

# Cohomology I: $H^1(G, A)$

Aim Lecture: Intro. Galois cohomology.

Today  $G =$  finite group

$G$ -actions Let  $A =$  group &  
 $\text{Aut } A =$  group of group automorphisms  
of  $A$ .

Def<sup>n</sup> 1: A  $G$ -action on the group  $A$  is  
a group hom  $\varphi: G \rightarrow \text{Aut } A$ . Since  $\text{Aut } A \leq \text{Perm } A$ ,  
 $G$  acts on the set  $A$  & we also write  
$$g \cdot a := [\varphi(g)](a).$$

Eg. 1. Let  $K/F =$  finite Galois ext<sup>n</sup>,  $G = \text{Gal}(K/F)$   
Then  $G$  acts on  $\text{GL}_n(K) =$  group of invertible  
matrices /  $K$  by  $g \cdot (\alpha_{ij}) = (g(\alpha_{ij}))$   
Why? Check corresp.  $\varphi(g) \in \text{Aut } \text{GL}_n(K)$   
$$g \cdot [(\alpha_{ij}) (\beta_{rs})]_{is} \stackrel{?}{=} [g \cdot (\alpha_{ij})] [g \cdot (\beta_{rs})]$$
  
$$g \cdot [(\sum_j \alpha_{ij} \beta_{js})] = (\sum_j g(\alpha_{ij}) g(\beta_{js}))_{is}$$

1-cocycles Let  $G$  act on group  $A$

Def<sup>n</sup> 2: A 1-cocycle of  $G$  with values in  $A$   
is a fn  $\alpha_x: G \rightarrow A: g \mapsto \alpha_g$  satisfying  
$$\alpha_{gh} = \alpha_g(g \cdot \alpha_h), \quad \forall g, h \in G.$$

The set of these is denoted  $Z^1(G, A)$ .

N.B.  $\alpha_x \in Z^1(G, A) \Rightarrow \alpha_1 = 1$ .

Lemma 1: (a) Constant map  $1: G \rightarrow 1$  is a 1-cocycle called the trivial 1-cocycle.

(b) If  $A$  is abelian, then  $Z^1(G, A)$  is an abelian group under pointwise mult<sup>n</sup>.

Proof: (a) easy. (b)  $Z^1(G, A) \subseteq$  abelian group of fns  $G \rightarrow A$  so just check closure axioms

e.g.  $\alpha_x, \beta_x \in Z^1(G, A) \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} (\alpha\beta)_{gh} &= \alpha_{gh} \beta_{gh} = \alpha_g(g.\alpha_h) \beta_g(g.\beta_h) \\ &= (\alpha\beta)_g(g.(\alpha\beta)_h) \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 2: (a) For any  $a \in A$ ,  $\alpha_x \in Z^1(G, A)$

$a, \alpha_x: G \rightarrow A$  defined by

$$(a.\alpha)_g = a \alpha_g(g.a^{-1})$$

is a 1-cocycle.

(b) This defines an  $A$ -action on set  $Z^1(G, A)$

(c) If  $A$  is abelian

$$\varphi: A \rightarrow Z^1(G, A): a \mapsto a(g.a^{-1})$$

is a group hom. &  $a \in A$  act on  $Z^1(G, A)$

by mult<sup>n</sup> by  $\varphi(a)$ . Write

$$B^1(G, A) = \text{im } \varphi \leq Z^1(G, A).$$

Proof: easy computations e.g.  $a.\alpha_x \in Z^1(G, A)$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore (a.\alpha)_{gh} &= a \alpha_{gh}((gh).a^{-1}) \\ &= a \alpha_g(g.\alpha_h) g.(h.a^{-1}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= a \alpha_g(g \cdot a^{-1})(g \cdot a)(g \cdot \alpha_h)g \cdot (h \cdot a^{-1}) \\
 &= (a \cdot \alpha)_g g \cdot (a \cdot \alpha)_h
 \end{aligned}$$

**1-cohomology set**  $G$  acts on group  $A$

Def<sup>n</sup> 3:  $\alpha_x, \beta_x \in Z^1(G, A)$  are 1-cohomologous if  $\beta_x = a \cdot \alpha_x$  for some  $a \in A$ . The 1-cohomology set of  $G$  with values in  $A$  is  $H^1(G, A) = \text{set of } A\text{-orbits in } Z^1(G, A)$ . It comes with distinguished elt, the orbit of  $1_x$ .

N.B.  $A$  abelian  $\Rightarrow H^1(G, A) = \text{group } \frac{Z^1(G, A)}{B^1(G, A)}$

Prop<sup>n</sup>: Suppose  $G = \langle g \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}/n$ . Then

(a)  $\alpha_x \in Z^1(G, A)$  is uniquely determined by  $\alpha_g \in A$ .

(b)  $\alpha_g$  satisfies

$$(t) \quad \alpha_g(g \cdot \alpha_g)(g^2 \cdot \alpha_g) \dots (g^{n-1} \cdot \alpha_g) = 1$$

(c) Any  $\alpha_g \in A$  satisfying (t) determines a 1-cocycle.

Proof: ex e.g. for (b)

$$1 = \alpha_1 = \alpha_{g^n} = \alpha_{g^{n-1}}(g^{n-1} \cdot \alpha_g) = \dots = \text{LHS}(t)$$

**Norms** Let  $K/F = \text{finite Galois ext}^n$ ,  
Galois group  $G$  so

$G$  acts on abelian group  $GL_1(K) = K^*$ .

Prop<sup>n</sup>-Def<sup>n</sup>: The norm of  $\alpha \in K$  over  $F$  is  $N_{K/F}(\alpha) := \prod_{g \in G} g(\alpha)$ .

Note  $N_{K/F}(\alpha) \in K^G = F$ . The norm map  $N_{K/F}: K^* \rightarrow F^*$  is a group hom

Rem<sup>1</sup>: If  $G$  cyclic, Prop<sup>n</sup> (b)  $\Rightarrow$  1-cocycles in  $Z^1(G, K^*)$  correspond to norm 1 elements of  $K$ .  
(2)  $\alpha \in F \Rightarrow N_{K/F}(\alpha) = \alpha^{[K:F]}$

E.g. 2 def, char  $\neq 2$ ; non-square  $c \in K = F(\sqrt{d})$ .

$$G = \text{Gal}(K/F) = \{1, g\}$$

$$N_{K/F}: K^* \rightarrow F^*$$

$$a, b \in \mathbb{Q}, a + b\sqrt{d} \mapsto (a + b\sqrt{d})(a - b\sqrt{d}) = a^2 - db^2$$

sub e.g.  $d = -1, F = \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow Z^1(G, \mathbb{C}^*) = \{e^{i\theta} \mid \theta \in \mathbb{R}\}$   
 $B^1(G, \mathbb{C}^*) = \left\{ \frac{z}{\bar{z}} \mid z \in \mathbb{C}^* \right\} = Z^1(G, \mathbb{C}^*)$   
 $\Rightarrow H^1(G, \mathbb{C}^*) = 1$ .

sub e.g. 2:  <sup>$k = \mathbb{Q}$</sup>  Number theorists ask  $\mathbb{Q}$  like  
"For which  $c \in \mathbb{Q}^*$  can you solve for  $a, b$  in  
 $a^2 - db^2 = c$ ?" i.e. what's in  $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}$ ?

This viewpoint immediately  $\Rightarrow$   
 $\text{im } N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}$  is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Q}^*$ .

Thm:  $p/q \in \mathbb{Q}^*$  with  $\gcd(p, q) = 1$  is of form  $a^2 + b^2$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$  iff the prime

factors of  $p$  &  $q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$   
occur an even number of times.