

ALGEBRAIC NUMBER THEORY 2019-20  
EXAMPLE SHEET 4

Hand in the answers to questions 4 and 6 (marked with †).

Deadline 12 noon Monday, Week 10 (2 December)

For questions about the example sheet, it is best to ask them on Moodle. Questions must be asked before 5 pm on Friday to get an answer before the deadline.

1. Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2})$ . Show that  $\mathcal{O}_K$  is a principal ideal domain. Deduce that every prime  $p \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}$  can be written as  $p = x^2 + 2y^2$  with  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ . (You will need to use quadratic reciprocity from Introduction to Number Theory.)
2. Compute the class groups of the following quadratic fields.

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}), \quad \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-6}), \quad \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}).$$

3. Prove that the class group of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-30})$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ .

- †4. Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{26})$ . You may use without proof the following factorisations of ideals in  $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{26}]$ :

- $\langle 2 \rangle = \mathfrak{p}_2^2$  where  $\mathfrak{p}_2 = \langle 2, \sqrt{26} \rangle$  is a prime ideal of norm 2.
- $\langle 3 \rangle$  is a prime ideal in  $\mathcal{O}_K$ .
- $\langle 5 \rangle = \mathfrak{p}_5 \mathfrak{q}_5$  where  $\mathfrak{p}_5 = \langle 5, 1 + \sqrt{26} \rangle$  and  $\mathfrak{q}_5 = \langle 5, -1 + \sqrt{26} \rangle$  are prime ideals of norm 5.

- (i) Write a list of the quadratic residues (i.e. squares) mod 13. Use this to show that  $\mathfrak{p}_2$  is not principal.
- (ii) Find the prime factorisation of  $\langle 6 + \sqrt{26} \rangle$  in  $\mathcal{O}_K$ .
- (iii) Use the Minkowski bound to prove that  $\text{Cl}(K) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ .

5. Show that the cyclotomic field  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_5)$  has class number 1.

- †6. Let  $d$  be a square-free composite positive integer such that  $-d \equiv 2$  or  $3 \pmod{4}$ . Let  $p$  be a prime factor of  $d$  and let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$ .

- (i) Prove that  $\mathcal{O}_K$  contains no element of norm  $\pm p$ .
- (ii) By considering the prime factorisation of the ideal  $\langle p \rangle$ , prove that the class number of  $K$  is even.

7. Let  $\mathfrak{a}, \mathfrak{b}$  be ideals of  $\mathcal{O}_K$  such that there is no prime ideal which divides both  $\mathfrak{a}$  and  $\mathfrak{b}$ . Suppose that

$$\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{b} = \mathfrak{c}^n$$

for some ideal  $\mathfrak{c} \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K$  and some positive integer  $n$ . Prove that there are ideals  $\mathfrak{a}', \mathfrak{b}' \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K$  such that

$$\mathfrak{a} = (\mathfrak{a}')^n, \quad \mathfrak{b} = (\mathfrak{b}')^n.$$

8. (i) Prove that the ring of integers of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-11})$  is a PID.  
(ii) Prove that if  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  satisfy  $x^3 = y^2 + 11$ , then there exist  $u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

$$\left(\frac{u + v\sqrt{-11}}{2}\right)^3 = y + \sqrt{-11}.$$

- (iii) Show that the equation  $x^3 = y^2 + 11$  has exactly four solutions in rational integers. Verify that two of these solutions are  $(15, \pm 58)$ ; find the other two.
9. Prove that the only integer solutions to the equation  $x^3 = y^2 + 2$  are  $(3, \pm 5)$ .
10. (i) Using Minkowski's theorem on ideal classes, prove that if  $K$  is a number field of degree greater than 1, then  $|\Delta_K| > 1$ .  
(ii) Show that there are constants  $A > 1$  and  $c > 0$  such that, for every number field  $K$ ,  $|\Delta_K| > cA^n$ .
11. (i) Let  $C$  be a positive real number and  $s \in \mathbb{N}$ . Verify that the symmetric convex set
- $$S(s, C) = \{(y_1, z_1, \dots, y_s, z_s) \in \mathbb{R}^{2s} : |y_1| < 1, |z_1| < C, y_i^2 + z_i^2 < 1 \text{ for } i = 2, \dots, s\}$$
- has volume  $4\pi^{s-1}C$ .
- (ii) Let  $\Delta$  be a positive integer. Let  $K$  be a number field such that  $i = \sqrt{-1} \in K$  and  $|\Delta_K| \leq \Delta$ .
- Prove that  $K$  has signature  $(0, s)$  for some  $s$ .
  - Let  $\iota_K: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2s}$  be the canonical embedding of  $K$ . Use Minkowski's theorem on lattices to prove that, for a suitable constant  $C$  depending only on  $s$  and  $\Delta$  (but not on  $K$ ), there is a non-zero element  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$  such that  $\iota_K(\alpha) \in S(s, C)$ .
  - Label the embeddings of  $K$  as  $\sigma_1, \bar{\sigma}_1, \dots, \sigma_s, \bar{\sigma}_s$ . Observe that  $|\sigma_1(\alpha)| < \sqrt{1 + C^2}$  and  $|\sigma_i(\alpha)| < 1$  for  $i = 2, \dots, s$ . Obtain a bound for the coefficients of the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
  - By considering  $\text{Nm}_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha)$ , prove that  $|\sigma_1(\alpha)| > 1$  and hence  $\sigma_1(\alpha) \neq \sigma_i(\alpha)$  or  $\bar{\sigma}_i(\alpha)$  for  $i = 2, \dots, s$ .
  - Deduce that  $[K : \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)] \leq 2$ .
  - Show that  $K = \mathbb{Q}(i, \alpha)$  (observe that if  $[K : \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)] = 2$ , then  $\sigma_1|_{\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)}$  is a real embedding and use this to show that  $\mathbb{Q}(i, \alpha) \neq \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ ).
- (iii) Combining (c) and (f) above, show that there are only finitely many number fields  $K$  of degree  $2s$  satisfying  $i \in K$  and  $|\Delta_K| \leq \Delta$ .
- (iv) You may assume that for every number field  $L$  of degree  $n$ ,  $|\Delta_{L(i)}| \leq 4^n |\Delta_L|^2$  (if you are feeling adventurous, you could prove this). Use (iii) to show that there are only finitely many number fields  $L$  of degree  $n$  satisfying  $|\Delta_L| \leq \Delta$ .
- (v) Using Q10, show that for any  $\Delta$ , there are only finitely many number fields whose discriminant has absolute value at most  $\Delta$ .