

# Lecture II: Algebraic $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -actions

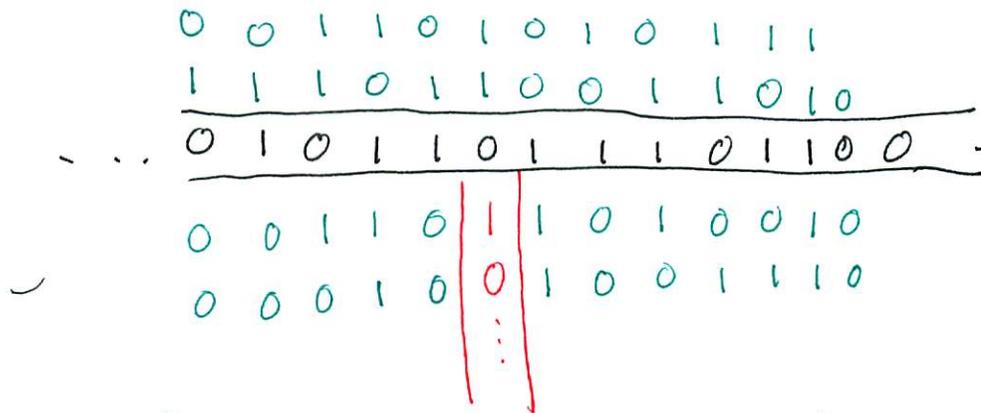
Motivating example (Ledrappier (1978), "∴ for  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ ")

Start with  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{\mathbb{Z}^2}$ , compact gp,  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ -action  
 gen by  $\leftarrow, \downarrow$ .

$$(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{\mathbb{Z}^2} \supset X := \{te(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{\mathbb{Z}^2} : t_{k,e} + t_{k+1,e} + t_{k,e+1} = 0 \forall k,e\}$$



Typical pt in X



X is  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ -shift invariant (∴ everywhere)  
 and a compact subgroup (∴ is additive)  
 $(X, \alpha = \langle \leftarrow, \downarrow \rangle)$  "classical Ledrappier"

Why?  $r$ -fold mixing problem:

$T: (Y, \nu) \rightarrow (Y, \nu)$  meas. preserving

2-mixing:  $\nu(E_1 \cap T^n E_2) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \nu(E_1) \nu(E_2)$

3-mixing:  $\nu(E_1 \cap T^n E_2 \cap T^{n+m} E_3) \xrightarrow{n, m \rightarrow \infty} \prod_1^3 \nu(E_j)$

Why? 2-mix  $\Rightarrow$  3-mix? Still open!!

Classical Ledrappier is  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ -action that is 2-mix but not 3-mix.

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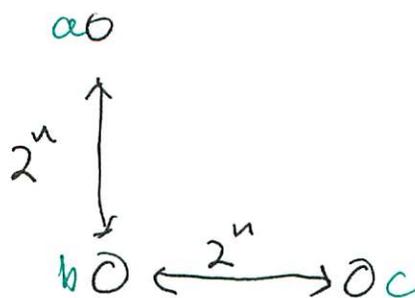
1 1  
1 2 1  
1 3 3 1

$\binom{2^n}{k} \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$

for all  $1 \leq k \leq 2^n - 1$

① ~~4~~<sup>0</sup> ~~6~~<sup>0</sup> ~~4~~<sup>0</sup> ①

So have long-range 3-correlations



$a + b + c \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$

Deeper structure : There are exactly three "flavors" of locally compact fields

- $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{C}$  [char=0, archimedian]
- $\mathbb{Q}_p$  and  $\mathbb{Q}_p(\theta)$  [char=0, non-arch]
- $\mathbb{F}_p((t))$  + finite ext's [char=p, non-arch]

$$\mathbb{F}_2((t)) = \left\{ a_{-n} t^{-n} + a_{-n+1} t^{-n+1} + \dots + a_0 + a_1 t + \dots : a_j \in \mathbb{F}_2 \text{ all } j \right\}$$

How to invert? Geometric series:

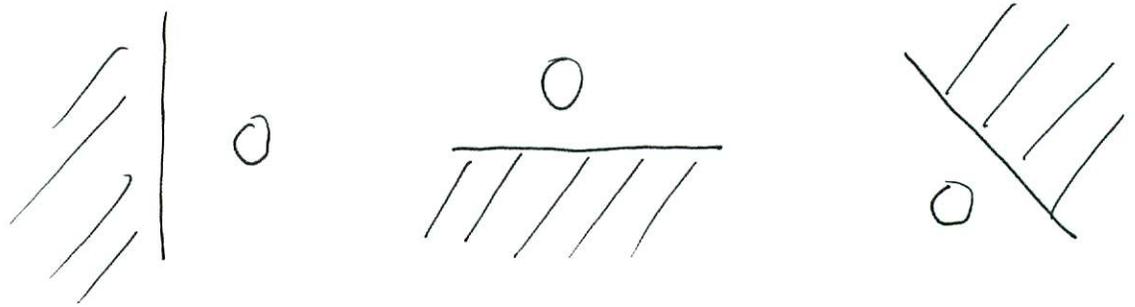
$$\frac{1}{1-u} = 1 + u + u^2 + \dots$$

$$\frac{1}{1 - a_1 t - a_2 t^2 - \dots} = 1 + (a_1 t + a_2 t^2 + \dots)_2 + (a_1 t + a_2 t^2 + \dots)_3 + (a_1 t + a_2 t^2 + \dots)^3 + \dots \quad (\text{if convergent?})$$

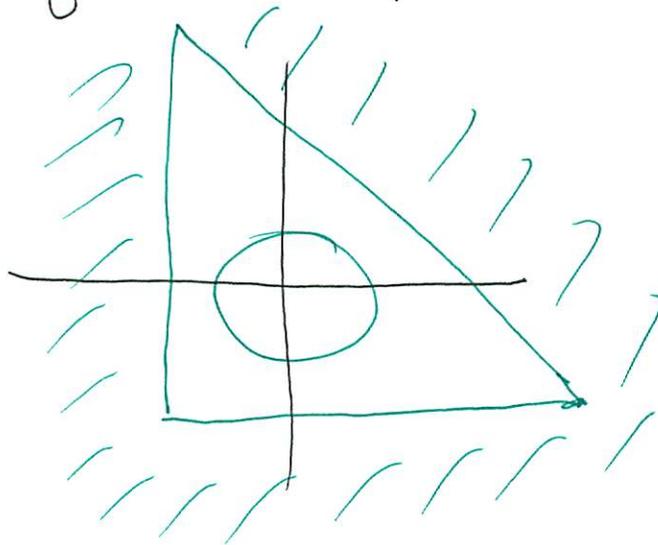
Topology induced from  $\mathbb{F}_p^{\mathbb{Z}}$ .

Recall the example  $f(x) = 2x - 3$ , "locally" like  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{Q}_2 \times \mathbb{Q}_3$ , so near 0 there are three "coordinates".

Classical Ledvappier is locally a product of 3 copies of  $\mathbb{F}_2((t))$ :

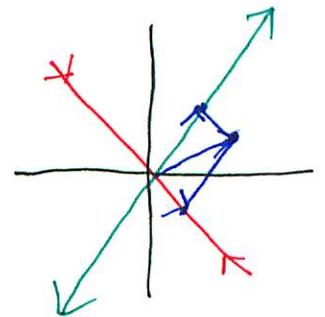


Any pt in  $X$  close to 0 is the unique sum of three coord pts



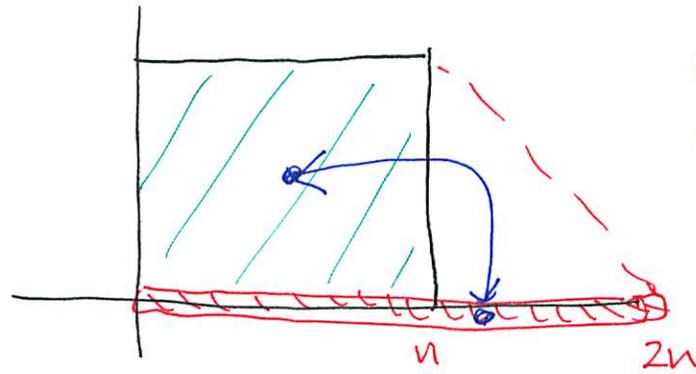
= sum of Three pts as above.

Like local coord for eigensp:



Entropy: Look at  $n \times n$  "windows"

$$\frac{1}{n^2} (\log \# \text{ patterns in } n \times n \text{ window}) \rightarrow h$$



each determine  
the other

$$\frac{1}{n^2} \log 2^{2n} = \frac{2n}{n^2} \log 2 \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow h=0$$

Not the end of the story: There are  
1-dimensional directional entropies.

RK:  $\{0, \frac{1}{2}\} \subset \mathbb{T}$  gp isom to  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ .

So there is a version of classical Ledrappier  
using  $\{0, \frac{1}{n}, \frac{2}{n}, \dots, \frac{n-1}{n}\}$ , and same  
argument shows all of these have  $h=0$ .

Let " $n \rightarrow \infty$ ", and use  $\mathbb{T}$  in each  
coordinate, together with  $\dots$

What is  $h$ ?

$$X = \{t \in \mathbb{T}^{\mathbb{Z}^2} : t_{k,e} + t_{k+1,e} + t_{k,e+1} = 0 \quad \forall k, l\}$$

$\alpha = \langle \leftarrow, \downarrow \rangle$ . Duality:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{T}^{\mathbb{Z}^2} & \xleftrightarrow{\hat{\quad}} & \bigoplus_{\mathbb{Z}^2} \mathbb{Z} = \bigoplus_{k,l} \mathbb{Z} x^k y^l = \mathbb{Z}[x^{\pm}, y^{\pm}] \\
 \uparrow & & \downarrow \\
 X & \xleftrightarrow{\quad} & \mathbb{Z}[x^{\pm}, y^{\pm}] / \langle 1+x+y \rangle \\
 \alpha & \xleftrightarrow{\quad} & \langle \cdot x, \cdot y \rangle
 \end{array}$$

Log Mahler measure of  $f(x,y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x^{\pm}, y^{\pm}]$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 m(f) &= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \log |f(e^{2\pi i s_1}, e^{2\pi i s_2})| ds_1 ds_2 \\
 &= \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} \log |f|
 \end{aligned}$$

Thm (L-Schmidt-Ward):

$$h(\cdot, \cdot \text{ for } \mathbb{T}) = m(1+x+y) \cong 0.3230$$

Build up a plausibility argument for  $\mathcal{P}_f$ .

Initial example:  $f(x) = x^2 - x - 1$ .  $f^*(x) = x^{-2} - x^{-1} - 1$ .

$$\mathbb{T}^{\mathbb{Z}} \ni t \leftrightarrow \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} t_n x^n$$

$$p_f(t) = t \cdot f^*(x)$$

$$= (\dots + t_0 + t_1 x + t_2 x^2 + t_3 x^3 + \dots)(x^{-2} - x^{-1} - 1)$$

$$= \dots + (t_2 - t_1 - t_0) + (t_3 - t_2 - t_1)x + \dots$$

$$t \in X_f \Leftrightarrow p_f(t) = 0.$$

Compute  $p_n = \#$  pts of period  $n$ .

Start with all period  $n$  pts, cut down to  $X_f$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} & & \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ [0,1) \ni \tilde{t} \in \mathbb{R} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{p}_f^{(n)}} & \mathbb{R} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ t \in \mathbb{T}^{\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}} & \xrightarrow{p_f^{(n)}} & \mathbb{T}^{\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}} \end{array}$$

$$t \in X_f \Leftrightarrow \tilde{p}_f^{(n)}(\tilde{t}) \in \mathbb{Z}^{\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}}$$

$$p_n = |\det \tilde{p}_f^{(n)}|$$

But can diagonalize shift!

$\Omega_n = n^{\text{th}}$  roots of unity

$$\zeta \in \Omega_n \longrightarrow v_\zeta = [1 \ \zeta \ \zeta^2 \ \dots \ \zeta^{n-1}] \in \mathbb{C}^{\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}}$$

$$p_x(v_\zeta) = \zeta \cdot v_\zeta$$

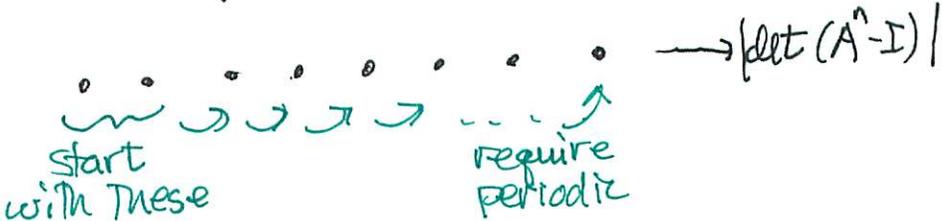
$$p_f(v_\zeta) = p_{x^2-x-1}(v_\zeta) = (\zeta^2 - \zeta - 1)v_\zeta$$

$$\det \tilde{p}_f^{(n)} = \prod_{\zeta \in \Omega_n} (\zeta^2 - \zeta - 1) = \prod_{\zeta \in \Omega_n} f(\zeta)$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \log p_n = \frac{1}{n} \log |\det \tilde{p}_f^{(n)}|$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \log \prod_{\zeta \in \Omega_n} |f(\zeta)| \rightarrow \int_{\mathbb{S}} \log |f| = m(f) = \log \lambda_1$$

Recall we also had  $p_n = |\det(A^n - I)|$   
 Why different expressions? Different  
 ways to create periodic points:

"Internal"   $\rightarrow |\det(A^n - I)|$

"External" Start with all  $n$ -periodic pts  
 cut down to  $X_f \rightarrow \left| \prod_{\zeta \in \Omega_n} f(\zeta) \right|$

Back to Ledrappier for  $\mathbb{T}$ :

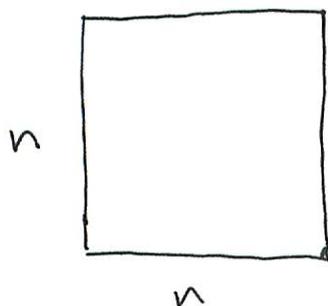
$$f(x, y) = 1 + x + y, \quad f^*(x, y) = 1 + x^{-1} + y^{-1}$$

$$t \in \mathbb{T}^{\mathbb{Z}^2} \iff t = \sum t_{k, \ell} x^k y^\ell$$

$$\rho_f(t) = t \cdot f^*$$

$$X_f = \ker \rho_f$$

Compute  $n \times n$  periodic pts using "external"



$$(\zeta, \eta) \in \Omega_n \times \Omega_n \rightarrow v_{\zeta, \eta} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$$

$$(v_{\zeta, \eta})_{k, \ell} = \zeta^k \eta^\ell$$

$$\tilde{\rho}_x(v_{\zeta, \eta}) = \zeta \cdot v_{\zeta, \eta}$$

$$\tilde{\rho}_y(v_{\zeta, \eta}) = \eta \cdot v_{\zeta, \eta}$$

$$\tilde{\rho}_{1+x+y}(v_{\zeta, \eta}) = (1 + \zeta + \eta) v_{\zeta, \eta}$$

$$= f(\zeta, \eta) v_{\zeta, \eta}$$

$\uparrow$   $n^2$  eigenvalues

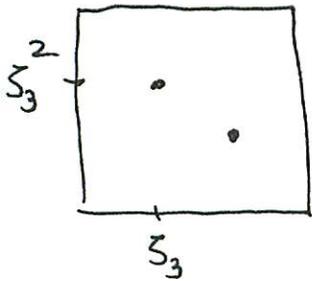
So

$$\det \tilde{\rho}_{1+x+y} = \prod_{(\zeta, \eta) \in \Omega_n^2} f(\zeta, \eta)$$

$$\frac{1}{n^2} \log \# \text{ } n \times n \text{ per. pts} = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{(s, \eta) \in \Omega_n^2} \log |f(s, \eta)|$$

$$\rightarrow \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} \log |f| = m(f)$$

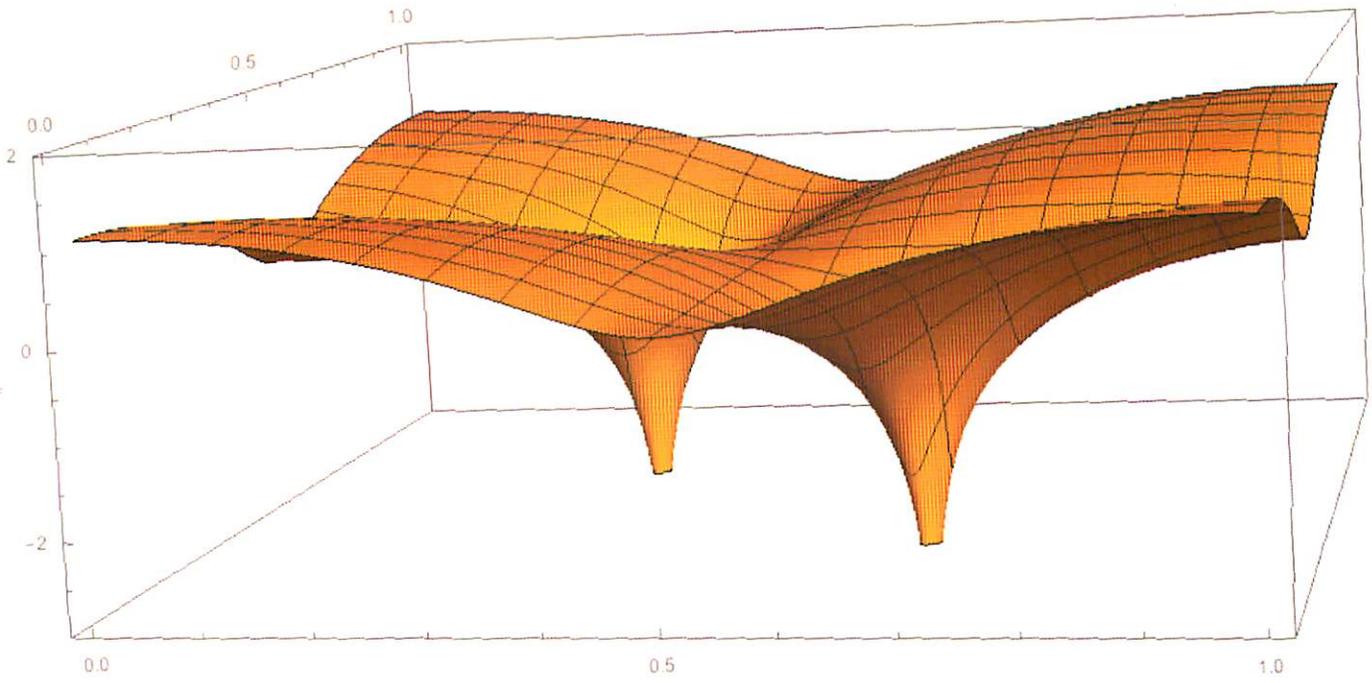
2 There is a serious problem. Let  $\zeta_3 = e^{2\pi i/3}$ ,  
 So  $1 + \zeta_3 + \zeta_3^2 = 0$ , and  $f(\zeta_3, \zeta_3^2) = 0 = f(\zeta_3^2, \zeta_3)$ !



So if  $3|n$ , two of the terms are  $\log 0 = -\infty$ .  
 (graph of  $\log |f|$  next page)

This is a recurring headache: various ways to deal with it.

- "Perturb" to something very similar, but which does not vanish
- Use the internal method and "integrate away" singularities
- Count periodic components instead of periodic points.



Graph of  $\log |1 + e^{2\pi i s_1} + e^{2\pi i s_2}|$

## Principal $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -actions

$$R_d = \mathbb{Z}[x_1^{\pm}, \dots, x_d^{\pm}]$$

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_d) \in R_d$$

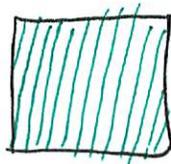
$$\mathbb{T}^{\mathbb{Z}^d} \supset X_f = \ker p_f \xleftrightarrow{\hat{\phantom{f}}} R_d / \langle f \rangle$$

$$\alpha_f \xleftrightarrow{\phantom{\hat{\phantom{f}}}} \langle *x_1, *x_2, \dots, *x_d \rangle$$

Thm (L-S-W):  $h(\alpha_f) = m(f) = \log M(f)$ .

Lehmer's problem for  $R_d$ ?

$$m(f(x, x^n)) \rightarrow m(f(x, y))$$



so it's the same problem as for  $R_1$ .

Zero Entropy: Generalize cyclotomic

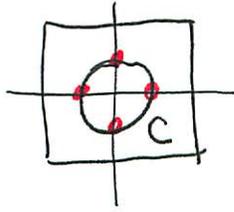
$\Phi(x_1^{n_1}, \dots, x_d^{n_d})$  where  $\Phi(u)$  is cyclotomic

$m(f) = 0 \Leftrightarrow f$  is a product of generalized cyclotomics

## Convergence of Riemann sums:

Let  $f(x, y) = 3 - x - x^{-1} - y - y^{-1}$

$f = 0$  along a curve in  $\mathbb{S}^2$ , so  $\log |f|$  has a curve of singularities.



The only roots of unity on  $C$  are  $(1, \zeta_6^{\pm 1})$  and  $(\zeta_6^{\pm 1}, 1)$

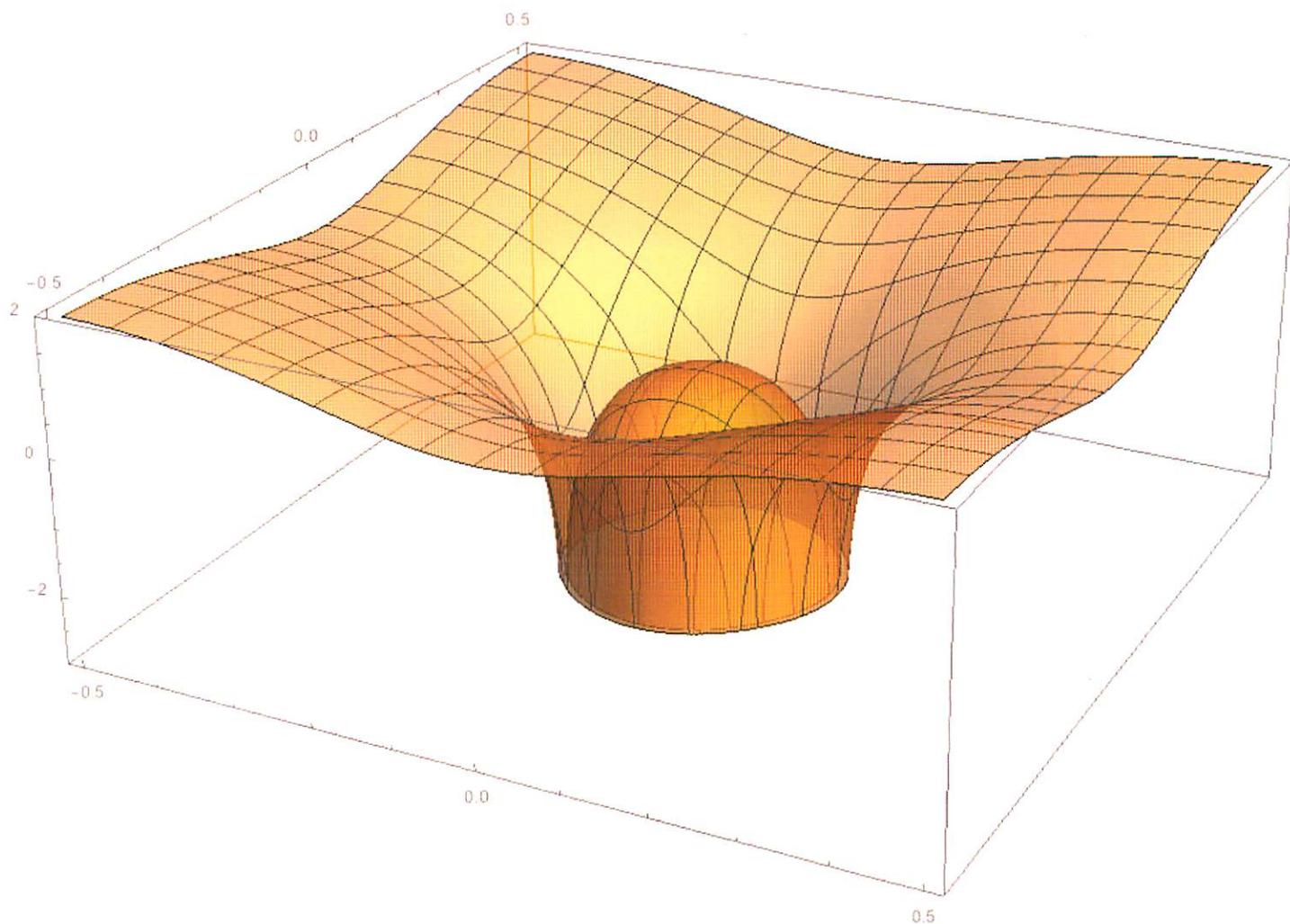
Let  $F \subset \mathbb{S}^2$  be a finite subgroup

Does  $\frac{1}{|F|} \sum_{(s, n) \in F} \log |f(s, n)| \xrightarrow{?} m(f)$    
*omit the roots of unity where  $f=0$ .*

Very recent work shows This is true for "square" subgroups  $\Omega_n \times \Omega_n$ .

There are two proofs, both very hard, one using logic and  $O$ -minimal sets!

The question for general  $F$ 's is still wide open.

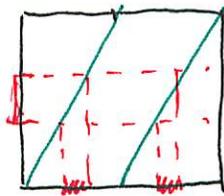


Graph of  $\log|f|$  on  $S^2$ , where  
 $f(x,y) = 3 - x - x^{-1} - y - y^{-1}$

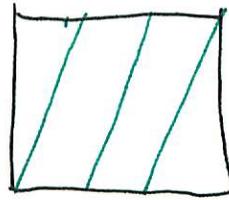
There is much more known about algebraic  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -actions, and a fairly complete "dictionary", where dynamical properties can be translated into commutative algebra and algebraic geometry (and answered!).

But lest you think everything is known:

Consider  $M_2, M_3: \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$ ,  $M_k(t) = kt$



$M_2$



$M_3$

Haar measure is preserved by both.

Some atomic measures too:  $\frac{1}{5} \sum_{j=0}^4 \delta_{j/5}$ .

Are there any others?

Furstenberg's problem (or  $\times 2, \times 3$ )

Has been open for 50 years !!!