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**Barry Mazur** and **Karl Rubin\*** ([krubin@math.uci.edu](mailto:krubin@math.uci.edu)), Department of Mathematics, UC Irvine, Irvine, CA 92697. *Finding large Selmer groups over Galois extensions of number fields.*

Suppose  $K/k$  is a quadratic extension of number fields,  $E$  is an elliptic curve over  $k$ ,  $p$  is an odd prime, and  $F$  is a  $p$ -extension of  $K$ , Galois over  $k$ . We prove general lower bounds for the corank of the  $p$ -power Selmer group  $\text{Sel}_{p^\infty}(E/F)$ .

Let  $G = \text{Gal}(F/K)$ , fix a lift  $c$  of the nontrivial automorphism of  $K/k$  to  $\text{Gal}(F/k)$ , and let  $G^+$  be the subgroup of  $G$  consisting of all elements that commute with  $c$ . If the corank of  $\text{Sel}_{p^\infty}(E/K)$  is odd, then under mild hypotheses we prove that the corank of  $\text{Sel}_{p^\infty}(E/F)$  is at least  $[G : G^+]$ .

If  $k = \mathbf{Q}$ ,  $K$  is imaginary quadratic, and  $F$  is an anticyclotomic extension, then  $G^+$  is trivial, so  $[G : G^+] = [F : K]$ , and the lower bound for the Selmer corank was already known, by an explicit construction of Heegner points. Except in such special cases, the source of the Selmer classes in  $\text{Sel}_{p^\infty}(E/F)$  is very mysterious. The case where  $F$  is  $\mathbf{Q}(E[p^n])$  is particularly interesting for nonabelian Iwasawa theory. (Received September 24, 2006)