

does not coincide with  $K$ . On the other hand,  $\text{Gal}(L/K)$  is a  $F$ -submodule of  $A/A_1$ , hence, in virtue of the  $F$ -irreducibility of  $A/A_1$ , it must be isomorphic to  $A/A_1$ . In this way, the solution  $\bar{\psi}$  defines a third imbedding problem:

$$(3) \quad \begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & \mathcal{G} & & & \\ & & & \downarrow \bar{\psi} & & & \\ & & & \swarrow \psi & & & \\ \{1\} & \longrightarrow & A_1 & \longrightarrow & G & \longrightarrow & G/A_1 = F_1 & \longrightarrow & \{1\} \\ & & \downarrow & & \parallel & & \downarrow & & \\ \{1\} & \longrightarrow & A & \longrightarrow & G & \longrightarrow & F & \longrightarrow & \{1\} \end{array}$$

$F_1$  acts via the canonical epimorphism  $F_1 \rightarrow F$  on the  $F$ -module  $A_1$ . The  $F_1$ -length of the  $F_1$ -module  $A_1$  is not greater than  $(m-1)$ . Now by induction the proof is complete because for the new module  $A_1$  the field  $k(A_1, \zeta_n)$  is contained in the field  $k(A, \zeta_n)$ .

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## A new equidistribution property of norms of ideals in given classes

by

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**0. Introduction.** In [4] the author obtained the following theorem:

Let  $K$  be a finite extension of  $\mathcal{O}$ , the rational field. If  $\{\mathcal{C}_j\}_{j \in J}$  is any non-empty collection of narrow ideal classes of  $K$ , then the number of natural numbers  $\leq x$  which are norms of integral ideals in  $\bigcup_{j \in J} \mathcal{C}_j$  is asymptotically

$$(0.1) \quad D(K, J)x(\log x)^{E(K)-1} \{1 + O_{K,J}(\log x)^{-C(K,J)}\},$$

where  $D(K, J)$  and  $C(K, J)$  are positive and  $E(K)$  is the Dirichlet density of the set of rational primes admitting in  $K$  at least one prime ideal factor of residual degree unity.

Owing to the great complexity of the proof of (0.1) it was not feasible in [4] to attempt a discussion of the relations between the  $D(K, J)$ , as  $J$  varies. It is natural to expect that  $D(K, J_1)$  equals  $D(K, J_2)$  if  $J_1$  and  $J_2$  are singletons, since the weighted sums

$$(0.2) \quad \sum_{\alpha \in \mathcal{C}, N\alpha \leq x} 1$$

are well-known to be asymptotically the same for all classes  $\mathcal{C}$ . However, the unweighted sums in (0.1) are much more difficult to handle. In this paper, we shall prove the following results:

**THEOREM 1.** For singletons  $J_i$ ,  $D(K, J_1) = D(K, J_2)$ .

**THEOREM 2.** If  $K/\mathcal{O}$  is normal, then all but a proportion

$$O_K((\log \log x)^{A(K)} / (\log x)^{B(K)})$$

of the integers  $\leq x$  which are norms of integral ideals in a given class  $\mathcal{C}$  are norms of integral ideals of each class in the coset  $\mathcal{C}H$ , where  $H$  is the group of narrow classes containing fractional ideals of norm unity. (The constant  $B(K)$  is positive.)

We remark that if  $n = N\alpha = N\beta$ , where  $\alpha \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $\beta \in \mathcal{D}$ , then  $\mathcal{C}\mathcal{D}^{-1} \in H$ , so  $\mathcal{C}H = \mathcal{D}H$ , and this indicates the strength of Theorem 2. We also prove

**THEOREM 3.** *If  $K/\mathcal{Q}$  is cubic, then the conclusions of Theorem 2 are still valid.*

The proof of Theorem 3 relies on a special argument, and there is no substantial evidence for the conjecture that Theorem 3 extends to arbitrary  $K$ .

The methods of proof in this paper are for the most part different from those of [4], and were inspired to some extent by a reading of the fine dissertation of Bernays [1] on the values of binary integral quadratic forms; I am indebted to Prof. A. Schinzel for drawing my attention to this sadly neglected work.

It is of some interest to note that Theorem 1 is still valid if the narrow ideal class group is replaced by any congruence divisor class group in  $K$ ; Theorem 2 also carries over, provided that the corresponding identity class is invariant under the action of the Galois group of  $K/\mathcal{Q}$ . Minor modifications of the latter extension of Theorems 1 and 2 yield all the results of Bernays [1] and also an interesting result on genera of forms, stated in § 5.

In § 1 we obtain some general results on the ranges of norms (cf. [4]), upon which we draw at various points in the paper; § 2 is devoted to the proof of Theorem 1. In § 3 we specialize to normal extensions and obtain Theorem 2. Theorem 3 is treated in § 4 by a special device which is unlikely to be fruitful if  $[K:\mathcal{Q}] > 3$ .

**1. Properties of ranges.** In [4] we considered natural numbers  $n$  which were norms of integral ideals; for such  $n$  we defined the *range*  $R(n)$  to be the set of all narrow classes  $\mathcal{C}$  for which  $n = N\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathcal{C}$  is soluble. Here, as there, it is convenient to consider the collection  $\mathcal{A}$  of all non-empty subsets of the narrow ideal class group  $I_K$ , defining the product  $AB$  of members of  $\mathcal{A}$  to be  $\{ab; a \in A, b \in B\}$ . The fundamental property of ranges is (cf. [4], (1.2)):

**LEMMA 1.1.**  $R(mn) \supseteq R(m)R(n)$ , with equality if  $(m, n) = 1$ .

We shall occasionally need to use the following elementary result:

**LEMMA 1.2.** *Let  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ . There exists a natural number  $n_0(A)$  and a subgroup  $S = S(A)$  of  $I_K$  such that, for all  $n \geq n_0(A)$ ,  $A^n = a^n S$  for every  $a \in A$ ; in fact,  $S = \text{gp}\{a_1 a_2^{-1}; a_i \in A\}$ .*

**Proof.** Choose any  $a \in A$ . Then  $A = aB$ , where  $1 \in B$ . Consequently we have an ascending chain  $B \subseteq B^2 \subseteq B^3 \subseteq \dots$  of subsets of  $I_K$ , which must terminate, so that  $B^{n_0} = B^{1+n_0} = \dots$ . If we put  $C = B^{n_0}$ , we must have  $C = C^2$  and it is clear that  $C$  is a subgroup of  $I_K$ . For  $n \geq n_0$  we have  $A^n = a^n B^n = a^n C$  and we take  $S = C$ . If we had chosen  $a_1$  instead of  $a$ , we would have  $A^n = a_1^n S = a_1^n S_1$  for all large  $n$ . Thus  $S$  and  $S_1$  are cosets of one another and so coincide. It is now seen that  $(aa_1^{-1})^n \in S$  for all  $n$ , and the proof is complete.

In view of Lemma 1.2, it is reasonable to hope that norms sufficiently rich in prime factors of the various patterns  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  would have ranges of a "stable" type (e.g. cosets of a fixed subgroup of  $I_K$ ). The next result gives a partial confirmation of this:

**LEMMA 1.3.** *Let  $p$  be any prime. There is a subgroup  $H^p$  of  $I_K$  such that, for all large  $n$  with  $p^n$  an ideal norm,  $R(p^n)$  is a coset of  $H^p$ .*

**Proof.** We remark that the result is not immediate since in general  $R(p^n) \neq R(p)^n$ ; otherwise we could invoke Lemma 1.2 directly. Let us consider  $\mathcal{F} = \{R(p^n); 1 \in R(p^n)\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$  is a finite set partially ordered by the relation of inclusion between its elements. Hence it has at least one maximal element  $M$ . Then  $M = R(p^\mu)$ , say, and  $M \subseteq M^2 = R(p^\mu)^2 \subseteq R(p^{2\mu})$ . Thus, as  $1 \in R(p^{2\mu})$ , we must have  $M = M^2$ , and so  $M$  is a subgroup of  $I_K$ . If  $T \in \mathcal{F}$  we have  $T = R(p^\nu)$ ,  $1 \in M \subseteq MT = R(p^\mu)R(p^\nu) \subseteq R(p^{\mu+\nu})$ , and so  $MT = M$ ,  $T \subseteq M$ . Thus  $M \subseteq \bigcup_{T \in \mathcal{F}} T \subseteq M$ , i.e.,  $M$  is the unique maximal element of  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $M = \bigcup_{T \in \mathcal{F}} T$ .

We now consider  $\mathcal{S} = \{R(p^n)\} \supseteq \mathcal{F}$ . If  $N$  is any maximal element of  $\mathcal{S}$ , we have  $N = R(p^\nu)$ ,  $N \subseteq MN = R(p^\mu)R(p^\nu) \subseteq R(p^{\mu+\nu})$ , so, by the maximality of  $N$ ,  $MN = N$ . Since  $M = M^2 = M^3 = \dots$ , we have  $MN^k = N^k$  for all  $k \geq 1$ . We can choose  $k$  so that  $N^k$  contains 1 and  $N^v = n^v H$  for all  $v \geq k$ , where  $H$  is a subgroup of  $I_K$  and  $n \in N$ , using Lemma 1.2. Then  $M \subseteq MH = H$ , whence, by the maximality of  $M$  in  $\mathcal{S}$ ,  $M = H$ . Since  $1 \in N^k = H$ , we have  $N \subseteq MN = N^{k+1}$  and, as  $N$  is maximal in  $\mathcal{S}$ , we find  $N = N^{k+1}$  and, since the latter equals  $n^{k+1} H = n^{k+1} M$ , this shows that  $N$  is a coset of  $M$ ; we write  $M = H^p$ .

We observe here that the maximal cover of any  $S \in \mathcal{S}$  is always  $SH^p$ . For, if  $N$  is a maximal cover for  $S$ ,  $S \subseteq N = nH^p$ , say. Hence, if  $s \in S$ ,  $sH^p = nH^p$ , i.e.,  $SH^p = nH^p = N$ . Now let  $D = \{n \geq 1; R(p^n) \neq \emptyset\} \cup \{0\}$ ; it is the monoid generated by the residual degrees  $f_1, \dots, f_r$  of the prime ideals of  $K$  lying above  $p$ . Suppose that  $H^p = R(p^h)$ . Then for any  $d \in D$ ,  $R(p^{h+d}) \subseteq R(p^d)H^p =$  maximal cover of  $R(p^d)$ , so that  $R(p^{h+d}) = R(p^d)H^p$ . We can write  $h$  as  $\sum n_i f_i$ ; then we have shown that  $R(p^v)$  is a coset of  $H^p$  when  $v = \sum n'_i f_i$  and each  $n'_i \geq n_i$ . The set of all such  $v$  is an ideal in  $D$  and so contains all large elements of  $D$ , as required.

We note that  $H^p$  may be characterized as the set of all classes in  $I_K$  containing fractional ideals of norm unity and involving only the prime ideal factors of  $p$ . If  $H$  denotes the subgroup of  $I_K$  consisting of those classes containing fractional ideals whose norms are norms of narrow principal ideals, then  $H$  is also the group of all classes containing fractional ideals of norm unity (as in the statement of Theorem 2), and it is readily verified that  $H$  is the compositum of all the  $H^p$ , as  $p$  varies through all primes.

In  $H^p$  there is a subgroup  $W^p$  which is important in the sequel; we are concerned here only with primes  $p$  for which  $R(p) \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $W^p$  is defined as the subgroup of  $I_K$  such that  $R(p)^n$  is a coset of  $W^p$  for all large  $n$  (its existence being guaranteed by Lemma 1.2). It is necessary later to know whether  $H$  is the compositum  $W = \prod W^p$ , taken over all unramified primes which are norms. In the normal case this must be so:

LEMMA 1.4. *If  $K/Q$  is normal then  $H = W$ .*

Proof. If  $p$  is any prime then all prime ideal factors of  $p$  have the same residual degree  $f$ , by normality, and it is clear that  $R(p^{nf}) = R(p^f)^n$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . Now the Galois group  $G$  of  $K/Q$  acts transitively on the various  $p$  lying over  $p$  in  $K$ , and it also acts on  $I_K$  (not necessarily transitively). It follows that  $R(p^f)$  consists precisely of the single orbit  $\{\mathcal{C}^{\sigma}\}_{\sigma \in G}$  for some  $\mathcal{C} \in R(p^f)$ . The subgroup  $H^p$  is thus  $\text{gp}\{\mathcal{C}^{\sigma^{-1}}\}_{\sigma \in G}$ . Now there exist infinitely many prime ideals of residual degree 1 in the class  $\mathcal{C}$ , since  $\sum_{p \in \mathcal{C}} (Np)^{-1}$  diverges. Hence we can find infinitely many unramified primes  $q$  with  $\mathcal{C} \in R(q)$ . By transitivity,  $R(q) = R(p^f)$  with  $p$  as above, and then  $H^p = H^q = W^q$ , which proves the lemma. We shall show in § 4 that Lemma 1.3 also holds in any cubic field. It is not clear that it should hold for all  $K$ ; if it does, then Theorem 2 is true for arbitrary  $K$ .

**2. Analytic results.** In order to obtain Theorems 1 and 2, we consider the following well-known decomposition of the set of natural numbers: each such  $n$  is uniquely expressible in the form  $n = fm$ , where  $(m, f) = 1$ ,  $f$  is squarefree, and  $m$  is squarefull. By Lemma 1.1, we can say that every ideal norm is (uniquely) a product  $fm$ , where  $f$  is a squarefree norm involving only unramified prime factors, while  $m$  is a squarefull norm, multiplied possibly by a norm composed entirely of ramified primes, and  $(m, f) = 1$ . All our analytic results derive ultimately from

PROPOSITION 2.1. *Let  $m$  be a (squarefull norm-by-ramified norm), as above; if  $\mathcal{C}$  is any narrow ideal class in  $K$  and  $\mu$  is the Möbius function, then*

$$(2.1) \quad \sum_{\substack{\text{unram. norms } f \leq y \\ (f, m) = 1 \\ \mathcal{C} \in R(mf)}} \mu^2(f) \\ = \frac{a(R(m))}{\psi(m)} y (\log y)^{E(K)-1} + O_K(y (\log y)^{E(K)-1-\gamma} (\log \log y \log \log m)^\beta),$$

where  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  depend only on  $K$ ,  $a(R(m))$  depends only on the range of  $m$ , not on  $\mathcal{C}$ , and  $\psi(m)$  is the sum of the reciprocal of the unramified squarefree norms dividing  $m$ ; as usual,  $E(K)$  is the Dirichlet density of the set of

rational primes admitting in  $K$  at least one prime ideal factor of residual degree unity.

Proof. We remark that for  $f$  counted in (2.1)  $R(mf) = R(m)R(f)$ , so we are interested in the condition  $\mathcal{C} \in R(m)R(f)$ . Since  $\mu^2(f) = 0$  unless  $f$  is squarefree, we know that the only relevant  $f$  have  $R(f) = \prod_{p|f} R(p)$ .

If  $\mathcal{B}^*$  is the set of patterns (cf. [4]) of unramified primes with non-empty  $R(p)$ , then for each  $B \in \mathcal{B}^*$  we let  $\omega_B(f)$  be the number of primes of pattern  $B$  dividing  $f$ , and we write  $R_B$  for  $R(p)$ ,  $p \leftrightarrow B$ . Thus  $R(f) = \prod_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*} R_B^{\omega_B(f)}$ .

If each  $\omega_B(f) \geq \omega_B^0$ , say, we have  $R_B^{\omega_B(f)} = r_B^{\omega_B(f)} W^B$ , where  $W^B = W^p$  for  $p \leftrightarrow B$ , and so  $R(f) = \prod_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*} r_B^{\omega_B(f)} W$ , a coset of  $W$ . Thus, when  $f$  is sufficiently rich in prime divisors of each pattern  $B^* \in \mathcal{B}^*$ , we have

$$R(mf) = R(m) \prod_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*} r_B^{\omega_B(f)} W = \prod_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*} r_B^{\omega_B(f)} \cdot R(m)W.$$

Now  $R(m)W$  is a complete union of cosets of  $W$ ,  $R(m)W = \bigcup \varrho_j W$ , an irredundant decomposition. Consequently,

$$(2.1A) \quad R(mf) = \bigcup_j \varrho_j \prod_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*} r_B^{\omega_B(f)} W,$$

if  $f$  is "rich enough in each pattern  $B \in \mathcal{B}^*$ ". It follows that  $\mathcal{C} \in R(mf)$  if and only if  $\prod_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*} r_B^{\omega_B(f)}$  belongs to (precisely) one of the cosets  $\mathcal{C} \varrho_j^{-1} W$ , again

assuming that  $f$  is rich enough in each pattern  $B \in \mathcal{B}^*$ . Our first task now is to show that those  $f \leq y$  not rich enough in each pattern  $B \in \mathcal{B}^*$  contribute only a negligible part to (2.1). In fact, for each  $B \in \mathcal{B}^*$ , the number of integers counted in (2.1) and involving only  $< \omega_B^0$  factors of pattern  $B$  is

$$O_K(y (\log \log y)^{\beta(B)} (\log y)^{E(K)-1-\gamma(B)}),$$

where  $\beta(B) \leq \omega_B^0$  and  $\gamma(B)$  is the Dirichlet density of rational primes  $p \leftrightarrow B$ ,  $E(K)$  being the Dirichlet density of primes which are norms of prime ideals. This result follows from a weak version of a Tauberian theorem of H. Delange [3], once the existence of  $\gamma(B)$  and  $E(K)$  is established; for the latter, see [4], § 4. From the above we see that there exist positive constants  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  such that the  $f$  counted in (2.1) which are deficient in at least one pattern  $B \in \mathcal{B}^*$  contribute only

$$O_K(y (\log \log y)^\beta (\log y)^{E(K)-\gamma-1})$$

to (2.1).

To obtain Proposition 2.1, we now concentrate on those  $f$  in (2.1) rich enough in each pattern  $B \in \mathcal{B}^*$ . Then the condition for  $R(mf)$  to contain  $\mathcal{C}$  is that  $\prod_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*} r_B^{\omega_B(f)}$  belong to one of a particular family of cosets of  $W$ ,

the number of these cosets being independent of the choice of  $\mathcal{C}$ . This is because the union of all  $R_B$ ,  $B \in \mathcal{B}^*$  is  $I_K$ , since there exist infinitely many prime ideals of residual degree unity in each class of  $I_K$ . We are therefore led to the problem of counting  $\mu^2(f)$  for those unramified norms  $f$  prime to  $m$  having  $\prod r_B^{a_B} W$  equal to a given coset  $aW$ . Consider all ordered  $\mathcal{B}^*$ -tuples  $(n_B)$  of integers such that  $\prod r_B^{n_B} W = W$ . These form a lattice  $\mathcal{L}$  of maximal rank in  $\mathbf{R}^{\mathcal{B}^*}$ , and those  $(n_B)$  for which  $\prod r_B^{n_B} \in aW$  form a coset of  $\mathcal{L}$ ; there is a natural isomorphism  $\mathbf{Z}^{\mathcal{B}^*}/\mathcal{L} \cong I_K/W$ , induced by the mapping  $(n_B) \rightarrow \prod r_B^{n_B} W$ . The condition  $(n_B) \in \mathcal{L} + \mathbf{c}$  is thus expressible in terms of the group characters of  $I_K/W$ , a finite abelian group. It is now clear that the condition  $\mathcal{C} \in R(mf)$  for rich enough  $f$  is equivalent to the pair of conditions:

$$(2.2) \quad \begin{aligned} (i) \quad & \omega_B(f) \geq \omega_B^0; \\ (ii) \quad & (\omega_B(f))_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*} \in \bigcup_{j \in J} \mathbf{c}_j + \mathcal{L}. \end{aligned}$$

Let us consider for a fixed  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbf{Z}^{\mathcal{B}^*}$  the condition  $(\omega_B(f)) \in \mathcal{L} + \mathbf{c}$ , which we write as  $\omega \in \mathcal{L} + \mathbf{c}$ . Since  $\mathcal{L}$  is finitely-generated and contained in  $\mathbf{Z}^{\mathcal{B}^*}$ , the condition under consideration is equivalent to a finite system of simultaneous linear congruences modulo various integers, to be satisfied by the components of  $\omega - \mathbf{c}$ . Suppose that the system in question is

$$\sum_B a_{iB} (\omega_B(f) - c_B) \equiv 0 \pmod{k_i}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N.$$

Then the required sifting function for the  $\omega \in \mathcal{L} + \mathbf{c}$  is

$$(2.3) \quad \prod_{i=1, \dots, N} k_i^{-1} \sum_{l_i \pmod{k_i}} e \left( l_i k_i^{-1} \left( \sum_B a_{iB} (\omega_B(f) - c_B) \right) \right),$$

where  $e(x) = e^{2\pi i x}$ .

From this we are led to consider the Dirichlet series

$$(2.4) \quad \sum_{\theta} a(\theta; \mathbf{c}) \prod_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*} \prod_{p_B | m} (1 + \theta_B p_B^{-s}) \quad (\sigma = \text{Re } s > 1),$$

where  $\theta = (\theta_B)_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*}$  runs through certain vectors of roots of unity, of the various orders  $k_i$  introduced above. By choosing the  $\theta$  in an appropriate way, the series (2.4) becomes precisely  $\sum \mu^2(n) n^{-s}$  taken over all those  $n$  composed entirely of primes from the various  $B \in \mathcal{B}^*$  not dividing  $m$ , and such that  $(\omega_B(n))_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*}$  lies in  $\mathcal{L} + \mathbf{c}$ . In (2.4), the dominant contribution will be shown to arise from the term with each  $\theta_B = 1$ , and we note that  $a(1, \dots, 1)$  is the same for all choices of  $\mathbf{c}$ . More precisely, the individual products in (2.4) may be analysed using Čebotarčev's density theorem, as in [4]. We have

$$(2.5) \quad \sum_{p_B} p_B^{-s} = a(B) \log \frac{1}{s-1} + A_B(s) \quad (\sigma > 1),$$

where  $A_B(s)$  is regular and satisfies

$$(2.6) \quad |A_B(s)| = O_{K,B}(\log \log(2+t^2))$$

in a region

$$(2.7) \quad s = \sigma + it, \quad \sigma > 1 - c(K)/\log(2+t^2),$$

while  $a(B)$  is the Dirichlet density of the set of rational primes  $p_B$  of pattern  $B$ . Consequently, for  $\sigma > 1$ ,

$$(2.8) \quad \prod_{p_B} (1 + \theta_B p_B^{-s}) = H_B(s, \theta_B) \exp \left\{ a(B) \theta_B \log \frac{1}{s-1} \right\},$$

where  $H_B(s, \theta_B)$  is regular and  $O((\log 2 + t^2)^{c(K)})$  in the region (2.7). If we write  $H(s, \theta)$  for  $\prod_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*} H_B(s, \theta_B)$ , we have

$$(2.9) \quad \prod_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*} \prod_{p_B | m} (1 + \theta_B p_B^{-s}) = \frac{H(s, \theta)}{\psi(s, m, \theta)} \exp \left( \sum_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*} a(B) \theta_B \log \frac{1}{s-1} \right)$$

in the same region where  $\psi(s, m, \theta) = \prod_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*} \prod_{p_B | m} (1 + p_B^{-s} \theta_B)$ . Following [4], § 0 we find that

$$(2.10) \quad \sum_{\substack{\text{unram. norms } f \\ (f, m) = 1 \\ \omega(f) \in \mathcal{L} + \mathbf{c}}} \mu^2(f) = \frac{k}{\psi(m)} y (\log y)^{E-1} + O_K(y (\log y)^{E-1-\varrho} \log \log m),$$

where  $E = E(K)$  of Proposition 2.1,  $\varrho$  is positive,

$$(2.11) \quad \psi(m) = \prod_{B \in \mathcal{B}^*} \prod_{p_B | m} (1 + p_B^{-1}),$$

and  $k$  is the same for all  $\mathbf{c}$  and all relevant  $m$  with the same range. If we sum (2.10) over all cosets  $\mathbf{c}_j + \mathcal{L}$  occurring in (2.2), then we obtain Proposition 2.1, except that we have possibly violated (2.2) (i); however, to remove the  $f$  insufficiently rich in some pattern  $B$  will add only an error  $O_K(y (\log \log y)^B (\log y)^{E-1-\varrho})$ , by an argument already encountered, and Proposition 2.1 is proved.

We now observe that two squarefull-by-ramified norms  $m$  with the same range  $R(m)$  give the same number of cosets  $\mathbf{c}_j + \mathcal{L}$  in (2.2). Thus (2.1) gives

$$(2.12) \quad \sum_{\substack{\text{unram. norms } f \\ (f, m) = 1, f m \leq x \\ \theta \in R(f m)}} \mu^2(f) = \frac{a(R(m))}{m \psi(m)} x \left( \log \frac{x}{m} \right)^{E-1} + O_K \left( \frac{x}{m} \left( \log \frac{x}{m} \right)^{E-1-\lambda} \left( \log \log \frac{x}{m} \right)^\beta \log \log m \right),$$

where  $\lambda > 0$ , and  $a(R(m))$  depends only on  $R(m)$ , not on  $\mathcal{C}$ . The estimate (2.12) is not very efficient for  $m > x^{1-\varepsilon}$  if  $\varepsilon$  is small, but in that event the left side of (2.12) is trivially  $O(x^\varepsilon)$ .

In order to obtain Theorem 1 it remains to vary  $m$  in (2.12). We first consider a fixed range  $R = R(m)$ , and sum (2.12) over all squarefull-by-ramified norms  $m \leq x$  of range  $R$ . From the  $m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}$  we get the contribution

$$(2.13) \quad a(R) \sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* (m\psi(m))^{-1} x(\log x - \log m)^{E-1} + \\ + O_K(x(\log x)^{\varepsilon-1-\lambda}(\log \log x)^{\beta'} \sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* m^{-1}),$$

where the \* indicates that only the squarefull-by-ramified norms of range  $R$  are to be included in the summation, and  $\beta'$  is a constant. Now  $(1 - \log m / \log x)^{E-1} = 1 + \theta \log m / \log x$  if  $m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}$ , where  $\theta$  is bounded by a function of  $\varepsilon$ . Consequently, (2.13) yields

$$(2.14) \quad a(R)x(\log x)^{E-1} \sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* (m\psi(m))^{-1} + \\ + \theta^* a(R)x(\log x)^{E-2} \sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* \log m (m\psi(m))^{-1} + \\ + O_K(x(\log x)^{E-1-\lambda}(\log \log x)^{\beta'} \sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* m^{-1}),$$

where  $\theta^*$  is bounded by a function of  $\varepsilon$ . We show next that each of the infinite series

$$\sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* (m\psi(m))^{-1}, \quad \sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* \log m (m\psi(m))^{-1}, \quad \sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* m^{-1}$$

is convergent. Indeed, let  $S(n)$  be the number of relevant  $m \leq n$ ; then  $S(n)$  is trivially  $O(n^{1/2+\delta})$  for any  $\delta > 0$ . Then it suffices to show that  $\sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* \log m / m$  converges (since  $\psi(m) \geq 1$ ), and we obtain convergence from the estimate for  $S(n)$ , via summation by parts. In fact, we find

$$\sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* (m\psi(m))^{-1} = \sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* (m\psi(m))^{-1} + O(x^{(1-\varepsilon)(\delta-1/2)}), \\ \sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* \log m (m\psi(m))^{-1} = \sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* \log m (m\psi(m))^{-1} + O(\log x \cdot x^{(1-\varepsilon)(\delta-1/2)}), \\ \sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* m^{-1} = \sum_{m \leq x^{1-\varepsilon}}^* m^{-1} + O(x^{(1-\varepsilon)(\delta-1/2)}).$$

For those  $m$  with  $x^{1-\varepsilon} < m \leq x$  we use the trivial bound  $O(x^\varepsilon)$  for (2.12), with the observation that the number of  $m$  involved is at most  $O(x^{1/2+\delta})$ , so the net contribution is  $O(x^{1/2+\delta+\varepsilon})$ . We can take e.g.  $\varepsilon = 1/4$ ,  $\delta = 10^{-2}$ , and then we obtain Theorem 1 by summing over all available ranges  $R = R(m)$ , noting that in each case (2.14) and its refinements are independent of the choice of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

Finally, by comparing our results with Theorem 1 of [4], we see that the powers of  $\log \log x$  appearing in our error terms here are unduly pessimistic and may be discarded.

**3. Proof of Theorem 2.** A crucial point in the proof of Theorem 1 was the remark that only the squarefree unramified norms sufficiently rich in each pattern  $B \in \mathcal{B}^*$  matter in producing the dominant part of the asymptotic expansion. But any norm involving these and any squarefull-by-ramified norm necessarily has range containing a coset of  $W$  (in the notation of §§ 1 and 2). In the case where  $K/Q$  is normal, Lemma 1.4 gives  $W = H$ . Thus these ranges are precisely full cosets of  $H$ . If the range of a norm is not such a coset, the norm must be deficient in primes of some pattern  $B \in \mathcal{B}^*$ , and so, by the argument of § 2, it must be one of only  $O_K(x(\log \log x)^{\beta'}(\log x)^{E-\nu-1})$  norms in  $[1, x]$ . These comments suffice to prove Theorem 2.

**4. Proof of Theorem 3.** We now assume that  $K/Q$  is cubic; if it were normal, we could invoke Theorem 2. Thus we may assume that  $K = Q(\alpha)$ , where  $\alpha$  satisfies a cubic irreducible equation over  $Q$  with Galois group  $S_3$ , the symmetric group on 3 symbols, and the Galois hull  $\bar{K}/Q$  of  $K/Q$  is a sextic extension with  $\text{Gal} \bar{K}/Q \cong S_3$ . In view of the argument of § 3, it will suffice to show that  $W = H$  for the field  $K$ .

Let us consider a rational prime  $p$ . Assume first that it is ramified in  $K$ . Then either  $(p) = p^3$ ,  $Np = p$  and  $W^p = H^p = 1$ , a trivial case, or  $(p) = p^2q$ , where  $Np = Nq = p$ . If  $p$  belongs to the narrow class  $X$ , then  $q$  belongs to  $X^{-2}$ , and we readily see that  $W^p = H^p = \text{gp } X^3$ . To deal with such ramified  $p$ , it will suffice to show that there exists an unramified prime  $q$  with  $\text{gp } X^3 \subseteq W^q$ . This will emerge later.

Now consider an unramified prime  $p$ ,  $(p) = pq$ , with  $p$  of residual degree 1 and  $q$  of residual degree 2,  $p$  in class  $Y$ . Then  $W^p = 1$  and  $H^p = \text{gp } Y^3$ . We shall show that there exists a rational prime  $q$  splitting completely in  $K$  (and hence in  $\bar{K}$ ) with  $H^p \subseteq W^q$ . Consider the decomposition of  $p$  in  $\bar{K}$ . By simple counting arguments,  $(p)$  breaks into 3 unramified factors in  $\bar{K}$ , each of residual degree 2 over  $Q$ . Hence  $q$  is the  $(\bar{K}/K)$ -norm of a prime ideal of  $\bar{K}$ . We deduce that the class  $Y$  contains norms of fractional ideals of  $\bar{K}$ . There will be infinitely many prime ideals of residual degree unity over  $Q$  whose  $(\bar{K}/K)$ -norms lie in  $Y$ ; these prime ideals lie over rational primes  $q$  which split in  $\bar{K}$  (and thus in  $K$ ). Suppose such

a  $(q) = q_1 q_2 q_3$  in  $K$ , where  $q_1$  belongs to  $Y$  and  $q_2$  belongs to  $Z$ , say. (We neither know nor care which class  $Z$  is!). Then

$$H^a = W^a = \text{gp}\{YZ^{-1}, Y^3\} \supseteq H^p,$$

as required.

Finally, we return to the ramified  $p$  with  $H^p = \text{gp} X^3$ . Then, in  $\bar{K}$ , there are 3 prime ideal factors of  $(p)$ , each of residual degree 1 and ramification index 2 over  $Q$ . Thus  $p$  is the  $\bar{K}/K$ -norm of an ideal of  $\bar{K}$ , that is, the class  $X$  contains  $(\bar{K}/K)$ -norms of ideals. We can now proceed as above to find a rational prime  $q$ , completely split in  $\bar{K}$ , with  $H^q = W^q \supseteq H^p$ . We have now shown that  $H = W$  for any cubic field.

**5. Concluding remarks.** The method of § 2 can be adapted (cf. [5]) to prove the following result on the representation of integers by binary integral quadratic forms:

**THEOREM 4.** *Let  $D \equiv 0$  or  $1 \pmod{4}$  be a discriminant  $b^2 - 4ac$  of primitive binary integral quadratic forms. With "probability one" a randomly chosen positive integer prime to  $2D$ , and with specified values for the genus characters of  $D$ , will be integrally represented by every form in the appropriate genus. That is, only a proportion  $O((\log \log x)^A (\log x)^{-B})$  of the integers in question in the interval  $[1, x]$  will fail to be represented by all the forms of the genus, where  $B > 0$ .*

An approach to this result is implicit in Bernays [1], although he does not give the result an explicit formulation; the key observation is that if  $D = df^2$ , where  $d$  is a field discriminant, then one needs to consider ideal classes  $(\text{mod}^X f)$ , i.e.  $a \sim b$  if  $a = (a)b$ , where  $Na > 0$  and  $a \equiv 1 \pmod{Xf}$ , in the field  $K = Q(\sqrt{d})$ . Since the principal class  $(\text{mod}^X f)$  is invariant under the action of  $\text{Gal}(K/Q)$ , the remarks of § 0 suffice to indicate the lines of the proof, which resembles that of Theorem 2 quite closely.

We remark in closing that the restriction (in Theorem 4) to integers prime to  $2D$  may be dropped; this is achieved by replacing the ideal classes  $(\text{mod}^X f)$  by strict equivalence classes of binary quadratic forms of discriminant  $D$ , in accordance with the well-known correspondence principle, and by the use of some elementary results on the classes of forms representing a given prime. This more general result appears to have been first proved by Bredihin and Linnik [2], by another method.

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(751)