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# HILBERT-SYMBOL EQUIVALENCE OF GLOBAL FUNCTION FIELDS

### Alfred Czogała

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ABSTRACT. Hilbert-symbol equivalence of degree  $\ell$  between two global fields containing a primitive  $\ell$ th root of unity is an isomorphism between the groups of  $\ell$ th power classes of these fields preserving Hilbert symbols of degree  $\ell$ . The Hilbert-symbol equivalence of degree  $\ell$  is said to be tame if it preserves the p-orders modulo  $\ell$ . In the paper we prove that if  $\ell$  is an odd prime number, then any two global function fields are Hilbert equivalent. We find also necessary and sufficient conditions for tame Hilbert-symbol equivalence of global function fields for all prime numbers  $\ell \geq 2$ .

# 1. Introduction

Let  $\ell$  be a prime number and let K and L be global fields of characteristic prime to  $\ell$  containing primitive  $\ell$ th roots of unity. Degree  $\ell$  Hilbert-symbol equivalence (or  $\ell$ -Hilbert-symbol equivalence) between K and L is defined to be a triple of maps

$$f: \mu_{\ell}(K) \to \mu_{\ell}(L), \qquad t: \dot{K}/\dot{K}^{\ell} \to \dot{L}/\dot{L}^{\ell}, \qquad T: \Omega(K) \to \Omega(L),$$

where f is an isomorphism between the groups of  $\ell$ th roots of unity, t is an isomorphism between the groups of  $\ell$ th power classes of the two fields and T is a bijective map between the sets of all primes of K and L, with (f,t,T) preserving Hilbert symbols of  $\ell$ th degree in the sense that

$$(a,b)_{\mathfrak{p}}^{f} = (ta,tb)_{T\mathfrak{p}}$$
 for all  $a,b \in \dot{K}/\dot{K}^{\ell}$ ,  $\mathfrak{p} \in \Omega(K)$ .

We say that K and L are degree  $\ell$  Hilbert-symbol equivalent when there exists a degree  $\ell$  Hilbert-symbol equivalence between K and L.

The 2-Hilbert-symbol equivalence was introduced in [PSCL] in order to classify the global fields with respect to isomorphism of Witt rings. For  $\ell > 2$  the

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 $\ell$ -Hilbert-symbol equivalence was first discussed in [CS1]. In [S] it was shown that:

K and L are degree  $\ell$  Hilbert-symbol equivalent if and only if there is an isomorphism of graded rings  $K(K)/\ell K(K) \cong K(L)/\ell K(L)$ , sending  $\{-1\}_{\ell}$  onto  $\{-1\}_{\ell}$  (here K(F) stands for the Milnor ring of the field F).

Hilbert-symbol equivalences come in two types: tame and wild. The equivalence (f, t, T) of degree  $\ell$  is said to be *tame at non-archimedean place*  $\mathfrak{p}$  of K, when

$$\operatorname{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}(a) \equiv \operatorname{ord}_{T\mathfrak{p}}(ta) \pmod{\ell} \quad \text{for all} \quad a \in K/K^{\ell}.$$
 (1)

Otherwise the equivalence is wild at  $\mathfrak{p}$ . The equivalence (f, t, T) is said to be tame when it is tame at all finite non-archimedean places  $\mathfrak{p}$  of K.

So far  $\ell$ -Hilbert-symbol equivalence has been investigated in details for all global fields only for  $\ell = 2$  (see [PSCL] and [C]). On the other hand for  $\ell > 2$  the  $\ell$ -Hilbert-symbol equivalence, and the tame Hilbert-symbol equivalence has been studied only for the algebraic number fields (see [CS2], [CZ1], [CZ2]).

This paper completes the picture by finding necessary and sufficient conditions for degree  $\ell$  Hilbert-symbol equivalence of global function fields in case  $\ell > 2$  (in Section 2), and for tame  $\ell$ -Hilbert-symbol equivalence of global function fields for all  $\ell \ge 2$  (in Section 3).

# 2. Hilbert-symbol equivalence

The 2-Hilbert-symbol equivalence can be described in terms of field invariants. Carpenter in [C] has shown:

**2.1.** The algebraic number fields K and L are degree 2 Hilbert-symbol equivalent if and only if they have the same level, the same number of real primes and there exists a bijection from dyadic primes of K to those of L which preserves the local degrees and local levels.

**2.2.** The global function fields K and L of odd characteristic are degree 2 Hilbert-symbol equivalent if and only if they have the same level.

The counterpart of Carpenter's theorem 2.1 for degree  $\ell > 2$  was proved in [CS1]:

**2.3.** The algebraic number fields K and L containing primitive  $\ell$  th roots of unity are degree  $\ell$  Hilbert-symbol equivalent if and only if there exists a bijection from  $\ell$ -adic primes of K to those of L which preserves the local degrees.

Here we will show the following result which is the counterpart of C ar penter's theorem 2.2 for degree  $\ell > 2$ :

**THEOREM 2.4.** Let  $\ell > 2$  be a prime number. Then any two global function fields K and L containing primitive  $\ell$  th roots of unity are degree  $\ell$  Hilbert-symbol equivalent.

We will obtain the proof of Theorem 2.4 by adapting the approaches presented in [CS1] to the global function fields. First we recall the notions and facts necessary in the proof.

Suppose  $\ell$  is a prime number and K is a global function field containing a primitive  $\ell$ th root of unity. In case  $\ell = 2$  we assume additionally that the characteristic of K is different from 2. Those assumptions guarantee that the characteristic of K is prime to  $\ell$ .

Let  $\zeta_K$  be a fixed primitive  $\ell$ th root of unity in K. For any prime  $\mathfrak{p} \in \Omega(K)$ the group  $\dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}}/\dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\ell}$  of the  $\ell$ th power classes of the local field  $K_{\mathfrak{p}}$  can be viewed as 2-dimensional inner product space over the  $\ell$ -element field  $\mathbf{F}_{\ell}$ , with the bilinear form  $\beta_{\mathfrak{p}}$  defined by the  $\mathfrak{p}$ -adic Hilbert symbol of degree  $\ell$  in the following way

$$(x,y)_{\mathfrak{p}} = \zeta_K^{\beta_{\mathfrak{p}}(x,y)}$$

If u is arbitrary p-adic unit which is not a local  $\ell$ th power and  $\pi_p$  is a local uniformizer at p, then the set  $\{u, \pi_p\}$  forms a basis of this space. The form  $\beta_p$  is symmetric when  $\ell = 2$  and antisymmetric when  $\ell > 2$ .

The characteristic of the residue class field of  $K_{p}$  is prime to  $\ell$ , thus the Hilbert symbol  $(,)_{p}$  of degree  $\ell$  is tame. From the explicit formula for the value of tame Hilbert symbol (c.f. [CF; Example 2]) one can deduce that there exists a local p-adic unit  $u \in U_{p}$  with the property

$$\beta_{\mathfrak{p}}(u, x) = \operatorname{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}} x \mod \ell \quad \text{for every} \quad x \in K_{\mathfrak{p}}$$

Assume S is a finite nonempty subset of  $\Omega(K)$ . We call such a set S sufficiently large if  $\ell$  does not divide the class number  $h^S(K)$  of the ring  $\mathcal{O}_K(S)$  of S-integers of K. We consider the inner product space  $(G(S), \beta_S)$  over  $\mathbf{F}_{\ell}$  which is the orthogonal product of  $(\dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}}/\dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\ell}, \beta_{\mathfrak{p}}), \mathfrak{p} \in S$ , that is,

$$G(S) = \prod_{\mathfrak{p} \in S} \dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}} / \dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\ell} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta_{S} \big( (x_{\mathfrak{p}})_{\mathfrak{p} \in S}, (y_{\mathfrak{p}})_{\mathfrak{p} \in S} \big) = \sum_{\mathfrak{p} \in S} \beta_{\mathfrak{p}} (x_{\mathfrak{p}}, y_{\mathfrak{p}}) \,.$$

The dimension (over  $\mathbf{F}_{\ell}$ ) of the space G(S) is equal to 2#S.

We write  $U_K(S)$  for the group of S-units of K. According to Dirichlet's unit theorem, we have  $\operatorname{rk}_{\ell} U_K(S)/U_K(S)^{\ell} = \#S$ . We have a homomorphism  $i: U_K(S)/U_K(S)^{\ell} \to G(S)$ , which is the composite map

$$U_K(S)/U_K(S)^\ell \longrightarrow \dot{K}/\dot{K}^\ell \xrightarrow{\operatorname{diag}} G(S)$$
.

Using the same arguments as in the proofs of [CS2; Lemma 3.1, Lemma 3.2], and [CZ2; Lemma 3.6] we obtain the following facts:

- **2.5.** If S is a sufficiently large set of primes of K, then
  - (i) An  $\ell$  th power class  $a\dot{K}^{\ell}$  lies in  $U_K(S)/U_K(S)^{\ell}$  if and only if  $\operatorname{ord}_n(a)$  $\equiv 0 \pmod{\ell}$  for every  $\mathfrak{p}$  outside S.

  - (ii) The map  $i: U_K(S)/U_K(S)^\ell \to G(S)$  is injective. (iii) The image of the group  $U_K(S)/U_K(S)^\ell$  under the monomorphism *i* is a self-orthogonal subspace of G(S) $(i.e. \ i(U_{K}(S)/U_{K}(S)^{\ell}) = i(U_{K}(S)/U_{K}(S)^{\ell})^{\perp}).$

**LEMMA 2.6.** If S is a finite non-empty set of primes of K and  $(\alpha_{\mathfrak{p}})_{\mathfrak{p}\in S} \in$ G(S), then there exists  $q \in \Omega(K) \setminus S$  and  $q \in K$  such that

- $\begin{array}{ll} \text{(i)} & q\dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\ell}=\alpha_{\mathfrak{p}}\dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\ell} \ \text{for all } \mathfrak{p}\in S\,,\\ \text{(ii)} & \mathrm{ord}_{\mathfrak{q}}\,q=1, \end{array}$
- (iii)  $\operatorname{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}} q \equiv 0 \pmod{\ell}$  for all  $\mathfrak{p} \in \Omega(K) \setminus (S \cup \{\mathfrak{q}\})$ .

Proof. This is immediate from [LW; Lemma 2.1].

It has become a standard that the Hilbert symbol equivalence is achieved by using the concept of an S-equivalence. Let S be a sufficiently large set of primes of K. By S-equivalence between K and L we mean a quadruple  $(f, T, t_S, (t_p)_{p \in S})$  where  $f: \mu_{\ell}(K) \to \mu_{\ell}(L)$  is a group isomorphism, T is a bijection of S onto a sufficiently large set S' = TS of primes of L,  $t_S: U_K(S)/U_K(S)^{\ell} \to U_L(S')/U_L(S')^{\ell}$  is a group isomorphism,  $(t_p)_{p \in S}$  is a family of isomorphisms  $t_{\mathfrak{p}} \colon \dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}} / \dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\ell} \to \dot{L}_{T\mathfrak{p}} / \dot{L}_{T\mathfrak{p}}^{\ell}$  preserving Hilbert symbols in the sense that  $(x, y)_{\mathfrak{p}}^{f} = (t_{\mathfrak{p}}x, t_{\mathfrak{p}}y)_{T\mathfrak{p}}$  for all  $x, y \in K_{\mathfrak{p}}$  and the following diagram commutes

An S-equivalence is said to be *tame* if each isomorphism  $t_p$  is tame.

**THEOREM 2.7.** A S-equivalence of degree  $\ell$  can be extended to a degree  $\ell$ Hilbert-symbol equivalence which is tame outside S.

**Proof**. Arguments are the same as those used in the proof of [CS2; Theorem 3.4]. 

Now we turn to:

Proof of Theorem 2.4. Assume  $\ell > 2$  is a prime number. Let K, Lbe number fields and let  $\zeta_K$ ,  $\zeta_L$  be fixed primitive  $\ell$  th roots of unity in K and L, respectively. From [OM; 33:13a] it follows that there exist sufficiently large

sets of primes S, S' of the fields K and L, respectively. Adding, if necessary, some primes to one of these sets, we can assume they consist of the same number of elements. Let  $T: S \to S'$  be a bijection between the sets S and S'. For every  $\mathfrak{p} \in S$  the inner product spaces  $(\dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}}/\dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\ell},\beta_{\mathfrak{p}})$  and  $(\dot{L}_{T\mathfrak{p}}/\dot{L}_{T\mathfrak{p}}^{\ell},\beta_{T\mathfrak{p}})$  are isometric. Using the same arguments as in the proof of [CS2; Theorem 4.1] we conclude that there exists a small equivalence of degree  $\ell$  between K and L. Now the statement follows immediately from Theorem 2.7.

### 3. Tame Hilbert-symbol equivalence

Again let  $\ell$  be a prime number, K be a global function field of characteristic prime to  $\ell$  and let  $\zeta_K \in K$  be a fixed primitive  $\ell$ th root of unity. By  $E_K$  we shall denote the constant field of K. Let us observe that the level s(K) of K is equal to 1, when -1 is a square in  $E_K$  and is equal to 2, otherwise. We write  $C_K$  for the zero-degree divisor class group of K, that is  $C_K$  is the factor group  $\mathcal{D}_0/\mathcal{P}$ , where  $\mathcal{D}_0$  is the group of divisors of degree 0, and  $\mathcal{P}$  is the group of principal divisors.

We define the group of  $\ell$ -singular (or briefly singular) elements of K,

 $K_{\rm si} = \left\{ x \in \dot{K} : \text{ ord}_{\mathfrak{p}} x \equiv 0 \pmod{\ell} \text{ for all primes } \mathfrak{p} \text{ of } K \right\}.$ 

It is obvious that  $K_{si}$  is a subgroup of  $\dot{K}$  and it contains the group  $\dot{K}^{\ell}$ .

LEMMA 3.1. We have

$$\operatorname{rk}_{\ell} K_{\mathrm{si}} / \dot{K}^{\ell} = 1 + \operatorname{rk}_{\ell} C_{K}$$

Proof. Let  $_{\ell}C_K$  be the subgroup of  $C_K$  consisting of elements of order  $\leq \ell$ . The map

$$K_{\mathrm{si}} \to {}_{\ell}C_K, \qquad x \mapsto \mathrm{cl} \prod_{\mathfrak{p}} \mathfrak{p}^{(\mathrm{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}} x)/\ell}$$

is a surjective homomorphism with the kernel  $\dot{E}_{K}\dot{K}^{\ell}$ . Thus  $\mathrm{rk}_{\ell}K_{\mathrm{si}}/E_{K}\dot{K}^{\ell} = \mathrm{rk}_{\ell}C_{K}$ . The groups  $\dot{E}_{K}/\dot{K}^{\ell}$  and  $\dot{E}_{K}/\dot{E}_{K}^{\ell}$  are isomorphic and the  $\ell$ -rank of  $\dot{E}_{K}/\dot{E}_{K}^{\ell}$  is equal to 1. This proves the lemma.

Assume S is a finite nonempty set of primes of K. We consider the group of  $\ell$ -singular elements with respect to S.

 $K_{\rm si}(S) = \left\{ x \in \dot{K} : \text{ ord}_{\mathfrak{p}} \equiv 0 \pmod{\ell} \text{ for all } \mathfrak{p} \in \Omega(K) \setminus S \right\}.$ 

Similarly as in the proof of Lemma 3.1 we see that the map  $x \mapsto \operatorname{cl} \prod_{\mathfrak{p} \notin S} \mathfrak{p}^{(\operatorname{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}} x)/\ell}$ 

is a surjective homomorphism of  $K_{\rm si}(S)$  onto  ${}_{\ell}C_K(S)$  with the kernel  $U_K(S)\dot{K}^{\ell}$ . Since  $U_K(S)\dot{K}^{\ell}/\dot{K}^{\ell} \cong U_K(S)/U_K(S)^{\ell}$  and  ${\rm rk}_{\ell}U_K(S)/U_K(S)^{\ell} = \#S$ , we have  ${\rm rk}_{\ell}K_{\rm si}(S)/\dot{K}^{\ell} = \#S + {\rm rk}_{\ell}C_K(S)$ . (2) **LEMMA 3.2.** If  $\mathfrak{p}_0$  is a prime of K of degree prime to  $\ell$  and  $S_0 = {\mathfrak{p}_0}$ , then

(i)  $K_{\rm si}(S_0) = K_{\rm si}$ , (ii)  $\operatorname{rk}_{\ell} C_{K}(S_{0}) = \operatorname{rk}_{\ell} C_{K}$ .

Proof.

(i) Let x be an arbitrary element of  $K_{si}(S_0)$ . The degree of principal divisor (x) is equal to 0. Thus we have

$$\mathfrak{f}_{\mathfrak{p}_0}\operatorname{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}_0}x+\sum_{\mathfrak{p}\neq\mathfrak{p}_0}\mathfrak{f}_{\mathfrak{p}}\operatorname{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}x=0\,,$$

where  $\mathfrak{f}_{\mathfrak{p}}$  denotes the degree of the prime  $\mathfrak{p}$ . Since  $\ell$  divides  $\operatorname{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}} x$  for every prime  $\mathfrak{p} \neq \mathfrak{p}_0$  and  $\ell$  does not divide  $\mathfrak{f}_{\mathfrak{p}_0}$ , hence  $\ell$  divides  $\operatorname{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}_0} x$ , so  $x \in K_{\mathrm{si}}$ . 

(ii) It follows immediately from (i), Lemma 3.1 and (2).

**LEMMA 3.3.** Assume that the elements  $a_1, \ldots, a_n \in K$  are  $\ell$ -independent and  $\varepsilon_1, \ldots, \varepsilon_n \in \{0, \ldots, \ell-1\}$ . Then there are infinitely many primes  $\mathfrak{p}$  of K for which

$$\left(\frac{a_i}{\mathfrak{p}}\right)_{\ell} = \zeta_K^{\varepsilon_i}$$

holds for  $i = 1, \ldots, n$ .

Proof. Let  $L_i = K(\sqrt[e]{a_i})$  for i = 1, ..., n. The extension  $L_i/K$  is normal with the cyclic Galois group  $G(L_i/K)$ . Let  $\sigma_i$  be its generator acting on  $\sqrt[4]{a_i}$ by  $\left(\sqrt[\ell]{a_i}\right)^{\sigma_i} = \zeta_K \sqrt[\ell]{a_i}$ . Consider the field  $L = L_1 \cdots L_n = K\left(\sqrt[\ell]{a_1}, \dots, \sqrt[\ell]{a_n}\right)$ .

From the Kummer theory it follows that L/K is a Galois extension of degree  $\ell^n$  with the Abelian Galois group  $G(L/K) = \prod_{i=1}^n G(L_i/K)$ . Let  $\sigma =$  $(\sigma_1^{\varepsilon_1},\ldots,\sigma_n^{\varepsilon_n}) \in G(L/K)$ . According to Chebotarev density theorem (see [W; Chap. XII, Theorem 12]) there exist infinitely many primes p of K for which the Frobenius automorphism  $F_{L/K}(\mathfrak{p})$  is equal to  $\sigma$ . It follows that  $F_{L/K}(\mathfrak{p}) =$  $(F_{L_1/K}(\mathfrak{p}),\ldots,F_{L_i/K}(\mathfrak{p}))$ , so  $F_{L_i/K}(\mathfrak{p}) = \sigma_i^{\varepsilon_i}$  for  $i = 1,\ldots,n$ .

On the other hand, we have  $(\sqrt[\ell]{a_i})^{F_{L_i/K}(\mathfrak{p})} = (\frac{a_i}{\mathfrak{p}})_{\ell}\sqrt[\ell]{a_i}$  (see [CF; Example 1]), hence  $\left(\frac{a_i}{p}\right)_{\ell} = \zeta_K^{\varepsilon_i}$ . 

Now we prove the second main theorem of the paper.

### THEOREM 3.4.

(i) The global function fields K and L of odd characteristic are degree 2tamely Hilbert symbol equivalent if and only if they have the same level and the zero-degree divisor class groups of K and L have the same 2-rank.

(ii) Let  $\ell$  be an odd prime number and K, L be global function fields containing a primitive  $\ell$  th root of unity. The fields K and L are degree  $\ell$  tamely Hilbert symbol equivalent if and only if the zero-degree divisor class groups of K and L have the same  $\ell$ -rank.

Proof. We will prove simultaneously (i) and (ii).

Suppose (f, t, T) is the degree  $\ell$  tame Hilbert-symbol equivalence of K and L. The isomorphism t induces a group isomorphism  $t: K_{\rm si}/\dot{K}^{\ell} \to L_{\rm si}/\dot{L}^{\ell}$ . By the Lemma 3.1 we have  $\operatorname{rk}_{\ell} C_{K} = \operatorname{rk}_{\ell} C_{L}$ . When  $\ell = 2$ , t(-1) = -1 holds (see [PSCL]), thus we get additionally s(K) = s(L).

Now we prove the sufficiency part of (i) and (ii).

Let us fix the  $\ell$ th roots of unity  $\zeta_K \in K$  and  $\zeta_L \in L$ . From the assumptions we have  $\operatorname{rk}_{\ell} K_{\operatorname{si}} / \dot{K}^{\ell} = \operatorname{rk}_{\ell} L_{\operatorname{si}} / \dot{L}^{\ell} = 1 + n$ , where  $n = \operatorname{rk}_{\ell} C_K = \operatorname{rk}_{\ell} C_L$ . There exist elements  $a_0 \in E_K$ ,  $b_0 \in E_L$  which are not global  $\ell$ th powers. When  $\ell = 2$ and -1 is not a square in both K and L, we choose  $a_0 = b_0 = -1$ .

From [AT; Chap. 5, Theorem 5] it follows that the least positive divisor degree of K is equal to 1. Hence there exists a prime divisor  $\mathfrak{p}_0$  of K of degree  $\mathfrak{f}_{\mathfrak{p}_0}$  prime to  $\ell$ . The corresponding completion  $K_{\mathfrak{p}_0}$  is a field of power series with coefficients in a finite field  $\tilde{E}_K$ , where  $\tilde{E}_K$  is finite extension of the field  $E_K$  of degree  $\mathfrak{f}_{\mathfrak{p}_0}$ . Since  $\ell$  does not divide  $[\tilde{E}_K : E_K]$ , the element  $a_0$  is not an  $\ell$ th power in the field  $\tilde{E}_K$ . This implies that  $a_0 \notin \dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}_0}/\dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}_0}^{\ell}$ , and so  $\left(\frac{a_0}{\mathfrak{p}_o}\right)_{\ell} \neq 1$ . Replacing, if necessary, the element  $a_0$  with its power we can assume that  $\left(\frac{a_0}{\mathfrak{p}_o}\right)_{\ell} = \zeta_K$ . In the same way, there exists a prime divisor  $\mathfrak{q}_0$  of L of degree  $\mathfrak{f}_{\mathfrak{q}_0}$  prime to  $\ell$  and we can assume that  $\left(\frac{b_0}{\mathfrak{q}_o}\right)_{\ell} = \zeta_L$ .

Let  $\{a_0, a_1, \ldots, a_n\}$  be a basis for  $K_{\rm si}/\dot{K}^{\ell}$  and  $\{b_0, b_1, \ldots, b_n\}$  be a basis for  $L_{\rm si}/\dot{L}^{\ell}$ . Using Lemma 3.3 we pick up primes  $\mathfrak{p}_1, \ldots, \mathfrak{p}_n$  of K and primes  $\mathfrak{q}_1, \ldots, \mathfrak{q}_n$  of L, such that

$$\left(\frac{a_i}{\mathfrak{p}_i}\right)_{\ell} = \zeta_K, \qquad \left(\frac{b_i}{\mathfrak{q}_i}\right)_{\ell} = \zeta_L, \qquad \left(\frac{a_j}{\mathfrak{p}_i}\right)_{\ell} = \left(\frac{b_j}{\mathfrak{q}_i}\right)_{\ell} = 1$$

for each  $i \in \{1, ..., n\}, j \in \{0, 1, ..., n\}, i \neq j$ .

Multiplying, if necessary, the elements  $a_i$  (i = 1, ..., n) by powers of  $a_0$  we can assume that  $\left(\frac{a_i}{\mathfrak{p}_0}\right)_{\ell} = 1$  for i = 1, ..., n. Similarly, we can assume that  $\left(\frac{b_i}{\mathfrak{q}_0}\right)_{\ell} = 1$  for i = 1, ..., n. Let  $S_0 = \{\mathfrak{p}_0\}$  and  $S'_0 = \{\mathfrak{q}_0\}$ .

**CLAIM.** The set of classes of primes  $\mathfrak{p}_1, \ldots, \mathfrak{p}_n$  is linearly independent (over  $\mathbf{F}_{\ell}$ ) in  $C_K(S_0)/C_K(S_0)^{\ell}$ .

For otherwise there exists  $x \in K$  and a fractional  $S_0$ -ideal  $\mathfrak{a}$  such that

$$x\mathcal{O}_K(S_0) = \mathfrak{p}_1^{e_1} \dots \mathfrak{p}_n^{e_n} \mathfrak{a}^\ell$$

for some  $e_1, \ldots, e_n \in \{0, \ldots, \ell - 1\}$  and  $e_i > 0$  for certain *i*. The element  $a_i$  is r-adic unit (modulo local  $\ell$ th power) for each prime  $\mathfrak{r}$  of K and the element

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x is r-adic unit (modulo local  $\ell$ th power) for every prime  $\mathfrak{r} \notin {\mathfrak{p}_0, \ldots, \mathfrak{p}_n}$ . Taking into account the connection between the residue norm symbol and Hilbert symbol (c.f. [CF; Example 2]) we have

$$(a_i, x)_{\mathfrak{p}_i} = \left(\frac{a_i}{\mathfrak{p}_i}\right)_{\ell}^{\operatorname{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}_i}(x)} = \zeta_K^{e_i} \neq 1, \qquad (a_i, x)_{\mathfrak{p}_j} = \left(\frac{a_i}{\mathfrak{p}_j}\right)_{\ell}^{\operatorname{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}_j}(x)} = 1$$

for all  $j \in \{1, ..., n\}$ ,  $j \neq i$ , and  $(a_i, x)_r = 1$  for every prime  $r \notin \{p_0, ..., p_n\}$ . This contradicts Hilbert's reciprocity and establishes the claim.

Analogously we claim that the set of classes of primes  $q_1, \ldots, q_n$  is linearly independent in  $C_L(S'_0)/C_L(S'_0)^{\ell}$ .

We put  $S = \{\mathfrak{p}_0, \mathfrak{p}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{p}_n\}$  and  $S' = \{\mathfrak{q}_0, \mathfrak{q}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{q}_n\}.$ 

The claims imply that the  $\ell$ -rank of the groups  $C_K(S)$  and  $C_L(S')$  are equal to 0, thus the sets S and S' are sufficiently large.

From 2.5(i) we infer that the group  $K_{\rm si}/\dot{K}^{\ell}$  is a subgroup of  $U_K(S)/U_K(S)^{\ell}$ . Because these groups have the same  $\ell$ -rank we get  $K_{\rm si}/\dot{K}^{\ell} = U_K(S)/U_K(S)^{\ell}$ and similarly  $L_{\rm si}/\dot{L}^{\ell} = U_L(S')/U_L(S')^{\ell}$ .

Now we construct an S-equivalence of K and L.

We define an isomorphism  $f: \mu_{\ell}(K) \to \mu_{\ell}(L)$ , a bijection  $T: S \to S'$  and an isomorphism  $t_S: K_{\rm si}/\dot{K}^{\ell} \to L_{\rm si}/\dot{L}^{\ell}$  by putting  $f(\zeta_K) = \zeta_L$ ,  $T(\mathfrak{p}_i) = \mathfrak{q}_i$  and  $t_S(a_i) = b_i$  for  $i = 0, 1, \ldots, n$ .

For  $i \in \{0, 1, ..., n\}$  the element  $a_i$  is  $\mathfrak{p}_i$ -adic unit, which is not a local  $\ell$ th power at  $\mathfrak{p}_i$ , thus the set  $\{a_i, \pi_{\mathfrak{p}_i}\}$  forms a basis of  $\dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}_i}/\dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}_i}^{\ell}$ . We define the isomorphism  $t_{\mathfrak{p}_i} : \dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}_i}/\dot{K}_{\mathfrak{p}_i}^{\ell} \to \dot{L}_{\mathfrak{q}_i}/\dot{L}_{\mathfrak{q}_i}^{\ell}$  by sending  $a_i \mapsto b_i$ ,  $\pi_{\mathfrak{p}_i} \mapsto \pi_{\mathfrak{q}_i}$ . Of course the isomorphism  $t_{\mathfrak{p}_i}$  is tame and preserves Hilbert symbols. For  $j \neq i$  the element  $a_j$  is a local  $\ell$ th power at  $\mathfrak{p}_i$  and  $b_j$  is a local  $\ell$ th power at  $\mathfrak{q}_i$ ; hence the diagram

commutes. Therefore f, T,  $t_S$  and the family  $(t_{p_i})$ ,  $i = 0, \ldots, n$ , determine an S-equivalence of K and L. By Theorem 2.7 this S-equivalence can be extended to degree  $\ell$  Hilbert-symbol equivalence (f, t, T) which is tame outside S. To finish the proof, it is sufficient to notice that the equivalence is in fact tame, because the isomorphism  $t_{p_i}$  is tame for every  $i \in \{0, 1, \ldots, n\}$ .

**Remark.** A criterion for tame Hilbert-symbol equivalence, as simple as in Theorem 3.4, does not exist for the global number fields. But for algebraic number fields there is a necessary and sufficient condition for tame Hilbert-symbol equivalence that can be viewed as a finiteness condition, for details see [CZ1] and [CZ2].

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