

Noether's problem and rationality problem for multiplicative invariant fields: a survey

By

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Abstract

In this paper, we give a brief survey of recent developments on Noether's problem and rationality problem for multiplicative invariant fields including author's recent papers Hoshi [Hos15] about Noether's problem over \mathbb{Q} , Hoshi, Kang and Kunyavskii [HKK13], Chu, Hoshi, Hu and Kang [CHHK15], Hoshi [Hos16] and Hoshi, Kang and Yamasaki [HKY16] about Noether's problem over \mathbb{C} , and Hoshi, Kang and Kitayama [HKK14] and Hoshi, Kang and Yamasaki [HKY] about rationality problem for multiplicative invariant fields.

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§ 1. Introduction

Let k be a field and G be a finite group acting on the rational function field $k(x_g \mid g \in G)$ by k -automorphisms $h(x_g) = x_{hg}$ for any $g, h \in G$. We denote the fixed field $k(x_g \mid g \in G)^G$ by $k(G)$. Emmy Noether [Noe13, Noe17] asked whether $k(G)$

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is rational (= purely transcendental) over k . This is called Noether's problem for G over k , and is related to the inverse Galois problem, to the existence of generic G -Galois extensions over k , and to the existence of versal G -torsors over k -rational field extensions (see Swan [Swa81, Swa83], Saltman [Sal82], Manin and Tsfasman [MT86], Garibaldi, Merkurjev and Serre [GMS03, Section 33.1, page 86], Colliot-Thélène and Sansuc [CTS07]).

Theorem 1.1 (Fischer [Fis15], see also Swan [Swa83, Theorem 6.1]). *Let G be a finite abelian group with exponent e . Assume that (i) either $\text{char } k = 0$ or $\text{char } k > 0$ with $\text{char } k \nmid e$, and (ii) k contains a primitive e -th root of unity. Then $k(G)$ is rational over k . In particular, $\mathbb{C}(G)$ is rational over \mathbb{C} .*

Theorem 1.2 (Kuniyoshi [Kun54, Kun55, Kun56], see also Gaschütz [Gas59]). *Let G be a p -group and k be a field with $\text{char } k = p > 0$. Then $k(G)$ is rational over k .*

Definition 1.3. Let K/k and L/k be finitely generated extensions of fields.

- (1) K is said to be *rational* over k (for short, *k -rational*) if K is purely transcendental over k , i.e. $K \simeq k(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ for some algebraically independent elements x_1, \dots, x_n over k ;
- (2) K is said to be *stably k -rational* if $K(y_1, \dots, y_m)$ is k -rational for some algebraically independent elements y_1, \dots, y_m over K ;
- (3) K and L are said to be *stably k -isomorphic* if $K(y_1, \dots, y_m) \simeq L(z_1, \dots, z_n)$ for some algebraically independent elements y_1, \dots, y_m over K and z_1, \dots, z_n over L ;
- (4) (Saltman, [Sal84b, Definition 3.1]) when k is an infinite field, K is said to be *retract k -rational* if there exists a k -algebra A contained in K such that (i) K is the quotient field of A , (ii) there exist a non-zero polynomial $f \in k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ and k -algebra homomorphisms $\varphi: A \rightarrow k[x_1, \dots, x_n][1/f]$ and $\psi: k[x_1, \dots, x_n][1/f] \rightarrow A$ satisfying $\psi \circ \varphi = 1_A$;
- (5) K is said to be *k -unirational* if $k \subset K \subset k(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ for some integer n .

We see that if K and L are stably k -isomorphic and K is retract k -rational, then L is also retract k -rational (see [Sal84b, Proposition 3.6]), and hence it is not difficult to verify the following implications:

$$k\text{-rational} \Rightarrow \text{stably } k\text{-rational} \Rightarrow \text{retract } k\text{-rational} \Rightarrow k\text{-unirational}.$$

Note that $k(G)$ is retract k -rational if and only if there exists a generic G -Galois extension over k (see [Sal82, Theorem 5.3], [Sal84b, Theorem 3.12]). In particular, if k is a Hilbertian field, e.g. number field, and $k(G)$ is retract k -rational, then inverse Galois problem for G over k has a positive answer, i.e. there exists a Galois extension K/k with $\text{Gal}(K/k) \simeq G$.

§ 2. Noether's problem over \mathbb{Q}

Masuda [Mas55, Mas68] gave an idea to use a technique of Galois descent to Noether's problem for cyclic groups C_p of order p . Let ζ_p be a primitive p -th root of unity, $L = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)$ and $\pi = \text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q})$. Then, by Theorem 1.1, we have $\mathbb{Q}(C_p) = \mathbb{Q}(x_1, \dots, x_p)^{C_p} = (L(x_1, \dots, x_p)^{C_p})^\pi = L(y_0, \dots, y_{p-1})^\pi = L(M)^\pi(y_0)$ where $y_0 = \sum_{i=1}^p x_i$ is π -invariant, M is free $\mathbb{Z}[\pi]$ -module and π acts on y_1, \dots, y_{p-1} by $\sigma(y_i) = \prod_{j=1}^{p-1} y_j^{a_{ij}}$, $[a_{ij}] \in GL_n(\mathbb{Z})$ for any $\sigma \in \pi$. Thus the field $L(M)^\pi$ may be regarded as the function field of some algebraic torus of dimension $p-1$ (see e.g. [Vos98, Chapter 3], [HY17, Chapter 1]).

Theorem 2.1 (Masuda [Mas55, Mas68], see also [Swa83, Lemma 7.1]).

- (1) M is projective $\mathbb{Z}[\pi]$ -module of rank one;
- (2) If M is a permutation $\mathbb{Z}[\pi]$ -module, i.e. M has a \mathbb{Z} -basis which is permuted by π , then $L(M)^\pi$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational. In particular, $\mathbb{Q}(C_p)$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational for $p \leq 11$.¹

Swan [Swa69] gave the first negative solution to Noether's problem by investigating a partial converse to Masuda's result.

Theorem 2.2 (Swan [Swa69], Voskresenskii [Vos70]).

- (1) If $\mathbb{Q}(C_p)$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational, then there exists $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_{p-1}]$ such that $N_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{p-1})/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) = \pm p$;
- (2) (Swan [Swa69, Theorem 1]) $\mathbb{Q}(C_{47})$, $\mathbb{Q}(C_{113})$ and $\mathbb{Q}(C_{233})$ are not \mathbb{Q} -rational;
- (3) (Voskresenskii [Vos70, Theorem 2]) $\mathbb{Q}(C_{47})$, $\mathbb{Q}(C_{167})$, $\mathbb{Q}(C_{359})$, $\mathbb{Q}(C_{383})$, $\mathbb{Q}(C_{479})$, $\mathbb{Q}(C_{503})$ and $\mathbb{Q}(C_{719})$ are not \mathbb{Q} -rational.

Theorem 2.3 (Voskresenskii [Vos71, Theorem 1]). $\mathbb{Q}(C_p)$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational if and only if there exists $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_{p-1}]$ such that $N_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{p-1})/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) = \pm p$.

Hence if the cyclotomic field $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{p-1})$ has class number one, then $\mathbb{Q}(C_p)$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational. However, it is known that such primes are exactly $p \leq 43$ and $p = 61, 67, 71$ (see Masley and Montgomery [MM76, Main theorem] or Washington's book [Was97, Chapter 11]).

Endo and Miyata [EM73] refined Masuda-Swan's method and gave some further consequences on Noether's problem when G is abelian (see also [Vos73]).

Theorem 2.4 (Endo and Miyata [EM73, Theorem 2.3]). *Let G_1 and G_2 be finite groups and k be a field with $\text{char } k = 0$. If $k(G_1)$ and $k(G_2)$ are k -rational (resp. stably k -rational), then $k(G_1 \times G_2)$ is k -rational (resp. stably k -rational).²*

¹The author [Hos05, Chapter 5] generalized Theorem 2.1 (2) to Frobenius groups F_{pl} of order pl with $l \mid p-1$ ($p \leq 11$).

²Kang and Plans [KP09, Theorem 1.3] showed that Theorem 2.4 is also valid for any field k .

Theorem 2.5 (Endo and Miyata [EM73, Theorem 3.1]). *Let p be an odd prime and l be a positive integer. Let k be a field with $\text{char } k = 0$ and $[k(\zeta_{p^l}) : k] = p^{m_0} d_0$ with $0 \leq m_0 \leq l - 1$ and $d_0 \mid p - 1$. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) *For any faithful $k[C_{p^l}]$ -module V , $k(V)^{C_{p^l}}$ is k -rational;*
- (2) *$k(C_{p^l})$ is k -rational;*
- (3) *There exists $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_{p^{m_0} d_0}]$ such that*

$$N_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{p^{m_0} d_0})/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) = \begin{cases} \pm p & m_0 > 0 \\ \pm p^l & m_0 = 0. \end{cases}$$

Further suppose that $m_0 > 0$. Then the above conditions are equivalent to each of the following conditions:

- (1') *For any $k[C_{p^l}]$ -module V , $k(V)^{C_{p^l}}$ is k -rational;*
- (2') *For any $1 \leq l' \leq l$, $k(C_{p^{l'}})$ is k -rational.*

Theorem 2.6 (Endo and Miyata [EM73, Proposition 3.2]). *Let p be an odd prime and k be a field with $\text{char } k = 0$. If k contains $\zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1}$, then $k(C_{p^l})$ is k -rational for any l . In particular, $\mathbb{Q}(C_{3^l})$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational for any l .*

Theorem 2.7 (Endo and Miyata [EM73, Proposition 3.4, Corollary 3.10]).

- (1) *For primes $p \leq 43$ and $p = 61, 67, 71$, $\mathbb{Q}(C_p)$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational;*
- (2) *For $p = 5, 7$, $\mathbb{Q}(C_{p^2})$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational;*
- (3) *For $l \geq 3$, $\mathbb{Q}(C_{2^l})$ is not stably \mathbb{Q} -rational.*

Theorem 2.8 (Endo and Miyata [EM73, Theorem 4.4]). *Let G be a finite abelian group of odd order and k be a field with $\text{char } k = 0$. Then there exists an integer $m > 0$ such that $k(G^m)$ is k -rational.*

Theorem 2.9 (Endo and Miyata [EM73, Theorem 4.6]). *Let G be a finite abelian group. Then $\mathbb{Q}(G)$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational if and only if $\mathbb{Q}(G)$ is stably \mathbb{Q} -rational.*

Ultimately, Lenstra [Len74] gave a necessary and sufficient condition of Noether's problem for abelian groups.

Theorem 2.10 (Lenstra [Len74, Main Theorem, Remark 5.7]). *Let k be a field and G be a finite abelian group. Let k_{cyc} be the maximal cyclotomic extension of k in an algebraic closure. For $k \subset K \subset k_{\text{cyc}}$, we assume that $\rho_K = \text{Gal}(K/k) = \langle \tau_k \rangle$ is finite cyclic. Let p be an odd prime with $p \neq \text{char } k$ and $s \geq 1$ be an integer. Let $\mathfrak{a}_K(p^s)$ be a $\mathbb{Z}[\rho_K]$ -ideal defined by*

$$\mathfrak{a}_K(p^s) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}[\rho_K] & \text{if } K \neq k(\zeta_{p^s}) \\ (\tau_K - t, p) & \text{if } K = k(\zeta_{p^s}) \text{ where } t \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ satisfies } \tau_K(\zeta_p) = \zeta_p^t \end{cases}$$

and put $\mathfrak{a}_K(G) = \prod_{p,s} \mathfrak{a}_K(p^s)^{m(G,p,s)}$ where $m(G,p,s) = \dim_{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}(p^{s-1}G/p^sG)$. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (1) $k(G)$ is k -rational;
- (2) $k(G)$ is stably k -rational;
- (3) for $k \subset K \subset k_{\text{cyc}}$, the $\mathbb{Z}[\rho_K]$ -ideal $\mathfrak{a}_K(G)$ is principal and if $\text{char } k \neq 2$, then $k(\zeta_{r(G)})/k$ is cyclic extension where $r(G)$ is the highest power of 2 dividing the exponent of G .

Theorem 2.11 (Lenstra [Len74, Corollary 7.2], [Len80, Proposition 2, Corollary 3]). *Let n be a positive integer. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) $\mathbb{Q}(C_n)$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational;
- (2) $k(C_n)$ is k -rational for any field k ;
- (3) $\mathbb{Q}(C_{p^s})$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational for any $p^s \parallel n$;
- (4) $8 \nmid n$ and for any $p^s \parallel n$, there exists $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_{\varphi(p^s)}]$ such that $N_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{\varphi(p^s)})/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) = \pm p$.

Theorem 2.12 (Lenstra [Len74, Corollary 7.6], [Len80, Proposition 6]). *Let k be a field which is finitely generated over its prime field. Let P_k be the set of primes p for which $k(C_p)$ is k -rational. Then P_k has Dirichlet density 0 inside the set of all primes. In particular,*

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\pi^*(x)}{\pi(x)} = 0$$

where $\pi(x)$ is the number of primes $p \leq x$, and $\pi^*(x)$ is the number of primes $p \leq x$ for which $\mathbb{Q}(C_p)$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational.

Theorem 2.13 (Lenstra [Len80, Proposition 4]). *Let p be a prime and $s \geq 2$ be an integer. Then $\mathbb{Q}(C_{p^s})$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational if and only if $p^s \in \{2^2, 3^m, 5^2, 7^2 \mid m \geq 2\}$.*

By using Theorem 2.4, Endo and Miyata [EM73, Appendix] checked whether $\mathbb{Q}(C_p)$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational for some primes $p < 2000$. By using PARI/GP [PARI2], Hoshi [Hos15] confirmed that for primes $p < 20000$, $\mathbb{Q}(C_p)$ is not \mathbb{Q} -rational except for 17 rational cases with $p \leq 43$ and $p = 61, 67, 71$ and undetermined 46 cases. Eventually, Plans [Pla17] determined the complete set of primes for which $\mathbb{Q}(C_p)$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational:

Theorem 2.14 (Plans [Pla17, Theorem 1.1]). *Let p be a prime. Then $\mathbb{Q}(C_p)$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational if and only if $p \leq 43$, $p = 61, 67$ or 71 .*

Combining Theorem 2.11, Theorem 2.13 and Theorem 2.14, we have:

Corollary 2.15 (Plans [Pla17, Corollary 1.2]). *Let n be a positive integer. Then $\mathbb{Q}(C_n)$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational if and only if n divides*

$$2^2 \cdot 3^m \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 \cdot 31 \cdot 37 \cdot 41 \cdot 43 \cdot 61 \cdot 67 \cdot 71$$

for some integer $m \geq 0$.

On the other hand, just a handful of results about Noether's problem are obtained when the groups are non-abelian.

Theorem 2.16 (Maeda [Mae89, Theorem, page 418]). *Let k be a field and A_5 be the alternating group of degree 5. Then $k(A_5)$ is k -rational.*

Theorem 2.17 (Rikuna [Rik], Plans [Pla07], see also [HKY11, Example 13.7]). *Let k be a field with $\text{char } k \neq 2$. Then $k(SL_2(\mathbb{F}_3))$ and $k(GL_2(\mathbb{F}_3))$ are k -rational.*

Theorem 2.18 (Serre [GMS03, Chapter IX], see also Kang [Kan05]). *Let G be a finite group with a 2-Sylow subgroup which is cyclic of order ≥ 8 or the generalized quaternion Q_{16} of order 16. Then $\mathbb{Q}(G)$ is not stably \mathbb{Q} -rational.*

Theorem 2.19 (Plans [Pla09, Theorem 2]). *Let A_n be the alternating group of degree n . If $n \geq 3$ is odd integer, then $\mathbb{Q}(A_n)$ is rational over $\mathbb{Q}(A_{n-1})$. In particular, if $\mathbb{Q}(A_{n-1})$ is \mathbb{Q} -rational, then so is $\mathbb{Q}(A_n)$.*

However, it is an open problem whether $k(A_n)$ is k -rational for $n \geq 6$.

§ 3. Noether's problem over \mathbb{C} and unramified Brauer groups

We consider Noether's problem for G over \mathbb{C} , i.e. the rationality problem for $\mathbb{C}(G)$ over \mathbb{C} . Let G be a p -group. Then, by Theorem 1.1 and Theorem 1.2, we may focus on the case where G is a non-abelian p -group and k is a field with $\text{char } k \neq p$. For p -groups of small order, the following results are known.

Theorem 3.1 (Chu and Kang [CK01]). *Let p be any prime and G be a p -group of order $\leq p^4$ and of exponent e . If k is a field containing a primitive e -th root of unity, then $k(G)$ is k -rational. In particular, $\mathbb{C}(G)$ is \mathbb{C} -rational.*

Theorem 3.2 (Chu, Hu, Kang and Prokhorov [CHKP08]). *Let G be a group of order 32 and of exponent e . If k is a field containing a primitive e -th root of unity, then $k(G)$ is k -rational. In particular, $\mathbb{C}(G)$ is \mathbb{C} -rational.*

Saltman introduced a notion of retract k -rationality (see Definition 1.3) and the unramified Brauer group:

Definition 3.3 (Saltman [Sal84a, Definition 3.1], [Sal85, page 56]). *Let K/k be an extension of fields. The unramified Brauer group $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(K/k)$ of K over k is defined to be*

$$\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(K/k) = \bigcap_R \text{Image}\{\text{Br}(R) \rightarrow \text{Br}(K)\}$$

where $\text{Br}(R) \rightarrow \text{Br}(K)$ is the natural map of Brauer groups and R runs over all the discrete valuation rings R such that $k \subset R \subset K$ and K is the quotient field of R . We write just $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(K)$ when the base field k is clear from the context.

Proposition 3.4 (Saltman [Sal84a], [Sal85, Proposition 1.8], [Sal87]). *If K is retract k -rational, then $\text{Br}(k) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(K)$. In particular, if k is an algebraically closed field and K is retract k -rational, then $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(K) = 0$.*

Theorem 3.5 (Bogomolov [Bog88, Theorem 3.1], Saltman [Sal90, Theorem 12]). *Let G be a finite group and k be an algebraically closed field with $\text{char } k = 0$ or $\text{char } k = p \nmid |G|$. Then $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k(G)/k)$ is isomorphic to the group $B_0(G)$ defined by*

$$B_0(G) = \bigcap_A \text{Ker}\{\text{res} : H^2(G, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^2(A, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})\}$$

where A runs over all the bicyclic subgroups of G (a group A is called bicyclic if A is either a cyclic group or a direct product of two cyclic groups).

Remark 3.6. For a smooth projective variety X over \mathbb{C} with function field K , $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(K/\mathbb{C})$ is isomorphic to the birational invariant $H^3(X, \mathbb{Z})_{\text{tors}}$ which was used by Artin and Mumford [AM72] to provide some elementary examples of k -unirational varieties which are not k -rational (see also [Bog88, Theorem 1.1 and Corollary]).

Note that $B_0(G)$ is a subgroup of $H^2(G, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$ which is isomorphic to the Schur multiplier $H_2(G, \mathbb{Z})$ of G (see Karpilovsky [Kar87]). We call $B_0(G)$ the *Bogomolov multiplier* of G (cf. Kunyavskii [Kun10]). Because of Theorem 3.5, we will not distinguish $B_0(G)$ and $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k(G)/k)$ when k is an algebraically closed field, and $\text{char } k = 0$ or $\text{char } k = p \nmid |G|$. Using $B_0(G)$, Saltman and Bogomolov gave counter-examples to Noether's problem for non-abelian p -groups over algebraically closed field.

Theorem 3.7 (Saltman [Sal84a], Bogomolov [Bog88]). *Let p be any prime and k be any algebraically closed field with $\text{char } k \neq p$.*

- (1) (Saltman [Sal84a, Theorem 3.6]) *There exists a meta-abelian group G of order p^9 such that $B_0(G) \neq 0$. In particular, $k(G)$ is not (retract, stably) k -rational;*
- (2) (Bogomolov [Bog88, Lemma 5.6]) *There exists a group G of order p^6 such that $B_0(G) \neq 0$. In particular, $k(G)$ is not (retract, stably) k -rational.*

Colliot-Thélène and Ojanguren [CTO89] generalized the notion of the unramified Brauer group $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(K/k)$ to the unramified cohomology $H_{\text{nr}}^i(K/k, \mu_n^{\otimes j})$ of degree $i \geq 1$, that is $F_n^{i,j}(K/k)$ in [CTO89, Definition 1.1].

Definition 3.8 (Colliot-Thélène and Ojanguren [CTO89], [CT95, Sections 2–4]). Let n be a positive integer and k be a field with $\text{char } k = 0$ or $\text{char } k = p$ with $p \nmid n$. Let

K/k be a function field, that is finitely generated field extension as a field over k . For any positive integer $i \geq 2$, any integer j , the *unramified cohomology group* $H_{\text{nr}}^i(K/k, \mu_n^{\otimes j})$ of K over k of degree i is defined to be

$$H_{\text{nr}}^i(K/k, \mu_n^{\otimes j}) := \bigcap_R \text{Ker}\{r_R : H^i(K, \mu_n^{\otimes j}) \rightarrow H^{i-1}(\mathbb{k}_R, \mu_n^{\otimes(j-1)})\}$$

where R runs over all the discrete valuation rings R of rank one such that $k \subset R \subset K$ and K is the quotient field of R , \mathbb{k}_R is the residue field of R and r_R is the residue map of K at R .

By [CT95, Theorem 4.1.1, page 30], if it is assumed furthermore that K is the function field of a complete smooth variety over k , the unramified cohomology group $H_{\text{nr}}^i(K/k, \mu_n^{\otimes j})$ may be defined as well by

$$H_{\text{nr}}^i(K/k, \mu_n^{\otimes j}) = \bigcap_R \text{Image}\{H_{\text{ét}}^i(R, \mu_n^{\otimes j}) \rightarrow H_{\text{ét}}^i(K, \mu_n^{\otimes j})\}$$

where R runs over all the discrete valuation rings R of rank one such that $k \subset R \subset K$ and K is the quotient field of R .

Note that the unramified cohomology groups of degree two are isomorphic to the n -torsion part of the unramified Brauer group: ${}_n\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(K/k) \simeq H_{\text{nr}}^2(K/k, \mu_n)$.

Theorem 3.9. *Let n be a positive integer and k be an algebraically closed field with $\text{char } k = 0$ or $\text{char } k = p \nmid n$.*

- (1) (Colliot-Thélène and Ojanguren [CTO89, Proposition 1.2]) *If K and L are stably k -isomorphic, then $H_{\text{nr}}^i(K/k, \mu_n^{\otimes j}) \xrightarrow{\sim} H_{\text{nr}}^i(L/k, \mu_n^{\otimes j})$. In particular, K is stably k -rational, then $H_{\text{nr}}^i(K/k, \mu_n^{\otimes j}) = 0$;*
- (2) ([Mer08, Proposition 2.15], see also [CTO89, Remarque 1.2.2], [CT95, Sections 2–4], [GS10, Example 5.9]) *If K is retract k -rational, then $H_{\text{nr}}^i(K/k, \mu_n^{\otimes j}) = 0$.*

Colliot-Thélène and Ojanguren [CTO89, Section 3] produced the first example of not stably \mathbb{C} -rational but \mathbb{C} -unirational field K with $H_{\text{nr}}^3(K, \mu_2^{\otimes 3}) \neq 0$, where K is the function field of a quadric of the type $\langle\langle f_1, f_2 \rangle\rangle = \langle g_1 g_2 \rangle$ over the rational function field $\mathbb{C}(x, y, z)$ with three variables x, y, z for a 2-fold Pfister form $\langle\langle f_1, f_2 \rangle\rangle$, as a generalization of Artin and Mumford [AM72]. Peyre [Pey93, Corollary 3] gave a sufficient condition for $H_{\text{nr}}^i(K/k, \mu_p^{\otimes i}) \neq 0$ and produced an example of the function field K with $H_{\text{nr}}^3(K/k, \mu_p^{\otimes 3}) \neq 0$ and $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(K/k) = 0$ using a result of Suslin [Sus91] where K is the function field of a product of some norm varieties associated to cyclic central simple algebras of degree p (see [Pey93, Proposition 7]). Using a result of Jacob and Rost [JR89], Peyre [Pey93, Proposition 9] also gave an example of $H_{\text{nr}}^4(K/k, \mu_2^{\otimes 4}) \neq 0$ and $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(K/k) = 0$ where K is the function field of a product of quadrics associated to a 4-fold Pfister form $\langle\langle a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4 \rangle\rangle$ (see also [CT95, Section 4.2]).

In case $\text{char } k = 0$, take the direct limit with respect to n :

$$H^i(K/k, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}(j)) = \varinjlim_n H^i(K/k, \mu_n^{\otimes j})$$

and we may define the unramified cohomology group

$$H_{\text{nr}}^i(K/k, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}(j)) = \bigcap_R \text{Ker}\{r_R : H^i(K/k, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}(j)) \rightarrow H^{i-1}(\mathbb{k}_R, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}(j-1))\}.$$

We write simply $H_{\text{nr}}^i(K, \mu_n^{\otimes j})$ and $H_{\text{nr}}^i(K, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}(j))$ when the base field k is understood. When k is an algebraically closed field with $\text{char } k = 0$, we will write $H_{\text{nr}}^i(K/k, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$ for $H_{\text{nr}}^i(K/k, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}(j))$. Then we have $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(K/k) \simeq H_{\text{nr}}^2(K/k, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$.

Peyre [Pey08] constructed an example of a field K , as $K = \mathbb{C}(G)$, whose unramified Brauer group vanishes, but unramified cohomology of degree three does not vanish:

Theorem 3.10 (Peyre [Pey08, Theorem 3]). *Let p be any odd prime. Then there exists a p -group G of order p^{12} such that $B_0(G) = 0$ and $H_{\text{nr}}^3(\mathbb{C}(G), \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \neq 0$. In particular, $\mathbb{C}(G)$ is not (retract, stably) \mathbb{C} -rational.*

The idea of Peyre's proof is to find a subgroup K_{max}^3/K^3 of $H_{\text{nr}}^3(\mathbb{C}(G), \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$ and to show that $K_{\text{max}}^3/K^3 \neq 0$ (see [Pey08, page 210]).

Asok [Aso13] generalized Peyre's argument [Pey93] and established the following theorem for a smooth proper model X (resp. a smooth projective model Y) of the function field of a product of quadrics of the type $\langle\langle s_1, \dots, s_{n-1} \rangle\rangle = \langle s_n \rangle$ (resp. Rost varieties) over some rational function field over \mathbb{C} with many variables.

Theorem 3.11 (Asok [Aso13], see [AM11, Theorem 3] for retract rationality).

- (1) ([Aso13, Theorem 1]) *For any $n > 0$, there exists a smooth projective complex variety X that is \mathbb{C} -unirational, for which $H_{\text{nr}}^i(\mathbb{C}(X), \mu_2^{\otimes i}) = 0$ for each $i < n$, yet $H_{\text{nr}}^n(\mathbb{C}(X), \mu_2^{\otimes n}) \neq 0$, and so X is not \mathbb{A}^1 -connected, nor (retract, stably) \mathbb{C} -rational;*
- (2) ([Aso13, Theorem 3]) *For any prime l and any $n \geq 2$, there exists a smooth projective rationally connected complex variety Y such that $H_{\text{nr}}^n(\mathbb{C}(Y), \mu_l^{\otimes n}) \neq 0$. In particular, Y is not \mathbb{A}^1 -connected, nor (retract, stably) \mathbb{C} -rational.*

Namely, the triviality of the unramified Brauer group or the unramified cohomology of higher degree is just a necessary condition of \mathbb{C} -rationality of fields. It is unknown whether the vanishing of all the unramified cohomologies is a sufficient condition for \mathbb{C} -rationality. It is interesting to consider an analog of Theorem 3.11 for quotient varieties V/G , e.g. the case of Noether's problem $\mathbb{C}(V_{\text{reg}}/G) = \mathbb{C}(G)$.

Colliot-Thélène and Voisin [CTV12] established:

Theorem 3.12 (Colliot-Thélène and Voisin [CTV12], [Voi14, Theorem 6.18]).

For any smooth projective complex variety X , there is an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H_{\text{nr}}^3(X, \mathbb{Z}) \otimes \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow H_{\text{nr}}^3(X, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \text{Tors}(Z^4(X)) \rightarrow 0$$

where

$$Z^4(X) = \mathrm{Hdg}^4(X, \mathbb{Z}) / \mathrm{Hdg}^4(X, \mathbb{Z})_{\mathrm{alg}}$$

and the lower index “alg” means that we consider the group of integral Hodge classes which are algebraic. In particular, if X is rationally connected, then we have

$$H_{\mathrm{nr}}^3(X, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \simeq Z^4(X).$$

Using Peyre’s method [Pey08], we obtain the following theorem which is an improvement of Theorem 3.10 and gives an explicit counter-example to integral Hodge conjecture with the aid of Theorem 3.12.

Theorem 3.13 (Hoshi, Kang and Yamasaki [HKY16, Theorem 1.4]). *Let p be any odd prime. Then there exists a p -group G of order p^9 such that $B_0(G) = 0$ and $H_{\mathrm{nr}}^3(\mathbb{C}(G), \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \neq 0$. In particular, $\mathbb{C}(G)$ is not (retract, stably) \mathbb{C} -rational.*

The case where G is a group of order p^5 ($p \geq 3$).

From Theorem 3.7 (2), Bogomolov [Bog88, Remark 1] raised a question to classify the groups of order p^6 with $B_0(G) \neq 0$. He also claimed that if G is a p -group of order $\leq p^5$, then $B_0(G) = 0$ ([Bog88, Lemma 5.6]). However, this claim was disproved by Moravec:

Theorem 3.14 (Moravec [Mor12, Section 8]). *Let G be a group of order 243. Then $B_0(G) \neq 0$ if and only if $G = G(3^5, i)$ with $28 \leq i \leq 30$, where $G(3^5, i)$ is the i -th group of order 243 in the GAP database [GAP]. Moreover, if $B_0(G) \neq 0$, then $B_0(G) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$.*

Moravec [Mor12] gave a formula for $B_0(G)$ by using a nonabelian exterior square $G \wedge G$ of G and an implemented algorithm **b0g.g** in computer algebra system GAP [GAP], which is available from his website www.fmf.uni-lj.si/~moravec/Papers/b0g.g. The number of all solvable groups G of order ≤ 729 apart from the orders 512, 576 and 640 with $B_0(G) \neq 0$ was given as in [Mor12, Table 1].

Hoshi, Kang and Kunyavskii [HKK13] determined p -groups G of order p^5 with $B_0(G) \neq 0$ for any $p \geq 3$. It turns out that they belong to the same isoclinism family.

Definition 3.15 (Hall [Hal40, page 133]). Let G be a finite group. Let $Z(G)$ be the center of G and $[G, G]$ be the commutator subgroup of G . Two p -groups G_1 and G_2 are called *isoclinic* if there exist group isomorphisms $\theta: G_1/Z(G_1) \rightarrow G_2/Z(G_2)$ and $\phi: [G_1, G_1] \rightarrow [G_2, G_2]$ such that $\phi([g, h]) = [g', h']$ for any $g, h \in G_1$ with $g' \in$

$\theta(gZ(G_1)), h' \in \theta(hZ(G_1))$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G_1/Z_1 \times G_1/Z_1 & \xrightarrow{(\theta, \theta)} & G_2/Z_2 \times G_2/Z_2 \\ \downarrow [\cdot, \cdot] & \circlearrowleft & \downarrow [\cdot, \cdot] \\ [G_1, G_1] & \xrightarrow{\phi} & [G_2, G_2]. \end{array}$$

For a prime p and an integer n , we denote by $G_n(p)$ the set of all non-isomorphic groups of order p^n . In $G_n(p)$, consider an equivalence relation: two groups G_1 and G_2 are equivalent if and only if they are isoclinic. Each equivalence class of $G_n(p)$ is called an *isoclinism family*, and the j -th isoclinism family is denoted by Φ_j .

For $p \geq 5$ (resp. $p = 3$), there exist $2p + 61 + \gcd\{4, p - 1\} + 2 \gcd\{3, p - 1\}$ (resp. 67) groups G of order p^5 which are classified into ten isoclinism families Φ_1, \dots, Φ_{10} (see [Jam80, Section 4]). The main theorem of [HKK13] can be stated as follows:

Theorem 3.16 (Hoshi, Kang and Kunyavskii [HKK13, Theorem 1.12]). *Let p be any odd prime and G be a group of order p^5 . Then $B_0(G) \neq 0$ if and only if G belongs to the isoclinism family Φ_{10} . Moreover, if $B_0(G) \neq 0$, then $B_0(G) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$.*

For the last statement, see [Kan14, Remark, page 424]. The proof of Theorem 3.16 was given by purely algebraic way. There exist exactly 3 groups which belong to Φ_{10} if $p = 3$, i.e. $G = G(243, i)$ with $28 \leq i \leq 30$. This agrees with Moravec's computational result (Theorem 3.14). For $p \geq 5$, there exist exactly $1 + \gcd\{4, p - 1\} + \gcd\{3, p - 1\}$ groups which belong to Φ_{10} (see [Jam80, page 621]).

The following result for the k -rationality of $k(G)$ supplements Theorem 3.14 although it is unknown whether $k(G)$ is k -rational for groups G which belong to Φ_7 :

Theorem 3.17 (Chu, Hoshi, Hu and Kang [CHHK15, Theorem 1.13]). *Let G be a group of order 243 with exponent e . If $B_0(G) = 0$ and k be a field containing a primitive e -th root of unity, then $k(G)$ is k -rational except possibly for the five groups G which belong to Φ_7 , i.e. $G = G(243, i)$ with $56 \leq i \leq 60$.*

In [HKK13] and [CHHK15], not only the evaluation of the Bogomolov multiplier $B_0(G)$ and the k -rationality of $k(G)$ but also the k -isomorphisms between $k(G_1)$ and $k(G_2)$ for some groups G_1 and G_2 belonging to the same isoclinism family were given.

Bogomolov and Böhning [BB13] gave an answer to the question raised as [HKK13, Question 1.11] in the affirmative as follows.

Theorem 3.18 (Bogomolov and Böhning [BB13, Theorem 6]). *If G_1 and G_2 are isoclinic, then $\mathbb{C}(G_1)$ and $\mathbb{C}(G_2)$ are stably \mathbb{C} -isomorphic. In particular, $H_{\text{nr}}^i(\mathbb{C}(G_1), \mu_n^{\otimes j}) \xrightarrow{\sim} H_{\text{nr}}^i(\mathbb{C}(G_2), \mu_n^{\otimes j})$.*

A partial result of Theorem 3.18 was already given by Moravec. Indeed, Moravec [Mor14, Theorem 1.2] proved that if G_1 and G_2 are isoclinic, then $B_0(G_1) \simeq B_0(G_2)$.

The case where G is a group of order 64.

The classification of the groups G of order $64 = 2^6$ with $B_0(G) \neq 0$ was obtained by Chu, Hu, Kang and Kunyavskii [CHKK10]. Moreover, they investigated Noether's problem for groups G with $B_0(G) = 0$. There exist 267 groups G of order 64 which are classified into 27 isoclinism families Φ_1, \dots, Φ_{27} by Hall and Senior [HS64] (see also [JNO90, Table I]). The main result of [CHKK10] can be stated in terms of the isoclinism families as follows.

Theorem 3.19 (Chu, Hu, Kang and Kunyavskii [CHKK10]). *Let $G = G(2^6, i)$, $1 \leq i \leq 267$, be the i -th group of order 64 in the GAP database [GAP].*

(1) ([CHKK10, Theorem 1.8]) *$B_0(G) \neq 0$ if and only if G belongs to the isoclinism family Φ_{16} , i.e. $G = G(2^6, i)$ with $149 \leq i \leq 151$, $170 \leq i \leq 172$, $177 \leq i \leq 178$ or $i = 182$. Moreover, if $B_0(G) \neq 0$, then $B_0(G) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ (see [Kan14, Remark, page 424] for this statement);*

(2) ([CHKK10, Theorem 1.10]) *If $B_0(G) = 0$ and k is an quadratically closed field, then $k(G)$ is k -rational except possibly for five groups which belong to Φ_{13} , i.e. $G = G(2^6, i)$ with $241 \leq i \leq 245$.*

For groups G which belong to Φ_{13} , k -rationality of $k(G)$ is unknown. The following two propositions supplement the cases Φ_{13} and Φ_{16} of Theorem 3.19. For the proof, the case of $G = G(2^6, 149)$ is given in [HKK14, Proof of Theorem 6.3], see also [CHKK10, Example 5.11, page 2355] and the proof for other cases can be obtained by the similar manner.

Definition 3.20. Let k be a field with $\text{char } k \neq 2$ and $k(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6)$ be the rational function field over k with variables $X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6$.

(1) *The field $L_k^{(0)}$ is defined to be $k(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6)^H$ where $H = \langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \rangle \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ acts on $k(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6)$ by k -automorphisms*

$$\sigma_1 : X_1 \mapsto X_3, X_2 \mapsto \frac{1}{X_1 X_2 X_3}, X_3 \mapsto X_1, X_4 \mapsto X_6, X_5 \mapsto \frac{1}{X_4 X_5 X_6}, X_6 \mapsto X_4,$$

$$\sigma_2 : X_1 \mapsto X_2, X_2 \mapsto X_1, X_3 \mapsto \frac{1}{X_1 X_2 X_3}, X_4 \mapsto X_5, X_5 \mapsto X_4, X_6 \mapsto \frac{1}{X_4 X_5 X_6}.$$

(2) *The field $L_k^{(1)}$ is defined to be $k(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4)^{\langle \tau \rangle}$ where $\langle \tau \rangle \simeq C_2$ acts on $k(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4)$ by k -automorphisms*

$$\tau : X_1 \mapsto -X_1, X_2 \mapsto \frac{X_4}{X_2}, X_3 \mapsto \frac{(X_4 - 1)(X_4 - X_1^2)}{X_3}, X_4 \mapsto X_4.$$

Proposition 3.21 ([CHKK10, Proposition 6.3], see also [HY17, Proposition 12.5]).
 Let G be a group of order 64 which belongs to Φ_{13} , i.e. $G = G(2^6, i)$ with $241 \leq i \leq 245$.
 There exists a \mathbb{C} -injective homomorphism $\varphi : L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(0)} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}(G)$ such that $\mathbb{C}(G)$ is rational over $\varphi(L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(0)})$. In particular, $\mathbb{C}(G)$ and $L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(0)}$ are stably \mathbb{C} -isomorphic and $B_0(G) \simeq \text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(0)}) = 0$.

Proposition 3.22 ([CHKK10, Example 5.11], [HKK14, Proof of Theorem 6.3]).
 Let G be a group of order 64 which belongs to Φ_{16} , i.e. $G = G(2^6, i)$ with $149 \leq i \leq 151$, $170 \leq i \leq 172$, $177 \leq i \leq 178$ or $i = 182$. There exists a \mathbb{C} -injective homomorphism $\varphi : L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(1)} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}(G)$ such that $\mathbb{C}(G)$ is rational over $\varphi(L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(1)})$. In particular, $\mathbb{C}(G)$ and $L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(1)}$ are stably \mathbb{C} -isomorphic, $B_0(G) \simeq \text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(1)}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ and hence $\mathbb{C}(G)$ and $L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(1)}$ are not (retract, stably) \mathbb{C} -rational.

Question 3.23 ([CHKK10, Section 6], [HY17, Section 12]). Is $L_k^{(0)}$ k -rational?

The case where G is a group of order 128.

There exist 2328 groups of order 128 which are classified into 115 isoclinism families $\Phi_1, \dots, \Phi_{115}$ ([JNO90, Tables I, II, III]).

Theorem 3.24 (Moravec [Mor12, Section 8, Table 1]). Let G be a group of order 128. Then $B_0(G) \neq 0$ if and only if G belongs to the isoclinism family $\Phi_{16}, \Phi_{30}, \Phi_{31}, \Phi_{37}, \Phi_{39}, \Phi_{43}, \Phi_{58}, \Phi_{60}, \Phi_{80}, \Phi_{106}$ or Φ_{114} . Moreover, we have

$$B_0(G) \simeq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} & \text{if } G \text{ belongs to } \Phi_{16}, \Phi_{31}, \Phi_{37}, \Phi_{39}, \Phi_{43}, \Phi_{58}, \Phi_{60}, \Phi_{80}, \Phi_{106} \text{ or } \Phi_{114}, \\ (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{\oplus 2} & \text{if } G \text{ belongs to } \Phi_{30}. \end{cases}$$

In particular, $\mathbb{C}(G)$ is not (retract, stably) \mathbb{C} -rational.

It turns out that there exist 220 groups G of order 128 with $B_0(G) \neq 0$:

Family	Φ_{16}	Φ_{31}	Φ_{37}	Φ_{39}	Φ_{43}	Φ_{58}	Φ_{60}	Φ_{80}	Φ_{106}	Φ_{114}	Φ_{30}
$\exp(G)$	8	4	8	4 or 8	8	8	8	16	8	8	4
$B_0(G)$	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$										$(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{\oplus 2}$
# of G 's	48	55	18	6	26	20	10	9	2	2	34

It is natural to ask the (stably) birational classification of $\mathbb{C}(G)$ for groups G of order 128. In particular, what happens to $\mathbb{C}(G)$ with $B_0(G) \neq 0$? The following theorem (Theorem 3.26) gives a partial answer to this question.

Definition 3.25. Let k be a field with $\text{char } k \neq 2$ and $k(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6, X_7)$ be the rational function field over k with variables $X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6, X_7$.

(1) The field $L_k^{(2)}$ is defined to be $k(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6)^{\langle \rho \rangle}$ where $\langle \rho \rangle \simeq C_4$ acts on $k(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6)$ by k -automorphisms

$$\begin{aligned} \rho : X_1 &\mapsto X_2, X_2 \mapsto -X_1, X_3 \mapsto X_4, X_4 \mapsto X_3, \\ X_5 &\mapsto X_6, X_6 \mapsto \frac{(X_1^2 X_2^2 - 1)(X_1^2 X_3^2 + X_2^2 - X_3^2 - 1)}{X_5}. \end{aligned}$$

(2) The field $L_k^{(3)}$ is defined to be $k(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6, X_7)^{\langle \lambda_1, \lambda_2 \rangle}$ where $\langle \lambda_1, \lambda_2 \rangle \simeq C_2 \times C_2$ acts on $k(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6, X_7)$ by k -automorphisms

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_1 : X_1 &\mapsto X_1, X_2 \mapsto \frac{X_1}{X_2}, X_3 \mapsto \frac{1}{X_1 X_3}, X_4 \mapsto \frac{X_2 X_4}{X_1 X_3}, \\ X_5 &\mapsto -\frac{X_1 X_6^2 - 1}{X_5}, X_6 \mapsto -X_6, X_7 \mapsto X_7, \\ \lambda_2 : X_1 &\mapsto \frac{1}{X_1}, X_2 \mapsto X_3, X_3 \mapsto X_2, X_4 \mapsto \frac{(X_1 X_6^2 - 1)(X_1 X_7^2 - 1)}{X_4}, \\ X_5 &\mapsto -X_5, X_6 \mapsto -X_1 X_6, X_7 \mapsto -X_1 X_7. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 3.26 (Hoshi [Hos16, Theorem 1.31]). *Let G be a group of order 128. Assume that $B_0(G) \neq 0$. Then $\mathbb{C}(G)$ and $L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(m)}$ are stably \mathbb{C} -isomorphic where*

$$m = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } G \text{ belongs to } \Phi_{16}, \Phi_{31}, \Phi_{37}, \Phi_{39}, \Phi_{43}, \Phi_{58}, \Phi_{60} \text{ or } \Phi_{80}, \\ 2 & \text{if } G \text{ belongs to } \Phi_{106} \text{ or } \Phi_{114}, \\ 3 & \text{if } G \text{ belongs to } \Phi_{30}. \end{cases}$$

In particular, $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(1)}) \simeq \text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(2)}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ and $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(3)}) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{\oplus 2}$ and hence the fields $L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(1)}$, $L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(2)}$ and $L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(3)}$ are not (retract, stably) \mathbb{C} -rational.

For $m = 1, 2$, the fields $L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(m)}$ and $L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(3)}$ are not stably \mathbb{C} -isomorphic because their unramified Brauer groups are not isomorphic. However, we do not know whether the fields $L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(1)}$ and $L_{\mathbb{C}}^{(2)}$ are stably \mathbb{C} -isomorphic. If not, it is interesting to evaluate the higher unramified cohomologies.

§ 4. Rationality problem for multiplicative invariant fields

Let k be a field, G be a finite group and $\rho : G \rightarrow GL(V)$ be a faithful representation of G where V is a finite-dimensional vector space over k . Then G acts on the rational function field $k(V)$.

We consider the rationality problem for $k(V)^G$. By No-name Lemma (cf. Miyata [Miy71, Remark 3]), it is known that $k(V)^G$ is stably k -rational if and only if so is $k(V)^G$.

where $\rho : G \rightarrow GL(V)$ is any faithful representation of G over k . Thus the rationality problem of $k(V)^G$ over k is also called Noether’s problem.

In order to solve the rationality problem of $k(V)^G$, it is natural and almost inevitable that we reduce the problem to that of the multiplicative invariant field $k(M)^G$ defined in Definition 4.2; an illustration of reducing Noether’s problem to the multiplicative invariant field can be found in, e.g. [CHKK10], [HKY11, Example 13.7].

When M is a G -lattice with $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}}M = n$, the multiplicative invariant field $k(M)^G$ is nothing but $k(x_1, \dots, x_n)^G$, the fixed field of the rational function field $k(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ on which G acts by multiplicative actions.

Definition 4.1. Let G be a finite group and $\mathbb{Z}[G]$ be the group ring. A finitely generated $\mathbb{Z}[G]$ -module M is called a G -lattice if, as an abelian group, M is a free abelian group of finite rank. We will write $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}}M$ for the rank of M as a free abelian group. A G -lattice M is called *faithful* if, for any $\sigma \in G \setminus \{1\}$, $\sigma \cdot x \neq x$ for some $x \in M$.

Suppose that G is any finite group and $\Phi : G \rightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{Z})$ is a group homomorphism, i.e. an integral representation of G . Then the group $\Phi(G)$ acts naturally on the free abelian group $M := \mathbb{Z}^{\oplus n}$; thus M becomes a $\mathbb{Z}[G]$ -module. We call M the G -lattice associated to Φ (or $\Phi(G)$). Conversely, if M is a G -lattice with $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}}M = n$, write $M = \bigoplus_{1 \leq i \leq n} \mathbb{Z} \cdot x_i$. Then there is a group homomorphism $\Phi : G \rightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{Z})$ defined as follows: If $\sigma \cdot x_i = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq n} a_{ij} x_j$ where $\sigma \in G$ and $a_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}$, define $\Phi(\sigma) = (a_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} \in GL_n(\mathbb{Z})$.

When the group homomorphism $\Phi : G \rightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{Z})$ is injective, the corresponding G -lattice is a faithful G -lattice. For examples, any finite subgroup G of $GL_n(\mathbb{Z})$ gives rise to a faithful G -lattice of rank n .

The list of all the finite subgroups of $GL_n(\mathbb{Z})$ (with $n \leq 4$), up to conjugation, can be found in the book [BBNWZ78] and in GAP [GAP]. As to the situations of $GL_n(\mathbb{Z})$ (with $n \geq 5$), Plesken etc. found the lists of all the finite subgroups of $GL_n(\mathbb{Z})$ (with $n = 5$ and 6); see [PS00] and the references therein. These lists may be found in the GAP package CARAT [CARAT] and also in [HY17, Chapter 3].

Here is a list of the total number of lattices, up to isomorphism, of a given rank:

rank	1	2	3	4	5	6
# of G -lattices	2	13	73	710	6079	85308

Definition 4.2. Let M be a G -lattice of rank n and write $M = \bigoplus_{1 \leq i \leq n} \mathbb{Z} \cdot x_i$. For any field k , define $k(M) = k(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ the rational function field over k with n variables x_1, \dots, x_n . Define a *multiplicative action* of G on $k(M)$: For any $\sigma \in G$, if $\sigma \cdot x_i = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq n} a_{ij} x_j$ in the G -lattice M , then we define $\sigma \cdot x_i = \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} x_j^{a_{ij}}$ in the field $k(M)$. Note that G acts trivially on k . The above multiplicative action is called a

purely monomial action of G on $k(M)$ in [HK92] and $k(M)^G$ is called a *multiplicative invariant field* in [Sal87].

When M is the G -lattice $\mathbb{Z}[G]$ where $M = \bigoplus_{g \in G} \mathbb{Z} \cdot x_g$ and $h \cdot x_g = x_{hg}$ for $h, g \in G$, we have $k(M) = k(x_g \mid g \in G)$ and $k(M)^G = k(G)$ (see Section 1). Note that $k(G) = k(V_{\text{reg}})^G$ where $G \rightarrow GL(V_{\text{reg}})$ is the regular representation of G over k .

Theorem 4.3 (Hajja [Haj87]). *Let k be a field and G be a finite group acting on $k(x_1, x_2)$ by monomial k -automorphisms. Then $k(x_1, x_2)^G$ is k -rational.*

Theorem 4.4 (Hajja and Kang [HK92, HK94], Hoshi and Rikuna [HR08]). *Let k be a field and G be a finite group acting on $k(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ by purely monomial k -automorphisms. Then $k(x_1, x_2, x_3)^G$ is k -rational.*

Theorem 4.5 (Hoshi, Kang and Kitayama [HKK14, Theorem 1.16]). *Let k be a field, G be a finite group and M be a G -lattice with $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} M = 4$ such that G acts on $k(M)$ by purely monomial k -automorphisms. If M is decomposable, i.e. $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$ as $\mathbb{Z}[G]$ -modules where $1 \leq \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} M_1 \leq 3$, then $k(M)^G$ is k -rational.*

Theorem 4.6 (Hoshi, Kang and Kitayama [HKK14, Theorem 6.2]). *Let k be a field, G be a finite group and M be a G -lattice such that G acts on $k(M)$ by purely monomial k -automorphisms. Assume that (i) $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$ as $\mathbb{Z}[G]$ -modules where $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} M_1 = 3$ and $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} M_2 = 2$, (ii) either M_1 or M_2 is a faithful G -lattice. Then $k(M)^G$ is k -rational except the following situation: $\text{char } k \neq 2$, $G = \langle \sigma, \tau \rangle \simeq D_4$ and $M_1 = \bigoplus_{1 \leq i \leq 3} \mathbb{Z}x_i$, $M_2 = \bigoplus_{1 \leq j \leq 2} \mathbb{Z}y_j$ such that $\sigma : x_1 \leftrightarrow x_2, x_3 \mapsto -x_1 - x_2 - x_3, y_1 \mapsto y_2 \mapsto -y_1, \tau : x_1 \leftrightarrow x_3, x_2 \mapsto -x_1 - x_2 - x_3, y_1 \leftrightarrow y_2$ where the $\mathbb{Z}[G]$ -module structure of M is written additively. For the exceptional case, $k(M)^G$ is not retract k -rational.*

Definition 4.7. Let k be a field and μ be a multiplicative subgroup of $k \setminus \{0\}$ containing all the roots of unity in k . If M is a G -lattice, a μ -extension is an exact sequence of $\mathbb{Z}[G]$ -modules given by $(\alpha) : 1 \rightarrow \mu \rightarrow M_\alpha \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$ where G acts trivially on μ . Be aware that $M_\alpha = \mu \oplus M$ as abelian groups, but not as $\mathbb{Z}[G]$ -modules except when the extension (α) splits.

As in Definition 4.2, if $M = \bigoplus_{1 \leq i \leq n} \mathbb{Z} \cdot x_i$ and M_α is a μ -extension, we define the field $k_\alpha(M) = k(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ the rational function field over k with n variables x_1, \dots, x_n ; the action of G on $k_\alpha(M)$ will be described in the next paragraph. Note that M_α is embedded into the multiplicative group $k_\alpha(M) \setminus \{0\}$ by sending $(\epsilon, \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} b_i x_i) \in \mu \oplus M$ to the element $\epsilon \prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} x_i^{b_i}$ in the field $k_\alpha(M) = k(x_1, \dots, x_n)$.

The group G acts on $k_\alpha(M)$ by a twisted multiplicative action: Suppose that, in M we have $\sigma \cdot x_i = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq n} a_{ij} x_j$, and in M_α we have $\sigma \cdot x_i = \epsilon_i(\sigma) + \sum_{1 \leq j \leq n} a_{ij} x_j$ where $\epsilon_i(\sigma) \in \mu$. Then we define $\sigma \cdot x_i = \epsilon_i(\sigma) \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} x_j^{a_{ij}}$ in $k_\alpha(M)$. Again G acts

trivially on the coefficient field k . The above group action is called *monomial group action* in [HK92] and $k_\alpha(M)^G$ is called *twisted multiplicative invariant field* in [Sal90].

Note that, if the extension $(\alpha) : 1 \rightarrow \mu \rightarrow M_\alpha \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$ is a split extension, then $k_\alpha(M) = k(M)$ and the twisted multiplicative action is reduced to the multiplicative action in Definition 4.2.

For any faithful linear representation $G \rightarrow GL(V)$ of G , we have $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(V)^G) \simeq B_0(G)$ by No-name Lemma (see [Sal90]).

The formula in [Sal90, Theorem 12] (Theorem 3.5) can be used to compute not only $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(V)^G)$, but also $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}_\alpha(M)^G)$ where $\mathbb{C}_\alpha(M)$ is the rational function field associated to the μ -extension M_α :

Theorem 4.8 (Saltman [Sal90, Theorem 12]). *Let k be an algebraically closed field with $\text{char } k = 0$, and G be a finite group. If M is a G -lattice and $(\alpha) : 1 \rightarrow \mu \rightarrow M_\alpha \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$ is a μ -extension such that (i) M is a faithful G -lattice, and (ii) $H^2(G, \mu) \rightarrow H^2(G, M_\alpha)$ is injective, then*

$$\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k_\alpha(M)^G) = \bigcap_A \text{Ker}\{\text{res} : H^2(G, M_\alpha) \rightarrow H^2(A, M_\alpha)\}$$

where A runs over all the bicyclic subgroups of G .

In particular, if the μ -extension $(\alpha) : 1 \rightarrow \mu \rightarrow M_\alpha \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$ splits, then $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k(M)^G) \simeq B_0(G) \oplus \bigcap_A \text{Ker}\{\text{res} : H^2(G, M) \rightarrow H^2(A, M)\}$ where A runs over bicyclic subgroups of G .

Definition 4.9. By Definition 3.3, $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(K)$ is a subgroup of the Brauer group $\text{Br}(K)$. On the other hand, the map of the Brauer groups $\text{Br}(k_\alpha(M)^G) \rightarrow \text{Br}(k_\alpha(M))$ sends $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k_\alpha(M)^G)$ to $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k_\alpha(M))$ [Sal87, Theorem 2.1]. Since $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k_\alpha(M)) = 0$ by [Sal87, Proposition, 2.2], it follows that the unramified Brauer group $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k_\alpha(M)^G)$ is a subgroup of the relative Brauer group $\text{Br}(k_\alpha(M)/k_\alpha(M)^G)$. As $\text{Br}(k_\alpha(M)/k_\alpha(M)^G)$ is isomorphic to the cohomology group $H^2(G, k_\alpha(M)^\times)$, we may regard $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k_\alpha(M)^G)$ as a subgroup of $H^2(G, k_\alpha(M)^\times)$.

Through the embedding $M_\alpha \hookrightarrow k_\alpha(M)^\times$, there is a canonical injection $H^2(G, M_\alpha) \hookrightarrow \text{Br}(k_\alpha(M)^G)$ [Sal90, page 536]. Identifying $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k_\alpha(M)^G)$ and $H^2(G, M_\alpha)$ as subgroups of $H^2(G, k_\alpha(M)^\times)$, we see that $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k_\alpha(M)^G)$ is a subgroup of $H^2(G, M_\alpha)$ [Sal90, page 536]. Thus we write $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M_\alpha)$ for $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k_\alpha(M)^G)$ (see [Sal90]).

Note that there is a natural map $H^2(G, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^2(G, M_\alpha)$. Clearly this map is injective if the μ -extension $(\alpha) : 1 \rightarrow \mu \rightarrow M_\alpha \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$ splits. In this case, regarding $H^2(G, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$ and $H^2(G, M)$ as subgroups of $H^2(G, M_\alpha)$, we define $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) = H^2(G, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \cap \text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k_\alpha(M)^G)$ and $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M) = H^2(G, M) \cap \text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k_\alpha(M)^G)$. It follows that $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(k_\alpha(M)^G) = H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \oplus H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M)$. By Theorems 3.5 and 4.8, we have

$H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}) \simeq B_0(G)$ and $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M) \simeq \bigcap_A \text{Ker}\{\text{res} : H^2(G, M) \rightarrow H^2(A, M)\}$ where A runs over bicyclic subgroups of G .

Theorem 4.10 (Barge [Bar89, Theorem II.7]). *Let G be a finite group. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) *All the Sylow subgroups of G are bicyclic;*
- (2) $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) = 0$ *for all G -lattices M .*

Theorem 4.11 (Barge [Bar97, Theorem IV-1]). *Let G be a finite group. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) *All the Sylow subgroups of G are cyclic;*
- (2) $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}_\alpha(M)^G) = 0$ *for all G -lattices M , for all short exact sequences of $\mathbb{Z}[G]$ -modules $\alpha : 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times \rightarrow M_\alpha \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$.*

As in Definition 4.9, we have $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \simeq B_0(G) \oplus H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M)$ where $B_0(G)$ is the Bogomolov multiplier and $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M) \leq H^2(G, M)$. We remark that $B_0(G)$ is related to the rationality of $\mathbb{C}(V)^G$ where $G \rightarrow GL(V)$ is any faithful linear representation of G over \mathbb{C} ; on the other hand, $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M)$ arises from the multiplicative nature of the field $\mathbb{C}(M)^G$.

In case $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}}M \leq 3$, $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) = 0$ for all G -lattices M because $\mathbb{C}(M)^G$ are always \mathbb{C} -rational (see Theorem 4.3 and Theorem 4.4). The following theorem [HKY, Theorem 1.10] gives the classification of all the lattices M with $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \neq 0$ when $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}}M \leq 6$. Thus $\mathbb{C}(M)^G$ are not retract \mathbb{C} -rational for these lattices (and thus are not \mathbb{C} -rational).

Let C_n (resp. D_n , QD_{8n} , Q_{8n}) be the cyclic group of order n (resp. the dihedral group of order $2n$, the quasi-dihedral group of order $16n$, the generalized quaternion group of order $8n$).

Theorem 4.12 (Hoshi, Kang and Yamasaki [HKY, Theorem 1.10]). *Let G be a finite group and M be a faithful G -lattice.*

- (1) *If $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}}M \leq 3$, then $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) = 0$.*
- (2) *If $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}}M = 4$, then $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \neq 0$ if and only if M is one of the 5 cases in Table 1. Moreover, if M is one of the 5 G -lattices with $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \neq 0$, then $B_0(G) = 0$ and $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) = H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M)$.*
- (3) *If $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}}M = 5$, then $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \neq 0$ if and only if M is one of the 46 cases in [HKY, Table 2]. Moreover, if M is one of the 46 G -lattices with $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \neq 0$, then $B_0(G) = 0$ and $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) = H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M)$.*
- (4) *If $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}}M = 6$, then $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \neq 0$ if and only if M is one of the 1073 cases as in [HKY, Table 3]. Moreover, if M is one of the 1073 G -lattices with $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \neq 0$, then $B_0(G) = 0$ and $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) = H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M)$, except for 24 cases with $B_0(G) =$*

$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ where the CARAT ID of G are $(6, 6458, i)$, $(6, 6459, i)$, $(6, 6464, i)$ ($1 \leq i \leq 8$). Note that 22 cases out of the exceptional 24 cases satisfy $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M) = 0$.

Table 1: 5 G -lattices M of rank 4 with $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \neq 0$

$G(n, i)$	G	GAP ID	$B_0(G)$	$H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M)$
(8, 3)	D_4	(4, 12, 4, 12)	0	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$
(8, 4)	Q_8	(4, 32, 1, 2)	0	$(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{\oplus 2}$
(16, 8)	QD_8	(4, 32, 3, 2)	0	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$
(24, 3)	$SL_2(\mathbb{F}_3)$	(4, 33, 3, 1)	0	$(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{\oplus 2}$
(48, 29)	$GL_2(\mathbb{F}_3)$	(4, 33, 6, 1)	0	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$

Remark 4.13. (1) The above theorem remains valid if we replace the coefficient field \mathbb{C} by any algebraically closed field k with $\text{char } k = 0$.

(2) If M is of rank ≤ 6 and $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \neq 0$, then G is solvable and non-abelian, and $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$, $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ or $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$. The case where $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ occurs only for 4 groups G of order 27, 27, 54, 54 with the CARAT ID $(6, 2865, 1)$, $(6, 2865, 3)$, $(6, 2899, 3)$, $(6, 2899, 5)$ which are isomorphic to $C_9 \times C_3$, $C_9 \times C_3$, $(C_9 \times C_3) \times C_2$, $(C_9 \times C_3) \times C_2$ respectively. For CARAT ID, see Hoshi and Yamasaki [HY17, Chapter 3].

(3) The group $G (\simeq D_4)$ which appears as the exceptional case in Theorem 4.6 (i.e. [HKK14, Theorem 6.2]) satisfies the property that $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) = H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M) \neq 0$ where M is the associated lattice. It follows that $\mathbb{C}(M)^G$ is not retract rational.

In Theorem 4.6, note that both $\mathbb{C}(M_1)^G$ and $\mathbb{C}(M_2)^G$ are rational by Theorem 4.4 and Theorem 4.3. Thus $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M_2)^G) = 0$ and $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M_2) = 0$. But M_1 is not a faithful G -lattice and we cannot apply Theorem 4.8 to $\mathbb{C}(M_1)^G$. Hence it is possible that $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M_1)$ is non-trivial. Because $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M) \simeq H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M_1) \oplus H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M_2)$, this allows for the possibility that $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M)$ is non-trivial. Indeed, it can be shown that $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M_1) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ and therefore $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) = H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M_1) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.

(4) Here is a summary of Theorem 4.12:

$\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} M$	1	2	3	4	5	6
# of G -lattices M	2	13	73	710	6079	85308
# of G -lattices M with $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \neq 0$	0	0	0	5	46	1073

Theorem 4.14 (Hoshi, Kang and Yamasaki [HKY, Theorem 4.4]). *The following fields K are stably equivalent each other:*

(1) $\mathbb{C}(G)$ where G is a group of order 64 which belongs to the 16th isoclinism class Φ_{16} (see the 9 groups defined as in Theorem 3.19 (1));

(2) $\mathbb{C}(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)^{D_4}$ where $D_4 = \langle \sigma, \tau \rangle$ acts on $\mathbb{C}(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$ by

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma &: x_1 \mapsto x_2x_3, x_2 \mapsto x_1x_3, x_3 \mapsto x_4, x_4 \mapsto \frac{1}{x_3}, \\ \tau &: x_1 \mapsto \frac{1}{x_2}, x_2 \mapsto \frac{1}{x_1}, x_3 \mapsto \frac{1}{x_4}, x_4 \mapsto \frac{1}{x_3}\end{aligned}$$

(see Theorem 4.12 (2) and Table 1);

(3) $\mathbb{C}(y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4, y_5)^{D_4}$ where $D_4 = \langle \sigma, \tau \rangle$ acts on $\mathbb{C}(y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4, y_5)$ by

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma &: y_1 \mapsto y_2, y_2 \mapsto y_1, y_3 \mapsto \frac{1}{y_1y_2y_3}, y_4 \mapsto y_5, y_5 \mapsto \frac{1}{y_4}, \\ \tau &: y_1 \mapsto y_3, y_2 \mapsto \frac{1}{y_1y_2y_3}, y_3 \mapsto y_1, y_4 \mapsto y_5, y_5 \mapsto y_4\end{aligned}$$

(see Theorem 4.6);

(4) $\mathbb{C}(z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4)^{C_2 \times C_2}$ where $C_2 \times C_2 = \langle \sigma, \tau \rangle$ acts on $\mathbb{C}(z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4)$ by

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma &: z_1 \mapsto z_2, z_2 \mapsto z_1, z_3 \mapsto \frac{1}{z_1z_2z_3}, z_4 \mapsto \frac{-1}{z_4}, \\ \tau &: z_1 \mapsto z_3, z_2 \mapsto \frac{1}{z_1z_2z_3}, z_3 \mapsto z_1, z_4 \mapsto -z_4\end{aligned}$$

(see [HKK14, Proof of Theorem 6.4]);

(5) $\mathbb{C}(w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4)^{C_2}$ where $C_2 = \langle \sigma \rangle$ acts on $\mathbb{C}(w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4)$ by

$$\sigma : w_1 \mapsto -w_1, w_2 \mapsto \frac{w_4}{w_2}, w_3 \mapsto \frac{(w_4-1)(w_4-w_1^2)}{w_3}, w_4 \mapsto w_4$$

(see [HKK14, Theorem 6.3]).

In particular, the unramified cohomology groups $H_{\text{nr}}^i(K, \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$ of the fields K in (1)–(5) coincide and $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(K) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.

As in Remark 4.13 (2), all the G -lattices M with $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} M \leq 6$ and $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M) \neq 0$ in Theorem 4.12 satisfy the condition that G is non-abelian and solvable. Examples of G -lattices M with $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M) \neq 0$ where G is abelian (resp. non-solvable; in fact, simple) are given in [HKY] as follows:

Theorem 4.15 (Hoshi, Kang and Yamasaki [HKY, Theorem 6.1]). *Let G be an elementary abelian group of order 2^n in $GL_7(\mathbb{Z})$ and M be the associated G -lattice of rank 7. Then $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \neq 0$ if and only if G is isomorphic up to conjugation to one of the nine groups $G_1, \dots, G_9 \leq GL_7(\mathbb{Z})$ as in [HKY, Theorem 6.1] where each of G_i is isomorphic to $(C_2)^3$ as an abstract group. Moreover, $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^{G_i}) = H_{\text{nr}}^2(G_i, M) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ (resp. $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$) for $1 \leq i \leq 8$ (resp. $i = 9$).*

Theorem 4.16 (Hoshi, Kang and Yamasaki [HKY, Theorem 6.2]). *Embed A_6 into S_{10} through the isomorphism $A_6 \simeq PSL_2(\mathbb{F}_9)$, which acts on the projective line $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{F}_9}^1$ via fractional linear transformations. Thus we may regard A_6 as a transitive subgroup of*

S_{10} . Let $N = \bigoplus_{1 \leq i \leq 10} \mathbb{Z} \cdot x_i$ be the S_{10} -lattice defined by $\sigma \cdot x_i = x_{\sigma(i)}$ for any $\sigma \in S_{10}$; it becomes an A_6 -lattice by restricting the action of S_{10} to A_6 . Define $M = N/(\mathbb{Z} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{10} x_i)$ with $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} M = 9$. There exist exactly six A_6 -lattices $M = M_1, M_2, \dots, M_6$ which are \mathbb{Q} -conjugate but not \mathbb{Z} -conjugate to each other; in fact, all these M_i form a single \mathbb{Q} -class, but this \mathbb{Q} -class consists of six \mathbb{Z} -classes. Then we have

$$H_{\text{nr}}^2(A_6, M_1) \simeq H_{\text{nr}}^2(A_6, M_3) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, \quad H_{\text{nr}}^2(A_6, M_i) = 0 \text{ for } i = 2, 4, 5, 6.$$

In particular, $\mathbb{C}(M_1)^{A_6}$ and $\mathbb{C}(M_3)^{A_6}$ are not retract \mathbb{C} -rational. Furthermore, the lattices M_1 and M_3 may be distinguished by the Tate cohomology groups:

$$\begin{aligned} H^1(A_6, M_1) &= 0, & \widehat{H}^{-1}(A_6, M_1) &= \mathbb{Z}/10\mathbb{Z}, \\ H^1(A_6, M_3) &= \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}, & \widehat{H}^{-1}(A_6, M_3) &= \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}. \end{aligned}$$

Motivated by the G -lattices in Theorem 4.12 (2) (see Table 1), the following G -lattices M of rank $2n + 2$, $4n$ and $p(p - 1)$ (n is any positive integer and p is any odd prime number) with $\text{Br}_{\text{nr}}(\mathbb{C}(M)^G) \neq 0$ were constructed in [HKY]:

Theorem 4.17 (Hoshi, Kang and Yamasaki [HKY, Theorem 7.2]). *Let $G = \langle \sigma, \tau \mid \sigma^{4n} = \tau^2 = 1, \tau^{-1}\sigma\tau = \sigma^{-1} \rangle \simeq D_{4n}$, the dihedral group of order $8n$ where n is any positive integer. Let M be the G -lattice of rank $2n + 2$ defined in [HKY, Definition 7.1]. Then $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$. Consequently, $\mathbb{C}(M)^G$ is not retract \mathbb{C} -rational.*

Theorem 4.18 (Hoshi, Kang and Yamasaki [HKY, Theorem 7.5]).

(1) *Let n be any positive integer and $G = \langle \sigma, \tau \mid \sigma^{8n} = \tau^2 = 1, \tau^{-1}\sigma\tau = \sigma^{4n-1} \rangle \simeq QD_{8n}$ be the quasi-dihedral group of order $16n$. Let M be the G -lattice of rank $4n$ defined in [HKY, Definition 7.4]. Then $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$. Consequently, $\mathbb{C}(M)^G$ is not retract \mathbb{C} -rational.*

(2) *Let $\widehat{G} = \langle \sigma^2, \sigma\tau \rangle \simeq Q_{8n} \leq G$ be the generalized quaternion group of order $8n$. Let $\widehat{M} = \text{Res}_{\widehat{G}}^G(M)$ be the \widehat{G} -lattice of rank $4n$ defined in [HKY, Definition 7.4]. Then $H_{\text{nr}}^2(\widehat{G}, \widehat{M}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$. Consequently, $\mathbb{C}(\widehat{M})^{\widehat{G}}$ is not retract \mathbb{C} -rational.*

Theorem 4.19 (Hoshi, Kang and Yamasaki [HKY, Theorem 7.7]). *Let p be an odd prime and $G = \langle \sigma, \tau \mid \sigma^{p^2} = \tau^p = 1, \tau^{-1}\sigma\tau = \sigma^{p+1} \rangle \simeq C_{p^2} \rtimes C_p$. Let M be the G -lattice of rank $p(p - 1)$ defined in [HKY, Definition 7.6]. Then $H_{\text{nr}}^2(G, M) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$. Consequently, $\mathbb{C}(M)^G$ is not retract \mathbb{C} -rational.*

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