
Analytic Number Theory III

Lecture notes

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Winter term 2023/24

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This script is not a substitute for Prof. Schindler's lecture notes and will not be reviewed by her again. Basically, these are just my personal notes, so I do not guarantee correctness or completeness and I might add further examples and notes if necessary. In general I will not include proofs (because this is no fun in \LaTeX).

If you have any corrections, you can write to me at [Stud.IP](#) or make a pull request directly at the [GitHub repository](#) (which is much more convenient for me than the way via Stud.IP).

glhf,
Alex

1 Number fields

Example (Pell equation): Let $d > 1$ be an integer, which is not a square, and find all integer solutions to

Lecture 1,
24.10.2023

$$x^2 - dy^2 = 1. \quad (1.1)$$

Write $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}] = \{a + \sqrt{d}b \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{d}]$ with its natural ring structure. If $(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ is a solution to (1.1), then

$$(x + \sqrt{d}y)(x - \sqrt{d}y) = x^2 - dy^2 = 1$$

and for every $k \in \mathbb{N}$

$$(x + \sqrt{d}y)^k (x - \sqrt{d}y)^k = x_k^2 - dy_k^2 = 1,$$

with $x_k, y_k \in \mathbb{Z}$. I.e. if $(x, y) \neq (\pm 1, 0)$ we can generate new solutions as above. Define the norm map $N : \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$, $a + \sqrt{d}b \mapsto a^2 - db^2$. Then solutions to (1.1) can be described as units $x + \sqrt{d}y \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]^*$ in the ring $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ with $N(x + \sqrt{d}y) = 1$.

Example (Gaussian integers): The question is to find all primes p which can be written as a sum of two integer squares

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

I.e. we ask for primes p which factor as $p = (a + ib)(a - ib)$ in the ring $\mathbb{Z}[i]$.

1.1 Number fields and number rings, first definitions and examples

Definition (Number field)

A *number field* is a finite field extension of \mathbb{Q} .

Example: a) For $d \in \mathbb{Z}$, where d is not a square, the fields $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{d}] = \mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2 - d)$ are number fields (with degree 2 over \mathbb{Q}). We call $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{d}]$ a *real quadratic field*

if $d > 0$ and an *imaginary quadratic field* if $d < 0$.

b) $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{d_1}, \sqrt{d_2}]$ are number fields for $d_1, d_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$, usually called *biquadratic fields*.

c) Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\omega = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{m}}$. Then $\mathbb{Q}[\omega]$ is a number field, called the *m-th cyclotomic field*.

?) What could be an analogue of the integers in a general number field?

$$\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{Q} \quad ? \subset \mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{d}] \quad ? \subset \mathbb{F}$$

Definition (Algebraic integer)

A complex number $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ is called an *algebraic integer*, if there is a monic polynomial $P(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ with $P(\alpha) = 0$.

Example: • Every $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ is an algebraic integer.

- \sqrt{d} for $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ is an algebraic integer (take $P(x) = x^2 - d$).
- $e^{\frac{2\pi i}{m}}$ is an algebraic integer for every $m \in \mathbb{N}$ (take $P(x) = x^m - 1$).

Theorem 1.1

Let α be an algebraic integer and $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ a monic polynomial with $f(\alpha) = 0$. If $f(x)$ is of minimal degree with these properties, then f is irreducible.

Remark: Theorem 1.1 shows, that the minimal polynomial of an algebraic integer over \mathbb{Q} has coefficients in \mathbb{Z} .

Lemma 1.2

Let $f \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ be a monic polynomial and $g, k \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ monic polynomials with $f = gh$. Then, $g, k \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$.

Corollary 1.3

If $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ is an algebraic integer, then $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Theorem 1.4 (Characterization of algebraic integers)

Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) α is an algebraic integer.

- (ii) $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ is a finitely generated group (under addition).
- (iii) There exists a subring $R \subset \mathbb{C}$ with $\alpha \in R$ and such that $(R, +)$ is a finitely generated group.
- (iv) There is a non-trivial finitely generated subgroup $(A, +)$ of \mathbb{C} , such that $\alpha A \subseteq A$.

Corollary 1.5

The set of algebraic integers in \mathbb{C} is a ring.

Definition (Ring of algebraic integers)

Let K be a number field. Then we write \mathcal{O}_K for the set of algebraic integers contained in K and we call \mathcal{O}_K the ring of integers of K .

Lecture 2,
27.10.2023

Example: $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}} = \mathbb{Z}$

Proposition 1.6

Let $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ be a squarefree integer.

- If $d \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4}$ then $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{d}]} = \{a + \sqrt{d}b \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$.
- If $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, then $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{d}]} = \left\{ \frac{a + \sqrt{d}b}{2} \mid a \equiv b \pmod{2} \right\}$.

1.2 Embeddings, Norm and Trace

Recall: Let L/K be a finite field extension. If $\text{char} K = 0$, then L/K is separable. Let \bar{K} be an algebraic closure of K . If L/K is separable, then $[L : K] = \# \text{Hom}_K(L, \bar{K})$.

Theorem

Let L/K be a finite separable field extension. Then there exists an element $\alpha \in L$ such that $L = K(\alpha)$. In particular, for number fields $Q \subseteq K \subseteq L$ we obtain the following:

- There exists $\alpha \in L$ such that $L = K(\alpha)$
- If there is an embedding $\hat{\iota} : K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$, then there exist $[L : K]$ embeddings $L \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$, which extend $\hat{\iota}$. If $g(x)$ is a minimal polynomial of α over K then the embeddings are given by $\sigma_i : \alpha \mapsto \beta_i$, where $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_{[L:K]}$ are the $[L : K]$ distinct conjugates of α .

Example: 1. Let $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ be not a square. Then there are exactly two embeddings of $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{d}]$ into \mathbb{C} , namely $\sigma_1 : a + \sqrt{d}b \mapsto a + \sqrt{d}b$ and $\sigma_2 : a + \sqrt{d}b \mapsto a - \sqrt{d}b$.

2. We have $[\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt[3]{2} : \mathbb{Q}]] = 3$ and the three embeddings are given by

$$\sigma_1(\sqrt[3]{2}) = \sqrt[3]{2}, \quad \sigma_2(\sqrt[3]{2}) = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{3}} \sqrt[3]{2}, \quad \sigma_3(\sqrt[3]{2}) = e^{\frac{4\pi i}{3}} \sqrt[3]{2}.$$

Note that $\sigma_1(\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt[3]{2}]) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$, whereas σ_2 and σ_3 are "complex embeddings". $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt[3]{2}]/\mathbb{Q}$ is not a normal extension.

Definition (Trace and norm)

Let K be a field and V an n -dimensional K -vector space. For $\varphi : V \rightarrow V$ a K -endomorphism, we define the characteristic polynomial

$$\chi_\varphi(x) = \det(xI_n - \varphi) = \sum_{i=0}^n c_i x^{n-i}$$

for some $c_0, \dots, c_n \in K$. We define the determinant and trace of φ by $\det \varphi = (-1)^n c_n$ and $\text{trace } \varphi = -c_1$

Note that if $\varphi, \psi : V \rightarrow V$ are both K -endomorphisms of V , then $\det(\varphi \circ \psi) = \det(\varphi) \det(\psi)$ and $\text{trace}(a\varphi + b\psi) = a \text{trace}(\varphi) + b \text{trace}(\psi) \quad \forall a, b \in K$.

Definition

Let $\mathbb{Q} \subseteq K \subseteq L$ be number fields and $\alpha \in L$. We write $\varphi_\alpha : L \rightarrow L$, $x \mapsto \alpha x$ and define the (relative) norm and trace of α by

$$N_{L/K}(\alpha) = \det \varphi_\alpha, \quad \text{Tr}_{L/K}(\alpha) = \text{trace}(\varphi_\alpha).$$

Remark: The map $N_{L/K} : L^* \rightarrow K^*$ is a group homomorphism as $N_{L/K}(\alpha\beta) = N_{L/K}(\alpha)N_{L/K}(\beta) \quad \forall \alpha, \beta \in L \setminus \{0\}$. Similarly, $\text{Tr}_{L/K} : L \rightarrow K$ is a K -linear map, as

$$\text{Tr}_{L/K}(u\alpha + v\beta) = u \text{Tr}_{L/K}(\alpha) + v \text{Tr}_{L/K}(\beta) \quad \forall u, v \in K, \quad \alpha, \beta \in L.$$

Example: Let $K = \mathbb{Q}$, $L = \mathbb{Q}(i)$ and $\alpha = a + ib \in \mathbb{Q}(i)$. Then φ_α can be represented with respect to the basis $1, i$ by

$$\varphi_\alpha = \begin{bmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{bmatrix}$$

and hence

$$N_{L/\mathbb{Q}}(a + ib) = a^2 + b^2, \quad \text{Tr}_{L/\mathbb{Q}}(a + ib) = 2a.$$

Lemma 1.7

Let L/K be an extension of number fields with $[L : K] = n$. For $a \in K$ we have

$$N_{L/K}(a) = a^n, \quad \text{Tr}_{L/K}(a) = na.$$

Lemma 1.8

Let L/K be an extension of number fields with $L = K(\alpha)$ and $[L : K] = n$. Let $f(x) = x^n + c_1x^{n-1} + \cdots + c_n$ be the minimal polynomial of α over K . Then

$$N_{L/K}(\alpha) = (-1)^n c_n, \quad \text{Tr}_{L/K}(\alpha) = -c_1.$$

Lemma 1.9

Let L/K be a number field extension, $\alpha \in L$, $[L : K(\alpha)] = r$. Then we have

$$N_{L/K}(\alpha) = \left(N_{K(\alpha)/K}(\alpha) \right)^r, \quad \text{Tr}_{L/K}(\alpha) = r \text{Tr}_{K(\alpha)/K}(\alpha).$$

Corollary 1.10

Let L/K be number fields and $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_L$. Then $N_{L/K}(\alpha), \text{Tr}_{L/K}(\alpha) \in \mathcal{O}_K$. In particular $N_{L/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha), \text{Tr}_{L/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Theorem 1.11

Let L/K be number fields, $[L : K] = n$ and $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n : L \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be the n distinct K -linear embeddings of L into \mathbb{C} . Then, for $\alpha \in L$, we have

$$N_{L/K}(\alpha) = \prod_{i=1}^n \sigma_i(\alpha), \quad \text{Tr}_{L/K}(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i(\alpha).$$

Corollary 1.12

Let L/K be a Galois extension of number fields. Then, for $\alpha \in L$ and $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(L/K)$, we have

$$N_{L/K}(\sigma(\alpha)) = N_{L/K}(\alpha), \quad \text{Tr}_{L/K}(\sigma(\alpha)) = \text{Tr}_{L/K}(\alpha).$$

Theorem 1.13

Let $K \subseteq L \subseteq M$ be a tower of number fields and $\alpha \in M$. Then

$$N_{M/K} = N_{L/K}(N_{M/L}(\alpha)), \quad \text{Tr}_{M/K}(\alpha) = \text{Tr}_{L/K}(\text{Tr}_{M/L}(\alpha)).$$

Lecture 3,
03.11.2023

An application of the norm map

Given a number field K with ring of integers \mathcal{O}_K , how can we find \mathcal{O}_K^* , i.e. the units in \mathcal{O}_K ?

- If $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K^*$, $\alpha^{-1} \in \mathcal{O}_K$ and $1 = N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha\alpha^{-1}) = N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) \cdot N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha^{-1})$. By Corollary 1.10, $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha), N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha^{-1}) \in \mathbb{Z} \implies N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) = \pm 1$.
- If $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$ with $N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) = \pm 1$, then $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K^*$.

Example: Let $d \in \mathbb{Z}$, d squarefree. Then, for $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$, $N_{\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{d}]/\mathbb{Q}}(a + \sqrt{d}b) = (a + b\sqrt{d})(a - b\sqrt{d}) = a^2 - db^2$. For $d \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4}$, we find that

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{d}]} = \{a + b\sqrt{d} \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z}, a^2 - db^2 = \pm 1\}.$$

The trace as a bilinear form

Let L/K be number fields. Then $\text{Tr}_{L/K}$ induces a bilinear form

$$\text{Tr}_{L/K} : L \times L \rightarrow K, (x, y) \mapsto \text{Tr}_{L/K}(x \cdot y). \quad (1.2)$$

Write L^* for the dual vector space of L , i.e. the set of all K -linear vector space homomorphisms.

Theorem 1.14

The bilinear form (1.2) induces an isomorphism of K -vector spaces

$$\psi : L \rightarrow L^*, x \mapsto \text{Tr}_{L/K}(x, \cdot).$$

Corollary 1.15

Let L/K be number fields and (v_1, \dots, v_n) a K -basis with $n = [L : K]$. Then there exists a unique K -basis (w_1, \dots, w_n) of L , such that $\text{Tr}_{L/K}(v_i w_j) = \delta_{ij}$, $1 \leq i, j \leq n$.

1.3 Discriminant

Let K/\mathbb{Q} be a number field of degree $n = [K : \mathbb{Q}]$ and $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n : K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ its embeddings.

Definition (Discriminant)

For $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in K$, we define the *discriminant* as

$$\text{disc}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) = \det \left((\sigma_i(\alpha_j))_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} \right)^2.$$

Theorem 1.16

Let $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in K$. Then $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ are \mathbb{Q} -linearly independent if and only if $\text{disc}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \neq 0$.

Lemma 1.17

Let $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in K$. Then

$$\text{disc}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) = \det \left(\text{Tr}_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha_i \alpha_j) \right)_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}.$$

Corollary 1.18

Let $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in K$. Then $\text{disc}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \mathbb{Q}$. If moreover $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathcal{O}_K$, then $\text{disc}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Theorem 1.19

Let α be algebraic over \mathbb{Q} with $[\mathbb{Q}[\alpha] : \mathbb{Q}] = n$, and $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ the n different conjugates of α . Then

$$\text{disc}(1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}) = \prod_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} (a_i - a_j)^2.$$

If moreover $f(x)$ is the minimal polynomial of α over \mathbb{Q} , then

$$\text{disc}(1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{n-1}) = (-1)^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}} N_{\mathbb{Q}[\alpha]/\mathbb{Q}}(f'(\alpha)).$$

Question: Let K be a number field with ring of integers \mathcal{O}_K and of degree $n = [K : \mathbb{Q}]$. Then K is an n -dimensional \mathbb{Q} -vector space. How can we describe the structure of the group $(\mathcal{O}_K, +)$?

Example: For $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ squarefree and $K = \mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{d}]$, the ring of integers \mathcal{O}_K is a free abelian group of rank 2, where a \mathbb{Z} -basis is given by $(1, \omega)$, with

$$\omega = \begin{cases} \sqrt{d} & d \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4}, \\ \frac{1+\sqrt{d}}{2} & d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

Theorem 1.20

Let K/\mathbb{Q} be a number field of degree $n = [K : \mathbb{Q}]$. Then \mathcal{O}_K is a free abelian group of rank n , i.e. there exists $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathcal{O}_K$, such that every $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_K$ can be uniquely written in the form

$$\beta = m_1\alpha_1 + \dots + m_n\alpha_n$$

with $m_1, \dots, m_n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Remark: In the notation of Theorem 1.20, we call $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ an integral basis of \mathcal{O}_K (over \mathbb{Z}).

Lecture 4,
07.11.2023

Lemma 1.21

Let K be a number field as above. Then there exists a \mathbb{Q} -basis of the number field, say $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$, with $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathcal{O}_K$.

Proposition 1.22

Let $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ be a \mathbb{Q} -basis of a number field K with $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathcal{O}_K$, $d = \text{disc}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ and $\beta \in \mathcal{O}_K$. Then there exist $m_1, \dots, m_n \in \mathbb{Z}$, such that

$$\beta = \frac{m_1\alpha_1 + \dots + m_n\alpha_n}{d}$$

and $d \mid m_i^2$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$.

Lemma 1.23

Let K be a number field with integral bases $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ and $(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n)$. Then

$$\text{disc}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) = \text{disc}(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n).$$

Definition (Discriminant of K)

Let K be a number field and $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ a \mathbb{Z} -basis for \mathcal{O}_K . We define the *discriminant*

$\text{disc}(K)$ of K as

$$\text{disc}(K) = \text{disc}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n).$$

Example: Let $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ be squarefree. Then

$$\text{disc}([\sqrt{d}]) = \begin{cases} 4d & d \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4}, \\ d & d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

1.4 Cyclotomic fields

Definition

For $m \in \mathbb{N}$ we call $\mathbb{Q}[e^{\frac{2\pi i}{m}}]$ the m -th cyclotomic field.

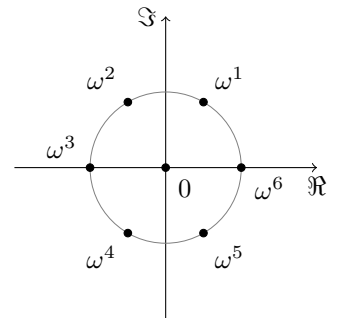
Example: • The first two cyclotomic fields are equal to \mathbb{Q} .

- Let $m = 6$ and write $\omega = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{6}}$. Then $\omega^5 = -\omega^2$, i.e. $\omega = -\omega^4$ and $\mathbb{Q}[\omega] = \mathbb{Q}[\omega^2]$. This means that the third and sixth cyclotomic fields are equal.

In the following let $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and write $\omega = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{m}}$.

Theorem 1.24

The extension $\mathbb{Q}[\omega]$ over \mathbb{Q} is Galois with degree equal to $\varphi(m)$, where φ is Euler's totient function. Moreover, the Galois group is isomorphic to $(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^* = \{k \in \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \mid \gcd(k, m) = 1\}$.



For $k \in (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^*$ the corresponding automorphism is given by $\omega \mapsto \omega^k$.

Proposition 1.25

The conjugates of ω are exactly given by ω^k with $\gcd(m, k) = 1$.

Corollary 1.26

Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$ be even. Then the roots of unity contained in $\mathbb{Q}(e^{\frac{2\pi i}{m}})$ are exactly the m -th roots of unity.

Corollary 1.27

The m -th cyclotomic fields, for m even, are all non-isomorphic.

Theorem 1.28

Let $m = p^r$ for some prime p and $\omega = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{m}}$. Then $\mathcal{O}_{Q[\omega]} = \mathbb{Z}[\omega]$.

Remark: More generally, $\mathbb{Z}[\omega] = \mathcal{O}_{Q[\omega]}$ for every cyclotomic field.

Notation: We write $\text{disc}(\alpha) = \text{disc}(1, \alpha, \dots, \alpha^{n-1})$.

Lemma 1.29

For $m \in \mathbb{N}$ we have $\text{disc}(\omega) \mid m^{\varphi(m)}$.

Lecture 5,
10.11.2023

Lemma 1.30

For $m \geq 3$ we have $\text{disc}(1 - \omega) = \text{disc}(\omega)$.

Lemma 1.31

Let $m = p^r$ be a prime power, $r \in \mathbb{N}$. Then

$$\prod_{\substack{1 \leq k \leq m \\ \gcd(k, m) = 1}} (1 - \omega^k) = p.$$

Remark: In particular for $m = p^r$ we have $\frac{p}{(1-\omega)^{\varphi(m)}} \in \mathbb{Z}[\omega]$.

2 Prime ideal factorisation

2.1 Unique prime ideal factorisation

Motivation: If K is a number field with ring of integers \mathcal{O}_K , then we may not have a unique factorisation in \mathcal{O}_K into irreducible elements (up to units and ordering).

Example: Let $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})$, then $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$. In $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$ we have $2 \cdot 3 = 6 = (1 + \sqrt{-5})(1 - \sqrt{-5})$, where 2 and 3 are irreducible elements.

Our next goal is to replace factorisation into irreducible elements by prime *ideal* factorisation. Instead of number fields, we consider more generally *Dedekind domains*.

Definition (Integrally closed ring)

Let R be an integral domain and $K = \left\{ \frac{a}{b} \mid a, b \in R, b \neq 0 \right\}$ its field of fractions. We call R *integrally closed*, if every element $\frac{a}{b} \in K$, which is a zero of a monic polynomial with coefficients in R is contained in R .

Example: Let K be a number field with ring of integers \mathcal{O}_K . Then \mathcal{O}_K is integrally closed. Indeed let $\alpha \in K$ satisfy $\alpha^n + b_1\alpha^{n-1} + \dots + b_n = 0$, with $b_1, \dots, b_n \in \mathcal{O}_K$. Then $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha, b_1, \dots, b_n]$ is finitely generated as an additive group and we have $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$.

Definition (Noetherian ring)

We call a commutative ring R *noetherian* if every ideal is finitely generated.

Remark: The following statements about a commutative ring R are equivalent:

1. R is noetherian.
2. Every increasing sequence of ideals is eventually constant, i.e. if $I_1 \subseteq I_2 \subseteq \dots$, then there is some $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$, such that $I_n = I_{n_0}$ for every $n > n_0$.
3. Every non-empty set S of ideals has a maximal element, i.e. there is some $M \in S$, such that if $M' \in S$ with $M \subseteq M'$, then $M = M'$.

Example: Principal ideal domains and polynomial rings $\mathbb{Z}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ or $K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ for any field K are noetherian.

Definition (Dedekind domain)

A *Dedekind domain* is a noetherian integrally closed domain, in which every non-zero prime ideal is maximal.

Theorem 2.1

Let K be a number field. Then its ring of integers \mathcal{O}_K is a Dedekind domain.

Example: Coordinate rings of irreducible smooth curves over an algebraically closed field, e.g. $\mathbb{C}[T]$ is a Dedekind domain.

First properties of Dedekind domains

Lemma 2.2

Let R be a Dedekind domain, which is not a field, and $0 \neq I \subseteq R$ an ideal. Then I contains a product of non-zero prime ideals $P_1 \cdots P_k \subseteq I$.

Lemma 2.3

Let R be a Dedekind domain with field of fractions K and $0 \neq I \subsetneq R$ an ideal. Then there exists $\alpha \in K \setminus R$ with $\alpha I \subseteq R$.

Lecture 6,

17.11.2023

Theorem 2.4

Let R be a Dedekind domain and $0 \neq I \subseteq R$ an ideal. Then there is an ideal $0 \neq J \subseteq R$, such that IJ is principal.

Example: Let $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$ and $I = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})$. Then I is not principal, but $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})(2, 1 - \sqrt{-5}) = (2)$ is principal.

Observation: Note that $\alpha \in I$ implies that $J \subset A = \frac{1}{\alpha}IJ$. Hence $\gamma JI = \gamma\alpha \left(\frac{1}{\alpha}JI\right) = \alpha\gamma A \subseteq (\alpha)$. As $\gamma J \subseteq \gamma A \subseteq R$, we find that $\gamma J \subseteq J$.

The ideal class group

Definition (Equivalence of ideals)

Let R be an integral domain. We say that two non-zero ideals I, J are equivalent if and only if there exist $\alpha, \beta \in R \setminus \{0\}$ with $\alpha I = \beta J$.

Remark: 1. This really is an equivalence relation. We call the equivalence classes under this relation *ideal classes*.

2. We can define a multiplication on the set of ideal classes by multiplication of representatives, $[I][J] = [IJ]$, with the neutral element $[R]$.

3. All principal ideals form one ideal class.

Corollary 2.5

Let R be a Dedekind domain. Then the ideal classes form a group under multiplication.

Definition (Ideal class group)

We call the group given by ideal classes under multiplication in the Dedekind domain R the *ideal class group* of R , denoted by $Cl(R)$.

Example: \mathbb{Z} is a principal ideal domain, hence $|Cl(\mathbb{Z})| = 1$.

Remark: There are only finitely many imaginary quadratic fields K with $|Cl(\mathcal{O}_K)| = 1$.

Question (Gauss): Do there exist as many real quadratic number fields K with $|Cl(\mathcal{O}_K)| = 1$?

Corollary 2.6

Let R be a Dedekind domain and A, B, C ideals with $A \neq 0$.

1. *If $AB = AC$ then $B = C$.*
2. *We have $B \mid A$, i.e. $A = BJ$ for some ideal J , if and only if $A \subseteq B$.*

Theorem 2.7 (Unique prime ideal factorisation)

Every ideal $I \neq 0$ in a Dedekind domain R can be written as a product $I = P_1 \cdots P_r$

with non-zero prime ideals P_1, \dots, P_r and this representation is unique up to ordering of P_1, \dots, P_r .

Example: In $\mathbb{Z}(\sqrt{-5})$ we don't have unique factorisation into reducible elements, e.g. $2 \cdot 3 = (1 + \sqrt{-5})(1 - \sqrt{-5})$, but in terms of ideals we have $(2) = (2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})^2 = P_1^2$, $(3) = (3, 1 + \sqrt{-5})(3, 1 - \sqrt{-5}) = P_2 \cdot P_3$. Note that P_1, P_2, P_3 are all prime ideals as $|\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]/P_i| \in \{2, 3\}$ for $1 \leq i \leq 3$. In the ideal class group we find that

$$\begin{aligned} (2) \cdot (3) &= P_1^2 P_2 P_3 \\ &= P_1 P_2 P_1 P_3 \\ &= (1 + \sqrt{-5})(1 - \sqrt{-5}). \end{aligned}$$

Definition (Greatest common divisor, least common multiple)

Let R be a Dedekind domain and $I, J \neq 0$ ideals with prime factorisation

$$I = \prod_{i=1}^r P_i^{a_i}, \quad J = \prod_{i=1}^r P_i^{b_i},$$

where P_1, \dots, P_r are distinct prime ideals and $a_1, \dots, a_r, b_1, \dots, b_r \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$. We define the *greatest common divisor* $\gcd(I, J)$ and *least common multiple* $\text{lcm}(I, J)$ by

$$\gcd(I, J) = \prod_{i=1}^r P_i^{\min(a_i, b_i)}, \quad \text{lcm}(I, J) = \prod_{i=1}^r P_i^{\max(a_i, b_i)}.$$

Exercise

Show that

$$\gcd(I, J) = I + J, \quad \text{lcm}(I, J) = I \cap J.$$

Question: Given the ring of integers \mathcal{O}_K in a number field K , we know that every ideal is finitely generated. Can we say something about the numbers of generators we need? E.g. in $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$, the prime ideal $(2, 1 + \sqrt{-5})$ is not a principal ideal, but generated by two elements.

Remark: Chinese Remainder Theorem: Let R be a commutative ring with 1 and

a_1, \dots, a_n coprime ideals, i.e. $a_i + a_j = R \forall i \neq j$. Then there is an isomorphism

$$R / \bigcap_{i=1}^n a_i \rightarrow R/a_1 \times \cdots \times R/a_n.$$

Theorem 2.8

Let R be a Dedekind domain, $I \subseteq R$ a non-zero ideal and $\alpha \in I \setminus \{0\}$. Then there exists $\beta \in I$ with $I = (\alpha, \beta)$.

Corollary 2.9

A Dedekind domain is a unique factorisation domain (UFD) if and only if it is a principal ideal domain (PID).

Remark: In general, a PID is a UFD but the reverse implication does not hold. For example $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ is a UFD, but not a PID.

2.2 Splitting of primes

Let p be a (rational) prime number. Then (p) is a prime ideal in \mathbb{Z} , but the ideal $(p) = p\mathcal{O}_K$ need not be a prime ideal in \mathcal{O}_K . For example, let $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, then in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ we have

$$(p) = (a + ib)(a - ib), \quad (2.1)$$

where $a^2 + b^2 = p$ with $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. Note that $N_{\mathbb{Q}[i]/\mathbb{Q}}(a + ib) = p$ and hence $a + ib$ is a prime element in the PID $\mathbb{Z}[i]$, and (2.1) is the prime ideal factorisation of (p) . Moreover, $a + ib$ and $a - ib$ do not differ by multiplication with one of the units $\pm 1, \pm i$, and hence

$$P_1 = (a + ib) \neq (a - ib) = P_2$$

in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$. The ideal (2) splits in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ as $2 = (1 + i)^2$, where $(1 + i)$ is a prime ideal. If $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ is a rational prime, then (p) remains a prime ideal in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$. (check!)

Question: More generally, let $K \subseteq L$ be number fields with rings of integers $\mathcal{O}_K, \mathcal{O}_L$. Given a non-zero prime ideal P in \mathcal{O}_K , how does $P\mathcal{O}_L$ split into prime ideals in \mathcal{O}_L ?

Notation: In the following, we keep the notation $K \subseteq L$, $\mathcal{O}_K \subseteq \mathcal{O}_L$ as above.

Definition (Primes)

We say that $P \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K$ or $Q \subseteq \mathcal{O}_L$ is a *prime* if P or respectively Q is a non-zero

prime ideal in \mathcal{O}_K or respectively \mathcal{O}_L . Moreover, we say that Q lies above P or P lies under Q if $Q \mid P\mathcal{O}_L$.

Lemma 2.10

Let P resp. Q be primes in \mathcal{O}_K resp. \mathcal{O}_L . Then Q lies above P if and only if one of the following equivalent conditions holds:

1. $P\mathcal{O}_L \subseteq Q$.
2. $P \subseteq Q$.
3. $Q \cap \mathcal{O}_K = P$.
4. $Q \cap K = P$.

Theorem 2.11

Every prime Q in \mathcal{O}_L lies above a unique prime P in \mathcal{O}_K and for every prime P in \mathcal{O}_K there is some prime Q in \mathcal{O}_L , which lies above P .

Lemma 2.12

Let Q be a prime in \mathcal{O}_L lying above P in \mathcal{O}_K . Then \mathcal{O}_L/Q and \mathcal{O}_K/P are finite fields with $\mathcal{O}_K/P \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}_L/Q$.

Let P be a prime in \mathcal{O}_K and consider in \mathcal{O}_L the prime ideal factorisation

$$P\mathcal{O}_L = \prod_{i=1}^r Q_i^{e_i}$$

with distinct primes Q_1, \dots, Q_r .

Definition (Ramification index, inertia degree)

We call

$$e_i = e(Q_i \mid P)$$

the *ramification index* of Q_i above P and

$$f_i = f(Q_i \mid P) = [\mathcal{O}_L/Q_i : \mathcal{O}_K/P]$$

the *inertia degree* of Q_i over P . Moreover, we call \mathcal{O}_L/Q_i and \mathcal{O}_K/P *residue fields* of Q_i or respectively P .

Remark: Let $K \subseteq L \subseteq M$ be number fields with primes $P \subseteq Q \subseteq R$. Then

$$e(R | P) = e(R | Q)e(Q | P), \quad f(R | P) = f(R | Q)f(Q | P).$$

Example: Let $K = \mathbb{Q}$, $L = \mathbb{Q}(i)$. If p is a rational prime with $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, then $(p) = P_1 \cdot P_2$, $P_1 = (a + ib)$, $P_2 = (a - ib)$ for some $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. We have

$$e(P_i | (p)) = 1, \quad f(P_i | (p)) = 1.$$

For a rational prime $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ we obtain

$$e\left(\underbrace{(p)}_{\subseteq \mathbb{Z}[i]} \mid \underbrace{(p)}_{\subseteq \mathbb{Z}}\right) = 1, \quad f\left(\underbrace{(p)}_{\subseteq \mathbb{Z}[i]} \mid \underbrace{(p)}_{\subseteq \mathbb{Z}}\right) = 2.$$

For $p = 2$ note that $(2) = (1 + i)^2$ and $|\mathbb{Z}[i] | (1 + i)| = 2$, hence

$$e((1 + i) | (2)) = 2, \quad f((1 + i) | (2)) = 1.$$

In this example, independent of the rational prime p we find that

$$\sum_{i=1}^r e_i f_i = [\mathbb{Q}(i) : \mathbb{Q}].$$

Our goal now is to show the above statement for number fields $K \subseteq L$.

Lecture 8,
24.11.2023

Norms of ideals

Definition (Norm of an ideal)

Let K be a number field and $I \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K$ a non-zero ideal. Then we define the *norm* $N(I)$ of the ideal I as

$$N(I) := |\mathcal{O}_K / I|.$$

Lemma 2.13

Let $I, J \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K$ be non-zero ideals. Then

$$N(IJ) = N(I)N(J).$$

Proposition 2.14

Let K be a number field of degree $n = [K : \mathbb{Q}]$ and $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ a prime with prime ideal

factorisation

$$(p) = \prod_{i=1}^r P_i^{e_i}$$

in \mathcal{O}_K and $f_i = f(P_i \mid p)$ for $1 \leq i \leq r$. Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^r e_i f_i = n.$$

Next, we will look at general number field extensions $L \subseteq K$. We start with some preparations:

Lemma 2.15

Let $0 \neq B \subseteq A \subsetneq R$ be ideals in a Dedekind domain R . Then there exists $\alpha \in K = \text{Quot}(R)$, such that

$$\alpha B \subseteq R, \text{ but } \alpha B \subsetneq A.$$

Lemma 2.16

Let $I \neq 0$ be an ideal in \mathcal{O}_K and $n = [L : K]$. Then

$$N(I\mathcal{O}_L) = N(I)^n.$$

Example: For $K = \mathbb{Q}$ we have already used this identity above, in which case it reduces to

$$N((p)) = p^n,$$

with $(p) \subseteq \mathcal{O}_L$ and p a rational prime.

Theorem 2.17

Let P be a prime in \mathcal{O}_K and $P\mathcal{O}_L = \prod_{i=1}^r Q_i^{e_i}$ the prime ideal factorisation in \mathcal{O}_L with distinct ideals Q_1, \dots, Q_r and inertia degrees $f_i = f(Q_i \mid P)$. Then

$$[L : K] = \sum_{i=1}^r e_i f_i.$$

Example: (a) Let p be a rational prime and $\omega = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{p^r}}$ for some $r \in \mathbb{N}$. By Lemma 1.31 we have

$$p = \prod_{\substack{1 \leq k \leq m \\ \gcd(k, m) = 1}} (1 - \omega^k).$$

We show on the exercise sheet that for $p \nmid k$

$$(1 - \omega^k) = u_k(1 - \omega)$$

for some $u_k \in \mathbb{Z}[\omega]$. Hence in $\mathbb{Z}[\omega]$ we have

$$(p) = (1 - \omega)^{\varphi(p^r)}.$$

By Theorem 2.17, we deduce that $(1 - \omega)$ is a prime ideal in $\mathbb{Z}[\omega]$ and

$$f((1 - \omega) \mid (p)) = 1$$

- (b) Let α be a root of $\alpha^3 = \alpha + 1$. Then $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)/\mathbb{Q}$ is an extension of degree 3. One can compute $\text{disc}(1, \alpha, \alpha^2) = -23$. As 23 is square-free, we find that $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)} = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ with integral basis $(1, \alpha, \alpha^2)$. Moreover, in $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$, we have

$$23 \cdot \mathbb{Z}[\alpha] = (23, \alpha - 10)^2(23, \alpha - 3), \quad (2.2)$$

where $(23, \alpha - 10)$ and $(23, \alpha - 3)$ are coprime. Hence (2.2) is the prime ideal factorisation of (23) in $\mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ and

$$f((23, \alpha - 10) \mid 23) = f((23, \alpha - 3) \mid 23) = 1.$$

Remark: In these examples we have found ramification indices $e > 1$, which however is not the "typical" case, as we will see below.

Definition (Ramified prime)

Let P be a prime in \mathcal{O}_K . We say that P is *ramified in \mathcal{O}_L* , if there is a prime Q in \mathcal{O}_L , lying above P , with

$$e(Q \mid P) > 1.$$

Theorem 2.18

Let p be a rational prime (i.e. a prime number in \mathbb{Z}), which is ramified in \mathcal{O}_K . Then

$$p \mid \text{disc}(\mathcal{O}_K).$$

Remark: One can even show, that $p \mid \text{disc}(\mathcal{O}_K)$ implies that p is ramified in \mathcal{O}_K .

Corollary 2.19

There are only finitely many primes P in \mathcal{O}_K which are ramified in \mathcal{O}_L .

Lecture 9,
28.11.2023

Galois extensions

In the proof of Theorem 2.18 we noted that if L/\mathbb{Q} is a Galois extension and Q a prime in \mathcal{O}_L above $p \in \mathbb{Z}$, so is the ideal $\sigma(Q)$ for all $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q})$.

Theorem 2.20

Let L/K be Galois and Q a prime in \mathcal{O}_L lying above the prime P in \mathcal{O}_K . Then $\sigma(Q)$ is a prime above P for every $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(L/K)$. Moreover, if Q' is another prime in \mathcal{O}_L over P , then there exists an automorphism $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(L/K)$ with $\sigma(Q) = Q'$.

Example: $K = \mathbb{Q}$, $L = \mathbb{Q}(i)$, $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ a prime with $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Write $p = a^2 + b^2$ with $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. In $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ we have $(p) = (a + ib)(a - ib)$.

Corollary 2.21

Let L/K be a Galois extension, P a prime in \mathcal{O}_K and Q_1, Q_2 primes in \mathcal{O}_L lying above P . Then

$$e(Q_1 | P) = e(Q_2 | P), \quad f(Q_1 | P) = f(Q_2 | P).$$

Remark: In the notation above, we hence obtain

$$P\mathcal{O}_L = (Q_1 \cdots Q_r)^e \text{ with } f(Q_i | P) = f(Q_j | P).$$

Question: Let L/K be any number fields (not necessarily Galois) and P a prime in \mathcal{O}_K . Find explicitly the factorisation

$$P\mathcal{O}_L = \prod_{i=1}^r Q_i^{e_i}$$

with Q_1, \dots, Q_r prime.

Example: Let $m \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{1\}$ be odd and square-free and let $K = \mathbb{Q}$, $L = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{m})$. Consider an odd prime $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $p \nmid m$. By Theorem 2.18, p is not ramified in \mathcal{O}_K as $\text{disc}(K) \in \{m, 4m\}$. Hence we either have $p\mathcal{O}_L = Q_i Q_2$ with distinct primes

Q_1, Q_2 and $f(Q_i | p) = 1$ for $i = 1, 2$, or $p\mathcal{O}_L$ is prime with $f(p\mathcal{O}_L | p) = 2$.

Let Q be a prime above p . Consider the polynomial $g(X) = X^2 - m$. Then $g(X)$ has a zero in \mathcal{O}_L and hence a zero in \mathcal{O}_L/Q .

1. If m is not a square modulo p , then $X^2 - m$ has no zero in $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ and $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}_L/Q$ is a non-trivial field extension, i.e. $f(Q | p) = 2$.
2. Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ be a solution to $a^2 - m \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. Then in \mathcal{O}_L we have the factorisation $(a - \sqrt{m})(a + \sqrt{m}) \in p\mathcal{O}_L$ and in fact

$$(p, a - \sqrt{m})(p, a + \sqrt{m}) = p\mathcal{O}_L. \quad (2.3)$$

As neither of the factors $(p, a - \sqrt{m}), (p, a + \sqrt{m})$ contains 1, and $p\mathcal{O}_L$ factors into a product of at most two primes, we have already found in (2.3) the prime ideal factorisation of $p\mathcal{O}_L$ and

$$f((p, a \pm \sqrt{m}) | p) = 1.$$

More generally, let L/K be number fields, say of degree $n = [L : K]$. Fix an element $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_L$, such that $L = K(\alpha)$. Note, that by Proposition 1.22 the quotient $\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_K[\alpha]$ is finite. Let $g(X) \in \mathcal{O}_K[X]$ be the minimal polynomial of α over K .

Theorem 2.22

With notation as above, let P be a prime in \mathcal{O}_K and factor $g(X)$ in $(\mathcal{O}_K/P)[X]$ as

$$g(X) \equiv g_1(X)^{e_1} \cdots g_r(X)^{e_r} \pmod{P[X]},$$

where $g_1(X), \dots, g_r(X) \in \mathcal{O}_K[X]$ are monic polynomials, pairwise distinct and irreducible in $(\mathcal{O}_K/P)[X]$. Let $(p) \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}$ and assume $p \nmid |\mathcal{O}_L/\mathcal{O}_K[\alpha]|$. Then we have the factorisation

$$P\mathcal{O}_L = \prod_{i=1}^r Q_i^{e_i},$$

where $Q_i = (P, g_i(\alpha))$ is a prime and $f(Q_i | P) = \deg g_i$ for $1 \leq i \leq r$.

Example: Let α be a root of $\alpha^3 - \alpha - 1 = 0$. We have from earlier that $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}[\alpha]} = \mathbb{Z}[\alpha]$ and $\text{disc}(\mathbb{Q}[\alpha]) = -23$. Modulo 23 we find that

$$X^3 - X - 1 \equiv (X - 10)^2(X - 3) \pmod{23}$$

and hence by Theorem [2.22](#)

$$23\mathbb{Z}[\alpha] = (23, \alpha - 10)^2(23, \alpha - 3).$$

3 Number fields - Dirichlet's unit theorem, class groups and lattices

3.1 Finiteness of the ideal class group

Let K be a number field with ring of integers \mathcal{O}_K . We will keep this notation throughout this chapter.

Recall: We call two non-zero ideals $I, J \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K$ equivalent, if $\exists \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{O}_K \setminus \{0\}$, such that $\alpha I = \beta J$, and we write $Cl(\mathcal{O}_K)$ for the group of equivalence classes under multiplication.

Question: Is $Cl(\mathcal{O}_K)$ finite?

Theorem 3.1

For every number field K there is a constant C_K , such that every non-zero ideal I contains an element $\alpha \in I \setminus \{0\}$ with

$$|N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha)| \leq C_K N(I).$$

Corollary 3.2

Let K and C_K be as in Theorem 3.1. Then every ideal class $C \in Cl(\mathcal{O}_K)$ contains an ideal I with $N(I) \leq C_K$.

Corollary 3.3

For every number field K we have $|Cl(\mathcal{O}_K)| < \infty$.

Example: Let $K = \mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{2}]$, i.e. $\mathcal{O}_K = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]$. As in the proof of Theorem 3.1, we can take $C_K = (1 + \sqrt{2})^2$ (using the integral basis $(1, \sqrt{2})$). Note that $(1 + \sqrt{2})^2 < 6$. We consider the prime ideals in $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}]$, which lie above 2, 3, 5. Note that $2\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}] = (\sqrt{2})^2$ and that $(3), (5)$ are prime ideals (see Theorem 2.22, noting that $X^2 - 2$ remains

irreducible modulo 3, 5). Hence $|Cl(\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}])| = 1$.

Remark: In the example above and other examples, we would like to take C_K as small as possible.

Our next goal will be to find improvements for the value of C_K using results from the geometry of numbers.

Idea: Let K be a number field of degree n , $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r : K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}$ its real embeddings and $\tau_1, \bar{\tau}_1, \tau_2, \bar{\tau}_2, \dots, \tau_s, \bar{\tau}_s : K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$ its different complex embeddings, where we sort them into pairs $\tau_i, \bar{\tau}_i$, which differ by complex conjugations. Then $n = r + 2s$ and we can define an injective map

$$\varphi : K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \quad \alpha \mapsto (\sigma_1(\alpha), \dots, \sigma_r(\alpha), \Re \tau_1(\alpha) \Im \tau_1(\alpha), \dots, \Re \tau_s(\alpha) \Im \tau_s(\alpha)).$$

Let $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ be an integral basis of \mathcal{O}_K . Then we can view $\varphi(\mathcal{O}_K) = \mathbb{Z}\varphi(\alpha_1) + \dots + \mathbb{Z}\varphi(\alpha_n) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ as an additive group. Also, if $I \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K$ is a non-zero ideal, then I is a free \mathbb{Z} -module of rank n , say with basis $(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n)$. Then

$$\varphi(I) = \mathbb{Z}\varphi(\beta_1) + \dots + \mathbb{Z}\varphi(\beta_n) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$$

and we can interpret $\varphi(I)$ as a *lattice* in \mathbb{R}^n . In order to improve upon C_K is Theorem 3.1, we would like to find a "small" non-zero element in this lattice.

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