

# **Number fields from covers of $M_{0,5}$**

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**1. Context of rigid local systems**

**2. The base  $M_{0,5}$ : (5 points= $\{0, 1, \infty, s, t\}$ )**

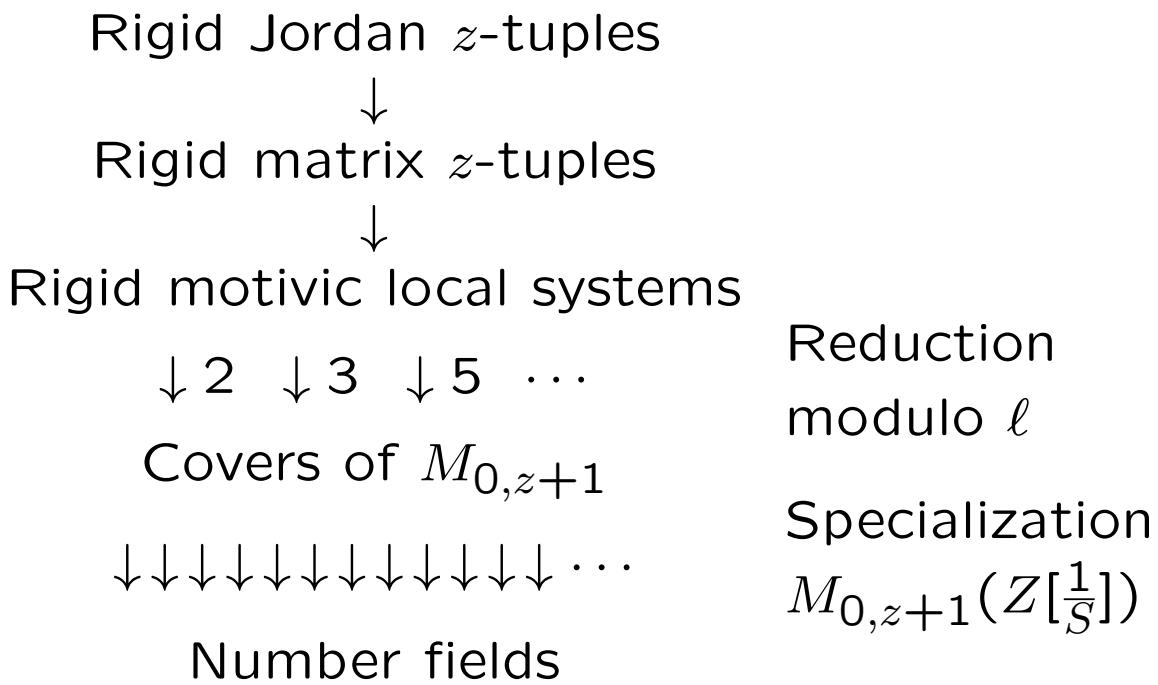
**3. Background on three groups**

**4.  $X_{27} \rightarrow M_{0,5}^\alpha$  with Gal =  $W(E_6)$   
and  $\alpha = (st)$  symmetry**

**5.  $X_{28a} \rightarrow M_{0,5}^\beta$  with Gal =  $W(E_7)^+$   
and  $\beta = (01)(st)$  symmetry**

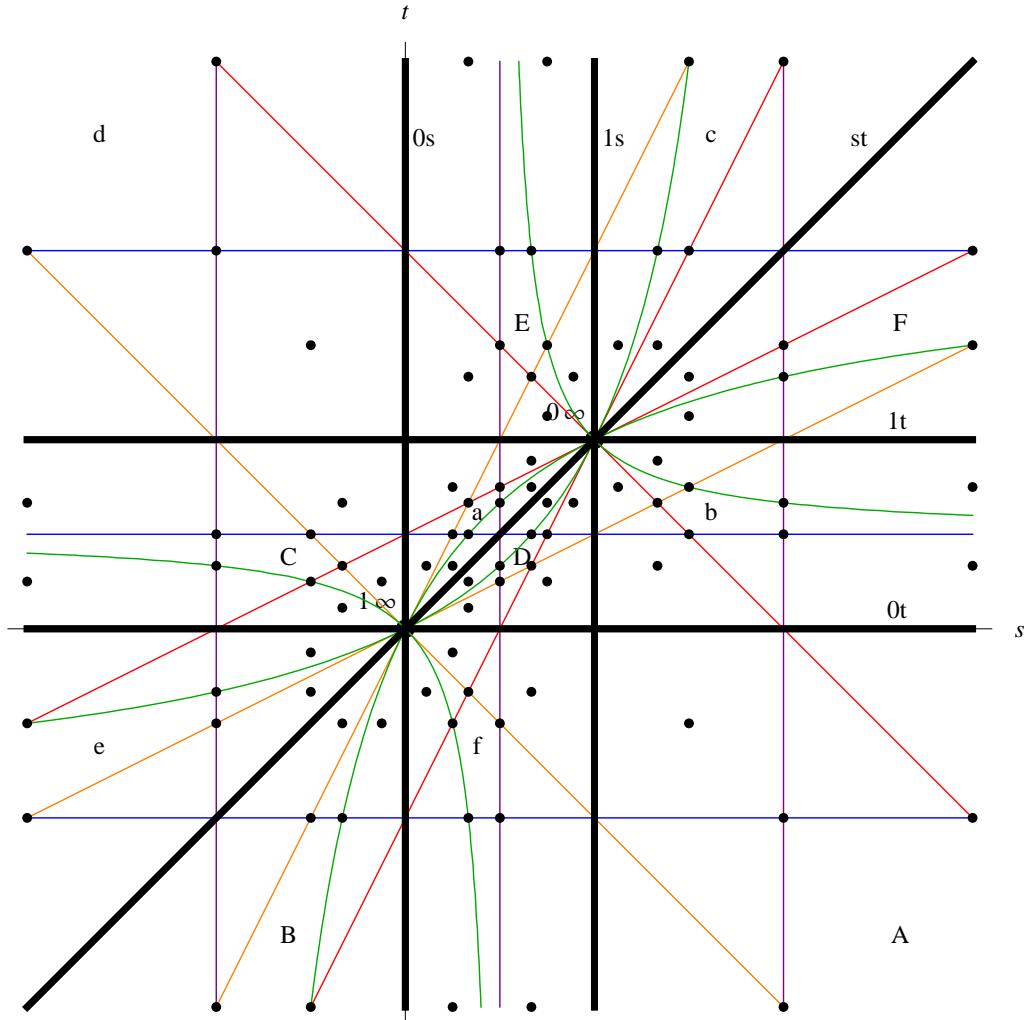
**6.  $X_{28b} \rightarrow M_{0,5}^{S_3}$  with Gal =  $G_2(2)$   
and  $S_3$  symmetry**

**1. Context of rigid local systems.** Katz's remarkable theory of rigid local systems can be viewed as a method of constructing number fields:



The number fields obtained are **classified via parameters**, have **Lie-type Galois groups**, and have **controlled bad reduction**. We want to understand this more explicitly, especially in the little-explored  $z \geq 4$  case.

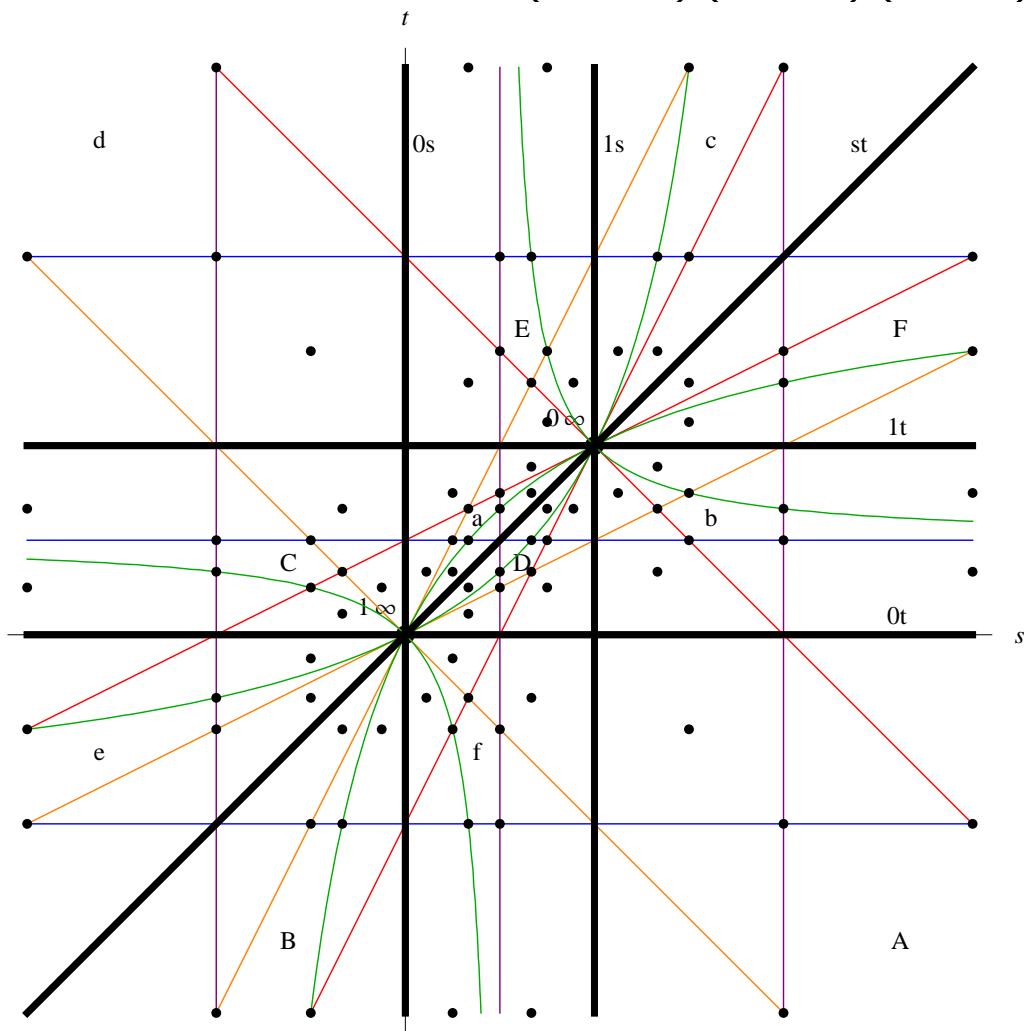
## 2. The base $M_{0,5}$ : (5 points= $\{0, 1, \infty, s, t\}$ ).



$M_{0,5}(\mathbb{R})$  with its discriminant locus and

- 0: red lines through  $(1, 1)$ ,
- 1: orange lines through  $(0, 0)$ ,
- $\infty$ : green hyperbolas,
- $s$ : blue horizontal lines,
- $t$ : violet vertical lines.

$$M_{0,5} = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[s, t, \frac{1}{st(s-1)(t-1)(s-t)}].$$



$$\alpha = (\textcolor{violet}{st}) = (eB)(aD)(cF)(Eb)(Ad)(Cf)$$

$$\beta = (\textcolor{red}{01})(\textcolor{violet}{st}) = (EC)(bf)(ec)(BF)$$

$$\gamma = (\textcolor{blue}{s\infty t10}) = (bcae)(BCAEF)$$

$$\delta = (\textcolor{red}{01\infty}) = (BDF)(bdf)(EAC)(eac)$$

### 3. Background on $W(E_6) \subset W(E_7) \supset G_{12096}$ .

Char 0:  $W(E_6) = W(E_6)^+.2 \subset O_6(\mathbb{R})$   
 $W(E_7)^+ = W(E_7)^+ \times 2 \subset O_7(\mathbb{R})$

Char 2:  $W(E_6) \cong O_6^-(2)$   
 $W(E_7)^+ \cong Sp_6(2)$   
 $G_{12096} = G_2(2)' . 2$

Char 3:  $W(E_6) \cong SO_5(3)$   
 $G_{12096} = U_3(3).2$

Perm:  $W(E_6) \subset A_{27}$  “27 lines”  
 $W(E_7)^+ \subset A_{28}$  “28 bitangents”

Orders:  $|W(E_6)| = 2^7 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 = 51,840$   
 $|W(E_7)^+| = 2^9 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 = 1,451,520$   
 $|G_{12096}| = 2^6 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7 = 12,096$

## Conjugacy classes:

$W(E_6)$	$W(E_7)$	$j$	$\mu_6$	$\lambda_{28}$
1a	1A	000000/1	6	$1^{28}$
2c	2A	000000/1	51	$2^6 1^{16}$
2a	2B	000000/1	42	$2^{12} 1^4$
2b	2C	000000/1	42	$2^{10} 1^8$
2d	2D	000000/1	33	$2^{12} 1^4$
3c	3A	000012/3	411	$3^6 1^{10}$
3ab	3B	111222/3	33	$3^9 1$
3d	3C	001122/3	222	$3^9 1$
4a	4A	000000/1	222	$4^6 1^4$
4c.	4B	000000/1	3111	$4^5 2^3 1^2$
4d.	4C	000000/1	3111	$4^5 2^1 1^6$
	4D			$4^6 2^2$
4b	4E	000000/1	2211	$4^5 2^3 1^2$
5a	5A	001234/5	21111	$5^5 1^3$
6g.	6A	000012/3	3111	$6^1 3^4 2^3 1^4$
6cd	6B	000012/3	2211	$6^3 2^3 1^4$
6ab	6C	111222/3	2211	$6^4 31$
6f	6D	000012/3	2211	$6^2 3^2 2^4 1^2$
6h.	6E	001122/3	2211	$6^2 3^5 1$
6e	6F	001122/3	21111	$6^4 31$
6i.	6G	001122/3	111111	$6^4 31$
	7A	123456/7	111111	$7^4$
8a.	8A	000000/8	111111	$8^3 2^1 1^2$
	8B			$8^3 4$
9ab	9A	124578/9	111111	$9^3 1$
10a.	10A	001234/5	111111	$10^1 5^3 21$
12c.	12A	000012/3	111111	$12^1 6^1 4^2 1^2$
	12B			$12^4 2^3 2^2$
12ab	12C	111222/3	111111	$12^2 31$
	15A			$15 5^2 3$

**4.**  $X_{27} \rightarrow M_{0,5}^\alpha$  **with**  $\alpha = (st)$ .  
 $\text{Gal} = W(E_6)$ .

The starting point:

$X^*$	$t0$	$t1$	$t\infty \& ts$	
$C$	$6ab$	$4a$	$2c$	
$\lambda$	$6^4 3$	$4^6 1^3$	$2^6 1^{15}$	$g = 0$
$j$	$\widehat{1}112\widehat{2}2/3$	$\widehat{0}0\widehat{0}\widehat{0}0/2$	$\widehat{000000}/1$	
$\mu$	$2211$	$222$	$51$	$m = 0$
$X$	$1\infty$	$0\infty$	$s\infty \& t\infty$	

Genus computation:

$$\sum_{i=1}^z |\lambda_i| = (z-2)n + 2 - 2[\mathbf{g}]$$

$$5 + 9 + 2(21) = 2 \cdot 27 + 2 - 2[\mathbf{0}]$$

Mobility computation:

$$\sum_{i=1}^z \|\mu_i\| = (z-2)n^2 + 2 - 2[\mathbf{m}]$$

$$10 + 12 + 2(26) = 2 \cdot 36 + 2 - 2[\mathbf{0}]$$

In the family  $J_6$ .

An equation for  $X_{27}^* \rightarrow M_{0,5}$  is

$$tb_6(s, x)^4 b_3(s, x) + 2^3 3^2 s(1-t) a_4(s, x)^6 = 0$$

where

$$a_4(s, x) = x^4 - 2x^3 + 2sx - s,$$

$$b_3(s, x) = 2x^3 - 3x^2 + s,$$

$$b_6(s, x) = x^6 - 3x^5 + 10sx^3 - 15sx^2 + 9sx - 2s^2.$$

It was found by first finding it modulo 5 and then lifting.

The discriminant of

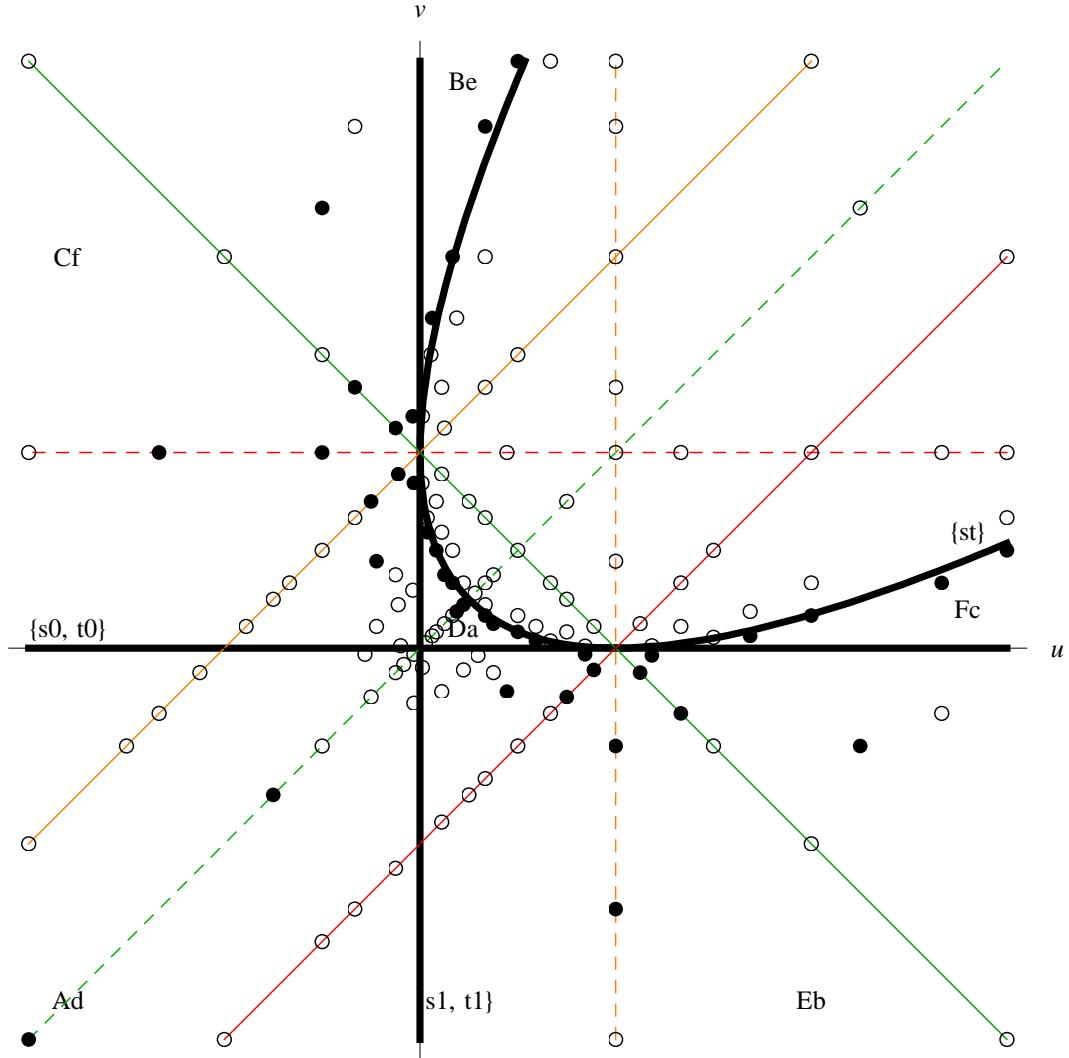
$$f_{27}^*(s, t, x) = tb_6(s, x)^4 b_3(s, x) + 2^3 3^2 s(1-t) a_4(s, x)^6$$

is

$$D_{27}^*(s, t) = 2^{190} 3^{270} s^{126} (s-1)^{102} t^{22} (t-1)^{18} (t-s)^6.$$

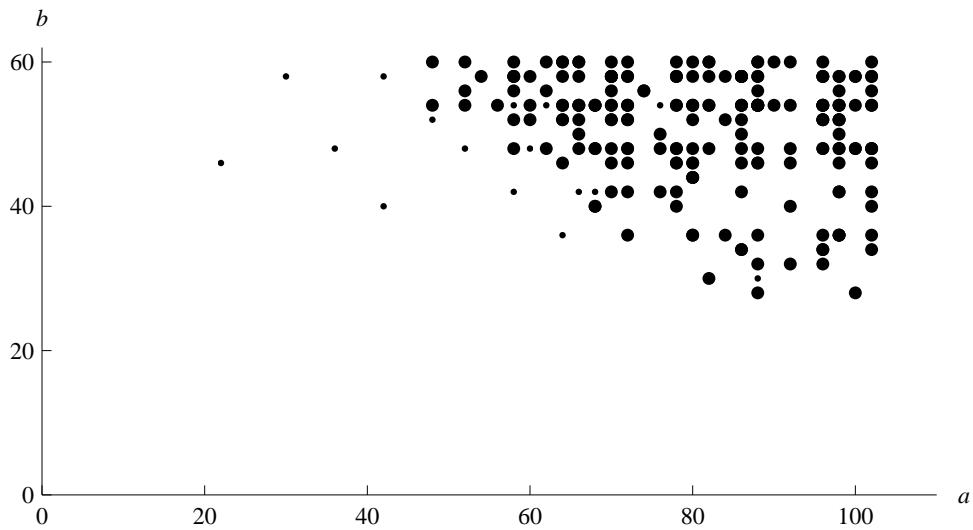
The desired  $X_{27} \rightarrow M_{0,5}^\alpha$  then comes from simultaneously quotienting by  $\tilde{\alpha}$  and  $\alpha$ .

We now specialize at the universal set  $M_{0,5}^\alpha(\mathbb{Z}[1/6])$ .



The black dots come from  $M_{0,5}^\alpha(\mathbb{Z}[1/6])$  while the white dots are new.

Discriminants  $2^a 3^b$  arising from the 229 points of  $M_{0,5}^\alpha(\mathbb{Z}[1/6])$  ( $\bullet = W(E_6)^*$  and  $\cdot = \text{smaller}$ ):



More details:

$\lambda_{27}$	$ G $	$(u, v)$	#	GRD	$r$	$R$
12, 6, 6, 3	48	$S_4 \times S_2$	(1/3, 1/3)	1	21.20	4 25
27	54	$3_+^{1+2}.2$	(-1/32, 27/32)	1	19.94	2 4
27	216	$3_+^{1+2}.D_4$	(1/3, 1/6)	1	37.92	
27	324	$(S_3 \wr A_3)^+$	(1/4, -3/4)	1	29.96	1 1
15, 6, 6	360	$A_6$	(-32, -27)	1	31.66	1 1
24, 3	576	$2.A_4^2.2$	(-4/3, -1/3)	1	54.41	
27	648	$S_3 \wr A_3$	(27/32, -1/32)	1	51.41	4
27	648	$(S_3 \wr S_3)^+$	(1/16, 1/16)	2	42.95	4 29
15, 6, 6	720	$S_6$	(-9/2, -2)	1	72.71	13
27	1296	$S_3^3 \wr S_3$	(8/3, 1/3)	6	37.92	2 3
27	1296	$3_+^{1+2}.\tilde{S}_4$	(1, 2)	1	44.45	
15, 12	1440	$S_6 \times S_2$	(1/8, 3/8)	2	66.35	
16, 10, 1	1920	$2^4.S_5$	(3, 8)	1	59.95	2
27	25920	$W(E_6)^+$	(4/3, -1/3)	15	48.12	
27	51840	$W(E_6)$	(27/8, -1/8)	194		

plus 300+ more

The least ramified  $W(E_6)^+$  field, as measured by the root discriminant of the Galois closure, is given by

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) = & \\ & x^{27} - 90x^{19} - 336x^{18} + 1080x^{15} - 1215x^{11} \\ & + 3312x^{10} - 2544x^9 + 1944x^7 \\ & - 1728x^6 - 324x^3 - 144x - 64 \end{aligned}$$

Its Galois slope content is  $[7/2, 3, 3, 2, 2, 2]^3$  at 2 and  $[5/3, 3/2, 3/2]_2^3$  at 3.

Its Galois root discriminant is therefore

$$GRD(f) = 2^{99/32} 3^{85/54} \approx 48.12$$

This somewhat above the Serre-Odlyzko constant  $\Omega = 8\pi e^\gamma \approx 44.7632$ . For comparison, the largest Galois number field in the literature with root discriminant less than  $\Omega$  is an  $S_7$  field with  $|S_7| = 5040$ .

5.  $X_{28a} \rightarrow M_{0,5}^\beta$  with  $\beta = (01)(st)$ .  
 $\text{Gal}^{\text{geom}} = \text{Gal} = W(E_7)^+$ .

The starting point:

	$t0$	$t1$	$t\infty$	$ts$	
$C$	$3A$	$4A$	$3B$	$2A$	
$\lambda$	$3^6 1^{10}$	$4^6 1^4$	$3^9 1$	$2^6 1^{16}$	$g = 0$
$j$	$\widehat{000012}/3$	$\widehat{000000}/1$	$\widehat{111222}/3$	$\widehat{000000}/1$	
$\mu_2$	411	222	33	51	$m = 0$

Genus computation:

$$\sum_{i=1}^z |\lambda_i| = (z-2)n + 2 - 2[\mathbf{g}]$$

$$16 + 10 + 10 + 22 = 2 \cdot 28 + 2 - 2[\mathbf{0}]$$

Mobility computation:

$$\sum_{i=1}^z \|\mu_i\| = (z-2)n^2 + 2 - 2[\mathbf{m}]$$

$$18 + 12 + 18 + 26 = 2 \cdot 36 + 2 - 2[\mathbf{0}]$$

In the family  $u_6$ .

An equation for  $X_{28a}^* \rightarrow M_{0,5}$  is

$$sb_6(s, x)^4 b_4(s, x) + (1 - t)c_9(s, x)^3 x = 0$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} b_6(s, x) &= x^6 - 3x^5 + 10sx^3 - 15sx^2 + 9sx - 2s^2, \\ b_4(s, x) &= x^4 - 4sx + 3s, \\ c_9(s, x) &= x^9 - 12sx^7 + 24sx^6 - 18sx^5 + 24s^2x^4 \\ &\quad - 60s^2x^3 + 72s^2x^2 - (12s^3 + 27s^2)x + 8s^3 \end{aligned}$$

It was found by a massive “Lego” computation using the total *a priori* control of the monodromy, assisted by agreement of some cuspidal specializations between  $X_{27}^*$  and  $X_{28a}^*$ .

The discriminant of

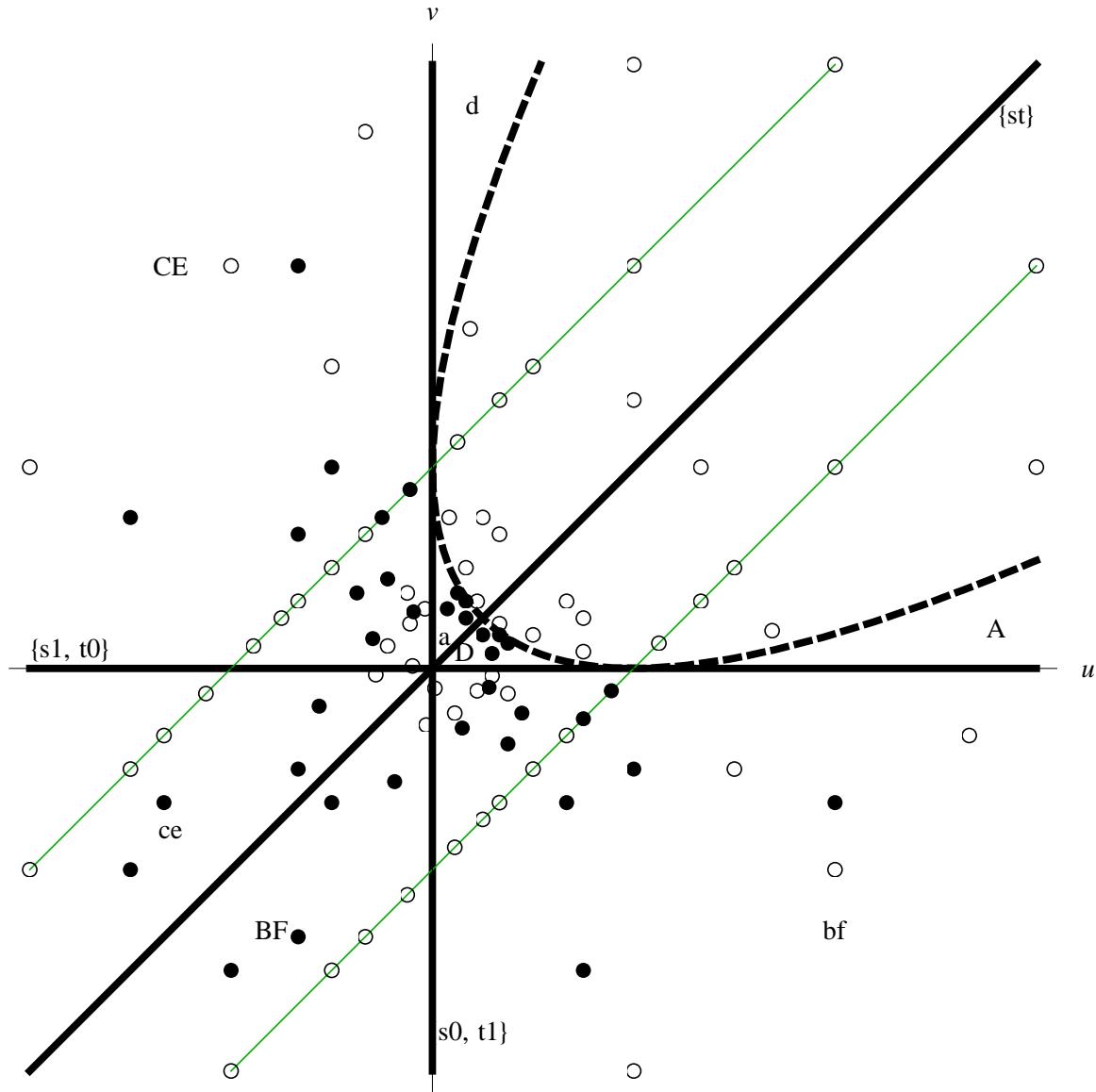
$$f_{28a}^*(s, t, x) = sb_6(s, x)^4 b_4(s, x) + (1 - t)c_9(s, x)^3 x$$

is

$$D_{28a}^*(s, t) = 2^{228} 3^{270} s^{198} (s-1)^{102} t^{12} (t-1)^{18} (t-s)^6.$$

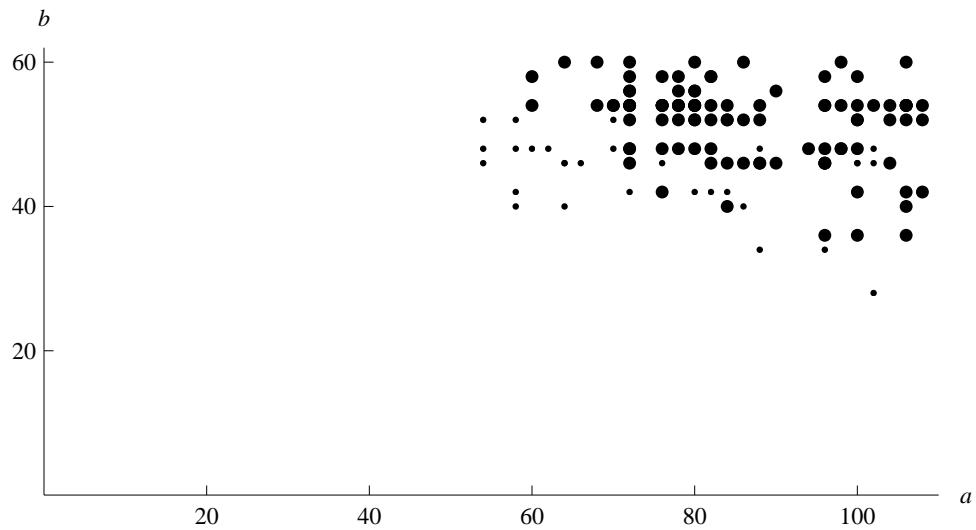
The desired  $X_{28a} \rightarrow M_{0,5}^\beta$  is obtained by taking the  $(\tilde{\beta}, \beta)$  quotient.

We now specialize at the universal set  $M_{0,5}^{\beta}(\mathbb{Z}[1/6])$ :



Again, the black dots come from  $M_{0,5}(\mathbb{Z}[1/6])$  and the white dots are new.

Discriminants  $2^a 3^b$  arising from the 138 points of  $M_{0,5}^\beta(\mathbb{Z}[1/6])$  ( $\bullet = W(E_7)^+$  and  $\cdot = \text{smaller}$ ):



More details:

$\mu_{28}$	$ G $	$G$	$(u, v)$	#	$GRD$	$r$	$R$
16, 12	384	$12T138$	$(1/4, -3/4)$	1	35.65		
27, 1	432	$3_+^{1+2} \cdot \tilde{D}_4$	$(-3/4, 1/4)$	1	32.04		
18, 10	720	$S_5 \times S_3$	$(-4/3, -4)$	1	50.41		
16, 12	1152	$S_4^2 \wr S_2$	$(36, 24)$	1	47.43	11	
27, 1	1296	$S_3 \wr S_3$	$(-9, -8)$	1	37.92	2	3
28	1512	$P\Gamma L_2(8)$	$(9/32, -3/32)$	1	36.12		
21, 7	5040	$S_7$	$(-18, -24)$	2	47.43		1
28	12096	$G_2(2)$	$(3/4, 1/4)$	2			
28	20160	$A_8$	$(9, 12)$	1	76.38		
16, 12	23040	$2^5 \cdot S_6$	$(1, 3)$	1	79.29		
27, 1	25920	$W(E_6)^+$	$(1, 2)$	1	70.10		
28	40320	$S_8$	$(-4, -6)$	6	73.44		
27, 1	51840	$W(E_6)$	$(3, 4)$	18	61.36		
28	1451520	$W(E_7)^+$	$(-1/2, 1)$	101	61.43		
plus 8 more							

**6.**  $X_{28b} \rightarrow M_{0,5}^{S_3}$ .  
 $\text{Gal}^{\text{geom}} = G_2(2)', \text{ Gal} = G_2(2)$ ,  
 $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ , corresponding to  $\text{Gal}/\text{Gal}^{\text{geom}}$ , is present  
in all specializations.

In this case the best initial 4-tuple is  $2A, 2A, 3A, 4A$ , which gives a unique cover. One has an obvious  $S_2$  symmetry from  $2A = 2A$ , and in fact the total symmetry is  $S_3$ .

The mobility with respect to any representation is positive, so one is not *a priori* guaranteed at all that the bad reduction set is  $\{2, 3\}$ .

The genus is 3, obstructing calculations of the style of the previous two examples.

To find a defining equation for the cover, we used Shioda's universal  $W(E_7)$  family and its defining polynomial  $S(a, b, c, d, e, f, g; x)$ .

Specializing via  $f^*(s, t, x) =$

$S(1, s+t, -3st, 0, -st(s+t), -st(s+t), -s^2t^2; x)$   
gives the desired cover over  $M_{0,5}$ .

The discriminant is

$$D^*(s, t) = 2^{326} 3^{156} s^{42} (s-1)^{24} t^{42} (t-1)^{24} (s-t)^{84}$$

times the square of a large-degree irreducible polynomial in  $\mathbb{Z}[s, t]$ . So the bad reduction set is in fact just  $\{2, 3\}$ , rather than the other possibility  $\{2, 3, 7\}$ .

Descending via the  $S_3$  symmetry gives the final cover  $X_{28b} \rightarrow M_{0,5}^{S_3}$ .

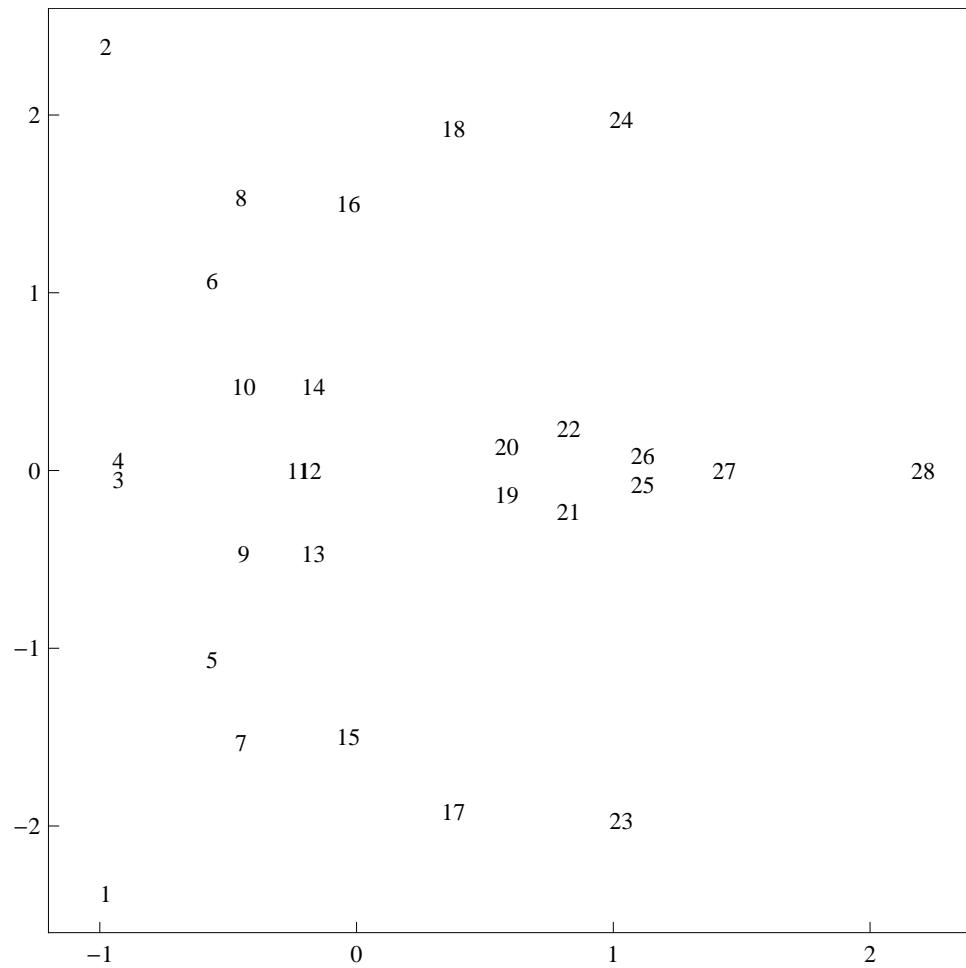
Specialization behaves similarly to the other cases, giving here about four hundred  $G_2(2)$  fields with discriminant  $2^a 3^b$ . (Compare: there are exactly ten  $S_7$  fields with discrim.  $\pm 2^a 3^b$ .)

One field  $K$  with small discriminant comes from

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) = & \\
 & x^{28} - 4x^{27} + 18x^{26} - 60x^{25} + 165x^{24} \\
 & - 420x^{23} + 798x^{22} - 1440x^{21} + 2040x^{20} \\
 & - 2292x^{19} + 2478x^{18} - 756x^{17} - 657x^{16} \\
 & + 1464x^{15} - 4920x^{14} + 3072x^{13} - 1068x^{12} \\
 & + 3768x^{11} + 1752x^{10} - 4680x^9 - 1116x^8 \\
 & + 672x^7 + 1800x^6 - 240x^5 - 216x^4 \\
 & - 192x^3 + 24x^2 + 32x + 4.
 \end{aligned}$$

The discriminant is  $D = 2^{66} 3^{46}$  and so the root discriminant is  $D^{1/28} \approx 31.15$ .

The twenty-eight roots of  $f(x)$  are:



The Galois group is  $\text{Gal}(K^{\text{gal}}/\mathbb{Q}) = \langle c, d \rangle$  with

$$\begin{aligned}
 c &= (1, 2)(3, 4)(5, 6)(7, 8)(9, 10)(13, 14)(15, 16)(17, 18) \\
 &\quad (19, 20)(21, 22)(23, 24)(25, 26)(11)(12)(27)(28) \\
 d &= (1, 8, 9, 18, 25, 20)(2, 22, 24, 19, 3, 6)(4, 27, 28, 11, 21, 14) \\
 &\quad (5, 23, 26, 10, 17, 15)(7, 16, 12)(13)
 \end{aligned}$$

Much of the ramification in  $K^{\text{gal}}$  can be seen already from the degree 28 polynomial  $f(x)$ . However some ambiguities remain and to fully describe ramification we use a degree 63 resolvent built using the description  $\text{Gal}(K^{\text{gal}}/\mathbb{Q}) = \langle c, d \rangle$ .

The slope content at 2 and 3 work out to

$$SC_2 = [3, 3, 3, 2, 2]^3, \quad SC_3 = [\frac{11}{6}, \frac{13}{8}, \frac{13}{8}]_8^2.$$

The Galois root discriminant

$$2^{43/16} 3^{125/72} \approx 43.3864$$

At present  $K^{\text{gal}}$  is the largest known Galois field with almost simple Galois group and root discriminant less than the Serre-Odlyzko constant  $\Omega \approx 44.7632$ .