

# L-functions

Last week:

- def<sup>n</sup> of Galois reps
- "fundamental theorem of infinite Galois extensions"  
$$\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q}) = \varprojlim_n \text{Gal}(M/\mathbb{Q})$$
  - Krull top.
  - $\{\text{closed, normal}\} \leftrightarrow \{\text{Galois ext}\}$
  - $\{\text{open}\} \leftrightarrow \{\text{finite ext}\}$
  - $\{\text{open normal}\} \leftrightarrow \{\text{finite Galois}\}$
- Cyclotomic characters, Ramification, and complex reps

Like last week, this talk is based on Sam Marks's lecture notes.

## Art in L-functions

first, an example of an L-function.

A Dirichlet L-function for a Dirichlet character  $\chi: (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  is

$$L(\chi, s) = \sum_{n \geq 1} \chi(n) n^{-s}$$

Converges in half plane  $\{s \in \mathbb{C} \mid \operatorname{Re}(s) > 1\}$ .

This has the "Euler product"

$$L(\chi, s) = \prod_{p \nmid n} \frac{1}{1 - \chi(p) p^{-s}}$$

We'll define L-functions using the Euler product.

**Def<sup>n</sup>**: Let  $L/k$  be a Galois extension of number fields, and let

$$\rho: \text{Gal}(L/k) \rightarrow \text{GL}(V)$$

$V$  a  $n$ -dimensional complex space.

Let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be a prime in  $k$  lying under a prime  $\mathfrak{P}$  in  $L$ .

$\sim$  If  $I_{\mathfrak{P}}$  is a choice of an inertia group at  $\mathfrak{P}$ , let

$$V^{I_{\mathfrak{P}}} = \{v \in V \mid \rho(\sigma)v = v \forall \sigma \in I_{\mathfrak{P}}\}.$$

We then have a representation

$$\rho^{I_{\mathfrak{P}}}: \text{Gal}(L/k) \rightarrow \text{GL}(V^{I_{\mathfrak{P}}})$$

unramified at  $\mathfrak{P}$  coming from  $\rho$ .

We now can define functions, one for each prime  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $K$ , called  
Local L-factors

$$L_{\mathfrak{p}}(\rho, T) = \frac{1}{\det(1 - T\sigma_{\mathfrak{p}} / \rho^{\mathbb{F}_{\mathfrak{p}}})} \in \mathbb{C}(T).$$

The local L-factor does not depend on the choice of  $\mathfrak{p}$ .

~ With these local L-factors, we can define the global L-function

$$L(\rho, s) = \prod_{\mathfrak{p}} L_{\mathfrak{p}}(\rho, N_{\mathfrak{p}}^{-s})$$

Where  $N_{\mathfrak{p}} = \#\mathbb{F}_{\mathfrak{p}}$  is the norm of  $\mathfrak{p}$  and  $s \in \mathbb{C}$  such that the product converges.

Let's consider an example.

$$\rho: \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Q}) \longrightarrow \text{GL}_1(\mathbb{C}).$$

$\rho$  is unramified at every prime. Our local L-factors are

$$L_p(\rho, T) = \frac{1}{1-T},$$

and we get the L-function

$$L(\rho, s) = \prod_p \frac{1}{1-p^{-s}},$$

which is the Euler product for

$$\zeta(s) = \sum_{n \geq 1} n^{-s},$$

the Riemann zeta function.

We can generalize this to any number field  $K$ .

We get the L-function for

$$\rho: \text{Gal}(K/k) \rightarrow \text{GL}_1(\mathbb{C})$$

defined by

$$L(\rho, s) = \prod_{\mathfrak{p}} \frac{1}{1 - N\mathfrak{p}^{-s}}$$

This is the Dedekind zeta function

$$\zeta_K(s) = \sum_{\mathfrak{I}} N\mathfrak{I}^{-s} \text{ of } K,$$

$\mathfrak{I}$ : nonzero ideals of  $\mathcal{O}_K$ ,

$N$ : absolute norm of  $\mathfrak{I}$ .

Ex. Dirichlet characters show up a lot in analytic number theory.

We can view a Dirichlet character  $\chi: (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  as a Galois Repn  $\rho_\chi$

$$G_{\mathbb{Q}} \twoheadrightarrow \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)/\mathbb{Q}) \xrightarrow{\sim} (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^\times \xrightarrow{\chi} \text{GL}_1(\mathbb{C})$$

If  $\chi$  is a primitive character,

$$L(\chi, s) = L(\rho_\chi, s).$$

See Marks's lecture notes.

---

I gave a promise: Artin L-functions are well-behaved.

### Theorem

Let  $\rho: \text{Gal}(L/K) \rightarrow \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{C})$  be a Galois representation. Then there is a function  $L_\infty(\rho, s)$  and an integer  $c(\rho)$  such that the completed L-function

$$\Delta(\rho, s) = c(\rho)^{s/2} L(\rho, s) L_\infty(\rho, s)$$

has a meromorphic continuation to  $\mathbb{C}$ ,

and

$$\Delta(\rho, s) = W(\rho) \Delta(\bar{\rho}, 1-s),$$


Where  $\bar{\rho}$  is the complex conjugate of  $\rho$  and  $W(\rho) \in S^1 \subseteq \mathbb{C}^\times$  is a complex number of modulus 1.

---

(2d) pf sketch

~ Reduce to  $n=1$ , obtain Dirichlet L-function

~ associate with Hecke character (automorphic)  
→ Lots of tools □

What is  $L_\infty$ ? Why is  $\mathbb{A}$  "completed"? 

Primes  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $K$  have associated nonarchimedean absolute values  $|\cdot|_{\mathfrak{p}}$  on  $K$ .

We get archimedean absolute values induced on  $K$  by embedding

$$K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

and to these archimedean absolute values we associate "infinity primes"



and  $L_\infty(p, s)$  is the product of infinity prime local L-factors.

These factors "complete"  $\Delta$ .

Now for the fun stuff:

composite systems of  
 $\ell$ -adic Representations

**Def<sup>n</sup>** Fix  $n \geq 1$ . For each prime  $\ell$ , let

$$\rho_\ell: G_{\mathbb{Q}} \rightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{Q}_\ell)$$

be an  $\ell$ -adic representation.

We say that  $\{\rho_\ell\}_\ell$  is a compatible system of  $\ell$ -adic representations if

1) there is a finite set  $S$  of primes so that each  $\rho_\ell$  is unramified at all  $p \notin S \cup \{\ell\}$

2) for each prime  $p$ ,  $\det(1 - T\sigma_p | \rho_\ell^{\mp p}) \in \mathbb{Q}_\ell[T]$  lives in  $\mathbb{Q}[T]$  and doesn't depend on  $\ell$ .

If  $\rho = \{\rho_\ell\}_\ell$  is a compatible system of  $l$ -adic representations, we have local  $L$ -factors

$$L_p(\rho, T) = \frac{1}{\det(1 - T\sigma_T | \rho_\ell^{\mathbb{F}_p})}$$

independent of  $l \neq p$ , and we have  $L$ -function

$$L(\rho, s) = \prod_p L_p(\rho, p^{-s})$$

Ex. Tate modules of an elliptic curve give us a compatible system of  $l$ -adic reps

Meromorphic continuation?

functional equations?

NOT SURE

Best bet: associate  $L$ -functions to automorphic objects. This worked for elliptic curves.  
(Taniyama modularity Thm)

— Wiles 1995

— CDTB 2001

Compatible systems are one type of family of  $l$ -adic reps. What about other families?

What about

$$\rho: G_{\mathbb{Q}_p} \rightarrow GL_n(\overline{\mathbb{Q}_l})?$$

$$\rho: G_{\mathbb{Q}_p} \rightarrow GL_n(\overline{\mathbb{Q}_p})?$$

→  $p$ -adic Hodge theory

Associating to automorphic forms:

global Langlands program.