

# Modularity of elliptic curves over totally real cubic fields

Filip Najman

University of Zagreb

joint with Maarten Derickx (MIT) and Samir Siksek (Warwick)

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## Definition

An elliptic curve  $E$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is **modular** if there exists a modular form  $f$  of weight 2 such that

$$L(E, s) = L(f, s).$$

# Proof of Fermat's last theorem

Theorem (Fermat's last theorem)

*All solutions of  $x^n + y^n = z^n$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$  for  $n \geq 3$  satisfy  $xyz = 0$ .*

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- 5 There are no modular forms of level 2 and weight 2.

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Theorem (Breuil, Conrad, Diamond & Taylor 2001.)

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An elliptic curve  $E$  over a totally real number field  $K$  is **modular** if there exists a Hilbert modular form  $f$  over  $K$  of parallel weight 2 such that

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## Theorem (Freitas, Le Hung, Siksek 2015.)

*All elliptic curves over all real quadratic fields are modular.*

Theorem (Derickx, N., Siksek 2018.)

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$$E[p] := \{P \in E(\overline{K}) : [p]P = O\} = \ker[p].$$

$G_K$  acts on  $E[p]$  inducing a group homomorphism

$$\overline{\rho}_{E,p} : G_K \rightarrow \text{Aut}(E[p]) \simeq \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_p)$$

called the mod  $p$  Galois representation attached to  $E$ .

Let  $E/K$  and define  $G_E(p) := \overline{\rho}_{E,p}(G_K) \leq \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_p)$ . Then one of the following is true:

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The  $K$ -points on the modular curves  $X_0(p)$ ,  $X_5(p)$  and  $X_{ns}(p)$  correspond to elliptic curves  $K$  for which  $G_E(p)$  is in the cases (iii), (iv) and (v), respectively.

Theorem (Wiles, Breuil, Diamond, Kisin,  
Barnett–Lamb–Gee–Geraghty + Langlands–Tunnel)

*Let  $K$  be a totally real number field and  $E$  an elliptic curve over  $K$ .  
Suppose that*

- *$\bar{\rho}_{E,3}$  is irreducible, and*
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So if  $E/K$  is not modular then  $G_E(3)$  is contained in  $B(3)$  or  $C_s^+(3)$ .

# Modularity lifting theorems

## Theorem (Thorne 2016)

*Let  $E$  be an elliptic curve over a totally real number field  $K$  and suppose 5 is not a square in  $K$  and  $\bar{\rho}_{E,5}$  is irreducible. Then  $E$  is modular.*



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*Let  $K$  be a totally real number field and  $E$  an elliptic curve over  $K$  and*

- $K \cap \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_7) = \mathbb{Q}$ .
- $\bar{\rho}_{E,7}$  is irreducible.
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So if  $K \neq \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_7)^+$ , and  $E/K$  is not modular the  $G_E(7)$  is contained in  $B(7)$  or  $C_{\text{ns}}^+(7)$ .

It follows that: if  $E$  is not modular it gives rise to a  $K$ -point on  $X_u(3) \times_{X_0(1)} X_0(5) \times_{X_0(1)} X_v(7)$  for some  $u \in \{0, s\}$  and  $v \in \{0, ns\}$ .

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We denote  $X(u3, b5, w7) := X_u(3) \times_{X_0(1)} X_b(5) \times_{X_0(1)} X_w(7)$ , with the convention that we write "b" instead of "0", i.e.

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Obviously, if one finds all the points of degree  $d$  on for example  $X(b5, w7)$  for some  $w \in \{0, ns\}$ , then those will contain all the points of degree  $d$  on  $X(u3, b5, w7)$ , for any  $u$ .

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Freitas, Le Hung, Siksek needed to find all quadratic points on 7 modular curves of genera 3, 3, 4, 73, 97, 113 and 153, as the modularity lifting results known then were weaker.

Remarkably, they manage to show that all the quadratic points on these curves correspond to modular elliptic curves.



# The modular curves we need to consider

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We will prove

- (1) All elliptic curves over  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_7)^+$  are modular.
- (2) The modular curve  $X(b5, b7)$  has no totally real non-cuspidal cubic points.
- (3) The modular curve  $X(b5, ns7)$  has no totally real non-cuspidal cubic points.

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It turns out that all such curves are twists of elliptic curves defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , which are known to be modular.

# The modular curve $X_0(35)$

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## Theorem (Castelnuovo-Severi inequality)

*Let  $k$  be a perfect field, and  $X, Y, Z$  curves over  $k$ . Let  $\pi_Y : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $\pi_Z : X \rightarrow Z$  be morphisms of degree  $m$  and  $n$  respectively, and assume that there is no morphism  $X \rightarrow X'$  of degree  $> 1$  through which both  $\pi_Y$  and  $\pi_Z$  factor. Then*

$$g(X) \leq m \cdot g(Y) + n \cdot g(Z) + (m-1)(n-1).$$

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So  $X$  has no degree 3 maps to  $\mathbb{P}^1$  or to an elliptic curve of positive rank, so it follows that there are only finitely many cubic points on  $X_0(35)$ .

# The modular curve $X_0(35)$

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Denote  $J := J(X)$ . We have  $J(\mathbb{Q}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/24\mathbb{Z}$ .

# The modular curve $X_0(35)$

Let  $K$  be a totally real cubic field, and for a point  $P \in X(K)$ , let  $P_1, P_2, P_3$  be the conjugates of  $P$  given by the embeddings of  $K$  into  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

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Let  $L(T_i)$  be the Riemann–Roch space corresponding to  $T_i$ ,  $\ell(T_i)$  its dimension, and  $|T_i|$  be the corresponding complete linear system.



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Let  $K$  be a totally real cubic field, and for a point  $P \in X(K)$ , let  $P_1, P_2, P_3$  be the conjugates of  $P$  given by the embeddings of  $K$  into  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

Then  $D = P_1 + P_2 + P_3$  is an irreducible  $\mathbb{Q}$ -divisor of degree 3.

Let  $D_1, \dots, D_{48}$  be  $\mathbb{Q}$ -divisors of degree 0 representing the 48 classes in  $J(\mathbb{Q})$ , and let  $T_i = D_i + 3\infty_+$ .

Hence  $D \sim T_i$ , for some  $i$ .

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Clifford's theorem on special divisors implies  $\ell(T_i) = 1$  or  $2$ .

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We get that 28 of the remaining 44  $T_i$  are irreducible, and all of the irreducible ones split over cubic fields with complex embeddings.

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Le Hung (2014):  $J \sim A_1 \times A_2 \times A_3$ , where  $A_i$  are absolutely simple modular abelian surfaces defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

We compute that the analytic ranks of  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  are 2, 0, 0, respectively, so by results of Kolyvagin and Logachev, these are their ranks over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

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The involution  $w_5$  interchanges  $c_0$  and  $c_\infty$ .



# The modular curve $X(b5, ns7)$

## Proposition

$A := \text{im}(w_5 - 1) \subseteq J$  is a subabelian variety of dimension 4 with  $A(\mathbb{Q}) = \langle [c_0 - c_\infty] \rangle \simeq \mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z}$ .

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We compute that the order of  $[c_0 - c_\infty]$  is 7 and

$$(w_5 - 1)([3c_0 - 3c_\infty]) = 6[c_\infty - c_0] = [c_0 - c_\infty].$$

Therefore  $[c_0 - c_\infty] \in A(\mathbb{Q})$ .

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Also,

$$J(\mathbb{F}_3) \cong \mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/(7 \cdot 23)\mathbb{Z},$$

and

$$J(\mathbb{F}_{17}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/(2^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 31 \cdot 271)\mathbb{Z}.$$

## Definition

A morphism  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  of Noetherian schemes is a formal immersion at  $x \in X$  if

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If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a formal immersion at  $x$  then

$$f : \text{Res}_{\wp}(x) \rightarrow Y(K_{\wp})$$

is an injection.

## Proposition

*Let  $K$  be a number field,  $\wp$  a prime ideal not dividing 2,  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  a morphism of schemes, where  $Y$  is an abelian variety of rank 0 over  $K$ , and  $X, Y$  have good reduction at  $\wp$ , and let  $f$  be a formal immersion at  $x \in X(\mathcal{O}_K/\wp)$ . Then*

$$X(K) \cap \text{Res}_{\wp}(x) = \{x\}.$$



# Completing the proof

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We have  $w_5(c_\infty) = c_0$ , so we can rewrite the equation above as

$$(x - w_5(x)) \sim k \cdot (c_0 - c_\infty),$$

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Let  $\tilde{x}, \widetilde{c_\infty}, \tilde{c}_0 \in X^{(3)}(\mathbb{F}_3)$  be the reductions of  $x, c_\infty, c_0 \bmod 3$ . So,

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We tested the above relation and get that it holds for only  $\tilde{x} = \tilde{c}_0$  and  $k = 1$  and  $\tilde{x} = \widetilde{c_\infty}$  and  $k = -1$ .

Suppose WLOG that  $\tilde{x} = \tilde{c}_0$ . We want to show that  $x = c_0$ .

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To that we prove that  $f : X^{(3)} \rightarrow A$  defined as the composition of the Abel-Jacobi map  $f : X^{(3)} \rightarrow J$  and  $(1 - w_5) : J \rightarrow A$  is a formal immersion at  $\tilde{c}_0$  using a criterion of Derrickx, Kamienny, Stein and Stoll.

Thank you for your attention!