

CLASSICAL ROOTS OF INTER-UNIVERSAL TEICHMÜLLER THEORY

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“Travel and Lectures”

- §1. Isogeny invariance of heights of elliptic curves
- §2. Crystals and Hodge filtrations
- §3. Complex Teichmüller theory
- §4. Theta function on the upper half-plane

Overview

Analogy with étale cohomology, Weil conjectures

↔ classical singular (co)homology of topological spaces

- Isogeny invariance of heights of elliptic curves (Faltings, 1983)
- Crystals and Hodge filtrations (Grothendieck, late 1960's)
- Complex Teichmüller theory (Teichmüller, 1930's)
- Theta function on the upper half-plane (Jacobi, 19-th century)

§1. **Isogeny invariance of heights of elliptic curves**

(cf. [Alien], §2.3, §2.4)

We consider **elliptic curves**.

For l a prime number, the module of **l -torsion points** associated to a **Tate curve** $E \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{G}_m/q^{\mathbb{Z}}$ — over, say, \mathbb{C} or a p -adic field — fits into a natural exact sequence:

$$0 \longrightarrow \boldsymbol{\mu}_l \longrightarrow E[l] \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/l\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow 0.$$

Thus, one has **canonical** objects as follows:

a “**multiplicative subspace**” $\boldsymbol{\mu}_l \subseteq E[l]$ and “**generators**” $\pm 1 \in \mathbb{Z}/l\mathbb{Z}$.

In the following, we fix an **elliptic curve** E over a **number field** F and a **prime number** $l \geq 5$ such that E has **stable reduction** at all finite places of F .

Then, in general, $E[l]$ does **not** admit

a **global “multiplicative subspace”** and **“generators”**

that coincide with the above canonical “multiplicative subspace” and “generators” at **all finite places** where E has **bad multiplicative reduction!**

Nevertheless, **suppose** (!!) that such global objects do in fact exist.

Then, if we denote by

$$E \rightarrow E^*$$

the **isogeny** obtained by forming the **quotient** of E by the

“global multiplicative subspace”,

then, at each finite prime of bad multiplicative reduction, the respective q -parameters satisfy the following relation:

$$q_E^l = q_{E^*}.$$

If we write $\log(q_E)$, $\log(q_{E^*})$ for the **arithmetic degrees** $\in \mathbb{R}$ determined by these q -parameters, then the above relation takes on the following form:

$$l \cdot \log(q_E) = \log(q_{E^*}) \in \mathbb{R}.$$

On the other hand, if we consider the respective **heights** of the elliptic curves by $\text{ht}_E, \text{ht}_{E^*} \in \mathbb{R}$ — i.e, roughly speaking, **arithmetic degrees** of arithmetic line bundles on F

$$\omega_E^{\otimes 2}, \quad \omega_{E^*}^{\otimes 2}$$

associated to the sheaves of square **differentials** — then we may conclude — cf. the **discriminant mod. form**, regarded as a section of the **ample line bundle** “ $\omega_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\text{ell}}}^{\otimes 12}$ ” on the **compactified moduli stack** $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\text{ell}}$ of elliptic curves! — that

$$\text{ht}_{(-)} \approx \frac{1}{6} \cdot \log(q_{(-)})$$

(where “ \approx ” means “up to a discrepancy bounded by a constant”).

Moreover, by the famous computation concerning differentials due to Faltings (1983), one knows that:

$$\text{ht}_{E^*} \approx \text{ht}_E + \log(l).$$

Thus, (*by ignoring certain subtleties at archimedean places of F*) we conclude that

$$l \cdot \text{ht}_E \lesssim \text{ht}_E + \log(l), \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad \text{ht}_E \lesssim \frac{1}{l-1} \cdot \log(l) \lesssim \text{constant}$$

— that is to say, that the height ht_E of the elliptic curve E can be **bounded from above**, and hence (under suitable hypotheses) that there are only **finitely many** isomorphism classes of elliptic curves E that admit a “global multiplicative subspace”.

Key point:

Consider **distinct elliptic curves** E, E^* such that $q_E^l = q_{E^*}$ (!), but which (up to negligible discrepancies) **share** — i.e., “ \wedge ”! — a **common** $\omega_E \approx \omega_{E^*}$.

One way to understand IUT, esp. Hodge theaters of [IUTchI]:

Apparatus to **generalize** the above argument — by focusing on the above **key point!** — to the case of **general elliptic curves** for which “global multiplicative subspaces”, etc. do not necessarily exist.

§2. Crystals and Hodge filtrations

(cf. [Alien], §3.1, (iv), (v))

Let X : a smooth, proper, connected *algebraic curve* over \mathbb{C} ,
 \mathcal{E} : a *vector bundle* on X .

Consider the *two projections*: $X \xleftarrow{p_1} X \times X \xrightarrow{p_2} X$

Then in general, there exists a vector bundle \mathcal{F} on $X \times X$ such that

$$\left(\mathcal{F} \cong p_1^* \mathcal{E} \right) \quad \vee \quad \left(\mathcal{F} \cong p_2^* \mathcal{E} \right),$$

but there does **not exist** a vector bundle \mathcal{F} on $X \times X$ such that

$$\left(\mathcal{F} \cong p_1^* \mathcal{E} \right) \quad \wedge \quad \left(\mathcal{F} \cong p_2^* \mathcal{E} \right)$$

(which would imply that \mathcal{E} is **trivial!**).

Consider the **first infinitesimal neighborhood** of the **diagonal**

$$X = V(\mathcal{I}) \hookrightarrow X \times X,$$

i.e., $X_{\text{inf}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} V(\mathcal{I}^2) \subseteq X \times X$:

*“moduli space of pairs of points of X (cf. $X \times X!$) that are **infinitesimally close** to one another”.*

Grothendieck definition of a **connection** on \mathcal{E} :

$$p_1^* \mathcal{E}|_{X_{\text{inf}}} \xrightarrow{\sim} p_2^* \mathcal{E}|_{X_{\text{inf}}},$$

i.e.,

“isomorphism between the fibers of \mathcal{E} at pairs of points of X (cf. $p_1^ \mathcal{E} \xrightarrow{\sim} p_2^* \mathcal{E}$ on $X \times X!$) that are **infinitesimally close** to one another”.*

In general, \mathcal{E} does **not** admit a connection. The **obstruction** to the existence of a connection (cf. Weil!) on $\det(\mathcal{E})$ is a cohomology class in

$$H^1(X, \omega_X),$$

which is in fact equal to the **first Chern class** of \mathcal{E} , i.e., from the point of view of de Rham cohomology, the **degree** of \mathcal{E} :

$$\deg(\mathcal{E}) \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Thus, if \mathcal{E} is a *line bundle*, then

$$\mathcal{E} \text{ admits a connection} \iff \deg(\mathcal{E}) = 0.$$

There also exists a *logarithmic version* of this discussion: by considering *logarithmic poles* at a finite number of points of $X(\mathbb{C})$.

Suppose that X is equipped with a *log structure* determined by a finite set of r_X points of $X(\mathbb{C})$. Write X^{\log} for the resulting *log scheme*, $U \subseteq X$ for the *interior* of X^{\log} .

Consider a (compactified) **family of elliptic curves**

$$f : E \rightarrow X$$

(i.e., a family of one-dimensional semi-abelian schemes over X with proper fibers over $U \subseteq X$). Then the **relative first de Rham cohom. module** of this family determines a *rank two vector bundle* on X

$$\mathcal{E} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{R}^1 f_{\text{DR},*} \mathcal{O}_E$$

equipped with: **Gauss-Manin (logarithmic!) connection** $\nabla_{\mathcal{E}}$ and
 a rank one **Hodge subbundle** $\omega_E \subseteq \mathcal{E}$ s.t. $\omega_E \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} (\mathcal{E}/\omega_E) \cong \mathcal{O}_X$
 (cf. the bundle $\omega_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\text{ell}}}$ of §1!).

Note: ω_E does **not** admit a connection, i.e., in general, $p_1^*\omega_E|_{X_{\text{inf}}}$ is **not isom.** to $p_2^*\omega_E|_{X_{\text{inf}}}$! But one can **measure** the extent to which ω_E **fails** to admit a connection by means of $\nabla_{\mathcal{E}}$, i.e., by considering the (*generically nonzero*, \mathcal{O}_X -linear!) composite morphism:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \omega_E & \hookrightarrow & \mathcal{E} \\ & & \downarrow \nabla_{\mathcal{E}} \\ & & \mathcal{E} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \omega_X^{\text{log}} \twoheadrightarrow \omega_E^{-1} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \omega_X^{\text{log}}. \end{array}$$

The resulting **Kodaira-Spencer morphism**

$$\kappa_E : \omega_E^{\otimes 2} \hookrightarrow \omega_X^{\text{log}},$$

yields a **bound** (“geometric Szpiro”) on the **height** $\deg(\omega_E^{\otimes 2})$ of $f : E \rightarrow X$ (cf. §1!):

$$\deg(\omega_E^{\otimes 2}) \leq \deg(\omega_X^{\text{log}}) = 2g_X - 2 + r_X.$$

Key point:

$p_1^* \mathcal{E} \cong p_2^* \mathcal{E}$ serves as a **common** — i.e., “ \wedge ”! — **container**
 (cf. the *common* “ $\omega_E \approx \omega_{E^*}$ ” of §1!) that is

- **sufficiently large** to house both $p_1^* \omega_E \hookrightarrow p_1^* \mathcal{E}$ and $p_2^* \omega_E \hookrightarrow p_2^* \mathcal{E}$, but
- **sufficiently small** to yield a **nontrivial estimate** on the **height** of the family of elliptic curves $f : E \rightarrow X$ under consideration.

One way to understand IUT, esp. multiradial rep. of [IUTchIII]:

Construction — by means of

- **absolute anabelian geometry** and
- the theory of the **étale theta function**

— of a **common container** that is

- **sufficiently large** to house the **incompatible ring structures** on either side of the gluing constituted by the **theta link** $q_E^N \mapsto q_E$, but
- **sufficiently small** to yield **nontrivial estimate** on the **height** of the elliptic curve over a number field under consideration.

§3. **Complex Teichmüller theory**

(cf. [Pano], §2; [Alien], §3.3, (ii))

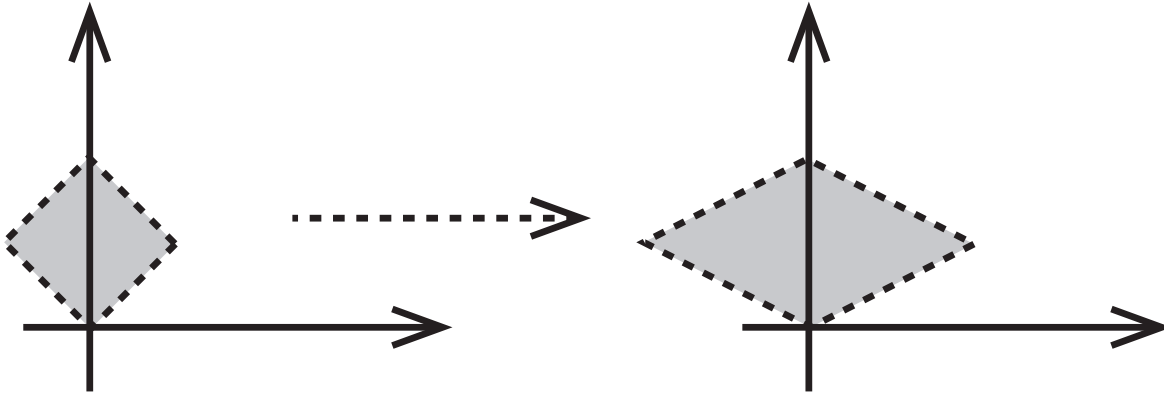
Relative to a *canonical coordinate* $z = x + iy$ — assoc'd to a *square differential* — on a Riemann surface, **Teichmüller deformations** given by

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{hol. str.} & & \text{hol. str.} \\
 \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowright \\
 \mathbb{C} \ni z \mapsto \zeta = \xi + i\eta = \lambda x + iy & & \in \mathbb{C}
 \end{array}$$

— where $1 < \lambda < \infty$ is the **dilation** factor.

Key points:

- **non-hol.** map, but **common real analytic str.** — i.e., “ \wedge ”!
- **one** hol. dim., but **two** underlying real dims., of which **one** is **dilated/deformed**, while the **other** is left **fixed/undeformed!**

Classical complex Teichmüller deformation:

Recall: the **upper half-plane** \mathfrak{H} ($\xrightarrow{\sim}$ **open unit disk** \mathfrak{D}) may be regarded as the **moduli space of hol. strs.** on \mathbb{R}^2 — cf. the **bijection**:

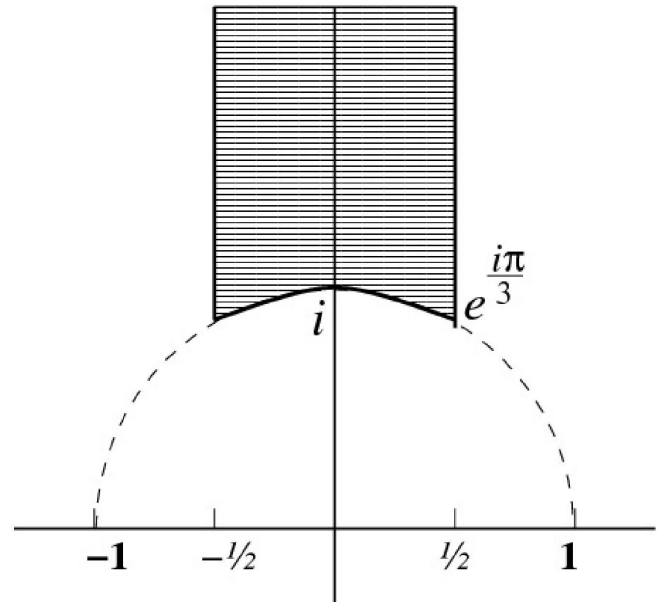
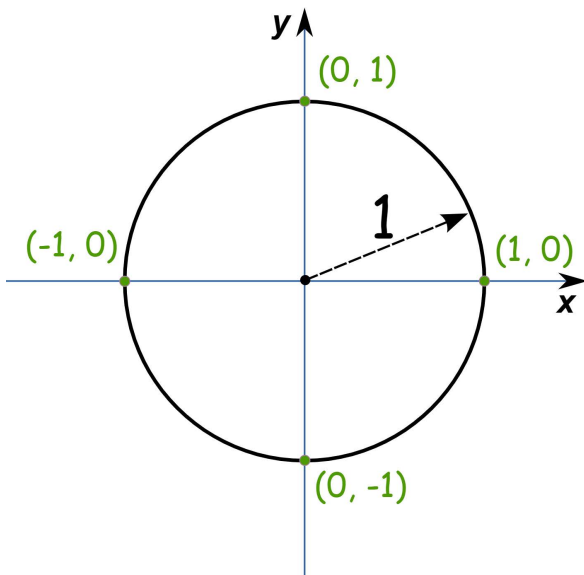
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{hol. str.} & & \text{hol. str.} \\
 \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowright \\
 \mathbb{C}^\times \backslash GL^+(\mathbb{R}) / \mathbb{C}^\times & \xrightarrow{\sim} & [0, 1) \\
 \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & \mapsto & \frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda+1}
 \end{array}$$

— where

- $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}$, and we regard $\begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ as a **dilation**;
- $GL^+(\mathbb{R})$ denotes the group of 2×2 real matrices with determinant > 0 ;
- \mathbb{C}^\times denotes the multiplicative group of \mathbb{C} , which we regard as a subgroup of $GL^+(\mathbb{R})$ via $a + ib \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix}$, for $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $(a, b) \neq (0, 0)$.

Relative to $GL^+(\mathbb{R}) \curvearrowright \mathfrak{H}$ by linear fractional transformations, \mathbb{C}^\times is the **stabilizer** of $i \in \mathfrak{H}$, so the above **bijection** just states that any $w \in \mathfrak{D}$ may be mapped to $0 \in \mathfrak{D}$ by a **rotation** $\in \mathbb{C}^\times$, followed by a **dilation**.

The fundamental domain of the upper half-plane and the unit disk:
 (cf. <https://www.mathsisfun.com/geometry/unit-circle.html> ;
<http://www.math.tifr.res.in/~dprasad/mf2.pdf>)



Key point:

In the discussion of \mathfrak{H} : \mathbb{R}^2 (with standard orientation) serves as a **common** — i.e., “ \wedge ”! — **container** for various **hol. str.**

In summary:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{hol. str.} & & \text{hol. str.} \\ \approx \mathbb{C}^\times & \curvearrowright & \text{dilation } \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & \curvearrowleft & \approx \mathbb{C}^\times \end{array}$$

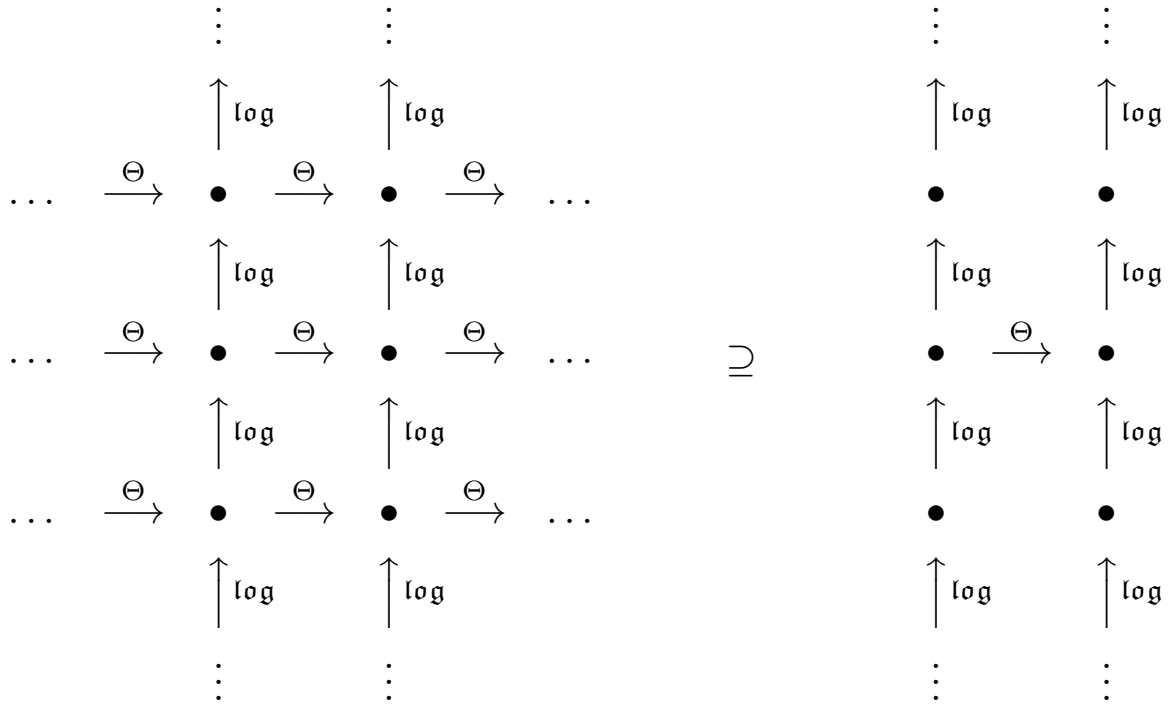
One way to understand IUT, esp. log-theta-lattice of [IUTchIII]:

“**infinite H**” portion (i.e., portion that is *actually used*) of **log-theta-lattice**:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{rotations} & \text{dilation} & \text{rotations} \\ \text{of arith.} & \text{of ring} & \text{of arith.} \\ \text{hol. str.} & \text{str. via} & \text{hol. str.} \\ \approx \log & \text{theta link} & \approx \log \end{array} \quad \curvearrowright \quad \curvearrowleft$$

Here, **arith. hol. str.** \approx **ring str.**, which is **not** preserved by **theta link** “ $q_E^N \mapsto q_E$ ”!

The entire **log-theta-lattice** and the “**infinite H**” portion that is *actually used*:



§4. **Theta function on the upper half-plane**

(cf. final portion of [Pano], §3; discussion surrounding [Pano], Fig. 4.2)

Recall the **theta function** on $\mathfrak{H} \ni z = x + iy$, where $q \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} e^{2\pi iz}$:

$$\theta(q) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} q^{\frac{1}{2}n^2}.$$

Restricting to the **imaginary axis** (i.e., $x = 0$) yields, for $t \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} y$:

$$\theta(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-\pi n^2 t}.$$

Then the **Jacobi identity** holds:

$$\theta(t) = t^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \theta(t^{-1}).$$

Here, we note that

$$GL^+(\mathbb{R}) \supseteq \mathbb{C}^\times \ni \iota \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

maps $z \mapsto -z^{-1}$, hence $iy \mapsto -iy^{-1}$, i.e., $t \mapsto t^{-1}$.

As one *travels along the imag. axis* via $GL^+(\mathbb{R}) \supseteq \mathbb{C}^\times \ni \begin{pmatrix} y & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} : i \mapsto iy$:

When $|q| \rightarrow 0 \iff y \rightarrow +\infty$:

$\theta(t)$ series terms are **rapidly decreasing** \implies **easy to compute!**

\wedge (!)

When $|q| \rightarrow 1 \iff y \rightarrow +0$:

$\theta(t)$ series terms **not rapidly decreasing** \implies **difficult to compute!**

Note: “ \wedge ” makes sense precisely because one **distinguishes** the ι -conjugate regions “ $|q| \rightarrow 0 \iff y \rightarrow +\infty$ ” and “ $|q| \rightarrow 1 \iff y \rightarrow +0$ ”!

This situation parallels the **Θ -link** of IUT (cf. $|q^N| \rightarrow 0$ vs. $|q| \approx 1!$).

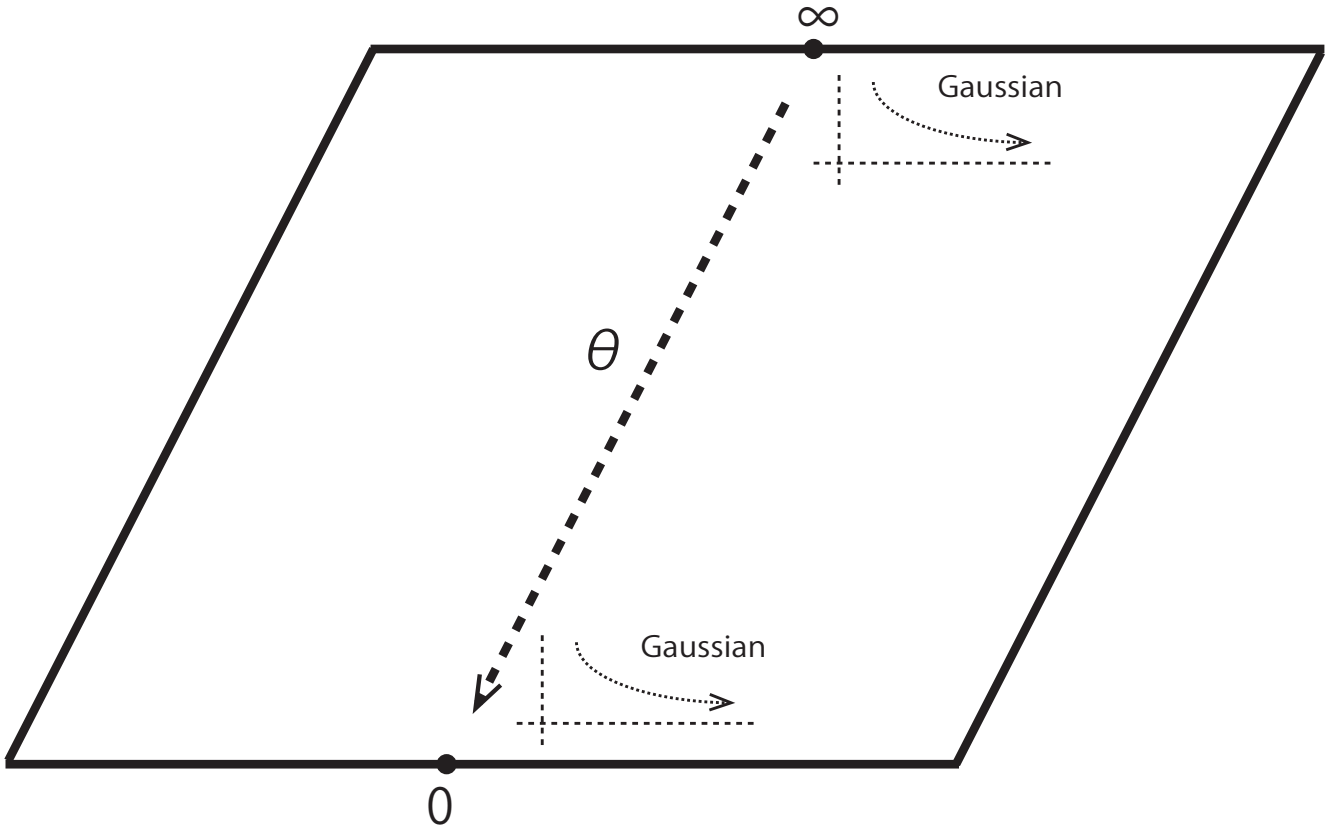
Jacobi identity $\theta(t) = t^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \theta(t^{-1})$ may be interpreted as follows:

$\theta(t)$ **descends**, up to a suitable factor $t^{-\frac{1}{2}}$, to the **quotient** by ι .

Comparison with IUT:

Jacobi identity	\longleftrightarrow	<u>multiradial representation</u> of IUT
the factor $t^{-\frac{1}{2}}$	\longleftrightarrow	<u>indeterminacies</u> of multirad. rep.
involution $\iota \in \mathbb{C}^\times$	\longleftrightarrow	<u>log-link</u> of IUT: rotat. of hol. str.
descent to quotient by ι	\longleftrightarrow	<u>descent</u> to <u>single</u> hol. str./ring str.

Behavior of $\theta(t)$ series terms upon applying **Jacobi identity**:



Proof of Jacobi identity: One computes $\theta(t^{-1})$ by using the fact that

$$\left(\text{Fourier transform}\right)(e^{-t \cdot \square^2}) \approx \pi^{-\frac{1}{2}} t^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{t} \cdot \square^2}$$

— a computation closely related to the computation of the **Gaussian integral**

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \pi^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

via polar coordinates!

This computation is essentially a consequence of the **quadratic form** in the exponent of the **Gaussian**:

$$e^{-t \cdot \text{“}\square^2\text{”}}.$$

quad. form \approx Chern class “ \square^2 ” \implies theta group symmetries
 \implies rigidity properties of étale theta function in IUT
 \implies Kummer theory of étale theta function
 compatible with log-link (cf. “ $t \cdot \square^2 \rightsquigarrow \frac{1}{t} \cdot \square^2$ ”
 in above computation!)
 and multiradial rep. of IUT

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Updated versions are available at the following webpage:

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