

An introduction to Zeta

Tobias Rossmann

National University of Ireland, Galway

Düsseldorf
September 2018

Zeta (2014–)

- ... is a package for Sage (<http://www.sagemath.org/>), (which also relies on Singular, Normaliz, LattE, ...)
- ... provides methods for computing various types (ask, subobject, ...) of zeta functions in "fortunate cases"
- ... is freely available (<http://www.maths.nuigalway.ie/~rossmann/Zeta/>).
- ... implements techniques outlined here (https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-70566-8_25).

Sage (2005–)

is a free open-source mathematics software system licensed under the GPL. It builds on top of many existing open-source packages [...] Mission: Creating a viable free open source alternative to Magma, Maple, Mathematica and Matlab.

- Freely available (<http://www.sagemath.org/>).
- Based upon Python (<https://www.python.org/>).
- Includes GAP (<https://www.gap-system.org/>), Singular (<http://www.singular.uni-kl.de/>), ...
- Runs on Linux, Mac OS X, and Windows
- Command-line ("interactive shell") or browser-based ("notebook") interface

Sage as a symbolic calculator

Recall: the ask zeta function of $M_1(\mathbf{Z}_p)$ is $\frac{1-p^{-1}T}{(1-T)^2}$.

```
In [1]: var('p t') # create symbolic variables  
Z = (1-p^(-1)*t)/(1-t)^2
```

```
In [2]: Z.series(t,3) # power series expansion up to given order
```

```
Out[2]: 1 + (-1/p + 2)*t + (-2/p + 3)*t^2 + Order(t^3)
```

```
In [3]: Z(p=1) # substitution
```

```
Out[3]: -1/(t - 1)
```

In [4]: `Z+1 # arithmetic`

Out[4]: $-(t/p - 1)/(t - 1)^2 + 1$

In [5]: `_.simplify_full()`

Out[5]: $(p*t^2 - (2*p + 1)*t + 2*p)/(p*t^2 - 2*p*t + p)$

In [6]: `_.factor()`

Out[6]: $(p*t^2 - 2*p*t + 2*p - t)/(p*(t - 1)^2)$

Installing Zeta

- Linux-only at the moment.
- Steps explained in the manual (<http://www.maths.nuigalway.ie/~rossmann/Zeta/#download>). Quick & dirty:
 - download and extract a file (http://www.maths.nuigalway.ie/~rossmann/Zeta/Zeta-0.3.2-x86_64.tar.bz2).
 - start Sage from the same directory
- Cleaner option due to Tomer Bauer: <https://pypi.org/project/zetalib/> (<https://pypi.org/project/zetalib/>).

Objectives of this tutorial:

- Illustrate what Zeta can (and cannot do).
- Describe valid input and the meaning of output.
- Give examples of theorems found (and sometimes proved) with the help of Zeta.

Ask zeta functions in Zeta

Module representations = matrices of linear forms.

```
In [8]: R.<a,b,c,d> = QQ[] # create polynomial ring  
A = matrix([[a,b],[c,d]])  
A
```

```
Out[8]: [a b]  
[c d]
```

Zeta can attempt to compute "generic local zeta functions".

```
In [9]: Z = Zeta.local_zeta_function(A, 'ask')  
Z
```

```
Out[9]: (q^2 - t)/(q^2*(t - 1)^2)
```

Hence, for all but finitely many primes q , the ask zeta function of $M_2(\mathbf{Z}_q)$ is $\frac{1-q^{-2}T}{(1-T)^2}$. We knew that already.

Note. By default, Zeta attempts to compute ask zeta functions via \circ -duals; this can be overwritten.

Experimental mathematics... using Zeta

My typical applications of Zeta:

- Combine Zeta and databases/classification results to look for patterns.
Examples:
 - Loop over all nilpotent Lie algebras of small dimension.
 - Loop over all matrices of a given dimension and given shape.
- "Guess & verify" formulae.
- Search for counterexamples.

Guess & verify: triangular matrices

What is the ask zeta function of

$$\mathrm{tr}_d(\mathbf{Z}_p) = \begin{bmatrix} * & \dots & * \\ & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & * \end{bmatrix} ?$$

Dimension 2

```
In [10]: R.<a,b,c> = QQ[]  
A = matrix([[a,b],[0,c]])  
A
```

```
Out[10]: [a b]  
[0 c]
```

```
In [11]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(A, 'ask')
```

```
Out[11]: -(q - t)^2/(q^2*(t - 1)^3)
```

Dimension 3

```
In [12]: R.<a,b,c,d,e,f> = QQ[]  
A = matrix([[a,b,c],[0,d,e],[0,0,f]])  
Zeta.local_zeta_function(A, 'ask')
```

```
Out[12]: (q - t)^3/(q^3*(t - 1)^4)
```

Dimension 4

```
In [13]: R = PolynomialRing(QQ, 'x', 10)
x = R.gens()
A = matrix([[x[0],x[1],x[2],x[3]], [0,x[4],x[5],x[6]], [0,0,x[7],x[8]], [0,0,0,
x[9]]])
print A
%time Zeta.local_zeta_function(A, 'ask')
```

```
[x0 x1 x2 x3]
```

```
[ 0 x4 x5 x6]
```

```
[ 0  0 x7 x8]
```

```
[ 0  0  0 x9]
```

```
CPU times: user 1.46 s, sys: 98 ms, total: 1.56 s
```

```
Wall time: 7.18 s
```

```
Out[13]:  $-(q - t)^4/(q^4*(t - 1)^5)$ 
```


Higher dimensions

```
In [14]: def generic_upper_triangular_matrix(d):  
    R = PolynomialRing(QQ, 'x', binomial(d+1, 2))  
    A = matrix(R, d, d)  
    it = iter(R.gens())  
    for i in range(d):  
        for j in range(i, d):  
            A[i,j] = next(it)  
    return A
```

```
In [15]: A = generic_upper_triangular_matrix(5)
print A
```

```
[ x0  x1  x2  x3  x4]
[  0  x5  x6  x7  x8]
[  0   0  x9 x10 x11]
[  0   0   0 x12 x13]
[  0   0   0  0 x14]
```

```
In [16]: %time Zeta.local_zeta_function(A, 'ask')
```

```
CPU times: user 11.8 s, sys: 200 ms, total: 12 s
Wall time: 34.9 s
```

```
Out[16]: (q - t)^5/(q^5*(t - 1)^6)
```

These computations inspired the following.

Theorem (R. '18). $Z_{\text{tr}_d(\mathbf{Z}_p)}^{\text{ask}}(T) = \frac{(1-p^{-1}T)^d}{(1-T)^{d+1}}.$

Note that this is a "nice" formula which is not of constant rank type.

Uniformity: $\sqrt{-1}$

```
In [17]: R.<a,b> = QQ[]  
A = matrix([[a,b],[-b,a]])  
A
```

```
Out[17]: [ a  b]  
         [-b a]
```

```
In [ ]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(A,'ask')
```

```
In [19]: Z = Zeta.local_zeta_function(A,'ask', symbolic=True)
print Z
```

```
-(q^2*sc_0*t - q^2*t - 2*q*sc_0*t + q^2 + sc_0*t + t^2 - t)/(q^2*(t - 1)^3)
```

```
In [20]: Zeta.common.symbolic_count_varieties[0]
```

```
Out[20]: Subvariety of 1-dimensional torus defined by [x^2 + 1]
```

```
In [21]: Z(sc_0=2).factor() # p == 1 mod 4
```

```
Out[21]: -(q^2*t + q^2 - 4*q*t + t^2 + t)/(q^2*(t - 1)^3)
```

```
In [22]: Z(sc_0=0).factor() # p == 3 mod 4
```

```
Out[22]: (q^2 - t)/(q^2*(t - 1)^2)
```

Circulant matrices

```
In [23]: R.<a,b> = QQ[]  
A = matrix([[a,b],[b,a]])  
A
```

```
Out[23]: [a b]  
[b a]
```

```
In [24]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(A, 'ask')
```

```
Out[24]: -(q^2*t + q^2 - 4*q*t + t^2 + t)/(q^2*(t - 1)^3)
```

```
In [25]: R.<a,b,c> = QQ[]  
A = matrix([[a,b,c],[b,c,a],[c,a,b]])  
A
```

```
Out[25]: [a b c]  
[b c a]  
[c a b]
```

```
In [ ]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(A, 'ask')
```

Guess & verify? Diagonal matrices

What is the ask zeta function of $\mathfrak{d}_d(\mathbf{Z}_p) \subset M_d(\mathbf{Z}_p)$?

```
In [27]: def generic_diagonal_matrix(d):  
          R = PolynomialRing(QQ, 'x', d)  
          A = matrix(R,d)  
          for i in range(d):  
              A[i,i] = R.gen(i)  
          return A
```



```
In [28]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(generic_diagonal_matrix(1), 'ask')
```

```
Out[28]: (q - t)/(q*(t - 1)^2)
```

```
In [29]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(generic_diagonal_matrix(2), 'ask')
```

```
Out[29]: -(q^2*t + q^2 - 4*q*t + t^2 + t)/(q^2*(t - 1)^3)
```

```
In [30]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(generic_diagonal_matrix(3), 'ask')
```

```
Out[30]: (q^3*t^2 + 4*q^3*t - 6*q^2*t^2 + q^3 - 12*q^2*t + 12*q*t^2 - t^3 + 6*q*t - 4*t^2 - t)/(q^3*(t - 1)^4)
```

```
In [31]: %time Zeta.local_zeta_function(generic_diagonal_matrix(4), 'ask')
```

```
CPU times: user 916 ms, sys: 94.2 ms, total: 1.01 s
```

```
Wall time: 28.7 s
```

```
Out[31]: -(q^4*t^3 + 11*q^4*t^2 - 8*q^3*t^3 + 11*q^4*t - 56*q^3*t^2 + 24*q^2*t^3 + q^4 - 32*q^3*t + 96*q^2*t^2 - 32*q*t^3 + t^4 + 24*q^2*t - 56*q*t^2 + 11*t^3 - 8*q*t + 11*t^2 + t)/(q^4*(t - 1)^5)
```

Hadamard products

- Recall: $\text{ask}(\theta \oplus \tilde{\theta}) = \text{ask}(\theta) \cdot \text{ask}(\tilde{\theta})$.
- Hadamard product of power series: $(\sum a_n T^n) \star (\sum b_n T^n) = \sum a_n b_n T^n$.
- Hence: $Z_{\theta \oplus \tilde{\theta}}(T) = Z_\theta(T) \star Z_{\tilde{\theta}}(T)$

Diagonal matrices (again)

- The ask zeta function of $\mathfrak{d}_d(\mathbf{Z}_p)$ is the d th Hadamard power of $\frac{1-p^{-1}T}{(1-T)^2}$.
- Surprise! This was computed by Brenti (1994).

Theorem. $Z_{\mathfrak{d}_d(\mathbf{Z}_p)}(T) = \frac{h_d(-p^{-1}, T)}{(1-T)^{d+1}}$, where $B_d = \{\pm 1\} \wr S_d$ and

$$h_d(X, Y) = \sum_{\sigma \in B_d} X^{N(\sigma)} Y^{d_B(\sigma)}.$$

Theorem & counterexample: bounded denominators

Definition. $F(T) = \sum a_n T^n \in \mathbf{Q}[[T]]$ has bounded denominators if $Ba_n \in \mathbf{Z}$ for all n and some integer $B > 0$.

Obvious: if $F(T) \in \mathbf{Q}[[T]] \cap \mathbf{Q}(T)$ can be written over a denominator

$$C(1 - a_1 T^{e_1}) \cdots (1 - a_r T^{e_r})$$

for integers $C, a_i, e_i \geq 1$, then $F(T)$ has bounded denominators.

Question. Let $M \subset M_d(\mathbf{Z}_p)$. Does $Z_M(T)$ always have bounded denominators?

Supporting evidence:

$M_d(\mathbf{Z}_p)$, $\mathfrak{d}_d(\mathbf{Z}_p)$, $\mathrm{tr}_d(\mathbf{Z}_p)$, $\mathfrak{so}_d(\mathbf{Z}_p)$, ...

Not quite "typical" though

Theorem. Let $\mathfrak{g} \subset \mathfrak{gl}_d(\mathbf{Z}_p)$ be a Lie subalgebra. Then $Z_{\mathfrak{g}}(T)$ has bounded denominators.

Sketch of proof. $p^{2d}Z_{\mathfrak{g}}(T)$ enumerates orbits.



```
In [32]: R.<a,b,c,d> = QQ[]  
A = matrix([[a,b,a],[b,c,d],[a,d,c]])  
%time Z = Zeta.local_zeta_function(A,'ask')  
Z
```

```
CPU times: user 1.6 s, sys: 127 ms, total: 1.72 s  
Wall time: 5.39 s
```

```
Out[32]: (q^4 + 5*q^3*t - 12*q^2*t + 5*q*t + t^2)/((q - t)*q^3*(t - 1)^2)
```

Conjugacy class zeta functions

- Zeta can compute local conjugacy class zeta functions attached to nilpotent Lie algebras.
- Formally: let \mathfrak{g} be a nilpotent Lie \mathbf{Z} -algebra with $\mathfrak{g} \approx \mathbf{Z}^\ell$ additively.
- (We pretend to) choose an embedding $\mathfrak{g} \subset \mathfrak{n}_d(\mathbf{Z}[\frac{1}{N}])$.
- Zeta can attempt to compute the conjugacy class zeta functions of $\exp(\mathfrak{g} \otimes \mathbf{Z}_p)$ for $p \gg 0$.
- \mathfrak{g} can be defined e.g. by structure constants.

Example: Heisenberg

```
In [33]: # Basis (x,y,z) with [x,y]=z=(0,0,1), [y,x]=-z=(0,0,-1)
H = Zeta.Algebra([[ (0, 0, 0), (0, 0, 1), (0, 0, 0) ],
                  [ (0, 0, -1), (0, 0, 0), (0, 0, 0) ],
                  [ (0, 0, 0), (0, 0, 0), (0, 0, 0) ]])
```

```
In [34]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(H, 'cc')
```

```
Out[34]: -(t - 1)/((q^2*t - 1)*(q*t - 1))
```

Other types of zeta functions

Zeta can attempt to compute zeta functions enumerating

- ... subalgebras and ideals of additively finitely generated \mathbf{Z} -algebras,
- ... (twist isoclasses of) irreducible representations of f.g. nilpotent groups,
- ... submodules of \mathbf{Z}^d of finite index which are invariant under a given set of matrices.

```
In [35]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(H, 'subalgebras')
```

```
Out[35]: -(q^2*t^2 + q*t + 1)/((q^3*t^2 - 1)*(q*t + 1)*(q*t - 1)*(t - 1))
```

```
In [36]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(H, 'ideals')
```

```
Out[36]: -1/((q^2*t^3 - 1)*(q*t - 1)*(t - 1))
```

```
In [37]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(H, 'reps')
```

```
Out[37]: (t - 1)/(q*t - 1)
```

Ideals of $\mathbf{Z}[[X]]$

The ideal zeta function of a ring R is

$$\zeta_R(s) = \sum_{\mathfrak{a} \triangleleft R} |R/\mathfrak{a}|^{-s}.$$

Example. $\zeta_{\mathbf{Z}}(s) = \zeta(s)$ (= Riemann zeta function).

Theorem (Lustig 1955). $\zeta_{\mathbf{Z}[[X]]}(s) = \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} \zeta(js - j + 1)$.

Reproving Lustig's theorem

Proposition. $\zeta_{\mathbf{Z}[[X]]}(s) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \zeta_{\mathbf{Z}[X]/(X^n)}(s)$ (in any reasonable sense).

Sketch of proof. Maximal ideals of $\mathbf{Z}[[X]]$ are of the form (X, p) (p prime). It follows that every ideal of finite index contains X^n for some n .



Note. Ideals of $\mathbf{Z}[X]/(X^n) =$ submodules of \mathbf{Z}^n invariant under

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & 1 \\ & & & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \text{companion matrix of } X^n.$$

```
In [38]: def fun(n):  
         R.<x> = QQ[]  
         A = companion_matrix(x^n).transpose()  
         return Zeta.Algebra(rank=n, operators=[A])
```

```
In [39]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(fun(2), 'subalgebras')
```

```
Out[39]: 1/((q*t^2 - 1)*(t - 1))
```

```
In [40]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(fun(3), 'subalgebras')
```

```
Out[40]: -1/((q^2*t^3 - 1)*(q*t^2 - 1)*(t - 1))
```

```
In [ ]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(fun(4), 'subalgebras')
```

```
In [ ]: Zeta.local_zeta_function(fun(4), 'subalgebras', verbose=True)
```

- More patience and computing power lead to the conjecture

$$\zeta_{\mathbf{Z}_p[X]/(X^n)}(s) = 1 / \prod_{j=0}^{n-1} (1 - p^{j-1} t^j), \text{ where } t = p^{-s}.$$

- This can be proved... Zeta's approach doesn't help though.
- Lustig's theorem follows by taking the product over all p .
- (There are some new theorems in it too...)

Higman's conjecture?

A strengthening of Higman's conjecture predicts that for each d , there exists $H_d(X, T) \in \mathbf{Q}(X, T)$ such that for each compact DVR \mathfrak{D} with residue field of size q ,

$$Z_{U_d(\mathfrak{D})}^{\text{cc}}(T) = H_d(q, T).$$

- For $d = 2$, this is obvious.
- For $d = 3$, we proved this above... at least for almost all residue characteristics.
- For $d = 4$:

```
In [42]: L = Zeta.lookup('n(4,ZZ)') # algebra already stored in database
```

```
In [43]: %time Zeta.local_zeta_function(L, 'cc')
```

```
CPU times: user 4.98 s, sys: 263 ms, total: 5.25 s  
Wall time: 1min 17s
```

```
Out[43]: -(q*t - 1)^2/((q^3*t - 1)^2*(q^2*t - 1))
```

Thanks for your time!

Feature requests?

- The development of Zeta was primarily driven by my own research needs.
- What features or functionality would you find useful?