

## ON THE IWASAWA $\lambda$ -INVARIANT OF THE CYCLOTOMIC $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -EXTENSION OF $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})$ , III

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**Abstract:** In the preceding papers, two of authors developed criteria for Greenberg conjecture of the cyclotomic  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -extension of  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})$  with prime number  $p$ . Criteria and numerical algorithm in [5], [3] and [6] enable us to show  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$  for all  $p$  less than  $10^5$  except  $p = 13841, 67073$ . All the known criteria at present can not handle  $p = 13841, 67073$ . In this paper, we develop another criterion for  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$  using cyclotomic units and Iwasawa polynomials, which is considered a slight modification of the method of Ichimura and Sumida. Our new criterion fits the numerical examination and quickly shows that  $\lambda_2(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})) = 0$  for  $p = 13841, 67073$ . So we announce here that  $\lambda_2(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})) = 0$  for all prime numbers  $p$  less than  $10^5$ .

**Keywords:** Iwasawa invariant, cyclotomic unit, real quadratic field.

### 1. Introduction

Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})$  be a real quadratic field with prime number  $p$  and  $k_\infty$  the cyclotomic  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -extension of  $k$ . It is very important to study Greenberg conjecture for  $k_\infty/k$ , namely to consider whether the Iwasawa  $\lambda$ -invariant  $\lambda_2(k) = \lambda(k_\infty/k)$  is zero or not. First approach on this problem was made by Ozaki and Taya [14] in which they proved that  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$  if  $p$  satisfies  $p \not\equiv 1 \pmod{16}$  or  $2^{(p-1)/4} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . After Ozaki and Taya, the authors developed criteria for  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$  when  $p$  satisfies  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{16}$  and  $2^{(p-1)/4} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  (cf. [5], [3], [6]). Our criteria are described by units in  $k_n$ , which is the intermediate field of  $k_\infty/k$  with  $[k_n : k] = 2^n$ , and numerical calculations in  $k_n$  ( $0 \leq n \leq 8$ ) show that  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$  for all prime number  $p$  less than  $10^5$  except  $p = 13841, 67073$ . All the known criteria accompanied with calculation in  $k_8$  failed to show  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$  for  $p = 13841, 67073$ . It seems necessary to calculate at least in  $k_{13}$  in order to show  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$  using those criteria. Such a calculation is far beyond the ability of current computer.

In this paper, we develop one more criterion using cyclotomic units, which is considered a slight modification of the method of Ichimura and Sumida [10], and verify that  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$  for  $p = 13841, 67073$  by using cyclotomic units and Iwasawa polynomials in  $k_8$ . Namely, we prove the following theorem:

**Theorem 1.1.** *We have  $\lambda_2(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})) = 0$  for all prime number  $p$  less than  $10^5$ .*

## 2. Preliminaries

From now on, we assume that  $p$  is a prime number satisfying  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{16}$  and  $2^{(p-1)/4} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . Let  $k_n$  be the  $n$ -th layer of the cyclotomic  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -extension  $k_\infty$  of  $k$  as above,  $\mathcal{O}_{k_n}$  the integer ring of  $k_n$ ,  $E_n = \mathcal{O}_{k_n}^\times$  the unit group of  $k_n$ ,  $A_n$  the 2-part of the ideal class group of  $k_n$ ,  $\mathfrak{l}_n$  a prime ideal of  $k_n$  lying above 2. We put  $\mathbb{B}_n = \mathbb{Q}(\cos \frac{2\pi}{2^{n+2}})$  and  $\mathbb{B}_\infty = \bigcup_{n=0}^\infty \mathbb{B}_n$ . Then  $k_n = k\mathbb{B}_n$  and  $k_\infty = k\mathbb{B}_\infty$ . Moreover, let  $\Delta = G(k_\infty/\mathbb{B}_\infty)$  the Galois group of  $k_\infty$  over  $\mathbb{B}_\infty$  with a generator  $\tau$  and  $\Gamma = G(k_\infty/k)$  the Galois group of  $k_\infty$  over  $k$  with a topological generator  $\gamma$ .

Then we have  $2\mathcal{O}_{k_n} = (\mathfrak{l}_n \mathfrak{l}_n^\tau)^{2^n}$ . Let  $k_n \mathfrak{l}_n$  be the completion of  $k_n$  at  $\mathfrak{l}_n$  and put  $c_n = 1 + 2 \cos \frac{2\pi}{2^{n+2}}$ . Then we have  $k_n \mathfrak{l}_n = \mathbb{Q}_2(c_n)$ , where  $\mathbb{Q}_2$  is the 2-adic field. Let  $I'_n$  be the group of fractional ideals in  $k_n$  generated by ideals which are prime to 2. We put  $E'_n = \{\alpha \in k_n \mid (\alpha) \in I'_n\}$  and  $U_n = \mathcal{O}_{k_n \mathfrak{l}_n}^\times \times \mathcal{O}_{k_n \mathfrak{l}_n}^\times$ .

We embed  $E'_n$  in  $U_n$  by the injective homomorphism  $\varphi : E'_n \ni \alpha \mapsto (\alpha, \alpha^\tau) \in U_n$ . We put  $(\alpha, \alpha^\tau)^{\tau^*} = (\alpha^\tau, \alpha)$  for  $(\alpha, \alpha^\tau) \in \varphi(E'_n)$ . Since the topological closure  $\overline{\varphi(E'_n)}$  of  $\varphi(E'_n)$  is  $U_n$ , we can extend the mapping  $\tau^*$  to  $U_n$  continuously.

Now we develop a quadratic version of [15, Theorem 3.3] by following the arguments in [9, §2]. We put  $\mathbb{U} = \varprojlim U_n$ , where the projective limit is taken with respect to the relative norms. Let  $u = (u_n)_{n=1}^\infty$  be an element in  $\varprojlim \mathcal{O}_{k_n \mathfrak{l}_n}^\times$ . Then there exists a unique power series  $f_u(X) \in \mathbb{Z}_2[[X]]$  satisfying

$$f_u(1 - \zeta_{2^{n+2}}) = u_n,$$

where  $\zeta_m$  means  $\exp(2\pi\sqrt{-1}/m)$ . Let  $D = (1 - X) \frac{d}{dX}$  be a derivative operator on  $\mathbb{Z}_2[[X]]$ . We put  $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}_2[[T]]$  and let  $1 + T$  act on  $\mathbb{U}$  as  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ . Let  $s$  be a primitive root modulo  $p$  and put  $\xi = \sum_{i=1}^{(p-1)/2} (\zeta_p^{s^{2i}} - \zeta_p^{s^{2i+1}})$ , which we regard as the image of the embedding  $\mathcal{O}_k \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{k_1} = \mathbb{Z}_2$ . Then there exists a unique element  $G_u(T)$  of  $\Lambda$  such that

$$D^\nu(\log f_u(X) - \frac{1}{2} \log f_u(1 - (1 - X)^2))|_{X=0} = G_u((1 + 4p)^\nu - 1)\xi.$$

We note that the correspondence  $\mathbb{U}^{1-\tau^*} \ni (u, u^{-1}) \mapsto \frac{1}{2}G_u(T) \in \Lambda$  defines a  $\Lambda$ -isomorphism  $\Psi : \mathbb{U}^{1-\tau^*} \rightarrow \Lambda$ . Now, we put

$$\eta_n = \zeta_{2^{n+2}}^{(p-1)/4} \prod_{i=1}^{(p-1)/2} \left( \zeta_{2^{n+2}}^{-1} - \zeta_p^{s^{2i}} \right),$$

and  $\eta = (\eta_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ . A straightforward calculation, which was presented in [6] for instance, shows that

$$\eta_n^2 = N_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{2^{n+2}p})/k_n} (1 - \zeta_{2^{n+2}}\zeta_p).$$

From now on, we specify the topological generator  $\gamma$  of  $\Gamma$  by the relation

$$(\zeta_{2^{n+2}} + \zeta_{2^{n+2}}^{-1})^\gamma = \zeta_{2^{n+2}}^{1+4p} + \zeta_{2^{n+2}}^{-1-4p} \quad (n \geq 0).$$

Then Iwasawa's construction of 2-adic  $L$ -function associated to  $k$  varies now into the following form.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $\chi$  be the non-trivial character modulo  $p$  associated to  $k$  and  $\frac{1}{2}G(T)$  the image of the element  $(\eta^{1-\tau}, \eta^{\tau-1})$  in  $\mathbb{U}^{1-\tau^*}$  by the above isomorphism  $\mathbb{U}^{1-\tau^*} \cong \Lambda$ . Then we have*

$$G((1+4p)^\nu - 1) = -(1 - 2^{\nu-1}) \frac{B_{\nu, \chi}}{\nu} \quad \text{for } \nu \equiv 0 \pmod{2}.$$

Here  $B_{\nu, \chi}$  is a generalized Bernoulli number.

Since the Iwasawa  $\mu$ -invariant  $\mu_2(k) = \mu(k_\infty/k)$  is known to be zero by Ferrero-Washington [2], there exist a unique unit element  $u(T) \in \Lambda^\times$  and a unique distinguished polynomial  $g(T) \in \mathbb{Z}_2[[T]]$  such that

$$G(T) = 2u(T)g(T). \quad (2.1)$$

The distinguished polynomial  $g(T)$ , which is called Iwasawa polynomial, plays essential role in our arguments. We fix the notation  $g(T)$  throughout the paper.

### 3. Criterion

In this section, we work in abelian extensions of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . So Leopoldt conjecture is valid in our situation (cf. [1]). Let  $L_\infty$  be the maximal unramified abelian 2-extension of  $k_\infty$  and  $M_\infty$  the maximal abelian 2-extension of  $k_\infty$  unramified outside 2. Then the Galois groups  $I_\infty = G(M_\infty/L_\infty)$ ,  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty = G(M_\infty/k_\infty)$  and  $X_\infty = G(L_\infty/k_\infty)$  are finitely generated  $\Lambda$ -modules (cf. [12]). For a finitely generated  $\Lambda$ -module  $X$ ,  $\text{ch}(X)$  denotes the characteristic polynomial of  $X$ . Then we have the following:

**Lemma 3.1.** *The tensor product  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}_2[\Delta]} \mathbb{Z}_2$  is pseudo-isomorphic to  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty^{1-\tau}$ , where  $\tau$  acts on  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  by  $\tau a = -a$  for  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_2$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\psi$  be a  $\Delta$ -homomorphism of  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}_2[\Delta]} \mathbb{Z}_2$  to  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty^{1-\tau}$  defined by  $\psi(x \otimes a) = (x^a)^{1-\tau}$ . Then  $\psi$  is surjective. Now, we assume  $\psi(x \otimes a) = 1$ . Then we have  $(x^a)^{1-\tau} = 1$ , which means  $(x^a)^\tau = x^a$ . Hence  $x \otimes a = x^a \otimes 1 = (x^a)^\tau \otimes 1 = x^a \otimes (-1) = (x^a \otimes 1)^{-1}$ , which shows  $(x \otimes a)^2 = 1$ . Since  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}_2[\Delta]} \mathbb{Z}_2$  is finitely generated  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -module, the kernel of  $\psi$  is finite.  $\blacksquare$

Hence we have the following (cf. [18, Theorem 6.2]):

**Lemma 3.2.** *We have  $\text{ch}(\mathfrak{X}_\infty^{1-\tau}) = g(T)$ .*

Moreover, we have the following:

**Lemma 3.3.**  $\Lambda$ -modules  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty^{1-\tau} \cap I_\infty$  and  $I_\infty^{1-\tau}$  are pseudo-isomorphic. Namely,  $\text{ch}(\mathfrak{X}_\infty^{1-\tau} \cap I_\infty) = \text{ch}(I_\infty^{1-\tau})$ .

**Proof.** Let  $x$  be an element in  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty^{1-\tau} \cap I_\infty$ . Since  $x^\tau = x^{-1}$ , we have  $x^2 = x^{1-\tau}$ , which means  $x^2 \in I_\infty^{1-\tau}$ . Since  $I_\infty^{1-\tau} \subset \mathfrak{X}_\infty^{1-\tau} \cap I_\infty$  and since  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty^{1-\tau} \cap I_\infty$  is a finitely generated  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -module, the index  $(\mathfrak{X}_\infty^{1-\tau} \cap I_\infty : I_\infty^{1-\tau})$  is finite.  $\blacksquare$

Since  $X_\infty^{1-\tau} = \mathfrak{X}_\infty^{1-\tau} I_\infty / I_\infty$  is isomorphic to  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty^{1-\tau} / \mathfrak{X}_\infty^{1-\tau} \cap I_\infty$ , we have the following:

**Lemma 3.4.** We have

$$g(T) = \text{ch}(X_\infty^{1-\tau}) \text{ch}(\mathfrak{X}_\infty^{1-\tau} \cap I_\infty).$$

Now, we put  $E_n = \mathcal{O}_{k_n}^\times$ . Then  $\varphi(E_n) = \{(\varepsilon, \varepsilon^\tau) \mid \varepsilon \in E_n\}$ . Moreover, we put  $\mathcal{E}_n = \overline{\varphi(E_n)} \subset U_n$  and  $\mathcal{E} = \varprojlim \mathcal{E}_n$ . Then  $I_\infty$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{U}/\mathcal{E}$  by class field theory, which shows  $I_\infty^{1-\tau}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{U}^{1-\tau}\mathcal{E}/\mathcal{E}$ . Let  $P(T)$  be a monic irreducible polynomial in  $\Lambda$  which divides  $g(T)$  and put

$$Q(T) = \frac{g(T)}{P(T)}.$$

Assume that  $P(T)$  divides  $\text{ch}(X_\infty^{1-\tau})$ . Then  $\text{ch}(I_\infty^{1-\tau})$  divides  $Q(T)$ , which shows  $(\mathbb{U}^{1-\tau})^{Q(T)} \subset \mathcal{E}$ , because  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty$  has no finite  $\Lambda$ -submodule (cf. [8, Theorem 1]). Since  $P(T)$  and  $\omega_n(T) = (1+T)^{2^n} - 1$  are mutually prime in  $\Lambda$ , which is a consequence of Leopoldt conjecture, there exist elements  $q_n(T), r_n(T) \in \Lambda$  with

$$P(T)q_n(T) + r_n(T)\omega_n(T) = 2^{a_n},$$

where  $a_n$  is a non-negative integer. Hence we have

$$(\eta_n^{1-\tau}, \eta_n^{\tau-1})^{q_n(T)} = \Psi^{-1}(u(T))^{P(T)Q(T)q_n(T)} \in \mathcal{E}_n^{2^{a_n}}$$

with  $u(T)$  define by (2.1). Now we follow the arguments in [4] and [16] noting that Leopoldt conjecture is valid in our situation to establish the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.5.** Assume that for any monic irreducible polynomial  $P(T)$  dividing  $g(T)$ , there exists  $n \geq 1$  which satisfies

$$\eta_n^{(1-\tau)q(\gamma-1)} \notin E_n^{2^a}. \quad (3.1)$$

Here  $q(T)$  is a polynomial in  $\Lambda$  and  $a$  is a non-negative integer satisfying

$$P(T)q(T) \equiv 2^a \pmod{\omega_n(T)}.$$

Then we have  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$ .

The condition (3.1) in Theorem 3.5 guarantees  $P(T) \nmid \text{ch}(X_\infty^{1-\tau})$ , from which we deduce  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$ . In the practical computations, we are often aware of an upper bound  $d$  of  $\lambda$ -invariant. If  $P(T)$  satisfies  $\deg P(T) > d$ , then we immediately conclude  $P(T) \nmid \text{ch}(X_\infty^{1-\tau})$  because  $\deg \text{ch}(X_\infty) \leq d$ . Hence we are able to transform Theorem 3.5 to the following effective form.

**Corollary 3.6.** *Assume that  $\lambda_2(k) \leq d$  with positive integer  $d$ . Moreover, assume that for any monic irreducible polynomial  $P(T)$  dividing  $g(T)$  which satisfies  $\deg P(T) \leq d$ , there exists  $n \geq 1$  which satisfies*

$$\eta_n^{(1-\tau)q(\gamma-1)} \notin E_n^{2^a}. \quad (3.2)$$

Here  $q(T)$  is a polynomial in  $\Lambda$  and  $a$  is a non-negative integer satisfying

$$P(T)q(T) \equiv 2^a \pmod{\omega_n(T)}. \quad (3.3)$$

Then we have  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$ .

We note here that we verify the condition (3.2) by a congruence relation. Namely, let  $\alpha$  be an integer in  $k_n$  and  $\ell$  a prime number which satisfies  $\chi(\ell) = 1$ ,  $\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2^{n+2}}$  and  $\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2^a}$ . Then  $\ell$  splits completely in  $k_n/\mathbb{Q}$  and we find  $x = x_{\mathfrak{l}} \in \mathbb{Z}$  satisfying  $\alpha \equiv x \pmod{\mathfrak{l}}$  for each prime ideal  $\mathfrak{l}$  of  $k_n$  lying above  $\ell$ . If we find  $\ell$  and  $\mathfrak{l}$  such that

$$x^{\frac{\ell-1}{2^a}} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{\ell},$$

then we see that

$$\alpha \notin k_n^{2^a}.$$

#### 4. Bound of Iwasawa invariants

In this section, we discuss an upper bound of Iwasawa invariants in a general situation. Let  $F$  be a finite algebraic extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\ell$  a prime number and  $K$  a  $\mathbb{Z}_\ell$ -extension of  $F$ . Let  $F_n$  be the intermediate field of  $K/F$  with  $[F_n : F] = \ell^n$  and denote by  $\ell^{e_n}$  the  $\ell$ -part of the class number of  $F_n$ . Then there exist integers  $\lambda(K/F) \geq 0$ ,  $\mu(K/F) \geq 0$  and  $\nu(K/F)$  which satisfy

$$e_n = \lambda(K/F)n + \mu(K/F)\ell^n + \nu(K/F)$$

for all sufficiently large  $n$  (cf. [12]).

In some situations, a few practical values of  $e_n$  estimate explicitly upper bounds of  $\lambda(K/F)$  and  $\mu(K/F)$  and enables us to apply Corollary 3.6 to  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})$ . A similar estimate is also given in [11, Lemma 5].

**Theorem 4.1.** *Notations being as above, assume that all the ramified primes in  $K/F$  are totally ramified. Furthermore we assume that inequality  $e_{n+1} - e_n < \ell^{n+1} - \ell^n$  holds for some  $n \geq 0$ . Then we have  $\lambda(K/F) \leq e_{n+1} - e_n$  and  $\mu(K/F) = 0$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $A_n$  be the  $\ell$ -part of the ideal class group of  $F_n$ . Then  $|A_n| = \ell^{e_n}$ . Put  $e_{n+1} - e_n = b$ . Let  $X = G(L_\infty/K)$  and  $Y = G(L_\infty/KL_0) \subseteq X$ , where  $L_\infty$  and  $L_0$  are the maximal unramified abelian  $\ell$ -extensions of  $K$  and  $F$ , respectively. Then  $\Gamma = G(K/F)$  acts on  $X$  by inner automorphism. If we fix a topological generator  $\gamma$  of  $\Gamma$  and associate  $\gamma$  with  $1 + T$ , then we are able to regard  $X$  as a  $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}_\ell[[T]]$ -module. We put

$$\nu_n = \frac{(1+T)^{\ell^n} - 1}{T}, \quad \nu_{n+1,n} = \nu_{n+1}/\nu_n.$$

Then we have the isomorphism

$$A_n \simeq X/\nu_n Y \quad (4.1)$$

from our assumption on the ramification in  $K/F$  and [12, Theorem 6]. It follows from (4.1) and our assumption on the class numbers that

$$|\nu_n Y/\nu_{n+1} Y| = \ell^b$$

Hence if we put  $M = \nu_n Y$ , then we have

$$|M/\nu_{n+1,n} M| = \ell^b. \quad (4.2)$$

Here we note that  $\lambda(K/F) = \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}_\ell} X = \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}_\ell} M$  because  $X/\nu_n Y \simeq A_n$  is finite. Also, the triviality of the  $\mu$ -invariant of the  $\Lambda$ -module  $M$  implies that of  $\mu(K/F)$  by the same reason. Therefore it is enough to show that  $\dim_{\mathbb{F}_\ell} M/\ell M \leq b$ , because  $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}_\ell} M \leq \dim_{\mathbb{F}_\ell} M/\ell M$  holds in general and the finiteness of  $M/\ell M$  implies the vanishing of the  $\mu$ -invariant of  $M$  by Nakayama's lemma. Since  $\mathbb{F}_\ell[[T]]$  is a discrete valuation ring and  $M/\ell M$  is a finitely generated  $\mathbb{F}_\ell[[T]]$ -module, we have

$$M/\ell M \simeq \mathbb{F}_\ell[[T]]^{\oplus r} \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{i=1}^s \mathbb{F}_\ell[[T]]/(T^{a_i}) \right) \quad (4.3)$$

for some integers  $r \geq 0$  and  $a_1 \geq \dots \geq a_s \geq 0$ . Then we get

$$\begin{aligned} M/(\ell, \nu_{n+1,n})M &= M/(\ell, T^{\ell^{n+1}-\ell^n})M \\ &\simeq \left( \mathbb{F}_\ell[[T]]/(T^{\ell^{n+1}-\ell^n}) \right)^{\oplus r} \\ &\quad \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{i=1}^s \mathbb{F}_\ell[[T]]/(T^{\min\{a_i, \ell^{n+1}-\ell^n\}}) \right), \end{aligned} \quad (4.4)$$

because  $\nu_{n+1,n} \equiv T^{\ell^{n+1}-\ell^n} \pmod{\ell}$ . By using our assumption, (4.2) and (4.4), we derive

$$\begin{aligned} \ell^{n+1} - \ell^n &> b \geq \dim_{\mathbb{F}_\ell} (M/(\ell, \nu_{n+1,n})M) \\ &= r(\ell^{n+1} - \ell^n) + \sum_{i=1}^s \min\{a_i, \ell^{n+1} - \ell^n\}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.5)$$

from which we find immediately  $r = 0$  and  $a_i < \ell^{n+1} - \ell^n$  for all  $i$ . Therefore, we get inequality  $\dim_{\mathbb{F}_\ell} M/\ell M = \sum_{i=1}^s a_i \leq b$  by (4.3) and (4.5), which implies the assertion of the theorem as mentioned above.  $\blacksquare$

## 5. Calculation

In this section, we return to the case  $\ell = 2$  and recall  $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}_2[[T]]$ . Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})$  with prime number  $p$  satisfying  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{16}$  and  $2^{(p-1)/4} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . Let  $k_n$  be the intermediate field of the cyclotomic  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -extension of  $k$  with  $[k_n : k] = 2^n$  and  $A_n$  the 2-part of the ideal class group of  $k_n$ . We put  $|A_n| = 2^{e_n}$ .

First of all, we explain how to compute  $e_n$ . Straightforward calculation using several software packages developed for number theory handles  $e_1, e_2$  and  $e_3$ . But it fails to compute  $e_4$  because the degree  $[k_n : k] = 2^n$  increases rapidly. So a custom algorithm specialized to  $k$  is needed. Thanks to [6, Proposition 3.5], the integer  $a_r$  in the table in [3], which is expected to be equal to  $e_r$ , is now actually equal to  $e_r$ . Hence we can calculate  $e_n$  ( $1 \leq n \leq 8$ ) by using the method in [5].

Let  $\chi$  be the character of  $k$  and  $\omega$  the Teichmüller character modulo 4. Then  $\chi^* = \omega\chi^{-1}$  is the character of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-p})$ . We define the integer  $s$  so that  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{2^s}$  and  $p \not\equiv 1 \pmod{2^{s+1}}$ . Then the Stickelberger element  $\xi_n$  is defined by

$$\xi_n = \frac{1}{q_n} \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a, q_n)=1}}^{q_n} a\chi^*(a)^{-1} \left( \frac{\mathbb{B}_n/\mathbb{Q}}{a} \right)^{-1} \in \mathbb{Z}_2[G(\mathbb{B}_n/\mathbb{Q})],$$

where  $q_n = p2^{n+2}$  and  $\left( \frac{\mathbb{B}_n/\mathbb{Q}}{a} \right)$  is the Artin symbol. It is known that  $\frac{1}{2}\xi_n$  also has integral coefficients. So we associate  $\left( \frac{\mathbb{B}_n/\mathbb{Q}}{1+q_0} \right)^{-1}$  with  $\frac{1+T}{1+q_0}$  and construct the polynomial  $G_n(T) \in \Lambda$  from  $\frac{1}{2}\xi_n$ . Weierstrass preparation theorem guarantees the decomposition

$$G_n(T) = u_n(T)g_n(T)$$

with the unit element  $u_n(T) \in \Lambda$  and the distinguished polynomial  $g_n(T) \in \Lambda$ , where  $g_n(T)$  is constructed explicitly by an algorithm in [17, Proposition 7.2]. Then we know the congruence relation

$$g(T) \equiv g_n(T) \pmod{2^{n-s+2}},$$

where  $g(T)$  is the distinguished polynomial defined by (2.1).

Now we see

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2}\xi_n &= \frac{1}{2^{n+3p}} \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a,2p)=1}}^{2^{n+2}p} a\chi^*(a)^{-1} \left(\frac{\mathbb{B}_n/\mathbb{Q}}{a}\right)^{-1} \\
&= \frac{1}{2^{n+3p}} \sum_{\substack{j=0 \\ (j,2)=1}}^{2^{n+2}-1} \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} (2^{n+2}i+j)\chi^*(2^{n+2}i+j) \left(\frac{\mathbb{B}_n/\mathbb{Q}}{2^{n+2}i+j}\right)^{-1} \\
&= \frac{1}{2p} \sum_{\substack{j=0 \\ (j,2)=1}}^{2^{n+2}-1} \left(\frac{\mathbb{B}_n/\mathbb{Q}}{j}\right)^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} i\chi^*(2^{n+2}i+j) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2^{n+3p}} \sum_{j=0}^{2^{n+2}-1} j \left(\frac{\mathbb{B}_n/\mathbb{Q}}{j}\right)^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} \chi^*(2^{n+2}i+j) \\
&= \frac{1}{2p} \sum_{\substack{j=0 \\ (j,2)=1}}^{2^{n+2}-1} \left(\frac{\mathbb{B}_n/\mathbb{Q}}{j}\right)^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} i\chi^*(2^{n+2}i+j),
\end{aligned}$$

because, for odd  $j$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{i=0}^{p-1} \chi^*(2^{n+2}i+j) &= \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} (-1)^{2^{n+1}i} (-1)^{\frac{j-1}{2}} \left(\frac{2^{n+2}i+j}{p}\right) \\
&= (-1)^{\frac{j-1}{2}} \sum_{a=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Put  $G = (\mathbb{Z}/2^{n+2}\mathbb{Z})^\times$  and  $H = \langle 1 + q_0 + 2^{n+2}\mathbb{Z} \rangle$ . Then  $G = H \cup (-H)$  and hence

$$\begin{aligned}
G_n(T) &= \frac{1}{2p} \sum_{j=0}^{2^n-1} \left(\frac{1+T}{1+q_0}\right)^{j p-1} \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} i \left\{ \chi^*(2^{n+2}i + ((1+q_0)^j \bmod 2^{n+2})) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \chi^*(2^{n+2}i + (-(1+q_0)^j \bmod 2^{n+2})) \right\},
\end{aligned}$$

where  $a \bmod 2^{n+2}$  means rational integer  $x$  satisfying

$$x \equiv a \pmod{2^{n+2}} \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq x < 2^{n+2}.$$

Now we show two examples, from which we derive Theorem 1.1. Let  $p = 13841$ . Then  $s = 4$  and we see

$$\begin{aligned}
g(T) &\equiv 44128 + 126772T + 30644T^2 + T^3 \pmod{2^{17}} \\
&\equiv (2616 + T)(74772 + 28028T + T^2) \pmod{2^{17}} \tag{5.1}
\end{aligned}$$

from  $\xi_{19}$ . Proposition 2 in [13, Chapter II] with the fact  $g_{19}(-2616) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{17}}$ ,  $g'_{19}(-2616) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{2^3}$  implies that  $g(T)$  has a factor  $P_1(T) = \alpha + T$  ( $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_2$ ) with  $\alpha \equiv 2616 \pmod{2^{13}}$  and (5.1) implies that  $g(T)/P_1(T)$  is irreducible modulo  $2^{13}$ . Hence  $g(T)/P_1(T)$  is irreducible in  $\Lambda$  and we see

$$g(T) = P_1(T)P_2(T)$$

with irreducible polynomial  $P_2(T)$  of degree two.

Now we get  $e_n$  as follows:

$n$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$e_n$	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Hence it follows that  $\lambda_2(k) \leq 1$  by Theorem 4.1 and it suffices to verify the condition (3.2) only for  $P(T) = P_1(T)$  in order to prove  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$ . When  $n = 10$ , we see that  $a = 13$  in the expression (3.3) and the condition (3.2) holds. Hence we have  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$ .

Next we treat  $p = 67073$ . In this case,  $s = 9$ . We calculate  $\xi_{28}$  and find that

$$g(T) = P_1(T)P_2(T)P_3(T),$$

where  $P_1(T)$ ,  $P_2(T)$  and  $P_3(T)$  are monic irreducible polynomials with degree 1, 2 and 124 respectively by factoring  $g_{28}(T)$  modulo  $2^{21}$  and using Hensel's lemma. We also see

$$\begin{aligned} P_1(T) &\equiv 1000 + T \pmod{2^{11}}, \\ P_2(T) &\equiv 1392 + 796T + T^2 \pmod{2^{11}}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$n$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$e_n$	3	6	9	12	14	16	18	20

Hence it follows that  $\lambda_2(k) \leq 2$  by Theorem 4.1 and it suffices to verify the condition (3.2) only for  $P(T) = P_1(T)$  and  $P(T) = P_2(T)$  in order to prove  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$ . Actually we verify the condition (3.2) for  $P_1(T)$  with  $n = 8$  and for  $P_2(T)$  with  $n = 3$ . So we conclude  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$ .

## 6. Comparison of criteria

We would like to compare criteria of  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$ . Most fundamental criterion is Theorem 2.1 in [3]. The condition (C) was first verified in our all practical calculations. Theorems 2.1 and 2.2 in [6] are considered the improvement of that in special situations. At the present time, we are able to check these criteria in  $k_n$  ( $1 \leq n \leq 8$ ). On the other hand, Corollary 3.6 is a criterion of different type. We are able to check this criterion for larger  $n$ .

In the following table, we show  $n$  where we verified  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$  under the calculations in  $k_n$ . The sign  $\times$  means that the criterion can not be applied for such  $p$ . The inequality  $\geq 13$  or  $\geq 12$  means that we need at least  $n = 13$  or  $n = 12$  to apply [3, Theorem 2.1]. For  $p$  where the sign ? is marked, we failed to factorize Iwasawa polynomial  $g(T)$  which has degree 2047, 1022 or 16383. So all the criteria should be considered complementary to each other.

$p$	[3, Theorem 2.1]	[6, Theorem 2.1]	[6, Theorem 2.2]	Corollary 3.6
1201	2	$\times$	$\times$	10
3361	5	$\times$	$\times$	3
12161	4	2	$\times$	11
13121	4	$\times$	2	6
13841	$\geq 13$	$\times$	$\times$	10
67073	$\geq 12$	$\times$	$\times$	8
14929	5	$\times$	4	2
15217	3	$\times$	$\times$	3
20353	1	$\times$	4	7
61297	8	$\times$	7	2
40961	1	2	$\times$	?
61441	2	$\times$	$\times$	?
65537	7	$\times$	$\times$	?

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