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## THE PROBLEM OF DIOPHANTUS FOR INTEGERS OF $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$

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ABSTRACT. We solve the problem of Diophantus for integers of the quadratic field  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$  by finding a  $D(z)$ -quadruple in  $\mathbb{Z}[(1 + \sqrt{-3})/2]$  for each  $z$  that can be represented as a difference of two squares of integers in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$ , up to finitely many possible exceptions.

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARIES

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with unity 1 and  $n \in R$ . The set of nonzero and distinct elements  $\{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4\}$  in  $R$  such that  $a_i a_j + n$  is a perfect square in  $R$  for  $1 \leq i < j \leq 4$  is called a *Diophantine quadruple with the property  $D(n)$*  in  $R$  or just a  *$D(n)$ -quadruple*. If  $n = 1$  then a quadruple with a given property is called a *Diophantine quadruple*. The problem of constructing such sets was first studied by Diophantus of Alexandria who found the rational quadruple  $\{\frac{1}{16}, \frac{33}{16}, \frac{17}{4}, \frac{105}{16}\}$  with the property  $D(1)$ . Fermat found the first Diophantine quadruple in the ring of integers  $\mathbb{Z}$  - the set  $\{1, 3, 8, 120\}$ .

The problem on the existence of  $D(n)$ -quadruples has been studied in different rings, but mainly in rings of integers of numbers fields. The following assertion is shown to be true in many cases: *There exists a  $D(n)$ -quadruple if and only if  $n$  can be represented as a difference of two squares, up to finitely many exceptions.* In the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$  one part of the assertion is proved independently by several authors (Brown, Gupta, Singh, Mohanty, Ramamsamy, see [6, 25, 27]), and another by Dujella in [7]. The set of possible exceptions  $S = \{-4, -3, -1, 3, 5, 8, 12, 20\}$  is still an open problem studied by many authors. The conjecture is that for  $n \in S$  there does not exist a Diophantine quadruple with the property  $D(n)$ .

In the ring of integers  $\mathbb{Z}$  well studied is the case of  $n = -1$ . There is a conjecture that  $D(-1)$ -quadruple does not exist in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . That is known as the  *$D(-1)$ -quadruple conjecture* and it was presented explicitly in [11] for the first time. While it is conjectured that  $D(-1)$ -quadruples do not exist in integers

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(see [11]), it is known that no  $D(-1)$ -quintuple exists and that if  $\{a, b, c, d\}$  is a  $D(-1)$ -quadruple with  $a < b < c < d$ , then  $a = 1$  (see [15]). It is proved that some infinite families of  $D(-1)$ -triples cannot be extended to a  $D(-1)$ -quadruple. The non-extendibility of  $\{1, b, c\}$  was confirmed for  $b = 2$  by Dujella in [10], for  $b = 5$  partially by Abu Muriefah and Al Rashed in [2], and completely by Filipin in [18]. The statement was also proved for  $b = 10$  by Filipin in [18], and for  $b = 17, 26, 37, 50$  by Fujita in [24]. Dujella, Filipin and Fuchs in [13] proved that there are at most finitely many  $D(-1)$ -quadruples, by giving an upper bound of  $10^{903}$  for the number of  $D(-1)$ -quadruples. This bound was improved several times: to  $10^{356}$  by Filipin and Fujita ([19]), to  $4 \cdot 10^{70}$  by Bonciocat, Cipu and Mignotte ([5]) and very recently to  $5 \cdot 10^{60}$  by Elsholtz, Filipin and Fujita ([17]).

In the ring of Gaussian integers  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  the above assertion was proved in [9]. Namely, if  $a + bi$  is not representable as a difference of the squares of two elements in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ , and in contrary if  $a + bi$  is not of such form and  $a + bi \notin \{\pm 2, \pm 1 \pm 2i, \pm 4i\}$ , then  $D(a + bi)$ -quadruple exists. Franušić in [20–22] found that a similar statement is true for rings of integers of some real quadratic fields, i.e. it can be seen that there exist infinitely many  $D(n)$ -quadruples if and only if  $n$  can be represented as a difference of two squares of integers. To be more precise, assuming the solvability of certain Pellian equation ( $x^2 - dy^2 = \pm 2$  or  $x^2 - dy^2 = 4$  in odd numbers) we are able to obtain an effective characterization of integers that can be represented as a difference of two squares of integers in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$  and then apply some polynomial formulas for Diophantine quadruples in a combination with elements of a small norm. Also, in [23] the existence problem in the ring of integers of the pure cubic field  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt[3]{2})$  has been completely solved.

The case of complex quadratic fields is more demanding because the set of elements with a small norm is poor (while in the real case there exist infinitely many units). A group of authors ([1, 16, 28]) worked on the problem of the existence of  $D(z)$ -quadruples in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-2}]$  and contributed that the problem is almost completely solved. As a prominent case, there appear the case  $z = -1$ , which could not be solved by the standard method via polynomial formulas. In [29] and [30] Soldo studied  $D(-1)$ -triples of the form  $\{1, b, c\}$  and the existence of  $D(-1)$ -quadruples of the form  $\{1, b, c, d\}$  in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-t}]$ ,  $t > 0$ , for  $b = 2, 5, 10, 17, 26, 37$  or  $50$ . He proved a more general result i.e. if positive integer  $b$  is a prime, twice prime or twice prime squared such that  $\{1, b, c\}$  is a  $D(-1)$ -triple in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-t}]$ ,  $t > 0$ , then  $c$  has to be an integer. As a consequence of this result, he showed that for  $t \notin \{1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49\}$  there does not exist a subset of  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-t}]$  of the form  $\{1, b, c, d\}$  with the property that the product of any two of its distinct elements diminished by 1 is a square of an element in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-t}]$ . For those exceptional cases of  $t$  he showed that there exist infinitely many  $D(-1)$ -quadruples of the form  $\{1, b, -c, d\}$ ,  $c, d > 0$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-t}]$ .

In this paper, we verify assertion on the existence of  $D(z)$ -quadruples in complex quadratic field  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$ , i.e. in the corresponding ring of integers  $\mathbb{Z}[(1 + \sqrt{-3})/2]$ . In other words, we show the following theorems.

**THEOREM 1.1.** *There exists a  $D(z)$ -quadruple in the ring of integers of the quadratic field  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$  if and only if  $z$  can be represented as a difference of two squares of integers in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$ , up to possible exceptions  $z \in \{-1, 3, \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}\}$ .*

**THEOREM 1.2.** *There exists a  $D(z)$ -quadruple in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$  if and only if  $z$  can be represented as a difference of two squares of elements in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$ , up to possible exceptions  $z \in \{-4, -1, 3, 2 - 2\sqrt{-3}, 2 + 2\sqrt{-3}\}$ .*

Although we have mentioned that the case of complex quadratic fields is rather complicated, observe that the Pellian equation  $x^2 - dy^2 = 4$  is solvable for  $d = -3$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$  (the only solution is  $1 + \sqrt{-3}$ ). To begin with, we will list briefly all statements that we require for the proofs of Theorem 1.1 and Theorem 1.2.

**LEMMA 1.3** ([8, Theorem 1]). *Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with the unity 1 and  $m, k \in R$ . The set*

$$(1.1) \quad \{m, m(3k+1)^2 + 2k, m(3k+2)^2 + 2k + 2, 9m(2k+1)^2 + 8k + 4\}$$

*has the  $D(2m(2k+1)+1)$ -property.*

The set (1.1) is a  $D(2m(2k+1)+1)$ -quadruple if it contains no equal elements or elements equal to zero.

**LEMMA 1.4.** *If  $u$  is an element of a commutative ring  $R$  with the unity 1 and  $\{w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4\}$  is a  $D(w)$ -quadruple in  $R$ , then  $\{w_1u, w_2u, w_3u, w_4u\}$  is a  $D(wu^2)$ -quadruple in  $R$ .*

**LEMMA 1.5** ([14, Theorem 1]). *An integer  $z \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$  can be represented as a difference of two squares of elements in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$  if and only if is one of the following forms*

$$2m + 1 + 2n\sqrt{-3}, \quad 4m + 4n\sqrt{-3}, \quad 4m + 2 + (4n + 2)\sqrt{-3},$$

$m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**LEMMA 1.6** ([14, Theorem 2]). *An integer  $z \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$  can be represented as a difference of two squares of elements in  $\mathbb{Z}[(1 + \sqrt{-3})/2]$  if and only if is one of the following forms*

$$2m + 1 + 2n\sqrt{-3}, \quad 2m + (2n + 1)\sqrt{-3}, \quad 4m + 4n\sqrt{-3}, \quad 4m + 2 + (4n + 2)\sqrt{-3},$$

$$\frac{2m + 1}{2} + \frac{2n + 1}{2}\sqrt{-3},$$

$m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

LEMMA 1.7 ([22, Lemma 5]). *For each  $M, N \in \mathbb{Z}$ , there exist  $k \in \mathbb{Z}[(1 + \sqrt{-3})/2]$  such that*

1.  $2M + 1 + 2N\sqrt{-3} = 2m(k + 1) + 1$ , where  $m = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}$ ,
2.  $4M + 3 + (4N + 2)\sqrt{-3} = 2m(2k + 1) + 1$ , where  $m = 1 + \sqrt{-3}$ ,
3.  $2M + (2N + 1)\sqrt{-3} = m(2k + 1) + 1$ , where  $m = 1 + \sqrt{-3}$ ,
4.  $2M + 1 + (2N + 1)\sqrt{-3} = m(2k + 1) + 1$ , where  $m = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}$ ,
5.  $\frac{2M+1}{2} + \frac{2N+1}{2}\sqrt{-3} = \frac{m}{2}(2k + 1) + 1$ , where  $m = 1 + \sqrt{-3}$ .

By using Lemmas 1.3, 1.4 and 1.7, we effectively construct Diophantine quadruples for integers of the forms given in Lemmas 1.5 and 1.6. The following assertion gives the nonexistence of a  $D(z)$ -quadruple in  $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$  if  $z$  cannot be represented as a difference of two squares in  $\mathbb{Z}[(1 + \sqrt{-3})/2]$ , i.e. if and only if  $z$  is of the form  $4m + 2 + 4n\sqrt{-3}$ ,  $4m + (4n + 2)\sqrt{-3}$ ,  $2m + 1 + (2n + 1)\sqrt{-3}$ .

LEMMA 1.8 ([22, Theorem 2]). *If  $z$  has one of the forms*

$$4m + 2 + 4n\sqrt{-3}, \quad 4m + (4n + 2)\sqrt{-3}, \quad 2m + 1 + (2n + 1)\sqrt{-3},$$

*where  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then a  $D(z)$ -quadruple in  $\mathbb{Z}[(1 + \sqrt{-3})/2]$  does not exist.*

The nonexistence of a  $D(z)$ -quadruple in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$  if  $z$  cannot be represented as a difference of two squares in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$  follows partially from Lemma 1.8 (if  $z = 4m + 2 + 4n\sqrt{-3}$  or  $z = 4m + (4n + 2)\sqrt{-3}$ ) and from the following assertion.

LEMMA 1.9. *Let  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$  is not a perfect square. Then there is no  $D(m + (2n + 1)\sqrt{d})$ -quadruple in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{d}]$ .*

PROOF. The proof of Proposition 1 in [1] given for  $d = 2$  can be immediately rewritten for an arbitrary  $d$ .  $\square$

## 2. $D(z)$ -QUADRUPLES IN $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$

Let us denote the set

$$D_4 = \{mu, (m(3k+1)^2+2k)u, (m(3k+2)^2+2k+2)u, (9m(2k+1)^2+8k+4)u\}.$$

According to Lemmas 1.3 and 1.4,  $D_4$  is  $D((2m(2k + 1) + 1)u^2)$ -quadruple if it contains no equal elements or elements equal to zero. This polynomial formula combining with specific values of  $m$  and  $u$  solves our problem, up to finitely many cases. Our results are listed in the tables of the following subsections.

### 2.1. $D(2m + 1 + 2n\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruples.

In this subsection, for integers  $A$  and  $B$ , we will separate the cases of  $z = 4A + 3 + (4B + 2)\sqrt{-3}$  and  $z = 4A + 1 + 4B\sqrt{-3}$  to corresponding subcases.

$z$	$k$	$m$	$u$	$D_4$ in	exceptions of $z$
$4A+3+4B\sqrt{-3}$	$A+B\sqrt{-3}$	1	1	$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$	$-1, 3$
$4A+1+(4B+2)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{-1+2A}{2} + \frac{1+2B}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	1	1	$\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$	—
$8A+3+(8B+2)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{A+3B}{2} + \frac{-A+B}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	$1+\sqrt{-3}$	1	$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$	$3+2\sqrt{-3}$
$8A+7+(8B+6)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{A+3B+2}{2} + \frac{-A+B}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	$1+\sqrt{-3}$	1	$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$	$-1-2\sqrt{-3}$
$8A+7+(8B+2)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{A-3B-1}{2} + \frac{A+B+1}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	$1-\sqrt{-3}$	1	$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$	$-1+2\sqrt{-3}$
$8A+3+(8B+6)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{A-3B-3}{2} + \frac{A+B+1}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	$1-\sqrt{-3}$	1	$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$	$3-2\sqrt{-3}$
$8A+5+8B\sqrt{-3}$	$A+B\sqrt{-3}$	2	1	$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$	$5, -3$
$8A+1+(8B+4)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{2A-1}{2} + \frac{2B+1}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	2	1	$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$	—
$8A+1+8B\sqrt{-3}$	$A-1+B\sqrt{-3}$	4	1	$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$	$1, 9, -7$
$8A+5+(8B+4)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{4A-2B-3}{4} + \frac{2B+1}{4}\sqrt{-3}$	4	1	$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$	—

TABLE 1

It is easy to check that for those exceptions of  $z$  in Table 1, the polynomial formula  $D_4$  gives the set with two equal elements, or some element is equal to zero. Therefore, in those exceptions of  $z$  (and all further exceptions), we used the method for the first time described in [8] (but only for quadruples in  $\mathbb{Z}$ ), to construct  $D(z)$ -quadruples with all distinct elements, of the form  $\{u, v, u+v+2r, u+4v+4r\}$ , for some  $u, v, r \in \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$ , or  $u, v, r \in \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$ , respectively. Except in cases of  $z = -1, 3$ , we found the following  $D(z)$ -quadruples in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$ :

- $\{3 + \sqrt{-3}, 1 - \sqrt{-3}, -2, -5 - 3\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(3 + 2\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple,
- $\{3 - \sqrt{-3}, 1 + \sqrt{-3}, -2, -5 + 3\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(3 - 2\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple,
- $\{1 + 3\sqrt{-3}, -1 + \sqrt{-3}, 2, 1 - \sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(-1 - 2\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple,
- $\{1 - 3\sqrt{-3}, -1 - \sqrt{-3}, 2, 1 + \sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(-1 + 2\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple,
- $\{8, 1 + \sqrt{-3}, 1 - \sqrt{-3}, -4\}$  is the  $D(5)$ -quadruple,
- $\{\sqrt{-3}, 3\sqrt{-3}, 8\sqrt{-3}, 120\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(-3)$ -quadruple,
- $\{1, 3, 8, 120\}$  is the  $D(1)$ -quadruple,
- $\{6, -2 - 2\sqrt{-3}, -2 + 2\sqrt{-3}, -14\}$  is the  $D(9)$ -quadruple,
- $\{2 + 2\sqrt{-3}, 1 + \sqrt{-3}, 1 - \sqrt{-3}, 2 - 2\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(-7)$ -quadruple.

## 2.2. $D(2m + (2n + 1)\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruples.

$z$	$k$	$m$	$u$	$D_4$ in	exceptions of $z$
$4A + (4B + 3)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{A+3B+1}{2} + \frac{-A+B+1}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}$	1	$\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$	$-\sqrt{-3}$
$4A + 2 + (4B + 1)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{A+3B}{2} + \frac{-A+B}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}$	1	$\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$	$2 + \sqrt{-3}$
$4A + (4B + 1)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{A-3B}{2} - 1 + \frac{A+B}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{1-\sqrt{-3}}{2}$	1	$\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$	$\sqrt{-3}$
$4A + 2 + (4B + 3)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{A-3B-3}{2} + \frac{A+B+1}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{1-\sqrt{-3}}{2}$	1	$\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$	$2 - \sqrt{-3}$

TABLE 2

For the exceptions noted in Table 2, we found the following  $D(z)$ -quadruples in  $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$ :

- $\{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -1, \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(-\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple,
- $\{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{7}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -2, -\frac{23}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(2 + \sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple,
- $\{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -1, \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{3}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple,
- $\{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{7}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -2, -\frac{23}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(2 - \sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple.

### 2.3. $D(4m + 4n\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruples.

$z$	$k$	$m$	$u$	$D_4$ in	exceptions of $z$
$8A + 8B\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{-A+3B-2}{2} - \frac{A+B}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$1 + \sqrt{-3}$	$\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$	0
$8A + 4 + (8B+4)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{-A+3B-1}{2} - \frac{A+B+1}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$1 + \sqrt{-3}$	$\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$	$-4 + 4\sqrt{-3}$

TABLE 3

The set  $\{1, 2 - 2\sqrt{-3}, 5, 13 - 4\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(-4 + 4\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$  and it is easy to see that there exists infinitely many  $D(0)$ -quadruples.

We obtain a  $D(8A + 4 + 8B\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple by multiplying elements of a  $D(2m + 1 + 2n\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple by  $u = 2$  except for  $z = -4, 12$ , but

$$\{1, \frac{7}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, \frac{7}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, 13\}$$

is the  $D(-4)$ -quadruple, and

$$\{-2, 7 + \sqrt{-3}, 7 - \sqrt{-3}, 30\}$$

is the  $D(12)$ -quadruple. Also, a  $D(8A + (8B + 4)\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple is obtained by multiplying elements of a  $D(2m + (2n + 1)\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple by  $u = 2$ . Obviously, the resulting sets are subsets of  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$  (except for  $z = -4$ ).

### 2.4. $D(4m + 2 + (4n + 2)\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruples.

$z$	$k$	$m$	$u$	$D_4$ in	exceptions of $z$
$8A + 2 + (8B+2)\sqrt{-3}$	$-A - 1 - B\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{4}$	$1 + \sqrt{-3}$	$\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$	$-6 + 2\sqrt{-3},$ $2 + 2\sqrt{-3}$
$8A + 6 + (8B+6)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{-2A+3}{2} - \frac{2B+1}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{4}$	$1 + \sqrt{-3}$	$\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$	–
$8A + 2 + (8B+6)\sqrt{-3}$	$-(A+1) - (B+1)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{1-\sqrt{-3}}{4}$	$1 - \sqrt{-3}$	$\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$	$-6 - 2\sqrt{-3},$ $2 - 2\sqrt{-3}$
$8A + 6 + (8B+2)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{-2A+3}{2} - \frac{2B+1}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{1-\sqrt{-3}}{4}$	$1 - \sqrt{-3}$	$\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$	–

TABLE 4

While the polynomial formula  $D_4$  gives sets with two equal elements, for those exceptions of  $z$  of Table 4, we found the following  $D(z)$ -quadruples in  $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}]$ :

- $\{-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -9 - 2\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{25}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{85}{2} - \frac{11}{2}\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(-6 + 2\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple,
- $\{-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{5}{2} + \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -1 + 2\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{13}{2} + \frac{13}{2}\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(2 + 2\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple,
- $\{-\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -9 + 2\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{25}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{85}{2} + \frac{11}{2}\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(-6 - 2\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple,
- $\{-\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -1 - 2\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{13}{2} - \frac{13}{2}\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(2 - 2\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple.

### 2.5. $D(\frac{2m+1}{2} + \frac{2n+1}{2}\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruples.

We derive  $D(\frac{2m+1}{2} + \frac{2n+1}{2}\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruples from  $D(2m + 1 + 2n\sqrt{-3})$  and  $D(2m + (2n+1)\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruples by multiplying them by  $\frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}$  and  $\frac{1-\sqrt{-3}}{2}$ .

- Multiplying the elements of a  $D(2m + 1 + 2n\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple by  $u = \frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}$  we obtain a  $D((2m + 1 + 2n\sqrt{-3})u^2)$ -quadruple except for  $z = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{3}{2} + \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{-3}$ . The number  $(2m + 1 + 2n\sqrt{-3})u^2$  is of the form  $\frac{2A+1}{2} + \frac{2B+1}{2}\sqrt{-3}$  and for given  $A, B \in \mathbb{Z}$  the equation

$$(2.1) \quad (2m + 1 + 2n\sqrt{-3})u^2 = \frac{2A+1}{2} + \frac{2B+1}{2}\sqrt{-3}$$

has an integer solution  $(m, n \in \mathbb{Z})$  if and only if  $-A + 3B \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and  $A+B \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , i.e.  $(A, B) \pmod{4} \in \{(0, 3), (1, 2), (2, 1), (3, 0)\}$ . Concerning exceptions, the set

$$\{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -1 - 2\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{15}{2} - \frac{15}{2}\sqrt{-3}\}$$

represents the  $D(-\frac{3}{2} + \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple, while we could not find the  $D(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple.

- Multiplying the elements of a  $D(2m + 1 + 2n\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple by  $u = \frac{1-\sqrt{-3}}{2}$  we obtain a  $D((2m + 1 + 2n\sqrt{-3})u^2)$ -quadruple except for  $z = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{-3}$ . For given  $A, B \in \mathbb{Z}$  the equation (2.1) has an integer solution if and only if  $A + 3B \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  and  $A - B \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ , i.e.  $(A, B) \pmod{4} \in \{(0, 0), (1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3)\}$ . The set

$$\{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{5}{2} + \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{-3}, -1 + 2\sqrt{-3}, -\frac{15}{2} + \frac{15}{2}\sqrt{-3}\}$$

is the  $D(-\frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple and we have not detected a  $D(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple.

- Multiplying the elements of a  $D(2m + (2n + 1)\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple by  $u = \frac{1+\sqrt{-3}}{2}$  we obtain a  $D(\frac{2A+1}{2} + \frac{2B+1}{2}\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple. For given  $A, B \in \mathbb{Z}$  the equation

$$(2.2) \quad (2m + (2n + 1)\sqrt{-3})u^2 = \frac{2A+1}{2} + \frac{2B+1}{2}\sqrt{-3}$$

has an integer solution if and only if  $-A+3B \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  and  $A+B \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , i.e.  $(A, B) \pmod{4} \in \{(0, 1), (1, 0), (3, 2), (2, 3)\}$ .

- Multiplying the elements of a  $D(2m + (2n + 1)\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple by  $u = \frac{1-\sqrt{-3}}{2}$  we obtain a  $D(\frac{2A+1}{2} + \frac{2B+1}{2}\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple. For given  $A, B \in \mathbb{Z}$  the equation (2.2) has an integer solution if and only if  $A+3B \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$  and  $-A+B \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ , i.e.  $(A, B) \pmod{4} \in \{(0, 2), (2, 0), (1, 3), (3, 1)\}$ .

### 3. $D(z)$ QUADRUPLES IN $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$

In the previous section we see that some  $D(z)$ -quadruples that have been constructed already lie in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$  but some of them do not although  $z$  can be represented as a difference of squares in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$ . Here we show that this can be improved.

#### 3.1. $D(2m + 1 + 2n\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruples.

$z$	$k$	$m$	$u$	$D_4$ in	exceptions of $z$
$4A + 1 + (4B + 2)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{2A-2B+1}{2} + \frac{A+1}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	$\sqrt{-3}/3$	$\sqrt{-3}$	$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$	$-3 - 2\sqrt{-3}$ , $-3 + 2\sqrt{-3}$

TABLE 5

The set  $\{-\sqrt{-3}, -2 + \sqrt{-3}, -2, -8 + 3\sqrt{-3}\}$  is a  $D(-3 - 2\sqrt{-3})$ , while the set  $\{\sqrt{-3}, -2 - \sqrt{-3}, -2, -8 - 3\sqrt{-3}\}$  is a  $D(-3 + 2\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$ .

#### 3.2. $D(4m + 2 + (4n + 2)\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruples.

Since there exist a  $D(\frac{2m+1}{2} + \frac{2n+1}{2}\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple in  $\mathbb{Z}[(1 + \sqrt{-3})/2]$ , by multiplying by 2 the elements of this quadruple we obtain a  $D(4m + 2 + (4n + 2)\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$ , up to  $z = 2 - 2\sqrt{-3}, 2 + 2\sqrt{-3}$ .



3.3.  $D(4m + 4n\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruples.

We have shown in § 2.3. that  $D(8m + (8n + 4)\sqrt{-3})$  and  $D(8m + 4 + 8n\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruples in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$  are obtained by multiplying by 2 the elements of  $D(2m + (2n + 1)\sqrt{-3})$  and  $D(2m + 1 + 2n\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruples in  $\mathbb{Z}[(1 + \sqrt{-3})/2]$  up to the the  $D(-4)$ -quadruple whose elements are not in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$ .

The set

$$\{1, 9k^2 - 8k, 9k^2 - 2k + 1, 36k^2 - 20k + 1\}$$

is  $D(8k)$ -quadruple ([7]) if  $k \neq 0, 1$ , so there exists a  $D(8m + 8n\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$ .

$z$	$k$	$m$	$u$	$D_4$ in	exceptions of $z$
$8A + 4 + (8B + 4)\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{3A - 2B + 4}{2} + \frac{A + 2}{2}\sqrt{-3}$	$\frac{\sqrt{-3}}{6}$	$2\sqrt{-3}$	$\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$	$-12 - 4\sqrt{-3}$ $-12 + 4\sqrt{-3}$

TABLE 6

It is easy to check that for those exceptions of  $z$  in Table 6, the polynomial formula  $D_4$  gives the set with two equal elements. Therefore for certain  $z$ , we found the following  $D(z)$ -quadruples in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$ :

- $\{2 + \sqrt{-3}, 2 - 2\sqrt{-3}, 2 - 3\sqrt{-3}, 6 - 11\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(-12 + 4\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple,
- $\{2 - \sqrt{-3}, 2 + 2\sqrt{-3}, 2 + 3\sqrt{-3}, 6 + 11\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(-12 - 4\sqrt{-3})$ -quadruple,
- $\{2 + \sqrt{-3}, -2 + 2\sqrt{-3}, -2 + \sqrt{-3}, -10 + 5\sqrt{-3}\}$  is the  $D(8)$ -quadruple.

REMARK 3.1. Concerning the list of possible exceptions given in Theorem 1.1 and Theorem 1.2, we can easily observe that  $3 = -1 \cdot (\sqrt{-3})^2$ ,  $-4 = -1 \cdot 2^2$ ,  $\frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3} = -1 \cdot (\frac{1}{2} \mp \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{-3})^2$  and  $2 \pm 2\sqrt{-3} = -1 \cdot (1 \mp \sqrt{-3})^2$ . So, we are not surprised that the key point lies in an investigation on the existence of  $D(-1)$ -quadruples in rings  $\mathbb{Z}[(1 + \sqrt{-3})/2]$  and  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$ . In an analogy to  $D(-1)$ -quadruple conjecture in the ring of integers and the problem of existence of  $D(-1)$ -quadruples in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-t}]$ ,  $t > 0$  studied in [29] and [30], we might expect that for such  $z$  there does not exists a  $D(z)$ -quadruple.

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## Diofantov problem za cijele brojeve kvadratnog polja $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$

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SAŽETAK. Rješavamo Diofantov problem za cijele brojeve kvadratnog polja  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$  konstruiranjem  $D(z)$ -čtvorki u prstenu  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-3}]$  za svaki  $z$  koji se može prikazati kao razlika dva kvadrata u  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$ , do na konačno mnogo mogućih izuzetaka.

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