

# Iwasawa Theory and Projective Modules

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Aug 10, 2010

## Some references

R. Greenberg, *Iwasawa theory, projective modules, and modular representations*

J. Coates, P. Schneider, R. Sujatha, *Modules over Iwasawa algebras*

J. Coates, T. Fukaya, K. Kato, R. Sujatha, *Root numbers, Selmer groups, and non-commutative Iwasawa theory*

J. Coates, T. Fukaya, K. Kato, R. Sujatha, O. Venjakob, *The  $GL_2$  main conjecture for elliptic curves without complex multiplication*

# The set-up

Suppose that  $F$  is a number field, that  $F_\infty$  is the cyclotomic  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -extension of  $F$ , and that  $K$  is a finite Galois extension of  $F$ . We will assume that  $K \cap F_\infty = F$ . Let  $K_\infty = KF_\infty$ . Let

$$G = \text{Gal}(K_\infty/F), \quad \Gamma = \text{Gal}(F_\infty/F),$$

$$\Delta = \text{Gal}(K/F),$$

the last of which is a finite group. We can identify  $\Delta$  with  $\text{Gal}(K_\infty/F_\infty)$  and  $G$  with  $\Delta \times \Gamma$ .

Suppose that  $E$  is an elliptic curve defined over  $F$ . We will always assume that  $E$  has good ordinary reduction at the primes of  $F$  lying over  $p$ .

# Selmer groups for $E$

The  $p$ -primary subgroup  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)_p$  of the Selmer group for  $E$  over  $K_\infty$  is defined as the kernel of a map of the following form:

$$H^1(K_\infty, E[p^\infty]) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_v \mathcal{H}_v(K_\infty, E) ,$$

where  $v$  runs over all the primes of  $F$  and  $\mathcal{H}_v(K_\infty, E)$  is defined in a certain way in terms of local Galois cohomology groups. If  $\Sigma_0$  is any finite set of primes of  $F$ , not containing primes above  $p$  or above  $\infty$ , then we define a “non-primitive” Selmer group by:

$$\text{Sel}_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)_p = \ker \left( H^1(K_\infty, E[p^\infty]) \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{v \notin \Sigma_0} \mathcal{H}_v(K_\infty, E) \right) .$$

Of course, one has an inclusion  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)_p \subseteq \text{Sel}_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)_p$ . One has equality if  $\mathcal{H}_v(K_\infty, E) = 0$  for all  $v \in \Sigma_0$ .

## Some modules over groups rings

The discrete  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -module  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)_p$  has a natural action of  $G$ ,  $\Delta$ , and  $\Gamma$ . Let  $X_E(K_\infty)$  denote the Pontryagin dual of  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)_p$ . Then we can regard  $X_E(K_\infty)$  as a module over the group ring  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ , and also over the completed group rings  $\mathbf{Z}_p[[G]]$  and  $\Lambda = \mathbf{Z}_p[[\Gamma]]$ . The latter ring is the usual Iwasawa algebra.

For any set  $\Sigma_0$  as above, the Pontryagin dual of  $\text{Sel}_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)_p$  will be denoted by  $X_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)$  and is also a module over the above group rings. Over the ring  $\Lambda = \mathbf{Z}_p[[\Gamma]]$ , these modules are known to be finitely-generated.

# The difference between the primitive and non-primitive Selmer groups

There is a conjecture of Mazur which asserts that  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)_p$  is a cotorsion  $\Lambda$ -module. This means that  $X_E(K_\infty)$  is a finitely-generated, torsion  $\Lambda$ -module. This conjecture turns out to imply that the map whose kernel is  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)_p$  is surjective. As a consequence, it follows that

$$\text{Sel}_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)_p / \text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)_p \cong \bigoplus_{v \in \Sigma_0} \mathcal{H}_v(K_\infty, E) .$$

As we mention below,  $\mathcal{H}_v(K_\infty, E)$  is a cofinitely-generated  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -module. Its Pontryagin dual is a finitely-generated  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -module. It is also a module over the various group rings mentioned above.

# An often needed assumption in this talk

We will often need to assume that  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)_p[p]$  is finite. This means that  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)_p$  is a cofinitely-generated  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -module. That is,  $X_E(K_\infty)$  is a finitely-generated  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -module. Thus, as a  $\Lambda$ -module,  $X_E(K_\infty)$  is indeed a torsion module. Furthermore, the  $\mu$ -invariant is 0.

It is not hard to show that  $\mathcal{H}_v(K_\infty, E) \cong (\mathbf{Q}_p/\mathbf{Z}_p)^{\delta_v(K_\infty, E)}$  for any  $v \nmid p, \infty$ , where  $\delta_v(K_\infty, E)$  is a non-negative integer. Hence  $\mathcal{H}_v(K_\infty, E)$  is a cofinitely-generated  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -module for all  $v$  in  $\Sigma_0$ . The above assumption then implies that  $\text{Sel}_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)_p[p]$  is finite and that  $\text{Sel}_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)_p$  is also a cofinitely-generated  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -module.

Under the above assumption,  $X_E(K_\infty)$  and  $X_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)$  will be finitely-generated  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -modules.

# A theorem about projectivity

For simplicity, we will assume that  $p$  is odd. Define the following set:

$$\Phi_{K/F} = \{v \mid v \nmid p, \infty, \text{ and } p \mid e_v(K/F)\} .$$

Here  $e_v(K/F)$  denotes the ramification index for  $v$  in  $K/F$ .

If  $v$  is a prime of  $F$  lying above  $p$ , let  $\overline{E}_v$  denote  $E$  modulo  $v$  and let  $k_v$  denote the residue field for a prime of  $K$  above  $v$ .

**Theorem A.** *Let us make the following assumptions:*

- (a)  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)[p]$  is finite.
- (b)  $\Phi_{K/F} \subseteq \Sigma_0$ .
- (c)  $E(K_\infty)[p] = 0$  and  $\overline{E}_v(k_v)[p] = 0$  for all  $v \mid p$ .

Then  $X_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)$  is a projective  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -module.

## The multiplicity $\lambda_X(\sigma)$ .

Suppose that  $X$  is a finitely-generated, projective  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -module. Let  $V = X \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}_p} \mathbf{Q}_p$ , a finite-dimensional representation space for  $\Delta$  over  $\mathbf{Q}_p$ . For every absolutely irreducible representation  $\sigma$  of  $\Delta$  (defined over a finite extension  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $\mathbf{Q}_p$ ), let  $\lambda_X(\sigma)$  denote the multiplicity of  $\sigma$  in  $V \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}_p} \mathcal{F}$ .

If  $\rho$  is any representation of  $\Delta$  over  $\mathcal{F}$ , then one can realize  $\rho$  over  $\mathcal{O}$ , the ring of integers in  $\mathcal{F}$ . One can reduce the resulting  $\mathcal{O}$ -representation modulo  $\mathfrak{m}$ , the maximal ideal in  $\mathcal{O}$ , obtaining a representation  $\tilde{\rho}$  over  $\mathfrak{f} = \mathcal{O}/\mathfrak{m}$ , the residue field for  $\mathcal{F}$ . Its semisimplification  $\tilde{\rho}^{\text{ss}}$  is well-defined.

## A basic property of projective $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -modules

Suppose that  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  are representations of  $\Delta$  (over  $\mathcal{F}$ ). For each  $\sigma \in \text{Irr}_{\mathcal{F}}(\Delta)$ , let  $m_i(\sigma)$  denote the multiplicity of  $\sigma$  in  $\rho_i$  for  $i = 1, 2$ .

**Proposition.** *Assume that  $\tilde{\rho}_1^{ss} \cong \tilde{\rho}_2^{ss}$ . Then one has the linear relation*

$$\sum_{\sigma} m_1(\sigma) \lambda_X(\sigma) = \sum_{\sigma} m_2(\sigma) \lambda_X(\sigma) \quad ,$$

where  $\sigma$  varies over  $\text{Irr}_{\mathcal{F}}(\Delta)$ .

If  $\rho_1 \not\cong \rho_2$ , then the above linear relation is non-trivial. Such non-trivial linear relations always exist if  $\Delta$  has order divisible by  $p$ .

# The number of independent congruence relations

One can quantify this. Suppose that  $s$  is the number of conjugacy classes in  $\Delta$  and  $t$  is the number of conjugacy classes of elements of  $\Delta$  of order prime to  $p$ . Then the number of independent linear relations arising as above is  $s - t$ .

Suppose that  $\Delta$  is a  $p$ -group. In this case, we have  $t = 1$ . In fact, if  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  are representations of  $\Delta$  over  $\mathcal{F}$ , then  $\tilde{\rho}_1^{ss} \cong \tilde{\rho}_2^{ss}$  if and only if  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  have the same degree. This is because the only irreducible representation of  $\Delta$  over  $\mathfrak{f}$  is the trivial representation.

In general,  $t$  is the number of isomorphism classes of irreducible representations of  $\Delta$  over a sufficiently large finite field  $\mathfrak{f}$ .

If  $|\Delta|$  is not divisible by  $p$ , then  $t = s$  and there are no nontrivial congruence relations. One has  $\tilde{\rho}_1^{ss} \cong \tilde{\rho}_2^{ss}$  if and only if  $\rho_1 \cong \rho_2$ .

## An illustration

As an illustration, suppose that  $\Delta = \Delta_r = PGL_2(\mathbf{Z}/p^{r+1}\mathbf{Z})$ , where  $r \geq 0$ . Then  $\Delta$  has a quotient  $\Delta_0 \cong PGL_2(\mathbf{F}_p)$ . It turns out that if  $\rho_1$  is any representation of  $\Delta$  over  $\mathcal{F}$ , then there exists a representation  $\rho_2$  of  $\Delta$  factoring through the quotient group  $\Delta_0$  such that  $\tilde{\rho}_1^{ss} \cong \tilde{\rho}_2^{ss}$ . Hence, under the assumption that  $X$  is a finitely-generated, projective  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -module, one can determine  $\lambda_X(\sigma)$  for all  $\sigma \in \text{Irr}_{\mathcal{F}}(\Delta)$  if one knows  $\lambda_X(\sigma)$  for all  $\sigma \in \text{Irr}_{\mathcal{F}}(\Delta_0)$ .

## The $PGL_2$ illustration continued

One can write down explicit congruence relations. Assume that  $p$  is odd. If  $\sigma$  is an irreducible representation of  $\Delta = \Delta_r$  of degree  $p^{r-1}(p-1)(p+1)$ , and  $r \geq 2$ , then one has

$$\lambda_X(\sigma) = p^{r-2} \sum_{\alpha \in \text{Irr}_{\mathcal{F}}(\Delta_0)} \deg(\alpha) \lambda_X(\alpha) \quad .$$

It turns out that  $\deg(\alpha)$  is even for all but four irreducible representations of  $\Delta_0$ . There are two 1-dimensional and two  $p$ -dimensional irreducible representations of  $\Delta_0$ . If  $\sigma$  is as above, then one has a parity result:

$$\lambda_X(\sigma) \equiv \sum_{2 \nmid \deg(\alpha)} \lambda_X(\alpha) \pmod{2},$$

where the sum just has the four terms corresponding to the  $\alpha$ 's of degree 1 or  $p$ .

# Quasi-projectivity

It is useful to have a broader form of the above proposition. Suppose that  $X$  is a finitely-generated  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -module. The multiplicity  $\lambda_X(\sigma)$  just depends on  $V = X \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}_p} \mathbf{Q}_p$ . Suppose that there are finitely-generated, projective  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -modules  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  such that one has an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow V_1 \longrightarrow V_2 \longrightarrow V \longrightarrow 0 \quad ,$$

where  $V_i = X_i \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}_p} \mathbf{Q}_p$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . We then say that  $X$  is quasi-projective.

Somewhat more generally, assume that  $X$  is a  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -module which is possibly not finitely-generated. The above definition makes sense under the assumption that  $X/X_{tors}$  is a finitely-generated  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -module. Then  $V$  is still a finite-dimensional representation space for  $\Delta$  over  $\mathbf{Q}_p$ .

# Congruence relations for quasi-projective $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -modules

**Proposition.** *Assume that  $X$  is a projective or quasi-projective  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -module. Assume that  $\tilde{\rho}_1^{ss} \cong \tilde{\rho}_2^{ss}$ . Then one has the linear relation*

$$\sum_{\sigma} m_1(\sigma)\lambda_X(\sigma) = \sum_{\sigma} m_2(\sigma)\lambda_X(\sigma) ,$$

*where  $\sigma$  varies over  $\text{Irr}_{\mathcal{F}}(\Delta)$  and  $m_i(\sigma)$  denotes the multiplicity of  $\sigma$  in  $\rho_i$  for  $i = 1, 2$ .*

# The invariants $\lambda_E(\sigma)$ and $\lambda_E^{\Sigma_0}(\sigma)$

The modules  $X = X_E(K_\infty)$  and  $X = X_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)$  defined previously are  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -modules. If  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)[p]$  is finite, then they are finitely-generated  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -modules. For any  $\sigma \in \text{Irr}_{\mathcal{F}}(\Delta)$ , the corresponding invariant  $\lambda_X(\sigma)$  will be denoted by  $\lambda_E(\sigma)$  and  $\lambda_E^{\Sigma_0}(\sigma)$ , respectively. They depend only on  $E$ ,  $F$ , and  $\sigma$ , and  $\Sigma_0$  for the non-primitive case.

# Congruence relations for $\lambda_E^{\Sigma_0}(\sigma)$ .

**Theorem B.** *Let us make the following assumptions:*

- (a)  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)[p]$  is finite.
- (b)  $\Phi_{K/F} \subseteq \Sigma_0$ .

*Then  $X_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)$  is a quasi-projective  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -module. Consequently, with the same notation as above, if  $\tilde{\rho}_1^{ss} \cong \tilde{\rho}_2^{ss}$ , then one has the linear relation*

$$\sum_{\sigma} m_1(\sigma) \lambda_E^{\Sigma_0}(\sigma) = \sum_{\sigma} m_2(\sigma) \lambda_E^{\Sigma_0}(\sigma) ,$$

*where  $\sigma$  varies over  $\text{Irr}_{\mathcal{F}}(\Delta)$ .*

## The case where $\Delta$ is a $p$ -group

There is a theorem of Hachimori and Matsuno which relates the  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -coranks of  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)_p$  and  $\text{Sel}_E(F_\infty)_p$  in the case where  $K_\infty/F_\infty$  is a  $p$ -extension. That theorem is equivalent to theorem B in the case where  $|\Delta|$  is a power of  $p$ . Let  $\sigma_0$  be the trivial representation of  $\Delta$ . If  $\rho_1$  is the regular representation of  $\Delta$  and  $\rho_2$  is  $\sigma_0^{|\Delta|}$ , then  $\tilde{\rho}_1^{ss} \cong \tilde{\rho}_2^{ss}$ .

## Weakening the hypotheses

**Proposition.** *Suppose that  $\Sigma_0$  is a finite set of non-archimedean primes of  $F$  which contains no prime over  $p$ . Let  $\Sigma_1 = \Sigma_0 \cup \Phi_{K/F}$ .*

(i) *Assume that all of the assumptions in theorem A are satisfied except for the inclusion  $\Phi_{K/F} \subseteq \Sigma_0$ . If the Pontryagin dual of  $\text{Sel}_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)_p$  is projective as a  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -module, then  $\mathcal{H}_v(K_\infty, E) = 0$  for all  $v \in \Sigma_1 - \Sigma_0$ . Therefore  $\text{Sel}_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)_p = \text{Sel}_E^{\Sigma_1}(K_\infty)_p$ .*

(ii) *Suppose that  $p \geq 5$ . If the Pontryagin dual of  $\text{Sel}_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)_p$  is quasi-projective as a  $\mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta]$ -module, then  $\mathcal{H}_v(K_\infty, E) = 0$  for all  $v \in \Sigma_1 - \Sigma_0$ . Therefore  $\text{Sel}_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)_p = \text{Sel}_E^{\Sigma_1}(K_\infty)_p$ .*

# Weakening the hypotheses

Concerning the hypothesis that  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)[p]$  is finite, it suffices to assume that  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)[p^2]/\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)[p]$  is finite.

Concerning the initial set-up of fields, it suffices to assume that  $G = \text{Gal}(K_\infty/F)$  fits into an exact sequence

$$1 \longrightarrow \Delta \longrightarrow G \longrightarrow \Gamma \longrightarrow 1 .$$

Then  $\Delta = \text{Gal}(K_\infty/F_\infty)$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  and  $G$  will be isomorphic to a semidirect product  $\Delta \rtimes \Gamma$ . The hypotheses must be restated in a suitable way. For example, one replaces  $\Phi_{K/F}$  by  $\Phi_{K_\infty/F_\infty}$  (with the same definition in terms of ramification indices).

# Weakening the hypotheses

One can also take  $\Delta$  to be a  $p$ -adic Lie group for theorem **A**. In defining  $\Phi_{K/F}$  (or  $\Phi_{K_\infty/F_\infty}$ ), one should replace the statement that  $p|e_v(K/F)$  by the statement that the inertia subgroup of  $\Delta$  for a prime above  $v$  contains a non-trivial pro- $p$  subgroup.

Interestingly, if that inertia subgroup contains an infinite pro- $p$ -subgroup (which must then be isomorphic to  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ ), it follows that  $\mathcal{H}_v(K_\infty, E) = 0$ . If  $\Delta$  is a  $p$ -adic Lie group and has no elements of order  $p$ , then  $\mathcal{H}_v(K_\infty, E) = 0$  for all  $v \in \Phi_{K/F}$ . If one takes  $\Sigma_0 = \Phi_{K/F}$ , then  $\text{Sel}_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)_p = \text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)_p$ .

As for theorem **B**, we don't yet know how to extend this to the case where  $\Delta$  is an infinite  $p$ -adic Lie group.

# The difference $\lambda_E^{\Sigma_0}(\sigma) - \lambda_E(\sigma)$

We denote that difference by  $\delta_E(\Sigma_0, \sigma)$ . It is equal to the multiplicity of  $\sigma$  in the representation space

$$\bigoplus_{v \in \Sigma_0} \widehat{\mathcal{H}}_v(K_\infty, E) \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}_p} \mathcal{F}$$

of  $\Delta$ , where  $\widehat{\mathcal{H}}_v(K_\infty, E)$  denoted the Pontryagin dual of  $\mathcal{H}_v(K_\infty, E)$ . This multiplicity can be studied in a straightforward way. Thus, the difference between  $\lambda_E^{\Sigma_0}(\sigma)$  and  $\lambda_E(\sigma)$  can be determined by studying local Galois cohomology groups. We won't discuss this today.

In summary, if  $\Sigma_0$  is chosen suitably and if  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)[p]$  is assumed to be finite, then one can study the non-primitive  $\lambda$ -invariants  $\lambda_E^{\Sigma_0}(\sigma)$  by using the congruence relations, and thereby one can get information about the invariants  $\lambda_E(\sigma)$ .

# Invariants over $K$

One can use information about the  $\lambda_E(\sigma)$ 's to study the action of  $\Delta$  on  $\text{Sel}_E(K)_p$ . Let  $s_E(\sigma)$  denote the multiplicity of  $\sigma$  in the representation space  $X_E(K) \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}_p} \mathcal{F}$ , where  $X_E(K)$  denotes the Pontryagin dual of  $\text{Sel}_E(K)_p$ . If the Tate-Shafarevich group for  $E$  over  $K$  is finite, then  $s_E(\sigma) = r_E(\sigma)$ , where  $r_E(\sigma)$  is the multiplicity of  $\sigma$  in  $E(K) \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}} \mathcal{F}$ . Of course,  $r_E(\sigma)$  doesn't depend on  $p$ . By definition, one has

$$\text{rank}(E(K)) = \sum_{\sigma} \text{deg}(\sigma) r_E(\sigma) \ ,$$

$$\text{corank}_{\mathbf{Z}_p}(\text{Sel}_E(K)_p) = \sum_{\sigma} \text{deg}(\sigma) s_E(\sigma) \ ,$$

where  $\sigma$  varies over  $\text{Irr}_{\mathcal{F}}(\Delta)$ .

# Parity

Assuming that  $E$  has good ordinary reduction at the primes of  $F$  above  $p$  and that Mazur's conjecture for  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)_p$  is true, one can prove the following parity result:

*If  $\sigma$  is an irreducible orthogonal representation of  $\Delta$ , then*

$$s_E(\sigma) \equiv \lambda_E(\sigma) \pmod{2} .$$

An irreducible representation  $\sigma$  is said to be orthogonal if  $\sigma$  can be realized by orthogonal matrices over a suitable large field. Such representations are self-dual.

As examples, all of the irreducible representations of dihedral groups are orthogonal. The same is true for all the irreducible representations of  $\Delta_r = \text{PGL}_2(\mathbf{Z}/p^{r+1}\mathbf{Z})$  for  $r \geq 0$  and  $p$  odd.

# The parity conjecture

This refers to the conjecture that the sign in the (conjectural) functional equation for the Hasse-Weil  $L$ -function  $L(E/K, s)$  is  $(-1)^{\text{rank}(E(K))}$ . A refinement of this conjecture is that if  $\sigma$  is a self-dual irreducible representation of  $\Delta$ , then the sign in the (conjectural) functional equation for the twisted Hasse-Weil  $L$ -function  $L(E/F, \sigma, s)$  is  $(-1)^{r_E(\sigma)}$ . There is a conjectural value for this sign given by Deligne, and spelled out by Rohrlich.

For any prime  $p$ , there is a conjecture involving the invariants  $s_E(\sigma)$ , namely that the conjectural sign in the functional equation for  $L(E/F, \sigma, s)$  is  $(-1)^{s_E(\sigma)}$ . This is a conjecture about the parity of  $s_E(\sigma)$ , and hence (under suitable assumptions) the parity of  $\lambda_E(\sigma)$ . We refer to this as the  $p$ -Selmer version of the parity conjecture.

# Compatibility with congruence relations

With the assumptions in theorems A or B, and an additional assumption that  $E$  has semistable reduction at primes of  $F$  lying above 2 and 3, one can show that the parity conjecture is compatible with the congruence relations (viewed as equations over  $\mathbf{F}_2$ ). The proof involves a careful study of the  $\delta_v(E, \sigma)$ 's.

Suppose that  $\Delta \cong PGL_2(\mathbf{Z}/p^{r+1}\mathbf{Z})$  for  $r \geq 0$ . Let  $K_0$  be the subfield of  $K$  such that  $\Delta_0 = \text{Gal}(K_0/F) \cong PGL_2(\mathbf{F}_p)$ . One can show that if  $\text{Sel}_E(K_{0,\infty})[p]$  is finite, then  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)[p]$  is finite too. Thus, it will be enough to assume the finiteness of  $\text{Sel}_E(K_{0,\infty})[p]$ . Suppose that  $\Sigma_0$  contains  $\Phi_{K/F}$ . Under all of these assumptions, one proves the following result.

*If the  $p$ -Selmer version of the parity conjecture is true for all irreducible representations of  $\Delta_0$ , then it is also true for all irreducible representations of  $\Delta$ .*

## Other results on the parity conjecture

The  $p$ -Selmer version of the parity conjecture has been studied by Birch-Stephens, Kramer-Tunnell, Monsky, Nekovar, B.D. Kim, V. and T. Dokchitser, Coates-Fukaya-Kato-Sujatha, and Mazur-Rubin. The results in [CFKS] are somewhat parallel to the results just mentioned, although the hypotheses and approach are different.

The results of Mazur and Rubin concern dihedral extensions of degree  $2p^r$ . If  $\Delta$  is isomorphic to  $D_{2p^r}$ , then the irreducible representations of  $\Delta$  have degree 1 or 2. The two 1-dimensional representations factor through the quotient  $\Delta_0$  of  $\Delta$  of order 2. If  $\sigma$  has degree 2, and  $\rho$  is the direct sum of the two 1-dimensional representations then  $\tilde{\sigma}^{ss} \cong \tilde{\rho}^{ss}$ . In essence, under certain mild assumptions, they show that if the parity conjecture holds for the two 1-dimensional representations of  $\Delta_0$ , then it also holds for  $\sigma$ .

# Projective dimension

Recall the assumptions in theorem A.

(a)  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)[p]$  is finite.

(b)  $\Phi_{K/F} \subseteq \Sigma_0$ .

(c)  $E(K_\infty)[p] = 0$  and  $\overline{E}_v(k_v)[p] = 0$  for all  $v|p$ .

These assumptions imply that  $X_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)$  has a free resolution of length 1 as a  $\mathbf{Z}_p[[G]]$ -module, where  $G = \text{Gal}(K_\infty/F) \cong \Delta \times \Gamma$ . In fact, this is true if one replaces (a) by the assumption that  $\text{Sel}_E(K_\infty)_p$  has finite  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -corank (as conjectured by Mazur). The other assumptions are needed in full strength.

We will write  $R$  for  $\mathbf{Z}_p[[G]]$  and  $X$  for  $X_E^{\Sigma_0}(K_\infty)$ . Thus, under the above assumptions, one has an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow R^d \longrightarrow R^d \longrightarrow X \longrightarrow 0 ,$$

where  $d \geq 1$ .

## A final remark

This is a remark related to the paper *The  $GL_2$  main conjecture for elliptic curves without complex multiplication*

The map  $R^d \rightarrow R^d$  is given by right-multiplication by a  $d \times d$  matrix with entries in  $R$ . The determinant of such a matrix, if it makes sense, should be a “characteristic element” for the  $R$ -module  $X$ .

This does make sense if  $G$  is commutative. And so the above exact sequence gives a characteristic element  $\xi$  in  $R = \mathbf{Z}_p[[G]]$ . One can think of such an element as a  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -valued measure on the Galois group  $G = \Delta \times \Gamma$ . One can identify  $R$  with  $\Lambda[\Delta]$ . If  $\sigma : \Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{O}^\times$  is a character of  $\Delta$ , then  $\sigma$  induces a ring homomorphism  $\sigma : R \rightarrow \mathcal{O}[[\Gamma]]$  and  $\sigma(\xi)$  is an element of  $\mathcal{O}[[\Gamma]] = \Lambda_{\mathcal{O}}$ .

If  $G$  is non-commutative, then one can define a “determinant”  $\xi$  in some  $K_1$ . For a ring  $\mathfrak{R}$ , one defines  $K_1(\mathfrak{R})$  as a certain abelian quotient of the direct limit of the groups  $GL_n(\mathfrak{R})$  under the map sending an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  to the  $(n+1) \times (n+1)$  matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Assuming that  $G = \Delta \times \Gamma$ , one can identify  $R = \mathbf{Z}_p[[G]]$  with  $\mathbf{Z}_p[[\Gamma \times \Delta]] = \Lambda[\Delta]$ . Recall that  $\Lambda = \mathbf{Z}_p[[\Gamma]]$ . If  $S$  is a multiplicatively closed subset of the nonzero elements of  $\Lambda$  containing an annihilator of  $X$ , Then one can left-tensor the above exact sequence with  $\mathfrak{R} = R_S = \Lambda_S[\Delta]$ , obtaining an isomorphism

$$\mathfrak{R}^d \longrightarrow \mathfrak{R}^d \quad .$$

This defines a  $d \times d$  matrix and hence an element  $\xi$  in  $K_1(\mathfrak{R})$ . Note that the matrix can be taken with entries in  $R$ .

# An integrality property of $\xi$

One can think of  $\xi$  as a characteristic element for the  $R$ -module  $X$ . It has a nice integrality property, namely if  $\sigma : \Delta \rightarrow GL_n(\mathcal{O})$  is any irreducible representation of  $\Delta$ , then  $\sigma$  induces ring homomorphisms:

$$\sigma : \mathbf{Z}_p[\Delta] \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{O}), \quad \sigma : \Lambda[\Delta] \rightarrow M_n(\Lambda_{\mathcal{O}}) ,$$

where  $\Lambda_{\mathcal{O}} = \mathcal{O}[[\Gamma]]$ . This extends to a ring homomorphism

$$\sigma : \mathfrak{K} \rightarrow M_n(\Lambda_{\mathcal{O},S}) .$$

One then gets a homomorphism  $\Phi_{\sigma}$  from  $K_1(\mathfrak{K})$  to

$$K_1(M_n(\Lambda_{\mathcal{O},S})) = K_1(\Lambda_{\mathcal{O},S}) = \Lambda_{\mathcal{O},S}^{\times} .$$

The remark is that  $\Phi_{\sigma}(\xi)$  is in  $\Lambda_{\mathcal{O}}$ .