AUTOMORPHISMS OF ABELIAN VARIETIES AND PRINCIPAL POLARIZATIONS

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ABSTRACT. The Narasimhan-Nori conjecture asks for a closed formula for the number of non-isomorphic principal polarizations of any given abelian variety. In this paper, we introduce a new computer program that gives a lower bound on the number of principal polarizations on any given abelian variety. We show, for example, that the Jacobian of the genus four underlying curve of Schoen's I-WP minimal surface has at least 9 non-isomorphic principal polarizations. We also explore the Jacobians of Klein's quartic, Fermat's quartic, Bring's curve, the modular curve $X_0(63)$, and more.

1. INTRODUCTION

Polarizations of varieties were introduced by Weil as an analogue of orientations of manifolds. There is a special kind of polarization called a principal polarization – all polarizations are induced by these up to isogeny. The fact that an abelian variety admits only a finite number of isomorphism classes of principal polarizations was established by Narasimhan-Nori. In [17], they pose the problem of finding a closed formula for the number of principal polarizations of any given abelian variety over any field, which is still unsolved. It is worth noting that abelian varieties with no principal polarizations are dense on the moduli stack of abelian varieties, and thus finding abelian varieties with many principal polarizations is a cause for celebration.

There has been a lot of prior work on the Narasimhan-Nori conjecture, exposited in Section 2. In this paper, we introduce an entirely different method of finding different principal polarizations on Jacobians, exposited in Section 4.2, which treats both simple and non-simple cases in characteristic 0. We use this to give lower bounds on the number of non-isomorphic principal polarizations. For example, we have the following result.

Theorem 1. *Let $\pi(X)$ denote the number of non-isomorphic principal polarizations on any given variety X. Let I-WP denote the underlying genus four curve of Schoen's I-WP minimal surface, and $\mathrm{Jac}(I\text{-}WP)$ its Jacobian variety, then*

$$\pi(\mathrm{Jac}(I\text{-}WP)) \geqslant 9.$$

This is a charming result, especially since the variety Jac(I-WP) itself factors into a product of 4 elliptic curves[1], so the remaining principal polarizations must come from interesting new cycles in the product of these elliptic curves. Other results found by

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[1]This is because End(Jac(I-WP)) $\simeq M_4(K)$, where K is imaginary quadratic. Thus, Jac(I-WP) is the product of elliptic curves with CM by K.

applying our technique include $\pi(A)$ and $|\operatorname{Aut}(A)|$ of Klein's quartic, Fermat's quartic, Bring's curve, and the modular curve $X_0(63)$ (Table 1, Section 7.1).

Our method works as follows. For curves that are cyclic covers over $\mathbb{CP}^1$, we can compute exact period matrices, exposited in Section 3.1. Otherwise, we compute the period matrices numerically. Given any period matrix, we introduce new code to compute principal polarizations on the corresponding abelian variety. Then, we implement a modification of the psuedocode of Bruin-Jeroen-Sijsling [3] to compute, for each found principal polarization, the automorphism group of the given Jacobian which fixes that polarization. If the automorphism groups are different, then the principal polarizations are non-isomorphic. This gives us a lower bound on the number of different principal polarizations for a given Jacobian.

We demonstrate the power of our method with a variety of different period matrices. We exposit cyclic covers of $\mathbb{CP}^1$ that allow us to compute exact period matrices. We also work with period matrices of modular curves, as codified by Mascot in a slight modification of [16] toward computing Galois representations. These modular curves are not cyclically branched covers over $\mathbb{CP}^1$, and thus give us a completely disjoint collection of curves to which we apply our methods. Assuming that our program finds *all* principal polarizations of any given abelian variety, we give a new proof of the automorphism group of $X_0(63)$, which was the only remaining unresolved automorphism group of a compact modular curve until 1990 [5].

2. Prior Work

Previous work toward the Narasimhan-Nori conjecture can be divided into the simple and non-simple cases. It can further be divided into characteristic 0 and characteristic p cases. Our main goal is to understand cases of simple varieties in characteristic 0.

In Theorem 1.5 [11], Lange establishes for simple varieties that $|\operatorname{Aut}(A)| = \pi(A)$ with certain restriction conditions and equivalence relations. One could in principle compute $|\operatorname{Aut}(A)|$ by hand, however, it is computationally infeasible.

In Theorem 3.1 [11], Lange further establishes bounds on $\pi(A)$ in terms of the class group of $\operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{Q}}(A)$, if $\operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{Q}}(A)$ is a *totally real* number field K (and thus the variety A is simple). More recently, Lange treated the non-simple case of products of elliptic curves without complex multiplication in Theorem 3.5 [12]. He did so by giving an interpretation of the number of principal polarizations in terms of class numbers of definite Hermitian forms.

Given an abelian variety A and a curve C, an isomorphism $A \simeq \operatorname{Jac}(C)$ induces a polarization on A called the canonical principal polarization [defn 10]. Note that this polarization does depend on the specified curve C. In particular, if $A \simeq \operatorname{Jac}(C) \simeq \operatorname{Jac}(C')$ is the Jacobian of multiple different nonisomorphic curves $C \not\simeq C'$, there can be several "canonical" principal polarizations on a Jacobian.

All other previous works known to the authors on finding multiple principal polarizations on abelian varieties have been done by finding two non-isomorphic curves with the same (unpolarized) Jacobian. Therefore, their associated canonical polarizations must be different by Torelli theorem. Otherwise, the curves would be isomorphic. All papers that we know of using this technique do so only in characteristic p. The papers

using this technique discuss the case of *non-simple* Jacobians of curves of genus two [8] and three [Brock, *Superspecial curves of genera two and three*], though we were unable to find a copy of the latter.

This technique is again used by E. Howe [6] and [7] which gives examples of non-isomorphic genus two curves with the same *simple* Jacobian. He finds such examples in characteristic p through isogeny classes of abelian varieties which correspond to special Weil numbers, an application of the Honda-Tate method.

Acknowledgements

3. Objects Of Our Interest

We use computational techniques from [14] to compute explicit period matrices. These techniques apply to curves that are cyclically branched over $\mathbb{CP}^1$. In this section, we summarize Chapter 3 of [14] and devote this section to providing background material on cyclic covers over $\mathbb{CP}^1$. We discuss the construction of such curves, various cone metrics that arise from the construction, and how to compute period matrices. We also discuss an example that is not a cyclic cover over $\mathbb{CP}^1$, namely, the modular curve $X_0(63)$.

3.1. Construction of Cyclic Covers over $\mathbb{CP}^1$.

First, we discuss the topological construction of cyclic covers over $\mathbb{CP}^1$. This will naturally yield cone metrics on the curves.

Definition 1. We say that a curve C is a d-fold cyclic cover over $\mathbb{CP}^1$ if $C/(\mathbb{Z}/d\mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{CP}^1$.

We construct such curves with the given data: let $p_i, \ldots, p_n \in \mathbb{CP}^1$ be n distinct points. Let $Y := \mathbb{CP}^1 \backslash \{p_1, \ldots, p_n\}$ and let γ_i be a branch cut from p_i to some $q \in Y$ so that γ_i are mutually disjoint. For each i, assign $d_i \in \{1, \ldots, d-1\}$ and call it the **branching index at** p_i. Let d be the degree of the covering map and use j to label $Y_1, \ldots, Y_d$. For each i and j, we identify the "left side" of γ_i of Y_j to the "right side" of γ_i of $Y_{j+d_i \pmod d}$. We denote such a covering C by a n-tuple $d(d_1, \ldots, d_n)$.

Remark. A covering $d(d_1, \ldots, d_n)$ is uniquely defined up to homeomorphism. That is, the construction only depends on d_i and is independent of p_i, γ_i, and q. We further assume that $\sum_{i=1}^{n} d_i \equiv 0 \pmod d$ and $\gcd(d_1, \ldots, d_n) = 1$. The former guarantees that the covering is closed and the latter guarantees that the covering is connected. Then

one can compute the genus of the curve by Riemann-Hurwitz formula and $g(C) = \frac{d(n-2)}{2} + 1 - \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\gcd(d,d_i)$.

Branching indices on Fermat's quartic. As a running example, we will look at the genus three Fermat's quartic that was studied as a cyclic cover in [13]. The curve is invariant under an order-eight rotational symmetry (Figure 1). Its quotient under this rotation is $\mathbb{CP}^1$ and the covering is defined as $8(1,2,5)$.
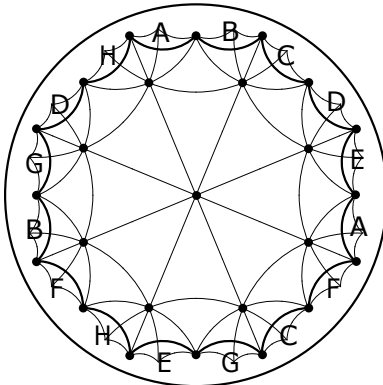

FIGURE 1. Hyperbolic tessellation on $8(1,2,5)$. Reprinted from [13].

For each i, there are $\gcd(d,d_i)$ preimages $\widetilde{p}_i$ of p_i on C. Hence, each $\widetilde{p}_i$ is a non-trivial cone point. To pin down a holomorphic 1-form on C, we find cone metrics on $\mathbb{CP}^1$ and pull-back to its covering. We say that a cone metric on $\mathbb{CP}^1$ is **admissible** if its pullback yields a flat structure on C. The following proposition is a version of Gauss-Bonnet theorem.

Proposition. *Given a compact Riemann surface of genus g with a cone metric, let $p_1,\ldots,p_n$ be distinguished points with respective cone angles θ_i. Then $\sum_{i=1}^{n}\theta_i = 2\pi(2g - 2 + n)$.*

Specifically, the sum of cone angles on a genus zero curve is $2\pi(n-2)$. Given branching indices such that $\sum_{i=1}^{n}d_i = d(n-2)$, we get a cone metric on $\mathbb{CP}^1$ with cone angles $\frac{2\pi d_i}{d}$ at each p_i. For example, by putting a cone metric on the quotient sphere where the cone angles are $\frac{1\pi}{8}, \frac{2\pi}{8}$, and $\frac{5\pi}{8}$ as in Figure 2, one can see that the identification of edges are by translations. In other words, this gives rise to a translation structure on the eightfold cover of the sphere. Moreover, we obtain a holomorphic 1-form with one order-4 zero.

Our goal is to find other admissible cone metrics on the sphere that yield different translation structures (linearly independent 1-forms) on the same curve. We claim that the cone metric given by cone angles $\frac{2\pi a_i}{d}$ where $a_i \equiv d_i \pmod{d}$ for all i is admissible (Theorem 3.4, [14]). An easier way of finding admissible cone metrics is given by the following notion of multipliers.
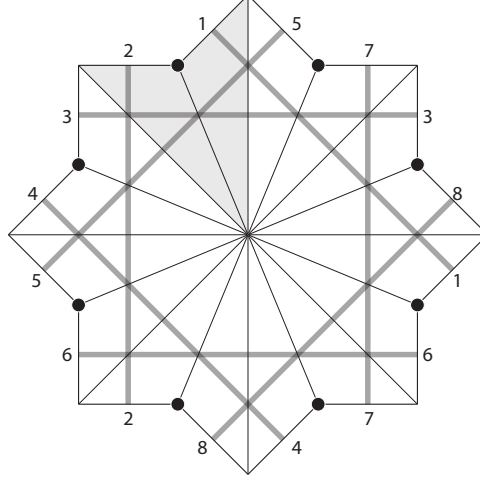
FIGURE 2. A flat structure ω_1 on $8(1, 2, 5)$ with one marked zero. Modified from [13]

Definition 2. Given branching indices $d(d_1, \ldots, d_n)$, we say $a \in \{1, \ldots, d-1\}$ is a **multiplier** if the cone metric given by cone angles $\frac{2\pi}{d}(a \cdot d_1 \pmod{d}, \ldots, a \cdot d_n \pmod{d})$ is admissible.

Theorem 3.5, [14] proves that for $n = 3$, there are exactly g multipliers. In other words, one achieves a basis of holomorphic 1-forms via multipliers. We denote the multipliers by a_i, hence the admissible cone angles are given by

$$\frac{2\pi}{d}(a_1 d_1, a_1 d_2, a_1 d_3), \ldots, \frac{2\pi}{d}(a_g d_1, a_g d_2, a_g d_3).$$

Admissible cone metrics on $8(1, 2, 5)$. Given branching indices $8(1, 2, 5)$, multipliers 1, 2, and 5 give rise to cone metrics with cone angles $\frac{2\pi}{8}(1, 2, 5)$, $\frac{2\pi}{8}(2, 4, 2)$, and $\frac{2\pi}{8}(5, 2, 1)$, respectively. These cone metrics yield a basis of holomorphic 1-forms with the following divisors:

$$(\omega_1) = 4\tilde{p}_3, \qquad (\omega_2) = \tilde{p}_1 + \tilde{p}_{21} + \tilde{p}_{22} + \tilde{p}_3, \qquad (\omega_3) = 4\tilde{p}_1.$$

Figure 3 represents ω_2 given by cone angles $\frac{2\pi}{8}(2, 4, 2)$. The four simple zeros are marked on the figure.

Computing the period matrix of cyclic covers. In this section, we use the flat structure of a surface to compute the period matrix of a given curve. We will look at the simplest case where $n = 3$ and $d_1 = 1$. Then, since $\sum d_i = d$, a cone metric with cone angles $\frac{2\pi}{d}(d_1, d_2, d_3)$ is admissible. Y is topologically equivalent to a doubled triangle with angles $\frac{2\pi}{d}(d_1, d_2, d_3)$ so we construct C with d copies of Y, which yields a flat structure on C. We will follow the underlying surface of Fermat's quartic as our leading example.

The identification of edges are via parallel translations, which verifies that the cone metric is admissible. Parallel translations yield closed cycles on the surface from which we get a homology basis with the following intersection matrix
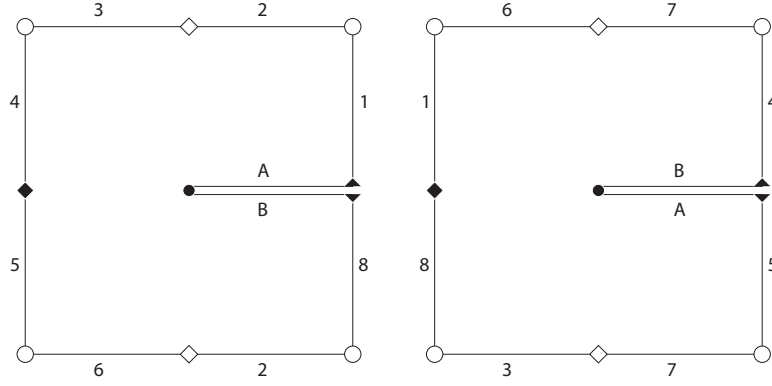
FIGURE 3. A flat structure ω_2 on $8(1, 2, 5)$ with four simple zeros. Modified from [14]

$$
\mathrm{int}_1 = \begin{pmatrix}
0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
-1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
-1 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0
\end{pmatrix}.
$$

Then the period matrix is computed as follows:

$$
\Pi_1 = \begin{pmatrix}
1 & e^{\frac{\pi i}{4}} & i & e^{\frac{3\pi i}{4}} & -1 & e^{-\frac{3\pi i}{4}} \\
1 & i & -1 & -i & 1 & i \\
1 & e^{-\frac{3\pi i}{4}} & i & e^{-\frac{\pi i}{4}} & -1 & e^{\frac{\pi i}{4}}
\end{pmatrix}.
$$

In general, from cyclicity we get

$$
\Pi = \begin{pmatrix}
1 & e^{\frac{2\alpha_1 \pi i}{d}} & e^{\frac{4\alpha_1 \pi i}{d}} & \cdots & e^{\frac{2(2g-1)\alpha_1 \pi i}{d}} \\
1 & e^{\frac{2\alpha_2 \pi i}{d}} & e^{\frac{4\alpha_2 \pi i}{d}} & \cdots & e^{\frac{2(2g-1)\alpha_2 \pi i}{d}} \\
\vdots & & & & \\
1 & e^{\frac{2\alpha_g \pi i}{d}} & e^{\frac{4\alpha_g \pi i}{d}} & \cdots & e^{\frac{2(2g-1)\alpha_g \pi i}{d}}
\end{pmatrix}
$$

where α_i are the multipliers.

Remark. In Theorem 5.6 of [14], Lee computes the period matrix of Fermat's quartic by choosing a symplectic homology basis. This yields the following period matrix

$$
\Pi_2 = (A|B) = \begin{pmatrix}
1 - i & -\frac{1+i}{1+\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1+i}{1+\sqrt{2}} & 1 + i & \sqrt{2} & 2 - \sqrt{2} \\
-2i & 2i & 2i & 2i & -2 & -2 \\
-1 - i & (1-i)(1+\sqrt{2}) & (-1+i)(1+\sqrt{2}) & 1 - i & i\sqrt{2} & i(-2-\sqrt{2})
\end{pmatrix}
$$

and

$$\tau = (A^{-1}B) = \begin{pmatrix} i & \frac{1+i}{2} & \frac{1+i}{2} \\ \frac{1+i}{2} & i & \frac{1+i}{2} \\ \frac{1+i}{2} & \frac{1+i}{2} & i \end{pmatrix}.$$

4. Programmatically Computing Principal Polarizations of Abelian Varieties over $\mathbb{C}$

4.1. **Introduction to Polarizations: From Theory to Code.** The notion of a polarization of an abelian variety has many faces. If a complex torus has a polarization, it is an abelian variety.

Definition 3. A **polarization** of a complex torus X is an embedding $j : X \to \mathbb{P}^N$ for large enough N.

We can understand this embedding j as a map

$$p \mapsto [a_1(p) : \cdots : a_{N-1}(p)],$$

where a_i are a chosen generating set of global sections of a line bundle $\mathcal{L}$ on X.

Definition 4. A line bundle $\mathcal{L}$ is defined to be **very ample** on X if it defines a closed embedding into $\mathbb{P}^N$ for large enough N.

Definition 5. A line bundle is **ample** if a tensor power of the line bundle is very ample. Since the Chern class is additive, $c_1(\mathcal{L}^{\otimes k}) = kc_1(\mathcal{L})$, the ample bundle and its tensor power are equivalent datum.

In other words, $\mathcal{L}$ is defined to be ample if it, or a tensor power of it, specifies an embedding of X into projective space.

Definition 6. Line bundles $\mathcal{L}_1$ and $\mathcal{L}_2$ on X are **analytically equivalent** if there is a connected complex analytic space T, a line bundle $\mathcal{L}$ on $X \times T$, and points $t_1, t_2 \in T$ such that

$$\mathcal{L}|_{X \times \{t_i\}} \simeq \mathcal{L}_i$$

for $i = 1, 2$.

A line bundle $\mathcal{L}$ over X is specified up to analytic equivalence by its first Chern class $c_1(\mathcal{L}) \in H^2(X; \mathbb{Z})$. More precisely,

Theorem ([1] 2.5.3). *Let X be an abelian variety. For line bundles $\mathcal{L}_1$ and $\mathcal{L}_2$ over X, the following statements are equivalent:*

    (1) $\mathcal{L}_1$ and $\mathcal{L}_2$ are analytically equivalent.
    (2) $c_1(\mathcal{L}_1) = c_1(\mathcal{L}_2)$

Definition 7. The **first Chern class** of a line bundle $\mathcal{L}$ is the image of $\mathcal{L} \in \operatorname{Pic}(X) = H^1(\mathcal{O}_X^*)$ under the map c_1 on cohomology which arises as follows. Consider the exact sequence

$$0 \to \mathbb{Z} \to \mathcal{O}_X \to \mathcal{O}_X^* \to 0$$

and its long cohomology sequence:

$$\cdots \to H^1(\mathcal{O}_X^*) \xrightarrow{c_1} H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \to \cdots$$

We associate to every first Chern class an alternating form.

Theorem ([1] 1.3.2 & 2.1.2)**.**

$$\psi : H^2(X; \mathbb{Z}) \simeq \mathrm{Alt}^2(\Lambda, \mathbb{Z})$$

Let S be the set of $c_1(\mathcal{L})$ where $\mathcal{L}$ ranges over all holomorphic line bundles on X. The image $\psi(S)$ is isomorphic to all Hermitian alternating forms.

Theorem ([1] 2.1.6)**.** *Let $X := V/\Lambda$ be an abelian variety. For an alternating form $E : V \times V \to \mathbb{R}$, the following conditions are equivalent:*

(1) There is a holomorphic line bundle $\mathcal{L}$ on X such that $\psi(c_1(\mathcal{L})) = E$.
(2) $E(\Lambda, \Lambda) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$, and

$$E(iv, iw) = E(v, w)$$

Note that from each element $\mathrm{Alt}^2(\Lambda, \mathbb{Z})$, we obtain via $\mathbb{R}$-linear extension an alternating form $\mathrm{Alt}^2(V, \mathbb{R})$ (as in rational versus analytic representations, see [[1] 1.2.1]). We also have an isomorphism between real valued forms satisfying 2.1.6(2) and Hermitian forms.

It is important to emphasize that not all forms satisfying 2.1.6(2) correspond to Chern classes of ample line bundles. Ampleness is stronger than holomorphicity, hence we need a stronger condition.

Definition 8. A line bundle $\mathcal{L}$ on X is called **positive** if $c_1(\mathcal{L})$ is represented by a positive-definite Hermitian form.

Theorem. *Let X be a smooth complex projective variety. A line bundle $\mathcal{L}$ on X is ample if and only if it is positive.*

This is how we ask the computer to find polarizations of an abelian variety X, which are steps 1 and 2 of the following section.

However, there may be infinitely many polarizations. We are interested in a particular kind of polarization.

Definition 9. A polarization $c_1(\mathcal{L})$ of X is called **principal** if $\mathcal{L}$ has only one section up to constants, i.e. $\dim H^0(X, \mathcal{L}) = 1$.

As a motivational theorem:

Theorem ([1] 4.1.2)**.** *Every polarization is induced by a principal polarization via an isogeny.*

By Narasimhan-Nori [17], there are only finitely many principal polarizations on a variety X which is irreducible and smooth. As a corollary, only finitely many curves may have the same Jacobian, because each non-isomorphic curve gives a non-isomorphic principal polarization on its Jacobian.

We end this introduction to polarizations with a special kind of principal polarization.

Definition 10. The **canonical principal polarization** of an abelian variety $A \simeq \mathrm{Jac}(C)$, isomorphic to the Jacobian of a specified curve C, is thought of as a symplectic form on $\mathrm{Jac}(C)$ induced by a form on C. More specicially, this principal polarization on $\mathrm{Jac}(C)$ comes from the intersection form $Q : H_1(C; \mathbb{Z}) \otimes H_1(C; \mathbb{Z}) \to \mathbb{Z}$. This is because $H^2(\mathrm{Jac}(C); \mathbb{Z}) \simeq \mathrm{Hom}(\bigwedge H_1(C; \mathbb{Z}); \mathbb{Z})$.

4.2. **Finding Principal Polarizations.** All of our code is available at

<div align="center">https://github.com/catherineray/aut-jac.</div>

We begin with a representation of our abelian variety as $A := \mathbb{C}^g/\Pi\mathbb{Z}^{2g}$. Then Λ is the associated lattice spanned by the columns of Π. Thus, we have a distinguished basis for the homology of A, corresponding to the columns of Π.

Algorithm: Compute many principal polarizations on a given abelian variety A.

Input: An abelian variety $A := \mathbb{C}^g/\Pi\mathbb{Z}^{2g}$, where Λ is the associated lattice to the period matrix Π.

Output: Many principal polarizations on A.

(1) The `Magma` function `FindPolarizationBasis` determines all integral alternating pairings E on the homology, i.e., $E \in \mathrm{Alt}^2(\mathbb{C}^g, \mathbb{Z})$, for whose real extension we have:

$$E(iv, iw) = E(v, w)$$

This is a basis of alternating forms $\{E_i\}$.

(2) Check that E is positive-definite.

(3) `CullPB.m` tries some small combinations and sees if E_i actually gives a pairing with determinant 1 indicating that E_i is a principal polarization. If so, it returns E_i. This gives us a set $\{E_k\}$ of integral pairings on the homology.

(4) For each i, we rewrite these pairings in a symplectic basis. That is, we find a basis of Λ in which

$$E_i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D \\ -D & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where $D = \mathrm{diag}(d_1, ..., d_g)$ which we may do by the elementary divisor theorem (Section 3.1, [1]).

This does nothing but modify the (homology) basis of Λ. Multiplying Π on the right with this integral matrix, we get a new period matrix Q whose columns span exactly the same lattice but for which the standard symplectic pairing E is actually the Chern class of a line bundle. This is often called the Frobenius form of the period matrix Π.

5. THE PRECISE TORELLI THEOREM

Let k be a field, and let X be a nice (i.e., smooth, projective and geometrically integral) curve over k of genus $g > 1$. Let $(\mathrm{Jac}(X), a)$ denote the Jacobian of X together with a, the Jacobian's canonical principal polarization with respect to X [defn 10], which is of degree 1. Let X' be another nice curve over k. Any isomorphism $f : X \to X'$ defines by functoriality an isomorphism $f_J : (\mathrm{Jac}(X), a) \to (\mathrm{Jac}(X'), a')$.

The isomorphism $f : X \to X'$ induces an isomorphism between the divisor groups $\mathrm{Div}^i(X)$ and $\mathrm{Div}^i(X')$ for every i. This is because these groups are defined as formal combinations of codimension 1 subvarieties, and, via the isomorphism f, we can pull back the inclusions of subvarieties of X' to inclusions of subvarieties of X. Note that the image of $\mathrm{Div}^{g-1}(X)$ under the Abel-Jacobi map determines the canonical principal polarization of $\mathrm{Jac}(X)$ with respect to X.

Torelli's theorem says that this procedure recovers almost all of the isomorphisms $(\mathrm{Jac}(X), a) \to (\mathrm{Jac}(X'), a')$. More precisely:

Theorem. *Suppose X is hyperelliptic. Then for every isomorphism of polarized abelian varieties $F : (\mathrm{Jac}(X), a) \xrightarrow{\sim} (\mathrm{Jac}(X'), a')$, there exists a unique isomorphism $f : X \xrightarrow{\sim} X'$ such that $F = f_J$.*

Theorem. *Suppose X is not hyperelliptic. Then, for every isomorphism of polarized varieties $F : (\mathrm{Jac}(X), a) \xrightarrow{\sim} (\mathrm{Jac}(X'), a')$, there exists an isomorphism $f : X \xrightarrow{\sim} X'$ and $e \in \{\pm 1\}$ such that $F = e \cdot J_f$. Moreover, the pair (f, e) is uniquely determined by F.*

So, we conclude:

$$\mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{Jac}(X), a) \simeq \begin{cases} \mathrm{Aut}(X) & \text{if } X \text{ is hyperelliptic} \\ \mathrm{Aut}(X) \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2 & \text{if } X \text{ is not hyperelliptic} \end{cases}$$

This precise form of Torelli's theorem is proved for algebraically closed fields by Weil [20]. A modern proof by Martens [21] proves Torelli's theorem as a combinatorial consequence of the Riemann-Roch theorem and Abel's theorem. Let ϕ be the Abel-Jacobi map $\phi : X \to \mathrm{Jac}(X)$; this map is determined up to translation by the torus $\mathrm{Jac}(X)$. Let $\mathrm{Div}^i(X)$ denote the degree $\leqslant i$ effective divisors on X, and W^i denote their image $\phi(\mathrm{Div}^i(X))$.

Note that:
- $\mathrm{Div}^1(X)$ is simply the points on X, so $\mathrm{Div}^1(X) = X$.
- W^1 is birationally equivalent to X, that is, we can think of X as being embedded in its Jacobian.
- W^{g-1} determines the canonical polarization of $\mathrm{Jac}(X) = W^g$ with respect to X.
- There is a map

$$\mathrm{flip} : \mathrm{Jac}(X) \to \mathrm{Jac}(X)$$
$$u \mapsto -u + \phi(Z),$$

  where Z is a canonical divisor on X.
- By translation of U, we mean for every $p \in U \subset \mathrm{Jac}(X)$, we have $p + a$ using the Jacobian group operation.

Let X and Y have the same Jacobian, and V^k denote $\phi(\mathrm{Div}^k(Y))$. We finish by showing that if the canonical polarizations are the same, i.e. $V^{g-1} = W^{g-1}$, then V^1 is a translate of W^1 or $\mathrm{flip}(W^1)$. This is done by induction on the smallest r such that $V^1 \subseteq W^{r+1}$ or $V^1 \subseteq \mathrm{flip}(W^{r+1})$, up to translation, showing that r must be 0.

In the case of hyperelliptic curves, $W^1 = \mathrm{flip}(W^1)$, that is, they coincide as sets in $\mathrm{Jac}(X)$. For non-hyperelliptic curves, $W^1 \neq \mathrm{flip}(W^1)$, hence we have the $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ factor.

6. Programmatically Computing the Automorphism Group of Plane Curves and Abelian Varieties over $\mathbb{C}$

The first two subsections 6.1 and 6.2 of this section are copied from Section 4 of Bruin-Sijsling-Zotine [3] with additional algorithms, exposition, and examples added for the reader's convenience. We discuss the certification of numerical results in Section 6.3,

and the comparison between the cycles in simple and non-simple varieties in Section 6.4. All of our code is available at

$$\texttt{https://github.com/catherineray/aut-jac.}$$

Let us examine abelian varieties represented as analytic groups $X := V/\Lambda$ and $X' := V'/\Lambda'$. They need not be Jacobians.

We slightly abuse notation here, Λ represents both a matrix in $M_{g \times 2g}(\mathbb{Z})$, and the $2g$-integral-dimensional (i.e., g-complex-dimensional) lattice in $\mathbb{C}^g$ generated by the columns of that matrix.

Theorem ([1] 1.2.1). *Let $X := V/\Lambda$ and $X' := V'/\Lambda'$ be abelian varieties. Under addition the set of homomorphisms $\mathrm{Hom}(X, X')$ forms an abelian group. There is an injective homomorphism of abelian groups:*

$$\rho : \mathrm{Hom}(X, X') \to \mathrm{Hom}(V, V')$$
$$f \mapsto F$$

The restriction to the lattice Λ is $\mathbb{Z}$-linear, thus we get an injective homomorphism:

$$\rho|_\Lambda : \mathrm{Hom}(X, X') \to \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\Lambda, \Lambda')$$
$$f \mapsto F|_\Lambda$$

We will namely use the representation $\rho|_\Lambda$ and find the basis of our set of maps in terms of this representation.

We work in the category of varieties equipped with principal polarizations, which we discuss in Section 4.1. In this category, morphisms are morphisms of pairs. That is,

$$f : (X, c_1(\mathcal{L})) \to (Y, c_1(\mathcal{M}))$$

such that $f^*(Y, c_1(\mathcal{M})) = (X, c_1(\mathcal{L}))$ (for isomorphisms). We may represent polarizations as integral valued alternating forms.

Definition 11. Let a be a polarization of X. We call $\mathrm{Aut}(X, a)$ a **symplectic automorphism group** of X, as it respects the symplectic form a.

Let E_1 and E_2 be forms representing $c_1(\mathcal{L}_1)$ and $c_1(\mathcal{L}_2)$, respectively. Note that a map $\alpha : (X_1, c_1(\mathcal{L}_1)) \to (X_2, c_1(\mathcal{L}_2))$ such that

$$\alpha^*(c_1(\mathcal{L}_2)) = c_1(\mathcal{L}_1),$$

is equivalent to a matrix $R \in M_{2g}(\mathbb{Z})$ in the image of $\rho|_\Lambda$ such that

$$R^t E_2 R = E_1.$$

6.1. **Computing the Automorphism Group of Plane Curves.** This section exposits on the algorithm used in `autplane.sage`.

In the case that our abelian variety is of the form $\mathrm{Jac}(C_i) =: J_i$, and we know the curve C_i, there is a special principal polarization E_i with respect to that curve C_i. This is programmatically found using Lemma 2.6 [3].

Algorithm: Compute the set of isomorphisms between curves.

Input: Planar equations f_1, f_2 for curves C_1, C_2.

Output: The set of isomorphisms $C_1 \to C_2$, or the group $\mathrm{Aut}(C)$ if $C_1 = C_2$.

(1) Check if $g(C_1) = g(C_2)$; if not, return the empty set.
(2) Check if C_1 and C_2 are hyperelliptic; if so, use the methods in [15].
(3) Determine the period matrices Π_1, Π_2 of C_1, C_2 to the given precision.
(4) Determine a $\mathbb{Z}$-basis of $\mathrm{Hom}(J_1, J_2) \subset M_{2g \times 2g}(\mathbb{Z})$ represented by integral matrices $R \in M_{2g \times 2g}(\mathbb{Z})$. [Lemma 4.3 [3]]
(5) Using Fincke-Pohst[2], determine the finite set [from 5.1.9 BL]

$$S = \{R \in \mathrm{Hom}(J_1, J_2) \mid \mathrm{tr}((E_1^{-1} R^t E_2)R) = 2g\}$$

(6) Return the subset[3] of $R \in S$ which further satisfies $R^t E_2 R = E_1$. (These are the symplectic endomorphisms.)
(7) Look at the subset of R such that $\det(R) = \pm 1$. These are the symplectic automorphisms.
(8) If $J_1 = J_2$, find the group structure of this subset.

Note that if the curves C_1 and C_2 are non-hyperelliptic, by the precise Torelli theorem, we get $\mathrm{Hom}((J_1, E_1), (J_2, E_2)) \simeq \mathrm{Hom}(C_1, C_2) \sqcup \{\pm 1\}$ from this algorithm. So, we must remove the direct summand $\{\pm 1\}$.

Remark. Step 8 of the above algorithm was added by Ray to tame these unwieldy matrix groups, and is achieved as follows.

Algorithm: Compute the group structure of an underlying set of matrices.

Input: A set of matrices which are a group by multiplication.

Output: The group structure of the set.

(1) Check cardinality of the set. Call this N.
(2) Take first 15 elements of the set, use GAP to check if these generate a matrix group G of the correct order N. If not, it generates a group of order K, where $KM = N$. Take more elements of order dividing M until they generate a group of the correct order.
(3) Use `IdGroup(G)` in GAP.

6.2. **Computing the Automorphism Group of Abelian Varieties.** This section exposits the algorithm used in `autperio.sage`

Notation. Let $A := V/\Lambda$ be an abelian variety of dimension g. Let $e_1, ..., e_g$ be the chosen basis for V, and $\lambda_1, ..., \lambda_{2g}$ be a corresponding chosen basis for Λ. Let Π be the corresponding period matrix such that $A := \mathbb{C}^g / \Pi \mathbb{Z}^{2g}$.

Algorithm: Compute the group of isomorphisms between abelian varieties.

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[2]This is an algorithm for finding vectors of small norm. We use it here to solve for the finite set of solutions $R = \sum_{i=1}^{2g} \lambda_i B_i$, where B is the basis from step 4.

[3]The condition $R^t E_2 R = E_1$ (i.e., $E_1^{-1} R^t E_2 R = \mathrm{Id}$) implies that $\mathrm{tr}((E_1^{-1} R^t E_2)R) = 2g$. So we first solve for the latter to thin the results, then solve for the former from that set.

Input: Period matrices of abelian varieties J_1 and J_2, as Π_1 and Π_2 respectively.

Output: For each combination of principal polarizations (a_i, b_j), the set of isomorphisms between (J_1, a_i) and (J_2, b_j) (or the group, if they coincide, i.e., $J_1 = J_2$ and $a_i = b_j$).

(1) Check if $g_1 = g_2$; if not, return the empty set.
(2) Determine a $\mathbb{Z}$-basis of $\mathrm{Hom}(J_1, J_2) \subset M_{2g \times 2g}(\mathbb{Z})$ represented by integral matrices $R \in M_{2g \times 2g}(\mathbb{Z})$.
(3) Find many principal polarizations $\{a_i\}$ and $\{b_j\}$ for J_1 and J_2 respectively using `CullPB` (exposited in the next section).
(4) Apply steps 5-8 of the previous section substituting each pair (a_i, b_j) for (E_1, E_2). For each pair, this will produce the set of isomorphisms between (J_1, a_i) and (J_2, b_j).
(5) If $(J_1, a_i) = (J_2, b_i)$, find the group structure of each set $\mathrm{Aut}(J_1, a_i)$ (using the algorithm in the previous section).

6.3. Certifying Heuristic Methods.

We must certify that numerically computed endomorphisms of a Jacobian are in fact endomorphisms of that Jacobian. This is extremely nontrivial because in an analytic sense, abelian varieties with no principal polarizations are dense in the moduli space.

We have two distinct cases: exact period matrices, and non-exact (numerical) ones. The period matrices associated to cyclically branched covers of $\mathbb{CP}^1$ via the method described in Section 3.1 are exact, as are the period matrices of varieties with complex multiplication.

If the entries of the period matrices are exact and algebraic over $\mathbb{Q}$, this extra certification step is unneccesary. We need only check that putative endomorphisms are correct via a simple linear-algebraic verification. This amounts to given a period matrix $\Pi \in M_{g \times 2g}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}})$ associated to an abelian variety C^g / Λ, find

$$M\Pi = \Pi R,$$

where $R \in M_{2g}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}})$ and $M \in M_g(\overline{\mathbb{Q}})$. We then know that R is an endomorphism of Λ, and M is a representation of the endomorphism of the abelian variety on $\mathbb{C}^g$, the tangent space around the origin.

If the entries of the period matrix are non-exact, then to certify that M and R found above *exactly* satisfy $M\Pi = \Pi R$, we must verify that the endomorphism corresponding to M and R is actual and not just putative. To do this, we use the fantastic work of Costa-Mascot-Sijsling-Voight [2], which we now quickly summarize.

A key conceptual part of their approach is relating sums of prime divisors on $X \times Y$ to endomorphisms of the Jacobians $\mathrm{Jac}(X)$ and $\mathrm{Jac}(Y)$ via the theory of correspondences. This is exposited fully in Section 3.3 of [4]. The endomorphism ring of the of Jacobian is generated by correspondences associated to sums of prime divisors, i.e., prime correspondences (Lemma 3.3.11 [4]). Each correspondence on $X \times Y$ induces a homomorphism of the divisor groups of X and Y. These homomorphisms, in turn, induce homomorphisms of Jacobians. In our case, $X = Y$, but we will exposit the more general case. Let C be a prime divisor on $X \times Y$, then we denote the associated correspondence as follows.

$$X \times Y$$

$$\pi_1^C \swarrow \qquad \searrow \pi_2^C$$

$$X \qquad\qquad\qquad Y$$

$$\mathrm{Div}(C)$$

$$(\pi_1^C)^* \nearrow \qquad \searrow (\pi_2^C)_*$$

$$\mathrm{Div}(X) \dashrightarrow \mathrm{Div}(Y)$$

$$\mathrm{Jac}(C)$$

$$(\pi_1^C)^* \nearrow \qquad \searrow (\pi_2^C)_*$$

$$\mathrm{Jac}(X) \dashrightarrow \mathrm{Jac}(Y)$$

A putative endomorphism is α a potential element of $\mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{Jac}(X))$ we compute numerically as a matrix R via the methods in Section 4. Their method of certifying that a putative endomorphism is an actual one is along the lines of the following. We go through the map α_X, defined as the composite of the Abel-Jacobi Map, the putative morphism α, and the Mumford birational map. These maps are discussed in detail in Section 3.1.10 of [3].

$$X \xrightarrow{\ AJ\ } \mathrm{Jac}(X) \xrightarrow{\ \alpha\ } \mathrm{Jac}(X) \dashrightarrow^{\mathrm{Mum}} \mathrm{Sym}^g(X).$$

$$\alpha_X$$

Their method is then along the lines of the following.

- Given α, we use the Puiseux lifting described in Section 5 of [2] to write down the image $\{\widetilde{Q_j}\}_j$ of any $x \in X$ under the above composition M_α.
- We check if there is a divisor E which fits the points $\{\widetilde{Q_j}\}_j$.
- We modify the divisor E by removing all of its nilpotent components, we call this new divisor Y. This ensures that Y is a sum of prime divisors.
- If such a Y is found, and is non-fibral (Defn 3.1.2 [4]), then α is an actual endomorphism of $\mathrm{Jac}(X)$. If not, it isn't. This is because of the previously dicussed bijection between prime correspondences $X \leftarrow X \times X \rightarrow X$, and endomorphisms of $\mathrm{Jac}(X)$.

6.4. **From Simple to Non-simple.** While we are on the topic of correspondences, we wish to make a remark on how to use techniques for simple varieties to bound below the number of principal polarizations of non-simple varieties. Our program does not use this, but it is useful for context.

Since every abelian variety is isogenous to a product of simple abelian varieties

$$A \simeq A_1 \times \ldots \times A_k,$$

it is reasonable to ask how the numbers of principal polarizations on A_i are related to that of A.

Let's quickly establish some vocabulary to discuss this intuitively. Recall that we may also define a principal polarization on A as an isogeny which is also an isomorphism between $A \to A^\vee$, where $A^\vee$ denotes the dual variety. Let A and B be arbitrary abelian varieties. Note that $\mathrm{Corr}(A, B) \simeq \mathrm{Hom}(B, A^\vee)$, where we take a correspondence from A to B to be a line bundle $\mathcal{L}$ over the product $A \times B$ which is trivial when restricted to A or B.

We are interested in $\mathrm{Aut}(A, A^\vee)$, which is isomorphic to $\mathrm{Corr}(A, A)^\times$. However, the problem of comparision arises immediately and obviously without having to pass to isomorphisms. We wish to compare

$$\mathrm{Corr}\left(\prod_{j=1}^k A_j, \prod_{i=1}^k A_i\right) \qquad \text{and} \qquad \prod_{i,j} \mathrm{Corr}(A_j, A_i).$$

Let C and D be abelian varieties. Given a line bundle on C and on D, we get a line bundle on $C \times D$, but not vice-versa. Intuitively, the product $C \times D$ may have many more interesting cycles than the product of the cycles of C and D, and may not necessarily restrict to a line bundle on C or D. Therefore, in general the number of principal polarizations of A is at least the product of the principal polarizations of the simple components A_i, that is,

$$\pi(A_1 \times ... \times A_k) \geqslant \prod_{i=1}^k \pi(A_i)$$

as observed. For example, Jac(I-WP) is isogenous to a product of 4 elliptic curves. Since these curves are all isomorphic, we only get one principal polarization from this decomposition, but we found at least 9 principal polarizations on their product.

7. Studying Principal Polarizations via Automorphisms of the Jacobian

Definition 12. We say two principal polarizations p_1 and p_2 on A are **auto-equivalent** if and only if $\mathrm{Aut}(A, p_1) \simeq \mathrm{Aut}(A, p_2)$.

Our program produces many auto-equivalent principal polarizations. Note that auto-equivalence is a weaker notion of equivalence than analytic equivalence, as we will show in Section 7.2.

If the abelian variety is indeed a Jacobian, this method will in practice return at least enough polarizations to find a canonical principal polarization. It is an unsolved problem to find *all* possible principal polarizations associated to a given abelian variety, called "explicit Narasimhan-Nori."

7.1. **Examples.** With the exception of the modular curve $X_0(63)$, all curves on which we apply our method are cyclic covers over $\mathbb{CP}^1$.

Here we describe our examples in terms of their branching indices over $\mathbb{CP}^1$. For each case, we will show explicit flat structures that are induced from the branching indices. The flat structures give rise to holomorphic 1-forms that are used in computing period matrices. We will also describe each case via their plane curve models. In general, we choose $p_i = 0, 1, \infty$ (for covers over thrice punctured spheres) and describe each

curve $d(d_1, d_2, d_3)$ (such that $d_1 + d_2 + d_3 = d$, discussed in Section 3) algebraically as $y^d = x^{d_1}(x-1)^{d_2}$.

The computation of the period matrices can be found in `https://github.com/catherineray/autjac-paper/blob/master/periodmatrices.pdf`. The general version of the period matrix is shown in Section 3.1.

TABLE 1. Automorphism Groups wrt each of the Principal Polarizations

Curve C	Genus	$\pi(A)$	$\mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{Jac}(C), a_i)$	$|\mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{Jac}, a_i)|$	GAPID
Klein's quartic	3	2	$S_4 \times C_2$	48	[48, 48]
			$GL_3(F_2) \times C_2$	336	[336, 209]
Fermat's quartic	3	2	$(C_4 \wr C_2) \times C_2$	64	[64, 101]
			$(C_4^2 \rtimes S_3) \times C_2$	192	[192, 944]
$12(1, 5, 6)$	3	3	D_6	12	[12, 4]
			$C_4 \times S_3$	24	[24, 5]
			$C_4 \times D_4$	32	[32, 25]
Bring's curve	4	2	$C_2^2 \times D_4$	32	[32, 46]
			$C_2 \times S_5$	240	[240, 189]
I-WP	4	9	C_2^4	16	[16, 14]
			$C_2^2 \times C_6$	24	[24, 15]
			$C_2^2 \times D_4$	32	[32, 46]
			$C_2^3 \times C_6$	48	[48, 52]
			$C_2^2 \times S_4$	96	[96, 226]
			$C_6 \times S_4$	144	[144, 188]
			$(C_2 \times C_6) \times (C_3 \rtimes D_4)$	288	[288, 1002]
			$C_3 \times (((C_6 \times C_2) : C_2) \times D_8)$	576	[576, 7780]
			$C_6 \times (S_3 \times ((C_6 \times C_2) : C_2))$	864	[864, 4523]
$X_0(63)$	5	2	C_2^5	32	[32,51]
			$C_2^2 \times S_4$	96	[96, 226]

Remark. Note that the University of Bristol's GroupNames database at the time of writing has groups up to order 500 with full names and structure description. In the cases where the order is greater than 500, we use the output of `StructureDescription(G);`

Table 2 is the result of running `autplane`, whose algorithm is described in Section 6.1. We use the results in this table together with Section 5 to understand the automorphism group of $\mathrm{Jac}(C)$ with respect to the principal polarization induced by the curve C, which we apply in Section 7.2. Given a curve, its plane curve model is not uniquely defined, the allowed choices of models is discussed in Section 3.2 of [14].

TABLE 2. Plane Curve Automorphism Groups

Curve C	Plane Curve Model	Genus	Aut(C)	$|$Aut(C)$|$
$7(1, 2, 4)$ (Klein's quartic)	$y^7 - x^2(x-1)^4$	3	$GL_3(F_2)$	168
$8(1, 2, 5)$ (Fermat's quartic)	$y^8 - x(x-1)^2$	3	$C_4^2 \rtimes S_3$	96
$*12(1, 5, 6)$	$y^{12} - x(x-1)^5$	3	$C_4 \times S_3$	24
$5(1, 2, 4, 3)$ (Bring's curve)	$y^5 - x(x-1)^2(x+1)^3$	4	S_5	120
$12(1, 4, 7)$ (I-WP)	$y^{12} - x(x-1)^4$	4	$C_3 \times S_4$	72
$X_0(63)$	?	5	$C_2 \times S_4$	48

An $*$ indicates that the curve is hyperelliptic

7.2. Questions and Answers on Abelian Varieties with Multiple Principal Polarizations.

We speak here of polarizations up to auto-equivalence and ask natural questions on Jacobians with multiple principal polarizations, answering all but one of the questions using methods developed in our paper.

We fix some notation. We call $\text{Aut}(A, a_i)$ a symplectic automorphism group of A, as the automorphisms respect the principal polarization a_i, which is a symplectic form on A. Let θ_C be the canonical principal polarization of $\text{Jac}(C)$ with respect to C.

Question. *Aut*$(\text{Jac}(C), \theta_C)$ *will have the highest order of all symplectic automorphism groups of* $\text{Jac}(C)$.

Answer. This is proven false by example $12(1, 5, 6)$, where $|\text{Aut}(\text{Jac}(12(1, 5, 6)), \theta_{12(1,5,6)})| = 24$, but $|\text{Aut}(\text{Jac}(12(1, 5, 6)), a_i)| = 32$ is achieved. It is more dramatically proven false by Schoen's I-WP Surface, where $|\text{Aut}(\text{Jac}(\text{I-WP}), \theta_{\text{I-WP}})| = 288$, but $|\text{Aut}(\text{Jac}(\text{I-WP}), a_i)|$ achieves 576 and 864.

Question. *Principal polarizations* p_1 *and* p_2 *are auto-equivalent if and only if they are analytically equivalent. In other words,*

$$\text{Aut}(X, p_1) \simeq \text{Aut}(X, p_2) \Leftrightarrow p_1 = p_2.$$

Answer. The direction ($\Leftarrow$) is true because $\mathcal{L}$ and $\mathcal{M}$ are analytically equivalent if and only if $c_1(\mathcal{L}) = c_1(\mathcal{M})$ by [[1] 2.5.3]. The other direction ($\Rightarrow$) is false. This is proven false by applying our method to the the following two *non-isomorphic* curves with the same *unpolarized* Jacobian from Theorem 1 of [6]:

$$X : 3y^2 = (2x^2 - 2)(16x^4 + 28x^2 + 1)$$
$$X' : -y^2 = (2x^2 + 2)(16x^4 + 12x^2 + 1)$$

which both have $\text{Aut}(\text{Jac}(X), \theta_X) \simeq C_2 \times C_2 \simeq \text{Aut}(\text{Jac}(X'), \theta_{X'})$.

The counterexample to the above question arises by giving an example of a pair non-isomorphic curves $X \not\simeq X'$ with the following two properties:

$$\text{Jac}(X) \simeq \text{Jac}(X') \text{ and } \text{Aut}(\text{Jac}(X), \theta_X) \simeq \text{Aut}(\text{Jac}(X'), \theta_{X'}).$$

It is natural to ask if this phenomena occurs for *all* pairs of curves with isomorphic unpolarized Jacobians, i.e., if the first property implies the second.

Question. *Let C and C' be any curves such that $\mathrm{Jac}(C) \simeq \mathrm{Jac}(C')$ as complex varieties, then*

$$\mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{Jac}(C), \theta_C) \simeq \mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{Jac}(C'), \theta_{C'}).$$

We checked this question on the family of hyperelliptic cases of genus 2 from [6] Theorem 1, where it is true. However, there is no reason to expect this to be true in general. Yet, we cannot disprove it easily.

Appendix: A Non-Cyclic Cover, The Modular Curve $X_0(63)$

We are most interested in quotients of the upper half plane $\mathfrak{h}^+ := \mathfrak{h} \cup \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$ by the following subgroups of $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$. These subgroups come up naturally in the study of modular forms associated to elliptic curves.

Definition 13.

$$\Gamma_0(N) := \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL_2(\mathbb{Z}) \ \middle| \ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ 0 & * \end{pmatrix} \mod N \right\}$$

$$\Gamma_1(N) := \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL_2(\mathbb{Z}) \ \middle| \ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & * \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mod N \right\}$$

$$\Gamma(N) := \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL_2(\mathbb{Z}) \ \middle| \ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mod N \right\}$$

The automorphism groups of $X_0(N) := \mathfrak{h}^+/\Gamma_0(N)$ were calculated in [10] except for $N = 63$. The case of $X_0(63)$ was resolved 2 years later by Elkies in [5] by two different proofs: a conceptual one that uses enumerative geometry and the modular structure, and an explicit one that exhibits the modular equations. Our method would work for any N, we exposit the case of $N = 63$ due to its late blooming history.

We wrote a program `CullPB.m` which finds prinicpal polarizations, discussed in Section 4.2. Indeed, it searches for principal polarizations in a finite range, but in practice it has found all principal polarizations for previously known cases.

Conjecture. *The program `CullPB.m` finds all principal polarizations on the curves we consider.*

If this conjecture is true, the following would be a radically different proof than that of Elkies, since we approach by computing the automorphism group of the Jacobian of $X_0(63)$.

Theorem. $\mathrm{Aut}(X_0(63)) \simeq S_4 \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$

Proof. Note the following theorem:

Lemma. [10] $\mathrm{Aut}(X_0(63))$ *is either $A_4 \times \mathbb{Z}/2$ or $S_4 \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.*

Using the period matrix provided by Mascot, performed with 150 precisions, `autperio.sage` gives:

Lemma 2. $\mathrm{Aut}(X_0(63))$ *is either C_2^4 or $S_4 \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.*

Assuming our conjecture, these are all possible automorphism groups of $X_0(63)$. Therefore, it must be that $\mathrm{Aut}(X_0(63)) \simeq S_4 \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$. □

The period matrix used in our calculation of $\mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{Jac}(X_0(63)), p_i)$ was computed by Nicolas Mascot using an alteration of his personal code.

Mascot, in [16], discusses finding the period matrices for $X_1(N)$ by integrating cuspforms along modular symbols. His algorithm works for any compactified modular curve, but it works best when N is square-free. In the non-squarefree case, the coefficients in the q-expansions of the cuspforms and the j-invariant do not converge as quickly, thus they require more digits of precision.

In private correspondence, John Voight programmatically proved that $X_0(63)$ is not a cyclically branched cover of $\mathbb{CP}^1$. Given that the genus of the quotient $X_0(63), /H$, where H is a cyclic subgroup of $\mathrm{Aut}(X_0(63))$, is equal to the dimension of the H-invariant differentials, he shows that the list of dimensions of the space of H-invariant differentials on $X_0(63)$ does not contain zero.

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