## On the Selberg class of L-functions

#### Jerzy Kaczorowski

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What is an *L*-function?

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What is an *L*-function?

"We know one when we see one."

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What is an *L*-function?

"We know one when we see one."

Dirichlet series, Euler product, functional equation...

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#### What is an L-function?

"We know one when we see one." Dirichlet series, Euler product, functional equation... Do we know all interesting *L*-functions?

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#### What is an *L*-function?

"We know one when we see one."

Dirichlet series, Euler product, functional equation...

Do we know all interesting *L*-functions?

We don't know.

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#### What is an *L*-function?

"We know one when we see one."

Dirichlet series, Euler product, functional equation...

#### Do we know all interesting *L*-functions?

We don't know.

Automorphic L-functions?

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

# Definition of S (Selberg, 1989)

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

# Definition of S (Selberg, 1989)

$$F \in S$$
 if  $F(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a(n)}{n^s}$ 

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- (Analytic continuation) There exists an integer
   m ≥ 0 such that (s − 1)<sup>m</sup>F(s) is entire of finite order.
- 3. (Functional equation)

$$\Phi(s) = \omega \overline{\Phi(1-\overline{s})},$$

where

$$\Phi(s) = Q^s \prod_{j=1}^r \Gamma(\lambda_j s + \mu_j) F(s) = \gamma(s) F(s), \text{ and}$$
  
 $r \ge 0, \ Q > 0, \ \lambda_j > 0, \ \Re \mu_j \ge 0, \ |\omega| = 1.$ 

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## Definition of S, continuation

- (Ramanujan hypothesis) For every ε > 0 we have a(n) ≪ n<sup>ε</sup>.
- 5. (*Euler product*) For  $\sigma > 1$  we have

$$\log F(s) = \sum_n b(n) n^{-s},$$

where b(n) = 0 unless  $n = p^m$  and  $b(n) \ll n^{\theta}$  for some  $\theta < 1/2$ .

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

1. Remark: r = 0 is possible — the functional equation takes form

$$Q^{s}F(s) = \omega Q^{1-s}\overline{F}(1-s).$$

- The extended Selberg class S<sup>#</sup> consists of F(s) not identically zero satisfying axioms (1), (2) and (3).
- 3.  $\gamma(s) = Q^s \prod_{j=1}^r \Gamma(\lambda_j s + \mu_j)$  the gamma factor of  $F \in S^{\sharp}$ .

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

### **EXAMPLES**

#### 1. The Riemann zeta function $\zeta(s)$

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

### **EXAMPLES**

- 1. The Riemann zeta function  $\zeta(s)$
- 2. Shifted Dirichlet *L*-functions  $L(s + i\theta, \chi)$ , where  $\chi$  is a primitive Dirichlet character (mod *q*), *q* > 1, and  $\theta$  is a real number

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- ζ<sub>K</sub>(s), Dedekind zeta function of an algebraic number field K

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

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- ζ<sub>K</sub>(s), Dedekind zeta function of an algebraic number field K
- L<sub>K</sub>(s, χ), Hecke L-function to a primitive Hecke character χ(mod f), f is an ideal of the ring of integers of K

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# EXAMPLES, continuation

- 5. L-function associated with a holomorphic newform of a congruence subgroup of  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  (after suitable normalization)
- 6. Rankin-Selberg convolution of any two normalized holomorphic newforms.
- 7.  $F, G \in S$  implies  $FG \in S$  (the same for  $S^{\#}$ )
- 8. If  $F \in S$  is entire then the shift  $F_{\theta}(s) = F(s + i\theta)$  is in S for every real  $\theta$

Definition. Examples. Motivations

## Conditional examples

- 1. Artin *L*-functions for irreducible representations of Galois groups (modulo Artin's conjecture: holomorphy is missing).
- 2. *L*-functions associated with nonholomorphic newforms (Ramanujan hypothesis is missing, exceptional eigenvalue problem).

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

## Conditional examples, continuation

3. Symmetric powers (for normalized holomorphic newforms, say):

$$L(s) = \prod_{p} \left(1 - \frac{a_p}{p^s}\right)^{-1} \left(1 - \frac{b_p}{p^s}\right)^{-1}$$

r-th symmetric power:

$$L_r(s) = \prod_p \prod_{j=0}^r (1 - a_p^j b_p^{r-j} p^{-s})^{-1}$$

(modulo Langlands functoriality conjecture).

4. In general:  $GL_n(K)$  automorphic L functions (Ramanujan hypothesis is missing).

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### Examples, continuation

General examples of L-functions from the extended Selberg class: linear combinations of solutions of the same functional equation as for instance the Davenport-Heilbronn L-function.

$$L(s) = \overline{\lambda}L(s,\chi_1) + \lambda L(s,\overline{\chi}_1),$$
  
 $\chi_1 \pmod{5}$  such that  $\chi_1(2) = i,$   
 $\lambda = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + i \frac{\sqrt{10 - 2\sqrt{5}} - 2}{\sqrt{5} - 1} \right).$ 

Functional equation

$$\left(\frac{\pi}{5}\right)^{\frac{s}{2}} \Gamma\left(\frac{s+1}{2}\right) L(s) = \left(\frac{\pi}{5}\right)^{\frac{1-s}{2}} \Gamma\left(\frac{2-s}{2}\right) L(1-s).$$

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

### MOTIVATIONS

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

### MOTIVATIONS

#### Why we are interested in studying S?

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## MOTIVATIONS

#### Why we are interested in studying S?

1. Elements are very interesting objects

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

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- 1. Elements are very interesting objects (eg. classical analytic number theory)
- 2. Considering the whole class of *L*-functions is important

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

### MOTIVATIONS

EXAMPLE 1: General prime number theorem.

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

### MOTIVATIONS

# EXAMPLE 1: General prime number theorem. MERTENS: $\sum_{p \le x} \frac{1}{p} \sim \log \log x$

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

### MOTIVATIONS

EXAMPLE 1: General prime number theorem. MERTENS:  $\sum_{p \le x} \frac{1}{p} \sim \log \log x$ PNT:  $\pi(x) \sim \frac{x}{\log x}$ 

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

# MOTIVATIONS

EXAMPLE 1: General prime number theorem.

MERTENS: 
$$\sum_{p \le x} \frac{1}{p} \sim \log \log x$$
  
PNT:  $\pi(x) \sim \frac{x}{\log x}$ 

★ There is no simple way to deduce PNT from Mertens' Theorem.

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

### MOTIVATIONS

NC: if  $F \in S$  has degree  $d_F > 0$  then

$$\sum_{p \le x} \frac{|a(p)|^2}{p} \sim n_F \log \log x \qquad \qquad x \to \infty$$

with some constant  $n_F > 0$ , and  $n_F \le 1$  if F(s) is primitive.

Definition. Examples. Motivations

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\* MERTENS  $\implies$  NC is true for  $F = \zeta$ .

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**\*\*** THEOREM: NC  $\implies$  PNT for S

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### MOTIVATIONS

#### EXAMPLE 2:

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#### MOTIVATIONS

EXAMPLE 2: Impact on concrete *L*-function.

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## MOTIVATIONS

EXAMPLE 2: Impact on concrete L-function. Non-Vanishing Conjecture: For every entire L-function G belonging to the Selberg class we have  $G(1) \neq 0$ .

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## MOTIVATIONS

EXAMPLE 2: Impact on concrete *L*-function.

Non-Vanishing Conjecture: For every entire L-function G belonging to the Selberg class we have  $G(1) \neq 0$ .

THEOREM Suppose NVC. Then for every entire  $F \in S$ , every algebraic number field K, and every positive N there exists a non-trivial zero  $\rho$  of the Dedekind zeta function  $\zeta_K(s)$  of K such that  $m(\rho, \zeta_K) > Nm(\rho, F)$ .

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Definition. Examples. Motivations

## MOTIVATIONS

COROLLARY Assume NVC, and let for a fixed algebraic number field K with the class number  $h_K > 1$ ,

$$E_{\mathcal{K}}(x) = \sum_{N(a\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{K}}) \leq x} 1 - \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\mathcal{C}} \zeta_{\mathcal{K}}(s, M_{\mathcal{K}}) \frac{x^{s}}{s} ds$$

denote the remainder term in the asymptotic formula for the number of irreducible elements of  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{K}}$  with norms  $\leq x$  counted modulo units. Then

$$E_{\mathcal{K}}(x) = \Omega\left(\sqrt{x} \frac{(\log \log x)^{D_{\mathcal{K}}-1}}{\log x}\right)$$

as  $x \to \infty$ .

Definition. Examples. Motivations

## MOTIVATIONS

REMARK Unconditionally we know only

$$E_{K}(x) = \Omega(\sqrt{x}(\log x)^{-B_{K}}),$$

where  $B_K$  is a positive constant depending on K.

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Invariants Formulation. The case of generalized Dirichlet series. A measure theoretic approach.

#### Invariants

Theorem: For  $F \in S^{\sharp}$  the gamma factor

$$\gamma_F(s) = Q^s \prod_{j=1}^r \Gamma(\lambda_j s + \mu_j)$$

is unique up to a multiplicative constant.

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#### Invariants

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Remark: The shape of functional equation is NOT unique. Main invariants: 1. degree:  $d_F := 2 \sum_{j=1}^r \lambda_j$ 

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### Invariants

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is unique up to a multiplicative constant.

Remark: The shape of functional equation is NOT unique. Main invariants: 1. degree:  $d_F := 2 \sum_{j=1}^r \lambda_j$ 2. conductor:  $q_F := (2\pi)^{d_F} Q^2 \prod_{j=1}^r \lambda_j^{2\lambda_j}$ 

Invariants Formulation. The case of generalized Dirichlet series. A measure theoretic approach.

#### The general converse conjecture

For  $d \ge 0$  let

$$S_d := \{F \in S : d_F = d\}$$
$$S_d^{\sharp} := \{F \in S^{\sharp} : d_F = d\}$$

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Invariants Formulation. The case of generalized Dirichlet series. A measure theoretic approach.

#### The general converse conjecture

For  $d \ge 0$  let  $S_d := \{F \in S : d_F = d\}$  $S_d^{\sharp} := \{F \in S^{\sharp} : d_F = d\}$ 

General Converse Conjecture (GCC):

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Invariants Formulation. The case of generalized Dirichlet series. A measure theoretic approach.

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General Converse Conjecture:

1. DEGREE CONJECTURE:  

$$d \notin \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\} \implies S_d^{\#} = S_d = \emptyset.$$

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Invariants Formulation. The case of generalized Dirichlet series. A measure theoretic approach.

#### The general converse conjecture

For  $d \ge 0$  let

$$egin{aligned} S_d &:= \{F \in S: d_F = d\} \ S^{\sharp}_d &:= \{F \in S^{\sharp}: d_F = d\} \end{aligned}$$

General Converse Conjecture:

1. DEGREE CONJECTURE:  $d \notin \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\} \implies S_d^{\#} = S_d = \emptyset.$ 2.  $d \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, F \in S_d \implies$ F - automorphic L - function.

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L-functions Invariants The Selberg class. The general converse conjecture. The present state of art (GCC) A measure

Invariants Formulation. **The case of generalized Dirichlet series**. A measure theoretic approach.

THEOREM Let Q > 0,  $\lambda_j > 0$ ,  $\mu_j \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\Re(\mu_j) \ge 0$ , (j=1,...,r), and  $\omega \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $|\omega| = 1$  be arbitrary. Moreover, put

$$\gamma(s) = Q^s \prod_{j=1}^r \Gamma(\lambda_j s + \mu_j).$$

Then the functional equation

$$\gamma(s)F(s) = \omega \overline{\gamma(1-\overline{s})F(\overline{s})}$$

has uncountably many linearly independent solutions in the set of generalized Dirichlet series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a(n) e^{-\theta_n s} \qquad (\theta_n > 0).$$

Invariants Formulation. **The case of generalized Dirichlet series**. A measure theoretic approach.

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Corollary GCC badly fails in case of the general D-series.

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#### A measure theoretic approach to the degree conjecture

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Invariants Formulation. The case of generalized Dirichlet series. A measure theoretic approach.

#### A measure theoretic approach to the degree conjecture THEOREM The sets of degrees of L-functions from S and $S^{\sharp}$

$$d(S) = \{d_F : F \in S\}$$

$$d(S^{\sharp}) = \{d_F : F \in S^{\sharp}\}$$

are Lebesgue measurable. Moreover, meas(d(S)) = 0or the set d(S) contains a half-line. The same holds for  $d(S^{\sharp})$ .

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#### A measure theoretic approach to the conductor conjecture

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L-functions The Selberg class. The general converse conjecture. The present state of art (GCC) A measure theoretic approach.

## A measure theoretic approach to the conductor conjecture CC: $F \in S \implies q_F \in \mathbb{N}$

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 L-functions
 Invariants

 The Selberg class.
 Formulation.

 The general converse conjecture.
 The case of generalized Dirichlet series.

 The present state of art (GCC)
 A measure theoretic approach.

A measure theoretic approach to the conductor conjecture CC:  $F \in S \implies q_F \in \mathbb{N}$ 

THEOREM The set

$$q(S) = \{q_F : F \in S\}$$

has Lebesgue measure 0 or contains a half-line. The same holds for  $q(S^{\sharp})$ .

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## The present state of art (GCC)

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### The present state of art (GCC)

#### 1. GCC TRUE for $0 \le d < 2$

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#### The present state of art (GCC)

#### 1. GCC TRUE for $0 \le d < 2$

#### 2. UNKNOWN for $d \ge 2$ .

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### The present state of art (GCC)

#### THEOREM 1 $S^{\sharp} = \emptyset$ if 0 < d < 1

Many authors including Richert, Bochner, Conrey-Ghosh, Molteni, J.K.&A.P ...

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#### The present state of art (GCC)

## THEOREM 2 $F \in S$ , $d_F = 1 \implies F(s) = L(s + i\theta, \chi)$ ( $\chi$ primitive) J.K.& A.P. Acta Mathematica 182 (1999), no. 2, 207–241

### The present state of art (GCC)

# Main tool in the proof: the standard non-linear twist $F \in S_d^{\#}$ , d > 0, $\alpha > 0$ , $\sigma > 1$

$$F_d(s,\alpha) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a(n)}{n^s} e(-n^{1/d}\alpha).$$
$$(e(\theta) := \exp(2\pi i\theta))$$

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The present state of art (GCC)

# THEOREM 3 $S^{\sharp} = \emptyset$ if 1 < d < 2J.K.& A.P. Ann. of Math. (2) 173 (2011), no. 3, 1397–1441

#### The present state of art (GCC)

Main tool in the proof: multidimensional twists

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_F(n)}{n^s} \exp(-2\pi i \sum_{\nu=0}^{N} \alpha_{\nu} n^{\kappa_{\nu}})$$

 $\kappa_0 > \kappa_1 > \ldots > \kappa_N$ 

$$\alpha_1,\ldots,\alpha_N\in\mathbb{R},\quad \alpha_1>0$$

Image: A = A

#### Next step d = 2

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#### Next step d = 2Big challenge!

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#### $T_h(a,n) = k(s)!$

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