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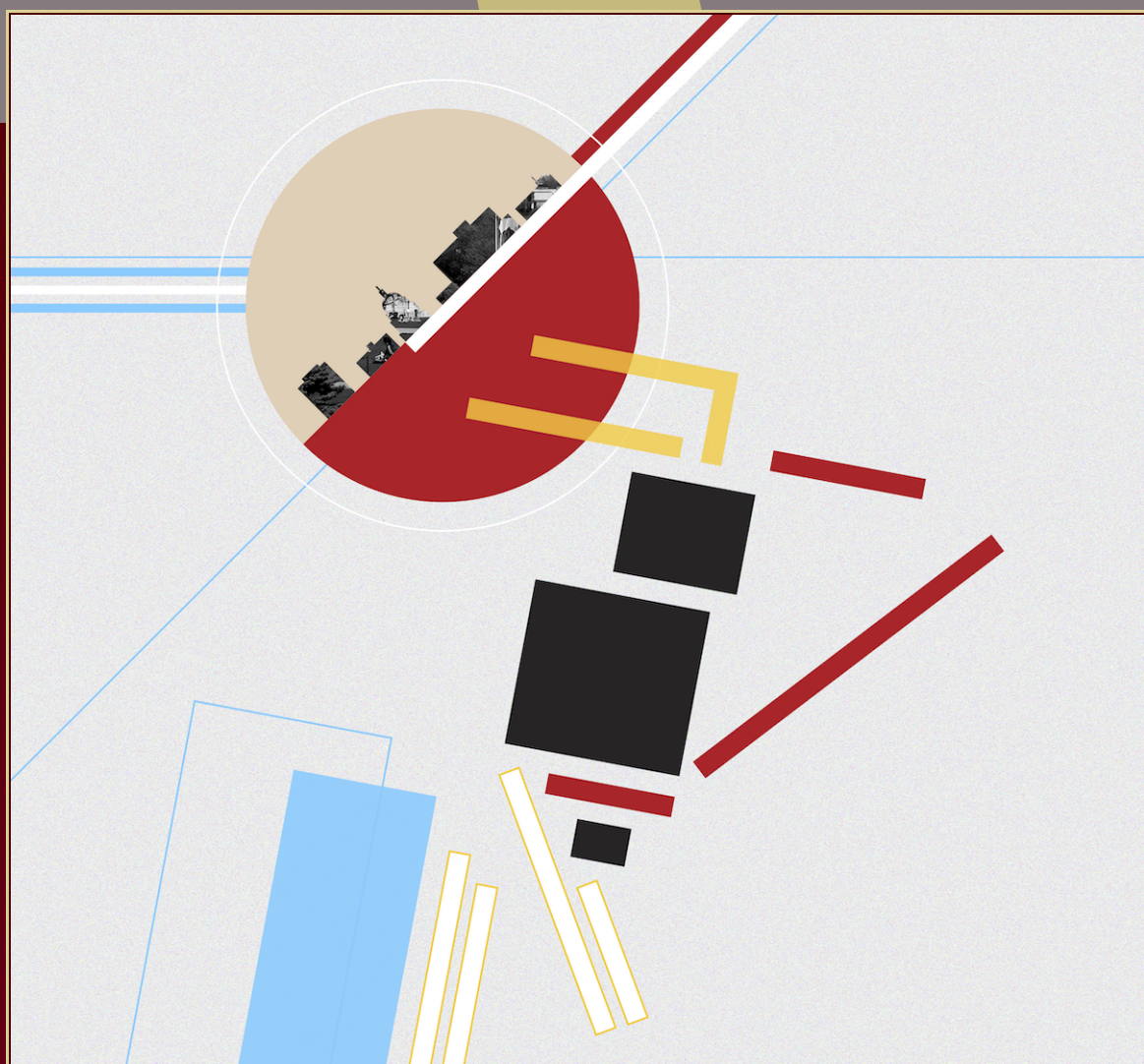
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Analytic evaluation of Hecke eigenvalues
for Siegel modular forms of degree two

Owen Colman, Alexandru Ghitza, and Nathan C. Ryan



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The standard approach to evaluate Hecke eigenvalues of a Siegel modular eigenform F is to determine a large number of Fourier coefficients of F and then compute the Hecke action on those coefficients. We present a new method based on the numerical evaluation of F at explicit points in the upper half-space and of its image under the Hecke operators. The approach is more efficient than the standard method and has the potential for further optimization by identifying good candidates for the points of evaluation, or finding ways of lowering the truncation bound. A limitation of the algorithm is that it returns floating point numbers for the eigenvalues; however, the working precision can be adjusted at will to yield as close an approximation as needed.

1. Introduction

The explicit computation of classical modular forms and their associated L-functions has been very useful to formulate and verify conjectures, to discover new phenomena and to prove theorems. There are a variety of ways to effectively compute the Fourier coefficients of classical modular forms and, therefore, their L-functions. Analogous work for Siegel modular forms of degree 2 is less well-developed for, perhaps, two main reasons:

- (1) the methods for computing Siegel modular forms are ad hoc and less efficient than those for computing classical modular forms;
- (2) computing Siegel modular forms does not immediately give you the associated L-functions since the Hecke eigenvalues of Siegel modular forms, unlike in the classical case, are not equal to the Fourier coefficients and because the Euler factors of the L-function involve knowing both the p -th and the p^2 -th eigenvalues.

To give an idea of the difficulty of computing the L-function of a Siegel modular form, we consider an example. Let Υ_{20} be the unique normalized Siegel modular form of degree 2 and weight 20 that is a Hecke eigenform and not a Saito–Kurokawa lift. Skoruppa [15] gave an explicit formula for Υ_{20} in terms

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of the generators of the ring of Siegel modular forms of degree 2, and the largest calculation of Υ_{20} has been carried out by Kohnen and Kuss [7] (we point out that Kurokawa [9; 10] was the first to compute Υ_{20} but his computations were not very extensive). The computation that Kohnen and Kuss carried out was enough to find the p -th eigenvalue for $p \leq 997$ and the p^2 -th eigenvalue for $p \leq 79$. They compute Fourier coefficients indexed by quadratic forms with discriminant up to 3000000 and then use them to determine the Hecke eigenvalues. An examination of the formulas on page 387 of [15] shows that to find the eigenvalue $\lambda(n)$ of T_n , for $n = p^2$, requires the Fourier coefficients indexed by quadratic forms of discriminant up to $n^2 = p^4$. This relation makes it infeasible to compute many more Fourier coefficients, and thus Hecke eigenvalues, using this approach. Instead, in this paper, we propose a different approach.

Our method does not compute *any* of the Fourier coefficients of the Siegel modular form being studied. Instead, we take suitable truncations of the Fourier expansions of the *Igusa generators* (whose coefficients are inexpensive to compute) and use these truncations to evaluate our modular form numerically at points in the upper half-space. This approach is based on work of Bröcker and Lauter [3] in which they use such techniques to evaluate Igusa functions. Using their method we find the eigenvalue $\lambda(p)$ of an eigenform F by doing the following:

- evaluate F at some point Z in the Siegel upper half-space;
- evaluate $F|T_p$ at the same point Z ;
- take the ratio $(F|T_p)(Z)/F(Z)$.

The conceptual shift that we are proposing is that, instead of representing the Siegel modular form F as a list of Fourier coefficients, we represent F by its values at points in the Siegel upper half-space. The idea is simple but its importance can be seen by virtue of the results. We remark that in [2] we describe an implementation of the analogous method for classical modular forms and, in some cases, outperform the standard method using modular symbols.

The potential to parallelize our algorithm stems from the fact that we sum over the coset decomposition of the Hecke operators, and the computation of each summand is independent; these computations can therefore be performed in parallel. Such approaches have been used in the past, for instance in determining the Hecke eigenvalues of paramodular forms; see [12; 4]. We thank the referees for pointing this out, and note that the similarity ends at the level of the sum itself: Poor and Yuen specialize the paramodular eigenform to a modular curve, then compute the summands (which are power series in one variable) exactly. We work with the Siegel eigenform itself (as a power series in three variables) and compute good numerical approximations to the summands.

It is important to emphasize that our method takes as input the expression of a Siegel eigenform as a polynomial in the Igusa generators. Our objective is then to efficiently compute approximate values of the Hecke eigenvalues. We do not claim to obtain further information about the Fourier coefficients of the eigenform, nor that this is an efficient way of determining the exact value of the eigenvalues (unless the latter happen to be integers).

The paper is organized as follows. We begin by stating some numerical preliminaries used in our method. Then, we give the relevant background on Siegel modular forms and discuss Bröker and Lauter's work and how to compute $F|T_p$ both in theory and in practice. We conclude by presenting some results of our computations, together with details of the implementation and ideas for further improvement.

2. Numerical preliminaries

Before we describe our algorithm to compute Hecke eigenvalues of Siegel modular forms analytically, we begin by stating some results related to bounding the error introduced when we evaluate a given Siegel modular form and its image under the Hecke operators T_p and T_{p^2} at a point in the upper half-plane.

2.1. Error in quotient. We have a quantity defined as

$$z = \frac{x}{y} \quad \text{with } x, y \in \mathbb{C}.$$

The numerator and denominator can be approximated to x_A and y_A ; we define $z_A := x_A/y_A$. Given $\varepsilon > 0$, what values of ε_x and ε_y ensure that

$$\text{if } |x - x_A| < \varepsilon_x \text{ and } |y - y_A| < \varepsilon_y \text{ then } |z - z_A| < \varepsilon?$$

Lemma 1. *With the above notation, let $e_x = x - x_A$ and $e_y = y - y_A$. Then*

$$z - z_A = \frac{e_x - e_y z_A}{y_A + e_y}.$$

Proof. This follows from a straightforward calculation. □

Proposition 2. *For any $h \in (0, 1)$, if*

$$\varepsilon_x < \frac{h\varepsilon|y_A|}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \varepsilon_y < \min \left\{ \frac{(1-h)\varepsilon|y_A|}{2|z_A|}, \frac{|y_A|}{2} \right\},$$

then $|z - z_A| < \varepsilon$.

Proof. Under the hypotheses, we have $|y_A + e_y| > |y_A|/2$ so

$$|z - z_A| < \frac{2}{|y_A|} (|e_x| + |e_y z_A|) < h\varepsilon + (1-h)\varepsilon = \varepsilon. \quad \square$$

The value of the parameter h can be chosen in such a way that the calculations of x_A and of y_A are roughly of the same level of difficulty.

In order to use the results of [Proposition 2](#) in practice, we need a lower bound on $|y_A|$ and an upper bound on $|z_A|$ (which can be obtained from the lower bound on $|y_A|$ and an upper bound on $|x_A|$). How do we bound $|x_A|$? We compute a very coarse estimate $\tilde{x}$ to x , with $\tilde{\varepsilon}_x$ just small enough that $|\tilde{x}| - 2\tilde{\varepsilon}_x > 0$. (We can start with $\tilde{\varepsilon}_x = 0.1$ and keep dividing by 10 until the condition holds.) Later we will make sure that ε_x is smaller than $\tilde{\varepsilon}_x$. Then we know that

$$|\tilde{x} - x| < \tilde{\varepsilon}_x \quad \text{and} \quad |x_A - x| < \varepsilon_x \leq \tilde{\varepsilon}_x,$$

so

$$||x_A| - |\tilde{x}|| \leq |x_A - \tilde{x}| < 2\tilde{\varepsilon}_x \quad \Rightarrow \quad 0 < |\tilde{x}| - 2\tilde{\varepsilon}_x < |x_A| < |\tilde{x}| + 2\tilde{\varepsilon}_x,$$

giving us lower and upper bounds on $|x_A|$. A similar argument works for $|y_A|$.

3. Siegel modular forms

Let the symplectic group of similitudes of genus 2 be defined by

$$\mathrm{GSp}(4) := \{G \in \mathrm{GL}(4) : {}^t G J G = \lambda(G) J, \lambda(G) \in \mathrm{GL}(1)\}, \quad \text{where } J = \begin{bmatrix} & I_2 \\ -I_2 & \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let $\mathrm{Sp}(4)$ be the subgroup with $\lambda(G) = 1$. The group $\mathrm{GSp}^+(4, \mathbb{R}) := \{G \in \mathrm{GSp}(4, \mathbb{R}) : \lambda(G) > 0\}$ acts on the Siegel upper half-space $\mathbb{H}_2 := \{Z \in M_2(\mathbb{C}) : {}^t Z = Z, \mathrm{Im}(Z) > 0\}$ by

$$G \langle Z \rangle := (AZ + B)(CZ + D)^{-1}, \quad \text{where } G = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix} \in \mathrm{GSp}^+(4, \mathbb{R}), Z \in \mathbb{H}_2. \quad (1)$$

Let $S_k^{(2)}$ be the space of holomorphic Siegel cusp forms of weight k and genus 2 with respect to $\Gamma^{(2)} := \mathrm{Sp}(4, \mathbb{Z})$. Then $F \in S_k^{(2)}$ satisfies

$$F(\gamma \langle Z \rangle) = \det(CZ + D)^k F(Z)$$

for all $\gamma = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix} \in \Gamma^{(2)}$ and $Z \in \mathbb{H}_2$. This also can be written in terms of the slash operator: for $M \in \mathrm{GSp}^+(4, \mathbb{R})$ let $(F|_k M)(Z) = \det(CZ + D)^{-k} F(M \langle Z \rangle)$. Then the functional equation satisfied by a Siegel modular form can be written as

$$(F|_k M)(Z) = F(z)$$

for all $M \in \mathrm{Sp}(4, \mathbb{Z})$.

Now we describe the Hecke operators acting on $S_k^{(2)}$. For $M \in \mathrm{GSp}^+(4, \mathbb{R}) \cap M_4(\mathbb{Z})$, define the Hecke operator $T(\Gamma^{(2)} M \Gamma^{(2)})$ on $S_k^{(2)}$ as in [1, (1.3.3)]. For a positive integer m , we define the Hecke operator T_m by

$$T_m := \sum_{\lambda(M)=m} T(\Gamma^{(2)} M \Gamma^{(2)}). \quad (2)$$

See Section 5.1 for an explicit decomposition of the double cosets T_p and T_{p^2} into right cosets. Suppose

$$T_m = \sum \Gamma^{(2)} \alpha$$

is a right coset decomposition of the Hecke operator T_m . Then the operator T_m acts on a Siegel modular form F of weight k as

$$(F|_k T_m)(Z) = \sum (F|_k \alpha)(Z).$$

This action can be described in terms of the Fourier coefficients of the Siegel modular form F .

Any Siegel modular form F of degree 2 has a Fourier expansion of the form

$$F(Z) = \sum_N a_N(F) \exp(2\pi i \operatorname{Tr}(NZ)), \quad a_N(F) \in \mathbb{C},$$

where the sum ranges over all positive semidefinite matrices

$$N = \begin{pmatrix} a & b/2 \\ b/2 & c \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{with } a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

The quadratic form N is often written $[a, b, c]$ using Gauss's notation. Using the decompositions of the Hecke operators in [Section 5.1](#) one can derive formulas for the action of T_p and T_{p^2} on a Siegel modular form F . When these formulas are written down as in [\[15, p. 387\]](#) one can see that to compute $\lambda_F(p)$, the Hecke eigenvalue of F with respect to the Hecke operator T_p , one needs Fourier coefficients up to discriminant of order p^2 . To compute $\lambda_F(p^2)$, the Hecke eigenvalue of F with respect to the Hecke operator T_{p^2} , one needs Fourier coefficients up to discriminant p^4 . With current methods, computing this number of coefficients of a Hecke eigenform that is not a Saito–Kurokawa lift has proven impossible.

A bottleneck to computing such a large number of coefficients is the fact that there is no known way to compute individual coefficients in parallel. The determination of a single Fourier coefficient requires knowledge of many other Fourier coefficients. Our method, described above, has approximately the same number of steps to compute a new Hecke eigenvalue but these steps, in our method, are easily done in parallel.

4. Evaluating Hecke eigenforms

4.1. Bounds on the coefficients of the Igusa generators.

Proposition 3. *Let E_4 , E_6 , χ_{10} and χ_{12} denote the Igusa generators of the ring of even-weight Siegel modular forms of genus 2 with respect to $\operatorname{Sp}(4, \mathbb{Z})$.*

We have the following bounds on the Fourier coefficients of these forms:

$$\begin{aligned} |a_N(E_4)| &< 19230 t^5, \\ |a_N(E_6)| &< 12169 t^9, \\ |a_N(\chi_{10})| &< \frac{1}{236} A(\varepsilon, 9) t^{9+\varepsilon}, \\ |a_N(\chi_{12})| &< \frac{1}{311} A(\varepsilon, 11) t^{11+\varepsilon}, \end{aligned}$$

where the last two hold for any $\varepsilon > 0$, $t = \operatorname{Tr}(N)$, and the function $A(\varepsilon, s)$ is defined by

$$A(\varepsilon, s) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{1/4}} \exp(9\varepsilon^{-1} 2^{3/\varepsilon} / \log(2)) \zeta(1+\varepsilon) \max \left\{ 1, \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma(s+1/2+\varepsilon)}{\Gamma(s-1/2-\varepsilon)}} \right\}.$$

Proof. It follows directly from [3, Corollary 3.6 and Remark 3.7] that

$$\begin{aligned} |a_N(E_4)| &< 19230(4ac - b^2)^{5/2} \leq 19230 \operatorname{Tr}(N)^5, \\ |a_N(E_6)| &< 12169(4ac - b^2)^{9/2} \leq 12169 \operatorname{Tr}(N)^9. \end{aligned}$$

The second two inequalities follow from [3, Theorem 5.10] with $\gamma = \eta = \varepsilon/3$. $\square$

Remark 4. The bounds for χ_{10} and χ_{12} in Proposition 3 allow for further optimization by choosing the parameter ε appropriately.

Considering χ_{10} , the factor $t^{9+\varepsilon}$ is of course dominant as $t \rightarrow \infty$, but choosing ε as small as possible is counterproductive for practical computations, as the factor $A(\varepsilon, 9)$ explodes for small ε .

In our computations, we use $\varepsilon = 2$, so the bounds can be summarized as

$$\begin{aligned} |a_N(E_4)| &< 19230 t^5, & |a_N(E_6)| &< 12169 t^9, \\ |a_N(\chi_{10})| &< 220439 t^{11}, & |a_N(\chi_{12})| &< 287248 t^{13}, \end{aligned}$$

where $t = \operatorname{Tr}(N)$.

4.2. The truncation error for Siegel modular forms. Let F be a Siegel modular form of degree 2, with Fourier expansion

$$F(Z) = \sum_N a_N(F) \exp(2\pi i \operatorname{Tr}(NZ)).$$

Given a positive integer T , we truncate the Fourier expansion of F by considering only those indices N whose trace is at most T :

$$F_T(Z) = \sum_{\operatorname{Tr}(N) \leq T} a_N(F) \exp(2\pi i \operatorname{Tr}(NZ)).$$

Lemma 5. For any $t \in \mathbb{N}$, the number of Fourier indices of trace t satisfies

$$\#\{N : \operatorname{Tr}(N) = t\} \leq (t+1)(2t+1) = 2t^2 + 3t + 1 \leq 6t^2.$$

Proof. We have

$$\#\{N : \operatorname{Tr}(N) = t\} = \sum_{a=0}^t (1 + 2 \lfloor 2\sqrt{a(t-a)} \rfloor).$$

There are $t+1$ terms in the sum, and the largest corresponds to $a = t/2$ (or $a = (t-1)/2$ if t is odd). In any case, every term in the sum is at most $1 + 2t$. $\square$

Suppose we have, like in Proposition 3, an upper bound on the Fourier coefficients of F :

$$|a_N(F)| \leq Ct^d, \quad \text{where } C \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}, d \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } t = \operatorname{Tr}(N). \quad (3)$$

We are interested in bounding the gap between the true value $F(Z)$ and its approximation $F_T(Z)$.

Proposition 6. Suppose F is a Siegel modular form of degree 2 whose Fourier coefficients satisfy (3), and $Z \in \mathbb{H}_2$. We wish to approximate the value $F(Z)$ with error at most 10^{-h} . It is then sufficient to use

the truncation $F_T(Z)$ containing all terms of the Fourier expansion of F with indices of trace at most T , where

$$T > \frac{d+2}{\alpha(Z)} \quad \text{and} \quad 6C \frac{d+3}{\alpha(Z)} \exp(-\alpha(Z)T) T^{d+2} < 10^{-h}.$$

Here

$$\delta(Z) = \sup\{\delta' \in \mathbb{R} : \text{Im}(Z) - \delta' I \text{ is positive semidefinite}\}$$

and $\alpha(Z) = 2\pi\delta(Z)$.

Proof. Using [3, Lemma 6.1], we have

$$\begin{aligned} |F(Z) - F_T(Z)| &= \left| \sum_{\text{Tr}(N) > T} a_N(F) \exp(2\pi i \text{Tr}(NZ)) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{\text{Tr}(N) > T} |a_N(F)| |\exp(2\pi i \text{Tr}(NZ))| \\ &\leq \sum_{\text{Tr}(N) > T} |a_N(F)| \exp(-\alpha(Z) \text{Tr}(N)) \\ &< \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} \sum_{\text{Tr}(N)=t} |a_N(F)| \exp(-\alpha(Z)t) \\ &\leq \sum_{t=T+1}^{\infty} 6C t^{d+2} \exp(-\alpha(Z)t) \\ &\leq 6C \int_T^{\infty} x^{d+2} \exp(-\alpha(Z)x) dx \\ &= 6C \exp(-\alpha(Z)T) \sum_{j=0}^{d+2} \frac{(d+2)!}{j! \alpha(Z)^{d-j+3}} T^j \\ &< \frac{6C(d+3)}{\alpha(Z)} \exp(-\alpha(Z)T) T^{d+2}, \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality holds if T is in the half-infinite interval on which the integrand is decreasing (i.e., $T > (d+2)/\alpha(Z)$). $\square$

Example 7. We determine T sufficient for computing $E_4(Z)$ within 10^{-20} at the point

$$z = \begin{pmatrix} 5i & i \\ i & 6i \end{pmatrix}.$$

We have

$$\alpha(Z) = 27.5327,$$

so we are looking for T such that

$$\exp(-\alpha(Z)T) T^7 < 2.983 \cdot 10^{-25},$$

which is easily seen (numerically) to hold as soon as $T \geq 3$.

We proceed similarly to obtain the values in Table 1.

error	T			
	E_4	E_6	χ_{10}	χ_{12}
10^{-10}	2	2	2	2
10^{-20}	3	3	3	3
10^{-100}	10	10	10	11
10^{-1000}	86	86	87	87

Table 1. Truncation necessary for computing $F(Z)$ within specified error

5. Our method

As described above, our method is rather straightforward. We fix a $Z \in \mathbb{H}^2$ and evaluate $F(Z)$, using methods in [Section 4](#). Consider the double coset $T_p = \sum \Gamma^{(2)}\alpha$ and its action on F :

$$(F|_k T_p)(Z) = \sum (F|_k \alpha)(Z).$$

What is left to do, then, is to compute $(F|_k \alpha)(Z)$ for α in the decomposition, that is, to be able to write α as $\begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix}$ and to be able to evaluate

$$\det(CZ + D)^{-k} F((AZ + B)(CZ + D)^{-1}).$$

In [Section 5.1](#) we present the desired decompositions for the Hecke operators T_p and T_{p^2} and we use the methods of [Section 4](#) to evaluate the Siegel modular form at the points $(AZ + B)(CZ + D)^{-1} \in \mathbb{H}^2$.

5.1. Hecke action. Hecke operators are defined in terms of double cosets $\Gamma M \Gamma$ and the action of such an operator is determined by the right cosets that appear in the decomposition of these double cosets. For a prime p we consider the double coset $T_p = \Gamma^{(2)} \text{diag}(1, 1, p, p) \Gamma^{(2)}$. An explicit version of a formula, due to Andrianov, for the right cosets that appear in the decomposition of T_p , is given by Cléry and van der Geer as follows.

Proposition 8 [1; 5]. *The double coset T_p admits the left coset decomposition*

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma^{(2)} \begin{pmatrix} p & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & p & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{0 \leq a, b, c \leq p-1} \Gamma^{(2)} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & a & b \\ 0 & 1 & b & c \\ 0 & 0 & p & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p \end{pmatrix} \\ + \sum_{0 \leq a \leq p-1} \Gamma^{(2)} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -p & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & p & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{0 \leq a, m \leq p-1} \Gamma^{(2)} \begin{pmatrix} p & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -m & 1 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & m \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

and the degree of T_p is $p^3 + p^2 + p + 1$.

Thus, in particular, in order to find λ_p , then, $p^3 + p^2 + p + 1$ independent evaluations of our Siegel modular form F at points in $\mathbb{H}^2$ are required. This is why our method is so amenable to parallelization.

Similarly, for a prime p define the operator T_{p^2} as a sum of double cosets:

$$T_{p^2} = \Gamma^{(2)} \begin{pmatrix} p & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & p & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p \end{pmatrix} \Gamma^{(2)} + \Gamma^{(2)} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & p & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p \end{pmatrix} \Gamma^{(2)} + \Gamma^{(2)} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p^2 \end{pmatrix} \Gamma^{(2)}.$$

Again, based on a result of Andrianov, Cléry and van der Geer give an explicit decomposition of the operator T_{p^2} :

Proposition 9 [1; 5]. *The Hecke operator T_{p^2} has degree $p^6 + p^5 + 2p^4 + 2p^3 + p^2 + p + 1$ and admits a known explicit left coset decomposition.*

One can do better, however. We can reduce the number of summands at which we need to evaluate F to be $\mathcal{O}(p^4)$ instead of $\mathcal{O}(p^6)$ by using some standard facts about the Hecke algebra for Siegel modular forms of degree 2. The Hecke operator T_{p^2} is itself a linear combination of three double cosets:

$$\begin{aligned} T_{p^2,0} &= \Gamma^{(2)} \text{diag}(p, p; p, p) \Gamma^{(2)}, \\ T_{p^2,1} &= \Gamma^{(2)} \text{diag}(1, p; p^2, p) \Gamma^{(2)}, \\ T_{p^2,2} &= \Gamma^{(2)} \text{diag}(1, 1; p^2, p^2) \Gamma^{(2)}. \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

The decomposition in Proposition 9 is itself the (disjoint) sum of the decomposition of three double cosets $T_{p^2,0}$, $T_{p^2,1}$ and $T_{p^2,2}$.

The p -part of the Hecke algebra is generated by the operators T_p , $T_{p^2,0}$ and $T_{p^2,1}$ and, in fact, in [8; 17] it is shown that

$$(T_p)^2 = T_{p^2,0} + (p+1)T_{p^2,1} + (p^2+1)(p+1)T_{p^2,2}. \tag{5}$$

To determine the eigenvalue $\lambda_{p^2}(F)$ for $F \in S_k^{(2)}$ with respect to the Hecke operator T_{p^2} , using Proposition 8, we first find the eigenvalue $\lambda_p(F)$ for the operator T_p . Then, we find the eigenvalues $\lambda_{p^2,0}(F)$ (known to be p^{-2k} by the definitions in Section 3) and the eigenvalue $\lambda_{p^2,1}(F)$ for the operator $T_{p^2,1}$. Then using (5) we can find the eigenvalue $\lambda_{p^2,2}(F)$ for the operator $T_{p^2,2}$. Putting it all together, then, all we need is an explicit decomposition of $T_{p^2,1}$ into left cosets, in order to compute $\lambda_{p^2}(F)$.

Proposition 10 [1]. *The Hecke operator $T_{p^2,1}$ admits the left coset decomposition*

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{0 \leq \alpha < p} \Gamma^{(2)} \begin{pmatrix} p^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -p\alpha & p & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p \end{pmatrix} \Gamma^{(2)} \begin{pmatrix} p & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & p^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} &+ \sum_{\substack{0 \leq a, b, c < p \\ ac - b^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \\ \text{and not all zero}}} \Gamma^{(2)} \begin{pmatrix} p & 0 & a & b \\ 0 & p & b & c \\ 0 & 0 & p & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p \end{pmatrix} \\ &+ \sum_{\substack{0 \leq \alpha, \beta < p \\ 0 \leq C < p^2}} \Gamma^{(2)} \begin{pmatrix} p & 0 & 0 & p\beta \\ -\alpha & 1 & \beta & \alpha\beta + C \\ 0 & 0 & p & p\alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p^2 \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{\substack{0 \leq \beta < p \\ 0 \leq A < p^2}} \Gamma^{(2)} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & A & \beta \\ 0 & p & p\beta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & p^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p \end{pmatrix} \Gamma^{(2)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the degree of $T_{p^2,1}$ is $p^4 + p^3 + p^2 + p$.

Remark 11. In the introduction, we discussed the difficulty of computing $\lambda_{p^2}(F)$ using the action of T_{p^2} on the coefficients of the eigenform F . One might ask whether we could more efficiently compute $\lambda_{p^2}(F)$ using the action of $T_{p^2,1}$ on F as described in [Proposition 10](#) and [\(5\)](#). It turns out, though, that one still would require coefficients up to discriminant p^4 using $T_{p^2,1}$ and [\(5\)](#).

6. Some computations and implementation details

We describe some sample computations involving the eigenform of smallest weight that is not a lift from lower rank groups, namely the cusp form Υ_{20} mentioned in the introduction:

$$\Upsilon_{20} = -E_4^2\chi_{12} - E_4E_6\chi_{10} + 1785600\chi_{10}^2.$$

As a gauge of the performance of the algorithm, we compared the timings to those required by the implementation [\[16\]](#) of the standard method¹ by Sho Takemori.

We implemented the method described in this paper in SageMath [\[13\]](#); this implementation is available at [\[6\]](#). The benchmarks described below were performed using a single core of a Linux machine with an i7-6700 CPU at 3.40 GHz and 64 GB of RAM, via the following helper functions:

```
def ups20_eigenvalue_numerical(p, prec, y11):
    CRING = _initialise_rings(prec, 2*p)
    Z = matrix(CRING, 2, 2, [y11*i, i, i, (y11+1)*i])
    R.<a, b, c, d> = QQ[]
    f = -a^2*d-a*b*c+1785600*c^2
    return _eigenvalue_T_fixed_trace(f, Z, p, 2*p)

def ups20_eigenvalue_standard(p):
    with degree2_number_of_procs(1):
        a = eisenstein_series_degree2(4, p)
        b = eisenstein_series_degree2(6, p)
        c = x10_with_prec(p)
        d = x12_with_prec(p)
        f = -a^2*d-a*b*c+1785600*c^2
        return f.hecke_eigenvalue(p)
```

For the standard algorithm, the most expensive step appears to be the multiplication of the q -expansions of the Igusa generators. In the case of our numerical algorithm, the majority of the time is spent evaluating truncations of the q -expansions of the Igusa generators at various points in the Siegel upper half-space.

¹The only other publicly available implementation we are aware of is [\[14\]](#). We did not compare against it for two reasons: (a) at the moment, the computation of the Hecke image appears to be incorrect for primes that are congruent to 1 mod 4, and (b) it uses Cython for the most expensive part of the computation, namely the multiplication of the q -expansions. Since both our code and S. Takemori's are pure Python, we deemed this to be a more useful comparison of the two algorithms.

There are certainly many variants of our choices that deserve further scrutiny and may lead to improved performance. Here are some of the more interesting ones:

- For computing the eigenvalue λ_p , we chose to focus on the initial evaluation point

$$Z = \begin{pmatrix} y_{11}i & i \\ i & (y_{11} + 1)i \end{pmatrix},$$

where the parameter y_{11} is (at the moment) determined by trial and error. The optimal values of y_{11} for Υ_{20} and small p are listed in the second column of [Table 2](#). We note that the dependence of this optimal y_{11} on p appears to be linear in $\log(p)$.

The choice of Z is significant for another reason: the fact that Z is a “purely imaginary matrix” gives an extra symmetry that allows to reduce the number of overall computations by almost a factor of 2. Note that the timings listed in [Table 2](#) do not incorporate this optimization.

- Our experiments indicate that computing the value of λ_p accurately using the choice of point Z described above requires truncating the q -expansions of the Igusa generators at trace up to $2p$. It would be very interesting to see if this trace bound can be lowered; even a small improvement in the trace can reduce the computation time significantly. We have observed such phenomena in the case of classical modular forms (treated in [\[2\]](#)).

6.1. Summary of further computations. We performed similar numerical experiments with the following forms:

$$\Upsilon_{22} = 61E_4^3\chi_{10} - 30E_4E_6\chi_{12} + 5E_6^2\chi_{10} - 80870400\chi_{10}\chi_{12},$$

$$\Upsilon_{24a} = -67E_4^3\chi_{12} + 78E_4^2E_6\chi_{10} - 274492800E_4\chi_{10}^2 + 25E_6^2\chi_{12} + 71539200\chi_{12}^2,$$

$$\Upsilon_{24b} = +70E_4^3\chi_{12} - 69E_4^2E_6\chi_{10} - 214341120E_4\chi_{10}^2 + 53E_6^2\chi_{12} - 137604096\chi_{12}^2,$$

$$\Upsilon_{26a} = -22E_4^4\chi_{10} - 3E_4^2E_6\chi_{12} + 31E_4E_6^2\chi_{10} - 96609024E_4\chi_{10}\chi_{12} - 13806720E_6\chi_{10}^2,$$

$$\Upsilon_{26b} = 973E_4^4\chi_{10} + 390E_4^2E_6\chi_{12} - 1255E_4E_6^2\chi_{10} + 3927813120E_4\chi_{10}\chi_{12} - 4438886400E_6\chi_{10}^2.$$

These have in common that they are all “interesting” forms (Skoruppa’s terminology and notation), not arising as lifts from lower rank groups. They also all have rational coefficients (and are very likely the only rational “interesting” forms in level one).

As we can see in [Table 3](#), while the standard method slows down rapidly with the increase in the weight, the numerical method seems unaffected by the weight (in this range).

As we increase the weight further, we encounter “interesting” eigenforms defined over number fields of increasing degree. Our implementation treats these in the same way as the rational eigenforms; the algebraic numbers appearing in the expression of an eigenform as a polynomial in the Igusa generators are first embedded into the `ComplexIntervalField` with the working precision, and the computations are then done exclusively with complex intervals.

f	numerical (s)	standard (s)	$\lambda_{23}(f)$
Υ_{20}	57	240	-7159245922546757692913520
Υ_{22}	59	410	1288399464282335021926848240
Υ_{24a}	59	559	-5704707774363351635801133259440
Υ_{24b}	59	563	-2612738224352475069296861434032
Υ_{26a}	59	658	1723965639346061287785316101052080
Υ_{26b}	60	659	-2455694249118004577637986236157520

Table 3. Benchmarks comparing the numerical and standard algorithms for computing the Hecke eigenvalue λ_{23} of the rational “interesting” eigenforms. The timings are rounded to the nearest second.

f	numerical (s)	standard (s)	integer closest to $\lambda_{11}(f)$
Υ_{28}	5	42	-5759681178477373721671849774
Υ_{30}	5	55	255840273811994841300205675092
Υ_{32}	5	72	-62889079837500073468061496815555
Υ_{34}	5	99	439086084572485264922509970244600
Υ_{36}	5	145	-1085248116783567484088793200996441965
Υ_{38}	5	171	99082752899176432104304580529696472526
Υ_{40}	6	316	21639993149436935203941512756710465353890
Υ_{42}	6	405	1326433094276015828828131422320612505802642
Υ_{44}	6	697	-216254834133020533289657866886176910904279874
Υ_{46}	6	1156	3025010356797981861229021682270178023420599162
Υ_{48}	6	2147	3623681259607683701352889863246901251092385443364
Υ_{50}	6	3558	-50111326406849287661448298549933139673192742821477
Υ_{52}	6	7701	-33891727074702812676183940887995219801531644658145401
Υ_{54}	6	12205	-4324363734737815894771410628259133851153783375885366874
Υ_{56}	7	19290	807326143967818876211261524740739769895631903544298785221

Table 4. Benchmarks comparing the numerical and standard algorithms for computing the Hecke eigenvalue λ_{11} of a representative of the unique Galois orbit of “interesting” eigenforms in each of the listed weights. The timings are rounded to the nearest second.

We illustrate this with a number of examples from the L-functions and Modular Forms Database [11]: $\Upsilon_{28}, \Upsilon_{30}, \dots, \Upsilon_{56}$, contributed by Nils-Peter Skoruppa. These are representatives of the unique Galois orbit of “interesting” Siegel modular eigenforms of level one and weights given by the indices. We computed the integer closest to the eigenvalues $\lambda_2, \lambda_3, \dots, \lambda_{11}$ of these forms and verified the results against Sho Takemori’s implementation.² The timings for λ_{11} appear in Table 4. We note once again that the change in weight has only a very minimal effect on the timings for the numerical approach. The degree of the number field over which each eigenform is defined varies from 3 for Υ_{28} to 29 for Υ_{56} .

²The LMFDB contains only λ_2, λ_3 and λ_5 for the forms $\Upsilon_{28}, \dots, \Upsilon_{48}$. We are not aware of the other eigenvalues we computed having been published anywhere.

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