

## Isoperimetry, Littlewood functions, and unitarisability of groups

Let  $\Gamma$  be a discrete group. A group  $\Gamma$  is called *unitarisable* if for any Hilbert space  $H$  and any uniformly bounded representation  $\pi : \Gamma \rightarrow B(H)$  of  $\Gamma$  on  $H$  there exists an operator  $S : H \rightarrow H$  such that  $S^{-1}\pi(g)S$  is a unitary representation for any  $g \in \Gamma$ . It is well known that amenable groups are unitarisable. It has been open ever since whether amenability characterises unitarisability of groups.

**Dixmier:** Are all unitarisable groups amenable?

One of the approaches to study unitarisability is related to the space of Littlewood functions  $T_1(\Gamma)$ . We define the **Littlewood exponent**  $\text{Lit}(\Gamma)$  of a group  $\Gamma$ :

$$\text{Lit}(\Gamma) = \inf \{p : T_1(\Gamma) \subseteq \ell^p(\Gamma)\}.$$

We will show that, on the one hand,  $\text{Lit}(\Gamma)$  is related to unitarisability and amenability and, on the other hand, it is related to some geometry of  $\Gamma$ .

We believe that the most natural way to study groups with  $\text{Lit}(\Gamma) \leq p$  is to consider not only the actions on Hilbert spaces, but also the actions on a wider classes of spaces, for example, on  $p$ -spaces. We will define  $p$ -isometrisability of groups and discuss some results and open questions.