Coding Theory Seminar, spring 1996

Element  $\overline{\zeta}$  clearly generates the multiplicative group of the corresponding extension field  $\mathbb{F}_{p^m}$ . Then we can choose T to be the set of representatives modulo  $pGR(p<sup>e</sup>, m)$ , and get for each element  $b \in GR(p<sup>e</sup>, m)$  unique representation

$$
b = t_0 + pt_1 + p^2t_2 + \ldots + p^{e-1}t_{e-1},
$$

Where each  $t_i \in \mathcal{T}$ . Again, the least index where  $t_i \neq 0$  is the order of b with respect to exponent valuation. We see now that the multiplicative stucture of the residue class field  $\mathbb{F}_{2^m}$  can be embedded in the Galois ring  $GR(p^e, m)$  by  $0 \mapsto 0$ ,  $\overline{\zeta}^i \mapsto \zeta^i.$ 

As seen in former chapter, the automorphism group of  $GR(p<sup>e</sup>, m)$  is generated by  $\sigma$  which is defined by

$$
\sigma(\zeta) = \zeta^p,
$$

and extending this in the only possible way:

$$
\sigma(b) = t_0^p + pt_1^p + p^2 t_2^p + \ldots + p^{e-1} t_{e-1}^p,
$$

where *b* is as above.

The case  $p = 2$ ,  $e = 2$  is important in the applications. The bottom ring is then  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} := \mathbb{Z}_4$ . Extension of degree m is obtained as explained above: find a primitive irreducible polynomial  $\overline{h}$  over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ . This polynomial is a factor of  $X^{2^m-1}-1$ (in  $\mathbb{F}_2[X]$ ), and it can be lifted to be a factor of  $X^{2^m-1}-1$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_4[X]$  by Hensel's lemma. A more useful algorithm for finding the lift over  $\mathbb{Z}_4[X]$  is given by Graeffe's method [Uspensky: Theory of equations]. The method is as follows:

Let  $h_2(X) = e(X) - d(X)$ , where  $e(X)$  contains only even powers and  $d(X)$  only odd powers of X. The basic irreducible lift of  $\overline{h}$  is then obtained by

$$
h(X^2) = \pm (e^2(X) - d^2(X)).
$$

The root of h is then adjoined to  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  to obtain  $GR(4, m)$ . This root,  $\zeta$ , is a primitive *n*:th root of unity over  $\mathbb{Z}_4$ , where  $n = 2^m - 1$ . Each element in  $GR(4, m)$  can then be represented in the form

$$
b = b_0 + b_1 \zeta + b_2 \zeta^2 + \ldots + b_{m-1} \zeta^{m-1},
$$

or in the form

$$
b = t_0 + 2t_1,
$$

where  $t_0, t_1 \in \mathcal{T}$ . The former representation corresponds to the additive representation in field extensions and the latter to the multiplicative representation. The latter one is of special interest: the generator of the automorphism group is obtained by

$$
\sigma(t_0 + 2t_1) = t_0^2 + 2t_1^2,
$$

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as shown in the lifting theorem (II.5.2). Furthermore, the natural projection is given by

$$
\pi(t_0+2t_1)=\overline{t}_0.
$$

The multiplicative representation also reveals an interesting connection to a general ring theoretic construction: Let mapping  $f:GR(4, m) \to \mathbb{F}_{2^m} \times \mathbb{F}_{2^m}$  be defined by

$$
f(t_0 + 2t_1) = (\overline{t}_0, (\overline{t}_1)^2)
$$

It is clear that f is bijective mapping, since  $\alpha \mapsto \alpha^2$  is a permutation of the field  $\mathbb{F}_{2^m}$ . We will now define a ring addition and multiplication on the set  $\mathbb{F}_{2^m} \times \mathbb{F}_{2^m}$ with help of  $f$ :

$$
(\alpha_1, \beta_1) + (\alpha_2, \beta_2) = f(f^{-1}(\alpha_1, \beta_1) + f^{-1}(\alpha_2, \beta_2))
$$
  

$$
(\alpha_2, \beta_1) \cdot (\alpha_2, \beta_2) = f(f^{-1}(\alpha_1, \beta_1) \cdot (\alpha_2, \beta_2)).
$$

It is straightforward to verify that these operations become

$$
(\alpha_1, \beta_1) + (\alpha_2, \beta_2) = (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2, \beta_1 + \beta_2 + \alpha_1 \alpha_2)
$$
  

$$
(\alpha_1, \beta_1) \cdot (\alpha_2, \beta_2) = (\alpha_1 \alpha_2, \alpha_1^2 \beta_2 + \alpha_2^2 \beta_1).
$$

Ring  $\mathbb{F}_{2^m} \times \mathbb{F}_{2^m}$  equipped with operations defined above is called the ring of Witt vectors of length 2 over  $\mathbb{F}_{2^m}$ . Witt vectors can be defined over arbitrary ring and of arbitrary length [Nathan Jacobson: Basic Algebra II], but the arithmetics becomes very complicated when the length or the characterisric increases. In short lengths the approach by using Witt vectors is very useful.

Let us investigate a little bit how the general structure of local ring is reflected to the multiplicative representation. It is clear that the elements of form  $2t_1$  are exactly all nilpotents. Moreover, all elemets  $\zeta^i$  are clearly units. Since a sum of a unit and a nilpotent is a nilpotent, we see that all the elements of form  $\zeta^i + 2t_1$ are units. There are  $n \cdot (n + 1) = (2<sup>m</sup> - 1) \cdot 2<sup>m</sup>$  such elements, and because  $|GR(4, m)^*| = |GR(4, m)| - |2GR(4, m)| = 4^m - 2^m = 2^m(2^m - 1)$ , we see that these elements are all units. We have obtained:

**Theorem II.6.1.** The unit group of  $GR(4, m)$  is of form  $\mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{H}$ , where  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{T} \setminus 0$ and  $\mathcal{H} = 1 + 2\mathcal{E}$ .

Proof. The existence and the uniqueness of the representation of a unit in form  $u = \zeta^{i}(1+2t)$  follows directly from the multiplicative representation.  $\square$ 

Note that  $(\mathcal{H}, \cdot)$  is isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{F}_{2^m}, +)$ , isomorphism  $\mathbb{F}_{2^m} \to \mathcal{H}$  given by  $0 \mapsto 1$ and  $\overline{\zeta}^i \mapsto 1 + 2\zeta^i$ .

Next we will study a closely related topic, namely the rings of  $p$ -adic integers.

## III. p-adic theory briefly

## III.1. On the foundations.

The multiplicative group of rational numbers  $\mathbb{Q}$  is known to be direct product of group  $\{-1, 1\}$  and of a free abelian group generated by prime numbers  $\mathbb{P}$ . That is, each  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$  has unique representation of form

$$
r=\pm \prod_{p_i\in \mathbb{P}} p_i^{a_i},
$$

Where  $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $p_i$  runs over all primes and only a finite number of exponents  $a_i$  are nonzero.

Now we fix a prime number p. If r is any rational number, the exponent  $a_i$ of p in the representation above is said to be the p-order of r, let us denote this exponent ord<sub>p</sub> $(r)$ . Mapping  $\mathbb{Q} \to \mathbb{Z} : r \to \text{ord}_p(r)$  is called *(exponent) valuation* of Q. We shall also pick a symbol  $\infty$  that is not in Z and agree that  $a < \infty$  for all  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  and that  $\text{ord}_p(0) = \infty$ .

DEFINITION. If  $\text{ord}_p(r) \geq 0$ , then r is said to be rational p-adic integer.

EXAMPLE. Let  $r = \frac{50}{7} = 2^1 \cdot 3^0 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^{-1} \cdot 11^0 \cdot 13^0 \cdot \ldots$  ord $_2(r) = 1$ , ord $_3(r) = 0$ ,  $\text{ord}_5(r) = 2$ ,  $\text{ord}_7(r) = -1$ , and  $\text{ord}_p(r) = 0$  for  $p > 7$ . r is not a 7-adic integer, but is a *p*-adic integer for all  $p \neq 7$ .

By using p-order we can define a *p-adic valuation* of  $\mathbb{Q}$ : Choose a fixed real number  $0 < \rho < 1$  and define  $|r|_p = \rho^{\text{ord}_p(r)}$ . We agree on that  $\rho^{\infty} = 0$ . It is easily verified that this is really a valuation, i.e.  $|\cdot|_p$  satisfies the following conditions:

(V1)  $|r|_p \geq 0$  and  $|r| = 0$  if and only of  $r = 0$ .

$$
(V2) |r_1r_2|_p = |r_1|_p |r_2|_p.
$$

(V3)  $|r_1 + r_2|_p \leq |r_1|_p + |r_2|_p.$ 

The absolute value defines also a valuation, and in the thery of p-adic numbers the absolute value of a rational number r is often denoted by  $|r|_{\infty}$ . The p-adic valuation satisfies a condition even stronger than (V3), namely

 $(V3') |r_1 + r_2| \leq \max\{|r_1|_p, |r_2|_p\}.$ 

A valuation satifying (V3') is called non-Archimedian valuation. The field Q becomes a metric space, when we define  $d_p(x, y) = |x - y|_p$ . This p-adic metric is even an *ultrametric*, that is,  $d_p(x, z) \leq \max\{d_p(x, y), d_p(y, z)\}\$ for all x, y and z. From the theory of metric spaces we know that for each metric space V there is a *completion* of  $V$ , i.e. a metric space where  $V$  can isometrically embedded and which is complete in the sense that each Cauchy-sequence converges in that space. Furthermore, V is dense in then completion. In the case of  $\mathbb Q$  equipped with p-adic metric the completion is called the *field of p-adic numbers* and denoted by  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ . The valuation can also be extended to the completion with range unchanged, in fact, for a chosen  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}$  there exists a sequence  $a_1, a_2, \ldots$  in  $\mathbb{Q}$  converging to  $\alpha$ , and we can define

$$
|\alpha|_p = \lim_{i \to \infty} |a_i|_p
$$

It can easily be shown that there exists an index N such that  $|a_i|_p = |\alpha|_p$  for  $i \ge N$ . It is an easy exercise to show by using the properties of ultrametric that a sequence

$$
S_n = \sum_{i=0}^n c_i
$$

converges if and only if  $|c_i|_p$  tends to zero as i tends to infinity. In the sequence

$$
S_n = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i p^i
$$

where  $0 \le a_i \le p-1$  the value of a general term is  $|a_i p^i|_p$  is either 0 or  $\rho^i \xrightarrow{i \to \infty} 0$ , and therefore the sequence converges. Next we classify the p-adic numbers with respect to the value.

DEFINITION. A *p*-adic number  $a$  is said to be

- 1) a *p*-*adic integer*, if  $\text{ord}_p(a) \geq 0$ , and
- 2) a *p*-*adic unit*, if  $\text{ord}_p(a) = 0$ .

The set of p-adic integers will unconventionally be denoted by  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}$ , and the set of p-adic units by  $\mathbb{U}_{p^{\infty}}$ . Furthermore, we will denote

$$
\mathbb{M}_{p^{\infty}} = \{ a \in \mathbb{Q}_p \mid \text{ord}_p(a) > 0 \}.
$$

It is easy to see that  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}$  forms a subring of Q, and that Q is the field of fractions of  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}$ . Moreover,  $\mathbb{U}_{p^{\infty}}$  is the unit group of  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}$ . It is also easy to see that  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}$  is a local ring with maximal ideal  $\mathbb{M}_{p^{\infty}}$ . A similar argumentation as in lemma II.4.3 gives us the structure of the ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}$ ; all of them are given by

$$
0\subset\ldots\subset p^3\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}\subset p^2\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}\subset p\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}=\mathbb{M}_{p^{\infty}}\subset \mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}.
$$

## III.2. Representing the p-adic numbers.

Let  $\text{ord}_p(a) = n$ . Then  $\text{ord}_p(\frac{a}{p^n}) = n - n = 0$ , so  $\frac{a}{p^n}$  is a p-adic unit, let us denoite  $u = \frac{a}{p^n}$ . Therefore each nonzero *p*-adic number can be written as  $a = up^n$ , where u is a unit and  $n = \text{ord}_p(a)$ . Furthermore, the exponent of p is unique; this can be verified by counting orders in both sides of  $up^n = vp^m$ , and since all elements here are in field, we can cancel  $p^n$  in  $up^n = vp^n$  to obtain

**Proposition III.1.1.** Each nonzero p-adic number  $\alpha$  can be represented uniquely in the form  $\alpha = up^n$ , where u is a unit and  $n = \text{ord}_p(\alpha)$ .

The quotient field  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{F}_p$ , and the set of representatives modulo p can be chosen to be

$$
T = \{0, 1, 2, \ldots, p - 1\}.
$$

It can (easily) be shown, that also  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}/p\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}} \cong \mathbb{F}_{p}$ , and the set above is suitable to represent the cosets modulo  $p\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}$ . So for each p-adic integer  $\alpha$  there exists a representation  $\alpha = u_0 + p\alpha_1$ , where  $u_0 \in T$ . Applying the same procedure to  $\alpha_1$ and so on we obtain a representation for a  $p$ -adic number by a convergent series

$$
\alpha = u_0 + u_1 p + u_2 p^2 + u_3 p^3 \dots,
$$

 $u_i \in T$ . In general, any p-adic number can be represented as a convergent series like above, but also negative powers of  $p$  can be included;

$$
\alpha = u_{-n}p^{-n} + u_{-n+1}p^{-n+1} + \ldots + u_{-1}p^{-1} + a_0 + a_1p + a_2p^2 + \ldots,
$$

 $u_i \in T$ ,  $u_{-n} \neq 0$ . It is also obvious that  $\text{ord}_p(\alpha) = -n$  above.

## III.3. Some further connections.

The value group of a p-adic number field  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  is the additive group of all possible orders of nonzero elements in  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  and (exponent) valuation is a group morphism from  $\mathbb{Q}_p^*$  onto the value group. We have seen that in  $\text{ord}_p(p^n) = n$ , so we see that the value group of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  is  $\mathbb{Z}$ . The additive group of integers is always a subgroup of the value group of any extension of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ . Let us suppose that  $\mathbb{F}/\mathbb{Q}_p$  is a finite field extension. It can be shown that the p-adic valuation can be uniquely extended to **F.** Suppose that the value groups of **F** and  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  are G and Z respectively. In the extension field F the consepts of integer ring and the unit group of the integer ring can be defined exactly in the same fashion as in  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ :

$$
\mathbb{Z}_{\mathbb{F}} = \{ \alpha \in \mathbb{F} \mid \text{ord}_p(\alpha) \ge 0 \}
$$

$$
\mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{F}} = \{ \alpha \in \mathbb{F} \mid \text{ord}_p(\alpha) = 0 \}
$$

The index  $e = [G : \mathbb{Z}]$  is said to be the *ramification index* of the extension. The extension  $\mathbb{F}/\mathbb{Q}_p$  is *ramified*, if  $e > 1$  and *unramified*, if  $e = 1$ . As in the theory of Galois rings, the maximal ideal of the integer ring of  $\mathbb F$  is generated by p. Moreover, when the extension is unramified, the residue class field exntension is of the same degree than the extension of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ : Let  $n = [\mathbb{F} : \mathbb{Q}_p]$ . Then  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}/p\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}} \cong \mathbb{F}_p$ , and  $\mathbb{Z}_{\mathbb{F}}/p\mathbb{Z}_{\mathbb{F}} \cong \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$ . In general case the connection is given by  $n = ef$ , where e is the ramification index and f is degree of the residue class field extension.

It can be shown that each p-adic number field has an unramified extension of arbitrary degree  $m$ , and that this extension is unique up to isomorphism. Furthermore, this extension is obtained by adjoining the *n*:th root of unity, where  $n = p^m - 1.$ 

Another formulation of Hensel's lemma holds in  $p$ -adic number fields. Here we denote the projection  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}} \to \mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}/p\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}} \cong \mathbb{F}_p$  by  $\pi$  as usual.