## Early Contributions to the

## Inverse and Embedding Galois Problems

## (after N. Vila, A. Arenas, T. Crespo)

Pilar Bayer Isant

## UB

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## INTRODUCTION

- 1892, D. Hilbert
$S_{n}$ and $A_{n}$ are Galois groups over $\mathbb{Q}(T)$

Irreducibility theorem

- 1931, I. Schur

Effective construction of polynomials over $\mathbb{Q}$ realising $S_{n}$ and $A_{n}$ for particular values of $n$.

- 1970, Y. Yamamoto

For every even integer $n$ there are infinitely many polynomials of type $X^{n}+a X+b \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ whose Galois group over $\mathbb{Q}$ is isomorphic to $S_{n}$.

## Galois realisations of solvable groups

- 1954, I. R. Shafarevich

Any solvable group is Galois over any number field.

Strategy: Resolution of successive Galois embedding problems.
Shafarevich, I. R.: Construction of fields of algebraic numbers with given solvable Galois group. Izv. Akad. Nauk SSSR. Ser. Mat. 18 (1954), 525-578. Amer. Math. Soc. Transl. 4 (1960), 185-237.

- 1979, J. Neukirch

Simplified proof of Shafarevich's theorem for solvable groups of odd order.

Tools: Use of Galois cohomology
Neukirch, J.: On solvable number fields. Invent. Math. 53 (1979), no. 2, 135-164.

## Galois realisations of $S_{n}$ and $A_{n}$

- 1983, E. Nart \& N. Vila

For every even integer $n>2$ there are infinitely many polynomials $X^{n}+b X^{2}+c X+d \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ whose Galois group over $\mathbb{Q}$ is isomorphic to $A_{n}$.
For every odd integer $n>3$ there are infinitely many polynomials $X^{n}+a X^{3}+b X^{2}+c X+d \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ whose Galois group over $\mathbb{Q}$ is isomorphic to $A_{n}$.

Tools: Use of a Furtwängler criterion.

Remark. For the cases $n$ even and $4 \nmid n$, explicit equations for $A_{n}$ were not known before.

Nart, E.; Vila, N.: Equations with absolute Galois group isomorphic to $A_{n}$. J. Number Theory 16 (1983), no. 1, 6-13.

## CHAPTER I



1987: San Francisco; MSRI, Galois groups over Q

From September 1981 to July 1983

Galois embedding problems
$K$ field; $\bar{K}$ separable closure of $K$
$G_{K}=\operatorname{Gal}(\bar{K} \mid K)$ absolute Galois group; $\quad G$ finite group
$K \subseteq L \subseteq \bar{K}$ Galois extension, $\left.L\right|_{G} K$
$\varphi: G_{K} \rightarrow \operatorname{Gal}(L \mid K) \simeq G$
Definition. Given a group extension $\widetilde{G}=A \cdot G$, a solution of the Galois embedding problem

$$
\widetilde{G} \rightarrow G \simeq \operatorname{Gal}(L \mid K)
$$

is a field $\widetilde{L}$ such that $L \subseteq \widetilde{L} \subseteq \bar{K}$ and the diagram

commutes, where $\varphi$ is given by restriction.

## The obstruction to embedding problems

Let $\varepsilon \in H^{2}(G, A)$ be the element defined by an exact sequence

$$
1 \rightarrow A \rightarrow \widetilde{G} \rightarrow G \rightarrow 1
$$

in which $A$ is an abelian group.
Let $\left.L\right|_{G} K$ be a Galois extension defined by a homomorphism

$$
\rho: G_{K} \rightarrow \operatorname{Gal}(L \mid K) \simeq G .
$$

Through the inflation map, we obtain an element

$$
\rho^{*} \varepsilon \in H^{2}\left(G_{K}, A\right) .
$$

Theorem. [Hoechsmann, 1968] The embedding problem $\widetilde{G} \rightarrow G \simeq$ $\operatorname{Gal}(L \mid K)$ is solvable if and only if

$$
\rho^{*} \varepsilon=0 .
$$

## Central extensions

An extension $E=N \cdot G$ of a group $G$ is said to be central if it is given by an exact sequence $1 \rightarrow N \rightarrow E \rightarrow G \rightarrow 1$ with $N \subseteq Z(E)$. Then $N$ is an abelian group and the action of $G$ in $N$ is trivial.

A group $G$ is said to be perfect if $[G, G]=G$. In particular, non-abelian simple groups are perfect.

Perfect groups admit universal central extensions $\widetilde{G}=A \cdot G$; they are central extensions such that for any central extension $E=N \cdot G$ there is a unique homomorphism $h: \widetilde{G} \rightarrow E$ making commutative the diagram


## Galois realisations of central extensions of perfect groups

Lemma. [Vila] Let $\left.L\right|_{G} K$ be a Galois extension with $G$ a perfect group. Let $\widetilde{G}$ be its universal central extension. If the embedding problem

$$
\widetilde{G} \rightarrow G \simeq \operatorname{Gal}(L \mid K)
$$

admits a solution, then any embedding problem defined by a central extension $E=N \cdot G$ will be solvable.

Proof. (sketch) The proof makes use of an Ikeda's lemma [1960] on the existence of proper solutions.

Remark. The lemma motivated to consider the realisation of central extensions of simple groups as Galois groups. The easiest cases being those of $A_{n}, n \neq 6,7$ :

$$
1 \rightarrow C_{2} \rightarrow \widetilde{A}_{n} \rightarrow A_{n} \rightarrow 1
$$

Theorem. [Nart \& Vila] Let $K$ be a number field and $R$ its ring of integers. Let $F(X)=X^{n}+a X^{2}+b X+c \in R[X], a c \neq 0$, be a polynomial satisfying the following conditions:
(i) $F(X)$ is irreducible and primitive.
(ii) $b^{2}(n-1)^{2}=4 a c n(n-2)$.
(iii) $(-1)^{n / 2} c$ is a square.
(iv) If $u=-b(n-1) / 2(n-2) a$, there exists a prime ideal $\mathfrak{p}$ of $R$ such that

$$
c(n-1) \notin \mathfrak{p}, \quad F(u) \in \mathfrak{p}, \quad \text { and } 3 \nmid v_{\mathfrak{p}}(F(u)) .
$$

Then, if $n$ is even and $n>2$, the Galois group of $F(X)$ over $K$ is isomorphic to $A_{n}$.

The local obstruction at infinity for the Nart-Vila equations

Proposition. [Vila] Let $f(X) \in \mathbf{Q}[X]$ be an irreducible polynomial of degree $n$ whose Galois group is isomorphic to $A_{n}$ and let $r_{1}$ be the number of its real roots. Then

1. $n \equiv r_{1}(\bmod 4)$.
2. The local obstruction at $\infty$ of the embedding problem $\widetilde{A}_{n} \rightarrow A_{n} \simeq$ $\mathrm{Gal}_{\mathrm{Q}}(\mathrm{f})$ is zero if and only if

$$
n \equiv r_{1} \quad(\bmod 8)
$$

Corollary. The obstruction at $\infty$ of Nart-Vila equations for $A_{n}$ is trivial if and only if $n \equiv 0$ or $2(\bmod 8)$.

## Serre's formula

Suppose that $n \neq 6,7$. The exact sequence $1 \rightarrow C_{2} \rightarrow \widetilde{A}_{n} \rightarrow A_{n} \rightarrow 1$ defines an element $a_{n} \in H^{2}\left(A_{n}, C_{2}\right)$. For any $G \subseteq A_{n}$, let $\varepsilon \in H^{2}\left(G, C_{2}\right)$ be the element obtained by restriction

$$
\text { res : } H^{2}\left(A_{n}, C_{2}\right) \rightarrow H^{2}\left(G, C_{2}\right), \quad a_{n} \mapsto \varepsilon
$$

and denote by $\widetilde{G}$ the corresponding extension of groups. Let $E \mid K$ be an extension of degree $n,\left.L\right|_{G} K$ its Galois closure and $\rho: G_{K} \rightarrow$ $\operatorname{Gal}(L \mid K) \simeq G$. Through the inflation map, we obtain now an element

$$
\rho^{*} \varepsilon \in H^{2}\left(G_{K}, C_{2}\right) \simeq \mathrm{Br}_{2}(K)
$$

Theorem. [Serre, 1984] Let $Q_{E}$ be the n-ary quadratic form

$$
X \rightarrow \operatorname{Tr}_{E \mid K}\left(X^{2}\right)
$$

Then the obstruction to the embedding problem $\widetilde{G} \rightarrow G \simeq \operatorname{Gal}(L \mid K)$ is given by

$$
\rho^{*} \varepsilon=w\left(Q_{E}\right)
$$

where $w$ denotes the Hasse-Witt invariant of $Q_{E}$.

## First results

Theorem. [Vila] Suppose that $n>6$ is an even integer. Let $L$ be the splitting field over $K$ of a polynomial $F(X)$, as above. Then the embedding problem $\widetilde{A}_{n} \rightarrow \operatorname{Gal}(L \mid K) \simeq A_{n}$ is solvable if and only if

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
n \equiv 0 & (\bmod 8), \quad \text { or } \\
n \equiv 2 & (\bmod 8)
\end{array} \quad \text { and } n \text { is a sum of two squares. }
$$

Corollary. Any central extension of $A_{n}, n>6$, occurs as Galois group over Q if $n \equiv 0(\bmod 8)$ or $n \equiv 2(\bmod 8)$ and $n$ is a sum of two squares.

In these cases:
$\operatorname{Tr}_{E \mid K}\left(X^{2}\right) \sim\left\{\begin{array}{l}n X_{1}^{2}-(n-2) a X_{2}^{2}+X_{3} X_{4}+\cdots+X_{n-1} X_{n}, \text { if } n \text { is even, } \\ n X_{1}^{2}+X_{2}^{2}+X_{3} X_{4}+\cdots+X_{n-1} X_{n}, \text { if } n \text { is odd. }\end{array}\right.$

## How to achieve more values of $n$

1. Find new irreducible polynomials $f(X) \in \mathrm{Q}[X]$, of degree $n$, with Galois group isomorphic to $A_{n}$ and with a "computable" trace form and good behaviour at infinity.
2. Compute $w\left(\operatorname{Tr}_{E \mid \mathbf{Q}}\right)$, where $E=\mathbf{Q}(\theta)$, $\theta$ a root of $f(X)$.
3. Impose conditions on $f(X)$ in order that $w\left(\operatorname{Tr}_{E \mid \mathrm{Q}}\right)=1$.

Remark. (1) was solved with techniques used by Hurwitz and worked out by Matzat. Afterwards, they gave rise to the so called Thompson rigidity methods.

The starting point was Riemann existence theorem.

## Hurwitz presentations

Definition. Let $G$ be a finite group and $t_{i} \in G, 1 \leq i \leq r$. We say that $\left(t_{1}, \ldots, t_{r}\right)$ is a Hurwitz $r$-presentation of $G$ if $\left\{t_{1}, \ldots, t_{r}\right\}$ generate $G$ and $t_{1} \cdots t_{r}=1$.
$H_{r}(G)$ set of Hurwitz $r$-presentations
Given $\left(t_{1}, \ldots, t_{r}\right) \in H_{r}(G)$, let $H\left(t_{1}, \ldots, t_{r}\right)$ be the set of $\left(s_{1}, \ldots, s_{r}\right) \in$ $H_{r}(G)$ such that the subgroups $\left\langle s_{i}\right\rangle$ and $\left\langle t_{i}\right\rangle$ are conjugate in $G$.
$h\left(t_{1}, \ldots, t_{r}\right):=\# H\left(t_{1}, \ldots, t_{r}\right) /$ Aut $(G)$ Hurwitz number

Definition. A finite group is complete if its center is trivial and any automorphism is inner. Ex.: $S_{n}$ is a complete group.

Proposition. Any finite complete group having a Hurwitz presentation with Hurwitz number equal to 1 is Galois over $\mathrm{Q}(T)$.

## New $S_{n}$ and $A_{n}$-equations over $\mathbf{Q}(T)$

Theorem. [Vila] Let $n, k$ be positive integers, $\operatorname{gcd}(n, k)=1, k \leq n$.
(a) Let $s_{1}=(n, n-1, \ldots, 3,2,1), s_{2}=(1,2, \ldots, k)(k+1, \ldots, n), s_{3}=$ $(1, k+1)$. Then $\left(s_{1}, s_{2}, s_{3}\right) \in H_{3}\left(S_{n}\right)$ and $h\left(s_{1}, s_{2}, s_{3}\right)=1$.
(b) For $n \geq 5$, the polynomial $G_{k}(X, T)=X^{n-k}\left(X-\frac{n}{n-k}\right)^{k}-\left(\frac{-k}{n-k}\right)^{k} T$ has Galois group over $\mathbf{Q}(T)$ isomorphic to $S_{n}$.
(c) For $n \geq 5$ and $k \leq n / 2$, the polynomial

$$
F_{n, k}(X, T)= \begin{cases}X^{n}-A(n X-k(n-k))^{k}, & \text { if } n \text { is odd } \\ X^{n}+k^{n-2 k} B^{n-k-1}(n X+B k(n-k))^{k}, & \text { if } n \text { is even }\end{cases}
$$

$$
\text { where } A=k^{n-2 k}\left(1-(-1)^{(n-1) / 2} n T^{2}\right), B=(-1)^{n / 2} k(n-k) T^{2}+1
$$ has Galois group over $\mathrm{Q}(T)$, and over $\mathrm{Q}(i, T)$, isomorphic to $A_{n}$.

The computation of the Hasse-Witt invariant
$K=\mathbf{Q}(T)$ or $K=\mathbf{Q}(i, T) ; n \neq 6,7 ; k \leq(n+1) / 3$ odd
$F_{n, k}(X, T)=X^{n}+A(b X+c)^{k} ; E_{n, k}=K(\theta) ; L_{n, k} \mid K$ splitting field
Theorem. [Vila]
(a) $\operatorname{Tr}_{E_{n, k} \mid K}\left(X^{2}\right) \simeq$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left\{\begin{array}{l}
n X_{1}^{2}+(-1)^{(n-2) / 2} X_{2}^{2}+X_{3} X_{4}+\cdots+X_{n-1} X_{n}, \text { if } n \text { is even, } \\
n X_{1}^{2}+n C X_{2}^{2}+(-1)^{(n+1) / 2} C X_{3}^{2}+X_{4} X_{5}+\cdots+X_{n-1} X_{n}, \text { if } n \text { is odd, }
\end{array}\right. \\
& \text { where } C=k(n-k)\left(1-(-1)^{(n-1) / 2} n T^{2}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

(b) $w\left(E_{n, k} \mid \mathbf{Q}\right)=$

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\left(n,(-1)^{n / 2}\right) \otimes(-1,-1)^{n(n-2) / 8}, \text { if } n \text { is even, } \\
\left(-(n-k) k,(-1)^{(n-1) / 2 n}\right) \otimes(-1,-1)^{(n+1)(n-1) / 8}, \text { if } n \text { is odd. }
\end{array}\right.
$$

(c) $w\left(E_{n, k} \mid \mathbf{Q}(i)\right)=\left\{\begin{array}{l}1, \text { if } n \text { is even, } \\ (-(n-k), n)=1, \text { if } n \text { is odd and } k \text { is a square. }\end{array}\right.$

## Galois realisations over $\mathrm{Q}(i)$

Corollary. Let $L_{n, k}$ be the splitting field of the polynomial $F_{n, k}(X, T)$ over $\mathbf{Q}(i, T)$. Then the embedding problem

$$
\tilde{A}_{n} \rightarrow A_{n} \simeq \operatorname{Gal}\left(L_{n, k} \mid \mathbf{Q}(i, T)\right)
$$

is solvable for any even value of $n$, or for any odd value of $n$ and $k$ a square ( $n \neq 6,7$ ).

Corollary. Any central extension of the alternating group $A_{n}$ occurs infinitely often as Galois group over $\mathbf{Q}(i)$, for any value of $n \neq 6,7$.

## Galois realisations over Q

Definition. A positive integer $n, n \not \equiv 0(\bmod 4)$ or $n \not \equiv 7(\bmod 8)$, satisfies the property ( N ) if there exists a decomposition of $n$ into a sum of three squares $n=x^{2}+y^{2}+z^{2}$ such that $\operatorname{gcd}(x, n)=1$ and $x^{2} \leq(n+1) / 3$.

Theorem. [Vila] The embedding problem $\widetilde{A}_{n} \rightarrow A_{n} \simeq \operatorname{Gal}\left(L_{n, k} \mid \mathbf{Q}(T)\right)$ is solvable for the following values $n$ and $k$ :
(a) $n \equiv 0(\bmod 8), k>0$,
(b) $n \equiv 1(\bmod 8), k$ a square,
(c) $n \equiv 2(\bmod 8)$, and $n$ being a sum of two squares, $k>0$,
(d) $n \equiv 3(\bmod 8), n$ satisfying $(\mathbb{N})$, and $k=x^{2}$.

If $n \equiv 4,5,6,7(\bmod 8)$, the previous embedding problem is not solvable for any value of $k$.

Corollary. Any central extension of $A_{n}$ occurs infinitely often as Galois group over Q if
$n \equiv 0,1(\bmod 8)$,
$n \equiv 2(\bmod 8)$, and $n$ is a sum of two squares,
$n \equiv 3(\bmod 8)$, and $n$ satisfies ( N ).

## Remarks

- Vila presented her results at the 1983 Journées Arithmétiques, held at Noordwijkerhout.
- The above articles caught the attention of [Conner; Perlis, 1984], [Serre, 1984; 1988; 1989; 1992], [Schacher; Sonn, 1986], [Feit, 1986; 1989], [Matzat, 1987; 1988; 1991], [Sonn, 1988; 1989; 1991], [Conner; Yui, 1988], [Karpilovski, 1989], [Mestre, 1990; 1994], [Turull, 1992], [Volklein, 1992], [E. Bayer, 1994], [Swallow, 1994], and [Epkenhans, 1994; 1997].
- Mestre [1990] succeeded in proving that $\widetilde{A}_{n}$ occurs as Galois group over $\mathbf{Q}(T)$ for any value of $n$. For that, Mestre combined some of the above techniques with ideas due to Henniart, Oesterlé, and Serre.


## A question of Serre



If $G=\operatorname{Gal}(L \mid K) \subseteq A_{n}, w\left(Q_{E}\right)=0$, and $\widetilde{G}=\operatorname{Gal}(\widetilde{L} \mid K) \subseteq \widetilde{A}_{n}$, how can $\tilde{L}=L(\sqrt{u})$ be effectively constructed?

## CHAPTER II



1991: UB
From May 1983 to July 1985

## The property (N)

Definition. A positive integer $n, n \not \equiv 0(\bmod 4)$ or $n \not \equiv 7(\bmod 8)$, satisfies the property ( N ) if there exists a decomposition of $n$ into a sum of three squares $n=x^{2}+y^{2}+z^{2}$ such that $\operatorname{gcd}(x, n)=1$ and $x^{2} \leq(n+1) / 3$.

- Is this property always satisfied?

$$
\text { il se peut que ce soit très difficile Serre, } 1983
$$

- P. Llorente checked that any positive integer $n \leq 600000, n \equiv 3$ (mod 8), satisfies the property ( $N$ ).
- Gauss, 1800: $n$ admits a primitive representation as a sum of three squares if and only if $n \not \equiv 0,4,7(\bmod 8)$.
- Catalan. If $n=3^{u}$, the three summands can be chosen to be coprime to 3 .
- Arenas: Constructed special families of integers fulfilling the property (N).


## The level of an integer: first results

Definition. Given a positive integer $n \neq 4^{a}(8 b+7)$, the level $\ell(n)$ is the maximum value $\ell$ such that $n$ can be written as a sum of three squares, $n=x_{1}^{2}+x_{2}^{2}+x_{3}^{2}$, with $\ell$ summands coprime to $n$.

Corollary. If $n \equiv 3(\bmod 8)$ is a positive integer such that $\ell(n)=3$, then any central extension of the alternating group $A_{n}$ is Galois over $\mathbf{Q}$.

Theorem. [Arenas] Let $n=m t>1$ be an integer, with $m=$ $2^{\alpha_{0}} p_{1}^{\alpha_{1}} \ldots p_{r}^{\alpha_{r}}, \alpha_{i} \geq 0, p_{i} \equiv 1(\bmod 4), t=q_{1}^{\beta_{1}} \ldots q_{s}^{\beta_{s}}, q_{j} \equiv 3(\bmod 4)$, $\beta_{j} \geq 0$.
(a) If $n \equiv 0(\bmod 2)$ or $n \equiv 0(\bmod 5)$, then $\ell(n) \leq 2$.
(b) If $n=m, \alpha_{0}=0$, then $\ell(n) \geq 2$.
(c) If $n=2^{\alpha_{0}} 5^{\alpha_{1}} p_{1}^{\alpha_{2}} \ldots p_{r}^{\alpha_{r}}, \alpha_{0}+\alpha_{1}>0, \alpha_{0} \leq 1$, then $\ell(n)=2$.
(d) If $n=m, \alpha_{0}=0$, and $n$ is an Euler numerus idoneus, then $\ell(n)=2$.
(e) If $n=t$ and $n \not \equiv 7(\bmod 8)$, then $\ell(n)=3$.

## A strategy for determining the level

From all the representations of $n$ discard those that are not good! Schinzel/Erdös, 1983

1. Compare numbers of representations of an integer $n$ by different ad hoc ternary quadratic forms.
2. Since the number of representations $r(n, f)$ cannot be determined in general, approximate this number by an average value $r(n$, gen $f)$.
3. Estimate the error $r(n, f)-r(n, \operatorname{gen} f)$.

## Some notation

$f$ positive definite ternary quadratic form with integer coefficients
$n$ positive integer
$r(n, f)=\#\left\{\left(x_{i}\right) \in \mathbf{Z}^{3}: f\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right)=n\right\}$
$r^{*}(n, f)=\#\left\{\left(x_{i}\right) \in \mathbf{Z}^{3}: f\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right)=n, \operatorname{gcd}\left(x_{i}\right)=1\right\}$
$r_{m}(n, f)=\#\left\{\left(x_{i}\right) \in \mathbf{Z}^{3}: f\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right) \equiv n(\bmod m)\right\}$

Möbius function:
$\mu(n)=\left\{\begin{array}{l}1, \text { if } n=1, \\ 0, \text { if } n \text { is not square-free, } \\ (-1)^{r}, \text { if } n=p_{1} \ldots p_{r} \text { is a product of distinct primes. }\end{array}\right.$

## Sums of three squares

$I_{3}=X_{1}^{2}+X_{2}^{2}+X_{3}^{2}$
$d_{i}(n)$ number of representations of $n$ by $I_{3}$ with exactly $i$ components not coprime to $n$
$g_{1}(n):=\frac{d_{3}(n)}{r\left(n, I_{3}\right)}$
$g_{2}(n):=\frac{d_{2}(n)+d_{3}(n)}{r\left(n, I_{3}\right)}$
$g_{3}(n):=\frac{d_{1}(n)+d_{2}(n)+d_{3}(n)}{r\left(n, I_{3}\right)}$
Lemma. [Arenas] Let $n$ be an odd positive integer, $n \not \equiv 7(\bmod 8)$, or an even positive integer, $n \not \equiv 0,4(\bmod 8)$. Then, for any $1 \leq i \leq 3$,

$$
g_{i}(n)<1 \Longleftrightarrow \ell(n, 3) \geq i
$$

## Auxiliary alternating sums

Theorem. [Arenas] For $1 \leq i \leq 3$, define

$$
s_{i}(n)=\rho_{i} \sum(-1)^{i} \mu\left(a_{1}\right) \mu\left(a_{2}\right) \mu\left(a_{3}\right) r\left(n,\left\langle a_{1}^{2}, a_{2}^{2}, a_{3}^{2}\right\rangle\right)
$$

where $\rho_{i}=3-2[i / 3]$ and the sum runs over those square-free positive integers $a_{j}$ such that $1<a_{j} \mid n$, for $j \leq i$, and $a_{j}=1$, for $j>i$. Then
(a) $s_{3}(n)=d_{3}(n)$,
(b) $s_{2}(n)=d_{2}(n)+3 d_{3}(n)$,
(c) $s_{3}(n)=d_{1}(n)+2 d_{2}(n)+3 d_{3}(n)$.

- $s_{i}(n)$ counts the number of representations of $n$ of level $\leq(3-i)$.

Corollary. Let $n \not \equiv 0,4,7(\bmod 8)$. Then
(a) $g_{1}(n)=\frac{s_{3}(n)}{r\left(n, I_{3}\right)}$,
(b) $g_{2}(n)=\frac{s_{2}(n)-2 s_{3}(n)}{r\left(n, I_{3}\right)}$,
(c) $g_{3}(n)=\frac{s_{1}(n)-s_{2}(n)+s_{3}(n)}{r\left(n, I_{3}\right)}$.

## Genus theory

$f$ definite integral quadratic integral form, gen $(f)=\left\{\left[f_{1}\right], \ldots,\left[f_{h}\right]\right\}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \operatorname{gen} f=\operatorname{gen} g \Longleftrightarrow f \stackrel{\mathbf{Z}_{p}}{\sim} g, \text { for all } p \in P \cup\{\infty\} \\
& r(n, \operatorname{gen}(f)):=\left(\sum_{i=1}^{h} \frac{1}{o\left(f_{i}\right)}\right)^{-1}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{h} \frac{r\left(n, f_{i}\right)}{o\left(f_{i}\right)}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Theorem. [Siegel]

$$
r(n, \operatorname{gen}(f))=\partial_{\infty}(n, f) \prod_{p} \partial_{p}(n, f),
$$

where

$$
\partial_{p}(n, f)=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\frac{2 \pi n^{1 / 2}}{(\operatorname{det} f)^{1 / 2}}, \text { if } p=\infty, \\
\frac{r_{p^{2 \alpha}}(n, f)}{p^{2 \alpha}}, \text { for all } \alpha \geq 2 \beta+1, p^{\beta} \| 2 n, \text { if } p \text { is prime. }
\end{array}\right.
$$

The average alternating sums attached to $n$
$f=\left\langle a_{1}^{2}, a_{2}^{2}, a_{3}^{2}\right\rangle, \quad a_{i} \mid n, \quad a_{i}$ square-free

$$
\begin{gathered}
d_{i, j}:=\operatorname{gcd}\left(a_{i}, a_{j}\right), \quad d_{123}:=\operatorname{gcd}\left(a_{1}, a_{2}, a_{3}\right), \quad d:=d_{123}^{-2} d_{12} d_{13} d_{23} \\
r\left(n,\left\langle a_{1}, a_{2}, a_{3}\right\rangle\right)=r\left(n d^{-2},\left\langle b_{1}, b_{2}, b_{3}\right\rangle\right), \text { where } b_{i}=d_{i j}^{-1} d_{i k}^{-1} d_{123} a_{i} \\
S_{i}(n):=\rho_{i} \sum(-1)^{i} \mu\left(a_{1}\right) \mu\left(a_{2}\right) \mu\left(a_{3}\right) r\left(n d^{-2}, \operatorname{gen}\left\langle b_{1}^{2}, b_{2}^{2}, b_{3}^{2}\right\rangle\right), \\
S_{i}^{\prime}(n):=\frac{S_{i}(n)}{r\left(n, I_{3}\right)}, \text { for } 1 \leq i \leq 3
\end{gathered}
$$

The main term in the determination of the level of $n$
$G_{1}(n):=S_{3}^{\prime}(n)$
$G_{2}(n):=S_{2}^{\prime}(n)-2 S_{3}^{\prime}(n)$
$G_{3}(n):=S_{1}^{\prime}(n)-S_{2}^{\prime}(n)+S_{3}^{\prime}(n)$

Computation of the main term $G_{i}(n)$, square-free case
$n=m t$ square-free positive integer
$m=2^{a} p_{1} \ldots p_{r}, p_{i} \equiv 1(\bmod 4), 0 \leq a \leq 1$
$t=q_{1} \ldots q_{s}, q_{j} \equiv 3(\bmod 4)$
Theorem. [Arenas] Let $n=m t$ be square-free, $n \not \equiv 7(\bmod 8)$.
Then
(a) If $n$ is odd,
$G_{1}(n)=1-3 P_{1}(m)+3 P_{2}(m)-P_{3}(m)$,
$G_{2}(n)=1-3 P_{2}(m)+2 P_{3}(m)$,
$G_{3}(n)=1-P_{3}(m)$.
(b) If $n$ is even,
$G_{1}(n)=1-2 P_{1}(m)+P_{2}(m)$,
$G_{2}(n)=1-P_{2}(m)$,
$G_{3}(n)=1$,
where $P_{j}(m)=\prod_{i=1}^{r}\left(1-2 j\left(1+p_{i}\right)^{-1}\right)$, for $1 \leq j \leq 3$.

## Computation of the main term $G_{i}(n)$, non square-free case

Definition. Let $n \not \equiv 0,4(\bmod p)$ be a positive integer and let $p$ ba a prime such that $v_{p}(n)=\alpha>0$. Writing $n=m p^{\alpha}$, let

$$
\frac{\partial_{p}\left(m p^{\alpha} d^{-2},\left\langle b_{1}^{2}, b_{2}^{2}, b_{3}^{2}\right\rangle\right)}{p \partial_{p}\left(m p^{\alpha}, I_{3}\right)}=:\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\partial_{p}^{\prime}(m, \alpha), \text { if } p \mid b_{i} \text { for exactly one } i, \\
\partial_{p^{2}}^{\prime}(m, \alpha), \text { if } p \mid d
\end{array}\right.
$$

Theorem. [Arenas] Let $n=m p^{\alpha}, \alpha=v_{p}(n)>0$. We assume that $\alpha$ is even if not all the exponents in the factorization of $n$ are odd. $n \not \equiv 0$ (mod 4). Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
G_{1}(n)= & G_{1}(m)+\partial_{p}^{\prime}(m, \alpha)\left(G_{2}(m)-G_{1}(m)\right)+\partial_{p^{2}}^{\prime}(m, \alpha)\left(1-G_{2}(m)\right), \\
G_{2}(n)= & G_{2}(m)+2 \partial_{p}^{\prime}(m, \alpha)\left(G_{3}(m)-G_{2}(m)\right)+ \\
& +\partial_{p^{2}}^{\prime}(m, \alpha)\left(1+G_{2}(m)-2 G_{3}(m)\right), \\
G_{3}(n)= & G_{3}(m)+\left(3 \partial_{p}^{\prime}(m, \alpha)-\partial_{p^{2}}^{\prime}(m, \alpha)\right)\left(1-G_{3}(m)\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

## Bound of the main term $G_{i}(n)$

Lemma. [Arenas] Let $n=m p^{\alpha} \not \equiv 0,4(\bmod 8)$ be a positive integer. If $\alpha>0$ and $p \neq 2$, then
(a) $0 \leq \partial_{p}^{\prime}(m, \alpha)<1 / 2$,
(b) $0 \leq \partial_{p^{2}}^{\prime}(m, \alpha)<p^{-1}$,
(c) $0 \leq 3 \partial_{p}^{\prime}(m, \alpha)-2 \partial_{p^{2}}^{\prime}(m, \alpha)<7 / 13$, if $p \neq 5$.
(d) $3 \partial_{5}^{\prime}(m, \alpha)-2 \partial_{52}^{\prime}(m, \alpha)=1$.
(e) $0 \leq 2 \partial_{p}^{\prime}(m, \alpha)-\partial_{p^{2}}^{\prime}(m, \alpha)<4 / 5$.

Theorem. [Arenas] Let $n=p_{1}^{\alpha_{1}} \ldots p_{k}^{\alpha_{k}}$ be a positive integer with $4 \nmid n$. Then there exist constants $c_{i}=c_{i}\left(p_{1} \cdots p_{k}\right)$ such that

$$
G_{i}(n)<c_{i}\left(p_{1} \ldots p_{k}\right)<1
$$

for $i=1,2,3$ if $\operatorname{gcd}(n, 10)=1$; and $i=1,2$ if $\operatorname{gcd}(n, 10) \neq 1$. In the latter case, we have $G_{3}(n)=1$.

## The average level

Definition.

$$
\ell_{a}(n, 3)=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
-1, \text { if } n=4^{a}(8 b+7) \\
0, \text { if } 4 \mid n \text { and } n \neq 4^{a}(8 b+7), \\
2, \text { if } \operatorname{gcd}(n, 10) \neq 1, \\
3, \text { if } \operatorname{gcd}(n, 10)=1
\end{array}\right.
$$

Remark.
For any $n \leq 10^{5}$ is

$$
\ell(n, 3)=\ell_{a}(n, 3),
$$

except for 24 cases in which is $\ell(n, 3)=1$ and $\ell_{a}(n, 3)=2$ and for
$n=13,37,403,793$ for which is $\ell(n, 3)=2$ and $\ell_{a}(n, 3)=3$.

- To bound the error term $\rightsquigarrow$ use modular forms!

Theorem. [Siegel, Shimura] Let $(V, B, f)$ be a quadratic space of dimension $k \geq 3$. Let
$L=\left\langle e_{1}, \ldots, e_{k}\right\rangle$ be a Z-lattice in $V$,
$L^{\#}:=\{x \in V: B(x, L) \subseteq \mathbf{Z}\}$ its dual lattice,
$e(z):=\exp (2 \pi i z)$.
Define $\theta(L, z)=\theta(f, z)=\sum_{x \in L} e(f(x) z), z \in \mathcal{H}$, $\operatorname{det} L=\operatorname{det}\left(B\left(e_{i}, e_{j}\right)\right)$,
$\chi(m)=\left\{\begin{array}{l}\left(\frac{2 \operatorname{det} L}{m}\right), \text { if } k \text { is odd }, \\ \left(\frac{(-1)^{d / 2} \operatorname{det} L}{m}\right), \text { if } k \text { is even. }\end{array}\right.$
Suppose that $f(L) \mathbf{Z}=\mathbf{Z}$ and that $f\left(L^{\#}\right) \mathbf{Z}=N^{-1} \mathbf{Z}$. Then
(a) $\theta(L, z) \in \mathcal{M}\left(\Gamma_{0}(N), k / 2, \chi\right)$.
(b) $\theta(L, z)-\theta(\operatorname{gen} L, z) \in \mathcal{S}\left(\Gamma_{0}(N), k / 2, \chi\right)$.

The error term $g_{i}(n)-G_{i}(n)$ in the determination of the level

$$
\left.\begin{array}{l}
\theta(f, z):=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} r(n, f) e(n z) \quad z \in \mathcal{H} \\
\theta(\operatorname{gen} f, z):=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} r(n, \operatorname{gen} f) e(n z) \\
\theta(z)=\theta\left(I_{1}, z\right)=1+2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e\left(n^{2} z\right) \quad \text { Jacobi theta function } \\
\qquad \mathcal{M}(\Gamma, k)=\mathcal{E}(\Gamma, k) \oplus \mathcal{S}(\Gamma, k) \\
\theta\left(I_{3}, z\right)=\theta^{3}(z) \in \mathcal{M}\left(\Gamma_{0}(4), 3 / 2\right) \\
\theta\left(\left\langle b_{1}^{2}, b_{2}^{2}, b_{3}^{2}\right\rangle, z\right) \in \mathcal{M}\left(\Gamma_{0}(N), 3 / 2\right) \\
\theta\left(\operatorname{gen}\left\langle b_{1}^{2}, b_{2}^{2}, b_{3}^{2}\right\rangle, z\right) \in \mathcal{E}\left(\Gamma_{0}(N), 3 / 2\right) \\
\theta\left(\left\langle b_{1}^{2}, b_{2}^{2}, b_{3}^{2}\right\rangle, z\right)-\theta\left(\operatorname{gen}\left\langle b_{1}^{2}, b_{2}^{2}, b_{3}^{2}\right\rangle, z\right) \in \mathcal{S}\left(\Gamma_{0}(N), 3 / 2\right)
\end{array} \quad N=4 b_{1}^{2} b_{2}^{2} b_{3}^{2}\right)
$$

## Spinor genus of a quadratic space

$$
\begin{aligned}
& (V, B)=(V, f) \quad K \text {-quadratic space, char }(K) \neq 2 \\
& s_{v}: x \mapsto x-2 v \frac{B(v, x)}{B(v, v)} \quad \text { reflection orthogonal to } v \\
& \begin{aligned}
& \text { Spn }: ~ O(V) \longrightarrow K^{*} /\left(K^{*}\right)^{2} \\
& u=s_{v_{1}} \ldots s_{v_{t}} \longrightarrow f\left(v_{1}\right) \ldots f\left(v_{t}\right) \\
& 1 \rightarrow \mathrm{SO}_{1}(V) \rightarrow \mathrm{SO}(V) \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Spn}} K^{*} /\left(K^{*}\right)^{2} \\
& 1 \rightarrow C_{2} \rightarrow \operatorname{Spn}(V) \rightarrow \mathrm{SO}_{1}(V) \rightarrow 1
\end{aligned}
\end{aligned}
$$

Definition. [Eichler] Two Z-lattices $L$ and $M$ in a Q-quadratic space $V$ are said to be spinor equivalent if there exists a transformation $u \in \mathrm{SO}(V)$ and, for each $p$, a transformation $v_{p} \in \mathrm{SO}_{1}(V)$ such that

$$
M_{p}=u v_{p} L_{p}
$$

- Properly equivalent lattices are in the same spinor genus, and lattices in the same spinor genus are in the same genus.

Theta series of ternary quadratic forms
$S\left(\Gamma_{0}(N), 3 / 2, \chi\right)=U \oplus U^{\perp}, \quad U=\oplus U(a), \quad 4 s^{2} a \mid N, a$ square-free
$U$ subspace spanned by certain Shimura thetaseries

Theorem. [Schulze-Pillot, 1984] Let L be a lattice of dimension 3, and level $N$. Let $n_{0} \mid N$ be a square-free integer. Then
(a) $\theta(L, z)-\theta(\operatorname{spn} L) \in U^{\perp}$.
(b) If $g(z)=\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a(n) e(n z) \in U\left(n_{0}\right)^{\perp}$, then

$$
a\left(n_{0} s^{2}\right)=O\left(s^{1 / 2+\varepsilon}\right)
$$

the $O$-constant depending on $\varepsilon, n_{0}$ and $g$.
Proof. (sketch) Shimura's lifting from modular forms of weight 3/2 to modular forms of weight 2 maps $U\left(n_{0}\right)^{\perp}$ to $S\left(\Gamma_{0}(N / 2), 2, \chi^{2}\right)$. Then apply Eichler proof of the Ramanujan-Petersson conjecture.

Bound of the error term $g_{i}(n)-G_{i}(n), n$ square-free
$n=m t$ square-free positive integer
$m=2^{a} p_{1} \ldots p_{r}, p_{i} \equiv 1(\bmod 4), 0 \leq a \leq 1$
$t=q_{1} \ldots q_{s}, q_{j} \equiv 3(\bmod 4)$
Theorem. [Arenas] Let $n=m t$ be a square-free positive integer and $f=\left\langle a_{1}^{2}, a_{2}^{2}, a_{3}^{2}\right\rangle, a_{i} \mid m, \operatorname{gcd}\left(a_{i}, a_{j}\right)=1$ for $i \neq j$. Then
(a) $\operatorname{gen} f=\operatorname{spn} f$.
(b) $r(n, f)-r(n$, gen $f)=O_{\varepsilon, m, f}\left(s^{1 / 4+\varepsilon}\right)$, for any $\varepsilon>0$.
(c) If $n \not \equiv 7(\bmod 8)$, then, for any $\varepsilon>0$ is

$$
g_{i}(n)-G_{i}(n)=O_{\varepsilon, m}\left(s^{-1 / 4+\varepsilon}\right)
$$

for $1 \leq i \leq 3$.

The determination of the level, square-free case

Theorem. [Arenas] Let Let $n=m t$ be a square-free positive, $n \not \equiv 7$ (mod 8). There exists a constant $c(m)$ such that

$$
\ell(n)= \begin{cases}2, & \text { if } \operatorname{gcd}(n, 10) \neq 1 \\ 3, & \text { if } \operatorname{gcd}(n, 10)=1\end{cases}
$$

for any $t>c(m)$.

The constants are non-trivial in general:

| $m$ | $c(m) \geq$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| 13 | 403 |
| 10 | 27190 |
| 37 | 37 |
| 13.61 | 793 |

Application to the Galois embedding problem
Corollary. Let $n=m t$ be a square-free positive integer, $n \equiv 3(\bmod 8)$, $n \not \equiv 0(\bmod 5)$. Then there exists a constant $c(m)$ such that any central extension of the alternating group $A_{n}$ occurs infinitely often as Galois group over $\mathbf{Q}$, for any $n>c(m)$.

Bound of the error term $g_{i}(n)-G_{i}(n)$, general case
$n=n_{0} s^{2}$ be a positive integer, $n \not \equiv 0,4,7(\bmod 8)$,
$n_{0}$ its square-free part
$m_{0}=\operatorname{rad}(n)$
Theorem. [Arenas] Let $f=\left\langle b_{1}^{2}, b_{2}^{2}, b_{3}^{2}\right\rangle$ be a quadratic form such that $b_{i} \mid n, \operatorname{gcd}\left(b_{i}, b_{j}\right)=1$, for $i \neq j, b_{i}$ square-free. Then
(a) $\operatorname{gen} f=\operatorname{spn} f$.
(b) $r(n, f)-r(n, \operatorname{gen} f)=O_{\varepsilon, n_{0}, f}\left(s^{1 / 2+\varepsilon}\right)$, for any $\varepsilon>0$.
(c) For any $\varepsilon>0$ and $1 \leq i \leq 3$, is

$$
g_{i}(n)-G_{i}(n)=O_{\varepsilon, m_{0}}\left(s^{-1 / 2+\varepsilon}\right)
$$

The determination of the level, square-free case
Theorem. [Arenas] Let $n \not \equiv 0,4,7(\bmod 8)$ and $m_{0}=\operatorname{rad}(n)$. There exists a constant $c\left(m_{0}\right)$ such that if $n>c\left(m_{0}\right)$, then

$$
\ell(n)= \begin{cases}2, & \text { if } \operatorname{gcd}(n, 10) \neq 1 \\ 3, & \text { if } \operatorname{gcd}(n, 10)=1\end{cases}
$$

The constants are trivial for $n \leq 10^{5}$, except for:

| $m_{0}$ | $c\left(m_{0}\right) \geq$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| 30 | 90 |
| 390 | 1170 |
| 570 | 1710 |
| 1230 | 3690 |
| 6630 | 19890 |

Application to the Galois embedding problem
Corollary. Let $n \equiv 3(\bmod 8), n \not \equiv 0(\bmod 5)$, be a positive integer. Let $m_{0}=\operatorname{rad}(n)$. Then there exists a constant $c\left(m_{0}\right)$ such that any central extension of the alternating group $A_{n}$ occurs infinitely often as Galois group over $\mathbf{Q}$, for any $n>c\left(m_{0}\right)$.

## CHAPTER III



1995: BCN Journées Arithmétiques
From September 1984 to February 1988

First explicit solutions to some Galois embedding problems

$$
1 \rightarrow C_{2} \rightarrow H_{8} \rightarrow C_{2} \times C_{2} \rightarrow 1 \quad \text { the quaternion group }
$$

Theorem. [Dedekind] Let $L=\mathrm{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3})$. The embedding problem $H_{8} \rightarrow C_{2} \times C_{2} \simeq \operatorname{Gal}(L \mid \mathbf{Q})$ is solvable by the field

$$
\widetilde{L}=\mathrm{Q}(\sqrt{(2+\sqrt{2})(3+\sqrt{6})}) .
$$

Theorem. [Witt, 1936] Let $K$ be a field of characteristic $\neq 2$. A biquadratic extension $L=K(\sqrt{a}, \sqrt{b}, \sqrt{c})$, $a b c=1$, can be embedded in a Galois extension $\widetilde{L} \mid K$ with Galois group $H_{8}$ if and only if the quadratic forms

$$
a X_{1}^{2}+b X_{2}^{2}+c X_{3}^{2}, \quad Y_{1}^{2}+Y_{2}^{2}+Y_{3}^{2}
$$

are $K$-equivalent.
If the matrix $P=\left(p_{i j}\right) \in \operatorname{SL}(2, K)$ yields the required isomorphism, then all the fields $\widetilde{L}$ solving the embedding problem are given by

$$
\widetilde{L}=\mathrm{Q}\left(\sqrt{r\left(1+p_{11} \sqrt{a}+p_{22} \sqrt{b}+p_{33} \sqrt{c}\right.}\right)
$$

where $r$ runs through $K^{*}$.

## Clifford algebras

$$
\begin{aligned}
& V \simeq K^{n}, \quad Q \text { a quadratic form, } \quad T(V) \text { tensor algebra } \\
& I(Q)=\langle v \otimes v-Q(v) 1\rangle_{v \in V} \subseteq T(V) \\
& \mathrm{Cl}(Q):=T(V) / I(Q) \\
& \alpha: \mathrm{Cl}(Q) \circlearrowleft, \alpha(v):=-v, v \in V \text {, } \\
& \text { two sided ideal } \\
& \text { principal automorphism } \\
& \mathrm{Cl}(Q)=\mathrm{Cl}^{0}(Q) \oplus \mathrm{Cl}^{1}(Q) \\
& \beta: \mathrm{Cl}(Q) \circlearrowleft, \beta\left(v_{1} \ldots v_{k}\right)=v_{k} \ldots v_{1} \\
& N(x):=\beta(x) x, \quad x \in \operatorname{Cl}(V, Q) \\
& \Gamma^{+}(Q)=\left\{x \in \mathrm{Cl}^{0}(Q)^{*}: x V x^{-1}=V\right\} \\
& 1 \rightarrow \Gamma_{0}^{+}(Q) \rightarrow \Gamma^{+}(Q) \xrightarrow{N} K^{*} \\
& 1 \rightarrow C_{2} \rightarrow \Gamma_{0}^{+}(Q) \xrightarrow{\varphi} \mathrm{SO}(Q) \\
& \text { principal antiautomorphism } \\
& \text { spinor norm } \\
& \text { special Clifford group } \\
& \text { reduced Clifford group } \\
& \text { where } \varphi(x)(v):=x v x^{-1}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Spinor construction of central extensions

$V=\left\langle e_{1}, \ldots e_{n}\right\rangle_{K}, I_{n}$ standard form
$\mathrm{Cl}(n, K): e_{i}^{2}=1, e_{i} e_{j}=-e_{j} e_{i}, i \neq j$
$n \geq 4, \quad A_{n} \subseteq \operatorname{SO}(n, K), s \mapsto p_{s}, p_{s}\left(e_{i}\right)=e_{s(i)}$
$s=(i, k)(j, \ell) \in A_{n}, \#\{i, j, k, l\}=4, x_{s}=\frac{1}{2}\left(e_{i}-e_{j}\right)\left(e_{k}-e_{\ell}\right) \in \mathrm{CI}(n, K)$

$$
N\left(x_{s}\right)=1, \quad x_{s}^{2}=-1
$$

$x_{s} \in \varphi^{-1}\left(A_{n}\right) \subseteq \Gamma_{0}^{+}(n, K)$, are elements of order 4 .
$\widetilde{A}_{n}:=\varphi^{-1}\left(A_{n}\right)$ is the unique non-trivial double cover of $A_{n}$.


The Clifford algebra of the trace form
$K \subseteq E \subseteq \bar{K},[E: K]=n,\left.L\right|_{G} K$ its splitting field
$Q(E):=\operatorname{Tr}_{E \mid K}\left(X^{2}\right), d(E):=\operatorname{disc}\left(\operatorname{Tr}_{E \mid K}\left(X^{2}\right)\right), w(E):=w\left(\operatorname{Tr}_{E \mid K}\left(X^{2}\right)\right)$
$\Phi=\operatorname{Hom}_{K}(E, \bar{K}), G$ acts on $\Phi ; G \subseteq A_{n} \Leftrightarrow d(E)=1 \in K^{*} /\left(K^{*}\right)^{2}$
Theorem. [Springer 1959, Serre 1982, Crespo]
(a) The L-quadratic spaces $\left(L^{n}, I_{n}\right)$ and $\left(L \otimes_{K} E, Q(E)\right)$ are isomorphic. Thus, there exists an isomorphism of Clifford algebras

$$
f: \mathrm{Cl}(n, L) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathrm{CI}\left(L \otimes_{K} E, Q(E)\right)
$$

such that $f\left(L^{n}\right)=L \otimes_{K} E$.
(b) If $d(E)$ and $w(E)$ are trivial, then there exists a $K$-algebra isomorphism $\mathrm{g}: \mathrm{Cl}(n, K) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathrm{Cl}(Q(E))$ such that

$$
g\left(\mathrm{Cl}^{0}(n, K)\right)=\mathrm{Cl}^{0}(E), \quad g\left(\mathrm{Cl}^{1}(n, K)\right)=\mathrm{Cl}^{1}(Q(E))
$$

The proof of the proposition (sketch)
(a) $f: \mathrm{CI}(n, L) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathrm{CI}\left(L \otimes_{K} E, Q(E)\right)$

$$
\begin{gathered}
E=\left\langle e_{1}, \ldots, e_{n}\right\rangle, \quad M=\left(e_{i}^{s_{j}}\right) \in \mathrm{GL}(n, L), \quad s_{j} \in \Phi, \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq n \\
M^{T} M=\left(\operatorname{Tr}_{E \mid K}\left(e_{i} e_{j}\right)\right) \Rightarrow\left(L^{n}, I_{n}\right) \simeq\left(L \otimes_{K} E, Q(E)\right) .
\end{gathered}
$$

The vectors $v_{i}:=f\left(e_{i}\right)$ yield a basis of $\mathrm{Cl}\left(L \otimes_{K} E\right)$ and satisfy

$$
v_{i}^{2}=1, \quad v_{i} v_{j}=-v_{j} v_{i}, \quad \text { for } i \neq j ; \quad v_{i}^{s}=v_{s(i)}, \quad \text { for all } s \in G .
$$

(b) $g: \mathrm{Cl}(n, K) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathrm{Cl}(Q(E))$, if $d(E)$ and $w(E)$ are trivial.

The proof goes back to Springer. He uses the description of $w(E)$ in terms of non-commutative cohomology classes in $H^{1}\left(G_{K}, \mathrm{SO}(n, \bar{K})\right)$. The elements $w_{i}=g\left(e_{i}\right) \in \mathrm{Cl}^{1}(Q(E))$ are invariant under $G$. They satisfy

$$
w_{i}^{2}=1, \quad w_{i} w_{j}=-w_{j} w_{i}, \quad \text { for } i \neq j
$$



- Let $\left(u_{s}\right)$ be a system of representatives in $\widetilde{G}$ of the elements of $G$. From the construction of $\widetilde{G}$ they satisfy

$$
u_{s} e_{i} u_{s}^{-1}=u_{s(i)}, \quad s \in G, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n
$$

- The 2-cocycle $\varepsilon \in H^{2}\left(G, C_{2}\right)$ corresponding to the extension $\tilde{G}$ is defined by a factor set ( $a_{s, t}$ ), $a_{s, t} \in C_{2}$, such that

$$
u_{s} u_{t}=a_{s, t} u_{s t} .
$$

- On the other hand, if the embedding problem is solvable, we need to find an element $\gamma \in L$ such that $\widetilde{L}=L(\sqrt{\gamma})$ and

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \gamma^{s}=b_{s}^{2} \gamma, \text { for all } s \in G, \text { and } b_{s} \in L^{*} \text { satisfying } \\
& \qquad b_{s} b_{t}^{s} b_{s t}^{-1}=a_{s, t}
\end{aligned}
$$

Main tool for the construction of $\gamma$ : Clifford algebras
$f: \mathrm{Cl}(n, L) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathrm{Cl}\left(L \otimes_{K} E, Q(E)\right)$
$g: \mathrm{Cl}(n, K) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathrm{Cl}(Q(E))$, if $d(E)$ and $w(E)$ are trivial.

Theorem. [Crespo] Let $v_{i}=f\left(e_{i}\right), w_{i}=g\left(e_{i}\right)$.
(a) The isomorphisms $f, g$ can be chosen so that the element

$$
z:=\sum_{\epsilon_{j} \in\{0,1\}} v_{1}^{\epsilon_{1}} v_{2}^{\epsilon_{2}} \cdots v_{n}^{\epsilon_{n}} w_{n}^{\epsilon_{n}} \cdots v_{2}^{\epsilon_{2}} v_{1}^{\epsilon_{1}} \in \mathrm{CL}\left(L \otimes_{K} E\right)
$$

is nonzero. Accordingly, $z$ and $N(z)$ are invertible in $\mathrm{CL}^{0}\left(L \otimes_{K} E\right)$ and L, respectively.
(b) Let $m_{s}=f\left(u_{s}\right), b_{s}=m_{s}^{-1} z^{s} z^{-1}$. Then, for all $s, t \in G$, is
(i) $b_{s} \in L^{*}$.
(ii) $N(z)^{s}=b_{s}^{2} N(z)$.
(iii) $b_{s} b_{t}^{s}=a_{s, t} b_{s t}$.

## Answering Serre's question

Theorem. [Crespo] Let $K$ be any fiel of characteristic $\neq 2$. Let $E \mid K$ be a separable extension of degree $n$ whose Galois closure $L \mid K$ has a Galois group $\operatorname{Gal}(L \mid K) \simeq G \subseteq A_{n}, n \geq 4, n \neq 6,7$. The spinor embedding problem $\widetilde{G} \rightarrow G \simeq \operatorname{Gal}(L \mid K)$ is solvable if and only if $w(E)$ is trivial. If this is the case, the general solution to the embedding problem is

$$
\widetilde{L}=L(\sqrt{r \gamma})
$$

where $\gamma$ is a nonzero component of $N(z)$ in a G-invariant basis of $\mathrm{CI}\left(L \otimes_{K} E\right)$ and $r$ runs through $K^{*}$.

Remark. If $Q(E) \simeq I_{n}$ over $K$, and $P \in \operatorname{GL}(n, K)$ is such that $P^{T}\left(\operatorname{Tr}\left(e_{i} e_{j}\right)\right) P=I_{n}$, then

$$
\gamma=N(z)=2^{n} \operatorname{det}(M P+I)
$$

- In Witt's example: $\operatorname{det}(M P+I)=4\left(p_{11} \sqrt{a}+p_{22} \sqrt{b}+p_{33} \sqrt{c}\right)$.


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EPILOGE: construction of modular forms of weight one
$H^{2}\left(S_{4}, C_{2}\right) \simeq C_{2} \times C_{2}, \quad 1 \rightarrow C_{2} \rightarrow \widetilde{S}_{4} \rightarrow S_{4} \rightarrow 1$
$f_{4}(X)$ polynomial defining $E,[E: \mathrm{Q}]=4, d=$ discriminant of $E$

| $\widetilde{S}_{4}$ | $1 \widetilde{A}$ | $2 \widetilde{A}$ | $4 \widetilde{A}$ | $3 \widetilde{A}$ | $6 \widetilde{A}$ | $2 \widetilde{B}$ | $8 \widetilde{A}$ | $8 \widetilde{B}$ |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| order | 1 | 1 | 12 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 6 |
| $\chi_{1}$ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| $\chi_{2}$ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | -1 | -1 | -1 |
| $\chi_{3}$ | 2 | 2 | 2 | -1 | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| $\chi_{4}$ | 3 | 3 | -1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | -1 | -1 |
| $\chi_{5}$ | 3 | 3 | -1 | 0 | 0 | -1 | 1 | 1 |
| $\chi_{6}$ | 2 | -2 | 0 | -1 | 1 | 0 | $i \sqrt{2}$ | $-i \sqrt{2}$ |
| $\chi_{7}$ | 2 | -2 | 0 | -1 | 1 | 0 | $-i \sqrt{2}$ | $i \sqrt{2}$ |
| $\chi_{8}$ | 4 | -4 | 0 | 1 | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

$\widetilde{S}_{4}$ admits two faithful irreducible representations of dimension 2.

## Modular forms of octahedral type

Let $\widetilde{S}_{4} \rightarrow S_{4} \simeq \operatorname{GaI}(L \mid \mathrm{Q})$ be a solvable embedding problem

- $\rho: G_{\mathbf{Q}} \rightarrow \operatorname{Gal}(\widetilde{L} \mid \mathbf{Q}) \simeq \widetilde{S}_{4} \hookrightarrow \mathrm{GL}(2, \mathbf{C})$ odd Galois representation $f(z)=\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n} q^{n}, \quad q=e^{2 \pi i z}$ modular form of weight one
$\bar{\rho}: G_{\mathbf{Q}} \rightarrow \operatorname{Gal}(L \mid \mathbf{Q}) \simeq S_{4} \hookrightarrow \mathrm{PGL}(2, \mathbf{C})$
$\ell \nmid d$, a prime, $\quad \operatorname{Frob}_{\rho, \ell} \subset \widetilde{S}_{4}, \quad \operatorname{Frob}_{\bar{\rho}, \ell} \subset S_{4} \quad$ conjugacy classes
- $\operatorname{Frob}_{\bar{\rho}, \ell}$ determines only $a_{\ell}^{2}$
- Frob $_{\rho, \ell}$ determines $a_{\ell}$, but the computation of Frob $_{\rho, \ell}$ requires an explicit solution of the embedding problem.


## An explicit reciprocity law of octahedral type

$$
\begin{aligned}
& f(X)=X^{4}-2 X-1 \in \mathbb{Q}[X], \quad x_{i} \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}}, \quad f\left(x_{i}\right)=0,1 \leq i \leq 4, \\
& E=\mathbb{Q}\left(x_{1}\right), L=\mathbb{Q}\left(\left\{x_{i}\right\}\right), d=-688=-2^{4} \cdot 43, \quad \operatorname{Gal}(L \mid \mathbb{Q}) \simeq S_{4} \\
& \Phi\left(S_{4}\right)=\{1 A, 2 A, 2 B, 3 A, 4 A\}
\end{aligned}
$$

| $\lambda \mathcal{O}_{1}$ | $\operatorname{Fr}_{\ell}(L \mid \mathbb{Q})$ | $\sharp$ | $\delta$ | $\ell \quad(\neq 2,43)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| $\lambda_{1} \lambda_{1}^{\prime} \lambda_{1}^{\prime \prime} \lambda_{1}^{\prime \prime \prime}$ | $1 A$ | 1 | $1 / 24$ | $173,487,619,719,827,857, \ldots$ |
| $\lambda_{2} \lambda_{2}^{\prime}$ | $2 A$ | 6 | $1 / 4$ | $47,59,79,107,181,197, \ldots$ |
| $\lambda_{1} \lambda_{1}^{\prime} \lambda_{2}$ | $2 B$ | 3 | $1 / 8$ | $c, 19,37,71,113,131,137,149, \ldots$ |
| $\lambda_{1} \lambda_{3}$ | $3 A$ | 8 | $1 / 3$ | $11,13,17,23,31,41,53,67,83, \ldots$ |
| $\lambda_{4}$ | $4 A$ | 6 | $1 / 4$ | $3,5,7,29,61,73,89,151,163, \ldots$ |


| $\widetilde{S}_{4}$ | $1 \widetilde{A}, 2 \widetilde{A}$ | $4 \widetilde{A}$ | $2 \widetilde{B}$ | $3 \widetilde{A}, 6 \widetilde{A}$ | $8 \widetilde{A}, 8 \widetilde{B}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $S_{4}$ | $1 A$ | $2 A$ | $2 B$ | $3 A$ | $4 A$ |

$$
\widetilde{L}=L(\sqrt{\gamma}), \quad \gamma=3\left(x_{1}^{3} x_{2}^{2}-x_{2}^{2}-x_{1}^{2} x_{2}+x_{1} x_{2}+x_{2}\right)+x_{1}^{3}-2 x_{1}^{2}+4 x_{1}
$$

| $\mathrm{Fr}_{\ell}$ | $\sharp$ | $\operatorname{Tr}\left(\mathrm{Fr}_{\ell}\right)$ | $\operatorname{det}\left(\mathrm{Fr}_{\ell}\right)$ | $\ell \quad(\neq 2,43)$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| $1 \widetilde{A}$ | 1 | 2 | 1 | $487,619,719, \cdots$ |
| $2 \tilde{A}$ | 1 | -2 | 1 | $173,827,857, \cdots$ |
| $2 \tilde{B}$ | 6 | 0 | -1 | $c, 19,37,71,113,131,137, \cdots$ |
| $3 \tilde{A}$ | 8 | -1 | 1 | $11,17,53,67,97,101, \cdots$ |
| $4 \tilde{A}$ | 12 | 0 | 1 | $47,59,79,107,181,197, \cdots$ |
| $6 \tilde{A}$ | 8 | 1 | 1 | $13,23,31,41,83,109, \cdots$ |
| $8 \tilde{A}$ | 6 | $i \sqrt{2}$ | -1 | $7,29,61,89,179, \cdots$ |
| $8 \widetilde{B}$ | 6 | $-i \sqrt{2}$ | -1 | $3,5,73,151,163, \cdots$ |

$\square \square \square$

Other contributions...


From 1981 to 1988

