

90. A Remark on the λ -invariant of Real Quadratic Fields

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In previous papers [1] and [2] by two of us, we considered Greenberg's conjecture (cf. [3]) on real quadratic case. In [2], it was essential to assume $n_1 < n_2$ for two natural numbers n_1 and n_2 whose definitions will be recalled in the following. The purpose of this paper is to give some examples concerning the case $n_1 = n_2 = 2$.

Let k be a real quadratic field with class number h_k and p an odd prime number which splits in k/\mathbf{Q} . Let \mathfrak{p} be a prime factor of p in k , and ε be a fundamental unit of k . Choose $\alpha \in k$ such that $\mathfrak{p}^{h_k} = (\alpha)$. We define n_1 (resp. n_2) to be the maximal integer such that $\alpha^{p^{-1}} \equiv 1 \pmod{\mathfrak{p}^{n_1} \mathbf{Z}_{\mathfrak{p}}}$ (resp. $\varepsilon^{p^{-1}} \equiv 1 \pmod{\mathfrak{p}^{n_2} \mathbf{Z}_{\mathfrak{p}}}$). Note that n_1 is uniquely determined under the condition $n_1 \leq n_2$. For the cyclotomic \mathbf{Z}_p -extension

$$k = k_0 \subset k_1 \subset k_2 \subset \cdots \subset k_n \subset \cdots \subset k_{\infty},$$

let A_n be the p -primary part of the ideal class group of k_n , B_n the subgroup of A_n consisting of ideal classes which are invariant under the action of $\text{Gal}(k_n/k)$, and D_n the subgroup of A_n consisting of ideal classes which contain a product of ideal lying over \mathfrak{p} . Let E_n be the unit group of k_n . For $m \geq n \geq 0$, $N_{m,n}$ denotes the norm maps from k_m to k_n , we shall give a proof for the sake of completeness.

Lemma. *Let k be a real quadratic field and p an odd prime number which splits in k/\mathbf{Q} . Assume that*

- (1) $n_1 = n_2 = 2$,
- (2) $|A_0| = 1$, and
- (3) $N_{1,0}(E_1) = E_0$.

Then we have $|A_n| = |A_1|$ for all $n \geq 1$ and in particular $\mu_p(k) = \lambda_p(k) = 0$, where μ, λ denote the Iwasawa invariants.

Proof. From Proposition 1 of [1], $|B_n| = p$ for all $n \geq 1$. By the assumptions (2) and (3), we have

$$|D_1| = \frac{p}{(E_0; N_{1,0}(E_1))} = p.$$

It follows that $B_n = D_n$ and $N_{n+1,n} : B_{n+1} \rightarrow B_n$ are isomorphisms for all $n \geq 1$. Now, $N_{n+1,n} : A_{n+1} \rightarrow A_n$ is surjective and its restriction to B_{n+1} is injective. Hence, $N_{n+1,n} : A_{n+1} \rightarrow A_n$ are isomorphisms for all $n \geq 1$.

When $p=3$, k_1 is a real cyclic extension of degree 6 over \mathbf{Q} . In this case, we can determine a system of fundamental units of k_1 for a given k

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by the method of Mäki [4] and hence determine whether $N_{1,0}(E_1)$ is E_0 or not. We obtain the following Theorem by executing Mäki's algorithm for those m 's which are in the table of [2] and satisfy $n_1=n_2=2$.

Theorem. *Let $p=3$ and $k=\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{m})$ where $m=103, 139, 418, 679, 727, 790, 1153, 1261, 1609, 1642$, or 1726 . Then the assumptions (1), (2) and (3) of lemma are satisfied for these k 's. Hence $\mu_3(k)=\lambda_3(k)=0$ for the above values of m 's.*

Remark. Let $k^*=k(e^{2\pi i/p})$. We remark that $N_{1,0}(E_1)=E_0^p$ if $\lambda_p^-(k^*)=1$. For k 's in our Theorem, we have $\lambda_3^-=4$ for $m=1609$ and $\lambda_3^-=2$ for others.

References

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