

## NOTETAKER CHECKLIST FORM

(Complete one for each talk.)

Name: KAROL KOZIOR Email/Phone: (315) 569-6968

Speaker's Name: BIRGIT SPEH

Talk Title: CONSTRUCTION OF SOME MODULAR SYMBOLS

Date: 8/15/14 Time: 3:30 am / pm (circle one)

List 6-12 key words for the talk: MODULAR SYMBOLS, AUTOMORPHIC FORMS

Please summarize the lecture in 5 or fewer sentences: IN THIS TALK, MODULAR SYMBOLS ARE DEFINED, AND SEVERAL EXAMPLES ARE DISCUSSED.

## CHECK LIST

(This is **NOT** optional, we will **not** pay for incomplete forms)

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# **Some modular symbols**

MSRI, August 2014

Birgit Speh  
Cornell University

## Outline

1. Generalized Modular symbols: An introduction
2. First example : trivial representations = invariant forms (with T.N.Venkatarama )
3. Second example ( joint with J.Rohlf;): A residual representation of  $GL(4, \mathbb{R})$
4. Third example (joint with J. Rohlf; ) ; Eisenstein cohomology
5. Work in progress with T.Kobayashi,  $G = O(n,1)$

## Generalized Modular Symbols: An Introduction

$G$  semi simple Lie groups (connected)

$K$  max compact subgroup

$X = G/K$  symmetric space

$D$  dimension of  $X$

Let  $i : H \hookrightarrow G$  be a semisimple (reductive) subgroup

$K_H = K \cap H$  max compact

$Y = H/K_H$  symmetric space

$d$  dimension of  $Y$

Then

$$i : Y \hookrightarrow X$$

$\Gamma$  discrete torsion free subgroup.  $\Gamma_H = \Gamma \cap H$

For simplicity assume for now that

- $\Gamma \backslash X$  compact and orientable
- $\Gamma_H \backslash Y$  compact and orientable

and we have

$$i: \Gamma_H \backslash Y \rightarrow \Gamma \backslash X$$

Let  $[\Gamma_H \backslash Y]$  fundamental class of  $\Gamma_H \backslash Y$

**Definition:** The Homology class

$$i_*[(\Gamma_H \backslash Y)] \in H_d(\Gamma \backslash X)$$

is called a

*generalized modular symbol.*

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**Problem:** Determine properties of the modular symbol, for example determine if the modular symbol is nontrivial

Investigating

$$i_* : H_*(\Gamma_H \backslash Y, \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow H_*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C})$$

is equivalent to

$$i^* : H_{deRham}^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow H_{deRham}^*(\Gamma_H \backslash X, \mathbb{C})$$



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**This gives a connection with representation theory and automorphic Representations**

## Review of representation theory automorphic forms and deRham cohomology of $\Gamma \backslash X$

For details see book by Borel /Wallach " Continuous cohomology, Discrete subgroups and Representations of reductive Groups"

$\mathfrak{g}$ ,  $\mathfrak{k}$  Lie algebras of  $G$  and  $K$   
 $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} \oplus \mathfrak{p}$  Cartan decomposition  
 $\mathcal{E}^p(\Gamma \backslash G/K)$   $\mathfrak{p}$ -forms on  $\Gamma \backslash X$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}^p(\Gamma \backslash G/K) &= (C^\infty(\Gamma \backslash G) \otimes \mathfrak{p}^*)^K \\ &= \text{Hom}_K(\bigwedge^* \mathfrak{p}, C^\infty(\Gamma \backslash G))\end{aligned}$$

On the other hand

$$\Gamma \backslash G \text{ compact} \quad \Rightarrow \quad L^2(\Gamma \backslash G) = \bigoplus m_\pi \pi$$

where  $\pi$  runs over all irreducible **unitary representations** of  $G$   
and

$$m_\pi = \dim \operatorname{Hom}_G(\pi, L^2(\Gamma \backslash G)) < \infty.$$

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By Matsushima Murakami showed

$$H^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C}) = \bigoplus_\pi H^*(\mathfrak{g}, K, \pi)^{m_\pi}.$$

Here  $H^*(\mathfrak{g}, K, \pi)$  is referred to as the  $(\mathfrak{g}, K)$ -cohomology of  $\pi$ .

Unitary representations with nontrivial  $(\mathfrak{g}, K)$  –cohomology are classified and well understood by the work of Vogan-Zuckerman.

Examples:

- Trivial representation  $Id$ . In this case  $H^*(\mathfrak{g}, K, Id)$  is represented by invariant forms on  $X$ .
- $G = Sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ , discrete series representations corresponding to cusp form of weight 2 has with nontrivial in degree 1.
- $G = Sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $B$  upper triangular matrices The principal series representation  $I(B)$  induced from the trivial representation of  $B$  has nontrivial cohomology in degree 0, 1.

We have a non degenerate pairing

$$H^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C}) \times H_*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

by integration.

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**Remarks:**

We may consider this as a pairing between automorphic forms (representations)  $\pi_{\mathbf{A}}$  and cycles.

If everything in on the left hand side is defined over a number field  $K$  then we can deduce information about the right hand side. The integral is often related to a special value of a L-function.

(see the work of Shimura, Harder ....)

Modular symbols have been considered in the work of

G. Shimura

G. Harder

A. Borel

Manin-Drinfeld

Muzur-Swinnerton-Dyer

A. Ash + Borel

Ash -Ginsburg- Rallis

Oda,

Oda -Kobayashi Kudla-Millson

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Venkataramana and many others

but mostly for noncompact discrete subgroups  $\Gamma$ .

**Remarks about not cocompact subgroups  $\Gamma$  with finite volume (for example most arithmetic groups)**

In this case  $L^2(\Gamma \backslash G) \neq \oplus m_\pi \pi$

but

$$L^2(\Gamma \backslash G) = L_{cusp}^2(\Gamma \backslash G) \oplus L_{res}^2(\Gamma \backslash G) \oplus L_{cont}^2(\Gamma \backslash G)$$

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$L_{cusp}^2(\Gamma \backslash G) = \oplus_{\pi_{\mathbf{A}} \in L_{cusp}^2(\Gamma \backslash G)} \pi_{\mathbf{A}}$  is a direct sum of cusp representations (forms)

$L_{res}^2(\Gamma \backslash G) \oplus \oplus_{\pi_{\mathbf{A}} \in L_{res}^2(\Gamma \backslash G)} \pi_{\mathbf{A}}$  is a direct sum of residual representations.

$$H^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C}) = H_{cusp}^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C}) \oplus H_{res}^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C}) \oplus H_{Eis}^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C})$$

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where

$$H_{cusp}^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C}) = \bigoplus_{\pi_{\mathbf{A}} \in L_{cusp}^2(\Gamma \backslash G)} H^*(\mathfrak{g}, K, \pi_{\mathbf{A}})$$

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BUT the map

$$\bigoplus_{\pi_{\mathbf{A}} \in L_{res}^2(\Gamma \backslash G)} H^*(\mathfrak{g}, K, \pi_{\mathbf{A}}) \rightarrow H_{res}^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C})$$

is NOT INJECTIVE.

**First example : Generalized modular symbols related to invariant forms (joint work with Venkataramana )**

$G, H$  semi simple algebraic groups defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,

$G = G(\mathbb{R}), H = G(\mathbb{R})$

$\Gamma$  torsion free congruence subgroup.

Assume that  $G, H$  are connected.

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Assume that  $G, H$  are connected.

$\Gamma \backslash G$  is not compact.

$\pi = id$  the trivial representation. It is in  $L^2_{res}(\Gamma \backslash G)$

Jens Franke determined the contribution of  $H^*(\mathfrak{g}, K, Id)$  to  $H^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C})$   
i.e the contribution of the invariant forms to the deRham cohomology of  $\Gamma \backslash G$

Compactly supported cohomology classes in  $H_c^*(\Gamma \backslash X)$  may be pulled back and integrated on  $\Gamma_H \backslash Y$ . Integration on  $\Gamma_H \backslash Y$  is a linear form on  $H_c^*(\Gamma \backslash X)$ . By Poincare duality  $[\Gamma_H \backslash Y] \in H^{D-d}(\Gamma \backslash X)$ .

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We prove a nonvanishing criterion for modular symbols involving the compact dual of  $X$ .

In a special case we obtain:

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $E$  be a totally imaginary number field,  $\mathbf{G} = R_{E/\mathbb{Q}}(Sl_{2n})$  and  $\mathbf{H} = R_{E/\mathbb{Q}}(Sp_{2n})$ . Then the modular symbol  $[\Gamma_H \backslash Y]$  doesn't vanish for some congruence subgroup  $\Gamma$ .*

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $G$  be the split symplectic group  $Sp_{2g}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and let  $H = \prod_i Sp_{2g_i}$  with  $\sum g_i = g$ . Then the modular symbol  $[\Gamma_H \backslash Y]$  is non zero for a suitable congruence subgroup  $\Gamma$ .*

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The cohomology of the locally symmetric space is a module of the Hecke algebra and hence the Hecke algebra  $G(\mathbf{A}_f)$  also operates on the modular symbols.

**Theorem 3.** *Suppose that  $G = U(1, q)$  and  $H = U(1, r)$  with  $r = q - 2$  or  $r = q - 1$ . Then there exists a congruence subgroup  $\Gamma$  such that the  $G(\mathbf{A}_f)$ -translates of the modular symbol  $[\Gamma_H \backslash Y]$  is infinite dimensional.*

**Second example: Symplectic modular symbols for  $GL(4, \mathbb{R})$ .**  
Joint with J. Rohlf

$G = GL(4, \mathbb{R})$  (reductive and disconnected)

$H$  a symplectic group compatible with the choice of the maximal compact subgroup

$\Gamma$  torsion free congruence subgroup.

There exists a unique infinite dimensional representations  $\pi_{\Lambda}$  in the residual spectrum with nontrivial  $(\mathfrak{g}, K)$ -cohomology in degree 3. Furthermore we have

$$0 \rightarrow H^3(\mathfrak{g}, K, \pi_{\Lambda}) \rightarrow H^3(\Gamma \backslash X)$$

Let  $[\omega_{\pi_A}] \in H_c^6(\Gamma \backslash X)$  the class defined by its Poincare dual.

**Theorem 4.** *For  $\Gamma$  small enough  $[\Gamma_H \backslash Y]$  is a nontrivial modular symbol and defines a linear functional on  $H_c^6(\Gamma \backslash X)$ .*

**Conjecture:** We conjecture that the value of the integral of  $\omega_{\pi_A}$  is related to special values of Rankin convolutions of certain cusp forms of  $Gl_2$  and is closely related to some integrals of Jacquet/Rallis.

### **Third example: Eisenstein cohomology, pseudo Eisenstein cohomology and modular forms (joint with J. Rohlf)**

Roughly speaking:

The nontrivial classes in  $H_{Eis}^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C})$  are represented by harmonic forms which have a non trivial restriction to a face of Borel -Serre compactification of  $\Gamma \backslash X$ . These forms are constructed similar to Eisenstein series and related to induced representations. (see work of Harder and Schwermer)



### **Third example: Eisenstein cohomology, pseudo Eisenstein cohomology and modular forms (joint with J. Rohlfs)**

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The classes in the Poincare dual of  $[H_{Eis}^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C})]$  are represented by compactly supported "pseudo Eisenstein forms". We denoted this subspace of the cohomology with compact support

$$[H_{pseudoEis}^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C})]$$

Using  $H_c^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C})$  and  $H_{pseudoEis}^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C})$  we prove as a special case a generalization of a theorem of Ash-Borel

**Theorem 5.** *The Modular symbol attached to the fundamental class of the Levi factor of a parabolic subgroup defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$  doesn't vanish. It defines a non trivial linear form on*

$$[H_{pseudoEis}^*(\Gamma \backslash X, \mathbb{C})]$$

**Work in progress with T.Kobayashi  $G=O(n,1)$ ,**

For simplicity  $G=O(2m,1)$ .

Remark:  $G/G^0 = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  and there are 4 inequivalent one dimensional representations.

Recall Cartan decomposition  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} \oplus \mathfrak{p}$  . We have  $\mathfrak{p} = \mathbb{R}^n$  and the representation of  $K$  on  $\wedge^n \mathfrak{p}$  may not be trivial.

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Recall Cartan decomposition  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} \oplus \mathfrak{p}$ . We have  $\mathfrak{p} = \mathbb{R}^n$  and the representation of  $K$  on  $\wedge^n \mathfrak{p}$  may not be trivial.

Vogan-Zuckerman results imply that there exist exactly  $m$  inequivalent representations  $U_i$  with non trivial  $(\mathfrak{g}, K)$  cohomology.

We choose a numbering so that

$$H^j(\mathfrak{g}, K, U_i) = \mathbb{C} \quad \text{if } j = i \text{ or } j = n - i$$

and zero otherwise.

We pick the Casselman-Wallach realization of representation on a Frechet space.

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $V_0$  be one-dimensional representation of  $H=O(n-i)$  with nontrivial  $(\mathfrak{h}, K_H)$ -cohomology. Then*

$$\text{Hom}_H(U_i, V_0) \geq 1.$$

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Analyzing this H equivariant homomorphism we can show

**Corollary 7.** *We obtain a nontrivial map for the restriction of forms*

$$\bigwedge^{n-i} \mathfrak{p} \otimes_K U_i \rightarrow \bigwedge^{n-i} \mathfrak{p} \otimes_{K_H} V_0$$

Using this, the techniques developed in example 2 ,results about representations in the residual spectrum and pseudo Eisenstein series we expect to prove

**Theorem 8.** *? ? ?* Suppose that  $\mathbb{G} = O(2m, 1)$  and  $\mathbb{H}$  be  $O(k, 1)$  with  $m < k < n$   $\Gamma$  a torsion free arithmetic group.. For  $\Gamma$  small enough the module of  $[\Gamma_H \backslash Y]$  under the Hecke algebra contains a nontrivial modular symbol.

This is still work in progress, not all the details have been checked yet!!

A similar statement to Theorem 6 and 7 is also true for  $O(2m+1, 1)$ .