## Algebraic number theory Solutions to exercise sheet for chapter 4

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**Exercise 1.** Let  $d > 0$  be a squarefree integer, let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{n}})$  $(-d)$  and let  $\Delta_K$  be the discriminant of K. Let p be a prime that splits in K and let  $\mathfrak p$  be a prime ideal above p.

1. Prove that for all integers  $i \geq 1$  such that  $p^i \leq |\Delta_K|/4$ , the ideal  $p^i$  is not principal. Hint: consider the cases  $\Delta_K = -d$  and  $\Delta_K = -4d$  separately.

Let i be as above. Since p is split,  $N(\mathfrak{p}) = p$ , and by uniqueness of factorisation the ideal  $p^i$  is not divisible by  $(p)$ .

• If  $\Delta_K = -4d$ , then  $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{1 + \sum_{k=1}^{K} d_k}]$  $\chi = -4d$ , then  $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-d}]$ . The norm of a generic element  $z = \sqrt{-d}$ .  $x+y\sqrt{-d}\in\mathbb{Z}_K$  is

 $x^2 + dy^2$ .

If  $p^i$  is principal, let z be a generator. Then the norm of z is  $p^i$ , giving  $x^2 +$  $dy^2 = p^i$ , so  $y^2 \leq p^i/d < 1$ , so  $y = 0$ . But then  $z \in \mathbb{Z}$  has norm  $z^2 = p^i$ , so z is divisible by p. But this is impossible since  $p^i$  is not divisible by  $(p)$ .

• If  $\Delta_K = -d$ , then  $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  with  $\alpha = \frac{1+\sqrt{-d}}{2}$  $\frac{\sqrt{d}}{2}$ . The norm of a generic element  $z = x + y\alpha$  is

$$
\left(x+\frac{y}{2}\right)^2 + d\left(\frac{y}{2}\right)^2.
$$

If  $\mathfrak{p}^i$  is principal, let z be a generator. Then the norm of z is  $p^i$ , so  $y^2 \leq$  $4p^{i}/d < 1$ , so  $y = 0$  and as before z is divisible by p, which is impossible.

2. What does this tell you about the class number of  $K$ ?

The number of  $i$  as in the previous question is

$$
\left\lfloor \frac{\log(|\Delta_K|/4)}{\log p} \right\rfloor
$$

so, accounting for the trivial class, we have

$$
h_K \ge 1 + \left\lfloor \frac{\log(|\Delta_K|/4)}{\log p} \right\rfloor.
$$

Exercise 2. Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  $(-87)$ .

1. Write down without proof the ring of integers, the discriminant and the signature of K.

Since  $-87 = -3 \cdot 29$  is squarefree and  $-87 \equiv 1 \mod 4$ , the ring of integers of K  $\lim_{K \to \infty} \frac{1}{K} = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  with  $\alpha = \frac{1+\sqrt{-87}}{2}$  $\frac{\sqrt{-87}}{2}$ , the discriminant is  $\Delta_K = -87$  and the signature is  $(0, 1)$ .

2. Describe all the integral ideals of  $K$  of norm up to 5 (qive generators for some prime ideals, and express the integral ideals as products of these prime ideals). What does this tell you about the class number of  $K$ ?

We first compute the decomposition of primes up to 5. Note that the minimal polynomial of  $\alpha$  is  $x^2 - x + 22$ .

- Since  $-87 \equiv 1 \mod 8$ , the prime 2 splits. Since  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  is 2-maximal and  $x^2$   $x + 22 \equiv x(x+1) \mod 2$ , we have  $(2) = \mathfrak{p}_2 \mathfrak{p}'_2$  with  $\mathfrak{p}_2 = (2, \alpha + 1)$  and  $\mathfrak{p}'_2 =$  $(2,\alpha).$
- Since 87 is divisible by 3, the prime 3 is ramified. Since  $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$  is 3-maximal and  $x^2 - x + 22 \equiv x^2 + 2x + 1 \equiv (x + 1)^2 \mod 3$ , we have  $(3) = \mathfrak{p}_3^2$ with  $\mathfrak{p}_3 = (3, \alpha + 1)$ .
- Since  $-87 \equiv 3 \mod 5$  is not a square modulo 5, the prime 5 is inert in K.

The integral ideals of K of norm up to 5 are  $\mathbb{Z}_K$ ,  $\mathfrak{p}_2$ ,  $\mathfrak{p}_2'$ ,  $\mathfrak{p}_3$ ,  $\mathfrak{p}_2^2$ ,  $(2)$ , and  $\mathfrak{p}_2'^2$ . The Minkowski bound is

$$
M_K = \frac{2}{4} \cdot \frac{4}{\pi} \sqrt{87} \approx 5.94 < 6,
$$

so every ideal class is represented by an integral ideal of norm at most 5. Since (2) is principal, this implies that  $h_K \leq 6$ .

3. Factor the ideal  $\left(\frac{3+\sqrt{-87}}{2}\right)$  $\frac{2}{2}$  into primes.

We have  $z = \frac{3+\sqrt{-87}}{2} = 1 + \alpha$ , so this element z is an integer, and  $N_{\mathbb{Q}}^K(z) =$  $(3/2)^{2} + 87(1/2)^{2} = 24 = 3 \cdot 8$ . Since (z) is an integral ideal, (z) is a product of a prime of norm 3 and an integral ideal of norm 8. There is only one prime of norm 3, namely  $\mathfrak{p}_3$ . The integral ideals of norm 8 are  $\mathfrak{p}_2^3$ ,  $2\mathfrak{p}_2$ ,  $2\mathfrak{p}_2'$  and  $\mathfrak{p}_2'^3$ . Since  $z = 1 + \alpha$  is not divisible by 2 and  $z = 1 + \alpha \in \mathfrak{p}_2$ , we obtain

$$
(z)=\mathfrak{p}_2^3\mathfrak{p}_3.
$$

4. Prove that  $Cl(K) \cong \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$ .

By Minkowski's theorem, the class group is generated by  $\mathfrak{p}_2, \mathfrak{p}'_2$  and  $\mathfrak{p}_3$ . By the decomposition of primes, we have the relations  $[\mathfrak{p}'_2] = [\mathfrak{p}_2]^{-1}$  and  $[\mathfrak{p}_3]^2 = 1$ . By Question 3 we have the additional relation  $[\mathfrak{p}_2]^3 = [\mathfrak{p}_3]^{-1} = [\mathfrak{p}_3]$ . Since  $[\mathfrak{p}_3]$  is of order 1 or 2, the class  $[\mathfrak{p}_2]$  is of order 1, 3 or 6. By Exercise 1,  $\mathfrak{p}_2^3$  is not principal since  $2^3$  < 87/4, so  $\mathfrak{p}_2$  has order 6. By Question 2, we obtain Cl(K) ≅  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$ , with generator  $[\mathfrak{p}_2]$ .

Exercise 3. In this exercise we consider the equation

$$
y^2 = x^5 - 2, \quad x, y \in \mathbb{Z}.
$$

1. Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  $(-2)$ . Write down the signature, the discriminant, the ring of integers and then class number of K.

The integer −2 is squarefree and we have −2 ≡ 2 mod 4, so the ring of integers of K is  $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-2}]$ , the discriminant is  $\Delta_K = -8$ . The signature of K is (0, 1). Since the Minkowski bound is

$$
M_K = \frac{2}{4} \cdot \frac{4}{\pi} \sqrt{8} \approx 1.80 < 2,
$$

the class number of K is  $h_K = 1$ .

2. Let  $(x, y)$  be a solution of the equation. Prove that the ideals  $(y +$ √ Let  $(x, y)$  be a solution of the equation. Prove that the ideals  $(y + \sqrt{-2})$  and  $(y - \sqrt{-2})$  $\sqrt{-2}$ ) are coprime. Hint: reduce the equation modulo 4 to prove that y must be odd.

If y is even, then modulo 4 we obtain  $0 = x^5 - 2$ , but 2 is not a 5-th power in  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$  so y is odd.

Let **p** be a prime dividing both  $(y +$ √  $(-2)$  and  $(y -$ √  $(-2)$ . The it divides the Let p be a prime dividing both  $(y + \sqrt{-2})$  and  $(y - \sqrt{-2})$ . The it divides the difference  $2\sqrt{-2}$ , which has norm a power of 2. Since 2 is ramified, there is a unique prime  $\mathfrak{p}_2$  above 2. Since  $\sqrt{-2} \in \mathfrak{p}_2$ , we have  $y \in \mathfrak{p}_2$ , but  $\mathfrak{p}_2 \cap \mathbb{Z} = 2\mathbb{Z}$ , unique prime  $\mathfrak{p}_2$  above 2. Since  $\sqrt{-2} \in \mathfrak{p}_2$ , we have  $y \in \mathfrak{p}_2$ , but  $\mathfrak{p}_2 \cap \mathbb{Z} = 2\math$ so y is even, which is not possible. So  $(y + \sqrt{-2})$  and  $(y - \sqrt{-2})$  are coprime.

3. You may assume without proof that  $\mathbb{Z}_K^\times = \{\pm 1\}$ . Prove that  $y +$ √  $\overline{-2}$  is a 5-th power in  $\mathbb{Z}_K$ .

Since  $x^5 = (y +$ √  $\overline{-2}(y -$ √  $(-2)$ , and since  $(y +$ √  $(-2)$  and  $(y -$ √  $(y - \sqrt{-2})$ , and since  $(y + \sqrt{-2})$  and  $(y - \sqrt{-2})$  are coprime, the ideal  $(y + \sqrt{-2})$  is a 5-th power. Since the class number of K is 1, we have  $(y + \sqrt{-2}) = (a)^5 = (a^5)$  for some  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_K$ , and so  $y + \sqrt{-2}$  is a 5-th power in  $\mathbb{Z}_K$  up to a unit. But since  $\mathbb{Z}_K^{\times} = {\pm 1}$ , every unit is a 5-th power, so finally  $y + \sqrt{-2}$  is a 5-th power in  $\mathbb{Z}_K$ .

4. Prove that the equation has no solution.

Since  $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-2}]$ , there exists  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  be such that  $(a+b\sqrt{-2})$  $(-2)^5 = y +$ √  $\overline{-2}$ . We expand

$$
(a+b\sqrt{-2})^5 = a^5 - 20b^2a^3 + 20b^4a + (5ba^4 - 20b^3a^2 + 4b^5)\sqrt{-2}.
$$

This gives  $b(5a^4 - 20b^2a^2 + 4b^4) = 1$ , so that  $b = \pm 1$ .

- If  $b = 1$ , then  $5a^4 20a^2 + 3 = 0$ . The discriminant of  $5x^2 20x + 3$ is  $(-20)^2 - 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 3 = 20 \cdot 17$ , which is not a square in  $\mathbb{Q}$ , so this polynomial does not have any roots in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . So there is no solution with  $b = 1$ .
- If  $b = -1$ , then  $5a^4 20a^2 + 5 = 0$ , which simplifies into  $a^4 4a^2 + 1 = 0$ . The discriminant of  $x^2 - 4x + 1$  is 12, which is not a square in  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Again, we have no solution.

So the equation has no solution.

## UNASSESSED QUESTIONS

Exercise 4. Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  $(-29)$ .

1. Determine the ring of integers and discriminant of K.

Since  $-29$  is squarefree and  $-29 \equiv 3 \mod 4$ , we have  $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{3}]$ nod 4, we have  $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-29}]$  and the discriminant is  $\Delta_K = -4 \cdot 29$ . Let  $\alpha = \sqrt{-29}$ .

- 2. Determine the decomposition of 2, 3 and 5 in K.
	- $x^2 + 29 \equiv (x+1)^2 \mod 2$ , so 2 is ramified and  $(2) = \mathfrak{p}_2^2$  with  $\mathfrak{p}_2 = (2, \alpha + 1)$ .
	- $x^2 + 29 \equiv x^2 1 \equiv (x 1)(x + 1) \mod 3$ , so 3 splits and  $(3) = \mathfrak{p}_3 \mathfrak{p}_3'$ where  $\mathfrak{p}_3 = (3, \alpha + 1)$  and  $\mathfrak{p}'_3 = (3, \alpha + 2)$ .
	- $x^2 + 29 \equiv x^2 1 \equiv (x 1)(x + 1) \mod 5$ , so 5 splits and  $(5) = \mathfrak{p}_5 \mathfrak{p}_5'$ where  $\mathfrak{p}_5 = (5, \alpha + 1)$  and  $\mathfrak{p}'_5 = (5, \alpha + 4)$ .
- 3. Factor the ideals  $(1 + \sqrt{-29})$  and  $(3 + 2\sqrt{-29})$  into primes.
	- We have  $N_{\mathbb{Q}}^K(1+\alpha) = 1+29 = 30 = 2\cdot3\cdot5$ . Clearly  $1+\alpha \in \mathfrak{p}_3$  so  $\mathfrak{p}_3 \mid (1+\alpha)$ and  $1 + \alpha \in \mathfrak{p}_5$  so  $\mathfrak{p}_5 \mid (1 + \alpha)$ , so that  $(1 + \alpha) = \mathfrak{p}_2 \mathfrak{p}_3 \mathfrak{p}_5$ .
	- We have  $N_0^K(3+2\alpha) = 3^2+29 \cdot 2^2 = 125 = 5^3$ . Since  $(5) \nmid 3+2\alpha$ and  $3 + 2\alpha \equiv 3 + 2 \cdot 1 \equiv 0 \mod p'_5$ , we have  $(3 + 2\alpha) = (p'_5)^3$ .
- 4. Determine the order in the class group of K of the images of the primes above 2 and of the primes above 5.
	- Since  $(2) = \mathfrak{p}_2$ , the class  $[\mathfrak{p}_2]$  has order 1 or 2. Since the equation  $x^2 + 29y^2 =$ 2 clearly has no integer solution, there is no element of norm 2 in  $\mathbb{Z}_K$  so  $\mathfrak{p}_2$ is not principal. So  $[p_2]$  has order 2.
	- Since (5) =  $\mathfrak{p}_5 \mathfrak{p}_5'$ , the classes  $[\mathfrak{p}_5]$  and  $[\mathfrak{p}_5']$  are inverse of each other and hence have the same order. Since  $(3 + 2\alpha) = (\mathfrak{p}'_5)^3$ , the class  $[\mathfrak{p}'_5]$  has order 1 or 3. Since  $5 < |\Delta_K|/4 = 29$ ,  $\mathfrak{p}_5$  is not principal by Exercise 1. So  $[\mathfrak{p}_5]$  and  $[\mathfrak{p}_5']$  have order 3.
- 5. Prove that  $Cl(K) \cong \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$ .

The Minkowski bound is  $M_K \approx 5.29$ , so the class group Cl(K) is generated by the classes of prime ideals of norm up to 5. Since  $(1 + \alpha) = \mathfrak{p}_2 \mathfrak{p}_3 \mathfrak{p}_5$ , the class  $[\mathfrak{p}_3]$  is in the subgroup generated by  $[\mathfrak{p}_2]$  and  $[\mathfrak{p}_5]$ . Since  $[\mathfrak{p}'_3] = [\mathfrak{p}_3]^{-1}$ and  $[\mathfrak{p}_5'] = [\mathfrak{p}_5]^{-1}$ , the class group is generated by  $[\mathfrak{p}_2]$  and  $[\mathfrak{p}_5]$ . Since  $[\mathfrak{p}_2]$  has order 2 and  $[\mathfrak{p}_5]$  has order 3, the element  $g = [\mathfrak{p}_2][\mathfrak{p}_5]$  generates the class group  $([{\mathfrak p}_2] = g^3$  and  $[{\mathfrak p}_5] = g^4$ ) and has order 6, so  $\text{Cl}(K) \cong \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Exercise 5** (Difficult). Let K be a number field, and let  $m > 1$  be an integer. In this exercise we write  $\text{Cl}(K)[m] = \{c \in \text{Cl}(K) \mid c^m = 1\}.$ 

- 1. Prove that if  $h_K$  is coprime to m, then  $Cl(K)[m] = \{1\}.$ Since  $h_K$  is coprime to m, there exists  $u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $um + vh_K = 1$ . Let  $c \in \mathrm{Cl}(K)[m]$ . Then  $c = c^{um + vh_K} = (c^m)^u (c^{h_K})^v = 1$ . So  $\mathrm{Cl}(K)[m] = 1$ .
- 2. Let  $G_m(K) = \{x^m : x \in K^{\times}\}\$ , and let  $L_m(K)$  be the set of elements  $x \in K^{\times}$ such that in the prime ideal factorisation of  $(x)$ , all the exponents are multiples of m.
	- (a) Prove that  $G_m(K)$  is a subgroup of  $L_m(K)$ . Let  $x \in K^{\times}$ , and let  $(x) = \prod_i \mathfrak{p}_i^{a_i}$  be its prime ideal factorisation. Then  $(x^m)$  =  $\prod_i \mathfrak{p}_i^{ma_i} \in L_m(K)$ . So  $G_m(K) \subset L_m(K)$ , and it is obviously stable by multiplication and contains  $1 = 1^m$ . We define  $S_m(K) = L_m(K)/G_m(K)$ .
	- (b) Let  $x \in L_m(K)$ . Prove that there exists a unique fractional ideal  $\mathfrak{a}_x$  such that  $(x) = \mathfrak{a}_x^m$ .

Let  $x \in L_m(K)$ , and let  $(x) = \prod_i \mathfrak{p}_i^{ma_i}$  be its prime ideal factorisation. Then  $\mathfrak{a}_x = \prod_i \mathfrak{p}_i^{a_i}$  satisfies the required property, and it is unique by uniqueness of factorisation into prime ideals.

(c) Prove that the map  $f: S_m(K) \to \mathrm{Cl}(K)[m]$ , defined by  $f(x) = [\mathfrak{a}_x]$ , is welldefined, and is a group homomorphism.

To prove that f is well-defined, we need to prove that  $a_x$  is principal whenever  $x \in G_m(K)$  and that  $[\mathfrak{a}_x] \in \mathrm{Cl}(K)[m]$  for all  $x \in L_m(K)$ .

• Let  $x = y^m \in G_m(K)$ . Then  $\mathfrak{a}_x^m = (x) = (y)^m$  so  $\mathfrak{a}_x = (y)$  and  $[\mathfrak{a}_x] = 1$ . • Let  $x \in L_m(K)$ . Then  $(x) = \mathfrak{a}_x^m$ , so  $[\mathfrak{a}_x]^m = 1$  and  $[\mathfrak{a}_x] \in \mathrm{Cl}(K)[m]$ .

For all  $x, y \in L_m(K)$  we have  $(\mathfrak{a}_x \mathfrak{a}_y)^m = \mathfrak{a}_x^m \mathfrak{a}_y^m = (x)(y) = (xy)$  so  $\mathfrak{a}_{xy} =$  $\mathfrak{a}_x \mathfrak{a}_y$  by uniqueness. This gives  $f(xy) = f(x)f(y)$ . Since  $a_1 = (1)$ , we have  $f(1) = 1$  and f is a group homomorphism.

(d) Prove that f is surjective.

Let  $[\mathfrak{a}] \in \mathrm{Cl}(K)[m]$ . Then  $[\mathfrak{a}]^m = 1$  so  $\mathfrak{a}^m$  is principal, say  $\mathfrak{a}^m = (x)$ . But then  $x \in L_m(K)$  and  $\mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{a}_x$ , so that  $[\mathfrak{a}] = f(x)$ . So f is surjective.

(e) What is the kernel of  $f$ ?

Let  $x \in L_m(K)$  be such that  $f(x) = 1$ . Then  $[a_x] = 1$ , so  $a_x$  is principal, say  $\mathfrak{a}_x = (y)$ . We have  $(x) = \mathfrak{a}_x^m = (y^m)$ , so there exists a unit  $u \in \mathbb{Z}_K^{\times}$ K such that  $x = y^m u$ . This proves that the kernel of f is the image of  $\mathbb{Z}_k^{\times}$ K in  $S_m(K)$ , that is,  $\mathbb{Z}_K^{\times}/(\mathbb{Z}_K^{\times})^m$ .

From now on, K is an imaginary quadratic field  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  $(-d)$  with  $d > 0$ squarefree. We write  $\overline{\cdot}$  for the complex conjugation in K.

3. Let  $x = a + b$ √  $-\overline{d} \in K$  be an element such that  $N^K_{\mathbb{O}}(x) = 1$ . Let  $\phi: K \to K$  be defined by  $\phi(y) = \bar{y} - xy$ .

(a) Prove that  $\phi$  is  $\mathbb{Q}\text{-linear}$ .

Conjugation is additive and does not change rational numbers, so conjugation is Q-linear. Since multiplication by x is also Q-linear,  $\phi$  is Q-linear. √

(b) Compute the matrix of  $\phi$  on the basis  $(1,$  $(-d).$ √

We have  $\phi(1) = 1 - x = (1 - a) + (-b)$  $-d$  and  $\phi$ ( √  $(-d) = -$ √ Ve have  $\phi(1) = 1 - x = (1 - a) + (-b)\sqrt{-d}$  and  $\phi(\sqrt{-d}) = -\sqrt{-d} - (a + a)$  $b\sqrt{-d}$ ) $\sqrt{-d}$  =  $-\sqrt{-d}$  –  $a\sqrt{-d}$  +  $bd$  =  $bd$  +  $(-1 - a)\sqrt{-d}$ , so the matrix of  $\phi$  is

$$
\begin{pmatrix} 1-a & -b \ bd & -1-a \end{pmatrix}
$$

.

- (c) Compute the determinant of  $\phi$ . Is  $\phi$  injective? The determinant of  $\phi$  is  $-(1-a)(1+a)+b^2d = a^2+db^2-1 = 0$  since  $N_0^K(x) =$ 1. So  $\phi$  is not invertible, and hence not injective.
- (d) Prove that there exists  $y \in K^{\times}$  such that  $x = \bar{y}/y$ . Let  $y \neq 0$  be an element of ker  $\phi$ . Then  $\bar{y} - xy = 0$ , so  $xy = \bar{y}$  and finally  $x = \bar{y}/y$  since  $y \neq 0$ .
- 4. Let  $[\mathfrak{a}] \in \mathrm{Cl}(K)[2]$  and let  $a = N(\mathfrak{a})$ .
	- (a) Prove that there exists  $x \in K^{\times}$  such that  $\mathfrak{a}^2 = (x)$ . We have  $[\mathfrak{a}^2] = 1$  so  $\mathfrak{a}^2$  is principal: there exists  $x \in K^\times$  such that  $\mathfrak{a}^2 = (x)$ .
	- (b) Prove that there exists  $y \in K^{\times}$  such that  $x = a\bar{y}/y$ . We have  $N_0^K(x/a) = N(a)^2/a^2 = 1$ , so by Question 4 (d), there exists  $y \in$  $K^{\times}$  such that  $x/a = \bar{y}/y$ , i.e.  $x = a\bar{y}/y$ .
	- (c) Let  $\mathfrak{b} = y\mathfrak{a}$ . Prove that there exists  $b \in \mathbb{Q}^{\times}$  such that  $\mathfrak{b}^2 = (b)$ . We have  $\mathfrak{b}^2 = y^2 \mathfrak{a}^2 = (y^2 x) = (y^2 a \bar{y}/y) = (N_0^K(y) a)$ , so  $b = N_0^K(y) a \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$ is a generator of  $\mathfrak{b}^2$ .
	- (d) Prove that a is in the same ideal class as a product of the ramified prime ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}_K$ .

Since  $\mathfrak{b} = y\mathfrak{a}$ ,  $\mathfrak{a}$  and  $\mathfrak{b}$  are in the same ideal class. Write  $b = ef^2$ , where  $e \in \mathbb{Z}$ is a squarefree integer and  $f \in \mathbb{Q}^{\times}$  (which is possible by reducing the exponents modulo 2 in the prime factorisation of b), and let  $\mathfrak{c} = f^{-1}\mathfrak{b}$ , which is in the same ideal class as  $\mathfrak{a}$ . Then  $\mathfrak{c}^2 = (f^{-2}b) = (e)$ . By uniqueness of factorisation into prime ideals, every prime divisor of  $e$  is ramified, and  $\mathfrak c$  is a product of the ramified prime ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}_K$ .

Let  $\mathfrak{p}_1, \ldots, \mathfrak{p}_t$  be the ramified prime ideals of K.

5. Prove that if the product  $\mathfrak{p}_1^{e_1} \dots \mathfrak{p}_t^{e_t}$  with  $0 \leq e_i \leq 1$  is principal then  $\mathfrak{p}_1^{e_1} \dots \mathfrak{p}_t^{e_t} =$  $(\sqrt{-d})$  or all the  $e_i$  are zero. Hint: consider the norm of such an ideal, and look at elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_K$  of that norm.

Let  $n = N(\mathfrak{p}_1^{e_1} \ldots \mathfrak{p}_t^{e_t}),$  and we assume that then  $e_i$  are not all zero, so that  $n > 1$ and *n* is squarefree. Assume  $z = x + y\sqrt{-d} \in \mathbb{Z}_K$  is a generator of  $\mathfrak{p}_1^{e_1} \dots \mathfrak{p}_t^{e_t}$ . Since *n* is squarefree we have  $y \neq 0$ . We distinguish two cases:

- If  $\Delta_K = -d$ : we have  $n \mid d$ , and  $x^2 + dy^2 = n$ , so  $y^2 \le n/d \le 1$ : we get  $y = \pm 1/2$  or  $y = \pm 1$ . In the first case we get  $4x^2 + d = 4n$  which is impossible by reduction modulo 4. In the second case we must have  $n = d$ , so that  $x = 0$  and  $z = \pm \sqrt{-d}$ .
- If  $\Delta_K = -4d$ : we have  $n \mid 2d$ , and  $x^2 + dy^2 = n$ , so that  $n \geq d$ : we get  $n = d$ or  $n = 2d$ . In the first case we must have  $x = 0$ ,  $y = \pm 1$  and  $z = \pm \sqrt{-d}$ . In the second case we get  $y^2 \leq 2$  so that  $y = \pm 1$ , giving  $x^2 + d = 2d$  or equivalently  $x^2 = d$ , which is impossible.
- 6. Prove that  $\text{Cl}(K)[2] \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{t-1}$ .

By Question 4 (d) the group  $Cl(K)[2]$  is generated by the classes  $[\mathfrak{p}_1], \ldots, [\mathfrak{p}_t],$ and we have  $[\mathfrak{p}_i]^2 = 1$  for all i. So  $\text{Cl}(K)[2]$  is the quotient of  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^t$  by the relations of the form  $[\mathfrak{p}_1^{e_1}] \dots [\mathfrak{p}_t^{e_t}] = 1$  where for all i we have  $0 \le e_i \le 1$ . By Question 5 there is only one such nontrivial relation, so  $Cl(K)[2] \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{t-1}$ .