

# Images of $GL_2$ -type Galois representations

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# First Example of a Galois Representation

- $E/\mathbb{Q}$  elliptic curve
- $p$  a rational prime (fixed throughout talk)
- $G_{\mathbb{Q}} := \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$  acts on the group

$$E[p^n] = \{P \in E(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}) : p^n P = 0\} \cong (\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z})^2$$

- Get  $\rho_{E,p^n} : G_{\mathbb{Q}} \rightarrow \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z})$  that is unramified outside a finite set  $S$ , and for all  $\ell \notin S$

$$\text{tr } \rho_{E,p^n}(\text{Frob}_{\ell}) \equiv 1 + \ell - \#E(\mathbb{F}_{\ell}) \pmod{p^n}.$$

- Get  $\rho_{E,p^\infty} : G_{\mathbb{Q}} \rightarrow \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$  such that for all  $\ell \notin S$ ,

$$\text{tr } \rho_{E,p^\infty}(\text{Frob}_{\ell}) = 1 + \ell - \#E(\mathbb{F}_{\ell}).$$

# Sources of more Galois representations

$A$ : complete local noetherian pro- $p$  ring

$\rho : \Pi \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_2(A)$

Source	$\Pi$	$A$ finite over
classical eigenforms	$G_{\mathbb{Q}}$	$\mathbb{Z}_p$
$p$ -adic families of modular forms (Hida/Coleman families)	$G_{\mathbb{Q}}$	$\mathbb{Z}_p[[T]]$
Hilbert modular forms	$G_F,$ $F$ tot. real	$\mathbb{Z}_p$
$p$ -adic families of HMFs	$G_F$	$\mathbb{Z}_p[[T_1, \dots, T_n]]$
universal deformation	$\dim_{\mathbb{F}_p} \mathrm{Hom}(\Pi, \mathbb{F}_p)$ $< \infty$	???

# The Main Question

## Question

*If  $\rho : \Pi \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_2(A)$  is any of the above representations, what is the image of  $\rho$ ?*

## Heuristic

*The image of  $\rho : \Pi \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_2(A)$  should be as large as the symmetries of  $\rho$  allow.*

# What is a symmetry of $\rho$ ?

Henceforth, assume  $A$  is topologically generated by  $\text{tr}(\rho(\Pi))$  as a ring.

## Definition

A **conjugate self-twist (CST)** of  $\rho$  is a pair  $(\sigma, \eta_\sigma)$ , where  $\sigma \in \text{Aut } A$  and  $\eta_\sigma : \Pi \rightarrow A^\times$  is a group homomorphism such that

$$\sigma(\text{tr } \rho(g)) = \eta_\sigma(g) \text{tr } \rho(g)$$

for all  $g \in \Pi$ . If  $(\text{id}_A, \eta)$  is a CST with  $\eta \neq 1$ , then  $\rho$  is **dihedral**.

$$\Sigma_\rho = \{ \sigma \in \text{Aut } A : \exists \eta : \Pi \rightarrow A^\times, (\sigma, \eta) \text{ is a CST for } \rho \}$$

# A more precise expectation

## Definition

Let  $A_0$  be a ring and  $0 \neq \mathfrak{a}_0 \subset A_0$  an ideal.

$$\Gamma_{A_0}(\mathfrak{a}_0) := \{x \in \mathrm{SL}_2(A_0) : x \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{\mathfrak{a}_0}\}.$$

We say  $\rho$  is  $A_0$ -**full** if (up to conjugation)  $\mathrm{Im} \rho \supseteq \Gamma_{A_0}(\mathfrak{a}_0)$  for some  $\mathfrak{a}_0 \neq 0$ .

## Heuristic

*Let  $\rho : \Pi \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_2(A)$  be irreducible, non-dihedral, and assume  $\mathrm{Im} \rho$  is not finite. Then  $\rho$  should be  $A^{\Sigma_\rho}$ -full.*

# An Example

- $f = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n q^n = q + \sqrt{44}q^2 + 3\sqrt{44}q^3 + 12q^4 + 132q^6 - 9\sqrt{44}q^7 - 20\sqrt{44}q^8 + 153q^9 + 252q^{11} + \dots \in S_6(25)$
- Note that

$$a_n \in \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & n \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{5} \text{ (squares)} \\ \sqrt{44}\mathbb{Z} & n \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{5} \text{ (non-squares)} \\ \{0\} & n \equiv 0 \pmod{5}. \end{cases}$$

- Taking (e.g.)  $p = 11$ , let  $\sigma : \sqrt{44} \mapsto -\sqrt{44}$  and  $\eta_\sigma = \left(\frac{\cdot}{5}\right)$ .
- $(\sigma, \eta_\sigma)$  is a CST for  $\rho_{f,11}$ : for all primes  $\ell \nmid 55$  have

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(\operatorname{tr} \rho_{f,11}(\operatorname{Frob}_\ell)) &= \sigma(a_\ell) = \eta_\sigma(\operatorname{Frob}_\ell) a_\ell \\ &= \eta_\sigma(\operatorname{Frob}_\ell) \operatorname{tr} \rho_{f,11}(\operatorname{Frob}_\ell). \end{aligned}$$

# Why is $A^{\Sigma_\rho}$ optimal? The Example Continued.

- Letting  $\rho = \rho_{f,11}$ :

$$\sigma(\mathrm{tr}\rho(g)) = \eta_\sigma(g) \mathrm{tr}\rho(g)$$

$\implies \mathrm{tr}\rho(g)$  is an eigenvector for the  $\mathbb{Q}_{11}$ -linear map  $\sigma$

$$\implies \mathrm{tr}\rho(g) \in \mathbb{Q}_{11} \cup \sqrt{44}\mathbb{Q}_{11}$$

- If  $\Gamma_{\mathbb{Z}_{11}[\sqrt{11}]}(\mathfrak{a}) \subset \mathrm{Im}\rho$  for some  $0 \neq \mathfrak{a} \subset \mathbb{Z}_{11}[\sqrt{11}]$ -ideal then

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1+a & b \\ c & 1+d \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{Im}\rho$$

for all  $a, b, c, d \in \mathfrak{a}$  such that  $a + d + ad - bc = 0$ .

- The Problem:  $2 + a + d = \mathrm{tr}\begin{pmatrix} 1+a & b \\ c & 1+d \end{pmatrix}$  doesn't stay in  $\mathbb{Q}_{11} \cup \sqrt{44}\mathbb{Q}_{11}$  as  $a, d$  run over  $\mathfrak{a}$ .



$\rho : \Pi \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_2(A)$  irreducible, non-dihedral, infinite image arising from “Source” below

Source	Who proved $\rho$ is $A^{\Sigma_\rho}$ -full	Year
elliptic curves	Serre	1968
classical eigenforms	Ribet, Momose	1981
Hilbert modular forms	Nekovar	2012
Hida families	L.*	2016
Coleman families	Conti-Iovita-Tilouine*	2016

\* = when  $\bar{\rho} : \Pi \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_2(A/\mathfrak{m}_A)$  is absolutely irreducible and satisfies a mild regularity condition and  $p \neq 2$

# The beginning of everything...

COLLÈGE  
DE  
FRANCE  
—  
CHAIRE  
D'ALGÈBRE ET GÉOMÉTRIE

Paris, le ? July 1963

dear Tate,

Here is a result which may interest you:

Th. Let  $A$  be an elliptic curve defined over an algebraic number field, let  $p$  be a prime, and let  $g_p$  be the Lie algebra ( $\subset g_A$ ) of the Galois group of the  $p^d$ -th division pts of  $A$ . Assume the modular invariant  $j$  of  $A$  is not an algebraic integer. Then  $g_p = g_A$ .

This makes useless almost all the computations I had made on curves of the type  $y^2 = x^2 + Ax + B$ , because most of them have a non integral  $j$ . Still, a few

$s : \mathbb{F}^\times \rightarrow A^\times$  Teichmuller lift

## Definition

We say that  $\rho$  has **constant determinant** if  $\det \rho = s(\det \bar{\rho})$ , where  $\bar{\rho} : \Pi \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{F})$  is the mod  $\mathfrak{m}_A$ -reduction of  $\rho$ .

## Definition

Say  $\bar{\rho}$  is **regular** if  $\exists \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_0 & 0 \\ 0 & \mu_0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathrm{Im} \bar{\rho}$  such that  $\pm 1 \neq \lambda_0 \mu_0^{-1} \in \mathbb{F}^{\Sigma_{\bar{\rho}}}$ .

## Theorem (Conti-L.-Medvedovsky, 2018)

*Assume  $\bar{\rho}$  is regular and  $\rho$  has constant determinant of 2-power order. If  $A$  is a domain with  $p \neq 2$  and  $\rho$  is irreducible, non-dihedral, and  $\mathrm{Im} \rho$  is not finite, then  $\rho$  is  $A^{\Sigma_\rho}$ -full.*

## Theorem (Conti-L.-Medvedovsky, 2018)

*Assume  $\bar{\rho}$  is regular and  $\rho$  has constant determinant of 2-power order. If  $A$  is a domain with  $p \neq 2$  and  $\rho$  is irreducible, non-dihedral, and  $\text{Im } \rho$  is not finite, then  $\rho$  is  $A^{\Sigma\rho}$ -full.*

- The constant determinant condition can always be achieved by twisting away the pro- $p$  part of the determinant. Furthermore, one can deduce fullness results for the original representation from the twisted representation.
- Our work was inspired by work of Bellaïche. His work showed that  $\rho$  as in the theorem was  $A_0$ -full for a fairly mysterious ring  $A_0$ . The point of our work is to improve his  $A_0$  and interpret this improved version in terms of conjugate self-twists of  $\rho$ , thus obtaining an optimality result.

Thank you!