

Throughout these exercises all groups are assumed to be given in multiplicative notation, and K denotes a field of characteristic $p \geq 0$.

EXERCISE 1

Let B be an abelian group. Prove that if a central extension $1 \rightarrow Z \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{\nu} G \rightarrow 1$ of groups is B -universal, then the transgression $\text{tr} : \text{Hom}(Z, B) \rightarrow H^2(G, B)$ is surjective.

EXERCISE 2

Let G be a finite group and assume that $K = \overline{K}$ is algebraically closed of characteristic $p \geq 0$. Prove that any cohomology class $c \in H^2(G, K^\times)$ can be represented by a 2-cocycle $\alpha : G \times G \rightarrow K^\times$ whose values are $o(c)$ -th roots of unity in K .

EXERCISE 3

Assume $K = \mathbb{C}$ and let $1 \rightarrow Z \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{\pi} G \rightarrow 1$ be a central extension of finite groups. Prove that if $Z \leq [E, E]$, then the transgression $\text{tr} : \text{Hom}(Z, \mathbb{C}^\times) \rightarrow H^2(G, \mathbb{C}^\times) = M(G)$ is injective.