



A Lean Formalisation of Sphere Packing in Dimension 8

Swiss Mathematical Society Spring Meeting: Formalisation and Proof Assistants 

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based on joint work with Chris Birkbeck, Seewoo Lee, Gareth Ma, Bhavik Mehta and Maryna Viazovska

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1. What did we do?
2. Contour Integration
3. What did Gauss do?
4. Takeaways for Future Human-AI Collaboration

What did we do?

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- Third major modifications: Upstreaming parts of my MSc thesis [4]

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<https://thefundamentaltheorem.github.io/Sphere-Packing-Lean/blueprint>

Defining Sphere Packings in Lean

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structure SpherePacking (d : ℕ) where
  centers : Set (EuclideanSpace ℝ (Fin d))
  separation : ℝ
  separation_pos : 0 < separation := by positivity
  centers_dist : Pairwise (separation ≤ dist · · : centers → centers → Prop)
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```
structure PeriodicSpherePacking (d : ℕ) extends SpherePacking d where
  lattice : Submodule ℤ (EuclideanSpace ℝ (Fin d))
  lattice_action : ∀ ⟨x y⟩, x ∈ lattice → y ∈ centers → x + y ∈ centers
  lattice_discrete : DiscreteTopology lattice := by infer_instance
  lattice_isZLattice : IsZLattice ℝ lattice := by infer_instance
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```

```
abbrev SpherePacking.balls (S : SpherePacking d) : Set (EuclideanSpace ℝ (Fin d)) :=
  ⋃ x : S.centers, ball (x : EuclideanSpace ℝ (Fin d)) (S.separation / 2)
```


Stating the Main Theorem

```
noncomputable def SpherePacking.density (S : SpherePacking d) :  $\mathbb{R} \geq 0 \infty$  :=  
  limsup S.finiteDensity atTop
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def SpherePackingConstant (d :  $\mathbb{N}$ ) :  $\mathbb{R} \geq 0 \infty$  :=  $\sqcup$  S : SpherePacking d, S.density
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```
noncomputable def E8Packing : PeriodicSpherePacking 8 where  
  separation :=  $\sqrt{2}$   
  lattice := E8Lattice  
  centers := E8Lattice  
  centers_dist := by ...
```

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  separation :=  $\sqrt{2}$   
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```

```
theorem SpherePacking.MainTheorem : SpherePackingConstant 8 = E8Packing.density :=  
  sorry
```


Sphere Packing Theory

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- Definitions of sphere packings, periodic packings, density, sphere packing constant, periodic sphere packing constant
- Density formula for periodic packings
- The theory of the E_8 lattice and the associated sphere packing
- Progress on Cohn-Elkies [2, Theorem 3.1]

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Modular Forms

- Fixing the definition of E_2
- q -expansions of the Eisenstein Series
- H -functions (4th powers of Jacobi Θ -functions) as modular forms
- Definition/API for Δ , relation to η
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Construction of the Magic Function

- Definitions and API for a, b, g , their integrands and parametrisations
- Proving `PolyFourierCoeffBound`, a tool to analyse asymptotic behaviour
- Systematically bounding the integrands of a
- Proving slash action relations for ψ_I, ψ_S, ψ_T
- Cauchy-Goursat for unbounded rectangles

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Quasimodular Forms and Inequalities

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Quasimodular Forms and Inequalities

- Serre derivatives: definitions and API, equivariance and invariance
- Serre derivatives of E_2 , E_4 , E_6
- Defining F and G , restriction to the imaginary axis, positivity of restrictions
- Modular linear differential equations

A `norm_num` extension for $\mathbb{C}$

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example : (1 + 3.5 + I) * (1 + I) = 7 / 2 +  
11 / 2 * I := by norm_num1
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example : (3 + 4 * I)-1 * (3 + 4 * I) = 1 :=  
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```
example : 1 + I ≠ 0 := by norm_num1
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example : im ((1 + 3 * I)-1) = -0.3 := by  
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example : 10 * re ((1 + 3 * I)-1) = 1 := by  
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example : (conj (3 + 4 * I) : ℂ) * (3 + 4 *  
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Proving Tendsto given atomic limits

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Proving `Tendsto` given atomic limits

- Developed mainly by Cameron Freer with inputs from Seewoo Lee and Bhavik Mehta
- Proves `Tendsto` (`fun z => expr(f1 z, ..., fn z)`) $\mathbb{L}$ (nhds c) where `Tendsto f i` $\mathbb{L}$ (nhds a i) are known and the expression is continuous

Metaprogramming Outcomes

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Proving `Tendsto` given atomic limits

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- Proves `Tendsto (fun z => expr(f1 z, ..., fn z)) l (nhds c)` where `Tendsto f i l (nhds a i)` are known and the expression is continuous

```
-- Two atoms, polynomial  
example (h1 : Tendsto f atTop (nhds 0)) (h2 :  
  Tendsto g atTop (nhds 1)) :  
  Tendsto (fun z => f z ^ 2 + f z * g z + g  
    z ^ 2) atTop (nhds 1) := by tendsto_cont  
  
-- Unused hypotheses don't interfere  
example (h1 : Tendsto f atTop (nhds 0)) (h2 :  
  Tendsto g atTop (nhds 1))  
  (unrelated : Tendsto f atBot (nhds 5)) :  
  Tendsto (fun z => f z * g z) atTop (nhds  
    0) := by tendsto_cont
```


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Magic Function Construction

- Schwartzness: one-dimensional and eight-dimensional
- Proving that $\Phi_1 \dots \Phi_6$ are integrable
- Proving that a has double zeroes at lattice points
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Modular Forms, Quasimodular Forms, and Inequalities

- More modular form identities and positivity results
- Limit computation $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} F(it)/G(it) = 18/\pi^2$, and finish proof of the inequalities
- Dimension formula in level 1
- Upstreaming the definition/facts about the Serre Derivative, the proof of the Jacobi identity $\Theta_2^4 + \Theta_4^4 = \Theta_3^4$, and facts about E_2 and Δ to `mathlib`.

Contour Integration

Defining the Magic Function in Lean

```
def  $\Phi_1'$  :  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  := fun z ↦  $\varphi_0''$  (-1 / (z + 1)) * (z + 1) ^ 2 * cexp (  $\pi * I * r * (z : \mathbb{C})$  )  
      ⋮  
def  $\Phi_6'$  :  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  := fun z ↦  $\varphi_0''$  (z) * cexp (  $\pi * I * r * (z : \mathbb{C})$  )
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```

```
def  $\Phi_1$  :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  := fun t ↦ I *  $\Phi_1'$  r (z1' t)  
  ⋮  
def  $\Phi_6$  :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  := fun t ↦ I *  $\Phi_6'$  r (z6' t)
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```
def I1' :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  := fun x ↦ ∫ t in (0 :  $\mathbb{R}$ )..1,  $\Phi_1$  x t  
  ⋮  
def I6' :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  := fun x ↦ 2 * ∫ t in Ici (1 :  $\mathbb{R}$ ),  $\Phi_6$  x t
```

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def  $\Phi_1'$  :  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } z \mapsto \varphi_0'' (-1 / (z + 1)) * (z + 1) ^ 2 * \text{cexp } (\pi * I * r * (z : \mathbb{C}))$   
  ⋮  
def  $\Phi_6'$  :  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } z \mapsto \varphi_0'' (z) * \text{cexp } (\pi * I * r * (z : \mathbb{C}))$ 
```

```
def  $\Phi_1$  :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } t \mapsto I * \Phi_1' r (z_1' t)$   
  ⋮  
def  $\Phi_6$  :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } t \mapsto I * \Phi_6' r (z_6' t)$ 
```

```
def  $I_1'$  :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto \int t \text{ in } (0 : \mathbb{R})..1, \Phi_1 x t$   
  ⋮  
def  $I_6'$  :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto 2 * \int t \text{ in } \text{Ici } (1 : \mathbb{R}), \Phi_6 x t$ 
```

```
def  $I_1$  :  $V \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto I_1' (\|x\| ^ 2)$   
  ⋮  
def  $I_6$  :  $V \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto I_6' (\|x\| ^ 2)$ 
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def  $I_6'$  :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto 2 * \int t \text{ in } \text{Ici } (1 : \mathbb{R}), \Phi_6 x t$ 
```

```
def  $I_1$  :  $V \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto I_1' ( \| x \| ^ 2)$   
  ⋮  
def  $I_6$  :  $V \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto I_6' ( \| x \| ^ 2)$ 
```

```
def  $a'$  :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto I_1' x + I_2' x + I_3' x + I_4' x +$   
   $I_5' x + I_6' x$   
def  $a$  :  $V \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto a' ( \| x \| ^ 2)$ 
```

Defining the Magic Function in Lean

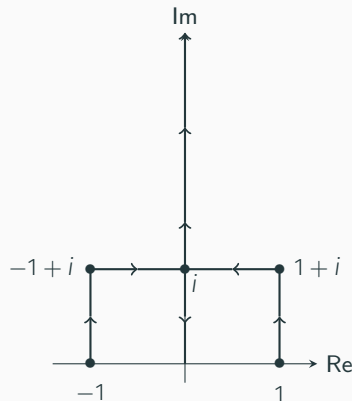
```
def  $\Phi_1'$  :  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } z \mapsto \varphi_0'' (-1 / (z + 1)) * (z + 1)^2 * \text{cexp } (\pi * I * r * (z : \mathbb{C}))$ 
  ⋮
def  $\Phi_6'$  :  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } z \mapsto \varphi_0'' (z) * \text{cexp } (\pi * I * r * (z : \mathbb{C}))$ 
```

```
def  $\Phi_1$  :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } t \mapsto I * \Phi_1' r (z_1' t)$ 
  ⋮
def  $\Phi_6$  :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } t \mapsto I * \Phi_6' r (z_6' t)$ 
```

```
def  $I_1'$  :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto \int t \text{ in } (0 : \mathbb{R})..1, \Phi_1 x t$ 
  ⋮
def  $I_6'$  :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto 2 * \int t \text{ in } I_{ci} (1 : \mathbb{R}), \Phi_6 x t$ 
```

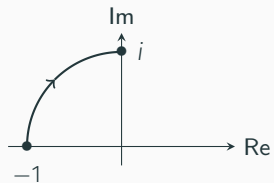
```
def  $I_1$  :  $V \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto I_1' (\|x\|^2)$ 
  ⋮
def  $I_6$  :  $V \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto I_6' (\|x\|^2)$ 
```

```
def  $a'$  :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto I_1' x + I_2' x + I_3' x + I_4' x +$ 
   $I_5' x + I_6' x$ 
def  $a$  :  $V \rightarrow \mathbb{C} := \text{fun } x \mapsto a' (\|x\|^2)$ 
```

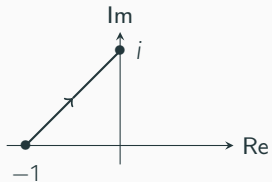
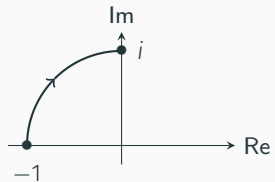


Why use rectangular contours?

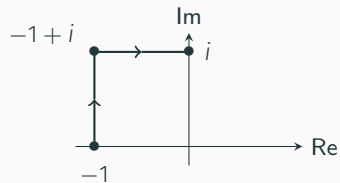
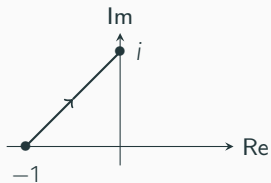
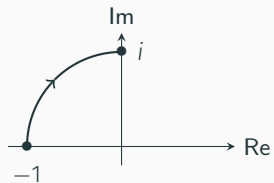
Why use rectangular contours?



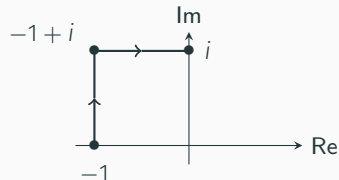
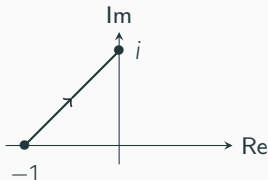
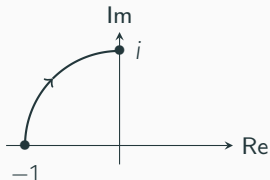
Why use rectangular contours?



Why use rectangular contours?



Why use rectangular contours?



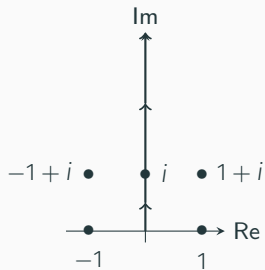
```
theorem Complex.integral_boundary_rect_eq_zero_of_differentiable_on_off_countable
  {E : Type u} [NormedAddCommGroup E] [NormedSpace ℂ E] (f : ℂ → E) (z w : ℂ) (s : Set ℂ)
  (hs : s.Countable) (Hc : ContinuousOn f (Set.uIcc z.re w.re ×ℂ Set.uIcc z.im w.im))
  (Hd :
    ∀ x ∈ Set.Ioo (min z.re w.re) (max z.re w.re) ×ℂ Set.Ioo (min z.im w.im) (max z.im w.im) \ s,
      DifferentiableAt ℂ f x
  )
  :
  (((f (x : ℝ) in z.re..w.re, f (↑x + ↑z.im * I)) - f (x : ℝ) in z.re..w.re, f (↑x + ↑w.im * I)) + I •
    f (y : ℝ) in z.im..w.im, f (↑w.re + ↑y * I)) - I • f (y : ℝ) in z.im..w.im, f (↑z.re + ↑y * I)
  = 0
```

Cauchy-Goursat theorem for a rectangle: the integral of a complex differentiable function over the boundary of a rectangle equals zero. More precisely, if f is continuous on a closed rectangle and is complex differentiable at all but countably many points of the corresponding open rectangle, then its integral over the boundary of the rectangle equals zero.

$$-4 \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi \|x\|^2}{2}\right) \int_0^{i\infty} \phi_0\left(\frac{-1}{z}\right) z^2 e^{\pi i \|x\|^2 z} dz$$

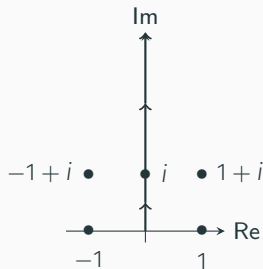
Double Zeroes at Lattice Points

$$-4 \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi \|x\|^2}{2}\right) \int_0^{i\infty} \phi_0\left(\frac{-1}{z}\right) z^2 e^{\pi i \|x\|^2 z} dz$$



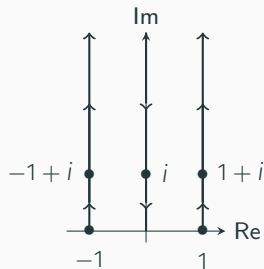
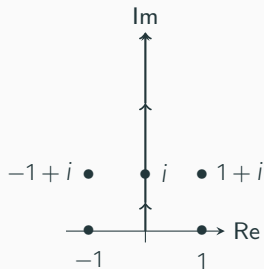
Double Zeroes at Lattice Points

$$-4 \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi \|x\|^2}{2}\right) \int_0^{i\infty} \phi_0\left(\frac{-1}{z}\right) z^2 e^{\pi i \|x\|^2 z} dz = \int_{-1}^{-1+i\infty} + \int_1^{1+i\infty} -2 \int_0^{i\infty}$$



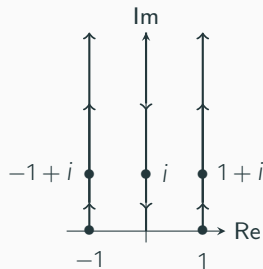
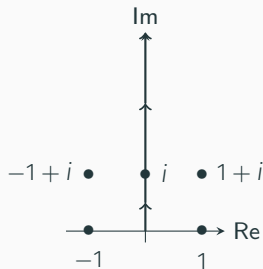
Double Zeroes at Lattice Points

$$-4 \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi \|x\|^2}{2}\right) \int_0^{i\infty} \phi_0\left(\frac{-1}{z}\right) z^2 e^{\pi i \|x\|^2 z} dz = \int_{-1}^{-1+i\infty} + \int_1^{1+i\infty} -2 \int_0^{i\infty}$$



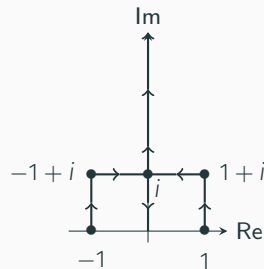
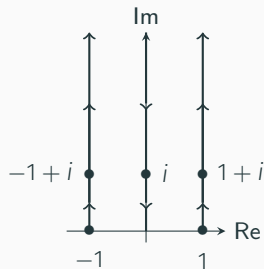
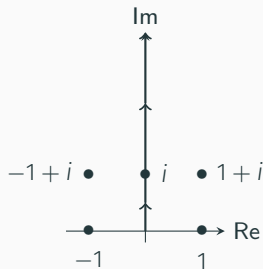
Double Zeroes at Lattice Points

$$-4 \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi \|x\|^2}{2}\right) \int_0^{i\infty} \phi_0\left(\frac{-1}{z}\right) z^2 e^{\pi i \|x\|^2 z} dz = \int_{-1}^{-1+i\infty} + \int_1^{1+i\infty} -2 \int_0^{i\infty} = \int_{-1}^i + \int_1^i -2 \int_0^i + 2 \int_i^{i\infty}$$



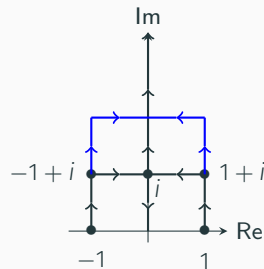
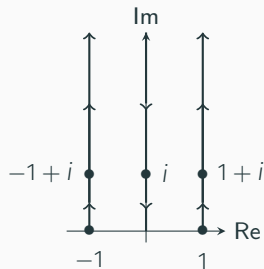
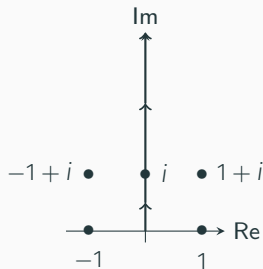
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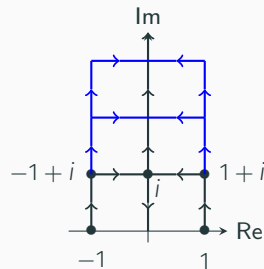
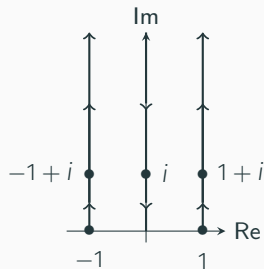
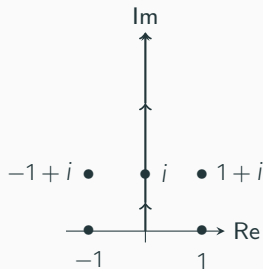
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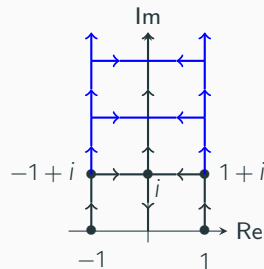
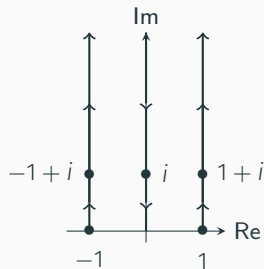
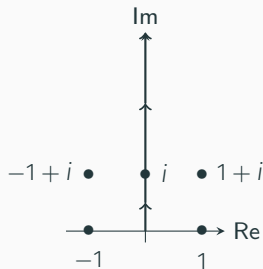
Double Zeroes at Lattice Points

$$-4 \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi \|x\|^2}{2}\right) \int_0^{i\infty} \phi_0\left(\frac{-1}{z}\right) z^2 e^{\pi i \|x\|^2 z} dz = \int_{-1}^{-1+i\infty} + \int_1^{1+i\infty} -2 \int_0^{i\infty} = \int_{-1}^i + \int_1^i -2 \int_0^i + 2 \int_i^{i\infty}$$



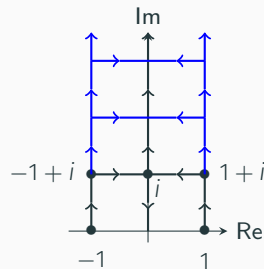
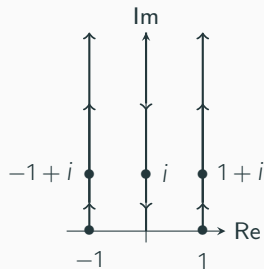
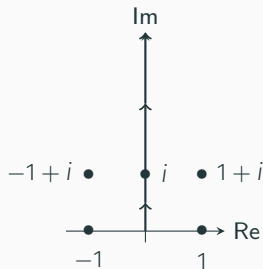
Double Zeroes at Lattice Points

$$-4 \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi \|x\|^2}{2}\right) \int_0^{i\infty} \phi_0\left(\frac{-1}{z}\right) z^2 e^{\pi i \|x\|^2 z} dz = \int_{-1}^{-1+i\infty} + \int_1^{1+i\infty} -2 \int_0^{i\infty} = \int_{-1}^i + \int_1^i -2 \int_0^i + 2 \int_i^{i\infty}$$



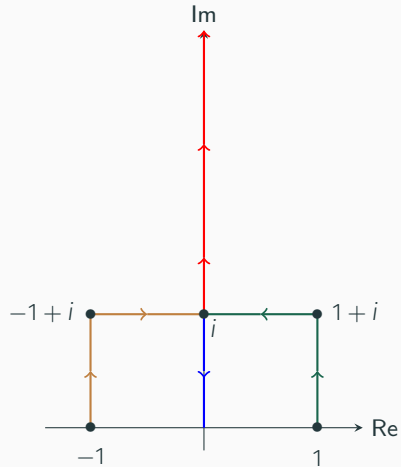
Double Zeroes at Lattice Points

$$-4 \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi \|x\|^2}{2}\right) \int_0^{i\infty} \phi_0\left(\frac{-1}{z}\right) z^2 e^{\pi i \|x\|^2 z} dz = \int_{-1}^{-1+i\infty} + \int_1^{1+i\infty} -2 \int_0^{i\infty} = \int_{-1}^i + \int_1^i -2 \int_0^i + 2 \int_i^{i\infty} = a(x)$$



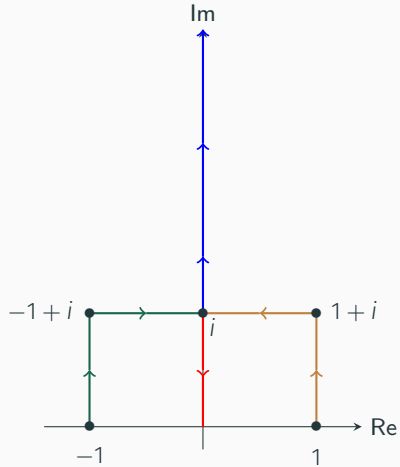
The Fourier Eigenfunction Property

Before taking the Fourier transform:



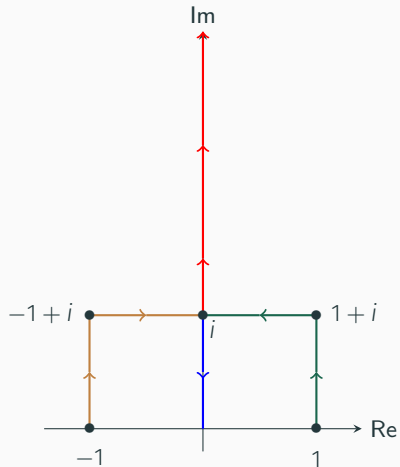
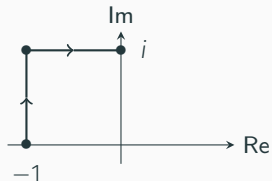
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After taking the Fourier transform:



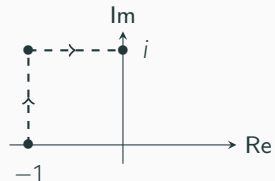
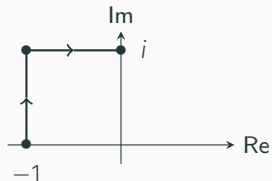
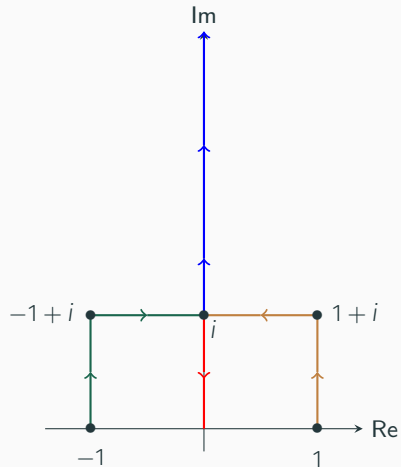
The Fourier Eigenfunction Property

Before taking the Fourier transform:



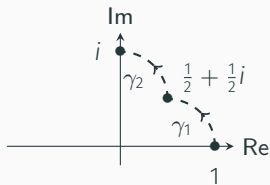
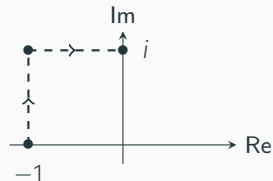
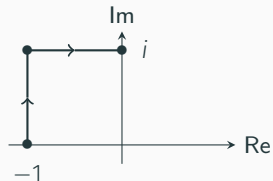
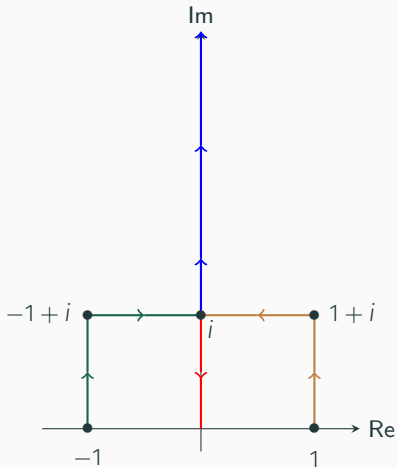
The Fourier Eigenfunction Property

After taking the Fourier transform:



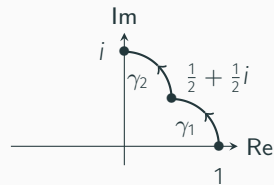
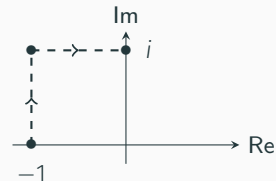
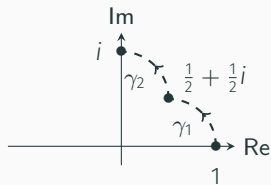
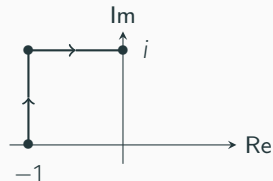
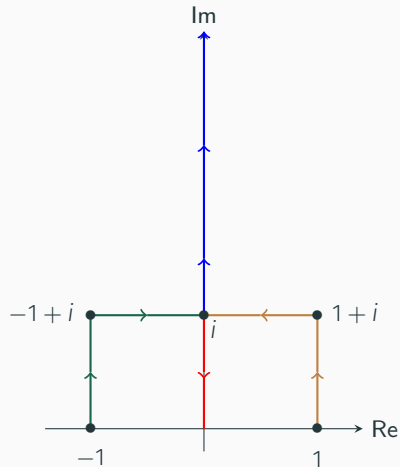
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After taking the Fourier transform:



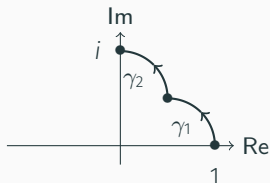
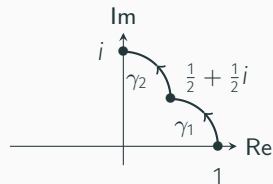
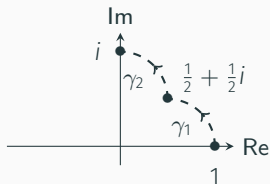
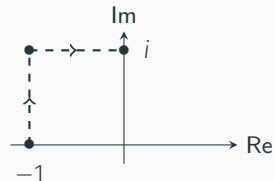
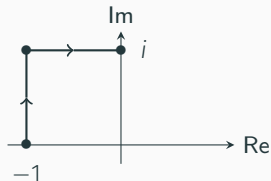
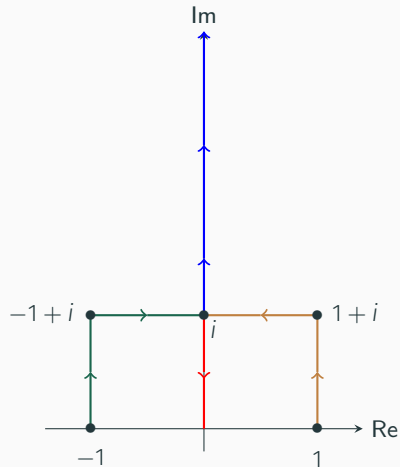
The Fourier Eigenfunction Property

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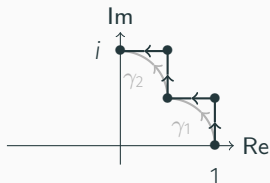
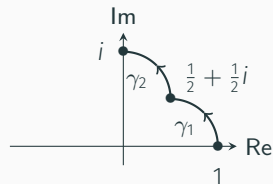
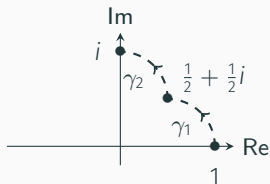
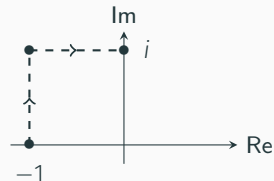
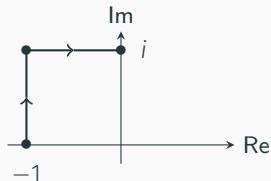
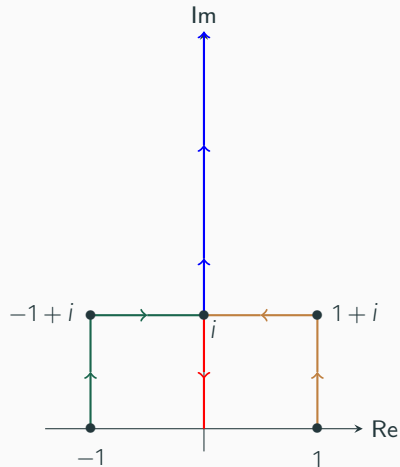
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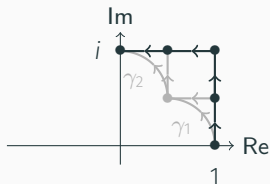
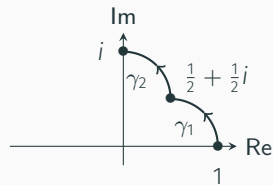
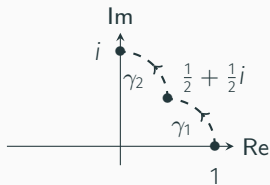
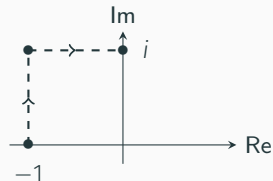
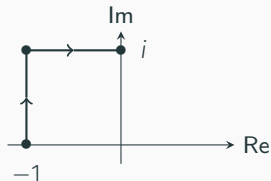
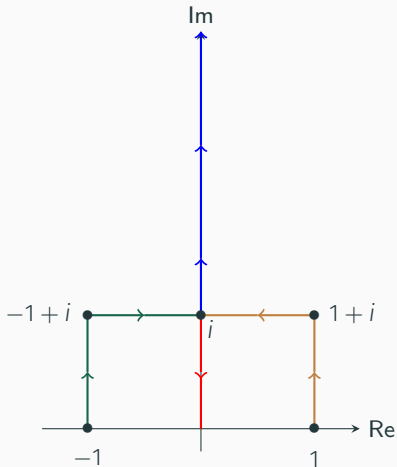
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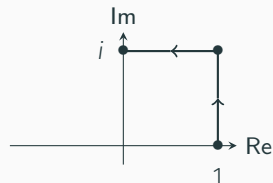
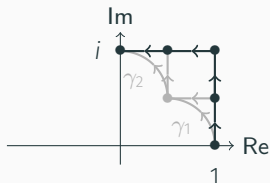
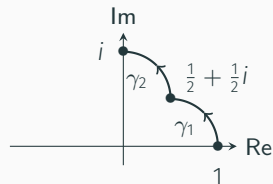
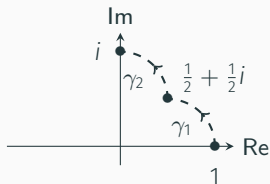
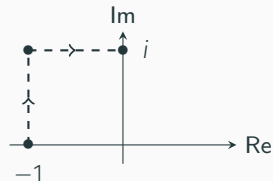
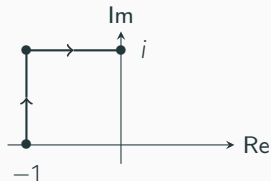
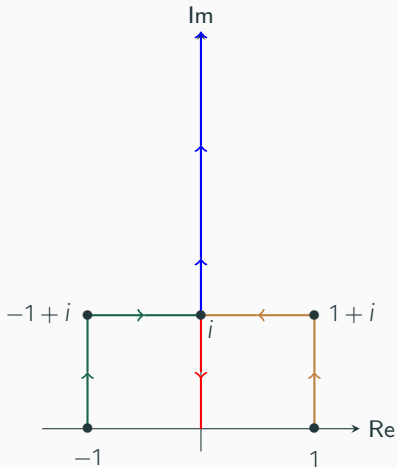
The Fourier Eigenfunction Property

After taking the Fourier transform:



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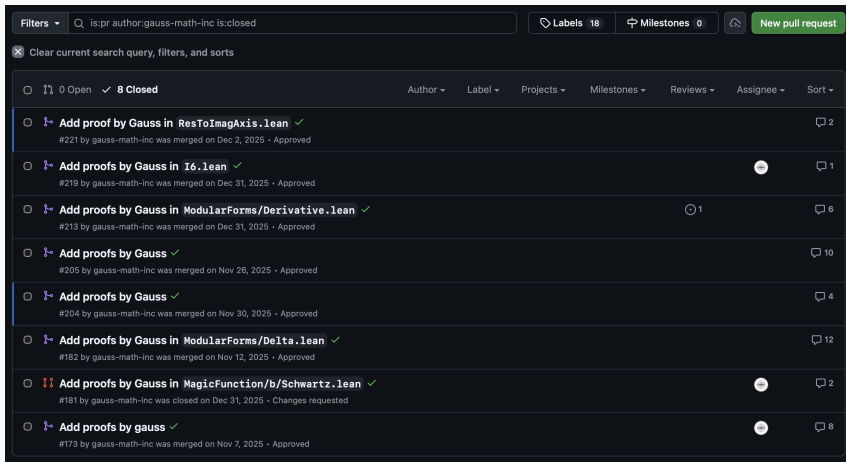
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The screenshot shows a GitHub interface with a search bar at the top containing the query 'is:pr author:gauss-math-inc is:closed'. Below the search bar, there are filters for 'Labels' (18) and 'Milestones' (0), and a green button labeled 'New pull request'. The main content area displays a list of pull requests, all of which are closed. The list includes the following entries:

- Add proof by Gauss in ResToImagAxis.lean** ✓
#221 by gauss-math-inc was merged on Dec 2, 2025 • Approved (2 comments)
- Add proofs by Gauss in I6.lean** ✓
#219 by gauss-math-inc was merged on Dec 31, 2025 • Approved (1 comment)
- Add proofs by Gauss in ModularForms/Derivative.lean** ✓
#213 by gauss-math-inc was merged on Dec 31, 2025 • Approved (1 review, 6 comments)
- Add proofs by Gauss** ✓
#205 by gauss-math-inc was merged on Nov 26, 2025 • Approved (10 comments)
- Add proofs by Gauss** ✓
#204 by gauss-math-inc was merged on Nov 30, 2025 • Approved (4 comments)
- Add proofs by Gauss in ModularForms/Delta.lean** ✓
#182 by gauss-math-inc was merged on Nov 12, 2025 • Approved (12 comments)
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- Add proofs by gauss** ✓
#173 by gauss-math-inc was merged on Nov 7, 2025 • Approved (8 comments)

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Filters Labels 18 Milestones 0 [New pull request](#)

☐ Clear current search query, filters, and sorts

0 Open ☒ 8 Closed

	Author	Label	Projects	Milestones	Reviews	Assignee	Sort
☐ Add proof by Gauss in ResToImagAxis.lean ✓							2
#221 by gauss-math-inc was merged on Dec 2, 2025 • Approved							
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The Big Autoformalisation

Conversation 19

Commits 18

Checks 0

Files changed 287

+52,187 -15,457



augustepoiroux commented last month · edited

Collaborator

Summary

This PR completes the Lean formalization of the theorem that the optimal sphere packing in $\mathbb{R}^8$ is the E_8 lattice packing.
The branch contains the final theorem together with all remaining dependencies, and is checked by the Lean kernel (sorry-free).

Context

The code in this branch was generated by **Gauss** (Math Inc's autoformalization agent) starting from the existing Sphere Packing blueprint and Lean codebase, and then packaged into this PR for review.

Notable changes

- Completes the remaining formalization steps needed for E_8 optimality in $\mathbb{R}^8$
- Project-wide cleanup / proof golf (including existing files)
- Fixes a sign inconsistency in Prop. 7 ($b(t)$), with the downstream definition of g in Thm. 4 updated accordingly
- Migrates to the new module system
- Bumps Lean to `v4.28.0`

Review notes

- We made a best effort to avoid overwriting parts of the codebase that changed independently on `main`. As such, some results may be duplicated.
- The following blueprint-linked Lean statements were commented out in this branch:
`ModularForm.dimension_level_one , dim_gen_eeng_levels , D_qexp_tsum_pnat , serre_D_two_H_2 ->` they have been added back in [38876bc](#) [#diff-ebf1c68f284079a6364607bb7113a4b517ffb358424f42f02a128c225340f25d](#)

Reviewers

 dwrensha

 b-mehta

 seewoo5

 thefundamentalthor3m

 CBirkbeck

 piltmonticone

 viazovska

At least 1 approving review is required to merge this pull request.

Assignees

No one—[assign yourself](#)

Labels

None yet

Projects

None yet

Milestone

No milestone

Development

Successfully merging this pull request may close these issues.

None yet

 10

 3

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- The code was deemed legitimate by Lean4Checker and Comparator, and we do, indeed, believe to be correct. (No `native_decide`, weird metaprogramming, changing the definitions in the main theorem statement, changing the definition of `theorem...`)

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- The file organisation is not the best, and definitions (especially unusual ones) often don't appear where they make the most sense.
- Some human-written code was also modified, and it is not yet completely clear that these modifications were good.
- **We are still reviewing, understanding, and refactoring the code. This will probably take a few months. In particular, none of the code has been merged yet.**

What *didn't* Gauss do?

Finish the project!

Takeaways for Future Human-AI Collaboration

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*The formalization, on its own, is close to worthless, since **the correctness of Viazovska's result was never in doubt.** The participants embraced the project, rather, as a way of revisiting those results and **better understanding them, and of building libraries and infrastructure to support future work.** ... [I]f AI can alleviate some of the tedium in formalization and help us enjoy and understand the mathematics, we will be better off, but **if it gets in the way of that enjoyment and understanding, we will have lost something important.***

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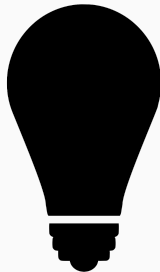
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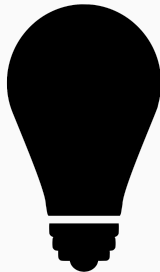
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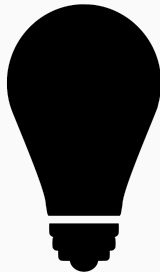
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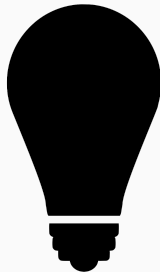
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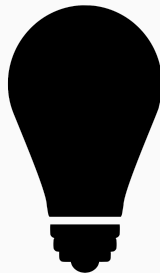


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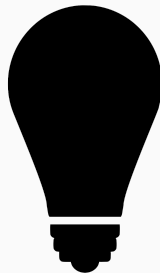
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Come to packathons: Tuesdays 10:30 Eastern Time at [cmu.zoom.us/my/sidharth.hariharan](https://cmu.zoom.us/j/91210000000).

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Thank you very much! Merci beaucoup ! Merci vielmal! Grazie mille!



Questions?

- [1] J. Avigad.
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