

# On Unramified Abelian Extensions of Number Fields Arising from Multiplication of Elliptic Curves

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## Abstract

We introduce a way to construct number fields with class numbers divisible by a power of a prime number. In particular, we start with an elliptic curve  $E$  defined over a number field  $k$  such that  $E[l^n] \subset E(k)$ , where  $l$  is an odd prime number, and show a way to construct infinitely many quadratic extensions of  $k$  with class numbers divisible by  $l^{2n}$ .

Keywords: Divisibility of Class Numbers, Isogeny of Elliptic Curves

## 1 Introduction

Let  $k$  be an algebraic number field of finite degree,  $m \geq 2$  an integer, and let  $E$  be an elliptic curve defined over  $k$  such that  $E[m] \subset E(k)$ . Let  $P$  be a point on  $E$ , and let  $K = k(P)$  (resp.  $L = k([m]^{-1}P)$ ) be the field generated over  $k$  by the coordinates of  $P$  (resp. the points in  $[m]^{-1}P$ ). Here,  $[m]$  denotes the multiplication-by- $m$  map on  $E$ , and  $E[m]$  its kernel (that is, the  $m$ -torsion subgroup of  $E$ ). Then, as is well known (see, *e.g.*, [4, Chapter VIII]), we have:

(i)  $L/K$  is an abelian extension of exponent  $m$ .

(ii)  $L/K$  is unramified at a finite place  $\mathfrak{p}$  if  $E$  has good reduction at  $\mathfrak{p}$  and if  $\mathfrak{p} \nmid m$ .

We also note that  $L/K$  is a Kummer extension, since the assumption  $E[m] \subset E(k)$  implies  $\mu_m \subset k$ , where  $\mu_m$  denotes the group of  $m$ -th roots of unity. Furthermore, we have  $[L : K] = m^2$  for “generic”  $P$ .

In the present paper, we show the following theorem:

**Theorem 1.1** *Let  $k$  be an algebraic number*

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field of finite degree,  $l^n$  a power of an odd prime number, and let  $E$  be an elliptic curve defined over  $k$  such that  $E[l^n] \subset E(k)$ . Let

$$y^2 = x^3 + ax + b \quad (a, b \in \mathcal{O}_k, 4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0)$$

be a Weierstrass equation for  $E$  with

$$x(T), y(T) \in \mathcal{O}_k \quad (T \in E[l] - \{O\}).$$

Let  $P$  be a point on  $E$  with  $x(P) \in k$ , and let  $K = k(P)$ ,  $L = k([l^n]^{-1}P)$ . Moreover, assume that  $c = x(P)$  satisfies the following condition: For any finite place  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $k$  such that  $E$  has bad reduction at  $\mathfrak{p}$  or  $\mathfrak{p} \mid l$ ,

$$\min\{\text{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}(c^3 + ac + b), \text{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}(3c^2 + a)\} \leq 0.$$

Here, we replace the inequality above by

$$\text{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}(c^2 + a) \leq 0$$

if  $\mathfrak{p} \mid 2$ , and by

$$\text{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}(l^{2n}c) \leq 0$$

if  $\mathfrak{p} \mid l$ . Then  $L/K$  is unramified at all finite places. Here,  $\mathcal{O}_k$  denotes the ring of integers of  $k$ , while  $\text{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}$  the normalized additive valuation of  $k$  associated with  $\mathfrak{p}$ .

The field  $K = k(\sqrt{c^3 + ac + b})$  in the theorem above is a quadratic extension of  $k$  for generic  $c$ . Thus, using the theorem and varying  $c$  in  $k$ , we can construct infinitely many quadratic extensions of  $k$  with class numbers divisible by  $l^{2n}$ , for  $L/K$  is also unramified at all infinite places. We will give a proof of the theorem in Sections 3 and 4, after studying about the explicit form of dual isogenies in Section 2.

## 2 Dual isogeny via Vélú's formulas

Let  $k$  be a field of characteristic 0,

$$E : y^2 = x^3 + ax + b \quad (a, b \in k, 4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0)$$

an elliptic curve defined over  $k$ , and let  $\Gamma$  be a finite subgroup of  $E$  of order  $l \geq 2$  which is stable under the action of  $\text{Gal}(\bar{k}/k)$ . Here,  $\bar{k}$  is an algebraic closure of  $k$ , and  $\text{Gal}$  stands for Galois group. Let

$$(2.1) \quad \begin{aligned} E^* : Y^2 &= X^3 + AX + B, \\ \lambda : X &= \xi(x), \quad Y = \eta(x)y \end{aligned}$$

be the equations for  $\lambda : E \rightarrow E^* = E/\Gamma$  that are given by Vélú's formulas [5] (for the formulas, see also [3, Section 2] or [6, Section 12.3]). Then  $\Gamma^* = \lambda(E[l])$  is a subgroup of  $E^*$  of order  $l$  which is stable under the action of  $\text{Gal}(\bar{k}/k)$ . Let

$$(2.2) \quad \begin{aligned} E' : (y')^2 &= (x')^3 + a'x' + b', \\ \lambda^* : x' &= \xi^*(X), \quad y' = \eta^*(X)Y \end{aligned}$$

be the equations for  $\lambda^* : E^* \rightarrow E' = E^*/\Gamma^*$  that are given by Vélú's formulas. Note that  $E'$  is naturally identified with  $E/E[l]$ . We can also apply Vélú's formulas to  $E[l]$ , and then obtain the same equations as for  $\lambda^* \circ \lambda : E \rightarrow E'$ .

On the other hand,  $E/E[l]$  is isomorphic to  $E$  via the multiplication-by- $l$  map. Thus there exists an isomorphism  $\phi : E \rightarrow E'$  such that  $\lambda^* \circ \lambda = \phi \circ [l]$ . In fact:

**Proposition 2.1** *We have*

$$a' = l^4 a, \quad b' = l^6 b.$$

Moreover, the isomorphism  $\phi : E \rightarrow E'$  is given by

$$x' = l^2 x, \quad y' = l^3 y.$$

PROOF Since  $E'$  is isomorphic to  $E$ , we have

$$x' = u^2 x \circ [l], \quad y' = u^3 y \circ [l]$$

for some  $u \in k - \{0\}$ . Here we regard  $x', y', x \circ [l], y \circ [l]$  as ( $E[l]$ -invariant) functions on  $E$ .

It follows from Vélú's formulas that

$$x' = \frac{x^{l^2} + \text{lower degree terms}}{x^{l^2-1} + \text{lower degree terms}},$$

$$y' = \frac{x^m + \text{lower degree terms}}{x^m + \text{lower degree terms}} y,$$

where

$$m = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{2}(l^2 - 1) & \text{if } l \text{ odd,} \\ \frac{3}{2}l^2 & \text{if } l \text{ even.} \end{cases}$$

We also have

$$x \circ [l] = \frac{x^{l^2} + \text{lower degree terms}}{l^2 x^{l^2-1} + \text{lower degree terms}},$$

$$y \circ [l] = \frac{x^m + \text{lower degree terms}}{l^3 x^m + \text{lower degree terms}} y$$

by the formulas on division polynomials (see, e.g., [6, Section 3.2]), and hence conclude  $u = l$ . Namely we have

$$x' = l^2 x \circ [l], \quad y' = l^3 y \circ [l],$$

which immediately imply the assertions of the proposition.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.2** *The dual isogeny  $\hat{\lambda} : E^* \rightarrow E$  is given by*

$$x = \frac{1}{l^2} \xi^*(X), \quad y = \frac{1}{l^3} \eta^*(X) Y.$$

**Example 2.3** (i) If  $E$  is given by  $y^2 = x^3 + ax$  ( $a \neq 0$ ), then  $E[2]$  consists of

$$O, (0, 0), (\pm\sqrt{-a}, 0),$$

and hence  $\Gamma = \{O, (0, 0)\}$  is a subgroup of order 2. In this case,  $\lambda : E \rightarrow E^*$  and  $\lambda^* : E^* \rightarrow E'$  are given by

$$E^* : Y^2 = X^3 - 4aX,$$

$$\lambda : X = \frac{x^2 + a}{x}, \quad Y = \frac{x^2 - a}{x^2} y,$$

thus  $\Gamma^* = \{O, (0, 0)\}$ , and by

$$E' : (y')^2 = (x')^3 + 16ax',$$

$$\lambda^* : x' = \frac{X^2 - 4a}{X}, \quad y' = \frac{X^2 + 4a}{X^2} Y,$$

respectively. Hence  $\hat{\lambda} : E^* \rightarrow E$  is given by

$$x = \frac{X^2 - 4a}{4X}, \quad y = \frac{X^2 + 4a}{8X^2} Y.$$

(ii) If  $E$  is given by  $y^2 = x^3 + b$  ( $b \neq 0$ ), then  $E[3]$  consists of

$$O, (0, \pm\sqrt{b}), (-\sqrt[3]{4b}, \pm\sqrt{-3b}),$$

$$(-\omega\sqrt[3]{4b}, \pm\sqrt{-3b}), (-\omega^2\sqrt[3]{4b}, \pm\sqrt{-3b}),$$

where  $\omega = (-1 + \sqrt{-3})/2$ , and hence  $\Gamma = \{O, (0, \pm\sqrt{b})\}$  is a subgroup of order 3. In this case,  $\lambda : E \rightarrow E^*$  and  $\lambda^* : E^* \rightarrow E'$  are given by

$$E^* : Y^2 = X^3 - 27b,$$

$$\lambda : X = \frac{x^3 + 4b}{x^2}, \quad Y = \frac{x^3 - 8b}{x^3} y,$$

thus  $\Gamma^* = \{O, (0, \pm 3\sqrt{-3b})\}$ , and by

$$E' : (y')^2 = (x')^3 + 729b,$$

$$\lambda^* : x' = \frac{X^3 - 108b}{X^2}, \quad y' = \frac{X^3 + 216b}{X^3} Y,$$

respectively. Hence  $\hat{\lambda} : E^* \rightarrow E$  is given by

$$x = \frac{X^3 - 108b}{9X^2}, \quad y = \frac{X^3 + 216b}{27X^3} Y.$$

### 3 A chain of isogenies

Let the notation and the assumptions be the same as in the previous section. We define isogenies

$$\lambda_i : E_i \rightarrow E_i^*, \quad \lambda_i^* : E_i^* \rightarrow E_{i+1}$$

( $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ) by

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{aligned} E_i &: y_i^2 = x_i^3 + l^{4i} a x_i + l^{6i} b, \\ E_i^* &: Y_i^2 = X_i^3 + l^{4i} A X_i + l^{6i} B, \end{aligned}$$

and by

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_i &: X_i = l^{2i} \xi \left( \frac{x_i}{l^{2i}} \right), \quad Y_i = \eta \left( \frac{x_i}{l^{2i}} \right) y_i, \\ \lambda_i^* &: x_{i+1} = l^{2i} \xi^* \left( \frac{X_i}{l^{2i}} \right), \quad y_{i+1} = \eta^* \left( \frac{X_i}{l^{2i}} \right) Y_i. \end{aligned}$$

We note that  $E_{i+1}$  is nothing but  $E_i'$  with the notation in the previous section. We also define isomorphisms

$$\phi_i : E \rightarrow E_i, \quad \phi_i^* : E^* \rightarrow E_i^*$$

by

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_i &: x_i = l^{2i} x, \quad y_i = l^{3i} y, \\ \phi_i^* &: X_i = l^{2i} X, \quad Y_i = l^{3i} Y. \end{aligned}$$

Then:

**Proposition 3.1** *We have*

$$\lambda_i \circ \phi_i = \phi_i^* \circ \lambda, \quad \lambda_i^* \circ \phi_i^* = \phi_{i+1} \circ \hat{\lambda}.$$

PROOF Immediate from Proposition 2.1 and Corollary 2.2.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.2** *The equations for  $\lambda_i : E_i \rightarrow E_i^*$  and  $\lambda_i^* : E_i^* \rightarrow E_{i+1}$  described above are the ones that are given by Vélú's formulas applied to  $\phi_i(\Gamma)$  and  $\phi_i^*(\Gamma^*)$ , respectively.*

PROOF We first note that the equations (2.1) for  $\lambda : E \rightarrow E^*$  are derived from

$$\begin{aligned} X &= x + \sum_{T \in \Gamma - \{O\}} (x \circ \tau_T - x(T)), \\ Y &= y + \sum_{T \in \Gamma - \{O\}} (y \circ \tau_T - y(T)). \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\tau_T$  denotes the translation-by- $T$  map on  $E$ . Hence, regarding

$$\begin{array}{ccc} k(E) & \supset & k(E^*) \\ & \cup & \cup \\ k(E_i) & \supset & k(E_i^*) \end{array}$$

by the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{\lambda} & E^* \\ \phi_i \downarrow & & \downarrow \phi_i^* \\ E_i & \xrightarrow{\lambda_i} & E_i^* \end{array}$$

(see Proposition 3.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} X_i &= l^{2i} X \\ &= l^{2i} \left( x + \sum_{T \in \Gamma - \{O\}} (x \circ \tau_T - x(T)) \right) \\ &= x_i + \sum_{T \in \Gamma - \{O\}} (x_i \circ \tau_{\phi_i T} - x_i(\phi_i T)), \end{aligned}$$

that is

$$X_i = x_i + \sum_{T_i \in \phi_i(\Gamma) - \{O\}} (x_i \circ \tau_{T_i} - x_i(T_i)).$$

We also have

$$Y_i = y_i + \sum_{T_i \in \phi_i(\Gamma) - \{O\}} (y_i \circ \tau_{T_i} - y_i(T_i))$$

in the same manner. Thus we have shown the assertion for  $\lambda_i : E_i \rightarrow E_i^*$ . Since the equations (2.2) for  $\lambda^* : E^* \rightarrow E'$  are derived from

$$\begin{aligned} x' &= X + \sum_{U \in \Gamma^* - \{O\}} (X \circ \tau_U - X(U)), \\ y' &= Y + \sum_{U \in \Gamma^* - \{O\}} (Y \circ \tau_U - Y(U)), \end{aligned}$$

we can show the assertion for  $\lambda_i^* : E_i^* \rightarrow E_{i+1}$  in a similar fashion.  $\square$

#### 4 Field extensions

Let  $k$  be an algebraic number field of finite degree,  $l$  an odd prime number,  $n$  a positive integer, and let

$$E : y^2 = x^3 + ax + b \quad (a, b \in \mathcal{O}_k, 4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0)$$

be an elliptic curve defined over  $k$  such that  $E[l^n] \subset E(k)$ . We assume that the Weierstrass equation above is taken so that the condition

$$x(T), y(T) \in \mathcal{O}_k \quad (T \in E[l] - \{O\})$$

is satisfied. Taking a subgroup  $\Gamma$  of  $E$  of order  $l$ , we define  $\lambda : E \rightarrow E^*$ ,  $\lambda^* : E^* \rightarrow E'$ , etc. in the same manner as in Sections 2 and 3. Then  $A, B \in \mathcal{O}_k$  and

$$X(U), Y(U) \in \mathcal{O}_k \quad (U \in \Gamma^* - \{O\}).$$

Consequently, we have

$$(4.1) \quad x_i(T_i), y_i(T_i) \in \mathcal{O}_k \quad (T_i \in \phi_i(\Gamma) - \{O\})$$

and

$$(4.2) \quad X_i(U_i), Y_i(U_i) \in \mathcal{O}_k \quad (U_i \in \phi_i^*(\Gamma^*) - \{O\}).$$

Let  $P$  be a point on  $E$  with  $x(P) \in k$ , and let  $K = k(P)$ ,  $L = k([l^n]^{-1}P)$ . It follows from the assumption  $E[l^n] \subset E(k)$  that  $L/K$  is an abelian extension of exponent  $l^n$ . Putting  $P_n = \phi_n P$ , which is a point on  $E_n$ , we define intermediate fields  $K_j$  ( $0 \leq j \leq n$ ) and  $K_j^*$  ( $1 \leq j \leq n$ ) of  $L/K$  by

$$K_j = k((\lambda_{n-1}^* \circ \lambda_{n-1} \circ \cdots \circ \lambda_{n-j}^* \circ \lambda_{n-j})^{-1}P_n)$$

and by

$$K_j^* = k((\lambda_{n-1}^* \circ \lambda_{n-1} \circ \cdots \circ \lambda_{n-j+1} \circ \lambda_{n-j}^*)^{-1}P_n),$$

respectively. Then we have

$$K_n \supset K_n^* \supset \cdots \supset K_2 \supset K_2^* \supset K_1 \supset K_1^* \supset K_0$$

and  $K_j = k([l^j]^{-1}P)$ . In particular,  $K_0 = K$ ,  $K_n = L$ . We also have:

**Proposition 4.1** *Let  $i$  be an integer such that  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ , and let  $j = n-i$ . Then:*

(i) *For any point  $P_i$  on  $E_i$  with*

$$(\lambda_{n-1}^* \circ \lambda_{n-1} \circ \cdots \circ \lambda_i^* \circ \lambda_i)P_i = P_n,$$

*we have  $K_j = k(P_i)$  and an injective homomorphism*

$$\text{Gal}(K_j/K_j^*) \ni \sigma \longmapsto P_i^\sigma - P_i \in \phi_i(\Gamma).$$

(ii) *For any point  $P_i^*$  on  $E_i^*$  with*

$$(\lambda_{n-1}^* \circ \lambda_{n-1} \circ \cdots \circ \lambda_{i+1} \circ \lambda_i^*)P_i^* = P_n,$$

*we have  $K_j^* = k(P_i^*)$  and an injective homomorphism*

$$\text{Gal}(K_j^*/K_{j-1}) \ni \sigma \longmapsto (P_i^*)^\sigma - P_i^* \in \phi_i^*(\Gamma^*).$$

**PROOF** Immediate from

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Ker}(\lambda_{n-1}^* \circ \lambda_{n-1} \circ \cdots \circ \lambda_i^* \circ \lambda_i) \\ &= (\lambda_{i-1}^* \circ \lambda_{i-1} \circ \cdots \circ \lambda_0^* \circ \lambda_0)E_0[l^n], \end{aligned}$$

which is a subgroup of  $E_i(k)$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Ker}(\lambda_{n-1}^* \circ \lambda_{n-1} \circ \cdots \circ \lambda_{i+1} \circ \lambda_i^*) \\ &= (\lambda_i \circ \lambda_{i-1}^* \circ \cdots \circ \lambda_0^* \circ \lambda_0)E_0[l^n], \end{aligned}$$

which is a subgroup of  $E_i^*(k)$ .  $\square$

Now, we assume that  $c = x(P)$  satisfies the condition

$$(4.3) \quad \min\{\text{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}(c^3+ac+b), \text{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}(3c^2+a)\} \leq 0$$

for any finite place  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $k$  such that  $E$  has bad reduction at  $\mathfrak{p}$  or  $\mathfrak{p} \mid l$ . Here, we replace the inequality above by

$$(4.3)' \quad \text{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}(c^2 + a) \leq 0$$

if  $\mathfrak{p} \mid 2$ , and by

$$(4.3)'' \quad \text{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}(l^{2n}c) \leq 0$$

if  $\mathfrak{p} \mid l$ . Then we have:

**Proposition 4.2** *The extensions  $K_j/K_j^*$  and  $K_j^*/K_{j-1}$  are unramified at all finite places.*

PROOF We fix a finite place  $\mathfrak{P}$  of  $L$  such that  $E$  has bad reduction at  $\mathfrak{P}$  or  $\mathfrak{P} \mid l$ , for  $L/K$  is unramified at other finite places, and put

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}_i(L; \mathfrak{P}) &= \{Q \in E_i(L) ; \tilde{Q} \in (\tilde{E}_i)_{\text{ns}}(\kappa)\}, \\ \mathcal{E}_i^*(L; \mathfrak{P}) &= \{Q^* \in E_i^*(L) ; \tilde{Q}^* \in (\tilde{E}_i^*)_{\text{ns}}(\kappa)\}. \end{aligned}$$

Here,

$$\begin{aligned} E_i(L) \ni Q &\longmapsto \tilde{Q} \in \tilde{E}_i(\kappa), \\ E_i^*(L) \ni Q^* &\longmapsto \tilde{Q}^* \in \tilde{E}_i^*(\kappa) \end{aligned}$$

( $\kappa$  denotes the residue field of  $\mathfrak{P}$ ) are the reduction modulo  $\mathfrak{P}$  maps *with respect to the equations* (3.1), and the symbol “ns” means non-singular points. Then the assumption (4.3) (or (4.3)' or (4.3)'') implies  $P_n \in \mathcal{E}_n(L; \mathfrak{P})$ . Therefore, by Corollary 3.2, (4.1), (4.2) and by [3, Theorem 4.5], there exist  $P_i \in \mathcal{E}_i(L; \mathfrak{P})$  ( $0 \leq$

$i \leq n - 1$ ) and  $P_i^* \in \mathcal{E}_i^*(L; \mathfrak{P})$  ( $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ ) such that

$$\begin{aligned} P_0 &\xrightarrow{\lambda_0} P_0^* \xrightarrow{\lambda_0^*} \cdots \xrightarrow{\lambda_{n-3}^*} P_{n-2} \xrightarrow{\lambda_{n-2}} P_{n-2}^* \\ &\xrightarrow{\lambda_{n-2}^*} P_{n-1} \xrightarrow{\lambda_{n-1}} P_{n-1}^* \xrightarrow{\lambda_{n-1}^*} P_n. \end{aligned}$$

These points might depend on the place  $\mathfrak{P}$ . However, the fields

$$k(P_i) = K_{n-i}, \quad k(P_i^*) = K_{n-i}^* \quad (0 \leq i \leq n - 1)$$

do not depend on the choice of such points (see Proposition 4.1). Hence we can show that  $K_j/K_j^*$  and  $K_j^*/K_{j-1}$  are unramified at  $\mathfrak{P}$  in a similar fashion to the argument in [3, Section 5], in which we use Proposition 4.1 again (note that an extension of degree 1 is unramified).  $\square$

Proposition 4.2 immediately implies that  $L/K$  is unramified at all finite places, which is the assertion of Theorem 1.1.

### 5 Some examples

We close the present paper with giving some examples of biquadratic number fields, which contain  $\sqrt{-3}$ , with class numbers divisible by 9. Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$ ,  $l = 3$ ,  $n = 1$ , and let

$$E : y^2 = x^3 + 16.$$

Then, by using Magma [1], we have

$$\begin{aligned} x \circ [3] &= \frac{x^9 - 1536x^6 + 12288x^3 + 262144}{9x^2(x^3 + 64)^2}, \\ \text{rank } E(\mathbb{Q}) &= \text{rank } E_{k/\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{Q}) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$E_{k/\mathbb{Q}} : -3y^2 = x^3 + 16$$

is the quadratic twist of  $E$  with respect to  $k/\mathbb{Q}$ , and  $E(k)_{\text{tors}} = E[3]$  consists of

$$O, (0, \pm 4), (-4, \pm 4\sqrt{-3}), (2 + 2\sqrt{-3}, \pm 4\sqrt{-3}), (2 - 2\sqrt{-3}, \pm 4\sqrt{-3}).$$

Therefore  $E(k) = E[3]$ . It is not hard to observe that  $E$  is isomorphic to

$$(y')^2 + y' = (x')^3,$$

which has discriminant  $-27$ . Thus  $E$  has good reduction at every finite place except  $\mathfrak{p} = (\sqrt{-3})$ . In this case, the condition on  $c = x(P)$  in Theorem 1.1 becomes

$$\text{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}(9c) \leq 0.$$

Moreover  $L = k([3]^{-1}P)$  coincides with the splitting field of

$$f_c(x) = x^9 - 1536x^6 + 12288x^3 + 262144 - 9cx^2(x^3 + 64)^2$$

over  $K = k(P) = k(\sqrt{c^3 + 16})$ , since  $y(P) \neq 0$ . Consequently, if  $\text{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}(9c) \leq 0$  and if  $f_c(x)$  is irreducible over  $K$ , then  $L/K$  is an unramified abelian extension of degree 9, and hence the class number of  $K$  is divisible by 9. We note that these conditions imply  $[K : k] = 2$ , for the class number of  $k$  is 1.

In what follows, we shall consider the case where  $c \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3}, \sqrt{c^3 + 16})$  is a biquadratic field (that is,  $\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$  is isomorphic to the Klein 4-group) unless  $c = 0$  or  $c = -4$ . Hence, if  $f_c(x)$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , so is over  $K$ . Thus Theorem 1.1 implies:

**Corollary 5.1** *Let  $c$  be a rational number satisfying the following two conditions:*

- (a)  $\text{ord}_3(9c) \leq 0$ .
- (b)  $f_c(x)$  is irreducible over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

*Then the class number of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3}, \sqrt{c^3 + 16})$  is divisible by 9.*

**Example 5.2** Using PARI/GP [2], we have the following table. Here  $h_K$  denotes the class number of  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3}, \sqrt{c^3 + 16})$ . We have  $9 \mid h_K$ , except for  $c = \pm 3/9, \pm 6/9, \pm 9/9$  or  $c = -4/9$ . The values  $c = \pm 3/9, \pm 6/9$  and  $c = \pm 9/9$  do not satisfy the condition (a), while the values  $c = 9/9$  and  $c = -4/9$  do not satisfy the condition (b).

| $c$  | $h_K$ | $c$   | $h_K$ |
|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1/9  | 540   | -1/9  | 1296  |
| 2/9  | 108   | -2/9  | 432   |
| 3/9  | 96    | -3/9  | 21    |
| 4/9  | 54    | -4/9  | 3     |
| 5/9  | 189   | -5/9  | 432   |
| 6/9  | 24    | -6/9  | 6     |
| 7/9  | 270   | -7/9  | 315   |
| 8/9  | 9     | -8/9  | 36    |
| 9/9  | 1     | -9/9  | 2     |
| 10/9 | 72    | -10/9 | 144   |

## References

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