

# Random walks in genus 2 isogeny graphs

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- Consider the graph  $\mathcal{G}_p$  of **superspecial** PPAS in characteristic  $p$ , connected by  $(2, 2)$ -isogenies, a.k.a. Richelot isogenies (Castricky-Decru-Smith).

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- Jordan-Zaytman: the graph is connected, and **not Ramanujan** (at least for  $p = 11$ ).
- The Ramanujan property is related to the random walk on the graph: we want to study the **stationary distribution** and **mixing rate** of this walk. In expander (and Ramanujan) graphs, this distribution is uniform!

# Reduced automorphism groups

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For a PPAV  $\mathcal{A}$ , we define the reduced automorphism group as

$$\mathrm{RA}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathrm{Aut}(\mathcal{A}) / \langle \pm 1 \rangle.$$

$\mathrm{RA}(\mathcal{J}(C))$	Number	$\mathrm{RA}(\mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{E}')$	Number
0	$\sim p^3/2880$	$C_2$	$\sim p^2/144$
$C_2$	$\sim p^2/48$	$V_4$	$\sim p/12$
$S_3$	$\sim p/6$	$C_4$	$\sim p/12$
$V_4$	$\sim p/8$	$C_6$	$\sim p/12$
$D_{12}$	0 or 1	$C_6 \times S_3$	0 or 1
$S_4$	0 or 1	$V_4 \rtimes C_4$	0 or 1
$C_5$	0 or 1	$C_{12}$	0 or 1

## Lemma

Let  $K \subset \mathcal{A}[2]$  be a Lagrangian subgroup, and  $\phi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}' = \mathcal{A}/K$ .  
Let  $K' \subset \mathcal{A}'[2]$  be the kernel of the dual isogeny  $\phi^\dagger : \mathcal{A}' \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ .  
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- 1 The isogeny  $\phi$  induces a subgroup  $S'$  of  $\mathrm{RA}(\mathcal{A}')$  isomorphic to  $S$ , and  $S'$  is the stabiliser of  $K'$  in  $\mathrm{RA}(\mathcal{A}')$ .

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- 2 The  $(2,2)$ -isogeny graph has  $\#\mathrm{RA}(\mathcal{A})/\#S$  edges from  $[\mathcal{A}]$  to  $[\mathcal{A}']$  and  $\#\mathrm{RA}(\mathcal{A}')/\#S$  edges from  $[\mathcal{A}']$  to  $[\mathcal{A}]$ .

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In particular we obtain the ratio

$$\frac{\#E([\mathcal{A}], [\mathcal{A}'])}{\#E([\mathcal{A}'], [\mathcal{A}])} = \frac{\#\mathrm{RA}(\mathcal{A})}{\#\mathrm{RA}(\mathcal{A}')}.$$

# Stationary distribution

From the previous ratio principle we get stationary distributions for  $\mathcal{G}_p$ , and also the subgraphs  $\mathcal{J}_p$  (Jacobians) and  $\mathcal{E}_p$  (elliptic products).

## Theorem

For  $G \in \{\mathcal{G}_p, \mathcal{J}_p, \mathcal{E}_p\}$ , the stationary distribution for the random walk in  $G$  is  $\phi = \tilde{\phi} / \|\tilde{\phi}\|_1$ , where the vector  $(\tilde{\phi}_{[\mathcal{A}]})_{[\mathcal{A}] \in \mathcal{V}(G)}$  is given by

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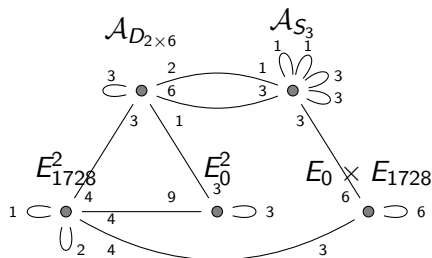
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Looks familiar? This is the same as in the supersingular elliptic curve case:

$$\tilde{\phi}_{[\mathcal{E}]} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } RA(\mathcal{E}) \cong 0, \\ \frac{1}{2}, & \text{if } RA(\mathcal{E}) \cong C_2 \\ \frac{1}{3}, & \text{if } RA(\mathcal{E}) \cong C_3. \end{cases}$$

# An example: $p = 11$



$$\tilde{\phi}_{\mathcal{G}_p} = 15\left(\frac{1}{12}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{16}, \frac{1}{36}, \frac{1}{12}\right),$$

$$\tilde{\phi}_{\mathcal{J}_p} = \left(\frac{11}{12}, \frac{12}{6}\right),$$

$$\tilde{\phi}_{\mathcal{E}_p} = \left(\frac{12}{16}, \frac{12}{36}, \frac{9}{12}\right),$$

## Second eigenvalues

- The second eigenvalue of the random walk matrix determines the mixing rate (this is why we care about Ramanujan-ness:  $\max\{|\lambda_2|, |\lambda_n|\} \leq 2\sqrt{d-1}$ ).
- $\mathcal{G}_p$  is not Ramanujan *at least* until  $p = 653$ , and  $\max(|\lambda_2|, |\lambda_n|) > 11$  for  $p > 40$ .
- $\mathcal{J}_p$ : for  $40 < p \leq 653$ ,  $\max(|\lambda_2|, |\lambda_n|) > 11$ .

### Questions

- Can we give upper bounds on  $|\lambda_2|, |\lambda_n|$ ?
- Can we prove “non-Ramanujan” in general?

Isogenies in  
dimension 1



Isogenies in  
dimension  $1+\epsilon$



Thank you!

\*Meme by Lorenz Panny