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GALOIS CO-DESCENT FOR ÉTALE WILD KERNELS AND CAPITULATION

by M. KOLSTER* and A. MOVAHHEDI

Introduction.

For a number field $F$, the classical wild kernel - denoted by $WK_2(F)$ - is the kernel of all local power norm residue symbols on $K_2(F)$, in other words it fits into Moore’s exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow WK_2(F) \rightarrow K_2(F) \rightarrow \bigoplus_v \mu(F_v) \rightarrow \mu(F) \rightarrow 0,$$

where $v$ runs through all finite and real infinite primes of $F$, and $\mu(F_v)$ and $\mu(F)$ denote the groups of roots of unity of the local field $F_v$ and of $F$, respectively. For a fixed prime number $p$, the $p$-primary part $WK_2(F)\{p\}$ of $WK_2(F)$ has another description in terms of étale cohomology: For any finite set $S$ of primes in $F$ containing the $p$-adic primes and the real infinite primes, we have

$$WK_2(F)\{p\} = \ker (H^2_{\text{ét}}(\mathcal{O}^S_F, \mathbb{Z}_p(2)) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(2))).$$

This property immediately leads to the definition of the higher étale wild kernels for $i \geqslant 2$:

$$WK^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(F) := \ker (H^2_{\text{ét}}(\mathcal{O}^S_F, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))).$$

The étale wild kernels play a similar role in étale cohomology, étale $K$-theory and Iwasawa-theory as the $p$-primary parts $A'_F$ of the $S$-class groups

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of $F$. For these, Galois co-descent is classically described by genus theory. The main result of this paper proves an analogous genus formula for the étale wild kernels of a cyclic extension $L/F$ of degree $p$, $p$ odd. Let $G = \Gal(L/F)$. We first show that the transfer map $WK^\et_{2i-2}(L)_G \to WK^\et_{2i-2}(F)$ is onto except in a very special situation, and we determine its kernel as the cokernel of a certain cup-product which is obtained as follows: Let $E = F(\mu_p)$, where $\mu_p$ consists of the $p$-th roots of unity and let $\Delta = \Gal(E/F)$. We associate with the extension $LE/E$ a certain set $T_{LE/E}$ of primes of $E$, consisting of all tamely ramified primes and some undecomposed $p$-adic primes. Let $\Br^T(E)$ denote the subgroup of the Brauer-group which is supported only at primes in $T_{LE/E}$, and let $p\Br^T(E)$ denote the subgroup of all the elements in $\Br^T(E)$ of exponent $p$. The target of the cup-product is the $(1-i)$-eigenspace $p\Br^T(E)[1-i]$, under the action of the Teichmüller character $w$. Now, let $S$ be the set of primes in $E$ consisting of the $p$-adic primes, the real infinite primes as well as all primes ramified in $LE$ and denote by $\o_E$ the ring of $S$-integers in $E$. The étale cohomology group $H^1_\et(\o_E^S, \Z_p(i))/p$ injects into the $(i-1)$-fold Tate twist of the module $E^*/E^{*p}$ and hence is isomorphic to $D_E^{(i)}/E^{*p}$, where $D_E^{(i)} \subset E^{*p}$ can be viewed as the analog of the Tate kernel ($i = 2$). The cup-product is now given by

$$(D_E^{(i)}/E^{*p})[1-i] \otimes H^1(G, \Z/p\Z) \to (p\Br^T(E))[1-i].$$

We illustrate the method by finding all Galois $p$-extensions of $\Q$ for which the $p$-part of the classical wild kernel is trivial.

We also discuss the Galois co-descent situation for $p = 2$ in the classical case $i = 2$.

Let $E_\infty$ denote the cyclotomic $\Z_p$-extension of $E$ with finite layers $E_n$. If we assume the Gross Conjecture for $E_n$ with $n$ large, for instance if $E$ is abelian over $\Q$, then the groups $D_E^{(i)}/E^{*p}_n$ can be described in terms of local conditions at $p$-adic primes, and are independent of $i$.

Let $F_\infty$ denote the cyclotomic $\Z_p$-extension of $F$ with finite layers $F_n$ and let $A'_n$ denote the $p$-part of the $p$-class group of $F_n$. The classical capitulation kernel is defined as

$$\Cap_0(F_\infty) = \ker(A'_n \to A'_\infty) \quad \text{for } n \text{ large.}$$

The study of capitulation kernels under Galois extensions is an essential ingredient in the more general problem of comparing Iwasawa-invariants (cp. e.g. [28]). In Section 3 we introduce similar capitulation kernels.
Cap_{i-1}(F_{\infty}) for all i \geq 2 using étale K-theory, and show that they have properties similar to Cap_0(F_{\infty}).

Assume now that F is totally real, and let E^+ denote the maximal real subfield of E = F(\mu_p). A conjecture of Greenberg predicts that \( \lim_{n \to \infty} A'_n(E^+) \) is finite. Under this assumption we show that for all odd i \geq 3:

\[ \text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_{\infty}) \cong A'_n(E^+)[1-i] \cong WK^\text{ét}_{2i-2}(F_n) \quad \text{for } n \text{ large.} \]

Therefore the co-descent results from Section 2 imply similar results for Cap_{i-1}(F_{\infty}) and for the eigenspaces A'_n(E^+)[1-i], when n is large.

In Section 4, we briefly discuss how our approach can be applied to the simpler problem of Galois co-descent for étale tame kernels. This has already been studied by Assim ([1], [2]) under Leopoldt’s conjecture.

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1. Preliminaries.

In this section we briefly recall some of the basic properties of étale K-theory and étale cohomology which are subsequently needed. A more detailed account can be found in [3], [20]. Let F be a number field and p a fixed prime number. Let S be a finite set of primes in F, containing the set \( S_p \) of primes above p and the set \( S_\infty \) of infinite primes. As usual, \( G_S(F) \) denotes the Galois group over F of the maximal algebraic extension of F, which is unramified outside S. We note that the condition on infinite primes only intervenes if p = 2 and F is not totally imaginary. Let \( \mathcal{O}_F^S \) denote the ring of \( S \)-integers of F. As is well-known, the étale cohomology groups \( H^k_{\text{ét}}(\text{spec}(\mathcal{O}_F^S), \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}(i)) \) of \( \text{spec}(\mathcal{O}_F^S) \) coincide with the Galois-cohomology groups \( H^k(G_S(F), \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}(i)) \), and will be denoted by \( H^k_{\text{ét}}(\mathcal{O}_F^S, \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}(i)) \). Here, as usual, \( \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}(i) \) denotes the i-fold Tate twist of \( \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z} \). Furthermore, let

\[ H^k_{\text{ét}}(\mathcal{O}_F^S, \mathbb{Z}(i)) = \lim_{\longrightarrow} H^k_{\text{ét}}(\mathcal{O}_F^S, \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}(i)) \]
and

\[ H^k_{\text{ét}}(\mathcal{O}_F^S, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(i)) = \lim_{\rightarrow} H^k_{\text{ét}}(\mathcal{O}_F^S, \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}(i)). \]

Assume now that \( p \) is either odd or that \( p = 2 \) and \( F \) contains \( \sqrt{-1} \). Then for \( i \geq 2 \) and \( k = 1, 2 \) the étale cohomology groups \( H^k_{\text{ét}}(\mathcal{O}_F^S, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \) are isomorphic to the higher étale \( K \)-theory groups \( K^i_{2i-k}(\mathcal{O}_F^S) \), introduced by Dwyer-Friedlander ([8]). Moreover, the relation to Quillen’s \( K \)-theory groups \( K_i(F) \) is provided by a Chern character, which yields split surjective maps with finite kernels

\[ K_{2i-k}(\mathcal{O}_F^S) \otimes \mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow K^i_{2i-k}(\mathcal{O}_F^S) \]

(cp. [8], [15]), which conjecturally are isomorphisms (recall that for \( p = 2 \), \( F \) contains \( \sqrt{-1} \)). Borel’s results (cp. [4]) then imply that the groups \( K^i_{2i-2}(\mathcal{O}_F^S) \) are finite and that the groups \( K^i_{2i-1}(\mathcal{O}_F^S) \) are finitely generated of rank \( r_1 + r_2 \) if \( i \) is odd, and of rank \( r_2 \) if \( i \) is even, where as usual \( r_1 \) and \( r_2 \) denote the number of real and pairs of conjugate complex embeddings of \( F \), respectively. We note that the odd étale \( K \)-theory groups are independent of the choice of the set \( S \) of primes: If \( H^*(F, \mathbb{Z}) \) denotes the absolute Galois cohomology groups of \( F \) then, in fact, the localization sequence in étale cohomology (cp. [36, Proposition 1]) implies that

\[ H^i_{\text{ét}}(\mathcal{O}_F^S, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \cong H^1(F, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \quad \forall i \geq 2. \]

We therefore simply denote the odd étale \( K \)-theory groups by \( K^i_{2i-1}(F) \). The torsion subgroup of \( K^i_{2i-1}(F) \) is isomorphic to \( H^0(F, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \).

In the special case \( i = 2 \) more is known: There exist isomorphisms

\[ K_2(\mathcal{O}_F^S) \otimes \mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow H^2_{\text{ét}}(\mathcal{O}_F^S, \mathbb{Z}_p(2)) \]

and

\[ K^{nd}_3(F) \otimes \mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow H^1(F, \mathbb{Z}_p(2)) \]

without any restrictions on the prime \( p \) and the number field \( F \) (cp. [36], [22]). Here \( K^{nd}_3(F) \) denotes the indecomposable \( K \)-group of \( F \), i.e. \( K_3(F) \) divided by the image of the Milnor group \( K^M_3(F) \), which is 2-torsion.

More recently, Kahn ([18]) and Rognes-Weibel ([32]) have determined the kernel and cokernel of the 2-adic Chern character

\[ K_{2i-k}(\mathcal{O}_F) \otimes \mathbb{Z}_2 \rightarrow H^k_{\text{ét}}(\mathcal{O}_F, \mathbb{Z}_2(i)), \]

which in general are non-trivial.
The following result is due to B. Kahn (cp. [16, Theorem 2.1, Proposition 6.1]):

**Theorem 1.1.** — Let \( L/F \) be a Galois extension of number fields with Galois group \( G \) and let \( S \) be a finite set of primes in \( F \), containing the primes which are ramified in \( L \). There is an exact sequence

\[
0 \to H^1(G, K^{nd}_3(L)) \to K_2(o_F^S) \to K_2(o_L^S)^G \to H^2(G, K^{nd}_3(L)) \to 0.
\]

The following étale analog is well-known (cp. [1], [5]), however we include a proof, since the sources are not easily accessible:

**Theorem 1.2.** — Let \( p \) be an odd prime and let \( L/F \) be a Galois \( p \)-extension of number fields with Galois group \( G \). Let \( S \) be a finite set of primes, containing the primes above \( p \) and the primes which ramify in \( L \). Then for \( i \geq 2 \) there is an exact sequence

\[
0 \to H^1(G, K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(L)) \to K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(o_F^S) \to K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(o_L^S)^G \to H^2(G, K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(L)) \to 0.
\]

**Proof.** — Consider the Hochschild-Serre spectral sequence

\[
E_2^{pq} = H^p(G, H^q_{\text{ét}}(o_L^S, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))) \Rightarrow H^{p+q}_{\text{ét}}(o_F^S, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)).
\]

Since \( H_0^{\text{ét}}(o_L^S, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) = 0 \) ([36, Lemme 7]), all terms \( E_2^{pq} \) vanish. On the other hand, \( cd_p(G_S(F)) = 2 \) and hence \( H^2_{\text{ét}}(o_F^S, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) = H^2_{\text{ét}}(o_L^S, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) = 0 \) for all \( q \geq 3 \). The spectral sequence therefore yields

\[
E^1 \cong E^0_{\infty} \cong E_2^{01},
\]

i.e. an isomorphism

\[
K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F) \cong K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(L)^G,
\]

as well as the exact sequence

\[
0 \to E_2^{11} \to E^2 \to E_2^{02} \to E_2^{21} \to 0,
\]

which is precisely the claim. \( \square \)

As a by-product, we obtained the fact that the odd étale \( K \)-groups satisfy Galois descent. Note that this, in the form

\[
H^1(F, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \cong H^1(L, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))^G,
\]

remains true for \( p = 2 \).
On the other hand we have Galois co-descent for the even étale $K$-theory groups $K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\mathcal{O}_L^S)$:

**Proposition 1.3.** — Let $p$ be odd and $L/F$ a Galois $p$-extension of number fields with Galois-group $G$. If $S$ contains the primes above $p$ and the ramified primes of $L/F$, then

$$
K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\mathcal{O}_L^S)_G \cong K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\mathcal{O}_F^S).
$$

**Proof.** — This follows as above using the Tate spectral sequence (cp. [35], [17], [26]). □

Now $K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\mathcal{O}_L^S)$ is finite, and hence this proposition together with Theorem 1.2 yields

**Corollary 1.4.** — For any cyclic $p$-extension $L/F$ ($p$ odd) of number fields with Galois group $G$, the quotient

$$
\frac{|H^2(G, K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(L))|}{|H^1(G, K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(L))|}
$$

is trivial.

**Remark 1.5.** — The previous results depended only upon two facts:

$$
cd_p(G_S(F))^2 \leq 2 \quad \text{and} \quad H^0(G_S(F), \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) = 0.
$$

Therefore analogous results also hold for example for finite extensions of local fields, thus, for a Galois $p$-extension $E/F$ of local fields with Galois group $G$, we have an exact sequence

$$
0 \to H^1(G, H^1(E, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))) \to H^2(F, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \to H^2(E, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))^G \to H^2(G, H^1(E, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))) \to 0,
$$

and an isomorphism

$$
H^2(E, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))^G \cong H^2(F, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)).
$$

Again, in the case $i = 2$, more information on co-descent is available, i.e. no restrictions on $F$ are necessary to also include results concerning the 2-primary part.

**Annales de l'Institut Fourier**
The following result is easily obtained from [16, Théorème 5.1]:

**Proposition 1.6.** — Let $L/F$ be a finite Galois extension of number fields with Galois group $G$ and let $S$ be a finite set of primes in $F$, containing the primes which ramify in $L/F$. Then, there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow K_2(o_L^S)_G \rightarrow K_2(o_F^S) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S_\infty^r} \mu_2 \rightarrow 0,$$

where $S_\infty^r$ consists of the real infinite primes in $F$ which ramify in $L$.

Finally, we recall the definition of the higher étale wild kernels (cp. [3], [20], [29]):

$$WK_{2i-2}^{\text{ét}}(F) = \ker (H^2_{\text{ét}}(o_F^S, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))).$$

The definition is independent of the choice of the set $S$ containing $S_p$, and part of the Poitou-Tate duality sequence yields the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow WK_{2i-2}^{\text{ét}}(F) \rightarrow K_{2i-2}^{\text{ét}}(o_F^S) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \rightarrow H^0(F, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))^\ast \rightarrow 0,$$

where $\ast$ indicates the Pontrjagin dual. Moreover by local duality

$$H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \cong H^0(F_v, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))^\ast.$$

The groups $H^0(F, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))$ and $H^0(F_v, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))$ are finite cyclic for $i \neq 1$.

The étale wild kernels are the analogs of the $p$-part of the classical wild kernel $WK_2(F)$ - defined for any number field $F$ - which occurs in Moore’s exact sequence of power norm symbols (cp. [23]):

$$0 \rightarrow WK_2(F) \rightarrow K_2(F) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{v} \mu(F_v) \rightarrow \mu(F) \rightarrow 0,$$

where $v$ runs through all finite primes and all real infinite primes of $F$, and $\mu(F_v)$ and $\mu(F)$ denote the group of roots of unity of $F_v$ and of $F$ respectively. If $S$ is a finite set of primes in $F$ containing $S_p$ and $S_\infty$, then we obtain an exact sequence of finite groups

$$0 \rightarrow WK_2(F)\{p\} \rightarrow K_2(o_F^S)\{p\} \rightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S} \mu(F_v)\{p\} \rightarrow \mu(F)\{p\} \rightarrow 0.$$

Here, for an abelian group $A$, we use the notation $A\{p\}$ for the $p$-primary part of $A$. 

TOME 50 (2000), FASCICULE 1
2. Galois co-descent for the étale wild kernel.

Let $p$ be an odd prime and let $L/F$ be a cyclic extension of number fields of degree $p$ with Galois group $G$. In this section, for any local or global field $K$, we denote by $K_{\infty}$ the cyclotomic $\mathbb{Z}_p$-extension of $K$ with finite layers $K_n$. We also assume that $i \geq 2$. We obtain necessary and sufficient conditions for the étale wild kernel $WK^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(L)$ to satisfy Galois co-descent. This approach also yields a genus"-formula comparing the sizes of $WK^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(L)^G$ and $WK^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(F)$. Let $S$ be the finite set of primes in $F$, containing the set $S_p$ of all primes above $p$, as well as all primes which ramify in $L$. We denote by $S_L$ the set of primes in $L$ above $S$. Moreover, let $\oplus_{v \in S} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))$ be the kernel of the surjection

$$\oplus_{v \in S} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \to H^0(F, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))^*.$$ 

Then by definition of the étale wild kernel from section 1, we have the following short exact sequence:

$$0 \to WK^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(F) \to K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\sigma^S_F) \to \oplus_{v \in S} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \to 0.$$ 

By Proposition 1.3 the group $K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\sigma^S_L)$ satisfies Galois co-descent. The following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{cccccc}
0 & \to & WK^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(L) & \to & K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\sigma^S_L) & \to & \left( \oplus_{w \in S_L} H^2(L_w, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \right)^G \\
& & \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong & & \\
& & 0 & \to & WK^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(F) & \to & \left( \oplus_{v \in S} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \right)^G \\
\end{array}$$

then shows that

$$\ker(WK^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(L)^G \to WK^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(F))$$

$$\cong \ker \left( ( \oplus_{w \in S_L} H^2(L_w, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)))^G \to \left( \oplus_{v \in S} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \right)^G \right)$$

and

$$\ker(WK^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(L)^G \to WK^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(F)^G)$$

$$\cong \coker \left( K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\sigma^S_L)^G \to \left( \oplus_{w \in S_L} H^2(L_w, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \right)^G \right).$$

Before we compute the first group we need a preliminary result: Let $M/N$ be a cyclic extension of degree $p$, $p$ odd, of global or local fields of
characteristic \neq p$, and let $G$ denote the Galois group of $M/N$. Furthermore, let $N_\infty$ denote the cyclotomic $\mathbb{Z}_p$-extension of $N$.

There are two maps relating the cohomology groups $H^0(N, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k))$ and $H^0(M, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k))$, where we assume $k \in \mathbb{Z}, k \neq 0$: The natural map $H^0(N, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k)) \to H^0(M, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k))$ and the norm map $H^0(N, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k)) \to H^0(M, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k))$. The first one induces an isomorphism

$$H^0(N, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k)) \cong H^0(M, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k))^G,$$

which implies immediately that either both groups are trivial or both groups are non-trivial. Assume now that $H^0(N, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k))$ is non-trivial. Then the order of $H^0(N, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k))$ is the maximal power $p^m$, such that the Galois group $\text{Gal}(N(\mu_{p^m})/N)$ has exponent $k$. If $M \not\subset N_\infty$, then $[M(\mu_{p^m}) : M] = [N(\mu_{p^m}) : N]$, and therefore $G$ acts trivially on $H^0(M, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k))$. Therefore, in this case, the natural map is an isomorphism, and hence the norm map has both kernel and cokernel of order $p$. On the other hand, if $M \subset N_\infty$ and say $H^0(N, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k)) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/p^m\mathbb{Z})(k)$, then $H^0(M, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k)) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/p^{m+1}\mathbb{Z})(k)$, and $p$ being odd - the norm

$$(\mathbb{Z}/p^{m+1}\mathbb{Z})(k) \to (\mathbb{Z}/p^m\mathbb{Z})(k)$$

is surjective, and therefore induces an isomorphism

$$H^0(M, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k))^G \cong H^0(N, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k)).$$

We summarize:

**Lemma 2.1.** — Let $k \in \mathbb{Z}, k \neq 0$ and $H^0(N, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k)) \neq 0$.

i) If $M \not\subset N_\infty$, then $G$ acts trivially on $H^0(M, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k))$, and hence the natural map

$$H^0(N, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k)) \to H^0(M, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k))$$

is an isomorphism, whereas the norm map has kernel and cokernel of order $p$.

ii) If $M \subset N_\infty$, then $G$ acts non-trivially on $H^0(M, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k))$ and the norm induces an isomorphism

$$H^0(M, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k))^G \cong H^0(N, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k)).$$
The non-vanishing of \( H^0(N, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k)) \) can be characterized as follows: Let \( d = \left[ N(\mu_p) : N \right] \). Then
\[
H^0(N, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(k)) \neq 0 \iff k \equiv 0 \mod d.
\]

Let us now study the question of co-descent for \( \bigoplus_{w \in S_L} H^2(L_w, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \). Using local duality the problem is equivalent to computing the cokernel of the map
\[
\bigoplus_{v \in S} H^0(F_v, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1 - i)) \to \left( \bigoplus_{w \in S_L} H^0(L_w, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1 - i)) \right)^G.
\]
As we noted above, we have isomorphisms
\[
H^0(F, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1 - i)) \cong H^0(L, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1 - i))^G
\]
and
\[
\bigoplus_{v \in S} H^0(F_v, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1 - i)) \cong \left( \bigoplus_{w \in S_L} H^0(L_w, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1 - i)) \right)^G,
\]
hence the above cokernel is isomorphic to the kernel of
\[
H^0(L, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1 - i))^G \to \left( \bigoplus_{w \in S_L} H^0(L_w, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1 - i)) \right)^G.
\]

We consider the commutative diagram
\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\vdots & \downarrow & \vdots \\
H^0(L, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1 - i))^G & \to & \left( \bigoplus_{w \in S_L} H^0(L_w, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1 - i)) \right)^G \\
0 & \to & \bigoplus_{v \in S} H^0(F_v, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1 - i)) \\
\end{array}
\]
induced by the norm maps. It is now clear that the map in the top row is not injective, if and only if Galois co-descent fails globally for \( H^0(L, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1 - i)) \), but holds locally for all \( w \in S_L \), in which case the kernel is of order \( p \). If \( v \in S \) is decomposed in \( L \), then obviously co-descent holds. We now define \( T_{L/F}^{(i)} \) to be the set of undecomposed primes \( v \in S \), such that Galois co-descent fails for \( H^0(L_w, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1 - i)) \). By Lemma 2.1, an undecomposed prime \( v \) lies in \( T_{L/F}^{(i)} \) if and only if \( H^0(F_v, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1 - i)) \neq 0 \) and \( L_w \not\subset F_v, \infty \). Let \( d = [F(\mu_p) : F] \). Then it is clear from the definition that
\[
T_{L/F}^{(i)} = T_{L/F}^{(j)} \text{ if } i \equiv j \mod d.
\]

Let us analyze this set a little further:
LEMMA 2.2. — i) \( T^{(i)}_{L/F} \) contains all tamely ramified primes:

\[ S \setminus S_p \subset T^{(i)}_{L/F} \subset S. \]

ii) Assume that \( L \not\subset F_\infty \) and \( i \equiv 1 \mod d \). Then, for large \( n \), the set \( T^{(i)}_{L_n/F_n} \) contains all undecomposed \( p \)-adic primes.

Proof. — Let \( v \) be any prime in \( S \setminus S_p \). Then \( F_v \) contains the \( p \)-th roots of unity \( \mu_p \), which shows that \( H^0(F_v, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i)) \neq 0 \). Moreover, \( F_{v,\infty} \) is the maximal unramified pro-\( p \)-extension of \( F_v \), which shows that \( L_v \not\subset F_{v,\infty} \). This proves i). To prove ii), it suffices to choose \( n \) large enough so that no \( p \)-adic prime of \( L_n \) decomposes in \( L_{n+1} \).

We can now formulate our first result in terms of the set \( T^{(i)}_{L/F} \).

PROPOSITION 2.3. — The canonical map

\[ WK^{et}_{2i-2}(L)_G \to WK^{et}_{2i-2}(F) \]

induced by the corestriction is surjective precisely in the following situations:

i) \( T^{(i)}_{L/F} \neq \emptyset \);

ii) \( T^{(i)}_{L/F} = \emptyset \) and either \( i \not\equiv 1 \mod d \) or \( L \subset F_\infty \).

In the exceptional case where \( T^{(i)}_{L/F} = \emptyset \), \( i \equiv 1 \mod d \) and \( L \not\subset F_\infty \), the cokernel of \( WK^{et}_{2i-2}(L)_G \to WK^{et}_{2i-2}(F) \) is cyclic of order \( p \).

Remark 2.4. — The possibility of the failure of Galois co-descent in Proposition 2.3 was already observed in [2]. The situations where this happens are easily described: First of all we must have \( i \equiv 1 \mod d \) and \( L \not\subset F_\infty \), in which case, for any \( n \), the set \( T^{(i)}_{L/F} = \emptyset \) if and only if \( T^{(i)}_{L_n/F_n} = \emptyset \). Now, choose \( n \) large enough, such that no \( p \)-adic prime in \( L_n \) decomposes in \( L_{n+1} \). By Lemma 2.2, the set \( T^{(i)}_{L_n/F_n} = \emptyset \) precisely when \( L_n/F_n \) is unramified and all \( p \)-adic primes of \( F_n \) split in \( L_n \). Thus, the exceptional case occurs for \( L/F \) if and only if the following two conditions hold:

i) \( i \equiv 1 \mod d \);

ii) \( \lim_{\to} A_p' \neq 0 \) and \( L_\infty/F_\infty \) is an unramified cyclic extension of degree \( p \), in which all primes above \( p \) split.
Example 2.5. — Assume that the prime $p$ is irregular and let $F = \mathbb{Q}(\mu_p)$. Then $F$ possesses a cyclic extension $L$ of degree $p$ inside the Hilbert $p$-class field, which is disjoint from $F_{\infty}$. Therefore the canonical map $WK_{2i-2}(L)_G \to WK_{2i-2}(F)$ is not surjective for any $i \geq 2$.

We recall that by Lemma 2.1, the natural map

$$H^0(F_v,\mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i)) \to H^0(L_w,\mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))$$

is an isomorphism for $v \in T^{(i)}_L$, and hence the norm map

$$H^0(L_w,\mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i)) \to H^0(F_v,\mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))$$

can be identified with the $p$-th power map on $H^0(F_v,\mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))$, which is induced by the $p$-th power map on $\mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i)$. Hence we have an exact sequence for $v \in T^{(i)}_L$:

$$0 \to H^0(F_v,\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(1-i)) \to H^0(L_w,\mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i)) \to H^0(F_v,\mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))/p \to 0.$$

The dual sequence then reads:

$$0 \to pH^2(F_v,\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)) \to H^2(F_v,\mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \to H^2(L_w,\mathbb{Z}_p(i))^G \to H^2(F_v,\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)) \to 0.$$

If we compare this sequence with the one mentioned in Remark 1.5, we see that we have an isomorphism

$$H^2(G, H^1(L_w,\mathbb{Z}_p(i))) \cong H^2(F_v,\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)).$$

We make this isomorphism more explicit in Proposition 2.9.

Let us now consider the problem of the surjectivity of the homomorphism

$$K^\text{ét}_{2i-2}(\mathcal{O}_L^G) \to \left( \bigoplus_{w \in S_L} H^2(L_w,\mathbb{Z}_p(i))^G \right).$$

If $T^{(i)}_{L/F} = \emptyset$, then we assume that either $i \not\equiv 1 \bmod d$, or that $L \subset F_{\infty}$, so that we have Galois co-descent for $(\bigoplus_{w \in S_L} H^2(L_w,\mathbb{Z}_p(i)))$, i.e. $WK_{2i-2}(L)_G \to WK_{2i-2}(F)$ is surjective. In particular this implies that
the map $\beta$ in the following commutative diagram is surjective:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
0 & \rightarrow & 0 \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\bigoplus_{v \in T_{L/F}^{(i)}} (pH^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))) & \rightarrow & B \\
\downarrow & & \\
K_{2i-2}(\sigma^S_F) & \rightarrow & \bigoplus_{v \in S} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
K_{2i-2}(\sigma^S_L) & \rightarrow & \bigoplus_{v \in S} H^2(L_w, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
H^2(G, K_{2i-1}(L)) & \rightarrow & \bigoplus_{v \in T_{L/F}^{(i)}} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)) \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
0 & \rightarrow & 0
\end{array}
\]

Here we define $B$ and $C$ to be the kernel and cokernel of the homomorphism

\[H^0(F, \mathbb{Q}_p/Z_p(1 - i))^* \rightarrow (H^0(L, \mathbb{Q}_p/Z_p(1 - i))^*)^G\]

respectively, hence both $B$ and $C$ are either trivial or of order $p$. More precisely, by Lemma 2.1, they are non-trivial if and only if $i \equiv 1 \mod d$ and $L \nsubseteq F_\infty$. In this diagram the columns are exact and also the rows, except possibly at $\bigoplus_{v \in S} H^2(L_w, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))$ and $\bigoplus_{v \in T_{L/F}^{(i)}} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i))$. Note that

\[\ker \beta/\text{im} \alpha = \text{coker} \left( K_{2i-2}(\sigma^S_L)^G \rightarrow \left( \bigoplus_{w \in S_L} H^2(L_w, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \right)^G \right)\]

is precisely the cokernel we want to study.

An easy diagram chase shows:

**Lemma 2.6.** — The surjection

\[\ker \beta/\text{im} \alpha \rightarrow \ker \beta'/\text{im} \alpha'\]

is an isomorphism if the map

\[\bigoplus_{v \in T_{L/F}^{(i)}} pH^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \rightarrow B\]

is surjective (otherwise, its kernel is of order at most $p$).

In particular, this settles the case $T_{L/F}^{(i)} = \emptyset$:
COROLLARY 2.7. — If $T_{L/F}^{(i)} = \emptyset$, then $WK_{2i-2}(L)_G \cong WK_{2i-2}(F)$ if and only if either $i \not\equiv 1 \mod d$ or $L \subseteq F_\infty$.

Thus, for example, in the cyclotomic $\mathbb{Z}_p$-extension, the wild kernels satisfy Galois codescent, whereas, in general, the $p$-class groups do not.

Let us assume now that $T_{L/F}^{(i)} \neq \emptyset$. Then $L$ is disjoint from $F_\infty$, and therefore the kernel $B$ is non-trivial if and only if $i \equiv 1 \mod d$. In this case $B$ is clearly isomorphic to $pH^0(F, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))^*$, and we can characterize the surjectivity of the map $\bigoplus_{v \in T_{L/F}^{(i)}} pH^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \rightarrow pH^0(F, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))^*$ as follows:

**LEMMA 2.8.** — If $T_{L/F}^{(i)} \neq \emptyset$ and $i \equiv 1 \mod d$, then

$$\bigoplus_{v \in T_{L/F}^{(i)}} pH^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \rightarrow pH^0(F, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))^*$$

is surjective if and only if at least one of the primes in $T_{L/F}^{(i)}$ is undecomposed in the first layer $F_1$ of the cyclotomic $\mathbb{Z}_p$-extension $F_\infty/F$.

**Proof.** — It is clear that the map in question is surjective if and only if $|H^0(F_v, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))| = |H^0(F, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))|$ for at least one prime $v \in T_{L/F}^{(i)}$. On the other hand $|H^0(F_v, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))| > |H^0(F, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(1-i))|$ if and only if $v$ splits in $F_1$.

We note that any finite place $v$ in $F$ is finitely decomposed in $F_\infty$. Therefore, if $n$ is large enough, all the primes in $T_{L_n/F_n}^{(i)}$ will be undecomposed in $F_{n+1}$. If $i \equiv 1 \mod d$, we will assume that $T_{L/F}^{(i)}$ contains at least one prime, which is undecomposed in $F_1$. We are then left with the determination of $|\ker \beta'/\text{im} \alpha'|$.

The order of $\ker \beta'$ is clearly equal to

$$|\ker \beta'| = \frac{p^{|T_{L/F}^{(i)}|}}{|H^0(F, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(1-i))|}.$$  

To determine the order of $\text{im} \alpha'$ we construct a canonical homomorphism

$$H^2(G, H^1(L, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))) \rightarrow H^2(F, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)),$$

which gives rise to a commutative diagram

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
H^2(G, H^1(L, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))) & \rightarrow & \bigoplus_{v \in T_{L/F}^{(i)}} H^2(G, H^1(L, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))) \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
H^2(F, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)) & \rightarrow & \bigoplus_{v \in T_{L/F}^{(i)}} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i))
\end{array}
$$

and will factor the map $\alpha'$.  

ANNALES DE L'INSTITUT FOURIER
PROPOSITION 2.9. — Let $M/N$ be a cyclic extension of degree $p$ of local or global fields of characteristic $\neq p$, where $p$ is an arbitrary prime. Let $G = \text{Gal}(M/N)$. There is a canonical map

$$H^2(G, H^1(M, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))) \to H^2(N, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i))$$

with kernel isomorphic to

$$(H^1(N, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))/p \cap N_{M/N}(H^1(M, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)))) / N_{M/N}(H^1(M, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))/p).$$

**Proof.** We first note that the exact sequence

$$0 \to \mathbb{Z}_p(i) \to \mathbb{Z}_p(i) \to \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i) \to 0$$

induces an injection

$$H^1(N, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))/p \hookrightarrow H^1(N, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)),$$

and therefore we can view $H^1(N, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))/p$ as a subgroup of $H^1(N, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i))$, and similarly for $M$. Since $G$ is cyclic, we have a canonical isomorphism

$$H^2(G, H^1(M, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))) \cong \hat{H}^0(G, H^1(M, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))) \otimes H^2(G, \mathbb{Z}_p)$$

given by the cup-product. Here $\hat{H}$ denotes Tate-cohomology. Now the group $H^1(M, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))$ satisfies Galois descent as we have seen in the proof of Theorem 1.2, even in the case $p = 2$. Hence

$$\hat{H}^0(G, H^1(M, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))) \cong H^1(N, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))/N_{M/N}(H^1(M, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)))$$

$$\cong (H^1(N, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))/p) / N_{M/N}(H^1(M, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))/p).$$

Now $H^2(G, \mathbb{Z}_p) \cong H^1(G, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p) \cong H^1(G, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$, since $G$ is cyclic of order $p$, and we have the cup-product

$$H^1(N, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)) \otimes H^1(G, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) \to H^2(N, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i))$$

whose kernel is equal to

$$N_{M/N}(H^1(M, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i))) \otimes H^1(G, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}).$$

To see this, we may assume without loss of generality that $N$ contains $\mu_p$, in which case this product is just a twisted version of the standard cup-product into the Brauer group of $F$. Restricting the last morphism to the subgroup $H^1(N, \mathbb{Z}_p(i))/p \otimes H^1(G, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ yields the result. $\square$
Let us return now to the situation considered before: $p$ is odd and $L/F$ is a cyclic extension of number fields of degree $p$ with Galois group $G$. We are going to compare the global and local maps constructed in Proposition 2.9. Let $C_v := \text{coker}(H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \to \bigoplus_{w|v} H^2(L_w, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)))^G$. Then by definition

$$C_v = 0 \iff v \notin T_{L/F}(i)$$

and $C_v = H^2(G, H^1(L_w, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \cong H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i))$ if $v \in T_{L/F}(i)$. The following commutative diagram:

\begin{equation}
\begin{array}{ccc}
H^2(G, K_{2i-1}(L)) & \to & \prod_v C_v \\
0 & \to & H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)) \\
\end{array}
\end{equation}

then shows that the image of $H^2(G, K_{2i-1}(L))$ in $\prod_v H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i))$ is in fact contained in $\bigoplus_{v \in T_{L/F}(i)} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i))$. The injectivity of the localization map $H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)) \to \prod_v H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i))$ is proved for instance in [33, Section 2, Lemma 7]. We can now conclude:

**Lemma 2.10.** — The canonical map $H^2(G, K_{2i-1}(L)) \to H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i))$ induces the map

$$\alpha' : H^2(G, K_{2i-1}(L)) \to \bigoplus_{v \in T_{L/F}(i)} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)).$$

Furthermore:

$$\text{ker } \alpha' \cong [K_{2i-1}^{\text{et}}(F)/p \cap N_{L/F}(H^1(L, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)))]/N_{L/F}(K_{2i-1}(L)/p)$$

and

$$|\text{im } \alpha'| = [K_{2i-1}^{\text{et}}(F)/p : K_{2i-1}^{\text{et}}(F)/p \cap N_{L/F}(H^1(L, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)))].$$

Combining this with the calculation of $\ker \beta'$ provides the main result of this section, a “genus formula” for the étale wild kernels for cyclic extensions of degree $p$:

**Theorem 2.11.** — Let $L/F$ be a cyclic extension of number fields of degree $p$, $p$ odd, with Galois group $G$. Assume that $T_{L/F}(i) \neq \varnothing$ and that some $v \in T_{L/F}(i)$ is undecomposed in $F_1$ if $i \equiv 1 \mod d$. Then the natural map $WK_{2i-2}(L)_G \to WK_{2i-2}(F)$ is surjective and its kernel has order

$$p^{|T_{L/F}(i)|} |H^0(F, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(1-i))| \cdot [K_{2i-1}^{\text{et}}(F)/p : K_{2i-1}^{\text{et}}(F)/p \cap N_{L/F}(H^1(L, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)))]$$. 

*Annales de l'Institut Fourier*
Remark 2.12.— Let us consider the special case that $i \equiv 1 \mod d$, and that all $p$-adic primes of $L$ are undecomposed in $L_\infty$. Then $T_{L/F}^{(i)}$ contains all undecomposed $p$-adic primes as well as all tamely ramified primes. Hence we can rewrite the formula in the preceding theorem as

$$\frac{|WK_{2i-2}^{\text{ét}}(L)^G|}{|WK_{2i-2}^{\text{ét}}(F)|} = \prod_{p \mid |p|_p d_p(L/F) \cdot \prod_{p \mid \ell} e_p(L/F) \frac{[L : F] \cdot [K_{2i-1}^{\text{ét}}(F)/p : K_{2i-1}^{\text{ét}}(F)/p \cap N_{L/F}(H^1(L, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})))]}{[L : F] \cdot [K_{2i-1}^{\text{ét}}(F)/p : K_{2i-1}^{\text{ét}}(F)/p \cap N_{L/F}(H^1(L, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})))]}.$$ 

Here $d_p(L/F)$ and $e_p(L/F)$ denote the local degrees and the ramification indices, respectively. If we replace the étale $K$-theory index by the index $[U'_p : U'_p \cap N_{L/F}(L^*)]$ for the $p$-units $U'_p$, then this becomes precisely the genus formula for the $p$-class groups. We will return to this peculiarity later on.

Example 2.13.— 1) Take $p = i = 3$ and $F = \mathbb{Q}$ the field of rationals. Since $K_4(\mathbb{Z})$ is trivial (cp. [30], [31], [32]), so is $WK_{4}^{\text{ét}}(\mathbb{Z})$. We are going to give an infinite family of cubic fields $L$ such that $WK_{4}^{\text{ét}}(L) = 0$. For this, consider the set of primes (see also [37, Remarks page 182])

$$P = \{\ell ; \ell \equiv 1 \mod 3 \text{ and } 3^{\ell-1} \equiv 1 \mod \ell\} = \{\ell ; \ell \equiv 1 \mod 3 \text{ and } \sqrt[3]{3} \in \mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z}\}.$$

Obviously, by Hensel's lemma, we have

$$P = \{\ell ; \mu_3 \subset \mathbb{Q}_\ell \text{ and } \sqrt[3]{3} \in \mathbb{Q}_\ell\} = \{\ell ; \ell \text{ splits in } \mathbb{Q}(\mu_3, \sqrt[3]{3})\}.$$

We are interested in the infinite family (of density $\frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{18}$) of the primes $\ell$ in $P$ which do not split in $\mathbb{Q}(\mu_3, \sqrt[3]{3})$. Now let $L$ be the cubic extension of $\mathbb{Q}$ contained in $\mathbb{Q}(\mu_3)$ and $G = G(L/\mathbb{Q})$. Then $T_{L/\mathbb{Q}}^{(3)} = \{\ell\}$ and, according to Theorem 2.11, the wild kernel $WK_{4}^{\text{ét}}(L) = 0$.

2) In this example, we are going to determine the Galois $p$-extensions $M$ of $\mathbb{Q}$, for which the $p$-part of the classical wild kernel is trivial. The two cases $p = 3$ and $p \geq 5$ are completely different due to the fact that in the latter case the considered fields do not contain the maximal real subfield $\mathbb{Q}(\mu_p)^+$ of the cyclotomic field $\mathbb{Q}(\mu_p)$. For $p \geq 5$, the Galois $p$-extensions $M$ of $\mathbb{Q}$ for which $WK_2(M\{p\}) = 0$ are exactly the layers $\mathbb{Q}_n$ of the $\mathbb{Z}_p$-extension $\mathbb{Q}_\infty/\mathbb{Q}$. Indeed, since $\mathbb{Q}_\infty$ is the maximal $p$-ramified
pro-$p$-extension of $Q$, we see that the maximal $p$-ramified extension of $Q$ contained in $M$ is a layer $Q_n$ of $Q_\infty$. If $M = Q_n$ then, by Corollary 2.7, $WK_2(M)\{p\} = 0$. Otherwise, choose a tower of degree $p$ cyclic extensions

$$Q_n = M_0 \subset M_1 \subset \cdots \subset M_r = M.$$ 

Since $T_{M_1/Q_n}^{(2)} \neq 0$, we have $WK_2(M_1)\{p\} \neq 0$ (Theorem 2.11). Moreover, for each intermediate extension $M_{\nu+1}/M_\nu$, the canonical map

$$WK_2(M_{\nu+1})\{p\}_{G(M_{\nu+1}/M_\nu)} \to WK_2(M_\nu)\{p\}$$

is surjective (Proposition 2.3), which shows that $WK_2(M)\{p\} \neq 0$. A number field $M$ for which $H^2_o(o_M, Z/pZ) = 0$, is called $p$-rational [25], [24]. Moreover, if $M$ contains $Q(\mu_p)^+$, then it is also called $p$-regular [10]. The $p$-regularity of $M$ is simply expressed by the triviality of the $p$-part of the tame kernel $K_2(o_M)$. As the $Q_n$ are not the only $p$-extensions of $Q$ which are $p$-rational, we notice that, for $p \geq 5$, among the $p$-extensions $M$ of $Q$, some are $p$-rational but have a non-trivial $WK_2(M)\{p\}$. Now take $p = 3$. Then by Moore’s exact sequence $WK_2(M)\{3\} = 0$ if and only if the tame kernel $K_2(o_M)$ has no 3-torsion. Hence the number field $M$ is 3-rational or 3-regular. In this case, $WK_2(M)\{3\} = 0$ if and only if outside the prime 3, the 3-extension $M/Q$ is at most ramified at one prime $l$, which is inert in the $Z_3$-extension $Q_\infty/Q$ (cp. [10], [25], [24]).

Let us have a closer look at the cup-product

$$K^{\et}_{2l-1}(F)/p \otimes H^1(G, Z/pZ) \to H^2(F, Z/pZ(i)),$$

which occurred in the proof of Proposition 2.9, and describe the maps $\alpha'$ and $\beta'$. Let $E = F(\mu_p)$ and $\Delta = \Gal(E/F)$. Over $E$ we have

$$H^2(E, Z/pZ(i)) \cong H^2(E, Z/pZ(1))(i - 1) \cong p\Br(E)(i - 1),$$

where Br($E$) stands for the Brauer group of $E$. The set $T^{(i)}_{LE/E}$ is independent of $i$, and we simply denote it by $T_{LE/E}$. Obviously, every prime in $E$ which lies above a prime in $T^{(i)}_{L/F}$ belongs to $T_{LE/E}$. Conversely, let $v_E$ be a prime in $T_{LE/E}$, and let $v$ denote the prime of $F$ below $v_E$. Then $v \in T^{(i)}_{L/F}$ if and only if $H^2(F_v, Z/pZ(i)) \neq 0$. Let $Br^T(E)$ denote the subgroup of Br($E$) of all isomorphism classes of central simple $E$-algebras split outside $T_{LE/E}$. It is now easy to see that

$$\ker \beta' \cong (p\Br^T(E)(i - 1))^\Delta \cong (p\Br^T(E))^{[1-i]},$$

where $\Delta$ is the degree of $v_E$.
where $\omega$ denotes the Teichmüller character of $\Delta$, and $A[j]$ denotes the $j$-th eigenspace of $\omega$ acting on a $\Delta$-module $A$.

Since $K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(E)/p$ is contained in $H^1(E, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)) \cong (E^*/E^{*p})(i - 1)$, there exists a subgroup $D^{(i)}_E$ of $E^*$ containing $E^{*p}$ - the analog of the Tate-kernel in case $i = 2$ - such that

$$K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(E)/p \cong (D^{(i)}_E/E^{*p})(i - 1),$$

and hence

$$K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F)/p \cong ((D^{(i)}_E/E^{*p})(i - 1))^\Delta \cong (D^{(i)}_E/E^{*p})^{[1-i]}.$$  

Note that for $i \equiv 1 \mod d$ we can similarly define $D^{(i)}_F$, and clearly in this case $(D^{(i)}_E/p)^\Delta \cong D^{(i)}_F/p$. The considerations after Proposition 2.9 now show that the cup-product over $E$ is explicitly given as

$$(D^{(i)}_E/E^{*p})(i - 1) \otimes H^1(G, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) \to {}_p\text{Br}^T(E)(i - 1),$$

where

$$D^{(i)}_E/E^{*p} \otimes H^1(G, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) \to {}_p\text{Br}^T(E),$$

is the classical cup-product $x \otimes \chi \mapsto (\chi, x)$ (cp. [34, Chap. XIV]). Descending to $F$, we see that the image of $\alpha'$ is precisely the image of the cup-product

$$(D^{(i)}_E/E^{*p})^{[1-i]} \otimes H^1(G, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) \to ({}_p\text{Br}^T(E))^{[1-i]}.$$  

We can therefore reformulate the condition for Galois co-descent of the wild kernel as follows:

**Theorem 2.14.** — Let $L/F$ be a cyclic extension of number fields of degree $p$, $p$ odd, with Galois group $G$. Assume that $T^{(i)}_L \not\equiv \varnothing$ and that some $v \in T^{(i)}_{L/F}$ is undecomposed in $F_1$ if $i \equiv 1 \mod d$. Then the étale wild kernel $WK_{2i-2}(L)$ satisfies Galois co-descent if and only if the cup-product

$$(D^{(i)}_E/E^{*p})^{[1-i]} \otimes H^1(G, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) \to ({}_p\text{Br}^T(E))^{[1-i]}$$

is surjective.

In the special case where $i \equiv 1 \mod d$, the condition can be reformulated as: The cup-product

$$D^{(i)}_F/F^{*p} \otimes H^1(G, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) \to {}_p\text{Br}^{T^{(i)}_{L/F}}(F)$$
is surjective. Moreover, in this special case the genus-formula simplifies to:

$$\frac{|WK^\text{ét}_{2i-2}(L)^G|}{|WK^\text{ét}_{2i-2}(F)|} = p^{|T_L^{(i)}| - 1} \frac{|D_F^{(i)} : D_F^{(i)} \cap N_{L/F}(L^*)|}{|D_F^{(i)}|}.$$  

Since $i \geq 2$, we can reinterpret the cup-product as a Galois symbol: Let $E L = E(\sqrt[p]{\delta})$. Then

$$(D_E^{(i)}/E^{*p})(i - 1) \otimes H^1(G, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) = (D_E^{(i)}/E^{*p}) \otimes H^1(G, \mu_p)(i - 2),$$

and therefore the cup-product over $E$ is the $(i - 2)$-th twist of the Galois symbol

$$D_E^{(i)}/E^{*p} \otimes H^1(G, \mu_p) \rightarrow \mu_p \otimes pBr^T(E).$$

The Kummer radical $H^1(G, \mu_p)$ is generated by $\delta$, and the map is given by (cp. [23])

$$x \otimes \delta \mapsto \zeta_p \otimes \left[\left(\frac{x, \delta}{E}\right)\right],$$

where $\zeta_p$ is a primitive $p$th root of unity and $[\left(\frac{x, \delta}{E}\right)]$ denotes the isomorphism class of the cyclic algebra $\left(\frac{x, \delta}{E}\right)$, with generators $u, v$ and relations:

$$u^p = x, v^p = \delta, vu = \zeta_p uv.$$

In general, not much is known about the higher "Tate-kernels" $D_E^{(i)}$ defined by $K^\text{ét}_{2i-1}(E)/p \cong (D_E^{(i)}/E^{*p})$. However, for $n$ large, the groups $D_E^{(i)}/E^{*p}_n$ can be characterized in terms of local conditions, if we assume the Gross conjecture, which we describe next: Let $F$ be any number field. For a finite prime $v$ in $F$ let $\hat{F}_v = \lim_{\leftarrow} F_v/F_v^{*p^k}$, let $\hat{U}_v = \mathbb{Z}_p \otimes U_v$ and let $N_v \subset \hat{F}_v$ denote the group of norms from the cyclotomic $\mathbb{Z}_p$-extension of $F_v$. Thus $N_v = \hat{U}_v$ if $v \not\in S_p$, and for $v \in S_p$ we have the following characterization:

$$a \in N_v \Leftrightarrow \log_p(N_{F_v}/\mathbb{Q}_p)(a) = 0,$$

where $\log_p$ denotes the $p$-adic logarithm normalized by $\log_p(p) = 0$ (cp. [9], [19]). There is a natural homomorphism

$$g_F : \mathbb{Z}_p \otimes U'_F \rightarrow \bigoplus_{v|p} \hat{F}_v/N_v$$

and the Gross kernel $GK(F) := \ker g_F$ has $\mathbb{Z}_p$-rank $r_1(F) + r_2(F) + \delta_F$, where $\delta_F \geq 0$ is the Gross defect. $GK(F)$ is therefore characterized by the
following local conditions:
\[ \epsilon \in GK(F) \iff \epsilon \in \mathbb{Z}_p \otimes U_F' \quad \text{and} \quad \log_p(N_{F_v}/\mathbb{Q}_p(\epsilon)) = 0 \quad \forall v \in S_p. \]

The Gross Conjecture postulates that \( \delta_F = 0 \), which is true for instance for abelian fields \( F \). Let - as before - \( E = F(\mu_p) \) and \( \Delta = \text{Gal}(E/F) \). The following result was proved for \( i = 2 \) in [19, Theorem 2.5]. The method was extended to higher étale \( K \)-theory in [5].

**Theorem 2.15.** — For \( n \) large there is an exact sequence
\[ 0 \to K^\text{ét}_{2i-1}(E_n)/p \to (\ker g_{E_n}/p)(i-1) \to (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^{\delta_n} \to 0, \]
where \( \delta_n \) denotes the Gross defect for the field \( E_n \).

**Corollary 2.16.** — Assume that the Gross Conjecture holds for \( E_n \), \( n \) large. Then
\[ D^{(i)}_{E_n}/E_n^{*p} \cong GK(E_n)/p \quad \text{for } n \text{ large.} \]

In particular, for \( n \) large, the groups \( D^{(i)}_{E_n}/E_n^{*p} \) are independent of \( i \).

So far in this section we have ignored the prime \( 2 \). Let us briefly discuss the case \( p = 2 \) in the classical situation \( i = 2 \), where special attention has to be paid to real infinite primes in \( F \). Let \( L = F(\sqrt{\delta}) \) be a quadratic extension of number fields with Galois group \( G \). Denote by \( T_{L/F} \) the set of finite primes in \( F \) which consists of all ramified non-dyadic primes and of all undecomposed dyadic primes \( v \) of \( F \), for which either \( \mu(L_w)\{2\} = \mu(F_v)\{2\} \) or \( L_w \) is not contained in the cyclotomic \( \mathbb{Z}_2 \)-extension of \( F_v \), where \( w \) is the prime above \( v \) in \( L \). Also, denote by \( D_F \) the subgroup of \( F^* \) of all elements \( x \), such that \( \{ -1, x \} = 1 \) in \( K^2(F) \). This is the classical Tate-kernel. Then the following results can be proved along the same lines as for odd \( p \):

**Proposition 2.17.** — The canonical map \( WK_2(L)\{2\}_G \to WK_2(F)\{2\} \)
is surjective precisely in the following situations, and has cokernel of order 2 otherwise:

i) \( |\mu(L)\{2\}| > |\mu(F)\{2\}| \) and \( L \subset F_\infty \).

ii) \( |\mu(L)\{2\}| > |\mu(F)\{2\}|, L \not\subset F_\infty \) and \( \mu(L_w)\{2\} = \mu(L)\{2\} \) for some \( w \mid v, v \in T_{L/F} \).

iii) \( \mu(L)\{2\} = \mu(F)\{2\} \) and \( \mu(L_w)\{2\} = \mu(F_v)\{2\} \) for some \( v \in T_{L/F} \).
We note in particular that the map $WK_2(L)\{2\}_G \to WK_2(F)\{2\}$ is always surjective if a non-dyadic prime of $F$ is ramified in $L$.

**Theorem 2.18.** — Let $L/F$ be a relative quadratic extension with Galois group $G$.

a) If $|\mu(L)\{2\}| > |\mu(F)\{2\}|$ and $L \subseteq F_\infty$, then $WK_2(L)\{2\}_G \cong WK_2(F)\{2\}$.

b) If either $|\mu(L)\{2\}| = |\mu(F)\{2\}|$ or $L \not\subseteq F_\infty$, and if either a real infinite prime of $F$ ramifies in $L$ or if $|\mu(F_v)\{2\}| = |\mu(F)\{2\}|$ for some prime $v \in T_{L/F}$, then

$$\frac{|WK_2(L)\{2\}_G|}{|WK_2(F)\{2\}|} = \frac{2|T_{L/F}|-1}{[D_F : D_F \cap N_{L/F}(L^*)]}.$$

In [6], Browkin and Schinzel computed the 2-rank of the wild kernel of a quadratic number field and obtained a complete list of quadratic number fields with trivial 2-primary wild kernels. A combination of their results with the genus formula in Theorem 2.18 and methods of [12] yield a complete list of bi-quadratic fields with trivial 2-primary wild kernels. Details will appear elsewhere.

### 3. Capitulation kernels.

Let $p$ be an odd prime and let $F_\infty/F$ be an arbitrary $\mathbb{Z}_p$-extension of $F$ with finite layers $F_n$. Let $A'_n = A'(F_n)$ denote the $p$-part of the $p$-class group of $F_n$ and $A'_\infty = \lim A'_n$. We define the capitulation kernel $\text{Cap}_0(F_\infty/F_n) = \ker(A'_n \to A'_\infty)$. As is well-known (cp. [13]) these kernels stabilize, more precisely, the norm $N_{F_m/F_n} : \text{Cap}_0(F_\infty/F_m) \to \text{Cap}_0(F_\infty/F_n)$ is an isomorphism for $n$ large and $m \geq n$ and we set $\text{Cap}_0(F_\infty) = \lim \text{Cap}_0(F_\infty/F_n)$.

**Remark 3.1.** — Let $A_n$ denote the $p$-part of the (usual) class group of $F_n$ and let $A_\infty = \lim A_n$. Once again, the capitulation kernels $\ker(A_n \to A_\infty)$ stabilize, and we can consider $\tilde{\text{Cap}}(F_\infty) = \lim \ker(A_n \to A_\infty)$. We note that in general $\tilde{\text{Cap}}(F_\infty) \neq \text{Cap}_0(F_\infty)$. Indeed, from the explicit examples elaborated by Greenberg in [11, section 8], it is not hard to see...
that if we take $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{142})$, $p = 3$, and let $F_\infty$ be the cyclotomic $\mathbb{Z}_3$-extension of $F$, then $\text{Cap}(F_\infty) \cong \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$, whereas $\text{Cap}_0(F_\infty)$ is trivial. From a $K$-theoretic point of view, $\text{Cap}_0(F_\infty)$ is the appropriate object to study.

We want to consider the analog of these kernels in higher étale $K$-theory.

Let again $S$ be a finite set of primes in $F$ containing $S_p$. To simplify notation, we put

$$\tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_\infty) = \lim_{\rightarrow} K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_n)$$

and

$$\tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\mathfrak{o}_\infty^S) = \lim_{\rightarrow} K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\mathfrak{o}_n^S),$$

where $\mathfrak{o}_n^S$ denotes the ring of $S$-integers in $F_n$, i.e. the integral closure of $\mathfrak{o}_F^S$ in $F_n$. We now define for $i \geq 2$:

$$\text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty/F_n) = \ker(K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\mathfrak{o}_n^S) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\mathfrak{o}_\infty^S)).$$

The following result implies in particular that the definition is independent of the choice of the finite set $S$ containing $S_p$. Let $\Gamma_n$ denote the Galois group of $F_\infty/F_n$ with the usual convention $\Gamma_0 = \Gamma$.

**Proposition 3.2.** — For $i \geq 2$ there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^1(\Gamma_n, \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_\infty)) \rightarrow K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\mathfrak{o}_n^S) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\mathfrak{o}_\infty^S) \rightarrow 0.$$

**Proof.** — For each $m \geq n$, Theorem 1.2 gives an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^1(\Gamma_n/\Gamma_m, K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_m)) \rightarrow K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\mathfrak{o}_m^S)$$

$$\rightarrow K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\mathfrak{o}_m^S)_{\Gamma_n/\Gamma_m} \rightarrow H^2(\Gamma_n/\Gamma_m, K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_m)) \rightarrow 0.$$ 

From Corollary 1.4 we see that the orders of the groups $H^2(\Gamma_n/\Gamma_m, K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_m))$ are bounded independently of $m$ by the order of $K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(\mathfrak{o}_n^S)$, and therefore the limit

$$H^2(\Gamma_n, \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_\infty)) = \lim_{\rightarrow} H^2(\Gamma_n/\Gamma_m, K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_m))$$

is finite. On the other hand, this group is divisible, since $cd_p(\Gamma_n) = 1$, hence trivial. \qed
In the classical case $i = 1$, it was shown by Iwasawa (cp. [13, Theorem 12]) that

$$\text{Cap}_0(F_\infty/F_n) \cong H^1(\Gamma_n, U'_\infty),$$

where $U'_\infty = \lim U'_n$ and $U'_n$ denotes the group of $p$-units of $F_n$. Therefore Proposition 3.2 gives, in particular, the following higher-dimensional analog of this result:

**Corollary 3.3.** — For $i \geq 2$

$$\text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty/F_n) \cong H^1(\Gamma_n, \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_\infty)).$$

To go further, we quote the following general result of Kahn (cp. [16, Proposition 6.2]), which he attributes to Nguyen Quang Do:

**Lemma 3.4.** — Let $A$ be a discrete torsion free $\Gamma$-module. Assume that for all integers $n \geq 0$:

i) $H^0(\Gamma_n, A)$ is finitely generated;

ii) $H^1(\Gamma_n, A)$ is finite;

iii) $H^2(\Gamma_n, A) = 0$.

Then the groups $H^1(\Gamma_n, A)$ stabilize, in particular $\lim H^1(\Gamma_n, A)$ is finite.

Let

$$\tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_n) = K^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_n)/\text{torsion}$$

and

$$\tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_\infty) = \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_\infty)/\text{torsion}.$$ 

We want to apply the previous lemma with $A = \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_\infty)$. From the exact sequence

$$0 \to H^0(F_\infty, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \to \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_\infty) \to \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_\infty) \to 0,$$

we deduce the exact sequence

$$0 \to \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_n) \to \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_\infty)^{\Gamma_n} \to H^1(\Gamma_n, H^0(F_\infty, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(i)))$$

$$\to H^1(\Gamma_n, \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_\infty)) \to H^1(\Gamma_n, \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_\infty)) \to 0,$$

as well as an isomorphism

$$H^2(\Gamma_n, \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_\infty)) \cong H^2(\Gamma_n, \tilde{K}^{\text{ét}}_{2i-1}(F_\infty)).$$
The proof of Proposition 2.2 showed that $H^2(\Gamma_n, \tilde{K}_{2i-1}^\text{ét}(F_\infty)) = 0$, and hence we see that $\tilde{K}_{2i-1}^\text{ét}(F_\infty)$ satisfies the assumptions of the previous lemma. We obtain the fact that the groups $H^1(\Gamma_n, \tilde{K}_{2i-1}^\text{ét}(F_\infty))$ stabilize and therefore that $\lim_\to H^1(\Gamma_n, \tilde{K}_{2i-1}^\text{ét}(F_\infty))$ is finite. To obtain the same result for the groups $H^1(\Gamma_n, \tilde{K}_{2i-1}^\text{ét}(F_\infty))$ and their limit, we look at the term $H^1(\Gamma_n, H^0(F_\infty, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(i)))$ in the above exact sequence: The group $H^0(F_\infty, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(i))$ is either $\mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(i)$ or finite. In the first case, Tate’s Lemma implies that $H^1(\Gamma_n, H^0(F_\infty, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(i))) = 0$, hence

$$H^1(\Gamma_n, \tilde{K}_{2i-1}^\text{ét}(F_\infty)) \cong H^1(\Gamma_n, \tilde{K}_{2i-1}^\text{ét}(F_\infty)).$$

In the second case, $H^1(\Gamma_n, H^0(F_\infty, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p(i)))$ stabilizes for $n$ large, and hence in any case we obtain:

\[ \text{PROPOSITION 3.5.} \] The groups $\text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty/F_n)$ stabilize; more precisely, the corestriction maps

$$\text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty/F_{n+1}) \to \text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty/F_n)$$

are surjective for all $n$ and $\lim_\to \text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty/F_n)$ is finite.

We now define

$$\text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty) = \lim_\to \text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty/F_n).$$

Now let us specialize and take $F_\infty/F$ to be the cyclotomic $\mathbb{Z}_p$-extension. As in the case $i = 1$, the finite groups $\text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty)$ then have various characterizations in terms of Iwasawa-theory. Let $E = F(\mu_p)$, let $E_\infty = F(\mu_p^{\infty})$ be the cyclotomic $\mathbb{Z}_p$-extension of $E$ and identify $\Gamma_n$ with the Galois group of $E_\infty/E_n$. We first describe $\text{Cap}_{i-1}(E_\infty)$. Let $\mathcal{X}_\infty$ denote the standard Iwasawa-module for $E_\infty$, i.e. the Galois group over $E_\infty$ of the maximal abelian $p$-ramified pro-$p$-extension of $E_\infty$. Denote by $\text{tor}_A\mathcal{X}_\infty$ the torsion part of $\mathcal{X}_\infty$ as a module over $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}_p[[\Gamma]]$. As is well-known, there exists an injective homomorphism (\cite[Theorem 3]{11})

$$\mathcal{X}_\infty/\text{tor}_A\mathcal{X}_\infty \to \Lambda^\ast(E)$$

with finite cokernel $H$. The following result is due to Iwasawa (\cite{13}) for $i = 1$, to Coates (\cite{7}) for $i = 2$ and to Nguyen Quang Do (\cite[section 4]{27}) in general:

\[ \text{THEOREM 3.6.} \] For all $i \geq 1$ and all $n \geq 0$, there are canonical isomorphisms

$$\text{Cap}_{i-1}(E_\infty/E_n) \cong H^*(i)\Gamma_n.$$
Since $H$ is finite, the group $\Gamma_n$ acts trivially on $H^*(i)$ for all $i$ provided $n$ is large enough. Therefore, as abstract groups, all capitulation kernels $\text{Cap}_{i-1}(E_\infty)$ are isomorphic to $H$.

Let $\Delta = \text{Gal}(E/F)$ and let $d$ denote the order of $\Delta$. Now clearly

$$\text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty) = \text{Cap}_{i-1}(E_\infty)^\Delta.$$  

Theorem 3.6 shows that $\text{Cap}_{i-1}(E_\infty)$ and $\text{Cap}_{j-1}(E_\infty)$ are isomorphic as $\Delta$-modules for $i \equiv j \mod d$. Therefore we obtain the following periodicity result:

**Corollary 3.7.**— Let $p$ be odd and let $F_\infty/F$ be the cyclotomic $\mathbb{Z}_p$-extension of $F$. Then

$$\text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty) \cong \text{Cap}_{j-1}(F_\infty)$$

for all $i, j \geq 1$, $i \equiv j \mod d$.

Next we would like to discuss another well-known relation between capitulation kernels and Iwasawa-theory: We continue to assume that $E_\infty = F(\mu_p^\infty)$ is the cyclotomic $\mathbb{Z}_p$-extension of $E = F(\mu_p)$, and that $p$ is odd. As usual, let $X'_\infty$ denote the Galois group over $E_\infty$ of the maximal abelian unramified pro-$p$-extension of $E_\infty$, in which all primes above $p$ are completely decomposed. Thus $X'_\infty \cong \lim_{\leftarrow} A'_n(E)$. The co-invariants $(X'_\infty)_r$ have been described by Jaulent as a group of logarithmic classes $\text{cl}(E)$ which can be interpreted as the class field theory analog of the wild kernels corresponding to the case $i = 1$. The Galois co-descent for these modules $\text{cl}(E)$ has been studied in [14]. Now, let $(X'_\infty)^0$ denote the maximal finite submodule of $X'_\infty$. It is well-known (cp. [21]) that

$$\text{Cap}_0(E_\infty) \cong (X'_\infty)^0.$$  

On the other hand, we have for all $n \geq 0$ and all $i \geq 2$, an isomorphism

$$(X'_\infty(i-1))_{\Gamma_n} \cong WK^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(E_n)$$

(cp. 33, section 6, Lemma 1), and therefore

$$\ker (WK^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(E_n) \to WK^{\text{ét}}_{2i-2}(E_m))$$

$$\cong \ker ((X'_\infty(i-1))_{\Gamma_n} \to (X'_\infty(i-1))_{\Gamma_m})$$

$$\cong (X'_\infty)^0(i-1)$$
for \( n \) large and \( m \) sufficiently larger than \( n \). If we define

\[
\tilde{W}K_{2i-2}^\text{ét}(E_\infty) = \lim \bar{W}K_{2i-2}^\text{ét}(E_n),
\]

then we obtain

**Proposition 3.8.** — For \( i \geq 2 \) and \( n \) sufficiently large we have:

\[
\text{Cap}_{i-1}(E_\infty) \cong \ker (W \cdot K_{2i-2}^\text{ét}(E_n) \rightarrow \tilde{W}K_{2i-2}^\text{ét}(E_\infty)) \cong (X'_\infty)^0(i - 1)
\]

as \( \Delta \)-modules.

For the original field \( F \) and the cyclotomic \( \mathbb{Z}_p \)-extension \( F_\infty/F \) this implies:

\[
\text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty) = \ker (W \cdot K_{2i-2}^\text{ét}(F_n) \rightarrow \tilde{W}K_{2i-2}^\text{ét}(F_\infty)) \cong ((X'_\infty)^0(i - 1))^\Delta.
\]

Again let \( \omega \) denote the Teichmüller character on \( \Delta \). We have

\[
((X'_\infty)^0(i - 1))^\Delta \cong ((X'_\infty)^0)^{[1-i]} \cong (X'_\infty)^{[1-i]}^0,
\]

and hence

\[
\text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty) \cong (X'_\infty)^{[1-i]}^0 \cong \text{Cap}_0(E_\infty)^{[1-i]}
\]

for all \( i \geq 1 \). We therefore obtain a decomposition of \( \text{Cap}_0(E_\infty) \) into eigenspaces:

\[
\text{Cap}(E_\infty) \cong \bigoplus_{j=0}^{d-1} \text{Cap}(F_\infty)
\]

with \( \text{Cap}_j(F_\infty) \) being isomorphic to the \((d - j)\)-th eigenspace of \( \text{Cap}_0(E_\infty) \).

The following result gives the connection with Section 2:

**Proposition 3.9.** — For \( i \geq 2 \), the following statements are equivalent:

i) \( \text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty) \cong W \cdot K_{2i-2}^\text{ét}(F_n) \) for large \( n \).

ii) \( X'_\infty^{[1-i]} \) is finite.

**Proof.** — As already mentioned we have for \( i \geq 2 \):

\[
(X'_\infty(i - 1))_{\Gamma_n} \cong W \cdot K_{2i-2}^\text{ét}(E_n),
\]

hence

\[
X'_\infty(i - 1) \cong \lim \bar{W}K_{2i-2}^\text{ét}(E_n),
\]
and therefore
\[ X'^{(1-i)}_\infty \cong \lim \lim_{\rightarrow} WK^{\text{et}}_{2n-2}(F_n). \]

The equivalence of i) and ii) is now obvious. \( \square \)

Let us assume now that the base field \( F \) is totally real. Then \( E \) is a CM-field with maximal real subfield \( E^+ \). Since obviously the plus-part of the group \( H \) is trivial in this situation, Theorem 3.6 implies that \( \text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty) = 0 \) for all even \( i \geq 2 \), hence that the minus-part of \( \text{Cap}_0(E_\infty^-) \) vanishes: \( \text{Cap}_0(E_\infty^-) = 0 \). Let \( X_\infty \) denote the Galois group of the maximal abelian unramified pro-\( p \)-extension of \( E_\infty \). Greenberg’s Conjecture (cp. [11]) for the cyclotomic \( \mathbb{Z}_p \)-extension \( F_\infty \) of the totally real field \( F \) is equivalent to the fact that \( X_\infty^{\Delta} \) is finite. Clearly this implies that \( (X_\infty')^{\Delta} \) is also finite, and the converse implication is true if one assumes for example that Leopoldt’s Conjecture holds for the layers \( F_n \) of \( F_\infty / F \). We will refer to Greenberg’s Conjecture in the form: \( (X_\infty')^{\Delta} \) is finite. In fact we will consider Greenberg’s Conjecture for the field \( E^+ \). Using Proposition 3.9, we can summarize:

**PROPOSITION 3.10.** Let \( F \) be a totally real number field, \( p \) an odd prime, \( E = F(\mu_p) \) and \( E^+ \) the maximal real subfield of \( E \). Furthermore, let \( F_\infty \) denote the cyclotomic \( \mathbb{Z}_p \)-extension of \( F \) and \( E_\infty \) the cyclotomic \( \mathbb{Z}_p \)-extension of \( E \). Then:

i) \( \text{Cap}_0(E_\infty^-) = 0 \), i.e. \( \text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty) = 0 \) for all even \( i \geq 2 \).

ii) \( \text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty) \cong WK^{\text{et}}_{2n-2}(F_n) \) for large \( n \) and all odd \( i \geq 3 \), if and only if Greenberg’s Conjecture holds for \( E^+ \).

As an immediate consequence of part ii), we obtain that under Greenberg’s Conjecture the étale wild kernels \( WK^{\text{et}}_{2n-2}(F_n) \) show the same periodic behaviour as the capitulation kernels for \( n \) large and \( i \geq 3 \) odd. On the other hand, under Greenberg’s Conjecture for \( E^+ \), we also have \( \text{Cap}_0(E^+_\infty) = \text{Cap}_0(E_\infty^+)^+ = A'_n(E)^+ \) for \( n \) large; hence for all \( i \geq 3 \) odd:

\[ \text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty) \cong A'_n(E)^{(1-i)} \cong WK^{\text{et}}_{2n-2}(F_n) \quad \text{for } n \text{ large}. \]

Therefore, the Galois co-descent results of Section 2 also apply to both \( \text{Cap}_{i-1}(F_\infty) \) and the eigenspaces \( A'_n(E)^{(1-i)} \) of \( A'_n(E^+) \) for \( n \) large. In particular:

**THEOREM 3.11.** Let \( L/F \) be a cyclic extension of totally real number fields of degree \( p \), \( p \) odd, with Galois group \( G \) and let \( E = F(\mu_p) \). Assume Greenberg’s conjecture holds for \( E^+, LE^+ \) and the Gross
conjecture holds for $E_n$, $n$ large. Then for $i \geq 3$ odd, $n$ large and $T_{L_n/F_n} \neq \emptyset$, Galois co-descent holds for $\text{Cap}_{i-1}(L_\infty)$ and $A'_{n}(L^{E})^{[1-i]}$ if and only if the cup-product

$$(GK(E_n)/p)^{[1-i]} \otimes H^1(G, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow p\text{Br}^T(E_n)^{[1-i]}$$

is surjective.

Remark 3.12.— If $i \equiv 1 \mod d$, then, under the assumptions of Theorem 3.11, we can compare the genus formulae for $WK^\text{ét}_{2i-2}(L_n)$ and $A^i_{L}(L)$ to obtain for large $n$:

$$[U'_n : U'_n \cap N_{L_n/F_n}(L_n^*)] = [GK(F_n) : GK(F_n) \cap N_{L_n/F_n}(L_n^*)],$$

a result which one can also prove directly.

4. Galois co-descent for the étale tame kernel.

In this final section we briefly discuss how the methods of Section 2 can be used to study the much easier problem of Galois co-descent for the étale tame kernels again for cyclic extensions $L/F$ of degree $p$, $p$ odd. Results for arbitrary finite Galois $p$-extensions have been obtained by Assim (cp. [1], [2]) in terms of primitive ramification, however under the assumption that Leopoldt’s Conjecture holds for the fields $L(\mu_{p^n})$ for all $n$. Let $S$ be the finite set of primes of $F$, consisting of the set $S_p$ and the tamely ramified primes in $L/F$. We have the following exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow K^\text{ét}_{2i-2}(\mathcal{O}_F) \rightarrow K^\text{ét}_{2i-2}(\mathcal{O}_L^S) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S \setminus S_p} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \rightarrow 0,$$

which, combined with Proposition 1.3, shows that the canonical map

$$K^\text{ét}_{2i-2}(\mathcal{O}_L)_G \rightarrow K^\text{ét}_{2i-2}(\mathcal{O}_F)_G$$

is always surjective and that the kernel of this map is isomorphic to the cokernel of the map

$$K^\text{ét}_{2i-2}(\mathcal{O}_L^S)_G \rightarrow \left( \bigoplus_{w \in S'_L} H^2(L_w, \mathbb{Z}_p(i)) \right)_G,$$

where $S'_L$ consists of the primes in $L$ above $S \setminus S_p$. We recall that $S \setminus S_p$ is always contained in $T^{(i)}_{L/F}$. The following is now clear from the results in Section 2:
THEOREM 4.1.— The kernel of the surjective map $K^\text{ét}_{2i-2}(o_L)_G \to K^\text{ét}_{2i-2}(o_F)$ is isomorphic to the cokernel of the map

$$K^\text{ét}_{2i-1}(F)/p \otimes H^1(G, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) \to \bigoplus_{v \in S \setminus S_p} H^2(F_v, \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}(i)).$$

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