

Canonical models of Shimura varieties

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The aim of this talk is to formulate a notion for a model of a Shimura variety to be *canonical*, and to state that every Shimura variety has a canonical model over its *reflex field* $E(G, X)$.

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$$\begin{aligned} \mu_h: \mathbb{G}_m &\longrightarrow \mathbb{G}_m \times \mathbb{G}_m \xrightarrow[\sim]{c} (\text{Res}_{\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{G}_m)_{\mathbb{C}} \xrightarrow{h} G_{\mathbb{C}} ; \\ z &\longmapsto (z, 1) \end{aligned}$$

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Of course, the conjugacy class C of μ_h is independent of h .

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Definition

The *reflex field* $E(G, X)$ of (G, X) is the field of definition of C , that is, the fixed field inside $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ of the subgroup of $\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$ fixing C .

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If there is a representative of C defined over $E \subset \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ — in particular if E splits T — then $E \supset E(G, X)$. Hence $E(G, X)$ is a number field.

Towards giving meaning to “canonical”

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We'll need some preparation.

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Let E be a number field, and let E^{ab} denote its maximal abelian extension inside a fixed algebraic closure \overline{E} .

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which induces a commutative diagram

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We put

$$\text{art}_E := \text{rec}_E^{-1}, \quad \text{art}_{L/E} := \text{rec}_{L/E}^{-1}$$

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$$\mathrm{Res}_{E/\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{G}_m \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Res}_{E/\mathbb{Q}} \mu_h} \mathrm{Res}_{E/\mathbb{Q}} T_E \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Nm}_{E/\mathbb{Q}}} T,$$

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where on R -points the norm map $\mathrm{Nm}_{E/\mathbb{Q}}$ sends $t \in T(R \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} E)$ to $\prod_{\varphi: E \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{Q}}} \varphi_*(t) \in T(R \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \overline{\mathbb{Q}})$, which lies in $T(R)$.

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$$\mathbb{A}_E^{\times} \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Res}_{E/\mathbb{Q}} \mu_h} T(\mathbb{A}_E) \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Nm}_{E/\mathbb{Q}}} T(\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Q}}) \longrightarrow T(\mathbb{A}_{f, \mathbb{Q}}).$$

Canonical models

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{art}_{E(\mu_h)}: \mathbb{A}_{E(\mu_h)}^\times &\twoheadrightarrow \mathrm{Gal}(E(\mu_h)^{\mathrm{ab}} / E(\mu_h)), \\ r_h: \mathbb{A}_{E(\mu_h)}^\times &\longrightarrow T(\mathbb{A}_{f, \mathbb{Q}}). \end{aligned}$$

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A model $M_K(G, X)$ of $\mathrm{Sh}_K(G, X)$ defined over $E(G, X)$ is *canonical* if for every special pair (T, h) in (G, X) and every $a \in G(\mathbb{A}_{f, \mathbb{Q}})$,

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1. $[h, a]_K \in M_K(G, X)(\mathbb{C})$ is defined over $E(\mu_h)^{\mathrm{ab}}$; and
2. for all $s \in \mathbb{A}_{E(\mu_h)}^\times$, we have

$$\mathrm{art}_{E(\mu_h)}(s) \cdot [h, a]_K = [h, r_h(s)a]_K.$$

Recall that $\mathrm{Sh}(G, X)$ is the limit of the inverse system $(\mathrm{Sh}_K(G, X))_K$, and that $G(\mathbb{A}_f, \mathbb{Q})$ acts on the right via the rule

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A model $(M_K(G, X))_K$ of $\mathrm{Sh}(G, X)$ is *canonical* if it is defined over $E(G, X)$ and the arrow $(*)$ makes each $M_K(G, X)$ a canonical model of $\mathrm{Sh}_K(G, X)$.

Existence and uniqueness

Theorem

For any Shimura datum (G, X) , $\mathrm{Sh}(G, X)$ has a canonical model, and the canonical model is unique up to canonical isomorphism.

Example: the Siegel modular variety

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More precisely, recall that $\mathrm{Sh}_K(G, X)(\mathbb{C}) \cong \mathcal{M}_K / \sim$, where \mathcal{M}_K is the space of triples (A, s, η_K) such that

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- ▶ s or $-s$ is a polarization of $H_1(A, \mathbb{Q})$; and
- ▶ η is an isomorphism $V \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{A}_{f, \mathbb{Q}} \xrightarrow{\sim} H_1(A, \mathbb{A}_{f, \mathbb{Q}})$ sending ψ to an $\mathbb{A}_{f, \mathbb{Q}}^{\times}$ -multiple of s .

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Of course, the proof makes essential use of the theory of complex multiplication for abelian varieties.

We note that the the action of $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Q})$ on $(\mathcal{M}_K/\sim)(\mathbb{C})$ admits a transparent expression in terms of triples $(A, s, \eta K)$. In particular, if we write

$$\sigma \cdot (A, s, \eta K) = (\sigma A, {}^\sigma s, {}^\sigma \eta K),$$

then σA is the abelian variety obtained from A by applying σ to the coefficients of the equations defining A .

Example: $GSpin(n, 2)$

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It is a general fact that the \mathbb{C} -points of Shimura varieties of Hodge type can be described as a moduli space of abelian varieties which is similar in spirit to, but more complicated than, the Siegel case. One again has the fact that special points correspond to CM-abelian varieties.