

# On the structure of Selmer groups\*

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Received June 29, 1990; in revised form April 15, 1991

The paper contains some applications of explicit cohomology classes (which the author has constructed earlier using Heegner points) to the theory of Selmer groups of a modular elliptic curve. Moreover, some generalizations of Selmer groups are considered.

The case when the Heegner point over the imaginary quadratic field has infinite order was studied in the work [1]. In fact, the theory of [1] is valid under a more general assumption which is, hypothetically, always true and discussed below.

For the convenience of the reader, we recall in part 1 the definitions of the Selmer groups and of our explicit cohomology classes, and formulate some of our results. The second part is essentially based on the work [1] and requires some familiarity with it. The second part contains proofs of results for  $\ell \in B(E)$  (see below for notations), formulations of corresponding results for  $\ell \notin B(E)$ , and some global consequences of these results.

## 1 Selmer groups and explicit cohomology classes

Let  $E$  be an elliptic curve over the field of rational numbers  $\mathbb{Q}$ . For an arbitrary abelian group  $A$  and a natural number  $M$  we let  $A_M$  denote the maximal  $M$ -torsion subgroup of  $A$ . We use the abbreviation  $A/M = A/MA$ . Let  $E_M = E(\overline{\mathbb{Q}})_M$ . If  $R$  is some extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ , then the exact sequence

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\*This paper was partly prepared during my stay at the Max-Planck-Institut für Mathematik in Bonn. I want to express my gratitude for the support and the hospitality provided by this institute.

$0 \rightarrow E_M \rightarrow E(\overline{R}) \rightarrow E(\overline{R}) \rightarrow 0$  induces the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow E(R)/M \rightarrow H^1(R, E_M) \rightarrow H^1(R, E)_M \rightarrow 0. \quad (1.1)$$

If  $L/R$  is a Galois extension, then  $G(L/R)$  denotes its Galois group,  $H^1(R, A) := H^1(G(\overline{R}/R), A)$  for a  $G(\overline{R}/R)$ -module  $A$ ,  $H^1(R, E) := H^1(R, E(\overline{R}))$ .

Now let  $R$  be a finite extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . For a place  $v$  of  $R$ , we let  $R(v)$  denote the corresponding completion of  $R$ , for  $x \in H^1(R, E_M)$ ,  $x(v)$  denotes its natural image in  $H^1(R(v), E_M)$ . The Selmer group  $S(R, E_M) \subset H^1(R, E_M)$ , by definition, consists of all elements  $x$  such that for all places  $v$  of  $R$ ,  $x(v) \in E(R(v))/M$ . We recall that the Shafarevich-Tate group  $\text{III}(R, E)$  is  $\ker(H^1(R, E) \rightarrow \prod_v H^1(R(v), E))$ , so (1.1) induces the exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow E(R)/M \rightarrow S(R, E_M) \rightarrow \text{III}(R, E)_M \rightarrow 0.$$

By the weak Mordell-Weil theorem, the Selmer group  $S(K, E_M)$  is finite, by the Mordell-Weil theorem,  $E(R) \cong F \times \mathbb{Z}^{\text{rank } E(R)}$ , where  $F \cong E(R)_{\text{tor}}$  is finite,  $0 \leq \text{rank } E(R) \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

It is conjectured that  $\text{III}(R, E)$  is finite. Only recently Rubin and the author proved this conjecture in some cases. I shall give some examples below.

We suppose further that  $E$  is modular. Let  $N$  be the conductor of  $E$ ,  $\gamma : X_0(N) \rightarrow E$  be a modular parametrization. Here  $X_0(N)$  is the modular curve over  $\mathbb{Q}$  which parametrizes isomorphism classes of isogenies of elliptic curves with cyclic kernel of order  $N$ . We note that, according to the Taniyama-Shimura-Weil conjecture, every elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is modular.

We now define explicit cohomology classes, we start from the definition of Heegner points. Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})$  be a field of discriminant  $D$  such that  $0 > D \equiv \square \pmod{4N}$ ,  $D \neq -3, -4$ . We fix an ideal  $i_1$  of the ring of integers  $O_1$  of  $K$  such that  $O_1/i_1 \cong \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$  (such an ideal exists because of the conditions on  $D$ ). If  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $K_\lambda$  be the ring class field of  $K$  of conductor  $\lambda$ . It is a finite abelian extension of  $K$ . In particular,  $K_1$  is the maximal abelian unramified extension of  $K$ . If  $(\lambda, N) = 1$ , we let  $O_\lambda = \mathbb{Z} + \lambda O_1$ ,  $i_\lambda = i_1 \cap O_\lambda$ ,  $z_\lambda$  will be the point of  $X_0(N)$  rational over  $K_\lambda$  corresponding to the class of the isogeny  $\mathbb{C}/O_\lambda \rightarrow \mathbb{C}/i_\lambda^{-1}$  (here  $i_\lambda^{-1} \supset O_\lambda$  is the inverse of  $i_\lambda$  in the group of proper  $O_\lambda$ -ideals). We set  $y_\lambda = \gamma(z_\lambda) \in E(K_\lambda)$ ,  $P_1 \in E(K)$  is the norm of  $y_1$  from  $K_1$  to  $K$ . The points  $y_\lambda, P_1$  are called Heegner points.

Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be  $\text{End}(E)$ ,  $Q = \mathcal{O} \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ . Let  $\ell$  be a rational prime,  $T = \varprojlim E_{\ell^n}$  be the Tate-module and  $\hat{\mathcal{O}} = \mathcal{O} \otimes \mathbb{Z}_\ell$ . We let  $B(E)$  denote the set of odd rational

primes which do not divide the discriminant of  $\mathcal{O}$  and for which the natural representation  $\rho : G(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{\mathcal{O}} T$  is surjective. It is known (from the theory of complex multiplication and Serre's theory, resp.) that almost all (all but a finite number of) primes belong to  $B(E)$ . For example, if  $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{Z}$  and  $N$  is squarefree, then  $\ell \geq 11$  belongs to  $B(E)$  according to a theorem of Mazur.

In my paper "Euler systems" I proved that  $\text{rank } E(K) = 1$  and  $\text{III}(K, E)$  is finite when  $P_1$  has infinite order. Then, in the paper "On the structure of Shafarevich-Tate groups" I determined the structure of  $\text{III}(K, E)_{\ell^\infty}$  for  $\ell \in B(E)$ , under the same condition. Moreover, our explicit cohomology classes give information on the structure of  $S(K, E_{\ell^n})$  under some more general condition (which, hypothetically, always holds). It will be discussed later, now we continue with the definition of the cohomology classes.

We fix a prime  $\ell \in B(E)$ . Further in the paper we use the notation  $p$  or  $p_k$ , where  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , only for rational primes which do not divide  $N$ , remain prime in  $K$  and satisfy  $n(p) := \text{ord}_{\ell}(p+1, a_p) \geq 1$ , where  $a_p = p+1 - [\tilde{E}(\mathbb{Z}/p)]$ ,  $\tilde{E}$  is the reduction of  $E$  modulo  $p$ . For natural  $r$  we let  $\Lambda^r = \{p_1, \dots, p_r\}$  denote the set of all products of  $r$  distinct such primes. The set  $\Lambda^0$ , by definition, consists only of  $p_0 := 1$ . We let  $\Lambda = \cup_{r \geq 0} \Lambda^r$ . If  $r > 0$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda^r$ , we let  $n(\lambda) = \min_{p|\lambda} n(p)$ ,  $n(p_0) := \infty$ .

The set  $T$  of explicit cohomology classes consists of  $\tau_{\lambda, n} \in H^1(K, E_M)$ , where  $\lambda$  runs through  $\Lambda$ ,  $1 \leq n \leq n(\lambda)$ ,  $M = \ell^n$ . To define these note that the condition  $\ell \in B(E)$  implies the triviality of  $E(K_{\lambda})_{\ell^\infty}$ . So, by a spectral sequence, the restriction homomorphism  $\text{res} : H^1(K, E_M) \rightarrow H^1(K_{\lambda}, E_M)^{G(K_{\lambda}/K)}$  is an isomorphism and  $\tau_{\lambda, n}$  is uniquely defined by the value  $\text{res}(\tau_{\lambda, n})$  which we will now exhibit.

We need more notations. We use standard facts on ring class fields. If  $1 < \lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ , then the natural homomorphism  $G(K_{\lambda}/K_1) \rightarrow \prod_{p|\lambda} G(K_p/K_1)$  is an isomorphism and we also have  $G(K_{\lambda}/K_{\lambda/p}) \rightarrow G(K_p/K_1) \cong \mathbb{Z}/(p+1)$ .

For each  $p$ , fix a generator  $t_p \in G(K_p/K_1)$  and let  $t_p$  also denote the corresponding generator of  $G(K_{\lambda}/K_{\lambda/p})$ . Let  $I_p = -\sum_{j=1}^p j t_p^j$ ,  $I_{\lambda} = \prod_{p|\lambda} I_p \in \mathbb{Z}[G(K_{\lambda}/K_1)]$ . Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be the composite of  $K_{\lambda'}$  when  $\lambda'$  runs through the set  $\Lambda$ . We let  $J_{\lambda} = \sum \bar{g}$  where  $g$  runs through a fixed set of representatives of  $G(\mathbb{K}/K)$  modulo  $G(\mathbb{K}/K_1)$ ,  $\bar{g}$  is the restriction of  $g$  to  $K_{\lambda}$ , so  $\{\bar{g}\}$  is a set of representatives of  $G(K_{\lambda}/K)$  modulo  $G(K_{\lambda}/K_1)$ . Let  $P_{\lambda} = J_{\lambda} I_{\lambda} y_{\lambda} \in E(K_{\lambda})$ . Then

$$\text{res}(\tau_{\lambda, n}) = P_{\lambda} \pmod{ME(K_{\lambda})}.$$

Now we formulate some of our results on the invariants of  $S(K, E_M)$ , see Theorems 2.1 and 2.2 of the second part for more general statements.

There is a bijective correspondence between the set of isomorphism classes of finite abelian  $\ell$ -groups and the set of sequences of nonnegative integers  $\{n_i\}$  such that  $i \geq 1$ ,  $n_i \geq n_{i+1}$ ,  $n_i = 0$  for all sufficiently large  $i$ . Concretely,  $\{n_i\} \leftrightarrow$  class of  $\sum_i \mathbb{Z}/\ell^{n_i}$ . For a group  $A$  we let  $\text{Inv}(A)$  denote the sequence of invariants of class  $A$ , we call it the sequence of invariants of  $A$ .

Let  $L(E, s)$  be the canonical  $L$ -function of  $E$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $g = \text{ord}_{s=1} L(E, s)$ ,  $\varepsilon = (-1)^{g-1}$ .

If  $G$  is a group of order 2 with generator  $\sigma$  and  $A$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}_\ell[G]$ -module, then for  $\nu \in \{0, 1\}$  we let  $A^\nu$  denote the submodule  $(1 - (-1)^\nu \varepsilon \sigma)A$ . Then  $A$  is the direct sum of  $A^0$  and  $A^1$  and  $\sigma$  acts on  $A^\nu$  via multiplication by  $(-1)^{\nu-1} \varepsilon$ .

Let  $S_M = S(K, E_M)$ ,  $G = G(K/\mathbb{Q})$ . We are interested in the sequence  $\text{Inv}(S_M^\nu)$ . For the formulation of the results we need some more notations.

Let  $m'(\lambda)$  be the maximal nonnegative integer such that  $P_\lambda \in \ell^{m'(\lambda)} E(K_\lambda)$ . We let  $m(\lambda) = m'(\lambda)$  if  $m'(\lambda) < n(\lambda)$ ,  $m(\lambda) = \infty$  otherwise. Let  $m_r = \min m(\lambda)$  when  $\lambda$  runs through  $\Lambda^r$ . In particular,  $\ell^{m_0}$  is the maximal power of  $\ell$  which divides  $P_1$ , so  $m_0 < \infty \iff P_1$  has infinite order. Let  $m = \min_{r \geq 0} m_r$ .

The condition  $m < \infty$  is equivalent to the condition  $T \neq \{0\}$ . It is the generalization of the condition that  $P_1$  has infinite order.

**Conjecture 1.1.**  $T \neq \{0\}$ .

Assume for the following that Conjecture 1.1 is true (for the field  $K$  and the prime  $\ell$ ). Let  $f$  be the minimal  $r$  such that  $m_r < \infty$ . In particular,  $f = 0 \iff P_1$  has infinite order.

We let  $(r) = 1$  if  $r$  is odd,  $(r) = 0$  if  $r$  is even. We have

**Theorem 1.2.** *Suppose Conjecture 1.1 is true. Then the inequality  $m_r \geq m_{r+1}$  holds for  $r \geq 0$ . Let  $n > m_f$ ,  $c = f + \nu$ , where  $\nu \in \{0, 1\}$  as usual. Then*

$$\text{Inv}(S_M^{(c)}) = \underbrace{\dots, m_c - m_{c+1}, m_c - m_{c+1}, \dots}_{c \text{ values}}, \\ m_{c+2k} - m_{c+2k+1}, m_{c+2k} - m_{c+2k+1}, \dots,$$

where  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ . Moreover,  $\underbrace{\dots}_{c \text{ values}} = n, \dots, n$  if  $\nu = 1$ .

Theorem 1.2 is a special case of of Theorems 2.1 and 2.2, see Section 2. For further results on the ordinary Selmer groups see the Sect. 2 after the proof of Theorem 2.2.

## 2 An application of the theore [1]

We use the notations and definitions from [1] with those already defined here.

First we note that all wordings and proofs in the basic text of [1, Sects. 1–4] remain valid in the following situation provided one changes notations as is to be explained. We can use instead of the condition  $m(1) < \infty$  (or equivalently, that the Heegner point  $P_1$  has infinite order) the weaker condition that there exists  $\lambda_0 \in \Lambda^u$ , where  $u \geq 0$ , such that  $2m(\lambda_0) < n(\lambda_0)$ . Then we let  $p_0$  be some such  $\lambda_0$  to be fixed throughout, and redefine  $\Lambda^r$  to be set of products of the form  $p_0 p_1 \dots p_r$  with distinct primes  $p_1, \dots, p_r$  that do not divide  $p_0$ . We let  $A^\nu$  denote  $(1 - (-1)^{\nu+u} \epsilon \sigma)A$ , where  $\nu = 0$  or  $1$ , as usual. then consider  $X = S_{p_0, p_0, n(p_0) - m(p_0)} / (\mathbb{Z}_\ell \tau_{p_0, n(p_0)})$  (see Sect. 2 of [1] for the definition of  $S_{\lambda, \delta, n}$ ). In the case  $p_0 = 1$ ,  $S_{1, 1, \infty} = \varinjlim S_{1, 1, n}$  and  $S_{1, 1, n} = S_{1, n} = S_M$  is the ordinary Selmer group of  $E$  over  $K$  of level  $M = \ell^n$ .

The notations  $n, n', n''$  are used only for natural numbers  $\leq n(p_0)$ . Of course, the definitions in [1] must now be adapted to these new notations. For example  $m_r = m_r(p_0)$ . Instead of the group  $S_{1, n}$ , the group  $S_{p_0, p_0, n}$  must be used.

In the sequence (24) the group  $(E(K)/M)^\nu$  must be replaced by the group  $\mathbb{Z}/M' \tau_{p_0, n'}$ , where  $n' = n + m_0$ . To use (38) with the isomorphism  $\beta_3^\nu$  it is necessary to require that  $3m(p_0) < n(p_0)$ . When  $p_0 = 1$  we return to the original setup.

Now generalize this further: We fix  $p_0$  for which we require only that the sequence  $\{m_r\}$  becomes eventually finite,  $m_r < \infty$  for some  $r \geq 0$ . Or, equivalently, we require that  $\{\tau_{\lambda, n}\} \neq \{0\}$  ( $\lambda$  runs throught the set  $\Lambda$ ). Then we let  $f$  denote the minimal  $r$  such that  $m_r < \infty$  and if  $p_0 > 1$  we require moreover that  $\theta m_f < m(p_0)$ , where  $\theta = 2$  or  $3$  (as may be needed).

If  $A$  is a finite  $\mathbb{Z}_\ell$ -module, then, for  $j \geq 1$ ,  $\{\text{inv}_j(A)\}$  denotes the sequence of invariants of  $A$  (see Section 1 above). Finally, (i) denotes the representative of  $i \pmod{2}$  in the set  $\{0, 1\}$ .

The following is a generalization of Theorem 1.2 in [1].

**Theorem 2.1.** *Suppose Conjecture 1.1 is true. Let  $r > f$ ,  $n > m_f$ ,  $n' = n + m_f$ . Then the set  $\Omega_{n'}^r$  is nonempty. Moreover, for all  $\omega \in \Omega_{n'}^{r-1}$ , there*

exists  $p_r$  such that the sequence  $(\omega, p_r) \in \Omega_{n'}^r$ . Let  $\omega \in \Omega_{n'}^r$ . Then, for  $1 \leq j \leq r$ ,

$$\#\varphi_{p_j, n}^{(c)} \pmod{\Phi_{\omega(j-1), n}^{(c)}} = m_{(j, (c))-1} - m_{(j, (c))} = \text{inv}_j(S_{p_0, p_0, n}^{(c)}).$$

*Proof.* The proof duplicates the proof of Theorem 1 of [1] (the case  $f = 0$ ) if we note that  $\forall k \geq f$ ,  $\exists \lambda \in \Lambda^k$  such that  $m(\lambda) = m$  and  $\#T_{\lambda, n}^\nu = \text{inv}_{k+1}(S_{p_0, p_0, n}^\nu)$  for  $\nu = 0$  and  $\nu = 1$ . This is a consequence of the analog of [1, Proposition 8] (proved analogously) where condition 3) is replaced by the condition  $\#\varphi_{q, n'}^\alpha \pmod{\Phi_{\delta, n'}^\alpha} = \#T_{\delta, n}^\alpha$ .  $\square$

Furthermore, we get

**Theorem 2.2.** *Suppose Conjecture 1.1 is true. Then  $\exists p_0 p_1 \dots p_{2f+1} \in \Lambda_{n'}^{2f+1}$  such that for  $1 \leq i \leq f+1$ ,  $\text{ord}_\ell \psi_{p_{f+1}, n'}(\eta_i) = m_f$ , where  $\eta_i = \tau_{p_0 p_i \dots p_{i+f-1}, n'}$ . Then the subgroup of  $S_{p_0, p_0, n}^{(f+1)}$  generated by  $\eta_i$  is isomorphic to the group  $\sum_{i=1}^{f+1} \mathbb{Z}/M$ . In particular, for  $1 \leq j \leq f+1$  we have that  $\text{inv}_j(S_{p_0, p_0, n}^{(f+1)}) = n$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\eta'_1 = p_0 p'_1 \dots p'_f \in \Lambda_{m_{f+1}}^f$  is such that  $m(\eta'_1) = m_f$ . By means of [1, Proposition 8] we can, by induction, replace  $p'_1, \dots, p'_f$  by  $p_1, \dots, p_f$  such that  $\eta_1 = p_0 \dots p_f \in \Lambda_{n'}^f$  and  $m(\eta_1) = m_f$  (this step is trivial when  $f = 0$ ). Then we again use [1, Proposition 8] (which is true for  $r = k$  as well, see the proof) and by induction find a suitable  $\eta_i$ . Because of [1, Proposition 1] and (for  $f > 0$ ) the condition  $\tau_{\lambda, n'} = 0 \quad \forall \lambda \in \Lambda_{n'}^{f-1}$  it then follows that  $\eta_i \in S_{p_0, p_0, n}^{(f+1)}$  (we recall that complex conjugation acts on  $\tau_{\lambda, n'}$  as multiplication by  $(-1)^r \epsilon$  if  $\lambda \in \Lambda_{n'}^r$ ). We set  $R_{ij} = \varphi_{p_{f+j}, n'}(\eta_i)$  for  $1 \leq i, j \leq f+1$ . Then  $R_{ij} = 0$  for  $j < i$  because (see [1, Sect. 1])  $\psi_p(\tau_{\lambda, n'}) = 0$  when  $p \mid \lambda$ . We have  $R_{ii} \in \ell^{m_f}(\mathbb{Z}/M)^*$ . If  $\sum \alpha_i \eta_i = 0$ , then by applying to this identity the characters  $\psi_{p_{f+j}}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, f+1$  we obtain that  $\alpha_i \equiv 0 \pmod{M}$ .  $\square$

Hence Theorems 2.1 and 2.2 fully determine the sequence of invariants for  $S_{p_0, p_0, n}^{(f+1)}$ .

Further, we suppose that  $p_0 = 1$  and  $\{\tau_{\lambda, n}\} \neq \{0\}$ . The group  $S^\nu = \varinjlim S_{\ell^n}^\nu$  is isomorphic to a direct sum of  $(\mathbb{Q}_\ell/\mathbb{Z}_\ell)^{r^\nu}$  and a finite group  $\mathcal{X}^\nu$ . The group  $S_{\ell^n}^\nu$  coincides with the maximal  $\ell^n$ -torsion subgroup of  $S^\nu$  and with the Selmer group of level  $\ell^n$  for  $E^\nu$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Here  $E^\nu$  is  $E$  if  $(-1)^{\nu+1} \epsilon = 1$ , and  $E^\nu$  is the form of  $E$  over  $K$  otherwise. A priori,  $\text{rank } E^\nu(\mathbb{Q}) \leq r^\nu$ , and equality is equivalent to the statement that  $\text{III}(\mathbb{Q}, E^\nu)_{\ell^\infty}$  is a finite group, which will then be isomorphic to  $\mathcal{X}^\nu$ . We have

**Theorem 2.3.** *Suppose Conjecture 1.1 is true. Then  $r^{(f+1)} = f+1$ ,  $r^{(f)} \leq f$ , and  $f - r^{(f)}$  is even. For  $j \geq 1 + \nu + f$ ,  $\text{inv}_{j-r^{(c)}}(\mathcal{X}^{(c)}) = m_{(j,(c))^{-1}} - m_{(j,(c))}$ .*

*Proof.* Because of Theorems 2.1 and 2.2 it is enough to explain why  $f - r^{(f)}$  is even. From Theorem 2.1 we have that the (parity of nonzero invariants  $\mathcal{X}^{(f)}$  with index  $\geq f + 1 - r^{(f)}$ ) is even, but the common parity of nonzero invariants of  $\mathcal{X}^{(f)}$  is even because of the existence of a non-degenerate alternating Cassels form on  $\mathcal{X}^{(f)}$ . Hence  $f - r^{(f)}$  is even.  $\square$

Let  $g^\nu = \text{ord}_{s=1} L(E^\nu, s)$ . We recall that according to the conjecture of Birch and Swinnerton-Dyer,  $g^\nu = \text{rank } E^\nu(\mathbb{Q})$ . Since  $(-1)^{g^\nu} = -\epsilon$  or  $\epsilon$  according as  $E^\nu = E$  or  $E^\nu = \text{form of } E \text{ over } K$ , we have from Theorem 2.3:

**Theorem 2.4.** *Suppose Conjecture 1.1 is true. Then  $r^\nu - g^\nu$  is even for  $\nu = 0$  and  $\nu = 1$ .*

If  $f$  and  $m$  are known, then we have an algorithm (see the beginning of this section, and Sect. 4 of [1]) for computing some  $n'$  and  $q = p_{f+1} \dots p_{2f+1} \in \Lambda_{n'}^{f+1}$  such that  $n' > 3m(q)$ ,  $\min_r m_r(q) = m$ , with a parametrization of  $\mathcal{Y} = S_{q,q,n}^{(f+1)}$ , where  $n = n' - m(q)$ , by finite linear combinations of elements of  $\{\tau_{\lambda,n'}\}$ . Moreover, such a procedure can be combined with the selection of  $p_0 \dots p_f (p_0 = 1)$  such that  $p_0 \dots p_{2f+1} \in \Lambda_{n'}^{2f+1}$  and  $\text{ord}_\ell R_{ii} = \text{ord}_\ell(m(\eta_i)) = n' - n$  for  $1 \leq i \leq f + 1$ . Then (see the proof of Theorem 2.2) the group  $\mathcal{L} \subset S_M^{(f+1)} \cap \mathcal{Y} \cong \mathcal{X}^{(f+1)}$ . The parametrization for  $\mathcal{Y}$  induces a parametrization for  $\mathcal{W}$  and, as a consequence, we obtain its complete structure. In particular, we have algorithm for computing the sequence of invariants of  $\mathcal{X}^{(f+1)}$ .

By using Proposition 9 of [1] (with the condition  $n > m_0$  replaced by  $n > m_{r-1}$ ) we have that for  $p_1 \dots p_j \in \Lambda_n^j$  with  $m(p_1 \dots p_j) = m < n$ , the characters  $\varphi_{p_1,n}^{(j)}, \dots, \varphi_{p_j,n}^{(j)}$  generate  $\text{Hom}(S_M^{(j)}, \mathbb{Z}/M)$ . So we can apply this to the effective solution of the problem when a principal homogenous space over  $E$  has a rational point, in the same vein as at the end of [1] for the case  $f = 0$ .

We recall that we considered  $\ell \in B(E)$  [see Sect. 1 for the definition of  $B(E)$ ]. For  $\ell \notin B(E)$  the theory in [1] and above holds with modifications in the manner of [2]. Let  $\ell$  now be an arbitrary rational prime. In particular,  $\tau_{\lambda,n} \in H^1(K, E_M)$  is defined for all  $\lambda \in \Lambda_{n+k_0}^1$ , where  $\ell^{k_0/2} E(\mathbb{K})_{\ell^\infty} = 0$ ,  $\mathbb{K}$  the composite of  $K_\lambda$  for all  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  [ $k_0 = 0$  for  $\ell \in B(E)$ ].

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<sup>1</sup>In [3]  $\tau_{\lambda,n}$  is defined for all  $\lambda \in \Lambda_n$  as in the case  $\ell \in B(E)$ .

We let  $U_M \subset E(K)/M, H, S \subset H$  denote respectively the groups

$$E(K)_{\text{tor}}/M, \quad \varinjlim H^1(K, E_M), \quad \varinjlim S(K, E_M).$$

We have the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow U_M \rightarrow H^1(K, E_M) \rightarrow H_M \rightarrow E(K)_M \rightarrow 0$$

and we identify the group  $H^1(K, E_M)/U_M$  with its image in  $H_M$ . We recall that, for  $\ell \in B(E)$ ,  $E(K)_{\ell^\infty} = 0$  and we identified  $H^1(K, E_M), S(K, E_M)$  with  $H_M, S_M$ , respectively. We let  $\tau'_{\lambda, n}$  be the image of  $\tau_{\lambda, n}$  in  $H_M$ , and for  $n \geq 1, k \geq k_0, r \geq 0, V_{n, k}^r$  is the subgroup of  $H_M$  generated by  $\tau'_{\lambda, n}$  when  $\lambda$  runs through  $\Lambda_{n+k}^r$ . We say that  $\{\tau_{\lambda, n}\}$  is a strong nonzero system if  $\exists r \geq 0$  such that

$$\forall k \geq k_0 \quad \exists n | V_{n, k}^r \neq 0. \quad (2.1)$$

There exists  $k(r) \geq k_0$  such that the condition (2.1) is equivalent to the condition that  $\exists n | V_{n, k(r)}^r \neq 0$ . We know that, for  $\ell \in B(E)$ ,  $k(r) = 0$  satisfies this property. We now formulate

**Conjecture 2.5.** *For all  $\ell$ ,  $\{\tau_{\lambda, n}\}$  is a strong nonzero system.*

For  $\ell \in B(E)$ , this is equivalent to the statement that  $\{\tau_{\lambda, n}\} \neq \{0\}$ .

**Conjecture 2.6.**  *$m \neq 0$  for only a finite set of primes in  $B(E)$ .*

If  $A$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}[1, \sigma]$ -module and  $\nu \in \{0, 1\}$ , then

$$A^\nu := \{b \in A \mid \sigma b = (-1)^{\nu+1} \epsilon b\}.$$

Let  $SD = \ell^n S$ , so  $SD^\nu \cong (\mathbb{Q}_\ell/\mathbb{Z}_\ell)^{r^\nu}$ . Let  $\ell \in B(E)$ . Because of the relation  $\ell^k \tau'_{\lambda, n+k} = \tau'_{\lambda, n}$  (which is true for an arbitrary  $\ell$ ) and the relation  $\ell^{m_{f+1}} \mathcal{X}^{(f+1)} = 0$ , it then follows that  $V_{n, m_{f+1}}^f \subset SD_M^{(f+1)}$ . From Theorem 2.2 we have that  $\forall k \geq m_f, V_{n, k}^f = \ell^{m_f} SD^{(f+1)}$ . For arbitrary  $\ell, \exists k_1, k_2$  such that for  $k \geq k_1$ ,

$$\ell^{k_2} SD_M^{(f+1)} \subset V_{n, k}^f \subset SD_M^{(f+1)}.$$

Interpolating the situation of the case  $f = 0$  we formulate

**Conjecture 2.7.** *There exist  $\nu \in \{0, 1\}$  and a subgroup  $V \subset (E(K)/E(K)_{\text{tor}})^\nu$  such that  $1 \leq \text{rank } V \equiv \nu \pmod{2}$  and for all sufficiently large  $k$  and all  $n$ , one has  $V_{n, k}^a = V \pmod{M(E(K)/E(K)_{\text{tor}})}$ , where  $a = \text{rank } V - 1$ .*

**Conjecture 2.8.** *The union  $\forall \ell$  of Conjecture 2.7 with a universal  $V$  (independent of  $\ell$ ) is true.*

We note that such  $V$  is uniquely determined (by the usual description of a lattice over  $\mathbb{Z}$  by its completions) if it exists.

It is clear that  $2V \subset E^\nu(\mathbb{Q})/E^\nu(\mathbb{Q})_{\text{tor}}$ .

For the following implications we use the arguments above with the Theorems 2.1–2.4 (with a natural modification for  $\ell \notin B(E)$ ).

First, Conjecture 2.7 implies that  $\{\tau_{\lambda,n}\}$  is a strong nonzero system with  $f = a$  (for the last statement we use Propositions 1, 2, and 5 of [1]),  $\text{rank } E^\nu(\mathbb{Q}) = \text{rank } V$ ,  $r^{1-\nu} < \text{rank } V$ ,  $\text{III}(\mathbb{Q}, E^\nu)_{\ell^\infty}$  is finite. Moreover, if  $\ell \in B(E)$ , then  $V \otimes \mathbb{Z}_\ell = \ell^{m_f}(E^\nu(\mathbb{Q}) \otimes \mathbb{Z}_\ell)$ ,  $\#\text{III}(\mathbb{Q}, E^\nu)_{\ell^\infty} \mid \ell^{2m_f}$ ,  $\ell^{m_f}\text{III}(\mathbb{Q}, E^\nu)_{\ell^\infty} = 0$ ,  $\text{rank } E^\nu(\mathbb{Q}) \equiv g^\nu \equiv \nu \pmod{2}$ ,  $r^{1-\nu} \equiv g^{1-\nu} \equiv 1 - \nu \pmod{2}$ .

Conjecture 2.7 is equivalent to the statement:  $\{\tau_{\lambda,n}\}$  is a strong nonzero system and  $\text{III}(\mathbb{Q}, E^{(f+1)})_{\ell^\infty}$  is finite.

We note that  $\exists k_3$ , which is zero for  $\ell \in B(E)$ , such that if the condition from Conjecture 2.7 holds with some  $k' \geq k_3$  then it holds for all  $k \geq k'$ .

From Conjecture 2.8 we have, with the union of the consequences from Conjecture 2.7 for all  $\ell$ , that Conjecture 2.6 holds and  $\text{III}(\mathbb{Q}, E^\nu)$  is finite. Conjecture 2.8 is equivalent to the statement: Conjectures 2.5 and 2.6 hold,  $f + 1$  is independent of  $\ell$ ,  $\text{III}(\mathbb{Q}, E^{(f+1)})$  is finite; for only a finite set of  $\ell \in B(E)$ ,  $\text{inv}_{f+1-r^{1-\nu}} \mathcal{X}^{1-\nu} \neq 0$ . In particular, Conjecture 2.8 holds when Conjectures 2.5 and 2.6 hold and  $\text{III}(K, E)$  is finite.

Of course, for the case that the Heegner point  $P_1$  has infinite order ( $f = 0$ ) Conjecture 2.8 holds with  $\nu = 1$ ,  $V = \mathbb{Z}P_1 \pmod{E(K)_{\text{tor}}}$ .

Recall that  $g = \text{ord}_{s=1} L(E, s)$ . It is known that there exists an imaginary quadratic field  $K$  such that  $g^0 + g^1 - g = 1$  or  $0$  according as  $g$  is even or odd. For  $g \leq 1$  it is known that  $\text{rank } E(\mathbb{Q}) = g$  and  $\text{III}(\mathbb{Q}, E)$  is finite. Let  $g > 1$  and for  $K$  as above  $g = g^{\nu'}$ . Then  $\text{ord}_{s=1} L(E, K, s) = g^{\nu'} + g^{1-\nu'} > 1$ , so  $P_1$  has finite order by the formula of Gross and Zagier. Suppose that for  $K$ , Conjecture 2.7 holds for some  $\ell$ . Then  $\nu = \nu'$  because otherwise  $g^{1-\nu'} = f + 1 > 1$  but  $g^{1-\nu'} \leq 1$ . So we have for  $E = E^\nu$  all consequences of the Conjecture 2.7 (see above), in particular, that  $\text{rank } E(\mathbb{Q}) = \text{rank } V$  and  $\text{III}(\mathbb{Q}, E)_{\ell^\infty}$  is finite. If Conjecture 2.8 holds for  $K$ , we also have that  $\text{III}(\mathbb{Q}, E)$  is finite and  $\text{rank } E(\mathbb{Q}) \equiv g \pmod{2}$ . Of course,  $\text{rank } E(\mathbb{Q}) = g$  if the equality  $g = \text{rank } V$  holds.

## References

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