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# DENSITIES OF 4-RANKS OF $K_2(\mathcal{O})$

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ABSTRACT. In [1], the authors established a method of determining the structure of the 2-Sylow subgroup of the tame kernel  $K_2(\mathcal{O})$  for certain quadratic number fields. Specifically, the 4-rank for these fields was characterized in terms of positive definite binary quadratic forms. Numerical calculations led to questions concerning possible density results of the 4-rank of tame kernels. In this paper, we succeed in giving affirmative answers to these questions.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Since the 1960's, relationships between algebraic K-theory and number theory have been intensely studied. For number fields  $F$  and their rings of integers  $\mathcal{O}_F$ , the K-groups  $K_0(\mathcal{O}_F)$ ,  $K_1(\mathcal{O}_F)$ ,  $K_2(\mathcal{O}_F)$ ,  $\dots$  were a main focus of attention. From [8] we have

$$K_0(\mathcal{O}_F) \cong \mathbb{Z} \times C(F)$$

where  $C(F)$  is the ideal class group of  $F$ , and

$$K_1(\mathcal{O}_F) \cong \mathcal{O}_F^*$$

the group of units of  $\mathcal{O}_F$ .

What can we say in general about  $K_2(\mathcal{O}_F)$ ? Garland and Quillen in [3] and [11] showed that  $K_2(\mathcal{O}_F)$  is finite. A conjecture of Birch and Tate connects the order of  $K_2(\mathcal{O}_F)$  and the value of the zeta function of  $F$  at  $-1$  when  $F$  is a totally real field. For abelian number fields, this conjecture has been confirmed up to powers of 2 [7]. In [12] a 2-rank formula for  $K_2(\mathcal{O}_F)$  was given by Tate. Some results on the 4-rank of  $K_2(\mathcal{O}_F)$  were given in [9], [10], and [13]. To gain further insight on the 4-rank of  $K_2(\mathcal{O}_F)$ , we consider the following specific families of fields.

In this paper we deal with the 4-rank of the Milnor K-group  $K_2(\mathcal{O})$  for the quadratic number fields  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pl})$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2pl})$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-pl})$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2pl})$  for primes  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ ,  $l \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  with  $\left(\frac{l}{p}\right) = 1$ . In [1], the authors show that for the fields  $E = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pl})$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2pl})$  and  $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-pl})$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2pl})$ ,

$$\text{4-rank } K_2(\mathcal{O}_E) = 1 \text{ or } 2,$$

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4-rank  $K_2(\mathcal{O}_F) = 0$  or 1.

Each of the possible values of 4-ranks is then characterized by checking which ones of the quadratic forms  $X^2+32Y^2$ ,  $X^2+2pY^2$ ,  $2X^2+pY^2$  represent a certain power of  $l$  over  $\mathbb{Z}$ . This approach makes numerical computations accessible. We should note that this approach involves quadratic symbols and determining the matrix rank over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  of  $3 \times 3$  matrices with Hilbert symbols as entries, see [4]. Fix a prime  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$  and consider the set

$$\Omega = \{l \text{ rational prime} : l \equiv 1 \pmod{8} \text{ and } \left(\frac{l}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{l}\right) = 1\}.$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned} v &= 4\text{-rank } K_2(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pl})}) \\ \mu &= 4\text{-rank } K_2(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2pl})}) \\ \sigma &= 4\text{-rank } K_2(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-pl})}) \\ \tau &= 4\text{-rank } K_2(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2pl})}) \end{aligned}$$

and also consider the sets

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_1 &= \{l \in \Omega : v = 1\} \\ \Omega_2 &= \{l \in \Omega : v = 2\} \\ \Omega_3 &= \{l \in \Omega : \mu = 1\} \\ \Omega_4 &= \{l \in \Omega : \mu = 2\} \\ \Lambda_1 &= \{l \in \Omega : \sigma = 0\} \\ \Lambda_2 &= \{l \in \Omega : \sigma = 1\} \\ \Lambda_3 &= \{l \in \Omega : \tau = 0\} \\ \Lambda_4 &= \{l \in \Omega : \tau = 1\}. \end{aligned}$$

We have computed the following (see Table 1 in Appendix): For  $p = 7$ , there are 9730 primes  $l$  in  $\Omega$  with  $l \leq 10^6$ . Among them, there are 4866 primes (50.01%) in  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_3$  and 4864 primes (49.99%) in  $\Omega_2$  and  $\Omega_4$ . Also, there are 4878 primes (50.13%) in  $\Lambda_1$  and  $\Lambda_3$  and 4852 primes in  $\Lambda_2$  and  $\Lambda_4$ . The goal of this paper is to prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.1.** *For the fields  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pl})$  and  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2pl})$ , 4-rank 1 and 2 each appear with natural density  $\frac{1}{2}$  in  $\Omega$ . For the fields  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-pl})$  and  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2pl})$ , 4-rank 0 and 1 each appear with natural density  $\frac{1}{2}$  in  $\Omega$ .*

Now consider the tuple of 4-ranks  $(v, \mu, \sigma, \tau)$ . By Corollary (5.6) in [1], there are eight possible tuples of 4-ranks. For  $p = 7$ , among the 9730 primes  $l \in \Omega$  with  $l \leq 10^6$ , the eight possible tuples are realized by 1215, 1213, 1228, 1210, 1210, 1228, 1225, 1201 primes  $l$  respectively (see Table 2 in Appendix). And, in fact:

**Theorem 1.2.** *Each of the eight possible tuples of 4-ranks appear with natural density  $\frac{1}{8}$  in  $\Omega$ .*

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

Let  $\mathcal{D}$  be a Galois extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and  $G = \text{Gal}(\mathcal{D}/\mathbb{Q})$ . Let  $Z(G)$  denote the center of  $G$  and  $\mathcal{D}^{Z(G)}$  denote the fixed field of  $Z(G)$ . Let  $p$  be a rational prime which is unramified in  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\beta$  be a prime of  $\mathcal{D}$  containing  $p$ . Let  $\left(\frac{\mathcal{D}/\mathbb{Q}}{p}\right)$  denote the Artin symbol of  $p$  and  $\{g\}$  the conjugacy class containing one element  $g \in G$ .

**Lemma 2.1.**  $\left(\frac{\mathcal{D}/\mathbb{Q}}{p}\right) = \{g\}$  for some  $g \in Z(G)$  if and only if  $p$  splits completely in  $\mathcal{D}^{Z(G)}$ .

*Proof.*  $\left(\frac{\mathcal{D}/\mathbb{Q}}{p}\right) = \{g\}$  for some  $g \in Z(G)$  if and only if  $\left(\frac{\mathcal{D}/\mathbb{Q}}{\beta}\right) = g$  if and only if  $\left(\frac{\mathcal{D}^{Z(G)}/\mathbb{Q}}{\beta}\right) = \left(\frac{\mathcal{D}/\mathbb{Q}}{\beta}\right)\Big|_{\mathcal{D}^{Z(G)}} = g|_{\mathcal{D}^{Z(G)}} = \text{Id}_{\text{Gal}(\mathcal{D}^{Z(G)}/\mathbb{Q})}$  if and only if  $p$  splits completely in  $\mathcal{D}^{Z(G)}$ .  $\square$

Thus if we can show that rational primes split completely in the fixed field of the center of a certain Galois group  $G$ , then we know the associated Artin symbol is a conjugacy class containing one element. Hence we may identify the Artin symbol with this one element and consider the symbol to be an automorphism which lies in  $Z(G)$ . Thus determining the order of  $Z(G)$  gives us the number of possible choices for the Artin symbol.

Let  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  be finite groups and  $A$  a finite abelian group. Suppose  $r_1 : G_1 \rightarrow A$  and  $r_2 : G_2 \rightarrow A$  are two epimorphisms and  $\mathcal{G} \subset G_1 \times G_2$  is the set  $\{(g_1, g_2) \in G_1 \times G_2 : r_1(g_1) = r_2(g_2)\}$ . Since  $A$  is abelian, there is an epimorphism  $r : G_1 \times G_2 \rightarrow A$  given by  $r(g_1, g_2) = r_1(g_1)r_2(g_2)^{-1}$ . Thus  $\mathcal{G} = \ker(r) \subset G_1 \times G_2$ . One can check that  $Z(\mathcal{G}) = \mathcal{G} \cap Z(G_1 \times G_2)$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** (i) If  $r_2\Big|_{Z(G_2)}$  is trivial, then  $Z(\mathcal{G}) = \ker(r_1\Big|_{Z(G_1)}) \times Z(G_2)$ .

(ii)  $Z(\mathcal{G}) = Z(G_1) \times Z(G_2) \iff r_1\Big|_{Z(G_1)}$  and  $r_2\Big|_{Z(G_2)}$  are both trivial.

*Proof.* (i) Suppose  $(g_1, g_2) \in Z(\mathcal{G}) \subset \ker(r)$  where  $g_1 \in Z(G_1)$ ,  $g_2 \in Z(G_2)$ . Thus  $1 = r(g_1, g_2) = r_1(g_1)r_2(g_2)^{-1}$  and so  $r_1(g_1) = r_2(g_2)$ . But  $r_2(g_2) = 1$  which yields  $r_1(g_1) = 1$ . Thus  $g_1 \in \ker(r_1\Big|_{Z(G_1)})$ . The other inclusion is clear.

(ii) Take  $(g_1, 1), (1, g_2) \in Z(G_1) \times Z(G_2) = Z(\mathcal{G}) \subset \ker(r)$ , respectively to obtain that  $r_1\Big|_{Z(G_1)}$  and  $r_2\Big|_{Z(G_2)}$  are both trivial. The converse follows from part (i).  $\square$

We will use the following definition throughout this paper.

**Definition 2.3.** For primes  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ ,  $l \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  with  $\left(\frac{l}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{l}\right) = 1$ ,  $\mathcal{K} = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2p})$ , and  $h(\mathcal{K})$  the class number of  $\mathcal{K}$ , we say:

$l$  satisfies  $\langle 1, 32 \rangle$  if and only if  $l = x^2 + 32y^2$  for some  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$

$l$  satisfies  $\langle 2, p \rangle$  if and only if  $l^{\frac{h(\mathcal{K})}{4}} = 2n^2 + pm^2$  for some  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{l}$

$l$  satisfies  $\langle 1, 2p \rangle$  if and only if  $l^{\frac{h(\mathcal{K})}{4}} = n^2 + 2pm^2$  for some  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{l}$ .

### 3. THREE EXTENSIONS

In this section, we consider three degree eight field extensions of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . The idea will be to study composites of these fields and relate Artin symbols to 4-ranks. Rational primes which split completely in a degree 64 extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  will relate to Artin symbols and thus 4-ranks. Therefore calculating the density of these primes will answer density questions involving 4-ranks.

**3.1. First Extension.** Consider  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Let  $\epsilon = 1 + \sqrt{2} \in (\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}])^*$ . Then  $\epsilon$  is a fundamental unit of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  which has norm  $-1$ . The degree 4 extension  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{\epsilon})$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  has normal closure  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{\epsilon}, \sqrt{-1})$ . Set

$$N_1 = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{\epsilon}, \sqrt{-1}).$$

Note that  $N_1$  is the splitting field of the polynomial  $x^4 - 2x^2 - 1$  and so has degree 8 over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Therefore  $\text{Gal}(N_1/\mathbb{Q})$  is the dihedral group of order 8. Note that the automorphism induced by sending  $\sqrt{\epsilon}$  to  $-\sqrt{\epsilon}$  commutes with every element of  $\text{Gal}(N_1/\mathbb{Q})$ . Thus  $Z(\text{Gal}(N_1/\mathbb{Q})) = \text{Gal}(N_1/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{-1}))$ .

Observe that only the prime 2 ramifies in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-1})$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{\epsilon})$ , and so only the prime 2 ramifies in the compositum  $N_1$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Now as  $l \in \Omega$  is unramified in  $N_1$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , the Artin symbol  $\left(\frac{N_1/\mathbb{Q}}{\beta}\right)$  is defined for primes  $\beta$  of  $\mathcal{O}_{N_1}$  containing  $l$ . Let  $\left(\frac{N_1/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right)$  denote the conjugacy class of  $\left(\frac{N_1/\mathbb{Q}}{\beta}\right)$  in  $\text{Gal}(N_1/\mathbb{Q})$ . The primes  $l \in \Omega$  split completely in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{-1})$  and  $N_1^{Z(\text{Gal}(N_1/\mathbb{Q}))} = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{-1})$ . Thus by Lemma 2.1, we have that  $\left(\frac{N_1/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right) = \{g\} \subset Z(\text{Gal}(N_1/\mathbb{Q}))$ . As  $Z(\text{Gal}(N_1/\mathbb{Q}))$  has order 2, there are two possible choices for  $\left(\frac{N_1/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right)$ . Combining this statement with Addendum (3.4) from [1], we have

**Remark 3.1.**

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{N_1/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right) = \{id\} &\iff l \text{ splits completely in } N_1 \\ &\iff l \text{ satisfies } \langle 1, 32 \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

**3.2. Second and Third Extension.** Consider the fixed prime  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ . Note  $p$  splits completely in  $\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and so

$$p\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{L}} = \mathfrak{B}\mathfrak{B}'$$

for some primes  $\mathfrak{B} \neq \mathfrak{B}'$  in  $\mathcal{L}$ . The field  $\mathcal{L}$  has narrow class number  $h^+(\mathcal{L}) = 1$  as  $h(\mathcal{L}) = 1$  and  $N_{\mathcal{L}/\mathbb{Q}}(\epsilon) = -1$  where  $\epsilon = 1 + \sqrt{2}$  is a fundamental unit of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ , see [5]. From [1],

**Lemma 3.2.** *The prime  $\mathfrak{B}$  which occurs in the decomposition of  $p\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{L}}$  has a generator  $\pi = a + b\sqrt{2} \in \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{L}}$ , unique up to a sign and to multiplication by the square of a unit in  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{L}}^*$  for which  $N_{\mathcal{L}/\mathbb{Q}}(\pi) = a^2 - 2b^2 = -p$ .*

The degree 4 extension  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{\pi})$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  has normal closure  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{\pi}, \sqrt{-p})$  as  $N_{\mathcal{L}/\mathbb{Q}}(\pi) = -p$ . Set

$$N_2 = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{\pi}, \sqrt{-p}).$$

Then  $N_2$  is Galois over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $[N_2 : \mathbb{Q}] = 8$ . Such an extension  $N_2$  exists since the 2-Sylow subgroup of the ideal class group of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2p})$  is cyclic of order divisible by 4 [2]. Thus the Hilbert class field of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2p})$  contains a unique unramified cyclic degree 4 extension over  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2p})$ . By Lemma 2.3 in [1],  $N_2$  is the unique unramified cyclic degree 4 extension over  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2p})$ . Also compare [6]. Similar to arguments in Section 2.1,  $\text{Gal}(N_2/\mathbb{Q})$  is the dihedral group of order 8. Note that the automorphism induced by sending  $\sqrt{\pi}$  to  $-\sqrt{\pi}$  commutes with every element of  $\text{Gal}(N_2/\mathbb{Q})$ . Thus  $Z(\text{Gal}(N_2/\mathbb{Q})) = \text{Gal}(N_2/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{-p}))$ .

**Proposition 3.3.** *If  $l \in \Omega$ , then  $l$  is unramified in  $N_2$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ , the discriminant of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2p})$  is  $-8p$ . For  $l \in \Omega$ , we have  $\left(\frac{-2p}{l}\right) = 1$  and so  $l$  is unramified in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2p})$ . By Lemma 2.3 in [1], we have  $l$  is unramified in  $N_2$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .  $\square$

As  $l \in \Omega$  is unramified in  $N_2$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , the Artin symbol  $\left(\frac{N_2/\mathbb{Q}}{\beta}\right)$  is defined for primes  $\beta$  of  $\mathcal{O}_{N_2}$  containing  $l$ . Let  $\left(\frac{N_2/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right)$  denote the conjugacy class of  $\left(\frac{N_2/\mathbb{Q}}{\beta}\right)$  in  $\text{Gal}(N_2/\mathbb{Q})$ . The primes  $l \in \Omega$  split completely in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{-p})$  and  $N_2^{Z(\text{Gal}(N_2/\mathbb{Q}))} = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{-p})$ . By Lemma 2.1, we have that  $\left(\frac{N_2/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right) = \{h\} \subset Z(\text{Gal}(N_2/\mathbb{Q}))$  for some  $h \in Z(\text{Gal}(N_2/\mathbb{Q}))$ . As  $Z(\text{Gal}(N_2/\mathbb{Q}))$  has order 2, there are two possible choices for  $\left(\frac{N_2/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right)$ . Combining this statement and Lemmas (3.3) and (3.4) from [1], we have

**Remark 3.4.**

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{N_2/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right) = \{id\} &\iff l \text{ splits completely in } N_2 \\ &\iff l \text{ satisfies } \langle 1, 2p \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{N_2/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right) \neq \{id\} &\iff l \text{ does not split completely in } N_2 \\ &\iff l \text{ satisfies } \langle 2, p \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, for  $l \in \Omega$ ,  $l$  splits completely in  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16}) \iff l \equiv 1 \pmod{16}$  This yields

**Remark 3.5.**

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16})/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right) = \{id\} &\iff l \text{ splits completely in } \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16}) \\ &\iff l \equiv 1 \pmod{16}. \end{aligned}$$

#### 4. THE COMPOSITE AND TWO THEOREMS

In this section we consider the composite field  $N_1N_2\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16})$ . Set

$$L = N_1N_2\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16}).$$

Note that  $[L : \mathbb{Q}] = 64$ . As  $N_1$ ,  $N_2$ , and  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16})$  are normal extensions of  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $L$  is a normal extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

For  $l \in \Omega$ ,  $l$  is unramified in  $L$  as it is unramified in  $N_1$ ,  $N_2$ , and  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16})$ . The Artin symbol  $\left(\frac{L/\mathbb{Q}}{\beta}\right)$  is now defined for some prime  $\beta$  of  $\mathcal{O}_L$  containing  $l$ . Let  $\left(\frac{L/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right)$  denote the conjugacy class of  $\left(\frac{L/\mathbb{Q}}{\beta}\right)$  in  $Gal(L/\mathbb{Q})$ . Letting  $M = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{-1}, \sqrt{-p}) \subset L$ , we prove

**Lemma 4.1.**  $Z(Gal(L/\mathbb{Q})) = Gal(L/M)$  is elementary abelian of order 8.

*Proof.* For  $\sigma \in Gal(L/M)$ ,  $\sigma$  can only change the sign of  $\sqrt{\epsilon}$ ,  $\sqrt{\pi}$ , and  $\sqrt{\zeta_8}$  as  $\epsilon \in M$ . Since  $L = M(\sqrt{\epsilon}, \sqrt{\pi}, \sqrt{\zeta_8})$ ,  $Gal(L/M)$  is elementary abelian of order 8. Now consider the restrictions  $r_1 : G_1 \rightarrow Gal(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})/\mathbb{Q})$  and  $r_2 : G_2 \rightarrow Gal(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})/\mathbb{Q})$  where  $G_1 = Gal(N_1/\mathbb{Q})$  and  $G_2 = Gal(N_2/\mathbb{Q})$ . Clearly  $r_1 \Big|_{Z(G_1)}$  and

$r_2 \Big|_{Z(G_2)}$  are both trivial. Then by Lemma 2.2 part (ii),  $Z(\mathcal{G})$  is elementary abelian of order 4 where  $\mathcal{G} = Gal(N_1N_2/\mathbb{Q})$ . Now consider the restrictions  $R_1 : Gal(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16})/\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow Gal(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_8)/\mathbb{Q})$  and  $R_2 : \mathcal{G} \rightarrow Gal(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_8)/\mathbb{Q})$ . Note that  $ker(R_1)$  is cyclic of order 2 and  $Z(\mathcal{G}) = Gal(M/\mathbb{Q})$ . Thus  $R_2 \Big|_{Z(\mathcal{G})}$

is trivial and so by the above and Lemma 2.2 part (i),  $Z(\text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q})) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times Z(\mathcal{G}) = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ . Thus  $Z(\text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q})) = \text{Gal}(L/M)$ .  $\square$

Now for  $l \in \Omega$ ,  $l$  splits completely in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-1})$  and  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{-p})$  and so splits completely in the composite field  $M = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{-1}, \sqrt{-p})$ . From Lemma 4.1,  $L^{Z(\text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q}))} = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{-1}, \sqrt{-p})$ . So by Lemma 2.1, we have  $\left(\frac{L/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right) = \{k\} \subset Z(\text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q}))$  for some  $k \in \text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q})$ . As  $Z(\text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q}))$  has order 8, there are eight possible choices for  $\left(\frac{L/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right)$ . Using Remarks 3.1, 3.4, and 3.5, we now make the following one to one correspondences.

**Remark 4.2.** (i)  $\left(\frac{L/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right) = \{id\} \iff l$  splits completely in  $L \iff$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ splits completely in } N_1, \\ N_2, \text{ and } \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16}) \end{array} \right\} \iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ satisfies } \langle 1, 32 \rangle \\ l \text{ satisfies } \langle 1, 2p \rangle \\ l \equiv 1 \pmod{16} \end{array} \right\}.$$

(ii)  $\left(\frac{L/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right) \neq \{id\} \iff l$  does not split completely in  $L$ . Now there are seven cases.

1.  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ splits completely in } N_1, \\ \text{but does not in } N_2 \text{ or } \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16}) \end{array} \right\} \iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ satisfies } \langle 1, 32 \rangle \\ l \text{ satisfies } \langle 2, p \rangle \\ l \equiv 9 \pmod{16} \end{array} \right\}$
2.  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ splits completely in } N_1 \\ \text{and } N_2, \text{ but does not in } \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16}) \end{array} \right\} \iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ satisfies } \langle 1, 32 \rangle \\ l \text{ satisfies } \langle 1, 2p \rangle \\ l \equiv 9 \pmod{16} \end{array} \right\}$
3.  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ splits completely in} \\ N_2, \text{ but does not in } N_1 \\ \text{or } \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16}) \end{array} \right\} \iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ does not satisfy } \langle 1, 32 \rangle \\ l \text{ satisfies } \langle 1, 2p \rangle \\ l \equiv 9 \pmod{16} \end{array} \right\}$
4.  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ splits completely in} \\ N_2 \text{ and } \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16}), \\ \text{but does not in } N_1 \end{array} \right\} \iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ does not satisfy } \langle 1, 32 \rangle \\ l \text{ satisfies } \langle 1, 2p \rangle \\ l \equiv 1 \pmod{16} \end{array} \right\}$
5.  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ splits completely in } N_1 \\ \text{and } \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16}), \text{ but does not in } N_2 \end{array} \right\} \iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ satisfies } \langle 1, 32 \rangle \\ l \text{ satisfies } \langle 2, p \rangle \\ l \equiv 1 \pmod{16} \end{array} \right\}$
6.  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ splits completely in} \\ \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16}), \text{ but does not in } N_1 \\ \text{or } N_2 \end{array} \right\} \iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ does not satisfy } \langle 1, 32 \rangle \\ l \text{ satisfies } \langle 2, p \rangle \\ l \equiv 1 \pmod{16} \end{array} \right\}$
7.  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ does not split completely} \\ \text{in } N_1, N_2, \text{ or } \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{16}) \end{array} \right\} \iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} l \text{ does not satisfy } \langle 1, 32 \rangle \\ l \text{ satisfies } \langle 2, p \rangle \\ l \equiv 9 \pmod{16} \end{array} \right\}.$



Now using Theorems (5.2), (5.3), (5.4), and (5.5) from [1], we relate each Artin symbol  $\left(\frac{L/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right)$  to each of the eight possible tuples of 4-ranks.

**Remark 4.3.** *From Remark 4.2, case (i) occurs if and only if we have (2, 2, 1, 1). For case (ii),*

- (1) *occurs if and only if we have (1, 2, 0, 1)*
- (2) *occurs if and only if we have (2, 1, 1, 0)*
- (3) *occurs if and only if we have (2, 1, 0, 1)*
- (4) *occurs if and only if we have (2, 2, 0, 0)*
- (5) *occurs if and only if we have (1, 1, 0, 0)*
- (6) *occurs if and only if we have (1, 1, 1, 1)*
- (7) *occurs if and only if we have (1, 2, 1, 0).*

We can now prove Theorem 1.2.

*Proof.* Consider the set  $X = \{l \text{ prime} : l \text{ is unramified in } L \text{ and } \left(\frac{L/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right) = \{k\} \subset Z(\text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q}))\}$  for some  $k \in \text{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q})$ . By the Čebotarev Density Theorem, the set  $X$  has natural density  $\frac{1}{64}$  in the set of all primes. Recall

$$\Omega = \{l \text{ rational prime} : l \equiv 1 \pmod{8} \text{ and } \left(\frac{l}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{l}\right) = 1\}$$

for some fixed prime  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ . By Dirichlet's Theorem on primes in arithmetic progressions,  $\Omega$  has natural density  $\frac{1}{8}$  in the set of all primes. Thus  $X$  has natural density  $\frac{1}{8}$  in  $\Omega$ . By Remark 4.2 and 4.3, each of the eight choices for  $\left(\frac{L/\mathbb{Q}}{l}\right)$  is in one to one correspondence with each of the possible tuples of 4-ranks. Thus each of the eight possible tuples of 4-ranks appear with natural density  $\frac{1}{8}$  in  $\Omega$ . □

Now we can prove Theorem 1.1

*Proof.* We see from Remark 4.3, 4-rank  $K_2(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pl})}) = 1$  in cases (ii), parts (1), (5), (6), and (7), 4-rank  $K_2(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2pl})}) = 2$  in case (i) and case (ii) parts (1), (4), and (7), 4-rank  $K_2(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-pl})}) = 0$  in case (ii) parts (1), (3), (4), and (5), 4-rank  $K_2(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2pl})}) = 1$  in case (i) and case (ii) parts (1), (3), and (6). As each of the 4-rank tuples occur with natural density  $\frac{1}{8}$ , we have for the fields  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{pl})$  and  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2pl})$ , 4-rank 1 and 2 each appear with natural density  $4 \cdot \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{2}$  in  $\Omega$ . For the fields  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-pl})$  and  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2pl})$ , 4-rank 0 and 1 each appear with natural density  $4 \cdot \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{2}$  in  $\Omega$ . □

## APPENDIX

The following tables motivated possible density results of 4-ranks of tame kernels. We consider primes  $l \in \Omega$  with  $l \leq N$  for a fixed prime  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$  and positive integer  $N$ . For Table 1, we consider the sets  $\Omega_1, \dots, \Omega_4$  and  $\Lambda_1, \dots, \Lambda_4$  as in the Introduction. For Table 2, we consider the sets

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \{l \in \Omega : 4\text{-rank tuple is } (1,1,0,0)\} \\ I_2 &= \{l \in \Omega : 4\text{-rank tuple is } (1,1,1,1)\} \\ I_3 &= \{l \in \Omega : 4\text{-rank tuple is } (2,1,1,0)\} \\ I_4 &= \{l \in \Omega : 4\text{-rank tuple is } (2,1,0,1)\} \\ I_5 &= \{l \in \Omega : 4\text{-rank tuple is } (1,2,1,0)\} \\ I_6 &= \{l \in \Omega : 4\text{-rank tuple is } (1,2,0,1)\} \\ I_7 &= \{l \in \Omega : 4\text{-rank tuple is } (2,2,0,0)\} \\ I_8 &= \{l \in \Omega : 4\text{-rank tuple is } (2,2,1,1)\}. \end{aligned}$$

TABLE 1

Primes	$p = 7$		$p = 23$		$p = 31$	
Cardinality	$N = 1000000$	%	$N = 1000000$	%	$N = 1000000$	%
$ \Omega $	9730		9742		9754	
$ \Omega_1 $	4866	50.01	4905	50.35	4916	50.40
$ \Omega_2 $	4864	49.99	4837	49.65	4838	49.60
$ \Omega_3 $	4866	50.01	4911	50.41	4851	49.73
$ \Omega_4 $	4864	49.99	4831	49.59	4903	50.27
$ \Lambda_1 $	4878	50.13	4912	50.42	4930	50.54
$ \Lambda_2 $	4852	49.87	4830	49.58	4824	49.46
$ \Lambda_3 $	4878	50.13	4876	50.05	4943	50.68
$ \Lambda_4 $	4852	49.87	4866	49.95	4811	49.32

TABLE 2

Primes	$p = 7$		$p = 23$		$p = 31$	
Cardinality	$N = 1000000$	%	$N = 1000000$	%	$N = 1000000$	%
$ \Omega $	9730		9742		9754	
$I_1$	1215	12.49	1246	12.79	1246	12.77
$I_2$	1213	12.46	1229	12.62	1203	12.33
$I_3$	1228	12.62	1211	12.43	1214	12.45
$I_4$	1210	12.44	1225	12.57	1188	12.18
$I_5$	1210	12.44	1204	12.36	1227	12.58
$I_6$	1228	12.62	1226	12.58	1240	12.71
$I_7$	1225	12.59	1215	12.47	1256	12.88
$I_8$	1201	12.34	1186	12.17	1180	12.10

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