

Year: 2016

Vol.: 88

Fasc.: 3-4

Title: Hilbert 2-class fields and 2-descent

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We give a construction of unramified cyclic octic extensions of certain complex quadratic number fields. The binary quadratic form used in this construction also shows up in the theory of 2-descents on Pell conics and elliptic curves, as well as in the explicit description of cyclic quartic extensions.

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