

# MIXED HODGE STRUCTURES ON FUNDAMENTAL GROUPS

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This is the lecture notes for a graduate course given at Oxford in Michaelmas term 2019. References can be found on the [course website](#). The objective is to study mixed Hodge structures on fundamental groups. Most topics and the presentation are taken from a [course](#) I have learned from Richard Hain in Duke University. Since this is hastily typed up, any typos and mistakes are made by me. I would appreciate any corrections and suggestions. Please send them to [luom@maths.ox.ac.uk](mailto:luom@maths.ox.ac.uk).

## INTRODUCTION

The first interesting topological invariant of a space  $X$  one learns in algebraic topology is usually the fundamental group, also known as the first homotopy group. For each point  $x \in X$ , define

$$P_x X := \{ \gamma \mid \gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow X \text{ (piecewise) smooth, } \gamma(0) = \gamma(1) = x \}$$

to be the loop space. With the appropriate<sup>1</sup> topology, its path connected component  $\pi_0(P_x X, \bar{x})$  can be identified with the fundamental group  $\pi_1(X, x)$ . Higher homotopy groups can be inductively defined as

$$\pi_{k+1}(X, x) \cong \pi_k(P_x X, \bar{x}).$$

We want to study these homotopy groups via differential forms, but issues need to be overcome:

- $\pi_3(S^2) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ , but  $E^3(S^2) = 0$
- $\pi_1$  is non-abelian, but  $\int_{\alpha\beta} \omega = \int_\alpha \omega + \int_\beta \omega = \int_{\beta\alpha} \omega$ . Question: how to detect its commutators?

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<sup>1</sup>compact open.

Kuo-Tsai Chen has discovered a generalization of the usual line integral as follows. Given a path  $\gamma$  and differential 1-forms  $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_r$  on  $X$ . Define an *iterated line integral* by

$$(0.1) \quad \int_{\gamma} \omega_1 \cdots \omega_r = \int \cdots \int_{0 \leq t_1 \leq \cdots \leq t_r \leq 1} f_1(t_1) f_2(t_2) \cdots f_r(t_r) dt_1 \cdots dt_r$$

where  $\gamma^* \omega_j = f_j(t) dt$ . It is a time ordered integral.

**Example 0.1.** Suppose that we have lines  $l_1, \dots, l_r$  and a path  $\gamma$  on a plane. For simplicity, we assume that the path  $\gamma(t)$  transversely passes each line exactly once, at time  $t = a_j$ . For each line  $l_j$ , we have a generalized differential form (also known as current or distribution)  $\omega_j$ , such that

$$\epsilon_j := \int_{\gamma} \omega_j = \#(l_j \cdot \gamma) = \pm 1,$$

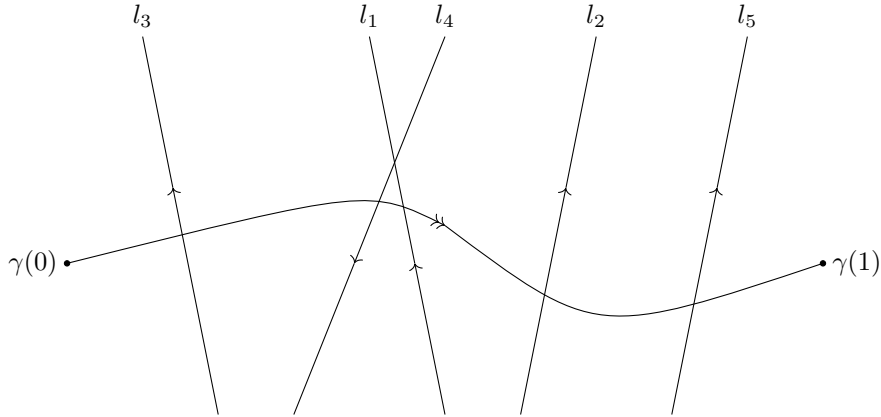
which is the intersection number of  $l_j$  with  $\gamma$  and the sign depends on orientation. More precisely, we have  $\gamma^* \omega_j = f_j(t) dt$  with

$$f_j(t) = \epsilon_j \delta(t - a_j),$$

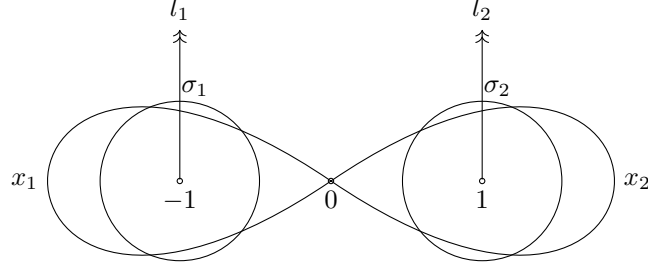
where  $\delta(t - a_j)$  is the Dirac delta function centered at  $t = a_j$ . Now we have

$$\int_{\gamma} \omega_1 \cdots \omega_r = \begin{cases} \epsilon_1 \cdots \epsilon_r & \text{if } a_1 < a_2 < \cdots < a_r \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

For the path illustrated below  $\int_{\gamma} \omega_1 \omega_3 = 0$ ,  $\int_{\gamma} \omega_3 \omega_1 \omega_2 = -1$ ,  $\int_{\gamma} \omega_3 \omega_4 \omega_1 \omega_2 \omega_5 = 1$ .



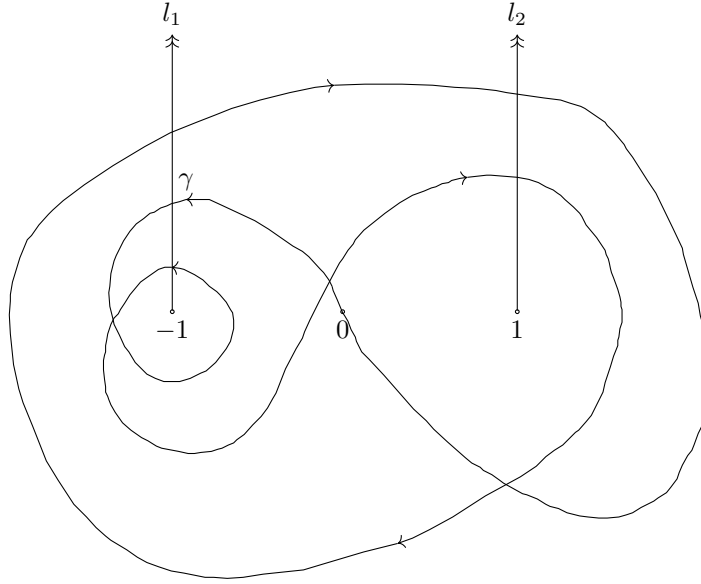
**Example 0.2.** Let  $X = \mathbb{C} - \{-1, 1\}$ . The homology group is  $H_1(X; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z} \cdot a_1 \oplus \mathbb{Z} \cdot a_2$  where  $a_j$  is the homology class  $[\sigma_j]$ . The cohomology group  $H^1(X; \mathbb{Z})$  is generated by the two (non-compact) cycles  $l_1$  and  $l_2$  pictured below.



The homology class of a cycle  $\gamma : S^1 \rightarrow X$  is

$$[\gamma] = \#(l_1 \cdot \gamma)a_1 + \#(l_2 \cdot \gamma)a_2.$$

From the previous example, by using iterated integrals, one knows the order and direction in which a path  $\gamma$  passes through  $l_1$  and  $l_2$ , thus we know its homotopy class in  $\pi_1(X, 0) \approx \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle$ . The homotopy class of the path  $\gamma$  illustrated below is  $x_1^2 x_2^{-1} x_1^{-1} x_2^{-1}$ .



*Remark 0.3.* Usual integrals (of differential forms/currents) detect non-trivial homology classes of an oriented manifold  $X$  by an *abelian* intersection theory, while iterated integrals detect non-trivial elements of  $\pi_*(X)$  by a *non-abelian* intersection theory.

## 1. ITERATED INTEGRALS

1.1. **Path space.** For  $X$  a smooth manifold, define its path space

$$PX := \{(\text{piecewise}) \text{ smooth paths on } X\}.$$

Its topology is given by the compact open topology.

Given topological spaces  $X, Y, Z$ , one can define  $X^Y := \{\text{continuous maps } Y \rightarrow X\}$ . The compact open topology has universal mapping property:

$$(Z \xrightarrow{\alpha} X^Y \text{ continuous}) \iff (Y \times Z \xrightarrow{\phi_\alpha} X \text{ continuous})$$

where  $\phi_\alpha(y, z) = \alpha(z)(y)$ .

We have an evaluation map

$$\begin{aligned} PX &\xrightarrow{e} X \times X \\ \gamma &\mapsto (\gamma(0), \gamma(1)) \end{aligned}$$

Define subspaces of  $PX$ :

$$P_{x,y}X := e^{-1}(x, y); \quad P_xX := e^{-1}(x, x).$$

1.2. **Differential forms on  $PX$ .** Question: When is  $U \xrightarrow{\alpha} PX(\subset X^I)$  smooth? Shall we just ask  $\phi_\alpha : I \times U \rightarrow X$  to be smooth?

Chen in his Bulletin paper defines “differentiable spaces”.

**Definition 1.1.** A differentiable space is a set  $M$  and a collection of maps

$$(\alpha : U \rightarrow M \quad \text{where } U \text{ is open in } \mathbb{R}^d)$$

called “plots”, such that

- (1) every constant map  $U \rightarrow M$  is a plot
- (2) if  $U \xrightarrow{\alpha} M$  is a plot and  $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^e$  is open and  $\theta : V \rightarrow U$  is smooth, then  $\alpha \circ \theta$  is a plot
- (3) “local property”:  $\phi|_{\text{open covering}}$  is a plot  $\implies \phi$  is a plot

**Example 1.2.**  $PX$  is a differentiable space. Plots:

$$\alpha : U \rightarrow PX \text{ is a plot}$$

$\iff \exists$  a partition  $0 = t_0 < \dots < t_n = 1$  s.t.  $\phi_\alpha : I \times U \rightarrow X$  restricted to each  $[t_{j-1}, t_j] \times U$  is smooth.

**Definition 1.3.**  $M, N$  are differentiable spaces. We say  $F : M \rightarrow N$  is smooth if for each plot  $\alpha : U \rightarrow M$ ,  $F \circ \alpha$  is a plot.

*Remark 1.4.* (1) every plot is smooth

- (2) every manifold is a differentiable space

**Definition 1.5.** A  $k$ -form on a differentiable space  $M$  is a family  $(\omega_\alpha)$  for every plot  $U \xrightarrow{\alpha} M$ , where  $\omega_\alpha \in E^k(U)$  such that if  $\theta : V \rightarrow U$  is smooth, then  $\theta^* \omega_\alpha = \omega_{\alpha \circ \theta}$ .

Denote the  $k$ -forms on  $M$  by  $E^k(M)$ . For  $\omega \in E^k(M)$ ,  $\eta \in E^l(M)$ , define  $d\omega \in E^{k+1}(M)$  by  $d\omega = (d\omega_\alpha)$ , and  $\omega \wedge \eta \in E^{k+l}(M)$  by  $\omega \wedge \eta = (\omega_\alpha \wedge \eta_\alpha)$ . Therefore,  $E^\bullet(M)$  is a differential graded algebra (d.g.a.).

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
M & \xrightarrow{F} & N \\
\alpha \swarrow & & \uparrow F \circ \alpha \\
& & U
\end{array}$$

If  $F : M \rightarrow N$  is smooth, we have pull-back  $F^* : E^\bullet(N) \rightarrow E^\bullet(M)$ ,  $\omega \mapsto F^*\omega$ , where  $(F^*\omega)_\alpha = \omega_{F \circ \alpha} \in E^\bullet(U)$ .

**1.3. Complex of iterated integrals/Chen complex  $Ch^\bullet(PX)$ .** Now we go

back to  $M = PX$ . Have

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
PX & & \gamma \\
\downarrow e & & \downarrow \\
X \times X & & (\gamma(0), \gamma(1))
\end{array}$$

where  $e = (p_0, p_1)$ . One can

check this is smooth. (In fact,  $p_t$  is smooth  $\forall t \in [0, 1]$ ). So we have

$$p_t^* : E^\bullet(X) \rightarrow E^\bullet(PX)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
p_0^* \otimes p_1^* : E^\bullet(X) \otimes E^\bullet(X) &\rightarrow E^\bullet(PX) \\
\omega' \otimes \omega'' &\mapsto p_0^* \omega' \wedge p_1^* \omega''
\end{aligned}$$

**Definition 1.6.** For  $\omega_j \in E^{n_j}(X)$ , define

$$\int (\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_r) = \pi_* \varphi^* (1 \times \omega_1 \times \cdots \times \omega_r \times 1)$$

where

- (1)  $\Delta^r = \{\text{time ordered simplex}\} = \{(t_1, \dots, t_r) : 0 \leq t_1 \leq \cdots \leq t_r \leq 1\}$
- (2)  $\varphi : \Delta^r \times PX \rightarrow X \times X^r \times X$  is the sampling map,  $((t_1, \dots, t_r), \gamma) \mapsto (\gamma(0), \gamma(t_1), \dots, \gamma(t_r), \gamma(1))$ . (This map is smooth)
- (3)  $\pi_*$  denotes integration over the fiber of the projection  $\pi : \Delta^r \times PX \rightarrow PX$ .

*Remark 1.7.* If any  $\omega_j \in E^0(X)$ , then  $\int (\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_r) = 0$ . Reason: for  $p_t : [0, 1] \times PX \rightarrow X$ ,  $(t, \gamma) \mapsto \gamma(t)$ , and  $\omega \in E^\bullet(X)$ , we can write  $p_t^* \omega = dt \wedge \varphi(t) + \psi(t)$ . If  $\omega \in E^0(X)$  then  $\varphi = 0$ . But

$$\begin{aligned}
\varphi^* (1 \times \omega_1 \times \cdots \times \omega_r \times 1) &= \pm dt_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge dt_r \wedge \varphi_1(t_1) \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_r(t_r) + (\text{lower degree terms}) \\
&\downarrow \pi_* \\
&= \int_{\Delta^r} \varphi_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_r
\end{aligned}$$

We will always assume  $n_j = \deg(\omega_j) \geq 1$ .

**Definition 1.8 (Variant).** Let  $\omega', \omega'' \in E^\bullet(X)$  with degrees  $n', n''$ . Then have

$$(*) \quad \pi_* \varphi^* (\omega' \times \omega_1 \times \cdots \times \omega_r \times \omega'') = p_0^* \omega' \wedge \int (\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_r) \wedge p_1^* \omega'' \in E^n(PX)$$

where  $n = (n_1 + \cdots + n_r - r) + n' + n''$ .

**Definition 1.9.**

$$Ch^\bullet(PX) = \{\text{iterated integrals}\} = \{\text{linear span of } (*)\text{'s in } E^\bullet(PX)\}$$

*Remark 1.10.* One can restrict this to subspaces  $P_{x,y}X$ ,  $P_xX$  of  $PX$  and obtain  $Ch^\bullet(P_{x,y}X)$ ,  $Ch^\bullet(P_xX)$ .

Need

- (1) Show that  $Ch^\bullet(PX)$  is a d.g.a.

(2) Have formulas for  $d, \wedge$ .

**Proposition 1.11** (Formulas).

(1)

$$\begin{aligned} d \int (\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_r) &= \sum_{j=1}^r \pm \int (\omega_1 | \cdots | d\omega_j | \cdots | \omega_r) \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=2}^r \pm \int (\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_{j-1} \wedge \omega_j | \cdots | \omega_r) \\ &\quad \pm \int (\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_{r-1}) \wedge p_1^* \omega_r \pm p_0^* \omega_1 \wedge \int (\omega_2 | \cdots | \omega_r) \end{aligned}$$

$$(2) \int (\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_r) \wedge \int (\omega_{r+1} | \cdots | \omega_{r+s}) = \sum_{\sigma \in Sh(r,s)} \pm \int (\omega_{\sigma(1)} | \cdots | \omega_{\sigma(r+s)}).$$

*Proof.* For (2): (follows by standard triangulation of  $\Delta^r \times \Delta^s$ ) Definition for a shuffle of type  $(r, s)$ : a permutation  $\sigma$  such that  $\sigma^{-1}(1) < \sigma^{-1}(2) < \cdots < \sigma^{-1}(r)$  and  $\sigma^{-1}(r+1) < \sigma^{-1}(r+2) < \cdots < \sigma^{-1}(r+s)$ . Let

$$\Delta^r = \{(t_1, \dots, t_r) : 0 \leq t_1 \leq \cdots \leq t_r \leq 1\},$$

$$\Delta^s = \{(t_{r+1}, \dots, t_{r+s}) : 0 \leq t_{r+1} \leq \cdots \leq t_{r+s} \leq 1\}.$$

For each point  $(t_1, \dots, t_r; t_{r+1}, \dots, t_{r+s}) \in \Delta^r \times \Delta^s$ , there is a shuffle  $\sigma$  of type  $(r, s)$  such that

$$0 \leq t_{\sigma(1)} \leq t_{\sigma(2)} \leq \cdots \leq t_{\sigma(r+s)} \leq 1.$$

This  $\sigma$  is unique if  $t_j$ 's are distinct. So

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^r \times \Delta^s &= \bigcup_{\sigma \in Sh(r,s)} \{(t_{\sigma^{-1}(1)}, \dots, t_{\sigma^{-1}(r+s)}) : 0 \leq t_1 \leq \cdots \leq t_{r+s} \leq 1\} \\ &= \bigcup_{\sigma \in Sh(r,s)} \Delta_{\sigma}^{r+s}. \end{aligned}$$

For any plot  $\alpha : U \rightarrow PX$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\alpha^* \left( \int (\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_r) \wedge \int (\omega_{r+1} | \cdots | \omega_{r+s}) \right) \\ &= \int_{0 \leq t_1 \leq \cdots \leq t_r \leq 1} \varphi_1(t_1) \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_r(t_r) \wedge \int_{0 \leq t_{r+1} \leq \cdots \leq t_{r+s} \leq 1} \varphi_{r+1}(t_{r+1}) \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_{r+s}(t_{r+s}) \\ &= \int_{\Delta^r \times \Delta^s} \varphi_1(t_1) \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_{r+s}(t_{r+s}) \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in Sh(r,s)} \int_{\Delta_{\sigma}^{r+s}} \varphi_1(t_1) \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_{r+s}(t_{r+s}) \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in Sh(r,s)} \int_{0 \leq t_1 \leq \cdots \leq t_{r+s} \leq 1} \varphi_1(t_{\sigma^{-1}(1)}) \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_{r+s}(t_{\sigma^{-1}(r+s)}) \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in Sh(r,s)} \pm \int_{\Delta^{r+s}} \varphi_{\sigma(1)}(t_1) \wedge \cdots \wedge \varphi_{\sigma(r+s)}(t_{r+s}) \\ &= \alpha^* \left( \sum_{\sigma \in Sh(r,s)} \pm \int (\omega_{\sigma(1)} | \cdots | \omega_{\sigma(r+s)}) \right) \end{aligned}$$

For (1): needs basic formula (essetially uses Stoke's formula) [\[Add proof/leave as exercise\]](#)

$$\pi_* d \pm d\pi_* = (\partial\pi)_*$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} (j\text{-th face}) \times PX & \simeq & \Delta^{r-1} \times PX & \hookrightarrow & (\partial\Delta^r) \times PX & \hookrightarrow & \Delta^r \times PX \\ \text{where we have} & & \downarrow \pi_j & & \downarrow \partial\pi & & \downarrow \pi \\ & & PX & \xlongequal{\hspace{2cm}} & PX & \xlongequal{\hspace{2cm}} & PX \end{array}$$

and define  $(\partial\pi)_* := \sum_{j=0}^r (-1)^j (\pi_j)_*$ .  $\square$

*Remark 1.12.* Formula (1) implies that  $Ch^\bullet(PX)$  is a sub-complex of  $E^\bullet(PX)$ . This formula becomes simpler for  $Ch^\bullet(P_{x,y}X)$  and  $Ch^\bullet(P_xX)$  when we restrict to subspaces of  $PX$ .

Natural Question: What is  $H^\bullet(Ch^\bullet(PX))$ ?

The geometric definition of iterated integrals does not help answer this question. We will provide an answer in Section 3, after an algebraic description of iterated integrals up next.

## 2. BAR CONSTRUCTIONS

**2.1. Simplicial and cosimplicial objects.** Denote the category of finite ordinals by  $\Delta$ . The objects are the finite ordinals  $[n] := \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$  with the natural order  $0 < 1 < \dots < n$ , and the morphisms are order preserving functions  $f : [m] \rightarrow [n]$ . Note that  $f$  is not necessarily 1-1.

*Remark 2.1.* One can think of  $[n]$  as the set of vertices of  $\Delta^n$ .

We have for each  $0 \leq j \leq n$  a face map

$$d_j : [n-1] \hookrightarrow [n]$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccc} 0 & 1 & \cdots & j-1 & j & j+1 & \cdots & n-1 & & \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \searrow & \searrow & & \searrow & & \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & j-1 & j & j+1 & \cdots & n-1 & & n \end{array}$$

that is the unique order preserving injection that omits the value  $j$ , and a degeneracy map

$$s_j : [n+1] \rightarrow [n]$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccc} 0 & 1 & \cdots & j-1 & j & j+1 & \cdots & n & n+1 & \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \downarrow & \swarrow & & \swarrow & \swarrow & \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & j-1 & j & j+1 & \cdots & n & n & \end{array}$$

that maps both  $j$  and  $j+1$  to  $j$ .

*Remark 2.2.* Every map  $f$  can be expressed as composites of  $d_j$ 's and  $s_j$ 's.

*Remark 2.3.* Each  $f : [m] \rightarrow [n]$  induces a simplicial map  $|f| : \Delta^m \rightarrow \Delta^n$  such that  $f(e_j) = e_{f(j)}$  and then extends linearly via barycentric coordinates (see the following *Side*).

*Side.*

- (1) Standard  $n$ -simplex has barycentric coordinates

$$\Delta^n = \{(s_0, \dots, s_n) : s_j \geq 0, \sum_{j=0}^n s_j = 1\}.$$

Vertices are  $e_j = (0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0)$  where 1 is at the  $j$ -th position. Faces of  $\Delta^n$  are given by

$$j\text{-th face: } s_j = 0, \quad e_j \notin j\text{-th face.}$$

- (2) Time ordered  $n$ -simplex

$$\Delta^n = \{(t_1, \dots, t_n) : 0 \leq t_1 \leq \dots \leq t_n \leq 1\}.$$

There is a 1-1 correspondence

$$(s_0, \dots, s_n) \leftrightarrow (t_1, \dots, t_n)$$

given by

$$s_j = t_{j+1} - t_j, \quad j = 0, \dots, n$$

where we set  $t_0 = 0, t_{n+1} = 1$ . Conversely,

$$t_j = s_0 + \dots + s_{j-1}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

Faces are

$$j\text{-th face: } s_j = 0, \quad \text{i.e. } \boxed{t_j = t_{j+1}}.$$

**Definition 2.4.** A simplicial object in a category  $\mathcal{C}$  is a contravariant functor

$$F : \Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{C}.$$

Using categorical notation, it is in  $\mathcal{C}^{\Delta^{\text{op}}}$ .

$$\text{Diagrams: } \Delta^0 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d_0} \\ \xleftarrow{d_1} \end{array} \Delta^1 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d_0} \\ \xleftarrow{d_2} \end{array} \Delta^2 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d_0} \\ \xleftarrow{d_3} \end{array} \dots \rightsquigarrow \dots F_2 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d_0} \\ \xleftarrow{d_2} \end{array} F_1 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d_0} \\ \xleftarrow{d_1} \end{array} F_0$$

**Example 2.5** (Simplicial set).

$$K_\bullet : \Delta \rightarrow \underline{\text{Sets}}$$

$$[n] \mapsto K_n = \text{“set of } n\text{-simplices”}$$

Each simplicial set  $K_\bullet$  has a geometric realization

$$|K_\bullet| = \left( \coprod_{n \geq 0} K_n \times \Delta^n \right) / \sim$$

where  $\sim$  is a natural equivalence relation generated by identifications for each morphism  $f : [m] \rightarrow [n]$  of  $\Delta$ .

e.g. standard  $n$ -simplex  $\Delta_\bullet^n$ ,

$$\Delta_m^n = \text{Hom}_\Delta([m], [n]).$$

In particular, we define  $I_\bullet := \Delta_\bullet^1$ .

**Claim:**

$$|\Delta_\bullet^n| = \Delta^n.$$



**Example 2.6.** Let  $X$  be a topological space, define a simplicial set  $\text{Simp}_\bullet X$  with

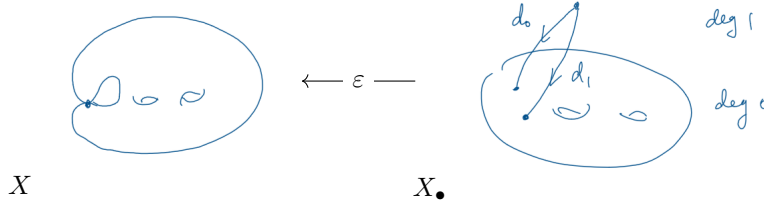
$$\text{Simp}_n X = \{\sigma : \Delta^n \rightarrow X\} = \text{singular } n\text{-simplices of } X.$$

**Fact:**

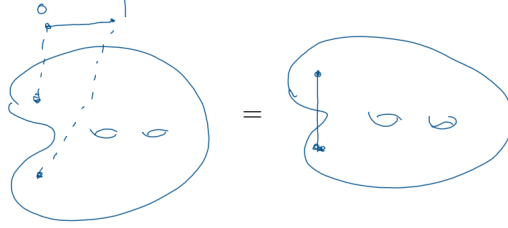
$$|\text{Simp}_\bullet X| \rightarrow X$$

is a weakly homotopy equivalence, i.e. induces isomorphisms on all  $\pi_j$ 's and  $H_j$ 's.

**Example 2.7** (Simplicial space/variety/scheme). We usually use a simplicial space  $X_\bullet$  to model a nodal curve  $X$ , i.e. we have a simplicial covering map



The geometric realization  $|X_\bullet|$  of  $X_\bullet$  is



which is homotopy equivalent to  $X$ .

A functor  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  induces  $\mathcal{C}^{\Delta^{\text{op}}} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}^{\Delta^{\text{op}}}$  on the corresponding simplicial objects.

**Example 2.8.** We have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sets} &\rightarrow \underline{R\text{-Mod}} \\ \Sigma = \{\sigma\} &\mapsto \bigoplus_{\sigma \in \Sigma} R = \text{free } R\text{-module on } \Sigma \\ \text{Simp}_n X &\mapsto S_n(X; R) = \text{singular } n\text{-chains.} \end{aligned}$$

This induces

$$\underline{\text{Top}} \longrightarrow \underline{\text{Sets}}^{\Delta^{\text{op}}} \longrightarrow (\underline{R\text{-Mod}})^{\Delta^{\text{op}}} \longrightarrow (\text{chain complexes of } R\text{-modules})$$

$$X \longmapsto \text{Simp}_\bullet X \longmapsto S_\bullet(X) \longmapsto (S_\bullet(X), \partial)$$

$$(M_\bullet, d_j) \longmapsto (M_\bullet, d = \sum_{j=0}^n (-1)^j d_j)$$

**Definition 2.9.** A cosimplicial object in  $\mathcal{C}$  is a covariant functor  $G : \Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ .

$$\text{Diagram: } G^0 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d^0} \\ \xleftarrow{d^1} \end{array} G^1 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d^0} \\ \xleftarrow{d^2} \end{array} G^2 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d^0} \\ \xleftarrow{d^3} \end{array} \cdots$$

**Example 2.10.**

$$\underline{\text{Sets}} \rightarrow R\text{-Mod}$$

$$S \mapsto R^S = \{\text{functions } S \rightarrow R\} = (r_\sigma : \sigma \in S)$$

$$\text{Simp}_n X \mapsto S^n(X; R) = \text{singular cochains}$$

The differential on the cosimplicial  $R$ -module  $S^n(X)$  is given by

$$\delta = \sum_j (-1)^j d^j$$

where  $d^j$  are coface maps.

**2.2. Cosimplicial model of  $PX$ .** For  $X$  a topological space, define

$$P^\bullet X := X^{I_\bullet} = \text{Hom}(I_\bullet, X),$$

where  $I_\bullet$  is the simplicial model of the unit interval (see Example 2.5). Note that there is a natural map  $PX \rightarrow ||P^\bullet X||$  which is not a homotopy equivalence *except* when  $X$  is simply connected.

We first look closely into  $I_\bullet$ . By definition,

$$I_\bullet := \text{Hom}_\Delta([\bullet], [1])$$

and

$$I_n = \text{Hom}_\Delta([n], [1]).$$

In fact,  $I_n$  consists of  $(n+2)$  order preserving maps of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \underbrace{0 \quad \cdots \quad j-1}_{\downarrow 0} & & \underbrace{j \quad \cdots \quad n}_{\downarrow 1} \end{array}$$

For each  $j = 0, \dots, n+1$ , the map above corresponds to the  $j$ -th bipartition

$$0, \dots, j-1 \mid j, \dots, n$$

of  $[n]$  (although for  $j = 0, n+1$ , it is not actually a bipartition). So we will also refer to elements/maps in  $I_n$  as bipartitions. These bipartitions pull back along order preserving maps. For example, for the face map

$$d_j : [n-1] \hookrightarrow [n]$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & 1 & \cdots & j-1 & j & j+1 & \cdots & n-1 \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \searrow & \searrow & & \searrow \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & j-1 & j & j+1 & \cdots & n-1 & n \end{array}$$

Pullback along  $d_j$  induces a map

$$I_n = \text{Hom}_\Delta([n], [1]) \rightarrow I_{n-1} = \text{Hom}_\Delta([n-1], [1])$$

which, expressed in terms of bipartitions, is the degeneracy map

$$s_j : [n+1] \rightarrow [n]$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccc}
0 & 1 & \cdots & j-1 & j & j+1 & \cdots & n & n+1 \\
\downarrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \downarrow & \swarrow & & \swarrow & \swarrow \\
0 & 1 & \cdots & j-1 & j & j+1 & \cdots & n & 
\end{array}$$

because both the  $j$ -th and the  $(j+1)$ -th bipartitions of  $[n]$

$$0, \dots, j-1 \mid j, j+1, \dots, n \quad \text{and} \quad 0, \dots, j-1, j \mid j+1, \dots, n$$

pull back to the  $j$ -th bipartition of  $[n-1]$

$$0, \dots, j-1 \mid j, \dots, n-1.$$

From the above discussion, we have

$$P^n X = X^{I_n} = \text{Hom}(I_n, X) \cong X^{n+2}$$

and the map  $d_j : [n-1] \rightarrow [n]$  induces  $I_n \rightarrow I_{n-1}$ , which in turn induces a coface map

$$\begin{aligned}
d^j : X^{I_{n-1}} &\rightarrow X^{I_n} \\
(x_0, \dots, x_n) &\mapsto (x_0, \dots, x_j, x_j, \dots, x_n)
\end{aligned}$$

This is the coface map that we use to define the cosimplicial model  $P^\bullet X$ .

**Example 2.11** (Another cosimplicial space).  $\Delta^\bullet$  is given by

$$\Delta^0 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d^0} \\ \xleftarrow{d^1} \end{array} \Delta^1 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d^0} \\ \xleftarrow{d^2} \end{array} \Delta^2 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d^0} \\ \xleftarrow{d^3} \end{array} \cdots$$

Note that the coface maps is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
d^j : \Delta^{n-1} &\rightarrow \Delta^n \\
(t_1, \dots, t_{n-1}) &\mapsto (t_1, \dots, t_j, t_j, \dots, t_n)
\end{aligned}$$

which are “dual” to the face maps  $d_j$  in  $\Delta$ .

Take

$$\Delta^\bullet \times PX \rightarrow P^\bullet X$$

with

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta^n \times PX &\rightarrow P^n X = X^{n+2} \\
((t_1, \dots, t_n), \gamma) &\mapsto (\gamma(0), \gamma(t_1), \dots, \gamma(t_n), \gamma(1))
\end{aligned}$$

in degree  $n$ . This is compatible with coface maps, so we have a smooth map of cosimplicial spaces.

Applying the de Rham complex, we have

$$P^\bullet X \xrightarrow{E^\bullet} \text{simplicial d.g.a}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
& \vdots & \vdots \\
& \uparrow \cdots \uparrow & \downarrow \cdots \downarrow \\
\text{deg } n & X^{n+2} & E^\bullet(X)^{\otimes(n+2)} \\
& \uparrow \cdots \uparrow & \downarrow \cdots \downarrow \\
& \vdots & \vdots \\
& \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \text{---} \\ d^0 \quad \quad d^3 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \text{---} \\ d_0 \quad \quad d_3 \end{array} \\
\text{deg } 2 & X^4 & E^\bullet(X)^{\otimes 4} \\
& \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \text{---} \\ d^0 \quad \quad d^2 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \text{---} \\ d_0 \quad \quad d_2 \end{array} \\
\text{deg } 1 & X^3 & E^\bullet(X)^{\otimes 3} \\
& \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \uparrow \uparrow \text{---} \\ d^0 \quad \quad d^1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \downarrow \downarrow \text{---} \\ d_0 \quad \quad d_1 \end{array} \\
\text{deg } 0 & X^2 & E^\bullet(X)^{\otimes 2}
\end{array}$$

In particular, the coface map  $d^j : X^{I_{n-1}} \rightarrow X^{I_n}$  induces the face map

$$\begin{aligned}
d_j : E^\bullet(X)^{\otimes(n+2)} &\rightarrow E^\bullet(X)^{\otimes(n+1)} \\
\omega_0 \otimes \cdots \otimes \omega_{n+1} &\mapsto \omega_0 \otimes \cdots \otimes \omega_j \wedge \omega_{j+1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \omega_{n+1}
\end{aligned}$$

because the diagonal map  $\text{diag} : X \rightarrow X \times X$  induces

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
E^\bullet(X) \otimes E^\bullet(X) & \xrightarrow{-\wedge-} & E^\bullet(X) \\
& \searrow \sim & \nearrow \text{diag}^* \\
& E^\bullet(X \times X) &
\end{array}$$

From this, we have

$$\text{simplicial d.g.a} \longrightarrow \text{double complex}$$

$$(E^\bullet(X)^{\otimes(\bullet+2)}, d) \longmapsto (E^\bullet(X)^{\otimes(\bullet+2)}, d, \delta)$$

where  $d$  is the de Rham differential as usual, and

$$\delta = \sum_j (-1)^j d_j$$

is given by taking alternating sum of the face maps (cf. Example 2.8). One can check that  $d$  and  $\delta$  commute.

**Example 2.12.** In this double complex, we have

$$d(\omega_0 \otimes \cdots \otimes \omega_{n+1}) = \sum_{j=0}^{n+1} \pm \omega_0 \otimes \cdots \otimes \omega_{j-1} \otimes d\omega_j \otimes \omega_{j+1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \omega_{n+1}$$

and

$$\delta(\omega_0 \otimes \cdots \otimes \omega_{n+1}) = \sum_{j=0}^n (-1)^j \omega_0 \otimes \cdots \otimes \omega_j \wedge \omega_{j+1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \omega_{n+1}.$$

These are basically differentials in the bar construction  $B(E^\bullet(X), E^\bullet(X), E^\bullet(X))$ , which we will discuss next (cf. the differential  $d \int(\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_n)$  in Proposition 1.11 (1)).

**2.3. Bar constructions.** Both the bar construction and the reduced bar construction can be combined easily with Hodge theory. We discuss the bar construction first.

Given

- (1)  $A^\bullet$  a d.g.a. (with differential  $d$  of degree  $+1$ ). e.g.  $C^\bullet(X)$  = singular cochains,  $E^\bullet(X)$  = de Rham complex.
- (2)  $M^\bullet, N^\bullet$  are cochain complexes
- (3)  $M^\bullet$  = right  $A^\bullet$ -module,  $N^\bullet$  = left  $A^\bullet$ -module, such that the structure maps

$$M^\bullet \otimes A^\bullet \rightarrow M^\bullet \quad \text{and} \quad A^\bullet \otimes N^\bullet \rightarrow N^\bullet$$

are chain maps

The *bar construction*  $B(M^\bullet, A^\bullet, N^\bullet)$  (will be simply denoted by  $B(M, A, N)$ ) is a double complex, with

$$B^{-s,t}(M, A, N) = [M \otimes A^{\otimes s} \otimes N]^t$$

consisting of elements  $m[a_1 | \cdots | a_s]n$  such that  $\deg(m) + \sum_j \deg(a_j) + \deg(n) = t$ . Note that the total degree of  $m[a_1 | \cdots | a_s]n \in B^{-s,t}(M, A, N)$  in  $B(M, A, N)$  is  $(-s) + t = t - s$ .

Define an endomorphism  $J$  of each graded vector space by  $J : v \mapsto (-1)^{\deg v} v$ . Define the bar differential by  $d_B = d + \delta$  (see Example 2.12) so that

$$d_B[a_1 | \cdots | a_s] = \sum_j \pm [a_1 | \cdots | da_j | \cdots | a_s] + \sum_j \pm [a_1 | \cdots | a_j \wedge a_{j+1} | \cdots | a_s].$$

The total differential for the double complex  $B(M, A, N)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} D &= d_\otimes + d_C =: D^{(0,1)} + D^{(1,0)} \\ &= d_M \otimes 1_T \otimes 1_N + J_M \otimes d_B \otimes 1_N + J_M \otimes J_T \otimes d_N + d_C \end{aligned}$$

where the combinatorial differential  $d_C$  is defined by

$$d_C(m[a_1 | \cdots | a_s]n) = (-1)^s Jm[a_1 | \cdots | a_{s-1}]a_s \cdot n + m \cdot (-1)^s \deg(a_1) a_1[a_2 | \cdots | a_s]n.$$

There is a standard filtration, called bar filtration, on  $B(M, A, N)$  with

$$B_s(M, A, N) = \bigoplus_{r \leq s} B^{-r,t}(M, A, N).$$

*Remark 2.13.* Note that

$$B(M, A, N) = \bigcup_{s \geq 0} B_s(M, A, N) = \varinjlim_s B_s(M, A, N),$$

so we have

$$H^\bullet(B(M, A, N)) = \varinjlim_s H^\bullet(B_s(M, A, N)).$$

This leads us to *Eilenberg–Moore spectral sequence* (EMss). It has pages

- $E_0^{-s,t} = [M \otimes A^{\otimes s} \otimes N]^t$  with differential  $d_0 = D^{(0,1)}$
- $E_1^{-s,t} = [H^\bullet(M) \otimes H^\bullet(A)^{\otimes s} \otimes H^\bullet(N)]^t$  with differential  $d_1 = D^{(1,0)}$ .

*Remark 2.14.*  $E_1$  is  $B(H^\bullet(M), H^\bullet(A), H^\bullet(N))$  with total differential  $D = D^{(1,0)}$ .

With the natural map

$$B(\mathbb{R}, E^\bullet(X), \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow Ch^\bullet(P_{x,y}X)$$

$$[\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_s] \mapsto \int (\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_s)$$

in mind, terms such as  $[f_1 | \cdots | f_n]$  where  $f_j$ 's are functions should be redundant, cf. Remark 1.7. Note that these terms have negative total degrees. The following theorem confirms our expectation.

**Definition 2.15.** Let  $A^\bullet$  be a d.g.a. over  $k$ . It is *connected* if

$$A^j = \begin{cases} 0, & j < 0 \\ k, & j = 0. \end{cases}$$

It is *homologically connected* if  $H^\bullet(A^\bullet)$  is connected, i.e.

$$H^j(A^\bullet) = \begin{cases} 0, & j < 0 \\ k, & j = 0. \end{cases}$$

For example,  $A^\bullet = E^\bullet(X)$  for  $X$  a connected manifold.

**Theorem 2.16.** *If*

- (1)  $A^\bullet$  is homologically connected
- (2)  $H^j(M^\bullet)$  and  $H^j(N^\bullet)$  vanish for  $j < 0$

*then  $H^j(B(M, A, N)) = 0$  when  $j < 0$ .*

To get rid of these negative degree terms, we introduce the *reduced bar construction*  $\overline{B}(M, A, N)$ , it will have a nicer EMss. Suppose  $A^\bullet$  is connected and homologically connected, then  $A^0 = k$ . Write

$$A^\bullet = k \oplus \underbrace{(IA^\bullet, d)}_{\deg \geq 1}.$$

Set

$$\overline{B}^{-s}(M, A, N) = M \otimes (IA)^{\otimes s} \otimes N \subseteq B^{-s}(M, A, N) = B_s(M, A, N)$$

then  $\overline{B}(M, A, N) \subseteq B(M, A, N)$  is a subcomplex. The corresponding EMss has

$$E_1^{-s} = H^\bullet(M) \otimes \underbrace{IH^\bullet(A)^{\otimes s}}_{\deg \geq s} \otimes H^\bullet(N)$$

**Theorem 2.17.** *If  $A^\bullet$  is homologically connected, then*

$$\overline{B}(H^\bullet(M), H^\bullet(A), H^\bullet(N)) \rightarrow B(H^\bullet(M), H^\bullet(A), H^\bullet(N))$$

*is a quasi-isomorphism.*

Suppose that  $X$  is a manifold. Evaluating at  $x, y \in X$  induces augmentations  $e_x, e_y : E^\bullet(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Take  $A^\bullet \subseteq E^\bullet(M)$  to be a sub dga that both augmentations restrict to non-trivial homomorphisms  $A^\bullet \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Take  $M^\bullet = N^\bullet = \mathbb{R}$  as  $A^\bullet$ -modules with these homomorphisms. We can form the reduced bar construction  $\overline{B}(\mathbb{R}, A^\bullet, \mathbb{R})$ .

Define  $Ch^\bullet(P_{x,y}(X); A^\bullet)$  to be the subcomplex of  $Ch^\bullet(P_{x,y}X)$  spanned by iterated integrals  $\int \omega_1 \cdots \omega_r$  with  $\omega_j \in A^\bullet$ .

**Theorem 2.18.** *Suppose that  $X$  is connected. If  $H^0(A^\bullet) \cong \mathbb{R}$  and the natural map  $H^\bullet(A^\bullet) \rightarrow H^\bullet(X)$  is injective, then the natural map*

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{B}(\mathbb{R}, A^\bullet, \mathbb{R}) &\rightarrow Ch^\bullet(P_{x,y}X; A^\bullet) \\ [\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_r] &\mapsto \int (\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_r) \end{aligned}$$

is a well defined isomorphism of dgas.

*Proof.* Check the formulas for the differentials. □

**Corollary 2.19.** *If  $X$  is connected,  $A^\bullet \subseteq E^\bullet(X)$  is a sub dga for which the inclusion  $A^\bullet \hookrightarrow E^\bullet(X)$  induces isomorphism on cohomology, then the inclusion*

$$Ch^\bullet(P_{x,y}X; A^\bullet) \hookrightarrow Ch^\bullet(P_{x,y}X)$$

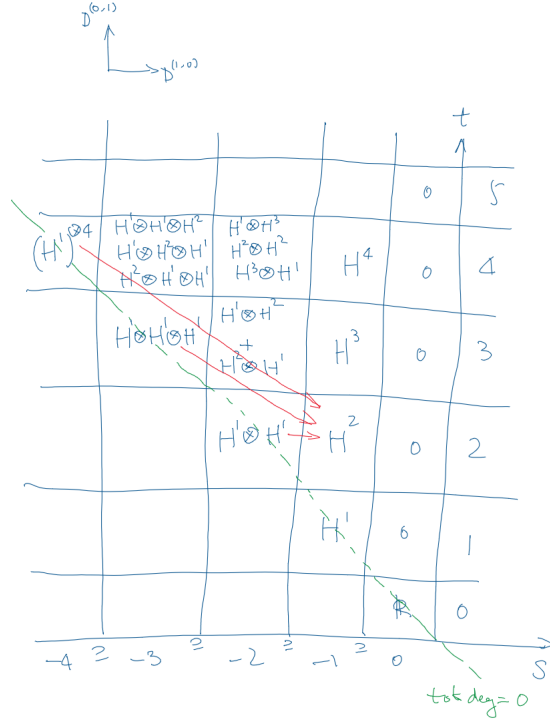
induces an isomorphism on cohomology.

*Proof.* By the assumption, the  $E_1$  page on both sides should be the same, the statement follows. □

*Remark 2.20.* This is useful as we can take  $A^\bullet$  to be

- (1) minimal model (smallest sub dga that computes cohomology)—this simplifies computation.
- (2) the logarithmic de Rham complex—this leads to Hodge theory.

Suppose  $X$  is connected, it is instructive to see the  $E_1$  page of the EMss corresponding to the reduced bar construction  $\overline{B}(\mathbb{R}, E^\bullet(X), \mathbb{R})$ . Note that  $IH^\bullet(E^\bullet(X))$  is the reduced cohomology  $\widetilde{H}^\bullet(X)$  of  $X$ . In the picture below, we will simply denote  $\widetilde{H}^\bullet(X)$  by  $H^\bullet$ .



Denote by  $(E_r, d_r)$  the  $r$ -th page (with differential) of the EMss.

*Remark 2.21.* A few remarks are in order.

- (1) The total differential  $D = D^{(0,1)} + D^{(1,0)}$ , so that  $d_0 = D^{(0,1)}$ ,  $d_1 = D^{(1,0)}$ .
- (2) The green line has total degree 0. Here lies all iterated line integrals. Elements in  $H^0(\overline{B}(\mathbb{R}, E^\bullet(X), \mathbb{R}))$  are represented by elements of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & 0 & \\
 & \uparrow & \\
 \omega_1 \otimes \omega_2 & \longrightarrow & \\
 \text{tot. deg 0 line} & \nwarrow & \nearrow \\
 & \omega_{12} & \longrightarrow 0
 \end{array}$$

that are closed, i.e. applying  $D$  gives 0. For the element in the above diagram, this means  $d\omega_1 = d\omega_2 = 0$  and  $\omega_1 \wedge \omega_2 + d\omega_{12} = 0$ , this gives rise to a homotopy invariant iterated line integral  $\int(\omega_1\omega_2 + \omega_{12})$ .

- (3) Massey products are indicated by the red arrows, where the map  $(H^1)^{\otimes(r+1)} \rightarrow H^2$  is given by the differential  $d_r$  of the  $r$ -th page. When  $r = 1$ , it is simply the cup product; when  $r = 2$ , it is the first non-trivial Massey product.



3. CHEN'S  $\pi_1$ -DE RHAM THEOREM

In this section, we first state de Rham theorem for the loop space of a simply connected space. This allows us to compute rational homotopy groups using iterated integrals. In the non simply connected case, we state Chen's  $\pi_1$ -de Rham theorem.

**Theorem 3.1** (Chen). *If  $X$  is path connected and simply connected, then integration induces an isomorphism*

$$H^\bullet(Ch^\bullet(P_x X)) \rightarrow H^\bullet(P_x X; \mathbb{R}).$$

*In fact, it is an isomorphism of Hopf algebras.*

**Example 3.2.** Let  $X = S^n$ ,  $n \geq 2$ . Take minimal model

$$A^j = \begin{cases} \mathbb{R}, & j = 0 \\ \mathbb{R} \cdot \omega, & j = n \end{cases}$$

with  $\int_{S^n} \omega = 1$ . As  $A^\bullet \hookrightarrow E^\bullet(S^n)$  is a quasi-isomorphism, by Corollary 2.19, we have isomorphism

$$H^\bullet(Ch^\bullet(P_x S^n); A^\bullet) \xrightarrow{\cong} H^\bullet(Ch^\bullet(P_x S^n; \mathbb{R})).$$

Since

$$Ch^\bullet(P_x S^n; A^\bullet) = \bigoplus_{k \geq 0} \int (\underbrace{\omega | \cdots | \omega}_k)$$

has total differential  $D \equiv 0$  (as  $d\omega = 0$ ,  $\omega \wedge \omega = 0$ ), we have

$$H^\bullet(P_x S^n; \mathbb{R}) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{R}, & j = (n-1)k \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Suppose that  $M$  is connected.

**Definition 3.3.** An element of  $H^\bullet(M)$  is *decomposable* if it is in the image of the cup product mapping

$$H^{>0}(M) \otimes H^{>0}(M) \rightarrow H^\bullet(M).$$

The set of *indecomposable* elements is defined by

$$QH^\bullet(M) := H^{>0}(M) / H^{>0}(M)^{\otimes 2}.$$

When  $X$  is simply connected,  $P_x X$  is a connected  $H$ -space. Chen's de Rham theorem and the Cartan–Serre theorem imply that

**Theorem 3.4.** *If  $X$  is simply connected, then integration induces an isomorphism*

$$QH^j(P_x X; \mathbb{R}) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Hom}(\pi_j(P_x X, \bar{x}), \mathbb{R}) \cong \text{Hom}(\pi_{j+1}(X, x), \mathbb{R}).$$

**Example 3.5.**  $X = S^n$ ,  $n \geq 2$ . Denote  $\theta_k := \int (\underbrace{\omega | \cdots | \omega}_k)$ . By the previous example,

$$H^\bullet(P_x S^n; \mathbb{R}) = \bigoplus_{k \geq 0} \mathbb{R} \cdot \theta_k.$$

If  $n$  is odd, we have  $\theta_1^2 = \int(\omega) \wedge \int(\omega) = 2 \int(\omega | \omega) = 2\theta_2$ ,  $\theta_1^k = k! \theta_k$ , so the indecomposables consist of  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear span of  $\theta_1$ .

If  $n$  is even, we have  $\theta_1^2 = 0$ ,  $\theta_1 \wedge \theta_{2m} = \theta_{2m+1}$ ,  $\theta_2 \wedge \theta_{2m} = (m+1)\theta_{2m+2}$ , so the indecomposables consist of  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear span of  $\theta_1, \theta_2$ .

By the above theorem, we have

$$\pi_j(S^n) \otimes \mathbb{R} = \begin{cases} \mathbb{R}, & j = n, \quad n \text{ odd} \\ \mathbb{R}, & j = n \text{ or } 2n-1, \quad n \text{ even} \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

In the non simply connected case, suppose that  $X$  is connected,  $x \in X$ , we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H^0(Ch^\bullet(P_x X)) & \longrightarrow & H^0(P_x X; \mathbb{R}) \\ \uparrow \approx & & \parallel (*) \\ & & \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}\pi_1(X, x), \mathbb{R}) \\ & & \uparrow \\ & & \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\text{cts}}(\mathbb{R}\pi_1(X, x), \mathbb{R}) \\ & & \uparrow \approx (\text{by definition}) \\ \varinjlim_r H^0(Ch_r^\bullet(P_x X)) & \longrightarrow & \varinjlim_r \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{R}}(\mathbb{R}\pi_1(X, x)/I^{r+1}, \mathbb{R}) \end{array}$$

*Remark 3.6.* (1) Here  $Ch_r^\bullet(P_x X) \cong B_r(\mathbb{R}, E^\bullet(X), \mathbb{R})$  denotes iterated line integrals of length  $\leq r$ .

(2) For  $(*)$ :  $H^0(M)$  are locally constant functions on  $M$ ; when  $M$  is the path/loop space of  $X$ , locally constant functions on  $M$  are equivalent to homotopy functionals on paths/loops in  $X$ , i.e. they depend only on the homotopy class relative to end points. Therefore, these homotopy functionals descends to functions on  $\pi_1(X, x)$ .

(3) The augmentation ideal  $I$  is the kernel of the augmentation of the group algebra

$$\mathbb{R}\pi_1(X, x) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

sending  $[\gamma] \mapsto 1$ . Powers of  $I$  define a topology on the group algebra, making sense the notation  $\text{Hom}^{\text{cts}}$ .

**Theorem 3.7** (Chen's  $\pi_1$ -de Rham Theorem). *Integration induces an isomorphism*

$$H^0(Ch^\bullet(P_x X)) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\text{cts}}(\mathbb{R}\pi_1(X, x), \mathbb{R})$$

*Proof.* See Hain [Bowdoin, §4]. □

*Remark 3.8.* The right hand side in the above theorem is, by definition, the coordinate ring  $\mathcal{O}(\pi_1^{\text{un}}(X, x)_{/\mathbb{R}})$  of the unipotent completion of  $\pi_1(X, x)$  over  $\mathbb{R}$ . The completion can be defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$  by replacing  $\mathbb{R}$  with  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

#### 4. BASICS OF MIXED HODGE THEORY

The standard reference is Deligne [Hodge II]. There are other useful sources: Voisin (Textbook), Peters–Steenbrink (Survey/Monograph), Cattani–El Zein et al (Summer school collections) ...

**4.1. Pure Hodge structures.** Suppose that  $A$  is a subring of  $\mathbb{R}$ , for example,  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  a number field, or  $\mathcal{O}_K$  its ring of integers.

**Definition 4.1.** An  $A$ -Hodge structure of weight  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  consists of a finitely generated  $A$ -module  $V_A$  and a bigrading on its complexification

$$V_{\mathbb{C}} = V_A \otimes \mathbb{C} = \bigoplus_{p+q=m} V^{p,q}$$

satisfying  $\overline{V^{p,q}} = V^{q,p}$ , where  $\overline{(\cdot)}$  denotes the complex conjugation on  $\mathbb{C}$ . We say vectors  $v \in V^{p,q}$  are of type  $(p, q)$ .

**Example 4.2** (Prototype). Let  $X$  be a compact Kähler manifold (e.g. smooth projective over  $\mathbb{C}$ ), set  $A = \mathbb{Z}$  (or  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\mathbb{R}$ ), then

$$V_{\mathbb{Z}} = H^m(X; \mathbb{Z})$$

is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -Hodge structure of weight  $m$ , with

$$V_{\mathbb{C}} = H^m(X; \mathbb{C}) = \bigoplus_{p+q=m} H^{p,q}(X)$$

where

$$H^{p,q}(X) = \frac{\text{closed forms of type } (p, q)}{\text{exact forms of type } (p, q)} \subseteq H^m(X).$$

*Remark 4.3.* If  $V_A$  is a Hodge structure of odd weight, then

$$\dim_{\mathbb{C}} V_{\mathbb{C}} = \text{rank}_A V_A \equiv 0 \pmod{2}.$$

**Corollary 4.4.**  $\dim H^{2k+1}(X; \mathbb{C}) \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$  for  $X$  smooth projective.

*Remark 4.5.* No known topological proof that  $H^1(X; \mathbb{Z})$  has even rank for  $X$  smooth projective.

**Example 4.6** (Non-example). There is a diffeomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} S^3 \times \mathbb{R} &\approx \mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\} \\ (\xi, \lambda) &\mapsto e^{\lambda} \xi \end{aligned}$$

The  $\mathbb{Z}$ -action on  $S^3 \times \mathbb{R}$

$$n : (\xi, \lambda) \mapsto (\xi, \lambda + n)$$

corresponds to the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -action on  $\mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\}$

$$n : (z, w) \mapsto e^n(z, w) = (e^n z, e^n w),$$

which is free and properly discontinuous. We thus get a quotient

$$X := \mathbb{Z} \backslash (\mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\}) \approx S^3 \times S^1.$$

This is a compact complex manifold (in fact a Hopf manifold). Its Betti numbers  $b_j$  are

deg $j$	$b_j$
0	1
1	1
2	0
3	1
4	1

By the previous corollary,  $X$  is not Kähler, and thus not projective.

Suppose that we have a family

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_t & \subset & \mathcal{X} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ t & \in & T \end{array}$$

where  $T$  is a contractible smooth complex manifold (e.g.  $T = \text{disk}$ ), and  $X_t$  is smooth projective for all  $t \in T$ . Then we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{X} & \approx & X_0 \times T \simeq X_0 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ T & \xlongequal{\quad} & T \end{array}$$

and natural isomorphisms

$$H^m(X_t) \cong H^m(X_0).$$

Fix  $X := X_0$  and its  $H^m(X; \mathbb{C})$  as a reference vector space, then

$$H^{p,q}(X_t) \subseteq H^m(X; \mathbb{C})$$

is a subspace, varying with  $t$ , of dimension

$$h_t^{p,q} := \dim H^{p,q}(X_t) = \text{const} =: h^{p,q}.$$

This gives rise to a map to the Grassmannian

$$\varphi^{p,q} : T \rightarrow \text{Gr}_{h^{p,q}}(H^m(X; \mathbb{C})).$$

Question: Is this map holomorphic?

Note that we have  $\varphi^{p,q} = \overline{\varphi^{q,p}}$ . All  $\varphi^{p,q}$  being holomorphic would imply that all  $\varphi^{p,q}$  are constant. But this is NOT THE CASE!

Take  $T = \mathfrak{h}$  the upper half plane and a family

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E_\tau := \mathbb{C}/(\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau) & \subset & \mathcal{E} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \tau & \in & \mathfrak{h} \end{array}$$

We have  $H^{1,0}(E_\tau) \subseteq H^1(X; \mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C}\underline{\check{a}} \oplus \mathbb{C}\underline{\check{b}}$  where  $\underline{\check{a}}, \underline{\check{b}}$  are duals of  $\underline{a}, \underline{b}$ .

The canonical 1-form  $\omega_\tau \in H^1(E_\tau)$  can be written as

$$\omega_\tau = dz = \underline{\check{a}} + \tau \underline{\check{b}},$$

which varies holomorphically in the family.

In general, define the *Hodge filtration*

$$F^p V_{\mathbb{C}} = \bigoplus_{s \geq p} V^{s, m-s}.$$

These vary holomorphically in families!

**Definition 4.7** (Hodge structure defined by  $F^\bullet$ ). An  $A$ -Hodge structure of weight  $m$  consists of a finitely generated  $A$ -module  $V_A$ , whose complexification  $V_{\mathbb{C}} = V_A \otimes \mathbb{C}$  has a decreasing filtration (called the Hodge filtration)

$$\dots \supseteq F^p \supseteq F^{p+1} \supseteq \dots$$

satisfying

$$F^p \oplus \overline{F^{m-p+1}} \approx V_{\mathbb{C}}$$

for all  $p$ .

*Remark 4.8.* This definition is equivalent to the previous one. One just needs to note that

$$V^{p,q} = F^p \cap \overline{F^q}.$$

**Definition 4.9** (1-dimensional Hodge structures/Tate twists). Define  $A(p)$  the Hodge structure of weight  $-2p$ , whose underlying  $A$ -module is  $V_A$ . Its complexification  $V_{\mathbb{C}} = V^{-p,-p}$ . It is commonly written as

$$A(p) = (2\pi i)^p \cdot A \subseteq \mathbb{C},$$

for example,  $\mathbb{Z}(p) = (2\pi i)^p \mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ .

*Remark 4.10.* In the context of periods, for  $A(p)$ , we pick a Betti basis  $e^B$  for  $V_A$  and a de Rham basis  $e^{\text{dR}}$  for  $V_{\mathbb{C}}$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} V_A \otimes \mathbb{C} &\xrightarrow{\approx} V_{\mathbb{C}} \\ e^B &\mapsto (2\pi i)^p e^{\text{dR}}. \end{aligned}$$

**Example 4.11** (Basic example:  $H^1(\mathbb{G}_m) \cong \mathbb{Z}(-1)$ ). We view this in the context of periods.

Betti: We have  $\sigma \in H_1^B(\mathbb{G}_m)$ , and its dual  $e^B = \check{\sigma} \in H_B^1(\mathbb{G}_m)$ .



DR: We have  $e^{\text{dR}} = \frac{dz}{z} \in H_{\text{dR}}^1(\mathbb{G}_m/\mathbb{Q})$ . And we have

$$H_B^1(\mathbb{G}_m) \otimes \mathbb{C} \xleftarrow[\approx]{\text{comp}} H_{\text{dR}}^1(\mathbb{G}_m) \otimes \mathbb{C}$$

$$(\gamma \mapsto \int_{\gamma} \omega) \longleftarrow \omega \quad \forall \omega \in H_{\text{dR}}^1, \gamma \in H_1^B$$

$$(\sigma \mapsto \int_{\sigma} \frac{dz}{z} = 2\pi i) = 2\pi i \check{\sigma} \longleftarrow \frac{dz}{z}$$

$$e^B = \check{\sigma} = (\sigma \mapsto 1) \longmapsto (2\pi i)^{-1} \frac{dz}{z} = (2\pi i)^{-1} e^{\text{dR}}$$

**Definition 4.12.** A *polarization* on a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -Hodge structure of weight  $m$  is a non-degenerate  $(-1)^m$ -symmetric bilinear form

$$S : V_{\mathbb{Q}} \otimes V_{\mathbb{Q}} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$$

satisfying the Riemann–Hodge bilinear relations:

$$(1) \ S(V^{p,q}, \overline{V^{r,s}}) = 0 \text{ unless } p = r, q = s$$

(2)  $i^{p-q}S(v, \bar{v}) > 0$  for all  $0 \neq v \in V^{p,q}$

**Example 4.13.** Let  $C$  be a compact Riemann surface, then  $V = H^1(C)$  is a Hodge structure of weight 1. Define

$$S(u, v) = \int_C u \wedge v$$

for  $u, v \in V$ . It is a polarization on  $V$ :

$$i \int_C \omega \wedge \bar{\omega} > 0$$

for any  $0 \neq \omega \in H^0(\Omega_C^1)$ .

**Theorem 4.14** (Hodge). *If  $X$  is smooth projective, then  $H^m(X)$  is a polarizable Hodge structure.*

The category of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -polarized Hodge structures ( $\mathbb{Q}$ -PHS) is semisimple.

**Proposition 4.15.** *If  $(V, S)$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -PHS of weight  $m$  and  $A \subseteq V$  a sub Hodge structure, then*

- (1)  $S|_A$  is non-degenerate, so that  $V_{\mathbb{Q}} = A_{\mathbb{Q}} \oplus A_{\mathbb{Q}}^{\perp}$
- (2)  $V = A \oplus A^{\perp}$  as  $\mathbb{Q}$ -PHS

There is a natural correspondence between PHS of weight one and the first cohomology of abelian varieties.

**Proposition 4.16.** *Suppose  $X, Y$  are abelian varieties and  $H^1(X; \mathbb{Q}) \cong H^1(Y; \mathbb{Q})$  as  $\mathbb{Q}$ -Hodge structures, then  $X$  is isogenous to  $Y$ .*

**Theorem 4.17.** *If  $X, Y$  are abelian varieties, and*

$$H^1(Y; \mathbb{Q}) \subseteq H^1(X; \mathbb{Q})$$

*then  $X$  is isogenous to  $Y \times Z$  where  $Z$  is an abelian variety associated to  $H^1(Y; \mathbb{Q})^{\perp}$  in  $H^1(X; \mathbb{Q})$ .*

*Remark 4.18.* Every abelian variety is isogenous to a product of simple abelian varieties.

**4.2. Mixed Hodge structures.** Based on knowledge on  $l$ -adic cohomology and guided by the theory of motives, Deligne in [Hodge I] indicates that analogously a natural mixed Hodge structure can be put on Betti cohomology. Even limit mixed Hodge structure is discussed at the end (loc. cit.).

**Definition 4.19.** An  $(\mathbb{Z})$ -mixed Hodge structure (MHS) consists of

- (1) a finitely generated  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $V_{\mathbb{Z}}$
- (2) an increasing filtration (*weight filtration*)  $W_{\bullet}$  on  $V_{\mathbb{Q}} = V_{\mathbb{Z}} \otimes \mathbb{Q}$

$$\cdots \subseteq W_n V_{\mathbb{Q}} \subseteq W_{n+1} V_{\mathbb{Q}} \subseteq \cdots$$

- (3) a decreasing filtration (*Hodge filtration*)  $F^{\bullet}$  on  $V_{\mathbb{C}} = V_{\mathbb{Z}} \otimes \mathbb{C}$

$$\cdots \supseteq F^p V_{\mathbb{C}} \supseteq F^{p+1} V_{\mathbb{C}} \supseteq \cdots$$

such that  $\mathrm{Gr}_n^W V = W_n V / W_{n-1} V$  with induced  $F^{\bullet}$

$$F^p \mathrm{Gr}_n^W V_{\mathbb{C}} := (F^p \cap W_n + W_{n-1}) / W_{n-1} = (F^p \cap W_n) / (F^p \cap W_{n-1})$$

is a  $(\mathbb{Q})$ -Hodge structure of weight  $n$ .

*Remark 4.20.* One can define  $A$ -mixed Hodge structures similarly. Unless specified, we will mostly work with  $\mathbb{Z}$ -mixed Hodge structures in the rest of this section, e.g. we will simply denote  $H^m(X; \mathbb{Z})$  by  $H^m(X)$ .

**Theorem 4.21** (Deligne). *The category  $A$ -MHS of  $A$ -mixed Hodge structures is an abelian tensor category. If  $A$  is a field (e.g.  $\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}$ ), then the category  $A$ -MHS is tannakian. The functors  $\mathrm{Gr}_{\bullet}^W, \mathrm{Gr}_{\bullet}^F, \mathrm{Gr}_{\bullet}^F \mathrm{Gr}_{\bullet}^W$  are exact.*

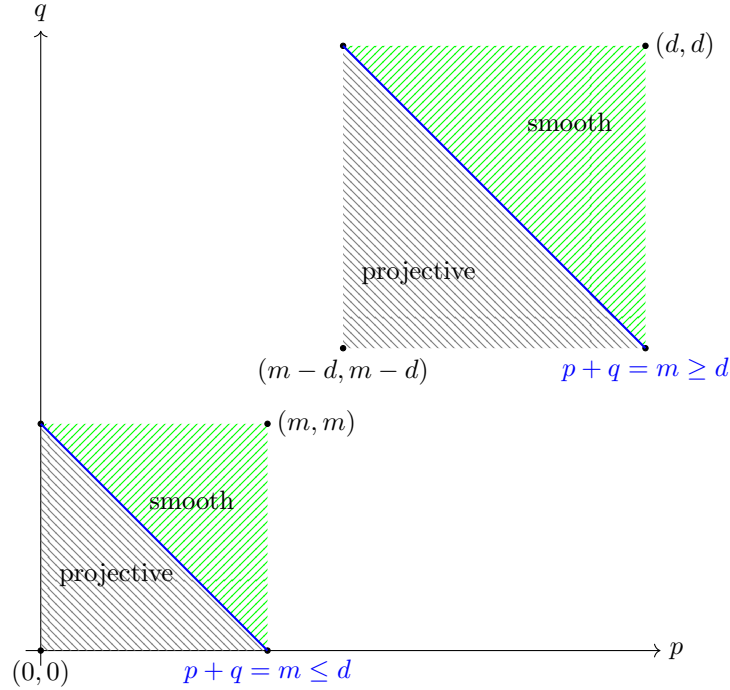
*Remark 4.22.* The most essential piece of the theorem is to show that the category  $A$ -MHS is abelian. This is done by constructing a natural splitting called Deligne splitting. See Deligne [Hodge II, Lemme (1.2.8)] or Griffiths–Schmid [Survey, Lemma (1.12)].

**Theorem 4.23** (Deligne). *If  $X$  is a complex algebraic variety, then  $H^{\bullet}(X)$  has a natural  $\mathbb{Z}$ -mixed Hodge structure.*

*Remark 4.24.* Naturality is on algebraic morphisms, NOT on continuous maps.

*Remark 4.25.* If  $X$  is smooth, then weights on  $H^m(X)$  are at least  $m$ ; if  $X$  is projective, then weights on  $H^m(X)$  are at most  $m$ .

The following diagram indicates possible types  $(p, q)$  for  $H^m(X)$ , with  $d = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} X$ .



From this we get a table of weights on  $H^m(X)$ , with  $d = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} X$

	general	smooth	projective
$m \leq d$	$[0, 2m]$	$[m, 2m]$	$[0, m]$
$m \geq d$	$[2m - 2d, 2d]$	$[m, 2d]$	$[2m - 2d, m]$

It is instructive to first learn a couple of ad hoc elementary examples picked from Durfee.

**Example 4.26** (smooth curve). Let  $X = \overline{X} - D$  be a smooth curve, where  $\overline{X}$  is a smooth projective curve of genus  $g$ , and  $D = \{P, Q\}$  is a divisor with  $P \neq Q$ ,  $P, Q \in \overline{X}$ . We now describe the natural mixed Hodge structure on  $H^1(X)$ .



We have Gysin sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^1(\overline{X}) \rightarrow H^1(X) \xrightarrow{\text{Res}} H^0(D)(-1) \xrightarrow{\text{deg}} H^2(\overline{X})$$

where  $H^0(D) = H^0(P) \oplus H^0(Q)$ , Res denotes the residue maps at  $P$  and  $Q$ , deg denotes the degree map on divisors. There is a copy of  $\mathbb{Z}$  generated by  $(1, -1)$  inside  $H^0(D)$  whose degree is zero. One pulls back this from the sequence and obtains a short exact sequence

$$(4.1) \quad 0 \rightarrow H^1(\overline{X}) \xrightarrow{\alpha} H^1(X) \xrightarrow{\text{Res}} \mathbb{Z}(-1) \rightarrow 0$$

There exists  $\omega_{P,Q} \in H^1(X)$  that maps to the generator  $(1, -1)$ , i.e.

$$\text{Res}_P(\omega_{P,Q}) = 1, \quad \text{Res}_Q(\omega_{P,Q}) = -1.$$

To describe the mixed Hodge structure on  $H^1 = H^1(X)$  is equivalent to describing the two filtrations. For the weight filtration, applying  $\text{Gr}_\bullet^W$  to (4.1), one easily gets

$$W_0 H_{\mathbb{Q}}^1 = 0, \quad W_1 H_{\mathbb{Q}}^1 = \text{Im } \alpha, \quad W_2 H_{\mathbb{Q}}^1 = H_{\mathbb{Q}}^1.$$

For the Hodge filtration, applying  $\text{Gr}_F^\bullet$  to (4.1) we have  $F^0 H_{\mathbb{C}}^1 = H_{\mathbb{C}}^1$ , and  $F^1 = F^1 H_{\mathbb{C}}^1 \subseteq H^1(X; \mathbb{C})$  needs to satisfy

$$F^1 \cap H^1(\overline{X}; \mathbb{C}) = H^{1,0}(\overline{X}) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Res } F^1 = \mathbb{C}.$$

Define

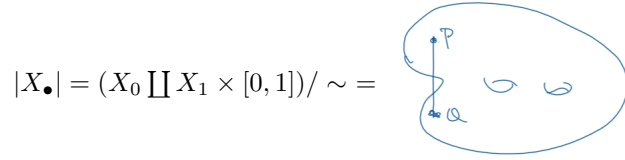
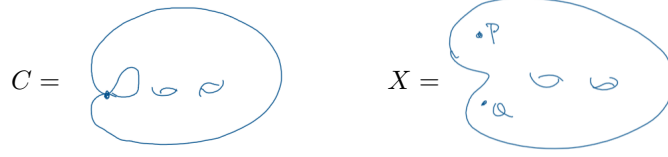
$$F^1 = F^1 H^1(X; \mathbb{C}) := H^0(\Omega_{\overline{X}}^1) \oplus \mathbb{C} \cdot \omega_{P,Q}.$$

This is well defined, and satisfies the above condition. In general, we would define

$$F^1 := H^0(\Omega_{\overline{X}}^1(P + Q)) = H^0(\Omega_{\overline{X}}^1(\log D)).$$

**Example 4.27** (nodal curve). Let  $C$  be a nodal curve, obtained by identifying two distinct points  $P, Q$  on a smooth projective curve  $X$ . As in Example 2.7, we replace  $C$  by a simplicial variety  $X_\bullet$  whose geometric realization  $|X_\bullet|$  is homotopic to  $C$ . The degree 0 component  $X_0$  of  $X_\bullet$  is  $X$ ; the degree 1 component  $X_1$  is a point.

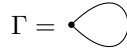




We have a “cofibration sequence”

$$X \hookrightarrow |X_\bullet| (\simeq C) \rightarrow \Gamma$$

where



is the dual graph of  $C$ /nerve of its (simplicial) covering. This induces a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^1(\Gamma) \xrightarrow{\alpha} H^1(C) \rightarrow H^1(X) \rightarrow 0$$

where  $H^1(\Gamma) \cong \mathbb{Z}(0)$ . To describe the mixed Hodge structure on  $H^1 = H^1(C)$ , we describe the two filtrations. For the weight filtration, we have

$$W_{-1}H_{\mathbb{Q}}^1 = 0, \quad W_0H_{\mathbb{Q}}^1 = \text{Im } \alpha, \quad W_1H_{\mathbb{Q}}^1 = H_{\mathbb{Q}}^1.$$

For the Hodge filtration, we have

$$F^0H_{\mathbb{C}}^1 = H_{\mathbb{C}}^1, \quad F^1H_{\mathbb{C}}^1 = \text{classes } \omega \in H^0(\Omega_X^1) \text{ in } H_{\mathbb{C}}^1.$$

Before moving on to the construction of mixed Hodge structures, we end with an example of MHS on a fundamental group.

**Example 4.28** (MHS on  $\pi_1^{\text{un}}(\mathbb{C} \setminus S, x)$ ). Suppose that  $S = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  is a finite set of points in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ , and  $x \in \mathbb{C} \setminus S$ . Let

$$A = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle X_1, \dots, X_n \rangle\rangle$$

be power series in noncommuting indeterminates  $X_j$ 's. Set  $\omega_j = \frac{dz}{z-a_j}$  and

$$\Omega = \sum_{j=1}^n \omega_j X_j \in H^0(\Omega^1(\mathbb{C} \setminus S)) \otimes A.$$

We have

$$T := 1 + \int(\Omega) + \int(\Omega|\Omega) + \dots$$

which is an  $A$ -valued iterated integral on  $\mathbb{C} \setminus S$  (as all  $\int(\omega_{j_1} | \dots | \omega_{j_r})$  are closed). This induces an isomorphism

$$\Theta : \mathbb{C}\pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus S, x)^\wedge \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathbb{C}\langle\langle X_1, \dots, X_n \rangle\rangle.$$

of completed Hopf algebras with augmentation ideals  $I$  and  $I_A = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ . We may view this as a comparison isomorphism from Betti to de Rham for the fundamental group (cf. Theorem 3.7).

Define  $W_\bullet$  and  $F^\bullet$  on  $A$  by giving  $X_j$  type  $(-1, -1)$ , so that  $X_J = X_{j_1} \cdots X_{j_r}$  is of type  $(-r, -r) = (-|J|, -|J|)$ . Define

$$W_m A = \text{span of } X_J : -2|J| \leq m, \text{ i.e. } |J| \geq -\frac{m}{2}$$

and

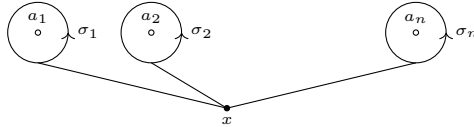
$$F^p A = \text{span of } X_J : -|J| \geq p, \text{ i.e. } |J| \leq -p$$

These filtrations carry over to the left side of  $\Theta$ . On the weighted graded pieces, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Gr}_{-2m}^W \mathbb{Q}\pi_1^\wedge &\cong I^m / I^{m+1} \xrightarrow{\Theta_m} \text{Gr}_{-2m}^W A \cong I_A^m / I_A^{m+1} \cong V^{\otimes m} \quad \text{where } V = \bigoplus_{j=1}^n \mathbb{C} \cdot X_j \\ (\gamma_1 - 1) \cdots (\gamma_m - 1) &\mapsto (T(\gamma_1) - 1) \cdots (T(\gamma_m) - 1) \equiv \int_{\gamma_1} \Omega \cdots \int_{\gamma_m} \Omega \pmod{I_A^{m+1}} \\ (\sigma_{j_1} - 1) \cdots (\sigma_{j_m} - 1) &\mapsto (2\pi i)^m X_{j_1} \cdots X_{j_m} \end{aligned}$$

as

$$\Theta_1(\sigma_j) = T(\sigma_j) - 1 \equiv \int_{\sigma_j} \omega_j X_j = 2\pi i X_j \pmod{I_A^2}.$$



Therefore, we have

$$\text{Gr}_{-2m}^W \cong \bigoplus_{|J|=m} \mathbb{Z}(m).$$

## 5. MIXED HODGE STRUCTURES ON FUNDAMENTAL GROUPS

In this section, we will put mixed Hodge structures on  $H^\bullet(X)$  and  $H^\bullet(Ch^\bullet(P_{x,y}X))$ . The basic setup is

$$\boxed{\text{MHC}} + \boxed{\text{DR Thm}} \rightarrow \boxed{\text{MHS}}$$

More specifically, Deligne [Hodge II]

- defines a Mixed Hodge Complex (MHC)
- $H^\bullet(\text{MHC})$  is a MHS
- constructs MHC that computes  $H^\bullet(X)$

thus putting a MHS on  $H^\bullet(X)$ .

Hain [Big Red]

- defines multiplicative MHC &
- modules over multiplicative MHC
- $B(M, A, N)$  is MHC if  $M, A, N$  are

thus putting a MHS on  $H^\bullet(Ch^\bullet(P_{x,y}X))$ .

## 5.1. Strictness.

**Definition 5.1.** A filtered morphism  $\varphi : (V_1, F_\bullet) \rightarrow (V_2, F_\bullet)$  is strict with respect to filtrations  $F_\bullet$  if

$$\text{Im } \varphi \cap F_m V_2 = \text{Im}(F_m V_1)$$

for all  $m$ , i.e. if  $v \in F_m V_2$  and  $v \in \text{Im } \varphi$ , then  $\exists u \in F_m V_1$ , such that  $\varphi(u) = v$ .

**Proposition 5.2.** If  $(A^\bullet, F^\bullet)$  is a filtered complex, then

$$d \text{ is strict with respect to } F^\bullet \iff \{F E_r\} \text{ degenerates at } E_1$$

*Proof.* We have

$$E_0^s = \text{Gr}_F^s A^\bullet, \quad E_1^{s,t} = H^{s+t}(\text{Gr}_F^s A^\bullet)$$

and

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E_1^{s,t} & \longrightarrow & E_1^{s+1,t} \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ H^{s+t}(\text{Gr}_F^s) & & H^{s+t+1}(\text{Gr}_F^s) \end{array}$$

Given  $\alpha \in H^{s+t}(\text{Gr}_F^s)$ , it is represented by  $a \in F^s$  such that  $da \in F^{s+1}$ . Then  $d_1 \alpha = [da] \in H^{s+t+1}(\text{Gr}_F^{s+1})$  and

$$d_1 \alpha = 0 \iff \exists b \in F^{s+1}, \text{ such that } db \equiv da \pmod{F^{s+2}}.$$

One concludes that

$$d_1 = 0 \iff \forall s \text{ \& } a \in F^s, \text{ s.t. } da \in F^{s+1}, \exists b \in F^{s+1}, \text{ s.t. } db \equiv da \pmod{F^{s+2}}.$$

(i.e. we have  $d(a-b) \in F^{s+2}$ , with  $a-b \in F^s$ . This leads us to the next page  $E_2$ .) Suppose  $d_1 = 0$  so

$$E_2^{s,t} = E_1^{s,t} = H^{s+t}(\text{Gr}_F^s)$$

then  $\alpha \in E_2^{s,t}$  is represented by  $a \in F^s$  such that  $da \in F^{s+2}$  (for example,  $(a-b)$  we just found above). So

$$d_2 \alpha = 0 \iff \exists c \in F^{s+2}, \text{ s.t. } dc \equiv da \pmod{F^{s+3}}.$$

Then (given  $d_1 = 0$ ),

$$d_2 = 0 \iff \forall s \ \& \ a \in F^s, \text{ s.t. } da \in F^{s+2}, \exists c \in F^{s+2}, \text{ s.t. } dc \equiv da \pmod{F^{s+3}}.$$

etc.

It is then easy to see that strictness is equivalent to

$$\forall a \in F^s, \text{ s.t. } da \in F^{s+t}, \underbrace{\exists b + c + d + \dots}_{t\text{-terms}} \text{ s.t. } da \equiv d(b + c + d + \dots) \pmod{F^{s+t+1}}$$

which, in turn, is equivalent to

$$d_1 = d_2 = \dots = 0,$$

i.e.  $\{F E_r\}$  degenerates at  $E_1$ .  $\square$

**5.2. Hodge to DR spectral sequence.** Let  $X$  be a complex manifold. Its de Rham complex

$$E_{\mathbb{C}}^m(X) = \bigoplus_{p+q=m} E^{p,q}(X)$$

with differential  $d = \partial + \bar{\partial}$ . Define

$$F^p E^m(X) = \bigoplus_{s \geq p} E^{s, m-s}(X).$$

This filtration gives rise to *Hodge to DR spectral sequence* with

$$E_1^{p,q} = H^{p+q}(E^{p,0} \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} E^{p,1} \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} \dots \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} E^{p,n} \rightarrow 0) = H_{\bar{\partial}}^{p,q}(X)$$

where  $n = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} X$ . There is a fine/acyclic resolution of the sheaf  $\Omega_X^p$  of differentials:

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega_X^p \rightarrow \boxed{\mathcal{E}_X^{p,0} \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} \mathcal{E}_X^{p,1} \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} \dots \xrightarrow{\bar{\partial}} \mathcal{E}_X^{p,n} \rightarrow 0}$$

By sheaf theory, we have

$$H^q(X, \Omega_X^p) \cong H_{\bar{\partial}}^{p,q}(X).$$

So we have

$$E_1^{p,q} = H^q(X, \Omega_X^p) \implies H^{p+q}(X; \mathbb{C}).$$

Note that for  $X$  compact, using Hermitian metric on  $X$  we have

$$H_{\bar{\partial}}^{p,q}(X) \cong \mathcal{H}_{\bar{\partial}}^{p,q}(X)$$

where  $\mathcal{H}_{\bar{\partial}}^{p,q}(X)$  denotes harmonic forms for the Laplacian  $\Delta_{\bar{\partial}}$ ; and using Riemannian metric on  $X$

$$H^{p+q}(X; \mathbb{C}) \cong \mathcal{H}_d^{p+q}(X)$$

where  $\mathcal{H}_d^{p+q}(X)$  denotes harmonic forms for the Laplacian  $\Delta_d$ .

If  $X$  is compact Kähler, we have Kähler identities that give

$$\Delta_d = 2\Delta_{\bar{\partial}}.$$

This implies that

$$\mathcal{H}_d^m(X) = \bigoplus_{p+q=m} \mathcal{H}_{\bar{\partial}}^{p,q}(X).$$

By dimension counting, Hodge to DR spectral sequence degenerates at  $E_1$  for  $X$  compact Kähler. By Proposition 5.2, the differential  $d$  on  $E^\bullet(X)$  is strict with respect to  $F^\bullet$ .

We provide an easy application for this strictness.

**Example 5.3** (Hodge filtration  $F^\bullet$  on  $H^0(\overline{B}_2(X))$ ). Let  $X$  be compact Kähler. Fix a base point  $x \in X$ . Then

$$\overline{B}_2(X) := \overline{B}_2(\mathbb{C}, E^\bullet(X), \mathbb{C}) = \left\{ \sum a_{jk}(\omega_j | \omega_k) + (\xi) \right\}$$

and  $H^0(\overline{B}_2(X))$  consists of  $\sum a_{jk}(\omega_j | \omega_k) + (\xi)$  with

$$\sum a_{jk} \omega_j \wedge \omega_k + d\xi = 0$$

i.e.  $\sum a_{jk}[\omega_j] \otimes [\omega_k] \in K$  where

$$0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow H^1(X) \otimes H^1(X) \xrightarrow{\cup} H^2(X)$$

cf. Remark 2.21 (2). We have a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^1(X) \rightarrow H^0(\overline{B}_2(X)) \rightarrow K \rightarrow 0$$

$$\varphi \mapsto \int(\varphi)$$

$$\sum a_{jk}(\omega_j | \omega_k) + (\xi) \mapsto \sum a_{jk}[\omega_j] \otimes [\omega_k]$$

For holomorphic 1-forms  $\omega_1, \omega_2 \in F^1$ , we have  $\omega_1 \otimes \omega_2 \in F^2$ . As  $\omega_1 \wedge \omega_2 = 0$  we have

$$\int(\omega_1 | \omega_2) \in F^2 H^0(\overline{B}_2(X)).$$

For holomorphic 1-forms  $\omega_j, \omega_k \in F^1$ , suppose  $[\omega_j] \cup [\overline{\omega}_k] = 0$ , then as  $\omega_j \wedge \overline{\omega}_k \in F^1$ , by strictness, we can find  $\xi \in F^1$  such that

$$\omega_j \wedge \overline{\omega}_k + d\xi = 0.$$

This gives rise to

$$\int(\omega_j | \overline{\omega}_k) + (\xi) \in F^1 H^0(\overline{B}_2(X)).$$

**5.3. Mixed Hodge Complex (MHC).** Let  $k \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be a subfield.

**Definition 5.4.** A  $k$ -MHC is a pair of complexes  $K_k^\bullet$  and  $K_{\mathbb{C}}^\bullet$  with filtrations

$$\mathbf{K} = ((K_k, W_\bullet), (K_{\mathbb{C}}, W_\bullet, F^\bullet))$$

and

- (1) a fixed  $W_\bullet$ -filtered quasi-isomorphism

$$(K_k^\bullet \otimes \mathbb{C}, W_\bullet) \leftarrow (K_1^\bullet, W_\bullet) \rightarrow (K_2^\bullet, W_\bullet) \rightarrow \cdots \leftarrow (K_{\mathbb{C}}^\bullet, W_\bullet)$$

- (2)  $({}_W E_0(K_{\mathbb{C}}), d_0)$  is strictly compatible with  $F^\bullet$
- (3)  ${}_W E_1^{l,m}(\mathbf{K})$  has HS of weight  $m$  with respect to induced  $F^\bullet$

*Remark 5.5.* (1) implies that we have isomorphisms on  ${}_W E_1$ , and

$$(H^\bullet(K_k), W_\bullet) \otimes \mathbb{C} \cong (H^\bullet(K_{\mathbb{C}}), W_\bullet).$$

This makes sense of  $k$ -structure (weight filtration) of the HS in (3), while the Hodge filtration  $F^\bullet$  comes from (2).

**Theorem 5.6** (Deligne). *If  $\mathbf{K}$  is a  $k$ -MHC, then  $H^\bullet(\mathbf{K})$  is a  $k$ -MHS with*

- (1) induced  $F^\bullet$
- (2)  $W_m H^j(K_k) = \text{Im}\{H^j(W_{m-j}(K_k)) \rightarrow H^j(K_k)\}$
- (3)  ${}_W E_2 = {}_W E_\infty$ , i.e. weight spectral sequence degenerates at  $E_2$ .

**Example 5.7.** For  $X$  smooth projective over  $\mathbb{C}$ , to construct MHS on  $H^\bullet(X)$ , we define the complex part of a MHC

$$K_{\mathbb{C}}^\bullet = E_{\mathbb{C}}^\bullet(X)$$

with

$$W_{-1} = 0, \quad W_0 = E_{\mathbb{C}}^\bullet(X).$$

Then we have

$$W_j H^j(K_{\mathbb{C}}) = \text{Im } H^j(W_0 K_{\mathbb{C}}) = H^j(K_{\mathbb{C}})$$

and  $W_{j-1} H^j(K_{\mathbb{C}}) = 0$ . This is consistent with our expectations (Example 4.2).

**5.4. Logarithmic de Rham complex.** For  $X$  a smooth variety over  $\mathbb{C}$ , but not necessarily projective, we construct logarithmic de Rham complex.

By resolution of singularities (Hironaka), we can write

$$X = \overline{X} - D$$

where  $D$  is a divisor with normal crossings, i.e. at each  $P \in \overline{X}$ , we have local holomorphic coordinates  $(z_1, \dots, z_n)$  on a neighborhood  $U$  of  $P$ , and  $k \leq n$ , such that  $U \cap D$  is given by

$$z_1 \cdots z_k = 0.$$

We say  $D$  has simple normal crossings if each of its components is smooth. One can always blow up a divisor with normal crossings to get a divisor with simple normal crossings.

Now we construct  $C^\infty$ -logarithmic de Rham complex  $E^\bullet(\overline{X} \log D)$  for  $D$  with normal crossings. It has two steps:

- (1) Construct sheaf of logarithmic differentials  $\Omega_{\overline{X}}^\bullet(\log D)$ . Define

$$\Omega_{\overline{X}}^\bullet(\log D) := \wedge^\bullet \Omega_{\overline{X}}^1(\log D).$$

For sheaf  $\Omega_{\overline{X}}^1(\log D)$ , locally on  $U$  as above,

$$\Omega_{\overline{X}}^1(\log D)(U)$$

is a free  $\mathcal{O}(U)$ -module generated by  $\Omega^1(U)$  and  $\frac{dz_j}{z_j}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, k$ . Define weight filtration  $W_\bullet$  so that

$$W_r \Omega_{\overline{X}}^m(\log D)(U)$$

have elements of the form

$$(5.1) \quad \sum_{\substack{|J|=m \\ s \leq r}} f_J(z) \frac{dz_{j_1}}{z_{j_1}} \wedge \cdots \wedge \frac{dz_{j_s}}{z_{j_s}} \wedge dz_{j_{s+1}} \wedge \cdots \wedge dz_{j_m}$$

where  $f_J(z)$  is holomorphic. Suppose that  $D = \bigcup_{j=1}^N D_j$  is a union of its components, and for a subset  $J \subseteq \{1, \dots, N\}$ ,  $D_J = \bigcap_{j \in J} D_j$ . We have residue maps

$$(5.2) \quad \text{Res} : \text{Gr}_r^W \Omega_{\overline{X}}^m(\log D)(U) \xrightarrow{\sim} \bigoplus_{\text{codim } r \text{ components } D_J} \Omega_{\overline{X}}^{m-r}(D_J)$$

with element (5.1) mapping to

$$\sum_{|J|=r} f_J(z) dz_{j_{r+1}} \wedge \cdots \wedge dz_{j_m}.$$

(2) Construct  $C^\infty$ -sheaf of logarithmic differential forms

$$\mathcal{E}_{\overline{X}}^{p,q}(\log D) := \mathcal{E}_{\overline{X}}^{0,q} \otimes \Omega_{\overline{X}}^p(\log D).$$

This is a double complex, we denote the associated total complex by  $\mathcal{E}_{\overline{X}}^\bullet(\log D)$ . A  $(p, q)$ -form, locally on  $U$ , can be written as

$$\sum \varphi_{J,K} \frac{dz_{j_1}}{z_{j_1}} \wedge \cdots \wedge \frac{dz_{j_r}}{z_{j_r}} \wedge dz_{j_{r+1}} \wedge \cdots \wedge dz_{j_p} \wedge d\bar{z}_{k_1} \wedge \cdots d\bar{z}_{k_q}.$$

**Definition 5.8.** Define the logarithmic de Rham complex

$$E^\bullet(\overline{X} \log D) := \Gamma(\overline{X}, \mathcal{E}_{\overline{X}}^\bullet(\log D)).$$

For weight filtration,  $W_r$  is generated locally by terms with at most  $r$  logarithmic differential forms  $\frac{dz_j}{z_j}$ . For Hodge filtration, count the number of  $dz$ 's.

*Remark 5.9.* If one uses the direct image  $j_* \Omega_X^\bullet$  for the inclusion  $j : X \rightarrow \overline{X}$ , then its weight filtration can be defined by counting the order of poles. It is  $W_\bullet$ -filtered quasi-isomorphic to the logarithmic de Rham complex, see Deligne [Hodge II, (3.1.10)–(3.1.11)]. This explains in Example 5.7, the weight filtration is concentrated in weight 0 as there are no poles.

**Theorem 5.10** (Deligne).  $E^\bullet(\overline{X} \log D)$  is a MHC.

*Remark 5.11.* Actually, we have only constructed the complex part  $K_{\mathbb{C}}$  of  $\mathbf{K}$ . The similar construction for the  $k$ -part  $K_k$  is omitted.

Set

$$D^{[m]} := \coprod_{|J|=m} D_J.$$

For example,  $D^{[1]} = \coprod_j D_j$ ,  $D^{[2]} = \coprod_{j < k} D_j \cap D_k$ , etc. Suppose  $D$  has simple normal crossings, then all  $D^{[j]}$  are smooth. By the residue maps (5.2), we have

$${}_W E_1^{-l,m} = \underbrace{H^{m-2l}(D^{[l]})(-l)}_{\text{HS of weight } m}$$

for the weight spectral sequence for  $E^\bullet(\overline{X} \log D)$ . The differential  $d_1$  are given by Gysin maps<sup>2</sup>. And this spectral sequence degenerates at  $E_2$ .

<sup>2</sup>This is the degree map that showed up in the Gysin sequence in Example 4.26. In general, if  $Y$  is a divisor of  $X$  with  $\dim X = d$ , the inclusion  $Y \hookrightarrow X$  induces  $H_{2d-j}(Y) \rightarrow H_{2d-j}(X)$ ; Poincaré duality then gives  $H^{j-2}(Y)(d-1) \rightarrow H^j(X)(d)$ , and thus the Gysin map  $H^{j-2}(Y)(-1) \rightarrow H^j(X)$ .

$$\begin{array}{c}
H^0(\mathbb{P}^3)(-3) \rightarrow H^0(\mathbb{P}^3)(-2) \rightarrow H^0(\mathbb{P}^3)(-1) \rightarrow H^0(\bar{X}) \\
H^1(\mathbb{P}^3)(-2) \rightarrow H^1(\mathbb{P}^3)(-1) \rightarrow H^1(\bar{X}) \\
H^2(\mathbb{P}^3)(-1) \rightarrow H^2(\mathbb{P}^3) \rightarrow H^2(\bar{X}) \\
\begin{array}{ccc}
\begin{array}{c} d_0 \\ \uparrow \\ d_1 \end{array} & 0 & H^3(\mathbb{P}^3) \rightarrow H^3(\bar{X}) \\
& 0 & H^4(\mathbb{P}^3) \rightarrow H^4(\bar{X}) \\
& 0 & 0 \rightarrow H^5(\bar{X}) \\
& 0 & 0 \rightarrow H^6(\bar{X})
\end{array}
\end{array}$$

**Corollary 5.12.** For  $X$  smooth,  $H^\bullet(X) = H^\bullet(E^\bullet(\bar{X} \log D))$  has a MHS.

*Remark 5.13.* One can check that the MHS on  $H^1(X)$  is the same as the one we saw in Example 4.26.

**Example 5.14.** Let  $X = \bar{X} - D$  be a smooth variety over  $\mathbb{C}$  as before. Fix a base point  $x \in X$ , we have augmentation

$$e_x : E^\bullet(\bar{X} \log D) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

by evaluating at  $x$ . This leads to

$$\bar{B}(E^\bullet(\bar{X} \log D)) := \bar{B}(\mathbb{C}, E^\bullet(\bar{X} \log D), \mathbb{C}),$$

the complex part of a MHC. The Hodge filtration is obvious, counting numbers of  $dz$ 's. The weight filtration is the convolution of  $W_\bullet$  on  $E^\bullet(\bar{X} \log D)$  with the length filtration on the (reduced) bar construction. For example,

$$\left(\frac{dz}{z} \middle| \frac{dw}{w} \middle| d\xi\right) \in F^3$$

and it is in  $W_{2+3}$ , where  $2 = 1 + 1 + 0$  comes from  $W_\bullet$  on  $E^\bullet(\bar{X} \log D)$  counting the number of logarithmic forms; 3 comes from the length.

**Theorem 5.15** (Hain). *This is a MHC.*

*Remark 5.16.* Again the  $k$ -part of this MHC is omitted.

**Corollary 5.17.** For  $X$  smooth,  $H^\bullet(Ch^\bullet(P_x X)) = H^\bullet(\bar{B}(E^\bullet(\bar{X} \log D)))$  has a MHS.

One can look back at Example 4.28 to check the understanding of the weight and Hodge filtrations.



## 6. DELIGNE'S CANONICAL EXTENSION

## 6.1. Variations of Hodge structures.

**Definition 6.1.** A variation of Hodge structures (VHS),  $\mathbb{V}$  over a smooth (complex) variety  $T$ , of weight  $m$  consists of

- (1) a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -local system  $\mathbb{V}_{\mathbb{Q}}$  over  $T$ , with

$$\mathbb{V}_{\mathbb{C}} := \mathbb{V}_{\mathbb{Q}} \otimes \mathbb{C}.$$

The corresponding holomorphic vector bundle

$$\mathcal{V} := \mathbb{V} \otimes \mathcal{O}_T$$

over  $T$  has a flat connection

$$\nabla : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{V} \otimes \Omega_T^1.$$

- (2) Need holomorphic sub-bundles (*Hodge sub-bundles*)  $\mathcal{F}^p$  of  $\mathcal{V}$

$$\dots \supseteq \mathcal{F}^p \supseteq \mathcal{F}^{p+1} \supseteq \dots$$

such that  $\cup_p \mathcal{F}^p = \mathcal{V}$ ,  $\cap_p \mathcal{F}^p = 0$ .

- (3) For each  $t \in T$ , the fiber

$$V_t := (\mathbb{V}_{\mathbb{Q},t}, (\mathbb{V}_{\mathbb{C},t}, \mathcal{F}_t^{\bullet}))$$

is a Hodge structure of weight  $m$ .

- (4) Griffiths transversality:

$$\nabla \mathcal{F}^p \subseteq \mathcal{F}^{p-1} \otimes \Omega_T^1.$$

(Think of this as  $\nabla : \mathcal{F}^p(\mathcal{V}) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^p(\mathcal{V} \otimes \Omega_T^1)$ )

**Example 6.2.** Let  $f : X \rightarrow T$  be a family of smooth projective varieties, i.e.  $X_t$  are smooth projective for any  $t \in T$ . Take

$$\mathbb{V}_{\mathbb{Q}} = R^m f_* \mathbb{Q}.$$

This is a VHS of weight  $m$  with fiber  $V_t$  and

$$\mathbb{V}_{\mathbb{Q},t} = H^m(X_t; \mathbb{Q}).$$

**Definition 6.3.** A polarized variation of Hodge structures (PVHS) of weight  $m$  over  $T$  is a VHS

$$\mathbb{V} = (\mathbb{V}_{\mathbb{Q}}, \mathcal{V}, \mathcal{F}^p)$$

with a  $(-1)^m$ -symmetric flat bilinear form

$$Q : \mathbb{V} \otimes \mathbb{V} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$$

such that  $Q_t : V_t \otimes V_t \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  polarizes  $V_t$ .

*Remark 6.4.* All VHS coming from algebraic geometry are polarizable.

*Remark 6.5.* The category of PVHS over  $T$  is semi-simple (globally). However, it is locally (quasi-)unipotent, cf. Thm. 7.1 (1).

Families usually come with singular fibers. It is very interesting to find out the information near such fibers. We will focus on the 1-dimensional families locally, use the following example as a working example, eventually compute limit mixed Hodge structures in the next section.

**Example 6.6** (Canonical Example). We will consider a VHS over  $T = \mathbb{D}^*$  a punctured ( $q$ -)disk. This comes from considering families of elliptic curves over the upper half plane  $\mathfrak{h}$ , which is the universal covering space of  $\mathbb{D}^*$ .

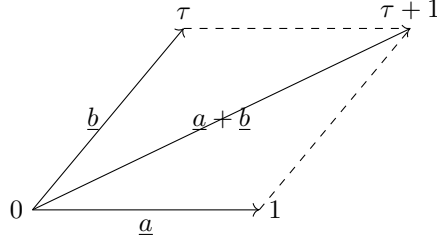
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{H}_{\mathfrak{h}} & \rightarrow & \mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{D}^*} \\ | & & | \\ \mathfrak{h} & \rightarrow & \mathbb{D}^* \end{array}$$

$$\tau \mapsto q = e^{2\pi i \tau}$$

- (1)  $\mathbb{Q}$ -local system  $\mathbb{H}_{\mathfrak{h}}$ : For any  $\tau \in \mathfrak{h}$ , define  $\Lambda_{\tau} := \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau$ ,  $E_{\tau} := \mathbb{C}/\Lambda_{\tau}$ . We have

$$H_1(E_{\tau}; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \Lambda_{\tau} \cong \mathbb{Z}\underline{a} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\underline{b} = H_{\mathbb{Z}}.$$

After being tensored with  $\mathbb{Q}$ , these give rise to a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -local system  $\mathbb{H}_{\mathfrak{h}}$  over  $\mathfrak{h}$ , whose corresponding vector bundle  $\mathcal{H}_{\mathfrak{h}}$  is trivialized by the flat sections  $\underline{a}$  and  $\underline{b}$ .



- (2) Monodromy action on the fiber: We consider the monodromy determined by a counter-clockwise loop around 0 in  $\mathbb{D}^*$ , which corresponds to  $\tau \mapsto \tau + 1$  in  $\mathfrak{h}$ . Therefore, the monodromy is given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} \underline{b} \\ \underline{a} \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \underline{a} + \underline{b} \\ \underline{a} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \underline{b} \\ \underline{a} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Note that  $\underline{a}$  is invariant under the monodromy.

- (3) Poincaré duality identifies  $H_1$  with  $H^1$ : Using the intersection form  $(\underline{a} \cdot \underline{b}) = 1 = -(\underline{b} \cdot \underline{a})$ , we define the Poincaré duality

$$\begin{aligned} P : H_1 &\rightarrow H^1 \\ u &\mapsto (u \cdot -) \\ \underline{a} &\mapsto (\underline{a} \cdot -) = \check{\underline{b}} \\ \underline{b} &\mapsto (\underline{b} \cdot -) = -\check{\underline{a}} \end{aligned}$$

- (4)  $\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{D}^*}$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{D}^*}$  and its sections: Define a section of  $\mathcal{H}_{\mathfrak{h}}$  by

$$\underline{w} := 2\pi i \, dz = 2\pi i (\check{\underline{a}} + \tau \check{\underline{b}}).$$

By Poincaré duality, we can write it as

$$\underline{w} = 2\pi i (-\underline{b} + \tau \underline{a}).$$

One can check that it is invariant under the monodromy action as

$$-(\underline{a} + \underline{b}) + (\tau + 1)\underline{a} = -\underline{b} + \tau \underline{a}.$$

Therefore the vector bundle  $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{D}^*}$ , corresponding to  $\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{D}^*}$ , is trivialized by  $\underline{a}$  and  $\underline{w}$ :

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{D}^*} = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{D}^*} \underline{a} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{D}^*} \underline{w}.$$

The Hodge subbundle

$$F^1 \mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{D}^*} = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{D}^*} \underline{w}$$

is generated by  $\underline{w}$ .

- (5) Connection  $\nabla$  on  $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{D}^*}$ : On  $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{H}}$ , sections  $\underline{a}$  and  $\underline{b}$  are flat, i.e.  $\nabla \underline{a} = \nabla \underline{b} = 0$ . And we compute

$$\nabla \underline{w} = \nabla 2\pi i(\tau \underline{a} - \underline{b}) = 2\pi i \, d\tau \cdot \underline{a} = \underline{a} \frac{dq}{q}.$$

Therefore, we have connection

$$\nabla = d + \underline{a} \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{w}} \frac{dq}{q}$$

on  $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{D}^*}$ .

*Remark 6.7.* As we will see in Example 6.12, we can extend  $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{D}^*}$  to  $\mathbb{D}$  by

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{D}} := \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{D}} \underline{a} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{D}} \underline{w}$$

with the same connection  $\nabla$ . This is Deligne's canonical extension. Note that the connection has regular singularity at  $q = 0$  and nilpotent residue

$$\underline{a} \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{w}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

cf. Remark 6.11.

**6.2. Deligne's canonical extension.** The standard reference is Deligne [ODE]. Careful expositions have also been given by Conrad (notes on Riemann–Hilbert, available on [course website](#)) and Hain (last note on his [course website](#)). We will mostly follow Hain, adopting his notations.

Suppose that we have a local system of  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector spaces

$$\mathbb{V} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}^*$$

over a punctured disk, and we assume  $1 \in \mathbb{D}^*$  (by rescaling). Denote the corresponding flat vector bundle by  $\mathcal{V}$ . Denote the fiber over  $t \in \mathbb{D}^*$  by  $V_t$ , and the monodromy

$$h_t : V_t \rightarrow V_t$$

is determined by a counter-clockwise loop around 0 in  $\mathbb{D}^*$ . The local system is determined by any one of these. In particular, it is determined by

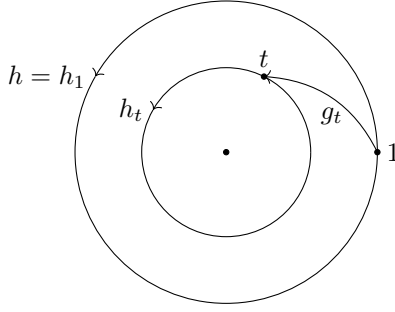
$$h := h_1 \in \text{Aut } V_1.$$

By flatness, we have parallel transport

$$g_t : V_1 \rightarrow V_t$$

between fibers, with  $g_1 = \text{id}$  and

$$h_t = g_t h g_t^{-1}.$$



Choose a logarithm of  $h$ , set

$$N = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \log h.$$

Deligne chooses  $N$  such that its eigenvalues  $\lambda$  satisfy

$$0 \leq \operatorname{Re}(\lambda) < 1.$$

In case  $h$  is unipotent, there is a canonical choice such that  $\operatorname{Re}(\lambda) \equiv 0$ , with the finite sum

$$N = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{(h - \operatorname{id})^n}{n} \in \operatorname{End} V_1.$$

Set  $N_t = g_t N g_t^{-1} \in \operatorname{End} V_t$ , then  $e^{2\pi i N_t} = h_t$ . For  $v \in V_1$ , let  $v(t)$  be the flat section of  $\mathbb{V}$  over a neighborhood  $U$  of  $t$ , then  $v(t) = g_t v$ . Set

$$\varphi(t) := g_t t^{-N} v = t^{-N_t} v(t) \in V_t.$$

A priori,  $\varphi(t)$  is multi-valued on  $\mathbb{D}^*$ , but it is single valued: at  $t = 1$ , when we analytically continue along the unit circle, we have

$$t^{-N} = e^{-N \log t} \mapsto e^{-N(\log t + 2\pi i)} = e^{-N \log t} \cdot e^{-2\pi i N} = t^{-N} \cdot h^{-1}$$

and  $v \mapsto hv$  so that

$$t^{-N} v \mapsto t^{-N} \cdot h^{-1} h v = t^{-N} v.$$

We trivialize  $\mathcal{V}$  over  $\mathbb{D}^*$  by

$$\begin{aligned} V_1 \times \mathbb{D}^* &\xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{V} \\ (v, t) &\mapsto \varphi(t) = g_t t^{-N} v \end{aligned}$$

We call this Deligne's trivialization.

**Proposition 6.8.** *The pullback of the connection on  $\mathcal{V}$  to  $V_1 \times \mathbb{D}^*$  is*

$$\nabla = d - N \frac{dt}{t}$$

*Proof.* Since  $g_t$  is a flat section of  $\operatorname{Aut}(\mathcal{V})$ , we have

$$\nabla(g_t t^{-N} v) = g_t d(t^{-N}) v = g_t (-N t^{-N-1} dt) v = -N (g_t t^{-N} v) \frac{dt}{t}.$$

□

**Definition 6.9.** Fix a choice of  $N$ , Deligne's canonical extension to  $\mathbb{D}$  of  $\mathcal{V}$  over  $\mathbb{D}^*$  is the extension

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathcal{V} & \xrightarrow{\approx} & V_1 \times \mathbb{D}^* & \hookrightarrow & V_1 \times \mathbb{D} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{D}^* & \xlongequal{\quad} & \mathbb{D}^* & \hookrightarrow & \mathbb{D} \end{array}$$

using Deligne's trivialization above.

*Remark 6.10.* Since the extension is a trivial bundle, the central fiber  $V_0$  is well defined up to a unique isomorphism (Proposition 6.13), we can write the extension as

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{V} & \hookrightarrow & V_0 \times \mathbb{D} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{D}^* & \hookrightarrow & \mathbb{D} \end{array}$$

and  $N$  should be regarded as an element of  $\text{End}(V_0)$ .

*Remark 6.11.* In the case when the monodromy is unipotent, and  $N$  is nilpotent, Deligne's canonical extension is characterized by the properties:

- (1)  $(\mathcal{V}, \nabla)$  has a regular singularity at 0:

$$\nabla : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{V} \otimes \Omega_{\mathbb{D}}^1(\log 0).$$

- (2)  $\text{Res}_0 \nabla$  is nilpotent.

**Example 6.12** (Canonical Example, cont'd). In our Example 6.6 (2), in terms of flat sections  $\underline{a}$  and  $\underline{b}$ , the monodromy

$$h = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

is unipotent. And we choose canonically

$$N = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{(h - \text{id})^n}{n} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} (h - \text{id})$$

where  $\text{id} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Note that as  $(h - \text{id})^2 = 0$ ,  $N^2 = 0$ . In the local coordinate  $t = q$ ,

$$q^{-N} = e^{-N \log q} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-N \log q)^n}{n!} = \text{id} + (-N \log q) = \text{id} - N \cdot 2\pi i \tau$$

since  $q = e^{2\pi i \tau}$  and  $\tau = \frac{\log q}{2\pi i}$ . We have

$$q^{-N} \underline{a} = \underline{a}, \quad \text{and} \quad q^{-N} \underline{b} = \underline{b} - \tau \underline{a} = -\frac{\underline{w}}{2\pi i}.$$

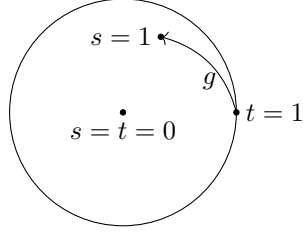
Up to a constant multiple, the sections  $\underline{a}$  and  $\underline{w}$  that we considered before give rise to Deligne's trivialization, and we obtain Deligne's canonical extension by simply extending them across 0, cf. Remark 6.7.

**Proposition 6.13.** *Deligne's canonical extension does not depend on the choice of holomorphic coordinate  $t$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $s$  is another holomorphic coordinate in  $\mathbb{D}$  centered at 0. Write

$$s(t) = tf(t)$$

with  $f(t)$  holomorphic and  $f(0) \neq 0$ . Without loss of generality, assume  $s = 1$  is in  $\mathbb{D}^*$  (otherwise rescale or swap  $s \leftrightarrow t$ ).



Denote by  $g$  the parallel transport

$$g : V_{t=1} \rightarrow V_{s=1}.$$

Set

$$\begin{aligned} h' &= ghg^{-1} \in \text{Aut } V_{s=1}, \\ N' &= gNg^{-1} \in \text{End } V_{s=1}, \\ g'_s &= g_{t(s)}g^{-1} : V_{s=1} \rightarrow V_s. \end{aligned}$$

We have the trivialization

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V_{s=1} \times \mathbb{D}^* & \xrightarrow{\approx} & \mathcal{V} \\ & \searrow \quad \swarrow & \\ & \mathbb{D}^* & \end{array}$$

given by

$$(w, s) \longmapsto g'_s s^{-N'} w.$$

Define

$$\Phi : V_{t=1} \times \underbrace{\mathbb{D}_t}_{t\text{-disk}} \rightarrow V_{s=1} \times \underbrace{\mathbb{D}_s}_{s\text{-disk}}$$

by

$$(v, t) \mapsto (gf(t)^N v, s(t)).$$

This is holomorphic at  $t = 0$  and  $f(0) \neq 0$ , so  $\Phi$  is an isomorphism of holomorphic vector bundles.

Restricting to punctured disks, we have the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V_{t=1} \times \mathbb{D}_t^* & \xrightarrow{\Phi|_{\mathbb{D}^*}} & V_{s=1} \times \mathbb{D}_s^* \\ & \searrow \approx \quad \swarrow \approx & \\ & \mathcal{V} & \end{array}$$

with

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (v, t) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & (w, s) = (gf(t)^N v, s(t)) \\ & \searrow \quad \swarrow & \\ & g_t t^{-N} v = g'_s s^{-N'} w & \end{array}$$

since

$$\begin{aligned} g'_s s(t)^{-N'} (gf(t)^N v) &= g_t g^{-1} s(t)^{-N'} gf(t)^N v \\ &= g_t s(t)^{-N} f(t)^N v \\ &= g_t t^{-N} v. \end{aligned}$$

□

For any choice of coordinate  $t$ , centered at  $0 \in \mathbb{D}$ ,

$$\lim_{P \rightarrow 0} t(P)^{-N_P} v(P)$$

exists in  $V_0$ , where  $P \in \mathbb{D}^*$ ,  $P \mapsto v(P)$  is a flat section of  $\mathbb{V}$ , and  $N_P$  the monodromy at  $P$ . This induces parallel transport

$$V_P \xrightarrow{\sim} V_0$$

depending on  $t$ , i.e. the map

$$\begin{aligned} H^0(\widetilde{\mathbb{D}}^*, \pi^* \mathbb{V}) &\rightarrow V_0 \\ v &\mapsto \lim_{P \rightarrow 0} t(P)^{-N_P} v(P) \end{aligned}$$

is an isomorphism for each choice of  $t$ , where  $\pi : \widetilde{\mathbb{D}}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{D}^*$  is the universal covering map. In fact, this gives a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure on  $V_0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} H^0(\widetilde{\mathbb{D}}^*, \pi^* \mathbb{V}_{\mathbb{Q}}) \otimes \mathbb{C} &\rightarrow V_0 \\ v \otimes 1 &\mapsto \lim_{P \rightarrow 0} t(P)^{-N_P} v(P) \end{aligned}$$

**Proposition 6.14.** *This  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure depends only on the tangent vector  $\partial/\partial t \in T_0 \mathbb{D}$ . Denote it by  $V_{\partial/\partial t}$ . If  $\partial/\partial s = \lambda \partial/\partial t$ , then the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure  $V_{\partial/\partial s}$  on  $V_0$  is*

$$V_{\partial/\partial s} = \lambda^N V_{\partial/\partial t}$$

where  $N = \text{Res}_0 \nabla$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $s$  is another holomorphic coordinate in  $\mathbb{D}$  centered at 0. Write

$$s(t) = tf(t)$$

with  $f(t)$  holomorphic and  $f(0) \neq 0$ . Taking differential at 0, we have

$$ds = f(0) dt.$$

Taking dual, we get

$$\partial/\partial s = f(0)^{-1} \partial/\partial t \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda = f(0)^{-1}.$$

Let  $v \in H^0(\widetilde{\mathbb{D}}^*, \pi^* \mathbb{V}_{\mathbb{Q}})$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{P \rightarrow 0} s(P)^{-N_P} v(P) &= \lim_{P \rightarrow 0} f(t(P))^{-N_P} t(P)^{-N_P} v(P) \\ &= f(0)^{-N} \lim_{P \rightarrow 0} t(P)^{-N_P} v(P) && \text{need } \lim_{P \rightarrow 0} N_P = N \\ &= \lambda^N \lim_{P \rightarrow 0} t(P)^{-N_P} v(P) \end{aligned}$$

i.e.

$$V_{\partial/\partial s} = \lambda^N V_{\partial/\partial t}.$$

□

## 7. LIMIT MIXED HODGE STRUCTURES

The standard reference is Schmid [VHS]. Recall the definition for PVHS from the beginning of last section. We summarize results in [VHS] as follows.

**Theorem 7.1** (Schmid). *If  $\mathbb{V} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}^*$  is a PVHS, then*

- (1) *the monodromy  $h$  is quasi-unipotent (Remark 6.5), i.e.  $\exists n, m$ , s.t.  $(h^n - \text{id})^m = 0$ . This is proved by Landman in geometric situations, and Borel abstractly. Without loss of generality, we will assume that  $h$  is unipotent. One can base change to a finite cover of  $\mathbb{D}^*$  and pull back the local system:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} p^*\mathbb{V} & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{V} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{D}^* & \xrightarrow{p} & \mathbb{D}^* \end{array}$$

where  $p$  is the power map  $t \mapsto t^n$ .

- (2) *(Nilpotent Orbit Theorem) If monodromy is unipotent, the Hodge sub-bundles extend to sub-bundles of the canonical extension of  $\mathcal{V}$  to  $\mathbb{D}$ .*
- (3) *( $\text{SL}_2$  Orbit Theorem) For each non-zero tangent vector  $\vec{v} \in T_0\mathbb{D}$ , e.g.  $\vec{v} = \partial/\partial t$ ,*

$$(V_{\partial/\partial t}, V_0, F^\bullet, M_\bullet)$$

*is a MHS. Here the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure  $V_{\partial/\partial t}$  on  $V_0$  is given by Proposition 6.14, the Hodge filtration  $F^\bullet$  is given by (2), and the weight filtration is the **monodromy weight filtration**  $M_\bullet$  that we will define next.*

**7.1. Monodromy weight filtration.** Suppose  $V$  is a finite dimensional vector space over a field of characteristic zero, and  $N : V \rightarrow V$  is a nilpotent endomorphism.

**Proposition 7.2.** *There is a unique filtration  $W_\bullet = W_\bullet(N)$  on  $V$  such that*

- (1)  $NW_k \subseteq W_{k-2}$
- (2) *The induced map*

$$N^k : \text{Gr}_k^W V \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Gr}_{-k}^W V$$

*on the associated graded is an isomorphism.*

*Proof.* Since  $N$  is nilpotent, it has Jordan canonical form with Jordan blocks

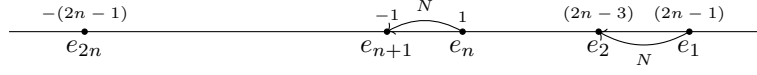
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

It suffices to prove existence and uniqueness for a single Jordan block, such as above. Suppose it is a  $m \times m$ -matrix. We can find basis  $\{e_j\}$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, m$ , so that

$$\begin{aligned} Ne_j &= e_{j+1}, \quad j < m \\ Ne_m &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

The following diagrams indicate the weight filtration: For  $m = 2n$ ,



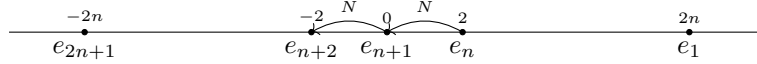


The uniqueness is given by

$$W_{2n-2l} = W_{2n-1-2l} = N^l(V), \quad 0 \leq l \leq 2n-1,$$

$$W_{2n-1} = W_{2n} = W_{2n+1} = \cdots = V \quad \text{and} \quad W_{-2n} = W_{-2n-1} = \cdots = 0.$$

For  $m = 2n+1$ ,



The uniqueness is given by

$$W_{2n+1-2l} = W_{2n-2l} = N^l(V), \quad 0 \leq l \leq 2n,$$

$$W_{2n} = W_{2n+1} = W_{2n+2} = \cdots = V \quad \text{and} \quad W_{-2n-1} = W_{-2n-2} = \cdots = 0.$$

□

*Remark 7.3.* The weight filtration  $W_\bullet = W_\bullet(N)$  is centered at 0.

Recall that if the monodromy  $h$  is unipotent, we have a nilpotent endomorphism  $N$  on the central fiber, see Remark 6.10.

**Definition 7.4.** For a PVHS (over  $\mathbb{D}^*$ ) of weight  $m$ , i.e. each fiber has HS of weight  $m$ , define the monodromy weight filtration

$$M_\bullet := W_{\bullet-m}$$

on the central fiber where  $W_\bullet = W_\bullet(N)$  is the filtration defined in the last proposition for the nilpotent endomorphism  $N$ .

*Remark 7.5.* The monodromy weight filtration  $M_\bullet = W_{\bullet-m}$  is centered at  $m$ .

*Remark 7.6.* In general, as can be seen from the examples in the next subsection, the monodromy weight filtration of the limit MHS does not depend on the choice of tangent vector.

**Example 7.7.** We have a nilpotent endomorphism

$$N = \underline{a} \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{w}}$$

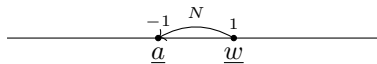
on the central fiber

$$H_0 = \mathbb{C}\underline{a} \oplus \mathbb{C}\underline{w}$$

of the canonical extension of  $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbb{D}^*}$ . So

$$N\underline{w} = \underline{a}, \quad N\underline{a} = 0,$$

this gives the following diagram



for the weight filtration  $W_\bullet = W_\bullet(N)$  given by

$$W_{-2} = 0, \quad W_{-1} = W_0 = \mathbb{C}\underline{a}, \quad W_1 = H_0.$$

Since  $\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{D}^*}$  is a PVHS of weight 1, we have the following diagram

*Remark 7.9.* To be very precise,  $N^B$  and  $N^{\text{dR}}$  give rise to monodromy weight filtrations  $M_\bullet^B$  on  $H_{\partial/\partial q}^B$  and  $M_\bullet^{\text{dR}}$  on  $H_0$ , respectively. These monodromy weight filtrations are compatible under the comparison isomorphism.

**Example 7.10** (Limit MHS at  $\lambda\partial/\partial q$ ). We use local coordinate  $t = q/\lambda$ , since then we have

$$\partial/\partial t = \lambda\partial/\partial q.$$

As the previous example, we compute the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure using  $N = N^B = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \underline{a} \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{b}}$ . We have

$$t^{-N} = (q/\lambda)^{-N} = e^{-N \log(q/\lambda)} = \text{id} - N \log(q/\lambda) = \text{id} + \frac{\log \lambda}{2\pi i} \underline{a} \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{b}} - \frac{\log q}{2\pi i} \underline{a} \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{b}}$$

and the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure  $H_{\lambda\partial/\partial q} = \mathbb{Z}\mathbf{a} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\mathbf{b}$  with

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a} &= t^{-N} \underline{a} = \underline{a} \\ \mathbf{b} &= t^{-N} \underline{b} = \underline{b} + \log \lambda \frac{\underline{a}}{2\pi i} - \tau \underline{a} = -\frac{\underline{w}}{2\pi i} + \log \lambda \frac{\underline{a}}{2\pi i} \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{Betti basis}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \underline{a} & \underline{w} \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{DR basis}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{\log \lambda}{2\pi i} \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2\pi i} \end{pmatrix}.$$

We have the central fiber

$$H_0 = \mathbb{C}\underline{a} \oplus \mathbb{C}\underline{w}, \quad F^1 H_0 = \mathbb{C}\underline{w}$$

and the weight filtration  $M_\bullet$  with

$$\text{Gr}_2^M = \mathbb{C}\underline{w}, \quad \text{Gr}_0^M = \mathbb{C}\underline{a}.$$

The weight 0 part  $\mathbb{Z}(0)$  is again generated by  $\mathbf{a} = \underline{a}$ , and the quotient of  $H_{\lambda\partial/\partial q}$  by  $\mathbb{Z}(0)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}(-1)$  since modulo a multiple of  $\underline{a}$  we have  $\mathbf{b} \mapsto -(2\pi i)^{-1} \underline{w}$ . Unlike  $H_{\partial/\partial q}$ , this MHS does not split in general. It is an extension

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}(0) \rightarrow H_{\lambda\partial/\partial q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}(-1) \rightarrow 0$$

of  $\mathbb{Z}(-1)$  by  $\mathbb{Z}(0)$ , and corresponds to

$$\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^* \cong \text{Ext}^1(\mathbb{Z}(-1), \mathbb{Z}(0)).$$

*Remark 7.11.* To understand this limit MHS geometrically, read Hain's [KZB notes](#), see the picture in Section 16 (ignoring the puncture, with the small loop  $\gamma$ , at the identity of the elliptic curve), and Appendix B for the construction of the fibers over tangent vectors.

**7.3. Limits of VMHS.** Unlike PVHS, for a variation of mixed Hodge structures (VMHS), the existence of limit is not automatic. One needs local admissibility. Suppose locally we have a local system of MHS

$$\begin{array}{c} (\mathbb{V}, W_\bullet) \\ \downarrow \\ \mathbb{D}^* \end{array}$$

and the corresponding vector bundle

$$\begin{array}{c} (\mathcal{V}, F^\bullet) \\ \downarrow \\ \mathbb{D}^* \end{array}$$

extends across 0, and the central fiber

$$(V_0, W_\bullet)$$

comes with a nilpotent operator  $N$  compatible with  $W_\bullet$ . Note that

$$H^0(\widetilde{\mathbb{D}^*}, \pi^* \mathbb{V}) \xrightarrow{\sim} V_0$$

and  $W_\bullet$  is from VMHS. A particular ingredient for local admissibility is the relative weight filtration of  $N$  on  $(V_0, W_\bullet)$ .

**Definition 7.12.**  $M_\bullet$  is a *relative weight filtration* of  $N$  on  $(V, W_\bullet)$  if the induced filtration on  $\mathrm{Gr}_m^W V$  is  $W_\bullet(N)$  reindexed to center at  $m$  and  $N(M_r) \subseteq M_{r-2}$ .

*Remark 7.13.* For generic nilpotent  $N$  on  $(V, W_\bullet)$ , there is no such  $M_\bullet$ . For example, see Hain–Matsumoto [UMEM, Appendix A, Example A.5.]

**Definition 7.14.** An *admissible VMHS* over a smooth algebraic curve  $T = \overline{T} - \Sigma$  is a graded polarizable VMHS which is locally admissible at each  $s \in \Sigma$ .

**Example 7.15** (Admissible VMHS).

- (1) (Steenbrink–Zucker) For locally topologically trivial family of smooth algebraic varieties  $f : X \rightarrow T$ , take

$$\mathbb{V} = R^m f_* \mathbb{Q}.$$

- (2) (Gullen–Navarro–Puerta) For locally topologically trivial family of varieties (not necessarily smooth; could be simplicial, singular, ...)  $f : X \rightarrow T$ , take

$$\mathbb{V} = R^m f_* \mathbb{Q}.$$

- (3) (Hain) For locally topologically trivial family of smooth varieties

$$\begin{array}{c} X \\ f \Big| \Big)^{\sigma} \\ T \end{array}$$

with  $\sigma$  a smooth section. Take local system  $\mathbb{V}$  whose fiber at  $t \in T$  is

$$V_t := \mathcal{O}(\pi_1^{\mathrm{un}}(X_t, \sigma(t))).$$

## 8. REGULARISED PERIODS

**8.1. Asymptotics of periods.** Suppose that we have dual local systems

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{V} & & \check{\mathbb{V}} \\ | & & | \\ \mathbb{D}^* & & \mathbb{D}^* \end{array}$$

e.g.  $\{H_j(X_t)\}, \{H^j(X_t)\} = R^j f_* \mathbb{Q}$  for a family  $f : X \rightarrow T$ . Assume the monodromy is unipotent, and we have Deligne’s canonical extensions

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{V} & & \check{\mathcal{V}} \\ | & & | \\ \mathbb{D} & & \mathbb{D} \end{array}$$

endowed with connection  $\nabla, \check{\nabla}$ , respectively. We have

$$\mathrm{Res}_0 \nabla = -N, \quad \mathrm{Res}_0 \check{\nabla} = \check{N}.$$

**Proposition 8.1.** *Suppose that  $\gamma(t)$  is a flat section of  $\mathbb{V}$ , and  $\omega(t)$  is a holomorphic section of  $\check{\mathbb{V}}$ , then*

$$\int_{\gamma(t)} \omega(t) := \langle \gamma(t), \omega(t) \rangle$$

*is a polynomial*

$$\sum_{j=0}^d a_j(t) (\log t)^j$$

*in  $\log t$ , where  $a_j(t) \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D})$ . Furthermore,*

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \langle t^{-N_t} \gamma(t), \omega(t) \rangle = a_0(0).$$

*Remark 8.2.*

- (1) The first statement follows from another characterization of Deligne's canonical extension (unipotent case): flat sections of  $\mathcal{V}$ ,  $\check{\mathcal{V}}$  have logarithmic growth at 0. See ending remark in Conrad's notes, or higher dimensional generalization in Deligne [ODE, Ch. II, Thm 5.2].
- (2) The second statement is how we will compute regularised periods.

*Proof.* Suppose

$$\{\gamma_1(t), \dots, \gamma_m(t)\}$$

is a basis of  $H^0(\widetilde{\mathbb{D}^*}, \pi^* \mathbb{V})$ , and

$$\{\omega_1(t), \dots, \omega_m(t)\}$$

is a framing of  $\check{\mathcal{V}}$  over  $\mathbb{D}$ . Let

$$\{\varphi_j(t) = t^{-N_t} \gamma_j(t)\}, \quad j = 1, \dots, m$$

be Deligne's framing<sup>3</sup> of  $\mathcal{V}$  over  $\mathbb{D}$ , and

$$\{\check{\varphi}_1, \dots, \check{\varphi}_m\}$$

the dual framing of  $\check{\mathcal{V}}$ , i.e.

$$\langle \varphi_j, \check{\varphi}_k \rangle = \delta_{jk}.$$

Identifying the central fiber  $V_0$  with

$$\bigoplus_{j=1}^m \mathbb{C} \varphi_j,$$

then

$$N = -\text{Res}_0 \nabla$$

acts on  $V_0$ , cf. Proposition 6.8. We write

$$(N\varphi_1, \dots, N\varphi_m) = (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m)A$$

where  $A \in M_m(\mathbb{C})$  is nilpotent, then

$$N^k \cdot (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m) = (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m)A^k$$

and

$$t^N \cdot (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m) = (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m)t^A.$$

We have

$$(\omega_1(t), \dots, \omega_m(t)) = (\check{\varphi}_1, \dots, \check{\varphi}_m)\Phi(t)$$

---

<sup>3</sup>This is the framing we used in Deligne's trivialization.

where  $\Phi \in \mathrm{GL}_m(\mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D}))$ . So

$$\begin{aligned}
\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1(t) \\ \vdots \\ \gamma_m(t) \end{pmatrix}, (\omega_1(t), \dots, \omega_m(t)) \right\rangle &\approx \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} t^N \varphi_1 \\ \vdots \\ t^N \varphi_m \end{pmatrix}, (\check{\varphi}_1, \dots, \check{\varphi}_m) \Phi(t) \right\rangle \\
&= t^{A^T} \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_1 \\ \vdots \\ \varphi_m \end{pmatrix}, (\check{\varphi}_1, \dots, \check{\varphi}_m) \right\rangle \Phi(t) \\
&= t^{A^T} \Phi(t) \\
&= e^{A^T \log t} \Phi(t) \in M_m(\mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D})[\log t])
\end{aligned}$$

since  $A$  is nilpotent,  $e^{A^T \log t}$  is a polynomial in  $\log t$ . If

$$\begin{aligned}
\gamma(t) &= c_1(t)\gamma_1(t) + \dots + c_m(t)\gamma_m(t), \\
\omega(t) &= f_1(t)\omega_1(t) + \dots + f_m(t)\omega_m(t),
\end{aligned}$$

then

$$\langle \gamma(t), \omega(t) \rangle \approx (c_1(t), \dots, c_m(t)) e^{A^T \log t} \Phi(t) \begin{pmatrix} f_1(t) \\ \vdots \\ f_m(t) \end{pmatrix}.$$

By the Remark below, we can write

$$\langle \gamma(t), \omega(t) \rangle = \sum_{j=0}^d a_j(t) (\log t)^j.$$

Then taking the limit as  $t \rightarrow 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \langle t^{-N_t} \gamma(t), \omega(t) \rangle &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \langle t^{-N} \gamma(t), \omega(t) \rangle \\
&= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} (c_1(t), \dots, c_m(t)) \Phi(t) \begin{pmatrix} f_1(t) \\ \vdots \\ f_m(t) \end{pmatrix} \\
&= (c_1(0), \dots, c_m(0)) \Phi(0) \begin{pmatrix} f_1(0) \\ \vdots \\ f_m(0) \end{pmatrix} \\
&= a_0(0).
\end{aligned}$$

□

*Remark 8.3.* Here we are using the fine results of nilpotent orbit theorem, indicated by  $\approx, =$  above. Namely, we have used (the nilpotent orbits)

$$t^N \varphi_j, \quad j = 1, \dots, m$$

to approximate flat sections  $\gamma_j(t)$  of  $\mathbb{V}$ . Their distance  $|t^N \varphi_j - \gamma_j(t)|$  is asymptotically bounded by

$$C|t|^\alpha |\log t|^\beta$$

as  $t \rightarrow 0$ , cf. Schmid [VHS, (4.9)]. This also implies that the limit

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} t^{-N_t} \gamma(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} t^{-N} \gamma(t)$$

is well defined, which was used implicitly in the last section when computing limit MHS.

**8.2. Regularising iterated integrals.** Suppose  $X$  is a smooth projective curve,  $D$  is an effective divisor on  $X$ . Let  $\vec{v} \in T_P X$  be a non-zero tangent vector at  $P \in \text{Supp}(D)$ . For  $Q \in X - D$ , and  $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_r \in H^0(X, \Omega_X^1(\log D))$ , we will regularise

$$\int_{\vec{v}}^Q (\omega_1 | \dots | \omega_r).$$

Set

$$A = \mathbb{C}\langle X_1, \dots, X_n \rangle / I^{r+1}.$$

Embed

$$A \hookrightarrow \text{End}(A)$$

by left multiplication. The  $A$ -valued 1-form

$$\Omega = \omega_1 X_1 + \dots + \omega_n X_n \in H^0(\Omega_X^1(\log D)) \otimes A$$

satisfies  $d\Omega = \Omega \wedge \Omega = 0$ , thus defines a flat connection

$$\nabla = d + \Omega$$

on the trivial bundle

$$\begin{array}{c} A \times X \\ \downarrow \\ X \end{array}$$

with regular singularities along  $D$ . Note that  $N = -\text{Res}_P \Omega$  with

$$\text{Res}_P \Omega := \sum_{j=1}^n \text{Res}_P \omega_j X_j$$

is nilpotent in  $A$ .

Define

$$T(z) := \langle 1 + \int (\Omega) + \int (\Omega | \Omega) + \dots + \int \underbrace{(\Omega | \dots | \Omega)}_r, \gamma_{z,Q} \rangle$$

where  $\gamma_{z,Q}$  is a path from  $z$  to  $Q$ . Then, by formula of  $d$  for iterated integrals (Proposition 1.11 (1)), we have

$$dT = -\Omega T,$$

i.e.  $T$  is a flat section for  $\nabla = d + \Omega$ .

Choose a holomorphic coordinate  $t$  at  $P$  such that

$$\vec{v} = \partial / \partial t.$$

Set

$$\Omega_P := \sum_{j=1}^n \bar{\omega}_j X_j (= \text{Res}_P \Omega \frac{dt}{t})$$

where  $\bar{\omega}_j = \text{Res}_P \omega_j \frac{dt}{t}$ . We will view  $\Omega_P$  as an  $A$ -valued 1-form on the tangent space  $T_P X$ , cf. Remark 8.4. Since

$$\int_1^t \underbrace{\left( \frac{dt}{t} | \dots | \frac{dt}{t} \right)}_m = \frac{1}{m!} (\log t)^m,$$

for a path  $\gamma_{1,t}$  from 1 to  $t$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 1 + \int (\Omega_P) + \int (\Omega_P | \Omega_P) + \cdots, \gamma_{1,t} \rangle &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \int_1^t \underbrace{(\Omega_P | \cdots | \Omega_P)}_m \\ &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\text{Res}_P \Omega \log t)^m}{m!} = e^{\text{Res}_P \Omega \log t} = t^{\text{Res}_P \Omega} = t^{-N}. \end{aligned}$$

The regularised iterated integrals are coefficients of

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} t^{-N} T(t).$$

For example,

$$\int_{\vec{v}}^Q (\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_r) = \text{coefficient of } X_1 \cdots X_r.$$

This implies the formula

$$\int_{\vec{v}}^Q (\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_r) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \sum_{j=0}^r \underbrace{\int_1^t (\bar{\omega}_1 | \cdots | \bar{\omega}_j)}_{\substack{\text{coeff. of } X_1 \cdots X_j \\ \text{in } t^{-N}}} \underbrace{\int_t^Q (\omega_{j+1} | \cdots | \omega_r)}_{\substack{\text{coeff. of } X_{j+1} \cdots X_r \\ \text{in } T(t)}}.$$

*Remark 8.4.* This formula looks much like the composition of paths formula for usual iterated integrals:

$$\int_{\gamma_1 \gamma_2} (\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_r) = \sum_{j=0}^r \int_{\gamma_1} (\omega_1 | \cdots | \omega_j) \int_{\gamma_2} (\omega_{j+1} | \cdots | \omega_r).$$

Therefore, we can think of the path from  $\vec{v}$  to  $Q$  as a composition of paths: a path from  $\vec{v}$  to  $P$  in the tangent space  $T_P X$ , followed by a path from  $P$  to  $Q$  in  $X$ , cf. Brown [MMV, Definition 4.4 & Figure 1], which was originated from Deligne [*Le groupe fondamental de la droite projective moins trois points*, 15.9].

**Example 8.5** (Regularised periods).

- (1) Let  $X = \mathbb{P}^1$ ,  $D = \{0, \infty\}$ ,  $Q \in \mathbb{C}^*$ ,  $\vec{v} = \partial/\partial z$  at  $0 \in \mathbb{P}^1$ . Then

$$\int_{\vec{v}}^Q \frac{dz}{z} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left( \int_1^t \frac{dz}{z} + \int_t^Q \frac{dz}{z} \right) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_1^Q \frac{dz}{z} = \log Q.$$

- (2) Let  $X, D, Q$  be the same as (1),  $\vec{v} = \lambda \partial/\partial z$ . Take  $t = z/\lambda$ , then  $\frac{dt}{t} = \frac{dz}{z}$ , and

$$\int_{\vec{v}}^Q \frac{dz}{z} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left( \int_{t=1 \leftarrow z=\lambda}^t \frac{dz}{z} + \int_t^Q \frac{dz}{z} \right) = \log Q - \log \lambda.$$

- (3) (Drinfel'd Associator  $\Phi(X_0, X_1)$ )

This is the regularisation of

$$\langle T, \text{dch} \rangle$$

where dch is the path

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \bullet & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \bullet \\ 0 & & 1 \end{array}$$



in  $\mathbb{P}^1 - \{0, 1, \infty\}$  from

$$\vec{v}_0 := \partial/\partial x \in T_0\mathbb{P}^1$$

to

$$\vec{v}_1 := -\partial/\partial x \in T_1\mathbb{P}^1$$

and

$$T = 1 + \int (\Omega) + \int (\Omega|\Omega) + \dots$$

where

$$\Omega = \frac{dz}{z}X_0 - \frac{dz}{1-z}X_1$$

is the 1-form that defines the KZ connection

$$\nabla_{KZ} = d + \Omega$$

on

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbb{C}\langle\langle X_0, X_1 \rangle\rangle \times \mathbb{P}^1 \\ \downarrow \\ \mathbb{P}^1 \end{array}$$

with regular singularities at  $0, 1, \infty$ .

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Res}_0 \frac{dz}{z} &= 1, & \text{Res}_0 \left(-\frac{dz}{z-1}\right) &= 0, \\ \text{Res}_1 \frac{dz}{z} &= 0, & \text{Res}_1 \left(-\frac{dz}{z-1}\right) &= 1, \end{aligned}$$

we have 1-forms

$$\Omega_0 := \text{Res}_0 \Omega \frac{dx}{x} = \frac{dx}{x}X_0, \quad \Omega_1 := \text{Res}_1 \Omega \frac{dx}{x} = \frac{dx}{x}X_1$$

on the tangent spaces  $T_0\mathbb{P}^1$  and  $T_1\mathbb{P}^1$  respectively. Since

$$\int_1^t (\Omega_0) = \left(\int_1^t \frac{dx}{x}\right)X_0 = (\log t)X_0, \quad \int_s^1 (\Omega_1) = \left(\int_s^1 \frac{dx}{x}\right)X_1 = (-\log s)X_1,$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(X_0, X_1) &= \lim_{\substack{t \rightarrow 0 \\ s \rightarrow 0}} e^{(\log t)X_0} \langle T, [t, 1-s] \rangle e^{(-\log s)X_1} \\ &= \lim_{\substack{t \rightarrow 0 \\ s \rightarrow 0}} t^{X_0} \langle T, [t, 1-s] \rangle s^{-X_1}. \end{aligned}$$

Here the limit is taken with  $s, t > 0$ , and  $[t, 1-s]$  is the path that traverses the interval. If we write

$$\Phi(X_0, X_1) = \sum_{\substack{w \text{ word} \\ \text{in } X_0, X_1}} c(w)w,$$

then we have

- $c(X_0) = c(X_1) = 0 \implies c(X_0^p) = c(X_1^p) = 0, \quad p > 0.$
- $c(X_1 X_0^{k_1-1} \dots X_1 X_0^{k_r-1}) = (-1)^r \zeta(k_1, \dots, k_r)$
- $c(X_0^p X_1 w) = (-1)^p c(X_1 (X_0^p \boxtimes w))$
- $c(w X_0 X_1^p) = (-1)^p c((w \boxtimes X_1^p) X_0)$

where

$$\zeta(k_1, \dots, k_r) := \sum_{0 < n_1 < \dots < n_r} \frac{1}{n_1^{k_1} \dots n_r^{k_r}}$$

for integers  $k_j \geq 1$ ,  $k_r \geq 2$ , and  $\mathfrak{m}$  is the shuffle product for words. The first two items can be computed directly. The last two can be checked by induction on  $p$  and using the fact that

$$c(v \mathfrak{m} w) = c(v)c(w).$$

This fact follows from a regularised version of Proposition 1.11 (2).

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