

Howe duality for a quasi-split exceptional dual pair

Petar Bakic, Gordan Savin

Abstract

We prove Howe duality for the theta correspondence arising from the p -adic dual pair $G_2 \times (PU_3 \circ Z=2Z)$ inside the adjoint quasi-split group of type E_6 .

Introduction

Let F be a p -adic field, that is, a non-archimedean local field of characteristic 0. Simple exceptional Lie algebras over F can be constructed from pairs $(\mathbf{O}; J)$ where \mathbf{O} is an octonion algebra over F , and J a Freudenthal Jordan algebra. Let $G = \text{Aut}(\mathbf{O})$ and $G^0 = \text{Aut}(J)$. Let \mathfrak{g} and \mathfrak{g}^0 be the Lie algebras of G and G^0 , respectively. Then, by a construction of Tits [16],

$$\mathfrak{h} = \mathfrak{g} \oplus \mathfrak{g}^0 \oplus \mathbf{O}_J$$

has a structure of a simple exceptional Lie algebra over F , where \mathbf{O} and J denote trace 0 elements in \mathbf{O} and J , respectively. Let $H = \text{Aut}(\mathfrak{h})$. It is evident from the construction that there is an inclusion

$$G \times G^0 \subset H:$$

The group G is a split exceptional group of type G_2 , whereas G^0 and H depend on J . A Freudenthal Jordan algebra is a form of $J_3(C)$, the algebra of 3×3 Hermitian symmetric matrices with coefficients in a composition F -algebra C , see Chapter IX in [17]. A composition algebra, roughly speaking, is a non-associative algebra with an anti-involution $x \mapsto x^\dagger$ such that $N_C(x) = xx^\dagger$ is a quadratic form satisfying composition, that is, $N_C(xy) = N_C(x)N_C(y)$ for all $x, y \in C$. The case treated in this paper is $C = K$, a quadratic field extension of F . Then

$$G^0 = PU_3(K) \circ \text{Gal}(K/F);$$

where $PU_3(K)$ is the quotient of the unitary group $U_3(K)$ in three variables by its center, and $\text{Gal}(K/F)$ acts on coefficients of $U_3(K)$ naturally. The group H is quasi-split of absolute type E_6 .

Let π be the minimal representation of H . The goal of this paper is to understand the restriction of π to the dual pair $G \times G^0$. More precisely, let ρ be a smooth, irreducible representation of G . Then there exists a smooth representation (σ) of G^0 such that (σ) is the maximal ρ -isotypic quotient of π . If (σ) is non-zero, we prove that it is a finite length G^0 -module, and that it has a unique irreducible quotient (σ) . Conversely, if σ is an irreducible representation of G^0 then (σ) is a finite length G -module and, if it is non-zero, then it has a unique irreducible module (σ) . The results are summarized in Theorem 4.1.

These results are proved by a period ping-pong, introduced in [10], that can be viewed as a generalization of the doubling method for classical theta correspondences [14], [18]. Here, just as for classical theta correspondences, one needs the following ingredient: If π is an irreducible quotient of ρ , then π^\vee is a quotient of $(\rho^\vee)^\vee$, where π^\vee denotes the smooth dual of π . For classical theta correspondences this statement can be obtained using the Mœglin-Vignéras-Waldspurger involution [21]. Existence of such an involution is a non-trivial matter; however, if π is tempered then π^\vee is isomorphic to the complex conjugate π^\vee . Since $\pi = \pi^\vee$, it follows at once that π is the complex conjugate of π^\vee . Thus the method of period ping-pong works well for tempered representations; however, separate treatment is needed for non-tempered representations. These representations are realized as Langlands quotients of principal series representations and here the method of Jacquet functors works well. Thus a principal contribution of this paper is a computation of the Jacquet functors of π with respect to maximal parabolic subgroups of G and G^0 .

For non-tempered representations we obtain the following explicit result. The group G^0 is quasi-split of rank one. The Levi factor of a Borel subgroup is isomorphic to $K \rtimes \text{Gal}(K=F)$. Let χ be a character of K . Let $i(\chi)$ be the two-dimensional representation of $K \rtimes \text{Gal}(K=F)$ obtained by inducing χ . Assume, for simplicity, that χ is not $\text{Gal}(K=F)$ -invariant. Then $i(\chi)$ is irreducible and $i(\chi) \cong i(\chi)^\vee$ if and only if χ is in the $\text{Gal}(K=F)$ -orbit of χ . Now, $i(\chi)$ denotes a principal series representation of G^0 . We now describe its theta lift to G . The group G has two conjugacy classes of maximal parabolic subgroups; we shall use the letters Q_1 and Q_2 for parabolic subgroups in the two classes, where the unipotent radical of Q_2 is a two step nilpotent group, and the unipotent radical of Q_1 is a three step nilpotent group. The Levi factors of both parabolic groups are isomorphic to $\text{GL}_2(F)$. Let $W_F \subset W_K$ denote the Weil groups of F and K . Recall, by local class field theory, that $W_F^{\text{ab}} = K^\times$. Thus χ can be viewed as a character of W_K . We induce $i(\chi)$ to W_F and obtain a parameter of a supercuspidal representation of $\text{GL}_2(F)$. The theta lift of $i(\chi)$ is a representation of G obtained by inducing from the maximal parabolic Q_1 .

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1 Preliminaries

1.1 Basic number theory, stealing title from Weil

Let F be a non-Archimedean local field with the absolute value $| \cdot |$ normalized as usual, and let $K=F$ be a quadratic extension. We let z denote the Galois conjugate of an element $z \in K$; we set $N_{K=F}(z) = z \bar{z}$ and $\text{Tr}(z) = z + \bar{z}$. We let $\chi_{K=F}$ denote the character of F that corresponds to K by local class field theory.

Let $W_K \subset W_F$ be the Weil groups of K and F respectively. The quotient of W_F by the commutator subgroup of W_K is the relative Weil group $W_{K=F}$

$$1 \rightarrow K^\times \rightarrow W_{K=F} \rightarrow \text{Gal}(K=F) \rightarrow 1:$$

Let D be the unique quaternion algebra over F . By Appendix III in [29] $W_{K=F}$ can be realized as the normalizer of K in D . Thus

$$W_{K=F} = K [K, j]$$

where $jz = \bar{z}$ for all $z \in K$ and j^2 is in F , but not in the index two subgroup $N_{K=F}(K)$. Now any character χ of K defines a two dimensional representation of W_F

$$(\chi) = \text{Ind}_K^W(\chi)$$

1.1. Let σ be a non-trivial element in $\text{Gal}(K=F)$.

1. $(\chi) = (\chi^\sigma)$ if and only if $\chi^\sigma = \chi$ or $\chi^\sigma = \chi^{-1}$.

irreducible if and only if $\chi \neq \chi^\sigma$.

3. If $\chi \neq \chi^\sigma$ then $(\chi) = \chi_1 \chi_2$ where χ_i are two characters of F such that $\chi_i(N_{K=F}(z)) = \chi(z)$ for all $z \in K$.

Proof. This is all a simple consequence of the explicit description of $W_{K=F}$. For the last, observe that the condition $\chi^\sigma = \chi^{-1}$, by Hilbert 90, implies that χ is trivial on norm one elements in K , thus the formula $\chi_i(N_{K=F}(z)) = \chi(z)$ defines χ_1 and χ_2 on the index two subgroup of F . The two characters differ by the character $\chi_{K=F}$. \square

The determinant of (χ) is an Asai character of W_F denoted by $\text{As}(\chi)$. A character χ is called conjugate dual if $\chi^{-1} = \chi^\sigma$. Note that this implies that χ is trivial on $N_{K=F}(K)$. Thus the restriction of χ to F is either trivial or $\chi_{K=F}$. Respectively, we say that χ is conjugate-orthogonal or conjugate-symplectic. The following lemma is now again a simple exercise, using the explicit description of $W_{K=F}$.

Lemma 1.2. Assume that χ is a conjugate dual character of K . Then $\text{As}(\chi) = 1$ if χ is conjugate-symplectic and $\text{As}(\chi) = \chi_{K=F}$ if χ is conjugate-orthogonal.

1.2 Representations of p-adic groups

Let G denote the group of F -points of a reductive algebraic group G . We denote the category of smooth (complex) G -representations by $R(G)$; the set of (equivalence classes of) irreducible representations of G will be denoted by $\text{Irr}(G)$.

We recall the various functors which play a role in the representation theory of p-adic groups. Let P be a parabolic subgroup of G with Levi decomposition $P = MN$. We then have the parabolic induction functor Ind_P , as well its normalized version, i_P^G . If π_P is a smooth representation of G , we may consider the Jacquet functor r_P , where r_P denotes the space of N -coinvariants of π_P . The normalized version of the Jacquet functor will be denoted by r_P^G . Recall that parabolic induction is adjoint to the Jacquet functor. First, we have the (standard) Frobenius reciprocity, which states that there is a natural isomorphism

$$\text{Hom}_G(\pi_P, i_P^G(\pi_M)) \cong \text{Hom}_M(r_P(\pi_P), \pi_M);$$

here π_P and π_M are representations of G and M , respectively. Equally useful is the second (Bernstein) form of Frobenius reciprocity:

$$\text{Hom}_G(i_P^G(\pi_P), \pi_M) \cong \text{Hom}_M(\pi_P, r_P(\pi_M));$$

here \overline{P} denotes the parabolic subgroup opposite to P . Finally, we will occasionally use the compact induction functor, which we denote by $c\text{-ind}$.

1.3 Cubic Jordan algebras

The space J of Hermitian symmetric 3×3 matrices over K is a Jordan algebra with multiplication

$$x \cdot y = \frac{1}{2}(xy + yx) = \frac{1}{2}[(x + y)^2 - x^2 - y^2]$$

and identity 1. A typical element of J is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & x & \frac{1}{y} \\ a & b & z \\ \overline{a} & \overline{b} & \overline{z} \end{pmatrix} \in J;$$

where $x, y, z \in K$ and $a, b, c \in F$. We let J_{ij} (for $1 \leq i, j \leq 3$) denote the subspace of J consisting matrices whose entries are 0 except on the positions (i, j) and (j, i) . For more details on the subject of cubic Jordan algebras, the reader can consult Chapter 38 in [17] and Chapter 4 in [20].

Let N and T denote the norm (determinant) and the (usual) trace of 3×3 matrices. Recall that $N(x) = xx^\#$ where $x^\#$ is the usual adjoint matrix to x , i.e. made of 22 minors of x . Let $(x; y; z)$ be the symmetric trilinear form on J such that $(x; x; x) = 6N(x)$, that is,

$$(x; y; z) = N(x + y + z) - N(y + z) - N(x + z) - N(x + y) + N(x) + N(y) + N(z):$$

Then $T(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x; 1; 1)$ and the adjoint $x^\#$ can be dened as the unique element in J such that

$$(x; x; y) = (x^\#; y; 1)$$

for all $y \in J$. A basic fact of linear algebra is that any $x \in J$ satisfies the characteristic polynomial

$$x^3 - T(x)x^2 + T(x^\#)x - N(x) = 0:$$

Multiplying this equation by $x^\#$ and then factoring out $N(x)$ gives

$$x^2 - T(x)x + T(x^\#) - x^\# = 0$$

for all $x \in J$. This implies that x^2 and thus the Jordan multiplication is completely determined by the cubic form N and the identity 1. It follows at once that the group of automorphisms of the Jordan algebra is equal to the group of automorphisms of the cubic pointed space $(N; 1)$.

More generally, if $e \in J$ such that $N(e) = ee^\# = 1$, we can define a Jordan multiplication

$$x \cdot y = \frac{1}{2}(xe^\#y + ye^\#x):$$

This is a Jordan algebra J_e with identity e , and trace

$$T_e(x) := \frac{1}{2}(x; e; e) = \frac{1}{2}(e^\#; x; 1)$$

The trace pairing is given by

$$(x; y) = \text{Tr}_e(x \cdot y) = (e; e; x)(e; e; y) = 4 \quad (e; x; y) = \text{Tr}_e(x) \text{Tr}_e(y) \quad (e; x; y):$$

For every $x \in J$ we can define $x^{\#e}$ by

$$(x; x; y) = (x^{\#e}; y; e)$$

for all $y \in J$. Although we shall not need it, we record that $x^{\#e} = ex^{\#e}$. Again, J_e is determined by N and e , thus the automorphism group of J_e is the group of automorphisms of the cubic pointed space $(N; e)$.

Elements of J are Hermitian symmetric matrices, in particular, any e such that $N(e) = 1$ defines a symmetric Hermitian form on K^3 of discriminant one. Since F is p -adic, any two such Hermitian spaces are isomorphic. It follows that the Jordan algebras J_e are isomorphic. In the rest of this article, it will be convenient to write

$$e = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & 1 \\ & 1 & \\ 1 & & 0 \end{pmatrix} A :$$

To simplify notation, we will write J instead of J_e .

Finally, we let L_J denote the group of linear transformations of J which preserve N . Then

$$L_J = \{g \in GL_3(K) : \det(g) \in U(1), g = U(1) \circ Z = 2Z\}$$

Here $U(1)$ is embedded into $GL_3(K)$ diagonally. The non-trivial element of $Z = 2Z$ acts by transposition, and the action of $GL_3(K)$ on J is given by

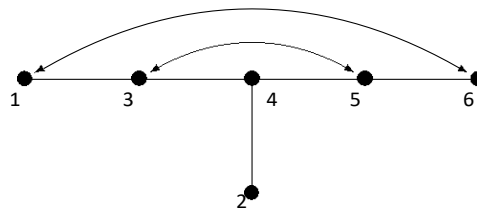
$$(g; X) = gXg; \quad \text{for } g \in L_J \text{ and } X \in J:$$

Here, g denotes the conjugate-transpose of g .

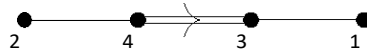
1.4 Groups

Here we describe the various groups that appear in this paper, including the quasi-split group H of type $E_{6;4}$ and the dual pair $G \times G^0$ we wish to study.

Let H denote the adjoint quasi-split group of type $E_{6;4}$ defined over F , with splitting field K ; its Dynkin diagram is given by



The relative Dynkin diagram is



The groups we consider are best described on the level of Lie algebras. Here we follow the construction in [26]. Let \mathfrak{h} denote the Lie algebra of H . By covering the vertex 4 in the above diagram, we see that \mathfrak{h} contains a subalgebra $\mathfrak{h}_0 = \mathfrak{sl}_3 \ltimes \mathfrak{l}$, where $\mathfrak{l} = \mathfrak{sl}_3(K)$ is the Lie algebra of L_J . Under the adjoint action of \mathfrak{h}_0 , \mathfrak{h} decomposes as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{h} &= \mathfrak{sl}_3 \ltimes \mathfrak{l} \ltimes W \\ &\quad \mathfrak{j} \ltimes W \\ &\quad \mathfrak{j}: \end{aligned}$$

Here $W = \langle e_1, e_2, e_3 \rangle$ denotes the standard representation of \mathfrak{sl}_3 , and $W = \langle e_1, e_2, e_3 \rangle$ denotes its dual. We often use the trace pairing to identify \mathfrak{j} with \mathfrak{j} . The Lie bracket relations are described in [26].

Using the above description of \mathfrak{h} , we may now describe the dual pair $G_2 \times (PU_3(K) \ltimes \mathbb{Z}^2)$. We let \mathfrak{g}^0 denote the centralizer of e in \mathfrak{l} :

$$\mathfrak{g}^0 = C_{\mathfrak{l}}(e):$$

We then set

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{g} &= C_{\mathfrak{h}}(\mathfrak{g}^0) = \mathfrak{sl}_3 \ltimes W \\ &\quad \mathfrak{e} \ltimes W \\ &\quad \mathfrak{e}: \end{aligned}$$

We let G and G^0 denote the closed subgroups of H which correspond to \mathfrak{g} and \mathfrak{g}^0 , respectively. Then $G \times G^0$ is a dual pair inside H . Furthermore, G is a split group of type G_2 , and G^0 is isomorphic to $PU_3(K) \ltimes \mathbb{Z}^2$. Indeed, we may describe G^0 directly as the subgroup of L_J which fixes e .

The proof of Howe duality will require us to consider another dual pair inside H , which we now describe. Let E be an étale cubic F -algebra. We consider the set of E -isomorphism classes of embeddings $E \hookrightarrow J$. This set is in bijection with the set of $(E$ -isomorphism) classes of twisted composition algebras C such that $J = E \ltimes C$; see Theorem 1.1 in [8] for additional details. Fixing such a C , we let $i_C : E \hookrightarrow J$ denote an embedding in the corresponding isomorphism class; note that this also gives us embedding of E into J . Let $G_{E;C}^0$ denote the subgroup of G^0 fixing i_C . The centralizer of $G_{E;C}^0$ in \mathfrak{h} contains

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathfrak{sl}_3 \ltimes \mathfrak{t}_E \ltimes W \\ &\quad \mathfrak{E} \ltimes W \\ &\quad \mathfrak{E}; \end{aligned}$$

where \mathfrak{t}_E is the Lie algebra of trace 0 elements in E , and E is embedded into J using i_C . The above Lie algebra is isomorphic to $\text{Lie}(G_E)$, where G_E is the simply-connected quasi-split group Spin_8^E . We thus get the dual pair $G_E \times G_{E;C}^0$ inside H .

1.5 Minimal representations and theta correspondence

We will be interested in studying the minimal representation of H . We recall one possible definition here. Let π be an irreducible representation of H . A result of Harish-Chandra then says that the character distribution of π can be expressed as

$$\chi_\pi = \sum_{\phi \in \mathcal{O}} c_\phi \phi$$

where the sum is taken over all the nilpotent H -orbits in \mathfrak{h} , and $\hat{\mu}_O$ is the Fourier transform of a (suitably normalized) H -invariant measure on O . There exists a minimal non-trivial orbit O_{\min} in $\mathfrak{h}(F)$. Assuming $O_{\min} \setminus \mathfrak{h}$ consists of a single H -orbit O_{\min} , we have the following

Definition 1.3. We say that μ is minimal if

$$\mu = c_0 + \hat{\mu}_{O_{\min}}$$

For a detailed exposition of minimal representations and a construction of μ for exceptional group, we refer the reader to [7].

Our goal is to study the restriction of μ to the dual pair $G \times G^0$ introduced above, and the exceptional theta correspondence which arises in this way. Fixing an irreducible representation π of G , the maximal π -isotypic quotient of μ is of the form

$$(\pi);$$

for an admissible representation (π) of G^0 [21, Lemme 2.III.4]. This is the so-called big theta lift of π . Of course, one may start from $\pi \in \text{Irr}(G^0)$ to obtain the big theta lift (π) in the same way.

2 Parabolic subgroups

In this section we describe the three maximal parabolic subgroups of H we consider in this paper.

2.1 Three-step parabolic

The first parabolic subgroup we consider is the maximal parabolic $P_1 = M_1 N_1$ which corresponds to the vertex α_4 of the Dynkin diagram. On the level of Lie algebras, it can be constructed as follows: let

$$s = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ @^1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathfrak{sl}_3:$$

Now set $\mathfrak{h}(i) = \{x \in \mathfrak{h} : [s; x] = ix\}$. Then the Lie algebra of P_1 is $\mathfrak{p}_1 = \mathfrak{m}_1 + \mathfrak{n}_1$, where

$$\mathfrak{m}_1 = \mathfrak{h}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ @ & A \end{pmatrix} \in \mathfrak{sl}_3$$

and $\mathfrak{n}_1 = \mathfrak{h}(1) + \mathfrak{h}(2) + \mathfrak{h}(3)$ with

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{h}(1) &= \{e_1, e_2\} \\ \mathfrak{h}(2) &= \{e_3\} \\ \mathfrak{h}(3) &= \{0\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathfrak{h}(3) = \begin{pmatrix} @ & A \end{pmatrix} \in \mathfrak{sl}_3:$$

We also have

$$\begin{aligned} h(1) &= he_1; e_2 \\ J; h(2) &= he_3i \\ J: \end{aligned}$$

Since N_1 is a 3-step nilpotent group, we call P_1 the 3-step parabolic. We let i denote the minimal non-trivial M_1 -orbit on $h(i)$, $i = 1; 2$.

Setting $u_1(i) = h(i) \setminus g$ for $i = 1; 2$, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} u_1(1) &= he_1; e_2i \\ he_1 u_1(2) &= he_3 \\ e_1 u_1(3) &= h(3): \end{aligned}$$

Looking at the intersection of P_1 with $G \setminus G^0$, we get

$$(G \setminus G^0) \cap P_1 = Q_1 \setminus G^0:$$

Here $Q_1 = L_1 U_1$ is the maximal parabolic subgroup of $G = G_2$; we identify the Levi factor L_1 with GL_2 so that the action on $u_1(1)$ is the standard representation.

Now let V_i be the orthogonal complement of $u_1(i)$ in $h(i)$ (for $i = 1; 2$) with respect to the Killing form. Then

$$\begin{aligned} V_1 &= he_1; e_2i \\ J_0 V_2 &= he_3i \\ J_0; \end{aligned}$$

where J_0 denotes the set of all elements X in J such that $\text{tr}(Xe) = 0$, and J_0 is identified with J_0 using the trace pairing. We need to describe $i \setminus V_i$, for $i = 1; 2$. Letting $r(X)$ denote the rank (over K) of $X \in J$, we have (cf. [6], Lemma 4.1)

Lemma 2.1. The group $L_1 \setminus G^0$ acts transitively on $i \setminus V_i$, $i = 1; 2$. Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \setminus V_1 &= fw \\ X : w \in he; e_1; X \in J; r(X) &= 1g \\ 2 \setminus V_2 &= fe_3 \\ X : X \in J_0; r(X) &= 1g: \end{aligned}$$

2.2 Heisenberg parabolic

Here we consider the maximal parabolic $P_2 = M_2 N_2$ which corresponds to the vertex 2 of the Dynkin diagram. On the level of Lie algebras, it can be constructed as follows: let

$$s = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in A \subset \mathfrak{sl}_3:$$

Again, set $h(i) = \{x \in \mathfrak{h} : [s; x] = ixg\}$. We intentionally abuse notation by reusing s and $h(i)$, not only to reduce the number of unnecessary symbols, but also to emphasize the analogy in our constructions related to different parabolics. Since we never use these symbols for different parabolics at the same time, there is no fear of confusion.

The Lie algebra of P_2 is $\mathfrak{p}_2 = \mathfrak{m}_2 + \mathfrak{n}_2$, where

$$\mathfrak{m}_2 = \mathfrak{h}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ A & I \\ J & \text{he}_2 i \\ J; \end{pmatrix}$$

and $\mathfrak{n}_2 = \mathfrak{h}(1) + \mathfrak{h}(2)$ with

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{h}(1) &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ A & \text{he}_1 i \\ J & \text{he}_3 i \\ J; \end{pmatrix} \\ \mathfrak{h}(2) &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ A & \text{sl}_3; \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

We also note that

$$\mathfrak{h}(-1) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ A & \text{he}_3 i \\ J & \text{he}_1 i \\ J; \end{pmatrix}$$

We often refer to P_2 as the Heisenberg parabolic, because its unipotent radical N_2 is a Heisenberg group with center $Z = \mathfrak{h}(2)$, attached to the symplectic space $N_2/Z = \mathfrak{h}(1)$. We let denote the minimal non-trivial M_2 -orbit on $\mathfrak{h}(-1)$. It is the orbit of a highest weight vector.

We have

$$\begin{aligned} u_2(1) &= \mathfrak{g} \setminus \mathfrak{h}(1) = F \begin{pmatrix} \text{he}_1 \\ \text{ei} \\ \text{ei} \end{pmatrix} \quad 3 \\ &= F; \end{aligned}$$

we identify the intersection $\mathfrak{h}(1) \setminus \mathfrak{sl}_3$ with $F \setminus F$. Looking at the intersection of P_2 with G^0 , we get

$$(G \setminus G^0) \setminus P_2 = Q_2 \setminus G^0:$$

Here $Q_2 = L_2 U_2$ is the maximal parabolic subgroup of $G = G_2$ whose Levi factor L_2 we identify with GL_2 so that its action on $u_2(1)$ is the symmetric cube representation twisted by jdet^1 (see Section 3 in [3]). Once again, U_2 is a Heisenberg group (with center Z) attached to the space $u_2(1)$.

Now let V be the orthogonal complement of $u_2(1)$ in $\mathfrak{h}(-1)$ with respect to the Killing form. Then

$$\begin{aligned} V &= \begin{pmatrix} \text{he}_3 i \\ J_0 \text{ he}_1 \\ J \end{pmatrix} \quad 1 \quad 0 = \\ &= J \setminus J_0 \setminus J_0: \end{aligned}$$

Once again, we need to describe

$\setminus V$. Following the proof of Proposition 7.4 in [19], one shows the following

Lemma 2.2. We have

$$\setminus V = \{f(X; Y) \in J_0 \setminus J_0 : r(X); r(Y) \geq 1; \dim \mathfrak{h}(X; Y) = 1\}:$$

Furthermore, $L_2 \setminus G^0$ acts transitively on this set.

2.3 B_3 parabolic

Finally, we consider the maximal parabolic $P^0 = M^0 N^0$ which corresponds to the vertex $_1$ of the relative Dynkin diagram. Set

$$s = \begin{array}{cc} 0 & 1 \\ @^1 & 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} A \\ 2 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} sl_3(K) \\ 1 \end{array}$$

and $h(i) = \{x \in \mathfrak{h} : [s; x] = ix\}$. Then the Lie algebra of P^0 is $\mathfrak{p}^0 = \mathfrak{m}^0 + \mathfrak{n}^0$. Here

$$\mathfrak{m}^0 = \mathfrak{h}(0) = \begin{array}{cc} 0 & 1 \\ @ & 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} sl_3 \\ 1(0) \end{array} \begin{array}{c} W \\ A \end{array}$$

and $\mathfrak{n}_1 = \mathfrak{h}(1) + \mathfrak{h}(2)$, with

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{h}(1) &= \begin{array}{c} 1(1) \\ J_{12} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} W \\ h(2) \end{array} \\ \mathfrak{h}(2) &= \begin{array}{c} 1(2) \\ J_{23} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} W \\ J_{11} \end{array} \\ J_{33} &: \end{aligned}$$

We also have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{h}(1) &= \begin{array}{c} 1(1) \\ J_{23} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} W \\ h(2) \end{array} \\ \mathfrak{h}(2) &= \begin{array}{c} 1(2) \\ J_{33} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} W \\ J_{11} \end{array} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$1(1) = \begin{array}{cc} 0 & 1 \\ @ & 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} A \\ 2 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} sl_3(K) \\ 1 \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad 1(2) = \begin{array}{cc} 0 & 1 \\ @ & 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} A \\ 2 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} sl_3(K) \\ 1 \end{array}$$

We let

\mathfrak{o}_i denote the minimal non-trivial M_1 -orbit on $\mathfrak{h}(i)$, for $i = 1, 2$. The intersection of P^0 with $G \setminus G^0$ is

$$(G \setminus G^0) \cap P^0 = G \cap B^0.$$

Here B^0 denotes the semidirect product of $\mathbb{Z} = 2\mathbb{Z}$ with the Borel subgroup consisting of all upper-triangular matrices in $PU_3(K)$. There is a Levi decomposition $B^0 = T^0 U^0$ with $T^0 = K \cap \mathbb{Z} = 2\mathbb{Z}$; we identify the diagonal torus in $PU_3(K)$ with K using the isomorphism

$$\begin{array}{cc} 0 & 1 \\ @^a & b \end{array} \begin{array}{c} A \\ 1 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} a \\ b \end{array}$$

($a; b; c$ satisfy $a\bar{c} = 1$ and $b\bar{b} = 1$).

Just like before, we let $u^0(i) = h(i) \setminus g^0$ for $i = 1; 2$. We get

$$\begin{aligned} u^0(1) &= f @ \quad \bar{n} A \ 2 \ \mathfrak{sl}_3(K) g = K \\ u^0(2) &= f @ \quad A \ 2 \ \mathfrak{sl}_3(K) : \text{Tr}(y) = 0 g: \end{aligned}$$

We let V_i^0 be the orthogonal complement of $u^0(i)$ in $h(i)$ (for $i = 1; 2$) with respect to the Killing form. Direct computation shows that we have

$$\begin{aligned} V_1^c &= f @ x \quad A : x \ 2 \ K g \ W \\ J_{23} \ W \\ J_{12}; 0 \quad x \ 1 \\ V_2^c &= f @ A : y \ 2 \ F g \ W \\ J_{33} \ W \\ J_{11}; y \end{aligned}$$

It is convenient to use the following identifications (cf. [6, p.137]):

$$\begin{aligned} V_1^c &= \mathbf{O}_0 \\ K; \quad V_2 &= \mathbf{O}_0 \\ F; \end{aligned}$$

here we use \mathbf{O}_0 to denote the space of traceless octonions. Then $G = G_2$ acts naturally on \mathbf{O}_0 , whereas $z \ 2 \ K \ T^0$ acts by $\frac{1}{z}$ and $1 = N_{K=F}(z)$ on K and F , respectively. As before, we want to describe the GT^0 orbits on i $^0 \setminus V_i^0$ for $i = 1; 2$. However, a direct computation now shows that

$1 \setminus V_1 = ;$. On the other hand, we have (cf. [6, Lemma 2.4.11] Lemma 2.3. The group $G \ T^0$ acts transitively on $^0 \setminus V^0$.

We close this section with the following

Remark 2.4. One can work in a more general setting, starting with a Jordan algebra J of Hermitian symmetric 3×3 matrices with coefficients in a composition algebra C . In particular, we have an exceptional Lie algebra

$$\begin{aligned} h &= (\mathfrak{sl}_3(F) \oplus J) \oplus W \\ J &\oplus W \\ J): \end{aligned}$$

Observe that $\mathfrak{sl}_3(F) \oplus J$, where $x \ 2 \ \mathfrak{sl}_3(F)$ acts on $y \ 2 \ J$ by $xy + yx$ where y is the transpose of y . This works even when C is the non-associative algebra of octonions.

In particular, one can define the parabolic subgroup B^0 in $G^0 = \text{Aut}(J)$ starting with the same choice of s as above (note that $s \ 2 \ \mathfrak{sl}_3(F) \oplus J$). Let U^0 be the unipotent radical of B^0 , and $U^0(2)$ the center of U^0 . Then $U^0(2) = C_0$, trace 0 elements in C , and $U^0 = U^0(2) = C$. We will need this in §4 where we prove Howe duality.

3 Jacquet modules

Recall that ρ is the minimal representation of H . Our goal in this section is to compute U_1 , U_2 , and U^0 .

3.1 Three-step parabolic

To compute U_1 , we begin by looking at N_1 . Recall that N_1 is a three-step nilpotent group: we have

$$f_1 g = N_1(4) N_1(3) N_1(2) N_1(1) = N_1$$

with $N_1(i) = N_1(i+1) = h(i)$. This gives us a filtration of ,

$$(3.1) \quad f_0 g = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = ;$$

where $i = i+1 = (i)_{N_1(i+1)}$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} 0! & \quad 3! & \quad 1! & = 3! & 0 \\ 0! & \quad 2=3! & = 3! & = 2! & 00! & 1=2! \\ = 2! & = 1! & 0: \end{aligned}$$

We need to compute $=_1$, $_1=2$, and $_2=3$. The first quotient is simply N_1 ; the remaining two can be computed using the work of Mġlin and Waldspurger [22]. We provide only a rough outline here; see e.g. [6] or [19] for additional details.

Recall that $_1$ is the minimal M_1 -orbit in $h(1)$. Let f_1 be an arbitrary element of $_1$, and denote by M_{f_1} its stabilizer in M_1 . Then f_1 defines a character f_1^1 on $N_1 = N_1(2)$. Then [22] shows that the space $N_1; f_1^1$ (i.e. the maximal quotient of $_1$ on which N_1 acts by f_1^1) is 1-dimensional; M_{f_1} acts on it by a character $_1$. In short, we get

$$\begin{aligned} _1=2 & = c\text{-ind}_{M_{f_1} N_1}^{P_1} (1 \\ & f_1) = C_c(\\ & _1): \end{aligned}$$

We compute $_2=3$ similarly. We choose an arbitrary element $f_2 \in _2$ and we let M_{f_2} denote its stabilizer in M_1 . Again, the results of [22] (see also [6, x5]) show that f_2 defines a certain Heisenberg representation, which we denote by W_{f_2} . We get

$$\begin{aligned} _2=3 & = c\text{-ind}_{M_{f_2} N_1}^{P_1} (W_{f_2}) = C_c(\\ & _2; W_{f_2}): \end{aligned}$$

Having computed the N_1 -coinvariants, we proceed to investigate the U_1 -coinvariants. The unipotent radical U_1 of Q_1 inherits the filtration from N_1 :

$$(3.2) \quad f_0 g = U_1(4) U_1(3) U_1(2) U_1(1) = U_1;$$

where $U_1(i) = U_1 \setminus N_1(i)$. In particular, $U_1(3) = N_1(3)$. We apply the U_1 -coinvariants functor to the exact sequences above. From the first one, we see that $U_1 = (=3)_{U_1}$. The remaining two sequences become

$$\begin{aligned} 0! & \quad (2=3)_{U_1}! & U_1! & (=2)_{U_1}! & 0 \\ 0! & \quad (1=2)_{U_1}! & (=2)_{U_1}! & (=1)_{U_1}! & 0: \end{aligned}$$

Thus, to determine U_1 , we need to describe $(=1)_{U_1}$, $(1=2)_{U_1}$, and $(2=3)_{U_1}$.

First, notice that $(=1)_{U_1} = (N_1)_{U_1} = N_1$. The N_1 -coinvariants can be computed following [27, x4], and the exponents of h have been determined in Proposition 8.4 of [7]. As an $L_1 G^0$ -module,

$$N_1 = j\text{det} j^2 \mathbf{1}_{A_2} \otimes_{K=F} j\text{det} j^2 \mathbf{1}_{A_1}.$$

Recall that the Levi factor M_1 consists of two parts (which correspond to the two parts of the F_4 diagram one obtains by removing the vertex a_4): A_2 and A_1 . Here $\mathbf{1}_{A_2}$ is the trivial representation of A_2 (in this case, $SL_3(K)$), whereas $\mathbf{1}_{A_1}$ is a principal series representation of A_1 (i.e. $SL_2(F)$). Furthermore, $j\det_j$ denotes the standard determinant of $L_1 = GL_2$.

Next, we consider $(\mathbf{1}=2)_{U_1}$. Just like in [19, Lemma 2.2], we obtain

$$(\mathbf{1}=2)_{U_1} = C_c(\mathbf{1} \setminus V_1):$$

Recall that $\mathbf{1} \setminus V_1 = \{x \in W : \text{he}_1; X \in J; r(X) = 1g\}$. The stabilizer of a line in $\mathbf{1} \setminus V_1$ (excluding 0) is a product of Borel subgroups. For the sake of concreteness, we consider the line through e_1 , where $x = (1; 0; 0)$ (once more, we identify J with J_0). The stabilizer of e_1 in $L_1 = GL_2$ is the subgroup $B = TU$ consisting of all lower-triangular matrices in GL_2 (recall that we are considering the action of GL_2 on W , the dual of the standard representation); here T denotes the diagonal torus. The stabilizer of xx is the Borel subgroup $B^0 = T^0U^0$ of G^0 introduced in 2.3. The group $T \cdot T^0$ acts transitively on the above line, which we identify with F : The action of

$$a \begin{pmatrix} z & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in T \cdot T^0$$

on $C_c(F)$ is translation by $a^{-1} N_{K=F}(z)$ (and $Z=2Z$ acts trivially).

We deduce that

$$C_c(\mathbf{1} \setminus V_1) = i^{L_1 G^0} \left(\begin{pmatrix} \bar{B} & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} C_c(F) \right)$$

(normalized induction) where $\mathbf{1}$ is a character of the diagonal torus in $L_1 = GL_2$ which is yet to be determined.

Finally, we determine $(\mathbf{2}=3)_{U_1}$. Recall that $\mathbf{2} \setminus V_2 = \{x \in W : \text{he}_1; X \in J_0; r(X) = 1g\}$ is a single $L_1 \cdot G^0$ -orbit. We simplify the notation by identifying he_3 with J , keeping in mind that $L_1 = GL_2$ acts on $\mathbf{2} \setminus V_2$ by \det . We start by observing that

$$C_c(\mathbf{2}; W_{f_2})_{U_1(2)} = C_c(\mathbf{2} \setminus V_2; W_{f_2}):$$

Notice that $(L_1 \cdot G^0) \setminus M_{f_2} = RU$, where

$$R = \{f(g; (z;)) \in L_1 (K \circ Z=2Z) : \det(g) = N_{K=F}(z)g\}$$

and U is the unipotent radical. Therefore $C_c(\mathbf{2} \setminus V_2; W_{f_2}) = c\text{-ind}_{RU}^{L_1 G^0} W_{f_2}$ and thus

$$(\mathbf{2}=3)_{U_1} = c\text{-ind}_{RU}^{L_1 G^0} ((W_{f_2})_{U_1}):$$

It remains to determine $(W_{f_2})_{U_1}$; to do that, we need an explicit model for W_{f_2} . With this in mind, we choose $f_2 = xx \in J$, with $x = (1; 0; 0)$. Following [22] (see also [6]), we consider the alternating form on $\mathfrak{h}(1) = \text{he}_1; e_2$ given by

$$\begin{aligned} & (v, w) \\ & X; w \\ & Y) = (v; w) (f_2; X; Y): \end{aligned}$$

Here $(v; w)$ is the standard symplectic form on $he_1; e_2i$, and $(f_2; X; Y)$ is the natural trilinear form on J . With our choice of f_2 , the kernel of the bilinear form $(f_2; X; Y)$ is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a & x & y \end{pmatrix} = f @ x \bar{A} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & Jg: y \end{pmatrix}$$

We let $?$ denote the orthogonal complement of \cdot in J :

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0^1 \end{pmatrix} ? = f @ 0 \begin{pmatrix} b & z \bar{A} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & Jg: 0 \\ z & \bar{c} \end{pmatrix}$$

The corresponding quadratic form is given by $2 \begin{pmatrix} a & z \\ \bar{z} & b \end{pmatrix}$. We \times the maximal isotropic subspace consisting of elements of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0^1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0^1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0^1 \end{pmatrix} e_1 \begin{pmatrix} @0- & 0 & z \bar{A} + e_1 \\ @0 & 0 & 0 \bar{A} + e_2 \\ @0 & 0 & 0 \bar{A} : 0 & z & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ b_1 & 0 & 0 & b_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

With this choice of polarization, the action of $U_1=U_1(2) = he_1; e_2i$ he_1 is given by

$$(u)f(z; b_1; b_2) = (u_1b_2 - u_2b_1)f(z; b_1; b_2);$$

where $u = (u_1e_1 + u_2e_2)$

e. We see that $U_1=U_1(2)$ acts trivially on functions supported on the subspace

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0^1 \end{pmatrix} fe_1 \begin{pmatrix} @0- & 0 & z \bar{A} : z \\ 2 & Kg: 0 & z & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

It follows that

$$(W_{f_2})_{U_1=U_1(2)} = W;$$

where W is the Heisenberg representation associated with the symplectic space $he_1; e_2i$ K ; here we identify $z \in K$ with

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0^1 \end{pmatrix} @0 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & z \bar{A} : \\ 0 & \bar{z} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Unraveling the denitions, we see that $w \in K \cap T^0$ acts on $z \in K$ by

$$(w; z) \mapsto \frac{z}{w};$$

and $Z=2Z$ acts by Galois conjugation. Recall that we also have a GL_2 action on the orbit $z \in V_2$: an element $g \in L_1 = GL_2$ acts by $\det(g)^{-1}$. In summary, we have

$$(z=3)_{U_1} = c\text{-ind}_{R^0}^{L_1G^0} W:$$

We now recall the work of Roberts [24]: there is a Weil representation π of R which induces to a representation π^* of $R = L_1 \cap T^0$. The correspondence which arises from π^* can be

thought of as a similitude version of the usual $SL_2 \times SO(K)$ correspondence. As noted before, we have $M_{f_2} \setminus R^* = R$, so we are precisely in the situation studied in [24].

An application of Schur's Lemma now shows that the action of R on W is a twist (by a character of R) of the action of R on $!$. However, as one checks directly, every character of R is a restriction of a character of R . We thus get

$$(2=3)_{U_1} = i_{L_1}^{L_1 G^0} \chi(\cdot);$$

where χ is a character yet to be determined. In fact, in §3.4, we show that χ is the trivial character. Thus, we have

Proposition 3.1. As a representation of $L_1 \times G^0$, $r_{U_1}(\cdot)$ has a filtration with successive (top to bottom) subquotients

$$(T1) \quad \begin{array}{c} 1=2 \\ Q_1 \end{array} N_1 = \text{jdetj}_{A_2} \cdot \text{jdetj}_{A_1} (M1) \\ i_{L_1 G^0}^{L_1 G^0} (1 \\ C_c(F)) \quad \overline{B} B \subset$$

$$(B1) \quad i_{L_1 B}^{L_1 G^0}(\cdot):$$

Recall that 1_{A_2} is the trivial representation of A_2 , whereas A_1 is a principal series representation of A_1 . Furthermore, jdetj is the standard determinant of $L_1 = GL_2$ and $Q_1 = \text{jdetj}$ is the modular character of Q_1 . The center of $L_1 = GL_2$ acts trivially on A_2 and A_1 . In §3.4, we show that $1 = 1$
 $!_{K=F}$.

3.1.1 The Fourier{Jacobi period

We digress slightly to describe the Fourier{Jacobi period of the minimal representation. Although it is not required for the main results of the present paper (i.e. for the proof of Howe duality), the Fourier{Jacobi period becomes useful in various similar settings. Since the computation is similar to the one we just performed to obtain U_1 , we take a moment to describe it here.

Recall the filtration (3.2): U_1 is a three-step nilpotent group, and the quotient $U_1/U_1(3)$ is a three-dimensional Heisenberg group. Let χ be a character of its center $U_1(2)/U_1(3)$. Our goal is to describe the space of χ -twisted coinvariants

$$U_1(2); \chi;$$

i.e. the maximal quotient of χ on which $U_1(2)/U_1(3)$ acts by χ . Notice that this is (in addition to being a G^0 module) a module for the Jacobi group, $F \rtimes J = Q_1^{\text{der}}/U_1(3)$. Here Q_1^{der} denotes the derived group of Q_1 .

Using the notation from (3.1), we have $U_1(2); \chi = (2=3)_U(\chi)$. Recall that $2=3 = C_c(2; W_{f_2})$. To find the $U_1(2)$ coinvariants we looked at $C_c(2 \setminus V_2; W_{f_2})$, where V_2 was the orthogonal complement of $u_1(2)$ in $h(2)$; this was identified with the space J_0 of traceless elements in J . However, we are now looking for the twisted coinvariants. We get

$$C_c(2; W_{f_2})_{U_1(2); \chi} = C_c(2 \setminus J_1; W_{f_2});$$

Here J_1 is the set of trace 1 elements in J . One checks that G^0 has two orbits on $2 \setminus J_1$ (the set of rank 1, trace 1 elements in J). Thus, as a representation of $G^0 = PU_3(K) \circ \mathbb{Z} = 2\mathbb{Z}$,

the space $C_c(\mathbb{A}_2 \setminus J_1; W_{f_2})$ splits into a direct sum of two induced representations. Indeed, one choice of representatives for these orbits is

$$i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ @ & A \end{pmatrix}; \quad j = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & " \\ @ & A \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} 1=2 \\ 1=(4") \end{matrix}$$

where $"$ is an element of F which is not in the image of the norm map $N : K \rightarrow F$. (Indeed, j cannot be written as xx for some $x \in K^3$, which shows that it is not in the same orbit as i). The stabilizer of i (resp. j) in $PU_3(K)$ is a unitary group in two variables, which we denote by $U(2)_i$ (resp. $U(2)_j$). We thus have

$$U(2)_i = i_{U(2)_i \circ Z=2Z}^{G^0}(W_i) \quad i_{U(2)_j \circ Z=2Z}^{G^0}(W_j):$$

Here W_i (resp. W_j) denotes the corresponding Weil representation, i.e. the ber at i (resp. j).

For example, the stabilizer of i in $PU_3(K)$ consists of all elements of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ @ & A \end{pmatrix} \in U_3(K):$$

Thus we may identify the group $U(2)_i$ with the unitary group

$$GL_2(K) : \quad g \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & fg \\ 1 & g \end{pmatrix}$$

in the obvious way. We obtain an explicit model of W_i the same way we found W_{f_2} above. Here it is convenient to $x \mapsto f_2 = i$; then

$$= f @ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ x & z \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b & A \\ z & 2 J g \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad ? = f @ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ a & y \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A & 2 J g \\ y & c \end{pmatrix}$$

Here $?$ can be identified with the space $I = \{ \begin{pmatrix} a & \bar{y} \\ y & c \end{pmatrix} \}$ of 2×2 Hermitian matrices. Thus the representation W_i can be realized on the space $C_c(I)$, where the action of $U(2)_i$ on $A \in I$ is given by $(g; A) \mapsto gAg$.

3.2 Heisenberg parabolic

We compute U_2 using the same general approach. Since N_2 is a Heisenberg group, there are only two subquotients we need to consider: $=_1$ and $=_2$. Just like in the case of the three-step parabolic, we have $(=_1)_{U_2} = (N_2)_{U_2} = N_2$. Again, we may compute the N_2 -coinvariants following [27, x4]. We get

$$N_2 = j \det j^2 \cdot \frac{3}{C_3} \cdot \mathbb{1}_{K=F} j \det j^2:$$

Here C_3 denotes the minimal representation of M_2 (corresponding to the F_4 diagram with the $_2$ vertex removed).

The description of $(1=2)_{U_2}$ is similar to the one we had in the three-step case: we have

$$(1=2)_{U_2} = C_c(\backslash V):$$

Recall that

$\backslash V$ is a single orbit for $L_2 \cdot G^0$, and that

$$\backslash V = \{ (X; Y) \in J_0 \backslash J_0 : r(X); r(Y) = 1; \dim h(X; Y) = 1g :$$

For the sake of concreteness, we consider the line through e_3
 $\backslash V$, where $x = (1; 0; 0)$. The stabilizer of this line is again the product $B \cdot B^0$ of Borel subgroups (here we are abusing notation by using $B = TU$ to denote the group of all lower-triangular matrices, but this time in L_2). The group $T \cdot T^0$ acts transitively on the above line, which we identify with F : The action of

$$b \in T \cdot K \text{ on}$$

$C_c(F)$ is translation by a $N_{K=F}(z)$. We deduce that

$$C_c(\backslash V) = i_{BB^0}^0 (2 C_c(F))$$

where 2 is a character yet to be determined. To summarize, we have

Proposition 3.2. As a representation of $L_2 \cdot G^0$, $r_{U_2}()$ has a filtration with successive (top to bottom) subquotients

$$(T2) \quad i_{BB^0}^0 (2 C_c(F)) = \sum_{Q_2}^{1=2} N_2 = C_3 \cdot \sum_{K=F} j \det j^2 : (B2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \backslash V$$

Here $Q_2 = j \det j^3$ denotes the modular character of Q_2 . The center of $L_2 = GL_2$ acts trivially on C_3 . In x3.4 we show that $2 = 1$
 $\sum_{K=F}$

3.3 B_3 parabolic

This case is entirely analogous to the previous two, so we just briefly sketch the results.

First, the top part in the filtration of U_0 is simply N_0 . Secondly, recall that in this case V_1 does not intersect V_1 , so the middle part of the filtration vanishes. The computation of the bottom (subrepresentation) part is equivalent to the one we described in detail in x3.1; in fact, the bottom part is induced from the same representation as the bottom part in Proposition 3.1. We omit the details and simply state the results:

Proposition 3.3. As a representation of $G \cdot T^0$, $r_{U_0}()$ has a filtration with successive (top to bottom) subquotients

$$(T3) \quad i_{L_1 T^0}^0 (\dagger) = \sum_{B^0}^{1=2} N^0 = B_3 \cdot \sum_{G \cdot T^0} j N_{K=F}(z) j (B3)$$

Here B_3 denotes the minimal representation of the Levi factor M^0 , and $B^0 = j N_{K=F}(z) j^2$ is the modular character of $B \cdot C$

We take a moment to describe the restriction of the representation π_B to $G_{\mathbb{A}}^0$. Recall that M^0 is the Levi factor of the parabolic P^0 which corresponds to the D_4 part of the Dynkin diagram (i.e. B_3 in the relative diagram). The derived group of M^0 is $D_{4,E}$, the simply connected quasi-split form of Spin_8 attached to the étale cubic algebra $E = K + F$; these groups are described in detail in Section 2 of [8]. By looking at the exponents, one verifies that the restriction of the representation (T3) to Spin_8 is the minimal representation. Note that $K \rtimes T^0$ acts trivially on π_B . However, the action of the Galois group $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z}$ is non-trivial; in fact, this is precisely the situation studied in [15] and [5]. There is a dual pair $G_2 \times S_E$ inside $D_{4,E}$ (here S_E denotes the twisted form of S_3 attached to E). In [5], the authors use the correspondence arising in this way to construct the so-called cubic unipotent A-packets of G_2 . In our case, $S_E = \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z}$, so the corresponding A-packet contains two elements. One of them is a supercuspidal representation; the other is the Langlands quotient π_B^0 of $i^{G_2}(\mathrm{jdet})$, with equal to the tempered representation $1 \otimes \chi$ of GL_2 . See Proposition 6.2 of [5] for a detailed description of local A-packets arising in this way.

3.4 Filling in the details

In this section, we determine the characters χ_1, χ_2 , and χ that appear in the iterations discussed above (recall that χ is introduced in the discussion preceding Proposition 3.1).

Both the bottom piece of $r_{\mathbb{A}}^0(\cdot)$ (B3) and the bottom piece of $r_{U_1}(\cdot)$ (B1) are induced from the Weil representation ω . The similitude correspondence between $\mathrm{GL}_2(F)$ and $\mathrm{GO}(K) = K \rtimes \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z}$ established by ω amounts to the usual base change $\mathrm{GL}_2(F) \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_2(K)$. Let χ be a character of K . By Lemma 1.1, there are two possibilities:

- (i) $\chi = \chi_1$. In this case, ω extends to two characters of $K \rtimes \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z}$, only one of which appears in the correspondence. We label that character χ_1^+ , and we let χ_1^- be the other one. Then χ_1^+ lifts to the principal series $\pi_1 \otimes \chi_1^+$ (see Lemma 1.1).
- (ii) $\chi = \chi_2$. In this case, ω lifts to a cuspidal representation π_2 of $\mathrm{GL}_2(F)$.

See Section 7 of [25] for a brief account of this correspondence.

We now prove that the character χ introduced in the discussion preceding Proposition 3.1 is trivial. First, note that χ is the restriction of a character $\mathrm{j} \chi^s$ of R , where $s \in \mathbf{R}$ and χ is a unitary character of T^0 . The above description of the $T^0 \times \mathrm{GL}_2(F)$ correspondence shows that

$$\mathrm{j} \chi^s \otimes \mathrm{j} \chi^s \cong i_{B^0}^{G_0}(\chi^s)$$

appears as a quotient of $i_{L_1 B^0}^{L_1 G_0}(\chi^s)$. (To simplify notation, we write χ^s instead of χ^s in the rest of this section.) For a generic choice of χ we may assume that $i_{B^0}^{G_0}(\mathrm{j} \chi^s \otimes \mathrm{j} \chi^s)$ and $i_{B^0}^{G_0}(\chi^s)$ are irreducible, so we get

$$\frac{i_{B^0}^{G_0}(\mathrm{j} \chi^s \otimes \mathrm{j} \chi^s)}{i_{B^0}^{G_0}(\chi^s)} \cong i_{B^0}^{G_0}(\chi^s)$$

But now notice that $i_{B^0}^{G_0}(\chi^s) = i_{B^0}^{G_0}(\chi^{s-1}) = i_{B^0}^{G_0}(\chi^{s-2})$ and we can apply the same reasoning to the character χ^{s-1} . This shows that

$$\frac{\mathrm{j} \chi^{s-2} \otimes \mathrm{j} \chi^{s-1}}{\mathrm{j} \chi^{s-2}} \cong \mathrm{j} \chi^{s-1}$$

needs to appear in the Jacquet module of $i_{Q_1}^G(jj^{s_1}jj^{s_2})$. Computing the said Jacquet module shows this to be possible only if $s = 0$ and $^2 = 1$.

It remains to prove that χ is trivial. Looking at the quotient (T2) in $r_{U_2}()$ and applying Frobenius reciprocity, we see that

$$i_{Q_2}^G(1_{K=F} \text{ jdet } j^2) \cong \chi \otimes \mathbf{1};$$

where $\mathbf{1}$ denotes the trivial representation of $PU_3(K)$. The representation $i_{Q_2}^G(1_{K=F} \text{ jdet } j^2)$ is of length 2 (cf. Proposition 4.1 in [23]); from the above map we get

$$\chi \cong \mathbf{1};$$

where χ is the unique (Langlands) quotient of $i_{Q_1}^G(\text{jdet } j(1_{K=F}))$. Applying the Jacquet functor r_{U_1} to the above map, and comparing with the subrepresentation (B1) in the filtration $r_{U_1}()$, we conclude that $\chi = 1$.

Once we have established that χ is the trivial character, it is not hard to determine χ_1 , the character that appears in the middle piece of the filtration (M1). Recall that χ_1 is a character of the diagonal torus in $L_1 = GL_2$. As explained above, the bottom piece of the filtration (B1) shows that we have

$$i_{B^0}^G(i_{Q_1}^G(1_{K=F} \text{ jdet } j^2)) \cong i_{B^0}^G(\chi_1 \otimes \chi_2).$$

Here we are still assuming the choice of χ is such that both representations appearing on the right-hand side are irreducible. Applying the Jacquet module with respect to U_1 , we see that, in addition to $i_{B^0}^G(\chi_1 \otimes \chi_2)$ (which appears in the bottom piece of the filtration), $i_{B^0}^G(i_{Q_1}^G(1_{K=F} \text{ jdet } j^2))$ contains

$$i_{B^0}^G(1_{K=F} \text{ jdet } j^2) \quad \text{and} \quad i_{B^0}^G(1_{K=F} \text{ jdet } j^2).$$

These quotients come from the middle part of the filtration; in other words, we have

$$i_{B^0}^G(i_{Q_1}^G(1_{K=F} \text{ jdet } j^2)) \cong i_{B^0}^G(\chi_1 \otimes \chi_2) \oplus i_{B^0}^G(1_{K=F} \text{ jdet } j^2).$$

for $i = 1, 2$. Using the Bernstein form of Frobenius reciprocity, and computing the appropriate Jacquet modules, we see that this is possible if and only if

$$\chi_1 = 1_{K=F}.$$

A similar argument can be used to determine χ_2 : we apply the Jacquet module r_{U_2} to $i_{B^0}^G(i_{Q_1}^G(1_{K=F} \text{ jdet } j^2))$, observing that $i_{Q_1}^G(1_{K=F} \text{ jdet } j^2) = i_{Q_2}^G(1_{K=F} \text{ jdet } j^2)$. Then certain quotients of $r_{U_2}(i_{B^0}^G(1_{K=F} \text{ jdet } j^2))$ come from the bottom of the filtration (B2), and one verifies that $\chi_2 = 1_{K=F}$.

Remark 3.4. The fact that $i_{B^0}^G(C_c(F))$ is responsible for the two quotients appearing above (even though we have a single orbit) is explained by the action of $\overline{B}B^0$ on $C_c(F)$. Recall that

$$a_b(z); (z) \in T \backslash T^0$$

acts by $a^{-1}N_{K=F}(z)$, so we view this as an action of $F \backslash N_{K=F}(K)$. Since a character of $N_{K=F}(K)$ (or equivalently, a Galois-invariant character of K) extends to a character of F in two ways, both

$$1_{K=F} \quad \text{and} \quad \chi$$

appear as quotients of $C_c(F)$.

4 Howe duality

Our main result is the following theorem (Howe duality).

Theorem 4.1. (i) Let π be an irreducible representation of G_2 . If $\pi = 0$, then it is a representation of finite length, with a unique irreducible quotient π_0 .

(ii) For $\pi_1, \pi_2 \in \text{Irr}(G_2)$,

$$0 = (\pi_1) = (\pi_2) = \pi_1 = \pi_2:$$

(iii) If $\pi = 0$, then π is tempered if and only if π_0 is tempered.

(iv) Let $\pi \in \text{Irr}(G^0)$. Then π is either 0 or a representation of finite length.

The proof will take up the rest of this section; we provide an outline:

- 1) First, we consider the non-tempered correspondence in 4.1. In particular, we prove (i) and (ii) for non-tempered; (iii) is then a consequence of the proof. These results will follow from our computations of Jacquet modules in 3.

Next, we study the lifts of tempered representations. If π is tempered, we decompose π into its cuspidal and non-cuspidal part: $\pi = (\pi)_c + (\pi)_{nc}$. We have the analogous decomposition $\pi = (\pi)_c + (\pi)_{nc}$ for tempered $\pi \in \text{Irr}(G^0)$.

- 2) The finiteness of $(\pi)_{nc}$ and $(\pi)_{nc}$ is proved in Proposition 4.5 using the Jacquet module computations from 3.

To analyze the cuspidal part we employ the strategy from [10]. The main idea is the "period ping-pong" introduced there | see Lemma 4.7 and 4.12.

- 3) We show that $(\pi)_c$ is either irreducible or zero in Proposition 4.9 (for generic π) and Proposition 4.14 (for non-generic π). The uniqueness of the irreducible quotient in (i) is then deduced easily as a consequence of the period ping-pong; see Proposition 4.16. This proves (i).
- 4) Part (ii) is also shown to be a consequence of the period ping-pong; see Prop. 4.17.
- 5) Finally, the finiteness of $(\pi)_c$ in (iv) follows from Propositions 4.8 and 4.15.

4.1 Non-tempered correspondence

Using the results of the Section 3, we now compute the lifts of non-tempered representations. We begin by recalling the Langlands classification for $G = G_2$. Any non-tempered $\pi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ is isomorphic to exactly one of the following representations:

- a) Unique irreducible quotient of $i_{Q_1}^G(\pi)$ for $\pi = j \det j^s \pi_0$, where π_0 is a tempered irreducible representation and $s > 0$.
- b) Unique irreducible quotient of $i_{Q_2}^G(\pi)$ for $\pi = j \det j^s \pi_0$, where π_0 is a tempered irreducible representation and $s > 0$.

- c) Unique irreducible quotient of $i_{Q_1}^G(\cdot)$, where \cdot is the unique (Langlands) quotient of π_1 ; here $j_1 j = j j^{s_1}$ and $j_2 j = j j^{s_2}$ with $s_1 > s_2 > 0$.

In case of $PU_3(K)$, the situation is even simpler. Any character of K can be written as a product $j N_{K=F} j^s$ where \cdot is unitary and $s \in \mathbf{R}$. We let $I(\cdot; s)$ denote the principal series representation of $PU_3(K)$ obtained by inducing this character of K . If $s > 0$ this is a standard module and has a unique irreducible quotient. Before doing computations, we need to address the question of distinguishing extensions to $G^0 = PU_3(K) \rtimes \text{Gal}(K=F)$ of $\text{Gal}(K=F)$ -invariant representations of $PU_3(K)$. Fortunately, for principal series the extension can be done at the level of inducing data. Given a $\text{Gal}(K=F)$ -invariant character of K , only one extension to $K \rtimes \text{Gal}(K=F)$, denoted by $+$, appears in the quadratic base change (cf. 3.4). Let \cdot denote the other extension. Thus, for Galois-invariant \cdot , $I(\cdot; s)$ extends to G^0 in two ways: $I(+; s)$ and $I(\cdot; s)$. When \cdot is not invariant, only one extension exists; in the following proposition, we denote it by $I(+; s)$ to enable uniform statements.

Proposition 4.2. (i) Let $\cdot, ! i_{Q_1}^G(\cdot)$ with \cdot as in (a) above. If \cdot comes from a character $j N_{K=F} j^s$ of K via base change $K \rightarrow GL_2(F)$ (with $s > 0$ and \cdot unitary), then (\cdot) is a non-zero quotient of $I(\cdot; s)$; in particular, it has finite length. If \cdot does not come from a character of K via base change, then \cdot does not appear in the theta correspondence.

Conversely, let $+$ denote the unique irreducible quotient of $I(+; s)$. Then $(+) = 0$.

- (ii) Let $\cdot, ! i_{Q_2}^G(\cdot)$ with \cdot as in (b) or (c) above. Then \cdot does not appear in the theta correspondence.

Proof. We use the fact that $(\cdot) = \text{Hom}_G(\cdot; \cdot)$ (non-smooth linear dual). Thus, from $\cdot, ! i_{Q_1}^G(\cdot)$ we get $(\cdot) = \text{Hom}_G(\cdot; \cdot) \text{Hom}_G(\cdot; i_{Q_1}^G(\cdot)) = \text{Hom}_{L_1}(r_{U_1}(\cdot); \cdot)$ using Frobenius reciprocity. We now analyze the space $\text{Hom}_{L_1}(r_{U_1}(\cdot); \cdot)$ using Propositions 3.1 and 3.2. –

- (i) Let S_1, S_2 and S_3 denote the subquotients of $r_{U_1}(\cdot)$ appearing in (T1), (M1) and (B1), respectively. Comparing the central characters, one sees that $\text{Ext}_{L_1}(S_1; \cdot) = 0$ (recall that $s > 0$, so the central character is a negative power of $j j$). We thus get the following exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{L_1}(S_2; \cdot) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{L_1}(r_{U_1}(\cdot); \cdot) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{L_1}(S_3; \cdot) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_{L_1}(S_2; \cdot):$$

Recall that $S_2 = i_{\frac{L_1}{B} B}^{L_1 G^0}(\cdot)$

$C_c(F)$). Using the Bernstein form of Frobenius reciprocity we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ext}_{L_1}(S_2; \cdot) &= \text{Ext}_{GL_1 GL_1}(\cdot \\ C_c(F); r_B(\cdot)): \end{aligned}$$

Recall that the second GL_1 factor acts on $\pi_1 C_c(F)$ by $\cdot|_{K=F}$; by our assumption on \cdot , this is different from the corresponding action on $r_B(\cdot)$. Therefore $\text{Ext}_{L_1}(S_2; \cdot) = 0$ for all i , and the above long exact sequence becomes

$$\text{Hom}_{L_1}(r_{U_1}(\cdot); \cdot) = \text{Hom}_{L_1}(S_3; \cdot):$$

Now (B1) shows that $S_3 = L_1^{GB} \tilde{\theta}(\pi)$. By Lemma 9.4 of [4], the maximal θ -isotypic quotient of $i_0^B(\pi)$ is $i_0^B(\tilde{\theta}(\pi))$, where $\tilde{\theta}$ is the big theta lift of θ with respect to the similitude correspondence described in §3.4. Hence, if π is non-zero, then θ must come from a character of K via base change. Note that the character corresponding to $\pi_1 \otimes \pi_2$ (or π) is in fact χ^{-1} (and not χ); this is accounted for by the fact that $w \in K$ acts on K by $1=w$ (see §3.1). Thus, if $\pi = \pi_1 \otimes \pi_2$ or $\pi = \pi_1 \otimes \pi_2$ for a unitary character χ , we get $\pi = \chi \otimes \pi_1 \otimes \pi_2$. This proves $\pi \in \text{Hom}_L(S_3; \pi) = I(\pi; s)$. Taking the smooth vectors (and the contragredient), we see that π is a quotient of $I(\pi; s)$, as claimed. Furthermore, notice that the above proof shows that $I(\pi; s)$ is a quotient of π , so $\pi = 0$.

- (ii) This is proved by comparing the central character, the same way we did in (i). We omit the details. □

Not surprisingly, we get analogous results for lifts from $G^0 = \text{PU}_3(K) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$. The following proposition is proved just like Proposition 4.2, by analyzing $r_{U^0}(\pi)$:

Proposition 4.3. As before, let π^+ (resp. π^-) denote the unique irreducible quotient of $I(\pi; s)$ (resp. $I(\pi; s)$), where π is a unitary character of K and $s > 0$. Then $\pi^+ = 0$, and π^- is a non-zero quotient of $i_1^G(\pi)$, where π is the representation of GL_2 obtained from π by base change $K \rightarrow \text{GL}_2(F)$. In particular, π^- has finite length. Furthermore, $\pi^- = 0$, where π is the unique irreducible quotient of $i_1^G(\pi)$.

Remark 4.4. Notice that Propositions 4.2 and 4.3 combine to give us the following: Assume that π and π^0 are irreducible representations of G and G^0 , respectively, such that π is a quotient of π^0 . Then

$$\pi \text{ is tempered} \iff \pi^0 \text{ is tempered.}$$

4.2 Finiteness of theta lifts

Our first task is to prove that the big theta lift θ has finite length. To do this, we recall that θ can be decomposed as

$$\theta = \theta_{nc} \oplus \theta_c;$$

the sum of its non-cuspidal and cuspidal part. We first prove the following

Proposition 4.5. (i) Let $\pi \in \text{Irr}(G^0)$ be tempered. Then θ_{nc} has finite length.

(ii) Let $\pi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ be tempered. Then θ_{nc} has finite length.

Proof. (i) Recall that we have two maximal parabolic subgroups in G , $Q_i = L_i U_i$ for $i = 1, 2$. It suffices to show that the Jacquet module $r_{U_i}(\theta)$ is a finite-length representation of L_i , i.e. that the θ -isotypic quotient of $r_{U_i}(\theta)$ has finite length. To do that, we use the Jacquet module filtrations computed in Section 3.

Consider $r_{U_1}(\theta)$ first. Again, we let S_1, S_2 and S_3 denote the subquotients appearing in (T1), (M1) and (B1), respectively. We need to show that the multiplicity space of the θ -isotypic quotient of S_i has finite length, for $i = 1, 2, 3$.

At the bottom, we have

$$s_3() := \text{Hom}_{G^0}(S_3;) \text{Hom}_{G^0}(i_L^{1B_0}(\tau)_1^G \text{Hom}_{T^0}(\tau; \tau_{\rightarrow 0}())): \quad B$$

Now $\tau_{\rightarrow 0}$ is a nite-length representation of $T^0 \backslash K$. Taking any irreducible subquotient (which is in fact a character of K), we have $\text{Hom}_{T^0}(\tau;) \tau()$ where $\tau()$ is the theta lift of with respect to the Weil representation τ . The fact that $\tau()$ has nite length follows from the Howe duality theorem for classical (similitude) correspondences, cf. x3.4. This in turn shows (after taking the smooth vectors) that $s_3()$ itself is of nite length as an L_1 -module.

In the middle, we have

$$s_2() := \text{Hom}_{G^0}(S_2;) = \text{Hom}_{G^0}(i_L^{L_1 G^0}(\tau_{B_0} \text{Hom}_{T^0}(i_B(1_{C_C(F)});) \text{Hom}_{T^0}(i_B(1_{C_C(F)}); \tau_{\rightarrow 0}())): \quad B$$

Again, $r_B()$ is a nite-length representation of T . Taking an irreducible subquotient of $r_B()$, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{T^0}(i_B^G(1_{C_C(F)});) &= i_B(1_{C_C(F)}) \\ &= i_B(1_{C_C(F)}) \\ &= i_B(1_{C_C(F)}) \end{aligned}$$

(see Remark 3.4); in particular, we get a representation of nite length. Taking the smooth vectors, we see that $s_2()$ has nite length.

Finally, we need to check S_1 , the top part of the iteration. However, B^0 acts trivially on S_1 , so the τ -isotypic quotient is zero.

The Jacquet module with respect to U_2 is analyzed in the same way. Let S_1 and S_2 be the subquotients of $r_{U_2}()$ appearing in (T2) and (B2), respectively. To show that the τ -isotypic quotient of S_2 has nite length we proceed just like in the U_1 case; we omit the details.

As for S_1 , recall that $P_2 = M_2 N_2$ is the Heisenberg parabolic in H . The Levi factor M_2 (which corresponds to the C_3 part of the relative diagram) has been described in [9, x7.2] one can think of it roughly as a unitary group $U_6(K)$ and c_3 is its minimal representation. We thus need to analyze the τ -isotypic quotient of c_3 as a representation of $L_2 = GL_2(F)$. On the other hand, we have the central isogeny $GL_2(F) \times K \rightarrow GU_2(K)$. Thus the correspondence that arises from c_3 can roughly be viewed as (the similitude version) of the classical correspondence

$$U_2(K) \rightarrow U_3(K)$$

for unitary groups. It follows that the theta lift of with respect to c_3 is a nite length representation of $GL_2(F)$.

Part (ii) can be proved in the same way, by analyzing $r_{U_0}()$ as a T^0 -module. We let S_1 and S_3 denote the subquotients appearing in (T3) and (B3), respectively. To prove that the τ -isotypic quotient of S_3 has nite length we repeat the arguments from the U_1 case; we leave the details to the reader.

In order to analyze S_3 we need to consider the τ -isotypic quotient of the representation B . Recall that B is the minimal representation of the Levi factor M^0 . This Levi factor is a quasi-split group D^E where $E = K \backslash F$, and we are thus looking at the correspondence

for the dual pair $G_2 \times \text{Aut}(E)$ inside the group D_4 .^E The niteness now follows from the results of [15], where this correspondence has been studied in detail. \square

Having established the niteness of $(\cdot)_{nc}$, we turn to $(\cdot)_c$. Here our approach is based on the "ping-pong" of periods utilized in [10]. We will need to consider generic and non-generic representation separately. We begin by recalling the relevant periods.

4.3 Shalika periods

First, we recall the parabolic subgroup B^0 of G^0 discussed in Remark 2.4. The unipotent radical U^0 of B^0 has a filtration $U^0(2) \supset U^0$ with $U^0(2) \cong C_0$ and $U^0 = U^0(2) \cap C$. We let χ_{U^0} be the character of U^0 which, via the identification $U^0 = U^0(2) \cap C$ is given by $\text{Tr}_{C=F}$. Finally, let S be the semi-direct product of U^0 and the stabilizer of χ_{U^0} in the Levi of B_C . We note that the stabilizer is isomorphic to $\text{Aut}(C)$. We denote by χ_S the (Shalika) character of S equal to χ_{U^0} on U^0 and trivial on $\text{Aut}(C)$.

Let V be the unipotent radical of the Borel subgroup $Q_1 \backslash Q_2$ in G , and let $\psi_V : V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ be a Whittaker character for $G = G_2$. Just like in [28, Lemma 4.5], one shows that

$$(4.1) \quad \psi_V; \psi_V = c\text{-ind}_S^G \chi_S$$

holds for general C . Here $\psi_V; \psi_V$ denotes the maximal quotient of ψ_V on which V acts by ψ_V . This immediately implies

Corollary 4.6. Let π be an irreducible representation of G^0 . Then π is (non-zero) generic if and only if π has a non-trivial Shalika period.

For $C = K$ we have $\text{Aut}(C) = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$, and the Shalika functional is simply the Whittaker functional extended trivially to $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.

Conversely, recall that Q_1 is the three step maximal parabolic in G . Let Q_1^{der} be its derived group. In particular $Q_1^{\text{der}} = U_1 \rtimes \text{SL}_2(F)$, and $U_1 = U_1(3)$ is a three-dimensional Heisenberg group. Then

$$(1) \quad \chi_S; \chi_S = c\text{-ind}_{Q_1^{\text{der}}}^G \chi_{U_1}$$

where χ_{U_1} is the unique irreducible representation of $U_1 = U_1(3)$, extended to $\text{SL}_2(F)$, and (1) is the big theta lift of the trivial representation of $\text{Aut}(C)$ to $\text{SL}_2(F)$, via the correspondence arising from $\text{SL}_2(F) \curvearrowright \text{Aut}(C)$ acting on the Weil representation on $C_c(C_0)$ given by χ_{U_1} . If C is the algebra of 2×2 matrices, this is given by Proposition 11.6 in [10]. Of course, the proof generalizes. If $C = K$ then (1) is an irreducible even Weil representation. The even Weil representation is a quotient of a principal series representation $I(\chi)$ (notation of [10, Section 11]) for a character χ such that $\chi(j) = \chi(j^{-1})^2$. Thus, by [10, Corollary 11.4], we have

$$(4.2) \quad \dim \text{Hom}_G(\chi_S; \chi_S) = 1$$

for any Whittaker generic and tempered irreducible representation χ of G .

4.4 Howe duality for tempered representations

We now have all the ingredients required for the ping-pong game:

Lemma 4.7. Let π be the minimal representation of H . Let $\pi_1 \in \text{Irr}(G)$ be tempered, and let $\pi_2 \in \text{Irr}(G^0)$ be tempered such that

$$\text{Hom}_{GG^0}(\pi; \pi_1 \otimes \pi_2) = 0.$$

Then we have the following (natural) inclusions

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_V(\pi; \pi_1) &\stackrel{(1)}{\hookrightarrow} \text{Hom}_V(\pi; \pi_1) \stackrel{(2)}{\hookrightarrow} \text{Hom}_S(\pi; \pi_1) \stackrel{(3)}{\hookrightarrow} \text{Hom}_S(\pi; \pi_1) \stackrel{(4)}{\hookrightarrow} \text{Hom}_G(\pi; \pi_1) \\ &\quad \text{Hom}_S(\pi; \pi_1) \stackrel{(3)}{\hookrightarrow} \text{Hom}_S(\pi; \pi_1) \stackrel{(4)}{\hookrightarrow} \text{Hom}_G(\pi; \pi_1) \end{aligned}$$

generic, then all the above spaces are one-dimensional.

Proof. This is analogous to Lemma 12.1 in [10]. First, (1) follows from (). The isomorphism (2) follows from

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_V(\pi; \pi_1) &= \text{Hom}_{V_{G^0}}(\pi; \pi_1) \\ &= \text{Hom}_{G^0}(\pi; \pi_1) \end{aligned}$$

combined with (4.1). Next, (3) follows from the fact that π is the complex conjugate of π . Since $\pi = \bar{\pi}$ and $\pi = \bar{\pi}$, we have $\pi = \bar{\pi}$. Finally, (4) is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_S(\pi; \pi_1) &= \text{Hom}_S(\pi; \pi_1) \\ &= \text{Hom}_G(\pi; \pi_1) \end{aligned}$$

If the representation π is generic, then $\text{Hom}_V(\pi; \pi_1)$ is one-dimensional. However, (4.2) shows that $\text{Hom}_G(\pi; \pi_1)$ is one-dimensional as well. The lemma follows. \square

We now have two immediate consequences of the above lemma (cf. Proposition 12.2 and 12.3 of [10]):

Proposition 4.8. Let $\pi_1 \in \text{Irr}(G^0)$ be tempered. Then π cannot have two irreducible tempered and generic quotients.

Proof. Assume that π_1 and π_2 are tempered and generic such that $\pi \twoheadrightarrow \pi_1 \otimes \pi_2$. Then $\dim(\pi)_V = 2$. However, Lemma 4.7 asserts that $\dim(\pi)_V = 1$, so we have a contradiction. \square

Proposition 4.9. Let $\pi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ be tempered and generic. Then π cannot have two tempered irreducible quotients. In particular, its cuspidal part π_c is either irreducible or zero.

Proof. Let π_1, π_2 be irreducible and tempered such that $\pi \twoheadrightarrow \pi_1 \otimes \pi_2$. Lemma 4.7 (applied to $\pi; \pi_1, \pi_2$, and again to $\pi_1; \pi_2$) implies

$$1 = \dim \text{Hom}_S(\pi; \pi_1) = \dim \text{Hom}_S(\pi; \pi_2) = \dim \text{Hom}_S(\pi_1; \pi_2):$$

But $\pi_1 \otimes \pi_2$ is a quotient of π , so we have

$$1 = \dim \text{Hom}_S(\pi; \pi_1) + \dim \text{Hom}_S(\pi; \pi_2) = 2;$$

a contradiction. \square

Thus, we have proved that $(\cdot)_C$ has finite length in case ϵ is generic. To prove the same result for non-generic we need another version of period ping-pong, which we now describe.

Recall the groups $G_E = \text{Spin}_8^E$ and $G_{E;C}^0 = \text{Aut}(i_C : E, ! J)$ introduced in x1.4. Together with G and G^0 , they constitute a see-saw dual pair

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G_E = \text{Spin}_8^E & & G^0 \\ & \searrow \quad \swarrow & \\ G_2 & & G_{E;C}^0 = \text{Aut}(i_C : E, ! J) \end{array}$$

This gives us the standard see-saw identity

$$\text{Hom}_{G_{E;C}^0}((\cdot); 1) = \text{Hom}_{G_2}(R_C(E); \cdot);$$

where $R_C(E) = (1)$ denotes the big theta lift of the trivial representation of $G_{E;C}^0$ to G_E .

To better understand the representations $R_C(E)$ (for various C), we need to relate them to a certain degenerate principal series of G_E . Here we use the results of [10, x5]. Let $P_E = M_E N_E$ be the Heisenberg parabolic subgroup of $G_E = \text{Spin}_8^E$. We consider the degenerate principal series

$$I_{E; !_{K=F}}(s) = \text{Ind}_{P_E}^{G_E} (!_{K=F} j \det j^s):$$

We then have

Proposition 4.10. Let $\lambda \in 2 \text{Irr}(G_2)$ be tempered. Then

- (i) $I_{E; !_{K=F}}(1=2) \stackrel{L}{=} \sum_C R_C(E)$, where the sum is taken over all C such that $E \subset C = J$.
- (ii) $\text{Hom}_{G_2}(I_{E; !_{K=F}}(1=2); \cdot) = \text{Hom}_{N_2}(\cdot; \epsilon_E)$.

Proof. These results are taken, mutatis mutandis, from propositions 5.2 and 5.5 in [10]. \square

The final ingredient we need is a description of the twisted N_2 -coinvariants of :

Lemma 4.11. We have

$$N_2; \epsilon_E = \sum_C^M c\text{-ind}_{G_{E;C}^0}^{G_E}(1);$$

where the sum is taken over all twisted composition algebras C such that $E \subset C = J$.

Proof. This is essentially Lemma 2.9 in [13]; the only difference is that here we have more than one isomorphism class of embeddings $E \subset J$. \square

We are now ready for the second game of period ping-pong.

Lemma 4.12. Let $\lambda \in 2 \text{Irr}(G_2)$ and $\mu \in 2 \text{Irr}(G^0)$ be tempered representations such that

$$\text{Hom}_{G_2 G^0}(\cdot; \cdot) = 0:$$

Then we have the following sequence of natural inclusions:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{N_2}(\cdot; E) &\stackrel{(1)}{\hookrightarrow} \text{Hom}_{N_2}(\cdot; E) \stackrel{(2)}{\hookrightarrow} \sum_C \text{Hom}_{G_{E;C}}(\cdot; 1)_C \\ &\stackrel{(3)}{\hookrightarrow} \sum_C \text{Hom}_{G_{E;C}}(\cdot; 1) \stackrel{(4)}{\hookrightarrow} \sum_C \text{Hom}_{G_2}(R_C(E); -)_C \hookrightarrow \sum_C \text{Hom}_{G_2}(R_C(E); -)_C \end{aligned}$$

Here the sum is taken over all C such that $E \subset C = J$. If any one of these spaces is finite-dimensional, then inclusions (1) and (3) are in fact isomorphisms.

Proof. This is analogous to Lemma 6.4 in [10]. First, (1) follows from (). Next, (2) follows from

$$\text{Hom}_{N_2}(\cdot; E) = \text{Hom}_{G^0}(N_2; E; \cdot)$$

combined with Lemma 4.11 and Frobenius reciprocity. The inclusion (3) is a consequence of $(-)^{\sim} = \overline{(-)}$; this follows from the fact that (\cdot) is the complex conjugate of $(\cdot)^{\sim}$, combined with $\overline{\overline{(-)}} = (-)$ and $\overline{(-)^{\sim}} = (-)$. Finally, (4) is the see-saw identity.

Now if any one of the above spaces is finite-dimensional, it follows that $\text{Hom}_{N_2}(\cdot; E)$ is finite-dimensional as well. By Proposition 4.10, we then have

$$\dim \sum_C \text{Hom}_{G_2}(R_C(E); -) = \dim \sum_C \text{Hom}_{G_2}(1_E(1=2; 1_{K=F}); -) = \dim \text{Hom}_{N_2}(\cdot; E)_C$$

The result follows. \square

The following result will allow us to use the above lemma when analyzing non-generic representations:

Lemma 4.13. Let π be an irreducible non-generic infinite-dimensional representation of G_2 . Then there exists an étale cubic algebra E such that $\text{Hom}_{N_2}(\pi; E)$ is non-zero. Moreover, $\text{Hom}_{N_2}(\pi; E)$ is finite-dimensional for any E .

Proof. This is Lemma 3.4 in [10] \square

The two games of period ping-pong allow us to conclude the proof of Theorem 4.1. First, we prove the finiteness of $(\cdot)_C$ (cf. Proposition 6.7 in [10]).

Proposition 4.14. Let $\pi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ be tempered and non-generic. Then $(\cdot)_C$ cannot have two tempered irreducible quotients. In particular, $(\cdot)_C$ is irreducible or 0.

Proof. Let $\pi_1, \pi_2 \in \text{Irr}(G^0)$ be irreducible and tempered; assume that $(\cdot)_C \supset \pi_1 \oplus \pi_2$. Since π is non-generic, there is an étale cubic algebra E such that $d := \dim \text{Hom}_N(\pi; E)$ is finite-dimensional and non-zero. Lemma 4.12 (applied first to $\pi; -$, and then to π_1, π_2) now shows

$$d = \dim \sum_C \text{Hom}_{G_{E;C}}(\pi; 1) = \dim \sum_C \text{Hom}_{G_{E;C}}((\cdot); 1) = \dim \sum_C \text{Hom}_{G_{E;C}}(\pi_1; 1) + \dim \sum_C \text{Hom}_{G_{E;C}}(\pi_2; 1)$$

However, this is impossible, since it would imply

$$d = \dim \sum_C \text{Hom}_{G_{E;C}}((\cdot); 1) = \dim \sum_C \text{Hom}_{G_{E;C}}(\pi_1; 1) + \dim \sum_C \text{Hom}_{G_{E;C}}(\pi_2; 1) = 2d$$

Therefore, we have arrived at a contradiction, and the Proposition is proved. \square

We will also need the following result:

Proposition 4.15. Let $\pi \in \text{Irr}(G^0)$ be tempered. Let $\pi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ be a tempered, non-generic quotient of (π) . Then π is the unique irreducible tempered quotient of (π) .

Proof. Since π is non-generic, Lemma 4.13 shows that there is a cubic algebra E such that $d := \dim \text{Hom}_N(\pi; E)$ is finite-dimensional and non-zero. Now Lemma 4.12 shows that $\dim \text{Hom}_{N_2}((\pi); E) = d$. If π^0 is another tempered irreducible quotient of (π) , then Lemma 4.12 shows that $\dim \text{Hom}_{N_2}(\pi^0; E) = d$. But this implies

$$d = \dim \text{Hom}_{N_2}((\pi); E) = \dim \text{Hom}_{N_2}(\pi; E) + \dim \text{Hom}_{N_2}(\pi^0; E) = 2d;$$

which is a contradiction. The Proposition is proved. \square

Next, we prove that (π) , if non-zero, has a unique irreducible quotient.

Proposition 4.16. Let $\pi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ be tempered such that $(\pi) \neq 0$. Then (π) has a unique irreducible quotient.

Proof. Remark 4.4 shows that (π) can only have tempered quotients. The result now follows from Proposition 4.9 (when π is generic) and Proposition 4.14 (when π is non-generic). \square

Proposition 4.17. Let $\pi_1, \pi_2 \in \text{Irr}(G)$ be tempered. Then $0 = (\pi_1) = (\pi_2)$ implies $\pi_1 = \pi_2$. \square

Proof. If π_1 and π_2 are both generic, this follows from Proposition 4.8 applied to $(\pi_1) = (\pi_2)$. If either is non-generic, then the result follows from Proposition 4.15. \square

5 Explicit theta correspondences

In this section we discuss lifts of (non-cuspidal) tempered representations of G^0 .

5.1 Representations of the unitary group

Recall that $I(\pi; s)$ denotes the principal series representation of $\text{PU}_3(K)$ obtained by inducing $jN_{K=F}j^s$ (with π unitary) from $T^0 = K$. We shall denote $I(\pi; 0)$ simply by $I(\pi)$. The unique non-trivial element of the Weyl group conjugates π to π^1 , where π^1 is the non-trivial element of $\text{Gal}(K=F)$. It is easy to argue that the principal series representations $I(\pi; s)$ have reducibility points only if $\pi^1 = \pi$, that is, π is conjugate-dual. Then there is a dichotomy at play. If $I(\pi)$ is reducible, then $I(\pi; s)$ is irreducible for all $s \neq 0$. If $I(\pi)$ is irreducible then there exists $s_0 > 0$ such that $I(\pi; s)$ are irreducible for $s = s_0$. The representation $I(\pi; s_0)$ is a standard module of length two, with a unique irreducible quotient and a discrete series representation as a unique submodule. By [12] $I(\pi)$ is irreducible if and only if

$$L(\pi; s)L(\pi^1; 2s)$$

has a (simple) pole at $s = 0$. More precisely, if $L(\pi; s)$ has a pole at 0, then $\pi = \pi^1$ and $s_0 = 1$; if $L(\pi^1; 2s)$ has a pole at 0, then π is conjugate-symplectic and $s_0 = 1/2$. Now the following summarizes our discussion:

Proposition 5.1. Let χ be a conjugate-dual character of K . Then the principal series $I(\chi; s)$, for $s \geq 0$, reduces as follows:

1. If $\chi = 1$, the trivial representation is the quotient, and the Steinberg representation St is a submodule at $s = 1$.
2. If $\chi = 1$ is conjugate-orthogonal then reduction occurs at $s = 0$,

$$I(\chi) = I(\chi)_{\text{gen}} \oplus I(\chi)_{\text{deg}}$$

where $I(\chi)_{\text{gen}}$ is Whittaker generic.

3. If χ is conjugate-symplectic then $I(\chi; s)$ reduces at $s = 1/2$. The Whittaker generic submodule is a discrete series (χ) whose Langlands parameter [2, Section 10] is a 3-dimensional conjugate-orthogonal representation

$$\begin{matrix} 2 \\ V_2 \end{matrix}$$

of $K \rtimes SL_2$, a quotient of the Weil-Deligne group of K by the commutator of W_K , where V_2 is the irreducible two-dimensional representation of SL_2 .

Remark 5.2. The Langlands parameter of (χ) should perhaps be expressed using χ^{-1} instead of χ . However, the theta lift of both (χ) and (χ^{-1}) is the same representation of G_2 , so this imprecision is harmless.

We may now describe the theta correspondence for (limits of) discrete series of $PU_3(K)$ discussed above, and for extensions of those representations to $PU_3(K) \rtimes \text{Gal}(K=F)$, when $\text{Gal}(K=F)$ -invariant. These lifts will be computed using Jacquet functors and the following additional inputs that are, roughly speaking,

The correspondence is one-to-one.

It preserves tempered representations.

It preserves generic representations.

Recall that there are two ways to extend $I(\chi)$ to $PU_3(K) \rtimes \text{Gal}(K=F)$ when χ is Galois-invariant: $I(\chi^+)$ and $I(\chi^-)$. Here χ^+ is the extension of χ which appears in the quadratic base change (see §3.4). Another way to characterize $I(\chi^+)$ is via Whittaker functionals: $\text{Gal}(K=F)$ acts trivially on the one-dimensional space of Whittaker functionals. If χ is a constituent of $I(\chi)$, let χ^+ (resp. χ^-) be the extension of χ contained in $I(\chi^+)$ (resp. $I(\chi^-)$). Using Jacquet functors like in Proposition 4.2, it follows that theta lifts of constituents of $I(\chi^-)$ are trivial unless the constituent is St .

In order to state the result, let χ be a conjugate-dual character of K and let (χ) be the irreducible representation of $GL_2(F)$ corresponding to the two-dimensional representation (χ) of the Weil group W_F . Let $I_{Q_1}^G(\chi; s)$ denote the principal series where we induce (χ) twisted by $j \det^s$. If χ is conjugate-orthogonal, $\chi = 1$, then the central character of (χ) is $\chi|_{K=F}$ and $I_{Q_1}(\chi)$ is reducible,^G

$$I_{Q_1}^G(\chi) = I_{Q_1}(\hat{\chi})_{\text{gen}} \oplus I_{Q_1}(\chi)_{\text{deg}}^G.$$

If ψ is conjugate-symplectic, then the central character of π is trivial and $I_{Q_1}^G(\pi; 1=2)$ has a Whittaker generic tempered submodule. If ψ is not $\text{Gal}(K=F)$ -invariant, then π is a cuspidal representation and the tempered submodule is a discrete series representation. If ψ is $\text{Gal}(K=F)$ -invariant, then $\pi = \pi_1 \pi_2$ for a pair of mutually inverse characters of F , and the tempered submodule is

$$I_{Q_2}^G(st_1) = I_{Q_2}^G(st_2);$$

where st_i denotes a twist of the Steinberg representation of $\text{GL}_2(F)$ by the character $\psi_i(\det)$.

Finally, we recall the A-packet discussed in Section 3.3. The packet contains two representations: a supercuspidal, and the Langlands $_{Q_1}$ quotient of $i^{G_2}(\text{jdetj})$, with π equal to the tempered representation $1 \uparrow_{K=F}$. In the following proposition, we consider the corresponding discrete series L-packet (again attached to the subregular unipotent orbit and the cubic etale algebra $F + K$). Its elements are obtained by applying the Aubert involutions to the elements of the A-packet; in particular, we have a supercuspidal representation, and a generic discrete series representation contained in $i^{G_2}(\text{jdetj})_{Q_1}$ as a submodule.

Proposition 5.3. We have:

1. $f(\text{St}^+); (\text{St})_g$ is the discrete series L-packet of G attached to the subregular unipotent orbit and the cubic etale algebra $F + K$. (St) is supercuspidal.
2. If $\psi = 1$ is conjugate-orthogonal then

$$(I(\pi))_{\text{gen}} = I_{Q_1}(\pi)_{\text{gen}} \text{ and } (I(\pi))_{\text{deg}} = I_{Q_1}(\pi)_{\text{deg}}^G.$$

If ψ is $\text{Gal}(K=F)$ -invariant, then the statements involve constituents of $I(\pi^+)$.

3. If ψ is conjugate-symplectic then (π) is a Whittaker generic, tempered submodule of $I_{Q_1}^G(\pi; 1=2)$. If ψ is $\text{Gal}(K=F)$ -invariant, the lift is of $(\pi)^+$.

Proof. 1. Let $f; g$ be the L-packet, with π supercuspidal. We use the description of $r_{U^0}(\pi)$ from Proposition 3.3. First, note that π (a representation of G^0) is non-trivial, because π appears as a quotient of $(T3)$. Thus π appears as a quotient of the minimal representation. It follows that $r_{U^0}(\pi)$ is a quotient of $r_{U^0}(\pi)$. Since π is supercuspidal, $r_{U^0}(\pi)$ cannot appear in $(B3)$; therefore, it is a quotient of $(T3)$. Thus $r_{U^0}(\pi)$ is one-dimensional, a quotient of $(T3)$; notice that $r_{U^0}(\pi)$ is precisely the exponent of St^- . Moreover, the supercuspidal part of π is necessarily 0 because of the one-to-one property (Theorem 4.1). This shows $\pi = \text{St}^-$.

It remains to determine (St^+) . We know that $(\text{St}^+) = 0$ (because St^+ is generic; see Corollary 4.6) and tempered. This implies, using Proposition 3.3 again, that (St^+) appears as a quotient in $B3$. From here it follows that (St^+) is a subquotient of $i_{Q_1}^{G_2}(\text{jdetj})$ (1 $\uparrow_{K=F}$). Since (St^+) is tempered, the claim follows.

2. Again, we look at the description of the Jacquet module in Proposition 3.3. The two constituents of $I(\pi)$ are not distinguished by Jacquet modules: we have $r_{U^0}(I(\pi)_{\text{gen}}) = r_{U^0}(I(\pi)_{\text{deg}}) = \pi$. Note that π appears as a quotient in $(B3)$. As explained in 3.4,

the similitude correspondence arising from the representation π in (B3) now shows that

π is a quotient of π . Inducing, we get that $I_{Q^2}(\pi)$ is a quotient of $r^0(\pi)$; in other words (using Frobenius reciprocity), $I_{Q^2}(\pi)$ is a quotient of π . In

particular, both $I_{Q_1}^{G_2}(\pi)_{\text{gen}}$ and $I_{Q_1}^{G_2}(\pi)_{\text{gen}}$ have non-zero theta lifts which are constituents of $I(\pi)$. Since lifts of generic representations remain generic (Corollary 4.6), we must have $(I(\pi)_{\text{gen}}) = I_{Q^2}(\pi)_{\text{gen}}$; by the one-to-one property it now follows that $(I(\pi)_{\text{deg}}) = I_{Q^2}(\pi)_{\text{deg}}$.

3. The proof here is the same as for (St^+) in case (i). \square

6 Mini theta

It is possible that a cuspidal representations of G^0 lift to non-cuspidal representations of G . From Jacquet functors, it is clear that such representations of G^0 are lifts from the Levi $L_2 = \text{GL}_2(F)$ via the minimal representation of M_2 . We shall describe this mini-theta correspondence by relating it to a classical theta correspondence for unitary groups.

6.1 The similitude theta correspondence for $\text{GU}(2)^{\det} \text{GU}(3)$

Let $\text{GU}(n)$ denote the group of similitudes of an n -dimensional Hermitian space, and let $\text{GU}(n)^{\det}$ denote the index two subgroup of elements such that the similitude takes value in $N_{K=F}(K)$. The forms of $\text{GU}(2)$ can be described using quaternion algebras. Let B be a quaternion algebra and x an embedding of K into B . The right multiplication by K turns B into a 2-dimensional symmetric Hermitian space, the Hermitian form given by the quaternion norm. We have

$$\text{GU}(2) = (B \rtimes K) = F$$

where B acts on B from the left, and K from the right, by inverse. The center of this group is $(F \rtimes K) = F = K$. The subgroup $\text{GU}(2)^{\det}$ consists of pairs $(g; z)$ such that the norm of g is in $N_{K=F}(K)$.

The mini-theta correspondence is related to the similitude theta correspondence for $\text{GU}(2)^{\det} \text{GU}(3)$, which fits into the seesaw

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{GU}(3) & & \text{GU}(6)^{\det} \\ & @ & \\ & @ & \\ & @ @ & \\ \text{GU}(1) = K & & \text{GU}(2)^{\det} \end{array}$$

One uses the splitting character 1 on $\text{GU}(3)$ and $\text{GU}(1)$ on the left hand side, on $\text{GU}(6)^{\det}$ and χ on $\text{GU}(2)^{\det}$ [1, Section 7]; here χ is a character of K which restricts to 1 on F . We start by considering this, without referring to the mini-theta yet.

In this see-saw, one starts with the trivial representation of $\text{GU}(1)$ on the bottom left, and one takes an irreducible representation of $\text{GU}(2)^{\det}$ on the bottom right. Then the

see-saw identity is

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathrm{GU}(2)^{\mathrm{det}}}((1);) = \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathrm{GU}(1)}((); 1):$$

Hence, $()$ is a representation of $\mathrm{GU}(3)=\mathrm{GU}(1)$ i.e. a representation of $\mathrm{GU}(3)$ with trivial central character. Moreover, with the choice of splitting characters as above, the theta correspondence carries representations of $\mathrm{GU}(3)$ with trivial central character to representations of $\mathrm{GU}(2)^{\mathrm{det}}$ with central character 3 . One can describe this theta correspondence, as a lifting from $\mathrm{GU}(2)^{\mathrm{det}}$ to $\mathrm{U}(3)=\mathrm{U}(1) \ltimes \mathrm{GU}(3)=\mathrm{GU}(1)$ as follows.

An irreducible representation of $\mathrm{GU}(2) \rtimes \mathrm{GL}_2(F) \rtimes K = F$ is of the form $\pi \otimes \chi$ for an irreducible representation π of $\mathrm{GL}_2(F)$ and a character χ of K , so that the central character of π is j . Since we are interested only in those irreducible representations of $\mathrm{GU}(2)$ with the central character 3 , we must take $\chi = ^3$. In other words, we are looking at irreducible representations π of $\mathrm{GL}_2(F)$ whose central character is $!_{K=F}$ (since $j_F = !_{K=F}$).

Note that:

the contragredient of such a π is $\pi^\vee =$

$!_{K=F}$, so π is dihedral with respect to $K=F$ if and only if π is self-dual.

hence, the restriction of π to $\mathrm{GL}_2(F)^{\mathrm{det}}$ is irreducible if and only if π is not self-dual; if π is self-dual, the restriction breaks into 2 pieces.

With 3 given, it gives an L-packet of

$$\mathrm{U}(2) = f(g; z) : \det(g) = N(z)g=F \quad \mathrm{GU}(2):$$

If π denotes the L-parameter of π (as a $\mathrm{GL}_2(F)$ -representation), then the L-parameter of this $\mathrm{U}(2)$ L-packet is the conjugate-symplectic representation of the Weil group W_K

$$j_{W_K}^3.$$

Assume now that π is a discrete series representation of $\mathrm{GL}_2(F)$. Then j_{W_K} is irreducible if and only if π is non-dihedral with respect to $K=F$, i.e. π is not self-dual. In any case, the representations of $\mathrm{U}(3)$ we get by theta lifting from $\mathrm{GU}(2)^{\mathrm{det}}$ to $\mathrm{U}(3)=\mathrm{U}(1) \ltimes \mathrm{GU}(3)=\mathrm{GU}(1)$ have the L-parameter

$$= j_{W_K} + 1;$$

see Theorem A in [11]. Observe that this is a conjugate-orthogonal representation of W_K of determinant one: j_{W_K} has trivial determinant, since $\det(\pi) = !_{K=F}$.

More precisely:

if π is not self-dual, i.e. π not dihedral, we are starting with a singleton L-packet on $\mathrm{GU}(2)^{\mathrm{det}}$ and its lift is the unique generic representation π_{gen} in the L-packet of $\mathrm{U}(3)$ with the L-parameter π . That L-packet has another element which is lifted from the non-quasi-split form of $\mathrm{GU}(2)^{\mathrm{det}}$.

if π is self-dual, then the L-packet we started with on $\mathrm{GU}(2)^{\mathrm{det}}$ has 2 elements, distinguished by their Whittaker support, and their theta lifts are two representations π_{gen} and π_{deg} in the L-packet with the L-parameter π ; there are two other representations lifted from the non-quasi-split form of $\mathrm{GU}(2)^{\mathrm{det}}$.

6.2 The lifts coming from mini-theta

With the above understanding of the similitude theta lifting in hand, we return to the problem of mini-theta.

Let M_2 be the connected component of M_2 . Take a generator of the group of algebraic characters of M_2 , and let M_2^{\det} be the index two subgroup of M_2 of elements such that the character takes values in $N_{K=F}(K)$. Furthermore, the restriction of the character to $L_2 = GL_2(F)$ is the determinant (or its inverse) and we can define $L^{\det} = GL_2(F)^{\det}$ analogously. Thus we have a group isomorphic to $PU(3) \cdot GL_2(F)^{\det}$ contained in M^{\det} . We can describe M^{\det} and this embedding explicitly within the framework of x6.1.

Assume that the quaternion algebra B from x6.1 is split, so that $B = GL_2(F)$. Let $U(6)$ be the unitary group corresponding to the Hermitian space $B \oplus B \oplus B$. Then by Section 7.2 in [9]

$$M_2^{\det} = \{f(z; g) \in K \cdot U(6) \mid z = \det g\}$$

where $U(1)$ is embedded into $K \cdot U(6)$ by $z \mapsto (z^3; z)$ and z denotes the action of the non-trivial element in $\text{Gal}(K=F)$. Let $U(3) \cdot U(2)$ be a dual pair in $U(6)$ so that $U(2)$ acts diagonally on the three copies of B . We map $U(3)$ into M_2^{\det} by

$$g \mapsto (\det(g); g):$$

It is easy to check that this map is well defined and trivial on the center $U(1)$. Now let $z \in GL_2(F)^{\det}$. Let $z \in K$ such that $N_{K=F}(z) = \det(g)$. Then $(g; z)$ denotes an element in $U(2)$, using the above description of $GU(2)$, and

$$g \mapsto (z^{-3}; (g; z))$$

is a well defined map from $GL_2(F)^{\det}$ into M_2^{\det} which does not depend on the choice of z .

In this way, we may view $PU(3) \cdot GL_2(F)^{\det}$ as (a subgroup of) the dual pair discussed in x6.1. The representation $\pi^{-1}(1)$ of $K \cdot U(6)$ descends to a representation of M^{\det} which is now independent of ϵ ; see Section 8.4 in [9]. Furthermore,

$$\text{Ind}_{M_2^{\det}}^{M_2} \pi^{-1}(1)$$

is the minimal representation of M_2 . From the formulas for the embedding of $PU(3)$ and $GL_2(F)^{\det}$ into M_2^{\det} , it is easy to check that these two groups act on $\pi^{-1}(1)$ in the same way as they act in the classical see-saw pair above. Combining this with the two bullet points at the end of x6.1, we get:

Proposition 6.1. Let π be a discrete series representation of $GL_2(F)$ with the central character $\chi|_{K=F}$. Then $\epsilon = j_{W_K} + 1$ is a $PU(3)$ -parameter and:

If π is not self-dual, i.e. not dihedral w.r.t. $K=F$, the L-packet of π has one representation we are considering. Under the mini-theta, it lifts to $\pi + \pi^{-}$, and under the theta lift to G_2 , it lifts to $\text{Ind}_{Q_2}^{G_2} \pi = \text{Ind}_{Q_2}^{G_2} (\pi^{-})$.

If π is self-dual, i.e. dihedral w.r.t. $K=F$, then the L-packet of π has two representations π_{gen} and π_{deg} we are considering. Under the mini-theta, they lift to π . Under the theta lift to G_2 , these two representations of $PU(3)$ lift to the two constituents of $\text{Ind}_{Q_2}^{G_2}(\pi)$.

We still need to go from $\mathrm{PU}(3)$ to $\mathrm{PU}(3) \circ \mathbf{Z}=2\mathbf{Z}$. The action of $\mathbf{Z}=2\mathbf{Z}$ on $\mathrm{Irr}(\mathrm{PU}(3))$ is sending ρ to $-\rho$ (see [21]). The representations in the L-packet of ρ are all self-dual, and hence each has two extensions to $\mathrm{PU}(3) \circ \mathbf{Z}=2\mathbf{Z}$. Of course, by the one-to-one result, only one of these extensions can lift to a summand of Ind^{G_2} . The other extension should not lift to G_2 , however, we cannot exclude that it lifts to a cuspidal representation of G_2 .

Finally, let us discuss what happens on the level of L-parameters. The L-parameter is a 3-dimensional rep $\rho : W_K \rightarrow \mathrm{SL}_3(\mathbf{C})$ of the form $\rho = j_{W_K} + 1$, where $\rho : W_F \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbf{C})$ has $\det(\rho) = \chi_{K=F}$. Also, ρ is the restriction to W_K of an L-parameter

$$\rho^0 : W_F \rightarrow \mathrm{SL}(3) \circ \mathbf{Z}=2\mathbf{Z}$$

where the latter is the L-group of $\mathrm{PU}(3)$. Using the further inclusion $\mathrm{SL}(3) \circ \mathbf{Z}=2\mathbf{Z} \rightarrow G_2$ the 7-dimensional representation of $G_2(\mathbf{C})$, as a W_F -module, decomposes as

$$(\mathrm{Ind}_{W_K}^{W_F}) + \chi_{K=F} = (\chi_{K=F} + \chi + 1 + \chi_{K=F}) + \chi_{K=F} :$$

Recalling that $\chi_{K=F} = -\chi$, and regrouping (i.e. conjugating), we rewrite this as: $(\chi +$

$$\chi_{K=F}) + (-\chi + \chi_{K=F}) + 1 :$$

This parameter factors through the Levi $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbf{C})$ in $\mathrm{SL}_3(\mathbf{C}) \rightarrow G_2(\mathbf{C})$, therefore it is a parameter of the induced representation $\mathrm{Ind}_{\mathbf{P}}^{G_2} = \mathrm{Ind}_{\mathbf{P}}^{\mathbf{G}}(-)$.

7 Statements and declarations

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