

# TORSION SUBGROUPS OF RATIONAL ELLIPTIC CURVES OVER THE COMPOSITUM OF ALL CUBIC FIELDS

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ABSTRACT. Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve and let  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  be the compositum of all cubic extensions of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . In this article we show that the torsion subgroup of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  is finite and determine 20 possibilities for its structure, along with a complete description of the  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes of elliptic curves that fall into each case. We provide rational parameterizations for each of the 16 torsion structures that occur for infinitely many  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes of elliptic curves, and a complete list of  $j$ -invariants for each of the 4 that do not.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Interest in the rational points on elliptic curves dates back at least to Poincaré, who in 1901 conjectured that the group  $E(\mathbb{Q})$  of rational points on an elliptic curve  $E$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a finitely generated abelian group [31]. This conjecture was proved by Mordell [28] in 1922 and then vastly generalized by Weil [40], who proved in 1929 that the group of rational points on an abelian variety defined over a number field is finitely generated. An immediate consequence of the Mordell-Weil theorem is that the torsion subgroup  $E(F)_{\text{tors}}$  of an elliptic curve  $E$  over a number field  $F$  is finite, and therefore isomorphic to a group of the form

$$\mathbb{Z}/a\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/ab\mathbb{Z},$$

for some integers  $a, b \geq 1$ . In 1996, Merel [27] proved the existence of a uniform bound on the cardinality of  $E(F)_{\text{tors}}$  that depends only on the number field  $F$ , not the particular elliptic curve  $E/F$ ; in fact, Merel's bound depends only on the degree of the field extension  $F/\mathbb{Q}$ . This bound was improved and made effective by Oesterlé in 1994 (unpublished), and later by Parent [30] in 1999.

It is thus a natural goal to classify (up to isomorphism), the torsion subgroups of elliptic curves defined over number fields of degree  $d$ , for fixed integers  $d \geq 1$ . Mazur famously proved such a classification for  $d = 1$ .

**Theorem 1.1** (Mazur [25]). *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. Then*

$$E(\mathbb{Q})_{\text{tors}} \simeq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } 1 \leq M \leq 10 \text{ or } M = 12, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } 1 \leq M \leq 4. \end{cases}$$

The classification for  $d = 2$  was initiated by Kenku and Momose, and completed by Kamienny.

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**Theorem 1.2** (Kenku, Momose [19], Kamienny [13]). *Let  $E/F$  be an elliptic curve over a quadratic number field  $F$ . Then*

$$E(F)_{\text{tors}} \simeq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } 1 \leq M \leq 16 \text{ or } M = 18, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } 1 \leq M \leq 6, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } M = 1 \text{ or } 2, \text{ only if } F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3}), \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} & \text{only if } F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-1}). \end{cases}$$

The case  $d = 3$  remains open. Jeon, Kim, and Schweizer have determined the torsion structures that appear infinitely often as one runs through all elliptic curves over all cubic fields [11], and Jeon, Kim, and Lee have constructed infinite families of elliptic curves that realize each of these torsion structures [12].

**Theorem 1.3** (Jeon, Kim, Lee, Schweizer [11, 12]). *Suppose that  $T$  is an abelian group for which there exist infinitely many  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes of elliptic curves  $E$  over cubic number fields  $F$ , such that  $E(F)_{\text{tors}} \simeq T$ . Then*

$$T \simeq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } 1 \leq M \leq 16 \text{ or } M = 18, 20, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } 1 \leq M \leq 7. \end{cases}$$

Moreover, for each such  $T$  an explicit infinite family of elliptic curves over cubic fields with torsion subgroup isomorphic to  $T$  is known that contains infinitely many  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes.

Sharper results can be proved if one restricts to base extensions of elliptic curves that are defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . In this setting the second author has obtained bounds on the largest prime-power order that may appear in a torsion subgroup [22, 24], and the third author has classified the torsion subgroups that can arise over extensions of degrees 2 and 3 [29].

**Theorem 1.4.** [29, Thm. 2] *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve and let  $F$  be a quadratic number field. Then*

$$E(F)_{\text{tors}} \simeq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } 1 \leq M \leq 10 \text{ or } M = 12, 15, 16, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } 1 \leq M \leq 6, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } 1 \leq M \leq 2 \text{ and } F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3}), \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-1}). \end{cases}$$

**Theorem 1.5.** [29, Thm. 1] *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve and let  $F$  be a cubic number field. Then*

$$E(F)_{\text{tors}} \simeq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } 1 \leq M \leq 10 \text{ or } M = 12, 13, 14, 18, 21, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } 1 \leq M \leq 4 \text{ or } M = 7. \end{cases}$$

Moreover, the elliptic curve 162B1 over  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_9)^+$  is the unique rational elliptic curve over a cubic field with torsion subgroup isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/21\mathbb{Z}$ . For all other groups  $T$  listed above there are infinitely many  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes of elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  for which  $E(F) \simeq T$  for some cubic field  $F$ .

In the setting of base extensions of elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ , one may also consider the torsion subgroups that can arise over certain infinite algebraic extensions of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . In general these need not be finite, and there may be infinitely many possibilities; but for suitably chosen extensions, this is not the case. For example, Ribet proved that for an abelian variety defined over a number field  $F$ , the

torsion subgroup of its base change to the maximal cyclotomic extension of  $F$  is finite [32]. Here we consider infinite extensions obtained as the compositum of all number fields of a fixed degree  $d$ .

**Definition 1.6.** For each fixed integer  $d \geq 1$ , let  $\mathbb{Q}(d^\infty)$  denote the compositum of all field extensions  $F/\mathbb{Q}$  of degree  $d$ . More precisely, let  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  be a fixed algebraic closure of  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and define

$$\mathbb{Q}(d^\infty) := \mathbb{Q}(\{\beta \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}} : [\mathbb{Q}(\beta) : \mathbb{Q}] = d\}).$$

The fields  $\mathbb{Q}(d^\infty)$  have been studied by Gal and Grizzard [9], who use the notation  $\mathbb{Q}^{[d]}$  (they also consider the fields  $\mathbb{Q}^{(d)} = \mathbb{Q}^{[2]}\mathbb{Q}^{[3]} \dots \mathbb{Q}^{[d]}$  and show that  $\mathbb{Q}^{[d]} = \mathbb{Q}^{(d)}$  precisely when  $d < 5$ ). For elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ , the group  $E(\mathbb{Q}(d^\infty))$  is not finitely generated. This was proved for  $d = 2$  by Frey and Jarden [6] in 1974, and the result for  $d \geq 2$  follows from the inclusion  $\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(d^\infty)$  given by [9, Theorem 1].

The torsion subgroups of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(d^\infty))$  have been studied in the case  $d = 2$ , in which the field  $\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty)$  is the maximal elementary abelian 2-extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Even though  $E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))$  is not finitely generated, the torsion subgroup  $E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is known to be finite, and the possible torsion structures have been classified by Laska and Lorenz [20], and Fujita [7, 8].

**Theorem 1.7** (Laska, Lorenz [20], Fujita [7, 8]). *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve and let*

$$\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty) := \mathbb{Q}(\{\sqrt{m} : m \in \mathbb{Z}\}).$$

*The torsion subgroup  $E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is finite, and*

$$E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } M \in 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 15, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } 1 \leq M \leq 6 \text{ or } M = 8, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} & \text{or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/4M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } 1 \leq M \leq 4, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/2M\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } 3 \leq M \leq 4. \end{cases}$$

In this article we classify the torsion subgroups  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  that arise for elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ . Our main theorem is the following.

**Theorem 1.8.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. The torsion subgroup  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is finite, and*

$$E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } M = 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 13, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/4M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } M = 1, 2, 4, 7, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/6M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } M = 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/2M\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2M\mathbb{Z} & \text{with } M = 4, 6, 7, 9. \end{cases}$$

*All but 4 of the torsion subgroups  $T$  listed above occur for infinitely many  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes of elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ ; for  $T = \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/28\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/30\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/42\mathbb{Z}$ , and  $\mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z}$  there are only 2, 2, 4, and 1 (respectively)  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes of  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  for which  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq T$ .*

**Remark 1.9.** Minimal conductor examples of elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  that realize each of the torsion subgroups permitted by Theorem 1.8 are listed in the table below. Here and throughout we identify elliptic curves over  $\mathbb{Q}$  by their Cremona label [2] and provide a hyperlink to the corresponding entry in the  $L$ -functions and Modular Forms Database (LMFDB) [21].

$E/\mathbb{Q}$	$E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$	$E/\mathbb{Q}$	$E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$
11a2	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$	338a1	$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/28\mathbb{Z}$
17a3	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$	20a1	$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$
15a5	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$	30a1	$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$
11a1	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/10\mathbb{Z}$	14a3	$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z}$
26b1	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z}$	50a3	$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/30\mathbb{Z}$
210e1	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$	162b1	$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/42\mathbb{Z}$
147b1	$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/26\mathbb{Z}$	15a1	$\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$
17a1	$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$	30a2	$\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$
15a2	$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$	2450a1	$\mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z}$
210e2	$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$	14a1	$\mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z}$

Magma [1] scripts to verify these examples, and all other computational results cited herein, are available at [4], including a function to compute  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  for any elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ .

For each of the torsion structures  $T$  in Theorem 1.8 that arises infinitely often we provide a complete set of rational functions that parameterize the  $j$ -invariants of the elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  for which  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  contains a subgroup isomorphic to  $T$  (for the general member of each family, isomorphism holds), and for those that occur only finitely often we provide a complete list of  $j$ -invariants; this information appears in Table 1 at the end of the article.

Key to our results are a number of recent advances in our explicit understanding of Galois representations attached to elliptic curves over number fields. In particular, we rely on work of Rouse and Zureick-Brown [34] classifying the 2-adic representations of elliptic curves over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , work of Zywna [42] on the possible mod- $p$  representations of an elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and algorithms developed by the fourth author [38] for efficiently computing the images of Galois representations of elliptic curves over number fields.

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## 2. NOTATION AND TERMINOLOGY

We fix once and for all an algebraic closure  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  that contains all the algebraic extensions of  $\mathbb{Q}$  that we may consider, including the fields  $\mathbb{Q}(d^\infty)$  and the Galois closure and algebraic closure of every number field. As usual, for an elliptic curve  $E/F$ , we use  $E[n]$  to denote the  $n$ -torsion subgroup of  $E(\overline{F})$ , where  $\overline{F} = \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  when  $F$  is a number field. We recall that  $E[n] \simeq \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ , so long as  $n$  is prime to the characteristic of  $F$ , which holds for all the cases we consider. If  $L/F$  is a field extension, we write  $E(L)[n]$  for the  $n$ -torsion subgroup of  $E(L)$ , and for primes  $p$ , we write  $E(L)(p)$  for the  $p$ -primary component of  $E(L)$ . For any point or set of points  $\mathcal{P}$  in  $E(\overline{F})$ , we write  $F(\mathcal{P})$  for the extension generated by the coordinates of  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $F(x(\mathcal{P}))$  for the extension generated by the  $x$ -coordinates of  $\mathcal{P}$  (we assume  $E$  is given by a Weierstrass equation in  $x$  and  $y$ ).

For an elliptic curve  $E/F$ , an  $n$ -isogeny is a cyclic isogeny  $\varphi: E \rightarrow E'$  of degree  $n$ ; this means  $\ker \varphi$  is a cyclic subgroup of  $E[n]$ , and as all the isogenies we consider are separable, this cyclic group has order  $n$ . The isogenies  $\varphi$  that we consider are also *rational*, meaning that  $\varphi$  is defined over  $F$ ,

equivalently, that  $\ker \varphi$  is *Galois-stable*: the action of  $\text{Gal}(\overline{F}/F)$  on  $E[n]$  given by its action on the coordinates of the points  $P \in E[n]$  permutes  $\ker \varphi \subseteq E[n]$ . To avoid any possible confusion, we will usually state the rationality of  $\varphi$  explicitly. We consider two (separable) isogenies to be distinct only when their kernels are distinct (otherwise they differ only by an isomorphism).

We recall that if  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  is an elliptic curve, then for each positive integer  $n$  the action of the group  $\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$  on the  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $E[n]$  induces a *Galois representation* (continuous homomorphism)

$$\rho_{E,n}: \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(E[n]) \simeq \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}),$$

whose image we view as a subgroup of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$  (determined only up to conjugacy). When  $n = p$  is prime, we may identify  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$  with  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_p)$ . The extension  $\mathbb{Q}(E[n])/\mathbb{Q}$  is Galois, and the homomorphism  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(E[n])/\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$  induced by restriction is injective; thus  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(E[n])/\mathbb{Q})$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$ . This subgroup necessarily contains elements of every possible determinant (each residue class in  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$  contains the norms of infinitely many unramified primes of  $\mathbb{Q}(E[n])/\mathbb{Q}$ ), and an element  $\gamma$  with trace 0 and determinant  $-1$  (corresponding to complex conjugation).<sup>1</sup> We refer the reader to [35] for further background on Galois representations.

We distinguish two standard subgroups of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$  (up to conjugacy): (1) the *Borel* group of upper triangular matrices, and (2) the *split Cartan* group of diagonal matrices. Recall that an elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  admits a rational  $n$ -isogeny if and only if the image of  $\rho_{E,n}$  in  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$  is conjugate to a subgroup of the Borel group (both conditions hold if and only if  $E[n]$  contain a Galois-stable cyclic subgroup of order  $n$ ). Similarly,  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  admits two rational  $n$ -isogenies whose kernels intersect trivially if and only if the image of  $\rho_{E,n}$  in  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$  is conjugate to a subgroup of the split Cartan group.

If  $H$  is a subgroup of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$  with surjective determinant map that contains  $-1$ , we use  $X_H$  to denote the associated modular curve over  $\mathbb{Q}$  whose non-cuspidal rational points parameterize elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  for which the image of  $\rho_{E,n}$  in  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$  is conjugate to a subgroup of  $H$ . Certain information about  $X_H$ , including its genus, can be determined from the congruence subgroup  $\Gamma_H$  of  $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$  obtained by taking the inverse image of the intersection of  $H$  with  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$  in  $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) = \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})/\{\pm 1\}$ . The tables of Cummins and Pauli [3] contain data for all congruence subgroups of genus up to 24 in which subgroups are identified by labels of the form “ $mX^g$ ”, where  $m$  is the level,  $g$  is the genus, and  $X$  is a letter that distinguishes groups of the same level and genus. We note that the level  $m$  of  $\Gamma_H$  divides but need not equal  $n$ , and two non-conjugate  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  may give rise to the same congruence subgroup  $\Gamma_{H_1} = \Gamma_{H_2}$  in  $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ .

### 3. THE FIELD $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$

As noted in the introduction, the field  $\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  is the maximal elementary abelian 2-extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ ; the number fields in  $\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty)$  are precisely those whose Galois group is isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^n$  for some integer  $n \geq 0$ . In this section we similarly characterize the number fields in  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  in terms of their Galois groups.

**Definition 3.1.** *We say that a finite group  $G$  is of **generalized  $S_3$ -type**, if it is isomorphic to a subgroup of a direct product  $S_3 \times \cdots \times S_3$  of symmetric groups of degree 3.*

<sup>1</sup>The element  $\gamma$  also must act trivially on a maximal cyclic subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  corresponding to the real line, an additional constraint that is important when  $n$  is even; see Remark 3.14 in [38].

Recall that a finite group  $G$  is *supersolvable* (or supersoluble) if it has a normal cyclic series; an equivalent criterion is that every maximal subgroup of  $G$  has prime index [10], or that every subgroup of  $G$  is Lagrangian (each subgroup  $H$  contains subgroups of every order dividing  $|H|$ ) [41]. The following lemma characterizes finite groups of generalized  $S_3$ -type.

**Lemma 3.2.** *A finite group  $G$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type if and only if (i)  $G$  is supersolvable, (ii) the exponent of  $G$  divides 6, and (iii) the Sylow subgroups of  $G$  are abelian.*

*Proof.* For the forward implication, properties (i), (ii), and (iii) are all preserved by taking direct products and subgroups (and quotients). Thus to show that every finite group  $G$  of generalized  $S_3$ -type has all three properties, it is enough to note that  $S_3$  does, which is clearly the case.

For the reverse implication, suppose that  $G$  is a finite group with properties (i), (ii), and (iii). Then  $G$  is supersolvable, so it has a cyclic normal series whose successive quotients have non-increasing prime orders (see [33, Thm. 5.4.8], for example), and since  $G$  has abelian Sylow subgroups and exponent dividing 6, we can write this series as

$$1 \triangleleft \langle \sigma_1 \rangle \triangleleft \cdots \triangleleft \langle \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_m \rangle \triangleleft \langle \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_m, \tau_1 \rangle \triangleleft \cdots \triangleleft \langle \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_s, \tau_1, \dots, \tau_n \rangle = G$$

where each  $\sigma_j$  has order 3, each  $\tau_i$  has order 2, the  $\sigma_j$  commute, and so do the  $\tau_i$ . Conjugation by any  $\tau_i$  fixes both  $\langle \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_j \rangle$  and  $\langle \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{j+1} \rangle \simeq \langle \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_j \rangle \times \langle \sigma_{j+1} \rangle$ , and therefore  $\langle \sigma_{j+1} \rangle$ ; it follows that for each  $\tau_i$  and  $\sigma_j$ , either  $\tau_i$  and  $\sigma_j$  commute or  $\tau_i \sigma_j \tau_i^{-1} = \sigma_j^{-1}$ .

If we now consider an  $n \times m$  matrix  $(a_{ij})$  over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  with  $a_{ij} = 1$  if and only if  $\tau_i$  and  $\sigma_j$  do not commute, by row-reducing this matrix so that each column has at most one nonzero entry, we can construct a new basis  $\{\tau'_1, \dots, \tau'_n\}$  for the 2-Sylow subgroup of  $G$  with the property that each  $\sigma_j$  commutes with all but at most one  $\tau'_i$ . We can then write  $G$  in the form

$$(1) \quad G \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^{s_0} \times ((\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^{s_1} \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \times \cdots \times ((\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^{s_n} \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}),$$

where  $s_0$  is the number of zero columns and  $s_i$  is the number of nonzero entries in the  $i$ th row of the reduced matrix (possibly  $s_i = 0$ ). It is then clear from (1) that  $G$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of the product of  $s_0 + \cdots + s_n$  copies of  $S_3$ , hence of generalized  $S_3$ -type.  $\square$

**Example 3.3.** The alternating group  $A_4$ , the cyclic group  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ , and the Burnside group  $B(2, 3)$  (the unique non-abelian group of order 27 and exponent 3) are examples of groups that are not of generalized  $S_3$ -type; each satisfies only two of the three properties required by Lemma 3.2.

**Corollary 3.4.** *The product of two groups of generalized  $S_3$ -type is of generalized  $S_3$ -type, as is every subgroup and every quotient of a group of generalized  $S_3$ -type.*

Our main goal in this section is to show that the groups that arise as Galois groups of number fields in  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  are precisely the groups of generalized  $S_3$ -type. We first address the forward implication.

**Theorem 3.5.** *Let  $L$  be a number field in  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  with Galois closure  $\widehat{L}$ . Then  $\widehat{L} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  and  $\text{Gal}(\widehat{L}/\mathbb{Q})$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type. In particular, the exponent of  $\text{Gal}(\widehat{L}/\mathbb{Q})$  divides 6.*

*Proof.* Every number field  $L$  in  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  lies in a compositum of cubic fields  $F_1 \cdots F_m$ . The compositum of the Galois closures  $\widehat{F}_1 \cdots \widehat{F}_m$  is a Galois extension  $\widehat{F}/\mathbb{Q}$  that contains  $L$ , and therefore  $\widehat{L}$ , and it is a subfield of  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , since we can write each  $\widehat{F}_i = F_{i,1}F_{i,2}F_{i,3}$  as a compositum of cubic fields  $F_{i,j} := \mathbb{Q}(\alpha_j)$  generated by the roots  $\alpha_j$  of an irreducible cubic polynomial defining  $F_i/\mathbb{Q}$ . Each  $G_i := \text{Gal}(\widehat{F}_i)$  is isomorphic to either  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$  or  $S_3$ , both of which are of generalized  $S_3$ -type,



$\text{Gal}(\widehat{F}/\mathbb{Q})$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $G_1 \times \cdots \times G_m$ , hence of generalized  $S_3$ -type, and  $\text{Gal}(\widehat{L}/\mathbb{Q})$  is isomorphic to a quotient of  $\text{Gal}(\widehat{F}/\mathbb{Q})$ , hence also of generalized  $S_3$ -type, by Corollary 3.4.  $\square$

We now prove the converse of Theorem 3.5.

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $L$  be a number field with Galois closure  $\widehat{L}$ , and suppose that  $\text{Gal}(\widehat{L}/\mathbb{Q})$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type. Then  $L \subseteq \widehat{L} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ .*

*Proof.* From the proof of Lemma 3.2, if  $\text{Gal}(\widehat{L}/\mathbb{Q})$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type then, as in (1), we have

$$\text{Gal}(\widehat{L}/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^{s_0} \times ((\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^{s_1} \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \times \cdots \times ((\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^{s_n} \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}).$$

It follows that  $\widehat{L}$  is a compositum of linearly disjoint Galois extensions  $F_0, \dots, F_n$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$  for which

$$\text{Gal}(F_0/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^{s_0} \text{ and } \text{Gal}(F_i/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^{s_i} \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . It suffices to show  $F_i \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  for  $0 \leq i \leq n$ . Note that  $F_0$  is the compositum of cyclic (Galois) cubic extensions of  $\mathbb{Q}$ , so  $F_0 \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ . It remains to show that if  $F/\mathbb{Q}$  is Galois and

$$\text{Gal}(F/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq ((\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^s \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$$

for some  $s \geq 0$ , then  $F \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ . Let  $\text{Gal}(F/\mathbb{Q}) = \langle \{\tau, \sigma_j : 1 \leq j \leq s\} \rangle$ , where  $\tau^2 = \sigma_j^3 = 1$ , and  $\tau\sigma_j\tau^{-1} = \sigma_j^{-1}$ , and put

$$H_{j,k} = \langle \{\sigma_j^k \tau, \sigma_i : 1 \leq i \leq s, i \neq j\} \rangle$$

for  $j = 1, \dots, s$ , and  $k = 0, 1, 2$ . Each  $H_{j,k}$  is a subgroup of  $\text{Gal}(F/\mathbb{Q})$  of order  $2 \cdot 3^{s-1}$ , and if  $K_{j,k}$  is the subfield of  $F$  fixed by  $H_{j,k}$ , then  $[K_{j,k} : \mathbb{Q}] = 3$ . Moreover, the extension  $K_j = K_{j,0}K_{j,1}K_{j,2}$  is Galois over  $\mathbb{Q}$  (because  $\text{Gal}(F/K_j) = \langle \{\sigma_i : 1 \leq i \leq s, i \neq j\} \rangle$  is normal in  $\text{Gal}(F/\mathbb{Q})$ ) with  $\text{Gal}(K_j/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq S_3$ . Since  $F = K_1 \cdots K_s$ , it follows that

$$F = \prod_{j=1}^s K_{j,0}K_{j,1}K_{j,2}$$

is a compositum of cubic fields and therefore lies in  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ .  $\square$

We will appeal to Theorems 3.5 and 3.6 repeatedly in the sections that follow; for the sake of brevity we do not cite them in every case.

We conclude this section by determining the roots of unity  $\zeta_n$  of prime-power order  $n$  that lie in  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ . The possible values of  $n$  are severely constrained by the fact that if  $\zeta_n \in \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , then the exponent of  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$  must divide 6.

**Lemma 3.7.** *Let  $n$  be a prime power. Then  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  if and only if  $n \in \{2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9\}$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ . Then the exponent  $\lambda(n)$  of  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$  divides 6. We have  $\lambda(2^e) = 2^{e-2}$  and  $\lambda(p^e) = \varphi(p^e) = (p-1)p^{e-1}$  for primes  $p > 2$ . It follows that  $\lambda(n)$  divides 6 only for  $n \in \{2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9\}$ . The group  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$  is abelian, hence it is supersolvable and has abelian Sylow subgroups. Lemma 3.2 and Theorem 3.6 imply  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  for  $n \in \{2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9\}$ .  $\square$

## 4. FINITENESS RESULTS

Our goal in this section is to prove that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is finite. The only property of  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  that we actually require is that it is a Galois extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  that contains only a finite number of roots of unity, a property that applies to all the fields  $\mathbb{Q}(d^\infty)$ . We thus work in a more general setting.

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve and let  $F$  be a (possibly infinite) Galois extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  that contains only finitely many roots of unity. Then  $E(F)_{\text{tors}}$  is finite. Moreover, there is a uniform bound  $B$ , depending only on  $F$ , such that  $\#E(F)_{\text{tors}} \leq B$  for every elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ .*

Before proving the theorem we first establish some intermediate results. We begin with the usual consequence of the existence of the Weil pairing.

**Proposition 4.2.** [36, Ch. III, Cor. 8.1.1] *Let  $E/L$  be an elliptic curve with  $L \subseteq \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ . For each integer  $n \geq 1$ , if  $E[n] \subseteq E(L)$  then the  $n$ th cyclotomic field  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)$  is a subfield of  $L$ .*

This immediately implies the following result.

**Lemma 4.3.** *Let  $E$  and  $F$  be as in Theorem 4.1. Then  $E[n] \subseteq E(F)$  for only finitely many  $n$ .*

The following theorem summarizes results of Mazur and Kenku that yield a complete classification of the rational  $n$ -isogenies that can arise for elliptic curves over  $\mathbb{Q}$  (recall that  $n$ -isogenies are defined to be cyclic). See [22, §9] for further details.

**Theorem 4.4.** [25, 15, 16, 17, 18] *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve with a rational  $n$ -isogeny. Then  $n \leq 19$  or  $n \in \{21, 25, 27, 37, 43, 67, 163\}$ .*

Theorem 4.4 limits the primes  $p$  for which  $E(F)[p]$  can be cyclic.

**Lemma 4.5.** *Let  $E$  and  $F$  be as in Theorem 4.1. If  $E(F)[p]$  has order  $p$  then  $p \leq 163$ .*

*Proof.* The group  $H = E(F)[p]$  is stable under the action of  $\text{Gal}(F/\mathbb{Q})$ , hence Galois-stable. If  $|H| = p$ , then  $H$  is the kernel of a rational  $p$ -isogeny and  $p \leq 163$ , by Theorem 4.4.  $\square$

Lemmas 4.3 and 4.5 together imply that for any elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ , the  $p$ -torsion subgroup of  $E(F)$  is trivial for all but finitely many primes  $p$ , and  $E[p^k] \subseteq E(F)$  for only finitely many prime powers  $p^k$ . It remains only to check that the cyclic prime-power torsion of  $E(F)$  is finite.

**Lemma 4.6.** *Let  $E$  and  $F$  be as in Theorem 4.1, let  $p$  be a prime, and let  $k$  be the largest integer for which  $E[p^k] \subseteq E(F)$ . If  $E(F)_{\text{tors}}$  contains a subgroup isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/p^k\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/p^j\mathbb{Z}$  with  $j \geq k$ , then  $E$  admits a rational  $p^{j-k}$ -isogeny. Moreover,  $j - k \leq 4, 3, 2$ , if  $p = 2, 3, 5$ , respectively,  $j - k \leq 1$  if  $p = 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 43, 67, 163$ , and  $j = k$  otherwise.*

*Proof.* Let  $Q \in E(F)$  be a point of order  $p^j$ , and choose  $P \in E[p^j]$  so that  $\{P, Q\}$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}/p^j\mathbb{Z}$ -basis for  $E[p^j]$ . If  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$ , then  $\sigma(Q) \in E(F)$ , because  $F$  is Galois, and  $\sigma(Q)$  is a point of order  $p^j$ . Thus  $\sigma(Q) \in E[p^j]$ , so  $\sigma(Q) = aP + bQ$  for some integers  $a$  and  $b$ .

We claim that  $a \equiv 0 \pmod{p^{j-k}}$ . Indeed, the equality  $\sigma(Q) = aP + bQ$  implies that

$$aP = \sigma(Q) - bQ \in E(F),$$

and if  $t$  is the  $p$ -adic valuation of  $a$ , then  $aP \in E[p^{j-t}]$  and  $\{aP, p^tQ\} \subseteq E(F)$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}/p^{j-t}\mathbb{Z}$ -basis for  $E[p^{j-t}]$ . By the definition of  $k$ , we must have  $j - t \leq k$ , so  $j - k \leq t$ . Thus  $a \equiv 0 \pmod{p^{j-k}}$ , as claimed, and we may write  $a = a'p^{j-k}$  for some integer  $a'$ .



Let  $Q_{j-k} := p^k Q \in E(F)$ . We claim that  $\langle Q_{j-k} \rangle$  is  $\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$ -stable. Indeed, we have

$$\sigma(Q_{j-k}) = \sigma(p^k Q) = p^k \sigma(Q) = p^k (aP + bQ) = p^k (a'p^{j-k}P + bQ) = a'p^j P + bp^k Q = bQ_{j-k},$$

for any  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$ . Thus  $\langle Q_{j-k} \rangle$  is a Galois-stable cyclic subgroup of  $E(F)$  of order  $p^{j-k}$ , and  $E \rightarrow E/\langle Q_{j-k} \rangle$  is a rational  $p^{j-k}$ -isogeny. The bounds on  $j - k$  then follow from Theorem 4.4.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 4.1.* To show that  $E(F)_{\text{tors}}$  is finite, it suffices to show that (1)  $E(F)_{\text{tors}}$  has a non-trivial  $p$ -primary component for only finitely many primes  $p$ , and (2) for each of these primes  $p$ , the  $p$ -primary component of  $E(F)_{\text{tors}}$  is finite.

- (1) Let  $n$  be the maximum of 163 and the largest order of a root of unity in  $F$ , and let  $p > n$  be prime. Then  $E[p] \not\subseteq E(F)$ , by Lemma 4.3, so if the  $p$ -primary component of  $E(F)_{\text{tors}}$  is non-trivial, it must be cyclic, and in this case Lemma 4.5 implies that  $p \leq 163 \leq n$ , which is a contradiction. So the  $p$ -primary part of  $E(F)_{\text{tors}}$  is trivial for all  $p > n$ .
- (2) Let  $p \leq n$  be prime and let  $k$  be the largest integer for which  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{p^k}) \subseteq F$ . It follows from Lemma 4.6 that the cardinality of the  $p$ -primary part of  $E(F)_{\text{tors}}$  is bounded by  $p^{2k+4}$ .

The integer  $n$  and the maximum value of  $k$  over primes  $p \leq n$  depend only on  $F$ , as does the bound on  $E(F)_{\text{tors}}$ . This concludes the proof of Theorem 4.1.  $\square$

Lemma 3.7 allows us to apply Theorem 4.1 with  $F = \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ ; more generally, we have the following proposition.

**Proposition 4.7.** *For every  $d \geq 2$  the cardinality of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(d^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is finite and uniformly bounded as  $E$  varies over elliptic curves over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .*

*Proof.* It follows from [9, Prop. 10] that for any finite Galois extension  $K/\mathbb{Q}$  in  $\mathbb{Q}(d^\infty)$ , the exponent of  $\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$  is bounded. Indeed,  $K$  is a subfield of a compositum of degree- $d$  fields, and  $\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$  is isomorphic to a quotient of a subgroup of a direct product of transitive groups of degree  $d$ , each of which has exponent dividing the exponent  $\lambda(S_d)$  of the symmetric group  $S_d$ . For all sufficient large prime powers  $p^k$ , the exponent  $\lambda(p^k) \geq p^k/4$  of  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{p^k})/\mathbb{Q})$  is larger than  $\lambda(S_d)$ , implying that  $\zeta_{p^k} \notin \mathbb{Q}(d^\infty)$ . The proposition then follows from Theorem 4.1.  $\square$

We now make this result more precise in the case  $d = 3$  by determining the primes  $p$  for which  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(p)$  can be non-trivial. We first note the following lemma.

**Lemma 4.8.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve that admits a rational  $n$ -isogeny  $\varphi$ , and let  $P \in E[n]$  be a point of order  $n$  in the kernel of  $\varphi$ . The field extension  $\mathbb{Q}(P)/\mathbb{Q}$  generated by the coordinates of  $P$  is Galois and  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(P)/\mathbb{Q})$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$ . In particular, if  $n$  is prime then  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(P)/\mathbb{Q})$  is cyclic and its order divides  $n - 1$ .*

*Proof.* The fact that  $\varphi$  is rational implies that  $\langle P \rangle$  is a Galois-stable subgroup of  $E[n]$ . It follows that  $\mathbb{Q}(P)/\mathbb{Q}$  is Galois: every Galois conjugate of a coordinate of  $P$  is necessarily a coordinate of some  $aP \in \langle P \rangle$ , all of which lie in  $\mathbb{Q}(P)$  because  $E$  (and therefore the group law on  $E$ ) is defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . The homomorphism  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(P)/\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$  given by  $\sigma \mapsto a$ , where  $\sigma(P) = aP$ , is injective, since if  $\sigma(P) = \tau(P)$  then  $\sigma\tau^{-1}(P) = P$ , and this implies  $\sigma\tau^{-1} = 1$  fixes  $\mathbb{Q}(P)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.9.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve, and let  $p$  be a prime dividing the cardinality of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$ . Then  $p \in \{2, 3, 5, 7, 13\}$ .*

*Proof.* For primes  $p \geq 11$ , Lemma 3.7 implies that  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  does not contain a primitive  $p$ th root of unity, and therefore  $E[p] \not\subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , by Proposition 4.2. If  $p > 17$  with  $p \neq 37, 43, 67, 163$ , then Lemma 4.6 implies that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[p]$  is trivial.

For the primes  $p = 11, 17, 37, 43, 67$ , and  $163$ , if the  $p$ -primary part  $H$  of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is not trivial then it must be cyclic of order  $p$ , in which case  $E$  admits a rational  $p$ -isogeny with a point  $P \in E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[p]$  of order  $p$  in its kernel. By Lemma 4.8, the group  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(P)/\mathbb{Q})$  is cyclic, and it follows from Theorems 6.2 and 9.4 of [22] that its order is at least  $(p-1)/2$  for  $p \neq 37$ , and at least  $(p-1)/3 = 12$  for  $p = 37$ . In each case, the exponent of  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(P)/\mathbb{Q})$  cannot divide 6, and therefore  $\mathbb{Q}(P) \not\subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , by Theorem 3.5. But this contradicts  $P \in E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$ , so in fact  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[p]$  must be trivial for all  $p \geq 11$  except possibly  $p = 13$ . The proposition follows.  $\square$

As can be seen by the examples in Remark 1.9, all the values of  $p$  permitted by Proposition 4.9 actually do arise for some  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ . Lemmas 3.7 and 4.6 imply explicit bounds on the prime powers  $p^k$  that can divide  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  (namely,  $k \leq 10, 7, 2, 3, 1$  for  $p = 2, 3, 5, 7, 13$ , respectively), but as we will show in the next section, these bounds are not tight.

## 5. MAXIMAL $p$ -PRIMARY COMPONENTS OF $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$

In this section we obtain sharp bounds on the  $p$ -primary components of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  for elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ . We will prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 5.1.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of*

$$T_{\max} := (\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}) \oplus \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z}) \oplus \mathbb{Z}/13\mathbb{Z},$$

and  $T_{\max}$  is the smallest group with this property.

In order to prove the theorem it suffices to address the  $p$ -primary components  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(p)$  for each of the primes  $p = 2, 3, 5, 7, 13$  permitted by Proposition 4.9. We first prove two preliminary results that will be used in the subsections that follow. We recall that the  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism class of an elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  may be identified with its  $j$ -invariant  $j(E)$ .

**Proposition 5.2.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve with  $j(E) \neq 1728$ . The isomorphism type of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  depends only on the  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism class of  $E$ , equivalently, only on  $j(E)$ .*

*Proof.* Recall that for  $j(E) \neq 0, 1728$ , if  $j(E') = j(E)$  for some  $E'/\mathbb{Q}$  then  $E'$  is a quadratic twist of  $E$ , hence isomorphic to  $E$  over an extension of degree at most 2. If  $j(E) = 0$  and  $j(E') = j(E)$ , then  $E'/\mathbb{Q}$  is isomorphic to  $E$  over a cyclic extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  of order dividing 6 (see §X.5 of [36], for example). Thus for  $j(E) = j(E') \neq 0$ , the elliptic curves  $E$  and  $E'$  are isomorphic over a field of generalized  $S_3$ -type, hence their base changes to  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  are isomorphic and  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq E'(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$ .  $\square$

**Remark 5.3.** When  $j(E) = 1728$  there are two possibilities: either  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  or  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ . These are realized by the elliptic curves 256b1 and 32a1, respectively.

**Lemma 5.4.** *Let  $p$  and  $q$  be distinct primes, let  $K_2/K_1$  be a finite Galois extension of number fields with  $[K_2 : K_1]$  a power of  $q$ , and let  $E$  be an elliptic curve defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .*

- (1) *If  $E(K_1)[p] = E(K_2)[p]$ , then  $E(K_1)(p) = E(K_2)(p)$ , that is, if the  $p$ -torsion of  $E$  does not grow when we move from  $K_1$  to  $K_2$ , then neither does the  $p$ -primary torsion.*
- (2) *Let  $\mathcal{P} = E(K_2)[p]$ . Then  $E(K_1(\mathcal{P}))(p) = E(K_2)(p)$ , that is, the  $p$ -primary torsion of  $E(K_2)$  stabilizes over the extension of  $K_1$  generated by the the  $p$ -torsion of  $E(K_2)$ .*

*Proof.* We first note that (2) is implied by (1), since  $K_1(\mathcal{P})$  has all the properties required of  $K_1$  (indeed,  $K_1 \subseteq K_1(\mathcal{P}) \subseteq K_2$ , so  $K_2/K_1(\mathcal{P})$  and  $[K_2 : K_1(\mathcal{P})]$  divides  $[K_2 : K_1]$ , so it is a power of  $q$ ).

To prove (1), we assume  $E(K_1)[p] = E(K_2)[p]$ ; (1) clearly holds when this group is trivial, we assume otherwise. We now suppose for the sake of contradiction that  $E(K_1)(p)$  is properly contained in  $E(K_2)(p)$ . Then there exists a point  $Q \in E(K_2)(p)$  for which  $P = pQ$  is a nonzero point in  $E(K_1)(p)$ , say of order  $p^k$  for some  $k \geq 1$ . Then  $R = p^{k-1}P$  is a nonzero element of  $E(K_1)[p] \subseteq E[p]$ , and we may choose  $S \in E[p]$  so that  $\{R, S\}$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -basis for  $E[p]$ .

The multiplication-by- $p$  map is a separable endomorphism of degree  $p^2$ , so there are  $p^2$  distinct preimages of  $P$  under multiplication by  $p$  (including  $Q$ ); these are precisely the points in the set

$$\mathcal{Q} := [p]^{-1}(P) = \{Q + aR + bS : 0 \leq a, b < p\}.$$

Put  $\mathcal{Q}_1 := \mathcal{Q} \cap E(K_1)$  and  $\mathcal{Q}_2 := \mathcal{Q} \cap E(K_2)$ . Of the  $p^2$  points in  $\mathcal{Q}$ , at least  $p$  lie in  $E(K_2)$ , namely, the points  $Q + aR$  (since  $Q, R \in E(K_2)$ ), so  $\mathcal{Q}_2$  has cardinality at least  $p$ . If its cardinality is greater than  $p$ , then  $Q + aR + bS \in E(K_2)$  for some  $b \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ , which implies  $bS \in E(K_2)$ , and therefore  $S \in E(K_2)$ , since  $b$  is invertible modulo  $p$  and  $S$  has order  $p$ . Thus the cardinality of  $\mathcal{Q}_2$  is either  $p^2$  or  $p$ , depending on whether  $E(K_2)[p] = E[p]$  or not.

We claim that  $\mathcal{Q}_1$  is empty. For the sake of contradiction, suppose  $Q + aR + bS \in \mathcal{Q}_1 \subseteq E(K_1)$ . We then have  $Q + bS \in E(K_1)$ , since  $R \in E(K_1)$ , and since  $Q \notin E(K_1)$  by assumption, we must have  $b \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . This implies  $S \in E(K_2)$ , since  $Q, Q + bS \in E(K_2)$ . But then  $S \in E(K_2)[p] = E(K_1)[p]$ , so  $S \in E(K_1)$ , which contradicts  $Q \notin E(K_1)$ , since  $Q + bS \in E(K_1)$ .

The Galois group  $\text{Gal}(K_2/K_1)$  acts on the set  $\mathcal{Q}$ , since it is the solution set of  $pX = P$ , which is stable under  $\text{Gal}(K_2/K_1)$  because  $P \in E(K_1)$ . The fact that  $\mathcal{Q}_1$  is empty implies that this action has no fixed points. By the orbit-stabilizer theorem, the size of each orbit divides  $|\text{Gal}(K_2/K_1)|$ , a power of the prime  $q$ , and since no orbit is trivial, the size of each orbit is divisible by  $q$ . It follows that the cardinality  $p^2$  of  $\mathcal{Q}$  is divisible by  $q$ , which is a contradiction, since  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct primes. Thus our supposition that  $E(K_1)(p) \neq E(K_2)(p)$  must be false, which proves (1).  $\square$

**5.1. Primes without the possibility of full  $p$ -torsion ( $p = 5, 13$ ).** We start with the primes  $p$  for which  $E[p] \not\subseteq E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$ , namely,  $p = 5, 13$ . In these cases  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(p)$  is necessarily cyclic.

**Lemma 5.5.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(5)$  is either trivial or isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$ ; the latter holds if and only if  $E$  admits a rational 5-isogeny whose kernel generates an extension of degree at most 2.*

*Proof.* It follows from Lemma 3.7 and Proposition 4.2 that  $E[5] \not\subseteq E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$ , thus  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(5)$  is cyclic of order  $5^j$  for some  $j \geq 0$ . Lemma 4.6 implies,  $j \leq 2$ ; we will show that in fact  $j \leq 1$ . Suppose for the sake of contradiction that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  contains a point  $P$  of order 25. Let  $K := \mathbb{Q}(P) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , let  $K_2 \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  be the Galois closure of  $K$ , and let  $K_1 := K_2 \cap \mathbb{Q}(2^\infty)$ . Then  $[K_2 : K_1]$  is a power of 3, since  $\text{Gal}(K_2/\mathbb{Q})$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type and  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)/\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty)$  is elementary 3-abelian. Theorem 1.7 then implies that  $E(K_1)(5) \subseteq E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))(5)$  is either trivial or isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$ .

Suppose first that  $E(K_1)(5)$  is trivial. The point  $P_1 = 5P \in E(K_2)$  has order 5, but  $E[5] \not\subseteq E(K_2)$ , since  $K_2 \subseteq E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$ , so  $\langle P_1 \rangle \subseteq E(K_2)$  is Galois-stable and therefore the kernel of a rational 5-isogeny. This implies that  $G := \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(P_1)/\mathbb{Q})$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})^\times$ , by Lemma 4.8. The group  $G$  cannot have order 4, because it is the Galois group of a number field in  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  and must have exponent dividing 6, by Theorem 3.5. On the other hand,  $G$  cannot have order 1 or 2, because then  $P_1$  would be defined over a quadratic extension, and therefore over  $K_1 = K_2 \cap \mathbb{Q}(2^\infty)$ , contradicting our assumption that  $E(K_1)(5)$  is trivial.

We therefore must have  $E(K_1)(5) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$ , in which case  $E(K_1)[5] = E(K_2)[5] \simeq \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$ , and we may apply Lemma 5.4 with  $p = 5$  and  $q = 3$ . But then  $E(K_1)(5) = E(K_2)(5)$ , which contradicts our assumption that  $E(K_2)$  contains a point of order 25. So  $j \leq 1$  as claimed and  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(5)$  is either trivial or isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$ . In the latter case  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(5)$  is a Galois-stable cyclic subgroup of order 5 that is the kernel of a rational 5-isogeny. It follows from Lemma 4.8 that this kernel generates a cyclic extension  $K/\mathbb{Q}$  whose degree divides 4, and in fact it must have degree 2, since  $K \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  implies that the exponent of  $\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$  divides 6. Conversely, if  $E$  admits a rational 5-isogeny whose kernel generates an extension  $K/\mathbb{Q}$  of degree at most 2, then  $K \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , by Theorem 3.6, in which case  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(5) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$ .  $\square$

**Example 5.6.** Any elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  with a rational point of order 5 has  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(5) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$ ; the curve 11a1 is an example. Another example is the curve 50a3, which has trivial rational 5-torsion but admits a rational 5-isogeny whose kernel generates an extension of degree 2.

**Lemma 5.7.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. Then,  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(13)$  is either trivial or isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/13\mathbb{Z}$ ; the latter holds if and only if  $E$  admits a rational 13-isogeny whose kernel generates an extension of degree dividing 6.*

*Proof.* It follows from Lemma 3.7 and Proposition 4.2 that  $E[13] \not\subseteq E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$ , thus  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  is cyclic of order  $13^j$  for some  $j \geq 0$ , and Lemma 4.6 implies  $j \leq 1$ . The last statement follows from Lemma 4.8: the kernel of a 13-isogeny admitted by  $E$  generates a cyclic extension  $K/\mathbb{Q}$  of degree dividing 12, and then  $K \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  if and only if  $[K : \mathbb{Q}]$  divides 6, by Theorems 3.5 and 3.6.  $\square$

**Example 5.8.** The curve 147b1 has  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/13\mathbb{Z}$ ; its 13-division polynomial has a cubic factor, so it has a point of order 13 over an extension whose degree divides 6 (in fact, 3).

**5.2. Primes with the possibility of full  $p$ -torsion ( $p = 2, 3, 7$ ).** We now consider the primes  $p = 2, 3, 7$  for which  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  contains a primitive  $p$ th root of unity (so  $E[p] \subseteq E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  is not immediately ruled out by the Weil pairing). In this subsection we address  $p = 2, 7$ ; the case  $p = 3$  is addressed in the next subsection.

**Lemma 5.9.** *If  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  is an elliptic curve, then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[2] = E[2] \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ .*

*Proof.* If we put  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  in the form  $y^2 = f(x)$  with  $f(x)$  cubic, the non-trivial points in  $E[2]$  are precisely the points of the form  $(\alpha, 0)$  with  $\alpha$  a root of  $f$ , all of which lie in  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 5.10.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. If  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2]$  is non-trivial then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(2)$  is equal to  $E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))(2)$ ; otherwise  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(2)$  is equal to  $E[2]$  or  $E[4]$  and  $E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))(2)$  is trivial. In either case,  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$  or  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$ .*

*Proof.* We first suppose that  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2]$  is non-trivial. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))[2]$  is also non-trivial, and therefore  $E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))[2] = E[2]$ , by Theorem 1.7. Lemma 5.4 then implies that the 2-primary torsion cannot grow in any 3-power Galois extension of  $\mathbb{Q}(E[2])$ . Since  $\mathbb{Q}(E[2]) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(2^\infty) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , we must have  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(2) = E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))(2)$ , and Theorem 1.7 then implies that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(2)$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$  or  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$ .

We now suppose that  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2]$  is trivial. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))(2)$  is also trivial: if  $E: y^2 = f(x)$  has no rational points of order 2 then the cubic  $f$  must be irreducible, in which case every point of order 2 generates a field of degree 3. We also note that  $E$  cannot admit a rational 2-isogeny, since the unique point of order 2 in the kernel of such an isogeny would be Galois-stable, hence rational. Thus  $E$  does not admit a rational  $2^j$ -isogeny for any  $j > 0$ ; Lemma 4.6 then implies

$E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(2) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2^k\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2^k\mathbb{Z}$  for some  $k \geq 0$ , and Proposition 4.2 and Lemma 3.7 imply  $k \leq 3$ . To show  $k < 3$ , we note that an enumeration (in Magma) of the subgroups  $G$  of  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z})$  with surjective determinant maps finds that whenever  $G$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type, it is actually elementary 2-abelian. This implies that if  $\mathbb{Q}(E[8]) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  then in fact  $\mathbb{Q}(E[8]) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(2^\infty)$ , but we have assumed that  $E(\mathbb{Q}[2])$  is trivial, hence  $E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))(2)$  is trivial, so this cannot occur.  $\square$

**Example 5.11.** The elliptic curves 15a1 and 210e2 realize the maximal possibilities  $\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$ , respectively, for  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(2)$ .

Before addressing the 7-primary component of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$ , we prove a lemma that relates the degree of the  $p$ -torsion field  $\mathbb{Q}(E[p])$  of  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  to the number of rational  $p$ -isogenies admitted by  $E$  (we consider two isogenies to be distinct only if their kernels are distinct).

**Lemma 5.12.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve and let  $p > 2$  be a prime for which  $E$  admits a rational  $p$ -isogeny. Then  $[\mathbb{Q}(E[p]) : \mathbb{Q}]$  is relatively prime to  $p$  if and only if  $E$  admits two rational  $p$ -isogenies (with distinct kernels). For  $p > 5$  this implies that  $p$  divides  $[\mathbb{Q}(E[p]) : \mathbb{Q}]$ .*

*Proof.* The hypothesis implies that the image of  $\rho_{E,p}$  is conjugate to a subgroup  $B$  of the Borel group in  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ . Lemma 2.2 of [23] implies that  $B = B_d B_1$  where

$$B_1 := B \cap \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} : b \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z} \right\}, \text{ and } B_d := B \cap \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} : a, c \in (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^\times \right\}.$$

Thus the order of  $B \simeq \mathrm{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(E[p])/\mathbb{Q})$  is relatively prime to  $p$  if and only if  $B_1$  is trivial, equivalently,  $B = B_d$  is a subgroup of the split Cartan group, in which case  $E$  admits two rational  $p$ -isogenies with distinct kernels. However, as proved in [14], this can only occur for  $p \leq 5$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 5.13.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(7)$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z}$ . The case  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(7) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z}$  occurs if and only if  $j(E) = 2268945/128$ , and the case  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(7) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z}$  occurs if and only if  $E$  admits a rational 7-isogeny, equivalently,*

$$j(E) = \frac{(t^2 + 13t + 49)(t^2 + 5t + 1)}{t},$$

for some  $t \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$ .

*Proof.* Lemma 3.7 and Proposition 4.2 imply that  $E[49] \not\subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , and Lemma 4.6 then implies that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(7) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/7^k\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/7^j\mathbb{Z}$  with  $k \leq 1$ , and  $k \leq j \leq k + 1$ .

If  $j > k$  then Lemma 4.6 implies that  $E$  admits a rational 7-isogeny, and Lemma 5.12 then implies that  $[\mathbb{Q}(E[7]) : \mathbb{Q}]$  is divisible by 7. The exponent of  $\mathrm{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(E[7])/\mathbb{Q})$  is therefore not divisible by 6, so  $\mathbb{Q}(E[7]) \not\subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , therefore  $k = 0$ ,  $j = 1$ , and  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z}$ . This also rules out the case  $k = 1$  and  $j = 2$ , which proves the first statement in the theorem.

If  $j = k$  then we claim that  $E$  cannot admit a rational 7-isogeny. Indeed, if  $E$  admits a rational 7-isogeny and  $P$  is a non-trivial point in its kernel, then Lemma 4.8 implies that  $\mathrm{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(P)/\mathbb{Q})$  is cyclic of order dividing 6, hence of generalized  $S_3$ -type, so  $\mathbb{Q}(P) \in \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , by Theorem 3.6. But then we must have  $j = k = 1$ , so  $\mathbb{Q}(E[7]) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , but then Lemma 5.12 implies that 7 divides  $[\mathbb{Q}(E[7]) : \mathbb{Q}]$ , which contradicts  $\mathbb{Q}(E[7]) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ . Thus  $k = 0, j = 1$  if and only if  $E$  admits a rational 7-isogeny, equivalently,  $j(E)$  lies in the image of the map from  $X_0(7)$  to the  $j$ -line that appears in the statement of the lemma and can be found in [22, Table 3], for example.

If  $j = k = 1$  then  $\mathbb{Q}(E[p]) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , so  $\mathrm{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(E[p])/\mathbb{Q})$  has exponent dividing 6, by Theorem 3.5. This implies that for every prime  $p \neq 7$  of good reduction for  $E$ , the elliptic curve  $E_p/\mathbb{F}_p$



obtained by reducing  $E$  modulo  $p$  has its 7-torsion defined over an  $\mathbb{F}_p$ -extension of degree dividing 6, and in particular, admits an  $\mathbb{F}_p$ -rational 7-isogeny (two in fact). Thus  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  admits a rational 7-isogeny locally everywhere but not globally, and as proved in [37], this implies  $j(E) = 2268945/128$ . Conversely, as also proved in [37], for every elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  with this  $j$ -invariant the group  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(E[7])/\mathbb{Q})$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_7)$  with surjective determinant map whose image in  $\text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{F}_7)$  is isomorphic to  $S_3$ ; up to conjugacy there are exactly two such groups (labeled 7NS.2.1 and 7NS.3.1 in [38]), and both are of generalized  $S_3$ -type. Thus every elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  with  $j(E) = 2268945/128$  has  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(7) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z}$ .

Otherwise,  $j = k = 0$  and  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(7)$  is trivial; the lemma follows.  $\square$

**Example 5.14.** The curve [2450a1](#) has  $j$ -invariant  $2268945/128$  and is thus an example of an elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  for which  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(7) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Corollary 5.15.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z}$  if and only if  $j(E) = 2268945/128$ .*

*Proof.* The forward implication is an immediate consequence of Lemmas 5.9 and 5.13. A direct computation of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(p)$  for  $p = 2, 3, 5, 7, 13$  for the elliptic curve [2450a1](#) in Example 5.14 finds that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} = E[14]$  for this particular  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  with  $j(E) = 2268945/128$ , hence for every  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  with the same  $j$ -invariant, by Proposition 5.2.  $\square$

### 5.3. The 3-primary component of $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$ .

**Lemma 5.16.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[3] = E[3]$  if and only if  $E$  admits a rational 3-isogeny, and  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(3)$  is trivial otherwise.*

*Proof.* An enumeration of the subgroups  $G$  of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})$  finds that  $G$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type if and only if it is conjugate to a subgroup of the Borel group; this implies the first part of the lemma, since  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[3] = E[3]$  if and only if  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(E[3])/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq \text{im } \rho_{E,3} \subseteq \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type. If  $\mathbb{Q}(E[3]) \not\subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , then Lemma 4.6 implies that if  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(3)$  is non-trivial then  $E$  admits a rational 3-isogeny, but this cannot occur, so  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(3)$  is trivial.  $\square$

**Lemma 5.17.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  does not contain a subgroup isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z}$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose for the sake of contradiction that there is an elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  for which  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  contains a subgroup isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z}$ . Then the image  $G := \text{im } \rho_{E,27} \subseteq \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z})$  of the mod-27 Galois representation attached to  $E$  satisfies the following properties:

- (i)  $G$  has a surjective determinant map and an element with trace 0 and determinant  $-1$ ;
- (ii)  $G$  contains a normal subgroup  $N$  that acts trivially on a  $\mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z}$ -submodule of  $\mathbb{Z}/27 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/27$  isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z}$  for which  $G/N$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type.

As noted in §2, the first condition is required by  $\rho_{E,n}$  for any elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ . The second requirement reflects the fact that  $\mathbb{Q}(E[27])$  contains the Galois extension  $\mathbb{Q}(E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[27])/\mathbb{Q}$  whose Galois group is a quotient  $G/N$  of  $G$  and for which the Galois group  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(E[27])/\mathbb{Q}(E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[27])) \simeq N$  acts trivially on a subgroup of  $E[27]$  isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z}$ .

An enumeration in Magma of the subgroups of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z})$  finds that every such  $G$  is conjugate to a subgroup of the full inverse image of

$$H := \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle \subseteq \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$$



in  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z})$ . Taking the intersection of  $H$  with  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$  shows that  $H$  corresponds to the congruence subgroup labeled  $9H^1$  in the tables of Cummins and Pauli [3]. The modular curve  $X_H$  of level 9 and genus 1 is defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and has 3 rational cusps (the number of rational cusps can be determined via [43, Lemma 3.4], for example). The group  $H$  is equal to the intersection  $H_1 \cap H_2$  of two subgroups of  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$  whose intersection with  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$  gives the congruence subgroups  $9I^0$  and  $9J^0$ . Explicit rational parameterizations for the genus zero modular curves  $X_{H_1}$  and  $X_{H_2}$  appear in [39]; these curves both admit rational maps to  $X_0(3)$ , allowing us to explicitly construct a rational model for  $X_H$  as the fiber product of these maps over  $X_0(3)$ . This model is isomorphic to the elliptic curve  $27a3$ , which has just 3 rational points, which is equal to the number of rational cusps on  $X_H$ , so there are no non-cuspidal rational points. It follows that for every elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ , the image of  $\rho_{E,27}$  is not conjugate to a subgroup of  $H$ , which is our desired contradiction.  $\square$

**Proposition 5.18.** *If  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  is an elliptic curve, then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  does not have a point of order 27.*

*Proof.* Suppose for the sake of obtaining a contradiction that  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  is an elliptic curve with a point of order 27 defined over  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ . By Lemmas 5.16 and 5.17, we must have  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(3) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z}$ . We now proceed as in the proof of Lemma 5.17, and consider the subgroups  $G$  of  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z})$  that may arise as the image of the mod-27 Galois image  $\mathrm{im} \rho_{E,27}$ , except in (ii) we now only require the normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$  for which  $G/N$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type to act trivially on a submodule isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z}$ . We find that every such  $G$  is conjugate to a subgroup of one of three subgroups  $H_1, H_2, H_3 \subseteq \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z})$  whose intersection with  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z})$  yields the congruence subgroups with Cummins-Pauli labels  $27C^1$ ,  $27B^4$ ,  $27A^4$ , respectively. We now show that no elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  can have  $\mathrm{im} \rho_{E,27}$  conjugate to a subgroup of any of the groups  $H_1, H_2, H_3$ , which is our desired contradiction.

The group  $H_1$  lies in the Borel subgroup of upper triangular matrices in  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z})$ , so if  $\mathrm{im} \rho_{E,27}$  is conjugate to a subgroup of  $H_1$  then  $E$  admits a rational 27-isogeny. From [22, Table 4] we see that there is just one  $\mathbb{Q}$ -isomorphism class of elliptic curves that admit a rational 27-isogeny, represented by the curve  $27a2$ . None of the four curves in its isogeny class  $27a$  have  $j$ -invariant 1728, so by Proposition 5.2, it is enough to check whether  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  contains a point of order 27 for each of the four curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  in isogeny class  $27a$ ; a direct computation finds that none do.

The group  $H_2$  is conjugate to a subgroup of

$$H_4 := \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 9 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle \subseteq \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z}),$$

whose intersection with  $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z})$  is conjugate to  $27A^2$ . Using the methods of [34], Rouse and Zureick-Brown have computed a model for the corresponding modular curve  $X_{H_4}$  of genus 2, which has two rational cusps:

$$X_{H_4} : y^2 = x^6 - 18x^3 - 27.$$

A 2-descent on the Jacobian of this curve shows that it has rank zero, so the rational points on  $X_{H_4}$  can be easily determined via Chabauty's method (using the `Chabauty0` function in Magma, for example). The only points in  $X_{H_4}(\mathbb{Q})$  are the 2 points at infinity, both of which must be cusps. This rules out the possibility that  $\mathrm{im} \rho_{E,27}$  is conjugate to a subgroup of  $H_2 \subseteq H_4$ .

This leaves only the group

$$H_3 := \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 9 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle \subseteq \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/27\mathbb{Z}).$$

Using the results of [39], a singular model for the modular curve  $X_{H_3}$  can be explicitly constructed as the fiber product over  $X_0(9)$  of two genus zero curves with maps  $t^3$  and  $(t^3 - 6t^2 + 3t + 1)/(t^2 - t)$  to  $X_0(9)$  (the corresponding congruence subgroups are  $27A^0$  and  $9I^0$ , respectively). This yields the genus 4 curve

$$X_{H_3} : x^3y^2 - x^3y - y^3 + 6y^2 - 3y = 1.$$

which has two rational points at infinity (both singular).

Over  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_3)$  the automorphism group of  $X_{H_3}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ , and with a suitable choice of basis for  $\text{Aut}(X_{H_3})$  the two cyclic factors yield two distinct genus 2 quotients, corresponding to the curve

$$C : y^2 = x^6 - 18\zeta_3x^3 - 27\zeta_3^2$$

and its complex conjugate  $\overline{C}$ . The curve  $C$  is isomorphic to  $X_{H_4}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_9)$ , consistent with the fact that the restriction of  $H_3$  to elements with determinant 1 mod 9 is a subgroup of  $H_4$ . A calculation by Jackson Morrow (see [4] for details) shows that the Jacobian of  $C$  has rank 0 and torsion subgroup of order 3 generated by the difference of the two points at infinity on  $C$  (and similarly for  $\overline{C}$ ). It follows that the only rational points on  $C$  and  $\overline{C}$  are the points at infinity; pulling back these points to our model for  $X_{H_3}$  yields only the two rational points at infinity, both of which correspond to cusps on  $X_{H_3}$ ; this rules out the possibility that  $\text{im } \rho_{E,27}$  is conjugate to a subgroup of  $H_3$ .  $\square$

Having ruled out points of order 27 in  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$ , we now give a necessary and sufficient criterion for  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(3)$  to be maximal

**Lemma 5.19.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(3) = E[9] \simeq \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$  if and only if one of the following holds:*

- (i) *The image of  $\rho_{E,3}$  is conjugate to a subgroup of the split Cartan subgroup of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})$ ; equivalently,  $E$  admits two distinct rational 3-isogenies. This case occurs if and only if*

$$j(E) = \frac{27t^3(8 - t^3)^3}{(t^3 + 1)^3},$$

*for some  $t \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $t \neq -1$ .*

- (ii) *The image of  $\rho_{E,9}$  is conjugate in  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$  to a subgroup of*

$$H := \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle.$$

*This case occurs if and only if*

$$j(E) = \frac{432t(t^2 - 9)(t^2 + 3)^3(t^3 - 9t + 12)^3(t^3 + 9t^2 + 27t + 3)^3(5t^3 - 9t^2 - 9t - 3)^3}{(t^3 - 3t^2 - 9t + 3)^9(t^3 + 3t^2 - 9t - 3)^3}$$

*for some  $t \in \mathbb{Q}$ .*

*Proof.* It is easy to verify that both  $H$  and the full inverse image of the split Cartan subgroup  $C$  of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})$  in  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$  are of generalized  $S_3$ -type; it follows that if the image of  $\rho_{E,3}$  lies in  $C$  or if the image of  $\rho_{E,9}$  lies in  $H$ , then  $\rho_{E,9}$  gives an isomorphism from  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(E[9])/\mathbb{Q})$  to a group of generalized  $S_3$ -type and therefore  $\mathbb{Q}(E[9]) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , so  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[9] = E[9]$ .

An enumeration of the subgroups  $G \subseteq \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$  of generalized  $S_3$ -type shows that either the image of  $G$  in  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})$  is conjugate to a subgroup of  $C$ , or  $G$  is conjugate to a subgroup of  $H$ . The groups  $C$  and  $H$  correspond to the congruence subgroups  $3D^0$  and  $9J^0$ , both of genus 0; the rational maps from  $X_C$  and  $X_H$  to the  $j$ -line are taken from [39].  $\square$

**Example 5.20.** The elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  with Cremona label [27a3](#) admits two rational 3-isogenies, hence  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(3) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$ . On the other hand, the curve [17100g2](#) admits only one rational 3-isogeny but also has  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(3) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Lemma 5.21.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(3) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$  if and only if the image of  $\rho_{E,9}$  in  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$  is not of generalized  $S_3$ -type and is conjugate in  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$  to a subgroup of one of the following two groups:*

$$H_1 := \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle, \quad H_2 := \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle.$$

Equivalently,  $j(E)$  lies in the image of one of the rational maps

$$j_1(t) = \frac{(t+3)^3(t^3+9t^2+27t+3)^3}{t(t^2+9t+27)}, \quad j_2(t) = \frac{(t+3)(t^2-3t+9)(t^3+3)^3}{t^3}.$$

*Proof.* It is easy to verify that neither  $H_1$  nor  $H_2$  are of generalized  $S_3$ -type (which rules out  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(3) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$ ), and that each contains a normal subgroup  $N_i$  for which the quotient  $H_i/N_i$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type, and for which the image of  $N_i$  in  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})$  is trivial and for which  $N_i$  acts trivially on an element of order 9 in  $\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$ . This implies that if  $\mathrm{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(E[9])/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq H_i$  then the base change of  $E$  to the field  $K_i \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  corresponding to the normal subgroup of  $\mathrm{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(E[9])/\mathbb{Q})$  isomorphic to  $N_i$  has torsion subgroup that contains a subgroup isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$ ; moreover,  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(3)$  cannot be any larger than this because we have ruled out any points of order 27 in  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  (Proposition [5.18](#)) and  $N_i$  cannot be the trivial group.

An enumeration of the subgroups of  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$  shows that every group  $G$  that is not of generalized  $S_3$ -type and which contains a normal subgroup  $N$  satisfying all the properties of  $N_i$  above is either conjugate to a subgroup of  $H_1$  or  $H_2$ , or is conjugate to a subgroup of

$$H_3 := \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle,$$

with congruence subgroup [9A<sup>1</sup>](#). As computed by Rouse and Zureick-Brown (using the techniques of [\[34\]](#)), the corresponding modular curve  $X_{H_3}$  has genus 1 and is isomorphic to the elliptic curve [27a3](#), which has just 3 rational points; two of these are cusps, while the other corresponds to  $j$ -invariant 0. But for every elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  with  $j$ -invariant 0, we have  $E(\mathbb{Q}^\infty)(3) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$  as can be verified by checking one example and applying Proposition [5.2](#).

The groups  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  yield congruence subgroups [9B<sup>0</sup>](#) and [9C<sup>0</sup>](#), respectively, both of genus zero; the maps  $j_1(t)$  and  $j_2(t)$  to the  $j$ -line are taken from [\[39\]](#).  $\square$

**5.4. Proof of Theorem [5.1](#).** Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. Proposition [4.9](#) shows that any prime divisor  $p$  of the order of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}}$  lies in the set  $\{2, 3, 5, 7, 13\}$ . Lemma [5.10](#) ( $p = 2$ ), Lemma [5.17](#) and Proposition [5.18](#) ( $p = 3$ ), Lemma [5.5](#) ( $p = 5$ ), Lemma [5.13](#) ( $p = 7$ ), and Lemma [5.7](#) ( $p = 13$ ) together imply that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}}$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of

$$T_{\max} = (\mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}) \oplus \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z}) \oplus \mathbb{Z}/13\mathbb{Z}.$$

Examples [5.11](#), [5.20](#), [5.6](#), [5.14](#), [5.8](#) for  $p = 2, 3, 5, 7, 13$ , respectively, show that  $T_{\max}$  is the smallest group with this property.  $\square$

**5.5. An algorithm to compute the structure of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$ .** With Theorem 5.1 in hand we can now sketch a practical algorithm to compute the isomorphism type of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  for a given elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ . The strategy is to separately compute each  $p$ -primary component  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(p)$  for  $p = 2, 3, 5, 7, 13$  by first determining the largest integer  $k$  for which  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[p^k] = E[p^k]$  and then determining the largest integer  $j$  for which  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(p)$  contains a point of order  $p^j$ .

Both steps make use of the division polynomials  $f_{E,n}(x)$  whose roots are the distinct  $x$ -coordinates of the nonzero points  $P \in E[n]$ . The polynomials  $f_{E,n}(x)$  satisfy well-known recurrence relations that allow them to be efficiently computed; see [26], for example. If  $m$  divides  $n$  then  $f_{E,n}$  is necessarily divisible by  $f_{E,m}$ , and roots of the polynomial  $f_{E,n}/f_{E,m}$  are the distinct  $x$ -coordinates of the points in  $E[n]$  that do not lie in  $E[m]$ ; by removing the factor  $f_{E,m}$  of  $f_{E,n}$  for each maximal proper divisor  $m$  of  $n$  one obtains a polynomial  $h_{E,n}$  whose roots are the distinct  $x$ -coordinates of the points in  $E[n]$  of order  $n$ .

The field  $\mathbb{Q}(E[n])$  is an extension of the splitting field  $K_f$  of  $f_{E,n}(x)$  of degree at most 2 (the degree is 2 when  $\text{im } \rho_{E,n}$  contains  $-1 \in \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$ , and 1 otherwise, see [38, Lemma 5.17]). A necessary and sufficient condition for  $\mathbb{Q}(E[n]) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  is that for every irreducible factor  $g$  of  $h_{E,n}(x)$  with splitting field  $K_g$ , the field  $L_g := K_g(\sqrt{f(r)})$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type, where  $r$  is any root of  $g$  (note that each  $L_g$  is of the form  $\mathbb{Q}(P)$  for some  $P \in E[n]$  of order  $n$  and is necessarily a Galois extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  that contains the coordinate of every point in  $\langle P \rangle$ ). A necessary and sufficient condition for  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  to contain a point of order  $n$  is that for some irreducible factor  $g$  of  $h_{E,n}(x)$  the field  $L_g$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type. We may thus compute  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(p)$  as follows:

- Determine the largest  $k$  for which  $E[p^k] \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  by checking increasing values of  $k$  from 1 up to the bound given by Theorem 5.1. For each  $k$ , compute the polynomial  $h_{E,p^k}$ , factor it over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and for each irreducible factor  $g$  compute the field  $L_g$  and check whether  $\text{Gal}(L_g/\mathbb{Q})$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type (via Lemma 3.2) for all  $g$ .
- Determine the largest  $j$  for which  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(p)$  contains a point of order  $p^j$  by checking increasing values of  $j$  from  $k$  up to the bound given by Theorem 5.1. For each  $k$ , compute the polynomial  $h_{E,p^j}$ , factor it over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and for each irreducible factor  $g$  compute the field  $L_g$  and check whether  $\text{Gal}(L_g/\mathbb{Q})$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type for some  $g$ .

As written this algorithm is not quite practical, but there are two things that may be done to make it so. First, one can use a Monte Carlo algorithm to quickly rule out polynomials  $g$  whose splitting fields cannot be of generalized  $S_3$ -type by picking random primes and factoring the reduced polynomial  $\bar{g}$  over the corresponding finite field; if  $\bar{g}$  has an irreducible factor whose degree does not divide 6 then the splitting field of  $g$  cannot be of generalized  $S_3$ -type. The second practical improvement is to use the explicit criterion for  $j(E)$  given by Lemmas 5.13, 5.19, and 5.21 to more quickly compute the 3-primary and 7-primary components of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$ .<sup>2</sup>

A magma script implementing the algorithm with these optimizations can be found in [4]; it was used to determine the 20 examples of minimal conductor that appear in Remark 1.9. These examples prove that each of these cases arise; in the next section we prove that no others do.

**Remark 5.22.** In Section 7 we obtain a complete list of parameterizations for each torsion structure  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$ ; see Table 1. With this list in hand one can immediately determine  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  from  $j(E)$  whenever  $j(E) \neq 1728$ , making it unnecessary to use the algorithm sketched above, except for

<sup>2</sup>We did not exploit this second improvement when using the algorithm to perform any of the explicit computations of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  cited in §5, since this improvement depends on some of these computations.

distinguishing the two possibilities when  $j(E) = 1728$  (see Remark 5.3). However, the algorithm is implicitly used in several of the proofs in the next section that require us to explicitly check a finite number of cases, and our list of parameterizations depends on these results. (We did not use the algorithm to prove any of the results in this section; see [4] for details of our computations.)

## 6. THE STRUCTURE OF $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$

In this section we complete the classification of the torsion structures  $T \simeq E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  that appears in Theorem 1.8. There are a total of 1008 isomorphism types  $T$  given by subgroups of the maximal group  $T_{\text{max}}$  that appears in Theorem 5.1, of which 648 contain the minimal subgroup  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  required by Lemma 5.9, but we will prove that in fact only 20 occur as  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  for some elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ . In the five subsections that follow, for  $p = 13, 7, 5, 3, 2$ , we will prove that there are 1, 4, 2, 5, 8 (respectively) possibilities for  $T$  when  $p$  is the largest prime divisor of its cardinality, and determine these  $T$  explicitly.

We begin with a lemma that allows us to distinguish the two possibilities for  $E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))(2)$  permitted by Lemma 5.10 when  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2]$  is trivial. For an elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ , we use  $\Delta(E) \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$  to denote its discriminant. We recall that for  $j(E) \neq 0, 1728$ , the image of  $\Delta(E)$  in  $\mathbb{Q}^\times/\mathbb{Q}^{\times 2}$  is determined by  $j(E)$  (see [36, Cor. 5.4.1]); in fact,

$$(2) \quad \Delta(E) \equiv j(E) - 1728 \pmod{\mathbb{Q}^\times/\mathbb{Q}^{\times 2}},$$

as one can verify by computing the discriminant  $\Delta(E) = -16(4A^3 + 27B^2)$  of the elliptic curve  $E : y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B$  with  $A = 3j(E)(1728 - j(E))$  and  $B = 2j(E)(1728 - j(E))^2$  both nonzero.

**Lemma 6.1.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve for which  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2]$  is trivial, but  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[4] = E[4]$ . Then  $-\Delta(E)$  is a square in  $\mathbb{Q}$  and*

$$j(E) = \frac{-4(t^2 - 3)^3(t^2 - 8t - 11)}{(t + 1)^4},$$

for some  $t \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{-1\}$ .

*Proof.* If  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2]$  is trivial and  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[4] = E[4]$  then the image  $G := \text{im } \rho_{E,4}$  is conjugate to a subgroup of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})$  of generalized  $S_3$ -type whose image in  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  does not fix any nonzero element of  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  (equivalently, has order at least 3). As noted in §2, the group  $G$  must have a surjective determinant map and contain an element  $\gamma$  corresponding to complex conjugation (here we use the stronger criterion of [38, Rem. 3.15]). An enumeration of the subgroups of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})$  finds that every such  $G$  is conjugate to a subgroup of

$$H := \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle.$$

The corresponding modular curve  $X_H$  is labeled X20a in [34] and has genus zero. A map to the  $j$ -line is given by the rational function

$$j(t) := \frac{-4(t^2 - 3)^3(t^2 - 8t - 11)}{(t + 1)^4}.$$

Since neither 0 nor 1728 lie in the image of the map  $j(t)$ , from (2) we see that the discriminant  $\Delta(t)$  of an elliptic over  $\mathbb{Q}$  with  $j$ -invariant  $j(t)$  must satisfy

$$\Delta(t) \equiv 1728 - j(t) \equiv -1 \pmod{\mathbb{Q}^\times/\mathbb{Q}^{\times 2}},$$

thus  $-\Delta(t)$  is always a square, as claimed.  $\square$

**6.1. When 13 divides  $\#E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$ .** There is only one possibility for  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  when it contains a point of order 13.

**Proposition 6.2.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve for which  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  contains a point of order 13. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/26$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 5.7,  $E$  must admit a rational 13-isogeny, since  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(13)$  is non-trivial. Theorem 4.4 implies that  $E$  admits no other rational  $n$ -isogenies, and it follows that  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)(3)$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(5^\infty)(5)$ , and  $\mathbb{Q}(7^\infty)(7)$  are all trivial, by Lemma 5.16, Lemma 5.5, and Lemma 5.13 and Corollary 5.15, respectively. Since  $E$  admits no rational 2-isogenies,  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2]$  is trivial, and Lemma 5.10 implies that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(2)$  is isomorphic to either  $E[2]$  or  $E[4]$ . By Lemma 6.1, if the latter holds then  $-\Delta(E)$  is a rational square; we claim that this cannot occur.

The modular curve  $X_0(13)$  that parameterizes 13-isogenies has genus 0 and yields a rational parameterization of the  $j$ -invariants of elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  that admit a rational 13-isogeny. From [22, Table 3] we see that  $j(E)$  must lie in the image of the rational map

$$j(t) := \frac{(t^2 + 5t + 13)(t^4 + 7t^3 + 20t^2 + 19t + 1)^3}{t}.$$

Neither 0 nor 1728 lie in the image of the map  $j(t)$ , so by (2), the corresponding discriminant  $\Delta(t)$  of an elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}$  with  $j$ -invariant  $j(t)$  must satisfy

$$\Delta(t) \equiv (j(t) - 1728)^3 \equiv t(t^2 + 6t + 13) \pmod{\mathbb{Q}^\times/\mathbb{Q}^{\times 2}},$$

with  $t \neq 0$ . Finding  $t \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$  for which  $-\Delta(t) \in \mathbb{Q}$  is a square is equivalent to finding nonzero rational points  $P$  on the elliptic curve

$$E_\Delta: y^2 = x(x^2 - 6x + 13)$$

for which  $x(P) \neq 0$ , equivalently,  $P \notin E_\Delta(\mathbb{Q})[2]$ . But a calculation shows that  $E_\Delta$  has rank 0 and torsion subgroup isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ , so no such  $P$  exists.  $\square$

**Remark 6.3.** One can obtain infinitely many elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  with  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/26$  and distinct  $j$ -invariants by choosing  $E$  for which  $E(F) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/13\mathbb{Z}$  for some cubic field  $F$ , as shown in [29]. The curve 147b1 is an example  $F = \mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^3 + x^2 - 2x - 1)$ .

**6.2. When 7 divides  $\#E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$ .** We now address the cases where  $\#E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is divisible by 7 (but not 13). The case where it is also divisible by 49 is already covered by Lemma 5.13, and Corollary 5.15, which imply that we then must have  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z}$ . Theorem 4.4 and Lemma 5.13 then leave us just 3 possibilities to consider: (1)  $E$  admits a rational 21-isogeny, (2)  $E$  admits a rational 14-isogeny, (3)  $E$  admits a rational 7-isogeny and no others. These are addressed in the next three lemmas. Recall that if  $E$  admits a rational  $m$ -isogeny  $\varphi$  and a rational  $n$ -isogeny  $\psi$ , with  $m$  and  $n$  coprime, then it necessarily admits a rational  $mn$ -isogeny, namely, the isogeny  $E \rightarrow E/\langle \ker \varphi, \ker \psi \rangle$ .

**Lemma 6.4.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. Then  $E$  admits a rational 21-isogeny if and only if  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/42\mathbb{Z}$ .*

*Proof.* It follows from Lemmas 5.13 and 5.16 that if  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/42\mathbb{Z}$ , then  $E$  admits a rational 7-isogeny and a rational 3-isogeny, hence a rational 21-isogeny. From [22, Table 4] we see that there are just four  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes of elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  that admit a rational



21-isogeny, represented by the four elliptic curves in the isogeny class with Cremona label [162b](#). A direct computation finds that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/42\mathbb{Z}$  for each of these four curves.  $\square$

**Lemma 6.5.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. If  $E$  admits a rational 14-isogeny then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z}$ .*

*Proof.* From [[22](#), Table 4] we see that there are just two  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes of elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  that admit a rational 14-isogeny, represented by the curves [49a1](#) and [49a2](#). A direct computation finds that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z}$  for both curves.  $\square$

**Lemma 6.6.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. If  $E$  admits a rational 7-isogeny and no other non-trivial rational  $n$ -isogenies, then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z}$  or  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/28\mathbb{Z}$ .*

*Proof.* Lemmas [5.16](#), [5.5](#), and [5.7](#) imply that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(p)$  is trivial for  $p = 3, 5, 13$ , and Lemma [5.10](#) implies that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(2) = E[2]$  or  $E[4]$ .  $\square$

We summarize the results of this subsection in the following proposition.

**Proposition 6.7.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve for which  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  contains a point of order 7. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is isomorphic to one of the groups:  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/28\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/42\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z}$ .*

*Proof.* This follows from Corollary [5.15](#) and Lemmas [6.4](#), [6.5](#), [6.6](#).  $\square$

**6.3. When 5 divides  $\#E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$ .** We now address the cases where  $\#E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is divisible by 5 (but not 7 or 13).

**Lemma 6.8.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. If  $E$  admits a rational 15-isogeny then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$  or  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/30\mathbb{Z}$  (both occur). If  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/30\mathbb{Z}$  then  $E$  admits a rational 15-isogeny.*

*Proof.* As can be seen in [[22](#), Table 4], there are four  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes of elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  that admit a rational 15-isogeny, represented by the four curves in isogeny class [50a](#). A direct computation finds that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$  for the curves [50a1](#) and [50a2](#), while  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/30\mathbb{Z}$  for the curves [50a3](#) and [50a4](#). It follows from Lemmas [5.5](#) and [5.16](#) that if  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/30\mathbb{Z}$  then  $E$  admits a rational 5-isogeny and a rational 3-isogeny, hence a rational 15-isogeny.  $\square$

**Proposition 6.9.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve for which  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  contains a point of order 5. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/10\mathbb{Z}$  or  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/30\mathbb{Z}$ .*

*Proof.* As noted above, the results of the previous two subsections imply that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is not divisible by 7 or 13. Lemma [5.5](#) implies that  $E$  admits a rational 5-isogeny, and if  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(3)$  is non-trivial, then  $E$  also admits a rational 3-isogeny, by Lemma [5.16](#), in which case it falls into the case covered by Lemma [6.8](#). We know that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(5) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$ , by Lemma [5.5](#), thus it remains only to consider  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(2)$  when  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(p)$  is trivial for  $p = 3, 7, 13$ .

We first suppose that  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2]$  is non-trivial. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(2) = E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))(2)$ , by Lemma [5.10](#). Lemma [5.5](#) implies that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(5) = E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))(5)$ , since  $E$  must admit a rational 5-isogeny whose kernel generates and extension of degree at most 2, hence a subfield of  $\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty)$ . Theorem [1.7](#) then implies  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} = E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/10\mathbb{Z}$ .

We now suppose that  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2]$  is trivial. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))$  is trivial and  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)) = E[2]$  or  $E[4]$ , by Lemma 5.10. Lemma 6.1 implies that the latter holds only when  $-\Delta(E)$  is a rational square. We claim that this cannot occur. From [22, Table 3], we see that since  $E$  admits a rational 5-isogeny, its  $j$ -invariant must lie in the image of the rational map

$$j(t) = \frac{(t^2 + 10t + 5)^3}{t}.$$

Neither 0 nor 1728 lie in the image of this map, so by (2), the discriminant  $\Delta(t)$  of an elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}$  with  $j$ -invariant  $j(t)$  must satisfy

$$\Delta(t) \equiv (j(t) - 1728)^3 \equiv t(t^2 + 22t + 125) \pmod{\mathbb{Q}^\times/\mathbb{Q}^{\times 2}},$$

with  $t \neq 0$ . Finding  $t \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$  for which  $-\Delta(t)$  is a square is equivalent to finding rational points  $P$  on the elliptic curve

$$E_\Delta: y^2 = x(x^2 - 22x + 125)$$

that do not lie in  $E_\Delta(\mathbb{Q})[2]$ . But we find that  $E_\Delta(\mathbb{Q}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ , so no such  $P$  exist. Thus we must have  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(2) = E[2]$ , and therefore  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/10\mathbb{Z}$ .  $\square$

**6.4. When only 2 and 3 divide  $\#E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$ .** We now consider the case where  $\#E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  is divisible by 3 but not 5, 7, or 13. Lemmas 5.9 and 5.16 imply  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[6] = E[6]$ , thus if  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  does not contain any points of order 24 or 36, then Theorem 5.1 implies that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}}$  must be isomorphic to one of the five groups

$$(3) \quad \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}, \quad \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}, \quad \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z}, \quad \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}, \quad \mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z}.$$

As shown by the examples in Remark 1.9, these cases all occur for some  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ , so it suffices to show that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  cannot contain any points of order 24 or 36.

**Proposition 6.10.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. There are no points of order 24 in  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  contains a point of order 24; then it contains both a point of order 3 and a point of order 8. Lemma 5.16 implies that  $E$  admits a rational 3-isogeny, and the points in the kernel of this 3-isogeny are defined over a quadratic extension (by Lemma 4.8), so  $E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))$  contains a point of order 3. Lemma 5.10 implies that  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2]$  is non-trivial and  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))(2) = E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))(2)$ , so  $E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))$  contains a point of order 8. But then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(2^\infty))$  contains a point of order 24, which contradicts Theorem 1.7.  $\square$

In order to rule out a point of order 36 in  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  we require the following lemmas.

**Lemma 6.11.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. If  $E(\mathbb{Q})$  contains a point of order 2, and  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  contains a point of order 4, then either  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2] = E[2]$  or  $E$  admits a rational 4-isogeny.*

*Proof.* It suffices to consider the possible images  $G \subseteq \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})$  of  $\rho_{E,4}$ . An enumeration of the subgroups  $G$  of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})$  finds that whenever the image of  $G$  in  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  fixes a nonzero element of  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  (i.e.  $E(\mathbb{Q})$  contains a point of order 2) and  $G$  contains a normal subgroup  $N$  for which  $G/N$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type and  $N$  fixes an element of order 4 in  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$  (i.e.  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  contains a point of order 4), then either the image of  $G$  in  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  is trivial ( $E(\mathbb{Q})[2] = E[2]$ ) or  $G$  stabilizes a cyclic subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$  of order 4 ( $E$  admits a rational 4-isogeny).  $\square$

**Lemma 6.12.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve that admits a rational 9-isogeny. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  does not contain a point of order 4.*

*Proof.* If  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2] = E[2]$  then  $E$  is isogenous to an elliptic curve that admits a rational 4-isogeny and a rational 9-isogeny, hence a rational 36-isogeny, which is ruled out by Theorem 4.4. If  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2]$  has order 2 then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  cannot contain a point of order 4, because  $E$  would then admit a rational 4-isogeny, by Lemma 6.11, hence a rational 36-isogeny, which is again ruled out by Theorem 4.4.

We are thus left to consider the possibility that  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2]$  is trivial and  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  has a point of order 4, in which case Lemma 5.10 implies  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[4] = E[4]$ , and Lemma 6.1 implies that  $-\Delta(E)$  is a square. We can assume  $j(E) \neq 0$  because a direct computation shows that for the curve 27a3 with  $j(E) = 0$  we have  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\text{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z}$ , which does not contain a point of order 4. Proposition 5.2 implies that this is true for every  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  with  $j(E) = 0$ .

From [22, Table 3] we see that  $j(E)$  must lie in the image of the rational map

$$j(t) = \frac{t^3(t^3 - 24)^3}{t^3 - 27}.$$

Having ruled out  $j(E) = 0$ , we can assume  $j(t) \neq 0$  (so  $t \neq 0$ ), and 1728 does not lie in the image of  $j(t)$ , so by (2), for any  $t \neq 0, 3$  the discriminant  $\Delta(t)$  of an elliptic curve with  $j$ -invariant  $j(t)$  satisfies

$$\Delta(t) \equiv (j(t) - 1728)^3 \equiv (t - 3)(t^2 + 3t + 9) \pmod{\mathbb{Q}^\times/\mathbb{Q}^{\times 2}}.$$

To see whether  $-\Delta(t)$  can be square when  $t \neq 0, 3$ , we search for nonzero rational points  $P$  with  $x(P) \neq 0, 3$  on the elliptic curve

$$E_\Delta: y^2 = (x + 3)(x^2 - 3x + 9).$$

We find that  $E_\Delta(\mathbb{Q}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ , and the nonzero rational point has  $x$ -coordinate 3. Thus no such  $P$  exist and the lemma follows.  $\square$

**Lemma 6.13.** *Suppose that  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  admits just one rational 3-isogeny and no rational 9-isogenies, and that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  contains a point of order 9. Then*

$$j(E) = \frac{(t + 3)(t^2 - 3t + 9)(t^3 + 3)^3}{t^3}$$

for some  $t \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$ .

*Proof.* To determine the possible images of the mod-9 Galois representation of an elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  satisfying the hypothesis of the proposition, we conducted a search similar to that used in the proof of Lemma 5.17, using Magma to enumerate the subgroups of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$  (up to conjugacy). We find that  $\rho_{E,9}(\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(E[9])/\mathbb{Q}))$  must be conjugate in  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$  to a subgroup of one of the groups

$$H_1 := \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 6 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle,$$

$$H_2 := \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle,$$

whose intersections with  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$  yield the congruence subgroups  $9C^0$  and  $9A^1$ , of genus 0 and 1, respectively. We will show that  $H_2$  cannot occur unless  $j(E) = 0$ , which we note is of the form required by the lemma (take  $t = -3$ ); in fact, when  $j(E) = 0$  the image of  $\rho_{E,9}$  is conjugate to a subgroup of  $H_1$  that may also lie in  $H_2$  (this depends on  $E$ ).

The intersection of  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  is the subgroup

$$H_3 := \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle,$$

which is equal to the image of  $\Gamma_0(3, 9)$  in  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$ ; the modular curve  $X_{H_3} = X_0(3, 9)$  has genus 1 (it corresponds to the congruence subgroup [9A<sup>1</sup>](#)), and parameterizes elliptic curves that admit a 3-isogeny and a 9-isogeny whose kernels intersect trivially. The index-3 inclusion  $H_3 \subseteq H_2$  gives a degree-3 map  $\varphi: X_{H_3} \rightarrow X_{H_2}$  of genus 1 curves, and a calculation using [[43](#), Lemma 3.4] shows that both curves have two rational cusps ( $X_0(3, 9)$  has six cusps in all, but only two are rational). We may thus view the modular curves  $X_{H_2}$  and  $X_{H_3}$  as elliptic curves over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and since  $\varphi$  must map cusps to cusps, we can choose the origins so that  $\varphi$  is an isogeny. Both curves are defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$  ( $H_2$  and  $H_3$  both have surjective determinant maps), so  $\varphi$  is also defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ; we thus have a rational 3-isogeny from  $X_0(3, 9)$  to  $X_{H_2}$ .

The elliptic curve corresponding to  $X_{H_3} = X_0(3, 9)$  has Cremona label [27a1](#), and an examination of its isogeny class [27a](#) shows that  $X_{H_2}$  is isomorphic to either [27a2](#) or [27a3](#), and it must be the latter, since [27a2](#) has only one rational point but  $X_{H_2}$  has two rational cusps. The curve [27a3](#) is isomorphic to  $X_{H_2}$  has three rational points, so  $X_{H_2}$  has exactly one noncuspidal rational point, corresponding to the  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism class of an elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  with  $\mathrm{im} \rho_{E,9} \subseteq H_2$ .

To determine this  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism class it suffice to find one representative. The curve [27a1](#) itself admits a rational 3-isogeny and a rational 9-isogeny with distinct kernels and thus corresponds to a non-cuspidal rational point on  $X_0(3, 9)$ , and its image under  $\varphi$  is a non-cuspidal rational point on  $X_{H_2}$ .<sup>3</sup> It follows that if  $j(E) \neq 0$  then its mod-9 image must be conjugate to a subgroup of  $H_1$ .

From the tables in [[39](#)] we see that for the genus 0 curve  $X_{H_1}$  the map to the  $j$ -line is given by

$$j(t) = \frac{(t+3)(t^2-3t+9)(t^3+3)^3}{t^3},$$

which is the function appearing in the statement of the lemma. □

**Example 6.14.** The elliptic curve [722a1](#) satisfies the hypothesis of Lemma [6.13](#): it admits a single rational 3-isogeny but not a 9-isogeny, and has a point of order 9 over the compositum of the cubic fields of discriminant 361 and  $-1083$ , hence over  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ . The image of  $\rho_{E,9}$  is conjugate to  $G_1$ , and we note that  $j(E) = 2375/8$  is of the form required by the lemma if we take  $t = -2$ .

**Lemma 6.15.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. If  $E$  admits more than one rational 3-isogeny then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  does not contain a point of order 4.*

*Proof.* If  $E$  admits more than one rational 3-isogeny then it is related by a rational 3-isogeny  $\varphi$  to an elliptic curve  $E'/\mathbb{Q}$  that admits a rational 9-isogeny. The 3-isogeny  $\varphi: E \rightarrow E'$  will map any point of order 4 in  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  to a point of order 4 in  $E'(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$ , but no such point can exist, by Lemma [6.12](#). □

**Proposition 6.16.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. Then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  contains no points of order 36.*

*Proof.* Suppose for the sake of contradiction that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  does contain a point of order 36. It follows from Lemmas [5.16](#), [6.12](#) and [6.15](#) that  $E$  admits exactly one rational 3-isogeny and no rational 9-isogenies. We now consider two cases.

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<sup>3</sup>This does not contradict the fact that [27a1](#) does not satisfy the hypothesis of Lemma [6.13](#); elliptic curves whose mod-9 image is properly contained in  $H_2$  may admit more than one rational 3-isogeny and/or a rational 9-isogeny.

Let us first suppose that  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2]$  is trivial. Since  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$  contains a point of order 36, it contains a point of order 4, and Lemma 6.1 implies that

$$j(E) = \frac{-4(t^2 - 3)^3(t^2 - 8t - 11)}{(t + 1)^4},$$

for some  $t \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{-1\}$ . Since  $E$  admits a rational 3-isogeny, its  $j$ -invariant must also satisfy

$$j(E) = \frac{(s + 27)(s + 3)^3}{s}$$

for some  $s \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$  (see [22, Table 3], for example). The valid pairs  $(t, s)$  lie on the (singular) curve

$$C_1 : -4s(t^2 - 3)^3(t^2 - 8t - 11) - (s + 27)(s + 3)^3(t + 1)^4 = 0,$$

which has genus 1 and the rational point  $(0, -1)$ . Its normalization is isomorphic to the elliptic curve 48a3, which has 8 rational points and is a smooth model for the modular curve  $X_G$  obtained by taking the fiber product over  $X(1)$  of the two maps above from the genus zero curves  $X_H$  and  $X_0(3)$  to  $X(1)$ ; here  $H$  is the group in the proof of Lemma 6.1 and  $G$  is the intersection in  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z})$  of the inverse images of  $H \subseteq \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})$  and the Borel group in  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})$ . A calculation in Magma shows that  $X_G$  has four rational cusps, and that the points

$$(-5, -36), (7, -81/4), (-5/4, -81/4), (-1/2, -36) \in C_1(\mathbb{Q}),$$

are valid solutions  $(t, s)$  corresponding to the four non-cuspidal rational points on  $X_G$ . These solutions yield two distinct  $j$ -invariants:  $-35937/4$  and  $109503/64$ . Taking the curves 162a1 and 162d1 as representatives of these  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes, we find that neither has a point of order 36 defined over  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ , and by Proposition 5.2, this applies to every  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  in these two classes.

We now suppose that  $E(\mathbb{Q})[2]$  is non-trivial and proceed similarly. Now  $E$  has a rational point of order 2, so its  $j$ -invariant has the form

$$j(E) = \frac{(s + 256)^3}{s^2},$$

for some  $s \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$  (see [22, Table 3.], for example). By Lemma 6.13, the  $j$ -invariant  $j(E)$  also satisfies

$$j(E) = \frac{(t + 3)(t^2 - 3t + 9)(t^3 + 3)^3}{t^3},$$

for some  $t \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$ . The possible solutions  $(t, s)$  lie on the genus 2 curve

$$C_2 : (t + 3)(t^2 - 3t + 9)(t^3 + 3)^3 s^2 - t^3(s + 256)^3 = 0,$$

which has the hyperelliptic model

$$C_3 : y^2 = x^6 - 34x^3 + 1.$$

The Jacobian of  $C_3$  has rank 0, and using Chabauty's method we find that

$$C_3(\mathbb{Q}) = \{\pm\infty, (-1, \pm 6), (0, \pm 1)\}.$$

There are thus six rational points on the modular curve  $X_G$  corresponding to the fiber product over  $X(1)$  of the two rational maps from the genus zero curves  $X_1(2) = X_0(2)$  and  $X_{H_1}$ , where  $H_1$  is the group in the proof of 6.13 and  $G$  is the intersection in  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z})$  of the inverse images of the

Borel group in  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  and  $H_1 \subseteq \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})$ . A calculation in Magma shows that  $X_G$  has four rational cusps, and that the points

$$(3, -16), (-3, -256) \in C_2(\mathbb{Q})$$

are valid solutions  $(t, s)$  corresponding to the two non-cuspidal rational points on  $X_G$ , which yield the  $j$ -invariants 0 and 54000. Taking the elliptic curves 27a1 and 36a2 as representatives of these  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes, we find that neither has a point of order 36 defined over  $\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 6.17.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve. If 3 is the largest prime divisor of  $\#E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}}$  then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}}$  is isomorphic to one of the five groups listed in (3).*

*Proof.* As argued at the start of this subsection, this now follows from Propositions 6.10 and 6.16.  $\square$

**6.5. When only 2 divides  $\#E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}}$ .** If  $\#E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  is a power of 2 then Lemmas 5.9 and 5.10 imply that

$$E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)) \simeq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2^j\mathbb{Z} & j = 1, 2, 3, 4, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2^j\mathbb{Z} & j = 2, 3, 4, \text{ or} \\ \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}. \end{cases}$$

The examples listed in Remark 1.9 show that these cases all occur. In conjunction with Propositions 6.2, 6.7, 6.9 and Corollary 6.17, this proves the first statement in Theorem 1.8.

## 7. EXPLICIT PARAMETERIZATIONS FOR EACH TORSION STRUCTURE

In this section we complete the proof of Theorem 1.8 by giving an explicit description of the sets

$$S_T := \{j(E) : E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}} \simeq T\},$$

where  $T$  ranges over the set  $\mathcal{T}$  of 20 possible torsion structures for  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  determined in the previous section. It follows from Proposition 5.2 that the sets  $S_T$  partition  $\mathbb{Q} \setminus \{1728\}$ . As noted in Remark 5.3, the  $j$ -invariant 1728 lies in two of the sets  $S_T$ , namely, the sets for  $T = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  and  $T = \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ .

We will determine the sets  $S_T$  in terms of sets  $F_T$  of (possibly constant) rational functions  $j(t)$  that parameterize the  $j$ -invariants  $j(E)$  of elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  for which  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}} \simeq T$ . These appear in Table 1 on the next page, which lists a set  $F_T$  of functions  $j(t)$  for each  $T \in \mathcal{T}$ . Let us partially order the set  $\mathcal{T}$  by inclusion (so  $T_1 \leq T_2$  whenever  $T_1$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $T_2$ ).

**Theorem 7.1.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  be an elliptic curve with  $j(E) \neq 1728$ . Let  $\mathcal{T}(E) \subseteq \mathcal{T}$  be the set of groups  $T$  for which  $j(E)$  lies in the image of some  $j(t) \in F_T$ . Then  $\mathcal{T}(E)$  contains a unique maximal element  $T(E)$ , and it is isomorphic to  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$ ; equivalently,  $j(E) \in S_T$  if and only if  $T = T(E)$ .*

**Remark 7.2.** The set  $\mathcal{T}(E)$  need not contain every  $T \leq T(E)$ . The curve 15a1 is an example:  $T(E) = \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$  but  $j(E)$  is not in the image of the unique function  $j(t)$  for  $T = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$ .

**Corollary 7.3.** *Of the 20 groups  $T$  listed in Theorem 1.8, the following 4 arise as  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}}$  for only a finite set of  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes of elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ :*

$$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/28\mathbb{Z}, \quad \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/30\mathbb{Z}, \quad \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/42\mathbb{Z}, \quad \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z}.$$

*The remaining 16 arise for infinitely many  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes of elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ .*



$T$	$j(t)$
$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$	$t$
$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{(t^2+16t+16)^3}{t(t+16)}$
$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{(t^4-16t^2+16)^3}{t^2(t^2-16)}$
$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/10\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{(t^4-12t^3+14t^2+12t+1)^3}{t^5(t^2-11t-1)}$
$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{(t^2+13t+49)(t^2+5t+1)^3}{t}$
$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{(t^{16}-8t^{14}+12t^{12}+8t^{10}-10t^8+8t^6+12t^4-8t^2+1)^3}{t^{16}(t^4-6t^2+1)(t^2+1)^2(t^2-1)^4}$
$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/26\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{(t^4-t^3+5t^2+t+1)(t^8-5t^7+7t^6-5t^5+5t^3+7t^2+5t+1)^3}{t^{13}(t^2-3t-1)}$
$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{(t^2+192)^3}{(t^2-64)^2}$ $\frac{-16(t^4-14t^2+1)^3}{t^2(t^2+1)^4}$ $\frac{-4(t^2+2t-2)^3(t^2+10t-2)}{t^4}$
$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{16(t^4+4t^3+20t^2+32t+16)^3}{t^4(t+1)^2(t+2)^4}$ $\frac{-4(t^8-60t^6+134t^4-60t^2+1)^3}{t^2(t^2-1)^2(t^2+1)^8}$
$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{(t^{16}-8t^{14}+12t^{12}+8t^{10}+230t^8+8t^6+12t^4-8t^2+1)^3}{t^8(t^2-1)^8(t^2+1)^4(t^4-6t^2+1)^2}$
$\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/28\mathbb{Z}$	$\left\{ \frac{351}{4}, \frac{-38575685889}{16384} \right\}$
$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{(t+27)(t+3)^3}{t}$
$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{(t^2-3)^3(t^6-9t^4+3t^2-3)^3}{t^4(t^2-9)(t^2-1)^3}$
$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{(t+3)^3(t^3+9t^2+27t+3)^3}{t(t^2+9t+27)}$ $\frac{(t+3)(t^2-3t+9)(t^3+3)^3}{t^3}$
$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/30\mathbb{Z}$	$\left\{ \frac{-121945}{32}, \frac{46969655}{32768} \right\}$
$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/42\mathbb{Z}$	$\left\{ \frac{3375}{2}, \frac{-140625}{8}, \frac{-1159088625}{2097152}, \frac{-189613868625}{128} \right\}$
$\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{(t^8+224t^4+256)^3}{t^4(t^4-16)^4}$
$\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{(t^2+3)^3(t^6-15t^4+75t^2+3)^3}{t^2(t^2-9)^2(t^2-1)^6}$ $\left\{ \frac{-35937}{4}, \frac{109503}{64} \right\}$
$\mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/14\mathbb{Z}$	$\left\{ \frac{2268945}{128} \right\}$
$\mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z}$	$\frac{27t^3(8-t^3)^3}{(t^3+1)^3}$ $\frac{432t(t^2-9)(t^2+3)^3(t^3-9t+12)^3(t^3+9t^2+27t+3)^3(5t^3-9t^2-9t-3)^3}{(t^3-3t^2-9t+3)^9(t^3+3t^2-9t-3)^3}$

TABLE 1. Parameterizations  $j(t)$  of the  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism classes of elliptic curves  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  according to the isomorphism type of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$ .

*Proof of Theorem 7.1.* For each group  $T \in \mathcal{T}$  we enumerate subgroups  $G$  of  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$ , where  $n$  is the exponent of  $T$ , and determine the  $G$  that are maximal with respect to the following properties:

- (i) the determinant map  $G \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times$  is surjective and  $G$  contains an element of trace 0 and determinant  $-1$  that acts trivially on a maximal cyclic  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ -submodule of  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ ;
- (ii) the submodule of  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  on which the minimal normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$  for which  $G/N$  is of generalized  $S_3$ -type acts trivially is isomorphic to  $T$ .

Note that the minimal  $N$  is unique, since if  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  are two normal subgroups of  $G$  for which  $G/N_1$  and  $G/N_2$  are both of generalized  $S_3$ -type, then for  $N = N_1 \cap N_2$  the quotient  $G/N$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of the direct product of  $G/N_1$  and  $G/N_2$ , hence also of generalized  $S_3$ -type. We recall that (i) is necessarily satisfied by any subgroup  $G$  of  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$  that arises as the image of  $\rho_{E,n}$  for an elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ , and (ii) implies that if  $G \simeq \rho_{E,n}(\mathrm{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(E[n])/\mathbb{Q}))$  for some  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ , then  $G/N \simeq \mathrm{Gal}((\mathbb{Q}(E[n]) \cap \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))/\mathbb{Q})$  and  $N \simeq \mathrm{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(E[n])/\mathbb{Q}(E[n] \cap \mathbb{Q}(3^\infty)))$ . The  $n$ -torsion points of  $E$  fixed by  $\mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$  must then form a subgroup isomorphic to  $T$ , equivalently,  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}}$  contains a subgroup isomorphic to  $T$ . The existence of the examples in Remark 1.9 ensures that we get at least one maximal  $G$  for each  $T$ .

Our maximality condition ensures that  $G$  always contains  $-1$  (otherwise we can add  $-1$  to both  $G$  and  $N$ ). The corresponding modular curve  $X_G$  has a rational model (because the determinant map of  $G$  is surjective), and each non-cuspidal rational point on  $X_G$  determines a  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism class that contains an elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  for which  $\mathrm{im} \rho_{E,n}$  is conjugate in  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$  to a subgroup of  $G$ . For  $j(E) \neq 1728$  the group  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}}$  depends only on  $j(E)$ , by Proposition 5.2, thus we may restrict our attention to the image  $J_G$  of the non-cuspidal points in  $X_G(\mathbb{Q})$  under the map to  $X(1)$ ; if  $j(E)$  lies in this image then there is an elliptic curve  $E'$  in this  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isomorphism class for which  $\mathrm{im} \rho_{E',n}$  is conjugate to a subgroup of  $G$ , and it follows that  $E'(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}}$ , and therefore  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}}$ , must contain a subgroup isomorphic to  $T$ . In the other direction, if  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}} \simeq T$ , then  $\mathrm{im} \rho_{E,n}$  must be conjugate to a subgroup of one of the maximal groups  $G$  for this  $T$ , and  $j(E)$  must lie in the  $J_G$ . The set  $\mathcal{T}(E)$  thus contains a unique maximal element, namely,  $T(E) \simeq E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))$ , since if  $T' \in \mathcal{T}(E)$  then  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}} \simeq T$  must contain a subgroup isomorphic to  $T'$ . The theorem then follows, provided that for each  $T \in \mathcal{T}$  we can determine a set of rational functions  $F_T$  for which the union of the images of these functions is equal to the union of the image  $J_G$  over the maximal groups  $G$  for  $T$ . This amounts to explicitly expressing each of the images  $J_G$  as the union of the images of a set of (possibly constant) rational functions  $j(t)$ . We turn now to this problem.

We first note that it may happen that  $G$  is the full inverse image of the reduction map from  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$  to  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})$  for some  $m$  dividing  $n$ ; in this case we reduce  $G$  modulo the largest such  $m$  and call  $m$  the *level* of  $G$ . For example, when  $T = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  we have  $G = \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  and can reduce  $G$  to the trivial group of level 1 corresponding to  $X(1)$ ; this is consistent with the fact that  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))[2] = E[2]$  holds for all  $E/\mathbb{Q}$ . Similar remarks apply whenever  $n = 2m$  with  $m$  odd.

A Magma script to enumerate the maximal groups  $G$  for each torsion structure  $T$  can be found at [4]; for each  $G$  we may determine the genus of  $X_G$  by taking the intersection of  $G$  with  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})$  (all the cases of interest are already listed in the tables of Cummins and Pauli [3]), and we use [43, Lemma 3.4] to determine the number of rational cusps on  $X_G$ . There are a total of 33 maximal groups  $G$  for the 20 groups  $T$ , and we find that for each of these  $G$ , one of the following holds: (1)  $X_G$  has genus 0 and rational point, in which case  $X_G$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{P}^1$  and the map  $X_G \rightarrow X(1)$  is given by a rational function  $j(t)$ , or (2)  $X_G$  is isomorphic to either a genus 1 curve with no rational

points, an elliptic curve of rank 0, or a curve of genus greater than 1, and in every case the image of  $X_G(\mathbb{Q})$  in  $X(1)$  is finite (by Faltings' Theorem [5]).

For the first five groups  $T$  listed in Table 7.1, there is a unique maximal  $G$  and  $X_G$  has genus 0 and is of prime-power level; for these  $G$  we may take  $j(t)$  from [39] (for the 2-power levels, maps that are equivalent up to an automorphism of  $\mathbb{P}^1$  (hence have the same image) can also be found in the tables of [34]). The same applies to the groups  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/26\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$ , and  $\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$ . We now briefly discuss each of the remaining 12 groups  $T$ :

- $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$ : There are two maximal  $G$ , both of level 16; for the first,  $X_G$  has genus 0 and the corresponding map  $j(t)$  from [39] is listed in Table 1. For the second  $X_G$  is a genus 1 curve with no rational points (the curve X335 in [34]).
- $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ : There are three maximal  $G$ , one of level 2 and two of level 4, all of genus 0; the corresponding maps  $j(t)$  from [39] are listed in Table 1.
- $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$ : There are two maximal  $G$ , one of level 4 and one of level 8, both of genus 0; the corresponding maps  $j(t)$  from [39] are listed in Table 1.
- $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}$ : There are two maximal  $G$ , one of level 8 and one of level 16. The level 8 curve has genus 0 and the corresponding map  $j(t)$  from [39] is listed in Table 1, while the level 16 curve is a genus 1 curve with no rational points (the curve X478 in [34]).
- $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/28\mathbb{Z}$ : There are three maximal  $G$ , one of level 14 and two of level 28, all of which have genus greater than 2. Two are ruled out by the fact that any  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  with this image would be isogenous to an  $E'/\mathbb{Q}$  admitting a rational 28-isogeny, but no such  $E'$  exist, by Theorem 4.4. The remaining  $G$  of level 28 corresponds to a modular curve  $X_G$  of of genus 3 with congruence subgroup  $28E^3$ . This curve admits a degree-2 map to a genus 2 curve  $X_H$ , where  $G \subseteq H$ , with congruence subgroup  $28A^2$ . The curve  $X_H$  has a hyperelliptic model

$$X_H : y^2 = x^6 - 2x^5 - 4x^4 - 4x^3 - 4x^2 - 2x + 1$$

whose Jacobian has rank 1. Chabauty's method finds that  $X_H$  has 4 rational points, two of which are the image of known non-cuspidal rational points on  $X_G$  (the corresponding  $j$ -invariants are listed in Table 1), while the other two are cusps.

- $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$ : There is one maximal  $G$  and it is conjugate to the Borel group in  $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z})$ , and  $X_G = X_0(12)$  has genus 0; the map to the  $j$ -line is taken from [22, Table 3].
- $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z}$ : There are three maximal  $G$ , all of level 9, two of genus 0 and one of genus 1. The corresponding maps  $j(t)$  for the genus 0 curves from [39] are listed in Table 1. As shown in the proof of 5.21, the genus 1 curve has only one non-cuspidal rational point corresponding to  $j$ -invariant 0, but for  $j(E) = 0$  we have  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}} \simeq \mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z}$ .
- $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/30\mathbb{Z}$ : There is one maximal  $G$ , of level 15 and genus 1 and  $X_G$  admits a map to  $X_0(15)$  whose rational points give four distinct  $j$ -invariants; see [22, Table 4]. Of these, two correspond to elliptic curves whose mod-15 Galois image is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $G$  (of index 2 but yielding the same  $E(\mathbb{Q}(3^\infty))_{\mathrm{tors}}$  structure); these are listed in Table 1.
- $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/42\mathbb{Z}$ : There is one maximal  $G$ , of level 21 and genus 1, and  $X_G$  is the curve  $X_0(21)$  whose rational points give rise to four the  $j$ -invariants listed in Table 1; see [22, Table 4].
- $\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$ : There are three maximal  $G$ , one of level 6 and genus 0 whose corresponding map  $j(t)$  can be computed as a fiber product of maps in [39]; this map appears in Table 1.

The other two have level 12 and genus 1, and the  $X_G$  are isomorphic to 48a1 and 48a3 respectively. The first has four rational points, all cuspidal, and the second has eight rational points, four of which are non-cuspidal and yield the two  $j$ -invariants listed in Table 1.

- $\mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/18\mathbb{Z}$ : There are two maximal  $G$ , one of level 3 and one of level 9 and both of genus 0; the corresponding maps  $j(t)$  from [39] appear in Table 1.

Further details of these computations can be found in [4]. □

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