

Representations on vanishing cycles, trace formulas and boundaries

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In this talk we will consider a cohomological construction of representations, which was proposed by H. Carayol and used by M. Harris and R. Taylor in their proof of the local Langlands correspondence for $GL(n)$.

This construction yields in particular a realization of the Jacquet-Langlands correspondence, and it will be shown how a purely local approach can lead to a proof of this result, assuming a suitable Lefschetz type trace formula for the étale cohomology of rigid-analytic spaces is available.

The non-compactness of the spaces under consideration has as a consequence that the trace of the Euler-Poincaré characteristic of the cohomology is not equal to the number of fixed points.

In fact, a 'boundary term' comes in, and the problem is to show that this term is a sum of characters of parabolically induced representations. In the second part of the talk we will discuss ways to compactify the spaces and we will study their boundaries.