

p-adic distributions associated to
Heegner points on modular curves

Winfried Kohnen

Universität Augsburg
Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftliche Fakultät
Memmingerstr. 6
8900 Augsburg, FRG

Max-Planck-Institut für Mathematik
Gottfried-Claren-Str. 26
5300 Bonn 3, FRG

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Introduction

Let f be a normalized newform of weight 2 on $\Gamma_0(N)$ ($N \in \mathbb{N}$) and let A_f/\mathbb{Q} be the abelian subvariety of the jacobian of the modular curve $X_0(N)/\mathbb{Q}$ corresponding to f . Let p be a rational prime with $p \nmid N$ and denote by \mathbb{C}_p a completion of an algebraic closure of the field of p -adic numbers.

Let K be an imaginary quadratic field and let K_∞/K be the anti-cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension of K .

Suppose that every rational prime ℓ dividing N is split or ramified in K , and every rational prime ℓ with ℓ^2 dividing N is split in K . The main purpose of this paper then is to construct a distribution μ_f on $\text{Gal}(K_\infty/K)$ with values in the subspace of the \mathbb{C}_p -vector space $\mathbb{C}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} A_f(K_\infty)$ which is generated by the Heegner points for K . This distribution is of moderate growth w.r.t. an appropriate norm (§3.). Choosing an anti-cyclotomic p -adic logarithm τ over K we then obtain a p -adic function $h_{f,\tau}(\chi, s)$ for every finite character χ on $\text{Gal}(K_\infty/K)$ in the usual way as a Mellin-Mazur integral (§4.). In the final section of the paper (§5.) we give a simple relation (kindly suggested to me by P. Schneider) between μ_f and the measure constructed by Mazur in [9], §22., which plays an important rôle in recent work of Perrin-Riou ([12]) on a p -adic analogue of the theory of Gross-Zagier ([3]). We also make some further remarks on μ_f and $h_{f,\tau}$, respectively.

As P. Schneider pointed out to me, Heegner points -like cyclotomic units- behave almost like universal norms, and then by a rather formal argument this property can be translated into a distribution relation (Heegner points as universal norms are also treated in [9], §19. and in [11]). In this context -as is true for many distributions occurring in

practice- \mathcal{A}_f is a special case of P. Schneider's fundamental notion of a distribution of Galois type arising from norm-finite elements ([16]).

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§1. Modules in imaginary quadratic fields

Let K be an imaginary quadratic field. For $n \geq 0$ we denote by \mathcal{O}_n the order of K of conductor p^n , where p is a fixed rational prime. We write $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_0$. We let D be the discriminant of K .

There is a homomorphism from the monoid of proper \mathcal{O}_n -lattices onto the monoid of proper \mathcal{O} -lattices given by

$$(1) \quad \alpha \mapsto \alpha \mathcal{O}.$$

The group $(\mathcal{O}/p^n \mathcal{O})^* / (\mathbb{Z}/p^n \mathbb{Z})^*$ is isomorphic to its kernel under the map

$$x \mapsto \mathfrak{d}_{n,x},$$

where

$$(2) \quad \mathfrak{d}_{n,x} = p^n \mathcal{O} + \mathbb{Z}x.$$

Denote by I_n the group of proper \mathcal{O}_n -lattices modulo equivalence and put

$$A_n = ((\mathcal{O}/p^n \mathcal{O})^* / (\mathbb{Z}/p^n \mathbb{Z})^*) / (\mathcal{O}^* / \mathcal{O}_n^*).$$

Then (1) induces an exact sequence of finite abelian groups

$$0 \rightarrow A_n \rightarrow I_n \rightarrow I_0 \rightarrow 0$$

(note that $\mathcal{O}_n^* = \{\pm 1\}$ for $n \geq 1$ and that $\mathcal{O}^* / \mathcal{O}_n^*$ is non-trivial only for $D = -3$ and $D = -4$, in which cases its order is 3 and 2, respectively). In particular

$$|I_n| = |I_0| [\mathcal{O}^* : \mathcal{O}_n^*]^{-1} p^n \left(1 - \left(\frac{D}{p}\right) \frac{1}{p}\right).$$

Note that (1) also induces a bijection between proper \mathcal{O}_n -ideals prime to p and proper \mathcal{O} -ideals prime to p (the inverse map is given by $\alpha \mapsto \alpha \cap \mathcal{O}_n$).

Let

$$\pi_n: A_n \rightarrow A_{n-1} \quad (n \geq 1)$$

be the canonical projection. The order of $\ker \pi_n$ is p for $n \geq 2$ and is $[\mathcal{O}^* : \mathcal{O}_1^*]^{-1} (p - \frac{D}{p})$ for $n=1$.

Lemma. Let \mathfrak{c} be a proper \mathcal{O} -ideal prime to p . Let $x \in A_n$. Then for all $x' \in \pi_{n+1}^{-1} x$ the lattice $(\mathfrak{c} \cap \mathcal{O}_{n+1}) \mathfrak{c}_{n+1, x'}$ has index p in $(\mathfrak{c} \cap \mathcal{O}_n) \mathfrak{c}_{n, x}$.

Proof. Write $\mathfrak{c}_n = \mathfrak{c} \cap \mathcal{O}_n$. We shall prove that

$$(3) \quad p \mathfrak{c}_n \mathfrak{c}_{n, x} \subset \mathfrak{c}_{n+1} \mathfrak{c}_{n+1, x'}$$

The Lemma will follow from this. Indeed, the inclusion

$$\mathfrak{c}_{n+1} \mathfrak{c}_{n+1, x'} \subset \mathfrak{c}_n \mathfrak{c}_{n, x}$$

must be strict, since $(\mathfrak{c}, p) = 1$ and so the coefficient ring of $\mathfrak{c}_n \mathfrak{c}_{n, x}$ is \mathcal{O}_n and that of $\mathfrak{c}_{n+1} \mathfrak{c}_{n+1, x'}$ is \mathcal{O}_{n+1} .

Let us now prove (3) which is equivalent to

$$(4) \quad p^2 (\mathfrak{c}_n \cdot p^n \mathfrak{c}_{n, x}) \subset \mathfrak{c}_{n+1} \cdot p^{n+1} \mathfrak{c}_{n+1, x'}$$

The lattices \mathfrak{c}_n and $p^n \mathfrak{c}_{n, x}$ are \mathcal{O}_n -ideals with $(\mathfrak{c}_n, p^n \mathfrak{c}_{n, x}) = 1$, since $(\mathfrak{c}, p) = 1$

Therefore

$$\mathfrak{c}_n \cdot p^n \mathfrak{c}_{n, x} = \mathfrak{c}_n \cap p^n \mathfrak{c}_{n, x}$$

Therefore (4) is equivalent to

$$p^2 (\mathfrak{c}_n \cap p^n \mathfrak{c}_{n, x}) \subset \mathfrak{c}_{n+1} \cap p^{n+1} \mathfrak{c}_{n+1, x'}$$

or to

$$p^2 (\mathfrak{c} \cap p^n \mathfrak{c}_{n, x}) \subset \mathfrak{c} \cap p^{n+1} \mathfrak{c}_{n+1, x'}$$

The latter inclusion, however, is obvious since $p \mathfrak{c}_{n, x} \subset \mathfrak{c}_{n+1, x'}$, by definition of x' .

§2. Heegner points

For basic facts on Heegner points we refer to [2] (our notation will be consistent with that of [2]). Let $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and suppose that every rational prime ℓ dividing N is split or ramified in the imaginary quadratic field K , and every rational prime ℓ with $\ell^2 \mid N$ is split in K . Let \mathfrak{n} be a proper \mathcal{O} -ideal with $\mathcal{O}/\mathfrak{n}\mathcal{O} \cong \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$ (such an ideal \mathfrak{n} exists if and only if the above conditions on N and ℓ are satisfied). We put $\mathfrak{n}_n = \mathfrak{n}\mathcal{O}_n$, where \mathcal{O}_n is the order of K of conductor p^n and p is a fixed rational prime with $p \nmid N$.

We let $Y_0(N)$ be the open modular curve of level N , which classifies triples (E, E', φ) consisting of two elliptic curves E and E' and a cyclic isogeny $E \xrightarrow{\varphi} E'$ of degree N .

If \mathfrak{a} is a proper \mathcal{O}_n -ideal and $[\mathfrak{a}] \in I_n$ its class we denote by

$$(\mathcal{O}_n, \mathfrak{n}_n, [\mathfrak{a}])$$

the corresponding Heegner point $(\mathcal{O}/\mathfrak{a} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}/\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{n}_n^{-1})$ on $Y_0(N)$. It is rational over the ring class field $H_n = K(j(\mathcal{O}_n))$ obtained from K by adjoining the j -invariant of \mathcal{O}_n . The extension H_n/K is anti-cyclotomic with Galois group canonically isomorphic to I_n by class field theory (recall that an abelian extension L/K is called anti-cyclotomic if L/\mathbb{Q} is Galois and if the non-trivial element of $\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})$ acts on $\text{Gal}(L/K)$ by complex conjugation).

The Galois group of H_n over K acts on Heegner points according to the formula

$$(\mathcal{O}_n, \mathfrak{n}_n, [\mathfrak{a}])^{\sigma[\mathfrak{b}]} = (\mathcal{O}_n, \mathfrak{n}_n, [\mathfrak{a}\mathfrak{b}^{-1}])$$

(\mathfrak{b} a proper \mathcal{O}_n -ideal, $(\mathfrak{b}, p) = 1$, $\sigma[\mathfrak{b}]$ the Artin symbol of $[\mathfrak{b}]$ in $\text{Gal}(H_n/K)$; cf. [2], 4.2.).

Let $J_0(N)/\mathbb{Q}$ be the jacobian of the complete modular curve $X_0(N)/\mathbb{Q}$. The divisor

$$(\mathcal{O}_n, \mathfrak{n}_n, [\mathfrak{a}]) - (i\infty)$$

is rational over H_n , and we shall write

$$y(\mathcal{O}_n, \mathfrak{n}_n, [\mathfrak{a}])$$

for its image in $J_0(N)(H_n)$.

Let

$$H = \bigcup_{n \geq 0} H_n$$

and put

$$V = \mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} J_0(N)(H_\infty) = \bigcup_{n \geq 0} \mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} J_0(N)(H_n).$$

By the Mordell-Weil Theorem the group $J_0(N)(H_n)$ is finitely generated for every $n \geq 0$. The complex vector space V has an hermitian inner product given by

$$\langle ze, z'e' \rangle = zz' \langle e, e' \rangle_J.$$

Here $e, e' \in J_0(N)(H_\infty)$ and $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_J$ is the normalized height pairing on $J_0(N)(H_\infty)$.

Let \mathbb{T} be the commutative subalgebra of $\text{End}_{\mathbb{Q}}(J_0(N))$ generated over \mathbb{Z} by the Hecke operators T_ℓ with $\ell \nmid N$ and the Atkin-Lehner involutions w_ℓ with $\ell | N$. Then \mathbb{T} acts on V in a natural way. Since this action is self-adjoint w.r.t. $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$, we have a spectral decomposition

$$V = \bigoplus_F V_F,$$

where $F: \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{Q}}$ runs through the finite set of characters of \mathbb{T} and V_F denotes the corresponding eigenspace.

Let

$$f(z) = \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n e^{2\pi i n z} \quad (z \in \mathbb{C}, \text{Im} z > 0)$$

be a normalized newform ($a_1=1$) of weight 2 on $\Gamma_0(N)$ and let A_f/\mathbb{Q} be the abelian subvariety of $J_0(N)/\mathbb{Q}$ corresponding to f ([17], chap.7). Then

$$\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} A_f(H_\infty) = \bigoplus_{\sigma} V_{f^\sigma},$$

where σ runs through the distinct complex embeddings of $\mathbb{Q}(\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1})/\mathbb{Q}$ and

$f^\sigma = \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n^\sigma e^{2\pi i n z}$. Moreover, we have identified the newform f^σ with

the corresponding character $T \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{Q}}, T \rightarrow \lambda^\sigma(T)$ ($Tf^\sigma = \lambda^\sigma(T)f^\sigma$).

In order to obtain a spectral decomposition w.r.t. \mathbb{T} also for $\mathbb{C}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} J_0(N)(H_\infty)$ we now choose a \mathbb{Q} -isomorphism $\mathbb{C} \cong \mathbb{C}_p$. Then $V \cong \mathbb{C}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} J_0(N)(H_\infty)$, and V and V_f become \mathbb{C}_p -vector spaces.

If α is a proper \mathcal{O}_n -module we write

$$y_f(\mathcal{O}_n, \mathfrak{a}_n, [\alpha])$$

for the image of the Heegner point $y(\mathcal{O}_n, \mathfrak{a}_n, [\alpha])$ in V_f .

§3. p-adic distributions associated to Heegner points

We keep all notations of §1. and §2. In particular, we let I_n be the group of classes of proper \mathcal{O}_n -lattices. For $n \geq 1$ there is a surjective homomorphism

$$\pi_n: I_n \rightarrow I_{n-1}, [\alpha] \mapsto [\alpha \mathcal{O}_{n-1}]$$

which extends the projection $\pi_n: A_n \rightarrow A_{n-1}$. We let

$$I_\infty = \varprojlim (I_n, \pi_n).$$

By class field theory I_n resp. I_∞ is canonically isomorphic to $\text{Gal}(H_n/K)$ resp. $\text{Gal}(H_\infty/K)$, and the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} I_n & \xrightarrow{\pi_n} & I_{n-1} \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ \text{Gal}(H_n/K) & \xrightarrow{\text{res}} & \text{Gal}(H_{n-1}/K) \end{array}$$

is commutative, where res is the restriction map.

Recall that a p-adic distribution ν on I_∞ with values in an abelian group Y is given by a family $\{\nu_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ of maps

$$\nu_n: I_n \rightarrow Y$$

which satisfy the compatibility relations

$$(5) \quad \nu_n(A) = \sum_{\pi_{n+1} B = A} \nu_{n+1}(B)$$

for all $n \geq 1$.

Now let us suppose that

- (6) {
- i) $f(z) = \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n e^{2\pi i n z}$ is a normalized newform of weight 2 on $\Gamma_0(N)$;
 - ii) every rational prime ℓ with $\ell | N$ is split or ramified in the imaginary quadratic field K , and $\ell^2 | N$ implies that ℓ is split in K ;
 - iii) \mathfrak{a} is a proper \mathcal{O} -ideal with $\mathcal{O}/\mathfrak{a} = \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$ (such an \mathfrak{a} exists by ii)

we keep κ fixed throughout the following and therefore mostly omit it from the notation);

iv) p is a rational prime with $p \nmid N$ and $\varrho = \varrho_p$ is a root of $x^2 - a_p x + p = 0$ which satisfies $|\varrho|_p > |p|_p = p^{-1}$, where $|\cdot|_p$ is the normalized p -adic absolute value on \mathbb{Q}_p .

From now on we will always assume that the conditions in (6) are satisfied.

For $n \geq 1$ we define a map

$$v_{f,n}: I_n \rightarrow V_f$$

by

$$v_{f,n}(A) = \varrho^{-n} y_f(\sigma_n, \kappa_n, A) - \varrho^{-n-1} y_f(\sigma_{n-1}, \kappa_{n-1}, \pi_n A).$$

We put

$$(7) \quad v_f = \{v_{f,n}\}_{n \geq 1}.$$

Theorem 1. Under the assumptions in (6) the family v_f defined by (7) is a p -adic distribution on I_∞ .

Proof. We must verify (5). Write v_n instead of $v_{f,n}$. We have

$$(8) \quad \left\{ \begin{aligned} \sum_{\pi_{n+1} B = A} v_{n+1}(B) &= \varrho^{-n-1} \sum_{\pi_{n+1} B = A} y_f(\sigma_{n+1}, \kappa_{n+1}, B) \\ &- \varrho^{-n-2} \sum_{\pi_{n+1} B = A} y_f(\sigma_n, \kappa_n, \pi_{n+1} B). \end{aligned} \right.$$

For $p \nmid N$ let T_p be the Hecke operator of degree p viewed as a correspondence on $X_0(N)$. Then T_p acts on Heegner points according to

$$T_p(R, \mathfrak{L}, [\mathfrak{m}]) = \sum_{\mathfrak{m}'/\mathfrak{m} \cong \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}} (R_{\mathfrak{m}'}, \mathfrak{L}_{\mathfrak{m}'}, [\mathfrak{m}'])$$

(formula 6.1. in [2]; here R is an arbitrary order in K , \mathfrak{L} and \mathfrak{m} are proper R -modules, $R/\mathfrak{L} \cong \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$, the sum is taken over the $p+1$ sublattices \mathfrak{m}' of index p in \mathfrak{m} , $R_{\mathfrak{m}'} = \text{End}(\mathfrak{m}')$ and $\mathfrak{L}_{\mathfrak{m}'} = \mathfrak{L} R_{\mathfrak{m}'} \cap R_{\mathfrak{m}'}$).

Let $A \in I_n$. Write $A = [\alpha]$, where α is a proper \mathcal{O}_n -ideal with $(\alpha, p) = 1$.

Then

$$\pi_{n+1}^{-1} A = \{ [\alpha \cap \mathcal{O}_{n+1}] [c_{n+1, x'}] \mid x' \in \ker \pi_{n+1} \}$$

with $c_{n, x}$ defined by (2), and the lattice $(\alpha \cap \mathcal{O}_{n+1}) c_{n+1, x'}$ has index p in

α by the Lemma in §1. (take $\zeta = \alpha\sigma$, so $\zeta \cap \sigma_n = \alpha$). Therefore for $n \geq 1$ the p lattices $(\alpha \cap \sigma_{n+1})\zeta_{n+1,x}$, ($x' \in \ker \pi_{n+1}$) together with $p\alpha\sigma_{n-1}$ give all the $p+1$ different sublattices of α of index p . Since T_p commutes with the projection onto V_f we conclude

$$\begin{aligned} a_p y_f(\sigma_n, \alpha_n, A) &= T_p y_f(\sigma_n, \alpha_n, A) \\ &= \sum_{\pi_{n+1} B=A} y_f(\sigma_{n+1}, \alpha_{n+1}, B) + y_f(\sigma_{n-1}, \alpha_{n-1}, [p\alpha\sigma_{n-1}]) \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$(9) \quad \sum_{\pi_{n+1} B=A} y_f(\sigma_{n+1}, \alpha_{n+1}, B) = a_p y_f(\sigma_n, \alpha_n, A) - y_f(\sigma_{n-1}, \alpha_{n-1}, \pi_n A).$$

Substituting (9) into the first term on the right of (8) and observing that $|\ker \pi_n| = p$ for $n \geq 2$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\pi_{n+1} B=A} v_{n+1}(B) &= \varphi^{-n-1} a_p y_f(\sigma_n, \alpha_n, A) - \varphi^{-n-1} y_f(\sigma_{n-1}, \alpha_{n-1}, \pi_n A) \\ &\quad - \varphi^{-n-2} p y_f(\sigma_n, \alpha_n, A) \\ &= \varphi^{-n-2} (\varphi a_p - p) y_f(\sigma_n, \alpha_n, A) - \varphi^{-n-1} y_f(\sigma_{n-1}, \alpha_{n-1}, \pi_n A) \\ &= \varphi^{-n} y_f(\sigma_n, \alpha_n, A) - \varphi^{-n-1} y_f(\sigma_{n-1}, \alpha_{n-1}, \pi_n A) \\ &= v_n(A), \end{aligned}$$

where in the third line we have used $\varphi^2 - a_p \varphi + p = 0$. This completes the proof.

We remark that formally v_f is an analogue for the "modular symbols distribution" introduced in [6] and [7] to construct the cyclotomic p -adic L -function of f .

Now recall that the group I_∞ is isomorphic to $F \times \mathbb{Z}_p$, where F is a finite group. Let K_∞ be the fixed field of F . Then K_∞/K is the anti-cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension of K . Let F_n be the image of F under the canonical projection $I_\infty \rightarrow I_n$, and let

$$\bar{I}_\infty = \varprojlim (I_n / F_n, \bar{\pi}_n)$$

where $\bar{\pi}_n$ is the reduction of π_n . We have canonical isomorphisms

$$(10) \quad \text{Gal}(K_\infty/K) \cong I_\infty/F \cong \bar{I}_\infty.$$

Let W_f be the f -subeigenspace of the \mathbb{C}_p -vector space $\mathbb{C}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} J_0(N)(K_\infty)$. The group $\text{Gal}(H_\infty/K)$ acts on $\mathbb{C}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} J_0(N)(H_\infty)$ in a natural way, and the Galois average

$$\sum_{\sigma \in F_n} \nu_{f,n}(A)^\sigma \quad (A \in I_n)$$

of $\nu_{f,n}(A)$ is in W_f ; from the action of the Galois group on Heegner points (§2.) we see that it only depends on the coset of $A \bmod F_n$. We define a distribution

$$\mu_f = \{\mu_{f,n}\}_{n \geq 1}$$

on I_∞ by

$$(11) \quad \mu_{f,n}: I_n/F_n \rightarrow W_f, \quad \mu_{f,n}(\bar{A}) = \sum_{\sigma \in F_n} \nu_{f,n}(A)^\sigma \quad (A \in I_n, \bar{A} = A \bmod F_n).$$

That this, in fact, is a distribution follows from the equation

$$\begin{aligned} |F_n| \sum_{\sigma \in F_{n+1}} \sum_{\tau_{n+1} B=A} \nu_{f,n+1}(B)^\sigma \\ = |F_{n+1}| \sum_{\tau_{n+1} \bar{B}=\bar{A}} \left(\sum_{\sigma \in F_{n+1}} \nu_{f,n+1}(B)^\sigma \right). \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have obtained

Corollary. Let K_∞/K be the anti-cyclotomic \mathbb{Z}_p -extension of K and let W_f be the f -subeigenspace of $\mathbb{C}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} J_0(N)(K_\infty)$. Assume that the conditions in (6) are satisfied. Then via the identifications given in (10) the family $\mu_f = \{\mu_{f,n}\}_{n \geq 1}$ defined by (11) is a distribution on $\text{Gal}(K_\infty/K)$ taking values in W_f .

§4. Mellin-Mazur transform of μ_f

We will now define an ultrametric norm $\|\cdot\|$ on the \mathbb{C}_p -vector space $\mathbb{C}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} A_f(K_\infty)$ and hence on the subspace W_f , for which μ_f is of moderate growth, i.e. there is $r \in [0,1)$ and $c \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $\|\mu_{f,n}(\bar{A})\| \leq p^{rn+c}$ for all $A \in I_n$ and all n (cf. [6],[8]); in fact, μ_f will be bounded if a_p is a p -adic unit.

Lemma. Let A be an abelian variety over a number field k . Then for any \mathbb{Z}_p -extension k_∞/k the group $A(k_\infty)$ modulo torsion is a free \mathbb{Z} -module.

The above result is essentially due to B. Perrin-Riou and was proved for A an elliptic curve in [10], II,1.3.,Thm.4; it was pointed out to me by P. Schneider that the proof carries over to the general situation if one replaces Lemma 6 in [10] by the following argument (we use the same notation as in [10]): since $\Theta = \text{Gal}(k_\infty/k)$ is a pro-cyclic pro- p -group, we have an isomorphism between $H^1(\Theta, \Omega(k_\infty)) = H^1(\Theta, \Omega(k_\infty)(p))$ and the Θ -coinvariants of $\Omega(k_\infty/k)$. Now $\Omega(k_\infty)(p)$ is a \mathbb{Z}_p -module of cofinite type, hence the Θ -coinvariants of $\Omega(k_\infty)(p)$ are finite if and only if the Θ -invariants of $\Omega(k_\infty)(p)$ are finite; the latter, however, is $\Omega(k)(p)$, which obviously is finite.

Now let $w \in \mathbb{C}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} A_f(K_\infty)$ and let $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots$ be the \mathbb{C}_p -coordinates of w w.r.t. any \mathbb{Z} -basis of $A_f(K_\infty)$ modulo torsion. We put

$$(12) \quad \|w\| = \max_{n \geq 1} \{|\lambda_n|_p\}.$$

Using the non-archimedean property of $|\cdot|_p$ one readily sees that this definition is independent of the chosen basis. Thus we have

Proposition 1. Let $\|\cdot\|$ be defined by (12). Then $(\mathbb{C}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} A_f(K_\infty), \|\cdot\|)$ is a normed \mathbb{C}_p -vector space, and the norm is ultrametric.

Theorem 2. The distribution μ_f is of moderate growth w.r.t. $\|\cdot\|$. Moreover, if a_p is a p -adic unit, then μ_f is bounded.

Proof. Let $X = \bigoplus_{\sigma} \mathbb{C} f^{\sigma}$ with the sum over all embeddings σ of $\mathbb{Q}(\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1})/\mathbb{Q}$ in \mathbb{C} and let $r = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} X$. If $F \in X$ and $F(z) = \sum_{d \geq 1} c_d(F) e^{2\pi i d z}$ we may view c_d as an element of the \mathbb{C} -dual X' of X . Let c_{i_1}, \dots, c_{i_r} be a basis of X' . Then the matrix

$$M = \left(c_{i_\alpha}(f^{\sigma_\beta}) \right)_{1 \leq \alpha, \beta \leq r}$$

is invertible.

If $A \in I_n$ we put

$$x(\sigma_n, \mu_n, A) = \sum_{\sigma \in F_n} y(\sigma_n, \mu_n, A)^\sigma.$$

Thus $x(\sigma_n, \mu_n, A) \in J_0(N)(K_\infty)$. Let $x_{A_f}(\sigma_n, \mu_n, A)$ resp. $x_f(\sigma_n, \mu_n, A)$ be the images of $x(\sigma_n, \mu_n, A)$ in $A_f(K_\infty)$ resp. W_f . Then

$$(13) \quad x_{A_f}(\sigma_n, \mu_n, A) = \sum_{1 \leq \beta \leq r} x_{f \sigma_\beta}(\sigma_n, \mu_n, A).$$

Since $T_\alpha x_{A_f}(\sigma_n, \mu_n, A)$ is rational over K_n , it is of norm ≤ 1 . Applying T_α on both sides of (13) we obtain

$$(T_\alpha x_{A_f}(\sigma_n, \mu_n, A))_{\alpha=i_1, \dots, i_r} = (x_{f \sigma_\beta}(\sigma_n, \mu_n, A))_{\beta=1, \dots, r} M^t,$$

where M^t is the transpose of M . Since the column on the left has entries bounded w.r.t. $\|\cdot\|$, and since M is invertible and has integral algebraic entries, we see that $x_{f \sigma}(\sigma_n, \mu_n, A)$ has bounded norm, and the bound is independent of A .

Since furthermore, by assumption, $|g|_p > |p|_p = p^{-1}$ and $|g|_p = 1$ if $|a_p|_p = 1$, we conclude that μ_f is of moderate growth and is even bounded for $|a_p|_p = 1$.

The conjectures of Birch and Swinnerton-Dyer for abelian varieties predict that the groups $A_f(H_\infty)$ and $A_f(K_\infty)$ (and so the vector spaces V_f and W_f) are not finitely generated. In fact, let $L(f \otimes \psi, s)$ be the complex L -series attached to the tensor product of the ℓ -adic representations of $\text{Gal}(\bar{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$ corresponding to f and $\text{ind} \psi$, where $\psi: \text{Gal}(H_n/K) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ is any ring class character ([2]). Then by [2] and [4] $L(f \otimes \psi, s)$ satisfies a functional equation under $s \rightarrow 2-s$, and under the assumption that every prime dividing N is split or ramified in K , and every prime whose square divides N is split in K , its root number is -1 , and so in particular $L(f \otimes \psi, 1) = 0$. Let $L(A_f/H_n, s)$ be the Hasse-Weil L -function of A_f/H_n . Then

$$L(A_f/H_n, s) = \prod_{\sigma, \psi} L(f^\sigma \theta \psi, s)$$

with ψ running over all characters of $\text{Gal}(H_n/K)$ and σ running over the distinct complex embeddings over \mathbb{Q} of $\mathbb{Q}(\{a_n\}_{n \geq 1})$, and with f^σ defined as in §2. Therefore $\text{ord}_{s=1} L(A_f/H_n, s)$ goes to infinity with $n \rightarrow \infty$ and hence -by the conjectures of Birch and Swinnerton Dyer- so should do $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}} A_f(H_n)$. Similar remarks apply if we replace H_n by $H_n \cap K_\infty$.

Note that if the results of Rohrlich ([13,14]) and Greenberg ([1]) could be generalized to give $L'(f\theta\psi, 1) \neq 0$ for almost all primitive ψ and n , then it would be a consequence of the work of Gross and Zagier ([3]) that V_f and W_f are, in fact, infinite-dimensional.

Let $(\bar{W}_f, \|\cdot\|)$ be the completion of $(W_f, \|\cdot\|)$. We can integrate any continuous function $g: I_\infty/F \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_p$ w.r.t. μ_f in the usual manner: if g_n is a sequence of locally constant functions converging uniformly to g , we put

$$\int_{I_\infty/F} g d\mu_f = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{\bar{A} \in I_n/F_n} g(\bar{A}) \mu_{f,n}(\bar{A}),$$

where the right-hand side is an element of \bar{W}_f .

Now let τ be an anti-cyclotomic p -adic logarithm over K , i.e. a non-trivial homomorphism from $\text{Gal}(\bar{\mathbb{Q}}/K)$ to the additive group of \mathbb{Q}_p , whose K/\mathbb{Q} conjugate is equal to its inverse (cf. [9], §15.). Any two anti-cyclotomic p -adic logarithms over K are proportional by an element of \mathbb{Q}_p^* . The fixed field of $\ker \tau$ is K .

Denote by $\bar{W}_f[[s]]$ the $\mathbb{C}_p[[s]]$ -module of power series in s with coefficients in \bar{W}_f .

Definition. Let $\chi: \text{Gal}(K_\infty/K) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_p^*$ be a character of finite order, and let τ be an anti-cyclotomic p -adic logarithm over K . Assume that the conditions in (6) hold. Then we define the Mellin-Mazur transform of μ_f associated to τ and χ as the power series

$$h_{f,\tau}(\chi, s) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{1}{n!} \left(\int_{I_\infty/F} \chi \tau^n d\mu_f \right) s^n$$

in $\bar{W}_f[[s]]$.

Proposition 2. Let $n \geq 1$ and let $\chi: I_n/F_n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_p^*$ be a character such that the inflation $\tilde{\chi}: I_n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_p^*$ of χ is primitive (i.e. not induced by a character of I_m with $m < n$). Then

$$h_{f,\tau}(\chi, 0) = \varrho^{-n} \sum_{A \in I_n} \tilde{\chi}(A) y_f(0_n, n_n, A).$$

The proof is standard and will be left to the reader.

Proposition 3. Let χ_0 be the trivial character, let $p > 3$ and assume that $(\frac{D}{p}) = -1$. Then

$$h_{f,\tau}(\chi_0, 0) = \frac{1}{|F_0|} (1 - \varrho^{-2}) \sum_{A \in I_0} y_f(\sigma, \alpha, A).$$

This is proved by arguments similar to those used in the proof of Theorem 1. In general, the value $h_{f,\tau}(\chi_0, 0)$ is given as the sum of

$$\frac{\alpha}{|F_0|} (\alpha^{-1+p} \varrho^{-2} (\alpha-1) + \varrho^{-2} (\frac{D}{p})) \sum_{A \in I_0} y_f(\sigma, \alpha, A) \quad (\alpha = [0^* : 0_1^*])$$

and a certain correction term (vanishing for $(\frac{D}{p}) = -1$) which arises from the fact that the order of $\ker \tau_1$ is $\alpha^{-1} (p - (\frac{D}{p}))$ and so depends on the value of $(\frac{D}{p})$.

§5. Complements

5.1. Relation of μ_f to Mazur's distribution

The following observations were kindly suggested to me by P. Schneider.

Assume that A_f is of dimension 1, let σ be a p -adic cyclotomic logarithm over K and let \langle, \rangle_σ be the p -adic height pairing on $A_f(K_\infty)$ associated to σ ([9], §20.). Let $\check{\mu}_f = \{\check{\mu}_{f,n}\}_{n \geq 1}$ be the distribution on I_∞/F defined by

$$\check{\mu}_{f,n}(\bar{A}) = \mu_{f,n}(A^{-1})$$

and define the convolution product

$$(\mu_f^* \check{\mu}_f)_n(\bar{A}) = \sum_{\bar{B}\bar{C}=\bar{A}} \langle \mu_{f,n}(\bar{B}), \check{\mu}_{f,n}(\bar{C}) \rangle_\sigma.$$

Then $\mu_f^* \check{\mu}_f$ is a \mathbb{C}_p -valued distribution. Since ν_f is of Galois type in the sense of [16], i.e.

$$\nu_{f,n}([\alpha]) = \nu_{f,n}([\theta_n])^\alpha [\alpha^{-1}]$$

(cf. §2. for notation), we can easily check (using the invariance of $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_\sigma$ under the action of $\text{Gal}(K_\infty/K)$) that

$$(\mu_f^* \check{\mu}_f)_n(\bar{A}) = p^n \langle \mu_{f,n}([\theta_n]), \mu_{f,n}(\bar{A}) \rangle_\sigma.$$

The distribution $\mu_f^* \check{\mu}_f$ therefore is of the same kind as the distribution constructed by Mazur in [9], §22. Mazur's distribution plays an important role in the work of Perrin-Riou ([12]) on a p-adic version of the theory of Gross-Zagier.

5.2. Zeros of $h_{f,\tau}(\chi, s)$

For simplicity suppose $p > 2$. If we fix an isomorphism $\kappa: \text{Gal}(K_\infty/K) \xrightarrow{\sim} 1+p\mathbb{Z}_p$, then $\tau = \text{clog}_p \circ \kappa$ with $c \in \mathbb{Q}_p^*$ and therefore

$$h_{f,\tau}(\chi, s) = \int_{I_\infty/F} \chi \exp_p(cs \cdot \log_p \circ \kappa) d\mu_f$$

(\log_p and \exp_p denote the p-adic logarithm and exponential, respectively) Clearly, the integral converges for $|s|_p < r := p^\delta |c|_p^{-1}$ ($\delta = 1 - \frac{1}{p-1}$). If we fix a topological generator γ of I_∞/F , then

$$h_{f,\tau}(\chi, s) = H_{f,\tau}(\chi, \exp_p(cs \log_p(\kappa(\gamma)) - 1)) \quad (|s|_p < r)$$

with a power series $H_{f,\tau}(\chi, T) \in \bar{\mathbb{W}}_f[[T]]$. Now if $|a_p|_p = 1$, then μ_f is a measure and hence the coefficients of $H_{f,\tau}(\chi, T)$ are bounded. One may then ask whether $H_{f,\tau}(\chi, s)$ -if not identically zero- has only finitely many zeros for $|s|_p < r$. This is in fact true. The argument which was pointed out to me by P. Schneider, runs as follows.

Let L be a finite extension of \mathbb{Q}_p containing η and all the Fourier

coefficients a_n of f . Let U be the completion w.r.t. $\|\cdot\|$ of the f -eigenspace in $L\otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} J_0(N)(K_\infty)$. According to [15], Cor. 2.4. and Thm. 4.15. the space U is pseudo-reflexive and hence, in particular, the natural map of U to its topological bidual is injective (loc.cit. p.60). Therefore if we set $H(T) = H_{f,\tau}(\chi, T)$ and write

$$H(T) = \sum_{n \geq n_0} u_n T^n$$

with $u_{n_0} \neq 0$, then there is a bounded linear map $\ell: U \rightarrow L$ with $\ell(u_{n_0}) \neq 0$.

It follows that the power series

$$H_\ell(T) = \sum_{n \geq n_0} \ell(u_n) T^n \in L[[T]]$$

is not identically zero and has bounded coefficients, and that

$$H_\ell(s) = (1\hat{\theta}\ell)(H)(s) \quad (|s|_p < r),$$

where $1\hat{\theta}\ell$ is the natural extension of ℓ to $\bar{W}_f = \mathbb{C}_p \otimes_L U$ (for the precise meaning of the symbol " $\hat{\theta}$ " cf. [15]). Since by the Weierstrass Preparation Theorem $H_\ell(s)$ has only finitely many zeros for $|s|_p < r$, the result follows for $H(T)$.

According to the above we can write

$$H_{f,\tau}(\chi, T) = P_{f,\tau}(\chi, T) H_{f,\tau}^{(0)}(\chi, T),$$

where $P_{f,\tau}(\chi, T)$ is a polynomial with coefficients in \mathbb{C}_p whose zeros coincide with those of $h_{f,\tau}(\chi, s)$ for $|s|_p < r$ and $H_{f,\tau}^{(0)}(\chi, T) \in \bar{W}_f[[T]]$, $H_{f,\tau}^{(0)}(\chi, s) \neq 0$ for all s with $|s|_p < r$. Does the polynomial $P_{f,\tau}(\chi, T)$ have any arithmetical meaning?

5.3. A distribution induced by μ_f

We would like to describe how μ_f induces a distribution in a somewhat different way. Suppose again that $A_f = E$ is an elliptic curve defined over \mathbb{Q} and assume that E is given by a Néron minimal equation

$$y^2 + a_1 xy + a_3 y = x^3 + a_2 x^2 + a_4 x + a_6 \quad (a_i \in \mathbb{Z}).$$

Let \mathfrak{p} be a prime of K lying above p and let \mathfrak{P} be a prime of K_∞ lying above \mathfrak{p} . Denote by \tilde{K}_∞ the completion of K_∞ at \mathfrak{P} . Reduction mod \mathfrak{P} induces an isomorphism

$$E(\tilde{K}_\infty)/E_0(\tilde{K}_\infty) \cong \bar{E}(k_\infty)$$

where $E_0(\tilde{K}_\infty)$ is the kernel of the reduction map, \bar{E} is the reduced curve mod \mathfrak{P} and k_∞ is the residue field. Since K_∞/K is totally ramified at \mathfrak{p} we have $k_\infty = \mathcal{O}/\mathfrak{p}$. Put

$$(14) \quad r = |\bar{E}(k_\infty)|.$$

View x and y as rational functions on E having poles of orders 2 and 3, respectively, at the origin 0 of E and put $t = -\frac{x}{y}$. Let

$$\omega = \frac{dx}{2y + a_1x + a_3}$$

be a differential of the first kind on E and write

$$\omega(t) = \sum_{n \geq 0} h_n t^n$$

with $h_n \in \mathbb{Z}[a_1, \dots, a_6]$ and $h_0 = 1$. Let

$$L(t) = \int \omega(t) dt = \sum_{n \geq 1} h_{n-1} \frac{t^n}{n}$$

be the elliptic logarithm of the formal group of E , and let

$$E_{\mathfrak{P}} = \{P \in E_0(\tilde{K}_\infty) \mid |t(P)|_{\mathfrak{P}} < 1\}.$$

Then $E_{\mathfrak{P}}$ is a subgroup of $E_0(\tilde{K}_\infty)$, and the map

$$P \mapsto L(t(P))$$

is a homomorphism of $E_{\mathfrak{P}}$ to the additive group of \tilde{K}_∞ (cf. e.g. [5], chap. III, §3.).

The distribution μ_f now gives rise to a \tilde{K}_∞ -valued distribution $\tilde{\mu}_f = \{\tilde{\mu}_{f,n}\}_{n \geq 1}$ defined by

$$\tilde{\mu}_{f,n} = (\text{id} \otimes L \circ t) \circ (\text{id} \otimes \bar{r}) \circ \mu_{f,n},$$

where r denotes multiplication by r (cf. (14)) and id is the identity map of \mathbb{Z}_p . Elementary estimates for the rate of growth of L only show that $\tilde{\mu}_f$ is of growth 1 in the sense of [8], i.e. $|\tilde{\mu}_{f,n}|_{\mathfrak{P}} \leq p^{n+c}$ where c is a constant, and so it is not clear if analytic functions could be integrated.

Nevertheless, if χ is a primitive character on I_n/F_n ($n \geq 1$) we might ask for the meaning of the sum

$$\sum_{A \in I_n/F_n} \chi(A) \tilde{F}_{f,n}(A).$$

Is there any analogy with Leopoldt's analytic formula giving the value of the Kubota-Leopoldt p-adic L-function of a primitive non-principal Dirichlet character at $s=1$ in terms of the p-adic logarithm?

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