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The universal Plancherel measure

The idea of developing the theory of intertwining operators in a general and purely algebraic way was suggested by Bernstein in unpublished notes in 1992, and further developed by Waldspurger (2003) and Dat (2005). One result of this is more general and precise versions of well-known properties of the Harish-Chandra j-function and Plancherel measure. In this talk we will discuss a further extension of this theory resulting in a "universal" Plancherel measure defined over the Bernstein variety, which interpolates the classical Plancherel measure at each supercuspidal support. The results are not only for complex coefficients, but also hold in the context of "families," where the coefficients are rings. We will outline how it can be used to characterize a putative local Langlands correspondence in families.