

Improvements to Sturm Bounds

Peter Marcus



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Maximal order of vanishing (at ∞)

$$m(N, k, \nu) = \max\{\text{ord}_\nu(f) : f \in S_k(N), f \neq 0\}$$



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$$m(N, k, \nu) = \max\{\text{ord}_\nu(f) : f \in S_k(N), f \neq 0\}$$

Question

How well can we bound $m(N, k, \nu)$?



Congruences

If $a_n(f) \equiv a_n(g) \pmod{p}$ for all $n \leq m(N, k, p)$, then $f \equiv g \pmod{p}$.



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Weierstrass Points

∞ is not a Weierstrass point of $X_0(N)$ iff $m(N, 2, \infty) = d(N, 2)$.



Observation 1

$$m(N, k, \infty) \leq m(N, k, p)$$



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Observation 2

$$m(N, k, \nu) \geq d(N, k)$$



Definition

A **Miller basis** is a basis of $S_k(N)$ of the form

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &= q + \cdots + O(q^{d+1}) \\ f_2 &= q^2 + \cdots + O(q^{d+1}) \\ &\vdots \\ f_d &= q^d + O(q^{d+1}) \end{aligned}$$



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Easy Facts

Iff $m(N, k, \infty) = d(N, k)$, then $S_k(N)$ has a Miller basis.

Iff $m(N, k, p) = d(N, k)$, then $S_k(N)$ has a p -integral Miller basis.

Iff $m(N, k, \nu) = d(N, k)$ for all ν , then $S_k(N)$ has an integral Miller basis.



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Proposition (Miller)

$S_k(1)$ has an integral Miller basis.



Theorem (Sturm '87)

Let $r = [\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) : \Gamma_0(N)]$. Then

$$m(N, k, \nu) \leq m(1, kr, \nu) \leq \frac{kr}{12}$$



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Theorem

If $p \mid N$, then

$$m(pN, k, \nu) \leq m(N, kp, \nu)$$

If $p \nmid N$, then

$$m(pN, k, \nu) \leq m(N, k(p+1), \nu)$$



Theorem 1 (Alghren—Masri—Rouse '09)

$$m(N, k, \nu) \leq \frac{kr}{12} - \left\{ \frac{k}{3} \right\} \epsilon_3(N) - \left\{ \frac{k}{4} \right\} \epsilon_2(N) - \epsilon_\infty(N) + 1$$



Theorem 1 (Alghren—Masri—Rouse '09)

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Theorem 2 (Alghren—Masri—Rouse '09)

If $p \geq 5$ and $p > k$, then

$$m(pN, k, p) \leq m(N, kp, p)$$

Note: reduces $k(p+1)$ to kp in the $p \nmid N$ case.



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Corollary (— '24)

With the same conditions on p , and if the genus of $X_0(N)$ is 0, then

$$m(pN, k, \infty) \leq m(N, kp, \infty)$$



Theorem (Wang '23)

If $p \geq 5$, $p > k$, $p \nmid N$, and $d(N, k) = 0$, then

$$m(pN, k, p) = m(pN, k, \infty) = d(pN, k)$$



Theorem (Wang '23)

Define

$$S_k(N)^n := \{f \in S_k(N) : \text{ord}_\nu(f) > n\}$$

There is an explicit constant $w(N)$ such that

$$S_k(N)^n \cong S_{k+w(N)}(N)^{n+rw(N)/12}$$



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There is an explicit constant $w(N)$ such that

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Corollary (— '24)

As long as $m(N, k, \nu) > 0$,

$$m(N, k + w(N), \nu) = m(N, k, \nu) + \frac{rw(N)}{12}$$



Explicit Values of $w(N)$

N	$w(N)$
1	12
2	4
3	6
2^n	2
$2^m p^n$	$p - 1$
otherwise	$(\prod_{p N} (p - 1))/2$



Algorithm

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4. Use the bound $m(N, k, \infty) \leq d(N, k) + g(N) - \delta_{k,2}$.



General Strategy for Bounding $m(N, k, \infty)$

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Obtains sharp bound for $m(N, k, \infty)$ for $N \leq 20$.



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Obtains sharp bound for $m(N, k, \infty)$ for $N \leq 20$.

$m(21, 6, \infty) = 12$, but the best bound gives $m(21, 6, \infty) \leq m(3, 42, \infty) = 13$.



$S_4(11)$

- $m(11, 4) = 2$
- Sturm: $m(11, 4) \leq 4$
- AMR: $m(11, 4) \leq 3$
- Wang: $m(11, 4) \leq 2$



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$S_6(21)$

- $m(21, 6) = 12$
- Sturm: $m(21, 6) \leq 16$
- AMR/Wang: $m(21, 6) \leq 13$



Proposition

$$m(pN, k, \nu) \geq pm(N, k, \nu)$$



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Corollary

Suppose $p \geq 5$, $p > k$, and $12|k$. Then

$$m(p, k, \infty) = \frac{kp}{12}$$



Extensions

- $M_k(\Gamma_0(N))$



Extensions

- $M_k(\Gamma_0(N))$
- $M_k(N, \chi)$



Extensions

- $M_k(\Gamma_0(N))$
- $M_k(N, \chi)$
- etc...



Extensions

- $M_k(\Gamma_0(N))$
- $M_k(N, \chi)$
- etc...
- Vanishing at other cusps/other points



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