

The work of Granville–Stark on *ABC* and Siegel zeros

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Math 726: Topics in Number Theory
Modular forms and the theory of complex multiplication

1 Introduction

2 Lower bounds for $h(D)$

3 The Siegel zero

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Notation

- $D < 0$ fundamental discriminant (so $\sqrt{D} \notin \mathbb{R}$, $D = \text{disc } \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})$);
- $Cl(D) =$ class group of $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})$;
- $h(D) = |Cl(D)|$ class number of $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})$;
- $j = j$ -invariant function:

$$j(\tau) := \frac{\left(1 + 240 \sum_{n \geq 1} \left(\sum_{d|n} d^3\right) q^n\right)^3}{q \prod_{n \geq 1} (1 - q^n)^{24}} \quad \left(\Im(\tau) > 0, q = e^{2\pi i \tau}\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} j(\tau + 1) &= j(\tau), \\ j(-1/\tau) &= j(\tau); \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} j(i) &= 1728, \\ j(e^{2\pi i/3}) &= 0, \\ "j(i\infty) &= 1\infty"; \end{aligned}$$

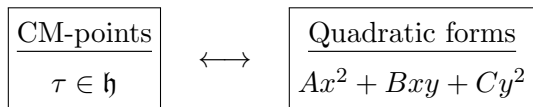
q -expansion of j :

$$j(\tau) = \frac{1}{q} + 744 + 196884q + \dots$$

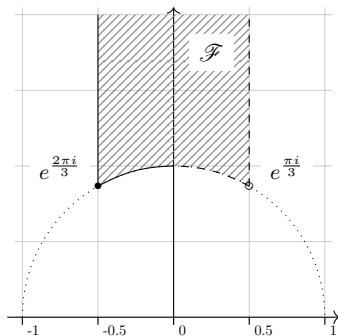
Singular moduli (1/2)

Let $\tau \in \mathfrak{h}$ ($\Im(\tau) > 0$)

- CM-point: $\tau \mid A\tau^2 + B\tau + C = 0$ ($A, B, C \in \mathbb{Z}$, $A > 0$, $\gcd(A, B, C) = 1$, unique)
- Singular modulus: $j(\tau)$ ($j = j$ -invariant, τ a CM-point)



- $\text{disc}(\tau) := B^2 - 4AC$
- $\tau \sim \tau' \iff (A, B, C) \sim (A', B', C')$
- $\tau \in \mathcal{F} \iff (A, B, C)$ *reduced*



Singular moduli (2/2)

Heegner points Λ_D

Reduced prim. quad. forms of disc. D

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{CM-points } \tau \in \mathcal{F}, \\ \text{disc}(\tau) = D \end{array} \right\} \longleftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (a, b, c) := ax^2 + bxy + cy^2 \\ \text{s.t. } b^2 - 4ac = D, \text{ and} \\ -a < b \leq a < c \text{ or } 0 \leq b \leq a = c \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\tau_D := \underbrace{\frac{\sqrt{D}}{2}}_{D \equiv 0(4)} \text{ or } \underbrace{\frac{-1 + \sqrt{D}}{2}}_{D \equiv 1(4)}$$

$$\leftrightarrow \underbrace{\text{Principal form}}_{(1,0,-\frac{D}{4}) \text{ or } (1,1,\frac{1-D}{4})}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}[\tau_D] = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})}$$

Write $H_D :=$ Hilbert class field of $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})$.

- $H_D = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D}, j(\tau_D))$ $\left([H_D : \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})] = [\mathbb{Q}(j(\tau_D)) : \mathbb{Q}] = h(D) \right)$
- $\{j(\tau) \mid \tau \in \Lambda_D\} = \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D}))$ -conjugates of $j(\tau_D)$
- $j(\tau_D)$ is an algebraic **integer!**

The equation $x^3 - Dy^2 = 1728$

In class, we saw the equation $x^3 - Dy^2 = 1728$ ($= j(i)$).

- Factorization of differences of singular moduli
- Solutions of the type $(j(\tau_D), j(\tau_D) - 1728) = (x^3, Dy^2)$
- Idea: $ABC \implies$ few such solns \implies **lower bounds for $h(D)$**

ABC :
($a + b = c$)

$$a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ coprime. } \forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists C_\varepsilon > 0 \text{ s.t.} \\ \max\{|a|, |b|, |c|\} < C_\varepsilon \left(\prod_{p|abc} p \right)^{1+\varepsilon}$$

Example (Class number 1)

We've seen that $h(D) = 1 \implies x, y\sqrt{|D|} \in \mathbb{Z}$. However, in this case,

$$|j(\tau_D)| \leq \max\{|x|^3, |y\sqrt{|D|}|^2, 1728\} \leq C_\varepsilon \cdot |x \cdot y\sqrt{|D|}|^{1+\varepsilon} \\ \leq C_\varepsilon \cdot |j(\tau_D)|^{\frac{5}{6}(1+\varepsilon)},$$

so there can only be finitely many $D < 0$ with $h(D) = 1$. △

How does $h(D)$ grow?

What do we know?

- $h(D) \rightarrow \infty$ as $D \rightarrow -\infty$ (Heilbronn, 1934)
 - List $h(D)$ (small values of $|D|$)
 - Estimate $h(D)$ (large values of $|D|$)
- $-D \in \{3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 19, 43, 67, 163\}$ are the *only* D s.t. $h(D) = 1$
 - Solved by Heegner (~ 1952) [based on Weber's work]
 - Reworked and clarified by Stark, Birch (1967 \sim 9)
 - Baker's solution (~ 1970) [based on Baker's theorem]
- $h(D)$ grows *roughly* like $|D|^{1/2}$ (GRH \implies $\text{err} \approx (\log \log |D|)^{\pm 1}$)
 - Hecke (1917): If $\zeta_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})}(s) \neq 0$ **near** 1, then $\frac{h(D)}{|D|^{1/2}} \gg (\log |D|)^{-1}$
 - Landau (1918): $\max \left\{ \frac{h(D_1)}{|D_1|^{1/2}}, \frac{h(D_2)}{|D_2|^{1/2}} \right\} \gg (\log |D_1 D_2|)^{-1}$
 - Siegel (1935): $\frac{h(D)}{|D|^{1/2}} \gg_{\varepsilon} |D|^{-\varepsilon}$ (unconditional but ineffective)

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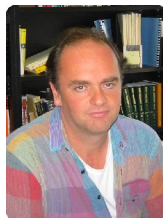
3 The Siegel zero

The Granville–Stark Theorem

Theorem (Granville–Stark, 2000)

Uniform abc-conj. \implies “No Siegel zeros” for
 $\zeta_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})}(s), D < 0$

- Study $x^3 - y^2 = 1728$
- Uniform *ABC* for number fields (*U-abc*)
- *U-abc* \implies lower bounds for $h(D)$
- Lower bounds $h(D) \iff \frac{1}{2}$ “no Siegel zeros”



A. Granville



H. Stark

The equation $x^3 - y^2 = 1728$

- Solutions of the type $(j(\tau_D), j(\tau_D) - 1728) = (x^3, y^2)$

ABC (for \mathbb{Q}): $\log \max\{|a|, |b|, |c|\} < (1 + \varepsilon) \underbrace{\sum_{p|abc} \log p}_{\text{log-conductor}} + O_\varepsilon(1)$

- Applying the same logic for $x^3 - y^2 - 1728 = 0$, we would get:

$$\begin{aligned} \log \max\{|x|^3, |y|^2\} &\leq \log \max\{|x|^3, |y|^2, 1728\} \\ &\stackrel{abc}{\leq} (1 + \varepsilon) \log\text{-cond}(12|xy|) + \mathbf{tax} \\ &\leq \frac{5}{6} (1 + \varepsilon) \log \max\{|x|^3, |y|^2\} + \mathbf{tax} \end{aligned}$$

How to make
this precise? \longrightarrow

$$\log \max\{|x|^3, |y|^2\} < (6 + \varepsilon') \cdot \mathbf{tax}$$

abc -conjecture for number fields (1/2)

Let K/\mathbb{Q} be a NF, \mathcal{M}_K its places, $\mathcal{M}_K^{\text{non}} \subseteq \mathcal{M}_K$ non-arch. places

For a point $P = [x_0 : \cdots : x_n] \in \mathbb{P}_K^n$, define:

- (naïve, abs, log) height $\text{ht}(P)$

$$\frac{1}{[K : \mathbb{Q}]} \sum_{v \in \mathcal{M}_K} \log \left(\max_i \{ \|x_i\|_v \} \right)$$

- (log) conductor $\mathcal{N}_K(P)$

$$\frac{1}{[K : \mathbb{Q}]} \sum_{\substack{v \in \mathcal{M}_K^{\text{non}} \\ \exists i, j \leq n \text{ s.t.} \\ v(x_i) \neq v(x_j)}} f_v \log(p_v)$$

For $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ coprime,

- $\text{ht}([a : b : c]) = \log \max\{|a|, |b|, |c|\}$
- $\mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{Q}}([a : b : c]) = \log \left(\prod_{p|abc} p \right)$

$$\begin{aligned} & \updownarrow \\ & \begin{cases} v \sim \mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{p}_v \\ p_v \sim \mathfrak{p}_v \cap \mathbb{Q} \\ f_v := [K_v : \mathbb{Q}_{p_v}] \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

For $\alpha \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$, $\text{ht}(\alpha) := \text{ht}([\alpha : 1])$.

$$\alpha \text{ integral} \Rightarrow \text{ht}(\alpha) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{A}|} \sum_{\alpha^* \in \mathcal{A}} \log^+ |\alpha^*|$$

$$\mathcal{A} = \{\text{conjugates of } \alpha\}$$

abc-conjecture for number fields (2/2)

abc-conjecture for number fields

Fix K/\mathbb{Q} a number field. Then, for every $\varepsilon > 0$, there is $\mathcal{C}(K, \varepsilon) \in \mathbb{R}_+$ such that, $\forall a, b, c \in K \mid a + b + c = 0$, we have

$$\text{ht}([a : b : c]) < (1 + \varepsilon) \left(\mathcal{N}_K([a : b : c]) + \log(\text{rd}_K) \right) + \mathcal{C}(K, \varepsilon),$$

where $\text{rd}_K := |\Delta_K|^{1/[K:\mathbb{Q}]}$ is the root-discriminant of K .

Example (a, b, c integral, coprime)

For $a, b, c \in \mathcal{O}_K$ coprime (meaning $v(a) \neq v(b) \neq v(c)$ for $v < \infty$),

$$\max\{|\mathbb{N}_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(a)|^{\frac{1}{[K:\mathbb{Q}]}} , |\mathbb{N}_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(b)|^{\frac{1}{[K:\mathbb{Q}]}} , |\mathbb{N}_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(c)|^{\frac{1}{[K:\mathbb{Q}]}} \} < C_{K,\varepsilon} \left(|\Delta_K| \prod_{\mathfrak{p} \mid (abc)} |\mathcal{O}_K / \mathfrak{p}\mathcal{O}_K| \right)^{1+\varepsilon},$$

with $C_{K,\varepsilon} = \exp([K : \mathbb{Q}] \cdot \mathcal{C}(K, \varepsilon))$.

What do we get?

$$(j(\tau_D), j(\tau_D) - 1728) = (x^3, y^2) \quad \boxed{x^3 - y^2 = 1728}$$

$$j(\tau_D) \in \mathbb{H}_D \quad \tilde{\mathbb{H}}_D := \mathbb{H}_D(x, y) \quad ([\tilde{\mathbb{H}}_D : \mathbb{H}_D] \leq 6)$$

- “ $\log \max\{|x|^3, |y|^2\}$ ” $< (6 + \varepsilon) \cdot \mathbf{tax}(\tilde{\mathbb{H}}_D, \varepsilon)$

More precisely:

$$\text{ht}(j(\tau_D)) < 6 \left((1 + \varepsilon) \log(\text{rd}_{\tilde{\mathbb{H}}_D}) + \mathcal{C}(\tilde{\mathbb{H}}_D, \varepsilon) \right)$$

- “Factorization”: $\text{rd}_{\tilde{\mathbb{H}}_D} \leq 6\sqrt{|D|}$ ($\text{rd}_{\mathbb{H}_D} = \text{rd}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})} = \sqrt{|D|}$)

- Uniform ABC-conj.: $\mathcal{C}(K, \varepsilon) = \mathcal{C}(\varepsilon)$

$$\implies \mathbf{tax}(\varepsilon) \lesssim \frac{1}{2} \log |D|$$

Lower bounds for $h(D)$

Lemma [G–S]

Unif. *ABC*-conj. $\implies \text{ht}(j(\tau_D)) \leq (3 + o(1)) \log |D|$

However,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ht}(j(\tau_D)) &= \frac{1}{h(D)} \sum_{(a,b,c)} \log^+ |j(\tau_{(a,b,c)})| \\ &= \frac{1}{h(D)} \sum_{(a,b,c)} \frac{\pi\sqrt{|D|}}{a} + O(1), \end{aligned}$$

and thus:

Theorem [G–S]

$$h(D) \stackrel{\text{U-abc}}{\geq} \left(\frac{\pi}{3} + o(1) \right) \frac{\sqrt{|D|}}{\log |D|} \sum_{(a,b,c)} \frac{1}{a}$$

$$ax^2 + bxy + cy^2$$

reduced,

$$b^2 - 4ac = D$$

$$\tau_{(a,b,c)} = \frac{-b + \sqrt{D}}{2a}$$

q-expansion!

$$j(\tau) = \frac{1}{q} + O(1)$$

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Dedekind zeta function of $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})$

$$\zeta_K(s) = \sum_{\mathfrak{a} \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K} \frac{1}{\mathfrak{N}(\mathfrak{a})^s} = \frac{c_{-1}}{s-1} + c_0 + O(s-1) \quad (s \rightarrow 1)$$

Conjecture (“no Siegel zeros” for $D < 0$)

There is $\delta > 0$ such that $\zeta_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})}(\beta) \neq 0$ for $1 - \frac{\delta}{\log |D|} \leq \beta < 1$.

- Dirichlet’s class number formula: $c_{-1}(D) = \frac{\pi h(D)}{\sqrt{|D|}} \quad (D < -4)$

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})}(\beta) &\leq -\frac{1}{\delta} \frac{\pi h(D) \log |D|}{\sqrt{|D|}} + c_0(D) + O((\log |D|)^{-1}) \\ &\stackrel{\text{U-abc}}{\leq} -\left(\frac{1}{\delta} + o(1)\right) \sum_{(a,b,c)} \frac{1}{a} + \boxed{c_0(D)} + o(1) \end{aligned}$$

Kronecker's limit formula (KLF)

We just need to show that $c_0(D) \ll \sum_{(a,b,c)} \frac{1}{a}$ (as $D \rightarrow -\infty$).

$$\zeta_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})}(s) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{(a,b,c)} \underbrace{\left(\sum_{\substack{m,n=-\infty \\ m,n \neq 0}}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{(am^2 + bmn + cn^2)^s} \right)}_{\text{Epstein zeta function: } Z_{(a,b,c)}(s)}$$

KLF [Kronecker 1863, Weber 1881, ..., Chowla–Selberg 1967, ...]

The constant term (c_0) of $Z_{(a,b,c)}(s)$ as $s \rightarrow 1$ is given by:

$$\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{|D|}} \left(2\gamma - \log(2) - \frac{1}{2} \log |D| - \log \left(\frac{\sqrt{|D|}}{2a} \left| \eta \left(\frac{-b + \sqrt{D}}{2a} \right) \right|^4 \right) \right)$$

Estimating $c_0(D)$

$$c_0(D) = \frac{\pi^2}{6} \sum_{(a,b,c)} \frac{1}{a} - \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{|D|}} \sum_{(a,b,c)} \log \left(\frac{\sqrt{|D|}}{2a} \right) + O \left(\frac{h(D)}{\sqrt{|D|}} \right)$$

- Because $a \leq \sqrt{|D|/3}$, we have

$$\frac{h(D)}{\sqrt{|D|}} = \sum_{(a,b,c)} \frac{1}{\sqrt{|D|}} \ll \sum_{(a,b,c)} \frac{1}{a}$$

- For the “log” term,

$$\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{|D|}} \sum_{(a,b,c)} \log \left(\frac{\sqrt{|D|}}{2a} \right) = \frac{\pi h(D)}{\sqrt{|D|}} \left(\frac{1}{h(D)} \sum_{(a,b,c)} \log \Im(\tau_{(a,b,c)}) \right) + o(1)$$

where $\tau_{(a,b,c)} = (-b + \sqrt{D})/2a$. **How to estimate this?**

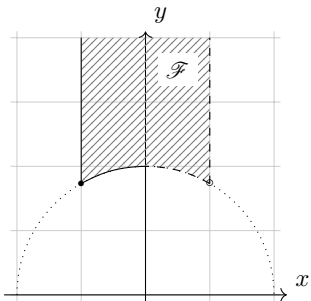
Duke's equidistribution theorem

Theorem (Duke, 1988)

$\Lambda_D = \{\tau_{(a,b,c)} \mid b^2 - 4ac = D\}$ is equidistributed in \mathcal{F} .

If $f : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is Riemann-integrable, then:

$$\lim_{D \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1}{h(D)} \sum_{(a,b,c)} f(\tau_{(a,b,c)}) = \int_{\mathcal{F}} f(z) d\mu$$



$$z = x + iy$$

$$d\mu = \frac{3}{\pi} \frac{dx dy}{y^2}$$

(Normalized
hyperbolic area
element)



W. Duke

Conclusion

Using Duke's theorem, the “log” term becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi h(D)}{\sqrt{|D|}} \left(\frac{1}{h(D)} \sum_{(a,b,c)} \log \mathfrak{S}(\tau_{(a,b,c)}) \right) &\sim \frac{\pi h(D)}{\sqrt{|D|}} \left(\frac{3}{\pi} \int_{\mathcal{F}} \frac{\log y}{y^2} dx dy \right) \\ &= \frac{\pi h(D)}{\sqrt{|D|}} \cdot 0.952934 \dots \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\text{“log” term} = O\left(\frac{h(D)}{\sqrt{|D|}}\right) = O\left(\sum_{(a,b,c)} \frac{1}{a}\right). \quad \square$$

$$h(D) \gg \frac{\sqrt{|D|}}{\log |D|} \sum_{(a,b,c)} \frac{1}{a} \iff \text{“no Siegel zeros” for } D < 0$$

Thank you!



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