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**CHARACTERS OF SUPERCUSPIDAL REPRESENTATIONS OF  
 $SL(n)$**

FIONA ANNE MURNAGHAN

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## CHARACTERS OF SUPERCUSPIDAL REPRESENTATIONS OF $SL(N)$

FIONA MURNAGHAN

Let  $\Theta_\pi$  be the character of an irreducible supercuspidal representation  $\pi$  of the special linear group  $SL_n(F)$ , where  $F$  is a  $p$ -adic field of characteristic zero and residual characteristic greater than  $n$ . In this paper, we investigate the existence of a regular elliptic adjoint orbit  $\mathcal{O}_\pi$  such that, up to a nonzero constant,  $\Theta_\pi$  (composed with the exponential map) coincides on a neighbourhood of zero with the Fourier transform of the invariant measure on  $\mathcal{O}_\pi$ . When such an orbit  $\mathcal{O}_\pi$  exists, the coefficients in the local expansion of  $\Theta_\pi$  as a linear combination of Fourier transforms of nilpotent adjoint orbits are given as multiples of values of the corresponding Shalika germs at  $\mathcal{O}_\pi$ . Let  $q$  be the order of the residue class field of  $F$ . If  $n$  and  $q - 1$  are relatively prime, we show that there is an elliptic orbit  $\mathcal{O}_\pi$  as above attached to every irreducible supercuspidal  $\pi$ . When  $n$  and  $q - 1$  have a common divisor, necessary and sufficient conditions for existence of an orbit  $\mathcal{O}_\pi$  are given in terms of the number of representations in the Langlands  $L$ -packet of  $\pi$ .

### 1. Introduction.

Let  $d(\pi)$  be the formal degree of  $\pi$ . Our aim is to determine the conditions under which there exists a regular elliptic element  $X_\pi$  in the Lie algebra of  $SL_n(F)$  such that

$$(1.1) \quad \Theta_\pi(\exp X) = d(\pi) \widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(X_\pi)}(X)$$

for all regular elements  $X$  in some neighbourhood of zero in the Lie algebra. Here  $\widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(X_\pi)}$  denotes the Fourier transform of the orbital integral associated to the  $\text{Ad } SL_n(F)$ -orbit  $\mathcal{O}_\pi = \mathcal{O}(X_\pi)$  of  $X_\pi$ . An  $\text{Ad } SL_n(F)$ -orbit  $\mathcal{O}$  is said to be nilpotent if it consists of nilpotent elements. Harish-Chandra ([HC2]) proved that there exist constants  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi)$  such that

$$\Theta_\pi(\exp X) = \sum_{\mathcal{O} \text{ nilpotent}} c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi) \widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}}(X),$$

for regular elements  $X$  in some neighbourhood of zero. If (1.1) holds, the coefficients in Harish-Chandra's expansion have the form

$$(1.2) \quad c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi) = d(\pi) \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(X_{\pi}), \quad \mathcal{O} \text{ nilpotent}$$

where  $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}$  is the Shalika germ associated to the orbit  $\mathcal{O}$ .

In an earlier paper ([Mu1]), under the assumption  $p > n$ , (1.1) and (1.2) were proved for all irreducible supercuspidal representations of  $GL_n(F)$ . As shown by Howe ([H]) and Moy ([Mo]), the equivalence classes of irreducible supercuspidal representations of  $GL_n(F)$  correspond bijectively with the conjugacy classes of admissible characters of multiplicative groups of degree  $n$  extensions of  $F$ . If  $\theta$  is such a character,  $\pi_{\theta}$  denotes an element of the corresponding equivalence class of representations. An irreducible supercuspidal representation of  $SL_n(F)$  is a component of the restriction  $\pi'_{\theta}$  of some  $\pi_{\theta}$  to  $SL_n(F)$ . Moy and Sally ([MS]) studied the decompositions of the representations  $\pi'_{\theta}$ .

Moy and Sally realized certain (not necessarily irreducible) components of  $\pi'_{\theta}$  as representations induced from finite-dimensional representations of open compact subgroups. The inducing data for one of these components  $\bar{\pi}$  is the restriction of the inducing data for  $\pi_{\theta}$  to  $SL_n(F)$ . If  $X_{\pi_{\theta}}$  is the element of the Lie algebra of  $GL_n(F)$  appearing in (1.1) for  $\pi = \pi_{\theta}$ , set

$$S_{\theta} = X_{\pi_{\theta}} - \frac{\text{tr}(X_{\pi_{\theta}})}{n} I_n,$$

where  $I_n$  is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix. §2 is devoted to proving (Proposition 2.6)

$$f_{\theta}(1)^{-1} \int_K f_{\theta}(k^{-1} \exp Xk) dk = \int_K \psi_0(\text{tr } S_{\theta} \text{ Ad } k^{-1}(X)) dk,$$

where  $f_{\theta}$  is a particular matrix coefficient of  $\bar{\pi}$ ,  $\psi_0$  is a nontrivial character of  $F$ ,  $K$  is a certain open compact subgroup, and  $X$  is any nilpotent element in the Lie algebra of  $SL_n(F)$ . Many results in §2 are proved by modifying similar results in §3 of [Mu1].

In Theorem 3.2, using Proposition 2.6 and results of Harish-Chandra, we show that (1.1) holds for  $\pi = \bar{\pi}^g$ ,  $g$  in  $GL_n(F)$ , with  $X_{\pi} = \text{Ad } g(S_{\theta})$ . It then follows that (1.2) also holds (Corollary 3.5). Necessary and sufficient conditions for the representations  $\bar{\pi}^g$  to be irreducible are determined in ([MS]). When these conditions are satisfied, the irreducible components of  $\pi'_{\theta}$  are all of the form  $\bar{\pi}^g$  ([MS]), and thus (1.1) and (1.2) hold. These irreducible components make up an L-packet of supercuspidal representations, and the associated  $X_{\pi}$ 's make up a set of representatives for the orbits within the

stable orbit of  $S_\theta$ . These results are summarized in Corollary 3.6. If  $n$  and  $q - 1$  are relatively prime (recall that  $q$  is the order of the residue class field of  $F$ ), the representations  $\bar{\pi}^g$  are irreducible for all admissible characters  $\theta$  ([MS]), and therefore (1.1) and (1.2) hold for all irreducible supercuspidal representations of  $SL_n(F)$ .

The case where  $\bar{\pi}$  is reducible is considered in §4. The irreducible components of  $\pi'_\theta$  still form an L-packet of supercuspidal representations, and we can associate the stable orbit of  $S_\theta$  to this L-packet. However, as proved in Theorem 4.5, if  $\pi$  is an element of the L-packet, (1.1) does not hold for any  $X_\pi$ . As shown in §3, appropriate direct sums of elements in the L-packet (that is, the representations  $\bar{\pi}^g$ ) satisfy (1.1) and (1.2) with  $X_\pi$  in the stable orbit of  $S_\theta$ .

Suppose  $n$  is prime. Although (1.1) may not hold, modulo determination of the values of the Shalika germs on the regular elliptic set, the coefficients  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi)$  appearing in the local character expansion of an irreducible supercuspidal representation are known for all nilpotent orbits  $\mathcal{O}$ . For details, see remarks at the end of §4. In this case, Assem([As]) has obtained explicit formulas for the functions  $\hat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}}$ .

Results of type (1.1) and (1.2) have also been proved for supercuspidal representations of the unramified  $3 \times 3$  unitary group ([Mu2]) and other classical groups ([Mu3]).

## 2. Preliminary results.

Let  $n \geq 2$  be an integer which is prime to the residual characteristic  $p$  of  $F$ . Let  $G = GL_n(F)$  and  $G' = SL_n(F)$ . To each admissible character  $\theta$  of a degree  $n$  extension of  $F$ , Howe ([H]) associated a finite-dimensional representation  $\kappa_\theta$  of an open, compact mod centre subgroup  $K_\theta$  of  $G$ . The induced representation  $\pi_\theta = \text{Ind}_{K_\theta}^G \kappa_\theta$  is irreducible and supercuspidal. In this way, Howe defined an injection from the set of conjugacy classes of admissible characters of degree  $n$  extensions of  $F$  into the set of equivalence classes of irreducible supercuspidal representations of  $G$ . Moy ([Mo]) showed that this map is a bijection. That is, every irreducible supercuspidal representation of  $G$  is equivalent to some  $\pi_\theta$ .

From this point onward, we assume that  $p$  is greater than  $n$ . The main result of this section, Proposition 2.6, is the analogue of Proposition 3.10 of [Mu1] for a certain (not necessarily irreducible) component of the restriction of  $\pi_\theta$  to  $G'$ .

Let  $E$  be a finite extension of  $F$  such that the degree of  $E$  over  $F$  is prime to  $p$ . We shall write  $O_E$  for the ring of integers in  $E$ ,  $\mathfrak{p}_E$  for the maximal prime ideal in  $O_E$ , and  $\varpi_E$  for a prime element in  $O_E$ . Let  $N_{E/F}$  and  $\text{tr}_{E/F}$

be the norm and trace maps from  $E$  to  $F$ .

Fix an additive character  $\psi_F$  of  $F$  having conductor  $\mathfrak{p}_F$ , that is,  $\psi_F|_{\mathfrak{p}_F} \equiv 1$  and  $\psi_F|_{O_F} \not\equiv 1$ . In later sections, Fourier transforms will be taken relative to the additive character  $\psi_0$  of  $F$  defined by  $\psi_0(x) = \psi_F(\varpi x)$ . Set  $\psi_E = \psi_F \circ \text{tr}_{E/F}$ .

If  $\theta : E^\times \rightarrow C^\times$  is a continuous quasi-character of  $E^\times$ , the conductoral exponent  $f_E(\theta)$  of  $\theta$  is the smallest non-negative integer  $i$  such that  $1 + \mathfrak{p}_E^i$  is contained in the kernel of  $\theta$ .

Let  $\theta$  be an admissible character ([H] or [Mo]) of the multiplicative group of a degree  $n$  extension  $E$  of  $F$ . In §3 of [Mu1], an element of  $E$  was associated to each such  $\theta$ . In this paper, we call that element  $X_\theta$ . For completeness, we restate the definition here.

**Lemma 2.1** ([H]). *There exists a unique tower of fields*

$$F = E_0 \subset E_1 \subset \cdots \subset E_r = E$$

and quasi-characters  $\chi, \phi_1, \dots, \phi_r$  of  $F^\times, E_1^\times, \dots, E_r^\times$  respectively, with  $\phi_s$  generic over  $E_{s-1}$  and such that

$$\theta = (\chi \circ N_{E/F})(\phi_1 \circ N_{E/E_1}) \cdots \phi_r.$$

The conductoral exponents are unique and satisfy

$$f_E(\phi_1 \circ N_{E/E_1}) > \cdots > f_E(\phi_r).$$

For the definition of generic, see [Mo], [MS] or [Mu1]. Set

$$\ell(s) = \left\lceil \frac{f_{E_s}(\phi_s) + n - 1}{n} \right\rceil, \quad 1 \leq s \leq r - 1.$$

Because  $p > n$ , the function  $x \mapsto \phi_s \left( \sum_{0 \leq m \leq n-1} x^m / m! \right)$  is a character of  $\mathfrak{p}_{E_s}^{\ell(s)}$ ,  $s = 1, \dots, r - 1$ . Thus there exists  $c_s \in E_s$  such that

$$\phi_s \left( \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} x^m / m! \right) = \psi_{E_s}(c_s x), \quad x \in \mathfrak{p}_{E_s}^{\ell(s)}.$$

If  $f_E(\phi_r) > 1$ ,  $c_r$  is defined as are  $c_1, \dots, c_{r-1}$ . If  $f_E(\phi_r) = 1$ ,  $c_r$  is taken to be a root of unity in  $O_E$  such that  $c_r + \mathfrak{p}_E$  generates  $O_E/\mathfrak{p}_E$  over  $O_{E_{r-1}}/\mathfrak{p}_{E_{r-1}}$ .  $c_s$  is not defined the same way as the element  $c_s$  of [MS], though it does satisfy the definition in [MS].  $X_\theta$  is given by

$$X_\theta = \varpi_F^{-1}(c_1 + \cdots + c_r).$$

**Lemma 2.2** ([Mu1], Lemma 3.4).  $E = F[X_\theta]$ .

Thus  $X_\theta$  is a regular elliptic element of  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

Let  $M_s = \text{End}_{E_s} E^+$ . For  $i \geq 0$ , set

$$\mathcal{A}_s^i = \left\{ X \in M_s \mid X \mathfrak{p}_E^j \subset \mathfrak{p}_E^{j+i} \ \forall j \right\}.$$

This definition is extended to all integers via  $\mathcal{A}_s^{e_s+i} = \varpi_{E_s} \mathcal{A}_s^i$ , where  $e_s$  is the ramification degree of  $E_s$  over  $F$ .  $\mathfrak{p}_E^0$  is understood to mean  $O_E$ .

Let  $j_s = f_E(\phi_s \circ N_{E/E_s})$ . If  $j_s > 1$ , set  $i_s = \lfloor j_s/2 \rfloor$  and  $m_s = \lfloor (j_s + 1)/2 \rfloor$ . If  $j_s = 1$ , set  $i_s = m_s = 1$ . Define

$$\widetilde{K}_\theta = \begin{cases} (1 + \mathcal{A}_{r-1}^{m_r})(1 + \mathcal{A}_{r-2}^{m_{r-1}}) \cdots (1 + \mathcal{A}_0^{m_1}), & \text{if } j_r > 1; \\ (\mathcal{A}_{r-1}^0)^\times (1 + \mathcal{A}_{r-2}^{m_{r-1}}) \cdots (1 + \mathcal{A}_0^{m_1}) & \text{if } j_r = 1. \end{cases}$$

$\overline{K}_\theta$  is defined similarly, except with  $i_s$  replacing  $m_s$ . In [Mu1], the notation  $K'_\theta$  was used instead of  $\overline{K}_\theta$ . However, in this paper,  $A'$  denotes  $A \cap G'$ , where  $A$  is a subset of  $G$ . The inducing subgroup for  $\pi_\theta$  is  $K_\theta = E^\times \overline{K}_\theta$ .  $K_E = (\mathcal{A}_0^0)^\times$  is an open compact subgroup of  $G$ . If  $C$  is an open subset of  $K'_E$  and  $\mathfrak{g}'$  is the Lie algebra of  $G'$ , set

$$\mathcal{I}(X, Y; C) = \int_C \psi_0(\text{tr}(X \text{Ad } k^{-1}(Y))) dk, \quad X, Y \in \mathfrak{g}.$$

Here,  $\text{tr}$  denotes trace. As in [Mu1], given  $X$  in  $\mathfrak{g}$  define

$$H_X = \left\{ k \in K_E \mid 1 + \text{Ad } k^{-1}(X) \in \widetilde{K}_\theta \right\}$$

$$H_X^0 = \left\{ k \in K_E \mid 1 + \text{Ad } k^{-1}(X) \in \overline{K}_\theta \right\}.$$

It is easily seen from our description of  $\mathcal{A}_0^1$  in §3 of [Mu1] that  $\det(1 + \mathcal{A}_0^1) \subset 1 + \mathfrak{p}_F$ . Because  $p$  does not divide  $n$  ( $p > n$ ), given  $x \in 1 + \mathfrak{p}_F$ , there exists a unique  $y \in 1 + \mathfrak{p}_F$  such that  $y^n = x$  ([Ha], p. 217). Given  $h \in 1 + \mathcal{A}_0^1$ , let  $d(h)$  be the scalar matrix  $y$  times the identity matrix, where  $y \in 1 + \mathfrak{p}_F$  is such that  $y^n = \det h^{-1}$ . Thus  $\det d(h) \det h = 1$ . Viewing  $\mathcal{A}_s^m$ ,  $m \geq 1$ , as a subset of  $\mathcal{A}_0^1$ , define

$$B_s^m = \{ d(h)h \mid h \in 1 + \mathcal{A}_s^m \}.$$

Let  $\mathcal{N}$  be the nilpotent subset of  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Since a nilpotent matrix has trace zero,  $\mathcal{N}$  is also the nilpotent subset of  $\mathfrak{g}'$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** Assume  $X \in \mathcal{N}$ .

(1) If  $j_r > 1$ , then  $\mathcal{I}(X_\theta, X; K'_E) = \mathcal{I}(X_\theta, X; H'_X)$ .

- (2) If  $j_r = 1$  and  $X \in \mathcal{A}_0^1$ , then  $\mathcal{I}(X_\theta, X; K'_E) = \mathcal{I}(X_\theta, X; H'_X)$ .
- (3) If  $j_r = 1$  and  $X \notin \mathcal{A}_0^1$ , then  $\mathcal{I}(X_\theta, X; K'_E) = \mathcal{I}(X_\theta, X; H_X^{0'})$ .

*Proof.* The proofs of Lemmas 3.7–9 of [Mu1] can be modified slightly to obtain a proof of this lemma.

First, assume that  $r = 1$ . In this case  $\widetilde{K}_\theta = 1 + \mathcal{A}_0^{m_1}$ .  $X \in \mathcal{A}_0^i - \mathcal{A}_0^{i+1}$  for some integer  $i$ . If  $i \geq m_1$ , then  $H'_X = K'_E$ . If  $j_1 = 1$  and  $i = 0$ , then  $H_X^{0'} = K'_E$ . Therefore, we assume that  $i < m_1$  if  $j_1 > 1$ , and  $i < 0$  if  $j_1 = 1$ . Since  $H'_X = \emptyset$  if  $j_1 > 1$ , and  $H_X^{0'} = \emptyset$  if  $j_1 = 1$ , we must show that  $\mathcal{I}(X_\theta, X; K'_E) = 0$ . Let  $\ell = [(j_1 - i + 1)/2]$ . At this point, in [Mu1], an extra integration over  $1 + \mathcal{A}_0^\ell$  was introduced. Since  $1 + \mathcal{A}_0^\ell$  is not a subset of  $K'_E$ , we introduce an integration over the subgroup  $B_0^\ell$  of  $K'_E$ .  $\mathcal{I}(X_\theta, X; K'_E)$  is a nonzero multiple of

$$\int_{K'_E} \int_{B_0^\ell} \psi_0 (\text{tr} (X_\theta \text{Ad}(kb)^{-1}(X))) \, db \, dk.$$

It suffices to show that the inner integral vanishes for all  $k \in K'_E$ . Given  $b \in B_0^\ell$ , write  $b = d(h)h$ ,  $h \in 1 + \mathcal{A}_0^\ell$ . Since  $d(h)$  is a scalar matrix,  $\text{Ad}(kb)^{-1}(X) = \text{Ad}(kh)^{-1}(X)$  for all  $k \in K'_E$ . Therefore, the inner integral equals

$$\int_{1+\mathcal{A}_0^\ell} \psi_0 (\text{tr} (X_\theta \text{Ad}(kh)^{-1}(X))) \, dh,$$

which, as shown in the proofs of Lemmas 3.7–9 of [Mu1], equals zero.

Assume  $r \geq 2$ . When  $i \geq 1$ , this case is argued as in the proof of Lemma 3.7 of [Mu1], except that the integrals over  $K_E$  and  $1 + \mathcal{A}_s^m$ , for appropriately chosen  $m$ , are replaced by integrals over  $K'_E$  and  $B_s^m$ . Since  $b \in B_s^m$  has the form  $d(h)h$  for some  $h \in 1 + \mathcal{A}_s^m$  and  $d(h)$  is scalar, the integral over  $B_s^m$  equals the integral over  $1 + \mathcal{A}_s^m$ , and thus has the vanishing properties required to prove the lemma. The proof for  $i \leq 0$  is obtained the same way as Lemmas 3.8 and 3.9 of [Mu1]. □

The next lemma will be used in the case  $j_r = 1$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $\bar{\psi}$  be a nontrivial character of a finite field  $\mathbf{F}$ . Let  $\bar{G} = GL_m(\mathbf{F})$  and  $\bar{G}' = SL_m(\mathbf{F})$ ,  $m \geq 2$ . Suppose that  $|\cdot|$  denotes cardinality, and  $\text{tr}$  is the trace map on the Lie algebra of  $\bar{G}$ . Let  $S$ , resp.  $X$ , be a regular elliptic, resp. arbitrary, element of the Lie algebra of  $\bar{G}$ . Then*

$$|\bar{G}|^{-1} \sum_{x \in \bar{G}} \bar{\psi}(\text{tr}(S \text{Ad } x^{-1}(X))) = |\bar{G}'|^{-1} \sum_{x \in \bar{G}'} \bar{\psi} (\text{tr} (S \text{Ad } x^{-1}(X))).$$

*Proof.* It suffices to show that

$$\sum_{x \in \bar{G}'} \bar{\psi} (\text{tr} (S \text{Ad} (xy)^{-1}(X)))$$

is independent of the choice of  $y \in \bar{G}$ .  $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{F}[S]$  is a degree  $m$  extension of  $\mathbf{F}$ . Since the norm map  $N_{\mathbf{E}/\mathbf{F}}$  from  $\mathbf{E}^\times$  to  $\mathbf{F}^\times$  is onto, there exists  $\alpha \in \mathbf{E}^\times$  such that  $N_{\mathbf{E}/\mathbf{F}}(\alpha) = \det y$ . Identifying  $\alpha$  with an element of  $\bar{G}$  which commutes with  $S$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\psi}(\operatorname{tr}(S \operatorname{Ad}(xy)^{-1}(X))) &= \bar{\psi}(\operatorname{tr}(\operatorname{Ad} \alpha(S) \operatorname{Ad}(\alpha y^{-1} x^{-1})(X))) \\ &= \bar{\psi}(\operatorname{tr}(S \operatorname{Ad}(\alpha y^{-1} x^{-1})(X))). \end{aligned}$$

Because  $\det(\alpha y^{-1}) = N_{\mathbf{E}/\mathbf{F}}(\alpha) \det y^{-1} = 1$ ,  $\alpha y^{-1}$  can be absorbed into the sum over  $x \in \bar{G}'$ . □

Suppose  $\pi_\theta = \operatorname{Ind}_{K_\theta}^G \kappa_\theta$ . Let  $\rho_\theta$  be the character of  $\kappa_\theta$ . Define  $f_\theta : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  by

$$f_\theta(x) = \begin{cases} \rho_\theta(x) & \text{if } x \in K_\theta, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The representation

$$\bar{\pi} = \operatorname{Ind}_{K'_\theta}^{G'}(\kappa_\theta|_{K'_\theta})$$

is a supercuspidal representation of  $G'$  and is a component of the restriction of  $\pi_\theta$  to  $G'$  ([MS]). The restriction of  $f_\theta$  to  $G'$  is a matrix coefficient of  $\bar{\pi}$ . Define

$$(2.5) \quad S_\theta = X_\theta - \frac{(\operatorname{tr}_{\mathbf{E}/\mathbf{F}} X_\theta)}{n} I_n,$$

where  $I_n$  is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix.

**Proposition 2.6.** *Let  $X \in \mathcal{N}$ . Then*

$$f_\theta(1)^{-1} \int_{K'_E} f_\theta(k^{-1} \exp Xk) dk = \mathcal{I}(S_\theta, X; K'_E).$$

*Proof.* Because  $\operatorname{tr} X = 0$ , and  $X_\theta$  and  $S_\theta$  differ by a scalar matrix,

$$\mathcal{I}(X_\theta, X; K'_E) = \mathcal{I}(S_\theta, X; K'_E).$$

Thus in the statement of the proposition  $S_\theta$  can be replaced by  $X_\theta$ .

The proof of this proposition is a slight modification of the proof of Proposition 3.10 of [Mu1].

The representation  $\kappa_\theta$  is a tensor product  $(\chi \circ \det) \otimes \kappa_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \kappa_r$ .  $\rho_s$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq r$ , denotes the character of  $\kappa_s$ .

As observed in [Mu1], if  $X \in \mathcal{N}$ , then

$$\exp X \in K_\theta \iff \exp X \in \bar{K}_\theta$$



Thus

$$f_\theta(1)^{-1} \int_{K'_E} f_\theta(k^{-1} \exp Xk) dk = \rho_\theta(1)^{-1} \int_{H_X^0} \rho_\theta(k^{-1} \exp Xk) dk.$$

Case 1: As shown in [Mu1], if  $X \in \mathcal{N}$ , then

$$\frac{\rho_\theta(\exp X)}{\rho_\theta(1)} = \begin{cases} \psi_0(\text{tr}(X_\theta X)), & \text{if } \exp X \in \widetilde{K}_\theta, \\ 0 & \text{if } \exp X \in \overline{K}_\theta - \widetilde{K}_\theta. \end{cases}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} f_\theta(1)^{-1} \int_{K'_E} f_\theta(k^{-1} \exp Xk) dk &= \int_{H'_X} \psi_0(\text{tr}(X_\theta \text{Ad } k^{-1}(X))) dk \\ &= \mathcal{I}(X_\theta, X; H'_X) = \mathcal{I}(X_\theta, X; K'_E). \end{aligned}$$

The last equality is Lemma 2.3(1).

Case 2:  $j_r = 1$ . The representations  $\kappa_s$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq r - 1$  and  $\kappa_r$  are considered separately.

A certain cuspidal representation of the finite general linear group

$$\left( \text{cal}A_{r-1}^0 \right)^* / 1 + \mathcal{A}_{r-1}^1$$

is used to produce the representation  $K_r$ . Lemma 2.4 shows that the Green functions attached to elliptic Cartan subgroups are the same the finite general linear and special linear groups. As shown in Proposition 3.10 of [Mu1], if  $x \in \mathcal{N}$  is such that  $\exp X \in \overline{K}_\theta$ , then

$$\frac{\rho_r(\exp X)}{\rho_r(1)} = \int_{(\text{cal}A_{r-1}^0)^*} \Psi_F(\text{tr}(c_r \text{Ad } h^{-1}(X))) dh.$$

By Lemma 2.4, we may replace  $\left( \text{cal}A_{r-1}^0 \right)^*$  with  $\left( \text{cal}A_{r-1}^0 \right)^* \cap G'$  in the above integral.

For  $1 \leq i \leq r - 1$ , define

$$K_s = (1 + \mathcal{A}_{r-1}^{i_r}) \cdots (1 + \mathcal{A}_s^{i_{s+1}}) \quad \text{and} \quad L_s = (1 + \mathcal{A}_{s-1}^{i_s}) \cdots (1 + \mathcal{A}_0^{i_1}).$$

Set  $L_0 = \{1\}$ . As was shown in [Mu1], if  $X \in \mathcal{N}$  is such that  $\exp X \in \overline{K}_\theta$ ,

$$\frac{\rho_s(\exp X)}{\rho_s(1)} = \begin{cases} \int_{1 + \mathcal{A}_{s-1}^{i_s}} \psi_F(\text{tr}(c_s \text{Ad } h^{-1}(X))) dh & \text{if } \exp X \in K_s(1 + \mathcal{A}_{s-1}^{m_s})L_{s-1} \cup (\overline{K}_\theta - K_sL_s), \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Arguing as in the proof of Lemma 2.3,

$$\int_{1+\mathcal{A}_{s-1}^{i_s}} \psi_F(\text{tr}(c_s \text{Ad } h^{-1}(X))) \, dh = \int_{B_{s-1}^{i_s}} \psi_F(\text{tr}(c_s \text{Ad } b^{-1}(X))) \, db.$$

Let  $X \in \mathcal{N}$ . If  $X \in \mathcal{A}_0^1$  and  $\exp X \in \overline{K}_\theta - \widetilde{K}_\theta$ , then  $\exp X \in K_s L_s - K_s(1 + \mathcal{A}_{s-1}^{m_s})L_{s-1}$  for some  $s$ , so  $\rho_s(\exp X) = 0$ . Thus  $\rho_\theta(\exp X) = 0$ . All remaining  $X \in \mathcal{N}$  such that  $\exp X \in K_\theta$  satisfy one of the following:

- (i)  $X \in \mathcal{A}_0^1$  and  $\exp X \in \widetilde{K}_\theta$
- (ii)  $X \in \mathcal{A}_0^0 - \mathcal{A}_0^1$  and  $\exp X \in \overline{K}_\theta$ .

For these  $X$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (2.7) \quad \frac{\rho_\theta(\exp X)}{\rho_\theta(1)} &= \left( \int_{((\mathcal{A}_{r-1}^0)^\times \cap G')} \psi_F(\text{tr}(c_r \text{Ad } h^{-1}(X))) \, dh \right) \\ &\quad \cdot \prod_{s=1}^{r-1} \int_{B_{s-1}^{i_s}} \psi_F(\text{tr}(c_s \text{Ad } b^{-1}(X))) \, db \\ &= \int_{L_\theta} \psi_0(\text{tr}(X_\theta \text{Ad } h^{-1}(X))) \, dh. \end{aligned}$$

To obtain the second equality argue as in [Mu1] (following equation (3.14)). Here

$$L_\theta = ((\mathcal{A}_{r-1}^0)^\times \cap G') \prod_{s=1}^{r-1} B_{s-1}^{i_s}$$

is a subgroup of  $K'_E$ . It follows from (2.7) that for  $X \in \mathcal{N} \cap \mathcal{A}_0^1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} f_\theta(1)^{-1} \int_{K'_E} f_\theta(k^{-1} \exp X k) \, dk &= \rho_\theta(1)^{-1} \int_{H'_X} \rho_\theta(k^{-1} \exp X k) \, dk \\ &= \int_{H'_X} \int_{L_\theta} \psi_0(\text{tr}(X_\theta \text{Ad}(kh)^{-1}(X))) \, dh \, dk \\ &= \mathcal{I}(X_\theta, X; H'_X). \end{aligned}$$

The last equality holds because  $H'_X$  is invariant under translation by  $L_\theta$ . A similar equality holds for  $X \in \mathcal{N} \cap (\mathcal{A}_0^0 - \mathcal{A}_0^1)$ , except with  $H_X$  replaced by  $H'_X$ . If  $X \in \mathcal{N}$  and  $X \notin \mathcal{A}_0^0$ , then  $f_\theta(k^{-1} \exp X k) = 0$  for all  $k \in K'_E$ , and  $H'_X = \emptyset$ . Apply Lemma 2.3(2) and (3) to complete the proof.  $\square$

**3. The character of  $\bar{\pi}$  as a Fourier transform.**

Let  $\theta$  be an admissible character of the multiplicative group of a degree  $n$  extension  $E$  of  $F$ . Define

$$G_E = E^\times G' = \{x \in G \mid \det x \in N_{E/F}(E^\times)\}.$$

As in §2,  $\bar{\pi}$  denotes the supercuspidal representation of  $G'$  defined by

$$\bar{\pi} = \text{Ind}_{K'_\theta}^{G'}(\kappa_\theta \mid K'_\theta).$$

Then ([MS])

$$(3.1) \quad \pi_\theta \mid G' = \bigoplus_{g \in G/G_E} \bar{\pi}^g,$$

where  $\bar{\pi}^g(x) = \bar{\pi}(g^{-1}xg)$ ,  $x \in G'$ ,  $g \in G$ . Two of the main results, Theorem 3.2 and Corollary 3.5, are proved for the representations  $\bar{\pi}^g$ ,  $g \in G/G_E$ . As a consequence (Corollary 3.6), (1.1) and (1.2) hold for the irreducible components of  $\pi_\theta \mid G'$  whenever there are exactly  $|F^\times/N_{E/F}(E^\times)|$  such components.

Given  $f$  in  $C_c^\infty(\mathfrak{g}')$ , the space of locally constant, compactly supported, complex-valued functions on  $\mathfrak{g}'$ , let  $\hat{f}$  be the function in  $C_c^\infty(\mathfrak{g}')$  defined by

$$\hat{f}(X) = \int_{\mathfrak{g}'} \psi_0(\text{tr}(XY))f(Y) dY.$$

The Haar measure  $dY$  on  $\mathfrak{g}'$  is assumed to be self-dual with respect to  $\hat{\phantom{x}}$ . Given  $X$  in  $\mathfrak{g}'$ ,  $\mathcal{O}(X)$  denotes the  $\text{Ad } G'$ -orbit of  $X$ . If  $\mu_{\mathcal{O}(X)}$  is the distribution given by integration over the orbit  $\mathcal{O}(X)$ , the Fourier transform  $\hat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(X)}$  is given by  $\hat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(X)}(f) = \mu_{\mathcal{O}(X)}(\hat{f})$ ,  $f$  in  $C_c^\infty(\mathfrak{g}')$ . Let  $\mathfrak{g}'_{reg}$  be the regular subset of  $\mathfrak{g}'$ . Recall ([HC2]) that  $\hat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(X)}$  can be realized as a locally integrable function (also called  $\hat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(X)}$ ) on  $\mathfrak{g}'$  which is locally constant on  $\mathfrak{g}'_{reg}$ . If a representative of an orbit  $\mathcal{O}$  is not specified, the notation  $\mu_{\mathcal{O}}$  and  $\hat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}}$  will be used for the corresponding orbital integral and its Fourier transform.

Fix a Haar measure  $dx$  on  $G'$ . If  $X$  is a regular elliptic element in  $\mathfrak{g}'$ , the measure on  $\mathcal{O}(X)$  is normalized to equal  $dx$ . Formal degrees of supercuspidal representations are computed relative to  $dx$ . Haar measure on any compact group is normalized so that the total volume of the group equals one.

Let  $\mathfrak{g}'^*$  be an open  $\text{Ad } G$ -invariant subset of  $\mathfrak{g}'$  containing zero such that  $\exp : \mathfrak{g}'^* \rightarrow G'$  is defined and  $\exp(\text{Ad } x(X)) = x \exp Xx^{-1}$  for  $x$  in  $G$  and  $X$  in  $\mathfrak{g}'^*$ . Fix an integer  $\ell \geq 1$  such that  $\mathfrak{g}(\mathfrak{p}^\ell) \subset \mathcal{A}_0^{j_1}$ . Choose an integer  $i$  large enough that, if  $V_\pi = \mathfrak{g}(\mathfrak{p}^i)'$ ,

$$(i) \quad V_\pi \subset \mathfrak{g}'^*,$$

(ii)  $i \geq \max \{ \ell, n(\ell + e(F/Q_p))/(p - n + 1) \}$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $S_\theta$  be as in (2.5). Then, if  $g \in G$  and  $X \in \text{Ad } g(V_\pi) \cap \mathfrak{g}'_{reg}$ ,*

$$\Theta_{\bar{\pi}^g}(\exp X) = d(\bar{\pi}^g) \widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(\text{Ad } g(S_\theta))}(X).$$

*Proof.* By definition of  $\bar{\pi}^g$ ,

$$\Theta_{\bar{\pi}^g}(x) = \Theta_{\bar{\pi}}(g^{-1}xg) \quad x \in G',$$

and  $d(\bar{\pi}^g) = d(\bar{\pi})$ . Also

$$\widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(\text{Ad } g(Y))}(X) = \widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(Y)}(\text{Ad } g^{-1}(X)), \quad X \in \mathfrak{g}'_{reg}, Y \in \mathfrak{g}'.$$

Therefore, it is sufficient to prove the theorem for  $g = 1$ .

Let  $K_0$  be any open compact subgroup of  $G'$ . As shown in Lemma 4.1(1) of [Mu1], Harish-Chandra's integral formula for  $\widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(S_\theta)}(X)$  ([HC2], Lemma 19) can be rewritten as:

(3.3)

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(S_\theta)}(X) &= \int_{G'} \int_{K_0} \left[ \int_{K'_E} \psi_0(\text{tr}(S_\theta \text{Ad}(kxh)^{-1}(X))) dh \right] dk dx \\ &= \int_{G'} \int_{K_0} \mathcal{I}(S_\theta, \text{Ad}(kx)^{-1}(X); K'_E) dk dx, \quad X \in \mathfrak{g}'_{reg}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $f_\theta|_{K'_E}$  is a matrix coefficient of  $\bar{\pi}$ , Harish-Chandra's integral formula for  $\Theta_{\bar{\pi}}$ , ([HC1, p. 60]), can be rewritten as ([Mu1], Lemma 4.1(2)):

$$(3.4) \quad \Theta_{\bar{\pi}}(\exp X) = \frac{d(\bar{\pi})}{f_\theta(1)} \int_{G'} \int_{K_0} \left[ \int_{K'_E} f_\theta((kxh)^{-1}(\exp X)kxh) dh \right] dk dx, \\ X \in \mathfrak{g}'^* \cap \mathfrak{g}'_{reg}.$$

Fix  $x \in G'$  and  $k \in K'_E$ . Then there exist  $Y \in \mathcal{N}$  and  $Z \in V_\pi$  such that  $\text{Ad}(kx)^{-1}(X) = Y + Z$ . This follows from (see Lemma 4.2 of [Mu1])

$$\text{Ad } x^{-1}(\mathfrak{g}(\mathfrak{p}^t)') \subset \mathcal{N} + \mathfrak{g}(\mathfrak{p}^t)', \quad x \in G', t \geq 1.$$

As shown in the proof of Theorem 4.3 of [Mu1],

$$f_\theta(h^{-1} \exp(Y + Z)h) = f_\theta(h^{-1}(\exp Y)h), \quad h \in K'_E.$$

It follows from  $\text{tr } \mathcal{A}_0^1 \subset \mathfrak{p}_F$  and  $\varpi_F \mathcal{A}_0^t = \mathcal{A}_0^{t+e}$ ,  $e = e(E/F)$ , that  $\text{tr } \mathcal{A}_0^m \subset \mathfrak{p}_F^{\lfloor (m-1)/e \rfloor + 1}$ . As a consequence of  $\varpi_F X_\theta \in \mathcal{A}_0^{-j_1+1}$  and  $Z \in \mathcal{A}_0^{j_1}$ , we have

$X_\theta Z \in \varpi_F^{-1} \mathcal{A}_0^1$ ,  $\text{tr}_{E/F} X_\theta = \text{tr} X_\theta \in \mathfrak{p}_F^{[-j_1/e]+1}$  and  $\text{tr} Z \in \mathfrak{p}_F^{[(j_1-1)/e]+1}$ . Therefore,

$$\psi_0(\text{tr}(S_\theta Z)) = \psi_0(\text{tr}(X_\theta Z))\psi_0(\text{tr}_{E/F} X_\theta \text{tr} Z)^{-1} = 1.$$

Thus

$$\psi_0(\text{tr}(S_\theta(Y + Z))) = \psi_0(\text{tr}(S_\theta Y)).$$

We can now apply Proposition 2.6 to the inner integrals in (3.3) and (3.4), completing the proof.  $\square$

Let  $(\mathcal{N})'$  be the set of nilpotent  $\text{Ad } G'$ -orbits in  $\mathfrak{g}'$ . Suppose  $\pi$  is an admissible representation of  $G'$  of finite length. If  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'$ ,  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi)$  denotes the coefficient of  $\widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}}$  in Harish-Chandra's local character expansion of  $\pi$  at the identity ([HC2]):

$$\Theta_\pi(\exp X) = \sum_{\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'} c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi) \widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}}(X),$$

for  $X \in \mathfrak{g}'_{reg}$  sufficiently close to zero. For  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'$ , let  $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}} : \mathfrak{g}'_{reg} \rightarrow R$  be the Shalika germ corresponding to  $\mathcal{O}$  ([HC2]).

**Corollary 3.5.** *Let  $g \in G$ . Then*

$$c_{\mathcal{O}}(\overline{\pi}^g) = d(\overline{\pi}^g) \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(\text{Ad } g(S_\theta)), \quad \mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'.$$

*Proof.* As follows from Lemma 21 of [HC2], there exists an open neighbourhood  $V$  of zero in  $\mathfrak{g}'$  such that:

$$\widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(\text{Ad } g(S_\theta))}(X) = \sum_{\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'} \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(\text{Ad } g(S_\theta)) \widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}}(X), \quad X \in V \cap \mathfrak{g}'_{reg}.$$

The corollary is now a consequence of Theorem 3.2 and the linear independence of the functions  $\widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}}$ ,  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'$  ([HC2]).  $\square$

An irreducible supercuspidal representation of  $G'$  is a component of  $\pi_\theta | G'$ , for some admissible character  $\theta$  of  $E^\times$ , where  $E$  is a degree  $n$  extension of  $F$  ([MS]). Each  $\pi_\theta$  decomposes with multiplicity one upon restriction to  $G'$  ([T]). An L-packet of supercuspidal representations of  $G'$  consists of the irreducible components of the restriction of an irreducible supercuspidal representation of  $G$  to  $G'$  ([GK]).

Suppose  $\theta$  is such that  $j_r = 1$ . Since  $\phi_r$  is a character of  $E^\times$  which is trivial on  $1 + \mathfrak{p}_E$ ,  $\phi_r$  may be viewed as a character  $\bar{\phi}_r$  of  $\mathbf{E}^\times$ , where  $\mathbf{E}$  is the residue class field of  $E$ . Let  $N_1$  be the kernel of the norm map from  $\mathbf{E}^\times$  to  $\mathbf{E}_{r-1}^\times$ . As in [MS], we define  $\bar{\phi}_r | N_1$  to be *regular* if the number of distinct

conjugates of  $\bar{\phi}_r | N_1$  under the action of the Galois group of  $\mathbf{E}$  over  $\mathbf{E}_{r-1}$  is equal to  $[\mathbf{E} : \mathbf{E}_{r-1}]$ .

**Corollary 3.6.** *Let  $\pi$  be an irreducible supercuspidal representation of  $G'$ . Choose  $\theta$  such that  $\pi$  is a component of  $\pi_\theta | G'$ . Suppose one of the following conditions holds:*

- (i)  $j_r > 1$ ,
- (ii)  $j_r = 1$  and  $\bar{\phi}_r | N_1$  is regular.

*Then there exists a regular elliptic  $X_\pi \in \mathfrak{g}'$  such that*

- (1)  $\Theta_\pi \circ \exp = d(\pi)\hat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(X_\pi)}$  on some open neighbourhood of zero intersected with  $\mathfrak{g}'^* \cap \mathfrak{g}'_{reg}$ ,
- (2)  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi) = d(\pi)\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(X_\pi)$ ,  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'$ ,
- (3) The L-packet of  $\pi$  is  $\{\pi^g | g \in G/G_E\}$ . (1) and (2) hold for  $\pi^g$  with  $X_{\pi^g} = \text{Ad } g(X_\pi)$ .

*Proof.* As proved in [MS], conditions (i) and (ii) are necessary and sufficient for each of the representations  $\bar{\pi}^g$ ,  $g \in G/G_E$ , to be irreducible. In that case (see (3.1)), the representations  $\bar{\pi}^g$  are the members of the L-packet of  $\pi$ , and (1), (2), and (3) are restatements of Theorem 3.2 and Corollary 3.5. □

**Remark 3.7.** Moy and Sally showed that if  $n$  and  $q - 1$  are relatively prime, then, whenever  $j_r = 1$ ,  $\bar{\phi}_r | N_1$  is regular ([MS], Cor. 3.15). Therefore, (1) and (2) hold for all irreducible supercuspidal representations of  $G'$  when  $n$  and  $q - 1$  are relatively prime.

Two elements  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  of  $\mathfrak{g}'$  are *stably conjugate* if there exists  $g$  in  $G$  such that  $X_2 = \text{Ad } g(X_1)$ . The *stable orbit*  $\mathcal{O}_{st}(X)$  of  $X$  in  $\mathfrak{g}'$  consists of the set of stable conjugates of  $X$ . Given  $\theta$ , since  $E = F[S_\theta]$  and  $S_\theta \in \mathfrak{g}'_{reg}$ ,

$$\mathcal{O}_{st}(S_\theta) = \cup_{g \in G/G_E} \mathcal{O}(\text{Ad } g(S_\theta)).$$

To the L-packet of supercuspidal representations of  $G'$  consisting of the components of  $\pi_\theta | G'$ , we associate the stable orbit  $\mathcal{O}_{st}(S_\theta)$ . Of course, the choice of  $\theta$  is not unique. However, as discussed in §4 of [MS], any two choices for theta must satisfy certain conjugacy conditions. Corollary 3.6 deals with those L-packets which contain  $|F^\times/N_{E/F}(E^\times)| = |G/G_E|$  representations. In this case, the representations in the L-packet correspond to the  $\text{Ad } G'$ -orbits in the associated stable orbit via Corollary 3.6(3). If an L-packet contains more than  $|F^\times/N_{E/F}(E^\times)|$  representations, we do not have such a correspondence. The elements if the L-packet are the irreducible components of the representations  $\bar{\pi}^g$ ,  $g$  in  $G/G_E$ . This case is discussed in more detail in the next section.

#### 4. The case $\bar{\pi}$ reducible.

Let  $\pi$  be an irreducible supercuspidal representation of  $G'$ . Choose an admissible character  $\theta$  such that  $\pi$  is a component of  $\pi_\theta | G'$ . Let  $E$  be the associated degree  $n$  extension of  $F$ . Define

$$G(\pi) = \{g \in G \mid \pi^g \sim \pi\}.$$

Here,  $\sim$  denotes equivalence of representations. Set  $\pi'_\theta = \pi_\theta | G'$ . By [T]

$$\pi'_\theta = \bigoplus_{g \in G/G(\pi)} \pi^g.$$

In this section, we assume that the L-packet of  $\pi$  contains more than  $|F^\times/N_{E/F}(E^\times)|$  representations. That is,

$$(4.1) \quad |G/G(\pi)| > |F^\times/N_{E/F}(E^\times)|.$$

This is equivalent to the representation  $\bar{\pi}$  being reducible ([MS]). The purpose of this section is to prove that  $\Theta_\pi \circ \exp$  is not a multiple of the Fourier transform of a semisimple orbit on any neighbourhood of zero (Theorem 4.5). In order for (4.1) to hold, it is necessary that  $n$  and  $q - 1$  have a nontrivial common divisor (see Remark 3.7).

Let  $X \in \mathfrak{g}'$ . We assume that the measures on the orbits in the stable orbit  $\mathcal{O}_{st}(X)$  of  $X$  are normalized so that

$$\mu_{\mathcal{O}(X)}(f^g) = \mu_{\text{Ad } g^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{O}(X)}(f), \quad f \in C_c^\infty(\mathfrak{g}'), \quad g \in G.$$

Here  $f^g(X) = f(\text{Ad } g^{-1}(X))$ ,  $X \in \mathfrak{g}'$ .

**Lemma 4.2.**  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi^g) = c_{\text{Ad } g^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{O}}(\pi)$ ,  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'$ ,  $g \in G$ .

*Proof.* The above compatibility conditions on the measures on  $\mathcal{O}$  and  $\text{Ad } g \cdot \mathcal{O}$ ,  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'$ , imply that

$$\widehat{\mu}_{\text{Ad } g \cdot \mathcal{O}}(X) = \widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}}(\text{Ad } g^{-1}(X)), \quad X \in \mathfrak{g}'_{reg}.$$

The lemma follows from a comparison of the local character expansions of  $\pi$  and  $\pi^g$  and the linear independence of the functions  $\widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}}$ ,  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'$ , on neighbourhoods of zero intersected with  $\mathfrak{g}'_{reg}$ .  $\square$

Given  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'$ , let  $\mathcal{O}_{st}$  be the stable orbit containing  $\mathcal{O}$ .  $\mathcal{O}_{st}$  is an  $\text{Ad } G$ -orbit in  $\mathfrak{g}'$ . Define a measure  $\mu_{\mathcal{O}_{st}}$  on  $\mathcal{O}_{st}$  by:

$$\mu_{\mathcal{O}_{st}} = \sum_{\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \subset \mathcal{O}_{st}} \mu_{\tilde{\mathcal{O}}}.$$

Lemma 4.2 holds for any smooth admissible representation of  $G'$  of finite length. Therefore, since  $(\pi'_\theta)^g \sim \pi'_\theta$  for all  $g$  in  $G$ , the coefficients  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi'_\theta)$  coincide for all orbits  $\mathcal{O}$  contained in a stable orbit  $\mathcal{O}_{st}$ . Let  $c_{\mathcal{O}_{st}}(\pi'_\theta)$  denote their common value. Then

$$\theta_{\pi_\theta}(\exp X) = \sum_{\mathcal{O}_{st} \subset \mathcal{N}} c_{\mathcal{O}_{st}}(\pi'_\theta) \widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}_{st}}(X),$$

for  $X$  in  $\mathfrak{g}'_{reg}$  sufficiently close to zero.

**Lemma 4.3.** *Choose  $g \in G$  such that  $\pi$  is a component of  $\overline{\pi}^g$ . Let  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'$ .*

(1) *If  $\text{Ad } g \cdot \mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}$  for all  $g \in G_E$ , then*

$$c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi) = d(\pi) \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(\text{Ad } g(S_\theta)).$$

(2) *If  $\text{Ad } g \cdot \mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}$  for all  $g \in G$ , that is,  $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_{st}$ , then*

$$c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi) = d(\pi) d(\pi'_\theta)^{-1} c_{\mathcal{O}_{st}}(\pi'_\theta).$$

*Proof.* (1) Since  $\pi'_\theta$  decomposes with multiplicity one,  $\overline{\pi}^g$  also decomposes with multiplicity one. Thus ([T])

$$\overline{\pi}^g = \bigoplus_{x \in G_E/G(\pi)} \pi^x.$$

Applying Corollary 3.5 and Lemma 4.2,

$$\begin{aligned} c_{\mathcal{O}}(\overline{\pi}^g) &= d(\overline{\pi}^g) \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(\text{Ad } g(S_\theta)) = \sum_{x \in G_E/G(\pi)} c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi^x) \\ &= \sum_{x \in G_E/G(\pi)} c_{\text{Ad } x^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{O}}(\pi) = |G_E/G(\pi)| c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi) \\ &= d(\pi)^{-1} d(\overline{\pi}^g) c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi), \end{aligned}$$

to obtain (1).

(2) Assume  $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_{st}$ . By linear independence of the Fourier transforms of nilpotent orbits, and Lemma 4.2,

$$\begin{aligned} c_{\mathcal{O}_{st}}(\pi'_\theta) &= \sum_{g \in G/G(\pi)} c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi^g) = \sum_{g \in G/G(\pi)} c_{\text{Ad } g^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{O}}(\pi) \\ &= |G/G(\pi)| c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi) = d(\pi'_\theta) d(\pi)^{-1} c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi). \end{aligned}$$

□

**Remark.** As (4.1) was not used in the proof, Lemma 4.3 holds for all irreducible supercuspidal representations of  $G'$ . In general there exist  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'$  which are stable under  $\text{Ad } G_E$ , but not under  $\text{Ad } G$ .



Let  $(\mathcal{N}_{reg})'$  denote the set of regular (maximal dimension) nilpotent  $\text{Ad } G'$ -orbits in  $\mathfrak{g}'$ . Define  $w(\pi)$  to be the number of orbits  $\mathcal{O}$  in  $(\mathcal{N}_{reg})'$  such that  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi)$  is nonzero.

**Lemma 4.4.** *The  $L$ -packet of  $\pi$  contains  $w(\pi)^{-1}|F^\times/(F^\times)^n|$  representations.*

*Proof.* Up to a positive constant depending on the normalization of the measure on  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N}_{reg})'$ ,  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi)$  equals the multiplicity with which some Whittaker model occurs in  $\pi$  ([**Ro**]). As shown in Remark 2.9 of [**T**], for each  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N}_{reg})'$ , there exists exactly one  $g \in G/G(\pi)$  such that  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi^g) \neq 0$ . The determinant map factors to an isomorphism between  $G/F^\times G'$  and  $F^\times/(F^\times)^n$  and  $(\mathcal{N}_{reg})'$  is the disjoint union of the orbits  $\text{Ad } g \cdot \mathcal{O}$ ,  $g \in G/F^\times G'$  ([**Re**]). Thus

$$\sum_{g \in G/G(\pi)} w(\pi^g) = |F^\times/(F^\times)^n|.$$

By Lemma 4.2,  $w(\pi^g) = w(\pi)$ . Therefore

$$w(\pi)|G/G(\pi)| = |F^\times/(F^\times)^n|.$$

□

**Theorem 4.5.** *Assume that (4.1) holds.  $d(\pi)^{-1}\Theta_\pi \circ \exp |V \cap \mathfrak{g}'_{reg}$  is not of the form  $\widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(X)} |V \cap \mathfrak{g}'_{reg}$ , for any  $X \in \mathfrak{g}'_{reg}$  and open neighbourhood  $V$  of zero in  $\mathfrak{g}'$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\Theta_\pi \circ \exp$  and  $\lambda \widehat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}(X)}$  coincide on  $V \cap \mathfrak{g}'_{reg}$  for some constant  $\lambda$  and neighbourhood  $V$ , where  $X \in \mathfrak{g}'_{reg}$ . Then

$$c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi) = \lambda \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(X), \quad \mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'.$$

(To see this, argue as in the proof of Corollary 3.5.) Since  $c_{\{0\}}(\pi) = d(\pi)\Gamma_{\{0\}}(X) \neq 0$ , ([**HC2**]),  $\lambda = d(\pi)$ . Also,  $X$  is elliptic, because  $\Gamma_{\{0\}}$  vanishes off the regular elliptic set ([**HC2**]). Let  $L$  be the degree  $n$  extension of  $F$  such that  $L^\times$  is isomorphic to the stabilizer of  $X$  in  $G$ .

By Theorem 6.3(i) of [**Re**], if  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N}_{reg})'$  and  $g \in G$ ,

$$\Gamma_{\text{Ad } g \cdot \mathcal{O}}(X) = \begin{cases} \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(X), & \text{if } \det g \in N_{L/F}(L^\times), \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Suppose  $\det g \in N_{L/F}(L^\times)$ . By Lemma 4.2,

$$c_{\text{Ad } g \cdot \mathcal{O}}(\pi) = d(\pi^g) \Gamma_{\text{Ad } g \cdot \mathcal{O}}(X) = d(\pi) \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(X) = c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi), \quad \mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N}_{reg})'.$$

Since there exists an  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N}_{reg})'$  such that  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi) \neq 0$  ([**T**]),  $w(\pi) = |N_{L/F}(L^\times)/(F^\times)^n|$ . Thus, given the relation between  $w(\pi)$ ,  $|G/G(\pi)|$  and  $|F^\times/(F^\times)^n|$  described in the proof of Lemma 4.4,

$$|G/G(\pi)| = |F^\times/N_{L/F}(L^\times)|.$$

For  $g$  such that  $\det g \in N_{L/F}(L^\times)$ , the relation

$$\begin{aligned} c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi^g) &= c_{\text{Ad } g^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{O}}(\pi) = d(\pi^g) \Gamma_{\text{Ad } g^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{O}}(X) = d(\pi) \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(X) \\ &= c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi), \quad \mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N}_{reg})', \end{aligned}$$

together with the fact that there is exactly one  $g \in G/G(\pi)$  such that  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi^g)$  is nonzero ([**T**]), implies that  $g \in G(\pi)$ . We can now conclude that

$$G(\pi) = \{g \in G \mid \det g \in N_{L/F}(L^\times)\}.$$

Choose  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N}_{reg})'$  such that  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi) \neq 0$ . Fix  $x \in G$  such that  $\pi$  is a component of  $\bar{\pi}^x$ . Then

$$\bar{\pi}^x = \bigoplus_{g \in G_E/G(\pi)} \pi^g.$$

$$c_{\mathcal{O}}(\bar{\pi}^x) = \sum_{g \in G_E/G(\pi)} c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi^g) = \sum_{g \in G_E/G(\pi)} d(\pi^g) \Gamma_{\text{Ad } g^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{O}}(X) = d(\pi) \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(X),$$

the final equality resulting from  $\Gamma_{\text{Ad } g^{-1} \cdot \mathcal{O}}(X) = 0$  whenever  $g \in G_E - G(\pi)$  (because  $\det g \notin N_{L/F}(L^\times)$ ). By Corollary 3.5,

$$c_{\mathcal{O}}(\bar{\pi}^x) = d(\bar{\pi}^x) \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(\text{Ad } x(S_\theta)).$$

Since  $d(\bar{\pi}^x) = |G_E/G(\pi)| d(\pi)$ ,

$$\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(X) = |N_{E/F}(E^\times)/N_{L/F}(L^\times)| \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(\text{Ad } x(S_\theta)).$$

Repka ([**Re**]) computed  $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}$  on the regular set in  $G'$ . Lifting the Shalika germs from the group to the Lie algebra, and substituting the values of  $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(X)$  and  $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(\text{Ad } x(S_\theta))$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (4.6) \quad &|N_{L/F}(O_L^\times)/(O_F^\times)^n| (q^{n/e_L} - 1) q^{n/(2e_L)} |\eta(X)|^{-1/2} \\ &= |N_{E/F}(E^\times)/N_{L/F}(L^\times)| |N_{E/F}(O_E^\times)/(O_F^\times)^n| \\ &\quad \cdot (q^{n/e_E} - 1) q^{n/(2e_E)} |\eta(\text{Ad } x(S_\theta))|^{-1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\eta : \mathfrak{g}_{reg} \rightarrow C$  is the discriminant function ([**HC2**]), and  $e_L$  and  $e_E$  are the ramification degrees of  $L$  and  $E$  over  $F$ , respectively.

$N_{L/F}(L^\times)$  is a subset of  $N_{E/F}(E^\times)$  ( $G(\pi) \subset G_E$ ). Since  $N_{L/F}(L^\times)$  contains an element of valuation  $n/e_L$  and the valuation of any element of  $N_{E/F}(E^\times)$  is a multiple of  $n/e_E$ ,  $e_L$  is a divisor of  $e_E$ . As a consequence,

$$N_{E/F}(O_E^\times) = (O_F^\times)^{e_E} \subset (O_F^\times)^{e_L} = N_{L/F}(O_L^\times) \subset N_{E/F}(O_E^\times),$$

so  $(O_F^\times)^{e_L} = (O_F^\times)^{e_E}$ . Thus

$$|N_{E/F}(E^\times)/N_{L/F}(L^\times)| = e_E/e_L.$$

Therefore (4.6) becomes

$$e_L (q^{n/e_L} - 1) q^{n/(2e_L)} |\eta(X)|^{1/2} = e_E (q^{n/e_E} - 1) q^{n/(2e_E)} |\eta(\text{Ad } x(S_\theta))|^{1/2}.$$

$q^{n/(2e_L)} |\eta(X)|^{1/2}$  and  $q^{n/(2e_E)} |\eta(\text{Ad } x(S_\theta))|^{1/2}$  are powers of  $q$ . Because  $q$  is a power of  $p$ ,  $p > n$ , and  $e_L$  and  $e_E$  divide  $n$ ,  $e_L$  and  $e_E$  are relatively prime to  $q$ . Therefore (4.6) implies

$$e_L (q^{n/e_L} - 1) = e_E (q^{n/e_E} - 1).$$

That is,

$$e_E/e_L = (q^{n/e_E} - 1)^{-1} (q^{n/e_L} - 1) = 1 + q^{n/e_E} + \dots + q^{n(e_E - e_L)/(e_E e_L)} > n,$$

which is impossible. □

**Remarks.** Suppose  $n = \ell$  is prime (not necessarily dividing  $q - 1$ ). Let  $\pi$  be any irreducible supercuspidal representation of  $G'$ .

(1) If  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})' - (\mathcal{N}_{reg})'$ , then  $\text{Ad } g \cdot \mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}$  for every  $g \in G$  ([Re]). Thus, by Lemma 4.3,

$$c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi) = d(\pi) \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(S_\theta) = d(\pi) d(\pi'_\theta)^{-1} c_{\mathcal{O}_{s_i}}(\pi'_\theta).$$

Lemma 4.3(2) was first observed by Assem([As]) in the case where  $\pi'_\theta$  has  $\ell$  irreducible components.

(2) The elements of an L-packet containing  $\ell$  representations correspond to  $G/G_E$  (Corollary 3.6), and, if  $\pi$  belongs to the L-packet,

$$c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi) = d(\pi) \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(\text{Ad } g(S_\theta)), \quad \mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N}_{reg})',$$

where  $g$  is a representative of the corresponding coset. If  $\ell$  divides  $q - 1$ , there exist L-packets containing  $\ell^2$  representations ([MS]). As noted in ([As]), the elements of such an L-packet correspond to the orbits in  $(\mathcal{N}_{reg})'$ , each  $\pi$  being identified with the unique  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N}_{reg})'$  such that  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi)$  is nonzero (up to a

constant depending on normalization of  $\mu_{\mathcal{O}}$  this nonzero coefficient equals one ([Ro]).

(3) Modulo determination of the values of Shalika germs, (1) and (2) combine to give the values of the coefficients  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi)$ ,  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'$ , for supercuspidal representations of  $SL_{\ell}(F)$ .

(4) The functions  $\hat{\mu}_{\mathcal{O}}$ ,  $\mathcal{O} \in (\mathcal{N})'$ , were computed by Assem ([As]). Thus, whenever the coefficients  $c_{\mathcal{O}}(\pi)$  are known, substitution of Assem's formulas into the local character expansion of  $\pi$  yields a formula for the character  $\Theta_{\pi}$  on a neighbourhood of the identity element.

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
TORONTO, CANADA, M5S 1A1



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University of California  
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1555  
christ@math.ucla.edu

Robert Finn  
Stanford University  
Stanford, CA 94305  
finn@gauss.stanford.edu

Martin Scharlemann  
University of California  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106  
mgscharl@math.ucsb.edu

Thomas Enright  
University of California  
San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92093  
tenright@ucsd.edu

Vaughan F. R. Jones  
University of California  
Berkeley, CA 94720  
vfr@math.berkeley.edu

Gang Tian  
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New York University  
New York, NY 10012-1100  
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Nicholas Ercolani  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, AZ 85721  
ercolani@math.arizona.edu

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Stanford University  
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