# Central values of additive twists of *L* functions via continued fractions

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#### Central values of L-functions, non-vanishing

Some reasons for studying central values of L-functions:

- Lindelöf hypothesis: |ζ(1/2 + it)| ≪ 1 + |t|<sup>ε</sup>? (..., Kolesnik, Huxley, Bourgain 2015, t<sup>13/87+ε</sup>).
- ▶ Chowla conjecture: is  $L(\chi, 1/2) \neq 0$  for  $\chi$  primitive? quadratic? Results on average over  $\chi$  (Balasubramanian-Murty, Iwaniec-Sarnak, Soundararajan, ...)
- ▶ Birch, Swinnerton-Dyer conjecture: E/Q elliptic curve. Count points mod p, and build L(E, s). Then L(E, 1/2) should vanish at order given by the rank of E.

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 Mazur-Rubin, Stein: fix E/Q. How large does rank(E/K) get as K varies among abelian extensions of Q?

#### Central values of L-functions, distribution

We wish to understand these values. What is their size as complex numbers?

► Selberg: 
$$\left(\frac{\log \zeta(1/2+it)}{\sqrt{\log \log T}}\right)_{t \in [T,2T]}$$
 converges to a Gaussian,  
meaning  $\forall R \subset \mathbb{C}$  rectangle, as  $T \to \infty$ ,  
 $\mathbb{P}_{t \in [T,2T]}\left(\frac{\log \zeta(1/2+it)}{\sqrt{\log \log T}} \in R\right) \to \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(0,1) \in R).$ 

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Distribution happens in the log-scale, because of multiplicativity:

$$\log \zeta(1/2 + it) \approx \sum_{p \ll t^{O(1)}} \frac{p^{-it}}{\sqrt{p}} + [\text{zeroes}].$$

Sum of terms behaving independently.

For f a holomorphic eigen-cusp form,  $f(z) = \sum_{n \ge 1} a_f(n) e(nz)$ . Define the twisted L-function

$$L_f(s,x) := \sum_{n \ge 1} \frac{a_f(n) e(nx)}{n^s} \qquad (\Re(s) > 1/2)$$

analytically continued to  $\mathbb{C}$ . The value  $L_f(1/2, x)$  is one incarnation of modular symbols (useful *e.g.* to compute with modular forms).

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#### Conjecture (Mazur-Rubin, Stein 2015)

The values  $L_f(1/2, x)$  become Gaussian distributed: for some  $\sigma_{f,q} > 0$ , as  $q \to \infty$ , when x is picked at random among rationals in (0, 1] with denominator = q,

$$\mathbb{P}\Big(\frac{L_f(1/2,x)}{\sigma_{f,q}\sqrt{\log q}} \in R\Big) \to \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(0,1) \in R)$$

where  $R \subset \mathbb{C}$  is any fixed rectangle. First and second moment is known (Blomer-Fouvry-Kowalski-Michel-Milićević-Sawin)

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What about on average over q?

 $\Omega_Q := \{x \in \mathbb{Q} \in (0,1], \operatorname{denom}(x) \leq Q\},$ 

$$\mathbb{E}_Q(f(x)) = \frac{1}{|\Omega_Q|} \sum_{x \in \Omega_Q} f(x).$$

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Theorem (Lee-Sun, Bettin-D.)

Yes, by dynamical systems methods, if f has weight 2, or if f has level 1.

# Additive twists - Estermann function

Non-cuspidal analogue: for  $\Re(s) > 1$ , au divisor function, let

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## Theorem (Bettin-D.) For all rectangle $R \subset \mathbb{C}$ , as $Q \to \infty$ , $\mathbb{P}_Q\Big(\frac{D(1/2, x)}{\sqrt{\sigma(\log Q)(\log \log Q)^3}} \in R\Big) \to \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{N}_{\mathbb{C}}(0, 1) \in R).$

All moments are known by Bettin '18 (with single average!), but don't tell about the limit law, because of few bad terms, *e.g.*  $D(1/2, 1/q) \simeq q^{1/2} \log q$ .

#### Symmetries

Abbreviate  $L_f(x) := L_f(1/2, x), L_\tau(x) := D(1/2, x).$ Claim (Bettin '17)

Both functions above satisfy symmetries of the following kind  $L(1 + x) = L(x), \qquad L(x) = L(1/x) + \phi_*(x)$ 

where  $\phi_f$  and  $\phi_{\tau}$  are analytically nice, meaning that they can be continued to  $\mathbb{R}$ , with some regularity.

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The symmetries above are all one needs to get a limit law.



Let  $T(x) = \{1/x\}$  be the Gauss map.



where

$$\mathcal{S}_{\phi}(x) := \phi(x) + \phi(\mathcal{T}(x)) + \dots + \phi(\mathcal{T}^{N-1}(x)),$$
  
and  $N = N(x)$  is minimal with  $\mathcal{T}^N(x) = 0$   $(N(a/q) \ll \log q).$ 

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$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Q}}(\mathrm{e}^{it\mathcal{S}_{\phi}(x)}) &\stackrel{?}{\approx} \mathbb{E}(\mathrm{e}^{it\phi(X)})^{\mathcal{N}_{\mu}} = \exp\left\{\mathcal{N}_{\mu}\log(1 + \mathbb{E}(\mathrm{e}^{it\phi(X)} - 1))\right\} \\ &\approx \exp\left\{\mathcal{N}_{\mu}\mathbb{E}(\mathrm{e}^{it\phi(X)} - 1)\right\} \end{split}$$

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Theorem (Bettin-D.) Let  $\alpha, \kappa > 0$ . Suppose  $\phi : [0,1] \to \mathbb{C}$  is  $\kappa$ -Hölder on  $(\frac{1}{n+1}, \frac{1}{n}), \forall n \ge 1$ , and suppose  $\int_{[0,1]} |\phi|^{\alpha} < \infty$ .

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$$\mathbb{E}_Q(\mathrm{e}^{itS_\phi(x)}) = \exp\left\{\frac{12\log 2}{\pi^2}(\log Q)I_\phi(t) + O((t^2 + t^{2\alpha})\log Q + Q^{-\delta})\right\}$$

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. Moreover, if  $\alpha > 1$ ,  
 $\mathbb{E}_{Q}(e^{itS_{\phi}(x)}) = \exp\left\{\frac{12\log 2}{\pi^{2}}(\log Q)(I_{\phi}(t) + C_{\phi}t^{2}) + O((t^{3}+t^{1+\alpha})\log Q + Q^{-\delta})\right\}$ 

Previous work by Vallée '02 and Baladi-Vallée '05  $(\phi(x) = f(\lfloor 1/x \rfloor) \ll |\log 1/x|$ , Gaussian). In the continuous case: many works (..., Aaronson-Denker). Limit law is not necessarily Gaussian: stable law (Levy, Cauchy, ...)

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Now  $\phi$  is  $(\frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon)$ -Hölder on  $\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Z}$  and not bounded! By Bettin '16 :  $\phi(x) \sim cx^{-1/2} \log x$  as  $x \to 0$ .

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In fact  $\mu = 0$  and  $\sigma = \pi$ .

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In fact  $\mu = 0$  and  $\sigma = \pi$ . This implies the Gaussian behaviour with variance  $\sigma^2 \log Q(\log \log Q)^3$ .

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As 
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,  $\Sigma(x) = (1 + o(1))\frac{12}{\pi^2} \log Q \log \log Q$  a.s. for  $x \in \Omega_Q$ .  
(Proof: take  $\phi(x) = \lfloor 1/x \rfloor$ , then  $I_{\phi}(t) \sim ct \log t$ )

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#### Theorem (Bettin-D.)

For 
$$x \in \mathbb{Q}$$
, let  $J(x) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \prod_{r=1}^{n} |1 - e^{2\pi i r x}|^2$ . Then for some  $\mu > 0$ ,  
 $\log J(x) \sim \mu \Sigma(x) \sim \mu \frac{12}{\pi^2} \log Q \log \log Q$  a.s. for  $x \in \Omega_Q$ .

Another application: Dedekind sums

Define the Dedekind sums:

$$s\left(\frac{a}{q}\right) := \sum_{h=1}^{q-1} \left( \left(\frac{ha}{q}\right) \right) \left( \left(\frac{h}{q}\right) \right), \qquad ((x)) := \begin{cases} \{x\} - 1/2 & (x \notin \mathbb{Z}), \\ 0 & (\text{otherwise}). \end{cases}$$

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Theorem (Vardi '93)  
As 
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$$\mathbb{P}_Q\left(\frac{s(x)}{\log Q} \le \frac{v}{2\pi}\right) \to \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{v} \frac{\mathrm{d}y}{1+y^2}$$

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Achieved by Vardi '93 using trace formulas, twisted Eisenstein series... Or: by Dedekind '53,  $s(x) = s(-1/x) + \phi(x)$  where  $\phi(x) \approx 1/x$ .

#### Glimpse of the proof

Following Vallée '02, Baladi-Vallée '05, express things in term of a transfer operator. This means replacing the map T (which has T' > 1) by its adjoint

$$H[f](x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n+x)^2} f\left(\frac{1}{n+x}\right).$$

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Methods of Dolgopyat '98. Main challenge is to adapt this when very little is known on  $\phi$ .

Thanks for your attention!