

**P - ADIC INTERPOLATION AND THE MELLIN—MAZUR  
TRANSFORM**

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**Introduction.** One of basic problems of  $p$ -adic analysis and number theory is to construct  $p$ -adic analogs of Archimedean concepts. Here  $p$ -adic  $L$ -functions are of special interest. The construction of  $p$ -adic analogs of  $L$ -functions uses basically two methods, which are actually closely related: the method of  $p$ -adic interpolation and the  $p$ -adic Mellin-Mazur transform. There is a conjecture of Mazur and Swinnerton-Dyer concerning the Mellin-Mazur transform corresponding to a Weil elliptic curve, which says that the  $p$ -adic  $L$ -function is not identically zero.

This paper studies the analytic properties of certain large classes of  $p$ -adic analytic functions, in particular, their interpolation properties and their integral representations, and then applies these results to give a partial confirmation of the conjecture of Mazur and Swinnerton-Dyer.

Essential differences between  $p$ -adic analytic and complex analytic functions arise, of course, from having a non-Archimedean ground field. One such difference is that the modulus of a  $p$ -adic analytic function only depends on the modulus of the argument, except of a discrete set of values of the modulus of the argument. Hence, the graph of the modulus of a  $p$ -adic analytic function is a polygonal line, known as the Newton polygon of the function.

The Newton polygon determines other interesting properties of a  $p$ -adic analytic function, facilitates the interpolation process, and highlights the dependence of the function on its zeros. These properties allow us, in a rather simple way, to extend a function defined on a sequence of points to a  $p$ -adic analytic function. It was in this way that many interesting  $p$ -adic analogs of arithmetic functions were obtained ([2], [3],...).

In the present paper the concept of a Newton polygon is generalized and then applied to study the interpolation and continuation properties of  $p$ -adic analytic functions. We obtain some well-known results, of  $p$ -adic analytic functions. We obtain some well-known results, as well as new results, about interpo-

lation. In §1 we introduce the concept of the sequence of Newton polygons of a  $p$ -adic analytic function  $f(z)$  defined in the unit disc in  $C_p$ . These are the Newton polygons of the functions  $\tilde{f}_k(z)$  if the  $p$ -adic analytic function  $f(z)$  is written in the form  $f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \tilde{f}_k(z)$ , where only leading terms (see §1.2) occur in the expansion of  $\tilde{f}_k(z)$ . Theorem 1.1 gives the basic properties of the Newton sequence.

In §2 we consider the problem of  $p$ -adic interpolation. The results of this section show that a key role in interpolation is played by the relation between the rate of growth of a function and the «number» of points between which the function is being interpolated. Namely, if  $u$  is a discrete sequence of points in the unit disc in  $C_p$ , and  $\phi_u$  is an analytic function in this disc for which the number of zeros (counting multiplicity) in every subregion is equal to the number of points of  $u$  in the same subregion (such a function is constructed in the proof of Theorem 1.1), then  $u$  is an interpolation sequence for  $f(z)$ , if and only if  $f(z)$  belongs to the class  $\mathfrak{o}(\phi_u)$ . This theorem is used to obtain some well-known results on interpolation of the Mellin-Mazur transform corresponding to modular forms. The interpolation theorem also gives conditions for a function given on a discrete sequence of points to be extendible to  $p$ -adic analytic function in the unit disc in  $C_p$ . Another consequence of the theorem is a uniqueness theorem (Theorem 4.1) for  $p$ -adic analytic functions, which concerns the question of the extent to which a  $p$ -adic analytic function is determined by its zeros.

In §5 we give a partial confirmation of the conjecture of Mazur and Swinnerton-Dyer on the non-vanishing of the  $p$ -adic  $L$ -function associated to an elliptic curve ([9]). The following theorem is proved: Let  $N = l^n$ , where  $l$  is a prime number and  $n$  is any positive integer, let  $p$  be a primitive root mod  $N$ . Then for every finite abelian extension  $A$  of  $Q$  of conductor  $m = p^r$  and every Weil elliptic curve  $E$  of conductor  $N$ , the  $p$ -adic  $L$ -function  $L_p(E/A, s)$  is not identically zero.

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## §1. $p$ -ADIC ANALYTIC FUNCTIONS

1. *The Newton polygon.* For completeness we shall recall the concept of the Newton polygon.

In what follows  $p$  will always denote a fixed prime number.  $Q_p$  is the field of  $p$ -adic number, and  $C_p$  is the  $p$ -adic completion of the algebraic closure of  $Q_p$ . We let  $T$  denote the disc in  $C_p$ :  $T = \{z \in C_p, |z| < 1\}$ . The absolute value is normalized as follows:  $|p| = \frac{1}{p}$ . We also use the notation  $v(z)$  for the additive valuation on  $C_p$ , which extends  $\text{ord}_p$ .

Now let  $f(z)$  be a  $p$ -adic analytic function on  $T$ , represented by the power series:

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n.$$

For each  $n$  we draw the graph  $\Gamma_n$  which depicts  $v(a_n z^n)$  as a function of  $v(z)$ . This is a straight line with slope  $n$ . Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{v(a_n) + nt\} = \infty$  for all  $t > 0$ , there

exists an  $n$  for which  $v(a_n) + nt$  reaches its minimum. Let  $v(f, t)$  be the boundary of the intersection of the half-planes under all the  $\Gamma_n$ . Then in every segment  $t \in [r, s]$ ,  $0 < r < s < \infty$ , only finitely many of the  $\Gamma_n$  appear in the graph of  $v(f, t)$ . Hence,  $v(f, t)$  is a continuous polygonal line, called the Newton polygon of the function  $f(z)$ . The points  $t > 0$  corresponding to the vertices of the graph of  $v(f, t)$  are called the critical points of  $f(z)$ . There are finitely many of them in any finite segment  $[r, s]$ . Obviously, if  $t$  is a critical point, then the number  $\{v(a_n) + nt\}$  reaches a minimum at at least two values of  $n$ . For other values of  $t$  we have:

$$v(f(z)) = v(a_n) + nt = \min_m \{v(a_m) + mt\},$$

for all  $z$ ,  $v(z) = t$ . Thus, for non-critical  $t$ ,

$$|f(z)| = p^{-v(f, t)} \text{ if } v(z) = t.$$

The Newton polygon gives complete information about the number of zeros of the function. Namely,  $f(z)$  has zeros for  $v(z) = t_i$ , where  $t_0 > t_1 > t_2 > \dots$  are the critical points of the function, and the number of zeros of  $f(z)$  on  $v(z) = t_i$  (counting multiplicity) is equal to the difference  $n_{i+1} - n_i$  between the slopes of  $v(f, t)$  at  $t_i - 0$  and  $t_i + 0$ . It is easy to see that  $n_i$  and  $n_{i+1}$  are the least  $n$  and the greatest  $n$  at which  $\{v(a_n) + nt\}$  reaches its minimum. These terms  $a_n z^n$  for which the graph of  $v(a_n z^n)$  takes part in forming  $v(f, t)$  are called the leading terms in the expansion of  $f(z)$ .

**Example.** Consider the function

$$\log(1+z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{z^n}{n}$$

For every  $t > 0$  we have:

$$v((-1)^{n-1}/n) + nt \begin{cases} = nt - \log n / \log p, & \text{if } n = p^k \\ > nt - \log n / \log p, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence, only the graphs  $\Gamma_{p^k}$  ( $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ) take part in forming  $v(f, t)$ , and the leading terms are:

$$p^{-kz p^k}, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

It hence follows that the function  $\log(1+z)$  has the following critical points:

$$t_k = \frac{1}{p^k - p^{k-1}} = \frac{1}{\varphi(p^k)}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

At each  $t_k$ ,  $\log(1+z)$  has  $\varphi(p^k)$  zeros, and

$$v(f, t_k) = -k + \frac{p}{p-1}.$$

## 2. The Newton sequence of an analytic function.

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  denote the space of functions analytic in  $T$  with the topology of uniform convergence on the sets  $\{z \in C_p: v(z) \geq t > 0\}$ . Suppose we have a function  $f(z) \in \mathcal{H}$ , represented by a convergent series

$$f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n z^n.$$

Let  $\{a_{n_k} z^{n_k}, k = 1, 2, \dots\}$  be the set of leading terms of the series (1). We set

$$\tilde{f}(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_{n_k} z^{n_k}.$$

We define the sequence

$$\tilde{f}_0(z), \tilde{f}_1(z), \dots, \tilde{f}_m(z), \dots$$

inductively, by setting

$$\tilde{f}_0(z) = \tilde{f}(z), \tilde{f}_m(z) = f(z) - \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \tilde{f}_i(z).$$

It is clear that

$$f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \tilde{f}_k(z) \quad (2)$$

(where we use the fact that convergence of series in  $C_p$  is always absolute convergence).

We note that the expansion of each  $\tilde{f}_k(z)$  ( $k = 0, 1, \dots$ ) has only leading terms, (unless  $\tilde{f}_k(z) \equiv 0$  for  $k$  sufficiently large).

For each  $f(z) \in \mathcal{H}$  with expansion (2) we set

$$\rho_k^f(t) = v(\tilde{f}_k, t),$$

where  $t > 0$ ,  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . If the function  $f(z)$  is fixed, we shall omit the  $f$  in the notation  $\rho_k^f(t)$ . We take

$$\rho_k^f(t) \equiv \infty, \text{ if } \tilde{f}_k(t) \equiv 0.$$

**Definition 1.1.** The sequence

$$\rho^f(t) = \left( \rho_0^f(t), \rho_1^f(t), \dots \right)$$

is called the Newton sequence of the function  $f(z)$ .

The basic properties of the Newton sequence are given in the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.1.** Let  $\rho = (\rho_0(t), \rho_1(t), \dots)$  be the Newton sequence of an analytic function  $f(z) \in \mathcal{H}$ . Then  $\rho$  has the following properties:

1.  $\rho_{k+1}(t) \geq \rho_k(t)$  for all  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  and  $t > 0$
2. The functions  $\rho_k(t)$  are continuous and left differentiable, and their derivatives are monotonic decreasing, piecewise linear functions which take non-negative integer values.
3. Let  $\frac{d\rho_k}{dt}$  denote the left derivative of  $\rho_k(t)$  at  $t$ . Then for each  $k$ : either there exists  $M_k > -\infty$  such that  $\rho_k(t) > M_k$  for  $t > 0$ , or else, for any  $t_0 > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left\{ \rho_k(t) + (t_0 - t) \frac{d\rho_k}{dt} \right\} = \infty.$$

4. For any pair  $i \neq k$ ,  $d\rho_i/dt$  and  $d\rho_k/dt$  have disjoint sets of values, except for the case  $\rho_k(t) \equiv \rho_i(t) \equiv \infty$ .

Conversely, for any sequence  $\rho(t)$  satisfying 1) – 4), there exists an analytic function  $f(z)$  such that  $\rho^f(t) \equiv \rho(t)$ .

**Proof.** By the definition of the operation  $f \rightarrow \tilde{f}$  and the properties of the Newton polygon, we have:  $v(f, t) = v(\tilde{f}, t)$  for all  $f(z) \in \mathcal{H}$  and  $t > 0$ . This implies that:

$$\begin{aligned} v(\tilde{f}_{k+1}, t) &= v(f - \tilde{f}_0 - \dots - \tilde{f}_k, t) \geq \min \{ v(f - \tilde{f}_0 - \dots - \tilde{f}_{k-1}, t), v(\tilde{f}_k, t) \} = \\ &= \min \{ v(\tilde{f}_k, t), v(\tilde{f}_k, t) \} = v(\tilde{f}_k, t). \end{aligned}$$

This proves 1).

Properties 2) and 4) are direct consequences of the definitions of Newton polygons and sequences.

We now prove 3). Suppose that for  $k$  we have:  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \rho_k(t) = -\infty$ . Note that

$\rho_k(t) + \frac{d\rho_k}{dt}(t_0 - t)$  is the ordinate of the point of intersection of the line supporting the graph  $\rho_k(t)$  and the line  $t = t_0$ . Since  $d\rho_k/dt$  is non-increasing, this ordinate does not decrease as  $t \rightarrow 0$ . Suppose there exists  $M$  such that

$$\rho_k(t) + \frac{d\rho_k}{dt}(t_0 - t) \leq M.$$

Consider the points  $A = (t_1, \rho_k(t_1))$  and  $B = (t_0, M)$ , where  $t_1 < t_0$ . Then for  $t < t_1$  the entire line  $\rho_k(t)$  lies above the line  $AB$ , and this contradicts the assumption that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \rho_k(t) = -\infty$ .

We now prove the second part of the theorem. Suppose that the sequence

$\rho(t) = (\rho_0(t), \rho_1(t), \dots)$  satisfies 1) – 4). Set:  $\rho'_k(t) = \frac{d\rho_k}{dt}$ . Let  $t_1^k > t_2^k > \dots > t_n^k > \dots$

be the sequences of points of discontinuity of the function  $\rho'_k(t)$ , and let  $\{a_n^k\}$  be a sequence of numbers such that

$$v(a_n^k) = \rho_k(t_n^k) - t_n^k \rho'_k(t_n^k).$$

Recalling that  $\rho'_k(t)$  takes integer values, we set

$$P_k(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n^k z^{\rho'_k(t_n^k)}, \quad (3)$$

$$f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P_k(z) \quad (4)$$

We prove that (3) and (4) converge in the topology of  $\mathcal{E}$ , and that  $f(z)$  is an analytic function in  $T$  satisfying the relations:

$$\tilde{f}_k(z) = P_k(z), \quad v(P_k, t) = \rho_k(t)$$

for  $t > 0$ , in other words,  $\rho(t)$  is the Newton sequence for  $f(z)$ .

We note that if  $\rho_k(t) \equiv \infty$ , then we take  $P_k(z) \equiv 0$  and if  $\rho'_k(t)$  only has finitely many points of discontinuity, then the series (3) is a finite sum.

It suffices to consider the case when  $\rho'_k(t)$  has infinitely many points of discontinuity. In this case it is easy to see that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n^k = 0$ . Hence, by property 3), we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{ \rho'_k(t_n^k) (t - t_n^k) + \rho_k(t_n^k) \} = \infty.$$

This shows that (3) converges

We show that only leading terms occur in the expansion of each  $P_k(z)$ , and that  $v(P_k, t) = \rho(t)$ . We set:

$$\varphi_k^n(t) = \rho'_k(t_n^k) (t - t_n^k) + \rho_k(t_n^k).$$

It is easy to verify the equality:

$$\varphi_k^{n+1}(t_{n+1}^k) = \varphi_k^n(t_{n+1}^k) = \rho_k(t_{n+1}^k).$$

Since  $\varphi_k^{n+1}(t)$  and  $\varphi_k^n(t)$  are linear and  $\rho'_k(t_{n+1}^k) > \rho'_k(t_n^k)$ , we have

$$\varphi_k^{n+1}(t) > \varphi_k^n(t) \quad (\text{for } t > t_{n+1}^k).$$

Similarly,

$$\varphi_k^{n+r}(t) > \varphi_k^{n+r-1}(t) \quad (\text{for } t > t_{n+r}^k) > \varphi_k^{n+r-2}(t) \quad (\text{for } t > t_{n+r-1}^k) \dots$$

Since  $t_{n+1}^k > t_{n+2}^k > \dots > t_{n+r}^k$ , we have  $\varphi_k^{n+r}(t) > \varphi_k^n(t)$  for  $t > t_{n+1}^k$ . Thus

$$\varphi_k^n(t) = \inf_{m \geq n} \varphi_k^m(t) \text{ for } t \geq t_{n+1}^k$$

A similar proof gives us

$$\varphi_k^n(t) = \inf_{m < n} \varphi_k^m(t) \text{ for } t \leq t_n^k$$

Consequently,

$$\varphi_k^n(t) = \inf_m \varphi_k^m(t) \text{ for } t \in [t_{n+1}^k, t_n^k].$$

This implies that  $P_k(z) \equiv \tilde{P}_k(z)$  and  $v(P_k, t) = \rho_k(t)$ .

We now prove that the series (4) converges in  $T$ . Since  $v(P_k, t) = \rho_k(t)$ , it suffices to prove that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \rho_k(t) = \infty$  for any fixed  $t > 0$ . Suppose the contrary, i.e.,

that there exists  $t_0 > 0$ ,  $M > 0$ , and a sequence  $k_n$ , such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} k_n = \infty$  and  $\rho_{k_n}(t_0) < M$  for all  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . By properties 1) and 2), we have:

$$\rho_0(t_0/2) \leq \rho_{k_n}(t_0/2) \leq \rho_{k_n}'(t_0)(t_0/2 - t_0) + \rho_{k_n}(t_0) \leq \frac{-\rho_{k_n}'(t_0)}{2} t_0 + M.$$

We obtain a contradiction as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , because  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho_{k_n}'(t_0) = \infty$  by property 4).

Since  $P_k(z) \equiv \tilde{P}_k(z)$  for all  $k \geq 0$  and  $v(P_k, t) \geq v(P_{k-1}, t)$  for all  $t > 0$ , it is easy to see that  $\tilde{f}_k(z) \equiv P_k(z)$ . Thus,  $\rho = (\rho_0(t), \rho_1(t), \dots)$  is the Newton sequence for  $f(z)$ . The theorem is proved.

### 3. Analytic functions on the character group.

This section devotes to a very important class of  $p$ -adic analytic functions: functions on the analytic group of characters of  $Z_\Delta^*$ .

Let  $\Delta_0$  be an integer,  $(\Delta_0, p) = 1$ . We set:

$$q = \begin{cases} 4 & \text{if } p = 2 \\ p & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \Delta = \Delta_0 q \quad \text{and} \quad Z_\Delta^* = \varprojlim (Z/\Delta p^n Z)^*.$$

The  $p$ -adic character group is the group of continuous homomorphisms of  $Z_\Delta^*$  to  $C_p^*$ :

$$X(Z_\Delta^*) = \text{Hom}_{\text{cont}}(Z_\Delta^*, C_p^*).$$

Every Dirichlet character  $\chi$  of conductor  $\Delta p^u$  is an element of the group  $\text{Hom}((Z/\Delta p^m Z)^*, C_p^*)$  for each  $m \geq n$ , and so gives a unique element of  $X(Z_\Delta^*)$ , which is also denoted  $\chi$ .

We set:  $U = 1 + \mathfrak{q} Z_p = \{z \in Z_p : v(z-1) \geq v(\mathfrak{q})\}$ . Then for any  $g \in U$  with  $v(g-1) = v(\mathfrak{q})$ , the map  $z \rightarrow g^z$  is an isomorphism of  $Z_p$  onto  $U$ . We call such a  $g$  a topological generator of  $U$ .

For any generator  $g$  of  $U$ , the map  $\text{Hom}_{\text{cont}}(U, C_p^*) = X(U) \rightarrow C_p^*$  which takes a continuous character  $\chi$  of  $U$  to the point  $\chi(g) - 1$  is an isomorphism of  $X(U)$  onto  $T$ . Since  $Z_\Delta^* \approx (Z/\Delta_0 Z)^* \times Z_p$  and  $Z_p^* \approx (Z/\mathfrak{q}Z)^* \times U$ , it follows that  $X(Z_\Delta^*)$  is the product of a finite group and  $X(U)$ , where the latter group is isomorphic to  $T$ . Since  $T$  is an open disc in  $C_p$ , this isomorphism makes  $X(Z_\Delta^*)$  into an analytic manifold, in fact, a disjoint union of open discs. This analytic structure makes  $X(Z_\Delta^*)$  into an analytic group.

Analytic functions on  $X(Z_\Delta^*)$  are functions whose restriction to each component isomorphic to  $T$  is an analytic function on this component.

A function  $f(z)$  on  $Z_\Delta^*$  is called locally analytic if, for every point  $z \in Z_\Delta^*$ , there exists a disc  $D_z \ni z$  such that  $f(z)$  is analytic on  $D_z$ . We let  $\text{Locan } Z_\Delta^*$  denote the space of locally analytic functions on  $Z_\Delta^*$ , together with its natural topology ([1]).

**Definition 1. 2.** A continuous linear functional on  $\text{Locan } Z_\Delta^*$  is called a distribution on  $Z_\Delta^*$ .

The restriction to  $X(Z_\Delta^*)$  of a continuous linear functional on  $\text{Locan } Z_\Delta^*$  is an analytic function. Letting such a functional correspond to its restriction gives an isomorphism of the space of distributions with the space of analytic functions on  $X(Z_\Delta^*)$  ([2]):

$$\text{Distlocan } Z_\Delta^* \approx \text{An } X(Z_\Delta^*).$$

We shall later prove some subtler facts about this correspondence, which relate to certain important constructions in  $p$ -adic analysis.



Let  $\mu$  be a distribution on  $Z_{\Delta}^*$ , written symbolically as follows:

$$\mu(\varphi) = \int_{Z_{\Delta}^*} \varphi d\mu.$$

for  $\varphi$  an analytic function on  $Z_{\Delta}^*$ . Then restricting to  $X(Z_{\Delta}^*)$  gives a function

$$f(\chi) = \int_{Z_{\Delta}^*} \chi d\mu,$$

which is analytic on  $X(Z_{\Delta}^*)$  and is called the  $p$ -adic Mellin — Mazur transform. This is the  $p$ -adic analog of  $L$ -series.

**Definition 1. 3.** A distribution on  $Z_{\Delta}^*$  which extends to the space of continuous functions on  $Z_{\Delta}^*$  is called a bounded measure on  $Z_{\Delta}^*$ . If a distribution extends to the space of functions which are  $h-1$  times differentiable and whose  $h-1$ -st derivative satisfies the Lipschitz condition, then this distribution is called an  $h$ -admissible measure.

**Definition 1. 4.** Let  $f(z)$  and  $g(z)$  be two analytic functions in  $\mathcal{H}$ . We say that  $f(z)$  belongs to the class  $o(g)$  if

$$\sup_{|z| \leq r} |f(z)| = o\left(\sup_{|z| \leq r} |g(z)|\right) \text{ as } r \rightarrow 1 - 0.$$

It has been proved that for a bounded measure the function  $f(\chi) = \int_{Z_{\Delta}^*} \chi d\mu$

is bounded, and for an  $h$ -admissible measure this function belongs to the class  $o(\log^h(1+z))$  ([3]). Here we shall prove that every bounded analytic function  $f(\chi)$  on  $X(Z_{\Delta}^*)$  (resp. any analytic function of class  $o(\log^h)$ ) is the Mellin—Mazur transform of a bounded (resp.  $h$ -admissible) measure  $\mu$ . Since  $X(Z_{\Delta}^*)$  is isomorphic to the product of a finite group and  $X(U)$ , we shall carry out the proof for  $X(U)$  and shall identify  $X(U)$  and  $T$  by means of the isomorphism between them.

**Theorem 1. 2.** For any function  $f(z) \in \mathcal{H}$  with  $f(z) \in o(\log^h)$ , there exists an  $h$ -admissible measure on  $U$  such that

$$f(\chi) = \int_U \chi d\mu.$$

**Proof.** In [3] it was proved that, if  $\mu$  is a linear functional on the space of functions which are locally a polynomial of degree less than  $h$ , then  $\mu$  extends to an  $h$ -admissible measure if and only if the following relation holds:

$$\sup_{a \in U} \left| \int_U (z - a)^j \psi_a^{(m)}(z) d\mu \right| = o(p^{m(h-j)}), \quad (5)$$

where  $j = 0, 1, \dots, h-1$ ;  $\psi_a^{(m)}(z)$  is the characteristic function of the set  $a + U_p$ .  $U_p = \{z \in \mathbb{Z}_p : z \equiv 1 \pmod{p^m}\}$ . Moreover, in this case the  $p$ -adic Mellin-Mazur transform is an analytic function in  $\mathcal{X}$  and belongs to the class  $o(\log^h)$ . Thus, in order to prove that the Mellin-Mazur transform of  $\mu$  is equal to  $f(\mathcal{X})$ , it suffices to show that (5) holds for the characters  $z^k \chi$ , where  $0 \leq k \leq h-1$  and  $\chi$  is a Dirichlet character modulo  $p^m$ . This follows from results on  $p$ -adic interpolation in [2], [3], or else from the remark after Corollary 2.1 in the present paper.

The proof that (5) holds for  $z^k \chi$  uses several lemmas

**Lemma 1.1.** The formula

$$\mu(z^k \psi_a^{(m)}) = \frac{1}{\varphi(p^m)} \sum_{\chi} \chi^{-1}(a) f(z^k \chi) \quad (6)$$

where  $0 \leq k \leq h-1$  and  $\chi$  runs through the Dirichlet characters modulo  $p^m$ , defines a linear functional on the space of functions which are locally a polynomial in  $z$  of degree less than  $h$ .

**Proof.** It suffices to verify:  $\mu(z^k \psi_a^{(m)}(z)) = \sum_{r=0}^{p-1} \mu(z^k \psi_{a+rp^m}^{(m+1)})$ . This is

proved by computing the right side by formula (6) and noting that, if  $\chi$  is a primitive character of conductor  $p^{m+1}$ , then

$$\sum_{r=0}^{p-1} \chi^{-1}(a + rp^m) = 0.$$

**Lemma 1.2.** The linear functional  $\mu$  defined in Lemma 1.1. satisfies the conditions:

$$\sup_{a \in U} \left| \int_U (z - a)^j \psi_a^{(m)}(z) d\mu \right| = o(p^{m(h-j)}), \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, h-1.$$

**Proof.** For every  $g(z) \in \mathcal{H}$  and every  $t_0 > 0$ , we set:

$$\|g\|_{t_0} = \sup_{v(z)=t_0} |g(z)|$$

From the example in §1 we obtain:

$\|\log^h(1+z)\|_{t_m} = p^{mh}$ , where  $t_m = 1/p(p^m)$ ,  $m = 1, 2, \dots$ , this implies that:

$$\|f\|_{t_m} = o(p^{mh}) \quad (m \rightarrow \infty).$$

Now let  $S_m(z)$  be the sequence of interpolating polynomial for  $f(z)$  between the points  $\{g^{i\gamma} - 1\}$ ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots, h-1$ ,  $\gamma \in \mathcal{M}_{pm}$ ,  $m = 1, 2, \dots$ , where  $\mathcal{M}_{pm}$  is the set of  $p^m$ -th roots of unity.  $S_m(z)$  is defined by the conditions:  
 $\deg S_m(z) \leq h p^m - 1$ ,  $S_m(g^{i\gamma} - 1) = f(g^{i\gamma} - 1)$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, h-1$ ,  $\gamma \in \mathcal{M}_{pm}$ . By Lazard's lemma ([5]), we have:

$$f(z) = \varphi(z)_{i=0, \dots, h-1} \prod_{\gamma \in \mathcal{M}_{pm}} \left(1 - \frac{z}{g^{i\gamma} - 1}\right) + Q_m(z) \text{ where } \deg Q_m(z) \leq h p^m - 1,$$

$$v(Q_m, t_m) \geq v(f, t_m). \text{ This implies that } S_m(z) \equiv Q_m(z) \text{ and } \|S_m\|_{t_m} = o(p^{mh}).$$

Write the polynomial  $S_m(z)$  in the form  $S_m(z) = \sum_{l=0}^{hp^m-1} b_l^{(m)} z^l$ . Then  $\|S_m\|_{t_m} =$

$$= \max_{0 \leq l \leq hp^m-1} \{ |b_l^{(m)} z^l|_{t_m} \} = \max_l \{ |b_l^{(m)}| p^{-l/q(p^m)} \} > p^{-hp/p-1} \max_l \{ |b_l^{(m)}| \}.$$

Thus,  $|b_l^{(m)}| = o(p^{mh})$  for all  $l$ . We note that, if we write

$$S_m(z-1) = \sum_{l=0}^{hp^m-1} a_l^{(m)} z^l, \text{ then we also obtain:}$$

$|a_l^{(m)}| = o(p^{mh})$  for all  $l$ . By the definition of the functional  $\mu$ , we have:

$$\int_U (z-a)^j \psi_a^{(m)}(z) d\mu = \sum_{k=0}^j (-a)^{j-k} \binom{j}{k} (1/\varphi(p^m)) \sum_{\chi} \chi^{-1}(a) f(z^k \chi)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^j (-a)^{j-k} \binom{j}{k} (1/\varphi(p^m)) \sum_{\chi} \chi^{-1}(a) f(g^k \chi(g) - 1)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^j (-a)^{j-k} \binom{j}{k} (1/\varphi(p^m)) \sum_{\chi} \chi^{-1}(a) S_m(g^k \chi(g) - 1)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^j (-a)^{j-k} \binom{j}{k} (1/\varphi(p^m)) \sum_{\chi} \chi^{-1}(a) \sum_l a_l^{(m)} g^{kl} \chi^l(g)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^j (-a)^{j-k} \binom{j}{k} \sum_{g^l \equiv a \pmod{q p^m}}^{hp^m-1} a_l^{(m)} g^{kl}$$

$$= \sum_l a_l^{(m)} (g^l - a)^j.$$

Thus,

$$\sup_{a \in U} \left| \int_U (z-a)^j \psi_a^{(m)}(z) d\mu \right| = \sup_{a \in U} \left| \sum_l a_l^{(m)} (g^l - a)^j \right| = o(p^{m(h-j)}), j=0, \dots, h-1$$

because  $|a_l^{(m)}| = o(p^{mh})$  and  $|g^l - a| \leq p^{-m}$ .

Thus,  $\mu$  extends to an  $h$ -admissible measure, as claimed at the beginning of the proof. Theorem 1.2 will be proved if the equality  $f(\chi) = \int_U \chi d\mu$  is verified for all characters  $\chi$  with  $\chi$  a Dirichlet character.

**Lemma 1.3.** If  $\chi$  is a Dirichlet character modulo  $p^m$  and  $0 \leq k \leq h-1$ , then

$$f(z^k \chi) = \int_U z^k \chi d\mu.$$

**Proof.** By the definition of the measure we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_U z^k \chi d\mu &= \int_U \left( \sum_{a \bmod p^m} \chi(a) z^k \psi_a^{(m)}(z) \right) d\mu \\ &= \sum_{a \bmod p^m} \chi(a) \sum_{\chi} \frac{1}{\varphi(p^m)} \bar{\chi}^{-1}(a) f(z^k \bar{\chi}) = f(z^k \chi). \end{aligned}$$

This proves Lemma 1.3, and hence the theorem.

## § 2. $p$ -ADIC INTERPOLATION

The construction of the  $p$ -adic zeta-function by interpolating from a set of integers ([4]) caused many people to become interested in the problem of  $p$ -adic interpolation. Amice and other specialists investigated interpolation of functions on a locally compact field. Using  $p$ -adic interpolation of an analytic function  $T+1$  from the sequence  $\{g^{k\tau}\}$  (see §1), Amice and Vêlu obtained a  $p$ -adic Mellin-Mazur transform associated to modular forms which generalized results of Ju. I. Manin.

In this paper we investigate interpolation of analytic functions on  $T$  from an arbitrary discrete sequence of points.

Let  $u = \{u_1, u_2, \dots\}$  be a sequence of distinct points in  $T$ . Let  $N_u(t)$  denote the number of points  $u_i$  in the sequence  $u$  such that  $v(u_i) \geq t > 0$ . In what follows we shall only consider sequence  $u$  for which  $N_u(t) < \infty$  for every fixed  $t > 0$ . We shall always assume that  $v(u_i) \geq v(u_{i-1})$  ( $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ). With these assumptions, we may write the sequence  $u$  in the form  $u = \{u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{n_1-1}, \dots, u_{n_2}, \dots\}$  where:

$$v(u_i) = t_k \text{ for } n_{k-1} + 1 \leq i \leq n_k \text{ (} n_0 = -1 \text{), } \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} t_k = 0.$$

We consider the function:

$$\rho_0(t) = \int_0^t N_u(t) dt.$$

It is clear that  $d\rho_0(t)/dt = n_k$  for  $t \in [t_k, t_{k+1}]$ , and that  $\rho(t) = \{\rho_0(t)\}$  satisfies the conditions of Theorem 1.1. Let  $\Phi_u(z)$  be a function for which  $\rho(t) = \{\rho_0(t)\}$  is the Newton sequence, we have:  $d\rho^{\Phi_u}/dt = N_u(t)$ , and, by the property of the Newton polygon,  $\Phi_u(z)$  has  $n_k$  zeros of ordinal  $t_k$ . We shall only consider sequence  $u$  for which  $\Phi_u$  is unbounded, or, equivalently, for which  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \rho_0(t) = -\infty$ .

**Definition 2.1.**  $u = \{u_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$  is called an interpolation sequence for  $f(z)$  if the sequence of interpolation polynomials for  $f$  on  $u$  converges to  $f(z)$  in the topology of  $\mathcal{H}$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** The sequence  $u$  is an interpolation sequence for  $f(z)$  if  $f(z) = o(\Phi_u)$ .

*Proof* Suppose the sequence  $u$  and the function  $f(z)$  satisfy the condition  $f(z) \in o(\Phi_u)$ .

We define a function  $\tau : Z \rightarrow Z$  by the relation

$$t_{\tau(i)} = v(u_i) \quad (i = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

From the assumptions concerning  $u$  it is clear that  $\tau$  is a nondecreasing function and  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \tau(i) = \infty$ .

Using Lazard's result and a proof similar to that of Lemma 1.2, we obtain:

$$v(P_k, t_{\tau(k)}) \geq v(f, t_{\tau(k)}).$$

We consider the expression

$$v(S_k, t_{\tau(k)}) - v(f, t_{\tau(k)}),$$

and examine separately the following possible cases:

i)  $\tau(k) = \tau(k+1)$ . In this case it follows Lazard's lemma that

$$v(P_{k+1}, t_{\tau(k)}) \geq v(f, t_{\tau(k)})$$

and, using (26), we obtain:

$$v(S_k, t_{\tau(k)}) - v(f, t_{\tau(k)}) \geq 0 \quad (15)$$

ii)  $\tau(k) < \tau(k+1)$  and  $N_u(t_{\tau(k)}) \geq \frac{d\rho^f}{dt} \Big|_{t=t_{\tau(k)}}$ .

We show that in this case inequality (15) also holds. Suppose that, on the contrary,  $v(S_k, t_{\tau(k)}) < v(f, t_{\tau(k)})$ . Then the properties of the Newton polygon imply

$$\begin{aligned} v(S_k, t_{\tau(k+1)}) &= v(S_k, t_{\tau(k)}) - N_u(t_{\tau(k)}) (t_{\tau(k)} - t_{\tau(k+1)}) \\ &\leq v(f, t_{\tau(k)}) - N_u(t_{\tau(k)}) (t_{\tau(k)} - t_{\tau(k+1)}) \\ &\leq v(f, t_{\tau(k)}) - \frac{d\rho^f}{dt} \Big|_{t=t_{\tau(k)}} (t_{\tau(k)} - t_{\tau(k+1)}) \\ &= v(f, t_{\tau(k)}) \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

But (14) implies that

$$v(P_{k+1}, t_{\tau(k+1)}) \geq v(f, t_{\tau(k+1)}). \quad (17)$$

Using (16) and (17), we obtain

$$v(P_k, t_{\tau(k+1)}) = v(S_k, t_{\tau(k+1)}). \quad (18)$$

On the other hand, it follows from (14) and our assumption that

$$v(P_k, t_{\tau(k)}) = v(S_k, t_{\tau(k+1)}). \quad (19)$$

Using (18) and (19), we obtain then

$$\frac{d\rho^{P_k}}{dt} \Big|_{t=t_{\tau(k)}} > \frac{d\rho^{S_k}}{dt} \Big|_{t=t_{\tau(k)}}$$

But this is impossible, since the degree of  $P_k$  is no greater than  $k$  and the function  $S_k(z)$  has no fewer than  $k$  zeros in  $\{v(z) \geq t_{\tau(k)}\}$ . This contradiction proves (15) in case ii)

$$\text{iii) } \tau(k) < \tau(k+1) \text{ and } N_u(t_{\tau(k)}) < \left. \frac{d\rho^t}{dt} \right|_{t=t_{\tau(k)}}$$

From the construction of  $P_k(z)$  and the properties of the Newton polygon it follows that in this case we have:

$$\left. \frac{d\rho^{P_k}}{dt} \right|_{t=t_{\tau(k)}} \leq \left. \frac{d\rho^{S_k}}{dt} \right|_{t=t_{\tau(k)}} \leq N_u(t_{\tau(k)}) + 1 \leq \left. \frac{d\rho^t}{dt} \right|_{t=t_{\tau(k)}} \quad (20)$$

From (14) and (20) it follows that

$$v(P_k, t_{\tau(k+1)}) \geq v(f, t_{\tau(k+1)}) \quad (21)$$

Inequalities (17) and (21) give

$$v(S_k, t_{\tau(k+1)}) \geq v(f, t_{\tau(k+1)}) \quad (22)$$

Note that  $\tau(k) < \tau(k+1)$  if and only if  $N_u(t_{\tau(k)}) = k+1$ .

On the other hand,  $S_k(z)$  has  $k+1$  zeros of ordinal no less than  $t_{\tau(k)}$ , hence (19) holds in case iii) not only for  $t > t_{\tau(k)}$ , but for  $t \geq t_{\tau(k)}$  as well.

Now let  $N$  be an arbitrary positive integer, and let  $k$  be large enough so that  $t_{\tau(k)} < t_N$ . By (18), we have the inequality:

$$|(v(S_k, t_{\tau(k)}) - v(\Phi_u, t_{\tau(k)})) - (v(S_k, t_N) - v(\Phi_u, t_N))| \leq t_1$$

in case i) and ii), and the inequality:

$$|(v(S_k, t_{\tau(k-1)}) - v(\Phi_u, t_{\tau(k+1)})) - (v(S_k, t_N) - v(\Phi_u, t_N))| \leq t_1 \quad (23)$$

in case iii).

Thus, in cases i) and ii) we have:

$$v(S_k, t_N) \geq v(\Phi_u, t_N) - t_0 + v(S_k, t_{\tau(k)}) - v(\Phi_u, t_{\tau(k)}).$$

It follows from 15) that:

$$v(S_k, t_N) \geq v(\Phi_u, t_N) - t_0 + v(f, t_{\tau(k)}) - v(\Phi_u, t_{\tau(k)}).$$

Similarly, using inequalities (22) and (23), in case iii) we obtain:

$$v(S_k, t_N) \geq v(\Phi_u, t_N) - t_0 + v(f, t_{\tau(k+1)}) - v(\Phi_u, t_{\tau(k+1)}).$$

Since  $f \in o(\Phi_u)$  and  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \tau(k) = \infty$  in all cases we have:

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} v(S_k, t_N) = \infty$$

This means that the sequence  $\{P_k\}$  converges to some  $p$ -adic analytic function  $P(z)$ .

It remains to prove that  $P(z) \equiv f(z)$ . Since  $u$  is an interpolation sequence for  $P(z)$ ,  $v(P, t) = \lim v(P_n, t) \geq v(f, t)$  we have  $P(z) \in o(\Phi_u)$ . Set  $g(z) = P(z) - f(z)$ . It follows from the assumption and from what was just said that  $g(z) \in o(\Phi_u)$ . On the other hand,  $g(u_i) = 0$ ,  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  we hence obtain

$$\frac{d\rho^g}{dt} \geq N_u(t) = \frac{d\rho^{\Phi_u}}{dt} \text{ for } t > 0. \quad (24)$$

But then  $g(z) \equiv 0$ , since otherwise (24) would contradict the fact that  $g(z) \in o(\Phi_u)$ . Sufficiency is proved.

As an obvious corollary, we obtain the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $f(z)$  be any function in  $\mathcal{H}$ , and let  $u = \{u_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$  be a sequence of points in  $T$  satisfying the conditions:  $N_u(t) < \infty$  for every  $t > 0$ , and  $v(u_i) \geq v(u_{i+1})$ . Then  $u$  is an interpolation sequence for all functions in  $o(f)$  the function

$$N(t) = N_u(t) - \frac{d\rho^t}{dt}$$

is bounded from below for  $t > 0$ .

In fact, under the conditions in the theorem, it is easy to see that the class  $o(f)$  is contained in the class  $o(\Phi_u)$ .

**Corollary 2.1.** (an important special case). The sequence  $\{\gamma - 1, \gamma \in \mathcal{M}_{pn}, n \geq 1\}$  is an interpolation sequence for all functions in  $o(\log)$ .

In fact, take for  $f(z)$  the function  $\log(1+z)$ , and let  $u$  be the sequence in the corollary. Then  $N(t) \equiv 0$ , by the description of the Newton polygon of the log function. It is known that the  $p$ -adic Mellin-Mazur transform of a slowly increasing measure ([3, 6]) is a function of class  $o(\log)$ . Hence, such a transform is completely determined by its values on the set of Dirichlet characters.

An analogous result holds for the  $p$ -adic Mellin-Mazur transform of an  $h$ -admissible measure ([3]). It is known that all measure corresponding to parabolic modular forms are  $h$ -admissible for suitable  $h$ . It then follows that the Mellin-Mazur transform is a function of class  $o(\log^h)$ , and so is completely determined by its values on the set of characters of the form  $\chi z^k$ ,  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, h-1$ , where  $\chi$  is a Dirichlet character (see §1). Note that in this case, letting  $f(z)$  denote the Mellin-Mazur transform, we have:

$$N(t) = N_u(t) - d\rho^t/dt \equiv 0$$

where  $u$  is the sequence of points  $\{g^{k\gamma} - 1\}$ .

### § 3. $p$ -ADIC CONTINUATION OF ANALYTIC FUNCTIONS

As mentioned above, results of Amice and Mahler give conditions under which a function given on a set of integers (in the case of Mahler), on a «very well distributed» sequence or on certain other sequences of points, can be extended to a continuous, analytic or locally analytic function on  $Z_{\Delta}^*$ . In this section we use results of the preceding sections to study extensions of a function given on an arbitrary sequence of points to an analytic function on  $T$ . We shall consider sequences satisfying the basic conditions of the preceding section and written in the same form as in §2.

**Theorem 3. 1.** Let  $u = \{u_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$  be a sequence of points in  $T$ , and let  $\alpha = \{\alpha_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$  be a sequence of values in  $C_p$ . Further, let  $\{P_n(z)\}$  be the sequence of polynomials satisfying the conditions:

$$\deg P_n(z) \leq n, P_n(u_i) = \alpha_i, i=0, \dots, n.$$

Then:

1) If the condition

$$\|P_n\| = \sup_{z \in T} |P_n(z)| = o(\|\Phi_u\|_{t_{\tau(n)}})$$

is fulfilled as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , where the notation is, as in §2, then there exists an analytic function  $f(z) \in \mathcal{H}$  such that

$$f(u_i) = \alpha_i, i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

and  $f(z) = \lim P_n(z)$ . In other words, under these conditions  $\{u_i\}$  is an interpolation sequence for the function  $f(z)$ .

2) Conversely, if there exists an analytic function  $g(z)$  in the class  $o(\Phi_u)$  which satisfies the conditions

$$g(u_i) = \alpha_i, i=0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

then the sequence of polynomials  $P_n(z)$  satisfies the following condition:

$$\|P_n\| = o(p^{n t_{\tau(n)}} \|\Phi_u\|_{t_{\tau(n)}}).$$

**Proof.** Let the polynomial  $P_n(z)$  have the expansion

$$P_n(z) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k(n) z^k.$$

By assumption, we have:

$$v(a_k(n)) \geq v(\Phi_u, t_{\tau(n)}) + d(n), k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

where  $d(n) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . It hence follows that:

$$\begin{aligned} v(P_n, t_{\tau(n)}) &\geq \min_k \{v(\Phi_u, t_{\tau(n)}) + d(n) + k t_{\tau(n)}\} \\ &= v(\Phi_u, t_{\tau(n)}) + d(n). \end{aligned}$$

Arguments similar to those used to prove (23) above give:

$$\text{either } v(S_n, t_{\tau(n)}) = v(\Phi_u, t_{\tau(n)}) + d(n),$$

$$\text{or else } v(S_n, t_{\tau(n+1)}) = v(\Phi_u, t_{\tau(n+1)}) + d(n+1).$$

Hence, for any fixed  $N$  we have:

$$v(S_n, t_N) - v(\Phi_u, t_N) \geq v(S_n, t_{\tau(n)}) - v(\Phi_u, t_{\tau(n)}) = d(n).$$

Consequently,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v(S_n, t_N) = \infty$$



Thus, the sequence of polynomials  $\{P_k(z)\}$  converges in the topology of  $\mathcal{H}$  to a  $p$ -adic analytic function  $f(z)$ , where:  $f(u_i) = \alpha_i$ ,  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . The first part of theorem is proved.

Now let  $g(z) \in o(\Phi_u)$  be an analytic function on  $T$  for which

$$g(u_i) = \alpha_i, \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Using Lazard's lemma, we see that the polynomial  $P_n(z)$  satisfies:

$$v(P_n, t_{\tau(n)}) \geq v(g, t_{\tau(n)}).$$

Consequently, for all  $k$  with  $0 \leq k \leq n-1$

$$v(a_k^{(n)}) + kt_{\tau(n)} \geq v(g, t_{\tau(n)}) = v(\Phi_u, t_{\tau(n)}) + d(n),$$

where  $d(n) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ;

$$v(a_k^{(n)}) \geq v(\Phi_u, t_{\tau(n)}) + d(n) - kt_{\tau(n)} \geq v(\Phi_u, t_{\tau(n)}) + d(n) - nt_{\tau(n)}.$$

Thus,

$$\|P_n\| \leq \|\Phi_u\|_{t_{\tau(n)}} \cdot p^{nt_{\tau(n)} - d(n)};$$

that is,

$$\|P_n\| = o(p^{nt_{\tau(n)}} \|\Phi_u\|_{t_{\tau(n)}}).$$

The theorem is proved.

**Corollary 3.1.** If the sequence  $u = \{u_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$  satisfies the condition

$$nt_{\tau(n)} < \infty,$$

then there exists an analytic function  $f(z)$  taking the values  $\alpha_i$  at the points  $u_i$  if and only if the sequence of polynomials  $\{P_n\}$  satisfies the condition

$$\|P_n\| = o(\|\Phi_u\|_{t_{\tau(n)}}).$$

**Remark** When  $u = \{g^{k\tau} - 1\}$ , we have:

$$nt_{\tau(n)} \leq p^{\tau(n)} / \varphi(p^{\tau(n)}) - p / (p-1); \quad \|\Phi_u\|_{t_{\tau(n)}} = \|\log^h\|_{t_{\tau(n)}}$$

and  $\tau(n) = k$  for  $p^{k-1} < n \leq p^k$ ,  $t_k = 1/\varphi(p^k)$ .

Consequently, a function on the corresponding sequence of interpolation polynomials  $\{P_n\}$  satisfies:  $\|P_n\| = o(p^{hn})$ . This is a result of Amice ([2]).

#### §4. DETERMINATION OF FUNCTION BY ITS ZEROS

The question of the extent to which a  $p$ -adic analytic function is determined by its zeros has often been discussed in the literature. In some sense, results of Lazard's ([5]) and Van der Put ([11]) can be considered answers to this ques-

ion. Here we consider the problem from another point of view: what points must be «added» to the set of zeros of a function in order for the resulting set to completely determine the  $p$ -adic analytic function?

**Theorem 4.1.** (uniqueness of  $p$ -adic analytic function) Two  $p$ -adic analytic functions coincide in  $\{|z| < 1\}$  if and only if they have the same zeros (counting multiplicity) and coincide on some other infinite set of points  $u$  satisfying the condition assumed at the beginning of §2.

**Proof.** Let  $f(z)$  and  $g(z)$  be  $p$ -adic analytic functions satisfying the assumptions of the theorem. Then  $\varphi(z) = f(z)/g(z)$  is a  $p$ -adic analytic function which is nonzero everywhere in  $T$ , and so is bounded in  $T$ . Hence,  $\varphi(z)$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{o}(\Phi_n)$ , where  $u$  is the sequence where  $f(z)$  and  $g(z)$  coincide. By Theorem 2.1.  $\{u_i\}$  is an interpolation sequence for  $\varphi(z)$ . On the other hand, by the definition of  $\varphi(z)$ , all of the interpolation polynomials for  $\varphi(z)$  are identically equal to 1, hence  $\varphi(z) \equiv 1$ . The theorem is proved.

### §5. THE $p$ -ADIC $L$ -FUNCTION ASSOCIATED TO AN ELLIPTIC CURVE

Let  $E$  be a Weil elliptic curve of conductor  $N$ , let  $p$  be a prime,  $(p, N) = 1$  and suppose that  $E$  has good reduction at  $p$ . In [9] Mazur and Swinnerton—Dyer associated to each such curve  $E$  a  $p$ -adic  $L$ -function  $L_p(E/A, s)$ , where  $A$  is a finite abelian extension of  $Q$ . They stated the following conjecture: for all  $E, A$ , the  $p$ -adic  $L$ -function  $L_p(E/A, s)$  is not identically zero. Here we give a partial affirmation of this conjecture.

We first recall the definition of Mazur and Swinnerton—Dyer ([9]). Let  $E$  be a Weil curve of conductor  $N$ ,  $(p, N) = 1$ , and let  $\Delta_0$  be a fixed integer prime to  $p$ . Set  $\Delta_n = \Delta_0 p^n$  and  $Z_\Delta = \varprojlim Z/\Delta_n Z$ . We set  $H = H_1(E, Z)$  and let

$$\varphi: Q/Z \rightarrow H$$

be the modular symbol associated to  $E$  ([9]). Since  $\varphi$  is an  $H \otimes Z_p$ -valued eigenfunction for the operator  $T_p$ , we can construct the measure  $\mu = \mu^{\Delta, \varphi}$ . Now if  $A$  is a finite abelian extension of  $Q$  of conductor  $m$ , we write  $m$  in the form  $m = \Delta_0 p^n$  and construct the measure  $\mu^{\Delta, \varphi}$  for this  $\Delta_0$ . The  $p$ -adic Mellin—Mazur transform corresponding to the measure  $\mu^{\Delta, \varphi}$  is called the  $p$ -adic  $L$ -function associated to  $E$ :

$$L_p(E/A, s) = \prod_{\chi} L_p(E, \chi, s) \in Z_p[[s]]$$

where the product is taken over all characters belonging to the extension  $A/Q$ , and

$$L_p(E, \chi, s) = \int_U u^{s-1} \chi(u) d\mu^{\Delta, \varphi}.$$

**Theorem 5.1.** Let  $N = l^n$ , where  $l$  is a prime and  $n$  is any positive integer, and let the prime  $p$  be a primitive root modulo  $N$ . Then for every finite abelian extension  $A$  of  $Q$  of conductor  $m = p^r$  and every elliptic curve  $E$  of conductor  $N$ ,

$$L_p(E/A, s) \not\equiv 0.$$

Note that here  $\Delta_0 = 1$ . By the definition of  $L_p(E/A, s)$  Theorem 5.1 follows from the following theorem.

**Theorem 5.2.** Let  $\Phi(z)$  be a cusp form of weight 2 for  $\Gamma_0(N)$  and let  $\Phi(z)$  be an eigen-function for all of the Hecke operators  $T_m$ ,  $(m, N) = 1$ . If  $\Delta_0 = 1$  and  $N, p$  satisfy the conditions in Theorem 5.1, then the  $p$ -adic Mellin - Mazur transform  $L_p(\Phi, \chi, s) \neq 0$  for every character of the group  $Z_{\Delta}^*$ .

The proof is based on several lemmas.

**Lemma 5.1.** If  $L_p(\Phi, \bar{\chi}, s) \equiv 0$  for some character  $\bar{\chi}$  of  $Z_{\Delta}^*$ , then  $\mu_{\Phi} \equiv 0$ , where  $\mu_{\Phi}$  is the measure corresponding to  $\Phi(z)$  ([3, 6]).

**Proof.** By definition, we have:

$$L_p(\Phi, \chi, s) = \int_U u^{s-1} \bar{\chi}(u) d\mu_{\Phi}(u). \quad (25)$$

For  $u \in U$  we have the expansion

$$u^{s-1} = \exp((s-1)\log u) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\log u)^n}{n!} (s-1)^n, \quad (26)$$

where the series converges for  $s$  such that  $\text{ord}_p(s-1) \geq 1/(p-1) - \text{ord}(\log u)$ . We hence obtain:

$$\int_U u^{s-1} \bar{\chi}(u) d\mu_{\Phi} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[ \int_U \frac{(\log u)^n}{n!} \bar{\chi}(u) d\mu_{\Phi} \right] (s-1)^n. \quad (27)$$

Thus,  $L_p(\Phi, \bar{\chi}, s) \equiv 0$  if and only if for all  $n \geq 0$  we have:

$$\int_U (\log u)^n \bar{\chi}(u) d\mu_{\Phi} = 0. \quad (28)$$

For every wild character  $\chi \in X(U)$  there exists  $x \in T$  such that

$$\chi(u) = (x+1)^{\log u / \log \gamma}.$$

Consequently, we have:

$$\chi(u) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \left( \frac{\log(1-x)}{\log \gamma} \right)^n (\log u)^n. \quad (29)$$

From (28) and (29) we thus obtain

$$\int_U \chi(u) \bar{\chi}(u) d\mu = 0. \quad (30)$$

Equation (30) holds for all characters  $\chi \in X(U)$ . Since  $\bar{\chi}$  is fixed, we have

$$\int_U \chi(u) d\mu_{\Phi}(u) = 0 \quad \text{for all } \chi \in X(U). \quad (31)$$

Thus,  $\mu_{\Phi} \equiv 0$  on  $Z_{\Delta}$  by the Amice isomorphism (see §1). The lemma is proved.

**Lemma 5. 2.** If  $\Delta_0 = 1$  and  $\mu_\Phi \equiv 0$ , then  $\int_0^{b/p^m} \Phi(z) dz = 0$  for all  $m \geq 0$  and all  $b \pmod{p^m}$ .

**Proof.** We have the following formula for  $\mu_\Phi$  ([3,6]):  $\mu_\Phi(a + (\Delta p^m)) = M_m \int_{a/\Delta p^m}^{i\infty} \Phi(z) dz + M_{m-1} \int_{a/\Delta p^{m-1}}^{i\infty} \Phi(z) dz$ , where  $M_m, M_{m-1}$  are nonzero constants. Hence, the lemma follows easily by induction if we prove the following equalities:

$$\int_0^{i\infty} \Phi(z) dz = 0 \text{ and } \int_0^{b/p} \Phi(z) dz = 0 \quad (b = 1, \dots, p-1) \quad (32)$$

Thus, it remains to prove (32). Since  $\mu_\Phi \equiv 0$ , we have  $L_p(E/A, s) \equiv 0$ . Then, by a result of Mazur ([9], Corollary 1, § 9.6), we have  $L(E, 1) = 0$  and so  $\int_0^{i\infty} \Phi(z) dz = 0$ .

Now let  $\chi$  be a Dirichlet character modulo  $p$ . If  $\Phi(z)$  has the form  $\Phi(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n e^{2\pi i n z}$ , then we set

$$\Phi_\chi(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n \chi(n) e^{2\pi i n z}.$$

Further, let  $G(\chi)$  be the Gauss sum

$$G(\chi) = \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \chi(k) e^{2\pi i k/p}.$$

We then have the following equation [10]:

$$\Phi_\chi(z) = \frac{G(\chi)}{p} \sum_{b=1}^{p-1} \chi^*(b) \Phi\left(z + \frac{b}{p}\right),$$

where  $\chi^*(b) = \chi^{-1}(-b)$ . From the functional equation for the Mellin - Mazur transform [3, 6], we have:

$$\int_0^{i\infty} \Phi_\chi(z) dz = 0.$$

Thus, 
$$\sum_{b=1}^{p-1} \chi^*(b) \int_0^{i\infty} \left(z + \frac{b}{p}\right) dz = 0. \quad (33)$$

Equation (33) holds for all primitive character  $\chi \pmod p$ ,  $\chi \neq 1$ , so that we obtain a

system of  $p-2$  equations in the  $p-1$  unknowns  $\int_0^{i\infty} \Phi\left(z + \frac{b}{p}\right) dz$ , ( $b = 1, \dots, p-1$ ).

Note that for all characters  $\chi \pmod p$ ,  $\chi \neq 1$ , we have:  $\sum_{b=1}^{p-1} \chi^*(b) = 0$ . This equation,

together with the independence of characters, gives a system of solutions to the equations (33) of the form

$$\int_0^{i\infty} \left(z + \frac{b}{p}\right) dz = c, \quad (34)$$

where  $c$  is an arbitrary constant,  $b = 1, \dots, p-1$ .

On the other hand, from the formula for the operator  $T_p$  we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \lambda_p \int_0^{i\infty} \Phi(z) dz = \int_0^{i\infty} (\Phi | T_p)(z) dz = \\ &= \int_0^{i\infty} \left\{ \sum_{\substack{d/p \\ b=0, \dots, d-1}} \int_0^{i\infty} \Phi\left(\frac{d^{-1}pz+b}{d}\right) d\left(\frac{d^{-1}pz+b}{d}\right) \right\} = \sum_{b=1}^{p-1} \int_0^{i\infty} \Phi\left(z + \frac{b}{p}\right) dz. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from this and (34) that

$$\int_0^{i\infty} \Phi\left(z + \frac{b}{p}\right) dz = 0, \quad b = 1, \dots, p-1.$$

The lemma is proved.

Before proceeding to the next lemma, we recall the Manin homomorphism ([8]).

Let  $H$  denote the upper half-plane, and let  $X_N(C)$  denote the Riemann surface which is the standard compactification of  $\Gamma_0(N) \backslash H$ . For every pair  $\alpha, \beta \in H \cup Q \cup \{i\infty\}$ , let  $\{\alpha, \beta\} \in H_1(X_N, R)$  denote the homology class on  $X_N(C)$  of the image of the geodesic from  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$  in  $H$ . Consider the mapping:

$$\xi: \Gamma_0(N) \rightarrow H_1(X_N, Z), \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \left\{ 0, \frac{b}{d} \right\} \quad (35)$$

Manin proved that  $\xi$  is a surjective group homomorphism.

Now let  $\varphi$  be the differential form on  $X_N(C)$  induced by the form  $\Phi(z) dz$ . Then, by Lemma 5.2, we have:

$$\int_{\left\{ 0, \frac{b}{p^m} \right\}} \varphi = 0 \quad (36)$$

for all  $m \geq 0$ ,  $b \pmod{p^m}$ . For each homology class  $\{\alpha, \beta\} \in H_1(X_N, R)$  we set

$$\{\alpha, \beta\} \varphi = \int_{\{\alpha, \beta\}} \varphi.$$

We now prove that, under the assumptions of Theorem 5.2, we have  $\left\{0, \frac{b}{d}\right\} \varphi = 0$  for all  $\left\{0, \frac{b}{d}\right\} \in H_1(X_N, Z)$ . We note that for all  $b \pmod{p^m}$  there exists a matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ cN & p^m \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma_0(N),$$

since  $(p, N) = 1$ . Consequently,  $\left\{0, \frac{b}{p^m}\right\} \in H_1(X_N, Z)$ .

**Lemma 5.3.** Under the conditions of Theorem 5.2, if  $\left\{0, \frac{b}{p^m}\right\} \varphi = 0$  for all  $\left\{0, \frac{b}{p^m}\right\} \in H_1(X_N, Z)$  and  $m \geq 0$ , then  $\left\{0, \frac{1}{d}\right\} \varphi = 0$  for all  $d \in Z$ ,  $(d, N) = 1$ .

**Proof.** Since  $(d, N) = 1$ , it is clear that  $\left\{0, \frac{1}{d}\right\} \in H_1(X_N, Z)$ . Choose an element  $\begin{pmatrix} a & 1 \\ cN & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma_0(N)$  in the preimage of  $\left\{0, \frac{1}{d}\right\}$  under the mapping  $\xi$ . Since  $p$  is a primitive root modulo  $N$ , there exists  $m \geq 0$  and  $y \in Z$  such that  $p^m = d + yN$ . Hence we have:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & 1 \\ cN & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -yN & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & 1 \\ (c-ay)N & p^m \end{pmatrix}$$

and the homomorphism (35) we obtain

$$\left\{0, \frac{1}{d}\right\} \varphi = \{0, 0\} \varphi + \{0, 1/p^m\} \varphi = 0.$$

Lemma is proved.

Since  $\{0, -b/d\} = \{0, b/(-d)\}$ , we may assume that  $b \geq 0$ . We shall prove  $\left\{0, \frac{b}{d}\right\} \varphi = 0$  for all  $\left\{0, \frac{b}{d}\right\} \in H_1(X_N, Z)$  by induction on  $b$ .

By lemma 5.3, it now suffices to prove the following lemma:

**Lemma 5.4.** If  $\left\{0, \frac{b}{d}\right\} \varphi = 0$  for all  $\left\{0, \frac{b}{d}\right\} \in H_1(X_N, Z)$  and  $b < b_0$ , then  $\left\{0, \frac{b_0}{d}\right\} \varphi = 0$  for all  $\left\{0, \frac{b_0}{d}\right\} \in H_1(X_N, Z)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\left\{0, \frac{b_0}{d}\right\}$  be an element of  $H_1(X_N, Z)$ . Choose a matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b_0 \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma_0(N)$  in the preimage of  $\left\{0, \frac{b_0}{d}\right\}$  under  $\xi$ . Represent  $a$  in the form  $a = l^n + xb_0$ , where  $0 < a_0 < b_0$ . By assumption,  $N = l^m$ , where  $l$  is a prime and  $m$  is a positive integer. We consider the two possible cases:  $(x, N) = 1$  and  $(x+1, N) = 1$ .

i)  $(x, N) = 1$ . Then there exists  $\alpha, \gamma \in \mathbb{Z}$ , such that  $\alpha x + \gamma N = 1$ . We have the following equation of matrices in  $\Gamma_0(N)$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b_0 \\ cN & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha x - b_0 \gamma N & a_0 \\ -(c\alpha + d\gamma)N & cN - dx \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -x & -1 \\ \gamma N & -\alpha \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then from the homomorphism (35) we have:

$$\{0, b_0/d\} \varphi = \{0, a_0/(cN - dx)\} \varphi + \{0, 1/\alpha\} \varphi.$$

Hence,  $\{0, b/d\} \varphi = 0$  by our assumption, since  $0 < 1, a_0 < b_0$ .

ii)  $(x+1, N) = 1$ . There exist  $\alpha, \gamma$  such that  $\alpha(x+1) + \gamma N = 1$ . It is easy to verify the following equation of matrices in  $\Gamma_0(N)$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b_0 \\ cN & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha x + b_0 \gamma N & b_0 - a_0 \\ (c\alpha + d\gamma)N & -cN + dx + d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x+1 & 1 \\ -\gamma N & \alpha \end{pmatrix}.$$

From the group homomorphism (35) we obtain:

$$\{0, b_0/d\} \varphi = \{0, (b_0 - a_0)/(-cN + dx + d)\} \varphi + \{0, 1/\alpha\} \varphi.$$

Since  $0 < b_0 - a_0 < b_0$ , by our assumption we have:  $\{0, b_0/d\} \varphi = 0$ . The lemma is proved.

Thus, it follows from Lemmas 5.1 – 5.4. that, under the conditions of Theorem 5.2, if  $L_p(\Phi, \chi, s) \equiv 0$  for any character  $\chi$ , then  $\left\{0, \frac{b}{d}\right\} = 0$  for all  $\left\{0, \frac{b}{d}\right\} \in H_1(X_N, \mathbb{Z})$ . But this means that  $\varphi$  has zero period. Consequently,  $\varphi(z) \equiv 0$ . This completes the proof of Theorems 5.1 and 5.2.

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