

# The periods of the generalized Jacobian of a complex elliptic curve. <sup>\*†‡</sup>

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## Abstract

We show that the toroidal Lie group  $\mathcal{G} = \mathbb{C}^2/\Lambda$ , where  $\Lambda$  is the lattice generated by  $(1, 0)$ ,  $(0, 1)$  and  $(\hat{\tau}, \tilde{\tau})$ ,  $\hat{\tau} \notin \mathbb{R}$ , is isomorphic to the generalized Jacobian  $J_L$  of the complex elliptic curve  $\mathcal{C}$  with modulus  $\hat{\tau}$ , defined by any divisor class  $L \equiv (M) + (N)$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  fulfilling  $M - N = [\wp(\hat{\tau}) : \wp'(\hat{\tau}) : 1] \in \mathcal{C}$ . This follows from an apparently new relation between the Weierstrass sigma and elliptic functions.

## 1 Introduction

In order to determine the periods of the generalized Jacobian  $J_L$  of a complex elliptic curve  $\mathcal{C}$  with modulus  $L$ , we consider complex functions of two variables with three  $\mathbb{R}$ -independent periods. These functions were studied for the first time by Cousin in 1910 [3] and are at the origin of the theory of generalized Jacobians. After having been explicitly mentioned by Severi in 1947 [10] in the case of the field  $\mathbb{C}$  of complex numbers, generalized Jacobians were introduced by Rosenlicht in 1954 [8] in the general context of algebraic groups over an arbitrary field. The representation of the generalized Jacobian of a curve as an extension of a linear group by the ordinary Jacobian has been widely investigated in [9], and since then. More recently a growing interest on the computational aspects of generalized Jacobians over finite fields arose from [5].

When one considers an  $n$ -dimensional *toroidal group*  $\mathcal{G} = \mathbb{C}^n/\Lambda$  (sometimes called quasi-torus) of real rank  $r = n + 1$  (see, e.g., [1]), it is easy to see that the toroidal group is an extension of a  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional maximal linear sub-torus by an elliptic curve  $\mathcal{C}$  with period matrix  $(1, \hat{\tau})$ , with  $\hat{\tau} \notin \mathbb{R}$ , (cf. [4], Prop. 2.2.3, p. 26) and, because the functor  $\text{Ext}(\mathcal{C}, (\mathbb{C}^*)^{n-1})$  is additive, one can restrict to the case where  $n = 2$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  is defined by the lattice  $\Lambda$  generated by  $(1, 0)$ ,  $(0, 1)$  and  $(\hat{\tau}, \tilde{\tau})$ , for a given  $\tilde{\tau} \in \mathbb{C}$  such that the only pair  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$  such that  $a\hat{\tau} + b\tilde{\tau}$  is an integer is

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the pair  $(0, 0)$ . As such, it is also an example of a complex commutative theta group (see [7] §23, cf. [2] §6.1). In this paper we consider the generalized Jacobian  $J_L$  corresponding to  $\mathcal{G}$  and we bridge these two representations by finding of the modulus  $L = (M) + (N)$  which gives in turn the period lattice  $\Lambda$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  with a purely geometric description.

Roughly speaking, the generalized Jacobian  $J_L$  of a curve  $\mathcal{C}$  relative to the module (effective divisor)  $L = \sum n_P(P)$ ,  $P \in \mathcal{C}$ , is obtained when two divisors of  $\mathcal{C}$  are identified if they differ for a principal divisor  $(g)$  of a function  $g$  such that  $v_P(1 - g) \geq n_P$  for any  $P \in \mathcal{C}$ , where  $v_P$  is the discrete valuation of the local ring  $\mathcal{O}_P$  of the rational functions of  $\mathcal{C}$  that are regular in  $P$ .

Fixing a point  $\Omega \in \mathcal{C}$ , given a divisor  $D$  we denote simply by  $P$  the point of  $\mathcal{C}$  and by  $f \in \mathbb{C}(\mathcal{C})$  the function such that  $D = (P) - (1 - \deg(D))(\Omega) + (f)$ . Thus, in the case where the module is  $L = \sum_{i=0}^n(Q_i)$ , two divisors  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  are equivalent when  $D_1 = (P) - (1 - \deg(D_1))(\Omega) + (f_1)$ ,  $D_2 = (P) - (1 - \deg(D_2))(\Omega) + (f_2)$  and  $\frac{f_1(Q_i)}{f_1(Q_0)} = \frac{f_2(Q_i)}{f_2(Q_0)}$ , for any  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

Clearly, the function  $L_{P_1, P_2}$  such that the sum of the two divisors  $(P_1) - (\Omega)$  and  $(P_2) - (\Omega)$  is equal to  $(P_1 + P_2) - (\Omega) + (L_{P_1, P_2})$  is proportional to  $\frac{\ell_{P_1, P_2}(X)}{\ell_{P_1 + P_2, \Omega}(X)}$ , where  $\ell_{A, B}(X) = 0$  is the line through  $A$  and  $B$ , or the tangent in  $A$  to  $\mathcal{C}$ , if  $A = B$ . Thus,

$$D_1 + D_2 = (P_1 + P_2) - (1 - \deg(D_1) - \deg(D_2))(\Omega) + (f_1 f_2 L_{P_1, P_2}). \quad (1)$$

For the ordinary Jacobian of  $\mathcal{C}$  we do not keep track of the fact that  $f_3 = f_1 f_2 L_{P_1, P_2}$ . But now, for any  $L = \sum_{i=0}^n(Q_i)$ , the  $n$ -tuple  $c_L(P_1, P_2) = \left( \frac{L_{P_1, P_2}(Q_1)}{L_{P_1, P_2}(Q_0)}, \dots, \frac{L_{P_1, P_2}(Q_n)}{L_{P_1, P_2}(Q_0)} \right)$  keeps record of the cosets modulo the principal divisors  $(g)$  such that  $v_{Q_i}(1 - g) \geq 1$  for any  $i = 0, \dots, n$  and clearly from (1) it follows that  $c_L$  is a (non-regular) factor system. It must be noticed that the partial operation  $(P_1, k_1) + (P_2, k_2) = (P_1 + P_2, k_1 \cdot k_2 \cdot c_L(P_1, P_2))$  cannot be continuously extended to  $X \times \mathbb{C}^*$  and gives therefore only a *birational* isomorphic image  $\Xi_L$  of  $J_L$  (in the sense of [11]).

The non-regular factor system  $c_L : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$  corresponding to  $J_L$  induces a non-regular factor system  $c_L P : \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ ,  $(x_1, x_2) \mapsto c_L(P(x_1), P(x_2))$ , with  $P(x) = [\wp(x) : \wp'(x) : 1] \in \mathcal{C}$ . Since every commutative Lie group extension of  $\mathbb{C}^*$  by  $\mathbb{C}$  is splitting, we expect to unveil  $c_L P$  as a co-boundary  $\delta^1(g) : \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ , for some  $g : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ .

## 2 Triply periodic functions

About the geometric description we are looking for, it is worth noticing that, as we expect that  $c_L P = \delta^1(g)$ , it will not be possible to express  $g(x)$  in function of  $P(x) = [\wp(x) : \wp'(x) : 1] \in \mathcal{C}$ , even if the factor system  $c_L = \delta^1(g)$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  is given in terms of the points  $P(x)$  and  $P(y)$ . Nevertheless,  $g$  can be expressed as a function of the Weierstrass sigma function  $\sigma(x)$  corresponding to  $\wp(x)$ , as we have:

**Theorem.** *With the above notations, let  $M = P(v_M)$  and  $N = P(v_N)$  be two different points of  $\mathcal{C}$  such that  $P(\tilde{\tau}) = M - N$ . The function  $G(x, y) = \exp(2\pi i y)g(x)$ , where*

$$g(x) = \exp\left(2\eta_1(v_N - v_M)x\right) \frac{\sigma(v_M)}{\sigma(v_N)} \frac{\sigma(x - v_N)}{\sigma(x - v_M)},$$

(with the constant  $\eta_1$  defined, e.g., in [6], p. 150) is triply periodic with period lattice  $\Lambda$ .

The generalized Jacobian  $J_L$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  defined by the modulus  $L = (M) + (N)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{C}^2/\Lambda$ , and we find that  $\delta^1(g) = c_L P$  is the rational non-regular factor system of the extension

corresponding to  $L$  and the map  $(x, y) + \Lambda \mapsto (P(x), G(x, y))$  is an isomorphism from  $\mathbb{C}^2/\Lambda$  onto a birationally isomorphic image of  $J_L$ .

*Proof.* The first part of the claim could be verified *a posteriori*, but we want to give a constructive proof, which better explains the link between the quotient Lie group  $\mathbb{C}^2/\Lambda$  and the generalized Jacobian  $J_L$ .

Let the 2-dimensional toroidal group  $\mathcal{G}$  be defined by the lattice  $\Lambda$  generated by  $(1, 0)$ ,  $(0, 1)$  and  $(\hat{\tau}, \tilde{\tau})$ , with  $\hat{\tau} \notin \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $\sigma(x)$ ,  $\zeta(x) = \frac{\sigma'(x)}{\sigma(x)}$  and  $\wp(x) = -\zeta'(x)$  be the Weierstrass sigma function, zeta function and elliptic function, respectively, corresponding to the lattice in  $\mathbb{C}$  generated by 1 and  $\hat{\tau}$ . Fix the epimorphism

$$z \mapsto P(z) := [z^3 \wp(z) : z^3 \wp'(z) : z^3]$$

from  $\mathbb{C}$  onto the corresponding elliptic curve  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}(\hat{\tau})$  of the projective plane of coordinates  $[X : Y : T]$ , having  $\mathcal{O} = [0 : 1 : 0]$  as the zero element.

Let  $M = [X_M : Y_M : T_M]$  and  $N = [X_N : Y_N : T_N]$  be two distinct non-zero points of  $\mathcal{C}$ , let  $L = (M) + (N)$  and let  $c_L(P_1, P_2) := \frac{\ell_{P_1, P_2}(M)}{\ell_{P_1 + P_2, \mathcal{O}}(M)} \frac{\ell_{P_1 + P_2, \mathcal{O}}(N)}{\ell_{P_1, P_2}(N)}$  be the non-regular factor system which defines on  $\mathcal{C} \times \mathbb{C}^*$  a birational group  $\Xi_L$ , birationally isomorphic to  $J_L$ , where  $\ell_{A, B}(X) = 0$  is the line through  $A$  and  $B$ , or the tangent in  $A$  to  $\mathcal{C}$ , if  $A = B$  (cf. [9], §7 n. 16).

We look for a homomorphism  $\mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \Xi_L$  with  $\Lambda$  as the kernel. We can assume  $(0, y) \mapsto (\mathcal{O}, e^{2\pi i y})$ . Let  $\epsilon$  be a complex multiplication such that  $(x, 0) \mapsto (P(\epsilon x), g(x))$ , for a suitable  $g : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$  such that  $\delta^1(g) = c_L P \epsilon$ , that is,  $g(x_1 + x_2) = g(x_1)g(x_2)c_L(P(\epsilon x_1), P(\epsilon x_2))$ .

As  $P(0) = \mathcal{O}$ , the derivative at  $x_2 = 0$  of the last equation must be performed in the chart  $Y \neq 0$  containing  $\mathcal{O}$  and, deriving with respect to  $x_2$  in the chart  $\left[ \frac{\wp(z)}{\wp'(z)} : 1 : \frac{1}{\wp'(z)} \right]$  we find

$$g'(x_1 + x_2) = g(x_1)(g'(x_2)c_L(P(\epsilon x_1), P(\epsilon x_2))) + g(x_1)g(x_2) \left( \epsilon \left( 1 - \frac{\wp(\epsilon x_2)\wp''(\epsilon x_2)}{\wp'(\epsilon x_2)^2} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial X_{P(\epsilon x_2)}} c_L(P(\epsilon x_1), P(\epsilon x_2)) - \epsilon \frac{\wp''(\epsilon x_2)}{\wp'(\epsilon x_2)^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial T_{P(\epsilon x_2)}} c_L(P(\epsilon x_1), P(\epsilon x_2)) \right).$$

Putting  $x_2 = 0$ , since  $\left( 1 - \frac{\wp(0)\wp''(0)}{\wp'(0)^2} \right) = -\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{\wp''(0)}{\wp'(0)^2} = 0$ , and  $c_L(P(\epsilon x_1), \mathcal{O}) = 1$ , we find

$$\frac{g'(x_1)}{g(x_1)} = g'(0) - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial X_{P(\epsilon x_2)}} c_L(P(\epsilon x_1), \mathcal{O}) \right).$$

Since  $c_L(P_1, P_2) = \frac{\ell_{P_1, P_2}(M)}{\ell_{P_1 + P_2, \mathcal{O}}(M)} \frac{\ell_{P_1 + P_2, \mathcal{O}}(N)}{\ell_{P_1, P_2}(N)}$ , the computation of  $\frac{\partial}{\partial X_{P(\epsilon x_2)}} c_L(P(\epsilon x_1), P(\epsilon x_2))$  is inconvenient, whereas a direct computation shows that

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\delta} \left( c_L([X : 1 : T], [\delta : 1 : 0]) - 1 \right) = \frac{-Y_M T(-T_N X + X_N T) - T_M(X_N T + Y_N X T) + X_M(T_N T + Y_N T^2)}{(-T_M X + X_M T)(-T_N X + X_N T)}.$$

Hence we have

$$\frac{g'(x_1)}{g(x_1)} = g'(0) - \frac{X_M Y_N - Y_M X_N + (Y_M T_N - T_M Y_N)\wp(\epsilon x_1) + (X_M T_N - T_M X_N)\wp'(\epsilon x_1)}{2(X_M - T_M \wp(\epsilon x_1))(X_N - T_N \wp(\epsilon x_1))}.$$

Thus we have to solve the separable differential equation

$$\frac{g'(x)}{g(x)} = g'(0) + \frac{Y_M}{2(X_M - T_M\wp(\epsilon x))} - \frac{Y_N}{2(X_N - T_N\wp(\epsilon x))} - \frac{(X_M T_N - T_M X_N)\wp'(\epsilon x)}{2(X_M - T_M\wp(\epsilon x))(X_N - T_N\wp(\epsilon x))}.$$

Let  $\log z$  be the principal value of the logarithm. Integrating by substitution, the last summand gives, up to an additive constant, the primitive integral

$$\int \frac{(X_M T_N - T_M X_N)\wp'(\epsilon x)}{(X_M - T_M\wp(\epsilon x))(X_N - T_N\wp(\epsilon x))} dx = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \log \frac{T_M\wp(\epsilon x) - X_M}{T_N\wp(\epsilon x) - X_N}.$$

For the second and the third primitive integral, let  $v_M, v_N \in \mathbb{C}$  be such that  $M = [\wp(v_M) : \wp'(v_M) : 1]$  and  $N = [\wp(v_N) : \wp'(v_N) : 1]$ , that is  $X_M = T_M\wp(v_M), Y_M = T_M\wp'(v_M)$  and  $X_N = T_N\wp(v_N), Y_N = T_N\wp'(v_N)$ .

Since  $\zeta(x) = \frac{\sigma'(x)}{\sigma(x)}$  and  $\wp(x) = -\zeta'(x)$ , applying the addition formula for  $\zeta$  (see, e. g., [6], (6.8.4), p. 161), we find, up to an additive constant,

$$\int \frac{Y_M}{X_M - T_M\wp(\epsilon x)} dx = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \log \frac{\sigma(\epsilon x + v_M)}{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_M)} - 2x\zeta(v_M),$$

and the same for the second summand. Thus, up to a constant  $\alpha$  of integration, we have

$$\log g(x) = \alpha + Hx + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \log \left( \frac{T_N\wp(\epsilon x) - X_N}{T_M\wp(\epsilon x) - X_M} \frac{\sigma(\epsilon x + v_M)}{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_M)} \frac{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_N)}{\sigma(\epsilon x + v_N)} \right), \quad (2)$$

where we have put  $g'(0) - \zeta(v_M) + \zeta(v_N) = H$ .

In order to simplify  $\log g(x)$ , we write

$$\frac{\sigma(\epsilon x + v_M)\sigma(\epsilon x - v_N)}{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_M)\sigma(\epsilon x + v_N)} = \frac{\sigma(\epsilon x + v_M)\sigma(\epsilon x - v_M)}{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_M)^2} \frac{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_N)^2}{\sigma(\epsilon x + v_N)\sigma(\epsilon x - v_N)},$$

and we apply the addition formula for  $\sigma$  (see, e. g., [6], (6.7.5), p. 158), obtaining that the last is equal to

$$\frac{(\wp(v_M) - \wp(\epsilon x))\sigma(\epsilon x)^2\sigma(v_M)^2}{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_M)^2} \frac{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_N)^2}{(\wp(v_N) - \wp(\epsilon x))\sigma(\epsilon x)^2\sigma(v_N)^2}.$$

Now equation (2) becomes

$$\log g(x) = \alpha + Hx + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \log \left( \frac{T_N\wp(\epsilon x) - X_N}{T_M\wp(\epsilon x) - X_M} \frac{\wp(v_M) - \wp(\epsilon x)}{\wp(v_N) - \wp(\epsilon x)} \frac{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_N)^2}{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_M)^2} \frac{\sigma(v_M)^2}{\sigma(v_N)^2} \right) \quad (3)$$

and, substituting  $X_M = T_M\wp(v_M)$  and  $X_N = T_N\wp(v_N)$ , we get

$$\log g(x) = \alpha + Hx + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \log \left( \frac{T_N}{T_M} \frac{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_N)^2}{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_M)^2} \frac{\sigma(v_M)^2}{\sigma(v_N)^2} \right). \quad (4)$$

From the membership of  $(0, 1)$  in the lattice, it follows that  $g(0) = 1$ , that is,

$$\log g(x) = Hx + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \log \left( \frac{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_N)^2}{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_M)^2} \frac{\sigma(v_M)^2}{\sigma(v_N)^2} \right). \quad (5)$$

Now, since

$$\log \left( c_L(P(\epsilon x_1), P(\epsilon x_2)) \right) = \log \left( \delta^1(g)(x_1, x_2) \right) = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \log \delta^1 \left( \frac{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_N) \sigma(v_M)}{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_M) \sigma(v_N)} \right)$$

and since the first terms of the MacLaurin series for  $c_L(P(\epsilon x_1), P(\epsilon x_2))$  are the same of the ones for  $\delta^1 \left( \frac{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_N) \sigma(v_M)}{\sigma(\epsilon x - v_M) \sigma(v_N)} \right)$ , that is,

$$1 + \epsilon^2(\wp(v_M) - \wp(v_N))x_1x_2 + \frac{\epsilon^3}{2}(\wp'(v_N) - \wp'(v_M))(x_1^2x_2 + x_1x_2^2),$$

it follows that  $\epsilon = 1$ . From (5) we get now  $g(x) = \exp(Hx) \frac{\sigma(v_M)}{\sigma(v_N)} \frac{\sigma(x-v_N)}{\sigma(x-v_M)}$ .

From the quasi-periodicity of  $\sigma$ :

$$\sigma(z + n\hat{\tau} + m) = (-1)^{(n+m)} \exp \left( 2\eta_3(n^2\hat{\tau}/2 + nz) + 2\eta_1(m^2/2 + m(z + n\hat{\tau})) \right) \sigma(z),$$

(where  $\eta_1$  and  $\eta_3 = \eta_1\hat{\tau} - i\pi$  are constants, for details see [6] §6.2, p. 150) and from the membership of  $(1, 0)$  in the lattice, it follows  $g(1) = 1$ , hence we have:

$$1 = \exp(H) \frac{\sigma(v_M)}{\sigma(v_N)} \frac{\exp \left( 2\eta_1(1/2 - v_N) \right) \sigma(-v_N)}{\exp \left( 2\eta_1(1/2 - v_M) \right) \sigma(-v_M)} = \exp \left( H + 2\eta_1(v_M - v_N) \right),$$

that is, for some  $h_1 \in \mathbb{Z}$  we obtain

$$2h_1\pi i = H + 2\eta_1(v_M - v_N). \quad (6)$$

Finally, from the membership of  $(\hat{\tau}, \tilde{\tau})$  in the lattice, it follows  $g(\hat{\tau}) \exp(2\pi i\tilde{\tau}) = 1$ , hence we have:

$$1 = \exp(H\hat{\tau}) \frac{\sigma(v_M)}{\sigma(v_N)} \exp(2\pi i\tilde{\tau}) \frac{\sigma(\hat{\tau} - v_N)}{\sigma(\hat{\tau} - v_M)} = \exp(H\hat{\tau}) \frac{\sigma(v_M)}{\sigma(v_N)} \exp(2\pi i\tilde{\tau} + 2\eta_3(v_M - v_N)) \frac{\sigma(v_N)}{\sigma(v_M)},$$

that is,

$$\exp(H\hat{\tau} + 2\pi i\tilde{\tau} + 2\eta_3(v_M - v_N)) = 1.$$

Thus, for some  $h_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we get

$$H\hat{\tau} + 2\pi i\tilde{\tau} + 2\eta_3(v_M - v_N) = 2h_2\pi i. \quad (7)$$

Recalling that  $\eta_1\hat{\tau} = \eta_3 + i\pi$ , from (7) and (6) it follows that

$$2h_1\pi i\hat{\tau} = 2h_2\pi i - 2\pi i\tilde{\tau} + 2\pi i(v_M - v_N),$$

hence the point  $P(\tilde{\tau}) = [\wp(\tilde{\tau}) : \wp'(\tilde{\tau}) : 1]$  is equal to  $M - N$ .

*Remark:* The relationship  $\delta^1(g) = c_LP$  gives now

$$\frac{\sigma(v_N)}{\sigma(v_M)} \frac{\sigma(x_1 + x_2 - v_N)\sigma(x_1 - v_M)\sigma(x_2 - v_M)}{\sigma(x_1 + x_2 - v_M)\sigma(x_1 - v_N)\sigma(x_2 - v_N)} = \frac{\ell_{P(x_1), P(x_2)}(M) \ell_{P(x_1+x_2), \mathcal{O}}(N)}{\ell_{P(x_1+x_2), \mathcal{O}}(M) \ell_{P(x_1), P(x_2)}(N)},$$

an apparently new relationship between the Weierstrass sigma and elliptic functions.

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