

### 35. Diophantine Approximations for Periods of Exponential and Elliptic Functions

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This is to announce the results of the paper [10] which will appear with complete proofs. Let  $\wp$  be a Weierstrass elliptic function with algebraic invariants  $g_2, g_3$ , associated with a period lattice  $\Omega$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ . Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be the endomorphism ring of  $\wp$ , that is, the ring of complex numbers  $\rho$  such that the lattice  $\rho\Omega$  is contained in  $\Omega$ . We know that  $\mathcal{O}$  is either the ring  $\mathcal{Z}$  of rational integers, or a subring of finite index of the ring of integers of a complex quadratic field  $k$ . If  $\mathcal{O} \neq \mathcal{Z}$ , we say that  $\wp$  has complex multiplication over  $k$ . Let  $\omega_1, \omega_2 \in \Omega$  be two periods of  $\wp$ , which are linearly independent over the field of real numbers  $\mathcal{R}$ , and  $\omega \in \Omega$  be a non-zero period of  $\wp$ .

(a) *Historical survey.* We begin with some history on the transcendence measures concerning with these periods. C.L. Siegel [19] observed in 1932 that the period lattice contains a transcendental number. The transcendence of  $\omega$  and  $\pi/\omega$  follows from a theorem proved by Th. Schneider in 1937 (see for example [18]). If  $\wp$  has complex multiplication, the number  $\omega_2/\omega_1$  belongs to the field of complex multiplication  $k$  and Schneider showed the converse, namely, if  $\omega_2/\omega_1$  is algebraic, then  $\wp$  has complex multiplication. Let  $\zeta$  be the Weierstrass zeta function associated with the same lattice  $\Omega$  (see for example the definition in [24]). We denote  $\eta_1 = 2\zeta(\omega_1/2)$ ,  $\eta_2 = 2\zeta(\omega_2/2)$ , quasi-periods of  $\zeta$ . Schneider proved in 1937 that the numbers  $1, \omega_1, \eta_1$  are linearly independent over  $\bar{\mathcal{Q}}$  (we denote always by  $\bar{\mathcal{Q}}$  the algebraic closure of  $\mathcal{Q}$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ , namely, the field of all algebraic numbers). See also Schneider's book [18]. Later, A. Baker [2] studied the linear independence of the numbers  $1, \omega_1, \omega_2, \eta_1, \eta_2$  over  $\bar{\mathcal{Q}}$ , and J. Coates and D.W. Masser looked into (cf. [5] and [12]) the linear independence over  $\bar{\mathcal{Q}}$  of the 6 numbers  $1, \omega_1, \omega_2, \eta_1, \eta_2$  and  $2\pi i$ . The final result (cf. [12]) shows that these 6 numbers are linearly independent over  $\bar{\mathcal{Q}}$  if  $\wp$  has no complex multiplication, while, if  $\wp$  has complex multiplication, the dimension of the vector space generated by these 6 numbers over  $\bar{\mathcal{Q}}$  is 4.

Quantitative refinements of these results are the following. Recall that if  $\beta$  is an algebraic number, we define the usual height  $H(\beta)$  as the maximum of the absolute values of the coefficients of the minimal polynomial of  $\beta$  over  $\mathcal{Z}$ . In 1970, Baker obtained in [3] that for  $\beta_1, \beta_2 \in \bar{\mathcal{Q}}$  of usual height  $\leq H$  with  $H \geq e$ , there exist an absolute constant  $\kappa > 0$  and an effective constant  $c > 0$  which depends only on  $\omega_1, \omega_2$  and the degrees of  $\beta_i (i=1, 2)$  such

that

$$\log |1 + \beta_1 \omega_1 + \beta_2 \omega_2| > -c(\log H)^t.$$

N.I. Fel'dman showed in [8] in 1974 a variant of this inequality in the following case. Let  $D$  be the degree of an algebraic number  $\beta$ . He obtained that if  $\omega_2/\omega_1 \neq \beta$  then

$$(1.1) \quad \log \left| \frac{\omega_2}{\omega_1} - \beta \right| > -c\{D(\log H)^3 + D^4(\log D)^3\},$$

where  $c > 0$  is an effectively calculable constant which depends only on  $\omega_1, \omega_2$ . Independently, a little bit weaker lower bound was shown in 1975 by Masser in [12]. Masser gave also an estimate for a linear combination of  $1, \omega, 2\pi i$  in algebraic coefficients of height  $\leq H$  with  $H \geq e^\varepsilon$  and of degree  $\leq D$ : for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists an effective constant  $c = c(\varepsilon, \omega_1, \omega_2, D) > 0$  such that we have

$$\log |1 + \beta_1 \omega + \beta_2 \cdot 2\pi i| > -c(\log H)(\log \log H)^{4+\varepsilon}.$$

For the transcendence measure of  $\pi/\omega$ , E. Reyssat obtained an estimate in [17]

$$(1.2) \quad \log \left| \frac{\pi}{\omega} - \beta \right| > -c\{(\log H)^2 + D^2(\log D)^2\}.$$

This lower bound, as well as the estimate (1.1) of Fel'dman, are deduced from a general result on periodic function in [9].

Moreover, let  $\wp, \wp^*$  be two Weierstrass elliptic functions associated with lattices  $\Omega, \Omega^*$ , respectively. For non-zero periods  $\omega \in \Omega$  and  $\omega^* \in \Omega^*$ , if  $\wp(\omega z)$  and  $\wp^*(\omega^* z)$  are algebraically independent over  $\mathbb{C}$ , a result of W.D. Brownawell and Masser in [4] shows that

$$(1.3) \quad \log \left| \frac{\omega^*}{\omega} - \beta \right| > -c\{(\log H)^3 + D^3(\log D)^3\}.$$

Now, in our paper, we give some estimates on transcendence measures, for the quotient of two periods of  $\wp$ , or for the quotient of one period of  $\wp$  and  $2\pi i$ , or further, for the quotient of one period of  $\wp$  and one period of  $\wp^*$ . A more general lower bound for linear forms in algebraic points of the exponential map of commutative algebraic groups will be treated in another paper of the author's [11], that improves the estimate of Philippon and Waldschmidt [15].

The new idea which is essential to improve previous results is a kind of generalizations of a technique due to Fel'dman, Masser and Reyssat. This is based on the fact that the derivative of order  $> n$  of  $z^n$  vanishes. Fel'dman used this idea in [7] to obtain transcendence measures of the numbers  $\log \alpha, \pi, \omega$  and  $u$ , where  $\alpha$  is an algebraic number  $\neq 0, \neq 1$  and  $u$  denotes an algebraic point of  $\wp$  (see for example the definition in [1]). Masser applied this technique in [12] to get a lower bound for  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 \omega + \beta_2 \cdot 2\pi i$  under the hypothesis  $\beta_0 \neq 0$ . The refinement by Reyssat for the transcendence measures of  $\omega$  and  $u$  is also due to this technique in [17]. We explain here what was difficult in order to extend their works. A priori, this idea needs

to assume  $\beta_0 \neq 0$  for example to get an estimate for  $\beta_0 + \beta_1\omega + \beta_2 \cdot 2\pi i$ . Our method to treat the case  $\beta_0 = 0$  consists in writing  $\beta_1\omega + \beta_2 \cdot 2\pi i = \beta'_0 \cdot 0 + \beta_1\omega + \beta_2 \cdot 2\pi i$  with  $\beta'_0 \neq 0$ . This allows us to apply the technique to the case of homogeneous linear forms. Secondly, our auxiliary function  $F$  is, for example, a polynomial in  $z_0, \exp(z_1)$  and  $\wp(z_2 + \omega_0/2)$  for the proof of Theorem 1.5 and we give an estimate of the values of  $F$  at the points  $(0, 2si\pi, s\omega)$  for integers  $s$ . We see these points are periods of  $F$ . Baker's method traditionally permits to extrapolate on these points; however, that is useless in the case of periods. We have to extrapolate on the derivatives, and it is possible by a method in [22].

(b) *Two main theorems.* To announce the precise results, let us recall the definition of Weil's logarithmic absolute height  $h$ : for  $\alpha = (\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_N) \in P_N(\bar{Q})$ , if  $K$  is a number field which contains  $\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_N$ , we define  $h$  by

$$h(\alpha) = \frac{1}{[K : Q]} \sum_{\nu} [K_{\nu} : Q_{\nu}] \cdot \log \text{Max} \{ |\alpha_j|_{\nu} ; 0 \leq j \leq N \},$$

where  $\nu$  runs over the set of all places of  $K$  and  $[K_{\nu} : Q_{\nu}]$  is the local degree such that the product formula is written down in the form

$$\sum_{\nu} [K_{\nu} : Q_{\nu}] \cdot \log |\gamma|_{\nu} = 0, \quad \text{where } \gamma \in K, \gamma \neq 0.$$

For  $\beta \in \bar{Q}$ , we denote by  $h(\beta)$  Weil's logarithmic absolute height at the point  $(1, \beta) \in P_1(\bar{Q})$ . The relation between  $h(\beta)$  and the usual height  $H(\beta)$  is explained in Chapter 1 in [20]. For example, we have

$$(1.4) \quad h(\beta) \leq \frac{\log H(\beta) + \log D}{D} \quad \text{for } \beta \in \bar{Q},$$

where  $D$  denotes the degree of  $\beta$  over  $Q$ .

Now, we announce the following results.

**Theorem 1.5.** *Let  $\wp$  be a Weierstrass elliptic function with algebraic invariants  $g_2, g_3$ . Let  $\omega$  be a non-zero period of  $\wp$ . There exists an effective constant  $c > 0$  depending only on the heights of  $g_2, g_3$ , the degrees of  $g_2, g_3$  and the number  $|\omega|$  with the following properties: let  $\beta_1, \beta_2$  be two non-zero algebraic numbers such that  $[Q(\beta_1, \beta_2) : Q] \leq D$  and  $B$  be a real number satisfying*

$$\log B \geq \text{Max}(e, h(\beta_1), h(\beta_2)).$$

*We put  $A = \beta_1 \cdot 2\pi i + \beta_2 \omega$ . Then we have*

$$(1.6) \quad \log |A| > -c \cdot D^2 (\log B + \log D) (\log \log B + \log D).$$

**Theorem 1.7.** *Let  $\wp_1$  (resp.  $\wp_2$ ) be a Weierstrass elliptic function with algebraic invariants  $g_{21}, g_{31}$  (resp.  $g_{22}, g_{32}$ ). Let  $\omega_1$  (resp.  $\omega_2$ ) be a non-zero period of  $\wp_1$  (resp.  $\wp_2$ ). There exists an effective constant  $c > 0$  depending only on the heights of  $g_{21}, g_{31}, g_{22}, g_{32}$ , the degrees of  $g_{21}, g_{31}, g_{22}, g_{32}$  and the numbers  $|\omega_1|, |\omega_2|$  with the following properties: let  $\beta_1, \beta_2$  be two non-zero algebraic numbers such that  $[Q(\beta_1, \beta_2) : Q] \leq D$  and  $B$  be a real number satisfying*

$$\log B \geq \text{Max}(e, h(\beta_1), h(\beta_2)).$$

*We put  $A = \beta_1 \omega_1 + \beta_2 \omega_2$ . If  $A \neq 0$ , then we have*

$$(1.8) \quad \log |A| > -c \cdot D^3 (\log B + \log D) (\log \log B + \log D)^2.$$

(c) *A corollary.* We can apply Theorem 1.7 to the quotient of two periods of an elliptic function.

**Corollary 1.9.** *Let  $\wp$  be a Weierstrass elliptic function with algebraic invariants  $g_2, g_3$ . Let  $\omega_1, \omega_2$  be two periods of  $\wp$ , which are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{R}$ . We suppose that  $\wp$  has no complex multiplication. There exists an effective constant  $c > 0$  depending only on the heights of  $g_2, g_3$ , the degrees of  $g_2, g_3$  and the absolute values  $|\omega_1|, |\omega_2|$  with the following properties: let  $\beta_1, \beta_2$  be two non-zero algebraic numbers such that  $[\mathbf{Q}(\beta_1, \beta_2) : \mathbf{Q}] \leq D$  and  $B$  be a real number satisfying*

$$\log B \geq \text{Max}(e, h(\beta_1), h(\beta_2)).$$

*We put  $A = \beta_1\omega_1 + \beta_2\omega_2$ . Then we have*

$$(1.10) \quad \log |A| > -c \cdot D^3 (\log B + \log D) (\log \log B + \log D)^2.$$

(d) *Three transcendence measures.* The three previous announcements can be formulated in terms of the usual height. Then they give transcendence measures. Let us recall that the usual height of a polynomial is the maximum of the absolute values of its coefficients.

**Corollary 1.11.** *Let  $\wp$  be a Weierstrass elliptic function with algebraic invariants  $g_2, g_3$ . Let  $\omega_1, \omega_2$  be two periods of  $\wp$ , which are linearly independent over  $\mathbf{R}$ . We suppose that  $\wp$  has no complex multiplication. There exists an effective constant  $c > 0$  depending only on the heights of  $g_2, g_3$ , the degrees of  $g_2, g_3$  and the absolute values  $|\omega_1|, |\omega_2|$  with the following properties: let  $P \in \mathbf{Z}[X]$  be a non-zero polynomial of degree  $\leq D$  and of height  $\leq H$  with  $H \geq e^e$ . Then we have*

$$(1.12) \quad \log \left| P \left( \frac{\omega_2}{\omega_1} \right) \right| > -c \{ D^2 \log H (\log \log H)^2 + D^3 (\log D)^3 \}.$$

**Remark.** We know that when  $\wp$  has complex multiplication, the number  $\omega_2/\omega_1$  is algebraic, then inequalities (1.10) and (1.12) are trivial because of Liouville's inequality (see for example Lemme 3 in [13]). By the same reason, in Theorem 1.7, when the two functions  $\wp_1(\omega_1 z)$  and  $\wp_2(\omega_2 z)$  are algebraically dependent, then the quotient  $\omega_2/\omega_1$  is algebraic and inequality (1.8) is trivial.

We recall that Fel'dman's result (1.1) was the best known estimate [8] until now. Lower bound (1.12) improves that of Fel'dman as well as that of [9].

**Corollary 1.13.** *Let  $\wp$  be a Weierstrass elliptic function with algebraic invariants  $g_2, g_3$ . Let  $\omega$  be a non-zero period of  $\wp$ . There exists an effective constant  $c > 0$  depending only on the heights of  $g_2, g_3$ , the degrees of  $g_2, g_3$  and the absolute value  $|\omega|$  with the following properties: let  $P \in \mathbf{Z}[X]$  be a non-zero polynomial of degree  $\leq D$  and of height  $\leq H$  with  $H \geq e^e$ . Then we have*

$$(1.14) \quad \log \left| P \left( \frac{\pi}{\omega} \right) \right| > -c \{ D \log H \cdot \log \log H + D^2 (\log D)^2 \}.$$

Estimate (1.14) is better than that of Reyssat (1.2) because we can see easily

$$D \log H \cdot \log \log H < c' \{ (\log H)^2 + D^2 (\log D)^2 \}.$$

**Corollary 1.15.** *Let  $\wp_1$  (resp.  $\wp_2$ ) be a Weierstrass elliptic function with algebraic invariants  $g_{21}, g_{31}$  (resp.  $g_{22}, g_{32}$ ). Let  $\omega_1$  (resp.  $\omega_2$ ) be a non-zero period of  $\wp_1$  (resp.  $\wp_2$ ). We suppose that the two functions  $\wp_1(\omega_1 z)$  and  $\wp_2(\omega_2 z)$  are algebraically independent. There exists an effective constant  $c > 0$  depending only on the heights of  $g_{21}, g_{31}, g_{22}, g_{32}$ , the degrees of  $g_{21}, g_{31}, g_{22}, g_{32}$  and the absolute values  $|\omega_1|, |\omega_2|$  with the following properties: let  $P \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$  be a non-zero polynomial of degree  $\leq D$ , of height  $\leq H$  with  $H \geq e^e$ . Then we have*

$$(1.16) \quad \log \left| P \left( \frac{\omega_2}{\omega_1} \right) \right| > -c \{ D^2 \log H (\log \log H)^2 + D^3 (\log D)^3 \}.$$

Bound (1.16) is better than (1.3), i.e., that of Brownawell and Masser [4].

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