

1. Record Nr.	UNISA996466530203316
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Titolo	Periods of Hecke characters / / Norbert Schappacher
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Berlin, Germany : , : Springer, , [1988] ©1988
ISBN	3-540-38842-7
Edizione	[1st ed. 1988.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (XVIII, 162 p.)
Collana	Lecture Notes in Mathematics, , 0075-8434 ; ; 1301
Disciplina	512.7
Soggetti	Multiplication, Complex
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di contenuto	Algebraic hecke characters -- Motives for algebraic hecke characters -- The periods of algebraic hecke characters -- Elliptic integrals and the gamma function -- Abelian integrals with complex multiplication -- Motives of CM modular forms.
Sommario/riassunto	The starting point of this Lecture Notes volume is Deligne's theorem about absolute Hodge cycles on abelian varieties. Its applications to the theory of motives with complex multiplication are systematically reviewed. In particular, algebraic relations between values of the gamma function, the so-called formula of Chowla and Selberg and its generalization and Shimura's monomial relations among periods of CM abelian varieties are all presented in a unified way, namely as the analytic reflections of arithmetic identities between Hecke characters, with gamma values corresponding to Jacobi sums. The last chapter contains a special case in which Deligne's theorem does not apply.