

AN EXPLICIT FORMULA FOR THE FUNDAMENTAL  
 UNITS OF A REAL PURE SEXTIC NUMBER  
 FIELD AND ITS GALOIS CLOSURE

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The object of this paper is to give a set of fundamental units of a real pure sextic number field  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt[6]{a^6 - 1})$ , where  $a$  is a special type of natural number and  $a^6 - 1$  is not necessarily 6th power free. It is also shown that a set of fundamental units of the galois closure  $L = K(\sqrt{-3})$  of  $K$  is formed by a real unit and its conjugates.

Let  $d$  be a 6th power free natural number which is not a perfect square or a perfect cube in the rational number field  $\mathbf{Q}$ . Put  $\theta = \sqrt[6]{d}$ ; then  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\theta)$  is a real pure sextic number field. We investigate the group of units of  $K$  for a special type of  $d$  as follows. Let  $d$  be given by

$$(1) \quad d = c(b^6c \pm 2)(b^{12}c^2 \pm b^6c + 1)(b^{12}c^2 \pm 3b^6c + 3)$$

with natural numbers  $b$  and  $c$ . Put

$$(2) \quad a = b^6c \pm 1.$$

(The  $\pm$  signs correspond respectively throughout this paper.) Then

$$(3) \quad b^6d = a^6 - 1$$

and  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt[6]{a^6 - 1})$ .

**THEOREM 1.** *The notation being as above, we assume that  $d > 1$  and  $d$  is square free. Then*

$$(4) \quad \xi_1 = a - b\theta, \quad \xi_2 = a + b\theta, \quad \xi_3 = a^2 + ab\theta + b^2\theta^2$$

*form a set of fundamental units of  $K$ .*

As to explicit formulas for the fundamental units of number fields, G. Degert [2] has given one for certain real quadratic fields. As an application of the Jacobi-Perron algorithm (J.P.A.), L. Bernstein, H.-J. Stender and R. J. Rudman has extended Degert's result to certain real pure cubic, quartic and sextic fields (see [9] and [10]). On the other hand, H. Yokoi has given a different formula for the fundamental units of real quadratic and pure cubic number fields in [11], [12] and [13]. Theorem 1 is an extension of Yokoi's result to real pure sextic fields. A similar formula can be

obtained for the fundamental units of real pure quartic fields (see [7]). Theorem 1 is not included in Stender's result when  $b > 1$  (see Remark 4).

**THEOREM 2.** *Under the same assumption as in Theorem 1, any 5 of 6 conjugates of  $\xi_1$  form a set of fundamental units of  $K(\sqrt{-3})$ .*

Theorem 2 gives an example of a real *Minkowski unit* of a non-abelian galois extension  $K(\sqrt{-3})/\mathbb{Q}$  (see [1]).

To prove Theorem 1, we use the same method as in Stender [8]. Let  $K_2$  and  $K_3$  be the quadratic and cubic subfields of  $K$  respectively, and let  $E$  be the group of units of  $K$ . Define the group  $H$  of positive relative units of  $K$  with respect to  $K_2$  and  $K_3$  by

$$(5) \quad H = \{\xi \in E \mid N_2(\xi) = N_3(\xi) = 1\},$$

where  $N_2$  and  $N_3$  denote the relative norm maps from  $K$  to  $K_2$  and  $K_3$  respectively. Then  $H$  is a free abelian group of rank 1. The fundamental units of the subfields will be determined in §1. A generator of  $H$  will be determined in §2. In §3, we shall prove Theorem 1 and show the existence of infinitely many fields which satisfy the condition of Theorem 1. In §4, we shall prove Theorem 2.

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1. **Fundamental units of the subfields.** Let  $d$  be a natural number given by (1) with natural numbers  $b$  and  $c$ , and define  $a$  as in (2). Assume that  $d$  is neither a perfect square nor a perfect cube in  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\theta)$ , where  $\theta = \sqrt[6]{d}$ , is of degree 6 over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and it contains the quadratic subfield  $K_2 = \mathbb{Q}(\theta^3)$  and the cubic subfield  $K_3 = \mathbb{Q}(\theta^2)$ . Denote respectively by  $\eta_2$  and  $\eta_3$  the fundamental units of  $K_2$  and  $K_3$  which are larger than 1. Define the algebraic integers  $\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3$  as in (4). Then it immediately follows from (3) that their absolute norms are all equal to 1; hence they belong to the group  $E$  of units of  $K$ . We also see that  $1/\xi_1\xi_3 = a^3 + b^3\theta^3$  belongs to  $E \cap K_2$ , and that  $1/\xi_1\xi_2 = a^4 + a^2b^2\theta^2 + b^4\theta^4$  belongs to  $E \cap K_3$ .

**PROPOSITION 1.** *If  $d > 1$  and is square free, then  $\eta_2 = 1/\xi_1\xi_3 = a^3 + b^3\theta^3$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $1/\xi_1\xi_3 > 1$ , we have  $\eta_2^n = a^3 + b^3\theta^3$  with a natural number  $n$ . Let us assume  $n \geq 2$ . We can write  $\eta_2 = (t + u\theta^3)/2$

with nonzero rational integers  $t$  and  $u$ , because  $d$  is square free. Then  $u = (\eta_2 - \eta'_2)/\theta^3$ , where  $\eta'_2 = (t - u\theta^3)/2$ . Taking into account that  $u \neq 0$ ,  $|\eta'_2| = 1/\eta_2 < 1$ ,  $n \geq 2$  and  $a^3 + b^3\theta^3 > 1$ , we see that

$$1 \leq |u| \leq (\eta_2 + |\eta'_2|)/\theta^3 < \sqrt{(a^3 + b^3\theta^3)/d} + \sqrt{1/d}.$$

From (3),  $b\theta < a$  and  $1/d = b^6/(a^6 - 1)$ . Therefore

$$1 < \sqrt{2a^3b^6/(a^6 - 1)} + \sqrt{b^6/(a^6 - 1)}.$$

From (2),  $b^6 \leq a + 1$ . Then

$$1 < \sqrt{2a^3(a + 1)/(a^6 - 1)} + \sqrt{(a + 1)/(a^6 - 1)}.$$

However, the right side of the last inequality is smaller than 1 for  $a \geq 3$ , which is a contradiction. When  $a = 2$ , we see from (3) that  $b = 1$ , and then  $d = 63$  is not square free. Since  $a \geq 2$  by (3),  $n = 1$  under our assumption, and the proposition follows.

REMARK 1. When  $d$  has a square factor, the conclusion of Proposition 1 does not necessarily hold. For example, set  $b = 1$  and  $c = 22$  in (1) and (2) for the plus case, i.e.,

$$d = 22(22 + 2)(22^2 + 22 + 1)(22^2 + 3 \cdot 22 + 3), \quad a = 22 + 1.$$

Then  $d = 2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13^2 \cdot 79$ ,  $a = 23$ , and

$$\eta_2 = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 13 + \sqrt{7 \cdot 11 \cdot 79}, \eta_2^2 = a^3 + b^3\theta^3.$$

When the square factor of  $d$  is small, Proposition 1 is also true as is seen from the proof.

PROPOSITION 2. If  $d > 1$  and is cube free, then  $\eta_3 = 1/\xi_1\xi_2 = a^4 + a^2b^2\theta^2 + b^4\theta^4$ .

*Proof.* It follows from T. Nagell [5] (see also [13]), that the binomial unit  $\xi_1\xi_2 = a^2 - b^2\theta^2$  is either fundamental unit of  $K_3$  or its square, and the latter occurs only for  $d = 20, 50$  and a finite number of  $d \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{9}$ . Now we assume  $1/\eta_3^2 = a^2 - b^2\theta^2$ . Let  $d = fg^2$  with relatively prime natural numbers  $f$  and  $g$ , and write  $1/\eta_3 = \{x + y\theta^2 + (z/g)\theta^4\}/3$  with rational integers  $x, y$  and  $z$ . Then

$$|y| < \{1 + 2\sqrt[4]{1(a^2 - b^2\theta^2)}\}/\theta^2$$

follows similarly as in [5]. Note I, 1. Here

$$1/(a^2 - b^2\theta^2) = a^4 + a^2b^2\theta^2 + b^4\theta^4 < 3a^4$$

and

$$1/\theta^2 = \sqrt[3]{1/d} = \sqrt[3]{b^6/(a^6 - 1)} \leq \sqrt[3]{(a + 1)/(a^6 - 1)}$$

are obtained as before, and hence

$$|y| < \sqrt[3]{(a + 1)/(a^6 - 1)} + 2 \sqrt[4]{3} \sqrt[3]{a^3(a + 1)/(a^6 - 1)}.$$

When  $a \geq 6$ , the right side of the last inequality is smaller than 1. Therefore  $y = 0$  and  $1/\eta_3 = \{x + (z/g)\theta^4\}/3$ . This is a contradiction, because the square of a binomial unit cannot be binomial. When  $a = 2, 3, 4$  or  $5$ ,  $a^6 - 1$  is 6th power free, and, by (3),  $b = 1$  and  $d = a^6 - 1$ . For  $a = 2, 4$  or  $5$ , we have  $d \equiv 0 \not\equiv \pm 1 \pmod{9}$ . For  $a = 3$ , we see that  $d$  is not cube free. This completes the proof.

REMARK 2. By the same method as in the proof of Proposition 2, we can verify that the exceptional case of Theorem 6(iii) of [10] occurs only when  $(u, n) = (1, 4)$ , i.e.,  $d = 28$ .

REMARK 3. As we have seen in the end of the proof of Proposition 2, we have  $a \geq 6$  when  $b \geq 2$ . This fact will be used in the next section.

2. Relative fundamental unit. Let  $d, a$  and  $K$  be as in §1. We keep the notation as before. Let  $H$  be the group of positive relative units of  $K$  with respect to  $K_2$  and  $K_3$  which is defined by (5). Then, as in [8], §1, II, 8, the group  $H$  is a free abelian group of rank 1. We denote by  $\varepsilon_1$  the generator of  $H$  which is larger than 1.

Suppose  $d > 1$  and is square free. Then, by Propositions 1 and 2,

$$(6) \quad \eta_2 = 1/\xi_1 \xi_3 = a^3 + b^3 \theta^3, \quad \eta_3 = 1/\xi_1 \xi_2 = a^4 + a^2 b^2 \theta^2 + b^4 \theta^4.$$

The field belongs to *Klasse I* of [8], because

$$(7) \quad N_2(1/\xi_1) = \eta_2, \quad N_3(1/\xi_1) = \eta_3.$$

Put now  $\varepsilon = 1/\xi_1^2 \eta_2^2 \eta_3^3$ , then  $\varepsilon \in H$  and

$$\varepsilon = \xi_2^3 \xi_3^2 / \xi_1 = (a + b\theta)^3 (a^2 + ab\theta + b^2 \theta^2)^2 (a^5 + a^4 b \theta + \dots + b^5 \theta^5)$$

by (3) and (6).

PROPOSITION 3. If  $d > 1$  and is square free, then  $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon = \xi_2^3 \xi_3^2 / \xi_1$ .

*Proof.* When  $b = 1, d = a^6 - 1$  by (3), and then Stender has shown that  $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon$  in [8], Hilfssatz 7. Let  $b \geq 2$ . Since  $\varepsilon > 1$  and  $\varepsilon \in H, \varepsilon_1^n = \varepsilon$  with a natural number  $n$ . Assume  $n \geq 2$ . The relative unit  $\varepsilon = 1/\xi_1^2 \eta_2^2 \eta_3^3$  can be neither a square nor a cube in  $K$  by [8], Hilfssatz 1. Therefore  $n \geq 5$ . Now we can write  $\varepsilon_1 = 1/6 \sum_{j=0}^5 x_j \theta^{j-1}$

with rational integers  $x_j (j = 0, 1, \dots, 5)$  according to [8], Hilfssatz 2. Note that  $d$  divides  $x_0$  and that either  $x_0$  or  $x_5$  is distinct from zero by [9], Hilfssatz 3. On the other hand, by [8], (1.6),

$$|x_j| < \theta^{1-j} A (j = 0, 1, \dots, 5) \quad \text{with} \quad A = \sqrt[5]{\varepsilon} + 2 \sqrt[10]{\varepsilon} + 3,$$

since  $n \geq 5$  and  $\varepsilon > 1$ . Hence either

$$d = \theta^6 \leq |x_0| < \theta A$$

or

$$1 \leq |x_5| < A/\theta^4$$

should hold. From the fact that  $\theta > 1$ , we obtain

$$1 < A/\theta^4 = A \sqrt[3]{1/d^2}.$$

Taking into account that  $b\theta < a$  and  $1/d = b^6/(a^6 - 1) \leq (a + 1)/(a^6 - 1)$  as before, we can derive

$$1 < \sqrt[3]{(a + 1)^3/(a^6 - 1)^2} (\sqrt[5]{2^4 \cdot 3^3 a^{12}} + 2 \sqrt[10]{2^4 \cdot 3^3 a^{12}} + 3).$$

However, since  $a \geq 6$  as we have mentioned in Remark 3, the right side of the last inequality is smaller than 1. This is a contradiction. Thus  $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon$  for  $b \geq 2$ , too.

3. Fundamental units of  $K$ . For natural numbers  $b$  and  $c$ , let  $d$  and  $a$  be given by (1) and (2). Let  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\theta)$ , where  $\theta = \sqrt[3]{d}$ . Further let  $\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3$  be given by (4).

**THEOREM 1.** (i) *If  $d > 1$  and is square free, then  $\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3$  form a set of fundamental units of  $K$ .*

(ii) *For a fixed natural number  $b$ , there are infinitely many values of  $c$  which make  $d$  square free.*

*Proof.* (i) Recall that  $K$  belongs to Klasse I of [8] by (7). It follows from Propositions 1, 2 and 3 that

$$\varepsilon_1 = \frac{\xi_2^3 \xi_3^2}{\xi_1}, \quad \sqrt[3]{\eta_2/\varepsilon_1} = 1/\xi_2 \xi_3, \quad \sqrt{\eta_3 \varepsilon_1} = \xi_2 \xi_3 / \xi_1.$$

These three units form a set of fundamental units of  $K$  by [8], Satz 1'. Hence the assertion is obvious.

(ii) Let

$$f(X) = X(b^6 X \pm 2)(b^{12} X^2 \pm b^6 X + 1)(b^{12} X^2 \pm 3b^6 X + 3).$$

We shall find infinitely many square free natural numbers in the sequence  $\{f(c)\}_{c=1}^\infty$  by the help of Nagell [2], §2. Evidently, (I) the

degrees of the irreducible factors of  $f(X)$  are at most 2; (II) the discriminant of  $f(X)$  is not zero. For a prime number  $p$ , there is a natural number  $c$  such that  $b^6 f(c) = (b^6 c \pm 1)^6 - 1 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}$  if  $b \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ , and there is a  $c'$  such that  $f(c') \equiv 6c' \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}$  if  $b \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . This implies that (IV) there is no prime number  $p$  such that  $f(c) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}$  for all natural numbers  $c = 1, 2, \dots$ . Now let us assume that  $b$  is prime to 6. Then (III) the polynomial  $f(X)$  is primitive. From (I), (II), (III) and (IV), we can apply [2], §2, I, and find infinitely many square free natural numbers in  $\{f(c)\}_{c=1}^{\infty}$ . When  $b$  is not prime to 6, we apply Nagell's result to  $(1/2)f(2X+1)$ ,  $(1/3)f(3X+1)$  or  $1/6f(6X+1)$  in a similar but slightly different manner from the above in order to prove the assertion.

REMARK 4. Stender has given in [10] an explicit formula for the fundamental units of  $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt[6]{M})$ , where  $M = N^6 \pm n (> 1)$  with natural numbers  $N$  and  $n$  such that  $n$  is 6th power free and divides  $N^5$ , assuming that  $(N^6/n) \pm 1$  or  $N^6/n$  is square free. We will see that Theorem 1 is contained in his result only if  $b = 1$ . Let  $n = p_1^{v_1} \cdots p_s^{v_s}$  ( $v_j = 1, 2, \dots, 5$ ) with distinct prime numbers  $p_1, \dots, p_s$ . Write  $(N^6/n) \pm 1 = mx^6$  with natural numbers  $m$  and  $x$ , where  $m$  is 6th power free. Put  $m' = (p_1 \cdots p_s)^6/n$ ; then  $m'$  is also 6th power free. When  $M = N^6 + n$ , the diophantine equation  $mX^6 - m'Y^6 = 1$  belongs to the field  $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt[6]{M})$  in the sense of [10], Definition 1, and has a solution  $(X, Y) = (x, N/p_1 \cdots p_s)$  (see also [10], Satz 10). On the other hand, the equation  $X^6 - dY^6 = 1$  belongs to  $K$  and has a solution  $(X, Y) = (a, b)$ . Suppose  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt[6]{M})$ ; then it follows from [10], Satz 7 that

$$m = 1, \quad m' = d, \quad x = a, \quad N/p_1 \cdots p_s = b.$$

Then  $(N^6/n) + 1 = x^6$  cannot be square free. If  $N^6/n$  is square free,  $n = N^5$  and  $N$  is square free. Therefore  $N = p_1 \cdots p_s$ , i.e.,  $b = 1$ . When  $M = N^6 - n$ , we similarly obtain

$$m = d, \quad m' = 1, \quad x = b, \quad N/p_1 \cdots p_s = a,$$

if  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt[6]{M})$ . If  $(N^6/n) - 1$  is square free, then  $x = b = 1$ . If  $N^6/n$  is square free, then  $n = N^5 = 1$ , and this is a contradiction. Thus, we have seen that Theorem 1 is not contained in Satz 22 of Stender [10] if  $b > 1$ .

4. Real Minkowski unit. Let  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\theta)$  ( $\theta = \sqrt[6]{d}$ ) be a real pure sextic field, and  $L = K(\zeta)$  its galois closure, where  $\zeta = \exp(2\pi\sqrt{-1}/3)$ . According to A. Brumer [1], we say a unit  $\xi$  of  $L$  is a *Minkowski unit* of  $L$  if we can take 4 conjugates  $\xi^{(1)}, \dots, \xi^{(4)}$  of  $\xi$  such that

$\xi, \xi^{(1)}, \dots, \xi^{(4)}$  form a set of fundamental units of  $L$ . The galois group of  $L$  over  $\mathbf{Q}$  is generated by the two automorphisms  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  which satisfy

$$\theta^\sigma = -\zeta\theta, \quad \theta^\tau = \theta; \quad \zeta^\sigma = \zeta, \quad \zeta^\tau = \zeta^{-1}.$$

The defining relations of  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  are  $\sigma^6 = \tau^2 = (\sigma\tau)^2 = 1$ . We will give an example of a real Minkowski unit of the non-abelian, galois, totally imaginary field  $L$ . Since  $K$  is a maximal real subfield of  $L$ , it suffices to find a unit  $\xi$  of  $K$  such that  $\xi, \xi^\sigma, \dots, \xi^{\sigma^4}$  form a set of fundamental units of  $L$ . Now let  $d, a$  and  $K$  be as in §3. Assume  $d > 1$  and is square free. Using the same notation as before, we first study the subfields of  $L$ .

**PROPOSITION 4.** *The assumptions being as above, (i)  $\xi_1^{1+\sigma^2+\sigma^4}$  is a fundamental unit of  $K_2(\zeta)$ , (ii)  $\xi_1^{1+\sigma^3}, \xi_1^{(1+\sigma^3)\sigma}$  form a set of fundamental units of  $K_3(\zeta)$ , (iii)  $\xi_1^{\sigma+\sigma^2}, \xi_1^{\sigma^4+\sigma^5}$  form a set of fundamental units of the fixed field  $F = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt[3]{-27d})$  of  $\sigma^3\tau$ .*

*Proof.* (i) On account of (6),  $\eta_2 = 1/\xi_1\xi_3 = a^3 + b^3\theta^3$  is a fundamental unit of  $K_2$ . Suppose that  $\eta_2$  is not a fundamental unit of  $K_2(\zeta)$ . Then since  $d \neq 3$ , it follows from S.-K. Kuroda [4], Satz 14, that  $3\eta_2 = \alpha^2$  with an integer  $\alpha$  of  $K_2$ . Since  $d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , we have  $\alpha = x + y\theta^3$  with rational integers  $x$  and  $y$ . Therefore

$$3(a^3 + b^3\theta^3) = (x + y\theta^3)^2.$$

Comparing the coefficients and taking the norms of both sides of this equation, we see

$$3a^3 = x^2 + dy^2, \quad 9 = (x^2 - dy^2)^2.$$

This leads us to a contradiction after an easy calculation using the fact that  $d$  is square free. Hence  $\eta_2 = 1/\xi_1\xi_3 = \xi_1^{-(1+\sigma^2+\sigma^4)}$  is a fundamental unit of  $K_2(\zeta)$ . (ii) On account of (6),  $\eta_3^{-1} = \xi_1\xi_2 = a^2 - b^2\theta^2$  is a fundamental unit of  $K_3$ . Suppose that  $\eta_3^{-1}$  and  $\eta_3^{-\sigma}$  does not form a set of fundamental units of  $K_3(\zeta)$ . Then we have

$$(8) \quad \beta^{1+\tau} = \text{Tr}_{\mathbf{Q}^3}^{K_3}(1 + \eta_3^{-1} + \eta_3) = 3(a^4 + a^2 + 1)$$

with an integer  $\beta$  of  $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta)$  such that  $(\gamma/\beta) + (\gamma/\beta)^\tau$ , where  $\gamma = 1 + \eta_3^{-1} + \eta_3^{-(1+\sigma)}$ , is an integer of  $K_3$  (see K. Iimura [3], Theorem 1 and Proposition). Put  $\beta = x + y\zeta$  with rational integers  $x$  and  $y$ ; then we can compute  $(\gamma/\beta) + (\gamma/\beta)^\tau$  by (8), and see that the coefficient of  $\theta^4$  is equal to  $(x + y)b^4/3(a^4 + a^2 + 1)$ . Since  $d$  is square free, it follows that  $(x + y)b^4/(a^4 + a^2 + 1)$  is a rational integer. By (2),  $b$  and  $a^4 + a^2 + 1$  have no common divisor except 3. Moreover, since  $(x + y)^2 -$

$3xy = 3(a^4 + a^2 + 1)$  by (8),  $x + y$  and  $a^4 + a^2 + 1$  have no common divisor except 3, because  $a^4 + a^2 + 1$  is square free as a divisor of  $d$ . Therefore  $a^4 + a^2 + 1 = 3$ , i.e.,  $a = 1$  follows. This is a contradiction. Hence  $\eta_3^{-1} = \xi_1 \xi_2 = \xi_1^{1+\sigma^3}$  and  $\eta_3^{-\sigma} = \xi_1^{(1+\sigma^3)\sigma}$  form a set of fundamental units of  $K_3(\zeta)$ . (iii) Let  $H'$  be the subgroup of the group  $E_F$  of units of  $F$  given by

$$H' = \{ \xi \in E_F \mid \xi^{1+\tau} = 1 \} .$$

Then  $H'$  is generated by a unit  $\varepsilon_2$  and the roots of unity in  $F$  (see [10], §4, II). It is easy to see that  $\xi_1^{(\sigma+\sigma^2)(1+\tau)} = \xi_1^{-(1+\sigma^3)} = \eta_3$ , and that  $\xi_1^{(\sigma+\sigma^2)(1-\sigma^3)(1+\tau)} = 1$ . Therefore  $\xi_1^{(\sigma+\sigma^2)(1-\sigma^3)} = \omega \varepsilon_2^n$  with a rational integer  $n$  and a root of unity  $\omega$ . Applying  $\sigma + \sigma^2$  to both sides, we obtain  $\xi_1^{-1+3\sigma^3+2(\sigma^2+\sigma^4)} = \omega^{\sigma+\sigma^2} \varepsilon_2^{n(\sigma+\sigma^2)}$ . Since  $F$  is the fixed field of  $\sigma^3\tau$ ,  $\varepsilon_2^{\sigma+\sigma^2}$  is a unit of  $K$ , and hence  $\omega^{\sigma+\sigma^2}$  also belongs to  $K$ . Recall that  $\xi_1, \xi_1^{\sigma^3}, \xi_1^{\sigma^2+\sigma^4}$  form a set of fundamental units of  $K$  by Theorem 1. Consequently  $n = \pm 1$ , and  $\xi_1^{(\sigma+\sigma^2)(1-\sigma^3)}$  and the roots of unity of  $F$  generate  $H'$ . As we have seen above,  $\xi_1^{(\sigma+\sigma^2)(1+\tau)} = \eta_3$ . According to [10], Satz 24,  $\xi_1^{(\sigma+\sigma^2)(1-\sigma^3)}$  and  $\xi_1^{(\sigma+\sigma^2)}$  form a set of fundamental units of  $F$ . This completes the proof of (iii).

**THEOREM 2.** *Under the same assumptions as in Theorem 1, the galois closure  $L = K(\zeta)$  of  $K$  has a real Minkowski unit  $\xi_1 = a - b\theta$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $E'$  be the subgroup of the group of units of  $L$  which is generated by all the units of  $K, K^{\sigma^2}, K^{\sigma^4}$  and  $K_3(\zeta)$ . Then for every unit  $\xi$  of  $L$ ,  $\xi^3 = \xi^{1+\tau} \xi^{1+\sigma^2\tau} \xi^{1+\sigma^4\tau} \xi^{-\tau(1+\sigma^2+\sigma^4)}$  belongs to  $E'$ . On the other hand, by Proposition 4(i) and Theorem 1,  $E'$  is generated by the roots of unity in  $L$  and  $\xi_1, \xi_1^\sigma, \dots, \xi_1^{\sigma^4}$ . Hence

$$\xi^3 = \omega \xi_1^{n_0+n_1\sigma+\dots+n_4\sigma^4} ,$$

where  $\omega$  is a root of unity and  $n_0, n_1, \dots, n_4$  are rational integers. By applying  $1 + \tau, 1 + \sigma^3\tau$  and  $1 + \sigma^3$  to both sides, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \xi^{3(1+\tau)} &= \xi_1^{(2n_0-n_1)} \xi_1^{(2n_3-n_1)\sigma^3} \xi_1^{((n_2+n_4-n_1)(\sigma^2+\sigma^4))} , \\ \xi^{3(1+\sigma^3\tau)} &= \omega' \xi_1^{(n_1+n_2-n_0-n_3)(\sigma+\sigma^2)} \xi_1^{(n_4-n_0-n_3)(\sigma^4+\sigma^5)} , \\ \xi^{3(1+\sigma^3)} &= \omega'' \xi_1^{(n_0+n_3-n_1-n_4)(1+\sigma^3)} \xi_1^{(n_2-n_1-n_4)(1+\sigma^3)\sigma} , \end{aligned}$$

where  $\omega'$  and  $\omega''$  are roots of unity. By Theorem 1 and Proposition 4(ii) and (iii), we see that  $n_0 \equiv n_1 \equiv \dots \equiv n_4 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ . This implies that  $\xi^3$  is already a cube in  $E'$  modulo the roots of unity, and hence  $\xi$  belongs to  $E'$ . This shows that  $E'$  is the group of all units of  $L$ , and that  $\xi_1$  is a real Minkowski unit of  $L$ .

**CONCLUDING REMARK.** Stender's method is based on the group



of relative units of a non-galois number field which has proper subfields. We can generalize this to a field whose galois closure is a dihedral extension over  $\mathbb{Q}$  (see [7]).

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