



## Hasse's bound for elliptic curves over finite fields

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Let  $E$  be an elliptic curve defined over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  with  $q = p^r$  elements ( $p \in \mathbb{Z}$  is a prime). The following theorem gives a bound of the size of  $E(\mathbb{F}_q)$ ,  $N_q$ , i.e. the number points of  $E$  defined over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . This was first conjectured by Emil Artin (in his thesis!) and proved by Helmut Hasse in the 1930's.

**Theorem 1** (Hasse).

$$|N_q - q - 1| \leq 2\sqrt{q}$$

**Remark:** Let  $a_p = p + 1 - N_p$  as in the definition of the L-series of an elliptic curve. Then Hasse's bound reads:

$$|a_p| \leq 2\sqrt{p}$$

This fact is key for the convergence of the L-series of  $E$ .