

# A database of modular curves

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## Background and context

The [Simons Collaboration in Arithmetic Geometry, Number Theory, and Computation](#) created a database of modular curves that is now in the beta version of the [L-functions and Modular Forms Database](#), to be expanded prior to [LuCaNT](#). Contributors include:

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This project has many disparate components, but they are all tied together by a common group-theoretic scaffold inspired by [Mazur's Program B](#).

# Mazur's 1976 lectures on *Rational points on modular curves*

In the course of preparing my lectures for this conference, I found a proof of the following theorem, conjectured by Ogg (conjecture 1 [17b]):

THEOREM 1. Let  $\Phi$  be the torsion subgroup of the Mordell-Weil group of an elliptic curve  $E$ , over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $\Phi$  is isomorphic to one of the following 15 groups:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Z}/m \cdot \mathbb{Z} & \quad \text{for } m \leq 10 \text{ or } m = 12 \\ \mathbb{Z}/2 \cdot \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\nu \cdot \mathbb{Z} & \quad \text{for } \nu \leq 4 \text{ .} \\ & \vdots \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 1 also fits into a general program:

B. Given a number field  $K$  and a subgroup  $H$  of  $GL_2 \hat{\mathbb{Z}} = \prod_p GL_2 \mathbb{Z}_p$  classify all elliptic curves  $E/K$  whose associated Galois representation on torsion points maps  $\text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K)$  into  $H \subset GL_2 \hat{\mathbb{Z}}$ .

## Galois representations attached to elliptic curves

Let  $E$  be an elliptic curve over a number field  $k$ . The action of  $\mathrm{Gal}_k$  on  $E[N]$  yields

$$\rho_{E,N}: \mathrm{Gal}_k \rightarrow \mathrm{Aut}(E[N]) \simeq \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}) =: \mathrm{GL}_2(N).$$

After choosing a compatible system of bases, taking the inverse limit yields

$$\rho_E: \mathrm{Gal}_k \rightarrow \varprojlim \mathrm{GL}_2(N) \simeq \mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}}) \simeq \prod \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_\ell).$$

Note that  $\rho_E$  and its image are defined only up to  $\mathrm{GL}_2$ -conjugacy.

**In this talk we always work up to  $\mathrm{GL}_2$ -conjugacy.**

### Theorem (Serre 1972)

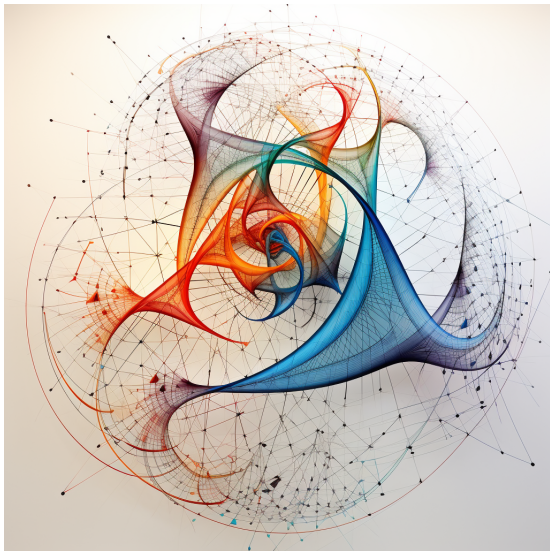
*If  $E/k$  is a non-CM elliptic curve then  $\rho_E(\mathrm{Gal}_k)$  is an open subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$ .*

*When  $k = \mathbb{Q}$  the index  $[\mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}}) : \rho_E(\mathrm{Gal}_k)]$  is divisible by 2.*

For any fixed  $k$  one expects the **index**  $[\mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}}) : \rho_E(\mathrm{Gal}_k)]$  to be bounded for non-CM  $E/k$ .

For  $k = \mathbb{Q}$  the bound 2736 has been conjectured (see **Zywina 2022**).

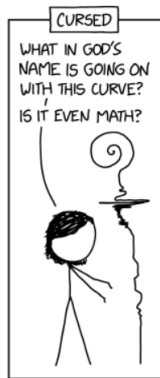
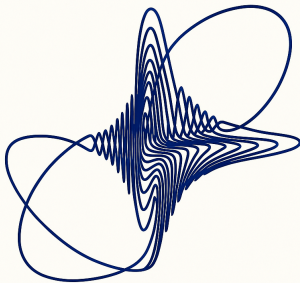
# The modular curve $X_H$



## The modular curve $X_H$

$$y^4 + 5x^4 - 6x^2y^2 + 6x^3z + 26x^2yz + 10xy^2z - 10y^3z - 32x^2z^2 - 40xyz^2 + 24y^2z^2 + 32xz^3 - 16yz^3 = 0$$

**Cursed Curve**  
of Level 13 (cracked by Balakrishnan et al)



# The modular curve $X_H$

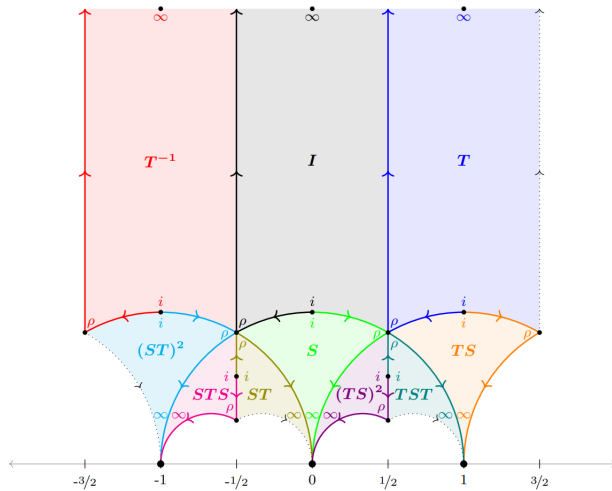
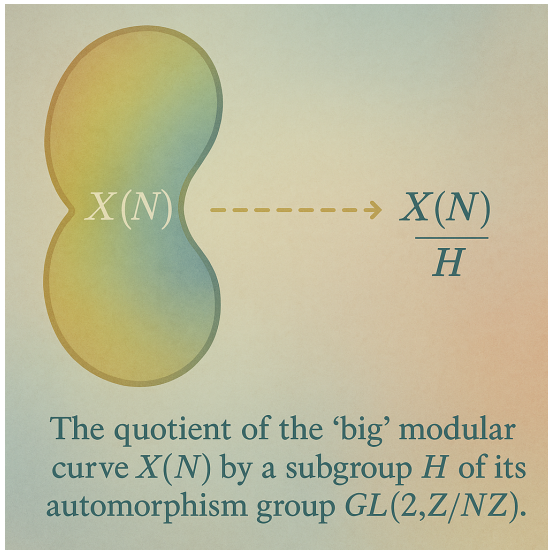


Figure 1:  $\mathcal{H}^*/\Gamma$

## The modular curve $X_H$





# The modular curve $X_H$

## Definition (Deligne, Rapoport 1973)

For each open  $H \leq \mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$ . The modular curves  $X_H$  and  $Y_H$  are coarse spaces for the stacks  $\mathcal{M}_H$  and  $\mathcal{M}_H^0$  parametrizing elliptic curves  $E$  with  $H$ -level structure: equivalence classes  $[\iota]_H$  of isomorphisms  $\iota: E[N] \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{Z}(N)^2$ , where  $\iota \sim \iota'$  if  $\iota = h \circ \iota'$  for some  $h \in H$ .

- $X_H$  is a smooth proper  $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{N}]$ -scheme with open subscheme  $Y_H$ .  
The complement  $X_H^\infty$  of  $Y_H$  in  $X_H$  (the cusps) is finite étale over  $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{N}]$ .
- If  $\det(H) = \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}^\times$  the generic fiber of  $X_H$  is a nice curve  $X_H/\mathbb{Q}$ , and  $X_H(\mathbb{C})$  is the Riemann surface  $X_{\Gamma_H} := \Gamma_H \backslash \mathcal{H}$ , with  $\Gamma_H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$  the preimage of  $\pi_N(H) \cap \mathrm{SL}_2(N)$ .  
If  $\det(H) \neq \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}^\times$  then  $X_H$  is not geometrically connected, but it is a curve over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
- For  $E/k$  with  $j(E) \neq 0, 1728$  we have  $\rho_{E,N}(\mathrm{Gal}_k) \leq H \iff (E, [\iota]_H) \in Y_H(k)$ .

Subgroup inclusions  $H \leq H'$  induce morphisms  $X_H \rightarrow X_{H'}$ .

In particular, every  $X_H$  is equipped with a map  $j: X_H \rightarrow X(1)$  to the  $j$ -line  $X(1) \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$ .

## The three fundamental invariants: level, index, genus

For each (conjugacy class of) open  $H \leq \mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$  we define the following invariants.

- the **level**  $n(H)$  is the least  $N$  for which  $H$  contains the kernel of  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}}) \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_2(N)$ .
- the **index**  $i(H)$  is the positive integer  $[\mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}}) : H] = [\mathrm{GL}_2(N) : H(N)]$ .
- the **genus**  $g(H)$  is the nonnegative integer

$$g(H) := g(\Gamma) := 1 + \frac{i(\Gamma)}{12} - \frac{e_2(\Gamma)}{4} - \frac{e_3(\Gamma)}{3} - \frac{e_\infty(\Gamma)}{2} \quad (\Gamma := \pm H(N) \cap \mathrm{SL}_2(N)),$$

where  $i(\Gamma) := [\mathrm{SL}_2(N) : \Gamma]$  counts right  $\Gamma$ -cosets in  $\mathrm{SL}_2(N)$ ,  $e_2$  and  $e_3$  count cosets fixed by  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , respectively, and  $e_\infty(\Gamma)$  counts  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ -orbits of  $\Gamma \backslash \mathrm{SL}_2(N)$ .

When  $\det(H) = \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}^\times$  and  $-I \in H$ , the level  $n(H)$  controls the bad primes of  $X_H$ , the index  $i(H)$  is the degree of the map  $X_H \rightarrow X(1)$ , and  $g(H)$  is the genus of  $X_H/\mathbb{Q}$ .

If  $H' \leq H$  then  $n(H) | n(H')$  and  $i(H) | i(H')$  and  $g(H) \leq g(H')$ .

## A fourth fundamental invariant: Gassmann class

For subgroups  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  of a finite group  $G$  the following are equivalent:

- $\#(H_1 \cap C) = \#(H_2 \cap C)$  for every conjugacy class  $C \subseteq G$ .
- There is a conjugacy-class-preserving bijection of sets  $H_1 \leftrightarrow H_2$ .
- The permutation characters  $\chi_{H_1}: G \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\chi_{H_2}: G \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  coincide.
- The  $G$ -sets  $[H_1 \backslash G]$  and  $[H_2 \backslash G]$  are isomorphic as  $K$ -sets for every cyclic  $K \leq G$ .
- The permutation modules  $\mathbb{Q}[H_1 \backslash G]$  and  $\mathbb{Q}[H_2 \backslash G]$  are isomorphic as  $\mathbb{Q}[G]$ -modules.

Subgroups that satisfy any of these equivalent conditions are **Gassmann equivalent**.<sup>1</sup>

Open  $H_1, H_2 \leq \mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$  are Gassmann equivalent if  $H_1(N), H_2(N) \leq \mathrm{GL}_2(N)$  are Gassmann equivalent for any  $N$  divisible by the levels of  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ .

### Proposition

*For Gassmann equivalent  $H_1, H_2 \leq \mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$  we have  $\mathrm{Jac}(X_{H_1}) \sim \mathrm{Jac}(X_{H_2})$ .*

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<sup>1</sup>See [S21] for more on arithmetic equivalence.

# Coarse and fine subgroups

## Definition

Open  $H \leq \mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$  that contain  $-I$  are **coarse groups**; those that do not are **fine groups**. A **quadratic refinement** of a coarse group  $H$  is a fine group  $H'$  for which  $H = \pm H'$ .

A typical coarse subgroup  $H$  has infinitely many quadratic refinements  $H'$ , all of which satisfy:

- $n(H)|n(H')$ ,  $i(H') = 2i(H)$ ,  $g(H') = g(H)$ .
- $X_{H'} \simeq X_H$  (as curves); in particular  $L(X_{H'}, s) = L(X_H, s)$  and  $X_{H'}(k) \leftrightarrow X_H(k)$ .
- $j(X_{H'}(k)) = j(X_H(k))$  for every  $k/\mathbb{Q}$ .

If  $H'$  is a quadratic refinement of  $H$  and  $E/k$  has Galois image  $\rho_E(\mathrm{Gal}_k) = H$ , the quadratic twist  $\tilde{E}/k$  by the fixed field of  $\rho_E^{-1}(H')$  has Galois image  $\rho_{\tilde{E}}(\mathrm{Gal}_k) = H'$ .

## Example

The elliptic curve **14.a4** corresponds to a point on  $X_1(3)$ , a quadratic refinement of  $X_0(3)$ . **Quadratic twists** have a rational 3-isogeny, but only **14.a4** has a rational 3-torsion point.

## Labels

Coarse groups  $H \leq \mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$  with  $\det(H) = \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}^\times$  have labels of the form `N.i.g.c.n`:

- $N, i, g$  are the level, index, genus of  $H$ , respectively;
- $c$  identifies the Gassmann class of  $H$  among those with label prefix `N.i.g`;
- $n$  identifies the conjugacy class of  $H$  for those with label prefix `N.i.g.c`.

Fine groups  $H \leq \mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$  with  $\det(H) = \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}^\times$  have labels of the form `N.i.g-M.c.m.n`:

- $N, i, g$  are the level, index, genus of  $H$ , respectively;
- $M, c, m$  are components of the label `M.j.g.c.m` of  $\pm H$ ;
- $n$  identifies the conjugacy class of  $H$  for those with label prefix `N.i.g-M.c.m`.

Gassmann classes are ordered by lexicographically sorting characters via their values on conjugacy classes of elements ordered by [similarity invariant](#).

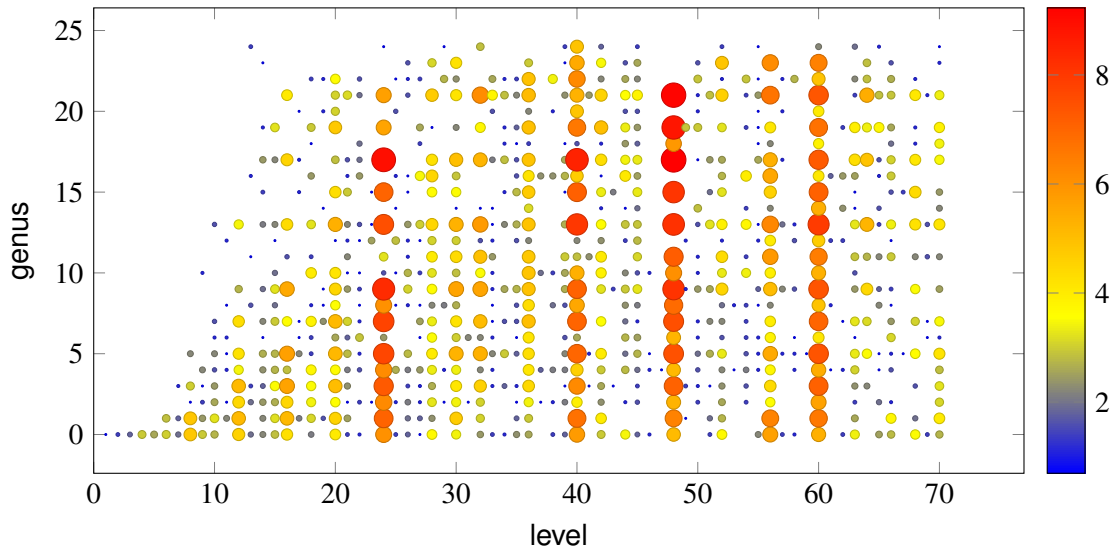
Conjugacy classes of subgroups are ordered by their [canonical generators](#), as computed by the function `GL2CanonicalGenerators` in `gl2base.m`.

## What's in the database (coming soon)

level/index/genus constraints	coarse	fine	total
$N \leq 70$	804 450	7 361 885	8 166 335
$N \leq 1000$ prime power	584 661	3 954 166	4 538 827
$g \leq 6, N < 840$	613 696	6 582 027	7 195 723
$g \leq 12, N < 480$	390 416	5 334 650	5 725 066
$g \leq g(X_1(N)), i i(X_1(N)), N < 120$	783 941	11 891 829	12 675 770
$g \leq g(X_0(N)), i i(X_0(N)), N < 360, -I \in H$	1 678 612	0	1 678 612
	4 855 776	35 124 557	39 980 333

The counts in each row exclude groups in rows above, so there is no overlap.

Coarse modular curves  $X_H/\mathbb{Q}$  of level  $N \leq 70$  and genus  $g \leq 24$



## Subgroups of $\mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$ vs subgroups of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$

For any fixed  $g$  there are only finitely many open  $\Gamma \leq \mathrm{SL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$  containing  $-I$  with  $g(\Gamma) = \Gamma$ . You can find complete lists for  $g \leq 24$  in the [Cummins–Pauli database](#).<sup>2</sup>

By contrast,  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$  contains infinitely many coarse subgroups of every genus.

For open  $H \leq \mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$  with  $\det(H) = \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}^\times$ , the index and genus of  $H$  depend only on  $\Gamma := H \cap \mathrm{SL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$ , but the levels of  $H$  and  $\Gamma$  may differ.

For distinct  $H, H'$  of the same level  $N$  with common intersection in  $\mathrm{SL}_2(N)$ , the curves  $X_H, X_{H'}$  are not isomorphic. They typically have non-isogenous Jacobians and different sets of rational points (in particular, one may be empty when the other is not!).

### Example

For the groups  $H = 15.60.2.c.1$  and  $15.60.2.d.1$ ,  $H \cap \mathrm{SL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$  has CP label  $15D^2$ .

The first  $X_H$  has no  $\mathbb{Q}$ -points and rank 1  $\mathrm{Jac}(X_H) \sim 75.c \times 225.c$ .

The second  $X_H = X_{ns}^+(15)$  has 6 rational  $\mathbb{Q}$ -points and rank 2  $\mathrm{Jac}(X_H) \sim 225.a \times 225.c$ .

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<sup>2</sup>Cummins and Pauli consider  $\Gamma$  up to  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ -conjugacy, not  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$ -conjugacy.



## Rational points on $X_H$

Let  $H$  be an open subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$  of level  $N$  (which we may view as  $H \leq \mathrm{GL}_2(N)$ ).

### Definition

The set  $Y_H(\bar{k})$  consists of equivalence classes  $(E, [\iota]_H)$ , where  $(E, [\iota]_H) \sim (E', [\iota']_H)$  if there is an isomorphism  $\phi: E \rightarrow E'$  for which  $\phi_N: E[N] \rightarrow E'[N]$  satisfies  $\iota \sim \iota' \circ \phi_N$ .

Each  $\sigma \in \mathrm{Gal}_K$  induces  $\sigma^{-1}: E^\sigma[N] \xrightarrow{\sim} E[N]$  via  $(x: y: z) \mapsto (\sigma^{-1}(x): \sigma^{-1}(y): \sigma^{-1}(z))$ . We have a  $\mathrm{Gal}_k$ -action on  $Y_H(\bar{k})$ :  $(E, [\iota]_H) \mapsto (E^\sigma, [\iota \circ \sigma^{-1}]_H)$ , and define  $Y_H(k) := Y_H(\bar{k})^{\mathrm{Gal}_k}$ .

Equivalently,  $Y_H(\bar{k})$  is the set of pairs  $(j(E), \alpha)$ , with  $\alpha = Hg \mathrm{Aut}(E_{\bar{k}}) \in H \backslash \mathrm{GL}_2 / \mathrm{Aut}(E_{\bar{k}})$ , on which  $\mathrm{Gal}_k$  acts via  $(j(E), \alpha) \mapsto (j(E)^\sigma, \alpha^\sigma)$ , where  $\alpha^\sigma = Hg\rho_E(\sigma) \mathrm{Aut}(E_{\bar{k}})$ .

$\mathrm{Gal}_k$  acts on  $X_H^\infty(\bar{k}) := \pm H \backslash \mathrm{GL}_2 / \langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \rangle$  via  $\left( \begin{smallmatrix} \chi_{\mathrm{cyc}}(\sigma) & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{smallmatrix} \right)$ , and  $X_H^\infty(k) := X_H^\infty(\bar{k})^{\mathrm{Gal}_k}$ .

We now define  $X_H(\bar{k}) := Y_H(\bar{k}) \sqcup X_H^\infty(\bar{k})$ , and  $X_H(k) := X_H(\bar{k})^{\mathrm{Gal}_k} = Y_H(k) \sqcup X_H^\infty(k)$ .

## Computing rational cusps (explicitly)

Given  $H \leq \mathrm{GL}_2(N)$  containing  $-I$  with  $\det(H) = \mathbb{Z}(N)^\times$ , we compute  $\#X_H^\infty(\mathbb{Q})$  by counting double cosets  $H \backslash \mathrm{GL}_2 / \langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \rangle$  fixed by all  $\begin{pmatrix} g & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  with  $g \in \mathbb{Z}(N)^\times$ .

The following Magma code snippet does this:

```
R := BaseRing(H);
G := GL(2,R);
pi := CosetAction(G,H);
O := Orbits(pi(sub<G|[1,1,0,1]>));
M,cyc := MultiplicativeGroup(R);
cycgens := [G|[cyc(g),0,0,1]:g in Generators(M)];
ratcusps := [o : o in O | &and[o^g eq o : g in cycgens];
```

See the function `GL2RationalCuspCount` in `gl2base.m`.

## Computing rational CM points (explicitly)

Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve with (potential) CM by an imaginary quadratic order  $\mathcal{O}$ . Let  $\phi$  be  $[\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$  if  $\text{disc } \mathcal{O}$  is odd and 0 otherwise, and let  $\delta = (D - \phi^2)/4 \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

As shown by [Lozano-Robledo](#), for each  $N \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$ , if we define

$$\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{O}}(N) := \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a+b\phi & b \\ \delta b & a \end{pmatrix} : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}(N), a^2 + ab\phi - \delta^2 \in \mathbb{Z}(N)^{\times} \right\} \leq \text{GL}_2(N)$$
$$\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{O}}(N) := \left\langle \mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{O}}(N), \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ \phi & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$$

then  $\rho_{E,N}(\text{Gal}_{\mathbb{Q}}) \leq \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{O}}(N)$ . Equality holds for all but finitely many twists of  $E$ , and we can explicitly compute the set  $\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{O}}(N)$  of subgroups of  $\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{O}}(N)$  that arise as  $\rho_{E',N}(\text{Gal}_{\mathbb{Q}})$  for any twist  $E'$  (including when  $j(E) = 0, 1728$ ; see §12 of [RSZB](#) for details).

Given  $H \leq \text{GL}_2(N)$  we can determine the rational CM points on  $X_H$  by checking whether any  $K \in \mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{O}}(N)$  is conjugate to a subgroup of  $H$  for each of the 13  $\mathcal{O}$  with  $h(\mathcal{O}) = 1$ .

See the function [GL2RationalCMPoints](#) in `gl2base.m`.

## Counting rational $\mathbb{F}_q$ -points on $X_H$ (explicitly)

### Theorem (Duke, Tóth 2002)

*Let  $E/\mathbb{F}_q$  be an elliptic curve, and let  $\pi_E$  denote its Frobenius endomorphism. Define  $a := \text{tr } \pi_E = q + 1 - \#E(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and  $R := \text{End}(E) \cap \mathbb{Q}(\pi_E)$ , let  $\Delta := \text{disc}(R)$  and  $\delta := \Delta \bmod 4$ , and let  $b := \sqrt{(a^2 - 4q)/\Delta}$  if  $\Delta \neq 1$  and  $b := 0$  otherwise. The integer matrix*

$$A_E := \begin{pmatrix} (a + b\delta)/2 & b \\ b(\Delta - \delta)/4 & (a - b\delta)/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

*gives the action of  $\pi_E$  on  $E[N]$  for all  $N \geq 1$ .*

We compute  $A_E = A(t, v, d)$  for all  $E/\mathbb{F}_q$  by enumerating solutions  $(t, v, D)$  to

$$4q = t^2 - v^2 D,$$

and making appropriate adjustments for  $j(E) = 0, 1728$  and supersingular  $E/\mathbb{F}_q$ . We then count the double cosets fixed by  $A(t, v, d)$  with multiplicity  $h(D)$ .

## Counting rational $\mathbb{F}_q$ -points on $X_H$ (explicitly)

Given  $H \leq \mathrm{GL}_2(N)$  containing  $-I$  and a prime power  $q$ , compute  $\#X_H(\mathbb{F}_q)$  as follows:

- 1 Compute the **permutation character**  $\chi_H: \mathrm{GL}_2(N) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  counting  $H$ -cosets fixed by  $g$ , which is equal to  $[\mathrm{GL}_2(N) : H] \#(H \cap [g]) / \#[g]$  where  $[g]$  is the conjugacy class of  $g$ .
- 2 Compute  $n_\infty := \#X_H^\infty(\mathbb{F}_q)$  by counting elements of  $H \backslash \mathrm{GL}_2(N) / \langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \rangle$  fixed by  $\begin{pmatrix} q & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .
- 3 Compute  $n_0 := \#j_H^{-1}(0)$  and  $n_{1728} := \#j_H^{-1}(1728)$  by computing  $A_\pi$  for each twist, summing  $\chi_H(A_\pi)$  values, and dividing by  $\# \mathrm{Aut}(E_{\bar{k}})$ .
- 4 Compute  $n_{\mathrm{ord}} := \sum_{t,v,D} \chi_H(A(t,v,D)) h(D)$  with  $(t,v,D)$  varying over solutions to  $4q = t^2 - v^2 D$  with  $t \perp q$  and  $D < -4$ .
- 5 Similarly compute  $n_{\mathrm{ss}}$  (omitting  $j(E) = 0, 1728$ ; see [\[RSZB22\]](#) for details).
- 6 Output  $\#X_H(\mathbb{F}_q) = n_\infty + n_0 + n_{1728} + n_{\mathrm{ord}} + n_{\mathrm{ss}}$ .

See the function `GL2PointCount` in `gl2points.m`.

## Decomposing the Jacobian of $X_H$

Let  $H$  be an open subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\widehat{\mathbb{Z}})$  of level  $N$  and let  $J_H$  denote the Jacobian of  $X_H$ .

**Theorem (Rouse, S, Voight, Zureick-Brown 2021)**

*Each simple factor of  $J_H$  is isogenous to  $A_f$  for a weight-2 eigenform  $f$  on  $\Gamma_0(N^2) \cap \Gamma_1(N)$ .*

If we know the  $q$ -expansions of the eigenforms in  $S_2(\Gamma_0(N^2) \cap \Gamma_1(N))$  we can uniquely determine the decomposition of  $J_H$  up to isogeny using linear algebra and point-counting.

It suffices to work with **trace forms**  $\mathrm{Tr}(f)$  (the sum of the Galois conjugates of  $f$ )

$$\mathrm{Tr}(f)(q) := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathrm{Tr}_{\mathbb{Q}(f)/\mathbb{Q}}(a_n(f)) q^n,$$

since the integers  $a_n(\mathrm{Tr}(f))$  uniquely determine  $L(A_f, s)$  and the isogeny class of  $A_f$ .

By strong multiplicity one (Soundararajan 2004), the  $a_p(\mathrm{Tr}(f))$  for enough  $p \nmid N$  suffice.

## Decomposing the Jacobian of $X_H$

Let  $\{[f_1], \dots, [f_m]\}$  be the Galois orbits of the weight-2 eigenforms for  $\Gamma_0(N^2) \cap \Gamma_1(N)$ . Then

$$L(J_H, s) = \prod_{i=1}^m L(A_{f_i}, s)^{e_i}$$

for some unique vector of nonnegative integers  $e(H) := (e_1, \dots, e_i)$ .

Let  $T(B) \in \mathbb{Z}^{n \times m}$  have columns  $[a_1(\mathrm{Tr}(f_i)), a_2(\mathrm{Tr}(f_i)), \dots, a_p(\mathrm{Tr}(f_i)), \dots]$  for good  $p \leq B$ .  
Let  $a(H; B) := [g(H), a_2(H), \dots, a_p(H), \dots]$ , where  $a_p(H)p + 1 - \#X_H(\mathbb{F}_p)$ , for good  $p \leq B$ .

For all sufficiently large  $B$  the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -linear system

$$T(B)x = a(H; B),$$

has the unique solution  $x = e(H)$ .

We can then compute the analytic rank of  $J_H$  as  $\mathrm{rk}(J_H) = \sum e_i \mathrm{rk}(f_i)$  using the [LMFDB](#).

# Gonality bounds via point-counting

## Definition

The **gonality**  $\text{gon}(X)$  of a nice curve  $X/k$ , is the minimal degree of a map to  $\mathbb{P}_k^1$ .  
Let  $d(X)$  be the least integer  $d$  for which  $X$  has infinitely many **degree- $d$  points**.

## Proposition (Abramovich–Harris, Frey)

*For any nice curve  $X$  we have  $d(X) \leq \text{gon}(X) \leq 2d(X)$ .*

Proof: See Kadets' talk.

For modular curves  $X_H$  with  $-I \in H$ , the map  $X_H \rightarrow X(1) \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$  has degree  $i(H) \geq \text{gon}(X_H)$ .  
If  $g(X_H) > 1$  then  $\text{gon}(X_H) \leq 2g - 2$ , which improves to  $\text{gon}(X_H) \leq g$  when  $X_H(\mathbb{Q}) \neq \emptyset$ .

We also have  $\text{gon}(X_H) \geq \frac{325}{32768} [\text{SL}_2(\hat{\mathbb{Z}}) : H \cap \text{SL}_2(\hat{\mathbb{Z}})]$  due to **Abramovich** (via **Kim–Sarnak**).  
For every prime power  $q$  coprime to the level of  $H$  we have

$$\#X_H(\mathbb{F}_q) \leq \text{gon}(X_H) \#X(1)(\mathbb{F}_q) \quad \implies \quad \text{gon}(X_H) \geq \#X_H(\mathbb{F}_q)/(q+1)$$



## Gonality bounds via subgroup lattices

If  $-I \in K \leq H$  then  $\text{gon}(X_H) \leq \text{gon}(X_K) \leq [H : K] \text{gon}(X_H)$ . (see [Poonen](#)).

This allows us to propagate gonality bounds through lattices of subgroups. Even better:

### Theorem (Castelnuovo–Severi inequality, [Poonen](#), [Najman–Orlić](#))

*Let  $X, Y, Z$  be geometrically integral curves over  $\mathbb{Q}$  with non-constant maps  $\pi_Y : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $\pi_Z : X \rightarrow Z$  of degrees  $d_Y, d_Z$ . Assume that there is no morphism  $X \rightarrow X'$  of degree  $> 1$  through which both maps factor. Let  $g_X, g_Y, g_Z$  be the genera of  $X, Y, Z$  respectively. Then*

$$g_X \leq d_Y g_Y + d_Z g_Z + (d_Y - 1)(d_Z - 1) \quad (1)$$

Applying this to  $X = X_K, Y = X_H, Z = X(1)$ , if  $d_Y = [H : K]$  is coprime to  $\text{gon}(X_K)$  then

$$\text{gon}(X_K) \geq \frac{g(X_K) - [H : K]g(X_H)}{[H : K] - 1} + 1.$$

The gonality bounds of [Kadets–Vogt](#) may also be applicable.

Thank you for listening!

