

# Using Mass Formulas to Enumerate Definite Quadratic Forms of Class Number One:

An (integer-valued) quadratic form

$$Q(\vec{x}) = \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} c_{ij} x_i x_j$$

is a homogeneous polynomial  
of degree 2 in  $n$  variables  
with coefficients  $c_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

We can also express  $Q(\vec{x})$  as a  
symmetric (Hessian) matrix

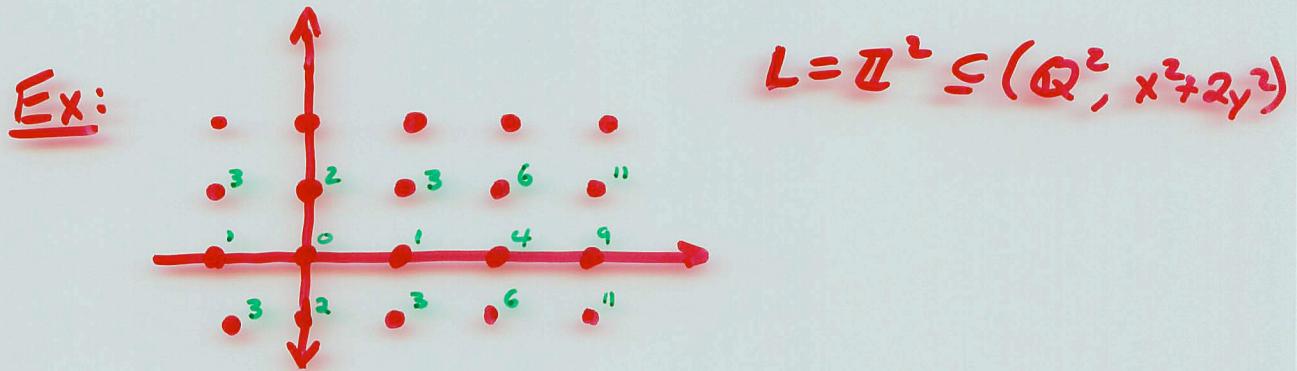
$$A = (a_{ij}) = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} Q(\vec{x}) \right) \in \text{Sym}_n(\mathbb{Z})$$

with even diagonal entries.

Ex:  $Q(\vec{x}) = x^2 + xy + y^2$

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} & \xrightarrow{\text{Gram}} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &&&\in \text{Sym}_n(\mathbb{Z}) \end{aligned}$$

We can also think of  $Q$  as describing a lattice  $L = \mathbb{Z}^n$  in a fixed quadratic vector space  $(V, Q) = (\mathbb{Q}^n, Q)$ .



For any ring  $R$ , we can consider  $Q(\bar{x})$  as a quadratic form over  $R$ . by considering its coefficient  $c_{ij} \in R$ . In the lattice perspective this corresponds to considering the "lattice"  $L \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} R$  in the quadratic space  $(\mathbb{Q} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} R, Q)$ .

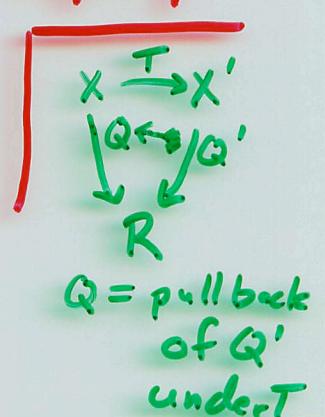
## Equivalence of Quadratic Forms:

We say that two quadratic forms  $Q$  and  $Q'$  are equivalent over  $R$  and write  $Q \sim_R Q'$  if there is some invertible  $R$ -linear change of variables  $T \in GL_n(R)$  so that  $Q'(\vec{x}') = Q(T\vec{x})$  as quadratic forms over  $R$ .

$$\text{Ex: } (x')^2 + (y')^2 \underset{\mathbb{Z}}{\sim} x^2 + (x+y)^2 = 2x^2 + xy + y^2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \vec{x} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} x \\ x+y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} =: \vec{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Ex: } x^2 + y^2 \underset{\mathbb{F}_7}{\sim} x^2 + (3y)^2 = x^2 + 2y^2$$



From the matrix perspective we

have  $A' = {}^t T A T$ , but on lattices we're forgetting about the basis.

Given a quadratic form  $Q$ , we define the class of  $Q$  to be the set of all  $Q' \sim_{\mathbb{Z}} Q$  and the genus of  $Q$  (denoted  $\text{Gen}(Q)$ ) as the set of all  $Q'$  which are everywhere locally equivalent to  $Q$ , meaning that

*Equivalently*  
 $Q' \sim_{\mathbb{Z}} Q$   
 for all places  
 $v$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \cdot Q' \sim_{\mathbb{Z}_p} Q & \text{for all primes } p \in \mathbb{N} \\ \cdot Q' \sim_{\mathbb{R}} Q & \end{array} \right.$$

Thrm (Siegel): There are only finitely many classes in  $\text{Gen}(Q)$ .

We denote by  $h(Q)$  the number of classes in  $\text{Gen}(Q)$ , called the class number of  $Q$ .

## Local and Global Representations:

We say that  $Q$  (globally) represents  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $\exists \vec{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  so that

$Q(\vec{x}) = m$ , and say that  $Q$  locally represents  $m$  if  $\exists \vec{x}_v \in \mathbb{Z}_v^n$  so that  $Q(\vec{x}_v) = m$  for all places  $v$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Let  $r_Q(m) := \#\{\vec{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \mid Q(\vec{x}) = m\}$ .

For  $Q$  (positive) definite we see that  $r_Q(m) < \infty \quad \forall m \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

In this case we can define the theta series of  $Q$  by

$$\Theta_Q(z) := \sum_{m \geq 0} r_Q(m) e^{2\pi i mz}.$$

This is a modular form.  
 $\in M_{n/2}(N, \chi)$ .

## Genus and Class Invariants:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad Q' \in \text{Gen}(Q) \xrightarrow{\text{Hasse-Minkowski}} (V, Q) \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} (V, Q')$$

So all rational invariants are also genus invariants.

Ex:  $\det(Q) \in \mathbb{Q}^*/(\mathbb{Q}^*)^2$ , Hasse Invariants  
signature  $\in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $c_p \in \{\pm 1\}$ ,

$$\textcircled{2} \quad Q' \in \text{Gen}(Q) \Rightarrow \det(A) = \det(A') \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Since  $A^t = {}^t T_v A T_v$

$$\Rightarrow \det(A') = \det(T_v)^2 \cdot \det(A)$$

But  $\det(T_v) \in \mathbb{Z}_v^*$

$$\Rightarrow \det(A) \text{ and } \det(A') \in \mathbb{Z}$$

have the same  $p$ -divisibility  
and the same sign.

$$\Rightarrow \det(A) = \det(A').$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad Q \sim_{\mathbb{Z}} Q' \Rightarrow r_Q(m) = r_{Q'}(m) \quad \forall m \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Theta_Q(z) = \Theta_{Q'}(z).$$

## Consequences of $h(Q)=1$ :

- $Q$  locally represents  $m$   
 $\Rightarrow Q$  represents  $m$  (globally)
- $\Theta_Q(z)$  is an Eisenstein series
- The circle method gives an exact formula for  $r_Q(m)$
- There is a "simple" formula for  $r_Q(m)$  as a sum over divisors of  $m$ .

Ex:  $Q = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + w^2$

$$\Rightarrow r_Q(m) = 8 \cdot \sum_{\substack{d \mid m \\ 4+d}} d$$

This is like

$$g \cong \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) \backslash \frac{\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{R})}{\mathrm{SO}_2(\mathbb{R})} \xrightarrow{\quad} |\mathrm{O}_Q(\mathbb{Q}) \backslash \mathrm{O}_Q(\mathbb{A}_f^\times) / \mathrm{Stab}_{\mathbb{A}_f}(L)| = 1.$$

How many (classes of) quadratic

forms have class number one?

Magnus  $\Rightarrow$  only finitely many in

(1937 by  
Mass Formula)

$n \geq 3$  variables, and

need  $n \leq 35$ .

Watson  $\Rightarrow$  need  $n \leq 10$ , and lists

(1960s + 70s  
by reducing  
to "maximal"  
lattices)

most of them for  
 $2 \leq$   
each  $n \leq 10$ .

Gerstein  $\Rightarrow$   $n \geq 16t+5 \Rightarrow h(Q) \geq p(t)$

(1972 by  
modular  
lattices)

for any totally real  $F$ ,

so need  $n \leq 36$ .

Pfleiderer  $\Rightarrow$  Only finitely many  $Q$

(1978-9 by  
Mass Formula)

over all totally

real number fields!

primitive,  
definite

## Mass Formulas:

Assuming  $Q$  is definite, we define

$$\text{Mass}^+(Q) := \sum_{Q' \in G_{\text{gen}}(Q)} \frac{1}{\# \text{Aut}^+(Q')} \in \mathbb{Q} > 0$$

$$= 2 \cdot \prod_v \beta_v(Q)^{-1}$$

where the local density  $\beta_v(Q)$  is defined by

$$\beta_v(Q) := \lim_{\substack{u \ni \{Q\} \\ u \text{ open} \\ u \rightarrow \{Q\}}} \frac{\text{vol}(Q^{-1}(u))}{\text{vol}(u)}$$

where  $Q \leftrightarrow A \in \text{Sym}_n(\mathbb{Z})$  defines

$$\begin{aligned} M_n(R) &\xrightarrow{Q} \text{Sym}_n(R) \\ X &\longmapsto {}^t X A X. \end{aligned}$$

For  $v = p$  prime, we can write

the local density more simply as

$$\beta_p(Q) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \lim_{\alpha \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\#\{X \in M_n(\mathbb{Z}/p^\alpha \mathbb{Z}) \mid {}^t X A X = A\}}{p^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2} \cdot \alpha}}$$

which can be computed at all but finitely many places by Hensel's Lemma, and if  $p+2 \cdot \det(A)$  then the limit stabilizes at  $\alpha=1$ .

$$\Rightarrow \beta_p(Q) = \frac{\# O_Q^+(\mathbb{F}_p)}{p^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}}}$$

This tells us that the infinite product for  $\text{Mass}^+(Q)$  is generically a product like

Since over  $\mathbb{F}_p$  there is only one orthogonal group if  $n$  is odd, but two if  $n$  is even.  $\rightarrow \mathfrak{S}(2) \cdot \mathfrak{S}(4) \cdot \dots \cdot \mathfrak{S}(n-1)$  if  $n$  is odd,  $\rightarrow \mathfrak{S}(2) \cdot \mathfrak{S}(4) \cdot \dots \cdot \mathfrak{S}(n-2) L(\frac{n}{2}, \chi)$  if  $n$  is even, where  $\chi$  is some quadratic character determined by  $\det(A)$ .

## Explicit Mass Formula "Highlights":

- Local densities for  $p > 2$  (Pall, '65) and for  $p = 2$  (Watson, '76) / $\mathbb{Q}$  in terms of local Jordan form.
- Conway + Sloane, '88 give a correct unproven formula for all local densities, differing from Watson's, / $\mathbb{Q}$
- Shimura gives an explicit formula over for maximal lattices  $\mathcal{J}$  totally real fields  $F$  ('99)
- Gan, H., Yu give an extended definite formula for maximal lattices  $\mathcal{J}_F$  (also for Hermitian forms!). ('01)

$$\text{Ex: } Q = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \Rightarrow n=3$$

$$\text{Mass}^+(Q) = \frac{1}{2^{\frac{n-1}{2} \cdot d}} \cdot |\mathcal{S}_F(-1)| \cdot \tau(O_F^+(Q)) \cdot \prod_{p \in S} \lambda_p$$

where

$$\lambda_p := \begin{cases} \frac{p-1}{2} & \text{if } \text{aniso. dim}(V_p) = 3 \\ \frac{p+1}{2} & \text{if } \text{aniso. dim}(V_p) = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{and } S := \left\{ \text{primes } p \text{ s.t. } p \nmid \det(Q) \right\} \\ \text{or } \text{aniso. dim}(V_p) = 3 \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow S = \{2\} \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_2 = \frac{2-1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Mass}^+(Q) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left| \frac{-1}{12} \right| \cdot 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \\ = \frac{1}{24}$$

$$\text{Check: } \#\text{Aut}^+(Q) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2^n \cdot n!$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \cdot 48 = 24.$$

This proves that  $\text{h}(Q) = 1$ , or checks the mass formula if we knew this independently.

## Arithmetic Bounds when $n=3$ :

Since  $n$  is odd, the classes and proper classes coincide. So

$$h(Q) = 1 \Rightarrow \text{Mass}^+(Q) = \frac{1}{\#\text{Aut}^+(Q)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{12} \cdot \prod_{p \in S'} \frac{p \pm 1}{2} \in \frac{1}{N}. \quad \frac{1}{\mathbb{Z}}$$

However the factor  $\lambda_p = \frac{p \pm 1}{2} \in \mathbb{Z}$

if  $p > 2$ , and  $\lambda_p$  will contain

some <sup>(odd)</sup> prime factors that are not killed by the remaining product

killed by the remaining product

if  $p \in S'$  is very large.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{p \pm 1}{2} < 24$$

$$\Rightarrow p \pm 1 < 48$$

$$\Rightarrow p < 49 \quad \text{for all } p \nmid \det(Q)$$

So there are finitely many <sup>ternary</sup> quadratic spaces  $(V, Q)$  with a class #1 <sup>max!</sup> lattice!

## Basic Strategy:

- ① Enumerate quadratic spaces  $(V, Q)$  which could support a maximal lattice  $L$  of class number one.
- ② Construct a maximal lattice on each  $(V, Q)$ .
- ③ Check if  $h(L) = 1$  by testing Mass v.s. # Aut.
- ④ Enumerate all possible non-maximal local lattice types on  $(V, Q)$  satisfying the mass eligibility test.  
 $(\text{Mass}^+ \in \frac{1}{m} \text{ or } \text{Mass}^+ \leq 1)$

## Finding a Maximal Lattice:

- ① Compute elementary divisors of  $L^\#/L$  (w.r.t.  $A \in \text{Sym}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ ).
- ② Find all "Watson" superlattice containing  $L$ , so the elementary divisors of  $L^\#/L$  are square-free.
- ③ Look for totally isotropic subspaces of  $L^\#/L$  over  $\mathbb{F}_p$  for all  $p \mid \#(L^\#/L)$ .
- ④ Use 2-neighbors to find an even lattice, ~~which~~ which corresponds to a quadratic form.

# Outline of Computational Tools:

## Quadratic Spaces:

- Constructive Hasse-Minkowski/ $\mathbb{Q}$
- Maximal lattice finding.
- Local invariants ( $\text{Std} \leftrightarrow \text{GHY}$ )
- Local tests (aniso dim + invs./ $\mathbb{Q}_p$ )

## Square Classes:

- Over local + global fields
- Hilbert Symbol
- Weak approx. for local-global/ $\mathbb{Q}$

## Quadratic Forms:

Also,  
CS+GHY  
mass  
formulas  
and  
Special  
values  
of  $g(s) + L(s, \chi)$

- Neighbor method for finding all classes in  $\text{Gen}(\mathbb{Q})$
- Spinor Genera in  $\text{Gen}(\mathbb{Q})$
- Automorphism finding

## Computational Challenges:

- Dealing with non-free lattices over #fields  $F$  with  $h(F) > 1$ .
- Computing local masses at  $\mathfrak{p}^{1/2}$   
~~lattices~~ when  $2$  is ramified.
- Local-Global for  $(v, Q) / F$
- Maximal lattice finding ( $\mathfrak{p}^{1/2}$ -neighbor)
- Exact special values of  $S_F(m)$  and  $L_F(m, \chi)$ .
- Enumeration of totally real  $F$  with bounded root disc.  
(Voight)

## Future Directions:

Finding totally definite class number one forms for other groups!

## Adelic Interpretations:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \tau(G_F \backslash G_H) = \# \quad \leftarrow \text{Known}$$

$\iff$  Mass Formula

$$\textcircled{2} \quad G_F \backslash G_H / K \xleftarrow{1-1} \begin{array}{l} \text{Classes in a} \\ \text{Genus of} \\ \text{"objects".} \end{array}$$

Ex:  $G = U_{2n}(H) \rightsquigarrow$  Hermitian forms  $H$  of class #1.

$G = G_2 \xrightarrow{?}$  Octonion orders of type #1.

$G = F_4 \xrightarrow{?}$  Freudenthal orders of type #1.

$G = O_n(Q) \rightsquigarrow$  Quadratic forms  $Q$  of class #1.

## Interpreting Classes in a Genus:

$G =$  linear algebraic gp acting  
as isometries on  $(V, \varphi)_F$ .  
 $G_H :=$  adelization of  $G$   
 $\quad := \prod_v' G_v$  with  
all but finitely many  
components stabilizing  $(L, \varphi)$ .

Now  $G_H$  acts on lattices in  $(V, \varphi)$   
by a local non-archimedean action

$$g_H: L \dashrightarrow L' \\ (g_v) \quad (L_\wp) \longmapsto (g_\wp L_\wp).$$

Then the  $G_H$ -orbit of  $L$  is the  
set of lattices in  $(V, \varphi)$  which  
are locally isomorphic to  $(L, \varphi)$ .

We call this the genus of  $(L, \varphi)$ .

Let  $K := \text{Stab}_{\mathbb{A}}(L, \varphi)$  be the adelic stabilizer of  $(L, \varphi)$ . Then

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 G_{\mathbb{A}} / K & \xleftrightarrow{1-1} & \text{Genus} \\
 & & \text{of } L \\
 G_F \backslash G_{\mathbb{A}} / K & \xleftrightarrow{1-1} & \text{Classes in the} \\
 & & \text{Genus of } L \\
 \text{.....} & & \leftarrow \\
 \text{Finite set} & & \text{Finitely many} \\
 \text{of points} & & \text{by reduction} \\
 & & \text{theory}
 \end{array}$$

Question: When is there just one pt?

Claim/Conj: There are only finitely many such  $K$  over all totally real number fields  $F$ .

We consider only totally real  $F$  since we want  $G_v$  to be compact at all archimedean places.

## Tamagawa Numbers and Mass Formulas:

$G = \text{connected semi-simple linear algebraic group } / F$

$$T(G) := \text{vol}(G_F \backslash G_H) := \int_{G_F \backslash G_H} d\mu_H$$

↑  
Tamagawa number

To define  $\mu_H$  on  $G_H$  we choose a set of local Haar measures

$\mu_v$  on  $F_v$ , and choose any top-degree (left) invariant non-vanishing differential "volume" form  $\omega$  on  $G / F$ .

This gives a measure  $\mu_H$  on  $G_H$

$$\mu_H(u) := \int_{u \in G_H} |\omega|_H \cdot \prod_v \mu_v$$

(left)

Tamagawa measure  
independent of  $\omega$  which is  ${}_{\wedge} G_H$ -inv.

⇒ Measure on  $G_F \backslash G_H$ .

To derive a mass formula from a known Tamagawa number, write

$$G_H = \bigsqcup_{i=1}^r G_F a_i K \quad , \quad K = \text{Stab}_H(L)$$

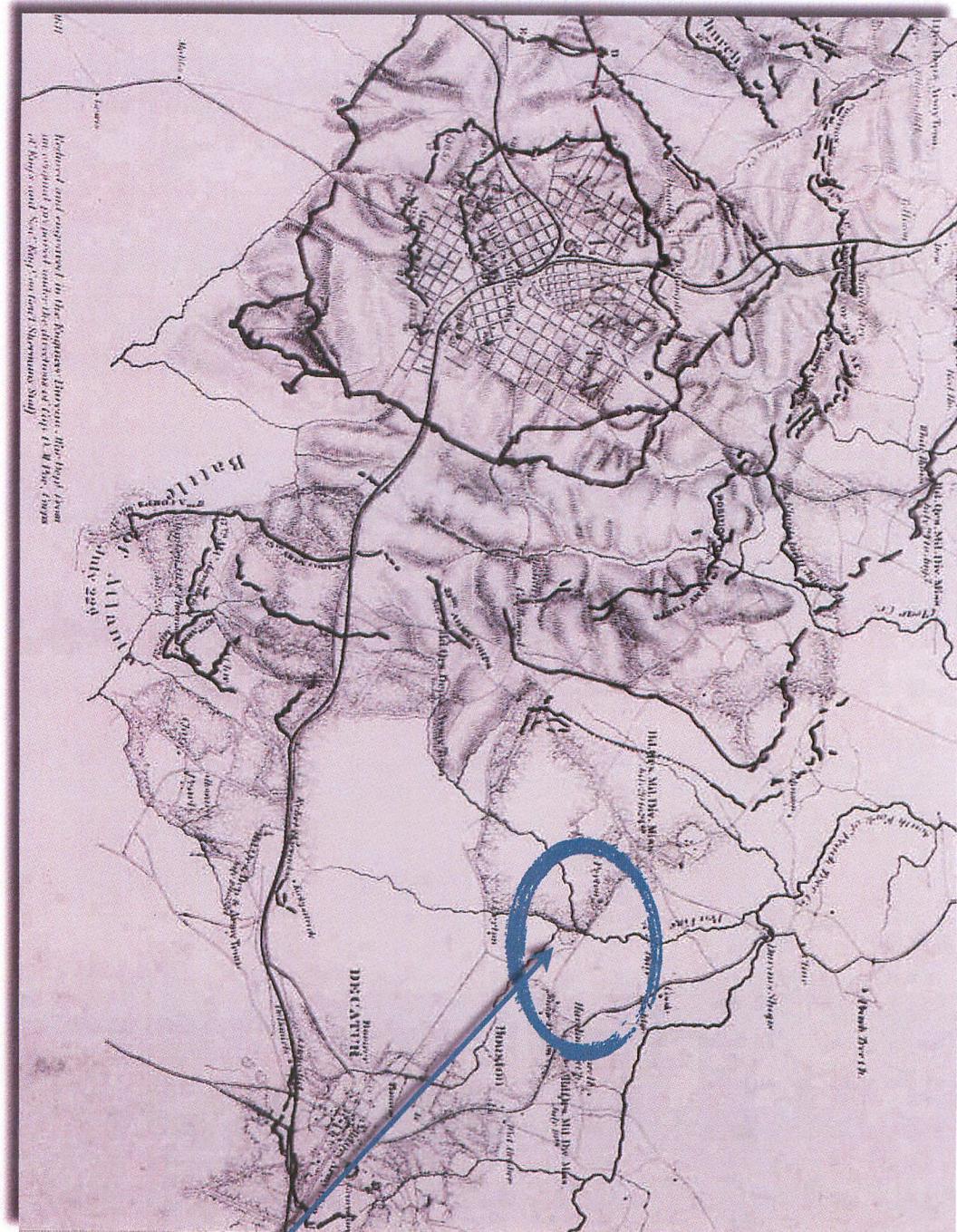
↑ Assume  
K is cpt.

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow T(G) &= \text{vol}(G_F \backslash G_H) \\ &= \bigsqcup_{i=1}^r \text{vol}(G_F \backslash G_F a_i K) \\ &= \bigsqcup_{i=1}^r \text{vol}(G_F \backslash G_F a_i K a_i^{-1}) \\ &= \bigsqcup_{i=1}^r \text{vol}(\underbrace{(G_F \cap a_i K a_i^{-1}) \backslash a K a^{-1}}_{\text{Aut}^+(L_i)} \cdot a) \\ &= \text{vol}(a K a^{-1}) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^r \frac{1}{\# \text{Aut}^+(L_i)} \\ &= \text{vol}(K) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^r \frac{1}{A \# \text{Aut}^+(L_i)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^r \frac{1}{\# \text{Aut}^+(L_i)} &= T(G) \cdot \text{vol}(K)^{-1} \\ &= 2 \cdot \prod_v \text{vol}(K_v)^{-1} \\ &= 2 \cdot \prod_v \beta_v(Q)^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

# Athens-Atlanta Number Theory Seminar

Tuesday, October 20, 2009



at the Emory University  
Math & Science Center W201

**4pm**  
Doug Ulmer (Georgia Tech)  
*Constructing elliptic curves of high  
rank over function fields*

**5:15pm**  
Jonathan Hanke (Athens)

*Using mass formulas to enumerate  
definite quadratic forms of class  
number one*