

# **The elliptic curve database to 130000**

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University of Nottingham, UK

ANTS 7: Berlin, 26 July 2006

# Plan of the talk

- Background and history
- Algorithms and Implementation
- Summary of data and highlights of results  
(including a new result concerning the Manin Constant)

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## Background and history

### The Antwerp tables

“Antwerp IV” := *Modular function of One Variable IV*, edited by Birch and Kuyk, Proceedings of an International Summer School in Antwerp, July 17 - August 3, 1972. See <http://modular.math.washington.edu/scans/antwerp/>.



## The tables in Antwerp IV

1. “All” elliptic curves of conductor  $N \leq 200$ , together with most ranks and generators, arranged in isogeny classes. [See below]
2. Generators for the (rank 1) curves in Table 1. [Stephens, Davenport]
3. Hecke eigenvalues for  $p < 100$  for the associated newforms. [Vélu, Stephens, Tingley]
4. All elliptic curves of conductor  $N = 2^a 3^b$ . [Coghlan]
5. Dimensions of spaces of newforms for  $\Gamma_0(N)$  for  $N \leq 300$ . [Atkin, Tingley]
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- Higher degree isogenies checked using Vélú’s method; some curves added.
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- List complete for certain  $N$ , such as  $N = 2^a 3^b$ .
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# Algorithms and Implementation

## Overview

- Use modular symbols modulo  $N$
- Find newforms for  $\Gamma_0(N)$  with Hecke eigenvalues
- Compute their periods and hence the associated elliptic curves
- Use any available method to find Mordell-Weil groups, isogenous curves, etc.

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## Finding the newforms at level $N$

- Compute space of  $\Gamma_0(N)$ -modular symbols [fast]
- Compute action of the Hecke algebra on it [quite fast]
- Find one-dimensional rational eigenspaces: each corresponds to a rational newform  $f$  [slow for large levels]

This step requires much RAM and is currently the main obstruction to extending the tables, despite the use of sparse algorithms for linear algebra.

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## Finding the curves from the newforms

- Compute many Hecke eigenvalues (= Fourier coefficients of  $f$ )
- Compute homology information from modular symbols
- Integrate  $2\pi i f(z) dz$  along appropriate paths in upper half-plane
- Obtain the periods of  $f$ , and hence of associated elliptic curve  $E$  of conductor  $N$  and  $L$ -series  $L(E, s) = L(f, s)$ ; finite precision!
- Compute coefficients of  $E$  (approximately, but they are integers).

For levels around 130000 we may need up to 3500 Hecke eigenvalues.  
Memory requirements and time to compute periods are negligible.

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- Generators found by search, 2- and 4-descent, Heegner points, plus saturation.
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All this is automated, but hard cases need human intervention!

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1990s++: Rewritten in C++, using various libraries (Shoup's NTL, Buchmann's LiDIA, `gmp`, `pari/gp`).

Many algorithmic improvements developed in collaboration with William Stein.

Most important single programming improvement: use of sparse matrices.

Example: Stein–Watkins (ANTS V, 2002) gave an example of a curve of rank 2, rational 5-torsion, conductor 13881, then “beyond the range of Cremona’s tables”. Computing the four curves (up to isogeny) with  $N = 13881$  now takes less than 2 minutes and 60MB of RAM.

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Until 2005: between 0 and 3 shared machines.

Since spring 2005: availability of a 1024-processor cluster in Nottingham!

- Up to 250 processors simultaneously, handling hundred levels or more at a time.
- Processors in 512 nodes, each a V20z dual opteron with 2GB of RAM.
- Some hard levels run separately on a machine with 8GB of RAM.
- Levels 30000–130000 in only nine months!

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## Milestones: pre-2005

Date	Conductor reached
Mar 2001	10000
Oct 2002	15000
Apr 2003	20000
Jun 2004	25000
Feb 2005	30000

## Milestones in 2005

Date	Conductor reached
22 Apr 2005	40000
27 May 2005	50000
9 Jun 2005	60000
20 Jun 2005	70000
14 Jul 2005	80000
26 Aug 2005	90000
31 Aug 2005	100000
18 Sep 2005	120000
3 Nov 2005	130000

## A typical log file (node 26)

```
running nfhpcurve on level 120026 at Fri Sep 23 18:26:48 BST 2005
running nfhpcurve on level 120197 at Fri Sep 23 20:12:31 BST 2005
running nfhpcurve on level 120224 at Fri Sep 23 20:58:18 BST 2005
running nfhpcurve on level 120312 at Fri Sep 23 23:35:19 BST 2005
running nfhpcurve on level 120431 at Sat Sep 24 04:19:54 BST 2005
running nfhpcurve on level 120568 at Sat Sep 24 10:42:18 BST 2005
running nfhpcurve on level 120631 at Sat Sep 24 13:56:49 BST 2005
running nfhpcurve on level 120646 at Sat Sep 24 14:48:21 BST 2005
running nfhpcurve on level 120679 at Sat Sep 24 15:59:54 BST 2005
running nfhpcurve on level 120717 at Sat Sep 24 18:11:20 BST 2005
running nfhpcurve on level 120738 at Sat Sep 24 19:13:11 BST 2005
running nfhpcurve on level 120875 at Sun Sep 25 02:20:27 BST 2005
running nfhpcurve on level 120876 at Sun Sep 25 02:20:28 BST 2005
running nfhpcurve on level 120918 at Sun Sep 25 04:58:32 BST 2005
running nfhpcurve on level 120978 at Sun Sep 25 08:08:00 BST 2005
```

## Summary of data and highlights of results

### Availability of the data

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Full raw data for conductors to 130000 is available from <http://www.maths.nott.ac.uk/personal/jec/ftp/data/> with a mirror at <http://modular.math.washington.edu/cremona/INDEX.html>.

Typeset versions (similar to the book) are in preparation.

There are now several other ways of accessing and using the data. . .

- A web-based interface by Gonzalo Tornaria is at <http://www.math.utexas.edu/users/tornaria/cnt/cremona.html>, covering  $N < 100000$ . This provides an attractive interactive interface to the data; as a bonus, information on quadratic twists is included.

## Summary of data and highlights of results

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- The free open-source number theory package `pari/gp` (see <http://pari.math.u-bordeaux.fr/>) makes the full elliptic curve database available (though not installed by default), thanks to Bill Allombert. For example:

```
(12:05) gp > ellsearch(5077)
%1 = [["5077a1", [0, 0, 1, -7, 6], [[-2, 3], [-1, 3], [0, 2]]]]
(12:05) gp > ellinit("5077a1")
%2 = [0, 0, 1, -7, 6, 0, -14, 25, -49, 336, -5400, 5077, ...
(12:05) gp > ellidentify(ellinit([1,2,3,4,5]))
%3 = [["10351a1", [1, -1, 0, 4, 3], [[2, 3]]], [1, -1, 0, -1]]
```

The output of `ellsearch` contains all matching curves with their generators, while `ellidentify` locates a curve in the database.

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- William Stein's free open-source package SAGE (Software for Algebra and Geometry Experimentation, see <http://sage.scipy.org/sage>) also has all our data available and many ways of working with it, including a transparent interface to many other pieces of elliptic curve (and other) software. For example:

```
sage: E = EllipticCurve("389a"); E
Elliptic Curve defined by  $y^2 + y = x^3 + x^2 - 2x$  over Rational Field
sage: E.rank()
2
sage: E.gens() # Cremona's mwrank
[(-1 : 1 : 1), (0 : 0 : 1)]
sage: L = E.Lseries_dokchitser(); L(1+I) # Tim Dokchitser's program
-0.63840993858803874 + 0.71549523920466740*I
sage: E.Lseries_zeros(4) # Mike Rubinstein's program
[0.000000000000, 0.000000000000, 2.8760990715, 4.4168960843]
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```

- MAGMA (see <http://magma.maths.usyd.edu.au/magma/>) has the database for conductors up to 130000 (as of version 2.13-1, released 14 July 2006); and also (optionally) the Stein–Watkins database:

```
> CDB:=CremonaDatabase(); NumberOfCurves(CDB);  
845960  
> LargestConductor(CDB);  
130000  
> E:=EllipticCurve(CDB,"389a1"); Rank(E);  
2  
> SWDB:=SteinWatkinsDatabase(); NumberOfCurves(SWDB);  
136924520  
> LargestConductor(SWDB);  
99999999
```

## Counting curves: isogeny classes

range of $N$	#	$r = 0$	$r = 1$	$r = 2$	$r = 3$
0-9999	38042	16450	19622	1969	1
10000-19999	43175	17101	22576	3490	8
20000-29999	44141	17329	22601	4183	28
30000-39999	44324	16980	22789	4517	38
40000-49999	44519	16912	22826	4727	54
50000-59999	44301	16728	22400	5126	47
60000-69999	44361	16568	22558	5147	88
70000-79999	44449	16717	22247	5400	85
80000-89999	44861	17052	22341	5369	99
90000-99999	43651	16370	21756	5442	83
100000-109999	44274	16599	22165	5369	141
110000-119999	44071	16307	22173	5453	138
120000-129999	44655	16288	22621	5648	98
0-129999	568824	217401	288675	61840	908

## Counting curves: isomorphism classes

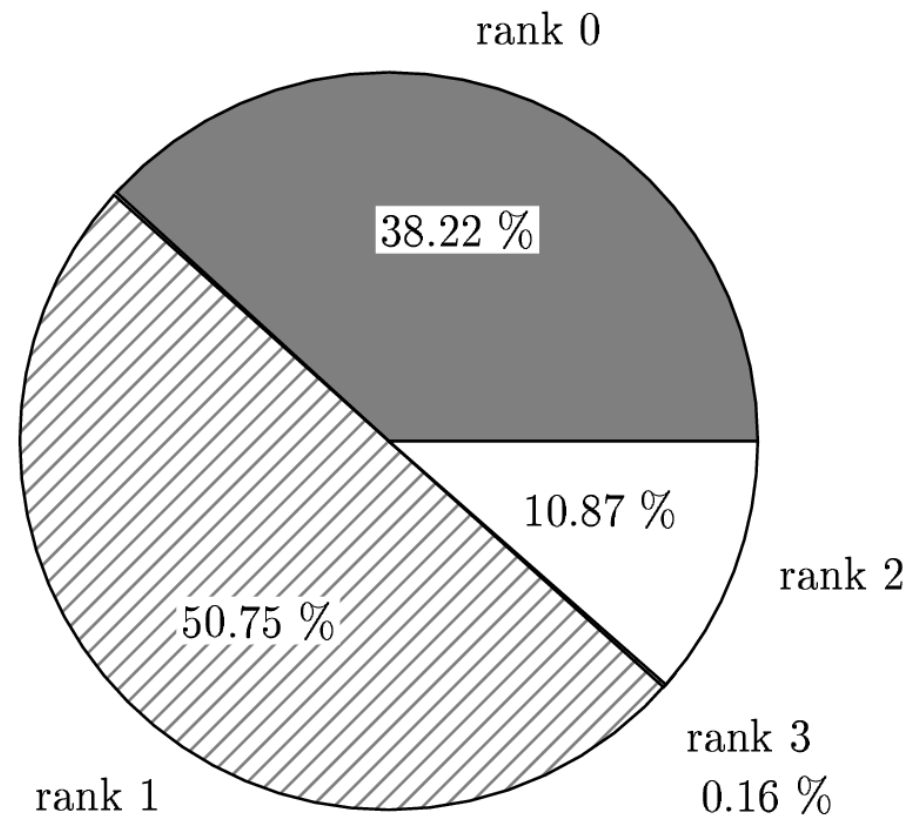
range of $N$	# isogeny classes	# isomorphism classes
0-9999	38042	64687
10000-19999	43175	67848
20000-29999	44141	66995
30000-39999	44324	66561
40000-49999	44519	66275
50000-59999	44301	65393
60000-69999	44361	65209
70000-79999	44449	64687
80000-89999	44861	64864
90000-99999	43651	63287
100000-109999	44274	63410
110000-119999	44071	63277
120000-129999	44655	63467
0-129999	568824	845960

## Distribution of isogeny class sizes and degrees

$D$	Size	# classes	%
1	1	372191	65.43
2	2	123275	21.67
3	2	31372	5.52
4	4	27767	4.88
5	2	2925	0.51
6	4	3875	0.68
7	2	808	0.14
8	6	2388	0.42
9	3	2709	0.48
10	4	271	0.05
11	2	60	0.01
12	8	286	0.05
13	2	130	0.02

$D$	Size	# classes	%
14	4	28	< 0.01
15	4	58	0.01
16	8	270	0.05
17	2	8	< 0.01
18	6	162	0.03
19	2	12	< 0.01
21	4	30	0.01
25	3	134	0.02
27	4	33	0.01
37	2	20	< 0.01
43	2	7	< 0.01
67	2	4	< 0.01
163	2	1	< 0.01

## Mordell-Weil groups I: Distribution of ranks



## Mordell-Weil groups: higher ranks?

All curves with conductor  $< 130000$  have rank  $\leq 3$ . The smallest known conductor of a rank 4 curve is  $N = 234446$ .

In fact there are three curves with conductor 234446:

234446	a	1	$[1, 1, 0, -696, 6784]$	3	1
234446	b	1	$[1, -1, 0, -79, 289]$	4	1
234446	c	1	$[1, 1, 1, -949, -7845]$	3	1

The other two both have rank 3! Data in the Stein–Watkins database shows that no curve with prime conductor less than 234446 has rank 4, but it is possible that a rank 4 curve with smaller composite conductor does exist. One way of answering this question would be to extend the database to fill in the range  $130000 < N < 234446$ .

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## Mordell-Weil groups II: distribution of torsion structures

Structure	# curves	%
$C_1$	432622	51.14
$C_2$	344010	40.67
$C_3$	18512	2.19
$C_4$	12832	1.52
$C_2 \times C_2$	33070	3.91
$C_5$	698	0.08
$C_6$	3155	0.37
$C_7$	50	< 0.01
$C_8$	101	0.01
$C_2 \times C_4$	793	0.09
$C_9$	16	< 0.01
$C_{10}$	28	< 0.01
$C_{12}$	11	< 0.01
$C_2 \times C_6$	58	< 0.01
$C_2 \times C_8$	4	< 0.01

Order parity	# curves	%
Odd	451898	53.42
Even	394062	46.58
All	845960	100.00

## Mordell-Weil groups III: largest generator

Curve 108174c2:  $[1, 1, 0, -330505909530535, -2312687660697986706251]$  has a generator of canonical height 1193.35:  $(a/c^2, b/c^3)$  where

$a = -13632833703140681033503023679128670529558218420063432397971439281876168936925608099278686103768271165751$

$437633556213041024136275990157472508801182302454436678900455860307034813576105868447511602833327656978462$

$242557413116494486538310447476190358439933060717111176029723557330999410077664104893597013481236052075987$

$42554713521099294186837422237009896297109549762937178684101535289410605736729335307780613198224770325365111$

$296070756137349249522158278253743039282375024853516001988744749085116423499171358836518920399114139315005$

$C = 113966855669333292896328833690552943933212422262287285858336471843279644076647486592460242089049033370292$

$485250756121056680073078113806049657487759641390843477809887412203584409641844116068236428572188929747$

$7694986150009319617653662693006650248126059704441347$

## Finding large generators

How is such a large rational point found? When the rank is 1, it is as easy (and quick) as this (using MAGMA's Heegner Point package, implemented by Mark Watkins):

```
> E:=EllipticCurve([1,1,0,-330505909530535,-2312687660697986706251]);  
> time HeegnerPoint(E);
```

```
true (-13632833.../12988444... : 77684538.../14802521... : 1)  
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## Nontrivial (analytic) orders of $\text{III}$

$\sqrt{ \text{III} }$	#
$2^2$	37074
$3^2$	11512
$4^2$	4013
$5^2$	1954
$6^2$	426
$7^2$	468
$8^2$	250
$9^2$	85
$10^2$	52
$11^2$	73
$12^2$	20
$13^2$	19
$14^2$	9

$\sqrt{ \text{III} }$	#
$15^2$	2
$16^2$	6
$17^2$	4
$19^2$	2
$20^2$	3
$21^2$	2
$23^2$	4
$26^2$	1
all $> 1$	55979

## The Manin Constant

The Manin constant for an elliptic curve  $E$  of conductor  $N$  is the rational number  $c$  such that

$$\varphi^*(\omega_E) = c(2\pi i f(z) dz),$$

where  $\omega_E$  is a Néron differential on  $E$ ,  $f$  is the normalized newform for  $\Gamma_0(N)$  associated to  $E$ , and  $\varphi : X_0(N) \rightarrow E$  is the modular parametrization.

A long-standing conjecture is that  $c = 1$  for all elliptic curves over  $\mathbb{Q}$  which are optimal  $J_0(N)$ -quotients (“strong Weil curves”). It is known by work of Edixhoven and others that  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$ , and there are many results restricting the primes which may divide  $c$ .

In a recent paper by Agashe, Ribet and Stein these conditions have been strengthened considerably. In an appendix to that paper, there is an account of numerical verifications I have carried out which establish the conjecture for **all** the curves in the tables.



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## The Manin Constant: a new Theorem

**Theorem.** *For all  $N \leq 130000$ , every optimal elliptic quotient of  $J_0(N)$  has Manin constant equal to 1.*

*Moreover, for  $N < 60000$  the optimal curve in each class is the one whose identifying number in the tables is 1 (except for class 990h where the optimal curve is 990h3).*

The second part of the Theorem for all  $N < 130000$  would follow from Stevens' conjecture that in each isogeny class the curve with minimal Faltings height is the optimal  $\Gamma_1(N)$ -quotient: this can be verified in each case using Mark Watkins's program ec.

Verifying the second part for all  $N < 130000$  would require more computations with modular symbols; see

A. Agashe, K. A. Ribet and W. A. Stein, *The Manin Constant*, JPAM Coates Volume, <http://modular.math.washington.edu/papers/ars-manin/> (2006).

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