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On a dynamical local–global principle in Mordell–Weil type groups

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Abstract

In this paper we consider certain dynamical local–global principle for Mordell–Weil type groups over number fields like *S*-units, abelian varieties with trivial ring of endomorphisms and odd algebraic *K*-theory groups.

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1. Introduction

The mathematical theory of dynamical systems studies, given a set S and a map $\phi: S \to S$ mapping the set S to itself, the behaviour of the iterates of the map ϕ ,

$$\phi^n = \underbrace{\phi \circ \ldots \circ \phi}_{n \text{ times}},$$

in particular, for given $s \in S$, the behaviour of the orbit of s, i.e. the set

 $\mathcal{O}_{\phi}(s) = \left\{ \phi^{n}(s) : n \ge 0 \right\}.$

If S is equipped with a group structure then we might consider only those ϕ 's that are endomorphisms. In this note we investigate the following groups of number-theoretic interest:

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- 1. $R_{F,S}^{\times}$, S-units groups, where F is a number field and S is a finite set of ideals in the ring of integers R_F ,
- 2. A(F), Mordell–Weil groups of abelian varieties over number fields F with $\operatorname{End}_{\bar{F}}(A) = \mathbb{Z}$,
- 3. $K_{2n+1}(F)$, n > 0, odd algebraic *K*-theory groups.

To deal with them it is enough for us to introduce the following abstract nonsense axiomatic setup:

Let *B* be an abelian group and $r_v: B \to B_v$ be an infinite family of groups homomorphisms whose targets B_v are finite abelian groups. We will use the following notation:

$P \mod v$	denotes $r_v(P)$ for $P \in B$
$P = Q \mod v$	means $r_v(P) = r_v(Q)$ for $P, Q \in B$
$\Lambda_{\rm tors}$	the torsion part of a subgroup $\Lambda < B$
ord T	the order of a torsion point $T \in B$
$\operatorname{ord}_v P$	the order of a point $P \mod v$
$l^k \parallel n$	means that l^k exactly divides n , i.e. $l^k \mid n$ and $l^{k+1} \nmid n$ where l is a
	prime number, k a nonnegative integer and n a natural number.

We impose the following two assumptions on the family $r_v: B \to B_v$:

Assumptions. 1. Let *l* be a prime number, (k_1, \ldots, k_m) a sequence of nonnegative integers. If $P_1, \ldots, P_m \in B$ are points linearly independent over \mathbb{Z} , then there is an infinite family of primes *v* in *F* such that $l^{k_i} \parallel \operatorname{ord}_v P_i$ if $k_i > 0$ and $l \nmid \operatorname{ord}_v P_i$ if $k_i = 0$. 2. For almost all *v* the map $B_{\text{tors}} \to B_v$ is injective.

(For the families of groups we described above the axioms are valid, in particular Assumption 1 is fulfilled by [5, Theorem 5.1], and Assumption 2 by [2, Lemma 3.11]. The validity of the technical hypothesis¹ from the first sentence of Theorem 5.1 in [5] is clear in the *K*-theory groups case (resp. $R_{F,S}^{\times}$ case) since here ρ_l is simply one-dimensional representation given by the (n + 1)th tensor power of cyclotomic character (resp. by cyclotomic character); in abelian varieties case it is asserted by Corollary 1 in [8].)

In this short note we prove the following theorem, inspired by Joseph Silverman's question stated in his private communications with Grzegorz Banaszak:

Theorem. Let Λ be a subgroup of $B, P \in B$ be a point of infinite order and ϕ be a natural number. Then the following are equivalent:

• For almost every v

 $\mathcal{O}_{\phi} \left(P \mod v \right) \cap \Lambda \mod v \neq \emptyset. \tag{1}$

• $\mathcal{O}_{\phi}(P) \cap \Lambda \neq \emptyset$.

where $\phi^k P$ means multiplying P by integer ϕ^k ; notice that the maps given by multiplication by integers are endomorphisms, thus indeed we deal here with iterates of endomorphisms mentioned at the beginning of the introduction. For $\phi = 1$ the statement of the

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¹ Note the misprint in its formulation: $\rho(G_F)$ should read $\rho_l(G_F)$.

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