

Ranks and Parity of Ranks of Curves and Abelian Surfaces

MA842 at BU Spring 2019

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1 Mordell-Weil groups

These are notes for Céline Maistret's course MA842 at BU Spring 2019.

The course webpage is https://sites.google.com/view/cmaistret/teaching#h.p_BYGoPzU848FJ.

Lecture 1 22/1/2018

Outline

1. Elliptic curves and their ranks
 - (a) Background
 - i. Mordell Weil theorem (state and prove) (ANT and cohomological proof)
 - ii. Non-effectivity
 - iii. Computing the rank (descent)
 - (b) The Birch and Swinnerton-Dyer conjecture
 - i. Heuristic via counting points on the reduced curve
 - ii. L -functions
 - iii. BSD-1
 - iv. Local arithmetic invariants and BSD-2
 - (c) Parity of ranks
 - i. Isogeny invariants of BSD 2
 - ii. Galois representations and local root numbers
 - iii. The parity conjecture
2. Abelian surfaces
 - (a) Background on genus 2 curves and their Jacobians
 - (b) BSD in this case
 - (c) Computability of local arithmetic invariants
 - (d) Parity conjecture

Evaluation, none, when not around will give exercise/project, if you come regularly and do a computation you pass.

Main references that we will be following:

1. Vladimir Dokchitser - Lecture course
2. Silverman - Arithmetic of Elliptic Curves
3. Milne - Abelian Varieties?

1.1 Elliptic curves and their ranks

Sources: Silverman I, V. Dokchitser's lectures.

1.1.1 Mordell-Weil

Let K be a number field and let E/K be an elliptic curve. The group $E(K)$ is finitely generated.

$$E(K) \simeq E(K)_{\text{tors}} \oplus \mathbf{Z}^r.$$

Where $E(K)_{\text{tors}}$ is a finite subgroup and r is the rank, a non-negative integer.

Assuming that we can compute the torsion subgroup, computing the rank would completely determine $E(K)$ and hence solve the associated diophantine problem.

Plan

1. Understand the proof of Mordell-Weil
2. See where it is non-effective.
3. From the proof, extract a strategy to sometimes compute the rank (define Selmer groups, Shafarevich-Tate group).

Outline proof of Mordell-Weil. Part 1: Prove that

$$E(K)/mE(K)$$

is finite for some $m \geq 2$.

Part 2: use a descent argument with heights of points. ■

Of these two parts of the proof, part 1 is the challenging/interesting one.

For part 2: Assuming that

$$E(K)/mE(K)$$

is finite and that E has a "height function" then $E(K)$ is finitely generated.

Theorem 1.1 Descent theorem (see Thm. VIII 3.1). Let A be an abelian group, suppose that there exists a function

$$h: A \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$$

with the following properties:

1. Let $Q \in A$ then there is a constant c_1 depending on Q and A such that

$$h(P + Q) = 2h(P) + c_1, \forall P \in A.$$

2. There is an integer $m \geq 2$ and a constant c_2 depending on A s.t.

$$h(mP) \geq m^2 h(P) - c_2, \forall P \in A.$$

3. For every constant c_3 , the set

$$\{P \in A : h(P) \leq c_3\}$$

is finite.

suppose further that for the m in 2. we have A/mA is finite. Then A is finitely generated.

Proof. Choose elements $Q_1, \dots, Q_r \in A$ to represent the finitely many cosets in A/mA . Let P be a point in A . We show that P can be generated by Q_1, \dots, Q_r plus a set of finitely many points of bounded height.

First write

$$P = mP_1 + Q_{i_1}$$

for some $1 \leq i \leq r$. Repeat this for

$$P_1 = mP_2 + Q_{i_2}$$

$$P_2 = mP_3 + Q_{i_3}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$P_{n-1} = mP_n + Q_{i_n}$$

by property 2. of h we have

$$h(P_j) \leq \frac{1}{m^2}(h(mP_j) + c_2)$$

$$\frac{1}{m^2}(h(P_{j-1}) - Q_{i_j}) + c_2)$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{m^2}(2h(P_{j-1}) + c'_1 + c_2)$$

by 1. Where c'_1 is the maximum of the constants from i for Q in $\{-Q_1, \dots, -Q_r\}$. Note that c'_1 and c_2 do not depend on P and that $h(P) \geq 0$. We repeat this inequality starting from P_n and working back to P .

$$\begin{aligned} h(P_n) &\leq \left(\frac{2}{m^2}\right)^n h(P) + \frac{1}{m^2} \left(1 + \frac{2}{m^2} + \left(\frac{2}{m^2}\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{2}{m^2}\right)^{n-1}\right) (c'_1 + c_2) \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{m^2}\right)^n h(P) + \frac{1}{m^2} \left(1 + \frac{2}{m^2} + \left(\frac{2}{m^2}\right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{2}{m^2}\right)^{n-1}\right) (c'_1 + c_2) \\ &< \left(\frac{2}{m^2}\right)^n h(P) + \frac{c'_1 + c_2}{m^2 - 2} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2^n} h(P) + \frac{c'_1 + c_2}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

since $m \geq 2$. Hence for n sufficiently large (to make $\frac{1}{2^n} h(P) \leq 1$) we have

$$h(P_n) \leq 1 + \frac{1}{2}(c'_1 + c_2).$$

Since P is a linear combination of P_n and Q_i

$$P = m^n P_n + \sum_{j=1}^n m^{j-1} Q_{i_j},$$

it follows that every $P \in A$ is a linear combination of points in

$$\{Q_1, \dots, Q_r\} \cup \{Q \in A : h(Q) \leq 1 + \frac{1}{2}(c'_1 + c_2)\}.$$

■

Remark 1.2 On E/\mathbb{Q} the height function

$$h: E(\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$$

$$P \mapsto \begin{cases} \log(\max\{|p|, |q|\}), & x(P) = \frac{p}{q}, \quad P \neq 0, \\ 0, & P = 0. \end{cases}$$

satisfies the conditions of [Theorem 1.1](#).

Remark 1.3 The above proof is effective. To find generators of $E(\mathbb{Q})$ first compute $c_1 = c_1(Q_i)$ for each i , then compute c_2 . Find points of bounded height. Note that we need Q_1, \dots, Q_r to start with.

It remains to show part 1:

Theorem 1.4 Weak Mordell-Weil. *Let K be a number field E/K an elliptic curve, $m \geq 2$ then*

$$\#E(K)/mE(K) < \infty.$$

We will prove this under the assumption that $E[m] \subseteq E(K)$. This is WLOG since:

Lemma 1.5 *Let L/K be a finite Galois extension, if*

$$E(L)/mE(L)$$

is finite then so is

$$E(K)/mE(K).$$

Proof.

$$0 \rightarrow \phi \rightarrow E(K)/mE(K) \xrightarrow{\varphi} E(L)/mE(L) \rightarrow 0$$

induced by

$$E(K) \subseteq E(L),$$

and prove that ϕ is finite. Kernel ϕ is given by

$$\frac{E(K) \cap mE(L)}{mE(K)},$$

take $P \in \phi$. We can choose $Q_P \in E(L)$ such that $Q_P = P$. Define a map of sets

$$\lambda_P: G_{L/K} \rightarrow E[m]$$

$$\sigma \mapsto Q_P^\sigma - Q_P.$$

Note that

$$[m](Q_P^\sigma - Q_P) = ([m]Q_P)^\sigma - [m]Q_P = 0.$$

Now we show that the association

$$\phi \rightarrow \text{Map}(G_{L/K}, E[m])$$

$$P \mapsto \lambda_P$$

is 1 to 1.

Suppose that $P, P' \in E(K) \cap mE(L)$ satisfying $\lambda_P = \lambda_{P'}$ then

$$(Q_P - Q_{P'})^\sigma = Q_P - Q_{P'}$$

for all $\sigma \in G_{L/K}$ so $Q_P - Q_{P'} \in E(K)$ and hence

$$P - P' = [m]Q_P - [m]Q_{P'} \in mE(K)$$

hence

$$P = P' \pmod{mE(K)}.$$

$G_{L/K}$ and $E[m]$ are both finite, hence so is ϕ . ■

Lecture 2 29/1/2018

Now we will prove the weak Mordell-Weil theorem. Using the above lemma we can reduce to the case where $E[m] \subseteq E(K)$, so we assume this going forwards.

Definition 1.6 The Kummer pairing. The Kummer pairing is

$$\kappa: E(K) \times G_{\bar{K}/K} \rightarrow E[m]$$

$$P, \sigma \mapsto Q^\sigma - Q$$

where Q is a choice of point in $E(\bar{K})$ such that $mQ = P$. \diamond

Proposition 1.7 κ is well defined, bilinear, the kernel in the first argument is $mE(K)$ and in the second argument is $G_{\bar{K}/L}$ where $L = K([m]^{-1}E(K))$ is the compositum of all fields $\kappa(x(Q), y(Q))$ as Q ranges over all the points of $E(\bar{K})$ s.t. $mQ \in E(K)$.

Hence the Kummer pairing induces a perfect bilinear pairing

$$E(K)/mE(K) \times G_{L/K} \rightarrow E[m]$$

i.e. the map

$$E(K)/mE(K) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_K(G_{L/K}, E[m])$$

$$P \mapsto (\sigma \mapsto Q^\sigma - Q)$$

is an isomorphism.

Lecture 3 31/1/2018

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Remark 1.8 A homomorphism $\phi: \text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K) \rightarrow G$ for a finite group G is continuous if it comes from a finite Galois extension, i.e.

$$\exists F/K \text{ finite Galois, } \tilde{\phi}: \text{Gal}(F/K) \rightarrow G$$

s.t. ϕ is the composition $\text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K) \rightarrow \text{Gal}(F/K) \xrightarrow{\tilde{\phi}} G$. So $\phi(g)$ only cares about what g does to F .

Proposition 1.9 Let E/K be an elliptic curve

$$y^2 = (x - \alpha)(x - \beta)(x - \gamma)$$

for $P \in E(K)$ have $\frac{1}{2}P \in E(\bar{K})$ s.t. $\frac{1}{2}P \oplus \frac{1}{2}P = P$.

1. $K(\frac{1}{2}P)/K$ is a Galois extension and $\text{Gal}(K(\frac{1}{2}P)/K) = C_2 \times C_2$ from Lemma 1.

2.

$$\phi_P: \text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K) \rightarrow E(K)[2]$$

$$g \mapsto Q^\sigma - Q = g(\frac{1}{2}P) - \frac{1}{2}P$$

is well defined and has kernel $\text{Gal}(K/K(\frac{1}{2}P))$.

3.

$$\phi: E(K)/2E(K) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{cts}(\text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K), E(K)[2])$$

$$P \mapsto \phi_P$$

is well defined and injective. Now ϕ_P is continuous by 2. and so

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_{P \oplus Q}(g) &= g\left(\frac{1}{2}(P \oplus Q)\right) - \left(\frac{1}{2}P \oplus \frac{1}{2}Q\right) \\ &= g\left(\frac{1}{2}P\right) \oplus g\left(\frac{1}{2}Q\right) - \frac{1}{2}P \oplus \frac{1}{2}Q \\ &= \phi_P(g) \oplus \phi_Q(g)\end{aligned}$$

a homomorphism.

$$\phi_{2Q}(g) = g\left(\frac{1}{2}2Q\right) - \frac{1}{2}2(Q) = g(Q) - Q = 0$$

for all $g \in \text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K)$ if $Q \in E(K)$ so this is well defined. For injectivity:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_P(g) = 0 &\implies g\left(\frac{1}{2}P\right) = \frac{1}{2}P \forall g \in \text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K) \\ &\implies \frac{1}{2}P \in E(K) \implies P \in 2E(K)\end{aligned}$$

which gives injectivity.

4.

$$\eta: \text{Hom}_{\text{cts}}(\text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K), E(K)[2]) \rightarrow K^\times/K^{\times 2} \times K^\times/K^{\times 2} \times K^\times/K^{\times 2}$$

$$\psi \mapsto \psi_\alpha, \psi_\beta, \psi_\gamma$$

$$\psi(g) \in \{0, (\alpha, 0)\} \subseteq E(K) \iff g \in \text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K(\sqrt{\psi_\alpha}))$$

then η is an injective homomorphism. It is an isomorphism to the subgroup of triples a, b, c s.t. $abc \in K^{\times 2}$. Proof:

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{cts}}(\text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K), C_2) \simeq K^\times/K^{\times 2}$$

with ψ s.t. $\ker \psi = \text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K\sqrt{d}) \leftrightarrow d$. It is an isomorphism:

$$\ker \psi_i = \text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K(\sqrt{d_i})), \quad i = 1, 2$$

$$\ker \psi_1 \psi_2 = \text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K(\sqrt{d_1 d_2}))$$

Now apply this to $E(K)[2] = C_2 \times C_2$ to get an isomorphism to $K^\times/K^{\times 2} \times K^\times/K^{\times 2}$. Record this third homomorphism to get η .

5. If $P = (x_0, y_0) \in E(K)$ then

$$\eta(\phi_P) = (x_0 - \alpha, x_0 - \beta, x_0 - \gamma).$$

Proof sketch: If

$$E: y^2 = x^3 + Ax^2 + Bx$$

then for $Q = (x_0, y_0) \in E(K)$.

$$2Q = \left(\left(\frac{x_0 - B}{2y_0} \right)^2, \dots \right)$$

Hence if $2Q = P = (x_1, y_1)$ then $\sqrt{x_1} \in K(\frac{1}{2}P)$. So if

$$E: y^2 = (x - \alpha)(x - \beta)(x - \gamma)$$

then

$$P = (x_2, y_2)$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{x_2 - \alpha}, \sqrt{x_2 - \beta}, \sqrt{x_2 - \gamma} &\in K(\tfrac{1}{2}P) \\ K(\sqrt{x_2 - \alpha}), K(\sqrt{x_2 - \beta}), K(\sqrt{x_2 - \gamma}) &\subseteq K(\tfrac{1}{2}P) \\ \implies K(\tfrac{1}{2}P) &= K(\sqrt{x_2 - \alpha}, \sqrt{x_2 - \beta}, \sqrt{x_2 - \gamma}) \end{aligned}$$

Example 1.10 Let

$$E: y^2 = x(x-1)(x+1)$$

for $P \in E(\mathbf{Q})$, $\mathbf{Q}(\frac{1}{2}P)/\mathbf{Q}$ can only ramify at 2.

$$\mathbf{Q}(\tfrac{1}{2}P) \subseteq \mathbf{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})$$

$$P = (x_0, y_0) \mapsto x_0, x_0 - 1, x_0 + 1 \in \mathbf{Q}^\times / \mathbf{Q}^{\times 2}$$

is a homomorphism so $x_0, x_0 - 1, x_0 + 1$ are $\pm 1, \pm 2$ up to square.

x_0	$x_0 - 1$	$x_0 + 1$	rat?
1	1	1	1) rat
1	-1	-1	2) non-rat
1	2	2	1) rat
1	-2	-2	2) non-rat
-1	1	-1	2) non-rat
-1	-1	1	1) rat
-1	2	-1	2) non-rat
-1	-2	2	1) rat
2	1	2	3) non-rat
2	-1	-2	2) non-rat
2	2	1	4) rat
2	-2	-1	2) non-rat
-2	1	-2	?
-2	-1	2	?
-2	2	-1	?
-2	-2	1	?

Table 1.11: Images

1) The 2-torsion points $P = 0, (0, 0), (1, 0), (-1, 0) \in E(\mathbf{Q})$ give us some rows.
2) As we have $x_0 > -1$ we get $x_0 + 1 > 0$ so $x_0(x_0 - 1) > 0$ for the product to be a square (and hence > 0). 3) $x_0 = 2A^2$, $x_0 - 1 = B^2$, $x_0 + 1 = 2C^2$ with $A, B, C \in \mathbf{Q} \setminus \{0\}$. Let $A = m/n$ so $2m^2/n^2 - 1 = B^2$

$$2m^2 - n^2 = (Bn)^2$$

and

$$2m^2 + n^2 = 2(Cn)^2$$

if $m \equiv 0(2) \implies -1 \equiv \square \pmod{8}$ a contradiction.

$$m \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \implies m^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}.$$

$$\text{So } 2 - n^2 = \square \pmod{8} \implies n^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$$

$$2 + n^2 = 2\square \pmod{8} \implies n^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$$

$$|E(\mathbf{Q})/2E(\mathbf{Q})| = 4$$

$$|E(\mathbf{Q})[2]| = 4 \implies \text{rk} = 0$$

$$E(\mathbf{Q}) \cong E(\mathbf{Q})[2].$$

4) Use the group structure! □

Theorem 1.12 Complete 2-decent. *Let K be a field of characteristic 0 and*

$$E: y^2 = (x - \alpha)(x - \beta)(x - \gamma), \alpha, \beta, \gamma \text{ distinct.}$$

The map

$$P \mapsto (x_0 - \alpha, x_0 - \beta, x_0 - \gamma)$$

replacing $x_0 - \alpha$ with $(x_0 - \beta)(x_0 - \gamma)$ if 0.

$$E(K)/2E(K) \rightarrow (K^\times/K^{\times 2})^3$$

Triples (a, b, c) that lie in the image satisfy $abc \in K^{\times 2}$. A triple a, b, c with $abc \in K^{\times 2}$ lies in the image iff it is in the image of $E(K)[2]$ or

$$cz_3^2 - \alpha + \gamma = az_1^2$$

$$cz_3^2 - \beta + \gamma = bz_1^2$$

is soluble with $z_i \in K^\times$. In which case

$$P = (az_1^2 + \alpha, \sqrt{abc}, z_1z_2z_3) \mapsto (a, b, c)$$

iii) If K is a number field and (a, b, c) is in the image then

$$K(\sqrt{a}, \sqrt{b}, \sqrt{c})/K$$

only ramifies at primes dividing $2(\alpha - \beta)(\alpha - \gamma)(\beta - \gamma)$.

Exercise 1.13

$$E: y^2 = x(x - 5)(x + 5).$$

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Recall:

$$\phi: E(K)/2E(K) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{cts}(G_K, E(K)[2])$$

$$P \mapsto \phi_P$$

where $\phi_P: \sigma \mapsto Q^\sigma - Q$ where $Q = 2P$. Which is well-defined and injective.

Elements of

$$\text{Hom}_{cts}(G_K, E[2]) \leftrightarrow a, b, c \in (K^\times/K^{\times 2}) \text{ s.t. } abc \in K^{\times 2}$$

$$(x_0, y_0) \mapsto (x_0 - \alpha, x_0 - \beta, x_0 - \gamma).$$

Lemma 1.14 *Let $n \geq 1$*

1.

$$\psi: E(K)/nE(K) \rightarrow \{K \subseteq F \subseteq \bar{K}\}$$

$$P \mapsto K(\frac{1}{n}P, E[n])$$

is well defined.

2. $K(\frac{1}{n}P, E[n])/K$ only ramifies at $\mathfrak{p}|n\Delta_E$.

3.

$$\text{Gal}(K(\frac{1}{n}P, E[n])/K) \leq \mathbf{Z}/n \times \mathbf{Z}/n$$

4. There are only finitely many fields satisfying 2. and 3. so $\text{im } \psi$ is finite.

To do descent, need more than ψ (i.e. injection).

Definition 1.15 Let G be a group and M a G -module then let

$$H^0(G, M) = M^G = \{m \in M : gm = m \forall g \in G\}$$

$$H^1(G, M) = \{\text{skew homs } G \rightarrow M\} / \{\text{skew homs } G \rightarrow M \text{ of the form } g \mapsto g(t) - t, t \in M\}.$$

◇

Remark 1.16 If G acts trivially on M then

$$H^0(G, M) = M$$

$$H^1(G, M) = \text{Hom}(G, M).$$

When G is profinite then we want that the skew homomorphisms factor through finite Galois groups. We will prove that

$$E(K)/nE(K) \hookrightarrow H^1(G_K, E[n]).$$

Theorem 1.17 If

$$0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$$

is an exact sequence of G -modules then

$$0 \rightarrow H^0(G, A) \rightarrow H^0(G, B) \rightarrow H^0(G, C) \rightarrow H^1(G, A) \rightarrow H^1(G, B) \rightarrow H^1(G, C).$$

Lemma 1.18

1. ψ is finite-to-one (gives Mordell-Weil)

2. Let

$$\phi_P : G_K \rightarrow E[n]$$

$$\phi_P(gh) = \phi_P(g) + g\phi_P(h)$$

is a skew (or crossed) homomorphism. If $(\frac{1}{n}P)'$ is another choice of $\frac{1}{n}P$ and ϕ'_P is the corresponding skew homomorphism, then

$$\phi_P - \phi'_P$$

is of the form

$$g \mapsto T \ominus gT$$

where $T \in E[n]$.

3. ϕ_P factors through

$$\text{Gal}(K(\frac{1}{n}P, E[n])/K).$$

4.

$$\phi : E(K)/nE(K) \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}/B$$

$$P \mapsto \phi_P$$

is an injective homomorphism. Where

$$Z = \{\text{skew homs } G_K \rightarrow E[n]\}$$

$$B = \{\text{skew homs } G_K \rightarrow E[n] \text{ of the form } g \mapsto T \ominus gT, T \in E[n]\}.$$

Proof.

1. There are finitely many skew homomorphisms

$$\text{Gal}(K(\frac{1}{n}P, E[n])/K) \rightarrow E[n]$$

and by 4.

$$P \mapsto \{\phi_P, K(\frac{1}{n}P, E[n])\}$$

is injective. So $\psi: P \mapsto K(\frac{1}{n}P, E[n])$ is finite to one by 3.

- 2.

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_P(gh) &= \frac{1}{n}P \ominus gh \frac{1}{n}P \\ &= \left(\left(\frac{1}{n}P \right) \ominus g \left(\frac{1}{n}P \right) \right) \oplus \left(g \left(\frac{1}{n}P \right) \ominus g(h \left(\frac{1}{n}P \right)) \right) \\ &= \phi_P \oplus g(\phi_P(h)). \end{aligned}$$

Remark: If $E[n] \subseteq E(K)$ then ϕ_P is a homomorphism. Recall for $n = 2$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_P(gh) &= \frac{1}{2}P \ominus gh \left(\frac{1}{2}P \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}P \ominus h \left(\frac{1}{2}P \right) \oplus h \left(\frac{1}{2}P \right) \ominus g(h \left(\frac{1}{2}P \right)) \\ &= \phi_P(h) \oplus \phi_P(g) \end{aligned}$$

since $2h(\frac{1}{2}P) = h(P) = P$. Consider now

$$\frac{1}{n}P = \frac{1}{n}P' \oplus T$$

for some $T \in E[n]$

$$\begin{aligned} (\phi_P \ominus \phi'_P)(g) &= \phi_P(g) - \phi'_P(g) = \frac{1}{n}P \ominus g \left(\frac{1}{n}P \right) - \left[\left(\frac{1}{n}P \right) \oplus T \ominus g \left(\frac{1}{n}P \right) \oplus gT \right] \\ &= T \ominus gT. \end{aligned}$$

■

Take $G = G_K$

$$B = E(\bar{K}), A = E[n], C = E(\bar{K})$$

to get

$$0 \rightarrow E[n] \rightarrow E(\bar{K}) \xrightarrow{\cdot n} E(\bar{K}) \rightarrow 0$$

which gives the long exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow E(K)[n] \rightarrow E(K) \xrightarrow{\cdot n} E(K) \xrightarrow{\delta} H^1(G_K, E[n]) \rightarrow H^1(G_K, E(\bar{K})) \rightarrow \\ \implies E(K)/nE(K) \hookrightarrow H^1(G_K, E[n]). \end{aligned}$$

Problem:

$$H^1(G_K, E[n])$$

is infinite. What subgroup of

$$H^1(G_K, E[n])$$

do we land in?

Notation: When v is a place of K we have $G_{K_v} \subseteq G_K$, for any module M have $M^{G_K} \leq M^{G_{K_v}}$ and

$$\text{Res}: H^1(G_K, E[n]) \rightarrow H^1(G_{K_v}, E[n]).$$

We have from the theorem

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & E(K)/nE(K) & \xrightarrow{\delta} & H^1(G_K, E[n]) & \longrightarrow & H^1(G_K, E(\bar{K}))[n] \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{Res} & & \downarrow \text{Res} \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \prod_v E(K_v)/nE(K_v) & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \prod_v H^1(G_{K_v}, E[n]) & \longrightarrow & \prod_v H^1(G_{K_v}, E(\bar{K}))[n] \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

we want to understand $\text{im } \delta$ i.e. the subgroup

$$\ker\{H^1(G_K, E[n]) \rightarrow H^1(G_K, E(\bar{K}))\}$$

this is as hard as finding $E(K)$, here is why:

Claim 1.19

$$H^1(G_K, E(\bar{K}))$$

corresponding to principal homogeneous spaces for E (genus 1 curves whose jacobian is E)

Finding

$$\ker\{H^1(G_K, E[n]) \rightarrow H^1(G_K, E(\bar{K}))\}$$

is equivalent to finding which PHS coming from H^1 have a rational point. ???
Hensel's lemma.

Let C be a curve

$$\text{Isom}(C) \leftrightarrow C(\bar{K}) \times \text{Aut}(C)$$

$$\tau_p \circ \alpha \leftrightarrow (P, \sigma)$$

$$\text{Twist}(E/K) \leftrightarrow H^1(G_K, \text{Isom}(C))$$

$$C \simeq_{\bar{K}} E$$

$$\text{PHS} \leftrightarrow H^1(G_K, E(\bar{K}))$$

C is a PHS for E iff E is the jacobian of C .

Lecture 6 14/2/2018

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & E(K)/nE(K) & \xrightarrow{\delta} & H^1(G_K, E[n]) & \longrightarrow & H^1(G_K, E(\bar{K}))[n] \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{Res} & & \downarrow \text{Res} \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \prod_v E(K_v)/nE(K_v) & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \prod_v H^1(G_{K_v}, E[n]) & \longrightarrow & \prod_v H^1(G_{K_v}, E(\bar{K}))[n] \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Definition 1.20 Twists of curves. A **twist** of C/K is a smooth curve C'/K that is isomorphic to C over \bar{K} . \diamond

If C_1, C_2 are twists of C/K and $C_1 \simeq_K C_2$ then we say that C_1 and C_2 are equivalent modulo K -isomorphism.

We denote $\text{Twist}(C/K)$ - the set of twists of C/K modulo K -isomorphism.

Theorem 1.21 *The twists of C/K up to K -isomorphism are in 1-1 correspondence with elements of*

$$H^1(G_K, \text{Isom}(C))$$

where

$$\text{Isom}(C) = \{\bar{K}\text{-isomorphisms } C \rightarrow C\}.$$

Proof. Let C'/K be a twist of C/K then there exists an isomorphism $\phi: C' \rightarrow C$ over \bar{K} .

$$\phi: C' \rightarrow C$$

associate the following map

$$\xi: G_K \rightarrow \text{Isom}(C)$$

$$\sigma \mapsto \phi^\sigma \phi^{-1}.$$

Check that ξ is a cocycle

$$\xi_{\sigma\tau} = (\xi_\sigma)^\tau \xi_\tau$$

for all $\sigma, \tau \in G_K$. Denote $\{\xi\}$ the associated class in H^1 . $\{\xi\}$ is determined by the K -isomorphism class of C' independent of the choice ϕ .

The map

$$\text{Twist}(C/K) \leftrightarrow H^1(G_K, \text{Isom}(C))$$

$$C' \mapsto \{\xi\}$$

is a bijection.

Injective, trace through.

Surjectivity, define the function field using the curve. \blacksquare

Remark 1.22 If C is an elliptic curve then $\text{Isom}(C)$ is generated by

$$\text{Aut}(C)(\text{fixing } 0)$$

and translations

$$\tau_P: C \rightarrow C$$

$$Q \mapsto Q + P.$$

Example 1.23 E/K elliptic, consider

$$K(\sqrt{d})$$

a quadratic extension and χ the associated character

$$\chi: G_K \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$$

$$\sigma \mapsto \sigma(\sqrt{d})/\sqrt{d}.$$

The group ± 1 can be viewed as automorphisms of C . So use χ to define the cocycle

$$\xi: G_K \rightarrow \text{Isom}(C)$$

$$\sigma \mapsto [\chi(\sigma)].$$

Let C/K be the corresponding twist of E/K , we find an equation for C/K . Choose

$$y^2 = f(x) \text{ for } E/K$$

and write

$$\bar{K}(E) = \bar{K}(x, y)$$

$$\bar{K}(C) = \bar{K}(x, y)_\xi$$

since $[-1](x, y) = (x, -y)$ the action of $\sigma \in G_K$ on

$$\bar{K}(x, y)_\xi \text{ is given by } \sqrt{d}^\sigma = \chi(\sigma)\sqrt{d}$$

$$x^\sigma = x, y = \chi(\sigma)y$$

note that the function $x' = x$ and $y' = y/\sqrt{d}$ are in $\bar{K}(x, y)_\xi$ and are fixed by G_K . Now x', y' satisfy

$$dy'^2 = f(x')/K$$

is defined over K and defines an elliptic curve. Moreover

$$(x, y) \mapsto (x', y'\sqrt{d})$$

is an isomorphism over $K(\sqrt{d})$. □

Note C/K is not a principal homogeneous space for E/K .

Definition 1.24 Homogenous spaces. Let E/K be an elliptic curve, a principal homogeneous space for E/K is a smooth curve C/K together with a simply transitive algebraic group action of E on C defined over K .

$$\mu: C \times E \rightarrow C$$

morphism defined over K satisfying

1.

$$\mu(P, 0) = P \forall P \in C$$

2.

$$\mu(\mu(p, P), Q) = \mu(p, P + Q) \forall P \in C$$

3.

$$\forall p, q \in C, \exists! P \in E \text{ s.t.}$$

$$\mu(p, P) = q$$

so we may define a subtraction map

$$\nu: C \times C \rightarrow E$$

$$p, q \mapsto P$$

as above. ◇

Proposition 1.25 Let E/K and C/K be a principal homogeneous space for E/K . Fix a point $p_0 \in C$ and define a map

$$\theta: E \rightarrow C$$

$$P \mapsto p_0 + \underbrace{P}_{\mu(p_0, P)}.$$

1. θ is an isomorphism over $K(p_0)$. In particular C/K is a twist of E/K .

2. $\forall p, q \in C$

$$q - p = \theta^{-1}(q) - \theta^{-1}(p).$$

3. θ is a morphism over K .

Definition 1.26 Two homogeneous space C/K and C'/K for E/K are equivalent if there is an isomorphism

$$\phi: C \rightarrow C'$$

defined over K and is compatible with the action of E on C and C' .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C & \xrightarrow{\theta} & E \\ \phi \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ C' & \longrightarrow & E' \end{array}$$

◇

The equivalence class of PHS for E/K containing E/K acting on itself via translation is called the trivial class.

The collection of equivalence classes of PHS for E/K is called the Weil-Châtelet group, denoted

$$WC(E/K).$$

Proposition 1.27 Let C/K be a PHS for E/K then C/K is in the trivial class $\iff C(K) \neq \emptyset$.

Theorem 1.28 Let E/K then there is a natural bijection after fixing $p_0 \in C$

$$WC(E/K) \rightarrow H^1(G_K, \underbrace{E(\bar{K})}_{\subseteq \text{Isom}(E)})$$

$$\{C/K\} \mapsto \{\sigma \mapsto p_0^\sigma - p_0\}$$

Proof. Well-definedness:

$$\sigma \mapsto p_0^\sigma - p_0$$

is a cocycle. Suppose that C'/K and C/K are two equivalent PHS then

$$p_0^\sigma - p_0$$

and

$$p_0'^\sigma - p_0'$$

are cohomologous.

Injective, suppose that $p_0^\sigma - p_0$ and $p_0'^\sigma - p_0'$ corresponding to C/K and C'/K that are cohomologous and prove that $C \simeq_K C'$.

Surjective: let $\xi: G_K \rightarrow E(\bar{K})$ be a cocycle representing an element in $H^1(G_K, E)$. Embed

$$E(\bar{K}) \hookrightarrow \text{Isom}(E)$$

$$P \mapsto \tau_P$$

and view

$$\xi \in H^1(G_K, \text{Isom } E).$$

From the theorem on

$$\text{Twist}(E/K) \leftrightarrow H^1(G_K, \text{Isom}(E))$$

there exists a curve C/K and a \bar{K} -isomorphism

$$\phi: C \rightarrow E$$

s.t.

$$\forall \sigma \in G_K : \phi^\sigma \phi^{-1} = \text{translation by } -\xi_\sigma.$$

Define a map $\mu: C \times E \rightarrow C$

$$(p, Q) \mapsto \phi^{-1}(\phi(p) + Q).$$

Show that μ is simply transitive.

Show μ defined over K . Compute the cohomology class associated to C/K and show it is ξ . ■

Remark 1.29 For a given C/K of genus 1 one can define several structures of PHS.

$$\{C/K, \mu\}^\alpha = \{C/K, \mu \circ (1 \times \alpha)\}$$

$$\mu^\alpha(p, Q) = \mu(p, \alpha Q)$$

for $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(E)$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C & \xrightarrow{\mu} & E \\ & & \downarrow P \\ C' & \xrightarrow{\mu^\alpha} & E' \end{array}$$

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Example 1.30 E/K and $K(\sqrt{d})/K$ a quadratic extension. Let $T \in E(K)$ be a non-trivial point of order 2. Then $\xi: G_K \rightarrow E$

$$\sigma \mapsto \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } (\sqrt{d})^\sigma = \sqrt{d}, \\ T & \text{if } (\sqrt{d})^\sigma = -\sqrt{d}. \end{cases}$$

We construct the PHS corresponding to $\{\xi\} \in H^1(G_K, E(\bar{K}))$. Since $T \in E(K)$ can choose a Weierstraß equation for E/K

$$E: y^2 = x^3 + ax^2 + bx \text{ with } T = (0, 0)$$

then the translation by T map is given by

$$\tau_T(P) = (x, y) + (0, 0) = \left(\frac{b}{x}, -\frac{by}{x^2} \right)$$

for

$$P = (x, y).$$

Thus if $\sigma \in G_K$ is non-trivial, σ acts on $\bar{K}(E)_\xi$, which is isomorphic to $\bar{K}(E)$ but $\text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K)$ action is twisted by ξ , i.e. $x^{\text{id}} \mapsto (x^{\text{id}})^\sigma$.

$$(\sqrt{d})^\sigma = -\sqrt{d}$$

$$x^\sigma = \frac{b}{x}, y^\sigma = -\frac{by}{x^2}$$

need to find the subfield of $K(\sqrt{d})(x, y)_\xi$ fixed by σ . Note:

$$\frac{\sqrt{d}x}{y}, \sqrt{d}\left(x - \frac{b}{x}\right)$$

are invariant, take

$$z = \frac{\sqrt{d}x}{y}, w = \sqrt{d}\left(x - \frac{b}{x}\right)\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^2$$

and find relations between z and w to get

$$C: dw^2 = d^2 - 2adz^2 + (a^2 - 4b)z^4.$$

Claim: C/K is the PHS of E/K corresponding to $\{\xi\}$. There is a natural map

$$\phi: E \rightarrow C$$

$$(x, y) \mapsto (z, w)$$

$$(x, y) \mapsto \left(\frac{\sqrt{d}y}{x^2 + ax + b}, \frac{\sqrt{d}(x^2 - b)}{x^2 + ax + b} \right)$$

so that

$$\phi(0, 0) = (0, -\sqrt{d})$$

$$\phi(0) = (0, \sqrt{d})$$

- Prove that ϕ is an isomorphism so C is a twist.
- C is the PHS corresponding to $\{\xi\}$. Take $p \in C$ and compute

$$\sigma \mapsto p^\sigma - p = \phi^{-1}(p^\sigma) - \phi^{-1}(p)$$

for example let $p = (0, \sqrt{d}) \in C$, if $\sigma = \text{id}$ then $p^\sigma - p = 0 - 0 = 0$. If $\sigma = -\text{id}$ then $p^\sigma - p = T - 0 = T$.

□

Back to Selmer, we want to have the image of our weak Mordell-Weil land in something finite.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & E(K)/mE(K) & \xrightarrow{\delta} & H^1(G_K, E[m]) & \longrightarrow & WC(E/K)[m] \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{Res} & & \downarrow \text{Res} \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \prod_v E(K_v)/nE(K_v) & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \prod_v H^1(G_{K_v}, E[n]) & \longrightarrow & \prod_v WC(E/K_v)[m] \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Definition 1.31 *m-Selmer groups.* The m -Selmer group of E/K is the subgroup of

$$H^1(G_K, E[m])$$

defined by

$$\text{Sel}^m(E/K) = \ker \left\{ H^1(G_K, E[m]) \rightarrow \prod_v WC(E/K_v) \right\}.$$

◇

Definition 1.32 The Shafarevich-Tate group. The **Shafarevich-Tate** group of E/K is the subgroup of

$$WC(E/K)$$

defined by

$$\text{III}(E/K) = \ker \left\{ WC(E/K) \rightarrow \prod_v WC(E/K_v) \right\}.$$

◇

Theorem 1.33 *There is an exact sequence*

1.

$$0 \rightarrow E(K)/mE(K) \rightarrow \text{Sel}^m(E/K) \rightarrow \text{III}(E/K)[m] \rightarrow 0$$

2. $\text{Sel}^m(E/K)$ is finite.

1.1.2 p^∞ -Selmer and the structure of III

$H^1(G_K, E(\bar{K}))$ is torsion for general galois cohomological reasons. So

$$\text{III}(E/K) \subseteq H^1(G_K, E(\bar{K}))$$

is torsion.

So we may write

$$\text{III}(E/K) = \bigoplus_p \text{III}_{p^\infty}(E/K)$$

where for each prime p

$$\text{III}_{p^\infty}(E/K)$$

denotes the p -primary part of $\text{III}(E/K)$. (i.e. the subgroup of elements whose order is a power of p .) By descent

$$\text{III}(E/K)[m] \text{ is finite for all } m \geq 1.$$

So

$$\text{III}_{p^\infty}(E/K) \cong (\mathbf{Q}_p/\mathbf{Z}_p)^{\delta_p} \oplus T_p, \delta_p \in \mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0}$$

where T_p is a finite abelian p -group.

$$T_p \cong \mathbf{Z}/p^{s_1}\mathbf{Z} \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbf{Z}/p^{s_l}\mathbf{Z}, s_i \in \mathbf{Z}_{\geq 0}.$$

The group

$$\bigoplus_p (\mathbf{Q}_p/\mathbf{Z}_p)^{\delta_p} \subseteq \text{III}(E/K)$$

is called the infinitely divisible subgroup of III denoted III_{div} .

The conjecture that III is finite implies $\delta_p = 0$ for all p . And $T_p \neq 0$ for only finitely many p .

There is a pairing called the Cassels-Tate pairing

$$\text{III}(E/K) \times \text{III}(E/K) \rightarrow \mathbf{Q}/\mathbf{Z}$$

which is bilinear and alternating, and the kernel on either side is the infinitely divisible group. If $\text{III}(E/K)$ is finite then the pairing is non-degenerate and hence

$$|\text{III}(E/K)| = \square \in \mathbf{Z}.$$

Definition 1.34 p^∞ -Selmer group. Consider $\text{Sel}_{p^n}(E/K)$ and take the direct limit

$$\varinjlim_n \text{Sel}_{p^n}(E/K)$$

to define the p^∞ -Selmer group. ◇

One shows that

$$X_p(E/K) = \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{Z}_p}(\varinjlim_n \text{Sel}_{p^n}(E/K), \mathbf{Q}_p/\mathbf{Z}_p)$$

called the Pontryagin dual of the p^∞ Selmer group is a finitely generated \mathbf{Z}_p -module. The associated \mathbf{Q}_p -vector space, denoted $X_p(E/K) = X_p(E/K) \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}_p} \mathbf{Q}_p$ has dimension rk_p .

Definition 1.35 rk_p is called the p^∞ -Selmer rank of E/K and satisfies

$$\text{rk}_p = \text{rk}(E/K) + \delta_p.$$

◇

So if III is finite then $\delta_p = 0$ for all p . Use BSD to compute parity of rk_p .

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1.1.3 Consequences of BSD

Consider E/\mathbf{Q} : Mordell-Weil implies that

$$E(\mathbf{Q}) \simeq \mathbf{Z}^{\text{rk}} \oplus \text{torsion}$$

then BSD 1 says that

$$\underbrace{\text{ord}_{s=1} L(E, s)}_{\text{rk}_{\text{an}}} = \text{rk},$$

functional equation for $L(E, s)$.

$$L^*(E, s) = w L^*(E, 2 - s)$$

with $w \in \{\pm 1\}$ the sign of the functional equation. If $w = 1$ then $L(E, s)$ is (essentially) symmetric at $s = 1$. So $\text{ord}_{s=1} L(E, s)$ is even. If $w = -1$ then $\text{ord}_{s=1} L(E, s)$ is odd.

We get BSD mod 2:

$$(-1)^{\text{rk}} = w(\text{sign of f.e.})$$

a conjecture based on conjecture is bad so we go one step further.

Theorem 1.36 The sign in the functional equation of $L(E, s)$ is equal to the global root number of E .

This is defined by

$$w_\infty \prod_p w_p,$$

the local root numbers defined in terms of the local galois representations. Non-trivial to understand, but manageable.

Conjecture 1.37 Parity conjecture.

$$(-1)^{\text{rk}} = \prod_v w_v = w.$$

Example 1.38

$$E/\mathbf{Q}: y^2 + y = x^3 + x^2 - 7x + 5$$

$$\Delta_E = -7 \cdot 13$$

$$w_v = 1 \text{ if } v \nmid \infty 7 \cdot 13$$

$$w_\infty = -1$$

(in general -1^g where g is dimension of the abelian variety).

$$w_7 = -1$$

$$w_{13} = -1$$

so $w = -1$ and the rank is odd, hence there is a point of infinite order on this curve. \square

Problem. On the one hand $\prod_v w_v$ is computable. On the other hand $(-1)^{\text{rk}}$ is precisely unknown.

$$(-1)^{\text{rk}} = \prod_v w_v.$$

Theorem 1.39 Assume III is finite, let $\phi: E \rightarrow E'$ be an isogeny whose degree is not divisible by $\text{char}(K)$, then

$$\frac{|\text{III}_E| \text{Reg}_E \prod_p c_p \Omega_E}{|E_{\text{tors}}|^2} = \frac{|\text{III}_{E'}| \text{Reg}_{E'} \prod_p c'_p \Omega_{E'}}{|E'_{\text{tors}}|^2}.$$

Remark 1.40 In fact this is true for all abelian varieties over K .

Example 1.41 Let

$$E/\mathbf{Q}: y^1 + xy = x^3 - x$$

$\Delta_E = 5 \cdot 13$, it has a 2-isogenous curve E' . <http://www.lmfdb.org/EllipticCurve/Q/65/a/1>.

Compute

$$c_5 = c_{13} = 1$$

$$c'_5 = c'_{13} = 2$$

$$\Omega_E = 2\Omega_{E'}$$

then

$$\frac{\text{Reg}_{E'}}{\text{Reg}_E} = \frac{|\text{Sha}_E| |E'_{\text{tors}}|^2 \prod_p c_p \Omega_E}{|\text{Sha}_{E'}| |E_{\text{tors}}|^2 \prod_p c'_p \Omega_{E'}} \equiv \square \frac{2}{4} \not\equiv 1 \square.$$

So $\text{Reg}_E \neq 1$, $\text{Reg}_{E'} \neq 1$ so E has at least one rational point of infinite order, so $\text{rk} \geq 1$. \square

Lemma 1.42 Assume III is finite, let

$$\phi: E/K \rightarrow E'/K$$

be a K -rational isogeny of degree d . Then

$$d^n \text{Reg}_E = \det(\langle dP_i, P_j \rangle_E)_{i,j}.$$

Write $n = \text{rk}_E = \text{rk}_{E'}$. Pick a basis $\Lambda = \langle P_1, \dots, P_n \rangle$ for

$$E(K)/\text{tors}$$

write Λ' for a basis of $E'(K)/\text{tors}$. Write $\phi^\vee: E' \rightarrow E$ for the dual isogeny s.t.

$\phi\phi^\vee =]d[$.
using the following fact

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \phi(P), Q \rangle_{E'} &= \langle P, \phi^\vee(Q) \rangle_E \\ &= \det(\langle \phi^\vee \phi P_i, P_j \rangle_E) = \det(\langle \phi P_i, \phi P_j \rangle_{E'}) \\ &= \text{Reg}_{E'}[\Lambda' : \phi(\Lambda)]^2.\end{aligned}$$

Back to the example

$$\frac{\text{Reg}_E}{\text{Reg}_{E'}} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \square$$

so by the lemma rk is odd. Here we assumed that III is finite for elliptic curves, one can drop the assumption of finiteness of III to get unconditional results on the parity of rk_p for all p .

Conjecture 1.43 p -parity.

$$(-1)^{\text{rk}_p} = w.$$

This is known over \mathbf{Q} and totally real fields.

How to compute the parity of $\text{rk}_p(E/K)$? Need BSD-invariance for Selmer groups. (Details T. and V. Dokchitser "On the BSD quotients modulo squares", and Milne "Arithmetic duality theorems")

Definition 1.44 For an isogeny

$$\Psi: A \rightarrow B$$

of abelian varieties over K . Let

$$Q(\Psi) = |\text{coker}(\Psi: A(K)/A(K)_{\text{tors}} \rightarrow B(K)/B(K)_{\text{tors}})| \cdot |\ker(\psi: \text{III}(A)_{\text{div}} \rightarrow \text{III}(B)_{\text{div}})|.$$

◇

Recall $\text{rk}_p = \text{rk} + \delta_p$ where

$$\text{III} = \bigoplus \text{III}_{p^\infty}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\text{III}_{p^\infty} &\simeq (\mathbf{Q}_p/\mathbf{Z}_p)_p^\delta \oplus T_p \\ \text{III}_{\text{div}} &= \bigoplus (\mathbf{Q}_p/\mathbf{Z}_p)^{\delta_p}.\end{aligned}$$

Strategy, we show that for Ψ an isogeny s.t. $\Psi\Psi^\vee = [p]$. Then

$$o^{\text{rk}_p(E/K)} \equiv \frac{Q(\Psi^\vee)}{Q(\Psi)} \equiv \frac{\prod_v c_p}{\prod_v c'_v} \frac{\Omega_E}{\Omega_{E'}} \pmod{K^{\times 2}}.$$

Remark 1.45 Let A^\vee be the dual of A . $A^\vee = \text{Pic}^0(A)$.

So

$$(-1)^{\text{rk}_p(E/K)} = (-1)^{\text{ord}_p\left(\frac{\prod_v c_v \Omega_E}{\prod_v c'_v \Omega_{E'}}\right)}$$

the parity of $\text{rk}_p(E/K)$ is computable from local invariants of E and E' .

To prove the p -parity conjecture it remains to prove

$$(-1)^{\text{ord}_p\left(\frac{\prod_v c_v \Omega_E}{\prod_v c'_v \Omega_{E'}}\right)} = \prod_v w_v.$$