

# On the Galois images associated to QM-abelian surfaces

By

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## Abstract

Let  $\rho_{E/K,p} : G_K \rightarrow \text{Aut}(T_p E) \cong \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  be the Galois representation determined by the Galois action on the  $p$ -adic Tate module of an elliptic curve  $E$  over a number field  $K$ . Serre showed that  $\rho_{E/K,p}$  has an open image if  $E$  has no complex multiplication. The author showed that  $\rho_{E/K,p}(G_K)$  have a uniform lower bound when we fix  $K$ ,  $p$  and vary  $E$ . In this paper, we give a similar result on uniform boundedness of the Galois images associated to abelian surfaces with quaternionic multiplication.

## § 1. Introduction

Let  $k$  be a field of characteristic 0, and let  $G_k = \text{Gal}(\bar{k}/k)$  be the absolute Galois group of  $k$  where  $\bar{k}$  is an algebraic closure of  $k$ . Let  $p$  be a prime number. For an elliptic curve  $E$  over  $k$ , let  $T_p E$  be the  $p$ -adic Tate module of  $E$ , and let

$$\rho_{E/k,p} : G_k \rightarrow \text{Aut}(T_p E) \cong \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$$

be the  $p$ -adic representation determined by the action of  $G_k$  on  $T_p E$ . By a number field we mean a finite extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

We recall a famous theorem proved by Serre.

**Theorem 1.1.** (*[Se1], IV-11*) *Let  $K$  be a number field and  $E$  be an elliptic curve over  $K$  without complex multiplication. Take a prime  $p$ . Then the image  $\rho_{E/K,p}(G_K)$  is open in  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  i.e. there exists a positive integer  $n$  depending on  $p, K$  and  $E$  such that  $\rho_{E/K,p}(G_K) \supseteq 1 + p^n M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ .*

The author showed that the image  $\rho_{E/K,p}(G_K)$  has a uniform lower bound.

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**Theorem 1.2.** ([A], Theorem 1.2) *Let  $K$  be a number field and  $p$  be a prime. Then there exists a positive integer  $n$  depending on  $p$  and  $K$  satisfying the following. For any elliptic curve  $E$  over  $K$  without complex multiplication, we have  $\rho_{E/K,p}(G_K) \supseteq 1 + p^n M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ .*

**Remark 1.3.** In the above theorem, the integer  $n$  is effectively estimated if  $j(E)$  is not contained in an exceptional finite set ([A], Theorem 1.3).

The author hopes to give a similar result in a higher dimensional case. In this paper, we treat so-called QM-abelian surfaces. We will give the main results in Theorem 2.3 and Theorem 5.1.

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## § 2. QM-abelian surfaces and the main theorem

Let  $Q$  be an indefinite quaternion division algebra over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Let  $d = \text{disc}(Q)$  be the discriminant of  $Q$ . We know that  $d$  is the product of an even number of primes, and  $d > 1$ . Choose a maximal order  $R$  of  $Q$ . It is known that  $R$  is unique up to conjugation by an element of  $Q^\times$ . For a prime  $p$ , put  $R_p := R \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}_p$ . If  $p$  does not divide  $d$ , fix an isomorphism  $R_p \cong M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ .

**Definition 2.1.** (cf. [Bu], p.591) Let  $S$  be a scheme over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . A QM-abelian surface (by  $R$ ) over  $S$  is a pair  $(A, i)$  where  $A$  is an abelian surface over  $S$  (i.e.  $A$  is an abelian scheme over  $S$  of relative dimension 2), and  $i : R \hookrightarrow \text{End}_S(A)$  is an injective ring homomorphism (sending 1 to id). We say two QM-abelian surfaces  $(A, i), (A', i')$  over  $S$  are isomorphic if there is an isomorphism  $A \cong A'$  of abelian schemes over  $S$  and the following diagram is commutative:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R & \xrightarrow{i} & \text{End}_S(A) \\ \downarrow \text{id} & & \downarrow \cong \\ R & \xrightarrow{i'} & \text{End}_S(A'), \end{array}$$

where the right vertical map is induced by the isomorphism  $A \cong A'$ .

Let  $k$  be a field of characteristic 0. It is known that a QM-abelian surface  $(A, i)$  over  $k$  where  $i$  is an isomorphism has a Galois representation which looks like that of

an elliptic curve ([O], §1). By this reason, a QM-abelian surface is also called a fake elliptic curve or a false elliptic curve.

Let  $(A, i)$  be a QM-abelian surface over  $k$ . Suppose the following:

$$(2.1) \quad i : R \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{End}_k(A) = \text{End}(A).$$

Note that the condition (2.1) corresponds to “no complex multiplication” in the case of elliptic curves. Take a prime  $p$  not dividing  $d$ . Then the  $p$ -adic Tate module  $T_p A$  of  $A$  is a free  $R_p$ -module of rank 1. Thus we have a Galois representation

$$\rho_{(A,i)/k,p} : G_k \longrightarrow \text{Aut}_{R_p}(T_p A) \cong R_p^\times \cong \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p).$$

The first isomorphism is not canonical, and the second is induced from the isomorphism  $R_p \cong M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  fixed above. Let

$$\bar{\rho}_{(A,i)/k,p^n} : G_k \longrightarrow \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z})$$

be the reduction of  $\rho_{(A,i)/k,p}$  modulo  $p^n$ . Note that the determinant

$$\det \rho_{(A,i)/k,p} : G_k \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$$

is the  $p$ -adic cyclotomic character.

The representation  $\rho_{(A,i)/k,p}$  has an open image just as in the case of an elliptic curve.

**Theorem 2.2.** ([O], Theorem 2.8) *Let  $K$  be a number field and  $(A, i)$  be a QM-abelian surface over  $K$  satisfying (2.1) (with  $k = K$ ). Take a prime  $p$  not dividing  $d$ . Then the representation  $\rho_{(A,i)/K,p}$  has an open image i.e. there exists a positive integer  $n$  depending on  $p, K, R$  and  $(A, i)/K$  such that  $\rho_{(A,i)/K,p}(G_K) \supseteq 1 + p^n M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ .*

We will show the following theorem asserting that the representation  $\rho_{(A,i)/K,p}$  has a uniform lower bound. This is one of the main result of this paper.

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $K$  be a number field and  $p$  be a prime not dividing  $d$ . Then there exists a positive integer  $n$  depending on  $p, K$  and  $R$  satisfying the following: For any QM-abelian surface  $(A, i)$  over  $K$  having the property (2.1) (with  $k = K$ ), we have  $\rho_{(A,i)/K,p}(G_K) \supseteq 1 + p^n M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ .*

Let  $(A, i), (A', i')$  be QM-abelian surfaces over  $k$ . Take a field extension  $k'/k$ . We say  $(A, i)$  and  $(A', i')$  are  $k'$ -isomorphic if their base changes  $(A \times_{\text{Spec}(k)} \text{Spec}(k'), i)$  and  $(A' \times_{\text{Spec}(k)} \text{Spec}(k'), i')$  are isomorphic. Note that the last “ $i$ ” is the composite

$$R \xrightarrow{i} \text{End}_k(A) \xrightarrow{\text{canonical}} \text{End}_{k'}(A \times_{\text{Spec}(k)} \text{Spec}(k')),$$

and similar for the last “ $i'$ ”.

In Section 5, we will give an effective bound for  $\rho_{(A,i)/K,p}(\mathbf{G}_K)$  except a finite number of  $\bar{K}$ -isomorphism classes of QM-abelian surfaces.

### § 3. Moduli of QM-abelian surfaces

Let

$$\mathcal{M}^R : (\text{Sch}/\mathbb{Q}) \longrightarrow (\text{Sets})$$

be the contravariant functor defined as follows:

(1) For any scheme  $S$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$\mathcal{M}^R(S) = \{\text{isomorphism classes of QM-abelian surfaces } (A, i) \text{ over } S\}.$$

(2) For any morphism of schemes  $f : S' \longrightarrow S$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$\mathcal{M}^R(f) : \mathcal{M}^R(S) \longrightarrow \mathcal{M}^R(S'); [(A, i)] \longmapsto [(A \times_S S', i)]$$

where the last “ $i$ ” is the composite

$$R \xrightarrow{i} \text{End}_S(A) \xrightarrow{\text{canonical}} \text{End}_{S'}(A \times_S S').$$

The functor  $\mathcal{M}^R$  has a coarse moduli scheme  $X^R$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . The scheme  $X^R$  is a proper smooth curve with constant field  $\mathbb{Q}$ , called a Shimura curve (cf. [Bu]). Let  $g^R := g(X^R)$  be the genus of  $X^R$ . For a prime  $p$ , put

$$\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -1 & \text{if } p \equiv -1 \pmod{4}, \\ 0 & \text{if } p = 2, \end{cases}$$

$$\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -1 & \text{if } p \equiv -1 \pmod{3}, \\ 0 & \text{if } p = 3. \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 3.1.** ([Shimura], Chapter 2, Chapter 3) We have

$$g^R = 1 + \frac{1}{12} \prod_{p|d} (p-1) - \frac{1}{4} \prod_{p|d} \left(1 - \left(\frac{-1}{p}\right)\right) - \frac{1}{3} \prod_{p|d} \left(1 - \left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)\right).$$

In particular,  $g^R = 0$  if and only if  $d \in \{6, 10, 22\}$ , and  $g^R = 1$  if and only if  $d \in \{14, 15, 21, 33, 34, 46\}$ .

Faltings proved the following celebrated theorem known as Mordell's conjecture.

**Theorem 3.2.** (*[F], Theorem 7*) *Let  $K$  be a number field and  $X$  be a proper smooth curve over  $K$ . If the genus  $g(X) \geq 2$ , then  $X(K)$  consists of only finitely many elements.*

**Corollary 3.3.** *Let  $K$  be a number field. If  $g^R \geq 2$ , then there are only finitely many  $\bar{K}$ -isomorphism classes of QM-abelian surfaces over  $K$ .*

#### § 4. Twists and Galois images

When  $g^R \geq 2$ , we show Theorem 2.3 by using the theory of twists.

**Lemma 4.1.** (*cf. [Si], X, §2, §5*) *Let  $k$  be a field of characteristic 0, and  $(A, i), (A', i')$  be QM-abelian surfaces satisfying (2.1). If  $(A, i)$  and  $(A', i')$  are  $\bar{k}$ -isomorphic, then there exists a field extension  $L$  with  $[L : k] \leq 2$  such that  $(A, i)$  and  $(A', i')$  are  $L$ -isomorphic.*

*Proof.* Put  $Twist((A, i), k) := \{(A'', i'')\}/k$ -isomorphism, where  $(A'', i'')$  is a QM-abelian surface over  $k$  satisfying (2.1) and isomorphic to  $(A, i)$  over  $\bar{k}$ . Then we have a natural inclusion  $Twist((A, i), k) \hookrightarrow H^1(G_k, \text{Aut}(A, i))$ . This map is defined as follows. Take a  $\bar{k}$ -isomorphism  $\phi : (A'', i'') \rightarrow (A, i)$ . Let  $\xi : G_k \rightarrow \text{Aut}(A, i)$  be the map sending  $\sigma$  to  $\phi^\sigma \circ \phi^{-1}$ . Then  $\xi$  represents an element of  $H^1(G_k, \text{Aut}(A, i))$ , which is independent of the choice of  $\phi$ .

Next we show  $\text{Aut}(A, i) = \{\pm 1\}$ . The inclusion  $\text{Aut}(A, i) \supseteq \{\pm 1\}$  is obvious. To see the other inclusion, we have  $\text{Aut}(A, i) = \text{Aut}(A) \cap \text{End}(A, i) \subseteq R^\times \cap (\text{center of } \text{End}(A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}) = R^\times \cap \mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{Z}^\times = \{\pm 1\}$ . Thus  $\text{Aut}(A, i) = \{\pm 1\}$ , on which  $G_k$  acts trivially. Hence we have an isomorphism  $H^1(G_k, \text{Aut}(A, i)) \cong k^\times / (k^\times)^2$ ;  $(\xi : \sigma \mapsto \sigma(\bar{m})/\bar{m}) \leftrightarrow m$ . This  $\xi$  is trivialized by the corresponding extension  $k(\bar{m})/k$ . □

**Lemma 4.2.** (*[A], Lemma 2.3*) *Let  $n \geq 1$  be an integer. Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  containing  $1 + p^n \text{M}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ , and  $H'$  be a closed subgroup of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  which is a subgroup of  $H$  of index 2. If  $p \geq 3$ , then  $H' \supseteq 1 + p^n \text{M}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ ; if  $p = 2$  and  $n \geq 2$ ,  $H' \supseteq 1 + p^{n+1} \text{M}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ .*

**Corollary 4.3.** *Let  $K$  be a number field and  $(A, i)$  be a QM-abelian surface over  $K$  with the property (2.1). Then there exists a positive integer  $n$  depending on  $p, K, R$  and  $(A, i)/K$  satisfying the following: For any QM-abelian surface  $(A', i')$  over  $K$  that is  $\bar{K}$ -isomorphic to  $(A, i)$  (such an  $(A', i')$  automatically satisfies (2.1)), we have  $\rho_{(A', i')/K, p}(G_K) \supseteq 1 + p^n \text{M}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ .*

*Proof.* Combining Lemma 4.1, 4.2 and Theorem 2.2, we get the result.  $\square$

By Corollary 3.3 and 4.3, we get the following.

**Proposition 4.4.** *If  $g^R \geq 2$ , then Theorem 2.3 is true.*

### § 5. Effective version

We give an effective version of Theorem 2.3, though we admit finitely many exceptions. We use the following conventions:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + p^0\mathbb{Z}_p &:= \mathbb{Z}_p^\times, \\ 1 + p^0\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p) &:= \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p), \\ 1 + p^0\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) &:= \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}). \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 5.1.** *Suppose  $g^R \leq 1$ , so that  $d \in \{6, 10, 22, 14, 15, 21, 33, 34, 46\}$ . For a prime  $p$  not dividing  $d$ , there exists an integer  $n \geq 0$  satisfying the following condition  $(C)_{R,p}$ .  $(C)_{R,p}$ : Let  $K$  be a number field. Then for all QM-abelian surfaces  $(A, i)$  over  $K$  with (2.1) but a finite number of  $\overline{K}$ -isomorphism classes, we have*

$$\rho_{(A,i)/K,p}(\mathbb{G}_K) \supseteq (1 + p^n\mathbb{M}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p))^{\det=1}.$$

Let  $n(R, p) \geq 0$  be the minimum integer  $n$  satisfying  $(C)_{R,p}$ . Then  $n(R, p)$  is estimated as follows. When  $d = 6$ , we have

$$n(R, p) \begin{cases} \in \{1, 2\} & \text{if } p = 5, \\ = 1 & \text{if } p = 7, \\ \leq 1 & \text{if } p = 11, \\ = 1 & \text{if } p = 13, \\ = 0 & \text{if } p \geq 17. \end{cases}$$

When  $d = 10$ , we have

$$n(R, p) \begin{cases} \leq 3 & \text{if } p = 3, \\ = 1 & \text{if } p = 7, \\ = 0 & \text{if } p \geq 11. \end{cases}$$

When  $d = 22$ , we have

$$n(R, p) \begin{cases} \leq 2 & \text{if } p = 3, \\ \leq 1 & \text{if } p = 5, \\ = 0 & \text{if } p \geq 7. \end{cases}$$

When  $d \in \{14, 21, 33, 34, 46\}$ , we have

$$n(R, p) \begin{cases} \leq 3 & \text{if } p = 2, \\ \leq 1 & \text{if } p = 3, \\ = 0 & \text{if } p \geq 5. \end{cases}$$

When  $d = 15$ , we have

$$n(R, p) \begin{cases} \leq 5 & \text{if } p = 2, \\ = 0 & \text{if } p \geq 7. \end{cases}$$

To deduce  $\rho_{(A,i)/K,p}(G_K) \supseteq 1 + p^m M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  from Theorem 5.1, we use the following.

**Lemma 5.2.** (*[A], Corollary 2.7*) *Let  $H \subseteq \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  be a closed subgroup and  $n, r \geq 0$  be integers. Assume  $r \geq 2$  if  $p = 2$ . If  $H \supseteq (1 + p^n M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p))^{\det=1}$  and if  $\det(H) \supseteq 1 + p^r \mathbb{Z}_p$ , then  $H \supseteq 1 + p^{n+r} M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ .*

Corollary 4.3, Theorem 5.1 and Lemma 5.2 imply Theorem 2.3 for  $g^R \leq 1$ .

### § 6. Level structure on QM-abelian surfaces

To construct a curve with genus at least 2, we introduce a level structure on a QM-abelian surface.

**Definition 6.1.** (cf. [Bu], Definition 1.1, [Bo], §13) *Take an integer  $N \geq 1$  prime to  $d$ . Let  $S$  be a scheme over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $(A, i)$  be a QM-abelian surface over  $S$ . A level  $N$ -structure on  $(A, i)$  is an isomorphism of  $S$ -group schemes*

$$\gamma : R \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\cong} A[N]$$

which is compatible with the action of  $R$ .

Take two QM-abelian surfaces with level  $N$ -structure  $(A, i, \gamma), (A', i', \gamma')$ . We say  $(A, i, \gamma)$  and  $(A', i', \gamma')$  are isomorphic if there is an isomorphism  $(A, i) \cong (A', i')$  of QM-abelian surfaces and the isomorphism is compatible with  $\gamma$  and  $\gamma'$ .

Let  $X^R(N)$  be the moduli scheme over  $\mathbb{Q}$  associated to the contravariant functor

$$\mathcal{M}^R(N) : (\text{Sch}/\mathbb{Q}) \longrightarrow (\text{Sets})$$

defined as follows:

(1) For any scheme  $S$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$\mathcal{M}^R(N)(S) = \{\text{isomorphism classes of } (A, i, \gamma)\},$$

where  $(A, i)$  is a QM-abelian surface over  $S$  and  $\gamma$  a level  $N$ -structure on it.

(2) For any morphism of schemes  $f : S' \rightarrow S$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,

$$\mathcal{M}^R(N)(f) : \mathcal{M}^R(N)(S) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}^R(N)(S'); [(A, i, \gamma)] \mapsto [(A \times_S S', i, \gamma \times_S S')].$$

Then  $X^R(N)$  is a proper smooth curve with constant field  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_N)$ . To see this, first we define a morphism

$$X^R(N) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_N)).$$

For simplicity, suppose  $N$  is odd. Take an element  $\alpha \in Q$  such that  $\alpha^2 = -d$  (such an element exists). We may assume  $\alpha \in R$  and  $\alpha$  maps to  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ d & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  via the isomorphism  $R \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z} \cong M_2(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})$ . Let  $*$  :  $Q \rightarrow Q$  be the involution defined by  $x^* = \alpha^{-1}x\alpha$ , where  $\iota$  is the canonical involution on  $Q$ . Then  $*$  stabilizes  $R$ . For any QM-abelian surface  $(A, i)$ , there exists a unique principal polarization  $\lambda : A \rightarrow A^\vee$  making the following diagram commutative ([BC], Proposition (1.5)):

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\lambda} & A^\vee \\ \downarrow i(r^*) & & \downarrow i(r)^\vee \\ A & \xrightarrow{\lambda} & A^\vee. \end{array}$$

Let  $e_N : A[N] \times A^\vee[N] \rightarrow \mu_N$  be the Weil pairing, and define a pairing  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : A[N] \times A[N] \rightarrow \mu_N$  by  $\langle x, y \rangle = e_N(x, \lambda(y))$ . Then  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is bilinear, alternating, non-degenerate and satisfies  $\langle rx, y \rangle = \langle x, r^*y \rangle$  for every  $r \in R$  ([Bu], p.592). Take a level  $N$ -structure  $\gamma$  on  $(A, i)$  and identify  $A[N] \cong R \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z} \cong M_2(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})$  by using  $\gamma$ . Define a morphism  $X^R(N) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_N))$  by  $(A, i, \gamma) \mapsto \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$ .

Note that  $\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$  generates  $\mu_N$ . In fact, we have  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^* = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , hence  $\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ u & v \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle = 0$  for any  $u, v \in \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$ . Since  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is alternating,  $\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle = 0$ . As  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is non-degenerate,  $\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$  must generate  $\mu_N$ .

Next consider the  $\mathbb{C}$ -valued points of  $X^R(N)$  (cf. [Be], §3, §4, [DR], IV.5). Put  $\mathbb{H} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} | \text{Im}z > 0\}$  and write  $SR^\times := \{c \in R | \text{Nrd}(c) = 1\}$ , where  $\text{Nrd}$  is the reduced norm. We have an isomorphism of complex manifolds

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q})}(\text{Spec}(\mathbb{C}), X^R(N)) \cong SR^\times \backslash (\mathbb{H} \times \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})),$$

and the set of connected components of this manifold is identified with  $(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^\times$  via



determinant. We also have

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathrm{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_N))}(\mathrm{Spec}(\mathbb{C}), X^R(N)) \cong SR^\times(N) \setminus \mathbb{H},$$

where  $SR^\times(N) := \{c \in SR^\times \mid c \equiv 1 \pmod{N}\}$ . Therefore the constant field of  $X^R(N)$  is  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_N)$  because  $SR^\times(N) \setminus \mathbb{H}$  is connected.

Put

$$G := \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}) \subseteq (R \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^\times.$$

We have a right action of  $G$  on  $X^R(N)$  :

$$[(A, i, \gamma)] \mapsto [(A, i, \gamma \circ g)]$$

where  $(A, i)$  is a QM-abelian surface,  $\gamma$  a level  $N$ -structure on  $(A, i)$  and  $g \in G$ . For a subgroup  $H \subseteq G$ , put

$$X_H^R := X^R(N)/H.$$

Then  $X_H^R$  is a proper smooth curve with constant field  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_N)$ . Let  $g_H^R$  be the genus of  $X_H^R$ .

**Lemma 6.2.** *Let  $K$  be a number field. If  $g_H^R \geq 2$ , then there are only finitely many  $\bar{K}$ -isomorphism classes of QM-abelian surfaces  $(A, i)$  over  $K$  with the property (2.1) and satisfying: A conjugate of  $\bar{\rho}_{(A, i)/K, N}(\mathrm{G}_K)$  is contained in  $H$ .*

The genus  $g_H^R$  is expressed by using  $g^R$ . Put

$$\sigma := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \tau := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}).$$

For  $\alpha \in \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$  or  $R$ , we also use the same letter to denote the reduction of  $\alpha$ . Put

$$\mathrm{Fix}_\alpha = \mathrm{Fix}_\alpha^H := \{gH \in G/H \mid \alpha gH = gH\}.$$

Let  $SR_H^\times$  be the inverse image of  $H$  by the natural surjection

$$SR^\times \longrightarrow \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}).$$

**Lemma 6.3.** *(cf. [Shimu], Proposition 1.40) We have*

$$\begin{aligned} g_H^R &= 1 + (g_R - 1)\mu_H + \frac{1}{4}(r\mu_H - \nu_2) + \frac{1}{3}(s\mu_H - \nu_3) \\ &= 1 + (g_R - 1 + \frac{1}{4}r + \frac{1}{3}s)\mu_H - \frac{1}{4}\nu_2 - \frac{1}{3}\nu_3, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$r := \prod_{p|d} \left(1 - \left(\frac{-1}{p}\right)\right), \quad s := \prod_{p|d} \left(1 - \left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)\right),$$

$$\nu_2 := r\#\mathrm{Fix}_\sigma, \quad \nu_3 := s\#\mathrm{Fix}_\tau,$$

$$\mu_H := [SR^\times / \{\pm 1\} : \langle SR_H^\times, -1 \rangle / \{\pm 1\}].$$

*Proof.* We show the formula over  $\mathbb{C}$ . We call  $c \in SR^\times$  an elliptic element if  $|\text{Tr}(c)| < 2$ , where  $\text{Tr}$  is the reduced trace. For a subgroup  $U \subseteq SR^\times$ , a point  $z \in \mathbb{H}$  is called an elliptic point of  $U$  if there exists an elliptic element  $c \in U$  such that  $c(z) = z$ . By abuse of language, we sometimes call a point on  $U \backslash \mathbb{H}$  an elliptic point if it is the image of an elliptic point on  $\mathbb{H}$  of  $U$ . It is known that  $r$  (resp.  $s$ ) is the number of elliptic points of order 2 (resp. 3) on  $SR^\times \backslash \mathbb{H}$ . The index  $\mu_H$  is the degree of the quotient map  $\phi : SR_H^\times \backslash \mathbb{H} \rightarrow SR^\times \backslash \mathbb{H}$ , because the group of all holomorphic automorphisms of  $\mathbb{H}$  is  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{R})/\{\pm 1\}$ . We show  $\nu_2$  (resp.  $\nu_3$ ) is the number of elliptic points of order 2 (resp. 3) on  $SR_H^\times \backslash \mathbb{H}$ . Let  $P_1, \dots, P_r$  (resp.  $Q_1, \dots, Q_s$ ) be the elliptic points of order 2 (resp. 3) on  $SR^\times \backslash \mathbb{H}$ . We have a decomposition

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\text{elliptic points of order 2 of } SR_H^\times\} \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^r \{\text{elliptic points of order 2 of } SR_H^\times \text{ above } P_i\} \\ &\subseteq \{\text{elliptic points of order 2 of } SR^\times\} \\ &\subseteq \mathbb{H}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\tilde{P}_i \in \mathbb{H}$  be a lift of  $P_i$ . Choose a generator  $\sigma_i$  of the cyclic group  $\{g \in SR^\times \mid g\tilde{P}_i = \tilde{P}_i\} \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ . The map

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\text{elliptic points of order 2 of } SR_H^\times \text{ above } P_i\} \\ & \longrightarrow \{g \in SR^\times \mid g^{-1}\sigma_i g \in SR_H^\times\} / SR_H^\times : \\ & g\tilde{P}_i \longmapsto g^{-1}SR_H^\times \end{aligned}$$

is well-defined, and it induces a bijection

$$\begin{aligned} & SR_H^\times \backslash \{\text{elliptic points of order 2 of } SR_H^\times \text{ above } P_i\} \\ & \cong \{g \in SR^\times \mid g^{-1}\sigma_i g \in SR_H^\times\} / SR_H^\times. \end{aligned}$$

The mod  $N$  map induces a bijection  $\{g \in SR^\times \mid g^{-1}\sigma_i g \in SR_H^\times\} / SR_H^\times \cong \text{Fix}_{\sigma_i}$ . Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\text{elliptic points of order 2 on } SR_H^\times \backslash \mathbb{H}\} \\ &= SR_H^\times \backslash \{\text{elliptic points of order 2 of } SR_H^\times\} \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^r SR_H^\times \backslash \{\text{elliptic points of order 2 of } SR_H^\times \text{ above } P_i\} \\ &\cong \prod_{i=1}^r \text{Fix}_{\sigma_i}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\nu_2$  is the number of elliptic points of order 2 on  $SR_H^\times \backslash \mathbb{H}$  since  $\sigma_i$  is conjugate to  $\sigma$  in  $G$ . The assertion for  $\nu_3$  is verified in the same way.

Applying Hurwitz' formula to the map  $\phi$ , we have

$$2g_H^R - 2 = (2g^R - 2)\mu_H + \sum_{X \mapsto P_1, \dots, P_r} (e_X - 1) + \sum_{Y \mapsto Q_1, \dots, Q_s} (e_Y - 1)$$

where  $e_X$  (resp.  $e_Y$ ) is the ramification index of  $\phi$  at  $X$  (resp.  $Y$ ). Let  $P \in SR^\times \backslash \mathbb{H}$  be an elliptic point of order  $e$  where  $e$  is 2 or 3. Let  $X_1, \dots, X_a \in SR_H^\times \backslash \mathbb{H}$  (resp.  $X_{a+1}, \dots, X_{a+b} \in SR_H^\times \backslash \mathbb{H}$ ) be the elliptic points of order  $e$  (resp. non-elliptic points) lying over  $P$ . Then we have  $\mu_H = a + eb$ . Thus  $\sum_{X \mapsto P} (e_X - 1) = \sum_{j=1}^a (e_{X_j} - 1) + \sum_{j=a+1}^{a+b} (e_{X_j} - 1) = 0 + (e - 1)b = \frac{e-1}{e}(\mu_H - a)$ . Let  $a_i$  be the number of elliptic points of order 2 on  $SR_H^\times \backslash \mathbb{H}$  above  $P_i$ . Then  $\nu_2 = \sum_{i=1}^r a_i$ . Hence  $\sum_{X \mapsto P_1, \dots, P_r} (e_X - 1) = \sum_{i=1}^r \frac{1}{2}(\mu_H - a_i) = \frac{1}{2}(r\mu_H - \nu_2)$ . Similarly  $\sum_{Y \mapsto Q_1, \dots, Q_s} (e_Y - 1) = \frac{2}{3}(s\mu_H - \nu_3)$ . Therefore  $g_H^R = 1 + (g^R - 1)\mu_H + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{X \mapsto P_1, \dots, P_r} (e_X - 1) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{Y \mapsto Q_1, \dots, Q_s} (e_Y - 1) = 1 + (g^R - 1)\mu_H + \frac{1}{4}(r\mu_H - \nu_2) + \frac{1}{3}(s\mu_H - \nu_3)$ . □

Note that if  $H$  contains  $-1$ , then  $\mu_H = [G : H]$ .

### § 7. Conjugate elements in $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z})$

We refer to the results of [A] in order to estimate the genus  $g_H^R$ .

**Lemma 7.1.** ([A], Lemma 2.1) *Let  $H$  be a closed subgroup of  $GL_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ . Then  $H$  contains  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  if and only if  $H \bmod p^2$  contains  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^2\mathbb{Z})$ .*

*Assume  $p \geq 5$ . Then  $H$  contains  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  if and only if  $H \bmod p$  contains  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ .*

**Lemma 7.2.** ([A], Lemma 2.2) *Let  $n \geq 1$  be an integer. If  $p = 2$ , assume  $n \geq 2$ . Let  $H$  be a closed subgroup of  $GL_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ . Then  $H$  contains  $1 + p^n M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  (resp.  $(1 + p^n M_2(\mathbb{Z}_p))^{\det=1}$ ) if and only if  $H \bmod p^{n+1}$  contains  $1 + p^n M_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^{n+1}\mathbb{Z})$  (resp.  $(1 + p^n M_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^{n+1}\mathbb{Z}))^{\det=1}$ ).*

**Definition 7.3.** (cf. [A], Definition 3.7) *Let  $n \geq 1$  be an integer and  $H \subseteq SL_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z})$  be a subgroup. We call  $H$  a slim subgroup if*

$$H \not\supseteq (1 + p^{n-1} M_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}))^{\det=1}.$$

Note that a slim subgroup of  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$  is just a proper subgroup.

Consider subgroups of  $GL_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ . A Borel subgroup is a subgroup which is conjugate to  $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ 0 & * \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ ; the normalizer of a split Cartan subgroup is conjugate to

$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} * & 0 \\ 0 & * \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & * \\ * & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ . When  $p \geq 3$ , the normalizer of a non-split Cartan subgroup is conjugate to  $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ \lambda y & x \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ -\lambda y & -x \end{pmatrix} \mid (x, y) \in \mathbb{F}_p \times \mathbb{F}_p \setminus \{(0, 0)\} \right\}$ , where  $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p^\times \setminus (\mathbb{F}_p^\times)^2$  is a fixed element. Assume  $p \geq 5$ . The quotient group  $\text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$  of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$  has a subgroup which is isomorphic to  $S_4$ ; it has a subgroup which is isomorphic to  $A_5$  if and only if  $p \equiv 0, \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ . Take a subgroup  $H$  (of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ ) whose order is prime to  $p$ . We call  $H$  an exceptional subgroup if it is the inverse image of a subgroup which is isomorphic to  $A_4$ ,  $S_4$  or  $A_5$  by the natural surjection  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ . Put

$$\begin{aligned}
 B &:= \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ 0 & * \end{pmatrix} \right\} \cap \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}), \\
 C &:= \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} * & 0 \\ 0 & * \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & * \\ * & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \cap \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}), \\
 D &:= \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ \lambda y & x \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ -\lambda y & -x \end{pmatrix} \right\} \cap \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}), \\
 E &:= (\text{an exceptional subgroup}) \cap \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}).
 \end{aligned}$$

**Proposition 7.4.** (*[Se2], p.284*) *Let  $H$  be a maximal subgroup of  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $p \geq 5$ , then  $H$  is  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ -conjugate to  $B, C, D$  or  $E$ . If  $p = 3$ , then  $H$  is  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})$ -conjugate to  $B, C$  or  $D$ .*

We review the number of elements conjugate to  $\sigma, \tau$  in the maximal subgroups  $B, C, D, E$  of  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ .

**Lemma 7.5.** (*[A], Lemma 4.9*) *In  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ , the number of elements conjugate*

to  $\sigma, \tau$  in  $B, C, D, E$  is as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \#B \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) &= \begin{cases} 2p & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv -1 \pmod{4}, \\ 1 & \text{if } p = 2. \end{cases} \\ \#B \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) &= \begin{cases} 2p & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv -1 \pmod{3}, \\ 1 & \text{if } p = 3. \end{cases} \\ \#C \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) &= \begin{cases} p+1 & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ p-1 & \text{if } p \equiv -1 \pmod{4}, \\ 1 & \text{if } p = 2. \end{cases} \\ \#C \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) &= \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \not\equiv 1 \pmod{3}. \end{cases} \\ \#D \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) &= \begin{cases} p+1 & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ p+3 & \text{if } p \equiv -1 \pmod{4}, \end{cases} \\ \#D \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p = 3 \text{ or } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ 2 & \text{if } p \geq 5 \text{ and } p \equiv -1 \pmod{3}. \end{cases} \\ \#E \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) &\leq \begin{cases} 30 & \text{if } p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}, \\ 18 & \text{if } p \geq 5 \text{ and } p \not\equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}. \end{cases} \\ \#E \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) &\leq \begin{cases} 20 & \text{if } p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}, \\ 8 & \text{if } p \geq 5 \text{ and } p \not\equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Now we recall maximal subgroups of  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})$  whose image mod 2 is  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ .

**Lemma 7.6.** (*[A, Lemma 4.7]*) *Let  $A \subsetneq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})$  be a proper subgroup. Assume  $A$  maps surjectively mod 2 onto  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ . Then  $A$  is conjugate to*

$$A_1 := \left\langle \sigma, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle,$$

*which is a maximal subgroup, and is not a normal subgroup.*

We review the number of elements conjugate to  $\sigma, \tau$  in  $A_1 \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})$ .

**Lemma 7.7.** (*[A], Lemma 4.10*) *In  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})$ , we have*

$$\begin{aligned} \#A_1 \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) &= 3, \\ \#A_1 \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) &= 2. \end{aligned}$$

We review the number of elements conjugate to  $\sigma, \tau$  in  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z})$ .

**Lemma 7.8.** (*[A], Lemma 5.1*) *Let  $n \geq 1$  be an integer. In  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z})$  we have*

$$\begin{aligned} \#\text{Conj}(\sigma) &= \begin{cases} (p+1)p^{2n-1} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ (p-1)p^{2n-1} & \text{if } p \equiv -1 \pmod{4}, \\ 3 & \text{if } p = 2 \text{ and } n = 1, \\ 3 \cdot 2^{2n-3} & \text{if } p = 2 \text{ and } n \geq 2, \end{cases} \\ \#\text{Conj}(\tau) &= \begin{cases} (p+1)p^{2n-1} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ (p-1)p^{2n-1} & \text{if } p \equiv -1 \pmod{3}, \\ 4 \cdot 3^{2n-2} & \text{if } p = 3. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

We control the number of elements conjugate to  $\sigma, \tau$  contained in a slim subgroup. Let  $n \geq 1$  be an integer and let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z})$ . For an integer  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , put

$$H_i := H \cap (1 + p^i M_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z})) = \text{Ker}(\text{mod } p^i : H \rightarrow SL_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^i\mathbb{Z})).$$

We identify  $H/H_i$  with  $H \text{ mod } p^i$ .

For  $p \geq 3$ , define a sequence  $\{a(\sigma, p)_n\}_{n \geq 2}$  as follows:

$$a(\sigma, p)_n := 2p^{2(n-l)} + 2(l-1)(p^2-1)p^{n-1},$$

where  $n = 2l$  or  $2l + 1$ . For  $p \geq 5$ , define a sequence  $\{a(\tau, p)_n\}_{n \geq 2}$  by

$$a(\tau, p)_n := a(\sigma, p)_n.$$

**Proposition 7.9.** (*[A], Corollary 6.9, 6.10*) *Let  $n \geq 2$  be an integer and let  $H \subseteq SL_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z})$  be a slim subgroup. If  $p \geq 3$ , then we have*

$$\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) \leq a(\sigma, p)_n + p^{n-1}(\#(H/H_1) \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) - 2).$$

If  $p \geq 5$ , then we have

$$\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, p)_n + p^{n-1}(\#(H/H_1) \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) - 2).$$

Define a sequence  $\{a(\tau, 3)_n\}_{n \geq 2}$  as follows:

$$a(\tau, 3)_n := \begin{cases} 3^2 & \text{if } n = 2, \\ (4n - 11) \cdot 3^n & \text{if } n = 2l \geq 4, \\ (4n - 9) \cdot 3^n & \text{if } n = 2l + 1. \end{cases}$$

**Proposition 7.10.** (*[A], Corollary 6.11*) *Let  $n \geq 2$  be an integer and let  $H \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3^n\mathbb{Z})$  be a slim subgroup. Then we have*

$$\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, 3)_n + 3^{n-1}(\#(H/H_1) \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) - 1).$$

Define a sequence  $\{a(\tau, 2)_n\}_{n \geq 5}$  as follows:

$$a(\tau, 2)_n := \begin{cases} (3l' - 5) \cdot 2^{n+1} & \text{if } n = 2l', \\ (3l' - 7) \cdot 2^{n+1} & \text{if } n = 2l' - 1. \end{cases}$$

**Proposition 7.11.** (*[A], Proposition 6.16*) *Let  $n \geq 5$  be an integer and let  $H \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2^n\mathbb{Z})$  be a slim subgroup. Then we have*

$$\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, 2)_n + 2^{n-2}(\#(H/H_3) \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) - 8).$$

### § 8. Proof of the effective version

For each  $d$  and  $p$ , we find a suitable  $n$  and show  $g_H^R \geq 2$  for any slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z})$  (with  $H \ni -1$ ), and prove Theorem 5.1.

Case  $d = 6$ . If  $H$  contains  $-1$ , then

$$g_H^R = 1 + \frac{1}{6}[G : H] \left( 1 - 3 \frac{\#\text{Fix}_\sigma}{[G : H]} - 4 \frac{\#\text{Fix}_\tau}{[G : H]} \right)$$

by Lemma 6.3. Put

$$\delta := 1 - 3 \frac{\#\text{Fix}_\sigma}{[G : H]} - 4 \frac{\#\text{Fix}_\tau}{[G : H]}.$$

An easy group theory (cf. [A] Lemma 4.1) shows

$$\delta = 1 - 3 \frac{\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma)}{\#\text{Conj}(\sigma)} - 4 \frac{\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau)}{\#\text{Conj}(\tau)}.$$

Now we find a suitable  $n$  and show  $\delta > 0$  for any slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z})$ .

**Proposition 8.1.** *Assume  $p \geq 17$ . For any slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \geq (p-1)p$  and  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \geq (p-1)p$  by Lemma 7.8. Suppose  $H \subseteq B$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 2p$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq 2p$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 3 \cdot \frac{2p}{(p-1)p} - 4 \cdot \frac{2p}{(p-1)p} = \frac{p-15}{p-1} > 0$ .

Next suppose  $H \subseteq C, D$  or  $E$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) < 2p$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) < 2p$ . The calculation in the case  $H \subseteq B$  shows  $\delta > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.2.** *Assume  $p = 13$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/13\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H$  is contained in  $C, D$  or  $E$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/13\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = \#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 14 \cdot 13$  by Lemma 7.8. Suppose  $H \subseteq E$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 18$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq 8$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 3 \cdot \frac{18}{14 \cdot 13} - 4 \cdot \frac{8}{14 \cdot 13} = \frac{48}{91} > 0$ .

Next suppose  $H \subseteq C$  or  $D$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 14 < 18$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq 2 < 8$ . The calculation in the case  $H \subseteq E$  shows  $\delta > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.3.** *Assume  $p = 13$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/13^2\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H/H_1$  is contained in  $B$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/13^2\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = \#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 14 \cdot 13^3$  by Lemma 7.8. Lemma 7.5 shows that in  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/13\mathbb{Z})$  we have  $\#B \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = \#B \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 26$ . By Proposition 7.9, we have  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq a(\sigma, 13)_2 + 13(26 - 2) = 50 \cdot 13$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, 13)_2 + 13(26 - 2) = 50 \cdot 13$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 3 \cdot \frac{50 \cdot 13}{14 \cdot 13^3} - 4 \cdot \frac{50 \cdot 13}{14 \cdot 13^3} = \frac{144}{169} > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.4.** *Assume  $p = 11$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/11\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H$  is contained in  $B, C$  or  $D$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/11\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = \#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 110$  by Lemma 7.8.

Suppose  $H \subseteq D$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 14$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq 2$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 3 \cdot \frac{14}{110} - 4 \cdot \frac{2}{110} = \frac{6}{11} > 0$ .

Next suppose  $H \subseteq B$  or  $C$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 10 < 14$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 0 < 2$ . The calculation in the case  $H \subseteq D$  shows  $\delta > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.5.** *Assume  $p = 11$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/11^2\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H/H_1$  is contained in  $E$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/11^2\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = \#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 10 \cdot 11^3$  by Lemma 7.8. Lemma 7.5 shows that in  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/11\mathbb{Z})$  we have  $\#E \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 30$  and  $\#E \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq 20$ . By Proposition 7.9, we have  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq a(\sigma, 11)_2 + 11(30 - 2) = 50 \cdot 11$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, 11)_2 + 11(20 - 2) = 40 \cdot 11$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 3 \cdot \frac{50 \cdot 11}{10 \cdot 11^3} - 4 \cdot \frac{40 \cdot 11}{10 \cdot 11^3} = \frac{90}{121} > 0$ .  $\square$



**Proposition 8.6.** *Assume  $p = 7$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H$  is contained in  $C$  or  $D$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = 42$   $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 56$  by Lemma 7.8.

Suppose  $H \subseteq C$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 6$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq 2$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 3 \cdot \frac{6}{42} - 4 \cdot \frac{2}{56} = \frac{3}{7} > 0$ .

Next suppose  $H \subseteq D$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 10$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 0$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 3 \cdot \frac{10}{42} - 4 \cdot 0 = \frac{2}{7} > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.7.** *Assume  $p = 7$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/7^2\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H/H_1$  is contained in  $B$  or  $E$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/7^2\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = 6 \cdot 7^3$  and  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 8 \cdot 7^3$  by Lemma 7.8.

Suppose  $H/H_1 \subseteq B$ . Lemma 7.5 shows that in  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z})$  we have  $\#B \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = 0$  and  $\#B \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 14$ . Thus  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = 0$ . By Proposition 7.9, we have  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, 7)_2 + 7(14 - 2) = 26 \cdot 7$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 3 \cdot 0 - 4 \cdot \frac{26 \cdot 7}{8 \cdot 7^3} = \frac{36}{49} > 0$ .

Next suppose  $H/H_1 \subseteq E$ . Lemma 7.5 shows that in  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z})$  we have  $\#E \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 18$  and  $\#E \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq 8$ . By Proposition 7.9, we have  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq a(\sigma, 7)_2 + 7(18 - 2) = 30 \cdot 7$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, 7)_2 + 7(8 - 2) = 20 \cdot 7$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 3 \cdot \frac{30 \cdot 7}{6 \cdot 7^3} - 4 \cdot \frac{20 \cdot 7}{8 \cdot 7^3} = \frac{24}{49} > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.8.** *Assume  $p = 5$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H$  is contained in  $C$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = 30$  and  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 20$  by Lemma 7.8. Lemma 7.5 shows that in  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})$  we have  $\#C \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = 6$  and  $\#C \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 0$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 3 \cdot \frac{6}{30} - 4 \cdot 0 = \frac{2}{5} > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.9.** *Assume  $p = 5$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5^2\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H/H_1$  is contained in  $B$  or  $D$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5^2\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = 6 \cdot 5^3$  and  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 4 \cdot 5^3$  by Lemma 7.8.

Suppose  $H/H_1 \subseteq B$ . Lemma 7.5 shows that in  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})$  we have  $\#B \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = 10$  and  $\#B \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 0$ . Thus  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 0$ . By Proposition 7.9, we have  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq a(\sigma, 5)_2 + 5(10 - 2) = 90$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 3 \cdot \frac{90}{6 \cdot 5^3} - 4 \cdot 0 = \frac{16}{25} > 0$ .

Next suppose  $H/H_1 \subseteq D$ . Lemma 7.5 shows that in  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})$  we have  $\#D \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = 6$  and  $\#D \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 2$ . By Proposition 7.9, we have  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq a(\sigma, 5)_2 + 5(6 - 2) = 70$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, 5)_2 + 5(2 - 2) = 50$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 3 \cdot \frac{70}{6 \cdot 5^3} - 4 \cdot \frac{50}{4 \cdot 5^3} = \frac{8}{25} > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.10.** *Assume  $p = 5$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5^3\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H/H_1$  is contained in  $E$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5^3\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = 6 \cdot 5^5$  and  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 4 \cdot 5^5$  by Lemma 7.8. Lemma 7.5 shows that in  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})$  we have  $\#E \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 18$  and  $\#E \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq 8$ . By Proposition 7.9, we have  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq a(\sigma, 5)_3 + 5^2(18 - 2) = 66 \cdot 5^2$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, 5)_3 + 5^2(8 - 2) = 56 \cdot 5^2$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 3 \cdot \frac{66 \cdot 5^2}{6 \cdot 5^5} - 4 \cdot \frac{56 \cdot 5^2}{4 \cdot 5^5} = \frac{36}{125} > 0$ .  $\square$

(Proof of Theorem 5.1 when  $d = 6$ ) Put

$$n'(R, p) := \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } p = 5, \\ 1 & \text{if } p \in \{7, 11, 13\}, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \geq 17. \end{cases}$$

Let  $(A, i)$  be a QM-abelian surface over  $K$  satisfying (2.1) and  $\rho_{(A,i)/K,p}(\mathrm{G}_K) \not\subseteq (1 + p^{n'(R,p)}\mathrm{M}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p))^{\det=1}$ . By Lemma 7.1 and 7.2, we have  $\bar{\rho}_{(A,i)/K,p^{n'(R,p)+1}}(\mathrm{G}_K) \not\subseteq (1 + p^{n'(R,p)}\mathrm{M}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^{n'(R,p)+1}\mathbb{Z}))^{\det=1}$ . (More precisely, we should replace  $n'(R, p)$  by  $n'(R, p) - 1, n'(R, p) - 2$  according to the shape of  $\bar{\rho}_{(A,i)/K,p}$ .) Replacing  $K$  by  $K(\zeta_{p^{n'(R,p)+1}})$ , we may assume  $\bar{\rho}_{(A,i)/K,p^{n'(R,p)+1}}(\mathrm{G}_K) \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^{n'(R,p)+1}\mathbb{Z})$ . We may also assume that  $\bar{\rho}_{(A,i)/K,p^{n'(R,p)+1}}(\mathrm{G}_K)$  is contained in a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^{n'(R,p)+1}\mathbb{Z})$  satisfying  $H \ni -1$  (see [A], proof of Proposition 3.8). By Lemma 6.2, we know that there are only finitely many  $\bar{K}$ -isomorphism classes of such  $(A, i)$ 's. Therefore  $n(R, p) \leq n'(R, p)$ . To exclude  $n(R, p) = 0$  for  $p = 5$  (resp.  $p = 7$ , resp.  $p = 13$ ), we have only to see  $g_B^R = g_D^R = 1$  (resp.  $g_B^R = 1$ , resp.  $g_B^R = 1$ ) where  $n = 1$ .

Case  $d = 10$ . If  $H$  contains  $-1$ , then

$$g_H^R = 1 + \frac{1}{3}[G : H] \left( 1 - 4 \frac{\#\mathrm{Fix}_\tau}{[G : H]} \right)$$

by Lemma 6.3. Put

$$\delta := 1 - 4 \frac{\#\mathrm{Fix}_\tau}{[G : H]} = 1 - 4 \frac{\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau)}{\#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau)}.$$

**Proposition 8.11.** *Assume  $p \geq 11$ . For any slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \geq (p - 1)p$  by Lemma 7.8.

Suppose  $H \subseteq B$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq 2p$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 4 \cdot \frac{2p}{(p-1)p} = \frac{p-9}{p-1} > 0$ .

Next suppose  $H \subseteq C, D$  or  $E$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) < 2p$ . The calculation in the case  $H \subseteq B$  shows  $\delta > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.12.** *Assume  $p = 7$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H$  is contained in  $C, D$  or  $E$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\text{Conj}(\tau) = 56$  by Lemma 7.8. Since  $H \subseteq C, D$  or  $E$ , Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq 8$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 4 \cdot \frac{8}{56} = \frac{3}{7} > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.13.** *Assume  $p = 7$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/7^2\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H/H_1$  is contained in  $B$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/7^2\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\text{Conj}(\tau) = 8 \cdot 7^3$  by Lemma 7.8. Lemma 7.5 shows that in  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/7\mathbb{Z})$  we have  $\#B \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) = 14$ . By Proposition 7.9, we have  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, 7)_2 + 7(14 - 2) = 26 \cdot 7$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 4 \cdot \frac{26 \cdot 7}{8 \cdot 7^3} = \frac{36}{49} > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.14.** *Assume  $p = 3$ . For any slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3^4\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3^4\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\text{Conj}(\tau) = 4 \cdot 3^6$  by Lemma 7.8. Similarly  $\#\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}) \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) = 4$ . By Proposition 7.10, we have  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, 3)_4 + 3^3(4 - 1) = 2 \cdot 3^5$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 1 - 4 \cdot \frac{2 \cdot 3^5}{4 \cdot 3^6} = \frac{1}{3} > 0$ .  $\square$

Case  $d = 22$ . If  $H$  contains  $-1$ , then

$$g_H^R = 1 + \frac{1}{6}[G : H] \left( 5 - 3 \frac{\#\text{Fix}_\sigma}{[G : H]} - 8 \frac{\#\text{Fix}_\tau}{[G : H]} \right)$$

by Lemma 6.3. Put

$$\delta := 5 - 3 \frac{\#\text{Fix}_\sigma}{[G : H]} - 8 \frac{\#\text{Fix}_\tau}{[G : H]} = 5 - 3 \frac{\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma)}{\#\text{Conj}(\sigma)} - 8 \frac{\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau)}{\#\text{Conj}(\tau)}.$$

**Proposition 8.15.** *Assume  $p \geq 7$ . For any slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\text{Conj}(\sigma) \geq (p - 1)p$  and  $\#\text{Conj}(\tau) \geq (p - 1)p$  by Lemma 7.8.

Suppose  $H \subseteq B$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 2p$  and  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq 2p$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 5 - 3 \cdot \frac{2p}{(p-1)p} - 8 \cdot \frac{2p}{(p-1)p} = \frac{5p-27}{p-1} > 0$ .

Next suppose  $H \subseteq C$  or  $D$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) < 2p$  and  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) < 2p$ . The calculation in the case  $H \subseteq B$  shows  $\delta > 0$ .

Finally suppose  $H \subseteq E$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 30$  and  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq 20$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 5 - 3 \cdot \frac{30}{(p-1)^p} - 8 \cdot \frac{20}{(p-1)^p} = 5 \cdot \frac{(p-1)^p - 50}{(p-1)^p} > 0$  if  $p \geq 8$ . When  $p = 7$ , we have  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 18$  and  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq 8$  by Lemma 7.5. Thus  $\delta \geq 5 - 3 \cdot \frac{18}{6 \cdot 7} - 8 \cdot \frac{8}{6 \cdot 7} = \frac{46}{21} > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.16.** *Assume  $p = 5$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H$  is contained in  $B, C$  or  $D$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\text{Conj}(\sigma) = 30$  and  $\#\text{Conj}(\tau) = 20$  by Lemma 7.8.

Suppose  $H \subseteq B$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 10$  and  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) = 0$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 5 - 3 \cdot \frac{10}{30} - 8 \cdot 0 = 4 > 0$ .

Next suppose  $H \subseteq C$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 6 < 10$  and  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) = 0$ . The calculation in the case  $H \subseteq B$  shows  $\delta > 0$ .

Finally suppose  $H \subseteq D$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 6$  and  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq 2$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 5 - 3 \cdot \frac{6}{30} - 8 \cdot \frac{2}{20} = \frac{18}{5} > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.17.** *Assume  $p = 5$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5^2\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H/H_1$  is contained in  $E$ , then  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5^2\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\text{Conj}(\sigma) = 6 \cdot 5^3$  and  $\#\text{Conj}(\tau) = 4 \cdot 5^3$  by Lemma 7.8. Lemma 7.5 shows that in  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})$  we have  $\#E \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 18$  and  $\#E \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq 8$ . By Proposition 7.9, we have  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) \leq a(\sigma, 5)_2 + 5(18 - 2) = 26 \cdot 5$  and  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, 5)_2 + 5(8 - 2) = 16 \cdot 5$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 5 - 3 \cdot \frac{26 \cdot 5}{6 \cdot 5^3} - 8 \cdot \frac{16 \cdot 5}{4 \cdot 5^3} = \frac{16}{5} > 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.18.** *Assume  $p = 3$ . For any slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3^3\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3^3\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\text{Conj}(\sigma) = 2 \cdot 3^5$  and  $\#\text{Conj}(\tau) = 4 \cdot 3^4$  by Lemma 7.8. Similarly  $\#\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}) \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) = 6$  and  $\#\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}) \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) = 4$ . By Proposition 7.9, we have  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) \leq a(\sigma, 3)_3 + 3^2(6 - 2) = 22 \cdot 3^2$ . By Proposition 7.10, we have  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, 3)_3 + 3^2(4 - 1) = 4 \cdot 3^3$ . Therefore  $\delta \geq 5 - 3 \cdot \frac{22 \cdot 3^2}{2 \cdot 3^5} - 8 \cdot \frac{4 \cdot 3^3}{4 \cdot 3^4} = \frac{10}{9} > 0$ .  $\square$

Case  $g^R = 1$  (equivalently  $d \in \{14, 15, 21, 33, 34, 46\}$ ). If  $H$  contains  $-1$ , then we know

$$\begin{aligned} g_H^R &= 1 + \frac{1}{12}[G : H] \left( 3r \left( 1 - \frac{\#\text{Fix}_\sigma}{[G : H]} \right) + 4s \left( 1 - \frac{\#\text{Fix}_\tau}{[G : H]} \right) \right) \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{12}[G : H] \left( 3r \left( 1 - \frac{\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma)}{\#\text{Conj}(\sigma)} \right) + 4s \left( 1 - \frac{\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau)}{\#\text{Conj}(\tau)} \right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

from Lemma 6.3. Thus we have  $g_H^R \geq 2$  if at least one of the following two conditions is satisfied:

- $r > 0$  and  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) < \#\text{Conj}(\sigma)$ .
- $s > 0$  and  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) < \#\text{Conj}(\tau)$ .

The values of  $r, s$  depending on  $d$  are as follows:

$d$	$r$	$s$
14	2	0
15	0	2
21	4	0
33	4	2
34	0	4
46	2	4

Note that in any case we have  $(r, s) \neq (0, 0)$ .

**Proposition 8.19.** *Assume  $p \geq 5$ . For any slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\delta > 0$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\text{Conj}(\sigma) = (p \pm 1)p$  and  $\#\text{Conj}(\tau) = (p \pm 1)p$  by Lemma 7.8.

Suppose  $H \subseteq B, C$  or  $D$ . Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 2p < \#\text{Conj}(\sigma)$  and  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq 2p < \#\text{Conj}(\tau)$ . Therefore  $g_H^R \geq 2$ .

Next suppose  $H \subseteq E$ . Lemma 7.5 shows

$$\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) \leq \begin{cases} 30 < \#\text{Conj}(\sigma) & \text{if } p \geq 7, \\ 18 < \#\text{Conj}(\sigma) & \text{if } p = 5, \end{cases}$$

and

$$\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq \begin{cases} 20 < \#\text{Conj}(\tau) & \text{if } p \geq 7, \\ 8 < \#\text{Conj}(\tau) & \text{if } p = 5. \end{cases}$$

Therefore  $g_H^R \geq 2$ . □

**Proposition 8.20.** *Assume  $p = 3$ . For any slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3^2\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $g_H^R \geq 2$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3^2\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\text{Conj}(\sigma) = 54$  and  $\#\text{Conj}(\tau) = 36$  by Lemma 7.8. Similarly  $\#\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}) \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) = 6$  and  $\#\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}) \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) = 4$ . By Proposition 7.9, we have  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\sigma) \leq a(\sigma, 3)_2 + 3(6 - 2) = 30 < \#\text{Conj}(\sigma)$ . By Proposition 7.10, we have  $\#H \cap \text{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, 3)_2 + 3(4 - 1) = 18 < \#\text{Conj}(\tau)$ . Therefore  $g_H^R \geq 2$ . □

**Proposition 8.21.** *Assume  $p = 2$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H$  is contained in  $B$ , then  $g_H^R \geq 2$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = 3$  and  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 2$  by Lemma 7.8. Lemma 7.5 shows  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 1 < \#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma)$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 0 < \#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau)$ . Therefore  $g_H^R \geq 2$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.22.** *Assume  $p = 2$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2^2\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H/H_1$  is equal to the whole  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ , then  $g_H^R \geq 2$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2^2\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = 6$  and  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 8$  by Lemma 7.8. By Lemma 7.6, we may assume  $H \subseteq A_1$ . Lemma 7.7 shows  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) \leq 3 < \#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma)$  and  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq 2 < \#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau)$ . Therefore  $g_H^R \geq 2$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.23.** *Assume  $p = 2$  and  $d \in \{21, 33\}$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H$  is contained in  $F$ , then  $g_H^R \geq 2$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = 3$  by Lemma 7.8. We can easily see  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\sigma) = 0 < \#\mathrm{Conj}(\sigma)$ . Since  $d \in \{21, 33\}$ , we have  $r > 0$ . Therefore  $g_H^R \geq 2$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.24.** *Assume  $p = 2$  and  $d = 15$ . Take a slim subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2^5\mathbb{Z})$ . If  $H/H_1$  is contained in  $F$ , then  $g_H^R \geq 2$ .*

*Proof.* In  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2^5\mathbb{Z})$ , we have  $\#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 2^9$  by Lemma 7.8. Similarly  $\#(H/H_3) \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq \#\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2^3\mathbb{Z}) \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) = 2^5$ . By Proposition 7.11, we have  $\#H \cap \mathrm{Conj}(\tau) \leq a(\tau, 2)_5 + 2^3(2^5 - 8) = 5 \cdot 2^6 < \#\mathrm{Conj}(\tau)$ . Since  $d = 15$ , we have  $s > 0$ . Therefore  $g_H^R \geq 2$ .  $\square$

This completes the proof of Theorem 5.1. When  $p = 2$ , a slight difference occurs between the power of 2 in Proposition 8.21-8.24 and  $n(R, 2)$  in Theorem 5.1. See [A], proof of Proposition 3.8 for details.

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