

# *L*-functions for Quadratic Characters and Annihilation of Motivic Cohomology Groups

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*Abstract.* Let  $n$  be a positive even integer, and let  $F$  be a totally real number field and  $L$  be an abelian Galois extension which is totally real or CM. Fix a finite set  $S$  of primes of  $F$  containing the infinite primes and all those which ramify in  $L$ , and let  $S_L$  denote the primes of  $L$  lying above those in  $S$ . Then  $\mathcal{O}_L^S$  denotes the ring of  $S_L$ -integers of  $L$ . Suppose that  $\psi$  is a quadratic character of the Galois group of  $L$  over  $F$ . Under the assumption of the motivic Lichtenbaum conjecture, we obtain a non-trivial annihilator of the motivic cohomology group  $H_{\mathcal{M}}^2(\mathcal{O}_L^S, \mathbb{Z}(n))$  from the lead term of the Taylor series for the  $S$ -modified Artin  $L$ -function  $L_{L/F}^S(s, \psi)$  at  $s = 1 - n$ .