

Action of Inertia on Modular Curves

Robert F. Coleman

Suppose K is the completion of the MUR of a complete local field. If A is an Abelian variety over K , by Mumford there exists a finite Galois extension L of K over which A has “semi-Abelian reduction,” i.e. there is a model \mathcal{A}_L of $A \otimes L$ over R_L whose reduction is an extension of an Abelian variety by an affine torus. This model is unique, if it exists. In particular, if $\sigma \in I(K) =: \text{Gal } \bar{K}/K$ we have an isomorphism $\mathcal{A}_L^\sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_L$ and so a homomorphism

$$w_A: I(K) \rightarrow \text{Aut } \bar{\mathcal{A}}.$$

Theorem. *The homomorphisms w_A and $w_{\hat{A}}$ are both trivial if and only if A has semi-Abelian reduction over K .*

Theorem. *A has semi-Abelian reduction over $K(A[\ell](\bar{K}))$, $p \neq \ell > 2$.*

How do you compute w_A ?

Suppose A is the Jacobian of a curve C . Then A has semi-Abelian reduction over L if and only if C has “semi-stable model” over R_L , i.e., a model over R_L whose reduction has at worst normal crossings. If the dimension of A is at least 2 the category of semi-stable models for C over L has a final object \mathcal{C}_L , if it is non-empty. This is called the **stable** model of C (over L). We have $\text{Pic } \mathcal{C} \cong \mathcal{A}$

$$w_C: I(K) \rightarrow \text{Aut } \bar{\mathcal{C}},$$

and the obvious diagram commutes.

Modular Curves

Suppose $p > 3$. Let $X_0(p^3)$ and $J_0(p^3)$ its Jacobian. Let C_p be the completion of the curve $y^2 = x^p - x$ over $\mathbf{F} = \overline{\mathbf{F}}_p$.

Theorem. *Then the semi-Abelian reduction of $J_0(p^3)^{new}$ is isogenous to the product of $(p^2 - 1)/6$ copies of $Jac(C_p)$.*

Question. *Is $J_0(p^3)^{new} \cong Jac(C_p)^{(p^2-1)/6}$?*

What lies behind this is

Theorem. *The “new part” of the stable reduction of $X_0(p^3)$ is $(p^2 - 1)/6$ copies of C_p , each attached at ∞ to the “old part.”*

Inertial Action

Let K be the MUE of $D =: \mathbf{Q}(\{\sqrt{D} : D \in \mathbf{Q}_p\})$. We get a map

$$w : I(K) \rightarrow (\text{Aut}(y^2 = x^p - x)^{(p^2-1)/6}).$$

In fact, w factors through a map

$$I(K)^{ab} \rightarrow (\text{Aut}(y^2 = x^p - x))^{(p^2-1)/6}.$$

Quaternion Action

Now suppose $p = 13$. Let E be the ss elliptic curve mod p . Then, $\text{End} \hat{E} \cong B := \mathbf{Z}_p[i, j, k]$, where $i^2 = -2$, $j^2 = -p$, and $ij = -ji = k$.

Then B^* acts on the residue class $U \cong A(|p|, 1)$ of $X_0(p)$ above E . Let W be the AL inv. of $X_0(p)$. Then if $\rho \in \mathbf{Z}_p[i]^*$, $w_\rho =: \rho W$ is an involution of U .

All these automorphisms preserve the central circle S in U and hence act on its reduction $\bar{S} \cong \mathbf{G}_m$.

The curves above correspond to fixed points of some \bar{w}_ρ . There are two kinds of ρ . If $x \in \bar{S}$ is a fixed point of w_ρ where $\rho \in \mathbf{Z}_p[i]^*$ and C_x the corresponding affine curve.

Theorem. *The map $\mathcal{O}_D^* \rightarrow \text{Aut}(C_x)$, $b \mapsto (w \circ \text{Art}(b))|_{C_x}$ factors through $N_{D/F}$ where $F = \mathbf{Q}_p(\sqrt{-p\rho\bar{\rho}})$ and has image of order equal to $2p$ and its kernel contains $1 + p\mathcal{O}_K$.*

Corollary. *Any field of semi-Abelian reduction of $J_0(p^3)^{new}$ contains the cyclic extension $S(D)$ of degree p of $L =: \mathbf{Q}_p(\sqrt{-pD})^{nr}$ for any $D \in \mathbf{Z}_p^*$ corresponding to the group $\mathbf{Z}_p^* + p\mathcal{O}_L$.*

Corollary. *There exists a weight 2 new form on $X_0(p^3)$ whose representation wildly ramified at p .*

Now

$$J_0(p^3)^{new} \sim \prod_f A_f$$

where f runs over the normalized new forms on $X_0(p^3)$ and Jared told me that the minimal ext. $M(f)$ of K over which A_f has good reduction only contains one of the two fields $S(D)$. Given the above theorem I guessed and Jared proved

$$\sum_{M(f) \supseteq S(1)} \dim A_f = \sum_{M(f) \supseteq S(D)} \dim A_f \quad \text{for } D \in \mathbf{Z}_p^*.$$

For $p = 13$, the dimensions of the A_f are 36, 42, 42, 48.

Conjecture. *Then the semi-Abelian reduction of*

$$\prod_{M(f) \supseteq S(D)} A_f$$

is isogenous to the product of $(p^2 - 1)/12$ copies of $\text{Jac}(C_p)$.