

# Hilbert Modular Surfaces: An Introduction

- ① Motivation.
- ② Set up.
- ③ The Hilbert modular group, congruence subgroups.
- ④ Hilbert modular varieties.
- ⑤ Hilbert modular forms.

|  
Break

|  
Discussion.

# © Motivation: Modular Curves / Forms

## Modular curves.

- Riemann surfaces obtained from quotients of  $\mathbb{H}$  by the action of congruence subgroups.
- Parametrize isomorphism classes of elliptic curves.

Modular group:  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$

## Modular forms.

- Complex analytic functions on  $\mathbb{H}$  satisfying a particular equation for the action of a congruence subgroup on  $\mathbb{H}$ .

$$f\left(\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} z\right) = (cz+d)^k f(z)$$

$$\Omega^k(X(\Gamma)) \cong \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Meromorphic mod forms} \\ \text{of weight } \frac{k}{2} \text{ w.r.t } \Gamma \end{array} \right\}$$

Idea: Generalize this for powers  $\mathbb{H}$ .

# ① Set Up

- $F$  is a totally real number field,  $[F:\mathbb{Q}]=n$ . \* we allow  $n=1$
- $v$  represents a real place of  $F$ .
- $a \in F^\times$  is **totally positive** if  $v(a) > 0 \ \forall v$ . same as  $a \in \ker \text{sgn}$ .  
we write  $a \in F_{>0}^\times$  ( $a >> 0$ )

•  $R := \mathbb{Z}_F$  and  $h := \#\text{Cl } R$ .

•  $\text{Cl}^+ R$  is the **Narrow class group**,  $h^+ := \#\text{Cl}^+ R$

$$1 \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}^n / \text{sgn}(R^\times) \rightarrow \text{Cl}^+(R) \rightarrow \text{Cl}(R) \rightarrow 1$$

•  $\mathbb{A}$  is the upper half-plane,  $\mathcal{H} := (\mathbb{A})^n$

with the hyperbolic metric

## Frac Ideals

Principal ideals  
generated  
by totally +  
elements

## ② The Hilbert Modular Group

Action on  $\mathcal{H} = (\mathbb{A})^n$

$$\mathrm{PGL}_2^+(\mathbb{F}) := \{ \gamma \in \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}) \mid \det \gamma \in \mathbb{F}_{>0}^\times \} / \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} : a \in \mathbb{F}^\times \right\} \mathrm{GL}_2^+(\mathbb{F}) \curvearrowright \mathcal{H}$$

$$z \in \mathcal{H} \quad z = (z_v)_v \longmapsto \gamma z := \left( \frac{a_v z_v + b_v}{c_v z_v + d_v} \right)_v \quad a_v := v(a)$$

$$\Gamma_{\mathbb{F}} := \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \subseteq \mathrm{PGL}_2^+(\mathbb{F})$$

Cusps.

We have an embedding:  $\mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{F}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{R})^n \subseteq \mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{C})^n$

The orbits of  $\mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{F})$  under  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{F}}$  are called cusps of  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{F}}$ .

$[\alpha : \beta] \in \mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{F})$  with  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$

$[\alpha : \beta] \rightsquigarrow (\alpha, \beta) \subseteq \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{F})$   
Bijection!!

Fact: The correspondence  $[\alpha:\beta] \leftrightarrow (\alpha,\beta) \in \text{Cl}(F)$  is a bijection

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \alpha^* \\ \beta & \beta^* \end{pmatrix} \text{ transforms } [1:0] \text{ to } [\alpha:\beta] \quad \alpha\beta^* - \alpha^*\beta = 1$$

$\mathfrak{A} \in \text{Frac}(\mathbb{R})$

$$SL_2(\mathbb{R} \oplus \mathfrak{A}) := \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL_2(F) : a, d \in \mathbb{R}, b \in \mathfrak{A}^{-1}, c \in \mathfrak{A} \right\}$$

## Congruence Subgroups.

$\mathfrak{N} \subseteq R$  nonzero ideal,

$\mathfrak{b} \subseteq F$  nonzero fractional  $R$ -ideal

$$\Gamma_0(\mathfrak{N})_{\mathfrak{b}} := \begin{pmatrix} R & \mathfrak{b}^{-1} \\ \mathfrak{N}\mathfrak{b} & R \end{pmatrix} \cap GL_2^+(F) \cap \det^{-1}(R^\times)$$

In particular  $\Gamma_0(1)_{\mathfrak{b}} = GL^+(R \oplus \mathfrak{b}) = \text{Aut}_R^+(R \oplus \mathfrak{b})$

Oriented  $R$ -mod aut. of  $R \oplus \mathfrak{b}$

$$\Gamma_1(\mathfrak{N})_{\mathfrak{b}} := \begin{pmatrix} 1+\mathfrak{N} & \mathfrak{b}^{-1} \\ \mathfrak{N}\mathfrak{b} & R \end{pmatrix} \cap GL_2^+(F) \cap \det^{-1}(R^\times)$$

$$\Gamma(\mathfrak{N})_{\mathfrak{b}} := \begin{pmatrix} 1+\mathfrak{N} & \mathfrak{N}\mathfrak{b}^{-1} \\ \mathfrak{N}\mathfrak{b} & 1+\mathfrak{N} \end{pmatrix} \cap GL_2^+(F) \cap \det^{-1}(R^\times)$$

A congruence subgroup  $\Gamma \leq GL_2^+(F)$  is a subgroup conjugate to a group that contains  $\Gamma(\mathfrak{N})_{\mathfrak{b}}$  for some  $\mathfrak{N}$  and  $\mathfrak{b}$ .

## Isomorphisms of congruence subgroups.

$$\alpha \in F_{>0}^{\times}.$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Gamma_0(N)_{\mathbb{H}} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \Gamma_0(N)_{\alpha\mathbb{H}}.$$

We only need to understand groups  $\Gamma_0(N)_{\mathbb{H}}$  for choices of reps of  $\mathcal{O}^{\dagger}(\mathbb{R})$ .

## ⑤ Hilbert Modular Varieties

$\Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}} < GL_2^+(\mathbb{F})$  congruence subgroup

$Y(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}})(\mathbb{C}) := \Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}} \backslash \mathcal{H}$  complex orbifold of dim  $n$ .

Can be seen as the moduli space of polarized abelian surfaces.

\* Moduli interpretations for non-parallel weight?

$\bar{Y}(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}})(\mathbb{C}) := \Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}} \backslash \mathcal{H}^*$  is compact

One can construct a minimal desingularization

$$\pi: X(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}}) \rightarrow \bar{Y}(\Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}})$$

using continued fractions. (for quadratic fields).

$$\Gamma_1(N)_{\mathfrak{b}}$$

We also define:  $X_0(N) := \bigsqcup_{\mathfrak{b} \in \mathcal{O}^+(\mathbb{F})} X_0(N)_{\mathfrak{b}}$ ,  $X_1(N) := \bigsqcup_{\mathfrak{b} \in \mathcal{O}^+(\mathbb{F})} X_1(N)_{\mathfrak{b}}$

For  $\Gamma_0(N)_{\mathfrak{b}}$



Theorem (Bailey-Borel) The complex analytic space  $\overline{\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}}$  is the normal complex analytic space of  $\text{Proj}(M(\Gamma))$ .

Hilbert  $\uparrow$  Modular forms of  $\Gamma$

Hilbert Modular Surfaces:  $n=2$  Quadratic extensions of  $\mathbb{Q}$

## ⑥ Hilbert Modular Forms

Let  $k = (k_v)_{v \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}^n}$  with all  $k_i$  of the same parity. can be relaxed: non-parititious HMF's

A holomorphic function  $f: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a Hilbert modular form of weight  $k$  on  $\Gamma$  if for all  $\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma$ ,

$$f(\gamma z) = \left( \prod_v \frac{(c_v z_v + d_v)^{k_v}}{\det(\gamma_v)^{k_v/2}} \right) f(z)$$

!!  $\frac{(cz+d)^k}{\det(\gamma)^{k/2}}$

together with  $f$  being holomorphic at cusps if  $n=1$ .

For  $\alpha \in GL_2^+(\mathbb{R})^n$ ,  $(f|_k \alpha)(z) := \frac{\det(\alpha)^{k/2}}{(cz+d)^k} f(\alpha z)$ .  $f|_k \gamma = f \quad \forall \gamma \in \Gamma$

The weight is parallel when all the  $k_v$ 's are equal.

## HMFs.

$M_k(\Gamma_b)$  is the  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space of Hilbert modular forms of weight  $k$  for  $\Gamma_b$ . finite dim.

For parallel weights:  $M(\Gamma_b) := \bigoplus_{k \in \mathbb{Z}, k \geq 0} M_k(\Gamma_b)$  is a graded ring.

Also,  $M_k(\Gamma) := \bigoplus_{b \in \text{cl}^+(\mathbb{R})} M_k(\Gamma_b)$

For not parallel weights:  
 $M(\Gamma_b)$  might not even be finitely generated

Examples. Eisenstein series of weight  $2r$

Theta series (Come from quadratic forms)

\* Exercise: Try non parallel weight  $(k, 2k)$  and see if it is finitely generated.

Cusp forms. HMF's  $f$  such that  $f(z) \rightarrow 0$  as  $z \rightarrow c$  for all cusps  $c$  of  $\Gamma_b$ .  $S_k(\Gamma_b) \subseteq M_k(\Gamma_b)$

## Fourier Expansions.

Let  $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq F$  be a fractional ideal, the dual of  $\mathfrak{a}$  under the trace pairing is:

$$\mathfrak{a}^\# := \{x \in F \mid \text{Tr}(x\mathfrak{a}) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}\}$$

$R^\#$  is the codifferent.  $\Delta_F := (R^\#)^{-1}$  is the different

Relation:  $\mathfrak{a}^\# = \mathfrak{a}^{-1} R^\# = \mathfrak{a}^{-1} \Delta_F^{-1}$ .

Note:  $N_m(\Delta_F) = d_F \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $d_F = \text{disc}(F/\mathbb{Q})$

Let  $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}} = \Gamma_1(N)_{\mathfrak{b}}$ . The stabilizer of  $[1:0] \in \mathbb{P}^1(F)$  under  $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{b}}$  is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} R & \mathfrak{b}^{-1} \\ 0 & R \end{pmatrix} \cap GL_2^+(F) \cap \det^{-1}(R^\times)$$

$f \in HMF$ , then  $f$  is invariant under  $z \rightarrow z + \mathfrak{b}$  for  $b \in \mathfrak{b}^{-1}$ , so  $f$  has a Fourier expansion over the dual of  $\mathfrak{b}^{-1}$ .

$$(\mathbb{1}^{-1})^\# = \mathbb{1}R^\# = \mathbb{1}\Delta_F^{-1}$$

The Fourier expansion for  $f \in M(\Gamma_{\mathbb{1}})$  can be written as:

$$f(z) = \underbrace{a_0}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{cusps}}} + \sum_{v \in (\mathbb{1}\Delta_F^{-1})_{>0}} \underbrace{a_v}_{\in \mathbb{C}} \underbrace{\exp(2\pi i(v_1 z_1 + \dots + v_n z_n))}_{q^{\text{Tr}(vz)}}$$

More relations:  $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^x$  totally positive unit.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \varepsilon \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma_{\mathbb{1}}$$

$$f(\varepsilon^{-1}z) = f((\varepsilon^{-1}z)_v) = \left( \prod_v \frac{\varepsilon^{k_v}}{\varepsilon^{k_v/2}} \right) f(z) = \prod_v (\varepsilon^{k_v/2})_v f(z)$$

$\xrightarrow{c_v z_v + d_v}$   
 $\xleftarrow{\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \varepsilon \end{pmatrix}}$

$$\varepsilon^{k/2} := \prod_v \varepsilon^{k_v/2}$$

$$a_0 + \sum_{v \in (\mathbb{1}\Delta_F^{-1})_{>0}} a_v q^{\text{Tr}(v\varepsilon^{-1}z)} = a_0 + \sum_{v \in (\mathbb{1}\Delta_F^{-1})_{>0}} a_{v\varepsilon} q^{\text{Tr}(vz)} = \varepsilon^{k/2} a_0 + \sum_{v \in (\mathbb{1}\Delta_F^{-1})_{>0}} \varepsilon^{k/2} a_v q^{\text{Tr}(vz)}$$

$$a_0 = \varepsilon^{k/2} a_0$$

$$a_{v\varepsilon} = \varepsilon^{k/2} a_v$$

If  $k \in 2\mathbb{Z}_{>0}^n$  is parallel, then  $\varepsilon^{k/2} = 1$  because  $N_m(\varepsilon) = 1 \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}^x$

$k$  not parallel  $\Rightarrow \varepsilon \neq 1 \Rightarrow \varepsilon^{k/2} \neq 1 \Rightarrow a_0 = 0$

Every HMF in non-parallel weight is a cusp form.

What was special about  $\varepsilon^{k/2}$ ?

Let  $w: \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{\times} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{\times}$  be a group homomorphism

We say that  $w$  is the unit character of a form and ask that

$$a_{v\varepsilon} = w(\varepsilon)a_v \quad \forall v$$

$$\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{\times}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \varepsilon \end{pmatrix}$$

normalizes  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{H}}^1$  and belongs to  $\mathbb{P}\Gamma_{\mathbb{H}}^1$  iff  $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}^{\times 2}$

$$\text{If } \varepsilon = u^2 \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \varepsilon \end{pmatrix} = u \begin{pmatrix} u^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & u \end{pmatrix}$$

$$w_0: \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{\times} / \mathbb{R}^{\times 2} \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$$

$w(\varepsilon) := \varepsilon^{k/2} w_0(\varepsilon)$  decomposes the space of  $SL_2$

using this unit character.

\* Rewrite this better in the Overleaf.

## Characters.

$\psi_0$  character of  $(\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{N})^\times \simeq \Gamma_0(N)_\mathbb{H} / \Gamma_1(N)_\mathbb{H}$  such that  $\forall \varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}^\times$ ,  
 $\psi_0(\varepsilon) = \text{sgn}(\varepsilon)^k$ .

A Hilbert modular form on  $\Gamma_0(N)_\mathbb{H}$  of weight  $k$  and character  $\psi_0$  is a holomorphic function  $f: \mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  s.t.

$$f|_k \gamma = \psi_0(\gamma) f \quad \forall \gamma \in \Gamma_0(N)_\mathbb{H} \quad \text{Before } f|_k \gamma = f$$