

l -adic points on Modular Towers

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In [Fr3] Mike Fried proposed a conjecture on the l -adic points in the modular tower. According to this "Harbater patching converse", projective systems of l -adic points will lie in some special components called g - p' -components.

The result we would like to discuss states that if one replaces the (coarse) Hurwitz modular tower by the Hurwitz modular stack tower, the conclusion is true (and even a little bit stronger).

In the opposite direction, using Harbater patching method we can construct projective systems of points on the Hurwitz modular tower defined over the maximal unramified extension \mathbb{Q}_l^{ur} of \mathbb{Q}_l and lying on coherent systems of g - p' -components. The question whether the same is possible on other type of components - an affirmative answer to this question is more or less equivalent to the negation of the "Harbater patching converse" - is still open to my knowledge. In this direction we'll give an example of points defined over \mathbb{Q}_l^{ur} on non g - p' -components of arbitrary high level in the modular tower relative to the universal Frattini cover of the dihedral group D_p . But they don't form a coherent system of points.

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