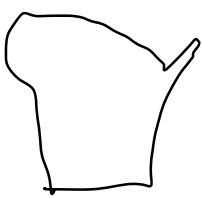


# VANTAGE

6 Apr 2021

(Jordan Ellenberg, )

"Counting points on (some) stacks: progress and problems"

A stack is a generalization of a scheme - first developed to study moduli problems

$X(1)$  (moduli stack of elliptic curves)

$$X(1)(K) = \{ \text{elliptic curves over } K \}$$

Not the same as the  $j$ -line: when

$K$  is not  $\mathbb{C}$ , many non- $\cong$   
elliptic curves with same  $j$ -invariant!

$BG$  (moduli stack of  $G$ -torsors)

$$BG(K) = \{ \text{Galois } G\text{-extensions} \\ \text{of } K \}$$

Some stacks (like these two) have  
infinitely many points.

Count in what order?

Custom in ye olde scheme theory:  
Count by height.

(Non-negative real # attached to  
a point, e.g.  $H(a:b:c) = \max(|a|, |b|, |c|)$ )

What is the height of a point on  
a stack?

Q: How many isomorphism  
classes of elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$   
are there such that:

- $E$  has a rational  $S$ -isogeny
- $\max(|A|^3, |B|^2) \ll X$

( $E: y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B$ )  
 minimal  
 Weierstrass form)

$$A: \Theta(X^{1/6} \log^2 X)$$

(Boggyess-Sankar, 2020)

(Remark: for rational  $S$ -torsion instead of  
 $S$ -isogeny,  $\Theta(X^{1/6})$  by Harman-Snowden  
 (2017))

Also in Boggyess-Sankar:  $N$ -isogenies for  
 $N = 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 12, 16, 18$ .

Q: What about 7-isogenies?

These are questions about rational points on  
 the moduli stacks  $X_0(N)$  (Boggyess-Sankar)  
 schemes  $X, CM$  (Harman-Snowden)

Define  $\text{sqf}(a) = \text{squarefree}$

$m$  such that  $ma$  is a square.  
( $\text{sqf}(12) = 3$ ,  $\text{sqf}(15) = 15$ , etc.)

Q: How many pairs of coprime  $a, b$   
such that

$$\text{sqf}(a) \text{sqf}(b) \text{sqf}(a-b) \max(a, b) < X?$$

Le Boudec (2020)

Nasserden-Xiao (2020)

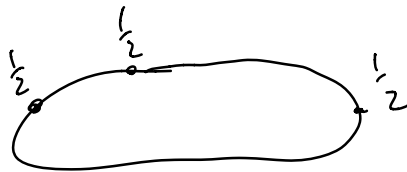
$$c_1 X \log^3 X$$

< count

$$< c_2 X \log^3 X$$

"Stacky curve"

of genus  $3/4$



Q: Are there only finitely many 5-term coprime  
arithmetic progressions  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5$   
with

$$\text{sqf}(a_1 a_2 a_3 a_4 a_5) < \max(|a_i|)^{1/2 - \delta?}$$

Q. How many points  $P \in \mathbb{P}^2(\overline{\mathbb{Q}})$  such that

$$\bullet \text{Ht}_{\text{abs}}(P) < X$$

$$\bullet [\mathbb{Q}(P) : \mathbb{Q}] = 3 \quad ?$$

Guignard (2017):  $\sim X^{12}$ , but

# P not on a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rational line

$$\sim X^{9+\varepsilon}$$

$$\text{Stack: } \text{Sym}^3 \mathbb{P}^2 = \frac{(\mathbb{P}^2)^3}{S_3}$$

Q: How many degree-3 number fields  
 $K/\mathbb{Q}$  of discriminant  $< X \dots$

such that  $\mathcal{O}_K \setminus \mathbb{Z}$  contains an element  
with all archimedean absolute values  $< .001 X^{1/2}$ ?  
 $< X^{0.499}$ ?

(For the first question, see Bhargava-H  
2016)

The cubic fields are points on  $\mathcal{B}(S_3)$  -  
but what is height here?

Key idea: for schemes, height of a point on  $X(\mathbb{K})$  is defined in terms of a line bundle on  $X$ . (When  $X = \mathbb{P}^1$ , use  $\mathcal{O}(1)$ .)

For stacks, we need to use vector bundles.

Consider  $B(A_5)$ !



Mollu predicts:

#  $G$ -extns, disc  $\subset X$   
of  $K$

$$\sim C_{K,G} X^{a(G)} (\log X)^{b(G,K)}$$

Which vector bundle on  $BG$ ?

$\cong$   
(i.e. which rep'n of  $G$ )

Regular rep of  $G \rightarrow$  disc. of Galois  
 $G$ -extension

Perm rep of  $S_n \rightarrow$  disc of degree- $n$   
(or  $G \subset S_n$ ) extension with  
Galois closure having  
group  $S_n$ .

2-dim'l rep of  $D_n \rightarrow$  new cont of  $D_n$ -extns  
by Varma, Atiyah,  
Shankar, Wilson 2017

But one can do more! Consider  
 an  $\mathcal{X}$  with a metrized vector bundle  
 $V$ . In fact, let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a proper  
 scheme  $X'$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 f^*V & \longrightarrow & V \text{ (rank } n) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{x} & X
 \end{array}$$

$x^*V$  is a metrized <sup>rank- $n$</sup>  vector bundle  
 on  $\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$  - i.e.

a lattice in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

The covolume of this lattice is the height in the usual sense. But why not remember the whole lattice?

e.g.

- $X = \mathbb{P}^2$ ,  $V =$  tangent bundle:

$$H_V(a:b:c) = (a,b,c)^\perp \subset \mathbb{C}^3$$

covolume  $\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}$

but shape depends on whether  $x$  is on a low-height line!

- $X/k(t) : x_i: \mathbb{P}^1 \rightarrow X$

$H_V(x)$  keeps track of stability

of vector bundle  $x^*V = \mathcal{O}(a_1) \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{O}(a_r)$

$\mathcal{K} = \mathbb{B}(S_n)$ ,  $V$ : permutation rep

$x$ :  $n$  degree extension  $\mathbb{K}/\mathbb{Q}$

$H_V(x) =$  integer lattice  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{K}}$   
(covol<sup>2</sup> = discriminant!)

Shape of this lattice studied by

H, Bhargava, Harman, Manjul-Solel ...

WILL'S TALK 5/4

(2018)

Peyre, "Beyond heights" - keeping track of these lattices may be the key to understanding accumulation phenomena in Behrend-Mohr: "free" rational points are those with "round" lattices, ...

YURI'S TALK 5/11

How to make good Zeta functions when height is a lattice instead of a number?

(see e.g. Alca-Einsiedler-Schepers-Zhang 2016)