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EQUIVARIANT BRAUERGROUPS IN ALGEBRAIC NUMBER THEORY (*)

by

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1. - The Equivariant Brauergroup

This section contains the bare minimum of general theory required in the sequel. We shall avoid going into the categorical generalities which underlie a systematic treatment. (See however our paper in the Proceedings of the Hull conference on K-theory (Springer Notes 108) for the notion of a group graded category \mathcal{C} . Those familiar with this paper will realize that what we are considering here are examples of categories $\text{Rep}(\mathcal{C})$.

We give ourselves a pair (R, Γ) , where Γ is a 2-graded group whose underlying group we shall denote by Γ_+ with grading map $\omega : \Gamma_+ \rightarrow \pm 1$ (units of \mathbb{Z}) and where R is a commutative ring (always with 1) and a Γ_+ -module, Γ_+ acting by ring automorphisms. We shall be interested specifically in two particular cases, namely (a) direct action when $\omega = \varepsilon : \Gamma_+ \rightarrow 1$ is the null map, i.e., " $\Gamma = \Gamma_+$ ", and (b) involution when $\omega : \Gamma \cong \pm 1$ is an isomorphism.

Let M, N be R -modules. An additive map $f : M \rightarrow N$ is said to have grade $\gamma (\gamma \in \Gamma_+)$, if

$$f(r \cdot m) = \gamma_r f(m), \quad r \in R, \quad m \in M.$$

In the case of direct action an (R, Γ) -module (M, g) consists of an R -module M and a homomorphism $g : \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Z}}(M)$ so that, for all γ , g_γ is of grade γ . In the case of involution an (R, Γ) -module (M, g) consists of an R -module M and a non-singular Hermitian form h_g on M over R , with respect to the involution on R induced by the generator γ of Γ . There is of course a general definition applying to all cases, but we shall not need this here. We shall however give the general definition of an (R, Γ) -algebra (A, g) . This is an (R, Γ_+) -module, with A as R -algebra, and so that the g_γ act on the ring A by automorphisms when γ is even (i.e., $\omega(\gamma) = 1$) and by antiautomorphisms when γ is odd (i.e., $\omega(\gamma) = -1$). Thus in case (b) A is just an R -algebra with involutory antiautomorphism compatible with the involution on R .

(*) This is a version of the talk given by Fröhlich at the Bordeaux Colloquium. A detailed account of the underlying theory and its applications will be published elsewhere. No proofs will be given here.

The (R, Γ) -modules (M, g) for which M is an R -progenerator form a category $\mathcal{G}en(R, \Gamma)$ with product \otimes_R (diagonal action of Γ) and identity object given by R . The morphisms of $\mathcal{G}en(R, \Gamma)$ are to be just the isomorphisms of grade 1 (of course commuting with the Γ -action). Similarly the (R, Γ) -algebras (A, g) with A central separable, and their isomorphisms of grade 1 form a category $\mathcal{U}_Z(R, \Gamma)$ with product \otimes_R and identity object. The isomorphism classes in each of these two categories form an Abelian monoid, which we shall denote by $\text{Gen}(R, \Gamma)$, and $A_Z(R, \Gamma)$ respectively. The classes in $\mathcal{G}en(R, \Gamma)$ with underlying modules of rank one form the maximal subgroup $C(R, \Gamma)$ of $\text{Gen}(R, \Gamma)$, the equivariant class-group or Picard group. Moreover one can define in general a product preserving functor

$$\text{End} : \mathcal{G}en(R, \Gamma) \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_Z(R, \Gamma).$$

We only describe it in our two special cases. When the action is direct, then $\text{End}(M, g)$ is just $\text{End}_R(M)$ with Γ acting by conjugation, and in the case of involution then it is $\text{End}_R(M)$ with the adjoint involution of h_g . We now get a monoid map

$$\text{End} : \text{Gen}(R, \Gamma) \rightarrow A_Z(R, \Gamma),$$

whose cokernel is a group, the equivariant Brauer group $B(R, \Gamma)$. To establish the group property one has to generalize the known isomorphism

$$A \otimes_R A^{\text{op}} \cong \text{End}_R(A).$$

Finally forgetting the Γ -action one gets a map from $B(R, \Gamma)$ into the ordinary Brauer group $B(R)$, and we shall write

$$B_0(R, \Gamma) = \text{Ker}[B(R, \Gamma) \rightarrow B(R)].$$

It is this group in which we shall be interested mainly.

The cohomology groups of the graded group Γ with coefficients in $U(R)$ (group of units) and in $C(R)$ (ordinary Picard group) are defined via the obvious action of Γ_+ twisted by the grading w . Thus if $(\gamma, u) \rightarrow \gamma u$ is the originally given action of Γ_+ on R , then the twisted action of Γ on $U(R)$ used to define $H^i(\Gamma, U(R))$ is $(\gamma, u) \rightarrow (\gamma u)^{w(\gamma)}$. Thus in case (a) $H^i(\Gamma, U(R)) = H^i(\Gamma_+, U(R))$, in case (b) $H^i(\Gamma, U(R)) = H^{i+1}(\Gamma_+, U(R))$ ($i \geq 1$). Similarly for $C(R)$.

From now on assume Γ finite.

THEOREM 1. There is an exact sequence

$$(1) \quad 0 \rightarrow H^1(\Gamma, U(R)) \rightarrow C(R, \Gamma) \rightarrow H^0(\Gamma, C(R)) \rightarrow H^2(\Gamma, U(R)) \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow B_0(R, \Gamma) \rightarrow H^1(\Gamma, C(R)) \rightarrow H^3(\Gamma, U(R)) .$$

Remarks 1) This is the top row of a larger diagram involving $B(R, \Gamma)$ and other versions of the Brauer group.

2) The sequence (1) is derived from an infinite exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^1(\Gamma, U(R)) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow H^i(\Gamma, U(R)) \rightarrow H^i(\mathfrak{C}(R, \Gamma)) \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow H^{i-1}(\Gamma, C(R)) \rightarrow H^{i+1}(\Gamma, U(R)) \rightarrow \dots$$

where the $H^i(\mathfrak{C}(R, \Gamma))$ are cohomology groups of a certain complex. One gets (1) via suitable isomorphisms for the lowest terms. We shall describe one example of this (cf. (2)). The only property of the $H^i(\mathfrak{C}(R, \Gamma))$ we shall need is

THEOREM 2. The groups $H^i(\mathfrak{C}(R, \Gamma))$ are annihilated by $\text{card } \Gamma$.

This result is of interest in connection with

THEOREM 3. Every class in $B_0(R, \Gamma)$ is represented by an (R, Γ) -algebra $(\text{End}_R(M), g)$ with $\text{rank}(M) = \text{card } \Gamma$. If R is connected then the class in $B_0(R, \Gamma)$ of any (R, Γ) -algebra $(\text{End}_R(M), g)$ is annihilated by $\text{rank}(M)$.

Examples (i) - If w is null, R/R^Γ Galois with group Γ then

$$C(R^\Gamma) \cong C(R, \Gamma) \quad , \quad B(R^\Gamma) \cong B(R, \Gamma)$$

$$\text{Ker}[B(R^\Gamma) \rightarrow B(R)] \cong B_0(R, \Gamma)$$

and our sequence (1) yields one which looks like that of Chase-Harrison-Rosenberg.

(ii) - When R is a field then (1) yields an isomorphism

$$H^2(\Gamma, U(R)) \cong B_0(R, \Gamma) .$$

It is instructive to interpret this explicitly in the well known cases

(a) Γ acts directly as Galois group, (b) Γ acts trivially on R with direct action, (c) $\Gamma \cong \pm 1$ with non-trivial involution, (d) $\Gamma \cong \pm 1$ with trivial involution.

2. - Algebraic integers with involution

To begin with R can still be an arbitrary commutative ring, $\omega : \Gamma \cong \pm 1$, and γ denotes the generator of Γ .

Consider pairs (P, f) , P a rank 1 projective, f an automorphism of P of grade γ with $f^2 = 1$. If Q is any rank 1-projective and ${}^\gamma Q$ its image under some bijection $q \mapsto {}^\gamma q$ of grade γ then for $P = {}^\gamma Q \otimes_R Q$ we may take $f({}^\gamma q_1 \otimes q_2) = {}^\gamma q_2 \otimes q_1$. Call this a trivial pair. The isomorphism classes of pairs (P, f) modulo those of trivial pairs form an Abelian group under \otimes_R and this is $H^2(\mathbb{C}(R, \Gamma))$ in our simple case. The general construction is really quite analogous. (There is also a special feature of the quadratic case tying up equivariant classgroups and Brauer groups for opposite gradings).

Next we describe the isomorphism

$$(2) \quad \psi : H^2(\mathbb{C}(R, \Gamma)) \cong B_0(R, \Gamma).$$

Let a pair (P, f) , as above, be given. The associated Brauer class is then that of the pair $(\text{End}_R(M), i_h)$ where (i) M is an R -progenerator, (ii) $h : M \times M \rightarrow P$ is a non-singular pairing which is R -linear in the first argument and so that $h(m_2, m_1) = fh(m_1, m_2)$ (in other words h is a "non-singular Hermitian form over (P, f) ") (iii) i_h is the adjoint involution of h in $\text{End}_R(M)$ (this exists!). Note that by Theorems 2 and 3 we could manage with an M of rank 2 and, except for the trivial class, not with M of rank 1. In fact we can choose

$$(3) \quad M = R \oplus P, \quad h((r_1, p_1), (r_2, p_2)) = r_1 \cdot f p_2 + {}^\gamma r_2 \cdot p_1.$$

Viewing ψ as an identification the relevant maps of (1) have now an obvious description. Namely $B_0(R, \Gamma) \rightarrow H^1(\Gamma, \mathbb{C}(R)) = \hat{H}^0(\Gamma_+, \mathbb{C}(R))$ (Tate cohomology) takes $\text{cl}(P, f)$ into $\text{cl}(P)$. On the other hand let $u \in U(R)$, ${}^\gamma u \cdot u = 1$. Then under $H^1(\Gamma_+, U(R)) = H^2(\Gamma, U(R)) \rightarrow B_0(R, \Gamma)$ the class of u goes into the class of (R, f_u) , $f_u(r) = u \cdot {}^\gamma r$. The module M in (3) is now free, $\text{End}_R(M)$ is the 2×2 matrix ring over R and

$$i_u \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} {}^\gamma a_{22} & {}^\gamma a_{12} \cdot {}^\gamma u \\ {}^\gamma a_{21} \cdot u & {}^\gamma a_{11} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Every full matrix ring over R with involution is Brauer equivalent to one of this type and criteria for equivalence can be derived from (1).

From now let R be the ring of integers in a finite algebraic number field L . If first the involution on R is trivial then (1) reduces to

$$(4) \quad \begin{cases} C(R, \Gamma) \cong (U(R)/U(R)^2) \times C(R)_2 \\ B_O(R, \Gamma) \cong \{\pm 1\} \times (C(R)/C(R)^2) \end{cases},$$

where the subscript 2 denotes the kernel of multiplication by 2. If the involution is non-trivial then (2) yields

$$(5) \quad B_O(R, \Gamma) \cong \text{Cok} [\hat{H}^0(\Gamma_+, L^*) \rightarrow \hat{H}^0(\Gamma_+, I(R))] ,$$

where $L^* = U(L)$, $I(R)$ = group of fractional ideals. Hence $B_O(R, \Gamma)$ is an elementary 2-group and

$$(6) \quad \begin{cases} \text{card } B_O(R, \Gamma) = \sup (2, 2^d) \\ d = \text{number of ramified prime ideals in } R/R^\Gamma. \end{cases}$$

3. - Algebraic integers with direct action of a Galoisgroup

L is again a finite algebraic number field with subfield K , $\Gamma = \text{Gal}(L/K)$, with null grading $w = \epsilon$, R = integers in L , T = integers in K . The subscript p denotes completion at p , with respect to a prime p in the base field K . Thus if p is finite then $R_p = \prod R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ (all \mathfrak{p} in L above p). One knows that $B(R_p) = 0$ whence $B(R_p, \Gamma) = B_O(R_p, \Gamma)$. Also $B(R) \rightarrow B(L)$ is injective, and we may identify $B(R)$ with the group of those Brauer classes over L which split at all finite primes. Moreover, as by (1) $H^2(\Gamma, U(R_p)) = B_O(R_p, \Gamma)$, these groups vanish at all non-ramified prime ideals. Beyond this one has

THEOREM 4. The sequences

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow \text{Ker} [B(T) \rightarrow B(R)] &\rightarrow B_O(R, \Gamma) \rightarrow \prod_{p \text{ finite}} B_O(R_p, \Gamma) \\ 0 \rightarrow B(T) &\rightarrow B(R, \Gamma) \rightarrow \prod_{p \text{ infinite}} B_O(R_p, \Gamma) \end{aligned}$$

are exact and

$$B_O(R, \Gamma) \rightarrow B_O(L, \Gamma), \quad B(R, \Gamma) \rightarrow B(L, \Gamma)$$

are injective.

Let J_L be the idele group of L and

$$U_L = \prod_{p \text{ finite}} U(R_p) \times \prod_{p \text{ finite}} U(L_p).$$

Then we have

THEOREM 5. In the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & B_0(R, \Gamma) & \rightarrow & H^2(\Gamma, U_L) & \xrightarrow{\text{inv}} & H^2(\Gamma, J_L/L^*) \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \rightarrow & H^2(\Gamma, L^*) & \rightarrow & H^2(\Gamma, J_L) & \xrightarrow{\text{inv}} & H^2(\Gamma, J_L/E^*) \end{array}$$

the first row is exact (and so is of course by classfield theory the second row).

Let for the moment $B_0(L/K)$ denote the subgroup of $B(K)$ of Brauer classes which split in L , as well as at all finite, non-ramified p and which have at all finite ramified primes cocycles in the group of units. From the last theorem we have an isomorphism

$$(7) \quad \theta : B_0(L/K) \cong B_0(R, \Gamma).$$

We shall describe θ explicitly.

Let A be a central simple K -algebra whose class lies in $B_0(L/K)$. Then $A \otimes_K L \cong \text{End}_L(V)$, V an L -vector space. The Γ -structure, given by the action on L , is reflected in a Γ -structure on $\text{End}_L(V)$ given by conjugation with automorphisms f_γ of grade γ on V , so that $f_\gamma f_\delta \equiv f_{\gamma\delta} \pmod{L^*}$. One can then construct an R -lattice M spanning V and fractional R -ideals α_γ so that $f_\gamma M = \alpha_\gamma M$. This yields an R -algebra $\text{End}_R(M) \subset \text{End}_L(V)$ stable under the f_γ . Its class is the required image in $B_0(R, \Gamma)$. Moreover the ideal classes $\text{cl}(\alpha_\gamma)$ define its image under $B_0(R, \Gamma) \rightarrow H^1(\Gamma, C(R))$.

We shall finally compute the order of $B_0(R, \Gamma)$. Let \mathfrak{p} be a finite prime in L , $L_{\mathfrak{p}}$ the completion, $U_{\mathfrak{p}}$ the group of units of $R_{\mathfrak{p}}$ and consider the exact valuation sequence

$$0 \rightarrow U_{\mathfrak{p}} \rightarrow L_{\mathfrak{p}}^* \xrightarrow{\gamma \mapsto \gamma} Z \rightarrow 0.$$

If $e_{\mathfrak{p}} = e_p$ is the ramification index over K_p ($\mathfrak{p}|p$) then $v_{\mathfrak{p}}|_{K_p} = e_{\mathfrak{p}} v_p$. It follows that effectively $H^2(\text{Gal}(L_{\mathfrak{p}}/K_p), L_{\mathfrak{p}}^*) \rightarrow H^2(\text{Gal}(L_{\mathfrak{p}}/K_p), Z)$ is multiplication by $e_{\mathfrak{p}}$ and hence that $H^2(\text{Gal}(L_{\mathfrak{p}}/K_p), U_{\mathfrak{p}})$ is cyclic of order $e_{\mathfrak{p}}$. Going over to the global field and taking into account the infinite primes we conclude that $H^2(\Gamma, U_L)$ is the direct product of cyclic groups of order e_p , p running through all primes of K , with the obvious meaning of e_p for infinite p . On the other hand the image of inv from $H^2(\Gamma, U_L)$ clearly has order the least common multiple of the e_p . Hence finally

$$(8) \quad \text{card } B_0(R, \Gamma) = \frac{\prod_p e_p}{\text{LCMe}_p}.$$

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