# Quantum ergodicity in the Benjamini-Schramm limit on higher rank real and *p*-adic locally symmetric spaces

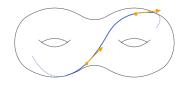
Carsten Peterson

Paderborn University

May 28, 2024

#### Geodesic flow on hyperbolic surface

- Y compact hyperbolic surface
- $\Phi_t \curvearrowright T^1 Y$  geodesic flow

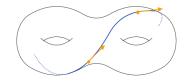


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$$< 0 \implies \Phi_t$$
 is *ergodic*  $\implies$  generic geodesics *equidistribu*



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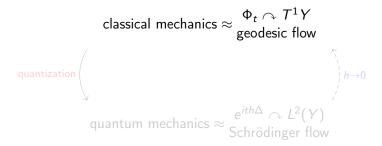
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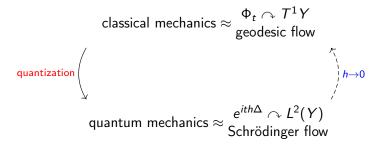
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classical mechanics 
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 quantization 
$$\text{quantum mechanics} \approx \frac{e^{ith\Delta} \curvearrowright L^2(Y)}{\text{Schrödinger flow}}$$

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- Renormalize volume measure:  $dVol = \frac{dVol}{Vol(Y)}$
- ullet Quantum particle  $\leadsto \psi \in L^2(Y, \mathsf{dVol})$  with  $||\psi||_2 = 1$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{observing }\psi\text{ in }E\subset Y)=\int_E|\psi|^2\text{ dVol}$$
 
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$$0=\lambda_0\le \lambda_1\le \lambda_2\le \dots$$
 eigenvalues of  $\Delta$  
$$\{\psi_j\} \qquad \qquad {\sf ONB \ of \ eigenfunctions \ of \ } \Delta$$

• In QM,  $\psi_j$  has energy  $h^2\lambda_j$ . Let  $h_j=\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_j}}$ .

fix h and let  $\lambda_j o \infty ~\approx~$  fix energy and let  $h_j o 0$ 

• As  $\lambda_i \to \infty$ , should "recover" ergodicity  $\leftrightarrow \psi_i$  equidistributes

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- ullet Average over eigenfunctions with eigenvalue less than  $\lambda$
- Compare the measures  $|\psi_j|^2 dVol$  and dVol weakly (integrate against test function)
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  - Generic high energy quantum particles equidistribute.
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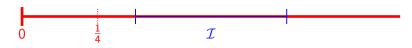


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QE in the Benjamini-Schramm limit:



 $(Y_n)$  Benjamini-Schramm converges to  $\mathbb{H}$  if, for every R > 0,

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{\operatorname{Vol}\big(\{y\in Y_n:\operatorname{InjRad}_{Y_n}(y)\leq R\}\big)}{\operatorname{Vol}(Y_n)}=0.$$

Interpretation: most points have arbitrarily large injectivity radius

Spectrum of  $\Delta$  on  $\mathbb{H}$  is  $[\frac{1}{4}, \infty)$ .

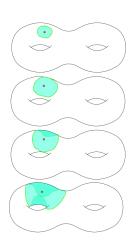


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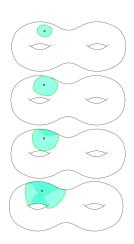


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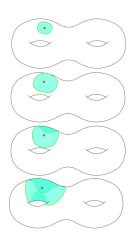


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Suppose  $(Y_n)$  is a sequence of compact hyperbolic surfaces s.t.

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- X is associated Riemannian manifold called *symmetric space*
- X = G/K with K a maximal compact subgroup
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Figure:  $\Delta$  closely related to averaging over spheres in  $\mathbb H$ 

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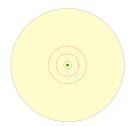


Figure:  $\Delta$  closely related to averaging over spheres in  $\mathbb{H}$ 

- G = semisimple algebraic group over F (non-archimedean local field)
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Figure: Adjacency operator  $\mathcal A$  on tree involves summing over sphere of radius i

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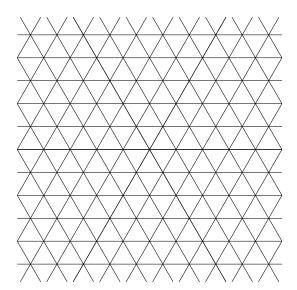
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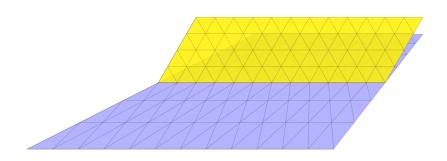
# Buildings are composed of branching apartments

Figure: An apartment in the tree is a bi-infinite geodesic.

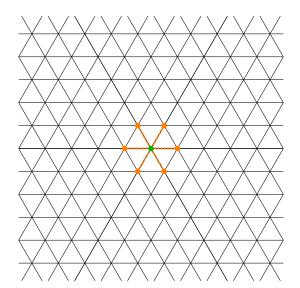
# An apartment in the Bruhat-Tits building of PGL(3, F)



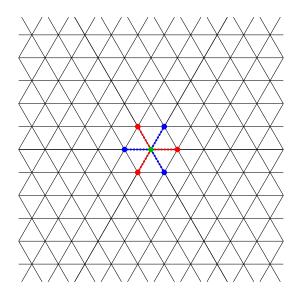
### Branching apartments



# H(G, K) generated by refinements of adjacency operator



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ullet  $\Gamma < G$  cocompact, torsionfree lattice

$$\Gamma \setminus G/K$$
 is  $\begin{cases} \text{locally symmetric space (e.g. hyperbolic surface)} \\ \text{finite simplicial complex (e.g. finite regular graph)} \end{cases}$ 

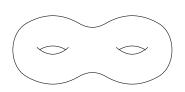




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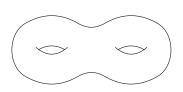




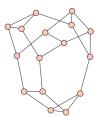
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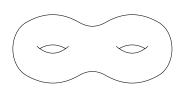


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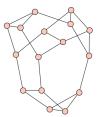


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### Joint eigenfunctions and spectral parameters

- Let C = either D(G, K) or H(G, K)
- C generated by k operators  $A_1, \ldots, A_k$

$$\mathcal{C} \curvearrowright L^2(\Gamma \backslash G / K) = \bigoplus_j \mathbb{C} \psi_j$$
 (joint eigenfunctions)

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Figure:  $\Omega_{\text{temp}}^+$  for  $\mathcal{A}$  on (q+1)-regular tree is  $[-2\sqrt{q},2\sqrt{q}]$ 

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## BS convergence implies Plancherel convergence

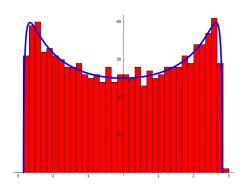


Figure: Distribution of eigenvalues for large random 3-regular graph

$$\frac{\#\{j:\lambda_j^{(n)}\in\mathcal{I}\}}{\operatorname{Vol}(Y_n)}\to\mu(\mathcal{I})$$

Suppose  $Y_n = \Gamma_n \backslash \mathbb{H}$  with  $\Gamma_n$  cocompact, torsionfree lattices s.t.

- **1** Benjamini-Schramm convergence:  $Y_n \xrightarrow{BS} \mathbb{H}$
- ② Uniform spectral gap for  $\Delta \sim L^2(Y_n)$
- Uniform discreteness

For each  $Y_n$  let  $\{\psi_j^{(n)}\}$  be ONB of eigenfunctions of  $\Delta \curvearrowright L^2(Y_n)$  with associated eigenvalues  $\lambda_j^{(n)}$ . Let  $\mathcal{I} \subset (1/4,\infty)$  be a compact interval. Let  $a_n \in L^\infty(Y_n)$  with uniform  $L^\infty$ -bound. Then we expect

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{1}{\#\{j:\lambda_j^{(n)}\in\mathcal{I}\}}\sum_{i:\lambda_j^{(n)}\in\mathcal{I}}\left|\int_{Y_n}a_n\cdot|\psi_j^{(n)}|^2\;\mathrm{dVol}-\int_{Y_n}a_n\;\mathrm{dVol}\right|^2=0.$$

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$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{1}{\#\{j:\lambda_j^{(n)}\in\mathcal{I}\}}\sum_{j:\lambda_i^{(n)}\in\mathcal{I}}\left|\int_{Y_n}a_n\cdot|\psi_j^{(n)}|^2\;\mathrm{dVol}-\int_{Y_n}a_n\;\mathrm{dVol}\right|^2=0.$$

$$\Gamma_n \backslash G/K$$

Suppose  $Y_n = \overline{\Gamma_n \setminus \mathbb{H}}$  with  $\Gamma_n$  cocompact, torsionfree lattices s.t.

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Suppose  $Y_n = \Gamma_n \backslash G/K$  with  $\Gamma_n$  cocompact, torsionfree lattices s.t

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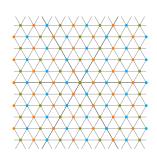
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#### Coloring eigenfunctions

ullet Sometimes  $\Gamma \backslash G/K$  has a non-trivial coloring

Coloring gives "trivial" coloring eigenfunctions

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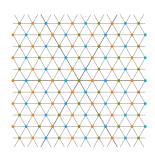


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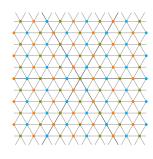


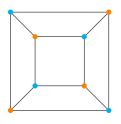
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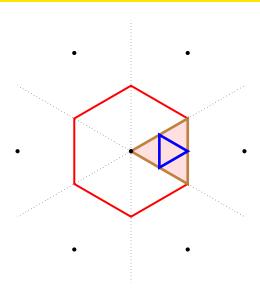
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#### The tempered spectrum and the exceptional locus



## Preceding literature on QE in the BS limit

- Anantharaman-Le Masson '15 set up the framework for QE in the BS limit and proved it for regular graphs
- Brooks-Le Masson-Lindenstrauss '16 reproved QE in the BS limit for regular graphs using wave propagator method
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- P. '23 QE in the BS limit for the Bruhat-Tits building associated to PGL(3, F) where F is a non-archimedean local field of arbitrary characteristic; new method for the geometric bound
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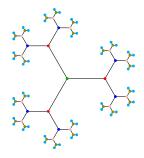


Figure: Half geodesics (Weyl chambers) parametrize relative positions

#### Metric balls in the tree are polytopal balls

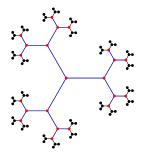
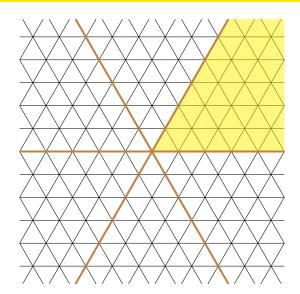
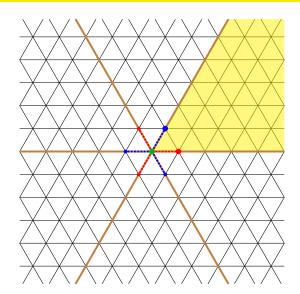
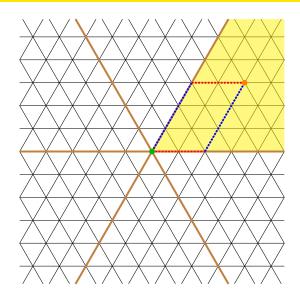


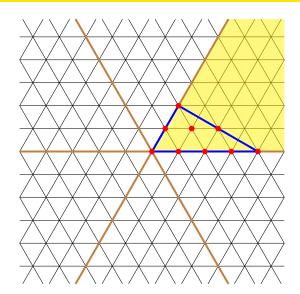
Figure: A polytope (line segment) in the Weyl chamber corresponds to a ball in the tree







## Polytopes in Weyl chamber define polytopal balls



Let G = PGL(3, F) and  $K = PGL(3, \mathcal{O})$ , where F is a non-archimedean local field of arbitrary characteristic and  $\mathcal{O}$  is its ring of integers.

Suppose  $Y_n = \Gamma_n \backslash G/K$  with  $\Gamma_n$  cocompact, torsionfree lattices s.t.

- **1** Benjamini-Schramm convergence:  $Y_n \xrightarrow{BS} G/K$
- ② Uniform spectral gap for  $H(G,K) \curvearrowright L^2(Y_n)$
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  - $P_m(x) = \text{polytopal ball centered at } x$

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$$U_m^* \circ a_n \circ U_m$$
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convolution on assoc

to  $P_r$ 

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Carsten Peterson (Paderborn University)

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## My method for geometric bound applied to the regular tree

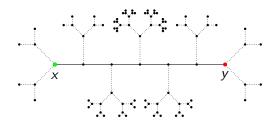


Figure:  $P_8(x) \cap P_8(y)$  on 3-regular tree with d(x,y) = 6

• Goal: compute volume of intersection (number of vertices)

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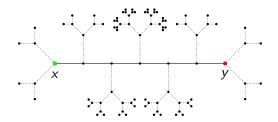
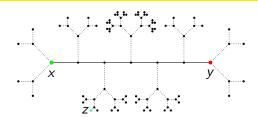


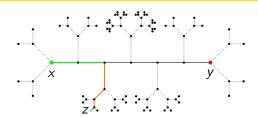
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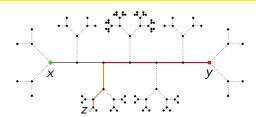
## My method (cont.): polytopal parametrization

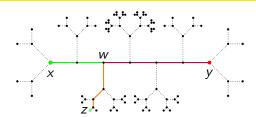


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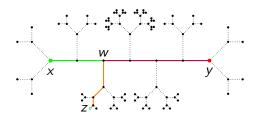
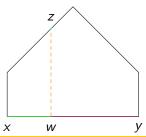
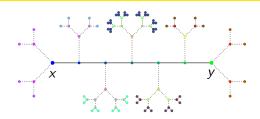
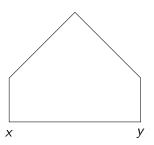
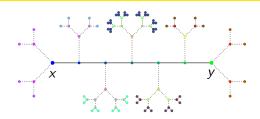


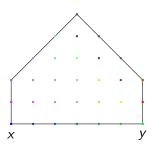
Figure: w is confluence point:  $geod(x, w) \cap geod(y, w) = \{w\}$ 











$$\alpha=\#$$
 of steps along  $\operatorname{geod}(x,y)$  to reach confluence point  $\beta=\#$  of steps from confluence point to  $z$ 

- # $\{z \text{ with coordinates } (\alpha, \beta)\} \approx q^{\beta} = q^{\left<(0,1),(\alpha,\beta)\right>}$
- Brion's formula for exponential sum over lattice points in polytope:

$$\sum_{\lambda \in Q \cap \mathbb{Z}^n} q^{\langle f, \lambda \rangle} = \sum_{\text{vertices } v \text{ of } Q} C_v q^{\langle f, v \rangle}$$
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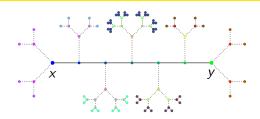
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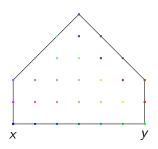
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 of steps along  $\operatorname{geod}(x,y)$  to reach confluence point  $\beta=\#$  of steps from confluence point to  $z$ 

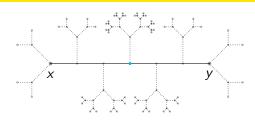
- ullet # $\{z ext{ with coordinates } (lpha,eta)\}pprox q^eta=q^{\left<(0,1),(lpha,eta)
  ight>}$
- Brion's formula for exponential sum over lattice points in polytope:

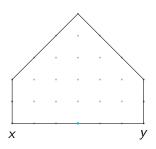
$$\sum_{\lambda \in Q \cap \mathbb{Z}^n} q^{\langle f, \lambda 
angle} = \sum_{ ext{vertices } v ext{ of } Q} C_v q^{\langle f, v 
angle} \ \left( ext{in this case } f = (0, 1) 
ight)$$

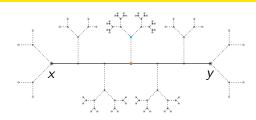
- Dominating term comes from v which maximizes  $q^{\langle f,v\rangle}$
- $C_v$  are constants depending on f and the cone at vertex v

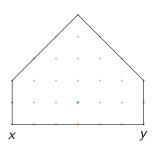


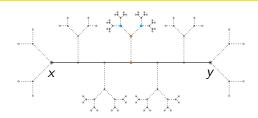


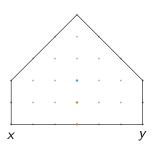


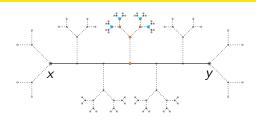


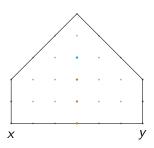


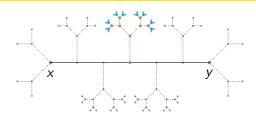


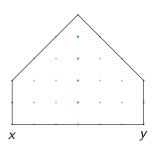


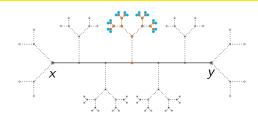


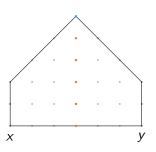












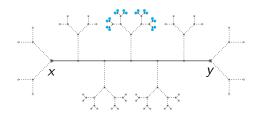
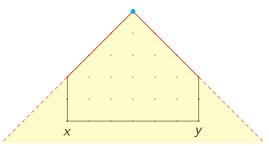


Figure: dominating term corresponds to extremal vertex of polytope



### My method (cont.): confluence points

$$\alpha=\#$$
 of steps along  $\operatorname{geod}(x,y)$  to reach confluence point  $\beta=\#$  of steps from confluence point to  $z$ 

- ullet # $\{z ext{ with coordinates } (lpha,eta)\}pprox q^eta=q^{\left<(0,1),(lpha,eta)
  ight>}$
- Brion's formula for exponential sum over lattice points in polytope:

$$\sum_{\lambda \in Q \cap \mathbb{Z}^n} q^{\langle f, \lambda 
angle} = \sum_{ ext{vertices } v ext{ of } Q} C_v q^{\langle f, v 
angle} \ \left( ext{in this case } f = (0, 1) 
ight)$$

- Dominating term comes from v which maximizes  $q^{\langle f,v\rangle}$
- $C_v$  are constants depending on f and the cone at vertex v

#### My method (cont.): confluence points

$$\alpha = \#$$
 of steps along  $\operatorname{geod}(x,y)$  to reach confluence point  $\beta = \#$  of steps from confluence point to  $z$ 

- ullet # $\{z ext{ with coordinates } (lpha,eta)\}pprox q^eta=q^{\left<(0,1),(lpha,eta)
  ight>}$
- Brion's formula for exponential sum over lattice points in polytope:

$$\sum_{\lambda \in Q \cap \mathbb{Z}^n} q^{\langle f, \lambda 
angle} = \sum_{ ext{vertices } v ext{ of } Q} C_v q^{\langle f, v 
angle} \ \left( ext{in this case } f = (0, 1) 
ight)$$

- Dominating term comes from v which maximizes  $q^{\langle f,v\rangle}$
- $C_v$  are constants depending on f and the cone at vertex v

# My method (cont.): confluence points for PGL(3, F)

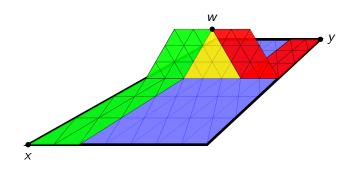


Figure: Confluence points satisfy para $(x, w) \cap \text{para}(y, w) = \{w\}$ 

• To set up coordinatization for triples of points in the building, first need to classify confluence points.

## My method (cont.): confluence points for PGL(3, F)

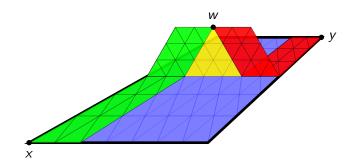


Figure: Confluence points satisfy  $para(x, w) \cap para(y, w) = \{w\}$ 

 To set up coordinatization for triples of points in the building, first need to classify confluence points.