

POLYLOGARITHMIC MOTIVIC CHABAUTY–KIM FOR $\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{0, 1, \infty\}$: THE GEOMETRIC STEP VIA RESULTANTS

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ABSTRACT. Given a finite set S of distinct primes, we propose a method to construct polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim functions for $\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{0, 1, \infty\}$ using resultants. For a prime $p \notin S$, the vanishing loci of the images of such functions under the p -adic period map contain the solutions of the S -unit equation. In the case $|S| = 2$, we explicitly construct a non-trivial motivic Chabauty–Kim function in depth 6 of degree 18, and prove that there do not exist any other Chabauty–Kim functions with smaller depth and degree. The method, inspired by work of Dan-Cohen and the first author, enhances the geometric step algorithm developed by Corwin and Dan-Cohen, providing a more efficient approach.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Let S be a finite set of primes, and let $X = \mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{0, 1, \infty\}$ denote the thrice punctured projective line over the ring of S -integers \mathbb{Z}_S of \mathbb{Q} . By Siegel’s theorem, the set $X(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ is finite. Equivalently, the S -unit equation $a + b = 1$ with $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_S^\times$ has finitely many solutions. In an effort to determine $X(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ explicitly, Kim [15] initiated the non-abelian Chabauty program. This p -adic method (p a prime not in S) produces a nested sequence of sets

$$X(\mathbb{Z}_p) \supseteq X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,1}^{\text{Kim}} \supseteq X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,2}^{\text{Kim}} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{Kim}} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq X(\mathbb{Z}_S)$$

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that become finite for $d \gg 0$, and Kim conjectured that $X(\mathbb{Z}_S) = X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{Kim}}$ for d sufficiently large. In particular, computing these sets gives a way to explicitly determine $X(\mathbb{Z}_S)$.

The set $X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{Kim}}$, called the *Chabauty–Kim locus* in depth d , is defined as the vanishing locus of certain polynomials in p -adic multiple polylogarithms. Recently, in [7, 9], Corwin and Dan-Cohen proposed a motivic version of Kim’s method for the curve X that only requires the use of p -adic single polylogarithms, rather than multiple polylogarithms. Their method produces a nested sequence of sets

$$X(\mathbb{Z}_p) \supseteq X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,1}^{\text{PL}} \supseteq X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,2}^{\text{PL}} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq X(\mathbb{Z}_S),$$

satisfying $X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{Kim}} \subseteq (X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}})^{S_3}$, where the latter denotes the largest S_3 -stable subset of $X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}}$. For d sufficiently large, Corwin–Dan-Cohen [7, Conj. 2.32] conjectured the equality $X(\mathbb{Z}_S) = (X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}})^{S_3}$, which implies Kim’s conjecture.

In practice, it is difficult to compute the sets $X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{Kim}}$ or $X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}}$: so far, they have only been computed when $|S| = 0$ [1] and $|S| = 1$ with $d \leq 4$ [7, 11].

The main advantage of the motivic approach of [7, 9] is the separation of the computation of $X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}}$ into two steps:

- *Geometric step*: find non-trivial polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim functions in depth $\leq d$. These functions (Definition 3.3) are elements of a weighted polynomial ring $\mathcal{O}(U_S)[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_d^u]$, which vanish under a certain cocycle map $\theta^\#$ (Definition 4.1). Here:
 - the variables are the unipotent de Rham polylogarithms \log^u and Li_n^u for $n \geq 1$ (see Section 2.3);
 - the coefficient ring $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$ is the coordinate ring of the pro-unipotent mixed Tate fundamental group over \mathbb{Z}_S (see Section 2.2);
 - the variable \log^u is assigned degree 1 and each Li_n^u is assigned degree n .

This step depends on the cardinality of S , but not on the specific primes contained in S , nor on the prime p .

- *Arithmetic step*: determine the images of the functions found in the geometric step under the p -adic period map, in order to obtain p -adic Chabauty–Kim functions.¹ This step depends on the prime p and the specific primes contained in S .

In this paper, we focus on the geometric step and propose a method for solving it for any set S based on the use of resultants. In the case $|S| = 2$, we carry out this resultant method explicitly:

Theorem 1.1. *Assume that $|S| = 2$.*

- (i) *There do not exist any motivic Chabauty–Kim functions of degree less than 18.*
- (ii) *The lowest depth at which a motivic Chabauty–Kim function exists is 6.*
- (iii) *There exists a non-trivial motivic Chabauty–Kim function $F_{6,18}^{[2]}$ of depth 6 and degree 18 (see Definition 6.9). Moreover, any other motivic Chabauty–Kim function of depth less than 19 and degree 18 is a multiple of $F_{6,18}^{[2]}$ by an element of $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$.*

¹Guaranteed to be non-trivial if one assumes the p -adic Period Conjecture [7, Conj. 2.25].

This result constitutes the first progress towards explicit Chabauty–Kim in depth > 4 for $|S| \geq 2$.

Remark 1.2. The cocycle map $\theta^\#$ can be viewed as a morphism of graded vector spaces, and as the depth d and the degree v grow, the dimension of the relevant graded piece of the domain grows faster than that of the corresponding graded piece of the codomain (Proposition 5.2); we tabulate these dimensions in Table 1. In particular, when d and v are large enough, the existence of a non-trivial motivic Chabauty–Kim function is guaranteed by a simple dimension argument. However, the non-trivial motivic Chabauty–Kim function $F_{6,18}^{[2]}$ of Theorem 1.1 does not fit into this regime: the depth 6, degree 18 part of the domain has dimension 996, while the corresponding part of the codomain has dimension 4183. Hence, the mere existence of $F_{6,18}^{[2]}$ is surprising! At least when $|S| = 2$, our construction can produce multiple distinct non-trivial motivic Chabauty–Kim functions whose existence cannot be explained by naive dimension estimates. It would be interesting to see what circumstances could give an a priori justification for their existence. These observations offer hints of new phenomena in Chabauty–Kim theory that are not visible when $|S| = 1$ (see Section 5.2.1).

Remark 1.3. The case $|S| = 2$ and $d = 5$ is the first instance for which the Goncharov subalgebra $\mathcal{O}^G(U_S)$ (see [9, §2.3.2]) is strictly contained in $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$. While the coefficients of $F_{6,18}^{[2]}$, which are rational linear combinations of the generators of the shuffle algebra $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$, are guaranteed to lie in $\mathcal{O}^G(U_S)$ by [9, Prop. 2.3.5], the individual terms of these linear combinations do not belong to $\mathcal{O}^G(U_S)$ in general. According to Corwin–Dan–Cohen’s integral strengthening of Goncharov’s depth-1 conjecture [9, Conj. 2.3.6], the coefficients of $F_{6,18}^{[2]}$ should therefore be expressible as rational linear combinations of *single* polylogarithmic values (possibly requiring enlarging S), even though the individual terms might require *multiple* polylogarithmic values in order to carry out the arithmetic step. In the future, it would be interesting to observe these phenomena in the arithmetic step for $F_{6,18}^{[2]}$.

1.1. Polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim. The method of [7] rests on the following commutative diagram of sets:

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} X(\mathbb{Z}_S) & \hookrightarrow & X(\mathbb{Z}_p) \\ \downarrow \kappa & & \downarrow \kappa_p \\ \mathrm{Sel}_S^{\mathrm{PL}}(\mathbb{Q}) & \xrightarrow{\mathrm{loc}} & \Pi^{\mathrm{PL}}(\mathbb{Q}_p). \end{array}$$

We refer to Section 3.3 for a detailed description of this diagram. In this context:

- Π^{PL} denotes the polylogarithmic pro-unipotent de Rham fundamental group of X (see Section 2.3);
- the Selmer scheme is defined as $\mathrm{Sel}_S^{\mathrm{PL}} = \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbb{G}_m}(U_S, \Pi^{\mathrm{PL}})$, where U_S denotes the pro-unipotent mixed Tate fundamental group over \mathbb{Z}_S (see Section 2.2);
- the map κ is the (unipotent) motivic Kummer map, which is a map of sets;
- the map κ_p is the local (unipotent) Kummer map, which is a p -adic locally analytic map;
- the map loc evaluates a homomorphism at the p -adic period map $\mathrm{per}_p \in U_S(\mathbb{Q}_p)$. The map loc is a map of \mathbb{Q}_p -schemes restricted to \mathbb{Q} -points.

The Selmer scheme comes equipped with a universal evaluation map of U_S -schemes

$$(1.2) \quad \text{ev}: \text{Sel}_S^{\text{PL}} \times_{\mathbb{Q}} U_S \rightarrow \Pi^{\text{PL}} \times_{\mathbb{Q}} U_S.$$

Let K denote the function field of U_S and let ev_K be the pull-back of ev along $\text{Spec}(K) \rightarrow U_S$. Given an integer $d \geq 1$, define

$$\mathcal{I}_{S,d}^{\text{PL}} := \mathcal{O}(\Pi_{\geq -d}^{\text{PL}} \times (U_S)_{\geq -d}) \cap \ker(\text{ev}_K^{\#}),$$

where we used the notation of [7, bottom p. 1869] for depth d quotient pro-unipotent groups. Via pull-back by the p -adic period map, any function $f \in \mathcal{I}_{S,d}^{\text{PL}}$ induces a p -adic Chabauty–Kim function (see (3.2) for the precise definition)

$$f|_{X(\mathbb{Z}_p)}: X(\mathbb{Z}_p) \xrightarrow{\kappa} \Pi^{\text{PL}}(\mathbb{Q}_p) \xrightarrow{f_{\mathbb{Q}_p}} \mathbb{Q}_p.$$

The *polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim locus* in depth d is then defined as

$$X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}} := \left\{ z \in X(\mathbb{Z}_p) : f|_{X(\mathbb{Z}_p)}(z) = 0, \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{I}_{S,d}^{\text{PL}} \right\}.$$

The geometric step amounts to finding non-zero elements of $\mathcal{I}_{S,d}^{\text{PL}}$.

1.2. Methods. In [7, §3.3], Corwin and Dan-Cohen describe an affine model for the Selmer scheme Sel_S^{PL} in terms of non-canonical coordinates. In this model, the map (1.2) is identified with an explicit map (Definition 4.1)

$$(1.3) \quad \theta^{\#}: \mathcal{O}(U_S)[\log^{\mathfrak{u}}, \text{Li}_1^{\mathfrak{u}}, \text{Li}_2^{\mathfrak{u}}, \dots] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(U_S)[\Phi]$$

of graded algebras over the shuffle algebra $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$, whose kernel is exactly the space of motivic Chabauty–Kim functions. Restricting to a fixed depth d and degree v , there is a corresponding $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$ -module map (see Definition 2.6 for the definition of $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$)

$$(1.4) \quad \theta_{d,v}^{\#}: \mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\log^{\mathfrak{u}}, \text{Li}_1^{\mathfrak{u}}, \dots, \text{Li}_d^{\mathfrak{u}}]_v \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\Phi, d]_v.$$

Completing the geometric step in depth d and degree v is equivalent to computing the kernel of this map.

When $|S| = 1$, Corwin and Dan-Cohen compute the kernel of $\theta_{d,v}^{\#}$ for small d and v by hand, with minimal difficulty. However, this case is deceptively simple: we show in Remark 5.8 that for $|S| = 2$, even when one knows that $\ker(\theta_{6,18}^{\#})$ should be non-trivial, computing its kernel directly amounts to computing the kernel of a 4183×996 matrix over a polynomial algebra in 30 variables, which is infeasible even for a supercomputer.

To prove Theorem 1.1, we explicitly compute this kernel using a two-faceted approach. First, we develop an algorithm to prove that $\ker(\theta_{d,v}^{\#}) = 0$ whenever $d, v \leq 17$. Second, via the method of resultants, we explicitly construct an element of $\ker(\theta_{6,18}^{\#})$.

1.2.1. An algorithm for bounding the number of motivic Chabauty–Kim functions. The shuffle algebra $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$ can be identified with a polynomial ring $\mathbb{Q}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ with n the number of Lyndon words of degree $\geq -d$ of a fixed ordered generating set Σ for $\text{Lie}(U_S)$. Thus, for fixed d and v , the operator $\theta_{d,v}^{\#}$ can be viewed as a matrix over a polynomial ring. While computing its kernel directly is infeasible, observe that its kernel is non-zero only if it is non-zero for every possible integer evaluation of (X_1, \dots, X_n) .

We use this observation to formulate Algorithm 5.6, which takes as input a tuple of positive integers (s, d, v) , where $s = |S|$, and outputs the dimension of the kernel of $\theta_{d,v}^{\#}$, evaluated at a random integer vector $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$. The output is therefore an upper bound (and likely also a lower bound – see

Remark 5.5) for the dimension of the space of polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim functions in depth d and degree v for s primes (Proposition 5.4).

We have implemented this algorithm in SageMath [20]; the code can be viewed at our GitHub repository. The output of the algorithm for $(2, 17, 17)$ is 0, proving Theorem 1.1(i) (Theorem 5.7).

However, the output of the algorithm for $(2, 17, 18)$, and even $(2, 6, 18)$, is 1, which indicates that it is extremely likely that a non-zero polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim function exists in depth 6 and degree 18. Granted the existence of such a function, the output proves Theorem 1.1(iii). In order to prove Theorem 1.1, all that remains is therefore to prove the existence of such a function.

1.2.2. *Constructing motivic Chabauty–Kim functions via resultants.* For any $|S|$, we propose a resultant method that effectively constructs polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim functions (Section 7). The method is inspired by the work [10] on the surface $M_{0,5}$ (the moduli space of genus 0 curves with 5 marked points). At this level of generality, we cannot guarantee the non-triviality of the resulting functions. However, when $|S| = 2$, we construct a function of depth 6 and degree 18 and prove its non-triviality (Theorem 6.10). We now briefly sketch the construction in the case $|S| = 2$ (see Section 6 for the detailed construction).

Constructing a polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim function requires finding an element in the kernel of the map (1.3). As explained in Section 1.2.1, after restricting to a fixed depth d and degree v , the map (1.4) can be expressed as a matrix with coefficients in the shuffle algebra $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$. It is however computationally infeasible to compute its null space, even though we can implement the matrix in SageMath. In the case where $|S| = 2$ and d is even, the images of $\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_d^u$ under (1.3) take values in a polynomial algebra with $4 + (d - 1)/2$ variables $x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2, z_3, z_5, \dots, z_{d-1}$ and coefficients in $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$. Due to the particular shape of the map (1.3), it is possible to express z_k in terms of images under (1.3) and the variables x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2 , and $z_{k'}$ for $k' < k$. From the shape of $\theta^\#(\log^u), \theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u)$, and $\theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u)$, the variables x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2 can in turn be expressed in terms of images under (1.2) and the single variable x_1 . From these observations, it is possible to derive a polynomial expression $P_d(X) \in \text{Im}(\theta^\#)[X]$ with the property that $P_d(x_1) = 0$. The construction works whenever $d \geq 4$. Write $P_d(X) = \theta^\#(\nu_d(X))$ for some $\nu_d(X) \in (\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_d^u])[X]$. Then

$$\text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X)) \in \mathcal{I}_{S,6}^{\text{PL}}$$

is a non-trivial Chabauty–Kim function, which happens to be a multiple of $(\log^u)^6(\text{Li}_2^u - \frac{1}{2} \log^u \text{Li}_1^u)$. The function $F_{6,18}^{[2]}$ satisfying

$$\text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X)) = (\log^u)^6 \left(\text{Li}_2^u - \frac{1}{2} \log^u \text{Li}_1^u \right) F_{6,18}^{[2]}$$

is a non-trivial Chabauty–Kim function of depth 6 and degree 18 (Theorem 6.10). It is worth pointing out that the factor $\text{Li}_2^u - \frac{1}{2} \log^u \text{Li}_1^u$ is precisely the generator of $\mathcal{I}_{\{\ell\},2}^{\text{PL}}$ studied in [12], where ℓ denotes any prime. We note however that it is not an element of $\mathcal{I}_{S,2}^{\text{PL}}$ for $|S| = 2$.

1.3. **Prior works.** The present work is the first to tackle explicit Chabauty–Kim in depth > 4 for $|S| \geq 2$. In this section, we give an overview of prior works on the subject.

The map loc was first made explicit in [11] in depth 2. In [1], the case $S = \emptyset$ in depths 1 and 2 was studied. In [11], the equality $X(\mathbb{Z}_S) = (X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}})^{S_3}$ was verified for $S = \{2\}$ and $d = 2$ with $p = 3, 5, 7$, but turned out to fail with $p = 11$. In [12], Dan-Cohen and Wewers studied the case $S = \{2\}$ in depth 4 and verified the equality $X(\mathbb{Z}_S) = (X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}})^{S_3}$ with $p = 3, 5, \dots, 29$

using two explicit p -adic Chabauty–Kim functions in depths 2 and 4 respectively [12, Thm. 1.17.1]. The motivic framework of the method was further developed in [8] resulting in an algorithm for determining $X(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ whose halting is conditional on a list of conjectures. The polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim method for X was fully developed in [7], including the separation into the geometric and the arithmetic step. The geometric step was solved for $|S| = 1$ in depth 4, and the equality $X(\mathbb{Z}_S) = (X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}})^{S_3}$ was verified for $S = \{3\}$ in depth 4 with $p = 5, 7$. It is also in [7] that the necessity of symmetrising the polylogarithmic Chabauty–Kim locus via the S_3 -action was discovered. In [9], an algorithm that determines the set $X(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ based on the method of [7] is described, whose halting depends on a list of conjectures. Part of the work of the present paper can be seen as making their algorithm for the geometric step effective, a step that was deceptively perceived in [7, 9] as simple. In related work, motivic Chabauty–Kim was recently developed for the surface $M_{0,5}$ in [10] and was worked out explicitly for $S = \{2, 3\}$ in depth 4. A certain weight advantage encountered for $M_{0,5}$ allowed Dan-Cohen and the first author to work in depth 4, a depth that is too small to handle X when $|S| = 2$. Their calculations solve in particular the arithmetic step for X in depth 4 for $S = \{2, 3\}$. Recently, the case $S = \{2, 3\}$ for X was tackled in [17] using a different method, namely the *refined Chabauty–Kim method* first developed in [3]. This refined version of the method allows Lütcke to work in depth 4, resulting in new evidence for the *refined Kim’s conjecture* in this setting. The previous work [2] concerned the refined Chabauty–Kim method for $|S| = 2$ in depth 2. The recent work [4] proves Kim’s conjecture for $S = \emptyset$ and the refined Kim’s conjecture for $S = \{2\}$, for all odd primes p .

1.4. Outline. Section 2 contains preliminaries on mixed Tate motives and motivic fundamental groups. Section 3 gives an overview of the polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim method. Section 4 gives a description of the evaluation map (1.2) in terms of non-canonical coordinates of the Selmer scheme. This marks the end of the background material. Section 5 contains the upper bound algorithm and the proofs of Theorem 1.1(i), (iii). Finally, in Section 6, we describe the resultant method, which culminates in the proof of Theorem 1.1. Section 7 contains a brief discussion of possible generalisations of the method to the case $|S| > 2$.

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2. MIXED TATE MOTIVES AND FUNDAMENTAL GROUPS

2.1. Mixed Tate Motives. Let S be a finite set of primes, and let $\text{MT}(\mathbb{Q})$ denote the category of mixed Tate motives over \mathbb{Q} , as defined in [16, Thm. 4.2]²: it is a rigid abelian tensor category whose objects are iterated extensions of the pure Tate motives $\mathbb{Q}(n)$, with $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

²Note that the hypothesis in [16, Thm. 4.2] holds: the Beilinson–Soulé vanishing conjecture for number fields follows from work of Borel [5].

Definition 2.1. The category $\mathrm{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ is the full subcategory of $\mathrm{MT}(\mathbb{Q})$ consisting of mixed Tate motives unramified outside S , in the sense of [14, §1.7, Def. 1.4].

Each object Y of $\mathrm{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ has a functorial finite increasing filtration

$$0 \subseteq W_a(Y) \subseteq W_{a+1}(Y) \subseteq \cdots \subseteq W_{b-1}(Y) \subseteq W_b(Y) = Y,$$

where, for each integer n , the quotient $\mathrm{gr}_n^W(Y) = W_n(Y)/W_{n-1}(Y)$ is an element of the sub-tensor category $\mathrm{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S)_n$ of $\mathrm{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ spanned by $\mathbb{Q}(-n/2)$ (we adopt the convention that $\mathbb{Q}(-n/2) = 0$ if n is odd). The above filtration is called the *weight filtration*.

The subcategory of semisimple objects of $\mathrm{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ consists of direct sums of the Tate objects, and is therefore isomorphic to the category $\mathrm{GrVec}_{\mathbb{Q}}$ of finite-dimensional graded \mathbb{Q} -vector spaces. Moreover, by [16, Cor. 4.3], for all integers p, q , we have

$$(2.1) \quad \mathrm{Ext}_{\mathrm{MT}(\mathbb{Q})}^p(\mathbb{Q}(0), \mathbb{Q}(q)) \simeq K_{2q-p}^{(q)}(\mathbb{Q}).$$

The weight filtration induces a (canonical) graded piece functor

$$\omega: \mathrm{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S) \rightarrow \mathrm{GrVec}_{\mathbb{Q}}$$

given by

$$Y \mapsto \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} (\mathrm{gr}_n^W(Y) \otimes \mathbb{Q}(n/2)) = \bigoplus_{d \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathrm{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S)}(\mathbb{Q}(-d), \mathrm{gr}_{2d}^W(Y)) =: \bigoplus_{d \in \mathbb{Z}} \omega_d(Y).$$

The degree d of $\omega_d(Y)$ is referred to as the *half-weight*, but we will simply use the terminology “degree”. The functor ω is faithful and exact, and endows $(\mathrm{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S), \omega)$ with the structure of a neutral \mathbb{Q} -Tannakian category (we refer to [19] for details on the Tannakian formalism).

Remark 2.2. We have departed from the conventions of [14] in order to maintain the conventions of [7]. More precisely, our d^{th} graded piece $\omega_d(Y)$ of $\omega(Y)$ is Deligne–Goncharov’s $(-d)^{\mathrm{th}}$ graded piece. A consequence is that the pro-unipotent Lie algebras that we encounter later are *negatively* graded.

2.2. The pro-unipotent mixed Tate fundamental group.

Definition 2.3. Let $G_S := \mathrm{Aut}^{\otimes}(\omega)$ be the Tannakian fundamental group of $(\mathrm{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S), \omega)$. It is a (pro-)affine algebraic group over \mathbb{Q} and ω induces an equivalence of categories $\mathrm{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S) \simeq \mathrm{Rep}_{\mathbb{Q}}(G_S)$.

The action of G_S on

$$\omega(\mathbb{Q}(-1)) = \omega_1(\mathbb{Q}(-1)) = \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathrm{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S)}(\mathbb{Q}(-1), \mathbb{Q}(-1)) = \mathbb{Q},$$

gives a non-trivial map from G_S to $\mathrm{GL}(\mathbb{Q})$, and thus a surjection $G_S \twoheadrightarrow \mathbb{G}_m$.

Definition 2.4. The *pro-unipotent fundamental group* U_S of $\mathrm{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ is the kernel of $G_S \twoheadrightarrow \mathbb{G}_m$.

By definition, there is a short exact sequence

$$1 \rightarrow U_S \rightarrow G_S \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow 1$$

of affine algebraic groups over \mathbb{Q} . This short exact sequence splits: letting $\lambda \in \mathbb{G}_m$ act on $\omega_d(X)$ by multiplication by λ^d gives a \mathbb{G}_m -action (i.e. a grading) on $\omega(X)$, and hence a splitting $\mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow G_S$ (known as the Levy splitting of G_S). Thus, there is an isomorphism

$$G_S \simeq U_S \rtimes \mathbb{G}_m.$$

The action of U_S respects the weight filtration on $\text{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ and is trivial on weight graded pieces. It follows that U_S is the maximal pro-unipotent subgroup of G_S [14, §2.1].

We may describe U_S in terms of the extension groups $\text{Ext}^1(\mathbb{Q}(0), \mathbb{Q}(n))$ in $\text{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ (the Ext^2 are trivial in $\text{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ [14, Prop. 1.9]), as we will now explain. By (2.1), we have

$$\text{Ext}^1(\mathbb{Q}(0), \mathbb{Q}(n)) = K_{2n-1}^{(n)}(\mathbb{Z}_S) = \begin{cases} K_{2n-1}(\mathbb{Z}_S) \otimes \mathbb{Q} & n \geq 0 \\ 0 & n < 0. \end{cases}$$

When $n = 1$, we have $K_1(\mathbb{Z}_S) \otimes \mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{Z}_S^\times \otimes \mathbb{Q}$, which has dimension $|S|$. When $n \geq 2$, we have $K_{2n-1}(\mathbb{Z}_S) \otimes \mathbb{Q} = K_{2n-1}(\mathbb{Q}) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$, which has dimension 0 for n even and dimension 1 for n odd [5].

By the formalism of pro-unipotent groups, it follows that $\text{Lie}(U_S)$ is a free, negatively graded, pro-nilpotent Lie algebra, which is finite-dimensional in each degree (the grading is negative because of Remark 2.2). Moreover, the functor ω induces an equivalence between $\text{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ and the category of graded finite-dimensional \mathbb{Q} -vector spaces with an action of $\text{Lie}(U_S)$ compatible with the gradings [14, Prop. 2.2]. By [14, A.15], a system of homogeneous free generators of $\text{Lie}(U_S)$ is obtained by (non-canonically) lifting a basis of each

$$\text{Lie}(U_S)_{-n}^{\text{ab}} = \text{Ext}^1(\mathbb{Q}(0), \mathbb{Q}(n))^\vee.$$

Hence, the pro-unipotent group U_S is non-canonically isomorphic to the free pro-unipotent group (in the sense of [7, §2.1.3]) on the graded vector space $\bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{Ext}^1(\mathbb{Q}(0), \mathbb{Q}(n))^\vee$ with $\text{Ext}^1(\mathbb{Q}(0), \mathbb{Q}(n))^\vee$ placed in degree $-n$.

Definition 2.5. Fix once and for all a system of free generators of $\text{Lie}(U_S)$ given by $\{\tau_\ell\}_{\ell \in S}$ in degree (i.e., half-weight) -1 , and σ_{2n+1} in degree $-2n - 1$, for each $n \geq 1$. We denote by Σ this ordered set of free generators.

As a Hopf algebra, $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$ is dual to the completed universal enveloping algebra $\mathcal{U} \text{Lie}(U_S)$. Hence, by the formalism of [7, §2.1.3], it follows that $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$ is non-canonically isomorphic to the free shuffle algebra on the positively graded vector space $\bigoplus_{n=1}^\infty \text{Ext}^1(\mathbb{Q}(0), \mathbb{Q}(n))$ with $\text{Ext}^1(\mathbb{Q}(0), \mathbb{Q}(n))$ placed in degree n .

Explicitly, for each word $w \in \mathcal{U} \text{Lie}(U_S)$ in the fixed generators $\{\tau_\ell\}_{\ell \in S}$ and $\{\sigma_{2n+1}\}_{n \geq 1}$ of $\text{Lie}(U_S)$, we denote the dual basis element by $f_w \in \mathcal{O}(U_S)$. The coproduct is the deconcatenation coproduct given by

$$(2.2) \quad \Delta f_w := \sum_{w_1 w_2 = w} f_{w_1} \otimes f_{w_2}.$$

For words $w_1, w_2 \in \mathcal{U} \text{Lie}(U_S)$, the commutative product is the shuffle product given by

$$f_{w_1} f_{w_2} := \sum_{\sigma \in \text{III}(\ell(w_1), \ell(w_2))} f_{\sigma(w_1 w_2)},$$

where $\text{III}(\ell(w_1), \ell(w_2)) \subseteq S_{\ell(w_1) + \ell(w_2)}$ is the subgroup of shuffle permutations of type $(\ell(w_1), \ell(w_2))$.

The elements $\{f_w\}_w$ constitute a basis of $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$, which we call the *abstract shuffle basis*.

Definition 2.6. We write $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$ for the subalgebra of $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$ generated by words of degree at most d . More precisely, $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d} = \mathcal{O}((U_S)_{\geq -d})$, where $(U_S)_{\geq -d}$ is the pro-unipotent group associated to the quotient Lie algebra $\text{Lie}(U_S) / \text{Lie}(U_S)_{< -d}$ generated by the set $\Sigma_{\geq -d}$ of generators in Σ of degree $\geq -d$.

2.3. The unipotent de Rham fundamental group. Let $X := \mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{0, 1, \infty\}$ denote the thrice-punctured projective line, viewed as a scheme over \mathbb{Z}_S .

Definition 2.7. Fix a point $x \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0, 1\}$ or a tangential vector at $0, 1$ or ∞ . The *unipotent de Rham fundamental group* of X at x , $\pi_1^{\text{un,dR}}(X; x)$, is the Tannakian fundamental group of the neutral \mathbb{Q} -Tannakian category of algebraic vector bundles with nilpotent connection on $X_{\mathbb{Q}}$, with fibre functor given by taking the fibre at x . In the case that $x = \vec{1}_0$ is the tangential vector 1 at the point 0 , we set

$$\Pi := \pi_1^{\text{un,dR}}(X; \vec{1}_0).^3$$

The group Π is an affine, pro-unipotent group over \mathbb{Q} . Its coordinate ring $\mathcal{O}(\Pi)$ is the de Rham realisation of a commutative Hopf algebra in the category of ind-objects of $\text{MT}(\mathbb{Z})$, the category of unramified mixed Tate motives over \mathbb{Q} [14, §4, §5]. The de Rham realisation functor of $\text{MT}(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ is canonically isomorphic to ω [14, §2.9]. In particular, the group Π carries an action of G_S .

Let V denote the graded vector space consisting of $H_1^{\text{dR}}(X_{\mathbb{Q}})$ in degree -1 and 0 in all other degrees. Then we can view Π as the free pro-unipotent group on V , in the following sense. Take the completed graded tensor algebra TV on V and put the unique coproduct on it such that all elements of V are primitive. Denote by \mathfrak{n} the subspace of TV consisting of primitive elements. Then \mathfrak{n} has the structure of a strictly negatively graded pro-nilpotent Lie algebra, so it is the Lie algebra of a graded pro-unipotent group $U(V)$. The statement that Π is the free pro-unipotent group on V means that $\Pi = U(V)$. In particular, the coordinate ring $\mathcal{O}(\Pi)$ is the Hopf dual algebra of the universal enveloping algebra $\mathcal{U}\mathfrak{n}$. This enveloping algebra is TV with the unique coproduct for which all elements of $H_1^{\text{dR}}(X_{\mathbb{Q}})$ are primitive.

This description allows us to apply the machinery of [7, §2.1.3]. Take $\{e_0, e_1\} \subseteq TV$ to be the basis dual to the standard basis $\{dz/z, dz/(1-z)\}$ of $H_{\text{dR}}^1(X_{\mathbb{Q}})$, assign to these basis elements the degree -1 and declare them to be primitive. Then TV is generated by words w in the basis elements e_0 and e_1 . Let Li_w^{u} denote the element of $\mathcal{O}(\Pi)$ that is dual to the word w . Then $\mathcal{O}(\Pi)$ is generated by the elements $\{\text{Li}_w^{\text{u}}\}_w$. The deconcatenation coproduct is given by

$$(2.3) \quad \Delta \text{Li}_w^{\text{u}} := \sum_{w_1 w_2 = w} \text{Li}_{w_1}^{\text{u}} \otimes \text{Li}_{w_2}^{\text{u}},$$

and the shuffle product by

$$(2.4) \quad \text{Li}_{w_1}^{\text{u}} \text{Li}_{w_2}^{\text{u}} := \sum_{\sigma \in \text{III}(\ell(w_1), \ell(w_2))} \text{Li}_{\sigma(w_1 w_2)}^{\text{u}}.$$

3. THE POLYLOGARITHMIC MOTIVIC CHABAUTY–KIM METHOD

We restrict the discussion exclusively to the polylogarithmic quotient of Π . For the more general situation, as well as details, see [7, §2].

3.1. The polylogarithmic quotient. Recall that $X = \mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{0, 1, \infty\}$ is viewed as a scheme over \mathbb{Z}_S . The inclusion of schemes $X \hookrightarrow \mathbb{G}_m$ gives rise to a G_S -equivariant morphism $\Pi \rightarrow \pi_1^{\text{un,dR}}(\mathbb{G}_m; \vec{1}_0) = \mathbb{Q}(1)$, the target group being the pro-unipotent de Rham fundamental group of \mathbb{G}_m at the tangential base-point $\vec{1}_0$. Let N denote the kernel of this homomorphism.

³Here we do not follow the notation in Deligne–Goncharov [14, §5.7]. Namely, our Π is their $\Pi_{0,0}$, but it is isomorphic to what Deligne and Goncharov denote by Π .

Definition 3.1. The *polylogarithmic unipotent de Rham fundamental group* is defined as

$$\Pi^{\text{PL}} := \Pi/[N, N].$$

The group N carries an action of G_S , hence $[N, N]$ is G_S -stable and, as a consequence, Π^{PL} carries an action of G_S . Deligne [13, Prop. 16.13] proved that

$$\Pi^{\text{PL}} = \mathbb{Q}(1) \times \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{Q}(i),$$

the action of $\mathbb{Q}(1)$ on the infinite product being the one defined by [13, §16.12]. In particular, the action of G_S factors through \mathbb{G}_m . Given $d \geq 1$, the depth d polylogarithmic quotient is $\Pi_{\geq -d}^{\text{PL}}$ (in the notation of [7, p. 1869]).

Recall from Section 2.3 that Π is the free pro-unipotent group on the graded vector space V , which is $H_1^{\text{dR}}(X_{\mathbb{Q}}) = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Q}}\{e_0, e_1\}$ in degree -1 and zero elsewhere. The specific words of the form

$$e_0, \quad e_1, \quad e_1e_0, \quad e_1e_0e_0, \quad e_1e_0e_0e_0, \quad \dots$$

are called polylogarithmic words, and we denote their corresponding dual basis elements in $\mathcal{O}(\Pi)$ by

$$\log^{\text{u}}, \quad \text{Li}_1^{\text{u}}, \quad \text{Li}_2^{\text{u}}, \quad \text{Li}_3^{\text{u}}, \quad \text{Li}_4^{\text{u}}, \quad \dots$$

We then have

$$\mathcal{O}(\Pi^{\text{PL}}) = \langle \log^{\text{u}}, \text{Li}_1^{\text{u}}, \text{Li}_2^{\text{u}}, \dots \rangle \subseteq \mathcal{O}(\Pi).$$

For each $d \geq 1$, let $\mathcal{O}(\Pi^{\text{PL}})_{\leq d} \subseteq \mathcal{O}(\Pi^{\text{PL}})$ be the coordinate ring of $\Pi_{\geq -d}^{\text{PL}}$. Then

$$\mathcal{O}(\Pi^{\text{PL}})_{\leq d} = \mathbb{Q}[\log^{\text{u}}, \text{Li}_1^{\text{u}}, \text{Li}_2^{\text{u}}, \dots, \text{Li}_d^{\text{u}}]$$

is a Hopf subalgebra of $\mathcal{O}(\Pi^{\text{PL}})$.

3.2. The Selmer scheme.

Definition 3.2. The polylogarithmic motivic Selmer scheme is defined as

$$\text{Sel}_S^{\text{PL}} := \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{G}_m}(U_S, \Pi^{\text{PL}}).$$

It is a \mathbb{Q} -scheme that comes equipped (by representability) with a universal evaluation map (a morphism of U_S -schemes)

$$\text{ev}: \text{Sel}_S^{\text{PL}} \times_{\mathbb{Q}} U_S \rightarrow \Pi^{\text{PL}} \times_{\mathbb{Q}} U_S.$$

By [12, Prop. 5.2.1], the set of \mathbb{Q} -points of the Selmer scheme can be identified with

$$\text{Sel}_S^{\text{PL}}(\mathbb{Q}) = H^1(G_S, \Pi^{\text{PL}}) := \{\Pi^{\text{PL}}\text{-torsors over } \mathbb{Q} \text{ with a compatible action of } G_S\}.$$

Let $K := \text{Frac}(\mathcal{O}(U_S))$ denote the function field of U_S . Pull back the morphism of U_S -schemes ev to a map of K -schemes

$$\text{ev}_K : (\text{Sel}_S^{\text{PL}})_K \rightarrow (\Pi^{\text{PL}})_K.$$

Definition 3.3. Define

$$\mathcal{I}_S^{\text{PL}} := \ker(\text{ev}_K^{\#}) = \{f \in \mathcal{O}((\Pi^{\text{PL}})_K) \mid f(\text{Im}(\text{ev}_K)) = 0\},$$

where $\text{ev}_K^{\#}$ is the map on coordinate rings induced by ev_K .

3.3. The Chabauty–Kim diagram. Let $p \notin S$ be a prime. The (expanded) Chabauty–Kim diagram is a commutative diagram of sets

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} X(\mathbb{Z}_S) & \hookrightarrow & X(\mathbb{Z}_p) \\ \downarrow \kappa & & \downarrow \kappa_p \\ H^1(G_S, \Pi^{\text{PL}}) & \xrightarrow{\text{loc}} & \Pi^{\text{PL}}(\mathbb{Q}_p) \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ \text{Sel}_S^{\text{PL}}(\mathbb{Q}) & & \\ \downarrow & & \\ \text{Sel}_S^{\text{PL}}(\mathbb{Q}_p) & \xrightarrow{\text{loc}} & \Pi^{\text{PL}}(\mathbb{Q}_p), \end{array}$$

with maps given as follows:

- *The motivic Kummer map κ :* Given a point $b \in X(\mathbb{Z}_S)$, assign to it a G_S -equivariant Π -torsor over \mathbb{Z}_S , namely the torsor of paths from b to $\vec{1}_0$ denoted ${}_b P_{\vec{1}_0}$. This torsor can naturally be viewed as an element of $H^1(G_S, \Pi)$. Now, $\kappa(b)$ is the image of ${}_b P_{\vec{1}_0}$ in $H^1(G_S, \Pi^{\text{PL}})$.
- *The local Kummer map κ_p :* Given a point $b \in X(\mathbb{Z}_p)$, assign to it the point $\varphi_b \in \Pi(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ determined by

$$\varphi_b^\# : \mathcal{O}(\Pi) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_p, \quad \text{Li}_w^\# \mapsto \int_{\vec{1}_0}^b \omega_w,$$

where ω_w is the sequence of differential forms associated with the word w . Here the integral is taken in the sense of Coleman’s theory of p -adic iterated integrals. Its image in the quotient Π^{PL} is then $\kappa_p(b)$. The map κ_p thus defined is p -adic locally analytic.

- *The map loc :* There is a canonical \mathbb{Q}_p -point per_p of U_S , or equivalently, a map $\text{per}_p^\# : \mathcal{O}(U_S) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_p$, known as the p -adic period map (the point $(\eta_p^{\text{ur}})^{-1}$ in the notation of [6], see [4, §3.3]). It maps polylogarithmic values to the corresponding p -adic polylogarithmic values. Pulling back the evaluation map ev along $\text{per}_p : \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}_p) \rightarrow U_S$ gives a morphism of \mathbb{Q}_p -schemes

$$\text{ev}_{\mathbb{Q}_p} : \text{Sel}_S^{\text{PL}} \times_{\text{per}_p} \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}_p) \rightarrow \Pi^{\text{PL}} \times_{\text{per}_p} \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}_p),$$

which in turn induces a map on \mathbb{Q}_p -points

$$\begin{aligned} \text{loc}_{\mathbb{Q}_p} : \text{Sel}_S^{\text{PL}}(\mathbb{Q}_p) &\rightarrow \Pi^{\text{PL}}(\mathbb{Q}_p) \\ c &\mapsto c(\text{per}_p). \end{aligned}$$

The map loc in (3.1) is the restriction of the map $\text{loc}_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$ to the \mathbb{Q} -points $\text{Sel}_S^{\text{PL}}(\mathbb{Q})$. In particular, loc is algebraic, in the sense that it arises as the map on \mathbb{Q}_p -points of the morphism of schemes $\text{ev}_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$.

3.4. The Chabauty–Kim locus. The goal is to determine the finite set $X(\mathbb{Z}_S)$. Denote the pull-back of $\Pi^{\text{PL}} \times_{\mathbb{Q}} U_S \rightarrow U_S$ via $\text{per}_p : \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}_p) \rightarrow U_S$ by $\Pi_{\mathbb{Q}_p}^{\text{PL}} \rightarrow \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}_p)$. It comes equipped with a morphism $\varphi : \Pi_{\mathbb{Q}_p}^{\text{PL}} \rightarrow \Pi^{\text{PL}} \times_{\mathbb{Q}} U_S$. Given $f \in \mathcal{O}(\Pi^{\text{PL}} \times_{\mathbb{Q}} U_S)$, we let $f_{\mathbb{Q}_p} = \varphi^\#(f) \in \mathcal{O}(\Pi_{\mathbb{Q}_p}^{\text{PL}})$. The latter induces a function $f_{\mathbb{Q}_p} : \Pi^{\text{PL}}(\mathbb{Q}_p) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_p$ and we obtain, following [7, Def. 2.26], a p -adic Chabauty–Kim function by taking the composition

$$(3.2) \quad f|_{X(\mathbb{Z}_p)} : X(\mathbb{Z}_p) \xrightarrow{\kappa_p} \Pi^{\text{PL}}(\mathbb{Q}_p) \xrightarrow{f_{\mathbb{Q}_p}} \mathbb{Q}_p.$$

Recall from Definition 3.3 that $\mathcal{I}_S^{\text{PL}} = \{f \in \mathcal{O}((\Pi^{\text{PL}})_K) \mid f(\text{Im}(\text{ev}_K)) = 0\}$. Given an integer $d \geq 1$, we define

$$(3.3) \quad \mathcal{I}_{S,d}^{\text{PL}} := \mathcal{O}(\Pi_{\geq -d}^{\text{PL}} \times (U_S)_{\geq -d}) \cap \mathcal{I}_S^{\text{PL}}.$$

Definition 3.4. Given an integer $d \geq 1$, we define the *polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim locus* in depth d to be

$$X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}} := \left\{ z \in X(\mathbb{Z}_p) : f|_{X(\mathbb{Z}_p)}(z) = 0, \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{I}_{S,d}^{\text{PL}} \right\}.$$

From the commutativity of (3.1), the set $X(\mathbb{Z}_S)$ is contained in $X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}}$ for all d . We thus obtain a descending sequence of sets

$$X(\mathbb{Z}_p) \supseteq X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,1}^{\text{PL}} \supseteq X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,2}^{\text{PL}} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq X(\mathbb{Z}_S).$$

Moreover, the set $X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}}$ is finite for sufficiently large d (this follows for instance from Proposition 5.2 below). It is conjectured [7, Conj. 2.32] that

$$(3.4) \quad X(\mathbb{Z}_S) = (X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}})^{S_3}, \quad \text{for } d \gg 0.$$

There are inclusions

$$X(\mathbb{Z}_S) \subseteq X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{Kim}} \subseteq (X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}})^{S_3},$$

where $X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{Kim}}$ denotes Kim’s p -adic Chabauty locus in depth d (see [7, Rem. 2.28]). From these inclusions, it is clear that conjecture (3.4) implies Kim’s conjecture [15]. One insight of [7] is that it suffices to use single polylogarithms to deal with the S -unit equation, as opposed to requiring multiple polylogarithms as in Kim’s original approach. Dan-Cohen and Corwin verified the conjectural equality (3.4) for $S = \{3\}$, $p = 5, 7$, and $d = 4$ [7, Thm. 5.5].

The main advantage of the motivic approach of [7, 9] is the division of the computation of $X(\mathbb{Z}_p)_{S,d}^{\text{PL}}$ into two steps:

- *Geometric step in depth d* : the task of finding non-trivial polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim functions in depth $\leq d$, i.e., non-zero elements $f \in \mathcal{I}_{S,d}^{\text{PL}}$. These are polynomials in $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_d^u]$. This step depends on the cardinality of S , but not on the specific primes contained in S , nor on the prime p ;
- *Arithmetic step in depth d* : the task of determining the p -adic Chabauty–Kim functions $f|_{X(\mathbb{Z}_p)}$ defined by (3.2) for the functions f found in the geometric step. This requires the calculation of the image of f under the p -adic period map per_p . The resulting functions $f|_{X(\mathbb{Z}_p)}$ are guaranteed to be non-trivial if one assumes the p -adic Period Conjecture [7, Conj. 2.25]. This step depends on the prime p and the specific primes contained in S .

4. THE GEOMETRIC STEP IN COORDINATES

The goal of the geometric step in depth d is to find non-zero elements

$$f \in \mathcal{I}_{S,d}^{\text{PL}} = \mathcal{O}(\Pi_{\geq -d}^{\text{PL}} \times (U_S)_{\geq -d}) \cap \mathcal{I}_S^{\text{PL}},$$

where we recall that the ideal $\mathcal{I}_S^{\text{PL}} = \ker(\text{ev}_K^\#)$ is defined in Definition 3.3. In this section we describe, following [7], a (non-canonical) affine model for the Selmer scheme Sel_S^{PL} (Definition 3.2) and give an explicit formula for the map ev in the chosen coordinates.

4.1. Coordinates on Selmer schemes. Recall from Definition 2.5 the fixed system of free generators $\Sigma = \{\tau_\ell, \sigma_{2n+1}\}$ of $\text{Lie}(U_S)$, with their specified degrees. Each word w in these generators corresponds to a dual element in $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$, denoted f_w (the abstract shuffle basis).

Let R be a \mathbb{Q} -algebra, $c \in \text{Sel}_S^{\text{PL}}(R)$, and λ be a polylogarithmic word of degree d . We may write $\text{Li}_\lambda^{\text{u}}(c) := c^\#(\text{Li}_\lambda^{\text{u}}) \in \mathcal{O}(U_S) \otimes R$ in terms of the abstract shuffle basis:

$$\text{Li}_\lambda^{\text{u}}(c) = \sum_{\deg(w)=-d} \phi_\lambda^w(c) f_w \in \mathcal{O}(U_S) \otimes R,$$

with coefficients $\phi_\lambda^w(c) \in R$. The sum is taken over words of degree d since $c^\#$ preserves the gradings by \mathbb{G}_m -equivariance. For each polylogarithmic word λ and for each $\rho \in \Sigma$ of the same degree, introduce a free variable Φ_λ^ρ . Define the polynomial algebra

$$\mathbb{Q}[\Phi] := \mathbb{Q}[\{\Phi_\lambda^\rho\}].$$

Then the assignment

$$c \mapsto (\phi_\lambda^\rho(c))_{\lambda, \rho}$$

defines a map

$$\Psi: \text{Sel}_S^{\text{PL}} \rightarrow \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}[\Phi]),$$

which, by [7, Cor. 3.11], is an isomorphism of \mathbb{Q} -schemes. This isomorphism provides a (non-canonical) description of Sel_S^{PL} as an affine scheme. Moreover, by [7, §3.3.1], there are compatible isomorphisms for each integer d

$$(4.1) \quad \Psi_d: \text{Sel}_{S,d}^{\text{PL}} \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}[\Phi, d])$$

where $\text{Sel}_{S,d}^{\text{PL}} := \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{G}_m}((U_S)_{\geq -d}, \Pi_{\geq -d}^{\text{PL}})$ and $\mathbb{Q}[\Phi, d] = \mathbb{Q}[\{\Phi_\lambda^\rho\}_{\deg(\rho)=\deg(\lambda)\geq -d}]$.

4.2. The evaluation map in coordinates. Observe that

$$\text{Sel}_S^{\text{PL}} \times_{\mathbb{Q}} U_S \xrightarrow{\Psi \times \text{id}} \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}[\Phi]) \times_{\mathbb{Q}} U_S = \text{Spec}(\mathcal{O}(U_S)[\Phi]).$$

Definition 4.1. Define a map of U_S -schemes

$$\theta: \text{Spec}(\mathcal{O}(U_S)[\Phi]) \rightarrow \Pi \times_{\mathbb{Q}} U_S,$$

or equivalently, a map of $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$ -algebras

$$\theta^\#: \mathcal{O}(U_S)[\log^{\text{u}}, \text{Li}_1^{\text{u}}, \text{Li}_2^{\text{u}}, \dots] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(U_S)[\Phi]$$

by

$$\log^{\text{u}} \mapsto \sum_{\tau \in \Sigma_{-1}} f_\tau \Phi_{e_0}^\tau \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Li}_k^{\text{u}} \mapsto \sum f_{\sigma\tau_{(1)}\dots\tau_{(r)}} \Phi_{e_1(e_0)^{s-1}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(1)}} \dots \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(r)}},$$

where the latter sum is taken over $\tau_{(1)}, \dots, \tau_{(r)} \in \Sigma_{-1}$ and $\sigma \in \Sigma_{-s}$ such that $r + s = k$ and $1 \leq s \leq n$.

By [7, Cor. 3.11], we have

$$\theta \circ (\Psi \times \text{id}) = \text{ev}.$$

Moreover, everything remains valid in bounded depth. Hence, if $f \in \mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\log^{\text{u}}, \text{Li}_1^{\text{u}}, \text{Li}_2^{\text{u}}, \dots, \text{Li}_d^{\text{u}}]$, then $f \in \mathcal{I}_{S,d}^{\text{PL}}$ if and only if $\theta^\#(f) = 0$.

4.3. The geometric step in coordinates. In conclusion, the task of solving the geometric step in depth d has been reduced to finding the kernel of the map of finite-dimensional $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$ -algebras

$$\theta_d^\# : \mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \text{Li}_2^u, \dots, \text{Li}_d^u] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\Phi, d]$$

defined in Definition 4.1, a problem in linear algebra.

In [7], the geometric step was solved in the case $|S| = 1$ in depth $n = 4$. They found [7, Prop. 4.5] that the functions

$$(4.2) \quad \begin{aligned} F_{2,2}^{[1]} &:= \text{Li}_2^u - \frac{1}{2} \log^u \text{Li}_1^u, \\ F_{4,4}^{[1]} &:= f_{\sigma_3} f_{\tau_\ell} \text{Li}_4^u - f_{\sigma_3 \tau_\ell} \log^u \text{Li}_3^u - \frac{(\log^u)^3 \text{Li}_1^u}{24} (f_{\sigma_3} f_{\tau_\ell} - 4f_{\sigma_3 \tau_\ell}) \end{aligned}$$

lie in $\mathcal{I}_{S,4}^{\text{PL}}$ for $S = \{\ell\}$.

5. AN UPPER BOUND ALGORITHM

Fix an integer $d \geq 1$. In the previous section, we reduced the geometric step to the computation of the kernel of the map of $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$ -algebras

$$\theta_d^\# : \mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \text{Li}_2^u, \dots, \text{Li}_d^u] \rightarrow R_{\Phi,d} \subseteq \mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\Phi, d]$$

defined in Definition 4.1, where

$$R_{\Phi,d} := \mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d} \left[\{ \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_\ell}, \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_\ell} : \ell \in S \} \cup \{ \Phi_{e_1 e_0^{2n}}^{\sigma_{2n+1}} : n \geq 1 \} \right].$$

Moreover, $\theta_d^\#$ is a homomorphism of graded rings, where:

- each Li_i^u is assigned degree i , and \log^u is assigned degree 1;
- each $\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_\ell}$ and $\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_\ell}$ is assigned degree 1;
- each $\Phi_{e_1 e_0^{2n}}^{\sigma_{2n+1}}$ is assigned degree $2n + 1$.

Hence, for each integer v , we may focus on the v^{th} graded piece to obtain a map

$$(5.1) \quad \theta_{d,v}^\# : (\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_d^u])_v \rightarrow (R_{\Phi,d})_v$$

of free finite-rank $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$ -modules.

Definition 5.1. We call an element of $\ker(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$ a *polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim function* of depth d and degree v .

5.1. Existence of Chabauty–Kim functions in high depth. Fix a depth d and a degree v in the sense of Definition 5.1. Both $(\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_d^u])_v$ and $(R_{\Phi,d})_v$ have natural monomial bases, so we can view $\theta_{d,v}^\#$ as a matrix $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$ with coefficients in $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$ with respect to these bases. Define

$$\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v) := \text{rank}_{\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}}(\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_d^u])_v$$

and

$$\dim_{\Phi}(d, v) := \text{rank}_{\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}}(R_{\Phi,d})_v.$$

Then, if $p(n; T)$ denotes the number of partitions of an integer $n \in \mathbb{N}$ with respect to a tuple of integers T , we have

$$\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v) = p(v; (1, 1, 2, \dots, d))$$

and

$$\dim_{\Phi}(d, v) = p(v; \underbrace{(1, \dots, 1)}_{2|S| \text{ times}}, 3, 5, \dots, \max(k \leq d : k \text{ odd})).$$

The numerology stems from the fact that $\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{\ell}}$ and $\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_{\ell}}$ all have degree 1 for $\ell \in S$, while $\Phi_{e_1 e_0}^{\sigma_{2k+1}}$ has degree $2k + 1$.

The matrix $M(\theta_{d,v}^{\#})$ is of size $\dim_{\Phi}(d, v) \times \dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v)$. In particular, if $\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v) > \dim_{\Phi}(d, v)$, then its kernel is necessarily non-trivial, in which case there exists a polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim function in depth d and degree v .

Proposition 5.2. *For all $|S|$, there exist integers d and v such that $\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v) > \dim_{\Phi}(d, v)$.*

Proof. Let us adopt the convention that $\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, 0) = \dim_{\Phi}(d, 0) = 1$. Fix $|S|$ and d , and let v be arbitrarily large. We have:

$$\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v) = \sum_{r=0}^{\lfloor v/d \rfloor} \dim_{\text{PL}}(d-1, v-rd) \gg v \dim_{\text{PL}}(d-1, v/2),$$

where we implicitly used the monotonicity in v of $\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v)$. We may continue iteratively to obtain the bound:

$$\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v) \gg v^{d-1} \dim_{\text{PL}}(1, v/2^{d-1}) \gg v^d,$$

where the last inequality is due to the fact that $\dim_{\text{PL}}(1, n) = n + 1$.

On the other hand, if $d \geq 1$ is even, then $\dim_{\Phi}(d, v) = \dim_{\Phi}(d-1, v)$. Otherwise:

$$\dim_{\Phi}(d, v) = \sum_{r=0}^{\lfloor v/d \rfloor} \dim_{\Phi}(d-2, v-rd) \ll v \dim_{\Phi}(d-2, v).$$

Continuing iteratively, we reach the bound:

$$\dim_{\Phi}(d, v) \ll v^{(d-1)/2} \dim_{\Phi}(1, v) \ll v^{2|S|+(d-1)/2},$$

where the last inequality is due to the fact that $\dim_{\Phi}(1, v) = \binom{2|S|+v-1}{2|S|-1} \ll v^{2|S|}$.

If we fix d to be a large enough constant so that $d > 2|S| + (d-1)/2$, then for v large enough we have $\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v) > \dim_{\Phi}(d, v)$. \square

Proposition 5.3. *Suppose $|S| = 2$ and $d < 6$. Then for all $v \geq 1$, we have*

$$\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v) \leq \dim_{\Phi}(d, v).$$

Proof. Note that

$$\dim_{\text{PL}}(5, v) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor v/5 \rfloor} \dim_{\text{PL}}(4, v-5k) \quad \text{and} \quad \dim_{\Phi}(5, v) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor v/5 \rfloor} \dim_{\Phi}(3, v-5k).$$

Hence, it suffices to prove that for every $v \geq 0$, one has:

$$\dim_{\text{PL}}(4, v) \leq \dim_{\Phi}(3, v).$$

On the one hand, $\dim_{\text{PL}}(4, v)$ counts the number of ways to express v as a sum of distinct weights of the form $(1, 1, 2, 3, 4)$, with repetitions and without order, while on the other hand $\dim_{\Phi}(3, v)$ counts the number of ways to express v as a sum of distinct weights of the form $(1, 1, 1, 1, 3)$, under

similar constraints. A PL-partition of v is a vector (a, b, c, d, e) of non-negative integers, having the property that $a + b + 2c + 3d + 4e = v$. One way to prove the inequality $\dim_{\text{PL}}(4, v) \leq D_{\Phi}(3, v)$ is to produce an injection $(a, b, c, d, e) \mapsto (a', b', c', d', e')$ from the set of PL-partitions of an arbitrary fixed v in depth 4 to the set of Φ -partitions of the same v in depth 3. An example of such an injection is given by mapping a vector (a, b, c, d, e) to $(a + \Delta(a, b, c, d, e), b, c, d, e)$, where

$$\Delta(a, b, c, d, e) := v - a - b - c - d - 3e.$$

□

When $|S| = 1$, we already obtain the inequality

$$(5.2) \quad \dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v) > \dim_{\Phi}(d, v)$$

when $d = 2$ and $v = 2$. This phenomenon explains the relative ease of solving the geometric step when $|S| = 1$ (see Section 5.2.1). When $|S| = 2$, the following table exhibits the first degree v at which the inequality (5.2) becomes true in depth d for $1 \leq d \leq 30$:

d	v	$\dim_{\Phi}(d, v)$	$\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v)$	d	v	$\dim_{\Phi}(d, v)$	$\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v)$
1	-	-	-	16	64	7960970	8045514
2	-	-	-	17	66	11301646	11463717
3	-	-	-	18	64	9050983	9286340
4	-	-	-	19	65	11108926	11275641
5	-	-	-	20	63	8824385	8838834
6	251	622565228	622894943	21	64	10558940	10574205
7	291	9727962025	9751434234	22	63	9384203	9394631
8	99	21381332	21582623	23	64	11044181	11134313
9	109	87699272	87913253	24	64	11044181	11347166
10	76	9681421	9802462	25	64	11399096	11523873
11	82	25152148	25606281	26	64	11399096	11670040
12	68	7495018	7506398	27	64	11654983	11790526
13	72	14679671	14817938	28	64	11654983	11889539
14	65	7354311	7370562	29	64	11837155	11970650
15	68	12174636	12339732	30	64	11837155	12036909

TABLE 1. The first degree v for which $\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v) > \dim_{\Phi}(d, v)$ when $|S| = 2$.

The blank rows in depths $d = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ for $|S| = 2$ indicate that the inequality $\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v) > \dim_{\Phi}(d, v)$ is never satisfied, in agreement with Proposition 5.3.

5.2. A naive approach: computing the kernel of $\theta_{d,v}^{\#}$. The matrix $M(\theta_{d,v}^{\#})$ has size $\dim_{\Phi}(d, v) \times \dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v)$ with coefficients in $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$ and by Proposition 5.2, once d and v are large enough, it is guaranteed to have a non-trivial kernel. Hence, one could attempt to find Chabauty–Kim functions by explicitly computing these matrices.

5.2.1. *The case $|S| = 1$.* In the case $|S| = 1$, this approach works well. We are guaranteed to find a Chabauty–Kim function already in depth 2 and degree 2. In this case, one can write down the corresponding size 3×4 matrix $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$ by hand and compute the kernel.

For the sake of illustration, we perform this calculation. Write $\tau \in \Sigma_{-1}$ and $\sigma \in \Sigma_{-3}$. Then the map $\theta^\#$ in depth 2 is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}\theta^\#(\log^u) &= f_\tau \Phi_{e_0}^\tau \\ \theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u) &= f_\tau \Phi_{e_1}^\tau \\ \theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) &= \frac{1}{2} f_\tau^2 \Phi_{e_0}^\tau \Phi_{e_1}^\tau.\end{aligned}$$

Bases for the domain and codomain of $\theta_{2,2}^\#$ are given by

$$\{(\log^u)^2, \log^u \text{Li}_1^u, (\text{Li}_1^u)^2, \text{Li}_2^u\} \quad \text{and} \quad \{(\Phi_{e_0}^\tau)^2, (\Phi_{e_1}^\tau)^2, \Phi_{e_0}^\tau \Phi_{e_1}^\tau\}.$$

With respect to these bases, we obtain the matrix

$$M(\theta_{2,2}^\#) = \begin{pmatrix} f_\tau^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & f_\tau^2 & 0 \\ 0 & f_\tau^2 & 0 & f_\tau^2/2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The kernel of this matrix is generated by the function (4.2)

$$F_{2,2}^{[1]} = \text{Li}_2^u - \frac{1}{2} \log^u \text{Li}_1^u,$$

which belongs to $\mathcal{I}_{S,2}^{\text{PL}}$ when $|S| = 1$. This is the polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim function of depth 2 and degree 2 constructed and studied in [12]. In [7], the geometric step for $|S| = 1$ is carried out in depth 4 and degree 4 by hand, resulting in a depth 4 polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim function

$$F_{4,4}^{[1]} = f_\sigma f_\tau \text{Li}_4^u - f_{\sigma\tau} \log^u \text{Li}_3^u - \frac{(\log^u)^3 \text{Li}_1^u}{24} (f_\sigma f_\tau - 4f_{\sigma\tau}) \in \mathcal{I}_{S,4}^{\text{PL}}.$$

5.2.2. *The case $|S| \geq 2$.* One could attempt a similar strategy in the general case, however, it quickly proves computationally infeasible. The matrix $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$ has coefficients in the shuffle algebra $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$. As an abstract algebra, the shuffle algebra $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$ is isomorphic to the free commutative algebra $\mathbb{Q}[\mathcal{L}]$ generated by the set \mathcal{L} of *Lyndon words* of Σ over \mathbb{Q} [18, §4 Thm. (i)]. We may thus view $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$ as a matrix with coefficients in a polynomial ring over \mathbb{Q} .

When $|S| = 2$, by Table 1, the minimal matrix size at which (5.2) holds is for $(d, v) = (14, 65)$. When $d = 14$, 296 distinct Lyndon words show up in the image of $\theta_d^\#$. Thus, this brute force approach requires computing the kernel of a matrix of size 7354311×7370562 over the ring $\mathbb{Q}[X_1, \dots, X_{296}]$, which is infeasible.

A key contribution of this paper, which we outline in the next section, is a method to produce polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim functions without computing this kernel using matrix operations. In the remainder of this section, we show how the naive method can nevertheless be salvaged to give an upper bound on the dimension of the kernel of $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$.

5.3. Non-existence of Chabauty–Kim functions in low degree. Recall that $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$ is a matrix over the shuffle algebra $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$, which we can view as a polynomial ring generated by the Lyndon words $\mathcal{L}_{\geq -d}$ of degree $\geq -d$ on the generators Σ . Write $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d} = \mathbb{Q}[\mathcal{L}_{\geq -d}] = \mathbb{Q}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$, where n is the number of Lyndon words on the set Σ of degree $\geq -d$.

Let $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$. Then, we can evaluate $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$ at x to obtain a matrix $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)(x)$ of the same size as $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$, but with coefficients in \mathbb{Q} . Observe that if $f \in \ker(\theta_{d,v}^\#) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_d^u]$, then its evaluation $f(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_d^u]$ is in the kernel of $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)(x)$.

Proposition 5.4. *For all $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$, we have*

$$\text{rank}_{\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}} \ker M(\theta_{d,v}^\#) \leq \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} \ker M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)(x).$$

Proof. The rank of the kernel of a matrix with coordinates in the shuffle algebra can only increase upon specialisation of the matrix to a \mathbb{Q} -point of $\text{Spec } \mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$. Indeed, any non-trivial linear dependence between rows before substitution persists after substitution. \square

Remark 5.5. Conversely, for a general point $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$, we have

$$\text{rank}_{\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}} \ker M(\theta_{d,v}^\#) = \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} \ker M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)(x).$$

Indeed, in order for the inequality $\text{rank}_{\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}} \ker M(\theta_{d,v}^\#) < \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} \ker M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)(x)$ to hold, the rank r of $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$ must be greater than the rank of $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)(x)$. The point x must therefore be a root of all the non-trivial $r \times r$ minors of $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$. Thus, x must lie in the intersection of finitely many hypersurfaces in \mathbb{A}^n , so in particular, in a Zariski closed subset.

The utility of the observations made in Proposition 5.4 and Remark 5.5 is that, while computing the kernel of $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$ is computationally hard, computing the dimension of the kernel of $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)(x)$ for any $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ is computationally easy.

Motivated by Proposition 5.4, we have implemented the following algorithm in SageMath [20]. It takes as input a tuple of integers (s, d, v) , where $s = |S|$, and outputs an integer r , which is the dimension of $\ker(M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)(x))$ for a random $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$. By Proposition 5.4, if the output is 0, then there are no Chabauty–Kim functions in depth d and degree v for $|S| = s$. Moreover, if the output is r for several iterations of the same tuple (s, d, v) , then it is likely that the dimension of $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)(x)$ is exactly r .

Algorithm 5.6 (Upper Bound Algorithm).

Input: a triple of integers (s, d, v) , where s is the number of primes in S , d is the depth, and v is the degree.

Process:

- (i) Compute all monomials of degree v in the variables $\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_d^u$. These monomials form a basis of $(\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_d^u])_v$ as an $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$ -module;
- (ii) Compute all monomials of degree v in the variables Φ_λ^ρ for $\rho \in \{\tau_\ell, \sigma_{2k+1}\}$ and $\lambda = e_0, e_1, e_1 e_0^{2k}$. These monomials form a basis of $(R_{\Phi, d})_v$ as an $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$ -module;

- (iii) Compute the set of Lyndon words $\mathcal{L}_{\geq -d}$ of Σ to express $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$ as a polynomial algebra $\mathbb{Q}[\mathcal{L}_{\geq -d}] = \mathbb{Q}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$;
- (iv) Choose a random n -tuple $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$;
- (v) Build the matrix $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$ with coefficients in $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}$;
- (vi) Convert the matrix $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$ into the form given by the isomorphism $\mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d} \cong \mathbb{Q}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$, and evaluate the matrix at x to obtain a matrix with coefficients in \mathbb{Q} ;
- (vii) Compute the dimension r of the kernel of this matrix, and return r .

Output: an integer r representing an estimate, and provably an upper bound, for the rank of the kernel of $M(\theta_{d,v}^\#)$.

We have implemented this algorithm in SageMath [20], and our code is available at our [Github repository](#). Using the algorithm, we obtain the following result:

Theorem 5.7. *Let $|S| = 2$. There are no polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim functions for (d, v) with $v < 18$.*

Proof. We ran Algorithm 5.6 with $(s, d, v) = (2, 16, 17)$, and found the output to be $r = 0$. We note that this is sufficient to show that there are no motivic Chabauty–Kim functions for $(d, v) = (17, 17)$, since the polynomial Li_{17}^u cannot appear in a motivic Chabauty–Kim function of degree 17: the cocycle $\Phi_{e_1 e_0}^{\sigma_{17}}$ appears in $\theta^\#(\text{Li}_{17}^u)$ but not in $\theta^\#(\text{Li}_n^u)$ for $n < 17$. \square

The computation was carried out on The Ohio State University’s high performance cluster, and took around 66 hours across 96 cores, using 432GB of memory. The overwhelming majority of this time was spent converting words in the shuffle algebra $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$ into the dual PBWL basis (Poincaré–Birkhoff–Witt basis constructed on the Lyndon basis) using an improved version of SageMath’s built-in `ShuffleAlgebra.to_dual_pbw_element` method, rewritten to enable parallelisation, and to fix inefficiencies.

Remark 5.8. The algorithm produces an output of 1 when $(s, d, v) = (2, 6, 18)$, strongly suggesting, according to Remark 5.5, that there should exist a Chabauty–Kim function in this depth and degree. For $(s, d, v) = (2, 6, 18)$, we have $\dim_{\text{PL}}(d, v) = 996$ and $\dim_{\Phi}(d, v) = 4183$. Additionally, 30 Lyndon words of degree ≥ -18 appear in the image of $\theta^\#$. It appears computationally infeasible to directly compute the kernel of $M(\theta_{6,18}^\#)$. A heuristic argument supporting this observation, assuming Gaussian elimination for direct computation, suggests that the space complexity required to represent the entries of $M(\theta_{6,18}^\#)$ grows exponentially with each row reduction step. Indeed, suppose that, in some extreme best case scenario, each row of the matrix is made up of zeros and of polynomials of degree 2 in a *single* variable. Then, since each row reduction step requires multiplying every subsequent row by the current pivot, the degree of the n^{th} pivot will be 2^{2^n} . Since a polynomial of degree N in one variable is represented by a \mathbb{Q} -vector of length $N + 1$, we obtain a space complexity lower bound of $\Omega(2^{2^{\min(\dim_{\text{PL}}(d,v), \dim_{\Phi}(d,v))}})$. Since time complexity is lower bounded by space complexity, our rough computational complexity estimate is $2^{2^{996}}$. To contextualise this astronomically large number, the estimated number of atoms in the observable universe is between 10^{80} and 10^{85} , approximately 2^{256} .

6. THE GEOMETRIC STEP VIA RESULTANTS

Inspired by ideas in [10], we introduce a method using resultants, whose goal is to produce a polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim function of depth $\leq d$, i.e., a non-zero element in the kernel of the homomorphism (Definition 4.1)

$$\theta^\# : \mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_d^u] \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(U_S)_{\leq d}[\Phi, d].$$

We assume from now on that $|S| = 2$ and write $S = \{p, q\}$, so that $\Sigma_{-1} = \{\tau_p, \tau_q\}$. With this assumption, the output of this section is an explicit non-trivial element in $\ker(\theta_{6,18}^\#)$ (Definition 6.9 and Theorem 6.10).

6.1. The equations defining the map $\theta^\#$. Making Definition 4.1 explicit in the case $|S| = 2$ gives the formulas:

$$(6.1) \quad \theta^\#(\log^u) = f_{\tau_p} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + f_{\tau_q} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q}$$

$$(6.2) \quad \theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u) = f_{\tau_p} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p} + f_{\tau_q} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q}$$

$$(6.3) \quad \theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) = f_{\tau_p \tau_p} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + f_{\tau_p \tau_q} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q} + f_{\tau_q \tau_p} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + f_{\tau_q \tau_q} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q}$$

$$(6.4) \quad \theta^\#(\text{Li}_3^u) = f_{\sigma_3} \Phi_{e_1 e_0^2}^{\sigma_3} + \sum_{\tau_{(1)}, \tau_{(2)}, \tau_{(3)} \in \{\tau_p, \tau_q\}} f_{\tau_{(1)} \tau_{(2)} \tau_{(3)}} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_{(1)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(2)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(3)}}$$

$$(6.5) \quad \theta^\#(\text{Li}_4^u) = \sum_{\tau \in \{\tau_p, \tau_q\}} f_{\sigma_3 \tau} \Phi_{e_1 e_0^2}^{\sigma_3 \tau} + \sum_{\tau_{(1)}, \tau_{(2)}, \tau_{(3)}, \tau_{(4)} \in \{\tau_p, \tau_q\}} f_{\tau_{(1)} \tau_{(2)} \tau_{(3)} \tau_{(4)}} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_{(1)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(2)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(3)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(4)}}.$$

More generally, for $n \geq 2$, we have

$$(6.6) \quad \theta^\#(\text{Li}_{2n-1}^u) = f_{\sigma_{2n-1}} \Phi_{e_1 e_0^{2n-2}}^{\sigma_{2n-1}} + \sum_{\substack{3 \leq r \text{ odd} \leq 2n-2 \\ \tau_{(r+1)}, \dots, \tau_{(2n-1)} \in \{\tau_p, \tau_q\}}} f_{\sigma_r \tau_{(r+1)} \dots \tau_{(2n-1)}} \Phi_{e_1 e_0^{r-1}}^{\sigma_r} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(r+1)}} \dots \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(2n-1)}} \\ + \sum_{\tau_{(1)}, \dots, \tau_{(2n-1)} \in \{\tau_p, \tau_q\}} f_{\tau_{(1)} \dots \tau_{(2n-1)}} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_{(1)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(2)}} \dots \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(2n-1)}},$$

$$(6.7) \quad \theta^\#(\text{Li}_{2n}^u) = \sum_{\tau \in \{\tau_p, \tau_q\}} f_{\sigma_{2n-1} \tau} \Phi_{e_1 e_0^{2n-2}}^{\sigma_{2n-1} \tau} + \sum_{\substack{3 \leq r \text{ odd} \leq 2n-2 \\ \tau_{(r+1)}, \dots, \tau_{(2n)} \in \{\tau_p, \tau_q\}}} f_{\sigma_r \tau_{(r+1)} \dots \tau_{(2n)}} \Phi_{e_1 e_0^{r-1}}^{\sigma_r} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(r+1)}} \dots \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(2n)}} \\ + \sum_{\tau_{(1)}, \dots, \tau_{(2n)} \in \{\tau_p, \tau_q\}} f_{\tau_{(1)} \dots \tau_{(2n)}} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_{(1)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(2)}} \dots \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(2n)}}.$$

6.2. The elimination process. We now describe the process of “eliminating” variables Φ_λ^ρ , i.e., expressing them in terms of other variables $\Phi_{\lambda'}^\rho$ and images under $\theta^\#$ in order to obtain a Chabauty–Kim function. The system of equations described in Section 6.1 is linear with respect to the variables $\Phi_{e_1 e_0^{2n-2}}^{\sigma_{2n-1}}$ and the variables $\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p}$ and $\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q}$. Consequently, we first seek to eliminate these variables. Eventually, the elimination of the variables $\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}$ and $\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q}$ requires the use of a resultant. Throughout this section, we will be working with polynomials with coefficients in the fraction field $K = \text{Frac}(\mathcal{O}(U_S))$.

6.2.1. *Elimination of $\Phi_{e_1 e_0^2}^{\sigma_3}$ and $\Phi_{e_1 e_0^4}^{\sigma_5}$.* Using equation (6.6) with $n \in \{2, 3\}$, we see that

$$(6.8) \quad \Phi_{e_1 e_0^2}^{\sigma_3} = \frac{1}{f_{\sigma_3}} \left(\theta^\#(\text{Li}_3^u) - \sum_{\tau(1), \tau(2), \tau(3)} f_{\tau(1)\tau(2)\tau(3)} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau(1)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(2)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(3)} \right),$$

$$(6.9) \quad \Phi_{e_1 e_0^4}^{\sigma_5} = \frac{1}{f_{\sigma_5}} \left(\theta^\#(\text{Li}_5^u) - \sum_{\tau(4), \tau(5)} f_{\sigma_3 \tau(4) \tau(5)} \Phi_{e_1 e_0^2}^{\sigma_3} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(4)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(5)} - \sum_{\tau(1), \dots, \tau(5)} f_{\tau(1)\tau(2)\tau(3)\tau(4)\tau(5)} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau(1)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(2)} \dots \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(5)} \right).$$

By injecting (6.8) in (6.9), we obtain

$$(6.10) \quad \begin{aligned} \Phi_{e_1 e_0^4}^{\sigma_5} = \frac{1}{f_{\sigma_5}} \left(\theta^\#(\text{Li}_5^u) - \sum_{\tau(4), \tau(5)} \frac{f_{\sigma_3 \tau(4) \tau(5)}}{f_{\sigma_3}} \left(\theta^\#(\text{Li}_3^u) - \sum_{\tau(1), \tau(2), \tau(3)} f_{\tau(1)\tau(2)\tau(3)} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau(1)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(2)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(3)} \right) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(4)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(5)} \right. \\ \left. - \sum_{\tau(1), \dots, \tau(5)} f_{\tau(1)\tau(2)\tau(3)\tau(4)\tau(5)} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau(1)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(2)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(3)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(4)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(5)} \right), \end{aligned}$$

which can be rewritten as

$$(6.11) \quad \begin{aligned} \Phi_{e_1 e_0^4}^{\sigma_5} = \frac{1}{f_{\sigma_5}} \theta^\#(\text{Li}_5^u) - \sum_{\tau(4), \tau(5)} \frac{f_{\sigma_3 \tau(4) \tau(5)}}{f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5}} \theta^\#(\text{Li}_3^u) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(4)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(5)} \\ + \sum_{\tau(1), \dots, \tau(5)} \frac{1}{f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5}} \left(f_{\tau(1)\tau(2)\tau(3)} f_{\sigma_3 \tau(4) \tau(5)} - f_{\tau(1)\tau(2)\tau(3)\tau(4)\tau(5)} f_{\sigma_3} \right) \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau(1)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(2)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(3)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(4)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(5)}. \end{aligned}$$

6.2.2. *Elimination of $\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p}$ and $\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q}$.* Equations (6.2) and (6.3) are equivalent to the linear system

$$(6.12) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u) \\ \theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f_{\tau_p} & f_{\tau_q} \\ f_{\tau_p^2} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + f_{\tau_p \tau_q} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q} & f_{\tau_q \tau_p} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + f_{\tau_q^2} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p} \\ \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Denoting by Δ the determinant of the 2×2 matrix in (6.12), we have

$$(6.13) \quad \Delta \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p} \\ \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f_{\tau_q \tau_p} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + f_{\tau_q^2} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q} & -f_{\tau_q} \\ -f_{\tau_p^2} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} - f_{\tau_p \tau_q} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q} & f_{\tau_p} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u) \\ \theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let $f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]} := f_{\tau_q \tau_p} - f_{\tau_p \tau_q}$.

Lemma 6.1. *The determinant Δ is equal to $\frac{1}{2} f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]} \theta^\#(\log^u)$.*

Proof. Using (6.1) and the shuffle equation $f_{\tau_p} f_{\tau_q} = f_{\tau_p \tau_q} + f_{\tau_q \tau_p}$, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta &= f_{\tau_p} (f_{\tau_q \tau_p} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + f_{\tau_q^2} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q}) - f_{\tau_q} (f_{\tau_p^2} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + f_{\tau_p \tau_q} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q}) \\ &= f_{\tau_p} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} \left(f_{\tau_q \tau_p} - \frac{1}{2} f_{\tau_q} f_{\tau_p} \right) + f_{\tau_q} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q} \left(\frac{1}{2} f_{\tau_p} f_{\tau_q} - f_{\tau_p \tau_q} \right) \\ &= f_{\tau_p} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} \left(f_{\tau_q \tau_p} - \frac{1}{2} f_{\tau_q} f_{\tau_p} \right) + (\theta^\#(\log^u) - f_{\tau_p} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}) \left(\frac{1}{2} f_{\tau_p} f_{\tau_q} - f_{\tau_p \tau_q} \right) \\ &= f_{\tau_p} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} \left(f_{\tau_q \tau_p} - \frac{1}{2} f_{\tau_q} f_{\tau_p} - \frac{1}{2} f_{\tau_p} f_{\tau_q} + f_{\tau_p \tau_q} \right) + \theta^\#(\log^u) \left(\frac{1}{2} f_{\tau_p} f_{\tau_q} - f_{\tau_p \tau_q} \right) \\ &= 0 + \theta^\#(\log^u) \left(\frac{1}{2} f_{\tau_q \tau_p} - \frac{1}{2} f_{\tau_p \tau_q} \right). \end{aligned}$$

□

Lemma 6.2. *We have*

$$\Delta\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p} = \frac{1}{2}f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]}\theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u)\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} - f_{\tau_q}\theta^\#(F_{2,2}^{|1|}),$$

where $F_{2,2}^{|1|}$ was defined in (4.2).

Proof. Using (6.13), (6.1), and the shuffle equation $f_{\tau_p}f_{\tau_q} = f_{\tau_p\tau_q} + f_{\tau_q\tau_p}$, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p} &= \left(f_{\tau_q\tau_p}\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + f_{\tau_q^2}\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q} \right)\theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u) - f_{\tau_q}\theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) \\ &= \left(f_{\tau_q\tau_p}\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + f_{\tau_q^2}\left(\frac{1}{f_{\tau_q}}(\theta^\#(\log^u) - f_{\tau_p}\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p})\right) \right)\theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u) - f_{\tau_q}\theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) \\ &= \left(f_{\tau_q\tau_p}\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + \frac{f_{\tau_q}}{2}(\theta^\#(\log^u) - f_{\tau_p}\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}) \right)\theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u) - f_{\tau_q}\theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) \\ &= \left(f_{\tau_q\tau_p} - \frac{f_{\tau_p}f_{\tau_q}}{2} \right)\theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u)\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + \frac{f_{\tau_q}}{2}\theta^\#(\log^u \text{Li}_1^u) - f_{\tau_q}\theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]}\theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u)\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} - f_{\tau_q}\theta^\#\left(\text{Li}_2^u - \frac{1}{2}\log^u \text{Li}_1^u\right). \end{aligned}$$

□

Remark 6.3. Note that $\theta^\#(F_{2,2}^{|1|}) \neq 0$ even though $F_{2,2}^{|1|} \in \mathcal{I}_{S',2}^{\text{PL}}$ when $|S'| = 1$.

Lemma 6.4. *We have*

$$f_{\tau_q}\Delta\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q} = (f_{\tau_p^2\tau_q} - f_{\tau_q\tau_p^2})\theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u)\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + (f_{\tau_p}f_{\tau_q}\theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) - f_{\tau_p\tau_q}\theta^\#(\log^u \text{Li}_1^u)).$$

Proof. Using (6.13) and (6.1), we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q} &= -\left(f_{\tau_p^2}\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + f_{\tau_p\tau_q}\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q} \right)\theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u) + f_{\tau_p}\theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) \\ &= -\left(f_{\tau_p^2}\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + \frac{f_{\tau_p\tau_q}}{f_{\tau_q}}(\theta^\#(\log^u) - f_{\tau_p}\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}) \right)\theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u) + f_{\tau_p}\theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) \\ &= -\left(\left(f_{\tau_p^2} - \frac{f_{\tau_p\tau_q}f_{\tau_p}}{f_{\tau_q}} \right)\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + \frac{f_{\tau_p\tau_q}}{f_{\tau_q}}\theta^\#(\log^u) \right)\theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u) + f_{\tau_p}\theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) \\ &= \frac{1}{f_{\tau_q}}(f_{\tau_p\tau_q}f_{\tau_p} - f_{\tau_p^2}f_{\tau_q})\theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u)\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + \frac{1}{f_{\tau_q}}\left(f_{\tau_p}f_{\tau_q}\theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) - f_{\tau_p\tau_q}\theta^\#(\log^u \text{Li}_1^u) \right). \end{aligned}$$

The result follows from the shuffle equation

$$f_{\tau_p\tau_q}f_{\tau_p} - f_{\tau_p^2}f_{\tau_q} = 2f_{\tau_p^2\tau_q} + f_{\tau_p\tau_q\tau_p} - f_{\tau_p^2\tau_q} - f_{\tau_p\tau_q\tau_p} - f_{\tau_q\tau_p^2} = f_{\tau_p^2\tau_q} - f_{\tau_q\tau_p^2}.$$

□

6.2.3. *Elimination of $\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}$ and $\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q}$.* At this stage, we will encounter non-linear polynomial equations and we will need a resultant. Let us consider equation (6.7) for $d = 2, 3$:

$$(6.14) \quad \theta^\#(\text{Li}_4^{\text{u}}) = \sum_{\tau} f_{\sigma_3\tau} \Phi_{e_1 e_0^2}^{\sigma_3} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau} + \sum_{\tau(1), \dots, \tau(4)} f_{\tau(1)\tau(2)\tau(3)\tau(4)} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau(1)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(2)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(3)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(4)},$$

$$(6.15) \quad \theta^\#(\text{Li}_6^{\text{u}}) = \sum_{\tau} f_{\sigma_5\tau} \Phi_{e_1 e_0^5}^{\sigma_5} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau} + \sum_{\tau} f_{\sigma_3\tau(4)\tau(5)\tau(6)} \Phi_{e_1 e_0^2}^{\sigma_3} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(4)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(5)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(6)} + \sum_{\tau(1), \dots, \tau(6)} f_{\tau(1)\dots\tau(6)} \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau(1)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(2)} \dots \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(6)}.$$

Using Sections 6.2.1 and 6.2.2, we can eliminate the variables $\Phi_{e_1 e_0^2}^{\sigma_3}$, $\Phi_{e_1 e_0^4}^{\sigma_5}$, $\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p}$, and $\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q}$ in (6.14) and (6.15), and regard the latter equations as two polynomial equations in $(\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}, \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q})$, as follows. First, in view of using (6.13), we multiply equations (6.14) and (6.15) by Δ , to obtain

$$(6.16) \quad \Delta\theta^\#(\text{Li}_4^{\text{u}}) = \sum_{\tau} f_{\sigma_3\tau} \Delta\Phi_{e_1 e_0^2}^{\sigma_3} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau} + \sum_{\tau(1), \dots, \tau(4)} f_{\tau(1)\tau(2)\tau(3)\tau(4)} \Delta\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau(1)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(2)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(3)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(4)},$$

$$(6.17) \quad \Delta\theta^\#(\text{Li}_6^{\text{u}}) = \sum_{\tau} f_{\sigma_5\tau} \Delta\Phi_{e_1 e_0^4}^{\sigma_5} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau} + \sum_{\tau(4), \tau(5), \tau(6)} f_{\sigma_3\tau(4)\tau(5)\tau(6)} \Delta\Phi_{e_1 e_0^2}^{\sigma_3} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(4)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(5)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(6)} \\ + \sum_{\tau(1), \dots, \tau(6)} f_{\tau(1)\dots\tau(6)} \Delta\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau(1)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(2)} \dots \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(6)}.$$

Then, in (6.16) and (6.17) we inject

- equations (6.8) and (6.10) to eliminate $\Phi_{e_1 e_0^2}^{\sigma_3}$ and $\Phi_{e_1 e_0^4}^{\sigma_5}$;
- the formulas of Lemmas 6.2 and 6.4 to eliminate $\Delta\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p}$ and $\Delta\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q}$;
- the formula of Lemma 6.1 to eliminate Δ .

Then, (6.14) and (6.15) become polynomial equations in $(\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}, \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q})$. Finally, use equation (6.1) in the form

$$(6.18) \quad \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q} = \frac{1}{f_{\tau_q}} (\theta^\#(\log^{\text{u}}) - f_{\tau_p} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p})$$

to eliminate $\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q}$. After clearing denominators (i.e., multiplying by $f_{\tau_q}^4 f_{\sigma_3}$ in the case of Li_4^{u} and by $f_{\tau_q}^6 f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5}$ in the case of Li_6^{u}), we obtain two polynomial equations in one variable of the following form (see the next paragraph for precise definitions and computations):

$$(6.19) \quad P_4(\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}) = P_6(\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}) = 0$$

where

$$P_i(X) \in (\mathcal{O}(U_S)[\theta^\#(\log^{\text{u}}), (\theta^\#(\text{Li}_n^{\text{u}}))_{1 \leq n \leq i}])[X], \quad i \in \{4, 6\}.$$

In particular, (6.19) implies that $P_4(X)$ and $P_6(X)$ have a common root, namely $\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}$, whence

$$(6.20) \quad \text{Res}(P_4(X), P_6(X)) = 0.$$

Moreover, $P_4(X)$ and $P_6(X)$ have natural expressions of the form

$$P_i(X) = \theta^\#(\nu_i(X)), \quad i \in \{4, 6\},$$

where $\theta^\#$ is applied to the coefficients of $\nu_i(X)$, and

$$\nu_i(X) \in (\mathcal{O}(U_S)[\log^{\text{u}}, (\text{Li}_n^{\text{u}})_{1 \leq n \leq i}])[X], \quad i \in \{4, 6\}.$$

Proposition 6.5. *The element $\text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X)) \in \mathcal{O}(U_S)[\log^{\text{u}}, \text{Li}_1^{\text{u}}, \dots, \text{Li}_6^{\text{u}}]$ belongs to $\ker(\theta^\#)$.*

Proof. We have

$$(6.21) \quad \theta^\#(\text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X))) = \text{Res}(\theta^\#(\nu_4(X)), \theta^\#(\nu_6(X))) = \text{Res}(P_4(X), P_6(X)) = 0,$$

where we used (6.20) in the last equality. \square

6.3. Computation of the Chabauty–Kim function $\text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X))$. We now compute the polynomials $\nu_4(X)$ and $\nu_6(X)$ evoked in Section 6.2.3, in order to obtain a more explicit expression for the Chabauty–Kim function $\text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X))$. Such an expression will be instrumental in proving its non-triviality, and in computing its degree.

6.3.1. *An additional formula for the elimination of $\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q}$.* We are going to encounter several expressions of the following form, where F is a function with values in $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$:

$$\sum_{\tau_{(j_1), \dots, \tau_{(j_r)} \in \{\tau_p, \tau_q\}} F(\tau_{(j_1)}, \dots, \tau_{(j_r)}) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(j_1)}} \dots \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(j_r)}}.$$

Using equation (6.18), any expression of this type can be rewritten as

$$(6.22) \quad \sum_{i=0}^r \sum_{\substack{I \subset \{j_1, \dots, j_r\} \\ |I|=i}} F(\tau_{(j_1)}^I, \dots, \tau_{(j_r)}^I) (\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p})^i \left(\frac{1}{f_{\tau_q}} (\theta^\#(\log^u) - f_{\tau_p} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}) \right)^{r-i},$$

$$\text{where } \tau_{(j_k)}^I = \begin{cases} \tau_p & \text{if } j_k \in I \\ \tau_q & \text{if } j_k \notin I. \end{cases}$$

6.3.2. *The polynomial $\nu_4(X)$.* We start with equation (6.16), which is the formula for $\theta^\#(\text{Li}_4^u)$ multiplied by Δ . We inject equation (6.8) to eliminate $\Phi_{e_1 e_0^2}^{\sigma_3}$. Moreover, whenever $\Delta \Phi_{e_1}^\tau$ appears, we separate the terms in $\tau = \tau_p$ and $\tau = \tau_q$. We obtain

$$(6.23) \quad \Delta \theta^\#(\text{Li}_4^u) = \sum_{\tau} \frac{f_{\sigma_3 \tau}}{f_{\sigma_3}} \left(\Delta \theta^\#(\text{Li}_3^u) - \sum_{\tau_{(3), \tau_{(4)}}} \left[f_{\tau_p \tau_{(3)} \tau_{(4)}} \Delta \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p} + f_{\tau_q \tau_{(3)} \tau_{(4)}} \Delta \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q} \right] \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(3)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(4)}} \right) \Phi_{e_0}^\tau \\ + \sum_{\tau_{(2), \tau_{(3)}, \tau_{(4)}}} \left[f_{\tau_p \tau_{(2)} \tau_{(3)} \tau_{(4)}} \Delta \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p} + f_{\tau_q \tau_{(2)} \tau_{(3)} \tau_{(4)}} \Delta \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q} \right] \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(2)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(3)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(4)}}.$$

By collecting the $\Delta \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p}$ and $\Delta \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q}$ terms, this can be rewritten as

$$(6.24) \quad \Delta \theta^\#(\text{Li}_4^u) = \sum_{\tau} \frac{f_{\sigma_3 \tau}}{f_{\sigma_3}} \Delta \theta^\#(\text{Li}_3^u) \Phi_{e_0}^\tau \\ + \sum_{\tau_{(2), \tau_{(3)}, \tau_{(4)}}} \frac{1}{f_{\sigma_3}} \left[\left(f_{\tau_p \tau_{(2)} \tau_{(3)} \tau_{(4)}} f_{\sigma_3} - f_{\tau_p \tau_{(3)} \tau_{(4)}} f_{\sigma_3 \tau_{(2)}} \right) \Delta \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p} \right. \\ \left. + \left(f_{\tau_q \tau_{(2)} \tau_{(3)} \tau_{(4)}} f_{\sigma_3} - f_{\tau_q \tau_{(3)} \tau_{(4)}} f_{\sigma_3 \tau_{(2)}} \right) \Delta \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q} \right] \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(2)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(3)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(4)}}.$$

We use Lemmas 6.2 and 6.4 in (6.24) to eliminate $\Delta\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p}$ and $\Delta\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q}$, and use Lemma 6.1 to eliminate Δ . We obtain

$$(6.25) \quad \frac{1}{2}f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]} \theta^\#(\log^u) \theta^\#(\text{Li}_4^u) = \sum_{\tau} \frac{f_{\sigma_3 \tau} f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]}}{2f_{\sigma_3}} \theta^\#(\log^u) \theta^\#(\text{Li}_3^u) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau} \\ + \sum_{\tau(2), \tau(3), \tau(4)} \frac{1}{f_{\sigma_3}} \left[\left(f_{\tau_p \tau(2) \tau(3) \tau(4)} f_{\sigma_3} - f_{\tau_p \tau(3) \tau(4)} f_{\sigma_3 \tau(2)} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2} f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]} \theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} - f_{\tau_q} \theta^\#(F_{2,2}^{[1]}) \right) \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{f_{\tau_q}} \left(f_{\tau_q \tau(2) \tau(3) \tau(4)} f_{\sigma_3} - f_{\tau_q \tau(3) \tau(4)} f_{\sigma_3 \tau(2)} \right) \left((f_{\tau_p^2 \tau_q} - f_{\tau_q \tau_p^2}) \theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + (f_{\tau_p} f_{\tau_q} \theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) - f_{\tau_p \tau_q} \theta^\#(\log^u \text{Li}_1^u)) \right) \right] \\ \cdot \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(2)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(3)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(4)}.$$

Injecting equations (6.18) and (6.22) in equation (6.25) to eliminate $\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q}$, and clearing denominators by multiplying by $f_{\tau_q}^4 f_{\sigma_3}$, we obtain an equation of the form $P_4(\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}) = 0$ where $P_4(X) = \theta^\#(\nu_4(X))$ with

$$(6.26) \quad \nu_4(X) = \\ - \frac{1}{2} f_{\tau_q}^4 f_{\sigma_3} f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]} \log^u \text{Li}_4^u + \frac{1}{2} f_{\tau_q}^3 f_{\sigma_3 \tau_q} f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]} (\log^u)^2 \text{Li}_3^u + \frac{1}{2} f_{\tau_q}^3 f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]} (f_{\sigma_3 \tau_p} f_{\tau_q} - f_{\sigma_3 \tau_q} f_{\tau_p}) \log^u \text{Li}_3^u X \\ + \sum_{i=0}^3 \sum_{I \subset \{2,3,4\}} \sum_{|I|=i} f_{\tau_q}^{i+1} \left[\left(f_{\tau_p \tau(2) \tau(3) \tau(4)} f_{\sigma_3} - f_{\tau_p \tau(3) \tau(4)} f_{\sigma_3 \tau(2)} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2} f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]} \text{Li}_1^u X - f_{\tau_q} F_{2,2}^{[1]} \right) \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{f_{\tau_q}} \left(f_{\tau_q \tau(2) \tau(3) \tau(4)} f_{\sigma_3} - f_{\tau_q \tau(3) \tau(4)} f_{\sigma_3 \tau(2)} \right) \left((f_{\tau_p^2 \tau_q} - f_{\tau_q \tau_p^2}) \text{Li}_1^u X + (f_{\tau_p} f_{\tau_q} \text{Li}_2^u - f_{\tau_p \tau_q} \log^u \text{Li}_1^u) \right) \right] \\ \cdot X^i (\log^u - f_{\tau_p} X)^{3-i}.$$

Lemma 6.6. *The polynomial $\nu_4(X)$ has degree 2 and is a multiple of \log^u .*

Proof. The statement about the degree was verified using SageMath [20] (see our GitHub [repository](#) for the code). It is then clear from (6.26) that $\nu_4(X)$ is a multiple of \log^u . \square

6.3.3. *The polynomial $\nu_6(X)$.* We start with equation (6.17) which is the formula for $\theta^\#(\text{Li}_6^u)$ multiplied by Δ . We inject (6.8) and (6.11) to eliminate $\Phi_{e_1 e_0^2}^{\sigma_3}$ and $\Phi_{e_1 e_0^2}^{\sigma_5}$. We obtain

$$(6.27) \quad \Delta \theta^\#(\text{Li}_6^u) = \sum_{\tau} \frac{f_{\sigma_5 \tau}}{f_{\sigma_5}} \Delta \theta^\#(\text{Li}_5^u) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau} \\ + \sum_{\tau(4), \tau(5), \tau(6)} \frac{1}{f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5}} \left(f_{\sigma_3 \tau(4) \tau(5) \tau(6)} f_{\sigma_5} - f_{\sigma_3 \tau(4) \tau(5)} f_{\sigma_5 \tau(6)} \right) \Delta \theta^\#(\text{Li}_3^u) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(4)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(5)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(6)} \\ + \sum_{\tau(1), \dots, \tau(6)} \frac{1}{f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5}} \left(f_{\tau(1) \tau(2) \tau(3)} f_{\sigma_3 \tau(4) \tau(5)} f_{\sigma_5 \tau(6)} - f_{\tau(1) \tau(2) \tau(3) \tau(4) \tau(5)} f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5 \tau(6)} \right. \\ \left. - f_{\tau(1) \tau(2) \tau(3)} f_{\sigma_3 \tau(4) \tau(5) \tau(6)} f_{\sigma_5} + f_{\tau(1) \tau(2) \dots \tau(6)} f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5} \right) \Delta \Phi_{e_1}^{\tau(1)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(2)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(3)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(4)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(5)} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau(6)}.$$

Splitting the sums indexed by τ and $\tau_{(1)}$ yields

$$\begin{aligned}
(6.28) \quad \Delta\theta^\#(\text{Li}_6^u) &= \frac{f_{\sigma_5\tau_p}}{f_{\sigma_5}} \Delta\theta^\#(\text{Li}_5^u) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + \frac{f_{\sigma_5\tau_q}}{f_{\sigma_5}} \Delta\theta^\#(\text{Li}_5^u) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q} \\
&+ \sum_{\tau_{(4),\tau_{(5)},\tau_{(6)}}} \frac{1}{f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5}} \left(f_{\sigma_3\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}\tau_{(6)}} f_{\sigma_5} - f_{\sigma_3\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}} f_{\sigma_5\tau_{(6)}} \right) \Delta\theta^\#(\text{Li}_3^u) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(4)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(5)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(6)}} \\
&+ \sum_{\tau_{(2),\dots,\tau_{(6)}}} \frac{1}{f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5}} \left[\left(f_{\tau_p\tau_{(2)}\tau_{(3)}} f_{\sigma_3\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}} f_{\sigma_5\tau_{(6)}} - f_{\tau_p\tau_{(2)}\tau_{(3)}\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}} f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5\tau_{(6)}} \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. - f_{\tau_p\tau_{(2)}\tau_{(3)}} f_{\sigma_3\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}\tau_{(6)}} f_{\sigma_5} + f_{\tau_p\tau_{(2)}\dots\tau_{(6)}} f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5} \right) \Delta\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \left(f_{\tau_q\tau_{(2)}\tau_{(3)}} f_{\sigma_3\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}} f_{\sigma_5\tau_{(6)}} - f_{\tau_q\tau_{(2)}\tau_{(3)}\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}} f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5\tau_{(6)}} \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. - f_{\tau_q\tau_{(2)}\tau_{(3)}} f_{\sigma_3\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}\tau_{(6)}} f_{\sigma_5} + f_{\tau_q\tau_{(2)}\dots\tau_{(6)}} f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5} \right) \Delta\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q} \right] \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(2)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(3)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(4)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(5)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(6)}}.
\end{aligned}$$

Use Lemmas 6.2 and 6.4 in (6.24) to eliminate $\Delta\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_p}$ and $\Delta\Phi_{e_1}^{\tau_q}$, and Lemma 6.1 to eliminate Δ :

$$\begin{aligned}
(6.29) \quad &\left(\frac{1}{2} f_{[\tau_q,\tau_p]} \theta^\#(\log^u) \right) \theta^\#(\text{Li}_6^u) \\
&= \frac{f_{\sigma_5\tau_p}}{f_{\sigma_5}} \left(\frac{1}{2} f_{[\tau_q,\tau_p]} \theta^\#(\log^u) \right) \theta^\#(\text{Li}_5^u) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + \frac{f_{\sigma_5\tau_q}}{f_{\sigma_5}} \left(\frac{1}{2} f_{[\tau_q,\tau_p]} \theta^\#(\log^u) \right) \theta^\#(\text{Li}_5^u) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q} \\
&+ \sum_{\tau_{(4),\tau_{(5)},\tau_{(6)}}} \frac{1}{f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5}} \left(f_{\sigma_3\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}\tau_{(6)}} f_{\sigma_5} - f_{\sigma_3\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}} f_{\sigma_5\tau_{(6)}} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2} f_{[\tau_q,\tau_p]} \theta^\#(\log^u) \right) \theta^\#(\text{Li}_3^u) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(4)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(5)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(6)}} \\
&\quad + \sum_{\tau_{(2),\dots,\tau_{(6)}}} \frac{1}{f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5}} \left[\left(f_{\tau_p\tau_{(2)}\tau_{(3)}} f_{\sigma_3\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}} f_{\sigma_5\tau_{(6)}} - f_{\tau_p\tau_{(2)}\tau_{(3)}\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}} f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5\tau_{(6)}} \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. - f_{\tau_p\tau_{(2)}\tau_{(3)}} f_{\sigma_3\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}\tau_{(6)}} f_{\sigma_5} + f_{\tau_p\tau_{(2)}\dots\tau_{(6)}} f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2} f_{[\tau_q,\tau_p]} \theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} - f_{\tau_q} \theta^\#(F_{2,2}^{[1]}) \right) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{1}{f_{\tau_q}} \left(f_{\tau_q\tau_{(2)}\tau_{(3)}} f_{\sigma_3\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}} f_{\sigma_5\tau_{(6)}} - f_{\tau_q\tau_{(2)}\tau_{(3)}\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}} f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5\tau_{(6)}} - f_{\tau_q\tau_{(2)}\tau_{(3)}} f_{\sigma_3\tau_{(4)}\tau_{(5)}\tau_{(6)}} f_{\sigma_5} \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. + f_{\tau_q\tau_{(2)}\dots\tau_{(6)}} f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5} \right) \left((f_{\tau_p^2\tau_q} - f_{\tau_q\tau_p^2}) \theta^\#(\text{Li}_1^u) \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p} + (f_{\tau_p} f_{\tau_q} \theta^\#(\text{Li}_2^u) - f_{\tau_p\tau_q} \theta^\#(\log^u \text{Li}_1^u)) \right) \right] \\
&\quad \cdot \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(2)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(3)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(4)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(5)}} \Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_{(6)}}.
\end{aligned}$$

Injecting equations (6.18) and (6.22) in equation (6.29) to eliminate $\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_q}$, and clearing denominators by multiplying by $f_{\tau_q}^6 f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5}$, we obtain an equation of the form $P_6(\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}) = 0$ where $P_6(X) =$

$\theta^\#(\nu_6(X))$ with

$$\begin{aligned}
(6.30) \quad \nu_6(X) = & -\frac{1}{2}f_{\tau_q}^6 f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5} f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]} \log^\mathfrak{u} \text{Li}_6^\mathfrak{u} + \frac{1}{2}f_{\tau_q}^5 f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5 \tau_q} f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]} (\log^\mathfrak{u})^2 \text{Li}_5^\mathfrak{u} \\
& + \frac{1}{2}f_{\tau_q}^5 f_{\sigma_3} f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]} (f_{\sigma_5 \tau_p} f_{\tau_q} - f_{\sigma_5 \tau_q} f_{\tau_p}) \log^\mathfrak{u} \text{Li}_5^\mathfrak{u} X \\
& + \sum_{j=0}^3 \sum_{\substack{J \subset \{4,5,6\} \\ |J|=j}} \frac{1}{2} f_{\tau_q}^{3+j} f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]} \left(f_{\sigma_3 \tau_{(4)}^J \tau_{(5)}^J \tau_{(6)}^J} f_{\sigma_5} - f_{\sigma_3 \tau_{(4)}^J \tau_{(5)}^J} f_{\sigma_5 \tau_{(6)}^J} \right) \log^\mathfrak{u} \text{Li}_3^\mathfrak{u} X^j (\log^\mathfrak{u} - f_{\tau_p} X)^{3-j} \\
& + \sum_{i=0}^5 \sum_{\substack{I \subset \{2, \dots, 6\} \\ |I|=i}} f_{\tau_q}^{i+1} \left[\left(f_{\tau_p \tau_{(2)}^I \tau_{(3)}^I} f_{\sigma_3 \tau_{(4)}^I \tau_{(5)}^I} f_{\sigma_5 \tau_{(6)}^I} - f_{\tau_p \tau_{(2)}^I \tau_{(3)}^I \tau_{(4)}^I \tau_{(5)}^I} f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5 \tau_{(6)}^I} \right. \right. \\
& \left. \left. - f_{\tau_p \tau_{(2)}^I \tau_{(3)}^I} f_{\sigma_3 \tau_{(4)}^I \tau_{(5)}^I \tau_{(6)}^I} f_{\sigma_5} + f_{\tau_p \tau_{(2)}^I \dots \tau_{(6)}^I} f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2} f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]} \text{Li}_1^\mathfrak{u} X - f_{\tau_q} F_{2,2}^{|I|} \right) \right. \\
& \left. + \frac{1}{f_{\tau_q}} \left(f_{\tau_q \tau_{(2)}^I \tau_{(3)}^I} f_{\sigma_3 \tau_{(4)}^I \tau_{(5)}^I} f_{\sigma_5 \tau_{(6)}^I} - f_{\tau_q \tau_{(2)}^I \tau_{(3)}^I \tau_{(4)}^I \tau_{(5)}^I} f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5 \tau_{(6)}^I} - f_{\tau_q \tau_{(2)}^I \tau_{(3)}^I} f_{\sigma_3 \tau_{(4)}^I \tau_{(5)}^I \tau_{(6)}^I} f_{\sigma_5} \right. \right. \\
& \left. \left. + f_{\tau_q \tau_{(2)}^I \dots \tau_{(6)}^I} f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5} \right) \left((f_{\tau_p^2 \tau_q} - f_{\tau_q \tau_p^2}) \text{Li}_1^\mathfrak{u} X + (f_{\tau_p} f_{\tau_q} \text{Li}_2^\mathfrak{u} - f_{\tau_p \tau_q} \log^\mathfrak{u} \text{Li}_1^\mathfrak{u}) \right) \right] X^i (\log^\mathfrak{u} - f_{\tau_p} X)^{5-i}.
\end{aligned}$$

Lemma 6.7. *The polynomial $\nu_6(X)$ has degree 4 and is a multiple of $\log^\mathfrak{u}$.*

Proof. The statement about the degree was verified using SageMath [20] (see our GitHub [repository](#) for the code). It is then clear from (6.30) that $\nu_6(X)$ is a multiple of $\log^\mathfrak{u}$. \square

6.4. **The Chabauty–Kim function** $F_{6,18}^{|2|}$. Writing

$$\begin{aligned}
\nu_4(X) &= a_3 X^2 + a_4 X + a_5 \in \mathcal{O}(U_S)[\log^\mathfrak{u}, \text{Li}_1^\mathfrak{u}, \dots, \text{Li}_4^\mathfrak{u}] \\
\nu_6(X) &= b_3 X^4 + b_4 X^3 + b_5 X^2 + b_6 X + b_7 \in \mathcal{O}(U_S)[\log^\mathfrak{u}, \text{Li}_1^\mathfrak{u}, \dots, \text{Li}_6^\mathfrak{u}],
\end{aligned}$$

one way to express their resultant is as the determinant of the following 6×6 matrix with coefficients in $\mathcal{O}(U_S)$:

$$(6.31) \quad \text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X)) = \begin{vmatrix} a_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & b_3 & 0 \\ a_4 & a_3 & 0 & 0 & b_4 & b_3 \\ a_5 & a_4 & a_3 & 0 & b_5 & b_4 \\ 0 & a_5 & a_4 & a_3 & b_6 & b_5 \\ 0 & 0 & a_5 & a_4 & b_7 & b_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_5 & 0 & b_7 \end{vmatrix}.$$

The indexing of the coefficients of the polynomials is such that $a_i, b_j \in \mathcal{O}(U_S)[\log^\mathfrak{u}, \text{Li}_1^\mathfrak{u}, \dots, \text{Li}_6^\mathfrak{u}]$ are homogeneous of degrees i and j , respectively. This is clear from equations (6.26) and (6.30). Note that $\text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X))$ is homogeneous of degree $\deg((a_3)^4(b_7)^2) = 12 + 14 = 26$. But all the coefficients a_i and b_j are multiples of $\log^\mathfrak{u}$ by Lemmas 6.6 and 6.7. Writing $a_i = a'_i \log^\mathfrak{u}$ and

$b_j = b'_j \log^u$, we observe that

$$(6.32) \quad \text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X)) = (\log^u)^6 \begin{vmatrix} a'_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & b'_3 & 0 \\ a'_4 & a'_3 & 0 & 0 & b'_4 & b'_3 \\ a'_5 & a'_4 & a'_3 & 0 & b'_5 & b'_4 \\ 0 & a'_5 & a'_4 & a'_3 & b'_6 & b'_5 \\ 0 & 0 & a'_5 & a'_4 & b'_7 & b'_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a'_5 & 0 & b'_7 \end{vmatrix},$$

where the latter resultant is of degree 20.

Lemma 6.8. *The coefficients a'_3 and b'_3 are multiples of $F_{2,2}^{[1]}$.*

Proof. We have verified this in SageMath [20]. See our GitHub [repository](#) for the code. \square

Definition 6.9. Define $F_{6,18}^{[2]} \in \mathcal{O}(U_S)[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_6^u]$ by

$$\text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X)) = (\log^u)^6 F_{2,2}^{[1]} F_{6,18}^{[2]}.$$

Theorem 6.10. *The polynomial $F_{6,18}^{[2]}$ is a non-trivial polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim function of depth 6 and degree 18.*

Proof. Since $\text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X))$ has degree 26, it is clear that the degree of $F_{6,18}^{[2]}$ is 18. In view of Definition 6.9 and Proposition 6.5, the only part of the statement that requires justification is the non-triviality. It suffices to prove the non-triviality of $\text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X))$. We observe from (6.30) that the constant coefficients of $\nu_6(X)$ is of the form:

$$b_7 = -\frac{1}{2} f_{\tau_q}^6 f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5} f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]} \log^u \text{Li}_6^u + \beta, \quad \text{for some } \beta \in \mathcal{O}(U_S)[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_5^u]_7.$$

In particular, we see that $b_7 \neq 0$. Moreover, it is clear from (6.30) that $b_j \in \mathcal{O}(U_S)[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_5^u]$ for $3 \leq j \leq 6$. In other words, only the constant term of $\nu_6(X)$ involves the variable Li_6^u . On the other hand, the leading coefficient of $\nu_4(X)$ is the explicit non-zero quantity a_3 that can be read off (6.26). When writing out the determinant (6.31) as a cofactor expansion, we see that $\text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X)) \in \mathcal{O}(U_S)[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_6^u]$ contains the following term arising from the diagonal product $(a_3)^4 (b_7)^2$:

$$\frac{1}{4} a_3^4 f_{\tau_q}^{12} (f_{\sigma_3} f_{\sigma_5} f_{[\tau_q, \tau_p]})^2 (\log^u)^2 (\text{Li}_6^u)^2.$$

By the above remarks, the diagonal contribution to the determinant is the only term which is a multiple of $(\text{Li}_6^u)^2$. Since $a_3 \neq 0$ by Lemma 6.6, it follows that $\text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X)) \neq 0$. \square

6.5. Chabauty–Kim functions of higher degree. We have constructed polynomials $P_4(X)$ and $P_6(X)$, as well as $\nu_4(X)$ and $\nu_6(X)$, using as starting point the equations (6.7) for $\theta^\#(\text{Li}_4^u)$ and $\theta^\#(\text{Li}_6^u)$. More generally, a similar process of elimination as in Section 6.2 would give rise, for any $d \geq 2$, to polynomials $P_{2d}(X) \in \theta^\#(\mathcal{O}(U_S)[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_{2d}^u])$ and $\nu_{2d}(X) \in \mathcal{O}(U_S)[\log^u, \text{Li}_1^u, \dots, \text{Li}_{2d}^u]$ such that $P_{2d}(\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}) = 0$ and $P_{2d}(X) = \theta^\#(\nu_{2d}(X))$. Given $d_1 > d_2 \geq 2$, we then obtain polylogarithmic motivic Chabauty–Kim functions

$$\text{Res}(\nu_{2d_1}(X), \nu_{2d_2}(X)) \in \mathcal{I}_{S, 2d_1}^{\text{PL}}.$$

A similar proof as in Theorem 6.10 then guarantees that

$$\text{Res}(\nu_{2d_1}(X), \nu_{2d_2}(X)) \neq 0.$$

The resultant method for $|S| = 2$ thus provides an infinite family of Chabauty–Kim functions. In practice, these other functions will be of high degree and the complexity of the arithmetic step will increase many-fold.⁴

7. TOWARDS THE MULTIPLE PRIMES CASE

We briefly outline a strategy using resultants to tackle the geometric step for a set S with no restriction on its size.

Let $s = |S|$. We then have $\Sigma_{-1} = \{\tau_{p_1}, \dots, \tau_{p_s}\}$. The map $\theta^\#$ is given by the usual formulas in Definition 4.1. The system of equations is therefore similar to the one in Section 6.1, except that the sums that are indexed by Σ_{-1} now have s terms. In particular, the system is still linear with respect to $\Phi_{e_1 e_0^{2n-2}}^{\sigma_{2n-1}}$ and the $\Phi_{e_1}^\tau$'s, but now the number of variables $\Phi_{e_0}^\tau$ is s , as is the number of variables $\Phi_{e_1}^\tau$.

A generalisation of the elimination process described in Section 6.2 goes as follows. Take as starting point the equation for $\theta^\#(\text{Li}_{2d}^u)$ and proceed to eliminate the variables $\Phi_{e_1 e_0^{2n-2}}^{\sigma_{2n-1}}$ with $n \leq d$ by induction on n , starting with $n = d$. Then proceed to invert a linear system to eliminate the $\Phi_{e_1}^\tau$'s, provided that it is invertible. It is unclear whether the determinant of the corresponding matrix will have as nice a shape as the one in Lemma 6.1. After inverting the system, only the s variables $\Phi_{e_0}^\tau$ remain. In order to eliminate these, proceed by induction on n as follows.

Assume that we have polynomials $P_1, \dots, P_s \in \mathcal{O}(U_S)[X_1, \dots, X_s]$ with a common root (x_1, \dots, x_s) . Then for each $2 \leq i \leq n$, we have

$$\text{Res}_{X_s}(P_1(x_1, \dots, x_{s-1}, X_s), P_i(x_1, \dots, x_{s-1}, X_s)) = 0.$$

In particular, the polynomials

$$Q_i(X_1, \dots, X_{s-1}) = \text{Res}_{X_s}(P_1(X_1, \dots, X_{s-1}, X_s), P_i(X_1, \dots, X_{s-1}, X_s))$$

have the common root (x_1, \dots, x_{s-1}) . Proceed by induction from here, by iteratively taking resultants of resultants. The outcome of this procedure is an element in $\ker(\theta^\#)$. Verifying the non-triviality of such a function seems non-trivial when $s > 2$ (in Theorem 6.10 we proved it in the case $s = 2$). Moreover, in the case $s = 2$ we noticed that $\text{Res}(\nu_4(X), \nu_6(X))$ is a multiple of $(\log^u)^6 F_{2,2}^{[1]}$, an observation that allowed us to extract a polylogarithmic Chabauty–Kim function of lower degree. We do not know if a similar phenomenon happens when $s > 2$.

Remark 7.1. Alternatively, one could use the Macaulay resultant, which applies directly to a family of any number of polynomials (and not just two polynomials). This remark is also relevant in the $s = 2$ case. However, since all the steps of the elimination in the case $s = 2$ are linear except for the elimination step of $\Phi_{e_0}^{\tau_p}$, the method presented using classical resultants seemed the most natural choice.

⁴We expect the degree of $\nu_{2d}(X)$ to be $2d - 2$. In fact, we checked this for $d = 2, 3, 4, 5$ in SageMath [20]. We also verified that the leading coefficient of $\nu_{2d}(X)$ is a multiple of $F_{2,2}^{[1]}$ for $d = 2, 3, 4, 5$.

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