

Geometric Applications of the Conformal Bootstrap

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Plan

1. Spectra of hyperbolic manifolds and the conformal bootstrap.
2. The conformal bootstrap and the sphere packing problem.

1. Conformal Bootstrap and Hyperbolic Geometry

Based on **arXiv:2111.12716** with **Petr Kravchuk** and **Sridip Pal**.



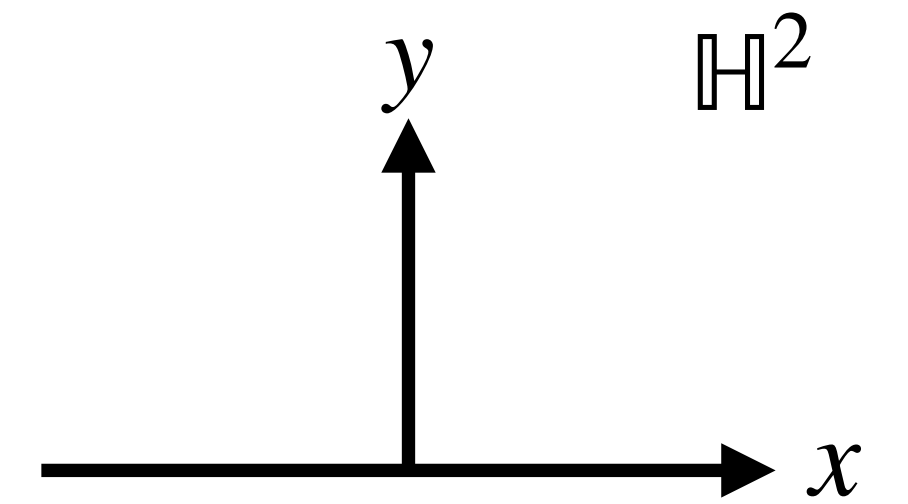
Similar results appeared in **arXiv:2111.13215** by **James Bonifacio**.



I will also mention some ongoing work with all of the above.

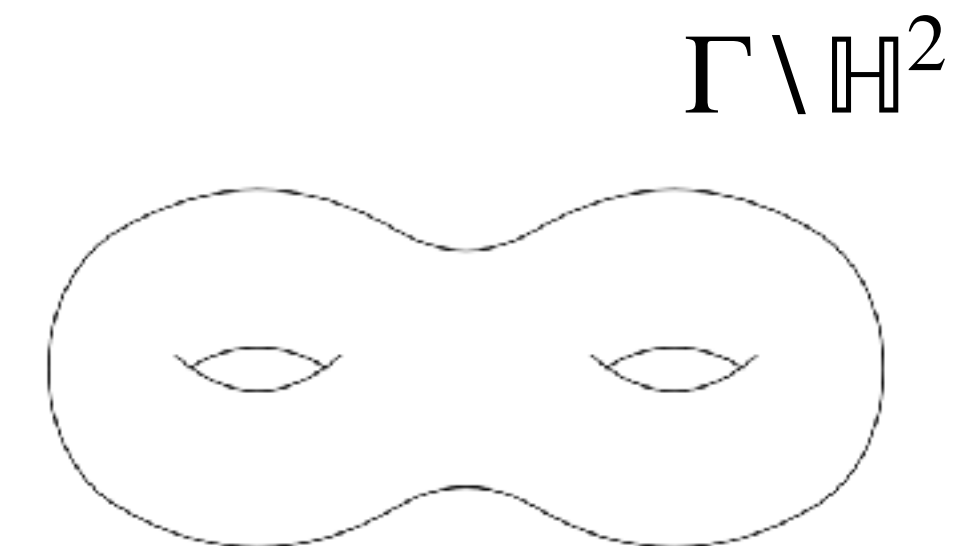
2D Hyperbolic Orbifolds

1. Upper half-plane with the hyperbolic metric $ds^2 = \frac{dx^2 + dy^2}{y^2}$



• $G = \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ acts on $z = x + iy \in \mathbb{H}^2$ $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in G : z \mapsto \frac{az + b}{cz + d}$

2. $\Gamma =$ discrete subgroup of $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \Leftrightarrow \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}^2 =$ a hyperbolic orbifold.

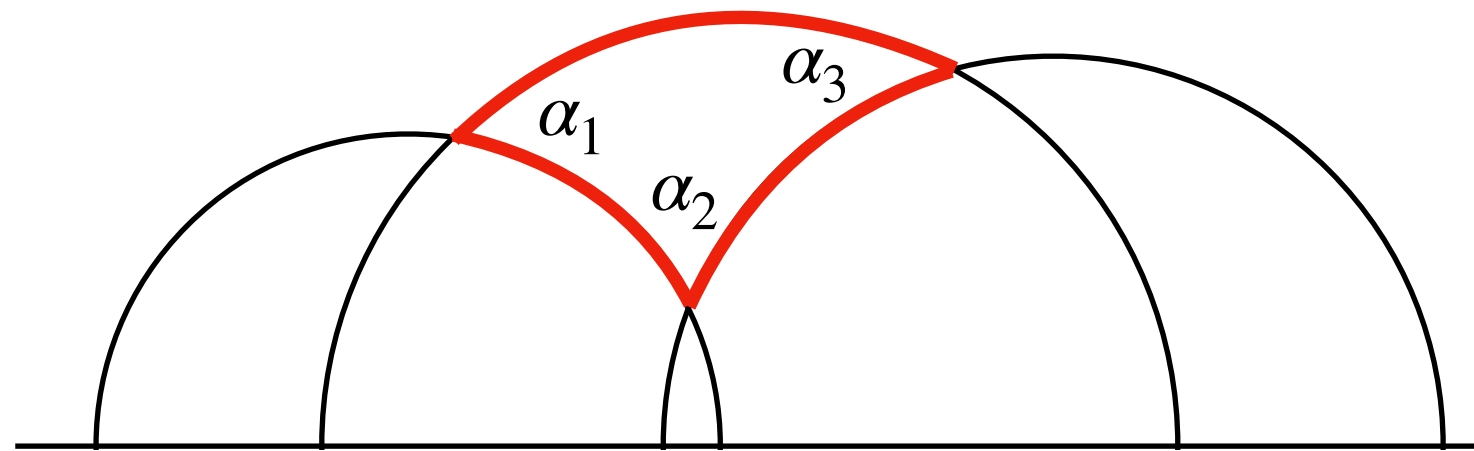


• Will assume $\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}^2$ has finite volume.

• Γ only has **hyperbolic** elements $\Leftrightarrow \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}^2$ is a compact surface.

• Γ only has **hyperbolic** and **elliptic** elements $\Leftrightarrow \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}^2$ is a compact orbifold.

Example 1: Hyperbolic Triangle Groups



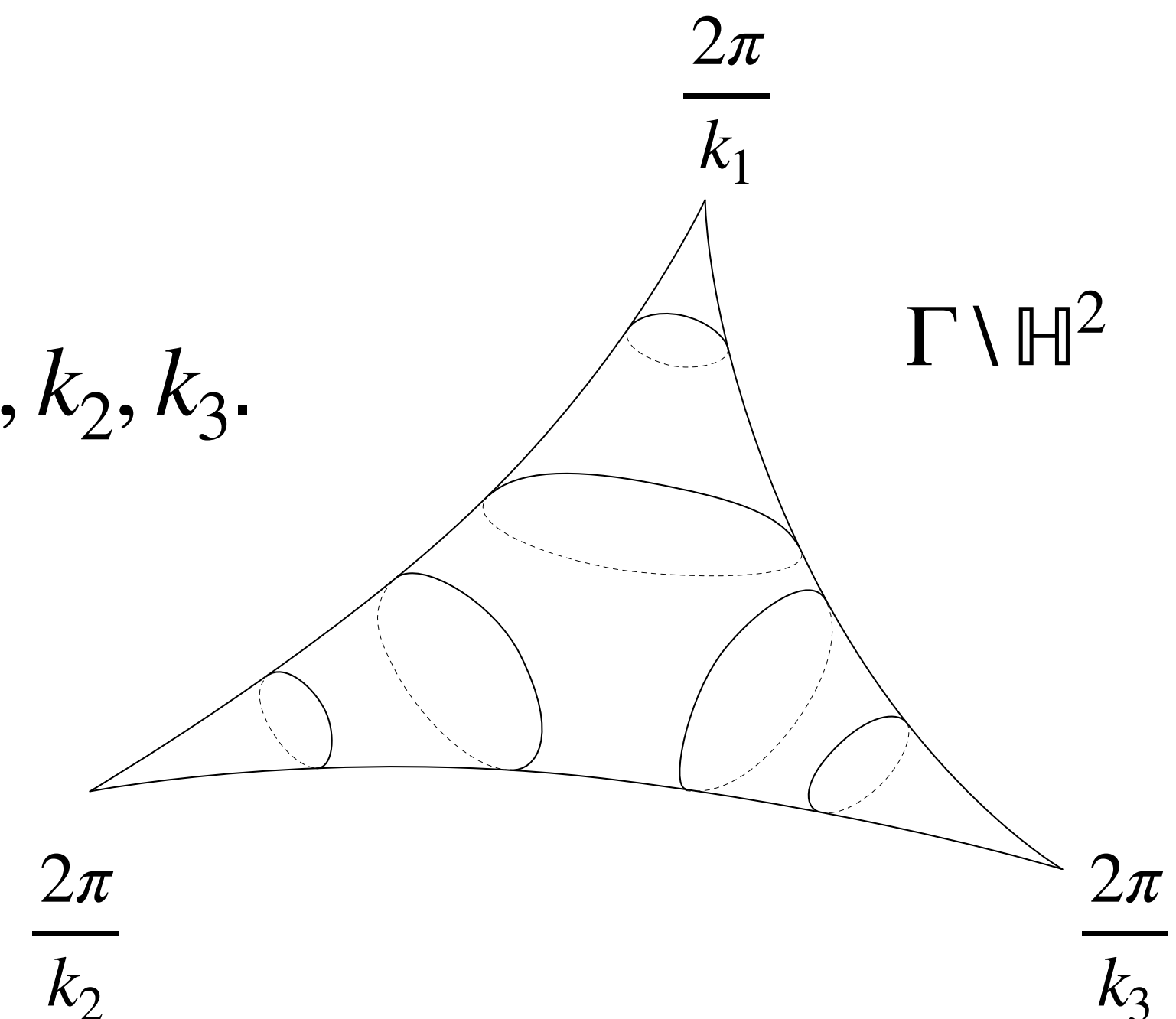
$$\alpha_i = \frac{\pi}{k_i} \quad k_i \in \mathbb{N}_{\geq 2}$$

$$\frac{1}{k_1} + \frac{1}{k_2} + \frac{1}{k_3} < 1$$

$$\Updownarrow$$

$$\text{area} > 0$$

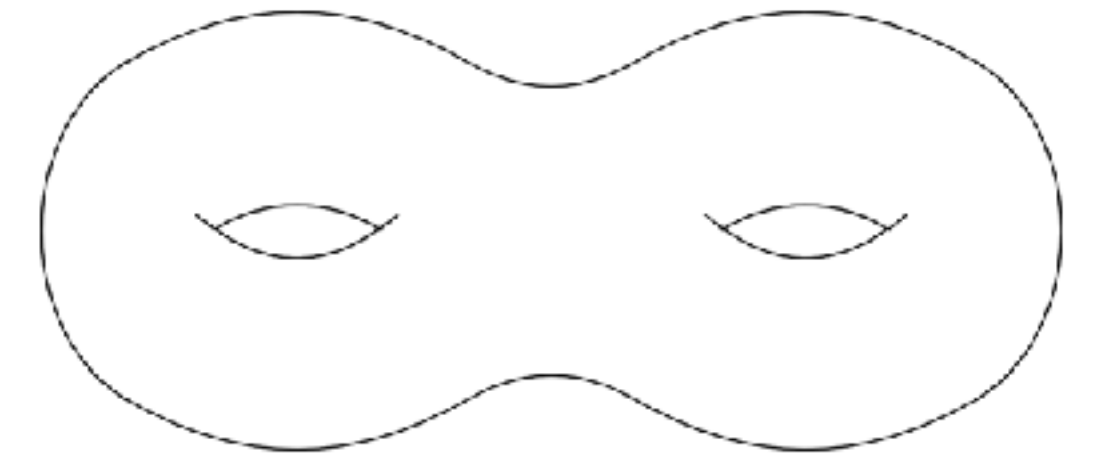
- Γ generated by rotations around vertices by angles $\frac{2\pi}{k_i}$.
- A fundamental domain of Γ consists of two adjacent triangles.
- $\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}^2$ is an orbifold of genus 0 with 3 orbifold points of orders k_1, k_2, k_3 .
- Orbifold of minimal area: $[k_1, k_2, k_3] = [2, 3, 7]$.



Example 2: The Bolza Surface

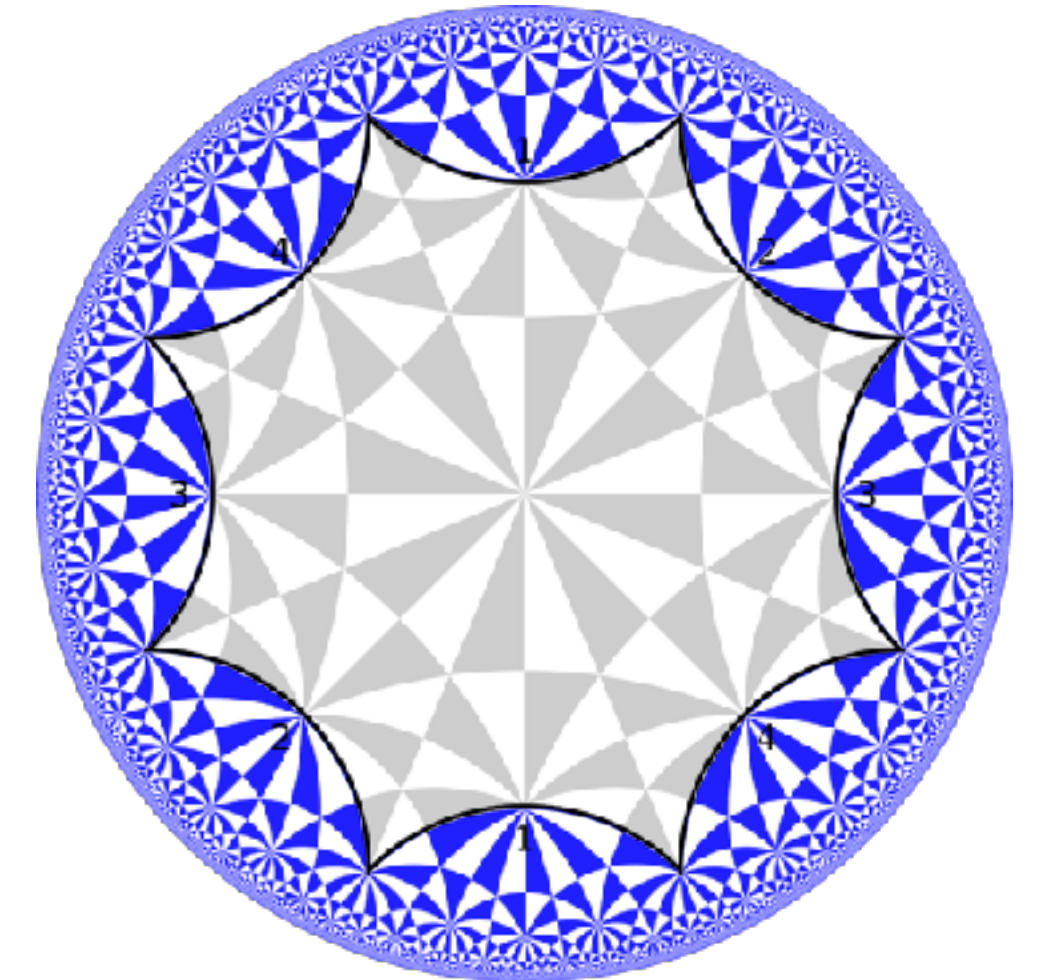
A hyperbolic surface without orbifold points must have genus ≥ 2 .

- Genus = 2: six-dimensional moduli space.



Bolza surface: the genus-two surface with the largest group of isometries.

- $\text{Iso}(\text{Bolza}) = \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_3)$, a group of order 48.
- $\text{Bolza} = \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}^2$, where Γ is a normal subgroup of index 48 of the $[2,3,8]$ triangle group.



General Orbifolds

Topological type of $\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}^2$: $[g; k_1, \dots, k_r]$ \Leftrightarrow isomorphism type of Γ

genus \nearrow orders of orbifold points \nearrow

Laplacian Spectrum of $\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}^2$

The Laplacian on \mathbb{H}^2 : $\nabla^2 = y^2(\partial_x^2 + \partial_y^2)$

$$-\nabla^2 \varphi(x, y) = \lambda \varphi(x, y)$$

$\varphi(x, y)$: a smooth real function on \mathbb{H}^2 satisfying $\varphi(\gamma \cdot (x, y)) = \varphi(x, y)$ for all $\gamma \in \Gamma$.

Spectrum: $0 = \lambda_0 < \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots$

- no closed expression for λ_i in general
- a useful model for studying classical and quantum chaos

Today: New upper bounds on λ_1 .

Main results

[Kravchuk, DM, Pal '21] [Bonifacio '21]

Theorem:

1. Every hyperbolic orbifold satisfies: $\lambda_1 \leq 44.8883537$.

[2,3,7] triangle orbifold: $\lambda_1 \approx 44.88835$

2. Every hyperbolic orbifold of genus two satisfies: $\lambda_1 \leq 3.8388977$.

Bolza surface: $\lambda_1 \approx 3.838887258$

previous bound: $\lambda_1 \leq 4$ [Yang, Yau '80] [Soufi, Ilias '83]

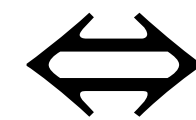
3. Every hyperbolic orbifold of genus three satisfies: $\lambda_1 \leq 2.6784824$.

Klein quartic: $\lambda_1 \approx 2.6779$

previous bound: $\lambda_1 \leq 2(4 - \sqrt{7}) \approx 2.7085$ [Ros '20]

Spectrum of the Spectrum

Conjecture (Selberg 1965): If Γ is a congruence subgroup of $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$, then $\lambda_1 = 1/4$.

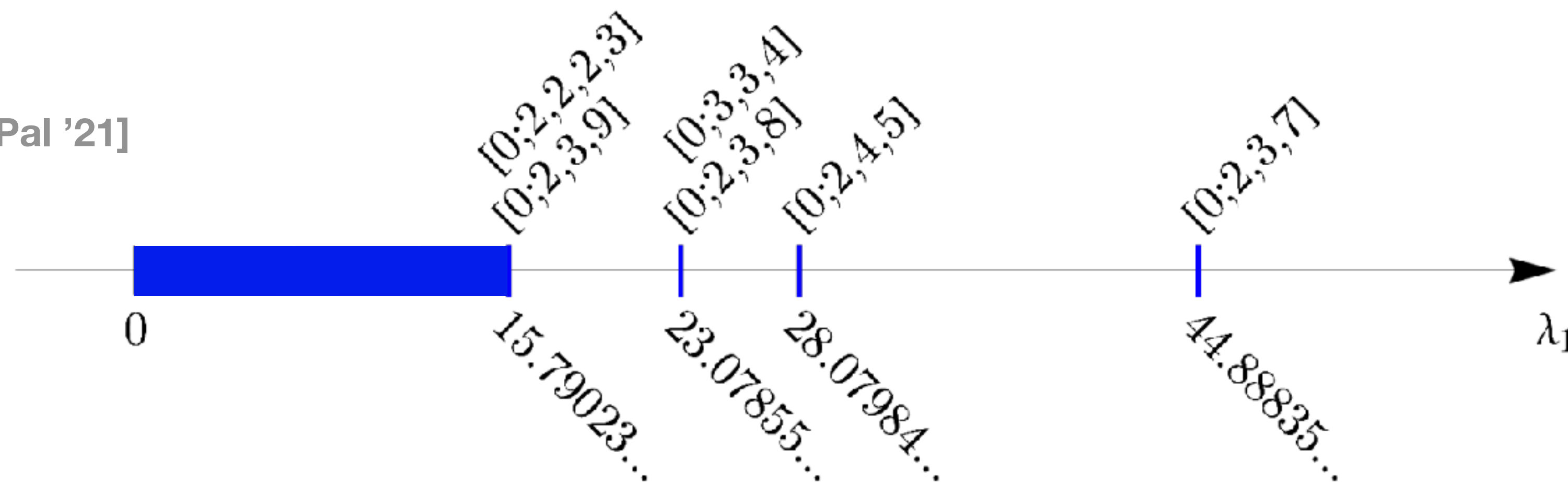


If X ranges over **congruence** orbifolds, the image of the map $X \mapsto \lambda_1(X)$ is the set $\{1/4\}$.

Question: What is the image of the map $X \mapsto \lambda_1(X)$ when X ranges over **all** orbifolds?

Answer:

[Kravchuk, DM, Pal '21]



The Method

1. The Hilbert space and local operators
2. Operator product expansion
3. Associativity
4. Bounds from linear programming

Previous Work

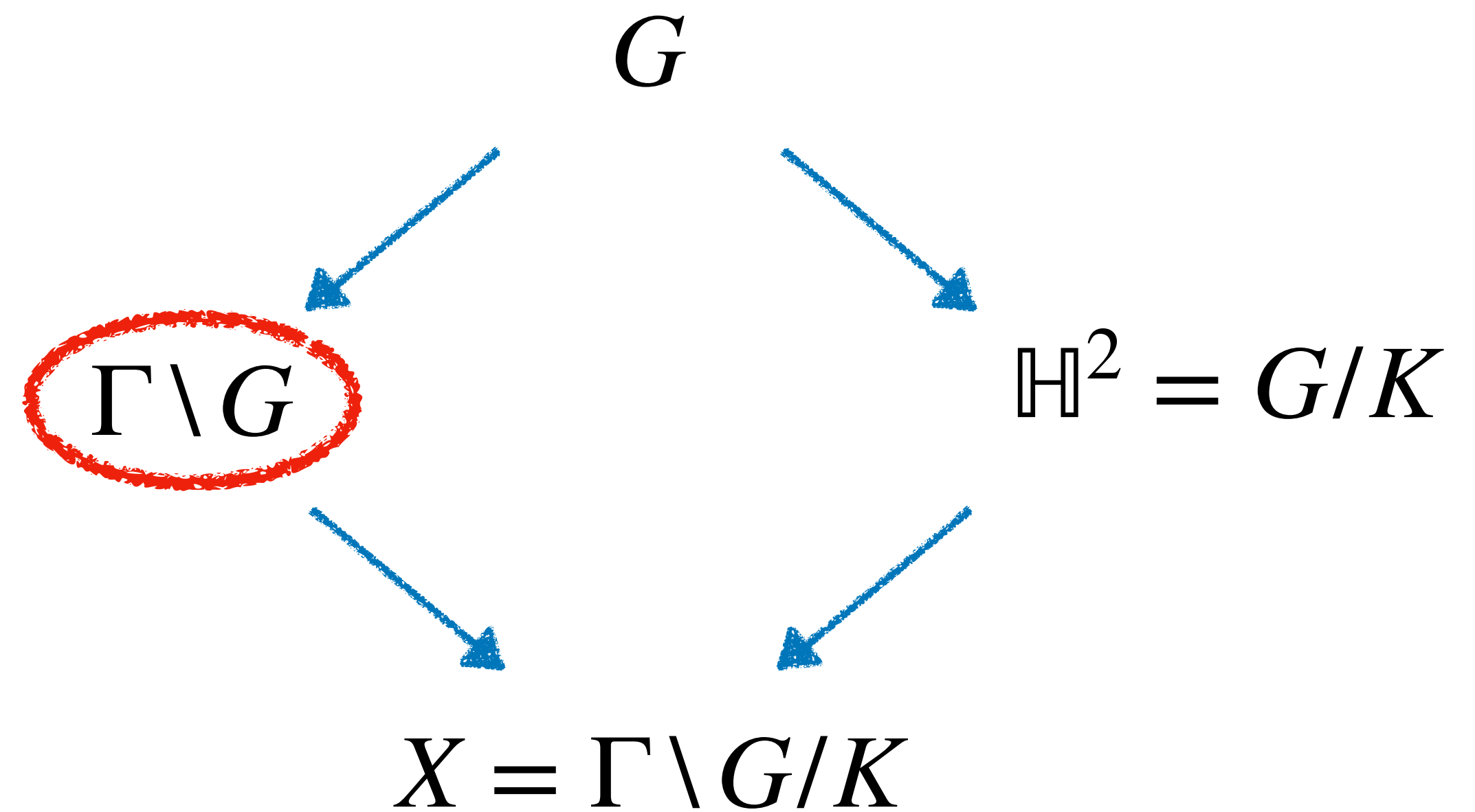
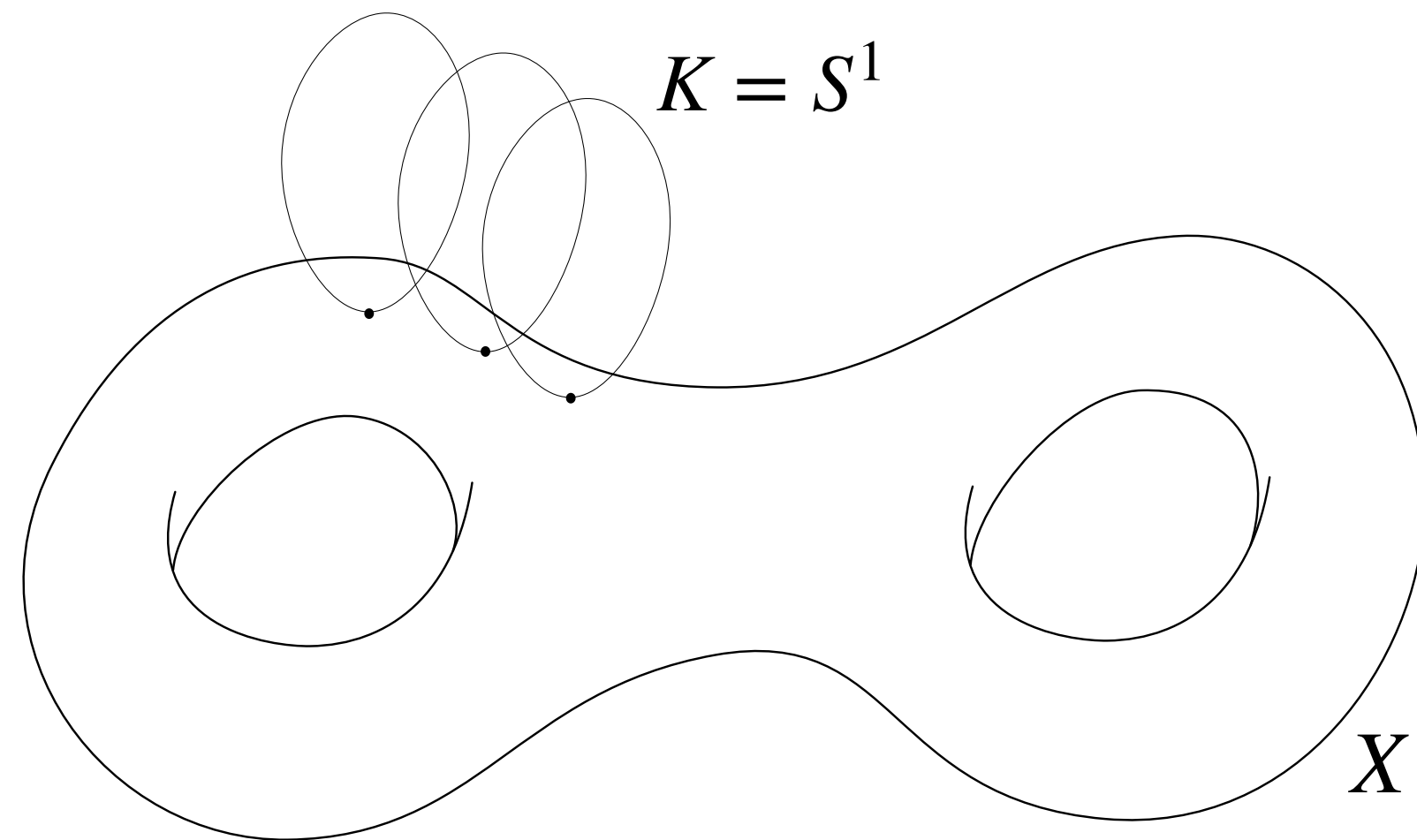
Bonifacio+Hinterbichler (2020): Einstein manifolds $R_{ab} = \frac{R}{d}g_{ab}$

Bonifacio (2021): Hyperbolic manifolds $R_{abcd} = g_{ad}g_{bc} - g_{ac}g_{bd}$

Kravchuk, DM, Pal (2021): Pointed out the role played by $SO(1, d)$ in the case of hyperbolic manifolds, and systematized the ideas using its representation theory.

The Coset Space

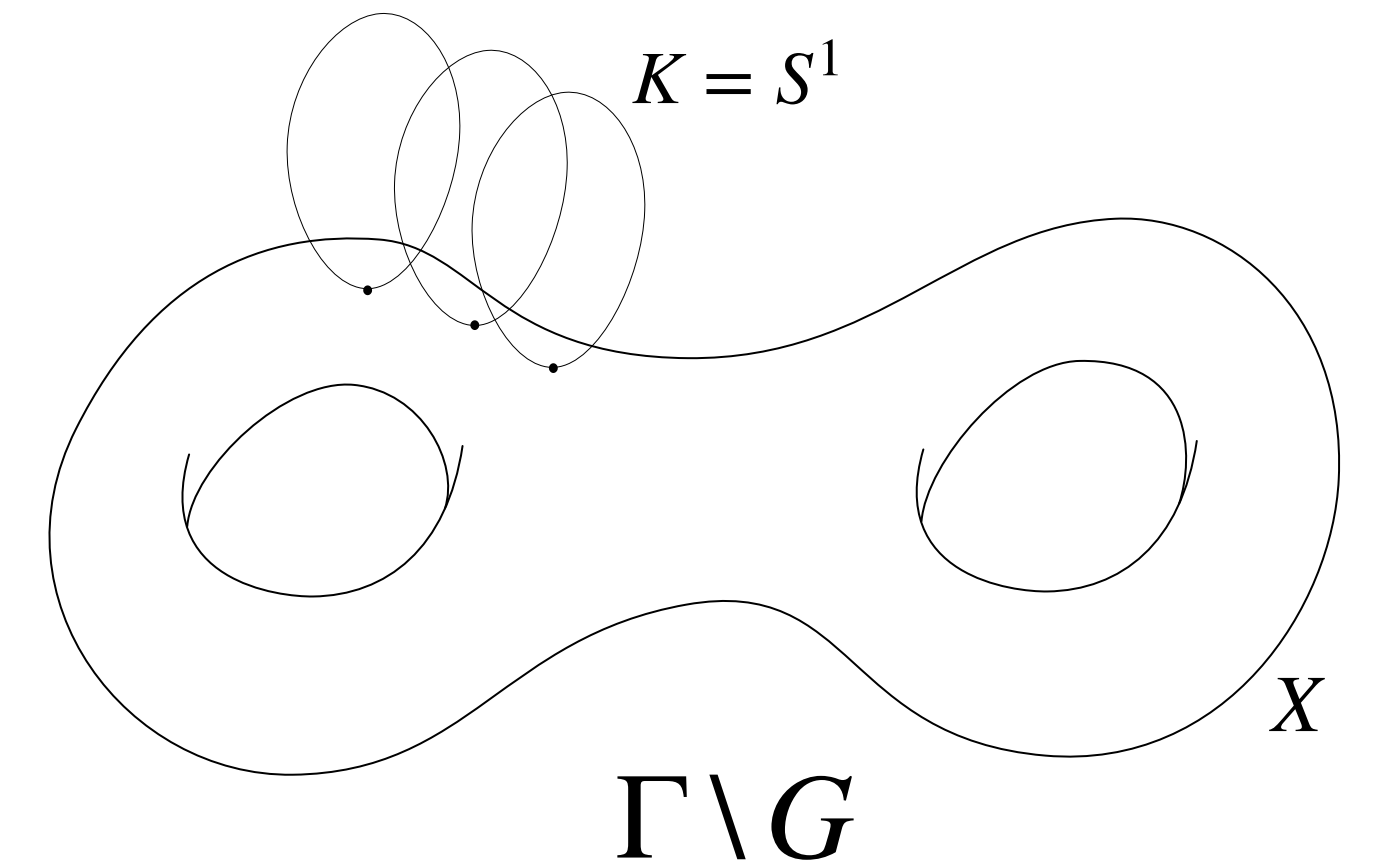
- $G = \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$
- $K = \mathrm{PSO}_2(\mathbb{R})$, maximal compact subgroup of G
- $\Gamma =$ discrete co-compact subgroup of G



The Hilbert Space: $L^2(\Gamma \backslash G)$

Consider the space $L^2(\Gamma \backslash G)$

- a representation of G : $F(g) \mapsto F(g\tilde{g})$
- unitary, with inner product: $\|F(g)\|^2 = \int_{\Gamma \backslash G} dg |F(g)|^2$



Decomposition under K : $L^2(\Gamma \backslash G) = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} V_n$

- $V_0 = L^2(X)$
- $V_n = L^2(n\text{-forms})$: $h(x, y) dz^n$ such that $\forall \gamma \in \Gamma: h(z) = (cz + d)^{-2n} h\left(\frac{az + b}{cz + d}\right)$
- Generators of G act as follows: $L_0|_{V_n} = n \text{ id}$, $L_{\pm 1} : V_n \rightarrow V_{n \mp 1}$

The Spectral Decomposition

Decompose $L^2(\Gamma \backslash G)$ into irreducible representations of $G = \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$:

$$L^2(\Gamma \backslash G) = \mathbb{C} \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\infty} P_{\lambda_i} \oplus \bigoplus_{j=1}^{\infty} (D_{n_j} \oplus \bar{D}_{n_j})$$

1. Trivial representation \mathbb{C} : constant functions.
2. Principal and complementary series P_{λ} : Laplace eigenfunction with eigenvalue λ .
 - principal series: $\lambda \in [1/4, \infty)$, complementary series: $\lambda \in (0, 1/4)$.
 - Casimir| $_{V_0}$ = Laplacian $\Rightarrow v \in P_{\lambda} \cap V_0$ is a Laplace eigenfunction of eigenvalue λ .
3. Holomorphic discrete series D_n : holomorphic modular forms of weight $2n \in 2\mathbb{N}_{>0}$.
 - $L_1 = \bar{\partial}$, $L_1|_{D_n \cap V_n} = 0 \Rightarrow v \in D_n \cap V_n$ is a holomorphic modular form of weight $2n$.
 - Antiholomorphic discrete series \bar{D}_n : complex conjugates of modular forms.

Terminology: The Laplace eigenfunctions and holomorphic modular forms are examples of *automorphic forms*.

$$L^2(\Gamma \backslash G) = \mathbb{C} \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\infty} P_{\lambda_i} \oplus \bigoplus_{j=1}^{\infty} (D_{n_j} \oplus \bar{D}_{n_j})$$

Question: What are the constraints on the set of representations on the RHS?

Ingredients:

1. Riemann-Roch theorem: The topology of Γ determines the spectrum of holomorphic forms = discrete series. Namely, for $[g; k_1, \dots, k_r]$, we have

$$\text{multiplicity}(D_n) = (2n - 1)(g - 1) + \sum_{i=1}^r \left[n \frac{k_i - 1}{k_i} \right] + \delta_{n,1}$$

\Rightarrow Can focus on specific topology by making simple assumptions about the spectrum of D_n .

2. Consider the pointwise product $C^\infty(\Gamma \backslash G) \times C^\infty(\Gamma \backslash G) \rightarrow C^\infty(\Gamma \backslash G)$

$$(F_1(g), F_2(g)) \mapsto F_1(g)F_2(g)$$

Associativity and G -invariance \Rightarrow bounds on the Laplacian spectrum.

Local Operators

Definition (local operator):

Let $F(g) \in L^2(\Gamma \backslash G)$ be a holomorphic modular form of weight $2n$. Define

$$\mathcal{O}(w) = e^{wL_{-1}} \cdot F(g) = F(g) + wL_{-1} \cdot F(g) + \frac{w^2}{2}L_{-1}^2 \cdot F(g) + \dots$$

Properties:

- $\mathcal{O}(w) \in L^2(\Gamma \backslash G) \cap D_n$ for $|w| < 1$.
- As w ranges over the unit disk, $\mathcal{O}(w)$ generates $L^2(\Gamma \backslash G) \cap D_n$.
- $\mathcal{O}(w)$ transforms like a **conformal primary operator** of scaling dimension n .

$$L_m \cdot \mathcal{O}(w) = [w^{m+1}\partial_z + (m+1)nw^m]\mathcal{O}(w)$$

Similarly, define the conjugate operator $\overline{\mathcal{O}}(w) = w^{-2n}e^{-L_1/w} \cdot \overline{F(g)}$.

- $\overline{\mathcal{O}}(w) \in L^2(\Gamma \backslash G) \cap \overline{D}_n$ for $|w| > 1$.

Correlation Functions

Definition (correlation function):

Given $F_1, \dots, F_N \in C^\infty(\Gamma \setminus G)$, their correlation function is given by

$$\langle F_1 \dots F_N \rangle = \frac{1}{\text{vol}(\Gamma \setminus G)} \int_{\Gamma \setminus G} d\mu F_1(g) \dots F_N(g)$$

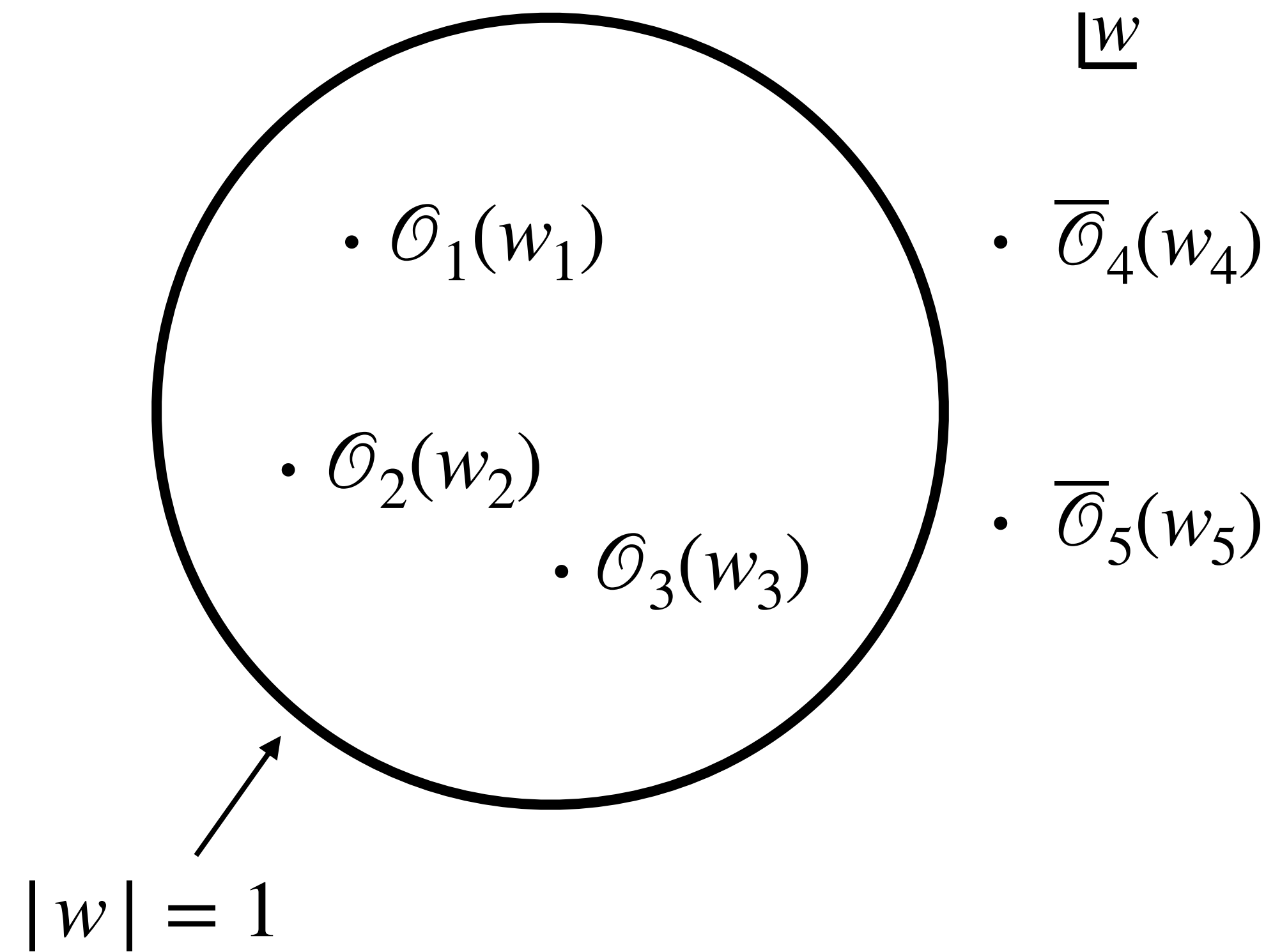
Since μ is G -invariant, so are the correlation functions.

Properties:

- one-point functions: $\langle 1 \rangle = 1$, $\langle \mathcal{O}_i(w) \rangle = \langle \overline{\mathcal{O}}_i(w) \rangle = 0$
- two-point functions: $\langle \mathcal{O}_i(w_1) \overline{\mathcal{O}}_j(w_2) \rangle = \frac{\delta_{ij}}{(w_1 - w_2)^{2n}}$

Each hyperbolic orbifold defines a large class of observables:

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_1(w_1) \dots \mathcal{O}_N(w_N) \bar{\mathcal{O}}_{N+1}(w_{N+1}) \dots \bar{\mathcal{O}}_{N+M}(w_{N+M}) \rangle$$



The Operator Product Expansion

Express products $\mathcal{O}(w_1)\overline{\mathcal{O}}(w_2)$, $\mathcal{O}(w_1)\mathcal{O}(w_2)$ using the spectral decomposition of $L^2(\Gamma \backslash G)$.

- $\mathcal{O}(w_1)\overline{\mathcal{O}}(w_2) = \frac{1}{(w_1 - w_2)^{2n}} + \sum_i f_i K_i(w_1, w_2)$, where $K_i(w_1, w_2) \in P_{\lambda_i}$.

- $\mathcal{O}(w_1)\mathcal{O}(w_2) = \sum_j \tilde{f}_j \widetilde{K}_j(w_1, w_2)$, where $\widetilde{K}_j(w_1, w_2) \in D_{n_j}$.

Crucial fact: $K_i(w_1, w_2)$ and $\widetilde{K}_j(w_1, w_2)$ are universal = fixed by G -invariance.

- The space of G -invariant maps $D_n \times \overline{D}_n \rightarrow P_\lambda$ and $D_n \times D_n \rightarrow D_m$ is one-dimensional.

- $f_i \sim \langle h \bar{h} \varphi_i \rangle$, $\tilde{f}_j \sim \langle h h \bar{h}_j \rangle$, integrals of triple products of automorphic forms.

Imposing Associativity

Suppose $L^2(\Gamma \backslash G)$ contains D_n and let $\mathcal{O}_n(w)$ be the corresponding local operator.

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_n(w_1) \mathcal{O}_n(w_2) \overline{\mathcal{O}}_n(w_3) \overline{\mathcal{O}}_n(w_4) \rangle$$

$$\sum_{\text{Laplace eigenfunctions}} \begin{array}{c} D_n \quad D_n \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ P_{\lambda_i} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \overline{D}_n \quad \overline{D}_n \end{array} = \sum_{\text{modular forms}} \begin{array}{c} D_n \quad D_n \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ D_{2n+m} \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \overline{D}_n \quad \overline{D}_n \end{array} \quad (1 - \chi)^{-2n} \sum_i |f_i|^2 k_{\lambda_i}(\chi) = \chi^{-2n} \sum_{\substack{m \geq 0 \\ m \text{ even}}} |\tilde{f}_m|^2 \tilde{k}_{2n+m}(\chi)$$

$$k_{s(1-s)}(\chi) = {}_2F_1(s, 1-s; 1; \frac{\chi}{\chi-1}) \quad \tilde{k}_m(\chi) = \chi^m {}_2F_1(m, m; 2m; \chi)$$

conformal blocks

\Rightarrow Get an infinite number of spectral identities by expanding around $\chi = 0$.

Spectral Bounds from Linear Programming

Spectral identities: $\sum_i |f_i|^2 P_{n,m}(\lambda_i) = |\tilde{f}_m|^2$ for all even $m \geq 0$, $\sum_i |f_i|^2 P_{n,m}(\lambda_i) = 0$ for all odd $m > 0$

Proposition: Fix $M \in \mathbb{N}$ and suppose $Q(\lambda) = \sum_{m=0}^M x_m P_{n,m}(\lambda)$ with $x_m \in \mathbb{R}$, such that

1. $x_m \leq 0$ for all even m
2. $Q(0) = 1$
3. $Q(\lambda) \geq 0$ for all $\lambda \geq \lambda_*$.

Then there is an upper bound on the Laplace spectral gap $\lambda_1 < \lambda_*$ for every hyperbolic orbifold with a holomorphic form of weight $2n$.

Proof: Consider $\sum_i |f_i|^2 Q(\lambda_i)$, exchange order of summations and use the spectral identities. \square

Strategy: Minimize λ_* by optimizing over x_m satisfying 1.-3. Increase M to improve the bound.

We used the semidefinite programming solver SDPB. [Simmons-Duffin '15]
[Simmons-Duffin, Landry '19]

Results

Let $2n_1(\Gamma)$ be the minimal weight of a modular form for Γ .

Fact: We have $n_1(\Gamma) \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6\}$ for every hyperbolic orbifold.

n_1	our bound on λ_1	largest known λ_1	orbifold
1	8.47032	8.46776	$[1; 2]$ at the \mathbb{Z}_6 -symmetric point
2	15.79144	15.79023	$[0; 2, 2, 2, 3]$ at the \mathbb{Z}_3 -symmetric point
3	23.07917	23.07855	$[0; 3, 3, 4]$
4	30.35432	28.07984	$[0; 2, 4, 5]$
6	44.8883537	44.88835	$[0; 2, 3, 7]$

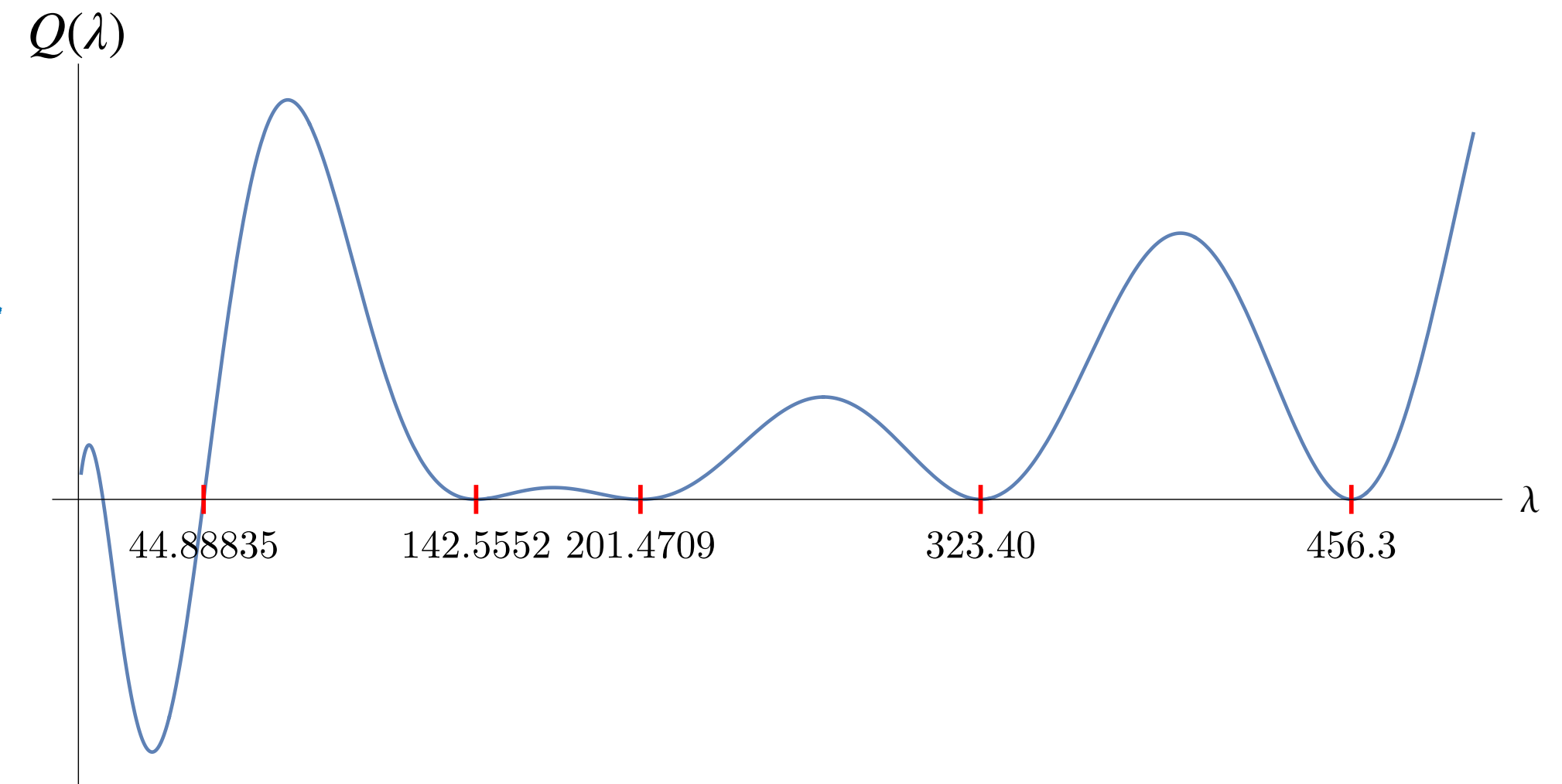
Corrolary: Every hyperbolic orbifold satisfies: $\lambda_1 \leq 44.8883537$.

Sharp Bounds

Question: Is the linear-programming upper bound on λ_1 sharp for $M \rightarrow \infty$?

If yes, the linear program must reconstruct the full Laplace spectrum of the $[0; 2,3,7]$ orbifold!

- $Q(\lambda_i) = 0$ for all $\lambda_i \in \text{spectrum}$.
- Output of the linear program for $M = 41$ \rightarrow
- Zeros agree with the $[0; 2,3,7]$ spectrum!
- Proof would amount to a construction of $Q(\lambda)$ for $M = \infty$.



This is precisely what happens for the Cohn-Elkies bound on sphere packing in $d = 8, 24$.

- Viazovska (2016): Construction of optimal $Q(\lambda)$ for sphere packing.
- DM (2016), DM+Paulos (2018): Construction of optimal $Q(\lambda)$ for the gap problem in 1D CFTs.
- Hartman+DM+Rastelli (2019): Precise mapping between Viazovska (2016) and DM (2016).

Challenge: Construct the optimal $Q(\lambda)$ for the Laplacian spectral gap problem.

Bounds at Fixed Genus

Bounds on λ_1 of genus- g orbifolds: Use g linearly independent holomorphic 1-forms.

Associativity implemented by the system of coupled equations:

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_i(w_1) \mathcal{O}_j(w_2) \overline{\mathcal{O}}_k(w_3) \overline{\mathcal{O}}_l(w_4) \rangle \quad n_i = n_j = n_k = n_l = 1 \quad i, j, k, l = 1, \dots, g$$

This is a matrix generalization of the original linear program \Rightarrow need semidefinite programming.

genus	our bound on λ_1	largest known λ_1	orbifold
1	8.47032	8.46776	[1; 2] at the \mathbb{Z}_6 -symmetric point
2	3.83890	3.83889	Bolza surface
3	2.67849	2.67793	Klein quartic

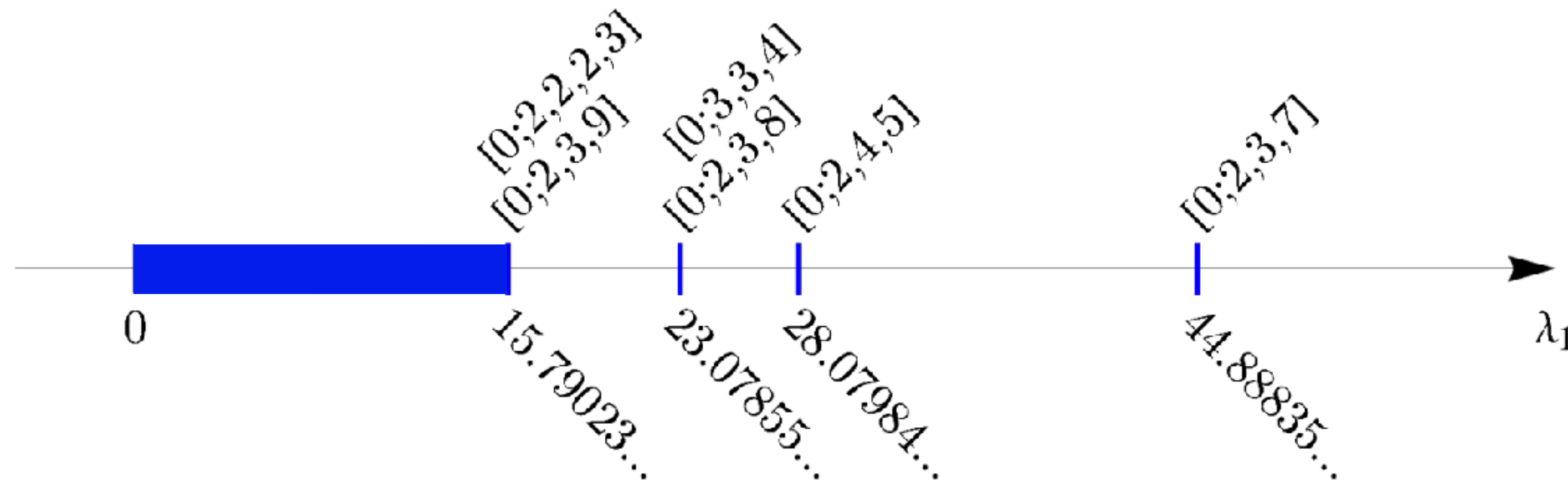
Values of λ_1 Attained by All Orbifolds

Idea: Topological type is uniquely identified by the spectrum of weights of modular forms.
Only finitely many weights are needed to identify each topological type.

Study associativity for **two** holomorphic forms of minimal weight $2 \leq 2n_1 < 2n_2$

$$\langle \mathcal{O}_{n_1}(w_1) \mathcal{O}_{n_2}(w_2) \overline{\mathcal{O}}_{n_1}(w_3) \overline{\mathcal{O}}_{n_2}(w_4) \rangle$$

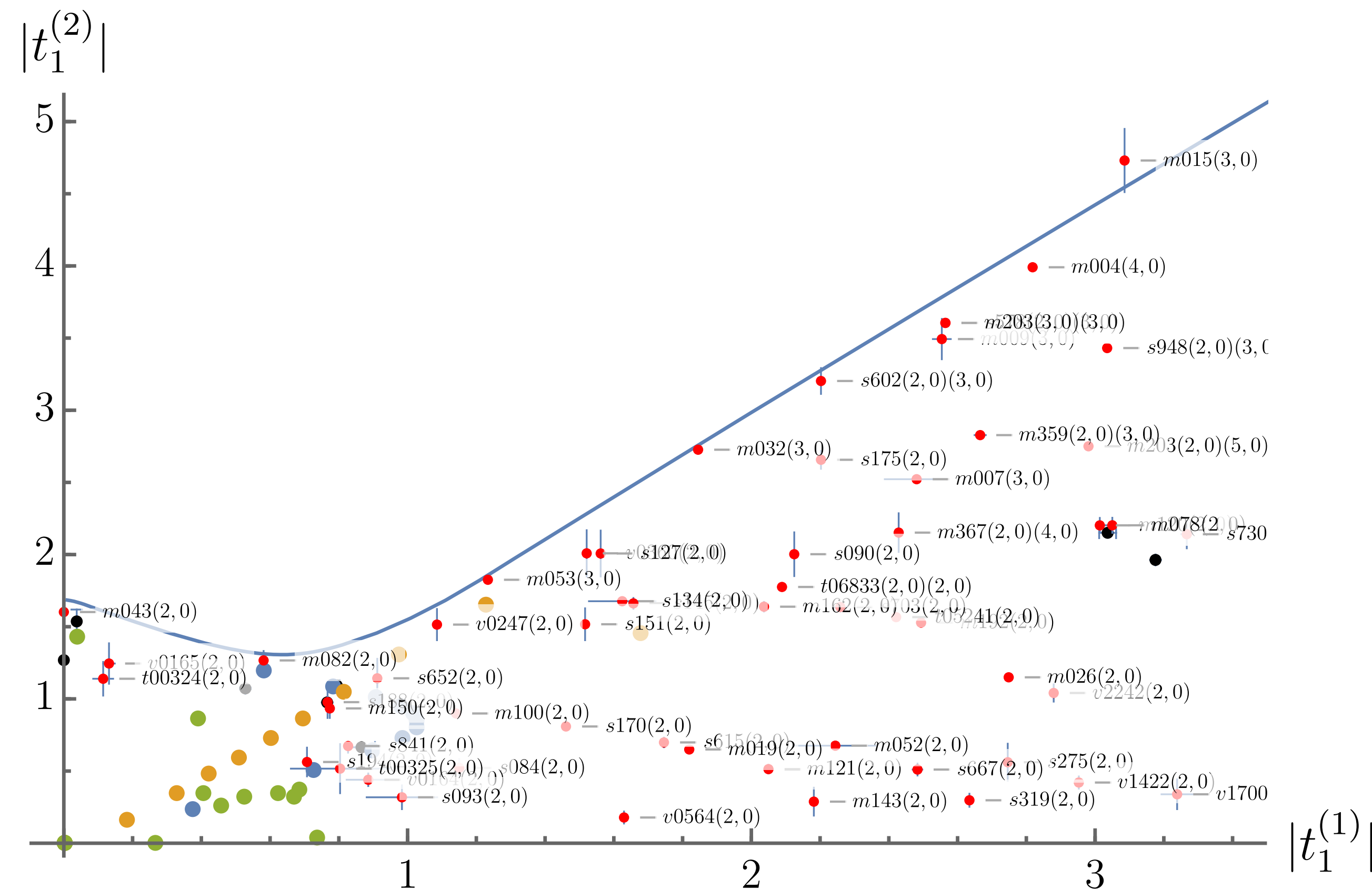
theorem: If X ranges over all orbifolds, $\lambda_1(X)$ takes the following values:



Example: $n_1 = 6, n_2 = 8 \Rightarrow \lambda_1 \leq 23.09997$ unless the orbifold is $[0; 2, 3, 7]$ or $n_1 \leq 4$.

Hyperbolic Three-Manifolds

work in progress with J. Bonifacio, P. Kravchuk and S. Pal



$|t_1^{(J)}|^2 + 1 =$ the lowest Laplace eigenvalue on symmetric tensors of rank J .

Summary

- There is a close analogy between conformal field theories and hyperbolic manifolds.
- This leads to an infinite set of identities satisfied by the Laplacian spectra of hyp. manifolds.
- Linear/semidefinite programming turns the identities into bounds on the spectral gap λ_1 .
- The bounds on λ_1 for 2D hyperbolic orbifolds are often nearly sharp.
- They allow us to (more or less) identify the set of λ_1 realized by all 2D hyperbolic orbifolds.

2. Conformal Bootstrap and Sphere Packing

Overview

- Problems arising in the conformal bootstrap naturally take the form of infinite-dimensional linear programs (Rattazzi+Rychkov+Tonni+Vichi 2008).
- This type of problem is hard to solve exactly in general, but examples of exact solutions have appeared in the conformal bootstrap literature (DM 2016).
- A closely related type of an infinite-dimensional linear program has been used to prove upper bounds on sphere-packing density (Cohn+Elkies 2001).
- In this context, Viazovska (2016) found an exact solution of the problem, leading to the solution of the sphere-packing problem in dimensions 8 and 24.
- Viazovska's solution can be exactly mapped to the exact solution found in the conformal bootstrap (Hartman+DM+Rastelli 2019).

Four-Point Bootstrap

- Consider the four-point correlation function in 1D: $\langle \psi(x_1)\psi(x_2)\psi(x_3)\psi(x_4) \rangle$.
- OPE: $\psi \times \psi = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} f_i \mathcal{O}_i$, where $f_i \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathcal{O}_0 = 1$.
- Spectrum: $0 = \Delta_0 < \Delta_1 \leq \Delta_2 \leq \dots$

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\text{Diagram 1} \right) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\text{Diagram 2} \right) \quad \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |f_i|^2 G_{\Delta_i}^{\Delta_\psi}(z) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |f_i|^2 G_{\Delta_i}^{\Delta_\psi}(1-z) \quad (\star)$$

- Conformal blocks for the $sl_2(\mathbb{R})$ algebra: $G_{\Delta}^{\Delta_\psi}(z) = z^{\Delta-2\Delta_\psi} {}_2F_1(\Delta, \Delta; 2\Delta; z)$.

Question: What is the maximal possible Δ_1 compatible with (\star) , for a given Δ_ψ ?

Bounds from Functionals

[Rattazzi, Rychkov, Tonni, Vichi '08]

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |f_i|^2 \underbrace{[G_{\Delta_i}^{\Delta_\psi}(z) - G_{\Delta_i}^{\Delta_\psi}(1-z)]}_{F_{\Delta_i}^{\Delta_\psi}(z)} = 0$$

- Apply linear functionals $\omega : F(z) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to rule out possible spectra.

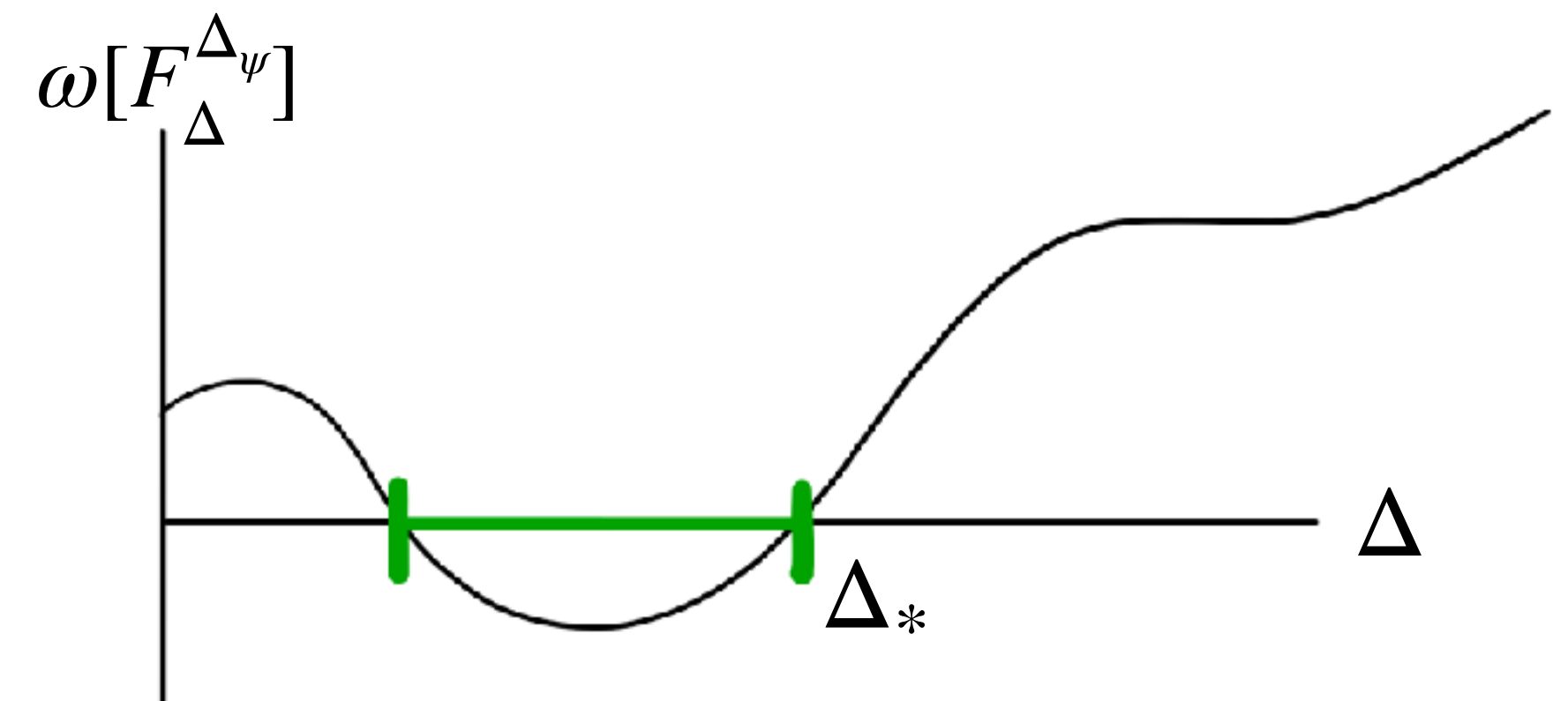
If $\exists \omega$ such that $\omega[F_{\Delta_i}^{\Delta_\psi}] > 0$ for all Δ_i in a putative theory, then the theory is ruled out.

Example: To get an upper bound on Δ_1 , suppose

1. $\omega[F_0^{\Delta_\psi}] = 1$

2. $\omega[F_{\Delta}^{\Delta_\psi}] \geq 0$ for all $\Delta \geq \Delta_*$

then $\Delta_1 \leq \Delta_*$ in all consistent theories.



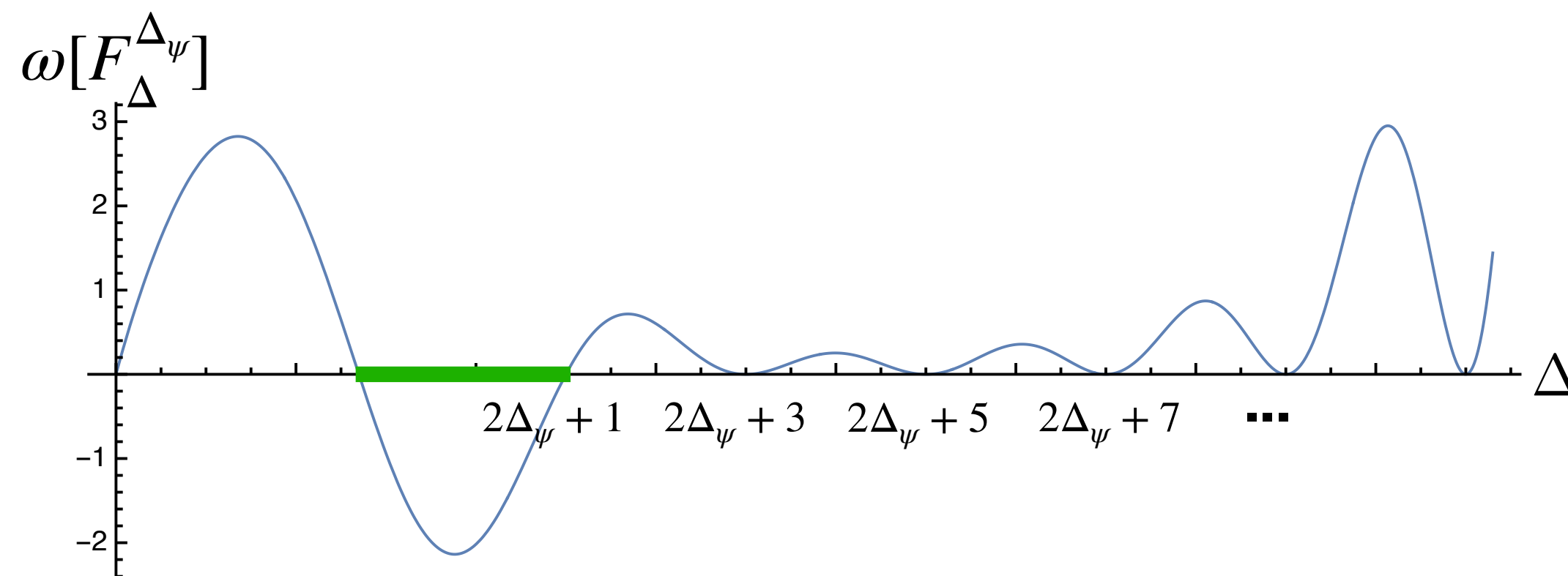
Analytic Functionals [DM '16], [DM, Paulos '18]

Question: What is the maximal possible Δ_1 for a given Δ_ψ ?

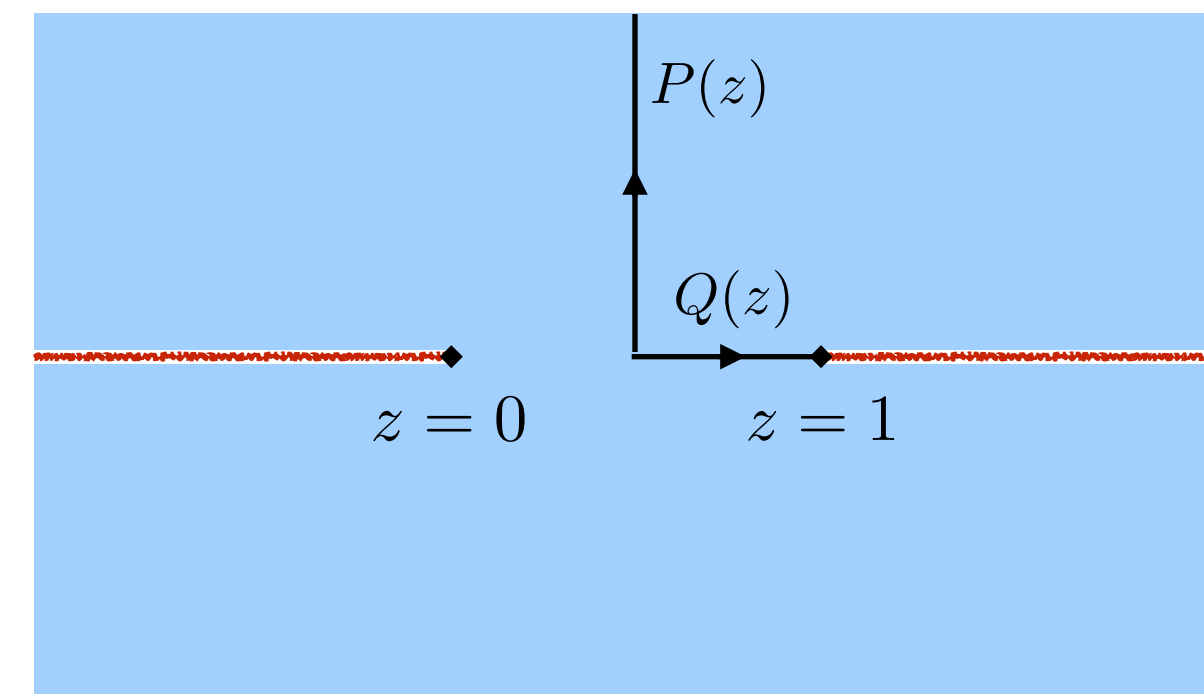
Theorem: The gap-maximizing solution is the fermionic mean field theory, with $\Delta_1 = 2\Delta_\psi + 1$.

$$\psi \times \psi = 1 + \psi \partial \psi + \psi \partial^3 \psi + \dots \quad \text{Spectrum: } \Delta = 0, 2\Delta_\psi + 1, 2\Delta_\psi + 3, \dots$$

Proof: Construct a linear functional ω with double zeros on the extremal spectrum.



$$\omega[F_\Delta^{\Delta_\psi}] = \sin^2 \left[\frac{\pi}{2} (\Delta - 2\Delta_\psi - 1) \right] \int_0^1 dz Q(z) G_\Delta^{\Delta_\psi}(z)$$



$P(z), Q(z)$ are subject to a system of functional equations which admits a unique solution.

Functionals and the 2D Modular Bootstrap

Observable: Torus partition function of a 2D CFT: $Z(\beta) = \sum_i e^{-\beta(\Delta_i - c/12)}$.

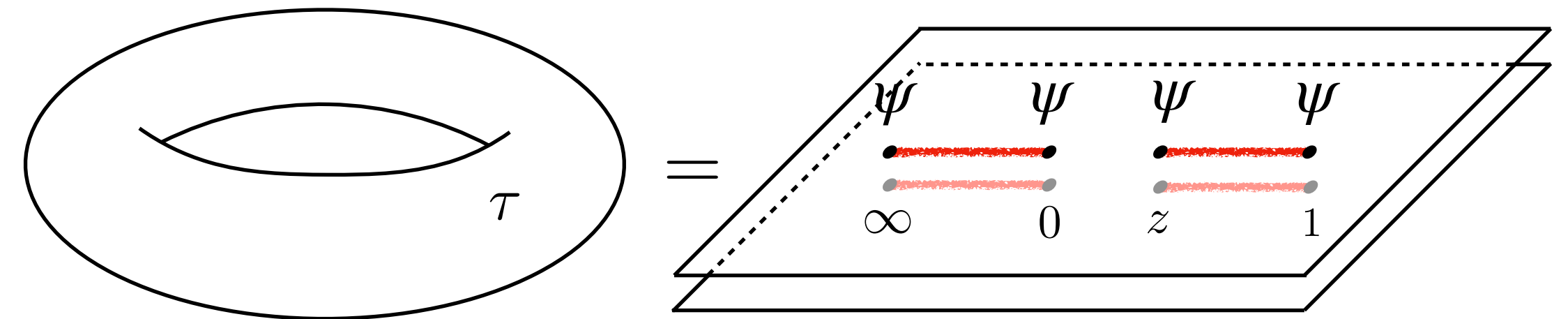
Constraint: Modular invariance $Z(\beta) = Z(4\pi^2/\beta)$.

Question: What is the maximal Δ_1 (first Virasoro primary) subject to this constraint?

Equivalent to a four-point correlator bootstrap

$$Z(\beta) \sim \langle 0 | \psi(0)\psi(z)\psi(1)\psi(\infty) | 0 \rangle_{(T \times T)/\mathbb{Z}_2}$$

$$\Delta_\psi = \frac{c}{8} \quad z = \frac{\theta_2(\tau)^4}{\theta_3(\tau)^4}$$



⇒ Can uplift the analytic functionals from the four-point function to the modular bootstrap!

⇒ **Theorem:** Every compact unitary 2D CFT with $c \notin (4, 12)$ contains a Virasoro primary with

$$\Delta \leq \frac{c}{8} + \frac{1}{2}$$

[Hartman, DM, Rastelli '19]

Sphere Packing Problem

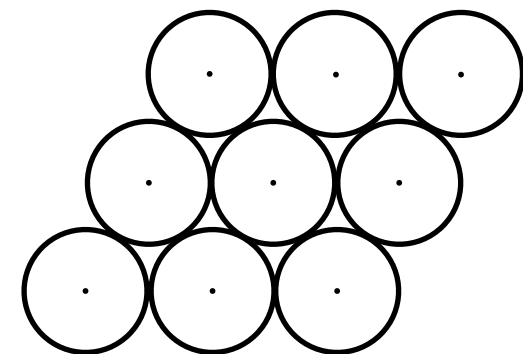
Task : Find the densest arrangement of identical, non-overlapping spheres in \mathbb{R}^d .

Applications: error-correcting codes, stacking of oranges

Known solutions:

$d = 2:$

[Toth '40]



$d = 3:$

[Hales '98]



$d = 8:$ E_8 lattice

[Viazovska '16]

$d = 24:$ Leech lattice

[Cohn, Kumar, Miller, Radchenko, Viazovska '16]

Sphere Packing Bounds

[Cohn, Elkies '01]

[Hartman, DM, Rastelli '19]

Idea: Use bootstrap-like constraints to prove an upper bound on the sphere-packing density.

- For a periodic packing with sphere centers at $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$, define the partition function

$$Z(\tau) = \sum_{(ij)} \frac{e^{i\pi|x_i-x_j|^2\tau}}{\eta(\tau)^d} = \sum_{(ij)} \chi_{\Delta_{ij}}(\tau)$$

- Here $\chi_{\Delta}(\tau) = \frac{e^{2\pi i\Delta\tau}}{\eta(\tau)^d}$ is a character of the $U(1)^d$ chiral algebra, and $\Delta_{ij} = |x_i - x_j|^2/2$.

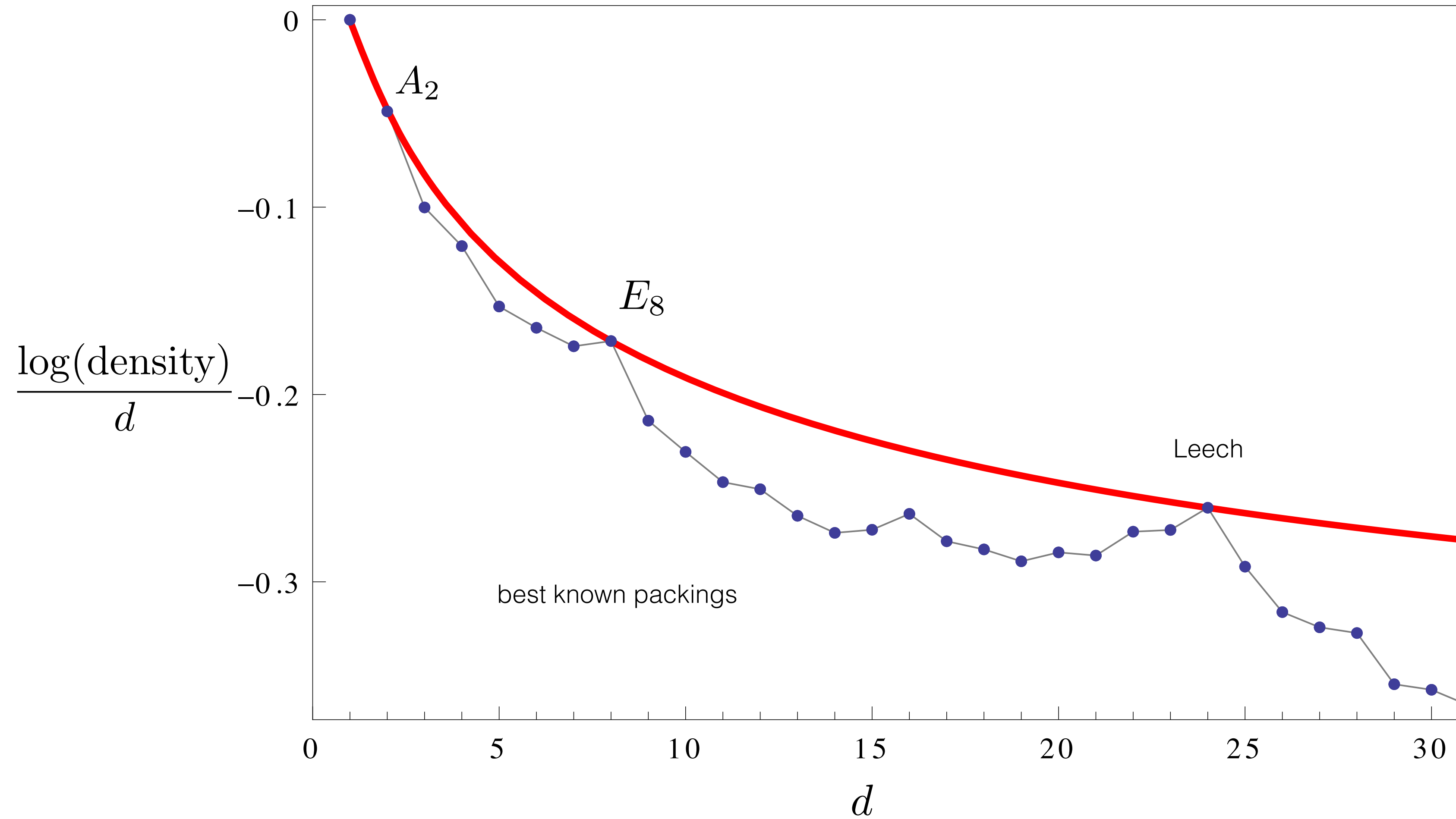
- Upper bound on the smallest $\Delta_{ij} \Leftrightarrow$ upper bound on the density of all sphere packings in \mathbb{R}^d .

- Poisson summation implies an alternative expression $Z(\tau) = \sum_i p_i \chi_{\Delta_i}(-1/\tau)$.

\Rightarrow Can use standard bootstrap techniques to prove upper bounds on sphere packing density.

Resulting Bound

[Cohn, Elkies '01]



Sharp Bounds for $d=8$ and $d=24$

- Viazovska (2016): the Cohn-Elkies upper bound is sharp in $d = 8$, saturated by the E_8 lattice.
- Similarly, the Cohn-Elkies upper bound is sharp in $d = 24$, saturated by the Leech lattice.

[Cohn, Kumar, Miller, Radchenko, Viazovska '16]

Method of proof: (translated to CFT language)

- Construct the analytic functional for the bootstrap problem with $U(1)^d$ characters.
- Can recover Viazovska's magic function from the analytic functional for 1D conformal bootstrap.

[Viazovska '16]

[Cohn, Kumar, Miller, Radchenko, Viazovska '16]

$$d = 8, 24$$



[DM '16]

$$\Delta_\psi = \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}$$

Summary

General problem: $0 = \Delta_0 \leq \Delta_1 \leq \Delta_2 \leq \dots$, maximize Δ_1 , subject to:

1. Four-point bootstrap:
$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |f_i|^2 G_{\Delta_i}^{\Delta_\psi}(z) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |f_i|^2 G_{\Delta_i}^{\Delta_\psi}(1-z) \quad G_{\Delta}^{\Delta_\psi}(z) = z^{\Delta-2\Delta_\psi} {}_2F_1(\Delta, \Delta; 2\Delta; z)$$

Optimal solution: $\Delta_1 = 2\Delta_\psi + 1$ for all $\Delta_\psi > 0$. [DM '16], [DM, Paulos '18]

2. Virasoro modular bootstrap:
$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |f_i|^2 \chi_{\Delta_i}^c(\tau) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |f_i|^2 \chi_{\Delta_i}^c(-1/\tau) \quad \chi_{\Delta}^c(\tau) = \frac{e^{2\pi i\tau(\Delta - \frac{c-1}{12})}}{\eta(\tau)^2}$$

Optimal solution: $\Delta_1 = 1$ for $c = 4$ and $\Delta_1 = 2$ for $c = 12$. [Hartman, DM, Rastelli '19]

3. Sphere packing bootstrap:
$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |f_i|^2 \chi_{\Delta_i}^d(\tau) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} |f_i|^2 \chi_{\Delta_i}^d(-1/\tau) \quad \chi_{\Delta}^d(\tau) = \frac{e^{2\pi i\tau\Delta}}{\eta(\tau)^d}$$

Optimal solution: $\Delta_1 = 1$ for $d = 8$ and $\Delta_1 = 2$ for $d = 24$.

[Viazovska '16]

[Cohn, Kumar, Miller, Radchenko, Viazovska '16]

◦ Solution of 2. and 3. \Leftrightarrow solution of 1. for $\Delta_\psi = 1/2$ and $\Delta_\psi = 3/2$. [Hartman, DM, Rastelli '19]

Thank you!

References

First part:

- P. Kravchuk, DM, S. Pal: Automorphic Spectra and the Conformal Bootstrap, [arXiv:2111.12716]

Second part:

- DM: Analytic Bounds and Emergence of AdS₂ Physics from the Conformal Bootstrap, [arXiv:1611.10060]
- DM, M. Paulos: The Analytic Functional Bootstrap I: 1D CFTs and 2D S-matrices, [arXiv:1803.10233]
- T. Hartman, DM, L. Rastelli: Sphere Packing and Quantum Gravity, [arXiv:1905.01319]