

Eigenfunctions and representation theory

Originally discussed by Strichartz in the '80's, there has been some recent interest from the harmonic map community in eigenfunctions of the Laplacian on symmetric spaces whose squares are also eigenfunctions. The state of the art until recently has been the construction of local examples on classical symmetric spaces. In this talk, I shall show how some simple ideas from representation theory explain the known examples and provide new results.

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