Geometry and Numbers

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Sample arithmetic statements
Diophantine equations
Counting solutions of a diophantine equation
Counting congruence solutions
L-functions and distribution of prime numbers
Zeta and L-values
Sample of geometric structures and symmetries
Elliptic curve basics
Modular forms, modular curves and Hecke symmetry
Complex multiplication
Frobenius symmetry
Monodromy
Fine structure in characteristic p

Outline

The general theme

Geometry and symmetry influences arithmetic through zeta functions and modular forms

Remark. (i) zeta functions = L-functions;
modular forms = automorphic representations.

(ii) There are two kinds of L-functions, from harmonic analysis and arithmetic respectively.

Fermat's infinite descent

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I. Sample arithmetic questions and results

1. Diophantine equations

Example. Fermat proved (by his *infinite descent*) that the diophantine equation

$$x^4 - y^4 = z^2$$

does not have any non-trivial integer solution.

Remark. (i) The above equation can be "projectivized" to $x^4 - y^4 = x^2z^2$, which gives an elliptic curve E with *complex multiplication* by $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-1}]$.

Figure: Fermat

Fermat's infinite descent continued

(ii) Idea: Show that every non-trivial rational point $P \in E(\mathbb{Q})$ is the image $[2]_E$ of another "smaller" rational point.

(Construct another rational variety X and maps $f : E \to X$ and $g : X \to E$ such that $g \circ f = [2]_E$ and descent in two stages. Here X is a twist of E, and f, g corresponds to $[1+\sqrt{-1}]$ and $[1-\sqrt{-1}]$ respectively.)

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Interlude: Euler's addition formula

In 1751, Fagnano's collection of papers *Produzioni Mathematiche* reached the Berlin Academy. Euler was asked to examine the book and draft a letter to thank Count Fagnano. Soon Euler discovered the addition formula

$$\int_0^r \frac{d\rho}{\sqrt{1-\rho^4}} = \int_0^u \frac{d\eta}{\sqrt{1-\eta^4}} + \int_0^v \frac{d\psi}{\sqrt{1-\psi^4}},$$

where

$$r = \frac{u\sqrt{1-v^4}+v\sqrt{1-u^4}}{1+u^2v^2}.$$

Figure: Euler

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Counting sums of squares

2. Counting solutions of a diophantine equation

Example. Counting sums of squares.
For $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$r_k(n) := \#\{(x_1, \ldots, x_k) \in \mathbb{Z}^n : x_1^2 + \cdots + x_k^2 = n\}$$

be the number of ways to represent n as a sum of k squares.

(i) $r_2(n) = 4 \cdot \sum_{d|n,\ n \text{ odd}} (-1)^{(d-1)/2} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n_2 \neq \Box \\ \sum_{d|n_1} 1 & \text{if } n_2 = \Box \end{cases}$

where $n = 2^f \cdot n_1 \cdot n_2$, and every prime divisor of n_1 (resp. n_2) is $\equiv 1 \pmod 4$ (resp. $\equiv 3 \pmod 4$).

(ii) $r_4(n) = \begin{cases} 8 \cdot \sum_{d|n} d & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ 24 \cdot \sum_{d|n, d \text{ odd}} d & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$

How to count number of sum of squares

Method. Explicitly identify the theta series

$$\theta^k(\tau) = \Big(\sum_{m \in \mathbb{N}} q^{m^2}\Big)^k \qquad \text{where } q = e^{2\pi\sqrt{-1}\,\tau}$$

with modular forms obtained in a different way, such as Eisenstein series.

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Counting congruence solutions

3. Counting congruence solutions and L-functions

(a) Count the number of congruence solutions of a given diophantine equation modulo a (fixed) prime number p

(b) Identify the L-function for a given diophantine equation (basically the generating function for the number of *congruence solutions* modulo p as p varies)

with

an L-function coming from harmonic analysis. (The latter is associated to a modular form).

Remark. (b) is an essential aspect of the Langlands program.

The Riemann zeta function

4. L-functions and the the distribution of prime numbers for a given diophantine problem

Examples. (i) The Riemann zeta function $\zeta(s)$ is a meromorphic function on $\mathbb{C}$ with only a simple pole at $s = 0$,

$$\zeta(s) = \sum_{n\geq 1} n^{-s} = \prod_{p} (1 - p^{-s})^{-1} \qquad \text{for } \operatorname{Re}(s) > 1,$$

such that the function $\xi(s) = \pi^{-s/2} \cdot \Gamma(s/2) \cdot \zeta(s)$ satisfies

$$\xi(1-s) = \xi(s)\,.$$

Figure: Riemann

Dirichlet L-functions

(ii) Similar properties hold for the Dirichlet L-function

$$L(\chi, s) = \sum_{n \in N,\, (n,N)=1} \chi(n) \cdot n^{-s} \qquad \mathrm{Re}(s) > 1$$

for a *primitive* Dirichlet character $\chi : (\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^\times \to \mathbb{C}^\times$.

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Figure: Dirichlet

L-functions and distribution of prime numbers

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(a) Dirichlet's theorem for primes in arithmetic progression
$\leftrightarrow$ $L(\chi, 1) \neq 0$ $\forall$ Dirichlet character χ.

(b) The prime number theorem
$\leftrightarrow$ zero free region of $\zeta(s)$ near $\{\mathrm{Re}(s) = 1\}$.

(c) Riemann's hypothesis $\leftrightarrow$ the first term after the main term in the asymptotic expansion of $\zeta(s)$.

Bernoulli numbers and zeta values

5. Special values of L-functions

Examples. (a) zeta and L-values for $\mathbb{Q}$.
Recall that the Bernoulli numbers B_n are defined by

$$\frac{x}{e^x - 1} = \sum_{n\in\mathbb{N}} \frac{B_n}{n!} \cdot x^n$$

$B_0 = 1$, $B_1 = -1/2$, $B_2 = 1/6$, $B_4 = -1/30$, $B_6 = 1/42$, $B_8 = -1/30$, $B_{10} = 5/66$, $B_{12} = -691/2730$.

(i) (Euler) $\zeta(1-k) = -B_k/k \quad \forall$ even integer $k > 0$.

(ii) (Leibniz's formula, 1678; Madhava, $\sim$ 1400)
$1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \cdots = \frac{\pi}{4}$

Content of L-values

(b) L-values often contain deep arithmetic/geometric information.

(i) Leibniz's formula: $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-1}]$ is a PID (because the formula implies that the class number $h(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-1}))$ is 1).

(ii) B_k/k appears in the formula for the number of (isomorphism classes of) exotic $(4k-1)$-spheres.

Kummer congruence

(c) (Kummer congruence)

(i) $\zeta(m) \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ for $m \leq 0$ with $m \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p-1}$

(ii) $\zeta(m) \equiv \zeta(m') \pmod{p}$ for all $m, m' \leq 0$ with $m \equiv m' \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p-1}$.

Examples.

- $\zeta(-1) = -\dfrac{1}{2^2 \cdot 3^2}$; $-1 \equiv 1 \pmod{p-1}$ only for $p = 2, 3$.
- $\zeta(-11) = \dfrac{691}{2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13}$; $-11 \equiv 1 \pmod{p-1}$ holds only for $p = 2, 3, 5, 7, 13$.
- $\zeta(-5) = -\dfrac{1}{2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7} \equiv \zeta(-1) \pmod{5}$.
  Note that $3 \cdot 7 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$.

Figure: Kummer

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Elliptic curves basics

II. Sample of geometric structures and symmetries

1. Review of elliptic curves

Equivalent definitions of an `elliptic curve` E:

- a projective curve with an algebraic group law;
- a projective curve of genus one together with a rational point (= the origin);
- over $\mathbb{C}$: a complex torus of the form $E_\tau = \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}\tau + \mathbb{Z}$, where $\tau \in \mathfrak{H} :=$ upper-half plane;
- over a field F with $6 \in F^\times$: given by an affine equation

$$y^2 = 4x^3 - g_2 x - g_3, \quad g_2, g_3 \in F.$$

Weistrass theory

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For $E_\tau = \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}\tau + \mathbb{Z}$, let

$$\begin{aligned} x_\tau(z) &= \wp(\tau, z) \\ &= \frac{1}{z^2} + \sum_{(m,n)\neq(0,0)} \left(\frac{1}{(z - m\tau - n)^2} - \frac{1}{(m\tau + n)^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$y_\tau(z) = \tfrac{d}{dz}\wp(\tau, z)$$

Then E_τ satisfies the Weistrass equation

$$y_\tau^2 = 4x_\tau^3 - g_2(\tau)x_\tau - g_3(\tau)$$

with

- $g_2(\tau) = 60 \displaystyle\sum_{(0,0)\neq(m,n)\in\mathbb{Z}^2} \frac{1}{(m\tau + n)^4}$
- $g_3(\tau) = 140 \displaystyle\sum_{(0,0)\neq(m,n)\in\mathbb{Z}^2} \frac{1}{(m\tau + n)^6}$

The j-invariant

Elliptic curves are classified by their j-invariant

$$j = 1728 \frac{g_2^3}{g_2^3 - 27 g_3^2}$$

Over $\mathbb{C}$, $j(E_\tau)$ depends only on the lattice $\mathbb{Z}\tau + \mathbb{Z}$ of E_τ. So $j(\tau)$ is a `modular function` for $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$:

$$j\left(\frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}\right) = j(\tau)$$

for all $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $ad - bc = 1$.

We have a Fourier expansion

$$j(\tau) = \frac{1}{q} + 744 + 196884\, q + 21493760\, q^2 + \cdots,$$

where $q = q_\tau = e^{2\pi\sqrt{-1}\,\tau}$.

Modular forms, modular curves and Hecke symmetry

2. Modular forms and modular curves

Let $\Gamma \subset \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ be a congruence subgroup of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$, i.e. Γ contains all elements which are $\equiv \mathrm{I}_2 \pmod{N}$ for some N.

(a) A holomorphic function $f(\tau)$ on the upper half plane $\mathbb{H}$ is said to be a *modular form* of weight k and level Γ if

$$f((a\tau + b)(c\tau + d)^{-1}) = (c\tau + d)^k \cdot f(\tau) \;\; \forall \gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma$$

and has *moderate growth* at all cusps.

(b) The quotient $Y_\Gamma := \Gamma\backslash\mathbb{H}$ has a natural structure as an (open) algebraic curve, definable over a natural number field; it parametrizes elliptic curves with suitable level structure.

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Modular curves and Hecke symmetry

(c) Modular forms of weight k for $\Gamma = \mathrm{H}^0(X_\Gamma, \omega^k)$, where X_Γ is the natural compactification of Y_Γ, and ω is the Hodge line bundle on X_Γ

$$\omega|_{[E]} = \mathrm{Lie}(E)^\vee \qquad \forall\, [E] \in X_\Gamma$$

(d) The action of $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Q})_{\det>0}$ on $\mathbb{H}$ "survives" on the modular curve $Y_\Gamma = \Gamma\backslash\mathbb{H}$ and takes a reincarnated form as a family of algebraic correspondences.

The L-function attached to a cusp form which is a *common eigenvector* of all Hecke correspondences admits an Euler product.

Figure: Hecke

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The Ramanujan τ function

Example. Weight 12 cusp forms for $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ are constant multiples of

$$\Delta = q \cdot \prod_{m \geq 1} (1 - q^m)^{24} = \sum_n \tau(n)\, q^n$$

and

$$T_p(\Delta) = \tau(p) \cdot \Delta \quad \forall p,$$

where T_p is the Hecke operator represented by $\begin{pmatrix} p & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

Let $L(\Delta, s) = \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n \cdot n^{-s}$. We have

$$L(\Delta, s) = \prod_p (1 - \tau(p)\, p^{-s} + p^{11-2s})^{-1}.$$

CM elliptic curves

3. Complex multiplication

An elliptic E over $\mathbb{C}$ is said to have complex multiplication if its endomorphism algebra $\mathrm{End}^0(E)$ is an imaginary quadratic field.

Example. Consequences of

- $j(\mathbb{C}/\mathscr{O}_K)$ is an algebraic integer
- $K \cdot j(\mathbb{C}/\mathscr{O}_K)$ = the Hilbert class field of K.

$e^{\pi\sqrt{67}} = 147197952743.9999986624542245068292613\cdots$

$j\left(\frac{-1+\sqrt{-67}}{2}\right) = -147197952000 = -2^{15} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 11^3$

$e^{\pi\sqrt{163}} = 262537412640768743.99999999999925007259719\ldots$

$j\left(\frac{-1+\sqrt{-163}}{2}\right) = -262537412640768000 =$
$-2^{18} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 23^3 \cdot 29^3$

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Mod p points for a CM curve

A typical feature of CM elliptic curves is that there are explicit formulas: Let E be the elliptic curve

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

which has CM by $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-1}]$. We have

$$\#E(\mathbb{F}_p) = 1 + p - a_p$$

and for *odd* p we have

$$\begin{aligned} a_p &= \sum_{u \in \mathbb{F}_p} \left(\frac{u^3 + u}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod 4 \\ -2a & \text{if } p = a^2 + 4b^2 \text{ with } a \equiv 1 \pmod 4 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

A CM curve and its associated modular form, continued

The L-function $L(E,s)$ attached to E with

$$\prod_{p \text{ odd}} (1 - a_p p^{-s} + p^{1-2s})^{-1} = \sum_n a_n \cdot n^{-s}$$

is equal to a Hecke L-function $L(\psi, s)$, where the Hecke character ψ is the given by

$$\psi(\mathfrak{a}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \; 2 | \mathrm{N}(\mathfrak{a}) \\ \lambda & \text{if } \; \mathfrak{a} = (\lambda),\ \lambda \in 1 + 4\mathbb{Z} + 2\mathbb{Z}\sqrt{-1} \end{cases}$$

The function $f_E(\tau) = \sum_n a_n \cdot q^n$ is a modular form of weight 2 and level 4, and

$$f_E(\tau) = \sum_{\mathfrak{a}} \psi(\mathfrak{a}) \cdot q^{\mathrm{N}(\mathfrak{a})} = \sum_{\substack{a \equiv 1 \pmod 4 \\ b \equiv 0 \pmod 2}} a \cdot q^{a^2 + b^2}$$

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Frobenius symmetry

4. Frobenius symmetry

Every algebraic variety X over a finite field $\mathbb{F}_q$ has a map $\mathrm{Fr}_q : X \to X$, induced by the ring endomorphism $f \mapsto f^q$ of the function field of X.

Deligne's proof of Weil's conjecture implies that

$$\tau(p) \leq 2p^{11/2} \qquad \forall p$$

Idea: Step 1. Use Hecke symmetry to cut out a 2-dimensional Galois representation inside $\mathrm{H}^1_{\mathrm{et}}\left(\overline{X}, \mathrm{Sym}^{10}\left(\underline{\mathrm{H}}(\mathscr{E}/X)\right)\right)$, which "contains" the cusp form Δ via the Eichler-Shimura integral.

Step 2. Apply the Eichler-Shimura congruence relation, which relates Fr_p and the Hecke correspondence T_p; invoke the Weil bound.

A hypergeometric differential equation

5. Monodromy

(a) The hypergeometric differential equation

$$4x(1-x)\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 4(1-2x)\frac{dy}{dx} - y = 0$$

has a classical solution

$$F(1/2, 1/2, 1, x) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{-1/2}{n} x^n$$

The global monodromy group of the above differential is the principal congruence subgroup $\Gamma(2)$.

Historic origin

Remark. The word “monodromy” means “run around singly”; it was (?first) used by Riemann in *Beiträge zur Theorie der durch die Gauss'sche Reihe* $F(\alpha,\beta,\gamma,x)$ *darstellbaren Functionen*, 1857.

> *. . . ; für einen Werth in welchem keine Verzweigung statfindet, heist die Function “einändrig order monodrom . . .*

The Legendre family of elliptic curves

The family of equations

$$y^2 = x(x-1)(x-\lambda) \quad 0,1,\infty \neq \lambda \in \mathbb{P}^1$$

defines a family $\pi : \mathscr{E} \to S = \mathbb{P}^1 - \{0,1,\infty\}$ of elliptic curves, with

$$j(E_\lambda) = \frac{2^8\,[1-\lambda(1-\lambda)]^3}{\lambda^2(1-\lambda)^2}$$

This formula exhibits the λ-line as an S_3-cover of the j-line, such that the 6 conjugates of λ are

$$\lambda,\ \frac{1}{\lambda},\ 1-\lambda,\ \frac{1}{1-\lambda},\ \frac{\lambda}{\lambda-1},\ \frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda}.$$

The Legendre family, continued

The formula

$$\left[4\lambda(1-\lambda)\frac{d}{d\lambda^2}+4(1-2\lambda)\frac{d}{d\lambda}-1\right]\left(\frac{dx}{y}\right)=-d\left(\frac{y}{(x-\lambda)^2}\right)$$

means that the global section $[dx/y]$ of $\underline{\mathrm{H}}^1_{\mathrm{dR}}(\mathscr{E}/S)$ satisfies the above hypergeometric ODE.

Monodromy and symmetry

1. Monodromy can be regarded as attainable symmetries among *potential symmetries*.
2. To say that the monodromy is "as large as possible" is an irreducibility statement.
3. Maximality of monodromy has important consequences. E.g. the key geometric input in Deligne-Ribet's proof of p-adic interpolation for special values of Hecke L-functions attached to totally real fields.

Supersingular elliptic curves

6. Fine structure in char. $p > 0$

Example. (ordinary/supersingular dichotomy)
Elliptic curves over an algebraically closed field $k \supset \mathbb{F}_p$ come in two flavors.

- Those with $E(k) \simeq (0)$ are called supersingular.
  - There is only a *finite* number of supersingular j-values.
  - An elliptic curve E over a finite field $\mathbb{F}_q$ is supersingular if and only if $E(\mathbb{F}_q) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$.
- Those with $E[p](k) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ are said to be ordinary.

  An elliptic curve E over a finite field $\mathbb{F}_q$ is supersingular if and only if $E(\mathbb{F}_q) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$

The Hasse invariant

For the Legendre family, the supersingular locus (for $p > 2$) is the zero locus of

$$A(\lambda) = (-1)^{(p-1)/2} \cdot \sum_{j=0}^{(p-1)/2} \left(\frac{(1/2)_j}{j!} \right)^2 \cdot \lambda^j$$

where $(c)_m := c(c+1)\cdots(c+m-1)$.

Remark. The above formula for the coefficients a_j satisfy

$$a_1, \ldots, a_{(p-1)/2} \in \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$$

and

$$a_{(p+1)/2} \equiv \cdots \equiv a_{p-1} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

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Counting supersingular j-values

Theorem. (Eichler 1938) The number h_p of supersingular j-values is

$$h_p = \begin{cases} \lfloor p/12 \rfloor & \text{if} \quad p \equiv 1 \pmod{12} \\ \lceil p/12 \rceil & \text{if} \quad p \equiv 5 \text{ or } 7 \pmod{12} \\ \lceil p/12 \rceil + 1 & \text{if} \quad p \equiv 11 \pmod{12} \end{cases}$$

Remark. (i) It is known that h_p is the *class number* for the quaternion division algebra over $\mathbb{Q}$ ramified (exactly) at p and ∞.

(ii) Deuring thought that it is nicht leicht that the above class number formula can be obtained by counting supersingular j-invariants directly.

Igusa's proof

From the hypergeometric equation for $F(1/2,1/2,1,x)$ we conclude that

$$\left[4\lambda(1-\lambda)\frac{d^2}{d\lambda^2} + 4(1-2\lambda)\frac{d}{d\lambda} - 1\right] A(\lambda) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

for all $p > 3$. It follows immediately that $A(\lambda)$ has simple zeroes. The formula for h_p is now an easy consequence. (Hint: Use the formula 6-to-1 cover of the j-line by the λ-line.) Q.E.D.

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p-adic monodromy for modular curves

For the *ordinary* locus of the Legendre family

$$\pi : \mathscr{E}^{\mathrm{ord}} \to S^{\mathrm{ord}}$$

the monodromy representation

$$\rho : \pi_1\left(S^{\mathrm{ord}}\right) \to \mathrm{Aut}\left(\mathscr{E}^{\mathrm{ord}}[p^\infty](\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p)\right) \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$$

(defined by Galois theory) is surjective.

p-adic monodromy for the modular curve

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Sketch of a proof: Given any $n > 0$ and any $\bar{u} \in (\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z})^\times$, pick a representative $u \in \mathbb{N}$ of $\bar{u}$ with $0 < u < p^n$ and let let

$$\iota : \mathbb{Q}[T]/(T^2 - u \cdot T + p^{4n}) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Q}_p$$

be the embedding such that $\iota(T) \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$. Then

$$\iota(T) \equiv u \pmod{p^{2n}}.$$

By a result of Deuring, there exists an elliptic curve E over $\mathbb{F}_{p^{2n}}$ whose Frobenius is the Weil number $\iota(T)$. So the image of the monodromy representation contains $\iota(T)$, which is congruent to the given element $\bar{u} \in \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}$. Q.E.D.