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How many rational points can a curve have?*

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*title borrowed from Caporaso–Harris–Mazur 1995

The Basic Trichotomy

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- $g \geq 2$: $C(K)$ is finite (Faltings (1983), conjectured by Mordell (1922)).

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Stoll (2008): $B(2, 1) \geq 642$

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A generalization of Faltings's theorem:

($\star$) If $\Gamma \subset J(\mathbb{C})$ is of **finite rank**^{*}, then $\text{im}(i) \cap \Gamma$ is **finite**.

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So $\text{Weil} + (\star) \implies \#C(K) < \infty$.

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For $g \geq 2$, there are $c_1(g), c_2(g) > 0$ such that $\#(\text{im}(i) \cap \Gamma) \leq c_1(g) \cdot c_2(g)^{\text{rk } \Gamma}$
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Note that $c_2(g) \rightarrow 1$ as $g \rightarrow \infty$; this was expected.

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Assuming that $\text{rk } A(\mathbb{Q}) \leq B'(g)$

for all abelian varieties A of dimension g over $\mathbb{Q}$,

we obtain the uniform bound $\#C(K) \leq c_1(g) \cdot c_2(g)^{B'(g[K:\mathbb{Q}])}$.

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Considerations based on conjectures around **unlikely intersections** suggest that perhaps $\#C(K) \ll g + \text{rk } J(K)$.

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The constants involved are **explicit**, and **small** (< 100) for $K = \mathbb{Q}$.

Note, however, that these results are **not uniform in K** .

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These densities should in fact be zero.

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(A abelian variety over $\mathbb{Q}$.) This is ≥ 29 (Elkies–Klagsbrun).
- What can we say about $\limsup_{g(C) \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\#C(\mathbb{Q})}{g(C)}$ and/or $\sup_C \frac{\#C(\mathbb{Q})}{g(C)}$?*
(C nice curve over $\mathbb{Q}$ with $g(C) \geq 2$.)
They are ≥ 8 and ≥ 321 , respectively.

*this was already considered by Caporaso, Harris and Mazur (1995)

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- The explicit bounds we now have are still much larger than what we expect to be true.
- There are better bounds that apply in restricted settings.
- A very interesting (but certainly extremely hard) question is whether certain quantities ($\text{rk } A(\mathbb{Q})$, $\#C(\mathbb{Q})$) grow linearly or superlinearly with the dimension/genus.

Thank You!