

# Complex Representations of $GL(2, \mathbb{F}_q)$

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The complex representation theory of  $GL(2)$  over finite fields is explained well in many places, and it an excellent toy setting for graduate students who want to study Jacquet-Langlands. For other sources see for instance Piatetski-Shapiro's book and Paul Garrett's notes.

These exercises are intended for graduate students who want to study the representation theory of  $GL(2, \mathbb{F}_q)$  hands-on, as a guide to the various results.

## Contents

<b>1 Representation theory of (pro)finite groups</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Basic properties and constructions	1
1.2 Induced representations	2
1.3 Explicit examples of representations of finite groups	3
1.4 Complex representations of $GL(2)$ over finite fields	5

## 1 Representation theory of finite groups

### 1.1 Basic properties and constructions

**Exercise 1.1.1** (Representations as modules over the group ring) Let  $G$  be a group.

1. Suppose  $(V, \rho)$  is a representation of  $G$  on the  $K$ -vector space  $V$ . Show that  $V$  is a  $K[G]$ -module under  $\sum a_g [g] \cdot v = \sum a_g \rho(g)(v)$ .
2. Suppose  $V$  is a  $K[G]$ -module. Show that  $\rho(g)v := g \cdot v$  defines a representation of  $G$ .

**Exercise 1.1.2** (Semisimplicity of representations: Maschke's theorem) Let  $K$  be a field and  $G$  a finite group such that either  $\text{char } K = 0$  or  $\text{char } K \nmid |G|$ . Let  $V$  be a representation of  $G$  and  $W \subset V$  a  $G$ -subrepresentation.

1. Let  $\pi : V \rightarrow W$  be any vector space projection, i.e., a linear map such that  $\pi|_W$  is the identity map. Show that  $\sigma : V \rightarrow W$  given by  $\sigma(v) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \pi(\rho(g)(v))$  is a well-defined  $G$ -equivariant linear map.
2. Show that  $U = \ker \sigma \subset V$  is a  $G$ -subrepresentation and  $V = W \oplus U$  is a  $G$ -representation decomposition.
3. Conclude that all finite dimensional  $G$ -representations are semisimple.
4. Show that the representation of  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  acting on  $\mathbb{F}_2^2$  such that  $1 \in \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  sends  $(x, y)$  to  $(x + y, y)$  is a non-semisimple representation.

**Exercise 1.1.3** (Dual representations) Let  $(V, \rho)$  be a representation of  $G$  over a field  $K$ . Let  $V^\vee = \text{Hom}_K(V, K)$  and  $(\rho^\vee(g)f)(v) = f(\rho(g)^{-1}(v))$ .

1. Show that  $(V^\vee, \rho^\vee)$  is a representation of  $G$ .

2. Show that  $V \otimes V^\vee \cong \text{End}_K(V)$  where  $G$  acts on  $f \in \text{End}_K(V)$  by  $(gf)(v) = \rho(g)(f(\rho(g)^{-1}(v)))$ .
3. Show that the scalar matrices in  $\text{End}_K(V)$  form a one-dimensional irreducible subrepresentation of  $V \otimes V^\vee$  isomorphic to the trivial character.
4. Show that  $V$  is irreducible if and only if  $\dim \text{Hom}_K(1, V \otimes V^\vee) = 1$ . [Hint: Use Schur's lemma.]

**Exercise 1.1.4** (Induced representations) Let  $G$  be a profinite group and  $H$  a finite index subgroup.

1. Let  $(V, \rho)$  be a representation of  $H$  over a field  $K$ . Define  $(\text{Ind}_H^G V, \text{Ind}_H^G \rho)$  as follows:  $\text{Ind}_H^G V$  is the vector space  $\{f : G \rightarrow V \mid f(hg) = \rho(h)(f(g)), \forall h \in H, g \in G\}$  and if  $g \in G$  and  $f \in \text{Ind}_H^G V$  then the action is  $((\text{Ind}_H^G \rho)(g)f)(x) = f(xg)$ . Show that  $\text{Ind}_H^G V$  is a representation of  $G$ .
2. Let  $M$  be an  $H$ -module, by which we mean an abelian group with an action of  $H$ . Define  $\text{Ind}_H^G M$  analogously. Show that  $\text{Ind}_H^G M$  is a  $G$ -module.

## 1.2 Induced representations

**Exercise 1.2.1** (Induction as an operation on modules over the group ring) Let  $H, G$  and  $(\rho, V)$  be as in Exercise 1.1.4. Fix representatives  $G/H = \cup g_j H$  and a basis  $v_i$  of  $V$ .

1. Show that  $\text{Ind}_H^G V$  has as basis functions  $f_{v_i, g_j} : G \rightarrow V$  taking  $g_j$  to  $v_i$  and  $g_k$  to 0 for  $k \neq j$ .
2. Show that the map  $V \otimes_{K[H]} K[G] \rightarrow \text{Ind}_H^G V$

$$\sum a_{v_i, g_j} v_i \otimes [g_j] \mapsto \sum a_{v_i, g_j} f_{v_i, g_j}$$

is a  $G$ -equivariant isomorphism of  $K$ -vector spaces.

**Exercise 1.2.2** (Frobenius reciprocity) Suppose  $H$  is a finite index subgroup of a profinite group  $G$ ,  $M$  is an  $H$ -module and  $N$  is a  $G$ -module. Show that

$$\text{Hom}_G(N, \text{Ind}_H^G M) \cong \text{Hom}_H(N, M)$$

sending a  $G$ -equivariant map  $f : N \rightarrow \text{Ind}_H^G M$  to the  $H$ -equivariant map  $n \mapsto f(n)(1)$  in  $\text{Hom}_H(N, M)$  and the  $H$ -equivariant map  $g$  to the  $G$ -equivariant map  $n \mapsto (g \mapsto f(g(n)))$  in  $\text{Hom}_G(N, \text{Ind}_H^G M)$ .

**Exercise 1.2.3** (Restriction of induced representations) Let  $H$  and  $N$  be finite index subgroups of a profinite group  $G$  and let  $(\rho, V)$  be a representation of  $H$  over a field  $K$ .

1. For  $g \in G$  define  $V^g = V$  and  $\rho^g(x) = \rho(gxg^{-1})$ . Show that  $(\rho^g, V^g)$  is a representation of  $g^{-1}Hg$ .
2. Show that  $f \mapsto f^g$  (defined as  $f^g(x) = f(gxg^{-1})$ ) gives an isomorphism  $(\text{Ind}_H^G V)^g \cong \text{Ind}_{g^{-1}Hg}^G(V^g)$ .
3. Show that the map  $\phi \mapsto \oplus_{g \in H \backslash G/N} (n \mapsto \phi(n_g))$  gives an isomorphism of  $N$ -representations

$$(\text{Ind}_H^G V)|_N \cong \oplus_{g \in H \backslash G/N} (\text{Ind}_{H \cap gNg^{-1}}^{gNg^{-1}} W)^g \cong \oplus_{g \in H \backslash G/N} \text{Ind}_{g^{-1}Hg \cap N}^N(W^g)$$

4. In the special case when  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  show that

$$(\text{Ind}_H^G V)|_N \cong \oplus_{g \in H \backslash G/N} (\text{Ind}_{H \cap N}^N V)^g$$

**Exercise 1.2.4** (Irreducibility of induced representations) Let  $H$  be a finite index subgroup of a profinite group  $G$  and  $V$  a  $H$ -representation.

1. Suppose  $V|_H = W_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus W_n$  where  $W_i$  are non-isomorphic irreducible  $H$ -representations. Suppose that for any  $i \neq j$  there exists  $g \in G$  and  $w \in W_i$  such that the projection of  $g(w)$  to  $W_j$  is nonzero. Show that  $V$  is irreducible.

2. Suppose  $H \triangleleft G$  and  $W$  is an  $H$ -representation such that  $W^g \not\cong W$  for any  $g \in G - H$ . Show that  $\text{Ind}_H^G W$  is an irreducible  $G$ -representation.

**Exercise 1.2.5** (Induction and tensor product) Let  $H$  be an open subgroup of the profinite group  $G$ .

1. Suppose  $V$  is an  $H$ -representation and  $W$  is a  $G$ -representation. Show that

$$\text{Ind}_H^G(V) \otimes W \cong \text{Ind}_H^G(V \otimes W|_H)$$

2. Suppose  $V, W$  are representations of  $H$ . Show that

$$\text{Ind}_H^G V \otimes \text{Ind}_H^G W \cong \bigoplus_{g \in H \backslash G / H} \text{Ind}_H^G((\text{Ind}_{H \cap gHg^{-1}}^g V)^g \otimes W)$$

**Exercise 1.2.6** (Induced characters) Let  $H \subset G$  be finite groups and  $V$  a representation of  $H$ . Show that

$$\text{Tr} \text{Ind}_H^G(\rho)(g) = \sum_{k \in H \backslash G} \text{Tr}(\rho(kgk^{-1}))$$

### 1.3 Explicit examples of representations of finite groups

**Exercise 1.3.1** (The standard representation of  $S_3$ ) Consider the character  $\tau : A_3 \cong \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  sending  $(123)$  to  $\zeta_3$ . Show that  $\text{Ind}_{A_3}^{S_3} \tau$  is isomorphic to the permutation representation of  $S_3$  on  $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{C}^3 \mid x + y + z = 0\}$ .

**Exercise 1.3.2** (The standard representation of  $S_n$ ) Let  $(V, \rho)$  be the permutation representation of  $S_n$  on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .

- Show that  $U = \{(x, \dots, x) \in \mathbb{C}^n \mid x \in \mathbb{C}\}$  and  $W = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \mid \sum x_i = 0\}$  are  $S_n$ -subrepresentations of  $V$  and  $V = U \oplus W$ .
- Show that if  $\sigma \in S_n$  then  $\text{Tr} \rho(\sigma)$  is the number of fixed points of the permutation  $\sigma$ .
- Let  $s_{n,k}$  be the number of  $\sigma \in S_n$  with exactly  $k$  fixed points. Show that

$$\|\chi_V\|^2 = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{k=0}^n k^2 s_{n,k}$$

4. Show that

$$s_{n,0} = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \binom{n}{k} (n-k)! \approx \frac{n!}{e}$$

and that

$$s_{n,k} = \binom{n}{k} s_{n-k,0}$$

5. Conclude that

$$\|\chi_V\|^2 \approx 2$$

and use the fact that  $\|\chi_V\|^2$  is an integer to show that it is 2.

6. Deduce that  $W$  is irreducible. This is the standard representation of  $S_n$ .

**Exercise 1.3.3** (The irreducible representations of  $S_4$ )

- Show that the dimensions of the irreducible complex representations of  $S_4$  are 1, 1, 2, 3, 3. [Hint: You already know two characters (the trivial and the sign) and the three dimensional standard.]
- If  $\varepsilon$  is the sign character show that the two 3-dimensional representations are  $\text{std}$  and  $\text{std} \otimes \varepsilon$ .

3. Show that  $[A_4, A_4] = V = \{1, (12)(34), (13)(24), (14)(23)\} \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^2$  and thus the abelianization of  $A_4$  is  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \cong \{1, (123), (132)\}$ . Let  $\tau$  be the character of  $A_4$  sending  $(123)$  to  $\zeta_3$ . Show that  $\text{Ind}_{A_4}^{S_4} \tau$  is the irreducible 2-dimensional representation.
4. An alternate construction of the irreducible 2-dimensional representation of  $S_4$ . Show that  $S_4/V \cong S_3$  and thus that the irreducible 2 dimensional representation of  $S_4$  is the standard representation of  $S_3$ .

**Exercise 1.3.4** (Representations of finite Heisenberg groups) Let  $p$  be a prime,  $q = p^m$  for some  $m \geq 1$  and  $G$  be the set of matrices  $(n+2) \times (n+2)$  of the form

$$m(a_i, b_i, c) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a_1 & \dots & a_n & c \\ & 1 & 0 & \dots & b_1 \\ & & \ddots & & \vdots \\ & & & 1 & b_n \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $a_i, b_i, c \in \mathbb{F}_q$ .

1. Show that under matrix multiplication  $G$  is a group of size  $q^{2n+1}$ . (It is called the *Heisenberg group*.)
2. Let  $H \subset G$  be the subset of matrices  $m(a_i, b_i, c)$  with  $a_1 = \dots = a_n = 0$ . Show that  $H$  is an abelian subgroup of  $G$ , isomorphic to  $\mathbb{F}_q^{n+1}$ .
3. Show that  $Z(G)$  consists of those  $m(a_i, b_i, c)$  with  $a_i = 0$  and  $b_i = 0$  for all  $i$ .
4. Show that  $[G, G] = Z(G)$ . (A  $p$ -group whose commutant equals its center and is isomorphic to a cyclic group of size  $p$  is said to be *extraspecial*. When  $q = p$  this shows that  $G$  is an extraspecial group.)
5. Choose a collection of characters  $\chi_i, \eta_j : \mathbb{F}_q \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  for  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ . Show that

$$\chi(m(a_i, b_i, c)) = \prod \chi_i(a_i) \prod \eta_j(b_j)$$

gives a character  $\chi : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ .

6. Suppose  $\eta, \chi_1, \dots, \chi_n : \mathbb{F}_q \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  and define  $\chi(m(0, b_i, c)) = \eta(c) \prod \chi_i(b_i)$ .
  - (a) Show that  $\chi$  is a character of  $H$ .
  - (b) If  $\eta$  is not the trivial character show that  $\text{Ind}_H^G \chi$  is an irreducible representation of dimension  $q^n$ .
  - (c) If  $\eta$  is as above show that

$$\text{Tr Ind}_H^G \chi(m(0, 0, c)) = q^n \eta(c)$$

and conclude that different characters  $\eta$  give nonisomorphic induced representations.

7. Show that the irreducible complex representations of  $G$  are the  $q^{2n}$  characters and the  $q-1$  irreducible induced representations above. [Hint: Look at dimensions.]

## 1.4 Complex representations of $\text{GL}(2)$ over finite fields

The exercises of this section are consecutive and the notation is common.

**Exercise 1.4.1** (Structure of  $\text{GL}(2)$  over finite fields) Let  $p$  be a prime and  $G = \text{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_q)$  where  $q = p^r$ . Let  $B \subset G$  be the upper triangular matrices (the Borel subgroup) and let  $T \subset B$  be the diagonal matrices.

1. Let  $w = \begin{pmatrix} & 1 \\ -1 & \end{pmatrix}$ . Show that  $G = B \sqcup BwB$  and conclude that  $B \backslash G / B = \{1, w\}$ .
2. Show that  $B \backslash G \cong \mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

3. Let  $g \in \mathrm{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_q)$  with characteristic polynomial  $P_g(X)$  with roots  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \overline{\mathbb{F}_q}$ .

(a) If  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda$  show that  $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_q$  and that  $g$  is conjugate in  $\mathrm{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_q)$  to

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda & \\ & \lambda \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 \\ & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

and there are  $q-1$  conjugacy classes of the first type (called semisimple singular) and  $q-1$  of the second type (called nonsemisimple singular). [Remark: the characteristic 2 case requires special care.]

(b) If  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{F}_q$  show that  $g$  is conjugate in  $\mathrm{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_q)$  to

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & \\ & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

This is the split regular case and show that there are  $(q-1)(q-2)/2$  split regular conjugacy classes.

(c) If  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \notin \mathbb{F}_q$  then  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{F}_{q^2}$  and  $\lambda_1 = \tau(\lambda_2)$  where  $\tau$  is Frobenius on  $\mathbb{F}_{q^2}$ . Writing  $\lambda = \lambda_2$  show that  $g$  is conjugate in  $\mathrm{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_q)$  to

$$\begin{pmatrix} -N_{\mathbb{F}_{q^2}/\mathbb{F}_q}(\lambda) & \\ 1 & \mathrm{Tr}_{\mathbb{F}_{q^2}/\mathbb{F}_q}(\lambda) \end{pmatrix}$$

This is the nonsplit regular case and show that there are  $(q^2 - q)/2$  nonsplit regular conjugacy classes.

**Exercise 1.4.2** (The principal series representations) Suppose  $\chi_1, \chi_2 : \mathbb{F}_q^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  are two characters.

1. Show that

$$\eta \left( \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ & d \end{pmatrix} \right) := \chi_1(a)\chi_2(d)$$

defines a character of  $B$ .

2. We denote  $I(\eta) := \mathrm{Ind}_B^G \eta$ . Show that  $I(\eta)^\vee \cong I(\eta^{-1})$ . [Hint: Show that  $(\mathrm{Ind}_H^G V)^\vee \cong \mathrm{Ind}_H^G (V^\vee)$ .]

3. Show that  $I(\eta)|_B \cong \bigoplus_{x \in B \backslash G/B} \mathrm{Ind}_{B \cap xBx^{-1}}^B(\eta^x)$  where  $\eta^x : B \cap xBx^{-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is defined by  $\eta^x(b) = \eta(x^{-1}bx)$ .

4. Deduce that

$$I(\eta) \otimes I(\eta)^\vee \cong I(1) \oplus \mathrm{Ind}_T^G(\eta^w/\eta)$$

[Hint: Recall that if  $K \subset H \subset G$  and  $V$  is a representation of  $K$  then  $\mathrm{Ind}_K^G V \cong \mathrm{Ind}_H^G \mathrm{Ind}_K^H V$ .]

5. Show that

$$\dim \mathrm{Hom}(1, I(\eta) \otimes I(\eta)) = 1 + \dim \mathrm{Hom}_T(1, \eta^w/\eta)$$

and conclude that  $I(\eta)$  is irreducible if and only if  $\chi_1 \neq \chi_2$  in which case  $I(\eta)$  is called the principal series representation of  $(\chi_1, \chi_2)$ . If  $\mathbb{F}_q^\times = \langle a \rangle$  show that the map attaching to  $I(\chi_1, \chi_2)$  the matrix

$\begin{pmatrix} \chi_1(a) & \\ & \chi_2(a) \end{pmatrix}$  gives a bijection between the principal series representations and the split regular conjugacy classes.

6. If  $\chi_1 = \chi_2 = \chi$  show that  $G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  given by  $g \mapsto \chi(\det(g))$  is a 1-dimensional subrepresentation of  $I(\eta)$ .

Show that the map  $\chi \circ \det \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \chi(a) & \\ & \chi(a) \end{pmatrix}$  gives a bijection between the 1-dimensional irreducible representations of  $G$  and the semisimple singular conjugacy classes.

7. When  $\chi_1 = \chi_2 = \chi$  decompose  $I(\eta) = \chi \circ \det \oplus \text{St}_\chi$  where  $\text{St}_\chi$  is called the Steinberg representation. Show that  $\text{St}_\chi$  is irreducible and that  $\text{St}_\chi \cong \text{St}_1 \otimes \chi$ . Show that the map  $\text{St}_\chi \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \chi(a) & 1 \\ & \chi(a) \end{pmatrix}$  gives a bijection between the Steinberg representations and the nonsemisimple singular conjugacy classes.

**Exercise 1.4.3** (Jacquet modules) Let  $U = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \text{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_q) \right\}$ , the unipotent radical of  $B$  and  $T = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x & \\ & y \end{pmatrix} \right\}$  the diagonal torus in  $\text{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_q)$ . If  $(V, \rho)$  is a representation then  $J_U(\rho)$  is the quotient representation  $V/V_U$  where  $V_U \subset V$  is the subspace generated by the vectors  $\{\rho(u)v - v | u \in U, v \in V\}$ .

1. Show that  $V_U$  is the set of  $v \in V$  such that

$$\sum_{u \in U} \rho(u)v = 0$$

2. Show that if  $t \in T$  then  $\rho(t)$  is an automorphism of  $J_U(\rho)$  and thus  $J_U(\rho)$  is a  $T$ -representation. [Hint: Use the previous criterion.]
3. Show that a  $G$ -equivariant morphism  $f : V \rightarrow W$  where  $V, W$  are two  $G$ -representations gives a  $T$ -equivariant morphism  $J_U(V) \rightarrow J_U(W)$  and thus  $J_U$  is a functor from  $G$ -representations to  $T$ -representations.
4. Show that  $J_U$  is an exact functor, i.e., if  $0 \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$  is an exact sequence of  $G$ -representations then

$$0 \rightarrow J_U(A) \rightarrow J_U(B) \rightarrow J_U(C) \rightarrow 0$$

is an exact sequence of  $T$ -representations.

5. Suppose  $\chi : B \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  is a character. Show that  $\text{Hom}_B(V|_B, \chi) \cong \text{Hom}_T(J_U(V), \chi)$  and conclude that

$$\text{Hom}_G(V, \text{Ind}_B^G \chi) \cong \text{Hom}_T(J_U(V), \chi)$$

6. Show that every finite dimensional representation of  $T$  is abelian and thus a representation  $V$  of  $G$  can be realized inside some  $\text{Ind}_B^G \chi$  if and only if  $J_U(V) \neq 0$ .

**Exercise 1.4.4** (The cuspidal representations, the ones corresponding to the nonsplit regular conjugacy classes) Let  $M = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \text{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_q) \right\}$ , called the mirabolic subgroup. A representation  $V$  of  $G$  is said to be cuspidal if  $J_U(V) = 0$ , which, by the previous part, is equivalent to  $V \not\subset \text{Ind}_B^G \chi$  for any  $\chi$ . We already classified the non-cuspidal representations and would like to classify and construct the cuspidal ones.

1. Show that there are  $q(q-1)/2$  nonisomorphic irreducible cuspidal representations of  $G$ .
2. Suppose  $V$  is an irreducible cuspidal representation of  $G$ . Show that  $\text{Hom}_U(1, V) = 0$  and conclude that  $V|_U$ , which is a finite dimensional representation of the abelian group  $U$ , is a direct sum of nontrivial characters of  $U$ .
3. Let  $\psi : U \cong \mathbb{F}_q \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  be such a nontrivial character contained in  $V|_U$ . Show that  $\text{Ind}_U^M \psi$  is irreducible of dimension  $q-1$ .
4. Deduce that  $V|_M$  contains  $\text{Ind}_U^M \psi$  and thus that cuspidal representations have dimension  $\geq q-1$ .
5. Use the dimension formula  $\sum (\dim V_i)^2 = |G|$  to show that every cuspidal representation has dimension exactly  $q-1$ .

**Exercise 1.4.5** (Whittaker models for noncuspidal representations) A Whittaker model for a  $G$ -representation  $V$  is any nonzero map  $V \rightarrow W(\psi) = \text{Ind}_U^G \psi$ . Suppose  $V = \text{Ind}_B^G \eta$  where  $\eta = (\chi_1, \chi_2)$  is a character on  $T$  extended to  $B$  by acting trivially on  $U$ .

1. Show that for nontrivial  $\psi : U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$

$$\text{Hom}_U(\text{Ind}_B^G \eta, \psi) = \bigoplus_{g \in B \backslash G/U} \text{Hom}_{U \cap g^{-1}Ug}(\eta^g, \psi)$$

2. Show that  $B \backslash G/U = \{1, w\}$  and conclude that  $\dim \text{Hom}_U(\text{Ind}_B^G \eta, \psi) = 1$  and thus that  $\dim \text{Hom}_G(\text{Ind}_B^G \eta, \text{Ind}_U^G(\psi)) = 1$ , which means that noncuspidal representations have Whittaker models.

**Exercise 1.4.6** ( $L$ -parameters) Let  $\Gamma_q = \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_q/\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

1. Show that as profinite topological groups  $\Gamma_q \cong \widehat{\mathbb{Z}} := \varprojlim \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  generated topologically by  $\text{Frob}_q$  taking  $x$  to  $x^q$ .
2. Show that a homomorphism  $\rho : \Gamma_q \rightarrow \text{GL}(2, \mathbb{C})$  is continuous if and only if  $\ker \rho \subset \Gamma_q$  is an open subgroup.
3. The Weil group of  $\mathbb{F}_q$  is  $W_q = \text{Frob}_q^{\mathbb{Z}} \subset \Gamma_q$  and denote by  $W_{q,n}$  its projection to  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_{q^n}/\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Show that the natural action of  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_{q^n}/\mathbb{F}_q)$  on  $\mathbb{F}_{q^n}$  gives an extension

$$1 \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_{q^n}^\times \rightarrow \widetilde{\Gamma}_{q,n} \rightarrow \text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_{q^n}/\mathbb{F}_q) \rightarrow 1$$

such that  $(\Gamma_{q,n})_n$  forms an inverse system.

4. Let  $\widetilde{\Gamma}_q = \varprojlim \widetilde{\Gamma}_{q,n}$  and let  $\widetilde{W}_q \subset \widetilde{\Gamma}_q$  be the preimage of  $W_q \subset \Gamma_q$  under the natural projection map  $\widetilde{\Gamma}_q \rightarrow \Gamma_q$ . Show that every continuous homomorphism  $\rho : \widetilde{W}_q \rightarrow \text{GL}(2, \mathbb{C})$  factors through  $\widetilde{\Gamma}_{q,n}$ .
5. An  $L$ -parameter for  $\text{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_q)$  is a finite dimensional continuous complex representation  $\phi$  of  $\widetilde{W}_q \times \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})$ . Show that if  $\phi$  is irreducible then  $\phi = \rho \otimes \tau$  where  $\rho$  is an irreducible representation of  $\widetilde{W}_q$  and  $\tau$  is a finite dimensional representation of  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})$ . Moreover,  $\dim \phi = \dim \rho \dim \tau$ .
6. Every character  $\chi : \mathbb{F}_q^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  can be thought of as a one dimensional representation  $\widetilde{W}_q \rightarrow \widetilde{\Gamma}_{q,1} \cong \mathbb{F}_q^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ . To the irreducible principal series  $I(\chi_1, \chi_2)$  attach the  $L$ -parameter  $\phi_{I(\chi_1, \chi_2)} = (\chi_1 \oplus \chi_2) \otimes 1$ ; to the characters  $\chi \circ \det$  attach the  $L$ -parameter  $\phi_{\chi \circ \det} = (\chi \oplus \chi) \otimes 1$ ; to the Steinberg representation  $\text{St}_\chi$  attach the  $L$ -parameter  $\phi_{\text{St}_\chi} = \chi \otimes \text{std}$  where  $\text{std}$  is the standard representation of  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})$  on  $\mathbb{C}^2$  given by usual matrix multiplication. Show that this gives a bijection between the noncuspidal and non-Steinberg representations of  $\text{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_q)$  and the reducible  $L$ -parameters of dimension 2. [Hint: The complex continuous representations of  $\text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})$  are semisimple and the irreducible ones are all of the form  $\text{Sym}^n \text{std}$ , of dimension  $n + 1$ , where  $\text{Sym}^0 \text{std} = 1$  and  $\text{Sym}^1 \text{std} = \text{std}$ .]
7. Show that every irreducible two-dimensional  $L$ -parameter is either  $\chi \otimes \text{std}$ , in bijection with the Steinberg representations, or of the form  $\rho \otimes 1$  where  $\rho$  is an irreducible two-dimensional representation of  $\widetilde{\Gamma}_{q,2} = \mathbb{F}_{q^2}^\times \rtimes \text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_{q^2}/\mathbb{F}_q) \cong \mathbb{F}_{q^2}^\times \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ .
8. Irreducible two-dimensional  $L$ -parameters.
  - (a) Show that if  $x \in \mathbb{F}_{q^2}^\times$  is such that  $N_{\mathbb{F}_{q^2}/\mathbb{F}_q}(x) = 1$  then  $x = y^{q-1}$  for some  $y \in \mathbb{F}_{q^2}$ .
  - (b) Show that  $\chi : \mathbb{F}_{q^2}^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  satisfies  $\chi = \chi^q$  (where  $\chi^q(x) = \chi(x^q)$ ) if and only if  $\chi = \nu \circ N_{\mathbb{F}_{q^2}/\mathbb{F}_q}$  for some character  $\nu : \mathbb{F}_q^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ . In that case  $\chi$  is said to be the base change from  $\mathbb{F}_q$  of  $\nu$ .
  - (c) Conclude that there are  $q(q-1)/2$  equivalence classes of characters  $\chi : \mathbb{F}_{q^2}^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  which are not base changes from  $\mathbb{F}_q$  where  $\chi \sim \chi^q$  are the equivalences.

- (d) Suppose  $\chi$  is as above, not a base change from  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . Show that  $\rho_\chi := \text{Ind}_{\mathbb{F}_{q^2}^\times}^{\tilde{\Gamma}_{q,2}} \chi$  is an irreducible two dimensional representation. Show that  $\rho_\chi \cong \rho_{\chi'}$  if and only if  $\chi' \sim \chi$ .
- (e) Suppose  $\rho$  is an irreducible two-dimensional representation of  $\tilde{\Gamma}_{q,2} = \mathbb{F}_{q^2}^\times \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ . Show that  $\rho|_{\mathbb{F}_{q^2}^\times} \cong \chi \oplus \chi^q$  for some  $\chi$  a character of  $\mathbb{F}_{q^2}^\times$  which is not a base change from  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .
- (f) Deduce that there is a bijection between the cuspidal representations of  $G$  and the irreducible two-dimensional  $L$ -parameters which, in turn, are in bijection with equivalence classes of characters of  $\mathbb{F}_{q^2}^\times$  which are not base changes from  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . The next subpart will make this bijection explicit.
- (g) In the notation of Exercise 1.4.7 show that  $\rho_\psi^\times(a(u)) = \text{id}$  for  $u \in L^1$  and conclude that  $\rho_\psi^\times$  factors through  $\mathcal{G}/\{a(u)|u \in L^1\} \cong \text{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_q)$ .

**Exercise 1.4.7** (Constructing the cuspidal representations using the Weil representation) Let  $K = \mathbb{F}_q$  and  $L = \mathbb{F}_{q^2}$ ,  $L^1 = \{x \in L | N_{L/K}x = 1\}$  and  $\mathcal{G} = \ker(\det \cdot N_{L/K} : \text{GL}(2, K) \times L^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times)$ . For simplicity of notation for  $z \in L$  write  $\bar{z} = z^q$  for the nontrivial automorphism of  $\text{Gal}(L/K)$ .

1. Show that  $N_{L/K}$  is surjective.

2. Let  $n(t) = \left( \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}, 1 \right)$ ,  $a(u) = \left( \begin{pmatrix} N_{L/K}u & \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \bar{u}^{-1} \right)$ ,  $z(v) = \left( \begin{pmatrix} v & \\ & v \end{pmatrix}, v^{-1} \right)$  and  $w = \left( \begin{pmatrix} & 1 \\ -1 & \end{pmatrix}, 1 \right)$ . Write  $\mathcal{N} = \{n(t)|t \in K\}$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = \{a(u)|u \in L^\times\}$  and  $\mathcal{Z} = \{z(v)|v \in K^\times\}$ . Show that

$$\mathcal{Z}\mathcal{A}\mathcal{N} \backslash \mathcal{G}/\mathcal{N} = \{1, w\}$$

3. Deduce that a presentation of  $\mathcal{G}$  is given by  $n(t) \in \mathcal{N}$ ,  $a(u) \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $z(v) \in \mathcal{Z}$  and  $w$  subject to the relations

$$\begin{aligned} n(t)z(v) &= z(v)n(t) \\ a(u)z(v) &= z(v)a(u) \\ a(u)n(t)a(u)^{-1} &= n(tN_{L/K}(u)) \\ w^2 &= z(-1)a(-1) \\ wz(v) &= z(v)w \\ wa(u) &= z(N_{L/K}(u))a(\bar{u}^{-1})w \\ wn(t)w - z(-t)a(-t^{-1})n(-t)wn(-t^{-1}) & \end{aligned}$$

4. Fix a nontrivial character  $\psi : K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ . Show that there exists a representation  $\rho_\psi$  of  $\mathcal{G}$ , called the Weil representation, on the set of maps  $\mathcal{C}(L) = \{f : L \rightarrow \mathbb{C}\} \cong \mathbb{C}^{q^2}$  such that if  $f : L \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  then

$$\begin{aligned} (\rho_\psi(n(t))f)(x) &= \psi(tN_{L/K}(x))f(x) \\ (\rho_\psi(a(u))f)(x) &= f(ux) \\ (\rho_\psi(z(v))f)(x) &= f(x) \\ (\rho_\psi(w)f)(x) &= \widehat{f}(\bar{x}) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\widehat{f}$  is the Fourier transform

$$\widehat{f}(y) = \frac{1}{q} \sum_{x \in L} f(x)\psi(\text{Tr}_{L/K}(xy))$$

[Hint: You need to check that these formulae give a homomorphism  $\rho_\psi : \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \text{Aut}(L^2(L, \mathbb{C}))$ . E.g., you'll need to check that  $\widehat{\widehat{f}(\bar{x})}(\bar{x}) = f(-x)$ .]



5. Suppose  $\chi : L^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  is a character which is not a base change from  $K$ . Let  $\mathcal{C}(L, \chi) \subset \mathcal{C}(L)$  be the set of functions  $f : L \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  such that  $f(xy) = \chi(x)f(y)$  for  $x \in L^1$  and  $y \in L$ . Show that if  $f \in \mathcal{C}(L, \chi)$  then  $f(0) = 0$  and then show that  $\mathcal{C}(L, \chi)$  is an irreducible  $\mathcal{G}$ -subrepresentation  $\rho_\psi^\chi$  of  $\mathcal{C}(L)$  of dimension  $q - 1$ .
6. Show that  $1 \rightarrow L^1 \rightarrow \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}(2, K) \rightarrow 1$  given by  $u \mapsto a(u)$  and  $(g, x) \mapsto g$  is an exact sequence.
7. Let  $\chi$  as above and write  $\pi_{\psi, \chi}(g, x) = \rho_\psi^\chi(g, x) \otimes \chi^{-1}(x)$ . Show that  $\pi_{\psi, \chi}$  is trivial on the image of  $L^1$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  and deduce that it gives a representation of  $\mathrm{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_q)$  of dimension  $q - 1$ .
8. Show that  $\sum_{t \in K} \pi_{\psi, \chi}(n(t))f = 0$  for all  $f \in \mathcal{C}(L, \chi)$  and deduce that  $\pi_{\psi, \chi}$  is cuspidal.
9. Suppose  $\chi$  and  $\chi'$  are two characters of  $L^\times$  which are not base changes from  $K$  and suppose that  $\pi_{\psi, \chi} \cong \pi_{\psi, \chi'}$ . Show that  $\chi \sim \chi'$ .
10. Conclude that  $\chi \mapsto \pi_{\psi, \chi}$  gives a bijection between the two dimensional  $L$ -parameters with irreducible representation of  $\widehat{W}_q$  and the set of cuspidal representations of  $G$ .

**Exercise 1.4.8** (Hecke theory) Let  $K = \mathbb{F}_q$  and  $\psi : K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  a nontrivial character. For a function  $\phi : \mathcal{M}_n(K) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  define the Fourier transform  $\widehat{\phi} : \mathcal{M}_n(K) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  by

$$\widehat{\phi}(X) = q^{-n^2/2} \sum_{Y \in \mathcal{M}_n(K)} \phi(Y) \psi(\mathrm{Tr}(XY))$$

Here  $\mathcal{M}_n(K)$  are  $n \times n$  matrices and  $\mathrm{Tr}$  is usual matrix trace.

1. Show that  $\widehat{\widehat{\phi}}(X) = \phi(-X)$ .
2. (Zeta functions) Let  $(V, \pi)$  be a finite dimensional representation of  $\mathrm{GL}(n, K)$  and  $\phi : \mathcal{M}_n(K) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ . Define the following two endomorphisms in  $\mathrm{End}(V)$ :

$$Z(\Phi, \pi) = \sum_{g \in \mathrm{GL}(n, K)} \phi(g) \pi(g)$$

$$W_\pi(\psi, X) = q^{-n^2/2} \sum_{g \in \mathrm{GL}(n, K)} \psi(\mathrm{Tr}(gX)) \pi(g)$$

for  $X \in \mathcal{M}_n(K)$ . Show that

$$Z(\phi, \pi) = \sum_{X \in \mathcal{M}_n(K)} \widehat{\phi}(-X) W_\pi(\psi, X)$$

3. For  $X \in \mathcal{M}_n(K)$  and  $g, h \in \mathrm{GL}(n, K)$  show that  $W_\pi(\psi, gXh) = \pi(h)^{-1} W_\pi(\psi, X) \pi(g)^{-1}$ .
4. For an irreducible representation  $\pi$  of  $\mathrm{GL}(n, K)$  show that  $W_\pi(\psi, I_n) \in \mathrm{End}(\pi)$  commutes with  $\pi(g)$  for all  $g$  and conclude that it is a scalar. Let  $\varepsilon(\pi, \psi)$  be the scalar  $W_{\pi^\vee}(\psi, I_n)$  attached to the irreducible dual representation  $\pi^\vee$ .
5. Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the set of functions  $f : \mathcal{M}_n(K) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  such that  $f(X) = 0$  for all matrices  $X$  with  $\det(X) = 0$ . Show that if  $\phi \in \mathcal{S}$  then  $\widehat{\phi} \in \mathcal{S}$ .
6. (The functional equation) Show that for  $\pi$  irreducible and  $\phi \in \mathcal{S}$ :

$$Z(\widehat{\phi}, \pi^\vee)^t = \varepsilon(\pi, \psi) Z(\phi, \pi)$$

where superscript  $t$  means dual endomorphism (i.e., matrix transposition).

7. Show that if  $\pi = \text{Ind}_B^G \chi_1 \otimes \chi_2$  is an irreducible principal series representation of  $\text{GL}(2, \mathbb{F}_q)$  then

$$\varepsilon(\pi, \psi) = q^{-2} \sum_{a, b \in \mathbb{F}_q^\times} \psi(a + b) \chi_1^{-1}(a) \chi_2^{-1}(b)$$