

Images of hyperbolic groups

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E elliptic curve over \mathbb{Q} :

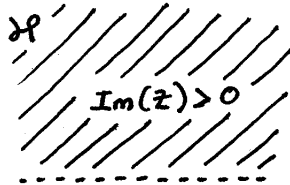


$$Y^2Z = 4X^3 + aXZ^2 + bZ^3$$

$$a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$$

Taniyama-Shimura:

$$E \cong (\mathcal{H} \cup \mathbb{Q}\mathbb{P}^1)/\Gamma,$$



$\Gamma \leq \mathrm{SL}_2\mathbb{Z}$ defined by congruences:

there is $m \in \mathbb{Z}^{>0}$, $A_1, \dots, A_k \in \mathrm{SL}_2\mathbb{Z}$

with $A_1 = \mathrm{Id}$, such that

$$\Gamma = \{A \in \mathrm{SL}_2\mathbb{Z} : A \equiv A_i \pmod{m} \text{ for some } i\}.$$

} \Rightarrow FLT



obstruction: is every $\Gamma \leq_n \mathrm{SL}_2\mathbb{Z}$ defined by congruences?

Weil-Belyi \Rightarrow

$$E \cong (\mathcal{H} \cup \mathbb{Q}\mathbb{P}^1)/\Gamma \text{ where } \Gamma \leq_n \mathrm{SL}_2\mathbb{Z}$$

Arithmetic groups and congruence subgroups

$V_{\mathbb{Q}}$ a \mathbb{Q} -space, $V = V_{\mathbb{Q}} \otimes \mathbb{R}$.

$\mathbb{G} \subseteq GL(V)$ a real algebraic \mathbb{Q} -group.

$\Lambda (\cong \mathbb{Z}^n)$ free \mathbb{Z} -module in $V_{\mathbb{Q}}$,

$$\mathbb{G}_{\Lambda} = \{g \in \mathbb{G} : g(\Lambda) = \Lambda\}.$$

$\Gamma \leq \mathbb{G}$ arithmetic $\Leftrightarrow \Gamma$ commensurable with \mathbb{G}_{Λ} for some Λ .

$\Gamma \cap \mathbb{G}_{\Lambda}$ \nearrow finite index in Γ and \mathbb{G}_{Λ}

$\Gamma \leq G$ semisimple real Lie group ($< \infty$ components) is *arithmetic* \Leftrightarrow there is a semisimple \mathbb{G} as above, and

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{\mathbb{G}}^o & \xrightarrow{\text{epimorphism } \psi} & G^o \\ p \downarrow \text{covering} & & \\ \mathbb{G}^o & & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} (1). \text{ ker } \psi \text{ compact;} \\ (2). \psi(p^{-1}(\mathbb{G}_{\Lambda}^o)) \text{ commensurable with } \Gamma. \end{array}$$

Γ arithmetic; $\Gamma(m) = \{\gamma \in \Gamma : \gamma \equiv \text{Id} \pmod{m}\}$;

A subgroup of Γ is *congruence* iff contains a $\Gamma(m)$ for some m .

Congruence Subgroup Problem. Let $\Gamma \subseteq G$ be arithmetic. Are all finite index subgroups of Γ congruence subgroups?

Many positive solutions for $\Gamma \subseteq G$, $\text{rk}_{\mathbb{R}} G > 1$.

[Serre, Bass, Milnor, Matsumoto, Raghunathan, Platinov, . . .]

On the other hand: $V_{\mathbb{K}}$ $(n + 1)$ -dim. space over $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}$ or \mathbb{H} . quaternions
↙

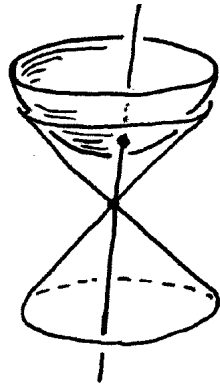
$B(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = -u_1\bar{v}_1 + \sum_{i \geq 2} u_i\bar{v}_i$ Hermitian form signature $(1, n)$.

$\mathbb{K}H^n = \{\mathbf{v} \in V_{\mathbb{K}} \mid B(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}) < 0\} / \mathbf{v} \sim \lambda\mathbf{v}$,

(“Projectivised time-like vectors”)

gives n -dim. \mathbb{K} -hyperbolic space.

eg: $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}, n = 2$:



$\mathbb{R}H^n (= \mathbb{J}^n), \mathbb{C}H^n, \mathbb{H}H^n$
 $+ \mathbb{O}H^n$ (octave hyperbolic plane). . .

. . . the (\mathbb{R} -) rank 1 symmetric spaces.

$SU_{1,n}(\mathbb{K}) = f \in \text{SL}(V_{\mathbb{K}})$ preserving form B ,

. . . gives \mathbb{R} -rank 1 simple groups,

$SO_{1,n}, SU_{1,n}, Sp_{1,n}$ and F_4 .

Some negative solutions ($\text{rk}_{\mathbb{R}} G = 1$)

Conjecture (Serre 1970). Γ arithmetic $\subseteq G$ simple, $\text{rk}_{\mathbb{R}} G = 1$, then Γ *fails* to have the congruence subgroup property.

Millson's property: $\Gamma' \leq \Gamma$ with $b_1 = \text{rk}_{\mathbb{Z}} H_1(\Gamma') \neq 0 \Rightarrow \Gamma$ fails CSP.

(i). arithmetic $\Gamma \subseteq \text{SO}_{1,n}(\mathbb{R})$, $n \neq 3, 7$, then all have Millson's property;

[Millson, Li, Raghunathan, Venkataramana, Lubotzky, . . .]

(ii). arithmetic $\Gamma \subseteq \text{SU}_{1,n}(\mathbb{C})$, all have Millson's property;

[Kazhdan, Shimura, Borel, Wallach]

(iii). $\Gamma \subseteq$ other $\text{rk}_{\mathbb{R}} = 1$ groups $\Rightarrow \text{rk}_{\mathbb{Z}} H_1(\Gamma) = 0$.

Subgroup growth: If Γ to have congruence subgroup property then asymptotically,

$$\log \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{number of subgroups of index } \leq n}}{\sigma_n(\Gamma)} \sim \frac{\log n}{\log \log n}$$

But, eg: if $\Gamma \subseteq \text{SO}_{1,n}$, $n = 2, 3$ then $\sigma_n(\Gamma)$ grows quicker than this!

Property (A). Γ surjects infinitely many alternating groups A_n .

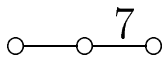
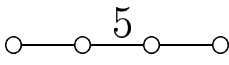
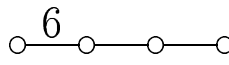
... arose historically from ...

The Hurwitz Problem: M orientable compact (resp. non-compact, finite volume) $\mathbb{R}H^n$ -manifold; then

$$(1) \quad |\text{Aut}^+(M)| \leq \frac{\text{vol}(M)}{\text{vol}(\mathbb{R}H^n/\Gamma)},$$

$\Gamma =$ uniform (resp. non-uniform) lattice in $\text{Isom}^+\mathbb{R}H^n$ of smallest volume.

Which finite (simple) $G = \text{Aut}(M)$ for M achieving (1)? \Leftrightarrow Which finite (simple) G arise as $1 \rightarrow \pi_1(M) \rightarrow \Gamma \rightarrow G \rightarrow 1$?

	compact	non-compact
$n = 2$	$\Gamma =$ triangle group  “classical Hurwitz problem” [Conder]	$\Gamma = \text{PSL}_2\mathbb{Z} \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) * (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})$ “(2, 3)-generation problem” [Miller]
$n = 3$	$\Gamma = (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \ltimes$ tetrahedral group  [Everitt]	$\Gamma =$ tetrahedral group  [Everitt]
$n \geq 4$?	?

Some groups with property (A)

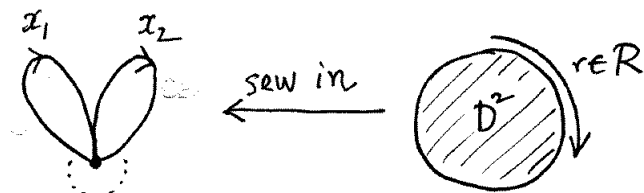
[Pyber-Müller] $A * B$ for A, B finite, non-trivial, not both $\cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$, surjects almost all A_n .

[Everitt, conjectured by G. Higman c1969] Every lattice in $\mathrm{PSL}_2\mathbb{R} (\approx \mathrm{SO}_{1,2}(\mathbb{R}))$ surjects almost all A_n .

\Rightarrow eg: given $p, q, r \in \mathbb{Z}^{>0}$ prime, with $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} + \frac{1}{r} < 1$, there is $N \in \mathbb{Z}^{>0}$ such that A_n is (p, q, r) -generated for all $n \geq N$.

To show $\Gamma = \langle X; R \rangle$ has property (A):

$$\Gamma \rightarrow \mathrm{Sym} \Omega \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\text{finite}} \\ \rightleftharpoons \\ \downarrow \\ K_0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} K \\ \text{finite covering of } CW\text{-complexes} \dots \end{array}$$

... where $\pi_1(K_0) \cong \Gamma$, eg: 

Look for complexes that can be “pasted” together:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} K_i \\ \downarrow \\ K_0 \end{array} \right\}_{i=1\dots n} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} [[K_1 \dots K_n]] \\ \downarrow \\ K_0 \end{array}$$

$$\{\Gamma \rightarrow \mathrm{Sym} \Omega_i\}_{i=1\dots n} \quad \Gamma \rightarrow \mathrm{Sym} (\cup_i \Omega_i)$$

Finally, use classical “recognition theorems” for A_n .

$\Gamma \subseteq G$ arithmetic with property (A) $\Rightarrow \Gamma$ *fails* to have the congruence subgroup property.

Question. Does every lattice $\Gamma \subseteq G$, simple, $\text{rk}_{\mathbb{R}} = 1$ have property (A)?

	(A)	CSP
“unambiguously” rank 1	all Γ	all fail
$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{SO}_{1,2}(\mathbb{R}) \\ \text{SO}_{1,n}(\mathbb{R}), n \geq 3 \\ \text{SU}_{1,n}(\mathbb{C}) \end{array} \right.$	some examples	all fail*
“rank 2-ish” eg:	?	?
property (T) ...	?	?
$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Sp}_{1,n}(\mathbb{H}) \\ \text{F}_4 \end{array} \right.$		

(* some exceptions when $n = 7$)