# Counting matrix points on curves and SURFACES WITH PARTITIONS 

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(joint with Y. Huang and K. Ono)

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## Question

Do partitions show up in arithmetic geometry?

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## Remark

$q \cdot\left(1-\frac{1}{q}\right)=q-1$ is the number of nonzero elements of $\mathbb{F}_{q}$.

## Counting Commuting $2 \times 2$ matrices

Example (Brute force)
For $\mathbb{F}_{2}$, we find that

$$
\#\left\{(A, B) \in \operatorname{Mat}_{2}\left(\mathbb{F}_{2}\right)^{2}, A B=B A\right\}=88 .
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q^{2^{2}}\left(1-\frac{1}{q}\right)\left(1-\frac{1}{q^{2}}\right) \cdot \frac{q}{1-\frac{1}{q}}=24, \\
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and $24+64=88$. Is this an accident?

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## Observation

For $2 \times 2$ matrices and $q=2,3,5$, we have observed

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## Question

Is this a coincidence? Is this a partitions phenomenon? What about $n \times n$ matrices for all $n$ ?

## PARTITIONS OF $n$ AND $n \times n$ MATRICES

Theorem (Feit, Fine (1960))
If $P(n, q):=\#\left\{(A, B) \in \operatorname{Mat}_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right)^{2}, A B=B A\right\}$, then

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P(n, q)=q^{n^{2}}\left(q^{-1} ; q^{-1}\right)_{n} \cdot \sum_{\lambda \vdash n} \frac{q^{l(\lambda)}}{\left(q^{-1} ; q^{-1}\right)_{b(\lambda, 1)} \cdot \ldots \cdot\left(q^{-1} ; q^{-1}\right)_{b(\lambda, n)}},
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where

$$
(a ; q)_{n}:=(1-a)(1-a q) \ldots\left(1-a q^{n-1}\right),
$$

and $n=1 \cdot b(\lambda, 1)+\ldots+n \cdot b(\lambda, n)$ and $l(\lambda)=\sum b(\lambda, i)$.

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## Answer (Our work)

We answer these questions for "elliptic curves"

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B^{2}=A\left(A-I_{n}\right)\left(A-a I_{n}\right),
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$$
B^{2}=A\left(A-I_{n}\right)\left(A-a I_{n}\right),
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and $A O P$ K3 surfaces

$$
C^{2}=A B\left(A+I_{n}\right)\left(B+I_{n}\right)(A+a B),
$$

where $I_{n}$ is the identity matrix and $a \in \mathbb{F}_{q}$.

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We associate with $A$ the partition

$$
\pi(A): n=r_{1}+\ldots+r_{k} .
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## Example

Consider the matrix

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A=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
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v_{1}^{1} & =e_{3} \\
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A v_{3}^{1}=v_{2}^{1}
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and

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Sketch of Proof.
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(5) Determine possible $B v_{i}^{1}$ for nonsingular $B$.

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where $\#\{\beta\}$ denotes the number of similarity classes of $t \times t$-matrices.

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(1) Sum over $B \in \beta$.

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(2) Take $h_{i}=g_{t+1-i} / g_{t-i}$ and $b_{i}=\operatorname{deg} h_{i}$.
(3) $\sum i b_{i}=t$ is the only restriction on $h_{i}$.

## Proof of Feit-Fine Theorem

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(1) By elementary linear algebra,

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P(n, q)=\sum_{s+t=n} h(s, t, q) N(s, q) R(t, q)
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where $h(s, t, q):=\#$ of complementary subspaces of $\operatorname{dim} s$ and $t$.

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(2) Write $\sum \frac{P(n, q)}{q^{n^{2}}\left(q^{-1}, q^{-1}\right)_{n}} x^{n}$ in terms of $N(s, q)$ and $R(t, q)$.

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P(n, q)=\sum_{s+t=n} h(s, t, q) N(s, q) R(t, q)
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where $h(s, t, q):=\#$ of complementary subspaces of $\operatorname{dim} s$ and $t$.
(2) Write $\sum \frac{P(n, q)}{q^{n^{2}\left(q^{-1}, q^{-1}\right)_{n}}} x^{n}$ in terms of $N(s, q)$ and $R(t, q)$.
(3) Use Euler's partition formula

$$
\prod_{j \geq 1}\left(1-t q^{-j}\right)^{-1}=\sum_{m \geq 0} \frac{t^{m}}{\left(q^{-1} ; q^{-1}\right)_{m}}
$$

where $(a ; q)_{n}:=(1-a)(1-a q) \ldots\left(1-a q^{n-1}\right)$.

## $\mathbb{F}_{q}$-RATIONAL POINTS (i.e. $n=1$ )

## Question

How do we count $\mathbb{F}_{q}$-solutions to

$$
E_{a}^{\mathrm{Leg}}: \quad y^{2}=x(x-1)(x-a)
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and

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Answer
The number of points is given by finite field hypergeometric functions.

## Finite field Hypergeometric Functions

## Definition (Greene)

If $A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{n}$ and $B_{1}, B_{2}, \ldots, B_{n-1}$ are characters of $\mathbb{F}_{q}^{\times}$, then their Gaussian hypergeometric function is

$$
\begin{aligned}
&{ }_{n} F_{n-1}\left(\begin{array}{ccccc}
A_{1}, & A_{2}, & \ldots, & A_{n} \\
B_{1}, & \ldots, & B_{n-1} & \mid x
\end{array}\right)_{\mathbb{F}_{q}}:= \\
& \\
& \frac{q}{q-1} \sum_{\chi \in \widehat{\mathbb{F}}_{q}^{\times}}\binom{A_{1} \chi}{\chi}\binom{A_{2} \chi}{B_{1} \chi} \cdots\binom{A_{n} \chi}{B_{n-1} \chi} \cdot \chi(x),
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$$

where

$$
\binom{A}{B}:=\frac{B(-1)}{q} J(A, \bar{B})=\frac{B(-1)}{q} \sum_{y \in \mathbb{F}_{q}} A(y) \bar{B}(1-y)
$$

is a normalized Jacobi sum.

## Finite Field Hypergeometric Functions

## Example

(1)

$$
{ }_{2} F_{1}\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
\phi & \phi & \\
& \varepsilon & \mid a
\end{array}\right)_{\mathbb{F}_{q}}=\frac{\phi(-1)}{q} \sum_{x \in \mathbb{F}_{q}} \phi(x(x-1)(x-a))
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{ }_{3} F_{2}\left(\begin{array}{llll}
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Theorem (Greene (1984), Ono (1998))
(1) If $a \in \mathbb{F}_{q} \backslash\{0,1\}$ and $\operatorname{char}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right) \geq 5$, then

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\# E_{a}^{\operatorname{Leg}}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right)=q+1+\phi(-1) q \cdot{ }_{2} F_{1}(a)_{\mathbb{F}_{q}}
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$$
\# X_{a}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right)=1+q^{2}+19 q+q^{2} \cdot{ }_{3} F_{2}(-a)_{\mathbb{F}_{q}} .
$$

## Matrix Varieties

## Definition

Let $q$ be a prime power, $n \geq 1$, and consider the system of equations

$$
f_{1}\left(t_{1}, \ldots, t_{m}\right)=\ldots=f_{r}\left(t_{1}, \ldots, t_{m}\right)=0 .
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$$

Its affine variety is

$$
X\left(M_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right)\right):=\left\{\begin{array}{l|l}
\left(A_{1}, \ldots, A_{m}\right) & \begin{array}{l}
A_{i} \in \operatorname{Mat}_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right), A_{i} A_{j}=A_{j} A_{i} \\
f_{s}\left(A_{1}, \ldots, A_{m}\right)=0 \text { for } 1 \leq s \leq r
\end{array}
\end{array}\right\}
$$

## matrix points on Elliptic curves

## Question

What is the number of points $N_{n}^{\mathrm{Leg}}(a ; q):=\# E_{a}^{\mathrm{Leg}}\left(M_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right)\right)$ ?

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If $q=p^{r}$ with $p \geq 5$ and $a \in \mathbb{F}_{q} \backslash\{0,1\}$, then

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where

$$
P(n, k)_{q}:=(-1)^{k} q^{n(n-k)+\frac{k(k+1)}{2}} \sum_{s=0}^{\left\lfloor\frac{n-k}{2}\right\rfloor} q^{2 s(s-n+k)} \cdot \frac{(q ; q)_{n}}{(q ; q)_{s}(q ; q)_{k+s}(q ; q)_{n-k-2 s}}
$$

## Sato-Tate Distribution

## Theorem (Huang, Ono, S.)

If $n \geq 1, q=p^{r}$ with $p \geq 5$ and $a \in \mathbb{F}_{q}$, then write

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a_{L, n}(a ; q):=N_{n}^{\operatorname{Leg}}(a ; q)-P(n, 0)_{q} .
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If $-2 \leq b<c \leq 2$, then

$$
\lim _{p \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\#\left\{a \in \mathbb{F}_{q}: q^{\frac{1}{2}-n^{2}} a_{L, n}(a ; q) \in[b, c]\right\}}{q}=\frac{1}{2 \pi} \int_{b}^{c} \sqrt{4-t^{2}} d t .
$$

## Histogram for Legendre ECs


$2 \times 2$ matrices on Legendre elliptic curves

## Matrix points on K3 surfaces

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If $q=p^{r}$ with $p \geq 5$ and $a \in \mathbb{F}_{q} \backslash\{0,-1\}$, then

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N_{n}^{\mathrm{K} 3}(a ; q)=R\left(n, \phi_{q}(a+1)\right)_{q}+\sum_{k=0}^{n} \phi_{q^{k}}(-1) \cdot Q\left(n, k, \phi_{q^{k}}(a+1)\right)_{q} \cdot{ }_{3} F_{2}\left(\frac{a}{a+1}\right)_{q^{k}},
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$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& Q(n, k, \gamma)_{q}:=q^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}+k} \sum_{\substack{\lambda_{1}, \ldots, \lambda_{4} \\
\left|\lambda_{1}\right|+\ldots+\left|\lambda_{4}\right|=n \\
l\left(\lambda_{3}\right)-l\left(\lambda_{4}\right)=k}} q^{l\left(\lambda_{1}\right)} \gamma^{l\left(\lambda_{2}\right)}(-1)^{n-m\left(\lambda_{1}, \ldots, \lambda_{4}\right)} \\
& (q, q)_{n-m\left(\lambda_{1}, \ldots, \lambda_{4}\right)} \cdot q^{\sum \frac{b\left(\lambda_{i}, j\right)\left(b\left(\lambda_{i}, j\right)+1\right)}{2}}
\end{aligned} \frac{(q ; q)_{n}}{\prod(q ; q)_{b\left(\lambda_{i}, j\right)}(q ; q)_{n-m\left(\lambda_{1}, \ldots, \lambda_{4}\right)}} .
$$

and $R(n, \gamma)_{q}$ is an explicit polynomial in $q$ and $m\left(\lambda_{1}, \ldots, \lambda_{4}\right)=\sum_{i=1}^{4} l\left(\lambda_{i}\right)$.

## Sato-Tate Distributions

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If $n \geq 1, q=p^{r}$ with $p \geq 5$ and $a \in \mathbb{F}_{q}$, then write

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A_{n}(a ; q):=N_{n}^{\mathrm{K} 3}(a ; q)-Q\left(n, 0, \phi_{q}(a+1)\right)_{q}-R\left(n, \phi_{q}(a+1)\right)_{q} .
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$$

where

$$
f(t)= \begin{cases}\frac{3-|t|}{\sqrt{3+2|t|-t^{2}}} & \text { if } 1<|t|<3, \\ \frac{3+t}{\sqrt{3-2 t-t^{2}}}+\frac{3-t}{\sqrt{3+2 t-t^{2}}} & \text { if }|t|<1, \\ 0 & \text { otherwise. }\end{cases}
$$

## Histogram for AOP K3 surfaces



## Traces of Frobenius

## Definition

Let $E$ be an elliptic curve. For prime powers $q$, define the trace of Frobenius $a(q) \in[-2 \sqrt{q}, 2 \sqrt{q}]$ by

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$\pi$ and $\bar{\pi}$ are called the eigenvalues of Frobenius.

## ZETA FUNCTION OF A VARIETY

## Definition

Let $V / \mathbb{F}_{q}$ be an affine variety. The zeta function of $V / \mathbb{F}_{q}$ is the power series

$$
Z\left(V / \mathbb{F}_{q} ; T\right):=\exp \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left(\# V\left(\mathbb{F}_{q^{n}}\right)\right) \frac{T^{n}}{n}\right)
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Z\left(E / \mathbb{F}_{q} ; T\right)=\frac{1-a(q) T+q T^{2}}{(1-q T)}
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## Cohen-Lenstra Zeta series

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Let $q=p^{r}, n \geq 1$ and $X / \mathbb{F}_{q}$ an affine variety. We define a Cohen-Lenstra zeta series

$$
\widehat{Z}_{X}(t):=\sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{\# X\left(M_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right)\right)}{\# \mathrm{GL}_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right)} \cdot t^{n}
$$

## Cohen-Lenstra Zeta series

Proposition (Huang)
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(1) If $X$ is a smooth curve over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$, then

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(2) If $X$ is a smooth surface over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$, then

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\widehat{Z}_{X}(t)=\prod_{i, j \geq 1} Z_{X}\left(q^{-j} t^{i}\right)
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## Cohen-Lenstra Zeta Series

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## Remark

For surfaces, the local zeta function counts pairwise commuting nilpotent matrices. Evaluating this zeta series also requires partitions.

## EXPANDING ZETA SERIES

## Classical Fact

Let $E$ be an elliptic curve and $\pi, \bar{\pi}$ the eigenvalues of Frobenius at $q$.

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## Problem

We need to find the series expansion of

$$
\prod_{j \geq 1}\left(1-\pi T q^{-j}\right)
$$

and

$$
\prod_{j \geq 1} \frac{1}{1-q^{1-j} T}
$$

## EULER'S $q$-SERIES IDENTITIES

Lemma (Euler)
The following series expansions hold.
©

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\prod_{j \geq 1}\left(1-c q^{-j}\right)=\sum_{m \geq 0} \frac{c^{m}}{(q ; q)_{m}}
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$$
\prod_{j \geq 1} \frac{1}{1-c q^{-j}}=\sum_{m \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^{m} q^{m(m-1) / 2} c^{m}}{(q ; q)_{m}}
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## Proof of point counts

(1) Write the Cohen-Lenstra zeta series

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\widehat{Z}_{X}(T)=\prod_{j \geq 1} \frac{\left(1-\pi T q^{-j}\right)\left(1-\bar{\pi} T q^{-j}\right)}{1-T q^{1-j}}
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(2) Expand the product of each factor as a series in $T$.
(3) Multiply the three resulting series to get the coefficient of $T^{n}$.
(9) Use $\pi \bar{\pi}=q$ and $\pi+\bar{\pi}=\phi_{q}(-1) \cdot q \cdot{ }_{2} F_{1}(a)_{q}$.

## Distributions of ${ }_{2} F_{1}(a)_{q}$.

## Theorem (Ono-S-Saikia)

If $-2 \leq b<c \leq 2$, and $r$ is a fixed positive integer, then

$$
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$$

In other words, the limiting distribution is semicircular.

## DEDUCING DISTRIBUTIONS

(1) We have that

$$
q^{\frac{1}{2}-n^{2}} a_{\mathrm{L}, n}(a ; q)=-\phi_{q}(-1) q^{\frac{1}{2}}{ }_{2} F_{1}(a)_{q}+O_{r, n}\left(q^{-\frac{1}{2}}\right)
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(3) Use result for the case $n=1$.

## ZETA series For AOP K3 surfaces

Theorem (Ahlgren, Ono, Penniston, '02)
If $\operatorname{ord}_{p}(a(a+1))=0$ and $\gamma=\phi_{p}(a+1)$, then local zeta-function for the affine part $X$ of $X_{a}$ is

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Z_{X}(T)=\frac{1}{\left(1-p^{2} T\right)(1-\gamma p T)\left(1-\gamma \pi^{2} T\right)\left(1-\gamma \bar{\pi}^{2} T\right)},
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## Remark

The complicated part of $Z_{X}(T)$ is a symmetric square zeta-function.

## Sketch of Proof

(1) Write the Cohen-Lenstra zeta series

$$
\widehat{Z}_{X}(T)=\prod_{i, j \geq 1} \frac{1}{\left(1-q^{2-j} T^{i}\right)\left(1-\gamma q^{1-j} T^{i}\right)\left(1-\gamma \pi^{2} q^{-j} T^{i}\right)\left(1-\gamma \bar{\pi}^{2} q^{-j} T^{i}\right)} .
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( Multiply the resulting series to get the coefficient of $T^{n}$.
(1) Use $\pi \bar{\pi}=q$ and

$$
\pi^{2 k}+\bar{\pi}^{2 k}=q^{2 k} \phi_{q}(a+1)^{k}{ }_{3} F_{2}\left(\frac{a}{a+1}\right)_{q^{k}}-q^{k} .
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## Distribution for AOP K3 surfaces

Theorem (Ono-S-Saikia)
If $-3 \leq b<c \leq 3$, and $r$ is a fixed positive integer, then

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## POINTS OF ELLIPTIC CURVES

Theorem (Huang, Ono, S.)

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\# E_{a}^{\mathrm{Leg}}\left(M_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right)\right)=\sum_{k=0}^{n} \phi_{q^{k}}(-1) \cdot P(n, k)_{q} \cdot{ }_{2} F_{1}(a)_{q^{k}}
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where $P(n, k)_{q}$ are explicit polynomials in $q$ arising from partitions of $n$.

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## AOP K3 Surfaces

Theorem (Huang, Ono, S.)
$\# X_{a}\left(M_{n}\left(\mathbb{F}_{q}\right)\right)=R\left(n, \phi_{q}(a+1)\right)_{q}+\sum_{k=0}^{n} \phi_{q^{k}}(-1) \cdot Q\left(n, k, \phi_{q^{k}}(a+1)\right)_{q} \cdot 3 F_{2}\left(\frac{a}{a+1}\right)_{q^{k}}$

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where $R(n, \gamma)_{q}$ and $Q(n, k, \gamma)_{q}$ are polynomials in $q$ involving partitions of $n$.

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## Histograms


$2 \times 2$ matrix points on Legendre ECs

$2 \times 2$ matrix points on AOP $K 3 \mathrm{~s}$

