

Modular Forms: Example Sheet 2

1. Let

$$R = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} R_n$$

be a positively graded integral domain. Denote the fraction field $\text{Frac}(R)$ by K and denote the integral closure of R in K by \tilde{R} .

For $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, denote by K_n the additive subgroup of K consisting of elements of the form $\frac{f}{g}$ with $f \in R_{m+n}$ and $g \in R_m$, with g non-zero and $m \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$.

(a) Show that K_0 is a field and that

$$S := \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} K_n \subset K$$

is a graded K_0 -algebra.

(b) Show that the set of $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $K_n \neq 0$ is an additive subgroup of \mathbb{Z} (hence equal to $q\mathbb{Z}$ for some $q \geq 0$).

(c) Denote by t a non-zero element of K_q . Show that the map $X \mapsto t$ induces an isomorphism

$$K_0[X, X^{-1}] \cong S.$$

In particular, S is integrally closed in its field of fractions.

(d) Show that \tilde{R} is a graded subring of S , i.e. that

$$\tilde{R} = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} \tilde{R} \cap K_n.$$

You may use the fact that if $R \subset S$ is a graded inclusion of graded rings then the integral closure of R in S is a graded subring of S .

(e) Finally, show that the graded ring of modular forms

$$M(\Gamma) = \bigoplus_{k \geq 0} M_k(\Gamma)$$

is integrally closed in its field of fractions.

2. Suppose a group G acts (by holomorphic automorphisms) on a Riemann surface X .¹ Show that G acts properly if and only if the map

$$\begin{aligned} \pi : G \times X &\rightarrow X \times X \\ (g, x) &\mapsto (x, gx) \end{aligned}$$

is *proper*. We give G the discrete topology and the products $G \times X$ and $X \times X$ the product topology, and say that a continuous map between topological spaces is proper if the pre-image of every compact set is compact.

3. Let $(x : y)$ be a point of $\mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{Q})$. We always assume that x and y are coprime integers.

(a) Show that $\Gamma(N)(x : y) = \Gamma(N)(x' : y')$ if and only if $(x, y) = \pm(x', y') \pmod{N}$.

(b) Suppose $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ and denote their reductions mod N by $\bar{x}, \bar{y} \in \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$. Show that the following are equivalent:

¹Alternatively, just assume that G acts continuously on a locally compact and Hausdorff topological space.

- \bar{x}, \bar{y} lift to coprime integers x', y'
- $\gcd(x, y, N) = 1$
- (\bar{x}, \bar{y}) has order N in the additive group $(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^2$.

(c) Deduce that the number of cusps of level $\Gamma(N)$ is

$$\frac{1}{2}N^2 \prod_{p|N} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^2}\right)$$

for $N > 2$ and 3 for $N = 2$.

(d) Show that each of these cusps has width N .

4. Show that for $N > 2$ the modular curve $Y(\Gamma(N))$ has no elliptic points (i.e. for every point τ of \mathcal{H} the stabiliser of τ in $\Gamma(N)$ is trivial or $\{\pm I\}$). Deduce that the Riemann surfaces $X(\Gamma(N))$ have genus

$$1 + \frac{d_N(N-6)}{12N}$$

and that

$$\dim M_{2k}(\Gamma(N)) = \frac{(2k-1)d_N}{12} + \frac{d_N}{2N},$$

where

$$d_N = \frac{1}{2}N^3 \prod_{p|N} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^2}\right)$$

for $N > 2$ and $d_2 = 6$.

5. Let $N \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$ and suppose $(\alpha, \beta) \in (\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^2$ has order N .

For integers $k \geq 3$ define

$$G_k^{(\alpha, \beta)}(\tau) = \sum_{\substack{(m, n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 - \{(0, 0)\} \\ (m, n) = (\alpha, \beta) \bmod N}} \frac{1}{(m\tau + n)^k}.$$

(a) Show that for $\gamma \in \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$

$$G_k^{(\alpha, \beta)}|_{\gamma, k} = G_k^{(\alpha, \beta)\gamma}$$

where $(\alpha, \beta)\gamma$ is given by the action of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ on row vectors.

Deduce that $G_k^{(\alpha, \beta)}(\tau)$ is a modular form of weight k and level $\Gamma(N)$, and moreover if $\alpha = 0$, it is of level $\Gamma_1(N)$.

- (b) Show that for $k \geq 3$ and $N > 2$ the set $G_k^{(\alpha, \beta)}(\tau)$ gives a basis of the quotient vector space $M_k(\Gamma(N))/S_k(\Gamma(N))$. You may assume that this space has dimension equal to the number of cusps of $X(\Gamma(N))$ for all $k \geq 3$. We proved this for even k in lectures.

6. Show that the genus of $X_0(p)$ is equal to $\lfloor \frac{p+1}{12} \rfloor - 1$ if $p \equiv 1 \pmod{12}$ and $\lfloor \frac{p+1}{12} \rfloor$ otherwise.
7. Let $f \in M_k(\Gamma(1)) - \{0\}$. By considering the meromorphic differential $\omega(f)$ on $X(\Gamma(1))$, give a proof (different from the one given in lectures) that

$$\mathrm{ord}_\infty(f) + \sum_{\Gamma(1)\tau \in \Gamma(1) \setminus \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n_\tau} \mathrm{ord}_\tau(f) = \frac{k}{12}.$$

8. Suppose $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a holomorphic map of compact connected Riemann surfaces. For $y \in Y$, consider the divisor $[y] \in \mathrm{Div}(Y)$. Denote by $f^*[y]$ the divisor $\sum_{x \in f^{-1}(y)} e_x[x]$, where e_x is the ramification degree of the map f at x . We also denote by f^* the unique extension of f^* to a map of Abelian groups $\mathrm{Div}(Y) \rightarrow \mathrm{Div}(X)$. Let ω_0 be a non-zero meromorphic differential of degree one on Y and show that

$$\mathrm{div}(f^*(\omega_0)) = f^*\mathrm{div}(\omega_0) + \sum_{x \in X} (e_x - 1)[x].$$

Deduce the Riemann-Hurwitz formula for the genus of X .

9. Consider the function

$$\phi(\tau) = q \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)^2 (1 - q^{11n})^2.$$

Note that $\phi(\tau)^{12} = \Delta(\tau)\Delta(11\tau)$.

Show that for $f \in S_2(\Gamma_0(11))$, $f^{12} = c\phi^{12}$ for c a constant, and deduce that ϕ is in $S_2(\Gamma_0(11))$ (moreover, it is a basis for this one-dimensional space).

10. In this question $\theta(\tau)$ denotes the Jacobi θ function $\sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} q^{n^2}$.

(a) Show that $M_2(\Gamma_0(4))$ has a basis consisting of $\theta(\tau)^4$ and a form F whose q -expansion is

$$\sum_{n > 0 \text{ odd}} \sigma_1(n)q^n.$$

(b) Show that $f = \theta(\tau)^2 \in M_1(\Gamma_1(4))$, and moreover if $\gamma \in \Gamma_0(4)$ then $f|_{\gamma,1} = \chi(\gamma)f$, where χ is the unique non-trivial character of the group $\Gamma_0(4)/\Gamma_1(4) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})^\times$.

(c) Show that $M_1(\Gamma_1(4))$ is one-dimensional, hence spanned by $\theta(\tau)^2$.

11. This long exercise gives a dimension formula for modular forms of odd weight (≥ 3).

Suppose $-I \notin \Gamma$. Show that for $\tau \in \mathcal{H}$ the stabiliser of τ in Γ has order 1 or 3.

Let $x \in \mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{Q})$ with $x = \alpha\infty$, $\alpha \in \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$, and let $s = \Gamma x$ be the associated cusp. Let h be the width of s .

Show that the stabiliser of x in Γ is a cyclic group, generated by $\alpha \begin{pmatrix} 1 & h \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \alpha^{-1}$ or $\alpha \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -h \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \alpha^{-1}$.

In the former case we say that the cusp s is *regular*, in the latter that it is *irregular*. When the cusp is regular, a meromorphic form f of odd weight and level Γ has a Fourier expansion in the variable $q_h = e^{2\pi i\tau/h}$, whilst if the cusp is irregular, it only has a Fourier expansion in the variable $q_{2h} = e^{\pi i\tau/h}$. When s is regular, we define $\text{ord}_s(f)$ to be the order of vanishing (in the variable q_h) of $f|_{\alpha,k}$ at ∞ , whilst if s is irregular, we define $\text{ord}_s(f)$ to be half the order of vanishing in the variable q_{2h} .

Suppose $-I \notin \Gamma$ and k is odd. For f a non-zero meromorphic form of weight k and level Γ , define a divisor $\text{div}(f)$ on $X(\Gamma)$ by

$$\text{div}(f) = \sum_{x \in X(\Gamma)} a_x [x]$$

with $a_x = \text{ord}_x(f)/n_x$ for $x \in Y(\Gamma)$ and $a_s = \text{ord}_s(f)$ for s a cusp.

Show that

$$[\text{div}(f)] := \sum_{x \in X(\Gamma)} [a_x][x] = \frac{1}{2} \text{div}(\omega(f^2)) + \sum_{n_x=3} \lfloor \frac{k}{3} \rfloor [x] + \sum_{s \text{ regular}} \frac{k}{2} [s] + \sum_{s \text{ irregular}} \frac{k-1}{2} [s].$$

Suppose there exists a non-zero meromorphic form of weight k and level Γ .² Deduce that for $k \geq 3$

$$\dim(M_k(\Gamma)) = (k-1)(g-1) + \lfloor \frac{k}{3} \rfloor r_3 + \frac{k}{2} r_\infty^{\text{reg}} + \frac{k-1}{2} r_\infty^{\text{irr}}$$

where g is the genus of $X(\Gamma)$, r_3 is the number of elliptic points of order 3, r_∞^{reg} is the number of regular cusps and r_∞^{irr} is the number of irregular cusps.

Comments, queries and corrections can be sent by email to jjmn2@cam.ac.uk.

²A proof that such a form exists is described at the end of section 3.6 in Diamond and Shurman.