



$\text{III}(A/K)$ of non-square order

Stefan Keil

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Institut für Mathematik



Advisor: Prof. Dr. Remke Kloosterman

The Tate-Shafarevich group

LET A be an abelian variety over a number field K . The Tate-Shafarevich group $\text{III}(A/K)$ of A over K can be defined in terms of Galois cohomology as

$$\text{III}(A/K) := \ker \left(H^1(G_K, A(\bar{K})) \rightarrow \prod_{\text{all } v} H^1(G_{K_v}, A(\bar{K}_v)) \right)$$

where in the product v runs over all (finite and infinite) places of K , and G_K and G_{K_v} are the absolute Galois groups of K and of its completion K_v at v .

It is known that $\text{III}(A/K)$ is an abelian torsion group. Geometrically, the non-trivial elements of $\text{III}(A/K)$ are those torsors (i.e. principal homogeneous spaces) of A/K for which the Hasse-principle fails, i.e. they have a point in any completion K_v , but not a rational point.

Conjecture 1. $\text{III}(A/K)$ is a finite group.

This important conjecture is related to the Birch and Swinnerton-Dyer conjecture and will underline all what follows. In case of an elliptic curve E/\mathbb{Q} , the conjecture is known to be true if the so called analytic rank of E is zero or one, which conjecturally holds for 100% of all elliptic curves over \mathbb{Q} .

Order of III

ASSUMING Conjecture 1, then for an elliptic curve E/K it is known that

$$\#\text{III}(E/K) = \square.$$

This is no longer true in higher dimensions. With the Cassels-Tate pairing, one can prove a necessary condition concerning the non-square part of the order of III .

Theorem 2. [Ste04] Assuming Conjecture 1, if an odd prime p divides the non-square part of the order of $\text{III}(A/K)$, then p divides the degree of all polarizations of A/K .

Corollary 3. [PS99] Assuming Conjecture 1, then for a principally polarized abelian variety A/K we have

$$\#\text{III}(A/K) = \square \text{ or } 2\square, \text{ (and both occur).}$$

A computation of Stein [Ste04] leads to the conjecture

Conjecture 4. Assuming Conjecture 1, as one ranges over all abelian varieties A over all number fields K , then every non-square natural number can appear as the non-square part of the order of $\text{III}(A/K)$.

So the natural question arising is

Question 5. Assuming Conjecture 1, what are the possible non-square parts of the order of III for abelian varieties of fixed dimension over a fixed number field? Is this a finite list?

An equation of Cassels and Tate

TO show the invariance under isogenies of the Birch and Swinnerton-Dyer conjecture, Cassels (the elliptic curve case) and Tate (the general case) proved the following theorem.

Theorem 6. [Cas65] [Tat66] Assuming Conjecture 1, let $\phi : A \rightarrow B$ be a K -isogeny between two abelian varieties A, B over a number field K . Then

$$\frac{\#\text{III}(A/K)}{\#\text{III}(B/K)} = \frac{R_B P_B \#A(K)_{\text{tor}} \#A^\vee(K)_{\text{tor}}}{R_A P_A \#B(K)_{\text{tor}} \#B^\vee(K)_{\text{tor}}} \prod_{v \text{ bad}} \frac{c_{B,v}}{c_{A,v}}.$$

Here R_A and P_A are the regulator and period of A , which are complex transcendental numbers, but their quotient is rational. $A(K)_{\text{tor}}$ are the finitely many K -rational torsion points of A , A^\vee is the dual abelian variety, and the $c_{A,v} \in \mathbb{N}$ are the local Tamagawa numbers of A at a finite place v of bad reduction.

My goals

ASSUMING Conjecture 1, I would like to give an answer to Question 5 for abelian surfaces over \mathbb{Q} .

For the moment I am trying to construct an example of $\#\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q}) = 5\square$, with $\dim(A) = 2$. A strategy to get such an example is to start with a well understood principally polarized abelian surface A and an isogenous abelian surface B which fulfills Theorem 2 for $p = 5$. Then one tries to compute all quotients in the Cassels-Tate equation in Theorem 6 mod \square to know $\text{III}(B/K)$ mod \square .

References

- [Cas65] CASSELS, J. W. S.: Arithmetic on curves of genus 1, VIII. In: *Journal f. reine und angew. Math.* **217** (1965)
- [PS99] POONEN, B. ; STOLL, M.: The Cassels-Tate pairing on polarized abel. varieties. In: *Ann. of Math.* **150** (1999)
- [Ste04] STEIN, W. A.: Shafarevich-Tate Groups of Nonsquare Order. In: *Progress in Mathematics* **224** (2004)
- [Tat66] TATE, J.: On the conj. of Birch and Swinnerton-Dyer and a geom. analog. In: *Sém. Bourbaki* **306** (1964-1966)