

Algebraic number theory

Solutions to exercise sheet for chapter 4

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Exercise 1 (30 points). *Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-155})$.*

- (3 points) *Write down without proof the ring of integers, the discriminant and the signature of K .*

The signature of K is $(0, 1)$. Since $-155 = -5 \cdot 31$ is squarefree and $-155 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, the ring of integers of K is $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\omega]$ where $\omega = \frac{1+\sqrt{-155}}{2}$, and $\text{disc } K = -155$.

- (10 points) *Describe a set of prime ideals of \mathbb{Z}_K whose classes generate the class group of K . For each of these prime ideals, give the residue degree and ramification index.*

The Minkowski bound is $M_K = \frac{2! \cdot 4}{2^2 \cdot \pi} \sqrt{155} \approx 7.9 < 8$, so the class group of K is generated by the classes of the primes of norm less than or equal to 8. Such ideals must be above 2, 3, 5 or 7.

- Since $-155 \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$, the ideal $\mathfrak{p}_2 = 2\mathbb{Z}_K$ is a prime ideal with residue degree 2 and ramification index 1.
- Since $-155 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$, we have $3\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathfrak{p}_3\mathfrak{p}'_3$ where \mathfrak{p}_3 and \mathfrak{p}'_3 are prime ideals with residue degree 1 and ramification index 1.
- Since 5 divides -155 , the prime 5 is ramified in K and we have $5\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathfrak{p}_5^2$ where \mathfrak{p}_5 is a prime ideal with residue degree 1 and ramification index 2.
- We have $-155 \equiv 6 \pmod{7}$. The squares modulo 7 are 0, $(\pm 1)^2 = 1$, $(\pm 2)^2 = 4$ and $(\pm 3)^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$, so -155 is not a square modulo 7 and $\mathfrak{p}_7 = 7\mathbb{Z}_K$ is a prime ideal with residue degree 2 and ramification index 1.

To conclude, the class group $\text{Cl}(K)$ is generated by the classes of \mathfrak{p}_2 , \mathfrak{p}_3 , \mathfrak{p}'_3 , \mathfrak{p}_5 and \mathfrak{p}_7 . (It is already possible to reduce this set of primes, but you will get full marks for this set as well as correctly justified smaller ones.)

3. (8 points) Factor the ideal $(\frac{5+\sqrt{-155}}{2})$ into primes.

We first compute the norm of $\alpha = \frac{5+\sqrt{-155}}{2} \in \mathbb{Z}_K$. We have $(2\alpha - 5)^2 + 155 = 0$ which we can rewrite $4\alpha^2 - 20\alpha + 180 = 0$ and simply $\alpha^2 - 5\alpha + 45 = 0$. Since $\alpha \notin \mathbb{Q}$ we obtain the minimal polynomial $X^2 - 5X + 45$ of α which is also its characteristic polynomial and hence $N_{\mathbb{Q}}^K(\alpha) = 45$ (you can compute the norm with the method of your choice). The integral ideal $\mathfrak{a} = (\alpha)$ therefore has norm $45 = 3^2 \cdot 5$. Given the decomposition of 3 and 5 in K , \mathfrak{a} equals \mathfrak{p}_5 times a product of two prime ideals above 3. Since $\alpha \notin 3\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathfrak{p}_3\mathfrak{p}'_3$, we have $\mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{p}_5\mathfrak{p}_3^2$ or $\mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{p}_5\mathfrak{p}'_3{}^2$. After possibly swapping \mathfrak{p}_3 and \mathfrak{p}'_3 we may assume that $\mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{p}_5\mathfrak{p}_3^2$.

4. (10 points) Prove that $\text{Cl}(K) \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$.

The prime ideals $\mathfrak{p}_2 = 2\mathbb{Z}_K$ and $\mathfrak{p}_7 = 7\mathbb{Z}_K$ are principal, so their ideal classes are trivial. Moreover $\mathfrak{p}_3\mathfrak{p}'_3 = 3\mathbb{Z}_K$ so $[\mathfrak{p}_3][\mathfrak{p}'_3] = 1$ and $[\mathfrak{p}_3]$ is in the subgroup generated by $[\mathfrak{p}'_3]$. Since $(\alpha) = \mathfrak{p}_5\mathfrak{p}_3^2$ we have $1 = [\mathfrak{p}_5][\mathfrak{p}_3]^2$ and $[\mathfrak{p}_5] = [\mathfrak{p}_3]^{-2} = [\mathfrak{p}'_3]^2$ is in the subgroup generated by $[\mathfrak{p}'_3]$. We have therefore proved that $\text{Cl}(K)$ is generated by $[\mathfrak{p}'_3]$, and we must determine its order. We have $[\mathfrak{p}'_3]^4 = [\mathfrak{p}_5]^2 = [\mathfrak{p}_5^2] = [5\mathbb{Z}_K] = 1$, so the order of $[\mathfrak{p}'_3]$ divides 4: it must be 1, 2 or 4.

Let $x + y\omega \in \mathbb{Z}_K$ be an element of norm ± 5 . Then

$$N_{\mathbb{Q}}^K(x + y\omega) = \left(x + \frac{y}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{155}{4}y^2 = 5 \text{ since it must be positive,}$$

so $y^2 = 20/155 < 1$, so $y = 0$. But $x^2 = 5$ has no solution in \mathbb{Z} , so there is no integral element of norm ± 5 in K . The integral ideal \mathfrak{p}_5 of norm 5 is therefore not principal, so $[\mathfrak{p}'_3]^2 = [\mathfrak{p}_5] \neq 1$. So the order of $[\mathfrak{p}'_3]$ does not divide 4 and must therefore be 4.

This proves that $\text{Cl}(K)$ is generated by an element of order 4, i.e. $\text{Cl}(K) \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$.

Exercise 2 (35 points). Let $d \neq 0, 1$ be a squarefree integer and let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$.

1. (15 points) Let $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Prove that if neither n nor $-n$ are squares modulo d , then no integral ideal in K of norm n is principal.

- If $d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$: we have $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$. Let \mathfrak{a} be a principal integral ideal of norm n . Then $\mathfrak{a} = (x + y\sqrt{d})$ with $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$. We have

$$N_{\mathbb{Q}}^K(x + y\sqrt{d}) = x^2 - dy^2.$$

Let $a \in \{\pm n\}$ be the norm of $x + y\sqrt{d}$. Reducing modulo d , we get $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{d}$, so one of $\pm n$ must be a square modulo d . By contraposition, if neither n nor $-n$ are squares modulo d , then no integral ideal in K of norm n is principal.

- If $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$: we have $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\omega]$ where $\omega = \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}$. Since d is odd, there exists $u \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $2u \equiv 1 \pmod{d}$. Let \mathfrak{a} be a principal integral ideal of norm n . Then $\mathfrak{a} = (x + y\omega)$ with $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$. We have

$$N_{\mathbb{Q}}^K(x + y\omega) = \left(x + \frac{y}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{d}{4}y^2 = x^2 + xy + \frac{1-d}{4}y^2 = x^2 + xy + Dy^2,$$

where $1 - d = 4D$ and $D \in \mathbb{Z}$. Let $a \in \{\pm n\}$ be the norm of $x + y\omega$. Reducing modulo d , we have $(1 - d)u^2 \equiv 4Du^2 \equiv D \pmod{d}$. We get

$$(x + uy)^2 \equiv (x + uy)^2 - d(uy)^2 \equiv x^2 + xy + Dy^2 \equiv a \pmod{d},$$

so one of $\pm n$ must be a square modulo d . By contraposition, if neither n nor $-n$ are squares modulo d , then no integral ideal in K of norm n is principal.

2. (3 points) *From now on $d = 105$. Write down without proof the ring of integers, the discriminant and the signature of K .*

The signature of K is $(2, 0)$. We have $d = 105 = 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7$ is squarefree and $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, so $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\omega]$ where $\omega = \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}$, and $\text{disc } K = d = 105$.

3. (10 points) *Find an element of norm -6 and an element of norm -5 in \mathbb{Z}_K .*

Let $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$. We have $N_{\mathbb{Q}}^K(x + y\sqrt{d}) = x^2 - 105y^2$, so $10 + \sqrt{d} \in \mathbb{Z}_K$ has norm -5 . We have $N_{\mathbb{Q}}^K(x + y\omega) = x^2 + xy - 26y^2$, so $4 + \omega$ has norm -6 .

4. (7 points) *Prove that $\text{Cl}(K) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.*

The Minkowski bound is $M_K = \frac{2!}{2^2} \sqrt{105} \cong 5.12 < 6$, so the class group is generated by the classes of primes of norm up to 5. Such primes must be above 2, 3 or 5.

- We have $105 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$, so $2\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}'_2$ where \mathfrak{p}_2 and \mathfrak{p}'_2 are prime ideals of norm 2.
- Since 3 divides 105, we have $3\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathfrak{p}_3^2$ where \mathfrak{p}_3 is a prime ideal of norm 3.
- Since 5 divides 105, we have $5\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathfrak{p}_5^2$ where \mathfrak{p}_5 is a prime ideal of norm 5.

The class group $\text{Cl}(K)$ is therefore generated by the classes of \mathfrak{p}_2 , \mathfrak{p}_3 and \mathfrak{p}_5 since $[\mathfrak{p}'_2] = [\mathfrak{p}_2]^{-1}$. We also have $[\mathfrak{p}_3]^2 = 1$ and $[\mathfrak{p}_5]^2 = 1$.

Since $(4 + \omega)$ is an integral ideal of norm 5, it must equal \mathfrak{p}_5 , so $[\mathfrak{p}_5] = 1$. Since $\mathfrak{a} = (10 + \sqrt{d})$ is an integral ideal of norm 6, we must have $\mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}_3$ or $\mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{p}'_2\mathfrak{p}_3$, and after possibly swapping \mathfrak{p}_2 and \mathfrak{p}'_2 we may assume $\mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}_3$. We get $1 = [\mathfrak{a}] = [\mathfrak{p}_2][\mathfrak{p}_3]$, so that $[\mathfrak{p}_2] = [\mathfrak{p}_3]^{-1} = [\mathfrak{p}_3]$ and $\text{Cl}(K)$ is generated by $[\mathfrak{p}_3]$. Since $[\mathfrak{p}_3]^2 = 1$, this generator has order 1 or 2.

The squares modulo 5 are 0, $(\pm 1)^2 = 1$ and $(\pm 2)^2 = 4$ so neither 3 nor $-3 \equiv 2 \pmod{5}$ are squares modulo 5. Since 5 divides d , they are also not squares modulo d . By 1., the ideal \mathfrak{p}_3 is not principal, so $[\mathfrak{p}_3]$ has order 2 and $\text{Cl}(K) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.

Exercise 3 (35 points). We consider the equation

$$y^2 = x^3 - 6, \quad x, y \in \mathbb{Z}. \quad (1)$$

1. (3 points) *Write down without proof the ring of integers, signature and discriminant of $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-6})$.*

The signature of K is $(0, 1)$. Since $-6 = -2 \cdot 3$ is squarefree and $-6 \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$, we have $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-6}]$ and $\text{disc } K = -24$.

2. (10 points) *Determine the class group of K .*

The Minkowski bound is $M_K = \frac{2!}{2^2} \frac{4}{\pi} \sqrt{24} \approx 3.12$, so the class group of K is generated by the classes of prime ideals of norm up to 3. Such a prime ideal must be above 2 or 3. Since 2 and 3 both divide -24 we have $2\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathfrak{p}_2^2$ where \mathfrak{p}_2 is a prime ideal of norm 2, and $3\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathfrak{p}_3^2$ where \mathfrak{p}_3 is a prime ideal of norm 3. Moreover, $\sqrt{-6} \in \mathbb{Z}_K$ has norm 6 and therefore generates the ideal $\mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}_3$, so that $[\mathfrak{p}_2][\mathfrak{p}_3] = 1$: we obtain that $[\mathfrak{p}_3]$ belongs to the subgroup generated by $[\mathfrak{p}_2]$, so that $\text{Cl}(K)$ is generated by $[\mathfrak{p}_2]$. We have $[\mathfrak{p}_2]^2 = 1$ so $[\mathfrak{p}_2]$ has order 1 or 2. If \mathfrak{p}_2 is principal, then a generator must be an element of \mathbb{Z}_K of norm ± 2 . The norm of a generic element $a + b\sqrt{-6}$ of \mathbb{Z}_K ($a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$) is $a^2 + 6b^2 > 0$, so if \mathfrak{p}_2 is principal then there exists $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$a^2 + 6b^2 = 2.$$

But this implies $b^2 \leq 2/6 = 1/3 < 1$, so $b = 0$, and $a^2 = 2$ has no solution in \mathbb{Z} . The ideal \mathfrak{p}_2 is therefore not principal, its ideal class has order 2, and $\text{Cl}(K) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.

3. (10 points) *Let $(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ be a solution of (1). Prove that $(y + \sqrt{-6})$ and $(y - \sqrt{-6})$ are coprime.*

Let \mathfrak{p} be a prime ideal dividing both $(y + \sqrt{-6})$ and $(y - \sqrt{-6})$. Then $y + \sqrt{-6} \in \mathfrak{p}$ and $y - \sqrt{-6} \in \mathfrak{p}$, so their difference $2\sqrt{-6}$ is in \mathfrak{p} and \mathfrak{p} divides $(2\sqrt{-6})$. Taking norms, we have $N(\mathfrak{p}) \mid 24$ so \mathfrak{p} is a prime ideal above 2 or 3.

- If \mathfrak{p} is above 2: then $\mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{p}_2 = (2, \sqrt{-6})$, and since $\sqrt{-6} \in \mathfrak{p}_2$ we get $y = y + \sqrt{-6} - \sqrt{-6} \in \mathfrak{p}_2$. Since $y \in \mathbb{Z}$ we get $y \in \mathfrak{p}_2 \cap \mathbb{Z} = 2\mathbb{Z}$, and using the equation (1) x is also even. We write $y = 2z$ and $x = 2t$ with $t, z \in \mathbb{Z}$. We obtain

$$4z^2 = 8t^3 - 6.$$

Reducing modulo 4 gives $0 \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$, which is impossible. So \mathfrak{p}_2 is not a common divisor of $(y + \sqrt{-6})$ and $(y - \sqrt{-6})$.

- If \mathfrak{p} is above 3: then $2y = y + \sqrt{-6} + y - \sqrt{-6} \in \mathfrak{p}$, and $2y \in \mathbb{Z}$, so $2y \in \mathbb{Z} \cap \mathfrak{p} = 3\mathbb{Z}$. Since 2 is coprime to 3, this implies that $y \in 3\mathbb{Z}$. Let $z \in \mathbb{Z}$ be such that $y = 3z$. From (1) and reducing modulo 3 we see that x must be divisible by 3, and we write $x = 3t$ with $t \in \mathbb{Z}$. The equation (1) becomes

$$9z^2 = 27t^3 - 6.$$

Reducing modulo 9 we obtain $0 = 3 \pmod{9}$, which is impossible. So \mathfrak{p} is not a common divisor of $(y + \sqrt{-6})$ and $(y - \sqrt{-6})$.

We have therefore proved that $(y + \sqrt{-6})$ and $(y - \sqrt{-6})$ have no common prime divisor: they are coprime.

4. (4 points) *Prove that there exists an ideal \mathfrak{a} such that $(y + \sqrt{-6}) = \mathfrak{a}^3$.*

In the prime factorization of the ideal $(x^3) = (x)^3$, all prime ideals appear with exponents that are multiples of 3. We also have $(x^3) = (y^2 + 6) = (y + \sqrt{-6})(y - \sqrt{-6})$, and the primes appearing in the factorisations of $(y + \sqrt{-6})$ and $(y - \sqrt{-6})$ are disjoint, so their exponents are also multiples of 3. This exactly means that $(y + \sqrt{-6})$ is the cube of an ideal: there exists an integral ideal \mathfrak{a} such that $\mathfrak{a}^3 = (y + \sqrt{-6})$.

5. (3 points) *Prove that \mathfrak{a} is principal.*

We have $[\mathfrak{a}]^3 = 1$ and the class number of K is 2, which is coprime to 3, so $[\mathfrak{a}] = 1$ and \mathfrak{a} is principal.

6. (2 points) *Using without proof the fact that $\mathbb{Z}_K^\times = \{\pm 1\}$, prove that $y + \sqrt{-6}$ is a cube in \mathbb{Z}_K .*

Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_K$ be such that $\mathfrak{a} = (\alpha)$. Then $(y + \sqrt{-6}) = (\alpha^3)$, so there exists $u \in \mathbb{Z}_K^\times$ such that $y + \sqrt{-6} = u\alpha^3$. Since the only units of \mathbb{Z}_K are ± 1 and they are cubes, $y + \sqrt{-6}$ is a cube in \mathbb{Z}_K .

7. (3 points) *Prove that (1) has no solution.*

Let $(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ be a solution. Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ be such that $y + \sqrt{-6} = (a + b\sqrt{-6})^3$. Expanding, we get $y + \sqrt{-6} = a^3 + 3a^2b\sqrt{-6} - 18ab^2 - 6b^3\sqrt{-6} = a(a^2 - 18b^2) + 3b(a^2 - 2b^2)\sqrt{-6}$. From the coefficient of $\sqrt{-6}$ we get $3b(a^2 - 2b^2) = 1$, but 1 is not a multiple of 3 so this is impossible. The equation (1) therefore has no solution.

UNASSESSED QUESTIONS

Exercise 4. Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-231})$.

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

The signature of K is $(0, 1)$. Since $-231 = -3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$ is squarefree and $-231 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, we have $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\omega]$ with $\omega = \frac{1 + \sqrt{-231}}{2}$ and $\text{disc } K = -231$.

2. *Compute the decompositions of 2, 3, 5 and 7 in K .*

- Since $-231 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$, we have $2\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}'_2$ where \mathfrak{p}_2 and \mathfrak{p}'_2 are prime ideals of norm 2.
- Since 3 divides -231 , the prime 3 is ramified in K and $3\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathfrak{p}_3^2$ where \mathfrak{p}_3 is a prime ideal of norm 3.

- We have $-231 \equiv 4 \equiv 2^2 \pmod{5}$, so $5\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathfrak{p}_5\mathfrak{p}'_5$ where \mathfrak{p}_5 and \mathfrak{p}'_5 are prime ideals of norm 5.
- Since 7 divides -231 , the prime 7 is ramified in K and $7\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathfrak{p}_7^2$ where \mathfrak{p}_7 is a prime ideal of norm 7.

3. Prove that for every element $z \in \mathbb{Z}_K$ such that $|N_{\mathbb{Q}}^K(z)| \leq 57$, we have $z \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Let $z \in \mathbb{Z}_K$. We can write $z = x + y\omega$ with $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$. We have

$$|N_{\mathbb{Q}}^K(z)| = N_{\mathbb{Q}}^K(z) = \left(x + \frac{y}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{231}{4}y^2 = x^2 + xy + 58y^2.$$

If $|N_{\mathbb{Q}}^K(z)| \leq 57$ then $y^2 \leq \frac{4 \cdot 57}{231} = \frac{228}{231} < 1$, so $y = 0$ and $z = x \in \mathbb{Z}$.

4. Let \mathfrak{p}_2 be a prime of \mathbb{Z}_K above 2. Prove that the class of \mathfrak{p}_2 in $\text{Cl}(K)$ has order 6.

The ideal classes of the two prime ideals above 2 are inverse of each other and hence have the same order. The element $2 + \omega \in \mathbb{Z}_K$ has norm $64 = 2^6$, and $2 + \omega \notin 2\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}'_2$, so we have $2 + \omega = \mathfrak{p}_2^6$ or $2 + \omega = \mathfrak{p}'_2{}^6$. In both cases we get $[\mathfrak{p}_2]^6 = [\mathfrak{p}'_2]^6 = 1$, and the order of $[\mathfrak{p}_2]$ can be 1, 2, 3 or 6.

If the order m of $[\mathfrak{p}_2]$ is not 6, then \mathfrak{p}_2^m is principal and has norm $2^m \leq 57$, so its generator z must be in \mathbb{Z} by the previous question. The only element $z \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $N_{\mathbb{Q}}^K(z) \in \{2, 2^2, 2^3\}$ is $z = 2$, but the ideal $(2) = \mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}'_2$ is not equal to any \mathfrak{p}_2^m . So $[\mathfrak{p}_2]$ has order 6.

5. Let \mathfrak{p}_7 be a prime of \mathbb{Z}_K above 7. Prove that the class of \mathfrak{p}_7 in $\text{Cl}(K)$ has order 2.

6. Prove that $[\mathfrak{p}_7]$ does not belong to the subgroup of $\text{Cl}(K)$ generated by $[\mathfrak{p}_2]$.
Hint: prove that if it did, then $\mathfrak{p}_7\mathfrak{p}_2^3$ would be principal.

7. Compute the prime factorisations of the ideals $\left(\frac{3+\sqrt{-231}}{2}\right)$ and $\left(\frac{7+\sqrt{-231}}{2}\right)$.

8. Prove that $\text{Cl}(K) \cong \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.

Exercise 5. Let $d > 0$ be a squarefree integer, let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$ and let $\text{disc } K$ 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 $p^i < |\text{disc } K|/4$, the ideal \mathfrak{p}^i is not principal. *Hint: consider the cases $\text{disc } K = -d$ and $\text{disc } K = -4d$ separately.*

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

- If $\text{disc } K = -4d$, then $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-d}]$. The norm of a generic element $z = x + y\sqrt{-d} \in \mathbb{Z}_K$ is

$$x^2 + dy^2.$$

If \mathfrak{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 \mathfrak{p}^i is not divisible by (p) .

- If $\text{disc } K = -d$, then $\mathbb{Z}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ with $\alpha = \frac{1+\sqrt{-d}}{2}$. 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

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

so, accounting for the trivial class, we have

$$h_K \geq 1 + \left\lfloor \frac{\log(|\text{disc } K|/4)}{\log p} \right\rfloor.$$

3. *Using without proof the fact that there exists infinitely many squarefree positive numbers of the form $8k + 7$ for $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, prove that for every $X > 0$ there exists a number field K such that $h_K > X$.*

Let d be squarefree of the form $8k + 7$. Then $-d < 0$ is squarefree and $-d \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$. Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$. Then $\text{disc } K = -d$ and 2 is split in K . By the previous part we have $h_K \geq 1 + \left\lfloor \frac{\log(d/4)}{\log 2} \right\rfloor$, which tends to ∞ as $d \rightarrow \infty$. Using an infinite sequence of such d we obtain $h_K \rightarrow \infty$.