# L-series of building blocks 

Xavier Guitart, Jordi Quer<br>Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya

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## Outline

(9) Building blocks and statement of the problem (modularity)
(2) Characterization of strongly modular abelian varieties
(3) Examples of strongly modular abelian surfaces

## The Shimura-Taniyama conjecture

Modularity Theorem (Wiles, Taylor, Breuil, Conrad, Diamond)

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- Key step in the proof of the Birch and Swinnerton-Dyer conjecture in the case of analytic rank at most 1 (Gross-Zagier, Kolyvagin). Heegner points in $J_{0}(N)$ are projected via this uniformisation to produce rational points in $C$.
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- It implies the Hasse conjecture for $C$ : $L(C / \mathbb{Q} ; s)$ is entire and it satisfies a functional equation.
- Modularity of Frey curves can be used to solve diophantine equations of Fermat-type.
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- GL2-type varieties are not necessarily simple up to $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$-isogeny
- Ribet studied their $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$-decomposition and characterized their $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$-simple factors: they are a kind of varieties called building blocks.


## $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$-factors of $\mathrm{GL}_{2}$-type varieties

## Definition

A building block is an abelian variety $B / \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ such that

- $\forall \sigma \in G_{\mathbb{Q}}$ there exists an isogeny $\mu_{\sigma}:{ }^{\sigma} B \rightarrow B$ compatible with $\operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{\mathbb { Q }}}^{0}(B)$ :

- $\operatorname{End}_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}^{0}(B)$ is:
- A totally real number field $F$ with $[F: \mathbb{Q}]=\operatorname{dim} B$
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- Conversely, given a building block $B / \mathbb{Q}$ there exists $A / \mathbb{Q}$ of $\mathrm{GL}_{2}$-type as $A \sim_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}} B^{n}$ for some $n$.


## Geometric modular varieties over number $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$

Combining this result with the fact that every $\mathrm{GL}_{2}$-type variety is a quotient of some $J_{1}(N)$ we obtain that:

- building blocks are "modular" over $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$, i.e. there exists

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- Building blocks of dimension 1: elliptic curves $C / \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ isogenous to all of their Galois conjugates (also known as $\mathbb{Q}$ - curves).
- If $C / \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ is a $\mathbb{Q}$-curve then

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and Heegner points on $J_{1}(N)$ can be used to produce results in the direction of BSD for $C$.

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- Give a characterization of (non-CM) strongly modular abelian varieties in terms of the geometry of $B$.
- Give some examples of strongly modular abelian varieties constructed without any use of modularity, and use this characterization to decide their strong modularity.


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## Observation 1

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- $B / K$ strongly modular $\Leftrightarrow \operatorname{Res}_{K / \mathbb{Q}} B / \mathbb{Q}$ strongly modular
- A variety $A / \mathbb{Q}$ is strongly modular over $\mathbb{Q} \Leftrightarrow A \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} \prod_{f} A_{f}$ (consequence of Faltings's isogeny theorem)
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- $\operatorname{Res}_{K / \mathbb{Q}} B \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} \Pi A_{f}$
- The endomorphisms of $\prod A_{f}$ are defined over an abelian number field $L$.
- The endomorphisms of $\operatorname{Res}_{K / \mathbb{Q}} B$ are defined over $L$.
- $K \subseteq L$.


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- The characterization is given in terms of a 2-cohomology class attached to $B / K$.


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- For each $s \in \operatorname{Gal}(K / \mathbb{Q})$ let $\mu_{s}:{ }^{s} B \rightarrow B$ be a compatible isogeny.
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- In fact, $c_{B / K}(s, t) \in F^{*}$, and it is a 2-cocycle.
- $\left[c_{B / K}\right] \in H^{2}\left(\operatorname{Gal}(K / \mathbb{Q}), F^{*}\right)$ (considering the trivial action).


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- $\left[C_{B / K}\right]$ is 2-torsion.


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- $\left[c_{B / K}\right] \in H^{2}\left(\operatorname{Gal}(K / \mathbb{Q}), F^{*}\right)$ (considering the trivial action).
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## Building blocks and Galois Cohomology

$B / K$ building block completely defined over $K$.

- For each $s \in \operatorname{Gal}(K / \mathbb{Q})$ let $\mu_{s}:{ }^{s} B \rightarrow B$ be a compatible isogeny.
- Let $F=Z\left(\operatorname{End}^{0}(B)\right)$.
- $s, t \in \operatorname{Gal}(K / \mathbb{Q}) \rightsquigarrow c_{B / K}(s, t)=\mu_{s} \circ{ }^{s} \mu_{t} \circ \mu_{s t}^{-1}$

$$
B \xrightarrow{\mu_{s t}^{-1}} s t B \xrightarrow{s}{ }^{s} \mu_{t} s{ }^{s} B \xrightarrow{\mu_{s}} B
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- In fact, $c_{B / K}(s, t) \in F^{*}$, and it is a 2-cocycle.
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- $\left[C_{B / K}\right]$ is 2-torsion.
- $\left[c_{B}\right]=\operatorname{Inf}\left[c_{B / K}\right] \in H^{2}\left(G_{\mathbb{Q}}, F^{*}\right)$ (trivial action)
- $\left[c_{B}\right]$ is an invariant of the $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$-isogeny class of $B$.
- Ribet used $\left[C_{B}\right]$ in his study of building blocks.


## Building blocks and Galois Cohomology

- $\left[c_{B}\right]$ contains a lot of arithmetic information about $B$ (in fact about its $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$-isogeny class).


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The Brauer class of $\operatorname{End}^{0}(B)$ is the image of $\left[C_{B}\right]$ under

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There exists a model of $B$ defined over $L$ (up to $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$-isogeny) if and only if $\left[C_{B}\right]$ lies in the kernel of

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There exists a model of $B$ completely defined over $L$ (up to $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$-isogeny) if and only if $\left[C_{B}\right]$ lies in the image of the inflation map

$$
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- Let $\lambda_{s}: A_{K} \rightarrow A_{K}$ such that ${ }^{t s} B \xrightarrow{t^{\mu_{s}}}{ }^{t} B$.
- In fact $\lambda_{s} \in \operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{0}(A)$ and $\lambda_{s} \lambda_{t}=c_{B / K}(s, t) \lambda_{s t}$.


## Characterization of strongly modular abelian varieties

## Theorem

Let $B / K$ be a non-CM building block with $\operatorname{End}_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}(B)=\operatorname{End}_{K}(B)$. Then $B$ is strongly modular over $K$ if and only if

- $K / \mathbb{Q}$ is Galois abelian.
- $B$ is completely defined over $K$.
- $\left[c_{B / K}\right]$ is symmetric: $c_{B / K}(s, t)=c_{B / K}(t, s)$.


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- If $C_{B / K}$ is symmetric then $F^{C_{B / K}}[\operatorname{Gal}(K / \mathbb{Q})]$ is abelian and it is a product of number fields.
- $\operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{0}\left(\operatorname{Res}_{K / \mathbb{Q}} B\right) \simeq \operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{\mathbb { Q }}}^{0}(B) \otimes \Pi E_{i} \simeq \prod_{t}\left(E_{i}\right)$
- $\operatorname{Res}_{K / \mathbb{Q}} B \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} \Pi A_{i}^{t}$ with $E n d{ }_{\mathbb{Q}}^{0}\left(A_{i}\right) \simeq E_{i}$ and $\left[E_{i}: \mathbb{Q}\right]=\operatorname{dim} A_{i}$.


## Strongly modular twists

- Let $K / \mathbb{Q}$ be an abelian extension
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- Tate's theorem: $H^{2}\left(G_{\mathbb{Q}}, \bar{F}^{*}\right)=\{1\}$ (trivial $G_{\mathbb{Q}}$-action)
- The image of $\left[c_{B}\right]$ in $H^{2}\left(G_{\mathbb{Q}}, \bar{F}^{*}\right)$ is trivial: there exist maps
$\beta: G_{\mathbb{Q}} \rightarrow \bar{F}^{*}$ such that

$$
c_{B}(\sigma, \tau)=\beta(\sigma) \beta(\tau) \beta(\sigma \tau)^{-1} .
$$

- The map $\beta$ mod $F^{*}$ is a homomorphism.
- The field $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}^{\mathrm{ker}\left(\beta \bmod F^{*}\right)}$ is a splitting field for $\left[C_{B}\right]$.


## Outline

(1) Building blocks and statement of the problem (modularity)
(2) Characterization of strongly modular abelian varieties
(3) Examples of strongly modular abelian surfaces

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Give explicit equations of strongly modular varieties over number fields, constructed without any use of modular forms.

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- Surfaces: $B=\operatorname{Jac}(C)$ with $C / K$ a genus 2 curve. $B$ is a $\mathbb{Q}$-variety and $\operatorname{End}_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}^{0}(B)$ is a quaternion algebra. We compute $\left[C_{B}\right]$ and $\left[C_{B / K}\right]$ to guarantee strong modularity.


## Baba-Granath family of genus 2 curves

$$
\begin{aligned}
C_{j}: \quad Y^{2}= & (-4+3 \sqrt{-6 j}) X^{6}-12(27 j+16) X^{5}-6(27 j+16)(28+9 \sqrt{-6 j}) X^{4} \\
& +16(27 j+16)^{2} X^{3}+12(27 j+16) 2(28-9 \sqrt{-6 j}) X^{2} \\
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- $B_{j}$ is a building block: there exist newforms $f$ such that

$$
A_{f} \sim_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}} B_{j}^{n}
$$

- $B_{j}$ is completely defined over

$$
K=\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-6 j}, \sqrt{j}, \sqrt{-(27 j+16)}, \sqrt{-2(27 j+16)})
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## The cohomology class $\left[c_{B_{j}}\right]$

We can compute $\left[c_{B_{j}}\right]$, and to give an explicit expression we use the isomorphism:

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\begin{array}{ccc}
H^{2}\left(G_{\mathbb{Q}}, \mathbb{Q}^{*}\right)[2] & \simeq \operatorname{Hom}\left(G_{\mathbb{Q}}, \mathbb{Q}^{*} /\{ \pm 1\} \mathbb{Q}^{* 2}\right) \\
c_{B_{j}} & \leftrightarrow & \times H^{2}\left(G_{\mathbb{Q}},\{ \pm 1\}\right) \\
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- $C_{B_{j}}^{2}(\sigma, \tau)=\delta(\sigma) \delta(\tau) \delta(\sigma \tau)^{-1} \Rightarrow \overline{B_{B_{j}}}(\sigma)=\delta(\sigma) \bmod \{ \pm 1\} \mathbb{Q}^{* 2}$.
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## Propositon

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- $C_{B_{j}}(\sigma, \tau)^{2}=c_{B_{j}}(\sigma, \tau) c_{B_{j}}(\sigma, \tau)^{\prime}=\left(\psi_{\sigma} \circ \psi_{\sigma}^{\prime}\right)\left(\psi_{\tau} \circ \psi_{\tau}^{\prime}\right)\left(\psi_{\sigma \tau} \circ \psi_{\sigma \tau}^{\prime}\right)$
- A formula of Quer giving End ${ }_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}^{0}\left(B_{j}\right)$ in terms of $\left[C_{\left.B_{j}\right]}\right]$ and $\left[C_{B_{j}}\right]_{ \pm}$.


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- [ $c_{B_{\gamma} / L}$ ] it is symmetric $\rightarrow B_{\gamma} / L$ is strongly modular.
- $\gamma$ is the solution of an embedding problem in Galois theory (associated to the non-symmetric part of $\left[c_{B_{j} / L}\right]_{ \pm} \in H^{2}(L / \mathbb{Q},\{ \pm 1\})$ )
$1 \rightarrow \operatorname{Gal}(L(\sqrt{\gamma}) / L) \simeq\{ \pm 1\} \rightarrow \operatorname{Gal}(L(\sqrt{\gamma}) / \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \operatorname{Gal}(L / \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow 1$


## A concrete example: $j=-4 / 27$

We find $f \in S_{2}\left(\Gamma_{0}\left(2^{4} \cdot 3^{4}\right), \chi\right)$ :

$$
\begin{aligned}
f & =q-\sqrt{3} q^{5}+3 i q^{7}-3 \sqrt{3} q^{11}+q^{13}-2 i \sqrt{3} q^{17}-6 i q^{19} \\
& +3 \sqrt{3} q^{23}+2 q^{25}-5 \sqrt{3} i q^{29}-3 i q^{31}+\cdots
\end{aligned}
$$

and $g \in S_{2}\left(\Gamma_{0}\left(2^{6} \cdot 3^{4}\right), \varepsilon\right)$ :

$$
\begin{aligned}
g & =q-\sqrt{3} q^{5}+3 i q^{7}-3 \sqrt{3} q^{11}-q^{13}+2 i \sqrt{3} q^{17}+6 i q^{19} \\
& -3 \sqrt{3} q^{23}+2 q^{25}-5 \sqrt{3} i q^{29}-3 i q^{31}+\cdots
\end{aligned}
$$

such that

$$
\begin{gathered}
L\left(B_{\gamma} / L ; T\right)=\left(L(f ; s) L\left({ }^{\sigma} f ; s\right) L(g ; s) L\left({ }^{\tau} g ; s\right)\right)^{2} \\
\operatorname{Res}_{L / \mathbb{Q}} B_{\gamma} \sim A_{f}^{2} \times A_{g}^{2}
\end{gathered}
$$

- In this example it is enough to go to a quadratic extension $L / K$ to obtain a twist which is strongly modular over $L$.
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## Proposition

There exist surfaces $B_{j}$ in the Baba-Granath family such any $L$ with $B_{j}$ strongly modular over $L$ is arbitrary large.

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- Let $f$ be a modular form such that

$$
A_{f} \sim_{\overline{\mathbb{Q}}} B_{j}^{n}
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and let $\varepsilon$ be the Nebentypus of $f$.

- $\left[c_{B_{j}}\right]_{ \pm}$is ramified at $p \Leftrightarrow \varepsilon_{p}(-1)=-1$.
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- $\left[c_{B_{j}}\right]_{ \pm}$is ramified at $p \Leftrightarrow \varepsilon_{p}(-1)=-1$.
- Using the formulas for $\left[C_{B_{j}}\right]_{ \pm}$we can force the order of any such $\varepsilon$ to be high.


# L-series of building blocks 

Xavier Guitart, Jordi Quer<br>Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya

## Québec-Vermont Number Theory Seminar, 2010

