

# Analysis and topology on arithmetic locally symmetric spaces

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- 1 Analysis of eigenvalues
- 2 Topology and torsion classes
- 3 Algebraic geometry

## Basic example

The *modular curve*  $M$  is the quotient of  $\mathbb{H}$  by the group  $\Gamma$  of fractional linear transformations  $z \mapsto \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$  with integer coefficients. It has many interesting and interlocking structures.

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For now:

- $\Gamma$  is this group or a finite index congruence subgroup, and  $M = \mathbb{H}/\Gamma$ , an “arithmetic locally symmetric space.”
- $M'$  is a small perturbation of  $M$ , e.g.  $\mathbb{H}/\Gamma'$  for a generic  $\Gamma'$  (nothing to do with integers).

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- Then we will talk about some curious topological features, which actually are rather parallel to the analytic features above.
- To conclude, I will discuss how the topology of these spaces is related to algebraic geometry, and describe some of the issues which I hope to study over the course of this year.



1 Analysis of eigenvalues

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- On  $\mathbb{H}$  the Riemannian Laplacian is given by  $-y^2(\partial_{xx} + \partial_{yy})$ .



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- On  $L^2(\mathbb{H}/\Gamma)$  this has infinitely many eigenvalues

$$0 < \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \lambda_3 < \dots$$

and they satisfy Weyl's law : their mean spacing is  $\frac{4\pi}{\text{area}}$ .

## Some eigenvalues

Here are 27 eigenvalues after 640,000, as computed by [H. Then](#):

1.1, 8.8, 56.3, 76.5, 77.4, 107.8, 111.6, 120.6, 121.3,  
132.0, 134.3, 134.8, 154.4, 156.15, 158.8, 166.6, 202.4, 207.4, 216.0  
218.07, 225.02, 231.28, 266.36, 272.17, 296.53, 310.28, 316.29

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The mean spacing is  $12 = \frac{4\pi}{\text{area}}$  according to Weyl's law. Here is a picture; do you notice anything surprising?

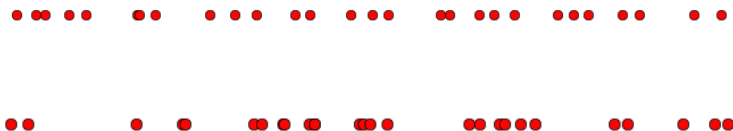


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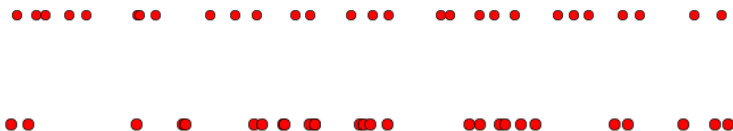


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- Eigenvalues repel! Two in an interval of length  $\varepsilon$  with probability  $\sim \varepsilon^3$ ;  $k$  of them with probability  $\sim \varepsilon^{k(k+1)/2}$ .

In fact, it is surprising that there exist eigenvalues *at all*, because  $\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}$  is noncompact.

- To show the existence of eigenvalues for the modular surface, [Selberg](#) introduced the trace formula. His proof applies only to  $\Gamma$  used special properties of the Riemann  $\zeta$ -function;

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- To show the existence of eigenvalues for the modular surface, [Selberg](#) introduced the trace formula. His proof applies only to  $\Gamma$  used special properties of the Riemann  $\zeta$ -function;
- After the work of [Phillips and Sarnak](#) it is generally believed that a small deformation  $\Gamma'$  of  $\Gamma$  *destroys all eigenvalues*, i.e. there are no Laplacian eigenfunctions at all in  $L^2(\mathbb{H}/\Gamma')$ .

## Explanation: extra symmetry

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- The surface  $M$  has a certain class of hidden symmetries, the “Hecke operators.”
- These reduce the influence of one eigenvalue on another.

# What is a Hecke operator

- The map  $z \mapsto pz$  doesn't give a map  $M \rightarrow M$ , but it almost does:
- For each prime  $p$  we have a multi-valued function  $T_p : M \rightarrow M$ :

$$T_p(z) = \{z_1, \dots, z_{p+1}\}.$$

Locally, each map  $z \mapsto z_i$  is isometric.

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- More generally, if  $\Gamma$  is an arithmetic subgroup of a semisimple Lie group – e.g.  $SL_n(\mathbf{Z}), Sp_{2g}(\mathbf{Z})$  – then  $\Gamma$  acts on a canonical space of curvature  $\leq 0$ , the Riemannian symmetric space  $\mathcal{H}$ .

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- More generally, if  $\Gamma$  is an arithmetic subgroup of a semisimple Lie group – e.g.  $SL_n(\mathbf{Z}), Sp_{2g}(\mathbf{Z})$  – then  $\Gamma$  acts on a canonical space of curvature  $\leq 0$ , the Riemannian symmetric space  $\mathcal{H}$ .
- An arithmetic locally symmetric space is any such quotient  $\mathcal{H}/\Gamma$ . It has a canonical Riemannian structure. Many natural spaces arise thus.

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Lineare Substitutionen mit ganzen complexen Coefficienten II. 361

$$e) \left(\xi - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\eta - \frac{\sqrt{D}}{2}\right)^2 + \xi^2 = \frac{1}{3^2},$$

$$\text{Tipo I) } a_1 = 1, \quad a_2 = 1, \quad c_1 = 2, \quad b_1 = -\frac{D}{2},$$

$$f) \xi^2 + \left(\eta - \frac{D-1}{2\sqrt{D}}\right)^2 + \xi^2 = \frac{1}{2^2 D},$$

$$\text{Tipo II) } a_2 = 0, \quad a_1 = 1 - D, \quad c_1 = 2, \quad b_1 = 1 - \frac{D}{2}.$$

Le sfere di riflessione qui indicate a), b), c), d), e), f) bastano già per i piccoli valori di  $D$  a separare il poliedro  $P$  cercato,

§ 12.

Il gruppo  $\bar{\Gamma}^{(2)}$ .

Benchè i casi  $D = 1$ ,  $D = 3$  siano già stati trattati nel lavoro precedente, non sembra qui inutile coordinare la determinazione dei poliedri fondamentali corrispondenti alle osservazioni generali del paragrafo precedente.

Se  $D = 1$ , si considerino i tre piani di riflessione

$$(1) \xi = \frac{1}{2}, \quad (2) \eta = 0, \quad (3) \xi - \eta = 0$$

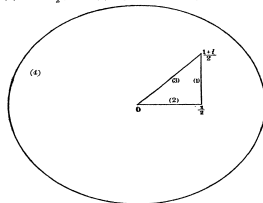


Fig. 1\*

e si indichi con  $P$  il poliedro racchiuso in  $R$  da questi tre piani: sternalmente alla sfera

$$(4) \quad \xi^2 + \eta^2 + \xi^2 = 1.*$$

\* In questa come nelle figure seguenti si osservano le tracce sul piano  $\xi\eta$  dei piani e delle sfere di riflessioni numerati come nel testo.

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- We examine the simplest topological invariant:

$$H_1(M, \mathbf{Z}) \simeq \Gamma^{\text{ab}}.$$

Some early computations by [Elströdt](#), [Mennicke](#), [Grunewald](#) and [Grunewald](#), [Schwermer](#) for subgroups  $\Gamma_0(n)$  of the Bianchi group. It was (relatively) recently that we can easily compute enough examples to see something interesting.

## H. Sengün's computations

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- $\Gamma_0(118 + 175i)^{\mathrm{ab}} = \mathbf{Z} \oplus T$  where  $|T| > 10^{310}$ .

Bergeron and I conjecture (2010) that “torsion grows exponentially with the volume”

$$\frac{\log(\#H_1(M, \mathbf{Z})_{\text{tors}})}{\text{vol}(M)} \rightarrow \frac{1}{6\pi}.$$

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Anyway, let us look at some data computed by [Brock -Dunfield](#) on how this conjecture shapes up for arithmetic versus nonarithmetic  $M$ .

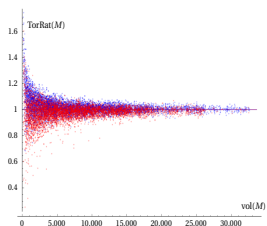


Figure 4.4. Congruence covers of arithmetic twist-knot orbifolds. The blue dots are covers where  $b_1 = 0$  and the red dots covers where  $b_1 > 0$ .

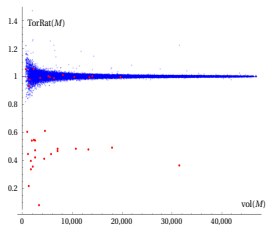


Figure 4.5. Congruence covers of nonarithmetic twist-knot orbifolds; as before, blue dots indicate  $b_1 = 0$  and red dots  $b_1 > 0$ .

## Repulsion of mod $p$ classes

In topology there is a surprising parallel to “repulsion of eigenvalues.”

- **Dunfield and Thurston** have proven that, for a certain model of “random” hyperbolic  $M'$ , factors of  $\mathbf{Z}/p\mathbf{Z}$  in  $H_1(M', \mathbf{Z})$  repel;



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- By contrast – eyeballing data – factors of  $(\mathbf{Z}/p\mathbf{Z})^k$  with  $k \gg 1$  are much more frequent for *arithmetic*  $M$ . Again, this should be attributed to the influence of Hecke operators.

# Summary

In both the analytic and topological case, the distribution of eigenvalues/homology is controlled by a certain linear map: the Laplacian, or the differential in the chain complex. These can be modeled by random symmetric or  $p$ -adic matrices in general; but being forced to commute with Hecke operators causes rigid and unusual behavior.

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Return to  $M = \mathbb{H}/\Gamma$ .

- This  $M$  has the structure of an algebraic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , i.e.  $M = \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{C})$  for  $\mathbf{X} \subset \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{Q}}^N$ .

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- **Eichler-Shimura** relation:

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- The correct context to take these virtual combinations is the theory of pure motives:

algebraic varieties  $\leftrightarrow$  pure motives



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- The traces of  $T_p$  on  $H^1$  and  $H^2$  are the same. So the right hand side cannot be related to a Lefschetz number.

## Some things I'm thinking about this year

While Shimura varieties (e.g.  $\mathbb{H}/\Gamma$ ) are far better understood, the general arithmetic locally symmetric spaces (e.g.  $\mathbb{H}^3/\Gamma$ ) actually exhibit richer structures in their topology, e.g.:

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- (c) The need to consider a derived moduli space of Galois representations, which in turn reflects
- (d) The relationship of  $M$  not just to pure motives but to *mixed* motives.

In fact there is one case of (d) that has been around for a long time: the algebraic  $K$ -theory of  $\mathbb{Z}$ , reflecting mixed Tate motives, is related to the *stable* homology of the  $\mathrm{SL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  symmetric space.