

This document contains a suggested bibliography and references for the topics that we cover on the minicourse.

General recommendations for standard ergodic theory books can be found on the web in [math.stackexchange](#) and [mathoverflow](#). For infinite ergodic theory see Aaronson’s classical book [1].

Examples.

- For a general introduction of translation surfaces and interval exchange transformations go to [Yoccoz’s notes](#) (Pisa Lectures). This notes provide a good formal definition of the “unfolding trick”. Concerning the conjecture on periodic orbits in polygons, we recommend R.E. Schwartz’s paper [21] and references within.

For a general introduction to Veech’s work, groups and “very symmetric” translation surfaces go to Hubert and Schmidt’s *An introduction to Veech surfaces* [12].

- The details of the proof that every irrational polygon generates via the unfolding trick a Loch Ness Monster can be found in [24]. An unexpected connection between polygonal billiards and holomorphic foliations is detailed in [23].
- For details on periodic wind-tree models we recommend [11] and Delecroix-Zorich’s [Cries and whispers in wind-tree models](#).
- The infinite staircase was introduced and studied in [9]. The infinite staircase is part of a more general class of infinite-type translation surfaces called, \mathbb{Z} -covers, which were introduced in [10].
- Baker’s surface was introduced by R. Chamanara in [4]. The relation between the baker map and infinite-translation surfaces is explained by him, Gardiner and Lakic in [5].
- Thurston-Veech’s construction for infinite bipartite graphs was defined by Hooper in [8]. This will be a recurrent reference, for the paper is vast.

Basic definitions.

- There are some other nice introductions to *compact* translation surfaces that stress the importance of both the geometric and analytic point of view of these objects. These include [6], [26], and [27]. Here one can find a detailed discussion about finite cone angle singularities, the flat metric, the translation flow, *etc.*
- Wild singularities of translation surfaces and their affine invariants were introduced in [3]. This kind of singularities and their invariants were studied in detail in [Anja Randecker’s Phd. Thesis](#).

- Our main recommendation to understand Veech’s dychotomy and Veech groups of compact translation surfaces is Hubert and Schmidt’s survey [12]. However, you can also consult M. Moeller’s *Affine groups of flat surfaces* [17].
- The classification theorem for infinite type surfaces can be found in [20].

Veech groups.

- Veech groups of translation surfaces arising from irrational billiards were computed in [25]. The proof that every countable subgroup of $GL_+(2, \mathbb{R})$ can be realized from as the Veech group of a translations surface structure on the Loch Ness monster can be deduced from the main theorems of [18]. This result was extended to an infinite family of infinite genus translation surfaces in [19]. We refer to this last paper also for a general discussion on the problem of realizing any countable subgroup of $GL_+(2, \mathbb{R})$ as the Veech group of a translation surface on an infinite-type translation surface of some fixed topological type. Veech groups of Thurson-Veech surfaces arising from infinite graphs are computed in [8].

An interested reader can consult Hooper and Weiss’s results on Veech groups on \mathbb{Z} – covers [10]. These results have been generalized by J. Cabrol [on his Phd. Thesis](#).

- The relation between the ergodicity of the translation flow and the Veech group for surfaces of finite area (but infinite topological type) is done by R. Trevino in [22].

Recurrence and ergodicity.

- A detailed discussion on how primitive classes in $H_1(M, \Sigma; \mathbb{Z})$ define \mathbb{Z} -covers of M can be found in the first pages of [10]. In this paper one can also find the proof of the recurrence of the translation flow on \mathbb{Z} -covers, which depends on a classical result by Kerckhoff-Masur-Smillie, see [14].
- The recurrence of skew products over ergodic transformations was independently obtained by Atkinson [2] and Krygin [20]. The geometrical criterion developped by Avila and Hubert to obtain the recurrence of wind-tree models can be found [in this preprint](#).
- The ergodicity of the translation flow for the infinite staircase follows from the work of Conze on cylinder flows over irrational rotations [15]. The most general result concerning the ergodicity of the translation flow of \mathbb{Z} -covers is contained in the work of Hubert and Weiss [13]. Their results are built on Masur’s criterion and Schmidt’s criterion for ergodicity of skew products using essential values (see references within the aforementioned paper).
- The non-ergodicity of the translation flow for wind-tree models can be found in [7]. Examples of non-periodic wind-tree models whose translation flow is ergodic can be found in [16].
- The classification of all locally finite ergodic invariant measures for the translation flow F_θ^t for countably many directions θ can be found in the work of Hooper [8].

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