

# Polarisations of abelian varieties

## over finite fields via canonical liftings

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Definition An **abelian variety** is a non-singular connected projective group variety.

e.g. an elliptic curve

Definition The dual variety  $A^\vee$  of an abelian variety  $A$  over  $K$  is such that  $A^\vee(\bar{K}) = \text{Pic}^0(A_{\bar{K}})$ . any field

e.g. for an elliptic curve  $E$ ,  $E^\vee \cong E$ .

Definition A **polarisation** of an abelian variety  $A$  is an isogeny  $\mu: A \rightarrow A^\vee$  such that there exists an ample line bundle  $L$  on  $A_{\bar{K}}$  such that  $\mu_{\bar{K}} = \varphi_{\bar{K}}$ , where  $\varphi_{\bar{K}}: A_{\bar{K}} \rightarrow A_{\bar{K}}^\vee$

$$x \mapsto [t_x^* L \otimes L^{-1}]$$

$\Rightarrow$  so  $\{\text{polarisations of } A\} \subseteq \text{Hom}(A, A^\vee)$

**Goal**

Describe and compute polarisations of AV's when  $K = \mathbb{F}_q$

## § Preliminaries: Complex Multiplication

Definition A CM-field  $L/\mathbb{Q}$  is such that

It has a canonical involution  $x \mapsto \bar{x}$ .

A CM-algebra is a finite product  
of CM-fields.

$\deg 2$	$L$	
	$ $	tot. imaginary
	$L$	
$\deg g$	$ $	totally real

$\mathbb{Q}$

Definition An abelian variety  $A$  over  $K$  of dimension  $g$   
has CM (by  $L$ ) if  $L \subseteq \text{End}^{\circ}(A) := \text{End}(A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ .

Fact Every abelian variety over a finite field has CM.

Definition A CM-type for  $L$  is a subset  $\overline{\Phi} \subseteq \text{Hom}(L, \overline{\mathbb{Q}})$   
such that  $\text{Hom}(L, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}) = \overline{\Phi} \sqcup \overline{\overline{\Phi}}$ .

We often say an abelian variety "has CM by  $(L, \overline{\Phi})$ ".

## § Polarisations in characteristic zero

Consider an abelian variety  $A$  over  $\mathbb{C}$  of dimension  $g$ .

Complex uniformisation:  $A(\mathbb{C}) \simeq \mathbb{C}^g / \Lambda$ ,  $\Lambda \simeq \mathbb{Z}^{2g}$

When  $A$  has CM by  $(L, \overline{\Phi})$ , we can say more:

$\exists$  fractional ideal  $I$  in  $L$  s.t.  $A(\mathbb{C}) \simeq \mathbb{C}^g / \overline{\Phi}(I)$

Then also  $A^\vee(\mathbb{C}) \simeq \mathbb{C}^g / \overline{\Phi}(\bar{I}^t)$  (  $\begin{matrix} \bar{I}^t \\ I^t \end{matrix} \xrightarrow{\text{involution}} \xrightarrow{\text{trace dual}}$  )

and hence  $\text{Hom}_L(A, A^\vee) \xleftrightarrow{\sim} (\bar{I}^t : I) = \{x \in L : xI \subseteq \bar{I}^t\}$

Recall:  $\{\text{polarisations of } A\} \subseteq \text{Hom}(A, A^\vee)$

Definition /  
construction

Let  $A$  be a  $g$ -dimensional abelian variety  
over a **p-adic field**  $K$  and with CM by  $(L, \overline{\Phi})$ .

Form  $A_C = A \otimes \mathbb{C}$ ; then  $A_C(\mathbb{C}) \simeq \mathbb{C}^g / \overline{\Phi}(I)$ .  
write  $\mathfrak{fle}(A) := I$ .

Then  $\mathfrak{fle}(A^\vee) = \bar{I}^t$  and

$$\mathfrak{fle}(\text{Hom}(A, A^\vee)) = \text{Hom}_L(\mathfrak{fle}(A), \mathfrak{fle}(A^\vee)) = (\bar{I}^t : I).$$

(Well-defined up to  $L$ -isomorphism;  
we are free to choose an embedding into  $L$ )

## § Polarisations in characteristic zero

Have  $\text{fl}(A) = I$  and  $\text{fl}(\text{Hom}(A, A^\vee)) = (\bar{I}^t : I)$ .

Proposition Let  $A$  be a  $g$ -dimensional abelian variety over a  $p$ -adic field  $K$  and with CM by  $(L, \mathbb{D})$ .

An  $L$ -linear isogeny  $\mu: A \rightarrow A^\vee \in \text{Hom}(A, A^\vee)$  is a polarisation if and only if:

- $\text{fl}(\mu) = \lambda \in L$  is totally imaginary ( $\bar{\lambda} = -\lambda$ )
- $\lambda$  is  $\mathbb{D}$ -positive ( $\text{Im}(\varphi(\lambda)) > 0 \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathbb{D}$ )

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Hom}(A, A^\vee) \xrightarrow{\text{fl}} \\ \downarrow \\ (\bar{I}^t : I) \end{array}$$

## § (towards) polarisations in characteristic p

Goal

Describe and compute polarisations of AV's when  $K = \mathbb{F}_q$

Every  $A/\mathbb{F}_q$  has a Frobenius endomorphism  $T_A$

which has a characteristic polynomial  $h_A(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ ,

which is an isogeny invariant:

By Honda-Tate theory,  $\{\text{isogeny classes}\} \xleftrightarrow{1:1} \{\text{char poly's } h_A\}$

Idea

Want analogous construction to  $\mathcal{F}$  for AV's in char p  
to describe  $\text{Hom}(A, A^\vee) \supseteq \{\text{polarisations of } A\}$

$\Rightarrow$  We use the Centellegh-Stix equivalence.

For this, we need to restrict to:

Abelian varieties  $A_0$  over  $\mathbb{F}_p$  s.t.  $h_{A_0}$  is squarefree

N.B.  $h_{A_0}$  squarefree  $\Leftrightarrow \text{End}(A_0)$  commutative

C-S equivalence: Fix such an  $h \xrightarrow{\cong}$  isogeny class  $\text{AV}_h$

Let  $L := \mathbb{Q}[x]/(h) = \mathbb{Q}[F]$  and  $V := p/F$

Any  $A \in \text{AV}_h$  has  $\text{End}(A) \supseteq \mathbb{Z}[F, V]$ .

Choose  $A_h \in \text{AV}_h$  with  $\text{End}(A_h) = \mathbb{Z}[F, V]$

Then  $\forall A \in \text{AV}_h$ , e.g.:  $\text{AV}_h \longrightarrow \{\text{fractional } \mathbb{Z}[F, V]\text{-ideals}\}$

$A_0 \longmapsto \text{Hom}(A, A_h)$ , embedded into L

# § (towards) polarisations in characteristic p

Goal

Describe and compute polarisations of AV's when  $K = \mathbb{F}_p$

C-S equivalence: Choose  $A_h \in \text{AV}_h$  with  $\text{End}(A_h) = \mathbb{Z}[F, V]$

Then  $\forall A \in \text{AV}_h$ ,  $\mathcal{G}: \text{AV}_h \longrightarrow \{\text{fractional } \mathbb{Z}[F, V] \text{-ideals}\}$

$A_0 \longmapsto \text{Hom}(A_0, A_h)$ , embedded into  $L$

There are some choices involved here:

- Choosing  $A_h$ ; these form a  $\text{Pic}(\mathbb{Z}[F, V])$ -orbit
- Choosing embedding into  $L$

Choosing well, we can ensure that  $\mathcal{G}(A_0^\vee) = \overline{\mathcal{G}(A_0)}^t$  and hence

$$(\mathcal{G}(\text{Hom}_L(A_0, A_0^\vee))) := (\mathcal{G}(A_0) : \mathcal{G}(A_0^\vee)) = (\mathcal{G}(A_0) : \overline{\mathcal{G}(A_0)}^t)$$

[compare:  $\text{fl}(\text{Hom}(A, A^\vee)) = (I^\perp : I)$ ]

In particular, for  $f: A_0 \rightarrow B_0$  and  $f^\vee: B_0^\vee \rightarrow A_0^\vee$  we have  $\mathcal{G}(f^\vee) = \overline{\mathcal{G}(f)}^t$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Hom}(B_0, B_0^\vee) & \xrightarrow{f^*} & \text{Hom}(A_0, A_0^\vee) \\ \mathcal{G} \downarrow & & \downarrow \mathcal{G} \\ (\mathcal{G}(B_0) : \mathcal{G}(B_0^\vee)) & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{G}(f^*)} & (\mathcal{G}(A_0) : \mathcal{G}(A_0^\vee)) = (\mathcal{G}(A_0) : \overline{\mathcal{G}(A_0)}^t) \end{array}$$

where  $f^*: \varphi \mapsto f^\vee \circ \varphi \circ f$

so  $\mathcal{G}(f^*)$  is multiplication with  $\mathcal{G}(f) \overline{\mathcal{G}(f)}^t$  in  $L$ .

# § Characteristic p versus characteristic zero

Goal

Describe and compute polarisations of AV's when  $K = \mathbb{F}_p$

We now have  $\mathcal{G}(\text{Hom}(A_0, A_0^\vee)) \supset \mathcal{G}(\text{polarisations})$

$$(\mathcal{G}(A_0) : \overline{\mathcal{G}(A_0)}^t) \quad ???$$

Idea

Lift to characteristic 0 to access description of polarisations.

N.B.  $\text{Hom}(A_0, A_0^\vee)$  should be preserved by the lifting process.

Definition A **canonical lifting** of  $A_0 / \mathbb{F}_q$  to a local domain  $R$  of characteristic 0 with residue field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and fraction field  $K$  is an abelian scheme  $A / R$  such that  $\text{End}(A_0) = \text{End}(A)$  and  $A \otimes \mathbb{F}_q \simeq A_0, A \otimes K \simeq A$ .

(Later, we will talk about when canonical liftings are known to exist.)

N.B. Since  $L \simeq \text{End}^\circ(A_0)$  we may view  $\text{End}(A_0)$  as an order in  $L$ , we show these identifications can be made compatibly with  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{H}$ .

Moreover:

Proposition If  $A_0 / \mathbb{F}_q$  has a canonical lifting to  $A / K$ , or equivalently if  $A / K$  with CM by  $L$  has good reduction to  $A_0 / \mathbb{F}_q$ , and if  $\text{End}(A_0) \simeq \text{End}(A^\vee) (= \overline{\text{End}(A_0)})$  is is or equivalently if  $\text{End}(A) \simeq \text{End}(A^\vee) (= \overline{\text{End}(A)})$  and if "End(A<sub>0</sub>) = End(A) is Gorenstein", then the reduction map  $\text{Hom}_L(A, A^\vee) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_L(A_0, A_0^\vee)$  is multiplication by  $\alpha \in \text{End}(A_0)^*$ .

# § Characteristic p versus characteristic zero

**Goal**

Describe and compute polarisations of AV's when  $K = \mathbb{F}_p$

Let  $A$  be an abelian variety over a  $p$ -adic field  $K$  with CM by  $(L, \bar{\Phi})$  with good reduction to  $A_0/\mathbb{F}_p \in \text{AV}_h$ ,

where  $h$  is squarefree and has no real roots, and  $L \cong \mathbb{Q}(x)/(h)$ , such that  $\text{End}(A_0) = \text{End}(A) = (I : I) = S$  is Gorenstein and satisfies  $S = \bar{S}$ . Then we can make compatible choices to obtain

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \boxed{\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Hom}(A, A^\vee) & \xrightarrow{f^*} & (\bar{I}^\perp : I) \\ \downarrow \text{red} & & \downarrow \\ \text{Hom}(B_0, B_0^\vee) & \xrightarrow{f^*} & \text{Hom}(A_0, A_0^\vee) \\ \downarrow g & & \downarrow g \\ (g(B_0) : g(B_0^\vee)) & \xrightarrow{(g \circ f^*)} & (g(A_0) : g(A_0^\vee)) = (g(A_0) : \overline{g(A_0)}^t) \end{array}} & & 
 \end{array}$$

Also:

Lemma Let  $f: A_0 \rightarrow B_0$  and  $\mu: B_0 \rightarrow B_0^\vee$  be isogenies.

Then  $\mu$  is a polarisation  $\Leftrightarrow f^* \mu = f^\vee \circ \mu \circ f$  is a polarisation

Lemma Let  $\mu: A \rightarrow A^\vee$  be an isogeny and  $\mu_0: A_0 \rightarrow A_0^\vee$  its reduction.

Then  $\mu$  is a polarisation  $\Leftrightarrow \mu_0$  is a polarisation.

Lemma The element  $\alpha \in S^*$  is totally real:  $\alpha = \bar{\alpha}$ .

# § Characteristic p versus characteristic zero

## Goal

Describe and compute polarisations of AV's when  $K = \mathbb{F}_p$

Reformulating the above, we can now describe  $\{\text{polarisations}\} \subseteq \text{Hom}(A_0, A_0^\vee)$ !

### Theorem

Let  $h$  be a squarefree char poly without real roots corresponding to the isogeny class  $\text{AV}_h$  over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .  
Let  $L = (\mathbb{Q}[x]/h)$  and choose a CM-type  $\bar{\Phi}$  for  $L$ .  
Let  $S = \bar{S}$  be a Gorenstein order in  $L$  such that  
 $\exists A_0 \in \text{AV}_h$  with  $\text{End}(A_0) = S$  which admits a canonical lifting to a  $p$ -adic field  $K$ .

Then there exists a totally real  $\alpha \in S^*$  such that  
for any  $B_0 \in \text{AV}_h$  and any isogeny  $\mu: B_0 \rightarrow B_0^\vee$ ,  
 $\mu_0$  is a polarisation  $\Leftrightarrow \alpha^{-1}G(\mu) \in L$  is totally imaginary and  $\bar{\Phi}$ -positive.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \text{red}^{-1}(f^*\mu) & \\ & \uparrow & \\ \mu_0 & \xrightarrow{f^*} & \text{Hom}(A, A^\vee) \\ \downarrow G & \text{red} \downarrow & \searrow f\epsilon \\ \text{Hom}(B_0, B_0^\vee) & \xrightarrow{f^*} & \text{Hom}(A_0, A_0^\vee) \\ & \downarrow G & \\ (G(B_0), G(B_0^\vee)) & \xrightarrow{G(f^*)} & (G(A_0), G(A_0^\vee)) \\ & \downarrow G(f^*\mu) & \\ & & \end{array}$$
$$\begin{aligned} & \text{red}(\text{red}^{-1}(f^*\mu)) = \\ & (\bar{I}^t : I) \quad \frac{1}{\alpha} G(f^*\mu) \\ & \downarrow \alpha \\ & (\bar{I}^t : I) \\ & \downarrow G(f^*\mu) \end{aligned}$$

$$\left[ \text{Recall: } G(f^*\mu) = G(f)\overline{G(f)}G(\mu) \right]$$

# § When do canonical liftings exist?

Definition A **canonical lifting** of  $A_0/\mathbb{F}_q$  to a local domain  $\mathcal{R}$  of characteristic 0 with residue field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and fraction field  $K$  is an abelian scheme  $A/\mathcal{R}$  such that  $\text{End}(A_0) = \text{End}(A)$  and  $A \otimes \mathbb{F}_q \simeq A_0$ ,  $A \otimes K \simeq A$ .

Proposition 1) (Seire-Tate) Every **ordinary** AV has a canonical lifting.  
 2) (Oswal-Shankar) Every **almost-ordinary** AV with commutative  $\text{End}$  (8 BK M) has a canonical lifting.

Theorem (Chai-Conrad-Oort)

Let  $h$  be an irreducible char. poly.,  $L = \mathbb{Q}[x]/(h) = \mathbb{Q}(\pi)$ , and  $\bar{\Phi}$  a CM-type of  $L$ , such that  $(L, \bar{\Phi})$  satisfies the **residual reflex condition (RRRC)**:

a) (Shimura-Taniyama formula) For every  $V$  of  $L$  above  $p$ ,

$$\frac{\text{ord}_V(\pi)}{\text{ord}_V(q)} = \frac{\#\{\varphi \in \bar{\Phi} : \varphi \text{ induces } V\}}{[L_V : \mathbb{Q}_p]}$$

b) Let  $E = \mathbb{Q}(\sum_{\varphi \in \bar{\Phi}} \varphi(\alpha))$ ,  $\alpha \in L$  be the **reflex field** of  $(L, \bar{\Phi})$  with induced  $p$ -adic place  $V$ . Then the residue field  $K_V$  of  $\mathcal{O}_{E,V}$  satisfies  $K_V \subseteq \mathbb{F}_q$ .

Then the isogeny class corresponding to  $h$  contains an AV  $A_0/\mathbb{F}_q$  s.t.  $\text{End}(A_0) = \mathcal{O}_L$  which has a canonical lifting.

Remarks

- We generalised this to  $h$  squarefree
- Any AV separably isogenous to  $A_0$  then also has a canonical lifting
- We implemented the (generalised) RRRC in Magma

# § Computations of polarisations

## Theorem

(under a bunch of assumptions...)

... there exists a totally real  $\alpha \in S^*$  such that  
for any  $B_0 \in \mathcal{A}V_h$  and any isogeny  $\mu_0: B_0 \rightarrow B_0^\vee$ ,

$\mu_0$  is a polarisation  $\Leftrightarrow \alpha^{-1}G(\mu_0) \in L$  is totally imaginary  
and  $\overline{\Phi}$ -positive.

Lemma  $(B_0, \mu_0) \simeq (B_0, \mu'_0) \Leftrightarrow \exists v \in \text{End}(B_0)^* \text{ s.t. } G(\mu_0) = v\bar{v}G(\mu'_0)$

So to find all (principal) polarisations of  $B_0$ , starting with a given  $G(\mu_0) = i_0 \in L^*$ ,  
we need to compute

$\{i_0 \cdot u : u \in \text{End}(B_0)^*/\langle v\bar{v} \rangle \text{ s.t. } \alpha^{-1}i_0 \cdot u \text{ is totally imaginary \& } \overline{\Phi}\text{-positive}\}$

In practice, we can often ignore  $\alpha$ !

This happens e.g. when an AV with  $\text{End} = \mathbb{Z}[F, V]$  lifts, like for (almost)-ordinary.

We also implemented the above in Magma.

Aggregate examples for dimensions 2,3,4:

squarefree dimension 2		$p=2$	$p=3$	$p=5$	$p=7$
total		29	55	119	195
ordinary		14	36	94	168
almost ordinary		8	14	20	24
$p$ -rank 0	no RRC	0	0	0	0
	yes RRC	5.52(R_w) yes	6	2	5

squarefree dimension 3		$p=2$	$p=3$	$p=5$	$p=7$
total		185	621	2863	7847
ordinary		82	390	2280	6700
almost ordinary		58	170	474	996
$p$ -rank 1	no RRC	0	0	0	0
	yes RRC	5.52(R_w) yes	20	26	76

  

$p$ -rank 0	no RRC	0	3	2	1
	yes RRC	5.52(R_w) yes	20	15	17

squarefree dimension 4		$p=2$	$p=3$
total		1431	10453
ordinary		656	6742
almost ordinary		392	2506
$p$ -rank 2	no RRC	0	0
	yes RRC	5.52(R_w) yes	149

  

$p$ -rank 1	no RRC	6	36
	yes RRC	5.52(R_w) yes	80

  

$p$ -rank 0	no RRC	3	6
	yes RRC	5.52(R_w) yes	73