

# Tools for Counting Quaternion Algebras

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# I. Geometric Motivation

Let  $M, N$  be Compact Riemannian manifolds.

3 Notions of "equivalence":

①  $M$  &  $N$  are Commensurable if they have a common finite degree covering space.

②  $M$  &  $N$  are isometric if  $\exists$  an isometry between them.

③  $M$  &  $N$  are isospectral if

$\mathcal{E}(M) = \mathcal{E}(N)$  & length isospectral

if  $L\mathcal{S}(M) = L\mathcal{S}(N)$

multiset  
of  
eigenvalues  
of the  
Laplacian of  
 $M$

$\rightarrow$  multiset of lengths of closed geodesics on  $M$

"Inverse" questions: to what extent do the spectra of  $M$  determine its geometry & topology?

Ex

① If  $LS(M) = LS(N)$ , are  $M$  &  $N$  isometric? **NO** ← Can't hear the shape of a drum

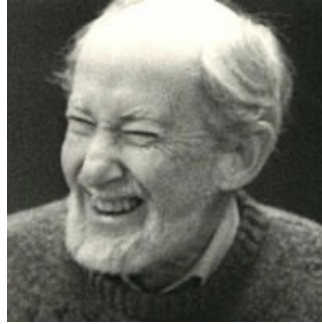
② If  $LS(M) = LS(N)$ , are  $M$  &  $N$  commensurable?

we'll focus on  
↓ this one

↳ Arithmetic case: Yes  
↳ Non-arithmetic case: ???

↑  
Still  
Open

①



Leon Green (1960) asked if the spectrum of  $M$  determines its isometry class.

The spectrum of  $M$  is essentially the collection of frequencies produced by a drumhead shaped like  $M$ .



Mark Kac (1966) popularized this question for planar domains:

*Can you hear the shape of a drum?*

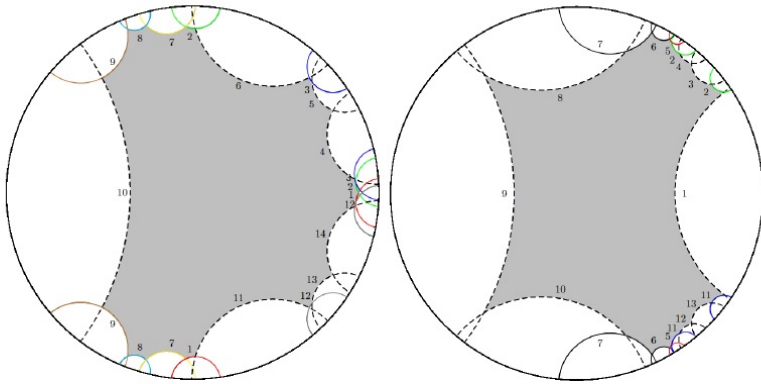


① Isospectral  $\not\Rightarrow$  Isometric



**Theorem (Vigneras, 1980)**

*There exist isospectral non-isometric hyperbolic 2- and 3-manifolds.*



A pair of isospectral but non-isometric hyperbolic 2-orbifolds (due to B. Linowitz and J. Voight).

① Isospectral  $\not\Rightarrow$  Isometric



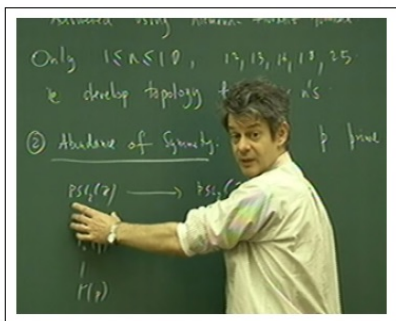
Theorem (Gordon, Webb, Wolpert, 1992)

*One cannot hear the shape of a drum.*

$\exists$   <sup>$\curvearrowright$</sup>  isospectral nonisometric planar domains

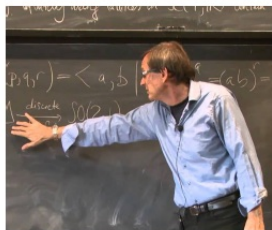
②

If  $LS(M) = LS(N)$ , are  $M$  &  $N$  Commensurable?



### Theorem (Reid, 1992)

If  $M$  is an arithmetic, hyperbolic surface and  $LS(M) = LS(N)$  then  $M$  and  $N$  are commensurable.



### Theorem (Chinburg, Hamilton, Long, Reid, 2008)

If  $M$  and  $N$  are arithmetic hyperbolic 3-manifolds and  $LS(M) = LS(N)$  then  $M$  and  $N$  are commensurable.

On the other hand...



### Theorem (Futer and Millichap, 2016)

For every sufficiently large  $n > 0$  there exists a pair of non-isometric finite-volume hyperbolic 3-manifolds  $\{M, N\}$  such that:

- 1  $\text{vol}(M) = \text{vol}(N)$ .
- 2 The (complex) length spectra of  $M$  and  $N$  agree up to length  $n$ .
- 3  $M$  and  $N$  have at least  $e^n/n$  closed geodesics up to length  $n$ .
- 4  $M$  and  $N$  are not commensurable.

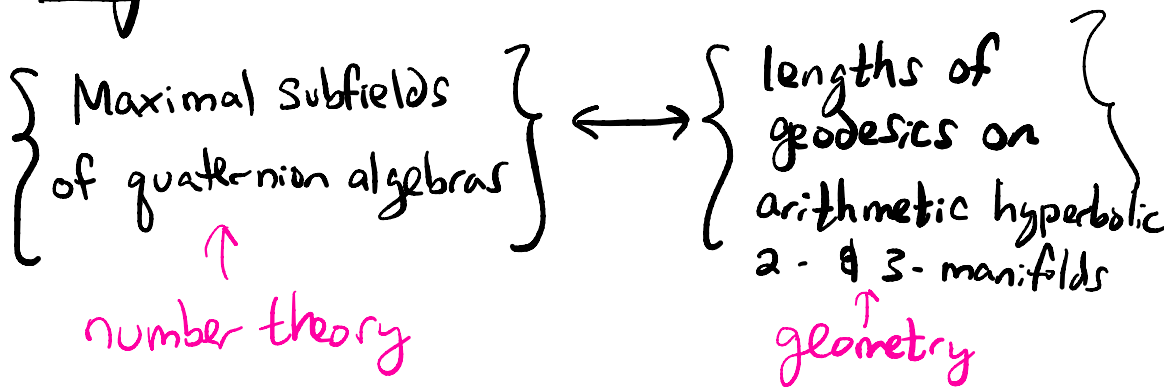
\* Non-arithmetic

## Our motivating Question:

If two arithmetic hyperbolic 2- or 3-manifolds have many overlapping geodesic lengths, are they necessarily commensurable?

↳ NO. "Lots" of p-w non-commensurable.

## Key Idea:



## How we use This:

- ① Translate geometric question into a # theory question via this correspondence
- ② Apply analytic # theory techniques
- ③ Translate back to geometry - get quantitative result

Much of our work boils down (essentially) to counting quaternion algebras w/ bad discriminant (Subject to additional, geometrically-motivated constraints).

## Plan

Talk #1: Intro to Analytic NT tools for Counting quaternion algebras

↳ no knowledge of quaternion algebras or geometry needed!

Talk #2: Introduce quaternion algebras, Show how to count them, derive geometric consequences

Talk #3: Application of gaps between primes to spectral geometry!

## II. Arithmetic Functions & Dirichlet series

Def An arithmetic function is any function

$$f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}.$$

Examples:

①  $\tau(n) := \#$  of positive divisors of  $n$ , i.e.,

$$\tau(n) = \sum_{d|n} 1$$

Ex  $\tau(6) = 4$

②  $\varphi(n) := \# \{k \in [1, n] : \gcd(k, n) = 1\}$

Ex  $\varphi(6) = 2$

③  $\omega(n) = \#$  of distinct prime factors of  $n$ ,

i.e.,  $\omega(n) = \sum_{p|n} 1$

Ex  $\omega(6) = 2$

$$\textcircled{4} \mu(n) = \begin{cases} (-1)^{\omega(n)} & \text{if } n \text{ is } \square\text{-free} \\ 0 & \text{otw} \end{cases}$$

$$\textcircled{5} \mathbb{1}(n) = 1 \quad \forall n$$

\* To each arithmetic function  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , we can associate a generating function.

Def Given  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , define the Dirichlet Series of  $f$  to be

$$D_f(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{f(n)}{n^s}$$

Ex If  $f = \mathbb{1}$ ,

$$D_{\mathbb{1}}(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mathbb{1}(n)}{n^s} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s} = \zeta(s)$$

↑  
Riemann  
zeta function



### III. Multiplying Dirichlet Series

\* There are various ways of multiplying Dirichlet series (depending on how you collect the terms).

Ex The Dirichlet product of  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$   
and  $\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} b_m$  collects all terms

$a_n b_m$  for which  $nm$  is constant,

i.e.,  $n \cdot m = N$ . So, if  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  &

$\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} b_m$  are abs. conv.,

$$\sum_{N=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{nm=N} a_n b_m \right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} b_m$$

↑  
new arithmetic  
function

∴ Product of Dirichlet series is  
also a Dirichlet series

This motivates:

Def If  $f$  &  $g$  are arithmetic then the

Dirichlet Convolution  $f * g$  is defined

$$f * g(n) = \sum_{ab=n} f(a) g(b)$$

$$= \sum_{d|n} f(d) g(n/d) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\text{(equiv: } \sum_{d|n} f(n/d) g(d) \text{)}$$

Thus:

$$D_f(s) D_g(s) = D_{f * g}(s)$$

$\forall s \in \mathbb{C}$  where  $D_f(s)$  &  $D_g(s)$

Converge absolutely.

Example  $\forall n \geq 1$ :

$$\mathbb{1} * \mathbb{1}(n) = \sum_{d|n} \mathbb{1}(d) \mathbb{1}(n/d)$$

$$= \sum_{d|n} 1$$

$$= \tau(n) \leftarrow \text{Same function from earlier}$$

Example  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\tau(n)}{n^s} = D_{\tau}(s)$

$$= D_{\mathbb{1} * \mathbb{1}}(s)$$

$$= D_{\mathbb{1}}(s) D_{\mathbb{1}}(s)$$

$$= (\zeta(s))^2$$

$\zeta$  Riemann Zeta

Def An arithmetic function  $f$  is  
multiplicative if

$$f(ab) = f(a)f(b) \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{N} \\ \text{w/ } \gcd(a, b) = 1.$$

\* when  $f$  is multiplicative, then

$$D_f(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{f(n)}{n^s} = \prod_p \left( 1 + \frac{f(p)}{p^s} + \frac{f(p^2)}{p^{2s}} + \dots \right)$$

This is called the  
Euler product expansion

## IV. Using Dirichlet Series in Counting Problems

### General Idea:

- ① Construct a Dirichlet series whose coeffs count a quantity we are interested in.

### Classic Example

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{n^s}$$

$$, \quad a_n = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n \text{ prime} \\ 0 & \text{otw} \end{cases}$$

↑ coeffs of Dirichlet Series count prime numbers. Used to prove the prime # Theorem.

② Check that the Dirichlet Series Satisfies certain "nice" analytic properties so that we can compute the limit of the partial sums of the coeffs (gives an asymptotic)

Ex  $\sum_{n \leq x} a_n = \pi(x)$  ( # of primes  $\leq x$  )

Partial Sum of Coeffs of Dirichlet series above

\* Check analytic conditions of  $\sum_n \frac{a_n}{n^s}$  \*

Applying a Tauberian Thm gives:

Prime # Thm:  $\pi(x) \sim \frac{x}{\log x}$

(PNT)

$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\pi(x)}{x/\log x} = 1$

more about this in a moment ↪

Tauberian Thms roughly say: if our Dirichlet Series satisfies "nice" analytic properties then we can take the limit inside of the sum (or integral).

## Examples

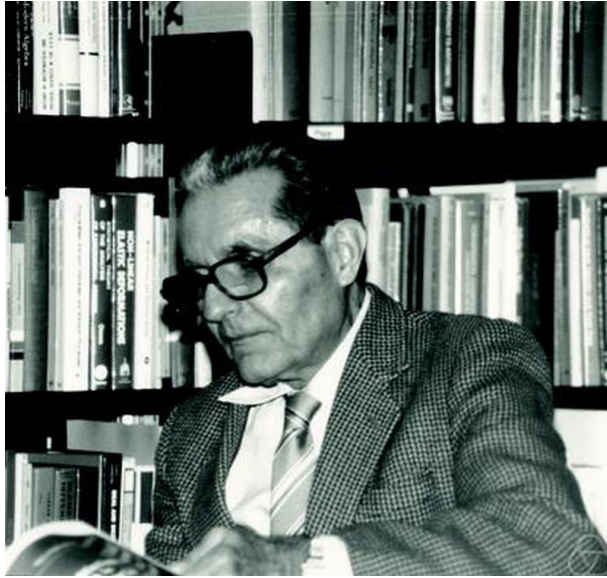
- ① Wiener - Ikehara
- ② Newman's Analytic
- ③ Hardy - Littlewood
- ④ Delange

Commonly used for PNT  
used for a different formulation of PNT (w/ integrals)

Used to show  $\sum_n \frac{\mu(n)}{n}$  converges

↓  
we use this one to get an asymptotic for the quaternion algebras we are interested in

we'll use this one...



### Theorem (Delange's Tauberian Theorem)

Let  $G(s) = \sum \frac{a_N}{N^s}$  be a Dirichlet series satisfying:

- 1  $a_N \geq 0$  for all  $N$  and  $G(s)$  converges for  $\Re(s) > \rho$ .
- 2  $G(s)$  can be continued to an analytic function in the closed half-plane  $\Re(s) \geq \rho$  except possibly for a singularity at  $s = \rho$ .
- 3 There is an open neighborhood of  $\rho$  and functions  $A(s), B(s)$  analytic at  $s = \rho$  with  $G(s) = A(s)/(s - \rho)^\beta + B(s)$  at every point in this neighborhood having  $\Re(s) > \rho$ .

Then as  $x \rightarrow \infty$  we have

$$\sum_{N \leq x} a_N = \left( \frac{A(\rho)}{\rho \Gamma(\beta)} + o(1) \right) x^\rho \log(x)^{\beta-1}.$$