

**THE GENERATORS OF THE 2-CLASS GROUP OF
SOME FIELDS $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2}, i)$:
CORRECTION TO THEOREM 3 OF [5]**

Abdelmalek Azizi¹ §, Abdelkader Zekhnini², Mohammed Taous³

¹Department of Mathematics
Faculty of Sciences
Mohammed First University
Oujda, MOROCCO

²Department of Mathematics
Pluridisciplinary Faculty
Mohammed First University
Nador, MOROCCO

³Department of Mathematics
Faculty of Science and Technology
Moulay Ismail University
Errachidia, MOROCCO

Abstract: Let p , q_1 and q_2 be different primes satisfying the condition that the 2-class group of the field $\mathbb{k} = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2}, i)$ is of type $(2, 2, 2)$. In this paper, we are interested to give the generators of $\mathbf{C}_{\mathbb{k},2}$, the 2-class group of \mathbb{k} , which corrects the Theorem 3 of A. Azizi, A. Zekhnini and M. Taous: On the generators of the 2-class group of the field $\mathbb{k} = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d}, i)$, IJPAM, Volume **81**, No. 5 (2012), 773-784.

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§Correspondence author

1. Introduction

Let k be an algebraic number field and let $\mathbf{C}_{k,2}$ denote its 2-class group, that is the 2-Sylow subgroup of the ideal class group \mathbf{C}_k of k . The structure and the generators of $\mathbf{C}_{k,2}$ play an important role in Number Theory, in fact they can help to determine the structure and the generators of the maximal unramified pro-2 extension of k , and they also help to solve the capitulation problem of the 2-ideal classes of k in its unramified extensions see [6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17]. Let $\mathbb{k} = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d}, i)$, where d is a square-free integer. In [5], we determined the generators of $\mathbf{C}_{\mathbb{k},2}$ whenever it is of type $(2, 2, 2)$, but Theorem 3 is false, the purpose of this paper is to correct this Theorem.

2. Preliminaries

Let p, q_1 and q_2 be different primes such that $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ and $q_1 \equiv q_2 \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$. Put $d = pq_1q_2$, according to [13], $\mathbf{C}_{\mathbb{k},2}$ is of type $(2, 2, 2)$ if and only if p, q_1, q_2 satisfy the following two conditions:

$$A : p \equiv -q_1 \equiv -q_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ and } \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{q_1}{q_2}\right) = -\left(\frac{q_2}{q_1}\right) = 1.$$

B : One of the following three conditions is satisfied:

- (I) $\left(\frac{p}{q_1}\right) \left(\frac{p}{q_2}\right) = -1$ and $\left(\frac{2}{q_1}\right) = \left(\frac{2}{q_2}\right) = -1$.
- (II) $\left(\frac{p}{q_1}\right) \left(\frac{p}{q_2}\right) = -1$, $\left(\frac{2}{q_1}\right) = 1$ and $\left(\frac{2}{q_2}\right) = -1$.
- (III) $\left(\frac{p}{q_1}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{q_2}\right) = -1$ and $\left(\frac{2}{q_1}\right) \left(\frac{2}{q_2}\right) = -1$.

Definition 1. Let p, q_1 and q_2 be different primes satisfying the condition A above.

- (1) p, q_1 and q_2 are called of type $B(I)(1)$ if the following conditions hold:
 $\left(\frac{p}{q_1}\right) = -\left(\frac{p}{q_2}\right) = 1$ and $\left(\frac{2}{q_1}\right) = \left(\frac{2}{q_2}\right) = -1$.
- (2) p, q_1 and q_2 are called of type $B(I)(2)$ if the following conditions hold:
 $\left(\frac{p}{q_2}\right) = -\left(\frac{p}{q_1}\right) = 1$ and $\left(\frac{2}{q_1}\right) = \left(\frac{2}{q_2}\right) = -1$.
- (3) p, q_1 and q_2 are called of type $B(II)(1)$ if the following conditions hold:
 $\left(\frac{p}{q_1}\right) = -\left(\frac{p}{q_2}\right) = 1$ and $\left(\frac{2}{q_1}\right) = -\left(\frac{2}{q_2}\right) = 1$.

- (4) p, q_1 and q_2 are called of type $B(II)(2)$ if the following conditions hold:
 $\left(\frac{p}{q_2}\right) = -\left(\frac{p}{q_1}\right) = 1$ and $\left(\frac{2}{q_1}\right) = -\left(\frac{2}{q_2}\right) = 1$.

Lemma 2. *Let $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ be a positive square free integer and $\varepsilon_d = x + y\sqrt{d}$ be the fundamental unit of $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$. Assume $N(\varepsilon_d) = 1$, then*

1. $x + 1$ and $x - 1$ are not squares in \mathbb{N} i.e. $2\varepsilon_d$ is not a square in $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$.
2. For all prime p dividing d , $p(x + 1)$ and $p(x - 1)$ are not squares in \mathbb{N} .

Proof. 1. As $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, then by [13, Corollaire 3.2] the unit index of $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d}, i)$ is equal to 1, hence by [1, Applications (ii)] we get that $2\varepsilon_d$ is not a square in $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$, this is equivalent to $x + 1$ and $x - 1$ are not squares in \mathbb{N} .

2. Assume $p(x + 1)$ or $p(x - 1)$ is a square in \mathbb{N} , then, by the decomposition uniqueness in \mathbb{Z} , there exist y_1, y_2 in \mathbb{Z} such that $\begin{cases} x \pm 1 = py_1^2, \\ x \mp 1 = d'y_2^2; \end{cases}$ and $\begin{cases} y = y_1y_2, \\ d = pd'; \end{cases}$ thus $p(x \pm 1) = p^2y_1^2$ and $p(x \mp 1) = p^2y_1^2 \mp 2p$. This in turn yields that $p^2(x^2 - 1) = p^2y_1^2(p^2y_1^2 \mp 2p)$; as $x^2 - 1 = y^2d$, so we get $y^2d = y_1^2(p^2y_1^2 \mp 2p)$, and $y_2^2d = p^2y_1^2 \mp 2p$. Since $d \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ and $p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{4}$, we deduce that $\mp 2 \equiv y_1^2 - y_2^2 \pmod{4}$. On the other hand, we know that for all $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ $a^2 \equiv 0$ or $1 \pmod{4}$, thus $\mp 2 \equiv 0, 1$ or $-1 \pmod{4}$. Which is absurd. \square

Let p, q_1 and q_2 be different primes satisfying the condition A above. As the norm of $\varepsilon_{pq_1q_2} = x + y\sqrt{pq_1q_2}$, the fundamental unit of $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})$, is 1, then by the decomposition uniqueness in \mathbb{Z} , each of the numbers $x \pm 1, 2(x \pm 1), p(x \pm 1), q_1(x \pm 1), q_2(x \pm 1), 2p(x \pm 1), 2q_1(x \pm 1), 2q_2(x \pm 1)$ and $2pq_1q_2(x \pm 1)$ can be a square in \mathbb{N} .

Lemma 3. *Let p, q_1 and q_2 be different primes satisfying the condition A . Let $\varepsilon_{pq_1q_2} = x + y\sqrt{pq_1q_2}$ be the fundamental unit of $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})$.*

1. If p, q_1 and q_2 are of type $B(I)(1)$ or $B(II)(1)$, then only $2q_1(x + 1)$ (i.e. $2pq_2(x - 1)$) is a square in \mathbb{N} .
2. If p, q_1 and q_2 are of type $B(I)(2)$ or $B(II)(2)$, then only $2q_2(x - 1)$ (i.e. $2pq_1(x + 1)$) is a square in \mathbb{N} .
3. If p, q_1 and q_2 are of type $B(III)$, then only $2p(x - 1)$ (i.e. $2q_1q_2(x + 1)$) is a square in \mathbb{N} .

Proof. As $pq_1q_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ and $N(\varepsilon_{pq_1q_2}) = 1$, then Lemma 2 implies that $x \pm 1$, $p(x \pm 1)$, $q_1(x \pm 1)$ and $q_2(x \pm 1)$ are not squares in \mathbb{N} . On the other hand, Lemma 5 of [2] yields that $2(x \pm 1)$ and $2pq_1q_2(x \pm 1)$ are not squares in \mathbb{N} . Hence only $2p(x \pm 1)$, $2q_1(x \pm 1)$ and $2q_2(x \pm 1)$ can be squares in \mathbb{N} .

Suppose p , q_1 and q_2 are of type $B(I)(1)$. If $2p(x \pm 1)$ is a square in \mathbb{N} , then, by the decomposition uniqueness of $x \pm 1$ in \mathbb{Z} , there exist y_1, y_2 in \mathbb{Z}

$$\text{such that } \begin{cases} x \pm 1 = 2py_1^2, \\ x \mp 1 = 2q_1q_2y_2^2, \\ y = 2y_1y_2; \end{cases} \text{ from which we deduce that } \left(\frac{2q_1q_2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{2}{p}\right), \text{ so}$$

$$\left(\frac{q_1q_2}{p}\right) = 1, \text{ but this contradicts the fact that } \left(\frac{q_1q_2}{p}\right) = -1.$$

$$\text{Similarly, if we assume } 2q_2(x \pm 1) \text{ is a square in } \mathbb{N}, \text{ we get } \begin{cases} x \pm 1 = 2q_2y_1^2, \\ x \mp 1 = 2q_1py_2^2, \\ y = 2y_1y_2; \end{cases}$$

which implies that $\left(\frac{2q_2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{2}{p}\right)$, hence $\left(\frac{q_2}{p}\right) = 1$, which is absurd.

Finally, if $2q_1(x - 1)$ is a square in \mathbb{N} , then proceeding similarly we get $\left(\frac{q_1}{q_2}\right) = -1$, which is absurd. So the result.

The other cases are proved similarly. □

We close this section by the following lemmas.

Lemma 4 ([19]). *Let p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n be distinct primes and for each j , let $e_j = \pm 1$. Then there exist infinitely many primes l such that $\left(\frac{p_j}{l}\right) = e_j$, for all j .*

Lemma 5 ([18], p. 205). *If \mathcal{H} is an unramified ideal in some extension $\mathbb{K}/\mathbb{k} = \mathbb{k}(\sqrt{x})/\mathbb{k}$, then the quadratic residue symbol is given by the Artin symbol $\varphi = \left(\frac{\mathbb{k}(\sqrt{x})/\mathbb{k}}{\mathcal{H}}\right)$ as follows: $\left(\frac{x}{\mathcal{H}}\right) = \sqrt{x}^{\varphi-1}$.*

3. Main Result

Let $F = \mathbb{Q}(i)$ and denote by $Am(\mathbb{k}/F)$ the group of the ambiguous classes of \mathbb{k}/F and by $Am_s(\mathbb{k}/F)$ its subgroup generated by the strongly ambiguous classes. As $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, so there exist e and f in \mathbb{N} such that $p = e^2 + 4f^2 = \pi_1\pi_2$. Put $\pi_1 = e + 2if$ and $\pi_2 = e - 2if$. Let $\mathcal{H}_1, \mathcal{H}_2, \mathcal{Q}_1$ and \mathcal{Q}_2 be the prime ideals of \mathbb{k} above π_1, π_2, q_1 and q_2 respectively. It is easy to see that $\mathcal{H}_j^2 = (\pi_j)$

(resp. $\mathcal{Q}_j^2 = (q_j)$). Therefore $[\mathcal{H}_j]$ (resp. $[\mathcal{Q}_j]$) is in $Am_s(\mathbb{k}/F)$ for all $j \in \{1, 2\}$. Keep the notation $\varepsilon_{pq_1q_2} = x + y\sqrt{pq_1q_2}$.

Since $\mathcal{H}_j^2 = (\pi_j)$, where $1 \leq j \leq 2$, and since also $\sqrt{e^2 + (2f)^2} = \sqrt{p} \notin \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})$, so according to [5, Proposition 1] \mathcal{H}_j is not principal in \mathbb{k} .

From Lemma 3 we get the following assertions:

- If p, q_1 and q_2 are of type $B(I)(1)$ or $B(II)(1)$, then $2q_1(x+1)$ and $2pq_2(x-1)$ are squares in \mathbb{N} , so Remark 1 of [5] implies that \mathcal{Q}_1 and $\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{H}_2\mathcal{Q}_2$ are principal in \mathbb{k} .
- If p, q_1 and q_2 are of type $B(I)(2)$ or $B(II)(2)$, then $2q_2(x-1)$ and $2pq_1(x+1)$ are squares in \mathbb{N} , so Remark 1 of [5] implies that \mathcal{Q}_2 and $\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{H}_2\mathcal{Q}_1$ are principal in \mathbb{k} .
- If p, q_1 and q_2 are of type $B(III)$, then $2p(x-1)$ and $2q_1q_2(x+1)$ are squares in \mathbb{N} , so Remark 1 of [5] implies that $\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{H}_2$ and $\mathcal{Q}_1\mathcal{Q}_2$ are squares in \mathbb{k} and $\mathcal{Q}_1, \mathcal{Q}_2$ are not. Moreover, as $(\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{Q}_1)^2 = (\pi_1q_1)$ and $q_1\sqrt{p} \notin \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$, so [5, Proposition 1] implies that $\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{Q}_1$ is not principal in \mathbb{k} .

According to the ambiguous class number formula (see [14]) we have:

$$|Am(\mathbb{k}/F)| = \frac{h(F)2^{t-1}}{[E_F : E_F \cap N_{\mathbb{k}/F}(\mathbb{k}^\times)]}, \tag{1}$$

where $h(F)$ is the class number of F and t is the number of finite and infinite primes of F ramified in \mathbb{k}/F . Moreover as the class number of F is equal to 1, so the formula (1) yields that

$$|Am(\mathbb{k}/F)| = 2^r, \tag{2}$$

where $r = \text{rank} \mathbf{C}_{\mathbb{k},2} = t - e - 1$ and $2^e = [E_F : E_F \cap N_{\mathbb{k}/F}(\mathbb{k}^\times)]$ (see for example [20]). The relation between $|Am(\mathbb{k}/F)|$ and $|Am_s(\mathbb{k}/F)|$ is given by the following formula (see for example [15]):

$$\frac{|Am(\mathbb{k}/F)|}{|Am_s(\mathbb{k}/F)|} = [E_F \cap N_{\mathbb{k}/F}(\mathbb{k}^\times) : N_{\mathbb{k}/F}(E_{\mathbb{k}})]. \tag{3}$$

Since $r = \text{rank} \mathbf{C}_{\mathbb{k},2} = 3$, so Formula (2) implies that $|Am(\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(i))| = 2^3 = 8$. Moreover, we know that $p \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$, hence by [21] i is a norm in $\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(i)$, thus Formula (3) allows us to deduce that

$$\frac{|Am(\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(i))|}{|Am_f(\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(i))|} = [E_{\mathbb{Q}(i)} \cap N_{\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(i)}(\mathbb{k}^\times) : N_{\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(i)}(E_{\mathbb{k}})] = [\langle i \rangle : \langle -1 \rangle] = 2$$

($E_{\mathbb{k}} = \langle i, \varepsilon_{pq_1q_2} \rangle$ since $x \pm 1$ is not a square in \mathbb{N} see [3]), so $|Am_s(\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(i))| = 4$. We conclude that:

- If p, q_1 and q_2 are of type $B(III)$, then $\text{Am}_s(\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(i)) = \langle [\mathcal{H}_1], [\mathcal{Q}_1] \rangle$.
- Else, $\text{Am}_s(\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(i)) = \langle [\mathcal{H}_1], [\mathcal{H}_2] \rangle$.

Therefore there exists in \mathbb{k} an unambiguous ideal \mathcal{I} of order 2 such that

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{Cl}_2(\mathbb{k}) = \langle [\mathcal{H}_1], [\mathcal{Q}_1], [\mathcal{I}] \rangle & \text{if } p, q_1 \text{ and } q_2 \text{ are of type } B(III), \\ \mathbf{Cl}_2(\mathbb{k}) = \langle [\mathcal{H}_1], [\mathcal{H}_2], [\mathcal{I}] \rangle & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

By Chebotarev theorem, \mathcal{I} can always be chosen as a prime ideal of \mathbb{k} above a prime l in \mathbb{Q} , which splits completely in \mathbb{k} . So we can determine \mathcal{I} by using Lemma 4.

(a) Suppose p, q_1 and q_2 are of type $B(III)$. Let $l \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ be a prime integer such that $\left(\frac{pq_1q_2}{l}\right) = 1$ and $\left(\frac{p}{l}\right) = -1$. Thus l splits completely in \mathbb{k} , let \mathcal{I} be a prime ideal of \mathbb{k} lies above l , which is an unambiguous ideal. Let us prove that $\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{Q}_1\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{I}$ and $\mathcal{Q}_1\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{I}$ are not principal in \mathbb{k} .

- \mathcal{I} is not principal in \mathbb{k} , otherwise we will have $N_{\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})}(\mathcal{I})$ principal in $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})$, so there exist α_1, α_2 in \mathbb{Q} such that $l = \pm(\alpha_1^2 - \alpha_2^2pq_1q_2)$. This implies that $\left(\frac{p}{l}\right) = 1$; which is absurd.

- If $\mathcal{Q}_1\mathcal{I}$ is principal in \mathbb{k} , then $N_{\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})}(\mathcal{Q}_1\mathcal{I}) = \mathcal{Q}_1^2 N_{\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})}(\mathcal{I})$ is also principal in $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})$ (note that the ideal of $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})$ above q_1 remains inert in \mathbb{k}). On the other hand, under our conditions $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})$ is cyclic of order 2 (see [13]), thus $N_{\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})}(\mathcal{I})$ is principal in $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})$, this implies the contradiction $\left(\frac{p}{l}\right) = 1$.

- If $\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{I}$ is principal in \mathbb{k} , then $N_{\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})}(\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{I})$ is principal in $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})$. So there exist α_1, α_2 in \mathbb{Q} such that $pl = \pm(\alpha_1^2 - \alpha_2^2pq_1q_2)$; which yields that p divides α_1 , hence there exists β in \mathbb{Q} such that $l = \pm(\beta^2p - \alpha_2^2q_1q_2)$; this in turn implies that $\left(\frac{l}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{q_1q_2}{p}\right) = -1$; but this contradicts the condition $B(III)$.

- If $\mathcal{Q}_1\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{I}$ is principal in \mathbb{k} , then

$$N_{\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})}(\mathcal{Q}_1\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{I}) = \mathcal{Q}_1^2 N_{\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})}(\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{I})$$

is principal in $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})$. So $N_{\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})}(\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{I})$ is principal in $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})$; which implies that $\left(\frac{l}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{q_1q_2}{p}\right) = -1$, but this contradicts the condition $B(III)$.

(b) Suppose p, q_1 and q_2 are of type $B(I)$ or $B(II)$. As in the assertion (a), we choose a prime $l \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ satisfying the conditions $\left(\frac{pq_1q_2}{l}\right) = 1$, $\left(\frac{p}{l}\right) = -1$ and $\left(\frac{q_1}{l}\right) \left(\frac{q_2}{l}\right) = -1$. Thus l splits completely in \mathbb{k} . Let \mathcal{I} be a prime ideal \mathbb{k} above l , so \mathcal{I} is unambiguous ideal and the ideals $\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{H}_2\mathcal{I}$ and $\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{H}_2\mathcal{I}$ are not principal in \mathbb{k} . Indeed:

- \mathcal{I} is not principal in \mathbb{k} , the same proof as in (a).

- Note that $\mathbb{K}_2 = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{q_1}, \sqrt{pq_2}, i)$ is an unramified quadratic extension of \mathbb{k} (see [4]), hence Lemma 5 implies that $\varphi_{\mathbb{K}_2/\mathbb{k}}(\mathcal{H}_j\mathcal{I}) \neq 1$, where $j \in \{1, 2\}$ and $\varphi_{\mathbb{K}_2/\mathbb{k}}$ is the d'Artin map of \mathbb{K}_2/\mathbb{k} . Consequently $\mathcal{H}_j\mathcal{I}$ is not principal in \mathbb{k} .
- If $\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{H}_2\mathcal{I}$ is principal in \mathbb{k} , then $N_{\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})}(\mathcal{H}_1\mathcal{H}_2\mathcal{I}) = P^2 N_{\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})}(\mathcal{I})$ is principal in $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})$, where P is the ideal of $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})$ above p ; consequently $N_{\mathbb{k}/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})}(\mathcal{I})$ is principal in $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pq_1q_2})$, which is absurd. This completes the proof of the main theorem.

Theorem 6. *Let $\mathbb{k} = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d}, i)$, where $d = pq_1q_2$ with p, q_1 and q_2 are primes satisfying the conditions A et B. Let $\mathbf{C}_{\mathbb{k},2}$ be the 2-class group of \mathbb{k} . Put $p = \pi_1\pi_2$, where π_1 and π_2 are in $\mathbb{Z}[i]$, denote by \mathcal{H}_1 (resp. \mathcal{H}_2 and \mathcal{Q}_1) the prime ideal of \mathbb{k} lies above π_1 (resp. π_2 and q_1). Then there exists an unambiguous ideal \mathcal{I} of \mathbb{k} of order 2 such that*

1. *If p, q_1 and q_2 are of type B(III), then $\mathbf{C}_{\mathbb{k},2} = \langle [\mathcal{H}_1], [\mathcal{Q}_1], [\mathcal{I}] \rangle$.*
2. *Else, $\mathbf{C}_{\mathbb{k},2} = \langle [\mathcal{H}_1], [\mathcal{H}_2], [\mathcal{I}] \rangle$.*

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