



Abelian  
surfaces with  
prescribed  
groups

David,  
Garton,  
Scherr,  
Shankar,  
Smith,  
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# *Abelian surfaces over finite fields with prescribed groups*

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# Definitions

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## Definition

An *elliptic curve* is a curve given by an equation of the form

$$y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$$

where  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $\Delta := -16(4a^3 + 27b^2)$  is nonzero.

We can represent the set of points on an elliptic curve as

$$E(\mathbb{Q}) := \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{Q} : y^2 = x^3 + ax + b\} \cup \{\mathcal{O}\},$$

where  $\mathcal{O}$  is the point at infinity.

So,  $\#E(\mathbb{Q}) = 1 + \#(\text{rational solutions to } y^2 = x^3 + ax + b).$



# Elliptic curves over finite fields

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We can reduce  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  to a curve over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ :

$$E(\mathbb{F}_p) := \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{F}_p \times \mathbb{F}_p : y^2 \equiv x^3 + ax + b \pmod{p}\} \cup \{\mathcal{O}\}.$$

**Example:** Consider  $E : y^2 = x^3 + 2x + 1$  over  $\mathbb{F}_5$ .

$x$	$x^3 + 2x + 1 \pmod{5}$	$y$
0	1	1, 4
1	4	2, 3
2	3	—
3	4	2, 3
4	3	—

$$\therefore \#E(\mathbb{F}_5) = 2 + 2 + 2 + 1 = 7.$$



# The **group** of points on $E/\mathbb{F}_p$

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The rational points on  $E$  over  $\mathbb{F}_p$  form an abelian group  $E(\mathbb{F}_p)$  with

$$E(\mathbb{F}_p) \cong \mathbb{Z}/n_1\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n_1n_2\mathbb{Z}.$$

One could ask: How often do certain groups occur as  $E(\mathbb{F}_p)$  as we vary over  $E$  and  $p$ ?



# Cohen-Lenstra heuristics

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The **Cohen-Lenstra heuristics** predict that random abelian groups naturally occur with probability inversely proportional to the size of their automorphism groups.



# An example of the Cohen-Lenstra phenomenon

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**Example:** Cohen and Lenstra looked at the class groups of quadratic imaginary fields. They observed that, when  $9 \parallel h(-D)$ :



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**Example:** Cohen and Lenstra looked at the class groups of quadratic imaginary fields. They observed that, when  $9 \parallel h(-D)$ :

- $\#\text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}) = \varphi(9) = 6$



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**Example:** Cohen and Lenstra looked at the class groups of quadratic imaginary fields. They observed that, when  $9 \parallel h(-D)$ :

- $\#\text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}) = \varphi(9) = 6$
- $\#\text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}) = 48.$





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**Example:** Cohen and Lenstra looked at the class groups of quadratic imaginary fields. They observed that, when  $9 \nmid h(-D)$ :

- $\#\text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}) = \varphi(9) = 6$
- $\#\text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}) = 48.$
- So, we would expect  $\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$  to occur with probability proportional to  $1/6$  and we would expect  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$  to occur with probability proportional to  $1/48$ .



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**Example:** Cohen and Lenstra looked at the class groups of quadratic imaginary fields. They observed that, when  $9 \nmid h(-D)$ :

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- So, we would expect  $\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$  to occur with probability proportional to  $1/6$  and we would expect  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$  to occur with probability proportional to  $1/48$ .
- Thus,  $\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$  should be 8 times more likely to occur than  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ .

(Experimental results show that the ratio of occurrence of  $\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$  versus  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$  is about 8 to 1.)



# How often do certain groups occur as $E(\mathbb{F}_p)$ ?

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**Conjecture (Banks, Pappalardi, Shparlinski, 2012)**

*Completely split groups (when  $n_2 = 1$ ) and very split groups (when  $n_2$  is very small compared to  $n_1$ ) occur with density 0.*



# Results for elliptic curves

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## Theorem (Chandee, David, Koukoulopoulos, Smith)

Let  $S(N_1, N_2)$  denote the set of integer pairs  $n_1 \leq N_1$ ,  $n_2 \leq N_2$  for which there exists a prime  $p$  and a curve  $E/\mathbb{F}_p$  with  $E(\mathbb{F}_p) \cong \mathbb{Z}/n_1\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n_1n_2\mathbb{Z}$ . Then

$$\#S(N_1, N_2) = o(N_1N_2)$$

when  $N_1 \geq \exp(N_2^{1/2-\varepsilon})$ .



# The group of points on an abelian surface

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Let  $A$  be an abelian surface over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . The points on  $A$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  form an abelian group  $A(\mathbb{F}_q)$  with

$$A(\mathbb{F}_q) \cong \mathbb{Z}/n_1\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n_1n_2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n_1n_2n_3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n_1n_2n_3n_4\mathbb{Z}.$$



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**Q.** How often do certain groups occur as the group of points on  $A/\mathbb{F}_q$ ?

Cohen-Lenstra predicts:



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Cohen-Lenstra predicts:

- Cyclic groups are the most likely to occur



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**Q.** How often do certain groups occur as the group of points on  $A/\mathbb{F}_q$ ?

Cohen-Lenstra predicts:

- Cyclic groups are the most likely to occur
- “Very split” groups (groups when  $n_1, n_2$  are very large relative to  $n_3, n_4$ ) are not very likely to occur.





# Group classification results for abelian surfaces

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Theorem (David, Garton, Scherr, Shankar, Smith, T.)

*Suppose that  $n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4$  are positive integers. If*

$$n_1 > 60n_2^{1/4}n_3^{3/2}n_4^{3/4} + 1,$$

*then there are **no** abelian surfaces  $A/\mathbb{F}_q$  with*

$$A(\mathbb{F}_q) \cong \mathbb{Z}/n_1\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n_1n_2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n_1n_2n_3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n_1n_2n_3n_4\mathbb{Z}.$$



# Facts about Weil polynomials

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Let  $f_A(T)$  be the characteristic polynomial of the Frobenius element  $\pi_A$  of  $A/\mathbb{F}_q$ , which we call a *Weil polynomial*:



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Let  $f_A(T)$  be the characteristic polynomial of the Frobenius element  $\pi_A$  of  $A/\mathbb{F}_q$ , which we call a *Weil polynomial*:

- Its roots are  $\{\omega_1, \overline{\omega_1}, \omega_2, \overline{\omega_2}\}$ , where the  $\omega_i$ 's are *Weil numbers* (algebraic integers whose conjugates have absolute value  $q^{1/2}$ ).



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- Tate-Honda theory gives a bijection between the set of conjugacy classes of Weil numbers and the set of isogeny classes of simple abelian varieties over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .



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- Tate-Honda theory gives a bijection between the set of conjugacy classes of Weil numbers and the set of isogeny classes of simple abelian varieties over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .
- The number of  $\mathbb{F}_q$ -rational points on  $A$  is equal to  $f_A(1)$ .



# $\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_q}(A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ : a field, or not a field?

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Sometimes the algebra  $\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_q}(A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  is a field; other times it is not. (In general, the cases where  $\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_q}(A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  is not a field are much rarer.)

To handle these exceptional cases:

## Theorem (Waterhouse, Xing)

*The Weil polynomials  $f_A(T)$  corresponding to abelian varieties  $A$  over  $k$  of dimension 2 whose algebra  $\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_q}(A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  is **not** a field are:*

$$f_A(T) = (T^2 - q)^2$$

$$f_A(T) = (T^2 + q)^2$$

$$f_A(T) = (T^2 \pm q^{1/2}T + q)^2$$



# Characterization when $\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_q}(A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ is not a field

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Xing proved that the group structures that arise are precisely:

$$A(\mathbb{F}_q) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/(q-1)\mathbb{Z})^2$$

$$A(\mathbb{F}_q) \simeq \left(\mathbb{Z}/\frac{q-1}{2}\mathbb{Z}\right)^2 \times (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^2$$

$$A(\mathbb{F}_q) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/(q-1)\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/\frac{q-1}{2}\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

$$A(\mathbb{F}_q) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/(q+1)\mathbb{Z})^2$$

$$A(\mathbb{F}_q) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/(q \pm q^{1/2} + 1)\mathbb{Z})^2.$$



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$$A(\mathbb{F}_q) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/(q-1)\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/\frac{q-1}{2}\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

$$A(\mathbb{F}_q) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/(q+1)\mathbb{Z})^2$$

$$A(\mathbb{F}_q) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/(q \pm q^{1/2} + 1)\mathbb{Z})^2.$$

Conclusion: We know exactly which groups can appear as the group of  $\mathbb{F}_q$ -rational points on an Abelian surface whose algebra  $\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_q}(A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  is **not** a field!





# What happens when $\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_q}(A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ is a field?

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## Theorem (Rück)

*The set  $f_A(T)$  for all abelian surfaces  $A$  whose algebra  $\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_q}(A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  is a field is equal to the set of polynomials  $f(T) = T^4 + a_1T^3 + a_2T^2 + a_1qT + q^2$ , where the integers  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  satisfy the following conditions:*

$$(a) \quad |a_1| < 4q^{1/2} \text{ and } 2|a_1|q^{1/2} - 2q < a_2 < a_1^2/4 + 2q.$$

$$(b) \quad a_1^2 - 4a_2 + 8q \text{ is not a square in } \mathbb{Z}$$

*(and some conditions on  $\nu_p(a_1)$  and  $\nu_p(a_2)$ .)*

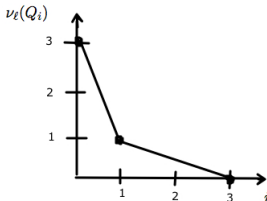


# Newton polygons

## Definition

Let  $\ell$  be a prime and let  $Q(T) = \sum_i Q_i T^i$  be a polynomial of degree  $d$  with  $Q(0) = Q_0 \neq 0$ . The *Newton polygon*  $N_{p_\ell}(Q)$  is the boundary of the lower convex hull of the points  $(i, \nu_\ell(Q_i))$  for  $0 \leq i \leq d$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

**Example** The Newton polygon corresponding to  $f(x) = x^3 + 6x^2 + 10x + 8$  over  $\mathbb{Q}_2$  is:



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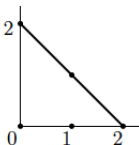


# Hodge polygons

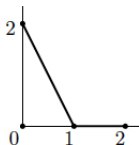
## Definition

Let  $0 \leq m_1 \leq m_2 \leq \dots \leq m_r$  be nonnegative integers and let  $H = \bigoplus_{i=1}^m \mathbb{Z}/\ell^{m_i} \mathbb{Z}$  be an abelian group of order  $\ell^m$ . The *Hodge polygon*  $H_{p_\ell}(H, r)$  is the convex polygon with vertices  $(i, \sum_{j=1}^{r-i} m_j)$  for  $0 \leq i \leq r$ . It has  $(0, m)$  and  $(r, 0)$  as its endpoints, and its slopes are  $-m_r, \dots, -m_1$ .

**Example** Hodge polygons corresponding to  $H = \mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z}$  and  $H = \mathbb{Z}/\ell^2\mathbb{Z}$  (respectively):



Pic. 1



Pic. 2

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# Key lemma

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## Theorem (Rybakov, 2010)

*Let  $A$  be an abelian variety over a finite field with Weil polynomial  $f_A$ . Suppose  $f_A$  has no multiple roots. Let  $G$  be an abelian group of order  $f_A(1)$ . Then  $G$  is a group of points on some variety in the isogeny class of  $A$  if and only if the Newton polygon  $N_{p_\ell}(f_A(1-t))$  lies on or above the Hodge polygon  $H_{p_\ell}(G_\ell, 2g)$  for any prime number  $\ell$ .*



# Corollary to Rybakov's criterion

Corollary (David, Garton, Scherr, Shankar, Smith, T.)

*Suppose that*

$$G = \mathbb{Z}/n_1\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n_1n_2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n_1n_2n_3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n_1n_2n_3n_4\mathbb{Z}.$$

*Then, in order for  $G$  to appear as the group of points on an abelian surface, the following system of congruences must be satisfied:*

$$q^2 + a_1q + a_2 + a_1 + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{n_1^4n_2^3n_3^2n_4}$$

$$4 + 3a_1 + 2a_2 + qa_1 \equiv 0 \pmod{n_1^3n_2^2n_3}$$

$$6 + 3a_1 + a_2 \equiv 0 \pmod{n_1^2n_2}$$

$$4 + a_1 \equiv 0 \pmod{n_1}.$$

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# Proof of Corollary

Let  $G = \mathbb{Z}/N_1\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/N_2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/N_3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/N_4\mathbb{Z}$  where  $N_1 \mid N_2 \mid N_3 \mid N_4$ . We will show that  $G$  is the group of points on some  $A/\mathbb{F}_q$  iff

$$\prod_{j=1}^{4-k} N_j \text{ divides } \frac{f_A^{(k)}(1)}{k!} \text{ for } k = 0, \dots, 3.$$

- Write the Taylor expansion

$$f_A(1 - T) = \sum_{k=0}^4 \frac{f_A^{(k)}(1)}{k!} (-T)^k.$$

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Let  $G = \mathbb{Z}/N_1\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/N_2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/N_3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/N_4\mathbb{Z}$  where  $N_1 \mid N_2 \mid N_3 \mid N_4$ . We will show that  $G$  is the group of points on some  $A/\mathbb{F}_q$  iff

$$\prod_{j=1}^{4-k} N_j \text{ divides } \frac{f_A^{(k)}(1)}{k!} \text{ for } k = 0, \dots, 3.$$

- Write the Taylor expansion

$$f_A(1 - T) = \sum_{k=0}^4 \frac{f_A^{(k)}(1)}{k!} (-T)^k.$$

- For each prime  $\ell$ , Rybakov's condition that  $N_{p_\ell}(f_A(1 - T))$  lies on or above  $H_{p_\ell}(G_\ell, 4)$  means that

$$\nu_\ell\left(\prod_{j=1}^{4-k} N_j\right) \leq \nu_\ell\left(\frac{f_A^{(k)}(1)}{k!}\right) \text{ for } k = 0, \dots, 3.$$



# A “density 0” result

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Theorem (David, Garton, Scherr, Shankar, Smith, T.)

*If*

$$\frac{N_1 N_2^{1/4}}{N_3^{1/2} N_4^{1/4}} \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as } N_2 N_4 \rightarrow \infty,$$

*then*

$$\#S(N_1, N_2, N_3, N_4) = o(N_1 N_2 N_3 N_4) \quad \text{as } N_2 N_4 \rightarrow \infty.$$





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# Thank you!