

# Differential Modular Forms

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# Outline

Let  $X \subset X_1(N)$  be an open affine subscheme of the modular curve  $X_1(N)$  over  $\mathbb{Z}[1/N, \zeta_N]$  and  $M$  be the ring of modular forms on  $X$ .

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} M^\infty & \xrightarrow{E^\infty} & S_{\text{for}}^\infty \\ \uparrow \text{dotted} & & \uparrow \text{dotted} \\ M & \xrightarrow{E} & R((q)) \end{array}$$

Various interesting examples of differential modular forms like  $f^1, f^\partial, f^\sharp \in M^\infty$ .

## $p$ -derivations

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be rings. A tuple  $(u, \delta)$  is called a  $p$ -derivation, where  $u : A \rightarrow B$  is a ring homomorphism and  $\delta : A \rightarrow B$  is a set-theoretic map satisfying

$$\delta(x + y) = \delta x + \delta y + C_p(u(x), u(y))$$

$$\delta(xy) = u(x)^p \delta y + u(y)^p \delta x + p \delta x \delta y$$

where  $C_p(a, b) = \frac{a^p + b^p - (a+b)^p}{p}$ ,  $p$  a fixed prime.

**Remark.** The above is equivalent to giving a ring homomorphism  $A \rightarrow W_1(B)$ ,  $a \rightarrow (u(a), \delta a)$ , where  $W_1(B)$  is the ring of  $p$ -typical Witt vectors of length 2.

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# Jet Rings

Let  $R = \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}_p^{ur}$ . Let  $A = R[\mathbf{x}]/(\mathbf{f})$  where  $\mathbf{x}$  is a tuple of variables and  $(\mathbf{f})$  is a tuple of polynomials in  $R[\mathbf{x}]$ . Define the  $n$ -th jet ring as

$$J^n A = \frac{R[\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}', \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(n)}]}{(\mathbf{f}, \dots, \delta^n \mathbf{f})} \text{ where } \delta x^{(n)} = x^{(n+1)}$$

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## Example

$$A = R[x, y]/(xy) \text{ then } J^1 A = \left( \frac{R[x, y, x', y']}{(xy, x^p y' + y^p x' + p x' y')} \right) \widehat{\quad}.$$

# Prolongation Sequence

We define a *prolongation sequence* of  $p$ -adic rings as

$B^* = B^0 \rightarrow \dots B^n \xrightarrow{(u_n, \delta_n)} B^{n+1} \rightarrow \dots$  where  $(u_n, \delta_n)$  is a  $p$ -derivation for each  $n$ . They form a category  $\mathbf{pro1}$  with morphisms defined holding the obvious compatibility condition.

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The  $n$ -th jet rings give us a prolongation sequence of rings

$J^*A := \hat{A} \rightarrow \dots J^n A \xrightarrow{(u, \delta)} J^{n+1} A \rightarrow \dots$  where  $u$  and  $\delta$  are induced by

$$u(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) = \mathbf{x}^{(n)}$$

$$\delta \mathbf{x}^{(n)} = \mathbf{x}^{(n+1)} \quad (p\text{-derivation})$$

$$\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^p + p\delta \mathbf{x} \quad (\text{lift of Frobenius})$$

# Universal Property

Let  $B^*$  be a prolongation sequence. Then  
 $\text{Hom}_{\text{rings}}(A, B^0) \simeq \text{Hom}_{\text{prol}}(J^*A, B^*)$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} J^n A & \overset{f}{\dashrightarrow} & B^n \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ J^1 A & \overset{f}{\dashrightarrow} & B^1 \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & B^0 \end{array}$$

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## Theorem (Borger, S)

$\text{Hom}(J^n A, B) \simeq \text{Hom}_\delta(A, W_n(B))$ , where  $W_n(B)$  is the ring of  $p$ -typical Witt vectors of length  $n + 1$ .

Let  $p \nmid N$  and  $N > 3$ . Recall the modular curve  $Y_1(N)$  over  $\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[1/N, \zeta_N]$  that parametrizes elliptic curves  $E$  with level structures  $i : \mu_N \hookrightarrow E[N]$ .

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Fix an embedding  $\mathbb{Z}[1/N, \zeta_N] \hookrightarrow R$  and base change  $X_1(N)$  over  $R$ . Let  $E \xrightarrow{\pi} X_1(N)$  be the universal elliptic curve and call  $L := \pi_* \Omega_{E/X_1(N)}$ .

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Consider  $M^n := J^n M$  and let  $E^n : M^n \rightarrow R((q))[q', \dots, q^{(n)}]^\wedge$  be the prolongation of the Fourier expansion  $E : M \rightarrow R((q))$ .

# Examples of $\delta$ -modular forms

- 1  $f^\partial$ : There exists a unique form  $f^\partial \in M^1(\phi - 1)$  such that  $E^1(f^\partial) = 1$  and its reduction mod  $p$ ,  $\overline{f^\partial}$ , coincides with the image of the Hasse invariant  $\overline{H} \in M^0(p - 1)$ .

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- 2  $f^1$ : A unique form  $f^1 \in M^1(-1 - \phi)$  such that its Fourier expansion  $E^1(f^1) = \Psi$  where

$$\Psi := \frac{1}{p} \log \frac{\phi(q)}{q^p} = \sum_{n \geq 1} (-1)^{n-1} n^{-1} p^{n-1} \left( \frac{q'}{q^p} \right)^n \in R((q))\hat{[q']}$$

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- 3  $f^\sharp$ : Given a classical cusp form  $f$  of weight 2 which is an eigen vector for all the Hecke operators and if  $E(f) = \sum a_n q^n$ , one can attach  $f^\sharp \in M^2$  whose Fourier expansion is

$$E^2(f^\sharp) = \frac{1}{p} \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{a_n}{n} (\phi^2(q)^n - a_p \phi(q)^n + pq^n)$$

**Remark.** The above series infact has integral coefficients.



Set

$$S_{for}^{\infty} := \varinjlim R((q))[q', \dots, q^{(n)}]$$

$$\mathbb{S}^{\infty} = \text{Im}(E^{\infty} : M^{\infty} \rightarrow S_{for}^{\infty})$$

# Differential Modular Forms

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} M^{\infty} & \xrightarrow{E^{\infty}} & S^{\infty} \subset S_{for}^{\infty} \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \downarrow \pi \\ M & \xrightarrow{E} & R((q))^{\wedge} \end{array}$$

where  $\pi : S_{for}^{\infty} \rightarrow R((q))^{\wedge}$  is the ring homomorphism obtained by setting  $0 = \pi(q') = \dots = \pi(q^{(n)}) = \dots$

# Theorem of Swinnerton-Dyer and Serre

## Theorem

The kernel of the Fourier expansion map  $\bigoplus_{\kappa \geq 0} M(\mathbb{F}_p, \kappa, N) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p[[q]]$  is generated by  $E_{p-1} - 1$ .

## Theorem (Buium, S)

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$$f^\partial - 1, \delta(f^\partial - 1), \delta^2(f^\partial - 1), \dots$$

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# Hecke Operators away from $p$

Consider  $f(q, \dots, q^r) \in R((q))[q', \dots, q^{(n)}]^\wedge$ .

Let  $(n, p) = 1$

For each integer  $\kappa \in \mathbb{Z}$  the Hecke operator  $f \mapsto T_\kappa(n)f$  on  $R((q))[q', \dots, q^{(r)}]^\wedge$  is defined as follows. For  $f = f(q, q', \dots, q^{(r)})$ ,

$$T_\kappa(n)f := n^{\kappa-1} \sum_{A,B,D} D^{-\kappa} f(\zeta_D^B q^{A/D}, \delta(\zeta_D^B q^{A/D}), \dots, \delta^r(\zeta_D^B q^{A/D})).$$

where  $A, B, D$  belong to the following set

$$\{(A, B, D); A, B, D \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}, AD = n, (A, N) = 1, B < D\}$$

for each  $n \geq 1$  and  $N \geq 4$ .



# Hecke Operators at $p$

$$A := R[[s_1, \dots, s_p]][s'_1, \dots, s'_p, \dots, s_1^{(r)}, \dots, s_p^{(r)}]^\wedge$$

$$B := R[[q_1, \dots, q_p]][q'_1, \dots, q'_p, \dots, q_1^{(r)}, \dots, q_p^{(r)}]^\wedge$$

$A \rightarrow B$  induced by  $s_j^{(i)} \mapsto \delta^i S_j$  where  $S_i$ 's are the symmetric functions.

$$S_1 = q_1 + \dots + q_p, \dots, S_p = q_1 \dots q_p.$$

## Definition

An element  $G \in B$  will be called  $\delta$ -symmetric if it is the image of some element  $G_{(p)} \in A$  (which is then unique).

An element  $f \in R[[q]][q', \dots, q^{(r)}]^\wedge$  will be called  $\delta - p$ -symmetric if

$$\Sigma_p f := \sum_{j=1}^p f(q_j, \dots, q_j^{(r)}) \in B$$

is  $\delta$ -symmetric.

## Definition

For any  $\delta - p$ -symmetric  $f \in R[[q]][q', \dots, q^{(r)}]^\wedge$  we define

$$Uf := p^{-1}(\sum_p f)_{(p)}(0, \dots, 0, q, \dots, 0, \dots, 0, \dots, 0, q^{(r)})$$

which is an element in  $p^{-1}R[[q]][q', \dots, q^{(r)}]^\wedge$ .

For any  $f \in R[[q]][q', \dots, q^{(r)}]^\wedge$  define

$$Vf := f(q^p, \delta(q^p), \dots, \delta^r(q^p))$$

For any  $\kappa \in \mathbb{Z}$  define

$$T_\kappa(p)f := Uf + p^{\kappa-1}Vf$$

**Remark.** The restriction of  $T_\kappa(p)$  on  $R[[q]]$  gives us the usual “classical” Hecke operator on  $R[[q]]$

$$T_\kappa(p)\left(\sum a_m q^m\right) = \sum a_{pm} q^m + p^{\kappa-1} \sum a_m q^{pm}$$

## Lemma

$\delta$ -symmetry is independent of the parameter  $q$ .

That means that one can talk about  $\delta$ -symmetry at a point  $\infty$ , for instance, we can define a  $\delta$ -symmetric subspace in  $S^r$ , where  $X = \text{Spec } S$ .

## Theorem (Buium, S)

*There is a one-to-one correspondence between the following sets of objects:*

*i) Series in  $qk[[q]]$  which are eigenvectors of all Hecke operators  $T_{\kappa+2}(n)$ ,  $T_{\kappa+2}(p)$ ,  $(n, p) = 1$ , and which are Fourier expansions of classical modular forms over  $k$  of weight  $\equiv \kappa + 2 \pmod{p-1}$ ;*

*ii) Primitive  $\delta$ -series in  $k[[q]][q']$  which are eigenvectors of all Hecke operators  $nT_{\kappa}(n)$ , " $pT_{\kappa}(p)$ ",  $(n, p) = 1$ , and which are  $\delta$ -Fourier expansions of  $\delta$ -modular forms of some order  $r \geq 0$  and weight  $w$  with  $\deg(w) = \kappa$ .*

*This correspondence preserves the respective eigenvalues.*


i)  $\varphi = \sum_{m \geq 1} a_m q^m$  a classical modular form which is also an eigenform (means  $a_1 \neq 0$ ).




$$ii) \varphi^{\sharp, 2} = \sum_{(n,p)=1} \frac{a_n}{n} q^n - \frac{a_p}{n} a_1 \left( \sum_{m \geq 1} a_m q^{mp} \right) \frac{q'}{q^p} + e \left( \sum_{m \geq 1} q^{mp^2} \right) \left( \frac{q'}{q^p} \right)^p$$


where  $e = 0, 1$  depending on  $\kappa$  is 0 or  $\geq 0$ .

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