

# Motives

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## Contents

<b>Contents</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Notation	1
<b>2 Background on Motives</b>	<b>2</b>
2.1 Tannakian Formalism	2
2.2 Review of Cohomology	4
2.3 Hodge Structures	4
2.4 The Mumford–Tate Group	5
2.5 The Rank of a CM Type	6
2.6 A Nondegenerate Jacobian	12
<b>3 Basic Cases</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>4 The Lefschetz Group</b>	<b>14</b>
4.1 Basic Properties of the Lefschetz Group	14
4.2 Computation of the Lefschetz Group	16
4.3 Conjugacy Classes in the Lefschetz Group	18

## 1 Introduction

Here is the statement of the conjecture.

**Conjecture 1.** Fix an abelian motive  $A$  over a number field  $K$ , and let  $G(A)$  denote the motivic Galois group of  $A$ . Suppose  $A$  has good reduction at a prime  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $K$ . Then there exists a class  $F \in \text{Conj } G(A)(\mathbb{Q})$  such that

$$F = [\rho_\ell(\text{Frob}_{\mathfrak{p}})]$$

for each rational prime  $\ell \nmid \mathfrak{p}$ , where  $\rho_\ell: \text{Gal}(\overline{K}/K) \rightarrow \text{GL}(H_{\text{ét}}^1(A; \mathbb{Q}_\ell))$  is the  $\ell$ -adic Galois representation.

### 1.1 Notation

In this subsection, we review the notation which will be in place for the article.

- $k, K, E$ , are all fields.
- For number fields  $E$ , we let  $E^+$  denote the field of totally real elements.

- $D$  is a division algebra.
- $X, Y, Z$  are projective varieties defined over  $K$ .
- $A, B, C$  are abelian varieties defined over  $K$ .
- $\text{End}_K(A)$  denotes the endomorphisms of  $A$  defined over  $k$ .
- $\text{End}_K^0(A) := \text{End}_K(A) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ .
- $H^\bullet$  denotes a cohomology theory valued in  $k$ -vector spaces.
- For abelian variety  $A$ , we set  $V(A) := H^1(A) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ .
- For a polarized abelian variety  $A$ , we let  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_A$  denote the Weil pairing on  $V(A)$ , and we let  $(\cdot)^\dagger$  denote the adjoint endomorphism for elements in  $\text{End}_K(V(A))$ . Note that  $(\cdot)^\dagger$  restricted to  $\text{End}_K^0(A)$  is the Rosati involution.

## 2 Background on Motives

Throughout,  $X$  denotes a smooth proper variety over a field  $k$ , which is possibly but not definitely algebraically closed.

### 2.1 Tannakian Formalism

Approximately speaking, the theory of (pure) motives takes the category of smooth proper varieties and attempts to give this category a long list of desirable properties. Tannakian formalism enumerates the desiderata. Our exposition follows [DM12] and [And04, Chapters 2 and 6].



**Warning 2.** We will not need any proofs from the theory of Tannakian formalism, so we will not provide them.

Intuitively, a Tannakian category is one that looks like the category  $\text{Rep}_k(G)$  of finite-dimensional representations of an affine  $k$ -group  $G$ . An important property of  $\text{Rep}_k(G)$  is the ability to take tensor products, so we codify how useful tensor products are.

**Definition 3 (monoidal).** A *monoidal category* or  $\otimes$ -category is a category  $\mathcal{C}$  equipped with a bifunctor  $\otimes: \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  and identity object  $1 \in \mathcal{C}$  with the following identities.

- Associativity: there is a natural isomorphism  $\alpha: ((- \otimes -) \otimes -) \Rightarrow (- \otimes (- \otimes -))$ .
- Identity: there are natural isomorphisms  $(1 \otimes -) \Rightarrow -$  and  $(- \otimes 1) \Rightarrow -$ .

These isomorphisms satisfy certain coherence properties ensuring that one can associate and apply identity naturally in any suitable situation.

In fact,  $\text{Rep}_k(G)$  has a symmetry property.

**Definition 4 (symmetric monoidal).** A *symmetric monoidal category* is a monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$  further equipped with a symmetry isomorphism  $(- \otimes -) \Rightarrow (- \otimes -)$  such that the composite

$$(A \otimes B) \rightarrow (B \otimes A) \rightarrow (A \otimes B)$$

is the identity.

The reason we restricted  $\text{Rep}_k(G)$  to finite-dimensional representations is so that we can take duals.

**Definition 5 (rigid).** A rigid symmetric monoidal category is a symmetric monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$  further equipped with a natural isomorphism  $(-)^{\vee}: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}$  such that each  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  makes  $(- \otimes A^{\vee})$  is left adjoint to  $(- \otimes A)$ , and  $(A^{\vee} \otimes -)$  is right adjoint to  $(A \otimes -)$ .

**Remark 6.** Rigidity permits a notion of dimension of an object  $A \in \mathcal{C}$  as the composite

$$1 \rightarrow A^{\vee} \otimes A \rightarrow A \otimes A^{\vee} \rightarrow 1.$$

Lastly,  $\text{Rep}_k(G)$  has a forgetful functor to  $\text{Vec}_k$ , akin to the forgetful functor  $\text{Set}(G) \rightarrow \text{Set}$  which appears in Grothendieck's Galois theory (used to define the étale fundamental group).

**Definition 7 (fiber functor).** Fix an abelian rigid symmetric monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$  such that  $F := \text{End}(1)$  is a field. A *fiber functor* is a faithful exact  $\otimes$ -functor  $\omega: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Vec}_k$  for some finite field extension  $k$  of  $F$ . If  $k = F$ , then we say that  $\mathcal{C}$  is *neutral Tannakian over  $k$* .

What is remarkable is that it turns out that one can recover the affine  $k$ -group  $G$  from the (forgetful) fiber functor  $\omega: \text{Rep}_k(G) \rightarrow \text{Vec}_k$  as " $\underline{\text{Aut}}^{\otimes}(\omega)$ ." Explicitly, for a  $k$ -algebra  $R$ , an element of  $\underline{\text{Aut}}^{\otimes}(\omega)(R)$  is a collection of automorphisms  $(g_X)_{X \in \text{Rep}_k(G)}$  where  $g_X$  is an  $R$ -linear automorphism of  $\omega(X) \otimes_k R$ , and these automorphisms are natural in  $G$ -linear maps  $X \rightarrow Y$ .

This process can in general recover a group  $G$  from a neutral Tannakian category.

**Theorem 8.** Fix a neutral Tannakian category  $\mathcal{C}$  over a field  $k$  equipped with fiber functor  $\omega: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Vec}_k$ .

- (a) The functor  $\underline{\text{Aut}}^{\otimes}(\omega)$  (defined analogously as above) is represented by an affine  $k$ -group  $G$ .
- (b) The fiber functor  $\omega$  then upgrades to a  $\otimes$ -equivalence  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Rep}_k(G)$ .

*Proof.* See [DM12, Theorem 2.11]. ■

It will be helpful to have some more concrete ways to understand  $G$  from its Tannakian category. For example, if the Tannakian category is small, then  $G$  should also be small. The following two propositions examine two versions of smallness.

**Definition 9 ( $\otimes$ -subcategory).** Fix an abelian rigid symmetric monoidal category  $\mathcal{C}$ . Then the *full  $\otimes$ -subcategory* generated by a subset  $S \subseteq \mathcal{C}$  of objects, denoted  $\langle S \rangle^{\otimes}$  is the smallest abelian rigid monoidal subcategory.

**Proposition 10.** Fix an affine  $k$ -group  $G$ .

- (a) Then  $G$  is finite if and only if there is an object  $X$  such that every object of  $\text{Rep}_k(G)$  is a subquotient of  $X^{\oplus n}$  for some nonnegative  $n$ .
- (b) Then  $G$  is algebraic (namely, finite type over  $k$ ) if and only if  $\text{Rep}_k(G)$  equals  $\langle X \rangle^{\otimes}$  for some object  $X$ .

*Proof.* See [DM12, Proposition 2.20]. ■

**Proposition 11.** Fix a field  $k$  of characteristic 0 and an affine  $k$ -group  $G$ . Then  $G^{\circ} \subseteq G$  is a projective limit of reductive  $k$ -groups if and only if  $\text{Rep}_k(G)$  is semisimple.

*Proof.* See [DM12, Remark 2.28]. ■

Lastly, we will also want some functoriality. Approximately speaking, we expect surjections/injections of groups to correspond to “surjections/injections” of categories.

**Proposition 12.** Fix a morphism  $f: G \rightarrow G'$  of affine  $k$ -groups  $G$ , and let  $\omega: \text{Rep}_k(G') \rightarrow \text{Rep}_k(G)$  be the corresponding functor.

- (a) Suppose  $\text{Rep}_k(G)$  is semisimple and that  $k$  has characteristic 0. Then  $f$  is faithfully flat if and only if the following holds: for given  $X' \in \text{Rep}_k(G')$ , every subobject of  $\omega(X')$  is isomorphic to  $\omega(Y')$  for some subobject  $Y'$  of  $X'$ .
- (b) Then  $f$  is a closed embedding if and only if every object  $X \in \text{Rep}_k(G)$  is isomorphic to a subquotient of  $\omega(X')$  for some  $X' \in \text{Rep}_k(G')$ .

*Proof.* Combine [DM12, Remark 2.29] with [DM12, Proposition 2.21]. ■

## 2.2 Review of Cohomology

In this subsection, we review various cohomology theories, approximately following [Del18, Section 1]. We begin by discussing what is expected from a cohomology theory.

**Definition 13 (Weil cohomology).** Let  $\mathcal{P}(k)$  denote the category of smooth proper  $k$ -varieties.

## 2.3 Hodge Structures

The previous subsection mentioned that the cohomology  $H^\bullet(X, \mathbb{C})$  of a complex projective variety  $X$  admits a “Hodge structure” meaning that one has a decomposition

$$H^n(X, \mathbb{C}) \cong \bigoplus_{p+q=n} H^{p,q}$$

where  $H^{p,q} = \overline{H^{q,p}}$ . What is interesting about this situation is that we begin with a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector space  $H^n(X, \mathbb{C})$ , which then inherits the above decomposition only after base-change to  $\mathbb{C}$ . This structure is what makes our complex-analytic cohomology interesting, so we give it a name.

**Definition 14 (Hodge structure).** A  $\mathbb{Q}$ -Hodge structure of weight  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  is a finite-dimensional vector space  $V \in \text{Vec}_{\mathbb{Q}}$  such that  $V_{\mathbb{C}}$  admits a decomposition

$$V_{\mathbb{C}} = \bigoplus_{p+q=m} V_{\mathbb{C}}^{p,q}$$

where  $V_{\mathbb{C}}^{p,q} = \overline{V_{\mathbb{C}}^{q,p}}$ . We let  $\text{HS}_{\mathbb{Q}}$  denote the category of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -Hodge structures, where a morphism of Hodge structures is a linear map preserving the decomposition over  $\mathbb{C}$ .

**Example 15.** Give the Tate twist  $\mathbb{Q}(1) = 2\pi i \mathbb{Q}$  a Hodge structure of weight  $-2$  where  $\mathbb{Q}(1)^{-1,-1} = \mathbb{Q}(1)$  is nonzero.

The category  $\text{HS}_{\mathbb{Q}}$  becomes a faithful rigid tensor abelian subcategory of  $\text{Vec}_{\mathbb{Q}}$ , where the forgetful functor is able to act as a fiber functor. As such, so we expect  $\text{HS}_{\mathbb{Q}}$  should arise from representations of some group. Let’s explain how this is done.

**Notation 16 (Deligne torus).** Let  $\mathbb{S} := \text{Res}_{\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{G}_{m,\mathbb{C}}$  denote the Deligne torus. We also let  $w: \mathbb{G}_{m,\mathbb{R}} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$  denote the weight cocharacter given by  $w(r) := r \in \mathbb{C}$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ -points.

**Remark 17.** One can realize  $\mathbb{S}$  more concretely as

$$\mathbb{S}(R) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{bmatrix} \in \mathrm{GL}_2(R) : a^2 + b^2 \in R^\times \right\},$$

where  $R$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -algebra. Indeed, there is a ring isomorphism from  $R \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C}$  to  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{bmatrix} : a, b \in R \right\}$  by sending  $1 \otimes 1 \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $1 \otimes i \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

We now explain how a representation of  $\mathbb{S}$  converts to a Hodge structure.

**Lemma 18.** Fix some  $V \in \mathrm{Vec}_{\mathbb{Q}}$ . Then a Hodge structure on  $V$  has equivalent data to a representation  $h: \mathbb{S} \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}(V)_{\mathbb{R}}$ .

*Proof.* Remark 17 informs us that the character group  $X^*(\mathbb{S})$  of group homomorphisms  $\mathbb{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_m$  is a rank-2 free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module generated by  $z: \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{bmatrix} \mapsto a + bi$  and  $\bar{z}: \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{bmatrix} \mapsto a - bi$  on  $\mathbb{C}$ -points.<sup>1</sup> Without too many details, upon passing to the Hopf algebra, one is essentially looking for units in  $\mathbb{R} \left[ a, b, (a^2 + b^2)^{-1} \right]$ , of which there are not many. Note that there is a Galois action by  $\mathrm{Gal}(\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R})$  on these two characters  $\{z, \bar{z}\}$ , given by swapping them. Let  $\iota \in \mathrm{Gal}(\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R})$  denote complex conjugation, for brevity.

Now, a representation  $h: \mathbb{S} \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}(V)_{\mathbb{R}}$  must have  $V_{\mathbb{C}}$  decompose into eigenspaces according to the characters  $X^*(\mathbb{S})$ , so one admits a decomposition

$$V_{\mathbb{C}} = \bigoplus_{\chi \in X^*(\mathbb{S})} V_{\mathbb{C}}^{\chi}.$$

However, one also needs  $V_{\mathbb{C}}^{\iota\chi} = \overline{V_{\mathbb{C}}^{\chi}}$  because  $\iota$  swaps  $\{\chi, \iota\chi\}$ . By Galois descent, this is enough data to (conversely) define a representation  $h: \mathbb{S} \rightarrow \mathrm{Gal}(V)_{\mathbb{R}}$ .

To relate the previous paragraph to Hodge structures, we recall that  $X^*(\mathbb{S})$  is a rank-2 free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module, so write  $\chi_{p,q} := z^{-p}\bar{z}^{-q}$  so that  $\iota\chi_{p,q} = \chi_{q,p}$ . Setting  $V_{\mathbb{C}}^{p,q} := V_{\mathbb{C}}^{\chi_{p,q}}$  now explains how to relate the previous paragraph to a Hodge structure, as desired. ■

**Remark 19.** The weight of a Hodge structure on some  $V \in \mathrm{HS}_{\mathbb{Q}}$  can be read off of  $h$  as follows: note the weight cocharacter  $h \circ w$  equals the  $(-m)$ th power map if and only if the weight is  $m$ .

Thus, we see that one has tensor products and duals of Hodge structures by tracking through the representation of  $h$ . For example, if  $V \in \mathrm{HS}_{\mathbb{Q}}$  has  $V^{\vee}$  inherit a Hodge structure by  $(V^{\vee})^{p,q} := (V^{-p,-q})^{\vee}$ . In particular,  $\mathrm{HS}_{\mathbb{Q}}$  becomes Tannakian.

## 2.4 The Mumford–Tate Group

We are now ready to define the main character of the present subsection, which is the Mumford–Tate group.

**Definition 20 (Mumford–Tate group).** For some  $V \in \mathrm{HS}_{\mathbb{Q}}$ , we define the *Mumford–Tate group*  $\mathrm{MT}(V)$  as the smallest algebraic  $\mathbb{Q}$ -group containing the image of the corresponding representation  $h: \mathbb{S} \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}(V)_{\mathbb{R}}$ .

**Remark 21.** Because  $\mathbb{S}$  is connected, we see that  $h$  is also connected. Namely,  $\mathrm{MT}(V)^{\circ} \subseteq \mathrm{MT}(V)$  will be an algebraic  $\mathbb{Q}$ -group containing the image of  $h$  if  $\mathrm{MT}(V)$  does too, so equality is forced.

<sup>1</sup> Alternatively, note one has an isomorphism  $(\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C})^{\times} \cong \mathbb{C}^{\times} \times \mathbb{C}^{\times}$  by sending  $(z, w) \mapsto z \otimes w$ . Then these two characters are  $(z, w) \mapsto z$  and  $(z, w) \mapsto w$ .

It will turn out that  $\mathrm{MT}(V)$  is the algebraic group corresponding to the full Tannakian subcategory  $\langle V \rangle^\otimes$  of  $\mathrm{HS}_\mathbb{Q}$ . Unraveling the formalism, the key point is the following proposition.

**Proposition 22.** Fix  $V \in \mathrm{HS}_\mathbb{Q}$ . Suppose  $T \in \mathrm{HS}_\mathbb{Q}$  can be written as

$$T = \bigoplus_{i=1}^N (V^{\otimes m_i} \otimes (V^\vee)^{\otimes n_i}) (p_i),$$

where  $m_i, n_i \geq 0$  are nonnegative integers and  $p_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $W \subseteq T$  is a Hodge substructure if and only if the action of  $\mathrm{MT}(V)$  on  $T$  stabilizes  $W$ .

*Proof.* For each vector space in  $\mathrm{HS}_\mathbb{Q}$ , we let  $h_\bullet$  denote the corresponding representation. Quickly, note that  $h_T$ . In the backwards direction, we note that  $\mathrm{MT}(V)$  stabilizing  $W$  implies that  $h(s)$  stabilizes  $W_\mathbb{R}$  for any  $s$ . We can thus view  $W_\mathbb{R} \subseteq T_\mathbb{R}$  as a subrepresentation of  $\mathbb{S}$ , so taking eigenspaces reveals that  $W$  can be given the structure of a Hodge substructure of  $T$ .

The converse will have to use the construction of  $T$ . Indeed, suppose that  $W \subseteq T$  is a Hodge substructure, and let  $M \subseteq \mathrm{GL}(V)$  be the smallest algebraic  $\mathbb{Q}$ -group stabilizing  $W \subseteq T$ . We would like to show that  $\mathrm{MT}(V) \subseteq M$ . By definition of  $\mathrm{MT}(V)$ , it is enough to show that  $h$  factors through  $M_\mathbb{R}$ , meaning we must show that  $h(s)$  stabilizes  $W$  for each  $s \in \mathbb{S}$ . Well,  $h(s)$  will act by characters on the eigenspaces  $W_\mathbb{C}^{p,q} \subseteq W_\mathbb{C}$ , so  $h(s)$  does indeed stabilize  $W$ . ■

**Corollary 23.** Fix  $V \in \mathrm{HS}_\mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $\mathrm{MT}(V)$  is the group corresponding to the Tannakian subcategory  $\langle V \rangle^\otimes$  of  $\mathrm{HS}_\mathbb{Q}$ .

*Proof.* ■

**Proposition 24.** The Mumford–Tate group of an abelian variety with CM is a torus.

Define the Hodge group via  $\mathbb{U}$ .

## 2.5 The Rank of a CM Type

Proposition 24 explains that the Mumford–Tate group of an abelian variety with CM is a torus, so it is a natural question to ask about the rank of this torus. In this subsection, we will discuss a little about what is known about this rank. Our exposition largely follows [Lan11, Section 6.1].

Throughout this subsection,  $A$  is an absolutely simple abelian variety defined over a number field with CM type  $(K, \Phi)$ . We let  $(K^*, \Phi^*)$  denote the reflex field and reflex CM type and pick up the following definition.

**Definition 25 (rank).** Fix a CM type  $(K, \Phi)$ . Then the *rank*  $\mathrm{rank}(K, \Phi)$  of  $(K, \Phi)$  is the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -dimension of the image of the map  $T_\Phi: K \rightarrow K^*$  given by

$$T_\Phi(\alpha) := \sum_{\varphi \in \Phi} \varphi(\alpha).$$

**Remark 26.** Notably, the rank does not change upon passing to a Galois closure  $L$  of  $K/\mathbb{Q}$  because  $T_\Phi$  will simply become  $T_\Phi \circ T_{L/K}$ , and field traces of number fields are surjective. In the event where  $K/\mathbb{Q}$  is Galois with  $G := \text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$ , we note that the existence of a normal basis implies that

$$\text{rank}(K, \Phi) = \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} \Phi \mathbb{Q}[G],$$

where we view  $\Phi$  as an element of  $\mathbb{Z}[G]$  given by the sum of its elements. Similarly, one can go down to  $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} \Phi \mathbb{Z}[G]$  and even multiply by  $\Phi$  on either side.

**Remark 27.** Notably, because the discussion in Remark 26 is largely independent of  $L$  (except for requiring  $L/K$  to be Galois), we see that

$$\text{rank}(K, \Phi) = \text{rank}(L, \Phi_L) = \text{rank}(K_0, \Phi_0)$$

where  $(L, \Phi_L)$  is the extension of  $(K, \Phi)$  to  $L$ , and  $(K_0, \Phi_0)$  is the primitive CM type extending to  $(K, \Phi)$ .

**Remark 28.** Using Remark 26, we note that  $\text{rank}(K, \Phi) = \text{rank}(K^*, \Phi^*)$  because, upon passing all ranks and types to a Galois closure, sending  $\sigma \mapsto \sigma^{-1}$  will map  $\Phi \mathbb{Q}[G]$  to  $\mathbb{Q}[G]\Phi^*$ , showing that the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -dimensions of these spaces are equal.

The importance of this definition is as follows.

**Proposition 29.** Fix an abelian variety  $A$  defined over a number field with CM type  $(K, \Phi)$ . Then

$$\dim \text{MT}(A) = \text{rank}(K, \Phi).$$

*Proof.* We follow the argument of [Yan94, Proposition 1.1].

1. To set up our discussion, we set some notation. Given a number field  $F$ , we set  $T_F := \text{Res}_{F/\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{G}_m$  and  $X_F := X^*(T_F)$ ; note that  $X_F$  is the free abelian group generated by the set  $\Gamma_F := \text{Hom}(F, \mathbb{C})$ . For example, the reflex norm  $N_{\Phi^*}: (K^*)^\times \rightarrow K^\times$  (note  $K^{**} \subseteq K$ ) can actually be viewed as a map  $N_{\Phi^*}: T_{K^*} \rightarrow T_K$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -tori and hence induces a map  $T_{\Phi^*}: X_K \rightarrow X_{K^*}$  on character groups defined by

$$T_{\Phi^*}(x) := \sum_{\tau \in \Phi^*} x\tau = x\Phi^*.$$

To properly understand the product  $\tau x$  (and ones similar to it in the following argument), one should extend all embeddings to  $\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$ , but the above construction of  $T_{\Phi^*}$  explains why the definition is independent of these choices of liftings.

2. With this notation in place, we take a moment to describe  $\text{MT}(A)$  in terms of these tori. By the proof of Proposition 24, we see that the Hodge structure  $h: \mathbb{S} \rightarrow \text{GL}(H_B^1(A; \mathbb{Q}))$  factors through  $T_K$ . In fact, by definition of the CM type  $(K, \Phi)$ , we see that

$$H^{10} \cong \bigoplus_{\varphi \in \Phi} \mathbb{C}_\varphi,$$

so the Hodge structure  $h$  is given by the torus map  $X^*(h): X_K \rightarrow X^*(\mathbb{S})$  defined by

$$\varphi \mapsto \begin{cases} z^{-1} & \text{if } \varphi \in \Phi, \\ \bar{z}^{-1} & \text{if } \varphi \notin \Phi, \end{cases}$$

where  $z, \bar{z}: X^*(\mathbb{S})$  are the two characters of Lemma 18. (Namely, the map  $X^*(h)$  is intended to provide an  $\mathbb{S}$ -action on  $H_B^1(A; \mathbb{Q})$  from which the Hodge structure  $H^{01} \oplus H^{10}$  upon base-changing to  $\mathbb{C}$ . But

we already understand the decomposition via the eigenspaces of  $\Gamma_K$ !) Now, identifying  $X^*(\mathbb{U})$  with  $\mathbb{Z}$  via  $z^{-1} \mapsto 1$ , we see that  $\text{Hg}(A)$  is the smallest algebraic  $\mathbb{Q}$ -group containing the image of the torus map  $\mathbb{U} \rightarrow T_K$  defined on characters by

$$\varphi \mapsto \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } \varphi \in \Phi, \\ -1 & \text{if } \varphi \notin \Phi. \end{cases}$$

3. The main claim is that  $x \in X_K$  is trivial on  $\text{Hg}(A)$  if and only if  $T_{\Phi^*}(x)$  is an integral multiple of

$$\theta := \sum_{\tau \in \Gamma_{K^*}} \tau.$$

To see how this claim completes the proof, we note that it implies that we may carry out the computation

$$\begin{aligned} \dim \text{MT}(A) &= 1 + \dim \text{Hg}(A) \\ &= 1 + \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} X^*(\text{Hg}(A)) \\ &= 1 + \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} X_K - \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} \{x \in X_K : x|_{\text{Hg}(A)} = 1\} \\ &= 1 + \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} X_K - \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} T_{\Phi^*}^{-1}(\mathbb{Z}\theta) \\ &= \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} X_K - \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} \ker T_{\Phi^*} \\ &= \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} \text{im } T_{\Phi^*} \\ &= \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}[\Gamma_{K^*}] \Phi^*, \end{aligned}$$

which is what we wanted upon comparing with Remarks 26 and 28.

4. It remains to show the main claim. To begin, note that  $x = \sum_{\sigma \in \Gamma_K} n_{\sigma} \sigma$  is trivial on  $\text{Hg}(A)$  if and only if  $gx$  is trivial on  $\text{im } h|_{\mathbb{U}}$  for all  $g \in \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$ . (Without the extra  $g$ , we would be trivial on the smallest  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -subgroup of  $T_K$  containing  $\text{im } h|_{\mathbb{U}}$ , so we add in the  $\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$ -action to allow for our Galois descent to  $\text{Hg}(A)$ .) Continuing,  $xg$  is trivial on  $\text{im } h|_{\mathbb{U}}$  if and only if  $xg \circ h|_{\mathbb{U}}$  is trivial, which is equivalent to  $X^*(h|_{\mathbb{U}})(gx)$  being trivial, which we can compute is equivalent to

$$\sum_{g\sigma \in \Phi} n_{\sigma} = \sum_{g\sigma \notin \Phi} n_{\sigma}.$$

Of course, we note that these sums being equal is equivalent to either of them being equal to  $\frac{1}{2} \sum_{\sigma} n_{\sigma}$ . On the other hand, setting  $x = \sum_{\sigma \in \Gamma_K} n_{\sigma} \sigma$  allows us to compute  $T_{\Phi^*}(x)$  as

$$T_{\Phi^*}(x) = \sum_{\substack{\tau \in \Phi^* \\ \sigma \in \Gamma_K}} n_{\sigma} \sigma \tau.$$

Now, we see that  $T_{\Phi^*}(x)$  is a multiple of  $\theta$  if and only if the sum

$$\sum_{\substack{\tau \in \Phi^* \\ \sigma \in \Gamma_K \\ \sigma\tau = \mu}} n_{\sigma}$$

does not depend on  $\mu \in \Gamma_{K^*}$ .<sup>2</sup> However, we see

$$\sum_{\substack{\tau \in \Phi^* \\ \sigma \in \Gamma_K \\ \sigma\tau = \mu}} n_{\sigma} = \sum_{\substack{\tau \in \Phi^* \\ \sigma \in \Gamma_K \\ \mu^{-1}\sigma = \tau^{-1}}} n_{\sigma} = \sum_{\mu^{-1}\sigma \in \Phi} n_{\sigma}$$

<sup>2</sup> The equality  $\sigma\tau = \mu$  is understood to be an equality of embeddings on  $K^*$ , despite our aforementioned convention that all these elements in fact live in  $\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$ . If one is concerned with rigor, feel free to pass all automorphisms up to a fixed Galois closure  $L$  of  $K$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and replace all sums with sums over all possible extensions to automorphisms  $L \rightarrow L$ .



having value of independent of  $\mu$  means that the sum for  $\mu^{-1}$  and  $\iota\mu^{-1}$  have the same value, which we noted above is equivalent for this sum to equal  $\frac{1}{2} \sum_{\sigma} n_{\sigma}$ . A comparison with our discussion at the end of the previous paragraph completes the proof. ■

The point is that we have achieved a combinatorial description of  $\dim \text{MT}(A)$ . For example, if we are able to show that  $\text{rank}(K, \Phi) = \dim A + 1$ , then we are able to conclude that  $\text{MT}(A)$  must be equal to the maximal torus inside  $\text{GSp}_{2 \dim A}(\mathbb{Q})$ .

Here are some quick bounds on the rank; for example, for large degrees, we expect the rank to be relatively large.

**Proposition 30.** Fix a CM type  $(K, \Phi)$  which is an extension of the primitive CM type  $(K_0, \Phi_0)$ . Then

$$1 + \log_2[K_0 : \mathbb{Q}] \leq \text{rank}(K, \Phi) \leq \frac{1}{2}[K_0 : \mathbb{Q}] + 1.$$

*Proof.* We follow [Lan11, Theorem 1.2]; we show the inequalities separately.

- For the right inequality, we may as well take  $K = K_0$  by Remark 27. Letting  $K_0^+$  be the totally real subfield of  $K_0$ , the main point is that

$$\text{T}_{K/K^+} \circ \text{T}_{\Phi} = \text{T}_{K/\mathbb{Q}}$$

because  $(K, \Phi)$  is a CM type. Thus,  $\dim_{\mathbb{Q}} \text{T}_{K/K^+}(\text{T}_{\Phi}(K)) = 1$ , but  $\text{T}_{K/K^+} : K \rightarrow K^+$  is surjective with kernel of dimension  $\frac{1}{2}[K : \mathbb{Q}]$ , so the result follows.

- For the left inequality, we may as well assume that  $K/\mathbb{Q}$  is Galois by Remarks 26 and 27. Set  $G := \text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$ , and let  $H \subseteq G$  consist of those automorphisms  $\sigma$  such that  $\Phi\sigma = \Phi$ ; note  $H$  is the subgroup fixing  $K^*$ . By taking the reflex field (which is legal by Remark 28), it suffices to show that

$$\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2} \Phi \mathbb{F}_2[G] \stackrel{?}{\geq} 1 + \log_2[K^* : \mathbb{Q}],$$

for which we will actually show

$$\#\Phi \mathbb{F}_2[G] \stackrel{?}{\geq} 2[K^* : \mathbb{Q}].$$

For this, we need to exhibit at least  $2[K_0 : \mathbb{Q}] = 2 \cdot \#(H \backslash G)$  elements in  $\#\Phi \mathbb{F}_2[G]$ , so we choose the elements

$$\{\Phi\sigma : \sigma \in H \backslash G\} \sqcup \{\Phi + \Phi\sigma : \sigma \in H \backslash G\}.$$

It is enough to show that these elements are distinct in  $\mathbb{F}_2[G]$ . For example,  $\Phi\sigma \equiv \Phi\sigma'$  would imply  $\Phi\sigma'\sigma^{-1} \equiv \Phi$  and hence  $\sigma'\sigma^{-1} \in H$  and hence  $\sigma = \sigma'$  by definition of  $H$ . Similarly, one sees that the elements  $\Phi + \Phi\sigma$  are pairwise distinct. Lastly, we see that we can never have  $\Phi\sigma \equiv \Phi + \Phi\sigma'$  because this would imply

$$\Phi + \Phi\iota \equiv \Phi + \Phi\iota + \underbrace{\Phi\sigma' + \Phi\sigma'\iota}_{=\Phi + \Phi\iota} \equiv 0,$$

where  $\iota$  denotes complex conjugation; this is a contradiction. ■

**Example 31.** If  $A$  is an absolutely simple abelian variety with CM type  $(K, \Phi)$  of dimension  $g \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , then the bounds of Proposition 30 imply  $\text{rank}(K, \Phi) = g + 1$ .

It turns out that one can upgrade the argument in the left inequality as follows.

**Proposition 32.** Let  $(K_0, \Phi_0)$  be a primitive CM type such that  $[K_0 : \mathbb{Q}] = 2p$  for an odd prime  $p$ . Then  $\text{rank}(K_0, \Phi_0) = p + 1$ .

*Proof.* We follow [Rib83, Theorem 2]. Let  $K$  be a Galois closure of  $K_0$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and set  $G := \text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$ . We are interested in computing  $\dim_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}[G]\Phi$ , so we note Proposition 30 immediately upper-bounds this dimension by  $p + 1$ . For the lower bound, we proceed in steps.

1. The key is to view  $\mathbb{Q}[G]\Phi$  as a  $G$ -module where  $G$  acts on the left by multiplication. In particular, we claim that this map

$$G \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}[G]\Phi$$

is injective: some  $g \in G$  fixes  $\mathbb{Q}[G]\Phi$  if and only if  $g\sigma\Phi = \sigma\Phi$  for all  $\sigma \in G$ . However, this is equivalent to  $\sigma^{-1}g\sigma\Phi = \Phi$ , which we see is equivalent to  $\sigma^{-1}g\sigma$  fixing  $K_0$  for all  $\sigma$ ! In other words, we need  $g$  to fix all embeddings of  $K_0$  into  $K$ , so because  $K$  is a Galois closure of  $K_0$ , this is equivalent to  $g$  being the identity.

2. This injectivity gets us most of the way: choose some  $g \in G$  of order  $p$  (which exists because  $[K_0 : \mathbb{Q}]$  must divide the order of  $G$ ), so we view  $\mathbb{Q}[G]\Phi$  as a  $\langle g \rangle$ -representation, which produces an eigenspace decomposition

$$\mathbb{Q}[G] \cong A \oplus B,$$

where  $g$  acts on  $A$  nontrivially, and  $g$  acts on  $B$  nontrivially. Because  $g$  acts on  $\mathbb{Q}[G]\Phi$  nontrivially,  $A$  is nonzero, so  $\dim_{\mathbb{Q}} A \geq p - 1$ .

3. It remains to show that  $\dim_{\mathbb{Q}} B \geq 2$ . Of course  $\theta := \sum_{\sigma \in G} \sigma$  is fixed by  $G$ , so the primary difficulty of the remainder of the proof is finding another vector fixed by  $g$ . It will turn out that  $(1 + g + \cdots + g^{p-1})\Phi$  will do the trick, but this is not obvious. Undoing the arguments of Proposition 24, we note that

$$\frac{\mathbb{Q}[G]\Phi}{\mathbb{Q}[G]\Phi \cap \mathbb{Q}\theta} = \frac{\text{im}(\Phi: \mathbb{Q}[G] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[G])}{\mathbb{Q}[G]\Phi \cap \mathbb{Q}\theta} \cong \frac{\mathbb{Q}[G]}{\{x \in \mathbb{Q}[G] : x\Phi \in \mathbb{Q}\theta\}}.$$

Now, the arguments of Proposition 24 tell us that we have a well-defined map on this quotient defined by  $\mathbb{Q}[G] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  where  $\sigma \mapsto 1$  if  $\sigma \in \Phi$  and  $\sigma \mapsto -1$  otherwise. As such,  $(1 + g + \cdots + g^{p-1})\Phi \notin \mathbb{Q}\theta$  because  $1 + g + \cdots + g^{p-1}$  is nonzero in the quotient above because it is nonzero under the aforementioned map  $\mathbb{Q}[G] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ . (Importantly, here we have used the fact that  $p$  is odd!) ■

As a last example, we work with abelian extensions.

**Lemma 33.** Let  $(K, \Phi)$  be a CM type such that  $K/\mathbb{Q}$  is an abelian extension with Galois group  $G$ . Then  $\text{rank}(K, \Phi)$  equals the number of characters  $\chi: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  such that  $\chi(\Phi) \neq 0$ .

*Proof.* We will compute  $\text{rank}(K, \Phi)$  as  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \mathbb{C}[G]\Phi$ . One can diagonalize the  $G$ -action on  $\mathbb{C}[G]$  into

$$\mathbb{C}[G] \cong \bigoplus_{\chi} \mathbb{C}_{\chi},$$

where  $G$  acts on  $\mathbb{C}_{\chi}$  by  $\chi$ . Thus,  $\mathbb{Q}[G]\Phi$  will equal the sum of the spaces  $\mathbb{C}_{\chi}\Phi$ , but  $\mathbb{C}_{\chi}\Phi$  is nonzero if and only if  $\chi(\Phi) \neq 0$ . ■

**Remark 34.** Work in the setting of Lemma 33. Let  $\iota \in G$  denote complex conjugation. If  $\chi$  is a nontrivial character satisfying  $\chi(\iota) = 1$ , then we see that

$$0 = \sum_{g \in G} \chi(g) = \chi(\Phi + \iota\Phi) = 2\chi(\Phi),$$

so  $\chi(\Phi) = 0$ .

**Example 35.** Fix a prime  $p$ , and define the CM type  $\Phi$  on  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)$  by  $\Phi = \{\zeta_p \mapsto \zeta_p^i : 1 \leq i \leq \frac{p-1}{2}\}$ . We will show that  $\text{rank}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p), \Phi) = p$  by following [Kub65, Section 4]. We use Lemma 33. In view of Remark 34, it is enough to check that  $\chi(\Phi) \neq 0$  for each of the  $\frac{p-1}{2}$  characters  $\chi$  satisfying  $\chi(-1) = -1$ . By identifying  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)/\mathbb{Q})$  with  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^\times$ , this reduces to computing sums of the form  $\sum_{i=1}^{(p-1)/2} \chi(i)$  for characters  $\chi$  satisfying  $\chi(-1) = -1$ . We relegate these computations to Lemma 36 below.

**Lemma 36.** Fix a character  $\chi: (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  satisfying  $\chi(-1) = -1$ . Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{(p-1)/2} \chi(i) \neq 0.$$

*Proof.* We follow [Kub65, Lemma 4.3]. For brevity, define  $g := \frac{p-1}{2}$ . The key input is to use the class number formula for cyclotomic fields. Indeed, by combining [Was12, Proposition 4.1, Theorem 4.2, Corollary 4.4], we see that

$$A := \sum_{i=1}^g i\chi(i)$$

is nonzero. We will transform this nonvanishing result into the required one. We begin by defining the family of sums

$$\begin{aligned} A_{<} &:= \sum_{i=1}^g i\chi(i), \\ A_{>} &:= \sum_{i=g+1}^{p-1} i\chi(i), \\ A_0 &:= \sum_{i=1}^g 2i\chi(2i), \\ A_1 &:= \sum_{i=1}^g (2i-1)\chi(2i-1), \\ B_{<} &:= \sum_{i=1}^g \chi(i), \\ B_1 &:= \sum_{i=1}^g \chi(2i-1). \end{aligned}$$

To continue, we describe some relations between these sums.

- One has  $A = A_{<} + A_{>} = A_0 + A_1$ .
- Because  $\chi(-1) = -1$ , we can see that  $A_{>} = A_{<} - pB_{<}$  by sending  $i \mapsto (p-i)$  in the sum. Combining with the previous point, we see that  $A = 2A_{<} - pB_{<}$ .
- On the other hand, considering  $B_1$ , we send  $i \mapsto (p-i)$  to make the terms even and then factor out a factor of 2 to show that  $B_1 = -\chi(2)B_{<}$ .
- Similarly, considering  $A_1$ , we send  $i \mapsto (p-i)$  to make the terms even and then factor out a factor of 2 to show that  $A_1 = 2\chi(2)A_{<} - p\chi(2)B_{<}$ . Summing, we see  $A = A_1 + A_0 = 4\chi(2)A_{<} - p\chi(2)B_{<}$ .

In total, we are able to see that

$$4\chi(2)A_{<} - p\chi(2)B_{<} = A = 2\chi(2)A_{<} - p\chi(2)B_{<}$$

is a nonzero value. However,  $B_{<} = 0$  combined with the equality of the left and right sides would require  $A_{<} = 0$  and then  $A = 0$ , which is a contradiction, as required. ■

## 2.6 A Nondegenerate Jacobian

In this subsection, fix an odd prime  $p$ , and we study the Jacobian  $J_p$  of the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -curve  $C_p: y^2 = x^p - 1$ . The goal of the present subsection is to establish some basic facts about  $J_p$ . In particular, we will show that  $J_p$  is absolutely simple of dimension  $\frac{p-1}{2}$  and  $\text{rank } J_p = \frac{p+1}{2}$ .

A computation with the Riemann–Hurwitz formula (for general hyperelliptic curves) explains that the genus  $g$  of  $C_p$  is  $\frac{p-1}{2}$ , so we see  $\dim J_p = \frac{p-1}{2}$ . Note that  $\langle \zeta_p \rangle$  acts on  $C_p$  by  $\zeta_p \cdot (x, y) := (\zeta_p x, y)$ , so  $J_p$  has an endomorphism of order  $p$ , so  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_p] \subseteq \text{End } J_p$ , so  $J_p$  has complex multiplication by  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)$ . Let's compute the CM type of  $J_p$ .

**Remark 37.** If we were to work with  $C_m: y^2 = x^m - 1$  for a general positive integer  $m$ , it still turns out that  $J_m := \text{Jac } C_m$  admits complex multiplication, but it is no longer enough for  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_m) \subseteq \text{End}^0 J_m$  because  $[\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_m) : \mathbb{Q}] = \varphi(m)$  is less than  $2 \dim J_m = m - 1$  when  $m$  fails to be prime.

**Lemma 38.** The CM type of  $J_p$  is given by  $(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p), \Phi)$ , where

$$\Phi := \left\{ \zeta_p \mapsto \zeta_p^i : 1 \leq i \leq \frac{p-1}{2} \right\}.$$

*Proof.* We need to diagonalize the action of  $\langle \zeta_p \rangle$  on  $H^{10}(J_p) = H^0(J_p, \Omega_{J_p}^1)$ . It is a property of the Jacobian that

$$H^0(J_p, \Omega_{J_p}^1) \cong H^0(C_p, \Omega_{C_p}^1),$$

so we may diagonalize the action of  $\langle \zeta_p \rangle$  on the space of differentials on  $C_p$ . Well, one can check that  $C_p: y^2 = x^p - 1$  has a basis of differentials given by  $x^i dx/y$  where  $i \in \{0, \dots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}$ ; importantly, one ought to check that these differentials do not have poles at the points at infinity, which can be done by passing to the corresponding affine chart via  $(x, y) \mapsto (1/u, v/u^{(p+1)/2})$ . Anyway, we conclude by noting that

$$\zeta_p \cdot \frac{x^i dx}{y} = \zeta_p^{i+1} \frac{x^i dx}{y},$$

so the given  $\Phi$  does in fact describe the diagonalization of our action on  $H^{10}$ . ■

Thus, Example 35 explains that  $\dim \text{MT}(A) = \text{rank}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p), \Phi) = p$ , which forces  $\text{MT}(A) = \text{Res}_{\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)/\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{G}_m$ .

Lastly, we check that  $J_p$  is absolutely simple. It is enough to check that the CM type  $(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p), \Phi)$  is primitive.

**Lemma 39.** The CM type  $(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p), \Phi)$  is primitive.

*Proof.* The CM type is primitive if and only if  $\sigma\Phi = \Phi$  implies  $\sigma = \text{id}$  for any  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)/\mathbb{Q})$ . Denoting the  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_p)$  defined by  $\zeta_p \mapsto \zeta_p^i$  by  $\sigma_i$ , we see that we would like to show that  $\sigma_i\Phi = \Phi$  implies  $i = 1$ . In other words, for any  $i \neq 1$ , we would like to show that

$$\left\{ ai \pmod{p} : 1 \leq a \leq \frac{p-1}{2} \right\} \neq \left\{ a \pmod{p} : 1 \leq a \leq \frac{p-1}{2} \right\}.$$

For this, we follow [Goo24, Lemma 4.2]. For  $i > \frac{p-1}{2}$ , we see that  $i$  lives in the left-hand set but not in the right-hand set, so there is nothing to do. Otherwise,  $i \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$ , so  $\frac{p-1}{2i} \leq \frac{p-1}{i} + 1$ , so we can find an integer  $j$  in the interval  $(\frac{p-1}{2i}, \frac{p-1}{i}]$ . But then  $\frac{p-1}{2} < ij \leq p-1$ , so  $ij$  is in the left-hand set but not in the right-hand set. ■

### 3 Basic Cases

In this subsection, we work out some basic cases.

**Proposition 40.** Fix an abelian variety  $A$  over a number field  $K$  with CM by  $E$ . Then Conjecture 1 holds for  $A$ .

*Proof.* The main point is that we are able to lift  $\text{Frob}_{\mathfrak{p}}$  to become an endomorphism of  $A$ .

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the Néron model of  $A$  over  $\mathcal{O}_{K_{\mathfrak{p}}}$ , and let  $\kappa := \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{p}$  be the residue field. The Néron mapping property implies  $\text{End}_E(A)^{\circ} = \text{End}_E^{\circ}(\mathcal{A})$ , which then has a natural reduction map to  $\text{End}_E^{\circ}(\mathcal{A}_{\kappa})$ . An argument on the Tate module tells us that

$$\text{End}_E^{\circ}(A) \rightarrow \text{End}_E^{\circ}(\mathcal{A}_{\kappa})$$

is injective, but we see that both sides are free  $E$ -modules of rank 1. Thus, this reduction map is an isomorphism, so  $\text{Frob}_{\mathfrak{p}}$  lifts from an endomorphism on  $\mathcal{A}_{\kappa}$  to an endomorphism on  $A$ .

We now note that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_B^1(A; \mathbb{Q}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}_{\ell} & \xrightarrow{H_B^1(F)} & H_B^1(A; \mathbb{Q}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}_{\ell} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ H_{\text{ét}}^1(A; \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}) & \xrightarrow{\rho_{\ell}(\text{Frob}_{\mathfrak{p}})} & H_{\text{ét}}^1(A; \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}) \end{array}$$

commutes by the functoriality of the applied comparison isomorphism (and the definition of  $F$ ), so the result follows. Perhaps one should check that  $H_B^1(F) \in G(A)$ , but this follows because endomorphisms must preserve the Hodge structure, so  $F$  will send Hodge cycles to Hodge cycles (and thus send absolute Hodge cycles to absolute Hodge cycles). ■

**Proposition 41.** Fix an elliptic curve  $A$  over a number field. Then Conjecture 1 holds for  $A$ .

*Proof.* If  $A$  has complex multiplication, we are done by Proposition 40. This leaves us with two cases.

- Suppose  $A_{\mathbb{C}}$  still has no complex multiplication. Then  $\text{MT}(A)$  is  $\text{GL}_{2, \mathbb{Q}}$ , so the result follows from classical considerations.
- Suppose  $A_{\mathbb{C}}$  is CM so that  $A$  has potential CM. For brevity, define  $V := H^1(A; \mathbb{Q})$ . Note that  $A_L$  has CM for some quadratic extension  $L$  of  $K$ , so we produce a short exact sequence

$$1 \rightarrow \text{MT}(A) \rightarrow G(A) \rightarrow \text{Gal}(L/K) \rightarrow 1.$$

Note  $\text{MT}(A)$  is a torus, so  $V_{\mathbb{C}}$  decomposes into two eigenspaces  $V_{\mathbb{C}} = V_{\mathbb{C}}^1 \oplus V_{\mathbb{C}}^2$ ; considering the rank of  $\text{MT}(A)$ , we see that  $\sigma \in \text{MT}(A)$  if and only if  $\sigma_{\mathbb{C}}: V_{\mathbb{C}} \rightarrow V_{\mathbb{C}}$  sends  $V_{\mathbb{C}}^1$  and  $V_{\mathbb{C}}^2$  to themselves. Thus, choosing some  $c \in G(A)$  to lift the generator of  $\text{Gal}(L/K)$ , we see that  $c$  must normalize  $\text{MT}(A)$  while not actually living in  $\text{MT}(A)$ , and the only way for this to happen is for  $c_{\mathbb{C}}$  to swap  $V_{\mathbb{C}}^1$  and  $V_{\mathbb{C}}^2$  (possibly adding a scalar in the process to ensure that  $c$  is defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ).

This will be enough to complete the proof. Letting  $q$  be the cardinality of  $\mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{p}$ , we know that  $\rho_{\ell}(\text{Frob}_{\mathfrak{p}})$  is semisimple with characteristic polynomial  $P_{\mathfrak{p}}(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$  not depending on  $\ell$ . The point is that the eigenvalues  $\alpha_{1, \ell}$  and  $\alpha_{2, \ell}$  of  $\rho_{\ell}(\text{Frob}_{\mathfrak{p}})$  on  $V_{\mathbb{C}}^1$  and  $V_{\mathbb{C}}^2$  may not be determined up to order, but the set of eigenvalues  $\{\alpha_{1, \ell}, \alpha_{2, \ell}\}$  is independent of  $\ell$ . Conjugation by  $c$  is able to swap the two eigenspaces, so we see that the conjugacy class of  $\rho_{\ell}(\text{Frob}_{\mathfrak{p}})$  is now independent of  $\ell$ . ■

**Remark 42.** It may appear that one can upgrade this second proof to work for arbitrary abelian varieties with potential CM, but this is not the case. Indeed, the given proof only functions because  $\text{Gal}(L/K)$  acts simply transitively on the eigenspaces of  $\text{MT}(A)$  acting on  $V_{\mathbb{C}}$ . However,  $G(A) \subseteq \text{GSp}_{2 \dim A}(\mathbb{Q})$ , so one cannot hope for the normalizer of a torus to be large enough in general.

## 4 The Lefschetz Group

In this section, we define the Lefschetz group and compute it for all abelian varieties. We follow [Mil99].

### 4.1 Basic Properties of the Lefschetz Group

Roughly speaking, the Lefschetz group is  $\text{MT}(A)$  under the assumption that all Hodge classes are generated by endomorphisms and polarizations, which is indeed the case for wide classes of abelian varieties. To begin with, we deal with endomorphisms.

**Definition 43.** Fix a polarized abelian variety  $A$  defined over  $K$ . Then we define

$$C(A) := \text{End}_{\text{End}_K^0(A) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} k}(V(A)).$$

In other words,  $C(A)$  consists of the  $k$ -linear endomorphisms  $f: V(A) \rightarrow V(A)$  which commute with  $V(\alpha)$  for all  $\alpha \in \text{End}_K^0(A)$ .

To account for the polarization, we need to know that  $(\cdot)^\dagger$  behaves on  $C(A)$ .

**Remark 44.** The Rosati involution  $(\cdot)^\dagger$  extends to a positive involution on  $C(A)$ . Namely, if  $f: V(A) \rightarrow V(A)$  commutes with  $V(\alpha)$  for all  $\alpha \in \text{End}_K^0(A)$ , then we want to show that the adjoint  $f^\dagger$  does too. Well, for any  $\alpha \in \text{End}_K^0(A)$ , we see that

$$\langle x, f^\dagger V(\alpha)y \rangle = \langle V(\alpha^\dagger)fx, y \rangle = \langle fV(\alpha^\dagger)x, y \rangle = \langle x, V(\alpha)f^\dagger y \rangle$$

for any  $x, y \in V(A)$ . Non-degeneracy of the Weil pairing then requires  $f^\dagger V(\alpha) = V(\alpha)f^\dagger$ .

We are now able to define the Lefschetz group; note that our definition differs from [Mil99] because we require  $L(A)$  to be connected.

**Definition 45 (Lefschetz group).** Fix a polarized abelian variety  $A$  defined over  $K$ . Then we define the Lefschetz group  $L(A)$  as the algebraic  $k$ -group given by

$$L(A)(R) := \{g \in C(A) \otimes_k R : g^\dagger g = 1\}^\circ.$$

In other words,  $L(A)(k)$  is the connected component of the  $k$ -linear automorphisms of  $V(A)$  commuting with endomorphisms and preserving the Weil pairing.

We would like to compute  $L(A)$  for various abelian varieties  $A$ . We will use the isogeny decomposition of  $A$ , so we should check that  $C(A)$  does not depend on the isogeny decomposition.

**Remark 46.** An isogeny  $\varphi: A \rightarrow B$  of polarized abelian varieties defined over  $K$  induces isomorphisms  $V(\varphi): V(A) \rightarrow V(B)$  and  $\text{End}_K^0(A) \cong \text{End}_K^0(B)$  (by  $\alpha \mapsto \varphi\alpha\varphi^{-1}$ ). Thus, we produce an isomorphism  $C(A) \cong C(B)$  (by  $f \mapsto V(\varphi)fV(\varphi)^{-1}$ ). The fact that  $\varphi$  should preserve the Weil pairing implies that the isomorphism  $C(A) \cong C(B)$  of  $k$ -algebras with involution restricts to an isomorphism  $L(A) \cong L(B)$ .

**Lemma 47.** Fix polarized abelian varieties  $A$  and  $B$  defined over  $K$ . Suppose  $\text{Hom}_K(A, B) = 0$ . Then

$$L(A \times B) \cong L(A) \times L(B).$$

*Proof.* In fact, we claim that we have an isomorphism  $C(A \times B) \cong C(A) \times C(B)$  of  $k$ -algebras with involution, which will complete the proof. Well, we certainly have a map  $C(A \times B) \rightarrow C(A)$  given by  $f \mapsto V(\pi_A) \circ f \circ V(\iota_A)$ , where  $\pi_A: A \times B \rightarrow A$  and  $\iota_A: A \rightarrow A \times B$  are the projection and inclusion respectively. Defining

$\pi_B$  and  $\iota_B$  analogously, we get a map  $C(A \times B) \rightarrow C(B)$ , so we may glue these maps together into a larger map

$$C(A \times B) \rightarrow C(A) \times C(B).$$

Note that everything in sight commutes with polarizations because the polarization on  $A \times B$  is implicitly given by the polarizations on  $A$  and  $B$ . Thus, it only remains to check that above  $k$ -linear map is bijective.

- **Injective:** if  $f \in C(A \times B)$  satisfies  $V(\pi_A) \circ f \circ V(\iota_A) = 0$  and  $V(\pi_B) \circ f \circ V(\iota_B) = 0$ , then we would like to show that  $f = 0$ . Well, for  $(x, y) \in V(A \times B)$  where  $x \in V(A)$  and  $y \in V(B)$ , we must show  $f(x, y) = f(x, 0) + f(0, y)$  vanishes. Thus, by symmetry, it will be enough to show that  $V(\pi_B) \circ f \circ V(\iota_A) = 0$ .

The point is to define the endomorphism  $\varphi: A \times B \rightarrow A \times B$  by  $\varphi(a, b) := (0, b)$ . Then  $f$  needs to commute with  $V(\varphi)$ , which in practice means that

$$\begin{aligned} (0, V(\pi_B)(f(x, 0))) &= (V(\varphi) \circ f)(x, 0) \\ &= (f \circ V(\varphi))(x, 0) \\ &= f(0, 0) \\ &= (0, 0) \end{aligned}$$

for any  $x \in V(A)$ , so  $V(\pi_B) \circ f \circ V(\iota_A) = 0$ .

- **Surjective:** choose  $f_A \in C(A)$  and  $f_B \in C(B)$ . Now, define  $f: V(A \times B) \rightarrow V(A \times B)$  by

$$f(x, y) := (f_A(x), f_B(y)).$$

Certainly  $f$  is  $k$ -linear. As soon as we can show that  $f \in C(A \times B)$ , we will be able to say that  $f$  projects onto  $(f_A, f_B)$  through the map  $C(A \times B) \rightarrow C(A) \times C(B)$ , proving surjectivity.

Thus, it remains to check that  $f$  commutes with endomorphisms of  $\text{End}_K(A \times B)$ . Well,  $\text{Hom}_K(A, B) = 0$  implies that  $\text{End}_K(A \times B) \cong \text{End}_K(A) \times \text{End}_K(B)$ , and in particular, we know that any endomorphism  $\varphi \in \text{End}_K(A \times B)$  takes the form  $\varphi(a, b) := (\varphi_A(a), \varphi_B(b))$  where  $\varphi_A \in \text{End}_K(A)$  and  $\varphi_B \in \text{End}_K(B)$ . We now see that

$$\begin{aligned} (f \circ V(\varphi))(x, y) &= ((f_A \circ V(\varphi_A))(x), (f_B \circ V(\varphi_B))(y)) \\ &= ((V(\varphi_A) \circ f_A)(x), (V(\varphi_B) \circ f_B)(y)) \\ &= (V(\varphi) \circ f)(x, y), \end{aligned}$$

for any  $(x, y) \in V(A \times B)$ . Thus,  $f \in C(A \times B)$ . ■

**Remark 48.** Without the hypothesis  $\text{Hom}_K(A, B) = 0$ , the above proof gives an injection  $C(A \times B) \rightarrow C(A) \times C(B)$ .

**Lemma 49.** Fix a polarized abelian variety  $A$  and a positive integer  $m$ . Then

$$L(A) \cong L(A^m).$$

*Proof.* In fact, we claim that we have an isomorphism  $C(A) \cong C(A^m)$  of  $k$ -algebras with involution, which will complete the proof. The beginning of the proof of Lemma 47 (applied inductively) implies that there is an injection

$$C(A^m) \rightarrow \underbrace{C(A) \times \cdots \times C(A)}_m$$

given by  $f \mapsto (V(\pi_i) \circ f \circ V(\iota_i))_{1 \leq i \leq m}$ , where  $\pi_i$  and  $\iota_i$  are the  $i$ th projection and inclusion, respectively.

We claim that the image of this map is the image of the diagonal inclusion of  $C(A)$  into  $C(A)^m$ , which will complete the proof.

- On one hand, certainly the diagonal subspace is contained in our image because any  $f \in C(A)$  can define  $\tilde{f} \in C(A^m)$  by  $\tilde{f} := (f, \dots, f)$ . To see that  $\tilde{f} \in C(A^m)$ , we note that certainly  $\tilde{f}$  is  $k$ -linear. To see that  $\tilde{f}$  commutes with endomorphisms, we note that any  $\alpha \in \text{End}_K(A^m)$  can be expanded out into a matrix  $(\alpha_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq m}$  where  $\alpha_{ij} \in \text{End}_K(A)$ . Then we compute

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\tilde{f} \circ V(\alpha))(x_1, \dots, x_n) &= \tilde{f}\left(\sum_{i=1}^m V(\alpha_{1i})(x_i), \dots, \sum_{i=1}^m V(\alpha_{mi})(x_i)\right) \\
 &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^m (f \circ V(\alpha_{1i}))(x_i), \dots, \sum_{i=1}^m (f \circ V(\alpha_{mi}))(x_i)\right) \\
 &\stackrel{*}{=} \left(\sum_{i=1}^m V(\alpha_{1i})(f(x_i)), \dots, \sum_{i=1}^m V(\alpha_{mi})(f(x_i))\right) \\
 &= V(\alpha)(f(x_1), \dots, f(x_m)) \\
 &= (V(\alpha) \circ \tilde{f})(x_1, \dots, x_m),
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\stackrel{*}{=}$  holds because  $f$  already commutes with endomorphisms  $x_{ij}$ .

- On the other hand, suppose  $f \in C(A)^m$ , and we want to show that  $V(\pi_i) \circ f \circ V(\iota_i) = V(\pi_j) \circ f \circ V(\pi_j)$  for any (distinct) indices  $i$  and  $j$ . Well, consider the involution  $\text{sw}_{ij}: A^m \rightarrow A^m$  which swaps entries  $i$  and  $j$  and fixes everything else. Then we know that  $V(\text{sw}_{ij}) \circ f \circ V(\text{sw}_{ij}) = V(\text{sq}_{ij}) \circ f$ , so

$$V(\pi_i) \circ f \circ V(\iota_i) = V(\pi_i) \circ V(\text{sw}_{ij}) \circ f \circ V(\text{sw}_{ij}) \circ V(\iota_i) = V(\pi_j) \circ f \circ V(\iota_j),$$

as required. ■

**Proposition 50.** Fix a polarized abelian variety  $A$  defined over  $K$  with an isogeny decomposition  $A \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^t A_i^{m_i}$ . Then

$$L(A) \cong \prod_{i=1}^t L(A_i).$$

*Proof.* Combine Lemmas 47 and 49. ■

## 4.2 Computation of the Lefschetz Group

In this subsection, we compute  $L(A)$  for many abelian varieties  $A$ . Proposition 50 explains that we should focus on the case where  $A$  is simple.

Glancing at the Albert classification, we thus see that  $\text{End}_K^0(A)$  frequently contains a rather large field. As such, the following decomposition result will be useful.

**Lemma 51.** Fix an abelian variety  $A$  defined over a field  $K$  of dimension  $g := \dim A$ . Suppose that  $L$  is a subfield of the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra  $\text{End}_K^0(A)$ . Then  $V(A)$  is free over  $L \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} k$  of rank  $2g/[L : \mathbb{Q}]$ .

*Proof.* A decomposition of  $L \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} k$  into a product of fields  $\prod_{i=1}^t L_i$  grants us a collection of  $t$  orthogonal idempotents  $e_1 + \dots + e_t = 1$  of  $L \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} k$ , where  $e_i$  is the projection of  $L \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} k$  onto  $L_i$ . Then we define  $V_i := e_i V(A)$  so that

$$V = V_1 \oplus \dots \oplus V_t,$$

and  $V_i$  is an  $L_i$ -vector space for each  $i$ .<sup>3</sup> Thus, we fix an isomorphism  $V_i = L_i^{\oplus m_i}$  for each  $i$ , where  $m_i \geq 0$  is some nonnegative integer.

<sup>3</sup> We can also define  $V_i$  as  $V_i := V(A) \otimes_{L \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} k} L_i$ .



We would like to show that all the  $m_i$  are equal, which for dimension reasons will require them to all equal  $2g/[L : \mathbb{Q}]$ . The proof of this claim will require some extra geometric input. Choose some  $\alpha \in L$  such that  $L = \mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ . We now compute the characteristic polynomial  $P_{\alpha,A}$  of  $\alpha$  acting on  $V(A)$  in two different ways.

- On one hand, the decomposition  $V(A) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^t L_i^{\oplus m_i}$  tells us that

$$P_{\alpha,A}(T) = \prod_{i=1}^t P_{\alpha,L_i/k}(T)^{m_i},$$

where  $P_{\alpha,L_i/k}(T)$  is the characteristic polynomial of  $\alpha$  acting on  $L_i$ .

- On the other hand, we see that the characteristic polynomial  $P_{\alpha,L/\mathbb{Q}}$  of  $\alpha$  acting on  $L$  satisfies

$$P_{\alpha,L/\mathbb{Q}}(T) = \prod_{i=1}^t P_{\alpha,L_i/k}(T)$$

because we have a product decomposition  $L \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} k = \prod_{i=1}^t L_i$ .

The point is that  $P_{\alpha,L/\mathbb{Q}}(T) \in \mathbb{Q}[T]$  is the minimal polynomial for  $\alpha$ , but each root of  $P_{\alpha,A}(T) \in \mathbb{Q}[T]$  is a root of some  $P_{L_i/k}(T)$  and hence of  $P_{\alpha,L/\mathbb{Q}}(T)$ . Unique factorization of  $\mathbb{Q}[T]$  now requires  $P_{\alpha,A} = P_{\alpha,L/\mathbb{Q}}^m$  for some nonnegative integer  $m \geq 0$ .

Combining the above two points completes the proof. ■

#### 4.2.1 Type I

For this subsection, fix a simple abelian variety  $A$  defined over a field  $K$  of dimension  $g$ . Suppose that  $A$  is of type I so that  $\text{End}_K^0(A) = E$  for some totally real field  $E$  of dimension  $e$ .

Now, the action of  $E$  on  $V(A)$  implies by Lemma 51 that we have decomposition  $E \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} k = \prod_{i=1}^t E_i$  inducing a decomposition

$$V(A) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^t V_i$$

where  $V_i$  is an  $E_i$ -vector space of rank  $2g/e$ . Further, viewing  $V_i$  as  $V(A) \otimes_{E \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} k} E_i$  allows us to “extend” the Weil pairing on  $V(A)$  to  $V_i$ , upgrading the above into a decomposition of symplectic spaces.<sup>4</sup> Thus,  $C(A)$  decomposes into a product of  $M_n(E_i)s$ , and

$$L(A) \cong \prod_{i=1}^t \text{Res}_{E_i/\mathbb{Q}} \text{Sp}_{2g/e}.$$

In particular, passing to the algebraic closure allows us to loop over all embeddings  $E \hookrightarrow \bar{k}$  instead of grouping them by  $E_i$ s, so

$$L(A)_{\bar{k}} \cong \left( \text{Sp}_{2g/e} \right)^e.$$

#### 4.2.2 Type II

For this subsection, fix a simple abelian variety  $A$  defined over a field  $K$  of dimension  $g$ . Suppose that  $A$  is of type II.

#### 4.2.3 Type III

For this subsection, fix a simple abelian variety  $A$  defined over a field  $K$  of dimension  $g$ . Suppose that  $A$  is of type III.

<sup>4</sup> In practice, passing to an algebraic closure allows us to simultaneously diagonalize the self-adjoint operators  $E$ , from which Galois descent explains that the  $V_i$  make sense as symplectic spaces.

## 4.2.4 Type IV

For this subsection, fix a simple abelian variety  $A$  defined over a field  $K$  of dimension  $g$ . Suppose that  $A$  is of type IV.

## 4.3 Conjugacy Classes in the Lefschetz Group

**Remark 52.** It should be possible to prove the result for the twisted Lefschetz group.

We will prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 53.** Fix an absolutely simple abelian variety  $A$  defined over a number field  $K$  of types I or II, and let  $G_A^{\text{mot}}$  be its motivic Galois group. Suppose that the Hodge group  $\text{Hg}(A)$  equals the Lefschetz group  $L(A)$ . Then there is a Zariski open and dense subset  $U \subseteq G^{\text{mot}}(A)$  such that the following holds: for a fixed finite prime  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $K$  and two rational primes  $\ell$  and  $\ell'$  not lying under  $\mathfrak{p}$ , if  $\rho_\ell(\text{Frob}_\mathfrak{p})$  and  $\rho_{\ell'}(\text{Frob}_\mathfrak{p})$  lie in  $U$ , then  $\rho_\ell(\text{Frob}_\mathfrak{p})$  and  $\rho_{\ell'}(\text{Frob}_\mathfrak{p})$  are  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -conjugate.

Roughly speaking, we will use the hypothesis  $\text{Hg}(A) = L(A)$  in order to compute  $\text{MT}(A) = G^{\text{mot}}(A)^\circ$ ; from here, it really only remains to control the component group  $G^{\text{mot}}(A)/G^{\text{mot}}(A)^\circ$ , which is understood to be a Galois group.

*Proof of Theorem 53.* For brevity, set  $g := \dim A$ . In [Mil99, Section 2], Milne computes  $L(A) \subseteq \text{GSp}_{2g, \mathbb{Q}}$  as  $G^f$  for some classical group  $G$ . To use this computation, we break up our proof into cases depending on the endomorphism ring of  $A$ .

- Suppose  $A$  is of Type I so that  $\text{End}_{\mathbb{C}}^0(A) = E$  for some totally real field  $E$  of degree  $e$ . Then  $\text{Hg}(A) = (\text{Sp}_{2g/e})^e$ , so  $\text{MT}(A) = \mathbb{G}_m(\text{Sp}_{2g/e})^e$ .

Now, for any  $g \in G^{\text{mot}}(A)$ , we take a moment to put  $g$  into some kind of normal form. We want to write  $g = dw$  for some  $d \in \text{MT}(A)$  and  $w \in G^{\text{mot}}(A)$ , where we have reasonable control over both  $d$  and  $w$ . (Such a decomposition is certainly possible by setting  $d = 1$ .) Now, the conjugation map  $\sigma_w: x \mapsto wxw^{-1}$  induces an automorphism of  $\text{MT}(A)$ . By multiplying  $w$  by an element of  $\text{MT}(A)$ , we can adjust this automorphism by an inner automorphism of  $\text{MT}(A)$ , meaning that  $w$  may be adjusted to any element in its coset in the outer automorphism group. As such, we note that a computation with the root datum of  $\text{MT}(A)$  reveals that its outer automorphism group is simply  $S_e$ . Thus, we may assume that  $\sigma_w$  is a permutation of the entries of  $(\text{Sp}_{2g/e})^e$ .<sup>5</sup>

The conclusion of the previous paragraph is that we may assume that  $g_\ell := \rho_\ell(\text{Frob}_\mathfrak{p})$  and  $g_{\ell'} := \rho_{\ell'}(\text{Frob}_\mathfrak{p})$  take the form  $d_\ell w$  and  $d_{\ell'} w$ , respectively, where  $d_\ell, d_{\ell'} \in \text{MT}(A)$  and  $w \in G^{\text{mot}}(A)$  has  $\sigma_w$  equal to some permutation. The key input we will use to achieve  $g_\ell \sim g_{\ell'}$  is that we already know  $g_\ell^N$  and  $g_{\ell'}^N$  live in  $\text{MT}(A)$  and are conjugate to each other in  $\text{MT}(A)$ , for sufficiently divisible  $N$ .

For concreteness, we rearrange the factors of  $\text{MT}(A)$  to put  $\sigma_w$  into a cycle decomposition

$$\sigma_w = (1, 2, \dots, a_1)(a_1 + 1, a_1 + 2, \dots, a_1 + a_2) \cdots (a_1 + \cdots + a_{m-1}, \dots, a_1 + \cdots + a_{m-1} + a_m).$$

Then we can see that conjugating  $g_\ell$  by an element of  $\text{MT}(A)$  allows us to assume that  $d_\ell$  takes the form

$$d_\ell = \text{diag}(\underbrace{1_e, \dots, 1_e}_{a_1}, X_{\ell 1}, \dots, \underbrace{1_e, \dots, 1_e}_{a_m}, X_{\ell m}),$$

where we have  $X_i \in \text{GSp}_{2g/e}$  for each  $i$ . In fact, we claim that the  $X_{\ell i}$  are all semisimple. Well, we know that  $g_\ell$  is semisimple, so  $g_\ell^N = (d_\ell w)^N$  is semisimple for sufficiently divisible  $N$ , which we can compute as implying that  $X_{\ell i}^{N'}$  is semisimple for some sufficiently divisible  $N'$ , so  $X_{\ell i}$  must also be semisimple. Quickly, note that we can do the same construction for  $d_{\ell'}$ .

<sup>5</sup> Perhaps we need signs in various places, but I will omit these.

We are now ready to define our open set  $U \subseteq G^{\text{mot}}(A)$  as requiring that the set of all eigenvalues of all the  $X_\bullet$ s be such that no two has a ratio which is an  $M$ th root of unity for some sufficiently large  $M$  to be determined later (but depending only on  $e$  and  $N$ ).

The current state is that we have some  $s \in \text{MT}(A)$  such that  $g_\ell^N = s g_{\ell'}^N s^{-1}$  for sufficiently divisible  $N$ . To finish proving that  $g_\ell \sim g_{\ell'}$ , it will be enough to know that  $X_{\ell i} \sim X_{\ell' i}$  for each  $i$ . Being given that  $g_\ell^N = s g_{\ell'}^N s^{-1}$  actually promises that  $X_{\ell i}^N \sim X_{\ell' i}^N$  (in  $\text{GSp}_{2g/e}$ ) for sufficiently divisible  $N$ , so we achieve  $X_{\ell i} \sim X_{\ell' i}$  by [Noo09, Proposition 3.2].<sup>6</sup>

- Suppose  $A$  is of Type II so that  $\text{Hg}(A)_{\mathbb{C}} = (\text{Sp}_{g/e})^e$  for some positive integer  $e$ . Then the argument as above goes through verbatim, replacing  $2g$  with  $g$  as is necessary. ■

**Remark 54.** One should be able to relax the “absolutely simple” hypothesis somewhat. For example, if  $A_{\mathbb{C}}$  is a product of absolutely simple abelian varieties  $B$  of types I and II satisfying  $\text{Hg}(B) = \text{L}(B)$ , we see now that  $\text{Hg}(A)$  becomes the product of the Hodge groups of the factors, so it is relatively easy to understand our conjugacy classes.

<sup>6</sup> This proposition applies to the  $X$ s but not to the  $g$ s directly because  $\text{GSp}$  is connected while  $G^{\text{mot}}(A)$ .