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**Jennifer Paulhus\*** ([paulhus@math.ksu.edu](mailto:paulhus@math.ksu.edu)), Kansas State University, Department of Mathematics, Manhattan, KS 66506. *Decomposing Jacobian varieties using automorphism groups.*

Jacobian varieties of curves which have many elliptic curves in their decompositions have interesting applications to rank and torsion questions. Given a curve  $X$  with automorphism group  $G$ , idempotent relations in the group ring  $\mathbb{Q}[G]$  lead to decompositions of the Jacobian of  $X$ . In this talk we briefly explain the techniques involved and some recent results obtained from these techniques. (Received September 14, 2008)