

Note on the Generalized Prouhet-Tarry Problem in an Algebraic Number Field

To Professor IKUZO YAMAMOTO in memorial

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(Received 21 April 1969)

1. Introduction. We consider the rational integral solutions of the system of k equations

$$(1) \quad \lambda_1^i + \lambda_2^i + \dots + \lambda_s^i = \mu_1^i + \mu_2^i + \dots + \mu_s^i \quad (1 \leq i \leq k).$$

It is plain that these equations are satisfied when the $(\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_s)$ is a permutation of the $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_s)$, such a solution we call a trivial solution. It is easy to prove that there are no other solutions when $s \leq k$. When $s > k$ there may be non-trivial solutions, and we denote by $N(k)$ the least value of s for which this is true. We have $N(k) \leq \frac{1}{2}k(k+1)+1$, [1], (numbers in square brackets refer to the Notes at the end of the paper).

If $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_s)$ and $(\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_s)$ satisfy

$$(2) \quad \lambda_1^{k+1} + \lambda_2^{k+1} + \dots + \lambda_s^{k+1} \neq \mu_1^{k+1} + \mu_2^{k+1} + \dots + \mu_s^{k+1},$$

then we denote by $M(k)$ the least value of s for which (1) and (2) are true. It is very important and interesting problem to obtain the estimation of the number of solutions of (1) or (1) and (2) and to know the existence of such solutions. Because these problems are very closely connected with some additive number theoretic problems in particular with the Waring problem. [2].

We consider these problems in an algebraic number field, but for the former we have already some results [3] and so in this note we consider the latter problem in some generalized forms. [2], [4].

Let K be an algebraic number field of degree n over the rational number field P . Let \mathfrak{o} be the integral domain consisting of all integers in K and $K^{(s)}$ ($1 \leq s \leq r_1$) be r_1 real conjugate fields and $K^{(t)}$, $K^{(t+r_2)}$ ($r_1+1 \leq t \leq r_1+r_2$) be r_2 pairs of complex conjugate fields, so that $n=r_1+2r_2$. We denote by $\gamma^{(i)}$ ($1 \leq i \leq n$) the conjugate of $\gamma \in K$. Let $\Omega(T, c)$ ($c > 0$) be the set consisting of all integers $\lambda \in \mathfrak{o}$ satisfying the conditions [5]

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$$A_v = \begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1,v} c_{1,v}^{k_1-1}, \dots, a_{1,p+1,v} c_{p+1,v}^{k_1-1} \\ a_{2,1,v} c_{1,v}^{k_2-1}, \dots, a_{2,p+1,v} c_{p+1,v}^{k_2-1} \\ \dots \\ a_{p+1,1,v} c_{1,v}^{k_{p+1}-1}, \dots, a_{p+1,p+1,v} c_{p+1,v}^{k_{p+1}-1} \end{pmatrix} \quad (1 \leq v \leq l).$$

We define $(c_{1v}, \dots, c_{p+1,v})$ ($1 \leq v \leq l$) by the matrices A_v and H_v ($1 \leq v \leq l$). Let $r_K(\nu_1, \dots, \nu_p)$ be the number of solutions λ_{uv} of the system of Diophantine equations

$$(3) \quad \sum_{u=1}^{p+1} (a_{j,u,1} \lambda_{u,l}^{k_j} + \dots + a_{j,u,l} \lambda_{u,1}^{k_j}) = \nu_j \quad (1 \leq j \leq p)$$

where

$$\beta = 1 - \frac{1}{k_{p+1}} \text{ and } \lambda_{uv} \in \Omega(T^{\beta v-1}, c_{uv}) \quad (1 \leq u \leq p+1, 1 \leq v \leq l).$$

Then there are $\nu_i \in \mathbb{D}$ ($1 \leq i \leq p$) satisfying

$$r_K(\nu_1, \dots, \nu_p) \geq c T^{n(k_{p+1}(p+1)(1-\beta^l) - (k_1 + \dots + k_p))}$$

where c is a constant depending only on $K, r_1, r_2, \theta_1, \theta_2, c_{uv}, k_i, a_{ij}$ and β .

Remark. We put $k_i = i$ ($1 \leq i \leq k+1$) and all $a_{ijv} = 1$ and let

$$s \geq \left[\frac{\log 2 - \log \left(1 + \frac{1}{k+1}\right)}{-\log \left(1 - \frac{1}{k+1}\right)} + 1 \right] (k+1),$$

then we have the solutions (non trivial) of Tarry-type equations

$$\sum_{u=1}^{p+1} \sum_{v=1}^l \lambda_{uv}^i = \sum_{u=1}^{p+1} \sum_{v=1}^l \mu_{uv}^i \quad (1 \leq i \leq k+1).$$

Proof of Theorem 1. Let E denote the number of set $(\lambda_{1v}, \dots, \lambda_{pv})$ ($1 \leq v \leq l$) of solutions of the equations (3), Then we have

$$E \geq c \prod_{u=1}^{p+1} \prod_{v=1}^l (c_{uv} T^{\beta v-1})^n = c_1 T^{nk_{p+1}(p+1)(1-\beta^l)}.$$

Let F denote the number of sets (ν_1, \dots, ν_p) . Then we have

$$F \leq c_2 T^{n(k_1 + \dots + k_p)}$$

Thus we have

$$r_K(\nu_1, \dots, \nu_p) \geq E/F \geq c T^{n(k_{p+1}(p+1)(1-\beta^l) - (k_1 + \dots + k_p))}.$$

Theorem 2. Let $a_{i,j}$ ($1 \leq i, j \leq p+1$) and k_i ($1 \leq i \leq p+1$) be natural numbers and suppose that $k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_{p+1}$ and put

$$(3) \quad \begin{cases} \sum_{j=1}^s a_{i,j} \lambda_j^{k_i} = \sum_{j=1}^s a_{i,j} \mu_j^{k_i} & (1 \leq i \leq p) \\ \sum_{j=1}^s a_{p+1,j} \lambda_j^{k_{p+1}} \neq \sum_{j=1}^s a_{p+1,j} \mu_j^{k_{p+1}} \end{cases}$$

where λ_i and μ_i belong to some $\Omega(T_i, c_i)$ ($1 \leq i \leq s$) with sufficiently large T_i ($1 \leq i \leq s$). We denote by $W_K(k_1, \dots, k_{p+1})$ the least value of s for which (3) has a solution. Then

$$W_K(k_1, \dots, k_{p+1}) \leq \left\lceil \frac{\log(1 + \frac{k_1 + \dots + k_p}{k_{p+1}})}{-\log(1 - \frac{1}{k_{p+1}})} + 1 \right\rceil (p+1).$$

Theorem 3. Let $a_{i,j}$ ($1 \leq i \leq p+1, 1 \leq j \leq s$) and k_i ($1 \leq i \leq p+1$) be natural numbers and suppose that $k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_{p+1}$ and puts (two sets of the system of Diophantine equations)

$$(4) \quad R_m : \begin{cases} \sum_{j=1}^s a_{i,j} \lambda_j^{k_i} = \nu_i & (1 \leq i \leq p) \\ \sum_{j=1}^s a_{i,j} \lambda_j^{k_i} = \mu_m & (m=1, 2) \quad (\mu_1 \neq \mu_2) \end{cases}$$

where λ_j ($1 \leq k \leq s$) belongs to some domain $\Omega(T_j, c_j)$ with sufficiently large T_j . If

$$s \geq \left\lceil \frac{\log(1 + \frac{k_1 + \dots + k_p}{k_{p+1}})}{-\log(1 - \frac{1}{k_{p+1}})} + 1 \right\rceil (p+1)$$

then there are ν_i ($1 \leq i \leq p$) $\in \mathbb{Q}$ and $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in \mathbb{Q}$ ($\mu_1 \neq \mu_2$) for which (4) has solutions.

3. Proofs of Theorem 2 and Theorem 3.

Lemma 2. Let $a_{i,j}$ ($1 \leq i, j \leq p$) and k_i ($1 \leq i \leq p$) be natural numbers and suppose that $k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_p$. Let $a_i \geq 0$ ($1 \leq i \leq p$) be real numbers and let $H > 0$. We put

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} c_1^{k_1-1}, \dots, a_{1p} c_p^{k_1-1} \\ \dots \\ a_{p1} c_1^{k_p-1}, \dots, a_{pp} c_p^{k_p-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

We define (c_1, \dots, c_p) by the matrix A and $A H > 0$. We put

$$(1) \quad \alpha_i = a_{i1} \lambda_1^{k_i} + \dots + a_{ip} \lambda_p^{k_i} \quad (1 \leq i \leq p),$$

where

$$\lambda_i \in \Omega(T, c_j) \quad (1 \leq i \leq p).$$

Let E denote the number of sets $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_p)$ for which $\alpha_i^{(s)}$ ($1 \leq s \leq r_1$) and $\text{Re } \alpha_i^{(t)}$, $\text{Im } \alpha_i^{(t)}$ ($r_1+1 \leq t \leq r_1+r_2$) fall into any given intervals whose length are respectively $O(T^{a_i+k_i-1})$ ($1 \leq i \leq p$). Then

$$E \ll T^{n(a_1+\dots+a_p)}.$$

Proof. Instead of the given intervals of lengths $O(T^{a_i+k_i-1})$ ($1 \leq i \leq p$) it is sufficient to consider intervals whose length is respectively $O(T^{k_i-1})$ ($a_i=0$) ($1 \leq i \leq p$). Because Lemma 2 follows from the fact that an intervals of length $O(T^{a_i+k_i-1})$ can be covered by $O(T^{a_i})$ intervals of length $O(T^{k_i-1})$. Let $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_p)$ and $(\lambda'_1, \dots, \lambda'_p)$ be two sets of values for which we have (1) with $\lambda_i, \lambda'_i \in \Omega(T, c_j)$. We put $\alpha_i - \alpha'_i = \beta_i$, $\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \beta_i^{(j)} = \|\beta_i\|$ and $\lambda_i - \lambda'_i = \mu_i$ ($1 \leq i \leq p$). Then we have from (1)

$$(2) \quad \begin{cases} B_{11}\mu_1 + \dots + B_{1p}\mu_p = \beta_1 \\ \dots \\ B_{p1}\mu_1 + \dots + B_{pp}\mu_p = \beta_p \end{cases}$$

where

$$B_{ij} = a_{ij} (\lambda_j^{k_i-1} + \lambda_j^{k_i-2} \lambda'_j + \dots + \lambda_j'^{k_i-1}) \quad (1 \leq i, j \leq p)$$

and

$$\|\beta_i\| \ll T^{k_i-1}.$$

By the definition of c_1, c_2, \dots, c_p ($H=c_1^{k_1} \dots c_p^{k_p}$), we have

$$B_{ii} \in \Omega(T^{k_i-1}, k_i a_{ij} (2T)^{k_i-1}) \quad (1 \leq i, j \leq p)$$

and further

$$(3) \quad \min_{1 \leq q \leq n} |B_{11}^{(q)} \dots B_{pp}^{(q)}| \geq c_1 k_1 k_2 \dots k_p a_{11} \dots a_{pp} c_1^{k_1-1} \dots c_p^{k_p-1} T^{k_1+\dots+k_p-p}$$

$$(4) \quad \sum_{(i_1 \dots i_p) \neq (1 \dots p)} |B_{i_1 i_1}^{(q)} \dots B_{i_p i_p}^{(q)}| < c_1 k_1 \dots k_p (2T)^{k_1+\dots+k_p-p} \\ \times \sum_{(i_1 \dots i_p) \neq (1 \dots p)} a_{1i_1} \dots a_{pi_p} c_{i_1}^{k_1-1} \dots c_{i_p}^{k_p-1}.$$

Hence we have from (3) and (4)

$$(5) \quad \det \|B_{ij}^{(q)}\| \geq c_1 T^{k_1+\dots+k_p-p}$$

and

$$(6) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1^{(q)} B_{12}^{(q)} \dots B_{1p}^{(q)} \\ \dots\dots\dots \\ \beta_p^{(q)} B_{p2}^{(q)} \dots B_{pp}^{(q)} \end{pmatrix} = O(T^{k_1 + \dots + k_p - p}) \quad (1 \leq d \leq n).$$

It follows from (2), (5) and (6), by the Cramer's method, that

$$\|\mu_i\| \ll 1 \quad (1 \leq i \leq p).$$

This proves the required result.

Lemma 3. *We use the same notations and assumptions as Theorem 1. Let E be the number of solutions λ_{uv} ($1 \leq u \leq p+1$, $1 \leq v \leq l$) of the system of the Diophantine equations*

$$(7) \quad \sum_{u=1}^{p+1} (a_{iu1} \lambda_{u1}^{k_i} + \dots + a_{iul} \lambda_{ul}^{k_i}) = \nu_i \quad (1 \leq i \leq p+1),$$

where $\nu_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ ($1 \leq i \leq p+1$) are given. Then for any given ν_i

$$(8) \quad E \ll c T^{n(k_{p+1}^{p-k_1} \dots - k_p)^{(1-\beta)l}}.$$

proof. We can write the equations (7) as

$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{u=1}^{p+1} a_{iu1} \lambda_{u1}^{k_i} &= \alpha_{i1} = \nu_i - \left(\sum_{j=2}^l \sum_{u=1}^{p+1} a_{iuj} \lambda_{uj}^{k_i} \right) \\ &= \nu_i - \left(\sum_{j=2}^l \alpha_{ij} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\alpha_{ij} = \sum_{u=1}^{p+1} a_{iuj} \lambda_{uj} \quad (1 \leq j \leq p+1, 1 \leq j \leq l).$$

From the assumptions $\lambda_{uj} \in \Omega(T^{\beta j - 1}, c_{jv})$ the sum in bracket is always

$$\ll T^{\beta k_i} \quad (1 \leq i \leq p+1)$$

Thus, for given values of $(\nu_1, \dots, \nu_{p+1})$, $\alpha_i^{(s)}$ ($1 \leq s \leq r_1$), $\text{Re } \alpha_i^{(t)}$, $\text{Im } \alpha_j^{(t)}$ ($r_1 + 1 \leq t \leq r_1 + r_2$) fall into the intervals where length is respectively $O(T^{\beta k_i})$ ($1 \leq i \leq p+1$). It follows from Lemma 2 ($\alpha_i = k_i$, $\beta - (k_i - 1) = 1 - \frac{k_i}{k_{p+1}} > 0$) that the number of possible choices for $(\lambda_{11}, \dots, \lambda_{p+1,1})$ is $\ll T^{n(p+1 - \frac{k_1 + \dots + k_{p+1}}{k_{p+1}})}$. Having chosen this set $(\lambda_{11}, \dots, \lambda_{p+1,1})$ we can write the equation (9) as

$$\alpha_{i2} = \nu_j - \alpha_{i1} - \left(\sum_{j=2}^l \alpha_{ij} \right).$$

The sum in bracket is $\ll T^{\beta 2k_j}$. Hence for given $(\nu_1, \dots, \nu_{p+1})$ and given $(\lambda_{11}, \dots, \lambda_{p+1,1})$,

the number of possible choices for the set $(\lambda_{12}, \dots, \lambda_{p+1,2})$

$$\ll T^{n\beta} (p+1 - \frac{(k_1 + \dots + k_{p+1})}{k_{p+1}})$$

continuing in this way, we find that the number of possible selections of l sets $(\lambda_{1u}, \dots, \lambda_{p+1,u})$ ($1 \leq u \leq l$) satisfying (7) is

$$\leq c T^{n(k_{p+1}^{p-k_1} \dots - k_p)} (1-\beta)^l.$$

This proves (8).

Theorem 2 is a corollary of Theorem 3.

Proof of Theorem 3. From Theorem 1 there is a set (ν_1, \dots, ν_p) ($\nu_i \in \mathbb{0}$) for which we have

$$r_K(\nu_1 \dots \nu_p) \geq c T^{n(k_{p+1}^{(p+1)} (1-\beta)^l - (k_1 + \dots + k_p))}.$$

We put

$$(10) \quad \sum_{u=1}^{p+1} (a_{iu1} \lambda_{u1}^{k_i} + \dots + a_{iul} \lambda_{ul}^{k_i}) = \nu_i \quad (1 \leq i \leq p).$$

If for all solution λ_{uj} ($1 \leq u \leq p+1, 1 \leq j \leq l$) of (10) we have the same one value μ as

$$(11) \quad \mu = \sum_{u=1}^{p+1} (a_{p+1,u1} \lambda_{u1}^{k_{p+1}} + \dots + a_{p+1,ul} \lambda_{ul}^{k_{p+1}}),$$

then we must obtain a contradiction.

We denote by E the number of solutions of the system of Diophantine equations (10) and (11). Then

$$(12) \quad E \ll T^{n(k_{p+1}^{p-k_1} \dots - k_p)} (1-\beta)^l.$$

But we have plainly

$$(13) \quad E \geq r_K(\nu_1, \dots, \nu_p).$$

If we take

$$l \geq \left\lceil \frac{\log(1 + \frac{k_1 + \dots + k_p}{k_{p+1}})}{-\log(1 - \frac{1}{k_{p+1}})} \right\rceil + 1,$$

then we have from Theorem 1

$$(14) \quad \begin{aligned} r_K(\nu_1 \dots \nu_p) &\ll T^{n(k_{p+1}^{p-k_1} \dots - k_p)} (1-\beta)^l \\ &< T^{n(k_{p+1}^{(p+1)} (1-\beta)^l - (k_1 + \dots + k_p))} \leq r_K(\nu_1 \dots \nu_p). \end{aligned}$$

From (12), (13) and (14) yields a contradiction. Thus it follows that we have two different values μ_1, μ_2 ($\mu_1 \neq \mu_2$) for which (4) holds. This proves Theorem 3.

Notes

- [1] (1) G. H. Hardy and E. M. Wright: An introduction to the theory of numbers, Chap. XXI. 21. 9 3rd ed. Oxford, 1954.
 (2) L. K. Hua: An introduction to the theory of numbers (chinese) (数論導引) Chap. 18, § 7. Peking, 1957.
- [2] (1) L. K. Hua: Additive Primzahltheorie, Teubner, Leipzig, 1959.
 (2) L. K. Hua: Abschätzungen von Exponentialsummen und ihre Anwendung in der Zahlentheorie § 29. Enzykl. der Math. 1, 2, Heft 13, Teil, 1959.
 (3) И. М. Виноградов: К вопросу о верхней границе для $G(n)$, ИАН СССР, Серзя Матем. 23 (1959), 637-642.
- [3] (1) B. J. Birch: Waring problem in algebraic number fields. Proc. Cambridge Philos. Soc. 57 (1961), 449-459.
 (2) O. Körner: Über Mittelwerte trigonometrischer Summen und ihre Anwendung in algebraischen Zahlkörpern, Math. Ann. 147 (1962), 205-239.
 (3) Y. Eda: On the mean-value theorem in an algebraic number field, Jap. J. Math. 36 (1967), 5-21. We must correct (3) in the Main Theorem $s \geq \frac{n}{2(n-1)} k(k+1) + \tau k - 1$.
- [4] (1) We hope that Hua's method [2]-[1]-Chap. X is treated in an algebraic number field. [2]-(3).
- [5] we can replce a constant c by c_s for $1 \leq s \leq r_1$ and c_t for $r_1+1 \leq t \leq r_1+r_2$.