

207. On Dirichlet Series whose Coefficients are Class Numbers of Integral Binary Cubic Forms

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(Comm. by Kunihiko KODAIRA, M. J. A., Nov. 12, 1970)

1. In this note we give a concrete example of “zeta functions associated with prehomogeneous vector spaces” introduced by Professor M. Sato.

2. We denote by V the vector space of real binary cubic forms. For every $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) \in \mathbf{R}^4$, we define $F_x \in V$ as follows:

$$F_x(u, v) = x_1 u^3 + x_2 u^2 v + x_3 u v^2 + x_4 v^3.$$

In the following, we identify V with \mathbf{R}^4 by the linear isomorphism: $x \rightarrow F_x$. V becomes a $GL(2, \mathbf{R})$ -module if we put

$$g \cdot F_x((u, v)) = F_x((u, v)g) = F_{g \cdot x}((u, v)) \\ (g \in GL(2, \mathbf{R})).$$

For every $x \in V$, we denote by $P(x)$ the discriminant of F_x . We have

$$P(x) = x_2^2 x_3^2 + 18x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4 - 4x_1 x_3^3 - 4x_2^3 x_4 - 27x_1^2 x_4^2$$

and

$$P(g \cdot x) = (\det g)^6 P(x) \quad (g \in GL(2, \mathbf{R})).$$

In the following, we put

$$\chi(g) = (\det g)^6 \quad (g \in GL(2, \mathbf{R})).$$

For every $x, y \in V$, we put

$$\langle x, y \rangle = x_4 y_1 - \frac{1}{3} x_3 y_2 + \frac{1}{3} x_2 y_3 - x_1 y_4.$$

We denote by $\mathcal{S}(V)$ the space of rapidly decreasing functions on V and define the Fourier transform \hat{f} of $f \in \mathcal{S}(V)$ as follows:

$$\hat{f}(x) = \int_V e^{2\pi i \langle x, y \rangle} f(y) dy.$$

3. We denote by L the lattice of integral binary cubic forms. We have

$$L = \{F_x; x \in \mathbf{Z}^4\}.$$

Then L is invariant under the action of the $SL(2, \mathbf{Z})$. Two elements x, y of L are said to be equivalent if there exists a $\gamma \in SL(2, \mathbf{Z})$ such that $x = \gamma \cdot y$.

For every integer $m \neq 0$, we denote by L_m the set of integral binary cubic forms whose discriminants are m . It is known that there exist only finite number of equivalence classes in L_m . We denote by $h(m)$ the number of equivalence classes in L_m . Let

$$x_1, \dots, x_{h(m)}$$

be the representatives of equivalence classes in L_m . When $m < 0$,

it is known that the isotropy subgroup of each x_i in $SL(2, \mathbf{Z})$ is $\{1\}$ ($1 \leq i \leq h(m)$). When $m > 0$, the isotropy subgroup of each x_i in $SL(2, \mathbf{Z})$ is either $\{1\}$ or a cyclic group of order 3. In the first case we call x_i belongs to the class of the first kind. In the second case we call x_i belongs to the class of the second kind.

We denote by $h_1(m), h_2(m)$ the numbers of classes of the first and the second kind respectively. We put

$$\hat{L} = \{F(u, v) = x_1u^3 + x_2u^2v + x_3uv^2 + x_4v^3 \in L; x_2, x_3 \in 3\mathbf{Z}\}.$$

Then \hat{L} is an $SL(2, \mathbf{Z})$ -submodule of L . We denote by $\hat{h}(m)$ the number of equivalence classes in L_m which are contained in \hat{L} . We define $\hat{h}_1(m), \hat{h}_2(m)$ ($m > 0$) in a similar fashion. Now we define four Dirichlet series as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_1(L, s) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{h_1(n) + \frac{1}{3}h_2(n)}{n^s}, \\ \xi_2(L, s) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{h(-n)}{n^s}, \\ \xi_1(\hat{L}, s) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\hat{h}_1(n) + \frac{1}{3}\hat{h}_2(n)}{n^s}, \\ \xi_2(\hat{L}, s) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\hat{h}(-n)}{n^s}. \end{aligned}$$

4. We define a Haar measure dg on $GL(2, \mathbf{R})$ as follows:

$$dg = |\det g|^{-2} dp dq dr ds \quad \left(g = \begin{pmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{pmatrix}\right).$$

We put

$$\begin{aligned} G_+ &= \{g \in GL(2, \mathbf{R}); \det g > 0\}, \\ \Gamma &= SL(2, \mathbf{Z}), \\ L' &= \{x \in L; P(x) \neq 0\} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\hat{L}' = \hat{L} \cap L'.$$

For every $f \in \mathcal{S}(V)$, we put

$$Z(f, L; s) = \int_{G_+/\Gamma} \chi(g)^s \sum_{x \in L'} f(g \cdot x) dg$$

and

$$Z(f, \hat{L}; s) = \int_{G_+/\Gamma} \chi(g)^s \sum_{x \in \hat{L}'} f(g \cdot x) dg \quad (s \in \mathbf{C}).$$

Further we put

$$\Phi_1(f, s) = \int_{P(x) > 0} |P(x)|^s f(x) dx$$

and put

$$\Phi_2(f, s) = \int_{P(x) < 0} |P(x)|^s f(x) dx.$$

Then we have the following:

Proposition 1. (i) *When $Re(s)$ is sufficiently large, we have*

$$Z(f, L; s) = \xi_1(L, s)\Phi_1(f, s-1) + \frac{1}{3} \xi_2(L, s)\Phi_2(f, s-1)$$

and

$$Z(f, \hat{L}, s) = \xi_1(\hat{L}, s)\Phi_1(f, s-1) + \frac{1}{3} \xi_2(\hat{L}, s)\Phi_2(f, s-1).$$

(ii) $Z(f, L, s)$ and $Z(f, \hat{L}, s)$ can be continued analytically as meromorphic functions of s in the whole plane and satisfy the following functional equation.

$$Z(f, L, s) = Z(f, \hat{L}, 1-s).$$

Proposition 2. $\Phi_1(f, s)$ and $\Phi_2(f, s)$ are meromorphic functions of s in the whole plane and satisfy the following functional equation:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \Phi_1(\hat{f}, s-1) \\ \Phi_2(\hat{f}, s-1) \end{pmatrix} = \Gamma\left(s - \frac{1}{6}\right) \Gamma(s)^2 \Gamma\left(s + \frac{1}{6}\right) \frac{\pi^{-4s} 3^{6s}}{18} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \sin 2\pi s & \sin \pi s \\ 3 \sin \pi s & \sin 2\pi s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_1(f, -s) \\ \Phi_2(f, -s) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Using these two propositions we can prove the following theorem.

Theorem. (i) Four Dirichlet series defined above converge absolutely when $Re\ s > 1$ and can be continued analytically as meromorphic functions in the whole plane which have simple poles at $s=1$ and $s=5/6$. They satisfy the following functional equation

$$\begin{pmatrix} \xi_1(L, 1-s) \\ \xi_2(L, 1-s) \end{pmatrix} = \Gamma\left(s - \frac{1}{6}\right) \Gamma(s)^2 \Gamma\left(s + \frac{1}{6}\right) \frac{\pi^{-4s} 3^{6s}}{18} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \sin 2\pi s & \sin \pi s \\ 3 \sin \pi s & \sin 2\pi s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \xi_1(\hat{L}, s) \\ \xi_2(\hat{L}, s) \end{pmatrix}$$

(ii) Residues of them at $s=1$ and at $s=5/6$ are given in the following table.

Table of Residues

of at	$\xi_1(L, s)$	$\xi_2(L, s)$	$\xi_1(\hat{L}, s)$	$\xi_2(\hat{L}, s)$
$s=1$	$\frac{\pi^2}{9}$	$\frac{\pi^2}{6}$	$\frac{\pi^2}{162}$	$\frac{\pi^2}{81}$
$s=\frac{5}{6}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{18} r$	$\frac{1}{6} r$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{162} r$	$\frac{1}{54} r$

$$\left(\text{We put } r = \zeta\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{3})(2\pi)^{1/3}}{\Gamma(\frac{2}{3})} \right).$$

Detailed proof will appear elsewhere.

Reference

Mikio Sato: Theory of prehomogeneous vector spaces. Sûgaku no Ayumi, 15-1, pp. 85-157 (in Japanese).