

Local solubility in families of superelliptic curves

Christopher Keyes

(Emory University → King's College London)

Joint work with **Lea Beneish**

(University of North Texas)

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.04697>

University of North Texas

September 15, 2023

Motivation

Consider a deg. d homogeneous polynomial $f(x, z) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, z]$.

Definition

f **represents an m^{th} power** if there exist integers $x_0, y_0, z_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$, such that $f(x_0, z_0) = y_0^m$.

Motivation

Consider a deg. d homogeneous polynomial $f(x, z) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, z]$.

Definition

f **represents an m^{th} power** if there exist integers $x_0, y_0, z_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$, such that $f(x_0, z_0) = y_0^m$.

Example

Let $m = 3$ and $f(x, z) = 2x^6 + x^4z^2 + 2x^3z^3 + 3z^6$.

We have $f(1, 1) = 8 = 2^3$, so f represents a **cube**.

Motivation

Consider a deg. d homogeneous polynomial $f(x, z) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, z]$.

Definition

f **represents an m^{th} power** if there exist integers $x_0, y_0, z_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$, such that $f(x_0, z_0) = y_0^m$.

Example

Let $m = 3$ and $f(x, z) = 2x^6 + x^4z^2 + 2x^3z^3 + 3z^6$.

We have $f(1, 1) = 8 = 2^3$, so f represents a **cube**.

Question

For fixed m, d , **how often** does f represent an m -th power?

Motivation

If f represents an m -th power, then for all primes p , f must represent an m -th power $\bmod p$.

Motivation

If f represents an m -th power, then for all primes p , f must represent an m -th power **mod** p .

Example (actually a non-example)

Let $m = 3$ and $f(x, z) = 2x^6 + 7x^4z^2 - 14x^2z^4 - 12z^6$.

Set $p = 7$. We have $(\mathbb{F}_7^\times)^3 = \{1, -1\}$.

Motivation

If f represents an m -th power, then for all primes p , f must represent an m -th power **mod** p .

Example (actually a non-example)

Let $m = 3$ and $f(x, z) = 2x^6 + 7x^4z^2 - 14x^2z^4 - 12z^6$.

Set $p = 7$. We have $(\mathbb{F}_7^\times)^3 = \{1, -1\}$.

$f(x, z) \equiv 2x^6 + 2z^6 \pmod{7}$. Plugging in (x_0, z_0) ,

$$f(1, 0) \equiv 2,$$

$$f(0, 1) \equiv 2,$$

$$f(x_0, 1) \equiv 4 \text{ for all } x_0 \in \mathbb{F}_7^\times.$$

Motivation

If f represents an m -th power, then for all primes p , f must represent an m -th power **mod** p .

Example (actually a non-example)

Let $m = 3$ and $f(x, z) = 2x^6 + 7x^4z^2 - 14x^2z^4 - 12z^6$.

Set $p = 7$. We have $(\mathbb{F}_7^\times)^3 = \{1, -1\}$.

$f(x, z) \equiv 2x^6 + 2z^6 \pmod{7}$. Plugging in (x_0, z_0) ,

$$f(1, 0) \equiv 2,$$

$$f(0, 1) \equiv 2,$$

$$f(x_0, 1) \equiv 4 \text{ for all } x_0 \in \mathbb{F}_7^\times.$$

f does not represent a cube mod 7, therefore f **cannot represent an integer cube**.

Superelliptic curves

Definition

A **superelliptic curve** C/\mathbb{Q} is a smooth projective curve with a cyclic Galois cover of \mathbb{P}^1 of degree $m \geq 2$.

Such C has equation in weighted projective space $\mathbb{P}(1, \frac{d}{m}, 1)$

$$C_f: y^m = f(x, z) = c_d x^d + \cdots + c_0 z^d$$

where f is a binary form of degree d divisible by m .

Superelliptic curves

Definition

A **superelliptic curve** C/\mathbb{Q} is a smooth projective curve with a cyclic Galois cover of \mathbb{P}^1 of degree $m \geq 2$.

Such C has equation in weighted projective space $\mathbb{P}(1, \frac{d}{m}, 1)$

$$C_f: y^m = f(x, z) = c_d x^d + \cdots + c_0 z^d$$

where f is a binary form of degree d divisible by m .

Observe

f reps. an m -th power $\iff C_f: y^m = f(x, z)$ has a rational point,

$$[x_0 : y_0 : z_0] \in C_f(\mathbb{Q}).$$

Solubility

Let C be a curve defined over \mathbb{Q} .

Definition

C is **soluble** if $C(\mathbb{Q})$ is nonempty.

Question

How often is a curve over \mathbb{Q} (in some family) soluble?

Solubility

Let C be a curve defined over \mathbb{Q} .

Definition

C is **soluble** if $C(\mathbb{Q})$ is nonempty.

Question

How often is a curve over \mathbb{Q} (in some family) soluble?

For place v of \mathbb{Q} , we have

$$C(\mathbb{Q}) \subset C(\mathbb{Q}_v).$$

Existence of \mathbb{Q}_v -point for each v is **necessary but not sufficient** for C to have \mathbb{Q} -point!

Local solubility

Let C/\mathbb{Q} be a curve and v a place of \mathbb{Q} (i.e. $v = p$ or $v = \infty$).

Definition

C is **locally soluble at v** if $C(\mathbb{Q}_v)$ is nonempty.

C is **everywhere locally soluble (ELS)** if $C(\mathbb{Q}_v) \neq \emptyset$ for all v .

Question (revised)

How often is a curve over \mathbb{Q} (in some family) ELS?

Local solubility

Let C/\mathbb{Q} be a curve and v a place of \mathbb{Q} (i.e. $v = p$ or $v = \infty$).

Definition

C is **locally soluble at v** if $C(\mathbb{Q}_v)$ is nonempty.

C is **everywhere locally soluble (ELS)** if $C(\mathbb{Q}_v) \neq \emptyset$ for all v .

Question (revised)

How often is a curve over \mathbb{Q} (in some family) ELS?

Known for genus 1 hyperelliptics [[BCF21](#)], plane cubics [[BCF16](#)],
certain hypersurfaces e.g. [[BBL16](#)], [[FHP21](#)], [[PV04](#)], [[Bro17](#)].

Motivation: hyperelliptic curves

Consider *hyperelliptic curves* given by (weighted) homog. equation

$$C: y^2 = f(x, z) = c_{2g+2}x^{2g+2} + \cdots + c_0z^{2g+2}.$$

Theorem (Poonen–Stoll, Bhargava–Cremona–Fisher)

A pos. prop. of hyperelliptics C/\mathbb{Q} are ELS [PS99b].

75.96% of genus 1 curves of this form are ELS [BCF21].

Motivation: hyperelliptic curves

Consider *hyperelliptic curves* given by (weighted) homog. equation

$$C: y^2 = f(x, z) = c_{2g+2}x^{2g+2} + \cdots + c_0z^{2g+2}.$$

Theorem (Poonen–Stoll, Bhargava–Cremona–Fisher)

A pos. prop. of hyperelliptics C/\mathbb{Q} are ELS [PS99b].

75.96% of genus 1 curves of this form are ELS [BCF21].

Theorem (Bhargava–Gross–Wang [BGW17])

*A positive proportion of everywhere locally soluble hyperelliptic curves C/\mathbb{Q} have no points over any **odd degree** extension k/\mathbb{Q} .*

Defining the proportion

Question

How often is a *superelliptic* curve over \mathbb{Q} ELS?

Defining the proportion

Question

How often is a *superelliptic* curve over \mathbb{Q} ELS?

For $\mathbf{c} = (c_i)_{i=0}^d \in \mathbb{Z}^{d+1}$, we associate a binary form and SEC

$$f(x, z) = \sum_{i=0}^d c_i x^i z^{d-i}, \quad C_f: y^m = f(x, z).$$

Definition

For fixed m, d , we define

$$\rho_{m,d} = \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\#\{\mathbf{c} \in ([-B, B] \cap \mathbb{Z})^{d+1} \mid C_f \text{ is ELS}\}}{\#\{\mathbf{c} \in ([-B, B] \cap \mathbb{Z})^{d+1}\}},$$

the natural density of $f(x, z)$ for which C_f is ELS.

Main results

Fix $(m, d) \neq (2, 2)$ such that $m \mid d$.

Theorem (Beneish–K. [BK23])

(A) $\rho_{m,d}$ exists, $0 < \rho_{m,d} < 1$, and $\rho_{m,d}$ is product of local densities,

$$\rho_{m,d} = \rho_{m,d}(\infty) \prod_p \rho_{m,d}(p).$$

Main results

Fix $(m, d) \neq (2, 2)$ such that m is prime and $m \mid d$.

Theorem (Beneish–K. [BK23], continued)

(B) *We find explicit bounds for $\rho_{m,d}(p)$ and $\rho_{m,d}$.*

Main results

Fix $(m, d) \neq (2, 2)$ such that m is prime and $m \mid d$.

Theorem (Beneish–K. [BK23], continued)

(B) We find explicit bounds for $\rho_{m,d}(p)$ and $\rho_{m,d}$. Taking limits,

$$\liminf_{d \rightarrow \infty} \rho_{m,d} \geq \left(1 - \frac{1}{m^{m+1}}\right) \prod_{p \equiv 1(m)} \left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{p-1}{mp}\right)^{p+1}\right) \prod_{p \not\equiv 0,1(m)} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^{2(p+1)}}\right).$$

When $m > 2$, we have

$$0.83511 \leq \liminf_{d \rightarrow \infty} \rho_{m,d} \quad \text{and} \quad \limsup_{d \rightarrow \infty} \rho_{m,d} \leq 0.99804.$$

Main results

Theorem (Beneish–K. [BK23], continued)

(C) *In the case $(m, d) = (3, 6)$, we compute $\rho_{3,6} \approx 96.94\%$.*

Main results

Theorem (Beneish–K. [BK23], continued)

(C) In the case $(m, d) = (3, 6)$, we compute $\rho_{3,6} \approx 96.94\%$.

There exist rational functions $R_1(t)$ and $R_2(t)$ such that

$$\rho_{3,6}(p) = \begin{cases} R_1(p), & p \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \text{ and } p > 43 \\ R_2(p), & p \equiv 2 \pmod{3} \text{ and } p > 2. \end{cases}$$

Asymptotically,

$$1 - R_1(t) \sim \frac{2}{3}t^{-4},$$

$$1 - R_2(t) \sim \frac{53}{144}t^{-7}.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho = \left\{ \begin{aligned}
 & \left(1296p^{57} + 3888p^{56} + 9072p^{55} + 16848p^{54} + 27648p^{53} + 39744p^{52} + 53136p^{51} + 66483p^{50} + 80019p^{49} + 93141p^{48} \right. \\
 & + 107469p^{47} + 120357p^{46} + 135567p^{45} + 148347p^{44} + 162918p^{43} + 176004p^{42} + 190278p^{41} + 203459p^{40} \\
 & + 218272p^{39} + 232083p^{38} + 243639p^{37} + 255267p^{36} + 261719p^{35} + 264925p^{34} + 265302p^{33} + 261540p^{32} \\
 & + 254790p^{31} + 250736p^{30} + 241384p^{29} + 226503p^{28} + 214137p^{27} + 195273p^{26} + 170793p^{25} + 151839p^{24} + 136215p^{23} \\
 & + 118998p^{22} + 105228p^{21} + 94860p^{20} + 80471p^{19} + 67048p^{18} + 52623p^{17} + 40617p^{16} + 28773p^{15} + 19247p^{14} \\
 & + 12109p^{13} + 7614p^{12} + 3420p^{11} + 756p^{10} - 2248p^9 - 4943p^8 - 6300p^7 - 6894p^6 - 5994p^5 - 2448p^4 - 648p^3 \\
 & + 324p^2 + 1296p + 1296 \Big) / \left(1296(p^{12} - p^{11} + p^9 - p^8 + p^6 - p^4 + p^3 - p + 1)(p^8 - p^6 + p^4 - p^2 + 1) \right. \\
 & \times (p^6 + p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)(p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)^3 (p^4 - p^3 + p^2 - p + 1)(p^2 + p + 1) \\
 & \times (p^2 + 1)p^{11} \Big), \\
 \\
 & \left(144p^{57} + 432p^{56} + 1008p^{55} + 1872p^{54} + 3168p^{53} + 4608p^{52} + 6336p^{51} + 8011p^{50} + 9803p^{49} + 11357p^{48} \right. \\
 & + 13061p^{47} + 14525p^{46} + 16295p^{45} + 17875p^{44} + 19654p^{43} + 21212p^{42} + 23030p^{41} + 24563p^{40} + 26320p^{39} \\
 & + 27771p^{38} + 29711p^{37} + 30859p^{36} + 31135p^{35} + 31525p^{34} + 31510p^{33} + 29436p^{32} + 28502p^{31} + 28616p^{30} \\
 & + 26856p^{29} + 25087p^{28} + 25057p^{27} + 23041p^{26} + 19921p^{25} + 18119p^{24} + 16287p^{23} + 13798p^{22} \\
 & + 12140p^{21} + 10844p^{20} + 9191p^{19} + 7480p^{18} + 5839p^{17} + 4265p^{16} + 2909p^{15} + 1943p^{14} + 1109p^{13} \\
 & + 590p^{12} + 604p^{11} + 372p^{10} - 144p^9 - 87p^8 - 84p^7 - 678p^6 - 618p^5 - 144p^4 - 168p^3 - 156p^2 \\
 & + 144p + 144 \Big) / \left(144(p^{12} - p^{11} + p^9 - p^8 + p^6 - p^4 + p^3 - p + 1)(p^8 - p^6 + p^4 - p^2 + 1) \right. \\
 & \times (p^6 + p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)(p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)^3 (p^4 - p^3 + p^2 - p + 1)(p^2 + p + 1) \\
 & \times (p^2 + 1)p^{11} \Big),
 \end{aligned} \right.
 \end{aligned}$$

$p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$

$p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$

Outline

- Set up and state main results,
- Local densities $\rho_{m,d}(p) \rightarrow$ global density $\rho_{m,d}$,
- Study local densities $\rho_{m,d}(p)$,
- Toward exact computations of $\rho_{3,6}(p)$.

Local densities

Theorem (Beneish–K. [BK23])

(A) $\rho_{m,d}$ exists and is given by the product of local densities,

$$\rho_{m,d} = \rho_{m,d}(\infty) \prod_p \rho_{m,d}(p) > 0.$$

$\rho_{m,d}(p)$ is (normalized) Haar measure of space of the \mathbb{Q}_p -soluble curves $C_f: y^m = f(x, z)$, with coefficients in \mathbb{Z}_p .

Local densities

Theorem (Beneish–K. [BK23])

(A) $\rho_{m,d}$ exists and is given by the product of local densities,

$$\rho_{m,d} = \rho_{m,d}(\infty) \prod_p \rho_{m,d}(p) > 0.$$

$\rho_{m,d}(p)$ is (normalized) Haar measure of space of the \mathbb{Q}_p -soluble curves $C_f: y^m = f(x, z)$, with coefficients in \mathbb{Z}_p .

Idea

In good situations, imposing conditions at different primes looks independent...even if there are infinitely many conditions.

Local densities look independent

Idea

In *good situations*, imposing conditions at different primes looks independent...even if there are infinitely many conditions.

Think

Recall squarefree numbers.

$$n \text{ squarefree} \iff p^2 \nmid n \text{ for all } p.$$

If probabilities that $p^2 \mid n$ are independent, expect

$$\lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\#\{-B \leq n \leq B \mid n \text{ squarefree}\}}{2B + 1} = \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^2}\right) = \frac{6}{\pi^2}.$$

Local densities look independent

Idea

In *good situations*, imposing conditions at different primes looks independent...*even if there are infinitely many conditions*.

- Poonen–Stoll: criteria for when natural density is product of local densities [[PS99a](#)].

Local densities look independent

Idea

In *good situations*, imposing conditions at different primes looks independent...*even if there are infinitely many conditions*.

- Poonen–Stoll: criteria for when natural density is product of local densities [PS99a].
- Apply to ELS in families of hyperelliptic curves [PS99b].

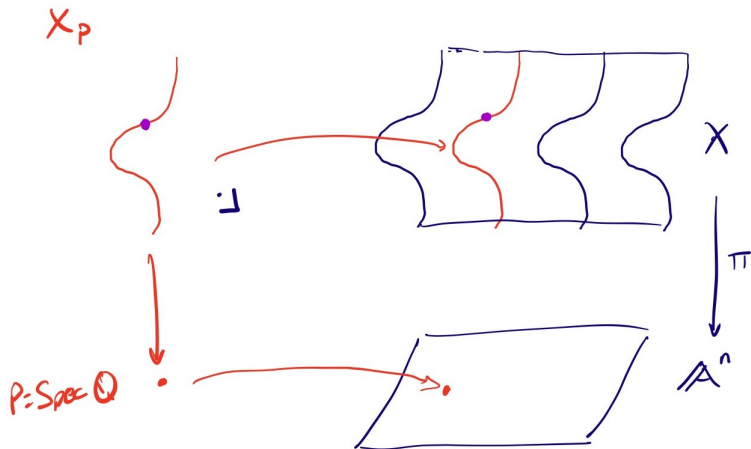
Local densities look independent

Idea

In *good situations*, imposing conditions at different primes looks independent...*even if there are infinitely many conditions*.

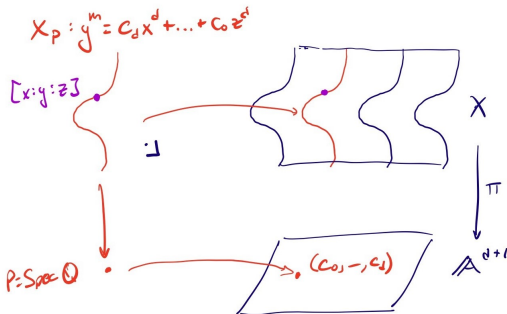
- Poonen–Stoll: criteria for when natural density is product of local densities [PS99a].
- Apply to ELS in families of hyperelliptic curves [PS99b].
- Bright–Browning–Loughran: **geometric criteria** when family comes from fibers of a morphism [BBL16].

Geometric picture



Geometric picture

$$X: y^m = c_d x^d + \cdots + c_0 z^d \subset \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{d+1} \times \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{Q}}(1 : \frac{d}{m} : 1)$$



“Proof” of Theorem A.

π satisfies projectivity, integrality, etc. hypotheses to apply [BBL16, Theorem 1.4].



Outline

- Set up and state main results,
- Local densities $\rho_{m,d}(p) \rightarrow$ global density $\rho_{m,d}$,
- Study local densities $\rho_{m,d}(p)$,
- Toward exact computations of $\rho_{3,6}(p)$.

Computing local densities

Question

Once we know

$$\rho_{m,d} = \rho_{m,d}(\infty) \prod_p \rho_{m,d}(p),$$

how do we compute/estimate local densities $\rho_{m,d}(p)$?

Computing local densities

Question

Once we know

$$\rho_{m,d} = \rho_{m,d}(\infty) \prod_p \rho_{m,d}(p),$$

how do we compute/estimate local densities $\rho_{m,d}(p)$?

$\rho_{m,d}(\infty)$: Euclidean measure of \mathbb{R} -soluble C_f with coeffs $\in [-1, 1]$.

- If m or d is odd, then $\rho_{m,d}(\infty) = 1$.
- If m, d even, no analytic solution known for $d > 2$, but rigorous estimates exist, e.g.

$$0.873914 \leq \rho_{2,4}(\infty) \leq 0.874196 \quad [\text{BCF21}].$$

Computing local densities — finite places

$\rho_{m,d}(p)$ is (normalized) Haar measure of space of the \mathbb{Q}_p -soluble curves $C_f: y^m = f(x, z)$, with coefficients in \mathbb{Z}_p .

Computing local densities — finite places

$\rho_{m,d}(p)$ is (normalized) Haar measure of space of the \mathbb{Q}_p -soluble curves $C_f: y^m = f(x, z)$, with coefficients in \mathbb{Z}_p .

Think

Each possible reduction $\bar{f}(x, z) \bmod p$ occurs equally often.

Computing local densities — finite places

$\rho_{m,d}(p)$ is (normalized) Haar measure of space of the \mathbb{Q}_p -soluble curves $C_f: y^m = f(x, z)$, with coefficients in \mathbb{Z}_p .

Think

Each possible reduction $\bar{f}(x, z) \bmod p$ occurs equally often.

Look mod p and check \mathbb{Q}_p -solubility with **Hensel's lemma!**

Computing local densities — finite places

$\rho_{m,d}(p)$ is (normalized) Haar measure of space of the \mathbb{Q}_p -soluble curves $C_f: y^m = f(x, z)$, with coefficients in \mathbb{Z}_p .

Think

Each possible reduction $\bar{f}(x, z) \bmod p$ occurs equally often.

Look mod p and check \mathbb{Q}_p -solubility with **Hensel's lemma!**

- Smooth \mathbb{F}_p -points on \bar{C}_f lift to \mathbb{Q}_p -solutions (Hensel),
- $\bar{C}_f(\mathbb{F}_p) = \emptyset \implies$ no \mathbb{Q}_p -solutions,
- If $\bar{C}_f(\mathbb{F}_p)$ only non-smooth points, do more work.

An extended example

Example

Consider $(m, d) = (3, 6)$, generically genus 4:

$$C_f: y^3 = f(x, z) = c_6 x^6 + c_5 x^5 z + \cdots + c_1 x z^5 + c_0 z^6.$$

When can we guarantee $\overline{C_f}$ has liftable \mathbb{F}_p -points?

An extended example

Example

Consider $(m, d) = (3, 6)$, generically genus 4:

$$C_f: y^3 = f(x, z) = c_6 x^6 + c_5 x^5 z + \cdots + c_1 x z^5 + c_0 z^6.$$

When can we guarantee $\overline{C_f}$ has liftable \mathbb{F}_p -points?

Theorem (Hasse–Weil bound)

If $\overline{C_f}$ is irreducible and smooth of genus g , then

$$\#\overline{C_f}(\mathbb{F}_p) \geq p + 1 - g \cdot 2\sqrt{p}.$$

An extended example

Example

Consider $(m, d) = (3, 6)$, generically genus 4:

$$C_f: y^3 = f(x, z) = c_6x^6 + c_5x^5z + \cdots + c_1xz^5 + c_0z^6.$$

When can we guarantee $\overline{C_f}$ has liftable \mathbb{F}_p -points?

Theorem (Hasse–Weil bound, refined)

If $\overline{C_f}$ is irreducible and smooth of genus g , then

$$\#\overline{C_f}(\mathbb{F}_p) \geq p + 1 - g \cdot \lfloor 2\sqrt{p} \rfloor.$$

An extended example

Example

When can we guarantee $\overline{C_f}$ has liftable \mathbb{F}_p -points?

When $p \geq 61$, we have $p + 1 - 4\lfloor 2\sqrt{p} \rfloor > 0$, so

$$\overline{C_f}/\mathbb{F}_p \text{ smooth} \implies C_f(\mathbb{Q}_p) \neq \emptyset.$$

An extended example

Example

When can we guarantee \overline{C}_f has liftable \mathbb{F}_p -points?

When $p \geq 61$, we have $p + 1 - 4\lfloor 2\sqrt{p} \rfloor > 0$, so

$$\overline{C}_f/\mathbb{F}_p \text{ smooth} \implies C_f(\mathbb{Q}_p) \neq \emptyset.$$

- $\overline{C}_f^{\text{sm}}(\mathbb{F}_p) \neq \emptyset$ whenever $\overline{C}_f/\mathbb{F}_p$ **geom. irr.** and $p \geq 61$.

An extended example

Example

When can we guarantee $\overline{C_f}$ has liftable \mathbb{F}_p -points?

When $p \geq 61$, we have $p + 1 - 4\lfloor 2\sqrt{p} \rfloor > 0$, so

$$\overline{C_f}/\mathbb{F}_p \text{ smooth} \implies C_f(\mathbb{Q}_p) \neq \emptyset.$$

- $\overline{C_f}^{\text{sm}}(\mathbb{F}_p) \neq \emptyset$ whenever $\overline{C_f}/\mathbb{F}_p$ **geom. irr.** and $p \geq 61$.
- $\overline{C_f}$ geom. irr. $\iff \overline{f}(x, z) \neq ah(x, z)^3$.

An extended example

Example

When can we guarantee \overline{C}_f has liftable \mathbb{F}_p -points?

When $p \geq 61$, we have $p + 1 - 4\lfloor 2\sqrt{p} \rfloor > 0$, so

$$\overline{C}_f/\mathbb{F}_p \text{ smooth} \implies C_f(\mathbb{Q}_p) \neq \emptyset.$$

- $\overline{C}_f^{\text{sm}}(\mathbb{F}_p) \neq \emptyset$ whenever $\overline{C}_f/\mathbb{F}_p$ geom. irr. and $p \geq 61$.
- \overline{C}_f geom. irr. $\iff \overline{f}(x, z) \neq ah(x, z)^3$.

Count **geom. reducible** \overline{C}_f : $p^3 = (p-1)(p^2 + p + 1) + 1$

$$\implies \rho_{3,6}(p) \geq \frac{p^7 - p^3}{p^7} = 1 - \frac{1}{p^4} \text{ for all } p \geq 61.$$

An extended example

- $\rho_{3,6}(p) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{p^4}$ when $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ and $p > 43$
- $\rho_{3,6}(p) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{p^7}$ when $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ and $p > 2$

An extended example

- $\rho_{3,6}(p) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{p^4}$ when $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ and $p > 43$
- $\rho_{3,6}(p) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{p^7}$ when $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ and $p > 2$
- Enumerate all $\bar{f}(x, z)$ and count Hensel-liftable \mathbb{F}_p -solutions:

p	$\rho_{3,6}(p) \geq$	p	$\rho_{3,6}(p) \geq$
2	$\frac{63}{64} \approx 0.98437$	19	$\frac{893660256}{893871739} \approx 0.99976$
3	$\frac{26}{27} \approx 0.96296$	31	$\frac{27512408250}{27512614111} \approx 0.99999$
7	$\frac{810658}{823543} \approx 0.98435$	37	$\frac{94931742132}{94931877133} \approx 0.999998$
13	$\frac{62655132}{62748517} \approx 0.99851$	43	$\frac{271818511748}{271818611107} \approx 0.9999996$

Put together with Theorem A:

$$\rho_{3,6} = \prod_p \rho_{3,6}(p) \geq 0.93134.$$

Bounds more generally for $m = 3$

Example (Lower bounds for general d)

For $d > 6$ such that $3 \mid d$,

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{3,d} \geq & \left(1 - \frac{1}{3^4}\right) \prod_{\substack{p \equiv 2(3) \\ p \leq d/2-1}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^{2(p+1)}}\right) \prod_{\substack{p \equiv 2(3) \\ p > d/2-1}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^{d+1}}\right) \\ & \times \prod_{\substack{p \equiv 1(3) \\ p < d}} \left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{p-1}{3p}\right)^{p+1}\right) \prod_{\substack{p \equiv 1(3) \\ d < p < 4(d-2)^2}} \left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{p-1}{3p}\right)^{d+1}\right) \prod_{\substack{p \equiv 1(3) \\ p \geq 4(d-2)^2}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{2d}{3}}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Example (Large genus limit)

Taking limit as $d \rightarrow \infty$

$$\liminf_{d \rightarrow \infty} \rho_{3,d} \geq \left(1 - \frac{1}{3^4}\right) \prod_{p \equiv 1(3)} \left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{p-1}{3p}\right)^{p+1}\right) \prod_{p \equiv 2(3)} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^{2(p+1)}}\right) \approx 0.90.$$

Outline

- Set up and state main results,
- Local densities $\rho_{m,d}(p) \rightarrow$ global density $\rho_{m,d}$,
- Study local densities $\rho_{m,d}(p)$,
- Toward exact computations of $\rho_{3,6}(p)$.

Getting exact answer

Question

How do we go from bounds to exact values for $\rho_{3,6}(p)$?

Getting exact answer

Question

How do we go from bounds to exact values for $\rho_{3,6}(p)$?

Let $F(x, y, z) = y^3 - f(x, z)$ and look at reduction modulo p .

$$\overline{F} \text{ reducible}/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p \iff \overline{F} = (y - h)(y - \zeta_3 h)(y - \zeta_3^2 h).$$

Factorization type in y	$p = 3$	$p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$	$p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$
1. Abs. irr.	2160	$p^3(p^4 - 1)$	$p^3(p^4 - 1)$
2. 3 distinct linear over \mathbb{F}_p	0	$\frac{1}{3}(p^3 - 1)$	0
3. Linear + conj.	0	0	$p^3 - 1$
4. 3 conjugate factors	0	$\frac{2}{3}(p^3 - 1)$	0
5. $(y - h(x, z))^3$	27	1	1
Total	3^7	p^7	p^7

Getting exact answer

Let ξ_i be the proportion of \bar{F} for which \bar{F} has type i .

Let σ_i be probability $F = 0$ has \mathbb{Z}_p -solution when \bar{F} has type i .

$$\rho_{3,6}(p) = \sum_{i=1}^5 \xi_i(p) \sigma_i(p).$$

Getting exact answer

Let ξ_i be the proportion of \bar{f} for which \bar{F} has type i .

Let σ_i be probability $F = 0$ has \mathbb{Z}_p -solution when \bar{F} has type i .

$$\rho_{3,6}(p) = \sum_{i=1}^5 \xi_i(p) \sigma_i(p).$$

In order to compute σ_4, σ_5 , do the following.

- ① How often do **factorization types** occur (mod p)?
- ② Find **lifting probabilities** for each factorization type.
- ③ **Relate** probabilities to each other and solve.

An example: computing σ_5

$$\sigma_5 = \text{Prob} \left(C_f(\mathbb{Q}_p) \neq \emptyset \mid f(x, z) \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \right)$$

Write $f(x, z) \equiv pf_1(x, z)$ for $f_1 \in \mathbb{F}_p[x, z]$. Assume $f_1 \neq 0$ for now.

An example: computing σ_5

$$\sigma_5 = \text{Prob} \left(C_f(\mathbb{Q}_p) \neq \emptyset \mid f(x, z) \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \right)$$

Write $f(x, z) \equiv pf_1(x, z)$ for $f_1 \in \mathbb{F}_p[x, z]$. Assume $f_1 \neq 0$ for now.

Observation

\mathbb{Z}_p -point $[x_0 : y_0 : z_0]$ on $C_f: y^3 = f(x, z)$ has $p \mid y_0$,

$$p^3 \mid f(x_0, z_0) \implies p^2 \mid f_1(x_0, z_0).$$

An example: computing σ_5

$$\sigma_5 = \text{Prob} \left(C_f(\mathbb{Q}_p) \neq \emptyset \mid f(x, z) \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \right)$$

Write $f(x, z) \equiv pf_1(x, z)$ for $f_1 \in \mathbb{F}_p[x, z]$. Assume $f_1 \neq 0$ for now.

Observation

\mathbb{Z}_p -point $[x_0 : y_0 : z_0]$ on $C_f: y^3 = f(x, z)$ has $p \mid y_0$,

$$p^3 \mid f(x_0, z_0) \implies p^2 \mid f_1(x_0, z_0).$$

(0) If $\overline{f_1}(x, z)$ has no roots modulo p , then C_f has no \mathbb{Z}_p -points.

An example: computing σ_5

$$\sigma_5 = \text{Prob} \left(C_f(\mathbb{Q}_p) \neq \emptyset \mid f(x, z) \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \right)$$

Write $f(x, z) \equiv pf_1(x, z)$ for $f_1 \in \mathbb{F}_p[x, z]$. Assume $f_1 \neq 0$ for now.

Observation

\mathbb{Z}_p -point $[x_0 : y_0 : z_0]$ on $C_f: y^3 = f(x, z)$ has $p \mid y_0$,

$$p^3 \mid f(x_0, z_0) \implies p^2 \mid f_1(x_0, z_0).$$

- (0) If $\overline{f_1}(x, z)$ has no roots modulo p , then C_f has no \mathbb{Z}_p -points.
- (1) If $\overline{f_1}(x, z)$ has a root of mult. 1, it lifts to \mathbb{Z}_p -point of C_f .

An example: computing σ_5

$$\sigma_5 = \text{Prob} \left(C_f(\mathbb{Q}_p) \neq \emptyset \mid f(x, z) \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \right)$$

Write $f(x, z) \equiv pf_1(x, z)$ for $f_1 \in \mathbb{F}_p[x, z]$. Assume $f_1 \neq 0$ for now.

Observation

\mathbb{Z}_p -point $[x_0 : y_0 : z_0]$ on $C_f: y^3 = f(x, z)$ has $p \mid y_0$,

$$p^3 \mid f(x_0, z_0) \implies p^2 \mid f_1(x_0, z_0).$$

- (0) If $\overline{f_1}(x, z)$ has no roots modulo p , then C_f has no \mathbb{Z}_p -points.
- (1) If $\overline{f_1}(x, z)$ has a root of mult. 1, it lifts to \mathbb{Z}_p -point of C_f .
- (2) Suppose $\overline{f_1}(x, z)$ has a double root (and no other roots).

Dealing with the double root

Assume $x^2 \mid \overline{f}_1$, giving p -adic valuations below (original coeffs of f):

Prob. lift	$v(c_6)$	$v(c_5)$	$v(c_4)$	$v(c_3)$	$v(c_2)$	$v(c_1)$	$v(c_0)$
$\tau_2 = \tau_{2a} = \frac{1}{p}\tau_{2b}$	≥ 1	≥ 1	≥ 1	≥ 1	$= 1$	≥ 2	≥ 2
$\tau_{2b} = \tau_{2c}$	≥ 1	≥ 1	≥ 1	≥ 1	$= 1$	≥ 2	≥ 3
$\tau_{2c} = 1$	≥ 4	≥ 3	≥ 2	≥ 1	$= 0$	≥ 0	≥ 0

Probability of lifting $[0 : 0 : 1]$ in this case is

$$\tau_2 = \frac{1}{p} = \text{Prob} \left(p^3 \mid c_0 : p^2 \mid c_0 \text{ and } p \parallel c_2 \right).$$

Computing σ_5

$$\sigma_5 = \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^7}\right) \sum_{i=0}^9 \eta_i \tau_i + \left(\frac{1}{p^7} - \frac{1}{p^{14}}\right) \sum_{i=0}^9 \eta_i \theta_i + \frac{1}{p^{14}} \rho$$

- Index i indicates factorization type of $f_1(x, z)$ (or $f_2(x, z)$)
- η_i = proportion of sextic forms/ \mathbb{F}_p with i -th type
- τ_i (resp. θ_i) are proportion of f with f_1 (resp. f_2) of type i such that C_f has a \mathbb{Z}_p -point.

Factorization types

Fact. type	η_i	η'_i (monic forms only)
0. No roots	$\frac{(53p^4 + 26p^3 + 19p^2 - 2p + 24)(p-1)p}{144(p^6 + p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)}$	$\frac{(53p^4 + 26p^3 + 19p^2 - 2p + 24)(p-1)}{144p^5}$
1. (1*)	$\frac{(91p^4 + 26p^3 + 23p^2 + 16p - 12)(p+1)p}{144(p^6 + p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)}$	$\frac{(91p^3 - 27p^2 + 50p - 48)(p+1)(p-1)}{144p^5}$
2. (1 ² 4) or (1 ² 22)	$\frac{(3p^2 + p + 2)(p+1)(p-1)p}{8(p^6 + p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)}$	$\frac{(3p^2 + p + 2)(p-1)}{8p^4}$
3. (1 ² 1 ² 2)	$\frac{(p+1)(p-1)p^2}{4(p^6 + p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)}$	$\frac{(p-1)^2}{4p^4}$
4. (1 ² 1 ² 1 ²)	$\frac{(p+1)(p-1)p}{6(p^6 + p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)}$	$\frac{(p-1)(p-2)}{6p^5}$
5. (1 ³ 3)	$\frac{(p+1)^2(p-1)p}{3(p^6 + p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)}$	$\frac{(p+1)(p-1)}{3p^4}$
6. (1 ³ 1 ³)	$\frac{(p+1)p}{2(p^6 + p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)}$	$\frac{p-1}{2p^5}$
7. (1 ⁴ 2)	$\frac{(p+1)(p-1)p}{2(p^6 + p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)}$	$\frac{p-1}{2p^4}$
8. (1 ² 1 ⁴)	$\frac{(p+1)p}{p^6 + p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1}$	$\frac{p-1}{p^5}$
9. (1 ⁶)	$\frac{p+1}{p^6 + p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1}$	$\frac{1}{p^5}$

Type 9: yikes!

Type 9, e.g. $f(x, z) \equiv px^6 \pmod{p^2}$.

τ_9 is a degree 44 rational function in p .

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_9 &= \tau_{9a} = \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9b} \\ \tau_{9b} &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) + \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9c} \\ \tau_{9c} &= \Phi(p) + \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9d} \\ \tau_{9d} &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) \left(\frac{p-1}{2p} + \frac{1}{p^2}\right) + \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9e} \\ \tau_{9e} &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) + \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9f} \\ \tau_{9f} &= \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9g} \\ \tau_{9g} &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) \alpha'' + \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9h} \\ \tau_{9h} &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) \left(\frac{p-1}{2p} + \frac{\theta_2}{p}\right) + \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9i} \\ \tau_{9i} &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) + \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9j} \\ \tau_{9j} &= \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9k} \\ \tau_{9k} &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) + \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9\ell} \\ \tau_{9\ell} &= \Phi(p) + \left(1 - \Phi(p) - \frac{1}{p}\right) \beta + \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9m} \\ \tau_{9m} &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) + \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9n} \\ \tau_{9n} &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) + \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9o} \\ \tau_{9o} &= \Phi(p) + \frac{1}{p} \tau_{9p} \\ \tau_{9p} &= \sigma'_5\end{aligned}$$

[illegible]

What is $\rho_{3,6}(p)$?

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho = \left\{ \begin{aligned}
 & \left(1296p^{57} + 3888p^{56} + 9072p^{55} + 16848p^{54} + 27648p^{53} + 39744p^{52} + 53136p^{51} + 66483p^{50} + 80019p^{49} + 93141p^{48} \right. \\
 & + 107469p^{47} + 120357p^{46} + 135567p^{45} + 148347p^{44} + 162918p^{43} + 176004p^{42} + 190278p^{41} + 203459p^{40} \\
 & + 218272p^{39} + 232083p^{38} + 243639p^{37} + 255267p^{36} + 261719p^{35} + 264925p^{34} + 265302p^{33} + 261540p^{32} \\
 & + 254790p^{31} + 250736p^{30} + 241384p^{29} + 226503p^{28} + 214137p^{27} + 195273p^{26} + 170793p^{25} + 151839p^{24} + 136215p^{23} \\
 & + 118998p^{22} + 105228p^{21} + 94860p^{20} + 80471p^{19} + 67048p^{18} + 52623p^{17} + 40617p^{16} + 28773p^{15} + 19247p^{14} \\
 & + 12109p^{13} + 7614p^{12} + 3420p^{11} + 756p^{10} - 2248p^9 - 4943p^8 - 6300p^7 - 6894p^6 - 5994p^5 - 2448p^4 - 648p^3 \\
 & + 324p^2 + 1296p + 1296 \Big) / \left(1296(p^{12} - p^{11} + p^9 - p^8 + p^6 - p^4 + p^3 - p + 1)(p^8 - p^6 + p^4 - p^2 + 1) \right. \\
 & \times (p^6 + p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)(p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)^3 (p^4 - p^3 + p^2 - p + 1)(p^2 + p + 1) \\
 & \times (p^2 + 1)p^{11} \Big), \\
 & \left(144p^{57} + 432p^{56} + 1008p^{55} + 1872p^{54} + 3168p^{53} + 4608p^{52} + 6336p^{51} + 8011p^{50} + 9803p^{49} + 11357p^{48} \right. \\
 & + 13061p^{47} + 14525p^{46} + 16295p^{45} + 17875p^{44} + 19654p^{43} + 21212p^{42} + 23030p^{41} + 24563p^{40} + 26320p^{39} \\
 & + 27771p^{38} + 29711p^{37} + 30859p^{36} + 31135p^{35} + 31525p^{34} + 31510p^{33} + 29436p^{32} + 28502p^{31} + 28616p^{30} \\
 & + 26856p^{29} + 25087p^{28} + 25057p^{27} + 23041p^{26} + 19921p^{25} + 18119p^{24} + 16287p^{23} + 13798p^{22} \\
 & + 12140p^{21} + 10844p^{20} + 9191p^{19} + 7480p^{18} + 5839p^{17} + 4265p^{16} + 2909p^{15} + 1943p^{14} + 1109p^{13} \\
 & + 590p^{12} + 604p^{11} + 372p^{10} - 144p^9 - 87p^8 - 84p^7 - 678p^6 - 618p^5 - 144p^4 - 168p^3 - 156p^2 \\
 & + 144p + 144 \Big) / \left(144(p^{12} - p^{11} + p^9 - p^8 + p^6 - p^4 + p^3 - p + 1)(p^8 - p^6 + p^4 - p^2 + 1) \right. \\
 & \times (p^6 + p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)(p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1)^3 (p^4 - p^3 + p^2 - p + 1)(p^2 + p + 1) \\
 & \times (p^2 + 1)p^{11} \Big),
 \end{aligned} \right.
 \end{aligned}$$

$p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$

$p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$

What about small primes?

Use Magma when Hasse–Weil doesn't suffice; modify calculations accordingly.

$$\rho(2) = \frac{45948977725819217081}{46164832540903014400} \approx 0.99532$$

$$\rho(3) = \frac{900175334869743731875930997281}{908381960435133191895132960000} \approx 0.99096$$

$$\rho(7) = \frac{63104494755178622851603292623187277054743730183645677893972}{64083174787206696882429945655801281538844149896400159815375} \approx 0.98472$$

$$\rho(13) = \frac{7877728357244577414025901931296747409682076255666526984515273526822853}{7890643570620106747776737292792780623510727026420779539893772399701475} \approx 0.99836$$

$$\rho(19) = \frac{3122673715489206150449285868243361150392235799365815266879438393279346795671}{3123410013311365155035964479837966797560851333614271490136481337080636454180} \approx 0.99976$$

$$\rho(31) = \frac{9196796457678318869139089936786462146535210039832850454297877482020635073857159758299}{9196865061587843544830989041473808798913128587425995645857828572610918436035833907250} \approx 0.999992$$

$$\rho(37) = \frac{171128647900820194784458101787952920169924464886519055453844647154184805036447476640345735119}{171128889636157060536894474187017088464271236509977199491208939449738127658679723715588944500} \approx 0.999998$$

$$\rho(43) = \frac{84000121343283090388653356431804100707331364779290664490547105768867844862712134447832720508750281}{84000151671513555191647712567596101710800846209116830568013729377404991150901973105093039939237500} \approx 0.9999996$$

What is $\rho_{3,6}$?

Theorem (Beneish-K.)

(C) *We have determined $\rho_{3,6}(p)$ exactly for all p .*

Taking product over $p \leq 10000$ gives

$$\rho_{3,6} \approx \prod_{p \leq 10000} \rho_{3,6}(p) = 0.96943,$$

with error of $O(10^{-14})$.

97% of superelliptic curves $y^3 = c_6 x^6 + \dots + c_0 z^6$ are ELS.

Further questions

Question

Are $\rho_{m,d}(p)$ always given by *rational functions* for $p \gg 0$?

Further questions

Question

Are $\rho_{m,d}(p)$ always given by *rational functions* for $p \gg 0$?

Question

What proportion of superelliptic curves $C_f: y^m = f(x, z)$

- are globally soluble?
- satisfy/fail the Hasse principle?
- have some/no points of certain higher degrees?

Further questions

Question

Are $\rho_{m,d}(p)$ always given by *rational functions* for $p \gg 0$?

Question

What proportion of superelliptic curves $C_f: y^m = f(x, z)$

- are globally soluble?
- satisfy/fail the Hasse principle?
- have some/no points of certain higher degrees?

Preliminary results [BK21, Prop. 7.2] give conditions for which pos. prop. of SECs have *finitely many* points of certain degrees.

Effective results for *global* solubility proportions in *thin families*, e.g. $y^m = f_1(x, z)f_2(x, z)$?

Thank you I

Thank you for the invitation and for your attention!



M. J. Bright, T. D. Browning, and D. Loughran, [Failures of weak approximation in families](#), *Compos. Math.* **152** (2016), no. 7, 1435–1475. MR 3530447



Manjul Bhargava, John Cremona, and Tom Fisher, [The proportion of plane cubic curves over \$\mathbb{Q}\$ that everywhere locally have a point](#), *Int. J. Number Theory* **12** (2016), no. 4, 1077–1092. MR 3484299



———, [The proportion of genus one curves over \$\mathbb{Q}\$ defined by a binary quartic that everywhere locally have a point](#), *Int. J. Number Theory* **17** (2021), no. 4, 903–923. MR 4262272



Manjul Bhargava, Benedict H. Gross, and Xiaoheng Wang, [A positive proportion of locally soluble hyperelliptic curves over \$\mathbb{Q}\$ have no point over any odd degree extension](#), *J. Amer. Math. Soc.* **30** (2017), no. 2, 451–493, With an appendix by Tim Dokchitser and Vladimir Dokchitser. MR 3600041



Lea Beneish and Christopher Keyes, [Fields generated by points on superelliptic curves](#), 2021.



———, [On the proportion of locally soluble superelliptic curves](#), *Finite Fields and Their Applications* **85** (2023), 102128.



T. D. Browning, [Many cubic surfaces contain rational points](#), *Mathematika* **63** (2017), no. 3, 818–839. MR 3731306



Torsten Ekedahl, [An infinite version of the Chinese remainder theorem](#), *Comment. Math. Univ. St. Paul.* **40** (1991), no. 1, 53–59. MR 1104780

Thank you II



Tom Fisher, Wei Ho, and Jennifer Park, [Everywhere local solubility for hypersurfaces in products of projective spaces](#), Res. Number Theory **7** (2021), no. 1, Paper No. 6, 27. MR 4199457



Bjorn Poonen and Michael Stoll, [The Cassels-Tate pairing on polarized abelian varieties](#), Ann. of Math. (2) **150** (1999), no. 3, 1109–1149. MR 1740984



———, [A local-global principle for densities](#), Topics in number theory (University Park, PA, 1997), Math. Appl., vol. 467, Kluwer Acad. Publ., Dordrecht, 1999, pp. 241–244. MR 1691323



Bjorn Poonen and José Felipe Voloch, [Random Diophantine equations](#), Arithmetic of higher-dimensional algebraic varieties (Palo Alto, CA, 2002), Progr. Math., vol. 226, Birkhäuser Boston, Boston, MA, 2004, With appendices by Jean-Louis Colliot-Thélène and Nicholas M. Katz, pp. 175–184. MR 2029869