

# Theta Correspondence for Dummies

(Correspondance Theta pour les nuls)

Jeffrey Adams  
Dipendra Prasad  
Gordan Savin

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$Mp = \widetilde{Sp}(2n, F)$ : metaplectic group

$(G, G')$  a reductive dual pair:

$$G = \text{Cent}_{Mp}(G'), \quad G' = \text{Cent}_{Mp}(G)$$

$\psi$  character of  $F$ ,  $\rightarrow$  oscillator representation  $\omega = \omega_\psi$

**Definition:**  $\pi \in \widehat{G}, \pi' \in \widehat{G}'$ , say  $\pi \longleftrightarrow \pi'$  if

$$\text{Hom}_{G \times G'}(\omega, \pi \boxtimes \pi') \neq 0$$

**Howe Duality Theorem** (Howe, Waldspurger, Gan-Takeda)

$F$  local

$$\pi \longleftrightarrow \pi' \text{ is a bijection}$$

(between subsets of  $\widehat{G}$  and  $\widehat{G}'$ )

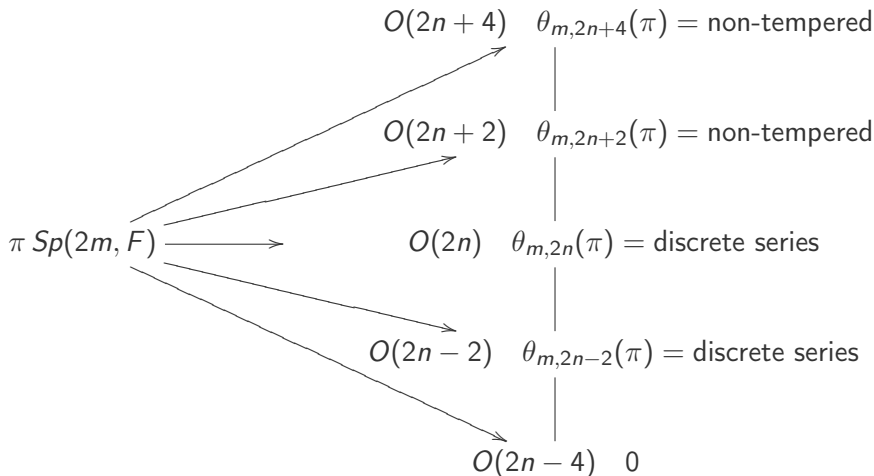
**Definition:**  $\pi' = \theta(\pi), \pi = \theta(\pi')$

# COMPUTING $\theta(\pi)$

Describe  $\pi \rightarrow \theta(\pi)$  (in terms of some kinds of parameters)

Properties of the map: preserving tempered, unitary, relation on wave front sets, functoriality (Langlands/Arthur)...

Typically there are some easy cases, and some hard ones



$\theta(\pi)$  irreducible,  $\omega \rightarrow \pi \boxtimes \theta(\pi)$

**Defintion** (Howe)  $\omega(\pi)$  = the maximal  $\pi$ -isotypic quotient of  $\omega$

$\Theta(\pi)$  (“big-theta” of  $\pi$ ):

$$\omega(\pi) \simeq \pi \boxtimes \Theta(\pi)$$

Proof of the duality theorem:  $\theta(\pi)$  is the unique irreducible quotient of  $\Theta(\pi)$

Generically,  $\Theta(\pi)$  is irreducible and  $\theta(\pi) = \Theta(\pi)$

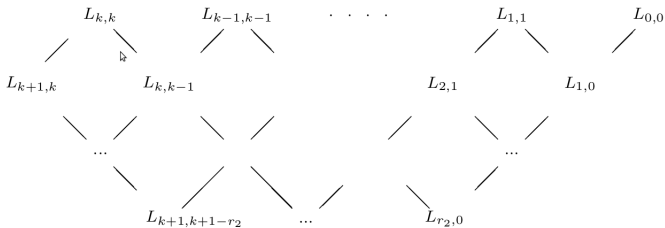
# THE STRUCTURE OF $\Theta(\pi)$

$\Theta(\pi)$  is important, interesting, complicated

$\Theta(1)$  (Kudla, Rallis, ...)

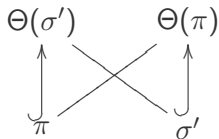
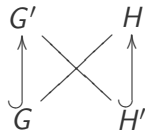
Structure of reducible principal series (Howe...)

Lee/Zhu:  $Sp(2n, \mathbb{R})$ :



# EXAMPLE: SEE-SAW PAIRS AND RECIPROCITY

Howe



$$\Theta(\sigma')[\pi] \boxtimes \sigma' \simeq \pi \boxtimes \Theta(\pi)[\sigma']$$

Roughly:

$$\text{mult}_G(\pi, \Theta(\sigma')) = \text{mult}_{H'}(\sigma', \Theta(\pi))$$

# THETA CORRESPONDENCE AND INDUCTION

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & \text{GL}(n+r) \\
 & \nearrow^{\Theta_{m,n+r}} & | \\
 \text{GL}(m) & \xrightarrow{\Theta_{m,n}} & \text{GL}(n)
 \end{array}$$

$$m = n: \Theta_{n,n}(\pi) = \theta_{n,n}(\pi) = \pi^*$$

$$\text{Kudla: } P = MN, \quad M = \text{GL}(n) \times \text{GL}(r)$$

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{GL}(m)}(\omega_{m,n+r}, \pi \boxtimes \text{Ind}_P^{\text{GL}(n+r)}(\theta_{m,n}(\pi) \otimes 1)) \neq 0$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & \text{Ind}_P^{\text{GL}(n+r)}(\theta_{m,n}(\pi) \otimes 1) \\
 & \nearrow^{\Theta_{m,n+r}} & | \\
 \pi & \xrightarrow{\theta_{m,n}} & \theta_n(\pi)
 \end{array}$$

$$\Theta_{m,n+r}(\pi) \stackrel{?}{=} \text{Ind}_P^{GL(n+r)}(1 \otimes \theta_{m,n}(\pi))$$

$\theta_{m,n+r}(\pi)$  is (?) the unique irreducible quotient of  $\text{Ind}_P^{GL(n+r)}(1 \otimes \theta_{m,n}(\pi))$

Neither is true in general

$$\omega = \mathcal{S}(M_{m,n})$$

filtration:  $\omega_k$ : functions supported on matrices of rank  $\geq k$ :

$$0 = \omega_t \subset \omega_{t-1} \subset \cdots \subset \omega_0 = \omega$$

Serious issues with extensions here. . . also reducibility of induced representations



## Basic Principle

$$\text{Hom} \rightarrow \text{Ext} \rightarrow \text{EP} = \sum_i (-1)^i \text{Ext}^i$$

(+ vanishing. . .)

**Problem:** Study

$$\text{Ext}_{G \times G'}^i(\omega, \pi \boxtimes \pi'), \text{EP}_{G \times G'}(\omega, \pi \boxtimes \pi')$$

alternatively:

$\text{Ext}_G^i(\omega, \pi), \text{EP}_G(\omega, \pi)$  as (virtual) representations of  $G'$

**Idea:**  $\text{EP}_G(\omega, \pi)$  is like  $\text{Hom}_G(\omega, \pi)$  with everything made completely reducible. . . all “boundary terms” vanish

## EXAMPLE: $GL(1)$ , OR TATE'S THESIS

$$(G, G') = (GL(1), GL(1)) \subset SL(2, F)$$

$\omega: \mathcal{S}(F)$  ( $\mathcal{S} = C_c^\infty$ , the Schwarz space)

$$\omega(g, h)(f)(x) = f(g^{-1}xh) \text{ (up to } |\det|^{\pm\frac{1}{2}}\text{)}$$

$\chi$  character of  $GL(1)$

**Question:**  $\text{Hom}_{GL(1)}(\mathcal{S}(F), \chi) = ?$

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(F^\times) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(F) \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\text{Hom}(\cdot, \chi) = \text{Hom}_{GL(1)}(\cdot, \chi)$$

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathbb{C}, \chi) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{S}(F), \chi) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{S}(F^\times), \chi) \rightarrow \text{Ext}(\mathbb{C}, \chi)$$

## EXAMPLE: $GL(1)$ , OR TATE'S THESIS

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathbb{C}, \chi) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{S}(F), \chi) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{S}(F^\times), \chi) \rightarrow \text{Ext}(\mathbb{C}, \chi)$$

$\chi \neq 1$ :

$$0 \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{S}(F), \chi) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{S}(F^\times), \chi) \rightarrow 0$$

$$\text{Hom}_{GL(1)}(\mathcal{S}(F), \chi) = \text{Hom}_{GL(1)}(\mathcal{S}(F^*), \chi) = \mathbb{C}$$

$\chi = 1$ :

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{S}(F), \chi) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{S}(F^\times), \chi) \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \text{Ext}^1(\mathcal{S}(F), \mathbb{C}) = 0$$

$\text{Hom}_{GL(1)}(\mathcal{S}(F), \chi) = 1$  in all cases

**Remark:** Tate's thesis: this is true provided  $|\chi(x)| = |x|^s$  with  $s > 1$ . General case: analytic continuation in  $\chi$  of Tate L-functions.

Punch line:

**Theorem** (Adams/Prasad/Savin)

Fix  $m$ , and consider the dual pairs  $(G = GL(m), GL(n))$   $n \geq 0$ .

$\pi \in \widehat{G}$

$$\mathrm{EP}_G(\omega_{m,n}, \pi)^\infty \simeq \begin{cases} 0 & n < m \\ \mathrm{Ind}_P^{GL(n)}(1 \otimes \pi) & n \geq m \end{cases}$$

where  $M = GL(n - m) \times GL(m)$

More details...

Reference: D. Prasad, *Ext Analogues of Branching Laws*

$F$ :  $p$ -adic field,  $G$ : reductive group/ $F$

$\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}_G$ : category of smooth representations

$\mathcal{S}(G) = C_c^\infty(G)$ , smooth compactly supported functions, smooth representation of  $G \times G$

**Lemma:**  $\mathcal{C}$  has enough projectives and injectives

$\text{Ext}_G^i(X, Y)$ : derived functors of  $\text{Hom}_G(\_, Y)$  or  $\text{Hom}_G(X, \_)$ .

$P = MN \subset G$ ,  $\text{Ind}_P^G$  normalized induction  $r_P^G$  normalized Jacquet functor

$X, Y$  smooth

1.  $\text{Ext}_G^i(X, Y) = 0$  for  $i >$  split rank of  $G$
2.  $\mathcal{S}(G)$  is projective (as a left  $G$ -module)
3.  $\text{Hom}_G(\mathcal{S}(G), X)^{G-\infty} \simeq X$
4.  $\text{EP}_{\text{GL}(m)}(X, Y) = 0$  ( $X, Y$  finite length)
5.  $\text{Ext}_G^i(X, \text{Ind}_P^G(Y)) \simeq \text{Ext}_M^i(r_P^G(X), Y)$
6.  $\text{Ext}_G^i(\text{Ind}_P^G(X), Y) \simeq \text{Ext}_M^i(X, r_G^{\bar{P}}(Y))$
7. Kunneth Formula ( $X_1$  admissible):

$$\text{Ext}_{G_1 \times G_2}^i(X_1 \boxtimes X_2, Y_1 \boxtimes Y_2) \simeq \bigoplus_{j+k=i} \text{Ext}_{G_1}^j(X_1, Y_1) \otimes \text{Ext}_{G_2}^k(X_2, Y_2)$$

$X$ :  $G \times G'$ -modules (for example:  $\omega$ )

$Y$ :  $G$ -module

$\text{Ext}_G^i(X, Y)$  is an  $G'$ -module (not necessarily smooth)

**Definition:**

$$\text{Ext}_G^i(X, Y)^\infty = \text{Ext}_G^i(X, Y)^{G'-\infty} \quad (\text{a smooth } G'\text{-module})$$

**Dangerous bend:**  $\text{Ext}_G^i(X, Y)$  is (probably) not the derived functors of  $Y \rightarrow \text{Hom}_G(X, Y)^{G'-\infty}$

**Definition:** Assume  $\text{Ext}_G^i(X, Y)$  has finite length for all  $i$

$\text{EP}_G(X, Y) = \sum_i (-1)^i \text{Ext}_G^i(X, Y)^\infty$  is a well-defined element of the Grothendieck group of smooth representations of  $G'$

$(G, G')$  dual pair,  $\omega, \pi$  irreducible representation of  $G$

$$\text{EP}_G(\omega, \pi)^\infty$$

$$\omega \rightarrow \pi \boxtimes \Theta(\pi)$$

**Proposition:**  $\text{Hom}_G(\omega, \pi)^\infty = \Theta(\pi)^\vee$

$\vee$  : smooth dual

proof:

$$0 \rightarrow \omega[\pi] \rightarrow \omega \rightarrow \pi \boxtimes \Theta(\pi) \rightarrow 0$$

$\text{Hom}(\cdot, \pi)$  is left exact:

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_G(\pi \boxtimes \Theta(\pi), \pi) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_G(\omega, \pi) \xrightarrow{\phi} \text{Hom}_G(\omega[\pi], \pi)$$

$\phi = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Hom}(\omega, \pi) \simeq \Theta(\pi)^*$ , take the smooth vectors



Recall:  $\omega_k = \mathcal{S}(\text{matrices of rank } \geq k)$

$$0 = \omega_t \subset \omega_{t-1} \subset \cdots \subset \omega_0 = \omega$$

$$\omega_k / \omega_{k+1} = \mathcal{S}(\Omega_k) \quad (\Omega_k = \text{matrices of rank } k)$$

$$\mathcal{S}(\Omega_k) \simeq \text{Ind}_{\text{GL}(k) \times \text{GL}(m-k) \times \text{GL}(k) \times \text{GL}(n-k)}^{\text{GL}(m) \times \text{GL}(n)} (\mathcal{S}(\text{GL}(k)) \boxtimes 1).$$

Compute

$$\text{Ext}_{\text{GL}(m)}^i(\mathcal{S}(\Omega_k), \pi)$$

By Frobenius reciprocity, Kunneth formula, other basic properties. . .

$$\mathrm{Ext}_{\mathrm{GL}(m)}^i(\mathcal{S}(\Omega_k), \pi)^\infty \simeq \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} \mathrm{Ind}_{\mathrm{GL}(k) \times \mathrm{GL}(n-k)}^{\mathrm{GL}(n)}(\sigma_j \boxtimes 1) \otimes \mathrm{Ext}_{\mathrm{GL}(m-k)}^i(1, \tau_j)$$

$r_{\overline{P}}(\pi) = \sum \sigma_j \boxtimes \tau_j$  implies

### Lemma

$\mathrm{Ext}_{\mathrm{GL}(m)}^i(\mathcal{S}(\Omega_k), \pi)$  is a finite length  $\mathrm{GL}(n)$ -module

$\mathrm{EP}_{\mathrm{GL}(m)}(\mathcal{S}(\Omega_k), \pi)$  is well defined

$\mathrm{EP}_{\mathrm{GL}(m)}(\mathcal{S}(\Omega_k), \pi) = 0$  unless  $k = m$ .

# MAIN THEOREM: TYPE II

## Theorem

Fix  $m$ , and consider the dual pairs  $(G = GL(m), GL(n))$   $n \geq 0$ .  
 $\pi \in \widehat{G}$

$$\mathrm{EP}_G(\omega_{m,n}, \pi)^\infty \simeq \begin{cases} 0 & n < m \\ \mathrm{Ind}_P^{GL(n)}(1 \otimes \pi) & n \geq m \end{cases}$$

where  $M = GL(n - m) \times GL(m)$

# MAIN THEOREM: TYPE I

Similar idea, using Kudla (and MVW) calculation of the Jacquet module of the oscillator representation

For simplicity: state it for  $(\mathrm{Sp}(2m), \mathrm{O}(2n))$  (split orthogonal groups)

$\omega = \omega_{m,n}$  oscillator representation for  $(G, G') = (\mathrm{Sp}(2m), \mathrm{O}(2n))$   
 $t < m \rightarrow M(t) = \mathrm{GL}(t) \times \mathrm{Sp}(2m - 2t) \subset \mathrm{Sp}(2m)$

$P(t) = M(t)N(t), \mathrm{Ind}_{P(t)}^G(\cdot)$

$t < n \rightarrow M'(t) = \mathrm{GL}(t) \times \mathrm{O}(2n - 2t) \subset \mathrm{O}(2n)$

$P'(t) = M'(t)N'(t), \mathrm{Ind}_{P'(t)}^{G'}(\cdot)$

$\omega_{M(t), M'(t)}$  oscillator representation for dual pair  $(M(t), M'(t))$

# MAIN THEOREM: TYPE I

**Theorem** Fix an irreducible representation  $\pi$  of  $M(t)$ .

Then

$$\mathrm{EP}_G(\omega_{G,G'}, \mathrm{Ind}_{P(t)}^G(\pi))^\infty \simeq \begin{cases} 0 & t > n \\ \mathrm{Ind}_{P'(t)}^{G'}(\mathrm{EP}_{M(t)}(\omega_{M(t),M'(t)}, \pi)^\infty) & t \leq n. \end{cases}$$

$\mathrm{EP}(\omega, \_ )^\infty$  commutes with induction