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# On Deligne's periods for tensor product motives





### *Sur les périodes de Deligne des motifs produits tensoriels*

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#### ABSTRACT

In this paper, we give a description of Deligne's periods  $c^{\pm}$  for a tensor product of pure motives  $M \otimes M'$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  in terms of the period invariants attached to M and M' by Yoshida [8]. The period relations proved by the author and Raghuram in an earlier paper follow from the results of this paper.

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#### RÉSUMÉ

Nous décrivons dans cette Note les périodes de Deligne  $c^{\pm}$  des produits tensoriels  $M \otimes M'$  de motifs purs sur  $\mathbb{Q}$ , en termes des périodes des motifs M et M' et des invariants qui leur sont attachés par Yoshida. Les relations de périodes établies antérieurement par l'auteur et Raghuram résultent de cette description.

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#### 1. Introduction

Let *M* be a pure motive over  $\mathbb{Q}$  with coefficients in a number field  $\mathbb{Q}(M)$ . Suppose that *M* is critical, then a celebrated conjecture of Deligne [3, Conj. 2.8] relates the critical values of its *L*-function L(s, M) to certain periods  $c^{\pm}(M(\Pi))$ , which are defined through a comparison of the Betti and de Rham realizations of the motive.

Conjecturally, one can associate a motive  $M(\Pi)$  with a given cohomological cuspidal automorphic representation  $\Pi$  of  $GL_n(\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Q}})$ . One expects from this correspondence that the standard *L*-function  $L(s, \Pi)$  is the motivic *L*-function  $L(s, M(\Pi))$  up to a shift in the *s*-variable; see Clozel [2, Sect. 4]. There are certain periods  $p^{\epsilon}(\Pi)$  that have been defined by Raghuram–Shahidi [7]. Given cohomological cuspidal automorphic representations  $\Pi$  and  $\Sigma$  of  $GL_n(\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Q}})$  and  $GL_{n-1}(\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Q}})$ , respectively, Raghuram [5,6] has proved that the product  $p^{\epsilon}(\Pi)p^{\eta}(\Sigma)$ , for a suitable choice of signs  $\epsilon$  and  $\eta$ , appears in the critical values of the Rankin–Selberg *L*-function  $L(s, \Pi \times \Sigma)$ . One can ask whether there is an analogous relation for the Deligne periods so that the results of [6] are compatible with Deligne's conjecture.

In this paper, we give a description of Deligne's periods  $c^{\pm}(M \otimes M')$  for the tensor product  $M \otimes M'$ , where M and M' are two pure motives over  $\mathbb{Q}$  all of whose nonzero Hodge numbers are one, in terms of the periods  $c^{\pm}(M)$ ,  $c^{\pm}(M')$  and some

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other finer invariants attached to *M* and *M'* by Yoshida [8]. The main period relations are in Theorems 3.2, 3.4 and 3.6. The period relations for the ratio  $\frac{c^+(M \otimes M')}{c^-(M \otimes M')}$  proved by the author and Raghuram in [1] follow from these results.

#### 2. Preliminaries

#### 2.1. Critical motives

Let *M* be a motive defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$  with coefficients in a number field  $\mathbb{E}$ . Let  $H_B(M)$  be the *Betti realization* of *M*. It is a finite-dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{E}$ . The rank d(M) of *M* is defined to be  $\dim_{\mathbb{E}} H_B(M)$ . Write  $H_B(M) = H_B^+(M) \oplus H_B^-(M)$ , where  $H_B^{\pm}(M)$  are the  $\pm 1$ -eigenspaces for the action of complex conjugation  $\rho$  on  $H_B(M)$ . Let  $d^{\pm}(M)$  be the  $\mathbb{E}$ -dimensions of  $H_B^{\pm}(M)$ . The Betti realization has a *Hodge decomposition*:

$$H_B(M) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{C} = \bigoplus_{p,q \in \mathbb{Z}} H^{p,q}(M),$$
(2.1)

where  $H^{p,q}(M)$  is a free  $\mathbb{E} \otimes \mathbb{C}$ -module of rank  $h_M^{p,q}$ . The numbers  $h_M^{p,q}$  are called the *Hodge numbers* of M. We say that M is *pure* if there is an integer w (which is called the purity weight of M) such that  $H^{p,q}(M) = \{0\}$  if  $p + q \neq w$ . Henceforth, we assume that all the motives we consider are pure. We also have  $\rho(H^{p,q}(M)) = H^{q,p}(M)$ ; and hence  $\rho$  acts on the (possibly zero) middle Hodge type  $H^{w/2,w/2}(M)$ .

Let  $H_{DR}(M)$  be the *de Rham realization* of *M*; it is a d(M)-dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{E}$ . There is a comparison isomorphism of  $\mathbb{E} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{C}$ -modules:

$$I: H_B(M) \otimes_{\mathbb{O}} \mathbb{C} \longrightarrow H_{DR}(M) \otimes_{\mathbb{O}} \mathbb{C}.$$

The de Rham realization has a *Hodge filtration*  $F^p(M)$  that is a decreasing filtration of  $\mathbb{E}$ -subspaces of  $H_{DR}(M)$  such that  $I(\bigoplus_{p'>p} H^{p',w-p'}(M)) = F^p(M) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{C}$ . Write the Hodge filtration as

$$H_{DR}(M) = F^{p_1}(M) \supseteq F^{p_2}(M) \supseteq \cdots \supseteq F^{p_m}(M) \supseteq F^{p_{m+1}}(M) = \{0\};$$
(2.2)

all the inclusions are proper and there are no other filtration pieces between two successive members. We assume that the numbers  $p_{\mu}$  are maximal among all the choices. Let  $s_{\mu} = h_M^{p_{\mu}, w-p_{\mu}}$  for  $1 \le \mu \le m$ . Purity plus the action of complex conjugation on Hodge types says that the numbers  $p_j$  and  $s_{\mu}$  satisfy  $p_j + p_{m+1-j} = w$ ,  $\forall 1 \le j \le m$ , and  $s_{\mu} = s_{m+1-\mu}$ ,  $\forall 1 \le \mu \le m$ .

We say that the motive *M* is critical if there exist  $p^+$ ,  $p^- \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^{p^+} s_i = d^+(M)$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^{p^-} s_i = d^-(M)$ . In this case, one says that  $F^{\pm}(M)$  exists and equals  $F^{p^{\pm}}(M)$ .

#### 2.2. Tensor product of motives

Let *M* and *M'* be pure motives defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and with coefficients in a number field  $\mathbb{E}$ . Suppose that their ranks are *n* and *n'* and purity weights are *w* and *w'*, respectively. We further assume that all the non-zero Hodge numbers of *M* and *M'* are equal to 1.

Suppose  $H_B(M) \otimes \mathbb{C} = \bigoplus_{j=1}^n H^{p_j, w-p_j}(M)$ , where  $p_j$  are integers such that  $p_1 < p_2 < \ldots < p_n$ . Similarly, suppose  $H_B(M') \otimes \mathbb{C} = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n H^{q_j, w'-q_j}(M')$ , with  $q_1 < q_2 < \ldots < q_{n'}$ .

Since all the non-zero Hodge numbers of M and M' are equal to 1, it follows that the Hodge filtrations of the de Rham realizations of M, M' and  $M \otimes M'$  are given by

$$\begin{split} H_{DR}(M) &= F^{p_1}(M) \supseteq F^{p_2}(M) \supseteq \ldots \supseteq F^{p_n}(M) \supseteq (0), \\ H_{DR}(M') &= F^{q_1}(M') \supseteq F^{q_2}(M') \supseteq \ldots \supseteq F^{q_{n'}}(M') \supseteq (0), \\ H_{DR}(M \otimes M') &= F^{r_1}(M \otimes M') \supseteq F^{r_2}(M \otimes M') \supseteq \ldots \supset F^{r_m}(M \otimes M') \supseteq (0). \end{split}$$

Let  $u_t$  denote the dimension of  $F^{r_t}(M \otimes M')/F^{r_{t+1}}(M \otimes M')$  for  $1 \le t \le m$ . Let us further assume that  $M \otimes M'$  is critical. Consider the complex conjugation action on Betti realizations for the motives M and M'.

If the dimension nn' is an even integer, it follows that  $d^{\pm}(M \otimes M')$  are equal to  $\frac{nn'}{2}$ . From the criticality of  $M \otimes M'$ , it follows that there is  $k^+ = k^- = k_0 \ge 1$  such that

$$u_1 + u_2 + \ldots + u_{k_0} = d^{\pm} (M \otimes M') = \frac{nn'}{2}.$$

Let  $1 \le i \le n$  and  $1 \le j \le n'$ . Following Yoshida [8], we define:

$$a_i = \left| \left\{ j : 1 \le j \le n' : p_i + q_j \le r_{k_0} \right\} \right|, \qquad a_j^* = \left| \{i : 1 \le i \le n : p_i + q_j \le r_{k_0} \} \right|.$$

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