

ON THE RAMIFICATION NUMBERS OF A TOWER OF THE
MAXIMAL ABELIAN EXTENSION OF \mathbb{Q}_p -ADIC NUMBER
FIELDS WITH EXPONENT pm

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ON THE RAMIFICATION NUMBERS OF A TOWER OF THE MAXIMAL ABELIAN EXTENSION OF p -ADIC NUMBER FIELDS WITH EXPONENT p^m

By

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1. Introduction.

Let m be a natural number which we fix throughout this note, and let k be a p -adic number field and p the characteristic of the residue class field of k . We define a chain of fields $K_0=k, K_1, K_2, \dots$, which has the property such that K_i is the maximal abelian extension of K_{i-1} with exponent p^m for each $i \geq 1$.

I.R. Šafarevič [6] has given the detailed structure of such fields, when k does not contain the p -th roots of unity and $m=1$. For this case, E. Maus [5] has given the upper ramification numbers and J. Idt [3] has given the explicit values of the ramification numbers.

In this note, we compute the ramification numbers and the orders of the ramification groups of K_i/k for general m .

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2. Preliminaries.

Throughout this note, k denotes a p -adic number field, k^* the multiplicative group of k , p the characteristic of the residue class field of k , and μ_k the order of the group of p power roots of unity in k . Let $K_0=k$ and let K_i be the maximal abelian extension of K_{i-1} with exponent p^m for each positive integer i . Let e_s, f_s , and n_s denote the absolute ramification index, the absolute residue class degree, and the absolute degree of K_s , respectively. Then we have a following

LEMMA 1. *Suppose that the notations are the same as in the above.*

(1) *If $\mu_k = 1$, then*

$$n_s = n_{s-1} p^{m(n_{s-1}+1)}, f_s = p^{mf_{s-1}} \text{ and } e_s = e_{s-1} p^{mn_{s-1}}.$$

(2) *If $\mu_k \geq p^m$, then*

$$n_s = n_{s-1} p^{m(n_{s-1}+2)}, f_s = p^{mf_{s-1}} \text{ and } e_s = e_{s-1} p^{m(n_{s-1}+1)}.$$

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This follows easily from the local class field theory and the structure of the multiplicative group of p -adic number fields.

Let π be a prime element in k and let e be the absolute ramification index of k . Let U_k be the group of units of k . We define the usual filtration by $U_0 = U_k$, $U_i = \{x \in k^*; \text{ord}_k(x-1) \geq i\}$ for $i > 0$, where ord_k is the normalized additive valuation of k . Let λ denote the function defined by

$$\lambda(n) = \min \{pn, n+e\}, n \in \mathbf{Z}, n > 0.$$

For each positive integer i , let $R_i \subseteq U_i$ denote a complete set of representatives for the factor group U_i/U_{i+1} . It is shown by Hasse [2] that these representative sets can be chosen in such a manner that

$$R_i = R_j^p \quad \text{whenever } i = \lambda(j)$$

except in case $\mu_k > 1$ and $i = \frac{pe}{p-1}$. It is shown also that, even in the exceptional case, R_j^p (where $j = \frac{e}{p-1}$) is a subgroup mod π of R_i with index p .

LEMMA 2. Let t be a natural number $\leq e\left(m + \frac{1}{p-1}\right)$ with

$$t \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p^m} \quad \text{for } 0 < t \leq \frac{e}{p-1} + e$$

$$t \not\equiv le \pmod{p^{m-l}} \quad \text{for } \frac{e}{p-1} + le < t \leq \frac{e}{p-1} + (l+1)e, \quad l = 1, \dots, m-1.$$

Then

$$U_t \cap k^{*p^m} \subseteq U_{t+1}.$$

PROOF. Suppose that there is an element η_t in $U_t \cap k^{*p^m}$ but not in U_{t+1} . Then we have $\eta_t = a^{p^m}$ where a is a principal unit. Assume $a = a_\nu \in U_\nu - U_{\nu+1}$. Then we may assume $a_\nu \in R_\nu$. If $0 < \nu < \frac{e}{p^{m-1}(p-1)}$ then $a_\nu^{p^m} \in U_{p^m\nu} - U_{p^m\nu+1}$ from the above result of Hasse. Therefore we have $t = p^m\nu < \frac{e}{p-1} + e$, which is a contradiction.

If $\frac{e}{p^{m-l}(p-1)} < \nu < \frac{e}{p^{m-l-1}(p-1)}$, $l = 1, \dots, m-1$, then $p^{m-l-1}\nu < \frac{e}{p-1}$ and

$\frac{e}{p-1} < p^{m-l}\nu$. Thus, by the above result of Hasse, we have

$$\alpha_\nu^{p^m} \in U_{p^{m-l}\nu+le} - U_{p^{m-l}\nu+le+1}.$$

Therefore we have

$$\frac{e}{p-1} + le < t = p^{m-l}\nu + le < \frac{e}{p-1} + (l+1)e,$$

which is a contradiction.

If $p^{m-l-1}(p-1) | e$, $l = 0, 1, \dots, m-1$, then we see $\frac{e}{p-1} + (l+1)e \equiv le \pmod{p^{m-l}}$. Thus

the consideration for the case $\nu = \frac{e}{p^{m-l}(p-1)}$, $l=1, \dots, m$ is not necessary. The proof is complete.

3. The upper ramification numbers and the ramification numbers of K_s/K_{s-1} .

For a finite Galois extension L/k with Galois group G , let $T(L/k)$ denote the set of the upper ramification numbers, i.e. the set of jumps in the upper numbering of the ramification groups of L/k , and let $v_i = v_i(L/k)$ denote the ramification number, i.e. the jump in the usual numbering of the ramification groups of L/k . For real $x \geq 0$, the symbol $\{x\}$ will denote the least integer $\geq x$. The next theorem was given by Maus [4], [5]. We set for brevity $\bar{v}_0 = 0$ and $\bar{v}_l = le + \left[\frac{e}{p-1} \right] - \left[\frac{e}{p^{m-l}(p-1)} \right]$ for $l=1, \dots, m-1$.

THEOREM 3 (E. Maus). *Let L be the maximal abelian extension of k with exponent p^m , and let e be the absolute ramification index of k .*

(1) *If $\mu_k = 1$, then $T(L/k) = \{t_\nu; \nu = 0, 1, \dots, me-1\}$, where*

$$t_\nu = \nu + \left\{ \frac{\nu - le + 1}{p^{m-l} - 1} \right\} \quad \text{for } \bar{v}_l \leq \nu < \bar{v}_{l+1}, \quad l = 0, 1, \dots, m-1.$$

(2) *If $\mu_k \geq p^m$, then $T(L/k) = \{t_\nu; \nu = 0, 1, \dots, me+m-1\}$*

where

$$t_\nu = \begin{cases} \nu - l + \left\{ \frac{\nu - l - le + 1}{p^{m-l} - 1} \right\} & \text{for } \bar{v}_l + l \leq \nu < \bar{v}_{l+1} + l, \quad l = 0, 1, \dots, m-1 \\ le + \frac{e}{p-1} & \text{for } \nu = \bar{v}_l + l - 1, \quad l = 1, 2, \dots, m. \end{cases}$$

PROOF. Let $\omega: k^* \rightarrow G = \text{Gal}(L/k)$ be the reciprocity law map of the local class field theory corresponding to the extension L/k . Then, it is known that $\omega(U_n) = G^n$ for all $n \geq 0$ (cf. Serre [7], Theorem 2, p. 235). Therefore, for each integer $n \geq 0$, we have

$$G^n / G^{n+1} \cong U_n / U_{n+1} (U_n \cap k^{*p^m}),$$

because L/k is the maximal abelian extension of exponent p^m .

(1) First, if t satisfies the hypotheses in Lemma 2, then, $G^t / G^{t+1} \cong U_t / U_{t+1} \cong \bar{k}$, where \bar{k} is the residue class field of k . Therefore such t is an upper ramification number of L/k . Next, let $t \equiv 0 \pmod{p^m}$ and $0 < t \leq \frac{pe}{p-1}$. We put $t = p^m \nu$. If $\eta_t \in U_t$, then η_t is uniquely written as

$$\eta_t = (1 + \alpha_t \pi^t) \eta_{t+1} \quad (\alpha_t \pmod{p}, \eta_{t+1} \in U_{t+1})$$

where π, p is a prime element and the prime ideal in k (cf. Hasse [2], p. 206). We may assume $1 + \alpha_t \pi^t \in R_t$. From the result of Hasse in 2, there is a suitable element η_ν in U_ν such that $\eta_\nu^{p^m} = (1 + \alpha_t \pi^t) \eta'_{t+1}$ where η'_{t+1} is some element in U_{t+1} . Hence

$U_t \subseteq U_{t+1}(U_t \cap k^{*p^m})$. Therefore $G^t = G^{t+1}$.

Finally, let $t \equiv le \pmod{p^{m-l}}$ and $\frac{e}{p-1} + le < t \leq \frac{e}{p-1} + (l+1)e$, $l = 1, \dots, m-1$. We put $t = le + p^{m-l}v$. Similarly, for any $\eta_t = (1 + \alpha_t \pi^t) \eta_{t+1} \in U_t$, there exists a suitable $\eta_v \in U_v$ such that $\eta_v^{p^m} = (1 + \alpha_t \pi^t) \eta'_{t+1}$. Therefore $U_{t+1}(U_t \cap k^{*p^m}) = U_t$, so $G^t = G^{t+1}$. This completes the proof of (1).

(2) Since $\mu_k \geq p^m$, $p^{m-1}(p-1) | e$. Put $\nu_l = \frac{e}{p^{m-l}(p-1)}$ for $l = 1, \dots, m$. Let $\eta_{\frac{e}{p-1} + le} \in U_{\frac{e}{p-1} + le}$, $l = 1, \dots, m$. Then

$$\eta_{\frac{e}{p-1} + le} = \left(1 + \alpha_{\frac{e}{p-1} + le} \pi^{\frac{e}{p-1} + le} \right) \eta_{\frac{e}{p-1} + le + 1}, \alpha_{\frac{e}{p-1} + le} \pmod{p}, \eta_{\frac{e}{p-1} + le + 1} \in U_{\frac{e}{p-1} + le + 1}.$$

From the result of Hasse in 2, there exist some $\eta_{\nu_l} \in U_{\nu_l}$ and a suitable $\eta^* \in U_{\frac{pe}{p-1}}$ such that

$$\eta_{\nu_l}^{p^m} \eta^{*p^{l-1}} = \left(1 + \alpha_{\frac{e}{p-1} + le} \pi^{\frac{e}{p-1} + le} \right) \eta'_{\frac{e}{p-1} + le + 1}.$$

Therefore $U_{\frac{e}{p-1} + le} / U_{\frac{e}{p-1} + le + 1} (U_{\frac{e}{p-1} + le} \cap k^{*p^m})$ is a cyclic group of order p . The proof is complete.

In the proof of Theorem 3, we obtain the orders of the ramification groups of L/k . These give the ramification numbers together with the Hasse's function $\psi_{L/k}$, i.e. the function defined by $\psi_{L/k}(x) = \int_0^x (G^0 : G^t) dt$ for real $x \geq 0$.

Let $e = p^{m-l}(p-1)q_{m-l} + r_{m-l}$, $0 \leq r_{m-l} < p^{m-l}(p-1)$, and let $r_{m-l} = (p-1)\bar{q}_{m-l} + \bar{r}_{m-l}$, $0 \leq \bar{r}_{m-l} < p-1$, for $l = 1, \dots, m$.

COROLLARY. Suppose L/k is the same as in Theorem 3 and \mathfrak{f} is the absolute residue class degree of k . Let $\mu_k = 1$ and let v_i , $0 \leq i \leq m-1$, be the ramification number of L/k .

(1) If $0 \leq j < \bar{v}_1$, then

$$v_j = \frac{(1 - p^{p^m \mathfrak{f}})(1 - p^{q_{m,j}(p^{m-1})\mathfrak{f}})}{(1 - p^{\mathfrak{f}})(1 - p^{i(p^{m-1})})} + p^{q_{m,j}(p^{m-1})\mathfrak{f}} \frac{1 - p^{\mathfrak{f}(r_{m,j} + 1)}}{1 - p^{\mathfrak{f}}},$$

where $j = (p^m - 1)q_{m,j} + r_{m,j}$, $0 \leq r_{m,j} < p^m - 1$.

(2) If $\bar{v}_l \leq j < \bar{v}_{l+1}$, $1 \leq l \leq m-1$, then

$$v_j = v_{\bar{v}_{l-1}} + p^{\mathfrak{f}\bar{v}_l} \left(\delta_{m-l} + \frac{1 - p^{\mathfrak{f}(j - \bar{v}_{l+1})}}{1 - p^{\mathfrak{f}}} + p^{\mathfrak{f}(p^{m-l} - 1 - \bar{q}_{m-l})} \frac{1 - p^{\mathfrak{f}q_{m-l,j}(p^{m-l-1})}}{1 - p^{\mathfrak{f}(p^{m-l-1})}} \right)$$

where $q_{m-l,j} = \left[\frac{j - \bar{v}_l + \bar{q}_{m-l}}{p^{m-l} - 1} \right]$ and $\delta_{m-l} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p^{m-l}(p-1) | e \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

PROOF. Let $t_{-1}=0$ and t_j be the upper ramification number of L/k . Then we have

$$v_j = \psi_{L/k}(t_j) = \sum_{i=0}^j \frac{g_0}{g_i} (t_i - t_{i-1})$$

where $g_i=(G_{v_i}:1)$. Therefore the corollary follows easily from Theorem 3.

REMARK. For the case such that $\mu_k \geq p^m$, we obtain the similar results. In fact, if $\bar{v}_i + l \leq j < \bar{v}_{i+1} + l$ then we have

$$v_j = \sum_{i=0}^{\bar{v}_1} p^{fi} (t_i - t_{i-1}) + \sum_{i=\bar{v}_1+1}^{\bar{v}_2+1} p^{1+f(i-1)} (t_i - t_{i-1}) + \dots + \sum_{i=\bar{v}_l+l}^j p^{l+f(i-l)} (t_i - t_{i-1}).$$

4. The ramification numbers of K_s/k .

In this and the next sections, suppose that the notations are the same as in 2. Furthermore, let $v_j^{(s)}, \bar{v}_j^{(s)}$ be the ramification number of $K_s/k, K_s/K_{s-1}$, respectively. Let $\varphi_{s,s-1} = \varphi_{K_s/K_{s-1}}$ be the inverse function of $\psi_{s,s-1} = \psi_{K_s/K_{s-1}}$.

THEOREM 4. For each j , $v_j^{(s)} = \bar{v}_j^{(s)}$.

PROOF. We prove the theorem by induction on s . Let $\text{Gal}(K_s/k) = G^{(s)}$ and $\text{Gal}(K_s/K_{s-1}) = N^{(s)}$. Then we have, for all j , $N_j^{(s)} = G_j^{(s)} \cap N^{(s)}$ and

$$G_j^{(s)} N^{(s)} / N^{(s)} = (G^{(s)} / N^{(s)}) \varphi_{s,s-1}(j) \cong G_{\varphi_{s,s-1}(j)}^{(s-1)}$$

from the Herbrand's theorem (cf. Serre [7], Ch. IV, §3). Hence

$$(G_j^{(s)} : G_{j+1}^{(s)}) = (G_{\varphi_{s,s-1}(j)}^{(s-1)} : G_{\varphi_{s,s-1}(j+1)}^{(s-1)}) (N_j^{(s)} : N_{j+1}^{(s)}).$$

Now, suppose $N_j^{(s)} = N_{j+1}^{(s)}$. Then $N^{(s)\varphi_{s,s-1}(j)} = N^{(s)\varphi_{s,s-1}(j+1)}$.

If $\varphi_{s,s-1}(j+1) \leq \frac{e_{s-1}}{p-1} + e_{s-1}$, then we have, from Theorem 3,

$$\{\varphi_{s,s-1}(j)\} = \{\varphi_{s,s-1}(j+1)\}$$

or

$$p^m h_j - 1 < \varphi_{s,s-1}(j) < \varphi_{s,s-1}(j+1) \leq p^m h_j + 1,$$

where h_j is a suitable integer. If $\{\varphi_{s,s-1}(j)\} = \{\varphi_{s,s-1}(j+1)\}$, then $G_{\varphi_{s,s-1}(j)}^{(s-1)} = G_{\{\varphi_{s,s-1}(j)\}}^{(s-1)} = G_{\varphi_{s,s-1}(j+1)}^{(s-1)}$, so $G_j^{(s)} = G_{j+1}^{(s)}$.

By the induction hypothesis and Theorem 3 we have

$$v_0^{(s-1)} = \bar{v}_0^{(s-1)} = \psi_{s-1,s-2}(\bar{t}_0^{(s-1)}) = \psi_{s-1,s-2}(1) = 1,$$

where $\bar{t}_i^{(s-1)}$ is the upper ramification number of K_{s-1}/K_{s-2} . Hence $v_i^{(s-1)} \equiv 1 \pmod p$ for $i \geq 1$. Therefore, if $p^m h_j - 1 < \varphi_{s,s-1}(j) < \varphi_{s,s-1}(j+1) \leq p^m h_j + 1$, then $\varphi_{s,s-1}(j)$ is not

the ramification number of K_{s-1}/k . Thus we obtain

$$G_{\varphi_{s,s-1}(j)}^{(s-1)} = G_{\varphi_{s,s-1}(j+1)}^{(s-1)}, \text{ so } G_j^{(s)} = G_{j+1}^{(s)}.$$

For all $i \geq 0$, by the theorem of Dedekind-Hensel-Ore, we have

$$v_i^{(s-1)} \leq \frac{pe_{s-1}}{g_i^{(s-1)}(p-1)} \leq \frac{e_{s-1}}{p-1}$$

where $g_i^{(s-1)} = (G_{v_i^{(s-1)}}^{(s-1)} : 1)$ (cf. Maus [5], 1.4). On the other hand, we have from Theorem 3 $0 < \varphi_{s,s-1}(j+1) - \varphi_{s,s-1}(j) < 2$. Therefore, if $\varphi_{s,s-1}(j+1) > \frac{pe_{s-1}}{p-1}$, then we obtain

$$G_{\varphi_{s,s-1}(j)}^{(s-1)} = 1 = G_{\varphi_{s,s-1}(j+1)}^{(s-1)}, \text{ so } G_j^{(s)} = G_{j+1}^{(s)}.$$

This completes the proof of our assertion.

By the corollary to Theorem 3 and Theorem 4 we can compute an explicit value of $v_j^{(s)}$. For $s=1$, we may replace \mathfrak{f} in the corollary to Theorem 3 with \mathfrak{f}_0 . Let $s \geq 2$ and $\mu_k=1$. Put $e_0 = (p-1)q_0 + r_0$, $0 \leq r_0 < p-1$. Then, in Corollary to Theorem 3 we have

$$\bar{q}_{m-l} = r_0(p^{m-l-1} + p^{m-l-2} + \dots + p + 1)$$

for all l and we may replace \mathfrak{f} , e with $\mathfrak{f}_{s-1} = p^{s-1}\mathfrak{f}_0$, e_{s-1} , respectively. Similarly, in the case such that $\mu_k \geq p^m$, we may replace \mathfrak{f} , e in Remark to Theorem 3 with $\mathfrak{f}_{s-1} = p^{s-1}\mathfrak{f}_0$, e_{s-1} , respectively.

REMARK. In the case where $m=1$ our result coincides with the result of J. Idt [3].

5. The orders of the ramification groups of K_s/k .

The next theorem is a generalization of the result of J. Idt [3] and from this theorem we can compute inductively the orders of the ramification groups of K_s/k .

We put $g_j^{(s)} = (G_{v_j^{(s)}}^{(s)} : 1)$.

THEOREM 5. Assume that $\mu_k=1$, $\mathfrak{f}_0 \geq m$ and $s \geq 2$.

(1) If $j \neq \frac{p^m-1}{p^m}(v_i^{(s-1)}-1)$ for all $i = 0, 1, \dots, me_{s-2}-1$, then

$$g_j^{(s)} / g_{j+1}^{(s)} = p^{\mathfrak{f}_{s-1}}.$$

(2) If $j = \frac{p^m-1}{p^m}(v_i^{(s-1)}-1)$ for some i , then

$$g_j^{(s)} / g_{j+1}^{(s)} = (g_i^{(s-1)} / g_{i+1}^{(s-1)}) p^{\mathfrak{f}_{s-1}}.$$

PROOF. For each j , we have

$$\left(G_{v_j^{(s)}}^{(s)} : G_{v_{j+1}^{(s)}}^{(s)} \right) = \left(G_{\varphi_{s,s-1}(v_j)}^{(s-1)} : G_{\varphi_{s,s-1}(v_{j+1})}^{(s-1)} \right) \left(N_{v_j^{(s)}}^{(s)} : N_{v_{j+1}^{(s)}}^{(s)} \right).$$

Now, assume $\varphi_{s,s-1}(v_j^{(s)})=v_i^{(s-1)}$ for some i . Then we have $v_j^{(s)}=\psi_{s,s-1}(v_i^{(s-1)})=\psi_{s,s-1}(\bar{v}_j^{(s-1)})$, because $v_i^{(s-1)}=\bar{v}_i^{(s-1)}$ by Theorem 4. On the other hand, we have $v_j^{(s)}=\psi_{s,s-1}(\bar{t}_j^{(s)})$ where $\bar{t}_j^{(s)}$ is the upper ramification number of K_s/K_{s-1} . Therefore we obtain $v_i^{(s-1)}=\bar{t}_j^{(s)}$. Since $v_i^{(s-1)}\leq\frac{e_{s-1}}{p-1}$, we have

$$j < \bar{v}_1 \text{ and } v_i^{(s-1)} = j + \left\{ \frac{j+1}{p^m-1} \right\}.$$

We put $j=(p^m-1)q_j+r_j$, with $0\leq r_j < p^m-1$. Then we have $v_i^{(s-1)}=p^mq_j+r_j+1$. From the theorem of Hasse-Arf we have

$$\bar{v}_{i+1}^{(s-1)} \equiv \bar{v}_i^{(s-1)} \pmod{\bar{g}_0^{(s-1)}/\bar{g}_i^{(s-1)}},$$

where $\bar{g}_i^{(s-1)}=(N_{\bar{v}_j^{(s-1)}}^{(s-1)}:1)$, $N^{(s-1)}=\text{Gal}(K_{s-1}/K_{s-2})$. Hence, from Theorem 3 and Theorem 4 we see $v_i^{(s-1)}\equiv 1 \pmod{p^{fs-2}}$. Therefore we have $p^mq_j+r_j\equiv 0 \pmod{p^{fs-2}}$. Because $r_j < p^m-1\leq p^{fs-2}-1$, we obtain $r_j=0$. Therefore we have $j=\frac{p^m-1}{p^m}(v_i^{(s-1)}-1)$. This completes the proof of our assertion.

REMARK. In Theorem 5, the restriction such that $\mu_k=1$ and $f_0\geq m$ is not essential. Similar results hold for more general case.

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