

# Topological mixing of the Weyl chamber flow

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MATHEMATISCHES  
I N S T I T U T

FAKULTÄT FÜR  
MATHEMATIK UND INFORMATIK

UNIVERSITÄT  
HEIDELBERG



## Plan of the talk

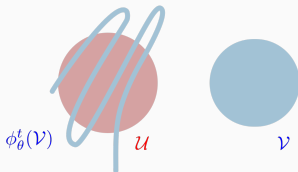
- (1) Weyl chamber flows
- (2) Mixing condition
- (3) Benoist cone
- (4) Non-diverging orbits
- (5) Necessary condition for mixing
- (6) Sufficient condition for mixing
- (6.1) A dense orbit in the space of oriented flats
- (6.2) Generic product of loxodromic elements

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### Topological mixing:

$\Omega \curvearrowright \phi^t$  is *topologically mixing* if for all (non-empty)  $\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V} \subset \Omega$ , there exists  $T > 0$  such that  $\phi^t(\mathcal{U}) \cap \mathcal{V} \neq \emptyset$  for all  $t \geq T$ .



## Weyl chamber flows

$G$  semisimple Lie group of non-compact type,

$A$  maximal torus,  $\mathfrak{a} := \text{Lie}(A)$  the Cartan subspace,

$\mathfrak{a}^+$  closed positive Weyl chamber,  $\mathfrak{a}^{++}$  its interior.

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$$\text{diag}(t_1, \dots, t_n) \begin{pmatrix} t & & \\ & 0_{n-1} & \\ & & -t \end{pmatrix}_{t \geq 0}$$

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$$\text{diag}(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & SO_{n-1} & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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$\Gamma$  lattice: **Howe-Moore(79) mixing, Moore (87) exponential rate**

$G = SO(n, 1)_0$  (... Dal'bo 2000, Kim 2006)

Geodesic flow acting on  $T^1\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}^n$  is topologically mixing on its non-wandering set.



### Theorem (D-Glorieux 20)

Let  $G$  be a connected, real linear, semisimple Lie group of non-compact type and  $\Gamma < G$  discrete, Zariski dense. The following holds.

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### Definition

$\Omega$  is the smallest closed,  $A$ -invariant subset of  $\Gamma \backslash G/M$  containing the periodic orbits of regular Weyl chamber flows.

Conze-Guivarc'h (2000) gave a construction for  $SL(n, \mathbb{R})$ , they proved that there are dense  $A$ -orbits in  $\Omega$ .

## Benoist cone

Jordan decomposition  
 $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_e + \mathfrak{g}_h + \mathfrak{g}_u$

commuting parts	$\mathfrak{g}_e$ <i>elliptic</i> $\subset$ max. compact subgp	$\mathfrak{g}_h$ <i>hyperbolic</i> $\subset$ conjugate of $A$	$\mathfrak{g}_u$ <i>unipotent</i> $\subset$ max unip subgp
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parts	compact subgp	$\subset$ conjugate of $A$	unip subgp

### Definition

Jordan projection,  $g \in G \mapsto \lambda(g) \in \mathfrak{a}^+$  unique element such that  $g_h \sim e^{\lambda(g)}$ .

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Loxodromics of  $\Gamma$   
 $\gamma = h_\gamma m_\gamma e^{\lambda(\gamma)} h_\gamma^{-1}$

$$\lambda(\Gamma) \cap \mathfrak{a}^{++} \subset \mathcal{B}(\Gamma)$$

Periodic orbits in  $\Gamma \backslash G/M$   
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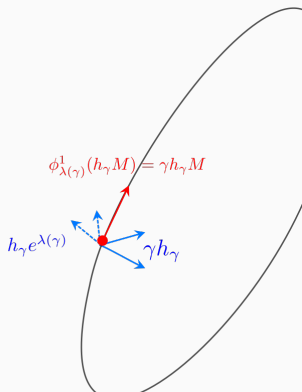
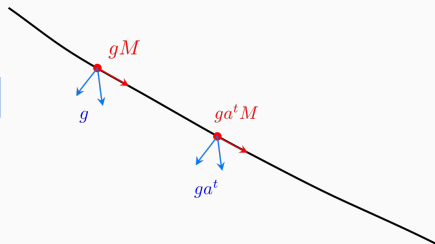
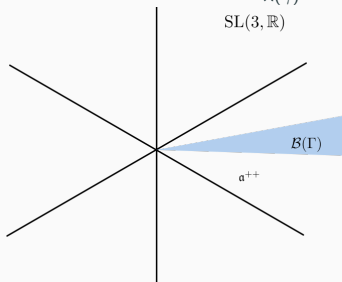
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## Non-wandering set

$$\Omega := \overline{\{wA \mid \theta \in \lambda(\Gamma) \cap \mathfrak{a}^{++} \text{ and } \phi_\theta^t(w) \text{ is periodic}\}}.$$

$\gamma \in \Gamma^{lox}$  then  $w = h_\gamma M$  is  $\phi_{\lambda(\gamma)}^t$  periodic in  $\Gamma \backslash G/M$ , where  $\gamma = h_\gamma m_\gamma e^{\lambda(\gamma)} h_\gamma^{-1}$ .



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Pick  $h \in G$  such that  $\phi_\theta^t(\Gamma hM)$  is non-diverging,  
pick  $C \subset G/M$  compact,  $t_n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\gamma_n$  such that

$$\phi_\theta^{t_n}(hM) = he^{t_n \theta} M \in \gamma_n C \subset \Gamma.C.$$



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The Cartan projection is a proper map,

$$\mu(he^{t_n\theta}) = \mu(\gamma_n) + O(\mu(C))$$

$$t_n\theta = \mu(\gamma_n) + O(\mu(C), \mu(h)).$$

$$\theta = \frac{1}{t_n} \mu(\gamma_n) + O\left(\frac{1}{t_n}\right).$$

Hence  $\theta \in \mathcal{B}(\Gamma)$ .

## Necessary condition for mixing

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We want to prove : (NC) If  $(\Omega, \phi_\theta^t)$ , with  $\theta \in \mathfrak{a}^{++}$ , is mixing, then  $\theta \in \overset{\circ}{\mathcal{B}}(\Gamma)$ .

Proof: Take  $h \in G$  such that

$$\Gamma.hAM \subset \overline{\phi_\theta^t(\Gamma.hM)}.$$

For all  $v \in \mathfrak{a}$ , there exists  $\gamma_n \in \Gamma$ ,  $t_n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $m_n \in M$ ,  $\delta_n \rightarrow e_G$  such that

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Idea:  $h e^{-\nu + t_n \theta} m_n h^{-1}$  is  $(r, \varepsilon_n)$ -loxodromic when  $n$  large.  $\delta'_n \rightarrow e_G$ .

$\gamma_n$  is  $(2r, 2\varepsilon_n)$ -loxodromic when  $n$  large enough and

$$\lambda(\gamma_n) = \lambda(h e^{-\nu + t_n \theta} m_n h^{-1}) + o(1)$$

$$\lambda(\gamma_n) = -\nu + t_n \theta + o(1).$$



## Generic product of loxodromic elements

$g \in G^{\text{lox}}$  loxodromic, pick  $(h_g, m_g) \in G \times M$  such that  $g = h_g e^{\lambda(g)} m_g h_g^{-1}$ .

$N = \{u \in G \mid a^{-n} u a^n \rightarrow e_G \text{ for all } a \in A^{++}\}$  maximal unipotent subgroup.

$P := MAN$  and  $\mathcal{F} = G/P$  the Furstenberg boundary,  $P^-$  s.t.  $\text{Stab}_G(P^-) = MAN^-$ .

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### Fact

$g$  has an attracting point  $g^+ := h_g P$  and a repelling point  $g^- = h_g P^-$  in  $\mathcal{F}$ . The basin of attraction of  $g^+$  is  $h_g N^- . P =: b(g^-)$ .

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### Definition

Let  $r > 0$  and  $\varepsilon \in (0, r]$ , we say  $g$  is  $(r, \varepsilon)$ -loxodromic if

- (i)  $r \leq \frac{1}{2} d(g^+, \partial \text{b}(g^-))$ ;
- (ii)  $g \mathcal{V}_\varepsilon(\partial \text{b}(g^-))^{\text{c}} \subset B(g^+, \varepsilon)$  and the restriction is  $\varepsilon$ -Lipschitz.



## Generic product of loxodromic elements

$g \in G^{\text{lox}}$  loxodromic, pick  $(h_g, m_g) \in G \times M$  such that  $g = h_g e^{\lambda(g)} m_g h_g^{-1}$ .

$N = \{u \in G \mid a^{-n} u a^n \rightarrow e_G \text{ for all } a \in A^{++}\}$  maximal unipotent subgroup.

$P := MAN$  and  $\mathcal{F} = G/P$  the Furstenberg boundary,  $P^-$  s.t.  $\text{Stab}_G(P^-) = MAN^-$ .

### Fact

$g$  has an attracting point  $g^+ := h_g P$  and a repelling point  $g^- = h_g P^-$  in  $\mathcal{F}$ . The basin of attraction of  $g^+$  is  $h_g N^- \cdot P =: \text{b}(g^-)$ .

### Definition

Let  $r > 0$  and  $\varepsilon \in (0, r]$ , we say  $g$  is  $(r, \varepsilon)$ -loxodromic if

(i)  $r \leq \frac{1}{2} d(g^+, \partial \text{b}(g^-))$ ;

(ii)  $g \mathcal{V}_\varepsilon(\partial \text{b}(g^-))^{\text{G}} \subset B(g^+, \varepsilon)$  and the restriction is  $\varepsilon$ -Lipschitz.

### Proposition (Benoist 97)

There exists  $\delta_{r,\varepsilon} \rightarrow 0$  such that the following holds.

For all  $0 < \varepsilon \leq r$  and  $g_k, \dots, g_1 \in G$  be  $(r, \varepsilon)$ -loxodromic and  $r$ -generically ordered, there exists  $\nu(g_k, \dots, g_1) \in \mathfrak{a}$  such that for all  $n_k, \dots, n_1 \geq 1$

$$\lambda(g_k^{n_k} \dots g_1^{n_1}) \stackrel{! \delta_{r,\varepsilon}}{\simeq} n_k \lambda(g_k) + \dots + n_1 \lambda(g_1) + \nu.$$

and  $g = g_k^{n_k} \dots g_1^{n_1}$  is  $(2r, 2\varepsilon)$ -loxodromic with  $(g^+, g^-) \in B(g_k^+, \varepsilon) \times B(g_1^-, \varepsilon)$ .

## Sufficient condition for mixing

### Step 1

There exists  $h \in G$  with  $\Gamma hM \in \Omega$  such that for all  $\delta > 0$ , for all  $v \in \mathfrak{a}$ , there exists  $T > 0$  such that for all  $t \geq T$

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### Proposition (Benoist 1997)

$\Gamma$  Zariski dense,  $\theta \in \overset{\circ}{\mathcal{B}}(\Gamma)$ . Then there is an  $r$ -generic family  $S \subset \Gamma$  of  $\dim A$  elements and  $\varepsilon_n \rightarrow 0$  such that

- $\theta$  is in the interior of the polygonal cone spanned by  $\lambda(S)$ .
- $S_n$  is an  $r$ -generic family of  $(r, \varepsilon_n)$ -loxodromic elements and spans a Zariski dense semigroup of  $G$ , for all  $n \geq 1$ .

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Choose  $g_k, \dots, g_1$  in the semigroup spanned by  $S_n$  so that  $\langle \lambda(g_j) \rangle$  is  $\delta_{r, \varepsilon_n}$  dense in  $\mathfrak{a}$ , where  $k \leq 3 \dim A$ . Pick  $h \in G$  such that  $(hP, hP^-) = (g_k^+, g_1^-)$ .

$$g_k^{n_k} \dots g_1^{n_1} hM \stackrel{!}{\delta_{r, \varepsilon_n}} \simeq h \exp(\nu + \sum n_j \lambda(g_j))M.$$

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## A dense orbit in the space of oriented flats

### Hopf coordinates

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### Theorem (Conze-Guivarc'h (2000), D-Glorieux)

The action of  $\Gamma$  on  $L_\Gamma \overset{\Delta}{\times} L_\Gamma$  has a dense orbit.

Rmk:  $h \in G$  such that  $(hP, hP^-) = (g_k^+, g_1^-)$  where  $g_k, g_1 \in \Gamma^{lox}$ , then  $\Gamma hM \in \Omega!$   
 $\Rightarrow$  topological mixing!



Thank you for your attention!