

Lecture 8: Norms of ideals

(15)

Reminder: HW due Wednesday.

Change: Office hour on Tuesday 2-3 (+ Mon 10-11)

Last time:

Thm: \mathcal{O}_K a Dedekind domain. Then every ideal

$\mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{p}_1 \mathfrak{p}_2 \dots \mathfrak{p}_n$ with \mathfrak{p}_i prime, unique up to order.

Goal: Splitting of primes in extensions

$\mathbb{Q}(i) \supseteq \mathbb{Z}[i]$ $(5) = (2+i)(2-i)$, (3) is prime

\downarrow
 $\mathbb{Q}(i) \supseteq \mathbb{Z}$

K a number field, \mathcal{O}_K integers in K .

For $\mathfrak{a} \neq 0$ an ideal of \mathcal{O}_K , define its norm by

$$N(\mathfrak{a}) = [\mathcal{O}_K : \mathfrak{a}] \in \mathbb{N} \quad \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Book uses} \\ \|\mathfrak{a}\| \text{ instead.} \end{array} \right]$$

Makes sense: By HW, $(\mathfrak{a}, +) \cong \mathbb{Z}^n \cong (\mathcal{O}_K, +)$

and thus by HW the index is finite.

Suppose $\mathfrak{a} = (\alpha)$. Then

$$N(\mathfrak{a}) = |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha)|$$

Pf: Let w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n be an integral basis for \mathcal{O}_K .

Let A be the matrix of $T_\alpha: K \rightarrow K$ with respect to $K \rightarrow K \quad \{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$.

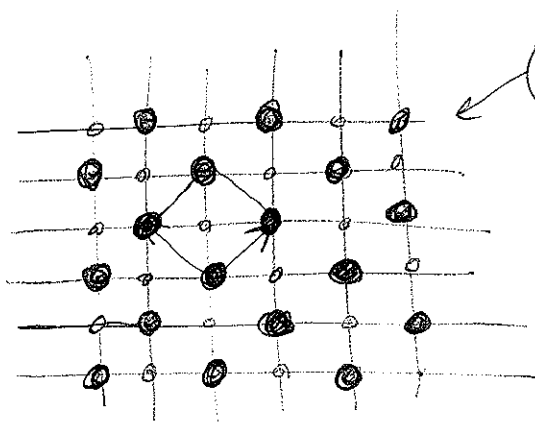
By def, $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) = \det A$. Now the i^{th} column of A expresses αw_i in terms of $\{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$, and

$\{\alpha w_1, \dots, \alpha w_n\}$ are a \mathbb{Z} -basis for σ . So the column span of $A = \sigma \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K \cong \mathbb{Z}^n$. Then

$$[\mathcal{O}_K : \sigma] = |\det A| = |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha)|. \quad \square$$

Example:

$$K = \mathbb{Q}(i)$$



$$(\mathbb{Z}[i], +) \cong \mathbb{Z}^2$$

$$\sigma = (1+i)$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det A = 2 = [\mathcal{O}_K : \sigma]$$

Expect: N should be multiplicative $= N(1+i)$

$$N(\alpha\beta) = N(\alpha)N(\beta)$$

Follows from:

Prop: If $\alpha = \beta_1^{v_1} \cdots \beta_n^{v_n}$ is the prime factorization of an ideal in \mathcal{O}_K , then $N(\alpha) = \prod N(\beta_i)^{v_i}$. (16)

Pf: By the Chinese Remainder Theorem:

$$\mathcal{O}_K/\alpha \cong \mathcal{O}_K/\beta_1^{v_1} \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathcal{O}_K/\beta_n^{v_n}$$

since $\beta_i^{v_i} + \beta_j^{v_j} = \mathcal{O}_K$. Thus $[\mathcal{O}_K:\alpha] = \prod [\mathcal{O}_K:\beta_i^{v_i}]$,
 so we've reduced to the case

$\alpha = \beta^v$. Consider $\beta \not\subseteq \beta^2 \not\subseteq \cdots \not\subseteq \beta^v$ properly unique factorization.

Now $V = \beta^k/\beta^{k+1}$ is a module (= vector space)

over $F = \mathcal{O}_K/\beta$. Claim: $\dim_F V = 1$

Let $\alpha \in \beta^k \setminus \beta^{k+1}$. Will show $F\alpha = V$. Let

$\mathfrak{b} = (\alpha) + \beta^{k+1}$. Then $\beta^k \supseteq \mathfrak{b} \not\subseteq \beta^{k+1}$ which forces

$\beta^k = \mathfrak{b}$, as otherwise $\mathcal{O} \not\subseteq \beta^{-k} \mathfrak{b} \not\subseteq \beta$, contradicting maximality of β . So $F\alpha = V$, proving the Claim.

Thus

$$[\mathcal{O}_K : \beta^V] = [\mathcal{O} : \beta][\beta : \beta^2] \cdots [\beta^{V-1} : \beta^V]$$

$$= |F|^V = \mathcal{N}(\beta)^V \text{ as desired. } \blacksquare$$

[Skip ahead to next page if short on time.]

Ex: $K = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta)$, where ζ is a p th root of unity.

If $\lambda = 1 - \zeta$, then (λ) is a ideal of norm p , hence prime. Moreover $(p) = (\lambda)^{p-1}$

Proof: $\phi_p(x) = \frac{x^p - 1}{x - 1} = x^{p-1} + \cdots + x + 1 = \prod_{k=1}^{p-1} (x - \zeta^k)$

Then $\phi_p(1) = p = \prod_{k=1}^{p-1} (1 - \zeta^k) = \mathcal{N}_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\lambda) = \mathcal{N}((\lambda))$

Moreover, as ideals $(1 - \zeta^k) = (1 - \zeta)$ because

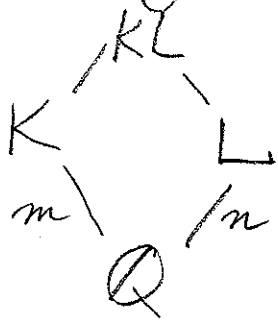
$$1 - \zeta^k = \epsilon_k (1 - \zeta) \text{ where } \epsilon_k = 1 + \zeta + \cdots + \zeta^{k-1} \in \mathcal{O}_K$$

and ϵ_k is a unit: if $k'k \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ then

$$\frac{1 - \zeta}{1 - \zeta^k} = \frac{1 - (\zeta^k)^{k'}}{1 - \zeta^k} = 1 + \zeta^k + \cdots + (\zeta^k)^{k'-1} \in \mathcal{O}_K.$$

$$\text{Thus } (p) = (\lambda)^{p-1}. \blacksquare$$

Combining Fields: $\mathcal{O}_{KL} \cong \mathcal{O}_K \mathcal{O}_L$



Thm: If $[KL:Q] = mn$

then $\mathcal{O}_{KL} = \frac{1}{d} \mathcal{O}_K \mathcal{O}_L$

where $d = \gcd(\Delta_K, \Delta_L)$.

When $d=1$, $\Delta_{KL} = \Delta_K^n \Delta_L^m$.

Pf: See text.

If time remains, discuss 2.3 = $(1+\sqrt{-5})(1-\sqrt{-5})$
as lead in to Friday's class.