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## On the local Hecke series of some classical groups over p-adic fields

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## Introduction.

The purpose of this paper is to prove the rationality for the local Hecke series of some classical groups over p-adic fields, and to calculate the degrees of its numerator and the denominator.

Let k be a p-adic field. Let K be either k itself, a quadratic extension of k, or the (unique) central division quaternion algebra over k. We denote by  $x \mapsto \bar{x}$  ( $x \in K$ ) the canonical involution. Let  $\varepsilon$  be an element of the center of K such that  $\varepsilon \bar{\varepsilon} = 1$ , V be an n-dimensional (right) vector space over K with a non-degenerate  $\varepsilon$ -hermitian form  $\Phi(,)$ , and L be a maximal lattice in V (cf. § 1-1). Let G be the connected component (in the sense of an algebraic group over k) of

$$\widetilde{G} = \{g \in GL(V); \ \varPhi(gx, gy) = \mu(g) \ \varPhi(x, y) \text{ for all } x, y \in V, \ \mu(g) \in k^{\times}\}.$$

Let U be the subgroup of G consisting of all elements of G which leave L invariant. It is known that U is a maximal compact subgroup of G. For  $m \ge 0$ , set

$$X(m) = \{g \in G; gL \subset L, \operatorname{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}\mu(g) = fm\},\$$

where  $\operatorname{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}(x)$  is the  $\mathfrak{p}$ -order of x for  $x \in k$ , and the positive integer f is determined by the condition  $\operatorname{ord}_{\mathfrak{p}}\mu(G)=f\mathbb{Z}$ . Let T(m) be the characteristic function of X(m) in G, considered as an element of the Hecke algebra of the group G with respect to U (see § 1-2). Then the (local) Hecke series of the group G with respect to U is by definition

$$Z_{(G,U)}(T) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} T(m) T^{m}$$
,

where T is an indeterminate.

Our main result is that the Hecke series  $Z_{(G,U)}(T)$  is a rational function in T, and the degree of the numerator is  $2^{\nu}-1$  or  $2^{\nu}-2$ , while that of the denominator is  $2^{\nu}$ , where  $\nu$  is the Witt index of  $(V, \Phi)$ .

When  $\Phi$  is an alternating form, the Hecke series has been studied in