

25. On Certain Real Quadratic Fields with Class Number 2

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Let D be a square-free rational integer and $\varepsilon_D = (t + u\sqrt{D})/2$ ($t, u > 0$) be the fundamental unit of $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{D})$ with $N \varepsilon_D = -1$, where N is the norm map from $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{D})$ to \mathbf{Q} . Then D is expressed in the form $D = u^2 n^2 \pm 2an + b$, where n, a and b are integers such that $n \geq 0$, $0 \leq a < u^2/2$ and $a^2 + 4 = bu^2$ (cf. [6]). We denote by $h(D)$ the class number of $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{D})$. In our previous paper [1], we treated the problem of enumerating the real quadratic fields $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{D})$ with $h(D) = 1$ and $1 \leq u \leq 300$ (the cases $u = 1$ and $u = 2$ were treated in [3]).

In this paper, we shall consider the same problem for real quadratic fields $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{D})$ with $h(D) = 2$ and $1 \leq u \leq 200$.

We note here that the list in [4] is incomplete as it misses $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{3365})$ whereas $h(3365) = 2$.

In the same way as in [1], we have the following theorem.

Theorem. *With the notation as above, there exist 45 real quadratic fields $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{D})$ with class number two for $1 \leq u \leq 200$, where D are those in table with one possible exception.*

Proof. Let d be the discriminant of $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{D})$, that is, $d = D$ or $4D$, according as $D \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ or not. Let χ_d be the Kronecker character belonging to $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{D})$ with the discriminant d and $L(s, \chi_d)$ be the corresponding L -series. Then by Theorem 2 of [5], we have for any $y \geq 11.2$ satisfying $e^y \leq d$

$$L(1, \chi_d) > \frac{0.655}{y} d^{-1/y}$$

with one possible exception of d .

Hence from class-number formula, we have

$$\begin{aligned} h(D) &= \frac{\sqrt{d}}{2 \log \varepsilon_D} L(1, \chi_d) > \frac{0.655}{y} \frac{\sqrt{d} d^{-1/y}}{2 \log(u\sqrt{d})} \\ &\geq \frac{0.655 e^{(y/2)-1}}{y(y+2 \log u)}. \end{aligned}$$

Put for convenience

$$g(\log u, y) = \frac{0.655 e^{(y/2)-1}}{y(y+2 \log u)}.$$

Then $g(\log u, y)$ is a monotone increasing function for $y \geq 11.2$. Therefore for any fixed u , there exists a real number $c = c(u)$ such that $c \geq 11.2$