

Sato-Tate groups of abelian threefolds

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Sato-Tate in dimension 1

Let E/\mathbb{Q} be an elliptic curve, say,

$$y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B,$$

and let p be a prime of good reduction (so $p \nmid \Delta(E)$).

The number of \mathbb{F}_p -points on the reduction E_p of E modulo p is

$$\#E_p(\mathbb{F}_p) = p + 1 - t_p,$$

where the trace of Frobenius t_p is an integer in $[-2\sqrt{p}, 2\sqrt{p}]$.

We are interested in the limiting distribution of $x_p := -t_p/\sqrt{p} \in [-2, 2]$ as p varies over primes of good reduction up to $N \rightarrow \infty$.

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Sato-Tate distributions in dimension 1

1. Typical case (no CM)

Elliptic curves E/\mathbb{Q} w/o CM have the semi-circular trace distribution. (Also known for E/k , where k is a totally real or CM number field).

[CHT08, Taylor08, HST10, BGG11, BGHT11, ACCGHHNSTT18]

2. Exceptional cases (CM)

Elliptic curves E/k with CM have one of two distinct trace distributions, depending on whether k contains the CM field or not.

[Hecke, Deuring, early 20th century]

Sato-Tate groups in dimension 1

The **Sato-Tate group** of E is a closed subgroup G of $SU(2) = USp(2)$ that is determined by the ℓ -adic Galois representation attached to E .

A refinement/generalization of the Sato-Tate conjecture states that the distribution of normalized Frobenius traces of E converges to the distribution of traces in its Sato-Tate group G (under its Haar measure).

G	G/G^0	E	k	$E[x_p^0], E[x_p^2], E[x_p^4] \dots$
$SU(2)$	C_1	$y^2 = x^3 + x + 1$	\mathbb{Q}	1, 1, 2, 5, 14, 42, ...
$N(U(1))$	C_2	$y^2 = x^3 + 1$	\mathbb{Q}	1, 1, 3, 10, 35, 126, ...
$U(1)$	C_1	$y^2 = x^3 + 1$	$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$	1, 2, 6, 20, 70, 252, ...

Fun fact: in the non-CM case the Sato-Tate conjecture implies that $E[x_p^n] = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\pi (2 \cos \theta)^n \sin^2 \theta d\theta$ is the $\frac{n}{2}$ th Catalan number.

L -polynomials of Abelian varieties

Let A be an abelian variety over a number field k and fix a prime ℓ . The action of $\text{Gal}(\bar{k}/k)$ on the ℓ -adic Tate module

$$V_\ell(A) := \varprojlim A[\ell^n] \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$$

gives rise to the ℓ -adic Galois representation

$$\rho_\ell: \text{Gal}(\bar{k}/k) \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}_\ell}(V_\ell(A)) \simeq \text{GSp}_{2g}(\mathbb{Q}_\ell).$$

For each prime \mathfrak{p} of good reduction for A we have the L -polynomial

$$L_{\mathfrak{p}}(T) := \det(1 - \rho_\ell(\text{Frob}_{\mathfrak{p}})T), \quad \bar{L}_{\mathfrak{p}}(T) := L_{\mathfrak{p}}(T/\sqrt{\|\mathfrak{p}\|}),$$

which appears as an Euler factor in the L -series

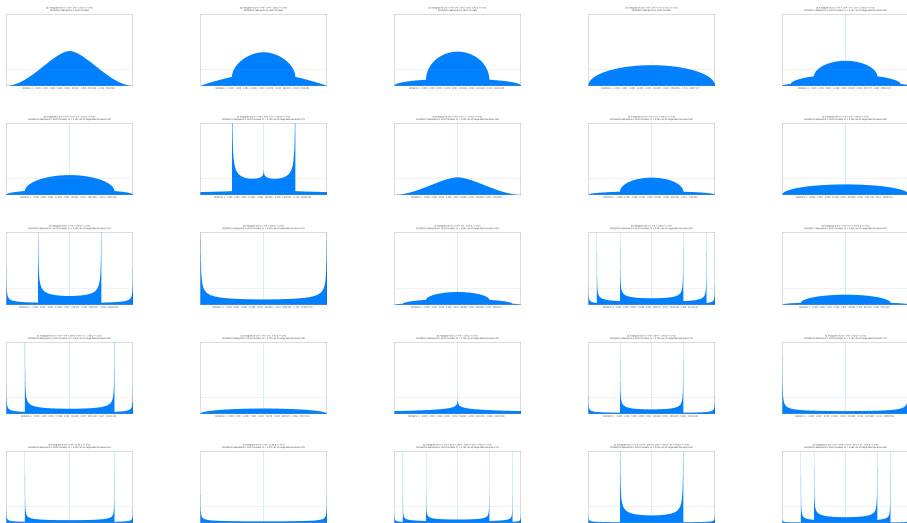
$$L(A, s) := \prod_{\mathfrak{p}} L_{\mathfrak{p}}(\|\mathfrak{p}\|^{-s})^{-1}.$$

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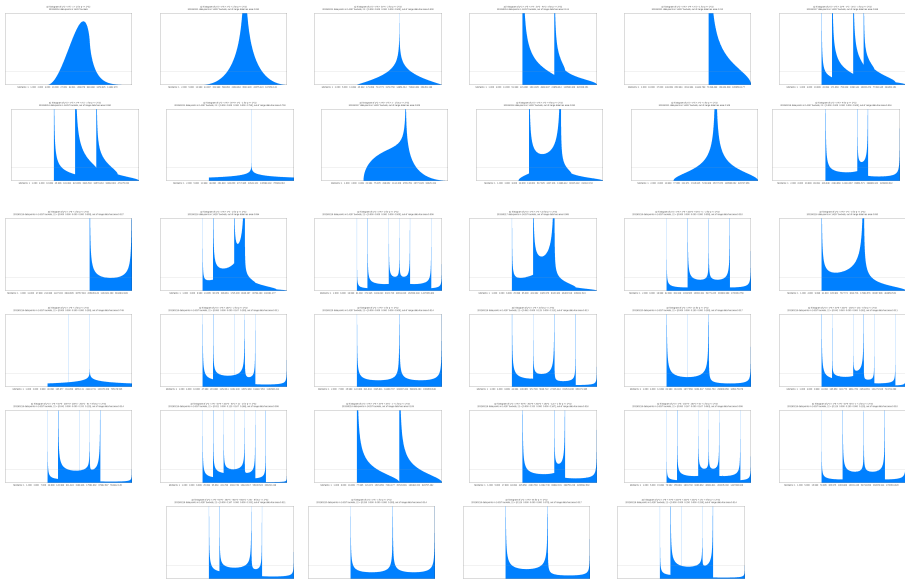
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Exceptional a_1 distributions of abelian surfaces over \mathbb{Q}



a_2 distributions of abelian surfaces over \mathbb{Q}



The Sato-Tate group of an abelian variety

The Zariski closure of the image of ℓ -adic representation

$$\rho_\ell: G_k \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{Q}_\ell}(V_\ell(A)) \simeq \text{GSp}_{2g}(\mathbb{Q}_\ell)$$

is the ℓ -adic monodromy group $G_\ell \subseteq \text{GSp}_{2g}$ of A , a \mathbb{Q}_ℓ -algebraic group. Fix $\iota: \mathbb{Q}_\ell \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$ and let $G_{\ell,\iota}^1 := (G_\ell \cap \text{Sp}_{2g}) \otimes_\iota \mathbb{C}$, a \mathbb{C} -algebraic group.

Definition [Serre]

$\text{ST}(A) \subseteq \text{USp}(2g)$ is a maximal compact subgroup of $G_{\ell,\iota}^1(\mathbb{C})$ equipped with $s: \mathfrak{p} \mapsto \text{conj}(\|\mathfrak{p}\|^{-1/2} \rho_{\ell,\iota}(\text{Frob}_\mathfrak{p})) \in \text{Conj}(\text{ST}(A))$, inducing $\mathfrak{p} \mapsto \bar{L}_\mathfrak{p}(T)$.

Sato-Tate conjecture for abelian varieties.

The conjugacy classes $s(\mathfrak{p})$ are equidistributed with respect to $\mu_{\text{ST}(A)}$, the pushforward of the Haar measure to $\text{Conj}(\text{ST}(A))$.

Sato-Tate axioms for abelian varieties

$G \subseteq \mathrm{USp}(2g)$ satisfies the Sato-Tate axioms (for abelian varieties) if:

- 1 **Compact:** G is closed;
- 2 **Hodge:** G contains a **Hodge circle** $\theta: \mathrm{U}(1) \rightarrow G^0$ whose elements $\theta(u)$ have eigenvalues $u, 1/u$ with multiplicity g , such that the conjugates of θ conjugates generate a dense subset of G ;
- 3 **Rationality:** for each component H of G and each irreducible character χ of $\mathrm{GL}_{2g}(\mathbb{C})$ we have $\mathbb{E}[\chi(\gamma) : \gamma \in H] \in \mathbb{Z}$;
- 4 **Lefschetz:** The subgroup of $\mathrm{USp}(2g)$ fixing $\mathrm{End}(\mathbb{C}^{2g})^{G^0}$ is G^0 .

Theorem [FKRS12, FKS19]

The Sato-Tate group $\mathrm{ST}(A)$ satisfies the Sato-Tate axioms if $g \leq 3$.

Axioms 1-3 are expected to hold in general, but Axiom 4 fails for $g = 4$.
For any g , the set of G satisfying axioms 1-3 is **finite**.

Galois endomorphism types

Let A be an abelian variety defined over a number field k .

Let K be the minimal extension of k for which $\text{End}(A_K) = \text{End}(A_{\bar{k}})$.

$\text{Gal}(K/k)$ acts on the \mathbb{R} -algebra $\text{End}(A_K)_{\mathbb{R}} = \text{End}(A_K) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$.

Definition

The *Galois endomorphism type* of A is the isomorphism class of $[\text{Gal}(K/k), \text{End}(A_K)_{\mathbb{R}}]$, where $[G, E] \simeq [G', E']$ iff there are isomorphisms $G \simeq G'$ and $E \simeq E'$ compatible with the group actions.

Theorem [FKRS12]

For abelian varieties A/k of dimension $g \leq 3$ there is a one-to-one correspondence between Sato-Tate groups and Galois types.

More precisely, the identity component G^0 is uniquely determined by $\text{End}(A_K)_{\mathbb{R}}$ and $G/G^0 \simeq \text{Gal}(K/k)$ (with corresponding actions).

Real endomorphism algebras of abelian surfaces

abelian surface	$\text{End}(A_K)_{\mathbb{R}}$	$\text{ST}(A)^0$
generic abelian surface	\mathbb{R}	$\text{USp}(4)$
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RM abelian surface• product of non-CM elliptic curves	$\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$	$\text{SU}(2) \times \text{SU}(2)$
product of CM and non-CM elliptic curves	$\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{R}$	$\text{U}(1) \times \text{SU}(2)$
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CM abelian surface• product of CM elliptic curves	$\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}$	$\text{U}(1) \times \text{U}(1)$
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• QM abelian surface• square of non-CM elliptic curve	$\text{M}_2(\mathbb{R})$	$\text{SU}(2)_2$
square of CM elliptic curve	$\text{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$	$\text{U}(1)_2$

(factors in products are assumed to be non-isogenous)

Sato-Tate groups of abelian surfaces

Theorem [FKRS12]

Up to conjugacy in $USp(4)$, 55 groups satisfy the Sato-Tate axioms, of which 3 cannot arise as Sato-Tate groups of abelian surfaces.

Theorem [FKRS12]

Up to conjugacy in $USp(4)$ there are 52 Sato-Tate groups of abelian surfaces over number fields, of which 9 are maximal.

The 9 maximal groups all arise as the Sato-Tate group of a genus 2 curve defined over \mathbb{Q} ; the rest can be realized via base change.

There are 6 distinct identity components that arise, and the order of each component group divides $48 = 2^4 \cdot 3$.

Note: This theorem says nothing about equidistribution, however this is now known in many special cases [FS12, Johansson13, Taylor18].

Maximal Sato-Tate groups of abelian surfaces

$\mathrm{ST}(A)^0$	$\mathrm{ST}(A)/\mathrm{ST}(A)^0$	A/\mathbb{Q}
$\mathrm{USp}(4)$	C_1	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^5 - x + 1)$
$\mathrm{SU}(2)^2$	C_2	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^6 + x^5 + x - 1)$
$\mathrm{U}(1) \times \mathrm{SU}(2)$	C_2	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^6 + 3x^4 - 2)$
$\mathrm{U}(1)^2$	D_2	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^6 + 3x^4 + x^2 - 1)$
	C_4	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^5 + 1)$
$\mathrm{SU}(2)_2$	D_4	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^5 + x^3 + 2x)$
	D_6	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^6 + x^3 - 2)$
$\mathrm{U}(1)_2$	$D_6 \times C_2$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^6 + 3x^5 + 10x^3 - 15x^2 + 15x - 6)$
	$S_4 \times C_2$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^6 - 5x^4 + 10x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x - 1)$

Each of the 9 maximal Sato-Tate groups in dimension 2 can be realized by the Jacobian of a genus 2 curve over \mathbb{Q} .

There are 3 subgroups of $N(\mathrm{U}(1) \times \mathrm{U}(1))$ that satisfy the Sato-Tate axioms but do not occur as Sato-Tate groups of abelian surfaces.

Sato-Tate groups of abelian threefolds

Theorem [FKS19]

Up to conjugacy in $USp(6)$, 433 groups satisfy the Sato-Tate axioms, of which 23 cannot arise as Sato-Tate groups of abelian threefolds.

Theorem [FKS19]

Up to conjugacy in $USp(6)$ there are 410 Sato-Tate groups of abelian threefolds over number fields, of which 33 are maximal.

The 33 maximal groups all arise as the Sato-Tate group of an abelian threefold defined over \mathbb{Q} ; the rest can be realized via base change.

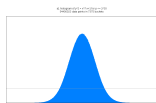
There are 14 distinct identity components that arise, and the order of every component group always divides one of the following integers:

$$192 = 2^6 \cdot 3, \quad 336 = 2^4 \cdot 3 \cdot 7, \quad 432 = 2^4 \cdot 3^3.$$

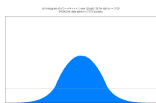
Real endomorphism algebras of abelian threefolds

abelian threefold	$\text{End}(A_K)_{\mathbb{R}}$	$\text{ST}(A)^0$
generic abelian threefold	\mathbb{R}	$\text{USp}(6)$
quadratic CM abelian threefold	\mathbb{C}	$\text{U}(3)$
product of a non-CM elliptic curve and an abelian surface	$\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$	$\text{SU}(2) \times \text{USp}(4)$
product of a CM elliptic curve and an abelian surface	$\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{R}$	$\text{U}(1) \times \text{USp}(4)$
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● RM abelian threefold ● product of a non-CM elliptic curve and an RM abelian surface ● product of 3 non-CM elliptic curves 	$\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$	$\text{SU}(2)^3$
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● product of a CM elliptic curve and an RM abelian surface ● product of a CM elliptic curve and two non-CM elliptic curves 	$\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$	$\text{U}(1) \times \text{SU}(2)^2$
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● product of a CM abelian surface and a non-CM elliptic curve ● product of two CM elliptic curves and a non-CM elliptic curve 	$\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{R}$	$\text{U}(1)^2 \times \text{SU}(2)$
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CM abelian threefold ● product of a CM elliptic curve and a CM abelian surface ● product of three CM elliptic curves 	$\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}$	$\text{U}(1)^3$
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● product of non-CM elliptic curve and a QM abelian surface ● product of a non-CM elliptic curve and the square of a non-CM elliptic curve 	$\mathbb{R} \times \text{M}_2(\mathbb{R})$	$\text{SU}(2) \times \text{SU}(2)_2$
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● product of a CM elliptic curve and a QM abelian surface ● product of a CM elliptic curve and the square of non-CM elliptic curve 	$\mathbb{C} \times \text{M}_2(\mathbb{R})$	$\text{U}(1) \times \text{SU}(2)_2$
product of a non-CM elliptic curve and the square of CM elliptic curve	$\mathbb{R} \times \text{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$	$\text{SU}(2) \times \text{U}(1)_2$
product of a CM elliptic curve and the square of CM elliptic curve	$\mathbb{C} \times \text{M}_2(\mathbb{C})$	$\text{U}(1) \times \text{U}(1)_2$
cube of a non-CM elliptic curve	$\text{M}_3(\mathbb{R})$	$\text{SU}(2)_3$
cube of a CM elliptic curve	$\text{M}_3(\mathbb{C})$	$\text{U}(1)_3$

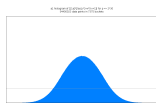
Connected Sato-Tate groups of abelian threefolds



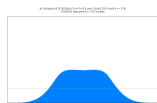
$USp(6)$



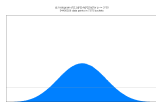
$U(3)$



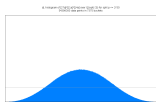
$SU(2) \times USp(4)$



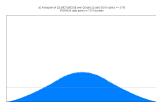
$U(1) \times USp(4)$



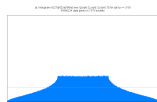
$SU(2)^3$



$U(1) \times SU(2)^2$



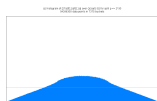
$U(1)^2 \times SU(2)$



$U(1)^3$



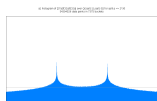
$SU(2) \times SU(2)_2$



$U(1) \times SU(2)_2$



$SU(2) \times U(1)_2$



$U(1) \times U(1)_2$



$SU(2)^2$



$U(1)^3$

Maximal Sato-Tate groups of abelian threefolds

$\mathrm{ST}(A)^0$	$\mathrm{ST}(A)/\mathrm{ST}(A)^0$	A/\mathbb{Q}
$\mathrm{USp}(4)$	$\langle 1, 1 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^7 - x + 1)$
$\mathrm{U}(3)$	$\langle 2, 1 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^7 + 3x^5 + 4x^3 + 2x)$
$\mathrm{SU}(2) \times \mathrm{USp}(4)$	$\langle 1, 1 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = 4x^8 - 7x^2 + 4)$
$\mathrm{U}(1) \times \mathrm{USp}(4)$	$\langle 2, 1 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^8 - x^6 - 3x^4 + x^2 - 1)$
$\mathrm{SU}(2)^3$	$\langle 6, 1 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = 2x^7 + 4x^6 - 7x^4 + 4x^3 - 4x + 1)$
$\mathrm{U}(1) \times \mathrm{SU}((2)^2)$	$\langle 4, 2 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^8 + 2x^6 + 4x^4 + 4x^2 + 4)$
$\mathrm{U}(1)^2 \times \mathrm{SU}(2)$	$\langle 4, 1 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^8 - 5x^6 + 10x^4 - 10x^2 + 5)$
	$\langle 4, 2 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^8 + 4x^6 - 2x^4 + 4x^2 + 1)$
$\mathrm{U}(1)^3$	$\langle 6, 2 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^7 - 1)$
	$\langle 8, 2 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^8 - 8x^6 + 20x^4 - 16x^2 + 2)$
	$\langle 8, 5 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(3x^4 + 2y^4 + 6z^4 - 6x^2y^2 + 6x^2z^2 - 12y^2z^2 = 0)$
$\mathrm{SU}(2) \times \mathrm{SU}(2)_2$	$\langle 8, 3 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^8 + x^4 + 2)$
	$\langle 12, 4 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^8 + 8x^6 + 18x^4 + 16x^2 - 4)$
$\mathrm{U}(1) \times \mathrm{SU}(2)_2$	$\langle 16, 11 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^8 + 2x^6 + 4x^2 - 4)$
	$\langle 24, 14 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(2y^4 + 4x^2y^2 - 6y^2z^2 + 6x^3z + xz^3 + 3z^4 = 0)$
$\mathrm{SU}(2) \times \mathrm{U}(1)_2$	$\langle 24, 14 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(x^4 - 8x^2y^2 + 24y^4 + 24xy^2z - 12xz^3 - 9z^4 = 0)$
	$\langle 48, 48 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(x^4 - y^4 + 2x^2z^2 + xz^3 = 0)$
$\mathrm{U}(1) \times \mathrm{U}(1)_2$	$\langle 48, 51 \rangle$	$49a1 \times \mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^6 + 3x^5 + 10x^3 - 15x^2 + 15x - 6)$
	$\langle 96, 226 \rangle$	$27a1 \times \mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^6 - 5x^4 + 10x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x - 1)$

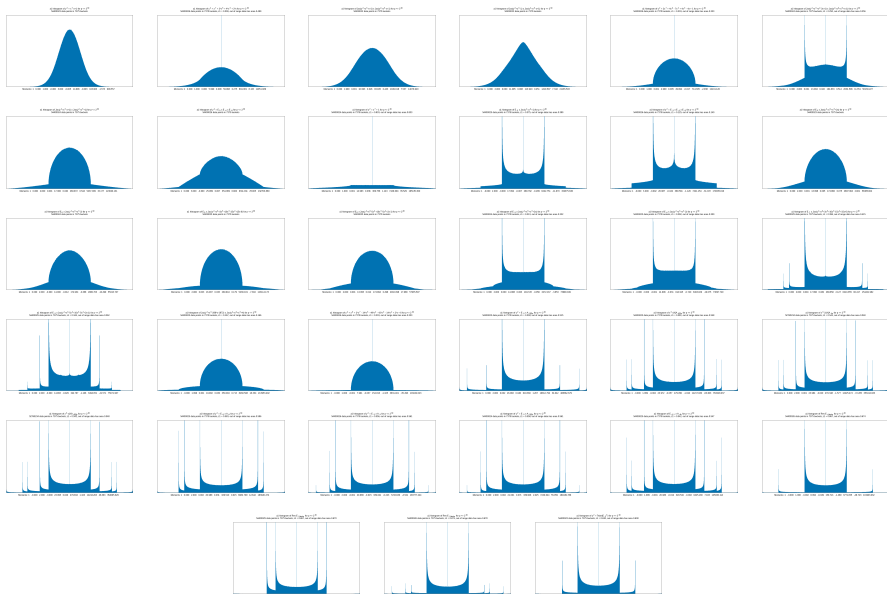
Maximal Sato-Tate groups of abelian threefolds

$\mathrm{ST}(A)^0$	$\mathrm{ST}(A)/\mathrm{ST}(A)^0$	A/\mathbb{Q}
$\mathrm{SU}(2)_3$	$\langle 12, 4 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(x^3z + 4y^3z + 3x^2y^2 - z^4)$
	$\langle 24, 12 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^8 + 2x^7 - 14x^5 - 49x^4 - 42x^3 - 14x^2 + 2x + 6)$
$\mathrm{U}(1)_3$	$\langle 48, 15 \rangle$	$27a1 \times \mathrm{Twist}_{\langle 24,10 \rangle}(27a1)$
	$\langle 48, 15 \rangle$	$32a2 \times \mathrm{Twist}_{\langle 24,1 \rangle}(32a2)$
	$\langle 48, 38 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^8 - x^7 - 7x^6 - 7x^5 - 35x^4 - 35x^3 - 21x^2 + 3x + 6)$
	$\langle 48, 41 \rangle$	$32a2 \times \mathrm{Twist}_{\langle 24,5 \rangle}(32a2)$
	$\langle 96, 193 \rangle$	$256a1 \times \mathrm{Jac}(y^2 = x^6 - 5x^4 + 10x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x - 1)$
	$\langle 144, 125 \rangle$	$27a1 \times \mathrm{Twist}_{\langle 72,25 \rangle}(27a1)$
	$\langle 144, 127 \rangle$	$27a1 \times \mathrm{Twist}_{\langle 72,25 \rangle}(27a1)$
	$\langle 192, 988 \rangle$	$64a4 \times \mathrm{Prym}(y^4 = x^4 + 2x^2 + x)$
	$\langle 192, 956 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Res}(y^2 = x^3 - \alpha x) \quad [\alpha^3 - \alpha^2 + \alpha - 2 = 0]$
	$\langle 336, 208 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Jac}(2x^3y - 2x^3z - 3x^2z^2 - 2xy^3 - 2xz^3 - 4y^3z + 3y^2z^2 - yz^3 = 0)$
	$\langle 432, 523 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Res}(y^2 = x^3 - \alpha) \quad [\alpha^3 - \alpha^2 + \alpha - 2 = 0]$
	$\langle 432, 734 \rangle$	$\mathrm{Twist}_{\langle 648,533 \rangle}(27a1)$

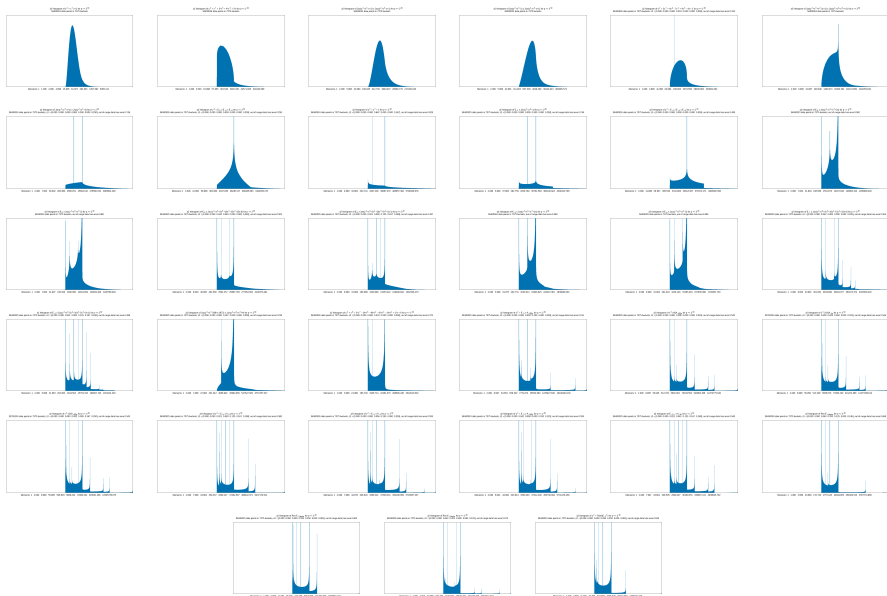
For $A = \mathrm{Twist}_{\langle n,i \rangle}(E)$ we have $L(A, s)L(A', s) = L(E_M, \rho, s)$, where E/\mathbb{Q} has CM by M and ρ is an Artin representation with $\rho(G_M) \simeq \langle n, i \rangle$.

We then have $A_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}} \sim E_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}^{\dim \rho}$ and $A_M \sim A'_M$, with $\mathrm{ST}(A) = \mathrm{ST}(A')$.

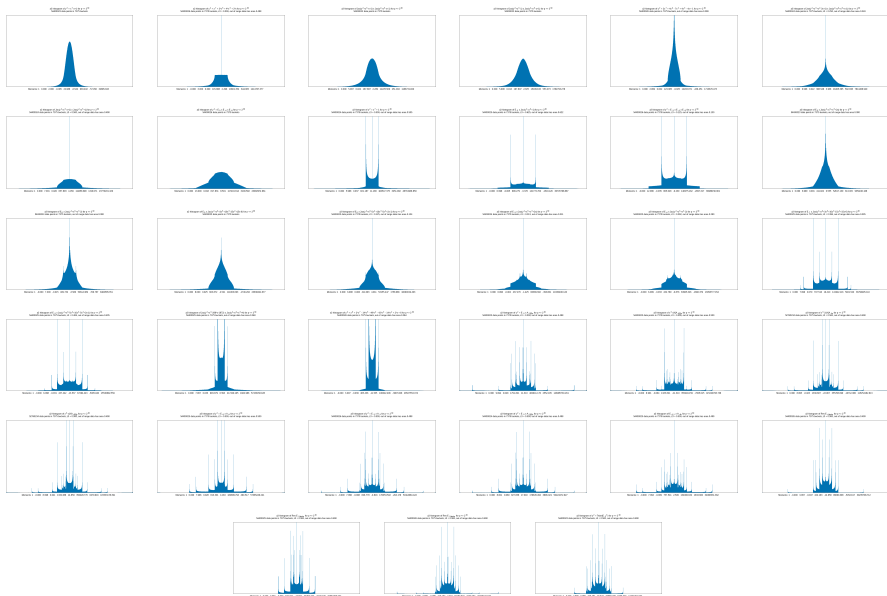
a_1 distributions of maximal Sato-Tate groups for $g = 3$



a_2 distributions of maximal Sato-Tate groups for $g = 3$



a_3 distributions of maximal Sato-Tate groups for $g = 3$



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