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Let f be a self map $f: M \to M$ of a set M. It defines a (discrete) dynamical system (M, f).

To explain the basic idea, we first examine the case where M is a finite set.

We put $A = C(M, \mathbb{C})$, the set of \mathbb{C} -valued functions on M. f defines a pull-back of functions:

$$f^*(a)(x) = a(f(x)) \qquad (a \in A)$$

and push-forward:

$$f_*(a)(x) = \sum_{f(y)=x} a(y)$$
 $(a \in A).$

(It might be better to treat the push-forward as above as a push-forward of measures.)

We note also that any element of A admits an integration

$$\int_{M} a = \sum_{x \in M} a(x) \qquad (a \in A)$$

(which is a integration with respect to the counting measure.)

Proposition 7.1. We have

$$\int_{M} (f^*a)b = \int_{M} a(f_*b)$$

In other words, f_* is the adjoint of f^* .

PROPOSITION 7.2. Let us put $M = \{1, 2, ..., n\}$. Let $e_1, ..., e_n$ be the indicators of elements of M. Then $\{e_1, ..., e_n\}$ forms a basis of A. f^* is represented by a matrix $P_f = (\delta_{f(i)j})$. f_* is represented by a matrix $^tP_f = (\delta_{if(j)})$.

DEFINITION 7.3. We define the set Fix(f) as the set of fixed points of f. Namely,

$$Fix(f) = \{x \in M; f(x) = x\}.$$

PROPOSITION 7.4. $\operatorname{tr}(f^*) = \operatorname{tr}(f_*) = \#\operatorname{Fix}(f)$.

It should be noted that $tr((f^k)^*)$ may be comuted using a "path-integral"-like formula.

$$\operatorname{tr}((f^k)^*) = \sum_{\alpha \in M^k} P_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2} P_{\alpha_2 \alpha_3} \dots P_{\alpha_{k-1} \alpha_k} P_{\alpha_k \alpha_1}$$

DEFINITION 7.5. We define the Artin-Mazur zeta function of a dynamical system (M, f) as

$$Z((M, f), T) = \exp(\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{\#\operatorname{Fix}(f^j)T^j}{j})$$

Proposition 7.6.

$$Z((M, f), T) = \frac{1}{\det(1 - Tf^*)}$$

7.1. Congruent zeta as a zeta of a dynamical system. The definition of Artin Mazur zeta function is valid without assuming the number of the base space M to be a finite set.

DEFINITION 7.7. Let M be a set. Let $f: M \to M$ be a map such that $\#\operatorname{Fix}(f^n)$ is finite for any n > 0. We define the Artin-Mazur zeta function of a dynamical system (M, f) as

$$Z((M, f), T) = \exp(\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{\#\operatorname{Fix}(f^j)T^j}{j})$$

Let q be a power of a prime p. We may consider an automorphism Frob_q of $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_q$ over \mathbb{F}_q by

$$\operatorname{Frob}_q(x) = x^q$$

PROPOSITION 7.8. Frob_q: $\mathbb{F}_{q^r} \to \mathbb{F}_{q^r}$ is an automorphism of order r. It is a generator of the Galois group $Gal(\mathbb{F}_{q^r}/\mathbb{F}_q)$.

For any projective variety X defined over \mathbb{F}_q , we may define a Frobenius action Frob_q on $X(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_q)$:

$$Frob_q([x_0:x_1:...x_N]) = ([x_0^q:x_1^q:...x_N^q]).$$

For any $\bar{\mathbb{F}_q}$ -valued point $x \in X(\bar{\mathbb{F}_q})$, We have

$$\operatorname{Frob}_{q}^{r}(x) = x \iff x \in X(\mathbb{F}_{q^{r}}).$$

PROPOSITION 7.9. The Artin Mazur zeta function of the dynamical system $(X(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_q), \operatorname{Frob}_q)$ conincides with the congruent zeta function $Z(X/\mathbb{F}_q, t)$.