

ON A CHARACTERIZATION OF THE FIRST  
RAMIFICATION GROUP AS THE VERTEX  
OF THE RING OF INTEGERS

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1. Introduction.

Let  $k$  be a  $p$ -adic number field and  $\mathfrak{o}$  be the ring of all integers in  $k$ . Moreover, let  $K/k$  be a finite Galois extension with the Galois group  $G = G(K/k)$ . Then the ring  $\mathfrak{D}$  of all integers in  $K$  is an  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -module. In this paper we shall give a characterization of the first ramification group  $G_1$  of the extension  $K/k$  as the vertex of  $\mathfrak{D}$  which is defined below.

To define the vertex of  $\mathfrak{D}$ , we remember the vertex theory ([1], [2]). Let  $G$  be an arbitrary finite group and  $M$  be an  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -module, where  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$  is the group algebra of  $G$  over  $\mathfrak{o}$ . Let  $U$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $M$  is said to be  $U$ -projective if there is an  $\mathfrak{o}[U]$ -module  $N$  such that  $M$  is isomorphic to a component of the induced  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -module  $\mathfrak{o}[\mathfrak{D}] \otimes_{\mathfrak{o}[U]} N$ . If  $M$  is an indecomposable  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -module, then there exists a subgroup  $V$  of  $G$ , such that

(i)  $M$  is  $V$ -projective

and

(ii) if  $W$  is any subgroup of  $G$ , such that  $M$  is  $W$ -projective, then for some element  $g$  of  $G$

$$gVg^{-1} \subset W.$$

We call such  $V$ , that is uniquely determined up to conjugate subgroups in  $G$ , a vertex of  $M$ .

Now let  $K/k$  be the finite Galois extension with the Galois group  $G$ , and  $\mathfrak{D}$  the ring of all integers in  $K$ . Then, since  $\mathfrak{D}$  is not always indecomposable as an  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -module, we consider the decomposition of  $\mathfrak{D}$  into indecomposable  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -modules  $M_i$

$$(1) \quad \mathfrak{D} = M_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus M_i.$$

As the Krull-Schmidt theorem holds for  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -modules, the set  $\{M_1, \dots, M_l\}$  of indecomposable  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -submodules is determined uniquely, up to isomorphisms, only by  $\mathfrak{D}$ . For each  $i(1 \leq i \leq l)$  there exists a vertex  $V_i$  of  $M_i$ . By the above remark, the set  $\{V_1, \dots, V_l\}$  of vertices is also determined uniquely, up to conjugate subgroups in  $G$ , only by  $\mathfrak{D}$ . We define the vertex of  $\mathfrak{D}$  as the minimal normal subgroup  $V$  of  $G$  containing  $V_i$  for all  $i$ . Thus the vertex  $V$  of  $\mathfrak{D}$  is defined uniquely. Our aim of this paper is to prove that the vertex  $V$  of  $\mathfrak{D}$  coincides with the first ramification group  $G_1$  of the Galois extension  $K/k$ .

To achieve our aim, we use the cohomological characterization of the tamely ramified extension which H. Yokoi gave in [6]. We state this characterization as Theorem 2 in this paper.

## 2. $G$ -algebra.

In this section we summarize definitions and propositions of the representation theory from Green's paper [2] which we use in this paper. An algebra  $A$  with identity element is said to be a  $G$ -algebra if  $A$  is a left  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -module and moreover the condition

$$g(ab) = g(a)g(b)$$

is satisfied for all  $g \in G$  and all  $a, b \in A$ . For each subgroup  $U$  of  $G$  we define  $A_U$  by

$$A_U = \{a \in A \mid g(a) = a, \text{ all } g \in U\}.$$

If  $U$  and  $W$  are subgroups of  $G$  such that  $U \subset W$ , then it follows clearly that

$$A_U \supset A_W.$$

Then we define the map  $T_{U,W}: A_U \rightarrow A_W$ , by

$$T_{U,W}(a) = \sum_g g(a)$$

for all  $a \in A_U$ , where  $g$  runs over a set of representatives of distinct left cosets of  $U$  in  $W$ . As  $a \in A_U$ ,  $T_{U,W}(a)$  does not depend on the choice of representatives.  $T_{U,W}(a)$  is a element of  $A_W$ . Let  $A_{U,W}$  be the image of  $T_{U,W}$ . From [2] 4h Lemma, we have the following lemma:

LEMMA 1. *Let  $U$  and  $W$  be subgroups of  $G$ , then*

$$A_{U,G}A_{W,G} \subset \sum_{g \in G} A_{U^g \cap W, G}$$

where  $U^\theta$  is a conjugate subgroup  $gUg^{-1}$  of  $U$ .

Let  $e$  be a primitive idempotent of algebra  $A_G$ , then there exists a subgroup  $V$  of  $G$ , such that

(i)  $e \in A_{V,G}$

and

(ii) if  $U$  is any subgroup of  $G$ , such that  $e \in A_{U,G}$ , then for some element  $g$  of  $G$

$$gVg^{-1} \subset U.$$

We call such  $V$ , that is uniquely determined up to conjugate subgroups in  $G$ , a defect group of  $e$ .

Let  $M$  be a left  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -module, and let  $E(M)$  denote the  $\mathfrak{o}$ -algebra of all  $\mathfrak{o}$ -endomorphisms of  $M$ . Then we obtain the following facts from [2] 5. Examples of  $G$ -algebras Example 3). We make  $E(M)$  into a  $G$ -algebra as follows: if  $\theta \in E(M)$  and  $g \in G$ , we define  $g(\theta)$  by

(3) 
$$(g(\theta))(m) = g(\theta(g^{-1}(m)))$$

for all  $m \in M$ . Then for any subgroup  $U$  of  $G$ ,  $E(M)_U$  is the algebra of all  $\mathfrak{o}[U]$ -endomorphisms of  $M$ . Suppose that  $M$  is an indecomposable  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -module. Then the identity endomorphism  $1 \in E(M)$  is a primitive idempotent of  $E(M)_G$ . The defect group of  $1$  in the  $G$ -algebra  $E(M)$  is the vertex of the indecomposable  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -module  $M$ . If  $M$  is not indecomposable, each primitive idempotent  $e \in E(M)_G$  determines an indecomposable component  $eM$  of  $M = eM \oplus (1 - e)M$ . The defect group of  $e$  in  $E(M)$  is the same as the vertex of  $eM$ .

We apply the above results concerning  $M$  to  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -module  $\mathfrak{D}$ . We obtain the decomposition of the identity endomorphism  $1 \in E(\mathfrak{D})$  into primitive idempotents  $e_i$  of  $E(\mathfrak{D})_G$

(3) 
$$1 = e_1 + \dots + e_l$$

corresponding to the decomposition (1) of  $\mathfrak{D}$ . For each  $i(1 \leq i \leq l)$  let  $V_i$  be the defect group of  $e_i$ . Then  $V_i$  is the vertex of  $M_i = e_iM$ . Hence the set  $\{V_1, \dots, V_l\}$  is determined only by  $\mathfrak{D}$  up to conjugate subgroups in  $G$ . Then the vertex  $V$  of  $\mathfrak{D}$  defined in the introduction is also the minimal normal subgroup of  $G$  containing all defect groups  $V_i$ .

Now we prove the lemma which we shall use later.

LEMMA 2. *Let  $A$  be a  $G$ -algebra, and  $f, f_1, f_2$  idempotents of  $A_G$  such that*

$f = f_1 + f_2$ ,  $f_1 f_2 = f_2 f_1 = 0$ . If  $U$  is any subgroup such that  $f \in A_{U,G}$ , then  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  belong to  $A_{U,G}$ .

*Proof.*  $f_i$  belongs to  $A_{G,G} = A_G$  from the assumption. Since  $f_i = f_i f$ ,  $f_i$  belongs to  $A_{G,G} A_{U,G}$ . By Lemma 1, we obtain

$$f_i \in A_{G,G} A_{U,G} \subset \sum_{g \in G} A_{G^g \cap U,G} = A_{U,G}.$$

### 3. Vertex of $\mathfrak{D}$ .

We use the same notation as in the last section. For any element  $\alpha$  of  $\mathfrak{D}$  we define an element  $\bar{\alpha}$  of  $E(\mathfrak{D})$  by

$$\bar{\alpha}(\beta) = \alpha\beta$$

for all  $\beta \in \mathfrak{D}$ . This map from  $\mathfrak{D}$  into  $E(\mathfrak{D})$  is injective. We denote  $\bar{\alpha}$  simply by  $\alpha$ . Thus in the following  $\mathfrak{D} \subset E(\mathfrak{D})$ . We may think two kinds of operation of  $G$  on  $\mathfrak{D}$ . One of them is induced by considering  $G$  as the Galois group of the extension  $K/k$  and the other is defined by (2). These two kinds of operation of  $G$  on  $\mathfrak{D}$  are the same. In fact

$$\overline{g(\alpha)}(\beta) = g(\alpha)\beta = g(\alpha(g^{-1}(\beta))) = (g(\bar{\alpha}))(\beta)$$

for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathfrak{D}$ .

Let  $U$  be any subgroup of  $G$ , then  $\theta \in E(\mathfrak{D})_U$  induces an  $U$ -endomorphism  $\bar{\theta}$  of  $\mathfrak{D}_U$ . In fact for any  $\beta \in \mathfrak{D}_U$  and any  $g \in U$ , we have

$$(g(\theta))(\beta) = g(\theta(g^{-1}(\beta))) = \theta(\beta).$$

Therefore

$$g(\theta(\beta)) = \theta(\beta).$$

As  $\theta(\beta)$  is kept elementwise by the operation of  $U$ ,  $\theta(\beta)$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{D}_U$ .

We can consider the identity of  $\mathfrak{D}$  as the identity endomorphism of  $\mathfrak{D}$ . In the following we denote the identity of  $\mathfrak{D}$  and the identity endomorphism by the same notation 1. When  $G$  acts on  $\mathfrak{D}$  as the Galois group of the extension  $K/k$ ,  $\mathfrak{D}$  is a  $G$ -algebra. The map  $T_{U,G}$  defined in the introduction is the usual trace map from  $L$  to  $k$ , where  $L$  is a subfield of  $K$  corresponding to  $U$ , i.e.  $K_U$ . We denote  $tr_{U,G}$  instead of  $T_{U,G}$  in the case that  $A$  is  $\mathfrak{D}$ .

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $U$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$ . Then all  $e_i$  in the decomposition (3) lie in  $E(\mathfrak{D})_{U,G}$  if and only if the identity 1 lies in  $tr_{U,G}\mathfrak{D}_U$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $e \in (\mathfrak{D})_{U,G}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq l$ . Then there exists  $\theta_i \in E(\mathfrak{D})_U$

such that

$$e_i = \sum_{\{g\}} g(\theta_i),$$

where the  $\{g\}$  are representatives of the distinct left cosets of  $U$  in  $G$ . Put  $\theta = \theta_1 + \cdots + \theta_l$ , then we obtain

$$(4) \quad 1 = \sum_{\{g\}} g(\theta)$$

and  $\theta$  induces an endomorphism  $\bar{\theta}$  in  $E(\mathfrak{D}_U)$  as we state above. As  $\{g\}$  are all representatives, we can think that  $g$  runs over the factor group  $\bar{G} = G/U$ . We can consider the equation (4) as the equation in the  $\bar{G}$ -algebra  $E(\mathfrak{D}_U)$ . Thus we have

$$1 = \sum_{g \in \bar{G}} \bar{g}(\bar{\theta}).$$

$\mathfrak{D}_U$  is  $\bar{G}$ -weakly projective. Hence the 0-dimensional Galois cohomology group  $H^0(\mathfrak{D}_U)$  is trivial (c.f. [3]). Since  $H^0(\mathfrak{D}_U) = (\mathfrak{D}_U)\bar{G}/tr\mathfrak{D}_U$ , 1 lies in  $tr_{U,G}\mathfrak{D}_U$ .

Conversely, we suppose that 1 lies in  $tr_{U,G}\mathfrak{D}_U$ . Since  $tr_{U,G}\mathfrak{D}_U \subset E(\mathfrak{D})_{U,G}$ , 1 lies in  $E(\mathfrak{D})_{U,G}$ . Applying Lemma 2 to the case that  $f = 1$ ,  $f_1 = e_1$  and  $f_2 = e_2 + \cdots + e_l$ , we obtain that  $e_1 \in E(\mathfrak{D})_{U,G}$ . Similarly we obtain that  $e_i$  lies in  $E(\mathfrak{D})_{U,G}$  for  $2 \leq i \leq l$ .

H. Yokoi gave the following theorem:

**THEOREM 2.** (H. Yokoi [6]). *The extension  $K/k$  is tamely ramified if and only if the 0-dimensional Galois cohomology group  $H^0(\mathfrak{D})$  is trivial.*

Now we prove the main theorem of this paper.

**THEOREM 3.** *The vertex  $V$  of  $\mathfrak{D}$  is the first ramification group  $G_1$  of the extension  $K/k$ .*

*Proof.* At first we prove that  $G_1$  contains  $V$ . By Theorem 2,  $H^0(\mathfrak{D}_{G_1}) = \{0\}$ . Then 1 lies in  $tr_{G_1,G}\mathfrak{D}_{G_1}$ . By Theorem 1,  $e_i$  lies in  $E(\mathfrak{D})_{G_1,G}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq l$ . Hence  $G_1$  contains the defect group  $V_i$  of  $e_i$ . As  $G_1$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ ,  $G_1$  contains the vertex  $V$  of  $\mathfrak{D}$ .

Next we prove conversely that  $V$  contains  $G_1$ . As  $e_i$  lies in  $E(\mathfrak{D})_{V,G}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq l$ , it follows from the proof of Theorem 1 that  $H^0(\mathfrak{D}_V) = \{0\}$ . Let  $K_V$  be a subfield of  $K$  corresponding to  $V$ . Then, by Theorem 2 the extension  $K_V/k$  is tamely ramified. The ramification field  $K_{G_1}$  contains any tamely ramified subfield of  $K$  (c.f. [5]). Hence  $V$  contains  $G_1$ .

Finally we obtain the next corollary. It is the statement to express E. Noether's Theorem concerning the characterization of the tamely ramified extension ([4]) in other words.

**COROLLARY.** *The extension  $K/k$  is tamely ramified if and only if the ring  $\mathfrak{D}$  of all integers in  $K$  is  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -projective.*

*Proof.*  $\mathfrak{D}$  is  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -projective if and only if each  $M_i$  of the decomposition (1) of  $\mathfrak{D}$  is  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -projective.  $M_i$  is  $\mathfrak{o}[G]$ -projective if and only if the vertex of  $M_i$  is trivial. Moreover, the extension  $K/k$  is tamely ramified if and only if the first ramification group  $G_1$  is trivial (c.f. [5]). Since  $G_1$  is the vertex of  $\mathfrak{D}$ , the corollary is proved.

*Remark.* E. Noether's Theorem is obtained by replacing *projective* by *free* in this corollary.

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