

Euler systems and the equivariant Tamagawa number conjecture, an introduction

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In this talk we will explain how Euler systems occur naturally in the description of special values of L -functions via the equivariant Tamagawa number conjecture. In the case of modular forms this connection was Kato's motivating idea to construct his Euler system. To avoid too much technicalities we will only treat the case of Dirichlet L -functions. This is the simplest example which already shows all features of the general case.

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