

# Finding Minimal Polynomials with a Norm Calculator

Eric Errthum  
Winona State University  
[eerrthum@winona.edu](mailto:eerrthum@winona.edu)

October 18, 2008

# Algebraic Review

- An **algebraic number**,  $\zeta$ , is a root of an irreducible monic polynomial with rational coefficients.

# Algebraic Review

- An **algebraic number**,  $\zeta$ , is a root of an irreducible monic polynomial with rational coefficients.

## Examples

$$\zeta = i \Rightarrow x^2 + 1 = 0$$
$$\zeta = \frac{4}{\sqrt[3]{9} + 7 \sqrt[3]{3}} \Rightarrow x^6 + \frac{504}{519}x^4 - \frac{2048}{519}$$

# Algebraic Review

- An **algebraic number**,  $\zeta$ , is a root of an irreducible monic polynomial with rational coefficients.

## Examples

$$\zeta = i \Rightarrow x^2 + 1 = 0$$
$$\zeta = \frac{4}{\sqrt[3]{9+7\sqrt{3}}} \Rightarrow x^6 + \frac{504}{519}x^4 - \frac{2048}{519}$$

- This polynomial,  $M_\zeta(x)$ , is called the **minimal polynomial** and

$$M_\zeta(x) = \prod_i (x - \sigma_i(\zeta))$$

where  $\sigma_i \in \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta)/\mathbb{Q})$ .

# Algebraic Review

- An **algebraic number**,  $\zeta$ , is a root of an irreducible monic polynomial with rational coefficients.

## Examples

$$\zeta = i \Rightarrow x^2 + 1 = 0$$
$$\zeta = \frac{4}{\sqrt[3]{9+7\sqrt{3}}} \Rightarrow x^6 + \frac{504}{519}x^4 - \frac{2048}{519}$$

- This polynomial,  $M_\zeta(x)$ , is called the **minimal polynomial** and

$$M_\zeta(x) = \prod_i (x - \sigma_i(\zeta))$$

where  $\sigma_i \in \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta)/\mathbb{Q})$ .

- The (absolute) **norm of  $\zeta$** ,  $\text{norm}(\zeta) = |\prod \sigma_i(\zeta)|$ , is the absolute value of the constant term of  $M_\zeta(x)$ .

# Problem Statement

Given

- A collection of unknown algebraic numbers  $\{\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \dots\}$  whose minimal polynomials have known degrees  $\{d_1, d_2, \dots\}$ .

# Problem Statement

Given

- A collection of unknown algebraic numbers  $\{\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \dots\}$  whose minimal polynomials have known degrees  $\{d_1, d_2, \dots\}$ .
- An algorithm that can compute the norm of an unknown algebraic number (norm calculator).

# Problem Statement

Given

- A collection of unknown algebraic numbers  $\{\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \dots\}$  whose minimal polynomials have known degrees  $\{d_1, d_2, \dots\}$ .
- An algorithm that can compute the norm of an unknown algebraic number (norm calculator).

Find

- The minimal polynomials for (at least some of) the  $\zeta_k$ 's?

# Shimura Curves

- The Shimura curve  $S_6$  is a Riemannian surface of genus zero.

# Shimura Curves

- The Shimura curve  $S_6$  is a Riemannian surface of genus zero.
- An isomorphism  $J : S_6 \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{P}^1$  exists.

# Shimura Curves

- The Shimura curve  $S_6$  is a Riemannian surface of genus zero.
- An isomorphism  $J : S_6 \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{P}^1$  exists.
- It can be uniquely specified by choosing the three points that map to 0, 1, and  $\infty$ .

# Shimura Curves

- The Shimura curve  $S_6$  is a Riemannian surface of genus zero.
- An isomorphism  $J : S_6 \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{P}^1$  exists.
- It can be uniquely specified by choosing the three points that map to 0, 1, and  $\infty$ .
- Due to the properties of Shimura curves, no formula exists for such a map.

# CM Points on the Shimura Curve

- There is a collection of “special” points  $\{s_k\} \subset S_6$  called complex multiplication (CM) points.

# CM Points on the Shimura Curve

- There is a collection of “special” points  $\{s_k\} \subset S_6$  called complex multiplication (CM) points.
- Three of these,  $s_3$ ,  $s_4$ , and  $s_{24}$ , are *really* special, so specify  $J$  by

$$(s_3, s_4, s_{24}) \xrightarrow{J} (0, 1, \infty).$$

# CM Points on the Shimura Curve

- There is a collection of “special” points  $\{s_k\} \subset S_6$  called complex multiplication (CM) points.
- Three of these,  $s_3$ ,  $s_4$ , and  $s_{24}$ , are *really* special, so specify  $J$  by

$$(s_3, s_4, s_{24}) \xrightarrow{J} (0, 1, \infty).$$

- Then  $J$  maps all CM points to algebraic numbers.

# CM Points on the Shimura Curve

- There is a collection of “special” points  $\{s_k\} \subset S_6$  called complex multiplication (CM) points.
- Three of these,  $s_3$ ,  $s_4$ , and  $s_{24}$ , are *really* special, so specify  $J$  by

$$(s_3, s_4, s_{24}) \xrightarrow{J} (0, 1, \infty).$$

- Then  $J$  maps all CM points to algebraic numbers.
- There exists an algorithm that calculates  $\text{norm}(J(s_k))$  for  $s_k$  a CM point. (Errthum, 2007)

# CM Points on the Shimura Curve

- There is a collection of “special” points  $\{s_k\} \subset S_6$  called complex multiplication (CM) points.
- Three of these,  $s_3$ ,  $s_4$ , and  $s_{24}$ , are *really* special, so specify  $J$  by

$$(s_3, s_4, s_{24}) \xrightarrow{J} (0, 1, \infty).$$

- Then  $J$  maps all CM points to algebraic numbers.
- There exists an algorithm that calculates  $\text{norm}(J(s_k))$  for  $s_k$  a CM point. (Errthum, 2007)
- Using genus theory of groups, we can calculate  $d_k$ , the degree of  $M_{J(s_k)}(x)$ .

# CM Points on the Shimura Curve

- There is a collection of “special” points  $\{s_k\} \subset S_6$  called complex multiplication (CM) points.
- Three of these,  $s_3$ ,  $s_4$ , and  $s_{24}$ , are *really* special, so specify  $J$  by

$$(s_3, s_4, s_{24}) \xrightarrow{J} (0, 1, \infty).$$

- Then  $J$  maps all CM points to algebraic numbers.
- There exists an algorithm that calculates  $\text{norm}(J(s_k))$  for  $s_k$  a CM point. (Errthum, 2007)
- Using genus theory of groups, we can calculate  $d_k$ , the degree of  $M_{J(s_k)}(x)$ .

**Back to the problem:** Let  $\{\zeta_k\} = \{J(s_k)\}$ .

# First Trick

- For a finite number of indices  $r$ ,  $M_{J(s_r)}(x)$  has degree 1, i.e.  $\zeta_r$  is a rational number.

# First Trick

- For a finite number of indices  $r$ ,  $M_{J(s_r)}(x)$  has degree 1, i.e.  $\zeta_r$  is a rational number.
- $\text{norm}(\zeta_r) = \pm \zeta_r$ .

# First Trick

- For a finite number of indices  $r$ ,  $M_{J(s_r)}(x)$  has degree 1, i.e.  $\zeta_r$  is a rational number.
- $\text{norm}(\zeta_r) = \pm \zeta_r.$
- Use a new  $J_1$  by taking  $(s_3, s_4, s_{24}) \rightarrow (1, 0, \infty)$  instead of  $(0, 1, \infty)$ .

$$J_1(s) = 1 - J(s).$$

# First Trick

- For a finite number of indices  $r$ ,  $M_{J(s_r)}(x)$  has degree 1, i.e.  $\zeta_r$  is a rational number.
- $\text{norm}(\zeta_r) = \pm \zeta_r$ .
- Use a new  $J_1$  by taking  $(s_3, s_4, s_{24}) \rightarrow (1, 0, \infty)$  instead of  $(0, 1, \infty)$ .

$$J_1(s) = 1 - J(s).$$

## Example

$$\begin{aligned}\text{norm}(J(s_r)) &= 4/5 \text{ and } \text{norm}(1 - J(s_r)) = 9/5 \\ \Rightarrow \zeta_r &= J(s_r) = -4/5\end{aligned}$$

# First Trick

- For a finite number of indices  $r$ ,  $M_{J(s_r)}(x)$  has degree 1, i.e.  $\zeta_r$  is a rational number.
- $\text{norm}(\zeta_r) = \pm \zeta_r$ .
- Use a new  $J_1$  by taking  $(s_3, s_4, s_{24}) \rightarrow (1, 0, \infty)$  instead of  $(0, 1, \infty)$ .

$$J_1(s) = 1 - J(s).$$

## Example

$$\begin{aligned}\text{norm}(J(s_r)) &= 4/5 \text{ and } \text{norm}(1 - J(s_r)) = 9/5 \\ \Rightarrow \zeta_r &= J(s_r) = -4/5\end{aligned}$$

- Can calculate all rational  $\zeta_r$  this way.

# Second Trick

- Choose  $\zeta_k$  with  $d_k$  small.

## Second Trick

- Choose  $\zeta_k$  with  $d_k$  small.
- For  $d_k + 1$  choices of  $r$ , specify  $J_r(s) = \zeta_r - J(s)$  by

$$(s_3, s_r, s_{24}) \xrightarrow{J_r} (\zeta_r, 0, \infty).$$

## Second Trick

- Choose  $\zeta_k$  with  $d_k$  small.
- For  $d_k + 1$  choices of  $r$ , specify  $J_r(s) = \zeta_r - J(s)$  by

$$(s_3, s_r, s_{24}) \xrightarrow{J_r} (\zeta_r, 0, \infty).$$

- $\text{norm}(\zeta_r - J(s_k)) = \left| \prod_i \sigma_i(\zeta_r - J(s_k)) \right|$

## Second Trick

- Choose  $\zeta_k$  with  $d_k$  small.
- For  $d_k + 1$  choices of  $r$ , specify  $J_r(s) = \zeta_r - J(s)$  by

$$(s_3, s_r, s_{24}) \xrightarrow{J_r} (\zeta_r, 0, \infty).$$

- $$\begin{aligned} \text{norm}(\zeta_r - J(s_k)) &= \left| \prod_i \sigma_i(\zeta_r - J(s_k)) \right| \\ &= \left| \prod_i \sigma_i(\zeta_r - \zeta_k) \right| \end{aligned}$$

## Second Trick

- Choose  $\zeta_k$  with  $d_k$  small.
- For  $d_k + 1$  choices of  $r$ , specify  $J_r(s) = \zeta_r - J(s)$  by

$$(s_3, s_r, s_{24}) \xrightarrow{J_r} (\zeta_r, 0, \infty).$$

- 

$$\begin{aligned} \text{norm}(\zeta_r - J(s_k)) &= \left| \prod_i \sigma_i(\zeta_r - J(s_k)) \right| \\ &= \left| \prod_i \sigma_i(\zeta_r - \zeta_k) \right| \\ &= \left| \prod_i (\zeta_r - \sigma_i(\zeta_k)) \right| \end{aligned}$$

## Second Trick

- Choose  $\zeta_k$  with  $d_k$  small.
- For  $d_k + 1$  choices of  $r$ , specify  $J_r(s) = \zeta_r - J(s)$  by

$$(s_3, s_r, s_{24}) \xrightarrow{J_r} (\zeta_r, 0, \infty).$$

- 

$$\begin{aligned} \text{norm}(\zeta_r - J(s_k)) &= \left| \prod_i \sigma_i(\zeta_r - J(s_k)) \right| \\ &= \left| \prod_i \sigma_i(\zeta_r - \zeta_k) \right| \\ &= \left| \prod_i (\zeta_r - \sigma_i(\zeta_k)) \right| \\ &= |M_{\zeta_k}(\zeta_r)| \end{aligned}$$

# Brute Force

- So we know  $d_k + 1$  points on the curve  $y = |M_{\zeta_k}(x)|$ .

# Brute Force

- So we know  $d_k + 1$  points on the curve  $y = |M_{\zeta_k}(x)|$ .
- If it wasn't for the absolute value, we could use a standard polynomial fit and be done.

# Brute Force

- So we know  $d_k + 1$  points on the curve  $y = |M_{\zeta_k}(x)|$ .
- If it wasn't for the absolute value, we could use a standard polynomial fit and be done.
- Go through the  $2^{d_k}$  combinations of minus signs on the values until you find a monic polynomial.  
(There's only ever one. Proof?)

# Brute Force

- So we know  $d_k + 1$  points on the curve  $y = |M_{\zeta_k}(x)|$ .
- If it wasn't for the absolute value, we could use a standard polynomial fit and be done.
- Go through the  $2^{d_k}$  combinations of minus signs on the values until you find a monic polynomial.  
(There's only ever one. Proof?)
- If there are  $R$  rational  $\zeta_r$ , then we can use this method to find the minimal polynomial of any  $\zeta_k$  with  $d_k \leq R - 2$ .

# Example

- norm( $\zeta$ ) =  $\frac{10}{17}$  and  $d = 3$ .

# Example

- $\text{norm}(\zeta) = \frac{10}{17}$  and  $d = 3$ .
- We use the four CM points that map to  $0, 1, \frac{-4}{5},$  and  $\frac{2}{3}$  to find the data points:

# Example

- $\text{norm}(\zeta) = \frac{10}{17}$  and  $d = 3$ .
- We use the four CM points that map to  $0$ ,  $1$ ,  $\frac{-4}{5}$ , and  $\frac{2}{3}$  to find the data points:

$$(0, \text{norm}(\zeta)) = (0, \frac{10}{17})$$

$$(1, \text{norm}(1 - \zeta)) = (1, \frac{25}{102})$$

$$\left(\frac{-4}{5}, \text{norm}\left(\frac{-4}{5} - \zeta\right)\right) = \left(\frac{-4}{5}, \frac{5246}{6375}\right)$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{3}, \text{norm}\left(\frac{2}{3} - \zeta\right)\right) = \left(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{104}{459}\right)$$

# Example

- norm( $\zeta$ ) =  $\frac{10}{17}$  and  $d = 3$ .
- We use the four CM points that map to 0, 1,  $\frac{-4}{5}$ , and  $\frac{2}{3}$  to find the data points:

$$(0, \text{norm}(\zeta)) = (0, \frac{10}{17})$$

$$(1, \text{norm}(1 - \zeta)) = (1, \frac{25}{102})$$

$$(\frac{-4}{5}, \text{norm}(\frac{-4}{5} - \zeta)) = (\frac{-4}{5}, \frac{5246}{6375})$$

$$(\frac{2}{3}, \text{norm}(\frac{2}{3} - \zeta)) = (\frac{2}{3}, \frac{104}{459})$$

- Possible minimal polynomials:

$$y = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{3316}{5049}x - \frac{1141}{10098}x^2 + \frac{718}{1683}x^3$$

$$y = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{124}{561}x - \frac{83}{374}x^2 - \frac{73}{187}x^3$$

$$y = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{812}{459}x - \frac{359}{918}x^2 + \frac{278}{153}x^3$$

$$y = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{4}{3}x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + x^3$$

$$y = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{7}{51}x - \frac{24}{17}x^2 + \frac{41}{34}x^3$$

$$y = \frac{10}{17} + \frac{137}{459}x - \frac{698}{459}x^2 + \frac{7}{18}x^3$$

$$y = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{701}{561}x - \frac{316}{187}x^2 + \frac{971}{374}x^3$$

$$y = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{4109}{5049}x - \frac{9082}{5049}x^2 + \frac{5989}{3366}x^3$$

# Example

- norm( $\zeta$ ) =  $\frac{10}{17}$  and  $d = 3$ .
- We use the four CM points that map to 0, 1,  $\frac{-4}{5}$ , and  $\frac{2}{3}$  to find the data points:

$$(0, \text{norm}(\zeta)) = (0, \frac{10}{17})$$

$$(1, \text{norm}(1 - \zeta)) = (1, \frac{25}{102})$$

$$(\frac{-4}{5}, \text{norm}(\frac{-4}{5} - \zeta)) = (\frac{-4}{5}, \frac{5246}{6375})$$

$$(\frac{2}{3}, \text{norm}(\frac{2}{3} - \zeta)) = (\frac{2}{3}, \frac{104}{459})$$

- Possible minimal polynomials:

$$y = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{3316}{5049}x - \frac{1141}{10098}x^2 + \frac{718}{1683}x^3$$

$$y = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{124}{561}x - \frac{83}{374}x^2 - \frac{73}{187}x^3$$

$$y = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{812}{459}x - \frac{359}{918}x^2 + \frac{278}{153}x^3$$

$$y = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{4}{3}x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + x^3$$

$$y = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{7}{51}x - \frac{24}{17}x^2 + \frac{41}{34}x^3$$

$$y = \frac{10}{17} + \frac{137}{459}x - \frac{698}{459}x^2 + \frac{7}{18}x^3$$

$$y = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{701}{561}x - \frac{316}{187}x^2 + \frac{971}{374}x^3$$

$$y = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{4109}{5049}x - \frac{9082}{5049}x^2 + \frac{5989}{3366}x^3$$

So the minimal polynomial of  $\zeta$  is  $M_\zeta(x) = \frac{10}{17} - \frac{4}{3}x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + x^3$ .

# Thanks

Questions?

eerrthum@winona.edu