

# Galois representations and their deformations.

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Goal: study representations of Galois groups of  $p$ -adic or number fields with  $p$ -adic coefficients, by "deforming" representations with modulo  $p$  coefficients.

References:

\* Gouvêa, notes

\* Mészáros, notes

\* Böckle, notes

\* Mazur's article "Deforming Galois representations"

## 01. Galois groups

$K$  perfect field,  $L$  a normal extension of  $K$ . Define  $\text{Gal}(L/K)$   
 $= \{ \sigma : L \rightarrow L \mid \sigma \text{ field automorphism, } \sigma|_K = \text{id}_K \}$

• Topology: \* if  $L|K$  is finite then give  $\text{Gal}(L/K)$  the discrete topology

\* if  $L|K$  is infinite then give  $\text{Gal}(L/K)$  the **Krull topology**:

a basis of open neighborhoods of  $\text{id}_L$  is the collection of sets

$\{ \sigma \in \text{Gal}(L/K) \mid \sigma|_E = \text{id}_E \}$  where  $E$  varies over the finite subextensions  $E|K$

As groups:  $\text{Gal}(L/K) \cong \varprojlim_{\substack{E|K \text{ finite and normal} \\ E \subseteq L}} \text{Gal}(E/K)$

If  $\text{Gal}(E/K)$  has the discrete topology, then this is an isomorphism of topological groups.

This makes  $\text{Gal}(L/K)$  into a profinite group.

$\Rightarrow \text{Gal}(L/K)$  is compact and Hausdorff.

$\Rightarrow$  Open subgroups are the closed subgroups of finite index

Theorem. (Galois correspondence) The map

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{subextensions} \\ L|E|K \end{array} \right\} \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{closed subgroups} \\ \text{of } \text{Gal}(L|K) \end{array} \right\}$$

$$E \longmapsto \text{Gal}(L|E)$$

is a bijection.

The inverse is  $H \mapsto E = L^H$ .

This induces a bijection

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} L|E|K, \\ E|K \text{ finite} \end{array} \right\} \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{open subgroups} \\ \text{of } \text{Gal}(L|K) \end{array} \right\}$$

When  $L = K^{\text{alg}}$ , we call  $\text{Gal}(K^{\text{alg}}|K)$  the absolute Galois group of  $K$ , we write  $G_K$ .

Examples. \*  $K = \mathbb{F}_p$ , we know that finite extensions are of the form  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n}$  and

$$\text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_{p^n} / \mathbb{F}_p) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} \quad \text{is an isomorphism.}$$

$$(x \mapsto x^p) \longmapsto 1$$

"Frobenius element"

$$\text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_p^{\text{alg}} / \mathbb{F}_p) = \varprojlim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_{p^n} / \mathbb{F}_p) \xrightarrow{\sim} \varprojlim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} =: \hat{\mathbb{Z}}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{(the maps are)} & \text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_{p^n} / \mathbb{F}_p) & \longrightarrow \text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_{p^m} / \mathbb{F}_p) \\ & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ & \hookrightarrow & \hookrightarrow \end{array} \quad m, n \text{ with } m|n$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z} & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \\ x & \longmapsto & x \bmod m \end{array}$$

The Frobenius of  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_p^{\text{alg}} / \mathbb{F}_p)$  is mapped to  $1 \in \hat{\mathbb{Z}}$ .

\*  $K = \mathbb{Q}_p$ ; we denote by  $\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{ur}}$  the maximal unramified extension of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ .

( $\hookrightarrow$  maximal extension for which  $p$  is still a uniformizer (generator of the maximal ideal of the valuation ring))

Valuation ring  $\mathbb{Z}_p^{\text{ur}}$  has residue field  $\mathbb{Z}_p^{\text{ur}} / \mathfrak{p} \mathbb{Z}_p^{\text{ur}} \cong \mathbb{F}_p^{\text{alg}}$

There is a map  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{ur}} / \mathbb{Q}_p) \longrightarrow \text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_p^{\text{alg}} / \mathbb{F}_p)$   
 $\downarrow \longmapsto \downarrow \text{ modulo } \mathfrak{p}$

This map is a group isomorphism.

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}} \\ | \\ \mathbb{Q}_p \end{array} \Big) \text{ "Inertia group" } (I_p)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{ur}} \\ | \\ \mathbb{Q}_p \end{array} \Big) \text{ Gal} = \hat{\mathbb{Z}} \quad (\text{topologically generated by } \text{Frob}_p)$$

\*  $K = \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q})$ , let  $p$  be prime.  
 Choose an extension of the  $p$ -adic valuation on  $\mathbb{Q}$  to  $\mathbb{Q}^{\text{alg}}$  (not unique!)  
 ( $\Leftrightarrow$  choose an embedding  $\mathbb{Q}^{\text{alg}} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}}$ )

Write a map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p) & \longrightarrow & \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}) \\ \sigma & \longmapsto & \sigma|_{\mathbb{Q}^{\text{alg}}} \end{array}$$

This map is an injective group homomorphism and it identifies  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}_p^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}_p)$   
 with a subgroup  $\mathcal{D}_p \subseteq \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q})$

$$\mathcal{D}_p = \{ \sigma \in \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q}) \mid v(\sigma(x)) = v(x) \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{Q}^{\text{alg}} \}$$

We have injections

$$I_p \subseteq \mathcal{D}_p \subseteq \text{Gal}(\mathbb{Q}^{\text{alg}}/\mathbb{Q})$$

## 02. Galois groups for extensions unramified outside a finite set.

$K$  number field,  $S$  is a finite set of places of  $K$ .

Def. 1)  $K^S$  is the largest extension of  $K$  that is unramified at all places not in  $S$ .

$$2) \quad G_{K,S} := \text{Gal}(K^S/K)$$

Remark.  $v \notin S$ , then we have  $\text{Gal}(K_v^{\text{alg}}/K_v) \hookrightarrow \text{Gal}(K^{\text{alg}}/K) \rightarrow \text{Gal}(K^S/K)$

Injection?

Answer: Injection when  $K = \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\#S \geq 2$

Exercise. An open subgroup  $H \leq G_{K,S}$  has the form  $G_{K_1, S_1}$  where  $K_1/K$  is finite and  $S_1$  is a set of places of  $K_1$ .

(places in  $S_1$  have to lie over the places of  $S$   
 $\Rightarrow S_1$  finite)

Theorem. (Hasse - Minkowski) Let  $K, S$  as before.

Let  $d \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$ . Then there are only finitely many extensions of  $K$  of degree  $d$  and unramified outside  $S$ .

Corollary.  $\text{Hom}_{\text{cont}}(G_{K,S}, \mathbb{F}_p)$  is finite. (Morphisms of topological groups)

Corollary. For every open subgroup  $H \leq G_{K,S}$ ,  $\text{Hom}_{\text{cont}}(H, \mathbb{F}_p)$  is finite.

$\Leftrightarrow$  Def.  $G_{K,S}$  satisfies the " $p$ -finiteness condition".

( $\mathbb{F}_p$  has the discrete topology)

### 03. Galois representations

Let  $G$  be a profinite group and let  $A$  be a topological ring.

Def. A **continuous representation** of  $G$  with  $A$ -coefficients is a continuous group homomorphism  $\rho: G \rightarrow GL_n(A)$  for some integer  $n$ .

Given representations  $\rho_1, \rho_2: G \rightarrow GL_n(A)$ , we say that they are equivalent iff.  $\exists P \in GL_n(A): P^{-1} \cdot \rho_1 \cdot P = \rho_2$

Another point of view: let  $M$  be a finite free  $A$ -module of rank  $n$ .

Then a continuous representation  $\rho: G \rightarrow GL_n(A)$  gives a continuous action  $G \curvearrowright M$

$$G \times M \rightarrow M$$

$$(g, m) \mapsto \rho(g)(m)_{i=1 \dots n}$$

where  $(m_i)_{i=1 \dots n}$  are coordinates of  $m$

Def.

We call  $\rho$  a **Galois representation** if  $G$  is:

\*  $\text{Gal}(K^{\text{alg}}/K)$  for a finite extension  $K/\mathbb{Q}_p$

\*  $G_{K,S}$  for a number field  $K$  and a finite set of places  $K$ .

From now on  $G$  is one of those groups.

Choices of coefficient ring  $A$ :

1)  $A = \mathbb{C}$

2)  $A = \mathbb{F}_p^n$

3)  $A = \mathcal{O}_E$  for  $E/\mathbb{Q}_p$  finite


4)  $A = E$ ,  $E/\mathbb{Q}_p$  finite

①  $A = \mathbb{C}$

Proposition. A representation  $\rho: G \rightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{C})$  has finite image.

Proof. Consider an open neighborhood  $U$  of  $1_n \in GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ . If  $U$  is sufficiently small, the

only subgroup  $\subseteq U$  is  $\{1_n\}$  (Exercise). By continuity of  $\rho$ ,  $\exists V$  open neighborhood of  $e \in G$  such that  $\rho(V) \subseteq U$ . We can choose  $V'$  a neighborhood of  $e$  which is an open subgroup of  $G$  and s.t.  $V' \subseteq V$ . Then  $\rho(V') \subseteq \rho(V) \subseteq U$ .

$\Rightarrow \rho(V') = \{1_n\}$ . Since  $V'$  is of finite index in  $G$ ,  $\rho(V')$  is of finite index in  $\rho(G)$ . 

Expl. Take  $K/\mathbb{Q}$  Galois, finite. Then  $\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q}) \hookrightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{C})$ .

② Proposition. If  $\rho: G \rightarrow \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_p^{\text{alg}})$  is a continuous representation,  
 $\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q}_p)$   
 then it factors through  $\rho': G \rightarrow \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_{p^m})$  for some finite extension  
 $\mathbb{F}_{p^m} / \mathbb{F}_p$   
 $E / \mathbb{Q}_p$   
 $\rightarrow \text{GL}_n(E)$

Proof. Similar for  $\mathbb{F}_p$ , more difficult for  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ . □