

# Computation of the Iwasawa $\nu$ -invariant of certain real abelian fields

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Footnotes:

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Abstract:

Let  $p$  be a prime number and  $k$  a finite extension of  $\mathbf{Q}$ . It is conjectured that Iwasawa invariants  $\lambda_p(k)$  and  $\mu_p(k)$  vanish for all  $p$  and totally real number fields  $k$ . Using cyclotomic units, Gauss sums and auxiliary prime numbers, we give an effective method for computing the other Iwasawa invariant  $\nu_p(k)$  of certain real abelian fields. As numerical examples, we compute Iwasawa invariants associated to  $k = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f}, \zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})$  in the range  $1 < f < 200$ ,  $5 \leq p < 10000$ .

Key words and phrases:

Iwasawa invariant, ideal class group, cyclotomic unit, Gauss sum, Vandiver's conjecture, Greenberg's conjecture

# 1 Introduction

Let  $p$  be a prime number and  $k$  a finite extension of  $\mathbf{Q}$ . Denote by  $k_\infty$  the cyclotomic  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -extension of  $k$  and by  $k_n$  the subfield of  $k_\infty$  such that  $[k_n : k] = p^n$ . Let  $A_n(k)$  be the  $p$ -Sylow subgroup of the ideal class group of  $k_n$  and  $p^{e_n(k)}$  the order of  $A_n(k)$ . Iwasawa proved that there are three invariants  $\lambda_p(k)$ ,  $\mu_p(k)$  and  $\nu_p(k)$  such that  $e_n(k) = \lambda_p(k)n + \mu_p(k)p^n + \nu_p(k)$  for all sufficiently large  $n$  (cf. [17]).

It is conjectured that  $\mu$ -invariant vanishes for all  $p$  and  $k$ . In fact, Ferrero and Washington proved that  $\mu_p(k) = 0$  for all  $p$  and abelian number fields  $k$  in [4]. As for  $\lambda$ -invariant, there are many (non-totally real) number fields  $k$  with  $\lambda_p(k) > 0$  (cf. [9, p. 266]). On the other hand, it is conjectured that  $\lambda_p(k) = \mu_p(k) = 0$  for all  $p$  and totally real number fields  $k$ , which is called as Greenberg's conjecture. At present, we have some numerical examples supporting this conjecture for abelian fields (e.g. [12, 14, 19, 22]). In their methods, cyclotomic units and auxiliary prime numbers are used.

In [13], by a similar method, we verify  $\lambda_p(k) = \mu_p(k) = 0$  for  $p = 3, 5, 7$  and quadratic fields  $k$  with small discriminants, and give an upper bound for  $\nu_p(k)$ . However it is difficult to determine the exact value by the methods, because we need to find a  $p$ -th root of a cyclotomic unit (cf. [26, pp.420–423]). The reason why we cannot determine the exact value in [13] is that we cannot tell which set of auxiliary prime numbers is effective to prove the existence of a  $p$ -th root. In this paper, by using Gauss sums and another set of auxiliary prime numbers, we can find a set of effective auxiliary prime numbers and determine the exact value of  $\nu$ -invariant.

Using our method, we can settle the values of tables in [13] by computer calculation. Moreover we compute Iwasawa invariants associated to  $k = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f}, \zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})$  in the range  $1 < f < 200$  and  $5 \leq p < 10000$ , where  $f$

is the discriminant of a real quadratic field. We can obtain some examples such that  $\lambda_p(k) = \mu_p(k) = 0$  and  $\nu_p(k) > 0$  for large prime numbers  $p$ . Let  $\nu'_p(k) = \nu_p(k) - \nu_p(\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})) - \varepsilon_p(k)$ , where  $\varepsilon_p(k)$  is the contribution to  $\nu_p(k)$  from Dirichlet characters which don't satisfy (D2) in the next section. By the naive argument in [26, pp. 158–159], we deduce that the number of pairs  $(k, p)$  which satisfy  $\nu'_p(k) > 0$  in the range  $x_0 \leq p \leq x_1$  is approximately  $\frac{1}{2}(\log \log x_1 - \log \log x_0)$ . Our data doesn't seem to be much different from it.

## 2 Result

### 2.1 General case

We fix an inclusion map  $\overline{\mathbf{Q}} \hookrightarrow \overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p$ , where  $\overline{F}$  is the algebraic closure of a field  $F$ . Further we fix a primitive  $n$ -th root of unity  $\zeta_n$  so that  $\zeta_{nm}^m = \zeta_n$  for all  $m, n \geq 1$ . Let  $p$  be an odd prime number and  $f_0$  an integer such that  $p|f_0$  and  $p^2 \nmid f_0$ . Let  $K$  be a subfield of  $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{f_0})$  containing  $\zeta_p$  whose conductor is  $f_0$ . For simplicity, we assume the following condition:

$$(C1) \quad p \text{ does not divide } |\text{Gal}(K/\mathbf{Q})|.$$

Put  $f_n = f_0 p^n$ . Then  $K_n = K\mathbf{Q}_n \subseteq \mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{f_n})$ . Further put  $\Delta = \text{Gal}(K_\infty/\mathbf{Q}_\infty)$ ,  $\Gamma = \text{Gal}(K_\infty/K)$  and  $G_\infty = \text{Gal}(K_\infty/\mathbf{Q}) = \Delta \times \Gamma$ .

Let  $\Phi$  be a  $\mathbf{Q}_p$ -valued character of  $\Delta$  which is irreducible over  $\mathbf{Q}_p$ . Put

$$e_\Phi = \frac{1}{|\Delta|} \sum_{\delta \in \Delta} \Phi(\delta) \delta^{-1}$$

the idempotent of the group ring  $\mathbf{Q}_p[\Delta]$ . This is an element of  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$  by (C1). Let  $\phi$  be an irreducible component of  $\Phi$  over  $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p$ . We say  $\Phi$  is even (resp. odd) when  $\phi(\rho) = 1$  (resp.  $\phi(\rho) = -1$ ), where  $\rho$  is the complex conjugate in  $\Delta$ .

Let  $\mathcal{O}_\phi$  be the subring of  $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p$  generated by all  $\phi(\delta)$  ( $\delta \in \Delta$ ) over  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ . We identify  $e_\Phi \mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$  with  $\mathcal{O}_\phi$  by  $\delta \mapsto \phi(\delta)$ .

We fix a topological generator  $\gamma_0$  of  $\Gamma$  such that  $\zeta_{f_n}^{\gamma_0} = \zeta_{f_n}^{1+f_0}$  for all  $n \geq 0$ . We identify, as usual, the complete group ring  $\mathcal{O}_\phi[[\Gamma]]$  with the power series ring  $\Lambda = \mathcal{O}_\phi[[T]]$  by  $\gamma_0 = 1 + T$ . Thus, for a  $\mathbf{Z}_p[[G_\infty]]$ -module  $M$ , we regard  $M(\Phi) = e_\Phi M$  as a  $\Lambda$ -module. Let  $X_\infty = X_\infty(K) = \varprojlim A_n(K)$ , where the inverse limit is taken with respect to relative norm maps. Then  $X_\infty(\Phi)$  is regarded as a  $\Lambda$ -module in the above way. We can define  $e_n(\Phi)$ ,  $\lambda_p(\Phi)$ ,  $\mu_p(\Phi)$  and  $\nu_p(\Phi)$  for  $A_n(\Phi)$  and  $X_\infty(\Phi)$ . Let  $k$  be a subfield of  $K$  and  $\phi(\delta) = 1$  for any  $\delta \in \text{Gal}(K/k)$ . Then, since  $p$  does not divide  $[K : k]$ ,  $N_{K_n/k_n} : A_n(K)(\Phi) \rightarrow A_n(k)(\Phi)$  is an isomorphism.

From now on, let  $\Psi$  be a non-trivial *even*  $\mathbf{Q}_p$ -valued character of  $\Delta$  which is irreducible over  $\mathbf{Q}_p$  and  $\psi$  its fixed irreducible component of  $\Psi$  over  $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p$ . Put  $\Psi^* = \Psi^{-1}\omega$  and  $\psi^* = \psi^{-1}\omega$ , where  $\omega$  is the Teichmüller character  $\mathbf{Z}/p\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_p$  ( $\omega(a) \equiv a \pmod{p}$ ). We denote by  $\mathcal{O}$  both  $\mathcal{O}_\psi$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{\psi^*}$ . We fix a prime element  $\pi$  of  $\mathcal{O}$ .

Let  $L_p(s, \psi)$  be the  $p$ -adic  $L$ -function associated to  $\psi$  which is constructed in [20]. By [16, §6], there uniquely exists  $G_\Psi(T) \in \mathcal{O}[[T]]$  satisfying  $G_\Psi((1 + f_0)^{1-s} - 1) = L_p(s, \psi)$  for all  $s \in \mathbf{Z}_p$ . In [4], it is shown that  $\pi$  does not divide  $G_\Psi(T)$ . Therefore, by the  $p$ -adic Weierstrass preparation theorem, we can uniquely write  $G_\Psi(T) = g_\Psi(T)u_\Psi(T)$ , where  $g_\Psi(T)$  is a distinguished polynomial of  $\mathcal{O}[T]$  and  $u_\Psi(T)$  is an invertible element of  $\mathcal{O}[[T]]$ . In a similar way, we can define  $g_\Psi^*(T) \in \mathcal{O}[T]$  from the power series  $G_\Psi^*(T) \in \mathcal{O}[[T]]$  satisfying  $G_\Psi^*((1 + f_0)^s - 1) = L_p(s, \psi)$ . Put  $\tilde{\lambda}(\Psi) = \deg g_\Psi(T) = \deg g_\Psi^*(T)$ .

Further, for simplicity, we assume

$$(C2) \quad \psi(p) \neq 1 \text{ and } \psi^*(p) \neq 1.$$

For a non-negative integer  $n$ , we denote by  $p^{a_n}$  (resp.  $p^{a_n^*}$ ) the exponent of  $\Lambda/(\omega_n, g_\Psi(T))$  (resp.  $\Lambda/(\omega_n, g_\Psi^*(T))$ ), where  $\omega_n = (1+T)^{p^n} - 1$ . Since Leopoldt's conjecture holds for  $K_n$  and  $p$  ( $[1, 2]$ ), we have  $a_n < \infty$ . Further we have  $a_n^* < \infty$  by (C2). Let  $\mathbf{e}_{\Psi, n}$  (resp.  $\mathbf{e}_{\Psi^*, n}$ ) be an element of  $\mathbf{Z}[\Delta]$  such that  $\mathbf{e}_{\Psi, n} \equiv e_\Psi \pmod{p^{a_n}}$  (resp.  $\mathbf{e}_{\Psi^*, n} \equiv e_{\Psi^*} \pmod{p^{a_n^*}}$ ) and the sum of all the coefficients is zero. Put  $N = N(n) = \max\{n, a_n - 1\}$  and  $N^* = N^*(N) = \max\{N, a_N^* - 1\}$ .

In [12], we define the following polynomials  $X_n(T) \in \mathcal{O}[T]$  and  $Y_n(T) \in \mathcal{O}[T]$ :

$$X_n(T)g_\Psi(T) = p^{a_n} \text{ and } Y_n(T) \equiv X_n(T) \pmod{p^{a_n}}.$$

In a similar way, we define  $X_N^*(T) \in \mathcal{O}[T]$  and  $Y_N^*(T) \in \mathcal{O}[T]$ :

$$X_N^*(T)g_\Psi^*(T) = p^{a_N^*} \text{ and } Y_N^*(T) \equiv X_N^*(T) \pmod{p^{a_N^*}}.$$

We define a cyclotomic unit  $c_n$  of  $K_n$  by

$$c_n = (N_{\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{f_n})/K_n} (1 - \zeta_{f_n}))^{\mathbf{e}_{\Psi, n}}.$$

Let  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_N$  be the ring of integers of  $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{f_N})$  and  $\tilde{\mathfrak{L}}$  a prime ideal of  $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{f_N})$  with  $\tilde{\mathfrak{L}} \nmid f_N$  which is lying above a prime number  $l$ . Denote by  $\chi_{\tilde{\mathfrak{L}}}$  the character of  $(\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_N/\tilde{\mathfrak{L}})^\times$  with values in  $\langle \zeta_{f_N} \rangle$ , defined by the following congruence:

$$\chi_{\tilde{\mathfrak{L}}}(y) = \chi_{\tilde{\mathfrak{L}}}(y \bmod \tilde{\mathfrak{L}}) \equiv y^{(|\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_N/\tilde{\mathfrak{L}}|-1)/f_N} \pmod{\tilde{\mathfrak{L}}}, \quad y \in \tilde{\mathcal{O}}_N \text{ with } \tilde{\mathfrak{L}} \nmid y.$$

We define a Gauss sum  $g'_N(\tilde{\mathfrak{L}}) \in \mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{f_N l})$  by

$$g'_N(\tilde{\mathfrak{L}}) = - \sum_{y \in (\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_N/\tilde{\mathfrak{L}})^\times} \chi_{\tilde{\mathfrak{L}}}(y) \zeta_l^{\text{Tr}(y)},$$

where  $\text{Tr}$  denotes the trace map  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_N/\tilde{\mathfrak{L}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}/l\mathbf{Z}$ . Let  $\mathfrak{A}$  be an ideal of  $K_N$  with  $\mathfrak{A}\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_N = \prod_{i=1}^r \tilde{\mathfrak{L}}_i^{e_i}$ , where  $\tilde{\mathfrak{L}}_i$  is a prime ideal of  $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{f_N})$  lying above  $l_i$ .

We define a Gauss sum

$$g_N(\mathfrak{A}) = \left( \prod_{i=1}^r g'_N(\tilde{\mathfrak{L}}_i)^{e_i} \right)^{f' \mathbf{e}_{\Psi^*, N}} \in K_N^\times,$$

where  $f' = f_0/p$  (cf. [24, Proposition 3.1] and [11, pp.44-45]).

Let  $\mathfrak{L}$  (resp.  $\mathfrak{L}^*$ ) be a prime ideal of  $K_N$  (resp.  $K_{N^*}$ ) of degree 1 lying above a prime number  $l$  (resp.  $l^*$ ). Put  $F_{N, \mathfrak{L}} = (\mathcal{O}_N/\mathfrak{L})^\times / ((\mathcal{O}_N/\mathfrak{L})^\times)^{p^{a_n}}$ ,  $F_{N^*, \mathfrak{L}^*} = (\mathcal{O}_{N^*}/\mathfrak{L}^*)^\times / ((\mathcal{O}_{N^*}/\mathfrak{L}^*)^\times)^{p^{a_{N^*}}}$ ,  $F_{N, l} = \prod_{\mathfrak{L}|l} F_{N, \mathfrak{L}}$  and  $F_{N^*, l^*} = \prod_{\mathfrak{L}^*|l^*} F_{N^*, \mathfrak{L}^*}$ , where  $\mathcal{O}_N$  is the ring of integers of  $K_N$ . For  $L = \{l_i | 1 \leq i \leq s_0\}$  and  $L^* = \{l_j^* | 1 \leq j \leq s^*\}$ , let  $K_N(L)$  (resp.  $K_{N^*}(L^*)$ ) be the group of all elements of  $K_N^\times$  (resp.  $K_{N^*}^\times$ ) which are prime to all  $l_i \in L$  (resp.  $l_j^* \in L^*$ ). We define the following maps:

$$D_{N, L} : K_N(L) \rightarrow \prod_{i=1}^{s_0} F_{N, l_i} \quad \left( x \mapsto \left( (x \bmod \mathfrak{L}) \bmod ((\mathcal{O}_N/\mathfrak{L})^\times)^{p^{a_n}} \right)_{\mathfrak{L}, i} \right)$$

and

$$D_{N^*, L^*}^* : K_{N^*}(L^*) \rightarrow \prod_{j=1}^{s^*} F_{N^*, l_j^*} \quad \left( x \mapsto \left( (x \bmod \mathfrak{L}^*) \bmod ((\mathcal{O}_{N^*}/\mathfrak{L}^*)^\times)^{p^{a_{N^*}}} \right)_{\mathfrak{L}^*, j} \right).$$

We fix a prime ideal  $\mathfrak{L}_i | l_i$  for each  $i$ . Put the first set of auxiliary prime ideals of  $K_N$  (resp.  $K_0$ ):  $L' = \{\mathfrak{L}_i | 1 \leq i \leq s_0\}$  (resp.  $L'_0 = \{\mathfrak{L}_{i,0} | \mathfrak{L}_{i,0} = N_{K_N/K_0} \mathfrak{L}_i, \mathfrak{L}_i \in L'\}$ ). For the if-part of Theorem 1, we will need to have  $s_0 \geq \dim_{\mathcal{O}/\pi} A_0(\Psi^*)/\pi A_0(\Psi^*)$ .

We define a subset of cyclotomic units in  $K_n$ :

$$C'_n = \langle c_n^{T^m Y_n(T)} | 0 \leq m \leq s'_n \rangle_{\mathbf{Z}[\Delta]}$$

and a subset of Gauss sums in  $K_N$ :

$$G'_{N, L'} = \langle g_N(\mathfrak{L}_i)^{T^m Y_N^*(T)} | 1 \leq m \leq s'_N, 1 \leq i \leq s_0 \rangle_{\mathbf{Z}[\Delta]},$$

where  $s'_n = \min\{\tilde{\lambda}(\Psi), p^n\} - 1$ . Let  $L_{N^*(0)}^*$  be the second set of auxiliary prime ideals of  $K_{N^*(0)}$  of degree 1. Using two local images, i.e.  $D_{N, L}(C'_n)$

and  $D_{N^*(0), L_{N^*(0)}^*}(G'_{0, L'_0})$ , we can determine the exact order of  $A_n(\Psi)$  in the following way.

**Theorem 1.** *Assume (C1) and (C2). Then*

$$|A_n(\Psi)| = p^{e_n(\Psi)} \leq \frac{|\Lambda/(g_\Psi(T), \omega_n)|}{|D_{N, L}(C'_n)|}.$$

If  $|D_{N^*(0), L_{N^*(0)}^*}(G'_{0, L'_0})| = |\Lambda/(g_\Psi^*(T), \omega_0)|$  for some  $L'_0$  and  $L_{N^*(0)}^*$ , then the equality holds. Further an equality  $e_m(\Psi) = e_{m+1}(\Psi)$  implies that  $\lambda_p(\Psi) = \mu_p(\Psi) = 0$  and  $\nu_p(\Psi) = e_m(\Psi)$  for any non-negative integer  $m$ .

*Proof.* Let  $K_{n, \mathfrak{P}_n}$  be the completion of  $K_n$  at  $\mathfrak{P}_n|p$  and  $\mathcal{U}_{\mathfrak{P}_n}$  the group of principal units of  $K_{n, \mathfrak{P}_n}$ . Put  $\mathcal{U}_n = \prod_{\mathfrak{P}_n|p} \mathcal{U}_{\mathfrak{P}_n}$ . Let  $d_n$  be the diagonal map:

$$d_n : K_n^\times \rightarrow \prod_{\mathfrak{P}_n|p} K_{n, \mathfrak{P}_n}^\times \quad (x \mapsto (x, x, \dots, x)).$$

We denote by  $E_n$  the group of units of  $K_n$  and by  $C_n$  the group of cyclotomic units of  $K_n$  in the sense of [8]. Put

$$\mathcal{E}_n = \overline{\mathcal{U}_n \cap d_n(E_n)} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{C}_n = \overline{\mathcal{U}_n \cap d_n(C_n)},$$

where  $\overline{A}$  is the topological closure in  $\mathcal{U}_n$ . By (C2) and [8, Theorem 2], we have the following  $\Lambda$ -isomorphisms:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{U}_n(\Psi) & \simeq & \Lambda/(\omega_n) \\ \cup | & & \cup | \\ \mathcal{E}_n(\Psi) & \simeq & V_n \\ \cup | & & \cup | \\ \mathcal{C}_n(\Psi) & \simeq & (g_\Psi(T), \omega_n)/(\omega_n). \end{array}$$

By the Iwasawa main conjecture proved in [10, 23, 27], we have

$$\begin{aligned} p^{e_n(\Psi)} &= |A_n(\Psi)| = |\mathcal{E}_n(\Psi)/\mathcal{C}_n(\Psi)| = |\mathcal{U}_n(\Psi)/\mathcal{C}_n(\Psi)|/|\mathcal{U}_n(\Psi)/\mathcal{E}_n(\Psi)| \\ &= |\Lambda/(g_\Psi(T), \omega_n)|/|\mathcal{U}_n(\Psi)^{p^{a_n}}/\mathcal{E}_n(\Psi)^{p^{a_n}}| \\ &= |\Lambda/(g_\Psi(T), \omega_n)|/|\mathcal{C}'_n(\Psi)/\mathcal{E}_n(\Psi)^{p^{a_n}}|, \end{aligned}$$



where  $\mathcal{C}'_n = \overline{\mathcal{U}_n \cap (d_n(\mathcal{C}'_n)\mathcal{C}_n^{p^{a_n}})}$ . Leopoldt's conjecture implies that  $E_n/E_n^{p^{a_n}} \simeq \mathcal{E}_n/\mathcal{E}_n^{p^{a_n}}$ . Hence we have the following map:

$$(C'_n E_n^{p^{a_n}}/E_n^{p^{a_n}})(\Psi) \simeq \mathcal{C}'_n(\Psi)/\mathcal{E}_n(\Psi)^{p^{a_n}} \rightarrow D_{N,L}(C'_n).$$

Since this map is surjective, the first assertion of the theorem follows. We will show that it is an isomorphism if  $|D_{N^*,L^*}(G'_{N,L'})| = |\Lambda/(g_\Psi^*(T), \omega_N)|$ . Denote by  $\tau$  the canonical isomorphism:

$$\tau : (\mathbf{Z}/f_N l \mathbf{Z})^\times \rightarrow \text{Gal}(\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{f_N l})/\mathbf{Q}) \quad (m \bmod f_N l \mapsto \tau_m (\zeta_{f_N l}^m = \zeta_{f_N l}^m)).$$

Put

$$\theta_N = \sum_{1 \leq m < f_N, (m, f_N)=1} \left(1 - \frac{m}{f_N}\right) \tau_{m|K_N} \in \mathbf{Q}[\text{Gal}(K_N/\mathbf{Q})].$$

By Stickelberger's theorem ([24, Proposition 3.1]), for any sufficiently large  $m$ , there exists  $g' \in K_N^\times$  such that

$$(g_N(\mathfrak{L}_i)) = \mathfrak{L}_i^{f' e_{\Psi^*, m} \theta_N} (g'^{p^{a_N^*}}).$$

We here have

$$\begin{aligned} & e_{\Psi^*, m} \theta_N Y_N^*(T) \\ &= (e_{\Psi^*} + p^m Z) \theta_N Y_N^*(T) \\ &\equiv g_\Psi^*(T) u(T) (X_N^*(T) + p^{a_N^*} W(T)) e_{\Psi^*} + p^m Z \theta_N Y_N^*(T) \pmod{\omega_N} \\ &\equiv p^{a_N^*} (1 + W(T) g_\Psi^*(T)) u(T) e_{\Psi^*} + p^m Z \theta_N Y_N^*(T) \pmod{\omega_N} \end{aligned}$$

for some  $Z \in \mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ ,  $W(T) \in \mathcal{O}[T]$  and  $u(T) \in \mathcal{O}[[T]]^\times$ . Let  $L_N$  be the maximal unramified abelian  $p$ -extension of  $K_N$ . Let  $L_N(\Psi^*)$  be the subfield of  $L_N$  corresponding to  $\prod_{\Phi \neq \Psi^*} \text{Gal}(L_N/K_N)(\Phi)$ , where  $\Phi$  runs over every  $\mathbf{Q}_p$ -valued character of  $\Delta$  which is irreducible over  $\mathbf{Q}_p$ . We denote by  $\left(\frac{L_N/K_N}{\mathfrak{L}_i}\right)$  the Artin symbol. Put

$$\sigma_{\mathfrak{L}_i} = \left(\frac{L_N(\Psi^*)/K_N}{\mathfrak{L}_i}\right) = \left(\frac{L_N(\Psi^*)/K_N}{\mathfrak{L}_i}\right)^{e_{\Psi^*}} = \left(\frac{L_N/K_N}{\mathfrak{L}_i}\right)^{e_{\Psi^*}}_{|L_N(\Psi^*)}.$$

Then, by Stickelberger's theorem, we have  $\sigma_{\mathfrak{L}_i}^{g_{\Psi}^*(T)} = 1$ . Let us consider the following map:

$$A_N(\Psi^*) \rightarrow K_N^\times / (K_N^\times)^{p^{a_N^*}} \quad (Cl(\mathfrak{A}) \mapsto \alpha^{e_{\Psi^*, N}} \bmod (K_N^\times)^{p^{a_N^*}}),$$

where  $\alpha \in K_N^\times$  such that  $\mathfrak{A}^{p^{a_N^*}} = (\alpha)$ . By the proposition below,

$$|D_{N^*(0), L_{N^*(0)}^*}^*(G'_{0, L'_0})| = |\Lambda / (g_{\Psi}^*(T), \omega_0)|$$

implies that

$$\langle Cl(\mathfrak{L}_i)^{qe_{\Psi^*} T^m} | 1 \leq m \leq s'_N, 1 \leq i \leq s_0 \rangle_{\mathbf{Z}[\Delta]} = A_N(\Psi^*)$$

for some integer  $q$  such that  $p \nmid q$ . By the class field theory, this implies that

$$\langle \sigma_{\mathfrak{L}_i}^{T^m} | 1 \leq m \leq s'_N, 1 \leq i \leq s_0 \rangle_{\mathbf{Z}[\Delta]} = \text{Gal}(L_N(\Psi^*) / K_N).$$

For  $c \in C'_n$ , since  $d_n(c) \in C'_n(\Psi) E_n^{p^{a_n}} \subseteq \mathcal{U}_n^{p^{a_n}}$ ,  $K_N(\sqrt[p^{a_n}]{c}) \subseteq L_N(\Psi^*)$ . Furthermore, because  $\{\sigma_{\mathfrak{L}_i} | 1 \leq i \leq s_0\}$  generate  $\text{Gal}(L_N(\Psi^*) / K_N)$  over  $\Lambda$ ,  $K_N(\sqrt[p^{a_n}]{c}) = K_N$  (i.e.  $c \in (K_N^\times)^{p^{a_n}}$ ) if and only if  $c \bmod \mathfrak{L} \in ((\mathcal{O}_N / \mathfrak{L})^\times)^{p^{a_n}}$  for all  $\mathfrak{L} | l_i$  and  $l_i \in L$ . This implies that  $C'_n(\Psi) / \mathcal{E}_n(\Psi)^{p^{a_n}} \simeq D_{N, L}(C'_n)$ .

Therefore the above assertion follows.

By (C2), we have  $A_n(\Psi) \simeq X_\infty(\Psi) / \omega_n X_\infty(\Psi)$  (cf.[12, p. 731]). If  $|A_m(\Psi)| = |A_{m+1}(\Psi)|$ , then  $\omega_m X_\infty(\Psi) = \omega_{m+1} X_\infty(\Psi) \subseteq (p, T) \omega_m X_\infty(\Psi)$ . By Nakayama's lemma, we have  $\omega_m X_\infty(\Psi) = 0$ . Therefore  $A_n(\Psi) \simeq X_\infty(\Psi)$  for  $n \geq m$  and the last assertion follows.  $\square$

**Proposition 1.** *In the above setting,  $|D_{N^*, L^*}^*(G'_{N, L'})| = |\Lambda / (g_{\Psi}^*(T), \omega_N)|$  holds for some  $L^*$  if and only if  $|D_{N^*(0), L_{N^*(0)}^*}^*(G'_{0, L'_0})| = |\Lambda / (g_{\Psi}^*(T), \omega_0)|$  holds for some  $L_{N^*(0)}^*$ .*

*Proof.* By the main conjecture and (C2), we have  $|A_N(\Psi^*)| = |\Lambda / (g_{\Psi}^*(T), \omega_N)|$ . Hence, if

$$|D_{N^*, L^*}^*(G'_{N, L'})| = |\Lambda / (g_{\Psi}^*(T), \omega_N)|,$$

then

$$\langle \sigma_{\mathfrak{L}_i}^{T^m} | 1 \leq m \leq s'_N, 1 \leq i \leq s_0 \rangle_{\mathbf{Z}[\Delta]} = \text{Gal}(L_N(\Psi^*)/K_N).$$

By class field theory, we have

$$\sigma_{\mathfrak{L}_i}|_{L_0(\Psi^*)} = \left( \frac{L_0(\Psi^*)/K_0}{N_{K_N/K_0}\mathfrak{L}_i} \right) = \left( \frac{L_0(\Psi^*)/K_0}{\mathfrak{L}_{i,0}} \right) = \sigma_{\mathfrak{L}_{i,0}}.$$

Hence, by Nakayama's lemma,

$$\langle \sigma_{\mathfrak{L}_i}^{T^m} | 1 \leq m \leq s'_N, 1 \leq i \leq s_0 \rangle_{\mathbf{Z}[\Delta]} = \text{Gal}(L_N(\Psi^*)/K_N)$$

if and only if

$$\langle \sigma_{\mathfrak{L}_{i,0}} | 1 \leq i \leq s_0 \rangle_{\mathbf{Z}[\Delta]} = \text{Gal}(L_0(\Psi^*)/K_0).$$

The Chebotarev density theorem guarantees existence of  $L^*$  and  $L_{N^*(0)}^*$  when the above equalities hold.

□

## 2.2 Special case

We explain how to use the criterion in practice. Following [13], we consider the following case.

(D1) The exponent of  $\text{Gal}(K/\mathbf{Q})$  divides  $p - 1$ .

(D2)  $\psi(p) \neq 1$  and  $\psi^*(p) \neq 1$ .

(D3)  $g_\psi(T) = T - \alpha$  for some  $\alpha \in p\mathbf{Z}_p$ .

By (D1), the values of  $\psi$  are contained in  $\mathbf{Z}_p$  and  $\Psi = \psi$ . Put  $\alpha^* = \frac{f_0 - \alpha}{1 + \alpha} \in p\mathbf{Z}_p$ ,  $e = v_p(\alpha)$  and  $e^* = v_p(\alpha^*)$ , where  $v_p$  is the  $p$ -adic valuation such that  $v_p(p) = 1$ . Then we have  $a_n = n + e$ ,  $a_n^* = n + e^*$ ,  $N = N(n) =$

$n + e - 1$ ,  $N^* = N^*(N) = N + e^* - 1 = n + e + e^* - 2$  and  $0 \leq e_n(\psi) \leq n + e$ .

Further

$$X_n(T) = \frac{\omega_n(T) - \omega_n(\alpha)}{T - \alpha} u \text{ and } Y_n(T) \equiv X_n(T) \pmod{p^{n+e}}$$

and

$$X_N^*(T) = \frac{\omega_N(T) - \omega_N(\alpha^*)}{T - \alpha^*} u^* \text{ and } Y_N^*(T) \equiv X_N^*(T) \pmod{p^{N+e^*}},$$

where  $u = \frac{p^{n+e}}{1 - (1 + \alpha)p^n}$  and  $u^* = \frac{p^{N+e^*}}{1 - (1 + \alpha^*)p^N}$ .

Let  $\mathfrak{L}$  (resp.  $\mathfrak{L}^*$ ) be a prime ideal of  $K_N$  (resp.  $K_{N^*}$ ) of degree 1 lying above a prime number  $l$  (resp.  $l^*$ ). Put

$$D_{N,\mathfrak{L}} : K_N(\mathfrak{L}) \rightarrow F_{N,\mathfrak{L}} \text{ and } D_{N^*,\mathfrak{L}^*} : K_{N^*}(\mathfrak{L}^*) \rightarrow F_{N^*,\mathfrak{L}^*}.$$

By (D3), we have  $\sigma_{\mathfrak{L}}^{\gamma_0} = \sigma_{\mathfrak{L}}^{1+\alpha^*}$ . Further we have  $\sigma_{\mathfrak{L}}^{\delta} = \sigma_{\mathfrak{L}}^{\psi^*(\delta)}$  for  $\delta \in \Delta$ . Hence the orders of  $D_{N,\mathfrak{L}}(C'_n)$  and  $D_{N^*,\mathfrak{L}^*}(G'_{N,\mathfrak{L}})$  depend only on  $l$  and  $l^*$ . So we can write

$$|D_{N,l}(C'_n)| = |D_{N,\mathfrak{L}}(C'_n)| \text{ and } |D_{N^*,l^*}(G'_{N,l})| = |D_{N^*,\mathfrak{L}^*}(G'_{N,\mathfrak{L}})|.$$

In this case, we can write Theorem 1 as follows.

**Theorem 2.** *Assume (D1)-(D3). For any prime number  $l$  which splits completely in  $K_{n+e-1}/\mathbf{Q}$ ,*

$$|A_n(\psi)| \leq \frac{p^{n+e}}{|D_{n+e-1,l}(C'_n)|}.$$

*If  $|D_{e^*-1,l_{e^*-1}^*}(G'_{0,l})| = p^{e^*}$  for some  $l_{e^*-1}^*$  which splits completely in  $K_{e^*-1}/\mathbf{Q}$ , then the equality holds. If  $e_m(\psi) = m + e - 1$  for some  $m$ , then  $\lambda_p(\psi) = \mu_p(\psi) = 0$  and  $\nu_p(\psi) = m + e - 1$ .*

### 3 Computation of Gauss sum modulo prime ideal

Let  $l$  (resp.  $l^*$ ) be a prime number such that  $l \equiv 1 \pmod{f_N}$  (resp.  $l^* \equiv 1 \pmod{f_N l}$ ), and  $g$  (resp.  $g^*$ ) a primitive root in  $\mathbf{Z}/l\mathbf{Z}$  (resp.  $\mathbf{Z}/l^*\mathbf{Z}$ ). Let  $s$  (resp.  $t$ ) be an integer satisfying  $s \equiv g^{*(l^*-1)/f_N} \pmod{l^*}$  (resp.  $t \equiv g^{*(l^*-1)/l} \pmod{l^*}$ ). Then, for some ideal  $\mathfrak{L}|l$  of  $K_N$  and  $\mathfrak{L}^*|l^*$  of  $K_N(\zeta_l)$ ,  $s \equiv \chi_{\mathfrak{L}}(g) \pmod{\mathfrak{L}^*}$  and  $t \equiv \zeta_l \pmod{\mathfrak{L}^*}$ . We write

$$Y_N^*(T) = \sum_{j=0}^{p^N-1} a_j (1+T)^j = \sum_{j=0}^{p^N-1} a_j \gamma_0^j, \quad a_j \in \mathbf{Z}.$$

We here identify  $\text{Gal}(K_N/K_0)$  (resp.  $\text{Gal}(K_N/\mathbf{Q}_N)$ ) with  $\text{Gal}(K_N(\zeta_l)/K_0(\zeta_l))$  (resp.  $\text{Gal}(K_N(\zeta_l)/\mathbf{Q}_N(\zeta_l))$ ). Let  $\mathfrak{A}_N$  be the subgroup of  $(\mathbf{Z}/f_N l \mathbf{Z})^\times$  which is corresponding to  $\text{Gal}(\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{f_N l})/\mathbf{Q}_N(\zeta_l))$  by the isomorphism  $\tau$ . Taking an extension to  $\text{Gal}(\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{f_N l})/\mathbf{Q}_N(\zeta_l))$ , we write

$$\left( \sum_{\tau \in \text{Gal}(\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{f_N l})/K_N)} \tau \right) \mathbf{e}_{\Psi^*, N} = \sum_{m \in \mathfrak{A}_N} b_m \tau_m, \quad b_m \in \mathbf{Z}.$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} g_N(\mathfrak{L})^{Y_N^*(T)} &= \left( \prod_{j=0}^{p^N-1} \left( \prod_{m \in \mathfrak{A}_N} \left( - \sum_{y \in (\mathcal{O}_N/\mathfrak{L})^\times} \chi_{\mathfrak{L}}(y) \zeta_l^y \right)^{b_m \tau_m} \right)^{a_j \gamma_0^j} \right)^{f'} \\ &\equiv \left( \prod_{0 \leq j < p^N, m \in \mathfrak{A}_N} \left( - \sum_{i=0}^{l-2} s^{m(1+f_0)^j i} t^{g^i} \right)^{b_m a_j} \right)^{f'} \pmod{\mathfrak{L}^*}. \end{aligned}$$

In order to compute the above sums, it suffices to compute the following discrete Fourier transforms:

$$F(w) = \sum_{0 \leq v < z} \zeta_z^{wv} f(v) = \zeta_{2z}^{w^2} \sum_{0 \leq v < z} \zeta_{2z}^{-(v-w)^2} (\zeta_{2z}^{v^2} f(v))$$

for  $0 \leq w < z$ , where  $z = f_N$  and  $f(v) = \sum_{0 \leq i < l-1, i \equiv v \pmod{f_N}} t^{g^i}$ . Assume  $l^* \equiv 1 \pmod{2f_N l}$ . Since

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i x^i \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} b_j x^j = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_{i \bmod n} b_{(k-i) \bmod n} \right) x^k \in (\mathbf{Z}/l^* \mathbf{Z})[x]/(x^n - 1),$$

we can calculate the above convolutions from a multiplication of two polynomials, or natural numbers. By using fast Fourier transformations repeatedly, Schönhage and Strassen showed that it is possible to multiply two  $n$ -bit numbers in  $O(n \log n \log \log n)$  steps (cf. [18, 4.3.3]). By a similar method, we can effectively compute Gauss sum modulo prime ideal by a computer with a sufficiently large memory.

There are other computations to find a  $p$ -th root of a cyclotomic unit in [6] and [19]. These computations become much more difficult as the prime number  $p$  or the extension degree of the field containing the cyclotomic unit is larger. It is necessary to do the computations with extremely accurate approximations of cyclotomic units.

## 4 Numerical examples

### 4.1 $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f})$

Let  $p$  be an odd prime number and  $k$  the real quadratic field whose discriminant is  $f$ . Let  $\varphi_f$  be the non-trivial Dirichlet character associated to  $k = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f})$ . Put  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f}, \zeta_p)$ . Then we have  $A_n(k) = A_n(k)(\varphi_f) \simeq A_n(K)(\varphi_f)$  by [15]. The following examples satisfy (D1)-(D3) for  $p = 3$ .

**f = 29.**

By computation, we have

$$\begin{cases} \alpha \equiv 18 \pmod{p^3}, & e = 2, \\ \alpha^* \equiv 15 \pmod{p^3}, & e^* = 1. \end{cases}$$

Since  $|D_{1,l}(C'_0)| = p^2$  for  $l = 523$ , we have  $|A_0(\varphi_f)| \leq p^{2-2} = 1$  by Theorem 2. Therefore we obtain

$$e_0 = e_1 = e_2 = \dots \leq (=)0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_p(k) = \mu_p(k) = \nu_p(k) = 0.$$

In this case, we don't need to calculate a Gauss sum.

**f = 761.**

By computation, we have

$$\begin{cases} \alpha \equiv 3 \pmod{p^2}, & e = 1, \\ \alpha^* \equiv 3 \pmod{p^2}, & e^* = 1. \end{cases}$$

Though  $|D_{0,l}(C'_0)| = 1$  for some prime numbers  $l$ ,  $|D_{1,l}(C'_1)| = p$  for  $l = 237397$ . Hence we have  $|A_n(\varphi_f)| \leq p^{2-1} = p$  for  $n \geq 1$  by Theorem 2.

Since  $|D_{0,l_0^*}(G_{0,l})| = p$  and  $|D_{0,l}(C'_0)| = 1$  for  $l = 4567$  and  $l_0^* = 62558767$ , we have  $|A_0(\varphi_f)| = p$  by Theorem 2. Therefore we obtain

$$e_0 = e_1 = e_2 = \dots = 1, \quad \lambda_p(k) = \mu_p(k) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \nu_p(k) = 1.$$

**f = 473.**

By computation, we have

$$\begin{cases} \alpha \equiv 30 \pmod{p^5}, & e = 1, \\ \alpha^* \equiv 84 \pmod{p^5}, & e^* = 1. \end{cases}$$

Though  $|D_{n,l}(C'_n)| = 1$  for  $n \leq 4$  and some prime numbers  $l$ ,  $|D_{5,l}(C'_5)| = p$  for  $l = 2068903$ . Hence we have  $|A_n(\varphi_f)| \leq p^{6-1} = p^5$  for  $n \geq 5$  by Theorem 2.

Since  $|D_{0,l_0^*}(G_{0,l})| = p$  and  $|D_{4,l}(C'_4)| = 1$  for  $l = 1609147$  and  $l_0^* = 22833795931$ , we have  $|A_4(\varphi_f)| = p^5$  by Theorem 2. Therefore we obtain

$$e_n = n+1 \quad \text{for } n \leq 4, \quad e_n = 5 \quad \text{for } n \geq 5, \quad \lambda_p(k) = \mu_p(k) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \nu_p(k) = 5.$$

By the above procedure, we can settle the value in [13].

## 4.2 $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f}, \zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})$

Vandiver's conjecture claims that  $\lambda_p(k) = \mu_p(k) = \nu_p(k) = 0$  for all  $k = \mathbf{Q}(\zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})$ . By computer calculation, this conjecture is verified for  $p < 12000000$  ([3]). We here replace  $\mathbf{Q}$  with  $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f})$  and consider Iwasawa invariants associated to  $k = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f}, \zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})$  and  $K = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f}, \zeta_p)$ , where  $f$  is the discriminant of a real quadratic field.

In the range  $1 < f < 200$ ,  $5 \leq p < 10000$  and  $2 \leq 2i \leq p - 3$ , there are 171981262 pairs of  $(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}, p)$  which satisfy (D1) and (D2). Among them, there are 37140 pairs with  $\tilde{\lambda}_p(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}) = 1$ , 46 pairs with  $\tilde{\lambda}_p(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}) = 2$ , and two pairs with  $\tilde{\lambda}_p(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}) = 3$ . We verified Greenberg's conjecture  $\lambda_p(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}) = \mu_p(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}) = 0$  for each of them by the method in [12]. Except for  $(\varphi_{177} \omega^6, 17)$ , we verified it by using cyclotomic units of  $k_0$  or  $k_1$ . For  $(\varphi_{177} \omega^6, 17)$ , we used cyclotomic units of  $k_2$  to verify it. In the above range, there are 38 pairs which don't satisfy (D2). We also verified the conjecture for each of them. Furthermore, by Fukuda's extended computation of  $p$ -units of real quadratic fields  $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f})$ , we can verify that  $\lambda_p(\varphi_f) = \mu_p(\varphi_f) = 0$  for  $1 < f < 200$  and  $5 \leq p < 10000$  (cf. [5, 7]).

**Proposition 2.**  $\lambda_p(\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f}, \zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})) = \mu_p(\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f}, \zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})) = 0$  for all  $1 < f < 200$  and  $5 \leq p < 10000$ .

In the following tables, we give lists of  $(f, p, 2i)$  such that  $\tilde{\lambda}_p(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}) = 1$  and  $\nu_p(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}) > 0$  ( $\nu_p(\alpha) = e > 1$  or  $\nu_p(\alpha^*) = e^* > 1$ ) or  $\tilde{\lambda}_p(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}) = 2, 3$  among the above 171981262 pairs. For  $p = 7$ ,  $k = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{m}, \zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})$  and  $1 < m < 1000$ , a list of non-trivial cases ( $\nu_p > 0$ ) was given in [22]. Our extended computation coincides with it.



$$\tilde{\lambda}_p(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}) = 1$$

$$\underline{\nu}_p(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}) = 1$$

$f$	$p$	$2i$	$f$	$p$	$2i$	$f$	$p$	$2i$
12	701	542	21	199	150	33	53	30
37	43	32	53	1033	564	69	19	14
85	3697	3086	88	71	26	101	5333	2770
113	43	32	113	3373	1602	124	197	126
124	239	48	129	67	28	140	4751	120
141	5431	4826	149	43	32	149	71	16
149	229	182	157	401	56	161	101	22
168	37	22	172	73	10	173	43	32
173	101	42	181	71	52	181	6991	1628
185	827	354	188	1621	168	197	521	372

$$\underline{\nu}_p(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}) = 2$$

$f$	$p$	$2i$
177	17	6

$$\underline{v}_p(\alpha) = e > 1$$

$f$	$p$	$2i$	$f$	$p$	$2i$	$f$	$p$	$2i$
8	59	36	17	61	32	21	149	128
28	977	828	33	59	42	37	1091	812
41	7	4	41	283	102	44	787	148
53	7	2	53	1879	1158	57	2161	758
61	17	4	61	1747	1270	76	191	84
89	41	10	92	181	124	97	17	4
105	769	524	105	1453	162	120	2749	2196
124	41	30	140	107	74	149	797	140
149	2767	2178	152	17	12	168	43	10
173	13	4	177	31	24	184	373	72
193	7873	1886						

$$\underline{v_p(\alpha^*) = e^* > 1}$$

$f$	$p$	$2i$	$f$	$p$	$2i$	$f$	$p$	$2i$
8	2221	1600	13	109	6	17	1319	88
28	223	126	33	31	24	33	1777	1184
41	19	12	41	421	126	60	19	14
61	7481	3516	73	11	2	73	1487	808
76	1451	418	76	4283	3484	97	367	26
109	41	32	133	1061	446	136	449	284
152	41	2	152	4027	3108	156	4637	2280
157	8221	582	165	29	26	165	89	66
165	1229	48	172	11	4	172	1487	900
177	337	74	184	1171	464	185	167	68
188	89	76						

$$\underline{\tilde{\lambda}_p(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}) = 2}$$

$f$	$p$	$2i$	$f$	$p$	$2i$	$f$	$p$	$2i$
8	1151	842	21	11	4	24	29	4
24	181	84	29	569	64	37	5	2
37	89	66	37	3251	1094	40	257	232
44	653	448	53	193	14	56	1663	616
60	1277	582	60	1481	986	92	5	2
97	271	94	104	19	14	104	7919	4386
105	373	340	109	131	100	109	293	132
109	373	128	124	733	58	124	2111	1480
129	23	4	133	911	196	136	71	20
137	17	8	140	23	10	140	367	292
141	113	108	141	5939	2938	145	43	28
145	61	58	145	167	128	145	4157	3528
149	5	2	149	509	426	161	2389	646
165	11	2	172	13	10	172	47	38
173	7	4	177	157	48	181	223	26
185	17	6						

$$\underline{\tilde{\lambda}_p(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}) = 3}$$

$f$	$p$	$2i$	$f$	$p$	$2i$
165	23	6	185	17	10

As in the argument of [26, pp.158–159], we deduce that the number of exceptions to Vandiver’s conjecture for  $x_0 \leq p \leq x_1$  should be approximately  $\frac{1}{2}(\log \log x_1 - \log \log x_0)$ .

Let us use a similar naive approach. For  $G_{\varphi_f \omega^{2i}}(T) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} a_j T^j$  and an integer  $c$ , we assume that the probability of  $a_j \equiv c \pmod{p^k}$  is  $1/p^k$ . Further, for a cyclotomic unit  $c_0$  with  $d_0(c_0) \in \mathcal{U}_0^{p^e}$ , we assume that the probability of  $c_0 \in E_0^{p^k}$  is  $1/p^k$  if  $k \leq e$ . Then, for a fixed conductor  $f$  and  $x_0 \leq p \leq x_1$ , we deduce that the number of pairs  $(\varphi_f \omega^{2i}, p)$  such that  $\tilde{\lambda}_p = 1$  and  $\nu_p > 0$  ( $e > 1$  or  $e^* > 1$ ) should be

$$\sum_{x_0 \leq p \leq x_1} \frac{p-3}{2} \left( \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{p^2} \right) \frac{1}{p}.$$

Let us apply this to our examples with  $x_0 = 37$  and  $x_1 = 10000$ . Since the number of  $f$ ’s is 60, there should be about  $60 \times 0.44645 \dots$  ‘exceptions’. Our data doesn’t seem to be much different from this number.

For  $f = 1$  (i.e. the trivial character  $\varphi^0$ ), the absolute value of the numerator  $N_{2i}$  of the Bernoulli number  $B_{2i}$  is relatively smaller than that of the generalized Bernoulli number for  $\varphi_f \neq \varphi^0$  and  $2i$ . We had better take this fact into consideration. For example, let  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$  or  $7$ . We easily see that  $p \nmid N_{2i}$  for all  $p \geq 2i + 3$ . By Stickelberger’s theorem, this implies that  $A_0(\omega^{p-2i}) = \{0\}$  for all  $p$ . Further, by Spiegelung relation, this implies that  $A_0(\omega^{2i}) = \{0\}$ . In other words, we have  $g_{\omega^{2i}}(T) = g_{\omega^{2i}}^*(T) = 1$  for all  $p$ . Moreover we can say that  $A_0(\omega^{p-3}) = \{0\}$  for all  $p$  from the information on  $K_4(\mathbf{Z})$  (see [21, 25]). Therefore, excluding these  $i$ ’s, we deduce that ‘the number of exceptions’ to Vandiver’s conjecture for  $37 \leq p \leq q$  ( $q'$ ) might be smaller than  $E$  in the following table.

$E$	$q$	$q'$
0.1	113	149
0.2	419	450
0.3	1667	1737
0.4	8963	9058
0.5	67807	68096
0.6	799417	800172
0.7	16224227	16224227
0.8	640612703	640492743
0.9		$10^{10.75}$
1.0		$10^{13.13}$
1.5		$10^{35.71}$
2.0		$10^{97.07}$

Put  $E_1(x) = \sum_{37 \leq p \leq x} \frac{p-17}{2} \frac{1}{p^2}$  and  $E_2(x) = \frac{1}{2} \log \log x - 0.70476207 \dots$ , where the constant is selected to make  $E_2(16224227)$  close to 0.7. We compute the first prime number  $q$  (resp. approximate number  $q'$ ) such that  $E_1(q) > E$  (resp.  $E_2(q') = E$ ).

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