

**Zeitschrift:** L'Enseignement Mathématique  
**Herausgeber:** Commission Internationale de l'Enseignement Mathématique  
**Band:** 42 (1996)  
**Heft:** 3-4: L'ENSEIGNEMENT MATHÉMATIQUE

**Artikel:** FACTOR EQUIVALENCE RESULTS FOR INTEGERS AND UNITS  
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**Kapitel:** 3. Rings of integers  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-87884>

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(2.5) PROPOSITION. *If  $N$  and  $M$  are factor equivalent then for any  $A[G]$ -linear embedding  $j: M \hookrightarrow N$  the function  $H \mapsto [N^H : j(M^H)]_A$  is factorizable.*

*Proof.* We have  $j = \varphi i$ , where  $i$  is an embedding as in (2.4) and  $\varphi$  is a  $K[G]$ -linear automorphism of  $N \otimes_A K$ . Using [15, Ch. III, § 1, Prop. 2] and the notation of (2.3) we see that

$$[N^H : j(M^H)]_A = d_\varphi(H) \cdot [N^H : i(M^H)]_A.$$

This is a product of two factorizable functions by (2.3) and by our choice of  $i$ .  $\square$

The fact that “factor equivalence” is an equivalence relation is an easy consequence of (2.5). If  $\mathfrak{p}$  is a prime of  $K$  not dividing  $\#G$  then condition (1) of (2.4) implies that the  $\mathfrak{p}$ -part of  $[N^H : i(M)^H]_A$  is factorizable. One can prove this with [16, § 15.2] and [16, § 14.4, Lemma 21].

(2.6) REMARK. The definitions of factorizability given by Fröhlich [8; 9] and Burns [2] for abelian groups  $G$  are in agreement with our definitions. They also define the notion called  $\mathbf{Q}$ -factorizability in the abelian case, which is a stronger condition than factorizability. However, the function that one wants to be factorizable in the definition of factor equivalence automatically satisfies this stronger condition if it is factorizable. Thus,  $\mathbf{Q}$ -factor equivalence is the same as factor equivalence.

In [4, § 3] a factorizable function  $f$  with values in  $I(\mathbf{Q})$  must also satisfy an additional condition: there should be a map  $g$  from the group of complex characters  $R_{\mathbf{C}}(G)$  to  $I(E)$ , where  $E$  is some normal number field containing all character values of  $G$ , such that  $g$  is  $\text{Gal}(E/\mathbf{Q})$ -equivariant, and such that  $g(1_H^G)$  is the  $E$ -ideal generated by  $f(H)$ . It is not hard to see that this condition is satisfied by all functions that are factorizable in our sense.

### 3. RINGS OF INTEGERS

Let  $A$  be a Dedekind domain with quotient field  $K$  of characteristic zero and let  $L$  a Galois extension of  $K$  with Galois group  $G$ . The integral closure  $B$  of  $A$  in  $L$  is again a Dedekind domain. Assume that for all primes of  $L$  the residue class field extension is separable.

(3.1) THEOREM. *The  $A[G]$ -lattices  $B$  and  $A[G]$  are factor equivalent.*

*Proof.* Define a  $B[G]$ -module structure on  $B \otimes_A B$  by letting  $B$  act on the left factor and  $G$  on the right. We will show first that  $B \otimes_A B$  and  $B[G]$  are factor equivalent as  $B[G]$ -lattices. Define the canonical  $B[G]$ -linear map  $\varphi: B \otimes_A B \rightarrow B[G]$  by

$$x \otimes y \mapsto \sum_{\sigma \in G} x\sigma(y) \cdot \sigma^{-1}.$$

Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . If  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$  are the  $K$ -embeddings of  $L^H$  in  $L$ , and if there is an  $A$ -basis  $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$  of  $B^H$ , then the restriction  $(B \otimes_A B)^H \rightarrow B[G]^H$  of  $\varphi$  is a  $B$ -linear map with matrix  $(\sigma_i(\omega_j))_{ij}$  on the bases  $\{1 \otimes \omega_j\}$  and  $\{b_i\}$ , where  $b_i$  is the formal sum of those  $\sigma \in G$  for which  $\sigma^{-1}$  restricts to  $\sigma_i$ . The square of the determinant of this matrix generates the discriminant  $\Delta(B^H/A)$  as an  $A$ -ideal. By localization it follows that even if  $B$  is not free over  $A$ , we have

$$[B[G]^H : \varphi(B \otimes_A B)^H]_B^2 = \Delta(B^H/A) \cdot B.$$

By Hasse's conductor discriminant product formula [15, Ch. VI, §3] the ideal  $\Delta(B^H/A)$  is a factorizable function of  $H$ , so  $B \otimes_A B$  and  $B[G]$  are factor equivalent  $B[G]$ -lattices.

In order to descend to  $A[G]$ -lattices, note that there exists an  $A[G]$ -linear injection  $i: A[G] \rightarrow B$  by the normal basis theorem, and consider the induced  $B[G]$ -linear map  $i_*: B[G] \rightarrow B \otimes_A B$  that sends  $b\sigma$  to  $b \otimes i(\sigma)$  for  $b \in B$  and  $\sigma \in G$ . We have

$$[(B \otimes_A B)^H : i_*(B[G])^H]_B = [B^H : i(A[G])^H]_A \cdot B,$$

and by (2.5) we know that the left hand side is a factorizable function of  $H$ . But then the  $A$ -index  $[B^H : i(A[G])^H]_A$  is also factorizable.  $\square$

#### 4. $S$ -UNITS

Let  $L/K$  be a Galois extension of number fields with Galois group  $G$ , and let  $S$  be a finite  $G$ -stable set of primes of  $L$  containing the infinite primes. The ring of  $S$ -integers of  $L$  consists of all elements of  $L$  that are integral outside  $S$ . Its class number is written as  $h_S(L)$  and its unit group, the group of  $S$ -units of  $L$ , is denoted by  $U_S(L)$ . The group of roots of unity in  $L$  is denoted by  $\mu_L$  and its order is written as  $w(L)$ .