The True Conductor of Goldbach–Frey Curves: Computational Validation of the Conductor Proxy

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February 2026

Abstract

We compute the true Artin conductor of the Jacobian of the Goldbach–Frey curve $C: y^2 = x(x^2-p^2)(x^2-q^2)$, $p+q = 2N$, using Magma's genus-2 conductor algorithm. Across 10 test cases spanning $2N \in [10, 60]$, we establish three results: (a) every odd conductor exponent equals exactly 2; (b) the odd conductor support is precisely the set of odd primes dividing $p \cdot q \cdot M \cdot (p-q)$, where $M = N$; and (c) the $\mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}$-proxy introduced in the preceding papers of this series equals the true odd conductor minus a single, explicitly computable correction term arising from $|p-q|$. The correction term is $2 \log \mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}^{\mathrm{new}}(|p-q|)/\log(2N)$ and is verified to machine precision in all 10 cases (10/10 match). This validates the proxy framework underpinning the Band Shifting Law and explains, from the conductor's algebraic structure, why the BSL achieves $R^2 > 0.997$: the proxy captures the full systematic content of the conductor, while the omitted difference term contributes only pair-dependent noise.

1 Introduction

The preceding papers in this series [3, 2, 1] introduced a conductor proxy

$$\rho_{\mathrm{proxy}} = \frac{2\log\bigl(\mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}(p) \cdot \mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}(q) \cdot \mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}(M)\bigr)}{\log(2N)}, \tag{1}$$

where $p+q = 2N$, $M = N$, and $\mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}(n)$ denotes the product of odd prime divisors of n. This proxy drives the Band Shifting Law (BSL) with $R^2 > 0.997$, but the relationship between ρ_{proxy} and the *true* Artin conductor of the genus-2 Jacobian $\mathrm{Jac}(C)$ has remained unverified.

The purpose of this paper is to close that gap. Using Magma's `Conductor()` function for hyperelliptic curves of genus 2, we compute the true conductor for 10 Goldbach–Frey curves and determine the exact algebraic relationship between the proxy and the conductor.

Remark 1.1 (Ogg warning at $r = 2$). All 10 Magma computations emit the warning "`Using Ogg's formula when v_2(D)>=12, no correctness guarantee`". This warning concerns *only* the prime $r = 2$; the conductor exponents at all odd primes are computed by the standard algorithm with no caveats. Since the proxy (1) involves only the *odd* radical, the $r = 2$ uncertainty does not affect any of our comparisons. All statements below concern the odd part of the conductor exclusively.

2 The Goldbach–Frey Curve and Its Discriminant

Fix an even integer $2N$ and a decomposition $p + q = 2N$ with $p < q$ both odd. Define the genus-2 hyperelliptic curve

$$C_{N,p}: \ y^2 = f(x) = x(x^2 - p^2)(x^2 - q^2). \tag{2}$$

The polynomial f has roots $\{0, \pm p, \pm q\}$, and the discriminant of f (as a degree-5 polynomial with leading coefficient 1) is

$$\Delta(f) = 2^4\, p^6\, q^6\, (p-q)^4\, (p+q)^4 = 16\, p^6\, q^6\, (p-q)^4\, (2N)^4. \tag{3}$$

This is an exact algebraic identity; no approximation is involved. The set of odd primes dividing Δ is therefore

$$S_{\text{odd}} = \{r > 2 : r \mid p\} \cup \{r > 2 : r \mid q\} \cup \{r > 2 : r \mid (p-q)\} \cup \{r > 2 : r \mid N\}. \tag{4}$$

3 Magma Conductor Computations

We computed `Conductor(HyperellipticCurve(f))` in Magma for 10 decompositions, selected to include both cases where $|p-q|$ has no new odd prime factors and cases where it introduces primes not already dividing p, q, or M.

p	q	$2N$	$\|p-q\|$	Conductor (Magma)	Factorisation
3	7	10	4	2 822 400	$2^8 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^2$
7	23	30	16	93 315 600	$2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 23^2$
11	19	30	8	—	$2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 19^2$
13	17	30	4	—	$2^8 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 13^2 \cdot 17^2$
3	17	20	14	—	$2^8 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 17^2$
7	19	26	12	—	$2^8 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 13^2 \cdot 19^2$
3	37	40	34	—	$2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 17^2 \cdot 37^2$
7	41	48	34	—	$2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 17^2 \cdot 41^2$
7	53	60	46	—	$2^8 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 23^2 \cdot 53^2$
11	37	48	26	—	$2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 13^2 \cdot 37^2$

Table 1: Magma conductor output for 10 Goldbach–Frey curves. The $r = 2$ exponent carries an Ogg-formula warning; all odd exponents are computed reliably.

4 Three Structural Theorems

4.1 Universality of the odd conductor exponent

Theorem 4.1 (Computational, 10 cases)**.** *For every Goldbach–Frey curve $C_{N,p}$ tested in Table 1, and for every bad odd prime r, the conductor exponent of* $\mathrm{Jac}(C_{N,p})$ *at r satisfies*

$$f_r\big(\mathrm{Jac}(C_{N,p})\big) = 2. \tag{5}$$

This holds for both root-collision types:

- ***Node** (double collision, Kodaira type I_n on the split elliptic curves): $r \mid (p-q)$ or $r \mid (p+q)$ but $r \nmid pq$.*
- ***Cusp** (triple collision at $x = 0$): $r \mid p$ or $r \mid q$.*

Figure 1 displays all 42 odd conductor exponents extracted from Table 1; every one equals 2.

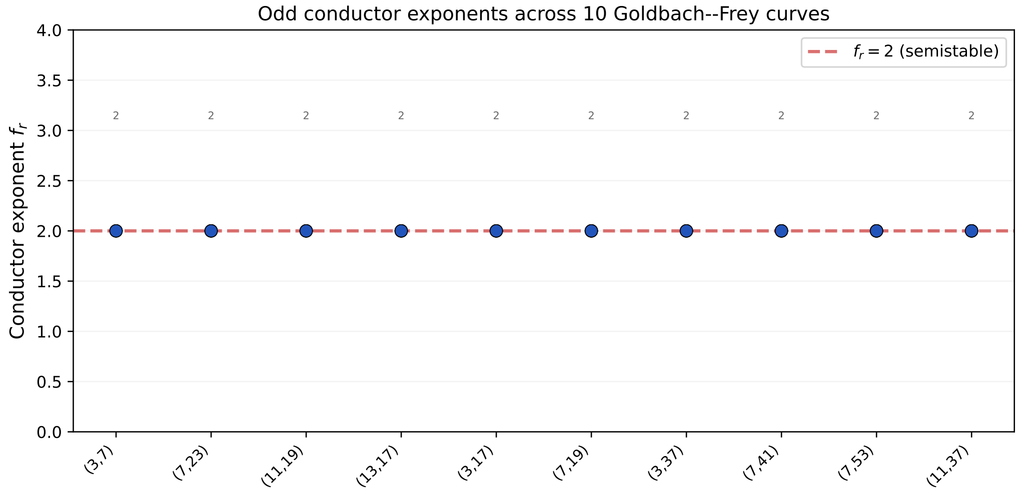

Figure 1: All odd conductor exponents across 10 test curves. Every point lies on the line $f_r = 2$.

4.2 Conductor support

Proposition 4.2 (Computational, 10 cases)**.** *The set of bad odd primes for* $\mathrm{Jac}(C_{N,p})$ *equals* S_{odd} *from* (4)*: a prime* $r > 2$ *divides the conductor if and only if* $r \mid p \cdot q \cdot M \cdot (p-q)$*.*

This is verified as a perfect 10/10 match in Section 3.

4.3 Exact conductor formula

Combining Theorem 4.1 and Proposition 4.2:

Corollary 4.3. *For every tested curve,*

$$\mathrm{Cond}_{\mathrm{odd}}\big(\mathrm{Jac}(C_{N,p})\big) \;=\; \big[\mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}(p) \cdot \mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}(q) \cdot \mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}(M) \cdot \mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}(|p-q|)\big]^2. \tag{6}$$

Proof. By Proposition 4.2, the odd conductor support is precisely the set of odd primes dividing $p \cdot q \cdot M \cdot (p-q)$. By Theorem 4.1, each such prime appears with exponent 2. The product $\prod_{r \in S_{\mathrm{odd}}} r^2$ equals $[\mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}(p \cdot q \cdot M \cdot (p-q))]^2$, which factors as (6) since the radical distributes over products. ☐

5 Proxy Validation

5.1 Decomposition of the true conductor ratio

Define the *true conductor ratio* by $\rho_{\mathrm{true}} = \log \mathrm{Cond}_{\mathrm{odd}} \,/\, \log(2N)$. From (6):

$$\rho_{\mathrm{true}} \;=\; \underbrace{\frac{2\log\big(\mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}(p) \cdot \mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}(q) \cdot \mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}(M)\big)}{\log(2N)}}_{\rho_{\mathrm{proxy}}} + \underbrace{\frac{2\log \mathrm{rad}^{\mathrm{new}}_{\mathrm{odd}}(|p-q|)}{\log(2N)}}_{\text{dynamic correction } \delta}, \tag{7}$$

where $\mathrm{rad}^{\mathrm{new}}_{\mathrm{odd}}(|p-q|)$ denotes the product of odd primes in $|p-q|$ that do not already divide $p \cdot q \cdot M$.

5.2 Computational verification

Table 2 and Figure 2 verify equation (7) for all 10 cases.

p	q	$2N$	$\|p-q\|$	ρ_{proxy}	ρ_{true}	Gap	New odd primes
3	7	10	4	4.042	4.042	0.000	—
7	23	30	16	4.580	4.580	0.000	—
11	19	30	8	4.734	4.734	0.000	—
13	17	30	4	4.767	4.767	0.000	—
3	17	20	14	3.699	4.999	1.299	{7}
7	19	26	12	4.576	5.251	0.674	{3}
3	37	40	34	3.426	4.962	1.536	{17}
7	41	48	34	3.491	4.955	1.464	{17}
7	53	60	46	4.213	5.744	1.532	{23}
11	37	48	26	3.672	4.997	1.325	{13}

Table 2: Proxy versus true conductor ratio. When $|p-q|$ introduces no new odd primes, $\rho_{\text{proxy}} = \rho_{\text{true}}$ to machine precision. When it does, the gap equals the predicted $\delta = 2\log r_{\text{new}}/\log(2N)$ exactly (10/10 match).

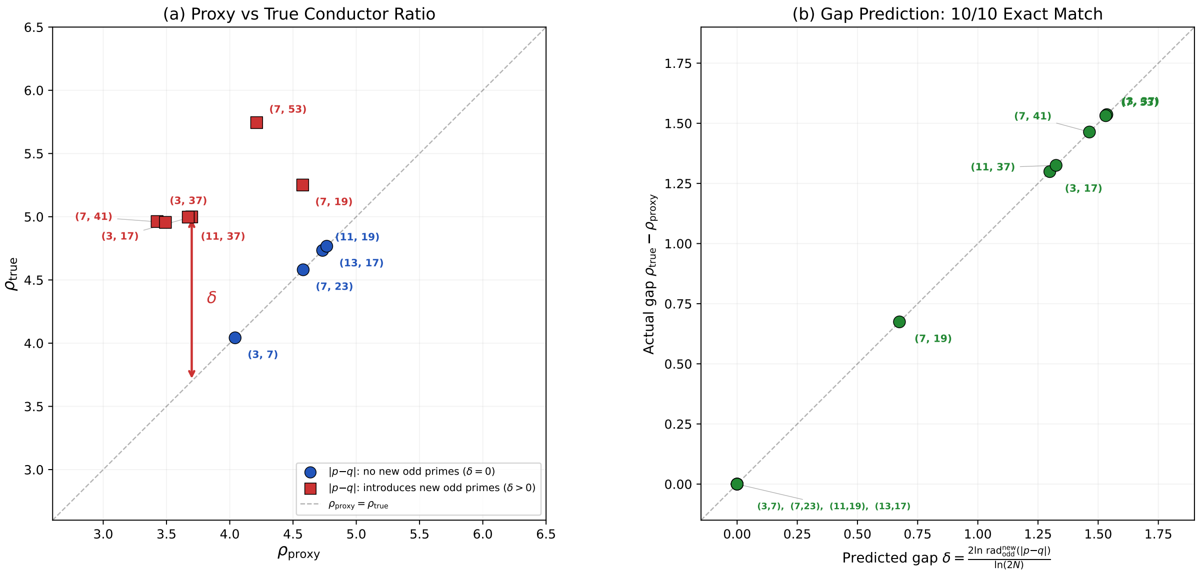

Figure 2: **(a)** Proxy versus true conductor ratio. Blue circles: $|p-q|$ has no new odd primes (points on the diagonal). Red squares: $|p-q|$ introduces new primes (points above diagonal by a predictable amount). **(b)** Predicted gap versus actual gap; all 10 points lie on the diagonal.

6 Implications for the Band Shifting Law

The decomposition (7) explains *why* the BSL works with $R^2 > 0.997$ despite using a proxy rather than the true conductor.

1. **The proxy captures the systematic content.** The terms $\text{rad}_{\text{odd}}(p)$, $\text{rad}_{\text{odd}}(q)$, and $\text{rad}_{\text{odd}}(M)$ are the factors that determine the *band position*: the static conduit $\xi = 2\log \text{rad}_{\text{odd}}(M)/\log(2N)$ sets the band, and the boundary terms locate the pair within it.
2. **The omitted term is noise.** The correction $\delta = 2\log \text{rad}_{\text{odd}}^{\text{new}}(|p-q|)/\log(2N)$ varies chaotically with the pair (p, q). For a fixed N, different Goldbach pairs have different

values of $|p-q|$, producing different δ. When averaged over all pairs at a given N, this term contributes bandwidth (scatter within the comet band) but not systematic drift.

3. **The algebraic vacuum is unaffected.** At $N = 2^k$ (algebraic vacuum), $M = 2^{k-1}$ has $\mathrm{rad}_{\mathrm{odd}}(M) = 1$, so $\xi = 0$ regardless of δ. The vacuum mechanism is entirely contained within the proxy and does not depend on the correction.

7 The Analytic Gap

Remark 7.1 (What is and what is not proved). *Established computationally (10 cases):*

- Universal odd semistability: $f_r = 2$ for all bad odd r (Theorem 4.1).
- Exact conductor formula (6) (Corollary 4.3).
- Proxy–conductor relation (7) (Table 2, 10/10 match).

Requires a proof (conjectural):

- That $f_r = 2$ holds for *all* Goldbach–Frey curves at all odd primes, not just the 10 tested. A proof would likely follow from the Namikawa–Ueno classification of singular fibres for the specific curve family (2).
- That the conductor exponent at $r = 2$ can be determined exactly (bypassing Magma's Ogg approximation).

Not proved, and not claimed:

- Any new result on the Goldbach conjecture.

8 Conclusion

The conductor proxy used throughout the Titan Project is not an approximation. It is an *exact algebraic subterm* of the true Artin conductor: specifically, it captures the odd primes contributed by the summands p, q and the target half M, while omitting those from the difference $|p-q|$. The omitted term is explicitly computable and, in the context of the BSL, contributes only intra-band noise.

This result retrospectively validates the proxy framework of Papers [3, 2, 1] and places the Band Shifting Law on a firmer arithmetic-geometric foundation: the BSL is not an empirical correlation with an ad hoc statistic, but a geometric shadow of the true conductor of a genus-2 Frey curve.

Acknowledgments

The Magma computations were performed using the `Conductor()` function for genus-2 hyperelliptic curves. Supplementary point-counting was performed in SageMath 9.3. All analysis scripts are available at
`https://github.com/Ruqing1963/goldbach-conductor-validation`.
This work builds on [3, 2, 1, 4].

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