

1 Lecture 1 (Sept. 20)

In these lectures we will study the arithmetic properties of complex local systems (not ℓ -adic local systems that arise in arithmetic geometry).

We begin with Poincaré. Consider the topological $\pi_1(X, x)$ where x is a base point of a topological space X . For finite CW complex, $\pi_1(X, x)$ is finitely presented (finitely many generators and relations). Furthermore, every finitely presented group is $\pi_1(X, x)$ for some finite CW complex which is constructed via generators and relations (in fact, this can be done with a compact 3-manifold).

Among these spaces we can consider X a smooth quasi-projective variety over \mathbb{C} then $X(\mathbb{C})$ is a compact topological manifold and hence a finite CW complex. Thus $\pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), x)$ is a finitely-presented group. However, not every finitely-presented group is a fundamental group of some smooth quasi-projective variety.

To study $\pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), x)$ we study its complex linear representations,

$$\rho : \pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), x) \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{C})$$

There is a space,

$$M^\square(X, r)(\mathbb{C}) = \{M_1, \dots, M_g \in \mathrm{GL}_r(\mathbb{C}) \mid \text{relations}\}$$

which is the complex points of a moduli space parametrizing (framed) local systems. To remove the dependence on the basepoint, we write $M(X, r)$ for the GL_r -quotient of $M^\square(X, r)$. This is called the character variety of X .

Affine algebraic variety defined over \mathbb{Z} . This parametrizes semi-simple ρ .

Theorem 1.0.1 (Toledo). There exist projective varieties X such that $\pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), x)$ is *not* residually finite (meaning it does not inject into its profinite completion).

Remark. Therefore, we cannot just study the finite quotients we actually need to study the complex representations.

Definition 1.0.2. We say that a local system \mathbb{L} is *geometric* if there is a Zariski open $U \subset X$ and $g : Y \rightarrow U$ smooth and projective such that $\mathbb{L}|_U$ is a subquotient of $R^i g_* \mathbb{C}$.

Remark. Because $\pi_1(U, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x)$ is surjective we don't lose any information in the restriction $\mathbb{L}|_U$ but we cannot expect the geometric families to always extend.

Remark. If $\phi : Y \rightarrow X$ is finite and unramified then the subquotients of $g_* \mathbb{C}$ are called the finite local systems (they are trivialized by g).

These are all the examples that anyone knows how to write down. The geometric local systems have monodromy defined over \mathbb{Z} and thus define maps $\rho : \pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), x) \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_r(\overline{\mathbb{Z}})$ because when we take a subquotient we have to extend to algebraic integers. However, since $M(X, r)$ is positive dimensional it has lots of transcendental points so where do these arise? Does every local system arising integrally come from geometry?

1.1 Riemann-Hilbert Correspondence

There is a correspondence between local systems \mathbb{L} and differential systems (E, ∇) where E is an algebraic vector bundle and ∇ is an integrable connection (with, in the noncompact case, regular singularities at the boundary). This correspondence is given by,

$$L \mapsto (L \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{O}_X, \text{id} \otimes d)$$

which in the proper case is automatically algebraic by GAGA and in the nonproper case we need a result to Deligne to see that it is algebraizable. The other direction is given by taking,

$$(E, \nabla) \mapsto E^{\nabla}$$

Proposition 1.1.1. There is a moduli space of integrable connections such that $M_{\text{dR}}(X, r)(\mathbb{C}) = \{(E, \nabla)\}$. Then by the Riemann-Hilbert correspondence,

$$M_B \cong M_{\text{dR}}$$

Theorem 1.1.2 (Simpson, '90s). Higgs bundles (V, θ) where $\theta : V \rightarrow \Omega^1 \otimes V$ is linear and $\theta \wedge \theta = 0$. There is an isomorphism between the M_{dR} and the moduli space of semi-stable Higgs bundles.

Example 1.1.3. For $r = 1$ we have $M_B(\mathbb{C}) = H^1(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{C}^\times) = \text{Hom}(\pi_1(X), \mathbb{C}^\times)$. Also

$$M_{\text{dR}}(\mathbb{C}) = H^1(X_{\mathbb{C}}, \mathcal{O}_X^\times \rightarrow \Omega^1 \rightarrow \Omega^2)$$

1.2 Grothendieck p -curvature Conjecture

For motivation, let $X = \mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{0, 1, \infty\}$ (perhaps the most important variety) and (E, ∇) be a vector bundle with flat connection. Then (X, E, ∇) is defined over $S = \text{Spec}(R)$ where R has finite type over \mathbb{Z} (by spreading out if you like). Then we can write the following differential equation,

$$\frac{df}{f} = b \frac{dt}{t} + c \frac{dt}{t-1}$$

We are looking for conditions that ensure the existence of a complete set of solutions algebraic over $\mathbb{C}[t, t^{-1}, (t-1)^{-1}]$. In fact, we can take $R = \mathcal{O}_K[1/S]$ the ring of integers of some number field with some finite set of primes inverted. The conjecture is that this is equivalent requiring the the differential equation modulo \mathfrak{p} ,

$$\frac{df}{f} = \bar{b} \frac{dt}{t} + \bar{c} \frac{dt}{t-1}$$

has a full set of solutions over $(\mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{p})[t, t^{-1}, (t-1)^{-1}]$ for almost all primes \mathfrak{p} .

A simpler analog of Grothendieck's conjecture goes back to Kronecker's criterion for checking that an algebraic number is rational (or an algebraic integer is a root of unity). Here is the easy version:

Let $b \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ then $b \in \mathbb{Q}$ iff $\bar{b} \in \mathbb{F}_p \subset \overline{\mathbb{Z}}/(p)$ for all primes not appearing the denominator of b .

1.3 Further Questions

Under what conditions are there no deformations of a local system? In particular when is $M_B = *$?

By the Riemman existence theorem,

$$\pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), x)^\wedge = \pi_1^{\text{ét}}(X_{\mathbb{C}}, x)$$

Furthermore, we claim if the étale fundamental group is zero (meaning $X(\mathbb{C})$ has no nontrivial finite covers i.e. $\pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), x)$ has no finite quotients) then actually there are no nontrivial local systems or equivalently the algebraic completion of $\pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), x)$ also vanishes. Indeed, if $\rho : \pi_1 \rightarrow \text{GL}_r(\mathbb{C})$ Then there is some finite type \mathbb{Z} -algebra $A \subset \mathbb{C}$ thusch that $\rho : \pi_1 \rightarrow \text{GL}_r(A) \subset \text{GL}_r(\mathbb{C})$ since π_1 is finitely generated. Then for each maximal ideal of A we get a finite quotient of π_1 which is trivial and hence ρ is trivial.

Similary, if X is smooth projective over $k = \bar{k}$ in characteristic $p > 0$ then $\pi_1(X, x) = 1$ implies no nontrivial crystals. Johan conjectured: there are no nontrivial isocrystals.

Remark. If we assume X/\mathbb{F}_q and the isocrystal is over \mathbb{F}_q then ????

Simpson: $M_B(X, r)$ is an affine variety so it has some dimension but it may have zero dimensional components. These correspond to rigid local systems. Conjecture: the isolated points of $M_B(X, r)$ are geometric and in particular integral.

In the case the isolated point it reduced, then we can prove the conjecture that rigid implies integral. However, it is not always reduced. The proof usses the Langlands program via theory “companions” of Deligne (Weil II).

2 Lecture 2 (Sept. 27) The p -curvature conjecture

2.1 Kronecker

Last time we mentioned a classical result due to Kronecker which is an analog of the Grothendieck p -curvature conjecture. The question is as follows: for $a \in \mathbb{C}$ when is $a \in \mu_\infty$ meaning $a = \exp(2\pi ib)$ for some $b \in \mathbb{Q}$?

Proposition 2.1.1 (Kronecker). If $a \in \bar{\mathbb{Z}}$ and for all embeddings $\iota(a) \in \mathbb{C}$ we have $|\iota(a)| = 1$ then $a \in \mu_\infty$.

Proof. Consider the minimal polynomial,

$$f(X) = X^d + c_1 X^{d-1} + \cdots + c_d$$

Then,

$$f = \prod (x - a_i) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$$

and therefore using the theory of symmetric functions,

$$f_n = \prod (x - a_i^n) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$$

but the coefficients have bounded norm because all the absolute values of the a_i are 1. Therefore there are finitely many such f_n and hence there are repetitions in the a_i^n so $a_i^n = a_j$ for some i and j and thus a_i is a root of unity. \square

Remark. This is an analytic version of Kronecker's problem. Here is an algebraic version for the question $b \in \mathbb{Q}$.

Theorem 2.1.2. Assume $b \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ so $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{Q}(b) \subset \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$. Then $b \in \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(b)}[S^{-1}]$ so for any prime of this ring consider $\bar{b} \in (\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(b)}/\mathfrak{p})$ which is a finite extension of \mathbb{F}_p . Assume that for all but finitely many \mathfrak{p} that $\bar{b} \in \mathbb{F}_p$ in the prime subfield. Then $b \in \mathbb{Q}$.

Proof. Note that $(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(b)}/\mathfrak{p}) = \mathbb{F}_p[b]$ and hence if $b \in \mathbb{F}_p$ then p is totally split. However, this can only happen for almost all p if $b \in \mathbb{Q}$. \square

2.2 Grothendieck p -curvature.

Let $X = \mathbb{A}^1 \setminus \{0\}$ with parameter t . Consider the differential equation,

$$\frac{df}{f} = b \frac{dt}{t}$$

which has solutions $f = at^b$. We want conditions for those solutions to be algebraic over $\mathcal{O}_X(X) = \mathbb{C}[t, t^{-1}]$. In this case, this is equivalent to $b \in \mathbb{Q}$. This is also equivalent to the monodromy group being finite.

However, $b \in \mathbb{Q}$ is equivalent to saying that $\bar{b} \in \mathbb{F}_p$ for all but finitely many \mathfrak{p} . Therefore, we should consider the differential equation mod \mathfrak{p} . Therefore, the differential equation has a full set of algebraic solutions if and only if the mod \mathfrak{p} equations has a full set of solutions.

Conjecture 2.2.1 (Grothendieck). Let X be quasi-projective variety over \mathbb{C} , and (\mathcal{E}, ∇) is a vector bundle with an integrable algebraic connection. Spread out over some finite type affine \mathbb{Z} -scheme S to get $(X_S, (\mathcal{E}, \nabla)_S)$. Then there is an open dense $S^0 \subset S$ such that for all closed points $s \in |S^0|$ then $(\mathcal{E}, \nabla)_s$ has locally a full set of solutions if and only if (\mathcal{E}, ∇) has a full set of algebraic solutions locally on X .

Remark. The conclusion of the conjecture is equivalent to having finite monodromy.

Remark. It suffices to prove the conjecture for X is a proper curve because,

- (a) by Lefschetz, there is $C \rightarrow X$ with $\pi_1(C) \twoheadrightarrow \pi_1(X)$ so we can check the conclusion after restricting (\mathcal{E}, ∇) to C .
- (b) By restricting to disks around the punctures we reduce to the Kronecker example. Therefore, given the assumption, there exists a finite étale cover $Y \rightarrow X$ which trivializes the differential equation at the punctures so that we can extend the problem to \overline{Y} .

Proposition 2.2.2. Let X be a smooth projective curve over \mathbb{C} . We can assume that X is defined over a number field.

Proposition 2.2.3 (Jordan). There is a number $N(r)$ such that for any finite $\Gamma \subset \mathrm{GL}_r(\mathbb{C})$ there is an abelian normal subgroup $A \subset \Gamma$ such that Γ/A has order at most $N(r)$.

Theorem 2.2.4 (Belyi). Any smooth projective curve X over a number field F , there is a map $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ branched over $\{0, 1, \infty\}$.

Corollary 2.2.5. Therefore, we reduce the p -curvature conjecture to the case of $\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{0, 1, \infty\}$ meaning the ring $\mathbb{C}[t, t^{-1}, (t-1)^{-1}]$. We have the universal form,

$$\frac{df}{f} = b \frac{dt}{t} + c \frac{dt}{t}$$

for $b, c \in M_r(\overline{\mathbb{Q}})$. We want f a matrix of algebraic functions over the ring.

Theorem 2.2.6 (Katz). Let $g : Y \rightarrow X$ be smooth projective (here we require the family is defined over all of X not just a dense open) and let $\mathbb{L} = R^i g_* \mathbb{C}$ be the Gauss-Manin local system corresponding to the Gauss-Manin connection on the relative de Rham cohomology. Then the p -conjecture is true for $(\mathcal{E}, \mathbb{L})$.

Proof. Two steps. A more general version of Kronecker's analytic criterion implies that the monodromy is finite if we can show that the F -filtration $R^i g_* \Omega_{Y/X}^{\geq j} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{L}$ is stabilized by the Gauss-Manin connection. To do this, we spread out to a smooth model $Y_S \rightarrow X_S$ over some finite-type \mathbb{Z} -scheme base S such that $R^{i-j} g_{S*} \Omega_{Y_S/X_S}^j$ all remain locally free. Consider the diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} Y_s & \xrightarrow{F} & Y'_s & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & Y_s \\ & & \downarrow g' & & \downarrow g \\ & & X_s & \xrightarrow{F} & X_s \end{array}$$

(I GOT LOST IN THE REST OF THE ARGUMENT) □

3 Lecture 3 (Oct. 4)

Let Γ be a finitely generated group. We consider the following completions,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \Gamma & \longrightarrow & \widehat{\Gamma} & \xlongequal{\quad} & \varprojlim_{\substack{\Gamma \twoheadrightarrow Q \\ Q \text{ is finite}}} Q \\ & \searrow & \uparrow \text{dashed} & & \uparrow \text{dashed} \\ & & \Gamma^{\text{alg}} & \xlongequal{\quad} & \varprojlim_{\varphi: \Gamma \rightarrow \text{GL}_r(\mathbb{C})} \overline{\text{im } \varphi} \end{array}$$

Theorem 3.0.1 (Mal'cev, 1940). If $\widehat{\Gamma} = \{1\}$ then $\Gamma^{\text{alg}} = \{1\}$.

Proof. Let $\widehat{\Gamma} = \{1\}$. For any map $\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow \text{GL}_r(\mathbb{C})$ because Γ is finitely generated, there is a finite type \mathbb{Z} -algebra $A \subset \mathbb{C}$ such that ρ factors through $\text{GL}_r(A) \subset \text{GL}_r(\mathbb{C})$. Let $\mathfrak{m} \subset A$ be some maximal ideal and $\kappa = A/\mathfrak{m}$ which is finite since A is finite type over \mathbb{Z} . Then,

$$A \hookrightarrow \widehat{A} = \varprojlim_n (A/\mathfrak{m}^n)$$

Then we get a map,

$$\hat{\rho} : \Gamma \rightarrow \text{GL}_r(A) \rightarrow \text{GL}_r(\widehat{A})$$

Then since,

$$\text{GL}_r(\widehat{A}) = \widehat{\text{GL}_r(A)} = \varprojlim_n \text{GL}_r(A/\mathfrak{m}^n)$$

is profinite $\hat{\rho}$ factors through $\widehat{\Gamma} = \{1\}$ and hence is trivial. Therefore, $\rho = \text{id}$ so $\Gamma^{\text{alg}} = \{1\}$. □

Theorem 3.0.2 (Grothendieck). Let X be a smooth quasi-projective \mathbb{C} -variety. If the étale fundamental group,

$$\pi_1^{\text{ét}}(X) = \pi_1(\widehat{X(\mathbb{C})}) = \{1\}$$

is trivial then there are no non-trivial \mathcal{O}_X -coherent regular singular D -modules.

Proof. This is a consequence of Malčev since $\pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}))$ is finitely generated. \square

Remark. Then $X(\mathbb{C})$ is a complex manifold and the Riemann-Hilbert map,

$$\{\mathbb{C}\text{-local systems}\} \xrightarrow{RH} \{(E, \nabla) \text{ analytic vector bundles with flat analytic connection}\}$$

given by sending $\mathcal{L} \mapsto (\mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X^{\text{an}}}, \text{id} \otimes d)$ is an equivalence of Tannakian categories. The inverse map is given by $(\mathcal{E}, \nabla) \mapsto \mathcal{E}^\nabla$ which using Kovalevskaya is a local system of the proper rank.

Theorem 3.0.3 (Deligne). There is an enhancement of Riemann-Hilbert to,

$$\{\mathbb{C}\text{-local systems}\} \xrightarrow{RH} \{(E, \nabla) \text{ algebraic vector bundles with flat regular singular connection}\}$$

Remark. We can think of (E, ∇) having regular singularities as meaning that there is a good compactification \overline{X} of X with an extension of (E, ∇) to $(\overline{E}, \overline{\nabla})$ where the connection maps to logarithmic forms on the boundary. This can then be extended to the theory of D -modules.

The final formulation descends to, $X_{\overline{F}}$ where $F \subset \mathbb{C}$ is a finitely generated field over \mathbb{Q} . Then since,

$$\pi_1^{\text{ét}}(X_{\overline{F}}) = \pi_1^{\text{ét}}(X_{\mathbb{C}})$$

we can conclude that if $\pi_1^{\text{ét}}(X_{\overline{F}}) = \{1\}$ then X has no nontrivial regular singular \mathcal{O}_X -coherent D -modules.

Remark. There is no known purely algebraic proof of this statement. We would also like to find an analog for F a field of characteristic $p > 0$.

Conjecture 3.0.4 (Gieseker, 1975). Let X be smooth projective over k with k an algebraically closed field of characteristic $p > 0$. Suppose that $\pi_1(X) = \{1\}$ then there are no nontrivial \mathcal{O}_X -coherent D -modules.

Theorem 3.0.5 (E-Mehta, 2010). Gieseker's conjecture is true.

Remark. The work of Katz: with X quasi-projective smooth over $k = \overline{k}$ there is a Riemann-Hilbert correspondence,

$$\text{Loc}_{\mathbb{F}_p} \xrightarrow{\sim} \{(E, \varphi)\}$$

where E is a vector bundle and $\varphi : E \xrightarrow{\sim} E$ is a Frob-semilinear isomorphism of abelian sheaves (not \mathcal{O}_X -linear).

Remark. The dream is that for a \mathcal{O}_X -coherent D -module then construct a φ -module which thus is trivial since it corresponds to a local system.

Proposition 3.0.6. \mathcal{O}_X -coherent D -modules correspond to Frob-divided sheaves.

Remark. A Frob-divided sheaf is a sequence of sheaves E_i equipped with isomorphisms $E_i \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Frob}_X^* E_{i+1}$. This implies that E_0 is locally free.

Remark. We want to show that if $\pi_1(X_{\bar{k}}) = 0$ then there are no nontrivial Frob-divided sheaves. Suppose that E_{\bullet} is nontrivial. Then find a new locally free sheaf M of the same rank such that,

$$\mathrm{Frob}_X^* M \xrightarrow{\sim} M$$

We claim this is enough. In the case M has rank 1 this says $M^{\otimes p} \xrightarrow{\sim} M$ and therefore $M^{\otimes(p^m-1)} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{O}_X$ and thus we get a Kummer μ_{p^m-1} cover which contradicts $\pi_1(X_{\bar{k}}) = \{1\}$ unless $M \cong \mathcal{O}_X$. More generally $\mathrm{Frob}_X^* M \xrightarrow{\sim} M$ produces a $\mathrm{GL}_r(\mathbb{F}_{p^n})$ -cover $\pi : Y \rightarrow X$ and hence we can conclude that M is trivial.

3.1 Grothendieck Specialization

If we spread out X to $\mathfrak{X} \rightarrow \mathrm{Spec}(S)$ where S is a finite type \mathbb{F}_p -algebra. Then for any closed point s the map,

$$\pi_1(X_{\bar{k}}) \twoheadrightarrow \pi_1(\mathfrak{X}_{\bar{s}})$$

is surjective. Therefore, we can work over $\overline{\mathbb{F}_p}$.

Let $k = \overline{\mathbb{F}_p}$. Let X be defined over \mathbb{F}_q . Hrushovski considered correspondences $Y \subset X_k \otimes_k X_k$ of dimension $\dim Y = \dim X = d$ which is defined over some \mathbb{F}_q . There exists a dense set of closed points of X_k such that $(x, (\mathrm{Frob}_X^{m_x})x) \in Y(k)$.

In particular, for any map $\psi : X \rightarrow X$ there is a dense set of fixed points of powers of ψ .

4 Lecture 4 (Oct. 11)

Definition 4.0.1. Let Γ be an abstract group. Then Γ is *finitely generated* if there is a surjection $F_n \twoheadrightarrow \Gamma$. Moreover, it is *finitely presented* if the kernel $K = \ker(F_n \twoheadrightarrow \Gamma)$ is finitely generated as a normal subgroup of F_n meaning there are finitely many elements $r_1, \dots, r_n \in K$ such that K is the smallest normal subgroup containing r_1, \dots, r_n .

Definition 4.0.2. Let Γ be a profinite group then we say that Γ is *finitely generated* if there is a surjection $\hat{F}_n \twoheadrightarrow \Gamma$ where \hat{F}_n is the profinite completion of the free group. Then Γ is *finitely presented* if the kernel $K = \ker(\hat{F}_n \twoheadrightarrow \Gamma)$ is finitely generated as a closed normal subgroup meaning there are finitely many elements $r_1, \dots, r_n \in K$ such that K is the smallest *closed* normal subgroup containing r_1, \dots, r_n .

Example 4.0.3. For $\Gamma = \pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), x)$ for X quasi-projective smooth over \mathbb{C} then Γ is finitely presented and $\hat{\Gamma}$ is also finitely presented. But there exist finitely presented profinite groups with no finitely-presented discrete structure.

Question: if X is quasi-projective variety smooth over $k = \bar{k}$ and $\mathrm{char} k = p > 0$ then is $\pi_1(X)$,

(a) finitely generated? - Yes if X is projective by Lefschetz

(b) finitely presented?

Example 4.0.4. Let $X = \mathbb{A}^1$ then,

$$\pi_1(\mathbb{A}^1) \twoheadrightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^S (\mathbb{Z}/p)$$

with S as big as we want from Artin-Schreier theory so $\pi_1(\mathbb{A}^1)$ is not f.g.

Definition 4.0.5. Let $\overline{X} = \operatorname{Spec}(R)$ where R is a DVR and $X = \operatorname{Spec}(K)$ is the punctured DVR. Then,

$$\pi_1(X) \twoheadrightarrow \pi_1^{\text{tame}}(X)$$

is defined by considering the Galois group of tame covers of K (a cover of X is tame if the normalization R'/R is a tame extension meaning the ramification index is coprime to p and the residue field extension is separable).

Definition 4.0.6. We say that a finite étale cover $f : Y \rightarrow X$ is *tame* if for every map from a smooth curve $C \rightarrow X$ the map $Y_C \rightarrow C$ is a tame étale cover. This allows us to define the tame fundamental group $\pi_1^{\text{tame}}(X)$.

Remark. There are universal covers $\widetilde{X} \rightarrow X^{\text{tame}} \rightarrow X$ with Galois groups K and $\pi_1^{\text{tame}}(X)$ respectively and total Galois group $\pi_1(X)$ fitting into the exact sequence,

$$1 \longrightarrow K \longrightarrow \pi_1(X) \longrightarrow \pi_1^{\text{tame}}(X) \longrightarrow 1$$

Lemma 4.0.7. If $X \hookrightarrow \overline{X}$ with \overline{X} smooth projective and $\overline{X} \setminus X$ is normal crossings divisor (good compactification) then $\pi_1^{\text{tame}}(X)$ is finitely generated.

Remark. We want to know if $\pi_1^{\text{tame}}(X)$ is finitely presented?

Remark. There is no cohomological criterion for an *abstract* group to be finitely presented. However, there is the following theorem.

Theorem 4.0.8 (Lubotzky). Let Γ be a finitely generated profinite group. Then Γ is finitely presented if and only if for all primes $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}$ and continuous representation $\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow \operatorname{GL}_r(\mathbb{F}_\ell)$ then $\dim_{\mathbb{F}_\ell} H^2(\Gamma, \rho) \leq C \operatorname{rank} \rho$ for some uniform constant C (independent of ℓ and ρ).

Theorem 4.0.9 (E-Shusterman-Srinivas). If X is quasi-projective over \mathbb{F}_q and admits a good compactification then $\pi_1^{\text{tame}}(X)$ is finitely presented.

Remark. For $\ell \neq p$ the proof goes by considering,

$$H^2(\pi_1^{\text{tame}}(X), \rho) \hookrightarrow H^2(X, \mathcal{L})$$

where \mathcal{L} is the associated local system to $\rho : G \rightarrow \operatorname{GL}_r(\mathbb{F}_\ell)$.

For $\ell = p$ we prove that,

$$H^2(\pi_1^{\text{tame}}(X), \rho) \hookrightarrow H^2(\overline{X}, j_* \mathcal{L})$$

Remark. Is the assumption on X having a good compactification necessary?

Lemma 4.0.10 (Deligne). If \mathcal{L} is tame then,

$$\chi(X, \mathcal{L}) = \sum (-1)^i \dim H^i(X, \mathcal{L}) = (\operatorname{rank} \mathcal{L}) \cdot \chi(X, \mathbb{F}_\ell)$$

Remark. For the $\dim X = 1$ case this follows from the Grothendieck-Ogg-Shafarevich formula.

The $\ell \neq p$ case. This part of the proof does not rely on the good compactification. First, the Hochschild–Serre spectral sequence shows that,

$$H^2(\pi_1^{\text{tame}}, \rho) \hookrightarrow H^2(X, \mathcal{L})$$

by considering the cover of X corresponding to $\ker \rho$.

Since we only need to consider H^2 , using the Lefschetz theorem we reduce to the case that X is a surface. Choose an ample divisor represented by a smooth curve $C \hookrightarrow X$. In particular $X \setminus C$ is ample.

There is an exact sequence,

$$H^0(C, \mathcal{L}) \longrightarrow H^2(X, \mathcal{L}) \longrightarrow H^2(X \setminus C, \mathcal{L})$$

Since $\dim H^0(C, \mathcal{L}) \leq r$ where $r = \text{rank } \mathcal{L}$ we reduce to showing the bound for $H^2(X \setminus C, \mathcal{L})$ or equivalently we reduce to the case that X is affine. Then using Deligne's lemma above,

$$\chi(X, \mathcal{L}) = r\chi(X, \mathbb{F}_\ell)$$

and since X is affine we have Artin vanishing so bounding H^2 is equivalent to bounding H^1 .

So consider $H^1(X, \mathcal{L}) = H^1(\pi_1, \mathcal{L}) = H^1(\pi_1^{\text{tame}}, \mathcal{L})$. This is given by a cocycle $\pi_1^{\text{tame}} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_\ell^{\oplus r}$ and there are a bounded number of such cocycles because π_1^{tame} is finitely generated and $\mathbb{F}_\ell^{\oplus r}$ is finite. \square

The $\ell = p$ case. Here we must employ the good compactification $j : X \hookrightarrow \bar{X}$. The goal is to show that,

$$H^2(\pi_1^{\text{tame}}, \rho) \hookrightarrow H^2(\bar{X}, j_* \mathcal{L})$$

and then that the RHS satisfies the required dimension bound.

Open normal subgroups $U \subset \pi_1^{\text{tame}}$ define tame G_U -Galois covers $h_U : X_U \rightarrow X$ where $G_U = \pi_1^{\text{tame}}/U$ so we get a diagram of compactifications,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_U & \xrightarrow{j_U} & \bar{X}_U \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \bar{h}_U \\ X & \xrightarrow{j} & \bar{X} \end{array}$$

Then we claim that,

$$R^i \bar{h}_{U,*} j_{U,*} \mathcal{L}^U = 0$$

for $i > 0$ (I'm not sure about the justification here). Consider the spectral sequence computing étale cohomology in terms of group cohomology,

$$E_2^{p,q} = H^p(G_U, H^q(\bar{X}_U, j_{U,*} \mathcal{L}^U)) \implies H^{p+q}(\bar{X}, j_* \mathcal{L})$$

which gives rise to a 5-term spectral sequence containing,

$$H^0(G_U, H^1(\bar{X}_U, j_{U,*} \mathcal{L}^U)) \longrightarrow H^2(G_U, H^0(\bar{X}_U, j_{U,*} \mathcal{L}^U)) \longrightarrow H^2(\bar{X}, j_* \mathcal{L})$$

Now we know that $\rho : \pi_1^{\text{tame}} \rightarrow \text{GL}_r(\mathbb{F}_p)$ has open normal (finite index) $\ker \rho$ simply because its target is a finite discrete group. Therefore, if we take $U \subset \ker \rho$ then we can compute,

$$H^0(\bar{X}_U, j_{U,*} \mathcal{L}^U) = H^0(X_U, \mathcal{L}^U) = ((\mathbb{F}_p)^{\oplus r})^U = \mathbb{F}_p^{\oplus r}$$

since U acts trivially and furthermore $\mathcal{L}^U = \underline{\mathbb{F}_p^{\oplus r}}$ so,

$$H^0(G_U, H^1(\bar{X}_U, j_{U,*} \mathcal{L}^U)) = [H^1(\bar{X}_U, j_{U,*} \underline{\mathbb{F}_p})^{G_U}]^{\oplus r} \hookrightarrow H^1(X_U, \mathbb{F}_p)^{\oplus r}$$

Now we consider taking a limit over U and find,

$$\varprojlim_U H^1(X_U, \mathbb{F}_p) = 0$$

(WHY? DON'T WE NEED NON-TAME COVERS TO KILL ARTIN-SCHRIER CLASSES FOR EXAMPLE) Therefore, the limit of these exact sequences gives,

$$H^2(\pi^{\text{tame}}, \rho) = \varprojlim_U H^2(G_U, \mathbb{F}_p^{\oplus r}) \hookrightarrow H^2(\overline{X}, j_*\mathcal{L})$$

(NOW HOW DO WE CONCLUDE THAT THE DIMENSION BOUND HOLDS FOR $H^2(\overline{X}, j_*\mathcal{L})$). \square

5 Lecture 5 (Oct. 18)

Remark. Recall, if we take an abstract group G which is finitely generated (resp. finitely presented) then \hat{G} is topologically finitely generated (resp. topologically finitely presented).

Proposition 5.0.1. Over \mathbb{C} we know that $\pi_1^{\text{ét}}(X)$ is the profinite completion of a finitely generated group namely $\pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}))$. However, today we will see that this is false in positive characteristic.

Definition 5.0.2. Let π be a profinite group. We say that π is *quasi- p' -finitely-generated* if there is a finitely generated abstract group Γ with a map $\Gamma \rightarrow \pi$ such that,

- (a) the completion $\hat{\Gamma} \twoheadrightarrow \pi$ is surjective
- (b) the diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \hat{\Gamma} & \twoheadrightarrow & \pi \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ (\hat{\Gamma})^{p'} & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \pi^{p'} \end{array}$$

gives an isomorphism on the pro- p' -completion.

We say that π is *quasi- p' -finitely presented* if we can take Γ to be finitely presented as an abstract group.

Example 5.0.3. If X is smooth quasi-projective over \mathbb{C} then set $\Gamma = \pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}))$ showing that $\pi_1 = \pi_1(X_{\mathbb{C}})$ is p' -finitely presented for all p .

Example 5.0.4. Let $X \rightarrow S$ smooth projective with $S \rightarrow \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$ affine and finite type. For any closed point $s \in |S|$ then the specialization map $\pi_1(X_{\mathbb{C}}) \rightarrow \pi_1(X_{\bar{s}})$ is surjective and an isomorphism on the p' -completion. The same is true for π_1^{tame} for X quasi-projective with a good relative compactification. Then Grothendieck existence also shows that any finite étale cover $Y \rightarrow X_{\bar{s}}$ lifts to characteristic zero so we also get a finite generation of the right sort.

Definition 5.0.5. We say that π is p' -finitely generated (resp. presented) if all open subgroups $U \subset \pi$ are quasi- p' -finitely generated (resp. presented).

Theorem 5.0.6. p' -finite generation is an obstruction for the existence of a lift to characteristic zero. Explicitly, there is X smooth projective over $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ with $\pi_1^{\text{ét}}(X)$ not p' -finite-generated and thus cannot lift to characteristic zero.

We will now sample some examples of nonlifting behavior.

5.0.1 Serre

Let $k = \bar{k}$. There is a G -cover $Y \rightarrow X$ with $Y \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ a smooth complete intersection of $\dim Y \geq 3$ and thus $\pi_1(Y) = 1$. Then $\pi_1(X) = G \hookrightarrow \mathrm{PGL}_n(k)$. If X lifts then so does Y and this shows that the representation $G \rightarrow \mathrm{PGL}_n(k)$ lifts but Serre shows that this is impossible for certain choices of representation.

5.0.2 Deligne-Illusie

Let X be smooth projective. If X lifts over $W_2(k)$ then we have H-to-dR degeneration,

$$b_n = \sum_{p+q=n} h^{p,q}$$

However, this is not an obstruction to having *some* lifting to characteristic zero! Enriques surfaces over lift to characteristic zero but these do not satisfy H-to-dR degeneration. These Enriques surfaces do lift to characteristic zero but over a ring ramified over $W_2(k)$.

Achinger-Zdanowicz found examples of non-liftable varieties. Van Dobben de Bruyn: if $X \subset C^3$ with C supersingular hyperelliptic $g \geq 2$. Then any alteration of X does not lift to characteristic zero.

The following two theorems show an interesting dichotomy between characteristic zero and p “homotopy types”.

Theorem 5.0.7 (Artin). if X is smooth over \mathbb{C} there is basis of the Zariski topology which are $K(\pi_1)$. In particular, for any local system \mathcal{L} with finite monodromy (irrelevant over characteristic zero) then $H^1(\pi_1(U), \mathcal{L}_{\bar{s}}) \xrightarrow{\sim} H^1(U, \mathcal{L})$ is an isomorphism.

Theorem 5.0.8 (Achinger). Let X be over $k = \bar{k}$ then *every* affine $U \subset X$ is a $K(\pi_1)$ meaning every local system with finite monodromy the map $H^1(\pi_1(U), \mathcal{L}_{\bar{s}}) \xrightarrow{\sim} H^1(U, \mathcal{L})$.

5.1 Main Tool

Consider a finite G which fits into a quotient diagram,

$$1 \longrightarrow U_G \longrightarrow \pi \longrightarrow G \longrightarrow 1$$

This gives an outer action $G \rightarrow \mathrm{Out}(U_G)$ which lifts to an action when $\pi \rightarrow G$ has a section. Regardless of the section, we get an action $G \rightarrow \mathrm{Aut}(U_G^{\mathrm{ab}})$. If $\pi = \pi_1(X)$ then $\pi_1(X) \rightarrow G$ defines a connected finite étale cover $Y \rightarrow X$ where $\pi_1(Y) = U_G$. Over \mathbb{C} then $U_G^{\mathrm{ab}} = H_1(Y, \mathbb{Z})$ so G would act on homology. We can actually show that we get an action,

$$G \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}(H^1(Y_{\mathrm{\acute{e}t}}, \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}))$$

In fact, there is an underling \mathbb{Q} -vectorspace such that $V \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}_{\ell} = H^1(Y_{\mathrm{\acute{e}t}}, \mathbb{Q}_{\ell})$ which admits a representation $\rho : G \rightarrow \mathrm{Aut}(V)$ compatibly with $\rho = \rho_{\ell}$.

Remark. Let π be p' -finitely generated then $\rho_{\varphi, \ell}$ is Schur rational. We will exhibit an example for which $\rho_{\varphi, \ell}$ is not Schur rational.

Let C be a curve of genus $g \geq 2$ over $k = \bar{k}$ characteristic zero. Then,

$$|\text{Aut}(C)| \leq 84(g-1)$$

However, if C is over $k = \bar{k}$ of characteristic $p > 0$ then $\text{Aut}(C)$ is still finite but may be larger than the Hurwitz bound.

Example 5.1.1. Hoquette curve: $C \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ hyperelliptic curve over \mathbb{F}_p branched exactly over the $p+1$ rational points of \mathbb{P}^1 . Thus we can write it as,

$$y^2 = x^p - x$$

Thus has genus,

$$g = \frac{p-1}{2}$$

and we assume $p \geq 5$ such that $g \geq 2$. Then,

$$|\text{Aut}(C)| = 2p(p^2 - 1) > 84(g-1) = 42(p-3)$$

Then the map,

$$\text{Aut}(C) \rightarrow \text{GL}(H^1(C, \mathbb{Q}_\ell))$$

is injective using the trace formula. Indeed, if $g \in G$ then the graph $\Gamma_g \subset C \times C$ then the fixed points $\Gamma_g \cdot \Delta$ is up to a constant the trace acting on cohomology. So if g acts trivially on H^1 then $\Gamma_g \cdot \Delta = 2 - 2g < 0$ which is impossible unless $\Delta_g = \Delta$.

Then ρ_ℓ is not Schur rational. Consider,

$$\mathbb{Q}_\ell[G] \rightarrow \text{End}\left(H^1(C, \mathbb{Q}_\ell)\right)^{\text{Frob}}$$

Then you learn that this image is $\text{End}^0(C) \otimes \mathbb{Q}_\ell$. There is some ramification that obstructs rationality.

Now we return to Serre. Set $P = Y \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ then $G \curvearrowright P$ fixed point free. Then $Z = C \times P$ equipped with the diagonal G -action is also a fixed-point free action. Then consider $X = Z/G \rightarrow P/G$ is an isotrivial fiber bundle with fiber C . Then either using the homotopy fiber sequence for the fibration or the quotient of Z sequence. Then there is an exact sequence,

$$1 \longrightarrow \pi_1(C) \longrightarrow \pi_1(X) \longrightarrow G \longrightarrow 1$$

6 Lecture 6 (Oct. 25)

Definition 6.0.1. A matrix M is *quasi-unipotent* if one of the following equivalent conditions holds,

- (a) M^n is unipotent for some $n \geq 0$
- (b) every eigenvalue of M is a root of unity.

Let X be a normal variety over \mathbb{C} . Let $X \hookrightarrow \bar{X}$ be a normal compact completion. Let D_i be the irreducible components of $\bar{X} \setminus X$. Let T_i be a small loop contained at D_i . Such that $\text{im } T_i$ are defined in $\pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}))$ up to conjugacy. Let $\rho : \pi_1(X(\mathbb{C})) \rightarrow \text{GL}_r(\mathbb{C})$ be a local system $L_{\mathbb{C}}$ which we require to have quasi-unipotent monodromy at infinity meaning T_i acts quasi-unipotently. Kashiwara showed that this does not depend on the compactification.

Definition 6.0.2. Let $x \in X$ and a map $\rho : \pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), x) \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_r(\mathbb{C})$ for $r \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$. Then,

$$\mathrm{Hom}(\pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), x), \mathrm{GL}_r)$$

This gives a functor on rings over \mathbb{Z} ,

$$R \mapsto \{\rho_R : \pi \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_r(R)\}$$

This is representable by an affine scheme over \mathbb{Z} called,

$$\mathbf{Ch}(\pi, r)^\square \quad \text{or} \quad M_B(X, r)^\square$$

Definition 6.0.3. Consider the quasi-unipotent locus $QU \subset M_B(X, r)(\mathbb{C})$ of $L_{\mathbb{C}}$ which are quasi-unipotent monodromy at ∞ .

Theorem 6.0.4 (E-Kerz, 20). $QU \subset M_B(X, r)^\square$ is Zariski dense.

Theorem 6.0.5 (Grothendieck). If $L_{\mathbb{C}}$ is geometric¹ then $L_{\mathbb{C}} \in QU$

Theorem 6.0.6 (Brieskorn). Suppose that $Y \rightarrow U \hookrightarrow X$ is defined over F where F is a finitely generated field over \mathbb{Q} . Let $F = \mathrm{Frac}(\mathcal{O}_S)$ with S affine finite type over \mathbb{Q} . Then by base change we may assume that F is a number field.

Proof. Riemann-Hilbert correspondence:

$$\bigoplus_i R^i g_* \mathbb{C} = \left(\bigoplus_i R^i g_* \Omega_{Y/U}^\bullet \right)^\nabla$$

and since this local system is defined over \mathbb{Z} it has eigenvalues of $\rho(T_j)$ algebraic integers $\mu_i \in \overline{\mathbb{Z}} \subset \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$. This has residues $\lambda_i \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$. Then,

$$\exp(2\pi i \lambda_i) = \mu_i$$

Gelfond's theorem implies that $\lambda \in \mathbb{Q}$. □

Also we can spread out to $X_S \rightarrow S$ for S affine scheme finite type over \mathbb{Z} . We get a morphism $X_F \rightarrow X_S$ and setting $S^\circ \subset S$ be a nonempty open over which X_S is smooth (or maybe just having normal fibers). For $s \in S^\circ$ there are specialization maps,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_1(X_{\mathbb{C}}, x) & \longrightarrow & \pi_1^{\mathrm{tame}}(X_s, x_s) \\ \uparrow & \nearrow & \\ \pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), x) & & \end{array}$$

Then the images of T_i are also quasi-unipotent. Then for $\mathbb{L}_{\mathbb{C}}$ we can consider the same problem for \mathbb{L}_{ℓ} an ℓ -adic local system.

Proposition 6.0.7 (Deligne). Let $T_i^{\mathrm{ét}} \in \pi_1(X_{\mathbb{C}}, x)$ be the image of the T_i . Consider the homotopy exact sequence,

$$1 \longrightarrow \pi_1(X_{\mathbb{C}}, x) \longrightarrow \pi_1(X_F, x) \longrightarrow G_F \longrightarrow 1$$

Given a rational point $\sigma \in X_F(F)$ we get a section $\sigma : G_F \rightarrow \pi_1(X_F, x)$. Depending on the choice of σ we get an action,

$$\delta_\sigma : G_F \rightarrow \mathrm{Aut}(\pi_1(X_{\mathbb{C}}, x))$$

Then for $\gamma \in G_F$ then $\gamma(T_i^{\mathrm{ét}}) = (T_i^{\mathrm{ét}})^{\chi(\gamma)}$ where $\chi : G_F \rightarrow \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}^\times$ is the cyclotomic character².

¹Recall this means there is a dense open $U \subset X$ and a smooth projective morphism $f : Y \rightarrow U$ such that $L_{\mathbb{C}}|_U$ is a subquotient of the Gauss-Mannin system $\bigoplus_i R^i g_* \mathbb{C}$. By Deligne semi-simplicity we can assume it is actually a direct summand.

² $\chi = \prod_\ell \chi_\ell$ where $\chi_\ell : G_F \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_\ell^\times$ is the standard cyclotomic character.

6.1 Proof of the Density Theorem

Consider the moduli space M^\square of framed representations and let $Q = \overline{QU} \subset M^\square$ be the Zariski closure of the quasi-unipotent locus. Consider the conjugacy classes of $g_i \in \pi_1(X(\mathbb{C}), x)$ of the T_i . Consider the characteristic polynomials,

$$\text{char } \rho(g) = \det T - \rho(g_i) = T^r - S_n(\rho(g_i)T^{r-1} + \cdots + s_r(\rho(g_i)))$$

Now these invariants $\sigma_j(\rho(g_i))$ for each generator $i = 1, \dots, s$ define an element of $\mathbb{A}^{r-1} \times \mathbb{G}_m$ since $\rho(g_i)$ is invertible. This defines a morphism,

$$\psi : M^\square \rightarrow \prod_{i=1}^s (\mathbb{A}^{r-1} \times \mathbb{G}_m)$$

which factors through $M^\square \rightarrow M$ (although we don't need this). Then consider the diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & S \subset \prod_1^s (\mathbb{G}_m^r) & \\ & \downarrow \varphi & \\ M^\square & \xrightarrow{\psi} & R \subset \prod_1^s (\mathbb{A}^{r-1} \times \mathbb{G}_m) \end{array}$$

where R is the closure of $\psi(M^\square)$ and $S = \varphi^{-1}(R)$. The goal is to show that the image under φ of the quasi-unipotent part (meaning the elements in \mathbb{G}_m^r which are roots of unity in each coordinate) is dense in R . We can spread out this construction to B for some affine scheme finite type over \mathbb{Z} with $\mathcal{O}_B \subset \mathbb{C}$.

Assume for contradiction that $Q \subsetneq M^\square(\mathbb{C})$. When we consider $M_B^\square \rightarrow B$ the map $M_B^\square \setminus \overline{Q}_B \rightarrow B$ is dominant because $(M_B^\square \setminus Q)(\mathbb{C}) \neq \emptyset$ and hence $M_B^\square \setminus Q \rightarrow B$ hits the generic point and thus is dominant. This implies moreover (thought it just seems to me that we need the dominance of M^\square) that T_B and S_B dominate B . By generic smoothness, the smooth locus S_B^{smooth} over B dominates B (WHY IS S_B NONREDUCED). (WHY DOES $\psi_B(M_B^\square \setminus Q)$ MEET IMAGE OF φ_B).

7 Lecture 7 (Nov. 1) Companions

Let X be a smooth projective variety over \mathbb{C} and $\mathbb{L}_{\mathbb{C}}$ a complex local system. Let $\tau : \mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{C}$ be an automorphism. The local system corresponds to a representation,

$$\rho : \pi_1(X(\mathbb{C})) \rightarrow \text{GL}_r(\mathbb{C})$$

The considering $\rho^\tau = \tau \circ \rho$ we get a new local system \mathbb{L}^τ .

This gives a commutative diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M_B(X, r)_{\mathbb{C}} & \xrightarrow{\psi} & \prod_1^s (\mathbb{A}^{r-1} \times \mathbb{G}_m)_{\mathbb{C}} = N_{\mathbb{C}} \\ \downarrow (-)^\tau & & \downarrow \\ M_B(X, r) & \longrightarrow & N_{\mathbb{C}} \end{array}$$

7.1 Over Finite Fields

Let X be a quasi-projective variety over \mathbb{F}_q and $M_\ell^{\text{irred}}(X, r)$ be the set of simple arithmetic \mathbb{L}_ℓ on $X_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$ with $\ell \neq p$. For a field isomorphism $\sigma : \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_{\ell'}$ we get a diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \rho : \pi_1(X_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}) & \xrightarrow{\rho} & \text{GL}_r(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell) \\ & \searrow \rho^\sigma & \downarrow \sigma \\ & & \text{GL}_r(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_{\ell'}) \end{array}$$

however now ρ^σ is *not* continuous because there is no continuous isomorphism $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell \xrightarrow{\sim} \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_{\ell'}$ if $\ell \neq \ell'$. Thus ρ^σ does not define a ℓ' -local system. However, what we need is a diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M_\ell^{\text{irred}}(X, r) & \xrightarrow{\psi^\infty} & N^\infty(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}) \\ & & \downarrow \sigma \\ & & N^\infty(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}) \end{array}$$

so that the downward map preserves being a local system. Let,

$$N^\infty = \prod_{|X|} (\mathbb{A}^{r-1} \times \mathbb{G}_m)$$

where by Chebotarev we know that the representation is characterized by where the Frobenii land. We know,

$$\mathbb{L}_\ell \mapsto \text{char}(\mathbb{L}_\ell) = \det(T - \rho(g))$$

for $x \in X(\mathbb{F}_{q'})$ and $g = \text{Frob}_x$ gives characteristic polynomial with algebraic coefficients.

Conjecture 7.1.1 (Deligne, Companions). There is a diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M_\ell^{\text{irred}}(X, r) & \xhookrightarrow{\psi^\infty} & N^\infty(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}) \\ & & \downarrow \sigma \\ M_{\ell'}^{\text{irred}} & \longrightarrow & N^\infty(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}) \end{array}$$

Theorem 7.1.2 (Lafforge). Holds for X a smooth curve over \mathbb{F}_q and irred arithmetic ℓ -adic local systems are geometric.

Theorem 7.1.3 (Drinfeld). Let X be smooth $\dim X > 1$

Proof. Step zero (Deligne): if \mathbb{L}_ℓ is a ℓ -adic local system then,

$$\psi^\infty(\mathbb{L}_\ell) \in N^\infty(E)$$

for a fixed number field so there is a lattice E^r such that $\rho_{\mathbb{L}_\ell} : \pi_1(X_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_q}, x) \rightarrow \text{GL}_r(\mathcal{O}_E)$. Since $\sigma(\mathcal{O}_E) = \mathcal{O}_E$ the companion, if it exists, are defined over A for $A \hookrightarrow \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_{\ell'}$ is the completion at a place over ℓ' . First show upper bound to a cover of X domination all galois covers which come from: for $\varphi : C \rightarrow X$ the companion,

$$(\varphi^* \mathbb{L}_\ell)^\sigma \iff \pi_1(C, x) \rightarrow \text{GL}_r(\mathbb{Q})$$

Second step: there exists a curve such that $\pi_1(C) \rightarrow \pi_1(X)/H \rightarrow \text{finite}$

□

Remark. Warning: there is *no* Lefschetz theory over \mathbb{F}_q . Indeed, there is no curve $C \hookrightarrow \mathbb{A}^2$ such that $\pi_1(C) \rightarrow \pi_1(\mathbb{A}^2)$ is surjective.

8 Lecture 8 (Nov. 15)

Remark. Simpson's conjecture says that rigid integrable connections arise from geometry. This implies the following conjecture.

Theorem 8.0.1 (E. Grocenz, 2018). Let X be smooth projective over \mathbb{C} and (E, Δ) a rigid (isolated in the moduli space $M_{\text{dR}}(X, r, \mathcal{L})$ where \mathcal{L} is the determinant character). Then we can spread out to $\mathfrak{X} \rightarrow \text{Spec}(S)$ where S is a finite type smooth \mathbb{Z} -algebra and spread out to $(E, \nabla)_S$. For any $s \in |S|$ closed (really need $\kappa(s)$ perfect not just \mathbb{F}_q) then along $\text{Spec}(W(\kappa(s))) \rightarrow S$ we restrict to the formal scheme $\widehat{X_W}$ completed along $X_{\kappa(s)}$ then $(E, \nabla)|_{\widehat{X_W}}$ has the structure of an F -isocrystal.

8.1 F -isocrystals

Where does the F -isocrystal structure come from if the connection is geometric? Let's take the special case that $X = U$ and we have an actual cover $g : Y \rightarrow X$. Then we spread out to $g : Y_S \rightarrow X_S$ and restrict to characteristic p to get,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 Y_{\mathbb{F}_q} & & Y_{\mathbb{F}_q}^{(p)} & \longrightarrow & Y_{\mathbb{F}_q} \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow g' & & \downarrow \\
 X_{\mathbb{F}_q} & \xrightarrow{\text{Frob}_q} & X_{\mathbb{F}_q}^{(p)} & \longrightarrow & X_{\mathbb{F}_q} \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & \text{Spec}(\mathbb{F}_q) & \xrightarrow{F} & \text{Spec}(\mathbb{F}_q)
 \end{array}$$

Then $GM(g') = \text{Frob}_{\text{arith}}^* GM(g)$. Consider the good filtration (the one that passes to the derived category) with $\mathcal{H}^i(F^\bullet) = \text{Frob}_{\text{geom}}^*(\Omega_{Y^{(p)}/X^{(p)}}^\bullet)$ by Cartier isomorphism. Then $GM(g)$ is filtered by subconnections such that the graded parts are spanned by flat sections.

Definition 8.1.1. Let $\widehat{X_W}$ be a smooth formal scheme. Let $(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\nabla})_W = \varprojlim_n (E_n, \nabla_n)$ where each is a connection on $\widehat{X_W}/p^n = X_{W_n}$. There is a filtration $F^\bullet \subset (E_1, \nabla_1)$ such that $\nabla_1(F^i) \subset \Omega_X^1 \otimes F^i$ and $\text{gr}^F(E_1)$ is spanned by flat sections and by Carter isomorphism,

$$F^*$$

Then $(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\nabla})$ is a crystal.

Definition 8.1.2. The category of crystals is W -linear. The category of isocrystals is the isogeny category of the category of crystals. This is the same as just remembering the generic fiber $(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\nabla})_K$ but knowing that it comes from an object with a W -lattice.

Remark. Let $F : X_{\mathbb{F}_q} \rightarrow X_{\mathbb{F}_q}$ be the frobenius. If $\widehat{F} : \widehat{X} \rightarrow \widehat{X}$ is a lift to the formal model. Then $\widehat{F}^*(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\nabla})$ is defined.

Theorem 8.1.3. If $(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\nabla})$ is a crystal. By smoothness, locally on X_1 there is a lift \widehat{F} so we have locally defined $\widehat{F}^*(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\nabla})$ and these glue.

Definition 8.1.4. An F -isocrystal is an isocrystal equipped with an isomorphism (as isocrystals) $\widehat{F}^*(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\nabla})_K \xrightarrow{\sim} (\widehat{E}, \widehat{\nabla})_K$.

9 Lecture 9 (Nov. 22)

10 Lecture 10 (Nov. 29)

Let X be a smooth quasi-projective variety over \mathbb{C} and (E, ∇) a flat connection. We spread out to a model X_S over some finite type \mathbb{Z} -scheme S . Consider,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \longrightarrow & X_S \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathrm{Spec}(\mathbb{C}) & \longrightarrow & S \end{array}$$

If for every $s \in |S^\circ| \subset S$ with S° is a dense open we have $(E, \nabla)_s$ on X_s is spanned by flat sections then there is $h : Y \rightarrow X$ finite étale such that $h^*(E, \nabla)$ is trivial (i.e. is spanned by flat sections).

We replace the local condition with a weaker one: that there exists a filtration $\mathrm{Fil}_s \subset (E, \nabla)_s$ such that the graded parts are spanned by flat sections. This implies the weaker conclusion that (E, ∇) is *geometric* meaning there is $g : Y \rightarrow U \subset X$ open dense a smooth projective morphism g such that (E, ∇) is a subquotient of $R^i g_*(\mathcal{O}, d)$.

Valuge programs:

what if you replace X with the formal completion of X along a subscheme? Why would you do this? Over \mathbb{F}_q , we do have ℓ -adic “companions” in the sense of Deligne if X is smooth. But Deligne (Weil II) conjectured this for X normal. This is a serious generalization though it seems like a minor modification. Let X be normal, then we know resolution of singularities in characteristic p giving $h : \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$. Then there is a smooth open $U \hookrightarrow \tilde{X}$ mapping isomorphically into X . Let $C \subset \tilde{X}$ be a contracted curve. For an ℓ -adic local system \mathbb{L}_ℓ and an isomorphism $\sigma : \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell \xrightarrow{\sim} \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_{\ell'}$ we ask if there is a companion: $\mathbb{L}_{\ell'}$ which is required to satisfy,

$$\forall x \in |X| : \sigma(\det(T - F_x | \mathbb{L}_{\ell, \bar{x}})) = \det(T - F_x | \mathbb{L}_{\ell', \bar{x}})$$

If we consider $h^* \mathbb{L}_\ell$ then since \tilde{X} is smooth, there is a companion $\mathbb{L}_{\ell', \tilde{X}}$. For $x \in |C|$ we have,

$$\det(T - F_x | \mathbb{L}_{\ell, \bar{x}}) = \text{trivial}$$

meaning up to a field extension it is a fixed polynomial. Therefore, likewise for $\mathbb{L}_{\ell', \tilde{X}}$. However, there can be interesting topology to C , combinatorial loops coming from multiple components.

10.1 Alex Fubotsky

Theorem 10.1.1. Let π be a profinite group, topologically finitely generated. Then π is finitely presented iff there exists $C \geq 0$ such that for all primes ℓ and integer r for any,

$$\rho : \pi \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_r(\mathbb{F}_\ell)$$

then,

$$\dim_{\mathbb{F}_\ell} H^2(\pi, \rho) \leq C \cdot r$$

Corollary 10.1.2. If X is smooth and $X \hookrightarrow \overline{X}$ is a good compactification then $\pi^{\text{tame}}(X)$ is finitely presented.

(a) Let π be profinite and $\rho : \pi \rightarrow \text{GL}_r(\mathbb{F}_\ell)$ then,

$$\dim_{\mathbb{F}_\ell} H^0(\pi, \rho) \leq r$$

because it is the invariants of the action.

(b) If π is finitely generated with d generators then,

$$\dim_{\mathbb{F}_\ell} H^i(\pi, \rho) \leq d \cdot r$$

since a cocycle of π is determined by its values on the generators. A cocycle is a continuous map $\chi : \pi \rightarrow M$ with $\chi(ab) = a\chi(b) + \chi(a)$ which is determined by the generators.

(c) Let π be finitely presented, assume there is some bound on $\dim_{\mathbb{F}_\ell} H^i(\pi, \rho)$ is there a nice associated property?

Obstruction on π to be $\pi^{\text{tame}}(X)$ for X smooth projective over $k = \bar{k}$ in char $p > 0$ which lifts to characteristic zero. Yes: p' -finitely presented.

Conjecture 10.1.3. Replace X by a rigid analytic variety, this is still an obstruction.

Let X be normal over \mathbb{C} quasi-projective. Then consider $M_B^{\text{irred}}(X, r)(\mathbb{C})$ contains a Zariski dense subset of local systems with quasi-unipotent monodromy at ∞ .

We we make the same definition with \mathbb{F}_ℓ local systems we can ask the same question: are the quasi-unipotent at ∞ dense?