

Hecke eigenforms in the Cuspidal Cohomology of Congruence Subgroups of $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbf{Z})$

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1 Introduction

1.1 It is well known that one can associate Galois representations to Hecke eigenforms on congruence subgroups of $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbf{Z})$. It has been conjectured, as part of the Langlands program, that one can do the same for $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbf{Z})$ and in [vG-T] we provided some evidence for this.

For any prime number p not dividing the level of the modular form/conductor of the Galois representation, one defines a local L -factor which in the $\mathrm{SL}_3(\mathbf{Z})$ case has the form:

$$(1 - a_p p^{-s} + \bar{a}_p p^{1-2s} - p^{3-3s})^{-1}.$$

Here a_p is the eigenvalue of a Hecke operator E_p on the eigenform/trace of a Frobenius element at p in a 3-dimensional $\mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}/\mathbf{Q})$ representation and $\bar{a}_p$ is its complex conjugate.

The experimental evidence consists of an eigenform and a Galois representation with the same L -factors (that is a_p 's) for small primes.

It is actually rather easy to find candidate Galois representations in the étale cohomology of surfaces. One family of such surfaces was discussed in [vG-T] (see also § 3.8), two other families are constructed in [vG-T2]. The (computational) problem is rather to find Hecke eigenforms. (We hasten to add that none of the authors is an expert on modular forms, our interests were mainly in Galois representations and/or Algebraic Geometry and/or computational aspects).

1.2 In this paper we list some Hecke eigenvalues of several automorphic forms for congruence subgroups of $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbf{Z})$. Combining the methods from [AGG] with the Lenstra–Lenstra–Lovász algorithm we were able to handle much larger levels than in [AGG] and [vG-T]. Comparing these tables with results from computations of Galois representations, we find further evidence for the conjectured relation between modular forms and Galois representations, see Theorem 3.9.

1.3 In the first section we recall the methods from Ash *et al.* to determine the spaces of automorphic forms in terms of group cohomology and we discuss some computational aspects. Since we do not know a formula which gives the dimensions of these spaces (as function of the level of the form), we give a table with the results we found (see § 3.3). One would also like to have a table which lists the dimension of the cuspidal part, but (with exception of the prime level case), no criterion which singles out the cuspidal forms is known to us.

Next we recall how to compute the action of the Hecke operators on the space of modular forms. In view of properties of cusp forms and the examples of Galois representations we know, we are mostly interested in Hecke eigenvalues which lie in CM-fields and which are small (so they satisfy the Ramanujan hypothesis). The selection criterion upon which our tables are based is given in § 2.6.

In contrast with the $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbf{Z})$ case, one finds very few cusp forms of prime level for $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbf{Z})$. In fact the only prime levels ≤ 337 with cusp forms are the levels 53, 61, 79, 89 and 223. The CM-fields generated by the eigenvalues were imaginary quadratic with exception of the case of level 245 where we found a degree 4 extension of $\mathbf{Q}$.

2 Modular forms and Hecke operators

2.1 We briefly recall how to compute the modular forms under consideration, the standard reference is [AGG].

In the case of $\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbf{Z})$, the space $S_2(\Gamma)$ of holomorphic modular forms of weight two on a congruence subgroup Γ is a subspace of the cohomology group $H^1(\Gamma, \mathbf{C})$. This generalizes as follows.

2.2 Define, for $N \geq 1$

$$\Gamma_0(N) = \left\{ (a_{ij}) \in \mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbf{Z}) \mid a_{21} \equiv 0 \pmod{N} \text{ and } a_{31} \equiv 0 \pmod{N} \right\}.$$

This group has our primary interest. It is neither normal in $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbf{Z})$ nor torsion-free. To compute its cohomology, we introduce a finite set:

$$\mathbf{P}^2(\mathbf{Z}/N) = \left\{ (\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}) \in (\mathbf{Z}/N)^3 \mid \bar{x}\mathbf{Z}/N + \bar{y}\mathbf{Z}/N + \bar{z}\mathbf{Z}/N = \mathbf{Z}/N \right\} / (\mathbf{Z}/N)^\times.$$

When the elements of this set are viewed as column vectors, there is a natural left action of $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbf{Z})$ on $\mathbf{P}^2(\mathbf{Z}/N)$. This action is transitive, and the stabilizer of $(\bar{1} : \bar{0} : \bar{0})$ equals $\Gamma_0(N)$. Therefore

$$\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbf{Z}) / \Gamma_0(N) \cong \mathbf{P}^2(\mathbf{Z}/N).$$

Under this correspondence, an element of $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbf{Z})$ is mapped to its first column viewed as homogeneous coordinates modulo N .

The dual of the vector space $H^3(\Gamma_0(N), \mathbf{C})$ is $H_3(\Gamma_0(N), \mathbf{C})$ and it can be computed as follows:

2.3 Theorem. ([AGG], Thm 3.2, Prop 3.12)

There is a canonical isomorphism between $H_3(\Gamma_0(N), \mathbf{C})$ and the vector space of mappings $f : \mathbf{P}^2(\mathbf{Z}/N) \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ that satisfy

1. $f(\bar{x} : \bar{y} : \bar{z}) = -f(-\bar{y} : \bar{x} : \bar{z})$,
2. $f(\bar{x} : \bar{y} : \bar{z}) = f(\bar{z} : \bar{x} : \bar{y})$,
3. $f(\bar{x} : \bar{y} : \bar{z}) + f(-\bar{y} : \bar{x} - \bar{y} : \bar{z}) + f(\bar{y} - \bar{x} : -\bar{x} : \bar{y}) = 0$.

2.4 For any $\alpha \in \mathrm{GL}(3, \mathbf{Q})$ one has a ($\mathbf{C}$ -linear) Hecke operator:

$$T_\alpha : H^3(\Gamma_0(N), \mathbf{C}) \longrightarrow H^3(\Gamma_0(N), \mathbf{C})$$

which defines an adjoint operator T_α^* on the dual space $H_3(\Gamma_0(N), \mathbf{C})$. We now explain how to determine this adjoint.

Let

$$\Gamma_0(N)\alpha\Gamma_0(N) = \coprod_i \beta_i \Gamma_0(N)$$

be the decomposition of the double coset in a (finite) disjoint union of left cosets. Such β_i 's can be found in [AGG], p. 430.

First we need the definition of modular symbol (compare [AR], where however column rather than row vectors are used). These modular symbols are elements of $H_1(T_3, \mathbf{Z})$, with T_3 the Tits building for $\mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbf{Q})$, and they give rise to cohomology classes in $H^3(\Gamma_0(N), \mathbf{C})$. For the purposes of this paper it however suffices to know the following. For three non-zero row vectors $q_1, q_2, q_3 \in \mathbf{Q}^3$ we define a modular symbol

$$[Q] = \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

(where we can view Q as a 3×3 matrix with rows q_i) which satisfies the following rules:

1. permuting the rows of $\begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{bmatrix}$ changes the sign of the symbol according to the sign of the permutation,
2. $\begin{bmatrix} a_1 q_1 \\ a_2 q_2 \\ a_3 q_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{bmatrix}$,
3. $\begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{bmatrix} = 0$ when $\det \begin{pmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{pmatrix} = 0$,
4. $\begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} q_0 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} q_0 \\ q_1 \\ q_3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} q_0 \\ q_1 \\ q_2 \end{bmatrix} = 0$,
5. $\begin{bmatrix} q_1 \alpha \\ q_2 \alpha \\ q_3 \alpha \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \alpha$,

where $q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3 \in \mathbf{Q}^3$ are non-zero row vectors, $a_1, a_2, a_3 \in \mathbf{Q}^\times$, $\alpha \in \mathrm{GL}(3, \mathbf{Q})$ and $\cdot$ denotes the right action of $\mathrm{GL}(3, \mathbf{Q})$ on $H_1(T_3, \mathbf{Z})$ induced by its natural right action on T_3

A modular symbol $[Q]$ is called unimodular if $Q \in \mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbf{Z})$. Using these relations, any modular symbol is equal to the sum of unimodular symbols. An explicit algorithm we used to do this is

given in 2.10. Finally we observe that if $[Q]$ is unimodular, then it defines a point of $\mathbf{P}^2(\mathbf{Z}/N) = \mathrm{SL}_3(\mathbf{Z})/\Gamma_0(N)$, denoted by the same symbol.

We continue the description of the Hecke operator. Let β_i be a coset representative as above, and let $x \in \mathbf{P}^2(\mathbf{Z}/N)$ be represented by $Q_x \in \mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbf{Z})$. Then, as modular symbols, we can write:

$$[Q_x \beta_i] = \sum_j [R_{ij}], \quad R_{ij} \in \mathrm{SL}(3, \mathbf{Z}).$$

Finally we then have the formula for the adjoint of the Hecke operator T_α :

$$T_\alpha^* : H_3(\Gamma_0(N), \mathbf{C}) \longrightarrow H_3(\Gamma_0(N), \mathbf{C}), \quad (T_\alpha^* f)(x) = \sum_{ij} f(R_{ij})$$

where the R_{ij} on the right hand side are considered as elements of $\mathbf{P}^2(\mathbf{Z}/N)$.

2.5 The Hecke algebra $\mathcal{T}$ is defined to be the subalgebra of $\mathrm{End}(H^3(\Gamma_0(N), \mathbf{C}))$ generated by the T_α 's with $\det(\alpha)$ relatively prime with N . The Hecke algebra is a commutative algebra and $H^3(\Gamma_0(N), \mathbf{C})$ may be decomposed as a direct sum of common eigenspaces of the operators from $\mathcal{T}$:

$$H^3(\Gamma_0(N), \mathbf{C}) = \bigoplus_{\lambda} V_{\lambda}$$

where each λ is a homomorphism of algebras $\mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$, and

$$Tf = \lambda(T)f$$

for $T \in \mathcal{T}$ and $f \in V_{\lambda}$.

Of particular interest are the Hecke operators E_p , p prime, $p \nmid N$ defined by $\alpha_p \in \mathrm{GL}(3, \mathbf{Q})$:

$$\alpha_p := \begin{pmatrix} p & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Given a character λ of $\mathcal{T}$, the number a_p in the local L -factor of the corresponding Hecke eigenform is:

$$a_p := \lambda(E_p).$$

2.6 We are interested in relating Hecke eigenforms and non-selfdual Galois representations. It is known that the corresponding Hecke eigenvalues must then generate a CM-field (a degree two imaginary extension of a totally real field).

The computer determined and factorized (over $\mathbf{Q}$) the eigenvalue polynomial of the Hecke operators E_p for the first 5 primes p which do not divide N . We then considered only those V_{λ} for which at least one (of the five) numbers $\lambda(E_p)$ generated a CM-field. (Thus examples of non-selfdual modular forms with, say, $\lambda(E_p) \in \mathbf{Q}$ for the first 5 primes not dividing N , but with $\lambda(E_p)$

generating a CM-field for the sixth prime were certainly overlooked). For such λ we computed the values $a_p := \lambda(E_p)$ for the first 40 prime numbers (that is, all primes $p \leq 173$).

We are interested in relating these eigenforms to Galois representations. Conjecturally, the roots of the polynomial $X^3 - a_p X^2 + \bar{a}_p X - p^3$ should be the eigenvalues of a Frobenius element (in $\text{Gal}(\bar{\mathbf{Q}}/\mathbf{Q})$) in a 3-dimensional representation (at least if the eigenform is a cusp form). These eigenvalues of the Frobenius element should have absolute value p . Therefore we consider only eigenforms which satisfy Ramanujan's conjecture

$$|a_p| \leq 3p.$$

Examples where this is not satisfied are not listed here either, with the exception of the second column of the table in 3.5. The first example of CM-eigenvalues (the field is $\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$) which do not satisfy Ramanujan's conjecture is for $N = 49$.

2.7 Dimensions. The computer first of all determined the space $H_3(\Gamma_0(N), \mathbf{C})$ using 2.3. The dimension of that space is listed in table 3.3. Representing a map $f : \mathbf{P}^2(\mathbf{Z}/N) \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ by the vector of its values, the equations listed in 2.3 give a system of linear equations. The number of variables is first reduced using the first two equations and there remains a sparse linear system with small integer coefficients. This system is reduced further, roughly by eliminating equations with fewer than three terms. For example, in case $N = 223$ (a prime number) we are left with a system of 7005 equations in 1963 variables. We will use this example to explain how we proceed.

2.8 Lattice reduction. In smaller cases we solved the sparse linear system by Gauss elimination, mixed with a Euclidean algorithm to keep the entries small. In these smaller cases we observed that the solution space is always spanned by vectors with remarkably small coordinates. But for larger systems like in our example case $N = 223$ our Pascal program crashes because of integer overflow during the Gauss elimination. Therefore we solve the system only modulo the prime 32503. (As $2 * 32503 * 32503 < \text{Maxint}$ in our Pascal implementation, overflow is now easily avoided without much change to the program.)

We find that over the field $\mathbf{Z}/32503\mathbf{Z}$ the solution space is spanned by a basis of 38 vectors. Now the trick is to apply the Lenstra–Lenstra–Lovász algorithm [LLL], [P] to the lattice L of integral vectors of length 1963 whose reduction modulo 32503 is spanned by these 38 vectors. The LLL algorithm finds 38 independent vectors with their 1963 integer coordinates all between -42 and 64 , and so that their residues mod 32503 still form a basis of the solution space of the modular system. (The program aims for coordinates between -150 and 150 . This works in all examples, with some room to spare.) One now plugs these new vectors in the original system, to see that we are in luck and that they satisfy it over $\mathbf{Z}$. (In all cases we had such luck.) It follows that they span the solution space over $\mathbf{Q}$, so by this trick we succeeded in solving the 7005 by 1963 system over $\mathbf{Q}$. Here the LLL algorithm that we use is `lllint` in GP/PARI CALCULATOR Version 1.37.

Actually we do not really apply the LLL algorithm to the lattice $L \subset \mathbf{Z}^{1963}$. This $\mathbf{Z}^{1963}$ is too big. But note that, to describe a new basis of the solution space of the modular system, all one

needs is a 38 by 38 transformation matrix. One can start looking for a useful matrix using just a small sample of the 1963 coordinates. We increase the sample until success is achieved. This finishes the explanation of how we solve our large sparse linear systems.

2.9 Finding a subspace. Next we compute the 38 by 38 matrix describing the Hecke operator for some prime p , compute its minimal polynomial and factorize it. There is just one factor that has CM-eigenvalues and it has degree two. Next we plug the matrix into this factor of degree two. This results in a corank two matrix of which we compute the kernel. From this we get two vectors of length 1963, spanning our interesting subspace. Applying LLL once more, now with the prime 224737, we can get a new pair, spanning the same subspace over $\mathbf{Q}$ (this we check), and with coordinates between -72 and 90 . (At this step we aimed for coordinates between -4500 and 4500 , as in practice the coordinates of the generators of the subspace are not as small as those for the full solution space.)

2.10 Reducing symbols. We now describe the algorithm we used to reduce a modular symbol to a sum of unimodular symbols. Large parts of it are borrowed from the algorithm given by Ash and Rudolph [AR]. We shall constantly refer to the properties enjoyed by the modular symbol, listed in Section 2.4.

By property 2, we may restrict our attention to modular symbols whose underlying matrices have integer entries. Let Q be a 3×3 matrix (with integer entries), all whose rows are non-zero. By properties 2 and 3, we may assume that $|\det Q| > 1$. For any non-zero row vector $v \in \mathbf{Z}^3$ and $1 \leq i \leq 3$, let $Q_i\{v\}$ denote the matrix Q with its i th row replaced with v . It follows from properties 1 and 4 that

$$[Q] = [Q_1\{v\}] + [Q_2\{v\}] + [Q_3\{v\}]. \quad (2.10.1)$$

A vector v will be constructed such that each matrix $Q_i\{v\}$ has smaller $|\det|$ than Q . Let q_1, q_2 and q_3 denote the rows of Q , and write

$$v = t_1 q_1 + t_2 q_2 + t_3 q_3 \quad (2.10.2)$$

with $t_1, t_2, t_3 \in \mathbf{Q}$. Since

$$\det Q_i\{v\} = \sum_{j=1}^3 t_j \det Q_i\{q_j\} = t_i \det Q, \quad (2.10.3)$$

we need to find t_i with $|t_i| < 1$ such that the vector given in (2.10.2) has integer coefficients.

In order to do this, we shall find a row vector $x \in \mathbf{Z}^3$ and an integer m such that

$$xQ \equiv 0 \pmod{m} \quad (2.10.4)$$

and

$$x \not\equiv 0 \pmod{m}. \quad (2.10.5)$$

From such a congruence, a suitable vector v can be constructed as follows. Write $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$. We may assume that $|x_i| \leq \frac{1}{2}|m|$ for $1 \leq i \leq 3$. It then follows easily from (2.10.4) and (2.10.5) that we may take $t_i = \frac{x_i}{m}$.

It remains to find x and m satisfying (2.10.4) and (2.10.5). A Gauss-like elimination procedure is applied to (2.10.4), without specifying the value of m yet. The trick is to choose the modulus m only after enough elimination steps have been performed. We begin working on the first row of Q . By means of elementary column operations, (2.10.4) is transformed into an equivalent congruence relation

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3) \begin{pmatrix} m_1 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * \\ * & * & * \end{pmatrix} \equiv (0, 0, 0) \pmod{m}. \quad (2.10.6)$$

Since $|\det Q| > 1$ and the column operations do not change $|\det|$ of the matrix, m_1 cannot vanish. Now if $|m_1| > 1$, we take $x = (1, 0, 0)$ and $m = m_1$, and we have found a solution to (2.10.4) and (2.10.5). If $|m_1| = 1$, we turn to the second row of the matrix in (2.10.6). By elementary column operations we get

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3) \begin{pmatrix} \pm 1 & 0 & 0 \\ * & m_2 & 0 \\ * & * & * \end{pmatrix} \equiv (0, 0, 0) \pmod{m}. \quad (2.10.7)$$

Again m_2 cannot vanish. If $|m_2| > 1$, we take $m = m_2$ and find a solution of the form $x = (*, 1, 0)$. If $|m_2| = 1$, (2.10.7) takes the form

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3) \begin{pmatrix} \pm 1 & 0 & 0 \\ * & \pm 1 & 0 \\ * & * & m_3 \end{pmatrix} \equiv (0, 0, 0) \pmod{m}.$$

Since $m_3 = \pm \det Q$, we have $|m_3| > 1$, so we can take $m = m_3$ and find a solution of the form $x = (*, *, 1)$.

A close look at the algorithm reveals that $|\det Q_i\{v\}| \leq \frac{1}{2}|\det Q|$ for $i = 1, 2$ and $|\det Q_3\{v\}| \leq 1$. Also we would like to point out that our algorithm, like that of Ash and Rudolph, works over any Euclidean domain and for any dimension.

3 Numerical results

3.1 Remark. For prime level p one knows that ([AGG], Thm. 3.19)

$$\dim H^3(\Gamma_0(p), \mathbf{C}) = \dim H_{cusp}^3(\Gamma_0(p), \mathbf{C}) + 2 \dim S_2(p),$$

where $S_2(p)$ is the dimension of the space of weight two cusp forms for the congruence subgroup $\Gamma_0(p) \subset \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbf{Z})$. Recall that $\dim S_2(p) = k - 1$, k , k , $k + 1$ when $p = 12k + r$ and $r = 1, 5, 7, 11$. Thus in this case it is easy to determine if H_{cusp}^3 is non-zero.

3.2 Remark. In case there is a newform of level N , then in level pN we find 3 copies of it (for example, the form of level 53 appears 3 times in level 106 and 3 times in level 159). It appears 6 times in level $212 = 2^2 \cdot 53$. Such old forms, especially for levels $N = p^k$, were studied in [R].

3.3 Dimension of $H_3(\Gamma_0(N), \mathbb{C})$.

$x =$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
N	dim									
$1x$	2	2	7	0	4	4	6	2	7	2
$2x$	9	4	8	4	17	4	6	6	13	4
$3x$	20	4	12	10	10	8	21	4	12	8
$4x$	23	6	26	6	21	15	16	8	34	9
$5x$	20	14	21	10	25	14	31	14	20	10
$6x$	55	10	20	19	26	12	42	10	29	20
$7x$	38	12	51	10	22	28	33	18	44	14
$8x$	48	23	26	14	71	18	28	24	49	16
$9x$	67	16	24	41	32	22	68	14	43	33
$10x$	59	16	60	16	51	48	42	18	69	16
$11x$	58	28	64	18	66	28	57	35	40	26
$12x$	125	29	44	40	53	28	89	20	58	34
$13x$	60	22	107	26	44	51	67	22	82	22
$14x$	101	40	50	30	111	32	46	55	61	24
$15x$	122	24	75	51	76	36	119	24	62	50
$16x$	100	36	101	26	69	74	56	28	161	40
$17x$	80	53	73	28	106	56	102	50	64	30
$18x$	177	28	82	54	93	40	106	40	81	67
$19x$	94	32	146	30	62	80	121	32	139	32
$20x$	141	54	66	44	?	48	68	67	108	44
$21x$	?	34	109	60	72	50	?	44	70	58
$22x$	?	44	?	38	?	?	74	38	?	36
$23x$	?	94	?	38	?	56	?	70	?	40
$24x$	38	?	?	?	?	83	?	46	?	70
$25x$	42	?	?	54	84	?	?	42	?	?

3.4 In the following table we list the Hecke eigenvalues a_p for Hecke operators E_p , with $2 \leq p \leq 173$, of eigenforms of certain levels. The eigenvalues for small p and level 53, 61 and 79 were already given in [AGG].

(Note that in [AGG] the table for level 79 is not consistent for $p = 13$ since the eigenvalue listed is not a root of the quadratic polynomial listed, our results show $-1 + 4\omega$ should be replaced by $1 + 4\omega$.)

For each column of the table we fix an algebraic integer with the following property:

$$\alpha^2 = -2, \quad \beta^2 = -3, \quad \gamma^2 = -7, \quad \delta^2 = -11, \quad \epsilon^2 = -15, \quad \iota^2 = -23.$$

$N =$	53	58	61	79	88	153	223
p	eigenvalue						
2	$-2 - \delta$	**	$-\beta$	-1	**	1	1
3	$-1 + \delta$	$-1 + \gamma$	$-3 + 2\beta$	$-1 + \epsilon$	$-1 + \gamma$	**	$-3 + \iota$
5	1	$-4 - 2\gamma$	2β	$-4 - 2\epsilon$	$-4 - 2\gamma$	1	1
7	-3	$1 + 2\gamma$	$-3 - 3\beta$	$-3 - \epsilon$	$1 - 2\gamma$	$-3 + 6\alpha$	1
11	1	$7 - \gamma$	$-1 + \beta$	$1 + 2\epsilon$	**	$-5 + 6\alpha$	$1 - \iota$
13	$-8 - 6\delta$	$-6 - 2\gamma$	$-4 - 2\beta$	$-6 - 2\epsilon$	$1 + 4\gamma$	$-9 - 12\alpha$	-1
17	22	13	$-15 + 4\beta$	-1	-1	**	$-2 - 4\iota$
19	$11 + 3\delta$	$-11 - 4\gamma$	$17 + 4\beta$	$5 + 4\epsilon$	$-11 - 4\gamma$	9	-3
23	$-11 + \delta$	$-7 + 8\gamma$	$5 - 9\beta$	$17 + 2\epsilon$	$21 - 5\gamma$	$-11 + 6\alpha$	$-11 - \iota$
29	$16 + 2\delta$	**	$7 + 4\beta$	-9	$-11 - 4\gamma$	13	22
31	-7	$-15 - 11\gamma$	$17 - 4\beta$	$1 + 2\epsilon$	$-15 - \gamma$	$-15 - 6\alpha$	$-3 + 6\iota$
37	$-24 + 6\delta$	$21 + 4\gamma$	$1 - 16\beta$	-1	$-14 + 18\gamma$	-15	-2
41	-17	15	$-22 - 36\beta$	43	$1 - 8\gamma$	31	$-32 - 4\iota$
43	$29 + 6\delta$	$-25 + 7\gamma$	$-27 + 16\beta$	$-11 - 8\epsilon$	$17 - 6\gamma$	$33 + 12\alpha$	$-11 + 6\iota$
47	$1 - 14\delta$	$-39 + 13\gamma$	$33 + 4\beta$	$-39 - 5\epsilon$	$17 + 16\gamma$	$-11 - 12\alpha$	$-11 - 6\iota$
53	$-38 + 14\delta$	$56 - 2\gamma$	-25	$-15 - 4\epsilon$	$-21 + 8\gamma$	$19 - 12\alpha$	$-44 - 12\iota$
59	$1 - 14\delta$	69	$19 - \beta$	$15 - \epsilon$	$-1 + 7\gamma$	$49 + 12\alpha$	$25 - 11\iota$
61	-7	$17 + 4\gamma$	$30 + 30\beta$	$9 + 4\epsilon$	$-39 - 28\gamma$	9	17
67	$-11 - 12\delta$	$-35 + 8\gamma$	$71 + 3\beta$	$-43 + 4\epsilon$	$-21 + 23\gamma$	$-27 - 36\alpha$	$25 - 9\iota$
71	$13 - 5\delta$	$17 - 14\gamma$	$-15 + 4\beta$	$-67 + 31\epsilon$	$101 + \gamma$	$-35 - 30\alpha$	$25 - 4\iota$
73	$-39 - 12\delta$	$13 - 24\gamma$	$-42 - 4\beta$	27	$13 + 8\gamma$	$-33 + 72\alpha$	$20 + 12\iota$
79	$-39 + 9\delta$	$-7 - 17\gamma$	$-7 + 31\beta$	$41 - 17\epsilon$	$-63 - 10\gamma$	$33 - 18\alpha$	25
83	$67 - \delta$	$-27 - 36\gamma$	$13 + 32\beta$	$33 + 10\epsilon$	$1 - 6\gamma$	$-47 + 12\alpha$	$-23 + 22\iota$
89	$-29 + 16\delta$	$-53 - 16\gamma$	$-19 + 8\beta$	$-18 - 12\epsilon$	$-60 - 4\gamma$	$-89 + 96\alpha$	$16 - 4\iota$
97	-58	$-69 + 48\gamma$	$3 + 32\beta$	$-58 + 16\epsilon$	$106 + 16\gamma$	$27 - 24\alpha$	$-81 + 24\iota$
101	$43 - 20\delta$	$-43 + 4\gamma$	$-15 - 48\beta$	$46 - 6\epsilon$	$27 + 8\gamma$	55	$-53 + 16\iota$
103	$-99 + 33\delta$	$129 + 6\gamma$	$-67 - 72\beta$	$-51 + 15\epsilon$	-39	$69 - 36\alpha$	$-79 + 15\iota$
107	$85 - 18\delta$	$-63 - 38\gamma$	$81 + 38\beta$	$-89 - 41\epsilon$	$-63 + 18\gamma$	$-89 + 114\alpha$	$-11 - 24\iota$
109	$101 + 12\delta$	$84 + 18\gamma$	$14 - 14\beta$	$-61 - 8\epsilon$	$-77 - 40\gamma$	$-63 + 72\alpha$	63
113	$-68 + 24\delta$	3	$-94 + 80\beta$	$69 - 16\epsilon$	$122 + 8\gamma$	$115 - 24\alpha$	$-41 + 24\iota$
127	$-7 - 21\delta$	129	$5 - 46\beta$	$-15 + 9\epsilon$	$-95 - 8\gamma$	$-99 - 144\alpha$	$-79 + 6\iota$
131	$-107 - 50\delta$	$45 + 16\gamma$	$-127 - 64\beta$	$25 + 22\epsilon$	$-39 + 6\gamma$	$-53 - 102\alpha$	$25 + 10\iota$
137	$25 + 12\delta$	$21 + 8\gamma$	$90 - 36\beta$	$117 + 8\epsilon$	$70 - 4\gamma$	43	$-149 + 44\iota$
139	$-19 - 12\delta$	$-83 + 4\gamma$	$-21 - 13\beta$	$115 - 23\epsilon$	$113 + 26\gamma$	$39 - 6\alpha$	$5 + 6\iota$
149	$46 - 38\delta$	$14 - 30\gamma$	$-10 - 58\beta$	$-1 - 32\epsilon$	$231 - 16\gamma$	$-137 + 12\alpha$	$175 + 8\iota$
151	$-35 - 45\delta$	$49 - 26\gamma$	$-75 - 57\beta$	$-79 + 58\epsilon$	$49 + 34\gamma$	$-27 - 72\alpha$	$-11 - 15\iota$
157	$-51 + 48\delta$	-113	221	$-85 + 8\epsilon$	$104 + 18\gamma$	$-57 - 96\alpha$	-45
163	$277 - 6\delta$	$91 - 25\gamma$	$85 - 66\beta$	-19	$189 - 24\gamma$	$39 + 54\alpha$	$125 - 12\iota$
167	$157 + 15\delta$	$1 + 22\gamma$	$-147 - 136\beta$	$-31 + 6\epsilon$	$-55 + 12\gamma$	$-107 - 150\alpha$	$-155 - 59\iota$
173	$-53 - 56\delta$	$-109 + 56\gamma$	$19 + 56\beta$	$-135 - 12\epsilon$	$3 - 8\gamma$	$13 + 24\alpha$	$181 - 8\iota$

3.5 At level 245 we found two 4-dimensional spaces, V_a , V_b invariant under the Hecke action, and the eigenvalue polynomial of the E_p 's, for $p \in \{2, 3, 11, 13, 17\}$ on each space is an irreducible polynomial of degree 4. The field K generated by the roots of these polynomials is the same for both spaces:

$$K = \mathbf{Q}[X]/(x^4 + 2x^2 + 4) \cong \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{-1 + \sqrt{-3}}) = \mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{-3}).$$

p	V_a	V_b
2	$x^4 + 6x^3 + 35x^2 + 6x + 1$	$x^4 + 10x^3 + 77x^2 + 230x + 529$
3	$x^4 + 8x^3 + 66x^2 - 16x + 4$	$x^4 + 20x^3 + 302x^2 + 1960x + 9604$
11	$x^4 + 46x^3 + 2555x^2 - 20194x + 192721$	$x^4 + 246x^3 + 45395x^2 + 3719766x + 228644641$
13	$x^4 + 100x^3 + 1046x^2 - 72700x + 528529$	$x^4 - 668x^3 + 167318x^2 - 18624508x + 777350161$
17	$x^4 + 70x^3 + 5987x^2 - 76090x + 1181569$	$x^4 + 582x^3 + 254051x^2 + 49279686x + 7169516929$

The four roots of each of these polynomials $X^4 - c_p X^3 + \dots$ are the eigenvalues of E_p , and by the Ramanujan conjecture for cusp forms their absolute value should be at most $3p$, so $|c_p| \leq 12p$. The c_p we found on V_b do not satisfy this condition, those listed for V_a do. We do not know however if (any) of these spaces contains cuspforms.

3.6 In the last table we list the Hecke eigenvalues for Hecke operators E_p , with $2 \leq p \leq 173$, of eigenforms with eigenvalues $a_p \in \mathbf{Z}[i]$.

$N =$	89	$106 = 2 \cdot 53$	$128 = 2^7$	$160 = 2^5 \cdot 5$	$205 = 5 \cdot 41$	$212 = 2^2 \cdot 53$	$221 = 13 \cdot 17$
p	eigenvalue						
2	$-1 - 2i$	**	**	**	-1	**	$-1 + 2i$
3	$-1 + i$	$-1 + i$	$1 + 2i$	$1 + 2i$	$1 + 2i$	$-1 + i$	$-1 + 4i$
5	$2 - 2i$	$-4 - 5i$	$-1 - 4i$	**	**	$-1 + 4i$	$-1 - 4i$
7	$-7 + 14i$	$2 + 5i$	$1 + 4i$	$1 - 2i$	$1 + 2i$	$5 + 2i$	$3 - 4i$
11	$-3 - 10i$	$6 + 5i$	$-7 - 10i$	$-3 - 12i$	$-7 - 10i$	$-3 - 10i$	5
13	$-1 - 4i$	$-8 + 4i$	$-1 + 4i$	$-5 - 8i$	$3 - 8i$	$16 - 2i$	**
17	$-6 + 8i$	$-8 - 10i$	7	-5	-5	$-2 - 16i$	**
19	$11 - i$	$-9 + 13i$	$1 - 14i$	$13 + 8i$	$-15 - 14i$	$-9 + i$	$21 + 8i$
23	$-11 - 19i$	$-1 - 9i$	$17 - 4i$	$-15 + 26i$	$-7 - 20i$	$-19 + 3i$	$37 - 4i$
29	$-19 + 32i$	$6 - 28i$	$-9 - 12i$	$15 - 16i$	$-13 + 24i$	$6 + 26i$	$-19 - 32i$
31	$17 - 5i$	-7	1	$33 + 4i$	1	$-7 - 30i$	$-1 - 20i$
37	$15 + 32i$	$26 - 24i$	$-25 + 28i$	$11 + 24i$	$-13 + 8i$	$-10 - 18i$	$3 + 36i$
41	$25 - 20i$	$-7 + 50i$	-5	$47 - 16i$	**	$-37 - 40i$	$-35 - 40i$
43	$19 + i$	$-26 - 19i$	$-7 + 30i$	$-31 - 22i$	$53 - 8i$	$-23 - 16i$	$25 + 8i$
47	$13 - 16i$	$1 + 16i$	$17 + 40i$	$1 + 54i$	$17 + 14i$	$-23 + 10i$	$9 + 32i$
53	$-22 - 10i$	**	$23 - 20i$	$-45 - 24i$	$83 - 8i$	**	$3 + 40i$
59	$41 + 30i$	$-49 - 34i$	$-39 + 22i$	$-11 - 16i$	$-43 + 16i$	$41 + 14i$	$41 - 32i$
61	$15 + 20i$	$18 - 25i$	$63 + 20i$	$-21 + 24i$	$31 - 16i$	$-9 + 20i$	-7
67	$-7 - 76i$	$-11 - 62i$	$65 - 22i$	$-23 - 58i$	$-23 + 22i$	$-23 + 70i$	$-55 + 48i$
71	$-55 - 10i$	$-67 + 125i$	$-31 + 20i$	$-23 - 28i$	$-31 + 38i$	$77 + 35i$	$11 + 20i$
73	$60 - 28i$	$86 - 7i$	$-57 - 80i$	$-45 - 32i$	$-33 + 80i$	$-85 - 148i$	$-35 - 72i$
79	$41 - 46i$	$41 + 19i$	$81 - 24i$	$-15 - 88i$	$-63 - 74i$	$41 - 35i$	$-59 - 52i$
83	$-47 + 130i$	$7 + 49i$	$-63 + 106i$	$17 + 58i$	$-43 + 28i$	$103 + 25i$	$-11 - 56i$
89	**	$51 + 6i$	$-9 + 16i$	107	-21	-69	$11 + 24i$
97	$-12 - 16i$	$72 - 40i$	7	$-77 + 64i$	$-77 - 128i$	$-24 - 64i$	$13 - 64i$
101	45	$58 + 25i$	$-105 - 100i$	$-33 + 64i$	$115 - 40i$	$61 + 40i$	$-25 + 40i$
103	$-27 + 85i$	$-69 - 137i$	$-127 - 220i$	$113 + 50i$	$-39 - 40i$	$117 + 19i$	$-59 + 152i$
107	$33 - 26i$	$40 + 17i$	$-7 + 86i$	$-39 - 130i$	$109 - 36i$	$-95 + 32i$	$35 + 68i$
109	$-74 - 94i$	$-39 + 92i$	$-9 + 68i$	$-21 - 40i$	$59 + 40i$	$21 + 20i$	$-69 - 36i$
113	$87 - 76i$	$222 - 16i$	$-61 + 64i$	$11 - 64i$	$-1 + 64i$	$-78 + 104i$	$91 + 32i$
127	$-111 + 183i$	$3 - i$	$161 - 16i$	$1 - 34i$	$161 - 44i$	$-87 + 119i$	$-19 + 64i$
131	$-31 - 20i$	$-82 - 125i$	$-63 - 70i$	$69 + 12i$	$-91 - 52i$	$-79 - 80i$	$-25 - 60i$
137	$-125 + 72i$	$-30 + 77i$	$235 - 32i$	$-13 + 160i$	$-45 + 96i$	$-57 + 44i$	$-37 + 176i$
139	$-59 - 8i$	$81 + 28i$	$121 - 50i$	$37 - 16i$	$-155 - 224i$	$-39 + 166i$	$-149 + 180i$
149	$101 + 36i$	$-124 + 2i$	$-49 + 76i$	$259 + 8i$	$99 + 56i$	$146 + 86i$	$11 + 64i$
151	$-47 - 50i$	$-145 - 175i$	$17 + 60i$	$-71 + 148i$	$-63 + 126i$	$101 - 115i$	$5 - 80i$
157	$-141 + 48i$	$-146 - 197i$	$-113 - 140i$	$19 + 136i$	$155 + 8i$	$-77 + 124i$	$31 - 56i$
163	$-141 + 31i$	$-138 + 149i$	$1 + 2i$	$-143 - 70i$	$-139 + 164i$	$-63 + 104i$	$-79 + 152i$
167	$-175 - 188i$	$77 + 5i$	$-95 - 172i$	$1 - 34i$	$65 + 50i$	$-163 - 205i$	$7 + 100i$
173	$54 - 54i$	$87 + 14i$	$-49 - 188i$	$99 + 104i$	$-153 - 288i$	$-189 + 248i$	$49 - 136i$

3.7 Remark. The numbers a_p listed are conjectured to be the traces of the automorphisms through which a Frobenius element at p acts on 3-dimensional $\mathbf{Q}_l$ vector spaces. Note that the trace of the identity map on such a vector space is equal to three.

For $p \leq 173$ we verified that the a_p 's for the modular form of level 128 are such traces. R. Schoof observed that as far as the table goes we have:

$$a_p \equiv \begin{cases} 3 \bmod 4 & \text{for } p \equiv 1 \bmod 4 \\ 1 + 2i \bmod 8 & \text{for } p \equiv 3 \bmod 8 \\ 1 \bmod 8 & \text{for } p \equiv 7 \bmod 8 \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad a_p \equiv 3 \bmod 8 \text{ when } p = a^2 + 32b^2$$

(Note $41 = 3^2 + 32 \cdot 1^2$, $113 = 9^2 + 32 \cdot 1^2$, $137 = 3^2 + 32 \cdot 2^2$.)

3.8 The background for this paragraph can be found in [vG-T]. There a 3-dimensional (compatible system of l -adic) Galois representation V_l was constructed in $H^2(S_a, \mathbf{Q}_l)$ (etale cohomology) of the (smooth, minimal, projective) surface S_a defined by the (affine) equation:

$$t^2 = xy(x^2 - 1)(y^2 - 1)(x^2 - y^2 + axy)$$

After a twist by the non-trivial character $\chi : \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}/\mathbf{Q}) \rightarrow \text{Gal}(\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{-2})/\mathbf{Q}) \cong \pm 1$, the L -factors of the Galois representation on V_l for $a = 2$ coincide with the L -factors of a modular form of level 128 (the one also listed in the table here) for all primes ≤ 173 . With similar computations we found two more examples:

3.9 Theorem. For all odd primes $p \leq 173$ the L -factors of the modular form of level 160 (205 resp.) listed here coincide with the twist by the non-trivial character $\epsilon : \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}/\mathbf{Q}) \rightarrow \text{Gal}(\mathbf{Q}(\sqrt{-1})/\mathbf{Q}) \cong \pm 1$ of the L -factors of the Galois representation V_l from the surface S_a with $a = 4$ ($a = 1/16$ resp.).

3.10 It may be expected that more examples of the kind given in Theorem 3.9 can be found. There is no particular reason why the family of surfaces S_a given above will provide such examples. In fact, in [vG-T2] different families of surfaces were used to compute tables of traces of Frobenius for the corresponding 3-dimensional Galois representations V_l . Here we give a similar such table in which for various values $a \in \mathbf{Z}$ the traces of Frobenius on V_l are given, for good primes $p \leq 29$. ‘Good primes’ here means primes p which do not divide $2a(a^2 + 4)$; our table displays the symbol $(*)$ for primes which do divide this quantity. The method by which traces are computed, is explained in [vG-T, (3.6–9)]. For amusement, and to stress the point that it is indeed easy to do such

calculations for many primes, the prime $p = 173$ is included as well.

$a =$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
p	trace								
3	$-1 + 2i$	$1 + 2i$	$(*)$	$-1 + 2i$	$1 + 2i$	$(*)$	$-1 + 2i$	$1 + 2i$	$(*)$
5	$(*)$	$1 + 4i$	$1 - 4i$	$(*)$	$(*)$	$(*)$	$1 + 4i$	$1 - 4i$	$(*)$
7	$-1 - 2i$	$-1 - 4i$	$1 + 2i$	$-1 + 2i$	$1 - 4i$	$1 - 2i$	$(*)$	$-1 - 2i$	$-1 - 4i$
11	$3 - 12i$	$-7 - 10i$	$-9 + 6i$	-13	$7 + 14i$	$-7 + 14i$	13	$9 + 6i$	$7 - 10i$
13	$-5 + 8i$	$1 - 4i$	$(*)$	$3 - 8i$	$9 - 8i$	$-3 - 8i$	$-3 + 8i$	$9 + 8i$	$3 + 8i$
17	-5	7	$5 - 8i$	$3 + 16i$	$-15 + 4i$	$9 + 20i$	$1 + 8i$	$(*)$	$(*)$
19	$-13 + 8i$	$1 - 14i$	$-7 - 18i$	$3 + 20i$	$-9 - 2i$	$15 - 14i$	$15 + 18i$	5	$-21 - 4i$
23	$15 + 26i$	$-17 + 4i$	-17	$15 - 26i$	$-7 + 12i$	$-1 - 10i$	$33 + 2i$	$15 - 2i$	$15 + 24i$
29	$15 + 16i$	$9 + 12i$	$-7 + 16i$	$23 + 16i$	$(*)$	$-13 - 8i$	$-21 + 24i$	$1 - 4i$	$-13 + 24i$
173	$99 - 104i$	$49 + 188i$	$-43 - 96i$	$-93 - 56i$	$99 + 56i$	$27 - 72i$	$-135 + 68i$	$-79 - 68i$	$295 + 48i$

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