



Exact verification of the strong BSD conjecture for some absolutely simple abelian surfaces

Vérification exacte de la conjecture BSD forte pour certaines variétés abéliennes absolument simples

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Abstract. Let X be one of the 28 Atkin-Lehner quotients of a curve $X_0(N)$ such that X has genus 2 and its Jacobian variety J is absolutely simple. We show that the Shafarevich-Tate group $\text{III}(J/\mathbb{Q})$ is trivial. This verifies the strong BSD conjecture for J .

Résumé. Soit X un des 28 quotients d'Atkin-Lehner d'une courbe $X_0(N)$ tel que X est de genre 2 et sa jacobienne J est absolument simple. On démontre que le groupe de Shafarevich-Tate $\text{III}(J/\mathbb{Q})$ est trivial. Ceci vérifie la conjecture BSD forte pour J .

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1. Introduction

Let A be an abelian variety over \mathbb{Q} and assume that its L -series $L(A, s)$ admits an analytic continuation to the whole complex plane. The *weak BSD conjecture* (or *BSD rank conjecture*) predicts that the Mordell-Weil rank $r = \text{rk } A(\mathbb{Q})$ of A equals the analytic rank $r_{\text{an}} = \text{ord}_{s=1} L(A, s)$. The *strong BSD conjecture* asserts that the Shafarevich-Tate group $\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})$ is finite and that its order equals the “analytic order of Sha”,

$$\#\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})_{\text{an}} := \frac{\#A(\mathbb{Q})_{\text{tors}} \cdot \#A^{\vee}(\mathbb{Q})_{\text{tors}}}{\prod_{\nu} c_{\nu}} \cdot \frac{L^*(A, 1)}{\Omega_A \text{Reg}_{A/\mathbb{Q}}}. \quad (1)$$

Here A^{\vee} is the dual abelian variety, $A(\mathbb{Q})_{\text{tors}}$ denotes the torsion subgroup of $A(\mathbb{Q})$, the product $\prod_{\nu} c_{\nu}$ runs over all finite places of \mathbb{Q} and c_{ν} is the Tamagawa number of A at ν , $L^*(A, 1)$ is the

leading coefficient of the Taylor expansion of $L(A, s)$ at $s = 1$, and Ω_A and $\text{Reg}_{A/\mathbb{Q}}$ denote the volume of $A(\mathbb{R})$ and the regulator of $A(\mathbb{Q})$, respectively.

If A is *modular* in the sense that A is an isogeny factor of the Jacobian $J_0(N)$ of the modular curve $X_0(N)$ for some N , then the analytic continuation of $L(A, s)$ is known. If A is in addition absolutely simple, then A is associated (up to isogeny) to a Galois orbit of size $\dim(A)$ of newforms of weight 2 and level N , such that $L(A, s)$ is the product of $L(f, s)$ with f running through these newforms. Such an abelian variety has *real multiplication*: its endomorphism ring over \mathbb{Q} is an order in a totally real number field of degree $\dim(A)$. If, furthermore, $\text{ord}_{s=1} L(f, s) \in \{0, 1\}$ for one (equivalently, all) such f , then the weak BSD conjecture holds for A ; see [13].

All elliptic curves over \mathbb{Q} arise as one-dimensional modular abelian varieties [3, 21, 25] such that N is the conductor of A . For all elliptic curves of (analytic) rank ≤ 1 and $N < 5000$, the strong BSD conjecture has been verified [7, 10, 15].

In this note, we consider certain absolutely simple abelian *surfaces* and show that strong BSD holds for them. One class of such surfaces arises as the Jacobians of quotients X of $X_0(N)$ by a group of Atkin-Lehner operators. Hasegawa [12] has determined the complete list of such X of genus 2; 28 of them have absolutely simple Jacobian J . For most of these Jacobians (and those of further curves taken from [24]), it has been numerically verified in [1, 9] that $\#\text{III}(J/\mathbb{Q})_{\text{an}}$ is very close to an integer, which equals $\#\text{III}(J/\mathbb{Q})[2]$ ($= 1$ in the cases considered here). We complete the verification of strong BSD for these Jacobians by showing that $\#\text{III}(J/\mathbb{Q})_{\text{an}}$ is indeed an integer and $\text{III}(J/\mathbb{Q})$ is trivial.

2. Methods and algorithms

In the following, we denote the abelian surface under consideration by A ; it is an absolutely simple isogeny quotient of $J_0(N)$, defined over \mathbb{Q} . We frequently use the fact that A can be obtained as the Jacobian variety of a curve X of genus 2. The algorithms described below have been implemented in Magma [2].

Recall that a *Heegner discriminant* for A is a fundamental discriminant $D < 0$ such that for $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})$, the analytic rank of A/K equals $\dim A = 2$ and all prime divisors of N split in K . Heegner discriminants exist by [4, 23]. Since Magma can determine whether $\text{ord}_{s=1} L(f, s)$ is 0, 1, or larger (for a newform f as considered here), we can easily find one or several Heegner discriminants for A .

Associated to each Heegner discriminant D is a *Heegner point* $y_D \in A(K)$, unique up to sign and adding a torsion point. In particular, the *Heegner index* $I_D = (A(K) : \text{End}(A) \cdot y_D)$ is well-defined.

Recall that $\mathcal{O} = \text{End}(A) = \text{End}_{\mathbb{Q}}(A)$ is an order in a real quadratic field. In all cases considered here, \mathcal{O} equals the geometric endomorphism ring $\text{End}_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}(A)$ and is a maximal order and a principal ideal domain. For each prime ideal \mathfrak{p} of \mathcal{O} , we have the residual Galois representation $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}} : \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}|\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(A[\mathfrak{p}]) \simeq \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_{\mathfrak{p}})$, where $\mathbb{F}_{\mathfrak{p}} = \mathcal{O}/\mathfrak{p}$ denotes the residue class field.

We can use Magma's functionality for 2-descent on hyperelliptic Jacobians based on [20] to determine $\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})[2]$. In all cases considered here, this group is trivial, which implies that $\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})[2^{\infty}] = 0$. (In fact, this had already been done in [9] for most of the curves.) It is therefore sufficient to consider the p -primary parts of $\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})$ for odd p .

Theorem 1. *Let A be an abelian variety of GL_2 -type over \mathbb{Q} . Assume that $\text{ord}_{s=1} L(f, s) \in \{0, 1\}$ for one (equivalently, all) newform associated to A .*

- (1) *If the level N of A is square-free, then $\text{ord}_p(\#\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})_{\text{an}}) = \text{ord}_p(\#\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q}))$ for all rational primes $p \neq 2$ such that $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is irreducible for all $\mathfrak{p} | p$.*
- (2) *If there exists a polarization $\lambda : A \rightarrow A^{\vee}$, then $\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})[\mathfrak{p}] = 0$ for all prime ideals $\mathfrak{p} | p \neq 2$ such that $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is irreducible and p does not divide $\deg \lambda$, and, for some Heegner field K with*

Heegner discriminant D , I_D and the order of the groups $H^1(K_v^{\text{nr}}|K_v, A)$ with v running through the places of K .

Proof. (1) is [5, Theorems C and D]. (2) is an explicit version of [13]. \square

We have implemented the following algorithms.

- (1) *Image of the residual Galois representations.* Extending the algorithm described in [8], which determines a finite small superset of the primes p with ρ_p reducible in the case that $\text{End}_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}(A) = \mathbb{Z}$, we obtain a finite small superset of the prime ideals \mathfrak{p} of \mathcal{O} such that $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is reducible. Building upon this and [6], we can also check whether $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ has maximal possible image $\text{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_{\mathfrak{p}})^{\det \in \mathbb{F}_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\times}}$.

The irreducibility of $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ for all $\mathfrak{p} | p$ is the crucial hypothesis in [5, Theorems C and D], and in [13].

- (2) *Computation of the Heegner index.* We can compute the height of a Heegner point using the main theorem of [11]. By enumerating all points of that approximate height using [16], we can identify the Heegner point $y_D \in A(K)$ as a \mathbb{Q} -point on A , or on the quadratic twist A^K , depending on the analytic rank of A/\mathbb{Q} . An alternative implementation uses the j -invariant morphism $X_0(N) \rightarrow X_0(1)$ and takes the preimages of the j -invariants belonging to elliptic curves with CM by the order of discriminant D . A variant of this is based on approximating q -expansions of cusp forms analytically and finding the Heegner point as an algebraic approximation.

- (3) *Determination of the (geometric) endomorphism ring of A/\mathbb{Q} and its action on the Mordell-Weil group $A(\mathbb{Q})$.* Given the Heegner point y_D , this can be used to compute the Heegner index I_D . The endomorphism rings over \mathbb{Q} and $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ agree for our examples; this can be seen by inspecting the LMFDB. The geometric endomorphism ring together with its action on the Mordell-Weil group is computed approximately from the analytic Jacobian, and we can verify the correctness of the result because we know that it equals the coefficient ring of f .

We can also compute the *kernel of a given endomorphism* as an abstract $\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}|\mathbb{Q})$ -module together with explicit generators in $A(\overline{\mathbb{Q}})$. We apply this to find the characters corresponding to the constituents of $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ when the representation is reducible.

- (4) *Analytic order of III.* If the L -rank $\text{ord}_{s=1} L(f, s)$ of A/\mathbb{Q} is zero, then we can compute $\#\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})_{\text{an}}$ exactly as a rational number using modular symbols via Magma's `LRatio` function, which gives $L(A, 1)/\Omega_A^{-1} \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$, together with (1), since $\#A(\mathbb{Q})_{\text{tors}} = \#A^{\vee}(\mathbb{Q})_{\text{tors}}$ and the Tamagawa numbers c_v are known.

When the L -rank is 1, we can compute the analytic order of III from $\#\text{III}(A/K)_{\text{an}} = \#\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})_{\text{an}} \cdot \#\text{III}(A^K/\mathbb{Q})_{\text{an}} \cdot 2^{(\text{bounded exponent})}$ and the formula

$$\#\text{III}(A/K)_{\text{an}} = \frac{\#A(K)_{\text{tors}} \#A^{\vee}(K)_{\text{tors}}}{c_{\pi}^2 u_K^4 \prod_p c_p(A/\mathbb{Q})^2} \cdot \frac{\|\omega_f\|^2 \|\omega_{f\sigma}\|^2}{\Omega_{A/K}} \cdot \frac{\hat{h}(y_{D,f}) \hat{h}(y_{D,f\sigma}) \text{disc } \mathcal{O}}{\text{Reg}_{A/K}}$$

deduced from [11]; here, the last two factors are integral. In the computation of $\#\text{III}(A^K/\mathbb{Q})_{\text{an}}$, we use van Bommel's code to compute the Tamagawa numbers of A/\mathbb{Q} and A^K/\mathbb{Q} and the real period of A^K/\mathbb{Q} . In the one case where his code did not succeed, we used another Heegner discriminant.

- (5) *Isogeny descent.* In the cases when \mathfrak{p} is odd and $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is reducible, we determined characters χ_1 and χ_2 such that

$$\rho_{\mathfrak{p}} \cong \begin{pmatrix} \chi_1 & * \\ 0 & \chi_2 \end{pmatrix};$$

see (3) above. We then compute upper bounds for the \mathbb{F}_p -dimensions of the two Selmer groups associated to the corresponding two isogenies of degree p whose composition is

| X | r | \mathcal{O} | $\#\text{III}_{\text{an}}$ | $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ red. | c | (D, I_D) | $\#\text{III}$ |
|------------------|-----|---------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----|-------------|----------------|
| $X_0(23)$ | 0 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | 11_1 | 11 | $(-7, 11)$ | 11^0 |
| $X_0(29)$ | 0 | $\sqrt{2}$ | 1 | 7_1 | 7 | $(-7, 7)$ | 7^0 |
| $X_0(31)$ | 0 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 5 | $(-11, 5)$ | 5^0 |
| $X_0(35)/w_7$ | 0 | $\sqrt{17}$ | 1 | 2_1 | 1 | $(-19, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(39)/w_{13}$ | 0 | $\sqrt{2}$ | 1 | $\sqrt{2}, 7_1$ | 7 | $(-23, 7)$ | 7^0 |
| $X_0(67)^+$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-7, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(73)^+$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-19, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(85)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{2}$ | 1 | $\sqrt{2}$ | 1 | $(-19, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(87)/w_{29}$ | 0 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 5 | $(-23, 5)$ | 5^0 |
| $X_0(93)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-11, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(103)^+$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-11, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(107)^+$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-7, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(115)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-11, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(125)^+$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | $(-11, 1)$ | 5^0 |
| $X_0(133)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-31, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(147)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{2}$ | 1 | $\sqrt{2}, 7_1$ | 1 | $(-47, 1)$ | 7^0 |
| $X_0(161)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-19, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(165)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{2}$ | 1 | $\sqrt{2}$ | 1 | $(-131, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(167)^+$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-15, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(177)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-11, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(191)^+$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-7, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(205)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-31, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(209)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{2}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-51, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(213)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-11, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(221)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-35, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(287)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-31, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(299)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{5}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-43, 1)$ | 1 |
| $X_0(357)^*$ | 2 | $\sqrt{2}$ | 1 | | 1 | $(-47, 1)$ | 1 |

Figure 1. BSD data for the absolutely simple modular Jacobians of Atkin-Lehner quotients of $X_0(N)$.

multiplication by a generator π of \mathfrak{p} on A ; see [17]. From this, we deduce an upper bound for the dimension of the π -Selmer group of A , which, in the cases considered here, is always ≤ 1 . Using the known finiteness of $\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})$, which implies that $\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})[\mathfrak{p}]$ has even dimension, this shows that $\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})[\mathfrak{p}] = 0$.

- (6) *Computation of the p -adic L -function.* We can also compute the p -adic L -functions of newforms of weight 2, trivial character and arbitrary coefficient ring for $p^2 \nmid N$. Computing $\text{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}} \mathcal{L}_{\mathfrak{p}}^*(f, 0)$ and using the known results [18, 19] about the GL_2 Iwasawa Main Conjecture (IMC) with the hypotheses that $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is irreducible and there is a $q \parallel N$ with $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ ramified at $q \neq p$ gives us information about the \mathfrak{p}^{∞} -Selmer group.

3. Results

Our results are summarized in Figure 1. The first column gives the genus 2 curve X as a quotient of $X_0(N)$ by a subgroup of the Atkin-Lehner involutions. We denote the Atkin-Lehner involution

| X | D_K | $\#\text{III}(A^K/\mathbb{Q})_{\text{an}}$ | $\#\text{III}(A/K)_{\text{an}}$ | $\#\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})_{\text{an}}$ |
|--------------|-------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| $X_0(67)^+$ | -7 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(73)^+$ | -19 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(85)^*$ | -19 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(93)^*$ | -11 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(103)^+$ | -11 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(107)^+$ | -7 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(115)^*$ | -11 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(125)^+$ | -11 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(133)^*$ | -31 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(147)^*$ | -47 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(161)^*$ | -19 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(165)^*$ | -131 | 16 | 4 | 1 |
| $X_0(167)^+$ | -15 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(177)^*$ | -11 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(191)^+$ | -7 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(205)^*$ | -31 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(209)^*$ | -79* | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(213)^*$ | -11 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(221)^*$ | -35 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(287)^*$ | -21 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(299)^*$ | -43 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| $X_0(357)^*$ | -47 | 2 | 1 | 1 |

Figure 2. Analytic order of III for the curves of L -rank 1. (A * means that we used a different Heegner discriminant than in Figure 1 in the case where van Bommel’s TamagawaNumber did not succeed.)

associated to a divisor d of N such that d and N/d are coprime by w_d . We write $X_0(N)^+$ for $X_0(N)/w_N$ and $X_0(N)^*$ for the quotient of $X_0(N)$ by the full group of Atkin-Lehner operators. We are considering the Jacobian A of X .

The second column gives the algebraic rank of A/\mathbb{Q} , which is equal to its analytic rank by the combination of the main results of [11] and [13].

The third column specifies \mathcal{O} as the maximal order in the number field obtained by adjoining the given square root to \mathbb{Q} .

The fourth column gives the analytic order of the Shafarevich-Tate group of A , defined as in the introduction. For the surfaces of L -rank 1, the intermediate results of our computation are contained in Figure 2.

The fifth column specifies the prime ideals \mathfrak{p} of \mathcal{O} such that $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is reducible. The notation p_1 means that p is split in \mathcal{O} and $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is reducible for exactly one $\mathfrak{p} \mid p$. If p is ramified in \mathcal{O} , we write \sqrt{p} for the unique prime ideal $\mathfrak{p} \mid p$.

The sixth column gives the odd part of $\text{lcm}_p c_p(A/\mathbb{Q})$, which can be obtained from the LMFDB [22].

The seventh column gives a Heegner discriminant D for A together with the odd part of the Heegner index I_D . Our computation confirms that the Tamagawa product divides the Heegner index.

The last column contains the order of the Shafarevich-Tate group of A/\mathbb{Q} . An entry 1 means that it follows immediately from the previous columns, the computation of $\text{Sel}_2(A/\mathbb{Q})$ and Theo-

rem 1 that all p -primary components of $\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})$ vanish.

Otherwise, the order of $\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})$ is given as a product of powers of the odd primes p such that some $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ with $\mathfrak{p} \mid p$ is reducible or p divides $c \cdot I_D$. (In each of these cases, there is exactly one such p .) We have to justify that the exponents are all zero. In the first three rows we use [14] to show that for the reducible odd \mathfrak{p} on has $\text{III}(J_0(p)/\mathbb{Q})[\mathfrak{p}] = 0$; this is a consequence of these prime ideals being Eisenstein primes.

In the remaining cases, we used the approach described in item (5) in Section 2. For the rows with $A = \text{Jac}(X_0(39)/w_{13})$ and $A = \text{Jac}(X_0(87)/w_{29})$, one has non-split short exact sequences of Galois modules

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p \rightarrow A[\mathfrak{p}] \rightarrow \mu_p \rightarrow 1$$

with $p = 7$ and 5 , respectively. For the only two non-semistable abelian surfaces we found the following isomorphism and exact sequence.

$$\begin{aligned} J_0(125)^+[\sqrt{5}] &\cong \mu_5^{\otimes 2} \oplus \mu_5^{\otimes 3} \\ 1 \rightarrow \mu_7^{\otimes 4} \rightarrow \text{Jac}(X_0(147)^*)[\mathfrak{p}] &\rightarrow \mu_7^{\otimes 3} \rightarrow 1 \end{aligned}$$

In all cases, we find that $\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})[\mathfrak{p}] = 0$. Note that for the $\mathfrak{p} \mid 7$ for which $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is *irreducible*, $\text{Jac}(X_0(147)^*)[\mathfrak{p}] = 0$ follows from [13] because L_{-43} is not divisible by 7. In the case of the square-free levels $N = 23, 29, 39$, we computed that the p -adic L -function is a unit for the $\mathfrak{p} \mid p$ with $\rho_{\mathfrak{p}}$ irreducible, so we can conclude that $\text{Sel}_{\mathfrak{p}}(A/\mathbb{Q}) = 0$ and hence $\#\text{III}(A/\mathbb{Q})[\mathfrak{p}] = 0$ from the known cases of the GL_2 IMC. Note that our computation shows that in these cases, the image of ρ_{p^∞} is maximal, so it contains $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$. This implies that the IMC holds *integrally*.

Details will be presented in a forthcoming article, where plan also to extend our computations to cover some two-dimensional absolutely simple isogeny factors of $J_0(N)$ that are not Jacobians of quotients of $X_0(N)$ by Atkin-Lehner involutions.

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