

54. A Generalization of the Chowla-Selberg Formula and the Zeta Functions of Quadratic Orders

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The purpose of this note is to present an identity which generalizes a formula of Chowla and Selberg on the periods of CM elliptic curves in connection with the zeta functions of imaginary quadratic orders. We first proposed the identity as the numerical evidence and then Y. Nakkajima and Y. Taguchi have proved it algebraically by using the technique from arithmetic geometry ([2]). We employ here an analytical approach using zeta functions.

1. Review and result. Let K be an imaginary quadratic field with discriminant D , O_K its ring of integers, w the order of unit group O_K^\times , and χ the quadratic Dirichlet character modulo $|D|$ determined by the extension K/\mathbb{Q} . For a lattice L in \mathbb{C} , define

$$g_2(L) = 60 \sum'_{\lambda \in L} \lambda^{-4}, \quad g_3(L) = 140 \sum'_{\lambda \in L} \lambda^{-6}$$

and

$$\Delta(L) = g_2(L)^3 - 27g_3(L)^2.$$

The "discriminant" $\Delta(L)$ is non-zero and has the property

$$(1) \quad \Delta(\alpha L) = \alpha^{-12} \Delta(L) \quad \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{C}^\times.$$

Take an ideal \mathfrak{A} of K and consider the value

$$F(\mathfrak{A}) = \Delta(\mathfrak{A})\Delta(\mathfrak{A}^{-1}).$$

By (1) it depends only on the class of \mathfrak{A} in the ideal class group $Cl(O_K)$. Any period of elliptic curves with complex multiplication in K differs by an algebraic constant from the 24-th root of $F(\mathfrak{A})$. The formula of Chowla-Selberg expresses the product of $F(\mathfrak{A})$ over $Cl(O_K)$ by gamma values:

$$(2) \quad \prod_{Cl(O_K)} F(\mathfrak{A}) = \left(\frac{2\pi}{|D|} \right)^{12h} \prod_{a=1}^{|D|-1} \Gamma\left(\frac{a}{|D|} \right)^{6w\chi(a)}.$$

Now let O_f be an order of K of conductor f . We denote by $Cl(O_f)$ the group of proper O_f -ideal classes and by h_f its order (the class number of O_f). The function $F(\mathfrak{A})$ is defined also on the proper O_f -ideals \mathfrak{A} and again depends only on the class in $Cl(O_f)$. Y. Nakkajima and Y. Taguchi ([2]), inspired by K. Fujiwara, gave an algebraic proof (assuming (2), though) of the following

Theorem. *We have*

$$(3) \quad \prod_{Cl(O_f)} F(\mathfrak{A}) = \left(\frac{2\pi}{|f^2 D|} \right)^{12h_f} \left(\prod_{a=1}^{|D|-1} \Gamma\left(\frac{a}{|D|} \right)^{6w\chi(a)} \right)^{h_f/h} \times \prod_{p|f} p^{12e(p)},$$

where