

5. Quadratic number fields

Definition: An algebraic number field K is called a quadratic number field [dt quadratisches Zahlkörper] if $[K:\mathbb{Q}] = 2$.

Theorem 68 Let K be a quadratic number field. Then there is a uniquely determined squarefree $d \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0, 1\}$ such that $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$.

Proof: By Corollary 54 there is an $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$ such that $K = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$.

Let $m_{K,\alpha}(x) = x^2 + bx + c \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$. Then $\alpha \in \left\{ \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4c}}{2}, \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4c}}{2} \right\}$. We have

$b^2 - 4c = dk^2$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and some squarefree $d \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0, 1\}$. (It is impossible that $d \in \{0, 1\}$ as this would imply $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $[K:\mathbb{Q}] = 1$.) Clearly $K = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$.

Suppose that $d_1, d_2 \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0, 1\}$ are squarefree and $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d_1}) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d_2})$. Then there are $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that $\sqrt{d_2} = x + y\sqrt{d_1}$ which implies $d_2 = x^2 + y^2d_1 + 2xy\sqrt{d_1}$.

If $xy \neq 0$ then $\sqrt{d_1} = \frac{d_2 - x^2 - y^2d_1}{2xy} \in \mathbb{Q}$. If $y = 0$ then $\sqrt{d_2} = x \in \mathbb{Q}$. Both are

contradictions. Therefore $x = 0$ and $\sqrt{d_2} = y\sqrt{d_1}$ which implies $d_2 = y^2d_1$. As d_1 and d_2 are squarefree $y^2 = 1$ and $d_1 = d_2$.

Remark: From now on, when we state "Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ be a quadratic number field," the d will always be the one from Theorem 68 (unless we explicitly demand something different).

Theorem 69 Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ be a quadratic number field. Then

$$\mathcal{O}_K = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}] & \text{if } d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ \mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right] & \text{if } d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

Proof: As \sqrt{d} is root of $x^2 - d \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ we get $\sqrt{d} \in \mathcal{O}_K$ and therefore $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}] \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K$.

If $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ then $\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} \in \mathcal{O}_K$ as it is a root of $x^2 - x + \frac{1-d}{4} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Therefore $(\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}] \neq) \mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right] \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K$ if $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. (Note that $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}] \subseteq \mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right]$ as $a + b\sqrt{d} = a - b + 2b\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} \forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ but $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}] \neq \mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right]$ as $\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} \notin \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$.)

Now let $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$. As $\alpha \in K$ there are $p, q \in \mathbb{Q} : \alpha = p + q\sqrt{d}$. We can rewrite this as $\alpha = \frac{a+b\sqrt{d}}{c}$ for some $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $c \in \mathbb{N}$ with $\gcd(a, b, c) = 1$. Clearly α is a root of

the polynomial $(x - \frac{a+b\sqrt{d}}{c})(x - \frac{a-b\sqrt{d}}{c}) = x^2 - \frac{2a}{c}x + \frac{a^2 - b^2d}{c^2} \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$.

If $b \neq 0$ then $f = m_{\mathbb{Q}, \alpha}$. If $b = 0$ then $f = m_{\mathbb{Q}, \alpha}^2 \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ (by Corollary 58) and therefore $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$, i.e., $\frac{2a}{c}, \frac{a^2 - b^2 d}{c^2} \in \mathbb{Z}$. Suppose that there is a prime p such that $p|a$ and $p|c$. Then $p^2|b^2 d$ and (as d is squarefree) $p|b$, which is a contradiction. Therefore $\gcd(a, c) = 1$ and $c \in \{1, 2\}$.

If $c = 1$ then $\alpha = a + b\sqrt{d} \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ (and also $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}]$ if $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$).

Now suppose $c = 2$. As $\gcd(a, c) = 1$ we have $2 \nmid a$ and therefore $a^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$.

As $c^2|(a^2 - b^2 d)$ we know $a^2 - b^2 d \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$. Assuming $2|b$ would lead to $a^2 \equiv a^2 - db^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ and thus to $2|a$, a contradiction. Therefore $2 \nmid b$ and $b^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ which implies $d \equiv db^2 \equiv a^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ and

$$\alpha = \frac{a + b\sqrt{d}}{2} = \frac{a-b}{2} + b \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} \in \mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right].$$

Remark: Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ be a quadratic number field, $\sigma_1: K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \sigma_1(a + b\sqrt{d}) = a + b\sqrt{d}$ and $\sigma_2: K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \sigma_2(a + b\sqrt{d}) = a - b\sqrt{d}$ (with $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$). If $d > 0$ then $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ is totally real (i.e., $r(K) = 2, s(K) = 0$). If $d < 0$ then $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ is totally imaginary (i.e., $r(K) = 0$ and $s(K) = 1$ as $\sigma_2 = \overline{\sigma_1}$).

Theorem 70 Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ be a quadratic number field.

(i) If $d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ then $\{1, \sqrt{d}\}$ is an integral basis for K and $d_K = 4d$,

(ii) If $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ then $\{1, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\}$ is an integral basis for K and $d_K = d$.

Proof: According to Theorem 69 $\{1, \sqrt{d}\}$ resp. $\{1, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\}$ is an integral basis for K . (Note that $\{1, \sqrt{d}\}$ resp. $\{1, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\}$ is a basis of K as a \mathbb{Q} -vector space.)

$$\text{If } d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ then } d_K = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \sqrt{d} \\ 1 & -\sqrt{d} \end{vmatrix}^2 = (-2\sqrt{d})^2 = 4d.$$

$$\text{If } d \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ then } d_K = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} \\ 1 & \frac{1-\sqrt{d}}{2} \end{vmatrix}^2 = \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{d}}{2} - \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right)^2 = (-\sqrt{d})^2 = d.$$

Corollary 71 If K is a quadratic number field, then $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d_K})$.

Proof: Follows immediately from Theorem 70.

Remarks: 1) We could have calculated the discriminant d_K using Corollary 64.

If $d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ then $\{1, \sqrt{d}\}$ is an integral basis and $m_{\mathbb{Q}, \sqrt{d}}(x) = x^2 - d$. Thus

$$m'_{\mathbb{Q}, \sqrt{d}}(x) = 2x \Rightarrow m'_{\mathbb{Q}, \sqrt{d}}(\sqrt{d}) = 2\sqrt{d} \Rightarrow d_K = -N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(2\sqrt{d}) = -(2\sqrt{d})(-2\sqrt{d}) = 4d.$$

If $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ then $\left\{1, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right\}$ is an integral basis and $m_{\mathbb{Q}, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}}(x) = x^2 - x + \frac{1-d}{4}$. Thus

$$m'_{\mathbb{Q}, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}}(x) = 2x - 1 \Rightarrow m'_{\mathbb{Q}, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}}\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right) = \sqrt{d} \Rightarrow d_K = -N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\sqrt{d}) = -\sqrt{d}(-\sqrt{d}) = d.$$

2) In order to prove that $\left\{1, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right\}$ is an integral basis if $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ we could have used the following argument: $\left\{1, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right\}$ is a basis of K (as a \mathbb{Q} -vector space) and $\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} \in \mathcal{O}_K$. As $\Delta_{K/\mathbb{Q}}\left(1, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right) = d$ is squarefree, Theorem 62 implies that $\left\{1, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right\}$ is an integral basis.

If $d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ one can modify this argument as follows: $\{1, \sqrt{d}\}$ is a basis of K (as a \mathbb{Q} -vector space) and $\Delta_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(1, \sqrt{d}) = 4d$. The second remark after Theorem 62 implies $d_K | (4d)$ and that $\frac{4d}{d_K}$ is a square (in \mathbb{Z}) and thus $d_K \in \{d, 4d\}$.

If $d_K = d$ then $d_K \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ (as $4 | d_K \Rightarrow 4 | d \Rightarrow d$ is not squarefree) and $d_K \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ (as $d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$). This is a contradiction to Corollary 66 and therefore $d_K = 4d$.

This shows that $\{1, \sqrt{d}\}$ is an integral basis.

3) Theorem 70 shows that the converse of Theorem 62 is not true. (An easy example is $K = \mathbb{Q}(i)$, i.e., $d = -1$ and $d_K = -4$ which is not squarefree.)

4) The discriminant of a quadratic number field determines the field, i.e., if one knows $[K:\mathbb{Q}] = 2$ and d_K one knows K .

Theorem 72 Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ be a quadratic number field with $d < 0$. Then

$$\mathcal{O}_K^* = \begin{cases} \{1, -1, i, -i\} & \text{if } d = -1, \\ \{1, -1, \omega, -\omega, \omega^2, -\omega^2\} & \text{if } d = -3 \text{ (where } \omega = e^{2\pi i/3} = \frac{1}{2}(-1 + i\sqrt{3})\text{)}, \\ \{1, -1\} & \text{if } d < 0 \text{ is a squarefree integer and } d \notin \{-1, -3\}. \end{cases}$$

and

$$(\mathcal{O}_K^*, \cdot) \cong \begin{cases} (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}, +) & \text{if } d = -1, \\ (\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}, +) & \text{if } d = -3, \\ (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, +) & \text{if } d < 0 \text{ is a squarefree integer and } d \notin \{-1, -3\}. \end{cases}$$

Proof: By Theorem 59 (ii) $x + s\sqrt{d} \in \mathcal{O}_K^*$ (where $x, s \in \mathbb{Q}$) $\Leftrightarrow N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(x + s\sqrt{d}) \in \{1, -1\}$

$$\Leftrightarrow x^2 - s^2d = x^2 + s^2|d| \in \{1, -1\} \Leftrightarrow x^2 - s^2d = 1.$$

If $d = -1$ then $x = a + bi \in \mathcal{O}_K^* = \mathbb{Z}[i]^*$ (with $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$) $\Leftrightarrow a^2 + b^2 = 1$.

$$\Leftrightarrow (a, b) \in \{(1, 0), (-1, 0), (0, 1), (0, -1)\} \Leftrightarrow \alpha \in \{1, -1, i, -i\}$$

If $d \leq -2$ and $d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ then $\alpha = a + b\sqrt{d} \in \mathcal{O}_K^* = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]^*$ (with $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$)

$\Leftrightarrow a^2 - db^2 = 1$. If $b \neq 0$ then $a^2 - db^2 = \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{|d|}{b^2} \geq 2$ and therefore $b = 0$. Thus

$a^2 = 1 \Rightarrow a \in \{1, -1\} \Rightarrow \alpha \in \{1, -1\}$ (and of course $1, -1 \in \mathcal{O}_K^*$).

Now let $d \leq -3$ and $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Then $\alpha = r + s\sqrt{d} \in \mathcal{O}_K^* = \mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right]^*$ (with $r, s \in \mathbb{Q}$)

$\Leftrightarrow r^2 - s^2 d = 1$. If $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$ then $s = 0$ (as in the case $d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$) and $\alpha \in \{1, -1\}$.

This leaves the case $r = \frac{a}{2}, s = \frac{b}{2}$ with $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $a \equiv b \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ (which was shown in the proof of Theorem 69). This implies $a^2 - db^2 = 4$.

If $d < -3$ (and thus $d \leq -7$) then $b = 0$ (as $b \neq 0 \Rightarrow a^2 - b^2 d = \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{|d|}{b^2} \geq 7$). This

implies $a^2 = 4$ and therefore $\alpha \in \{2, -2\}$ which contradicts $2 \neq 0$. This shows $\alpha \in \{1, -1\}$ for $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ and $d < -3$.

If $d = -3$ the equation $a^2 + 3b^2 = 4$ (with $a \equiv b \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$) has exactly the solutions $(a, b) \in \{(1, 1), (1, -1), (-1, 1), (-1, -1)\}$ which leads to

$\alpha \in \left\{1, -1, \frac{1+\sqrt{3}i}{2}, \frac{1-\sqrt{3}i}{2}, \frac{-1+\sqrt{3}i}{2}, \frac{-1-\sqrt{3}i}{2}\right\}$. As $\left(\frac{-1+\sqrt{3}i}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{-1-\sqrt{3}i}{2}$ this shows

$\alpha \in \{1, -1, \omega, -\omega, \omega^2, -\omega^2\}$.

Remark: If $K = \mathbb{Q}(i)$ then $\mathcal{O}_K^* = \{1, -1, i, -i\}$ by Theorem 72. This implies that the associates of $a+bi \in \mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[i]$ are $a+bi, -a-bi, -b+ai, b-ai$. This gives us an example which shows that the converse of Theorem 59 (iii) is not true. Clearly $2+3i, 3+2i \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ and $N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(2+3i) = N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(3+2i) = 13$ but $2+3i$ and $3+2i$ are not associates.

Theorem 73 Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$. Then $\mathcal{O}_K^* = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]^* = \{\pm(1+\sqrt{2})^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ and therefore $(\mathcal{O}_K^*, \cdot) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \oplus \mathbb{Z}, +$

Proof: For $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ we have $\pm(1+\sqrt{2})^n \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]^*$ as $(1+\sqrt{2}) \cdot (-1+\sqrt{2}) = 1$ implies $(\pm(1+\sqrt{2})^n)(\pm(-1+\sqrt{2})^n) = ((1+\sqrt{2})(-1+\sqrt{2}))^n = 1^n = 1$.

We claim that there is no $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]^*$ with $1 < \varepsilon < 1+\sqrt{2}$. (*)

Suppose that such an ε exists. Then $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\varepsilon) \in \{1, -1\}$ by Theorem 59 (ii). Let $\sigma_1: \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}, \sigma_1(x+\sqrt{2}y) = x+\sqrt{2}y$ and $\sigma_2: \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}, \sigma_2(x+\sqrt{2}y) = x-\sqrt{2}y$ (with $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$) and set $\varepsilon' = \sigma_2(\varepsilon)$, i.e. $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon\varepsilon' = \pm 1$.

1st case $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\varepsilon) = 1$. Then $\sqrt{2}-1 = (1+\sqrt{2})^{-1} < \varepsilon^{-1} = \varepsilon' < 1$. Addition of (*) to these inequalities yields $\sqrt{2} < \varepsilon + \varepsilon' < 2 + \sqrt{2}$ and therefore $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} < \frac{\varepsilon + \varepsilon'}{2} < 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$. As $\frac{\varepsilon + \varepsilon'}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\varepsilon) \in \mathbb{Z}$ we get $\frac{\varepsilon + \varepsilon'}{2} = 1$. So we would have $\varepsilon\varepsilon' = 1$ and $\varepsilon + \varepsilon' = 2$. Thus $\varepsilon(2-\varepsilon) = 1 \implies (\varepsilon-1)^2 = \varepsilon^2 - 2\varepsilon + 1 = 0 \implies \varepsilon = \varepsilon' = 1$ which contradicts $\varepsilon > 1$.

2nd case $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\varepsilon) = -1$. Then $\varepsilon' < 0$ and (*) implies $-1 < \varepsilon' = -\varepsilon^{-1} < 1 - \sqrt{2}$. This implies $0 < \varepsilon + \varepsilon' < 2$ and therefore $0 < \frac{\varepsilon + \varepsilon'}{2} < 1$, which is impossible as $\frac{\varepsilon + \varepsilon'}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\varepsilon) \in \mathbb{Z}$.

We proceed to show that every $\delta \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]^*$ has slope $\delta = \pm (1+\sqrt{2})^n$ for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

1st case $\delta \geq 1 + \sqrt{2}$. Then $\exists n \in \mathbb{N} : (1+\sqrt{2})^n \leq \delta < (1+\sqrt{2})^{n+1}$ and therefore $1 \leq \delta(1+\sqrt{2})^{-n} < 1 + \sqrt{2}$. As $\delta(1+\sqrt{2})^{-n} \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]^*$ we get $\delta(1+\sqrt{2})^{-n} = 1$ and $\delta = (1+\sqrt{2})^n$.

2nd case $0 < \delta < 1$. Then $\delta^{-1} \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]^*$ and $\delta^{-1} > 1$. The first case implies that $\exists n \in \mathbb{N} : \delta^{-1} = (1+\sqrt{2})^n$ and $\delta = (1+\sqrt{2})^{-n}$.

3rd case $-1 < \delta < 0$. Then $-\delta^{-1} \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]^*$ and $-\delta^{-1} > 1$. The first case implies that $\exists n \in \mathbb{N} : -\delta^{-1} = (1+\sqrt{2})^n$ and $\delta = -(1+\sqrt{2})^{-n}$.

4th case $\delta < -1$. Then $-\delta \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]^*$ and $-\delta > 1$. The first case implies that $\exists n \in \mathbb{N} : -\delta = (1+\sqrt{2})^n$ and $\delta = -(1+\sqrt{2})^n$.

5th case $\delta = \pm 1$. Then $\delta = \pm (1+\sqrt{2})^0$.

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Remark: For all squarefree $d > 1$ the unit group $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}^*$ has always this shape, i.e., there is an $\varepsilon \in \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}^*$ such that $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}^* = \{\pm \varepsilon^n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$. Such an $\varepsilon \in \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}^*$ is called a fundamental unit [dt. Fundamenteleinheit]. This implies

$(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}^*, \cdot) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \oplus \mathbb{Z}, +$. This is a special case of Dirichlet's unit theorem [dt. Dirichletscher Einheitensatz]. There is no simple formula for ε but an algorithm for its calculation.

Definition: An algebraic number field is called norm-euclidean [dt. normeuklidisch] if \mathcal{O}_K is an euclidean domain with respect to the map

$$\varphi: \mathcal{O}_K \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, \varphi(\alpha) = |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha)|.$$

(i.e., $\forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{O}_K, \beta \neq 0 \exists \gamma, \delta \in \mathcal{O}_K : \alpha = \gamma\beta + \delta$ and $\delta = 0$ or $|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\delta)| < |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta)|$.)

Remarks: 1) If K is norm-euclidean then \mathcal{O}_K is a principal ideal domain and therefore a unique factorisation domain (see algebra).

2) If $\alpha | \beta$ and $\beta \neq 0$ (with $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{O}_K$) then $|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha)| \leq |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta)|$. (The assumption $\alpha | \beta$ just says $\exists \gamma \in \mathcal{O}_K : \beta = \alpha\gamma$, where $\gamma \neq 0$ as $\beta \neq 0$. Therefore $|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta)| = |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha\gamma)| = |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha)| \cdot |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\gamma)| = |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha)| \cdot \underbrace{|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\gamma)|}_{\geq 1} \geq |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha)|$.)

Lemma 74 Let K be an algebraic number field. Then the following are equivalent:

(i) $\forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{O}_K, \beta \neq 0 \exists \gamma, \delta \in \mathcal{O}_K : \alpha = \beta\gamma + \delta$ and $\delta = 0$ or $|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\delta)| < |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta)|$,

(ii) $\forall \zeta \in K \exists \gamma \in \mathcal{O}_K : |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\zeta - \gamma)| < 1$

Proof: (i) \Rightarrow (ii) If $\zeta = 0$ let $\gamma = 0$. Then $|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\zeta - \gamma)| = 0 < 1$.

Let $\zeta \neq 0$. By Lemma 53 there is a $c \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$ such that $c\zeta \in \mathcal{O}_K \setminus \{0\}$. We apply (i) with $\alpha = c\zeta$ and $\beta = c$, i.e., there are $\gamma, \delta \in \mathcal{O}_K$ such that $c\zeta = c\gamma + \delta$ and either $\delta = 0$ or $|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\delta)| < |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(c)|$.

If $\delta = 0$ then $c\zeta = c\gamma$ and therefore $\zeta = \gamma$ and $|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\zeta - \gamma)| = 0 < 1$.

If $|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\delta)| < |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(c)|$ then $|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\zeta - \gamma)| = |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\frac{\delta}{c})| = \frac{|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\delta)|}{|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(c)|} < 1$

(ii) \Rightarrow (i) Use (ii) with $\zeta = \frac{\alpha}{\beta}$. There is a $\gamma \in \mathcal{O}_K$ such that $|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\frac{\alpha}{\beta} - \gamma)| < 1$.

If $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} = \gamma$ we get $\alpha = \beta\gamma$ and we set $\delta = 0$. If $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} \neq \gamma$ then $\delta := \alpha - \beta\gamma \neq 0$. Therefore

$$\frac{|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\delta)|}{|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta)|} = \frac{|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha - \beta\gamma)|}{|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta)|} = |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\frac{\alpha}{\beta} - \gamma)| < 1 \text{ and } |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\delta)| < |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta)|.$$

Theorem 75 Let $d \in \mathbb{Z}, d < 0$ be squarefree. The quadratic number field $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ is norm-euclidean if $d \in \{-1, -2, -3, -7, -11\}$.

Proof: If $d \in \{-1, -2\}$ then $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ and $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z}\sqrt{d}$. For $\alpha + s\sqrt{d} \in K$ (with $\alpha, s \in \mathbb{Q}$) choose $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $|\alpha - a| \leq \frac{1}{2}$ and $|s - b| \leq \frac{1}{2}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}((\alpha + s\sqrt{d}) - (a + b\sqrt{d}))| &= |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}((\alpha - a) + (s - b)\sqrt{d})| = (\alpha - a)^2 - d(s - b)^2 \\ &= (\alpha - a)^2 + |d|(s - b)^2 \leq \frac{1}{4} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4} < 1 \end{aligned}$$

and the assertion follows from Lemma 74.

If $d \in \{-3, -7, -11\}$ then $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ and $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z}\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}$. For $\alpha + s\sqrt{d} \in K$ (with $\alpha, s \in \mathbb{Q}$) choose $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $|2s - b| \leq \frac{1}{2}$ and $|\alpha - \frac{1}{2}b - a| \leq \frac{1}{2}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}((\alpha + s\sqrt{d}) - (a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}))| &= |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}((\alpha - a - \frac{b}{2}) + (s - \frac{b}{2})\sqrt{d})| \\ &= (\alpha - a - \frac{b}{2})^2 - d(s - \frac{b}{2})^2 = (\alpha - a - \frac{b}{2})^2 + |d|\frac{(2s - b)^2}{4} \leq \frac{1}{4} + 11 \cdot \frac{1}{16} = \frac{15}{16} < 1 \end{aligned}$$

and the assertion follows from Lemma 74.

Theorem 76 Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ be a quadratic number field. If $d \in \{-5, -6, -10\}$ the ring \mathcal{O}_K is not a unique factorisation domain (and therefore not a euclidean domain).

Proof: If $K = \mathbb{Q}(i\sqrt{5})$ then $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z}i\sqrt{5}$. We have $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) \geq 0 \forall \alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$ as $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(a + i\sqrt{5}b) = a^2 + 5b^2 \geq 0 \forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$.

There is no $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$ such that $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) \in \{2, 3\}$. (Let $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. If $b \neq 0$ then $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(a + i\sqrt{5}b) = a^2 + 5b^2 \geq 5$. If $b = 0$ then $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(a + i\sqrt{5}b) = a^2 \notin \{2, 3\}$.)

We have $6 = 2 \cdot 3 = (1+i\sqrt{5}) \cdot (1-i\sqrt{5})$. We claim that $2, 3, 1+i\sqrt{5}$ and $1-i\sqrt{5}$ are all irreducible in \mathcal{O}_K :

2 reducible $\Rightarrow \exists \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{O}_K \setminus \mathcal{O}_K^* : 2 = \alpha\beta \Rightarrow N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) \cdot N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta) = 4$

As $\alpha, \beta \notin \mathcal{O}_K^*$ this implies $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) = N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta) = 2$, which is impossible.

3 reducible $\Rightarrow \exists \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{O}_K \setminus \mathcal{O}_K^* : 3 = \alpha\beta \Rightarrow N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) \cdot N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta) = 9$

As $\alpha, \beta \notin \mathcal{O}_K^*$ this implies $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) = N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta) = 3$, which is impossible.

$1 \pm i\sqrt{5}$ reducible $\Rightarrow \exists \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{O}_K \setminus \mathcal{O}_K^* : 1 \pm i\sqrt{5} = \alpha\beta \Rightarrow N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) \cdot N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta) = 6$

As $\alpha, \beta \notin \mathcal{O}_K^*$ this implies $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha), N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta) \in \{2, 3\}$, which is impossible.

As $\mathcal{O}_K^* = \{1, -1\}$ by Theorem 72, 2 is neither an associate of $1+i\sqrt{5}$ nor of $1-i\sqrt{5}$.

This shows that \mathcal{O}_K is not a unique factorization domain.

If $K = \mathbb{Q}(i\sqrt{6})$ (resp. $K = \mathbb{Q}(i\sqrt{10})$) the proof runs along the same lines starting from $6 = 2 \cdot 3 = i\sqrt{6} \cdot (-i\sqrt{6})$ (resp. $14 = 2 \cdot 7 = (2+i\sqrt{10})(2-i\sqrt{10})$). (Exercise)

Theorem 77 Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ be a quadratic field with $d < -11$ squarefree. Then \mathcal{O}_K is not an euclidean domain.

Proof: Suppose there is a function $\varphi: \mathcal{O}_K \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ such that \mathcal{O}_K is an euclidean domain with respect to φ . (Here $\varphi(\alpha) = |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha)|$ is possible but we do not restrict ourselves to this function.) Choose an $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K \setminus (\mathcal{O}_K^* \cup \{0\})$ with the property $\varphi(\alpha) = \min \{ \varphi(x) \mid x \in \mathcal{O}_K \setminus (\mathcal{O}_K^* \cup \{0\}) \}$. For all $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_K$ there are $\gamma, \delta \in \mathcal{O}_K$ such that $\beta = \alpha\gamma + \delta$ and either $\delta = 0$ or $\varphi(\delta) < \varphi(\alpha)$. As α was chosen such that $\varphi(\alpha)$ is minimal we have $\delta \in \mathcal{O}_K^* \cup \{0\}$ for all $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_K$. Theorem 72 implies $\delta \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$.

If $(\alpha) = \alpha\mathcal{O}_K$ denotes the principal ideal generated by α , this implies that each $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_K$ is contained in one of the three cosets $-1+(\alpha), (\alpha)$ and $1+(\alpha)$. This shows that the factor ring $\mathcal{O}_K/(\alpha)$ has the property $|\mathcal{O}_K/(\alpha)| \leq 3$.

We claim that $|\mathcal{O}_K/(\alpha)| = |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha)|$.

By Theorem 61 $(\mathcal{O}_K, +)$ is a free abelian group of rank 2. As $(\alpha, +)$ is a subgroup of $(\mathcal{O}_K, +)$ Theorem 5 implies that $(\alpha, +)$ is a free abelian group of rank ≤ 2 .

As $\mathcal{O}_K/(\alpha)$ is finite $(\alpha, +)$ has rank 2 (because of Corollary 6).

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1st case $d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Then $\{1, \sqrt{d}\}$ is an integral basis for \mathcal{O}_K . If $\alpha = a + b\sqrt{d}$

(with $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$) then $(\alpha) = \alpha \mathcal{O}_K = (a + b\sqrt{d})(\mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z}\sqrt{d}) = (a + b\sqrt{d})\mathbb{Z} + (bd + a\sqrt{d})\mathbb{Z}$.

We claim that $\{a + b\sqrt{d}, bd + a\sqrt{d}\}$ is linearly independent over \mathbb{Z} . Let

$$x(a + b\sqrt{d}) + y(bd + a\sqrt{d}) = 0 \quad (\text{with } x, y \in \mathbb{Z}) \Rightarrow xa + ybd + (xb + ya)\sqrt{d} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} xa + ybd = 0 \\ xb + ya = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} a & bd \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

As $\begin{vmatrix} a & bd \\ b & a \end{vmatrix} = a^2 - db^2 = N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) \neq 0$ (as $\alpha \neq 0$) we get $x = y = 0$.

This shows that $\{a + b\sqrt{d}, bd + a\sqrt{d}\}$ is a \mathbb{Z} -basis for $((\alpha), +)$ and Corollary 6

implies $|\mathcal{O}_K/(\alpha)| = \left| \det \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ bd & a \end{pmatrix} \right| = |a^2 - b^2d| = |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha)|$. This implies $a^2 - b^2d \leq 3$.

If $b \neq 0$ then $a^2 - b^2d \geq 13$. Therefore $b = 0$ and $a^2 \in \{0, 1\}$. Thus $\alpha = a \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$, i.e., $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K^* \cup \{0\}$, a contradiction.

2nd case $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Then $\{1, \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\}$ is an integral basis for \mathcal{O}_K .

If $\alpha = a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}$ (with $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$) then

$$\begin{aligned} (\alpha) &= \alpha \mathcal{O}_K = \left(a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right)(\mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z}\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}) = \left(a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right)\mathbb{Z} + \left(a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right)\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\mathbb{Z} \\ &= \left(a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right)\mathbb{Z} + \left(a\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} + b\frac{1+2\sqrt{d}+d}{4}\right)\mathbb{Z} = \left(a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right)\mathbb{Z} + \left(a\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} + b\frac{d-1+2+2\sqrt{d}}{4}\right)\mathbb{Z} \\ &= \left(a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right)\mathbb{Z} + \left(b\frac{d-1}{4} + \left(a+b\right)\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right)\mathbb{Z}. \end{aligned}$$

We claim that $\left\{a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}, b\frac{d-1}{4} + (a+b)\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right\}$ is linearly independent over \mathbb{Z} . Let

$$x\left(a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right) + y\left(b\frac{d-1}{4} + (a+b)\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right) = 0 \quad (\text{with } x, y \in \mathbb{Z})$$

$$\Rightarrow xa + yb\frac{d-1}{4} + (xb + y(a+b))\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} xa + yb\frac{d-1}{4} = 0 \\ xb + y(a+b) = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} a & b\frac{d-1}{4} \\ b & a+b \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) &= \left(a + b\frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}\right)\left(a + b\frac{1-\sqrt{d}}{2}\right) = \left(a + \frac{b}{2} + \frac{b}{2}\sqrt{d}\right)\left(a + \frac{b}{2} - \frac{b}{2}\sqrt{d}\right) \\ &= \left(a + \frac{b}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{b^2d}{4} = a^2 + ab + \frac{b^2}{4} - \frac{b^2d}{4} = a^2 + ab + b^2\frac{1-d}{4}. \end{aligned}$$

As $\begin{vmatrix} a & b\frac{d-1}{4} \\ b & a+b \end{vmatrix} = a^2 + ab + b^2\frac{1-d}{4} = N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) \neq 0$ (as $\alpha \neq 0$) we get $x = y = 0$.

This shows that $\left\{ a + b \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2}, b \frac{d-1}{4} + (a+b) \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} \right\}$ is a \mathbb{Z} -basis for $(\alpha, +)$ and

Corollary 6 implies

$$|\mathcal{O}_K / (\alpha)| = \left| \det \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b \frac{d-1}{4} & a+b \end{pmatrix} \right| = |a^2 + ab + b^2 \frac{1-d}{4}| = |N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha)|. \text{ This implies}$$

$a^2 + ab + b^2 \frac{1-d}{4} \leq 3$. If $b \neq 0$ then $a^2 + ab + b^2 \frac{1-d}{4} = (a + \frac{b}{2})^2 - \frac{bd}{4} \geq \frac{13}{4} > 3$. Therefore $b=0$ and $a^2 \in \{0, 1\}$. Thus $\alpha = a \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$, i.e., $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K^* \cup \{0\}$, a contradiction.

Remarks: 1) Theorems 75, 76 and 77 together show the following fact: if $d < 0$ is squarefree and $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ then \mathcal{O}_K is euclidean if and only if $d \in \{-1, -2, -3, -7, -11\}$ (and $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ is norm-euclidean for those d).

2) There are four further squarefree $d < 0$ for which $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}$ is a unique factorization domain (namely $-19, -43, -67, -163$), however, $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}$ is not euclidean in these cases. Gauss conjectured that there are no further squarefree $d < 0$ such that $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}$ is a unique factorization domain. HEEGNER (1952) gave an incomplete proof (which was completed later). The first complete proof was given by STARK (1967).

3) There are exactly 16 squarefree $d > 1$ such that $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ is norm-euclidean, namely $2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 21, 29, 33, 37, 41, 57$ and 73 . This is the work of many mathematicians and was completed by CHATLAND and DAVENPORT (1950). However, in contrast to the case $d < 0$ there are squarefree $d > 1$ such that $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}$ is euclidean but not norm-euclidean. This was first proved for $d = 69$ by CLARK (1994) (i.e., $\mathbb{Z} \left[\frac{1+\sqrt{69}}{2} \right]$ is euclidean but not norm-euclidean). It has been conjectured that $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}$ is euclidean if it is a unique factorization domain. Among the 60 squarefree $d \in \{2, 3, \dots, 100\}$ there are exactly 38 for which $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}$ is a unique factorization domain. It is not known whether there are infinitely many squarefree $d > 1$ such that $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})}$ is a unique factorization domain.

Theorem 78 (FERMAT) Let p be a prime. Then the following are equivalent:

(i) $\exists x, y \in \mathbb{Z} : x^2 + y^2 = p$,

(ii) $p = 2$ or $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$.

Proof: (i) \Rightarrow (ii) If $2 \mid x$ then $x^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ and if $2 \nmid x$ then $x^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. This implies $p = x^2 + y^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ (which is impossible), $p = x^2 + y^2 \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ (and therefore $p=2$) or $p = x^2 + y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$.

(ii) \Rightarrow (i) $2 = 1^2 + 1^2$. If $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ we know from elementary number theory that $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} = 1$. (Here $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right)$ denotes the Legendre-symbol.) This says that there is an $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $m^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ or equivalently $p \mid (m^2 + 1)$ (in \mathbb{Z}), which can be rewritten as $p \mid (m+i)(m-i)$ (in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$). As $\frac{m \pm i}{p} = \frac{m}{p} \pm \frac{1}{p}i \notin \mathbb{Z}[i]$ we see that $p \nmid (m \pm i)$ (in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$). This shows that p is not a prime element of $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ and is therefore reducible. Consequently there are $x, y, u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $p = (x+iy)(u+iv)$ where $x+iy, u+iv \notin \mathbb{Z}[i]^*$. Taking norms yields

$$p^2 = N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(p) = N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(x+iy) \cdot N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(u+iv) = (x^2+y^2)(u^2+v^2)$$

where $x^2+y^2, u^2+v^2 \notin \{1, -1\}$ (because of Theorem 59(ii)). Therefore $p = x^2+y^2 = u^2+v^2$

Theorem 79 The prime elements of $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ are

(a) $1+i$ (and its associates $-1+i, -1-i, 1-i$),

(b) $a+bi, a-bi$ (and $-a-bi, -b+ai, b-ai$ which are the associates of $a+bi$ and $-a+bi, b+ai, -b-ai$ which are the associates of $a-bi$)

where $a > b > 0$ and there is a prime $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ such that $a^2 + b^2 = p$,

(c) p where $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ is a prime (and its associates $-p, ip, -ip$).

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Proof: As $N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(1+i) = 2$ Theorem 59 (iv) implies that $1+i$ is irreducible in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$.

As $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ is a unique factorization domain $1+i$ is a prime element of $\mathbb{Z}[i]$.

If $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ there are $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $a^2 + b^2 = p$. W.l.o.g. we can assume $a \geq b \geq 0$. As $b=0$ ($\Rightarrow p = a^2$) and $a=b$ ($\Rightarrow p = 2a^2$) are impossible we can demand $a > b > 0$. Therefore we have $p = a^2 + b^2 = (a+ib)(a-ib)$. As

$N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(a+ib) = N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(a-ib) = a^2 + b^2 = p$ both $a+ib$ and $a-ib$ are irreducible

(and therefore prime) in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ by Theorem 59(iv). However, $a+ib$ and $a-ib$ are not associates as there is no $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{Z}[i]^* = \{1, -1, i, -i\}$ such that $a-ib = \varepsilon(a+ib)$.

As $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ is a unique factorization domain a and b (with $a > b > 0$) are uniquely determined by p .

Let $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ be a prime. Suppose that p is not irreducible in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$. Then

there are $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \setminus \mathbb{Z}[i]^*$ such that $p = \alpha \cdot \beta$ and therefore

$N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) \cdot N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta) = N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(p) = p^2$. If $N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) \in \{1, -1\}$ or

$N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta) \in \{1, -1\}$ then $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[i]^*$ or $\beta \in \mathbb{Z}[i]^*$ which contradicts our

assumption. Therefore $N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) = N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(\beta) = p$. If $\alpha = x+iy$ with $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$

then $x^2 + y^2 = N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(x+iy) = p$ which implies that $p=2$ or $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ by Theorem 78. This is a contradiction.

This shows that all elements given above are prime elements in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$. It remains to check that there are no further prime elements in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$.

Let $\pi \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ be a prime element and let $\pi\bar{\pi} = N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(\pi) = p_1 \cdots p_n$ be the prime factorization of $N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(\pi)$ in \mathbb{Z} . As $\pi | (p_1 \cdots p_n)$ (in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$) there has to be an $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that $\pi | p_i$ (in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$). I.e., there is a prime p such that $\pi | p$. This prime is uniquely determined. (Suppose that there are two different primes p and q such that $\pi | p$ and $\pi | q$. As $\exists x, y \in \mathbb{Z} : px + qy = 1$ this would imply $\pi | 1$ and therefore $\pi \in \mathbb{Z}[i]^\times$, a contradiction.)

1st case: $p=2$, i.e., $\pi | 2 \Rightarrow \pi | (2i) \Rightarrow \pi | (1+i)^2 \Rightarrow \pi | (1+i) \Rightarrow \pi$ is an associate of $1+i$

2nd case: $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Then $p = a^2 + b^2 = (a+bi)(a-bi)$ for some $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$, $a > b > 0$ and $a \pm bi$ irreducible in $\mathbb{Z}[i] \Rightarrow \pi | (a+bi)(a-bi) \Rightarrow \pi | (a+bi)$ or $\pi | (a-bi)$

$\Rightarrow \pi$ is an associate of $a+bi$ or π is an associate of $a-bi$

3rd case: $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$. Then p is irreducible in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ and $\pi | p$ implies that π is an associate of p .

Remark: Theorem 79 shows that the converse of Theorem 59 (iv) is not true.

E.g., 3 is an irreducible element of $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ but $N_{\mathbb{Q}(i)/\mathbb{Q}}(3) = 3^2 = 9$ is not prime.