

# The Farey Fraction Spin Chain and Gauss—Kuz'min Statistics for Quadratic Irrationals

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Consider the following simple model of a magnet: a chain composed of some molecules (spins), each of which can point either up  $\uparrow$  or down  $\downarrow$

$$\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow\downarrow\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow = \uparrow^3\downarrow^2\uparrow^4 .$$

In statistical physics we need to define the probability of a given configuration. Usually it depends on the energy  $E$  and the temperature  $T$ :

$$p = \frac{e^{-E/T}}{Z},$$

where  $Z$  is just the normalizing factor.

There are different ways to assign an energy to each state of a spin chain.

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# The Farey Fraction Spin Chain

Kleban and Özlük (1999) introduced Farey Fraction Spin Chain model based on the products of matrices

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In this model  $\uparrow = A$ ,  $\downarrow = B$ . For example

$$\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow = \uparrow^3\downarrow^2\uparrow^4 = A^3B^2A^4.$$

For a given configuration they proposed to assign the energy

$$E(\uparrow^{a_1}\downarrow^{a_2}\uparrow^{a_3}\dots) = \log(\text{Tr}(A^{a_1}B^{a_2}A^{a_3}\dots)).$$

In particular

$$E(A^n) = \log 2, \quad E((AB)^n) \asymp n \quad (\text{typical}).$$

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Several authors (Kallies, Özlük, Peter, Snyder, Boca, Fiala) considered the following problem: determine the number of states with energy bounded by  $N$ . Let

$$\Psi(N) = |\{C \in \langle A, B \rangle : 3 \leq \text{Tr } C \leq N\}|.$$

Kallies, Özlük, Peter, Snyder (2001):

$$\Psi(N) = \frac{N^2 \log N}{\zeta(2)} + O(N^2 \log \log N).$$

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Boca (2007):

$$\Psi(N) = N^2(c_1 \log N + c_0) + O_\varepsilon \left( N^{7/4+\varepsilon} \right),$$

where

$$c_1 = \frac{1}{\zeta(2)}, \quad c_2 = \frac{1}{\zeta(2)} \left( \gamma - \frac{3}{2} - \frac{\zeta'(2)}{\zeta(2)} \right).$$

**Theorem (AU, 2012)**

$$\Psi(N) = N^2(c_1 \log N + c_0) + O_\varepsilon \left( N^{3/2+\varepsilon} \right).$$

This result follows from Weil's (+ Estermann) bound

$$|K_q(m, n)| \leq \sigma_0(q) \cdot (m, n, q)^{1/2} \cdot q^{1/2}.$$

for Kloosterman sums

$$K_q(m, n) = \sum_{\substack{x, y=1 \\ xy \equiv 1 \pmod{q}}}^q e^{2\pi i \frac{mx+ny}{q}}.$$

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It is better to split a problem in two parts

$$\Psi(N) = 2(\Psi_{ev}(N) + \Psi_{odd}(N))$$

and consider even and odd spin chains separately:

$$\Psi_{ev}(N) = |\{C = A^{a_1} B^{a_2} \dots B^{a_{2n}} : 3 \leq \text{Tr } C \leq N\}|$$
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Asymptotic formula for  $\Psi(N)$  follows from

$$\Psi_{ev}(N) = \frac{\log 2}{2\zeta(2)} N^2 + O(N^{3/2+\varepsilon})$$
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# Quadratic irrationals

## Notation

Let

$$\frac{a}{b} = [a_0; a_1, \dots, a_s + \dots] = a_0 + \frac{1}{a_1 + \dots + \frac{1}{a_s + \dots}},$$

be standard continued fraction expansion with  $a_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $a_1, \dots, a_s, \dots \in \mathbb{N}$ .

If  $\omega$  is a quadratic number, its **conjugate** will be denoted by  $\omega^*$ .

A quadratic number  $\omega \in (0, 1)$  is said to be **reduced** if its continued fraction expansion is such that  $\omega = [0; \overline{a_1, \dots, a_n}]$ .

Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be the set of all reduced quadratic numbers and  $\rho(\omega)$  is the length of  $\omega$  (the length of corresponding closed geodesics of upper half-plane).

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Faivre, 1992:

$$\sum_{\rho(\omega) < X} 1 \sim \frac{e^X \log 2}{2\zeta(2)}$$

It is the special type of prime geodesic theorems studied by Linnik, Skubenko, Margulis, Sarnak, Duke, Pollicott. . .

Boca's result

$$\Psi_{ev}(N) = \frac{\log 2}{2\zeta(2)} N^2 + O(N^{7/4+\varepsilon})$$

equivalent to

$$\sum_{\rho(\omega) < X} 1 = \frac{e^X \log 2}{2\zeta(2)} + O_\varepsilon \left( e^{(\frac{7}{8}+\varepsilon)X} \right).$$

Better error term  $O(N^{3/2+\varepsilon})$  in asymptotic formula for  $\Psi_{ev}(N)$  gives better error term  $O\left(e^{(\frac{3}{4}+\varepsilon)X}\right)$  in last formula.

We need Gauss — Kuz'min statistics to look inside spin chains.

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We need Gauss — Kuz'min statistics to look inside spin chains.

# Gauss — Kuz'min statistics

Let  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\alpha = [0; a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, \dots]$ .

Theorem (Gauss — Kuz'min, 1800 + 1928)

$$\text{mes} \{ \alpha \in (0, 1) : [0; a_n, a_{n+1}, \dots] \leq x \} \rightarrow \log_2(1+x) = \frac{1}{\log 2} \int_0^x \frac{dt}{1+t}$$

This theorem has following generalization:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{mes} \{ \alpha \in (0, 1) : [0; a_n, a_{n+1}, \dots] \leq x, [0; a_{n-1}, \dots, a_2, a_1] \leq y \} \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \log_2(1 + xy) = \frac{1}{\log 2} \int_0^x \int_0^y \frac{dt_1 dt_2}{(1 + t_1 t_2)^2} \quad (n \rightarrow \infty). \end{aligned}$$

# Gauss — Kuz'min statistics

Arnold's problem

## Conjecture (Arnold, 1993)

Rational numbers and quadratic irrationals satisfy Gauss — Kuz'min law.

Gauss — Kuz'min statistics for rational numbers were studied by Avdeeva — Bykovskii (2002–2004).

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## Theorem (A.U., 2005)

*For any region  $\Omega$  with “good” boundary*

$$\frac{1}{R^2 \text{Vol}(\Omega)} \sum_{(a/R, b/R) \in \Omega} s_x(a/b) = \frac{2 \log(x+1)}{\zeta(2)} \log R + C_\Omega(x) + O(R^{-1/5+\varepsilon}).$$

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The same law holds for even spin chains and reduced quadratic irrationals (after suitable definitions).

# Continued fractions and $2 \times 2$ matrices

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the set of integer matrices

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} p & p' \\ q & q' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} p(S) & p'(S) \\ q(S) & q'(S) \end{pmatrix}$$

such that  $\det S = \pm 1$ , and

$$1 \leq q \leq q', \quad 0 \leq p \leq q, \quad 1 \leq p' \leq q'.$$

The following map

$$[0; a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n] \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} p & p' \\ q & q' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & a_1 \end{pmatrix} \cdots \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & a_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

is one-to-one correspondence between rationales  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and matrices  $S \in \mathcal{M}$ .



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$$\begin{pmatrix} p & p' \\ q & q' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & a_1 \end{pmatrix} \cdots \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & a_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

then partial quotients  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  can be reconstructed by expansions

$$\frac{p}{q} = [0; a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}], \quad \frac{p'}{q'} = [0; a_1, \dots, a_n],$$

or

$$\frac{p}{p'} = [0; a_n, \dots, a_2], \quad \frac{q}{q'} = [0; a_n, \dots, a_1].$$

$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_+ \sqcup \mathcal{M}_-$  (depending on sign of determinant).

# Even spin chains

Equivalent definition of number of spin chains with bounded energy:

$$\Psi_{ev}(N) = \left| \left\{ S = \begin{pmatrix} p & p' \\ q & q' \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{M}_+ : \text{Tr}(S) = p + q' \leq N \right\} \right|.$$

Gauss — Kuz'min statistics for even spin chains are counted by the function

$$\Psi_{ev}(x, y; N) = \left| \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} p & p' \\ q & q' \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{M}_+ : \frac{p'}{q'} \leq x, \frac{q}{q'} \leq y, p + q' \leq N \right\} \right|.$$

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Theorem (AU, 2012)

$$\Psi_{ev}(x, y; N) = \frac{\log(1 + xy)}{2\zeta(2)} N^2 + O(N^{3/2+\varepsilon}).$$

## Theorem (AU, 2012)

$$\Psi_{\text{odd}}(x, y; N) = \frac{N^2}{2\zeta(2)} \left( \log N + \log \frac{xy}{x+y} + \gamma - \frac{3}{2} - \frac{\zeta'(2)}{\zeta(2)} \right) + O(N^{3/2+\varepsilon}) + O\left(\frac{x+y}{xy} N^{1+\varepsilon}\right).$$

Main term here is constructed from matrices  $\begin{pmatrix} p & p' \\ q & q' \end{pmatrix}$  with  $p' = o(q')$ ,  $q = o(q')$  and has nothing common with Gauss — Kuz'min statistics.

## Lemma

Let  $q \geq 1$ ,  $0 \leq P_1, P_2 \leq q$ . Then

$$\sum_{0 < x \leq P_2} \sum_{\substack{0 < y \leq P_2 \\ xy \equiv 1 \pmod{q}}} 1 = \frac{\varphi(q)}{q^2} P_1 P_2 + O(q^{1/2+\varepsilon}).$$

# The main tool

## Lemma

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## Lemma

Let  $q \geq 1$ ,  $0 \leq P_1, P_2 \leq q$ ,  $f(x) = a \pm x$  is a linear function such that  $0 \leq f(P_1), f(P_2) \leq q$ . Then

$$\sum_{P_1 < x \leq P_2} \sum_{\substack{0 < y \leq f(x) \\ xy \equiv 1 \pmod{q}}} 1 = \frac{\varphi(q)}{q^2} \int_{P_1}^{P_2} f(x) dx + O(q^{1/2+\varepsilon}).$$



# The length of a quadratic irrational

Let  $\mathbb{H} = \{(x, y); y > 0\}$  be the hyperbolic plane with its classical complete metric

$$ds^2 = y^{-2}(dx^2 + dy^2).$$

For this metric the curvature of  $\mathbb{H}$  is constant and equal to  $-1$ .

Elements of  $PSL(2, \mathbb{R})$  are isometries of  $\mathbb{H}$ .

Let  $M = \mathbb{H}/PSL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  be the modular surface.

# The length of a quadratic irrational

The geodesics  $\gamma : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$  for the hyperbolic metric are supported by vertical half-lines and the half-circles centered on the real axis. The geodesics of  $M$  are by definition the  $p \circ \gamma$  where  $\gamma : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$  is a geodesic of  $\mathbb{H}$  and  $p : \mathbb{H} \rightarrow M$  the canonical projection.

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## Theorem

*(i) Let  $\gamma$  be a geodesic of  $\mathbb{H}$  joining a quadratic number  $\omega$  and its conjugate  $\omega^*$ . Then  $p \circ \gamma$  is a closed geodesic of  $M$  and all the closed geodesics on  $M$  arise in this way.*

*(ii) The length of  $p \circ \gamma$  is given by  $\rho(\omega) = 2 \log \varepsilon_0(\omega)$ .*

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Let  $AX^2 + BX + C \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$  be the minimal equation of quadratic irrational  $\omega$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$  ( $A > 0, (A, B, C) = 1$ ) and  $\Delta = B^2 - 4AC$ . Then  $\varepsilon_0(\omega) = \frac{1}{2}(x_0 + \sqrt{\Delta}y_0)$  is the fundamental solution of the Pell equation

$$X^2 - \Delta Y^2 = 4.$$

In the field  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{\Delta})$  number  $\omega$  has *trace*  $\text{tr}(\omega) = \omega + \omega^* = -B/A$  and *norm*  $\mathcal{N}(\omega) = \omega\omega^* = C/A$ .

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Let  $\omega$  be reduced and

$$\omega = [0; \overline{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n}]$$

with period  $n = \text{per}(\omega)$ . Due to Galois theorem

$$-1/\omega^* = [0; \overline{a_n, \dots, a_1}].$$

For reduced  $\omega = [0; \overline{a_1, \dots, a_n}]$  denote by

$$\text{per}_e(\omega) = \begin{cases} n, & \text{if } n = \text{per}(\omega) \text{ is even;} \\ 2n, & \text{if } n = \text{per}(\omega) \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

**even period** of  $\omega$ .

Fundamental unit  $\varepsilon_0$  is the same for numbers

$$\omega_1 = [0; \overline{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n}],$$

$$\omega_2 = [0; \overline{a_2, a_3, \dots, a_1}],$$

$$\omega_3 = [0; \overline{a_3, a_4, \dots, a_2}], \dots$$

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$$\varepsilon_0^{-1}(\omega) = \omega_1 \omega_2 \dots \omega_{\text{per}_e(\omega)-1}.$$



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If  $A$  is any statement that can be true or false, then we'll use the following bracketed notation

$$[A] = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } A \text{ is true;} \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

The following sum counts Gauss — Kuz'min statistics for reduced quadratic irrationals

$$r(x, y; N) = \sum_{\substack{\omega \in \mathcal{R} \\ \varepsilon_0(\omega) \leq N}} [\omega \leq x, -1/\omega^* \leq y].$$

Numbers  $\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_n$  presented in the sum  $r(x, y; N)$  simultaneously.

$$r(x, y; N) =$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{\omega \in \mathcal{R} \\ \varepsilon_0(\omega) \leq N}} \frac{1}{\text{per}_e(\omega)} \sum_{j=1}^{\text{per}_e(\omega)} \left[ [0; a_{j+1}, a_{j+2}, \dots] \leq x, [0; a_j, a_{j-1}, \dots] \leq y \right].$$

It means that for number  $\omega$  we count Gauss — Kuz'min statistics for each place in the period. From geometrical point of view we study local behavior of closed geodesics.

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## Theorem

Let  $0 \leq x, y \leq 1$  and  $N \geq 2$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}r(x, y; N) &= \Psi_{ev}(x, y; N) + O(N^{3/2+\varepsilon}) = \\ &= \frac{\log(1 + xy)}{2\zeta(2)} N^2 + O(N^{3/2+\varepsilon}).\end{aligned}$$

We can construct the map from even spin chains to the set of reduced quadratic irrationals:

$$B^{a_1} A^{a_2} \dots A^{a_{2m}} \mapsto \omega = [0; \overline{a_1, \dots, a_{2m}}].$$

It is not one-to-one correspondence:

$$\begin{aligned}B^2 A^3 B^2 A^3 &\mapsto \omega = [0; \overline{2, 3, 2, 3}] = [0; \overline{2, 3}], \\ B^2 A^3 &\mapsto \omega = [0; \overline{2, 3}].\end{aligned}$$

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# Main reasons

Traces for spin chains and for quadratic irrationals are concordant:  
if  $\omega = [0; \overline{a_1, \dots, a_{2m}}]$ ,  $l = \text{per}_e(\omega)$ ,  $2m = kl$ , then

$$\text{Tr}(B^{a_1} A^{a_2} \dots A^{a_{2m}}) = \text{tr}(\varepsilon_0^k(\omega)).$$

This map preserves trace and Gauss — Kuz'min statistics:

$$\begin{aligned}\omega &= [0; \overline{a_1, \dots, a_{2m}}] \approx [0; a_1, \dots, a_{2m}], \\ -1/\omega^* &= [0; \overline{a_{2m}, \dots, a_1}] \approx [0; a_{2m}, \dots, a_1].\end{aligned}$$

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# Main reasons

For  $k \geq 1$

$$0 < \operatorname{tr}(\varepsilon_0^k(\omega)) - \varepsilon_0^k(\omega) < 1/2$$

( $\varepsilon_0$  is Pisot number).

In the simplest case ( $x = y = 1$ )

$$\Psi_{ev}(x, y; N) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{\substack{\omega \in \mathcal{R} \\ \operatorname{tr}(\varepsilon_0^k(\omega)) \leq N}} 1 \approx \sum_{\substack{\omega \in \mathcal{R} \\ \operatorname{tr}(\varepsilon_0(\omega)) \leq N}} 1 \approx \sum_{\substack{\omega \in \mathcal{R} \\ \varepsilon_0(\omega) \leq N}} 1 = r(x, y; N)$$

Thank you for your attention!