# Non-abelian theta functions and the theta map

Arnaud Beauville

Université de Nice

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line bundles trivial on  $\mathbb{C}^g \Rightarrow$  theta functions lift to functions on  $\mathbb{C}^g$ , quasi-periodic w.r.t.  $\Gamma$ .

Notation: for L line bundle on a variety X,

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### Back to theta functions:

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Gives explicit description of J as submanifold of  $\mathbb{P}^N$ ; much is known about its equations, geometry etc.



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**Important Fact :**  $\operatorname{Pic}(\mathcal{M}_G) = \mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{L}_G], \ \mathcal{L}_G$  determinant bundle G-theta functions of level k := elements of  $H^0(\mathcal{M}_G, \mathcal{L}^k)$ 

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### Mathematical consequences:

① : when C varies, the  $H^0(\mathcal{M}_G,\mathcal{L}^k)$  form a projectively flat vector bundle on the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_g$  (Hitchin connection). In other words,  $H^0(\mathcal{M}_G,\mathcal{L}^k)$  carries a (projective) representation of the modular group  $\Gamma_g = \pi_1(\mathcal{M}_g)$ .



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**Aim of the talk :** understand  $\mathcal L$  and  $H^0(\mathcal M_G,\mathcal L)$ , in particular, the **theta map**  $\varphi_{\mathcal L}:\mathcal M_G--\succ |\mathcal L|^*$ .

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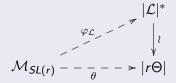
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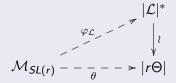
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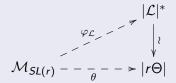
Thus get map  $\theta: \mathcal{M}_{SL(r)} - - > |r\Theta|$ ,  $\theta(E) = \Theta_E$ .





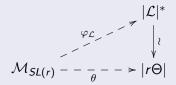


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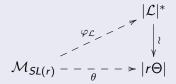
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Indeterminacy locus of  $\theta = \mathsf{Bs} \; |\mathcal{L}| = \{ E \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathit{SL}(r)} \; | \; \Theta_E = J \}$  .





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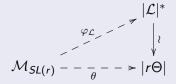
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Q is the Coble quartic.



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 $\mathcal{S}^* \subset |3\Theta|^*$  is the Coble cubic, the unique cubic hypersurface in  $|3\Theta|^*$  singular along the image of J.

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$$\mathsf{Map} \ \mathcal{M}_{SO(r)} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{M}_{O(r)}^{\mathcal{O}} := \{(E,q) \in \mathcal{M}_{O(r)} \mid \ \wedge^rE = \mathcal{O}_C \} \ .$$

• For r odd,  $-1 \in \operatorname{Aut}(E,q)$  exchanges  $\omega$  and  $-\omega \implies \mathcal{M}_{SO(r)} \stackrel{\sim}{\longrightarrow} \mathcal{M}_{O(r)}^{\mathcal{O}}$ .

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.

ullet For r even,  $\mathcal{M}_{SO(r)} \xrightarrow{2:1} \mathcal{M}_{O(r)}^{\mathcal{O}}$  .



## Technical point: O(r) versus GL(r)

### Theorem (Serman)

The map  $\mathcal{M}_{O(r)} \to \mathcal{M}_{GL(r)}$  is an embedding.

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Thus  $\Theta_E \in |r\Theta|^+$  or  $|r\Theta|^-$ , the eigenspaces of  $i^*$  in  $|r\Theta|$ .



$$H^0(\mathcal{M}^{\pm}_{SO(r)},\mathcal{L})$$

#### Theorem

$$\mathcal{M}_{SO(r)}^{\pm} \xrightarrow{\theta^{\pm}} |r\Theta|^{\pm}$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{SL(r)} \xrightarrow{\theta^{-}} |r\Theta|$$

$$heta^\pm=$$
 theta map for  $\,\mathcal{M}^\pm_{\mathsf{SO}(r)}$  .

# $H^0(\mathcal{M}^{\pm}_{SO(r)},\mathcal{L})$

#### **Theorem**

In particular,  $H^0(\mathcal{M}_{SO(r)}^{\pm},\mathcal{L}) \stackrel{\sim}{\longrightarrow} (H^0(J,\mathcal{O}_J(r\Theta))^*)^{\pm}$ .

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In particular,  $H^0(\mathcal{M}_{SO(r)}^{\pm}, \mathcal{L}) \xrightarrow{\sim} (H^0(J, \mathcal{O}_J(r\Theta))^*)^{\pm}$ .

(Essential ingredient: Verlinde formula for SO(r).)



$$\mathcal{M}_{SO(3)}^{-} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{M}_{SL(3)} \longleftrightarrow \mathcal{M}_{SO(3)}^{+}$$

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,  $\mathcal{Q} = \text{Igusa quartic}$ ,  $H = \Theta + |2\Theta| \subset |3\Theta|^+$ .



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$$\Big(\mathsf{That}\ \mathsf{is},\ \big(H^0(J,\mathcal{O}_J(2r\Theta))^*\big)^+\longrightarrow H^0(\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{Sp}(2r)},\mathcal{L})\ \mathsf{not}\ \mathsf{bijective}\Big)$$

$$H^0(\mathcal{M}_{Sp(2r)},\mathcal{L})$$

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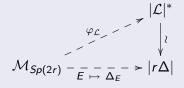
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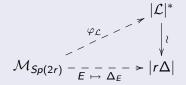


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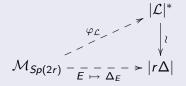
In particular,  $H^0(\mathcal{M}_{Sp(2r)},\mathcal{L}) \stackrel{\sim}{\longrightarrow} H^0(\mathcal{N},\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}(r\Delta))^*$ .

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#### **Theorem**



In particular,  $H^0(\mathcal{M}_{Sp(2r)},\mathcal{L}) \stackrel{\sim}{\longrightarrow} H^0(\mathcal{N},\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}(r\Delta))^*$ .

(Proof relies on the rank-level duality SL(2) - GL(r) proved by Marian-Oprea and Belkale.)



### The end

