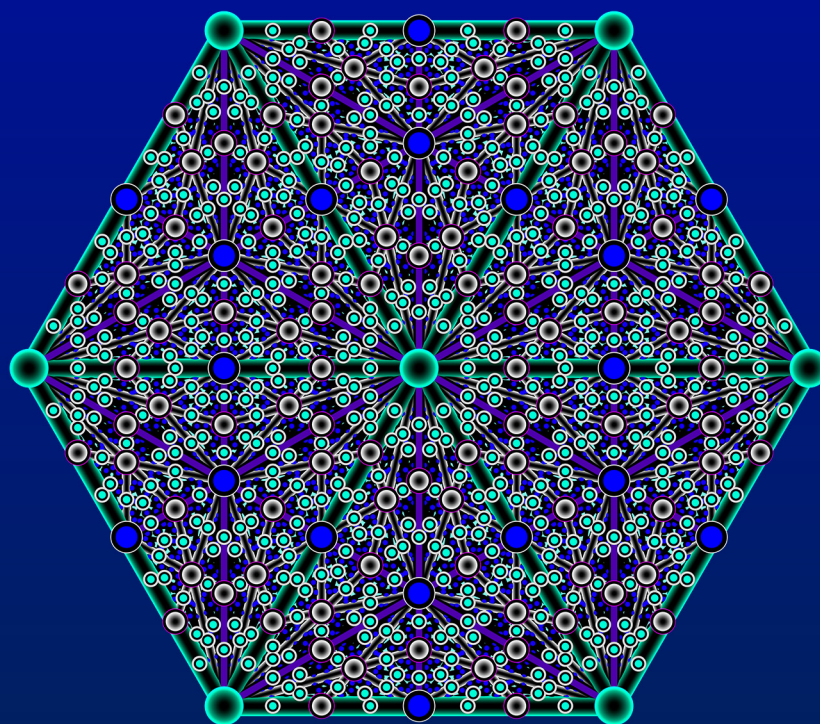


JOURNAL OF EXPERIMENTAL MATHEMATICS



VOLUME 1

ISSUE 2

2025

JOURNAL OF EXPERIMENTAL MATHEMATICS

Editor-in-Chief

Jacob Tsimerman, University of Toronto (Canada)

Managing Editor

Djordje Milićević, Bryn Mawr College (USA)

Editorial Board

David Bailey, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (USA)

Kathrin Bringmann, University of Cologne (Germany)

Joe Buhler, Reed College (USA)

Rafael de la Llave, Georgia Institute of Technology (USA)

Jan Draisma, University of Bern (Switzerland)

Sinan Güntürk, Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, New York University (USA)

Rob Kusner, University of Massachusetts at Amherst (USA)

Mark Levi, Pennsylvania State University (USA)

Alex Lubotzky, Hebrew University of Jerusalem & Weizmann Institute of Science (Israel)

Al Marden, University of Minnesota (USA)

Kaisa Matomäki, University of Turku (Finland)

Igor Rivin, Temple University (USA)

Peter Sarnak, Princeton University & Institute for Advanced Study (USA)

Rich Schwartz, Brown University (USA)

Sergei Tabachnikov, Pennsylvania State University (USA)

Yuri Tschinkel, Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, New York University (USA)

Akshay Venkatesh, Institute for Advanced Study (USA)

PUBLISHED BY

Association for Mathematical Research, amathr.org,
Davis, CA; Jenkintown, PA.

Greenberg’s conjecture for real quadratic number fields

Pietro Mercuri * 

Maurizio Paoluzi

René Schoof †

Received 24 Apr 2024; Revised 25 Dec 2024; Accepted 24 Mar 2025

Abstract:

We compute the 3-class groups A_n of the fields F_n in the cyclotomic \mathbf{Z}_3 -extensions of the real quadratic fields of discriminant $f < 100,000$. In all cases the orders of A_n remain bounded as n goes to infinity. This is in agreement with Greenberg’s conjecture.

Key words and phrases:

Iwasawa theory; Greenberg’s conjecture; Real number fields; Algebraic number theory

1 Introduction

Let F be a totally real number field and let p be a prime. Let

$$F = F_0 \subset F_1 \subset F_2 \subset \dots$$

denote the cyclotomic \mathbf{Z}_p -extension of F . The p -class group A_n is the p -part of the ideal class group of the ring of integers of F_n . In his 1971 thesis, Ralph Greenberg conjectured that $\#A_n$ remains bounded as $n \rightarrow \infty$. See [Gre71, Gre76] and [Gre01, Conjecture (3.4)]. This is the so-called “ $\lambda = 0$ ”-conjecture of Iwasawa theory. In this note we report on a computation for the prime $p = 3$ involving the 30394 real quadratic fields $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f})$ of discriminant $f < 100,000$. See [FK86, IS97, IS96, KS95] for earlier computations. As a consequence we obtain the following result.

*PM is supported by GNSAGA - INdAM. Additionally, PM has also received support from the Dipartimento SBAI, Sapienza Università di Roma.

†RS is supported by GNSAGA - INdAM.

Theorem 1.1. *Greenberg’s conjecture is true for $p = 3$ and the real quadratic fields of discriminant $f < 100,000$.*

For each of the real quadratic fields with discriminant f in the range of our computation we have computed a certain Galois module $C(f)$, the finiteness of which is equivalent to Greenberg’s conjecture. In this introduction we define the module $C(f)$. In the subsequent sections we explain our computation and its results. See [KS95] for the algebraic properties of $C(f)$ in the case $f \not\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$. The slightly different case $f \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ is discussed in detail in [Pao02] and in Section 4 of this paper.

Let $F = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f})$ be a real quadratic field of discriminant f . The Galois module $C(f)$ is defined in terms of cyclotomic units as follows. For $k \geq 1$ let ζ_k denote a primitive k -th root of unity. For $n \geq 0$ the n -th layer in the cyclotomic \mathbf{Z}_3 -extension of F is

$$F_n = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f}, \zeta_{3^{n+1}} + \zeta_{3^{n+1}}^{-1}).$$

The field F_n is a subfield of the cyclotomic field $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{3^{n+1}f})$. It is a cyclic degree 3^n extension of $F_0 = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f})$. Its ring of integers O_n contains cyclotomic units. See [Sin80, Section 4]. The 3-part of the quotient of the unit group O_n^* by the subgroup generated by the cyclotomic units is a finite group denoted by B_n . It is known that the groups A_n and B_n have the same cardinality [Sin80, Theorems 4.1 and 5.3]. Therefore Greenberg’s conjecture is true for the field F if and only if $\#B_n$ remains bounded as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

When the discriminant f is not congruent to 1 (mod 3), we let C_n denote the dual of the group B_n for $n \geq 0$. When $f \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$, we let C_n denote the dual of the group \tilde{B}_n . Here \tilde{B}_n sits in an exact sequence of the form

$$0 \longrightarrow \tilde{B}_n \longrightarrow B_n \xrightarrow{\phi_n} \mathbf{Z}_3 / \log_3 \eta_0 \mathbf{Z}_3.$$

where for $\varepsilon \in O_n^*$ we put $\phi_n(\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{3^n} \log_3(N_n(\varepsilon))$. Here $N_n: F_n^* \rightarrow \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f})^*$ is the norm map. Since the 3-adic logarithm of a generator η_0 of the group of cyclotomic units in $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f})$ is not zero, the rightmost group is a finite cyclic group. It follows that $[B_n : \tilde{B}_n]$ and hence the quotient $\#B_n/\#C_n$ is bounded independently of n . Therefore Greenberg’s conjecture is true if and only if $\#C_n$ remains bounded as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

By [KS95, Lemma 2.1] and Section 4, the natural maps $B_m \rightarrow B_n$ are injective and the natural maps $C_n \rightarrow C_m$ are surjective for $n \geq m$. Let $C(f)$ denote the projective limit of the C_n . Then $C(f)$ is a Galois module and hence in the usual way a module over the Iwasawa algebra $\Lambda \cong \mathbf{Z}_3[[T]]$. It follows from the structure of the cyclotomic units that $C(f)$ is a cyclic Λ -module. See [KS95, Theorem 2.4] and Section 4. In other words, we have

$$C(f) = \varprojlim C_n \cong \Lambda/J, \quad \text{for some ideal } J \subset \Lambda.$$

The vanishing of the Iwasawa μ -invariant of $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f})$ means that J contains a monic polynomial and hence that $C(f)$ is a finitely generated \mathbf{Z}_3 -module. See [FW79]. Greenberg’s conjecture affirms that $C(f)$ is actually finite, so that $C_n = C(f)$ for sufficiently large n .

We have computed the Galois modules $C(f)$ for $f < 100,000$. It took about two weeks on a workstation with Intel processor i5. We found the following, which is equivalent to Theorem 1.1.

Theorem 1.2. *For $p = 3$ and for all discriminants $f < 100,000$ the module $C(f)$ is finite.*

In most cases the module $C(f)$ is actually zero. Indeed, for only 3359 out of the 30394 real quadratic fields considered, $C(f)$ is not zero and, equivalently, J is a proper Λ -ideal. This is about 11% of all cases. Of these, 2118 have J equal to the maximal ideal $(3, T)$ of Λ . In these cases $C(f)$ has order 3. For the remaining 1241 discriminants the module $C(f)$ is strictly larger. This is approximately 4% of all cases.

Rather than listing each ideal J , we indicate in Sections 3 and 5 how often ideals of a certain type appear in our computation. The full list of ideals may be of interest in itself and is available on GitHub [Iwa]. In Sections 3 and 5 we also single out some discriminants for which the ideal J has a remarkable shape.

2 The case $f \not\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$

In this section we give a brief description of the algorithm in the case where the discriminant f is congruent to 0 or 2 modulo 3. This case is discussed in detail in [KS95]. Let $F = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f})$ be a real quadratic field of discriminant f . Put $f' = f/3$ when $f \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ and $f' = f$ when $f \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$. For $n \geq 0$ the n -th layer F_n in the cyclotomic tower of F is a subfield of $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{3^{n+1}f'})$. The cyclotomic unit $1 - \zeta_{3^{n+1}f'}$ is contained in $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{3^{n+1}f'})$. Put

$$\eta_n = \text{Norm}_{\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{3^{n+1}f'})/F_n} (1 - \zeta_{3^{n+1}f'})^{\sigma^{-1}}.$$

Here σ is the non-trivial automorphism in $\text{Gal}(F_n/\mathbf{Q}_n) \cong \text{Gal}(\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f})/\mathbf{Q})$.

In [KS95] it is explained that the Galois module generated by η_n is free of rank 1 over $\mathbf{Z}[G_n]$. Here G_n denotes $\text{Gal}(F_n/F_0)$. This implies that the Galois module $C(f)$ described in the introduction is a *cyclic* module over the Iwasawa algebra $\Lambda = \varprojlim \mathbf{Z}_3[G_n] \cong \mathbf{Z}_3[[T]]$. So we have $C(f) = \Lambda/J$ for some Λ -ideal J . For $n \geq 0$ we put $\omega_n(T) = (1 + T)^{p^n} - 1$ and we write (ω_n) for the Λ -ideal generated by it. In [KS95] it is explained that in this case we have

$$C_n = C(f)/\omega_n C(f) = \Lambda/(J + (\omega_n)), \quad \text{for all } n \geq 0.$$

The Galois module $C(f)$ is finite if and only if $\omega_n C(f) = 0$ and hence $C(f) = C_n$ for some $n \geq 0$. By Nakayama's lemma this happens if and only if $J + (\omega_n) = J + (\omega_{n+1})$ for some $n \geq 0$. This observation leads to the following algorithm. For $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, we compute the shrinking ideals $J + (\omega_n)$ until we find that $J + (\omega_n) = J + (\omega_{n+1})$.

Our method for computing the ideals $J + (\omega_n)$ runs as follows. For a given n we first calculate a lot of elements in the ideal. As is explained in [KS95], this involves calculations with cyclotomic units modulo primes $r \equiv 1 \pmod{f'3^{n'}}$ for suitable $n' > n$. This leads to an *upper bound* for $\Lambda/(J + (\omega_n))$. To obtain a *lower bound* we employ a method due to G. and M.-N. Gras [GG77]. This involves calculations with high precision approximations of the cyclotomic units in $F_n \otimes \mathbf{R}$. See also [KS95, Section 4]. Clearly, when the upper and lower bounds agree, we have determined $J + (\omega_n)$ and hence $C_n = \Lambda/(J + (\omega_n))$.

The calculation of the lower bound for C_n becomes very time consuming and takes a lot of memory as n grows. This is caused by the high precision computations with units in cyclotomic fields of seven digit conductors and degrees in the hundreds. In fact, for most discriminants f it becomes infeasible when n exceeds 2. Fortunately, for most f we find that $J + (\omega_n) = J + (\omega_{n+1})$ and hence $C(f) = C_n$ for $n \leq 2$.

In the rare cases where we need to consider $J + (\omega_n)$ for $n \geq 3$, it is still feasible to compute the upper bound in the sense that we can easily calculate a lot of elements in the ideal $J + (\omega_n)$. An application of the Chebotarev density theorem suggests that these elements probably *generate* $J + (\omega_n)$, so that our upper bound is actually *equal* to the lower bound, but we have no rigorous proof of this.

Fortunately, we can still rigorously prove that $C(f) = \Lambda/J$ is finite and thus confirm Greenberg’s conjecture even when we cannot use our algorithm to compute lower bounds for $\Lambda/(J + (\omega_n))$. It suffices to have an upper bound for n and a lower bound for *some* $m \leq n$ to which the following lemma applies. In the range of our computations this always works out with $n \geq m = 2$.

Lemma 2.1. *Let M be a finitely generated Λ -module. Suppose that for certain integers $n \geq m \geq 0$ and $b \geq a \geq 0$ we have*

$$\#M/\omega_m M \geq p^a \quad \text{and} \quad \#M/\omega_n M \leq p^b.$$

If $b - a < n - m$, then $\omega_n M = 0$. In particular, if $M/\omega_n M$ is finite, so is M .

Proof. In the filtration

$$\omega_n M \subset \omega_{n-1} M \subset \dots \subset \omega_{m+1} M \subset \omega_m M$$

there are $n - m$ inclusions. We have inequalities

$$\#(\omega_m M/\omega_n M) = \frac{\#M/\omega_n M}{\#M/\omega_m M} \leq p^{b-a} < p^{n-m}.$$

It follows that one of the inclusions must be an equality. So we have $\omega_{k+1} M = \omega_k M$ for some $k = m, \dots, n - 1$. Then $x = \omega_{k+1}/\omega_k$ is an element of the maximal ideal of Λ that has the property that $x\omega_k M = \omega_k M$. Nakayama’s lemma implies then $\omega_k M = 0$. It follows that $\omega_n M$ is zero, as required. □

3 Numerical data for discriminants $f \not\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$

3.1 Case $f \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$

There are 7606 real quadratic fields with discriminant $f \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ and $f < 100,000$. For precisely 769 of them the Galois module $C(f) = \Lambda/J$ is not zero. This is approximately 10%. For 513 discriminants J is equal to the maximal ideal $(3, T)$ of Λ . For the remaining 256 discriminants J is strictly smaller. Table 3.1 contains some data.

The rows of Table 3.1 correspond to the *level of stabilization* n . This means that n is the smallest integer for which the ideals $J + (\omega_n)$ and $J + (\omega_{n+1})$ are equal and hence $J = J + (\omega_n)$. In particular, we have $\Lambda/J = C(f) = C_n$. The number n is also the smallest for which $\omega_n = (1 + T)^{3^n} - 1$ is in J . Equivalently, 3^n is the order of $1 + T$ in the multiplicative group $(\Lambda/J)^*$.

The columns are indexed by the symbols T^k for $k = 1, 2, \dots$. The entry in the n -th row and the T^k -column is the number of discriminants for which the level of stabilization is n , and the image of J in the ring $\mathbf{F}_3[[T]]$ is the ideal (T^k) . Since ω_n is congruent to T^{3^n} modulo 3, the (n, T^k) -entry is zero whenever $k > 3^n$. In particular, in the row corresponding to $n = 0$, all entries with $k > 1$ are zero.

n	T	T^2	T^3	Total
0	536	0	0	536
1	112	50	2	164
2	35	7	2	44
3	15*	0	0	15
4	5*	1*	0	6
5	2*	0	0	2
6	2*	0	0	2
	707	58	4	769

Table 3.1: The modules Λ/J for $f \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$.

In the first column we count the discriminants for which the ideal J is of the form $J = (T - a, b)$ for certain $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}$. For 536 discriminants we have $a = 0$ and there is stabilization at level $n = 0$. This means that $\#C_0 = \#C_1$ or, equivalently $\#A_0 = \#A_1$. The discriminants for which J is equal to the maximal ideal of Λ are included here. This entry was checked by computing the class numbers of the fields F_0 and F_1 of degrees 2 and 6 respectively using a few lines of PARI/GP [The20] code. For the other entries in the first column, we have $a \notin b\mathbf{Z}_3$ and stabilization occurs at level $n = v_3(b/a)$.

An asterisk indicates that we do not have a rigorous lower bound for $C(f)$ for some of the discriminants appearing in this entry. However, our upper bound is very likely to be sharp, so that almost certainly $C(f)$ is isomorphic to Λ/J . In each case Lemma 2.1 was applied to prove Greenberg's conjecture. The 62 cases appearing in the second and third columns were dealt with using the polynomial arithmetic of Magma [BCP97]. We single out nine discriminants f for special mention.

f	J	n	T^k
31989	$(T - 996, 2187)$	6	T
38424	$(T + 261, 2187)$	5	T
59061	$(T^2 + 3T - 9, 81)$	4	T^2
60513	$(T^3 + 3, 3T, 9)$	2	T^3
61629	$(T^3, 3)$	1	T^3
69117	$(T + 69, 729)$	5	T
71049	$(T^3, 3)$	1	T^3
76584	$(T^3 + 3, 3T, 9)$	2	T^3
95385	$(T - 2988, 6561)$	6	T

Table 3.2: Exotic Galois modules for $f \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$.

3.2 Case $f \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$

There are 11394 real quadratic fields with discriminant $f \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ and $f < 100,000$. For precisely 1250 of them the Galois module $C(f) = \Lambda/J$ is not zero. This is approximately 11% of all discriminants. For 781 discriminants J is equal to the maximal ideal $(3, T)$ of Λ . For the remaining 469 discriminants J is strictly smaller. This is about 4% of all cases. Table 3.3 contains some data.

n	T	T^2	T^3	T^4	Total
0	827	0	0	0	827
1	158	87	8	0	253
2	101	7	4	1	113
3	36*	2*	0	0	38
4	13*	1*	0	0	14
5	4*	0	0	0	4
6	1*	0	0	0	1
	1140	97	12	1	1250

Table 3.3: The modules Λ/J for $f \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$.

The interpretation of the entries of the table is the same as in the case $f \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$. The 781 discriminants with $J = (3, T)$ are included in the entry with $n = 0$ of the first column. Also in this case the discriminants in the first column were taken checked using a few lines of PARI/GP code. The other 110 cases were dealt with using the polynomial arithmetic of Magma. We single out nine discriminants for special mention.

f	J	n	T^k
14165	$(T - 255, 729)$	5	T
16673	$(T + 462, 2187)$	6	T
29165	$(T - 282, 729)$	5	T
47633	$(T^2 - 9, 3T - 90, 243)$	4	T^2
51809	$(T^2 + 18, 3T - 18, 81)$	3	T^2
71921	$(T^2 + 18, 3T + 18, 81)$	3	T^2
76604	$(T + 294, 729)$	5	T
90005	$(T + 15, 729)$	5	T
98105	$(T^4 + 3, 3T, 9)$	2	T^4

Table 3.4: Exotic Galois modules for $f \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$.

4 The case $f \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$

As before we write $F = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f})$ and F_n for the n -th layer in the cyclotomic \mathbf{Z}_3 -extension of $F = F_0$. When the discriminant f is congruent to $1 \pmod{3}$, our method to compute the Galois module $C(f)$ is the same, but the details are slightly different. See [Pao02]. The differences are caused by the fact that the Galois module generated by the cyclotomic unit η_n is *not free* over the ring $\mathbf{Z}[G_n]$ when $f \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$. Here η_n is defined in Section 2 and G_n denotes $\text{Gal}(F_n/F_0)$. Indeed, in this case we have $N_n\eta_n = 1$, where N_n is the norm map $F_n^* \rightarrow F^*$. When $f \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$, the Galois module Cyc_n of cyclotomic units in F_n on which σ acts as -1 , is a direct product of the submodules generated by η_n and η_0 . Here η_0 is the cyclotomic unit in F_0 . It generates a group isomorphic to \mathbf{Z} with trivial Galois action. On the other hand, the Galois module $\langle \eta_n \rangle$ generated by η_n is free of rank 1 over the ring $\mathbf{Z}[G_n]/(N_n)$. See [Sin80].

The submodule \tilde{B}_n of B_n that was defined in the introduction, is isomorphic to $O_{n,1}^*/\langle \eta_n \rangle$. Here $O_{n,1}^*$ denotes the part of the kernel of the norm map $N_n : O_n^* \rightarrow O_0^*$ on which σ acts as -1 . The Galois modules $O_{n,1}^*$, $\langle \eta_n \rangle$ and \tilde{B}_n are killed by the norm N_n and are hence $\mathbf{Z}[G_n]/(N_n)$ -modules. Since $\langle \eta_n \rangle$ is free of rank 1, it is more convenient to deal with \tilde{B}_n rather than with B_n itself. For instance, from the exactness of the sequence of $\mathbf{Z}[G_n]/(N_n)$ -modules

$$0 \longrightarrow \langle \eta_n \rangle \longrightarrow O_{n,1}^* \longrightarrow \tilde{B}_n \longrightarrow 0$$

one deduces that the natural map $\tilde{B}_m \rightarrow \tilde{B}_n$ identifies \tilde{B}_m with the kernel of the endomorphism ω'_m of \tilde{B}_n for $m \leq n$. Here we put $\omega'_m = \omega_m/T$. In particular, we have $\omega'_0 = 1$ and $C_0 = 0$. It follows that the Galois module $C(f)$ is isomorphic to Λ/J for some ideal J and $C_n = C(f)/\omega'_n C(f) = \Lambda/(J + (\omega'_n))$ for all $n \geq 0$.

Our strategy is the one explained in Section 2: for each $n = 1, 2, \dots$, we compute the shrinking ideals $J + (\omega'_n)$ until we find $J + (\omega'_n) = J + (\omega'_{n+1})$, in which case Nakayama's lemma implies that $J = J + (\omega'_n)$ and hence $C(f) = C_n$ and we are done. When $f \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ the issues with upper bounds and lower bounds are similar to the ones described in Section 2 for $f \not\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$. In particular, we can still prove that $C(f) = \Lambda/J$ is finite in each case in the range of our computations. When the lower bound is not available for some $n \geq 3$, we invoke Lemma 2.1 with ω_m and ω_n replaced by ω'_m and ω'_n respectively.

It is not relevant for our algorithm and computations, but in the rest of this section we analyze the cokernel of the inclusion map $\tilde{B}_n \hookrightarrow B_n$. For $n \geq 0$, let U_n denote the part of the unit group $(O_n \otimes \mathbf{Z}_3)^*$ on which σ acts as -1 . Since \tilde{B}_n is the kernel of the map $B_n \rightarrow U_0/\langle \eta_0 \rangle$ induced by $\varepsilon \mapsto \sqrt[n]{N_n \varepsilon}$ for $\varepsilon \in O_n^*$, the quotient B_n/\tilde{B}_n is isomorphic to a subgroup of the cyclic group $U_0/\langle \eta_0 \rangle$ and is hence bounded independently of n . This can be made more precise.

The group $N_n U_n$ is equal to the subgroup $U_0^{p^n}$ of U_0 . It follows that $N_n O_n^*$ is contained in $U_0^{p^n}$. Put

$$\sqrt[n]{N_n O_n^*} = \{u \in U_0 : u^{p^n} \in N_n O_n^*\}.$$

For every $n \geq 0$ we have inclusions

$$N_n O_n^{*p} = N_{n+1} O_n^* \subset N_{n+1} O_{n+1}^* \subset N_n O_n^*.$$

It follows that we have a filtration

$$O_0^* \subset \dots \subset \sqrt[n]{N_n O_n^*} \subset \sqrt[n+1]{N_{n+1} O_{n+1}^*} \subset \dots \subset U_0,$$

with successive subquotients of order 1 or p . The fact that $N_n \text{Cyc}_n$ is equal to $\langle \eta_0^{p^n} \rangle$ gives rise to the isomorphisms

$$B_n/\tilde{B}_n \cong N_n O_n^*/\langle \eta_0^{p^n} \rangle \cong \sqrt[p^n]{N_n O_n^*/\langle \eta_0 \rangle}.$$

This leads to the following filtration

$$O_0^*/\langle \eta_0 \rangle \subset \dots \subset B_n/\tilde{B}_n \subset B_{n+1}/\tilde{B}_{n+1} \subset \dots \subset U_0/\langle \eta_0 \rangle.$$

with successive subquotients of order 1 or p . The leftmost group is cyclic of order $h_0 = \#A_0$ and the rightmost group has order $\log_3 \eta_0$. Writing ε_0 for a fundamental unit of $F = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{f})$, there are $v_3 \log_3 \varepsilon_0$ distinct steps in this filtration. By Nuccio [Nuc10] we have $B_n/\tilde{B}_n = U_0/\langle \eta_0 \rangle$ when n is sufficiently large.

5 Numerical data for discriminants $f \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$.

There are 11394 real quadratic fields with discriminant $f \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ and $f < 100,000$. For precisely 1340 of them the module $C(f)$ is not zero. This is approximately 12% of all discriminants. For 824 discriminants J is equal to the maximal ideal $(3, T)$ of Λ . For the remaining 516 discriminants the ideal J is strictly smaller. This is 4.5% of all cases.

The mathematics is a bit different in this case. First of all, the groups A_0, B_0 are irrelevant for our computations and we have $C_0 = 0$. In addition, every module C_n is a cyclic module over the ring $\Lambda/(\omega_n)$ that is killed by ω'_n . In particular, C_1 is a cyclic module over the discrete valuation ring $\Lambda/(\omega'_1)$, where $\omega'_1 = \omega_1/T = T^2 + 3T + 3$. Since T is a uniformizer of the ring $\Lambda/(\omega'_1)$, the module C_1 is isomorphic to $\Lambda/(T^2 + 3T + 3, T^k)$ for some $k \geq 0$.

n	T	T^2	T^3	T^4	T^5	Total
1	824	79	0	0	0	903
2	249	18	8	1	0	276
3	88	7	1	0	1	97
4	47*	3*	0	0	0	50
5	9*	0	1*	0	0	10
6	2*	0	0	0	0	2
7	2*	0	0	0	0	2
	1221	107	10	1	1	1340

Table 5.1: The modules Λ/J for $f \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$.

By Nakayama’s lemma the ideal J contains a monic polynomial of degree 1 if and only if the ideal $(T^2 + 3T + 3, T^k)$ does. If J is a proper ideal, this happens precisely when $k = 1$, in which case C_1 is isomorphic to the order 3 module $\Lambda/(3, T)$. These cases appear in the first column of Table 5.1 and were computed using PARI/GP. Their ideals J are of the form $(T - a, b)$ with level of stabilization equal to $v_3(b)$. In particular, the first entry contains the 824 discriminants for which J is equal to the ideal $(3, T)$.

The 119 entries in the remaining columns of Table 5.1 were taken care of using Magma's polynomial arithmetic.

We single out eleven discriminants for special mention.

f	J	n	T^k
15217	$(T^4 + 3, 3T, 9)$	2	T^4
30904	$(T^3 - 27, 3T - 63, 243)$	5	T^3
39256	$(T + 621, 2187)$	7	T
40441	$(T^2, 9T - 27, 81)$	4	T^2
44053	$(T + 348, 729)$	6	T
57832	$(T^2 + 27, 3T - 27, 81)$	4	T^2
71821	$(T^3 + 18, 3T + 9, 27)$	3	T^3
78037	$(T - 849, 2187)$	7	T
80056	$(T^5 + 9T + 9, 3T^2 + 18, 27)$	3	T^5
81769	$(T^2 + 18, 3T + 9, 81)$	4	T^2
96712	$(T - 30, 729)$	6	T

Table 5.2: Exotic Galois modules for $f \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$.

References

- [BCP97] W. Bosma, J. Cannon, and C. Playoust. The Magma algebra system. I. The user language. *J. Symbolic Comput.*, 24:235–265, 1997. [211](#)
- [FK86] T. Fukuda and K. Komatsu. On \mathbb{Z}_p -extensions of real quadratic fields. *J. Math. Soc. Japan*, 38:95–102, 1986. [207](#)
- [FW79] B. Ferrero and L. C. Washington. The Iwasawa invariant μ_p vanishes for abelian number fields. *Annals of Math.*, 109:77–395, 1979. [208](#)
- [GG77] G. Gras and M.-N. Gras. Calcul du nombre de classes et des unités des extensions abéliennes réelles de \mathbb{Q} . *Bulletin des Sciences Math.*, 101:97–129, 1977. [209](#)
- [Gre71] R. Greenberg. *On some questions concerning the Iwasawa invariants*. PhD thesis, Princeton University, 1971. [207](#)
- [Gre76] R. Greenberg. On the Iwasawa invariants of totally real number fields. *Amer. J. Math.*, 98:263–284, 1976. [207](#)

- [Gre01] R. Greenberg. Iwasawa theory—past and present. In *Class field theory—its centenary and prospect (Tokyo, 1998)*, volume 30 of *Adv. Stud. Pure Math.*, pages 335–385. Math. Soc. Japan, Tokyo, 2001. [207](#)
- [IS96] H. Ichimura and H. Sumida. On the Iwasawa invariants of certain real abelian fields. II. *Internat. J. Math.*, 7(6):721–744, 1996. [207](#)
- [IS97] H. Ichimura and H. Sumida. On the Iwasawa invariants of certain real abelian fields. *Tohoku Math. J.*, 49:203–215, 1997. [207](#)
- [Iwa] Iwasawa modules repository. <https://github.com/mercuri-pietro/Iwasawa-modules>. [209](#)
- [KS95] J. S. Kraft and R. Schoof. Computing Iwasawa modules of real quadratic number fields. *Compositio Math.*, 97:135–155, 1995. Erratum: *Compositio Math.* **103** (1996), 241. [207](#), [208](#), [209](#)
- [Nuc10] F. Nuccio. Cyclotomic units and class groups in \mathbb{Z}_p -extensions of real abelian fields. *Math. Proc. Cambridge Phil. Soc.*, 148:93–106, 2010. [214](#)
- [Pao02] M. Paoluzi. *La congettura di Greenberg per campi quadratici reali*. PhD thesis, Università di Roma Tor Vergata, 2002. [208](#), [213](#)
- [Sin80] W. Sinnott. On the Stickelberger ideal and the circular units of an abelian field. *Invent. Math.*, 62:181–234, 1980. [208](#), [213](#)
- [The20] The PARI Group. PARI/GP 2.13.0, 2020. Univ. Bordeaux. [211](#)

AUTHORS

Pietro Mercuri

Università di Trento
 Dipartimento di matematica
 Trento 38122
 Italy

mercuri.ptr@gmail.com
<https://sites.google.com/view/mercuriptr/home>

Maurizio Paoluzi

Via Mariano Rampolla 24
00168 Rome
Italy

mauriziopaoluzi@gmail.com

René Schoof

Università di Roma, Tor Vergata
Via della Ricerca Scientifica
00133 Rome
Italy

schoof.rene@gmail.com

<https://www.mat.uniroma2.it/~schoof/>