

EISENSTEIN CONGRUENCES FOR $\mathrm{SO}(4, 3)$, $\mathrm{SO}(4, 4)$, SPINOR AND TRIPLE PRODUCT L -VALUES

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ABSTRACT. We work out instances of a general conjecture on congruences between Hecke eigenvalues of induced and cuspidal automorphic representations of a reductive group, modulo divisors of certain critical L -values, in the case that the group is a split orthogonal group. We provide some numerical evidence in the case that the group is $\mathrm{SO}(4, 3)$ and the L -function is the spinor L -function of a genus 2, vector-valued, Siegel cusp form. We also consider the case that the group is $\mathrm{SO}(4, 4)$ and the L -function is a triple product L -function.

1. INTRODUCTION

Ramanujan discovered the congruence $\tau(p) \equiv 1 + p^{11} \pmod{691}$ (for all primes p), where $\Delta = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \tau(n)q^n = q \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)^{24}$. We may view this as being a congruence between Hecke eigenvalues, for $T(p)$ acting on the cusp form Δ of weight 12 for $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$, and on the Eisenstein series E_{12} of weight 12. The modulus 691 comes from a certain L -function evaluated at a critical point depending on the weight; specifically it divides the numerator of the rational number $\frac{\zeta(12)}{\pi^{12}}$. Conjecture 4.2 of [BD] is a very wide generalisation of Ramanujan's congruence, to congruences between Hecke eigenvalues of automorphic representations of $G(\mathbb{A})$, where \mathbb{A} is the adèle ring and G/\mathbb{Q} is any connected, split reductive group. (The case of a group split over an imaginary quadratic field was dealt with in [Du1].) On one side of the congruence is a cuspidal automorphic representation $\tilde{\Pi}$. On the other is one induced from a cuspidal automorphic representation Π of the Levi subgroup M of a maximal parabolic subgroup P . The modulus of the congruence comes from a critical value of a certain L -function, associated to Π and to the adjoint representation of the L -group \hat{M} on the Lie algebra $\hat{\mathfrak{n}}$ of the unipotent radical of the maximal parabolic subgroup \hat{P} of \hat{G} . Starting from Π , we conjecture the existence of $\tilde{\Pi}$, satisfying the congruence. Ramanujan's congruence is an instance of the case $G = \mathrm{GL}_2$, $M = \mathrm{GL}_1 \times \mathrm{GL}_1$. Harder's conjecture on congruences between genus-1 and genus-2 (vector-valued) Siegel modular forms is the case $G = \mathrm{GSp}_2$, P the Siegel parabolic, $M \simeq \mathrm{GL}_1 \times \mathrm{GL}_2$. In [BD] we looked at these examples, and others involving GSp_3 and G_2 .

One main focus of this paper is the case $G = \mathrm{SO}(n + 1, n)$ and $M \simeq \mathrm{GL}_1 \times \mathrm{SO}(n, n - 1)$. This is arguably the most direct generalisation of the congruences of Ramanujan and Harder, which themselves reappear as the cases $n = 1$ and $n = 2$, via the special isomorphisms $\mathrm{SO}(2, 1) \simeq \mathrm{PGL}_2$ and $\mathrm{SO}(3, 2) \simeq \mathrm{PGSp}_2$. In the case

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$n = 1$ the modulus comes from Riemann's zeta function. In the case $n = 2$ it comes from the L -function of a genus-1 cuspidal Hecke eigenform. In the case $n = 3$ it comes from the spinor L -function of a genus-2 eigenform. This is quite satisfying, since it was only the standard L -function of such a form that appeared in [BD] (in the case $G = \mathrm{GSp}_3$, $M \simeq \mathrm{GL}_1 \times \mathrm{GSp}_2$).

The shape of the conjectural congruences is worked out in §2, and the special cases $n = 1, 2, 3$ are examined further in §3. Actually, for each n , the conjecture also predicts congruences modulo divisors of Riemann zeta-values. In §4 we see how such congruences are implied by Ramanujan's, combined with a conjectured functorial lift from $\mathrm{SO}(2, 1) \times \mathrm{SO}(n, n - 1)$ to $\mathrm{SO}(n + 1, n)$. In §5 we examine how the Bloch-Kato conjecture, combined with a construction tracing its roots back to Ribet's converse to Herbrand's theorem [R], leads from congruences to divisibility of L -values.

Calculations of Hecke eigenvalues by Faber and van der Geer (using counts of points mod p on the moduli space of principally polarized abelian surfaces) provided much numerical evidence for Harder's conjecture (i.e. the case $n = 2$), in each instance confirming the congruence for $p \leq 37$ [FvdG, vdG]. In this paper we provide numerical examples to support the case $n = 3$, which involves $\mathrm{SO}(4, 3)$ and spinor L -values. In §6 we find some apparent congruences of the right shape, showing that they hold for $p \leq 53$. To get Hecke eigenvalues for cuspidal automorphic representations of $\mathrm{SO}(4, 3)$ we use the compact form $\mathrm{SO}(7)$ instead, which allows for the computation of traces of Hecke operators using spaces of algebraic modular forms. We use the extensive data compiled by the third-named author, who has also actually proved one of the congruences for all p . These examples would support the conjecture if the prime moduli of these congruences appear in the numerators of certain ratios of critical spinor L -values.

In §7 we confirm these predictions by calculating sufficiently good numerical approximations to the critical values of the spinor L -values in question, using Dokchitser's algorithm [Do] as implemented in the computer package Magma. For this, the first 150 coefficients of the Dirichlet series were obtained from (genus 2) Hecke eigenvalues computed by the first-named author, extending the work of Faber and van der Geer. In the denominators of the rightmost critical values, we sometimes find primes that are moduli for Harder's congruence. This can be explained via a global torsion term in the Bloch-Kato conjecture. We also find some more large primes in numerators, predicting more congruences, which are tested in §8.

In [Du2], the second-named author found just a scrap of numerical evidence for an Eisenstein congruence involving $U(2, 2)$ and its Siegel parabolic subgroup, calculating the eigenvalues of one Hecke operator (and its square) on a single 2-dimensional space of algebraic modular forms for $U(4)$. For this congruence, exact L -values were computed. The numerical support in the present paper, for Eisenstein congruences for $G = \mathrm{SO}(4, 3)$, $M \simeq \mathrm{GL}_1 \times \mathrm{SO}(3, 2)$, is more substantial, though for spinor L -values we had to resort to numerical approximation before guessing exact rational ratios by truncating continued fractions. As pointed out by J. Funke, this is the first evidence for Eisenstein congruences involving a group whose associated locally symmetric space does not have a complex structure. The case $G = \mathrm{SO}(5, 4)$, $M \simeq \mathrm{GL}_2 \times \mathrm{SO}(3, 2)$, will be examined elsewhere. There one needs to approximate values of a degree 8, $\mathrm{GSp}_2 \times \mathrm{GL}_2$ L -function, which is even more difficult.

In §9, we consider the case $G = \mathrm{SO}(n, n)$, $M \simeq \mathrm{GL}_2 \times \mathrm{SO}(n-2, n-2)$, and work out what congruence the general conjecture predicts. In §10 we look at the special case $n = 4$. Via the central isogeny from $\mathrm{SO}(2, 2)$ to $\mathrm{PGL}_2 \times \mathrm{PGL}_2$, we get a cuspidal automorphic representation of $\mathrm{SO}(2, 2)$ from a pair of classical Hecke eigenforms, g and h (always level 1 for us). For the GL_2 factor of M we use another f , and the predicted congruences involve critical values of the triple product L -function attached to f, g and h . Such critical values can be computed exactly using the pullback to $\mathfrak{H}_1 \times \mathfrak{H}_1 \times \mathfrak{H}_1$ of a genus 3 Eisenstein series to which certain holomorphic differential operators have been applied. Ibukiyama and Katsurada already computed some examples for [IKPY], and in an appendix to this paper they clarify the method, and compute more examples. To get Hecke eigenvalues for cuspidal automorphic representations of $\mathrm{SO}(4, 4)$ we use the compact form $\mathrm{SO}(8)$. We present several numerical examples supporting the conjecture.

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2. THE SETUP FOR $G = \mathrm{SO}(n+1, n)$, $M \simeq \mathrm{GL}_1 \times \mathrm{SO}(n, n-1)$

Let

$$G = \mathrm{SO}(n+1, n) = \{g \in M_{2n+1} : {}^t g J g = J, \det(g) = 1\},$$

where

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 0_n & 0 & I_n \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ I_n & 0 & 0_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

This is a connected, reductive (even semi-simple) algebraic group, split over \mathbb{Q} . It has a maximal torus $T = \{\mathrm{diag}(t_1, \dots, t_n, 1, t_1^{-1}, \dots, t_n^{-1}) : t_1, \dots, t_n \in \mathrm{GL}_1\}$ with character group $X^*(T)$ spanned by $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ where e_i sends the element $\mathrm{diag}(t_1, \dots, t_n, 1, t_1^{-1}, \dots, t_n^{-1})$ to t_i for $1 \leq i \leq n$. The cocharacter group $X_*(T)$ is spanned by $\{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$, where $f_1 : t \mapsto \mathrm{diag}(t, 1, \dots, 1, 1, t^{-1}, 1, \dots, 1)$, etc. and so $\langle e_i, f_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$, where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : X^*(T) \times X_*(T) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ is the natural pairing. We can order the roots so that the set of positive roots is $\Phi_G^+ = \{e_i - e_j : i < j\} \cup \{e_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\} \cup \{e_i + e_j : i < j\}$, with simple positive roots $\Delta_G = \{e_1 - e_2, e_2 - e_3, \dots, e_{n-1} - e_n, e_n\}$. The half-sum of the positive roots is $\rho_G = \frac{1}{2}((2n-1)e_1 + (2n-3)e_2 + \dots + e_n)$. The Weyl group W_G is generated by permutations of the t_i and by inversions swapping t_i with t_i^{-1} . The long element w_0^G is the product of all the inversions.

If we choose the simple root $\alpha = e_1 - e_2$, this determines a maximal parabolic subgroup $P = MN$, where N is the unipotent radical and M is the Levi subgroup, characterised by $\Delta_M = \Delta_G - \{\alpha\}$, and then $M \simeq \mathrm{GL}_1 \times \mathrm{SO}(n, n-1)$. The positive roots occurring in the Lie algebra of N are $\Phi_N = \Phi_G^+ - \Phi_M^+ = \{e_1 - e_2, \dots, e_1 - e_n, e_1, e_1 + e_2, \dots, e_1 + e_n\}$, i.e. those positive roots whose expression as a sum of simple roots includes α . The half-sum is $\rho_P = \frac{2n-1}{2}e_1$, and $\langle \rho_P, \check{\alpha} \rangle = \frac{2n-1}{2}$, where $\check{\alpha}$ is the coroot associated with α . Let $\tilde{\alpha} := \frac{1}{\langle \rho_P, \check{\alpha} \rangle} \rho_P = e_1$.

Let \hat{G} be the Langlands dual group of G . (In our particular case, $\hat{G} \simeq \mathrm{Sp}_n$, a symplectic group of $2n$ -by- $2n$ matrices. This is explained in more detail in [Du1, §6].) Then \hat{G} has a maximal torus \hat{T} with $X^*(\hat{T}) \simeq X^*(T)$ and $X_*(\hat{T}) \simeq X_*(T)$. Under these isomorphisms, roots of \hat{G} become coroots of G , and coroots of \hat{G} become roots of G , with $\check{\Delta} := \{\check{\beta} : \beta \in \Delta_G\}$ mapping to a set of simple positive roots for

\hat{G} . We can define a maximal parabolic subgroup \hat{P} of \hat{G} , with Levi subgroup characterised by having set of simple positive roots $\hat{\Delta} - \{\hat{\alpha}\}$, hence identifiable with \hat{M} . Let \hat{N} be the unipotent radical of \hat{P} , with Lie algebra $\hat{\mathfrak{n}}$.

Let Π' be a cuspidal, automorphic representation of $\mathrm{SO}(n, n-1)(\mathbb{A})$, $\Pi = 1 \times \Pi'$, which is a unitary, cuspidal, automorphic representation of $M(\mathbb{A})$. Let $\lambda = a_1 e_2 + \cdots + a_{n-1} e_n$, with $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \cdots \geq a_{n-1} \geq 0$ be the infinitesimal character of Π'_∞ (or equally of Π_∞ , up to W_M). See [BD, §2] for further explanation. We shall assume that the a_i are all distinct, with $a_{n-1} > 0$, i.e. that λ is regular.

Let B be a Borel subgroup of M containing T , and for $s \in \mathbb{C}$, $\chi \in X^*(T)$ and a valuation v , $|s\chi|_v(t) := |\chi(t)|_v^s$. For any prime p such that the local component Π_p (a representation of $M(\mathbb{Q}_p)$) is unramified (i.e. spherical, with a non-zero $M(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ -fixed vector), Π_p is isomorphic to a (unitarily) parabolically induced representation $\mathrm{Ind}_{B(\mathbb{Q}_p)}^{M(\mathbb{Q}_p)}(|\chi_p|_p)$ for some $\chi_p = -[\log_p(\beta_1)e_2 + \log_p(\beta_2)e_3 + \cdots + \log_p(\beta_{n-1})e_n] \in X^*(T) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} i\mathbb{R}$. The p -adic valuation is normalised so that $|p|_p = p^{-1}$ and thus $|\chi_p(f_{j+1}(p))|_p = \beta_j$, for $1 \leq j \leq n-1$. Note that we should have $|\beta_1| = \cdots = |\beta_{n-1}| = 1$ if Π'_p is tempered, which will be the case for us. This $\chi_p \in X^*(T) \otimes i\mathbb{R}$ gives rise to $t(\chi_p) \in \hat{T}(\mathbb{C}) \subset \hat{M}(\mathbb{C})$ such that, for any $\mu \in X_*(T) = X^*(\hat{T})$, $\mu(t(\chi_p)) = |\chi_p(\mu(p))|_p$. Thus $t(\chi_p) = \mathrm{diag}(1, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_{n-1}, 1, \beta_1^{-1}, \dots, \beta_{n-1}^{-1})$. The conjugacy class of $t(\chi_p)$ in $\hat{M}(\mathbb{C})$ is the Satake parameter of Π_p , but we shall give χ_p the same title.

Given a representation $r : \hat{M} \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_d$, we may define a local L -factor

$$L_p(s, \Pi_p, r) := \det(I - r(t(\chi_p))p^{-s})^{-1},$$

then an L -function (in general incomplete)

$$L_\Sigma(s, \Pi, r) := \prod_{p \notin \Sigma} L_p(s, \Pi_p, r),$$

where Σ is a finite set of primes containing all those such that Π_p is ramified. In particular, we take for r the adjoint representation of \hat{M} on $\hat{\mathfrak{n}}$, which is a direct sum of subspaces on which \hat{T} acts by those positive roots of \hat{G} that are not roots of \hat{M} . These are identified with the coroots $\check{\gamma}$ of G , as γ runs through Φ_N . It follows that

$$L_p(s, \Pi_p, r)^{-1} = \prod_{\gamma \in \Phi_N} (1 - \check{\gamma}(t(\chi_p))p^{-s}) = \prod_{\gamma \in \Phi_N} (1 - |\chi_p(\check{\gamma}(p))|_p p^{-s}).$$

Actually, r is a direct sum of irreducible representations r_i for some $1 \leq i \leq m$, where r_i acts on the direct sum $\hat{\mathfrak{n}}_i$ of root spaces for $\Phi_N^i := \{\check{\gamma} \in \Phi_N : \langle \tilde{\alpha}, \check{\gamma} \rangle = i\}$, and

$$L_\Sigma(s, \Pi, r) = \prod_{i=1}^m L_\Sigma(s, \Pi, r_i).$$

In our case $m = 2$, with $\Phi_N^1 = \{e_1 \pm e_{j+1} : 1 \leq j \leq n-1\}$ and $\Phi_N^2 = \{e_1\}$.

$\gamma \in \Phi_N$	$\check{\gamma}$	$\langle \lambda + s\tilde{\alpha}, \check{\gamma} \rangle$	$ \chi_p(\check{\gamma}(p)) _p$
$e_1 - e_{j+1}$ ($1 \leq j \leq n-1$)	$f_1 - f_{j+1}$	$-a_j + s$	β_j^{-1}
$e_1 + e_{j+1}$ ($1 \leq j \leq n-1$)	$f_1 + f_{j+1}$	$a_j + s$	β_j
e_1	$2f_1$	$2s$	1

Using the table, $L_p(s, \Pi_p, r_1) = \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} [(1 - \beta_i p^{-s})(1 - \beta_i^{-1} p^{-s})]$, and $L_\Sigma(s, \Pi, r_1)$ is the L -function associated with Π' and the standard $(2n - 2)$ -dimensional representation of $\widehat{\mathrm{SO}}(n, n - 1) = \mathrm{Sp}_{n-1}$, while $L_p(s, \Pi_p, r_2) = (1 - p^{-s})$, so $L_\Sigma(s, \Pi, r_2) = \zeta_\Sigma(s)$.

For $s > 0$, we consider a certain parabolically induced representation $\mathrm{Ind}_P^G(\Pi \otimes |s\tilde{\alpha}|)$ of $G(\mathbb{A})$, which has infinitesimal character (at ∞)

$$\lambda + s\tilde{\alpha} = se_1 + a_1 e_2 + \cdots a_{n-1} e_n,$$

(up to W_G -action). We need $s \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$ for $L_\Sigma(1 + 2s, \Pi, r_2)$ to be critical. Then we need all the a_i to be in $\frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$ for $\lambda + s\tilde{\alpha}$ to be algebraically integral, i.e for $\langle \lambda + s\tilde{\alpha}, \check{\beta} \rangle \in \mathbb{Z}$ for all $\beta \in \Phi_G^+$. (This is already true for $\beta \in \Phi_M^+$, and we can check the above table for $\beta = \gamma \in \Phi_N$.) As in [BD, §3], we assume that $L_\Sigma(s, \Pi, r_1)$ is the value at 0 of the L -function attached to a motive (or at least a pre-motivic structure) $\mathcal{M}(r_1, \Pi \otimes |s\tilde{\alpha}|)$. Then, for the obvious choice of $w \in W_G$, $w(\lambda + s\tilde{\alpha}) = a_1 e_1 + \cdots a_{n-1} e_{n-1} + s e_n$, which is dominant and regular if we add the condition $s < a_{n-1}$ to those already imposed. This coincides with the condition for $L_\Sigma(1 + s, \Pi, r_1)$ to be critical. (See the end of [BD, §3] for more on this.) We exclude the smallest value $s = 1/2$ from the conjecture below. For $1 \leq i \leq m$, dividing $L_\Sigma(1 + is, \Pi, r_i)$ by a Deligne period, we get an algebraic number, according to Deligne's conjecture on critical values of L -functions [De]. We shall take the Deligne period normalised as in [BD, §4] (see also §6 below), and call the algebraic number $L_{\mathrm{alg}, \Sigma}(1 + is, \Pi, r_i)$.

Let $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(G(\mathbb{Q}_p), G(\mathbb{Z}_p))$ be the Hecke algebra of \mathbb{C} -valued, compactly supported, $G(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ -bi-invariant functions on $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)$. If $f \in \mathcal{H}$ then f acts on any smooth representation of $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ by $v \mapsto \int_{G(\mathbb{Q}_p)} g(v)f(g) dg$, where dg is a left- and right-invariant Haar measure, normalised so that $G(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ has volume 1. Then \mathcal{H} is a commutative ring under convolution of functions (which corresponds to composition of operators), and is generated by the characteristic functions T'_μ of double cosets $G(\mathbb{Z}_p)\mu(p)G(\mathbb{Z}_p)$, where $\mu \in X_*(T)$ is any cocharacter. If the representation is spherical, with $G(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ -fixed vector v_0 , then necessarily $T'_\mu(v_0)$ is also fixed, but since v_0 is unique up to scalar multiples, \mathcal{H} acts on v_0 by a character. The value of this character on any particular element of \mathcal{H} is a ‘‘Hecke eigenvalue’’.

Suppose that $q > 2 \max\langle \lambda, \check{\gamma} \rangle + 1 = 2a_1 + 1$, and let \mathfrak{q} be a prime divisor of q in a number field sufficiently large to accommodate all the Hecke eigenvalues and normalised L -values we shall consider. The main conjecture of [BD] is that if $\mathrm{ord}_{\mathfrak{q}}(L_{\mathrm{alg}, \Sigma}(1 + is, \Pi, r_i)) > 0$ then there exists a tempered, cuspidal, automorphic representation $\tilde{\Pi}$ of $G(\mathbb{A})$, unramified outside Σ , and with $\tilde{\Pi}_\infty$ of infinitesimal character $w(\lambda + s\tilde{\alpha})$, such that for all $p \notin \Sigma$, and all $\mu \in X_*(T)$, the eigenvalues of T'_μ on $\tilde{\Pi}_p$ and $\mathrm{Ind}_P^G(\Pi_p \otimes |s\tilde{\alpha}|_p)$ are congruent modulo \mathfrak{q} . (Actually, we scale T'_μ by a certain power of p to make T_μ , see below. Also, for $i = 2$ we require only $q > 2 + 2s$. For an additional technical condition, see [BD, §4].)

The standard representation of $\hat{G} \simeq \mathrm{Sp}_n$ has highest weight f_1 (identifying $X^*(\hat{T})$ with $X_*(T)$) and complete set of weights $\{\pm f_1, \pm f_2, \dots, \pm f_n\}$. Given that this is a single W_G -orbit, i.e. that f_1 is a minuscule weight, we can calculate the ‘‘right-hand-side’’ of the congruence in the following way. The Satake parameter of $\mathrm{Ind}_P^G(\Pi_p \otimes |s\tilde{\alpha}|_p)$ is $\chi_p + s\tilde{\alpha} = -[\log_p(\beta_1)e_2 + \log_p(\beta_2)e_3 + \cdots \log_p(\beta_{n-1})e_n] + se_1$. Using this we get the following.

μ	$ (\chi_p + s\tilde{\alpha})(\mu(p)) _p$
$\pm f_1$	$p^{\pm s}$
$\pm f_{i+1} \ (1 \leq i \leq n-1)$	$\beta_i^{\pm 1}$

The trace is $p^s + p^{-s} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (\beta_i + \beta_i^{-1})$. We would multiply this by $p^{\langle \rho_G, f_1 \rangle} = p^{(2n-1)/2}$ to get the eigenvalue for T'_{f_1} , but instead we multiply by $p^{\langle w(\lambda + s\tilde{\alpha}), f_1 \rangle} = p^{a_1}$, to get the eigenvalue for T_{f_1} :

$$T_{f_1}(\text{Ind}_P^G(\Pi_p \otimes |s\tilde{\alpha}|_p)) = p^{a_1+s} + p^{a_1-s} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} p^{a_1} (\beta_i + \beta_i^{-1}).$$

3. THE CASES $n = 1, 2, 3$ WITH $i = 1$

3.1. $n = 1$. In the special case $n = 1$, $\text{SO}(2, 1) \simeq \text{PGL}_2$. This arises from the conjugation action of PGL_2 on the 3-dimensional space of trace-0 matrices, preserving the quadratic form given by the determinant. If $A = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 & x_1 \\ x_3 & -x_2 \end{pmatrix}$ is such a trace-0 matrix, then $-2 \det A = x_1 x_3 + 2x_2^2 + x_3 x_1$ is the quadratic form associated with J . Under this isomorphism, $\text{diag}(t_1, t_2) \in \text{PGL}_2$ is sent to $\text{diag}(t_1 t_2^{-1}, 1, t_2 t_1^{-1}) \in \text{SO}(2, 1)$, as one readily checks by calculating the conjugation action on A . Hence the characters ae_1 of (the maximal torus of) $\text{SO}(2, 1)$ and $a(e'_1 - e'_2)$ of PGL_2 correspond, where $e'_i : \text{diag}(t_1, t_2) \mapsto t_i$. In particular, looking at the infinitesimal character of $\tilde{\Pi}_\infty$ when $\tilde{\Pi}$ is generated by a cuspidal Hecke eigenform f of weight $k' \geq 2$ and trivial character, $\frac{k'-1}{2}(e'_1 - e'_2)$ corresponds to $\frac{k'-1}{2}e_1$.

We have $M \simeq \text{GL}_1$, and since $n - 1 = 0$, this special case does not quite fit into the above framework, in that Φ_N^1 is empty, so there are no a_i , no β_j , no $L(s, \Pi, r_1)$, and no upper bound on s . Since Π is the trivial representation of $M(\mathbb{A})$ (with $\lambda = 0$), we can take $\Sigma = \emptyset$ and $L(s, \Pi, r_2)$ is still $\zeta(s)$. Letting $k' > 2$ be the even integer $1 + 2s$, $L(1 + 2s, \Pi, r_2)$ becomes $\zeta(k')$. Though we do not have an a_1 when $n = 1$, turning to PGL_2 we use the scaling factor $p^{(k'-1)/2}$ and the bound $q > k'$ (as if $a_1 = \frac{k'-1}{2}$). So, for a prime $q > k'$ dividing the numerator of the Bernoulli number $B_{k'}$, we predict a cuspidal Hecke eigenform f of weight k' (corresponding to $\lambda + s\tilde{\alpha} = se_1$ with $s = \frac{k'-1}{2}$) and level 1 (because $\Sigma = \emptyset$) such that

$$a_p(f) \equiv p^{k'-1} + 1 \pmod{q}.$$

The right-hand-side is obtained from that in the previous section by omitting all the β_i -terms and putting $a_1 = s = \frac{k'-1}{2}$. This conjecture is well-known to be true; the case $k' = 12, q = 691$ being Ramanujan's congruence. See [BD, §5] for the same conjecture arrived at via $G = \text{GL}_2$. The conjecture one obtains by artificially enlarging Σ beyond its minimum is also true [DF], as anticipated by Harder [H2].

3.2. $n = 2$. In the special case $n = 2$, $\text{SO}(3, 2) \simeq \text{PGSp}_2$. This arises from the conjugation action of PGSp_2 on the 5-dimensional space of matrices

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} x_3 & x_2 & 0 & -x_1 \\ x_5 & -x_3 & x_1 & 0 \\ 0 & x_4 & x_3 & x_5 \\ -x_4 & 0 & x_2 & -x_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

such that $AJ = J^t A$, preserving the quadratic form $(1/2)\text{Tr}(A^2) = x_1 x_4 + x_2 x_5 + 2x_3^2 + x_4 x_1 + x_5 x_2$, which is the one associated with J . Under this isomorphism,

$\mathrm{diag}(t_1, t_2, t_0 t_1^{-1}, t_0 t_2^{-1}) \in \mathrm{PGSp}_2$ is sent to $\mathrm{diag}(t_1 t_2 t_0^{-1}, t_1 t_2^{-1}, 1, t_0 t_1^{-1} t_2^{-1}, t_2 t_1^{-1}) \in \mathrm{SO}(3, 2)$, and the characters $ae'_1 + be'_2 - \frac{1}{2}(a+b)e'_0$ of PGSp_2 and $\frac{a+b}{2}e_1 + \frac{a-b}{2}e_2$ of $\mathrm{SO}(3, 2)$ correspond, where $e'_i : \mathrm{diag}(t_1, t_2, t_0 t_1^{-1}, t_0 t_2^{-1}) \mapsto t_i$. In particular, looking at the infinitesimal character of $\tilde{\Pi}_\infty$ when $\tilde{\Pi}$ is generated by a Siegel modular form F of weight $\mathrm{Sym}^j \det^k$ and trivial character, with $k \geq 3$, $(j+k-1)e'_1 + (k-2)e'_2 - \frac{j+2k-3}{2}e'_0$ corresponds to $\frac{j+2k-3}{2}e_1 + \frac{j+1}{2}e_2$.

If Π comes from a cuspidal Hecke eigenform f of weight $k' > 2$ then $\lambda = \frac{k'-1}{2}e_2$ and $w(\lambda + s\tilde{\alpha}) = \frac{k'-1}{2}e_1 + se_2$. Fixing j and k so that this is $\frac{j+2k-3}{2}e_1 + \frac{j+1}{2}e_2$, the right hand side of the congruence becomes $p^{j+k-1} + p^{k-2} + a_p(f)$. The left hand side will be the Hecke eigenvalue (for the operator usually called “ $T(p)$ ”) for a genus-2 cuspidal Hecke eigenform F of weight $\mathrm{Sym}^j \det^k$, level 1 if f is, as long as $\tilde{\Pi}_\infty$ is holomorphic discrete series. The L -value $L_\Sigma(1+s, \Pi, r_1)$ is $L_\Sigma(f, 1+s + \frac{k'-1}{2}) = L_\Sigma(f, j+k)$. We recover Harder’s conjecture [H1, vdG]. See [BD, §7] for the same conjecture arrived at via $G = \mathrm{GSp}_2$.

3.3. $\mathfrak{n} = \mathfrak{3}$. Let Π' be a cuspidal, automorphic representation of PGSp_2 , generated by F as in the previous subsection, so the infinitesimal character of Π'_∞ is $(j+k-1)e'_1 + (k-2)e'_2 - \frac{j+2k-3}{2}e'_0$, which is $\frac{j+2k-3}{2}e_1 + \frac{j+1}{2}e_2$ as a representation of $\mathrm{SO}(3, 2)(\mathbb{A})$, or rather $\frac{j+2k-3}{2}e_2 + \frac{j+1}{2}e_3$ when $M \simeq \mathrm{GL}_1 \times \mathrm{SO}(3, 2)$ is viewed as a Levi subgroup of $G = \mathrm{SO}(4, 3)$. For a prime p at which Π'_p is unramified, let $\chi_p = -[\log_p(\alpha_1)e'_1 + \log_p(\alpha_2)e'_2 + \log_p(\alpha_0)e'_0]$ be the Satake parameter, where $\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_0^2 = 1$. Viewing Π' as a representation of $\mathrm{SO}(3, 2)(\mathbb{A})$, this is

$$-\frac{1}{2}[(\log_p(\alpha_1) + \log_p(\alpha_2))e_1 + (\log_p(\alpha_1) - \log_p(\alpha_2))e_2].$$

Since $(\alpha_0 \alpha_1 \alpha_2)(\alpha_0 \alpha_1) = \alpha_1$, while $(\alpha_0 \alpha_1 \alpha_2)/(\alpha_0 \alpha_1) = \alpha_2$, and again looking at M inside G , we get

$$\chi_p = -[\log_p(\alpha_0 \alpha_1 \alpha_2)e_2 + \log_p(\alpha_0 \alpha_1)e_3],$$

i.e. $\beta_1 = \alpha_0 \alpha_1 \alpha_2$ and $\beta_2 = \alpha_0 \alpha_1$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} L_p(s, \Pi_p, r_1)^{-1} &= \prod_{i=1}^2 [(1 - \beta_i p^{-s})(1 - \beta_i^{-1} p^{-s})] \\ &= (1 - \alpha_0 \alpha_1 \alpha_2 p^{-s})(1 - \alpha_0 p^{-s})(1 - \alpha_0 \alpha_1 p^{-s})(1 - \alpha_0 \alpha_2 p^{-s}), \end{aligned}$$

and we see that $L_\Sigma(s, \Pi, r_1)$ is the spinor L -function $L_\Sigma(s, F, \mathrm{spin})$.

The conjecture predicts a congruence modulo \mathfrak{q} if $q > j+2k-2$ and $\mathrm{ord}_q L_{\mathrm{alg}, \Sigma}(1+s, F, \mathrm{spin}) > 0$, where $s \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$ and $0 < s < \frac{j+1}{2}$, excluding $s = 1/2$. The infinitesimal character of $\tilde{\Pi}_\infty$ is $\frac{j+2k-3}{2}e_1 + \frac{j+1}{2}e_2 + se_3$, and the right-hand-side of the congruence (for the Hecke eigenvalues of T_{f_1}) is

$$\begin{aligned} p^{((j+2k-3)/2)+s} + p^{((j+2k-3)/2)-s} + p^{(j+2k-3)/2}(\alpha_0 + \alpha_0 \alpha_1 + \alpha_0 \alpha_2 + \alpha_0 \alpha_1 \alpha_2) \\ = p^{((j+2k-3)/2)+s} + p^{((j+2k-3)/2)-s} + T(p)(F), \end{aligned}$$

where $T(p)(F)$ denotes the eigenvalue for $T(p)$ acting on F . The equality of $p^{(j+2k-3)/2}(\alpha_0 + \alpha_0 \alpha_1 + \alpha_0 \alpha_2 + \alpha_0 \alpha_1 \alpha_2) = p^{a_1}(\beta_1 + \beta_1^{-1} + \beta_2 + \beta_2^{-1})$ with $T(p)(F)$ follows by a calculation like that at the end of §2.

4. THE CASE $i = 2$

For any n , we have $L_\Sigma(s, \Pi, r_2) = \zeta_\Sigma(s)$. We have already seen what happens for $n = 1$, so we assume now that $n \geq 2$, for which we have considered so far only $i = 1$. The group $\mathrm{SO}(2, 1) \times \mathrm{SO}(n, n-1)$ is an endoscopic group of $\mathrm{SO}(n+1, n)$, and there is a functorial lift from $\mathrm{SO}(2, 1)(\mathbb{A}) \times \mathrm{SO}(n, n-1)(\mathbb{A})$ to $\mathrm{SO}(n+1, n)(\mathbb{A})$ (now known by work of Arthur and others [A]), coming from the obvious homomorphism of L -groups $\theta : \mathrm{Sp}_1 \times \mathrm{Sp}_{n-1} \rightarrow \mathrm{Sp}_n$. As in the case $n = 1$, let $s = \frac{k'-1}{2}$, and suppose that $q > k'$ with $\mathrm{ord}_q(\zeta_{\mathrm{alg}, \Sigma}(k')) > 0$. Then we know there exists a cuspidal automorphic representation Π'' of $\mathrm{SO}(2, 1)(\mathbb{A})$, unramified outside Σ , satisfying a congruence as above. Recalling that $\Pi = 1 \times \Pi'$, where Π' is on $\mathrm{SO}(n, n-1)(\mathbb{A})$, we need to let $\tilde{\Pi}$ be the functorial lift of $\Pi'' \times \Pi'$. To see this, let $t(\Pi''_p) \in \mathrm{Sp}_1(\mathbb{C})$, $t(\Pi'_p) \in \mathrm{Sp}_{n-1}(\mathbb{C})$ and $t(\tilde{\Pi}_p) \in \mathrm{Sp}_n(\mathbb{C})$ be the Satake parameters at a prime $p \notin \Sigma$. Then $t(\tilde{\Pi}_p) = \theta(t(\Pi''_p), t(\Pi'_p))$, so $\mathrm{tr}(t(\tilde{\Pi}_p)) = \mathrm{tr}(t(\Pi''_p)) + \mathrm{tr}(t(\Pi'_p))$. Scaling by p^{α_1} , and bearing in mind the congruence satisfied by Π'' , we see that

$$T_{f_1}(\tilde{\Pi}_p) \equiv p^{\alpha_1+s} + p^{\alpha_1-s} + T_{f_1}(\Pi'_p) \pmod{\mathfrak{q}},$$

as required, where the second T_{f_1} is for $\mathrm{SO}(n, n-1)$. Similar reasoning using the Satake isomorphism works for any T_μ .

Note that the automorphic representation $\tilde{\Pi}$ might not have non-zero holomorphic vectors. For example if $n = 2$, $\Sigma = \emptyset$ and Π' , Π'' come from cuspidal Hecke eigenforms f and g of level 1, then there is no holomorphic Yoshida lift, but the automorphic representation still exists.

5. THE BLOCH-KATO CONJECTURE

It is convenient to introduce a “motivic normalisation”,

$$L(s, F, \mathrm{Spin}) := L\left(s - \frac{j+2k-3}{2}, F, \mathrm{spin}\right),$$

where, as before, F is a cuspidal, genus 2, Hecke eigenform of weight $\mathrm{Sym}^j \det^k$. (In all our examples, the level is 1 so $\Sigma = \emptyset$.) We shall assume the existence of a motive M/\mathbb{Q} (or at least a pre-motivic structure comprising realisations and comparison isomorphisms, as defined in [DFG, 1.1.1]) such that $L(M, s) = L(s, F, \mathrm{Spin})$. Let E be the field of coefficients of M , and let $\mathfrak{q} \mid q$ be a prime divisor in E . The Hodge type of M is

$$\{(0, j+2k-3), (k-2, j+k-1), (j+k-1, k-2), (j+2k-3, 0)\}.$$

We assume that $q > j+2k-2$.

Let $O_{\mathfrak{q}}$ be the ring of integers of the completion $E_{\mathfrak{q}}$, and $O_{(\mathfrak{q})}$ the localisation at \mathfrak{q} of the ring of integers O_E of E . Choose an $O_{(\mathfrak{q})}$ -lattice T_B in the Betti realisation $H_B(M)$ in such a way that $T_{\mathfrak{q}} := T_B \otimes O_{\mathfrak{q}}$ is a $\mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$ -invariant lattice in the \mathfrak{q} -adic realisation. Then choose an $O_{(\mathfrak{q})}$ -lattice T_{dR} in the de Rham realisation $H_{\mathrm{dR}}(M)$ in such a way that

$$\mathbb{V}(T_{\mathrm{dR}} \otimes O_{\mathfrak{q}}) = T_{\mathfrak{q}}$$

as $\mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_{\mathfrak{q}}/\mathbb{Q}_{\mathfrak{q}})$ -representations, where \mathbb{V} is the version of the Fontaine-Lafaille functor used in [DFG]. Since \mathbb{V} only applies to filtered ϕ -modules, where ϕ is the crystalline Frobenius, T_{dR} must be ϕ -stable. Anyway, this choice ensures that the \mathfrak{q} -part of the Tamagawa factor at q is trivial (by [BK, Theorem 4.1(iii)]), thus simplifying

the Bloch-Kato conjecture below. The condition $q > j + 2k - 2$ ensures that the condition (*) in [BK, Theorem 4.1(iii)] holds.

For $s \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$ with $\frac{1}{2} < s < \frac{j+1}{2}$, let $t = 1 + s + \frac{j+2k-3}{2}$, a critical point at which we evaluate the L -function. Let $M(t)$ be the corresponding Tate twist of the motive. Let $\Omega(t)$ be a Deligne period scaled according to the above choice, i.e. the determinant of the isomorphism

$$H_B(M(t))^+ \otimes \mathbb{C} \simeq (H_{\mathrm{dR}}(M(t))/\mathrm{Fil}^0) \otimes \mathbb{C},$$

calculated with respect to bases of $(2\pi i)^t T_B^{(-1)^t}$ and $T_{\mathrm{dR}}/\mathrm{Fil}^t$, so well-defined up to $O_{(\mathfrak{q})}^\times$.

The following formulation of the (\mathfrak{q} -part of the) Bloch-Kato conjecture, as applied to this situation, is based on [DFG, (59)] (where Σ was non-empty, though), using the exact sequence in their Lemma 2.1.

Conjecture 5.1 (Bloch-Kato). *For $s \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$ with $\frac{1}{2} < s < \frac{j+1}{2}$, and $t = 1 + s + \frac{j+2k-3}{2}$,*

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{ord}_{\mathfrak{q}} \left(\frac{L(M, t)}{\Omega(t)} \right) \\ &= \mathrm{ord}_{\mathfrak{q}} \left(\frac{\#H_f^1(\mathbb{Q}, T_{\mathfrak{q}}^*(1-t) \otimes (E_{\mathfrak{q}}/O_{\mathfrak{q}}))}{\#H^0(\mathbb{Q}, T_{\mathfrak{q}}^*(1-t) \otimes (E_{\mathfrak{q}}/O_{\mathfrak{q}})) \#H^0(\mathbb{Q}, T_{\mathfrak{q}}(t) \otimes (E_{\mathfrak{q}}/O_{\mathfrak{q}}))} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Here, $T_{\mathfrak{q}}^* = \mathrm{Hom}_{O_{\mathfrak{q}}}(T_{\mathfrak{q}}, O_{\mathfrak{q}})$, with the dual action of $\mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$, and $\#$ denotes a Fitting ideal. On the right hand side, in the numerator, is a Bloch-Kato Selmer group with local conditions (unramified at $p \neq q$, crystalline at $p = q$) for all finite primes p .

Let $\tilde{\Pi}$ be a cuspidal automorphic representation of $\mathrm{SO}(4, 3)$ satisfying the congruence

$$T_{f_1}(\tilde{\Pi}) \equiv p^{(j+2k-3)/2+s} + p^{(j+2k-3)/2-s} + T(p)(F) \pmod{\mathfrak{q}}.$$

We seek to explain why we should expect

$$\mathrm{ord}_{\mathfrak{q}} \left(\frac{L(M, t)}{\Omega(t)} \right) > 0$$

as a consequence of such a congruence, by producing a non-zero element in the Bloch-Kato Selmer group $H_f^1(\mathbb{Q}, T_{\mathfrak{q}}^*(1-t) \otimes (E_{\mathfrak{q}}/O_{\mathfrak{q}}))$. The construction in this special case is hopefully somewhat easier to follow than the more general argument in [BD, §14]. Suppose that $\tilde{\Pi}$ has stable, tempered Arthur parameter (see §6 below). In this case the functorial lift of $\tilde{\Pi}$ to $\mathrm{GL}_6(\mathbb{A})$ is cuspidal (and self-dual), and there is an associated \mathfrak{q} -adic Galois representation $\tilde{\rho} : \mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_6(E_{\mathfrak{q}})$ (see [Shin, Remark 7.6]). For all primes $p \neq q$, $\tilde{\rho}$ is unramified at p , with $\tilde{\rho}(\mathrm{Frob}_p^{-1})$ conjugate to $p^{(j+2k-3)/2} \chi_p$, and $\tilde{\rho}$ is crystalline at q . We assume that, as expected, $\tilde{\rho}$ is irreducible. Note that the theorem of Calegari and Gee [CG], on the irreducibility of \mathfrak{q} -adic Galois representations attached to cuspidal automorphic representations of GL_n , applies only for $n \leq 5$. Let ρ_F be the 4-dimensional \mathfrak{q} -adic Galois representation attached to Π_F by Weissauer [We1, Theorem I]. Suppose that its reduction $\bar{\rho}_F$ is irreducible. Then the congruence of Hecke eigenvalues (viewed as traces of Frobenius) implies that the composition factors of $\tilde{\rho}$ are $\bar{\rho}_F$, $\mathbb{F}_{\mathfrak{q}}(s - \frac{j+2k-3}{2})$ and $\mathbb{F}_{\mathfrak{q}}(-s - \frac{j+2k-3}{2})$.

The details of the following sketch are very much as in [Br, §8], where the representation is 4-dimensional rather than 6-dimensional. If $q \nmid B_{2s+1}$ (Bernoulli number) then we can eliminate the possibility of a non-split extension of $\mathbb{F}_q(s - \frac{j+2k-3}{2})$ by $\mathbb{F}_q(-s - \frac{j+2k-3}{2})$ inside $\bar{\rho}$, and so we may choose a Galois-invariant O_q -lattice in the space of $\tilde{\rho}$ in such a way as to get an extension of $\mathbb{F}_q(s - \frac{j+2k-3}{2})$ by $\bar{\rho}_F$, hence a class in $H^1(\mathbb{Q}, \bar{\rho}_F(\frac{j+2k-3}{2} - s)) = H^1(\mathbb{Q}, T_q^*(1-t) \otimes \mathbb{F}_q)$, since $T_q^* \simeq T_q(j+2k-3)$. Using the irreducibility of $\tilde{\rho}$, in the manner of Ribet [R], one can show that, changing lattices if necessary, it is possible to ensure that we are looking at a non-split extension, hence a non-zero cohomology class. It produces a non-zero class in $H^1(\mathbb{Q}, T_q^*(1-t) \otimes (E_q/O_q))$, and using the fact that $\tilde{\rho}$ is unramified at all $p \neq q$, and crystalline at q , it is possible to show that this class lies in $H_f^1(\mathbb{Q}, T_q^*(1-t) \otimes (E_q/O_q))$.

6. SOME EXPERIMENTAL CONGRUENCES WHEN $n = 3$

Let $\mathrm{SO}(7)$ be the special orthogonal group of the E_7 root lattice, the even, positive-definite lattice of discriminant 2, unique up to isomorphism. This is a semi-simple group over \mathbb{Z} , and $\mathrm{SO}(7)(\mathbb{Z}) \simeq W(E_7)^+$, the even subgroup of the Weyl group, of order 1451520. For $\mu = a_1e_1 + a_2e_2 + a_3e_3$ (in the notation of [CR, 5.2]), with $a_1, a_2, a_3 \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq a_3 \geq 0$, let V_μ be the space of the complex representation θ_μ of $\mathrm{SO}(7)$ with highest weight μ , and let $\rho := \frac{5}{2}e_1 + \frac{3}{2}e_2 + \frac{1}{2}e_3$. The infinitesimal character of the representation θ_μ of $\mathrm{SO}(7)(\mathbb{R})$ is $\mu + \rho$. Let K be the open compact subgroup $\prod_p \mathrm{SO}(7)(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ of $\mathrm{SO}(7)(\mathbb{A}_f)$, and let

$$M(V_\mu, K) := \{f : \mathrm{SO}(7)(\mathbb{A}_f) \rightarrow V_\mu :$$

$$f(gk) = f(g) \forall k \in K, f(\gamma g) = \theta_\mu(\gamma)(f(g)) \forall \gamma \in \mathrm{SO}(7)(\mathbb{Q})\}$$

be the space of V_μ -valued algebraic modular forms with level K (i.e. “level 1”), where \mathbb{A}_f is the “finite” part of the adèle ring. Since $\#(\mathrm{SO}(7)(\mathbb{Q}) \backslash \mathrm{SO}(7)(\mathbb{A}_f) / K) = 1$, $M(V_\mu, K)$ can be identified with the fixed subspace $V_\mu^{\mathrm{SO}(7)(\mathbb{Z})}$.

For each (finite) prime p , $\mathrm{SO}(7)(\mathbb{Q}_p) \simeq \mathrm{SO}(4, 3)(\mathbb{Q}_p)$, and the local Hecke algebras are naturally isomorphic. The third-named author has computed the trace of $T(p) := T_{f_1}$ on $M(V_\mu, K)$ for all $p \leq 53$, and for $a_1 \leq 13$. For details of this work, including much of the numerical data, see [Me1]. The data at the website [Me2] may be somewhat more extensive. Note that $M(V_\mu, K)$ is isomorphic to the direct sum of 1-dimensional K -fixed parts π_f^K , where $\pi = \pi_\infty \times \pi_f$ runs through all the automorphic representations of $\mathrm{SO}(7)(\mathbb{A})$ such that $\pi_\infty \simeq V_\mu$, which all appear with multiplicity 1 according to Arthur’s multiplicity formula. (See [CR, Proposition 3.6], and note that V_μ is self-dual.) It follows that this trace of $T(p)$ on $M(V_\mu, K)$ is a sum of Hecke eigenvalues for $T(p)$ acting on such π_f^K . By Arthur’s endoscopic classification [CR, Theorem* 3.19] and multiplicity formula [CR, Conjecture 3.30], we can sometimes then deduce the eigenvalue of $T(p)$ on some automorphic representation π of $\mathrm{SO}(7)(\mathbb{A})$ with stable, tempered Arthur parameter (in the sense of [CR, 3.20]). This Arthur parameter is in this case the functorial lift of π to GL_6 via the standard representation of the L -group $\mathrm{Sp}_3(\mathbb{C})$, and by Arthur’s symplectic-orthogonal alternative [CR, Theorem* 3.9], this comes also from a discrete automorphic representation of $\mathrm{SO}(4, 3)$, whose Hecke eigenvalue for $T(p)$ is the same. Its infinitesimal character looks the same as $\mu + \rho$, except that e_i now means again what it did in §2 above. This automorphic representation of $\mathrm{SO}(4, 3)$ is cuspidal,

not just discrete, by [Wa, Theorem 4.3]. This allows us to test congruences of the type appearing in the conjecture in §3.3. Note that we have used several results which were conditional at the time of writing of [CR], but are now all proved, by work of many people, cited in the proof of [Me1, Théorème 7.3.4]. See also the footnote below [CL, VIII, Théorème 1.2], and [T].

Example 1: $\Delta_{25,17,11}$. The Arthur parameters of the cuspidal automorphic representations of $\mathrm{SO}(7)$ of level 1 and infinitesimal character $(25/2)e_1 + (17/2)e_2 + (11/2)e_3$ are $\Delta_{25,17,11}$ and $\Delta_{25,11} \oplus \Delta_{17}$. These are taken from [CR, Table 13], where they were conditional on assumptions including announced results of Arthur [A, §9], so the correctness of this list was double-starred in the sense of [CR]; see the paragraph preceding [CR, Théorème 1.5**]. But it is now known unconditionally. We use the notation of Chenevier and Renard (see [CR, 3.18,4.4]), so $\Delta_{25,17,11}$ denotes a representation of level 1 and infinitesimal character $(25/2)e_1 + (17/2)e_2 + (11/2)e_3$, with stable, tempered Arthur parameters, while $\Delta_{25,11} \oplus \Delta_{17}$ is an endoscopic lift of cuspidal automorphic representations of $\mathrm{SO}(3,2)$ and $\mathrm{SO}(2,1)$, of level 1 and infinitesimal characters $(25/2)e_1 + (11/2)e_2$ and $(17/2)e_1$, respectively, associated with a genus 2 form of weight $(j, k) = (10, 9)$ and a genus 1 form of weight 18, respectively. The $\mathrm{tr}(T(p))$ in the table is on a 2-dimensional $M(V_\mu, K)$, but subtracting off an endoscopic contribution, $T(p)(\Delta_{25,17,11}) = \mathrm{tr}(T(p)) - [p^4 T(p)(\Delta_{17}) + T(p)(\Delta_{25,11})]$. The $T(p)(\Delta_{25,11})$ and $T(p)(\Delta_{25,17})$ were computed by the method of Faber and van der Geer, as described in the next section. Note that $\Delta_{25,17}$ is associated with $(j, k) = (16, 6)$.

p	$\mathrm{tr}(T(p))$	$T(p)(\Delta_{17})$	$T(p)(\Delta_{25,11})$	$T(p)(\Delta_{25,17,11})$
2	-96	-528	1920	6432
3	-1417608	-4284	-1942920	872316
5	-1379732700	-1025850	-263846100	-474730350
7	-19435961616	3225992	-17517760400	-9663808008
11	-13089901140888	-753618228	-9052465894296	6996289229556
p	$T(p)(\Delta_{25,17,11})$	$T(p)(\Delta_{25,17})$	$-T(p)(\Delta_{25,17,11}) + [T(p)(\Delta_{25,17}) + p^7 + p^{18}]$	
2	6432	3600	$2^4.3.5.23.47$	
3	872316	37800	$2^9.3^3.5.7.17.47$	
5	-474730350	687689100	$2^{11}.3.5^2.47.89.5939$	
7	-9663808008	10132939600	$2^{10}.3^4.5^2.47.16708873$	
11	6996289229556	5673394253304	$2^9.3.5^2.47.8699.354135787$	

This data is consistent with (and strongly suggests) a congruence

$$T(p)(\Delta_{25,17,11}) \equiv T(p)(\Delta_{25,17}) + p^7 + p^{18} \pmod{47},$$

which is of the shape considered in §3.3, with $s = 11/2$. In fact, we have checked the congruence for all primes $p \leq 53$, though the table does not go so far. Since $47 > j + 2k - 2 = 26$, we should, according to the previous section, expect a factor of 47 to appear in a certain normalised spinor L -value.

Example 2: $\Delta_{25,15,5}$. Again, the $\mathrm{tr}(T(p))$ in the table is on a 2-dimensional space, but subtracting off an endoscopic contribution,

$$T(p)(\Delta_{25,15,5}) = \mathrm{tr}(T(p)) - [p^5 T(p)(\Delta_{15}) + T(p)(\Delta_{25,5})],$$

where $\Delta_{25,5}$ corresponds to $(j, k) = (4, 12)$, for which the space of level 1 genus 2 cusp forms is 1-dimensional.

p	$\text{tr}(T(p))$	$T(p)(\Delta_{15})$	$T(p)(\Delta_{25,5})$	$T(p)(\Delta_{25,15,5})$
2	6816	216	-96	0
3	-474120	-3348	-527688	867132
5	145932324	52110	596139180	-613050606
7	49205357040	2822456	-3608884496	5377223544
11	3229012641000	20586852	3047542095144	-3134062555596
p	$T(p)(\Delta_{25,15,5})$	$T(p)(\Delta_{25,15})$	$\frac{-T(p)(\Delta_{25,15,5})}{+[T(p)(\Delta_{25,15}) + p^{10} + p^{15}]}$	
2	0	-3696	$2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 11 \cdot \mathbf{19}$	
3	867132	511272	$2^8 \cdot 3^3 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 107$	
5	-613050606	118996620	$2^{10} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 11 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 16229$	
7	5377223544	-82574511536	$2^9 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 11 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 353 \cdot 1523$	
11	-3134062555596	5064306707064	$2^8 \cdot 3^2 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 95611121987$	

There appears to be a congruence mod 19 (which again we have checked for all $p \leq 53$). This is not a large prime in the sense of the previous example, but we shall still calculate the relevant ratio of spinor L -values in the next section, and look out for 19.

Example 3: $\Delta_{23,13,5}$. This time it is easier, since there is no endoscopic contribution to subtract off, and $M(V_\mu, K)$ is 1-dimensional. Again, there appears to be a congruence mod 19, and this has been checked against the data for all primes $p \leq 53$. In fact, this congruence has very recently been proved unconditionally by the third-named author, using scalar-valued algebraic modular forms for $O(25)$, in the manner of Chenevier and Lannes's proof of Harder's mod 41 congruence using $O(24)$ (referred to in §7, Example 4 below). He found that the modulus of the congruence is in fact $5472 = 2^5 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 19$. This work will be described in detail elsewhere.

p	$T(p)(\Delta_{23,13,5})$	$T(p)(\Delta_{23,13})$	$\frac{-T(p)(\Delta_{23,13,5})}{+[T(p)(\Delta_{23,13}) + p^9 + p^{14}]}$
2	0	-480	$2^5 \cdot 3^3 \cdot \mathbf{19}$
3	-304668	-73080	$2^8 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 23$
5	874314	-140727300	$2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 11353$
7	452588136	-2247786800	$2^9 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 43 \cdot 1709$
11	-1090903017204	168545586264	$2^8 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 79 \cdot 133543$
13	1624277793138	-6595005104660	$2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 79 \cdot 13525649$

The mod 19 congruence was actually discovered in 2014 by C. Faber, at a time when we only had the Hecke eigenvalue for $p = 2$. He, G. van der Geer and the first-named author found what appears to be a motivic structure associated with $\Delta_{23,13,5}$ (and likewise for several other representations), and produced the putative Hecke eigenvalues for $p \leq 17$ as traces of Frobenius, by methods similar to [FvdG, BFvdG]. They agree with our subsequent computations.

7. SOME EXPERIMENTAL GENUS 2 SPINOR L -VALUES

In terms of Satake parameters,

$$L_p(s, F, \mathrm{Spin})^{-1} = 1 - \lambda_p p^{-s} + \frac{1}{2}(\lambda_p^2 - \lambda_{p^2})p^{-2s} - \lambda_p p^{j+2k-3-3s} + p^{2j+4k-6-4s},$$

where

$$\lambda_{p^r} := p^{r(j+2k-3)/2}(\alpha_0^r + (\alpha_0\alpha_1)^r + (\alpha_0\alpha_2)^r + (\alpha_0\alpha_1\alpha_2)^r)$$

and F is a genus-2 Siegel eigenform. Note that $\lambda_p = T(p)(F)$, is the Hecke eigenvalue for the Hecke operator $T(p)$ acting on the eigenform F .

Faber and van der Geer [FvdG] showed how to obtain traces of Hecke operators on spaces of cusp forms, from traces of Frobenius on the cohomology of local systems on \mathcal{A}_2 , the moduli space of principally polarized abelian surfaces (which is also a Siegel modular threefold). They assumed a conjecture on the endoscopic contribution to the cohomology, which has since been proven by Petersen [P] (see also Weissauer [We2]), building on research of many people on the automorphic representations of GSp_2 . Their method involves computing the zeta-functions of hyperelliptic curves of genus 2 (and pairs of elliptic curves) whose Jacobians make up the points of \mathcal{A}_2 that are defined over \mathbb{F}_{p^r} . See [vdG, §§23,24] for an explanation of the method. For weights j, k such that the space of genus-2 cusp forms is 1-dimensional, the trace is an eigenvalue, and in fact their computations over \mathbb{F}_{p^r} lead directly to λ_{p^r} in these cases. The computations of Faber and van der Geer gave the values of λ_{p^r} for prime powers $p^r \leq 37$ in all 1-dimensional cases, but that is not enough to give sufficiently good approximations to the spinor L -values we are interested in. So the first-named author extended their computations, writing a new C-program with which he could calculate λ_{p^r} for prime powers up to 149, and thus the first 150 coefficients in the Dirichlet series. The computation for the single prime $p = 149$ (most of which is independent of (j, k)) took roughly three CPU weeks (standard desktop computer). These trace computations have already been used in the previous section, in checking congruences for $p \leq 53$. The numbering of the first three examples is as in the previous section.

Example 1: $(\mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}) = (16, 6)$. Using the computer package Magma, one can define $L(s, F, \mathrm{Spin})$ by the command

$$L := \mathrm{LSeries}(26, [0, 1, -4, -3], 1, V : \mathrm{Sign} := 1);$$

Here $26 = j + 2k - 2$, the conjectural functional equation relating $L(s)$ and $L(26 - s)$. Recall that the Hodge type of the conjectural motive of which $L(s, F, \mathrm{Spin})$ is the L -function is

$$\{(0, j + 2k - 3), (k - 2, j + k - 1), (j + k - 1, k - 2), (j + 2k - 3, 0)\}.$$

Hence the product of gamma factors in the conjectural functional equation is $\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(s)\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(s - (k - 2)) = \Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(s)\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(s - 4)$, where $\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(s) := 2(2\pi)^{-s}\Gamma(s)$ [De, 5.3]. If $\Gamma_{\mathbb{R}}(s) := \pi^{-s/2}\Gamma(s/2)$ then $\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(s) = \Gamma_{\mathbb{R}}(s)\Gamma_{\mathbb{R}}(s + 1)$, so this is $\Gamma_{\mathbb{R}}(s)\Gamma_{\mathbb{R}}(s + 1)\Gamma_{\mathbb{R}}(s - 4)\Gamma_{\mathbb{R}}(s - 3)$, which is where the vector $[0, 1, -4, -3]$ comes from. The conductor is 1, V is the sequence of the first 150 coefficients of the Dirichlet series, and the sign in the conjectured functional equation is, using [De, 5.3], $i^{(j+2k-3)-0+1}i^{(j+k-1)-(k-2)+1} = (-1)^{j+k} = (-1)^k$ (since j is always even).

Magma implements the algorithm described in Dokchitser's paper [Do], which evaluates an L -function using a rapidly converging series which depends for its validity on the conjectured functional equation, which is simultaneously tested, via a quantity $\text{CFENew}(L)$ which ought to be small if the test of the functional equation is well-passed. In our case it was 0, to 30 decimal places, and $\text{LCfRequired}(L)=153$, giving the number of coefficients of the Dirichlet series that would be required to ensure 30-digit accuracy in the evaluations. Thus our 150 coefficients should give a good approximation. Since $L(1+s, F, \text{spin}) = L(1+s + \frac{j+2k-3}{2}, F, \text{Spin})$, we want $L_{\text{alg}}((25/2) + s + 1, F, \text{Spin})$, with $s = 11/2$, i.e. $L_{\text{alg}}(19, F, \text{Spin})$, where $L_{\text{alg}}(19, F, \text{Spin}) = L(19, F, \text{Spin})/\Omega(19)$, for a certain Deligne period $\Omega(19)$, to which we have no direct access. This Deligne period is the determinant of a 2 by 2 matrix (2 being half the rank of the motive), whose entries are scaled by $(2\pi i)^r$ when we make a Tate twist by an even integer r (sufficiently small to stay within the critical range). Hence if we look at $\frac{L(19, F, \text{Spin})}{\pi^4 L(17, F, \text{Spin})}$ it should (up to a power of 2) be the same as $\frac{L_{\text{alg}}(19, F, \text{Spin})}{L_{\text{alg}}(17, F, \text{Spin})}$, which should still have the factor of 47 we expect in the numerator of $L_{\text{alg}}(19, F, \text{Spin})$, assuming we have not been unlucky enough for it to be cancelled by any 47 in $L_{\text{alg}}(17, F, \text{Spin})$.

Using Magma we found

$$\frac{L(19, F, \text{Spin})}{\pi^4 L(17, F, \text{Spin})} \approx 0.0100470823379774368182814145009.$$

Using the computer package Maple we converted this to a continued fraction

$$[0, 99, 1, 1, 7, 2, 6, 1, 6, 1, 877118077264803576596, 1, 3, 2, \dots],$$

which clearly ought to be the rational number

$$[0, 99, 1, 1, 7, 2, 6, 1, 6, 1] = \frac{1880}{187119} = \frac{2^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 47}{3^2 \cdot 17 \cdot 1223}.$$

For each $s \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$ with $\frac{1}{2} < s < \frac{j+1}{2}$, we calculated similarly the apparent rational values $\frac{L((25/2)+s+1, F, \text{Spin})}{\pi^4 L((25/2)+s-1, F, \text{Spin})}$, which are in the table below. In the second row we have listed (the Arthur parameters of) the cuspidal automorphic representations of $\text{SO}(7)$ of level 1 and infinitesimal character $(25/2)e_1 + (17/2)e_2 + se_3$. These are taken from [CR, Table 13]. Again we use the notation of Chenevier and Renard (see [CR, 3.18.4.4]), so for example $\Delta_{25,17,3}^2$ denotes a pair of representations of level 1 and infinitesimal character $(25/2)e_1 + (17/2)e_2 + (3/2)e_3$, with stable, tempered Arthur parameters.

s	$3/2$	$5/2$	$7/2$	$9/2$
Reps.	$\Delta_{25,17,3}^2$	$\Delta_{25,5} \oplus \Delta_{17}$	$\Delta_{25,7} \oplus \Delta_{17}, \Delta_{25,17,7}^2$	$\Delta_{25,9}^2 \oplus \Delta_{17}$
$\frac{L((25/2)+s+1, \text{Spin})}{\pi^4 L((25/2)+s-1, \text{Spin})}$	$\frac{5 \cdot 59}{2^2 3^3 7^2 13}$	$\frac{2^2}{3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7}$	$\frac{1223}{2^2 3^2 5^3 59}$	$\frac{1}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 17}$
s	$11/2$		$13/2$	$15/2$
Reps.	$\Delta_{25,11} \oplus \Delta_{17}, \Delta_{25,17,11}$		$\Delta_{25,13}^2 \oplus \Delta_{17}$	$\Delta_{25,15} \oplus \Delta_{17}$
$\frac{L((25/2)+s+1, \text{Spin})}{\pi^4 L((25/2)+s-1, \text{Spin})}$	$\frac{2^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 47}{3^2 \cdot 17 \cdot 1223}$		$\frac{2^4}{3^2 5^2 7}$	$\frac{2^2 \cdot 3}{5^2 \cdot 47}$

It is striking that one sees a large prime in the numerator precisely when there is a representation $\Delta_{25,17,2s}$, with stable, tempered Arthur parameter, available to participate in the predicted congruence. These representations are the ones that should have *irreducible* 6-dimensional Galois representations attached to them,

leading to an explanation, via the Bloch-Kato conjecture, of the occurrence of the large prime in the L -value, as a consequence of the congruence, as in §5 above. Only in the case $s = 11/2$ is there a single representation with stable, tempered Arthur parameter, so that we may easily deduce from the trace of a Hecke operator its eigenvalue for that representation, and test the predicted congruence (already done in §6).

Example 2: $(j, k) = (14, 7)$.

s	$5/2$	$7/2$	$9/2$
Reps.	$\Delta_{25,5} \oplus \Delta_{15}, \Delta_{25,15,5}$	$\Delta_{25,7} \oplus \Delta_{15}$	$\Delta_{25,9}^2 \oplus \Delta_{15}, \Delta_{25,15,9}$
$\frac{L((25/2)+s+1, \text{Spin})}{\pi^4 L((25/2)+s-1, \text{Spin})}$	$\frac{2^2 \cdot 19}{3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11}$	$\frac{1}{2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5}$	$\frac{557}{2 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 17 \cdot 19}$
s	$11/2$	$13/2$	
Reps.	$\Delta_{25,11} \oplus \Delta_{15}$	$\Delta_{25,13}^2 \oplus \Delta_{15}$	
$\frac{L((25/2)+s+1, \text{Spin})}{\pi^4 L((25/2)+s-1, \text{Spin})}$	$\frac{2^3}{3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 17}$	$\frac{2^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7}{97 \cdot 557}$	

We see the anticipated factor of 19 for $s = 5/2$, and the large prime 557 for $s = 9/2$ coinciding with the appearance of a stable, tempered representation that could participate in a congruence. Since the L -function now vanishes at the central point, we omitted $s = 3/2$, to avoid dividing by 0. But the entry in the second row for $s = 3/2$ would have been “none”, and there is no large prime in the denominator of the first ratio of L -values in the third row.

We notice a large prime 97 in the last denominator. To explain it via the Bloch-Kato conjecture (5.1), we proceed as follows. If ρ_f is the q -adic Galois representation attached to the normalised cusp form f of weight 26 for $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ (with $q = 97$), then Harder’s conjectured congruence

$$T(p)(F) \equiv a_p(f) + p^{k-2} + p^{j+k-1} \pmod{97}$$

implies that the composition factors of $\bar{\rho}_F$ are $\mathbb{F}_{97}(2 - k)$, $\mathbb{F}_{97}(1 - j - k)$ and $\bar{\rho}_f$. (The latter is irreducible in this case.) Note that 97 is a divisor of $L_{\text{alg}}(f, j + k)$.

We choose the Galois-invariant O_q lattice T_q in the space of ρ_F in such a way that $\mathbb{F}_{97}(1 - j - k)$ is a submodule of $\bar{\rho}_F$. Then \mathbb{F}_{97} is a submodule of $\bar{\rho}_F(j + k - 1) = \bar{\rho}_F(t)$, where $t = \frac{j+2k-3}{2} + \frac{j-1}{2} + 1 = j + k - 1$ is the rightmost critical point. (It is no accident that the exponent in the power of p marks the boundary of the critical range, since it is a Hodge weight.) This contributes a factor of 97 to the term $\#H^0(\mathbb{Q}, T_q(t) \otimes (E_q/O_q))$, which (assuming it does not appear also in $\#H_f^1(\mathbb{Q}, T_q^*(1-t) \otimes (E_q/O_q))$) should therefore appear in the denominator of the ratio $\frac{L(j+k-1, F, \text{Spin})}{\pi^4 L(j+k-3, F, \text{Spin})}$.

Example 3: $(j, k) = (12, 7)$.

s	$5/2$	$7/2$	$9/2$	$11/2$
Reps.	$\Delta_{23,13,5}$	none	none	none
$\frac{L((25/2)+s+1, \text{Spin})}{\pi^4 L((25/2)+s-1, \text{Spin})}$	$\frac{19}{3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13}$	$\frac{1}{2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5}$	$\frac{1}{5 \cdot 19}$	$\frac{2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5}{7 \cdot 17 \cdot 73}$

We see the anticipated factor of 19 for $s = 5/2$, and no other occurrences of representations with stable, tempered Arthur parameter, or large primes in numerators. Again, the entry in the second row for $s = 3/2$ would have been “none”. The factor of 73 in the last denominator can be explained similarly to above.

Example 4: $(\mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}) = (4, 10)$. The original numerical example of a congruence for Harder's conjecture, appearing in [H1], is

$$T(p)(\Delta_{21,5}) \equiv a_p(\Delta_{21}) + p^8 + p^{13} \pmod{41}.$$

This instance of Harder's conjecture has actually been proved by Chenevier and Lannes [CL, X, Théorème* 4.4(1)]. We are grateful to G. Chenevier for explaining that this theorem is now unconditional, thanks to recent work of Mœglin, Waldspurger, Shelstad and Mezo. (See the paragraph following [CL, VIII, Théorème* 1.1].) We expect to see 41 in the denominator of $\frac{L(13, F, \text{Spin})}{\pi^4 L(11, F, \text{Spin})}$, which would be the only entry in the table, for $s = 3/2$ ($(21/2) + s + 1 = 13$). We find that it appears indeed to be $\frac{2}{3 \cdot 41}$.

Example 5: $(\mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}) = (18, 5)$. This was not suggested by any of the congruences found in the previous section, but we look at it anyway.

s	$5/2$	$7/2$	$9/2$
Reps.	$\Delta_{25,5} \oplus \Delta_{19}, \Delta_{25,19,5}^2$	$\Delta_{25,7} \oplus \Delta_{19}$	$\Delta_{25,9}^2 \oplus \Delta_{19}, \Delta_{25,19,9}^2$
$\frac{L((25/2)+s+1, \text{Spin})}{\pi^4 L((25/2)+s-1, \text{Spin})}$	$\frac{103}{3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11}$	$\frac{1}{2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5}$	$\frac{2^3 \cdot 7}{3 \cdot 17 \cdot 103}$
$11/2$	$13/2$	$15/2$	$17/2$
$\Delta_{25,11} \oplus \Delta_{19}$	$\Delta_{25,13}^2 \oplus \Delta_{19}, \Delta_{25,19,13}$	$\Delta_{25,15} \oplus \Delta_{19}$	$\Delta_{25,17} \oplus \Delta_{19}$
$\frac{2^3}{3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 17}$	$\frac{2 \cdot 31}{3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 19}$	$\frac{2^4 \cdot 3}{5 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 19}$	$\frac{2^5 \cdot 3}{7 \cdot 31 \cdot 43}$

Note that this time, for $s = 9/2$, there are representations with stable, tempered Arthur parameters, whose existence is not demanded by the appearance of any large prime in the numerator of an L -value. Again, the 43 in the last denominator can be explained as in Example 2. Though this instance of Harder's conjecture appears to have been accidentally omitted from the table at the end of [vdG], 43 is a divisor of $L_{\text{alg}}(f, j + k)$, with f of weight 26. In fact, although this instance of Harder's conjecture has not itself been proved, it happens to be the particular example for which Ibukiyama proved his half-integral weight version in [I, Theorem 4.4].

8. SOME MORE EXPERIMENTAL CONGRUENCES WHEN $n = 3$

So far we have found some congruences, then checked the occurrence of large prime moduli in numerators of ratios of L -values. As already noted in Section 5, the congruences should lead to the construction of elements in Selmer groups, then the Bloch-Kato conjecture explains the appearance of the large primes in the ratios of L -values. So from a congruence we should predict a factor in an L -ratio. But the conjecture in §3.3 actually goes in the opposite direction, saying that a large prime should occur in an L -value only as a result of a congruence. In the previous section, various large primes showed up other than the ones we were looking for, so a good test of the conjecture would be now to find experimental evidence for the congruences which conjecturally follow from this. We have put this experimental evidence in this later section to emphasize this logical point.

Example 1: $\Delta_{25,15,9}, \mathbf{q} = 557$. This arose in Example 2 of the previous section. The first $\text{tr}(T(p))$ in the table is on a 3-dimensional space, but subtracting off an endoscopic contribution gives

$$T(p)(\Delta_{25,15,9}) = \text{tr}(T(p)) - [2p^5 T(p)(\Delta_{15}) + \text{tr}(T(p))(\Delta_{25,9}^2)],$$

where $\Delta_{25,9}^2$ corresponds to $(j, k) = (8, 10)$, for which the space of level 1 genus 2 cusp forms is 2-dimensional.

p	$\text{tr}(T(p))$	$T(p)(\Delta_{15})$	$\text{tr}(T(p))(\Delta_{25,9}^2)$	$T(p)(\Delta_{25,15,9})$
2	15216	216	7440	-6048
3	-557532	-3348	1348560	-278964
5	717423510	52110	-141412200	533148210
7	64935299016	2822456	-22882568800	-7056168168
11	9763224800748	20586852	448932567408	2683226030436
p	$T(p)(\Delta_{25,15,9})$	$T(p)(\Delta_{25,15})$	$-T(p)(\Delta_{25,15,9}) + [T(p)(\Delta_{25,15}) + p^8 + p^{17}]$	
2	-6048	-3696	$2^4.3.5.$ 557	
3	-278964	511272	$2^6.3^6.5.$ 557	
5	533148210	118996620	$2^8.3.5.17.67.313.$ 557	
7	-7056168168	-82574511536	$2^7.3^3.5.293.$ 557.82463	
11	2683226030436	5064306707064	$2^6.3.5.7.17.211.$ 557.37646261	

The data is consistent with the predicted congruence

$$T(p)(\Delta_{25,15,9}) \equiv T(p)(\Delta_{25,15}) + p^8 + p^{17} \pmod{557},$$

in fact we have checked the congruence for all primes $p \leq 53$.

Example 2: $\Delta_{25,19,13}$, $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{31}$. This arose in Example 5 of the previous section. The first $\text{tr}(T(p))$ in the table is on a 3-dimensional space, but subtracting off an endoscopic contribution,

$$T(p)(\Delta_{25,19,13}) = \text{tr}(T(p)) - [2p^3T(p)(\Delta_{19}) + \text{tr}(T(p))(\Delta_{25,13}^2)],$$

where $\Delta_{25,13}^2$ corresponds to $(j, k) = (12, 8)$, for which the space of level 1 genus 2 cusp forms is 2-dimensional. We have checked the congruence for all primes $p \leq 53$, and show the results for $p \leq 11$.

p	$\text{tr}(T(p))$	$T(p)(\Delta_{19})$	$\text{tr}(T(p))(\Delta_{25,13}^2)$	$T(p)(\Delta_{25,19,13})$
2	6432	456	-1536	672
3	2206116	50652	173232	-702324
5	140035350	-2377410	724983000	9404850
7	2180027592	-16917544	28504729184	-14719266408
11	-1608110653332	-16212108	-24717511671792	23152557649956
p	$T(p)(\Delta_{25,19,13})$	$T(p)(\Delta_{25,19})$	$-T(p)(\Delta_{25,19,13}) + [T(p)(\Delta_{25,19}) + p^6 + p^{19}]$	
2	672	-2880	$2^5.3.5^2.7.$ 31	
3	-702324	-538920	$2^8.3^3.5^2.7.$ 31 ²	
5	9404850	118939500	$2^{10}.3.5^2.7.31^2.36919$	
7	-14719266408	1043249200	$2^9.3^4.5^2.7^3.13.$ 31.79537	
11	23152557649956	-9077287359096	$2^8.3.5^2.7.31.706711927.20771$	

Example 3: $\Delta_{25,17,3}$, $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{59}$. This arose in Example 1 of the previous section. We have a 2-dimensional $M(V_\mu, K)$, but we might find the eigenvalues a, b of $T(p)$ by solving the quadratic equation $x^2 - (a+b)x + ab = 0$, where $a+b = \text{tr}(T(p))$ and

$ab = \frac{1}{2}((a+b)^2 - (a^2 + b^2)) = \frac{1}{2}((\text{tr}(T(p)))^2 - \text{tr}(T(p)^2))$. The problem becomes to find $\text{tr}(T(p)^2)$.

In the language of §2, $T(p) = T_{f_1} = p^{a_1 - (5/2)}T'_{f_1} = p^{10}T'_{f_1}$. Similarly we define $T(p^2) := p^{20}T'_{2f_1}$, $T(p, p) := p^{20}T'_{f_1+f_2}$. In the local Hecke algebra at p there is a relation

$$T'^2_{f_1} = T'_{2f_1} + (p+1)T'_{f_1+f_2} + (p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1),$$

i.e.

$$T(p)^2 = T(p^2) + (p+1)T(p, p) + p^{a_1-5}(p^5 + p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p + 1),$$

where here $a_1 = 25$. Such relations may be proved using various ideas expounded by Gross in [G]. See [Me1, §7.1.3] and [CL, VI, Exemple 2.11] for something similar. We have the traces of $T(4)$ and $T(2, 2)$, as well as of $T(2)$, so we can calculate the trace of $T(2)^2$.

$\text{tr}(T(2))$	$\text{tr}(T(4))$	$\text{tr}(T(2, 2))$	$\text{tr}(T(2)^2)$	$\frac{1}{2}((\text{tr}(T(2)))^2 - \text{tr}(T(2)^2))$
-768	-36421632	-29859840	6119424	-2764800
$T(2)(\Delta_{25,17,3}^2)$	$-T(2)(\Delta_{25,17,3}^2) + T(2)(\Delta_{25,17}) + 2^{11} + 2^{14}$			
$-384 \pm 192\sqrt{79}$	22416 \mp 192 $\sqrt{79}$			

For the predicted congruence to be possible, we need this difference to have norm divisible by 59, and we find indeed that $\text{Norm}(22416 \mp 192\sqrt{79}) = 2^8 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^2 \cdot \mathbf{59}$.

Example 4: $\Delta_{25,17,7}^2, \mathbf{q} = \mathbf{1223}$. This arose in Example 1 of the previous section. This time we have a 3-dimensional $M(V_\mu, K)$, but after subtracting an endoscopic contribution from $\text{tr}(T(2))$ and $\text{tr}(T(2)^2)$ we may proceed as above.

$\text{tr}(T(2))$	$\text{tr}(T(4))$	$\text{tr}(T(2, 2))$	$\text{tr}(T(2)^2)$	$T(2)(\Delta_{25,7} \oplus \Delta_{17})$
-14832	79978752	65968128	476064000	$-11616 + 2^4(-528) = -20064$
$\text{tr}(T(2) _{\Delta_{25,17,7}^2})$	$\text{tr}(T(2)^2 _{\Delta_{25,17,7}^2})$	$T(2)(\Delta_{25,17,7}^2)$	$-T(2)(\Delta_{25,17,7}^2) + T(2)(\Delta_{25,17}) + 2^9 + 2^{16}$	
5232	73499904	$2616 \pm 216\sqrt{641}$	$67032 \mp 216\sqrt{641}$	

$\text{Norm}(67032 \mp 216\sqrt{641}) = 2^{12} \cdot 3^4 \cdot 11 \cdot \mathbf{1223}$.

Example 5: $\Delta_{25,19,5}^2, \mathbf{q} = \mathbf{103}$. This arose in Example 5 of the previous section, and is similar to the previous example.

$\text{tr}(T(2))$	$\text{tr}(T(4))$	$\text{tr}(T(2, 2))$	$\text{tr}(T(2)^2)$	$T(2)(\Delta_{25,5} \oplus \Delta_{19})$
10176	3207168	-22394880	134203392	$-96 + 2^3(456) = 3552$
$\text{tr}(T(2) _{\Delta_{25,19,5}^2})$	$\text{tr}(T(2)^2 _{\Delta_{25,19,5}^2})$	$T(2)(\Delta_{25,19,5}^2)$	$-T(2)(\Delta_{25,19,5}^2) + T(2)(\Delta_{25,19}) + 2^9 + 2^{16}$	
6624	121586688	$3312 \pm 240\sqrt{865}$	$27600 \mp 240\sqrt{865}$	

$\text{Norm}(27600 \mp 240\sqrt{865}) = 2^{11} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^3 \cdot \mathbf{103}$.

9. THE SETUP FOR $G = \text{SO}(n, n)$, $M \simeq \text{GL}_2 \times \text{SO}(n-2, n-2)$

We use similar notation to §2. Let

$$G = \text{SO}(n, n) = \{g \in M_{2n} : {}^t g J g = J, \det(g) = 1\},$$

where

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 0_n & I_n \\ I_n & 0_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

This is a connected, semi-simple algebraic group, split over \mathbb{Q} . It has a maximal torus $T = \{\mathrm{diag}(t_1, \dots, t_n, t_1^{-1}, \dots, t_n^{-1}) : t_1, \dots, t_n \in \mathrm{GL}_1\}$ with character group $X^*(T)$ spanned by $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ where e_i sends $\mathrm{diag}(t_1, \dots, t_n, t_1^{-1}, \dots, t_n^{-1})$ to t_i for $1 \leq i \leq n$. The cocharacter group $X_*(T)$ is spanned by $\{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$, where $f_1 : t \mapsto \mathrm{diag}(t, 1, \dots, 1, t^{-1}, 1, \dots, 1)$, etc. and so $\langle e_i, f_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$, where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : X^*(T) \times X_*(T) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ is the natural pairing. We can order the roots so that the set of positive roots is $\Phi_G^+ = \{e_i - e_j : i < j\} \cup \{e_i + e_j : i < j\}$, with simple positive roots $\Delta_G = \{e_1 - e_2, e_2 - e_3, \dots, e_{n-1} - e_n, e_{n-1} + e_n\}$. The half-sum of the positive roots is $\rho_G = (n-1)e_1 + (n-2)e_2 + \dots + e_{n-1}$. The Weyl group W_G is generated by permutations of the t_i and by inversions swapping t_i with t_i^{-1} . The long element w_0^G is the product of all the inversions.

Suppose now that $n \geq 3$. If we choose the simple root $\alpha = e_2 - e_3$, this determines a maximal parabolic subgroup $P = MN$, where N is the unipotent radical and M is the Levi subgroup, characterised by $\Delta_M = \Delta_G - \{\alpha\}$, and then $M \simeq \mathrm{GL}_2 \times \mathrm{SO}(n-2, n-2)$. The positive roots occurring in the Lie algebra of N are $\Phi_N = \Phi_G^+ - \Phi_M^+ = \{e_1 - e_3, \dots, e_1 - e_n, e_1 + e_2, \dots, e_1 + e_n, e_2 - e_3, \dots, e_2 - e_n, e_2 + e_3, \dots, e_2 + e_n\}$, i.e. those positive roots whose expression as a sum of simple roots includes α . The half-sum is $\rho_P = \frac{2n-3}{2}(e_1 + e_2)$, and $\langle \rho_P, \check{\alpha} \rangle = \frac{2n-3}{2}$, where $\check{\alpha}$ is the coroot associated with α . Let $\check{\alpha} := \frac{1}{\langle \rho_P, \check{\alpha} \rangle} \rho_P = e_1 + e_2$. The Langlands dual group $\hat{G} \simeq G$.

Let Π_f be the unitary, cuspidal automorphic representation of $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{A})$ associated to a cuspidal Hecke eigenform f of weight k and trivial character, and let Π' be a unitary, cuspidal, automorphic representation of $\mathrm{SO}(n-2, n-2)(\mathbb{A})$. Let $\Pi = \Pi_f \times \Pi'$, which is a unitary, cuspidal, automorphic representation of $M(\mathbb{A})$. Let $\lambda = \frac{k-1}{2}(e_1 - e_2) + a_1 e_3 + \dots + a_{n-2} e_n$, with $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_{n-2} \geq 0$, be the infinitesimal character of Π_∞ , up to W_M . We shall assume that the a_i are all distinct, from each other and from $(k-1)/2$, with $a_{n-2} > 0$.

For any prime p such that the local component Π_p is unramified, let $\chi_p = -[\log_p(\alpha_p)(e_1 - e_2) + \log_p(\beta_1)e_3 + \log_p(\beta_2)e_3 + \dots + \log_p(\beta_{n-2})e_n] \in X^*(T) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{C}$ be such that Π_p is isomorphic to the (unitarily) parabolically induced representation $\mathrm{Ind}_{B(\mathbb{Q}_p)}^{M(\mathbb{Q}_p)}(|\chi_p|_p)$, where B is a Borel subgroup of M containing T . Note that $p^{(k-1)/2}(\alpha_p + \alpha_p^{-1}) = a_p(f)$, where $f = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_n(f)q^n$, with $a_1(f) = 1$. This $\chi_p \in X^*(T) \otimes i\mathbb{R}$ gives rise to a Satake parameter $t(\chi_p) \in \hat{T}(\mathbb{C}) \subset \hat{M}(\mathbb{C})$, as before.

The adjoint representation $r : \hat{M} \rightarrow \mathrm{Aut}(\hat{\mathfrak{n}})$, is $r_1 \oplus r_2$, with $\Phi_N^1 = \{e_1 \pm e_{j+2}, e_2 \pm e_{j+2} : 1 \leq j \leq n-2\}$ and $\Phi_N^2 = \{e_1 + e_2\}$.

$\gamma \in \Phi_N$	$\check{\gamma}$	$\langle \lambda + s\check{\alpha}, \check{\gamma} \rangle$	$ \chi_p(\check{\gamma}(p)) _p$
$e_1 - e_{j+2}$ ($1 \leq j \leq n-2$)	$f_1 - f_{j+2}$	$\frac{k-1}{2} - a_j + s$	$\alpha_p \beta_j^{-1}$
$e_2 - e_{j+2}$ ($1 \leq j \leq n-2$)	$f_2 - f_{j+2}$	$-\frac{k-1}{2} - a_j + s$	$\alpha_p^{-1} \beta_j$
$e_1 + e_{j+2}$ ($1 \leq j \leq n-2$)	$f_1 + f_{j+2}$	$\frac{k-1}{2} + a_j + s$	$\alpha_p \beta_j^{-1}$
$e_2 + e_{j+2}$ ($1 \leq j \leq n-2$)	$f_2 + f_{j+2}$	$-\frac{k-1}{2} + a_j + s$	$\alpha_p^{-1} \beta_j$
$e_1 + e_2$	$f_1 + f_2$	$2s$	1

Using the table, $L_\Sigma(s, \Pi, r_1)$ is the L -function associated with $\Pi_f \times \Pi'$ and the tensor product of the standard representations of GL_2 and $\mathrm{SO}(n-2, n-2)$, while $L_\Sigma(s, \Pi, r_2) = \zeta_\Sigma(s)$.

For $s > 0$, the representation $\mathrm{Ind}_P^G(\Pi \otimes |s\tilde{\alpha}|)$ of $G(\mathbb{A})$ has infinitesimal character (at ∞) $\lambda + s\tilde{\alpha}$ (up to W_G -action). We need $s \in \frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$ for $L_\Sigma(1 + 2s, \Pi, r_2)$ to be critical, then for all the a_i to be in $\frac{1}{2} + \mathbb{Z}$, for $\lambda + s\tilde{\alpha}$ to be algebraically integral.

Let $1 \leq t \leq n-2$ be such that $\frac{k-1}{2}$ is in between a_t and a_{t+1} (or $\frac{k-1}{2} > a_1$ if $t = 1$, $\frac{k-1}{2} < a_{n-2}$ if $t = n-2$).

$$\lambda + s\tilde{\alpha} = \left(\frac{k-1}{2} + s\right)e_1 + \left(-\frac{k-1}{2} + s\right)e_2 + a_1e_3 + \cdots + a_{n-2}e_n.$$

Then, for the obvious choice of $w \in W_G$,

$$w(\lambda + s\tilde{\alpha}) = a_1e_1 + \cdots + a_te_t + \left(\frac{k-1}{2} + s\right)e_{t+1} + \left(\frac{k-1}{2} - s\right)e_{t+2} + a_{t+1}e_{t+3} + \cdots + a_{n-2}e_n,$$

which is dominant and regular if we add the condition $s < \min\{a_t - \frac{k-1}{2}, \frac{k-1}{2} - a_{t+1}\}$ to those already imposed. This coincides with the condition for $L_\Sigma(1 + s, \Pi, r_1)$ to be critical. We exclude the smallest value $s = 1/2$ from the conjecture below.

Suppose that $q > 2 \max\langle \lambda, \tilde{\gamma} \rangle + 1 = k + 2a_1$, and let $\mathfrak{q} \mid q$ be a prime divisor of q in a number field sufficiently large to accommodate all the Hecke eigenvalues and normalised L -values we shall consider.

The main conjecture of [BD] is that if $\mathrm{ord}_{\mathfrak{q}}(L_{\mathrm{alg}, \Sigma}(1 + is, \Pi, r_i)) > 0$ then there exists a tempered, cuspidal, automorphic representation $\tilde{\Pi}$ of $G(\mathbb{A})$, unramified outside Σ , and with $\tilde{\Pi}_\infty$ of infinitesimal character $w(\lambda + s\tilde{\alpha})$, such that for all $p \notin \Sigma$, and all $\mu \in X_*(T)$, the eigenvalues of T_μ on $\tilde{\Pi}_p$ and $\mathrm{Ind}_P^G(\Pi_p \otimes |s\tilde{\alpha}|_p)$ are congruent modulo \mathfrak{q} .

The standard representation of \hat{G} has highest weight f_1 (identifying $X^*(\hat{T})$ with $X_*(T)$) and complete set of weights $\{\pm f_1, \pm f_2, \dots, \pm f_n\}$. Given that this is a single W_G -orbit, i.e. that f_1 is a minuscule weight, we can calculate the ‘‘right-hand-side’’ of the congruence in the following way. The Satake parameter of $\mathrm{Ind}_P^G(\Pi_p \otimes |s\tilde{\alpha}|_p)$ is $-\log_p(\alpha_p)(e_1 - e_2) + \log_p(\beta_1)e_3 + \log_p(\beta_2)e_3 + \cdots + \log_p(\beta_{n-2})e_n + s(e_1 + e_2)$. Using this,

μ	$ (\chi_p + s\tilde{\alpha})(\mu(p)) _p$
f_1	$\alpha_p p^{-s}$
f_2	$\alpha_p^{-1} p^{-s}$
$f_{i+2} \ (1 \leq i \leq n-2)$	β_i

The trace is $(\alpha_p + \alpha_p^{-1})(p^s + p^{-s}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} (\beta_i + \beta_i^{-1})$. We multiply by $p^{\langle w(\lambda + s\tilde{\alpha}), f_1 \rangle}$ to get the eigenvalue for T_{f_1} :

$$\begin{aligned} & T_{f_1}(\Pi_p \otimes |s\tilde{\alpha}|_p) \\ = & \begin{cases} \alpha_p(f)(1 + p^{2s}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} p^{(k-1)/2+s}(\beta_i + \beta_i^{-1}) & \text{if } \frac{k-1}{2} > a_1; \\ (p^{(a_1 - (k-1)/2) + s} + p^{(a_1 - (k-1)/2) - s})\alpha_p(f) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} p^{a_1}(\beta_i + \beta_i^{-1}) & \text{if } \frac{k-1}{2} < a_1. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

10. THE CASE $n = 4$ WITH $i = 1$

As above, we have Π_f the unitary, cuspidal, automorphic representation of $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{A})$ associated to a cuspidal Hecke eigenform f of weight k , trivial character, and Π' a unitary, cuspidal, automorphic representation of $\mathrm{SO}(2, 2)(\mathbb{A})$. From now on we assume that Π_f and Π' are unramified at all finite p . As in the proof of [CR, Proposition* 4.15], using the central isogeny $\mathrm{SO}(2, 2) \rightarrow \mathrm{PGL}(2) \times \mathrm{PGL}(2)$, we can get Π' by giving a pair Π_g, Π_h of cuspidal, automorphic representations of $\mathrm{PGL}(2)(\mathbb{A})$, associated to cuspidal Hecke eigenforms g, h of level 1, let's say of weights ℓ, m respectively. (Strictly speaking, Π' is a discrete automorphic representation, but by [Wa, Theorem 4.3] it will be cuspidal.) The infinitesimal character of Π' is $\frac{\ell+m-2}{2}e_3 + \frac{|\ell-m|}{2}e_4$, and for each finite prime p , its Satake parameter is the tensor product of those of Π_f and Π_g , so that the standard L -function of Π' is $L(\Pi_g \otimes \Pi_h, s)$, and $L(s, \Pi, r_1)$ is the triple product L -function $L(\Pi_f \otimes \Pi_g \otimes \Pi_h, s)$.

We relabel $\{k, \ell, m\} = \{k_1, k_2, k_3\}$ in such a way that $k_1 \geq k_2 \geq k_3$, and we also relabel $\{f, g, h\} = \{f_{k_1}, f_{k_2}, f_{k_3}\}$ in the obvious way. Henceforth we consider only examples for which $k_1 < k_2 + k_3$ and for which each of f_{k_1}, f_{k_2} and f_{k_3} spans its space of cusp forms. The field of coefficients will then be \mathbb{Q} . We have

$$L(\Pi_f \otimes \Pi_g \otimes \Pi_h, s) = L\left(s + \frac{k_1 + k_2 + k_3 - 3}{2}, f \otimes g \otimes h\right).$$

If,

$$\hat{L}(s, f \otimes g \otimes h) := \Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(s)\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(s - (k_1 - 1))\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(s - (k_2 - 1))\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(s - (k_3 - 1))L(s, f \otimes g \otimes h),$$

where $\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(s) = 2(2\pi)^{-s}\Gamma(s)$, then $\hat{L}(s) = -\hat{L}(k_1 + k_2 + k_3 - 2 - s)$. Let

$$\hat{L}_{\mathrm{alg}}(s, f \otimes g \otimes h) := \frac{\hat{L}(s, f \otimes g \otimes h)}{(f, f)(g, g)(h, h)},$$

with Petersson norms in the denominators. For integers $k_1 \leq t \leq k_2 + k_3 - 2$, $L(t, f \otimes g \otimes h)$ is a critical value. The condition $q > k + 2a_1 = k_1 + k_2 + k_3$ appearing in the conjecture on congruences is too large for some of our examples. We can do better by viewing the conjecture as saying that whenever the Bloch-Kato conjecture predicts that a q -torsion Selmer group is non-trivial, it gets that way via a mod q congruence of Hecke eigenvalues. The bound on q guarantees that the q -parts of Tamagawa factors (in the appropriate normalisation) are trivial, so that when we see a factor q in the numerator of a normalised L -value, Bloch-Kato accounts for it in the Selmer group. But for the special form of tensor product motive here, we can prove more about the Tamagawa factors, and thus employ smaller bounds for q , as in the proposition below.

As in [DH, Lemma 5.1], the product of Petersson norms is the normalised Deligne period, up to a power of $(2\pi i)$ that depends on the point of evaluation and is taken care of by the $\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}$ factors. Note in [DH, (5.2)], which, following Hida, notes the congruence factor $c(f_{k_i})$ intervening between (f_{k_i}, f_{k_i}) and $\Omega_{f_{k_i}}^+ \Omega_{f_{k_i}}^-$, that $c(f_{k_i})$ is trivial for us, because the spaces are 1-dimensional, leaving no room for the congruences measured by the $c(f_{k_i})$. (Even if it were non-trivial, it would only contribute to the denominator of $\hat{L}_{\mathrm{alg}}(t)$ anyway.) These periods are well-defined up to primes less than k_1 . Suppose that $q > k_1$, and that $k_1 \leq t \leq k_2 + k_3 - 2$ is an integer, avoiding the central point $t = \frac{k_1 + k_2 + k_3 - 2}{2}$. Then the Bloch-Kato

conjecture predicts that

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{ord}_q \left(\hat{L}_{\text{alg}}(t) \right) \\ &= \text{ord}_q \left(\frac{c_q(t) \# H_f^1(\mathbb{Q}, T_q^*(1-t) \otimes (\mathbb{Q}_q/\mathbb{Z}_q))}{\# H^0(\mathbb{Q}, T_q^*(1-t) \otimes (\mathbb{Q}_q/\mathbb{Z}_q)) \# H^0(\mathbb{Q}, T_q(t) \otimes (\mathbb{Q}_q/\mathbb{Z}_q))} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where $c_q(t)$ is a certain Tamagawa factor. We shall not define it here, but it can be dealt with as in [DH, Proposition 7.5], following [DFG, Proposition 2.16]. In [DH] the weights are all equal, making things slightly simpler, but the idea is essentially the same, so we merely state the result.

Proposition 10.1. *Suppose that f_{k_1} is ordinary at q , that $k_1 \leq t' \leq k_2 + k_3 - 2$ and $q > \max\{k_1, 2k_3 - 2 - (t' - (k_1 - 1)), k_3 + 2 + t' - k_2\}$. Then $\text{ord}_q(c_q(t')) \leq 0$.*

This is most effective for t' left of the central point, whereas we are primarily interested in $t = k_1 + k_2 + k_3 - 2 - t' = 1 + s + \frac{k_1 + k_2 + k_3 - 3}{2}$, to the right of the central point. But if $\text{ord}_q(\hat{L}_{\text{alg}}(t)) > 0$ then by the functional equation, $\text{ord}_q(\hat{L}_{\text{alg}}(t')) > 0$. If $q > \max\{k_1, 2k_3 - 2 - (t' - (k_1 - 1)), k_3 + 2 + t' - k_2\}$ and f_{k_1} is ordinary at q , Bloch-Kato predicts that $H_f^1(\mathbb{Q}, T_q^*(1-t') \otimes (\mathbb{Q}_q/\mathbb{Z}_q))$ is non-trivial, hence, by [Fl], that $H_f^1(\mathbb{Q}, T_q^*(1-t) \otimes (\mathbb{Q}_q/\mathbb{Z}_q))$ is non-trivial. We then predict a congruence

$$T(p)(\tilde{\Pi}) \equiv (p^{((\ell+m-k-1)/2)+s} + p^{((\ell+m-k-1)/2)-s})a_p(f) + a_p(g)a_p(h) \pmod{q},$$

for all primes p , where $T(p) = T_{f_1}$ and $\tilde{\Pi}$ is a tempered, cuspidal, automorphic representation of $\text{SO}(4, 4)(\mathbb{A})$, with $\tilde{\Pi}_\infty$ of infinitesimal character

$$\frac{\ell + m - 2}{2}e_1 + \left(\frac{k-1}{2} + s\right)e_2 + \left(\frac{k-1}{2} - s\right)e_3 + \frac{|\ell - m|}{2}e_4.$$

To compute Hecke eigenvalues for $\tilde{\Pi}$ we proceed as described in §6, except now we use $\text{SO}(8)$, the orthogonal group of the E_8 lattice, with $\text{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z}) \simeq W(E_8)^+$, of order 348364800. For $\mu = a_1e_1 + a_2e_2 + a_3e_3 + a_4e_4$ (in the notation of [CR, 5.2], in particular a_1 now means something different), with $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4 \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq a_3 \geq a_4 \geq 0$, let V_μ be the space of the complex representation θ_μ of $\text{SO}(8)$ with highest weight μ , and let $\rho := 3e_1 + 2e_2 + e_3$. The infinitesimal character of the representation θ_μ of $\text{SO}(8)(\mathbb{R})$ is $\mu + \rho$. Let K be the open compact subgroup $\prod_p \text{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ of $\text{SO}(8)(\mathbb{A}_f)$, and let

$$M(V_\mu, K) := \{f : \text{SO}(8)(\mathbb{A}_f) \rightarrow V_\mu :$$

$$f(gk) = f(g) \forall k \in K, f(\gamma g) = \theta_\mu(\gamma)(f(g)) \forall \gamma \in \text{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Q})\}$$

be the space of V_μ -valued algebraic modular forms with level K . Since

$$\#(\text{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Q}) \backslash \text{SO}(8)(\mathbb{A}_f) / K) = 1,$$

$M(V_\mu, K)$ can be identified with the fixed subspace $V_\mu^{\text{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z})}$. For each (finite) prime p , $\text{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Q}_p) \simeq \text{SO}(4, 4)(\mathbb{Q}_p)$, and the local Hecke algebras are naturally isomorphic. The third named author has computed the trace of $T(p) := T_{f_1}$ on $M(V_\mu, K)$ for all $p \leq 23$, and for $a_1 \leq 12$ [Me1, Me2]. In the examples below, we have verified the expected congruences for all primes $p \leq 23$, but we display the data just as far as $p = 13$.

Example 1: $(k, \ell, m) = (18, 12, 20)$. From the computations of Ibukiyama and Katsurada in the appendix, we see that $\hat{L}_{\text{alg}}(26, f \otimes g \otimes h) = \frac{2^{53} \cdot \mathbf{31}}{3 \cdot 17}$. (Note that our \hat{L}_{alg} is their L_{alg} .) With $(k_1, k_2, k_3) = (20, 18, 12)$, the critical range is

$20 \leq t \leq 28$, and $26 = \frac{k_1+k_2+k_3-3}{2} + 1 + s$ for $s = 3/2$. With $t = 26$, $t' = 22$, $\max\{k_1, 2k_3 - 2 - (t' - (k_1 - 1)), k_3 + 2 + t' - k_2\} = \max\{20, 19, 18\} = 20$, a bound comfortably exceeded by $q = 31$. Since $31 \nmid -104626880141728 = a_{31}(f_{20})$, f_{20} is ordinary at 31. According to [CR, Table 9], there is a single stable, tempered Arthur parameter $\Delta_{30,20,14,8}$ for the relevant infinitesimal character $15e_1 + 10e_2 + 7e_3 + 4e_4$, and a table at [CRtab] shows that $\dim(V_\mu^{\mathrm{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z})}) = 1$ (for $\mu = 12e_1 + 8e_2 + 6e_3 + 4e_4$), so we obtain $T(p)(\Delta_{30,20,14,8})$ as the trace of $T(p)$ on $V_\mu^{\mathrm{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z})}$.

p	$a_p(f_{18})$	$a_p(f_{12})$	$a_p(f_{20})$
2	-528	-24	456
3	-4284	252	50652
5	-1025850	4830	-2377410
7	3225992	-16744	-16917544
11	-753618228	534612	-16212108
13	2541064526	-577738	50421615062

p	$T(p)(\Delta_{30,20,14,8})$	$(p^5 + p^8)a_p(f_{18}) + a_p(f_{12})a_p(f_{20}) - T(p)(\Delta_{30,20,14,8})$
2	69120	$-2^6 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 13 \cdot \mathbf{31}$
3	10614240	$-2^9 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 7 \cdot \mathbf{31}$
5	-18486732600	$-2^{10} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 17 \cdot \mathbf{31} \cdot 467$
7	-984888553600	$2^{11} \cdot 3^4 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 23 \cdot \mathbf{31} \cdot 491$
11	-4326973699452192	$-2^9 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 17 \cdot \mathbf{31} \cdot 317 \cdot 8175953$
13	-59262235173721720	$2^{10} \cdot 3^4 \cdot 7^2 \cdot \mathbf{31} \cdot 617 \cdot 27064319$

Example 2: $(k, \ell, m) = (22, 12, 20)$. From the computations of Ibukiyama and Katsurada in the appendix, we see that $\hat{L}_{\mathrm{alg}}(29, f \otimes g \otimes h) = \frac{2^{57} \cdot 3 \cdot 7 \cdot \mathbf{73}}{5 \cdot 19}$. With $(k_1, k_2, k_3) = (22, 20, 12)$, the critical range is $22 \leq t \leq 30$, and $29 = \frac{k_1+k_2+k_3-3}{2} + 1 + s$ for $s = 5/2$. With $t = 29$, $t' = 23$, $\max\{k_1, 2k_3 - 2 - (t' - (k_1 - 1)), k_3 + 2 + t' - k_2\} = \max\{22, 20, 17\} = 22$, a bound comfortably exceeded by $q = 73$. Since $73 \nmid -43284759511102937494 = a_{73}(f_{22})$, f_{22} is ordinary at 73. By [CR, Table 9], there is a single stable, tempered Arthur parameter $\Delta_{30,26,16,8}$ for the relevant infinitesimal character $15e_1 + 13e_2 + 8e_3 + 4e_4$, and a table at [CRtab] shows that $\dim(V_\mu^{\mathrm{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z})}) = 1$ (for $\mu = 12e_1 + 11e_2 + 7e_3 + 4e_4$), so we obtain $T(p)(\Delta_{30,26,16,8})$ as the trace of $T(p)$ on $V_\mu^{\mathrm{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z})}$.

p	$a_p(f_{22})$	$T(p)(\Delta_{30,26,16,8})$
2	-288	-80496
3	-128844	12133152
5	21640950	-28999867896
7	-768078808	6809124360320
11	-94724929188	-2979055414026720
13	-80621789794	-66466630034660152

p	$(p^2 + p^7)a_p(f_{22}) + a_p(f_{12})a_p(f_{20}) - T(p)(\Delta_{30,26,16,8})$
2	$2^4 \cdot 3^3 \cdot \mathbf{73}$
3	$-2^7 \cdot 3^4 \cdot \mathbf{73} \cdot 373$
5	$2^8 \cdot 3^3 \cdot \mathbf{73} \cdot 109 \cdot 31069$
7	$-2^9 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot \mathbf{73} \cdot 211 \cdot 401 \cdot 499$
11	$-2^7 \cdot 3^3 \cdot \mathbf{73} \cdot 277 \cdot 26371814347$
13	$-2^8 \cdot 3^4 \cdot \mathbf{73} \cdot 3317356371521$

Example 3: $(k, \ell, m) = (22, 12, 18)$. From the computations of Ibukiyama and Katsurada in the appendix, we see that $\hat{L}_{\text{alg}}(27, f \otimes g \otimes h) = \frac{2^{52} \cdot 3 \cdot \mathbf{43}}{19}$. With $(k_1, k_2, k_3) = (22, 18, 12)$, the critical range is $22 \leq t \leq 28$, and $27 = \frac{k_1 + k_2 + k_3 - 3}{2} + 1 + s$ for $s = 3/2$. With $t = 27$, $t' = 23$, $\max\{k_1, 2k_3 - 2 - (t' - (k_1 - 1)), k_3 + 2 + t' - k_2\} = \max\{22, 20, 19\} = 22$, a bound comfortably exceeded by $q = 43$. Since $43 \nmid -193605854685795844 = a_{43}(f_{22})$, f_{22} is ordinary at 43. According to [CR, Table 9], there is a single stable, tempered Arthur parameter $\Delta_{28,24,18,6}$ for the relevant infinitesimal character $14e_1 + 12e_2 + 9e_3 + 3e_4$, and a table at [CRtab] shows that $\dim(V_\mu^{\text{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z})}) = 1$ (for $\mu = 11e_1 + 10e_2 + 8e_3 + 3e_4$), so we obtain $T(p)(\Delta_{28,24,18,6})$ as the trace of $T(p)$ on $V_\mu^{\text{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z})}$.

p	$T(p)(\Delta_{28,24,18,6})$	$(p^2 + p^5)a_p(f_{22}) + a_p(f_{12})a_p(f_{18}) - T(p)(\Delta_{28,24,18,6})$
2	-10080	$2^5 \cdot 3^2 \cdot \mathbf{43}$
3	3900960	$-2^9 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 7 \cdot \mathbf{43}$
5	1700332200	$2^{10} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot \mathbf{43} \cdot 887$
7	-95141488000	$-2^{11} \cdot 3^3 \cdot \mathbf{43} \cdot 991 \cdot 5477$
11	-50025639432672	$-2^9 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot \mathbf{43} \cdot 877 \cdot 3595481$
13	-1259590157649880	$-2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7 \cdot \mathbf{43}^2 \cdot 3209 \cdot 26261$

Example 4: $(k, \ell, m) = (16, 12, 20)$. From the computations of Ibukiyama and Katsurada in the appendix, we see that $\hat{L}_{\text{alg}}(26, f \otimes g \otimes h) = \frac{2^{54} \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot \mathbf{19}}{13 \cdot 17}$. With $(k_1, k_2, k_3) = (20, 16, 12)$, the critical range is $20 \leq t \leq 26$, and $26 = \frac{k_1 + k_2 + k_3 - 3}{2} + 1 + s$ for $s = 5/2$. With $t = 26$, $t' = 20$, $\max\{k_1, 2k_3 - 2 - (t' - (k_1 - 1)), k_3 + 2 + t' - k_2\} = \max\{20, 21, 18\} = 21$, a bound not quite achieved by $q = 19$, but we shall look for the congruence anyway. Note that even in $\hat{L}_{\text{alg}}(20)$, the factor 19 only appears in the numerator because of the factor $\Gamma(20) = 19!$, i.e. it does not appear in the numerator of $L_{\text{alg}}(20)$. But by the same token it appears in the denominators of the other critical values $L_{\text{alg}}(t)$ for $21 \leq t \leq 25$, suggesting that it appears in the denominators of the corresponding Tamagawa factors $c_{19}(t)$. Therefore it would not be too surprising if it occurred also in the denominator of $c_{19}(26)$, allowing $\#H_f^1(\mathbb{Q}, T_q^*(1-t))$ still to be non-trivial.

According to [CR, Table 9], there is a single stable, tempered Arthur parameter $\Delta_{30,20,10,8}$ for the relevant infinitesimal character $15e_1 + 10e_2 + 5e_3 + 4e_4$, and a table at [CRtab] shows that $\dim(V_\mu^{\text{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z})}) = 1$ (for $\mu = 12e_1 + 8e_2 + 4e_3 + 4e_4$), so we obtain $T(p)(\Delta_{30,20,10,8})$ as the trace of $T(p)$ on $V_\mu^{\text{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z})}$.

p	$a_p(f_{16})$	$T(p)(\Delta_{30,20,10,8})$
2	216	52992
3	-3348	7306848
5	52110	671424840
7	2822456	-107393799808
11	20586852	-167258251753632
13	-190073338	-42627620077539832
p	$(p^5 + p^{10})a_p(f_{16}) + a_p(f_{12})a_p(f_{20}) - T(p)(\Delta_{30,20,10,8})$	
2	$2^6 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot \mathbf{19}$	
3	$-2^9 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^2 \cdot \mathbf{19}$	
5	$2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 37 \cdot 5113$	
7	$2^{11} \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 193 \cdot 262271$	
11	$2^9 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 13 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 8550379 \cdot 3659$	
13	$-2^{10} \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 863 \cdot 271279 \cdot 14197$	

Example 5: $(k, \ell, m) = (20, 12, 16)$. We are looking at the same L -value as in the previous example, but f, g and h have been permuted. Again, 19 is not strictly speaking big enough, but we look for the congruence anyway. By [CR, Table 9], there is a single stable, tempered Arthur parameter $\Delta_{26,24,14,4}$ for the relevant infinitesimal character $13e_1 + 12e_2 + 7e_3 + 2e_4$, and a table at [CRtab] shows that $\dim(V_\mu^{\mathrm{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z})}) = 1$ (for $\mu = 10e_1 + 10e_2 + 6e_3 + 2e_4$), so we obtain $T(p)(\Delta_{26,24,14,4})$ as the trace of $T(p)$ on $V_\mu^{\mathrm{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z})}$.

p	$T(p)(\Delta_{26,24,14,4})$	$(p + p^6)a_p(f_{20}) + a_p(f_{12})a_p(f_{16}) - T(p)(\Delta_{26,24,14,4})$
2	-16128	$2^4 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot \mathbf{19}$
3	-1851552	$2^9 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 29$
5	313754760	$-2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 37 \cdot 383$
7	34598801792	$-2^{11} \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 131497$
11	-25141764069792	$2^9 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 5655173$
13	232075615185608	$2^{10} \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5^2 \cdot \mathbf{19} \cdot 643 \cdot 1613 \cdot 5953$

In the appendix there are several further examples of primes $q > k_1$ dividing numerators of normalised L -values, but not only do these examples exceed the $a_1 \leq 12$ for which traces have been computed, they also have $\dim(V_\mu^{\mathrm{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z})}) > 1$. For example, with $(k, \ell, m) = (20, 16, 18)$ we have $\hat{L}_{\mathrm{alg}}(30, f \otimes g \otimes h) = \frac{2^{58} \cdot 7 \cdot \mathbf{2297}}{13 \cdot 17}$. The relevant $\mu = 13e_1 + 11e_2 + 5e_3 + e_4$, and $\dim(V_\mu^{\mathrm{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z})}) = 4$. For another example, with $(k, \ell, m) = (22, 16, 20)$ we have $\hat{L}_{\mathrm{alg}}(31, f \otimes g \otimes h) = \frac{2^{59} \cdot 3 \cdot 7 \cdot \mathbf{6619}}{13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19}$. The relevant $\mu = 14e_1 + 11e_2 + 7e_3 + 2e_4$, and $\dim(V_\mu^{\mathrm{SO}(8)(\mathbb{Z})}) = 12$. So we have not attempted to test the predicted congruences.

11. THE SPECIAL CASE $f = h$.

Since $k_1 < k_2 + k_3$, we have $k - 1 > \frac{\ell-1}{2}$. Define integers a, b, c by $a + 3 = k - 1$, $b + 2 = \frac{\ell-1}{2} + s$ and $c + 1 = \frac{\ell-1}{2} - s$. For $\frac{1}{2} < s < \min\{\frac{\ell+m-2}{2} - \frac{k-1}{2}, \frac{k-1}{2} - \frac{|\ell-m|}{2}\}$, considering separately the cases $k \leq \ell$ and $k \geq \ell$ (with $k = m$), one checks that $\frac{\ell-1}{2} + s < k - 1$, so that $a \geq b \geq c \geq 0$. Note that $k = m = a + 4$, $\ell = b + c + 4$ and $t = a + b + 6$, with $s = \frac{b-c+1}{2}$ and $\frac{k+\ell+m-3}{2} = \frac{2a+b+c+9}{2}$.

Seventeen examples of $\hat{L}_{\text{alg}}(a+b+6, f \otimes f \otimes g)$ appear in [IKPY, Table 3]. Actually, since some of their examples involve weights other than 12, 16, 18, 20, 22 and 26, it is actually the norm of this algebraic number that appears in their table. Their computations are connected with the seventeen experimental congruences supporting [BFvdG, Conjecture 10.8], which is also discussed in [BD, Section 8, Case 2], where, as in [IKPY], f and g are the other way round. The right-hand-sides of these congruences are $a_p(f)(a_p(g) + p^{b+2} + p^{c+1})$, which is exactly what we get in the case $f = h$. The left-hand-sides are Hecke eigenvalues for genus 3 vector-valued Siegel cusp forms, of “type” (a, b, c) . These can be equated with the desired Hecke eigenvalues of cuspidal, automorphic representations of $\text{SO}(4, 4)(\mathbb{A})$, of infinitesimal character $\frac{a+b+c+6}{2}e_1 + \frac{a+b-c+4}{2}e_2 + \frac{a-b+c+2}{2}e_3 + \frac{|a-(b+c)|}{2}e_4$, via the conjectured functorial lift from PGSp_3 to $\text{SO}(4, 4)$, associated with the homomorphism $\text{Spin}(4, 3) \rightarrow \text{SO}(4, 4)$ of L -groups that is the 8-dimensional spinor representation. Thus, the congruences of the previous section may be viewed as a generalisation of [BFvdG, Conjecture 10.8] (which is due to the authors of that paper in collaboration with Harder and Mellit).

Actually, $L(a+b+6, f \otimes f \otimes g) = L(a+b+6, \text{Sym}^2 f \otimes g)L(b+3, g)$. In the seventeen examples referred to above, the modulus of the congruence always appears in the first factor (suitably normalised), in fact it is only that factor that actually appears in [BFvdG, Conjecture 10.8]. What about the other factor? If $\mathfrak{q} \mid q$ with $q > b+c+4$, and $\text{ord}_{\mathfrak{q}}(L_{\text{alg}}(b+3, g)) > 0$, then according to Harder’s conjecture there should exist a cuspidal Hecke eigenform F of genus 2, level 1, vector-valued of type $\text{Sym}^{b-c} \otimes \det^{c+3}$, with Hecke eigenvalue at p congruent to $a_p(g) + p^{b+2} + p^{c+1} \pmod{\mathfrak{q}}$. Let Π_F be the associated cuspidal, automorphic representation of $\text{PGSp}_2(\mathbb{A})$. Then the conjectured congruence (with right hand side $a_p(f)(a_p(g) + p^{b+2} + p^{c+1})$) would be satisfied by the conjectured functorial lift of $\Pi_f \times \Pi_F$ from $\text{PGL}_2 \times \text{PGSp}_2$ to $\text{SO}(4, 4)$, via the homomorphism of L -groups

$$\text{SL}(2) \times \text{Spin}(3, 2) \rightarrow \text{SL}(2) \times \text{Sp}_2 \rightarrow \text{SO}(4, 4),$$

where $\text{Spin}(3, 2) \rightarrow \text{Sp}_2$ is the spinor representation and the second arrow is the “tensor product” representation.

Recalling §4, we should also consider the case $i = 2$, no longer assuming that $f = h$. This may be done using an endoscopic lift from $\text{SO}(2, 2)(\mathbb{A}) \times \text{SO}(2, 2)(\mathbb{A})$ to $\text{SO}(4, 4)(\mathbb{A})$. One representation of $\text{SO}(2, 2)(\mathbb{A})$ comes via tensor product lift from g and h , the other similarly from f and something satisfying a Ramanujan-style congruence.

APPENDIX A. SOME TRIPLE L VALUES

BY TOMOYOSHI IBUKIYAMA AND HIDENORI KATSURADA

The aim of this short note is to give some tables of rigorous explicit critical values of the triple L functions. A program to give explicitly any critical values of the triple L functions rigorously, or norms of the values when the value is not rational, was prepared by authors in 2011 during writing up a paper [IKPY] on triple L values and related congruences between modular forms of higher degree jointly written with C. Poor and D. Yuen. There are already many explicit examples in [IKPY] including the norms of the values when they are not rational, but this note is an expanded version. Theoretically nothing is new here and we run the same program, but the paper [IKPY] treated various other aspects and has a complicated

appearance, so it seems not useless to give a short explanation focussed only on the critical values. Although there exists another program in Magma to calculate these kinds of values by numerical approximation based on Dokchitser [Do], our program is based on completely different theory and gives rigorous values for the algebraic parts of any critical values of triple L functions, i.e. the critical values divided by the Petersson inner products of the three forms (and elementary Gamma factors). For a theoretical explanation, see [BSP] and [IKPY], which will be outlined also below.

The (right part of the) critical points of the triple L function of elliptic modular forms f, g, h of weights k_1, k_2, k_3 are given by

$$\frac{k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + r}{2} - 2$$

where r is a positive integer with $r \geq 2$, also bounded above as described later. (The functional equation is $s \rightarrow k_1 + k_2 + k_3 - 2 - s$.) In actual calculation we use the Siegel Eisenstein series E_r of degree 3 of even weight r and its pullback formula which is explained later. For degree 3, the original Siegel Eisenstein series itself converges only for weight $r > 4$, but we can define holomorphic Eisenstein series E_r for even weight $r \geq 2$ by Hecke's trick by analytic continuation of the real analytic Eisenstein series. Here, when $r = 2$, then the analytically continued Eisenstein series vanishes identically (For these facts, see [Shim], [Haru] for example). On the other hand, because the sign in the functional equation is minus, the L -function, which is analytic at the central point $s = (k_1 + k_2 + k_3)/2 - 1$, must vanish there. (See [Sa], [Mi], [BSP]). So we may assume that r is an even integer with $r \geq 4$ and consider the critical values only for these.

We also assume the three weights of elliptic modular forms which define the triple L function to be in the so-called balanced case. That is, we assume that there exist non-negative integers ν_1, ν_2, ν_3 and $r \geq 2$ such that

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} k_1 &= r + \nu_2 + \nu_3, \\ k_2 &= r + \nu_3 + \nu_1, \\ k_3 &= r + \nu_1 + \nu_2. \end{aligned}$$

So we have

$$\begin{aligned} \nu_1 &= (k_2 + k_3 - k_1 - r)/2, \\ \nu_2 &= (k_3 + k_1 - k_2 - r)/2, \\ \nu_3 &= (k_1 + k_2 - k_3 - r)/2. \end{aligned}$$

The non-negativity of ν_i means that we are assuming that $k_1 < k_2 + k_3$ if $k_1 \geq k_2 \geq k_3$. Also this gives the upper bound $r \leq k_2 + k_3 - k_1$, which matches the bound of the critical points. If we take $k_1 \geq k_2 \geq k_3$, then $\nu_1 \leq \nu_2 \leq \nu_3$. These numbers determine the necessary differential operators which are used in the pullback formula of Eisenstein series of degree 3. In proving this formula we followed Böcherer and Schulze-Pillot, who looked at $r = 2$ (the central point) and level $N > 1$ in [BSP, Theorem 5.7], but also implicitly treated the other r in [BSP, (2.1),(2.41)]. By means of [IKPY, Proposition 4.5], we replaced their differential operators by those from [IZ], which are more amenable to computation.

Roughly speaking, the pullback formula in our case is explained as follows. We have a differential operator $\mathbb{D}_{r, \nu_1, \nu_2, \nu_3}$ which depends on r and ν_i , and which acts

on any Siegel modular form F of weight r on the Siegel upper half space H_3 of degree 3. The restriction of $\mathbb{D}_{r,\nu_1,\nu_2,\nu_3}F$ to the diagonal elements $H_1 \times H_1 \times H_1$ of H_3 gives the elliptic modular forms of weight k_1, k_2, k_3 respectively for the diagonal variables, where k_1, k_2, k_3 are determined by the above described relations. If we take $F = E_r$, then the diagonal restriction of $\mathbb{D}_{r,\nu_1,\nu_2,\nu_3}E_r$ is a linear combination of tensors of elliptic eigenforms of weights k_1, k_2 and k_3 . The critical L -value $L\left(\frac{k_1+k_2+k_3+r}{2} - 2, f \otimes g \otimes h\right)$, up to elementary factors and Petersson norms, appears in the coefficient of $f(z_1)g(z_2)h(z_3)$. See [IKPY, Theorem 4.8]. So the only problem is to write down the diagonal restriction of $\mathbb{D}_{r,\nu_1,\nu_2,\nu_3}E_r$ as a linear combination of such products. We need three things in order to calculate the explicit critical values. We fix weights k_1, k_2, k_3 and consider all integers $r \geq 4, \nu_i \geq 0$ such that (1) holds. Note again that the choice of r , hence E_r , determines which critical value we are looking at. Then we need

- (i) explicit Fourier coefficients of the Eisenstein series of degree three of weight r ;
- (ii) explicit differential operators $\mathbb{D}_{r,\nu_1,\nu_2,\nu_3}$;
- (iii) explicit elliptic modular forms.

For (i), a complete closed formula is known in [Ka]. For (ii), a complete explicit formula for such differential operators, taken from [IZ], immediately precedes [IKPY, Theorem 4.3], and (iii) is classical.

As examples, we write down below all the critical values for three forms of different weights belonging to $S_k(\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}))$ in the case that these spaces are one dimensional. For calculation, this condition is not necessary, but for the sake of simplicity, we assumed this here. This means that $k = 12, 16, 18, 20, 22$, or 26 , and here we assume that the three forms are different combinations of these. Other explicit examples of values, in cases where two weights are equal, sometimes norms of the values for forms in spaces of dimension greater than one, have been given in [IKPY]. There is no difference in the method of calculation. Note that here, since $k_1 > k_2 > k_3$, necessarily $r < k_3$, so only cusp forms appear on the right-hand-side of the pullback formula [IKPY, Theorem 4.8], and since additionally the spaces are 1-dimensional, there is only a single term.

Now since the normalization of the L functions might sometimes differ in different contexts, we give here the precise definition of the algebraic part of the L function we adopted. For elliptic modular forms f, g, h of weight k_1, k_2, k_3 with $k_3 \leq k_2 \leq k_1 < k_2 + k_3$ and for integers l with

$$\frac{k_1 + k_2 + k_3}{2} - 1 \leq l \leq k_2 + k_3 - 2$$

we define as in [IKPY] the algebraic part $L_{\mathrm{alg}}(l)$ of the triple L values $L(l)$ for f, g, h by

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\mathrm{alg}}(l, f \otimes g \otimes h) \\ = \frac{L(l, f \otimes g \otimes h) \Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(l) \Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(l - k_1 + 1) \Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(l - k_2 + 1) \Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(l - k_3 + 1)}{(f, f)(g, g)(h, h)}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\Gamma_{\mathbb{C}}(s) = 2(2\pi)^{-s} \Gamma(s)$ and $(f, f), (g, g), (h, h)$ are Petersson inner metric of the forms defined by the metric $y^{k-2} dx dy$ on the fundamental domain. In other words, we have

$$\frac{L(l, f \otimes g \otimes h)}{\pi^{4l+3-k_1-k_2-k_3} (f, f)(g, g)(h, h)} = \frac{2^{4l-1-k_1-k_2-k_3} L_{\mathrm{alg}}(l, f \otimes g \otimes h)}{(l-1)!(l-k_1)!(l-k_2)!(l-k_3)!}.$$

We examine an example of the ratio for different l in order to check that it is consistent with the calculation of Magma. We have

$$\frac{L(l_1, f \otimes g \otimes h)}{\pi^{4(l_1-l_2)} L(l_2, f \otimes g \otimes h)} = \frac{L_{\text{alg}}(l_1, f \otimes g \otimes h)}{L_{\text{alg}}(l_2, f \otimes g \otimes h)} \times \frac{2^{4(l_1-l_2)} \Gamma(l_2) \Gamma(l_2 - k_1 + 1) \Gamma(l_2 - k_2 + 1) \Gamma(l_2 - k_3 + 1)}{\Gamma(l_1) \Gamma(l_1 - k_1 + 1) \Gamma(l_1 - k_2 + 1) \Gamma(l_1 - k_3 + 1)}$$

For example, if $(k_1, k_2, k_3) = (20, 16, 12)$ and $l_1 = 26$ and $l_2 = 24$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{L(26, f \otimes g \otimes h)}{\pi^8 L(24, f \otimes g \otimes h)} &= \frac{2^8 \Gamma(24) \Gamma(5) \Gamma(9) \Gamma(13) L_{\text{alg}}(26, f \otimes g \otimes h)}{\Gamma(26) \Gamma(7) \Gamma(11) \Gamma(15) L_{\text{alg}}(24, f \otimes g \otimes h)} \\ &= \frac{2^2 \cdot L_{\text{alg}}(26, f \otimes g \otimes h)}{3^4 \cdot 5^4 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot L_{\text{alg}}(24, f \otimes g \otimes h)}. \end{aligned}$$

By our program, we have

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\text{alg}}(24, f \otimes g \otimes h) &= -2^{52} \cdot 7 \cdot 13^{-1} \cdot 17^{-1}, \\ L_{\text{alg}}(25, f \otimes g \otimes h) &= -2^{53} \cdot 3 \cdot 17^{-1}, \\ L_{\text{alg}}(26, f \otimes g \otimes h) &= -2^{54} \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 13^{-1} \cdot 17^{-1} \cdot 19, \end{aligned}$$

so for example we have

$$\frac{L(26, f \otimes g \otimes h)}{\pi^8 L(24, f \otimes g \otimes h)} = \frac{2^4 \cdot 19}{3^3 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 13}.$$

This coincides with the value produced by Magma.

We denote by f_k the normalized cusp form belonging to $S_k(\text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}))$ such that $\dim S_k(\text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})) = 1$. Then we have $f_{12} = q - 24q^2 + \dots$, $f_{16} = q + 216q^2 + \dots$, $f_{18} = q - 528q^2 + \dots$, $f_{20} = q + 456q^2 + \dots$, $f_{22} = q - 288q^2 + \dots$ and $f_{26} = q - 48q^2 + \dots$. These coefficients are needed for our calculation.

Now we give tables of critical values below.

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{12} \otimes f_{16} \otimes f_{18})$
4	23	$2^{45} \cdot 3 \cdot 5/13$
6	24	$2^{48} \cdot 3 \cdot 5/13$
8	25	$2^{47} \cdot 3^3$
10	26	$2^{52} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7/13$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{12} \otimes f_{16} \otimes f_{20})$
4	24	$2^{52} \cdot 7/(13 \cdot 17)$
6	25	$2^{53} \cdot 3/17$
8	26	$2^{54} \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 19/(13 \cdot 17)$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{12} \otimes f_{16} \otimes f_{22})$
4	25	$2^{51} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7/(5 \cdot 19)$
6	26	$2^{54} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7/(13 \cdot 19)$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{12} \otimes f_{16} \otimes f_{26})$
2	26	0

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{12} \otimes f_{18} \otimes f_{20})$
4	25	$2^{50} \cdot 5 \cdot 11 / (7 \cdot 17)$
6	26	$2^{53} \cdot 31 / (3 \cdot 17)$
8	27	$2^{52} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 / 17$
10	28	$2^{59} \cdot 3 \cdot 5^3 / (7 \cdot 17)$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{12} \otimes f_{18} \otimes f_{22})$
4	26	$2^{52} \cdot 11 / 19$
6	27	$2^{52} \cdot 3 \cdot 43 / 19$
8	28	$2^{56} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 / 19$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{12} \otimes f_{18} \otimes f_{26})$
4	28	$2^{61} \cdot 3 \cdot 5 / (7 \cdot 23)$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{12} \otimes f_{20} \otimes f_{22})$
4	27	$2^{55} \cdot 11 \cdot 13 / (3 \cdot 17 \cdot 19)$
6	28	$2^{58} \cdot 11^2 / (17 \cdot 19)$
8	29	$2^{57} \cdot 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 73 / (5 \cdot 19)$
10	30	$2^{62} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7^2 / (5 \cdot 19)$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{12} \otimes f_{20} \otimes f_{26})$
4	29	$2^{59} \cdot 13 / 23$
6	30	$2^{62} \cdot 3^3 / 23$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{12} \otimes f_{22} \otimes f_{26})$
4	30	$2^{65} \cdot 3 \cdot 13 / (5 \cdot 19 \cdot 23)$
6	31	$2^{63} \cdot 3 \cdot 13 / 23$
8	32	$2^{66} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 31 / (11 \cdot 23)$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{16} \otimes f_{18} \otimes f_{20})$
4	27	$2^{53} \cdot 5 \cdot 7 / (13 \cdot 17)$
6	28	$2^{60} \cdot 5 / (13 \cdot 17)$
8	29	$2^{54} \cdot 11 \cdot 719 / (13 \cdot 17)$
10	30	$2^{58} \cdot 7 \cdot 2297 / (13 \cdot 17)$
12	31	$2^{56} \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 23 / 17$
14	32	$2^{60} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 11 \cdot 19 / 17$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{16} \otimes f_{18} \otimes f_{22})$
4	28	$2^{57} \cdot 3 \cdot 5 / (13 \cdot 19)$
6	29	$2^{55} \cdot 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 53 / (13 \cdot 19)$
8	30	$2^{57} \cdot 3^4 \cdot 7 \cdot 61 / (5 \cdot 13 \cdot 19)$
10	31	$2^{57} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 283 / 19$
12	32	$2^{59} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{16} \otimes f_{18} \otimes f_{26})$
4	30	$2^{60} \cdot 3 \cdot 31 / (13 \cdot 23)$
6	31	$2^{60} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 / 23$
8	32	$2^{64} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 / 23$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{16} \otimes f_{20} \otimes f_{22})$
4	29	$2^{61} \cdot 7 \cdot 11 / (3 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 19)$
6	30	$2^{61} \cdot 7 \cdot 541 / (3 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19)$
8	31	$2^{59} \cdot 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 6619 / (13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19)$
10	32	$2^{63} \cdot 7 \cdot 31 \cdot 1511 / (13 \cdot 17 \cdot 19)$
12	33	$2^{61} \cdot 3 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 83 / (5 \cdot 19)$
14	34	$2^{65} \cdot 3^4 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11^3 / (5 \cdot 17)$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{16} \otimes f_{20} \otimes f_{26})$
4	31	$2^{62} \cdot 7 \cdot 11 / (17 \cdot 23)$
6	32	$2^{66} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11 / (13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23)$
8	33	$2^{63} \cdot 18911 / (11 \cdot 23)$
10	34	$2^{67} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 59 / (17 \cdot 23)$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{16} \otimes f_{22} \otimes f_{26})$
4	32	$2^{69} \cdot 7 / (5 \cdot 19 \cdot 23)$
6	33	$2^{65} \cdot 7 \cdot 113 / (19 \cdot 23)$
8	34	$2^{68} \cdot 3 \cdot 173 \cdot 479 / (5 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 23)$
10	35	$2^{68} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 1831 / (5 \cdot 23)$
12	36	$2^{70} \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 / 23$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{18} \otimes f_{20} \otimes f_{22})$
4	30	$2^{63} \cdot 3 / (17 \cdot 19)$
6	31	$2^{59} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 41 / (17 \cdot 19)$
8	32	$2^{60} \cdot 5 \cdot 89 \cdot 109 / (3 \cdot 17 \cdot 19)$
10	33	$2^{61} \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 13 / (3 \cdot 17)$
12	34	$2^{62} \cdot 11 \cdot 1237 \cdot 3617 / (5 \cdot 17 \cdot 19)$
14	35	$2^{63} \cdot 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 13^2 \cdot 53 \cdot 353 / (5 \cdot 19)$
16	36	$2^{68} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 / 19$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{18} \otimes f_{20} \otimes f_{26})$
4	32	$2^{63} \cdot 5 \cdot 97 / (7 \cdot 17 \cdot 23)$
6	33	$2^{64} \cdot 5 \cdot 601 / (3 \cdot 17 \cdot 23)$
8	34	$2^{65} \cdot 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 907 / (17 \cdot 23)$
10	35	$2^{65} \cdot 3 \cdot 13 \cdot 10061 / (7 \cdot 23)$
12	36	$2^{68} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 61 / 23$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{18} \otimes f_{22} \otimes f_{26})$
4	33	$2^{65} \cdot 5 \cdot 13 / (19 \cdot 23)$
6	34	$2^{68} \cdot 3^5 / (19 \cdot 23)$
8	35	$2^{66} \cdot 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 9839 / (5 \cdot 19 \cdot 23)$
10	36	$2^{68} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 29 \cdot 97 / 19$
12	37	$2^{68} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 223 / 23$
14	38	$2^{74} \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 7621 / (19 \cdot 23)$

r	critical points s	$L_{\text{alg}}(s, f_{20} \otimes f_{22} \otimes f_{26})$
4	34	$2^{70} \cdot 1091 / (3 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23)$
6	35	$2^{68} \cdot 3 \cdot 193 / (17 \cdot 19)$
8	36	$2^{71} \cdot 7 \cdot 37511 / (3 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23)$
10	37	$2^{70} \cdot 3 \cdot 7^4 \cdot 37 \cdot 43 / (17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23)$
12	38	$2^{74} \cdot 3 \cdot 98161517 / (5 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 \cdot 23)$
14	39	$2^{71} \cdot 13^2 \cdot 884069 / 23$
16	40	$2^{73} \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 5113 / 23$

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