

## The 3-Weierstrass points on genus two curves with extra involutions

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### Abstract

We classify the 3-Weierstrass points on the genus two curves

$$C_{a,b} : y^2 = x^6 + ax^4 + bx^2 + 1,$$

where  $a, b \in \mathbf{C}$  are two parameters. We describe the classification in terms of the invariants  $u = ab$  and  $v = a^3 + b^3$  (cf. [7]).

### 1. Introduction

We consider a 2-parameters family of genus two curves  $C_{a,b}$  defined by

$$C_{a,b} : y^2 = x^6 + ax^4 + bx^2 + 1, \quad (\Delta(a, b) \neq 0),$$

where  $\Delta(a, b) = -64(27 - 18ab + 4a^3 + 4b^3 - a^2b^2)^2$  is the discriminant of the polynomial  $x^6 + ax^4 + bx^2 + 1$ . It is clear that the curves  $C_{a,b}$  admit an extra involution  $(x, y) \mapsto (-x, y)$  which differs from the hyperelliptic involution.

It is well known that, for a hyperelliptic curve  $C$  of a genus  $g \geq 2$  the set of ordinary Weierstrass points on  $C$ , denoted by  $W_1(C)$ , are nothing but its set of the  $(2g + 2)$ -ramification points over  $\mathbb{P}^1$ . Furthermore,  $W_1(C)$  is contained in the set of the  $q$ -Weierstrass points on  $C$ , denoted by  $W_q(C)$ , for every  $q \geq 2$ . For a point  $P \in C$ , let  $w^{(q)}(P)$  denote the  $q$ -weight of  $P$ .

For a genus two curve  $C$ , we have the equality  $W_1(C) = W_2(C)$ . For a point  $P \in W_3(C)$ , there occur three cases:  $w^{(3)}(P) = 1, 2$  and  $3$ . We have  $w^{(3)}(P) = 3$  if and only if  $P \in W_1(C)$ . We can divide  $W_3(C)$  as

$$W_3(C) = W_3(C)_1 \cup W_3(C)_2 \cup W_1(C) \quad (\text{disjoint union}),$$

where  $W_3(C)_1$  (resp.  $W_3(C)_2$ ) is the set of the 3-Weierstrass points  $P$  with  $w^{(3)}(P) = 1$  (resp.  $w^{(3)}(P) = 2$ ). We denote by  $N_1$  (resp.  $N_2$ ) the number of points in  $W_3(C)_1$  (resp.  $W_3(C)_2$ ). We have the formula:  $N_1 + 2N_2 = 32$ .

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Shaska and Völklein [7] found a *generic moduli* for the curves  $C_{a,b}$ . They introduced the invariants  $u = ab$  and  $v = a^3 + b^3$  of a  $D_6$  action, where  $D_{2n}$  denotes the dihedral group of order  $2n$  (see Subsection 2.2). We have  $\Delta(a, b) = -64\delta(u, v)^2$ , where  $\delta(u, v) = 27 + 4v - 18u - u^2$ . Set  $\Lambda : \delta(u, v) = 0$ . Then the complement  $\mathbf{C}^2 \setminus \Lambda$  generically classifies the curves  $C_{a,b}$ . The curves  $C_{a,b}$  with the same invariants  $(u, v)$  are isomorphic, hence they have the same pair  $(N_1, N_2)$ .

We define the following curves in the  $(u, v)$ -plane:

$$S : s(u, v) = -1125 + 4v + 110u - u^2 = 0,$$

$$T : t(u, v) = v^2 - 4u^3 = 0,$$

$$M : m(u, v) = 4v - u(u + 16) = 0,$$

$$G : g(u, v) = 20796875 - 13942500u - 571350u^2 - 98324u^3 - 3645u^4 \\ + 3429000v - 235440uv + 1512u^2v + 52272v^2 = 0.$$

The curves  $S$  and  $T$  were introduced in [7], where it was shown that if  $(u, v) \in S$  (resp.  $T$ ), then there exists an automorphism of order three (resp. four) on  $C_{a,b}$ . We will encounter the curves  $M$  and  $G$  in Section 3.

The purpose of this paper is to prove the following:

**Theorem.** *We classify the 3-Weierstrass points on  $C_{a,b}$  as follows:*

$N_1$	$N_2$	$(u, v)$	Geometry	$\text{Aut}(C_{a,b})$
0	16	$(25, -250)$	$S \cap G \cap T$	$GL_2(3)$
12	10	$A$	$M \cap S \cap G$	$D_{12}$
16	8	$B_{\pm}$	$G \cap T$	$D_8$
		$Q$	the node of $G$	$V_4$
20	6	$E_{\pm}$	$M \cap G$	$V_4$
24	4	$(0, 0)$	$M \cap T$	$\mathbb{Z}_3 \rtimes D_8$
		$(16, 128)$	$M \cap T$	$D_8$
		general points on $S$		$D_{12}$
		general points on $G$		$V_4$
28	2	general points on $M$		$V_4$
32	0	otherwise		$V_4$

Here, we used the following notations:

$$N_1 = \#(W_3(C)_1), \quad N_2 = \#(W_3(C)_2), \\ A = \left(\frac{125}{14}, \frac{43625}{784}\right), \quad Q = \left(-\frac{25}{2}, -\frac{11125}{176}\right), \\ B_{\pm} = \left(\frac{1025}{729} \pm \frac{5200}{729}\sqrt{-2}, -\frac{698750}{19683} \pm \frac{758000}{19683}\sqrt{-2}\right), \\ E_{\pm} = \left(-\frac{647}{256} \pm \frac{3519}{3328}\sqrt{-39}, -\frac{33079811}{1703936} \pm \frac{4930119}{1703936}\sqrt{-39}\right).$$

In Section 2, we recall some basic facts on  $q$ -Weierstrass points and Wronskian forms of  $q$ -differentials on genus two curves. In Section 3, we compute the 3-Weierstrass points on  $C_{a,b}$  and prove Theorem. In Section 4, we prove that every 3-Weierstrass point of 3-weight 2 on a genus two curve is a  $q$ -Weierstrass point of  $q$ -weight 2 ( $q \geq 4$ ) except if  $q \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ . We used the computer softwares Mathematica and Maple to perform the computations.

## 2. Preliminaries

Let  $C$  be a non-singular projective curve of genus two. Let  $H^0(C, (\Omega^1)^q)$  be the  $\mathbf{C}$ -vector space of holomorphic  $q$ -differentials on  $C$ . By Riemann-Roch Theorem, we have  $\dim H^0(C, (\Omega^1)^q) = (2q - 1)$ , for  $q \geq 2$ .

**Definition 1.** For a point  $P$  on  $C$ , take a basis  $\{\psi_1, \dots, \psi_{2q-1}\}$  of  $H^0(C, (\Omega^1)^q)$  so that  $\text{ord}_P(\psi_1) < \dots < \text{ord}_P(\psi_{2q-1})$ . Letting  $n_i = \text{ord}_P(\psi_i) + 1$ , the sequence  $G^{(q)}(P) = \{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_{2q-1}\}$  is called the  $q$ -gap sequence of  $P$ . The non-negative integer

$$w^{(q)}(P) = \sum_{i=1}^{2q-1} (n_i - i)$$

is called the  $q$ -weight of  $P$ . We say that a point  $P \in C$  is a  $q$ -Weierstrass point if  $w^{(q)}(P) > 0$ . We denote by  $W_q(C)$  the set of all  $q$ -Weierstrass points on  $C$ .

**Definition 2.** Now we define the Wronskian form:

$$\Omega_q = W(\psi_1, \dots, \psi_{2q-1}) \in H^0(C, (\Omega^1)^{(2q-1)^2}).$$

Since every  $q$ -differential  $\psi_i$  can be written in a form  $\psi_i = f_i(z)(dz)^q$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 2q - 1$ , where  $f_i$  is a holomorphic function and  $z$  is a local coordinate, then, we define

$$\Omega_q = W(\psi_1, \dots, \psi_{2q-1}) = W(f_1, \dots, f_{2q-1})(dz)^{(2q-1)^2},$$

where:

$$W(f_1, \dots, f_{2q-1}) = \begin{vmatrix} f_1(z) & f_2(z) & \cdots & f_{2q-1}(z) \\ f_1'(z) & f_2'(z) & \cdots & f_{2q-1}'(z) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ f_1^{(2q-2)}(z) & f_2^{(2q-2)}(z) & \cdots & f_{2q-1}^{(2q-2)}(z) \end{vmatrix}$$

Hence, we obtain

$$\text{div}(\Omega_q) = \text{div}(W(f_1, \dots, f_{2q-1})) + (2q - 1)^2 \text{div}(dz).$$

By using the Wronskian method, we can prove the following:

**Lemma 1.** *We have the formula:*

$$\sum_{P \in C} w^{(q)}(P) = 2(2q - 1)^2, \quad \text{for } q \geq 2.$$

**Lemma 2** (Duma [3]). *For every  $P \in C$ , we have  $w^{(q)}(P) \leq 3$ . The equality occurs if and only if  $P \in W_1(C)$ .*

**Lemma 3.** *The possible 3-gap sequences of  $P \in W_3(C)$  are listed as follows:*

$G^{(3)}(P)$	$w^{(3)}(P)$
{1, 2, 3, 4, 6}	1
{1, 2, 3, 4, 7}	2
{1, 2, 3, 5, 7}	3

*Proof.* It suffices to see that {1, 2, 3, 5, 6} is not a 3-gap sequence. Let  $P \in C$  be a 3-Weierstrass point with  $w^{(3)}(P) = 2$ . Since  $P \notin W_1(C)$ , there exists an element  $\psi \in H^0(C, \Omega^1)$  such that  $\text{ord}_P(\psi) = 1$ . We have  $\text{ord}_P(\psi^3) = 3$ , hence  $4 \in G^{(3)}(P)$ .  $\square$

### 2.1 The 3-Weierstrass points on $C_{a,b}$

Here, we will restrict our attention to the curves  $C_{a,b}$ . Write  $f(x, y) = y^2 - (x^6 + ax^4 + bx^2 + 1)$ . Clearly,  $x^6 + ax^4 + bx^2 + 1 = (x^2 - \alpha_1^2)(x^2 - \alpha_2^2)(x^2 - \alpha_3^2)$ , where  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$  are nonzero distinct complex numbers. The set of branch points is given by  $\{\pm\alpha_1, \pm\alpha_2, \pm\alpha_3\}$ . The corresponding set of the ramification points on  $C_{a,b}$  is given by

$$\{R_1^\pm = (\pm\alpha_1, 0), R_2^\pm = (\pm\alpha_2, 0), R_3^\pm = (\pm\alpha_3, 0)\}.$$

There are two points over the point  $\infty \in \mathbb{P}^1$ , in the nonsingular model of  $C_{a,b}$ , we call these two points  $P_1^\infty$  and  $P_2^\infty$ . We will denote by  $P_1^0$  and  $P_2^0$  the two points over the point  $0 \in \mathbb{P}^1$ .

In order to compute the 3-Weierstrass points on  $C_{a,b}$ , we use the following basis of holomorphic 3-differentials:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_0 &= (1/y^3)(dx)^3, & \psi_1 &= (x/y^3)(dx)^3, & \psi_2 &= (x^2/y^3)(dx)^3, \\ \psi_3 &= (x^3/y^3)(dx)^3, & \psi_4 &= (1/y^2)(dx)^3. \end{aligned}$$

The divisors of these holomorphic 3-differentials are given as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{div}(\psi_0) &= 3(P_1^\infty + P_2^\infty), & \text{div}(\psi_1) &= (P_1^0 + P_2^0) + 2(P_1^\infty + P_2^\infty), \\ \text{div}(\psi_2) &= 2(P_1^0 + P_2^0) + (P_1^\infty + P_2^\infty), & \text{div}(\psi_3) &= 3(P_1^0 + P_2^0), \\ \text{div}(\psi_4) &= \sum_{i=1}^3 (R_i^+ + R_i^-). \end{aligned}$$

We can compute the Wronskian form  $\Omega_3$  (see Definition 2) by using the 4-th differentiation  $y^{(4)}$  of  $y$  by  $x$  as follows:

**Lemma 4.** 1)  $W(1, x, x^2, x^3, y) = 12y^{(4)}$ .

2)  $\Omega_3(x, a, b) = W(1, x, x^2, x^3, y)(dx)^{25}/f_y^{15} \in H^0(C_{a,b}, (\Omega^1)^{25})$ .

## 2.2 Parameter spaces of the curves $C_{a,b}$

The parameter space of the family  $C_{a,b}$ , is given by  $\mathbf{C}^2 \setminus \tilde{\Lambda}$  where  $\tilde{\Lambda}$  is a quartic curve defined by

$$\tilde{\Lambda} : \tilde{\delta}(a, b) = 27 - 18ab + 4a^3 + 4b^3 - a^2b^2 = 0 \quad (\Delta(a, b) = -64 \tilde{\delta}(a, b)^2).$$

The dihedral group  $D_6 = \langle \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \rangle$  acts on the  $(a, b)$ -plane in the following way:

$$\sigma_1 : (a, b) \rightarrow (\omega a, \omega^2 b), \quad \sigma_2 : (a, b) \rightarrow (b, a),$$

where  $\omega = \exp(2\pi i/3)$ . The invariant ring under the action of  $D_6$  is generated by  $u = ab$  and  $v = a^3 + b^3$ , so that

$$\mathbf{C}[a, b]^{D_6} = \mathbf{C}[u, v].$$

Note that  $\tilde{\delta}(a, b) = \delta(u, v)$  and we defined the curve  $\Lambda : \delta(u, v) = 0$ . We then have the isomorphism  $(\mathbf{C}^2 \setminus \tilde{\Lambda})/D_6 \cong \mathbf{C}^2 \setminus \Lambda$ . In particular, the points

$$(a, b), (\omega a, \omega^2 b), (\omega^2 a, \omega b), (b, a), (\omega b, \omega^2 a), (\omega^2 b, \omega a)$$

correspond to the same point  $(u, v) = (ab, a^3 + b^3)$  in  $\mathbf{C}^2 \setminus \Lambda$ .

**Lemma 5.** *In  $\mathbf{C}^2 \setminus \Lambda$ , the intersections of the curves  $S$ ,  $T$ ,  $M$  and  $G$  defined in Introduction are given as follows (see also Introduction, for  $A$ ,  $B_{\pm}$ ,  $E_{\pm}$ ):*

$$\begin{aligned} S \cap T &= \{(25, -250), (225, 6750), (9, 54)\}, \\ S \cap M &= \{A\}, \\ M \cap T &= \{(0, 0), (16, 128)\}, \\ G \cap S &= \{(25, -250), A\}, \\ G \cap M &= \{E_{\pm}, A\}, \\ G \cap T &= \{B_{\pm}, (25, -250), (1, -2), (\frac{121}{25}, \frac{2662}{125})\}. \end{aligned}$$

**Remark 1.** The curve  $G$  has a node at the point  $Q$  and a tacnode on the line at infinity. Hence,  $G$  is a rational curve.

Shaska and Völklein in [7] determined the automorphism group of  $C_{a,b}$  in terms of  $u$  and  $v$  as follows:

**Lemma 6.** 1)  $\text{Aut}(C_{a,b}) \cong GL_2(3)$  if and only if  $(u, v) = (25, -250)$ ,

2)  $\text{Aut}(C_{a,b}) \cong \mathbb{Z}_3 \rtimes D_8$  if and only if  $(u, v) = (0, 0)$  or  $(225, 6750)$ ,

- 3)  $\text{Aut}(C_{a,b}) \cong D_{12}$  if and only if  $(u, v) \in S$  and  $u \neq 9, 70 + 30\sqrt{5}, 25$ ,  
 4)  $\text{Aut}(C_{a,b}) \cong D_8$  if and only if  $(u, v) \in T$  and  $u \neq 1, 9, 0, 25, 225$ ,  
 5)  $\text{Aut}(C_{a,b}) \cong V_4$  if and only if  $(u, v) \notin (S \cup T) \setminus \Lambda$ .

### 3. Proof of Theorem

Using Lemma 4, we can write the Wronskian form  $\Omega_3$  on  $C_{a,b}$  as:

$$\Omega_3 = \Phi(x, a, b)(dx)^{25}/f_y^{22},$$

where the polynomial

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(x, a, b) = & (4a - b^2) + (60 - 16ab + 4b^3)x^2 + (70b - 56a^2 + 14ab^2)x^4 \\ & - (196b - 84a^2)x^{10} + (70a - 56b^2 + 14ba^2)x^{12} \\ & + (60 - 16ab + 4a^3)x^{14} + (4b - a^2)x^{16} \end{aligned}$$

is of degree 14 or 16 according as the coefficient  $4b - a^2$  of  $x^{16}$  is zero or not. We infer that

$$\text{div}(\Omega_3) = 3 \left( \sum_{i=1}^3 (R_i^+ + R_i^-) \right) + 16(P_1^\infty + P_2^\infty) + \text{div}(\Phi)_0 - \text{div}(\Phi)_\infty.$$

In view of Lemma 2, we see that  $\Phi(x, a, b)$  has no multiple roots whose multiplicities are greater than 2.

#### 3.1 Case(I): $4b - a^2 = 0$

Suppose  $4b - a^2 = 0$ . In this case, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(x, a) = \Phi(x, a, a^2/4) = & \text{Const.} \left\{ a(64 - a^3) + (960 - 64a^3 + a^6)x^2 \right. \\ & + (-616a^2 + 14a^5)x^4 + (-3136a + 84a^4)x^6 + (-4560 + 240a^3)x^8 \\ & \left. + (560a^2)x^{10} + (1120a)x^{12} + 960x^{14} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

The pole divisor of  $\Phi(x, a)$  is given by  $14(P_1^\infty + P_2^\infty)$ , so we get

$$\text{div}(\Omega_3) = 3 \left( \sum_{i=1}^3 (R_i^+ + R_i^-) \right) + 2(P_1^\infty + P_2^\infty) + \text{div}(\Phi)_0,$$

which implies that  $w^{(3)}(P_1^\infty) = w^{(3)}(P_2^\infty) = 2$ . By computing the discriminant of  $\Phi(x, a)$ , we have

$$\text{Disc}(\Phi) = \text{Const} \Delta(a)^{18} a \eta(a) U(a)^2 V(a)^4,$$

where  $\Delta(a) = \Delta(a, a^2/4) \neq 0$  and

$$\begin{aligned}\eta(a) &= 64 - a^3, \\ U(a) &= 332750 + 8411a^3 + 416a^6, \\ V(a) &= -250 + 7a^3.\end{aligned}$$

We see that  $\Phi$  has a multiple root if and only if  $a\eta(a)U(a)V(a) = 0$ . To determine the number of the multiple roots of  $\Phi = \Phi(x, a)$ , we compute the subresultants  $R^{(i)}$  of the two polynomials  $\Phi$  and  $\Phi_x$  (the differentiation by  $x$ ). Since  $\Phi$  has at most double roots, if  $R^{(1)}(a) = \dots = R^{(s)}(a) = 0$ ,  $R^{(s+1)}(a) \neq 0$ , then  $\Phi$  has  $s$  double roots at  $a$ . We obtain

$$\begin{aligned}R^{(1)}(\Phi, \Phi_x; x) &= \text{Const. } \Delta(a)^{18} a \eta(a) U(a)^2 V(a)^4, \\ R^{(2)}(\Phi, \Phi_x; x) &= \text{Const. } \Delta(a)^{15} U(a) V(a)^3 \zeta_{12}(a), \\ R^{(3)}(\Phi, \Phi_x; x) &= \text{Const. } \Delta(a)^{12} V(a)^2 \zeta_9(a) \zeta_{12}(a), \\ R^{(4)}(\Phi, \Phi_x; x) &= \text{Const. } \Delta(a)^{10} a V(a) \zeta_9(a) \chi_{12}(a), \\ R^{(5)}(\Phi, \Phi_x; x) &= \text{Const. } \Delta(a)^8 a^3 \zeta_6(a) \chi_{12}(a),\end{aligned}$$

where  $\zeta_n(a)$  and  $\chi_n(a)$  are polynomials of degree  $n$  of  $a$ .

We consider the curve  $\widetilde{M} : (4b - a^2)(4a - b^2) = 0$ . Note that

$$(4b - a^2)(b^2 - 4a) = m(u, v) = 4v - u(u + 16).$$

In Introduction, we defined the curve  $M : m(u, v) = 0$ .

**Case**  $a\eta(a) = 0$ . Since  $\text{Res}(a\eta(a), U(a)V(a)\zeta_{12}(a); a) \neq 0$ , we conclude that  $\Phi$  has one multiple root if  $a\eta(a) = 0$ .

(i) The point  $(a, b) = (0, 0)$  corresponds to the point  $(0, 0) \in (M \cap T) \setminus \Lambda$ . We have

$$\Phi(x, 0, 0) = 15x^2(4 - 19x^6 + 4x^{12}).$$

Thus, we have  $W_3(C_{0,0})_2 = \{P_1^\infty, P_2^\infty, P_1^0, P_2^0\}$ .

(ii) For the case in which  $\eta(a) = 0$ , we have three points

$$(4, 4), \quad (4\omega, 4\omega^2), \quad (4\omega^2, 4\omega),$$

which correspond to the point  $(16, 128) \in (M \cap T) \setminus \Lambda$ . We have

$$\Phi(x, 4, 4) = 5x^2(12 + 56x^2 + 112x^4 + 135x^6 + 112x^8 + 50x^{10} + 12x^{12}).$$

Thus,  $W_3(C_{a,b})_2 = \{P_1^\infty, P_2^\infty, P_1^0, P_2^0\}$ .

**Case**  $U(a) = 0$ . Since  $\text{Res}(U(a), V(a)\zeta_9(a)\zeta_{12}(a); a) \neq 0$ , we infer that  $\Phi$  has two multiple roots if  $U(a) = 0$ . There occur three points over the point  $E_+$  and three points over the point  $E_-$ . It follows that  $N_2 = 6$ .

**Case**  $V(a) = 0$ . Since  $\text{Res}(V(a), a\zeta_6(a)\chi_{12}(a); a) \neq 0$ , we infer that  $\Phi$  has four multiple roots if  $V(a) = 0$ . There occur three points over the point  $A$ . It follows that  $N_2 = 10$ .

Otherwise,  $\Phi$  has no multiple roots, thus,  $W_3(C_{a,b})_2 = \{P_1^\infty, P_2^\infty\}$ .

We summarize the results for the case in which  $4b - a^2 = 0$ .

	$(u, v)$	$N_1$	$N_2$	$\text{Aut}(C_{a,b})$
$V(a) = 0$	$A$	12	10	$D_{12}$
$U(a) = 0$	$E_\pm$	20	6	$V_4$
$\eta(a) = 0$	$(16, 128)$	24	4	$D_8$
$a = 0$	$(0, 0)$	24	4	$\mathbb{Z}_3 \rtimes D_8$
otherwise		28	2	$V_4$

By Lemma 5, we see that  $A \in S \cap G$ ,  $E_\pm \in G$  and  $(0, 0), (16, 128) \in M$ .

### 3.2 Case(II): $4b - a^2 \neq 0$

We now turn to the case in which  $4b - a^2 \neq 0$ . In this case, we have

$$\text{div}(\Omega_3) = 3 \left( \sum_{i=1}^3 (R_i^+ + R_i^-) \right) + \text{div}(\Phi)_0.$$

By computing the discriminant of  $\Phi = \Phi(x, a, b)$ , we find that

$$\text{Disc}(\Phi) = \text{Const} \Delta(a, b)^{18} (4b - a^2)^2 (4a - b^2) F_4^2(a, b) F_8^2(a, b),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} F_4(a, b) &= -1125 + 110ab + 4a^3 + 4b^3 - a^2b^2, \\ F_8(a, b) &= 20796875 - 13942500ab + 3429000(a^3 + b^3) - 571350a^2b^2 \\ &\quad - 235440ab(a^3 + b^3) + 6220a^3b^3 + 52272(a^6 + b^6) \\ &\quad + 1512a^2b^2(a^3 + b^3) - 3645a^4b^4. \end{aligned}$$

We consider the following curves in the  $(a, b)$ -plane:

$$\tilde{S} : F_4(a, b) = 0 \text{ and } \tilde{G} : F_8(a, b) = 0.$$

We can write as

$$\begin{aligned} F_4(a, b) &= s(u, v) = -1125 + 4v + 110u - u^2, \\ F_8(a, b) &= g(u, v) = 20796875 - 13942500u - 571350u^2 - 98324u^3 - 3645u^4 \\ &\quad + 3429000v - 235440uv + 1512u^2v + 52272v^2. \end{aligned}$$

We have already defined the following curves in the  $(u, v)$ -plane:



$$S : s(u, v) = 0 \text{ and } G : g(u, v) = 0.$$

For the case in which  $(4a - b^2)F_4(a, b)F_8(a, b) \neq 0$ , we see that  $\Phi$  has no multiple roots. Hence,  $W_3(C_{a,b}) = W_3(C_{a,b})_1 \cup W_1(C_{a,b})$  (disjoint union).

We now determine the number of the multiple roots for the case in which  $(4a - b^2)F_4(a, b)F_8(a, b) = 0$ . We compute the subresultants of the two polynomials  $\Phi$  and  $\Phi_x$ :

$$R^{(1)}(\Phi, \Phi_x; x) = \text{Const. } \Delta(a, b)^{18}(4b - a^2)^2(4a - b^2)F_4^2(a, b)F_8^2(a, b),$$

$$R^{(2)}(\Phi, \Phi_x; x) = \text{Const. } \Delta(a, b)^{15}(4b - a^2)^2F_4(a, b)F_8(a, b)\gamma_{21}(a, b),$$

$$R^{(3)}(\Phi, \Phi_x; x) = \text{Const. } \Delta(a, b)^{12}(4b - a^2)^2\gamma_{21}(a, b)\gamma_{18}(a, b),$$

where  $\gamma_n(a, b)$  are polynomials of degree  $n$  of  $a$  and  $b$ .

### 3.2.1 On the conic $M$

Suppose  $4a - b^2 = 0$ . Since  $C_{a,b} \cong C_{b,a}$  via the birational map  $(x, y) \rightarrow (1/x, y/x^3)$ , we have only to refer Subsection 3.1.

### 3.2.2 On the conic $S$

We now consider the points on  $\tilde{S}$ . We have

$$\text{Res}(F_4, \gamma_{21}\gamma_{18}; a) = \text{Const. } (-27 + b^3)^4(125 + b^3)^{12}(-15625 + 784b^3)^2V(b)^3.$$

So the curve  $\tilde{S}$  has intersection points with the curve  $\tilde{\Gamma} : \gamma_{21}(a, b)\gamma_{18}(a, b) = 0$  if and only if  $\text{Res}(F_4, \gamma_{21}\gamma_{18}; a) = 0$ . It suffices to consider the points in  $(\tilde{S} \cap \tilde{\Gamma}) \setminus (\tilde{\Lambda} \cup \tilde{M})$ . We have three points

$$(-5, -5), \quad (-5\omega, -5\omega^2), \quad (-5\omega^2, -5\omega),$$

which correspond to the point  $(25, -250) \in S$ . Note that the above three points also belong to  $\tilde{G}$  (see Lemma 5). We have

$$\Phi(x, -5, -5) = -5(1 + 10x^2 + x^4)^2(3 - 2x^2 + 3x^4)^2.$$

Hence,  $\Phi$  has eight multiple roots so that  $N_2 = 16$ .

Finally, for the general points in  $\tilde{S} \setminus \tilde{\Lambda}$ ,  $\Phi$  has two multiple roots. It follows that  $N_2 = 4$ . Thus, we obtain the following table:

$(u, v)$	$N_1$	$N_2$	$\text{Aut}(C_{a,b})$
$(25, -250)$	0	16	$GL_2(3)$
general points on $S$	24	4	$D_{12}$

### 3.2.3 On the quartic $G$

We consider the points on  $\tilde{G}$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Res}(F_8, \gamma_{21}\gamma_{18}; a) \\ &= \text{Const. } (1+b^3)^{20}(125+b^3)^{12}(-250+11b^3)^4(1375+16b^3)^4(-15625+784b^3)^2 \\ & \times (275-130b+27b^2)^4(75625+35750b+9475b^2+3510b^3+729b^4)^4V(b)^3U(b). \end{aligned}$$

In  $(\tilde{G} \cap \tilde{\Gamma}) \setminus (\tilde{\Lambda} \cup \tilde{M} \cup \tilde{S})$ , we first find three points

$$(\mu_+, \mu_+), \quad (\omega\mu_+, \omega^2\mu_+), \quad (\omega^2\mu_+, \omega\mu_+)$$

over the point  $B_+ \in G$  and three points

$$(\mu_-, \mu_-), \quad (\omega\mu_-, \omega^2\mu_-), \quad (\omega^2\mu_-, \omega\mu_-)$$

over the point  $B_- \in G$ , where  $\mu_{\pm} = 5(13 \pm 8\sqrt{-2})/27$ . We have

$$\Phi(x, \mu_{\pm}, \mu_{\pm}) = \text{Const. } \xi_8^{\pm}(x) (\pm 3 + (\pm 10 + 8\sqrt{-2})x^2 \pm 3x^4)^2$$

By computing the discriminant of the polynomials  $\xi_8^{\pm}(x)$ , we can check that  $\xi_8^{\pm}(x)$  have no multiple roots. It follows that  $N_2 = 8$ . We can then find six points  $(5(2/11)^{1/3}, (-5/2)(11/2)^{1/3}), \dots$  over the point  $Q \in G$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \Phi\left(x, 5(2/11)^{1/3}, (-5/2)(11/2)^{1/3}\right) \\ &= \text{Const. } \Theta_8(x) ((2^{2/3})(11^{1/3}) + 4(2^{1/3})(11^{2/3})x^2 - 4x^4)^2. \end{aligned}$$

By computing the discriminant of the polynomial  $\Theta_8(x)$ , we can check that  $\Theta_8(x)$  has no multiple roots. Therefore, we see that  $N_2 = 8$ .

Finally, for the general points in  $\tilde{G} \setminus (\tilde{\Lambda} \cup \tilde{S})$ ,  $\Phi$  has two multiple roots. Therefore, we see that  $N_2 = 4$ . We obtain the following table:

$(u, v)$	$N_1$	$N_2$	$\text{Aut}(C_{a,b})$
$B_{\pm}$	16	8	$D_8$
$Q$	16	8	$V_4$
general points on $G$	24	4	$V_4$

**Remark 2.** The quartic  $\tilde{S}$  has nodes at the 3 points over  $(25, -250)$ . The octic  $\tilde{G}$  has two tacnodes on the line at infinity and 15 nodes (the 3 points over  $(25, -250)$ , the 3 points each over  $B_{\pm}$ , the 6 points over the node  $Q$  of  $G$ ). As a consequence, we see that  $\tilde{S}$  is an elliptic curve and  $\tilde{G}$  is a genus two curve.

#### 4. Higher order Weierstrass points

Let  $C$  be a genus two curve. For  $q \geq 4$ , in case  $w^{(q)}(P) = 2$ , there exist two types of  $q$ -gap sequences:

$$\text{type I: } G^{(q)}(P) = \{1, 2, \dots, 2q - 3, 2q - 2, 2q + 1\},$$

$$\text{type II: } G^{(q)}(P) = \{1, 2, \dots, 2q - 3, 2q - 1, 2q\}.$$

Let us denote by  $W_q(C)_{2,I}$  (resp.  $W_q(C)_{2,II}$ ) the set of  $q$ -Weierstrass points of  $q$ -weight 2 of type I (resp. type II) on the curve  $C$ .

**Lemma 7** (see also Theorem 6.13 in [1]). *Let  $C$  be a genus two curve. If  $P \in W_3(C)_2$ , then we have*

$$w^{(q)}(P) = \begin{cases} 2 & (\text{type I}) & \text{if } q \equiv 0 \pmod{3}, \\ 2 & (\text{type II}) & \text{if } q \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ 0 & & \text{if } q \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* We give the proof only for the case in which  $q \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ . Assume that  $P \in W_3(C)_2$ . In view of Lemma 3, there exists an element  $\psi \in H^0(C, (\Omega^1)^3)$  such that  $\text{ord}_P(\psi) = 6$ . Write  $q = 3m$ . Clearly,  $\psi^m \in H^0(C, (\Omega^1)^q)$  and  $\text{ord}_P(\psi^m) = 6m = 2q$ . Thus, we have  $2q + 1 \in G^{(q)}(P)$ . We infer that  $G^{(q)}(P) = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 2q - 3, 2q - 2, 2q + 1\}$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.** We can also prove that every 3-Weierstrass point of 3-weight 1 on  $C$  is not a 4-Weierstrass point.

**Lemma 8.** *Let  $C$  be a genus two curve. Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism of  $C$  of order three. Then,  $\sigma$  has four fixed points and every fixed point  $P$  is a  $q$ -Weierstrass point ( $q \geq 3$ ) except if  $q \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ . We have*

$$w^{(q)}(P) = \begin{cases} 2 & (\text{type I}) & \text{if } q \equiv 0 \pmod{3}, \\ 2 & (\text{type II}) & \text{if } q \equiv 1 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Let  $\nu(\sigma)$  denote the number of the fixed points of  $\sigma$ . Let  $\bar{g}$  be the genus of the curve  $\bar{C} = C / \langle \sigma \rangle$ . By using the Riemann-Hurwitz formula, we have

$$1 = 3(\bar{g} - 1) + \nu(\sigma).$$

It follows that  $0 \leq \bar{g} < 2$ . If  $\bar{g} = 1$ , then  $\nu(\sigma) = 1$ , which contradicts Theorem V.2.11 in [5]. So we must have  $\bar{g} = 0$  and  $\nu(\sigma) = 4$ . By Satz 6.4 in [3], every fixed point  $P$  of  $\sigma$  is a  $q$ -Weierstrass point ( $q \geq 3$ ) except if  $q \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ . The assertion then follows from Lemma 7.  $\square$

**Example 1.** We consider the following 1-parameter family of genus two curves:

$$C_t : y^2 = x^6 + tx^3 + 1, \quad (t \neq \pm 2).$$

The curve  $C_t$  has an extra involution  $(x, y) \mapsto (1/x, y/x^3)$ . Clearly,  $\rho : (x, y) \mapsto (\omega x, y)$  acts on  $C_t$ . The two automorphisms  $\rho$  and  $\rho^2$  are elements of order three in  $\text{Aut}(C_t)$ . The fixed points of both  $\rho$  and  $\rho^2$  are given by

$$\text{Fix}(\rho) = \text{Fix}(\rho^2) = \{P_1^0, P_2^0, P_1^\infty, P_2^\infty\} \subset W_3(C_t)_2.$$

We remark that the curve  $C_t$  is isomorphic to the curve  $C_{a,b}$  with

$$a = 3 \left( \frac{10-t}{2-t} \right) \left( \frac{2-t}{2+t} \right)^{2/3}, \quad b = 3 \left( \frac{10+t}{2+t} \right) \left( \frac{2+t}{2-t} \right)^{2/3}.$$

Hence,  $u = 9(100 - t^2) / (4 - t^2)$  and  $v = 54(2000 + 360t^2 + t^4) / (4 - t^2)^2$ . We can easily check that  $(u, v) \in S$ .

**Remark 4.** It turns out that the genus two curve  $\tilde{G}$  is birationally equivalent to the curve:  $y^2 = x^6 + 322x^3 + 1$ . We used the package software Weierstrassform (Maple).

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