

## 10. On Siegel Eigenforms

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**Introduction.** We note some properties of Siegel eigenforms of general degree relating to the algebra of Hecke operators. We refer to [5]–[7] for motivations and examples. (These examples satisfy the “multiplicity one conjecture”.)

§ 1. **Eigencharacters.** For integers  $n \geq 1$  and  $k \geq 0$ , we denote by  $M_k(\Gamma_n)$  the vector space over the complex number field  $C$  consisting of all Siegel modular forms of degree  $n$  and weight  $k$ . The space of cusp forms is  $S_k(\Gamma_n) = \text{Ker}(\Phi : M_k(\Gamma_n) \rightarrow M_k(\Gamma_{n-1}))$ , where  $\Phi$  is the Siegel operator. As usual we understand that  $M_k(\Gamma_0) = S_k(\Gamma_0) = C$  for  $k \geq 0$ ; see § 3 for Siegel modular forms of degree zero. For each integer  $n \geq 1$ , we denote by  $L = L^{(n)}$  the abstract Hecke algebra of degree  $n$  over  $C$  as in Andrianov [1, § 1.3]. For each integer  $k \geq 0$ , we denote by  $\tau = \tau_k^{(n)} : L \rightarrow \text{End}_C(M_k(\Gamma_n))$  the representation of  $L$  on  $M_k(\Gamma_n)$  defined in Andrianov [1, (1.3.3)]. We denote by  $T = T(M_k(\Gamma_n)) = \tau(L)$  the  $C$ -algebra of all Hecke operators on  $M_k(\Gamma_n)$ . We put  $\hat{T} = \text{Hom}_C(T, C)$  ( $C$ -algebra homomorphisms), and for each  $\lambda \in \hat{T}$  we put  $M_k(\Gamma_n; \lambda) = \{f \in M_k(\Gamma_n) \mid Tf = \lambda(T)f \text{ for all } T \in T\}$  and  $m(\lambda) = \dim_C M_k(\Gamma_n; \lambda)$  the “multiplicity” of  $\lambda$ . We denote by  $A(T) = \{\lambda \in \hat{T} \mid m(\lambda) \geq 1\}$  the set of all “eigencharacters” of  $T$ . Then  $\#A(T) \leq \dim_C M_k(\Gamma_n)$ , where  $\#A(T)$  denotes the cardinality of  $A(T)$ . A formulation of the “multiplicity one conjecture” is that  $m(\lambda) = 1$  for all  $\lambda \in A(T)$ . This is equivalent to the following equality  $\#A(T) = \dim_C M_k(\Gamma_n)$ , since we have  $M_k(\Gamma_n) = \bigoplus_{\lambda} M_k(\Gamma_n; \lambda)$  and  $\dim_C M_k(\Gamma_n) = \sum_{\lambda} m(\lambda)$  where  $\lambda$  runs over  $A(T)$ . We say that a modular form  $f$  in  $M_k(\Gamma_n)$  is an eigen modular form (or “eigenform”) if  $f$  is a non-zero modular form belonging to  $M_k(\Gamma_n; \lambda)$  for a  $\lambda \in A(T)$ . Such a  $\lambda$  is uniquely determined by  $f$ , and we denote it by  $\lambda(f)$ . In this case we denote by  $\lambda(T, f)$  the value of  $\lambda(f)$  at  $T \in T$ :  $Tf = \lambda(T, f)f$ . We write  $\lambda(m, f) = \lambda(T(m), f)$  for each integer  $m \geq 1$ , where  $T(m) \in T$  is the Hecke operator studied by Maass [8] normalized as in Andrianov [1, (1.3.15)].

The Fourier expansion of a modular form  $f$  in  $M_k(\Gamma_n)$  is denoted by  $f = \sum_{T \geq 0} a(T, f)q^T$  with  $q^T = \exp(2\pi\sqrt{-1} \cdot \text{trace}(TZ))$  where  $Z$  is a variable on the Siegel upper half space of degree  $n$  and  $T$  runs over all  $n \times n$  symmetric semi-integral positive semi-definite matrices. Let  $R$  be a subring of  $C$ . We put  $M_k(\Gamma_n)_R = \{f \in M_k(\Gamma_n) \mid a(T, f) \in R \text{ for all } T \geq 0\}$  (an  $R$ -module) and  $M_k(\Gamma_n; \lambda)_R = M_k(\Gamma_n; \lambda) \cap M_k(\Gamma_n)_R$  (an  $R$ -

module) for each  $\lambda \in \hat{T}$  ( $T = T(M_k(\Gamma_n))$ ). We denote by  $L_R = L_R^{(n)}$  the abstract Hecke algebra of degree  $n$  over  $R$ , and we put  $T_R = T_R(M_k(\Gamma_n)) = \tau(L_R)$  (an  $R$ -algebra). For each  $\lambda \in \hat{T}$  we denote by  $\lambda_R$  the restriction of  $\lambda$  on  $T_R$ , and we put  $Q(\lambda) = Q(\text{Image}(\lambda_Q)) = Q(\lambda(T_Q))$  (an extension field of  $Q$ ) and  $Z(\lambda) = Q(\lambda) \cap \bar{Z}$  (=the integral closure of  $Z$  in  $Q(\lambda)$ ), where  $Q$  is the rational number field,  $Z$  is the rational integer ring, and  $\bar{Z}$  is the ring of all algebraic integers in  $C$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $\lambda \in A(T(M_k(\Gamma_n)))$  for  $n \geq 1$  and even  $k \geq 0$ . Then :*

(1)  $Q(\lambda)$  is a totally real finite extension of  $Q$ .

(2)  $\text{Image}(\lambda_Z) \subset Z(\lambda)$  for  $n \leq 2$ .

Before the proof of Theorem 1, we note the following facts.

(A)  $M_k(\Gamma_n)_Z \otimes_Z C = M_k(\Gamma_n)$  for  $n \geq 1$  and even  $k \geq 0$ .

(B)  $M_k(\Gamma_n)_Q$  is stable under  $T_Q$  for  $n \geq 1$  and  $k \geq 0$ .

(B\*)  $M_k(\Gamma_n)_Z$  is stable under  $T_Z$  for  $n \leq 2$  and  $k \geq 0$ .

The fact (A) is proved in Eichler [3] and Baily [2]; see Igusa [4, Introduction]. Here we note the following easily proved fact: let  $R$  be a subring of  $C$ ,  $K$  the quotient field of  $R$ , and  $f = \{f_1, \dots, f_r\}$  a finite subset of  $M_k(\Gamma_n)_R$  for  $n \geq 1$  and  $k \geq 0$ , then the following are equivalent: (1)  $f$  is linearly independent over  $R$ , (2)  $f$  is linearly independent over  $K$ , (3)  $f$  is linearly independent over  $C$ . The fact (B) follows from Maass [8, (62) (63)] and Žarkovskaja [9, (2.4)]. For  $n=1$ , (B\*) is well-known, and for  $n=2$ , (B\*) follows from Andrianov [1, (2.1.11)]. We note that (B\*) seems to hold for  $n \geq 3$  also if  $k \geq n$ . (Since  $M_k(\Gamma_n) = 0$  for  $n \leq 2$  and  $k < n$ , we do not need the condition  $k \geq n$  in the above (B\*) for  $n \leq 2$ , but we would need this condition in the general case containing the case of level  $> 1$ .)

**Proof of Theorem 1.** We denote by  $\text{Aut}(C)$  the group of all field-automorphisms of  $C$ . Take a  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(C)$ . For each  $f = \sum_{T \geq 0} a(T, f)q^T \in M_k(\Gamma_n)$  we put  $\sigma(f) = \sum_{T \geq 0} \sigma(a(T, f))q^T$ . By (A),  $\sigma(f)$  belongs to  $M_k(\Gamma_n)$ . For each  $\lambda \in \hat{T}$  we define  $\sigma(\lambda) \in \hat{T}$  by  $\sigma(\lambda)(T) = \sigma(\lambda(T))$  for each  $T \in T_Q$  and using  $T = T_Q \otimes_Q C$ . For  $f \in M_k(\Gamma_n)$  and  $T \in T_Q$ , we have  $\sigma(Tf) = T(\sigma(f))$  by (B). In particular, for each  $f \in M_k(\Gamma_n; \lambda)$  with  $\lambda \in \hat{T}$ , we have  $\sigma(f) \in M_k(\Gamma_n; \sigma(\lambda))$ . Hence, if  $\lambda \in A(T)$ , then  $\sigma(\lambda) \in A(T)$  and  $\sigma(Q(\lambda)) = Q(\sigma(\lambda))$ . Since  $A(T)$  is a finite set,  $Q(\lambda)$  is a finite extension of  $Q$  for each  $\lambda \in A(T)$ . Since  $\text{Image}(\lambda_Q) \subset R$  for all  $\lambda \in A(T)$  where  $R$  is the real number field (this fact follows from the hermiteness of Hecke operators in  $T_Q$  (or  $T_R$ ), see Andrianov [1, Theorem 1.3.4]),  $Q(\lambda)$  is a totally real extension of  $Q$  for each  $\lambda \in A(T)$ . This proves (1). To prove (2) we take a  $Z$ -basis  $\{h_1, \dots, h_r\}$  of  $M_k(\Gamma_n)_Z$ . By (A), this is a  $C$ -basis of  $M_k(\Gamma_n)$ . Put  $h = {}^t(h_1, \dots, h_r)$ , and take a  $T \in T_Z$ . Since  $T_Z \subset \text{End}_Z(M_k(\Gamma_n)_Z)$  for  $n \leq 2$  by (B\*), we have  $Th = Mh$  with a matrix  $M \in M(r, Z)$ . Hence  $\det(X - M) = \prod_i (X - \lambda(T))^{m(\lambda)}$  is a monic poly-

nomial in  $Z[X]$ , where  $X$  is an indeterminate and  $\lambda$  runs over  $\Lambda(T)$ . Hence  $\lambda(T) \in \bar{Z}$ . So we have (2). Q.E.D.

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $\lambda \in \Lambda(T(M_k(\Gamma_n)))$  for  $n \geq 1$  and even  $k \geq 0$ . Then:  $M_k(\Gamma_n; \lambda)_{Z(\lambda)} \otimes_{Z(\lambda)} C = M_k(\Gamma_n; \lambda)$ .*

**Proof.** We take a  $Z$ -basis  $\{h_1, \dots, h_r\}$  of  $M_k(\Gamma_n)_Z$ , which is a  $C$ -basis of  $M_k(\Gamma_n)$  by (A). For each  $T \in T_Q$ ,  $Th_i = \sum_{j=1}^r \beta_{ij}(T)h_j$  with  $\beta_{ij}(T) \in Q$  by (B). For each vector  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_r) \in C^r$  we put  $f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^r x_i h_i$ . For each  $\lambda \in \Lambda(T)$  we put  $V(\lambda) = \{x \in C^r \mid f(x) \in M_k(\Gamma_n; \lambda)\}$  (a  $C$ -vector space), then  $f: V(\lambda) \rightarrow M_k(\Gamma_n; \lambda)$  is a  $C$ -linear isomorphism and  $\dim_C V(\lambda) = m(\lambda)$ . By (B) we have  $T_Q \subset \text{End}_Q(M_k(\Gamma_n)_Q)$ , hence  $T_Q$  is a finite dimensional  $Q$ -algebra. We take a  $Q$ -basis  $S$  of  $T_Q$ , which is a finite set. We have:  $x \in V(\lambda) \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in M_k(\Gamma_n; \lambda) \Leftrightarrow Tf(x) = \lambda(T)f(x)$  for all  $T \in S \Leftrightarrow \sum_{i=1}^r \beta_{ij}(T)x_i = \lambda(T)x_j$  for  $j=1, \dots, r$  and  $T \in S$ . Since the coefficients  $\lambda(T)$  and  $\beta_{ij}(T)$  belong to  $Q(\lambda)$ , there exists a basis  $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{m(\lambda)}\}$  of  $V(\lambda)$  such that  $\alpha_j \in Q(\lambda)^r$ . We take non-zero  $\gamma_j \in Z(\lambda)$  such that  $\alpha_j^* = \gamma_j \alpha_j \in Z(\lambda)^r$ . Then  $f(\alpha_j^*) \in M_k(\Gamma_n; \lambda)_{Z(\lambda)}$  and  $V(\lambda) = C\alpha_1^* \oplus \dots \oplus C\alpha_{m(\lambda)}^*$ . Hence we have Theorem 2. Q.E.D.

**§ 2. Fourier coefficients of eigenforms.** For each eigen modular form  $f$  in  $M_k(\Gamma_n)$  for  $n \geq 1$  and  $k \geq 0$ , we put  $Q(f) = Q(\lambda(f))$  and  $Z(f) = Z(\lambda(f))$ . As a particular case of Theorem 2 we have the following

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $f$  be an eigen modular form in  $M_k(\Gamma_n)$  for  $n \geq 1$  and even  $k \geq 0$ . Assume that  $m(\lambda(f)) = 1$ . Then there exists a non-zero constant  $\gamma \in C$  such that  $\gamma f$  belongs to  $M_k(\Gamma_n)_{Z(f)}$ .*

We refer to [5]–[7] for examples satisfying the assumption in Theorem 3. Here we pose a problem. Let  $k \geq 0$  be an integer, and let  $f = (f_n \mid n(1) \leq n < n(2))$  be a system of eigen modular forms  $f_n \in M_k(\Gamma_n)$  satisfying  $\Phi f_n = f_{n-1}$  for  $n(1) < n < n(2)$ , where  $0 \leq n(1) < n(2) \leq \infty$  including  $n(2) = \infty$ . We call such a system  $f$  as an “eigensystem” of “length”  $\ell(f) = n(2) - n(1) - 1$ . We denote by  $Q(f)$  the composite field of  $Q(f_n)$  for all  $n$ , and put  $Z(f) = Q(f) \cap \bar{Z}$ . (Possibly,  $Q(f) = Q(f_n)$  and  $Z(f) = Z(f_n)$  for each  $n$ .) Assume that  $\ell(f) < \infty$ ,  $m(\lambda(f_n)) = 1$  for all  $n$ , and  $k$  is even. Then, by Theorem 3, there exists a non-zero constant  $\gamma \in C$  such that  $\gamma f_n \in M_k(\Gamma_n)_{Z(f)}$  for all  $n$ . Does this hold without the above assumptions (in particular, for the case  $\ell(f) = \infty$ )? We may assume that  $f$  is “maximal” in the following sense:  $\Phi(f_{n(1)}) = 0$  and when  $n(2) < \infty$  there exists no eigen modular form  $g \in M_k(\Gamma_{n(2)})$  satisfying  $\Phi(g) = f_{n(2)-1}$ .

**§ 3. Siegel modular forms of degree zero.** For our purpose, it is convenient to include Siegel modular forms of degree zero. The following may be considered as definitions. For each integer  $k \geq 0$ ,  $M_k(\Gamma_0) = S_k(\Gamma_0) = C$ . The Hecke algebra  $L^{(0)} = C$  acts on  $M_k(\Gamma_0) = C$  by multiplication,  $T = T(M_k(\Gamma_0)) \cong C$ ,  $\Lambda(T) = \{I\}$ ,  $Q(I) = Q$ , and  $Z(I) = Z$ ,

where  $I: T \rightarrow C$  is the natural isomorphism (the identity map). For each subring  $R$  of  $C$ ,  $M_k(\Gamma_0)_R = S_k(\Gamma_0)_R = R$ ,  $L_R^{(0)} = R$ , and  $T_R = T_R(M_k(\Gamma_0)) \cong R$ . A modular form  $f \in M_k(\Gamma_0)$  is eigen if and only if  $f \neq 0$ . If  $f$  is eigen, then  $\lambda(f) = I$ ,  $Q(f) = Q$ ,  $Z(f) = Z$ , and the  $L$ -function is  $L(s, f) = \sum_{m \geq 1} \lambda(T(m), f) m^{-s} = \prod_p (1 - \lambda(T(p), f) p^{-s})^{-1} = \zeta(s)$  where  $T(m) = 1$  and  $\lambda(T(m), f) = 1$  for each integer  $m \geq 1$  and  $p$  runs over all prime numbers. Then, Theorems 1–3 hold trivially for the case of degree zero.

**§ 4. Congruences.** Let  $\lambda^{(1)}$  and  $\lambda^{(2)}$  be eigencharacters of  $T(M_k(\Gamma_n))$  for integers  $n \geq 0$  and  $k \geq 0$ . Let  $K = Q(\lambda^{(1)})Q(\lambda^{(2)})$  be the composite field, and  $\mathcal{O}$  the integer ring of  $K$ . For an ideal  $\mathfrak{c}$  of  $\mathcal{O}$ , we write  $\lambda^{(1)} \equiv \lambda^{(2)} \pmod{\mathfrak{c}}$  if  $\text{Image}(\lambda_Z^{(1)} - \lambda_Z^{(2)}) \subset \mathfrak{c}$ , where  $\mathfrak{c} = \{\alpha/\beta \mid \alpha \in \mathfrak{c}, \beta \in \mathcal{O}, ((\beta), \mathfrak{c}) = \mathcal{O}\} \subset K$  is an  $\mathcal{O}$ -module. For  $n \leq 2$ , this is equivalent to  $\text{Image}(\lambda_Z^{(1)} - \lambda_Z^{(2)}) \subset \mathfrak{c}$  by Theorem 1(2).

In the following table, we note two examples of congruences; one is Ramanujan’s congruence, and the other is Theorem 1 of [6].

	degree 0	degree 1	degree 2
$L$ -functions	$691 \mid \zeta^*(12)$	$71^2 \mid L_2^*(38, A_{20})$	
congruences		$\lambda(A_{12}) \equiv \lambda(E_{12}) \pmod{691}$	$\lambda(\chi_{20}^{(3)}) \equiv \lambda([A_{20}]) \pmod{71^2}$

Here we used the notations of [5] and [6], and we put  $\zeta^*(s) = \zeta(s)(2\pi)^{-s} \Gamma(s)$ ; for each even integer  $k \geq 2$ , we have  $\zeta^*(k) = (-1)^{1+k/2} B_k/2k$ , where  $B_k$  is the  $k$ -th Bernoulli number. These congruences may suggest the higher degree cases.

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