

Erratum to “The cuspidal class number formula for the modular curves $X_1(2p)$ ”

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Abstract. We correct a theorem on the conductor of elliptic curves over \mathbf{Q} given in Introduction of the paper “The cuspidal class number formula for the modular curves $X_1(2p)$ ”.

In Introduction of Takagi [3], I gave a theorem concerning the conductor of elliptic curves over \mathbf{Q} . But, since our arguments contained an error, the statement of the theorem had a surplus assumption in the case of the prime conductor. I give the corrected statement in the following.

Let A be an elliptic curve over \mathbf{Q} of conductor n . Let r be 5 or 7 with $r \nmid n$. Agashe [1] proved that if n is square-free and r divides the order of the \mathbf{Q} -rational torsion subgroup of $A(\mathbf{Q})$, then r divides the cuspidal class number $h_0(n)$ of $X_0(n)$.

When n is a prime, Ogg [6] has shown that $h_0(n)$ is equal to the numerator of $(n-1)/12$. On the other hand, in Takagi [2, Theorem 5.1], we gave the cuspidal class number formula for n square-free, generalizing the formula of Ogg. When n is composite, we see from this that r divides $h_0(n)$ if and only if n has a prime factor congruent to ± 1 modulo r . Combining these results we have the following

THEOREM. *Let n be a square-free integer. Let A be an elliptic curve over \mathbf{Q} of conductor n . Let r be 5 or 7 with $r \nmid n$.*

- (1) *Assume that n is a prime. If A has a \mathbf{Q} -rational point of order r , then $n \equiv 1 \pmod{r}$.*
- (2) *Assume that n is composite. If A has a \mathbf{Q} -rational point of order r , then n has a prime factor congruent to ± 1 modulo r .*

EXAMPLES. In Table 1 of Cremona [4], all elliptic curves over \mathbf{Q} of conductor $n \leq 1000$ are listed. In the list there exist 45 elliptic curves A with $5 \mid |A(\mathbf{Q})|$.

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Among them the number of the curves with $5 \nmid n$ is 25, and all these 25 curves have a square-free conductor. Among the 25 curves, the number of the curves such that n is a prime is 2, and both of them (the curves 11A1 and 11A3) have the conductor $n = 11 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$, which are examples of the case (1) of the theorem. Among the other 23 curves which have a composite n , the number of the curves such that n has a prime factor p with $p \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ (respectively $p \equiv -1 \pmod{5}$) is 14 (respectively 9). The curves with the least n which have a prime factor $p \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ are 66C1 and 66C2. Both of them have the conductor $n = 66 = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 11$ with $p = 11$. The curve with the least n which have a prime factor $p \equiv -1 \pmod{5}$ is 38B1, and its conductor is $n = 38 = 2 \cdot 19$ with $p = 19$.

In the list there exist 10 elliptic curves A with $7 \mid |A(\mathbf{Q})|$. Among them the number of the curves with $7 \nmid n$ is 6, and all these 6 curves have a composite, square-free conductor. Among the 6 curves, the number of the curves such that n has a prime factor p with $p \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$ (respectively $p \equiv -1 \pmod{7}$) is 4 (respectively 2). The curve with the least n which has a prime factor $p \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$ is 174B1, and its conductor is $n = 174 = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 29$ with $p = 29 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$. The curve with the least n which has a prime factor $p \equiv -1 \pmod{7}$ is 26B1, and its conductor is $n = 26 = 2 \cdot 13$ with $p = 13 \equiv -1 \pmod{7}$.

OBSERVATIONS. The theorem considers the elliptic curves of conductor n with $r \nmid n$. On the contrary, for the elliptic curves of conductor n with $r \mid n$, we have the following observations. In Table 1 of Cremona [5], all elliptic curves over \mathbf{Q} of conductor $n < 180000$ are listed. In the list there exist 868 (respectively 54) elliptic curves A with $5 \mid |A(\mathbf{Q})|$ (respectively $7 \mid |A(\mathbf{Q})|$), among them the number of the curves such that $5 \mid n$ (respectively $7 \mid n$) is 456 (respectively 21), and the number of the curves such that $5 \parallel n$ (respectively $7 \parallel n$) is 283 (respectively 12). For each $r = 5, 7$, we observe that all curves in this list with $r \mid |A(\mathbf{Q})|$ and $r \parallel n$ satisfy that the conductor n is square-free and has a prime factor congruent to ± 1 modulo r .

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