# Common Fundamental Domains

# Mihalis Kolountzakis

University of Crete

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# The classical Steinhaus question

▶ Steinhaus (1950s): Are there  $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  such that

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Are there two subsets of the plane which, no matter how moved, always intersect at exactly one point?

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Yes.

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## ► Equivalent:

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In tiling language:



Every rotation of A tiles (partitions) the plane when translated at the locations B.

# Fixing $B = \mathbb{Z}^2$ : the lattice Steinhaus question



► Equivalent: A is a fundamental domain of all pZ<sup>2</sup>. Or, A tiles the plane by translations at any pZ<sup>2</sup>.

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  - "Best" so far: (K. & Wolff (1999))

If such a measurable A exists then it must be large at infinity:

$$\int_A |x|^{\frac{46}{27}+\epsilon} \, dx = \infty.$$

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In higher dimension:

K. & Wolff (1999), K. & Papadimitrakis (2002):  $\implies$  No measurable Steinhaus sets exist for  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ , d > 3.

No Jackson - Mauldin analogue for  $d \ge 3$ .

# The zeros of the Fourier Transform

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that  $\widehat{\mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{A}}}$  must vanish on all circles through lattice points.

• Too many zeros imply strong decay of  $\widehat{\mathbf{1}_A}$  near infinity.

This implies (uncertainty principle) slow decay of  $\mathbf{1}_A$  near infinity.

# LATTICE STEINHAUS FOR FINITELY MANY LATTICES

Given lattices Λ<sub>1</sub>,..., Λ<sub>n</sub> ⊆ ℝ<sup>d</sup> all of volume 1 can we find measurable A which tiles with all Λ<sub>j</sub>?

# LATTICE STEINHAUS FOR FINITELY MANY LATTICES

• Given lattices  $\Lambda_1, \ldots, \Lambda_n \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  all of volume 1 can we find measurable A which tiles with all  $\Lambda_j$ ?



Generically yes!

If the sum  $\Lambda_1^* + \cdots + \Lambda_n^*$  is direct then Kronecker-type density theorems allow us to rearrange a fundamental domain of one lattice to accomodate the others.



# LATTICE STEINHAUS FOR FINITELY MANY LATTICES

#### QUESTION

Is there a *bounded* common tile for  $\Lambda_1, \ldots, \Lambda_N$ ?

# AN APPLICATION IN GABOR ANALYSIS

▶ If K, L are two lattices in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with

 $\operatorname{vol} K \cdot \operatorname{vol} L = 1,$ 

can we find  $g \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , such that the (K, L) time-frequency translates

$$g(x-k)e^{2\pi i\ell\cdot x}, \quad (k\in K, \ell\in L)$$

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form an orthogonal basis of  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ?

- ► Han and Wang (2000): Since  $vol(L^*) = vol(K)$  let  $g = \mathbf{1}_E$  where *E* is a **common tile** for *K*,  $L^*$ .
- Then L forms an orthogonal basis for  $L^2(E)$ .

Space partitioned in K-copies of E and on each copy L is an orthogonal basis.

## Multi-tiling functions

• A function f tiles with the set of translates  $\Lambda$  if

$$\sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} f(x - \lambda) = \text{const.} \quad \text{a.e. } x \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

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▶ We can find a common tiling function *f* for any set of lattices

$$\Lambda_1,\ldots,\Lambda_N\subseteq\mathbb{R}^d.$$

Just take (the  $D_j$  are fundamental domains of  $\Lambda_j$ )

$$f=\mathbf{1}_{D_1}*\cdots*\mathbf{1}_{D_N}$$

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For such an *f* if  $\operatorname{vol} \Lambda_j \gtrsim 1$  then

diam supp  $f \gtrsim N$ .

## Multi-tiling functions: diameter lower bounds

• (K. and Wolff, 1997): If  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , with  $\int f \neq 0$ , tiles  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with  $\Lambda_1, \ldots, \Lambda_N$ , and

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diam supp  $f \gtrsim N^{1/d}$ .

#### QUESTION

What is the smallest diam  $\operatorname{supp} f$ ?

We know

 $N^{1/d} \lesssim \operatorname{diam \, supp} f \lesssim N.$ 

at least when  $\Lambda_i \cap \Lambda_j = \{0\}$ .

# Multi-tiling functions: A case of large diameter

• Take 
$$\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_N \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1)$$
 to be  $\mathbb{Q}$ -linearly independent and

$$\Lambda_j = \mathbb{Z}(\alpha_j, 0) + \mathbb{Z}(0, \alpha_j^{-1}), \quad \Lambda_j^* = \mathbb{Z}(\alpha_j^{-1}, 0) + \mathbb{Z}(0, \alpha_j).$$



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► 
$$f$$
 tiles with all  $\Lambda_j \implies \hat{f} \equiv 0$  on  $\Lambda_j^*$ .  
 $\hat{f}$  has zeros of density  $\gtrsim N$  along the axes. So  
diam supp  $f \gtrsim N$ . (K. & Papageorgiou, 2022)

## Multi-tiling functions: A case of large diameter

### QUESTION

Is there any case of "generic" lattices with a common tile f s.t.

diam supp f = o(N)?

## Multi-tiling functions: the volume of the support

• If 
$$f = \mathbf{1}_{D_1} * \cdots * \mathbf{1}_{D_N}$$
 or (more generally)  
 $f = f_1 * \cdots * f_N$ , where  $f_j \ge 0$  tiles with  $\Lambda_j$  (1)

then

$$\operatorname{supp} f = \operatorname{supp} f_1 + \cdots + \operatorname{supp} f_N$$

and (Brunn - Minkowski inequality)

$$|\operatorname{supp} f| \geq \left(|\operatorname{supp} f_1|^{1/d} + \cdots + |\operatorname{supp} f_N|^{1/d}\right)^d \gtrsim N^d.$$

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#### QUESTION

What if we drop nonnegativity from (1)?

What if f is any common tile of the  $\Lambda_j$ , not given by (1)?

(1)

# Multi-tiling sets: Giving up measurability

▶ If  $G_1, \ldots, G_N$  are subgroups of G it is always enough to find a common fundamental domain (a common tile) of the  $G_i$  in



# Multi-tiling sets: Giving up measurability

(K. 1997) If the lattices Λ<sub>1</sub>,..., Λ<sub>N</sub> in R<sup>d</sup> have
 (a) the same volume and
 (b) a direct sum
 then they have a bounded common fundamental domain.

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 (a) the same volume and
 (b) a direct sum
 then they have a bounded common fundamental domain.

► A consequence of the "marriage" theorem:

#### Theorem

If  $\operatorname{vol} \Lambda_i = \operatorname{vol} \Lambda_i$  then there is a bijection  $f_{ij} : \Lambda_i \to \Lambda_i$  with

|x - f(x)| bounded.

Suppose

$$\Lambda_1 = \mathbb{Z}^d$$
 and  $\Lambda_2 = \alpha \mathbb{Z}^d$  ( $\alpha$  irrational,  $\alpha > 1$ ).

Then  $\Lambda_1, \Lambda_2$  have no bounded common fundamental domain.

No measurability assumed!

## Proof for d = 1

▶ If *F* is a bounded FD in  $G = \Lambda_1 + \Lambda_2 = \{m + n\alpha : m, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ :

$$F = m_i - n_i \alpha : i = 1, 2, \ldots \subseteq [-M, M].$$

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▶ All  $m_i$ ,  $n_i$  must be unique and  $\mathbb{Z} = \{m_i\} = \{n_i\}$ . Renumbering:  $F = \{m - n_m \alpha : m \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .

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• Restricting 
$$-R \leq m \leq R$$
 we get

$$|m-n_m\alpha|\leq M.$$

or

$$-\frac{R+M}{\alpha} \leq n_m \leq \frac{R+M}{\alpha}.$$

► ~ 2*R* values of *m* correspond to only ~  $\frac{2}{\alpha}R$  values of  $n_m$ Contradiction, as all  $n_m$  must be different (K. & Papageorgiou, 2022).

# TILING FINITE ABELIAN GROUPS WITH A FUNCTION

• 
$$G_1, G_2$$
 subgroups of  $G, f: G \to \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$  s.t.

$$\forall x \in G: \quad \sum_{g_1 \in G_1} f(x - g_1) = |G_1|, \quad \sum_{g_2 \in G_2} f(x - g_2) = |G_2|.$$

For example  $f(x) \equiv 1$ .

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#### QUESTION

## How small can |supp f| be?

Write

$$S_{G_1,G_2}^G = \min \{ | \operatorname{supp} f | : f * \mathbf{1}_{G_1} \equiv |G_1| \mathbf{1}_G, f * \mathbf{1}_{G_2} \equiv |G_2| \mathbf{1}_G \}.$$

• Always 
$$S_{G_1,G_2}^G \ge \max\{[G:G_1],[G:G_2]\}.$$

## REDUCTION TO PRODUCT GROUPS

• If  $\Gamma = G/(G_1 \cap G_2)$ ,  $\Gamma_i = G_i/(G_1 \cap G_2)$  then

$$S^{\mathcal{G}}_{\mathcal{G}_1,\mathcal{G}_2} = S^{\Gamma}_{\Gamma_1,\Gamma_2}.$$
 (2)



• Can assume:  $G = G_1 \times G_2$ .

## THE PROBLEM IN MATRIX FORM

Group structure irrelevant.



Find  $m \times n$  matrix A with

row sums equal to n, column sums equal to m.

• Minimize the support. Call S(m, n) the minumum.

## THE PROBLEM IN MATRIX FORM

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Find  $m \times n$  matrix A with

row sums equal to n, column sums equal to m.

- Minimize the support. Call S(m, n) the minumum.
- Statisticians call these *copulas* and use them a lot.
   A generalization of doubly stochastic matrices.

## The case m divides n



► Smallest possible support, since we must have ≥ 1 element/column.

S(km, m) = km.

## The case n = km + 1



▶ Also smallest possible support, since  $A_{ij} \leq m$  implies

at least k+1 terms per row,

so

$$S(km + 1, m) = (k + 1)m = m + (km + 1) - 1$$

(K. & Papageorgiou, 2022)

# The general case: Loukaki, 2022, Etkind and Lev, 2022

#### Theorem

 $S(m,n) = m + n - \gcd(m,n)$ 



## Tiling ${\mathbb R}$ with two lattices: A lower bound for the length

Suppose  $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$  is measurable and tiles with both  $\Lambda_1 = \mathbb{Z}$  and with  $\Lambda_2 = \alpha \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ :

$$\sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}f(x-n)=1,\quad \sum_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}f(x-n\alpha)=\frac{1}{\alpha}, \text{ for almost every } x\in\mathbb{R}. \tag{3}$$

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Then

$$|\mathrm{supp} f| \ge \left\lceil \frac{1}{\alpha} \right\rceil \alpha \ge 2\alpha.$$
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• When  $\alpha = 1 - \epsilon$ : convolution  $\mathbf{1}_{[0,1]} * \mathbf{1}_{[0,\alpha]}$  is almost optimal.

• When  $\alpha = \frac{1}{2} + \epsilon$  there is a big gap  $1 + 2\epsilon$  to  $3/2 + \epsilon$ .

#### QUESTION

What is the smallest possible length of supp *f* which tiles with  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\alpha \mathbb{Z}$ ?

## Tiling $\mathbb{R}$ with two lattices: Etkind and LeV, 2022

 $\sum_{k\in\mathbb{Z}} f(x-k\alpha) = p$ ,  $\sum_{k\in\mathbb{Z}} f(x-k\beta) = q$ . What about the measure of supp f?

# α/β ∉ Q For all p, q ∈ C there is measurable f with |supp f| ≤ α + β If p/q ∉ Q<sup>+</sup> then for any f must have |supp f| ≥ α + β. If f≥ 0 or f∈ L<sup>1</sup> or f has bounded support then p/q = β/α, |suppf| ≥ α + β. If p/q ∈ Q<sup>+</sup>, gcd(p, q) = 1 we can have

$$|\mathrm{supp} f| < \alpha + \beta - \min\left\{\frac{\alpha}{q}, \frac{\beta}{p}\right\} + \epsilon$$

and must have

$$|\mathrm{supp}\,f| > \alpha + \beta - \min\left\{rac{lpha}{q}, rac{eta}{p}
ight\}$$

▶  $\alpha/\beta \in \mathbb{Q}^+$  and simplifying to  $\alpha = n, \beta = m$ , with gcd(n, m) = 1.

Then p/q = m/n and the least possible |supp f| is n + m - 1.

# SUBGROUPS IN A FINITE ABELIAN GROUP: AIVAZIDIS, LOUKAKI AND SAMBALE, 2023

If A<sub>1</sub>,..., A<sub>t</sub> are complemented isomorphic subgroups of G and the smallest prime divisor of |A<sub>1</sub>| is ≥ t then they have a common complement in G.

 $A \subseteq G$  is *complemented* if some FD of A in G is a subgroup of G (called *complement* of A).

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If A, B, C ⊆ G are cyclic groups of same order then they have a commond FD in G if and only if the following <u>does not hold</u>:
 |A| = |B| = |C| is even and the product of their 2-Sylow subgroups A<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>C<sub>2</sub> satisifies

$$A_2B_2C_2/I = A_2/I \times B_2/I = A_2/I \times C_2/I = B_2/I \times C_2/I$$

where  $I = A_2 \cap B_2 \cap C_2$ .

## DIAMETER: LATTICES WITH MANY RELATIONS

## ▶ Main observation: $\Lambda_1, \ldots, \Lambda_N \supseteq \Lambda$ and *D* is a FD of $\Lambda$ then

 $f = \mathbf{1}_D$  tiles with all  $\Lambda_i$ .

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• Let G be a subgroup of  $\mathbb{Z}_p^d$ . Define the lattice

$$\Lambda_G = (p\mathbb{Z})^d + G,$$

which contains  $\Lambda = (p\mathbb{Z})^2$  with FD

 $[0, p)^d$  of diameter  $\sqrt{dp}$ .

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There are

$$rac{p^d-1}{p-1}\sim p^{d-1}=:N$$

different cyclic subgroups G of  $\mathbb{Z}_p^d$ .

## BACK TO THE DIAMETER: AN EXAMPLE, CONTINUED

• We find  $\operatorname{vol} \Lambda_G$  by its density

$$\operatorname{vol} \Lambda_G = rac{\operatorname{vol} (p\mathbb{Z})^d}{|G|} = rac{p^d}{p} = p^{d-1} = N.$$

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• Shrink everything by  $N^{-1/d}$  so that

$$\Lambda'_G = N^{-1/d} \Lambda_G$$

has volume 1.

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▶  $f(x) := \mathbf{1}_{[0,p)^d}(N^{1/d}x)$  is a common tile for the  $\Lambda'_G$  of diameter

$$\sqrt{d}p \cdot N^{-1/d} = \sqrt{d}N^{\frac{1}{d-1}}N^{-\frac{1}{d}} = \sqrt{d}N^{\frac{1}{d(d-1)}}$$

(K. & Papageorgiou, 2022)

# UNCONDITIONAL LOWER BOUNDS FOR THE DIAMETER?



# DIAMETER: THE CASE d = 1.

• Previous construction gives nothing in dimension d = 1.

#### THEOREM

We can find N lattices  $\Lambda_j \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  of with  $\operatorname{vol} \Lambda_j \sim 1$  and a function f with  $\int f > 0$  and supported in an interval of length

N log<sup>0.086...</sup> N

which tiles with all  $\Lambda_j$ .

For any  $\epsilon > 0$  any such function f must have

diam supp  $f \gtrsim_{\epsilon} N^{1-\epsilon}$ .

(K. & Papageorgiou, 2022)

$$\Lambda_j = \lambda_j \mathbb{Z} = rac{1}{N+j} \mathbb{Z}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, N.$$

Then

Define

$$\Lambda_j^* = (N+j)\mathbb{Z},$$

with union  $U = \bigcup_{j=1}^{N} (N+j)\mathbb{Z}$ . • f tiles with all  $\Lambda_j \iff \widehat{f}$  vanishes on  $U \setminus \{0\}$ .

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- f tiles with all  $\Lambda_j \iff \hat{f}$  vanishes on  $U \setminus \{0\}$ .
- ► *Erdős, 1935*: The integers divisible by one of N + 1, N + 2, ..., 2N have density  $\rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

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- ► *Erdős, 1935*: The integers divisible by one of N + 1, N + 2, ..., 2N have density  $\rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .
- Tenenbaum, 1980: Their density is

$$O\left(\frac{1}{\log^{0.086\cdots}N}\right)$$

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▶ Jensen's formula: Since  $\hat{f}$  has  $\gtrsim N^{2-\epsilon}$  roots in  $[-N, N] \implies$ 

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Thank you for your attention!