# UPPER BOUNDS FOR RESIDUES OF DEDEKIND ZETA FUNCTIONS AND CLASS NUMBERS OF CUBIC AND QUARTIC NUMBER FIELDS

#### STÉPHANE R. LOUBOUTIN

ABSTRACT. Let K be an algebraic number field. Assume that  $\zeta_K(s)/\zeta(s)$  is entire. We give an explicit upper bound for the residue at s=1 of the Dedekind zeta function  $\zeta_K(s)$  of K. We deduce explicit upper bounds on class numbers of cubic and quartic number fields.

### 1. Introduction

Let K be an algebraic number field of degree  $m = r_1 + 2r_2 > 1$ , where  $r_1$  is the number of real places of K and  $r_2$  is the number of complex places of K. Let  $\kappa_K$  be the residue at s = 1 of the Dedekind zeta function function  $\zeta_K(s)$  of K. Let  $d_K$  be the absolute value of the discriminant of K. Let  $h_K$  be its class number. Then (see [Lan, Chapter XIII, Section 3, Theorem 2]):

(1) 
$$h_K = \frac{w_K \sqrt{d_K}}{2^{r_1} (2\pi)^{r_2} \operatorname{Reg}_K} \kappa_K,$$

where  $w_K \geq 2$  is the number of complex roots of unity in K and  $\operatorname{Reg}_K$  is the regulator of K. To get upper bounds on  $h_K$  we need lower bounds on  $\operatorname{Reg}_K$  (e.g., see [Sil]) and upper bounds on  $\kappa_K$  (e.g., see [Lou00]). If K is a real quadratic number field, then

$$(2) h_K \le \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{d_K}$$

([Le] and [Ram, Corollary 2]); if K is a real cyclic cubic number field, then

$$(3) h_K \le \frac{2}{3} \sqrt{d_K}$$

(see [MP], and use [Lou93] instead of [MP, Lemme 3.2] to obtain that this bound is valid for real cyclic cubic number fields of not necessarily prime discriminants). With  $e = \exp(1)$ , it is known that

(4) 
$$\kappa_K \le \left(\frac{e \log d_K}{2(m-1)}\right)^{m-1}$$

Received by the editor November 25, 2009 and, in revised form, June 15, 2010. 2010 Mathematics Subject Classification. Primary 11R42; Secondary 11R16, 11R29. Key words and phrases. Dedekind zeta function, number field, class number.

([Lou00, Theorem 1] and [Lou01, Theorem 1]). If K is **abelian**, we have a better bound:

(5) 
$$\kappa_K \le \left(\frac{\log d_K + m\lambda_K}{2(m-1)}\right)^{m-1},$$

where  $\lambda_K = 0$  if K is real and  $\lambda_K = 5/2 - \log 6$  if K is imaginary (use [Ram, Corollary 1] and notice that if K is imaginary, then m/2 of the m characters in the group of primitive Dirichlet characters associated with K are odd). For some **totally real** number fields, an improvement on (4) is known (see [Lou01, Theorem 2]): if K ranges over a family of totally real number fields of a given degree m > 1 for which  $\zeta_K(s)/\zeta(s)$  is entire, there exists  $C_m$  (computable) such that  $d_K \geq C_m$  implies

(6) 
$$\kappa_K \le \frac{\log^{m-1} d_K}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!} \le \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(m-1)}} \left(\frac{e \log d_K}{2(m-1)}\right)^{m-1}.$$

It is known that  $\zeta_K(s)/\zeta(s)$  is entire if K is normal (see [MM, Chapter 2, Theorem 3]), or if the Galois group of its normal closure is solvable (see [Uch], [vdW] and [MM, Chapter 2, Corollary 4.2]), e.g., for any cubic or quartic number field. This paper generalizes (6) to not necessarily totally real number fields:

**Theorem 1.** Let  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  be given, with  $r_1+2r_2 \geq 3$ . There exists  $d_{r_1,r_2}$  effectively computable such that for any number field K of degree  $m=r_1+2r_2$  with  $r_1$  real places and  $r_2$  complex places, we have

(7) 
$$\kappa_K \le \frac{\log^{m-1} d_K}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!},$$

provided that (i)  $d_K \ge d_{r_1,r_2}$  and (ii) that  $\zeta_K(s)/\zeta(s)$  is entire.

For given  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ , we will explain how to use any mathematical software, we use Maple, to compute such a  $d_{r_1,r_2}$ . It appears that for the small values of  $r_1+2r_2=m$ , say for  $3\leq m\leq 6$ , this bound (7) holds true with no restriction on the size of  $d_K$  (in fact, we have an even better bound, see Theorem 3), the reason being that these computed  $d_{r_1,r_2}$ 's are less than or equal to the least discriminants of number fields of degree  $m=r_1+2r_2\leq 6$  with  $r_1$  real places and  $r_2$  complex places. However, even in the simplest situation where we assume that K is totally real, we could not in [Lou05] obtain beforehand a C>0 such that (7) holds true for K's of root-discriminants  $\rho_K=d_K^{1/m}$  greater than C. Set

$$\gamma = \lim_{m \to \infty} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{m} \frac{1}{k} - \log m \right) = 0.57721 \cdots$$

(Euler's constant) and

$$\lambda_{r_2,m} = 2 + r_2 \log 4 - (m-1)(\log(4\pi) - \gamma).$$

Since  $\lambda_{r_2,m} < 0$  for  $m \geq 3$ , Theorem 1 follows from the bound

(8) 
$$\kappa_K \le \frac{\left(\log d_K + \lambda_{r_2,m}\right)^{m-1}}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!} + O_{r_2,m}(\log^{m-3} d_K),$$

where the implied constants are effective and depend on  $r_2$  and m only. To prove (8), we generalize the method introduced in [Lou96]. Set

$$\gamma(1) = \lim_{m \to \infty} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{m} \frac{\log k}{k} - \frac{1}{2} \log^2 m \right) = -0.07281 \cdots$$

and

$$\mu_{r_2,m} = 3 + r_2 \pi^2 / 12 - (m-1)(\pi^2 / 8 - \gamma^2 - 2\gamma(1)).$$

The error term in (8) is less than or equal to zero if  $\mu_{r_2,m} > 0$  and  $d_K$  is large enough. Now,  $\mu_{r_2,m} > 0$  if and only if we are in one of the following cases:

 $\mu_{r_2,m}$  $2 + \gamma - \log(4\pi) = 0.04619\cdots$  $1.95384 \cdots$  $2 + \gamma - \log \pi = 1.43248 \cdots$  $2.77631 \cdots$  $2 + 2\gamma - 2\log(4\pi) = -1.90761\cdots$  $0.90769 \cdots$ 146  $2 + 2\gamma - 2\log(2\pi) = -0.52132\cdots$  $1.73015 \cdots$ 4 1  $2 + 3\gamma - \log(16\pi^3) = -2.47513\cdots$  $0.68400 \cdots$ 75100  $2 + 3\gamma - \log(4\pi^3) = -1.08883\cdots$  $1.50647 \cdots$  $21\cdot 10^{10}$  $2 + 4\gamma - 4\log(2\pi) = -3.04264\cdots$  $0.46031 \cdots$ 

 $0.23662 \cdots$ 

 $21 \cdot 10^{31}$ 

Table 1

It will follow that we have a pleasingly explicit bound:

 $3 \quad 2 + 5\gamma - \log(16\pi^5) = -3.61015 \cdots$ 

**Theorem 2.** Assume that we are in one of the eight cases of Table 1. Then,

$$\kappa_K \le \frac{\left(\log d_K + \lambda_{r_2, m}\right)^{m-1}}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!},$$

provided that  $d_K$  is large enough, as given in the last column of Table 1.

The results in [Lou93] and [Lou96] are the case m=2 of Theorem 2 above. (However, in the quadratic case we have an even better bound (see [Ram]).) Finally, by taking constants slightly less than these  $\lambda_{r_2,m}$ , we have a the fully explicit following result where we do not have any restriction on  $d_K$  (compare with Theorem 1):

**Theorem 3.** Let K be a number field of degree  $m \in \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$  for which  $\zeta_K(s)/\zeta(s)$  is entire. Then,

$$\kappa_K \le \frac{\left(\log d_K + \lambda\right)^{m-1}}{2^{m-1}(m-1)!},$$

where  $\lambda$  is as in Table 2:

Table 2

m	$r_2 = 0$	$r_2 = 1$	$r_2 = 2$	$r_2 = 3$
2	0.04620	1.43249		
3	-1.74865	-0.52132		
4	-2.94863	-2.07896	-1.08883	
5	-4.21779	-3.29415	-2.41877	
6	-5.49315	-4.55901	-3.64104	-2.76490

Corollary 4. If K is a totally real cubic number field, then

$$(9) h_K \le \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{d_K}.$$

If K is a totally real quartic number field which contains no quadratic subfield, then

$$(10) h_K \le \frac{5\sqrt{10}}{24}\sqrt{d_K}.$$

We refer to [Dai] for examples of number fields with very large class numbers.

## 2. Proof of the bound (8)

We adapt [Lou00, Proof of Theorem 7]. Let K be a number field of degree  $m=r_1+2r_2>1$ . Assume that  $\zeta_K(s)/\zeta(s)$  is entire. Set  $A_{K/\mathbf{Q}}=\sqrt{d_K/4^{r_2}\pi^{m-1}}$ ,

$$\Gamma_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(s) = \Gamma^{r_1 - 1}(s/2)\Gamma^{r_2}(s) = \frac{2^{r_2(s-1)}}{\pi^{r_2/2}}\Gamma^{r_1 + r_2 - 1}(s/2)\Gamma^{r_2}((s+1)/2)$$

(notice that  $r_1 + r_2 - 1 \ge 0$  and  $r_2 \ge 0$ ) and

$$F_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(s) = A_{K/\mathbf{Q}}^s \Gamma_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(s) (\zeta_K(s)/\zeta(s)).$$

Then,  $F_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(s)$  is entire and  $F_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(s) = F_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(1-s)$ . Let

(11) 
$$S_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(x) := \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} F_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(s) x^{-s} ds \quad (c > 1 \text{ and } x > 0)$$

denote the inverse Mellin transform of  $F_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(s)$ . Then,

(12) 
$$S_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(x) = \frac{1}{x} S_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(\frac{1}{x})$$

(notice that  $F_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(s)$  is entire, shift the vertical line of integration  $\Re(s) = c > 1$  in (11) leftwards to the vertical line of integration  $\Re(s) = 1 - c < 0$ , then use the functional equation  $F_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(1-s) = F_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(s)$  to come back to the vertical line of integration  $\Re(s) = c > 1$ ). For  $\Re(s) > 1$ ,

$$F_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(s) = \int_{0}^{\infty} S_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(x) x^{s} \frac{\mathrm{d}x}{x}$$

is the Mellin transform of  $S_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(x)$ . Using (12), we obtain

(13) 
$$F_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(s) = \int_{1}^{\infty} S_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(x)(x^{s} + x^{1-s}) \frac{\mathrm{d}x}{x}$$

on the whole complex plane. Now, write  $\zeta_K(s)/\zeta(s) = \sum_{n\geq 1} a_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(n) n^{-s}$  and  $\zeta^{m-1}(s) = \sum_{n\geq 1} a_{m-1}(n) n^{-s}$  ( $\Re(s) > 1$ ). Then,  $|a_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(n)| \leq a_{m-1}(n)$  (see [Lou01, (55)]) and

$$S_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(x) = \sum_{n>1} a_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(n) H_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(nx/A_{K/\mathbf{Q}}),$$

where

$$H_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} \Gamma_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(s) x^{-s} \mathrm{d}s.$$

Since  $H_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(x) > 0$  for x > 0 (see [Lou01, Theorem 20]) 1), we have

$$|S_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(x)| \le \sum_{n>1} a_{m-1}(n) H_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(nx/A_{K/\mathbf{Q}}).$$

Plugging this into (13), we obtain

$$\frac{\sqrt{d_K}}{(2\pi)^{r_2}} \kappa_K = F_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(1) = \int_1^\infty S_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(x)(1+1/x) dx$$

$$\leq \sum_{n\geq 1} a_{m-1}(n) \int_1^\infty H_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(nx/A_{K/\mathbf{Q}})(1+1/x) dx$$

$$= \sum_{n\geq 1} a_{m-1}(n) \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} \left( \int_1^\infty (nx/A_{K/\mathbf{Q}})^{-s}(1+1/x) dx \right) \Gamma_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(s) ds$$

$$= \sum_{n\geq 1} a_{m-1}(n) \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} \left( \frac{1}{s-1} + \frac{1}{s} \right) \Gamma_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(s)(n/A_{K/\mathbf{Q}})^{-s} ds$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} \left( \frac{1}{s-1} + \frac{1}{s} \right) \Gamma_{K/\mathbf{Q}}(s) \zeta^{m-1}(s) A_{K/\mathbf{Q}}^s ds.$$

Therefore, we have

(14) 
$$\kappa_K \le I_K(s) := \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} f_K(s) \mathrm{d}s \quad (c > 1),$$

where

$$f_K(s) = \tilde{\Gamma}^{r_2}(s)\Lambda^{m-1}(s)\left(\frac{1}{s-1} + \frac{1}{s}\right)d_K^{(s-1)/2},$$

 $\Lambda(s) = \pi^{-s/2}\Gamma(s/2)\zeta(s)$  and  $\tilde{\Gamma}(s) = \Gamma((s+1)/2)/(\Gamma(s/2)/\Gamma(1/2))$ . Recall that  $\Lambda(s)$  has only two poles, both simple, at s=1 and s=0, and satisfies the functional equation  $\Lambda(s) = \Lambda(1-s)$ . Moreover,  $1/\Gamma(s/2)$  is entire whereas  $\Gamma((s+1)/2)$  has a simple pole at each odd negative integer. It follows that  $f_K(s)$  has a pole of order m>1 at s=1, a pole of order  $m-r_2=r_1+r_2\geq 1$  at s=0, and a pole of order  $r_2\geq 0$  at each negative odd integer. Now, as in [Lou01, Page 1207], in the range  $\sigma_1\leq\sigma\leq\sigma_2$  and  $|t|\geq 1$ , we have  $\tilde{\Gamma}(\sigma+it)=O(\sqrt{|t|})$  and there exists  $M\geq 0$  such that  $\Lambda(\sigma+it)=O(|t|^Me^{-\pi|t|/4})$ . Hence, we are allowed to shift in (14) the

$$(M_1 \star M_2)(x) = \int_0^\infty M_1(x/t) M_2(t) \frac{dt}{t}.$$

 $<sup>^{1}\</sup>mathrm{Notice}$  the misprints in [Lou00, page 273, line 1] and [Lou01, Theorem 20] where one should read

vertical line of integration  $\Re(s) = c > 1$  leftwards to the vertical line of integration  $\Re(s) = 1/2$ . We pick up one residue and obtain:

(15) 
$$\kappa_K \leq \operatorname{Res}_{s=1}(f_K(s)) + I_K(1/2) = \operatorname{Res}_{s=1}(f_K(s)) + O_{r_2,m}(d_K^{-1/4}).$$

The bound (8) now follows from Lemma 5 below.

#### 3. Computation of some residues

To prove Theorems 2 and 3, we need a better approximation to  $I_K(s)$ . By shifting in (14) the vertical line of integration  $\Re(s) = c > 1$  leftwards to the vertical line of integration  $\Re(s) = -2$ , we pick up three residues and we obtain:

(16) 
$$\kappa_K \leq \operatorname{Res}_{s=1}(f_K(s)) + \operatorname{Res}_{s=0}(f_K(s)) + \operatorname{Res}_{s=-1}(f_K(s)) + I_K(-2),$$

where  $\operatorname{Res}_{s=1}(f_K(s))$  is a polynomial of degree m-1 in  $\log d_K$  with real coefficients,  $\sqrt{d_K}\operatorname{Res}_{s=0}(f_K(s))$  is a polynomial of degree  $r_1+r_2-1$  in  $\log d_K$  with real coefficients, and  $d_K\operatorname{Res}_{s=-1}(f_K(s))$  is a polynomial of degree  $r_2-1$  in  $\log d_K$  with real coefficients. This section is devoted to computing these residues.

#### Lemma 5. Set

$$f_{k,l}(s) = \tilde{\Gamma}^k(s)\Lambda^l(s)\left(\frac{1}{s-1} + \frac{1}{s}\right)e^{(s-1)X}.$$

Then,  $\operatorname{Res}_{s=1}(f_{k,l}(s))$  is a polynomial of degree l in X with real coefficients and

$$\operatorname{Res}_{s=1}(f_{k,l}(s)) = \frac{\left(X + A_{k,l}\right)^{l}}{l!} \quad (l=1),$$

$$\operatorname{Res}_{s=1}(f_{k,l}(s)) = \frac{\left(X + A_{k,l}\right)^{l}}{l!} - C_{k,l}\frac{X^{l-2}}{(l-2)!} \quad (l=2)$$

and

$$\operatorname{Res}_{s=1}(f_{k,l}(s)) = \frac{\left(X + A_{k,l}\right)^{l}}{l!} - C_{k,l}\frac{X^{l-2}}{(l-2)!} + O_{k,l}(X^{l-3}) \quad (l \ge 3),$$

where

$$A_{k,l} = (2 + k \log 4 - l(\log(4\pi) - \gamma))/2$$

and

$$C_{k,l} = (3 + k\pi^2/12 - l(\pi^2/8 - \gamma^2 - 2\gamma(1)))/2.$$

*Proof.* We have  $\tilde{\Gamma}(s) = 1 + a(s-1) + b(s-1)^2 + O((s-1)^3)$ , with  $a = \log 2$  and  $b = (\log^2 2 - \pi^2/12)/2$ , and  $(s-1)\Lambda(s) = 1 + c(s-1) + d(s-1)^2 + O((s-1)^3)$ , with

(17) 
$$c = -\frac{\log(4\pi) - \gamma}{2}$$
 and  $d = \frac{2(\log(4\pi) - \gamma)^2 + \pi^2 - 8\gamma^2 - 16\gamma(1)}{16}$ 

For  $k \geq 0$  and  $l \geq 0$ , it holds that

$$(1 + az + bz^{2} + O(z^{3}))^{k} (1 + cz + dz^{2} + O(z^{3}))^{l} (1 + z - z^{2} + O(z^{3}))$$
  
= 1 + A<sub>k,l</sub>z + B<sub>k,l</sub>z<sup>2</sup> + O(z<sup>3</sup>),

where  $A_{k,l} = ka + lc + 1$  and  $B_{k,l} = klac + k(b + \frac{k-1}{2}a^2) + l(d + \frac{l-1}{2}c^2) + ka + lc - 1$ .

Hence, the desired results hold true with

$$C_{k,l} = A_{k,l}^2/2 - B_{k,l} = (k(a^2 - 2b) + l(c^2 - 2d) + 3)/2.$$

We have 
$$a^2 - 2b = \pi^2/12$$
 and  $c^2 - 2d = \gamma^2 + 2\gamma(1) - \pi^2/8$ .

**Lemma 6.** Set r = l - k, let  $f_{k,l}(s)$  and  $A_{k,l}$  be as in Lemma 5, and set

$$C'_{k,l} = (3 - k\pi^2/12 - l(\pi^2/8 - \gamma^2 - 2\gamma(1)))/2.$$

If r = 0 or r = 1, then

$$\operatorname{Res}_{s=0}(f_{k,l}(s)) = (-1)^l (\pi/2)^k \frac{(X - A_{k,l})^r}{r!} e^{-X}.$$

If r=2, then

$$\operatorname{Res}_{s=0}(f_{k,l}(s)) = (-1)^l (\pi/2)^k \left( \frac{(X - A_{k,l})^r}{r!} - C'_{k,l} \frac{X^{r-2}}{(r-2)!} \right) e^{-X}.$$

If  $r \geq 3$ , then

$$\operatorname{Res}_{s=0}(f_{k,l}(s)) = (-1)^l (\pi/2)^k \left( \frac{\left(X - A_{k,l}\right)^r}{r!} - C'_{k,l} \frac{X^{r-2}}{(r-2)!} + O_{k,l}(X^{r-3}) \right) e^{-X}.$$

*Proof.* Here,  $\tilde{\Gamma}(s) = \frac{\pi s}{2} (1 - as + bs^2 + O(s^3))$ , with  $a = \log 2$  and  $b = (\log^2 2 + \pi^2/12)/2$ , and  $s\Lambda(s) = -(1 - cs + ds^2 + O(s^3))$ , with c and d as in (17).

**Lemma 7.** Let  $f_{k,l}(s)$  be as in Lemma 5. We have

$$\operatorname{Res}_{s=-1}(f_{1,l}(s)) = \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right)^l e^{-2X}.$$

Lemma 8. It holds that

$$|I_K(-2)| \le \frac{5}{4\pi^2} \frac{\Gamma(r_2/2+1)}{3^m} \left(\frac{14}{m-1}\right)^{r_2/2+1} d_K^{-3/2}.$$

Proof. Using

$$|\tilde{\Gamma}(-2+it)| = \left(\frac{4+t^2}{1+t^2}\frac{\pi t}{2}\tanh(\frac{\pi t}{2})\right)^{1/2} \le \sqrt{2\pi|t|}$$

and

$$|\Lambda(-2+it)| = |\Lambda(3-it)| \leq \frac{\zeta(3)}{\pi^{3/2}} |\Gamma((3-it)/2)| = \frac{\zeta(3)}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{1+t^2}{\cosh(\pi t/2)}} \leq \frac{1}{3} e^{-\pi |t|/7},$$

we obtain:

$$d_K^{3/2}|I_K(-2)| \leq \frac{5}{6\pi} \int_0^\infty |\tilde{\Gamma}(-2+it)|^{r_2} |\Lambda(-2+it)|^{m-1} dt$$
  
$$\leq \frac{5}{2\pi 3^m} \int_0^\infty (2\pi t)^{r_2/2} e^{-\pi (m-1)t/7} dt,$$

and the desired bound.

Table 3. Minimal discriminants

m	$r_2 = 0$	$r_2 = 1$	$r_2 = 2$	$r_2 = 3$
2	5	3		
3	49	23		
4	725	275	117	
5	14641	4511	1609	
6	300125	92779	28037	9747

4. Proof of Theorems 2 and 3, and contents of Tables 1 and 2 We use (16), the previous lemmas and Table 3 above (see [Odl]).

1. If K is a real quadratic field, then

$$\kappa_K \le \frac{\log d_K + 2 + \gamma - \log(4\pi)}{2} - \frac{\log d_K - (2 + \gamma - \log(4\pi))}{2\sqrt{d_K}} + \frac{35}{18\pi^2 d_V^{3/2}}$$

is less than or equal to  $(\log d_K + 2 + \gamma - \log(4\pi))/2$  for  $d_K \geq 3$ .

**2.** If K is an imaginary quadratic field, then

$$\kappa_K \leq \frac{\log d_K + 2 + \gamma - \log \pi}{2} - \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{d_K}} + \frac{\pi}{4d_K} + \frac{35\sqrt{14\pi}}{36\pi^2 d_K^{3/2}}$$

is less than or equal to  $(\log d_K + 2 + \gamma - \log \pi)/2$  for  $d_K \geq 3$ .

**3.** If K is a totally real cubic number field, then

$$\begin{split} \kappa_K & \leq \frac{\left(\log d_K + 2 + 2\gamma - 2\log(4\pi)\right)^2}{8} - (3/2 + \gamma^2 + 2\gamma(1) - \pi^2/8) \\ & + \frac{\left(\log d_K - (2 + 2\gamma - 2\log(4\pi))\right)^2}{8\sqrt{d_K}} - \frac{3/2 + \gamma^2 + 2\gamma(1) - \pi^2/8}{\sqrt{d_K}} + \frac{35}{108\pi^2 d_K^{3/2}} \end{split}$$

is less than or equal to  $(\log d_K + 2 + 2\gamma - 2\log(4\pi))^2/8$  for  $d_K \ge 146$ , and less than or equal to  $(\log d_K - 1.74865)^2/8$  for  $d_K \ge 49$ .

**4.** If K is a not totally real cubic number field, then

$$\kappa_K \leq \frac{\left(\log d_K + 2 + 2\gamma - 2\log(2\pi)\right)^2}{8} - \left(3/2 + \gamma^2 + 2\gamma(1) - \pi^2/12\right) + \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{d_K}} \left(\log d_K - 2 - 2\gamma + 2\log(2\pi)\right) + \frac{\pi^2}{24d_K} + \frac{35\sqrt{7\pi}}{216\pi^2 d_V^{3/2}}$$

is less than or equal to  $(\log d_K + 2 + 2\gamma - 2\log(2\pi))^2/8$  for  $d_K \ge 4$ .

5. The other cases are easily dealt with by using any software for symbolic computation, e.g., Maple, to compute the residues which appear in (16).

## 5. Proof of Corollary 4

**1.** Let K be a totally real cubic field. Then,  $\operatorname{Reg}_K \geq \frac{1}{16} \log^2(d_K/4)$  (see [Cus, Theorem 1] or [Nak, Section 2.3]). Hence,

$$h_K = \frac{\sqrt{d_K}}{4\text{Reg}_K} \kappa_K \le \frac{(\log d_K - 1.74865)^2}{2\log^2(d_K/4)} \sqrt{d_K} \le \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{d_K}.$$

**2.** Let K be a totally real quartic number field which contains no real quadratic subfield. Then,  $\operatorname{Reg}_K \geq \frac{1}{80\sqrt{10}} \log^3 d_K$  (see [Cus, Theorem 2]). By (7) (see also [Lou01, Theorem 2, point 3]), we have  $\kappa_K \leq \frac{1}{48} \log^3 d_K$ . Hence, by (1), we obtain

$$h_K = \frac{\sqrt{d_K}}{8\text{Reg}_K} \kappa_K \le \frac{5\sqrt{10}}{24} \sqrt{d_K}.$$

#### References

- [Cus] T. W. Cusick. Lower bounds for regulators. Lecture Notes in Math., 1068, Springer, Berlin (1984), 63–73. MR756083 (85k:11052)
- [Dai] R. Daileda. Non-abelian number fields with very large class numbers. Acta Arith. 125 (2006), 215–255. MR2276192 (2007k:11186)
- [Lan] S. Lang. Algebraic number theory (Second Edition). Graduate Texts in Mathematics 110, Springer-Verlag, New York, 1994. MR1282723 (95f:11085)
- [Le] M. Le. Upper bounds for class numbers of real quadratic fields. Acta Arith. 68 (1994), 141–144. MR1305196 (95j:11101)
- [Lou93] S. Louboutin. Majorations explicites de  $|L(1,\chi)|$ . C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris Sér. I Math. 316 (1993), 11–14. MR1198740 (93m:11084)
- [Lou96] S. Louboutin. Majorations explicites de  $|L(1,\chi)|$ . (Suite). C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris Sér. I Math. 323 (1996), 443–446. MR1408973 (97k:11123)
- [Lou00] S. Louboutin. Explicit bounds for residues of Dedekind zeta functions, values of L-functions at s=1, and relative class numbers. J. Number Theory 85 (2000), 263–282. MR1802716 (2002i:11111)
- [Lou01] S. Louboutin. Explicit upper bounds for residues of Dedekind zeta functions and values of L-functions at s=1, and explicit lower bounds for relative class numbers of CM-fields. Canad. J. Math. **53** (2001), 1194–1222. MR1863848 (2003d:11167)
- [Lou05] S. Louboutin. Explicit upper bounds for the residues at s=1 of the Dedekind zeta functions of some totally real number fields. Séminaires & Congrès 11 (2005), 171–178; (AGCT 2003) SMF.
- [MM] R. M. Murty and V. K. Murty. Non-vanishing of L-functions and applications. Progress in Mathematics 157. Birkhäuser-Verlag, Basel, 1997. MR1482805 (98h:11106)
- [MP] C. Moser and J. J. Payan. Majoration du nombre de classes d'un corps cubique cyclique de conducteur premier. J. Math. Soc. Japan 33 (1981), 701–706. MR630633 (83a:12006)
- [Nak] K. Nakamula. Certain quartic fields with small regulators. J. Number Theory 57 (1996), 1–21. MR1378570 (97h:11128)
- [Odl] A. M. Odlyzko. Bounds for discriminants and related estimates for class numbers, regulators and zeros of zeta functions: a survey of recent results. Sém Théor. Nombres Bordeaux (2) 2 (1990), 119–141. MR1061762 (91i:11154)
- [Ram] O. Ramaré. Approximate formulae for  $L(1,\chi)$ . Acta Arith. 100 (2001), 245–266. MR1865385 (2002k:11144)
- [Sil] J. H. Silverman. An inequality relating the regulator and discriminant of a number field. J. Number Theory 19 (1984), 437–442. MR769793 (86c:11094)

- [Uch] K. Uchida. On Artin *L*-functions. *Tohoku Math. J.* **27** (1975), 75–81. MR0369323 (51:5558)
- [vdW] R. W. van der Waall. On a conjecture of Dedekind on zeta functions. Indag. Math.  $\bf 37$  (1975), 83–86. MR0379439 (52:344)

Institut de Mathématiques de Luminy, UMR 6206, 163, avenue de Luminy, Case 907, 13288 Marseille Cedex 9, France

 $E\text{-}mail\ address: \verb|loubouti@iml.univ-mrs.fr|$