the field with  $q$  elements.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $K$  be a number field and  $q$  be a prime number. For every positive integer  $f$ , let  $N(q, f)$  denote the number of irreducible polynomials of  $\mathbb{F}_q[x]$  of degree  $f$  and  $P(q, f)$  denote the number of distinct prime ideals of  $\mathbf{Z}_K$  lying above  $q$  having residual degree  $f$ . If  $P(q, f) > N(q, f)$  for some  $f$ , then for every algebraic integer  $\alpha$  generating the field extension  $K/\mathbf{Q}$ , the prime  $q$  divides  $\text{ind } \alpha$ .*

When Dedekind's theorem fails, i.e.,  $q$  divides  $i(K)$ , then Ore developed an alternative approach in 1928 for obtaining the prime ideal factorization of the rational primes in a number field  $K$  by using Newton polygons (cf. [14], [15]).

We now introduce the notion of Gauss valuation which is required for defining the  $\phi$ -Newton polygon of a polynomial, where  $\phi(x)$  belonging to  $\mathbf{Z}_q[x]$  is a monic polynomial with  $\bar{\phi}(x)$  irreducible over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .

We shall denote by  $v_{q,x}$  the Gauss valuation of the field  $\mathbf{Q}_q(x)$  of rational functions in an indeterminate  $x$  which extends the valuation  $v_q$  of  $\mathbf{Q}_q$  and is defined on  $\mathbf{Q}_q[x]$  by

$$v_{q,x}\left(\sum_i b_i x^i\right) = \min_i \{v_q(b_i)\}, b_i \in \mathbf{Q}_q. \quad (2.1)$$

<sup>1</sup>It is known that there exists infinitely many primes of the form  $32k + 1$ ,  $k \in \mathbf{Z}$ .

Now we define the notion of  $\phi$ -Newton polygon with respect to some prime  $q$ .

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $q$  be a prime number and  $\phi(x) \in \mathbf{Z}_q[x]$  be a monic polynomial which is irreducible modulo  $q$ . Let  $f(x) \in \mathbf{Z}_q[x]$  be a monic polynomial not divisible by  $\phi(x)$  with  $\phi$ -expansion  $\sum_{i=0}^n a_i(x)\phi(x)^i$ ,  $\deg a_i(x) < \deg \phi(x)$ ,  $a_n(x) \neq 0$  which is obtained on dividing  $f(x)$  by successive powers of  $\phi(x)$ . To each non-zero term  $a_k(x)\phi(x)^k$ , we associate the point  $(n - k, v_{q,x}(a_k(x)))$  and form the set

$$P = \{(k, v_{q,x}(a_{n-k}(x))) \mid 0 \leq k \leq n, a_{n-k}(x) \neq 0\}.$$

The  $\phi$ -Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect to  $q$  is the polygonal path formed by the lower edges along the convex hull of the points of  $P$ . The slopes of the edges are increasing when calculated from left to right. The principal  $\phi$ -Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect to  $q$  is the part of the  $\phi$ -Newton polygon of  $f(x)$ , which is determined by joining all edges of positive slopes.

**Example 2.3.** Let  $f(x) = (x + 5)^4 - 5$ . Here take  $\phi(x) = x$ . Then the  $x$ -Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect to prime 2 consists of only one edge joining the points  $(0, 0)$  and  $(4, 2)$  with the lattice point  $(2, 1)$  lying on it (see Figure 1).

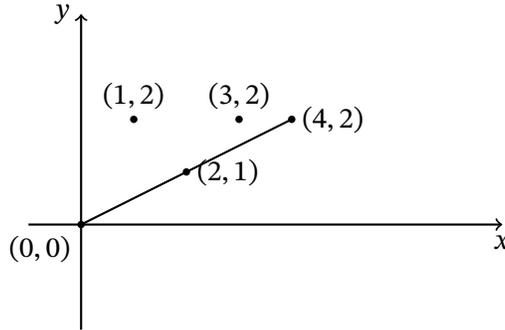


FIGURE 1.  $x$ -Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect to prime 2

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $q$  be a prime number and  $\phi(x) \in \mathbf{Z}_q[x]$  be a monic polynomial which is irreducible modulo  $q$  having a root  $\alpha$  in the algebraic closure  $\tilde{\mathbf{Q}}_q$  of  $\mathbf{Q}_q$ . Let  $f(x) \in \mathbf{Z}_q[x]$  be a monic polynomial not divisible by  $\phi(x)$  with  $\phi$ -expansion  $\phi(x)^n + a_{n-1}(x)\phi(x)^{n-1} + \cdots + a_0(x)$ . Suppose that the  $\phi$ -Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect to  $q$  consists of a single edge, say  $S$  having positive slope denoted by  $\frac{d}{e}$  with  $d, e$  coprime, i.e.,

$$\min\left\{\frac{v_{q,x}(a_{n-i}(x))}{i} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\right\} = \frac{v_{q,x}(a_0(x))}{n} = \frac{d}{e}$$

so that  $n$  is divisible by  $e$ , say  $n = et$  and  $v_{q,x}(a_{n-ej}(x)) \geq dj$  for  $1 \leq j \leq t$ .

Thus the polynomial  $\frac{a_{n-ej}(x)}{q^{dj}} = b_j(x)$  (say) has coefficients in  $\mathbf{Z}_q$  and hence

$b_j(\alpha) \in \mathbf{Z}_q[\alpha]$  for  $1 \leq j \leq t$ . The polynomial  $T(y)$  in an indeterminate  $y$  defined by  $T(y) = y^t + \sum_{j=1}^t \overline{b_j(\alpha)} y^{t-j}$  having coefficients in  $\mathbb{F}_q[\overline{\alpha}]$  is said to be the polynomial associated to  $f(x)$  with respect to  $(\phi, S)$ ; here the field  $\mathbb{F}_q[\overline{\alpha}]$  is isomorphic to the field  $\frac{\mathbb{F}_q[x]}{\langle \overline{\phi(x)} \rangle}$ .

**Example 2.5.** Consider  $f(x) = (x + 5)^4 - 5$ . Then, as in Example 2.3, the  $x$ -Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect to prime 2 consists of only one edge joining the points  $(0, 0)$  and  $(4, 2)$  with the lattice point  $(2, 1)$  lying on it. With notations as in the above definition, we see that  $e = 2$ ,  $d = 1$  and the polynomial associated to  $f(x)$  with respect to  $(x, S)$  is  $T(y) = y^2 + y + \overline{1}$  belonging to  $\mathbb{F}_2[y]$ .

We now state a weaker version of Theorem 1.2 of [13].

**Theorem 2.6.** Let  $L = \mathbf{Q}(\eta)$  be an algebraic number field with  $\eta$  satisfying a monic irreducible polynomial  $g(x) \in \mathbf{Z}[x]$  and  $q$  be a prime number. Let  $\overline{\phi}_1(x)^{e_1} \cdots \overline{\phi}_r(x)^{e_r}$  be the factorization of  $g(x)$  modulo  $q$  into a product of powers of distinct irreducible polynomials over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  with each  $\phi_i(x) \neq g(x)$  belonging to  $\mathbf{Z}[x]$  monic. Assume that, for a fixed  $i$ , the  $\phi_i$ -Newton polygon of  $g(x)$  has  $k$  edges, say  $S_j$  having positive slopes  $\lambda_j = \frac{d_j}{e_j}$  with  $\gcd(d_j, e_j) = 1$  for  $1 \leq j \leq k$ . If the polynomial  $T_j(y)$  associated to  $f(x)$  with respect to  $(\phi_i, S_j)$  is linear for  $k_1$  edges with  $1 \leq j \leq k_1 \leq k$ , then there are at least  $k_1$  distinct prime ideals of  $\mathbf{Z}_L$  having residual degree  $\deg \phi_i(x)$ .

In [10], Guàrdia, Montes, and Nart introduced the notion of  $\phi$ -admissible expansion, which is used in order to treat some special cases when the  $\phi$ -expansion of a polynomial  $g(x)$  is not obvious.

Let  $q$  be a prime number and  $f(x) \in \mathbf{Z}_q[x]$  be a monic polynomial not divisible by  $\phi(x)$  with  $\phi(x)$ -development  $\sum_{j=0}^n a'_j(x)\phi(x)^j$ ,  $a'_j(x) \in \mathbf{Z}_q[x]$ ; here  $\deg a'_j(x)$  can be greater than or equal to  $\deg \phi(x)$ . Analogous to the definition of  $\phi$ -Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect to  $q$ , to each non-zero term  $a'_k(x)\phi(x)^k$ , we associate the point  $(n-k, v_{q,x}(a'_k(x)))$  and the polygonal path formed by the lower edges along the convex hull of the points of  $\{(k, v_{q,x}(a'_{n-k}(x))) \mid 0 \leq k \leq n, a'_{n-k}(x) \neq 0\}$  defines the  $\phi$ -development Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect to  $q$  in this case. Now as in Definition 2.4, suppose that the  $\phi$ -development Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect to  $q$  consists of a single edge, say  $S'$  having positive slope denoted by  $\frac{d}{e}$  with  $d, e$  coprime, i.e.,

$$\min\left\{\frac{v_{q,x}(a'_{n-i}(x))}{i} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\right\} = \frac{v_{q,x}(a'_0(x))}{n} = \frac{d}{e}$$

so that  $n$  is divisible by  $e$ , say  $n = et$  and  $v_{q,x}(a'_{n-ej}(x)) \geq dj$  for  $1 \leq j \leq t$ .

Let  $\frac{a'_{n-ej}(x)}{q^{dj}}$  is denoted by  $b'_j(x)$ . We define the polynomial  $T'(y)$  in an indeterminate  $y$  by  $T'(y) = y^t + \sum_{j=1}^t \overline{b'_j(\bar{\alpha})} y^{t-j}$  having coefficients in  $\frac{\mathbb{F}_q[x]}{\langle \bar{\phi}(x) \rangle} (\cong \mathbb{F}_q[\bar{\alpha}])$ .

$T'(y)$  is said to be the polynomial associated to  $f(x)$  with respect to  $(\phi, S')$ . We say that a  $\phi$ -development of  $f(x)$  is called admissible with respect to  $(\phi, S')$  if and only if  $\bar{\phi}$  does not divide  $\overline{b'_j(x)}$  for each  $j$ . If the  $\phi$ -development Newton polygon of a polynomial  $f(x)$  has  $\ell$  many edges  $S_i$  having positive slopes, then  $\phi$ -development of  $f(x)$  is called admissible when  $\phi$ -development of  $f(x)$  is admissible with respect to  $(\phi, S_i)$  for each  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq \ell$ . It is proved in [10] that if a  $\phi$ -development of  $f(x)$  is admissible, then the principal  $\phi$ -Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect to  $q$  will be the same as  $\phi$ -development Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect to prime  $q$  for edges having positive slopes; in particular, for any edge  $S$  having positive slope of the  $\phi$ -Newton polygon of  $f(x)$ , we have  $T(y) = T'(y)$ .

### 3. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1

**Proof of Theorem 1.1.** Keeping in mind that  $q^r - 1 = (q - 1)m$  with  $m \equiv 1 \pmod{q}$  and  $b^{q-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{q}$ , one can quickly verify that  $v_q(b^{q^r-1} - 1) = v_q(b^{q-1} - 1) = r_1$ .

Since  $q \nmid a$  and  $q \nmid b$ , we have  $f(x) \equiv x^n - b \pmod{q}$ . Using Fermat's little theorem and the fact that  $n = q^r u$ ,  $q \nmid u$ , it follows that  $f(x) \equiv (x^u - b)^{q^r} \pmod{q}$ . Since  $q$  does not divide  $ub$ , the monic polynomial  $x^u - b$  is separable in  $\mathbb{F}_q[x]$ . Let  $\phi_1(x) \cdots \phi_t(x)$  be the factorization of  $x^u - b$  into a product of monic irreducible polynomials in  $\mathbb{F}_q[x]$ , then  $f(x) \equiv (\phi_1(x) \cdots \phi_t(x))^{q^r} \pmod{q}$ . Now we fix an irreducible factor  $\bar{\phi}_i(x) = \bar{\phi}(x)$  of the polynomial  $\bar{f}(x)$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q[x]$ . Write  $x^u - b = \phi_1(x) \cdots \phi_t(x) + q^{k_1} h_1(x) = \phi(x)g_1(x) + q^{k_1} h_1(x)$ , where  $g_1(x) =$

$\prod_{j=1, j \neq i}^t \phi_j(x)$ ,  $h_1(x) \in \mathbf{Z}[x]$  and  $k_1 \geq 1$  is an integer such that  $\bar{h}_1(x) \neq \bar{0}$ . Note

that  $\bar{\phi}(x) \nmid \bar{g}_1(x)$ . Now we observe that there exists  $g(x)$  and  $h(x)$  such that  $\bar{\phi}(x) \nmid \bar{g}(x)\bar{h}(x)$  and  $x^u - b = \phi(x)g(x) + q^k h(x)$  for some  $k \geq 1$ . Because if  $\bar{\phi}(x)$  divides  $\bar{h}_1(x)$ , we can write  $\bar{h}_1(x) = \bar{\phi}(x)^e \bar{g}_2(x)$  such that  $e \geq 1$  and  $\bar{\phi}(x) \nmid \bar{g}_2(x)$ . So we have  $h_1(x) = \phi(x)^e g_2(x) + q^{k_2} h_2(x)$  and  $k_2$  is a positive integer such that  $\bar{h}_2(x) \neq \bar{0}$ . If  $\bar{\phi}(x) \nmid \bar{h}_2(x)$ , then we set  $g(x) = g_1(x) + q^{k_2} \phi(x)^{e-1} g_2(x)$  and  $h(x) = h_2(x)$  with  $k = k_1 + k_2$ . If  $\bar{\phi}(x)$  divides  $\bar{h}_2(x)$ , then we can repeat this process. Therefore, let  $g(x), h(x) \in \mathbf{Z}[x]$  be such that

$$x^u - b = \phi(x)g(x) + q^k h(x) \text{ with } k \geq 1, \bar{\phi}(x) \nmid \bar{g}(x)\bar{h}(x). \quad (3.1)$$

Applying the binomial theorem, we see that

$$f(x) = (x^u - b + b)^{q^r} - ax^m - b = (\phi(x)g(x) + q^k h(x) + b)^{q^r} - ax^m - b$$

can be written as

$$f(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{q^r} \binom{q^r}{j} (q^k h(x) + b)^{q^r-j} g(x)^j \phi(x)^j + (q^k h(x) + b)^{q^r} - ax^m - b.$$

Let  $d(x) \in \mathbf{Z}[x]$  be a polynomial such that

$$(q^k h(x) + b)^{q^r} - b^{q^r} = q^{r+k} d(x).$$

Then

$$d(x) = b^{q^r-1} h(x) + \frac{1}{q^{r+k}} \sum_{j=0}^{q^r-2} \binom{q^r}{j} b^j (q^k h(x))^{q^r-j}.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= (\phi(x)g(x))^{q^r} \\ &+ \sum_{j=1}^{q^r-1} \binom{q^r}{j} (q^k h(x) + b)^{q^r-j} g(x)^j \phi(x)^j + q^{r+k} d(x) - ax^m + b^{q^r} - b. \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

Thus  $f(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{q^r} a'_j(x) \phi(x)^j$  is the  $\phi$ -development of  $f(x)$ , where

$$a'_0(x) = q^{r+k} d(x) - ax^m + b^{q^r} - b.$$

$$a'_i(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{q^r} \binom{q^r}{j} (q^k h(x) + b)^{q^r-j} g(x)^j.$$

Note that

$$v_{q,x} \left( \binom{q^r}{j} (q^k h(x) + b)^{q^r-j} g(x)^j \right) = v_q \left( \binom{q^r}{j} \right) \text{ for every } j = 1, 2, \dots, q^r. \quad (3.3)$$

We now divide our proof into two cases.

**Case (1).** Suppose  $r_1 \leq r$ . Keeping in mind that  $q^{r+1}$  divides  $a$ , one can easily verify that the successive vertices of the  $\phi$ -development Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect to an odd prime  $q$  is given by the set  $\{(0, 0), (q^r - q^{r-1}, 1), \dots, (q^r - q^{r-r_1+1}, r_1 - 1), (q^r, r_1)\}$  having  $r_1$  edges  $S'_i$  with slopes  $\lambda_i = \frac{1}{q^{r-i+1} - q^{r-i}}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq r_1 - 1$  and  $\lambda_{r_1} = \frac{1}{q^{r-r_1+1}}$ . Since  $q \nmid b$  and  $\bar{\phi}(x) \nmid \bar{g}(x)\bar{h}(x)$ , one can see that the  $\phi$ -development of  $f(x)$  is admissible with respect to  $(\phi, S'_i)$  for each  $i$ , and hence  $\phi$ -development of  $f(x)$  is admissible. Further, the polynomial associated to  $f(x)$  with respect to  $(\phi, S'_i)$  is linear for  $1 \leq i \leq r_1$ . Therefore, the  $\phi$ -Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  has  $r_1$  edges and the polynomials associated to  $f(x)$  with respect to these edges are linear. Hence by Theorem 2.6, there are at least  $r_1$  distinct prime ideals of  $\mathbf{Z}_K$  lying above  $q$  having residual degree  $\deg \phi(x) (= \ell)$ . It is known [11] that the number of monic irreducible polynomials of degree  $\ell$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  are  $N(q, \ell)$ . Therefore, if  $r_1 > N(q, \ell)$ , then applying Lemma 2.1 it follows that  $q$  divides  $i(K)$ . We now consider the situation when  $q = 2$ . In this situation, the successive vertices of the  $\phi$ -development Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect

to 2 is given by the set  $\{(0, 0), (2^r - 2^{r-1}, 1), \dots, (2^r - 2^{r-r_1+2}, r_1 - 2), (2^r, r_1)\}$  having  $r_1 - 1$  edges  $S'_i$  with slopes  $\lambda_i = \frac{1}{2^{r-i+1} - 2^{r-i}}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq r_1 - 2$  and  $\lambda_{r_1-1} = \frac{1}{2^{r-r_1+1}}$ . The polynomial associated to  $f(x)$  with respect to  $(\phi, S'_i)$  is linear for  $1 \leq i \leq r_1 - 2$  and the polynomial associated to  $f(x)$  with respect to  $(\phi, S'_{r_1-1})$  is a second degree irreducible polynomial  $y^2 + y + \bar{1}$  over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ . Since  $q \nmid b$  and  $\bar{\phi}(x) \nmid \bar{g}(x)\bar{h}(x)$ ,  $\phi$ -development of  $f(x)$  is admissible. Hence, the  $\phi$ -Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  has  $r_1 - 2$  edges such that the polynomials associated to  $f(x)$  with respect to these edges are linear. Therefore, by Theorem 2.6, there are at least  $r_1 - 2$  distinct prime ideals of  $\mathbf{Z}_K$  lying above 2 having residual degree  $\ell$ . So, if  $r_1 - 2 > N(2, \ell)$ , then applying Lemma 2.1 it follows that 2 divides  $i(K)$ .

**Case (2).** Suppose  $r_1 > r$ . Keeping in mind that  $q^{r+1}$  divides  $a$ , one can easily verify that the successive vertices of the  $\phi$ -development Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect to an odd prime  $q$  are given by the set  $\{(0, 0), (q^r - q^{r-1}, 1), \dots, (q^r - q, r - 1), (q^r - 1, r), (q^r, z)\}$  having  $r + 1$  edges  $S'_i$  with  $z \geq r + 1$  and slopes  $\lambda_i = \frac{1}{q^{r-i+1} - q^{r-i}}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq r$ ,  $\lambda_{r+1} = z - r$ . Also, if  $v_{q,x}(a'_0(x)) = r + 1$ , then the successive vertices of the  $\phi$ -development Newton polygon of  $f(x)$  with respect to 2 is given by the set  $\{(0, 0), (2^r - 2^{r-1}, 1), \dots, (2^r - 2, r - 1), (2^r, r + 1)\}$  having  $r$  edges  $S'_i$  with slopes  $\lambda_i = \frac{1}{q^{r-i+1} - q^{r-i}}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq r - 1$  and  $\lambda_r = 1$ . Arguing exactly as in the above case, we see that there are at least  $r - 1$  distinct prime ideals of  $\mathbf{Z}_K$  lying above  $q$  having residual degree  $\ell$ . So, if  $r - 1 > N(q, \ell)$ , then applying Lemma 2.1 we see that  $q$  divides  $i(K)$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

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