

A 0-1 law for circle packings of  
coarsely hyperbolic metric spaces  
and applications to cusp excursion

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**PART I**

Khinchin's Theorem 1926 :  $\psi: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$

monotone decr (maybe other hypotheses).

Let  $\mathbb{H}(\psi) := \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R} : \left| x - \frac{p}{q} \right| < \frac{\psi(q)}{q} \text{ for } \text{only many } \frac{p}{q} \in \mathbb{Q} \right\}$

Then

$\sum_{q \in \mathbb{N}} \psi(q) = \infty \Rightarrow \mathbb{H}(\psi)$  has full measure

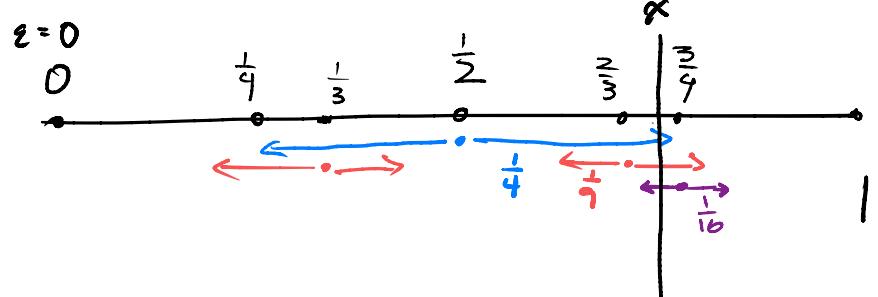
and

$\sum_{q \in \mathbb{N}} \psi(q) < \infty \Rightarrow \mathbb{H}(\psi)$  has measure zero

restrict to  $[0,1]$  to get a "0-1" law

Application  $\psi_\varepsilon(q) = \frac{1}{q^{1+\varepsilon}}$

$$\mathbb{H}(\psi) = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R} : \left| x - \frac{p}{q} \right| < \frac{1}{q^{2+\varepsilon}} \text{ for } \text{only many } \frac{p}{q} \in \mathbb{Q} \right\}$$



so far this  $x$  is in 3 of these balls. Will it be in only many such balls?  
if  $\varepsilon > 0$  then the balls get even smaller

by Khinchin:

$$\sum_{q \in \mathbb{N}} \psi_\varepsilon(q) = \sum_{q \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{1}{q^{1+\varepsilon}} \begin{cases} = \infty \text{ for } \varepsilon = 0 \\ < \infty \text{ for } \varepsilon > 0 \end{cases}$$

hence

$\mathbb{H}(\psi_\varepsilon)$   $\begin{cases} \text{has full measure for } \varepsilon = 0 \\ \text{has measure zero for } \varepsilon > 0 \end{cases}$

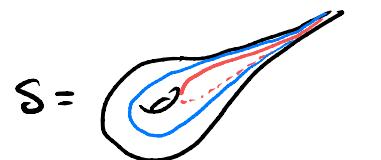
In our picture, with probability 1,  $x$  is in only many balls of radius  $\frac{1}{q^2}$ .

# circle packings for the hyperbolic plane

by example

$$\Sigma_{1,1} = \begin{array}{c} \text{square with boundary points} \\ \text{red arrows on edges} \end{array}$$

=  punctured torus



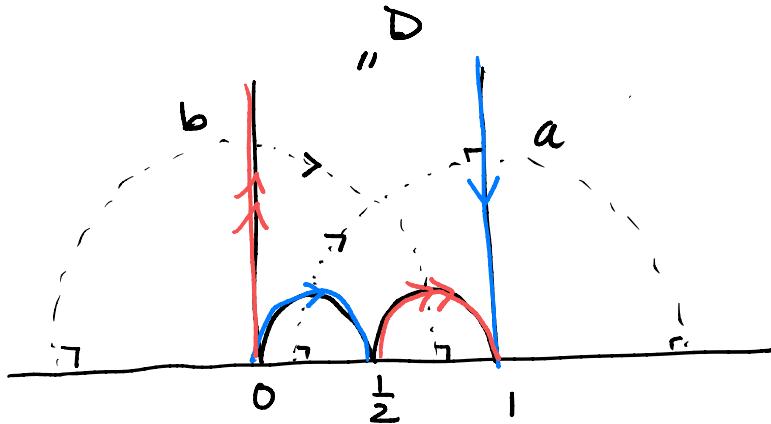
punctured torus  
with a metric

Let  $S = \mathbb{H}^2/\Gamma \cong \Sigma_{1,1}$  finite area

where  $\pi_1(\Sigma_{1,1}) \cong F_2 \cong \Gamma < \text{Isom}(\mathbb{H}^2)$

is a hyperbolic structure on  $\Sigma_{1,1}$

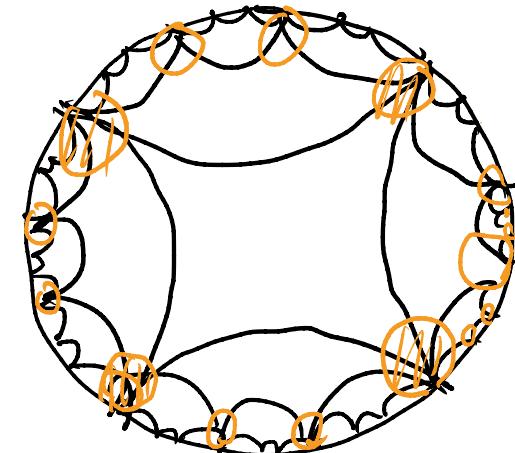
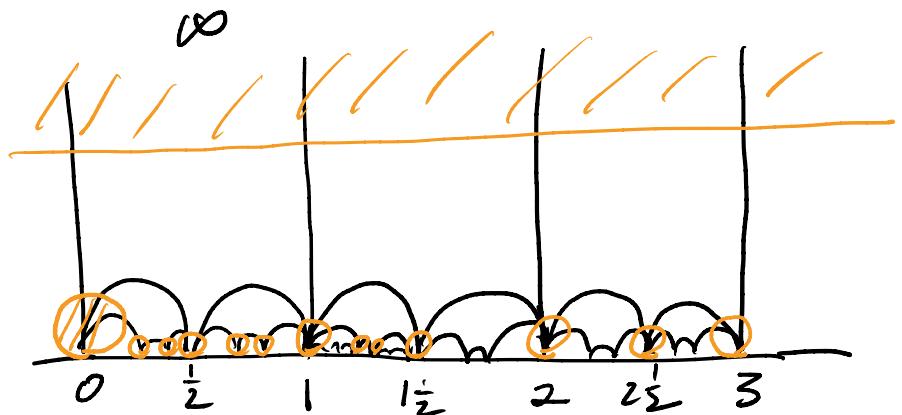
e.g.  $\Gamma = \langle a, b \rangle$  where



exercise: use that  $\text{Isom } \mathbb{H}^2 = \{\text{M\"obius transf. with coeffs in } \mathbb{R}^3\}$  is determined by the image of any 3 points in  $\partial \mathbb{H}^2$  to identify the functions  $a, b$ .

tiling of  $\mathbb{H}^2$  by  $\Gamma$ . D

$\Rightarrow$  circle packing ( $\Gamma$ -equivariant)

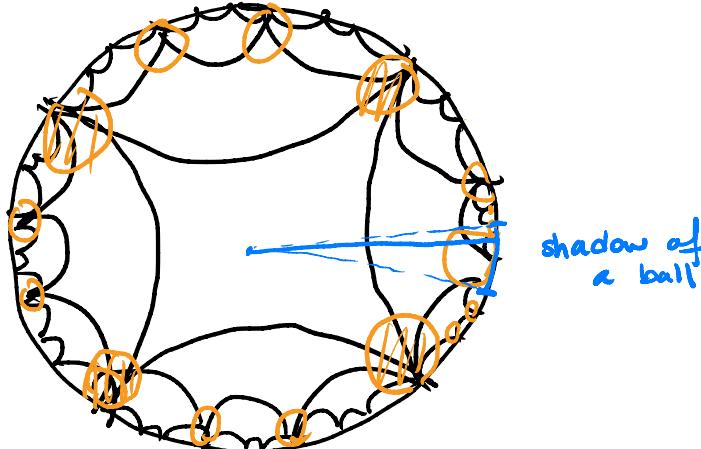


Defn: a circle in  $\mathbb{H}^2$  tangent to  $\partial\mathbb{H}^2$  is a horosphere. Its interior is a horoball.

The point of tangency is the center of the horosphere/ball.

Let  $P = \{\text{centers of horoballs in the packing}\}$  and  $r_p = \text{Euclidean radius of the horoball centered at } p \text{ from a fixed original packing}$

Let  $H_p(r)$  be a shadow of the horoball centered at  $p$  with radius  $r$ .



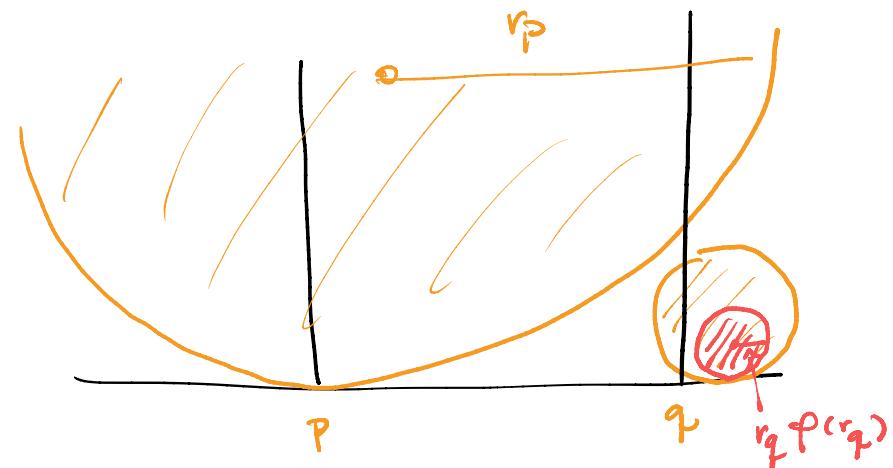
analogy to classical setting of Khinchin:

$R \rightsquigarrow S^1$

Lebesgue  $\rightsquigarrow$  arclength

$\chi: N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  decr  $\rightsquigarrow \varphi: \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  increasing  
Rationals  $\frac{p}{q} \rightsquigarrow$  horoball centers  $p \in P$

$$\left\{ x : \left| x - \frac{p}{q} \right| < \frac{\psi(q)}{q} = \frac{1}{q} \psi(q) \right\} \rightsquigarrow \left\{ x : x \in H_p(r_p \varphi(r_p)) \text{ only after } \right. \\ \left. \text{only after } \right\} \\ = \odot(\varphi) \qquad \qquad \qquad =: \odot(\varphi)$$



$\varphi \equiv 1 \Rightarrow$  no shrinking

in this case, a.c.  $x$  in  $\infty$ -ly many shadows.

$\varphi < 1 \Rightarrow$  shrinking,  $x$  may no longer be in  $\infty$ -ly many shadows

Thm: (Stratmann-Velani, Sullivan)

[Khintchin-type Theorem] for small  $\lambda < 1$ ,

$$\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \varphi(\lambda^n) < \infty \iff \text{(-)}(\varphi) \text{ has measure zero}$$

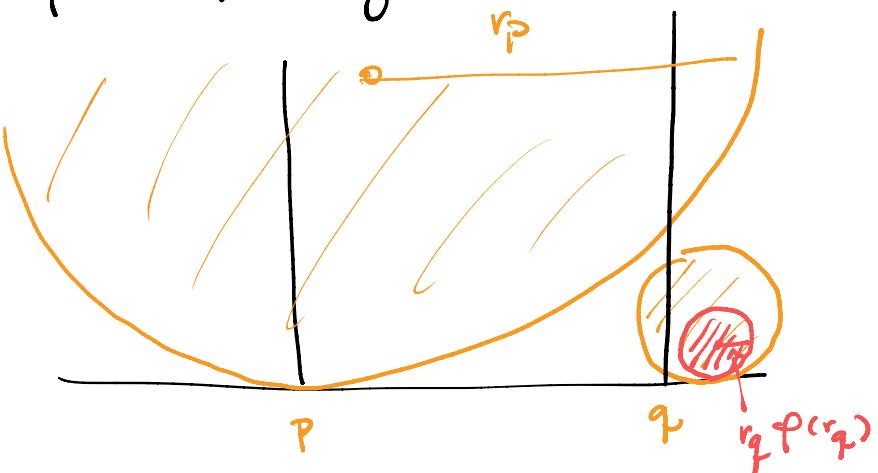
$$= \infty \iff \text{(-)}(\varphi) \text{ has measure one}$$

Note:  $\varphi$  inv  $\Rightarrow \varphi(\lambda^n)$  decr. in  $n$

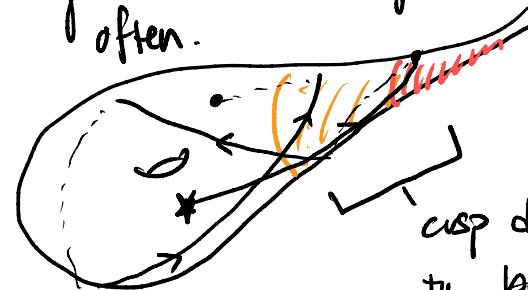
Application to cusp excision

Horoball packing projects to neighborhood of the cusp.

$\varphi$  shrinks neighborhoods.



if they stay the "same size" ( $\varphi = 1$ ),  
a.e. geodesic visits neighborhood  $\infty$ -ly often.

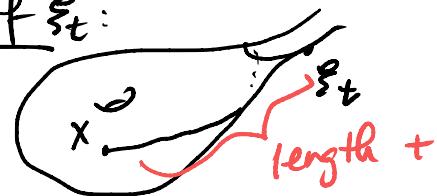


cusp depth = distance to boundary of original horoball

Q:

what is the optimal amount of shrinking?

defn of  $\xi_t$ :



Thm (Stratmann-Velani, Sullivan)

[Logarithm Law] For a.e.  $\xi \in S^1$ ,

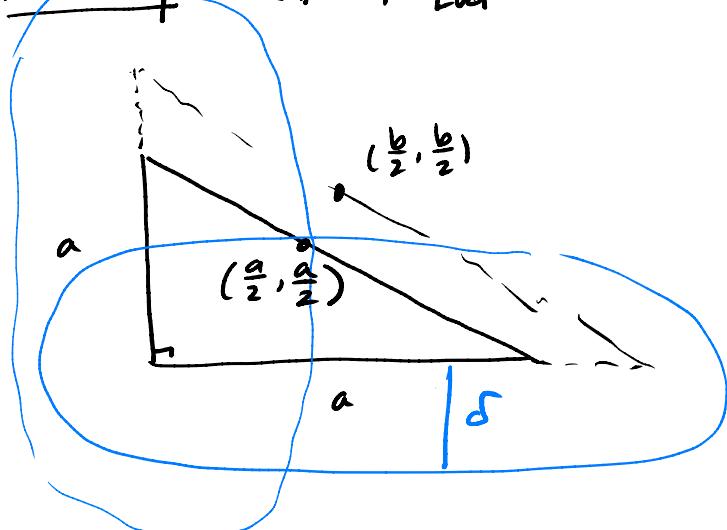
$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{cusp depth } (\xi_t)}{\log(t)} = 1.$$

with Tiozzo, we generalize these to the setting of coarsely hyp. metric spaces which are geometrically finite. Will introduce these concepts now.

Defn:  $(X, d)$  metric space is (Gromov)

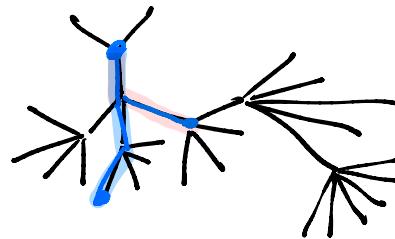
hyperbolic if  $\exists \delta > 0$  s.t. for any geodesic triangle,  $\delta$ -nhbd of 2 edges contains the third.

non example  $(\mathbb{R}^2, d_{\text{Eucl}})$



$\delta$  depends on  $a$

example  $X = \text{T tree}, d = \text{path metric}$



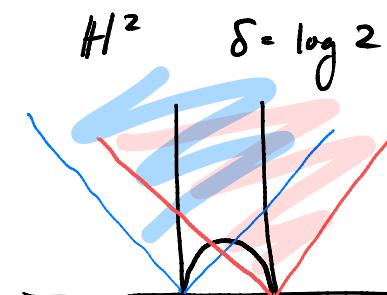
can be  $\infty$  valence!

geodesic triangles are degenerate

Any  $\delta > 0$  works.

"hyperbolic metric spaces are almost trees"

exercise



$\delta$ -nhbd in  $H^2$

Hint: explain, and use again, this fact:

Fact: since  $PSL(2, \mathbb{R}) \cong \text{Isom } H^2$  is triply transitive on  $\partial H^2$ , all ideal triangles are isometric

example hyperbolic crochet

and MEGL "reverse escher" project

Defn:  $(X, d)$  is proper if  
closed metric balls are compact,  
and geodesic if  $\forall x, y \in X$   $\exists$   
geodesic  $x$  to  $y$ .

Non-ex. of proper: infinite valence tree

From now on,  $(X, d)$  always proper  
geod. hyp metric space

Fact: any 2 geodesics  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2$   $x$  to  $y$   
are unif. bound distance (dep only on  $\delta$ )

Pf:

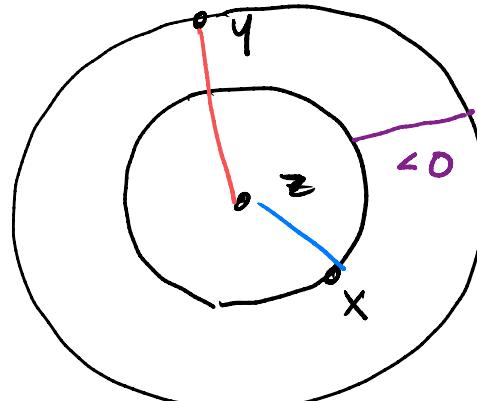


Defn: Busemann function centered

at  $z$

$$\beta_z(x, y) = d(\underline{x}, z) - \underline{d(y, z)}$$

signed relative distance



exercise:  $\beta_z(x, y) = -\beta_z(y, x)$  anti-symmetric

$$\beta_z(x, w) + \beta_z(w, y) = \beta_z(x, y) \text{ cocycle}$$

$g \in \text{Isom}(X)$ ,

$$\beta_{g z}(gx, gy) = \beta_z(x, y) \text{ equivariance}$$

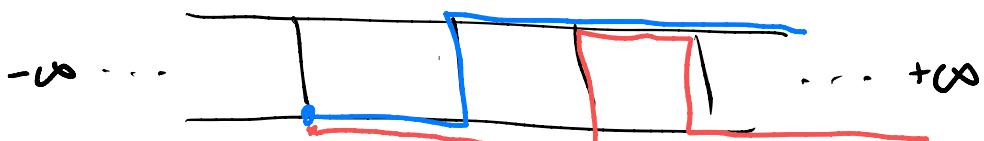
Defn: fix  $o \in X$ .

$\partial X := \{ \text{geodesic rays based at } o \} \quad \sim$

where  $\gamma_1 \sim \gamma_2$  if  $\exists c \text{ s.t.}$

$$d(\gamma_1(t), \gamma_2(t)) \leq c \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$

e.g. Ladder graph



$$\partial X = \{ +\infty, -\infty \}$$

e.g.  $\partial H^2 = R \cup \{\infty\} = S^1$

Defn for  $\xi \in \partial X$ , define

$$\beta_\xi(x, y) = \liminf_{z \rightarrow \xi} \beta_z(x, y)$$

exercise: a)  $\liminf = \limsup + O(\delta)$

b)  $\beta_\xi(x, y) = -\beta_\xi(y, x) + O(\delta)$

c)  $\beta_\xi(x, w) + \beta_\xi(y, w) = \beta_\xi(x, y) + O(\delta)$

quasi-anti-sym & quasi-cocycle

d) equivariance still true for  $\varphi \in \partial X$ .

Defn:

Fix  $o \in X$ . A horosphere centered at  $\xi \in \partial X$  of radius r is

$$S_\xi = \{ x \in X : \beta_\xi(x, o) = \log r \}$$

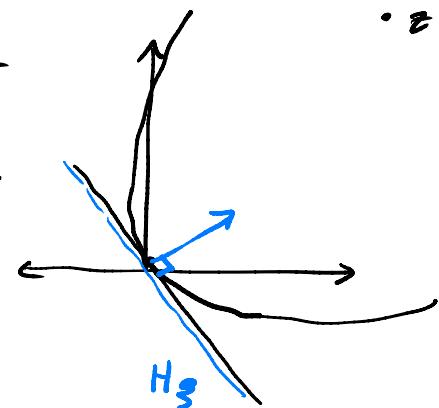
and horoball is

$$H_\xi = \{ x \in X : \beta_\xi(x, o) \leq \log r \}$$

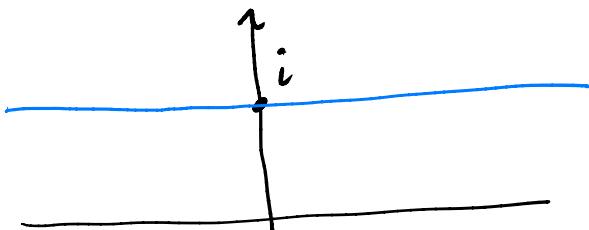
$\xrightarrow{z \rightarrow \xi}$

example  $R^2$

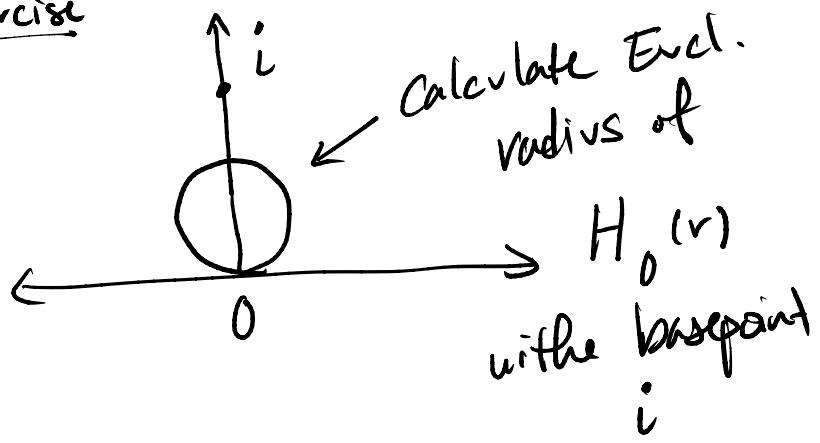
$\beta_\xi$  is a limit  
(no  $O(\delta)$ )



example  $H^2$   $\beta_3$  is a limit no  $C(S)$



exercise



exercise describe horospheres for  
ladder,  $\text{Cay}(\mathbb{F}_2)$

Def  $H_\xi(r) = \text{shadow of } H_\xi(r)$   
 $= \{ \gamma \in \partial X \text{ such that}$   
 $\text{some geod. o to } \gamma$   
 $\text{intersects } H_\xi(r) \}$

Fact:  $\{ H_\xi(r) \mid \xi \in \partial X, r > 0 \}$   
 generates the topology on  $\partial X$ .

exercise: the shadow topology on  
 $\partial H^2$  agrees with the usual topology  
 on  $S^1$ .