Explicit Arithmetic for Modular Curves

Exercises

(A) Let $E/K$ be an elliptic curve and suppose $E$ has a $K$-rational 3-isogeny. Show that there is a quadratic twist $E'$ that has a point of order 3.

(B) Let $K$ be a field complete with respect to a non-archimedean valuation $|\cdot|$ (e.g. $K = \mathbb{Q}_p$). Let $q \in K^*$ satisfy $|q| < 1$. Let $E_q$ be the Tate elliptic curve with parameter $q$ (for this exercise you don’t need to know what that is). Tate showed that there is an analytic isomorphism

$$\phi : E_q(K) \to \mathbb{K}^*/q\mathbb{Z}$$

that respects the action of $G_K = \text{Gal}(\overline{K}/K)$. Use this to show that

$$\overline{\rho}_{E,N} \sim \begin{pmatrix} \chi_N & * \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. $$

(C) Let $E$ be an elliptic curve over $\mathbb{Q}$, and let $p \geq 7$ be a prime of potentially multiplicative reduction. Show that the image of $\overline{\rho}_{E,p}$ is not exceptional. (Hint: $E$ has potentially multiplicative reduction at $p$ means that $E/\mathbb{Q}_p$ is a twist of a Tate curve. You may suppose that $\chi_p : G_p \to (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^*$ is surjective, where $G_p = \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p/\mathbb{Q}_p)$ is the decomposition subgroup of $G_{\mathbb{Q}} = \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$).