

# Modular forms and L-functions

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Topics in classical automorphic forms (AMS)  
by Iwaniec

Analytic Number Theory (AMS)  
by Iwaniec & Kowalski

Books by Bump, Serre, Apostol, Koblitz

Website of Stein, Conrey-Farmer

# L-functions

①

$$\bullet L(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{n^s}$$

Dirichlet Series

$$\bullet L(s) = \prod_p L_p(s)$$

$$\text{where } L_p(s) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_{p^j}}{p^{js}}$$

Euler Product

$$\bullet \xi_L(s) = Q^s \prod_{d=1}^D \Gamma\left(\frac{s}{2} + \mu_d\right) \cdot L(s)$$

D = degree

$$= \xi \tilde{\xi}_L(1-s)$$

Functional Equation

$$\bullet a_n \ll n^\varepsilon$$

Ramanujan Bound

Rewrite the functional equation as

$$L(s) = \xi X(s) \bar{L}(1-s)$$

$$Z(t) = (\xi X(\frac{1}{2}+it))^{-1/2} L(\frac{1}{2}+it)$$

real

$R_{1/2}$  FL①

Dirichlet Series

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

$\longleftrightarrow$   
Mellin

Fourier Series

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n e^{2\pi i n z}$$

$$L(s) \leftrightarrow L(1-s)$$

Functional  
Equation

$$f(z) = * f(z')$$

Symmetry

Degree 0

$$L(s) \equiv 1$$

Degree 1

$$g(s) \\ L(s, \chi)$$

$$f(z) = \theta(z) \\ = \sum e^{2\pi i n^2 z}$$

Degree 2

$$L(s, f)$$

f cusp form  
on  $GL(2)$   
(2 kinds of them)

also  $g(s) L(s, \chi)$

$\mathcal{H} = \{ x+iy \in \mathbb{C} \mid y > 0 \}$   
the "upper half plane"

$$\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{R})$$

$$\gamma: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$$

$$\gamma(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$$

$\Gamma \subseteq SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  discrete subgroup

$\mathcal{H}/\Gamma$  Riemann surface

Hecke congruence subgroups of  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$

$$\Gamma_0(N) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) : N \mid c \right\}$$

$N = \text{level}$

$SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  acts on  $\mathbb{H}$

$\mathbb{R}_3^Y$

$$\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} : \mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$$

$$\gamma z = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$$

Check:  $\text{Im}(\gamma z) = \frac{\text{Im}(z)}{|cz+d|^2}$

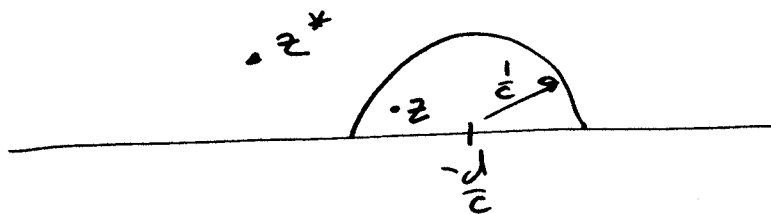
check:  $\gamma_1(\gamma_2 z) = (\gamma_1 \gamma_2)(z)$

Points in the "half disc"  $|cz+d| < 1$

ie

$$\left| z + \left(-\frac{d}{c}\right) \right| < \frac{1}{c}$$

are moved "higher up"

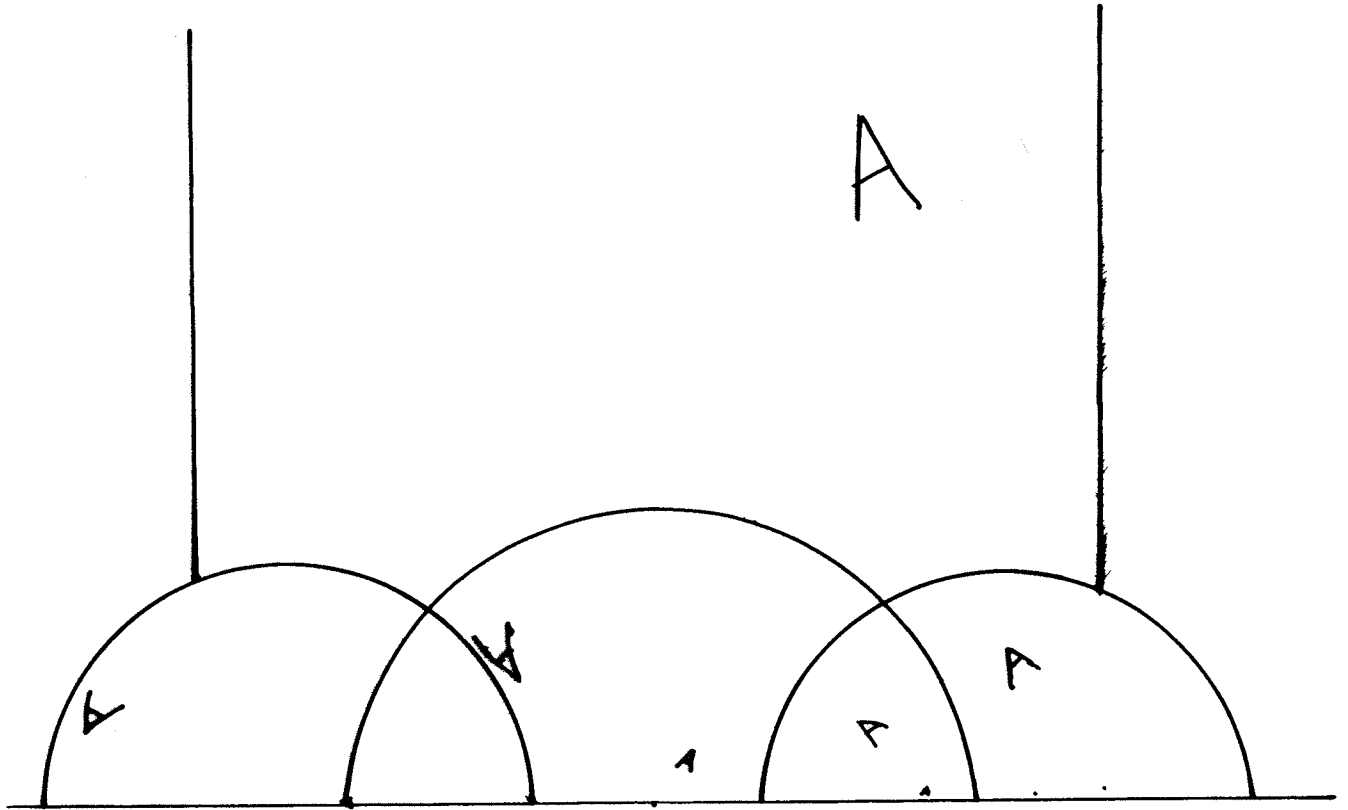


$\Gamma \subset SL(2, \mathbb{R})$  Discrete

A "highest point fundamental domain"  $\mathcal{F}$  for  $\Gamma$  is a collection of points as "high up as possible"

= Exterior of a collection of "half discs".

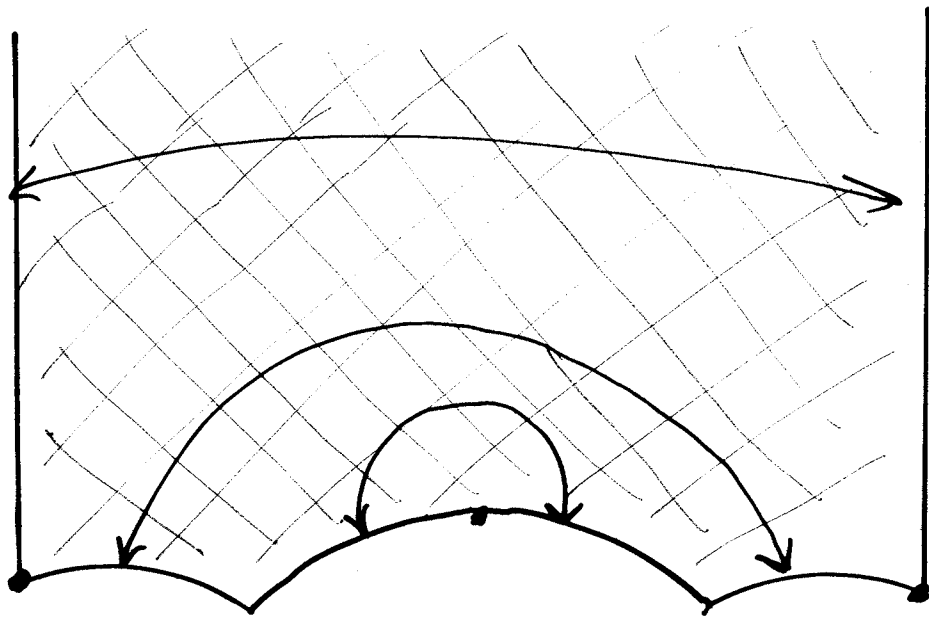
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} (z) = z + 1$$



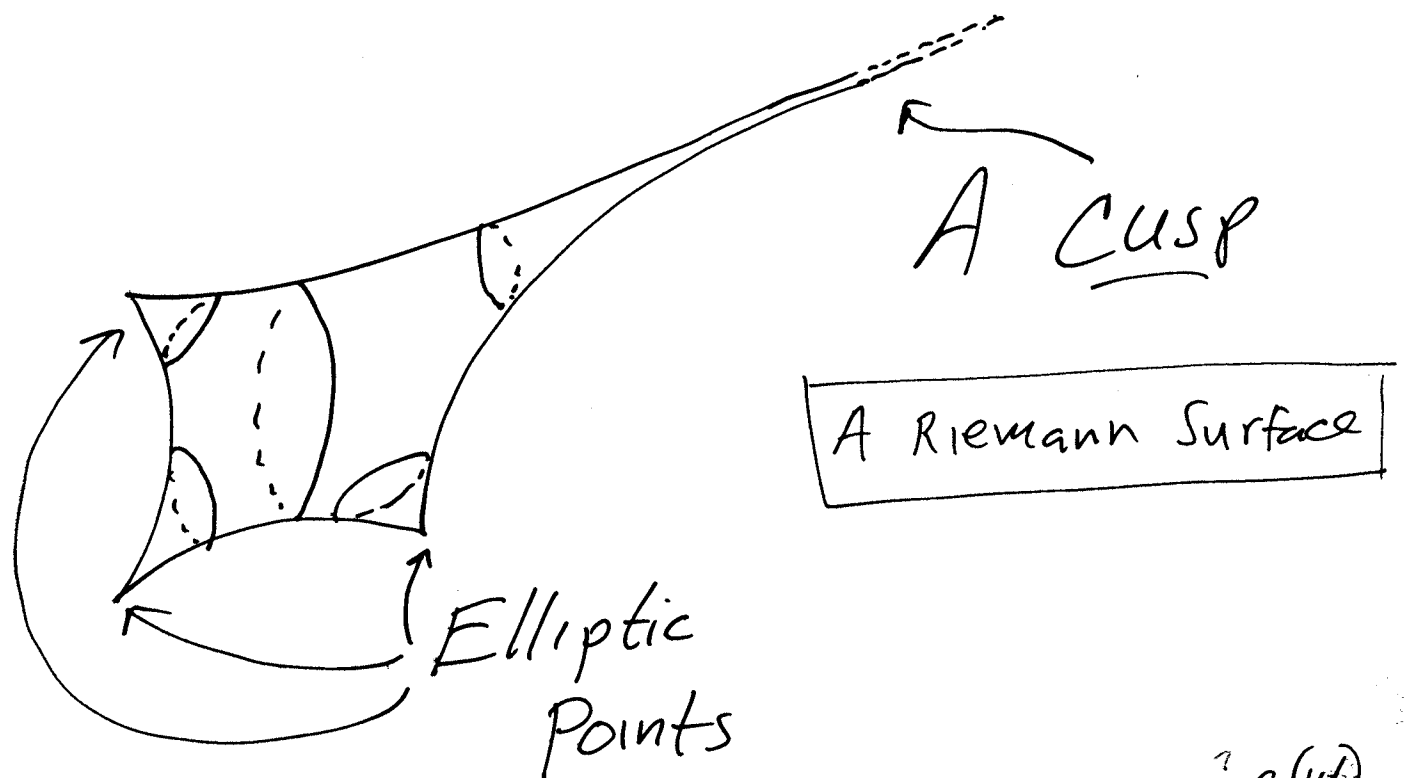
The A's are all the same size

The circles are straight lines.

This is "hyperbolic geometry."



FOLD UP THE FUNDAMENTAL DOMAIN



$R_3 f_2(4)$

Definition: A <sup>modular</sup> cusp form of weight  $k$  for the group  $\Gamma$  is a holomorphic function

$$f: \mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

such that

$$f\left(\frac{az+b}{cz+d}\right) = (cz+d)^k f(z) \quad \forall \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma$$

which is bounded and vanishes at all cusps of  $\Gamma$ .

$M_k(\Gamma)$

vector space of weight  $k$  modular forms for  $\Gamma$

$S_k(\Gamma)$

" " " " "  $k$   
cusp forms for  $\Gamma$

$$S_{k_1}(\Gamma_1) M_{k_2}(\Gamma_2) \subset S_{k_1+k_2}(\Gamma_1 \cap \Gamma_2)$$

## Modular forms exist

$$\dim(S_k(\Gamma_0(N))) \approx \frac{kN}{12} \quad (\text{there is a formula})$$

$$\Gamma_0(1) = SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \quad \text{generated by } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}(z) = z+1$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}(z) = -\frac{1}{z}$$

Proof: Euclidean algorithm

Eisenstein series:

$$G_k(z) = \sum'_{n,m} \frac{1}{(mz+n)^k} \quad k \geq 4, \text{ even}$$

$$\in M_k(\Gamma_0(1))$$

Exercise:  
Check the generators

$G_k$  not a cusp form because

$$G_k(i\infty) = \sum'_n \frac{1}{n^k} = 2\zeta(k)$$

Theorem:  $G_4$  and  $G_6$  freely generate the ring of modular forms on  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ .

Corollary: The first cusp form on  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  has weight 12

Linear operators on  $S_k(\Gamma_0(N))$

R<sub>3</sub><sup>10</sup>

$$\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$$

Notation:  $(f|_k \gamma)(z) = (cz+d)^{-k} f\left(\frac{az+b}{cz+d}\right)$

$$f\left(\frac{az+b}{cz+d}\right) = (cz+d)^k f(z) \iff f|_k \gamma = f$$

"stroke" or "slash"

The Fricke involution:  $H_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ N & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1/\sqrt{N} \\ \sqrt{N} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$H_N: S_k(\Gamma_0(N)) \rightarrow S_k(\Gamma_0(N)),$$

so  $S_k(\Gamma_0(N))$  has a basis of eigenfunctions of Fricke.

Proof:  $(f|_{H_N})|_k \gamma = f|_{\underbrace{H_N \gamma H_N}_{H_N}} H_N = f|_{H_N}$

because  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ N & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ cN & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ N & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -d & c \\ bN & -a \end{pmatrix}$

Exercise: Find all the white lies on this page

$f \in S_k(\Gamma_0(N))$ , eigenfunction of Fricke.

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma_0(N)$ , so  $f(z) = f(z+1)$

Fourier expansion  $f(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n e^{2\pi i n z}$

Note:  $n \geq 1$ .

Mellin transform to get an L-function:

$$\int_0^{\infty} f(iy) y^s \frac{dy}{y} = \int_0^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n e^{-2\pi n y} y^s \frac{dy}{y}$$

Re(s) large enough

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \int_0^{\infty} e^{-2\pi n y} y^s \frac{dy}{y}$$

$$y \rightarrow \frac{y'}{2\pi n} = (2\pi)^{-s} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{n^s} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-y'} y'^s \frac{dy'}{y'}$$

$$= (2\pi)^{-s} L(s) \Gamma(s)$$

## Functional equation

$$(2\pi)^{-s} \Gamma(s) L(s) = \int_0^{\infty} f(iy) y^s \frac{dy}{y}$$

$$f|H_N = \pm f$$

$$f\left(\frac{-1}{Nz}\right) = \pm N^{k/2} z^k f(z)$$

$$f\left(\frac{i}{Ny}\right) = \pm N^{k/2} i^k y^k f(iy)$$

Hecke's  
trick

$$= \int_A^{\infty} f(iy) y^s \frac{dy}{y} + \int_0^A f(iy) y^s \frac{dy}{y}$$

$$= \quad " \quad \pm \frac{1}{N^{k/2} i^k} \int_0^A f\left(\frac{i}{Ny}\right) y^{s-k} \frac{dy}{y}$$

$$y \rightarrow \frac{1}{Ny'} \quad = \int_A^{\infty} f(iy) y^s \frac{dy}{y} \pm \frac{N^{k-s}}{N^{k/2} i^k} \int_1^{\infty} f(iy) y^{k-s} \frac{dy}{y}$$

$\frac{1}{NA}$

RHS entire

chose  $A = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$  to get

$$\Lambda(s) = \left(\frac{\sqrt{N}}{2\pi}\right)^s \Gamma(s) L(s) = \pm i^k \Lambda(k-s)$$

## Hecke operators

$$T_p = \begin{pmatrix} p & \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & p \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ & p \end{pmatrix} + \dots + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & p^{-1} \\ & p \end{pmatrix}$$

$$T_p : S_k(\Gamma_0(N)) \rightarrow S_k(\Gamma_0(N)) \quad \text{if } p \nmid N$$

(other operators for  $p|N$ )

Demonstration:  $T_2 : S_k(\Gamma_0(1)) \rightarrow S_k(\Gamma_0(1))$ .

$$T_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & 0 \ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \left( \begin{pmatrix} 2 & \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ & 2 \end{pmatrix} \right) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & 0 \ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ & 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ & 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\equiv \begin{pmatrix} 2 & \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ & 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= T_2$$

ie,  $(f|T_2) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & 0 \ 1 \end{pmatrix} = f|T_2$

Exercise: Do the same for  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

The  $T_p$  commute with each other and with Fricke, so we can choose a basis of  $S_k(\Gamma_0(N))$  of simultaneous eigenfunctions

$f|T_p = c_p f$  means what?

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n e^{2\pi i n z} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n e(nz) \quad \boxed{a_1=1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f|T_2 &= f(2z) + f\left(\frac{z}{2}\right) + f\left(\frac{z+1}{2}\right) \\ &= \overset{\textcircled{2}}{e(2z)} + a_2 e(4z) + a_3 e(6z) + \dots \\ &\quad + e\left(\frac{z}{2}\right) + a_2 e(z) + a_3 e\left(\frac{3z}{2}\right) + a_4 e(2z) + \dots \overset{\textcircled{2}}{\rightarrow} \\ &\quad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \textcircled{1} \qquad \qquad \downarrow \\ &+ e\left(\frac{z}{2}\right) e\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + a_2 e(z) e(1) + a_3 e\left(\frac{3z}{2}\right) e\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) + \dots \\ &= a_2 e(z) + (a_4 + 1) e(2z) + a_6 e(3z) + \dots \\ &= c_2 (e(z) + a_2 e(2z) + a_3 e(3z) + \dots) \\ \text{iff } c_2 &= a_2, \quad a_2^2 = a_4 + 1, \quad a_2 a_3 = a_6, \text{ etc} \end{aligned}$$

Note: I was sloppy with the weight  $k$ .

$f$  eigenfunction of Hecke operators



$L(s, f)$  has a particular Euler product  
(Chris Hughes' homework prior to school).

$f \in H_k(N) =$  Hecke basis of  $S_k(\Gamma_0(N))$

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n e(nz)$$

$$L(s, f) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n n^{\frac{k-1}{2}}}{n^s}$$

$$L(s) \leftrightarrow L(1-s)$$

Moments:  $\sum_{f \in H_k(N)} L(\frac{1}{2}, f)^M$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$   
or  $N \rightarrow \infty$

Zeros: Distribution of  
low-lying zeros  
(Small imaginary part)

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