

Homology of Arithmetic Groups and Galois Representations

Banff Workshop on cohomology of arithmetic groups: duality, stability, and computations

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Basic objects 1

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 N is the “level”.
- $\epsilon : (\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}^\times) \rightarrow k^\times$ is a nebentype character.
 $\epsilon(g) = \epsilon(g_{11})$

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- A “Galois representation” $\rho : G_{\mathbb{Q}} \rightarrow GL_n(k)$ is a continuous semisimple homomorphism unramified outside a finite set of primes.
- $c =$ complex conjugation in $G_{\mathbb{Q}}$.
- ρ is “odd” if the eigenvalues of $\rho(c)$ are $\pm(1, -1, 1, -1, \dots)$.
So if the characteristic of k is 2, all Galois representations are odd.

Hecke algebra and weights

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Homology is a Hecke module:

\mathcal{H} acts on $H_*(\Gamma, W)$.

Attachment

Let be $z \in H_*(\Gamma, W)$ be a Hecke eigenclass with $T_{\ell,k}(z) = a_{\ell,k}z$ and let \mathbb{F} be an extension of k .

Definition

The Galois representation $\rho : G_{\mathbb{Q}} \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F})$ is “attached” to z if

$$\det(I - \rho(\mathrm{Frob}_{\ell})X) = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \ell^{k(k-1)/2} a(\ell, k) X^k$$

for almost all unramified primes ℓ .

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$\mathrm{Frob} =$ arithmetic Frobenius: $\omega(\mathrm{Frob}_{\ell}) = \ell$, where $\omega =$ the cycl. char.

If ρ is attached to z , the characteristic polynomials of $\rho(\mathrm{Frob}_{\ell})$ for almost all prime ℓ are determined by z and hence ρ is determined up to isomorphism, since we are assuming ρ is semisimple. But z is not determined by ρ : many z 's can have same ρ attached.

Scholze's Theorem

Theorem

- *Let k be a finite field of characteristic p .*
- *Let W be an irreducible finite-dimensional $k[\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_p)]$ -module on which S acts via reduction mod p tensored with a nebentype character.*
- *Let $z \in H_i(\Gamma_0(N), W)$ be a Hecke eigenclass.*

Then there exists a Galois representation ρ attached to z .

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- As far as I know, it is not proved what the “smallest” N and W can be for a given ρ nor what i ought to be.

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 - ▶ Seeing what (geometrically determined) part of the homology they come from. e.g. z looks like it comes from the lowest dimensional stratum of the Borel-Serre boundary.

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- Proving differentials in homology spectral sequences vanish.
- Predicting the existence of homology classes (Serre-type conjecture).
- Predicting the asymptotic growth of the size of the torsion part of the homology of a family of Γ 's that shrink to 1.

Example 1

Example

(work with Gunnells and McConnell) $k = \mathbb{C}$. We compute for $\Gamma_0(N) \subset \mathrm{SL}_4(\mathbb{Z})$ and various W 's the Hecke module $H_5(\Gamma, W)$. The dimensions of the Hecke eigenspaces are interesting, and we find the Galois representations that appear to be attached to them.

- a check on correctness of the computations
- insight into the Borel-Serre boundary
- if we can't find a reducible Galois representation attached, then we appear to have a cuspform

Example 2

Example

(work with Yasaki) We compute for $\Gamma_0(N) \subset SL(3, \mathbb{Z})$ and $W = \mathbb{Q}$ the Hecke module $H^3(\Gamma, W)$ and a certain Hecke stable subspace $K(\Gamma, E)$ of it defined using the units of a real quadratic field E . We compute Hecke on it and find Galois representations that appear to be attached to the Hecke eigenvalues.

- a check on correctness of the computations
- refine our conjecture as to what $K(\Gamma, E)$ is in terms of the Borel-Serre boundary

ADPS conjecture

Conjecture (Ash-Doud-Pollack-Sinnott) (modified): Let k be a finite field and ρ an odd Galois representation. Then ρ is attached to a Hecke eigenclass in $H_i(\Gamma_0^\pm(N), F(a_1, \dots, a_n)_\epsilon)$ for some i .

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- This generalizes Serre’s conjecture for $n = 2$ which is now a theorem, putting together work of Khare, Wintenberger and Kisin.
- It is wide open for $n > 2$.
- In general we do not know the range of possible i ’s. Such knowledge could help in our project.

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On the next few slides I introduce the tools we use for this proof.

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- P is conjugate to a subgroup of $GL_n(\mathbb{Q})$ (in block form) looking like:

$$\begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & \cdots & * \\ 0 & * & * & \cdots & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & \cdots & * \\ & & \vdots & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & * \end{bmatrix}$$

More about parabolic subgroups

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P and Γ

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- It is Hecke equivariant.

Tits building and Steinberg module

Let $n \geq 3$ to obtain simplicity of statements.

- The Tits building T of $GL_n(\mathbb{Q})$ is the $(n - 2)$ -dimensional simplicial complex whose vertices are the maximal parabolic subgroups of $GL_n(\mathbb{Q})$. An i -simplex has the vertices P_0, \dots, P_i if $\cap P_\alpha$ is a parabolic subgroup.

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Theorem (Solomon-Tits)

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- Define the Steinberg module (a module for $GL_n(\mathbb{Q})$) by:

$$\text{St}(\mathbb{Q}^n) = H_{n-2}(T, \mathbb{Z}).$$

Tits spectral sequence

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$$0 \rightarrow T_{n-2} \rightarrow T_{n-1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow T_0 \rightarrow k \rightarrow 0,$$

where T_i denotes the k -vector space with basis the i -simplices of T , and k is acted on trivially by $GL_n(\mathbb{Q})$.

$$C_i = \begin{cases} T_{i-1} & \text{for } i > 0 \\ k & \text{for } i = 0. \end{cases}$$

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Then

$$H_i(C) = \begin{cases} St(\mathbb{Q}^n) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} k & \text{for } i = n - 1 \\ 0 & \text{for } i \neq n - 1. \end{cases}$$

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- The proof uses Shapiro's lemma which is how the parabolic subgroups appear.

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- The proof uses Shapiro's lemma which is how the parabolic subgroups appear.
- The left most column consists of $H_j(\Gamma, W)$.

Tits spectral sequence continued

Let W be a $k[S]$ module.

Studying $H_*(\Gamma, C \otimes_k W)$ we obtain a Hecke equivariant (!) spectral sequence:

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- The next column consists of $H_j(\Gamma_P, W)$, for maximal parabolic subgroups P . Etc.

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- either z maps nonzero under d_1 in which case ρ is attached to $H_j(\Gamma, W)$, or else z survives to E^2 . If for some reason z can't be "hit" from the right, it survives to E^∞ and ρ is attached to $H_*(\Gamma, \text{St}(\mathbb{Q}^n) \otimes_k W) \approx H^{n(n-1)/2-*}(\Gamma, W)$.

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- The proof of (**) is not too hard. It remains to prove (*).

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Step 1: Get $\sigma_1 \oplus \sigma_2$ attached to a Hecke eigenclass of Γ_L . Use:

Theorem (Ash-Doud)

Let $(\Gamma^\pm, S^\pm) = (\Gamma_0^\pm(n, N), S_0^\pm(n, N))$. Let P be a maximal parabolic subgroup of $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q})$ of type (n_1, n_2) , with unipotent radical U and Levi quotient L , and denote the two components of the Levi quotient by L^1 and L^2 . For $i = 1, 2$, let M_i be an L^i -module and set $M = M_1 \otimes M_2$. Let $f_i \in H_{s_i}(\Gamma_{L^i}^\pm, M_i)$ be an eigenclass of all the Hecke operators $T_{n_i}(\ell, j)$. Then $f_1 \otimes f_2$ may be considered as an element of $H_{s_1+s_2}(\Gamma_L^\pm, M)$, and if each f_i is attached to a Galois representation Σ_i , then $f_1 \otimes f_2$ is attached to $\Sigma_1 \oplus \omega^{k_1} \Sigma_2$.

E^2 of LHS spectral sequence

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We need

- (1) that $H_j(\Gamma_U, W)$ is an “f-admissible” Γ_L -module, (Ash-Doud) and
- (2) a mod p Kostant theorem, which is not known in general.

Substitute for Kostant

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Theorem (Ash-Doud)

Let N be square-free and prime to p , let $\epsilon : (\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^\times \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$. Let $P = LU$ be a maximal parabolic subgroup of type (n_1, n_2) . Set $(\Gamma, S) = (\Gamma_0(n, N), S_0(n, N))$. Then

$$H_j(\Gamma_U, F(a_1, \dots, a_n)_\epsilon) \cong$$

$$(F(a_1 + (n - k), \dots, a_k + (n - k)) \otimes F(a_{k+1} - k, \dots, a_n - k))_\epsilon$$

as S_L -modules.

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Let $j = n_1 n_2$. Knowing $H_j(\Gamma_U, F(a_1, \dots, a_n)_\epsilon)$, we can prove that $\sigma_1 \oplus \sigma_2$ is attached to a Hecke eigenclass z in

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Using certain Hecke operators we can do it for this particular E_{ij}^2 . (We are still checking this.)

Ash-Doud Theorem (in progress)

In sum, here is the theorem we think we can prove:

Theorem (Ash-Doud)

Let $\rho : G_{\mathbb{Q}} \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p)$ be an odd Galois representation with square-free Serre conductor N , $p > n + 1$. Assume that $\rho = \sigma_1 \oplus \sigma_2$, with each $\sigma_i : G_{\mathbb{Q}} \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_{n_i}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p)$ irreducible, odd, with Serre conductor N_i (so $N = N_1 N_2$.) Assume that the ADPS conjecture holds for σ_1 and σ_2 . Then ρ is attached to a Hecke eigenclass in

$$H_*(\Gamma_0^{\pm}(n, N), F_{\epsilon})$$

for some weight F and nebentype ϵ predicted for ρ by the conjecture.

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Independently of all the above, it would be very nice to have a mod p Kostant theorem and a good understanding the LHS spectral sequence.

Thanks to the organizers and thank you for listening.