Abstract:

We will discuss the recent proof of the strong Gelfand property over local fields of positive odd characteristic for the Gan-Gross-Prasad pairs. These pairs of groups include $(\text{GL}(n),\text{GL}(n+1)), (\text{O}(n),\text{O}(n+1)), (\text{U}(n),\text{U}(n+1)), (\text{SO}(n),\text{SO}(n+1))$, as well as Fourier-Jacobi pairs such as the symplectic group inside its semi-direct product with the corresponding Heisenberg group. The strong Gelfand property for these pairs has important consequences in the theory of automorphic representations, showing the uniqueness of Bessel models, of Rankin-Selberg models, and of Fourier-Jacobi models. These results were proven over characteristic 0 local fields (both archimedean and p-adic) 10-14 years ago, and extensively used since then. As in the characteristic zero case, we will use the method of Gelfand and Kazhdan, which reduces the theorems to statements on invariant distributions.