



# Overview of Talk

1. Modular Abelian Varieties
2. Computing With Modular Abelian Varieties

# Modular Abelian Varieties

Abelian variety: A complete group variety

## Examples:

1. Elliptic curves, e.g.,  $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$
2. Jacobians of curves
3. Quotients of Jacobians of curves

## Connection with Cryptography

Modular abelian varieties over finite fields provide a source of groups that can be used for cryptography (e.g. Elliptic Curve Cryptography). I will focus on modular abelian varieties over infinite fields today, but the results are relevant for the reductions of those varieties modulo primes.

## The Modular Curve $X_1(N)$

Let  $\mathfrak{h}^* = \{z \in \mathbf{C} : \Im(z) > 0\} \cup \mathbf{P}^1(\mathbf{Q})$ .

1.  $X_1(N)_{\mathbf{C}} = \Gamma_1(N) \backslash \mathfrak{h}^*$  (compact Riemann surface)
2.  $X_1(N)$  has natural structure of algebraic curve
3.  $X_1(N)(\mathbf{C}) = \{(E, P) : \text{ord}(P) = N\} / \sim$  (modular equivalence)

$N$	$\leq 10$	11	13	37	169	511
genus( $X_1(N)$ )	0	1	2	40	1070	78

# Modular Forms

1. Cuspidal modular forms (of weight 2):

$$S_2(N) = H^0(X_1(N), \Omega_{X_1(N)}^1)$$

2.  $f \in S_2(N)$  has Fourier expansion in terms of  $q$

$$f = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n q^n$$

3. Hecke algebra (*commutative* ring):

$$\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{Z}[T_1, T_2, \dots] \hookrightarrow \text{End}(S_2(N))$$

## The Modular Jacobian $J_1(N)$

1. Jacobian of  $X_1(N)$ :

$$J_1(N) = \text{Jac}(X_1(N))$$

2.  $J_1(N)$  is an abelian variety over  $\mathbf{Q}$  of dimension  $g$ .
3. The elements of  $J_1(N)$  parameterize divisor classes of degree 0.

## Modular Abelian Varieties

A **modular abelian variety**  $A$  over a number field  $K$  is any abelian variety  $A$  (over  $K$ ) such that there is a homomorphism

$$A \rightarrow J_1(N)$$

with finite kernel.



## Examples and Conjectures

Suppose  $\dim A = 1$ .

- **Theorem (Wiles, Breuil, Conrad, Diamond, Taylor).** If  $K = \mathbb{Q}$  then  $A$  is modular.
- **Theorem (Shimura).** If  $A$  has CM then  $A$  is modular.
- **Definition:**  $A$  over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  is a **Q-curve** if for each conjugate  $A^\sigma$  of  $A$  there is an isogeny  $A \rightarrow A^\sigma$  (non-constant map with finite kernel).
- **Conjecture (Ribet, Serre).** Over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  the non-CM elliptic curves are exactly the Q-curves.

## GL<sub>2</sub>-type

**Defn.** A simple abelian variety  $A/\mathbf{Q}$  is of GL<sub>2</sub>-type if

$$\text{End}_0(A/\mathbf{Q}) = \text{End}(A/\mathbf{Q}) \otimes \mathbf{Q}$$

is a number field of degree  $\dim(A)$ .

Shimura associated GL<sub>2</sub>-type modular abelian eigenforms:

$$f = q + \sum_{n \geq 2} a_n q^n \in S_2(N)$$

$$I_f = \text{Ker}(\mathbf{T} \rightarrow \mathbf{Q}(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots)), \quad T_n \mapsto$$

Abelian variety  $A_f$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $\dim = [\mathbb{Q}(a_1, a_2, \dots)]$

$$A_f := J_1(N)/I_f J_1(N)$$

**Theorem (Ribet).** Shimura's  $A_f$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -isogeny simple

$$\text{End}_0(A_f/\mathbb{Q}) = \mathbb{Q}(a_2, a_3, \dots).$$

Also there is an isogeny  $J_1(N) \sim \prod_f A_f$ , where  $f$  runs over Galois-conjugacy classes of  $f$ .

### Conjecture. (Ribet)

The simple modular abelian varieties  $A$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  are the simple abelian varieties over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $GL_2$ -type.

Ribet proved that his conjecture follows from Serre's conjectures on modularity of odd mod  $p$  Galois representations.

## 2. Computing With Abelian Varieties

**Goal:** Develop a systematic theory for computing with modular abelian varieties.

**Basic Problems:** Presentation, isogeny testing, endomorphism ring, enumeration.

**Arithmetic Problems:** Special values of  $L$ -functions, computing Shafarevich-Tate groups, Tamagawa numbers, counting elements of isogeny class.

## Presentation

Modular abelian varieties can be specified in many ways:

- Equations
- Built from newform abelian varieties  $A_f$
- Arise theoretically (e.g., Jacobians of Shimura curves)

For all our questions today we will view a modular abelian variety as being defined in the following way. Any modular abelian variety  $B$  can be obtained by quotienting an abelian variety  $A \subset J_1(N)$  by a finite subgroup  $G$ . Thus we represent  $B$  as a pair  $(A, G)$ , where  $G \subset A \subset J_1(N)$ .

## Specifying $A$

An inclusion  $\varphi : A \hookrightarrow J_1(N)$  induces an inclusion

$$H_1(A, \mathbf{Q}) \hookrightarrow H_1(J_1(N), \mathbf{Q}),$$

and  $A$  is completely determined by the image of vector space  $H_1(J_1(N), \mathbf{Q})$ .

**We give  $A$  by giving a subspace  $V = V_{\mathbf{Q}} \subset$**

## Specifying $G$

By the Abel-Jacobi theory there is a canonical is

$$J_1(N)(\mathbf{C}) \cong H_1(J_1(N), \mathbf{R}) / H_1(J_1(N), \mathbf{Z}).$$

Likewise  $A(\mathbf{C}) \cong V_{\mathbf{R}} / V_{\mathbf{Z}}$ , where  $V_{\mathbf{Z}} = V \cap H_1(J_1(N), \mathbf{Z})$ .

$$A(\mathbf{C})_{\text{tor}} \cong V_{\mathbf{Q}} / V_{\mathbf{Z}}.$$

**We give  $G$  by giving finitely many elements**

## Recognition Problem

**Problem:** When does a subspace  $V \subset H_1(J_1(N), K)$  correspond to an abelian subvariety  $A$  of  $J_1(N)$  over  $K$ ?

**Solution:** Given an isogeny decomposition of  $J_1(N)$  as a direct sum of simple abelian varieties, I have to solve this problem. (It is straightforward to construct a decomposition when  $K = \mathbb{Q}$ .)

**Problem:** Given a group  $G$  defined by a finite set of relations over  $V_{\mathbb{Q}}/V_{\mathbb{Z}}$ , find the smallest number field over which  $G$  is defined. This is important because if  $G$  is defined over  $K$ , then  $V_K$  is defined over  $K$ .

**Solution??:** I have not solved this problem, it is very difficult.

## Modular Symbols

Modular symbols provide a presentation of

$$H_1(X_1(N), \mathbf{Z})$$

on which one can give formulas for Hecke and other operators.  
They have been intensively studied by Birch, Mazur, Mazur, Merel, Cremona, and others.

```
> M := CuspidalSubspace(ModularSymbols(Gamma1(11)))
> Basis(M);
[
  -1/5*{-1/2, 0} + -2/5*{-1/4, 0} + 3/5*{-1/7, 0},
  -2/5*{-1/2, 0} + 1/5*{-1/4, 0} + 1/5*{-1/7, 0}
]
```



## Enumeration Problem Over $\mathbf{Q}$

**Problem:** Give an algorithm to systematically enumerate isogeny classes of simple modular abelian varieties over  $\mathbf{Q}$ .

The isogeny classes of simple modular abelian varieties over  $\mathbf{Q}$  are in bijection with *newforms*, which are eigenvalues of Hecke operators in the space  $S_2(\Gamma_1(N))$  of modular forms of weight 2. Using the Atkin-Lehner-Li theory of newforms, modular symbols, and the Hecke algebra, we can thus enumerate the isogeny classes.

I **do not know** how to find all abelian varieties in a given isogeny class, except when  $A$  has dimension 1, where it is possible to at least find several by intersecting  $A \subset J_1(N)$  with other abelian varieties over  $\mathbf{Q}$ , quotienting out by intersection, and checking if the quotient is not isomorphic to  $A$ .

## Example

```
> Factorization(J1(17));
[*
<Modular abelian variety 17A of dimension 1, level 17
and conductor 17 over Q, [
    Homomorphism from 17A to J1(17) given on invariants
    homology by:
    [-3  1  2 -2  0 -2  2 -1  2  4]
    [-2 -2  0  0  0  0  0  2  4  0]
]>,
<Modular abelian variety 17A[2] of dimension 4, level 17
and conductor 17^4 over Q, [
    Homomorphism from 17A[2] to J1(17) (not primitive)
    8x10 matrix)
]>
*]
```

## Enumeration Problem Over

**Problem:** Give an algorithm to systematically enumerate all isogeny classes of modular abelian varieties over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

There is a huge amount of work by Shimura, Ribet, Lario, and others, but still nobody has given an algorithm to enumerate all isogeny classes of modular abelian varieties over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  explicitly. By explicit, I mean in the sense of explicit data, i.e., a pair  $(V, G \subset V_{\mathbb{Q}}/V_{\mathbb{Z}})$ .

### Obstructions:

- Difficulty of constructing  $\text{End}(A_f/\overline{\mathbb{Q}})$  explicitly (algorithm, but it is *way too slow* to be useful)
- Difficulty of decomposing  $A_f/\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  as a product of simple abelian varieties given  $\text{End}(A_f/\overline{\mathbb{Q}})$ . Need a good “Meataxe” over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

## Computing Endomorphism Rings

**Problem:** Given a modular abelian variety  $A$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , compute  $\text{End}(A)$  explicitly, i.e., give matrices in  $\text{End}(V)$  that generate  $\text{End}(A)$  as an abelian group.

**Solution:** When  $A \in J_1(N)$  is simple,  $\text{End}(A)$  is a number field, which can be computed. For example, if  $A = A_f$  is attached to a newform and  $\text{End}(A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  is generated by the image of the Hecke algebra. We can then compute  $\text{End}(A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  as the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -submodule of elements that form a lattice  $V_{\mathbb{Z}}$ .

We can also explicitly compute  $\text{Hom}(A, B)$  for any two abelian varieties  $A$  and  $B$ , by writing  $A$  and  $B$  as simple abelian varieties, computing their endomorphism algebras, and finding the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module of homomorphisms that induce a map that fixes integral homomorphisms.

## Example

```
> A := J0(33); A;
Modular abelian variety J0(33) of dimension 3 and level 33
> End(A);
Group of homomorphisms from J0(33) to J0(33)
> Basis(End(A));
[
  Homomorphism from J0(33) to J0(33) (not printing 6x6
  Homomorphism from J0(33) to J0(33) (not printing 6x6
  Homomorphism from J0(33) to J0(33) (not printing 6x6
  Homomorphism from J0(33) to J0(33) (not printing 6x6
  Homomorphism from J0(33) to J0(33) (not printing 6x6
]
> Matrix(Basis(End(A))[2]);
[ 0  1  0  0  0 -1]
[ 0  1  0  0  0  0]
[ 0  1  0  0 -1  0]
[ 0  1 -1  1 -1  0]
[ 0  1 -1  0  0  0]
[-1  1  0  0  0  0]
```

## Isogeny Testing

**Problem:** Given modular abelian varieties  $A$  and  $B$ , determine whether or not  $A$  is isogenous to  $B$ .

Determine whether  $A$  is isogenous to  $B$  is easy, assume  $A$  and  $B$  are attached to newforms  $\sum a_n q^n$  and  $\sum b_n q^n$  and then  $A$  is isogenous to  $B$  if and only if the  $a_n$  and  $b_n$  are Galois conjugate.

## Isomorphism Testing

**Problem:** Suppose  $A$  is isogenous to  $B$ . Decide if  $A$  is isomorphic to  $B$ .

I do not know how to do this in general. Assume  $A$  and  $B$  are simple. I have computed  $\text{End}(A)$ ,  $\text{End}(B)$ , and  $\text{Hom}(A, B)$  explicitly. If I have a basis for  $\text{Hom}(A, B)$ , how do we know if some linear combination of that basis has determinant 1? It's not clear (to me).

If  $A$  and  $B$  are both simple and have commutative endomorphism rings, then I found an algorithm to decide whether  $A$  is isomorphic to  $B$ . This algorithm can be extended to abelian varieties that are products of such  $A$ , assuming the factors occur with multiplicity 1 (up to isogeny). However, I do not know in general how to decide whether  $A \oplus A$  is isomorphic to  $B \oplus B$ , though I have a strategy that I think might work.

## Algorithm for Testing Isomorphism

Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are explicitly defined modular abelian varieties over  $\mathbb{Q}$  that are both isogenous to an abelian variety. The following algorithm determines whether  $A$  is isomorphic to  $B$ .

Let  $H = \text{Hom}(A, B)$ . Both  $A$  and  $B$  are given explicitly as  $(V, G_1)$  and  $(V, G_2)$ , so we can compute an isogeny  $f: A \rightarrow B$ . Let  $H_f = \{\phi \circ f : \phi \in H\} \subset \text{End}(B)$ . Note that  $f$  is an isomorphism to  $B$  if and only if  $H_f$  contains an element of  $G_2$ . Also note that  $H_f$  has finite index in  $\text{End}(B)$ .

By hypothesis  $K = \text{End}(B) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  is the field generated by the Fourier coefficients of  $f$ . The norm of an element of  $K$  is a positive square root of the degree of the corresponding isogeny (see Milne in Cornell-Silverman, pg 126).



Thus if  $\deg(f)$  is not a perfect square, then there is no element of  $B$  of degree  $\deg(f)$ , so  $A$  is not isomorphic to  $B$ . Suppose  $\deg(f) = d^2$ .

Typically there will be infinitely many elements of norm  $d$  in  $\mathcal{O}_K$ , but there are only finitely many up to units. The algorithm, which involves computing the class group of  $\mathcal{O}_K$  and enumerates representative elements of  $\mathcal{O}_K$  of norm  $d$  (e.g., the `NormEquation` command in MAGMA). Then we have computed representative elements  $z_1, \dots, z_n$  of  $\mathcal{O}_K$  with norm  $d$ . Then  $A$  is isomorphic to  $B$  if and only if there is a unit  $u$  and a  $z_i$  such that  $u^{-1}z_i \in H_f \subset K$ , or such that  $z_i \in uH_f$ . There are only finitely many such  $uH_f$ , since  $H_f$  has finite index in  $\mathcal{O}_K$  and  $[\mathcal{O}_K : uH_f] = [\mathcal{O}_K : H_f]$  since  $\mathcal{O}_K = u\mathcal{O}_K$ . We can thus list all subgroups  $uH_f$  (we can compute generators for  $\mathcal{O}_K^*$ ) and hence determine if  $H_f$  contains an element of norm  $d$ , as required.

**Thank you for  
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