

Sato-Tate groups of $y^2 = x^8 + c$ and $y^2 = x^7 - cx$.

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ABSTRACT. We consider the distribution of normalized Frobenius traces for two families of genus 3 hyperelliptic curves over \mathbb{Q} that have large automorphism groups: $y^2 = x^8 + c$ and $y^2 = x^7 - cx$ with $c \in \mathbb{Q}^*$. We give efficient algorithms to compute the trace of Frobenius for curves in these families at primes of good reduction. Using data generated by these algorithms, we obtain a heuristic description of the Sato-Tate groups that arise, both generically and for particular values of c . We then prove that these heuristic descriptions are correct by explicitly computing the Sato-Tate groups via the correspondence between Sato-Tate groups and Galois endomorphism types.

CONTENTS

1. Introduction
 2. Background
 3. Trace formulas
 4. Guessing Sato-Tate groups
 5. Determining Sato-Tate groups
 6. Galois endomorphism types
- References

1. Introduction

In this paper we consider two families of hyperelliptic curves over \mathbb{Q} :

$$C_1: y^2 = x^8 + c, \quad C_2: y^2 = x^7 - cx.$$

For $c \in \mathbb{Q}^*$, these equations define hyperelliptic curves of genus 3 with good reduction at primes $p > 3$ for which $v_p(c) = 0$ (in fact, C_1 also has good reduction at 3). For each such p we have the *trace of Frobenius*

$$t_p(C_i) := p + 1 - \#\overline{C}_i(\mathbb{F}_p),$$

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where \overline{C}_i denotes the reduction of C_i modulo p . From the Weil bounds, we know that t_p lies in the interval $[-6\sqrt{p}, 6\sqrt{p}]$. We wish to study the distribution of normalized Frobenius traces $t_p/\sqrt{p} \in [-6, 6]$, as p varies over primes of good reduction up to a bound N .

The generalized Sato-Tate conjecture predicts that as $N \rightarrow \infty$ this distribution converges to the distribution of traces in the *Sato-Tate group*, a compact subgroup of $\mathrm{USp}(6)$ associated to the Jacobian of the curve. For the two families considered here, the curves C_i have Jacobians that are \mathbb{Q} -isogenous to the product of an elliptic curve and an abelian surface.¹ This allows us to apply the classification of Sato-Tate groups for abelian surfaces obtained in [FKRS12] to determine the Sato-Tate groups that arise. This is achieved in §5.

After recalling the definition of the Sato-Tate group of an abelian variety in §2, we begin in §3 by deriving formulas for the Frobenius trace $t_p(C_i)$ in terms of the Hasse-Witt matrix of \overline{C}_i . These formulas allow us to design particularly efficient algorithms for computing $t_p(C_i)$. In §4, under the assumption of the Sato-Tate conjecture, we use the numerical data obtained by applying these algorithms to heuristically guess the isomorphism class of the Sato-Tate groups of C_1 and C_2 . The explicit computation in §5 proves that, in fact, these guesses are correct, without appealing to the Sato-Tate conjecture.

Strictly speaking, §4 and §5 are independent of each other. However, we should emphasize that in the process of achieving our results, there was a constant and mutually beneficial interplay between the two distinct approaches.

Up to dimension 3, the Sato-Tate group of an abelian variety defined over a number field k is determined by its ring of endomorphisms over an algebraic closure of k . Although the Sato-Tate group does not capture the ring structure of the endomorphisms, it does codify the \mathbb{R} -algebra generated by the endomorphism ring, and the structure of this \mathbb{R} -algebra as a Galois module, what we refer to as the *Galois endomorphism type* of the abelian variety. As an example, in §6 we compute the Galois endomorphism type of the Jacobian of C_2 .

The problem of analysing the Frobenius trace distributions and determining the Sato-Tate groups that arise in these two families was originally posed as part of a course given by the authors at the winter school *Frobenius Distributions on Curves* held in February, 2014, at the Centre International de Rencontres Mathématiques in Luminy. This problem turned out to be more challenging than we anticipated (the analogous question in genus 2 is quite straight-forward); this article represents a solution.

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2. Background

We start by briefly recalling the definition of the Sato-Tate group of an abelian variety A defined over a number field k , and set some notation. For a more detailed presentation we refer to [Ser12, Chap. 8] or [FKRS12, §2].

¹As we shall see, this abelian surface may itself be \mathbb{Q} -isogenous to a product of elliptic curves and is in any case never simple over \mathbb{Q} .

2.1. The Sato-Tate group of an abelian variety. Let \bar{k} denote a fixed algebraic closure of k , and let g be the dimension of A . For each prime ℓ we have a continuous homomorphism

$$\varrho_{A,\ell}: \text{Gal}(\bar{k}/k) \rightarrow \text{GSp}_{2g}(\mathbb{Q}_\ell)$$

arising from the action of $\text{Gal}(\bar{k}/k)$ on the rational Tate module $(\varprojlim A[\ell^n]) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$. Here GSp denotes the group of symplectic similitudes, which preserve a symplectic form up to a scalar; in our setting the preserved symplectic form arises from the Weil pairing. Let G_ℓ be the Zariski closure of the image of $\varrho_{A,\ell}$, and let G_ℓ^1 be the kernel of the similitude character $G_\ell \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_\ell^*$. We now choose an embedding $\iota: \mathbb{Q}_\ell \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$, and for each prime ideal \mathfrak{p} of the ring of integers of k , let $\text{Frob}_\mathfrak{p}$ denote an arithmetic Frobenius at \mathfrak{p} and let $N(\mathfrak{p})$ be the cardinality of its residue field.

DEFINITION 2.1. The *Sato-Tate group of A* , denoted $\text{ST}(A)$, is a maximal compact subgroup of $G_\ell^1 \otimes_\iota \mathbb{C}$. For each prime \mathfrak{p} of good reduction for A , let $s(\mathfrak{p}) := \varrho_{A,\ell}(\text{Frob}_\mathfrak{p}) \otimes_\iota N(\mathfrak{p})^{-1/2}$.

Let $\text{USp}(2g)$ denote the group of $2g \times 2g$ complex matrices that are unitary and preserve a fixed symplectic form; this is a real Lie group of dimension $g(2g + 1)$. One can show that $\text{ST}(A)$ is well-defined up to conjugacy in $\text{USp}(2g)$, and that $s(\mathfrak{p})$ determines a conjugacy class in $\text{ST}(A)$.

CONJECTURE 2.2 (generalized Sato-Tate). *Let X denote the set of conjugacy classes of $\text{ST}(A)$. Then:*

- (i) *The conjugacy class of $\text{ST}(A)$ in $\text{USp}(2g)$ and the conjugacy classes $s(\mathfrak{p})$ in $\text{ST}(A)$ are independent of the choice of the prime ℓ and the embedding ι .*
- (ii) *When the primes \mathfrak{p} are ordered by norm, the $s(\mathfrak{p})$ are equidistributed on X with respect to the projection of the Haar measure of $\text{ST}(A)$ on X .*

It follows from [BK15] that part (i) of the above conjecture is true for $g \leq 3$. We next summarize some basic properties of the Sato-Tate group that we will need in our forthcoming discussion. If L/k is a field extension, we write A_L for the base change of A to L . We denote by K_A the minimal extension L/k over which all the endomorphisms of A are defined, that is, the minimal extension for which $\text{End}(A_L) \simeq \text{End}(A_{\bar{k}})$.

The Sato-Tate group $\text{ST}(A)$ is a compact real Lie group, but it need not be connected. We use $\text{ST}^0(A)$ to denote the connected component of the identity.

PROPOSITION 2.3 (Prop. 2.17 of [FKRS12]). If $g \leq 3$, then the group of connected components $\text{ST}(A)/\text{ST}^0(A)$ is isomorphic to $\text{Gal}(K_A/k)$.

This proposition implies, in particular, that a prime \mathfrak{p} of good reduction for A splits completely in K_A if and only if $s(\mathfrak{p}) \in \text{ST}^0(A)$. One can in fact show a little bit more: for any algebraic extension L/k , the Sato-Tate group $\text{ST}(A_L)$ is a subgroup of $\text{ST}(A)$ with $\text{ST}^0(A_L) = \text{ST}^0(A)$ and

$$\text{ST}(A_L)/\text{ST}^0(A_L) \simeq \text{Gal}(K_A/(K_A \cap L)) \subseteq \text{Gal}(K_A/k).$$

2.2. Galois endomorphism types. We now work in the category \mathcal{C} of pairs (G, E) , where G is a finite group and E is an \mathbb{R} -algebra equipped with an \mathbb{R} -linear action of G . A morphism $\Phi: (G, E) \rightarrow (G', E')$ of \mathcal{C} consists of a pair $\Phi := (\phi_1, \phi_2)$,

where $\phi_1: G \rightarrow G'$ is a morphism of groups and $\phi_2: E \rightarrow E'$ is an equivariant morphism of \mathbb{R} -algebras, that is,

$$\phi_2(\phi_1(g)e) = \phi_2(g)(\phi_1(e)) \quad \text{for all } g \in G \text{ and } e \in E.$$

DEFINITION 2.4. The *Galois endomorphism type* of A is the isomorphism class in \mathcal{C} of the pair $(\text{Gal}(K_A/k), \text{End}(A_{K_A}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R})$.

By [FKRS12, Prop. 2.19], for $g \leq 3$, the Galois endomorphism type is determined by the Sato-Tate group (in fact, the proof of this statement is effective, as we will illustrate in §6). This result admits a converse statement at least for $g \leq 2$.

THEOREM 2.5 (Thm. 4.3 of [FKRS12]). *For fixed $g \leq 2$, the Sato-Tate group and the Galois endomorphism type of an abelian variety A defined over a number field k uniquely determine each other. For $g = 1$ (resp. $g = 2$) there are 3 (resp. 52) possibilities for the Galois endomorphism type, all of which arise for some choice of A and k .*

For $g = 1$ the 3 possible Sato-Tate groups are $\text{SU}(2) = \text{USp}(2)$, a copy of the unitary group $\text{U}(1)$ embedded in $\text{SU}(2)$, and its normalizer in $\text{SU}(2)$; these arise, respectively, for elliptic curves E/k without CM, with CM by a field contained in k , and with CM by a field not contained in k . For $g = 2$ a complete list of the 52 possible Sato-Tate groups can be found in [FKRS12].

In order to simplify the notation, when C is a smooth projective curve defined over the number field k , we may simply write

$$\text{ST}(C) := \text{ST}(\text{Jac}(C)), \quad \text{ST}^0(C) := \text{ST}^0(\text{Jac}(C)), \quad \text{and} \quad K_C := K_{\text{Jac}(C)}.$$

3. Trace formulas

Let p be an odd prime, and let $\overline{C}/\mathbb{F}_p$ be a smooth projective curve of genus $g \geq 1$ defined by an equation of the form $y^2 = f(x)$ with $f \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$ squarefree. Let $n = (p-1)/2$ and let f_k^n denote the coefficient of x^k in the polynomial $f(x)^n$. The Hasse-Witt matrix of \overline{C} is the $g \times g$ matrix $W_p := [w_{ij}]$ over \mathbb{F}_p , where

$$w_{ij} := f_{ip-j}^n \quad (1 \leq i, j \leq g).$$

It is shown in [Man61, Yui78] that the characteristic polynomial $\chi(\lambda)$ of the Frobenius endomorphism of $\text{Jac}(\overline{C})$ satisfies

$$\chi(\lambda) \equiv (-1)^g \lambda^g \det(W_p - \lambda I) \pmod{p}.$$

In particular,

$$\text{tr } W_p \equiv t_p \pmod{p},$$

where $t_p := p + 1 - \#\overline{C}(\mathbb{F}_p)$ is the trace of Frobenius. The Weil bounds imply $|t_p| \leq 2g\sqrt{p}$, which means that for all $p \geq 16g^2$, the trace of W_p uniquely determines the integer t_p .

Let us now specialize to the case where $f(x)$ has the form

$$f(x) = ax^d + bx^e,$$

with $d \in \{2g+1, 2g+2\}$, $e \in \{0, 1\}$, and $a, b \in \mathbb{F}_p^*$; this includes the families C_i defined in §1. Writing

$$f(x)^n = x^{en}(ax^{d-e} + b)^n$$

and applying the binomial theorem yields

$$f_{en+(d-e)r}^n = \binom{n}{r} a^r b^{n-r},$$

and we have $f_k^n = 0$ whenever k is not of the form $k = en + (d - e)r$. Setting $k = ip - j = i(2n + 1) - j$ and solving for $r = r_{ij}$ yields

$$r_{ij} := \frac{(2i - e)n + i - j}{d - e} \quad (1 \leq i, j \leq g).$$

The entries of the Hasse-Witt matrix for $y^2 = ax^d + bx^e$ are thus given by

$$(1) \quad w_{ij} = \begin{cases} \binom{n}{r_{ij}} a^{r_{ij}} b^{n-r_{ij}} & \text{if } r_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

For any fixed integer $i \in [1, g]$, the quantity $(2i - e)n + i - j$ lies in an interval of width $g - 1 < (d - e)/2$, as j varies over integers in $[1, g]$. This implies that at most one entry w_{ij} in each row of W_p is nonzero, and for this entry r_{ij} is simply the nearest integer to $(2i - e)n/(d - e)$.

We now specialize to the two families of interest and assume $p > 3$. For $C_1: y^2 = x^8 + c$ we have $d = 8, e = 0, a = 1$, and $b = \bar{c}$, where \bar{c} denotes the image of c in \mathbb{F}_p . We thus have

$$r_{ij} = \frac{2in + i - j}{8} = \frac{ip - j}{8}.$$

For integers $i, j \in [1, 3]$, the integral values of r_{ij} that arise are listed below:

$$\begin{aligned} p \equiv 1 \pmod{8} : & \quad r_{11} = \frac{n}{4}, \quad r_{22} = \frac{n}{2}, \quad r_{33} = \frac{3n}{4}; \\ p \equiv 3 \pmod{8} : & \quad r_{13} = \frac{n-1}{4}, \quad r_{31} = \frac{3n+1}{4}; \\ p \equiv 5 \pmod{8} : & \quad r_{22} = \frac{n}{2}; \\ p \equiv 7 \pmod{8} : & \quad \text{none.} \end{aligned}$$

This yields the following formulas for the trace of Frobenius:

$$(2) \quad t_p(C_1) \equiv_p \begin{cases} \binom{n}{n/2} \bar{c}^{n/2} + \binom{n}{n/4} \bar{c}^{n/4} + \binom{n}{n/4} \bar{c}^{3n/4} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{8}, \\ \binom{n}{n/2} \bar{c}^{n/2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5 \pmod{8}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

For $C_2: y^2 = x^7 - cx$ we have $d = 7, e = 1, a = 1$, and $b = -\bar{c}$. We thus have

$$r_{ij} = \frac{(2i - 1)n + i - j}{6}.$$

For integers $i, j \in [1, 3]$, the integral values of r_{ij} that arise are listed below:

$$\begin{aligned} p \equiv 1 \pmod{12} : & \quad r_{11} = \frac{n}{6}, \quad r_{22} = \frac{n}{2}, \quad r_{33} = \frac{5n}{6}; \\ p \equiv 5 \pmod{12} : & \quad r_{13} = \frac{n-2}{6}, \quad r_{22} = \frac{n}{2}, \quad r_{31} = \frac{5n+2}{6}; \\ p \equiv 7 \pmod{12} : & \quad \text{none}; \\ p \equiv 11 \pmod{12} : & \quad \text{none.} \end{aligned}$$

This yields the following formulas for the trace of Frobenius:

$$(3) \quad t_p(C_2) \equiv_p \begin{cases} \binom{n}{n/2} (-\bar{c})^{n/2} + \binom{n}{n/6} (-\bar{c})^{n/6} + \binom{n}{n/6} (-\bar{c})^{5n/6} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{12}, \\ \binom{n}{n/2} (-\bar{c})^{n/2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5 \pmod{12}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

3.1. Algorithms. Computing the powers of \bar{c} that appear in the formulas (2) and (3) for $t_p(C_i)$ is straight-forward; using binary exponentiation this requires just $O(\log p)$ multiplication in \mathbb{F}_p . The only potential difficulty is the computation of the binomial coefficients $\binom{n}{n/2}, \binom{n}{n/4}, \binom{n}{n/6}$ modulo p , where $n = (p-1)/2$ and p is known to lie in a suitable residue class. Fortunately, there are very efficient formulas for computing these particular binomial coefficients modulo suitable primes p . These are given by the lemmas below, in which $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) \in \{\pm 1\}$ denotes the Legendre symbol, and m, x , and y denote integers.

LEMMA 3.1. *Let $p = 4m + 1 = x^2 + y^2$ be prime, with $x \equiv -\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) \pmod{4}$. Then*

$$\binom{2m}{m} \equiv 2(-1)^{m+1}x \pmod{p}.$$

PROOF. See [BEW98, Thm. 9.2.2]. □

LEMMA 3.2. *Let $p = 8m + 1 = x^2 + 2y^2$ be prime, with $x \equiv -\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) \pmod{4}$. Then*

$$\binom{4m}{m} \equiv 2(-1)^{m+1}x \pmod{p}.$$

PROOF. See [BEW98, Thm. 9.2.8]. □

LEMMA 3.3. *Let $p = 12m + 1 = x^2 + y^2$ be prime, with $x \equiv -\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) \pmod{4}$, and define ϵ to be 0 if $x \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ and 1 otherwise. Then*

$$\binom{6m}{m} \equiv 2(-1)^{m+\epsilon}x \pmod{p}.$$

PROOF. See [BEW98, Thm. 9.2.10] (replace ρ_4^2 with $(-1)^{\epsilon-1}$). □

To apply these lemmas, one uses Cornacchia's algorithm to find a solution (x, y) to $p = x^2 + dy^2$, where $d = 1$ when computing $\binom{n}{n/2} \pmod{p}$ or $\binom{n}{n/6} \pmod{p}$, and $d = 2$ when computing $\binom{n}{n/4}$. Cornacchia's algorithm requires as input a square-root δ of $-d$ modulo p (if no such δ exists then $p = x^2 + dy^2$ has no solutions).

CORNACCHIA'S ALGORITHM

Given integers $1 \leq d < m$ and an integer $\delta \in [0, m/2]$ such that $\delta^2 \equiv -d \pmod{m}$, find a solution (x, y) to $x^2 + dy^2 = m$ or determine that none exist as follows:

1. Set $x_0 := m, x_1 := \delta$, and $i = 1$.
2. While $x_i^2 \geq m$, set $x_{i+1} := x_{i-1} \pmod{x_i}$ with $x_{i+1} \in [0, x_i)$ and increment i .
3. If $(m - x_i^2)/d = y^2$ for some $y \in \mathbb{Z}$, output the solution (x_i, y) .

Otherwise, report that no solution exists.

See [Bas04] for a simple proof of the correctness of this algorithm. We now consider its computational complexity, using $M(n)$ to denote the time to multiply two n -bit integers; we may take $M(n) = O(n \log n \log \log n)$ via [SS71]. The first two steps correspond to half of the standard Euclidean algorithm for computing the GCD of m and δ , whose bit-complexity is bounded by $O(\log^2 m)$; see [GG13, Thm. 3.13]. The time required in step 3 to perform a division and check whether the result is a square integer is also $O(M(\log m))$; see [GG13, Thm. 9.8, Thm. 9.28]). Thus the overall complexity is $O(\log^2 m)$, the same as the Euclidean algorithm.

REMARK 3.4. There is an asymptotically faster version of the Euclidean algorithm that allows one to compute any particular pair of remainders (x_{i-1}, x_i) , including the unique pair for which $x_{i-1} \geq \sqrt{m} > x_i$, in $O(M(\log m) \log \log m)$ time; see [PW03]. This yields a faster version of Cornacchia's algorithm that runs in quasi-linear time, but we will not use this.

We now turn to the problem of computing the square-root δ of $-d \bmod m$ that is required by Cornacchia's algorithm. There are two basic strategies for doing this:

1. (Cipolla-Lehmer) Use a probabilistic root-finding algorithm to factor $x^2 + d$ in $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$. This takes $O(M(\log p) \log p)$ expected time.
2. (Tonelli-Shanks) Given a generator g for the 2-Sylow subgroup of \mathbb{F}_p^* , compute the discrete logarithm e of $(-d)^s \in \langle g \rangle$ and let $\delta = g^{-e/2}(-d)^{(s+1)/2}$, where $p = 2^v s + 1$ with s odd. This takes $O(M(\log p)(\log p + v \log v / \log \log v))$ time if the algorithm in [Sut11] is used to compute the discrete logarithm.

We will exploit both approaches. To obtain a generator for the 2-Sylow subgroup of \mathbb{F}_p^* one may take α^s for any quadratic non-residue α . Half the elements of \mathbb{F}_p^* are non-residues, so randomly selecting elements and computing Legendre symbols will yield a non-residue after 2 attempts, on average, and each attempt takes $O(M(\log p) \log \log p)$ time, via [BZ10]. Unfortunately, we know of no efficient way to deterministically obtain a quadratic non-residue modulo p without assuming the generalized Riemann hypothesis (GRH). Under the GRH the least non-residue is $O((\log p)^2)$ [Bac90], thus if we simply test increasing integers $2, 3, \dots$ we can obtain a non-residue α for a total cost of $O(M(\log p) \log^2 p \log \log p)$.

But we are actually interested in computing $t_p(C_i)$ for many primes $p \leq N$, for some large bound N ; on average, this approach will find a non-residue very quickly. As $N \rightarrow \infty$ the average value of the least non-residue converges to

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{p_k}{2^k} = 3.674643966 \dots,$$

where p_k denotes the k th prime, as shown by Erdős [Erd61].

Finally, we should mention an alternative approach to solving $p = x^2 + dy^2$ that is completely deterministic. Construct an elliptic curve E/\mathbb{F}_p with complex multiplication by the imaginary quadratic order \mathcal{O} with discriminant $D = -d$ (or $D = -4d$ if $-d \not\equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}$) and then use Schoof's algorithm [Sch85] to compute the trace of Frobenius t of E . We then have $4p = t^2 - v^2 D$, since the Frobenius endomorphism with trace t and norm p corresponds to $\frac{t \pm v\sqrt{D}}{2} \in \mathcal{O}$, and therefore $(t/v)^2 \equiv D \pmod{p}$. If $D = -d$, we have a square root of $-d$ modulo p and can use Cornacchia's algorithm to solve $p = x^2 + dy^2$. If $D = -4d$, then t is even and $(t/2, 2v)$ is already a solution to $p = x^2 + dy^2$. We are specifically interested in the cases $D = -4$ and $D = -8$. For $D = -4$ we can take $E: y^2 = x^3 - x$, and for $D = -8$ we can take $E: y^2 = x^4 + 4x^2 + 2x$; see §3 of Appendix A in [Sil94].

We collect all of these observations in the following theorem.

THEOREM 3.5. *Let $C_1: y^2 = x^8 + c$ and $C_2: y^2 = x^7 - cx$ be as above. Let $p > 3$ be a prime with $v_p(c) = 0$. We can compute $t_p(C_i)$:*

- *probabilistically in $O(M(\log p) \log p)$ expected time;*
- *deterministically in $O(M(\log p) \log^2 p \log \log p)$ time, assuming GRH;*
- *deterministically in $O(M(\log^3 p) \log^2 p / \log \log p)$ time.*

For any positive integer N , we can compute $t_p(C_i)$ for all $3 < p \leq N$ with $v_p(c) = 0$ deterministically in $O(NM(\log N))$ time.

PROOF. Since we are computing asymptotic bounds, we may assume $p \geq 144$ (if not, just count points naïvely). Then $t_p(C_i) \bmod p$ uniquely determines $t_p(C_i) \in \mathbb{Z}$.

For the first bound we use the Cipolla-Lehmer approach to probabilistically compute the square root required by Cornacchia's algorithm in $O(M(\log p) \log p)$ time, matching the time required to apply any of Lemmas 2.1-4, and the time required by the exponentiations of \bar{c} needed to compute $t_p(C_i)$.

For the second bound we instead use the Tonelli-Shanks approach to computing square roots, relying on iteratively testing increasing integers to find a non-residue. Under the GRH this takes $O(M(\log p) \log^2 p \log \log p)$ time, which dominates everything else.

For the third bound, we instead use Schoof's approach to solve $p = x^2 + dy^2$. The analysis in [SS14, Cor. 11] shows that Schoof's algorithm can be implemented to run in $O(M(\log^3 p) \log^2 p / \log \log p)$ time.

For the final bound we proceed as in the GRH bound but instead rely on the Erdős bound for the least non-residue modulo $p \leq N$, on average. By the prime number theorem there are $O(N/\log N)$ primes $p \leq N$; the total number of quadratic residue tests is thus $O(N/\log N)$. It takes $O(M(\log N) \log \log N)$ time for each test, so the total time spent finding non-residues is $O(NM(\log N) \log \log N / \log N)$. The average 2-adic valuation of $p-1$ over primes $p \leq N$ is $O(1)$, so the total time spent computing square roots modulo primes $p \leq N$ using the Tonelli-Shanks approach is $O((N/\log N)M(\log N) \log \log N) = O(NM(\log N))$ which dominates the time spent finding non-residues and matches the time spent on everything else. \square

We note that the average time per prime $p \leq N$ using a deterministic algorithm is $O(M(\log p) \log p)$, which matches the expected time when applying our probabilistic approach for any particular prime $p \leq N$; both bounds are quasi-quadratic $O((\log p)^{2+o(1)})$. For comparison, the average time per prime $p \leq N$ achieved using the average polynomial time algorithm in [HS14a, HS16] is $O((\log p)^{4+o(1)})$.

REMARK 3.6. Although Theorem 3.5 only addresses the computation of $t_p(C_i)$, for $p \not\equiv 3 \pmod{8}$ (resp. $p \not\equiv 5 \pmod{12}$) we can readily compute the entire Hasse-Witt matrix W_p for C_1 (resp. C_2) using the same approach and within the same complexity bounds.

4. Guessing Sato-Tate groups

In this section we analyze the Sato-Tate distributions of the curves C_i and arrive at a heuristic characterization of their Sato-Tate groups up to isomorphism, based on statistics collected using the algorithm described in §3.1. In §5 we will unconditionally prove that our heuristic characterizations are correct.

4.1. The Sato-Tate distribution of C_1 . Before applying any heuristics we can derive some information about the structure of the Sato-Tate group directly from the formulas developed in the previous section. The possible shapes of the Hasse-Witt matrix for C_1 at a primes $p \equiv 1, 3, 5, 7 \pmod{8}$ are depicted below, with the residue class of $p \pmod{8}$ in parentheses:

$$\begin{bmatrix} * & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & * & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & * \end{bmatrix} (1), \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} (3), \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & * & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} (5), \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} (7).$$

From this we can (unconditionally) conclude the following:

- (a) the component group $\text{ST}(C_1)/\text{ST}^0(C_1)$ has order divisible by 4;
- (b) we have $s(p)$ in $\text{ST}^0(C_1)$ only if $p \equiv 1 \pmod 8$;
- (c) the field K_{C_1} contains $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})$.

We note that (c) follows immediately from (b): a prime $p > 2$ splits completely in $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})$ if and only if $p \equiv 1 \pmod 8$.

Table 1 lists moment statistics M_n for the curve $C_1: y^2 = x^8 + c$ for selected values of c , where M_n is the average value of the n th power of the normalized L -polynomial coefficient

$$a_1 := -t_p/\sqrt{p},$$

over odd primes $p \leq 2^{40}$ not dividing c . The moment statistics M_n for odd n are all close to zero, so we list M_n only for even n .

c	M_2	M_4	M_6	M_8	M_{10}
1	3.000	50.999	1229.971	33634.058	978107.050
2	2.000	27.000	619.987	16834.560	489116.939
3	2.000	24.000	469.984	11234.520	297593.517
4	3.000	51.000	1229.990	33634.650	978125.742
5	2.000	23.999	469.976	11234.211	297585.653
6	2.000	23.999	469.979	11234.275	297587.173
7	2.000	23.999	469.968	11234.007	297579.866
8	2.000	27.000	619.987	16834.560	498116.939
9	2.000	27.000	619.991	16834.654	498118.664
2^4	3.000	50.999	1229.971	33634.058	978107.050
3^3	2.000	24.000	469.987	11234.520	297594.971
2^5	2.000	27.000	619.987	16834.560	498116.939
2^6	3.000	51.000	1229.990	33634.650	978125.742
3^4	3.000	51.000	1229.990	33634.593	978121.494

TABLE 1. Trace moment statistics for $C_1: y^2 = x^8 + c$ for $p \leq 2^{40}$.

There appear to be three distinct trace distributions that arise, depending on whether the integer c is in

$$\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})^{*4}, \quad \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})^{*2} \setminus \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})^{*4}, \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})^* \setminus \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})^{*2};$$

these can be distinguished by whether the nearest integer to M_4 is 51, 27, or 24, respectively. Histogram plots of representative examples are shown with $c = 1, 2, 3$ in Figure 1. We note that in each histogram the central spike at 0 has area $1/2$, while the spikes at -2 and 2 have area zero.

Based on the data in Table 1, we expect K_{C_1} to contain $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2}, \sqrt[4]{c})$. If we now require c to be a fourth-power and restrict to primes $p \equiv 1 \pmod 8$, we can

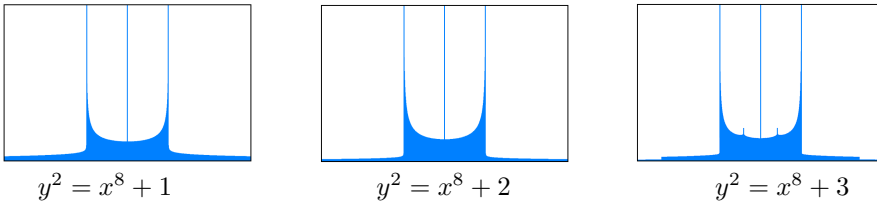


FIGURE 1. a_1 -histograms for three representative curves C_1 .

investigate the Sato-Tate distribution of C_1 over the number field $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2}, \sqrt[4]{c})$. For $c = 1$ we obtain the moments listed below:

c	M_2	M_4	M_6	M_8	M_{10}
1	10.000	197.997	4899.892	134466.452	3912182.569

The corresponding histogram is shown in Figure 2.

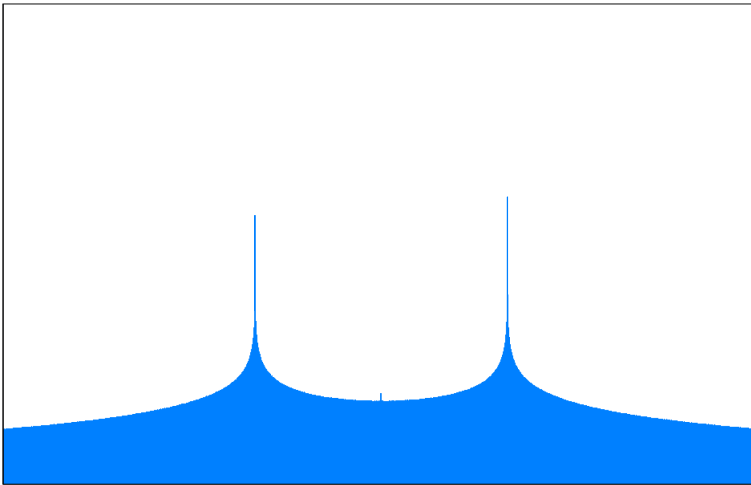


FIGURE 2. a_1 -histogram for $y^2 = x^8 + 1$ over $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})$.

We claim that this distribution corresponds to a connected Sato-Tate group, namely, the group

$$U(1)_2 \times U(1) := \left\langle \left[\begin{array}{ccc} U(u) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & U(u) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & U(v) \end{array} \right] : u, v \in U(1) \right\rangle,$$

where for $u \in U(1) := \{e^{i\theta} : \theta \in [0, 2\pi)\}$ the matrix $U(u)$ is defined by

$$(4) \quad U(u) := \begin{bmatrix} u & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{u} \end{bmatrix}.$$

The a_1 -moment sequence for $U(1)_2 \times U(1)$ can be computed as the binomial convolution of the a_1 -moment sequences for $U(1)_2$ and $U(1)$ given in [FKRS12]. Explicitly,

if $M_n(G)$ denotes the n th moment of a_1 (or any class function), for $G = H_1 \times H_2$, we have

$$(5) \quad M_n(G) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} M_k(H_1) M_{n-k}(H_2).$$

Applying this to $G = U(1)_2 \times U(1)$ yields:

	M_0	M_1	M_2	M_3	M_4	M_5	M_6	M_7	M_8	M_9	M_{10}
$U(1)_2$	1	0	8	0	96	0	1280	0	17920	0	258048
$U(1)$	1	0	2	0	6	0	20	0	70	0	252
$U(1)_2 \times U(1)$	1	0	10	0	198	0	4900	0	1344700	0	3912300

This is in close agreement (within 0.1%) with the moment statistics for $y^2 = x^8 + 1$ over $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})$. We thus conjecture that the identity component is

$$ST^0(C_1) = U(1)_2 \times U(1),$$

up to conjugacy in $USp(6)$, and

$$K_{C_1} = \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2}, \sqrt[4]{c}).$$

For generic c the component group of $ST(C_1)$ is then isomorphic to

$$\text{Gal}(K_{C_1}/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq D_4 \times C_2,$$

where D_4 is the dihedral group of order 8 and C_2 is the cyclic group of order 2.

4.2. The Sato-Tate distribution of C_2 . The possible shapes of the Hasse-Witt matrix for C_2 at a primes $p \equiv 1, 5, 7, 11 \pmod{12}$ are depicted below, with the residue class of $p \pmod{12}$ in parentheses:

$$\begin{bmatrix} * & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & * & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & * \end{bmatrix} (1), \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & * \\ 0 & * & 0 \\ * & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} (5), \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} (7), \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} (11).$$

From this information we can conclude that:

- (a) the order of the component group $ST(C_2)/ST^0(C_2)$ is a multiple of 4;
- (b) we have $s(p) \in ST^0(C_2)$ only if $p \equiv 1 \pmod{12}$;
- (c) the field K_{C_2} contains $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{3})$.

We note that (c) follows immediately from (b): a prime $p > 3$ splits completely in $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{3})$ if and only if $p \equiv 1 \pmod{12}$.

Table 2 lists moment statistics M_n for the curve $C_2: y^2 = x^7 - cx$ for various values of c . There now appear to be just two distinct trace distributions that arise, depending on whether the integer c is a cube or not; these can be distinguished by whether the nearest integer to M_2 is 2 or 3, respectively. Histogram plots of three representative examples are shown for $c = 1, 2$ in Figure 3. In the histogram for $c = 1$ the central spike at 0 has area 1/2 and the spikes at -2 and 2 have area zero, but in the histogram for $c = 2$ the central spike has area 7/12, while the spikes at $-4, -2, 2, 4$ have area zero. This gives us a further piece of information: the order of the component group $ST(C_2)/ST^0(C_2)$ should be divisible by 12.

Based on the data in Table 1, we expect K_{C_2} to contain $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{3}, \sqrt[3]{c})$. We now require c to be a cube and restrict to primes $p \equiv 1 \pmod{12}$ in order to investigate

c	M_2	M_4	M_6	M_8	M_{10}
1	3.000	62.999	1829.927	57434.041	1860104.868
2	2.000	29.999	719.982	20649.366	641569.043
3	2.000	29.999	719.972	20649.083	641561.180
4	2.000	30.000	719.985	20649.447	641572.217
5	2.000	30.000	719.988	20649.586	641578.161
6	2.000	30.000	720.004	20650.090	641593.419
7	2.000	30.000	719.991	20649.656	641579.324
8	3.000	62.999	1829.978	57434.221	1860110.123
9	2.000	29.999	719.973	20649.084	641561.181
2^4	2.000	30.000	719.985	20649.447	641572.217
3^3	3.000	62.999	1829.972	57434.041	1860104.867
2^5	2.000	29.999	719.982	20649.366	641569.043
2^6	3.000	62.999	1829.972	57434.041	1860104.868
3^4	2.000	29.999	719.973	20649.084	641561.181

TABLE 2. Trace moment statistics for $C_2: y^2 = x^7 - cx$ for $p \leq 2^{40}$.



FIGURE 3. a_1 -histograms for two representative curves C_2 .

the Sato-Tate distribution of C_2 over the number field $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{3}, \sqrt[3]{c})$. For $c = 1$ we obtain the moments listed below:

c	M_2	M_4	M_6	M_8	M_{10}
1	10.000	245.997	7299.909	229666.846	7440189.620

The corresponding histogram is shown in Figure 4, and is clearly *not* the distribution of the identity component; one can see directly that there are (at least) two components.

This suggests that we should try computing the Sato-Tate distribution over a quadratic extension of $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{3})$. After a bit of experimentation, one finds that $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt[4]{-3})$ works. With $c = 1$ we obtain the moments statistics:

c	M_2	M_4	M_6	M_8	M_{10}
1	18.000	485.994	14579.770	459261.673	14880044.545

The corresponding histogram is shown in Figure 5.

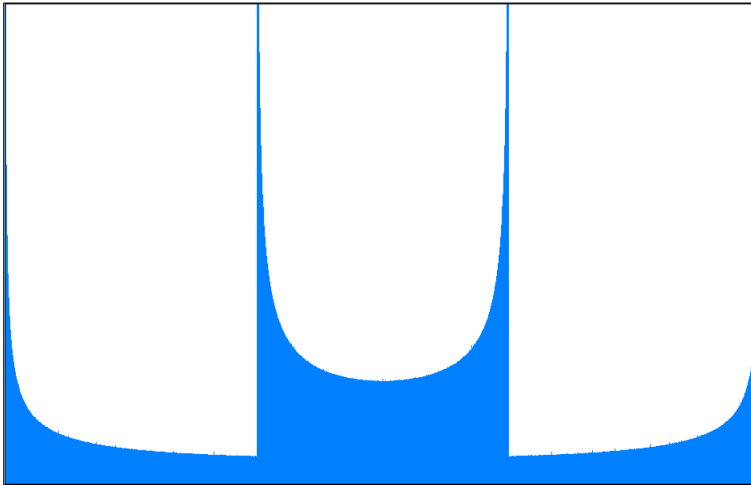


FIGURE 4. a_1 -histogram for $y^2 = x^7 - x$ over $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{3})$.

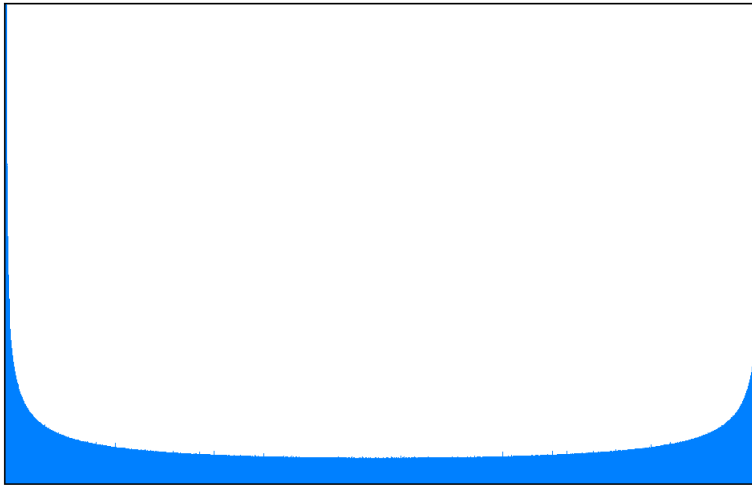


FIGURE 5. a_1 -histogram for $y^2 = x^7 - x$ over $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt[4]{-3})$.

We claim that this distribution corresponds to a connected Sato-Tate group, namely, the group

$$U(1)_3 := \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} U(u) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & U(u) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & U(u) \end{bmatrix} : u \in U(1) \right\rangle.$$

The a_1 -moment sequence for $U(1)_3$ can be computed as the $3a_1$ -moment sequence for $U(1)$, which simply scales the n th moment by 3^n . This yields the moments:

	M_2	M_4	M_6	M_8	M_{10}
$U(1)_3$	18	486	14580	459270	14880348

which are in close agreement (better than 0.1%) with the moment statistics for $y^2 = x^7 - x$ over the field $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt[4]{-3})$.

A complication arises if we repeat the experiment using a cube $c \neq 1$; we no longer get a connected Sato-Tate group! Taking c to be a sixth-power works, but we now need to ask whether, generically, the degree 48 extension $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt[4]{-3}, \sqrt[6]{c})$ is the minimal extension required to get a connected Sato-Tate group. We have good reason to believe that a degree 24 extension *is* necessary, since K_{C_2} appears to properly contain the degree 12 field $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{3}, \sqrt[3]{c})$, but it is not clear that a degree 48 extension is required. We thus check various quadratic subextensions of $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt[4]{-3}, \sqrt[6]{c})$ and find that $\mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt[3]{c}, \sqrt{c\sqrt{-3}})$ works consistently.

We thus conjecture that

$$K_{C_2} = \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt[3]{c}, \sqrt{c\sqrt{-3}}).$$

This implies that for generic c , the component group of $\text{ST}(C_2)$ is isomorphic to

$$\text{Gal}(K_{C_2}/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq C_3 \rtimes D_4 \quad (\text{GAP id : } \langle 24, 8 \rangle).$$

As noted above, we conjecture that the identity component is

$$\text{ST}^0(C_2) = \text{U}(1)_3,$$

up to conjugacy in $\text{USp}(6)$.

REMARK 4.1. While we are able to give a general description of the Sato-Tate group in both cases just by looking at the a_1 -distribution of the curves C_i , it should be noted that our characterization of the Sato-Tate group in terms of its identity component and the isomorphism type of its component group is far from sufficient to determine the Sato-Tate distribution. For this we need an explicit description of the Sato-Tate group as a subgroup (up to conjugacy) of $\text{USp}(6)$; this is addressed in the next section.

5. Determining Sato-Tate groups

In this section we compute the Sato-Tate groups of the curves $C_1: y^2 = x^8 + c$ and $C_2: y^2 = x^7 - cx$ for *generic* values of $c \in \mathbb{Q}^*$. The meaning of generic will be specified in each case, but it ensures that the order of the group of components of the Sato-Tate group is as large as possible. The Sato-Tate groups for the non-generic cases can then be obtained as subgroups.

The description of the Sato-Tate group in terms of the *twisted Lefschetz group* introduced by Banaszak and Kedlaya [BK15] is a useful tool for explicitly determining Sato-Tate groups (see [FGL16], for example, where this is exploited), but here we take a different approach that is better suited to our special situation. Our strategy is to identify an elliptic quotient of each of the curves C_1 and C_2 and then use the classification results of [FKRS12] to identify the Sato-Tate group of the complement abelian surface. We then reconstruct the Sato-Tate group of the curves C_1 and C_2 from this data.

To determine the splitting of the Jacobians of C_1 and C_2 we benefit from the fact that these are curves with large automorphism groups. For generic c , the automorphism group of C_1 over K_{C_1} has order 32 (GAP id $\langle 32, 9 \rangle$), and the automorphism group of C_2 over K_{C_2} has order 24 (GAP id $\langle 24, 5 \rangle$).

We start by fixing the following matrix notations:

$$I := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, J := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, K := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{bmatrix}, Z_n := \begin{bmatrix} e^{2\pi i/n} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-2\pi i/n} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Also, for $u \in U(1)$, recall the notation $U(u)$ introduced in (4). Whenever we consider matrices of the unitary symplectic group $USp(6)$, we do it with respect to the symplectic form given by the matrix

$$(6) \quad H := \begin{bmatrix} J & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & J & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & J \end{bmatrix}.$$

If A and A' are two abelian varieties defined over k , we write $A \sim A'$ to indicate that A and A' are related by an isogeny defined over k . Finally, we let ζ_3 denote a primitive third root of unity in $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$.

5.1. Sato-Tate group of $C_1: y^2 = x^8 + c$.

LEMMA 5.1. *Let $c \in \mathbb{Q}^*$ and $C_1: y^2 = x^8 + c$. Then*

$$\text{Jac}(C_1) \sim E \times \text{Jac}(C),$$

where $E: y^2 = x^4 + c$ and $C: y^2 = x^5 + cx$ over \mathbb{Q} . Thus $K_{C_1} = \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{-2}, c^{1/4})$.

PROOF. First note that we can write nonconstant morphisms defined over \mathbb{Q} :

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} \phi_E: C_1 &\rightarrow E, & \phi_E(x, y) &= (x^2, y), \\ \phi_C: C_1 &\rightarrow C, & \phi_C(x, y) &= (x^2, xy). \end{aligned}$$

We clearly have that $K_E = \mathbb{Q}(i)$. To see that $K_C = \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{-2}, c^{1/4})$, first set $F = \mathbb{Q}(c^{1/4})$, and consider the automorphism

$$\alpha: C_F \rightarrow C_F, \quad \alpha(x, y) = \left(\frac{c^{1/2}}{x}, \frac{c^{3/4}}{x^3} y \right).$$

Since α has order 2 and is nonhyperelliptic, $C_F/\langle \alpha \rangle$ is an elliptic curve E' defined over F . Poincaré’s decomposition theorem implies that $\text{Jac}(C)_F \sim E' \times E''$, where E'' is an elliptic curve defined over F . Observe that we also have the automorphism

$$\gamma: C_{F(i)} \rightarrow C_{F(i)}, \quad \gamma(x, y) = (-x, iy).$$

Since α and γ do not commute, we deduce that $\text{End}(\text{Jac}(C)_{F(i)})$ is nonabelian. It follows that $E'_{F(i)}$ and $E''_{F(i)}$ are $F(i)$ -isogenous and that $\text{Jac}(C)_{F(i)} \sim E'^2_{F(i)}$. One may readily find an equation for the quotient curve $E' = C_F/\langle \alpha \rangle$, and, by computing its j -invariant, determine that E' has complex multiplication by $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2})$. From this we may conclude that $K_C = F(i, \sqrt{-2})$. The asserted splitting of the Jacobian $\text{Jac}(C_1)$ follows from the existence of the morphisms of equation (7) and the fact that E and E' are not $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isogenous. This latter fact also implies that K_{C_1} is the compositum of K_E and K_C . \square

DEFINITION 5.2. In this subsection, we say that $c \in \mathbb{Q}^*$ is generic if $[K_{C_1} : \mathbb{Q}]$ is maximal, that is, $[K_{C_1} : \mathbb{Q}] = 16$. Equivalently, $c \notin \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{-2})^{*2}$.

COROLLARY 5.3. *For generic $c \in \mathbb{Q}^*$, the Sato-Tate group of $\text{Jac}(C_1)$ is*

$$\left\langle \begin{bmatrix} J & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & J & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & J \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & J & 0 \\ -J & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} Z_8 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \overline{Z}_8 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} U(u) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & U(u) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & U(v) \end{bmatrix} : u, v \in \text{U}(1) \right\rangle.$$

PROOF. Recall the notations of Lemma 5.1. It follows from the description of $\text{Jac}(C)$ given in the proof of the lemma and the results of [FKRS12] that $\text{ST}(C)$ can be presented as

$$\left\langle R := \begin{bmatrix} J & 0 \\ 0 & J \end{bmatrix}, S := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & J \\ -J & 0 \end{bmatrix}, T := \begin{bmatrix} Z_8 & 0 \\ 0 & \overline{Z}_8 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} U(u) & 0 \\ 0 & U(u) \end{bmatrix} : u \in \text{U}(1) \right\rangle.$$

This is the group named $J(D_4)$ in [FKRS12]. Since E/\mathbb{Q} has CM, we also have

$$\text{ST}(E) = \langle J, U(u) : u \in \text{U}(1) \rangle.$$

Since E is not a $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ -isogeny factor of $\text{Jac}(C)$, we have $\text{ST}^0(C_1) \simeq \text{ST}^0(E) \oplus \text{ST}^0(C)$, which proves the part of the corollary concerning the identity component. By Proposition 2.3, we have isomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_E : \text{ST}(E)/\text{ST}^0(E) &\xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Gal}(K_E/\mathbb{Q}), \\ (8) \quad \psi_C : \text{ST}(C)/\text{ST}^0(C) &\xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Gal}(K_C/\mathbb{Q}), \\ \psi_{C_1} : \text{ST}(C_1)/\text{ST}^0(C_1) &\xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Gal}(K_{C_1}/\mathbb{Q}). \end{aligned}$$

The isomorphism ψ_E identifies J with the nontrivial automorphism of K_E , whereas the isomorphism ψ_C identifies the images of the generators $g = R, S, T$ in

$$\text{ST}(C)/\text{ST}^0(C) \simeq \langle R, S, T \rangle / \langle -1 \rangle$$

with automorphisms $\sigma = r, s, t \in \text{Gal}(K_{C_1}/\mathbb{Q}) = \text{Gal}(K_C/\mathbb{Q})$ as indicated below:

g	$\sigma = \psi_C(g)$	$\sigma(i)$	$\sigma(\sqrt{-2})$	$\sigma(c^{1/4})$
R	r	$-i$	$\sqrt{-2}$	$c^{1/4}$
S	s	i	$-\sqrt{-2}$	$c^{1/4}$
T	t	i	$\sqrt{-2}$	$ic^{1/4}$

Let $\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T}$ be the three first generators of $\text{ST}(C_1)$. To check the part of the theorem concerning the group of components of $\text{ST}(C_1)$, one only needs to verify that $\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T}$ generate a group of components isomorphic to

$$\text{Gal}(K_{C_1}/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq \langle \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T} \mid \mathcal{R}^2, \mathcal{S}^2, \mathcal{T}^4, \mathcal{R}\mathcal{S}\mathcal{R}\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{R}\mathcal{T}\mathcal{R}\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S}\mathcal{T}\mathcal{S}\mathcal{T}^3 \rangle,$$

and that their natural projections onto $\text{ST}(E)/\text{ST}^0(E)$ and onto $\text{ST}(C)/\text{ST}^0(C)$ are compatible with the isomorphisms of (8). In this case, this amounts to noting that $\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T}$ project onto R, S, T in $\text{ST}(C)$; that the automorphism r restricts to the non-trivial element of $\text{Gal}(K_E/\mathbb{Q})$, while \mathcal{R} projects down to J in $\text{ST}(E)$; and that the restrictions of s and t to K_E are trivial, as are the projections of \mathcal{S} and \mathcal{T} to $\text{ST}(E)$. □

REMARK 5.4. We note that even though $\text{Jac}(C_1) \sim E \times \text{Jac}(C)$, in the generic case the Sato-Tate group $\text{ST}(C_1)$ is *not* isomorphic to the direct sum of $\text{ST}(E)$ and $\text{ST}(C)$, because $\text{Gal}(K_{C_1}/\mathbb{Q})$ is not isomorphic to the direct product of $\text{Gal}(K_E/\mathbb{Q})$ and $\text{Gal}(K_C/\mathbb{Q})$. This highlights the importance of being able to write down an explicit description for $\text{ST}(C_1)$ in terms of generators.

REMARK 5.5. To treat non-generic values of c , one replaces Z_8 in the third generator for $\text{ST}(C_1)$ in Corollary 5.3 with Z_4 or Z_2 when $c \in \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})^{*2} \setminus \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})^{*4}$ or $c \in \mathbb{Q}(i, \sqrt{2})^{*4}$, respectively (in the latter case one can simply remove \mathcal{T} since it is already realized by $u = -1$ and $v = 1$).

Using the explicit representation of $\text{ST}(C_1)$ given in Corollary 5.3 one may compute moment sequences using the techniques described in §3.2 of [FKS16]. The table below lists moments not only for a_1 , but also for a_2 and a_3 , where a_i denotes the coefficient of T^i in the characteristic polynomial of a random element of $\text{ST}(C_1)$ distributed according to the Haar measure (these correspond to normalized L -polynomial coefficients of $\text{Jac}(C_1)$):

	M_1	M_2	M_3	M_4	M_5	M_6	M_7	M_8
a_1 :	0	2	0	24	0	470	0	11235
a_2 :	2	9	56	492	5172	59691	726945	9178434
a_3 :	0	9	0	1245	0	284880	0	79208745

The a_1 moments closely match the corresponding moment statistics listed in Table 1 in the cases where c is generic, as expected. For a further comparison, we computed moment statistics for a_1, a_2, a_3 by applying the algorithm of [HS16] to the curve $y^2 = x^8 + 3$ over primes $p \leq 2^{30}$. The a_1 -moment statistics listed below have less resolution than those in Table 1, which covers $p \leq 2^{40}$ (with this higher bound we get $M_8 \approx 11234$, an even better match to the value 11235 predicted by the Sato-Tate group $\text{ST}(C_1)$).

	M_1	M_2	M_3	M_4	M_5	M_6	M_7	M_8
a_1 :	0.00	2.00	0.00	23.98	0.04	469.26	1	11210
a_2 :	2.00	9.00	55.95	491.22	5160.77	59527.55	724556	9143413
a_3 :	0.00	8.99	0.04	1242.59	10.30	283980.23	2972	78866094

5.2. Sato-Tate group of $C_2: y^2 = x^7 - cx$.

LEMMA 5.6. *Let $c \in \mathbb{Q}^*$ and $C_2: y^2 = x^7 - cx$. Set $F := \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_3, c^{1/3})$. Then*

$$\text{Jac}(C_2) \sim E \times A,$$

where $E: y^2 = x^3 - cx$ and A is an abelian surface defined over \mathbb{Q} for which $A_F \sim E' \times E''$, where E' and E'' are elliptic curves defined over F by the equations

$$E': y^2 = x^3 + 3c^{1/3}x, \quad E'': y^2 = x^3 + 3\zeta_3 c^{1/3}x.$$

Thus $K_{C_2} = \mathbb{Q}(i, c^{1/3}, \sqrt{c\sqrt{-3}})$.

PROOF. We can write nonconstant morphisms:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_E: (C_2)_F &\rightarrow E_F, & \phi_E(x, y) &= (x^3, xy), \\ \phi_{E'}: (C_2)_F &\rightarrow E', & \phi_{E'}(x, y) &= \left(\frac{x^2 - c^{1/3}}{x}, \frac{y}{x^2} \right), \\ \phi_{E''}: (C_2)_F &\rightarrow E'', & \phi_{E''}(x, y) &= \left(\frac{x^2 - \zeta_3 c^{1/3}}{x}, \frac{y}{x^2} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Note that the morphisms ϕ_E , $\phi_{E'}$, and $\phi_{E''}$ are quotient maps given by automorphisms α_E , $\alpha_{E'}$, and $\alpha_{E''}$ of $(C_2)_F$:

$$\alpha_E(x, y) := (\zeta_3 x, \zeta_3^2 y), \quad \alpha_{E'}(x, y) := \left(\frac{-c^{1/3}}{x}, \frac{c^{2/3} y}{x^4} \right), \quad \alpha_{E''} := \alpha_E \circ \alpha_{E'}.$$

To see that $\text{Jac}(C_2)_F \sim E_F \times E' \times E''$, it is enough to check that we have an isomorphism of F -regular spaces of regular differential forms

$$\Omega_{(C_2)_F} = \phi_E^*(\Omega_{E_F}) \oplus \phi_{E'}^*(\Omega_{E'}) \oplus \phi_{E''}^*(\Omega_{E''}),$$

But this follows from the fact that $\omega_1 = dx/y$, $\omega_2 = x \cdot dx/y$, and $\omega_3 = x^2 \cdot dx/y$ constitute a basis for $\Omega_{(C_2)_F}$, together with the easy computation

$$\phi_E^* \left(\frac{dx}{y} \right) = 3\omega_2, \quad \phi_{E'}^* \left(\frac{dx}{y} \right) = c^{1/3}\omega_1 + \omega_3, \quad \phi_{E''}^* \left(\frac{dx}{y} \right) = \zeta_3 c^{1/3}\omega_1 + \omega_3.$$

Since E is defined over \mathbb{Q} , there exists an abelian surface A defined over \mathbb{Q} such that $A_F \sim E' \times E''$. To see that $K_{C_2} = \mathbb{Q}(i, c^{1/3}, \sqrt{c\sqrt{-3}})$, first note that $F(i) \subseteq K_{C_2}$ and that $E' \sim E''$. Therefore, K_{C_2} is the minimal extension of $F(i)$ over which E and E' become isomorphic. Now observe that we have an isomorphism

$$(9) \quad \psi: E_{F(i, \sqrt{c\sqrt{-3}})} \rightarrow E'_{F(i, \sqrt{c\sqrt{-3}})}, \quad \psi(x, y) = \left(\frac{\sqrt{-3}}{c^{1/3}} x, \frac{\sqrt{-3}\sqrt{c\sqrt{-3}}}{c} y \right),$$

from which we see that K_{C_2} is the extension of $F(i)$ obtained by adjoining the element $\sqrt{c\sqrt{-3}}$ to $F(i)$ (note: one needs to write formula in (9) carefully, otherwise one may be tempted to make K_{C_2} too large). \square

DEFINITION 5.7. In this subsection, we say that $c \in \mathbb{Q}^*$ is generic if $[K_{C_2} : \mathbb{Q}]$ is maximal, that is, $[K_{C_2} : \mathbb{Q}] = 24$. Equivalently, c is not a cube in \mathbb{Q}^* .

COROLLARY 5.8. For generic $c \in \mathbb{Q}^*$, the Sato-Tate group of $\text{Jac}(C_2)$ is

$$\left\langle \left[\begin{array}{ccc} J & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & J & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & J \end{array} \right], \left[\begin{array}{ccc} 0 & K & 0 \\ K & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & J \end{array} \right], \left[\begin{array}{ccc} Z_3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{Z}_3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I \end{array} \right], \left[\begin{array}{ccc} U(u) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & U(u) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & U(u) \end{array} \right] : u \in \text{U}(1) \right\rangle.$$

PROOF. We assume the notations of Lemma 5.6. Since E , E' , and E'' are K_{C_2} -isogenous, we have $\text{ST}^0(C_2) \simeq \text{U}(1)$. Note that $K_A = \mathbb{Q}(i, \zeta_3, c^{1/3})$. We claim that $\text{ST}(A)$ is the group named $D_{6,1}$ in [FKRS12]. As may be seen in [FKRS12, Table 8], there are three Sato-Tate groups with identity component $\text{U}(1)$ and group of components isomorphic to $\text{Gal}(K_A/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq D_6$, namely, $J(D_3)$, $D_{6,1}$, and $D_{6,2}$. We can rule out the latter option, since by [FKRS12, Table 2] this would imply that $\text{Gal}(K_A/\mathbb{Q}(i))$ is a cyclic group of order 6, which is false. To rule out $J(D_3)$, we need to argue along the lines of [FKRS12, §4.6]: Let F denote $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_3, c^{1/3})$ as in Lemma 5.6; if $\text{ST}(A) = J(D_3)$, then $\text{ST}(A_F) = J(C_1)$, whereas if $\text{ST}(A) = D_{6,1}$, then $\text{ST}(A_F) = C_{2,1}$. By the dictionary between Sato-Tate groups and Galois endomorphism types in dimension 2 given by Theorem 2.5 (see [FKRS12, Table 8]), the first option would imply that $\text{End}(A_F) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$ is isomorphic to the Hamilton quaternion algebra \mathbb{H} , whereas the second option would yield $\text{End}(A_F) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R} \simeq M_2(\mathbb{R})$. Since Lemma 5.6, ensures that we are in the latter case, we must have $\text{ST}(A) = D_{6,1}$.

For convenience, we take the following presentation of $D_{6,1}$, which is conjugate to the one given in [FKRS12]:

$$\left\langle R := \begin{bmatrix} J & 0 \\ 0 & J \end{bmatrix}, S := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & K \\ K & 0 \end{bmatrix}, T := \begin{bmatrix} Z_3 & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{Z}_3 \end{bmatrix}, \left[\begin{matrix} U(u) & 0 \\ 0 & U(u) \end{matrix} \right] : u \in U(1) \right\rangle.$$

Since E/\mathbb{Q} has CM, we have

$$\text{ST}(E) = \langle J, U(u) : u \in U(1) \rangle.$$

By Proposition 2.3, we have isomorphisms

$$\psi_E: \text{ST}(E)/\text{ST}^0(E) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Gal}(K_E/\mathbb{Q}),$$

$$\psi_A: \text{ST}(A)/\text{ST}^0(A) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Gal}(K_A/\mathbb{Q}),$$

$$\psi_{C_2}: \text{ST}(C_2)/\text{ST}^0(C_2) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Gal}(K_{C_2}/\mathbb{Q}).$$

To prove the corollary it suffices to make these isomorphisms explicit and show that they are compatible with the projections from $\text{ST}(C_2)$ to $\text{ST}(E)$ and $\text{ST}(A)$, and with the restriction maps from $\text{Gal}(K_{C_2}/\mathbb{Q})$ to $\text{Gal}(K_E/\mathbb{Q})$ and $\text{Gal}(K_A/\mathbb{Q})$.

The isomorphism ψ_E identifies the image of J in $\text{ST}(E)/\text{ST}^0(E)$ with the non-trivial element of $\text{Gal}(K_E/\mathbb{Q})$, while the isomorphism ψ_A identifies the images of the generators $g = R, S, T$ in

$$\text{ST}(A)/\text{ST}^0(A) \simeq \langle R, S, T \rangle / \langle -1 \rangle$$

with automorphisms $\sigma = r, s, t \in \text{Gal}(K_A/\mathbb{Q})$ as indicated below:

g	$\sigma = \psi_A(g)$	$\sigma(i)$	$\sigma(\zeta_3)$	$\sigma(c^{1/3})$
R	r	$-i$	ζ_3^2	$c^{1/3}$
S	s	$-i$	ζ_3	$c^{1/3}$
T	t	i	ζ_3	$\zeta_3 c^{1/3}$

If we now let $\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T}$ denote the first three generators of $\text{ST}(C_2)$ listed in the corollary, ψ_{C_2} identifies their images in $\text{ST}(C_2)/\text{ST}^0(C_2)$ with elements of $\text{Gal}(K_A/\mathbb{Q})$ as indicated below, where $\delta = \sqrt{c\sqrt{-3}}$:

g	$\sigma = \psi_{C_2}(g)$	$\sigma(i)$	$\sigma(\zeta_3)$	$\sigma(c^{1/3})$	$\sigma(\delta)$
\mathcal{R}	r	$-i$	ζ_3^2	$c^{1/3}$	$i\delta$
\mathcal{S}	s	$-i$	ζ_3	$c^{1/3}$	δ
\mathcal{T}	t	i	ζ_3	$\zeta_3 c^{1/3}$	δ

We note that, unlike their restrictions r and s , the automorphisms r and s do not commute, they generate a dihedral group of order 8 inside $\text{Gal}(K_{C_2}/\mathbb{Q})$. The three automorphisms r, s, t together generate $\text{Gal}(K_{C_2}/\mathbb{Q})$. Their restrictions to K_A are the generators r, s, t for K_A , and R, S, T are the projections of $\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T}$ to $\text{ST}(A)$. The automorphisms r and s both restrict to the non-trivial element of $\text{Gal}(K_E/\mathbb{Q})$, and both \mathcal{R} and \mathcal{S} project down to J in $\text{ST}(E)$. The restriction of t to K_E is trivial, as is the projection of \mathcal{T} to $\text{ST}(E)$. To complete the proof it suffices to verify that the map

$$\text{ST}(C_2)/\text{ST}^0(C_2) \simeq \langle \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T} \rangle / \langle -1 \rangle \xrightarrow{\psi_{C_2}} \langle r, s, t \rangle \simeq \text{Gal}(K_{C_2}/\mathbb{Q})$$

we have explicitly defined is indeed an isomorphism. One can check that both sides are isomorphic to the finitely presented group

$$\langle \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{T} \mid \mathcal{R}^2, \mathcal{S}^2, \mathcal{T}^3, \mathcal{R}\mathcal{S}\mathcal{R}\mathcal{S}\mathcal{R}\mathcal{S}\mathcal{R}\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{R}\mathcal{T}\mathcal{R}\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S}\mathcal{T}\mathcal{S}\mathcal{T}^2 \rangle,$$

via maps that send generators to corresponding generators (in the order shown). \square

REMARK 5.9. To treat non-generic values of c , simply remove the third generator containing Z_3 from the list of generators for $\text{ST}(C_2)$ in Corollary 5.8 when c is a cube in \mathbb{Q}^* .

Using the explicit representation of $\text{ST}(C_2)$ given in Corollary 5.8, one may compute moments sequences for the characteristic polynomial coefficients a_1, a_2, a_3 using the techniques described in §3.2 of [FKS16]; the first eight moments are listed below:

	M_1	M_2	M_3	M_4	M_5	M_6	M_7	M_8
a_1 :	0	2	0	30	0	720	0	20650
a_2 :	2	10	75	784	9607	126378	1721715	23928108
a_3 :	0	11	0	2181	0	660790	0	224864661

The a_1 moments closely match the corresponding moment statistics listed in Table 2 in the cases where c is generic, as expected. We also computed moment statistics for a_1, a_2 and a_3 by applying the algorithm of [HS16] to the curve $y^2 = x^7 - 2x$ over primes $p \leq 2^{30}$. The a_1 -moment statistics listed below have less resolution than Table 2, which covers $p \leq 2^{40}$ (with this higher bound we get $M_8 \approx 20649$, very close to the value 20650 predicted by $\text{ST}(C_2)$).

	M_1	M_2	M_3	M_4	M_5	M_6	M_7	M_8
a_1 :	0.00	2.00	0.00	30.00	0.04	719.62	2	20636
a_2 :	2.00	10.00	74.97	783.59	9600.64	126281.75	1720266	23906297
a_3 :	0.00	11.00	0.04	2179.67	19.68	660247.53	8549	224645654

6. Galois endomorphism types

As recalled in §2, up to dimension 3, the Galois endomorphism type of an abelian variety over a number field is determined by its Sato-Tate group. In this section, we derive the Galois endomorphism type of $\text{Jac}(C_2)$ from $\text{ST}(C_2)$ for generic values of c (in the sense of §5.2). The case of $\text{Jac}(C_1)$, although leading to slightly larger diagrams, is completely analogous.

Let $G := \text{ST}(C_2)$ and $V := \text{End}(\text{Jac}(C_2)_{K_{C_2}})$, and set $V_{\mathbb{C}} := V \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{C}$ and $V_{\mathbb{R}} := V \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$. As described in the proof of [FKRS12, Prop. 2.19]:

- $V_{\mathbb{C}}$ is the subspace of $M_6(\mathbb{C})$ fixed by the action of G^0 ;
- $V_{\mathbb{R}}$ is the subspace of $V_{\mathbb{C}}$, of half the dimension, over which the Rosati form is positive definite;
- If L/\mathbb{Q} is a subextension of K_{C_2}/\mathbb{Q} , corresponding to the subgroup $N \subseteq \text{Gal}(K_{C_2}/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq G/G^0$, then $\text{End}(\text{Jac}(C_2)_L) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R} \simeq V_{\mathbb{R}}^N$.

The matrices $\Phi \in M_6(\mathbb{C})$ commuting with $G^0 \simeq \text{U}(1)$, embedded in $\text{USp}(6)$, are matrices of the form $\Phi = (\phi_{i,j})$ with $i, j \in [1, 6]$ such that $\phi_{i,j} \in \mathbb{C}$ is 0 unless $i \equiv j$

mod 2. The condition of the Rosati form being positive definite on $V_{\mathbb{R}}$ amounts to requiring that

$$\text{Trace}(\Phi H^t \Phi^t H) \geq 0$$

for every $\Phi \in V_{\mathbb{R}}$, where H is the symplectic matrix given in (6). Imposing the above condition on Φ , we find that

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 & \beta & 0 & \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{\alpha} & 0 & \bar{\beta} & 0 & \bar{\gamma} \\ \delta & 0 & \epsilon & 0 & \phi & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{\delta} & 0 & \bar{\epsilon} & 0 & \bar{\phi} \\ \lambda & 0 & \mu & 0 & \nu & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{\lambda} & 0 & \bar{\mu} & 0 & \bar{\nu} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{with } \alpha, \beta, \dots, \mu, \nu \in \mathbb{C}.$$

We thus deduce that $V_{\mathbb{R}} \simeq M_3(\mathbb{C})$.

We now proceed to determine the sub- \mathbb{R} -algebras of $V_{\mathbb{R}}$ fixed by each of the subgroups of $\text{Gal}(K_{C_2}/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq G/G^0$. With notations as in the proof of Corollary 5.8, these subgroups are listed (up to conjugation) in Figure 6, where normal subgroups are marked with a *. We can then reconstruct the Galois type of $\text{Jac}(C_2)$ (see Figure 7) from the information in Table 3.

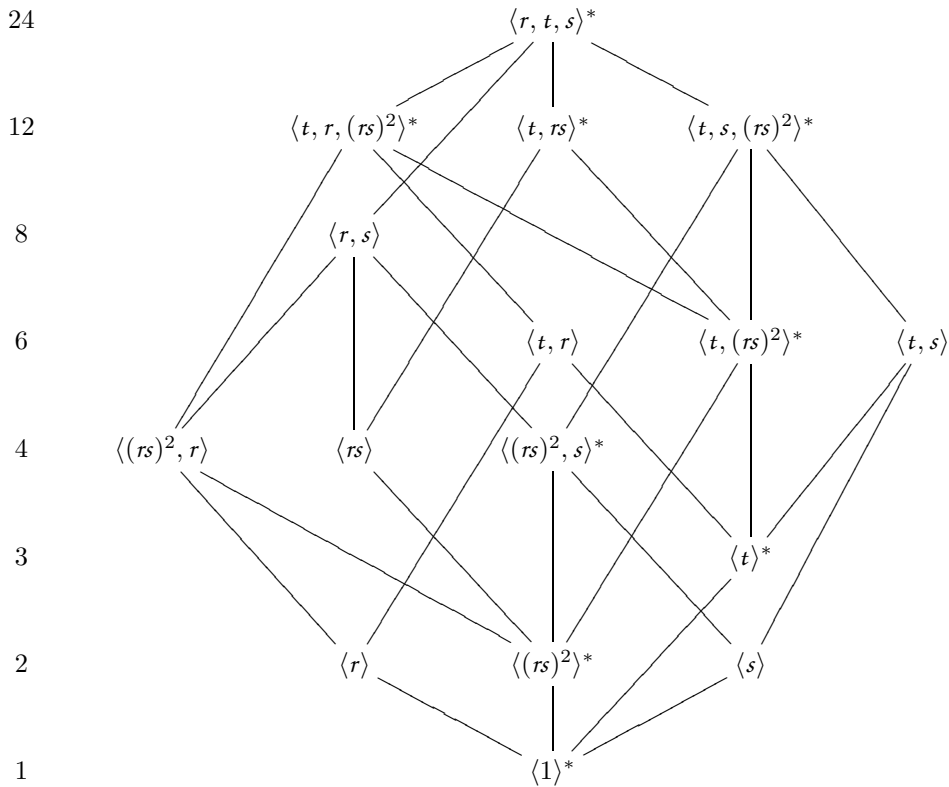


FIGURE 6. Lattice of subgroups of $\text{Gal}(K_{C_2}/\mathbb{Q})$.

N	Condition on Φ	$V_{\mathbb{R}}^N$
$\langle \mathcal{R} \rangle$	$\alpha, \beta, \dots, \mu, \nu \in \mathbb{R}$	$M_3(\mathbb{R})$
$\langle \mathcal{S} \rangle$	$\alpha = \bar{\epsilon}, \beta = \bar{\delta}, \phi = i\bar{\gamma}, \mu = -i\bar{\lambda}, \nu \in \mathbb{R}$	$M_3(\mathbb{R})$
$\langle \mathcal{T} \rangle$	$\beta = \gamma = \delta = \phi = \lambda = \mu = 0$	$\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}$
$\langle (\mathcal{RS})^2 \rangle$	$\gamma = \phi = \lambda = \mu = 0$	$M_2(\mathbb{C}) \times \mathbb{C}$
$\langle (\mathcal{RS})^2, \mathcal{S} \rangle$	$\gamma = \phi = \lambda = \mu = 0, \alpha = \bar{\epsilon}, \beta = \bar{\delta}, \nu \in \mathbb{R}$	$M_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \mathbb{R}$
$\langle \mathcal{RS} \rangle$	$\gamma = \phi = \lambda = \mu = 0, \alpha = \epsilon, \beta = \delta$	$\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}$

TABLE 3. Some subgroups of $\text{Gal}(K_{C_2}/\mathbb{Q})$ with the respective fixed sub- \mathbb{R} -algebras of $V_{\mathbb{R}}$.

Obtaining the data in Table 3 is a straight-forward exercise, let us make just a few specific comments:

- $N = \langle \mathcal{S} \rangle$: One easily checks that the matrices Φ satisfying the required condition form a simple nondivision \mathbb{R} -algebra; by Wedderburn’s structure theorem, it is of the form $M_d(D)$, for some division algebra D and $d > 1$; since its real dimension is 9, we must have $d = 3$ and $D = \mathbb{R}$.
- $N = \langle (\mathcal{RS})^2, \mathcal{S} \rangle$: Note that the \mathbb{R} -algebra

$$\mathcal{H} := \left\{ A_{\alpha, \beta} := \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \beta & \bar{\alpha} \end{pmatrix} : \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$$

is isomorphic to $M_2(\mathbb{R})$. Indeed, if $\alpha = \alpha_1 + i\alpha_2$ and $\beta = \beta_1 + i\beta_2$, then

$$\psi: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow M_2(\mathbb{R}), \quad \psi(A_{\alpha, \beta}) = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 + \beta_1 & -\alpha_2 + \beta_2 \\ \alpha_2 + \beta_2 & \alpha_1 - \beta_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

provides the required isomorphism. Alternative, one can reach the same conclusion by noting that \mathcal{H} is the only non-commutative \mathbb{R} -algebra of dimension 4 with zero divisors.

- $N = \langle \mathcal{RS} \rangle$: Note that the \mathbb{R} -algebra

$$\mathcal{H} := \left\{ A_{\alpha, \beta} := \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \beta & \alpha \end{pmatrix} : \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$$

is isomorphic to $\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}$ by means of

$$\psi: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}, \quad \psi(A_{\alpha, \beta}) = (\alpha + \beta, \alpha - \beta).$$

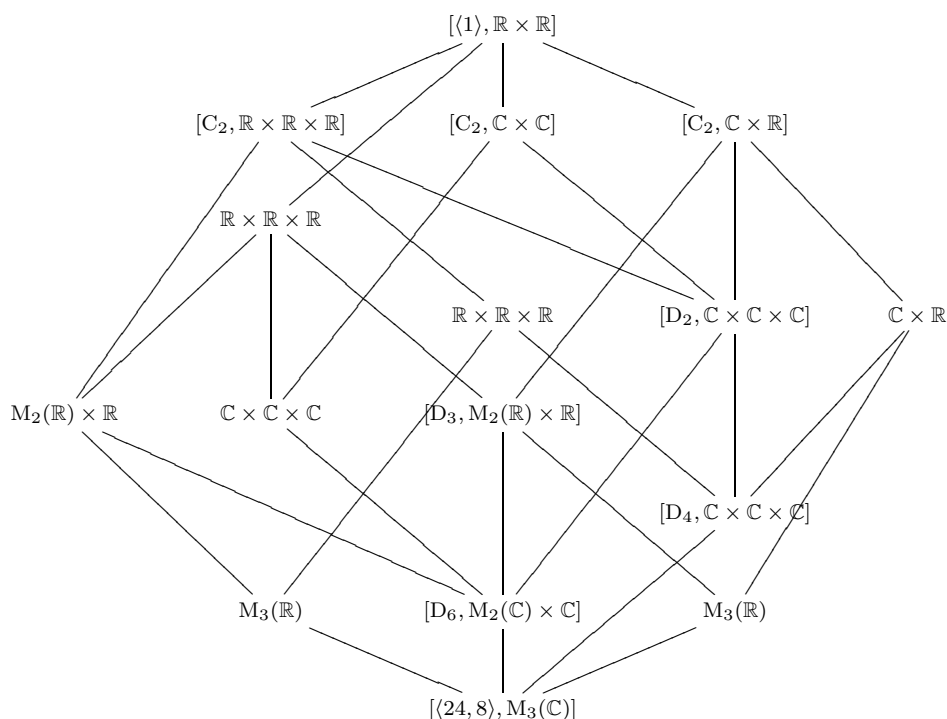
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FIGURE 7. Galois endomorphism types of $\text{Jac}(C_2)$. Lattice of fixed sub- \mathbb{R} -algebras corresponding to the subgroups of Figure 6.

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