

# Replication of arithmetic random waves

Raphaël Lachièze-Rey  
With Loïc Thomassey  
(MAP5, Université Paris Cité)

# Helmholtz equation

**Eigenmodes** : Solutions  $F_k$  of

$$\Delta F + k^2 F = 0$$

- $\Delta$  : Laplacian operator on a manifold (here  $\mathbb{R}^2$  or  $\mathbb{T}^2$  )
- $k$  : wavenumber
- Spatial component of solutions of d'Alembert wave propagation equation
- on  $\mathbb{R}$  :  $F_k(x) = a \cos(kx) + b \sin(kx)$
- on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  : for instance

$$F_k(x) = \sum_j a_j \cos(k \langle \underbrace{u_j}_{\text{unit norm}}, x \rangle) + b_j \sin(k \langle \underbrace{u_j}_{\text{unit norm}}, x \rangle)$$

$$F_k(x) = \int_{\mathbb{S}^1} [a_u \cos(k \langle x, u \rangle) + b_u \sin(k \langle x, u \rangle)] \mu(du) \text{ for } \mu \text{ finite measure}$$

# Chadlri figures and nodal lines

Object of interest : nodal lines :

$$\mathcal{L}_k = F_k^{-1}(\{0\})$$

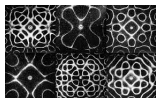


Figure – [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQ2fvciSf\\_0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQ2fvciSf_0)

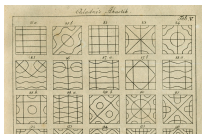


Figure – Chladni figures

## Eigenmodes on $\mathbb{T}^2$

- Let  $f_u(x) := \cos(2\pi\langle u, x \rangle)$  or  $\sin(2\pi\langle u, x \rangle)$ ,  $u \in \mathbb{R}^2$
- $f_u$  continuous on  $\mathbb{T}^2 \Leftrightarrow f$  is  $(1, 1)$ -periodic  $\Leftrightarrow u \in \mathbb{Z}^2$
- $\Delta f_u(x) = -4\pi^2(u_1^2 + u_2^2)f(x)$
- For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\mathcal{E}_n = \{f_u : \|u\|^2 = n\} \Rightarrow \text{Solutions of } \Delta f + 4\pi^2 n f = 0$$

- $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathbb{N} := \{n : \mathcal{E}_n \neq 0\}$  with

$$\#\mathcal{E}_n = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if some } q_i \text{ has odd valuation} \\ 4 \prod_{i=1}^m (1 + \alpha_i) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where

$$n = 2^\alpha p_1^{\alpha_1} \dots p_m^{\alpha_m} q_1^{2\beta_1} \dots q_l^{2\beta_l}$$

with  $p_i \equiv 1[4]$ ,  $q_i \equiv 3[4]$

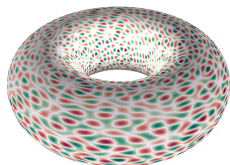


Figure – Arithmetic Random Wave (Credit : Simon Coste)

## Typical eigenfunctions

- For a density 1 subsequence  $\mathcal{S}'$  of integers  $n \in \mathcal{S}$ ,

$$\mathcal{N}_n = \ln(n)^{\ln(2)/2 + o(1)}$$

- Let  $F_n : \sqrt{n}\mathbb{T}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  a random “Planck scale” Gaussian eigenfunction :

$$F_n(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mathcal{N}_n}} \sum_{u: \|u\|^2=n} \underbrace{a_u}_{iid \mathcal{N}(0,1)} \cos\left(\left\langle x, \frac{u}{\sqrt{n}} \right\rangle\right) + \underbrace{b_u}_{iid \mathcal{N}(0,1)} \sin\left(\left\langle x, \frac{u}{\sqrt{n}} \right\rangle\right)$$

- The covariance function is

$$\begin{aligned} r_n(x - y) &= \text{Cov}(F_n(x), F_n(y)) = \mathbb{E}(F_n(x)F_n(y)) \\ &= \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}_n} \sum_{u \in \mathbb{Z}^2: \|u\|^2=n} \cos(\langle x - y, \frac{u}{\sqrt{n}} \rangle) \end{aligned}$$

## Convergence of the covariance function

$$r_n(x) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}_n} \sum_{u \in \mathbb{Z}^2: \|u\|^2 = n} \cos(\langle x, u/\sqrt{n} \rangle) = \int_{\mathbb{S}^1} \cos(\langle x, u \rangle) d\mu_n(u)$$

$$\text{where } \mu_n := \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}_n} \sum_{u \in \mathbb{Z}^2: \|u\|^2 = n} \delta_{u/\sqrt{n}} \Rightarrow \mu_{\mathbb{S}^1} \text{ Haar measure on } \mathbb{S}^1$$

for  $n \in \mathcal{S}'' \subset \mathbb{N}$  of density 1 (not trivial!). Pointwise convergence to the 0-Bessel function

$$r_n(x) \rightarrow J_0(x) = \int \cos(\langle x, u \rangle) d\mu_{\mathbb{S}^1}(u)$$

**Remark :**  $J_0$  is the covariance function of an isotropic stationary field on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , the **Random planar wave model** :

$$\text{Cov}(f^{RPW}(x), f^{RPW}(y)) = J_0(x - y)$$

# Berry's conjecture on nodal lines

Expectation : **Oravecz, Rudnick and Wigman '08**

$$\mathcal{L}_B := \text{length}(F_n^{-1}(\{0\}) \cap B), B \subset \sqrt{n}\mathbb{T}^2$$

$$\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{L}_B) = |B| \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

Berry's conjecture, proved by **Krishnapur, Kurlberg, Wigman** (Annals of Mathematics, 2011), for  $n \in \mathcal{S}'$

$$\text{Var}(\mathcal{L}_{\sqrt{n}\mathbb{T}^2}) \sim \frac{c_n}{512} \frac{n^2}{\mathcal{N}_n^2} \text{ where } c_n \in [1/2, 1] \text{ "oscillates" as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

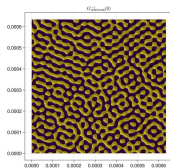


Figure – Nodal lines (L. Thomassey)

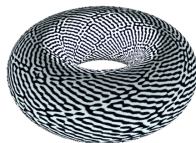


Figure – Excursion ( Simon Coste)

## Small balls and full correlation

- Generalisation by **Benatar, Marinucci, Wigman 2020** to small balls : For  $\alpha > 0, s_n > n^\alpha$ ,

$$\mathcal{L}_{s_n} := \text{length}(F_n^{-1}(\{0\}) \cap B(s_n))$$
$$\text{Var}(\mathcal{L}_{s_n}) \sim c_k |B(s_n)|^2 \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}_n^2}$$

- Furthermore, there is full correlation between small balls and  $\sqrt{n}\mathbb{T}^2$  :

$$\sup_{s \geq n^\alpha} |\text{Corr}(\mathcal{L}_s, \mathcal{L}_{\sqrt{n}\mathbb{T}^2}) - 1| \rightarrow 0.$$

- Based on the Kac-Rice formula and tedious computations of the “spectral quasi-correlations”, i.e.

$$\#\{(u_1, \dots, u_l) \in (\mathbb{Z}^2)^l : 0 < |u_1 + \dots + u_l| < \varepsilon, \|u_i\|^2 = n\}$$

Longstanding questions : Bourgain, Rudnick, Cilleruello, Cordoba, ...



## Phase transition

- There is “full correlation” at polynomial scales [BMW 20']  
Furthermore

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{n^\alpha} := \frac{\mathcal{L}_{n^\alpha} - \mathbb{E}(\dots)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}}} \rightarrow \text{sum of Chi}^2 \text{ variables}$$

- Drastic change of behaviour below [Dierickx, Nourdin, Peccati and Rossi '19 ]

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\ln(n)^A} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2) \text{ with } A = \frac{1}{18} \ln(\pi/2)$$

- There are conjectures about the phase transition, i.e. the minimal scale  $\ln(n)^{A_c}$  where full correlation occurs :
  - [Sartori '21] Full correlation for  $s_n = \ln(n)^B$  with  $B = \frac{29}{6} \ln(2)$
  - Hence  $A < A_c < B$
  - Sartori conjectures  $A_c \geq \ln(\pi/2)/2$

# What happens above the phase transition ?

Theorem (L, Thomassey 23+)

The covariance function is almost periodic at intermediates scales : there is an **almost period**  $\tau_n$  such that asymptotically

$$\ln(n)^A \leq \tau_n \leq \exp(\mathcal{N}^{1+\varepsilon}) \ (\ll n^\alpha)$$

and for  $\beta \in \mathbb{N}^2$ , with high probability

$$\sup_{t \in \sqrt{n}\mathbb{T}^2} |\partial^\beta F_n(t) - \partial^\beta F_n(t + \tau_n)| = o(\ln(n)^{-\delta}), \delta > 0$$

**Remark** : Much smaller than the actual period ( $\sim \sqrt{n}$ ).

# Almost periodicity

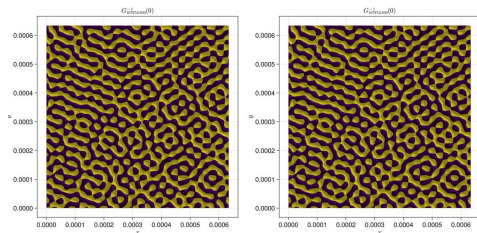


Figure –  $n = 10^9$  : Game of the 7 differences between  $F_n$  and  $F_n^{\tau_n} = F_n(\tau_n + \cdot)$

## Proof

- 1 Show that  $r(\tau_n) > 1 - \exp(-\ln(n)^\varepsilon)$
- 2 Use concentration results about suprema of random Gaussian fields

$$\sup_{x \in \sqrt{n}\mathbb{T}^2} |F_n - F_n^{\tau_n}|.$$

## Consequences for nodal sets

- Geometric similarity : for  $\varphi$  with compact support,

$$\int_{F_n^{-1}(\{0\})} \varphi(t) \mathcal{H}^1(dt) - \int_{F_n^{-1}(\{0\})} \varphi(t + \tau_n) \mathcal{H}^1(dt) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{\mathbb{P}} 0$$

To do list :

- Do we have with high probability

$$\text{Topology}(F_n^{-1}(\{0\}) \cap B) = \text{Topology}(F_n^{-1}(\{0\}) \cap (B + \tau_n))?$$

- Replication of *phase singularities*, i.e. (isolated) complex zeros of

$$F_n + iF'_n$$

where  $F'_n$  is an independent copy of  $F_n$ ?

# Dirichlet's principle

## Lemma

Let  $N > 1$  and

$$r(x) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \cos(2\pi \langle u_i, x \rangle) \text{ where } u_i \in \mathbb{R}^d, x \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

Then for  $a > 0$ , for some  $1 \leq \tau \leq a^{-N/d}$ ,

$$r(\tau) \geq 1 - ca^2$$

Application to ARW :

- $d = 2, N = \mathcal{N}_n = \ln(n)^{\ln(2)/2 + o(1)}$
- $u_i \in \mathbb{Z}^2$  such that  $\|u_i\|^2 = n$ ,
- $a = \exp(-\ln(n)^\varepsilon) = \exp(-\mathcal{N}^{1+\varepsilon'} / \mathcal{N}) \Rightarrow \tau \leq \exp(\mathcal{N}^{1+\varepsilon'} / d)$

# Dirichlet “Pigeon-hole” principle

- Strategy : Find some  $x$  such that all  $\langle u_i, x \rangle$  are simultaneously close to an integer
- Try all  $x \in \llbracket 1, M \rrbracket^d$  for some  $M$
- For each  $x$ , we have a vector

$$v_x := \left( \langle x, u_i \rangle [\mathbb{Z}^d] \right)_{i=1, \dots, \mathcal{N}} \in [0, 1]^{\mathcal{N}}$$

- There are  $M^d$  possible  $x$ , hence if we divide  $[0, 1]^{\mathcal{N}}$  in  $M^d + 1$  bins of diameter  $\varepsilon$ , say  $v_x, v_{x'}$  end up in the same bin :

$$|v_x - v_{x'}| \leq \varepsilon$$

$$\text{dist}(\langle x, u_i \rangle_i - \langle x', u_i \rangle_i, \mathbb{Z}^d) \leq \varepsilon \Rightarrow x - x' \text{ works !}$$

- Since there are about  $\varepsilon^{-\mathcal{N}}$  bins of diameter  $\varepsilon$ ,

$$\varepsilon^{-\mathcal{N}} = M^d + 1 \Rightarrow M \sim \varepsilon^{-\mathcal{N}/d}$$

## Lower bound

- [Dierickx, Nourdin, Peccati and Rossi '19] :  $r_n \rightarrow J_0$  uniformly on  $B(\ln(n)^A)$ , and

$$J_0(t) \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow 0]{} 0$$

we necessarily have  $\tau_n > \ln(n)^A$ . Can we do better?

- Let  $u_1, \dots, u_{\mathcal{N}} \in \mathbb{S}^1$  random and

$$R_{\mathcal{N}}(x) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \sum_{i=1}^{\mathcal{N}} \cos(\langle u_i, x \rangle).$$

- We want to show that for  $\varepsilon < 1$ , for  $\tau_n \sim \exp(\mathcal{N})$

$$\sup_{\tau \in [0, \tau_n]} R_{\mathcal{N}}(\tau) < \varepsilon$$

it implies that pseudo-periods are at least of scale  $\exp(\mathcal{N})$ .

## Lower bound

### Theorem

*Assumptions :*

- *The system  $(u_1, \dots, u_N)$  is isotropic on  $\mathbb{S}^1$*
- *The  $h(u_i)$  satisfy the Hoeffding type inequality for  $h$  bounded smooth*

$$\mathbb{P} \left( \left| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N h(u_i) - \mathbb{E}(h(u_1)) \right| > t \right) < \exp(-ct^\gamma N)$$

where  $\gamma, c > 0$  do not depend on  $h$ . Then for  $\varepsilon > 0$

$$\sup_{\tau \in [\tau_0, \exp(N^{1-\varepsilon})]} R_N(\tau) < \frac{1}{2}.$$

**Typical example :** i.i.d. uniform  $u_i$  on  $\mathbb{S}^1$  ( $\gamma = 2$ ).



Hence the proportion of  $(u_1, \dots, u_{\mathcal{N}_n})$  such that  $s_{\mathcal{N}_n}$  does not have a pseudo period  $\tau_{\mathcal{N}_n} \sim \exp(\mathcal{N}_n^{1-\varepsilon})$  goes to 0.

- Either the  $(u_1, \dots, u_{\mathcal{N}_n})$  such that  $\|u_i\|^2 = n$  fall into this small subset of  $(\mathbb{S}^1)^{\mathcal{N}_n}$
- Or there is full correlation between  $\mathcal{N}_n^A$  and  $\exp(\mathcal{N}_n^{1-\varepsilon})$  but no replication.