

The Hurwitz curve over a finite field and its Weierstrass points for the morphism of lines

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Let \mathcal{X} be an irreducible algebraic curve defined over an algebraically closed field of characteristic $p \geq 0$. The genus of \mathcal{X} is certainly the most famous birational invariant of \mathcal{X} . If $\mathbb{K}(\mathcal{X})$ denotes the function field of \mathcal{X} , the group of all \mathbb{K} -automorphisms of $\mathbb{K}(\mathcal{X})$ is called *automorphism group* of \mathcal{X} , and it is denoted by $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{X})$. Such group is another birational invariant of \mathcal{X} , and the study of $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{X})$ has become a central problem within the theory of algebraic curves. In this talk, we will consider smooth Hurwitz curves

$$\mathcal{H}_n : XY^n + YZ^n + X^nZ = 0,$$

over the finite field \mathbb{F}_p and provide an explicit description of its Weierstrass points for the morphism of lines. That is, we will completely characterize the special set of points $P \in \mathcal{H}_n$ for which the intersection multiplicity $I(P, \mathcal{H}_n \cap T_P \mathcal{H}_n)$ is somewhat large. As a consequence, the full automorphism group $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{H}_n)$, as well as the genera of all Galois subcovers of \mathcal{H}_n will be presented. In addition, we will discuss how this information can be used to bound the number of \mathbb{F}_p -rational points \mathcal{H}_n via Stöhr-Voloch Theory.