

## Pell surfaces and elliptic curves

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**Abstract.** Let  $E_m$  be the elliptic curve  $y^2 = x^3 - m$ , where  $m$  is a squarefree positive integer and  $-m \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4}$ . Let  $Cl(K)[3]$  denote the 3-torsion subgroup of the ideal class group of the quadratic field  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-m})$ . Let  $S_3 : y^2 + mz^2 = x^3$  be the Pell surface. We show that the collection of primitive integral points on  $S_3$  coming from the elliptic curve  $E_m$  do not form a group with respect to the binary operation given by Hambleton and Lemmermeyer. We also show that there is a group homomorphism  $\kappa$  from rational points of  $E_m$  to  $Cl(K)[3]$  using 3-descent on  $E_m$ , whose kernel contains  $3E_m(\mathbb{Q})$ . We also explain how our homomorphism  $\kappa$ , the homomorphism  $\psi$  of Hambleton and Lemmermeyer and the homomorphism  $\phi$  of Soleng are related.

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### 1. Introduction

Let  $m$  be a squarefree positive integer and  $-m \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4}$ . Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-m})$  be an imaginary quadratic field. Any element of this field is of the form  $a + b\omega$ , where  $\omega = \sqrt{-m}$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$  and its norm is  $N(a + b\omega) = a^2 + mb^2$ . Let  $\mathcal{O}_K$  denote the ring of algebraic integers of  $K$ . An element  $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_K$  is primitive if  $p \nmid \alpha$  for every rational prime  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Let  $E_m : y^2 = x^3 - m$  be the associated elliptic curve. It is well known that the set of rational points on it forms a finitely generated abelian group denoted as  $E_m(\mathbb{Q})$ . Any rational point on  $E_m$  is of the form  $(\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3})$  where  $r, s, t \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $\gcd(r, t) = \gcd(s, t) = 1$ . For standard definitions and results on elliptic curves, we refer to [9] and [10].

Let  $S_n : y^2 + mz^2 = x^n$  with  $n \geq 2$ , a fixed integer, be a Pell surface. In an interesting paper [7] by S. Hambleton and F. Lemmermeyer, it is shown

that with respect to a binary operation defined on the primitive integral points of  $S_n$ , denoted by  $S_n(\mathbb{Z})$ , it forms an abelian group. They have also shown that there is a surjective homomorphism  $\psi : S_n(\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow Cl^+(F)[n]$ , the  $n$ -torsion subgroup of the narrow class group of the quadratic field  $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{\Delta})$ , where  $\Delta$  is a fundamental discriminant, more generally  $S_n : y^2 + \sigma yz + \frac{\sigma - \Delta}{4} z^2 = x^n$  and  $\sigma$  is the remainder of the discriminant  $\Delta$  modulo 4. In the case we study  $\sigma = 0$  and  $\Delta < 0$ .

In §2 we quickly recall notations and some results in [7] which will be needed later to prove our results in §3.

In §3 we relate the group  $E_m(\mathbb{Q})$ , the quadratic field  $K$  and the primitive integral points on the Pell surface  $S_3 : y^2 + mz^2 = x^3$ . We define a map  $f : E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow S_3(\mathbb{Z})$  by which we obtain primitive integral points on the Pell surface  $S_3$ . Let  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$  denote the collection of all such points. Clearly  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z}) \subseteq S_3(\mathbb{Z})$ . It is natural to ask the following questions: (1) Is the inclusion proper? (2) Does  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$  inherit the group structure from  $S_3(\mathbb{Z})$ ? In the same section, we show that the answer is yes to the first question and no to the second question.

In §4 we define a binary operation on  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$  under which it becomes a group.

On the other hand some questions about the class number of a quadratic field are related to solutions of Diophantine equations. For example it is well known that the study of integer solutions to the Diophantine equation

$$X^2 - \Delta Y^2 = 4Z^n, \quad \gcd(X, Z) = 1, \quad \Delta = \text{a fundamental discriminant}, \quad (1)$$

gives rise to a quadratic number field with class number divisible by  $n$ . For each integral point  $(X, Y, Z)$ , there is a corresponding ideal  $\mathfrak{a} = \left\langle \frac{X+Y\sqrt{\Delta}}{2}, Z \right\rangle$  in the ring of integers of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{\Delta})$  such that  $\mathfrak{a}^n = \left\langle \frac{X+Y\sqrt{\Delta}}{2} \right\rangle$ . Hence it generates an ideal class of order dividing  $n$ . Likewise several authors have related rational points on elliptic curves and ideal classes of quadratic fields, see [2], [3] and [11].

In §3 we define a map  $g : E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \mathfrak{D}_K$  such that for any  $\beta \in g(E_m(\mathbb{Q}))$ , the ideal  $\langle \beta \rangle$  is always the cube of an ideal in  $\mathfrak{D}_K$ . Using this, later in §5, we define a map  $\kappa : E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow Cl(K)[3]$ , the 3-part of the class group of  $K$ . In the same section we show that  $\kappa$  is a group homomorphism whose kernel contains  $3E_m(\mathbb{Q})$  using 3-descent on  $E_m$ .

Soleng [11] has considered a group homomorphism  $\phi$  mapping a more generally defined elliptic curve to the ideal class group  $Cl(K)$ . In the last section §6 we show that the homomorphisms  $\kappa$ ,  $\psi$  and  $\phi$  are related for the elliptic curve  $E_m$ .

2. Preliminaries on Pell surfaces

A binary quadratic form is a homogeneous polynomial of degree 2 in two variables given by  $Q_0(y, z) = ay^2 + byz + cz^2$ . If the coefficients  $a, b, c$  are integers, then it is called an integral binary quadratic form. The quadratic form  $Q_0(y, z)$  is said to be primitive if  $\gcd(a, b, c) = 1$ . Binary quadratic forms come naturally from quadratic fields. Let  $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{\Delta})$  be any quadratic field of discriminant  $\Delta$ . Then

$$Q_0(y, z) = \begin{cases} y^2 - \frac{\Delta}{4}z^2, & \text{if } \Delta \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ y^2 + yz + \frac{1-\Delta}{4}z^2, & \text{if } \Delta \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$$

is the canonical principal binary quadratic form associated with  $F$ .

Thus, the binary quadratic form associated with the quadratic field

$$K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-m}) \text{ with } m > 0, \quad -m \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4},$$

discriminant :  $-4m$ ,  $m$  squarefree (★)

is  $Q_0(y, z) = y^2 + mz^2$ .

The Pell surface associated with the quadratic field  $K$  will be denoted as  $S_n : Q_0(y, z) = x^n$ , and in the present article we are interested in the Pell surface  $S_3 : y^2 + mz^2 = x^3$ . From here on we will always use  $K$  to mean a quadratic field satisfying the conditions of (★). An integral point  $(x, y, z)$  satisfying  $S_n : Q_0(y, z) = x^n$  is said to be primitive if  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $\gcd(y, z) = 1$ . The set  $S_n(\mathbb{Z})$  denotes the primitive integral points of the surface  $S_n$ . A correspondence between integral points in  $S_n(\mathbb{Z})$  and integral solutions to the Diophantine equation (1), which in fact is a bijection, is given in [7]:

$$(X, Y, Z) = \begin{cases} (2y, z, x), & \text{if } \Delta = 4m \\ (2y + z, z, x), & \text{if } \Delta = 4m + 1 \end{cases}$$

Let  $\mathfrak{O}_K^*$  denote the nonzero elements of the ring of integers  $\mathfrak{O}_K$  of  $K$ . In the case of this article, an algebraic integer of  $K$  may be written as  $y + z\sqrt{-m}$  and there is a natural map  $\pi_0 : S_n(\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathfrak{O}_K^*$  defined by  $\pi_0(x, y, z) = y + z\sqrt{-m}$ . Let  $\mathbb{N}^n = \{\alpha^n \text{ such that } \alpha \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Then the set  $\mathfrak{O}_K^*/\mathbb{N}^n$  forms a group with respect to coset multiplication. The norm map induces a group homomorphism  $N : \mathfrak{O}_K^*/\mathbb{N}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^*/\mathbb{Z}^{*n}$  defined as  $N(\alpha\mathbb{N}^n) = N(\alpha)\mathbb{Z}^{*n}$ , where  $\mathbb{Z}^{*n}$  denotes the set of nonzero integer  $n$ -th powers.

As we make use of some results from [7] in the course of proving our results in §3, they are stated below for the sake of clarity and completeness.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{O}_K^*$ . If  $N(\alpha) = a^n$  for some  $n \geq 2$ , then  $\alpha$  is primitive if and only if  $\langle \alpha \rangle + \langle \alpha' \rangle = \langle 1 \rangle$ .*

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $\alpha$  be a primitive element. If  $\alpha\mathbb{N}^n \in \text{Ker } N$ , then  $\langle \alpha \rangle = \mathfrak{a}^n$  is an  $n$ -th ideal power.*

**Theorem 2.3.** *The cosets of primitive elements in the kernel of the norm map  $N : \mathfrak{D}_K^*/\mathbb{N}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^*/\mathbb{Z}^{*n}$  form a subgroup  $\Pi_n$  of  $\mathfrak{D}_K^*/\mathbb{N}^n$ . The map  $\pi : S_n(\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \Pi_n$  defined by  $\pi(x, y, z) = (y + z\sqrt{-m})\mathbb{N}^n$  is bijective; thus  $S_n(\mathbb{Z})$  becomes an abelian group by transport of structure.*

**Definition 2.4.** *For  $(x_1, y_1, z_1), (x_2, y_2, z_2) \in S_n(\mathbb{Z})$  the group law on  $S_n(\mathbb{Z})$  defined as  $(x_1, y_1, z_1) \oplus (x_2, y_2, z_2) = (x_3, y_3, z_3)$  where*

$$(x_3, y_3, z_3) = \left( \frac{x_1x_2}{e^2}, \frac{y_1y_2 + \frac{\Delta - \sigma}{4}z_1z_2}{e^n}, \frac{y_1z_2 + y_2z_1 + \sigma z_1z_2}{e^n} \right)$$

and

$$\gcd \left( y_1y_2 + \frac{\Delta - \sigma}{4}z_1z_2, y_1z_2 + y_2z_1 + \sigma z_1z_2 \right) = e^n.$$

In the case  $\Delta = -4m$ , the group law is

$$(x_3, y_3, z_3) = \left( \frac{x_1x_2}{e^2}, \frac{y_1y_2 - mz_1z_2}{e^n}, \frac{y_1z_2 + y_2z_1}{e^n} \right)$$

where

$$\gcd(y_1y_2 - mz_1z_2, y_1z_2 + y_2z_1) = e^n.$$

**Proposition 2.5.** *The map  $\psi : S_n(\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \text{Cl}^+(F)[n]$  given by  $\psi(x, y, z) = [\mathfrak{a}]$  where  $\langle y + z\omega \rangle = \mathfrak{a}^n$  is a surjective group homomorphism where  $\omega = \frac{\sigma + \sqrt{\Delta}}{2}$  and  $\sigma \in \{0, 1\}$ .*

For proofs see [7].

### 3. Relation between quadratic fields, elliptic curves and Pell surfaces

As before  $E_m$  denotes the elliptic curve

$$y^2 = x^3 - m. \quad (2)$$

On the elliptic curve  $E_m$ , points  $\left(\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3}\right)$  and  $\left(\frac{r}{(-t)^2}, \frac{-s}{(-t)^3}\right)$  are the same and similarly the points  $\left(\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{-s}{t^3}\right)$  and  $\left(\frac{r}{(-t)^2}, \frac{s}{(-t)^3}\right)$  are also identical. So, by taking  $s > 0$ , we see that all rational points on  $E_m$  are considered. Hence

$$E_m(\mathbb{Q}) = \left\{ \left( \frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3} \right) \text{ such that } r, t, s \in \mathbb{Z}, s > 0, \gcd(r, t) = \gcd(s, t) = 1 \right\} \cup \{\mathcal{O}\}$$

where  $\mathcal{O}$  is the point at infinity.

On substituting  $(\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3})$  in  $E_m$  we get,

$$s^2 + mt^6 = r^3. \tag{3}$$

On the Pell surface  $S_3 : y^2 + mz^2 = x^3$  when  $z = 1$ , we obtain integer points of the elliptic curve  $E_m$ . The set of all primitive integral points on  $S_3$  will be denoted by  $S_3(\mathbb{Z})$ . Comparing with equation (3), we see that points on the elliptic curve  $E_m$  correspond to integral points on the Pell surface  $S_3$  in a natural way, by the map

$$f : E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \longrightarrow S_3(\mathbb{Z})$$

$$f(P) = \begin{cases} (1, 1, 0), & \text{if } P = \mathcal{O} \\ (r, s, t^3), & \text{if } P = \left(\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3}\right) \end{cases} \quad (\spadesuit)$$

It is clear that this map is well-defined. As  $\gcd(s, t) = 1$ , integral points  $(r, s, t^3)$  on  $S_3$  coming from the elliptic curve are all primitive integral points. Denote the image,  $f(E_m(\mathbb{Q}))$ , as  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$ . Clearly  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z}) \subseteq S_3(\mathbb{Z})$ . Also, any point  $(r, s, t^3) \in S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$  gives an integral solution  $(2s, t^3, r)$  of (1) with  $n = 3$ .

Again from (3) we note that  $r^3 = \text{Norm of } (s + t^3\sqrt{-m}) \text{ in } \mathfrak{D}_K$ . So, it is natural to consider the map  $g : E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \longrightarrow \mathfrak{D}_K$  defined by

$$g(P) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } P = \mathcal{O} \\ s + t^3\sqrt{-m}, & \text{if } P = \left(\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3}\right) \end{cases}$$

As discussed earlier, by considering  $s > 0$ , the map  $g$  is also well defined. Denote  $g(E_m(\mathbb{Q}))$  as  $H^E$ .

Now we prove that elements in  $H^E$  are all primitive in  $\mathfrak{D}_K$ . For this it is sufficient to show that for  $\alpha \in H^E$ , ideals  $\langle \alpha \rangle$  and  $\langle \alpha' \rangle$  are coprime in  $\mathfrak{D}_K$  where  $\alpha'$  is the conjugate of  $\alpha$ . Then, by Lemma 2.1, elements in  $H^E$  are primitive. We prove this below:

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $P = (\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3})$  be a rational point on  $E_m$  for a squarefree positive integer  $m$ , and  $-m \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . Assume, as before,  $\gcd(r, t) = \gcd(s, t) = 1$ . Then the ideals  $\langle \alpha \rangle$  and  $\langle \alpha' \rangle$  are co-prime in  $\mathfrak{D}_K^*$ , where  $\alpha = g(P) = s + t^3\sqrt{-m}$  and  $\alpha' = g(-P) = s - t^3\sqrt{-m}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\alpha = s + t^3\sqrt{-m}$  and  $\alpha' = s - t^3\sqrt{-m}$ . Let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be a prime ideal such that

$$\mathfrak{p} | \langle s + t^3\sqrt{-m} \rangle, \quad \mathfrak{p} | \langle s - t^3\sqrt{-m} \rangle.$$

Hence

$$s + t^3\sqrt{-m} \in \mathfrak{p}, \quad s - t^3\sqrt{-m} \in \mathfrak{p}.$$

Thus  $\mathfrak{p}$  divides the sum  $2s$ . This implies  $\mathfrak{p}|2$  or  $\mathfrak{p}|s$ . Also,

$$2t^3\sqrt{-m} = (s + t^3\sqrt{-m}) - (s - t^3\sqrt{-m}) \in \mathfrak{p}$$

and so

$$2t^3(-m) = \sqrt{-m}(2t^3\sqrt{-m}) \in \mathfrak{p}.$$

If  $\mathfrak{p}|s$ , as  $\gcd(s, t) = 1$ ,  $\mathfrak{p}$  must divide  $2m$ . Suppose  $\mathfrak{p}$  divides  $m$  and  $s$ ; then it also divides  $r$ , as  $s^2 + t^6m = r^3$ . Also norm of  $\mathfrak{p}$  divides both  $r$  and  $s$ . Hence the square of the norm divides  $r^3 - s^2 = mt^6$ . As  $\gcd(s, t) = 1$ , the square of the norm divides  $m$ , a contradiction.

So, the only possibility for the prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$  is either it is above 2 or  $\mathfrak{p} = (1)$ . Suppose  $\mathfrak{p}$  is an ideal above 2, then  $\mathfrak{p}|N(\alpha) = r^3$ . Thus  $2|r$ . We have  $s^2 \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}$ ,  $-m \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4}$ . This implies  $r^3 = s^2 - (-m)t^6 \equiv 1, 2, 3 \pmod{4}$ . But  $r^3 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{4} \Rightarrow r \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ . Thus  $r$  is odd, a contradiction. Hence  $\langle \alpha \rangle$  and  $\langle \alpha' \rangle$  are coprime.  $\square$

Now we show that  $\alpha \in H^E$  has an interesting property by using Lemma 2.2:  $\langle \alpha \rangle$  is a cube of an ideal in  $\mathfrak{O}_K$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $m$  be a squarefree positive integer with  $-m \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-m})$  and  $E_m : y^2 = x^3 - m$  be the corresponding elliptic curve. For any  $P = (\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3}) \in E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \setminus \mathcal{O}$ , with  $\gcd(r, t) = \gcd(s, t) = 1$ , the ideal  $\langle s + t^3\sqrt{-m} \rangle$  is the cube of an ideal, i.e.,  $\langle s + t^3\sqrt{-m} \rangle = \mathfrak{a}^3$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\alpha = s + t^3\sqrt{-m} \in H^E$ . Then  $N(\alpha) = r^3$  by equation (3). As before the norm map induces a group homomorphism  $N : \mathfrak{O}_K^*/\mathbb{N}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^*/\mathbb{Z}^{*3}$  defined as  $N(\alpha\mathbb{N}^3) = N(\alpha)\mathbb{Z}^{*3}$ . The kernel of this map is

$$\begin{aligned} \ker N &= \{\alpha\mathbb{N}^3 \text{ such that } N(\alpha)\mathbb{Z}^{*3} = \mathbb{Z}^{*3}\}, \\ &= \{\alpha\mathbb{N}^3 \text{ such that } N(\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}^{*3}\}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\Pi_3^E = \{\alpha\mathbb{N}^3 \text{ such that } \alpha \in H^E\}$ . Clearly  $\Pi_3^E \subseteq \ker N$ . Also by Lemmas 3.1 and 2.1,  $\alpha$  is primitive, and so by Lemma 2.2, the ideal  $\langle \alpha \rangle = \mathfrak{a}^3$  is the cube of an ideal.  $\square$

In [7] it is shown that  $S_3(\mathbb{Z})$  is an abelian group with respect to the binary operation given in Definition 2.4. Observe that the neutral element of  $S_3(\mathbb{Z})$  is  $(1, 1, 0)$ . Similarly the inverse of  $(x, y, z) \in S_3(\mathbb{Z})$  is given as

$$-(x, y, z) = \begin{cases} (x, y, -z), & \text{if } x > 0 \\ (x, -y, z), & \text{if } x < 0. \end{cases}$$

In fact, the identity  $(1, 1, 0) \in S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$  as this corresponds to the point at infinity on the elliptic curve  $E_m$ . Also, for  $(r, s, t^3) \in S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$ , the inverse point

is  $(r, s, -t^3)$ , since we must have  $r > 0$ , because  $s^2 = r^3 - mt^6 > 0$  and  $m > 0$ . This coincides with the inverse  $(\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{-t^3})$  of the point  $(\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3})$  of  $E_m(\mathbb{Q})$ . Thus, the set  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$  has the identity, and every element in it has an inverse with respect to the binary operation  $\oplus$  of  $S_3(\mathbb{Z})$ . However, with this binary operation the set  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$  is **not** a group. We illustrate it with the following example:

**Example 3.3.** For  $m = 26$ ,  $E_{26} : y^2 = x^3 - 26$ . The two points  $P = (3, 1)$  and  $Q = (35, 207)$  on  $E_{26}$  correspond to  $(3, 1, 1)$  and  $(35, 207, 1)$  respectively in  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$ . The discriminant of  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-26})$  is equal to  $-104$ . Thus the group law on the Pell surface  $S_3$  corresponding to this discriminant is

$$(x_1, y_1, z_1) \oplus (x_2, y_2, z_2) = \left( \frac{x_1 x_2}{e^2}, \frac{y_1 y_2 - 26 z_1 z_2}{e^3}, \frac{y_1 z_2 + y_2 z_1}{e^3} \right)$$

where

$$\gcd(y_1 y_2 - 26 z_1 z_2, y_1 z_2 + y_2 z_1) = e^3.$$

Therefore

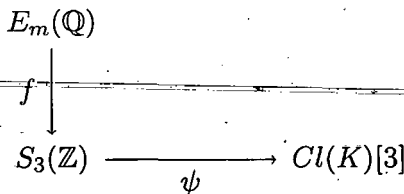
$$\begin{aligned} &(3, 1, 1) \oplus (35, 207, 1) \\ &= \left( \frac{3 \times 35}{e^2}, \frac{1 \times 207 - 26 \times 1 \times 1}{e^3}, \frac{1 \times 1 + 207 \times 1}{e^3} \right) \\ &= (105, 181, 208) \text{ since } \gcd(181, 208) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

This shows that  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$  is **not** closed under the binary operation  $\oplus$  of  $S_3(\mathbb{Z})$ . Clearly  $(105, 181, 208) \in S_3(\mathbb{Z})$  but  $(105, 181, 208) \notin S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$ . Hence  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z}) \subsetneq S_3(\mathbb{Z})$ .

Let  $F$  be any quadratic field. An element  $\beta \in F$  is said to be totally positive if  $N(\beta) > 0$ . Let  $P_F^+$  be the group of principal fractional ideals  $\langle \beta \rangle = \beta \mathcal{O}_F$  where  $N(\beta) > 0$ . The quotient group  $I_F / P_F^+$  is called the narrow class group  $Cl^+(F)$  of  $F$ . For imaginary quadratic fields, the norm of any element is positive, thus the class group and the narrow class group are identical. The collection of ideal classes of order dividing  $n$  in  $F$  forms a subgroup of  $Cl(F)$  and is called the  $n$ -part of the ideal class group, denoted as  $Cl(F)[n]$ .

By applying Proposition 2.5 to  $S_3(\mathbb{Z})$  and the field  $K$  we get a surjective homomorphism  $\psi$  from  $S_3(\mathbb{Z})$  to  $Cl(K)[3]$ .

Consider the diagram



Here  $f$  is as defined in (♣) and  $\psi$  is the surjective homomorphism defined in §2 (Proposition 2.5). We note that  $f$  is injective but not a homomorphism since  $f(E_m(\mathbb{Q})) = S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$  is not a subgroup of  $S_3(\mathbb{Z})$ . Also, the image of  $f$  is not equal to the kernel of  $\psi$ . The following example illustrates it.

**Example 3.4.** Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-53})$  and  $E_{53} : y^2 = x^3 - 53$ , where  $-53 \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . Let  $P = (29, 156) \in E_{53}(\mathbb{Q})$ . Then  $f(P) = (29, 156, 1) \in f(E_{53}(\mathbb{Q}))$ . However,  $\psi(f(P)) = (156 + \sqrt{-53}) = b^3$ , where  $b = (29, 11 + \sqrt{-53})$ . We show that the ideal  $\langle 29, 11 + \sqrt{-53} \rangle$  in  $\mathfrak{D}_K$  is not a principal ideal. Say  $\langle 29, 11 + \sqrt{-53} \rangle = \langle \beta \rangle$ . Then, since  $29 \in \langle 29, 11 + \sqrt{-53} \rangle$  we have  $29 \in \langle \beta \rangle$ , so  $\beta | 29$  in  $\mathfrak{D}_K$ . Writing  $29 = \beta\gamma$  in  $\mathfrak{D}_K$  and taking norms, we have  $841 = 29^2 = N(\beta)N(\gamma)$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . So,  $N(\beta) | 841$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Similarly, since  $11 + \sqrt{-53} \in \langle \beta \rangle$  we get  $N(\beta) | 174$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Thus  $N(\beta)$  is a common divisor of 841 and  $174 = 29 \cdot 6$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . So,  $N(\beta)$  is 1 or 29. Since  $N(\beta) = a^2 + 53b^2$  where  $a, b$  are in  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $N(\beta) \neq 29$ . Therefore  $N(\beta) = 1$ , so  $\beta$  is a unit and  $\langle 1 \rangle = \langle \beta \rangle$ . Thus  $1 \in \langle \beta \rangle$ . Hence there exist  $\alpha$  and  $\delta$  in  $\mathfrak{D}_K$  such that  $29\alpha + (11 + \sqrt{-53})\delta = 1$ . Multiplying both sides by  $11 - \sqrt{-53}$ , we have  $29\{(11 - \sqrt{-53})\alpha + 6\delta\} = 11 - \sqrt{-53}$ , so that 29 divides  $11 - \sqrt{-53}$  in  $\mathfrak{D}_K$ . Thus  $N(29) = 841$  divides  $N(11 - \sqrt{-53}) = 174$  which is a contradiction. So,  $\langle 29, 11 + \sqrt{-53} \rangle$  is not a principal ideal in  $\mathfrak{D}_K$ . Hence  $f(P)$  is not in the kernel of  $\psi$ .

#### 4. A Group law on $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$ from $E_m(\mathbb{Q})$

By using the binary operation on  $E_m(\mathbb{Q})$  we define a binary operation on  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$  with respect to which  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$  becomes an abelian group. We recall that  $E_m(\mathbb{Q})$  is an abelian group with respect to the group law given by the following formulae:-

Let  $P_1 = (x_1, y_1)$  and  $P_2 = (x_2, y_2)$  be rational points on  $E_m$  and define  $\lambda$  as

$$\lambda = \begin{cases} \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}, & \text{if } P_1 \neq P_2 \\ \frac{3x_1^2}{2y_1}, & \text{if } P_1 = P_2 \end{cases}$$

Then  $P_3 = P_1 + P_2 = (x_3, y_3)$  with  $x_3 = \lambda^2 - x_1 - x_2$ ,  $y_3 = \lambda(x_1 - x_3) - y_1$ . The map  $f : E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$  is as defined in (♣) and is given by

$$f(P) = \begin{cases} (1, 1, 0), & \text{if } P = \mathcal{O} \\ (r, s, t^3), & \text{if } P = \left(\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3}\right) \end{cases}$$

This is indeed a bijection. Thus, by transporting the group structure of  $E_m(\mathbb{Q})$  to  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$ , the set  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$  becomes an abelian group. We now define the binary operation on  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$ :



Let  $u_i = (r_i, s_i, t_i^3) (i = 1, 2)$  be elements in  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$ . These elements correspond to  $P_i = (\frac{r_i}{t_i^2}, \frac{s_i}{t_i^3})$  on the elliptic curve  $E_m$ . We show that the sum  $P_3 = P_1 + P_2$  corresponds to an element  $u_3 \in S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$ , with  $u_3 = u_1 * u_2$  where  $*$  is defined using the group law on elliptic curves as follows:

Case I.  $\frac{r_1}{t_1^2} \neq \frac{r_2}{t_2^2}$ , and  $\lambda = (\frac{s_2}{t_2^3} - \frac{s_1}{t_1^3}) / (\frac{r_2}{t_2^2} - \frac{r_1}{t_1^2})$ . Hence

$$x_3 = \lambda^2 - \frac{r_1}{t_1^2} - \frac{r_2}{t_2^2} = \left( \frac{s_2 t_1^3 - s_1 t_2^3}{t_1 t_2 (r_2 t_1^2 - r_1 t_2^2)} \right)^2 - \frac{r_1}{t_1^2} - \frac{r_2}{t_2^2},$$

$$y_3 = \lambda(x_1 - x_3) - y_1 = \frac{s_2 t_1^3 - s_1 t_2^3}{t_1 t_2 (r_2 t_1^2 - r_1 t_2^2)} \left( \frac{r_1}{t_1^2} - x_3 \right) - \frac{s_1}{t_1^3}$$

This enables one to find  $u_3 \in S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$ .

Define  $S_- = s_2 t_1^3 - s_1 t_2^3$ ,  $R_- = r_2 t_1^2 - r_1 t_2^2$ ,  $R_+ = r_2 t_1^2 + r_1 t_2^2$  and  $T = t_1 t_2$ .

On simplification and by using above notations we get

$$x_3 = \frac{S_-^2 - R_+ R_-^2}{R_-^2 T^2}$$

$$y_3 = \frac{R_-^2 R_+ S_- + T^2 R_-^2 (s_2 r_1 t_1 - s_1 r_2 t_2) - S_-^3}{R_-^3 T^3}$$

Hence  $(r_3, s_3, t_3^3)$  is given by

$$r_3 = S_-^2 - R_+ R_-^2$$

$$s_3 = R_-^2 R_+ S_- + T^2 R_-^2 (s_2 r_1 t_1 - s_1 r_2 t_2) - S_-^3$$

$$t_3^3 = R_-^3 T^3,$$

Case II.  $\frac{r_1}{t_1^2} = \frac{r_2}{t_2^2} = \frac{r}{t^2}$ , and  $P = (\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3})$ ,  $\lambda = \frac{3r^2}{2st}$ .

Hence

$$x_3 = \frac{9r^4}{4s^2 t^2} - \frac{2r}{t^2} = \frac{9r^4 - 8rs^2}{4s^2 t^2}$$

$$y_3 = \frac{3r^2}{2st} \left( \frac{r}{t^2} - \frac{9r^4 - 8rs^2}{4s^2 t^2} \right) - \frac{s}{t^3} = \frac{36r^3 s^2 - 27r^6 - 8s^4}{8s^3 t^3}$$

Thus for  $u_1 = u_2 = (r, s, t^3)$  we have  $(r_3, s_3, t_3^3)$  where

$$r_3 = 9r^4 - 8rs^2$$

$$s_3 = 36r^3 s^2 - 27r^6 - 8s^4$$

$$t_3^3 = (2st)^3.$$

In both the cases, certainly  $(r_3, s_3, t_3^3)$  satisfies the equation of the Pell surface  $S_3$ , but it need not be primitive.

Now, if  $(x, y, z)$  is any primitive point on the Pell surface  $S_3$  then  $(x', y', z') = (d^2x, d^3y, d^3z)$  will also lie on  $S_3$  for any integer  $d$ . Thus, if  $(x, y, z)$  is not a primitive point, then  $\gcd(x, z) = d^2$  and  $\gcd(y, z) = d^3$  for some integer  $d \geq 1$ . Let  $(r_4, s_4, t_4^3) = (r_3/d^2, s_3/d^3, t_3^3/d^3)$ . Define  $u_3 = (r_4, s_4, t_4^3)$ .

With this binary operation,  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$  is an abelian group: the identity element is  $(1, 1, 0)$ , the inverse of  $(r, s, t^3)$  is  $(r, s, -t^3)$ . We illustrate it with an example:

**Example 4.1.** Let  $E_{26} : y^2 = x^3 - 26$ ,  $u_1 = (3, 1, 1)$  and  $u_2 = (35, 207, 1)$  be in  $S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$ , which correspond to the elements  $P = (3, 1)$  and  $Q = (35, 207)$  respectively in  $E_{26}(\mathbb{Q})$ . Thus, we have  $r_1 = 3$ ,  $s_1 = 1$ ,  $t_1 = 1$ ,  $r_2 = 35$ ,  $s_2 = 207$ ,  $t_2 = 1$ , and  $S_- = 206$ ,  $T = 1$ ,  $R_- = 32$ ,  $R_+ = 38$ . Hence  $r_3 = 3524 = 881 \cdot 2^2$ ,  $s_3 = -125880 = -2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 1049$ ,  $t_3^3 = 32768 = 2^{15}$ . As  $(r_3, s_3, t_3^3)$  is not a primitive point, we consider  $u_3 = (r_4, s_4, t_4^3) = (r_3/d^2, s_3/d^3, t_3^3/d^3) = (881, -15735, 4096)$ . Clearly  $u_3 \in S_3^E(\mathbb{Z})$ . Also  $u_3$  corresponds to the rational point  $P_3 = (\frac{881}{256}, \frac{-15735}{4096}) \in E_{26}$ .

Similarly for  $u_1 = u_2 = (3, 1, 1)$  we get  $r_3 = 705 = 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 47$ ,  $s_3 = -18719$ ,  $t_3^3 = 2^3$ . As  $(r_3, s_3, t_3^3)$  is a primitive point,  $u_3 = (r_3, s_3, t_3^3) = (705, -18719, 8)$ . This corresponds to  $(\frac{705}{4}, \frac{-18719}{8}) = 2P \in E_{26}(\mathbb{Q})$ , where  $P = (3, 1)$ .

### 5. A homomorphism from $E_m(\mathbb{Q})$ to the 3-part of the class group of the quadratic field $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-m})$

In this section we give a group homomorphism from  $E_m(\mathbb{Q})$  to  $Cl(K)[3]$  using 3-descent on  $E_m(\mathbb{Q})$ . For the curve  $E_m$ , a 3-torsion point  $T$  is  $(0, -\sqrt{-m})$ . There is a natural norm map  $N : K^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}^*$  given by  $N(a + b\sqrt{-m}) = a^2 + b^2m$  for  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$ . This induces a homomorphism:  $K^*/K^{*3} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}^*/\mathbb{Q}^{*3}$ , which will also be denoted by  $N$ . Let  $G_3 = \{\gamma K^{*3} \text{ such that } N(\gamma) = t^3, t \in \mathbb{Q}^*\}$ . Then  $\ker N = G_3$ .

**Lemma 5.1.** Let  $m$  be a squarefree positive integer with  $-m \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-m})$  and let  $E_m : y^2 = x^3 - m$  be the corresponding elliptic curve. Let  $P = (\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3}) \in E_m(\mathbb{Q})$ , with  $\gcd(r, t) = \gcd(s, t) = 1$ , and  $G_3 = \{\gamma K^{*3} \text{ such that } N(\gamma) = t^3, t \in \mathbb{Q}^*\}$ . The map

$$\alpha : E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow K^*/K^{*3}, \quad \alpha : \left(\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3}\right) \mapsto (s + t^3\sqrt{-m})K^{*3}$$

is a group homomorphism.

*Proof.* The 3-descent map, given in [5] (pp. 563), applied to the elliptic curve  $E_m$  is:

$$\delta : E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \longrightarrow K^*/K^{*3}$$

$$\delta(P) = \begin{cases} (y + \sqrt{-m})K^{*3}, & \text{if } P = (x, y) \\ K^{*3}, & \text{if } P = \mathcal{O}. \end{cases}$$

Observe that  $(s + t^3\sqrt{-m})K^{*3} = (\frac{s}{t^3} + \sqrt{-m})K^{*3} = (y + \sqrt{-m})K^{*3}$ . Since the 3-descent map  $\delta$  is a group homomorphism, it follows that  $\alpha$  is a group homomorphism.  $\square$

**Lemma 5.2.** *Let  $m$  be a squarefree positive integer with  $-m \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-m})$ ,  $E_m : y^2 = x^3 - m$ , and  $\hat{E}_m : \hat{y}^2 = \hat{x}^3 + 27m$ . Let  $P = (\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3}) \in E_m(\mathbb{Q})$  with  $\gcd(r, t) = \gcd(s, t) = 1$ . There is an exact sequence of group homomorphisms*

$$1 \longrightarrow \hat{\phi}(\hat{E}_m(\mathbb{Q})) \longrightarrow E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \xrightarrow{\alpha} \frac{K^*}{K^{*3}} \xrightarrow{N} \frac{\mathbb{Q}^*}{\mathbb{Q}^{*3}}$$

where  $\alpha : P \mapsto (s+t^3\sqrt{-m})K^{*3}$  and  $\hat{\phi} : (\hat{x}, \hat{y}) \mapsto (\frac{\hat{x}^3+108m}{9\hat{x}^2}, \frac{\hat{y}(\hat{x}^3-216m)}{27\hat{x}^3})$ .  $3E_m(\mathbb{Q})$  is a proper subgroup of  $\hat{\phi}(\hat{E}_m(\mathbb{Q}))$ .

*Proof.* Clearly there is an exact sequence of group homomorphisms:

$$1 \longrightarrow \hat{\phi}(\hat{E}_m(\mathbb{Q})) \longrightarrow E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \xrightarrow{\alpha} \frac{K^*}{K^{*3}} \xrightarrow{N} \frac{\mathbb{Q}^*}{\mathbb{Q}^{*3}}$$

where,  $\hat{E}_m : \hat{y}^2 = \hat{x}^3 + 27m$  and  $\hat{\phi}$  is as given in [5] (pp. 558–559),

$$\hat{\phi}(\hat{P}) = \left( \frac{\hat{x}^3 + 108m}{9\hat{x}^2}, \frac{\hat{y}(\hat{x}^3 - 216m)}{27\hat{x}^3} \right).$$

This point satisfies  $y^2 = x^3 - m$  since when we replace  $x$  with  $\frac{\hat{x}^3+108m}{9\hat{x}^2}$  and  $y$  with  $\frac{\hat{y}(\hat{x}^3-216m)}{27\hat{x}^3}$  in  $y^2 = x^3 - m = 0$  and factorize the result, we obtain

$$\frac{(\hat{y}^2 - \hat{x}^3 - 27m)(\hat{x}^3 - 216m)^2}{729\hat{x}^6} = 0.$$

Let us compute  $3P$  on  $E_m$ , where  $P = (x, y)$  and  $3P \neq \mathcal{O}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 3P &= (x, y) + \left( \frac{x^4 + 8mx}{4y^2}, \frac{x^6 - 20mx^3 - 8m^2}{8y^3} \right), \\
 &= \left( \lambda^2 - x - \frac{x^4 + 8mx}{4y^2}, \lambda(x - x_3) - y \right), \text{ where} \\
 \lambda &= \frac{\frac{x^6 - 20mx^3 - 8m^2}{8y^3} - y}{\frac{x^4 + 8mx}{4y^2} - x}, \\
 &= \frac{\frac{x^6 - 20mx^3 - 8m^2 - 8y^4}{8y^3}}{\frac{x^4 + 8mx - 4xy^2}{4y^2}}, \\
 &= \frac{x^6 - 20mx^3 - 8m^2 - 8y^4}{2y(x^4 + 8mx - 4xy^2)}, \\
 &= \frac{x^6 - 20mx^3 - 8m^2 - 8(x^3 - m)^2}{2y(x^4 + 8mx - 4x(x^3 - m))}, \\
 &= \frac{x^6 - 20mx^3 - 8m^2 - 8x^6 + 16mx^3 - 8m^2}{2y(x^4 + 8mx - 4x^4 + 4mx)}, \\
 &= \frac{7x^6 + 4mx^3 + 16m^2}{6xy(x^3 - 4m)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 3P &= (x, y) + \left( \frac{x^4 + 8mx}{4y^2}, \frac{x^6 - 20mx^3 - 8m^2}{8y^3} \right), \\
 &= \left( \lambda^2 - x - \frac{x^4 + 8mx}{4y^2}, \lambda(x - x_3) - y \right), \\
 &= \left( \frac{x^9 + 96mx^6 + 48m^2x^3 - 64m^3}{9x^2(x^3 - 4m)^2}, \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \frac{y(x^3 + 8m)(x^9 - 228mx^6 + 48m^2x^3 - 64m^3)}{27x^3(x^3 - 4m)^3} \right), \\
 &= \left( \frac{p^3 + 108m}{9p^2}, \frac{q(p^3 - 216m)}{27p^3} \right), \text{ where} \\
 (p, q) &= \left( \frac{x^3 - 4m}{x^2}, \frac{y(x^3 + 8m)}{x^3} \right) \in \hat{E}_m(\mathbb{Q}) \text{ see [5]}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\ker \alpha = \hat{\phi}(\hat{E}_m(\mathbb{Q})) \\ = \left\{ P = \left( \frac{\hat{x}^3 + 108m}{9\hat{x}^2}, \frac{\hat{y}(\hat{x}^3 - 216m)}{27\hat{x}^3} \right) \in E_m(\mathbb{Q}) : \hat{y}^2 = \hat{x}^3 + 27m \right\},$$

This shows that  $3E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \subseteq \ker \alpha$ .

Conversely, let  $P = (x, y) \in \ker \alpha$ . Then there exist  $p, q \in \mathbb{Q}$  satisfying  $q^2 = p^3 + 27m$  and

$$x = \frac{p^3 + 108m}{9p^2}, \\ y = \frac{q(p^3 - 216m)}{27p^3}.$$

However if we try to solve for  $p, q$  we do **not** get  $(p, q) = \left( \frac{x^3 - 4m}{x^2}, \frac{y(x^3 + 8m)}{x^3} \right)$ . This shows that  $3E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \neq \ker \alpha$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 5.3.** Let  $m$  be a squarefree positive integer with  $-m \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-m})$ , and  $E_m : y^2 = x^3 - m$  be the corresponding elliptic curve. Let  $P = \left( \frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3} \right) \in E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \setminus \mathcal{O}$ , with  $\gcd(r, t) = \gcd(s, t) = 1$ , then  $\langle s + t^3\sqrt{-m} \rangle$  is the cube of an ideal, i.e.,  $\langle s + t^3\sqrt{-m} \rangle = \mathfrak{a}^3$ , where  $\mathfrak{a} = \langle r, s + t^3\sqrt{-m} \rangle$ . There is a group homomorphism  $\kappa : E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow Cl(K)[3]$  defined as  $\kappa(P) = [\mathfrak{a}]$ , whose kernel contains  $3E_m(\mathbb{Q})$ .

*Proof.* The first part is already proved in Theorem 3.2, i.e.,  $\langle s + t^3\sqrt{-m} \rangle = \mathfrak{a}^3$ . Now, let us prove that the map  $\kappa$  is a group homomorphism. Let  $y_{P_1} = s_1/t_1^3$ ,  $y_{P_2} = s_2/t_2^3$  and  $y_{P_3} = s_3/t_3^3$  for  $P_1, P_2, P_3 \in E_m(\mathbb{Q})$ . Let  $\langle s_1 + t_1^3\omega \rangle = \mathfrak{a}^3$ ,  $\langle s_2 + t_2^3\omega \rangle = \mathfrak{b}^3$  and  $\langle s_3 + t_3^3\omega \rangle = \mathfrak{c}^3$ , where  $\omega = \sqrt{-m}$ . Then  $\kappa(P_1) = [\mathfrak{a}]$ ,  $\kappa(P_2) = [\mathfrak{b}]$  and  $\kappa(P_3) = [\mathfrak{c}]$ . To show  $\kappa$  is a homomorphism we need to prove  $\kappa(P_1 + P_2) = [\mathfrak{ab}] = [\mathfrak{a}][\mathfrak{b}] = \kappa(P_1)\kappa(P_2)$ . This is equivalent to proving  $\kappa(P_1)\kappa(P_2)\kappa(P_3) = \langle 1 \rangle$  for collinear rational points  $P_1, P_2, P_3 \in E_m(\mathbb{Q})$ . We know by Lemma 5.1 that the map  $\alpha : E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow K^*/K^{*3}$  is a homomorphism. Hence,  $\alpha(P_1)\alpha(P_2)\alpha(P_3) \in K^{*3}$ , i.e.,  $(s_1 + t_1^3\omega)(s_2 + t_2^3\omega)(s_3 + t_3^3\omega)$  is a cube in  $K^*$ . Hence,  $(s_1 + t_1^3\omega)(s_2 + t_2^3\omega)(s_3 + t_3^3\omega) = \beta^3$  (say). This gives,  $\mathfrak{a}^3\mathfrak{b}^3\mathfrak{c}^3 = \langle \beta \rangle^3$ . This implies  $\mathfrak{abc} = \langle \beta \rangle$ . Hence  $\kappa(P_1)\kappa(P_2)\kappa(P_3) = \langle \beta \rangle$ , a principal ideal, the identity of  $Cl(K)[3]$ .

We know that  $3P \in \ker \alpha$ . Thus,  $\alpha(3P)$  is a cube, say  $\gamma^3$  for some  $\gamma \in K^*$ . Hence for any  $P \in E_m(\mathbb{Q})$ ,  $\kappa(3P) = [\mathfrak{b}]$  where  $\mathfrak{b}$  is the principal ideal generated by  $\gamma$ . Hence  $3E_m(\mathbb{Q}) \subseteq \ker \kappa$ .  $\square$

**Example 5.4.** Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-79})$  and  $E_{79} : y^2 = x^3 - 79$ , where  $-m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . Then  $E_{79}(\mathbb{Q})$  is generated by  $P = (20, 89)$ . The ideal  $\langle 89 + \sqrt{-79} \rangle = \mathfrak{p}_1 \mathfrak{p}_2 \mathfrak{q}^3$ , where  $\langle 2 \rangle = \mathfrak{p}_1 \mathfrak{p}_2$  and  $\mathfrak{q}$  is a prime ideal above 5. This shows that the condition  $-m \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  in the above theorem cannot be dropped.

**Example 5.5.** Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-26})$  and  $E_{26} : y^2 = x^3 - 26$ , where  $-m \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . Then  $E_{26}(\mathbb{Q})$  is generated by  $P = (3, 1)$  and  $Q = (35, 207)$ . Also  $P + Q = (881/256, -15735/4096)$ . Then we have  $\langle 1 + \sqrt{-26} \rangle = \mathfrak{p}_3^3$ ,  $\langle 207 + \sqrt{-26} \rangle = \mathfrak{a}^3$ ,  $\langle -15735 + 4096\sqrt{-26} \rangle = \mathfrak{p}_{881}^3$ . The ideals  $\mathfrak{p}_3 = \langle (3, \sqrt{-26} + 1) \rangle$  and  $\mathfrak{p}_{881} = \langle (881, \sqrt{-26} + 624) \rangle$  generate ideal classes of order 3, whereas the ideal  $\mathfrak{a} = \langle \sqrt{-26} - 3 \rangle$  is principal.

### 6. Conclusion

Soleng's homomorphism given in [11] applied to  $E_m(\mathbb{Q})$  is  $\phi : \left(\frac{r}{t^2}, \frac{s}{t^3}\right) \mapsto [(r, -ks + \sqrt{-m})]$ , where  $kt^3 + lr = 1$ . Let  $\mathfrak{a} = \langle r, s + t^3\sqrt{-m} \rangle$ ,  $\mathfrak{b} = \langle r, -ks + \sqrt{-m} \rangle$  and  $\mathfrak{c} = \langle r, -ks - \sqrt{-m} \rangle$ . Then  $\mathfrak{c} \subseteq \mathfrak{a}$  since

$$-ks - \sqrt{-m} = -l\sqrt{-m}(r) - k(s + t^3\sqrt{-m}).$$

Also, since  $s + t^3\sqrt{-m} = ls(r) - t^3(-ks - \sqrt{-m})$ ,  $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq \mathfrak{c}$ . It follows that  $\mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{c}$ . To show that  $\mathfrak{bc}$  is principal, observe that the conjugate ideal  $\bar{\mathfrak{c}} = \bar{\mathfrak{a}}$  of  $\mathfrak{c} = \mathfrak{a}$  is equal to  $\mathfrak{b}$ . It follows that  $\mathfrak{ab} = \langle N\mathfrak{a} \rangle$ , the principal ideal generated by the norm of  $\mathfrak{a}$ , see [6]. It follows that the classes of the ideals  $\mathfrak{a}$  and  $\mathfrak{b}$  are inverses in the ideal class group of  $K$ . This means that the homomorphism  $\kappa$  and Soleng's homomorphism  $\phi$  are quite similar. The precise relationship, when Soleng's elliptic curve is  $E_m$ , is

$$\kappa(P) = (\phi(P))^{-1}.$$

But Soleng did not show that when the elliptic curve is  $E_m$ , the image of  $\phi$  belongs to  $Cl(K)[3]$ .

Similarly there is a relation between the homomorphism  $\psi$  given by Hambelton and Lemmermeyer and the homomorphism  $\kappa$  which is given in the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E_m(\mathbb{Q}) & \xrightarrow{\kappa} & Cl(K)[3] \\ \downarrow & \searrow f & \uparrow \psi \\ f(E_m(\mathbb{Q})) = S_3^E(\mathbb{Z}) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & S_3(\mathbb{Z}) \end{array}$$

As shown towards the end of §3,  $f$  is not a homomorphism. However, the diagram commutes, i.e.,  $f \circ \psi = \kappa$ .

All computations were done using Sage.

## 7. Acknowledgement

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