

# Selmer varieties for curves with CM Jacobians

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**Abstract** We study the Selmer variety associated to a canonical quotient of the  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ -pro-unipotent fundamental group of a smooth projective curve of genus at least two defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$  whose Jacobian decomposes into a product of abelian varieties with complex multiplication. Elementary multivariable Iwasawa theory is used to prove bounds for the dimension of the Selmer variety, which, in turn, leads to a new proof of finiteness of rational points on such curves.

## 0. Introduction

Let  $X/\mathbb{Q}$  be a smooth proper curve of genus  $g \geq 2$ , and let  $b \in X(\mathbb{Q})$  be a rational point. We assume that  $X$  has good reduction outside a finite set  $S$  of primes and choose an odd prime  $p \notin S$ . In earlier articles (see [14]–[18]), a  $p$ -adic *Selmer variety*

$$H_f^1(G, U)$$

was defined and studied with the hope of applying its structure theory to the Diophantine geometry of  $X$ . Here  $G = \text{Gal}(\bar{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$ ,

$$U = \pi_1^{\mathbb{Q}_p, un}(\bar{X}, b)$$

is the  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ -pro-unipotent étale fundamental group of

$$\bar{X} = X \times_{\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q})} \text{Spec}(\bar{\mathbb{Q}}),$$

and the subscript  $f$  refers to a collection of local Selmer conditions, carving out a moduli space of torsors for  $U$  on the étale topology of  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z}[1/S, 1/p])$  that satisfy the condition of being *crystalline* at  $p$ .

The Selmer variety is actually a provariety consisting of a projective system

$$\cdots \rightarrow H_f^1(G, U_{n+1}) \rightarrow H_f^1(G, U_{n+1}) \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow H_f^1(G, U_2) \rightarrow H_f^1(G, U_1)$$

of varieties over  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  associated to the descending central series filtration

$$U = U^1 \supset U^2 \supset U^n \supset U^{n+1} = [U, U^n] \supset \cdots$$

of  $U$  and the corresponding system of quotients

$$U_n = U^{n+1} \setminus U$$

that starts out with

$$U_1 = V = T_p J \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p,$$

the  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ -Tate module of the Jacobian  $J$  of  $X$ .

As a natural extension of the map

$$X(\mathbb{Q}) \longrightarrow J(\mathbb{Q}) \longrightarrow H_f^1(G, V)$$

visible in classical Kummer theory, the Selmer variety is endowed with a system of *unipotent Albanese maps* emanating from the points of  $X$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \vdots & \\ & \nearrow & H_f^1(G, U_4) \\ & \nearrow & \downarrow \\ & \nearrow & H_f^1(G, U_3) \\ & \nearrow & \downarrow \\ & \nearrow & H_f^1(G, U_2) \\ & \nearrow & \downarrow \\ X(\mathbb{Q}) & \longrightarrow & H_f^1(G, U_1) \end{array}$$

These maps fit into commutative diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X(\mathbb{Q}) & \longrightarrow & X(\mathbb{Q}_p) & & \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & \searrow & \\ H_f^1(G, U_n) & \xrightarrow{\text{loc}_p} & H_f^1(G_p, U_n) & \xrightarrow{D} & U_n^{\text{DR}}/F^0 \end{array}$$

involving the local Selmer varieties  $H_f^1(G_p, U_n)$  and their de Rham realizations  $U_n^{\text{DR}}/F^0$ . Here  $F^0$  refers to the zeroth level of the Hodge filtration

$$U^{\text{DR}} \supset \dots \supset F^i \supset F^{i+1} \supset \dots \supset F^0$$

on the de Rham fundamental group  $U^{\text{DR}}$  of  $X \times_{\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q})} \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ . Recall that the de Rham fundamental group is defined using the Tannakian category of unipotent vector bundles with flat connections on  $X \times_{\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q})} \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  (see [15,

Section 1]) and that the Hodge filtration  $F^{-i}$  on  $U^{\text{DR}}$  is the subvariety defined by the ideal  $F^{i+1}\mathcal{A}^{\text{DR}}$  in the coordinate ring  $\mathcal{A}^{\text{DR}}$  of  $U^{\text{DR}}$  (see [15], [4]).  $F^0U^{\text{DR}}$  turns out to be a subgroup. The filtration on  $\mathcal{A}^{\text{DR}}$  is defined over  $\mathbb{C}$  using the  $(d, \bar{d})$ -decomposition on iterated integrals of differential forms but descends to any field of characteristic zero (see [31]). Here and in the following, we suppress from the notation the object that the Hodge filtration filters when the context provides sufficient clarity.

Diophantine considerations oblige us to study the localization map  $D \circ \text{loc}_p$  with some care. In fact, one could formulate the *dimension hypothesis*

$$\dim H_f^1(G, U_n) < \dim U_n^{\text{DR}}/F^0 \quad (\text{DH}_n)$$

for each  $n$  and show that  $\text{DH}_n$  for any fixed  $n$  implies the finiteness of  $X(\mathbb{Q})$  (see [15]). When  $n = 1$ , we have

$$U_1^{\text{DR}}/F^0 \simeq \text{Lie}(J) \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p,$$

while the map factors as

$$X(\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow J(\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow H_f^1(G, U_n) \rightarrow \text{Lie}(J) \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p,$$

so that  $(\text{DH}_1)$  is simply a cohomological version of the hypothesis used in the classical method of Chabauty. Throughout this article, dimension refers to that of algebraic varieties over  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  (see [14]), although the dimensions of various associated graded objects, for example,  $U^n/U^{n+1}$ , are just the naive ones of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ -vector spaces. Given any  $X$ , it seems reasonable to believe that  $\text{DH}_n$  should be true for  $n$  sufficiently large (see [15]).

An eventual goal is to use the Selmer variety to arrive at a structural understanding of the Diophantine set  $X(\mathbb{Q})$ , or at least some means of effective computation. The hope for effective computation is associated with the classical method of Chabauty, as described by Coleman (see [3]), which the study of the unipotent Albanese map generalizes. The related issue of structural understanding, on the other hand, should concern an implication of the form

$$\text{control of } L\text{-values} \Rightarrow \text{control of Selmer varieties}$$

following a pattern familiar from the theory of elliptic curves (see [2], [25]).

It should be admitted right away that our current intuition about the nature of such an implication is very tentative. Nevertheless, previously studied cases of hyperbolic curves of genus zero and one seem to suggest that our expectations are not entirely groundless.

The purpose of this article is to augment our list of examples where something can be worked out with the case where  $J$  is isogenous over  $\bar{\mathbb{Q}}$  to a product

$$J \sim \prod_i A_i$$

of abelian varieties  $A_i$  that have complex multiplication by complex multiplication (CM) fields  $K_i$  of degree  $2 \dim A_i$ . For this discussion we choose the prime  $p$

to further satisfy the condition that  $p$  be split in the compositum  $K$  of the fields  $K_i$  and, hence, in each field  $K_i$ .

Let  $\mathbb{Q}_T$  be the maximal extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  unramified outside  $T = S \cup \{p, \infty\}$ , and let  $G_T = \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}_T/\mathbb{Q})$ . Now let

$$W = U/[U^2, U^2]$$

be the quotient of  $U$  by the third level of its derived series. Of course,  $W$  itself has a descending central series

$$W = W^1 \supset W^2 \supset \cdots \supset W^{n+1} = [W, W^n] \supset \cdots$$

and associated quotients  $W_n = W/W^{n+1}$ .

#### THEOREM 0.1

*There is a constant  $B$  (depending on  $X$  and  $T$ ) such that*

$$\dim \sum_{i=1}^n H^2(G_T, W^i/W^{i+1}) \leq Bn^{2g-1}.$$

We derive this inequality as a rather elementary consequence of multivariable Iwasawa theory. The key point is to control the distribution of zeros of a *reduced algebraic  $p$ -adic  $L$ -function* of sorts, namely, an annihilator of a natural ideal class group.

In accordance with the motivic nature of the construction,  $W$  also has a de Rham realization

$$W^{\text{DR}} = U^{\text{DR}}/[(U^{\text{DR}})^2, (U^{\text{DR}})^2]$$

over  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ , endowed with a Hodge filtration. The upper bound of Theorem 0.1 combines with an easy linear independence argument for sufficiently many elements in  $(W^{\text{DR}})^n/(W^{\text{DR}})^{n+1}$ , yielding a lower bound for the de Rham realization

$$W_n^{\text{DR}}/F^0$$

of its local Selmer variety. We obtain thereby the easy but important corollary that follows.

#### COROLLARY 0.2

*For  $n$  sufficiently large, we have the bound*

$$\dim H_f^1(G, W_n) < \dim W_n^{\text{DR}}/F^0.$$

Of course, this implies the following.

#### COROLLARY 0.3 (FALTINGS'S THEOREM, SPECIAL CASE)

*$X(\mathbb{Q})$  is finite.*

For explicit examples where the hypothesis is satisfied, we have, of course, the Fermat curves

$$x^m + y^m = z^m$$

for  $m \geq 4$  (see [26, Chapter VI, Satz 1.2, Satz 1.5]) but also the twisted Fermat curves

$$ax^m + by^m = cz^m$$

for  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $m \geq 4$ . One might hope that the methods of this article will eventually lead to some effective understanding of these twists. Some relatively recent examples of hyperelliptic curves with CM Jacobians can be found in [30]. One from the list there is

$$y^2 = -243x^6 + 2223x^5 - 1566x^4 - 19012x^3 + 903x^2 + 19041x - 5882$$

whose Jacobian has CM by

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-13 + 3\sqrt{13}}).$$

The results here conclude the crude application of Selmer varieties to finiteness over  $\mathbb{Q}$  in situations where the controlling Galois group of the base is essentially abelian. It remains then to work out the appropriate interaction between noncommutative geometric fundamental groups and the noncommutative Iwasawa theory of number fields.

Of course, as far as a refined study of defining ideals for the image of  $D \circ \text{loc}_p$  is concerned, work of any serious nature has not yet commenced. In this regard, we note that there is little need in this article for specific information about the annihilator that occurs in the proof of Theorem 0.1. However, it is our belief that structure theorems of the Iwasawa main conjecture type have an important role to play in eventual refinements of the theory.

## 1. Preliminaries on complex multiplication

Let  $F/\mathbb{Q}$  be a finite extension with the property that the isogeny decomposition

$$J \sim \prod_i A_i$$

as well as the complex multiplication on each  $A_i$  are defined over  $F$ . We assume further that  $F \supset \mathbb{Q}(J[p])$ , so that  $F_\infty := F(J[p^\infty])$  has Galois group  $\Gamma \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p^r$  over  $F$ . Denote by  $G_{F,T}$ , the Galois group  $\text{Gal}(F_T/F)$ , where  $F_T$  is the maximal extension of  $F$  unramified outside the primes dividing those in  $T$ .

As a representation of  $G_{F,T}$ , we have

$$V := T_p J \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p \simeq \bigoplus_i V_i,$$

where

$$V_i := T_p A_i \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p.$$

Let  $m$  be a modulus of  $F$  that is divisible by the conductor of all the representations  $V_i$ . Each factor representation

$$\rho_i : G_{F,T} \rightarrow (K_i \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p)^* \subset \text{Aut}(V_i)$$

corresponds to an algebraic map

$$f_i : S_m \rightarrow \text{Res}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{K_i}(\mathbb{G}_m),$$

where  $S_m$  is the Serre group of  $F$  with modulus  $m$  (see [27, Chapter II]) and  $\text{Res}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{K_i}$  is the restriction of scalars from  $K_i$  to  $\mathbb{Q}$ . That is, there is a universal representation (see [27, Chapter II.2.3])

$$\epsilon_p : G_{F,T} \rightarrow S_m(\mathbb{Q}_p)$$

such that

$$\rho_i = f_i \circ \epsilon_p : G_{F,T} \longrightarrow S_m(\mathbb{Q}_p) \longrightarrow \text{Res}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{K_i}(\mathbb{G}_m)(\mathbb{Q}_p) = (K_i \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p)^*.$$

Since we have chosen  $p$  to split in each  $K_i$ , we have

$$\text{Res}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{K_i}(\mathbb{G}_m) \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p \simeq \prod_j [\mathbb{G}_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p}.$$

Each of the algebraic characters

$$f_{ij} = pr_j \circ \rho_i : [S_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p} \longrightarrow [\text{Res}_{\mathbb{Q}_p}^{K_i}(\mathbb{G}_m)]_{\mathbb{Q}_p} \simeq \prod_j [\mathbb{G}_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p} \xrightarrow{pr_j} [\mathbb{G}_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$$

correspond to Galois characters

$$\chi_{ij} = f_{ij} \circ \epsilon_p : G_{F,T} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_p^*$$

in such a way that

$$\rho_i \simeq \bigoplus_j \chi_{ij}.$$

Recall that  $S_m$  fits into an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow T_m \rightarrow S_m \rightarrow C_m \rightarrow 0$$

with  $C_m$  finite and  $T_m$  an algebraic torus (see [27, Chapter II.2.2]). Hence, there is an integer  $N$  such that the kernel of the restriction map on characters

$$X^*([S_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p}) \rightarrow X^*([T_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p})$$

is killed by  $N$ . Since  $X^*([T_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p})$  is a finitely generated torsion-free abelian group, so is the image of  $X^*([S_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p})$ . Let  $\{\beta'_1, \dots, \beta'_d\}$  be a basis for the subgroup of  $X^*([T_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p})$  generated by the restrictions  $f_{ij}|_{[T_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p}}$  as we run over all  $i$  and  $j$ . Then the set  $\{\beta'_1, \dots, \beta'_d\}$  can be lifted to characters  $\{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_d\}$  of  $[S_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$  so that each  $f_{ij}^N$  is a product

$$f_{ij}^N = \prod_k \beta_k^{n_{ijk}}$$

for integers  $n_{ijk}$ . For ease of notation, we now change the indexing and write  $\{f_1, \dots, f_{2g}\}$  for the set of  $f_{ij}$  and  $\{\chi_i\}_{i=1}^{2g}$  for the characters of  $G_{F,T}$  that they induce. We have shown that there are integers  $n_{ij}$  such that

$$f_i^N = \prod_j \beta_j^{n_{ij}}.$$

Thus, if we denote by  $\xi_i$  the character

$$\beta_i \circ \epsilon_p : G_{F,T} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_p^*,$$

then

$$\chi_i^N = \prod_j \xi_j^{n_{ij}}.$$

LEMMA 1.1

*The characters  $\xi_i$  are  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -linearly independent.*

*Proof*

The image of the map  $\epsilon_p : G_{F,T} \rightarrow S_m(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  contains an open subgroup  $O_m$  of  $T_m(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  (see [27, Chapter II.2.3, Remark]). Suppose

$$\prod \xi_i^{a_i} = 1$$

for some  $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  as a function on  $G_{F,T}$  (and, say, the choice of  $p$ -adic log such that  $\log(p) = 0$ ). Then

$$\prod_i \beta_i^{a_i} = 1$$

as a function on  $O_m$ . Since the  $\beta_i|[T_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p} = (\beta'_i)^N$  are  $\mathbb{Z}$ -linearly independent, for each  $j$  there exists a cocharacter

$$c_j : [\mathbb{G}_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p} \rightarrow [T_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$$

such that  $\beta_i \circ c_j = 1$  for  $i \neq j$  and

$$\beta_j \circ c_j : [\mathbb{G}_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p} \rightarrow [\mathbb{G}_m]_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$$

is nontrivial and, hence, an isogeny. But  $c_j^{-1}(O_m)$  is an open subgroup of  $\mathbb{Q}_p^*$ . Hence, it contains an element of the form  $x = 1 + p^n u$  with  $n > 0$  and  $u \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ . Therefore,  $c = \beta_j(c_j(x)) \in 1 + p\mathbb{Z}_p$  also has infinite order and  $c^{a_j} = 1$ . Therefore, we get  $a_j = 0$ .  $\square$

Since the kernel of

$$\rho = \bigoplus_j \rho_j = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{2g} \chi_i$$

is the same as that of  $\xi := \bigoplus_{i=1}^d \xi_i$ ,  $\xi$  maps  $\Gamma$  isomorphically to a subgroup of  $\bigoplus_{i=1}^d (1 + p\mathbb{Z}_p)$  of finite index. After enlarging  $F$  if necessary, we can assume that there is a basis  $\{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_d\}$  for  $\Gamma$  such that  $\xi_i(\gamma_j) = 1$  for  $j \neq i$  and  $\xi_i(\gamma_i)$  is a generator for  $\xi_i(G_{F,T})$ , which we can take to be a fixed element  $g \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ . Here we abuse notation a bit and write  $\xi_i$  for the character of  $G_{F,T}$  as well as that of the quotient group  $\Gamma$  that it induces.

In the following, for any character  $\phi$  of  $G_{F,T}$ , we frequently use the notation  $\phi$  for the one-dimensional vector space  $\mathbb{Q}_p(\phi)$  on which  $G_{F,T}$  acts via  $\phi$ , as well as for the character itself. Choose a basis

$$B = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{2g}\}$$

of  $V$  so that  $e_i$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{Q}_p(\chi_i)$ . Write  $\psi_i$  for the dual of  $\chi_i$ .

Note that over  $F$ , the abelian variety  $J$  has good reduction everywhere (see [29]).

## 2. Preliminaries on dimensions

For a (proalgebraic) group or a Lie algebra  $A$ , we define the descending central series by

$$A^1 = A, \quad A^{n+1} = [A, A^n]$$

and the derived series by

$$A^{(1)} = A, \quad A^{(n+1)} = [A^{(n)}, A^{(n)}].$$

The corresponding quotients are denoted by

$$A_n := A/A^{n+1}$$

and

$$A_{(n)} := A/A^{(n+1)}.$$

Also, we denote by

$$Z_n(A) := A^n/A^{n+1}$$

the associated graded objects so that we have an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Z_n(A) \rightarrow A_n \rightarrow A_{n-1} \rightarrow 0.$$

Denote by

$$Z(A) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Z_n(A)$$

the associated graded Lie algebra, described in [28, Chapter II.1], in the case of a group.

According to [23, Appendix 3], the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -pro-unipotent completion of a finitely presented discrete group  $E$  can be constructed as follows: take the group algebra  $\mathbb{Q}[E]$ , and complete it with respect to the augmentation ideal  $K$ :

$$\mathbb{Q}[[E]] := \varprojlim_n \mathbb{Q}[E]/K^n.$$

Since the coproduct

$$\Delta : \mathbb{Q}[E] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[E] \otimes \mathbb{Q}[E]$$

defined by sending an element  $g \in E$  to

$$g \otimes g \in \mathbb{Q}[E] \otimes \mathbb{Q}[E]$$



takes  $K$  to the ideal

$$K \otimes \mathbb{Q}[E] + \mathbb{Q}[E] \otimes K,$$

there is an induced coproduct

$$\Delta : \mathbb{Q}[[E]] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[[E]] \hat{\otimes} \mathbb{Q}[[E]] := \varprojlim_n (\mathbb{Q}[[E]] \otimes \mathbb{Q}[[E]]) / (K \otimes \mathbb{Q}[E] + \mathbb{Q}[E] \otimes K)^n.$$

The unipotent completion  $U(E)$  can be realized as the grouplike elements in  $\mathbb{Q}[[E]]$ :

$$U(E) = \{g \in \mathbb{Q}[[E]] \mid \Delta(g) = g \otimes g\}.$$

This turns out to define the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -points of a proalgebraic group over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Its Lie algebra,  $\text{Lie } U(E)$ , consists of the primitive elements

$$\text{Lie } U(E) = \{X \in \mathbb{Q}[[E]] \mid \Delta(X) = X \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes X\}.$$

For any element  $g \in U(E)$ ,

$$\log(g) = (g - 1) - (g - 1)^2/2 + (g - 1)^3/3 - \dots$$

defines an element of  $\text{Lie } U(E)$ . In fact, this map is a bijection (see [23, Appendix 3])

$$\log : U(E) \simeq \text{Lie } U(E).$$

When  $E$  is a topologically finitely presented profinite group, the  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ -pro-unipotent completion  $U_{\mathbb{Q}_p}(E)$  is defined in an entirely analogous manner, except that the group algebra  $\mathbb{Q}_p[[E]]$  is defined somewhat differently: First, let  $E^{\text{pro-}p}$  be the maximal pro- $p$  quotient of  $E$ , and let

$$\mathbb{Z}_p[[E^{\text{pro-}p}]] := \varprojlim_N \mathbb{Z}_p[E^{\text{pro-}p}/N],$$

where  $N$  runs over the normal subgroups of  $E^{\text{pro-}p}$  of finite index, be its Iwasawa algebra. Then

$$\mathbb{Q}_p[[E]] = \varprojlim_n [(\mathbb{Z}_p[[E^{\text{pro-}p}]]/K^n) \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p],$$

where  $K \subset \mathbb{Z}_p[[E^{\text{pro-}p}]]$  again denotes the augmentation ideal. Then

$$U_{\mathbb{Q}_p}(E) \subset \mathbb{Q}_p[[E]]$$

and its Lie algebra are defined exactly as above. Consider the category  $\text{Un}(E, \mathbb{Q}_p)$  of unipotent continuous  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ -representations of  $E$ , that is, finite-dimensional continuous representations

$$\rho : E \rightarrow \text{Aut}(M)$$

that possess a filtration

$$M = M^0 \supset M^1 \supset M^2 \supset \dots$$

such that each  $M^i/M^{i+1}$  is a direct sum of copies of the trivial representation. We see that  $E$  acting on the left on  $\mathbb{Q}_p[[E]]/K^n$  turns the system  $\{\mathbb{Q}_p[[E]]/K^n\}$

into a pro-object of  $\mathrm{Un}(E, \mathbb{Q}_p)$ . Given any pair  $(M, m)$  where  $M$  is a continuous unipotent  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ -representation of  $E$  and  $m \in M$ , there is a unique map of prorepresentations

$$(\mathbb{Q}_p[[E]], e) \rightarrow (M, m),$$

where  $e \in \mathbb{Q}_p[[E]]$  comes from the identity of  $E$ , making the pair  $(\mathbb{Q}_p[[E]], e)$  universal among such pairs. Therefore, if we let

$$F : \mathrm{Un}(E, \mathbb{Q}_p) \longrightarrow \mathrm{Vect}_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$$

be the forgetful functor from the category of continuous unipotent  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ -representations of  $E$  to the category of finite-dimensional  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ -vector spaces, the map

$$f \mapsto fe \in \mathbb{Q}_p[[E]]$$

defines an isomorphism

$$\mathrm{End}(F) \simeq \mathbb{Q}_p[[E]].$$

Meanwhile, the condition of being grouplike corresponds to the compatibility with tensor products (see [5]), so that we have

$$U_{\mathbb{Q}_p}(E) = \mathrm{Aut}^{\otimes}(F),$$

the tensor-compatible automorphisms of  $F$ .

Since it is our main object of interest, we denote simply by  $U$  the  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ -pro-unipotent completion of the profinite fundamental group  $\pi_1^{\mathrm{et}}(\bar{X}, b)$  of  $\bar{X}$  with base point at  $b$ . Fix a rational tangent vector  $v \in T_b X$ , and let  $X' = X \setminus \{b\}$ . Let

$$U' := \pi_1^{\mathbb{Q}_p, \mathrm{un}}(\bar{X}', v),$$

the  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ -pro-unipotent completion of the profinite fundamental group of  $\bar{X}'$  with tangential base point at  $v$  as defined in [4]. These groups come with corresponding Lie algebras  $L' =: \mathrm{Lie} U'$  and  $L =: \mathrm{Lie} U$ .

Let

$$\mathrm{Un}(\bar{X}, \mathbb{Q}_p)$$

be the category of unipotent lisse  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ -sheaves on the étale site of  $\bar{X}$ . Then the fiber functor

$$F_b : \mathrm{Un}(\bar{X}, \mathbb{Q}_p) \rightarrow \mathrm{Vect}_{\mathbb{Q}_p},$$

which associates to any sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  its stalk  $\mathcal{F}_b$ , factors through the tensor equivalence of categories

$$\mathrm{Un}(\bar{X}, \mathbb{Q}_p) \simeq \mathrm{Un}(\pi_1^{\mathrm{et}}(\bar{X}, b), \mathbb{Q}_p) \xrightarrow{F} \mathrm{Vect}_{\mathbb{Q}_p},$$

so that we also have

$$U = \mathrm{Aut}^{\otimes}(F_b).$$

Similarly,

$$U' = \mathrm{Aut}^{\otimes}(F'_v),$$

where

$$F'_v : \mathrm{Un}(\bar{X}', \mathbb{Q}_p) \rightarrow \mathrm{Vect}_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$$

is again the fiber functor defined in [4], using the functor that takes an étale covering of  $X'$  to a covering of the punctured tangent space at  $b$ .

As explained in [11, Appendix A], there are natural isomorphisms

$$U' \simeq U'_B \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p$$

and

$$U \simeq U_B \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p,$$

where  $U'_B$  and  $U_B$  denote the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -pro-unipotent completions of the topological fundamental groups  $\pi' = \pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), v)$  and  $\pi = \pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), b)$  of  $X'(\mathbb{C})$  and  $X(\mathbb{C})$  ([11, Appendix A] is recommended in general for background on pro-unipotent completions, while [11, Section 2] contains a nice discussion of proalgebraic groups). Therefore,  $L'_B =: \mathrm{Lie} U'_B$ , and  $L_B =: \mathrm{Lie} U_B$  also satisfy comparison isomorphisms

$$L' \simeq L'_B \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p$$

and

$$L \simeq L_B \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p.$$

The natural maps

$$\pi' \longrightarrow U'_B$$

and

$$\pi \longrightarrow U_B$$

induce isomorphisms

$$Z(\pi') \otimes \mathbb{Q} \simeq Z(L'_B) \simeq Z(U'_B)$$

and

$$Z(\pi) \otimes \mathbb{Q} \simeq Z(L_B) \simeq Z(U_B)$$

(see, e.g., [1, Proposition 1.2]; in that reference, real coefficients are used). But this obviously implies that same result for  $\mathbb{Q}$ -coefficients. The second isomorphism for any unipotent group is a simple consequence of the Baker-Campbell-Hausdorff formula (see [28, Chapter 4]).

From this, we also get

$$Z(\pi') \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p \simeq Z(L') \simeq Z(U')$$

and

$$Z(\pi) \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p \simeq Z(L) \simeq Z(U).$$

It follows from this that  $Z(L')$  is the free Lie algebra on  $2g$  generators. Hence,  $L'$  is free on generators obtained from any lift of a basis for  $(L')_1 = V$ . That is, we can take a lift  $\tilde{S}$  of any basis  $S$  for  $V$ ; then the map

$$F(\tilde{S}) \rightarrow L'$$

from the free Lie algebra on  $\tilde{S}$  to  $L'$  induces isomorphisms

$$F(\tilde{S})/F(\tilde{S})^n \simeq L'/(L')^n$$

for each  $n$ , and hence, an isomorphism

$$\overline{F(\tilde{S})} := \{F(\tilde{S})/F(\tilde{S})^n\}_n \simeq L'$$

of pro-Lie algebras (see, e.g., [11, Proposition 2.1]). As generators for  $L'$ , we take a lifting  $\tilde{B} = \{\tilde{e}_1, \dots, \tilde{e}_{2g}\}$  of the basis  $B$  above. The corresponding isomorphism from  $F(\tilde{B})$  to  $L'$  puts on  $L'$  the structure of a completed graded pro-Lie algebra

$$L' = \overline{\bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} L'(n)}$$

in such a way that

$$(L')^n = \overline{\bigoplus_{i \geq n} L'(i)}.$$

We warn the reader that this grading is *not* compatible with the Galois action. Since there appears to be little danger of confusion, we denote the elements  $\tilde{e}_i$  by  $e_i$  again and the generating set  $\tilde{B}$  by  $B$ .

By [19], the natural map

$$\pi' \rightarrow \pi$$

induces an isomorphism

$$(Z(\pi') \otimes \mathbb{Q})/\bar{R}_B \simeq Z(\pi) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$$

for a Lie ideal  $\bar{R}_B$  generated by the class of a single element  $c := \prod_i [a_i, b_i] \in (\pi')^2$ , expressed in terms of a set of free generators  $\{a_1, \dots, a_g, b_1, \dots, b_g\}$  for  $\pi'$ . Consider the natural map

$$p: L' \rightarrow L.$$

We have  $\omega := \log(c) \in \text{Ker}(p)$ , and the preceding discussion implies that

$$L'/R \simeq L,$$

where  $R$  is the closed ideal generated by  $\omega$ , since there is induced an isomorphism of associated graded algebras.

For the structure of  $N := \text{Lie } W$ , we have therefore

$$N \simeq L'/(I + R),$$

where

$$I = (L')^{(3)} = [[L', L'], [L', L']].$$

According to [24], we can construct a Hall basis for  $L'$  as follows. First, we order  $B$  so that  $e_i < e_j$  if  $i < j$ . This is, by definition, the set  $H_0$ . Now define  $H_{n+1}$  recursively as the brackets of the form

$$[\dots[h_1, h_2], h_3], \dots], h_k],$$

where  $k \geq 2$ ,  $h_i \in H_n$ , and

$$h_1 < h_2 \geq h_3 \geq \dots \geq h_k.$$

Now choose a total order on  $H_{n+1}$ . Finally, put  $H = \bigcup_i H_i$ , and extend the order by the condition

$$h \in H_i, \quad k \in H_j, \quad i < j \Rightarrow h > k.$$

Symbolically,

$$H_0 > H_1 > H_2 > \dots.$$

In fact, it is shown that  $\bigcup_{i \geq n} H_i$  is a Hall basis for the subalgebra

$$(L')^{(n+1)}.$$

In particular, it follows that the elements of  $H_1$  are linearly independent from  $(L')^{(3)}$ , which is generated by  $\bigcup_{i \geq 2} H_i$ . Furthermore, the basis consists of monomials, so that  $H(i) := H \cap L'(i)$  is a basis for  $L'(i)$ . Define  $H_n(i) := H_n \cap L'(i)$  so that  $H(i) = \bigcup_n H_n(i)$ . We thus get a bigrading

$$L' = \overline{\bigoplus L'(i, j)},$$

where  $L'(i, j)$  is the span of  $H_i(j)$ .

Denote by  $N'$  the Lie algebra

$$(L')_{(2)} = L'/I.$$

Then we have the following.

#### LEMMA 2.1

For  $n \geq 2$ , the set  $H_1(n)$ , consisting of Lie monomials of the form

$$[[\dots[e_{i_1}e_{i_2}]e_{i_3}]\dots]e_{i_n}],$$

where  $i_1 < i_2 \geq i_3 \geq \dots \geq i_n$ , is linearly independent from

$$(L')^{(n+1)} + I.$$

*Proof*

We have the bigradings

$$I = \overline{\bigoplus_{i=1}^{\infty} \bigoplus_{j \geq 2} L'(i, j)},$$

$$(L')^{(n+1)} = \overline{\bigoplus_{i \geq n+1} \bigoplus_{j=1}^{\infty} L'(i, j)},$$

from which it is clear that  $(L')^{(n+1)} + I$  is the product of the  $L'(i, j)$ , where  $(i, j)$  runs over the pairs such that  $j \geq 2$  or  $i \geq n+1$ . Thus,  $H_1(n)$  is linearly independent from it.  $\square$

## COROLLARY 2.2

The image  $[H_1(n)]$  of  $H_1(n)$  in  $N'_n$  is a basis for  $Z_n(N')$ .

The elements of  $H_1(n)$  for  $n \geq 2$  can be counted by noting that there are  $\binom{2g}{2}$  possibilities for the bracket  $[e_{i_1}, e_{i_2}]$ , while for each such bracket, the cardinality of the nonincreasing  $(i_3, i_4, \dots, i_n)$  with  $i_3 \leq i_2$  is

$$\binom{(n-2) + (i_2 - 1)}{i_2 - 1} = \binom{n-3+i_2}{i_2 - 1}.$$

So we find the following dimension formula.

## COROLLARY 2.3

For  $n \geq 2$ ,

$$\dim Z_n(N') = \sum_{i=1}^{2g} (i-1) \binom{n-3+i}{i-1}.$$

*Proof*

This follows immediately from the previous discussion together with the observation that for any index  $i$ , there are  $i-1$  possibilities for the bracket  $[e_j, e_i]$  at the beginning of an element of  $H_1(n)$ .  $\square$

We wish to understand the dimension of  $Z_n(N)$ . Although it would be elementary to work out a precise formula, we need just a reasonable estimate for our purposes. That is, we need to estimate the dimension of

$$Z_n(N')/[Z_n(N') \cap \text{Im}(R)],$$

where  $\text{Im}(R)$  refers to the ideal in  $N'_n$  generated by the image of  $\omega$  (which we again denote by  $\omega$ ).

For an ordered collection of elements  $v = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) \in B^m$  and an element  $y \in L'$ , define

$$\text{ad}_v(y) := [[\dots [y, x_1], x_2], \dots, x_m].$$

Note that if  $y \in (L')^2$  and  $v'$  is a reordering of  $v$ , then

$$\text{ad}_v(y) - \text{ad}_{v'}(y) \in I.$$

Thus, for  $y \in (L')^2$ , we have

$$\text{ad}_v(y) \equiv \text{ad}_{\text{ord}(v)}(y) \pmod{I},$$

where  $\text{ord}(v)$  is the unique reordering of  $v$  for which the components are nonincreasing. Hence, any  $x \in (I+R) \cap L'(n)$  has an expression as a linear combination

$$x \equiv \sum_i c_i \text{ad}_{v_i}(\omega) \pmod{I}$$

for some constants  $c_i \in \mathbb{Q}_p$ , where  $v_i$  runs through elements of  $B^{n-2}$  with nonincreasing components. The number of such  $v_i$  is the same as the number of monomials of degree  $n-2$  in a polynomial algebra of  $2g$ -variables, and hence,

$$\binom{n-2+2g-1}{2g-1} = \binom{n-3+2g}{2g-1},$$

which therefore gives an upper bound on the dimension of  $\text{Im}(R) \cap Z_n(N')$ .

LEMMA 2.4

For  $n \geq 2$ ,

$$\dim Z_n(N) \geq (2g-2) \binom{n-3+2g}{2g-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{2g-1} (i-1) \binom{n-3+i}{i-1}.$$

### 3. Proofs

We refer to [14] and [15, Section 2] for general background material on Selmer varieties. Recall that

$$H_f^1(G, W_n) \subset H^1(G_T, W_n)$$

consists of the cohomology classes corresponding to  $W_n$ -torsors that are unramified outside  $T$  and crystalline at  $p$ . So a bound for  $H^1(G_T, W_n)$  is a bound for  $H_f^1(G_T, W_n)$  as well.

We use again the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^1(G_T, Z_n(W)) \rightarrow H^1(G_T, W_n) \rightarrow H^1(G_T, W_{n-1})$$

as in [15] and a bound for the dimension of  $H^1(G_T, Z_n(W))$ . There is, as usual, the Euler characteristic formula (see [12]) that reduces over  $\mathbb{Q}$  to

$$\begin{aligned} \dim H^0(G_T, Z_n(W)) - \dim H^1(G_T, Z_n(W)) + \dim H^2(G_T, Z_n(W)) \\ = \dim[Z_n(W)]^+ - \dim[Z_n(W)] \\ = -\dim[Z_n(W)]^-, \end{aligned}$$

where the signs in the superscript refer to the  $\pm 1$ -eigenspaces for the action of complex conjugation. Because  $Z_n(W)$  has weight  $n$ , we see that the  $H^0$ -term is zero for  $n \geq 1$ , from which we get

$$(EC) \quad \dim H^1(G_T, Z_n(W)) = \dim[Z_n(W)]^- + \dim H^2(G_T, Z_n(W)).$$

Note that if  $T' \supset T$ , then

$$\dim H^1(G_{T'}, Z_n(W)) \geq \dim H^1(G_T, Z_n(W)).$$

The Euler characteristic formula then shows that

$$\dim H^2(G_{T'}, Z_n(W)) \geq \dim H^2(G_T, Z_n(W))$$

as well. Therefore, in our discussion of bounds, we may increase the size of  $T$  to include the primes that ramify in the field  $F$ . In particular, we may assume that  $F \subset \mathbb{Q}_T$ , so that

$$G_{F,T} \subset G_T,$$

a subgroup of finite index.

*Proof of Theorem 0.1*

Since there is a constant in the formula, we can assume that  $n \geq 3$ . Furthermore, by the surjectivity of the corestriction map

$$H^2(G_{F,T}, Z_n(N)) \rightarrow H^2(G_T, Z_n(N)),$$

we may concentrate on bounding  $H^2(G_{F,T}, Z_n(N))$ . As in [16], we consider the localization sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \text{III}^2(Z_n(N)) \rightarrow H^2(G_{F,T}, Z_n(N)) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{v|T} H^2(G_v, Z_n(N)),$$

where  $G_v = \text{Gal}(\bar{F}_v/F_v)$ . For the local terms, we have Tate duality

$$H^2(G_v, Z_n(N)) \simeq (H^0(G_v, Z_n(N)^*(1)))^*.$$

For  $v \nmid p$ , since  $J$  has good reduction, the action of  $G_v$  on  $Z_n^*(N)(1)$  is unramified. But then, for  $n \geq 3$ ,  $Z_n(N)^*$  has Frobenius weight  $\geq 3$ , while  $\mathbb{Q}_p(1)$  has Frobenius weight  $-2$ . Therefore,

$$H^0(G_v, Z_n(N)^*(1)) = 0.$$

For  $v|p$ , we use instead the fact (see [7, Theorem 5.2]) that

$$H^0(G_v, Z_n(N)^*(1)) = \text{Hom}_{MF(\phi)}(F_v^{nr}, D_{\text{cris}}(Z_n(N)^*(1))).$$

Here  $F_v^{nr}$  is the maximal absolutely unramified subfield of  $F_v$  and  $D_{\text{cris}}(\cdot) = ((\cdot) \otimes_{B_{\text{cris}}} G_v)$  is Fontaine's crystalline Dieudonné functor applied to crystalline  $G_v$ -representations, while  $MF(\phi)$  is the category of admissible filtered  $\phi$ -modules over  $F_v^{nr}$  (see [7, Section 5.1]). Since each character  $\psi_i$  occurs inside  $H_{\text{et}}^1(\bar{J}, \mathbb{Q}_p)$ , we know that  $D_{\text{cris}}(\psi_i)$  occurs inside the crystalline cohomology  $H_{\text{cris}}^1(J, \mathbb{Q}_p)$  (see [8]). But then, if the residue field of  $F_v$  is of degree  $d$  over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ ,  $\phi^d$  again has positive weights on  $D_{\text{cris}}(Z_n^*(N)(1))$  (see [13]). Therefore,  $H^0(G_v, Z_n^*(N)(1)) = 0$ . It follows that

$$H^2(G_v, Z_n(N)) \simeq \text{III}^2(Z_n(N)) \simeq [\text{III}^1(Z_n(N)^*(1))]^*$$

by Poitou-Tate duality (see [20, Theorem 4.10]), where  $\text{III}^1(Z_n(N)^*(1))$  is defined by the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \text{III}^1(Z_n(N)^*(1)) \rightarrow H^1(G_{F,T}, Z_n(N)^*(1)) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{v|T} H^1(G_v, Z_n(N)^*(1)).$$

Now, the group  $\Gamma = \text{Gal}(F_\infty/F)$  is the image of  $G_{F,T}$  inside  $\text{Aut}(J[p^\infty])$ , and  $Z_n(N)^*(1)$ , being a twist by  $\mathbb{Q}_p(1)$  of a sum of tensor products of the characters  $\psi_i = \chi_i^*$ , is a direct summand of  $(V^*)^{\otimes n}(1)$ . Hence, by Bogomolov's theorem (as in [7, Lemmas 6.20, 6.21]),

$$H^1(\Gamma, Z_n(N)^*(1)) = 0.$$

Therefore, using the Hochschild-Serre sequence, we get

$$H^1(G_{F,T}, Z_n(N)^*(1)) \subset \text{Hom}_\Lambda(\mathcal{X}_T, Z_n(N)^*(1))$$



for

$$\Lambda := \mathbb{Z}_p[[\Gamma]] \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p[[T_1, T_2, \dots, T_d]]$$

and  $\mathcal{X}_T = \text{Gal}(K_T/F_\infty)$ , the Galois group of the maximal abelian pro- $p$  extension  $K_T$  of  $F_\infty$  unramified outside  $T$ . Here  $T_i = \gamma_i - 1$  for free generators  $\gamma_i$  of  $\Gamma$  chosen as in Section 1, so that  $\xi_i(\gamma_j) = 1$  while  $\xi_i(\gamma_i)$  is a generator for the image of  $\xi_i(G_{F,T})$ . The condition of belonging to the kernel of the localization map implies, in any case,

$$\text{III}^1(Z_n(N)^*(1)) \subset \text{Hom}_\Lambda(M, Z_n(N)^*(1)) = \text{Hom}_\Lambda(M(-1), Z_n(N)^*),$$

where  $M = M'/(\mathbb{Z}_p - \text{torsion})$  for the Galois group  $M' = \text{Gal}(H'/F_\infty)$  of the  $p$ -Hilbert class field  $H'$  of  $F_\infty$ . (Of course, we could take an even smaller Galois group.) According to [9],  $M'$ , and hence  $M$ , is a torsion  $\Lambda$ -module. (Reference [9] states this in the case where  $F_\infty$  is replaced by the compositum of all  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -extensions of  $F$ , but the proof clearly applies to any  $\mathbb{Z}_p^r$ -extension.) According to a lemma of Greenberg [10], Lemma 2, there is a subgroup  $P \subset \Gamma$  such that  $\Gamma/P \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $M$  is still finitely generated over  $\mathbb{Z}_p[[P]]$ . Consequently, as explained in [10, page 89], if we choose a basis  $\{\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_{d-1}\}$  for  $P$  and complete it to a basis of  $\Gamma$  by using an element  $\epsilon_d$  that maps to a topological generator of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ , then in the variables  $S_i = \epsilon_i - 1$ , we can take the annihilator to have the form

$$f = b_0(S_1, \dots, S_{d-1}) + b_1(S_1, \dots, S_{d-1})S_d + \dots + b_{l-1}(S_1, \dots, S_{d-1})S_d^{l-1} + S_d^l$$

for some power series  $b_i$ . Furthermore, by approximation, we can choose the  $\epsilon_i$  to be of the form

$$\epsilon_i = \gamma_1^{n_{i1}} \dots \gamma_d^{n_{i,d}}$$

for integers  $n_{ij}$ . That is, given any topological basis involving  $p$ -adic powers  $n_{ij}$ , we can approximate them by integral  $n'_{ij}$  that are  $p$ -adically close, so that the  $e_i$  and

$$\epsilon'_i = \gamma_1^{n'_{i1}} \dots \gamma_d^{n'_{i,d}}$$

topologically generate the same subgroup  $P$ .

We know that  $Z_n(N)$  is generated by the image of  $H_1(n)$ . So  $Z_n(N)^*$  is a subspace of the  $G_{F,T}$ -representation given as the direct sum of the one-dimensional representations

$$\psi_{i_1} \otimes \psi_{i_2} \otimes \psi_{i_3} \otimes \dots \otimes \psi_{i_n},$$

where  $i_1, \dots, i_n$  run over indices  $\{1, 2, \dots, 2g\}$  such that

$$i_1 < i_2 \geq i_3 \geq \dots \geq i_n.$$

So this is of the form

$$\bigoplus_{i < 2g} [\psi_i \otimes \psi_{2g} \otimes \text{Sym}^{n-2}(V^*)] \oplus K_n,$$

where

$$\dim K_n \leq \binom{2g}{2} \binom{n-2+2g-2}{2g-2} = O(n^{2g-2}).$$

Therefore, the representation

$$\bigoplus_{i=3}^n Z_i(N)^*$$

is of the form

$$\bigoplus_{i < 2g} \left[ \psi_i \otimes \psi_{2g} \otimes \left( \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n-2} \text{Sym}^i(V^*) \right) \right] \oplus R_n,$$

where  $R_n$  has dimension  $\leq An^{2g-1}$  for some constant  $A$ . We then have

$$\dim H^2(G_T, R_n) = \dim \text{III}^1(R_n^*(1)) \subset \text{Hom}_\Lambda(M, R_n^*(1)) \leq A'n^{2g-1}$$

for another constant  $A'$ . So we need to find a good bound for

$$\text{Hom}_\Lambda \left( M(-1), \bigoplus_{i < 2g} \left[ \psi_i \otimes \psi_{2g} \otimes \left( \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n-2} \text{Sym}^i(V^*) \right) \right] \right).$$

We use the multiindex notation

$$\underline{\psi}^\alpha = \psi_1^{\alpha_1} \psi_2^{\alpha_2} \cdots \psi_{2g}^{\alpha_{2g}}$$

for a multiindex  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{2g}) \in \mathbb{N}^{2g}$ . The weight of the multiindex  $\alpha$  is denoted  $|\alpha| := \sum_i \alpha_i$  so that

$$\text{Sym}^i(V^*) = \bigoplus_{|\alpha|=i} \underline{\psi}^\alpha.$$

If a component

$$\text{Hom}_\Lambda(M(-1), \psi_i \otimes \psi_{2g} \otimes \underline{\psi}^\alpha) = \text{Hom}_\Lambda(M(-1) \otimes \chi_i \otimes \chi_{2g}, \underline{\psi}^\alpha)$$

is nonzero, then we must have

$$\underline{\psi}^\alpha(f_i) = 0,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} f_i &:= f(c_{i1}S_1 + c_{i1} - 1, \dots, c_{i,d}S_d + c_{i,d} - 1) \\ &= b_0^i(S_1, \dots, S_{d-1}) + b_1^i(S_1, \dots, S_{d-1})S_d + \cdots \\ &\quad + b_{l-1}^i(S_1, \dots, S_{d-1})S_d^{l-1} + c_{id}^l S_d^l, \end{aligned}$$

for some power series  $b_j^i$  and units  $c_{ij} := \chi(S_j + 1)\psi_i(S_j + 1)\psi_{2g}(S_j + 1)$ , is in the annihilator of  $M(-1) \otimes \chi_i \otimes \chi_{2g}$ . We wish to estimate how many zeros each  $f_i$  can have on the set  $\{\underline{\psi}^\alpha \mid |\alpha| \leq n - 2\}$ .

There are independent elements  $\{\phi_i\}$  in the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice of characters generated by the  $\xi_i$  such that  $\phi_i(\epsilon_j) = 1$  for  $i \neq j$  and

$$\xi_i = \phi_1^{m_{i1}} \cdots \phi_d^{m_{i,d}}$$

for a nonsingular matrix  $(m_{ij})$  with entries  $m_{ij} \in (1/M')\mathbb{Z}$  for some fixed denominator  $M' \in \mathbb{Z} \cap \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ . Therefore, by the discussion in Section 1, we have

$$\psi_i = \phi_1^{q_{i1}} \cdots \phi_d^{q_{id}}$$

for a  $(2g) \times d$  integral matrix  $D = (q_{ij})$  of rank  $d$  having entries in  $(1/M)\mathbb{Z}$  for some fixed integer  $M$ . Given a multiindex  $\alpha$ , we then have

$$\underline{\psi}^\alpha = \underline{\phi}^{\alpha D}$$

with  $\alpha D$  denoting the matrix product. For  $|\alpha| \leq n-2$ , we find the bound

$$|\alpha D| \leq (n-2)d\|D\|,$$

where  $\|D\| = \max\{|q_{ij}|\}$ . Now, for each multiindex

$$\delta = (\delta_1, \dots, \delta_d) \in [(1/M)\mathbb{Z}]^d$$

such that

$$|\delta| \leq (n-2)d\|D\|,$$

we need to count the cardinality of the set

$$L_\delta = \{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^{2g} \mid \delta = \alpha D, |\alpha| \leq n-2\}.$$

If we fix one  $\alpha \in L_\delta$ , the map  $\alpha' \mapsto \alpha' - \alpha$  injects  $L_\delta$  into the set of  $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_{2g}) \in \mathbb{Z}^{2g}$  such that  $\mu D = 0$  and  $\sup_i |\mu_i| \leq (n-2)$ . The first condition defines a lattice inside a Euclidean space of dimension  $2g-d$ , while the second condition defines a fixed compact convex body (independent of  $n$ ) inside this space dilated by a factor of  $n-2$ . Thus, there is a constant  $C$  depending on the convex body such that  $|L_\delta| \leq C(n-2)^{2g-d}$ . Now we turn to the number of  $\delta$  for which

$$\underline{\phi}^\delta(f_i) = 0$$

and  $|\delta| \leq (n-2)d\|D\|$ . The coefficients  $\underline{\phi}^\delta(b_j^i)$  depend only on  $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_{d-1})$ , which runs over a set of cardinality

$$\sum_{i=1}^{d(n-2)M\|D\|} \binom{i+d-2}{d-2}.$$

This is the number of lattice points in  $(d-1)$ -dimensional space that are contained inside a simplex with vertices at the origin and at the points

$$(0, \dots, 0, d(n-2)M\|D\|, 0, \dots, 0).$$

This number is clearly majorized by the number of lattice points inside the cube

$$[0, d(n-2)M\|D\|]^{d-1},$$

that is,

$$(d(n-2)M\|D\| + 1)^{d-1}.$$

For each such  $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_{d-1})$ , there are at most  $l$   $d$ -tuples  $\delta = (\delta_1, \dots, \delta_{d-1}, \delta_d)$  such that  $\underline{\phi}^\delta(f_i) = 0$ . We conclude that the number of  $\delta$  such that  $|\delta| \leq d(n-2)M\|D\|$

and  $\phi^\delta(f) = 0$  is bounded by  $l(d(n-2)M\|D\| + 1)^{d-1}$ . Therefore, the number of zeros of each  $f_i$  on  $\{\underline{\psi}^\alpha \mid |\alpha| \leq n-2\}$  is bounded by

$$C(n-2)^{2g-d}l(d(n-2)M\|D\| + 1)^{d-1} \leq An^{2g-1}$$

for some constant  $A$ . For each such zero  $\alpha$ , the dimension of

$$\mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda(M(-1) \otimes \chi_i \otimes \chi_{2g}, \underline{\psi}^\alpha)$$

is bounded by the number of generators  $m$  of  $M$ . From this, we deduce the desired asymptotics

$$\dim \mathrm{Hom}_\Lambda \left( M(-1), \bigoplus_{i < 2g} \left[ \psi_i \otimes \psi_{2g} \otimes \left( \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n-2} \mathrm{Sym}^i(V^*) \right) \right] \right) \leq mAn^{2g-1}.$$

□

*Proof of Corollary 0.2.*

For the rough estimates relevant to this corollary, we find useful the elementary fact that  $(n+a)^b = n^b + O(n^{b-1})$  for any fixed constant  $a$  and exponent  $b$ .

We need to find lower bounds for the dimension of the local Selmer variety. We have the de Rham realization

$$W^{\mathrm{DR}} := U^{\mathrm{DR}} / (U^{\mathrm{DR}})^{(3)},$$

where  $U^{\mathrm{DR}}$  is the de Rham fundamental group of  $X \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p$  with base point at  $b$ . We denote by  $(U')^{\mathrm{DR}}$  the de Rham fundamental group of  $X'$  with base point at  $v$  (see [4], [15]). Since

$$(U')^{\mathrm{DR}} \otimes \mathbb{C}_p \simeq U' \otimes \mathbb{C}_p$$

(see [21], [22]), we see that

$$(L')^{\mathrm{DR}} = \mathrm{Lie}(U')^{\mathrm{DR}}$$

is also free, and we can estimate dimensions exactly as in Section 1. For example, as in Lemma 1.3,

$$\dim Z_n(W^{\mathrm{DR}}) \geq (2g-2) \binom{n-3+2g}{2g-1}$$

so that

$$\sum_{i=3}^n \dim Z_i(W^{\mathrm{DR}}) \geq \frac{2g-2}{(2g)!} (n-2)^{2g}.$$

We need to estimate the contribution of  $F^0(Z_n(W^{\mathrm{DR}}))$ . For this, we let  $\{b_1, \dots, b_g, \dots, b_{2g}\}$  be a basis of  $(L')_1^{\mathrm{DR}}$  such that  $\{b_1, \dots, b_g\}$  is a basis for  $F^0(L')_1^{\mathrm{DR}}$ . This determines a Hall basis  $H^{\mathrm{DR}} = \bigcup_n H_n^{\mathrm{DR}}$  for  $(L')^{\mathrm{DR}}$  exactly as in the étale case of Section 3. There are also corresponding bases for  $L^{\mathrm{DR}}$ ,  $(N')^{\mathrm{DR}} := \mathrm{Lie}[(U')^{\mathrm{DR}} / ((U')^{\mathrm{DR}})^{(3)}]$ , and a generating set for  $N^{\mathrm{DR}}$ , exactly as in the discussion of Section 1. The Hodge filtration on

$$(L')_1^{\mathrm{DR}} = [H_{\mathrm{DR}}^1(X' \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p)]^*$$

is of the form

$$(L')_1^{\text{DR}} = F^{-1}(L')_1^{\text{DR}} \supset F^0(L')_1^{\text{DR}} \supset F^1(L')_1^{\text{DR}} = 0.$$

Hence, for an element

$$[[\dots[b_{i_1}, b_{i_2}], b_{i_3}], \dots] b_{i_n}]$$

of  $H_1^{\text{DR}}(n)$  to lie in  $F^0[Z_n((L')^{\text{DR}})]$ , all of the  $b_i$  must be in  $F^0(L')_1^{\text{DR}}$ . Thus, the dimension of  $F^0[Z_n((N')^{\text{DR}})]$  and, hence, of  $F^0[Z_n(W^{\text{DR}})]$  is at most

$$\binom{g}{2} \binom{n+g-3}{g-1}.$$

From this, we get the estimate

$$\sum_{i=3}^n \dim F^0(Z_i(W^{\text{DR}})) \leq cn^g$$

for some constant  $c$ . Therefore, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} (*) \quad \dim W_n^{\text{DR}}/F^0 &= \dim W_2^{\text{DR}}/F^0 + \sum_{i=3}^n \dim Z_i(W^{\text{DR}})/F^0 \\ &\geq \frac{(2g-2)}{(2g)!} n^{2g} + O(n^{2g-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Now we examine the dimension of the minus parts  $Z_n(W)^-$ . For this, it is convenient to carry out the Hall basis construction with yet another generating set. We choose  $B' = \{f_1, \dots, f_g, \dots, f_{2g}\}$  so that  $\{f_1, \dots, f_g\}$  and  $\{f_{g+1}, \dots, f_{2g}\}$  consist of the plus and minus 1 eigenvectors in  $V$ , respectively. Clearly,  $\dim Z_n(N')^-$  majorizes  $\dim Z_n(W)^-$ . Furthermore, as discussed above,  $Z_n(N') = S_n \oplus R_n$ , where  $S_n$  is the span of

$$[\dots[f_j, f_{2g}], f_{i_3}], \dots, f_{i_n}]$$

for  $j < 2g$  and nondecreasing  $(n-2)$ -tuples  $(i_3, \dots, i_n)$ , while  $\dim R_n = O(n^{2g-2})$ . Now  $[f_j, f_{2g}]$  is in the minus part for  $j \leq g$  and in the plus part for  $j \geq g+1$ , while the contribution of the  $(n-2)$ -tuple is the same as  $\text{Sym}^{n-2}(V)$ .

That is,

$$\dim S_n^- = g \dim \text{Sym}^{n-2}(V)^+ + (g-1) \dim \text{Sym}^{n-2}(V)^-.$$

But

$$\text{Sym}^{n-2}(V) = \bigoplus_i [\text{Sym}^i(V^+) \otimes \text{Sym}^{n-2-i}(V^-)],$$

of which we need to take into account the portions where  $n-2-i$  is even and odd, respectively, to get the positive and negative eigenspaces.

For  $n$  odd, we easily see that the plus and minus parts pair up, giving us

$$\begin{aligned} \dim \text{Sym}^{n-2}(V)^- &= \dim \text{Sym}^{n-2}(V)^+ = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \dim \text{Sym}^{n-2}(V) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \binom{n-3+2g}{2g-1}. \end{aligned}$$

From this, we deduce that for  $n$  odd,

$$\dim S_n^- = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)(2g-1) \binom{n-3+2g}{2g-1}.$$

On the other hand, if  $n$  is even, then there is the embedding

$$\mathrm{Sym}^{n-2}(V) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Sym}^{n-1}(V),$$

$$v \rightarrow v \cdot f_1$$

that preserves the plus and minus eigenspaces. Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \dim \mathrm{Sym}^{n-2}(V)^+ &\leq \dim \mathrm{Sym}^{n-1}(V)^+ = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \binom{n-2+2g}{2g-1} \\ &= \frac{(1/2)n^{2g-1}}{(2g-1)!} + O(n^{2g-2}) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \dim \mathrm{Sym}^{n-2}(V)^- &\leq \dim \mathrm{Sym}^{n-1}(V)^- = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \binom{n-2+2g}{2g-1} \\ &= \frac{(1/2)n^{2g-1}}{(2g-1)!} + O(n^{2g-2}), \end{aligned}$$

where the equalities follow from the discussion above for the odd case. Therefore, for any  $n$ , we have

$$\dim S_n^- \leq \frac{(1/2)(2g-1)n^{2g-1}}{(2g-1)!} + O(n^{2g-2})$$

and

$$\dim Z_n(N)^- \leq \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)(2g-1) \frac{n^{2g-1}}{(2g-1)!} + O(n^{2g-2}).$$

We deduce immediately that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i(N)^- \leq \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)(2g-1) \frac{n^{2g}}{(2g)!} + O(n^{2g-1}).$$

Combining this inequality with the lower bound (\*), Theorem 0.1, and the Euler characteristic formula (EC), we get

$$\dim W_n^{\mathrm{DR}}/F^0 < \dim H_f^1(G_p, W_n)$$

for  $n$  sufficiently large. □

#### REMARK

Note that in the comparison of leading coefficients,

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{2g-1}{(2g)!} < \frac{2g-2}{(2g)!}$$

exactly for  $g \geq 2$ .

*Proof of Corollary 0.3*

By [15, Section 2] and [6], there is an algebraic map

$$D = D_{cr} : H_f^1(G_p, U) \longrightarrow U^{\mathrm{DR}}/F^0$$

sending a  $U$ -torsor

$$P = \mathrm{Spec}(\mathcal{P})$$

to

$$\mathrm{Spec}(D_{cr}(\mathcal{P})) = \mathrm{Spec}(\mathcal{P} \otimes B_{cr})^{G_p},$$

an admissible  $U^{\mathrm{DR}}$  torsor, that is, a  $U^{\mathrm{DR}}$ -torsor with a compatible Frobenius action and a reduction of structure group to  $F^0 U^{\mathrm{DR}}$  (see [15, Section 1]).

We wish to deduce an analogous map for  $W$ . But [21] and [22] give an isomorphism

$$L \otimes B_{cr} \simeq L^{\mathrm{DR}} \otimes B_{cr}$$

compatible with the Lie algebra structure as well as the usual Galois action,  $\phi$ -action, and Hodge filtration. In particular,

$$L^{(3)} \otimes B_{cr} \simeq (L^{\mathrm{DR}})^{(3)} \otimes B_{cr},$$

and hence,

$$N \otimes B_{cr} \simeq N^{\mathrm{DR}} \otimes B_{cr}.$$

Therefore,

$$D_{cr}(N) = N^{\mathrm{DR}}$$

and

$$D_{cr}(W) = W^{\mathrm{DR}}.$$

There is thereby an induced map

$$D : H_f^1(G_p, W) \longrightarrow W^{\mathrm{DR}}/F^0$$

following verbatim the construction for  $U$  and  $U^{\mathrm{DR}}$  as in [15, Section 2]. That is, as in [15, Section 1, Proposition 1],  $W^{\mathrm{DR}}/F^0$  classifies admissible torsors for  $W^{\mathrm{DR}}$ , and the map assigns to a  $W$ -torsor a  $W^{\mathrm{DR}}$ -torsor, exactly following the recipe for  $U$  and  $U^{\mathrm{DR}}$ .

Now Corollary 0.3 also follows verbatim the argument in [14, Section 2] and [15, Section 3] by using the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X(\mathbb{Q}) & \longrightarrow & X(\mathbb{Q}_p) & & \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & \searrow & \\ H_f^1(G, W_n) & \longrightarrow & H_f^1(G_p, W_n) & \longrightarrow & W_n^{\mathrm{DR}}/F^0 \end{array}$$

for  $n$  sufficiently large. We need only note that the map

$$]y[ \rightarrow W_n^{\mathrm{DR}}/F^0$$

from any residue disk  $]y[ \subset X(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  to  $W_n^{\text{DR}}/F^0$  has Zariski dense image since the same is true of

$$]y[ \rightarrow U_n^{\text{DR}}/F^0$$

and the map

$$U_n^{\text{DR}}/F^0 \rightarrow W_n^{\text{DR}}/F^0$$

is surjective. □

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