

Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite group, and let  $H$  be a finite admissible  $\Gamma$ -group, i.e.  $\gcd(\#H, \#\Gamma) = 1$  and  $H$  is generated by elements of the form  $h^{-1}\gamma(h)$ .

**Recall 1** (Notation). Write  $Q = \mathbb{F}_q(t)$  for some  $q$ . For an extension  $K/Q$ , we let  $K^\#$  denote the maximal unramified extension of  $K$  of order prime to  $|\mu_Q| |\Gamma| \text{char}(Q)$  that is split completely at places of  $K$  over infinity. Let  $\text{rDisc } K = \text{Nm rad Disc}(K/Q)$ .

Let  $E_\Gamma(D, Q) = \{K/Q \text{ totally real } \Gamma\text{-extension} : \text{rDisc } K = D\}$ .

**Theorem 2** (Sur-moment in large  $q$  limit).

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{\substack{q \rightarrow \infty \\ (q, |\Gamma| |\Gamma| |\Gamma|) = 1 \\ (q-1, |H|) = 1}} \frac{\sum_{n \leq N} \sum_{K \in E_\Gamma(q^n, \mathbb{F}_q(t))} |\text{Sur}_\Gamma(\text{Gal}(K^\# / K), H)|}{\sum_{n \leq N} |E_\Gamma(q^n, \mathbb{F}_q(t))|} = \frac{1}{[H : H^\Gamma]}$$

where in the limit  $q$  is always a prime power.

Let

$$N(H, \Gamma, D, Q) := \# \left\{ \varphi \in \text{Sur}(\text{Gal}(\overline{Q}/Q), H \rtimes \Gamma) \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{rDisc}(K_\varphi/Q) = D, \text{ } K_\varphi/Q \text{ split completely at } \infty \\ \text{and } K/K^H \text{ everywhere unramified} \end{array} \right\}$$

Then,

$$\sum_{K \in E_\Gamma(D, Q)} |\text{Sur}_\Gamma(\text{Gal}(K^\# / K), H)| = \frac{1}{[H : H^\Gamma]} N(H, \Gamma, D, Q),$$

so to prove theorem, suffices to show

$$\sum_{n \leq N} N(H, \Gamma, q^n, \mathbb{F}_q(t)) \sim \sum_{n \leq N} \#E_\Gamma(q^n, \mathbb{F}_q(t))$$

as  $q \rightarrow \infty$  (satisfying necessary coprimality conditions) then  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Recall 3.** For  $A$  some group, and  $c \subset A$  an appropriate subset, we have a scheme  $\text{Hur}_{A,c}^n / \mathbb{Z}[1/|A|]$  parameterizing triples  $(X \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{P}^1, G \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Aut}(f), P)$  where

- $f$  is a tame Galois cover unramified above  $\infty$  with inertia at each (branch) point generated by an element of  $c$
- $P \in X$  is a point above  $\infty$ .

**Recall 4.** Let  $G_1 = H \rtimes \Gamma$  and let  $c_1 \subset G_1$  be the set of elements who have the same order in  $G$  as their images in  $\Gamma$ . Then, for  $q$  relatively prime to  $|G|$  and  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$\#\text{Hur}_{G_1, c_1}^n(\mathbb{F}_q) = N(H, \Gamma, q^n, \mathbb{F}_q(t)).$$

**Remark 5.** One also has

$$\#\text{Hur}_{\Gamma, \Gamma \setminus \{1\}}^n(\mathbb{F}_q) = E_\Gamma(q^n, \mathbb{F}_q(t)).$$

Product of  
ramified  
places when  
 $Q = \mathbb{Q}$

Totally real  
= split com-  
pletely over  
 $\infty$

Have every-  
thing up to  
here writ-  
ten on board  
before talk  
starts

$q$  prime to  
 $|\Gamma| |H|$ , and  
 $q - 1$  prime  
to  $|H|$

TODO: Dif-  
ferentiate  $G$   
and  $G_1$

Split com-  
pletely be-  
cause Ga-  
lois + exists  
an  $\mathbb{F}_p$ -point  
over  $\infty$

*Goal.* Let  $\pi_{G_1}(q, n)$  denote the number of  $\text{Frob} = \text{Frob}_{(\text{Hur}_{G_1, c_1}^n)_{\mathbb{F}_q}}$ -fixed components of  $(\text{Hur}_{G_1, c_1}^n)_{\mathbb{F}_q}$ , and let  $\pi_{\Gamma}(q, n)$  denote the number of  $\text{Frob}$ -fixed components of  $(\text{Hur}_{\Gamma, \Gamma \setminus \{1\}}^n)_{\mathbb{F}_q}$ . Then,

$$\pi_{G_1}(q, n) \sim \pi_{\Gamma}(q, n).$$

More specifically, if  $d_{\Gamma}(q)$  denotes the number of orbits of non-trivial conjugacy classes of  $\Gamma$  under taking  $q$ th powers of elements, then

$$\pi_G(q, n) = \pi_{\Gamma}(q, n) + O_G \left( n^{d_{\Gamma}(q)-2} \right)$$

and (ignoring congruence subtleties)  $\pi_{\Gamma}(q, n) \geq C_G n^{d_{\Gamma}(q)-1}$ .

To count these components, we recall the lifting invariant.

*Setup.* Consider a finite group  $G$  with a chosen subset  $c \subset G \setminus \{1\}$  which is closed under conjugation by elements of  $G$  and under invertible powers. Also assume  $c$  generates  $G$ .

**Recall 6.** Let

$$U(G, c) = \langle [g] : g \in G \mid [x][y][x]^{-1} = [xyx^{-1}] \rangle \text{ and } K(G, c) := \ker \left( U(G, c) \xrightarrow{[g] \mapsto g} G \right).$$

For  $k = \bar{k}$  a field where  $\text{char } k \nmid |G|$ , we let

$$\widehat{\mathbb{Z}}_k^{\times} := \varprojlim_n \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \text{ and } \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}(1)_k^{\times} := \varprojlim_n \mu_n(k)$$

with  $n$  ranging over integers coprime to  $\text{char } k$ . There is an action  $\widehat{\mathbb{Z}}_k^{\times} \curvearrowright K(G, c)$  so that every component of  $(\text{Hur}_{G, c}^n)_k$  has a well-defined **lifting invariant**

$$\mathfrak{z} \in K(G, c) \langle -1 \rangle_k := \text{Mor}_{\widehat{\mathbb{Z}}_k^{\times}} \left( \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}(1)_k^{\times}, K(G, c) \right).$$

Furthermore, if  $k = \mathbb{F}_q$  and  $\bar{s} \in \text{Hur}_{G, c}^n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , then for any  $\zeta \in \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}(1)_{\mathbb{F}_q}$ , one has

$$\mathfrak{z}_{\text{Frob}(\bar{s})}(\zeta) = q^{-1} * \mathfrak{z}_{\bar{s}}(\zeta).$$

Recall there's a map  $U(G, c) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{c/G}$ . Write

- $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq M}^{c/G}$  for the subset of elements all of whose coordinates are  $\geq M$ .
- $\mathbb{Z}_{=q}^{c/G}$  for the subset of elements whose coordinates which are fixed by the automorphism  $e_{\bar{x}} \mapsto e_{\bar{x}q}$  for  $\bar{x} \in c/G$  ( $x \in c$ ).
- $\mathbb{Z}_n^{c/G}$  for the subset of elements with coordinates summing to  $n$ .

Use the same subscripts for  $K(G, c)$ , e.g. write  $K(G, c)_{\geq M} \langle -1 \rangle$  for the elements sending a generator to an element of  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq M}^{c/G}$ .

**Theorem 7.** For  $M \gg 0$ , one has the following. Let  $Y \hookrightarrow (\text{Hur}_{G, c}^n)_{\mathbb{F}_q}$  be the union of all components with lifting invariant in  $K(G, c)_{\geq M} \langle -1 \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_q}$ . Then, components of  $Y$  are in bijection with their lifting invariants.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> $\text{Hur}_{G, c}^n(\mathbb{C})$  components in bijection with  $B_n$ -orbits on  $c^n$  with product 1 generating  $G$

Ignore this bit

e.g. for quadratic extensions, the discriminant is always an even power of  $q$  (i.e.  $n$  is even)

$g^n \in c$  if  $g \in c$  and  $(n, \text{ord}(g)) = 1$

Get here in  $\leq 25$  minutes

Requires topological input. Need to know the components over  $\mathbb{C}$ , a comparison theorem, and this

So we can get our main term by counting Frob-fixed lifting invariants.

**Proposition 8.** *Let  $n \geq 0$  and let  $q$  be a prime power with  $(q, |G|) = 1$ . Let  $d_{G,c}(q)$  be the number of orbits of  $q$ th powering on the conjugacy classes in  $c/G$ , and let  $b(G, c, q, n)$  be the number of Frob-fixed component invariants in  $K(G, c)_{n, \geq 0} \langle -1 \rangle_{\mathbb{F}_q}$ . Then,*

$$\pi_{G,c}(q, n) = b(G, c, q, n) + O_G \left( n^{d_{G,c}(q)-2} \right)$$

(and  $\pi_{G,c}(q, n) = 0$  if  $b(G, c, q, n) = 0$ ).

*Proof.* Consider the union  $Z_q$  of all components of  $(\text{Hur}_{G,c}^n)_{\mathbb{F}_q}$  with lifting invariant sending a topological generator to an element with image in  $\mathbb{Z}_{\equiv q}^{c/G}$  that has some coordinate  $< M$ . There are  $O_G(n^{d_G(q)-2})$  choices of  $\underline{m} \in \mathbb{Z}_{n, \geq 0, \equiv q}^{c/G}$  with some component  $< M$ . A theorem of Ellenberg-Venkatesh says that there are  $O_G(1)$  components corresponding to each  $\underline{m}$ , so we win by the previous theorem. ■

**Fact.**  $b(G, c, q, n)$  grows like  $n^{d_G(q)-1}$  (ignoring modulus subtleties)

Let  $G_1 = H \rtimes \Gamma$  with  $c_1$  the (nonzero) elements of  $G$  that have the same order as their image in  $\Gamma$ , and let  $G_2 = \Gamma$  with  $c_2 = \Gamma \setminus \{1\}$ . We want to show that

$$b(G_1, c_1, q, n) = b(G_2, c_2, q, n).$$

For this, I first need to quote some facts about the group theory of  $U(G, c)$ .

**Fact.** There exists a group  $\bar{S} \rightarrow G$  so that  $U(G, c) \simeq \bar{S} \times_{G^{\text{ab}}} \mathbb{Z}^{c/G}$ ,  $K(G, c) \simeq \ker(\bar{S} \rightarrow G) \times_{G^{\text{ab}}} \mathbb{Z}^{c/G}$ , and  $(q, \# \ker(\bar{S} \rightarrow G)) = 1$ .<sup>2</sup> In this language, we can describe the action  $\widehat{\mathbb{Z}}_k^\times \curvearrowright K(G, c)$ .

In each conjugacy class  $\gamma \in c/G$ , pick some element  $x_\gamma$  along with a preimage  $\hat{x}_\gamma$  in  $\bar{S}$ . If  $y = gx_\gamma g^{-1}$ , for some  $G$ , is in the same class, we set  $\hat{y} := \tilde{g}\hat{x}_\gamma\tilde{g}^{-1}$  (independent of choice of  $g$  or  $\tilde{g} \in \bar{S}$ ). For  $x \in c$ , we define  $[x] = (\hat{x}, e_x) \in U(G, c)$ . For  $\alpha \in \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}_k^\times$  and  $\gamma \in c/G$ , we define  $w_\alpha(\gamma) := (\hat{x}_\gamma)^{-\alpha} \hat{x}_\gamma^\alpha \in \ker(\bar{S} \rightarrow G)$ . This gives

$$\begin{aligned} W_\alpha : \mathbb{Z}^{c/G} &\longrightarrow \ker(\bar{S} \rightarrow G) \\ e_\gamma &\longmapsto w_\alpha(\gamma). \end{aligned}$$

The action  $\widehat{\mathbb{Z}}_k^\times \curvearrowright K(G, c)$  is given by

$$\alpha \star (g, \underline{m}) = (g^\alpha W_\alpha(\underline{m}), \underline{m}^\alpha).$$

(action on  $\mathbb{Z}^{c/G}$  comes from action on  $G$  by permuting basis elements)

**Corollary 9.**

$$\begin{aligned} b(G, c, q, n) &= \sum_{\underline{m} \in \ker \left( \mathbb{Z}_{\equiv q, n, \geq 0}^{c/G} \rightarrow G^{\text{ab}} \right)} \text{nr}_{q-1}(W_{q^{-1}}(\underline{m})) \\ &= \sum_{h \in \ker(\bar{S}^2 \rightarrow G_2)} \text{nr}_{q-1}(h) \# \left\{ \underline{m} \in \ker \left( \mathbb{Z}_{\equiv q, n, \geq 0}^{c/G} \rightarrow G^{\text{ab}} \right) : W_{q^{-1}}(\underline{m}) = h \right\} \end{aligned}$$

<sup>2</sup>This kernel is  $H_2(G, c)$ , a quotient of  $H_2(G, \mathbb{Z})$

Coordinates each  $\geq 0$  and sum to  $n$

Ignore congruence subtleties

Coordinates constant on each set of conjugacy classes differing by  $q$ th powers

$M$  only depends on  $G, c$ , not on  $n$ . Pick a coordinate, pick a number  $< M$ , pick  $d_G(q) - 2$  numbers  $< n$ , and then the last number is determined. Get  $O(d_G(q) M n^{d_G(q)})$

where  $\text{nr}_{q-1}$  counts the number of  $(q-1)$ st roots of  $W_{q-1}(\underline{m}) \in \ker(\bar{S} \rightarrow G)$ .

*Proof.* Fix an element  $\zeta \in \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}(1)_{\mathbb{F}_q}^\times$  and so identify  $K(G, c) \langle -1 \rangle$  with  $K(G, c)$ . A lifting invariant  $g = (h, \underline{m}) \in \ker(\bar{S} \rightarrow G) \times_{G^{\text{ab}}} \mathbb{Z}^{c/G} = K(G, c)$  is Frob-fixed iff

$$(h, \underline{m}) = g = q^{-1} \star g = \left( h^{q^{-1}} W_{q-1}(\underline{m}), \underline{m}^{q^{-1}} \right).$$

Note that  $\underline{m} = \underline{m}^{q^{-1}} \iff \underline{m} \in \mathbb{Z}_{=q}^{c/G}$  and

$$h = h^{q^{-1}} W_{q-1}(\underline{m}) \iff h^{q^{-1}} = W_{q-1}(\underline{m})^q,$$

so  $\underline{m} \in \mathbb{Z}_{=q}^{c/G}$  with trivial image in  $G^{\text{ab}}$  has  $\text{nr}_{q-1}(W_{q-1}(\underline{m})^q)$  elements  $g \in K(G, c)$  mapping to it s.t.  $g = q^{-1} \star g$ .

Since  $q$  is relatively prime to  $\ker(\bar{S} \rightarrow G)$ , we have  $\text{nr}_{q-1}(W_{q-1}(\underline{m})^q) = \text{nr}_{q-1}(W_{q-1}(\underline{m}))$  whence the claim.  $\blacksquare$

**Theorem 10.**  $b(G_1, c_1, q, n) = b(G_2, c_2, q, n)$

*Proof.* We start with some compatibility between  $G_1 = H \rtimes \Gamma$  and  $G_2 = \Gamma$ .

First note that  $(h, \gamma) \in c_1$  iff it gives a splitting of the cyclic subgroup generated by  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ . Since  $(\#H, \#\Gamma) = 1$ , Schur-Zassenhaus will tell us that any two such splittings are conjugate (and that there always exists such a splitting) so all elements of  $G_1$  over a fixed  $\gamma \in c_1$  are conjugate. Thus,  $c_1/G_1 \rightarrow c_2/G_2$  is a bijection, so  $\mathbb{Z}^{c_1/G_1} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{Z}^{c_2/G_2}$  and so  $d_{G_1, c_1}(q) = d_{G_2, c_2}(q)$ .

Need  
 $(g^{-1}\gamma(g), \gamma) = (h, \gamma)$  for  
some  $g \in H$

**Fact.** We can choose groups  $\bar{S}^i$  for  $G_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) as before so that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z}^{c_1/G_1} & \xrightarrow{W_{q^{-1}}^1} & \ker(\bar{S}^1 \rightarrow G_1) \\ \cong \downarrow & & \downarrow f \\ \mathbb{Z}^{c_2/G_2} & \xrightarrow{W_{q^{-1}}^2} & \ker(\bar{S}^2 \rightarrow G_2) \end{array}$$

commutes and  $(\#\ker(f), q-1) = 1$ .

In particular, any element of  $\ker(\bar{S}^2 \rightarrow G_2)$  has the same number of  $(q-1)$ st roots as any of its preimages in  $\ker(\bar{S}^1 \rightarrow G_1)$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} b(G_1, c_1, q, n) &= \sum_{\tilde{h} \in \ker(\bar{S}^1 \rightarrow G_1)} \underbrace{\text{nr}_{q-1}(\tilde{h})}_{\text{nr}_{q-1}(f(\tilde{h}))} \# \left\{ \underline{m} \in \ker\left(\mathbb{Z}_{=q, n, \geq 0}^{c_1/G_1} \rightarrow G_1^{\text{ab}}\right) : W_{q^{-1}}^1(\underline{m}) = \tilde{h} \right\} \\ &= \sum_{h \in \ker(\bar{S}^2 \rightarrow G_2)} \text{nr}_{q-1}(h) \# \left\{ \underline{m} \in \ker\left(\mathbb{Z}_{=q, n, \geq 0}^{c_1/G_1} \rightarrow G_1^{\text{ab}}\right) : W_{q^{-1}}^1(\underline{m}) \in f^{-1}(h) \right\} \\ &= \sum_{h \in \ker(\bar{S}^2 \rightarrow G_2)} \text{nr}_{q-1}(h) \# \left\{ \underline{m} \in \ker\left(\mathbb{Z}_{=q, n, \geq 0}^{c_2/G_2} \rightarrow G_2^{\text{ab}}\right) : W_{q^{-1}}^2(\underline{m}) = h \right\} \\ &= b(G_2, c_2, q, n) \end{aligned}$$

$f$  surjects  
onto image  
of  $W_{q^{-1}}^2$  by  
commutativity