ON THE CHARACTERS OF UNIPOTENT REPRESENTATIONS
OF A SEMISIMPLE $p$-ADIC GROUP

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Abstract. Let $G$ be a semisimple almost simple algebraic group defined and
split over a nonarchimedean local field $K$ and let $V$ be a unipotent representa-
tion of $G(K)$ (for example, an Iwahori-spherical representation). We calculate
the character of $V$ at compact very regular elements of $G(K)$.

1. Introduction

1.1. Let $K$ be a nonarchimedean local field. Let $O$ and $p$ denote the ring of integers
of $K$ and the maximal ideal of $O$ respectively. Let $G$ be a semisimple almost simple
algebraic group defined and split over $K$ with a given $O$-structure compatible with
the $K$-structure.

If $V$ is an admissible representation of $G(K)$ of finite length, we denote by $\phi_V$ the
character of $V$ in the sense of Harish-Chandra, viewed as a $C$-valued function on
the set $G(K)_{rs} := G_{rs} \cap G(K)$. (Here $G_{rs}$ is the set of regular semisimple elements
of $G$ and $C$ is the field of complex numbers.) When $V$ is supercuspidal, $\phi_V$ can be
sometimes studied via Harish-Chandra’s integral formula ([H1]). When $V$ is a fully
parabolically induced representation, it is possible to compute its character in terms
of its inducing data (see [vD]). However, when $V$ is a subquotient representation,
not much is known about the explicit values of $\phi_V$. In [KmL], we studied the
character of the Steinberg representation in an attempt to understand characters
of subquotient representations. For the Steinberg representation, van Dijk’s formula
was enough to compute character values at very regular elements (see 1.2) thanks
to the expression of the Steinberg character as a virtual character ([C1], [H2]).
However, in general, one needs new ideas to make a computation.

In this paper we use the local constancy of characters ([H3], in more precise
form given by [AK], [MS]) and Hecke algebras to study the characters of unipotent
representations. (The notion of unipotent representation of $G(K)$ is defined in
[L2] (see also [L4]) assuming that $G$ is adjoint; the same definition can be given
without this assumption.) More precisely, we study the restriction of the function
$\phi_V$ to a certain subset $G(K)_{cavr}$ of $G(K)_{rs}$, that is, to the set of compact very
regular elements in $G(K)$ (see 1.2), in the case where $V$ is an irreducible unipotent
representation of $G(K)$. We show that $\phi_V|_{G(K)_{cavr}}$ takes integer values which, at
least if $V$ is tempered and $G$ is adjoint, are explicitly computable (see Theorem
4.6). We expect that the values of $\phi_V$ on compact elements of $G(K)_{rs}$ which are
not in $G(K)_{cavr}$ are much more complicated. Our results apply in particular in

Received by the editors December 12, 2012 and, in revised form, December 24, 2012 and March
6, 2013.

2010 Mathematics Subject Classification. Primary 22E50, 20G05.
Both authors are supported in part by the National Science Foundation.

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the case where $V$ is an irreducible admissible representation of $G(K)$ with nonzero vectors fixed by an Iwahori subgroup; they provide a partial generalization of the results in [KmL].

In the case $g \in G(K)_{\text{vr}}$ (see 1.2) is contained in a $K$-split torus and $V$ is Iwahori spherical, $\phi_V(g)$ can be expressed in terms of the character of the corresponding Iwahori Hecke algebra module (see Theorem 4.3 in [KmL]). In general, when $g \in G(K)_{\text{vr}}$, the problem of computing the character of a unipotent representation $V$ of $G(K)$ at $g$ can in principle be reduced to the special case where $g$ is compact very regular. Indeed, the results of [C2] reduce this problem to the computation of the character of a Jacquet module of $V$ (which is an admissible representation of finite length of a possibly smaller group with composition factors being unipotent representations computable from [BK, Cor. 8.4]) on a compact very regular element, for which the results in our paper (see Section 4) are applicable.

1.2. Notation. Let $K$ be a maximal unramified field extension of $K$. Let $\mathcal{O}$ and $\mathfrak{p}$ denote the ring of integers of $K$ and the maximal ideal of $\mathcal{O}$ respectively. Let $K^* = K - \{0\}$.

Let $g \in G_{rs} \cap G(K)$. Let $T' = T_g'$ be the maximal torus of $G$ that contains $g$.

We say that $g$ is very regular (resp. compact very regular) if $T'$ is split over $K$ and for any root $\alpha$ with respect to $T'$ viewed as a homomorphism $T'(K) \to K^*$ we have

$$\alpha(g) \notin (1 + \mathfrak{p}) \quad \text{(resp. } \alpha(g) \in \mathcal{O} - \mathfrak{p}, \alpha(g) \notin (1 + \mathfrak{p})\).$$

Let $G(K)_{\text{vr}}$ (resp. $G(K)_{\text{cvr}}$) be the set of elements in $G(K)$ which are very regular (resp. compact very regular).

Note that $G(K)_{\text{cvr}} \subset G(K)_{\text{vr}} \subset G_{rs}$. We write $G(K)_{\text{vr}} = G(K)_{\text{vr}} \cap G(K)$, $G(K)_{\text{cvr}} = G(K)_{\text{cvr}} \cap G(K)$.

We write $\mathcal{O}/p = F_q$, a finite field with $q$ elements, of characteristic $p$. Let $K_\star$ be the set of all $x \in K$ such that $x^n = 1$ for some $n \geq 1$ prime to $p$.

Let $\mathcal{P}$ (resp. $\mathcal{P}^\prime$) be the set of parahoric subgroups (see [IM], [BT]) of $G(K)$ (resp. of $G(K)$). Let $G(K)_{\text{der}}$ (resp. $G(K)_{\text{der}}$) be the derived subgroup of $G(K)$ (resp. $G(K)$). Let $G(K)^\prime$ be the subgroup of $G(K)$ generated by $G(K)_{\text{der}}$ and by an Iwahori subgroup $\left([IM], [BT]\right)$ of $G(K)$.

Let $G(K)^\prime = G(K)^\prime \cap G(K)$.

2. Compact very regular elements

2.1. This section contains a number of definitions and lemmas which will be used in the proof of the character formula in §4. (The definitions in 2.3 are an exception to this; they are only used in Lemma 2.5(c) and §5.)

Let $F : K \to K$ be the Frobenius automorphism, that is, the field automorphism whose restriction to $K_\star$ is the map $x \mapsto x^q$; then $K$ is the fixed point set of $F$.

Now $F$ induces a group isomorphism $G(K) \to G(K)$ (denoted again by $F$) whose fixed point set is $G(K)$. Note that $F$ maps any parahoric subgroup of $G(K)$ onto a parahoric subgroup of $G(K)$. The map $P \mapsto P \cap G(K)$ is a $1-1$ correspondence between the set $\{P \in \mathcal{P}; F(P) = P\}$ and $\mathcal{P}$.

Let $\mathcal{P}_0$ be the set of $P \in \mathcal{P}$ that are Iwahori subgroups. The minimal elements (under inclusion) of $\mathcal{P} - \mathcal{P}_0$ fall into finitely many $G(K)^\prime$-orbits $\mathcal{P}_i$ (under conjugation); here $I$ is a finite indexing set. If $J \subsetneq I$ let $\mathcal{P}_J$ be the set of $P \in \mathcal{P}$ such that the following holds: for $i \in I$, $P$ contains a subgroup in $\mathcal{P}_i$ if and only if $i \in J$. The sets $\mathcal{P}_i$ with $J \subsetneq I$ are exactly the $G(K)^\prime$-orbits on the set of parahoric subgroups of $G(K)$. This agrees with the earlier notation $\mathcal{P}_0^i$; for $i \in I$ we have $\mathcal{P}_0^i = \mathcal{P}_i$. 
Let $T'$ be a maximal torus of $G$ which is defined and split over $K$. We define two subgroups $T'_1, T'_2$ of $G'(K)$ as follows. Let $Y'$ be the group of cocharacters of $T'$. We can identify $K \otimes Y' = G'(K)$ in an obvious way. Let $T'_1$ (resp. $T'_2$) be the subgroup of $G'(K)$ corresponding to $K_+ \otimes Y'$ (resp. $(1 + p) \otimes Y'$) under this isomorphism; thus $T'_t$ is the set of all $t \in T'(K)$ such that $t^n = 1$ for some $n \geq 1$ prime to $p$. Let $T_{t_1} = T'_1 T'_2$, a subgroup of $T'(K)$.

We fix a maximal torus $T$ of $G$ defined and split over $K$ and an Iwahori subgroup $P$ of $G(K)$ such $F(P) = B$ and $T_{t_1} \subset B$.

Let $X$ be the group of characters of $T$. Let $R \subset X$ be the set of roots with respect to $T$. For each $\alpha \in R$ let $U_\alpha$ be the corresponding root subgroup of $G$.

Let $W$ be an indexing set for the set of $(B, B)$-double cosets in $G(K)$. We denote by $O_w$ the double coset corresponding to $w \in W$. Let $W' = \{w \in W; O_w \subset G'(K)\}$ and let $\Omega = \{w \in W; O_w \subset N(B)\}$; here $N(B)$ is the normalizer of $B$ in $G(K)$. If $i \in I$ let $P_i$ be the unique element of $P_i$ containing $B$. Then $P_i - B = O_w$ for a well defined element $w \in W$; we set $w = s_i$. For $J \subset I$ let $P_J$ be the unique subgroup in $P_J$ that contains $B$. Let $W_J$ be the subgroup of $W'$ generated by $\{s_i; i \in J\}$.

Two $(B, B)$-double cosets $O_w, O_w'$ are said to be composable if there exists $w'' \in W$ such that multiplication defines a bijection $O_w \times B O_w' \to O_{w''}$; here $B$ acts on $O_w \times O_w'$ by $b : (g, g') \mapsto (gb^{-1}, bg')$. We then set $w \cdot w' = w''$. There is a unique group structure on $W$ such that the product of $w, w'$ is $w \cdot w'$ whenever $O_w, O_w'$ are composable and $s_i^2 = 1$ for any $i \in I$. (The unit element is the $(B, B)$-double coset $B$.) Then $W'$ is the subgroup of $W$ generated by $\{s_i; i \in I\}$. This is a normal subgroup of $W$ and $\Omega$ is an abelian subgroup of $W$ which maps isomorphically onto $W / W'$. The group $W'$ together with $\{s_i; i \in I\}$ is a Coxeter group (in fact, an affine Weyl group) with length function $l : W' \to \mathbb{N}$. We extend this to a function $l : W \to \mathbb{N}$ by $l(w_1 w_2) = l(w_2 w_1) = l(w_1)$ for $w_1 \in W', w_2 \in \Omega$. Then $O_w, O_w'$ are composable precisely when $l(w w') = l(w) + l(w')$.

Now any $P \in \mathcal{P}$ has a pro-punipotent radical $U_P$ (a normal subgroup) such that $P / U_P$ is naturally a connected reductive group over $\mathbb{Q}/p$ (an algebraic closure of $F_\ell$).

The orbits of the diagonal conjugation action of $G(K)_{\text{crr}}$ on $P_0 \times P_0$ are indexed by the elements of $W'$: to $w \in W'$ corresponds the $G(K)_{\text{crr}}$-orbit of $(B, g B g^{-1})$ where $g$ is some/any element of $O_w$. We write $\text{pos}(B', B'') = w$ when the $G(K)_{\text{crr}}$-orbit of $(B', B'') \in P_0 \times P_0$ corresponds to $w \in W'$.

Let $g \in G(K)_{\text{crr}}$. Let $T' = T'_2$; then $T'$ is defined and split over $K$. We have $g \in T'_1$ hence $g = g_s g_l$ where $g_s \in T'_s, g_l \in T'_l$. From the definitions we see that $g_s \in G(K)_{\text{crr}}$. Let $P_0^g$ (resp. $P_0^{g^+}$) be the set of $B' \in P_0$ such that $g \in B'$ (resp. $g_s \in B'$). Let $P_0^{T'_s} = \{B' \in P_0; T'_s \subset B'\}, P_0^{T'_l} = \{B' \in P_0; T'_l \subset B'\}$.

Lemma 2.2. (a) With the notation above we have $P_0^g = P_0^g = P_0^{T'_s} = P_0^{T'_l}$.

(b) Given $w \in W'$ and $B' \in P_0^{T'_s} = P_0^{T'_l}$, there is a unique subgroup $B'' \in P_0^{T'_l} = P_0^g$ such that pos$(B', B'') = w$. We set $B'' = w \circ B'$. Then $w : B' \mapsto w \circ B'$ defines a free transitive action of $W'$ on the set $P_0^{T'_l} = P_0^g$.

We can assume that $T' = T$.

For any $w \in W$ and any $B_0 \in P_0^g$, let $P_0(w, B_0) = \{B' \in P_0; \text{pos}(B_0, B') = w\}$. We first show:
(c) For any \( w \in W' \), \( \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \cap \mathcal{P}_g(w, B_0) \) consists of exactly one element.

We argue by induction on \( l(w) \). When \( w = 1 \) the result is obvious; we have \( \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \cap \mathcal{P}_g(1, B_0) = \{ B_0 \} \). Assume that (c) is known when \( l(w) = 1 \). Let \( w \in W' \) with \( l(w) = l(w_1) + l(s) \), where \( l(s) = 1 \). If \( B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \cap \mathcal{P}_g(w_1, B_0) \), then there are unique \( B'_1, B'_2 \in \mathcal{P}_g \) such that \( \text{pos}(B_0, B'_1) = w_1 \), \( \text{pos}(B'_1, B_1) = s \), \( \text{pos}(B_0, B'_2) = w_1 \), \( \text{pos}(B'_2, B_2) = s \). Since \( g_s B_1 g_s^{-1} = B_0 \), \( g_s B_2 g_s^{-1} = B_1 \), we must have \( g_s B'_2 g_s^{-1} = B'_1 \) (by uniqueness of \( B'_1 \)) and similarly \( g_s B'_2 g_s^{-1} = B'_2 \). Thus \( B'_1, B'_2 \in \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \cap \mathcal{P}_g(w_1, B_0) \). By the induction hypothesis, we have \( B'_1 = B'_2 \) (which we denote by \( \beta \)). We have \( B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \cap \mathcal{P}_g(s, B_0) \).

Since (c) is assumed to hold for \( s \) instead of \( w \) we see that \( B_1 = B_2 \). Thus \( \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \cap \mathcal{P}_g(w, B_0) \) consists of at most one element. By the induction hypothesis we can find \( \beta' \in \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \cap \mathcal{P}_g(w_1, B_0) \) and by our assumption we can find \( B' \in \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \cap \mathcal{P}_g(s, \beta') \).

Then we have \( B' \in \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \cap \mathcal{P}_g(w, B_0) \). We see that (c) holds for \( w \). It remains to verify (c) in the case where \( w = s \) is of length 1. Let \( \beta \in \mathcal{P}_g(s, B_0) \). We can assume that \( \beta \) contains \( T \), hence also \( g_s \). (We can take \( \beta \) to be a conjugate of \( B_0 \) under an element of \( G(K) \) normalizing \( T \).)

We can find an injective group homomorphism \( f : O \rightarrow G(K)' \) such that \( t \mapsto f(t) \beta f(t)^{-1} \) is a bijection \( K_s \cup \{ 0 \} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_g(s, B_0) \) and \( g_s f(t) g_s^{-1} = f(x_0 t) \) for all \( t \in K_s \cup \{ 0 \} \) for some \( x_0 \in K_s - \{ 1 \} \). Then \( \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \cap \mathcal{P}_g(s, B_0) \) is in bijection with \( Z := \{ t \in K_s \cup \{ 0 \}; g_s f(t) \beta f(t)^{-1} g_s^{-1} = f(t) \beta f(t)^{-1} \} = \{ t \in K_s \cup \{ 0 \}; (f(t)^{-1} g_s f(t) \in \beta \} \). For \( t \in K_s \cup \{ 0 \} \) we have \( f(t)^{-1} g_s f(t) \in \beta \) if and only if \( f(t)^{-1} g_s f(t) = f(-t + x_0 t) \in \beta \) (since \( g_s \in \beta \)), that is, if and only if \( t(x_0 - 1) = 0 \) which is the same as \( t = 0 \) (since \( x_0 \neq 0 \)). We see that \( Z = \{ 0 \} \).

Hence \( \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \cap \mathcal{P}_g(s, B_0) \) consists of exactly one element. This completes the proof of (c).

We shall denote the unique element in (c) by \( w \circ B_0 \). Let \( \mathfrak{A} = \{ w \circ B; w \in W' \} \).

From (c) we have \( \mathcal{P}_g^\delta = \mathfrak{A} \).

Let \( B' \in \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \) and let \( t \in T \). Since \( t g_s = g_s t \), we have \( t B' t^{-1} \in \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \). Thus, if \( B' \in \mathfrak{A} \), then \( t B' t^{-1} \in \mathfrak{A} \). We have \( B' \in \mathcal{P}_g(w, B) \) for some \( w \in W' \) and \( t B' t^{-1} \in \mathcal{P}_g(w, B) \) (since \( t \in B \)). Thus both \( B' \) and \( t B' t^{-1} \) belong to \( \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \cap \mathcal{P}_g(w, B) \); hence, by (c) we have \( B' = t B' t^{-1} \) so that \( t \in B' \). We see that \( B' \in \mathcal{P}_g^T \). Thus \( \mathfrak{A} \subset \mathcal{P}_g^T \).

We can find \( n \geq 1 \) such that \( g_s^n = g_s \). We have \( \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} g_s^m = 1 \) hence \( \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} g_s^m B' g_s^{-m} = B' \) for any \( m \geq 1 \). Taking \( m \rightarrow \infty \) we deduce \( g_s B' g_s^{-1} = B' \) hence \( B' \in \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \). Thus \( \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \subset \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \). The inclusion \( \mathcal{P}_g^T \subset \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \) is obvious. Thus we have
\[
\mathcal{P}_g^T \subset \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \subset \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \subset \mathfrak{A} \subset \mathcal{P}_g^T ;
\]
hence
\[
\mathcal{P}_g^T = \mathcal{P}_g^\delta = \mathcal{P}_g^\delta = \mathfrak{A} .
\]

Clearly, we have
\[
\mathcal{P}_g^T = \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \subset \mathcal{P}_g^\delta \subset \mathcal{P}_g^T ,
\]
hence \( \mathcal{P}_g^T = \mathcal{P}_g^T \). This completes the proof of (a).

Now (b) follows immediately from (a) and (c). (Note that \( \mathcal{P}_g^T \) is nonempty; it contains \( B \).) The lemma is proved.
2.3. Let $\widetilde{G(K)}_{\text{cfr}}$ be the set of all pairs $(g, B')$ where $g \in G(K)_{\text{cfr}}$ and $B' \in P_0'$. By 2.2(b), $w : (g, B') \mapsto (g, w \circ B')$ is a free action of $W'$ on $\widetilde{G(K)}_{\text{cfr}}$ whose orbits are exactly the fibres of the first projection $p_{B_1} : G(K)_{\text{cfr}} \to G(K)_{\text{cfr}}$

Now let $A$ be a (finite dimensional) representation of $W'$. For any $g \in G(K)_{\text{cfr}}$, we define a vector space $A_g$ as the set of the $W'$-orbits on the set $P_{\emptyset}^g \times A$ for the free $W'$-action $w : (B', a) \mapsto (w \circ B', wa)$. We can think of the union $\sqcup_{g \in G(K)_{\text{cfr}}} A_g$ and its obvious projection to $G(K)_{\text{cfr}}$ as something like a "local system" $\mathcal{L}_A$ on $G(K)_{\text{cfr}}$ associated to $A$ and the principal $W'$-covering $p_{B_1}$ above.

We now define an isomorphism of local systems $\psi : F^* \mathcal{L}_A \to \mathcal{L}_A$ as the collection of isomorphisms $\psi_g : A_{F(g)} \to A_g$ (with $g \in G(K)_{\text{cfr}}$) where $\psi_g$ is induced by

$F^g(g) \times A \to P_0^g \times A, (B', a) \mapsto (F^{-1}(B'), a)$

by passage to $W'$-orbits.

We define $\tau_A : G(K)_{\text{cfr}} \to \mathbb{C}$ by $\tau_A(g) = \text{tr}(\psi_g : A_g \to A_g)$.

Lemma 2.4. Let $g \in G(K)_{\text{cfr}}$. Let $T' = T'_g$ and $g_*$ be as in 2.1. Let $P \in \mathcal{P}$.

(a) The following four conditions are equivalent: (i) $g \in P$; (ii) $g_* \in \mathcal{P}$; (iii) $T'_* \subset P$; (iv) $T'_* \subset P$.

(b) If $g \in P$ and $\tilde{g}$ is the image of $g$ in $P/U_P$, then $\tilde{g}$ is regular semisimple in $P/U_P$.

We prove (a). Assume that $g \in P$. We can find a Borel subgroup $\beta$ of $P/U_P$ which contains the image of $\tilde{g}$ of $g$ in $P/U_P$. The inverse image of $\beta$ under $P \to P/U_P$ is an Iwahori subgroup $B'$ of $G(K)$ which contains $g$ and is contained in $P$.

By 2.2(a), we have $T'_* \subset B'$, hence $T'_* \subset P$. Thus (i) implies (iv). An entirely similar proof shows that (ii) implies (iv). It is obvious that (iv) implies (iii), that (iii) implies (ii) and that (ii) implies (i). This proves (a).

We prove (b). The image of $T'_*$ under $P \to P/U_P$ is a maximal torus $T'$ of $P/U_P$ that contains $\tilde{g}$. For any root $\alpha$ of $P/U_P$, viewed as a character $T' \to \mathbb{C} \backslash \mathbb{P} - \{0\}$, the value $\alpha(\tilde{g})$ is equal to $\alpha'(g_*) \in K_*$ for some root $\alpha'$ of $G$ viewed as a character of $T'$. (We identify $K_* = \mathbb{C} \backslash \mathbb{P} - \{0\}$ in an obvious way.) Since $\alpha'(g_*) \neq 1$, we must have $\alpha(\tilde{g}) \neq 1$. This proves (b).

Lemma 2.5. Let $T'$ be a maximal torus of $G$ which is defined over $K$ and is $K$-split.

(a) There is a unique $W'$-conjugacy class $C_{T'}$ in $W'$ such that the following holds: for any $B' \in \mathcal{P}_{\emptyset}^{T'_*}$ we have $\text{pos}(B', F(B')) = w$ for some $w \in C_{T'}$.

(b) Any element of $C_{T'}$ has finite order in $W'$.

(c) Let $A$, $\tau_A$ be as in 2.3 and let $g \in G(K)_{\text{cfr}} \cap T'$. We have $\tau_A(g) = \text{tr}(w^{-1}, A) = \text{tr}(w, A)$ where $w \in C_{T'}$. Moreover, we have $\tau_A(g) \in \mathbb{Z}$.

We prove (a). It is enough to show that if $B' \in \mathcal{P}_{\emptyset}^{T'_*}$, $B'' \in \mathcal{P}_{\emptyset}^{T'_*}$ and $w'$, $w''$ in $W'$ are given by $\text{pos}(B', F(B')) = w'$, $\text{pos}(B'', F(B'')) = w''$, then $w'' = w'y^{-1}$ for some $y \in W'$. We have $F(B') \in \mathcal{P}_{\emptyset}^{T'_*}$, $F(B'') \in \mathcal{P}_{\emptyset}^{T'_*}$. From the definitions we have $F(B') = w' \circ B'$, $F(B'') = w'' \circ B''$. We have $B'' = y \circ B'$ for a unique $y \in W'$. It follows that $F(B'') = y \circ F(B')$. (Note that $F$ induces the identity map on $W'$.) Thus $w'' \circ (y \circ B') = y \circ (w' \circ B')$, that is, $(w''y) \circ B' = (yw') \circ B'$. By the freeness of the $W'$-action on $\mathcal{P}_{\emptyset}^{T'_*}$ we then have $w''y = yw'$. This proves (a).
We prove (b). Let $B' \in \mathcal{P}_H^s$. We set $\text{pos}(B', F(B')) = w$ so that $w \in C_{T'}$. Now $T'$ becomes split after a finite unramified extension of $K$. Hence there exists $s \geq 1$ such that $F^s(B') = B'$. We have $F(B') = w \circ B'$, $F^2(B') = w \circ (F(B')) = w^2 \circ B'$, $\ldots$, $F^s(B') = w^s \circ B'$. Thus $w^s \circ B' = B'$ so that $w^s = 1$. This proves (b).

The first assertion of (c) follows from the definitions. To prove the second assertion of (c) we can assume that $w \in W_H$ for some $H \subsetneq I$ so that $\text{tr}(w, A) = \text{tr}(w, A|_{W_H})$. We then use the rationality of the irreducible representations of $W_H$. The lemma is proved.

2.6. In [G], Gérardin defines a map

$$\mu : \{G(K)_{der} - \text{conjugacy classes of } K - \text{split maximal tori in } G \text{ defined over } K\}$$

$$\rightarrow \{W' - \text{conjugacy classes of elements of finite order in } W'\}$$

and shows that

(a) $\mu$ is a bijection.

(Actually in [G] it is assumed that $G$ is simply connected so that $G(K)_{der} = G(K)$ but the general case can be deduced from this.) One can show that $\mu$ is induced with the map induced by $T' \mapsto C_{T'}$ in Lemma 2.5.

We now introduce some notation which will be used in the following lemma. Let $T''$ be a maximal torus of $G$ which is defined over $K$ and is split over $K$. Using the obvious identification $K_0 = \mathcal{O}/p - \{0\}$, we can view $T''_0$ as a torus over $\mathcal{O}/p$ (identified with its group of $\mathcal{O}/p$ points) with a natural $F_0$-structure (induced by $F$). Hence $T''$ has a maximal $F'_0$-split subtorus $T''_0$ (it is the identity component of $\{t \in T''; t^p = t\}$). Now let $g \in G(K)_{citr}$. Let $T'' = T''_0$ and let $C = C_{T''}$. Using Lemma 2.5(b) we see that we can find $H \subsetneq I$ and $w \in W_H$ such that $w \in C$ and $w$ is elliptic in $W_H$.

**Lemma 2.7.** (a) There exists $P \in \mathcal{P}_H$ such that $F(P) = P$ and $T''_0 \subset P$ (hence $g \in P$; see Lemma 2.4(a)).

(b) There exists a $G(K)_{der}$-conjugate $g'$ of $g$ such that $g' \in \mathcal{P}_H$ and the maximal $(T''_0)^{ss} \subset T_s$.

Let $B'' \in \mathcal{P}_d^s$. Then $F(B'') = w' \circ B''$ for a unique $w' \in C$. We have $w' = wyw^{-1}$ for some $y \in W'$. Setting $B' = y^{-1} \circ B''$, we have $B' \in \mathcal{P}_d^s$, $F(B') = w \circ B'$ hence $\text{pos}(B', F(B')) = w$. Define $P \in \mathcal{P}_H$ by $B' \subset P$. Then we have automatically $F(B') \subset P$ (since $\text{pos}(B', F(B')) \in W_H$). We have also $F(B') \subset F(P)$. Since $F(B')$ is contained in a unique parahoric subgroup in $\mathcal{P}_H$, we must have $F(P) = P$. We have $T''_0 \subset P$ and (a) is proved.

We prove (b). Let $P$ be as in (a). The image of $T_{ss}$ under $pr : P \rightarrow P/U_P$ is a torus of $P/U_P$ defined and split over $F_q$ and we can find a Borel subgroup $\beta$ of $P$ defined over $F_q$ that contains this torus. Now $pr^{-1}(\beta)$ is an Iwahori subgroup $\beta'$ of $G(K)$ such that $\beta' \subset P$, $F(\beta') = \beta'$ and $T_{ss} \subset \beta'$. We can find a maximal torus $T''$ of $G$ defined and split over $K$ such that $T''_0 \subset \beta'$. Now $T''_0$ viewed as a torus over $\mathcal{O}/p$ is an $F_0$-split torus in $\beta'$. We can find $x \in \beta' \cap G(K)$ such that $T''_0 \subset xT''x^{-1}$. Replacing $T''_0$ by $xT''x^{-1}$ we can assume that $T''_0 \subset T''_0 \subset \beta'$. We can find $z \in G(K)_{der}$ such that $zT''_0z^{-1} = T''_0z^{-1} = B$. Let $g' = zg^{-1}$, $P' = zPz^{-1}$. We have $B \subset P'$, $P' \in \mathcal{P}_H$ hence $P' = P_H$. We have $T''_0 = zT''_0z^{-1}$, $(zT''_0z^{-1})^{ss} \subset T_s$, $g' \in P'$. This proves (b).
Lemma 2.8. Assume that $g \in G(K)_{\text{cur}}$, $g' \in G(K)_{\text{cur}}$ are contained in the same maximal torus $T'$ of $G$. If $P$ is a minimal $F$-stable parahoric subgroup of $G(K)$ containing $g$, then $P$ is a minimal $F$-stable parahoric subgroup of $G(K)$ containing $g'$.

This follows from the following statement.

If $P \subset P'$, then the following two conditions are equivalent: (i) $g \in P$ and (ii) $g' \in P'$.

Indeed, by Lemma 2.4(a), both conditions are equivalent to the condition that $T' \subset P$.

3. Recollections on affine Hecke algebras

3.1. Our proof of the character formula in §4 will involve detailed information on the affine Hecke algebras which appear in the study of unipotent representations. In preparation for that proof, we now review some definitions and results of [LA]. (In [LA], $G$ is assumed to be adjoint but the results of [LA] that we use in this section extend with the same proof to the general case.)

We set $B := B \cap G(K)$; this is an Iwahori subgroup of $G(K)$.

For any $J \subsetneq B$, let $P_J$ be the set of $P \in \mathcal{P}$ of the form $P \cap G(K)$ where $P \in \mathcal{P}_J$ is $F$-stable. The sets $P_J$ are exactly the orbits of $G(K)'$ on $\mathcal{P}$ (under conjugation). Let $P_J$ be the unique subgroup in $\mathcal{P}_J$ that contains $B$.

Now any $P \in \mathcal{P}$ has a prounipotent radical $U_P$ (a normal subgroup) such that the quotient $P = P/U_P$ is naturally the group of $F_q$-points of a connected reductive group defined and split over $F_q$.

3.2. We now fix $J \subsetneq B$ and a unipotent cuspidal (irreducible) representation (over $C$) of the finite group $P$ where $P = P_J$; let $E$ be the vector space (over $C$) of this representation. We regard $E$ as a $P$-module via the surjective homomorphism $P \rightarrow \hat{P}$.

Let $X$ be the $C$-vector space consisting of all functions $f : G(K) \rightarrow E$ such that $f(gh) = h^{-1}f(g)$ for all $g \in G(K), h \in P$ and $\text{supp}(f) = \{ g \in G(K) ; f(g) \neq 0 \}$ is contained in a union of finitely many $P$-cosets in $G(K)/P$. For $g' \in G(K)$ and $f \in X$, we define $g'f : G(K) \rightarrow E$ by $(g'f)(g) = f(g'^{-1}g)$. Then $g'f \in X$. This defines a representation of $G(K)$ on the vector space $X$. We have a direct sum decomposition $X = \bigoplus_{gP} X_{gP}$ where $gP$ runs over the cosets $G(K)/P$ and $X_{gP} = \{ f \in X ; \text{supp}(f) \subset gP \}$. Let $\mathcal{H}$ be the endomorphism algebra of the $(G(K)$-module $X$. For any $(P,P)$-double coset $\Theta$ in $G(K)$, we denote by $\mathcal{H}_\Theta$ the set consisting of those $\psi \in \mathcal{H}$ such that $\psi(X_{gP}) \subset \bigoplus_{g'P \in G(K)/P, g'^{-1} \in \Theta} X_{g'P}$ for some $gP \in G(K)/P$ or equivalently any $gP \in G(K)/P$. We say that $\Theta$ (as above) is good if for some (or equivalently any) $g \in \Theta$, we have $U_P(P \cap gPg^{-1}) = P$. If $\Theta$ is a good double coset, then $\dim \mathcal{H}_\Theta = 1$; if $\Theta$ is not a good double coset, then $\mathcal{H}_\Theta = 0$. Hence $\mathcal{H} = \bigoplus_\Theta \mathcal{H}_\Theta$ where $\Theta$ runs over the good $(P,P)$-double cosets in $G(K)$.

3.3. Let $\text{Irr}(G(K); P, E)$ be the set of irreducible admissible representations $(V, \sigma)$ of $G(K)$ (up to isomorphism) with the following property: the (necessarily finite dimensional) vector space $V^{U_P}$ of $U_P$-invariants, regarded as a $P$-module in an obvious way, contains the $P$-module $E$. An irreducible admissible representation of $G(K)$ is said to be unipotent if it belongs to $\text{Irr}(G(K); P, E)$ for some $P, E$ as in 3.2.
Again, we now fix \( P, E \) as in 3.2 and we fix \( (V, \sigma) \in \text{Irr}(G(K); P, E) \). By a version of Frobenius reciprocity we have an isomorphism \( \text{Hom}_{G(K)}(X, V) \cong \text{Hom}_P(E, V) \) induced by the imbedding \( E \rightarrow X \) which takes \( e \in E \) to the function \( f_e : G(K) \rightarrow E \) given by \( h \mapsto h^{-1}e \) if \( h \in P \) and \( g \mapsto 0 \) if \( g \notin P \). Since \( \text{Hom}_{G(K)}(X, V) \) is an \( H \)-module in an obvious way, we see that \( \text{Hom}_P(E, V) \) is naturally an \( H \)-module. Clearly, we have \( \text{Hom}_P(E, V) = \text{Hom}_P(E, V^{U_P}) \). Hence \( \text{Hom}_P(E, V^{U_P}) \) (a finite dimensional \( C \)-vector space) becomes an \( H \)-module.

If \( \Theta \) is a \((P, P)\)-double coset in \( G(K) \), then \( \Theta \) is a union \( \cup_w (O_w \cap G(K)) \) where \( w \) runs over a \((P, P)\)-double coset in \( W \). This gives a \( 1-1 \) correspondence between the set of \((P, P)\)-double cosets in \( G(K) \) and the set of \((W_J, W_J)\)-double cosets in \( W \). A \((P, P)\)-double coset is good and only if the corresponding \((W_J, W_J)\)-double coset in \( W \) is contained in \( NW_J \), the normalizer of \( W_J \) in \( W \). In each \((W_J, W_J)\)-double coset in \( W \) contained in \( NW_J \), there is a unique element of minimal length. Hence the set \( \mathcal{W} \) consisting of the elements of minimal length in the various \((W_J, W_J)\)-double cosets in \( W \) contained in \( NW_J \) is an indexing set for the set of good \((P, P)\)-double cosets in \( G(K) \). We denote the good \((P, P)\)-double coset corresponding to an element \( w \in \mathcal{W} \) by \( \Theta_w \). Actually, \( \mathcal{W} \) is a subgroup of \( NW_J \).

We have \( \mathcal{H} = \oplus_{w \in \mathcal{W}} \mathcal{H}_{\Theta_w} \) with dim \( \mathcal{H}_{\Theta_w} = 1 \) for any \( w \in \mathcal{W} \). As in [L4], we see that this decomposition gives rise to a description of \( \mathcal{H} \) as an (extended) affine Hecke algebra with explicitly known (possibly unequal) parameters.

3.4. Let \( H \leq I \) be such that \( J \subset H \) and let \( Q = P_H, Q = P_{H'} \). Now \( \beta := B/U_Q \) is the group of \( F_q \)-points of a Borel subgroup defined over \( F_q \) of the reductive group \( Q/U_Q \) defined and split over \( F_q \) and \( \pi := P/U_Q \) is the group of \( F_q \)-points of a parabolic subgroup of that reductive group with \( \beta \subset \pi \). Let \( \kappa : Q \rightarrow \bar{Q} \) be the canonical homomorphism. The subsets \( \kappa(O_w \cap G(K)) (w \in W_H) \) are exactly the \((\beta, \beta)\)-double cosets in \( Q \) hence \( W_H \) can be identified with the Weyl group of \( Q/U_Q \) in \( \bar{Q} \). For any parabolic subgroup \( \pi' \) of \( \bar{Q} \), we denote by \( u_{\pi'} \), the unipotent radical of \( \pi' \).

Let \( \mathcal{X}_H \) be the \( C \)-vector space consisting of all functions \( f : \bar{Q} \rightarrow E \) such that \( f(gh) = h^{-1}f(g) \) for all \( g \in \bar{Q}, h \in \pi \). (Note that \( E \) is naturally a \( \pi \)-module on which \( u_{\pi} := U_P/U_Q \) acts trivially.)

For \( g' \in \bar{Q}, f' \in \mathcal{X}_H \), we define \( g'f : \bar{Q} \rightarrow E \) by \( (g'f)(g) = f(g^{-1}g') \). Then \( g'f \in \mathcal{X}_H \). This defines a representation of \( \bar{Q} \) on the vector space \( \mathcal{X}_H \). We have a direct sum decomposition \( \mathcal{X}_H = \oplus_{\pi} \mathcal{X}_{H, \pi} \) where \( \pi \) runs over the cosets \( Q/\pi \) and \( \mathcal{X}_{H, \pi} = \{ f \in \mathcal{X}_H; \text{supp}(f) \in \pi \} \). Let \( \mathcal{H}_H \) be the endomorphism algebra of the \( \bar{Q} \)-module \( \mathcal{X}_H \). If \( f \in \mathcal{X}_H \), we define \( f' \in \mathcal{X} \) by \( f'(g) = f(\kappa(g)) \) if \( g \in Q \) and \( f'(g) = 0 \) if \( g \in G(K) - Q \). We regard \( \mathcal{X}_H \) as a subspace of \( \mathcal{X} \) via \( f \mapsto f' \). Let \( \mathcal{H}' = \oplus_{\Theta} \mathcal{H}_{\Theta} \subset \mathcal{X} \) where \( \Theta \) runs over the good \((P, P)\)-double cosets in \( G(K) \) that are contained in \( Q \). This is a subalgebra of \( \mathcal{H} \) which can be identified with \( \mathcal{H}_H \) in such a way that the \( \mathcal{H}' \)-module structure on \( \mathcal{X}_H \) (restriction of the \( \mathcal{H} \)-module structure on \( \mathcal{X} \)) coincides with the obvious \( \mathcal{H}_H \)-module structure on \( \mathcal{X}_H \). Thus \( \mathcal{H}_H \) may be identified with a subalgebra of \( \mathcal{H} \) (namely \( \mathcal{H}' \)).

3.5. The finite dimensional vector space \( V^{U_Q} \) of \( U_Q \)-invariants on \( V \) is naturally a \( \bar{Q} \)-module (since \( Q \) normalizes \( U_Q \)). This \( \bar{Q} \)-module can be decomposed as \( E_1 \oplus E_2 \oplus E_r \) where \( E_1, \ldots, E_r \) are irreducible \( Q \)-modules. We show:

(a) For any \( i \in [1, r] \), the space of invariants \( E_i^{U_P/U_Q} \) is nonzero and (when regarded as a \( P/U_P \)-module in the obvious way) is a direct sum of copies of \( E \).
By a known property (see [L1 3.25]) of unipotent representations of finite reductive groups (applied to the \( Q/U_Q \)-module \( E_i \)), it is enough to show that the \( \pi/u_\pi \)-module \( E_i^{u_\pi} \) contains a copy of \( E \) (it is then nonzero and a direct sum of copies of \( E \)).

We can find a parabolic subgroup \( \pi' \) of \( Q/U_Q \) and an irreducible cuspidal representation \( E_0 \) of \( \pi' \) such that the \( \pi'/u_{\pi'} \)-module \( E_0^{u_{\pi'}} \) contains \( E_0 \). Then the \( \pi'/u_{\pi'} \)-module \( (V^{U_Q})^{u_{\pi'}} \) contains \( E_0 \). Let \( P' \) be the inverse image of \( \pi' \) under \( Q \to Q/U_Q \); then \( P' \in P \) is contained in \( Q \) and the \( P'/U_{P'} \)-module \( (V^{U_Q})^{U_{P'}} \) contains \( E_0 \). (We have \( P'/U_{P'} = \pi'/u_{\pi'} \).) Replacing \( P' \) by a \( Q \)-conjugate, we can assume that \( P' = P_i \) for some \( i \in J \). We have \( U_Q \subset U_{P'} \) since \( U_{P'} \subset U_Q \) and \( (V^{U_Q})^{U_{P'}} = V^{U_{P'}}. \) Thus the \( P'/U_{P'} \)-module \( V^{U_{P'}} \) contains \( E_0 \). By the uniqueness of cuspidal support of \( V \), we see that \( E_0 \) is a unipotent (cuspidal) representation, and then using [L4 1.16(b)], we see that we can find \( g' \in G(K) \) such that \( \text{Ad}(g') \) carries \( P \) to \( P' \) and \( E \) to a representation isomorphic to \( E_0 \). In particular, we have \( \ell(J) = \ell(J_i) \). We also see that the reductive quotients of the parabolic subgroups \( \pi \) and \( \pi' \) of \( Q/U_Q \) both admit unipotent cuspidal representations. By the classification of unipotent cuspidal representations [L3], we see that these two parabolic subgroups are conjugate under \( Q/U_Q \). Hence \( P, P' \) are conjugate under \( Q \) and in particular under \( G(K) \). Since \( P = P_i \) and \( P' = P_i \) it follows that \( P = P' \) and \( g' \) above is such that \( \text{Ad}(g') \) carries \( P \) to \( P' \) and \( E \) to a representation isomorphic to \( E_0 \). By [L4 1.16], \( \text{Ad}(g') \) carries \( E \) to a representation isomorphic to \( E \). Thus, \( E_0 \) is isomorphic to \( E \). We see that the \( P/U_P \)-module \( E_i^{U_P/U_Q} \) contains a copy of \( E \). This completes the proof of (a).

Replacing \( Q \) by \( P \) in (a), we deduce:

(b) The (finite dimensional) \( P/U_P \)-module \( V^{U_P} \) is \( E \)-isotypic.

3.6. We preserve the setup of 3.4.

Let \( C_1 \) be the category of (finite dimensional) representations \( V \) of \( Q/U_Q \) such that the \( \pi'/u_{\pi'} \)-module \( V^{u_{\pi'}} \) of \( u_{\pi'} \)-invariants is a direct sum of copies of \( E \) and it generates the \( Q/U_Q \)-module \( V \). Note that each irreducible object in \( C_1 \) is a unipotent representation of \( Q/U_Q \) which belongs to \( C_1 \). Let \( C_2 \) be the category of (finite dimensional) representations of the Hecke algebra \( H_H \). Let \( V \in C_1 \). By Frobenius reciprocity we have an isomorphism \( \text{Hom}_{Q/U_Q}(X_H, V) \cong \text{Hom}_{\pi}(E, V) \) induced by the imbedding \( E \to X_H \) which takes \( e \in E \) to the function \( f_e : Q/U_Q \to E \) given by \( h \mapsto h^{-1} e \) if \( h \in \pi \) and \( g \mapsto 0 \) if \( g \notin \pi \). Since \( \text{Hom}_{Q/U_Q}(X_H, V) \) is an \( H_H \)-module in an obvious way, we see that \( \text{Hom}_{\pi}(E, V) \) is naturally an \( H_H \)-module. Clearly, we have \( \text{Hom}_{\pi}(E, V) = \text{Hom}_{\pi/u_{\pi}}(E, V^{u_{\pi}}) \). Hence \( V_E := \text{Hom}_{\pi/u_{\pi}}(E, V^{u_{\pi}}) \) is an object of \( C_2 \). Note that \( V \mapsto V_E \) is an equivalence of categories.

For each \( D \in C_2 \), we denote by \([D]\) the object of \( C_1 \) (well defined up to isomorphism) such that \([D]_E \cong D \) in \( C_2 \).

By 3.5(a), we have \( V^{U_Q} \in C_1 \) and

\[(V^{U_Q})_E = \text{Hom}_{\pi/u_{\pi}}(E, V^{U_Q}) = \text{Hom}_{\pi/u_{\pi}}(E, (V^{U_Q})^{u_{\pi}}) = \text{Hom}_{P}(E, V^{U_P}) \in C_2 \]

hence

\[V^{U_Q} \cong [\text{Hom}_{P}(E, V^{U_P})].\]

From the definitions we see that the \( H_H \)-module \( \text{Hom}_{P}(E, V^{U_P}) \) is the restriction of the \( H \)-module \( \text{Hom}_{P}(E, V^{U_P}) \) (see 3.3) to the subalgebra \( H_H \). We see that:
3.7. Let $P = P_I$, $E$ be as in 3.2 and let $(V, \sigma)$ be as in 3.3. Let $H \not\subseteq I$, $Q = P_H$, $Q = P_{\overline{H}}$ as in 3.4. Let $E$ be the $\mathcal{H}$-module $\text{Hom}_P(E, V_{U'})$. Let $\gamma \in \text{G}(K)_{\text{crr}}$ be such that $\gamma \in Q = P_H$. Let $T' = T_{\gamma}$. Let $\bar{\gamma}$ be the image of $\gamma$ in $Q/U_Q$. Note that $\bar{\gamma}$ is an $F_q$-rational regular semisimple element of $Q/U_Q$, see Lemma 2.4(b). Let $c$ be the conjugacy class of $W_H$ defined as follows: if $\beta' \in \text{G}(K)_{\text{crr}}$ is a Borel subgroup of $Q/U_Q$ containing $\bar{\gamma}$ and $\beta''$ is the image of $\beta'$ under the Frobenius map then the relative position of $\beta', \beta''$ belongs to $c$. Note that $c \subset C_{T^*}$ where $C_{T^*}$ is the conjugacy class in $W'$ associated to $T'$ in Lemma 2.5(a). For any $v \in c$ let $R_w$ be the virtual representation of the finite reductive group $Q/U_Q$ associated to $w$ as in [DL]. Since $R_w$ is independent of $w$ as long as $w \in c$, we denote it by $R^c_H$. According to [DL, 2.9] for any unipotent representation $E$ of $Q/U_Q$, we have

$$\text{tr}(\bar{\gamma}, E) = (E : R^c_H)$$

where $(:)$ denotes multiplicity. Now 3.6 implies

(a) \[ \text{tr}(\gamma, V_{U'}) = \sum_{i \in [1, r]} \text{tr}(\bar{\gamma}, [D_i]) = \sum_{i \in [1, r]} ([D_i] : R^c_{U'}) \in \mathbb{Z}. \]

3.8. For $V, P$ as above and for $Q = P_H$ with $H \not\subseteq I$ (but without assuming that $P \subset Q$), we show:

(a) If $V_{U'} \neq 0$, then $J \subset \omega(H)$ for some $\omega \in \Omega$.

(Note that $\Omega$ (see 2.1) acts by conjugation on $\{s_i; i \in I\}$ and this induces an action of $\Omega$ on $I$.) The proof is almost a repetition of that of 3.5(a).

We can find a parabolic subgroup $\pi'$ of $Q/U_Q$ and an irreducible cuspidal representation $E_0$ of $\pi'/u_{\pi'}$ such that the $\pi'/u_{\pi'}$-module $E_0^\pi_1$ contains $E_0$. Then the $\pi'/u_{\pi'}$-module $(V_{U'})^\pi_{u_{\pi'}}$ contains $E_0$. Let $P'$ be the inverse image of $\pi'$ under $Q \to Q/U_Q$; then $P' \in P$ is contained in $Q$ and the $P'/U_{P'}$-module $(V_{U'})_{U_{P'}}$ contains $E_0$. (We have $P'/U_{P'} = \pi'/u_{\pi'}$.) Replacing $P'$ by a $Q$-conjugate we can assume that $P' = P_I$, for some $J_1 \subset H$. We have $U_Q \subseteq U_{P'}$ hence $V_{U_{P'}} \subseteq V_Q$ and $(V_{U'})_{U_{P'}} = V_{U_{P'}}$. Thus, the $P'/U_{P'}$-module $V_{U_{P'}}$ contains $E_0$. By the uniqueness of cuspidal support of $V$, we see that $E_0$ is an unipotent (cuspidal) representation, and then using [L4, 1.6(b)], we see that we can find $g' \in \text{G}(K)$ such that $\text{Ad}(g')$ carries $P$ to $P'$ and $E$ to a representation isomorphic to $E_0$. In particular, we have $\text{Ad}(g')(P) \subset Q$, proving (a).

4. The character formula

4.1. Let $T$ be as in 1.2 and let $B$ be as in 3.1. Let $J \not\subseteq I$, $P = P_I$, $E$ be as in 3.2 and let $(V, \sigma)$ be as in 3.3. Let $\phi_V$ be as in 1.1.

Let $\gamma \in \text{G}(K)_{\text{crr}}$. We want to compute $\phi_V(\gamma)$. As in Lemma 2.7(b) we associate to $\gamma$ a subset $H \not\subseteq I$ so that (after replacing if necessary $\gamma$ by a $\text{G}(K)_{\text{der}}$-conjugate), $Q := P_H$ contains $\gamma$ and (setting $T' = T_{\gamma}$) we have $T'_{ss} \subset T_s$ (notation of Lemma 2.7). Let $M$ be the centralizer of $T'_{ss}$ (see Lemma 2.7); this is the Levi subgroup of a parabolic subgroup of $G$. Let $T'_{1}$ (resp. $T'_0$) be the maximal compact subgroup (resp. the maximal pro-p subgroup) of $T'(K)$. Let $Q = Q_0, Q_1, Q_2, \cdots$
be the strictly decreasing Moy-Prasad filtration \([MP]\) of \(Q\). Then \(Q_1 = U_Q\). By \([AK, MS]\),

(a) \(\phi_V\) is constant on \(\bigcup_{x \in G(K)} x^{-1}T'_1x^{-1}\).

**Proposition 4.2.** \(\gamma Q_1 \subseteq \bigcup_{x \in G(K)} x^{-1}T'_1x^{-1}\).

For \(n \geq 0\) we set \(M_n := M \cap Q_n, T'_n = T' \cap Q_n\). (This agrees with the earlier definition of \(T'', T'_1\).) Note that \(Q_0/Q_1 \simeq M_0/M_1\) and \(Q_i/Q_{i+1}\) is abelian for \(i \geq 1\). Moreover, \(M_0/M_1\) (resp. \(T'_0/T'_1\)) is the group of the \(F_q\)-points of a reductive group over \(F_q\) whose Lie algebra is denoted by \(m\) (resp. \(t')\).

We need the following two lemmas:

**Lemma 4.3.** Let \(n \geq 1\) and \(\gamma \gamma' \in \gamma T'_1\). Then, for any \(z_n \in M_n\), there exist \(g_n \in M_n\), \(\gamma_n \in T'_n\) such that \(g_n \gamma' z_n g_n^{-1} \in \gamma' \gamma_n M_{n+1}\).

If \(M_n = M_{n+1}\), one can take \(z_n = 1 = g_n\). If \(M_n \neq M_{n+1}\), there is a natural isomorphism \(\iota_n : M_n/M_{n+1} \to t'(F_q) \oplus (m/t')(F_q)\). Note that since \(\gamma \in G(K)_{\text{cwr}}\), \(d := \text{Ad}(\gamma^{-1}) - 1\) induces an isomorphism \((m/t')(F_q) \to (m/t')(F_q)\). Let \(z_n \in M_n\) and \(\iota_n(z_n) = t_n + m_n\) with \(t_n \in t'(F_q)\) and \(m_n \in (m/t')(F_q)\). Choose \(\gamma_n \in T'_n\) and \(g_n \in M_n\) so that \(\iota_n(\gamma_n) = t_n\) and \(\iota_n(g_n) = -m_n\). Then \(\gamma^{-1} g_n \gamma' z_n g_n^{-1} \in \gamma' \gamma_n M_{n+1}\). Setting \(z_{n+1} = \gamma^{-1} g_n \gamma' z_n g_n^{-1}\), we have \(g_n \gamma' z_n g_n^{-1} = \gamma' \gamma_n z_{n+1} \in \gamma' \gamma_n M_{n+1}\).

**Lemma 4.4.** Let \(n \geq 1\). For any \(\gamma \gamma' \in \gamma T'_1\) and \(z \in Q_n\), there exist \(g \in Q_n, \gamma_n \in T'_n\) and \(\gamma' \gamma' \in Q_{n+1}\) such that \(\text{Ad}(g)(\gamma z) = \gamma' \gamma_n \gamma'\).

Let \(Z = \{a \in R : U_0 \cap Q_n \supseteq U_0 \cap Q_{n+1}\}\). If \(Z = \emptyset\), then \(Q_n = M_n Q_{n+1}\). Hence \(z = z_n \gamma'\) for some \(z_n \in M_n\), \(\gamma' \in Q_{n+1}\) and one can take \(g = g_n\) and \(\gamma_n\) as in Lemma 4.3. If \(Z \neq \emptyset\), then \(M_n = M_{n+1}\) and \(T'_n = T'_{n+1}\). Moreover, since \(\gamma \in G(K)_{\text{cwr}}\), \(d := \text{Ad}(\gamma^{-1}) - 1\) induces an isomorphism \(Q_n/Q_{n+1} \to Q_n/Q_{n+1}\). Let \(g \in Q_n\) be such that \(d(g) = z^{-1}\). Then, \(\gamma^{-1} g\gamma z g^{-1} \in Q_{n+1}\). Setting \(z' = \gamma^{-1} g\gamma z g^{-1}\) and \(\gamma_n = 1\), we have \(g\gamma' z g^{-1} = \gamma' \gamma_n z' \in \gamma' \gamma_n Q_{n+1}\).

Continuing with the proof of Proposition 4.2, let \(\gamma_0 = \gamma\) and \(z_1 \in Q_1\). We will construct inductively sequences \(g_1, g_2, \ldots, t_1, \ldots, 2\) and \(z_1, z_2, \ldots\) such that \(g_i \in Q_i, \gamma_i \in T'_i, z_i \in Q_i\) and

\[
\text{Ad}(g_k \cdots g_2 g_1)(\gamma_0 z_1) = \text{Ad}(g_k)(\gamma_0 \gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_{k-1} z_k) = (\gamma_0 \gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_{k-1} z_k).
\]

Applying Lemma 4.4 with \(n = 1\), \(\gamma' = \gamma_0\) and \(z = z_1\), we find \(\gamma_1 \in T'_1\) and \(z_2 \in Q_2\) such that \(g_1 \gamma_0 z_1 g_1^{-1} = \gamma_0 \gamma_1 z_2\) with \(\gamma_1 \in T'_1\) and \(z_2 \in Q_2\). Suppose that we have found \(g_i \in Q_i, z_{i+1} \in Q_{i+1}\) and \(\gamma_i \in T'_i\) for \(i = 1, \ldots, k\) where \(k \geq 1\). Applying Lemma 4.4 with \(n = k + 1\), \(\gamma' = \gamma_0 \gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_k\) and \(z = z_{k+1}\), we find \(g_{k+1} \in Q_{k+1}, \gamma_{k+1} \in T'_{k+1}\) and \(z_{k+2} \in Q_{k+2}\) such that

\[
g_{k+1} \gamma_0 \gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_k z_{k+1} g_{k+1}^{-1} = \text{Ad}(g_{k+1} \cdots g_2 g_1)(\gamma_0 z_1) = \gamma_0 \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_{k+1} z_{k+2}.
\]

Taking \(g \in Q_1\) to be the limit of \(g_k \cdots g_2 g_1\) as \(k \to \infty\), we have \(\text{Ad}(g)(\gamma z_1) \in \gamma T'_1\). This completes the proof of Proposition 4.2.

Note that \(\gamma\) acts on \(V^{Q_1} = V^{U_Q}\) since \(\gamma\) normalizes \(Q_1\).

**Proposition 4.5.** \(\phi_V(\gamma) = \text{tr}(\gamma, V^{U_Q})\).

If \(f : G(K) \to C\) is any locally constant function with compact support then there is a well-defined linear map \(\sigma_f : V \to V\) such that for any \(x \in V\) we have
σ_f(x) = \int_G f(g)σ(g)(x)dg. (dg is the Haar measure on G(K) for which vol(B) = 1). This linear map has finite rank hence it has a well-defined trace tr(σ_f) ∈ C.

Note that Q_1γQ_1 = γQ_1. Let f_γ be the characteristic function of γQ_1. Then, by 4.1(a) and Proposition 4.2 we have

\[ \text{tr}(σ_{f_γ}) = \int_G f_γ(g)φ_V(g)dg \]

\[ = \int_{Q_1γQ_1} φ_V(γ)dg = vol(Q_1γQ_1)φ_V(γ) = vol(Q_1)φ_V(γ). \]

Moreover, σ_f, maps V onto V^{Q_1}, and on V^{Q_1}, it is equal to σ(γ) times vol(Q_1). Hence tr(σ_{f_γ}) = tr(σ_f; V^{Q_1}) = vol(Q_1)tr(σ(γ))|V^{Q_1}| and the proposition follows.

Note that the proposition above is in fact valid (with the same proof) for any irreducible admissible (not necessarily unipotent) representation V of depth 0 of G(K). We now state the main result of this paper.

**Theorem 4.6.** We preserve the setup of 4.1.

(a) If J ⊈ ω(H) for any ω ∈ Ω then φ_V(γ) = 0.

(b) Assume that J ⊂ H. Then

\[ φ_V(γ) = \sum_{i∈[1,r]} ([D_i] : R^H_γ) ∈ Z \]

(notation of 3.7).

We prove (a). Assume that φ_V(γ) ≠ 0. By Proposition 4.5 we then have V^{UQ} ≠ 0 hence by 3.8(a), P_J ⊂ P_{ω(H)} for some ω ∈ Ω. It follows that J ⊂ ω(H) and (a) is proved. Now (b) is obtained by combining Proposition 4.5 with 3.7(a).

4.7. The case where J ⊂ ω(H) for some ω ∈ Ω can be reduced to the case Theorem 4.6(b) as follows. Let ω be an element in the normalizer of B in G(K) that represents ω; we can assume that ω normalizes T. Let γ' = ω^{-1}γω, Q = ω^{-1}Qω^{-1} = P_{ω^{-1}(H)}. Now Theorem 4.6(b) is applicable to γ', Q instead of γ, Q and it yields a formula for φ_V(γ'). Since γ, γ' are conjugate in G(K), we have φ_V(γ) = φ_V(γ') so that we get a formula for φ_V(γ).

4.8. Let C be a conjugacy class of elements of finite order in W' and let γ', γ'' be two elements in G(K)_{cvr} such that (denoting by T', T'' the maximal tori in G that contain γ', γ'') we have C_{T'} = C_{T''} = C. We show:

(a) φ_V(γ') = φ_V(γ'').

(It follows that φ_V(γ) is independent of γ as long as γ ∈ G(K)_{cvr} gives rise to a fixed conjugacy class in W'.)

We can assume that γ' = γ and Q = PH are as in 4.1. We can also assume that T'' = T' so that γ'' ∈ T'. Using Lemma 2.8, we see that Q is a minimal parahoric subgroup of G(K) containing γ''. Using Theorem 4.6 and 4.7, we now see that (a) holds.

5. **Examples and comments**

5.1. In this and the next two subsections, we assume that G is adjoint. We denote by G^* a semisimple group over C of type dual to that of G. The unipotent representations of G(K) were classified in [LA] (extending the classification in [KL] of Iwahori-spherical representations). Namely in [LA] 5.21, a bijection is established
between the set \( \mathcal{U} \) of unipotent representations of \( G(K) \) (up to isomorphism) and the set \( \mathfrak{S} \) consisting of all triples \( (s, u, \rho) \) (modulo the natural action of \( G^* \)) where \( s \) is a semisimple element of \( G^* \), \( u \) is a unipotent element of \( G^* \) such that \( sus^{-1} = u^q \) and \( \rho \) is an irreducible representation (up to isomorphism) of the group \( Z(s, u) \) of components of the centralizer \( Z(s, u) \) of \( s \) and \( u \) in \( G^* \) such that the centre of \( G^* \) acts trivially on \( \rho \); let \( V_{s, u, \rho} \) be the unipotent representation corresponding to \( (s, u, \rho) \).

In the case where \( V = V_{s, u, \rho} \) in Theorem 4.6 is tempered, the definition of \( V \) in terms of equivariant homology given in [L4] shows that the restriction of the module \( \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{H}}(\mathbb{E}, V_{s, u, \rho}) \) (see 3.3) to the subalgebra \( \mathcal{H}_H \) is explicitly computable (in terms of generalized Green functions); moreover, the multiplicities \( ([D_1]: R^{\mathcal{H}} H) \) in Theorem 4.6(b) are also explicitly known from [L3, 4.23] (in terms of the nonabelian Fourier transform of \( \mathcal{L}_3 \, 4.14 \)). We see that in this case the character values \( \phi_V(\gamma) \) in Theorem 4.6 are explicitly computable integers.

5.2. In this and next two subsections, we assume that \( G \) is of type \( G_2, F_4 \) or \( E_8 \).

For any finite group \( \Gamma \), let \( M(\Gamma) \) be the set of all pairs \( (y, r) \) where \( y \) is an element of \( \Gamma \) defined up to conjugacy and \( r \) is an irreducible representation of the centralizer \( Z_\Gamma(y) \) of \( y \) in \( \Gamma \), up to isomorphism.

We have a partition \( \mathfrak{S} = \bigsqcup \mathfrak{S}_c \) where \( c \) runs over the unipotent conjugacy classes in \( G^* \) and \( \mathfrak{S}_c \) is the set of (equivalence classes of) triples \( (s, u, \rho) \) in \( \mathfrak{S} \) with \( u \in c \). Let \( \mathcal{U}_c \) be the subset of \( \mathcal{U} \) corresponding to \( \mathfrak{S} \) under the bijection \( \mathcal{U} \leftrightarrow \mathfrak{S} \) in 5.1.

Now assume that \( c \) is a distinguished unipotent class in \( G^* \) and let \( u \in c \). Let \( \Gamma \) (resp. \( \Gamma' \)) be the group of connected components of \( \tilde{\Gamma} = \{ g \in G^* ; gug^{-1} = g \} \) (resp. of \( \tilde{\Gamma}' = \{ (g, \lambda) \in G^* \times C^* ; gug^{-1} = u^\lambda \} \)). The obvious imbedding \( \tilde{\Gamma} \to \tilde{\Gamma}' \) induces an isomorphism \( \tilde{\Gamma} \cong \tilde{\Gamma}' \).

If \( (s, u, \rho) \) represents an element of \( \mathfrak{S}_c \) then the connected component of \( (s, q) \) in \( \tilde{\Gamma}' \) can be identified with a connected component of \( \tilde{\Gamma} \) hence with an element \( y \in \Gamma \); moreover \( \rho \) can be viewed as an irreducible representation \( r \) of \( Z_\Gamma(y) \). Thus \( \mathfrak{S}_c \) is identified with \( M(\Gamma) \). We shall write \( V_{c,y,r} \) instead of \( V_{s, u, \rho} \) when \( (y, r) \) corresponds as above to \( (s, u, \rho) \in \mathfrak{S}_c \). Let \( M'(\Gamma) \) be the set of all \( (y, r) \in M(\Gamma) \) such that \( V = V_{c,y,r} \) has a nonzero space of \( B \)-invariants \( V^B \). For such \( (y, r) \), \( V^B \) is a square integrable irreducible representation of the ordinary affine Hecke algebra \( \mathcal{H} \). By the \( K \)-theoretic construction of this representation [KL], \( V^B \) is the specialization at \( v = \sqrt{q} \) of a representation of the affine Hecke algebra with parameter \( v \); this representation can be specialized at \( v = 1 \), yielding a (finite dimensional) representation \( A_{y,r} \) of \( W \) (which in particular is a representation of \( W' \)). For \( (y, r), (y', r') \) in \( M(\Gamma) \), let \( \{(y, r), (y', r')\} \in \mathbb{C} \) be the \((y, r), (y', r')\)-entry of the nonabelian Fourier transform matrix on \( M(\Gamma) \) (see [L3, 4.14]).

It seems likely that in our case with \( V \in \mathcal{U}_c \), the character formula in Theorem 4.6 can be rewritten in the following form (we write \( V = V_{c,y,r} \) where \( (y, r) \in M(\Gamma) \)):

\[
\phi_V = \sum_{(y', r') \in M'(\Gamma)} \{(y, r), (y', r')\} \tau_{A_{y', r'}},
\]

as functions \( G(K)_{c,y,r} \to \mathbb{Z} \), where \( \tau_{A_{y', r'}} \) is as in 2.3.

For example, (a) holds when \( G \) is of type \( E_8 \) and \( c \) is the regular, or subregular or subsubregular unipotent class in \( G^* \). (In these cases we have \( \Gamma = \{1\} \).)
5.3. In this subsection we assume that \( G \) is of type \( G_2 \) and \( c \) is the subregular unipotent class in \( G^* \). In this case, we have \( \Gamma = S_3 \) and \( \mathcal{U}_c \) consists of eight square integrable irreducible representations of \( G(K) \) considered in [L2] 1.7. Four representations in \( \mathcal{U}_c \) (denoted by \( V, V', V'', V''' \)) are Iwahori-spherical and the four corresponding irreducible representations of the affine Hecke algebra of type \( G_2 \) are carried by the \( W \)-graph denoted in [L2] 3.13. Type \( G_2 \) by \( \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{G}', \mathcal{G}'', \mathcal{G}''' \) (they have dimension 3, 3, 2, 1 and \( \mathcal{G} \) gives rise to the reflection representation of the affine Hecke algebra). The other four representations in \( \mathcal{U}_c \) are supercuspidal and are denoted by \( S, S', S'', S''' \). The \( W \)-graphs \( \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{G}', \mathcal{G}'', \mathcal{G}''' \) also carry (for \( q = 1 \)) representations of \( W \) of dimension 3, 3, 2, 1 denoted by \( A, A', A'', A''' \). From Theorem 4.6 we, can deduce:

\[
\begin{align*}
\phi_V &= (1/6)\tau_A + (1/2)\tau_{A'} + (1/3)\tau_{A''} + (1/3)\tau_{A'''}, \\
\phi_{V'} &= (1/2)\tau_A + (1/2)\tau_{A'}, \\
\phi_{V''} &= (1/3)\tau_A + (2/3)\tau_{A''} - (1/3)\tau_{A'''}, \\
\phi_{V'''} &= (1/3)\tau_A - (1/3)\tau_{A'''} + (2/3)\tau_{A''''}, \\
\phi_S &= (1/6)\tau_A - (1/2)\tau_{A'} + (1/3)\tau_{A''} + (1/3)\tau_{A'''}, \\
\phi_{S'} &= (1/2)\tau_A - (1/2)\tau_{A'}, \\
\phi_{S''} &= \phi_{S'''} = (1/3)\tau_A - (1/3)\tau_{A''} - (1/3)\tau_{A'''},
\end{align*}
\]

as functions \( G(K)_{c_{sm}} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \). We see that in our case the equality 5.2(a) holds.

5.4. The functions \( \tau_A \) for \( A = A_{y,r} \) \((y,r) \in M'(\Gamma) \) in the setup of 5.2) can be regarded as \( p \)-adic analogues of the (uniform) almost characters (see [L3]) for the corresponding reductive group over \( F_q \) (restricted to \( F_q \)-rational regular semisimple elements). It would be interesting to see whether these functions have natural extensions to \( G_{rs} \cap G(K) \) (in the same way as the uniform almost characters of reductive groups over \( F_q \) are defined on the whole group not just on regular semisimple elements) and then to see whether these extensions play a role in computing \( \phi_V \) on \( G_{rs} \cap G(K) \).

5.5. Let us now drop the assumption in 1.1 that \( G \) is split over \( K \) (but we still assume that \( G \) is split over \( K' \)). Then the unipotent representations of \( G(K) \) are well defined (see [L4]) and \( G(K)_{c_{sm}} \) is defined as in 1.2. We will show elsewhere that the character formula in Lemma 4.6 for unipotent representations of \( G(K) \) extends to this more general case with essentially the same proof.

Note added 3/06/2013. We thank the referee for pointing out that Lemmas 4.3, 4.4 and Propositions 4.2, 4.5 are special cases of Proposition 7.4, Lemma 7.5 and Theorem 8.1 of [MS]. In an earlier version of this paper, the results of this paper were proved under some restrictions on characteristic, so that we could refer to [AK]. We thank the referee for pointing out the results of [MS] which allow us to remove the restrictions on characteristic.

Meanwhile, an extension of the type mentioned in 5.4 has been found in [G. Lusztig, Unipotent almost characters of simple \( p \)-adic groups, arxiv:1212.6540].
References


