

Ramification of weak Arthur packets for p -adic groups (joint work w. Emile Okada)

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- 1 Quick and biased review of local Arthur packets (can skip)
- 2 Second introduction: A cheap ideology
- 3 Weak Arthur packets
- 4 Weak sphericity (main theorem)
- 5 Nilpotent cone geometry
 - Relative special pieces
 - Lusztig's canonical quotients

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Some global matters

- For exposition, \mathbf{G} is a semisimple group defined over a number field k . For all but finitely many (p -adic) completions $k < k_v$, the locally compact group $\mathbf{G}(k_v)$ has a well-defined (hyperspecial) maximal compact subgroup $K_v = \mathbf{G}(\mathfrak{O}_v)$, where $\mathfrak{O}_v < k_v$ is the p -adic ring of integers.
- An irreducible representation smooth representation of the adélic group $\mathbf{G}(\mathbb{A}_k) = \prod'_v \mathbf{G}(k_v)$ is an infinite tensor products of the form

$$\pi = \otimes_v \pi_v ,$$

where each π_v is a smooth irreducible $\mathbf{G}(k_v)$ -representation, so that all but finitely many of them are *spherical*.

- A spherical (or, unramified) π_v is one that has a non-zero K_v -invariant vector.

Some global matters

- Two such representations $\pi = \otimes_v \pi_v, \pi' = \otimes_v \pi'_v$ of are said to be *near-equivalent*, when for all but finitely many v , the (spherical) representations $\pi_v \cong \pi'_v$ are isomorphic.
- When classifying *automorphic* representations of $\mathbf{G}(\mathbb{A}_k)$, the near-equivalence relation seems to be natural.
- Indeed, (at least) for $\mathbf{G} = \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}, \mathrm{SO}_{2n+1}$, the celebrated endoscopic project of Arthur and others gave a description of all near-equivalence classes in a suitable automorphic space. (sorry for lack of details...)
- Essentially, these are the (*global*) *Arthur packets* $\{\Pi_\Psi\}_\Psi$.

Arthur packets for classical groups

- Still for $\mathbf{G} = \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}, \mathrm{SO}_{2n+1}$, an Arthur packet Π_Ψ defines a *local Arthur packet* for each completion $k < k_v$: A finite set $\Pi_{\Psi,v}$ of isomorphism classes of irreducible unitarizable smooth $\mathbf{G}(k_v)$ -representations.
- The set of automorphic representations Π_Ψ is then described as a certain subset (with multiplicities) of the set

$$\{ \otimes_v \pi_v : \pi_v \in \Pi_{\Psi,v} \}$$

of $\mathbf{G}(\mathbb{A}_k)$ -representations.

$$\text{” } \Pi_\Psi = \otimes'_v \Pi_{\Psi,v} \text{ ”}$$

Local Arthur packets: What is it about?

- One can wonder: Does the representation theory of p -adic groups have a right to exist without relying on number theory?
- If your answer is positive, what is the 'true' meaning of local Arthur packets?

Local Arthur packets: Things to notice

- Local Arthur packets may intersect, that is, an irreducible $\mathbf{G}(k_v)$ -representation π_v can belong to $\Pi_{\Psi,v} \cap \Pi_{\Psi',v}$, even when $\Pi_{\Psi,v} \neq \Pi_{\Psi',v}$.
- Yet, when π_v is spherical, there is at most a unique local Arthur packet Π containing it (Mœglin).
- These local packets Π are the anti-tempered packets, that is, Aubert-dual to the tempered local Arthur packets.
- Thus, in a global Arthur packet $\Pi_{\Psi} = \otimes'_v \Pi_{\Psi,v}$, for all but finitely many v , $\Pi_{\Psi,v}$ is an anti-tempered packet.

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Size of representations of p -adic groups

- Now, G is a reductive p -adic group. i.e. $G = \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{Q}_p)$.
- V/\mathbb{C} an irreducible smooth representation $G \curvearrowright V$.
- Usually V is infinite-dimensional. Still, how to quantify its 'size'?
- Maybe use compact subgroups $K < G$, because, by admissibility $\dim(V^K) < \infty$.
- Fix a basis of open compact subgroups

$$\dots < K_{i+1} < K_i < \dots < K_0 < G, \quad \bigcap_i K_i = \{e\}$$

- Since $V = \bigcup_i V^{K_i}$, $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \dim(V^{K_i}) = \infty$.

(Vague) invariants

- The *Gelfand-Kirillov dimension* $\text{GKdim}(V)$ measures the rate by which $\dim(V^{K_i})$ grows. (It can be determined by the algebraic wavefront set.)
- The '*depth*' of V looks at the minimal i , for which $\dim(V^{K_i}) > 0$.
- What is the relation between them?
- Specifically, what are the smallest representations with respect to the two invariants?

Minimizers

- Irreducible representations with minimal GKdim are a known source of interest.
- When G is split, minimal 'depth' can be taken as the class of spherical representations. i.e. taking K_0 to be the hyperspecial maximal compact subgroup.
- Meta-claim: The two notions of small size are related.

Example and speculations

- Each irreducible spherical representation of $GL_n(F)$ (F a p -adic field) is the *unique* representation with minimal GKdim among irreducible representations on same *supercuspidal support*.
(Follows from classical results of Mœglin–Waldspurger and Zelevinsky.)
- Speculations - Same may/should remain true for other reductive groups, with the following adjustments:
 - supercuspidal support \rightsquigarrow infinitesimal character.
 - spherical \rightsquigarrow weakly spherical (drop hyperspecial restriction!).
 - unique \rightsquigarrow share a local Arthur packet.

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Classical groups and their Langlands reciprocity

- From now, G is either $\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(F)$ or $\mathrm{SO}_{2n+1}(F)$, for a p -adic field F .
- Langlands dual group G^\vee is then either $\mathrm{SO}_{2n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ or $\mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{C})$.
- Local Langlands Reciprocity: Each irreducible representation $\pi \in \mathrm{Irr}(G)$ has an L -parameter

$$\phi_\pi : W_F \times \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow G^\vee$$

attached to it (up to conjugation). W_F is the Weil group of the field.

Infinitesimal characters

- The *infinitesimal character* of $\pi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ is the composed homomorphism

$$\chi_\pi : W_F \xrightarrow{w \mapsto \left(w, \begin{pmatrix} |w|^{1/2} & 0 \\ 0 & |w|^{-1/2} \end{pmatrix} \right)} W_F \times \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{C}) \xrightarrow{\phi_\pi} G^\vee,$$

up to conjugation.

- Terminology is motivated by an analogy to the natural notion for representations of real groups.
- For a spherical π , $\chi_\pi(\text{Fr})$ is the Satake parameter classifying π .

Basic infinitesimal characters

- Let \mathcal{U}^\vee be the set of unipotent conjugacy classes in G^\vee .
- A class $\mathcal{O}^\vee \in \mathcal{U}^\vee$ gives by Jacobson–Morozov a homomorphism $\phi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee} : \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow G^\vee$. i.e. $\phi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee} \left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \in \mathcal{O}^\vee$
- We inflate $\phi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}$ into a *basic* L -parameter

$$\phi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee} : W_F \times \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow G^\vee$$

by making it trivial on W_F .

- Representations $\pi \in \mathrm{Irr}(G)$ with $\phi_\pi = \phi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}$ are tempered, and their infinitesimal character we denote as $\chi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}$.

$$\mathcal{O}^\vee \mapsto \chi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}$$

Weak Arthur packets

- Barbasch–Vogan have given a local meaning to the notion of an Arthur packet for real groups. The following definition emulates their approach.
- For a unipotent conjugacy class $\mathcal{O}^\vee \in \mathcal{U}^\vee$, the set

$$\Pi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}^w = \left\{ \pi \in \text{Irr}(G) : \chi_\pi = \chi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}, \text{ GKdim}(\pi) \leq \text{GKdim}(\pi'), \forall \pi' \in \text{Irr}(G), \text{ s.t. } \chi_{\pi'} = \chi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee} \right\}$$

is called a *weak Arthur packet*.

Spherical Arthur packets revisited

- For a conjugacy class $\mathcal{O}^\vee \in \mathcal{U}^\vee$, there is a unique spherical representation $\pi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ with infinitesimal character (Satake parameter) $\chi_\pi = \chi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}$.
- Recall that a unique ('strong') local Arthur packet $\pi \in \Pi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}$ is known to contain it.
- The packet consists of all *anti-tempered* representations that admit $\chi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}$ as their infinitesimal character. Namely, the representations in $\Pi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}$ are those Aubert-dual to those admitting the tempered L -parameter $\phi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}$.

Ciubotaru – Mason-Brown – Okada, 23'

$$\Pi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee} \subset \Pi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}^w$$

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Weak sphericity

- We say that a representation $(\pi, V) \in \text{Irr}(G)$ is *weakly spherical*, when a maximal compact subgroup $K < G$ exists, so that $V^K \neq \{0\}$.
- Our groups G have maximal compact subgroups that are not (conjugate to) hyperspecial:

$$K_i = G \cap \left(\begin{array}{ccc} \text{GL}_i(\mathfrak{O}_F) & M_{i, N-2i}(\mathfrak{O}_F) & M_{i, i}(\mathfrak{p}_F^{-1}) \\ M_{N-2i, i}(\mathfrak{p}_F) & \text{GL}_{N-2i}(\mathfrak{O}_F) & M_{N-2i, i}(\mathfrak{O}_F) \\ M_{i, i}(\mathfrak{p}_F) & M_{i, N-2i}(\mathfrak{p}_F) & \text{GL}_i(\mathfrak{O}_F) \end{array} \right) < G .$$

Here, $\mathfrak{p}_F < \mathfrak{O}_F < F$ is the ring of integers and its maximal ideal.

Weakly spherical Arthur packets

- We say that a local Arthur packet $\Pi_\psi \subset \text{Irr}(G)$ is *weakly spherical*, if it contains an anti-tempered weakly spherical representation $\pi \in \Pi_\psi$.
- Suspecture: Removing "anti-tempered" from the definition is harmless. (i.e. when an Arthur packet contains a weakly spherical representation, it must also contain an anti-tempered weakly spherical one.)

Main result: Symplectic case

G. – Okada (arXiv:2404.03485)

Let $\Pi \subset \text{Irr}(\text{Sp}_{2n}(F))$ be a local Arthur packet, whose constituents admit the infinitesimal character $\chi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}$, for a unipotent conjugacy class \mathcal{O}^\vee of G^\vee .

Then, Π is weakly spherical, if and only if, $\Pi \subset \Pi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}^w$.

Moreover, each weak Arthur packet $\Pi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}^w$ is precisely the union of all weakly spherical Arthur packets whose constituents admit the infinitesimal character $\chi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}$.

Thought process guide: One member of an Arthur packet minimizes 'depth', if and only if, all members of the packet minimize Gelfand-Kirillov dimension.

Example

- $G = \mathrm{Sp}_8(F)$ and \mathcal{O}^\vee the unipotent orbit in $\mathrm{SO}_9(\mathbb{C})$ corresponding to the partition 135.
- Tempered L -parameter is

$$\phi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee} = 1 \otimes \nu_1 + 1 \otimes \nu_3 + 1 \otimes \nu_5 ,$$

where ν_k is the k -dimensional irreducible $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -representation.

- The anti-tempered Arthur packet has 4 representations $\Pi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee} = \{\delta, \delta', \pi, \sigma\}$.
- δ is spherical, δ' is weakly-spherical (π is Iwahori-invariant, σ is supercuspidal).
- While $\Pi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}$ is the only Arthur packet containing δ , there is another Arthur packet $\Pi_\psi = \{\delta', \sigma, \tau\}$ that contains δ' .
- Indeed,

$$\Pi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}^w = \Pi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee} \cup \Pi_\psi = \{\delta, \delta', \pi, \sigma, \tau\} .$$

Consequences/Observations

- Weak Arthur packets are unions of Arthur packets. That was proved in parallel by Liu–Lo.
- In particular, all constituents of weak Arthur packets are unitarizable, a conjecture of Ciubotaru–Mason–Brown–Okada is settled, and a nice analogy with the real groups case is seen.
- We see a 'weak' analogue to the stated Mœglin result about uniqueness of an Arthur packet that contains a given spherical representation:
A weak Arthur packet is the unique 'packet' with infinitesimal character $\chi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}$ containing (anti-tempered) weakly spherical representations.

'Awkwardness' in the orthogonal case

- $G = \mathrm{SO}_{2n+1}(F)$ is not simply-connected, giving a central element $-I \in G^\vee$.
- Hence, L -parameters and their infinitesimal characters can all be tensored with the unramified quadratic character κ of W_F : $\chi_{-1, \mathcal{O}^\vee}$.
- Resulting operation on $\mathrm{Irr}(G)$ is tensoring with a quadratic character κ of G (abusing notation). Has to do with the spinor norm.
- Since κ may not be trivial on maximal compact groups (!) We say that a representation is -1 -weakly spherical when it has non-zero κ -equivariant vectors under a maximal compact subgroup.
- More Arthur packets and weak Arthur packets need to be naturally introduced: $\Pi_{-1, \mathcal{O}^\vee}, \Pi_{-1, \mathcal{O}^\vee}^w$.

Main theorem: Orthogonal case

G. – Okada

Let $\Pi \subset \text{Irr}(\text{SO}_{2n+1}(F))$ be a local Arthur packet, whose constituents admit the infinitesimal character $\chi_{s, \mathcal{O}^\vee}$, for a unipotent conjugacy class \mathcal{O}^\vee of G^\vee and $s \in \{\pm 1\}$.

Then, Π is $(-s)$ -weakly spherical, if and only if, $\Pi \subset \Pi_{s, \mathcal{O}^\vee}^w$.

Moreover, each weak Arthur packet $\Pi_{s, \mathcal{O}^\vee}^w$ is precisely the union of all $(-s)$ -weakly spherical Arthur packets whose constituents admit the infinitesimal character $\chi_{s, \mathcal{O}^\vee}$.

Three theorems

Proof of our main theorem follows from three separate results. (Though could be nice to find a direct proof!)

- 1 Explicit description of the Arthur packets that compose a weak Arthur packet. (extending Liu-Lo)
 - Main tool: Explicit knowledge of algebraic wavefront sets for unipotent representations (CMBO).
- 2 Identification of the weakly spherical spectrum in terms of the enhanced Langlands reciprocity.
 - Main tool: Kazhdan-Lusztig geometric constructions for affine Hecke algebras, and recent advances in Springer theory by Waldspurger and La.
- 3 Identification of Arthur packets that contain the weakly spherical spectrum.
 - Main tool: The theory of intersections of Arthur packets, as developed by Mœglin, Xu, Atobe.

Standalone interest

Question 1:

Which local Arthur packets (beyond the anti-tempered packet) are included in the weak Arthur packet $\Pi_{\mathcal{O}^{\vee}}^w$?

Question 2:

Which anti-tempered representations (in $\Pi_{\mathcal{O}^{\vee}}$) are weakly spherical?

The answers to both questions are given in terms of the structure of the nilpotent/unipotent cone of the dual group G^{\vee} .

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Special pieces

- The conjugacy classes (or, orbits) in \mathcal{U}^\vee are divided into equivalence classes known as *special pieces*.
- Each special piece consists of power-of-2 orbits. Topological order between them is the hypercube lattice.
- There is a (Barbasch–Vogan–Lusztig–Spaltenstein) duality map d from \mathcal{U}^\vee to the nilpotent orbits of $\mathrm{Lie}(G_{\overline{F}})$. Special pieces may be defined as the fibers of that map.
- For an orbit $\mathcal{O}^\vee \in \mathcal{U}^\vee$, we set the *relative special piece* $\mathrm{Spc}(\mathcal{O}^\vee)$ of it, to be the set of orbits in \mathcal{U}^\vee that share a special piece with \mathcal{O}^\vee and are contained in its closure.
- Still $|\mathrm{Spc}(\mathcal{O}^\vee)| = 2^k$.

Weakly spherical Arthur parameters

- One meaningful invariant of Arthur parameters $\psi \in \Psi(G)$ is their SL_2 -type:
- Namely, when viewed as a homomorphism

$$\psi : W_F \times \mathrm{SL}_2^L(\mathbb{C}) \times \mathrm{SL}_2^A(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow G^\vee ,$$

this is the restriction $\psi|_{\mathrm{SL}_2^A(\mathbb{C})}$, whose isomorphism class is again parameterized by an orbit $\mathcal{O}_\psi^\vee \in \mathcal{U}^\vee$.

Proposition

For any $\mathcal{O}_1^\vee \in \mathcal{U}^\vee$ and any $\mathcal{O}_2^\vee \in \mathrm{Spc}(\mathcal{O}_1^\vee)$, there is a unique Arthur parameter $\psi = \psi_{\mathcal{O}_1^\vee, \mathcal{O}_2^\vee} \in \Psi(G)$ with infinitesimal character coming from \mathcal{O}_1^\vee and SL_2 -type \mathcal{O}_2^\vee .

$$\chi_\psi = \chi_{\mathcal{O}_1^\vee} , \quad \mathcal{O}_\psi^\vee = \mathcal{O}_2^\vee .$$

For example, $\Pi_{\psi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee, \mathcal{O}^\vee}} = \Pi_{\mathcal{O}^\vee}$ is the anti-tempered Arthur packet.

Weakly spherical Arthur packets

Theorem (G.-Okada)

For any unipotent orbit $\mathcal{O}_1^\vee \in \mathcal{U}^\vee$, the weak Arthur packet attached to it is decomposed as a (non-disjoint) union of $|\mathrm{Spc}(\mathcal{O}_1^\vee)|$ Arthur packets

$$\Pi_{\mathcal{O}_1^\vee}^w = \bigcup_{\mathcal{O}_2^\vee \in \mathrm{Spc}(\mathcal{O}_1^\vee)} \Pi_{\psi_{\mathcal{O}_1^\vee, \mathcal{O}_2^\vee}}.$$

Question 2:

Which anti-tempered representations (in $\Pi_{\mathcal{O}_V}$) are weakly spherical?

A side plot: Representation theory of Weyl groups

- Our groups G^\vee (and $G\dots$) have the finite group W_n of signed permutations as their Weyl group.
- For each unipotent conjugacy class \mathcal{O}^\vee in G^\vee , Springer theory constructs an action of W_n on the cohomology space $H^*(\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{O}^\vee})$ of the variety of Borel subgroups of G^\vee containing a fixed representative of $u \in \mathcal{O}^\vee$.
- The component (2-)group $A(\mathcal{O}^\vee) := Z_{G^\vee}(u)/Z_{G^\vee}(u)^\circ$ acts on $H^*(\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{O}^\vee})$ as well, commuting with the W_n -action.
- Each irreducible local system $\rho \in \widehat{A(\mathcal{O}^\vee)}$ gives a W_n -representation

$$\Sigma(\mathcal{O}^\vee, \rho) = \mathrm{Hom}_{A(\mathcal{O}^\vee)}(\rho, H^*(\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{O}^\vee})) .$$

Kazhdan–Lusztig K -theory construction

- For the principal block of representations of split p -adic groups, Kazhdan–Lusztig have adopted a Springer-like approach to construct Langlands reciprocity.
- Idea is that these cases are equivalent to representation of an *affine Hecke algebra*, which is viewed as a *quantized* version of the *affine Weyl group* (of the p -adic group in question).
- Lusztig later extended this approach to treat all *unipotent* representations.
- Bottom line for our needs: A geometric construction and parameterization

$$\Pi_{\mathcal{O}^{\vee}} = \left\{ \delta(\mathcal{O}^{\vee}, \rho) : \rho \in \widehat{A(\mathcal{O}^{\vee})}_0 \right\}$$

of anti-tempered representations is in place.

Weak sphericity translated to Springer theory

- Lusztig and Reeder showed that when " $q \rightarrow 1$ " ($q =$ residue characteristic of F) is suitably performed, one obtains the W_n -representation $\Sigma(\mathcal{O}^\vee, \rho)$ out of the G -representation $\delta = \delta(\mathcal{O}^\vee, \rho)$, whenever δ is Iwahori-invariant.
- Turns out weak-sphericity can be detected on the " $q \rightarrow 1$ " level!

Proposition

$$\dim(\Sigma(\mathcal{O}^\vee, \rho)^{W_i \times W_{n-i}}) = \dim(\delta(\mathcal{O}^\vee, \rho)^{K_i})$$

Here, $W_i \times W_{n-i} < W_n$ is the (non-parabolic, in Coxeter formalism) subgroup of signed permutations preserving $\{1, \dots, i\}$.

Green theory

- Want to know when is $\Sigma(\mathcal{O}^\vee, \rho)^{W_i \times W_{n-i}} \neq \{0\}$.
- Recall, $\Sigma(\mathcal{O}^\vee, \rho)$ is not irreducible. Determining its decomposition to irreducible representations has to do with the theme of *Green functions*.
- Recently, Waldspurger devised closed formulas for such a decomposition for the $G^\vee = \mathrm{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{C})$ case. Methods were extended to $G^\vee = \mathrm{SO}_{2n+1}(\mathbb{C})$ by La.

Lusztig's canonical quotient

Theorem: Symplectic case (G.–Okada)

The representation $\delta(\mathcal{O}^\vee, \rho)$ is weakly spherical, if and only if, the character ρ of the component group $A(\mathcal{O}^\vee)$ factor through Lusztig's canonical quotient.

- The subgroup $A^\dagger(\mathcal{O}^\vee) < \widehat{A(\mathcal{O}^\vee)}$ of characters factoring through that quotient has its own history.
- Recall that each non-zero $\Sigma(\mathcal{O}^\vee, \rho)$ has an *irreducible* summand $L(\mathcal{O}^\vee, \rho) = \text{Hom}_{A(\mathcal{O}^\vee)}(\rho, H^{top}(\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{O}^\vee})) \in \text{Irr}(W_n)$.
- $\text{Irr}(W_n)$ is divided into *Kazhdan–Lusztig (two-sided) cells*. Those are conveniently in bijection with the set of special pieces in \mathcal{U}^\vee .
- Achar–Sage: $A^\dagger(\mathcal{O}^\vee)$ consists of those characters ρ , for which the KL cell of $L(\mathcal{O}^\vee, \rho)$ matches the special piece of \mathcal{O}^\vee .

Thank you for listening!