

Effective equidistribution of eigenvalues of Hecke operators

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Abstract

Fix a prime p and consider the space of cusp forms $S(N, k)$ of weight k and level N , with N coprime to p . In 1995, Serre showed the existence of a measure $F(p)$ with respect to which the eigenvalues of the p -th Hecke operator acting on $S(N, k)$ are equidistributed as $k + N$ tends to infinity. We will derive an effective version of Serre's theorem and apply it to study the factorization of $J_0(N)$ into simple abelian varieties.

Our methods can also be applied to study the variation of eigenvalues of the Frobenius automorphism acting on a family of curves mod p and the variation of eigenvalues of adjacency matrices of regular graphs.

This is joint work with Kaneenika Sinha.