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Article

Investigating Monogeneity in a Family of Cyclic Sextic Fields

István Gaál

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Abstract: Jones [7] characterized among others monogeneity of a family of cyclic sextic polynomials. Our purpose is to study monogeneity of the family of corresponding sextic number fields. This also provides the first non-trivial application of the method described in [4], emphasizing its efficiency.

Keywords: monogeneity; power integral basis; sextic fields; relative cubic extension; quadratic subfield; Thue equations

MSC: Primary 11Y50, 11R04; Secondary 11D25

1. Introduction

Monogeneity and power integral bases is a classical topic in algebraic number theory, which is intensively studied even today. For the classical results we refer to [9], for several recent results to [2]. Even during the last couple of years a huge number of results contributed this area [3]. Here we shortly summarize the most important definitions.

A number field K of degree n with ring of integers \mathbb{Z}_K is called *monogenic* (cf. [2]) if there exists $\xi \in \mathbb{Z}_K$ such that $(1, \xi, \dots, \xi^{n-1})$ is an integral basis, called *power integral basis*. We call ξ the *generator* of this power integral basis. $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}_K$ are called *equivalent*, if $\alpha + \beta \in \mathbb{Z}$ or $\alpha - \beta \in \mathbb{Z}_K$. Obviously, α generates a power integral basis in K if and only if any β , equivalent to α , does. As it is known, any algebraic number field admits, up to equivalence, only finitely many generators of power integral bases.

An irreducible polynomial $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ is called *monogenic*, if a root ξ of $f(x)$ generates a power integral basis in $K = \mathbb{Q}(\xi)$. If $f(x)$ is monogenic, then K is also monogenic, but the converse is not true.

For $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_K$ (generating K over \mathbb{Q}) the module index

$$I(\alpha) = (\mathbb{Z}_K : \mathbb{Z}[\alpha])$$

is called the *index* of α . The element α generates a power integral basis in K if and only if $I(\alpha) = 1$. If $\alpha^{(i)}$ ($1 \leq i \leq n$) are the conjugates of α in K of degree n , then

$$I(\alpha) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|D_K|}} \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} |\alpha^{(i)} - \alpha^{(j)}|,$$

where D_K is the discriminant of K . Searching for elements of \mathbb{Z}_K , generating power integral bases, leads to a Diophantine equation. Let $(1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n)$ be an integral basis of K , and let $L^{(i)}(x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_2 \omega_2^{(i)} + \dots + x_n \omega_n^{(i)}$ be the conjugates of the linear form $L(x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_2 \omega_2 + \dots + x_n \omega_n$ ($1 \leq i \leq n$). The polynomial

$$I(x_2, \dots, x_n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|D_K|}} \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (L^{(i)}(x_2, \dots, x_n) - L^{(j)}(x_2, \dots, x_n))$$

has rational integer coefficients and degree $n(n-1)/2$. It is called the *index form* corresponding to the integral basis $(1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n)$. Obviously, $\gamma = x_1 + \omega_2 x_2 + \dots + \omega_n x_n \in \mathbb{Z}_K$ generates a power integral basis in K if and only if $(x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^{n-1}$ is a solution of the *index form equation*

$$I(x_2, \dots, x_n) = \pm 1$$

(independently of x_1).

Recently several authors apply the method of Newton polygons and Dedekind criterion which can be used to prove monogeneity or non-monogeneity of polynomials and number fields. It is also an important problem to determine explicitly all inequivalent generators of power integral bases of a number field. The resolution of the index form equations requires numerical algorithms. Up to now, we only have general efficient algorithms for determining all inequivalent generators of power integral bases only in cubic, quartic and special types of sextic and octic number fields. The reason is, that in these cases the relevant index form equations lead to Thue equations or relative Thue equations, which can be easily solved (cf. [2]), at least when their coefficients are moderate.

These algorithms for the "complete resolution" of index form equations, may require too long CPU time. There are also some very fast methods for determining generators of power integral bases with "small" coefficients, say, being $< 10^{100}$ in absolute value, with respect to an integral basis. These solutions cover all solutions with high probability, certainly all generators that can be used in practice for further calculations. It is usual to apply such algorithms also if we need to solve a large number of equation.

The general method for the complete resolutions of index form equations in sextic fields [2] requires a huge amount of time. However, for some special types of sextic fields we have developed very efficient methods. One of the most interesting case is represented by composites of real cubic and imaginary quadratic fields [4]. In this paper we give the first non-trivial application of that method to a parametric family of cyclic sextic fields, studied by L. Jones [7].

For further results on the monogeneity of cyclic sextic fields we refer to [10], [1], [8].

2. The Family of Cyclic Sextic Fields

Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and consider

$$f(x) = x^6 + (n^2 + 5)x^4 + (n^2 + 2n + 6)x^2 + 1. \quad (1)$$

Jones [7] proved:

Lemma 1. $f(x)$ is irreducible for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, and is monogenic exactly for $n = -2, -1, 0, 1$.

Let ξ be a root of $f(x)$ and set $K = \mathbb{Q}(\xi)$ with ring of integers \mathbb{Z}_K and discriminant D_K . We prove that in case $f(x)$ is monogenic, often there are further inequivalent generators of power integral bases of K in addition to ξ . Moreover, there are parameters n , for which $f(x)$ is not monogenic, but K is monogenic.

Let

$$g(x) = x^3 + (n^2 + 5)x^2 + (n^2 + 2n + 6)x + 1. \quad (2)$$

Denote by α a root of $g(x)$, let $L = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ with ring of integers \mathbb{Z}_L and discriminant D_L . We have $\xi^2 = \alpha$, therefore L is a subfield of K .

Lemma 2. K is a composite of the totally real cubic number field L and the imaginary quadratic field $M = \mathbb{Q}(i)$, where the discriminants of L and M are coprime.

Proof. Substituting $x = y - (n^2 + 5)/3$ into $g(x)$ and writing the resulting polynomial in the form $h(y) = y^3 + py + q$ we obtain

$$D(h) = \left(\frac{q}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{p}{3}\right)^3 = -\frac{1}{108}(n^2 + n + 7)^2(n^2 + n - 1)^2 < 0,$$

whence the roots $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ of $g(x)$ are real numbers: L is a totally real cubic number field.

Set

$$\zeta = (-n^2 - 2n^2 - 3n + 3)\zeta + (-n^3 + n^2 - 5n + 4)\zeta^3 + (-n + 1)\zeta^5.$$

A Maple calculation implies

$$\zeta^2 = (-1)(n^2 + n - 1)^2,$$

whence $\zeta = i \cdot (n^2 + n - 1)$. Hence $M = \mathbb{Q}(i)$ is also a subfield of K .

An integral basis of M is $(1, i)$, the discriminant of M is $D_M = -4$. The discriminant of $g(x)$ is

$$D(g) = (n^2 + n + 7)^2(n^2 + n - 1)^2,$$

which is always an odd number. D_L is a divisor of $D(g)$, hence D_L is also odd. These imply, that $(D_M, D_L) = 1$. \square

As a consequence of $(D_M, D_L) = 1$ we obtain:

Lemma 3. *If*

$$(1, \beta_2, \beta_3)$$

is an integral basis of L then

$$(1, \beta_2, \beta_3, i, i\beta_2, i\beta_3)$$

is an integral basis of K .

The properties of K allow to apply the method described in [4].

Denote by $\alpha^{(j)}$ ($j = 1, 2, 3$) the conjugates of α , and let $\beta_2^{(j)}, \beta_3^{(j)}$ be the conjugates of β_2, β_3 , respectively, corresponding to $\alpha^{(j)}$.

Let

$$\gamma = x_1 + x_2\beta_2 + x_3\beta_3 + iy_1 + iy_2\beta_2 + iy_3\beta_3 \in \mathbb{Z}_K \quad (3)$$

be arbitrary with $x_1, x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3 \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then

$$\gamma^{(1,j)} = x_1 + x_2\beta_2^{(j)} + x_3\beta_3^{(j)} + iy_1 + iy_2\beta_2^{(j)} + iy_3\beta_3^{(j)}$$

and

$$\gamma^{(2,j)} = x_1 + x_2\beta_2^{(j)} + x_3\beta_3^{(j)} - iy_1 - iy_2\beta_2^{(j)} - iy_3\beta_3^{(j)}$$

($j = 1, 2, 3$) are the conjugates of γ .

3. Auxiliary Results

We formulate the following general results of [6] for our special case of a sextic field K being a composite of a totally real cubic field L and an imaginary quadratic subfield $M = \mathbb{Q}(i)$.

Lemma 4. For $\gamma \in \mathbb{Z}_K$ generating K over \mathbb{Q} we have

$$I(\gamma) = I_{K/M}(\gamma) \cdot J(\gamma)$$

where

$$I_{K/M}(\gamma) = (\mathbb{Z}_K : \mathbb{Z}_M[\gamma]) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|N_{M/\mathbb{Q}}(D_{K/M})|}} \prod_{i=1}^2 \prod_{1 \leq j_1 < j_2 \leq 3} |\gamma^{(i,j_1)} - \gamma^{(i,j_2)}|$$

is the relative index of γ and

$$J(\gamma) = \frac{1}{|D_M|^{3/2}} \prod_{j_1=1}^3 \prod_{j_2=1}^3 |\gamma^{(1,j_1)} - \gamma^{(2,j_2)}|.$$

If γ generates a power integral basis in K , that is $I(\gamma) = 1$, then $I_{K/M}(\gamma) = 1$ and $J(\gamma) = 1$. Let $I_L(x_2, x_3) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ be the index form corresponding to the integral basis $(1, \beta_2, \beta_3)$ of L .

In [4] we showed that in our special case:

Lemma 5. If $I_{K/M}(\gamma) = 1$ then

$$|I_L(x_2, x_2)| \leq 1, \quad |I_L(y_2, y_3)| \leq 1. \quad (4)$$

This is the main power of the method described in [4]. The relative index form equation $I_{K/M}(\gamma) = 1$ (in our case a cubic relative Thue equation over the quadratic subfield M , cf. [2]) implies absolute index form equations in L , which are cubic Thue equations. Moreover, in the special case of our number field K , $J(\gamma)$ also factorizes:

Lemma 6. If $J(\gamma) = 1$ then

$$N_{L/\mathbb{Q}}(y_1 + \beta_2 y_2 + \beta_3 y_3) = \pm 1 \quad (5)$$

and

$$P(\gamma) = \prod_{\substack{1 \leq j_1, j_2 \leq 3 \\ j_1 \neq j_2}} |\gamma^{(1,j_1)} - \gamma^{(2,j_2)}| = \pm 1. \quad (6)$$

Proof. In our case $|D_M| = 4$ and

$$\frac{1}{2^3} \prod_{j=1}^3 (\gamma^{(1,j)} - \gamma^{(2,j)})$$

is a symmetric polynomial with rational integer coefficients, equal to $N_{L/\mathbb{Q}}(y_1 + \beta_2 y_2 + \beta_3 y_3)$. The corresponding factor of $J(\gamma)$ is $P(\gamma)$, also having rational integer coefficients. \square

4. The Algorithm

In view of the above statements, in order to determine all non-equivalent generators of power integral bases of K , we perform the following steps for each parameter value n :

1. Calculate an integer basis $(1, \beta_2, \beta_3)$ of L .
2. Solve $I_L(x_2, x_3) = \pm 1$. Let H be the set of solutions (x_2, x_3) .
3. Let $H_0 = H \cup \{(0, 0)\}$.
4. For all $(y_1, y_2) \in H_0$ calculate the corresponding y_1 . Let H_1 be the set of possible triples (y_1, y_2, y_3) .
5. For all $(x_1, x_2) \in H_0$ and for all $(y_1, y_2, y_3) \in H_1$ construct γ (cf. (3)) and test if $I_{K/M}(\gamma) = 1$ and $P(\gamma) = 1$ hold.

We performed all calculations in Maple, also the integral basis in Step 1 was calculated by Maple.

In Step 2 we calculated the solutions (x_2, x_3) of

$$I_L(x_2, x_3) = \pm 1, \quad x_2, x_3 \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad \text{with } |x_2|, |x_3| \leq 10^{100}. \quad (7)$$

For larger parameters the coefficients of I_L become extremely large, therefore the complete resolution of (7) would have been very time consuming.

In Step 4, for given (y_2, y_3) we calculated y_1 using equation (5) which is then a polynomial equation in y_1 with integer coefficients.

Step 5 is necessary to select the solutions from the set of possible solutions.

As an example for equation (7), for $n = 140$ we provide here the integral basis $(1, x, (x^2 + 58941x + 118925)/138173)$ of L and the corresponding index form equation:

$$I(x_2, x_3) = -138173x_2^3 - 137613x_2^2x_3 - 44758x_2x_3^2 - 4777x_3^3.$$

We performed two series of explicit numerical calculations.

A. $-100 \leq n \leq 100$.

Calculating the solutions of (7) with $-100 \leq n \leq 100$ took about 30 minutes, out of which the calculation for the interval $-50 \leq n \leq 50$ took only 1.5 minutes. This shows how the large coefficients slow down the calculations.

B. $n \in S$, where

$$S = \{n : n \in [-1000, -100) \cup (100, 1000], \quad n^2 + n + 7 \text{ square free}\}.$$

The set S contains 1110 parameters n . The reason to consider this set is that for all $n \in S$ we have the same type of integer basis. Hence we can write equation (7) in a parametric form and we can perform also Step 4 and Step 5 in a parametric form. It took 39 minutes to find the solution of $I(x_2, x_3) = \pm 1$ with $|x_2|, |x_3| \leq 10^{100}$ for all the 1110 parameters $n \in S$.

5. Results

For the set **A** of parameters n our explicit calculations imply:

Theorem 1. $n = -56, -14, -7, -5, -2, -1, 0, 1, 4, 6, 13$ are the only values of n with $-100 \leq n \leq 100$, such that K admits generators of power integral bases with coefficients $\leq 10^{100}$ in the integral basis.

This statement was proved by explicit numerical calculations, following the above Algorithm. All data of generators of power integral bases in the monogenic fields are listed in Section 6.

For the set **B** of parameters we only calculated the solutions of equation (7) using Maple, and the remaining calculations were made in a parametric form.

Theorem 2. For $n \in S$ there are no generators γ (cf. (3)) of power integral bases of K with coefficients $x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3 \in \mathbb{Z}$ having absolute values $< 10^{100}$.

Remark. We can not exclude the existence of monogenic fields K for $|n| > 100$, but they are certainly not of type S .

Proof. Our explicit calculations showed that for all $n \in S$ an integral basis of L is given by

$$(1, \alpha, \beta),$$

where

$$\beta = \frac{\alpha^2 + (n^2 - n + 3)\alpha + n^2}{n^2 + n - 1}.$$

The index form of L , corresponding to this integral basis is

$$I_L(x_2, x_3) = (n^2 + n - 1)x_2^2 + (n^2 - 3n - 1)x_2^2x_3 + (2 - 2n)x_2x_3^2 + x_3^3.$$

Let

$$T := \{(0, 0), (\pm 1, \pm n), (0, \pm 1), (\pm 1, \pm(n-1))\}. \quad (8)$$

It is easy to check that $(x_2, x_3) \in T$ are solutions of $|I(x_2, x_3)| \leq 1$. For $n \in S$ we did not find any further solutions of (7).

For $n \in S$, $(0, 0) \neq (y_2, y_3) \in T$ there exist no corresponding y_1 . This can be shown by explicit calculations using symmetric polynomials. For example, for $y_2 = 1, y_3 = n$ the left hand side of (5) is

$$N = y_1^3 + (2n - 5)y_1^2 + (n^2 - 7n + 6)y_1 - 2n^2 + 4n - 1.$$

We have

$$N + 1 = (ny_1 + y_1^2 - 2n - 3y_1)(y_1 + n - 2)$$

$$N - 1 = (y_1 + n - 1)(ny_1 + y_1^2 - 2n - 4y_1 + 2)$$

The above second degree factors are non-zero for $n \in S$. There remains $y_1 = 2 - n, 1 - n$ to test. For these triplets (y_1, y_2, y_3) and for all $(x_2, x_3) \in T$ we calculated $P(\gamma)$ using again symmetric polynomials. These $P(\gamma)$ are polynomials of n with integer coefficients, for which neither $P(\gamma) + 1$, nor $P(\gamma) - 1$ has integer roots in n . The other possible non-zero pairs (y_2, y_3) were considered similarly.

For $(y_2, y_3) = (0, 0)$ we obviously have $y_1 = \pm 1$. For $(y_1, y_2, y_3) = (\pm 1, 0, 0)$ we again tested all $(x_2, x_3) \in T$ and found that neither $P(\gamma) + 1$, nor $P(\gamma) - 1$ has integer roots in n . \square

6. Table

Here we list the values of n with $-100 \leq n \leq 100$ for which we found generators γ of power integral bases of K with coefficients $< 10^{100}$ in absolute value in the integral bases. We display n and the integral basis $(1, \beta_1, \beta_2)$ of L . We display the coefficients $(x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3)$ of non-equivalent generators γ (cf. (3)) of power integral bases with respect to the integral basis $(1, \beta_1, \beta_2, i, i\beta_1, i\beta_2)$.

$$n = -56, \text{ integral basis of } L: \left(1, \frac{x+4}{7}, \frac{x^2+9353x+18531}{150871}\right)$$

$$(x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3) = (0, 0, 9, -49, 170), (0, 0, 10, -49, 170), (0, 0, -4, 17, -59),$$

$$(0, 0, -3, 17, -59), (0, 0, -5, 32, -111), (0, 0, -4, 32, -111)$$

$$n = -14, \text{ integral basis of } L: \left(1, \frac{x+1}{3}, \frac{x^2+32x+1282}{1629}\right)$$

$$(x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3) = (0, 0, 12, -5, -16), (0, 0, 13, -5, -16), (0, 0, 11, -4, -13),$$

$$(0, 0, 12, -4, -13), (0, 0, -25, 9, 29), (0, 0, -24, 9, 29)$$

$$n = -7, \text{ integral basis of } L: \left(1, x, \frac{x^2+141x+254}{287}\right)$$

$$(x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3) = (0, 0, -19, -7, 23), (0, 0, -18, -7, 23), (0, 0, 7, 3, -10),$$

$$(0, 0, 8, 3, -10), (0, 0, 11, 4, -13), (0, 0, 12, 4, -13)$$

$n = -5$, integral basis of L : $\left(1, x, \frac{x^2 + 14x + 25}{57}\right)$
 $(x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3) = (0, 0, 0, -2, -7), (0, 0, 1, -2, -7), (0, 0, 1, -1, -4),$
 $(0, 0, 2, -1, -4), (0, 0, -4, 3, 11), (0, 0, -3, 3, 11)$

$n = -2$, integral basis of L : $(1, x, x^2)$
 $(x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3) = (0, 0, -5, -17, -2), (0, 0, -4, -17, -2), (0, 0, -4, -9, -1),$
 $(0, 0, -3, -9, -1), (0, 0, 9, 26, 3), (0, 0, 10, 26, 3)$

$n = -1$, integral basis of L : $(1, x, x^2)$
 $(x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3) = (0, 0, -4, -6, -1), (0, 0, -3, -6, -1), (0, 0, -2, -5, -1),$
 $(0, 0, -1, -5, -1), (0, 0, 4, 11, 2), (0, 0, 5, 11, 2)$

$n = 0$, integral basis of L : $(1, x, x^2)$
 $(x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3) = (0, 0, -1, -3, -1), (0, 0, 0, -3, -1), (0, 0, -2, -1, 0),$
 $(0, 0, -1, -1, 0), (0, 0, 2, 4, 1), (0, 0, 3, 4, 1)$

$n = 1$, integral basis of L : $(1, x, x^2)$
 $(x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3) = (0, 0, -1, -3, -1), (0, 0, 0, -3, -1), (0, 0, -3, -1, 0),$
 $(0, 0, -2, -1, 0), (0, 0, 1, 4, 1), (0, 0, 2, 4, 1)$

$n = 4$, integral basis of L : $\left(1, x, \frac{x^2 + 53x + 16}{57}\right)$
 $(x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3) = (0, 0, 0, -4, 7), (0, 0, 1, -4, 7), (0, 0, -1, 1, -2),$
 $(0, 0, 0, 1, -2), (0, 0, 1, 3, -5), (0, 0, 2, 3, -5)$

$n = 6$, integral basis of L : $\left(1, x, \frac{x^2 + 74x + 200}{287}\right)$
 $(x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3) = (0, 0, -11, -2, 17), (0, 0, -10, -2, 17), (0, 0, 4, 1, -9),$
 $(0, 0, 5, 1, -9), (0, 0, 5, 1, -8), (0, 0, 6, 1, -8)$

$n = 13$, integral basis of L : $\left(1, x, \frac{x^2 + 521x + 169}{1629}\right)$
 $(x_2, x_3, y_1, y_2, y_3) = (0, 0, 4, -16, 25), (0, 0, 5, -16, 25), (0, 0, -3, 7, -11),$
 $(0, 0, -2, 7, -11), (0, 0, -2, 9, -14), (0, 0, -1, 9, -14)$

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