

Modular Flows are in the complement of the Trefoil Knot



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Lattices and Matrices

A lattice $L = \left\{ m \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} + n \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} : m, n \text{ integers} \right\}$

consists of all integer linear combinations of two linearly independent vectors $\omega_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix}$ & $\omega_2 = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix}$

L can be seen as the image of matrix multiplication

$$\begin{pmatrix} m \\ n \end{pmatrix} \mapsto m \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} + n \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ y_1 & y_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} m \\ n \end{pmatrix}$$

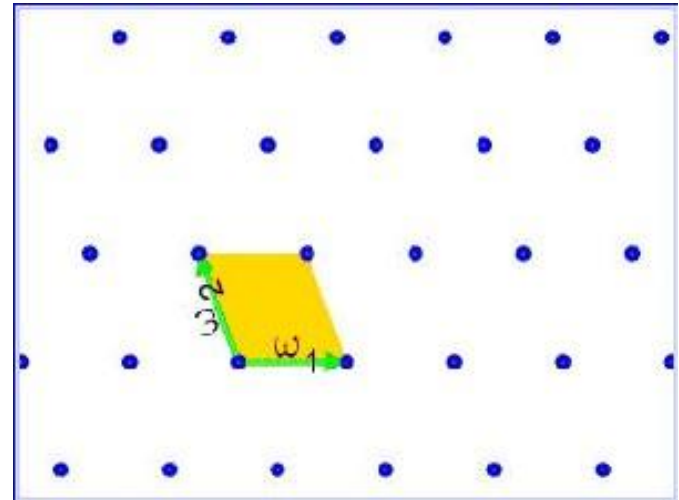
Lattices and Matrices

The same lattice L can be generated differently, e.g.

$$\begin{pmatrix} kx_1 + lx_2 & mx_1 + nx_2 \\ ky_1 + ly_2 & my_1 + ny_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ y_1 & y_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} k & m \\ l & n \end{pmatrix}$$

when k, l, m, n are integers with $kn - lm = \pm 1$

The determinant of the matrix gives the area of the corresponding Parallelogram



Lattices and Matrices

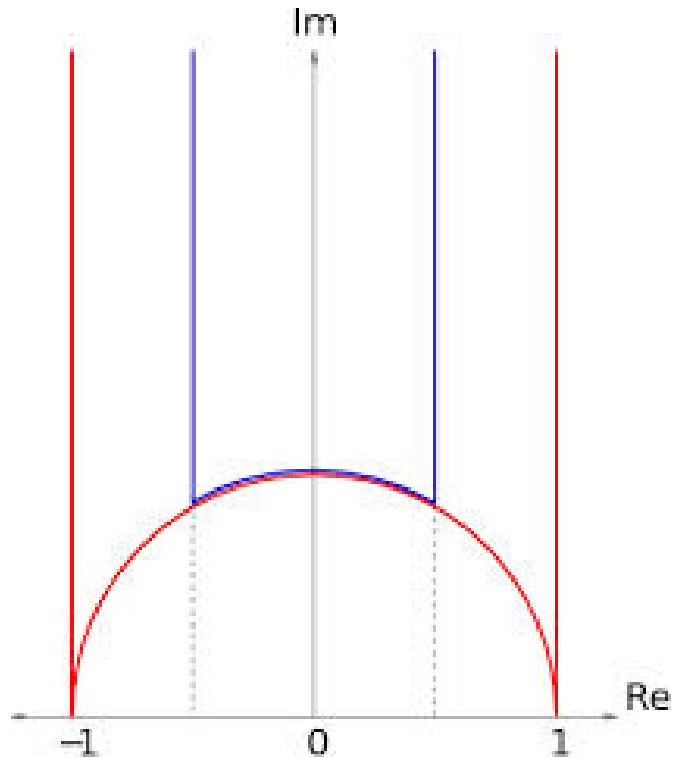
The group $SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ consists of all real matrices of determinant 1, and its subset $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ consists of all 2×2 integer matrices with determinant 1.

The quotient space $SL(2, \mathbb{R})/SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ consists of lattices whose fundamental parallelogram has area 1

$$\text{If } \omega_j = x_j + iy_j \text{ then } \text{Im}(\omega_2/\omega_1) = \frac{x_1 y_2 - x_2 y_1}{x_1^2 + y_1^2}$$

Domain of $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ & Modular Forms

Upper-
half
complex
plane



Elliptic Functions

Eisenstein defined the series associated with a lattice L

$$E_k(L) = \sum \frac{1}{\omega^k} \quad \text{for all } \omega \in L \setminus \{0\}$$

$E_k(L)$ converges for all $k \geq 4$ and

$E_k(L) = 0$ for all odd k .

Weierstrass showed that for every lattice, there exists a discriminant

$$\Delta(L) = 20 E_4(L)^3 - 49 E_6(L)^2$$

which is non-zero for every lattice

Space of All Lattices

Given any complex pair (a,b) so that

$\Delta(a, b) = 20 a^3 - 49 b^2$ is non-zero, there is a unique lattice L such that $(a,b) = (E_4(L), E_6(L))$

The space of all lattices can be associated with the complex pairs (a,b) with $\Delta(a, b) \neq 0$

$$L \mapsto (E_4(L), E_6(L))$$

The space of lattices is identical to the quotient space $GL(2, \mathbb{R})/GL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ which consists of:

$$(\mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \{\Delta = 0\}) = \{(a, b) : \Delta(a, b) \neq 0\}$$

Mapping from Lattice Space

Given a lattice L , there is a unique real number k so that $(E_4(L), E_6(L))$ lies on the “three-dimensional sphere”

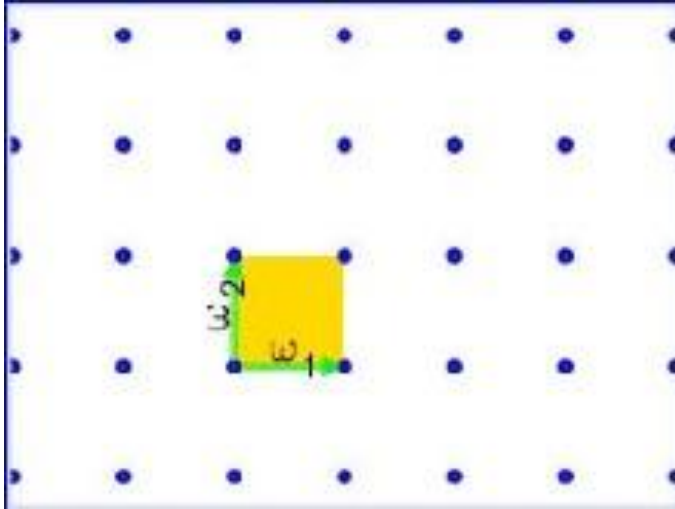
$$S^3 = \{(a, b) : |a|^2 + |b|^2 = 1\}$$

For a lattice of co-area 1, let us designate this number as $k(L)$ with the mapping:

$$L \mapsto (E_4(k(L)L), E_6(k(L)L))$$

$$\begin{aligned} SL(2, R)/SL(2, Z) &\cong (S^3 \setminus \{\Delta = 0\}) \\ &= \{(a, b) : |a|^2 + |b|^2 = 1 \text{ and } \Delta(a, b) \neq 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

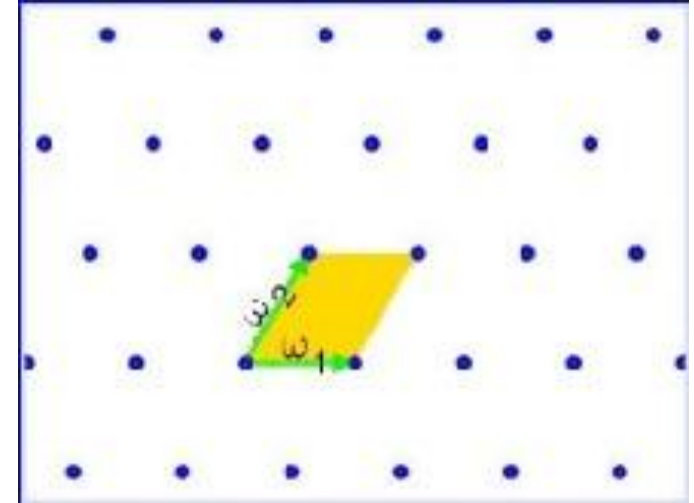
Special Cases of Lattices



L2 Square Lattice

$$E_6(L) = 0$$

Rotation by $\frac{\pi}{2}$ returns
lattice to itself



L3 Hexagonal Lattice

$$E_4(L) = 0$$

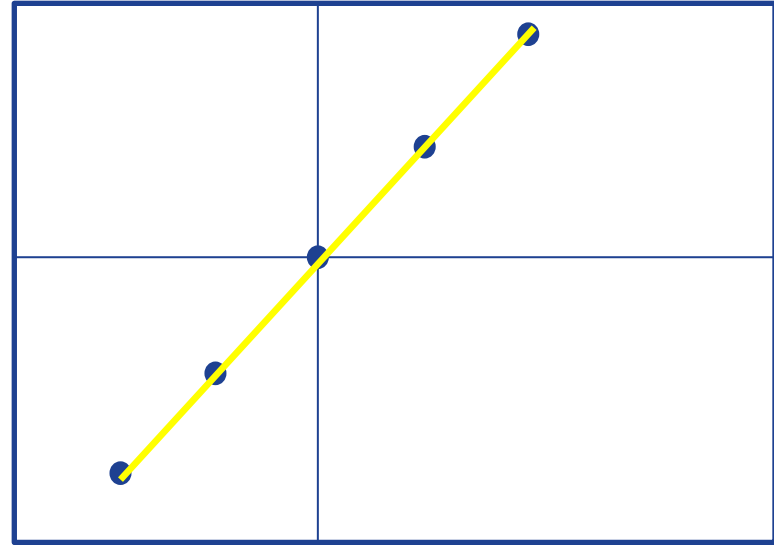
Rotation by $\frac{\pi}{3}$ returns
lattice to itself

All other lattices need to be rotated by π ,

Degenerate Lattice

$$E_4(L) = \frac{\pi^4}{45}$$

$$E_6(L) = \frac{2\pi^6}{945}$$



$$\Delta(L) = 20 E_4(L)^3 - 49 E_6(L)^2 = 0$$

A Dynamical System

Given a lattice L of co-area 1, there is natural way to shrink it in the y -direction and stretch it in the x -direction

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ y_1 & y_2 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ y_1 & y_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha x_1 & \alpha x_2 \\ \alpha^{-1} y_1 & \alpha^{-1} y_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Since $L = -L$, attention can be restricted to positive α

By finding a real number t , so that $\alpha = e^t$ where t is a time parameter parametrizing the modular flow

$$L \mapsto \phi_t(L) \text{ in the space of lattices of co-area 1}$$

This is a Dynamical System

Special Cases of Lattices

Given (a, b) in S^3 , let $L(a, b)$ denote the associated lattice of co-area 1 so that $(a, b) = (E_4(k.L(a, b)L), E_6(k.L(a, b)L))$ where $k = k(L(a, b))$.

At time t we send (a, b) to the image of $L \mapsto \phi_t(L)$
 $L \mapsto (E_4(k(L)L), E_6(k(L)L))$

The resulting flow on S^3 is called the modular dynamical system on S^3 .