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Theoretical concept of number fields theory

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Abstract

Algebraic Geometry is the study of sets of common zeros of a family of polynomials. Such a set is called an algebraic variety. Some geometers at LSU work mostly over the complex numbers. Some work mostly over the real numbers, where one studies semi-algebraic sets whose points satisfy polynomial inequalities. Some work over finite fields, where there are connections with algebraic number theory and applications to areas such as error-correcting codes. Arithmetic algebraic geometry, the study of algebraic varieties over number fields, is also represented at LSU. The tools in this specialty include techniques from analysis and computational number theory. In all these facets of algebraic geometry, the main focus is the interplay between the geometry and the algebra. For example, to each point of an algebraic variety one can associate a ring and the question of whether this point is a smooth point or a singular point on this variety can be answered by understanding the algebraic structure of this ring.

Keywords: Algebraic, Geometry, number theory, Arithmetic.

Introduction

Algebraic number theory is a rich and diverse subfield of abstract algebra and number theory, applying the concepts of number fields and algebraic numbers to number theory to improve upon applications such as prime factorization and primarily testing ^[1-4]. In this study, we will begin with an overview of algebraic number fields and algebraic numbers. We will then move into some important results of algebraic number theory, focusing on the quadratic, or Gauss reciprocity law. In this research, we will cover the basics of what is called algebraic number theory. Just as number theory is often described as the study of the integers, algebraic number theory may be loosely described as the study of certain subrings of fields K with $[K : \mathbb{Q}] < \infty$; these rings, known as "rings of integers", tend to act as natural generalizations of the integers. However, although algebraic number theory has evolved into a subject in its own right, we begin by emphasizing that the subject evolved naturally as a systematic method of treating certain classical questions about the integers themselves ^[5]. Much of our endeavor in the theoretical study of computation is aimed towards either finding an efficient algorithm for a problem or gauging the *hairiness* of a problem. And in meeting both these goals mathematical insights and ingenuities are constant companions. In particular, two branches of mathematics - combinatory, and algebra and number theory, have found extensive applications in theoretical computer science. In this paper, our focus is on problems belonging to the latter branch ^[6].

Review of Literature

An algebraic number field is a finite extension of \mathbb{Q} ; an algebraic number is an element of an algebraic number field. Algebraic number theory studies the arithmetic of algebraic number fields — the ring of integers in the number field, the ideals in the ring of integers, the units, the extent to which the ring of integers fails to behave unique factorization, and so on. One important tool for this is "localization", in which we complete the number field relative to a metric attached to a prime ideal of the number field ^[7]. The completed field is called a local field — its arithmetic is much simpler than that of the number field, and sometimes we can answer questions by first solving them locally, that is, in the local fields ^[8].

An abelian extension of a field is a Galois extension of the field with abelian Galois group

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[9]. Global class field theory classifies the abelian extensions of a number field K in terms of the arithmetic of K ; local class field theory does the same for local fields. This course is concerned with algebraic number theory. Its sequel is on class field theory [10].

I now give a quick sketch of what the course will cover. The fundamental theorem of arithmetic says that integers can be uniquely factored into products of prime powers:

$$m \neq 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{Z} \text{ can be written in the form, } m = up_1^{r_1} \cdots p_n^{r_n}, \quad u = \pm 1, \quad p_i \text{ prime}$$

number, $r_i > 0$, and this factorization is essentially unique. Consider more generally an integral domain A . An element $a \in A$ is said to be a unit if it has an inverse in A : I write A^\times for the multiplicative group of units in A . An element p of A is said to be prime if it is neither zero nor a unit, and if

$$p|ab \Rightarrow p|a \text{ or } p|b.$$

If A is a principal ideal domain, then every nonzero non-unit element a of A can be written in the form,

$$a = p_1^{r_1} \cdots p_n^{r_n}, \quad p_i \text{ prime element, } r_i > 0, \text{ and the}$$

factorization is unique up to order and replacing each p_i with an associate, i.e., with its product with a unit.

Our first task will be to discover to what extent unique factorization holds, or fails to hold, in number fields. Three problems present themselves [11]. First, factorization in a field only makes sense with respect to a subring, and so we must

define the "ring of integers" \mathcal{O}_K in our number field K . Secondly, since unique factorization will in general fail, we shall need to find a way of measuring by how much it fails. Finally, since factorization is only considered up to units, in order to fully understand the arithmetic of K , we need to understand the structure of the group of units U_K in \mathcal{O}_K . Resolving these three problems will occupy the first five sections of the course [12].

Definition: A number field K is a finite field extension of \mathbb{Q} . Its degree is $[K : \mathbb{Q}]$, i.e., its dimension as a \mathbb{Q} -vector space.

Definition: An algebraic number α is an algebraic integer if it satisfies a monic polynomial with integer coefficients. Equivalently its minimal polynomial over \mathbb{Q} should have integer coefficients.

Definition: Let K be a number field. Its ring of integers \mathcal{O}_K consists of the elements of K which are algebraic integers.

- (i) \mathcal{O}_K is a Noetherian ring.
- (ii) $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathcal{O}_K = [K : \mathbb{Q}]$, i.e. \mathcal{O}_K is a finitely generated abelian group under addition, and isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}^{\oplus [K:\mathbb{Q}]}$
- (iii) For every $\alpha \in K$ there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}$ with $n\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$
- (iv) \mathcal{O}_K is the maximal subring of K which is finitely generated as an abelian group.
- (v) \mathcal{O}_K is integrally closed, i.e., if $f(X) \in \mathcal{O}_K[X]$ is monic and $f(\alpha) = 0$ for some $\alpha \in K$ then $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$

Example

Number field K	Ring of integers \mathcal{O}_K
\mathbb{Q}	\mathbb{Z}
$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d}), d \in \mathbb{Z} - \{0, 1\}$ squarefree	$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ if $d \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4}$, $\mathbb{Z}[(1 + \sqrt{d})/2]$ if $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$
$\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n), \zeta_n$ a primitive n th root of unity	$\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_n]$

Example $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3}) = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_3)$ since $\zeta_3 = (-1 + \sqrt{-3})/2, \mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_3]$

Units

Definition: A unit, in a number field K is an element such that the group of units in K is denoted by $\mathcal{O}_K^\times, \alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K, \alpha^{-1} \in \mathcal{O}_K$

Example

For $K = \mathbb{Q}$ we have $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}$ and $\mathcal{O}_K^\times = \{\pm 1\}$.
For $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$ we have $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[(1 + \sqrt{-3})/2]$ and $\mathcal{O}_K^\times = \{\pm 1, \pm \zeta_3, \pm \zeta_3^2\}$

Theorem 3.1 (Dirichlet's Unit Theorem) Let K be a number field. Then \mathcal{O}_K^\times is a finitely generated abelian group more precisely

$$\mathcal{O}_K^\times = \Delta \times \mathbb{Z}^{r_1+r_2-1}$$

Where Δ is the finite group of roots of unity in K , and r_1 and r_2 denoting the number of real embeddings $K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and complex conjugate embeddings $K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$ with image not contained in \mathbb{R} . So $r_1 + 2r_2 = [K : \mathbb{Q}]$

Corollary 3.1: The only number fields with finitely many units are

$$\mathbb{Q} \text{ and } \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-D}), D = 2, 3 = (1 + \sqrt{-5})(1 - \sqrt{-5}), D > 0$$

Factorisation

Example: \mathbb{Z} has unique factorization. We do not have this luxury in \mathcal{O}_K in general, e.g., let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})$, with $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$ then where $2, 3, 1 \pm \sqrt{-5}$ are irreducible and $2, 3$ are not equal to $1 \pm \sqrt{-5}$ up to units.

Theorem 3.2 (Unique Factorization of Ideals) Let K be a number field. Then every non-zero ideal of \mathcal{O}_K admits a factorisation into prime ideals. This factorisation is unique up to order.

Example: In $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})$
 $(2)(3) = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})^2(3, 1 + \sqrt{-5})(3, 1 - \sqrt{-5})$
 $(1 + \sqrt{-5})(1 - \sqrt{-5}) = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})(3, 1 + \sqrt{-5})(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})(3, 1 - \sqrt{-5})$
 Where $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5}), (3, 1 + \sqrt{-5}), (3, 1 - \sqrt{-5})$ are prime ideals.

Definition: Let $A, B \subset \mathcal{O}_K$ be ideals. Then A divides D . $A \mid B$. If there exists $C \subset \mathcal{O}_K$ such that $A \cdot C = D$.
 equivalently. IL 'in the prime factorizations

$$A = P_1^{m_1} \dots P_k^{m_k}, \quad B = P_1^{n_1} \dots P_k^{n_k}$$

we have $m_i \leq n_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq k$

Remark:

(i) For $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{O}_K$ $(\alpha) \mid (\beta)$ if and only if $\alpha = \beta u$ for some $u \in \mathcal{O}_K^\times$

(ii) For ideals $A, B \subset \mathcal{O}_K$; $A \mid B$ if and only if $A \supset B$

(iii) To multiply ideals, just multiply their generators, e.g..

$$\begin{aligned} (2)(3) &= (6) \\ (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})(3, 1 + \sqrt{-5}) &= (6, 2 + 2\sqrt{-5}, 3 + 3\sqrt{-5}, -4 + 2\sqrt{-5}) \\ &= (6, 1 + \sqrt{-5}) \\ &= (1 + \sqrt{-5}). \end{aligned}$$

(iv) Addition of ideals works completely differently, simply combine the generators. **e.g,**

$$(2) + (3) = (2, 3) = (1) = \mathcal{O}_K.$$

Conclusion

We hope to show that the study of algorithms not only increases our understanding of algebraic number fields but also stimulates our curiosity about them. The discussion is concentrated of three topics: the determination of Galois groups, the determination of the ring of integers of an algebraic number field, and the computation of the group of units and the class group of that ring of integers. In this study we discuss the basic problems of algorithmic algebraic number theory. The emphasis is on aspects that are of interest from a purely mathematical point of view, and practical issues are largely disregarded. We describe what has been done and, more importantly, what remains to be done in the area. Some work over finite fields, where there are connections with algebraic number theory and applications to areas such as error-correcting codes. Arithmetic algebraic geometry, the study of algebraic varieties over number fields, is also represented at LSU. The tools in this specialty include techniques from analysis (for example, theta functions) and computational number theory.

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