

3. The theorem of Mazza & Murty

So what about algebraic cycles? The point is that MT groups pick out the classes that should come from them, according to the Hodge Conjecture (HC).

In this section we look at ^{how} MT groups lead to a proof of the HC for a class of abelian varieties, basically by showing there are "no interesting Hodge classes".

Let $A = \text{abelian } d\text{-fold}$, $V = H^1(A)$, with φ corresponding to its Hodge decomposition and Q a polarization (i.e. corr. to a Riemann form). Write

$$M(A) = M_\varphi, \quad L(A) = L_\varphi \quad (\text{in } G = Sp(V, Q))$$

and $E(A) = E_\varphi = \text{End}(A) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$. We continue writing $Hg^k V$ (Hodge tensors) to distinguish it from $Hg^{2k}(A) = H^{2k}(A, \mathbb{Q}) \cap H^{k, k}(A)$.

Note that $Hg^k(A) \subset \Lambda^{2k} V (= H^{2k}(A, \mathbb{Q}))$, and set

$$(1) \quad \begin{cases} Hg(A) := \bigoplus_{k=0}^d Hg^k(A) = Hg V \cap H^*(A) \\ D(A) := \langle Hg^1(A) \rangle \subseteq Hg(A) . \end{cases}$$

By Lefschetz (1,1), $D(A) = \text{the classes generated by (intersection products of) divisors}$, and so "trivially"

(2) HC holds for A if $D(A) = Hg(A)$.

If $D(A) \subsetneq Hg(A)$, the classes in the complement are exceptional Hodge classes, and we want to look for situations where there aren't any.

Now $Hg(A) = H^*(A)^{M(A)} = (A^* V)^{M(A)}$, while $D(A) \subseteq H^*(A)^{L(A)}$ since $L(A)$ fixes $Hg^{2,0}V$. If A is nondegenerate ($\Leftrightarrow (V, \varphi)$ is), then $L(A) = M(A)$ and so the main issue is:

in $H^*(A)$, does $L(A)$ fix only $D(A)$?

This is a question in invariant theory: Sometimes, if you ask to fix one set of factors, the group this cuts out fixes many more; to prove HIC we need to show this doesn't happen! To have a chance, we need to identify the simple factors of $L(A)$.

So assume first A simple, so that $E(A) = D$ is a division algebra. Let $E \subset D$ be a maximal subfield; by the Albert classification we have either:

- (I) $E = D = \text{totally real field } F$
- (II/III) $D = \text{quaternion algebra/totally real field } F \Rightarrow [E:F] = 2, E \subset M$
- (IV) $D = \text{division algebra/cm field } F, \begin{cases} [E:F] = 2 \\ [D:F] = q^2 \end{cases}, E \subset M$
[Note: D commutes with F but not E .]

Let $\begin{cases} F^+ \\ E^+ \end{cases}$ be a maximal totally real subfield of $\begin{cases} F \\ E \end{cases}$.

Remark: (I) $F^+ = F = E^+ = E$; (II/III) $F^+ = F = E^+$ index 2 in E ;
 (IV) $[E : E^+] = 2 = [F : F^+]$.]

Lemma 1 (Shimura)*: $\exists !$ F^+ -bilinear form $2 : V \times V \rightarrow D$ s.t.

$$(i) Q(v', v) = \text{tr}_{D/Q} 2(v', v)$$

$$(ii) 2(\delta'v', \delta v) = \delta' 2(v', v) \delta^+$$

$$(iii) 2(v', v) = -2(v, v')^t$$

(where $D \xrightarrow{\cong} D^\sigma$ is the Rosati involution of EI.B.2 p.11).

I'll give the flavor of proof of this later in a special case.

Now writing $V_R = \bigoplus_{\rho \in \text{Hom}(F^+, R)} V_\rho$ for the eigendecomposition

under F^+ ($\dim_R V_\rho = 2d_\rho$, $\sum d_\rho = d$),

$F^+ \subset \mathcal{E}(A) \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Hodge decomposition} \\ \text{action of } M(A)_R \\ \text{action of } L(A)_R \end{array} \right. \text{ are compatible with } \bigoplus_\rho$.

Moreover

$$\bullet M(A)_R = \prod_p M_p \xrightarrow[M \text{ respects } Q]{} Q_R = \boxtimes Q_\rho ;$$

$$\bullet L(A)_R = \prod_p L_p \leq \prod_p \underbrace{s_p(V_\rho, Q_\rho)}_{G_\rho} ; \text{ and}$$

* Shimura, "On the field of definition of a field of automorphic functions".

$$\bullet \quad D_R = \pi D_p = \begin{cases} \mathbb{R} & (\text{I}) \\ M_2(\mathbb{R}) & (\text{II}) \\ \mathbb{H} & (\text{III}) \\ M_2(\mathbb{C}) & (\text{IV}) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow L_p = \begin{cases} (\text{I}) \quad G_p = Sp_{2d_p}(\mathbb{R}), \quad V_p = \mathbb{R}^+ & (q=1) \\ (\text{II}) \quad G_p^{M_2(\mathbb{R})} \cong Sp_{d_p}(\mathbb{R}), \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} V_p = \mathbb{R}^{+2} \\ G_p^{\mathbb{H}} \cong SO^*(d_p) \end{array} \right. & (q=2) \\ (\text{III}) \quad G_p^{M_2(\mathbb{C})} \cong U(p_p, \frac{d_p}{q} - p_p), \quad V_p = Res_{\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R}}(\mathbb{R}^+)^{\oplus q} & q \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

$\otimes \mathbb{C}: GL(d_p/\mathbb{Q}), \quad \mathbb{R}^{\oplus q} \oplus \mathbb{R}^{+q}$

In the non-simple case, applying Poincaré complete reducibility (or semisimplicity of $P(A)$) to A gives

$$A \underset{\text{isog.}}{\cong} B_1^{\times n_1} \times \dots \times B_r^{\times n_r} \quad (B_i = \text{simple, non-degenerate})$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} V = \bigoplus_i V_i^{n_i}, \quad V_i = H^1(B_i) \\ E(A) = \bigoplus_i E(B_i^{n_i}) = \pi(M_{n_i})(E(B_i)) \end{cases}$$

\Downarrow

$$\Rightarrow L(A) = \prod_i L(B_i^{n_i}) = \prod_i L(B_i) \quad \text{(any auto. of } V_i^{n_i} \text{ acts the same on all copies of } V_i \text{)}$$

We now have enough info to prove

Theorem 1 (Hazama, Murty¹⁹⁸⁴): Let A be an abelian variety.

If A is non-degenerate, and no simple factor of $E(A)$ is of Albert type (III), then the HC holds for all powers of A .

More precisely,

$$(3) \quad Hg(A^k) = D(A^k) \iff \begin{cases} A \text{ has no factors of type (III)} \\ \text{and } M(A) = L(A) \end{cases} \quad (\star)$$

Proof:

(\Leftarrow) Here's the basic idea/calculation:

$$\begin{aligned} Hg(A^k) &= H^*(A^k, \mathbb{Q})^{M(A)} \stackrel{\text{nondegeneracy } (M(A) = L(A))}{=} H^*(A^k, \mathbb{Q})^{L(A)} \\ &= \bigotimes_{i=1}^r H^*(B_i^{k n_i}, \mathbb{Q})^{L(B_i)} \quad \left\{ \text{since } (V \otimes W)^{A \times B} = V^A \otimes W^B \text{ in general} \right\} \\ (4) \quad &\stackrel{?}{=} \bigotimes_{i=1}^r D(B_i^{k n_i}) \\ &= D(A^k) \quad \left[\text{since } D(B_1^{k_1} \times B_2^{k_2}) = D(B_1^{k_1}) \otimes D(B_2^{k_2}) \right] \end{aligned}$$

The striking point is (4), which isn't always true. We must show that if B is simple or type I, II, or IV, then

$$(5) \quad H^*(B^n, \mathbb{Q})^{L(B)} = D(B^n). \quad (\forall n)$$

Put $V = H^1(B)$, so that $H^1(B^n) = V^{\otimes n}$ and $H^2(B^n) = \Lambda^2 V^{\otimes n}$ = copies of $\Lambda^2 V$ and $V^{\otimes 2}$. But $L(B)$ fixes $Hg^1(V) \Rightarrow$ fixes $Hg^{\geq 0}(V) \Rightarrow$ fixes $Hg^1(B^n) = D(B^n)$. So

$$D(B^n) \subseteq H^2(B^n, \mathbb{Q})^{L(B)} \stackrel{(M \leq L)}{\subseteq} H^2(B^n, \mathbb{Q})^{M(B)} = Hg^2(B^n) = D(B^n),$$

and (5) holds "for $\star = 2$ ".

Now we have $D(B^n) \subseteq H^*(B^n)^{L(B)}$; we need the reverse. But

$$H^*(B^n)_R^{L(B)} \cong_{\mathbb{R}} (V_p^{\otimes n})^*$$

where V_p is as above. A result of Weyl (in invariant theory over \mathbb{C})
(this is what the unitary groups become)
 then shows that invariants of GL and Sp (but not SO) are generated in degree $*=2$. (See [FH] appendix F, Prop. F.13 and Exercise F.20.) Since we already proved (5) for $*=2$, we're done.

(\Rightarrow) This is now easy: again by Weyl, the invariant tensors of $SO(2n)$ are generated by the $\overset{(\text{degree } 2)}{\text{orthogonal}}$ form and the determinant Δ , which has degree $2n \geq 4$, and cannot be written as a polynomial in the form. So if any B_i has type III, you get a determinant Hodge cycle which is exceptional.

If A is degenerate (which can happen even if the B_i aren't), then because $L(A) \not\cong M(A)$ are characterized by their fixed tensors, and $\bigoplus_k H^*(A^k)$ contains all tensor spaces, we cannot have $D(A^k) = Hg(A^k)$ for all k (though it can happen for $k=1$). □

The next result gives some concrete examples where the condition (*) in the theorem holds. [Note: Let K be an imaginary quadratic field, A abelian d -fold w/ K -multiplication ($K \subset E(A)$). If the eigenspace dims. for the action of K on $H^{1,0}(A)$ are (a, b) , we say the K -mult. has type (a, b) .]

Theorem 2 (Ribet/Tankeev): Let A be an abelian d -fold.

Then A is nondegenerate (and the HC holds for all A^k) if

(i) $E(A) = F$ totally real s.t. $d/[F:\mathbb{Q}]$ is odd

(ii) $E(A) = K$ imaginary quadratic w/type (a,b) , a,b relatively prime

or

(iii) d prime and $E(A) = F$ CM of degree $2d$.

Corollary: Let A be a simple abelian variety of prime dimension d .

Then A is nondegenerate, and the HC holds for all A^k .

Proof (Corollary): A can't be of type II or III, unless $d=2$

and the type is II*: $\dim A = 2[F:\mathbb{Q}] \dim V$ shows that d would have to be even. So either $E(A) = \mathbb{Q}$, F totally real of deg. d ,

or E CM of degree 2 or $2d$. (ii) (iii) Apply Thms. 1 & 2.

□

For the (sketch of) proof of Thm. 2, we need

Lemma 2**: Let V_1, V_2 be representations of g_1, g_2 resp., $g_2 \subset g_1 \oplus g_2$ (L^{simple} alg. / \mathbb{C}). Assume that under both projections, $g_2 \rightarrow g_1, g_2$. Then $g_2 = g_1 \otimes g_2$

OR g_2 is the graph of an isomorphism $g_1 \cong g_2$

Now: $[F:\mathbb{Q}]$
must divide $d^{[F:\mathbb{Q}]}$
(why?)

* See the analysis of the $d=2$ case in Mazur's article, or below.

** Prof: Exercise. Diff to Lemma 3.

Lemma 3 : Let $\mathfrak{g} \subset \mathfrak{g}_1 \times \dots \times \mathfrak{g}_r$ be a subalgebra, \mathfrak{g}_j simple / \mathbb{C} .

Assume all projections $\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}_j$ and $\mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}_i \times \mathfrak{g}_j$ ($i < j$) are surjective.

Then $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_1 \times \dots \times \mathfrak{g}_r$.

Sketch of pf. of Thm. 2(i) : $F \xrightarrow[\text{tot. red.}]{} E(A) \Rightarrow f = \text{id}$

$$\Rightarrow Q(\varepsilon v, w) = Q(v, \varepsilon w) \Rightarrow V_F = \bigoplus_p V_p \text{ and } (\text{if } F = Q(f), \varepsilon = \alpha(f),) \\ V_p \in V_p$$

$$\rho(f)(Q(v_p, v_{p'})) = Q(\varepsilon(f)v_p, v_{p'}) = Q(v_p, \varepsilon(f)v_{p'}) \\ = \rho'(f)Q(v_p, v_{p'}) \Rightarrow Q(v_p, v_{p'}) = 0$$

i.e. Q_F restricts to $Q_p: V_p \times V_p \rightarrow F(V_p)$

$$\Rightarrow (V, Q) = \text{Res}_{F/\mathbb{Q}}(V_{p_0}, Q_{p_0}) \text{ (for one fixed } p_0)$$

OR writing $v = \sum v_p$ etc. and taking $Q(v, w) := Q_{p_0}(v_{p_0}, w_{p_0})$

$$\text{we have } \text{Tr}_{F/\mathbb{Q}} Q(v_{p_0}, w_{p_0}) = \sum_p Q(v_p, w_p) = Q(v, w)$$

hence $Q: V \times V \rightarrow F$ s.t. $\text{Tr}_{F/\mathbb{Q}} Q = Q$.

If $M = L$ ($= \text{Res}_{F/\mathbb{Q}}(Sp(V_p, Q_p))$) then we are done by Theorem 1.

First note that $Z(M) \subset \text{End}_M(V) = F$ and $Z(M) \subset L \implies$ (why?)

$Z(M)$ finite $\Rightarrow M$ semisimple. So write $M_C = \prod_i M_i$, M_i simple / \mathbb{C} .

Also, $\{0\}$ irrep. of M (otherwise we have an extra projection endomorphism of L which is smaller)

each $V_{p,C}$ is a representation of M_C (since M commutes with F)

$$\Rightarrow V_{p,C} = \bigotimes_{\text{irrep. of } M_C} V_p^i, \text{ and each } V_p^i \text{ is a (poss. trivial) irrep. of } M_i.$$

* Often with $\text{Res}_{F/\mathbb{Q}}$ one would think of V as a vect. space over F rather than writing V_{p_0} . But $V_F = V \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} F = \bigoplus V_p$ and as F -vector space, V_p is \cong to " V viewed as v.s./ F ", and for some purposes is less confusing.

By root-weight theory, one deduces (basically by the theory of "symplectic nodes") that the M_i are symplectic or orthogonal, of type $D_{\ell \geq 4}$ in the latter case; and that the V_p^i are either minuscule (\Rightarrow standard) or trivial. But

$$\frac{d}{[F:\mathbb{Q}]} \text{ odd} \Rightarrow \dim_F V_p = 2 \cdot \text{odd} \Rightarrow 4 \nmid \dim_C V_p^i \Rightarrow \text{no } D_\ell \text{'s}$$

↓

symp. standard
or trivial

only one V_p^i of even dim \Rightarrow only one (symplectic) standard
(for each p) (for each p).

\Rightarrow image of M_C in $GL(V_{p,C})$ must be the symplectic group of \sim
 $(V_p, \text{some alternating form})$

but since it is already contained in $Sp(V_p, Q_p)$, this is the image

$$\Rightarrow M_C \leq L_C = \prod_p \overbrace{Sp(V_p, Q_p)}^{G_p}$$

and M_C projects onto each factor.

Now since $\text{End}_M V = F$, the V_p are pairwise $\not\cong$ as M_C -modules.

Consider the projection to a product $G_{p_i} \times G_{p_j} - \text{call this } M_{ij}$.

Clearly $M_{ij} \rightarrow G_{p_i}, G_{p_j}$. If $G_{p_i} \cong M_{ij} \cong G_{p_j}$ then because the G 's are full symmetric groups, this implies V_{p_i} and V_{p_j} are isomorphic representations of M_{ij} , * hence of M_C , a contradiction!

So by lemma 2, $M_{ij} = G_{p_i} \times G_{p_j}$. Applying lemma 3,

$$M_C = \prod_p G_p = L_C \text{ as desired.}$$

□

* A priori they are only isomorphic modules automorphisms of M_{ij} , but for a symmetric group these are all inner and it doesn't matter.

To conclude this section, we consider the possible Mumford-Tate groups for simple abelian varieties of dimensions 1 from 4. From Example 2.5 we have:

$(d=1)$	$\begin{matrix} \text{(Albert)} \\ \text{type} \end{matrix}$	\mathcal{E}	$L_R (= M_R)$
	I	\mathbb{Q}	SL_2
	IV	\mathbb{F} quadratic	$U(1) (\cong \delta')$

while from Theorem 2 (+ Corollary) above:

$(d=3)$	type	\mathcal{E}	$L_R (= M_R)$
	I	\mathbb{Q}	Sp_6
		\mathbb{F} cubic	$SL_2^{\times 3}$
	IV	\mathbb{F} quadratic	$U(2, 1)$
		\mathbb{F} deg. 6	$U(1)^{\times 3}$

For $d=2$, the following observation is helpful. Since the endomorphisms of V commuting with M belong to \mathcal{E}^* (thought of as an algebraic group), the center $Z(M) \leq \mathcal{E}^*$. Since this commutes with \mathcal{E}^* , and the center of \mathcal{E}^* is $\text{Res}_{F/\mathbb{Q}} G_m$ (this is F^* thought of as \mathbb{Q} -algebraic group), in fact $Z(M) \leq \text{Res}_{F/\mathbb{Q}} G_m$. But M preserves the polarization Q , and the Rosati involution is always complex conjugation on fields, so $Q(v, v') = Q(\varepsilon v, \varepsilon v') = Q(\varepsilon \bar{\varepsilon} v, v') \quad (\forall v, v')$ for

$\textcircled{*}$ Note: in general, we shall denote (as above) the center of \mathcal{E} by F . For types I-II, F is totally real; for IV, it is cm (so e.g. "quadratic/type IV" \Rightarrow imaginary quadratic).

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$\varepsilon \in Z(M) \Rightarrow \varepsilon\bar{\varepsilon} = \text{id}_V$; it follows that $Z(M)$ belongs to the unitary group U_F (norm 1 elements of F^* , viewed as \mathbb{Q} -alg gr.). Since this is finite when F is totally real, we have

Lemma 4: If A is simple of type $\neq \text{IV}$ (or more generally A has no factor of type IV), then $M(A)$ is semisimple.

Now consider the case $d=2$:

- if (V, φ) has endomorphisms by a definite quaternion algebra D/\mathbb{Q} , then we are in type III and M is semisimple. But also: $M \leq \text{Aut}(V, \mathbb{Q})^\delta \cong \text{SU}^*(2) = \text{TORUS!} \rightsquigarrow \text{contradiction.}$
- if (V, φ) has endomorphisms by an imaginary quadratic field F , then $M \leq \text{SU}(1, 1)$, which is isomorphic to $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ (by the "Cayley transform"). This basically forces A to break into 2 isomorphic elliptic curves, so in fact E is bigger than F .

So we are left with:

$(d=2)$	type	\mathcal{E}	$L_{\mathbb{R}} (= M_{4n})$
I	\mathbb{Q}	\mathbb{S}_{P_4}	
	F quadratic	$\text{SL}_2 \times \text{SL}_2$	
II	D/\mathbb{Q}	SL_2	
IV	F quadratic	$U(1)^{\times 2}$	

For the cases " $\mathcal{E} = F$ ", $L = M$ is covered by Theorem 2. The other two use Lemma 4: e.g. for $\mathcal{E} = D$, $\text{Aut}(V, \mathbb{Q})^\delta \cong \text{SL}_2$; if

M were any smaller it would be a torus (hence not semi-simple). 13

Finally, for $d=4$ we get our first instance of both degeneracy and type III:

$(d=4)$	type	\mathcal{E}	L_R	M_R	exceptional Hodge classes
			\mathbb{Q}	Sp_8	
I	F quadratic	Sp_4^{*2}	SL_2^{*3}	Sp_4	on self-product only (Mumford)
	F quartic	SL_2^{*4}	Sp_4^{*2}	SL_2^{*4}	
	D/\mathbb{Q}	Sp_4	Sp_4	Sp_4	
II	$D/\text{quadratic } F$	SL_2^{*2}	SL_2^{*2}	SL_2^{*2}	
	D/\mathbb{Q}	$SO^*(4)$	$SO^*(4)$	$SO^*(4)$	deterriment Hodge class (Murty)
III	F quadratic	$U(1,3)$	$U(1,3)$	$U(1,3)$	Weil-Hodge class (Weil)
		$U(2,2)$	$SU(2,2)$	$SU(2,2)$	
	F quartic	SL_2^{*2}	SL_2^{*2}	SL_2^{*2}	
(in cases)	F deg. 8	$U(1)^{*4}$	$U(1)^{*4}$	$U(1)^{*4}$	first example of exc. Hodge class (Mumford)
				$U(1)^{*3}$	

In fact, the Hodge classes (of type $(2,2)$ in $H^4(A)$) in the last three cases are all "Weil-Hodge", which will be defined in § I.B.5.

Notes: I added notes by Wachsmuth on classical groups to the resources for § I.B.2. He has an explanation of the "quaternionic" groups with some good exercises on pp. 8-12.]