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STRUCTURE OF FINE SELMER GROUPS IN ABELIAN p -ADIC LIE EXTENSIONS

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ABSTRACT. This paper studies fine Selmer groups of elliptic curves in abelian p -adic Lie extensions. A class of elliptic curves are provided where both the Selmer group and the fine Selmer group are trivial in the cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension. The fine Selmer groups of elliptic curves with complex multiplication are shown to be pseudonull over the trivializing extension in some new cases. Finally, a relationship between the structure of the fine Selmer group for some CM elliptic curves and the Generalized Greenberg's Conjecture is clarified.

1. INTRODUCTION

The fine Selmer group (see §2.3) is a module over an Iwasawa algebra that is of interest in the arithmetic of elliptic curves. It plays a key role in the formulation of the main conjecture in Iwasawa theory. Moreover, it enables us to propose analogues of important conjectures in classical Iwasawa theory to elliptic curves over certain p -adic Lie extensions of their field of definition. J. Coates and the third named author initiated a systematic study of the structure of fine Selmer groups and proposed two conjectures (see [CS05b, Conjectures A and B]). While **Conjecture A** is a generalization of the **Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture** to the context of elliptic curves, **Conjecture B** is in the spirit of generalizing R. Greenberg's pseudonullity conjecture to elliptic curves. Recently, there has been a renewed interest in studying pseudonull modules over Iwasawa algebras, [BCG⁺20, LP19]. It is thus natural to investigate **Conjecture B**, and this article makes progress in this direction. These conjectures have been generalized to fine Selmer groups of ordinary Galois representations associated to modular forms in [JS11], and their $\bmod p$ -versions for supersingular elliptic curves have been studied by the second and third author in [NS21]. This article restricts attention to the fine Selmer groups of elliptic curves, with good reduction at a prime p , over abelian p -adic Lie extensions of the base field.

We now outline the main results in the paper. Given a number field F and an odd prime number p , let E/F be an elliptic curve, with good reduction at all the primes of F that lie above p . Consider an admissible p -adic Lie extension \mathcal{L} of F (see §2.2 for the precise definition) with Galois group $\text{Gal}(\mathcal{L}/F) =: G_{\mathcal{L}/F}$. The dual fine Selmer group of E at a prime p over \mathcal{L} is a finitely generated module over the associated Iwasawa algebra (see §2.3). While **Conjecture A** asserts that the dual fine Selmer group over the cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension F_{cyc}/F is finitely generated as a \mathbb{Z}_p -module, **Conjecture B** is an assertion on the structure of the dual fine Selmer group over admissible p -adic Lie extensions of dimension at least 2. This conjecture predicts that the dual

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fine Selmer group over any admissible p -adic Lie extension is pseudonull as a module over the associated Iwasawa algebra. In this article, both conjectures are established in previously unknown cases. Using a result of Greenberg, we prove a general theorem that gives sufficient conditions for the dual fine Selmer group of E over the cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension F_{cyc} to be trivial. More precisely, we have the following theorem (we refer the reader to Corollary 3.5 for finer estimates):

Theorem 3.1. *Let E/F be the base-change of a rational elliptic curve E/\mathbb{Q} . Suppose that it has rank 0 over F and that the Shafarevich–Tate group of E/F is finite. When E has CM by an order of an imaginary quadratic field K , assume further that the Galois closure of F , denoted by F^c , contains K . Then, the Selmer group $\text{Sel}(E/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is trivial for a set of prime numbers of density at least $\frac{1}{[F^c:\mathbb{Q}]}$. In particular, [Conjecture A](#) holds for E/F at all such primes.*

Denote by $F(E_{p^\infty})$ the field obtained by adjoining the coordinates of all p -power torsion points. When p is a prime of good ordinary reduction, using a result of B. Perrin-Riou [[PR81](#), Lemme 1.1(i) and Lemme 1.3] we prove that [Conjecture B](#) holds for special classes of admissible p -adic Lie extensions whenever the dual fine Selmer group over the cyclotomic extension is finite for a CM elliptic curve. We obtain the following result:

Theorem 4.6. *Let E/F be an elliptic curve defined over a number field F . Suppose that F contains the imaginary quadratic field K and that E has CM by \mathcal{O}_K . Assume further that $p \geq 3$ is a prime of good ordinary reduction that splits in K and that $\text{Gal}(F(E_{p^\infty})/F) \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p^2$. If the fine Selmer group over the cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension F_{cyc}/F is finite, then [Conjecture B](#) holds for $(E, F(E_{p^\infty}))$.*

Over the cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension F_{cyc} of F , there is a connection between the Galois group of the maximal abelian unramified pro- p extension of F_{cyc} and the fine Selmer groups of elliptic curves defined over F , see [[CS05b](#), Theorem 3.4]. This phenomenon can be extended to (both abelian and non-abelian) admissible p -adic Lie extensions of higher dimension. In fact, [Conjecture B](#) can be viewed as an elliptic curve analogue of an old conjecture of Greenberg on Galois modules associated with pro- p Hilbert class fields (see §2.4 for the precise statement). This has been explored in [[CS05b](#), p. 827]. It is therefore pertinent to investigate the precise connections between [Conjecture B](#) for admissible, abelian p -adic Lie extensions, and Greenberg’s conjecture. For CM elliptic curves, the [Generalized Greenberg’s Conjecture](#) is shown to be equivalent to [Conjecture B](#) for certain admissible pro- p , p -adic Lie extensions in Theorem 4.9. This result provides a framework for proving new cases of the [Generalized Greenberg’s Conjecture](#). In particular, we prove the following result¹.

Theorem 5.4 and Corollary 5.5. *Let K/\mathbb{Q} be an imaginary quadratic field. If there exists one CM elliptic curve E/K such that the dual fine Selmer group is pseudonull over the trivializing extension $K(E_{p^\infty})$, then the [Generalized Greenberg’s Conjecture](#) holds for K and $K(E_p)$.*

Little is known about [Conjecture B](#) and the [Generalized Greenberg’s Conjecture](#) in full generality. We recall some cases where [Conjecture B](#) is proven in the literature. When there is a unique prime above p in the p -adic Lie extension of interest [Conjecture B](#) is proven in [[Och09](#), Theorem 1.3] and [[She18](#), § 4]. Also, when the p -adic Lie extension has large dimension there are explicit examples where [Conjecture B](#) is known, detailed in [[Bha07](#), Example 23]. Certain analogues of [Conjecture B](#) have also been considered in [[Jha12](#), [LP19](#)]. For evidence towards the [Generalized Greenberg’s Conjecture](#) (both theoretical and computational) see [[Tak21](#), Remark 1.3], as well as [[Min86](#), [McC01](#), [Oza01](#), [NV05](#), [Sha08](#), [Fuj17](#)]. As per the knowledge of the authors, most results in this latter

¹The proof of Theorem 5.4 does not require E to be defined over K . This formulation is used in this introduction, for simplicity.

direction require the crucial hypothesis that p does not divide the class number of the number field. One exception is the result of R. Sharifi and W. McCallum, where the conjecture for $\mathbb{Q}(\mu_p)$ is proven under certain assumptions on a cup-product (see [MS03, Corollary 10.5]); another is of Sharifi [Sha08, Theorem 1.3], where computational evidence for the **Generalized Greenberg's Conjecture** is provided when $F = \mathbb{Q}(\mu_p)$ and $p < 1000$ is an irregular prime. Our approach suggests a new line of attack for the **Generalized Greenberg's Conjecture** even in the case when p divides the class number of the base field.

The paper consists of five sections and an appendix. Section 2 is preliminary in nature; wherein we recall the precise assertions of **Conjecture A**, **Conjecture B**, and the **Generalized Greenberg's Conjecture** and we introduce the main objects of study. In Section 3, new evidence for **Conjecture A** is provided by proving the triviality of the fine Selmer group over the cyclotomic extension. Some simple cases of **Conjecture B** are proven in Section 4. In Section 5 the relation between **Conjecture B** for CM elliptic curves and the **Generalized Greenberg's Conjecture** is clarified. In Appendix A, we provide a proof of Theorem 4.9 in the non-commutative setting.

2. PRELIMINARIES

Throughout this article, p denotes an odd prime number. For an abelian group M and a positive integer n , write M_{p^n} for the subgroup of elements of M annihilated by p^n . Put

$$M_{p^\infty} := \bigcup_{n \geq 1} M_{p^n}, \quad T_p(M) := \varprojlim M_{p^n}.$$

and, when M is a discrete p -primary (*resp.* compact pro- p) abelian group M , its Pontryagin dual is defined as

$$M^\vee = \text{Hom}_{\text{cont}}(M, \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p).$$

Given any p -adic analytic group G , its *Iwasawa algebra* is defined as

$$\Lambda(G) = \varprojlim_U \mathbb{Z}_p[G/U]$$

for U running through all open, normal subgroups of G . When G is compact and p -valued in the sense of M. Lazard, $\Lambda(G)$ is a noetherian Auslander regular ring (see [CSS03, Proposition 6.2]). In the special case when G is abelian with no elements of order p , there is an isomorphism

$$\Lambda(G) \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p[[T_1, \dots, T_d]].$$

where d is the dimension of G as a p -adic analytic manifold. If M is a compact (*resp.* discrete) $\Lambda(G)$ -module then its Pontryagin dual is discrete (*resp.* compact). Given a finitely generated $\Lambda(G)$ -module M , its Krull dimension is defined as the Krull dimension of $\Lambda(G)/\text{Ann}(M)$ and it is denoted $\dim(M)$.

2.1. Suppose that G is an abelian p -analytic group without elements of order p . A finitely generated $\Lambda(G)$ -module M is *torsion* (*resp.* *pseudonull*) if $\dim(M) \leq \dim(\Lambda(G)) - 1$ (*resp.* $\dim(M) \leq \dim(\Lambda(G)) - 2$). Equivalently (see [Ven02, p. 273]), M is pseudonull if there exists a prime ideal \mathfrak{p} such that

$$\text{Ann}_{\Lambda(G)}(M) := \{a \in \Lambda(G) : aM = 0\} \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$$

and $\text{ht}(\mathfrak{p}) \geq 2$ (see [NSW08, Definition 5.1.4]).

Let W (*resp.* M) be a discrete (*resp.* compact) G -module. The profinite cohomology groups (*resp.* homology groups) of W (*resp.* M) are denoted $H^i(G, W)$ (*resp.* $H_i(G, M)$). The subgroup

of elements of W fixed by G is denoted W^G , and M_G denotes the largest quotient of M on which G acts trivially.

2.2. For a number field F , denote by F_{cyc} its cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension. Suppose that $S = S(F)$ is a finite set of primes of F containing the primes above p and the archimedean primes. Let F_S be the maximal extension of F unramified outside S and set $G_S(F) = \text{Gal}(F_S/F)$. For any (finite or infinite) extension \mathcal{L}/F contained in F_S , denote by $G_S(\mathcal{L})$ the Galois group $\text{Gal}(F_S/\mathcal{L})$. Throughout the paper, the focus is on S -admissible p -adic Lie extensions \mathcal{L}/F , in the following sense:

Definition 2.1. An S -admissible p -adic Lie extension is a Galois extension \mathcal{L}/F satisfying the following conditions:

- the group $\text{Gal}(\mathcal{L}/F)$ is a pro- p , p -adic Lie group with no elements of order p ;
- the field \mathcal{L} contains the cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension F_{cyc} ;
- the field \mathcal{L} is contained in F_S .

Next, we record some conjectures pertaining to the modules associated with maximal abelian unramified pro- p extension of admissible p -adic Lie extensions. The first conjecture we mention was formulated by K. Iwasawa in [Iwa73b, pp. 1–2] for the cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension.

Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture. Let $L(F_{\text{cyc}})$ denote the maximal abelian unramified pro- p extension of F_{cyc} and set

$$X_{\text{nr}}^{F_{\text{cyc}}} = \text{Gal}(L(F_{\text{cyc}})/F_{\text{cyc}}).$$

Then, the μ -invariant associated with $X_{\text{nr}}^{F_{\text{cyc}}}$ is trivial.

In [Iwa73a, Theorem 5], Iwasawa proved that $X_{\text{nr}}^{F_{\text{cyc}}}$ is a torsion $\Lambda(\Gamma)$ -module; in view of this result, the **Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture** is equivalent to saying that $X_{\text{nr}}^{F_{\text{cyc}}}$ is finitely generated over \mathbb{Z}_p . When F/\mathbb{Q} is an abelian extension, the **Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture** is known to be true by the work [FW79] by B. Ferrero and L. Washington.

Next, we mention a conjecture of Greenberg (see [Gre01b, Conjecture 3.5]) which is formulated for certain abelian p -adic Lie extensions.

Generalized Greenberg's Conjecture. Let \tilde{F} denote the compositum of all \mathbb{Z}_p -extensions of F and let $L(\tilde{F})$ denote the maximal abelian unramified pro- p extension of \tilde{F} . Then $\text{Gal}(L(\tilde{F})/\tilde{F})$ is a pseudonull module over the Iwasawa algebra $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}_p[[\text{Gal}(\tilde{F}/F)]]$.

2.3. Fix a number field F and an admissible extension \mathcal{L}/F . Write $G_{\mathcal{L}/F}$ for the compact, pro- p , p -adic Lie group $\text{Gal}(\mathcal{L}/F)$ and $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})$ for the associated Iwasawa algebra. The main objects of study will be modules over $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})$ that arise in Iwasawa theory, such as the Selmer group and the fine Selmer group. Let E be an elliptic curve defined over F . Choose a set $S = S(F)$ containing the primes above p , the primes of bad reduction of E/F , and the archimedean primes. Write $S \supseteq S_p \cup S_{\text{bad}} \cup S_{\infty}$, where the notation S_p , S_{bad} , and S_{∞} are self-explanatory. For a finite extension L/F and a prime v of F , define

$$(1) \quad J_v(L) = \bigoplus_{w|v} H^1(L_w, E)(p), \quad \text{and} \quad K_v(L) = \bigoplus_{w|v} H^1(L_w, E_{p^\infty})$$

where the direct sum is taken over all primes w of L lying above v . Taking direct limits, define

$$J_v(\mathcal{L}) = \varinjlim_L J_v(L), \quad \text{and} \quad K_v(\mathcal{L}) = \varinjlim_L K_v(L)$$

where L varies over finite sub-extensions of \mathcal{L}/F . Given any finite extension L/F contained in \mathcal{L} , the p -primary Selmer group $\text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/L)$ and the p -primary fine Selmer group $R(\mathbf{E}/L)$ are defined by the exactness of the following sequences:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\longrightarrow \text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/L) \longrightarrow H^1(G_S(F), \mathbf{E}_{p^\infty}) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S(L)} J_v(L), \\ 0 &\longrightarrow R(\mathbf{E}/L) \longrightarrow H^1(G_S(F), \mathbf{E}_{p^\infty}) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S(L)} K_v(L). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, by [CS05b, Equation (58)] we can relate these groups as follows

$$(2) \quad 0 \longrightarrow R(\mathbf{E}/L) \longrightarrow \text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/L) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{w \in S_p(L)} (\mathbf{E}(L_w) \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p).$$

Define $\text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/\mathcal{L}) = \varinjlim_L \text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/L)$ and $R(\mathbf{E}/\mathcal{L}) = \varinjlim_L R(\mathbf{E}/L)$. It can then be shown (see [CS00, pp. 14–15] and [CS05b, Equation (46)]) that

$$\text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/\mathcal{L}) \cong \ker \left(H^1(G_S(\mathcal{L}), \mathbf{E}_{p^\infty}) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S} J_v(\mathcal{L}) \right)$$

and

$$R(\mathbf{E}/\mathcal{L}) \cong \ker \left(H^1(G_S(\mathcal{L}), \mathbf{E}_{p^\infty}) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S} K_v(\mathcal{L}) \right).$$

Taking direct limits of (2), we obtain that

$$0 \longrightarrow R(\mathbf{E}/\mathcal{L}) \longrightarrow \text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/\mathcal{L}) \longrightarrow \varinjlim_L \bigoplus_{w \in S_p(L)} (\mathbf{E}(L_w) \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p).$$

Finally, we set a notation for the Pontryagin dual of these groups:

$$(3) \quad \mathfrak{X}(\mathbf{E}/\mathcal{L}) := \text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/\mathcal{L})^\vee \quad \text{and} \quad \mathfrak{Y}(\mathbf{E}/\mathcal{L}) := R(\mathbf{E}/\mathcal{L})^\vee.$$

These are compact $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})$ -modules and it follows from (2) that $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbf{E}/\mathcal{L})$ is a quotient of $\mathfrak{X}(\mathbf{E}/\mathcal{L})$.

In this paper, we are interested in a certain class of S -admissible p -adic Lie extensions generated by the p -primary torsion points of an elliptic curve. When the elliptic curve \mathbf{E}/F is clear from the context, we write

$$F_\infty := \bigcup_{n \geq 1} F(\mathbf{E}_{p^n}).$$

It follows from the Weil pairing that F_∞ contains F_{cyc} and the choice of S ensures that F_∞ is contained in F_S . The Galois group $\text{Gal}(F_\infty/F)$ has no p -torsion if $p \geq 5$ (see, for example, [How98, Lemma 4.7]) and contains an open, normal, pro- p subgroup (see [DdSMS99, Corollary 8.34]). In fact, the extension $F_\infty/F(\mathbf{E}_p)$ is always pro- p and hence S -admissible. If \mathbf{E} is an elliptic curve with CM, and F contains the field of complex multiplication, then $\text{Gal}(F_\infty/F)$ contains an open subgroup which is abelian and isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}_p^2 .

2.4. Fix a number field F . In this section, we record the two conjectures formulated by Coates and the third named author in [CS05b] which will be studied in this paper.

Conjecture A. ([CS05b, Section 3]) *Let \mathbf{E} be an elliptic curve defined over F . Then $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is a finitely generated \mathbb{Z}_p -module.*

This conjecture is closely related to the **Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture**. Their connection can be made precise:

Theorem 2.2 ([CS05b, Theorem 3.4]). *Let E/F be an elliptic curve and suppose that $\text{Gal}(F_\infty/F)$ is pro- p . Then **Conjecture A** for E/F is equivalent to the **Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture** for F .*

In [Ari14, Theorems A,C], there are more examples for which **Conjecture A** holds.

The dimension theory for finitely generated modules over Iwasawa algebras allows framing an analogue of the **Generalized Greenberg's Conjecture** in a more general setting. This is **Conjecture B** and concerns the dual fine Selmer group over admissible p -adic Lie extensions (not necessarily abelian) of dimension ≥ 2 . It asserts that this module is smaller than intuitively expected.

Conjecture B. ([CS05b, Section 4]) *Let E/F be an elliptic curve and let \mathcal{L}/F be an S -admissible p -adic Lie extension such that $G_{\mathcal{L}/F} = \text{Gal}(\mathcal{L}/F)$ has dimension strictly greater than 1. Then **Conjecture A** holds for E/F and $\mathfrak{Z}(E/\mathcal{L})$ is a pseudonull $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})$ -module.*

2.5. Fix a number field F and let T denote a finitely generated \mathbb{Z}_p -module, endowed with a continuous action of $G_S(F)$, where S contains the primes above p , the archimedean primes, and the primes v such that the inertia group of v does not act trivially on T . Note that if T is the Tate module $T_p E$ of an elliptic curve E/F , then the inertia group of v acts trivially on T for every prime v of good reduction. Fix an S -admissible extension \mathcal{L}/F . Define the i -th *Iwasawa cohomology group* as the inverse limit

$$(4) \quad \mathcal{Z}_S^i(T/\mathcal{L}) = \varprojlim_L H^i(G_S(L), T), \text{ for } i = 0, 1, 2,$$

where L ranges over all finite extensions of F contained in \mathcal{L} and the limit is taken with respect to the corestriction maps. It is well-known that $\mathcal{Z}_S^0(T/\mathcal{L})$ vanishes (see, for example, [CS05b, Proposition 2.1]). In this article, we consider $T = \mathbb{Z}_p(1) = \varprojlim \mu_{p^n}$ or $T = T_p(E) = \varprojlim_n E_{p^n}$. Here $\mathbb{Z}_p(1)$ denotes the Tate twist of \mathbb{Z}_p . We remark that the dual fine Selmer group $\mathbb{Z}_p(1)$ has also been studied under various guises in [Sch79, NQD92]. The weak Leopoldt conjecture is known to be true for the cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension, see [NSW08, Theorem 10.3.25]. In other words,

$$H^2(G_S(F_{\text{cyc}}), \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p) = 0.$$

Hence $H^2(G_S(\mathcal{L}), \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p)$ vanishes (see [CS05b, p. 815 (20)]). An argument identical to [CS05b, Lemma 3.1] but for the module $\mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p$, shows that this vanishing is equivalent to the fact that $\mathcal{Z}_S^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/\mathcal{L})$ is $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})$ -torsion. Analogously, [CS05b, Lemma 3.1] shows that $H^2(G_S(\mathcal{L}), E_{p^\infty}) = 0$ if and only if $\mathcal{Z}_S^2(T_p(E)/\mathcal{L})$ is $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})$ -torsion, but the equivalent of the weak Leopoldt conjecture is not known in the case of elliptic curves. When $G_S(\mathcal{L})$ acts trivially on E_{p^∞} , then $H^2(G_S(\mathcal{L}), E_{p^\infty}) = 0$ (see for example [CS05b, Lemma 2.4]).

The following notions will be useful in the reformulation of **Conjecture B** in Section 4.2. For $i \geq 0$ and $T = \mathbb{Z}_p(1)$, choose S to be a finite set of places of F containing the primes above p and the archimedean primes. For a finite extension L/F , let $\mathcal{O}_L[1/S]$ be the subring of L consisting of elements that are integral at every finite place of L not lying over S , and let $H_{\text{ét}}^i$ denote étale cohomology. An equivalent definition of the i -th Iwasawa cohomology group is the following (see [Kat06, § 2.2 p. 552])

$$(5) \quad \mathcal{Z}_S^i(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/\mathcal{L}) = \varprojlim_L H_{\text{ét}}^i(\mathcal{O}_L[1/S], \mathbb{Z}_p(1))$$

where L ranges over all finite extensions of F contained in \mathcal{L} and the limit is taken with respect to the corestriction maps. The dual fine Selmer group of $\mathbb{Z}_p(1)$ was introduced in [CS05a]. The

precise definition is analogous to the one for elliptic curves and an equivalent definition has been given in [Kat06, §2.4, p. 554]. In particular,

$$(6) \quad \mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/\mathcal{L}) = \varprojlim_L \text{Pic}(\mathcal{O}_L[1/S])_{p^\infty}.$$

Moreover, there is an exact sequence (see for example, [CS05a, p. 330 (2.6)])

$$0 \rightarrow \mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/\mathcal{L}) \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_S^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/\mathcal{L}) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S(\mathcal{L})} \mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow 0$$

and an isomorphism (see [CS05a, p. 328 (1.2)])

$$(7) \quad \mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/\mathcal{L}) \simeq \text{Gal}(M(\mathcal{L})/\mathcal{L}),$$

where $M(\mathcal{L})$ is the maximal abelian, pro- p unramified extension of \mathcal{L} such that all primes above p split completely. Since the dual fine Selmer group is independent of the choice of S , it is not included in the notation.

3. FINE SELMER GROUPS IN THE CYCLOTOMIC EXTENSION

The results in this section provide evidence for [Conjecture A](#). First, we prove that for a set of ordinary primes of positive density, the Selmer group is trivial over the cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension for rank 0 elliptic curves. Next, we provide evidence for [Conjecture A](#) for a class of elliptic curves defined over p -rational number fields.

3.1. Trivial Fine Selmer Groups in the Cyclotomic Tower. Throughout this section, assume that E/\mathbb{Q} is a rational elliptic curve. Fix a number field F and consider the base-change E/F of the curve to F . Given a prime number p , by slight abuse of notation, we denote by F_{cyc}/F the cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension and by $\Gamma = \text{Gal}(F_{\text{cyc}}/F) \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p$ its Galois group, without mention of the prime p , as it can be inferred by the context.

At a prime v in F , the reduction of E modulo v is denoted \widetilde{E}_v ; it is a curve over the residue field κ_v . Following [Maz72, Section 1(b)], a prime $v \mid p$ is called *anomalous* if p divides $|\widetilde{E}_v(\kappa_v)|$.

In the remaining part of this section, we extend results of Greenberg [Gre99, Proposition 5.1] and C. Wuthrich [Wut07, Section 9] to base fields other than \mathbb{Q} . In [Theorem 3.1](#) we provide evidence for [Conjecture A](#) for elliptic curves over a general number field. We stress that the prime p is not fixed in the remainder of this section and will vary over primes of good reduction.

In the statement of the next theorem we denote by F^c the Galois closure of F/\mathbb{Q} .

Theorem 3.1. *Let E/F be the base-change of a rational elliptic curve E/\mathbb{Q} . Suppose that it has rank 0 over F and that the Shafarevich–Tate group of E/F is finite. When E has CM by an order in an imaginary quadratic field K , assume further that F^c contains K . Then the Selmer group $\text{Sel}(E/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is trivial for a set of prime numbers of density at least $\frac{1}{[F^c:\mathbb{Q}]}$. In particular, [Conjecture A](#) holds for E/F at all such primes.*

Proof. By assumption, the Selmer group over F is finite since both the Mordell–Weil and the Shafarevich–Tate groups are finite. If we further know that p is a prime of good ordinary reduction for E , it follows from Mazur’s Control Theorem that the cyclotomic p -primary Selmer group $\text{Sel}(E/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is $\Lambda(\Gamma)$ -cotorsion (see [Gre01a, Corollary 4.9]). In this setting, let $f_E(T)$ be a power series generating the characteristic ideal of $\mathfrak{X}(E/F_{\text{cyc}})$. Since $\text{Sel}(E/F)$ is finite, $f_E(0) \neq 0$. Denote

by c_v the local Tamagawa number at a prime v and by $c_v^{(p)}$ the highest power of p dividing it. Then, [Gre99, Theorem 4.1] asserts that

$$(8) \quad f_{\mathbf{E}}(0) \sim \left(\prod_{v \text{ bad}} c_v^{(p)} \right) \left(\prod_{v|p} |\tilde{\mathbf{E}}_v(\kappa_v)_p|^2 \right) |\text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/F)| / |\mathbf{E}(F)_p|^2$$

where $a \sim b$ for $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}_p^\times$ indicates that a, b have the same p -adic valuation.

For a prime number p , consider the following five properties:

- (a) p is a prime of good ordinary reduction for \mathbf{E} ;
- (b) \mathbf{E} has no non-trivial p -torsion points defined over F ;
- (c) \mathbf{E}/F has good ordinary reduction at all primes $v \mid p$ and all these primes are non-anomalous;
- (d) the p -primary part $\text{III}(\mathbf{E}/F)_{p^\infty}$ of the Shafarevich–Tate group is trivial;
- (e) p does not divide the local Tamagawa number, i.e., $c_v^{(p)} = 1$ for every prime v of bad reduction.

Since \mathbf{E}/F is assumed to have rank 0, the condition $\mathbf{E}(F)_p = 0$ implies that $\text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/F) = \text{III}(\mathbf{E}/F)_{p^\infty}$. It follows from (8) that for a prime number satisfying (a)–(e) above, $f_{\mathbf{E}}(0)$ is a unit.

When $f_{\mathbf{E}}(0)$ is a unit, elementary properties of characteristic power series show that $\mathfrak{X}(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ (and hence $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$) is finite, (see notation introduced in (3)). Equivalently, both $\text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ and $R(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ are finite. When $\mathbf{E}(F)_p = 0$, [Gre99, Proposition 4.14] implies that $\mathfrak{X}(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ has no non-trivial finite $\Lambda(\Gamma)$ -submodules. In other words, $\mathfrak{X}(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is trivial, whenever it is finite. Thus, $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is also trivial. Hence, **Conjecture A** holds for \mathbf{E}/F when \mathbf{E}/F is an elliptic curve satisfying (a)–(e).

To complete the proof, we show that for \mathbf{E}/F satisfying the assumptions of the theorem, properties (a)–(e) hold for a set of prime numbers of density at least $\frac{1}{[F^c:\mathbb{Q}]}$.

When \mathbf{E}/\mathbb{Q} is an elliptic curve without CM, we know by [Ser81, Théorème 20] that all primes in \mathbb{Q} outside a set of density 0 have good ordinary reduction. When \mathbf{E}/F is an elliptic curve with CM by an order in K , Deuring’s Criterion (see, for instance, [Lan87, Chapter 13, §4, Theorem 12]) asserts that the primes of ordinary reduction are those lying above rational primes that split in K/\mathbb{Q} and the density of such prime numbers equals 1/2 by the Chebotarev density theorem. Next, it follows from the celebrated result [Mer96, Théorème] of L. Merel that for all but finitely many prime numbers, we have $\mathbf{E}(F)_p = 0$. Assuming the finiteness of the Shafarevich–Tate group, condition (d) holds for all but finitely many prime numbers, and the same is true for (e) since the local Tamagawa number c_v is equal to 1 at the primes of good reduction.

The analysis of (c) requires more care. By definition, a prime $v \mid p$ is anomalous when $a_v = 1 + |\kappa_v| - |\tilde{\mathbf{E}}_v(\kappa_v)|$ is congruent to 1 (mod p). Observe that by the Hasse bound, $|a_v| \leq 2\sqrt{|\kappa_v|}$. Therefore, if $v \mid p$ is a prime in F that splits completely, so that $\kappa_v = \mathbb{F}_p$, then $a_v \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ implies that $a_v = 1$ for $p > 5$. By the Chebotarev density theorem, the density of rational primes that split completely in F^c is $\frac{1}{[F^c:\mathbb{Q}]}$. Therefore, at least $\frac{1}{[F^c:\mathbb{Q}]}$ of the primes in \mathbb{Q} split in F , as well. By the previous discussion, the density of rational primes which split completely in F and whose divisors are primes of good ordinary reduction for \mathbf{E}/F is at least $\frac{1}{[F^c:\mathbb{Q}]}$. Finally, since \mathbf{E} is defined over \mathbb{Q} , the Modularity Theorem guarantees that \mathbf{E} is associated with an eigencuspform of weight 2. This allows us to appeal to the work of V. K. Murty [Mur97]. We conclude from [Mur97, pp. 288–289 or Theorem 5.1 and Remark 5.2] that for \mathbf{E}/\mathbb{Q} , the set of prime numbers with the property that $a_p = 1$ has density 0. Since for all prime numbers p that split completely and for all

$v \mid p$, we have $a_v(\mathbf{E}/F) = a_p(\mathbf{E}/\mathbb{Q})$, we deduce that the set of prime numbers p such that $a_v = 1$ for at least one $v \mid p$ is a set of density 0. This completes the proof of the theorem. \square

Remark 3.2.

- (1) It should be clear from the proof that one can insist that at all primes dividing the prime numbers in the set of positive density whose existence is stated in the theorem, the reduction type is good and ordinary.
- (2) The key difficulty in extending this result to elliptic curves defined over F is that we rely on [Mur97] to show that anomalous primes have density 0. Since these results are proven for normalized weight 2 eigencuspforms, we need to invoke the Modularity Theorem.

An analogous statement can be proven in the supersingular case as well.

Theorem 3.3. *Let \mathbf{E}/\mathbb{Q} be an elliptic curve, and suppose that $\text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/F)$ is finite. Then [Conjecture A](#) holds for \mathbf{E}/F for all but finitely many primes of supersingular reduction.*

Proof. For an elliptic curve \mathbf{E}/F it is known that the Selmer group is not $\Lambda(\Gamma)$ -cotorsion at a prime p of supersingular reduction, see [CS00, p. 19]. However, there is a notion of \pm -Selmer groups² when $p > 3$, denoted by $\text{Sel}^\pm(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$. In the setting of the theorem, and under the additional hypothesis that $p > 3$ is an unramified prime in F , it is known that $\text{Sel}^\pm(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ are $\Lambda(\Gamma)$ -cotorsion, see [Kim13, first line of the proof of Corollary 3.15]. Therefore, in this case, we can define a pair of signed characteristic power series $f_{\mathbf{E}}^\pm(T)$ for the Pontryagin duals $\mathfrak{X}(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})^\pm$ of $\text{Sel}^\pm(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$. It follows from the definitions that the fine Selmer group is a subgroup of the signed Selmer groups. To prove the theorem it thus suffices to show that either of the signed Selmer groups is finite for all but finitely many primes of good supersingular reduction as this will ensure that the fine Selmer group is also finite and its corresponding μ and λ invariants vanish.

When $\text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/F)$ is finite and $p > 3$ is an unramified prime in F , we know from [Kim13, Theorem 1.2] that

$$(9) \quad f_{\mathbf{E}}^\pm(0) \sim |\text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/F)| \prod_{v \text{ bad}} c_v^{(p)}.$$

If $f_{\mathbf{E}}^\pm(0) \sim 1$, then it follows from the Structure Theorem that $\text{Sel}^\pm(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ are finite. To complete the proof we show that $f_{\mathbf{E}}^\pm(0) \sim 1$ for all but finitely many primes of good supersingular reduction.

- (i) Since F is fixed, there are only finitely many primes which can ramify in F . In other words, (9) holds for all but finitely many primes.
- (ii) By assumption, $\text{Sel}(\mathbf{E}/F)$ is finite. There are only finitely many primes which can divide its order.
- (iii) The local Tamagawa number c_v is equal to 1 at the primes of good reduction. Therefore, there are only finitely many primes which can divide $\prod_{v \text{ bad}} c_v$.

Therefore, as p varies over all supersingular primes of \mathbf{E} , both signed Selmer groups $\text{Sel}^\pm(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ are finite for all but finitely many such primes. Hence, $R(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is also finite for such p . \square

Remark 3.4. In fact, more is true. [Kim13, Theorem 1.1 (or Theorem 3.14)] applies in the setting of Theorem 3.3 and ensures that the $\mathfrak{X}^-(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ does not contain any non-trivial finite index submodules. Therefore, if $\text{Sel}^-(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is finite, it must be trivial. Since $R(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is a subgroup

²We avoid giving the precise definition of these Selmer groups because their definition is intricate and also not relevant for the remainder of this paper. For a precise definition, we refer the reader to [Kob03] or [Kim13].

of $\text{Sel}^-(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$, it must be trivial as well. For the assertion that $\mathfrak{X}(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})^+$ has no non-trivial finite index submodules, the additional hypothesis that p is completely split in F is required.

Combining Theorems 3.1 and 3.3, the next result is immediate.

Corollary 3.5. *Let \mathbf{E} be CM rational elliptic curve and let \mathbf{E}/F be its base-change to F . Suppose that \mathbf{E}/F has rank 0, that the Shafarevich–Tate group of \mathbf{E}/F is finite, and that the Galois closure F^c of F contains K . Then **Conjecture A** holds for \mathbf{E}/F for a set of prime numbers of density $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{[F^c:\mathbb{Q}]}$.*

Proof. By Deuring’s Criterion we know that $1/2$ of the primes are supersingular and Theorem 3.3 asserts that there is a contribution of density $1/2$. But, there is also a contribution from the primes of good ordinary reduction by Theorem 3.1. The corollary follows. \square

Let us now turn to a special class of number fields, called p -rational number fields.

3.2. Conjecture A over p -Rational Number Fields. For the number field F and a fixed prime p , choose S to be a finite set of primes of F containing the primes above p and the archimedean primes. The weak Leopoldt conjecture for \mathcal{L}/F is the following assertion (see for example [NSW08, Theorem 10.3.22])

$$(10) \quad H^2\left(\text{Gal}(F_S/\mathcal{L}), \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p\right) = 0.$$

It is known to hold for the cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension F_{cyc}/F (see [NSW08, Theorem 10.3.25]). If (10) holds for a finite set S as above, it also holds for the set $\Sigma = S_p \cup S_\infty$ (see [NSW08, Theorem 11.3.2]). Therefore, the weak Leopoldt Conjecture is independent of the choice of S , when S contains Σ . Henceforth, fix $S = \Sigma$. An equivalent formulation of the **Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture** for F is the assertion that $\mathcal{G}_\Sigma(F_{\text{cyc}}) = \text{Gal}(F_\Sigma(p)/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is a free pro- p group (see [NSW08, Theorem 11.3.7]). Moreover, a pro- p group G is free if and only if its p -cohomological dimension $\text{cd}_p(G)$ is less or equal to 1 (see [NSW08, Corollary 3.5.17]). Combining these results with [Ser13, Chapter I, Section 4, Proposition 21], one obtains the following equivalent formulation:

$$(11) \quad \text{the Iwasawa } \mu = 0 \text{ Conjecture for } F \text{ is true} \iff H^2\left(\mathcal{G}_\Sigma(F_{\text{cyc}}), \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}\right) = 0.$$

To state the results in this section, we recall the notion of a special class of number fields, called p -rational, which were introduced in [MN90]. We refer the reader to [Gra13, Theorem IV.3.5 and Definition IV.3.4.4] for a detailed discussion.

Definition 3.6. Denote by F_{S_p} the maximal extension of F unramified outside S_p and let $F_{S_p}(p)/F$ be its maximal pro- p sub-extension. Set $\mathcal{G}_{S_p}(F) = \text{Gal}(F_{S_p}(p)/F)$. If $\mathcal{G}_{S_p}(F)$ is free pro- p , then F is called p -rational.

Some examples of p -rational fields include:

- (i) the field \mathbb{Q} of rational numbers;
- (ii) imaginary quadratic fields such that p does not divide the class number (see [Gre16, Proposition 4.1.1]);
- (iii) cyclotomic fields $\mathbb{Q}(\mu_{p^n})$, where p is a regular prime and $n \geq 1$ (combine [Gra13, Example II.7.8.1.1] with [Was97, Proposition 13.22]);
- (iv) more generally, number fields F containing μ_p with the property that $\#S_p(F) = 1$ and such that p does not divide the class number of F (see [Gra13, Theorem 3.5(iii)]).

p -rational number fields have been studied by Greenberg in [Gre16], where he explains heuristic reasons to believe that a number field F should be p -rational for all primes outside a set of density 0 (see [Gre16, §7.4.4]). In [BR20, Table 4.1], R. Barbulescu and J. Ray provide examples of non-abelian p -rational number fields.

The following result is easily deduced from the aforementioned results in Galois cohomology. A proof is included for the sake of completeness.

Theorem 3.7. *Let F be a p -rational number field. Then the following assertions hold.*

- (1) *The Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture holds for F .*
- (2) *Suppose that F contains μ_p and that \mathbf{E}/F is an elliptic curve such that $\mathbf{E}(F)_p \neq 0$. Then Conjecture A holds for \mathbf{E}/F .*

Proof.

- (1) Since $p \neq 2$, we can replace S_p by Σ in the definition of p -rational fields. This is because the archimedean primes are unramified in $F_{S_p}(p)/F$ when p is odd. By definition, if F is p -rational, $\mathcal{G}_\Sigma(F) = \text{Gal}(F_\Sigma(p)/F)$ has p -cohomological dimension at most 1. Hence

$$H^2(\mathcal{G}_\Sigma(F), \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) = 0.$$

Since $\mathcal{G}_\Sigma(F_{\text{cyc}}) = \text{Gal}(F_\Sigma(p)/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is a closed normal subgroup of $\mathcal{G}_\Sigma(F)$, it follows from [NSW08, Proposition 3.3.5] that

$$\text{cd}_p(\mathcal{G}_\Sigma(F_{\text{cyc}})) \leq \text{cd}_p(\mathcal{G}_\Sigma(F)) \leq 1.$$

Thus $H^2(\mathcal{G}_\Sigma(F_{\text{cyc}}), \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) = 0$, and the result follows from (11).

- (2) Since $F \supseteq \mu_p$ and $\mathbf{E}(F)_p \neq 0$ by assumption, the Weil pairing ensures that $F(\mathbf{E}_p)/F$ is either trivial or of degree p . Thus, $F(\mathbf{E}_{p^\infty})/F$ is pro- p . The theorem follows from the first point together with Theorem 2.2. \square

4. CONJECTURE B FOR ELLIPTIC CURVES WITH CM: SPECIAL CASES

In this section, we provide evidence for Conjecture B. First, in Section 4.1 we provide sufficient conditions for Conjecture B to hold when p is a prime of good ordinary reduction, see Theorem 4.6. In Section 4.2 we give a different formulation of Conjecture B for CM elliptic curves and prove cases of the conjecture when p is a prime of good supersingular reduction. We start with a lemma about good reduction of CM elliptic curves that can be found extracted from [Rub99, proof of Theorem 5.7(i)].

Lemma 4.1. *Let F be a number field and let \mathbf{E}/F be an elliptic curve with CM by an order inside the ring of integers \mathcal{O}_K of an imaginary quadratic field K . Let p be an odd prime number and suppose the following hypotheses hold:*

- (i) *\mathbf{E} has good reduction at all primes above p .*
- (ii) *The Galois group $G = \text{Gal}(F_\infty/F)$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}_p^2 , where F_∞ denotes $F(\mathbf{E}_{p^\infty})$.*

Then \mathbf{E} has good reduction everywhere over F .

Proof. It follows from the theory of complex multiplication that F contains the Hilbert class field K' of K . Since the extension F_∞/F is a p -extension and $[F(\mathbf{E}_p) : F]$ is prime-to- p , it follows that $F = F(\mathbf{E}_p)$. Therefore, $K'(\mathbf{E}_p) \subseteq F$.

Since all primes above p are of good reduction, we only need to check that at primes away from p , the curve \mathbf{E} has good reduction. This follows from the criterion of Néron–Ogg–Shafarevich, because every such prime is unramified in the \mathbb{Z}_p^2 -extension F_∞/F . \square

4.1. Fix a number field F . We will work in the following setting.

- Ass 1**
- (i) $p \neq 2, 3$ is a fixed prime which splits in an imaginary quadratic field K ;
 - (ii) E is an elliptic curve defined over F with CM by \mathcal{O}_K , and K is contained in F ;
 - (iii) E has good reduction at primes above p ;
 - (iv) the Galois group $G = \text{Gal}(F_\infty/F)$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}_p^2 , where F_∞ denotes $F(E_{p^\infty})$.

In the setting of **Ass 1**, write $H = \text{Gal}(F_\infty/F_{\text{cyc}})$, and fix a finite set S containing $S_p \cup S_\infty$.

Note that **Ass 1** ensures that E has good ordinary reduction at p , see [Lan87, Chapter 13 Theorem 12 (Deuring's Criterion)]. Observe that given any p -adic Lie group \mathcal{G} and a finitely generated $\Lambda(\mathcal{G})$ -module M , the group $M_{\mathcal{G}} := H_0(\mathcal{G}, M)$ is finitely generated as a \mathbb{Z}_p -module.

Lemma 4.2. *Suppose that **Ass 1** holds. Then, the following map of $\Lambda(H)$ -modules is a pseudo-isomorphism, i. e. it has a finite kernel and cokernel,*

$$\mathfrak{N}(E/F_\infty)_H \rightarrow \mathfrak{N}(E/F_{\text{cyc}}).$$

Proof. Let L be a finite extension of F contained in F_S . For each $v \in S$, write $W_v(L) = \bigoplus_{w|v} \mathbb{E}(L_w) \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p$. We have the maps

$$r_{\text{cyc}}: \text{Sel}(E/F_{\text{cyc}}) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{v|p} W_v(F_{\text{cyc}})$$

and

$$r_\infty: \text{Sel}(E/F_\infty) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{v|p} W_v(F_\infty)$$

where $W_v(F_{\text{cyc}})$ (*resp.* $W_v(F_\infty)$) is the direct limit of $W_v(L)$ with respect to the restriction map as L ranges over all finite extensions of F contained in F_{cyc} (*resp.* F_∞). Write $C(F_{\text{cyc}})$ (*resp.* $C(F_\infty)$) for the image of r_{cyc} (*resp.* r_∞). Consider the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & R(E/F_{\text{cyc}})_p & \longrightarrow & \text{Sel}(E/F_{\text{cyc}})_p & \longrightarrow & C(F_{\text{cyc}})_p \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \gamma \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & R(E/F_\infty)_p^H & \longrightarrow & \text{Sel}(E/F_\infty)_p^H & \longrightarrow & C(F_\infty)_p^H \end{array}$$

Note that β is an isomorphism (see [PR81, Lemme 1.1(i) and Lemme 1.3]). Therefore $\ker(\beta)$ and $\text{coker}(\beta)$ are trivial; hence $\ker(\alpha) = 0$. Further, observe that there is an inclusion

$$\ker \gamma \subseteq \ker \left(\bigoplus_{v|p} K_v(F_{\text{cyc}}) \xrightarrow{\delta_v} K_v(F_\infty)^H \right).$$

Now, observe that

$$\bigoplus_{v|p} \ker(\delta_v) = \bigoplus_{v|p} H^1(H_v, \mathbb{E}(F_{\infty,v})_{p^\infty}).$$

This latter object is known to be finite by using an argument identical to [CS05b, proof of Lemma 4.2]. Therefore, by the snake lemma, $\text{coker}(\alpha)$ must be finite. \square

Remark 4.3. Another way to prove this lemma was pointed out to us by the referee. Consider the fundamental diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
0 & \longrightarrow & R(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})_p & \longrightarrow & H^1(G_S(F_{\text{cyc}}), \mathbf{E}_{p^\infty}) & \longrightarrow & \bigoplus_{v \in S} K_v(F_{\text{cyc}}) \longrightarrow 0 \\
& & \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \gamma \\
0 & \longrightarrow & R(\mathbf{E}/F_\infty)_p^H & \longrightarrow & H^1(G_S(F_\infty), \mathbf{E}_{p^\infty})^H & \longrightarrow & \bigoplus_{v \in S} K_v(F_\infty)^H.
\end{array}$$

The map β is the restriction map; it is surjective and $\ker(\beta) = H^1(H, \mathbf{E}(F_\infty)_{p^\infty})$. Similarly, $\ker(\gamma) = \bigoplus_{v \in S_p} H^1(H_v, \mathbf{E}(F_{\infty, v})_{p^\infty})$. To show that $\ker(\gamma)$ is finite, we use an argument similar to [CS05b, proof of Lemma 4.2]. First, recall a result of H. Imai [Ima75, Theorem] which asserts that $\mathbf{E}(F_{\text{cyc}, v})_{p^\infty}$ is finite. Note that $H_v \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p$ and $\mathbf{E}(F_{\infty, v})_{p^\infty}^\vee$ is a torsion $\Lambda(H_v)$ -module (since it is in fact finitely generated over \mathbb{Z}_p). It follows that $H^1(H_v, \mathbf{E}(F_{\infty, v})_{p^\infty})$ is also finite. In fact, $H^1(H_v, \mathbf{E}(F_{\infty, v})_{p^\infty}) = 0$ which can be proven in the same way as [CSW01, Lemma 5.4] using the fact that H_v has p -cohomological dimension 1. Furthermore, since $\mathbf{E}(F_{\text{cyc}})_{p^\infty}$ is finite by a result of K. Ribet [Rib81, Theorem 1], the global version of the above argument ensures that $\ker(\beta)$ is also finite, see also [CS05b, pp. 834–835]. Applying the snake lemma, the lemma follows.

Since \mathbf{E} is an elliptic curve with CM, both G and H are abelian. Under the assumption that $G \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p^2$, we further know that $\Lambda(H) \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p[[T]]$. We now state an equivalent condition for a $\Lambda(G)$ -module to be pseudonull.

Proposition 4.4. *Let M be a finitely generated $\Lambda(G)$ -module which is also finitely generated as a $\Lambda(H)$ -module. Then the module M is $\Lambda(G)$ -torsion. Further, M is $\Lambda(H)$ -torsion if and only if it is $\Lambda(G)$ -pseudonull.*

Proof. Note that $G \simeq H \times \Gamma$ where $\Gamma \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p$. The first assertion follows from the fact that $\Lambda(G)$ is not finitely generated over $\Lambda(H)$. The second assertion is a special case of [Ven03a, Proposition 5.4]. \square

Lemma 4.5. *Let M be a finitely generated $\Lambda(G)$ -module which is also finitely generated over $\Lambda(H)$. If M_H is finite, then M is a pseudonull $\Lambda(G)$ -module.*

Proof. We are grateful to the referee for suggesting the following proof, which is simpler than the one we had in a first version of our manuscript. Since $H \cong \mathbb{Z}_p$, it follows from the structure theory of $\Lambda(H)$ -modules that whenever M_H is finite, then M is torsion over $\Lambda(H)$. The conclusion of the lemma is now immediate from Proposition 4.4. \square

The main theorem of this section is the following.

Theorem 4.6. *Suppose that Ass 1 holds. If $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is finite, then Conjecture B holds for (\mathbf{E}, F_∞) .*

Proof. By Lemma 4.2, if $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is finite, then so is $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbf{E}/F_\infty)_H$. The theorem follows from Lemma 4.5. \square

Remark 4.7. We point out that for a given prime p , we cannot conclude that Conjecture B holds for (\mathbf{E}, F_∞) for a rank 0 elliptic curve \mathbf{E}/F with CM by combining Theorems 3.1 and 4.6. This is because, in the proof of Theorem 3.1 it was required that the elliptic curve does not admit any non-trivial p -torsion point over F . However, in proving Theorem 4.6, we assume that F_∞/F is a pro- p extension; hence F must contain non-trivial p -torsion points.

Another case where we can show **Conjecture B** is the following.

Proposition 4.8. *Suppose that **Ass 1** holds. Further assume that either of the following two conditions hold:*

- (1) $\mathfrak{X}(E/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is a finitely generated \mathbb{Z}_p -module of \mathbb{Z}_p -rank at most 1;
- (2) $\mathfrak{X}(E/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is a finitely generated \mathbb{Z}_p -module of \mathbb{Z}_p -rank 2 and $E(F_\infty)$ has a point of infinite order.

Then **Conjecture B** holds for (E, F_∞) .

Proof. By **Ass 1**, we know that E/F has good reduction everywhere. Next, it follows from [How02, Theorem 2.8] that

$$\text{rank}_{\Lambda(H)} \mathfrak{X}(E/F_\infty) = \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}_p} \mathfrak{X}(E/F_{\text{cyc}}).$$

We explain this briefly. To apply [How02, Theorem 2.8] one must assume that Conjecture 2.5 *ibid.* holds. As mentioned on p. 649 *ibid.*, this conjecture is equivalent to Conjecture 2.6 *ibid.* when all primes above p have good ordinary reduction. This conjecture predicts that $\mathfrak{X}(E/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is $\Lambda(\Gamma)$ -torsion and our hypothesis that $\mathfrak{X}(E/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is a finitely generated \mathbb{Z}_p -module accounts for it. For the final assumption in Theorem 2.8 *ibid.*, the inclusion $\mu_p \subseteq F$ is ensured by the Weil pairing.

First note that if $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}_p} \mathfrak{X}(E/F_{\text{cyc}}) = 0$ then there is nothing to prove. Next, suppose that (1) holds. Then, $\text{rank}_{\Lambda(H)} \mathfrak{X}(E/F_\infty)$ is odd, and it is shown in [CS05b, Theorem 4.5-(i)] that

$$\text{rank}_{\Lambda(H)} \mathfrak{Y}(E/F_\infty) \leq \text{rank}_{\Lambda(H)} \mathfrak{X}(E/F_\infty) - 1.$$

Therefore, since $\mathfrak{X}(E/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is a finitely generated \mathbb{Z}_p -module and $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}_p} \mathfrak{X}(E/F_{\text{cyc}}) = 1$, it follows that $\mathfrak{Y}(E/F_\infty)$ is $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonull.

Finally, in case (2), it is shown in [CS05b, Theorem 4.5-(ii)] that

$$\text{rank}_{\Lambda(H)} \mathfrak{Y}(E/F_\infty) \leq \text{rank}_{\Lambda(H)} \mathfrak{X}(E/F_\infty) - 2.$$

Arguing as above, $\mathfrak{Y}(E/F_\infty)$ is $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonull. □

4.2. Reformulation of Conjecture B. Let E/F be an elliptic curve, and let \mathcal{L} be an S -admissible p -adic Lie extension containing the trivializing extension F_∞ . Throughout this section we suppose that **Conjecture A** holds for E/F . Since $G_S(\mathcal{L})$ acts trivially on E_{p^∞} , **Conjecture B** for (E, \mathcal{L}) has an equivalent formulation in terms of the pseudonullity of the Galois group $\text{Gal}(M(\mathcal{L})/\mathcal{L})$, where $M(\mathcal{L})$ is the maximal unramified abelian pro- p extension of \mathcal{L} such that all primes above p in \mathcal{L} split completely. To state this reformulation, recall the following isomorphism from Section 2.5:

$$(12) \quad \mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/\mathcal{L}) \simeq \text{Gal}(M(\mathcal{L})/\mathcal{L}).$$

Reformulation (see [CS05b, p. 827]). *Let E/F be an elliptic curve, and let \mathcal{L} be an S -admissible, p -adic Lie extension over F such that $G_S(\mathcal{L})$ acts trivially on E_{p^∞} . Then $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/\mathcal{L})$ is $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})$ -pseudonull.*

The next result asserts that for an S -admissible p -adic Lie extension \mathcal{L}/F containing F_∞ , the $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})$ -pseudonullity of the Iwasawa module $X_{\text{nr}}^{\mathcal{L}}$ is equivalent to the pseudonullity of a certain quotient module. (The notation $X_{\text{nr}}^{\mathcal{L}}$ was introduced at the beginning of this section). This result is well-known to experts and follows easily from results available in the literature. For the convenience of the reader, a proof is provided here. This theorem holds even when \mathcal{L}/F is a non-abelian S -admissible extension, but in the main body we only provide a proof in the abelian case. For a proof in the non-commutative setting, see Appendix A.

Theorem 4.9. *Let E/F be an elliptic curve with CM by an order in an imaginary quadratic field K such that $K \subseteq F$ and suppose that $\text{Gal}(F_\infty/F) \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p^2$. Let \mathcal{L}/F be an abelian S -admissible p -adic Lie extension containing F_∞ . Then, the following statements are equivalent*

- (1) *The Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture is true for F and $X_{\text{nr}}^\mathcal{L}$ is $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})$ -pseudonull.*
- (2) *Conjecture B holds for (E, \mathcal{L}) .*
- (3) *The Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture is true for F and $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/\mathcal{L})$ is $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})$ -pseudonull.*

Proof. Since E/F has CM by the imaginary quadratic field K contained in F and F_∞/F is a \mathbb{Z}_p^2 -extension, it follows that F contains $K'(E_p)$ where K' is the Hilbert class field of K (see Lemma 4.1). Moreover, since \mathcal{L}/F is an abelian extension containing F_∞ and, by definition of being admissible, it contains no element of order p , it must be a \mathbb{Z}_p^d -extension for some $d \geq 2$. It follows that the only primes that can ramify in this extension are the primes above p and therefore we can assume that $S = S_p \cup S_\infty$.

Equivalence of (1) and (3): We need to show that

$$\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/\mathcal{L}) \text{ is } \Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})\text{-pseudonull} \iff X_{\text{nr}}^\mathcal{L} \text{ is } \Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})\text{-pseudonull}.$$

Write $X_{\text{cs}}^\mathcal{L}$ to denote the Galois group $\text{Gal}(M(\mathcal{L})/\mathcal{L})$. It is known by the work of U. Jannsen (see for example [NSW08, Theorem 11.3.10(ii)]) that there is an exact sequence

$$\bigoplus_{v \in S_{\text{cs}} \cup S_{\text{ram}}} \text{Ind}_{G_{\mathcal{L}/F}}^{G_{\mathcal{L}/F, v}}(\mathbb{Z}_p) \longrightarrow X_{\text{nr}}^\mathcal{L} \longrightarrow X_{\text{cs}}^\mathcal{L} \longrightarrow 0.$$

Here, S_{cs} denotes the set of non-archimedean primes in S which are completely split in \mathcal{L}/F and S_{ram} denotes the set of non-archimedean primes in S which are ramified in \mathcal{L}/F . Note that in our setting $S_{\text{cs}} = \emptyset$ because every prime above p is finitely decomposed in F_{cyc}/F , and $S_{\text{ram}} = S_p$. We have seen in (12) that

$$X_{\text{cs}}^\mathcal{L} = \text{Gal}(M(\mathcal{L})/\mathcal{L}) \simeq \mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/\mathcal{L}).$$

Therefore, to complete the proof of the equivalence it is enough to show that $X_{\text{nr}}^\mathcal{L}$ and $X_{\text{cs}}^\mathcal{L}$ are pseudo-isomorphic. In other words, it suffices to prove that

$$\bigoplus_{v \in S_p} \mathbb{Z}_p[[G_{\mathcal{L}/F}]] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}_p[[G_{\mathcal{L}/F, v}]]} \mathbb{Z}_p = \bigoplus_{v \in S_p} \text{Ind}_{G_{\mathcal{L}/F}}^{G_{\mathcal{L}/F, v}}(\mathbb{Z}_p)$$

is a $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})$ -pseudonull module. We know from [LNQD00, Théorème 3.2] (observe that since F contains $K'(E_p)$, condition (i) *ibid.* is satisfied, by the Weil pairing) that for all $v \mid p$, the decomposition group at v inside $G_{\mathcal{L}/F}$ has dimension at least 2. It follows that $\bigoplus_{v \in S_p} \text{Ind}_{G_{\mathcal{L}/F}}^{G_{\mathcal{L}/F, v}}(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ is $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F, v})$ -pseudonull. This completes the proof of the equivalence.

Equivalence of (2) and (3): It follows from the discussion in [CS05b, p. 825] that

$$(13) \quad \mathfrak{Y}(E/\mathcal{L}) \simeq \mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/\mathcal{L}) \otimes E_{p^\infty}^\vee.$$

Here $G_{\mathcal{L}/F}$ acts diagonally on the tensor product and $E_{p^\infty}^\vee$ is a \mathbb{Z}_p -module with a $G_{\mathcal{L}/F}$ -action induced by the $G_S(F)$ -action. This latter action makes sense because F_∞ is the trivializing extension of E_{p^∞} . In this setting, Conjecture A for E/F is equivalent to the Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture for F (see Theorem 2.2). Therefore, using [Ven03b, Proposition 2.12] and [OV02, Proposition 3.4], the isomorphism in (13) yields that $\mathfrak{Y}(E/\mathcal{L})$ is $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})$ -pseudonull if and only if $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/\mathcal{L})$ is $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{L}/F})$ -pseudonull. Note that in the proof of this equivalence, we did not use the fact that E is an elliptic curve with CM. \square

We now prove a special case of **Conjecture B** in the supersingular reduction setting and provide applications pertaining to universal norms. For the remainder of this section, we work in the following setting:

- Ass 2**
- (i) K is an imaginary quadratic field of class number 1;
 - (ii) E is an elliptic curve defined over K , and with CM by \mathcal{O}_K ;
 - (iii) p is an odd prime of good supersingular reduction for E ;
 - (iv) p does not divide the order of the S_p -class group of $F = K(E_p)$;

Remark 4.10. It follows from **Ass 2**-(ii) that the Galois group $G = \text{Gal}(F_\infty/F)$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}_p^2 and we will henceforth write $H = \text{Gal}(F_\infty/F_{\text{cyc}})$.

Recall that the i -th Iwasawa cohomology group over F_∞ is defined, when $S = S_p$, as

$$\mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^i(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) = \varprojlim_L H_{\text{ét}}^i(\mathcal{O}_L[1/p], \mathbb{Z}_p(1)),$$

where L ranges over all finite extensions of F contained in F_∞ .

Proposition 4.11. *Suppose that **Ass 2** holds. Then $\mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) = 0$. In particular, **Conjecture B** holds for (E, F_∞) and $\mu_{p^\infty}(F)$ is a universal norm from F_∞ .*

Proof. We are grateful to the referee for suggesting the following proof, which is simpler than the one we had in a first version of our manuscript. Using the Poitou–Tate sequence over F as in [Kat06, p. 553 §2.4 (1)], we have that

$$(14) \quad 0 \longrightarrow \text{Cl}_{S_p}(F)_{p^\infty} \longrightarrow \mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S_p(F)} \mathbb{Z}_p \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p \longrightarrow 0.$$

Since p is a prime of supersingular reduction for E/K , we know that there exists a unique prime above p in K . Moreover, p is totally ramified in the extension $\text{Gal}(F_\infty/K)$, see for example [PR04, Section 1]. In particular, there is a unique prime above p in F , *i. e.* $|S_p| = 1$. Combining this with the assumption that the S_p -class group is trivial yields, through (14), that $\mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F) = 0$. By the Nekovar’s spectral sequence (see [Nek06, Corollary 8.4.8.4-(ii)]), we obtain that

$$\mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty)_G \simeq \mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F) = 0.$$

Now, employing Nakayama’s Lemma we conclude that $\mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) = 0$.

Next, consider the exact sequence (see, for example, [CS05a, p. 330 (2.6)])

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) \longrightarrow \mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S_p(F_\infty)} \mathbb{Z}_p \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p \longrightarrow 0.$$

It follows from the first part of the proof that $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) = 0$. Moreover, the same descent argument as above using Nekovar’s spectral sequence shows that $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_{\text{cyc}}) = X_{\text{cs}}^{F_{\text{cyc}}} = 0$: in particular, $\mu(X_{\text{cs}}^{F_{\text{cyc}}}) = 0$. By [NSW08, Corollary 11.3.16], we know that $\mu(X_{\text{cs}}^{F_{\text{cyc}}}) = \mu(X_{\text{nr}}^{F_{\text{cyc}}}) = 0$. Therefore, we obtain that **Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture** holds for F , and we can apply Theorem 4.9, showing that **Conjecture B** holds.

To prove the final assertion, consider the exact sequence (see [CS05a, p. 335 (3.26)])

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \longrightarrow H_2\left(G, \mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty)\right) &\longrightarrow \mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^1(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty)_G \xrightarrow{\tau_{F_\infty/F}} \mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^1(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F) \\ &\longrightarrow H_1\left(G, \mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty)\right) \longrightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

We have shown above that $\mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) = 0$; hence, $\tau_{F_\infty/F}$ is an isomorphism. It follows that $\mu_{p^\infty}(F)$ is a universal norm from F_∞ (see [CS05a, Corollary 3.27] for details). \square

The following corollary provides asymptotics for the growth of the p -primary torsion of the fine Selmer group at each layer of the \mathbb{Z}_p^2 -extension.

Corollary 4.12. *Suppose that one of the following conditions holds:*

- (1) **Ass 1** holds and $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is finite.
- (2) **Ass 1** holds and $\mathfrak{X}(\mathbf{E}/F_{\text{cyc}})$ is a finitely generated \mathbb{Z}_p -module of \mathbb{Z}_p -rank equal to 1.

Then

$$\text{ord}_p\left(R(\mathbf{E}/F(\mathbf{E}_{p^n})^\vee)[p^\infty]\right) = O(p^n).$$

If, moreover, **Ass 2** holds, then $\text{ord}_p\left(R(\mathbf{E}/F(\mathbf{E}_{p^n})^\vee)[p^\infty]\right) = 0$.

Proof. **Conjecture A** holds by assumption in each case and **Conjecture B** holds by Theorem 4.6 in case (1) and by Proposition 4.8 in case (2). The first claim follows from [KL22, Corollary 6.14]³.

When **Ass 2** holds, a better estimate can be obtained, and we thank the referee for this observation. Since F_∞ is the trivializing extension, we have

$$\mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(T_p\mathbf{E}/F_\infty) \simeq \mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) \otimes T_p\mathbf{E}$$

and thus Proposition 4.11 implies that $\mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(T_p\mathbf{E}/F_\infty) = 0$. By the Nekovar's spectral sequence, we also know that

$$\mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(T_p\mathbf{E}/F(\mathbf{E}_{p^n})) \simeq \mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(T_p\mathbf{E}/F_\infty)_{G_n} = 0.$$

Since $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbf{E}/F(\mathbf{E}_{p^n}))$ is contained in $\mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(T_p\mathbf{E}/F(\mathbf{E}_{p^n}))$, the result follows. \square

5. CONJECTURE B AND THE GENERALIZED GREENBERG'S CONJECTURE

The aim of this section is to clarify the connection between the **Generalized Greenberg's Conjecture** and **Conjecture B** for CM elliptic curves. For the sake of brevity, we henceforth refer to the **Generalized Greenberg's Conjecture** as **GGC**.

Both conjectures pertain to the pseudonullity of certain Iwasawa modules. Even though **Conjecture B** was proposed as a generalization of **GGC**, the precise formulation of this connection is rather intricate. Using Theorem 4.9, we make precise in which sense **Conjecture B** for CM elliptic curves is a generalization of **GGC** (see Theorem 5.4).

Fix an imaginary quadratic field K and denote its Hilbert class field by K' . Given an elliptic curve \mathbf{E}/K' with CM by an order in K , set

$$\begin{aligned} F &= K'(\mathbf{E}_p), & F_\infty &= K'(\mathbf{E}_{p^\infty}) = F(\mathbf{E}_{p^\infty}), \\ G &= \text{Gal}(F_\infty/F), & \mathcal{G}_\infty &= \text{Gal}(F_\infty/K), & \mathcal{G}'_\infty &= \text{Gal}(F_\infty/K'). \end{aligned}$$

Note that $G \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p^2$. Set \tilde{K} (*resp.* \tilde{K}' , \tilde{F}) to be the compositum of all \mathbb{Z}_p -extensions of K (*resp.* of K' , of F). Since the Leopoldt conjecture is trivially true for imaginary quadratic fields, \tilde{K} is the unique \mathbb{Z}_p^2 -extension of K . For the rest of this section, we make the following assumption.

- Ass 3**
- (i) p is an odd prime that is unramified in K ;
 - (ii) the prime p is such that $K' \cap \tilde{K} = K$.

³In the statement of [KL22, Corollary 6.14(i)], there is a misprint and the dual sign is missing.

By the theory of complex multiplication, $\mathcal{G}_\infty = G \times \Delta$ and $\mathcal{G}'_\infty = G \times \Delta'$ where $\Delta \simeq \text{Gal}(F/K)$ (resp. $\Delta' \simeq \text{Gal}(F/K')$) is a finite abelian group. Recall from [Ser68, Remark on p. IV-13] that Δ' is a Cartan subgroup of $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_p)$ and hence it either has order $p^2 - 1$ or $(p - 1)^2$: in any case, $p \nmid |\Delta'|$.

Remark 5.1.

- (1) In fact, it is forced by **Ass 3** (i) that $p > 3$. This can be seen as follows: by the Weil pairing $\mu_p \subset F$. If $p = 3$, then $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$; but this contradicts **Ass 3** (i).
- (2) We now discuss **Ass 3** (ii) in a little more detail. This assumption is trivially satisfied when p does not divide the class number of K . But observe that, in general, $K' \cap \tilde{K}$ is contained in the anti-cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension of K , denoted by K_{ac} . For a proof of this fact, see [Fuj13, Lemma 2.2]. Therefore, **Ass 3** (ii) is equivalent to the following condition:

(ii') The prime p is such that $K' \cap K_{\text{ac}} = K$.

To know more about non-trivial examples where this condition is satisfied, we refer the reader to [Bri07]. For a specific example, see Example 4 *ibid*. Moreover, **Ass 3** (ii) is closely related to the notion of p -rationality (see [Bri07, p. 2133]) but we will not discuss this point any further.

Set the notation K'_∞ to denote the composite of the fields K' and \tilde{K} . The theory of complex multiplication guarantees that $F_\infty = F\tilde{K} = FK'_\infty$. Recall that F_∞ is the trivializing extension for the Galois representation associated to $T_p E$ and it is an S -admissible p -adic Lie extension. We note that $F_\infty \subseteq \tilde{F}$.

Denote by $L(\tilde{F})$ (resp. $L(F_\infty)$) the maximal abelian unramified pro- p -extension of \tilde{F} (resp. of F_∞). Denote by \mathcal{F}_S the maximal abelian pro- p extension of \tilde{F} unramified outside S . Set the notation

$$(15) \quad X_{\text{nr}}^{\tilde{F}} = \text{Gal}\left(L(\tilde{F})/\tilde{F}\right), \quad X_{\text{nr}}^{F_\infty} = \text{Gal}\left(L(F_\infty)/F_\infty\right), \quad X_S^{\tilde{F}} = \text{Gal}\left(\mathcal{F}_S/\tilde{F}\right).$$

As in the previous sections, given any extension \mathcal{L}/F , we denote by $M(\mathcal{L})$ the maximal unramified abelian p -extension of \mathcal{L} where all primes above p in \mathcal{L} split completely; this group is related to the fine Selmer group (see (7)). For most of the discussion, \mathcal{L} will either be F_∞ or \tilde{F} . For convenience, the diagram of fields is drawn in Figure 1.

Recall the statement of **GGC** for F (the statement for K is analogous, by replacing $F, \tilde{F}, \Lambda(G_{\tilde{F}/F})$ by $K, \tilde{K}, \Lambda(G_{\tilde{K}/K})$, respectively).

GGC. *With notation as above, $X_{\text{nr}}^{\tilde{F}}$ is a pseudonull $\Lambda(G_{\tilde{F}/F})$ -module.*

The following results are required to relate **GGC** to the pseudonullity of the fine Selmer group. The first lemma assures pseudonullity over a larger tower, once it holds for a proper subextension.

Lemma 5.2 (Pseudonullity Lifting Lemma). *Let $n \geq 3$, let \mathcal{F}/\mathbb{Q} be a finite Galois extension containing μ_p , and denote by $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}$ the compositum of all \mathbb{Z}_p -extensions of \mathcal{F} . Suppose that $\text{Gal}(\tilde{\mathcal{F}}/\mathcal{F}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p^n$ and let $\mathcal{F}^{(d)} \subsetneq \tilde{\mathcal{F}}$ be such that $\text{Gal}(\mathcal{F}^{(d)}/\mathcal{F}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p^d$ for some $2 \leq d < n$. If $X_{\text{nr}}^{\mathcal{F}^{(d)}}$ is $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{F}^{(d)}/\mathcal{F}})$ -pseudonull then **GGC** holds for $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}/\mathcal{F}$.*

Proof. This lemma is a special case of [Ban07, Theorem 12]. Since \mathcal{F} contains μ_p , the technical conditions in the mentioned theorem are satisfied by [LNQD00, Theorem 3.2] or [Ban07, Remark 15]. \square

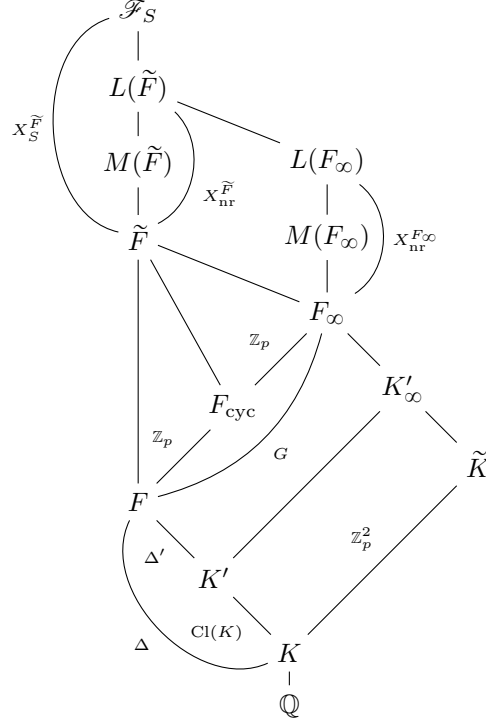


FIGURE 1. The diagram of fields occurring in Theorem 5.4

The next result studies pseudonullity of Galois modules under base change.

Lemma 5.3 (Pseudonullity Shifting Down Lemma). *Let \mathcal{F} be a number field and let $\mathcal{F}^{(d)}/\mathcal{F}$ be a \mathbb{Z}_p^d -extension. Suppose that $\mathcal{F}_1/\mathcal{F}$ is a finite extension and set $\mathcal{K} = \mathcal{F}_1 \cdot \mathcal{F}^{(d)}$. If $X_{\text{nr}}^{\mathcal{K}}$ is a $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{K}/\mathcal{F}_1})$ -pseudonull module, then $X_{\text{nr}}^{\mathcal{F}^{(d)}}$ is a $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{F}^{(d)}/\mathcal{F}})$ -pseudonull module.*

Proof. For a proof, see [Kle16, Theorem 3.1(i)]. \square

The purpose of the next result is to show that **Conjecture B** is indeed a generalization of **GGC**. We resume the notation introduced at the beginning of this section.

Theorem 5.4. *In the setting of **Ass 3**, suppose that there exists an elliptic curve E/K' with CM by an order in K such that **Conjecture B** holds for (E, F_∞) . Then **GGC** holds for K .*

Proof. Let E/K' be an elliptic curve with CM by an order in K such that **Conjecture B** holds for (E, F_∞) . Regarding it as being defined over $F = K'(E_p)$, Theorem 4.9 shows that $X_{\text{nr}}^{F_\infty}$ is $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonull.

Applying Lemma 5.3 with $\mathcal{F} = K'$, $\mathcal{F}_1 = F$, $\mathcal{F}^{(2)} = K'_\infty$, and $\mathcal{K} = F_\infty = FK'_\infty$, the $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonullity of $X_{\text{nr}}^{F_\infty}$ can be shifted down to $\Lambda(G_{K'_\infty/K'})$ -pseudonullity of $X_{\text{nr}}^{K'_\infty}$. Therefore, we have shown that

Conjecture B for $(E, F_\infty) \implies X_{\text{nr}}^{K'_\infty}$ is $\Lambda(G_{K'_\infty/K'})$ -pseudonull.

Another application of Lemma 5.3 with $\mathcal{F} = K$, $\mathcal{F}_1 = K'$, $\mathcal{F}^{(2)} = \tilde{K}$, and $\mathcal{K} = K'_\infty = K'\tilde{K}$, shows that $\Lambda(G_{K'_\infty/K'})$ -pseudonullity of $X_{\text{nr}}^{K'_\infty}$ can be shifted down to $\Lambda(G_{\tilde{K}/K})$ -pseudonullity of $X_{\text{nr}}^{\tilde{K}}$. This is **GGC** for K . \square

Corollary 5.5. *With the same hypotheses of Theorem 5.4, **GGC** holds also for any number field L such that $K'(\mu_p) \subseteq L \subseteq F$.*

Proof. Applying Lemma 5.3 with $\mathcal{F} = L$, $\mathcal{F}_1 = F$, $\mathcal{F}^{(2)} = LK'_\infty$, and $\mathcal{K} = F_\infty = F\mathcal{F}^{(2)}$, the $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonullity of $X_{\text{nr}}^{F_\infty}$ obtained in Theorem 4.9 can be shifted down to $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{F}^{(2)}/\mathcal{F}})$ -pseudonullity of $X_{\text{nr}}^{\mathcal{F}^{(2)}}$. Therefore, we have shown that

Conjecture B for $(\mathbf{E}, F_\infty) \implies X_{\text{nr}}^{\mathcal{F}^{(2)}}$ is $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{F}^{(2)}/L})$ -pseudonull.

As discussed in Remark 5.1-(1), $\mu_p \not\subseteq K$, hence $L \neq K$ and L admits at least two complex embeddings. Letting \tilde{L} denote the compositum of all \mathbb{Z}_p -extensions of L , [Was97, Theorem 13.4] implies that $\text{Gal}(\tilde{L}/L) \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^n$ for some $n \geq 3$. Using Lemma 5.2 with $\mathcal{F} = L$, pseudonullity of $X_{\text{nr}}^{\mathcal{F}^{(2)}}$ as a $\Lambda(G_{\mathcal{F}^{(2)}/L})$ -module implies **GGC** for L . \square

APPENDIX A. A GENERAL RESULT IN THE NON-COMMUTATIVE SETTING

In this section, we prove a non-commutative version of Theorem 4.9. Fix a number field F and let \mathbf{E}/F be a non-CM elliptic curve such at all primes $v \mid p$ the elliptic curve has either potential ordinary or potential multiplicative reduction. Further suppose that F contains the p -torsion points of \mathbf{E} . We choose a set $S = S_p \cup S_{\text{bad}} \cup S_\infty$ and let \mathcal{L} be any S -admissible p -adic Lie extension containing the trivializing extension $F_\infty = F(\mathbf{E}_{p^\infty})$. The following theorem shows that the pseudonullity of $X_{\text{nr}}^{\mathcal{L}}$ is equivalent to the pseudonullity of a certain quotient module. For the ease of exposition, we provide a proof in the case that $\mathcal{L} = F_\infty$.

Theorem A.1. *With the notation and assumptions introduced above, the following statements are equivalent*

- (1) *The **Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture** is true for F , and $X_{\text{nr}}^{F_\infty}$ is $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonull;*
- (2) ***Conjecture B** holds for (\mathbf{E}, F_∞) .*
- (3) *the **Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture** is true for F , and $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty)$ is $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonull;*

If p is the only ramified prime in F_∞/F then the following statement is equivalent to the above ones:

- (4) *the **Iwasawa $\mu = 0$ Conjecture** is true for F , and $\mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty)$ is $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonull.*

Proof. Equivalence of (2) and (3): It was pointed out in the proof of Theorem 4.9 that the argument holds irrespective of whether the elliptic curve has complex multiplication or not.

Equivalence of (1) and (3): This equivalence can be obtained directly from [Ven03b, Theorem 4.9], but we nonetheless provide a proof purely relying on techniques that are more germane to our paper. We need to show that

$$\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) \text{ is } \Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})\text{-pseudonull} \iff X_{\text{nr}}^{F_\infty} \text{ is } \Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})\text{-pseudonull.}$$

Let $X_S^{F_\infty}$ denote the Galois group of the maximal abelian unramified outside S pro- p extension over F_∞ . In our setting, $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonullity of $X_{\text{nr}}^{F_\infty}$ is equivalent to $X_S^{F_\infty}$ being $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -torsion-free (this follows from [Ven03b, Theorem 4.9 combined with Remark 4.12]). Therefore, it is enough to show that

$$(16) \quad X_S^{F_\infty} \text{ is } \Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})\text{-torsion-free} \iff \mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) \text{ is } \Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})\text{-pseudonull.}$$

By [Ven03b, Section 4.1.1] we know that,

$$X_S^{F_\infty} = H^1(G_S(F_\infty), \mathbb{Q}_p/\mathbb{Z}_p)^\vee \simeq \text{Gal}(F_S/F_\infty)_{p^\infty}^{ab}.$$

The following exact sequence is well-known and comes from the rightmost column of the Powerful Diagram (see [OV02, Lemma 4.5])

$$0 \longrightarrow X_S^{F_\infty} \longrightarrow Y_S^{F_\infty} \longrightarrow J^{F_\infty} \longrightarrow 0 :$$

the terms appearing in the above short exact sequence are defined below. Let \mathcal{G} be the maximal pro- p quotient of $\text{Gal}(F_S/F)$ and let \mathcal{H} be the maximal pro- p quotient of $\text{Gal}(F_S/F_\infty)$. Set $I(\mathcal{G})$ to denote the augmentation ideal. Define

$$Y_S^{F_\infty} = (I(\mathcal{G}) \otimes \mathbb{Z}_p(1))_{\mathcal{H}} \quad \text{and} \quad J^{F_\infty} = \ker \left((\Lambda(\mathcal{G}) \otimes \mathbb{Z}_p(1))_{\mathcal{H}} \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}_p)_{\mathcal{H}} \right).$$

Since J^{F_∞} has no non-zero torsion submodules (see [OV03, p. 27 point (iv)]), it follows that

$$(17) \quad X_S^{F_\infty} \text{ is } \Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})\text{-torsion-free} \iff Y_S^{F_\infty} \text{ is } \Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})\text{-torsion-free.}$$

Next, we analyse the right hand side of (16).

Claim: $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty)$ is $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonull if and only if $\mathcal{Z}_S^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty)$ is $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonull.

Proof of the Claim. It follows from the Poitou–Tate sequence that there exists a four term exact sequence (see [Kat06, (2) on p. 554])

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) \longrightarrow \mathcal{Z}_S^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S} \mathbb{Z}_p[[G_{F_\infty/F}]] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}_p[[G_{F_\infty/F,v}]]} \mathbb{Z}_p \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p \longrightarrow 0.$$

To prove the claim it suffices to show that

$$(18) \quad \bigoplus_{v \in S} \mathbb{Z}_p[[G_{F_\infty/F}]] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}_p[[G_{F_\infty/F,v}]]} \mathbb{Z}_p = \bigoplus_{v \in S} \text{Ind}_{G_{F_\infty/F}}^{G_{F_\infty/F,v}}(\mathbb{Z}_p)$$

is a $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonull module. Recall that [OV02, Proposition 3.4] allows us to interpret the notion of $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonullity in terms of the vanishing of certain Ext groups. In view of this, it suffices to show that for all $v \in S$,

$$E_{G_{F_\infty/F}}^i \left(\text{Ind}_{G_{F_\infty/F}}^{G_{F_\infty/F,v}}(\mathbb{Z}_p) \right) = 0 \text{ for } i = 0, 1.$$

Recall the running assumption that E/F is an elliptic curve without CM that has either potentially ordinary or potentially multiplicative reduction at every $v \in S_p \cup S_{\text{bad}}$. Hence, [Coa99, Lemma 2.8] shows that $G_{F_\infty/F,v}$ has dimension 2 at such a prime v . For all $i \geq 0$, [Ven02, Proposition 2.7 (i)] yields the isomorphism

$$(19) \quad E_{G_{F_\infty/F}}^i \left(\text{Ind}_{G_{F_\infty/F}}^{G_{F_\infty/F,v}}(\mathbb{Z}_p) \right) \simeq \text{Ind}_{G_{F_\infty/F}}^{G_{F_\infty/F,v}} \left(E_{G_{F_\infty/F,v}}^i(\mathbb{Z}_p) \right).$$

Since $G_{F_\infty/F,v}$ has dimension bigger or equal to 2 for all $v \in S$, [OV02, Proposition 3.6] guarantees that \mathbb{Z}_p is a pseudonull $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F,v})$ -module or, equivalently, that $E_{G_{F_\infty/F,v}}^i(\mathbb{Z}_p) = 0$ for $i = 0, 1$. Through the isomorphism (19) the $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonullity of the terms in (18) is established, concluding the proof of the claim.

By combining (16), (17) and the above claim, the proof of the equivalence between (1) and (3) is complete if we can show that

$$(20) \quad Y_S^{F_\infty} \text{ is } \Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})\text{-torsion-free} \iff \mathcal{Z}_S^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) \text{ is } \Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})\text{-pseudonull.}$$

We now prove this equivalence. [Ven03b, Proposition 2.16] asserts that $Y_S^{F_\infty} \simeq D\mathcal{Z}_S^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty)$ where D is the transpose of the functor E_G^i , defined in [Ven03b, Section 2.1 p. 5]. It follows from the Powerful Diagram that $pd_{\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})} Y_S^{F_\infty} \leq 1$, see [Ven03b, proof of Theorem 2.15]. Therefore by [Ven03b, last line of p. 5],

$$DY_S^{F_\infty} \simeq E_{G_{F_\infty/F}}^1 \left(Y_S^{F_\infty} \right).$$

Using that D^2 is the identity, we obtain

$$DY_S^{F_\infty} \simeq D^2 \mathcal{Z}_S^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) = \mathcal{Z}_S^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty)$$

and therefore

$$(21) \quad E_{G_{F_\infty/F}}^1 \left(DY_S^{F_\infty} \right) \cong E_{G_{F_\infty/F}}^1 \left(\mathcal{Z}_S^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) \right).$$

By [OV02, Definition 3.2], the module $Y_S^{F_\infty}$ is torsion-free if and only if $E_{G_{F_\infty/F}}^1 \left(DY_S^{F_\infty} \right) = 0$.

Through (21) this is in turn equivalent to $E_{G_{F_\infty/F}}^1 \left(\mathcal{Z}_S^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) \right) = 0$. Recall from §2.5 that $\mathcal{Z}_S^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty)$ is $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -torsion and thus (by definition of the functor E^0), we have that

$$E_{G_{F_\infty/F}}^0 \left(\mathcal{Z}_S^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) \right) = 0.$$

Now, applying [OV02, Proposition 3.4] we obtain (20) concluding the proof of the equivalence.

Equivalence of (3) and (4): By [Kat06, Section 2.5 p. 554], we know that $\mathfrak{Y}_S(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty)$ is independent of the choice of the set S as long as it contains S_p . In particular,

$$\mathfrak{Y}_S(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) \simeq \mathfrak{Y}_{S_p}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty).$$

Under the additional assumption that p is the only prime that ramifies in F_∞/F , it follows from the Poitou–Tate sequence that there is a long exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) \longrightarrow \mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in S_p} \mathbb{Z}_p \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p \longrightarrow 0.$$

Thus, $\mathfrak{Y}(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty)$ is $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonull if and only if $\mathcal{Z}_{S_p}^2(\mathbb{Z}_p(1)/F_\infty)$ is $\Lambda(G_{F_\infty/F})$ -pseudonull. \square

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