

60. On the Reduction of Binary Cubic Forms with Positive Discriminants. I

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In a former paper [1], we used the quadruple of integers, named *Voronoi quadruple* (abridged *V-quadruple*), to obtain an integral basis of an order of a cubic field. The same quadruple has been already used by Mathews [2] to develop a theory of reduction of binary cubic forms with negative discriminants. Davenport [3] has given a reduction theory for the case of positive discriminants using another method. In this paper we shall give a reduction theory of binary cubic forms with positive discriminants using the quadruple introduced in [1]. Our main results will be given in § 1. In a subsequent note II, applying this theory and that of Mathews' [2] to the theory of cubic fields, we shall give a method of the construction of a table of non-conjugate cubic fields with discriminants less than a given positive number in absolute value.

§ 1. A binary cubic form

$$(1) \quad f(x, y) = ax^3 + bx^2y + cxy^2 + dy^3, \quad (a, b, c, d) \in \mathbf{Z}^4$$

and another cubic form

$$(2) \quad f'(x, y) = a'x^3 + b'x^2y + c'xy^2 + d'y^3, \quad (a', b', c', d') \in \mathbf{Z}^4$$

are defined to be *equivalent* if there exists a set of integers p, q, r, s which satisfy

$$(3) \quad f'(x, y) = f(px + qy, rx + sy), \quad ps - qr = \pm 1.$$

We express the equivalence as $f \sim f'$ or $(a, b, c, d) \sim (a', b', c', d')$. In such a

case, we can write $M = \begin{pmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{pmatrix}$, $M \in GL(2, \mathbf{Z})$, and it is easily verified that

$$(a', b', c', d') = (a, b, c, d)M,$$

where

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} p^2 & 3p^2q & 3pq^2 & q^3 \\ p^2r & p(ps+2qr) & q(2ps+qr) & q^2s \\ pr^2 & r(2ps+qr) & s(ps+2qr) & qs^2 \\ r^3 & 3r^2s & 3rs^2 & s^3 \end{bmatrix} \in GL(4, \mathbf{Z}).$$

The mapping $\nu: M \rightarrow M$ gives an injective homomorphism from $GL(2, \mathbf{Z})$ to

$$GL(4, \mathbf{Z}) \text{ as } \begin{bmatrix} X^{1/3} \\ X^{1/2}Y' \\ X'Y^{1/2} \\ Y^{1/3} \end{bmatrix} = M \begin{bmatrix} X^3 \\ X^2Y \\ XY^2 \\ Y^3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ follows from } \begin{bmatrix} X' \\ Y' \end{bmatrix} = M \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \end{bmatrix}.$$

The discriminant of the form (1) is the invariant

$$D = b^2c^2 - 4ac^3 - 4b^3d + 18abcd - 27a^2d^2.$$