### Wild conductor exponents of trigonal and tetragonal curves

Harry Spencer

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31 July 2024

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$$n_C = \prod_{\mathsf{bad } p} p^{n_{C,p}}$$

where  $n_{C,p}$  is the local conductor exponent at p, an invariant of  $C/\mathbb{Q}_p$ .

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We further write

$$n_{C,p} = n_{C,p,\mathsf{tame}} + n_{C,p,\mathsf{wild}}.$$

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#### Remark

The tame conductor exponent,  $n_{C,p,\text{tame}}$ , can be computed from a regular model of  $C/\mathbb{Q}_p$ .

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Definition

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Definition

$$n_{C,p, \mathsf{wild}} = \int_0^\infty \mathsf{codim}(J_C[\ell]^{G^u}) \mathsf{d} u,$$

where  $G = \operatorname{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}_p(J_C[\ell])/\mathbb{Q}_p).$ 

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We can provably (and practically) compute  $n_{C,p,wild}$  in the following cases:

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Today: C: f(x,y) = 0 smooth away from infinity with  $\deg_x f \in \{3,4\}$ , p > 3.

#### Trigonal curves

### The degree 3 case

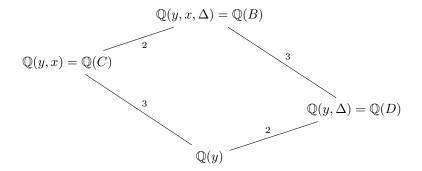
Fix a curve C: f(x,y) = 0 with  $\deg_x f = 3$ 

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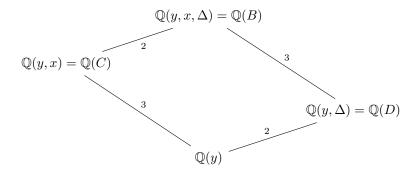


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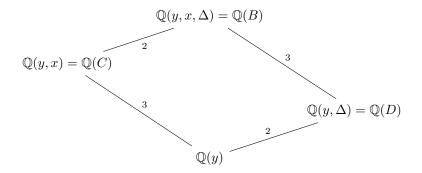
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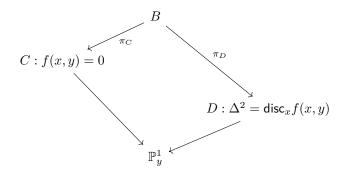
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Where  $\Delta^2 = \operatorname{disc}_x f(x, y)$ . Note that the genus of D is at most g(C) + 1, and that this bound is sharp when the cover  $C \to \mathbb{P}^1$  is simply ramified.

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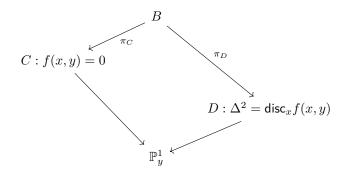
Write  $\tau$  for a generator of  $Gal(\mathbb{Q}(y, x, \Delta)/\mathbb{Q}(y, \Delta))$ .



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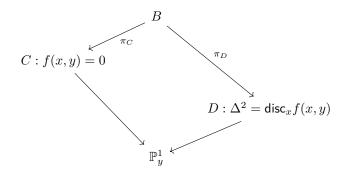
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#### Theorem

The map  $\pi_C^* - \tau \circ \pi_C^* : J_C[3] \to J_B[3]$  is surjective (or injective) onto  $\pi_D^*(J_D[3])$ .

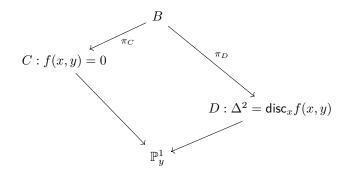
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This comes from studying the kernel of the isogeny

 $\phi: J_C \times J_C \times J_D \to J_B$ 

given by  $(P, Q, R) \mapsto \pi^*_C(P) + \tau(\pi^*_C(Q)) + \pi^*_D(R).$ 

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Corollary

If  $g(D) \ge g(C) - 1$ , then  $n_{C,p,\text{wild}} = n_{D,p,\text{wild}}$  for p > 3.

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#### Theorem (Dokchitser<sup>2</sup>–Maistret–Morgan)

The wild conductor exponent at  $p \neq 2$  of the hyperelliptic curve  $H/\mathbb{Q}$ :  $s^2 = g(t)$ , with g square-free, is

$$n_{H,p,\textit{wild}} = \sum_{r \in R/G_{\mathbb{Q}_p}} v_p(\Delta_{\mathbb{Q}_p(r)/\mathbb{Q}_p}) - [\mathbb{Q}_p(r) : \mathbb{Q}_p] + f_{\mathbb{Q}_p(r)/\mathbb{Q}_p},$$

where R is the set of roots of g over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p$ .

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Let  $C/\mathbb{Q}$  : f(x,y) = 0 with  $\deg_x f = 3$  be smooth away from infinity.

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### Sketch of proof.

We can perturb the defining equation of C to obtain C': f'(x,y) = 0 with  $\operatorname{disc}_x f'(x,y)$  square-free.

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### Example

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### Example

Consider the curve

$$C: \quad f(x,y) = x^3 + 5xy + y^4 + 125 = 0.$$

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$$n_{C,5,\text{wild}} = 7 - 5 + 1 = 3.$$

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## The degree 4 case

Fix  $C/\mathbb{Q}$ : f(x,y) = 0 with  $\deg_x f = 4$ , such that  $f(x,y) \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}}(y)[x]$  has Galois group  $S_4$ .

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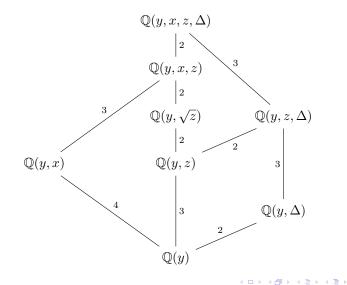
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As before  $D: \Delta^2 = \operatorname{disc}_x f(x, y)$ .

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#### Tetragonal curves

## The $S_4$ -diagram



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Let  $C/\mathbb{Q}: f(x,y)=0$  with  $\deg_x f=4$  be smooth away from infinity. For p>3 we have

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Note that this relation on 2-torsion comes from an isogeny  $J_C \times J_R \to J_A$ ,

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Note that this relation on 2-torsion comes from an isogeny  $J_C \times J_R \to J_A$ , where A is the curve corresponding to  $\mathbb{Q}(y, \sqrt{z})$ .

Example

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### Example

Recall the curve

Harry Spencer

$$C: \quad f(x,y) = x^3 + 5xy + y^4 + 125 = 0$$

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Wild conductor exponents	31/7/24	13 / 14

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Harry Spence

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Harry	y Spencer

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### Example

### Consider the genus 8 curve

$$C: f(x,y) = x^4 + 7x^2y^3 + 49xy^5 + 7y + 1 = 0.$$

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for R the roots of  $\operatorname{disc}_x f(x, y)$  if p > m?

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