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## On the genus of curves in a Jacobian variety

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**Abstract.** We prove that the geometric genus  $p$  of a curve in a very generic Jacobian of dimension  $g > 3$  satisfies either  $p = g$  or  $p > 2g - 3$ . This gives a positive answer to a conjecture of Naranjo and Pirola. For small values of  $g$  the second inequality can be further improved to  $p > 2g - 2$ .

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