

1023-22-1579

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On the unitary dual of Iwahori-Hecke algebras. Preliminary report.

The problem of classifying the unitary unipotent (in the sense of Lusztig) representations of p -adic groups can be formulated via the Barbasch-Moy correspondence in terms of the similar problem for (geometric) graded Hecke algebras. I will present some ideas towards computing the unitary dual in this setting, and exemplify by showing a reinterpretation of the known answer in type A . (The full unitary dual for p -adic $GL(n)$ is, of course, known by Tadić's work.) The talk is based partly on joint work with D. Barbasch. (Received September 26, 2006)