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 \mathcal{T} to be the set of representatives modulo $pGR(p^e, m)$, and get for each element $b \in GR(p^e, m)$ unique representation

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

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 $GR(p^e, m)$ is generated by σ 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, ζ , 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

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

Typeset by $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{M}} \mathcal{S}\text{-}T_{\!E} X$

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 ζ^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 $n \cdot (n+1) = (2^m - 1) \cdot 2^m$ 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. \Box

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 $\operatorname{ord}_p(r)$. Mapping $\mathbb{Q} \to \mathbb{Z} : r \to \operatorname{ord}_p(r)$ is called *(exponent) valuation* of \mathbb{Q} . We shall also pick a symbol ∞ that is not in \mathbb{Z} and agree that $a < \infty$ for all $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ and that $\operatorname{ord}_p(0) = \infty$.

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

EXAMPLE. Let $r = \frac{50}{7} = 2^1 \cdot 3^0 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^{-1} \cdot 11^0 \cdot 13^0 \cdot \ldots$ ord₂(r) = 1, ord₃(r) = 0, ord₅(r) = 2, ord₇(r) = -1, and 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 $|r|_p = \rho^{\operatorname{ord}_p(r)}$. 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) $|r|_p \ge 0$ and |r| = 0 if and only of r = 0.

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

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

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') $|r_1 + r_2| \le \max\{|r_1|_p, |r_2|_p\}.$

A valuation satifying (V3') is called *non-Archimedian* valuation. The field \mathbb{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 α , and we can define

$$\left|\alpha\right|_{p} = \lim_{i \to \infty} \left|a_{i}\right|_{p}$$

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 $\operatorname{ord}_p(a) \ge 0$, and
- 2) a *p*-adic unit, if $\operatorname{ord}_p(a) = 0$.

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

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

It is easy to see that $\mathbb{Z}_{p^{\infty}}$ forms a subring of \mathbb{Q} , and that \mathbb{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 $\operatorname{ord}_p(a) = n$. Then $\operatorname{ord}_p(\frac{a}{p^n}) = n - n = 0$, 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 $n = \operatorname{ord}_p(a)$. 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 α can be represented uniquely in the form $\alpha = up^n$, where u is a unit and $n = \operatorname{ord}_p(\alpha)$.

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

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

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 α there exists a

representation $\alpha = u_0 + p\alpha_1$, where $u_0 \in T$. Applying the same procedure to α_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 $\operatorname{ord}_p(\alpha) = -n$ 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 $\operatorname{ord}_p(p^n) = n$, 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 \mathbb{F} . Suppose that the value groups of \mathbb{F} and \mathbb{Q}_p are G and \mathbb{Z} respectively. In the extension field \mathbb{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 :

$$\mathbb{Z}_{\mathbb{F}} = \{ \alpha \in \mathbb{F} \mid \operatorname{ord}_{p}(\alpha) \ge 0 \}$$
$$\mathbb{U}_{\mathbb{F}} = \{ \alpha \in \mathbb{F} \mid \operatorname{ord}_{p}(\alpha) = 0 \}$$

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 exitension 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 π as usual.