

Die Determinante dieses Gleichungssystems in  $s_1, \dots, s_n$  ist  $D$ . Nach Voraussetzung ist  $D \not\equiv 0 \pmod p$ , also hat das System (6) eine eindeutige Lösung  $(s_1, \dots, s_n) \pmod p$ . Daraus folgt, daß das System (2) eine eindeutige Lösung  $k$  hat. Also ist der Satz in der einen Richtung gezeigt.

Sei nun umgekehrt  $h$  ein Permutationsfunktionsvektor  $\pmod{p^e}$ . Dann ist  $h$  auch einer  $\pmod p$ . Angenommen es sei  $D \equiv 0 \pmod p$  für das Argument  $(r_1, \dots, r_n)$ . Man setzt  $h_i \equiv f_i(r_1, \dots, r_n)/g_i(r_1, \dots, r_n) \pmod{p^e}$  ein in die Kongruenz

$$(7) \quad (f_1(r_1, \dots, r_n) - h_1 g_1(r_1, \dots, r_n), \dots, f_n(r_1, \dots, r_n) - h_n g_n(r_1, \dots, r_n)) \equiv (0, \dots, 0) \pmod{p^e}.$$

Nach Voraussetzung ist  $h$  ein Permutationsfunktionsvektor  $\pmod{p^e}$ , also auch einer  $\pmod{p^{e-1}}$ , d.h. (7) hat sowohl  $\pmod{p^e}$  als auch  $\pmod{p^{e-1}}$  genau eine Lösung  $(r_1, \dots, r_n)$ . Alle Lösungen von (7)  $\pmod{p^e}$  bekommt man durch das Verfahren im Hinreichend-Beweis. Dort kommt man auf das System (6). Die Determinante dieses Systems ist aber jetzt  $\equiv 0 \pmod p$ . Daraus folgt: Es gibt  $\pmod p$  mehr als eine oder überhaupt keine Lösung  $(s_1, \dots, s_n)$ . Daher ist (7) nicht eindeutig lösbar, im Widerspruch zur Voraussetzung. Also gilt  $D \not\equiv 0 \pmod p$  und Satz 2 ist vollständig bewiesen.

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IV. INSTITUT FÜR MATHEMATIK  
 Technische Hochschule, Wien

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An application of Zassenhaus' unit theorem

by

HAROLD BROWN (Ohio)

In this note we present a direct application of Zassenhaus' generalized Dirichlet unit theorem [2] to the proof of an interesting result on orders with finite unit groups. This result is useful, e.g., in the determination of normalizers of finite unimodular groups [1].

**THEOREM.** *Let  $D$  be a finite dimensional division algebra over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and let  $\mathcal{O}$  be a maximal  $\mathbb{Z}$ -order in  $D$ . Then  $U(\mathcal{O})$ , the unit group of  $\mathcal{O}$ , is finite if and only if  $D$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Q}$ , an imaginary quadratic extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ , or a positive definite quaternion algebra over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$  denote the tensor product of  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $\mathcal{O}$ . Since  $\mathcal{O}$  contains a free  $\mathbb{Q}$ -basis for  $D$ ,  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O} \cong \mathbf{R} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} D$ . We will show that if  $U(\mathcal{O})$  is finite, then  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$  is a division algebra over  $\mathbf{R}$ .

Let  $\varphi: \mathbf{R}\mathcal{O} \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}, \mathbf{R}\mathcal{O})$  be the left regular representation of  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$ , and for any  $x \in \mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$  and any  $\mathbf{R}$ -basis  $B$  for  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$ , let  $\hat{\varphi}_B(x)$  be the matrix of  $\varphi(x)$  with respect to  $B$ . For  $x \in \mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$ , let  $\|x\|$  denote the regular norm of  $x$ , i.e.  $\|x\| = \det \hat{\varphi}_B(x)$ .

Consider  $L(\mathcal{O}) = \{x \in \mathbf{R}\mathcal{O} \mid \|x\| = \pm 1\}$ .  $L(\mathcal{O})$  is clearly closed under multiplication, and for any  $x \in L(\mathcal{O})$ ,  $\|x\| = \det \hat{\varphi}_B(x) \neq 0$  implies  $x$  is not a left zero divisor in  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$ . Since  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$  is finite dimensional over  $\mathbf{R}$ , there exists  $y \in \mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$  such that  $xy = 1$ . Therefore,  $\hat{\varphi}_B(y) = \hat{\varphi}_B(x)^{-1}$  and  $\hat{\varphi}_B(y)\hat{\varphi}_B(x) = I_n$ . Since the regular representation is faithful, we have  $yx = 1$ , i.e.  $y = x^{-1}$ . Thus  $L(\mathcal{O})$  is a subgroup of the unit group of  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$ . Also,  $L(\mathcal{O})$  contains  $U(\mathcal{O})$ . For if we choose  $B$  as an integral basis for  $\mathcal{O}$ , then  $x \in U(\mathcal{O})$  implies  $\hat{\varphi}_B(x)$  and  $\hat{\varphi}_B(x^{-1}) = \hat{\varphi}_B(x)^{-1}$  are integral matrices. Thus  $\|x\| = \pm 1$ .

Let  $t = \dim_{\mathbf{R}} \mathbf{R}\mathcal{O} = \text{rank } \mathcal{O}$ , and let  $L(\mathcal{O})$  have the topology induced by the usual Euclidean topology on  $M_{t \times t}(\mathbf{R})$ .  $L(\mathcal{O})$  is a Lie group with respect to this topology<sup>(1)</sup>. By Zassenhaus' theorem  $U(\mathcal{O})$  is a discrete subspace of  $L(\mathcal{O})$  with compact factor space. Thus, if  $U(\mathcal{O})$  is finite,  $L(\mathcal{O})$  must be compact, i.e. closed and bounded.

<sup>(1)</sup> Note that we could equivalently use the topology of  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$  as a  $t$ -dimensional real manifold as  $\hat{\varphi}_B$  is a topological isomorphism.

$\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$  is a semi-simple algebra over  $\mathbf{R}$ . By Wedderburn's structure theorems,  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O} = \bigoplus_k T_i$  where each  $T_i$  is  $\mathbf{R}$ -isomorphic to some  $M_{n_i \times n_i}(B_i)$ ,  $B_i$  a finite dimensional division algebra over  $\mathbf{R}$ . Choose an  $\mathbf{R}$ -basis  $B$  for  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$  by selecting an  $\mathbf{R}$ -basis for each  $T_i$ . Then for  $x \in \mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$ , say  $x = \bigoplus_1^k x_i$ ,  $x_i \in T_i$ , we have  $x \in L(\mathcal{O})$  if and only if  $\prod_{i=1}^k \|x_i\|_i = \pm 1$  where  $\|x_i\|_i$  is the regular norm of  $x_i$  in  $T_i$ .

We claim that if  $U(\mathcal{O})$  is finite, then  $k$  must be 1. For if  $k > 1$ , say  $\dim_{\mathbf{R}} T_1 = k_1$  and  $\dim_{\mathbf{R}} T_2 = k_2$ , let  $x = 2 \oplus 2^{-k_1/k_2} \oplus 1 \oplus \dots \oplus 1$ . Then  $x$ , and thus all of its integral powers, are in  $L(\mathcal{O})$ . But  $\{x^q \mid q \in \mathbf{Z}\}$  is unbounded, which is a contradiction. Hence if  $U(\mathcal{O})$  is finite,  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O} \cong_{\mathbf{R}} M_{n \times n}(C)$  where  $C$  is a finite dimensional division algebra over  $\mathbf{R}$ . We will show that in this case  $n$  must be 1.

Let  $\psi: \mathbf{R}\mathcal{O} \rightarrow M_{n \times n}(C)$  be an  $\mathbf{R}$ -isomorphism and let  $b_1, \dots, b_s$  be an  $\mathbf{R}$ -basis for  $C$ . Then  $\{e_{ij} b_q \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq n; 1 \leq q \leq s\}$  ordered lexicographically is an ordered  $\mathbf{R}$ -basis for  $M_{n \times n}(C)$ . Here the  $e_{ij}$  denote the usual matrix units. Since  $\psi$  is a  $\mathbf{R}$ -isomorphism,  $B = \{\psi^{-1}(e_{ij} b_q)\}$  is an  $\mathbf{R}$ -basis for  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$ . Let  $\psi(x) = I_n + e_{1n}$ . Then  $\hat{\varphi}_B(x)$  is of the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Now  $\|x\| = 1$ , i.e.  $x \in L(\mathcal{O})$ , but  $\{x^q \mid q \in \mathbf{Z}\}$  is unbounded if  $n > 1$ .

Thus we have that if  $U(\mathcal{O})$  is finite,  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O}$  is a finite dimensional division algebra over  $\mathbf{R}$ . Hence, since  $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{O} \cong_{\mathbf{R}} \mathbf{R} \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}} D$ ,  $D$  must be  $\mathbf{Q}$ -isomorphic to either  $\mathbf{Q}$ , an imaginary quadratic extension of  $\mathbf{Q}$  or a positive definite quaternion algebra over  $\mathbf{Q}$ . This condition is clearly also sufficient to assure that  $U(\mathcal{O})$  is finite.

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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Solvability of a Diophantine inequality in algebraic number fields

by

S. RAGHAVAN and K. G. RAMANATHAN (Bombay)

**1. Introduction.** Let  $K$  be a totally real algebraic number field of finite degree  $h$  over the field  $\mathbf{Q}$  of rational numbers and  $\bar{K} = K \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}} \mathbf{R}$  the tensor product of  $K$  with the field  $\mathbf{R}$  of real numbers. Any element  $a$  in  $\bar{K}$  is represented as

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^{(1)} & & & 0 \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & \alpha^{(h)} \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $\alpha^{(1)}, \dots, \alpha^{(h)}$  are the 'conjugates' of  $a$ . Put

$$(1) \quad \|a\| = \max_{1 \leq k \leq h} |\alpha^{(k)}|.$$

Let  $m \geq 2$  be a rational integer and

$$(2) \quad f(x_1, \dots, x_s) = \sum_{r=1}^s a_r x_r^m$$

be a polynomial with coefficients  $a_r$  in  $\bar{K}^*$ , the group of non-singular elements of  $\bar{K}$ . We say that  $f(x_1, \dots, x_s)$  is *totally indefinite*, if, for every  $k, 1 \leq k \leq h$ ,

$$f^{(k)}(x_1, \dots, x_s) = \sum_{r=1}^s a_r^{(k)} x_r^m = 0$$

has a real solution with all  $x_1, \dots, x_s$  not equal to zero.

Let  $\mathfrak{O}$  denote the ring of integers of  $K$ . The object of this paper is to prove the following

**THEOREM.** *Let  $f(x_1, \dots, x_s)$  be a totally indefinite polynomial over  $\bar{K}^*$  given by (2). Let*

$$f \neq \lambda \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_s)$$

where  $\lambda \in \bar{K}^*$  and  $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_s)$  is a polynomial with coefficients in  $K$ . Let  $mh \geq 4$  and

$$(3) \quad s \geq \max\{2^m + 2, h2^{m-1}(m-1) + h^2 + h\}.$$