

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

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*In memory of Professor H. Ogawa*

ABSTRACT. We study the Iwasawa  $\lambda$ -invariant of the cyclotomic  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -extension of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})$  for an odd prime number  $p$  which satisfies  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{16}$  relating it to units having certain properties. We give an upper bound of  $\lambda$  and show  $\lambda = 0$  in certain cases. We also give new numerical examples of  $\lambda = 0$ .

1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $k$  be a finite algebraic number field,  $\ell$  a prime number and  $\zeta_{\ell^n}$  a primitive  $\ell^n$ -th root of unity. There exists the unique intermediate field  $k_\infty$  of  $\bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} k(\zeta_{\ell^n})/k$  such that the Galois group  $G(k_\infty/k)$  is topologically isomorphic to the additive group of the ring of  $\ell$ -adic integers  $\mathbb{Z}_\ell$ , which is called the cyclotomic  $\mathbb{Z}_\ell$ -extension of  $k$ . Let  $k_n$  be the unique intermediate field of  $k_\infty/k$  with degree  $\ell^n$  over  $k$ . Then the class number of  $k_n$  is controlled by the Iwasawa invariants  $\mu_\ell(k)$ ,  $\lambda_\ell(k)$  and  $\nu_\ell(k)$  of  $k_\infty/k$ , which were introduced by Iwasawa [10] and [12]. Namely, if  $\ell^{e_n}$  denotes the  $\ell$ -part of the ideal class number of  $k_n$ , then

$$e_n = \mu_\ell(k)\ell^n + \lambda_\ell(k)n + \nu_\ell(k)$$

for all sufficiently large  $n$ .

Iwasawa pointed out that  $\mu_\ell(k)$  always seems to be zero and Ferrero and Washington [2] proved that  $\mu_\ell(k)$  is zero for any abelian number field  $k$  and any prime number  $\ell$ . Furthermore, Greenberg [7] suggests the possibility that  $\lambda_\ell(k)$  is zero for any totally real number field  $k$  and any prime number  $\ell$ , which is now called Greenberg conjecture.

In 1986, the authors [4] provided a criterion of verifying Greenberg conjecture numerically for a real quadratic field  $k$  and an odd prime number  $\ell$ , and showed numerical evidence for the conjecture by giving a considerable amount of examples which satisfy  $\lambda_\ell(k) = 0$ . At the end of the twentieth century, Kraft and Schoof [15] and Ichimura and Sumida [9] developed a powerful computational technique verifying  $\lambda_\ell(k) = 0$  for any odd prime number  $\ell$  and any abelian number field  $k$  with degree prime to  $\ell$  based on a new idea of using cyclotomic units. In particular, Ichimura and Sumida showed that  $\lambda_3(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{m})) = 0$  for all positive integers  $m < 10000$ . In 2003, Tsuji generalized the Ichimura-Sumida criterion to be applicable to the case that  $\ell$  divides the degree  $[k : \mathbb{Q}]$ .

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In 1973, preceding the work of Ferrero and Washington, Iwasawa [11] indicated the importance of studying the cyclotomic  $\mathbb{Z}_\ell$ -extension of  $k$  when  $k$  is a cyclic extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  with degree  $\ell$ . In fact, he proved that  $\mu_\ell(k) = 0$  for such a  $k$ . It is then considered a fundamental step to study  $\lambda_2(k)$  for real quadratic fields  $k$  from the viewpoint of Greenberg conjecture. It is essentially important to study  $\lambda_2(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}))$  for a prime number  $p$ . The first breakthrough was brought by Ozaki and Taya [19] in 1997. They constructed certain families of infinitely many quadratic fields  $k$  which satisfy  $\lambda_2(k) = 0$  and, in particular, obtained the following result:

**Theorem 1.1** (cf. Ozaki and Taya [19]). *Let  $p$  be a prime number which satisfies one of the following conditions:*

- (1)  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,
- (2)  $p \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$ ,
- (3)  $p \equiv 9 \pmod{16}$ ,
- (4)  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{16}$  and  $2^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ .

*Then  $\lambda_2(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}))$  is zero.*

After Ozaki and Taya [19], the properties of  $\lambda_2(k)$  for real quadratic fields  $k$  have been studied by several mathematicians (cf. [5], [18]). The purpose of this paper is to prove Theorem 1.2 below and Theorem 3.7 in §3.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $p$  be any prime number with  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{16}$ ,  $\varepsilon_0$  the fundamental unit of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})$ , and  $\varepsilon'_0 = a + b\sqrt{2p}$  the fundamental unit of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2p})$ , where  $a$  is a positive rational integer and  $b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $2^s$  be the highest power of 2 which divides  $p - 1$ . Then we have the following criteria concerning the Iwasawa  $\lambda$ -invariant  $\lambda_2(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}))$ :*

- (1) *If  $a \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ , then  $\lambda_2(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})) \leq 2^{s-2} - 3$ .*
- (2) *If  $a^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$  and if  $\varepsilon_0^2 \not\equiv 1 \pmod{32}$ , then  $\lambda_2(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})) = 0$ .*

*Remark 1.1.* Since  $\varepsilon'_0$  is a unit of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2p})$ ,  $N_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2p})/\mathbb{Q}}(\varepsilon'_0) = a^2 - 2pb^2 = \pm 1$ . This means  $a^2 \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{p}$ .

The proofs of Theorems 1.2 and 3.7 are carried out in a different way from that of Theorem 1.1. The key idea is based on the property of units in  $k_n$ , which enables us to evaluate the 2-rank of the subgroup of the ideal class group of  $k_n$  generated by primes lying above  $p$ .

As a computational application of Theorem 3.7, we show in §4 that  $\lambda_2(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})) = 0$  for all prime numbers  $p$  less than  $10^4$ .

## 2. NOTATIONS

We denote by  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathbb{Q}$  the ring of integers and the field of rational numbers, respectively. For elements  $g_1, g_2, \dots, g_r$  of a group  $G$ , we denote by  $\langle g_1, g_2, \dots, g_r \rangle$  the subgroup of  $G$  generated by  $g_1, g_2, \dots, g_r$ . Let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$ . We denote by  $G/N$  the factor group of  $G$  over  $N$  and by  $[G : N]$  the group index of  $N$  in  $G$ . For a finite algebraic extension  $K$  over  $k$ ,  $N_{K/k}$  means the norm mapping of  $K$  over  $k$  and if  $K$  is a Galois extension over  $k$ ,  $G(K/k)$  means the Galois group of  $K$  over  $k$ . If  $k$  is an algebraic number field, we denote by  $\Omega_k$  and  $E_k$  the integer ring of  $k$  and the unit group of  $k$ , respectively. For an element  $\alpha$  of  $\Omega_k$ , we denote by  $\alpha\Omega_k$  the principal ideal of  $\Omega_k$  generated by  $\alpha$ . We denote by  $\zeta_{2^n}$  a primitive  $2^n$ -th root of unity in the complex number field  $\mathbb{C}$ . Let  $\ell$  be a prime number and

$\mathbb{Z}_\ell$  the  $\ell$ -adic integer ring. We denote by  $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}_\ell[[T]]$  the ring of formal power series in an indeterminate  $T$  over  $\mathbb{Z}_\ell$ .

### 3. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.2

Let  $p$  be a prime number,  $n$  a nonnegative integer and  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})$ . We put  $\alpha_n = 2\cos(2\pi/2^{n+2})$ . It is well known that the field  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)$  is a cyclic extension over  $\mathbb{Q}$  with degree  $2^n$ . Since  $\alpha_{n+1} = \sqrt{2 + \alpha_n}$ , we have  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n) \subset \mathbb{Q}(\alpha_{n+1})$ . Hence  $\mathbb{Q}_\infty = \bigcup_{n=0}^\infty \mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)$  is the unique  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ , which is called the cyclotomic  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . We put  $k_n = k(\alpha_n)$  and  $k_\infty = k\mathbb{Q}_\infty$ . Then  $k_\infty$  is the unique  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -extension of  $k$ . Let  $M_n$  be the maximal abelian 2-extension of  $k_n$  unramified outside 2 and  $L_n$  the maximal abelian unramified 2-extension of  $k_n$ . Then  $M_\infty = \bigcup_{n=0}^\infty M_n$  and  $L_\infty = \bigcup_{n=0}^\infty L_n$  are the maximal abelian 2-extension of  $k_\infty$  unramified outside 2 and the maximal abelian unramified 2-extension of  $k_\infty$ , respectively. Moreover, we put  $I_n = G(M_n/L_n)$ ,  $I_\infty = G(M_\infty/L_\infty)$ ,  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty = G(M_\infty/k_\infty)$  and  $X_\infty = G(L_\infty/k_\infty)$ . As usual, we regard  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty$  as a  $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}_2[[T]]$ -module, where  $1+T$  acts as a fixed topological generator  $\gamma$  of  $G(k_\infty/k)$ . Then we have the following exact sequence of  $\Lambda$ -modules:

$$(1) \quad 1 \longrightarrow I_\infty \longrightarrow \mathfrak{X}_\infty \longrightarrow X_\infty \longrightarrow 1.$$

Since  $\mu_2(k(\sqrt{-1}))$  is zero by [2] and since  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty$  has no finite  $\Lambda$ -submodule by Theorem 1 of [8],  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty$  is a finitely generated free  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -module. Let  $\lambda(I_\infty)$ ,  $\lambda(\mathfrak{X}_\infty)$  and  $\lambda(X_\infty)$  be  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -ranks of  $I_\infty$ ,  $\mathfrak{X}_\infty$ , and  $X_\infty$ , respectively. Then we have

$$(2) \quad \lambda(\mathfrak{X}_\infty) = \lambda(X_\infty) + \lambda(I_\infty)$$

by (1). Hereafter, we denote by  $\lambda_k$  the Iwasawa invariant  $\lambda_2(k)$  of the cyclotomic  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -extension of  $k_\infty/k$ . By definition of  $\lambda_k$ , we have  $\lambda_k = \lambda(X_\infty)$ . Let  $2^s$  be the highest power of 2 which divides  $p-1$ . We have  $\lambda(\mathfrak{X}_\infty) = 2^{s-2} - 1$  for  $s \geq 2$  by [14, Theorem 1] and [25]. If  $s \leq 3$ , then  $\lambda_k = 0$  by Theorem 1.1. So we assume  $s \geq 4$ . Now, there exist distinct prime ideals  $\mathfrak{p}_1, \mathfrak{p}_2, \dots, \mathfrak{p}_{2^{s-2}}$  in  $k_{s-2}$  with  $\sqrt{p}\Omega_{k_{s-2}} = \mathfrak{p}_1\mathfrak{p}_2 \cdots \mathfrak{p}_{2^{s-2}}$  and the ideal  $\mathfrak{p}_i\Omega_{k_n}$  generated by  $\mathfrak{p}_i$  in  $\Omega_{k_n}$  is a prime ideal of  $k_n$  for any integer  $n \geq s-2$ . Since 2 does not divide the class number of  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_{s-2})$  (cf. p. 186 in [23]), there exists an odd integer  $t$  such that  $\mathfrak{p}_i^{2^t}$  is a principal ideal of  $k_{s-2}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq 2^{s-2}$ . We denote by  $\text{cl}(\mathfrak{p}_i^t\Omega_{k_n})$  the ideal class of  $k_n$  containing the ideal  $\mathfrak{p}_i^t\Omega_{k_n}$  and by  $\rho_n$  the 2-rank of a subgroup  $\langle \text{cl}(\mathfrak{p}_1^t\Omega_{k_n}), \text{cl}(\mathfrak{p}_2^t\Omega_{k_n}), \dots, \text{cl}(\mathfrak{p}_{2^{s-2}}^t\Omega_{k_n}) \rangle$  in the ideal class group of  $k_n$ . The 2-rank of the ideal class group of  $k_n$  is stable for sufficiently large  $n$  because of  $\mu_2(k) = 0$  and  $\rho_n$  is also stable. More precisely, there exists an integer  $N \geq s-2$  such that  $\lambda_k = \rho_n$  for all  $n \geq N$  by [13, pp. 272, 287] and [6, Lemma 3.3]. Thus we have proved the following:

**Lemma 3.1.** *Notations and assumptions being as above, the following four assertions hold:*

- (1)  $\lambda_k = \lambda(X_\infty)$ .
- (2)  $\lambda(\mathfrak{X}_\infty) = \lambda(X_\infty) + \lambda(I_\infty)$ .
- (3)  $\lambda(\mathfrak{X}_\infty) = 2^{s-2} - 1$ .
- (4) *The 2-rank of the ideal class group of  $k_n$  is stable and  $\lambda_k = \rho_n$  for  $n \geq N$ .*

Let  $\sigma$  be a generator of  $G(k_\infty/\mathbb{Q}_\infty)$  and  $\mathfrak{l}_n$  a prime ideal of  $k_n$  lying above 2. Then we have  $\mathfrak{l}_n\mathfrak{l}_n^\sigma = \alpha_n\Omega_{k_n}$  ( $n \geq 1$ ),  $(\mathfrak{l}_n\mathfrak{l}_n^\sigma)^{2^n} = 2\Omega_{k_n}$  and  $\mathfrak{l}_n \neq \mathfrak{l}_n^\sigma$ . We denote by  $E_n$  the unit group  $E_{k_n}$  of  $\Omega_{k_n}$  for simplicity. Let  $k_n\mathfrak{l}_n$  be the completion of  $k_n$  at

$\iota_n, \Omega_{\iota_n}^\times$  the unit group of  $k_n \iota_n$  and  $U_n = \Omega_{\iota_n}^\times \times \Omega_{\iota_n}^\times$ . We embed  $E_n$  in  $U_n$  by the injective homomorphism

$$(3) \quad \varphi : E_n \ni \varepsilon \mapsto (\varepsilon, \varepsilon^\sigma) \in U_n.$$

Then we have

$$G(M_n/L_n) \simeq U_n / \overline{\varphi(E_n)}$$

by class field theory, where  $\overline{\varphi(E_n)}$  is the topological closure of  $\varphi(E_n)$  in  $U_n$ . Now, we need the following lemma:

**Lemma 3.2.** *The element  $(1, -1)$  of  $U_n$  does not belong to  $\overline{\varphi(E_n)}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_{2^{n+1}-1}$  be fundamental units of  $k_n$ . We assume  $(1, -1) \in \overline{\varphi(E_n)}$ . Then there exist 2-adic integers  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{2^{n+1}-1}$  with

$$(1, -1) = \pm (\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_1^\sigma)^{x_1} (\varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_2^\sigma)^{x_2} \cdots (\varepsilon_{2^{n+1}-1}, \varepsilon_{2^{n+1}-1}^\sigma)^{x_{2^{n+1}-1}}.$$

Hence we have

$$\prod_{i=1}^{2^{n+1}-1} \varepsilon_i^{2x_i} = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \prod_{i=1}^{2^{n+1}-1} (\varepsilon_i^\sigma)^{2x_i} = 1.$$

Let  $\gamma$  be a generator of  $G(k_n \iota_n / \mathbb{Q}_2)$ , where  $\mathbb{Q}_2$  is the 2-adic number field. Then we have

$$\prod_{i=1}^{2^{n+1}-1} (\varepsilon_i^{\gamma^j})^{2x_i} = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \prod_{i=1}^{2^{n+1}-1} (\varepsilon_i^{\sigma\gamma^j})^{2x_i} = 1$$

for  $1 \leq j \leq 2^n$ . This means

$$\sum_{i=1}^{2^{n+1}-1} x_i \log_2(\varepsilon_i^{\gamma^j})^2 = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{i=1}^{2^{n+1}-1} x_i \log_2(\varepsilon_i^{\sigma\gamma^j})^2 = 0,$$

where  $\log_2$  is a 2-adic log function. Therefore, we have

$$x_1 = \cdots = x_{2^{n+1}-1} = 0$$

by Leopoldt conjecture, which was proved in [1]. This is a contradiction. □

*Remark 3.1.* Using  $(1, -1) \notin \overline{\varphi(E_0)}$ , Ozaki proved in his thesis that  $\lambda_k = 0$  if  $s = 3$ .

Let  $C_n$  be the unit group of  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)$  and  $V_n$  the unit group of  $\mathbb{Q}_2(\alpha_n)$ . We put  $W_n = \{u \in V_n : u \equiv 1 \pmod{4\alpha_n}\}$ . Then we prove the following lemmas.

**Lemma 3.3.** *We have  $V_n = \langle 3 \rangle C_n W_n$ .*

*Proof.* Since the maximal 2-extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  unramified outside 2 is  $\mathbb{Q}_\infty$ , the maximal 2-extension of  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)$  unramified outside 2 is also  $\mathbb{Q}_\infty$ . Hence we have  $G(\mathbb{Q}_\infty/\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)) \simeq V_n/\overline{C_n}$ , where  $\overline{C_n}$  is the topological closure of  $C_n$  in  $V_n$ . Since  $V_n/\overline{C_n}$  is generated by  $3\overline{C_n}$  as a topological group and since  $W_n$  is an open subgroup of  $V_n$ , we have  $V_n = \langle 3 \rangle C_n W_n$ . □

**Lemma 3.4.** *We have  $N_{\mathbb{Q}_2(\alpha_n)/\mathbb{Q}_2}(u) \equiv 1 \pmod{2^{n+3}}$  for any element  $u$  in  $W_n$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $v_n$  be the normalized additive  $\alpha_n$ -adic valuation of  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)$  and  $\gamma$  a generator of  $G(\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)/\mathbb{Q})$ . At first, we prove

$$v_n(\alpha_n^{\gamma^i} - \alpha_n) \leq 2^n + 1 \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq 2^n - 1$$

by induction on  $n$ . We have  $v_n(\alpha_n^{\gamma^{2^{n-1}}} - \alpha_n) = v_n(2\alpha_n) = 2^n + 1$ . Hence we have  $v_1(\alpha_1^\gamma - \alpha_1) = 2 + 1$ . We assume  $v_m(\alpha_m^{\gamma^i} - \alpha_m) \leq 2^m + 1$  for  $m < n$  and  $1 \leq i \leq 2^m - 1$ . Since  $\alpha_n^2 = \alpha_{n-1} + 2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} v_n(\alpha_n^{\gamma^i} - \alpha_n) + v_n(\alpha_n^{\gamma^i} + \alpha_n) &= v_n(\alpha_n^{2\gamma^i} - \alpha_n^2) \\ &= v_n(\alpha_{n-1}^{\gamma^i} - \alpha_{n-1}) \\ &= 2v_{n-1}(\alpha_{n-1}^{\gamma^i} - \alpha_{n-1}) \leq 2^n + 2 \end{aligned}$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq 2^n - 1$  and  $i \neq 2^{n-1}$ . Hence we have  $v_n(\alpha_n^{\gamma^i} - \alpha_n) \leq 2^n + 1$  for  $1 \leq i \leq 2^n - 1$  noting that  $v_n(\alpha_n^{\gamma^i} + \alpha_n) \geq 1$ . Therefore, we have  $N_{\mathbb{Q}_2(\alpha_n)/\mathbb{Q}_2}(u) \equiv 1 \pmod{2^{n+3}}$  by (1) of Corollary 1 to Proposition 11 of Chapter XII in [24].  $\square$

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let  $\mathbb{F}_2$  be the prime field of characteristic 2,  $G$  a cyclic group of order  $2^n$  generated by  $\gamma$ , and  $V = \mathbb{F}_2[G]$  the group ring of  $G$  over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ . Let  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r$  be integers with  $0 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_r \leq 2^n - 1$  and  $v$  an element of  $V$  with  $v = \gamma^{i_1} + \gamma^{i_2} + \dots + \gamma^{i_r}$ . If  $r$  is odd, then  $V$  is generated by  $\{\gamma^i v : 0 \leq i \leq 2^n - 1\}$  over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $f$  be a function of  $G$  into  $\mathbb{C}$  such that  $f(\gamma^i) = 1$  for  $i = i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r$  and that  $f(\gamma^i) = 0$  for  $i \neq i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r$ , where  $i$  is an integer with  $0 \leq i \leq 2^n - 1$ . Then we have

$$\det(f(\gamma^{i-j}))_{0 \leq i, j \leq 2^n - 1} = \prod_{\chi \in \widehat{G}} \sum_{i=0}^{2^n - 1} \chi(\gamma^i) f(\gamma^i) \equiv r^{2^n} \equiv 1 \pmod{\zeta_{2^n} - 1}$$

by [23, p. 71], where  $\widehat{G}$  is the character group of  $G$ .  $\square$

Recall that  $\varphi$  is the isomorphism of  $E_n$  into  $U_n$  defined by (3).

**Lemma 3.6.** *If  $n \geq s - 2$ , we assume that  $\mathfrak{p}_1^t \Omega_{k_n}$  is not principal in  $k_n$ . Then, for any unit  $\varepsilon$  of  $k_n$  with  $N_{k_n/\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)}(\varepsilon) = 1$ , there exists an element  $c$  of  $C_n$  such that  $\varphi(\varepsilon c)$  is a square in  $U_n$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $N_{k_n/\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)}(\varepsilon) = 1$ , there exists an element  $\alpha$  in  $\Omega_{k_n}$  with  $\varepsilon = \alpha^{\sigma-1}$ . First we assume  $n \geq s - 2$ . Since prime ideals  $\mathfrak{p}_1 \Omega_{k_n}, \mathfrak{p}_2 \Omega_{k_n}, \dots, \mathfrak{p}_{2^{s-2}} \Omega_{k_n}$  are the prime ideals in  $k_n$  which are ramified in  $k_n$  over  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)$ , we may assume that  $\alpha \Omega_{k_n}$  is a product of the finite number of  $\mathfrak{p}_i \Omega_{k_n}$ . Since each  $\mathfrak{p}_i \Omega_{k_n}$  is conjugate to  $\mathfrak{p}_1 \Omega_{k_n}$  over  $k$  and not principal in  $k_n$ , Lemma 3.5 leads to a conclusion that  $\alpha \Omega_{k_n}$  is a product of an even number of  $\mathfrak{p}_i \Omega_{k_n}$ . Hence we have

$$(4) \quad N_{k_n/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha) \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{2^{n+3}}$$

by  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{2^s}$  and  $s \geq 3$ . Now we have  $\alpha \alpha^\sigma \in C_n W_n$  or  $\alpha \alpha^\sigma \in 3C_n W_n$  by Lemma 3.3. If we assume  $\alpha \alpha^\sigma \in 3C_n W_n$ , then we have

$$(5) \quad N_{\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)/\mathbb{Q}}(\alpha \alpha^\sigma) \equiv \pm (1 + 2^{n+2}) \pmod{2^{n+3}}$$

by Lemma 3.4, which contradicts (4). Hence we have  $\alpha \alpha^\sigma \in C_n W_n$ . Since any element of  $W_n$  is a square in  $\Omega_{k_n}^\times$  (cf. [23, Exercises 9.3]), there exists an element  $c$  of  $C_n$  such that both  $\varepsilon c = \alpha \alpha^\sigma c / \alpha^2$  and  $\varepsilon^\sigma c = \alpha \alpha^\sigma c / (\alpha^\sigma)^2$  are squares in  $\Omega_{k_n}^\times$ .

Now, we assume  $s - 2 > n$ . If  $\alpha \alpha^\sigma \in 3C_n W_n$ , then (5) again holds, which contradicts  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{2^s}$ . Hence  $\alpha \alpha^\sigma \in C_n W_n$  and a similar argument leads to the conclusion.  $\square$

Let  $E_n^2$  be the set of squares of units in  $k_n$  and let  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{2^n-1}$  be fundamental units of  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)$ . Since  $\mathfrak{p}_1\Omega_{k_n}, \mathfrak{p}_2\Omega_{k_n}, \dots, \mathfrak{p}_{2^{s-2}}\Omega_{k_n}$  are ramified in  $k_n$  over  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)$ , elements  $c_1E_n^2, c_2E_n^2, \dots, c_{2^n-1}E_n^2$  of  $E_n/E_n^2$  are independent over  $\mathbb{F}_2 = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ . Hence there exist units  $\eta_1, \dots, \eta_{2^n}$  in  $E_n$  such that elements  $\eta_1C_nE_n^2, \dots, \eta_{2^n}C_nE_n^2$  of  $E_n/C_nE_n^2$  are independent over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ . Then we can prove the following:

**Theorem 3.7.** *Let  $m$  be a rational nonnegative integer with  $m \leq 2^{s-2} - 2$  and  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_m$  unit in  $k_n$  such that  $\varepsilon_1C_nE_n^2, \varepsilon_2C_nE_n^2, \dots, \varepsilon_mC_nE_n^2$  are independent over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  in  $E_n/C_nE_n^2$ . If  $N_{k_n/\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)}(\varepsilon_i) = 1$  and if  $N_{k_n/k_0}(\varepsilon_i) = \pm 1$  for  $1 \leq i \leq m$ , then  $\lambda_k \leq 2^{s-2} - m - 2$ .*

*Proof.* If  $\mathfrak{p}_1^t$  is principal in  $k_n$ , then  $\lambda_k = 0$  by (4) of Lemma 3.1. So we assume  $\mathfrak{p}_1^t$  is not principal in  $k_n$ . We identify  $k_{n,l_n}$  with  $\mathbb{Q}_2(\alpha_n)$ . Since  $\varepsilon_i \in V_n$  and since  $N_{\mathbb{Q}_2(\alpha_n)/\mathbb{Q}_2}(\varepsilon_i) = N_{k_n/k_0}(\varepsilon_i) = \pm 1$ , we have  $\varepsilon_i \in \overline{C}_n$  by class field theory. Since there exists an element  $c'_i$  in  $C_n$  with  $\varepsilon_i c'_i \in V_n^2$  by Lemma 3.6 and since  $V_n/\overline{C}_n \simeq \mathbb{Z}_2$ , there exists an element  $c''_i \in \overline{C}_n$  with  $\varepsilon_i c'_i = (c''_i)^2$ . Hence we have  $(\varepsilon_i c'_i, \varepsilon_i^\sigma c'_i) = ((c''_i)^2, (c''_i/\varepsilon_i)^2)$ . Since  $(c''_i, c''_i/\varepsilon_i) \equiv (1, 1/\varepsilon_i) \pmod{\varphi(E_n)}$ ,  $(c''_i, c''_i/\varepsilon_i)\varphi(E_n)$  is an element of the inertia group of  $\mathfrak{l}_n^\sigma$  in  $G(M_n/k_\infty)$  whose order is two. Hence the 2-rank of the torsion part of  $I_\infty G(M_\infty/M_n)/G(M_\infty/M_n)$  is greater than  $m+1$  because  $(1, -1) \notin \overline{\varphi(E_n)}$  by Lemma 3.2. This shows our assertion by Lemma 3.1.  $\square$

After these preparations, we can now conclude our proof of Theorem 1.2.

(1) We assume  $a \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ , which implies  $a^2 - 2pb^2 = 1$ . We note that the greatest common divisor of  $a + 1$  and  $a - 1$  is 2. We put  $\varepsilon_1 = \frac{\sqrt{a+1}}{2}\sqrt{2} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{a+1}}\sqrt{p}$ . Then we have  $\varepsilon_1^2 = \varepsilon'_0$ . If  $a \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then

$$\frac{a+1}{2} \frac{a-1}{4p} = \left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2$$

implies  $\varepsilon_1 \in \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2p})$ , which is a contradiction. Hence we have  $a \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ . Then  $\sqrt{a+1}/2$  and  $b/\sqrt{a+1}$  are rational integers, which imply that  $\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_1$  and  $1 + \sqrt{2}$  are fundamental units in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p}, \sqrt{2})$  by [16]. Since  $N_{k_1/\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_1)}(\varepsilon_1) = 1$  and  $N_{k_1/k}(\varepsilon_1) = -1$ , we have  $\lambda_k \leq 2^{s-2} - 3$  by Theorem 3.7.

(2) We assume  $a^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ , which implies  $a^2 - 2pb^2 = -1$ . Let  $h_k$  be the class number of  $k$ . We note that  $h_k$  is odd. Hence the order of the ideal class containing  $(\mathfrak{l}_1 \cap \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2p}))^{h_k}$  is two in the ideal class group of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2p})$  by the genus formula. This shows that  $\text{cl}(\mathfrak{l}_n^{h_k})$  is nontrivial in the 2-Sylow subgroup  $A_n$  of the ideal class group of  $k_n$ . Since  $\varepsilon_0^2 \not\equiv 1 \pmod{32}$ , the order of

$$B_n = \{ a \in A_n \mid a^\tau = a \text{ for any element } \tau \in G(k_n/k) \}$$

is less than or equal to 2. Hence we have  $B_n = \langle \text{cl}(\mathfrak{l}_n^{h_k}) \rangle$ . This shows  $\lambda_k = 0$  by [7].

#### 4. EXAMPLES

It is important to see how large an  $m$  we can choose in Theorem 3.7 for a number of numerical examples in order to deepen our understanding of Greenberg conjecture. So we examine the largest  $m$  in Theorem 3.7. We calculated certain subgroups of

$$(6) \quad E_n/C_nE_n^2$$

for  $1 \leq n \leq 7$ . Since the degree  $[k_7 : \mathbb{Q}] = 256$  is large, special techniques are required for the calculations. In this section we explain our particular algorithms.

**4.1. Integral basis.** The first task is a construction of an integral basis of  $k_n$ . It is well known that powers of  $\alpha_n$  form an integral basis of  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)$ . Since the discriminant of  $k$  is prime to that of  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)$ , an integral basis of  $k_n$  is easily constructed by [17, Proposition 17 in Chapter III].

**4.2. Unit group.** The next task is a construction of unit groups  $C_n$  and  $E_n$ . Since the group  $E_n/C_n E_n^2$  in Theorem 3.7 has 2-power order, subgroups of  $C_n$  and  $E_n$  with odd indices are enough for our purpose. Since the methods for  $C_n$  and  $E_n$  are the same, we restrict our interest to  $E_n$ .

Let  $r = 2^{n+1} - 1$ . We use a cyclotomic unit  $1 + \alpha_n$  of  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)$ , a cyclotomic unit

$$\xi = N_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_f)/k_n}(\zeta_f - 1)$$

of  $k_n$  and the fundamental unit  $\varepsilon_0$  of  $k$ , where  $f = 2^{n+2}p$  is the conductor of  $k_n$ . We denote by  $\gamma$  the element of  $G(k_n/k)$  such that  $\alpha_n^\gamma = 2 \cos(10\pi/2^{n+2})$  and start with  $E'_n = \langle -1, \theta_0, \theta_1, \dots, \theta_{r-1} \rangle$ , where

$$\theta_i = \begin{cases} (1 + \alpha_n)^\gamma & 0 \leq i \leq 2^n - 2, \\ \xi^{\gamma^{i-2^{n+1}}} & 2^n - 1 \leq i \leq r - 2, \\ \varepsilon_0 & i = r - 1. \end{cases}$$

According to an idea of Zassenhaus [21, p. 66], we examine whether the index  $(E_n : E'_n)$  is odd and enlarge  $E'_n$  if  $(E_n : E'_n)$  is even as follows. First we check whether  $\sqrt{\theta_0}$  is contained in  $k_n$  using the method in 4.3. If  $\sqrt{\theta_0} \in k_n$ , we replace  $\theta_0$  by  $\sqrt{\theta_0}$ . So we may assume that  $\sqrt{\theta_0} \notin k_n$ . Next we find a prime number  $\ell$  which splits completely in  $k_n/\mathbb{Q}$  and satisfies

$$\theta_0^{\frac{\ell-1}{2}} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{\mathcal{L}},$$

where  $\mathcal{L}$  is a prime ideal of  $k_n$  lying over  $\ell$  (we fix arbitrary 1). For  $1 \leq i \leq r - 1$ , we set

$$a_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \theta_i^{\frac{\ell-1}{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{\mathcal{L}}, \\ 1 & \text{if } \theta_i^{\frac{\ell-1}{2}} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{\mathcal{L}}, \end{cases}$$

and put  $\eta_0 = \theta_0$ ,  $\eta_i = \theta_i \theta_0^{a_i}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r - 1$ ). Then  $E'_n = \langle -1, \eta_0, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_{r-1} \rangle$  and

$$\sqrt{\eta_0^{e_0} \eta_1^{e_1} \dots \eta_{r-1}^{e_{r-1}}} \in k_n \quad (0 \leq e_i \leq 1)$$

implies  $e_0 = 0$ . Hence we can reduce the number of trials finding a square from  $2^r$  to  $2^{r-1}$ . Repeating this procedure, we can enlarge  $E'_n$  within  $r$  trials.

Finally, we obtain a subgroup  $E_{n,0} = \langle -1, \eta_0, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_{r-1} \rangle$  of  $E_n$  with odd index  $(E_n : E_{n,0})$ . Since  $N_{k_n/k}(\xi) = 1$  (note that 2 splits in  $k/\mathbb{Q}$ ), the above algorithm automatically leads to  $N_{k_n/k}(\eta_i) = \pm 1$  for  $0 \leq i \leq r - 2$ .

**4.3. Square root.** Let  $r = 2^{n+1} - 1$  and  $\{v_0, v_1, \dots, v_r\}$  be an integral basis of  $k_n$ . When an integer  $\beta$  of  $k_n$  is square in  $k_n$ , we wish to obtain  $\sqrt{\beta}$ . Namely, we want to determine  $x_j \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $(\sum_j x_j v_j)^2 = \beta$ . It is difficult to solve the system of simultaneous equations

$$(7) \quad \sum_j x_j v_j^\sigma = \sqrt{\beta}^\sigma \quad (\sigma \in G(k_n/\mathbb{Q}))$$

approximately for large  $n$  (e.g.  $n \geq 4$ ) because of the ambiguity of the sign of  $\sqrt{\beta}^\sigma$  ( $\sqrt{\beta}^\sigma = \sqrt{\beta^\sigma}$  or  $\sqrt{\beta}^\sigma = -\sqrt{\beta^\sigma}$ ). There is another method of Fincke and Pohst [3], [20, p. 33] based on the algorithm for finding small vectors in a lattice. But it does not fit our purpose even for small  $n$  because the coefficient of the quadratic form  $\sum_{\sigma \in G(k_n/\mathbb{Q})} |\beta^\sigma|^{-1} |\sum_{j=0}^{2^{n+1}-1} x_j v_j^\sigma|^2$  are very small for our targets. So we proceed as follows:

- (1) Prepare prime numbers  $\ell_0, \ell_1, \dots, \ell_N$  which split completely in  $k_n/\mathbb{Q}$ .
- (2) Let  $\beta$  be a totally positive integer of  $k_n$ . If  $\beta$  is not square in  $k_n$  modulo some  $\ell_i$ , then  $\sqrt{\beta} \notin k_n$ . Otherwise we search  $x_j \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $(\sum_j x_j v_j)^2 = \beta$ .
- (3) Calculate the minimal polynomial  $f(X)$  of  $\beta$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
- (4) Factorize  $f(X^2)$  over  $\mathbb{Z}$ . We assume that  $f(X^2)$  splits into  $g_1(X)g_2(X)$ .
- (5) Determine  $\sqrt{\beta}^\sigma = \pm \sqrt{\beta^\sigma} \pmod{\ell_i}$  ( $\sigma \in G(k_n/\mathbb{Q})$ ) using  $g_1(X)$ . Namely, we choose  $\sqrt{\beta}^\sigma \pmod{\ell_i}$  so that  $g_1(\sqrt{\beta}^\sigma) \equiv 0 \pmod{\ell_i}$  and  $g_1(-\sqrt{\beta}^\sigma) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{\ell_i}$ . If  $g_1(\pm \sqrt{\beta^\sigma}) \equiv 0 \pmod{\ell_i}$ , then we skip this  $\ell_i$ .
- (6) Solving the simultaneous equations (7) modulo  $\ell_i$ , construct  $\beta_i = \sum_j x_{ij} v_j$  ( $x_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}$ ) such that  $\beta_i^2 \equiv \beta \pmod{\ell_0 \ell_1 \cdots \ell_i}$  and  $2|x_{ij}| < \ell_0 \ell_1 \cdots \ell_i$ .
- (7) Find  $i$  such that  $\beta_i = \beta_{i+1}$ .
- (8) Compare  $\beta_i^2$  with  $\beta$ . If  $\beta_i^2 = \beta$ , then  $\sqrt{\beta}$  is found.

In many cases,  $f(X^2)$  splits into two factors and we can eliminate the ambiguity of  $\sqrt{\beta}^\sigma \pmod{\ell_j}$  using a factor of  $f(X)$ . If  $f(X^2)$  remains irreducible (i.e.  $\deg f \leq 2^n$ ), we get  $\sqrt{\beta\delta^2}$  for an appropriate  $\delta \in k_n$  and set  $\sqrt{\beta} = \sqrt{\beta\delta^2}/\delta$ .

We make two technical remarks. For small  $n$ , we can determine the sign of  $\sqrt{\beta}^\sigma$  so that  $g_1(\sqrt{\beta}^\sigma) = 0$  and get  $\sqrt{\beta}$  directly solving the equations (7) approximately. If  $n$  is large, then coefficients of  $g_1(X)$  are large and the calculation becomes slow because of high precision. For example, we need an accuracy of more than  $10^5$  digits for  $n = 7$ . So we switch approximate calculations to congruence calculations.

Our next remark is related to congruence solutions of equations (7). Let  $\alpha = \alpha_n + \omega$ , where  $\omega = (1 + \sqrt{p})/2$ . Then  $k_n = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ . We prepare the  $(r+1) \times (r+1)$  integer matrix  $B$  such that

$$(1 \ \alpha \ \alpha^2 \ \cdots \ \alpha^r) = (v_0 \ v_1 \ \cdots \ v_r)B.$$

If  $\beta = \sum_j b_j v_j$  with  $b_j \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \beta^\sigma \pmod{\ell_i} &\equiv (v_0^\sigma \ v_1^\sigma \ \cdots \ v_r^\sigma)^t (b_0 \ b_1 \ \cdots \ b_r) \\ (8) \qquad \qquad &\equiv (1 \ \alpha^\sigma \ \alpha^{2\sigma} \ \cdots \ \alpha^{r\sigma})B^{-1}{}^t (b_0 \ b_1 \ \cdots \ b_r) \pmod{\ell_i}. \end{aligned}$$

Since the entries of  $B$  are very large for large  $n$ , the calculation of  $B^{-1}$  takes a long time. So we solve a system of linear equations each time modulo each  $\ell_i$ .

We get  $\beta^\sigma \pmod{\ell_i}$  by (8) and choose  $\sqrt{\beta}^\sigma \pmod{\ell_i}$  using  $g_1(X)$ . Then we get  $\sqrt{\beta} \pmod{\ell_i} = \sum_j x_j \alpha^j \pmod{\ell_i}$  by solving a system of linear equations

$$\sum_j x_j \alpha^{j\sigma} \equiv \sqrt{\beta}^\sigma \pmod{\ell_i} \quad (\sigma \in G(k_n/\mathbb{Q}))$$

and get  $\sqrt{\beta} \pmod{\ell_i} = \sum_j y_j v_j \pmod{\ell_i}$  by

$$(y_0 \ y_1 \ \cdots \ y_r) = (x_0 \ x_1 \ \cdots \ x_r)^t B.$$

The remainder is a straightforward application of the Chinese Remainder Theorem.



4.4. **Minimal polynomial.** If the degree  $[k_n : \mathbb{Q}] = 2^{n+1}$  is not too large (e.g.  $n \leq 5$ ), then the approximate calculation of

$$(9) \quad f(X) = \prod_{\sigma \in G(k_n/\mathbb{Q})} (X - \beta^\sigma)$$

works well. But the size of coefficients of  $f(X)$  grows rapidly (e.g.  $10^4$  digits for  $n = 7$ ), and the high accuracy of approximation makes calculations slow. This phenomenon is caused by a property of  $\beta$  being a product of units in  $k_n$ .

So we calculate  $f(X)$  modulo each  $\ell_i$  and construct  $f_i(X) \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$  such that  $f_i(X) \equiv f(X) \pmod{\ell_0 \ell_1 \cdots \ell_i}$  and all the absolute values of coefficients of  $f_i(X)$  are less than  $\ell_0 \ell_1 \cdots \ell_i/2$ . If  $f_i(X) = f_{i+1}(X)$ , then  $f_i(X)$  is very likely to be  $f(X)$ . Of course it is not guaranteed that  $f_i(X) = f(X)$ ; but we do not need to worry whether  $f_i(X) = f(X)$  if we find  $\sqrt{\beta}$  using  $f_i(X)$ .

In general,  $f(X)$  is not always irreducible. If  $f(X)$  is square-free, then  $f(X)$  is the minimal polynomial of  $\beta$ . When  $f(X)$  is not square-free,  $f(X) = g(X)^m$  with irreducible  $g(X) \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$  and  $m \geq 2$ . Then  $g(X)$  is the minimal polynomial of  $\beta$ .

4.5.  $\alpha \pmod{\ell_i}$ . The minimal polynomial  $f_\alpha(X) \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$  of  $\alpha = \alpha_n + \omega$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is easily obtained by an approximate calculation similar to (9). A rational prime  $\ell$  splits completely in  $k_n$  if  $\ell \equiv 1 \pmod{2^{n+2}}$  and  $(p/\ell) = 1$ . We build a finite set  $L = \{\ell_0, \ell_1, \dots, \ell_N\}$  consisting of an appropriate number of such  $\ell$  satisfying  $\det B \not\equiv 0 \pmod{\ell}$  and  $f_\alpha(\ell) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{\ell}$ .

Let  $\ell_i \in L$  and  $g_i$  be a primitive root of  $\ell_i$ . If  $z_1$  is a rational integer satisfying  $z_1 \equiv g_i^{(\ell-1)/2^{n+2}} \pmod{\ell_i}$ , then  $2 \cos(2\pi/2^{n+2}) \equiv z_1 + z_1^{-1} \pmod{\mathcal{L}_1}$  for some prime ideal  $\mathcal{L}_1$  of  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)$  lying above  $\ell_i$ . We also find  $z_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $z_2 \equiv \omega \pmod{\mathcal{L}_2}$  for some prime ideal  $\mathcal{L}_2$  of  $k$  lying above  $\ell_i$  by solving  $x^2 \equiv p \pmod{\ell_i}$ . Then  $\alpha \equiv z_1 + z_2 \pmod{\mathcal{L}}$  for some prime ideal  $\mathcal{L}$  of  $k_n$  lying above  $\ell_i$ . We abbreviate this congruence as  $\alpha \equiv z_1 + z_2 \pmod{\ell_i}$ .

We prepare a table of  $\alpha^\sigma \pmod{\ell_i}$  ( $\sigma \in G(k_n/\mathbb{Q}), 0 \leq i \leq N$ ) and a table of  $v_j \pmod{\ell_i}$  ( $0 \leq i \leq N, 0 \leq j \leq 2^{n+1} - 1$ ) in order to verify quickly that a given  $\beta = \sum_j x_j v_j$  is not square in  $k_n$ . But we do not prepare a table of  $v_j^\sigma \pmod{\ell_i}$  ( $\sigma \in G(k_n/\mathbb{Q}), 0 \leq i \leq N, 0 \leq j \leq 2^{n+1} - 1$ ) because it requires 256 times the amount of memory as for  $n = 7$ .

4.6. **Subgroup calculation.** It is enough to construct the subgroup

$$E_{n,1} = \{ \varepsilon \in E_n \mid N_{k_n/\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)}(\varepsilon) = 1, N_{k_n/k}(\varepsilon) = \pm 1 \}$$

of  $E_n$  in order to see how many independent units there are in Theorem 3.7.

We may assume that we find positive  $\eta_i \in E_n$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} C_n &= \langle -1, \eta_0, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_{2^n-2} \rangle, \\ E_n &= \langle -1, \eta_0, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_{2^n-2}, \eta_{2^n-1}, \eta_{2^n}, \dots, \eta_{2^{n+1}-2} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

with properties

$$\begin{aligned} N_{k_n/k}(\eta_i) &= \pm 1 \quad (0 \leq i \leq 2^{n+1} - 3), \\ N_{k_n/k}(\eta_{2^{n+1}-2}) &\neq \pm 1. \end{aligned}$$

First we find  $\eta \in E_n$  which satisfies  $N_{k_n/\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)}(\eta) = -1$  and  $N_{k_n/k}(\eta) = \pm 1$ .

Let  $t = 2^n - 1$ ,  $u = 2^{n+1} - 2$  and let

$$N_{k_n/\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)}(\eta_j) = \pm \prod_{i=0}^{t-1} \eta_i^{a_{ij}} \quad (0 \leq j \leq u-1)$$

with  $a_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then, the norm of

$$\prod_{j=0}^{u-1} \eta_j^{x_j} \quad (x_j \in \mathbb{Z})$$

from  $k_n$  to  $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)$  is equal to  $\pm 1$  if and only if  $x = {}^t(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{u-1})$  is contained in the kernel of the linear map  $\psi : \mathbb{Z}^u \ni x \mapsto Ax \in \mathbb{Z}^t$ , where  $A = (a_{ij})$ . Let  $v$  be the dimension of  $\text{Ker } \psi$  and  $\{\omega_0, \omega_1, \dots, \omega_{v-1}\}$  a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis of  $\text{Ker } \psi$ . Then the above  $\eta$  exists if and only if  $\prod_i N_{k_n/\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)}(\eta_i)^{x_{ij}} < 0$  for some  $\omega_j = {}^t(x_{0j}, x_{1j}, \dots, x_{u-1,j})$ . In this manner we find  $\eta \in E_n$ . Now, for  $0 \leq j \leq v-1$ , set  $e_j$  to be 1 or 0 according to  $\prod_i N_{k_n/\mathbb{Q}(\alpha_n)}(\eta_i)^{x_{ij}} < 0$  or not. Then

$$E_{n,1} = \langle -1, \eta^{e_j} \prod_{i=0}^{u-1} \eta_i^{x_{ij}} \mid 0 \leq j \leq v-1 \rangle.$$

The index  $(E_n : E_{n,1}C_nE_n^2)$  is easily calculated using the Hermite normal form of the integer matrix. Since  $(E_n : C_nE_n^2) = 2^{2^n}$ , if  $(E_n : E_{n,1}C_nE_n^2) = 2^d$ , then there are  $2^n - d$  independent units in Theorem 3.7.

**4.7. Tables.** We calculated  $E_{n,1}$  ( $2 \leq n \leq 7$ ) for  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})$ , where  $p$  is a prime number less than  $10^4$  which satisfies  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{2^4}$  and  $2^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . We denote by  $m_n$  the maximal number of independent units in Theorem 3.7. Namely,  $m_n = 2^n - d$ , where  $(E_n : E_{n,1}C_nE_n^2) = 2^d$ . Let  $2^s$  be the highest power of 2 dividing  $p-1$ . Once  $m_n$  has attained  $2^{s-2} - 2$  for some  $n$ , then we do not need to calculate  $m_k$  for  $k \geq n+1$ . Our calculation summarized in the following tables, together with Theorem 1.1, shows that  $\lambda_2(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{p})) = 0$  for all prime numbers  $p$  less than  $10^4$ .

For  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{4481})$ , which is the most difficult example, our algorithms with Pentium 4 2.0 GHz handled  $k_5$  in 4 minutes,  $k_6$  in 45 minutes and  $k_7$  in 11 hours.

$$2^4 \parallel p-1$$

$p$	$m_2$	$m_3$	$p$	$m_2$	$m_3$	$p$	$m_2$	$m_3$	$p$	$m_2$	$m_3$	$m_4$
113	2		3089	2		4721	2		7793	2		
337	1	2	3121	2		4817	2		8081	2		
593	1	2	3217	1	2	5233	1	2	8209	2		
881	1	2	3313	2		5297	2		8273	2		
1201	2		3761	2		5393	1	2	8369	2		
1553	2		4049	1	2	6353	2		9137	1	2	
1777	2		4177	2		6449	2		9521	1	1	2
2129	1	2	4273	0	2	6481	2		9649	2		
2833	2		4657	1	2	7121	1	2				

$$2^5 \parallel p - 1$$

$p$	$m_3$	$m_4$	$m_5$	$p$	$m_3$	$m_4$	$m_5$	$m_6$	$p$	$m_3$	$m_4$
353	6			3361	5	5	5	6	8161	4	6
1249	5	6		4001	5	6			8609	5	6
1889	3	3	6	4513	6				9377	4	6
2273	6			6689	5	6			9697	5	6
2593	6			7393	6						
2657	6			7841	4	6					

$$2^6 \parallel p - 1$$

$p$	$m_4$	$m_5$	$p$	$m_4$	$m_5$	$p$	$m_4$	$p$	$m_4$	$p$	$m_4$
577	13	14	1601	14		3137	14	4801	14	7489	14
1217	14		2113	13	14	4289	14	5569	14	9281	14

$$2^7 \parallel p - 1$$

$p$	$m_5$	$m_6$	$p$	$m_5$	$m_6$	$m_7$	$p$	$m_5$	$m_6$	$p$	$m_6$	$m_7$
1153	30		4481	29	29	30	6529	30		257	62	
2689	29	30	4993	30			9601	28	30	9473	61	62

$$2^8 \parallel p - 1$$

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