



# Non-torsion algebraic cycles on the Jacobians of Fermat quotients

Yusuke Nemoto

*Abstract.* We study the Abel-Jacobi image of the Ceresa cycle  $W_{k,e} - W_{k,e}^-$ , where  $W_{k,e}$  is the image of the  $k$ -th symmetric product of a curve  $X$  with a base point  $e$  on its Jacobian variety. For certain Fermat quotient curves of genus  $g$ , we prove that for any choice of the base point and  $k \leq g - 2$ , the Abel-Jacobi image of the Ceresa cycle is non-torsion. In particular, these cycles are non-torsion modulo rational equivalence.

## 1 Introduction

Let  $X$  be a smooth projective curve of genus  $g$  over  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $\text{Jac}(X)$  be its Jacobian. Let  $\text{CH}_k(\text{Jac}(X))_{\text{hom}}$  be the Chow group of homologically trivial algebraic cycles of dimension  $k$  on  $\text{Jac}(X)$  modulo rational equivalence. To study this group, we consider the Abel-Jacobi map

$$\Phi_k: \text{CH}_k(\text{Jac}(X))_{\text{hom}} \rightarrow J_k(\text{Jac}(X)) \quad (k = 1, \dots, g-1).$$

Here,  $J_k(\text{Jac}(X))$  is a complex torus, which is called the Griffiths intermediate Jacobian (see Section 3.1). It is well known that  $\Phi_{g-1}$  is an isomorphism by the Abel-Jacobi theorem; however, for a general  $k$ ,  $\Phi_k$  is neither injective nor surjective. Fix a base point  $e \in X$  and let  $\iota_e$  be the embedding defined by

$$\iota_e: X \rightarrow \text{Jac}(X); \quad x \mapsto [x] - [e].$$

Put  $X_e = \iota_e(X)$ . We denote  $X_e^-$  by the image of  $X_e$  under the inversion map. Since the inversion map acts trivially on the cohomology groups of even degree, we have

$$X_e - X_e^- \in \text{CH}_1(\text{Jac}(X))_{\text{hom}}.$$

Let  $W_{k,e}$  be the image of the  $k$ -th symmetric product of  $X$  on  $\text{Jac}(X)$ . As in the case of  $k = 1$ , we have

$$W_{k,e} - W_{k,e}^- \in \text{CH}_k(\text{Jac}(X))_{\text{hom}}.$$

These cycles are called the Ceresa cycles and for a generic curve  $X$ , Ceresa [4] proves that if  $1 \leq k \leq g - 2$ , then  $W_{k,e} - W_{k,e}^-$  is nontrivial modulo algebraic equivalence.

For a positive integer  $N$  and integers  $a, b \in \{1, \dots, N - 1\}$ , let  $C_N^{a,b}$  be the smooth projective curve birational to the affine curve

---

Received by the editors April 25, 2024; revised August 13, 2024; accepted September 12, 2024.

AMS Subject Classification: 14C25, 14F35, 14H40.

Keywords: Abel-Jacobi map, Ceresa cycle, Fermat quotient.



$$y^N = x^a(1-x)^b.$$

Let  $F_N$  be the Fermat curve of degree  $N$ . Then  $C_N^{a,b}$  is a quotient of  $F_N$  by a cyclic group  $G_N^{a,b}$  (see Section 2). Let  $g$  be the genus of  $C_N^{a,b}$ . The main theorem of this paper is as follows.

**Theorem 1.1** *Suppose that  $N$  has a prime divisor  $p > 7$  such that  $p \nmid ab$  and  $a^2 + ab + b^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . Then  $\Phi_k(W_{k,e} - W_{k,e}^-) \in J_k(\text{Jac}(C_N^{a,b}))$  is non-torsion for any choice of the base point  $e \in C_N^{a,b}$  and  $k = 1, \dots, g - 2$ .*

**Remark 1.2** When  $N$  does not have a prime divisor  $p > 7$ , there exist some examples that the Abel-Jacobi image of the Ceresa cycle of  $C_N^{a,b}$  is torsion. For example,  $\Phi_1(X_e - X_e^-)$  is torsion for  $X = C_9^{1,2}, C_{12}^{1,3}, C_{15}^{1,5}$  and  $e = (0, 0)$  ([1, §2 Theorem], [15, Theorem 3.2]).

The algebraical nontriviality of the Ceresa cycles of  $F_N$  ( $N \leq 1000$ ) and  $C_p^{1,b}$  ( $p \leq 1000$  is a prime and  $b^2 + b + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ ) is proved by Harris [10], Bloch [2], Kimura [14], Tadokoro [18, 19, 20], and Otsubo [16]. Moreover, Otsubo [16] and Tadokoro [20] give a sufficient condition for the Ceresa cycles of these to be non-torsion modulo algebraic equivalence; however, it is impossible to confirm numerically these conditions. There are only two explicit examples of non-torsionness modulo algebraic equivalence for  $k = 1$ :  $F_4$  by Bloch [2] and  $C_7^{1,2}$  by Kimura [14]; they prove the non-torsionness of the  $l$ -adic Abel-Jacobi image.

Let  $N$  be a positive integer divisible by a prime  $p > 7$ . Eskandari-Murty [6, 7] prove that  $\Phi_1(F_{N,e} - F_{N,e}^-)$  is non-torsion for any  $e \in F_N$ ; in particular,  $F_{N,e} - F_{N,e}^-$  is non-torsion modulo rational equivalence. Moreover, they conjecture that the same result holds for  $C_p^{1,m}$  with  $m \in \{1, \dots, p - 2\}$  and  $m \neq 1, (p - 1)/2, p - 2$  [7, Section 4, Remark (2)]. Theorem 1.1 partially but affirmatively answers their conjecture.

We briefly give a sketch of the proof. First, we reduce to the case  $k = 1$  using a method of Otsubo [16] (see Proposition 3.1). The reduction to the case  $N = p$  is easy. The rest of the proof is parallel to the method of Eskandari-Murty [6, 7]. First, the Abel-Jacobi image of the Ceresa cycle is described by an extension of mixed Hodge structures by Harris [10] and Pulte [17] (see Section 3.2). Second, we construct a 1-cycle  $Z$  on  $C_p^{a,b} \times C_p^{a,b}$  and evaluate the extension of mixed Hodge structures at  $Z$ . Here, we use the assumptions on  $a$  and  $b$  so that an automorphism of  $F_p$  of order 3 descends to  $C_p^{a,b}$ . Then the extension class is expressed by a rational point  $P_Z \in \text{Jac}(C_N^{a,b})$  by formulas of Kaenders [13] and Darmon-Rotger-Sols [5] (see Sections 3.3, 3.4). Finally, since  $P_Z$  is non-torsion by a result of Gross-Rohrlich [8] (see Section 2), where we use the assumption  $p > 7$ , the theorem follows.

## 2 Fermat quotient curves

Let  $N > 3$  be an integer, and for integers  $a, b \in \{1, \dots, N - 1\}$ , let  $C_N^{a,b}$  be the smooth projective curve birational to

$$y^N = x^a(1-x)^b.$$

The map

$$C_N^{a,b} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1; \quad (x, y) \mapsto x$$

is ramified at  $x = 0, 1$  and  $\infty$ . Above 0 (resp. 1,  $\infty$ ), there are  $\gcd(N, a)$  (resp.  $\gcd(N, b), \gcd(N, a + b)$ ) branches and the ramification index is  $N/\gcd(N, a)$  (resp.  $N/\gcd(N, b), N/\gcd(N, a + b)$ ). Therefore, by the Riemann-Hurwitz formula, the genus of  $C_N^{a,b}$  is

$$\frac{1}{2}(N - (\gcd(N, a) + \gcd(N, b) + \gcd(N, a + b))) + 1.$$

We have an isomorphism

$$C_N^{a,b} \cong C_N^{b,a}$$

sending  $x$  to  $1 - x$ . If two other integers  $a', b' \in \{1, \dots, N - 1\}$  satisfy the relation

$$(a', b') = (ha, hb) + (Ni, Nj)$$

for some integers  $h, i, j$  with  $\gcd(N, h) = 1$ , we have

$$C_N^{a,b} \cong C_N^{a',b'}; \quad (x, y) \mapsto (x, y^h x^i (1 - x)^j).$$

Let  $F_N$  be the Fermat curve of degree  $N$  defined by

$$u^N + v^N = w^N.$$

Then there is a morphism

$$\pi_N^{a,b}: F_N \rightarrow C_N^{a,b}; \quad (u : v : w) \mapsto (x, y) = (u^N w^{-N}, u^a v^b w^{-a-b}).$$

Define a finite group by

$$G_N = \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$$

and denote an element  $(r, s) \in G_N$  by  $g_N^{r,s}$ . Fix a primitive  $N$ -th root of unity  $\zeta_N$  and let  $G_N$  act on  $F_N$  by

$$g_N^{r,s}(u : v : w) = (\zeta_N^r u : \zeta_N^s v : w).$$

Let  $G_N^{a,b}$  be a subgroup of  $G_N$  defined by

$$G_N^{a,b} = \{g_N^{r,s} \in G_N \mid ar + bs = 0\}.$$

If  $\gcd(N, a, b) = 1$ ,  $F_N$  is generically Galois over  $C_N^{a,b}$  and

$$\text{Gal}(F_N/C_N^{a,b}) = G_N^{a,b} = \langle g_N^{b,-a} \rangle \simeq \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}.$$

There is an automorphism  $\alpha$  of  $F_N$  of order 2 defined by

$$\alpha((u : v : w)) = (v : u : w).$$

When  $N$  is odd, there is an automorphism  $\beta$  of  $F_N$  of order 3 defined by

$$\beta((u : v : w)) = (-v : w : u).$$

**Lemma 2.1** (cf. [12, Section 3.1]) *Suppose that  $\gcd(N, a, b) = 1$ . Then,*

- (i)  $\alpha$  descends to  $C_N^{a,b}$  if and only if  $a^2 \equiv b^2 \pmod{N}$ .
- (ii) Suppose that  $N$  is odd. Then  $\beta$  descends to  $C_N^{a,b}$  if and only if  $a^2 + ab + b^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ . We denote this automorphism by  $\tilde{\beta}$ .

**Proof** We only prove (ii) since we use the morphism  $\tilde{\beta}$  to prove Theorem 1.1 and (i) is similarly proved. The automorphism  $\beta$  descends to  $\tilde{\beta}$  if and only if

$$\pi_N^{a,b}(\beta(g_N^{b,-a}(u : v : w))) = \pi_N^{a,b}(\beta(u : v : w));$$

that is, there exists an integer  $i$  such that

$$(-\zeta_N^{-a}v : w : \zeta_N^b u) = (-\zeta_N^{bi}v : \zeta_N^{-ai}w : u)$$

for all  $(u : v : w) \in F_N$ . This is equivalent to

$$(2.1) \quad a + b \equiv -bi \quad \text{and} \quad b \equiv ai \pmod{N}.$$

First, (2.1) implies  $a^2 + ab + b^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ . However, if  $a^2 + ab + b^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ , then we have  $\gcd(N, a) = \gcd(N, b) = 1$  by the assumption  $\gcd(N, a, b) = 1$ . Therefore, there is an integer  $i$  such that  $ai \equiv b \pmod{N}$ , which satisfies (2.1). ■

**Remark 2.2**

- (i) If  $N$  is a prime, the condition  $a^2 + ab + b^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$  implies that  $N \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ .
- (ii) When  $N = a^2 + ab + b^2$ , the curve  $C_N^{a,b}$  is isomorphic to the Hurwitz curve ([12, Lemma 3.8]) which is the smooth projective curve birational to

$$X^b Y^{a+b} + Y^b Z^{a+b} + Z^b X^{a+b} = 0.$$

- (iii) The condition  $a^2 + ab + b^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$  (for  $N$  prime) appears in Tadokoro [20]. He uses  $\tilde{\beta}$  to construct from a 1-form  $\omega$  on  $C_N^{a,b}$  two other 1-forms of the same Hodge type and evaluate the Abel-Jacobi image of the Ceresa cycle for  $k = 1$  at  $\omega \wedge \tilde{\beta}^* \omega \wedge (\tilde{\beta}^2)^* \omega$ .

When  $\gcd(N, 6) = 1$ , the automorphism  $\beta$  of  $F_N$  has two fixed points

$$S = (\zeta_6 : \zeta_6^{-1} : 1), \quad \bar{S} = (\zeta_6^{-1} : \zeta_6 : 1),$$

and there is no other fixed point.

**Lemma 2.3** *Suppose that  $\gcd(N, a, b) = \gcd(N, 6) = 1$  and  $a^2 + ab + b^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ . Then the fixed points of the automorphism  $\tilde{\beta}$  of  $C_N^{a,b}$  are  $\pi_N^{a,b}(S)$  and  $\pi_N^{a,b}(\bar{S})$ , which are distinct.*

**Proof** We regard  $a, b$  as elements in  $(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^*$ . Put  $\gamma = g_N^{b,-a}$ . Then we have

$$\beta\gamma = g_N^{-a-b,-b}\beta = \gamma^{a^{-1}b}\beta$$

since  $-a - b = a^{-1}b^2$  by the assumption  $a^2 + ab + b^2 = 0$  in  $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$ . For  $P \in C_N^{a,b}$ , suppose that  $\tilde{\beta}(P) = P$  and take any  $Q \in F_N$  such that  $\pi_N^{a,b}(Q) = P$ . Then

$$\beta(Q) = \gamma^k Q$$

for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$ . Since  $(a - b)^2 = 3ab \in (\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^*$ , we have  $a - b \in (\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^*$ . We take  $i = a(a - b)^{-1}k$ . Then we have

$$\beta(\gamma^i Q) = \gamma^{a^{-1}bi} \beta(Q) = \gamma^{a^{-1}bi+k} Q = \gamma^i Q,$$

which means that  $\gamma^i Q = S$  or  $\bar{S}$ ; hence,  $P = \pi_N^{a,b}(S)$  or  $\pi_N^{a,b}(\bar{S})$ .

We are to show that  $\pi_N^{a,b}(S) \neq \pi_N^{a,b}(\bar{S})$ . Suppose that  $\pi_N^{a,b}(S) = \pi_N^{a,b}(\bar{S})$ ; that is, there exists an integer  $i$  such that

$$\zeta_6 = \zeta_N^{bi} \zeta_6^{-1}, \quad \zeta_6^{-1} = \zeta_N^{-ai} \zeta_6.$$

Then we have  $\zeta_6^{2N} = 1$ , which contradicts the assumption  $\gcd(N, 6) = 1$ . ■

Put  $P_0 = (0 : 1 : 1) \in F_N$  and let  $F_N \rightarrow \text{Jac}(F_N)$  be the map defined by  $Q \mapsto [Q] - [P_0]$ . Similarly, we define a map  $C_N^{a,b} \rightarrow \text{Jac}(C_N^{a,b})$  by sending  $Q'$  to  $[Q'] - [\pi_N^{a,b}(P_0)]$ . Then we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F_N & \longrightarrow & \text{Jac}(F_N) \\ \pi_N^{a,b} \downarrow & & \downarrow (\pi_N^{a,b})_* \\ C_N^{a,b} & \longrightarrow & \text{Jac}(C_N^{a,b}). \end{array}$$

The following result of Gross and Rohrlich is one of the key ingredients to the proof of Theorem 1.1.

**Theorem 2.4** [8, Theorem 2.1] *Let  $N$  be an integer such that  $\gcd(N, 6) = 1$  and  $N$  is divisible by a prime  $p > 7$ . If  $a - b, a + 2b, 2a + b \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ , then the point  $(\pi_N^{a,b})_*([S] + [\bar{S}] - 2[P_0])$  on  $\text{Jac}(C_N^{a,b})$  is non-torsion.*

### 3 Algebraic cycles and Hodge theory of quadratic iterated integrals

#### 3.1 Extension of mixed Hodge structures

Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  or  $\mathbb{Q}$ . An  $R$ -mixed Hodge structure  $H$  is an  $R$ -module  $H_R$  of finite rank equipped with an increasing weight filtration  $W_\bullet$  on  $H_\mathbb{Q} := H_R \otimes_R \mathbb{Q}$  and a decreasing Hodge filtration  $F^\bullet$  on  $H_\mathbb{C} := H_R \otimes_R \mathbb{C}$  such that for each  $k$ ,  $\text{Gr}_k^W(H_\mathbb{Q})$  with the induced filtration  $F^\bullet$  is a pure  $\mathbb{Q}$ -Hodge structure of weight  $k$ . Let  $R(n)$  be the Tate object of pure weight  $-2n$  and put  $H(n) = H \otimes_R R(n)$ . Let  $H^\vee$  be the dual  $R$ -mixed Hodge structure of  $H$ .

Let  $\text{MHS}(R)$  be the category of  $R$ -mixed Hodge structures. For  $R$ -mixed Hodge structures  $A, B$ , let  $\text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(R)}(A, B)$  denote the set of equivalence classes of extensions of  $R$ -mixed Hodge structures (i.e., exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow E \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$$

of  $R$ -mixed Hodge structures up to natural equivalence relation). There is a natural operation called the Baer sum which makes  $\text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(R)}(A, B)$  an abelian group. If  $X$  is a smooth projective variety over  $\mathbb{C}$ , the cohomology group  $H^n(X, \mathbb{Z})$  underlies a pure  $\mathbb{Z}$ -Hodge structure of weight  $n$ , which we denote by  $H^n(X)$ .

For a pure  $\mathbb{Z}$ -Hodge structure  $H$  of weight  $-1$ , the intermediate Jacobian is defined by

$$JH = H_{\mathbb{C}} / (F^0 H_{\mathbb{C}} + H_{\mathbb{Z}}),$$

which is a complex torus. We have Carlson’s isomorphism [3]

$$JH \cong \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Z})}(H^{\vee}, \mathbb{Z}(0)).$$

For a smooth projective variety  $X$  over  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $H_{2k+1}(X)(-k)$  is a pure  $\mathbb{Z}$ -Hodge structure of weight  $-1$ , and

$$J_k(X) := JH_{2k+1}(X)(-k) \cong (F^{k+1}H^{2k+1}(X, \mathbb{C}))^{\vee} / H_{2k+1}(X, \mathbb{Z})$$

is the  $k$ -th intermediate Jacobian of Griffiths. The Carlson isomorphism is written as

$$J_k(X) \cong \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Z})}(H^{2k+1}(X)(k), \mathbb{Z}(0)).$$

Let  $\text{CH}_k(X)$  be the Chow group of  $k$ -dimensional algebraic cycles on  $X$  modulo rational equivalence, and  $\text{CH}_k(X)_{\text{hom}}$  be the subgroup of homologically trivial cycles. Then we have the Abel-Jacobi map

$$\Phi_k: \text{CH}_k(X)_{\text{hom}} \rightarrow J_k(X); \quad Z \mapsto \left( \eta \mapsto \int_{\Gamma} \eta \right)$$

for any  $\eta \in F^{k+1}H^{2k+1}(X, \mathbb{C})$ , where  $\Gamma$  is a topological  $(2k + 1)$ -chain such that  $\partial\Gamma = Z$ .

From now on, let  $X$  be a smooth projective curve of genus  $g \geq 3$  over  $\mathbb{C}$ . Let

$$\langle \cdot \rangle: H^1(X) \otimes H^1(X) \rightarrow H^2(X) = \mathbb{Z}(-1)$$

be the cup product  $\varphi \otimes \varphi' \mapsto \int_X \varphi \wedge \varphi'$ . Choosing a base point  $e \in X$ ,  $X$  is embedded into  $\text{Jac}(X)$  sending  $e$  to zero. It induces isomorphisms

$$H_1(X) \xrightarrow{\cong} H_1(\text{Jac}(X)), \quad H^1(\text{Jac}(X)) \xrightarrow{\cong} H^1(X),$$

which do not depend on the choice of  $e$ . We identify these and denote them by  $H_1$  and  $H^1$ , respectively. Recall that the cup product induces an isomorphism

$$\wedge^n H^1 \xrightarrow{\cong} H^n(\text{Jac}(X)).$$

For  $e \in X$ , let  $\iota_e: X \rightarrow \text{Jac}(X)$  be the map defined by  $P \mapsto [P] - [e]$ . Let  $X^k$  (resp.  $\text{Jac}(X)^k$ ) be the  $k$ -fold product of  $X$  (resp.  $\text{Jac}(X)$ ) and  $\mu: \text{Jac}(X)^k \rightarrow \text{Jac}(X)$  be the addition. We put

$$W_{k,e} = (\mu \circ (\iota_e)^k)(X^k) \quad (1 \leq k \leq g).$$

Then  $W_{k,e}$  defines an algebraic  $k$ -cycle on  $\text{Jac}(X)$ , and  $W_{k,e} - W_{k,e}^-$  defines an element of  $\text{CH}_k(\text{Jac}(X))_{\text{hom}}$ .

**Proposition 3.1** *If  $\Phi_1(X_e - X_e^-)$  is non-torsion, then  $\Phi_k(W_{k,e} - W_{k,e}^-)$  is non-torsion for any  $k = 2, \dots, g - 2$ .*

**Proof** Let  $S = \{e_i, f_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq g\}$  be a symplectic basis of  $H_{\mathbb{Z}}^1$  (i.e.,  $\langle e_i, e_j \rangle = \langle f_i, f_j \rangle = 0, \langle e_i, f_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$ ). Under the identification

$$J_k(\text{Jac}(X)) \cong \text{Hom}(\wedge^{2k+1} H_{\mathbb{Z}}^1, \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}),$$

if  $\Phi_1(X_e - X_e^-)$  is non-torsion, there exists elements  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \varphi_3 \in S$  such that

$$\Phi_1(X_e - X_e^-)(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \varphi_3)$$

is non-torsion. By renumbering, we may assume that  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \varphi_3 \in \{e_i, f_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq 3\}$ . For  $i = 1, \dots, k - 1$ , we put

$$\varphi_{2i+2} = e_{i+3}, \quad \varphi_{2i+3} = f_{i+3}.$$

Note that  $i + 3 \leq g$  by the assumption. Put  $\varphi = \varphi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \varphi_{2k+1}$ . Then, by [16, Proposition 3.7], we have

$$\begin{aligned} & k! \cdot \Phi_k(W_{k,e} - W_{k,e}^-)(\varphi) \\ &= k! \cdot \sum_{\sigma} \Phi_1(X_e - X_e^-)(\varphi_{\sigma(1)} \wedge \varphi_{\sigma(2)} \wedge \varphi_{\sigma(3)}) \prod_{i=1}^{k-1} \langle \varphi_{\sigma(2i+2)}, \varphi_{\sigma(2i+3)} \rangle \\ &= k! \cdot \Phi_1(X_e - X_e^-)(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \wedge \varphi_3), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\sigma$  runs through the elements of the symmetric group  $S_{2k+1}$  such that  $\sigma(1) < \sigma(2) < \sigma(3), \sigma(2i + 2) < \sigma(2i + 3)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k - 1$ , and  $\sigma(2i + 2) < \sigma(2i + 4)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k - 2$ . Therefore,  $\Phi_k(W_{k,e} - W_{k,e}^-)$  is non-torsion. ■

**Corollary 3.2** *Let  $N$  be an integer which has a prime divisor  $p > 7$  and  $X = F_N$  be the Fermat curve of degree  $N$ . Then  $\Phi_k(W_{k,e} - W_{k,e}^-)$  is non-torsion for any  $e \in F_N$  and  $k = 1, \dots, g - 2$ .*

**Proof** By Proposition 3.1, we are reduced to the case  $k = 1$ , which is a theorem of Eskandari and Murty [6, Theorem 1.1]. ■

### 3.2 Harris-Pulte formula

In this subsection, we recall the Harris-Pulte formula, which is a relation between the Abel-Jacobi image of the Ceresa cycle and an extension class of mixed Hodge structures on the space of quadratic iterated integrals on the curve  $X$ .

We put

$$(H^1 \otimes H^1)' = \text{Ker}(\cup: H^1 \otimes H^1 \rightarrow H^2(\text{Jac}(X))).$$

Then the map

$$\phi: H^1 \otimes (H^1 \otimes H^1)' \rightarrow \wedge^3 H^1,$$

which is obtained by restricting the natural quotient map  $(H^1)^{\otimes 3} \rightarrow \wedge^3 H^1$ , is surjective ([17, Lemma 4.7]), and induces the injective map

$$\phi^* : \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Z})}(\wedge^3 H^1, \mathbb{Z}(-1)) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Z})}(H^1 \otimes (H^1 \otimes H^1)', \mathbb{Z}(-1)).$$

Let  $\pi_1(X, e)$  be the fundamental group. Let  $I$  be the augmentation ideal of the group ring  $\mathbb{Z}[\pi_1(X, e)]$  – that is, the kernel of the degree map

$$\mathbb{Z}[\pi_1(X, e)] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}; \quad \sum n_i \gamma_i \mapsto \sum n_i.$$

By Chen’s  $\pi_1$ -de Rham theorem,  $\text{Hom}(\mathbb{Z}[\pi_1(X, e)]/I^{s+1}, \mathbb{R})$  is generated by closed iterated integrals of length  $\leq s$ . Using this, Hain [9] defines a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -mixed Hodge structure on  $\mathbb{Z}[\pi_1(X, e)]/I^s$  such that the natural map  $\mathbb{Z}[\pi_1(X, e)]/I^s \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\pi_1(X, e)]/I^t$  for  $s \geq t$  is a morphism of mixed Hodge structures. Consider the exact sequence of mixed Hodge structures

$$(3.1) \quad 0 \rightarrow I^2/I^3 \rightarrow I/I^3 \rightarrow I/I^2 \rightarrow 0.$$

The map  $\pi_1(X, e) \rightarrow I/I^2; \gamma \mapsto \gamma - 1$  is well-defined and induces an isomorphism

$$H_1(X, \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{\cong} I/I^2$$

of Hodge structures of weight  $-1$ . However, the multiplication  $I/I^2 \otimes I/I^2 \rightarrow I^2/I^3$  induces an isomorphism

$$\text{Hom}(I^2/I^3, \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{\cong} (H^1 \otimes H^1)'$$

of Hodge structures of weight  $2$ . Taking the dual of (3.1), we have an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^1 \rightarrow L_2(X, e) \rightarrow (H^1 \otimes H^1)' \rightarrow 0,$$

where we put  $L_2(X, e) = \text{Hom}(I/I^3, \mathbb{Z})$ .

Let  $\infty \neq e$  be another point on  $X$ . Put  $U = X - \{\infty\}$ . We identify  $H^1(U)$  and  $H^1$  via the map induced by the inclusion  $U \subset X$ . Then we can obtain an exact sequence of mixed Hodge structures

$$0 \rightarrow H^1 \rightarrow L_2(U, e) \rightarrow H^1 \otimes H^1 \rightarrow 0$$

similarly as above. We have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & H^1 & \longrightarrow & L_2(X, e) & \longrightarrow & (H^1 \otimes H^1)' \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \parallel & & \cap & & \cap \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & H^1 & \longrightarrow & L_2(U, e) & \longrightarrow & H^1 \otimes H^1 \longrightarrow 0. \end{array}$$

Let  $\mathbb{E}_e$  (resp.  $\mathbb{E}_e^\infty$ ) be an extension class of the top (resp. bottom) row. We regard  $\mathbb{E}_e$  as an element of

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Z})}((H^1 \otimes H^1)', H^1) &\cong \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Z})}((H^1)^\vee \otimes (H^1 \otimes H^1)', \mathbb{Z}(0)) \\ &\cong \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Z})}(H^1 \otimes (H^1 \otimes H^1)', \mathbb{Z}(-1)), \end{aligned}$$



and  $\mathbb{E}_e^\infty$  as an element of

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Z})}(H^1 \otimes H^1, H^1) &\cong \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Z})}((H^1)^\vee \otimes H^1 \otimes H^1, \mathbb{Z}(0)) \\ &\cong \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Z})}(H^1 \otimes H^1 \otimes H^1, \mathbb{Z}(-1)). \end{aligned}$$

Here, we used the Poincaré duality  $H^1(1) \cong (H^1)^\vee$ . One sees that  $\mathbb{E}_e$  is the restriction of  $\mathbb{E}_e^\infty$  to  $H^1 \otimes (H^1 \otimes H^1)'$ . Then Harris's formula [10, Section 4], reworked by Pulte [17, Theorem 4.10], is

$$\phi^* \circ \Phi_1(X_e - X_e^-) = 2\mathbb{E}_e$$

under the identification  $J_1(\text{Jac}(X)) = \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Z})}(\wedge^3 H^1, \mathbb{Z}(-1))$ .

### 3.3 The decomposition of $(H^1)^{\otimes 3}$

In this subsection, for a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -mixed Hodge structure  $H$ , we consider the image of  $H$  under the forgetful functor  $\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \text{MHS}(\mathbb{Q})$ , which we denote by the same letter. The Hodge structure  $(H^1)^{\otimes 3}$  can be decomposed in  $\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Q})$  as follows. Let  $\xi_\Delta \in H^1 \otimes H^1$  be the Künneth component of the Hodge class of the diagonal of  $X$  in  $H^2(X \times X)$ . Then we have a decomposition

$$H^1 \otimes H^1 \otimes H^1 = (H^1 \otimes \langle \xi_\Delta \rangle) \oplus (H^1 \otimes (H^1 \otimes H^1)').$$

Since the Mumford-Tate group of  $H^1$  is reductive, the map  $\phi$  admits a section  $\sigma$  in  $\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Q})$ , and we have

$$H^1 \otimes (H^1 \otimes H^1)' = \ker(\phi) \oplus \sigma(\wedge^3 H^1).$$

Let  $\bar{\xi}_\Delta$  be the image of  $\xi_\Delta$  in  $\wedge^2 H^1$ . Then we have a decomposition in  $\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Q})$

$$H^1 \otimes H^1 \otimes H^1 = (H^1 \otimes \langle \xi_\Delta \rangle) \oplus \ker(\phi) \oplus \sigma(H^1 \wedge \langle \bar{\xi}_\Delta \rangle) \oplus \sigma((\wedge^3 H^1)_{\text{prim}}),$$

where the last summand (primitive part) is the kernel of the map  $\wedge^3 H^1 \rightarrow \wedge^{2g-1} H^1$  given by wedging by  $\bar{\xi}_\Delta^{g-2}$  (cf. [7, Section 4.2]). We put  $\mathbb{E} := \mathbb{E}_e|_{\sigma((\wedge^3 H^1)_{\text{prim}})}$ . Then  $\mathbb{E}$  is independent of the choice of  $e$  ([17, Theorem 3.9] and [10]).

**Proposition 3.3**

- (i) Suppose that  $-2g[\infty] + 2[e] + K = 0$ . Then  $\mathbb{E}_e^\infty = 0$  if and only if  $\mathbb{E}_e = 0$ .
- (ii) Suppose that  $(2g - 2)[e] - K = 0$ . Then  $\mathbb{E}_e = 0$  if and only if  $\mathbb{E} = 0$ .

**Proof** (i) The statement follows from that  $\mathbb{E}_e^\infty|_{H^1 \otimes (H^1 \otimes H^1)'} = \mathbb{E}_e$  and a result of Kaenders [13, Theorem 1.2] that

$$\mathbb{E}_e^\infty|_{H^1 \otimes \langle \xi_\Delta \rangle} = -2g[\infty] + 2[e] + K$$

under the identification (cf. [7, Section 4.3.1])

$$\text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Q})}(H^1 \otimes \langle \xi_\Delta \rangle, \mathbb{Q}(-1)) \cong \text{CH}_0(X)_{\text{hom}} \otimes \mathbb{Q}.$$

(ii) The statement follows from that results of Harris [10, Section 3] and Pulte [17, Theorem 4.10] that  $\mathbb{E}_e|_{\ker(\phi)} \in \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Q})}(\ker(\phi), \mathbb{Q}(-1))$  is zero, and Pulte [17, Corollary 6.7] that

$$\mathbb{E}_e|_{\sigma(H^1 \wedge \bar{\xi}_\Delta)} = (2g - 2)[e] - K$$

under the identification (cf. [7, Section 4.3.3])

$$\text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Q})}(\sigma(H^1 \wedge \bar{\xi}_\Delta), \mathbb{Q}(-1)) \cong \text{CH}_0(X)_{\text{hom}} \otimes \mathbb{Q}. \quad \blacksquare$$

### 3.4 Darmon-Rotger-Sols formula

Let  $\Delta \in \text{CH}_1(X \times X)$  be the diagonal of  $X$  and

$$p_i: X \times X \rightarrow X \quad (i = 1, 2)$$

be the projection to the  $i$ -th component. For  $Z \in \text{CH}_1(X \times X)$ , put

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{12} &= (p_1)_*(Z \cdot \Delta) = (p_2)_*(Z \cdot \Delta), \\ Z_1 &= (p_1)_*(Z \cdot (X \times \{e\})), \quad Z_2 = (p_2)_*(Z \cdot (\{e\} \times X)) \in \text{CH}_0(X). \end{aligned}$$

Put

$$P_Z = Z_{12} - Z_1 - Z_2 - (\deg(Z_{12}) - \deg(Z_1) - \deg(Z_2))[e] \in \text{Jac}(X).$$

Then the point  $P_Z$  is related to the extension  $\mathbb{E}_e^\infty$  as follows. Let  $\xi_Z$  be the  $H^1 \otimes H^1$ -Künneth component of the class of  $Z$  in  $H^2(X \times X)$ . Consider the map

$$\xi_Z^{-1}: \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Z})}((H^1)^{\otimes 3}, \mathbb{Z}(-1)) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Z})}(H^1(-1), \mathbb{Z}(-1)) \cong J_0(X) = \text{Jac}(X),$$

where the first arrow is the pullback along the morphism  $H^1(-1) \rightarrow (H^1)^{\otimes 3}$  defined by  $\omega \mapsto \omega \otimes \xi_Z$ . Then we have the following.

**Proposition 3.4** [5, Corollary 2.6] *For any  $Z \in \text{CH}_1(X \times X)$ , we have*

$$\xi_Z^{-1}(\mathbb{E}_e^\infty) = \left( \int_\Delta \xi_Z \right) ([\infty] - [e]) - P_Z$$

in  $\text{Jac}(X)$ .

## 4 Proof of Theorem 1.1

There are  $3N$  points on  $F_N$

$$P_i = (0 : \zeta_N^i : 1), \quad Q_i = (\zeta_N^i : 0 : 1), \quad R_i = (\zeta_N \zeta_N^i : 1 : 0), \quad (i \in \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}),$$

where we put  $\zeta_N = \exp(\pi i/N)$ . Fix  $P_0$  as the base point; then the above points are torsion points in  $\text{Jac}(F_N)$  [8]. Therefore, for the base point  $\pi_N^{a,b}(P_0)$ , the images of these points under  $(\pi_N^{a,b})_*$  are also torsion in  $\text{Jac}(C_N^{a,b})$ . We shall continue to use the notation as in the previous section, specializing  $X = C_N^{a,b}$ ,  $e = \pi_N^{a,b}(P_0)$  and  $\infty = \pi_N^{a,b}(Q_0)$ .

**Lemma 4.1** *Let  $K_C$  (resp.  $g$ ) be the canonical divisor (resp. genus) of  $C_N^{a,b}$ . Then  $K_C - (2g - 2)[e]$ ,  $K_C - 2g[\infty] + 2[e] \in \text{Jac}(C_N^{a,b})$  are torsion points.*

**Proof** Since

$$K_C - 2g[\infty] + 2[e] = K_C - (2g - 2)[e] - 2g([\infty] - [e])$$

and  $[\infty] - [e]$  is a torsion point, it suffices to show that  $K_C - (2g - 2)[e]$  is a torsion point. Let  $K_F$  be the canonical divisor of  $F_N$  and  $R_{\pi_N^{a,b}}$  be the ramification divisor of  $\pi_N^{a,b}$ ; that is,

$$K_F = (N - 1) \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} Q_i - 2 \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} R_i,$$

$$R_{\pi_N^{a,b}} = (\gcd(N, a) - 1) \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} P_i + (\gcd(N, b) - 1) \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} Q_i + (\gcd(N, a + b) - 1) \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} R_i.$$

Then we have

$$K_F = (\pi_N^{a,b})^*(K_C) + R_{\pi_N^{a,b}}$$

up to principal divisor (cf. [11, Proposition 2.3, Chap.IV]). Therefore, we have

$$N(K_C - (2g - 2)[e]) = (\pi_N^{a,b})_* \left( K_F - R_{\pi_N^{a,b}} - (2g - 2)N[P_0] \right)$$

in  $\text{Jac}(C_N^{a,b})$ . Since  $P_i, Q_i$ , and  $R_i$  are torsion in  $\text{Jac}(F_N)$ ,  $K_F - R_{\pi_N^{a,b}} - (2g - 2)N[P_0]$  is torsion, which finishes the proof. ■

**Proof of Theorem 1.1** First, by Proposition 3.1, it suffices to show the case when  $k = 1$ . Secondly, consider the map

$$f: F_N \rightarrow F_p; \quad (x_0 : y_0 : z_0) \mapsto (x_0^{N/p} : y_0^{N/p} : z_0^{N/p}).$$

Let  $\langle a \rangle \in \{0, \dots, p - 1\}$  be the representative of  $a$ . Then  $f$  descends to a map  $\bar{f}: C_N^{a,b} \rightarrow C_p^{\langle a \rangle, \langle b \rangle}$ . Since

$$f_*(\Phi_1(C_{N,e}^{a,b} - (C_{N,e}^{a,b})^-)) = \deg \bar{f} \cdot \Phi_1 \left( C_{p,\bar{f}(e)}^{a,b} - (C_{p,\bar{f}(e)}^{a,b})^- \right),$$

we are reduced to the case when  $N = p$ .

By Lemma 4.1 and Proposition 3.3, it suffices to show that, for the specific choices of  $e$  and  $\infty$  as above, the element  $\mathbb{E}_e^\infty \in \text{Ext}_{\text{MHS}(\mathbb{Q})}(H^1 \otimes H^1 \otimes H^1, \mathbb{Q}(-1))$  is nonzero. By Lemma 2.1, the automorphism  $\beta$  of  $F_p$  descends to an automorphism  $\tilde{\beta}$  of  $C_p^{a,b}$ ; let  $Z$  be the graph of  $\tilde{\beta}$ . Since  $[\infty] - [e]$  is torsion, it suffices to show that  $P_Z$  is non-torsion by Proposition 3.4. Since  $\tilde{\beta} \circ \pi_p^{a,b} = \pi_p^{a,b} \circ \beta$  and  $\tilde{\beta}$  has two fixed points by Lemma 2.3, we have

$$P_Z = ([\pi_p^{a,b}(S)] + [\pi_p^{a,b}(\bar{S})] - 2[e]) - ([\tilde{\beta}(e)] + [\tilde{\beta}^{-1}(e)] - 2[e])$$

$$= (\pi_p^{a,b})_*([\bar{S}] + [S] - 2[P_0]) - ([\beta(P_0)] + [\beta^{-1}(P_0)] - 2[P_0]).$$

The point  $[\beta(P_0)] + [\beta^{-1}(P_0)] - 2[P_0]$  is a torsion point on  $\text{Jac}(F_p)$ ; hence,  $(\pi_p^{a,b})_*([\beta(P_0)] + [\beta^{-1}(P_0)] - 2[P_0])$  is a torsion point on  $\text{Jac}(C_p^{a,b})$ . However, since

$a - b, a + 2b, 2a + b \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  by the assumption  $a^2 + ab + b^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ , the point

$$(\pi_p^{a,b})_*([S] + [\bar{S}] - 2[P_0]) \in \text{Jac}(C_p^{a,b})$$

is non-torsion by Theorem 2.4. Therefore, the point  $P_Z$  is non-torsion, which finishes the proof. ■

**Acknowledgements** The author would like to sincerely thank Noriyuki Otsubo for valuable discussions and his careful reading on a draft of this paper. He would like to thank Yoshinosuke Hirakawa for valuable discussions and many helpful comments. He also thanks Payman Eskandari, Yuki Goto, and Ryutaro Sekigawa for valuable discussions. This paper is a part of the outcome of research performed under Waseda University Grant for Special Research Projects (Project number: 2023C-274) and Kakenhi Applicants (Project number: 2023R-044).

## References

- [1] A. Beauville, *A non-hyperelliptic curve with torsion Ceresa class*. C. R. Math. Acad. Sci. Paris 359(2021), 871–872.
- [2] S. Bloch, *Algebraic cycles and values of L-functions*. J. Reine Angew. Math. 350(1984), 94–108.
- [3] J. A. Carlson, *Extensions of mixed Hodge structures*. In Journées de Géométrie Algébrique d'Angers, Juillet 1979/Algebraic Geometry, Angers, 1979, Sijthoff and Noordhoff, Alphen aan den Rijn–Germantown, MD, 1980, 107–127.
- [4] G. Ceresa, *C is not algebraically equivalent to  $C^-$  in its Jacobian*. Ann. of Math. (2) 117(1983), no. 2, 285–291.
- [5] H. Darmon, V. Rotger and I. Sols, *Iterated integrals, diagonal cycles and rational points on elliptic curves*. In Publ. Math. Besançon Algèbre Théorie Nr., 2012/2[Mathematical Publications of Besançon, Algebra and Number Theory] Presses Universitaires de Franche-Comté, Besançon, 2012, 19–46.
- [6] P. Eskandari and V. K. Murty, *On the harmonic volume of Fermat curves*. Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. 149(2021), no. 5, 1919–1928.
- [7] P. Eskandari and V. K. Murty, *On Ceresa cycles of Fermat curves*. J. Ramanujan Math. Soc. 36(2021), no. 4, 363–382.
- [8] B. H. Gross and D. E. Rohrlich, *Some results on the Mordell-Weil group of the Jacobian of the Fermat curve*. Invent. Math. 44(1978), no. 3, 201–224.
- [9] R. M. Hain, *The geometry of the mixed Hodge structure on the fundamental group*. In Algebraic geometry, Bowdoin, 1985 (Brunswick, Maine, 1985), Proc. Sympos. Pure Math., Vol. 46, Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, RI, 1987, 247–282.
- [10] B. Harris, *Harmonic volumes*. Acta Math. 150(1983), no. 1–2, 91–123
- [11] R. Hartshorne, *Algebraic geometry*, Grad. Texts in Math., No. 52, Springer-Verlag, New York-Heidelberg, 1977.
- [12] S. Irokawa and R. Sasaki, *On a family of quotients of Fermat curves*. Tsukuba J. Math. 19(1995), no. 1, 121–139.
- [13] R. H. Kaenders, *The mixed Hodge structure on the fundamental group of a punctured Riemann surface*. Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. 129(2001), no. 5, 1271–1281.
- [14] K. Kimura, *On modified diagonal cycles in the triple products of Fermat quotients*. Math. Z. 235(2000), no. 4, 727–746.
- [15] D. T.-B. G. Lilienfeldt and A. Shnidman, *Experiments with Ceresa classes of cyclic Fermat quotients*. Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. 151(2023), no. 3, 931–947.
- [16] N. Otsubo, *On the Abel-Jacobi maps of Fermat Jacobians*. Math. Z. 270(2012), no. 1–2, 423–444,
- [17] M. J. Pulte, *The fundamental group of a Riemann surface: mixed Hodge structures and algebraic cycles*. Duke Math. J. 57(1988), no. 3, 721–760.
- [18] Y. Tadokoro, *A nontrivial algebraic cycle in the Jacobian variety of the Klein quartic*. Math. Z. 260(2008), no. 2, 265–275.

- [19] Y. Tadokoro, *A nontrivial algebraic cycle in the Jacobian variety of the Fermat sextic*. Tsukuba J. Math. 33(2009), no. 1, 29–38.
- [20] Y. Tadokoro, *Nontrivial algebraic cycles in the Jacobian varieties of some quotients of Fermat curves*. Internat. J. Math. 27(2016), no. 3, 1650027, 10 pp.

*Department of Mathematics and Informatics, Graduate School of Science, Chiba University, Yayoicho 1-33, Inage, Chiba, 263-8522, Japan.*

*e-mail:* [y-nemoto@waseda.jp](mailto:y-nemoto@waseda.jp)