

Iterated towers of number fields by a quadratic map defined over the Gaussian rationals

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Abstract: An iterated tower of number fields is constructed by adding preimages of a base point by iterations of a rational map. A certain basic quadratic rational map defined over the Gaussian number field yields such a tower of which any two steps are relative bicyclic biquadratic extensions. Regarding such towers as analogues of \mathbf{Z}_2 -extensions, we examine the parity of 2-ideal class numbers along the towers with some examples.

Key words: Iterated extension; class number parity; Iwasawa theory.

1. Introduction. Let ϕ be a rational map of prime degree p which is defined as the rational function $\phi(x) \in k(x)$ over a number field k . Let $\{b_n\}_{0 \leq n \in \mathbf{Z}}$ be a sequence of algebraic numbers such that $\phi(b_{n+1}) = b_n$ for all $n \geq 0$. For a finite extension $K/k(b_0)$, we obtain a sequence

$$K \subset K_1 \subset K_2 \subset \cdots \subset K_n \subset \cdots \subset K_\infty = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} K_n,$$

where $K_n = K(b_n)$ for each $n \geq 1$. The number field K_n is contained in a Galois extension $K(\phi^{-n}(b_0))$ of K . If ϕ is ‘post-critically finite’, i.e., the orbits $\{\phi^n(c)\}_{0 \leq n \in \mathbf{Z}}$ of any critical points c of ϕ are finite, then the number of primes of K ramifying in $K(\phi^{-\infty}(b_0))/K$ is finite ([1,5]), and such iterated extensions have been constructed and studied in various situations (see e.g. [2,3]).

If K_n/K is a cyclic Galois extension of degree p^n for all $n \geq 1$, then K_∞ is a \mathbf{Z}_p -extension of K , i.e., $\text{Gal}(K_\infty/K)$ is isomorphic to the additive group \mathbf{Z}_p of p -adic integers. For example, K_∞/K is the cyclotomic \mathbf{Z}_2 -extension if $\phi(x) = x^2 - 2$ and $b_0 = 0$. The growth of the p -parts of the class numbers along a \mathbf{Z}_p -extension K_∞/K is described by Iwasawa’s class number formula ([9]), and such a formula has been extended to some non-Galois towers ([4,11] etc.) and p -adic Lie extensions ([6,12,15] etc.). One of the most important con-

jectures in Iwasawa theory is Greenberg’s conjecture ([7]) which states that the p -parts of the class numbers are bounded along the cyclotomic \mathbf{Z}_p -extension of a totally real number field. Analogous problems can be also considered for iterated extensions K_∞/K by post-critically finite ϕ , as in [17] where the case of $\phi(x) = x^2 - 2$ has been considered. In particular, it is a basic problem to find many iterated extensions K_∞/K such that the T -ideal class number of K_n is not divisible by p for all sufficiently large n and for a finite set T of primes of K ramifying in K_∞/K . For a finite set T of primes of a subfield of a number field F , the T -ideal class number $|Cl^T(F)|$ of F is the order of the T -ideal class group $Cl^T(F) = Cl(F)/\langle [w]; w | \prod_{v \in T} v \rangle$, which is the quotient of the ideal class group $Cl(F)$ by the subgroup generated by all classes of prime ideals w lying over T .

In this paper, we consider iterated extensions K_∞/K by a rational function

$$(1) \quad \phi(x) = \frac{(ix) + (ix)^{-1}}{2} = \frac{i}{2} \left(x - \frac{1}{x} \right)$$

of degree $p = 2$, which is defined over the Gaussian number field $\mathbf{Q}(i)$, where $i = \sqrt{-1}$. The map ϕ is post-critically finite, and comes from an endomorphism of the elliptic curve $E: y^2 = x^3 + x$ with complex multiplication by Gaussian integers $\mathbf{Z}[i]$ (see Remark 3.3). Then, regarding K_∞/K as an analogue of a \mathbf{Z}_2 -extension, we examine the parity of $|Cl^T(K_n)|$ along the tower of iterated extensions $\{K_n\}_{1 \leq n \in \mathbf{Z}}$. The main result is the following theorem, which can be seen as a partial refinement of [5, §5] in a special case. Put a condition $C(b)$:

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$$\{\sqrt{b^2 - 1}, \sqrt{b(b \pm 1)}, \sqrt{b \pm 1}, \sqrt{b}\} \cap k(b) = \emptyset$$

for each algebraic number b . We denote an abelian 2-group by its type.

Theorem 1.1. *Suppose that $i \in k$ and $\phi(x) = \frac{i}{2}(x - \frac{1}{x})$. Let $b_0 \in k$ be an algebraic integer satisfying $C(b_0)$. Put $k_n = k(b_n)$ for $n \geq 0$. Put $K = k(\sqrt{b_0})$, and put $K_n = k_n(\sqrt{b_0})$ for $n \geq 1$. Let T be a set of primes of k lying over 2. Then the following statements hold true for each $n \geq 1$.*

- (a) k_{n+1}/k_{n-1} is a $[2, 2]$ -extension.
- (b) K_{n+3}/K_n is a $[2, 4]$ -extension unramified outside 2.
- (c) If K_{n+2}/K_n is totally ramified at any prime lying over 2 and $2 \nmid |Cl^T(K_{n+2})|$, then $2 \nmid |Cl^T(K_m)|$ for all $m \geq n$.

In the proof of Theorem 1.1, the notation K_0 denotes either k or K according to whether $\sqrt{b_0(b_0^2 - 1)} \in k$ or not. Then we will see that the statements (b) and (c) also hold true for $n = 0$ if $\sqrt{b_0(b_0^2 - 1)} \in k$.

Remark 1.2. For $b_0 \in k$, the conditions $C(b_0)$ and $\sqrt{b_0(b_0^2 - 1)} \notin k$ are satisfied if and only if $k(\sqrt{b_0}, \sqrt{b_0 + 1}, \sqrt{b_0 - 1})/k$ is a $[2, 2, 2]$ -extension. If $\sqrt{b_0(b_0^2 - 1)} \in k$, then the condition $C(b_0)$ is satisfied if and only if $k(\sqrt{b_0}, \sqrt{b_0 + 1})/k$ is a $[2, 2]$ -extension. The point $(b_0, \sqrt{b_0(b_0^2 - 1)})$ is a $k(\sqrt{b_0(b_0^2 - 1)})$ -rational point of the elliptic curve $E' : y^2 = x^3 - x$.

2. Proof of Theorem 1.1.

2.1. Preliminaries. Suppose that ϕ is defined as (1), and k is a finite extension of $\mathbf{Q}(i)$. For $b \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}}$, we have $\phi(b') = b$ if and only if $b'^2 + 2bib' - 1 = 0$, i.e.,

$$b' = -i(b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 1}) = \left(\frac{\sqrt{b - 1} \pm \sqrt{b + 1}}{1 + i} \right)^2.$$

Then $k(b') = k(b, \sqrt{b^2 - 1})$. Note that $2i = (1 + i)^2$.

Lemma 2.1. *Assume that $i \in k$ and that the condition $C(b)$ is satisfied for $b \in \overline{\mathbf{Q}}$. Let b' and b'' be algebraic numbers such that $\phi(b') = b$ and $\phi(b'') = b'$. Then $k(b'')/k(b)$ is a $[2, 2]$ -extension containing three quadratic subextensions $k(b, \sqrt{b(b \pm 1)})$, $k(b')$. Moreover, the condition $C(b')$ is also satisfied.*

Proof. Let

$$f(x) = x^4 + 4bx^3 + 2x^2 - 4bx + 1 \in k(b)[x]$$

be the numerator of $\phi^2(x) - b = \frac{f(x)}{-4x^3 + 4x}$. Note that $\phi(-\frac{1}{x}) = \phi(x)$. Since $\phi(b'') = b'$ and $\phi(b') = b$, we can easily see that the four roots of $f(x)$ are

$$(2) \quad b'', \quad -\frac{1}{b''}, \quad \frac{b'' + 1}{b'' - 1}, \quad -\frac{b'' - 1}{b'' + 1},$$

and hence $k(b'')/k(b)$ is a Galois extension and $[k(b'') : k(b)] \leq 4$. Moreover, one can directly show that

$$\left(b'' + \frac{b'' + 1}{b'' - 1} + 2b \right)^2 = 4b(b - 1),$$

which implies that $\sqrt{b(b - 1)} \in k(b'')$. Since the condition $C(b)$ is satisfied,

$$k(b'') = k(b)(\sqrt{b(b - 1)}, \sqrt{b(b + 1)})$$

and $\text{Gal}(k(b'')/k(b)) \simeq [2, 2]$. Thus we obtain the former statement.

Since $[k(b'') : k(b')] = 2$, we have $\sqrt{b'^2 - 1} \notin k(b')$. Recall that $b'^2 + 2bib' - 1 = 0$. Since $N_{k(b'')/k(b)}(b'(b' \pm 1)) = -N_{k(b'')/k(b)}(b' \pm 1) = \pm(1 + i)^2 b$, and since $\sqrt{b} \notin k(b)$ by the assumption, we have $\sqrt{b'(b' \pm 1)} \notin k(b')$ and $\sqrt{b' \pm 1} \notin k(b')$. Note that $k(b'') = k(b')(\sqrt{b^2 - 1}) = k(b')(\sqrt{bb'})$. If $\sqrt{b'} \in k(b')$, then $k(b'') = k(b')(\sqrt{b})$, in particular $k(\sqrt{b})/k(b)$ is a quadratic subextension of the $[2, 2]$ -extension $k(b'')/k(b)$. This implies that $k(\sqrt{b}) = k(b, \sqrt{b(b - 1)})$ or $k(\sqrt{b}) = k(b, \sqrt{b(b + 1)})$, i.e., $\sqrt{b - 1} \in k(b)$ or $\sqrt{b + 1} \in k(b)$. This is a contradiction. Therefore $\sqrt{b'} \notin k(b')$. Thus the latter statement is also obtained. \square

Remark 2.2. Since ϕ^2 is defined over \mathbf{Q} , $f(x)$ is defined over $\mathbf{Q}(b)$. Put $g(x) = \pm\sqrt{x}$. Then $g^{-1}(x) = x^2$, and a conjugate

$$(g^{-1}\phi g)(x) = -\frac{1}{4} \left(x - 2 + \frac{1}{x} \right)$$

is also defined over \mathbf{Q} .

2.2. Field theoretic part. Unless otherwise noted, we may suppose that $b_0 \in k$ is not necessarily an algebraic integer.

Lemma 2.3. *If $C(b_0)$ is satisfied, then for all $n \geq 0$, $C(b_n)$ is satisfied, and k_{n+2}/k_n is a $[2, 2]$ -extension containing three quadratic subextensions $k_n(\sqrt{b_n(b_n \pm 1)})$, $k_{n+1} = k_n(\sqrt{b_n^2 - 1})$.*

Proof. We obtain the statement by using Lemma 2.1 inductively. \square

Throughout the following, we assume that $C(b_0)$ is satisfied. Recall that $K_n = k_n(\sqrt{b_0})$ for each $n \geq 1$, and put

$$\begin{aligned} N_0 &= \{1 \leq n \in \mathbf{Z} \mid \sqrt{b_0} \in k_n\} \\ &= \{1 \leq n \in \mathbf{Z} \mid K_n = k_n\}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that $n \in N_0$ if $n \geq \min N_0$.

Lemma 2.4. *If $n \geq 1$, then $K_{n+1} = K_n(\sqrt{b_n})$. In particular, $K_n = k_n$ and $k_{n+1} = k_n(\sqrt{b_n})$ for all $n \in N_0$.*

Proof. Recall that $k_{n+1} = k_n(\sqrt{b_{n-1}b_n})$ for all $n \geq 1$. Then $K_{n+1} = K_n(\sqrt{b_{n-1}b_n})$. If $\sqrt{b_{n-1}} \in K_n$ for $n \geq 1$, then $K_{n+1} = K_n(\sqrt{b_n})$ and $\sqrt{b_n} \in K_{n+1}$. Since $\sqrt{b_0} \in K_1$, we obtain the claim by induction. \square

Lemma 2.5. *K_{n+3}/k_n is a Galois extension for each $n \geq 0$.*

Proof. Recall that $-\frac{1}{b_{n+1}}$ is the conjugate of b_{n+1} over k_n . Then there exists $\tau \in \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}/k_n)$ such that $b_{n+1}^\tau = -\frac{1}{b_{n+1}}$. Since k_{n+3}/k_{n+1} is a Galois extension, the conjugate of k_{n+3} over k_n different from k_{n+3} itself is $k_{n+3}^\tau = k(b_{n+3}^\tau)$. Therefore $k_{n+3}^\tau k_{n+3} = k_{n+3}(b_{n+3}^\tau)$ is a Galois extension of k_n . Since $\phi^2(b_{n+2}^\tau) = b_n$, we have $b_{n+2}^\tau \in \{b_{n+2}, -\frac{1}{b_{n+2}}, \frac{b_{n+2}+1}{b_{n+2}-1}, -\frac{b_{n+2}-1}{b_{n+2}+1}\}$ (see (2)). If b_{n+2}^τ is either b_{n+2} or $-\frac{1}{b_{n+2}}$, then $b_{n+1}^\tau = \phi(b_{n+2}^\tau) = b_{n+1}$, which implies a contradiction that $k_{n+1} \subset k_n$. Therefore $b_{n+2}^\tau = \frac{b_{n+2}+1}{b_{n+2}-1}$ or $b_{n+2}^\tau = -\frac{b_{n+2}-1}{b_{n+2}+1}$. Then $(b_{n+2}^\tau)^2 - 1 = \pm \frac{4b_{n+2}}{(b_{n+2} \mp 1)^2}$. Since $b_{n+3}^\tau = -i(b_{n+2}^\tau \pm \sqrt{(b_{n+2}^\tau)^2 - 1})$, $k_{n+3}^\tau k_{n+3} = k_{n+3}(\sqrt{b_{n+2}}) \subset K_{n+3}$ by Lemma 2.4. Since $[K_{n+3} : k_{n+3}] \leq 2$, we have $K_{n+3} = k_{n+3}^\tau k_{n+3}$ if $\sqrt{b_{n+2}} \notin k_{n+3}$. Suppose that $\sqrt{b_{n+2}} \in k_{n+3}$. Since $k_j(\sqrt{b_{j-1}b_j}) = k_{j+1} \subset k_{n+3}$ for any $n+2 \geq j \geq 1$, we have $\sqrt{b_{j-1}} \in k_{n+3}$ if $\sqrt{b_j} \in k_{n+3}$, and hence $\sqrt{b_0} \in k_{n+3}$ by induction. Then $K_{n+3} = k_{n+3} = k_{n+3}^\tau k_{n+3}$. Therefore K_{n+3}/k_n is a Galois extension. \square

By Lemma 2.3, $k_{n+1}(\sqrt{b_{n+1}(b_{n+1}+1)})$ is a subextension of k_{n+3}/k_n of degree 4. Since

$$b_{n+1} = \frac{(\sqrt{b_{n+1}(b_{n+1}+1)})^2 - 1}{1 - 2b_n i},$$

one can easily see that the minimal polynomial of $\sqrt{b_{n+1}(b_{n+1}+1)}$ over k_n is

$$(3) \quad x^4 + a_n x^2 + c_n \\ = x^4 + (4b_n^2 + 2b_n i - 2)x^2 + b_n(1+i)^2.$$

Then

$$(4) \quad c_n(a_n^2 - 4c_n) = 4b_n(b_n^2 - 1)(1+i)^2(2b_n+i)^2 \\ \equiv b_n(b_n^2 - 1) \pmod{(k_n^\times)^2}.$$

Lemma 2.6. *The following three statements are equivalent:*

- $N_0 \neq \emptyset$.
- $1 \in N_0$, i.e., N_0 is the set of all positive rational integers.
- $\sqrt{b_0(b_0^2 - 1)} \in k$.

Proof. (a) \Rightarrow (b): Put $n_0 = \min N_0$. Suppose that $n_0 \geq 3$. Then $K_{n_0} = k_{n_0}$ which is a Galois extension of k_{n_0-3} by Lemma 2.5. Since $\sqrt{b_0} \notin k_{n_0-1}$ and $\sqrt{b_0} \in k_{n_0}$, we have $k_{n_0-1} \cap K_{n_0-3} = k_{n_0-3}$ and $k_{n_0} = K_{n_0-1}$. Since k_{n_0-1}/k_{n_0-3} is a $[2, 2]$ -extension, k_{n_0}/k_{n_0-3} is a $[2, 2, 2]$ -extension. In particular, $k_{n_0-2}(\sqrt{b_{n_0-2}(b_{n_0-2}+1)})/k_{n_0-3}$ is a $[2, 2]$ -extension. By (3), we have $\sqrt{c_{n_0-3}} \in k_{n_0-3}$ (see e.g. [10, Corollary 2.2.4]), i.e., $\sqrt{b_{n_0-3}} \in k_{n_0-3}$. This contradicts the validity of $C(b_{n_0-3})$ by Lemma 2.3. Therefore $n_0 \leq 2$ if $N_0 \neq \emptyset$. Suppose that $n_0 = 2$. Then $\sqrt{b_0} \in k_2$, and hence $k(\sqrt{b_0})/k$ is a quadratic subextension of the $[2, 2]$ -extension k_2/k . Since $\sqrt{b_0} \notin k_1$, i.e., $k(\sqrt{b_0}) \neq k_1$, we have either $k(\sqrt{b_0}) = k(\sqrt{b_0(b_0+1)})$ or $k(\sqrt{b_0}) = k(\sqrt{b_0(b_0-1)})$. Then $\sqrt{b_0+1} \in k$ or $\sqrt{b_0-1} \in k$. This contradicts to the condition $C(b_0)$. Thus we have $n_0 = 1 \in N_0$.

(b) \Leftrightarrow (c): We have $\sqrt{b_0} \in k_1$ if and only if $k(\sqrt{b_0}) = k(\sqrt{b_0^2 - 1})$, i.e., $\sqrt{b_0(b_0^2 - 1)} \in k$. \square

By Lemma 2.6, we have $K_1 = k_1 = k_0(\sqrt{b_0}) \neq k_0$ if $N_0 \neq \emptyset$. Put

$$K_0 = \begin{cases} k_0 & \text{if } N_0 \neq \emptyset, \\ k_0(\sqrt{b_0}) & \text{if } N_0 = \emptyset. \end{cases}$$

Then $k_m \cap K_n = k_n$ and $K_m = k_m K_n$ for any $m \geq n \geq 0$. By Lemma 2.3, we obtain a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & K_n^+ & & K_{n+1}^+ & & \\ & \swarrow & & \searrow & & \swarrow & \\ K_n & & K_{n+1} & & K_{n+2} & & K_{n+3} \\ & \swarrow & & \searrow & & \swarrow & \\ & & K_n^- & & K_{n+1}^- & & \end{array}$$

for all $n \geq 0$, where $K_n^\pm = K_n(\sqrt{b_n(b_n \pm 1)})$.

Lemma 2.7. *The following two statements hold true:*

- If $N_0 \neq \emptyset$, then k_{n+3}/k_n is a $[2, 4]$ -extension for each $n \geq 0$.
- If $N_0 = \emptyset$, then K_{n+3}/K_n is a $[2, 4]$ -extension for each $n \geq 1$, and

$$K_3 = K_0 \left(\sqrt{b_0(b_0-1)}, \sqrt{(\sqrt{b_0}+1)(\sqrt{b_0}-i)}, \sqrt{(\sqrt{b_0}-1)(\sqrt{b_0}+i)} \right).$$

Proof. By Lemmas 2.4 and 2.5, K_{n+3}/K_n is a Galois extension of degree 8 for each $n \geq 0$. Since $[K_{n+1}^+ : K_n] = 4$, the polynomial (3) is irreducible over K_n . If $n \geq 1$, $K_n(\sqrt{b_n^2 - 1}) = K_{n+1} = K_n(\sqrt{b_n})$ by Lemma 2.4, which implies that $\sqrt{b_n} \notin K_n$ and

$\sqrt{b_n(b_n^2 - 1)} \in K_n$. By Lemma 2.6, $\sqrt{b_0} \notin k = K_0$ and $\sqrt{b_0(b_0^2 - 1)} \in k_0 = K_0$ if $N_0 \neq \emptyset$. Hence $\sqrt{c_n} = (1+i)\sqrt{b_n} \notin K_n$ and $\sqrt{c_n(a_n^2 - 4c_n)} \in K_n$ for all $n \geq \delta$ (see (4)), where $\delta = 0$ if $N_0 \neq \emptyset$, and $\delta = 1$ if $N_0 = \emptyset$. Therefore K_{n+1}^+/K_n is a cyclic extension of degree 4 (see e.g. [10, Corollary 2.2.4]) if $n \geq \delta$. This implies that K_{n+3}/K_n is a $[2, 4]$ -extension for all $n \geq \delta$. In particular, we obtain the statement for $N_0 \neq \emptyset$. Suppose that $N_0 = \emptyset$. Then $x^4 + a_0x^2 + c_0$ is also the minimal polynomial of $\sqrt{b_1(b_1 + 1)}$ over K_0 . Recall that $b_1(b_1 + 1) = 1 - b_1(2b_0i - 1)$. Since $\sqrt{c_0} = (1+i)\sqrt{b_0} \in K_0$, $K_1^+ = K_0(\sqrt{b_1(b_1 + 1)})$ is a $[2, 2]$ -extension of K_0 (see e.g. [10, Corollary 2.2.4]). Then the octic Galois extension K_3/K_0 contains two distinct $[2, 2]$ -extension K_1^+/K_0 and K_2/K_0 , and hence $K_3 = K_0^- K_1^+$ is a $[2, 2, 2]$ -extension of K_0 . In fact, the four roots of $x^4 + a_0x^2 + c_0$ are

$$\begin{aligned} & \pm \frac{i}{2} (\sqrt{a_0 + 2\sqrt{c_0}} \pm \sqrt{a_0 - 2\sqrt{c_0}}) \\ & = \pm i \left((\sqrt{b_0} + \frac{i-1}{2}) \sqrt{(\sqrt{b_0} + 1)(\sqrt{b_0} - i)} \right. \\ & \quad \left. \pm (\sqrt{b_0} - \frac{i-1}{2}) \sqrt{(\sqrt{b_0} - 1)(\sqrt{b_0} + i)} \right), \end{aligned}$$

and hence $K_3 = K_0^-(\sqrt{a_0 \pm 2\sqrt{c_0}})$. Thus we obtain the statement for $N_0 = \emptyset$. \square

2.3. Number theoretic part. We shall consider the ramification and the class number parity. We denote by \mathcal{O}_F the ring of integers in a number field F , and by \mathcal{O}_F^\times its unit group.

Lemma 2.8. *If $b_0 \in \mathcal{O}_k$, then;*

- k_1/k is unramified outside primes dividing $2(b_0^2 - 1)$.
- k_2/k_1 is unramified outside primes dividing $2b_0$.
- k_n/k_2 is unramified outside 2 for any $n \geq 3$.

Proof. Recall that

$$b_n^2 + 2b_{n-1}ib_n - 1 = 0$$

for all $n \geq 1$. Then $b_n \in \mathcal{O}_{k_n}^\times$ if $b_{n-1} \in \mathcal{O}_{k_{n-1}}$. Therefore $b_n \in \mathcal{O}_{k_n}^\times$ for all $n \geq 1$ if $b_0 \in \mathcal{O}_k$. Since

$$k_{n+1} = k_n(\sqrt{b_n^2 - 1}) = k_n(\sqrt{b_{n-1}b_n}),$$

we obtain the statements. \square

Lemma 2.9. *Assume that $b_0 \in \mathcal{O}_k$. Then the following two statements hold true:*

- If $N_0 \neq \emptyset$, then k_n/k is unramified outside 2 for any $n \geq 0$.
- If $N_0 = \emptyset$, then K_n/K_1 is unramified outside 2 for any $n \geq 1$, and K_1/K_0 is unramified outside primes dividing $2(b_0^2 - 1)$.

Proof. Since K_4/K_1 is a $[2, 4]$ -extension by Lemma 2.7, K_2^+/K_1 is a cyclic extension of degree 4, which is unramified outside $2b_0$ by Lemma 2.8. Since K_2^+/K_2 is unramified outside 2 by Lemma 2.8, any prime v not dividing 2 does not ramify in K_2^+/K_1 . Hence K_2/K_1 is unramified outside 2. By Lemma 2.8, K_n/K_1 is unramified outside 2 for any $n \geq 1$. If $N_0 = \emptyset$, then $k_1 \cap K_0 = k$ and $K_1 = k_1K_0$. Hence we obtain the statement for $N_0 = \emptyset$. Suppose that $N_0 \neq \emptyset$. Then $k_1 = k(\sqrt{b_0^2 - 1}) = k(\sqrt{b_0})$ by Lemma 2.6, and hence k_1/k is unramified outside $2(b_0^2 - 1)$ and unramified outside $2b_0$. Since $\mathcal{O}_k(b_0^2 - 1) + \mathcal{O}_kb_0 = \mathcal{O}_k$, k_1/k is unramified outside 2. Thus we obtain the statement for $N_0 \neq \emptyset$. \square

We need the following result, which is a part of [17, Theorem 2.1] or [13, Proposition 1].

Proposition 2.10. *Let S be a finite set of primes of a subfield of a number field K , and let T be a subset of S . Let K''/K be a cyclic quartic extension, which is unramified outside S and totally ramified at any primes lying over S . Let K'/K be the unique quadratic subextension of K''/K . If $2 \nmid |Cl^T(K')|$, then $2 \nmid |Cl^T(K'')|$.*

Suppose that $b_0 \in \mathcal{O}_k$. By Lemmas 2.7 and 2.9, K_{n+3}/K_n is a $[2, 4]$ -extension unramified outside 2 for any $n \geq \delta$, where $\delta = 0$ if $N_0 \neq \emptyset$, and $\delta = 1$ if $N_0 = \emptyset$.

Lemma 2.11. *Suppose that $n \geq \delta$. Assume that K_{n+2}/K_n is totally ramified at any primes lying over 2 and $2 \nmid |Cl^T(K_{n+2})|$. Then K_{n+3}/K_{n+1} is totally ramified at any primes lying over 2 and $2 \nmid |Cl^T(K_{n+3})|$.*

Proof. Since K_{n+2}/K_n^+ is ramified at any primes $v|2$, the cyclic quartic extension K_{n+3}/K_n^+ is totally ramified at any $v|2$. Hence K_{n+3}/K_{n+1} is totally ramified at any primes lying over 2. Since $2 \nmid |Cl^T(K_{n+2})|$, we have $2 \nmid |Cl^T(K_{n+3})|$ by Proposition 2.10 for the cyclic quartic extension K_{n+3}/K_n^+ . \square

Suppose that $n \geq \delta$. By using Lemma 2.11 recursively, we see that $2 \nmid |Cl^T(K_m)|$ for any $m \geq n$ if K_{n+2}/K_n is totally ramified at any primes lying over 2 and $2 \nmid |Cl^T(K_{n+2})|$. By combining Lemmas 2.6, 2.7, 2.9 and this fact, the proof of Theorem 1.1 is completed.

3. Examples. The following result by Iwasawa ([8]) is also useful to find examples.

Proposition 3.1. *Let K'/K be a quadratic extension ramified at only one prime v . Put $T = \emptyset$ or $T = \{v\}$. If $2 \nmid |Cl^T(K)|$, then $2 \nmid |Cl^T(K')|$.*

Suppose that ϕ is defined as (1).

Example 3.2. Put $b_0 = \pm i$, and put $k = \mathbf{Q}(i)$. Since $b_0(b_0^2 - 1) = \pm(1 + i)^2$, we have $\sqrt{b_0(b_0^2 - 1)} \in k$. Then

$$k_2 = \mathbf{Q}(i, b_2) = \mathbf{Q}(i, \sqrt{b_0}, \sqrt{b_0 + 1}) = \mathbf{Q}(\zeta_8, \sqrt{1 + i})$$

is a $[2, 2]$ -extension of $k = \mathbf{Q}(i)$ which is unramified outside 2 and totally ramified at $1 + i$. Hence the condition $C(b_0)$ is satisfied (see Remark 1.2). By Lemma 2.7, k_{n+3}/k_n is a $[2, 4]$ -extension unramified outside $1 + i$ for any $n \geq 0$. By applying Proposition 3.1 for k_n/k_{n-1} recursively, we see that k_∞/k is totally ramified at $1 + i$, and that $2 \nmid |Cl(k_n)|$ for any $n \geq 0$.

Remark 3.3. Note that

$$-i\phi(ix) = \frac{i}{2} \left(x + \frac{1}{x} \right) = -(1 + i)^{-2} \left(x + \frac{1}{x} \right)$$

is a PGL_2 -conjugate of ϕ . Put $\Phi(x) = i\phi(ix)$. Then $\Phi(x)$ is the x -coordinate of the endomorphism $[1 + i]$ of the elliptic curve $E : y^2 = x^3 + x$ with complex multiplication by $\mathbf{Z}[i]$ and the j -invariant 1728 (see [16, p. 111, Proposition 2.3.1]). Since

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi^n(x) &= (-1)^n (-\Phi)^n(x) = (-1)^n (-i\phi i)^n(x) \\ &= (-1)^{n+1} i\phi^n(ix), \end{aligned}$$

we have $(-1)^{n+1} i\phi^{-n}(b_0) = \Phi^{-n}(ib_0)$, and hence $k(\phi^{-n}(b_0)) = k(\Phi^{-n}(ib_0))$. Since $\Phi^{-3}(\infty) = \{\pm 1, \pm i\}$ and $\Phi(\pm 1) = \pm i$, we have $\Phi^{-n-3}(\infty) = \Phi^{-n}(\pm 1) \cup \Phi^{-n+1}(\pm 1)$. If $b_0 = \mp i$ as in Example 3.2, then

$$k(\phi^{-n}(b_0)) = k(\Phi^{-n}(\pm 1)) = k(\Phi^{-n-3}(\infty))$$

contains the ray class field $\mathbf{Q}(i)(\xi^2 | \xi \in \Phi^{-n-3}(\infty))$ of $\mathbf{Q}(i)$ modulo $(1 + i)^{n+3}$ (see [16, p. 135, Theorem 5.6]).

Example 3.4. Put $b_0 = \pm i$, and put $k = \mathbf{Q}(i, \sqrt{q})$ with an odd prime number q . By Proposition 3.1, the class number of $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{q^*})$ is odd, where $q^* = (-1)^{\frac{q-1}{2}} q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. By Example 3.2, the conditions $\sqrt{b_0(b_0^2 - 1)} \in k$ and $C(b_0)$ are satisfied (see Remark 1.2), and k_{n+3}/k_n is a $[2, 4]$ -extension unramified outside 2 and totally ramified at any primes lying over 2 for any $n \geq 0$.

If $q^* \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$, then 2 does not split in k/\mathbf{Q} . By Proposition 3.1 for $k/\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{q^*})$, the class number of k is odd. By applying Proposition 3.1 for k_n/k_{n-1} recursively, we see that $2 \nmid |Cl(k_n)|$ for any $n \geq 0$.

Put $T = \{2\}$. By using PARI/GP ([14]), one can see that $2 \nmid |Cl^T(k_2)|$ if $q \equiv 7 \pmod{16}$ and $q <$

```
? TClassGroup(bnf)={local(P,g);
print1(bnf.clgp[2]);P=idealprimedec(bnf,2);
for(g=1,matsize(P)[2],
print1([bnfisprincipal(bnf,P[g])[1],
P[g][3], /* ramification index */
P[g][4] /* residue degree */)));
? k0=bnfinit(y^4+900,1);
? i=Mod(y^2/(-30),y^4+900);b0=3*i;
? if(bnfcertify(k0)==1,TClassGroup(k0));
[2][[1]~, 2, 1][[1]~, 2, 1]
? phi=(i/2)*(x-1/x);
? f2=numerator(subst(phi,x,phi)-b0);
? k2=rnfinit(k0,lift(f2/polcoeff(f2,4)));
? k2=bnfinit(k2.polabs,1);
? if(bnfcertify(k2)==1,TClassGroup(k2));
[4][[3]~, 8, 1][[3]~, 8, 1]
```

Fig. 1. PARI/GP for Example 3.5.

100 (i.e., $q \in \{7, 23, 71\}$). Then k has two primes lying over 2. By Lemma 2.11, $2 \nmid |Cl^T(k_n)|$ for any $n \geq 0$.

Example 3.5. Put $b_0 = 3i$ and $k = \mathbf{Q}(i, \sqrt{b_0(b_0^2 - 1)}) = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{-30i}) = \mathbf{Q}(i, \sqrt{15})$. Then we obtain the following results by using PARI/GP ([14]): The condition $C(b_0)$ is satisfied (see Remark 1.2), and the prime $1 + i$ of $\mathbf{Q}(i)$ splits in $k/\mathbf{Q}(i)$. Moreover, k_2/k is totally ramified at the two primes of k , and $2 \nmid |Cl^T(k_2)|$ for $T = \{2\}$ (see Figure 1). By Lemma 2.11, $2 \nmid |Cl^T(k_n)|$ for any $n \geq 0$.

On the other hand, suppose that $b_0 = 2 - i$ and $k = \mathbf{Q}(i, \sqrt{b_0(b_0^2 - 1)}) = \mathbf{Q}(i, \sqrt{5})$. As seen in Example 3.4, the class number of k is odd, and 2 does not split in k/\mathbf{Q} . Then $2 \nmid |Cl(k_n)|$ for all $n \geq 0$, by Lemma 2.9 and the recursive use of Proposition 3.1.

Example 3.6. Put $k = \mathbf{Q}(i)$. For $b_0 \in \{3i, 2 - i, 1 + 4i, 6 - i, 3 + 2i\}$, we obtain the following results by using PARI/GP ([14]): The condition $C(b_0)$ is satisfied and $\sqrt{b_0(b_0^2 - 1)} \notin k$.

If $b_0 = 3i$, K_0/\mathbf{Q} is totally ramified at 2, and the unique prime of K_0 lying over 2 splits in K_1/K_0 . Moreover, assuming GRH, K_3/K_1 is totally ramified at any primes lying over 2, and $2 \nmid |Cl^T(K_3)|$ for $T = \{2\}$. By Theorem 1.1, $2 \nmid |Cl^T(K_n)|$ for any $n \geq 1$ under GRH.

If $b_0 \in \{2 - i, 1 + 4i, 6 - i\}$, 2 does not split in K_1/\mathbf{Q} and $|Cl(K_1)| = 1$. If $b_0 = 3 + 2i$, then 2 does not split in K_2/\mathbf{Q} , $|Cl(K_1)| = 2$ and $|Cl(K_2)| = 1$. By Lemma 2.9 and the recursive use of Proposi-

tion 3.1, we see that the class number of K_n is odd for any $n \geq 2$.

Remark 3.7. We have not yet found any example of b_0 and k such that $2 \nmid |Cl(K_n)|$ and K_n has at least two ramified primes lying over 2 for all sufficiently large $n \geq \delta$.

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