# PROBLEM SET

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ABSTRACT. This is the problem set for the authors' 2024 PCMI minicourse on Massey products in Galois cohomology.

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# 1. QUADRATIC FORMS

Reference: [3].

1. Let V be a vector space over a field F of characteristic not 2. A quadratic form on V is a map  $q: V \to F$  such that  $q(av) = a^2 q(v)$  for all  $a \in F$  and  $v \in V$  and the associated map

$$b_q: V \times V \to F \quad (v, w) \mapsto q(v+w) - q(v) - q(w)$$

is a bilinear form. A quadratic form q is called *nondegenerate* (or *nonsingular*) if the bilinear form  $b_q$  is nondegenerate; cf [3, Proposition 1.2].

Two quadratic forms are said to be *isomorphic* (or *isometric*) if there exists an isomorphism of the underlying vector spaces which respects the bilinear forms; see [3, p. 4]. The *orthogonal sum*  $g \perp h$  of two quadratic forms g and h is defined in a natural way; see [3, p. 6].

For all  $a_1, \ldots, a_n \in F^{\times}$ , we write  $\langle a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n \rangle$  for the quadratic form

$$a_1x_1^2 + a_2x_2^2 + \ldots + a_nx_n^2$$
.

Prove that every nondegenerate quadratic form is isomorphic to  $\langle a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n \rangle$  for some  $a_i \in F^{\times}$ .

2. The form  $\mathbb{H} = \langle 1, -1 \rangle$  is the hyperbolic plane. A form isomorphic to the orthogonal sum  $\mathbb{H}^{\perp n}$  of n > 0 copies of the hyperbolic plane is called hyperbolic. A nondegenerate quadratic form  $q: V \to F$  is *isotropic* if q(v) = 0 for some nonzero  $v \in V$ . Prove that a nondegenerate quadratic form q is isotropic if and only if  $q \simeq \mathbb{H} \perp q'$  for some quadratic form q'.

3. Two nondegenerate quadratic forms g and h are called *Witt equivalent* if  $g \perp \mathbb{H}^{\perp n} \simeq h \perp \mathbb{H}^{\perp m}$  for some  $n, m \geq 0$ . The set of equivalence classes  $[q] \in W(F)$  of nondegenerate quadratic forms q over F is endowed with the two operations

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 $[g] + [h] = [g \perp h]$  and  $[g] \cdot [h] = [g \otimes h]$ ; see [3, I.§6, p. 17] for the definition of the Kronecker product  $g \otimes h$ . Prove that W(F) is a commutative ring, called the *Witt* ring of F.

For simplicity, we will write q for [q] in W(F).

4. Show that the Cancellation Law  $f \perp g \simeq f \perp h \Rightarrow g \simeq h$  (see [3, I.§4, Theorem 4.2]) implies that two nondegenerate quadratic forms g and h are isomorphic if and only if g = h in W(F) and  $\dim(g) = \dim(h)$ .

5. Let  $a, b \in F^{\times}$ . The form

$$\langle\!\langle a,b
angle\!\rangle = \langle 1,-a,-b,ab
angle = \langle 1,-a
angle\otimes \langle 1,-b
angle$$

is called a 2-fold Pfister form. Let Q = (a, b) be the quaternion algebra, i.e., Q is a 4-dimensional algebra with basis  $\{1, i, j, k\}$  and multiplication table k = ij = -ji,  $i^2 = a$  and  $j^2 = b$ . Prove that if Q = (a, b) is a quaternion algebra then the reduced norm quadratic form Nrd<sub>Q</sub> on Q is isomorphic to  $\langle\!\langle a, b \rangle\!\rangle$ . Show that if Q is split, then Nrd<sub>Q</sub> is hyperbolic, otherwise, Nrd<sub>Q</sub> is anisotropic. (See [3, III.§1 and §2] or [1, Chapter 1] for the definitions.)

6. Prove that the set D(q) of nonzero values of  $q = \langle \langle a, b \rangle \rangle$  is closed under multiplication. Prove that  $dq \simeq q$  for every  $d \in D(q)$ .

7. If  $q = \langle\!\langle a, b \rangle\!\rangle$ , we write  $q^{\circ}$  for the form  $\langle a, b, -ab \rangle$ , thus  $q = \langle 1 \rangle \perp (-q^{\circ})$ . Let Q be a quaternion algebra and let  $Q^{\circ} \subset Q$  be the subspace of pure quaternions. Consider the 3-dimensional quadratic form h on  $Q^{\circ}$  given by  $h(x) = x^2$ . Prove that  $h \simeq (\operatorname{Nrd}_Q)^{\circ}$ .

8. Two form g and h are called similar (or similar in W(F)) if  $h \simeq ag$  (respectively, h = ag in W(F)) for some  $a \in F^{\times}$ . Let  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  be two 2-fold Pfister forms. Suppose that for  $a_1, a_2 \in F^{\times}$ , the forms  $a_1q_1$  and  $a_2q_2$  have a common nonzero value. Prove that  $a_1q_1 - a_2q_2$  is similar to  $q_1 - q_2 = q_2^{\circ} - q_1^{\circ}$  in W(F).

Let K/F be a quadratic field extension.

9. Prove that for every  $x, y \in K \setminus F$  such that  $x/y \notin F$  there exist nonzero  $a, b \in F$  such that ax + by = 1. Prove that  $\langle \langle ax, by \rangle \rangle = 0$  and

$$\langle\!\langle a,b\rangle\!\rangle + \langle\!\langle x,y\rangle\!\rangle = \langle\!\langle a,y\rangle\!\rangle + \langle\!\langle b,x\rangle\!\rangle$$

in W(K).

10. Let  $s: K \to F$  be a nonzero *F*-linear map such that s(1) = 0. Prove that *s* is unique up to an *F*-multiple. Prove that if *h* is a (nondegenerate) quadratic form over *K*, then  $s_*(h) := s \circ h$  is a (nondegenerate) quadratic form over *F* of dimension  $2 \dim(h)$ . Show that the map  $s_* : W(K) \to W(F)$  is a group homomorphism (called the *transfer* map). Prove that  $s_*(\operatorname{Im}(W(F) \to W(K)) = 0$ .

11. Prove that  $s_*(\langle\!\langle b, x \rangle\!\rangle)$  is similar to  $\langle\!\langle b, N_{K/F}(x) \rangle\!\rangle$  and  $s_*(\langle\!\langle a, y \rangle\!\rangle)$  is similar to  $\langle\!\langle a, N_{K/F}(y) \rangle\!\rangle$  in W(F).

12. Prove that

$$s_*\langle\!\langle x, y \rangle\!\rangle = s_*\langle\!\langle a, y \rangle\!\rangle + s_*\langle\!\langle b, x \rangle\!\rangle$$

in W(F). Show that the forms  $s_*\langle\!\langle a, y \rangle\!\rangle$  and  $-s_*\langle\!\langle b, x \rangle\!\rangle$  have a common nonzero value in F.

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13. Deduce from Problem 8 that the 6-dimensional forms  $s_*(\langle\langle x, y \rangle\rangle^\circ)$  and

$$\langle\!\langle a, N_{K/F}(y) \rangle\!\rangle^{\circ} \rangle \perp (-\langle\!\langle b, N_{K/F}(x) \rangle\!\rangle^{\circ})$$

are similar. (Remark: A biquaternion algebra is the tensor product of two quaternion algebras,  $A = B \otimes_F C$ . The 6-dimensional form  $(\operatorname{Nrd}_B)^\circ \perp -(\operatorname{Nrd}_C)^\circ$  is called an Albert form of A; see [2, §16]. It depends on the decomposition of A into tensor product of two quaternion algebras, but every two Albert forms of A are similar. One can restate the exercise as follows: Prove that for every quaternion algebra Q over K, the form  $s_*(\operatorname{Nrd}_Q)^\circ$  is similar to an Albert form of the biquaternion algebra  $N_{K/F}(Q)$ .)

14. Let Q be a quaternion algebra over K. Prove that the algebra  $N_{K/F}(Q)$  is split if and only if the 6-dimensional form  $s_*(\operatorname{Nrd}_Q)^\circ$  is hyperbolic.

### 2. Group cohomology

References: [5], [4, Chapter 1].

1. Let  $\Gamma$  be a profinite group and let M be a  $\Gamma$ -module considered as a discrete topological space. For an integer  $n \geq 0$  write  $C^n(\Gamma, M)$  for the abelian group of all continuous maps  $(n\text{-cochains}) \Gamma^n \to M$ . Consider the homomorphisms

$$d^n: C^n(\Gamma, M) \to C^{n+1}(\Gamma, M)$$

defined by the formula

$$d^{n}(\varphi)(x_{1},\ldots,x_{n+1}) = x_{1}\varphi(x_{2},\ldots,x_{n+1}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (-1)^{i}\varphi(x_{1},\ldots,x_{i-1},x_{i}x_{i+1},\ldots,x_{n+1}) + (-1)^{n+1}\varphi(x_{1},\ldots,x_{n}).$$

Show that  $d^{n+1} \circ d^n = 0$  for all *n*. Define the following groups:

 $Z^n(\Gamma, M) = \operatorname{Ker}(d^n)$  the group of *n*-cocycles of  $\Gamma$  with values in M,

 $B^n(\Gamma, M) = \operatorname{Im}(d^{n-1})$  the group of *n*-coboundaries of  $\Gamma$  with values in M,

 $H^n(\Gamma,M)=Z^n(\Gamma,M)/B^n(\Gamma,M)$  the n-th cohomology group of  $\Gamma$  with values in M.

2. Show that

$$H^0(\Gamma, M) = M^{\Gamma} := \{ m \in M \mid xm = m \text{ for all } x \in \Gamma \}.$$

3. Prove that an exact sequence  $0 \to M \to N \to P \to 0$  of  $\Gamma$ -modules yields an infinite exact sequence

$$\dots \to H^n(\Gamma, M) \to H^n(\Gamma, N) \to H^n(\Gamma, P) \to H^{n+1}(\Gamma, M) \to \dots$$

4. Show that if  $\Gamma$  acts trivially on M, the group  $H^1(\Gamma, M)$  is equal to the group of all continuous homomorphisms  $\Gamma \to M$ .

5. Prove that if M is a  $\Gamma$ -module and  $\Gamma' \subset \Gamma$  is a (closed) subgroup, then the restriction map  $C^n(\Gamma, M) \to C^n(\Gamma', M)$  yields the *restriction* homomorphism

$$\operatorname{res}_{\Gamma/\Gamma'}: H^n(\Gamma, M) \to H^n(\Gamma', M).$$

If  $\Gamma'$  is an open subgroup of  $\Gamma$  (and therefore, of finite index), there is the *corestriction* homomorphism

$$\operatorname{cor}_{\Gamma/\Gamma'}: H^n(\Gamma', M) \to H^n(\Gamma, M).$$

6. Prove that if  $\Gamma'$  is a normal subgroup of  $\Gamma$ , then the group  $M^{\Gamma'}$  has the natural structure of a  $\Gamma/\Gamma'$ -module and the natural map  $C^n(\Gamma/\Gamma', M^{\Gamma'}) \to C^n(\Gamma, M)$  yields the *inflation* homomorphism

$$\inf_{\Gamma/\Gamma'} : H^n(\Gamma/\Gamma', M^{\Gamma'}) \to H^n(\Gamma, M).$$

Prove that the inflation homomorphisms yield an isomorphism

$$\operatorname{colim} H^n(\Gamma/\Gamma', M^{\Gamma'}) \xrightarrow{\sim} H^n(\Gamma, M).$$

where the colimit (direct limit) is taken over all open normal subgroups  $\Gamma' \subset \Gamma$ .

7. Let  $\varphi \in Z^n(\Gamma, N)$  and  $\psi \in Z^m(\Gamma, M)$  be two cocycles. Prove that the function  $\varphi \cup \psi : \Gamma^{n+m} \to N \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} M$  defined by the formula

$$(\varphi \cup \psi)(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_m) = \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n) \otimes x_1 \cdots x_n \psi(y_1, \dots, y_m)$$

is a (n+m)-cocycle. Prove that this construction yields a well-defined *cup-product* bilinear map

$$\cup: H^n(\Gamma, N) \times H^m(\Gamma, M) \to H^{n+m}(\Gamma, N \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} M).$$

Prove the projection formula:

$$\operatorname{cor}_{\Gamma/\Gamma'}(\varphi \cup \operatorname{res}_{\Gamma/\Gamma'}(\psi)) = \operatorname{cor}_{\Gamma/\Gamma'}(\varphi) \cup \psi,$$

where  $\Gamma'$  is an open subgroup of  $\Gamma$ ,  $\varphi \in H^n(\Gamma', N)$  and  $\psi \in H^m(\Gamma, M)$ .

8. Let F be a field, let  $F_{sep}$  be a separable closure of F and  $\Gamma = \Gamma_F = \text{Gal}(F_{sep}/F)$ . The multiplicative group  $F_{sep}^{\times}$  of  $F_{sep}$  is a  $\Gamma$ -module. We write

$$H^n(F, F_{\operatorname{sep}}^{\times}) := H^n(\Gamma, F_{\operatorname{sep}}^{\times}).$$

Prove that  $H^0(F, F_{\text{sep}}^{\times}) = F^{\times}$  and  $H^n(F, F_{\text{sep}}^{\times}) \simeq \operatorname{colim} H^n(G, L^{\times})$ , where the colimit is taken over all finite Galois field sub-extensions L/F of  $F_{\text{sep}}/F$  and  $G = \operatorname{Gal}(L/F)$ .

9. Let L/F be a finite field extension with Galois group G. Let  $l: G \to L$  be a map such that  $\sum_{\tau \in G} l(\tau) \cdot \tau(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in L$ . Prove that  $l(\tau) = 0$  for all  $\tau \in G$ .

Let  $l: G \to L^{\times}$  be a 1-cocycle. Show that there is  $x \in L$  such that

$$y := \sum_{\tau \in G} l(\tau) \cdot \tau(x) \neq 0.$$

Prove that  $l(\sigma) = y/\sigma(y)$  for all  $\sigma \in G$ . Deduce that  $H^1(G, L^{\times}) = 1$  and  $H^1(F, F_{sep}^{\times}) = 1$ . This is *Hilbert's Theorem 90*.

10. Prove that the sequence of  $\Gamma$ -modules  $0 \to \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \to F_{\text{sep}}^{\times} \to F_{\text{sep}}^{\times} \to 1$ , where the first map takes  $1 + 2\mathbb{Z}$  to -1 in  $F_{\text{sep}}^{\times}$  and the second map takes x to  $x^2$ . Deduce that there is a canonical *Kummer* isomorphism

$$\operatorname{Hom}_{cont}(\Gamma, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) = H^1(F, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \simeq F^{\times}/F^{\times 2}.$$

11. For an element  $a \in F^{\times}$  write  $\chi_a : \Gamma \to \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  for the character of  $\Gamma$  corresponding to  $aF^{\times 2}$  under the Kummer isomorphism. If  $\chi_a$  is a nontrivial character,

show that the subfield of all  $\text{Ker}(\chi_a)$ -invariant elements in  $F_{\text{sep}}$  is isomorphic to  $F_a = F(a^{1/2})$ .

3. BRAUER GROUP

Reference: [1].

1. Let A and B be two F-algebras. Prove that

$$M_n(A) \otimes_F M_m(B) \simeq M_{nm}(A \otimes_F B).$$

2. Let Z(A) be the center of an *F*-algebra *A*. Prove that

$$Z(A \otimes_F B) = Z(A) \otimes_F Z(B)$$

for every two *F*-algebras *A* and *B*. In particular, if both *A* and *B* are central *F*-algebras, then so is  $A \otimes_F B$ .

3. A finite dimensional *F*-algebra *A* is called *simple* if *A* has no proper twosided ideals. By *Wedderburn's Theorem* [1, Theorem 2.1.3] and Problem 2, every central simple *F*-algebra *A* is isomorphic to  $M_k(D)$ , where *D* is a central division *F*-algebra. The algebra *D* is uniquely determined by *A* (up to isomorphism) as the endomorphism algebra of a (unique) simple right *A*-module; cf. [1, Lemma 2.1.6]. Let *A* and *B* be two simple *F*-algebras. Prove that if *A* is central, then  $A \otimes_F B$  is simple. In particular, if *A* and *B* are central simple *F*-algebras, then so is  $A \otimes_F B$ .

4. Two finite-dimensional central simple *F*-algebras *A* and *B* are called *equivalent* if  $M_n(A) \simeq M_m(B)$  for some integers n, m > 0. The set Br(F) of equivalence classes [*A*] of central simple *F*-algebras form the *Brauer group* via the (additively written) operation

$$[A] + [B] = [A \otimes_F B].$$

Prove that -[A] is the class of the opposite algebra  $A^{op}$  (see [1, p. 32] for the definition of  $A^{op}$ ).

If A is a central simple algebra, we will often write A instead of [A].

5. Prove that two central simple F-algebras A and B are isomorphic if and only if A = B in Br(F) and dim(A) = dim(B).

6. Let L/F be a finite field extension with Galois group G. Let  $l: G \times G \to L^{\times}$  be a 2-cocycle, i.e.,

$$l(\sigma,\tau) \cdot l(\sigma\tau,\rho) = \sigma(l(\tau,\rho)) \cdot l(\sigma,\tau\rho)$$

for all  $\sigma, \tau, \rho \in G$ . Let A(l) be a vector space over L with basis  $e_{\sigma}$  for  $\sigma \in G$ . We make A(l) into an F-algebra via the following multiplication rules:

(i)  $e_{\sigma}x = \sigma(x)e_{\sigma}$  for all  $\sigma \in G$  and  $x \in L$ ,

(*ii*)  $e_{\sigma}e_{\tau} = l(\sigma, \tau) \cdot e_{\sigma\tau}$ .

Prove that A(l) is a central simple *F*-algebra. Show that A(l) does not change up to isomorphism if the cocycle l is replaced by an equivalent one:  $A(l') \simeq A(l)$  if  $l' \cdot l^{-1}$  is a coboundary.

In fact, the assignment  $l \mapsto A(l)$  yields a group isomorphism

 $H^2(G, L^{\times}) \xrightarrow{\sim} \operatorname{Ker}(\operatorname{Br}(F) \to \operatorname{Br}(L)),$ 

and taking these over all L we get an isomorphism

$$H^2(F, F_{sep}^{\times}) \xrightarrow{\sim} Br(F);$$

see [1, Theorem 4.4.7].

7. Let L/F be a field extension. Prove that if A is a central simple F-algebra, then  $A_L := A \otimes_F L$  is a central simple L-algebra, and the assignment  $A \mapsto A_L$  yields a well defined *restriction* homomorphism Res : Br $(F) \to$  Br(L). In fact, the restriction homomorphism Res is compatible with the restriction in Galois cohomology: the diagram

is commutative.

8. Let V be a vector space over  $F_{\text{sep}}$ . Suppose  $\Gamma = \text{Gal}(F_{\text{sep}}/F)$  acts on V so that  $\gamma(xv) = \gamma(x)\gamma(v)$  for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ ,  $x \in F_{\text{sep}}$  and  $v \in V$ . Let W be the F-subspace of  $\Gamma$ -invariant elements in V. Prove that the map

$$F_{\operatorname{sep}} \otimes_F W \to V \qquad x \otimes w \mapsto xw$$

is an isomorphism of vector spaces over  $F_{\text{sep}}$ .

9. Let L/F be a finite separable field extension and let A be an L-algebra. Let X be the set of all F-algebra homomorphisms  $\tau : L \to F_{\text{sep}}$ . The Galois group  $\Gamma = \text{Gal}(F_{\text{sep}}/F)$  acts on X by  $\gamma(\tau) = \gamma \circ \tau$ . For any  $\tau \in X$  let  $A_{\tau}$  be the tensor product  $A \otimes_L F_{\text{sep}}$  where  $F_{\text{sep}}$  is made into an L-algebra via  $\tau$ , so that  $ay \otimes x = a \otimes \tau(y)x$  for  $a \in A$ ,  $y \in L$  and  $x \in F_{\text{sep}}$ . For any  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $\tau \in X$  the map

$$\widetilde{\gamma}_{\tau}: A_{\tau} \to A_{\gamma\tau}, \quad a \otimes x \mapsto a \otimes \gamma(x)$$

is a ring isomorphism such that  $\widetilde{\gamma}_{\tau}(xu) = \gamma(x) \cdot \widetilde{\gamma}_{\tau}(u)$  for  $x \in F_{sep}, u \in A_{\tau}$ .

Consider the tensor product  $B = \bigotimes_{\tau \in X} A_{\tau}$  over  $F_{sep}$ . The group  $\Gamma$  acts continuously on B by

$$\gamma(\otimes a_{\tau}) = \otimes a'_{\tau}$$
 where  $a'_{\gamma\tau} = \widetilde{\gamma}_{\tau}(a_{\tau}).$ 

Show that B is an  $F_{sep}$ -algebra such that  $\gamma(xz) = \gamma(x) \cdot \gamma(z)$  for every  $x \in F_{sep}$ and  $z \in B$ . Write  $N_{L/F}(A)$  for the F-subalgebra of  $\Gamma$ -invariant elements in B. It is called the *norm algebra of* A for the field extension L/F. Show that the natural homomorphism  $F_{sep} \otimes_F N_{L/F}(A) \to B$  is an isomorphism of  $F_{sep}$ -algebras and

$$\dim_F(N_{L/F}(A)) = \dim_L(A)^{[L:F]}.$$

Prove that if A is a central simple L-algebra, then  $N_{L/F}(A)$  is a central simple *F*-algebra. Prove that the assignment  $[A] \mapsto [N_{L/F}(A)]$  is a well defined group homomorphism  $N_{L/F}$ : Br $(L) \to$  Br(F). In fact, the norm homomorphism  $N_{L/F}$  is compatible with corestriction in Galois cohomology: the diagram

$$\begin{array}{c} H^2(L, L_{\operatorname{sep}}^{\times}) \xrightarrow{\operatorname{cor}} H^2(F, F_{\operatorname{sep}}^{\times}) \\ \\ \| \\ \\ \\ \operatorname{Br}(L) \xrightarrow{N_{L/F}} \operatorname{Br}(F) \end{array}$$

is commutative.

All fields below are of characteristic different from 2.

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10. Using Hilbert's Theorem 90 prove that there a canonical isomorphism

$$h_F: H^2(F, \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{\sim} Br(F)[2].$$

11. Let Q = (a, b) be the quaternion algebra over F; see [1, Chapter 1]. Prove that Q is a central simple algebra over F. Prove that the following are equivalent: (i)  $Q \simeq M_2(F)$ ;

(ii) The quadratic form  $\langle a, b, -ab \rangle$  is isotropic;

(iii) The 2-fold Pfister form  $\langle\!\langle a, b \rangle\!\rangle$  is hyperbolic.

12. Let  $a, b \in F^{\times}$ . Prove that

$$(\chi_a \cup \chi_b)(\sigma, \tau) = \chi_a(\sigma)\chi_b(\tau)$$

in  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  and  $h_F(\chi_a \cup \chi_b)$  in Br(F)[2] coincides with the class of the quaternion algebra (a, b).

13. Prove that (a, b) + (a, c) = (a, bc) in Br(F).

14. Prove that the endomorphism  $\sigma$  of the quaternion algebra Q over a field F of characteristic different from 2 given by  $\sigma(x+yi+zj+tk) = \sigma(x-yi-zj-tk)$  is an involution of Q, i.e.,  $\sigma(uv) = \sigma(v)\sigma(u)$  for all  $u, v \in Q$  and  $\sigma \circ \sigma = \mathrm{id}_Q$ . Deduce that  $Q^{op} \simeq Q$  and 2[Q] = 0 in  $\mathrm{Br}(F)$ .

15. Under the assumptions of Problem 14, set

 $\operatorname{Trd}(q) := q + \sigma(q), \qquad \operatorname{Nrd}(q) := q \cdot \sigma(q)$ 

for all  $q \in Q$ . Prove that  $\operatorname{Trd}(q)$  is a linear map  $Q \to F$  (the *reduced trace*) and  $\operatorname{Nrd}(q)$  is a quadratic form  $Q \to F$  (the *reduced norm*).

16. Prove that every element q of a quaternion algebra Q is a root of the quadratic polynomial  $x^2 - \text{Trd}(q)x + \text{Nrd}(q)$  over F.

17. Let K/F be a quadratic field extension and let Q = (x, y) a quaternion algebra over K.

(i) If both x and y belong to F, then  $N_{K/F}(Q) = 0$  in Br(F) and  $N_{K/F}(Q) \simeq M_4(F)$ .

(ii) If  $x \in F$ , show that  $N_{K/F}(Q) = (x, N_{K/F}(y))$  in Br(F) and  $N_{K/F}(Q) \simeq M_2((x, N_{K/F}(y)))$ .

(*iii*) If  $x \in L \setminus F$  and  $y \in L \setminus F$ , let  $a, b \in F^{\times}$  be so that ax + by = 1 (see Problem 9 in the Quadratic Forms section). Prove that

$$N_{K/F}(Q) = (a, N_{K/F}(y)) + (b, N_{K/F}(x))$$
 in Br(F)

and that

 $N_{K/F}(Q) \simeq (a, N_{K/F}(y)) \otimes_F (b, N_{K/F}(x))$ 

is a biquaternion algebra.

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