# ON THE FUNDAMENTAL UNITS AND THE CLASS NUMBERS OF REAL QUADRATIC FIELDS 

TAKASHI AZUHATA

## §0. Introduction

Let $\boldsymbol{Q}$ be the rational number field and $h(m)$ be the class number of the real quadratic field $\boldsymbol{Q}(\sqrt{m})$ with a positive square-free integer $m$. It is known that if $h(m)=1$ holds, then $m$ is one of the following four types with prime numbers $p \equiv 1, p_{i} \equiv 3(\bmod 4)(1 \leq i \leq 4):$ i) $m=p$, ii) $m=p_{1}$, iii) $m=2$ or $m=2 p_{2}$, iv) $m=p_{3} p_{4}$ (see Behrbohm and Rédei [1]). The sufficient conditions for $h(m)>1$ with these $m$ were given by several authors: in all cases by Hasse [2], in case i) by Ankeny, Chowla and Hasse [3] and by Lang [4], in case ii) by Takeuchi [5] and by Yokoi [6].

The principal aim of this paper is to extend the results of [3], [4], [5], [6] and a part of [2]. In Section 2, we show that the continued fractional expansion of a reduced quadratic irrational is given by the recurrence formula with rational integers. Further we shall give some types of reduced quadratic irrationals whose periods of the continued fractional expansions are small. In Section 3, using the results of Section 2, we shall give explicitly the fundamental units of $\boldsymbol{Q}(\sqrt{m})$ for several types of $m$. Finally in Section 4, the sufficient conditions for $h(m)>1$ will be given for several types of $m$, using the results of Section 2.

## §1. Reduced quadratic irrational

First we review the fundamental properties of quadratic irrationals (see Dirichlet [7] or Takagi [8]). Denote by $Z$ the ring of rational integers and by $[\alpha]$ the greatest rational integer not exceeding $\alpha$ where $\alpha$ is a real number. Let $m$ be a positive square-free integer and put

$$
d(m)= \begin{cases}m, & \text { if } m \equiv 1 \quad(\bmod 4), \\ 4 m, & \text { if } m \not \equiv 1 \quad(\bmod 4) .\end{cases}
$$

[^0]Let $\alpha$ be a quadratic irrational with discriminant $d(m)$, that is, $\alpha$ is a root of quadratic equation $a X^{2}+b X+c=0$ with $a, b, c \in Z, a>0,(a, b, c)$ $=1$ and $b^{2}-4 a c=d(m)$. Let $I(m)$ be the set of all quadratic irrationals with discriminant $d(m)$. An element $\alpha$ of $I(m)$ is called reduced if $\alpha>1$, $0>\alpha^{\prime}>-1$ where $\alpha^{\prime}$ is the conjugate of $\alpha$ with respect to $\boldsymbol{Q}$. Let $R(m)$ be the set of all reduced quadratic irrationals with discriminant $d(m)$. Then $R(m)$ is a finite set and an element $\alpha$ of $I(m)$ is in $R(m)$ if and only if the continued fractional expansion of $\alpha$ is purely periodic. For $\alpha \in$ $R(m)$, let

$$
\alpha_{i-1}=k_{i}+\frac{1}{\alpha_{i}}, \quad k_{i}=\left[\alpha_{i-1}\right] \quad(i \geq 1)
$$

be the continued fractional expansion of $\alpha_{0}=\alpha$. We say that the period of $\alpha$ is $n$ if $\alpha_{n}=\alpha, \alpha_{i} \neq \alpha(1 \leq i \leq n-1, n \geq 2)$.

Lemma 1. Let $n$ be the period of $\alpha \in R(m)$ and

$$
\alpha=k_{1}+\frac{1}{k_{2}}+\cdots+\frac{1}{k_{n}}+\frac{1}{\alpha}=\frac{r \alpha+s}{t \alpha+u}, \quad k_{i}, r, s, t, u \in Z, \quad k_{i} \geq 1 .
$$

Then $t \alpha+u$ is the fundamental unit of $\boldsymbol{Q}(\sqrt{m})$ with norm $(-1)^{n}$.
For two elements $\alpha, \beta \in R(m)$, we say that $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are equivalent if one of the following mutually equivalent conditions is satisfied:
i) $\beta=\frac{r \alpha+s}{t \alpha+u}$ with $r, s, t, u \in Z, r u-s t= \pm 1$,
ii) $\quad \alpha=k_{1}+\frac{1}{k_{2}}+\cdots+\frac{1}{k_{2}}+\frac{1}{\beta}$ with $k_{i} \in Z, k_{i} \geq 1$,
iii) $\beta=\ell_{1}+\frac{1}{\ell_{2}}+\cdots+\frac{1}{\ell_{\mu}}+\frac{1}{\alpha}$ with $\ell_{i} \in Z, \ell_{i} \geq 1$.

Lemma 2. The number of the equivalent classes of $R(m)$ is equal to $h(m)$.

For the proofs of Lemma 1 and 2, see [7] or [8].

## § 2. Continued fractional expansion

For a positive square-free integer $m$, we put $m=a^{2}+b$ with $a, b \in Z$, $0<b \leq 2 a$. We shall consider the properties of $R(m)$ according to the following cases:

$$
\mathrm{I}, \quad m \not \equiv 1(\bmod 4)
$$

II, $\quad a \equiv 1(\bmod 2), b=4 d$ with $d \in Z, d \geq 1$,
III, $\quad a \equiv 0(\bmod 2), b=4 d+1$ with $d \in Z, d \geq 0$.
Let $\omega$ be an element of $R(m)$ and $s X^{2}+t X+u$ be the minimal polynomial of $\omega$ with $s, t, u \in Z, s>0,(\mathrm{~s}, t, u)=1$. In case $\mathrm{I}, \omega=\left(t^{\prime}+\sqrt{m}\right) / s$ with $t=2 t^{\prime}$ from $t^{2}-4 s u=4 m$. In case II or III, $\omega=(t+\sqrt{m}) / 2 s$ from $t^{2}-4 s u=m$. We notice that $t^{\prime}+\sqrt{m}>s>\sqrt{m}-t^{\prime}>0$ in case I and $t+\sqrt{m}>2 s>\sqrt{m}-t>0$ in case II or III. So if we put $\omega=$ $\left(\sqrt{m}+a-r_{0}\right) / c_{0}$ with $c_{0}, r_{0} \in Z$, we see that $c_{0}$ is even in case II or III, $r_{0}$ is even in case II and is odd in case III, and that $c_{0} \mid b+2 a r_{0}-r_{0}^{2}=$ $m-\left(a-r_{0}\right)^{2}$. Let

$$
\omega_{i-1}=k_{i}+\frac{1}{\omega_{i}}, \quad k_{i}=\left[\omega_{i-1}\right] \quad(i \geq 1)
$$

be the continued fractional expansion of $\omega_{0}=\omega$ and put $\omega_{i}=(\sqrt{m}+$ $\left.a-r_{i}\right) / c_{i}$ with $c_{i}, r_{i} \in Z$.

Proposition 1. The integers $k_{i}, c_{i}$ and $r_{i}(i \geq 1)$ are given by the following recurrence formula:
2.1) $2 a-r_{i-1}=c_{i-1} k_{i}+r_{i}, c_{i}=c_{i-2}+\left(r_{i}-r_{i-1}\right) k_{i}(i \geq 1)$, where

$$
0 \leq r_{i}<c_{i-1}, c_{-1}=\frac{1}{c_{0}}\left(b+2 a r_{0}-r_{0}^{2}\right)
$$

Proof. In the case $i=1$, we see easily that

$$
\left[\omega_{0}\right]=\left[\frac{1}{c_{0}}\left([\sqrt{m}]+a-r_{0}\right)\right]=\left[\frac{1}{c_{0}}\left(2 a-r_{0}\right)\right] .
$$

So if we put $2 a-r_{0}=c_{0} k_{1}+r_{1}$ and $c_{1}=c_{-1}+\left(r_{1}-r_{0}\right) k_{1}$ with $k_{1}, r_{1} \in Z$, $0 . \leq{ }_{5}^{*} r_{1}<c_{0}$, it follows from

$$
\frac{1}{\omega_{1}}=\omega_{0}-k_{1}=\frac{1}{c_{0}}\left(\sqrt{m}-a+r_{1}\right) \quad \text { that } \quad \omega_{1}=\frac{c_{0}\left(\sqrt{m}+a-r_{1}\right)}{b+2 a r_{1}-r_{1}^{2}}
$$

Since $r_{1}=2 a-c_{0} k_{1}-r_{0}$, we see that

$$
\begin{aligned}
b+2 a r_{1}-r_{1}^{2} & =b+\left(c_{0} k_{1}+r_{0}\right)\left(2 a-c_{0} k_{1}-r_{0}\right) \\
& =b+2 a r_{0}-r_{0}^{2}+c_{0} k_{1}\left(2 a-c_{0} k_{1}-2 r_{0}\right) \\
& =c_{-1} c_{0}+c_{0} k_{1}\left(r_{1}-r_{0}\right)=c_{0} c_{1}
\end{aligned}
$$

Hence we have $\omega_{1}=\left(\sqrt{m}+a-r_{1}\right) / c_{1}$. Exchanging suffixes 0,1 for $i-1$, $i$ respectively, we get the assertion by the induction.

From now on, we denote by $\omega$ an element of $R(m)$, which is also an integer in $\boldsymbol{Q}(\sqrt{m})$, i.e. $\omega=\sqrt{m}+\alpha$ in case $\mathrm{I}, \omega=\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{m}+a)$ in case II, and $\omega=\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{m}+a-1)$ in case III. By simple calculation, we have
2.2) $r_{0}=r_{1}=0, c_{0}=1, c_{1}=b, k_{1}=2 a$ in case I ,
2.3) $r_{0}=r_{1}=0, c_{0}=2, c_{1}=2 d, k_{1}=a$ in case II,
2.4) $r_{0}=r_{1}=1, c_{0}=2, c_{1}=a+2 d, k_{1}=a-1$ in case III.

Proposition 2. Let $n$ be the period of $\omega$. If $n \geq 2$, we have the following relations:
2.5) $\quad k_{i}=k_{n+2-i}(2 \leq i \leq n), r_{i}=r_{n+1-i}(1 \leq i \leq n)$, $c_{i}=c_{n-i}(0 \leq i \leq n)$.

Proof. It follows from $\omega_{i-1}=k_{i}+1 / \omega_{i}(1 \leq i \leq n)$ that

$$
-\frac{1}{\omega_{i}^{\prime}}=k_{i}+\frac{1}{-1 / \omega_{i-1}^{\prime}} \quad(1 \leq i \leq n) .
$$

We notice that $\omega_{i}$ and $-1 / \omega_{i}^{\prime}$ are elements of $R(m)$ and are larger than one. We also notice that

$$
\omega_{n}=\omega, \quad-\frac{1}{\omega^{\prime}}=\frac{c_{0}\left(\sqrt{m}+a-r_{0}\right)}{b+2 a r_{0}-r_{0}^{2}}=\frac{1}{c_{1}}\left(\sqrt{m}+a-r_{1}\right)=\omega_{1}
$$

So we see that $k_{i}=k_{n+2-i}$ and $\omega_{i}=-1 / \omega_{n+1-i}^{\prime}(2 \leq i \leq n)$ by the uniqueness of the continued fractional expansion. Hence we have $r_{i}=r_{n+1-i}$, $c_{i}=c_{n-i}$ from

$$
-\frac{1}{\omega_{n+1-i}^{\prime}}=\frac{c_{n+1-i}\left(\sqrt{m}+a-r_{n+1-i}\right)}{b+2 a r_{n+1-i}-r_{n+1-i}^{2}}=\frac{1}{c_{n-i}}\left(\sqrt{m}+a-r_{n+1-i}\right) .
$$

From 2.1)-2.5), we can determine the form of $m$ when the period of $\omega$ is small as follows.

Corollary 1. Let $n$ be the period of $\omega$. Then we have
in case I , 2.6) if $n=1$, then $b=1$, i.e. $m=a^{2}+1$ with odd $a$,
2.7) if $n=2$, then $b \mid 2 a, b>1$ with $a^{2}+b \not \equiv 1(\bmod 4)$,
2.8) if $n=3$, then $a=4 k^{2} r+k+r, b=4 k r+1$ with $k$, $r>0, k \not \equiv r(\bmod 2)$,
2.9) if $n=4$, then $a=\frac{1}{2}(k r+1)(e k-r)+r, b=(e k-r) r+e$, $c_{2}=k r+1$ with $e, k, r, e k-r>0, a^{2}+b \not \equiv 1(\bmod 4)$,
in case II, 2.10) if $n=1$, then $d=1$, i.e. $m=a^{2}+4$ with odd $a \geq 3$,
2.11) if $n=2$, then $d \mid a$ with odd $a, 1<d<\frac{1}{2} a$.
2.12) if $n=3$, then $a=k^{2} r+k+r, d=k r+1$ with $k>1$, $r>0, a \equiv 1(\bmod 2)$,
2.13) if $n=4$, then $a=d k+r, d=(e k-r) r+e$, $c_{2}=2(k r+1)$ with $k>1, e, r, e k-r>0, a \equiv 1(\bmod 2)$,
in case III, 2.14) if $n=1$, then $a=2, d=0$, i.e. $m=5$,
2.15) if $n=2$, then $a=2(d+1)$, i.e. $m=(2 d+3)^{2}-4$ with $d>0$,
2.16) if $n=3$, then $d=0$, i.e. $m=a^{2}+1$ with even $a \geq 4$,
2.17) if $n=4$, then $a=e k+2 e-1, d=\frac{1}{2}(e k-1), c_{2}=2 e$ with $e>1, k>0, e \equiv k \equiv 1(\bmod 2)$,
2.18) if $n=5$, then $a=2(d+e(k+1)-1), d=\frac{1}{2} k(e k-1)$, $c_{2}=c_{3}=2(e k+e-1)$ with $e, k>0, k \equiv 0$ or $e \equiv k \equiv 1$ $(\bmod 2), e(k+1) \geq 3$.

Proof. We notice that the period of $\omega$ is $n$ if and only if $\left(c_{n}, r_{n}\right)=$ $\left(c_{0}, r_{0}\right)$ and $\left(c_{i}, r_{i}\right) \neq\left(c_{0}, r_{0}\right)(1 \leq i \leq n-1, n \geq 2)$. If $n=1$, we have 2.6), 2.10) and 2.14) from $c_{1}=c_{0}$.

In case $I$, if $n=2,2.7$ ) follows from $2 a=b k_{2}, c_{1} \neq 1$. If $n=3$, we see that $a=\frac{1}{2}\left(k_{2}^{2} r_{2}+k_{2}+r_{2}\right), b=1+k_{2} r_{2}, k_{2}, r_{2}>0$ from $2 a=b k_{2}+r_{2}, c_{2}=$ $1+k_{2} r_{2}=c_{1},\left(c_{2}, r_{2}\right) \neq(1,0)$. Putting $k_{2}=2 k, r_{2}=2 r$, we have 2.8) from $m \not \equiv 1(\bmod 4)$. If $n=4$, it follows from $2 a=b k_{2}+r_{2}, c_{2}=1+k_{2} r_{2}$, $2 a-r_{2}=b k_{2}=\left(1+k_{2} r_{2}\right) k_{3}+r_{2},\left(c_{2}, r_{2}\right) \neq(1,0)$ that $b=k_{3} r_{2}+\left(k_{3}+r_{2}\right) / k_{2}$, $a=\frac{1}{2}\left(k_{2} r_{2}+1\right) k_{3}+r_{2}, r_{2}>0$. So we have 2.9) with $k_{3}+r_{2}=e k_{2}, k_{2}=k$, $r_{2}=r$.

In case II, if $n=2,2.11$ ) follows from $2 a=2 d k_{2}, c_{1} \neq 2$. If $n=3$, we have 2.12) from $2 a=2 d k_{2}+r_{2}, c_{2}=2+k_{2} r_{2}=c_{1},\left(c_{2}, r_{2}\right) \neq(2,0), 2 d \leq a$, by putting $r_{2}=2 r, k_{2}=k$. If $n=4,2.13$ ) follows from $2 a=2 d k_{2}+r_{2}$, $c_{2}=2+k_{2} r_{2}, 2 a-r_{2}=2 d k_{2}=\left(2+k_{2} r_{2}\right) k_{3}+r_{2},\left(c_{2}, r_{2}\right) \neq(2,0), 2 d \leq a$ with $r_{2}=2 r, k_{2}=k, k_{3}+r=e k$.

In case III, we notice that $k_{2}=1$ and $a=2 d+r_{2}+1$ if $n \geq 2$ since $2 a-1=(a+2 d) k_{2}+r_{2}$. 2.15) follows immediately from this. If $n=3$, 2.16) follows from $a=2 d+r_{2}+1, c_{2}=1+r_{2}, 2 a-r_{2}=r_{2}+1+1,\left(c_{2}, r_{2}\right)$ $\neq(2,1), r_{2} \equiv 1(\bmod 2)$. If $n=4$, from $a=2 d+r_{2}+1, c_{2}=1+r_{2}, 2 a-r_{2}$ $=\left(r_{2}+1\right) k_{3}+r_{2},\left(c_{2}, r_{2}\right) \neq(2,1)$, we see that $a=\frac{1}{2}\left(r_{2}+1\right) k_{3}+r_{2}, d=$ $\frac{1}{2}\left(a-r_{2}-1\right)=\frac{1}{4}\left(\left(r_{2}+1\right) k_{3}-2\right), r_{2} \geq 3, r_{2} \equiv 1(\bmod 2)$. Putting $r_{2}+1=2 e$, $k_{3}=k$, we have 2.17). If $n=5$, it follows from $a=2 d+r_{2}+1, c_{2}=$ $1+r_{2}, 2 a-r_{2}=a+2 d+1=\left(1+r_{2}\right) k_{3}+r_{3}, c_{3}=a+2 d+\left(r_{3}-r_{2}\right) k_{3}=c_{2}$,
$\left(c_{2}, r_{2}\right) \neq(2,1), r_{2} \equiv r_{3} \equiv 1(\bmod 2)$ that $a+2 d=\left(1+r_{2}\right) k_{3}+r_{3}-1=1+$ $r_{2}+\left(r_{2}-r_{3}\right) k_{3}$. So we see that $\left(1+r_{3}\right)\left(1+k_{3}\right)=r_{2}+3,4 d=\left(r_{2}-r_{3}\right) k_{3}$ $=\left(k_{3}\left(1+r_{3}\right)-2\right) k_{3}$. Hence we have 2.18) with $1+r_{3}=2 e, k_{3}=k$.

## §3. Application to fundamental units

The following lemma is a well-known result about the fundamental units of real quadratic fields (see Degert [9]).

Lemma 3. Let $\boldsymbol{Q}(\sqrt{ } \bar{d})$ be a real quadratic field with square-free integer d. Denote by $\varepsilon_{d}$ the fundamental unit of $\boldsymbol{Q}(\sqrt{ } \bar{d})$ and put $d=n^{2}+r$ with $n, r \in Z,-n<r \leq n$. If $4 n \equiv 0(\bmod r)$ holds, then $\varepsilon_{d}$ is of the following form:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left.\varepsilon_{d}=n+\sqrt{d} \text { with } N \varepsilon_{d}=- \text { sgn } r \text { for }|r|=1 \text { (except for } d=5\right), \\
& \varepsilon_{d}=\frac{1}{2}(n+\sqrt{d}) \text { with } N \varepsilon_{d}=- \text { sgn } r \text { for }|r|=4, \\
& \varepsilon_{d}=\frac{1}{|r|}\left[\left(2 n^{2}+r\right)+2 n \sqrt{d}\right] \text { with } N \varepsilon_{d}=1 \text { for }|r| \neq 1,4 .
\end{aligned}
$$

Using Lemma 1 in Section 1 and Corollary 1 in Section 2, we may give explicitly the fundamental units of $\boldsymbol{Q}(\sqrt{m})$ with several types of $m$. But we see that if the period of $\omega$ is small, then such units are also given by Lemma 3 above. So we show the cases which are not contained in the above.

Theorem 1. Let $m=a^{2}+b$ be a square-free integer with $a, b \in Z$, $0<b \leq 2 a$. Denote by $\varepsilon_{m}$ the fundamental unit of the real quadratic field $\boldsymbol{Q}(\sqrt{m})$. Then $\varepsilon_{m}$ is given by the following form:
3.1) if $a=4 k^{2} r+k+r, \quad b=4 k r+1$ with $k, r>0, k \not \equiv r(\bmod 2)$, then
$\varepsilon_{m}=\left(4 k^{2}+1\right) \omega+2 k$ with $\omega=\sqrt{m}+a, N \varepsilon_{m}=-1$,
3.2) if $a=\frac{1}{2}(k r+1)(e k-r)+r, b=(e k-r) r+e$ with $e, k, r$, $e k-r>0, a^{2}+b \not \equiv 1(\bmod 4)$, then $\varepsilon_{m}=\left(k^{2}(e k-r)+2 k\right) \omega+k(e k-r)+1$ with $\omega=\sqrt{m}+a$, $N \varepsilon_{m}=1$,
3.3) if $a=k^{2} r+k+r, b=4(k r+1)$ with $k>1, r>0, a \equiv 1$ $(\bmod 2)$, then $\varepsilon_{m}=\left(k^{2}+1\right) \omega+k$ with $\omega=\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{m}+a), N \varepsilon_{m}=-1$,
3.4) if $a=d k+r, b=4 d$ with $d=(e k-r) r+e, k>1, e, r$, $e k-r>0, a \equiv 1(\bmod 2)$, then

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \varepsilon_{m}=\left(k^{2}(e k-r)+2 k\right) \omega+k(e k-r)+1 \text { with } \omega=\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{m}+a), \\
& N \varepsilon_{m}=1
\end{aligned}
$$

3.5) if $a=e k+2 e-1, b=2 e k-1$ with $e>1, k>0, e \equiv k \equiv 1$ $(\bmod 2)$, then

$$
\varepsilon_{m}=(k+2) \omega+k+1 \text { with } \omega=\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{m}+a-1), N \varepsilon_{m}=1,
$$

3.6) if $a=k(e k-1)+2 e(k+1)-2, b=2 k(e k-1)+1$ with $e$, $k>0, k \equiv 0$ or $e \equiv k \equiv 1(\bmod 2), e(k+1) \geq 3$, then $\varepsilon_{m}=\left(k^{2}+2 k+2\right) \omega+k^{2}+k+1$ with $\omega=\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{m}+a-1)$, $N \varepsilon_{m}=-1$.

Proof. In general, for a real number $\alpha$, if we put

$$
\alpha=k_{1}+\frac{1}{k_{2}}+\cdots+\frac{1}{k_{n}}+\frac{1}{\alpha_{n}}=\frac{p_{n} \alpha_{n}+p_{n-1}}{q_{n} \alpha_{n}+q_{n-1}},
$$

it is known that $q_{0}=0, q_{1}=1, q_{i}=q_{i-1} k_{i}+q_{i-2}(i \geq 2)$. Using the result of Corollary 1, the continued fractional expansion of $\omega$ in each case is given as follows:
3.1') $\omega=2 a+\frac{1}{2 k}+\frac{1}{2 k}+\frac{1}{\omega}$,
3.2') $\omega=2 a+\frac{1}{k}+\frac{1}{e k-r}+\frac{1}{k}+\frac{1}{\omega}$,
3.3') $\omega=a+\frac{1}{k}+\frac{1}{k}+\frac{1}{\omega}$,
3.4') $\omega=a+\frac{1}{k}+\frac{1}{e k-r}+\frac{1}{k}+\frac{1}{\omega}$,
3.5') $\omega=a-1+\frac{1}{1}+\frac{1}{k}+\frac{1}{1}+\frac{1}{\omega}$,
3.6') $\omega=a-1+\frac{1}{1}+\frac{1}{k}+\frac{1}{k}+\frac{1}{1}+\frac{1}{\omega}$.

From Lemma 1, we get $\varepsilon_{m}$ by simple calculation.

## §4. Application to class numbers

Now we show the various sufficient conditions for $h(m)>1$ when $m$ is one of the four types in Section 0, and when the period of $\omega$ is small, where $\omega$ is an element of $R(m)$ and is also an integer of $\boldsymbol{Q}(\sqrt{m})$.

Theorem 2. If one of the integers in the following condition i) is not prime, or there exists an odd prime $q$ satisfying one of the following conditions ii), iii), iv) in each case of 4.1)-4.8), then $h(m)>1$ holds:
4.1) if $m=p=9 g^{2}+2$ with odd $g$ and prime $p \equiv 3(\bmod 4)$,
i) $6 g+1,6 g-1$,
ii) $q<3 g,\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)=1$,
iii) $q \mid g, q \equiv \pm 1(\bmod 8)$,
iv) $q \mid 3 g \pm 1, q \equiv \pm 1(\bmod 12)$,
4.3) if $m=p=g^{2}-2$ with odd $g$ $>3$ and prime $p \equiv 3(\bmod 4)$,
i) $2 g-3,6 g-11$,
ii) $q \leq g,\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)=1$,
iii) $q \mid g, q \equiv 1$ or $3(\bmod 8)$,
iv) $q \mid g \pm 1, q \equiv 1(\bmod 4)$,
4.5) if $m=p=g^{2}+4$ with odd $g$ and prime $p \equiv 1(\bmod 4)$,
i) $g, 2 g-3$,
ii) $q \leq \frac{1}{2}(g+1),\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)=1$,
iii) $q \mid g \pm 1, q \equiv \pm 1(\bmod 5)$,
4.7) if $m=p_{1} p_{2}=g^{2}-4$ with odd $g$ $>5$ and primes $p_{1} \equiv p_{2} \equiv 3(\bmod 4)$,
i) $2 g-5$,
ii) $q \leq \frac{1}{2}(g-1),\left(\frac{p_{1} p_{2}}{q}\right)=1$,
iii) $q \mid g, q \equiv 1(\bmod 4)$,
where ( $m / q$ ) is Kronecker's symbol.
4.2) if $m=2 p=2\left(18 g^{2}+1\right)$ with odd $g$ and prime $p \equiv 3(\bmod 4)$,
i) $12 g+1,12 g-1$,
ii) $q \leq 6 g+1,\left(\frac{2 p}{q}\right)=1$,
iii) $q \mid g, q \equiv \pm 1(\bmod 8)$,
iv) $q \mid 6 g \pm 1, q \equiv \pm 1(\bmod 12)$,
4.4) if $m=2 p=2\left(8 g^{2}-1\right)$ with prime $p \equiv 3(\bmod 4)$,
i) $8 g-3,24 g-11$,
ii) $q<4 g,\left(\frac{2 p}{q}\right)=1$,
iii) $q \mid g, q \equiv 1$ or $3(\bmod 8)$,
iv) $q \mid 4 g \pm 1, q \equiv 1(\bmod 4)$,
4.6) if $m=p_{1} p_{2}=p_{1}\left(p_{1} g^{2}+4\right)$ with odd g and primes $p_{1} \equiv p_{2} \equiv 3$
$(\bmod 4)$,
i) $p_{1}(g+1)-1$,
ii) $q \leq \frac{1}{2}\left(p_{1} g+1\right),\left(\frac{p_{1} p_{2}}{q}\right)=1$,
4.8) if $m=p=4 g^{2}+1$ with prime $p \equiv 1(\bmod 4)$,
i) $g, 3 g-2$,
ii) $q<g,\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)=1$,
iii) $q \mid g \pm 1, q \equiv \pm 1(\bmod 5)$,

To prove this Theorem, we show the general conditions for $h(m)>1$ according to the three cases in Section 2.

Theorem 3. Let $n$ be the period of $\omega$ and $R_{1}(m)=\left\{\omega_{0}, \omega_{1}, \cdots, \omega_{n-1}\right\}$ be the equivalent class in $R(m)$ containing $\omega_{0}=\omega$, and put $\omega_{i}=(\sqrt{m}+a-$ $\left.r_{i}\right) / c_{i}(0 \leq i \leq n-1)$. Then $h(m)>1$ holds if and only if $R(m) \neq R_{1}(m)$, i.e. there exist integers $A$ and $t$ satisfying the following condition 4.9):

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { 4.9) } \quad \text { in case } \mathrm{I}, & A \mid t^{2}-2 a t-b(0 \leq t<a), t<A \leq 2 a-t \\
& (A, t) \neq\left(c_{i}, r_{i}\right)(0 \leq i \leq n-1),
\end{array}
$$

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { in case II, } & A \left\lvert\, t^{2}-a t-d\left(0 \leq t<\frac{a}{2}\right)\right., t<A \leq a-t \\
& (2 A, 2 t) \neq\left(c_{i}, r_{i}\right)(0 \leq i \leq n-1), \\
\text { in case III, } & A \left\lvert\, t^{2}-(a-1) t-\left(\frac{a}{2}+d\right)\left(0 \leq t<\frac{a}{2}\right)\right., t<A<a-t, \\
& (2 A, 2 t+1) \neq\left(c_{i}, r_{i}\right)(0 \leq i \leq n-1) .
\end{array}
$$

Proof. From the equations:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& m=(a-t)^{2}-\left(t^{2}-2 a t-b\right) \quad \text { in case I, } \\
& m=(a-2 t)^{2}-4\left(t^{2}-a t-d\right) \quad \text { in case II, } \\
& m=(a-2 t-1)^{2}-4\left(t^{2}-(a-1) t-\left(\frac{1}{2} a+d\right)\right) \quad \text { in case III, }
\end{aligned}
$$

each element $\alpha$ of $R(m)$ may be written as follows:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \begin{array}{l}
\alpha=\frac{1}{A}(\sqrt{m}+a-t) \quad \text { with } A \mid t^{2}-2 a t-b \quad(0 \leq t<a), \\
\\
\qquad=A \leq 2 a-t \quad \text { in case I, } \\
\alpha=\frac{1}{2 A}(\sqrt{m}+a-2 t) \quad \text { with } \quad A \left\lvert\, t^{2}-a t-d \quad\left(0 \leq t<\frac{a}{2}\right)\right., \\
\quad t<A \leq a-t \text { in case II, } \\
\alpha=\frac{1}{2 A}(\sqrt{m}+a-2 t-1) \quad \text { with } A \left\lvert\, t^{2}-(a-1) t-\left(\frac{a}{2}+d\right)\right. \\
\quad\left(0 \leq t<\frac{a}{2}\right), \quad t<A<a-t \text { in case III. }
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

So the existence of the integers $A$ and $t$ satisfying 4.9) means that $R(m)$ $\neq R_{1}(m)$, which is the same thing as $h(m)>1$ from Lemma 2. The converse is easy to verify.

Corollary 2. Under the same notations as in Theorem 3, if there exists an odd prime $q$ satisfying the following condition 4.10), then $h(m)$ $>1$ holds:
4.10) in case I, $\quad q \leq a+1, q \neq c_{i}(0 \leq i \leq n-1),\left(\frac{m}{q}\right)=1$,
in case II, $\quad q \leq \frac{1}{2}(a+1), 2 q \neq c_{i}(0 \leq i \leq n-1),\left(\frac{m}{q}\right)=1$,
in case III, $\quad q \leq \frac{a}{2}, 2 q \neq c_{i}(0 \leq i \leq n-1),\left(\frac{m}{q}\right)=1$.
We use the following simple lemma without proof.

Lemma 4. Let $q$ be an odd prime and $f(X)=X^{2}+u X+v$ with $u$, $v \in Z$. Then the polynomial $f(X)$ is reducible modulo $q$ if $\left(\left(u^{2}-4 v\right) / q\right)=1$ holds.

Proof of Corollary 2. Assume that there exists an odd prime $q$ satisfying 4.10). In case I, from Lemma 4, we see that $t^{2}-2 a t-b \equiv(t-u)$ $\times(t-v)(\bmod q)$ with $u, v \in Z, 0 \leq u, v<q$, since $\left(\left(4 a^{2}+4 b\right) / q\right)=(4 m / q)$ $=1$. We may assume that $0 \leq u<v<q, u \leq q-2 \leq a-1$ since $u=v$ means that $m \equiv 0(\bmod q)$. So we see that

$$
q \mid u^{2}-2 a u-b, \quad 0 \leq u \leq a-1, \quad u<q \leq 2 a-u, \quad q \neq c_{i}
$$

Hence we have $h(m)>1$ by Theorem 3. In case II and III, we have $h(m)$ $>1$ in the same way.

Proof of Theorem 2. Using Theorem 3 and Corollary 2, our assertion follows from Corollary 1 in Section 2: 4.1) (resp. 4.2)) from 2.7) with $a=3 g$ (resp. $a=6 g$ ), $b=2, c_{0}=1, c_{1}=2$; 4.3) (resp. 4.4)) from 2.9) with $k=r$ $=1, a=e=g-1, b=2 g-3$ (resp. $a=e=4 g-1, b=8 g-3$ ), $c_{0}=1$, $c_{1}=c_{3}=2 g-3$ (resp. $c_{1}=c_{3}=8 g-3$ ), $c_{2}=2$; 4.5) from 2.10) with $c_{0}=2$; 4.6) from 2.11) with $a=p_{1} g, d=p_{1}, c_{0}=2, c_{1}=2 p_{1}$; 4.7) from 2.15) with $d=\frac{1}{2}(g-3), c_{0}=2, c_{1}=2 g-4$; 4.8) from 2.17) with $a=2 g, c_{0}=2, c_{1}=$ $c_{2}=2 g$.

If one of the integers in i) is not prime, from 4.9) with $t=0,1$ or 2 , we have $R(m) \neq R_{1}(m)$. The condition ii) in each case is the same thing as 4.10), and iii), iv) are the special cases of ii). This completes the proof.

Acknowledgement. The author wishes to thank Professor I. Yamaguchi for his kind advice and encouragement.

## References

[1] H. Behrbohm and L. Rédei, Der Euklidische Algorithmus in quadratischen Körpern, J. Reine Angew. Math., 174 (1936), 192-205.
[ 2 ] H. Hasse, Über mehrklassige, aber eingeschlechtige reellquadratischer Zahlkörper, Elem. Math., 29 (1965), 49-59.
[3] N. C. Ankeny, S. Chowla and H. Hasse, On the class-number of the maximal real subfield of a cyclotomic field, J. Reine Angew. Math., 217 (1965), 217-220.
[4] S. D. Lang, Note on the class-number of the maximal real subfield of a cyclotomic field, J. Reine Angew. Math., 290 (1977), 70-72.
[5] H. Takeuchi, On the class-number of the maximal real subfield of a cyclotomic field, Canad. J. Math., 33 (1981), 55-58.
[6] H. Yokoi, On the Diophantine equation $x^{2}-p y^{2}= \pm 4 q$ and the class number of real subfields of a cyclotomic field, Nagoya Math. J., 91 (1983), 151-161.
[7] P. G. L. Dirichlet, Vorlesungen über Zahlentheorie, F. Vieweg \& Shon, Braunschweig, 1894.
[ 8 ] T. Takagi, Shoto Seisuron Kogi (in Japanese), Kyoritsu, Tokyo, 1931.
[9] G. Degert, Über die Bestimmung der Grundeinheit gewisser reell-quadratischer Zahlkörper, Abh. Math. Sem. Univ. Hamburg, 22 (1958), 92-97.

Department of Mathematics
Science University of Tokyo 26 Wakamiya, Shinjuku-ku
Tokyo, Japan


[^0]:    Received July 15, 1983.

