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**Mihran Papikian\*** (papikian@umich.edu), University of Michigan, Department of Mathematics, 525 E. University Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48109. *On the degree of modular parametrization over function fields.*

Let  $E$  be an elliptic curve over  $\mathbf{F}_q(T)$  with conductor  $N \cdot \infty$ . Let  $\varphi : X_0(N) \mapsto E$  be the modular parametrization by the Drinfeld modular curve of level  $N$ . Assuming that  $E$  is a strong Weil curve we prove upper and lower bounds on  $\deg \varphi$ . These bounds are the analogs of well-known (mostly conjectural) bounds in the case of rational numbers. (Received September 28, 2000)