



# Uniformization of Principal Bundles

---

Minh-Tâm Quang Trinh

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Plan of talk:

1. Overview
2. Gluing
3. Generic Trivialization
4. Smoothness

Sources:

- Beauville–Laszlo, « Un lemme de descente ... »
- Beauville–Laszlo, “Conformal Blocks...”
- Drinfeld–Simpson, “ $B$ -Structures...”
- Heinloth, “Uniformization...”
- Lurie, Harvard Math 282y S14 lecture notes

## §1 Overview

$k$  algebraically closed

$G$  connected reductive algebraic group /  $k$

$X$  smooth projective curve /  $k$

$\mathcal{B}un$  moduli of (fppf)  $G$ -torsors over  $X$

Weil observed  $\mathcal{B}un(k) \simeq G(F_X) \backslash G(\mathbf{A}_X) / G(\mathbf{O}_X)$ .

For  $k = \bar{\mathbf{F}}_q$  and  $G$  simply-connected semisimple and  $v \in X(k)$ , strong approximation says

$$G(F_X)G(\hat{F}_v) \text{ is dense in } G(\mathbf{A}_X),$$

which implies the surjectivity of

$$G(\hat{F}_v) / G(\hat{\mathcal{O}}_v) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}un(k).$$

$$L_v G(R) := G(R \hat{\otimes} \hat{F}_v), \quad L_v^+ G(R) := G(R \hat{\otimes} \hat{\mathcal{O}}_v)$$

Affine Grassmannian:  $\mathcal{G}r_v := (L_v G / L_v^+ G)^\sharp$

**Thm** For simply-connected semisimple  $G$ , the map

$$\mathcal{G}r_v \rightarrow \mathcal{B}un$$

is étale-surjective. (Also ind-smooth.)

Two steps:

1. Beauville–Laszlo:  $\mathcal{G}r_v \simeq \mathcal{G}r_v^{glob}$  as functors.
2. Drinfeld–Simpson:  $\mathcal{G}r_v^{glob} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}un$  is étale-surjective.

$$\Delta_{v,R} := \mathrm{Spec}(R \hat{\otimes} \hat{\mathcal{O}}_v), \quad \Delta_{v,R}^\times := \mathrm{Spec}(R \hat{\otimes} \hat{F}_v)$$

$$\mathcal{G}r_v(R) = \left\{ (E, \alpha) \left| \begin{array}{l} E \rightarrow \Delta_{v,R} \text{ is a } G\text{-torsor,} \\ \alpha \in \Gamma(\Delta_{v,R}^\times, E) \end{array} \right. \right\}$$

On  $k$ -points,  $gG(\hat{\mathcal{O}}_v) \rightsquigarrow (E, \alpha) = (G \times \Delta_v, g)$ .

$$X_R := X \times \mathrm{Spec}(R), \quad X_R^\times := (X - v) \times \mathrm{Spec}(R)$$

$$\mathcal{G}r_v^{glob}(R) := \left\{ (E, \alpha) \left| \begin{array}{l} E \rightarrow X_R \text{ is a } G\text{-torsor,} \\ \alpha \in \Gamma(X_R^\times, E) \end{array} \right. \right\}$$

$\mathcal{G}r_v^{glob} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}r_v$  is restricting to  $\Delta_v$ .

$\mathcal{G}r_v^{glob} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}un$  is forgetting  $\alpha$ .

## §2 Gluing

Want to show  $\mathcal{G}r_v^{glob} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}r_v$  is an isomorphism.

Intuitively, if  $(E, \alpha) \in \mathcal{G}r_v(R)$ , then we use  $\alpha$  to glue  $E$  to the trivial torsor on  $X_R^\times$ .

That is, descent along:

$$(*) \quad X_R^\times \sqcup \Delta_{v,R} \rightarrow X_R$$

Objections:

1. If  $R$  is not noetherian, then  $\Delta_{v,R} \rightarrow X_R$  may not be flat,\* so  $(*)$  may not be fpqc.
2. Not clear that a gluing map over  $\Delta_{v,R}^\times$  provides a descent datum for  $(*)$ .

\* Stacks Project Tag OAL8

A 2010 solution by Heinloth:

1.  $\mathcal{G}r_v$  and  $\mathcal{G}r_v^{glob}$  being of ind-finite type, they are determined by their restrictions to noetherian  $R$ .

2. Descent datum for  $(*)$  is an element of

$$G(X_R^\times) \times G(\Delta_{v,R}^\times) \times G(\Delta_{v,R}^\times) \times G(\Delta_{v,R} \times_{X_R} \Delta_{v,R})$$

satisfying a cocycle condition.

Show that  $\Delta_{v,R} \times_{X_R} \Delta_{v,R}$  is the pushout of  $\Delta_{v,R}$  along the diagonal  $\Delta_{v,R}^\times \rightarrow \Delta_{v,R}^\times \times_{X_R} \Delta_{v,R}^\times$ .

$$\begin{aligned} g \in G(\Delta_{v,R}^\times) &\rightsquigarrow g^{-1} \boxtimes g \in G(\Delta_{v,R}^\times \times_{X_R} \Delta_{v,R}^\times) \\ &\rightsquigarrow g^{-1} \boxtimes g \in G(\Delta_{v,R} \times_{X_R} \Delta_{v,R}) \end{aligned}$$

The datum is  $(1, g, g^{-1}, g^{-1} \boxtimes g)$ .

The 1995 solution by Beauville–Laszlo:

Reduce to  $G = \mathrm{GL}_n$ . Replace  $X_R^\times \sqcup \Delta_{v,R} \rightarrow X_R$  with

$$\mathrm{Spec}(A[\frac{1}{t}]) \sqcup \mathrm{Spec}(\hat{A}) \rightarrow \mathrm{Spec}(A)$$

where  $t \in A$  is a non-zerodivisor and  $\hat{A} = \lim_n A/(t^n)$ .

**Thm (BL)** Fix  $M' \in \mathrm{Mod}(A[\frac{1}{t}])$ ,  $M'' \in \mathrm{Mod}(\hat{A})$ ,

$$\varphi : M' \otimes_A \hat{A} \xrightarrow{\sim} M'' \otimes_A A[\frac{1}{t}].$$

If  $M''$  has no  $t$ -torsion, then there exist  $N \in \mathrm{Mod}(A)$ ,

$$\psi' : N \otimes_A A[\frac{1}{t}] \xrightarrow{\sim} M', \quad \psi'' : N \otimes_A \hat{A} \xrightarrow{\sim} M''$$

all essentially unique, such that  $\varphi$  results from  $\psi', \psi''$ .  
No noetherian hypotheses.

*Proof of existence* Let  $N$  be the kernel of:

$$(\star) \quad M' \rightarrow M' \otimes \hat{A} \xrightarrow{\varphi} M''[\frac{1}{t}] \rightarrow (M''[\frac{1}{t}])/M''.$$

Tensoring up to  $A[\frac{1}{t}] \times \hat{A}$  shows  $(\star)$  is surjective, so

$$(\star\star) \quad 0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow M' \rightarrow (M''[\frac{1}{t}])/M'' \rightarrow 0$$

is exact.

Tensoring  $(\star\star)$  up to  $A[\frac{1}{t}]$ , *resp.*  $\hat{A}$ , gives  $\psi'$ , *resp.*  $\psi''$ .

Hard part is  $\psi''$  because  $A \rightarrow \hat{A}$  may not be flat. But

$$\mathrm{Tor}_1^A(\hat{A}, (M''[\frac{1}{t}])/M'') = \varinjlim_n \mathrm{Tor}_1^A(\hat{A}, (\frac{1}{t^n} M'')/M'')$$

vanishes, using injectivity of  $M'' \xrightarrow{t^n} M''$ .

### §3 Generic Trivializations

Want to show  $\mathcal{G}r_v^{glob} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}un$  is étale-surjective.

Fix a Borel  $B \subseteq G$ . A  $B$ -reduction of a  $G$ -torsor  $E$  is an isomorphism

$$(F \times G)/B \xrightarrow{\sim} E,$$

where  $F$  is a  $B$ -torsor and  $(f, g) \cdot b = (fb, b^{-1}g)$ .

**Thm (DS)** For any  $G$ -torsor  $E \rightarrow X_R$ , there is an étale map  $R \rightarrow R'$  such that  $E|_{X_{R'}}$  has a  $B$ -reduction.

**Thm (DS)** Take  $G$  simply-connected semisimple.

For any  $v \in X(R)$  and  $G$ -torsor  $E \rightarrow X_R$ , there is an étale map  $R \rightarrow R'$  such that  $E|_{X_{R'} - v_{R'}}$  trivializes.

**Lem** A  $B$ -reduction of  $E \rightarrow Y$  is equivalent to a section of the associated bundle

$$E/B := (E \times G/B)/G.$$

Explicitly, if  $s$  is such a section, then  $F \rightarrow Y$  defined by the fiber product

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F & \xrightarrow{\tilde{s}} & E \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ Y & \xrightarrow{s} & E/B \end{array}$$

is the  $B$ -torsor.

The map  $(F \times G)/B \xrightarrow{\sim} E$  sends  $[f, g] \mapsto \tilde{s}(f)g$ .

**Thm A** For any  $G$ -torsor  $E \rightarrow X_R$ , there is an étale map  $R \rightarrow R'$  such that  $E|_{X_{R'}}$  has a  $B$ -reduction.

*Proof* Fix  $R$  and  $E \rightarrow X_R$ . For any  $R$ -algebra  $R'$ , let

$$\mathcal{S}_{R,E}(R') = \Gamma(X_{R'}, (E/B)|_{X_{R'}}).$$

Want to trivialize  $p : \mathcal{S}_{R,E} \rightarrow \mathrm{Spec}(R)$  étale-locally.

Let  $\mathcal{S}_{R,E}^\circ \subseteq \mathcal{S}_{R,E}$  be the locus where  $p$  is smooth.

Suffices to show  $p|_{\mathcal{S}_{R,E}^\circ}$  is surjective.

1. Check that  $p$  is surjective on  $k$ -points.
2. For any  $x \in \mathrm{Spec}(R)(k)$ , give  $y \in p^{-1}(x)$  such that

$$s_y \in \Gamma(x^*(X_R), x^*(E/B)) = \Gamma(X, (x^*E)/B)$$

satisfies  $H^1(X, s_y^*T_{(x^*E)/B \rightarrow X}) = 0$ .

*Claim (1)* Equivalent to  $R = k$  case of **Thm A**, with  $R' = k$  as well.

Take a  $G$ -torsor over  $X$ . By Steinberg, it trivializes at the generic point  $\eta$ , hence over a dense open  $U \subseteq X$ .

Pick a section over  $U$ . Since  $G/B$  is proper, the valuative criterion says it extends to a section over  $X$ .

**Rem** The proof above generalizes to smooth affine algebraic  $\mathcal{G} \rightarrow X$  with  $\mathcal{G}_\eta$  connected reductive. See Lurie's [Math 282y S14 notes](#).

**Rem** We can prove Steinberg's theorem using the regular centralizer scheme over  $\mathfrak{g} // G$ . See Gaitsgory's [2009 seminar notes](#).

*Claim (2)* Suppose we have

$$\begin{array}{ll}
E \in \mathcal{B}un(R) & \\
x \in \operatorname{Spec}(R)(k) & \\
y \in \mathcal{S}_{R,E}(k) & \text{lifting } x \\
s_y \in \Gamma(X, (x^*E)/B) & \text{defined by } y
\end{array}$$

The relative tangent bundle  $T_{(x^*E)/B \rightarrow X}$  is a vector bundle on  $(x^*E)/B$ .

$H^1(X, s_y^* T_{(x^*E)/B \rightarrow X})$  controls deformations of  $s_y$ :

$$H^1(X, s_y^* T_{(x^*E)/B \rightarrow X}) = 0 \iff y \in \mathcal{S}_{R,E}^\circ(k).$$

For fixed  $x$ , must modify  $y$  such that LHS holds.

Now we can forget  $R$ .

$$E_\circ = X \times G, \quad E_\bullet = x^*E.$$

Start with any  $y$  and set  $s = s_y \in \Gamma(X, E_\bullet/B)$ .

Since the  $B$ -reduction  $s^*E_\bullet$  is generically trivial, can find a dense open  $U \subseteq X$  and an isomorphism

$$\beta : (E_\circ/B)|_U \xrightarrow{\sim} (E_\bullet/B)|_U$$

such that  $\beta \circ \mathbf{1}|_U = s|_U$ , where  $\mathbf{1}$  is the zero section.

**Lem** There exist  $E_\circ/B \xleftarrow{\phi} M \xrightarrow{\tilde{\beta}} E_\bullet/B$  and a divisor  $D$  supported on  $X - U$  such that:

1.  $\phi$  restricts to an isomorphism  $(E_\circ/B)|_U \xleftarrow{\sim} M|_U$ .
2. If  $\sigma \in \Gamma(X, E_\circ/B)$  satisfies  $\sigma|_D = \mathbf{1}|_D$ , then  $\sigma = \phi \circ \tilde{\sigma}$  for some unique lift  $\tilde{\sigma} \in \Gamma(X, M)$ .
3.  $T_{M \rightarrow X} \simeq \phi^* T_{E_\circ/B \rightarrow X}(-D)$ .
4.  $\beta$  factors through  $\tilde{\beta}$ .



$M$  is the *dilatation* of  $E_{\circ}/B$  along  $(\mathbf{1}, D)$ .

If  $D = \emptyset$ , then set  $M_{\emptyset} = E_{\circ}/B$  and  $\mathbf{1}_{\emptyset} = \mathbf{1}$ .

If  $D = [p] + D'$ , then lift  $\mathbf{1}_{D'}$  to  $\mathbf{1}_D \in \Gamma(M_{D'})$  and set

$$M_D = \text{Blowup}_{\mathbf{1}_D(p)}(M_{D'}) - \text{Blowup}_{\mathbf{1}_D(p)}(M_{D',p}).$$

The map  $M = M_D \rightarrow X$  remains smooth.

Pick  $\sigma \in \Gamma(X, E_{\circ}/B)$  as in the lemma.

By (3),  $H^1(\tilde{\sigma}^*T_{M \rightarrow X}) \simeq H^1(\sigma^*T_{E_{\circ}/B \rightarrow X}(-D))$ .

By (4),  $H^1(\tilde{\sigma}^*T_{M \rightarrow X}) \rightarrow H^1(\tilde{\sigma}^*\tilde{\beta}^*T_{E_{\bullet}/B \rightarrow X})$ .

(Use the fact that  $(\tilde{\sigma}^*T_{M \rightarrow X})|_U \simeq (\tilde{\beta}^*T_{E_{\bullet}/B \rightarrow X})|_U$ .)

Remains to pick  $\sigma$  so that  $H^1(\sigma^*T_{E_{\circ}/B \rightarrow X}(-D)) = 0$ .

Then  $\tilde{s} = \tilde{\beta} \circ \tilde{\sigma} \in \Gamma(X, E_{\bullet}/B)$  is our modification of  $s$ .

The section  $\sigma \in \Gamma(X, E_{\circ}/B)$  is equivalent to a map  $g : X \rightarrow G/B$ .

**Lem** For any divisor  $D \subseteq X$ , there is  $g : X \rightarrow G/B$  such that  $g(p) = B$  for all  $p \in D$  and

$$H^1(X, g^*T_{G/B}(-D)) = 0.$$

*Proof sketch* Let  $T \subseteq B$  be a maximal torus.

Let  $\deg(g) \in X_*(T) = \text{Hom}(X^*(T), \mathbf{Z})$  be the map

$$X^*(T) = \text{Pic}(pt/B) \xrightarrow{L} \text{Pic}(G/B) \xrightarrow{g^*} \text{Pic}(X) \xrightarrow{\deg} \mathbf{Z}.$$

Via filtering, reduce from  $T_{G/B}$  to  $L(\lambda)$  with  $\lambda \in \Phi_-$ .

Reduce to finding  $g_n$  such that  $\langle \deg(g_n), \lambda \rangle > n$  for all  $n$  and  $\lambda \in \Phi_-$ .

Via a branched cover, reduce to  $X = \mathbf{P}^1$  and  $n = 0$ .

**Thm B** Take  $G$  simply-connected semisimple.

For any  $v \in X(R)$  and  $G$ -torsor  $E \rightarrow X_R$ , there is an étale map  $R \rightarrow R'$  such that  $E|_{X_{R'} - v_{R'}}$  trivializes.

Étale-locally over  $\text{Spec}(R)$ , pick a  $B$ -reduction  $F$ .

Let  $F'$  be the extension of  $F$  along  $B \twoheadrightarrow T \hookrightarrow B$ .

Write  $B = T \ltimes U$ . As  $X_R - v$  is affine and  $U$  is filtered by copies of  $\mathbf{G}_a$ , we can show  $F'|_{X_R - v} \simeq F|_{X_R - v}$ .

So we can assume  $F$  has a  $T$ -reduction.

Since  $T$  is commutative,  $T$ -torsors form a group stack.

Suppose that  $\check{\lambda} \in X_*(T)$  and two  $T$ -torsors differ by the  $\check{\lambda}$ -extension of some  $\mathbf{G}_m$ -torsor.

Suffices to show that the associated  $G$ -torsors must be isomorphic étale-locally on  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

Since  $G$  is simply-connected, it suffices to assume  $\lambda^\vee$  is a simple coroot  $\check{\alpha}$ .

So it suffices to take  $G$  generated by  $T$  and  $r_{\check{\alpha}}(\text{SL}_2)$ .

Such a group is the product of  $\text{SL}_2$  or  $\text{GL}_2$  with some smaller torus.

*“In the first case it suffices to show that the restriction [to  $X_R - v$ ] of an  $\text{SL}_2$ -bundle on  $X$  is trivial locally [over  $R$ ]. In the second case it is enough to show that that the restriction... of two  $\text{GL}_2$ -bundles on  $X$  with the same determinant are isomorphic locally...”*

In fact, Beauville–Laszlo did the  $\text{SL}_n$  case by induction on  $n$ , and the  $\text{GL}_2$  case is similar.

**Key Idea** A high-enough twist at  $v$  of the associated vector bundle can be split locally over  $\text{Spec}(R)$ .

## §4 Smoothness

**Thm** The map  $\mathcal{G}r_v^{glob} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}un$  is (formally) smooth.

That is: Suppose  $R \rightarrow R'$  is a square-zero extension of  $k$ -algebras and  $E \in \mathcal{B}un(R)$  and  $E' = E|_{X_{R'}}$ . Then

$$\Gamma(X_{v,R}^\times, E) \rightarrow \Gamma(X_{v,R'}^\times, E') \text{ is surjective.}$$

*Key idea* Below,  $X_{v,R'}^\times \rightarrow X_{v,R}^\times$  is square-zero and  $E|_{X_{v,R}^\times} \rightarrow X_{v,R}^\times$  is smooth:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & E'|_{X_{v,R'}^\times} \\ & \nearrow \alpha' & \downarrow \\ X_{v,R'}^\times & & E|_{X_{v,R}^\times} \\ & \searrow \alpha & \downarrow \\ X_{v,R}^\times & \xlongequal{\quad} & X_{v,R}^\times \end{array}$$

*Thank you for listening.*