

or

$$(3) \quad F(a, BP_1^{s_1}) = F(a^{p_1^{fs_1}}, B) - F(a^{p_1^{f(s_1-1)}}, B).$$

If we let $B = P_2^{s_2}$ we get from (3)

$$F(a, P_2^{s_2} P_1^{s_1}) = F(a^{p_1^{fs_1}}, P_2^{s_2}) - F(a^{p_1^{f(s_1-1)}}, P_2^{s_2})$$

and hence by (2)

$$(4) \quad F(a, P_2^{s_2} P_1^{s_1}) \equiv 0 \pmod{P_2^s}$$

By a similar reasoning we also get,

$$(5) \quad F(a, P_2^{s_2} P_1^{s_1}) \equiv 0 \pmod{P_1^{s_1}} \text{ and hence by (4) and (5).}$$

$$(6) \quad F(a, P_2^{s_2} P_1^{s_1}) \equiv 0 \pmod{P_2^{s_2} P_1^{s_1}}.$$

We now assume that for an arbitrary a the function $F(a, A)$ is divisible by A , then if P be any prime ideal not contained in A we have by (3)

$$F(a, AP^s) = F(a^{p^{fs}}, A) - F(a^{p^{f(s-1)}}, A) \text{ and hence,}$$

$$(7) \quad F(a, AP^s) \equiv 0 \pmod{A}.$$

Now let $A = CQ^t$ where Q is a prime ideal and C prime to Q . Then,

$F(a, AP^s) = F(a^{q^{fs}}, CP^s) - F(a^{q^{f(t-1)}}, CP^s)$ where q is the rational prime divisible by Q and t the degree of Q , and since by our assumption the two terms on the right side are divisible by CP^s it follows that,

$$(8) \quad F(a, AP^s) \equiv 0 \pmod{CP^s}, \text{ and hence,}$$

$$(9) \quad F(a, AP^s) \equiv 0 \pmod{AP^s}.$$

Hence if $F(a, A)$ is divisible by A when A contains n distinct prime factors it is also divisible by A when A contains $n+1$ distinct prime factors. Making use of (4) we then find that $F(a, A)$ is divisible by A for any A .

ON THE CLASS NUMBER OF THE CYCLOTOMIC NUMBERFIELD

$$K \left\{ e^{\frac{2\pi i}{p^n}} \right\}$$

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[By title.]

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