

# ANALOGUES OF ARTIN'S CONJECTURE<sup>1</sup>

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Artin's celebrated conjecture on primitive roots (Artin [1, p. viii], Hasse [2], Hooley [3]) suggests the following

*Conjecture.* Let  $S'$  be a set of rational primes. For each  $q \in S$ , let  $L_q$  be an algebraic number field of degree  $n(q)$ . For every square-free integer  $k$ , divisible only by primes of  $S$ , define  $L_k$  to be the composite of all  $L_q$ ,  $q|k$ , and denote  $n(k) = \deg(L_k/\mathbb{Q})$ . Assume that  $\sum_k 1/n(k)$  converges, where the sum is over those  $k$  for which  $L_k$  is defined. Then the natural density of the set  $P$  of all primes  $p$  which do not split completely in each  $L_q$  exists and has the value  $\sum_k \mu(k)/n(k)$ , where  $\mu$  is the Möbius function and the term  $k=1$  has been included with  $n(1)=1$ .

If  $S = \{\text{all rational primes}\}$ ,  $L_q = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_q, a^{1/q})$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\zeta_q = a$  primitive  $q$ th root of 1, then the conjecture is equivalent to Artin's conjecture. If  $S$  is a finite set, then the conjecture is easily verifiable using the prime ideal theorem. For  $S = \{\text{all rational primes}\}$ ,  $L_q = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_q^r)$ , the conjecture has been proved by Knobloch [4] (for  $r=2$  and only for Dirichlet densities) and by Mirsky [5].

We have proved the following theorems, whose proofs will appear elsewhere.

**THEOREM 1.** *Let there exist a finite set  $S_0 \subset S$  such that  $L_q \supset \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_q^r)$  for  $q \in S - S_0$ , and  $L_q/\mathbb{Q}$  is normal for all  $q \in S$ . Then the conjecture is true.*

**THEOREM 2.** *Suppose that for each finite subset  $S_0 \subset S$  there exists a family of algebraic number fields  $\{L'_q\}_{q \in S}$  such that*

- (1)  $L_q = L'_q$  for  $q \in S_0$ ,
- (2)  $L'_q \subset L_q$  for all  $q \in S$ ,
- (3)  $L'_q \neq \mathbb{Q}$  for all  $q \in S$ ,
- (4) the conjecture is true for  $\{L'_q\}_{q \in S}$ .

*Then the conjecture is true for  $\{L_q\}_{q \in S}$ .*

**THEOREM 3.** *If the density  $d(P)$  of  $P$  exists, then*

$$d(P) \leq \sum_k \mu(k)/n(k).$$

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