

# So what is a Shimura Curve?

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## **Abstract**

Shimura varieties are one of the objects needed to realize the ambitious Langlands' correspondence. They are infamous for being rather technical. Historically, their one dimensional avatar, called Shimura curves, were studied first, in the context of class field theory. In this talk, we will build up to a working definition of what a Shimura curve is, using classical modular curves as our Ariadne's Thread.

Motivation : Class field theory  
 Construction of class fields of totally real number fields

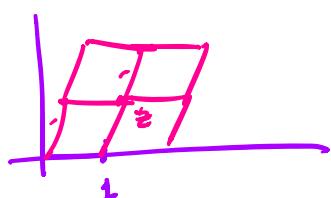
H. Paster Shimura curve & ABC conj

### Review of Modular Curves

$\Gamma(1) := SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  acts on  $\mathcal{H} = SL_2(\mathbb{R}) / SO(2)$   
 via Möbius Transformations ; i.e. given  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = \gamma \in \Gamma(1)$ ,

$$z \mapsto \gamma \cdot z = \frac{az + b}{cz + d}$$

For  $z \in \mathcal{H}$ , we have  $\Delta_z = \langle 1, z \rangle_{\mathbb{Z}}$



$1, z$  = fundamental periods

elliptic curve  $E_z = \mathbb{C}/\Delta_z$

$E_z \cong E_{z'} \iff z$  and  $z'$  lie in the same  $\Gamma(1)$ -orbit.

$$\{ \alpha \in \mathbb{C} \mid \alpha \cdot \Lambda_z = \Lambda_z \} \geq \text{ind}(E_z) \stackrel{\cong}{\sim} \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} \\ \text{CM} \end{cases} \quad \left[ G \subset \frac{\mathbb{Q}(\tau)}{\mathbb{Q}} \right]$$

$\curvearrowleft$   
deg 2 field

Prop 1  $\{E/\mathbb{C}\}_{\mathcal{H}} \longleftrightarrow \Gamma(1) \backslash \mathcal{H}$

$\Omega$   
 $\Omega^{\text{keyhole}}$

Keyhole region

Notation  $\Gamma = \text{congruence subgroup of } SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$

$$\gamma(\Gamma) := \Gamma \backslash \mathcal{H} \quad \mathcal{H}^* := \mathcal{H} \cup \mathbb{Q} \cup \{\infty\}$$

$$X(\Gamma) := \Gamma \backslash \mathcal{H}^* = \gamma(\Gamma) \cup \Gamma \backslash (\mathbb{Q} \cup \{\infty\})$$

$$X(1) = X(\Gamma(1)) = SL_2(\mathbb{Z}) \backslash \mathcal{H} \cup \{\infty\}$$

Prop 2 (i)  $X(1)$  is the coarse moduli space of  $E/\mathbb{C}$

(ii)  $X(1) \cong \mathbb{P}_\mathbb{C}^1$  via the j-invariant

$$\Delta^\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_\mathbb{C}^1$$

congruence subgps	classical Modular Curves	coarse moduli spaces of opn ell.curves with TORSION DATA
$\Gamma(1) = \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$	$\Gamma(1) \cong \mathbb{P}^1$	$\{E/\mathbb{C}\}$
$\Gamma_0(N) = \begin{bmatrix} * & * \\ 0 & *\end{bmatrix} \text{ mod } N$	$\Gamma_0(N)$	$\{E/\mathbb{C} \text{ w/ a } \mathbb{Z}/\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{N\mathbb{Z}} \text{ subgp}\}$
$\Gamma_1(N) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & * \\ 0 & 1\end{bmatrix} \text{ mod } N$	$\Gamma_1(N)$	$\{E/\mathbb{C} \text{ w/ a pt of order } N\}$
$\Gamma(N) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1\end{bmatrix} \text{ mod } N$	$\Gamma(N)$	$\{E/\mathbb{C} \text{ w/ basis of } N\text{-torsion pts}$ $\text{with fixed Weil pairing}\}$

Rank 2 Function field of  $X_0(N)$  is  $\mathbb{Q}(j(\tau), j(N\tau))$

for some  $\tau \in \mathbb{C}$

$$\Rightarrow \exists p(x, y) \in \mathbb{Q}[x, y] \text{ s.t. } p(j(\tau), j(N\tau)) = 0$$

$$\text{in fact } p(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$$

Used to show  $E \text{ w/ CM by } b_\tau \Rightarrow j(E)$  is an alg integer

Recall: Hilbert class field = max'l unramified abelian extn of field  $K$

Fact  $\text{Gal}(H/K) \cong \text{Cl}(K)$  ideal class gp  
 $\Rightarrow [H:K] = h_K$

- Thm 1 i)  $j(E)$  is an algebraic integer  
ii)  $\deg(j(E)) = h(\tau) = \#\text{Cl}(\mathbb{Q}(\tau))$   
iii)  $H_K$  obtained by adjoining  $j(E)$  to  $K$ .  
iv) Max'l ab extn of  $\mathbb{Q}(\tau)$  obtained by adjoining  
 $j(E)$  and  $x$ -coords of torsion pts of  $E/K$   
v)  $\text{Gal}(H/K)$  action of  $j(E)$  described explicitly.

## II Groups & Algebras

Dfn 1 Groups  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are **commensurable** if  $\exists$  gp's  
of finite index  $H_1 \subset G_1$ ,  $H_2 \subset G_2$  s.t.  $H_1 \cong H_2$ .

Dfn 2 Let  $G(\mathbb{Q}) \subseteq GL_n(\mathbb{Q})$  be an algebraic gp over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

$\text{sgp } \Gamma_0 \subseteq G(\mathbb{Q})$  is **arithmetic** if  $\Gamma_0$  cns w/  $G(\mathbb{Z})$ .

Dfn 3  $\text{sgp } \Gamma \subseteq SL_2(\mathbb{R})$  is **cocompact** if  $\exists \mathbb{R}$ -alg gp  $G$

and gp epi  $\varphi : G(\mathbb{R}) \longrightarrow SL_2(\mathbb{R})$  w/ cpt Ker( $\varphi$ )

$$G(\mathbb{Q}) \ni \Gamma_0 \longmapsto \Gamma = \varphi(\Gamma_0)$$

arithmetic  
s.g.p

If we set  $G_i = SL_2(\cdot)$

then congruent s.gps  $\Gamma(i) = SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$   
are arithmetic s.gps

Problem Want coopt arithmetic sgps

solution Pick different  $\mathbb{Q}$ -alg to  
s.t.  $G_i(\mathbb{R}) = SL_2(\mathbb{R})$

candidate Quaternion alg over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Hm 3 Given  $F$   $\text{char } F \neq 2$ . Quaternion alg.

$\left( \frac{a, b}{F} \right)$  is an  $F$ -alg by a basis  $\{1, i, j, ij\}$

s.t.  $i^2 = a$  e.g.  $\left( \frac{-1, -1}{\mathbb{R}} \right)$

$$j^2 = b$$

$$ij = -ji$$

Prop 3 Let  $B$  be a quaternion  $\mathbb{Q}$ -alg. Then

$B_p := B \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}_p$  has 2 possible structures:-

i) Ramified  $B_p$  is a division alg.

ii) split  $B_p \cong M_2(\mathbb{Q}_p)$

$$\mathbb{Q}_{\infty} = \mathbb{R}$$

### III Shimura Curves

Let  $B$  = quaternion  $\mathbb{Q}$ -alg split at  $\infty = B_{\infty}$

$M_2$  =  $2 \times 2$  matrices

$$SL_2(\mathbb{Z}) \subset M_2(\mathbb{Z}) \subset M_2(\mathbb{Q})$$

$$G_1^{\times} \subset G \subset B$$

norm units              max'l order

$$\text{where } G_1^{\times}(\mathbb{R}) = SL_2(\mathbb{R})$$

For  $\alpha \in SL_2(\mathbb{R})$  w/ char eqn  $\lambda^2 - \text{tr}(\alpha)\lambda + 1 = 0$   
 $\alpha$  is parabolic when  $|\text{tr}(\alpha)| = 2 \Rightarrow \text{tr}(\alpha) \in \{\pm 1\}$

Fact  $G_1^{\times}$  has no parabolic elts

$$\Rightarrow G_1^{\times} \backslash H \text{ is compact.}$$

$\mathcal{O}_{\text{fin}} \rtimes \chi(1) := \mathcal{O}_1^\times \backslash \mathcal{H}$  is called a Shimura curve

Theorem 2  $\chi(1)$  is a coarse moduli sp of pair

$(X, \tau)$        $X = ab$  surface

$\tau: \mathcal{O} \hookrightarrow \text{End}(X)$

Totally real number field  $F$  s.t.  $[F:\mathbb{Q}] = n$

$B =$  quaternion alg over  $F$  split at exactly 1  $\mathbb{R}$  place

$\mathcal{O}_1^\times$  is a coopt arithmetic s.gp of  $SL_2(\mathbb{R})$

$\mathcal{O}_1$

$\mathcal{O}$  max'l order

$\mathcal{O}_1$

$B$

$\chi(1) = \mathcal{O}_1^\times \backslash \mathcal{H}$  Shimura curve

= moduli sp of ab vars of dim  $2n$  equipped w/  $\mathcal{O}$ -actions

Theorem 3 (Shimura) Let  $M$  be a totally imaginary extn of  $F$ , isomorphic to a quadratic subfield of  $B$  over  $F$ .

Let  $C_F = \text{max'l ab. extn of } F \text{ unramified at all the finite primes}$

$[\varphi : X^{(1)} \longrightarrow \underline{V}] = \text{canonical model of } X^{(1)}$   
 $\text{complete alg curve } / C_F$

Then  $H_M$  is obtained from  $C_F \cdot M$  by adjoining  $\varphi(z)$ , where  $z = \frac{\text{regular fixed pt of } M \text{ on } H}{\text{right analogue of } j(E)}$

Action of  $\text{Gal}(H/M)$  can be described explicitly using Shimura reciprocity law.

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