

- **Classfield Theory...**

- More modern statement of part of *global* classfield theory
- Recall facts about extensions of *finite* fields
- Recall: unramified extensions of *local* fields
- Recall: special case, unramified local classfield theory
- Recall: special case: quadratic local classfield theory over  $\mathbb{Q}_p$
- Recall: general Kummer theory

**Part of Global Classfield Theory:** The Galois groups of finite abelian extensions  $K$  of a number field  $k$  are the finite quotients of the idele class group  $\mathbb{J}_k/k^\times$ , namely

$$(\mathbb{J}_k/k^\times)/N_k^K(\mathbb{J}_K/K^\times) \longleftrightarrow K/k$$

The maps of quotients of idele class groups to Galois groups are *natural*, in the sense that, for finite abelian extensions  $L \supset K \supset k$  there is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{J}_k/k^\times)/N_k^L(\mathbb{J}_L/L^\times) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{L/k}} & \text{Gal}(L/k) \\ \text{quot} \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{quot} \\ \mathbb{J}_k/k^\times)/N_k^K(\mathbb{J}_K/K^\times) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{K/k}} & \text{Gal}(K/k) \end{array}$$

The maps  $\alpha_{*/k}$  are **Artin maps** or **reciprocity law maps**

**Main Theorem of Local Classfield Theory:** The Galois groups of finite abelian extensions  $K$  of a local field  $k$  are the quotients

$$k^\times / N_k^K(K^\times) \longleftrightarrow K/k$$

The maps to Galois groups are *natural*, in the sense that, for finite abelian extensions  $L \supset K \supset k$  there is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} k^\times / N_k^L(L^\times) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{L/k}} & \text{Gal}(L/k) \\ \text{quot} \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{quot} \\ k^\times / N_k^K(K^\times) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{K/k}} & \text{Gal}(K/k) \end{array}$$

The maps  $\alpha_{*/k}$  are **local Artin** or **local reciprocity law** maps.

**Remark:** We'd want a precise connection between local and global, too.

Note that the adelic rewrite of global classfield theory shows the connection to *norms*.

In *cyclic* extensions, the connection between global and local norms is clear:

**Cyclic local-global principle for norms:** In a *cyclic* extension  $K/k$  of number fields, an element of  $k$  is a *global norm* if and only if it is a *local norm everywhere*. That is, for  $\alpha \in k$ ,

$$\alpha \in N_k^K(K^\times) \iff \alpha \in N_{k_v}^{K_v}(K_v^\times) \text{ for all } v, w$$

Proof by analytic properties of *zeta functions of simple algebras*.

*Norm index inequalities* play a central role in proofs of classfield theory.

**Unramified extensions of local fields:** Inside a fixed algebraic closure of a local field  $k$ , for each positive integer  $n$  there is a unique *unramified* extension  $K$  of  $k$  of degree  $n$ . It is generated by a primitive  $q^n - 1$  root of unity, where  $\#\mathfrak{o}_k/\mathfrak{p} = q$ . ///

**Artin/Frobenius elements in Galois groups over local fields** An unramified extension  $K/k$  of a local field  $k$  has cyclic Galois group with canonical generator the Artin/Frobenius  $(\mathfrak{p}, K/k)$ , where  $\mathfrak{p}$  is the prime in  $\mathfrak{o}_k$ , characterized by

$$(\mathfrak{p}, K/k)(x) = x^q \pmod{\mathfrak{p}\mathfrak{o}_K} \quad (x \in \mathfrak{o}_K, \text{ where } q = \#\mathfrak{o}_k/\mathfrak{p})$$

**Claim:** The Galois norm  $N : K \rightarrow k$  of local fields gives a *surjection* on local units  $\mathfrak{o}_K^\times \rightarrow \mathfrak{o}_k^\times$ . ///

[Proof was by surjectivity of norms on *finite* fields, as well as surjectivity of *traces*, and completeness of  $k$ .]

Two very special sub-cases:

**(Mock) Theorem:** *Unramified local classfield theory:* Galois groups of unramified extensions  $K$  of a local field  $k$  are in bijection with finite-index subgroups of  $k^\times$  containing  $\mathfrak{o}_k^\times$ , by

$$k^\times / N_k^K(K^\times) \approx \text{Gal}(K/k) \quad (\text{reciprocity law map})$$

**(Mock) Theorem:** Let  $p > 2$ . The quadratic extensions  $K$  of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  are in bijection with the subgroups  $H$  of index 2 in  $\mathbb{Q}_p^\times$ , by

$$\mathbb{Q}_p^\times / N_{\mathbb{Q}_p}^K(K^\times) \approx \text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q}_p) \quad (\text{reciprocity law map})$$

The extension  $K/\mathbb{Q}_p$  is unramified if and only if  $N_{\mathbb{Q}_p}^K(K^\times) \supset \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$ .

For *unramified extensions*  $L \supset K \supset k$  of a local field  $k$ , we do have the commutative compatibility diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 k^\times / N_k^L(L^\times) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{L/k}} & \text{Gal}(L/k) & & L \\
 \text{quot} \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{quot} & & | \\
 k^\times / N_k^K(K^\times) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{K/k}} & \text{Gal}(K/k) & \text{for unramified} & K \\
 & & & & | \\
 & & & & k
 \end{array}$$

**Remark:** Again, the maps  $\alpha_{K/k}$  are *Artin maps* or *reciprocity law maps*. It is typically not obvious how to recover classical reciprocity laws.

**General Kummer theory:** Recall: cyclic extensions  $K$  of degree dividing  $n$  of a field  $k$  containing  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity, of characteristic not dividing  $n$ , are in bijection with cyclic subgroups of  $k^\times / (k^\times)^n$ , by  $K = k(\sqrt[n]{\alpha}) \longleftrightarrow \langle \alpha \rangle \text{ mod } (k^\times)^n$ .

*Proof:* On one hand, certainly  $k(\sqrt[n]{\alpha}) = k(\sqrt[n]{\alpha\beta^n})$ .

In one direction, in  $K = k(\sqrt[n]{a})$ , any  $g \in \text{Gal}(K/k)$  sends  $\alpha = \sqrt[n]{a}$  to another  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of  $a$ , which is  $\omega_g \cdot \alpha$  for some  $n^{\text{th}}$  root of unity  $\omega_g$ . The map  $g \rightarrow \omega_g$  is a group homomorphism, and is injective because the effect of  $g$  is determined by its effect on  $\alpha$ , so  $G$  is cyclic of order dividing  $n$ .

On another hand, let  $G$  be the Galois group of cyclic  $K$  over  $k$ , with order dividing  $n$ . Since  $k$  contains  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity, the commuting  $k$ -linear endomorphisms of  $K$  given by  $G$  are *simultaneously diagonalizable*. Since this assertion is central to this proof of the theorem of Kummer theory, we give details.



To get an idea how to proceed, observe that the minimal polynomial  $P(x) = \prod_{\zeta}(x - \zeta)$  of a generator  $g$  of  $G$  has roots  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity. For each root  $\zeta$ , with  $Q_{\zeta}(x) = P(x)/(x - \zeta)$ ,  $Q_{\zeta}(g)$  is not the 0 endomorphism of  $K$ , so there is  $\alpha \in K$  such that  $Q_{\zeta}(g)(\alpha) \neq 0$ . Nevertheless,  $(g - \zeta)Q_{\zeta}(g)(\alpha) = P(g)(\alpha) = 0$ . Thus,  $Q_{\zeta}(g)(\alpha)$  is a (non-zero)  $\zeta$ -eigenvector for  $g$ .

Since  $g^n = 1$ , the minimal polynomial of  $g$  divides  $x^n - 1$ , which has no repeated roots when the characteristic does not divide  $n$ . Thus,  $g$  is *diagonalizable*, meaning that  $K$  is the direct sum of  $g$ 's eigenspaces. Indeed, as  $\zeta$  runs over roots of  $P(x) = 0$ , the quotients  $Q_{\zeta}(x) = P(x)/(x - \zeta)$  have collective common factor 1. Thus, there are monic  $R_{\zeta}(x) \in k[x]$  such that

$$1_{k[x]} = \sum_{\zeta} R_{\zeta}(x) \cdot Q_{\zeta}(x) \quad \text{and} \quad 1_K = \sum_{\zeta} R_{\zeta}(g) \cdot Q_{\zeta}(g)$$

Thus,

$$K = 1_K \cdot K = \bigoplus_{\zeta} \left( R_{\zeta}(g) Q_{\zeta}(g) \right) (K)$$

and the  $\zeta^{th}$  summand is the  $\zeta$ -eigenspace:

$$(g - \zeta) \cdot \left( R_{\zeta}(g) Q_{\zeta}(g) \right) (K) = R_{\zeta}(g) \left( (g - \zeta) Q_{\zeta}(g) (K) \right) = R_{\zeta}(g)(0)$$

This proves the simultaneous diagonalizability of  $\text{Gal}(K/k)$  on  $K$ .

For  $g$  of order exactly  $m$ , with  $m|n$ , let  $\zeta$  be a primitive  $m^{th}$  root of unity, and  $v \in K$  a  $\zeta$ -eigenvector. Then  $g(v^m) = (gv)^m = (\zeta v)^m = v^m$ , so  $v^m$  is in  $k$ , while  $v$  itself is fixed by no proper subgroup of  $G$ . By Galois theory  $K = k(\sqrt[m]{v^m}) = k(\sqrt[n]{v^n})$ . ///

**Interaction** of the various extensions of  $k$  by  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots:

Fix  $2 \leq \ell \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $k$  a field of characteristic not dividing  $\ell$ , containing a primitive  $\ell^{\text{th}}$  root of unity. Let  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in k^\times$ , and  $\alpha_j = \sqrt[\ell]{a_j}$  in a fixed finite Galois extension  $K$  of  $k$ .

*Suppose* that, for any pair of indices  $i \neq j$ , there is  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(K/k)$  such that  $\sigma(\alpha_i)/\alpha_i \neq \sigma(\alpha_j)/\alpha_j$ .

**Remark:** Since  $\sigma(\alpha_i) = \omega_i \cdot \alpha_i$  for some  $\ell^{\text{th}}$  root of unity  $\omega_i$  (depending on  $\sigma$ ), the hypothesis is equivalent to  $a_i/a_j$  *not* being an  $n^{\text{th}}$  power in  $k$ .

That is, the hypothesis is that the one-dimensional representations of  $\text{Gal}(K/k)$  on the lines  $k \cdot \alpha_j$  are pairwise non-isomorphic. This description of the situation correctly suggests the proof of

**Proposition:** The  $\alpha_j$ 's are *linearly independent* over  $k$ .

**Bibliographic notes:** Bibliographic pointers gleaned from [Dubuque 2011], e.g., [Bergstrom 1953]’s reference to [Hasse 1933].

[Robinson 2011] proves the quadratic case, and suggests extensions. Unsurprisingly, such questions were addressed decades ago. [Dubuque 2011] quotes reviews of sources dating to at least [Hasse 1933].

[Bergstrom 1953] H. Bergstrom, review of [Mordell 1953], Math. Reviews MR0058649.

[Besicovitch 1940] A.S. Besicovitch, *On the linear independence of fractional powers of integers*, J. Lond. Math. Soc. **15** (1940), 3-6.

[Dubuque 2011] W. Dubuque’s answer to [math.stackexchange.com/questions/30687](http://math.stackexchange.com/questions/30687), retrieved 22 Dec 2011.

[Hasse 1933] H. Hasse, *Klassenkorpertheorie*, Marburg (1933), 187-195.

[Mordell 1953] L.J. Mordell, *On the linear independence of algebraic numbers*, Pacific J. Math. **3** (1953), 625-630.

[Robinson 2011] G. Robinson’s answer to [math.stackexchange.com/questions/93453](http://math.stackexchange.com/questions/93453), retrieved 22 Dec 2011.

*Proof:* Let  $\sum_j c_j \cdot \alpha_j = 0$  be a shortest non-trivial linear relation with  $c_j \in k$ . For indices  $i \neq j$  appearing in this relation, take  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(K/k)$  such that  $\sigma(\alpha_i)/\alpha_i \neq \sigma(\alpha_j)/\alpha_j$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{\sigma(\alpha_i)}{\alpha_i} \cdot 0 - \sigma(0) = \frac{\sigma(\alpha_i)}{\alpha_i} \sum_t c_t \cdot \alpha_t - \sigma\left(\sum_t c_t \cdot \alpha_t\right) \\ &= \sum_t c_t \cdot \alpha_t \cdot \left(\frac{\sigma(\alpha_i)}{\alpha_i} - \frac{\sigma(\alpha_t)}{\alpha_t}\right) \end{aligned}$$

The coefficient of  $\alpha_i$  is 0, while the coefficient of  $\alpha_j$  is non-zero, by arrangement. This would contradict the assumption that the relation is shortest. Thus, there is no non-trivial relation. ///

**Remark:** The argument reproves the impossibility of mapping a sum of mutually non-isomorphic irreducibles of  $\text{Gal}(K/k)$  non-trivially to the trivial representation. The argument resembles the argument for *linear independence of characters*.

**Corollary:** For (pairwise) relatively prime square-free integers  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ , the  $2^n$  algebraic numbers  $\sqrt{a_{i_1} \dots a_{i_k}}$  with  $i_1 < \dots < i_k$  and  $0 \leq k \leq n$  are linearly independent over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , so are a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -basis for  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{a_1}, \dots, \sqrt{a_n})$ . In particular, the degree of that field over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is the maximum possible,  $2^n$ .

*Proof:* The ratios  $(a_{i_1} \dots a_{i_k}) / (a_{j_1} \dots a_{j_\ell})$  have some prime appearing in the numerator or denominator, not both, and to first power, so is not a square, by unique factorization. ///

**Corollary:** Let  $k$  be a field containing  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity, with characteristic not dividing  $n$ . For a subgroup  $\Theta$  of  $k^\times$  containing  $(k^\times)^n$  and with  $\Theta / (k^\times)^n$  finite,

$$[k(n^{\text{th}} \text{ roots of } a \in \Theta) : k] = \# \Theta / (k^\times)^n$$

*Proof:* We really adjoin only  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of *representatives* for  $\Theta/(k^\times)^n$ . Let  $K$  be the finite abelian extension obtained by adjoining all these roots. Given  $a, b$  in  $\Theta$  but distinct mod  $(k^\times)^n$ , let  $\alpha = \sqrt[n]{a}$  and  $\beta = \sqrt[n]{b}$ . Necessarily there is  $g \in \text{Gal}(K/k)$  such that  $g\alpha/\alpha \neq g\beta/\beta$ , or else  $\alpha/\beta$  is fixed by  $\text{Gal}(K/k)$ , and then  $a/b = (\alpha/\beta)^n \in (k^\times)^n$ , contradiction.

Thus, by the proposition, the  $n^{\text{th}}$  roots of representatives are linearly independent over  $k$ . This computes the degree of the field extension. ///

**Remark:** Reformulate to resemble classfield theory as closely as possible?