

# Congruent numbers and local polynomials

Larry Rolen (joint work with Ehlen, Guerzhoy, and Kane)

Vanderbilt University

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# An ancient geometry problem

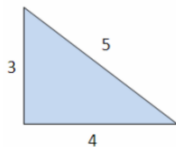
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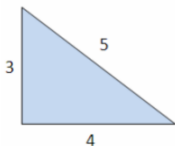
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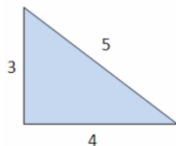
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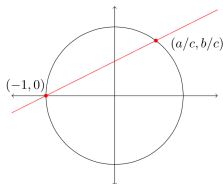
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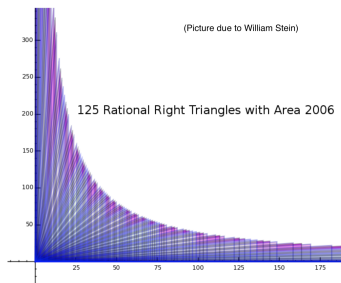
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- Zagier: the “simplest” triangle showing this has hypotenuse:  

$$\frac{224403517704336969924557513090674863160948472041}{8912332268928859588025535178967163570016480830} \quad (!!)$$



## Connections to deeper theory

- There is a one-to-one correspondence:

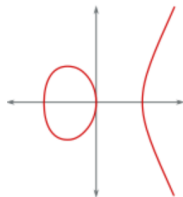
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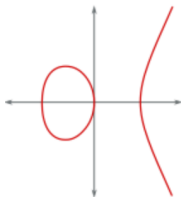


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- Birch and Swinnerton-Dyer conjecture  $\implies$   $n$  is congruent if and only if the central  $L$ -value vanishes:

$$L(E, 1) = 0.$$

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- Other formulas for  $L(E_n, 1)$  given by B-SD, for CM curves.
- We will give alternate formulas which include some non-CM cases and have analogies with classical formulas.



# Classical results of Dirichlet and Gauss

- For  $\chi_d := \left(\frac{d}{\cdot}\right)$ , the **Dirichlet  $L$ -series** is

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- Gauss gave formulas like for  $d \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$ :

$$h(-d) = \sum_{x^2+y^2+z^2=d} 1.$$

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*Then, assuming BSD,  $|D|$  is congruent iff*

$$\sum_{\substack{b^2-4ac=-3D \\ c>0>a \\ 32|a}} \chi(a, b, c) = \sum_{\substack{b^2-4ac=-3D \\ a+3b+9c>0>a \\ 32|a}} \chi(a, b, c).$$

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- This was proven by Genz.

## Behind the proofs

- Special functions introduced by Zagier:

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- We also need **cycle integrals** of modular forms ( $C_Q$  is a semicircle determined by  $Q$ ):

$$r_{k,N}(f; D_0, |D|) := \sum_{[a,b,c] \in \Gamma_0(N) \backslash \mathcal{Q}_{DD_0}, N|a} \chi_{D_0}(a, b, c) \\ \times \int_{C_Q} f(\tau)(a\tau^2 + b\tau + c)^{k-1} d\tau.$$

## Connection to $L$ -values

### Theorem (Kohnen)

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- Thus, if  $L(f \otimes \chi_{D_0}, k) \neq 0$ , then

$$L(f \otimes \chi_D, k) = 0 \iff \langle f, f_{k,N,D,D_0} \rangle = 0.$$

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  - The “natural” lift has discontinuities from local polynomials.

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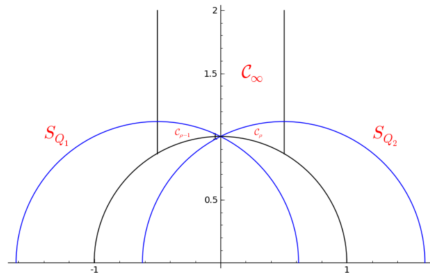
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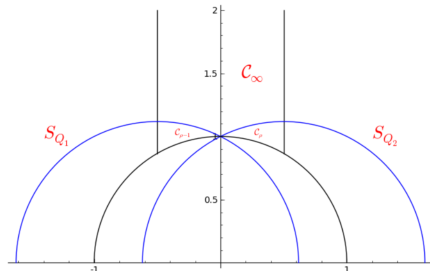
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- The modular forms of weight  $-2$  which are locally polynomial with “jumps” across the blue semicircles are  $(\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C})$ :

$$\begin{cases} \alpha & \text{if } \tau \in \mathcal{C}_{\infty}, \\ \beta (\tau^2 - \tau + 1) & \text{if } \tau \in \mathcal{C}_{\rho}, \\ \beta (\tau^2 + \tau + 1) & \text{if } \tau \in \mathcal{C}_{\rho-1}. \end{cases}$$

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