

Rademacher Lectures

III. L-functions

as

Partition Functions

Q: How many positive integers are there?

i.e., what is $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1$?

$$A. \quad -\frac{1}{2} \begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{\text{(class \#) (rank of)}} \\ \text{of } \mathbb{Q} \quad \mathbb{Q}^x \\ \xrightarrow{\text{\# roots of unity}} \\ \text{in } \mathbb{Q} \end{array}$$

$= \zeta(0)$, $\zeta =$ Riemann zeta

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

... defined by analytic continuation
from $\text{Im } s \gg 0$.

Two lives of ζ :

$$\zeta(s) = \frac{\pi^{s/2}}{\Gamma(s/2)} \int_0^\infty \left(\sum_{n=1}^\infty e^{-\pi n^2 y} \right) y^{s/2} \frac{dy}{y} = \prod_{p \text{ prime}} \frac{1}{1-p^{-s}}$$

Two lives of ζ :

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A

analytic

automorphic

B

arithmetic

spectral

Galois

Two lives of ζ :

$$\zeta(s)$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-\pi n^2 y} \right) y^{s/2} \frac{dy}{y}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma(s/2)}{\pi^{s/2}} \prod_{p \text{ prime}} \frac{1}{1-p^{-s}}$$

Two lives of ξ :

$$\xi(s)$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} \left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \phi(nx) - 1 \right) x^s \frac{dx}{x}$$

$$\mathcal{M}(\phi) \prod_{p \text{ prime}} \frac{1}{1-p^{-s}}$$

$$\phi = e^{-\pi x^2}$$

$$\text{Mellin}(\phi) = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{2}\right)}{\pi^{s/2}}$$

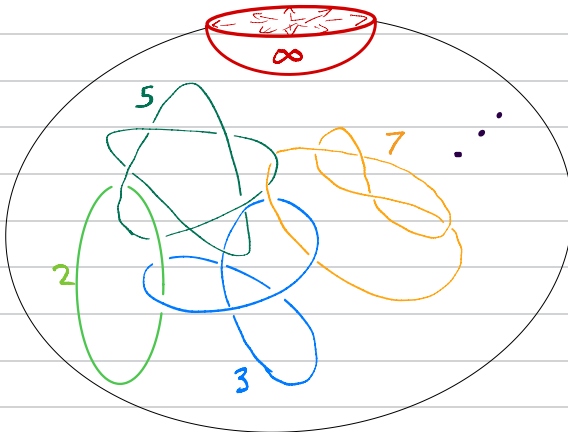
\leadsto equality of distributions on \mathbb{R}

Our goal:

Argue for interpretation
of both sides as

partition functions of
arithmetic QFTs

-ie as some kind of volume



B. Arithmetic

$$\zeta(s)$$

$$= \prod \frac{1}{1-p^{-s}}$$

Dedekind
number
field F

$$\zeta_F(s)$$

Dirichlet
character χ

$$L(\chi, s)$$

$$= \prod \frac{1}{1-N(p)^{-s}}$$

$$= \prod \frac{1}{1-p^{-s}\chi(p)}$$

L-functions of
Hecke characters

B. Galois

⇒ Artin L-functions

- \check{G}_K reductive group

$$\text{Gal}(\bar{F}/F) \xrightarrow{\rho} \check{G} \xrightarrow{V} \text{GL}(V)$$

$$L(\rho, V, s) = \prod_p \frac{1}{\det(I - N(p)^{-s} \rho_V(F_{r,p}))}$$

(up to ramified places)

- product of local factors:

inverse characteristic polynomials

What is L a function of?

$\text{Loc}_G^v(F) = \left\{ \text{Gal } \bar{F}/F \rightarrow G^v \right\}$
character variety of Galois reps.

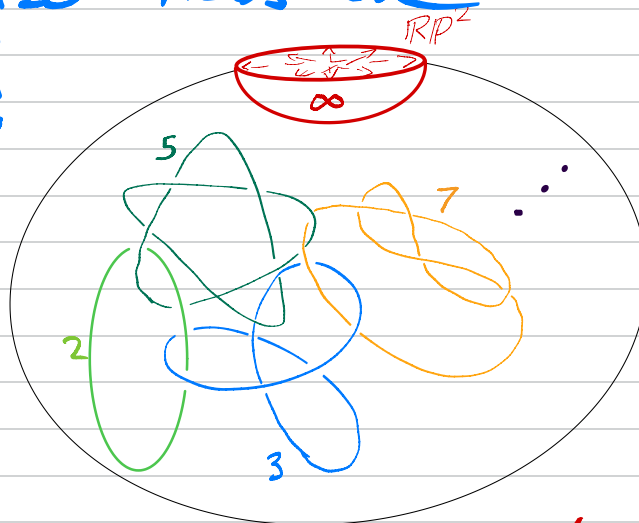
$\Rightarrow L_v$ meromorphic* function
on Loc_G :
 $\rho \mapsto L(\rho, V, 0)$

[s variable is not independent:]

$$L(\rho, V, s) = L(\rho \otimes \|\cdot\|^s, V, 0)$$

norm / cyclotomic character]

Problem: Number fields are complicated!



- archimedean places: noncompact

→ Need to specify boundary data
(\Rightarrow ξ distribution on \mathbb{R})

- primes all different

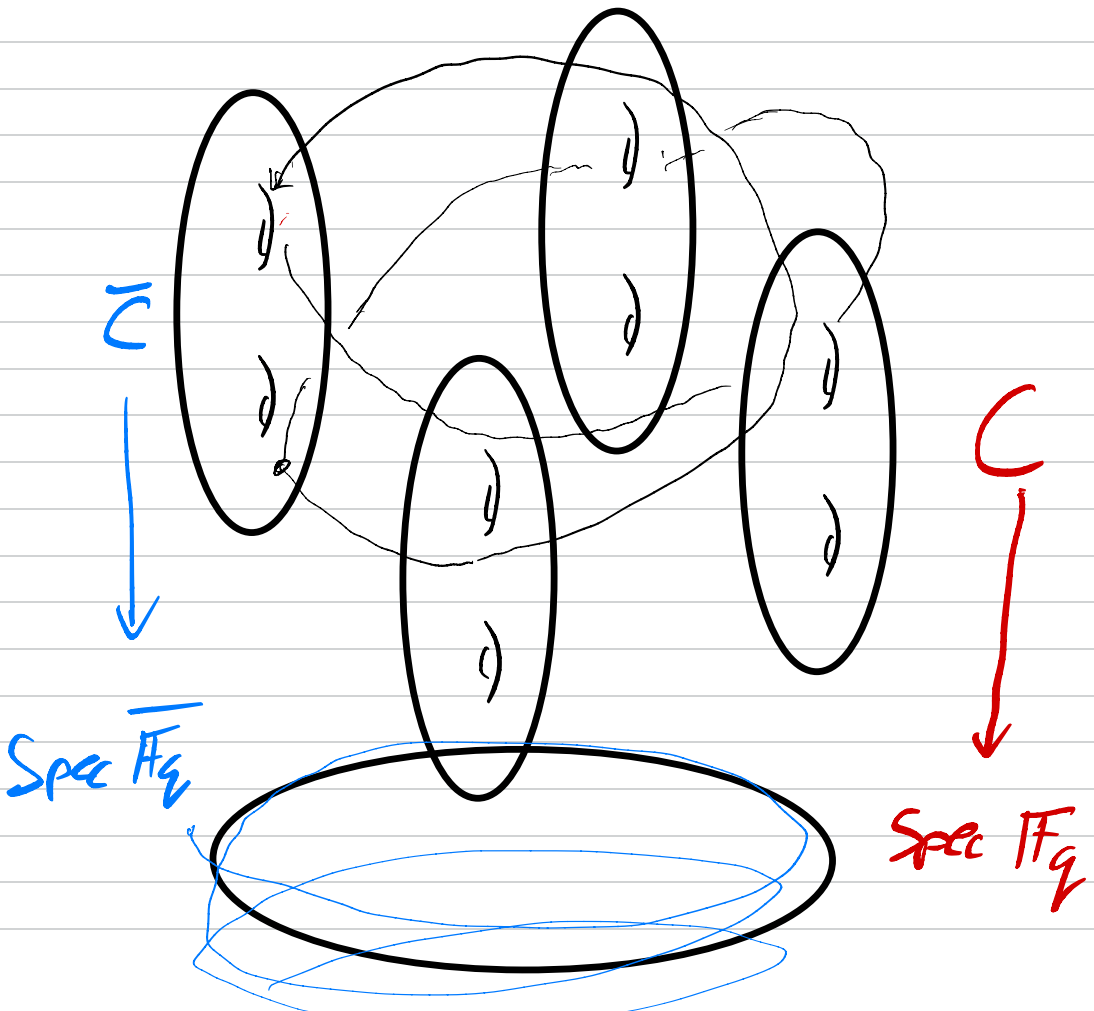
(circles of length $\log p$)

→ Function fields, good simplified model

Function Fields

C smooth projective curve / \mathbb{F}_q
"compact 3-manifold"

$\bar{C} = C \times_{\mathbb{F}_q} \overline{\mathbb{F}_q}$ "compact 2-manifold"



$$F \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{F}_q(C)$$

$$\text{Gal}^{\text{ur}} \bar{F}/F \rightsquigarrow \pi_1(C)$$

unramified quotient

étale fundamental group

\Rightarrow L-functors L_V on

$$\text{Loc}_G^v(C) = \{ \pi_1(C) \rightarrow \check{G} \} / \check{G}$$

given by

$$L(\rho, V, t) = \prod_{x \in |C|} \frac{1}{\det(I - t^{\deg x} \rho(F_{r_x}))}$$

$$t \sim q^s$$

Grothendieck - Lefschetz f.p.p.:

evaluate Euler product globally
in terms of étale cohomology $H^*(\bar{C})$

("integral over C ") \uparrow
 Fr

$$L(\rho, V, f) = \frac{\det(I - t\rho_v(Fr)|_{H^1})}{\det(I - t\rho_v(Fr)|_{H^0}) \det(I - t\rho_v(Fr)|_{H^2})}$$
$$= \frac{1}{\det(I - t\rho_v(Fr)|_{H^0})}$$

= super - characteristic polynomial
of $\rho_v(Fr) \subset H^0(\bar{C}, \rho_v)$

What is a characteristic polynomial?

$A \in \text{End } W$

$$\begin{aligned}\det(I - tA) &= \sum (-1)^i t^i \text{Tr}(\wedge^i A) \\ &= \text{Tr}^\circ(A, \wedge^\circ W)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{\det(I - tA)} &= \sum t^i \text{Tr}(\text{Sym}^i A) \\ &= \text{Tr}^\circ(A, \text{Sym}^\circ W)\end{aligned}$$

character of symmetric algebra
on W

$\Rightarrow L(\rho, V, t)$ is

$$\text{Tr} \left(F_r, \underbrace{\text{Sym} H^*(\bar{C}, \rho_V)} \right)$$

DAG: interpret as
ring of functions

$$\mathcal{O}((V)^{\pi, \bar{C}})$$

derived fixed point locus of

$$\pi, \bar{C} \begin{array}{c} \circlearrowright \\ \rho_V \end{array} V$$

... or, using Atiyah-Bott

$\text{Tr} \Leftrightarrow$ fixed points,

↓ identification

$$\left((V)^{\pi_1 \bar{C}} \right)^{\text{Fr}} = (V)^{\pi_1 C}$$

\Rightarrow

$$L(p, V, t) \Big|_{t=1} = \text{Volume} \left((V)^{\pi_1 C} \right)$$

More generically:

$$(V)^{\pi, C} = \rho\text{-twisted}$$

locally constant maps $C \rightarrow V$,

$$(V)^{\pi, C} \subset \text{Loc}_G^V(C)$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \downarrow \pi_C$$

$$\rho \in \text{Loc}_G^V(C)$$

$$L(V) = \pi_{C*} \text{dvol} \in \mathbb{C}[\text{Loc}_G^V(C)]$$

$$L(V) = \pi_{C^*} \text{dvol} \in \mathbb{C}[[\alpha_{\check{0}} C]]$$

This is now in the form of a boundary state / character in higher geometric quantization

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Loc}_{\check{0}}^V C \\ \downarrow \pi_C \\ \text{Loc}_{\check{0}} C \end{array}$$

$$L_V(C) \in \mathcal{B}_{\check{0}}^V(C) = \mathbb{C}[[\alpha_{\check{0}} C]]$$

$$L(V) = \Pi_{\equiv x} \text{ dvol} \in \mathbb{C}[[\text{Loc}_g^{\equiv}]]$$

$\mathbb{C} \rightsquigarrow \equiv$
 (arithmetic)
 3-manifolds

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{Loc}_g^V \equiv \\
 \downarrow \Pi_{\equiv} \\
 \text{Loc}_g^{\equiv} \equiv
 \end{array}$$

$$L_V(\equiv) \in \mathcal{B}_g^{\equiv}(\equiv) = \mathbb{C}[[\text{Loc}_g^{\equiv}]]$$

$$L(\check{X}) = \Pi_{\check{X}} \text{ dvol} \in \mathbb{C}[[\text{Loc}_{\check{G}} \equiv]]$$

$\mathbb{C} \rightsquigarrow \equiv$
 (arithmetic)
 \mathbb{B} -manifolds

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Loc}_{\check{G}}^{\check{X}} \equiv \\ \downarrow \Pi_{\equiv} \\ \text{Loc}_{\check{G}} \equiv \end{array}$$

$V \rightsquigarrow \check{X}$
 (smooth affine)
 \check{G} -variety

$$\mathcal{L}_{\check{X}}(\equiv) \in \mathcal{B}_{\check{G}}(\equiv) = \mathbb{C}[[\text{Loc}_{\check{G}} \equiv]]$$

A. Automorphic

How should we understand
Riemann's integral

$$(1) \zeta(s) = \int_0^{\infty} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varphi(nx) - 1 \right) x^s \frac{dx}{x} ?$$

$$\left(\varphi(x) = e^{-\pi x^2} \right)$$

Tate, Iwasawa:

It's about $GL_1 \subset A'$!

$L(\chi, \varphi)$:

- χ automorphic form for GL_1/F

\Leftrightarrow

character of idele class group

$$[GL_1]_F = \sqrt{A^F} = \text{"line bundles on } \text{Spec } F \text{"}$$

- $\varphi \in S(A'_{\text{ramified places}})$

test function



$$(\Gamma) L(\chi, \varphi) = \int_{GL_1(\mathbb{Q}) \backslash GL_1(\mathbb{A})} \Theta(\varphi) \chi(x) dx$$

$$\Theta(\varphi)(x) = \sum_{\gamma \in A'(\mathbb{Q})} \varphi(\gamma x)$$

Analytic L-function = party with Θ series

What does this mean geometrically?

When no ramification

(\implies function field C/\mathbb{F}_q)

$$X \in [GL_1]_{\mathbb{F}} = \text{Bun}_{GL_1}(C) = \text{Pic } C$$

$[\mathbb{F}_q\text{-points}]$

$$\dim(L) = \# \Gamma(C, L)$$

counts sections of L

[more generally, count sections

with poles weighted by

test functions φ on pole data]

Geometrically

$$(\mathcal{L}, s \in \Gamma(\mathcal{L})) \in \text{Bun}_{GL}^{A'}(\mathcal{C})$$

\downarrow

$\downarrow \pi_{A'}$

$$\mathcal{L} \in \text{Bun}_{GL}(\mathcal{C})$$

[This is the Abel-Jacobi map

$$\text{II } \text{Sym}^n \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \text{Pic } \mathcal{C}]$$

$$\textcircled{H} = \pi_{A'} \mathbb{1} \in H^*([GL,]_{\mathcal{C}})$$

Prototype for many many
period integrals
of automorphic forms

$G \curvearrowright X$ smooth, affine

$$\Rightarrow P_X : H^*([G]_F) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$P_X(\chi) = \int_{[G]_F} \chi \cdot \Theta_X$$

pairing with X - Θ -series

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} G\text{-bundles} \\ + \text{ section of} \\ \text{assoc. } X\text{-bundle} \end{array} \right\} = \text{Bun}_G^X C$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \downarrow \pi_X \\ \text{Bun}_G C \end{array}$$

$$\Theta_X = \pi_{X*} 1 \in H^*(\text{Bun}_G)$$

- again has form of a
boundary state / geometric quantization

$$\mathcal{P}_X(\equiv) \in \mathcal{A}_G(\equiv)$$

$$\text{e.g. } X = G/H$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Bun}_G^H \subset \text{Bun}_H \quad :$$

$$P_H(\chi) = \int_{[G]} \chi \otimes_{G/H}$$

$$= \int_{[H]} \chi|_{[H]}$$

integrating automorphic forms

$$\text{along } [1]_F \hookrightarrow [G]_F$$

e.g. $G = \text{PGL}_2 \mathbb{C} \curvearrowright \text{PGL}_2/T = (\ast \ast)$

\rightsquigarrow Hecke period:

L-functions of modular forms

$$G = \text{PGL}_2 \mathbb{C} \curvearrowright \text{PGL}_2/N = \begin{pmatrix} \ast & \ast \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

\rightsquigarrow Eisenstein period:

constant term of modular forms

[N]:
constant term

[T]: Hecke period
(L-function)