

Montreal-Toronto Workshop

on

Hilbert Modular Varieties

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Fields Institute, Toronto

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Algebraic Cycles on Hilbert modular varieties

Cycles on Hilbert modular varieties

Cycles on Hilbert modular surfaces

This is partly a survey of joint work with

Pierre Charollois (Paris),

Adam Logan (Ottawa),

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Special cycles on modular curves

Modular curves (and Shimura curves) are equipped with a rich supply of *arithmetically interesting* topological cycles.

Let $X_0(N)$ = modular curve of level N ,

$$X_0(N)(\mathbb{C}) = \Gamma_0(N) \backslash \mathcal{H}^*.$$

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Quadratic embeddings

The cycles are naturally indexed by embeddings

$$\Psi : K \longrightarrow M_2(\mathbb{Q}),$$

where K is a commutative (quadratic) subring of \mathbb{C} .

$$\Sigma := \{\Psi : K \longrightarrow M_2(\mathbb{Q})\} / \Gamma_0(N).$$

$$\text{Disc}(\Psi) = \text{Disc}(\Psi(K) \cap M_0(N)).$$

Let D be a discriminant (not necessarily fundamental):

$$\Sigma_D := \{\Psi \in \Sigma : \text{Disc}(\Psi) = D\}.$$

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Some Key Facts

- 1 The (narrow) class group $G_D = \text{cl}(D)$ acts naturally on Σ_D , without fixed points.
- 2 $\#\Sigma_D = \#G_D \cdot \#\{I \triangleleft \mathcal{O}_D : \mathcal{O}_D/I \simeq \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}\}$.

Goal: Associate to each $\Psi \in \Sigma$ a (topological) cycle

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The cycle Δ_ψ when $D < 0$: CM points.

The rational torus

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has a unique fixed point $\tau_\psi \in \mathcal{H}$. We set

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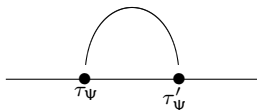


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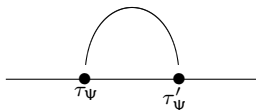


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In the remaining cases where $D > 0$, the torus $\Psi(K^\times)$ has two fixed points τ_Ψ, τ'_Ψ in $\mathbb{P}_1(\mathbb{R}) - \mathbb{P}_1(\mathbb{Q})$.

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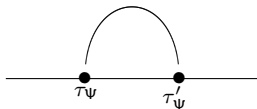
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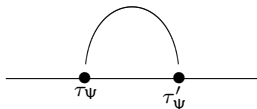
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Some more definitions

Let $\chi : G_D \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ be a (not necessarily quadratic!) character.

$$\Delta_{D,\chi} := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \Sigma_D = \emptyset \\ \sum_{\sigma \in G_D} \chi(\sigma) \Delta_{\Psi\sigma} & \text{with } \Psi \in \Sigma_D. \end{cases}$$

Important special case: χ is quadratic, i.e., a genus character. It cuts out a bi-quadratic extension $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D_1}, \sqrt{D_2})$ where $D = D_1 D_2$.

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Periods attached to $\Delta_{D,\chi}$ when $D > 0$

Let $f \in S_2(\Gamma_0(N))$ be a newform of weight two.

$$\omega_f := 2\pi i f(z) dz = f(q) \frac{dq}{q} \in \Omega^1(X_0(N)/K_f).$$

We attach to f and the cycle $\Delta_{D,\chi}$ a *period*

$$\int_{\Delta_{D,\chi}} \omega_f \in \Lambda_{f,\chi}.$$

Let $L(f/K_D, \chi, s) =$ Hasse-Weil L -series attached to f and $\chi \in G_D^{\vee}$.

Convention: if $D = m^2$ we set

$$L(f/K_D, \chi, s) = L(f, \chi, s) L(f, \bar{\chi}, s).$$

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Relation with special values of L -series (the case $D > 0$).

Theorem

Let D be a positive discriminant.

- 1 If $\Sigma_D \neq \emptyset$, then $L(f/K_D, \chi, s)$ vanishes to even order at $s = 1$ for all $\chi \in G_D^\vee$.
- 2 In that case,

$$\left| \int_{\Delta_{D,\chi}} \omega_f \right|^2 = L(f/K_D, \chi, 1) \pmod{(K_f K_\chi)^\times}.$$

Heegner points attached to $\Delta_{D,\chi}$ when $D < 0$

The zero-dimensional cycles $\Delta_{D,\chi}$ are *homologically trivial* when $\chi \neq 1$.

$$J_{D,\chi} := \text{AJ}(\Delta_{D,\chi}) = \int_{\partial^{-1}(\Delta_{D,\chi})} \omega_f \in \mathbb{C}/(\Lambda_f \otimes \mathbb{Z}(\chi)).$$

Assume for simplicity that $K_f = \mathbb{Q}$. Then f corresponds to a modular elliptic curve E_f/\mathbb{Q} and $\mathbb{C}/\Lambda_f \sim E_f(\mathbb{C})$. We can view $J_{D,\chi}$ as a point, denoted $P_{D,\chi}$, in $E_f(\mathbb{C}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}[\chi]$.

Theory of complex multiplication \Rightarrow the point $P_{D,\chi}$ belongs to $E_f(H_D) \otimes \mathbb{Z}[\chi]$.

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Relation with derivatives of L -series (the case $D < 0$).

Theorem (Gross-Zagier, Zhang)

Let D be a negative discriminant.

- 1 If $\Sigma_D \neq \emptyset$, then $L(f/K_D, \chi, s)$ vanishes to odd order at $s = 1$ for all $\chi \in G_D^\vee$.
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$$\langle P_{D,\chi}, P_{D,\bar{\chi}} \rangle = L'(f/K_D, \chi, 1) \pmod{(K_f K_\chi)^\times}.$$

Application to elliptic curves

Let E be a modular elliptic curve, attached to an eigenform $f \in S_2(\Gamma_0(N))$.

Theorem (Kolyvagin)

Assume that $D < 0$ and that $\Sigma_D \neq \emptyset$. If $P_{D,\chi} \neq 0$ in $E(H_D) \otimes \mathbb{Q}(\chi)$, then $(E(H_D) \otimes \mathbb{Q}(\chi))^\chi$ is spanned by $P_{D,\chi}$ and the corresponding (χ part of) the Shafarevich-Tate group is finite.

Conclusion: Heegner points give us a *tight control* on the arithmetic of elliptic curves over class fields of *imaginary quadratic fields*.

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A tantalising open question when $D > 0$

Question

$$\int_{\Delta_{D,\chi}} \omega_f \neq 0 \stackrel{?}{\implies} (E(H_D) \otimes \mathbb{Z}[\chi])^\chi, \mathbb{H}(E/H_D)^\chi < \infty.$$

Possible strategy (ongoing work in progress with V. Rotger and I. Sols; cf. my AWS lectures) based on

- 1 Diagonal “Gross-Kudla-Schoen” cycles on triple products of modular curves;
- 2 p -adic deformations (à la Hida) of the images of these cycles under p -adic étale Abel-Jacobi maps.

To be discussed at next year’s Toronto-Montreal meeting devoted to algebraic cycles!

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Algebraic cycles on Hilbert modular surfaces

F = real quadratic field. $v_1, v_2 : F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Set $x_j := v_j(x)$.

X = associated Hilbert modular surface.

$$X(\mathbb{C}) = (\text{Compactification of}) \mathbf{SL}_2(\mathcal{O}_F) \backslash \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{H}.$$

The surface X contains an interesting supply of *algebraic cycles*.

- 1 Codimension 2: CM points.
- 2 Codimension 1: Hirzebruch-Zagier divisors.

We will probably hear more about these in the lectures by Kumar and Steve tomorrow.

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Cycles on Hilbert modular surfaces

I will focus on cycles that are very analogous to Shintani cycles, in the four-manifold $X(\mathbb{C})$. They are indexed by F -algebra embeddings

$$\Psi : K \longrightarrow M_2(F),$$

where $K = F(\sqrt{D})$ is a quadratic extension of F .

There are now *three cases* to consider.

1. $D_1, D_2 > 0$: the totally real case.
2. $D_1, D_2 < 0$: the complex multiplication (CM) case.
3. $D_1 < 0, D_2 > 0$: the “almost totally real” (ATR) case.

Cycles on Hilbert modular surfaces

I will focus on cycles that are very analogous to Shintani cycles, in the four-manifold $X(\mathbb{C})$. They are indexed by F -algebra embeddings

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The totally real case

For $j = 1, 2$,

$\Psi(K \otimes_{v_j} \mathbb{R})^\times$ has *two fixed points* $\tau_j, \tau'_j \in \mathbb{R}$.

Let $\Upsilon_j :=$ geodesic from τ_j to τ'_j .

$\Delta_\Psi :=$ Image of $\Upsilon_1 \times \Upsilon_2$ in $X(\mathbb{C})$.



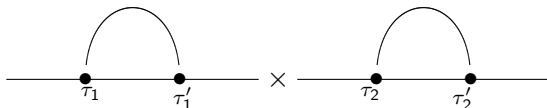
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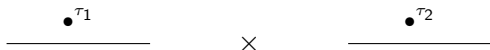


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$\tau_1 :=$ fixed point of $\Psi(K^\times) \circlearrowleft \mathcal{H}_1$;

$\tau_2, \tau'_2 :=$ fixed points of $\Psi(K^\times) \circlearrowleft (\mathcal{H}_2 \cup \mathbb{R})$;

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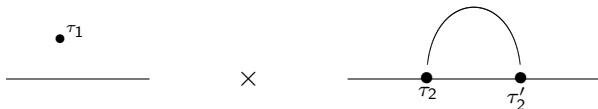
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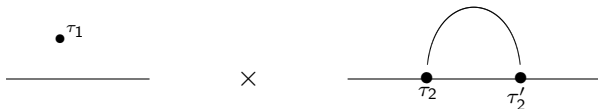
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Elliptic curves

Let E be an elliptic curve over F , of *conductor* 1.

Simplifying Assumptions: $h^+(F) = 1$, $N = 1$.

Counting points mod \mathfrak{p} yields $\mathfrak{n} \mapsto a(\mathfrak{n}) \in \mathbb{Z}$, on the integral ideals of \mathcal{O}_F .

Generating series

$$G(z_1, z_2) := \sum_{\mathfrak{n} > 0} a(\mathfrak{n}) e^{2\pi i \left(\frac{n_1}{d_1} z_1 + \frac{n_2}{d_2} z_2 \right)},$$

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The elliptic curve E is said to be *modular* if G is a Hilbert modular form of weight $(2, 2)$:

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for all

$$\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbf{SL}_2(\mathcal{O}_F).$$

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The differential form

$$\alpha_G := G(z_1, z_2) dz_1 dz_2$$

is a *holomorphic* (hence closed) 2-form on

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We will also work with the harmonic form

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Periods of ω_G : the totally real case.

Theorem

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Shimura-Oda period relations: It is conjectured that

$$\Lambda_G := \left\langle \int_{\Delta_\Psi} \omega_G, \Psi \in \Sigma_D \text{ with } D \gg 0 \right\rangle \subset \mathbb{C}$$

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do not make sense!

Question: Can CM cycles on X be used to construct points on E ?

Related Question (Eyal Goren's thesis). Can CM cycles on X be used to construct canonical units in abelian extensions of CM fields, generalising elliptic units?

Answer: For elliptic curves, probably not...

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Elliptic curves of conductor 1 and the BSD conjecture

Consider the twist E_K of E by a quadratic extension K/F .

Proposition

- 1 If K is totally real or CM, then E_K has even analytic rank.
- 2 If K is an ATR (Almost Totally Real) extension, then E_K has odd analytic rank.

In particular, we do not expect points in $E(K)$ when K is CM...

Suggestion: ATR cycles on Hilbert modular surfaces are a more appropriate generalisation of CM cycles on modular curves.

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Recall: The cycles Δ_Ψ are *homologically trivial* (after eventually tensoring with \mathbb{Q}), because $H_1(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q}) = 0$.

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If $\Psi \in \Sigma_D$, then the point P_Ψ belongs to $E(H_D) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$, where H_D is the Hilbert class field of the ATR extension $K = F(\sqrt{D})$.

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where $E_\alpha =$ an Eisenstein series of weight two.

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Understand the process whereby ATR cycles on $X(\mathbb{C})$ lead to the construction of global invariants such as algebraic points on elliptic curves and Stark units.

Eventual applications:

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The BSD conjecture for curves of conductor 1

Conjecture (on ATR twists)

Let K be an ATR extension of F and let E_K be the associated twist of E . If $L'(E_K/F, 1) \neq 0$, then $E_K(F)$ has rank one and $\mathcal{I}(E_K/F) < \infty$.

The BSD conjecture over totally real fields is very well understood in analytic rank ≤ 1 , thanks mostly to the work of Zhang and his school.

Yet the conjecture on ATR twists continues to present a genuine mystery.

Modest proposal: Exhibit settings where the mysterious ATR construction can be directly compared with a classical Heegner point construction.

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\mathbb{Q} -curves

Definition

A \mathbb{Q} -curve over F is an elliptic curve E/F which is F -isogenous to its Galois conjugate.

Pinch, Cremona: For $N = \text{disc}(F)$ prime and ≤ 1000 , there are exactly 17 isogeny classes of elliptic curves of conductor 1 over $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{N})$,

$N = 29, 37, 41, 109, 157, 229, 257, 337, 349,$

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\mathbb{Q} -curves and elliptic modular forms

Theorem (Ribet)

Let E be a \mathbb{Q} -curve of conductor 1 over $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{N})$. Then there is an elliptic modular form $f \in S_2(\Gamma_1(N), \varepsilon_F)$ with fourier coefficients in a quadratic (imaginary) field such that

$$L(E/F, s) = L(f, s)L(f^\sigma, s).$$

The Hilbert modular form G on $GL_2(\mathbb{A}_F)$ is the Doi-Naganuma lift of f . Modular parametrisation defined over F :

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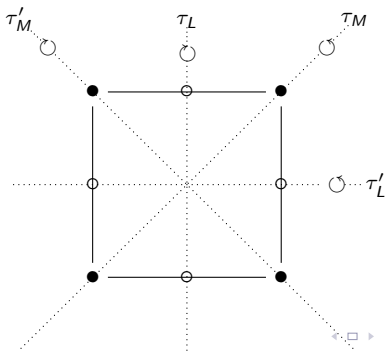
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Some Galois theory

Let \mathcal{M} = Galois closure of M over \mathbb{Q} . Then $\text{Gal}(\mathcal{M}/\mathbb{Q}) = D_8$.

This group contains two copies of the Klein 4-group:

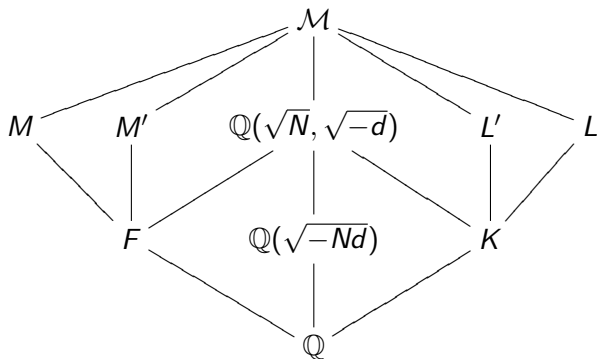
$$V_F = \langle \tau_M, \tau'_M \rangle, \quad V_K = \langle \tau_L, \tau'_L \rangle.$$



Some Galois theory

Suppose that $F = \mathcal{M}^{V_F}$ $M = \mathcal{M}^{\tau_M}$ $M' = \mathcal{M}^{\tau'_M}$,

and set $K = \mathcal{M}^{V_K}$ $L = \mathcal{M}^{\tau_L}$ $L' = \mathcal{M}^{\tau'_L}$.



Key facts about K and L

Let $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \chi_M : \mathbb{A}_F^\times \longrightarrow \pm 1 \text{ be the quadratic character attached to } M/F; \\ \chi_L : \mathbb{A}_K^\times \longrightarrow \pm 1 \text{ be the quadratic character attached to } L/K. \end{array} \right.$

- 1 $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$ is an imaginary quadratic field, and satisfies a suitable “Heegner hypothesis”;
- 2 The central character $\chi_L|_{\mathbb{A}_\mathbb{Q}^\times}$ is equal to ε_F .
- 3 $\text{Ind}_F^\mathbb{Q} \chi_M = \text{Ind}_K^\mathbb{Q} \chi_L$;

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The Artin formalism

Let $f \in S_2(\Gamma_0(N), \varepsilon_F)$ and let E/F be associated elliptic curve.

$$\begin{aligned}L(E_M/F, s) &= L(E/F, \chi_M, s) \\ &= L(f/F, \chi_M, s) \\ &= L(f \otimes \text{Ind}_F^{\mathbb{Q}} \chi_M, s) \\ &= L(f \otimes \text{Ind}_K^{\mathbb{Q}} \chi_L, s) \\ &= L(f/K, \chi_L, s)\end{aligned}$$

In particular, $L'(E_M/F, 1) \neq 0$ implies that $L'(f/K, \chi_L, 1) \neq 0$.

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The following strikingly general theorem applies to forms on $\Gamma_1(N)$ with non-trivial nebentype character.

Theorem (Ye Tian, Xinyi Yuan, Shou-Wu Zhang, Wei Zhang)

If $L'(f/K, \chi_L, 1) \neq 0$, then $A_f(L)^- \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ has dimension one over T_f , and therefore

$$\text{rank}(A_f(L)^-) = 2.$$

Furthermore $\mathfrak{M}(A_f/L)^-$ is finite.

$$\text{rank}(A_f(L)^-) = \text{rank}(A_f(M)^-), \quad A_f(M)^- = E(M)^- \oplus E(M)^-.$$

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If $L'(E_M/F, 1) \neq 0$, then $\text{rank}(E_M(F)) = 1$ and $\mathfrak{M}(E_M/F) < \infty$.

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A final question

In the setting of \mathbb{Q} -curves, we have two constructions of a point in $E_M(F)$, with $M = F(\sqrt{D})$ ATR:

- ① A “classical” Heegner point $P_M(f)$ attached to the elliptic cusp form $f \in S_2(\Gamma_1(N), \varepsilon_N)$.
- ② A *conjectural* ATR point $P_M^?(G) = P_{D,1}(\omega_G)$ attached to the Hilbert modular form $G = DN(f)$.

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There exists a constant $\ell \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$, not depending on M , such that

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A Big Thank You to

Eyal,

Steve,

for organising the Toronto-Montreal workshop!