

29. A Generalization of Gauss' Theorem on the Genera of Quadratic Forms^{*)}

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Let T be a torus defined over \mathbf{Q} . As is well known, one can associate with T the class number h_T independently of matrix representation of T . (See [2] p. 119 footnote and p. 120 line 17. As for basic facts on tori, see [2], [3].) When $T = R_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(G_m)$, the multiplicative group K^\times of an algebraic number field K viewed as an algebraic group over \mathbf{Q} , h_T coincides with the ordinary class number h_K of the field K . Consider a short exact sequence of tori over \mathbf{Q} :

$$0 \longrightarrow T' \longrightarrow T \longrightarrow T'' \longrightarrow 0.$$

It is natural to think of the alternating product

$$\frac{h_T}{h_{T'} h_{T''}}.$$

In his thesis Shyr considered this problem, obtained a general formula using [2], [3] and noticed, among others, that the formula is nothing but the formula of Gauss

$$(G) \quad h_K^+ = h_K^* 2^{t-1}$$

when applied to $T = R_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(G_m)$, $T'' = G_m$ and T' = the kernel of the norm map $N: T \rightarrow T''$, where K/\mathbf{Q} = a quadratic extension, h_K^+ = the class number of K in the narrow sense, h_K^* = the number of classes in a genus and t = the number of rational primes ramified in K/\mathbf{Q} . (See [4] and [5].)

In this note, we shall report formulas of the same type as (G) for any cyclic Kummer extension K/k and clarify the relationship between ingredients of our formula and those appearing in the classical treatment of class field theory.

So, let k be an algebraic number field of degree n_0 over \mathbf{Q} which contains a primitive n -th root of 1 ($n \geq 2$) and K/k be a cyclic extension of degree n . Consider tori $T_0 = R_{K/k}(G_m)$, $T'_0 = G_m$ over k and the exact sequence over k :

$$0 \longrightarrow T'_0 \longrightarrow T_0 \longrightarrow T''_0 \longrightarrow 0$$

where T'_0 is the kernel of the norm map $N: T_0 \rightarrow T''_0$. Applying $R_{k/\mathbf{Q}}$, we obtain the exact sequence over \mathbf{Q} :

$$0 \longrightarrow T' \longrightarrow T \longrightarrow T'' \longrightarrow 0$$

where $T = R_{k/\mathbf{Q}}(T_0) = R_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(G_m)$, $T'' = R_{k/\mathbf{Q}}(T'_0)$ and $T' = R_{k/\mathbf{Q}}(T'_0)$. We have $h_T = h_K$, $h_{T''} = h_k$. As for the Tamagawa numbers, we have $\tau(T) = \tau(T'') = 1$ and $\tau(T') = \tau_k(T'_0) = n$ since K/k is cyclic of degree n . (See [3] Corollary to

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