Eichler-Shimura Construction for Hilbert Modular Forms

Edgar Costa (MIT) January 11, 2024, Simons Collaboration Annual Meeting

Slides available at edgarcosta.org Raymond van Bommel, Noam Elkies, Maarten Derickx, Timo Keller, Samuel Schiavone, and John Voight.

Classical modular forms

To an eigenform

$$f = \sum_{n \ge 1} a_n q^n \in S_2^{\text{new}}(\Gamma_0(N)) \qquad a_n \in K_f := \mathbb{Q}(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots)$$

one can attach an abelian variety A_f/\mathbb{Q} such that

$$\dim A_f = \deg K_f$$
$$L(A_f, S) = \prod_{\sigma: K_f \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}} L(f^{\sigma}, S)$$

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This construction can be made explicit via the Jacobian of $X_0(N)$

$$J_0(N) \sim \bigoplus_{M|N} \bigoplus_{f \in G_{\mathbb{Q}} \setminus S_2^{\text{new}}(\Gamma_0(M))} A_f^{\sigma_0(N/M)}$$

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and enables one compute the period matrix of A_f to any desired precision.

Hilbert modular forms

Replacing $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ with $GL_2^+(\mathbb{Z}_F)$, where $F \subset \mathbb{R}$, gives us Hilbert modular forms.

These also come with Fourier expansions

$$f = a_0 + \sum_{\nu \in \mathcal{D}_{>0}^{-1}} a_\nu q^\nu$$

seen as differential forms in the modular variety $X_0(\mathfrak{N})$ of dimension deg *F*.

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To an eigenform $f \in S_2^{\text{new}}(\Gamma_0(\mathfrak{N}))$ we also expect the existence of A_f/F , such that:

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However, for $F \neq \mathbb{Q}$, we no longer have a Jacobian to work with!

Theorem (Oda)

Let *F* be a totally real quadratic field with trivial narrow class group.

Let $f \in S_2^{\text{new}}(\Gamma_0(\mathfrak{N}))$ be an eigenform with eigenvalue field K_f .

There exists abelian varieties A_f/\mathbb{C} and A'_f/\mathbb{C} of dimension $g = \deg K_f$ such that

$$H^1(A_f, \mathbb{Q}) \otimes_{K_f} H^1(A'_f, \mathbb{Q}) = H^2(X_0(\mathfrak{N})[f], \mathbb{Q})$$

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The construction is not explicit, and the fields of definition are unknown.

Nonetheless, Oda gives an explicit formula for their periods $\tau(A_f), \tau(A'_f) \in \mathfrak{h}^g$.

$$\tau(A_f) = \left\{ \frac{\Omega^{+-}}{\Omega^{++}} (f^{\sigma}) \right\}_{\sigma: \mathcal{K}_f \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}} \qquad \qquad \tau(A'_f) = \left\{ \frac{\Omega^{-+}}{\Omega^{++}} (f^{\sigma}) \right\}_{\sigma: \mathcal{K}_f \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}}$$

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OBSD conjecture

For a quadratic character χ of signature ss', we have

$$\alpha_{\chi}\Omega^{\rm ss'}(f^{\sigma}) = -4\pi^2\sqrt{\operatorname{disc} \mathsf{F}}\mathsf{G}(\overline{\chi})\mathsf{L}(f^{\sigma}\otimes\chi,1) \qquad \text{for some } \alpha_{\chi}\in\mathbb{Z}_{\mathsf{F}}.$$

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By computing $L(f^{\sigma} \otimes \chi, 1)$ for several χ , we can guess the periods $\tau(A_f)$ and $\tau(A'_f)$. Dembélé showcased such approach for elliptic curves.

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The goal is to industrialize and generalize this approach.

Theorem (van Bommel-C-Elkies-Derickx-Keller-Schiavon-Voight)

There is a finite Galois extension L/\mathbb{Q} such that $\operatorname{Gal}(L/\mathbb{Q}) \simeq \operatorname{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_{16}) \rtimes C_2$.

The proof is non-constructive.

It relies on a modulo 2 Galois representation attached an Hilbert modular form f. We aim to make the proof explicit by "reconstructing" the abelian fourfold A_f/K .