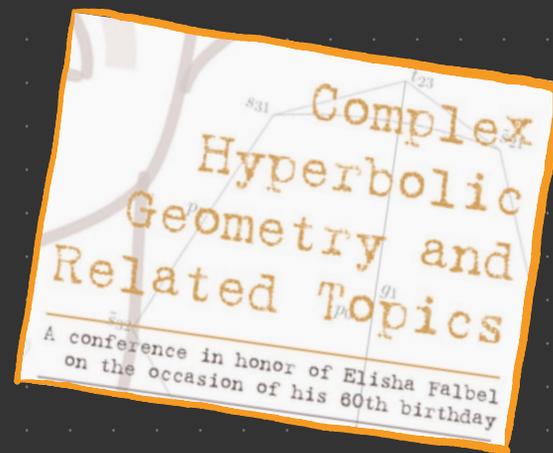


Twisted character varieties

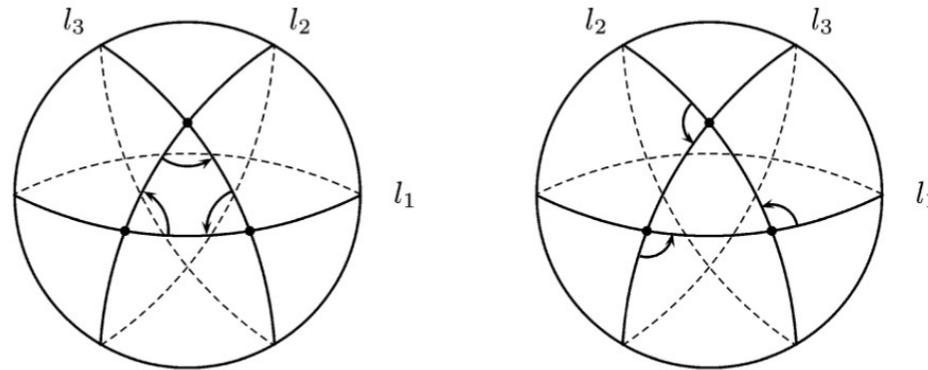
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Complex hyperbolic geometry
and related topics
Luminy, 4-8 July 2022

Triples of Lagrangians of $\mathbb{C}P^2$

E. Falbel et al. / Topology and its Applications 144 (2004) 1–27



A negative triple

A positive triple

Fig. 2. Triples of projective Lagrangians of $\mathbb{C}P^1$ in general position.

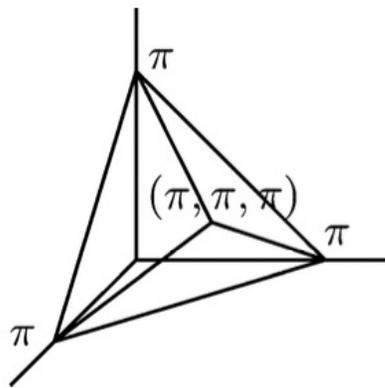


Fig. 3. The tetrahedron $(\bar{\Delta})$.

$$(\Delta) \begin{cases} \alpha_{12}, \alpha_{23}, \alpha_{31} \in]0, \pi[, \\ \alpha_{12} + \alpha_{23} + \alpha_{31} > \pi, \\ \alpha_{12} + \pi > \alpha_{23} + \alpha_{31}, \\ \alpha_{23} + \pi > \alpha_{31} + \alpha_{12}, \\ \alpha_{31} + \pi > \alpha_{12} + \alpha_{23}, \end{cases}$$

Lagrangian triangle groups

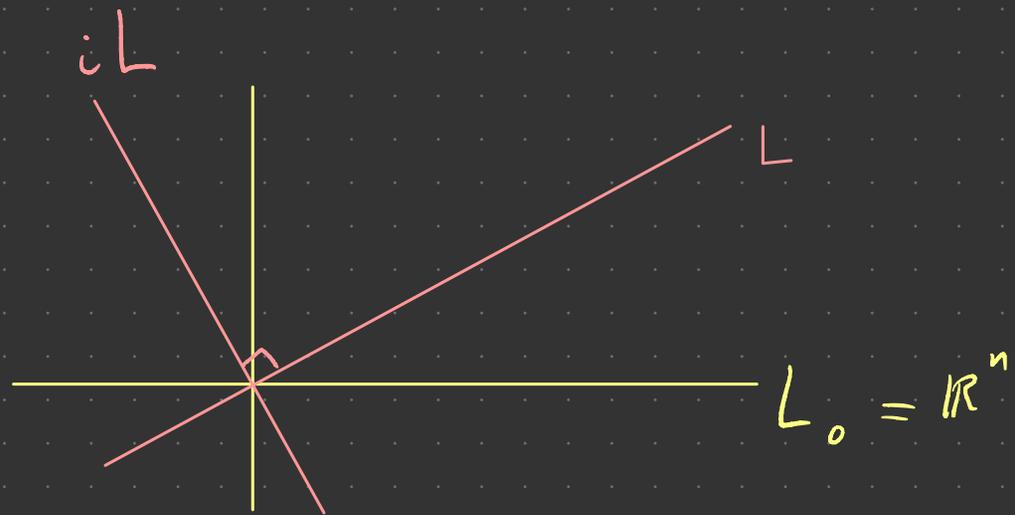
[Falbel -
Marco -
Wentworth]

real subspace

$$L \subset \mathbb{C}^r$$

such that

$$iL = L^\perp$$



$$\sigma_L : \mathbb{C}^r = L \oplus iL \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^r$$

$x + iy \longmapsto x - iy$

\mathbb{C} -antilinear
involution

$u := \sigma_{L_1} \sigma_{L_2}$ is unitary.

$$(L_1, L_2, L_3) \longmapsto (\sigma_{L_1} \sigma_{L_2}) (\sigma_{L_2} \sigma_{L_3}) (\sigma_{L_3} \sigma_{L_1}) = 1$$

Coxeter groups

$$\pi_1(\mathbb{C}P^2 \setminus \{s_1, s_2, s_3\}) \rightarrow U(r)$$

$$(L_1, L_2, L_3) \mapsto (u_1, u_2, u_3) \mid u_1 u_2 u_3 = 1$$

Assumption:

① fix the holonomy $u_j \in \mathcal{C}_j$
conjugacy class

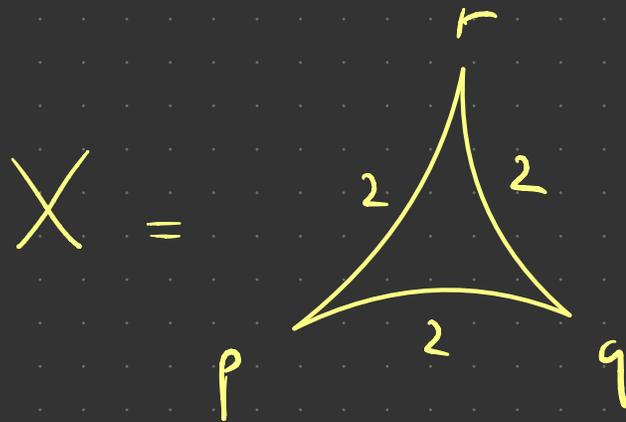
OR

② fix an order: $u_j^{m_j} = 1$, $m_j \geq 2$

$$\langle x, y, z \mid x^2 = y^2 = z^2 = (xy)^p = (yz)^q = (zx)^r \rangle$$

Hyperbolic triangles

$$\langle x, y, z \mid x^2 = y^2 = z^2 = (xy)^p = (yz)^q = (zx)^r \rangle = \overline{\Pi}_1^{\text{orb}} X$$



Representations?

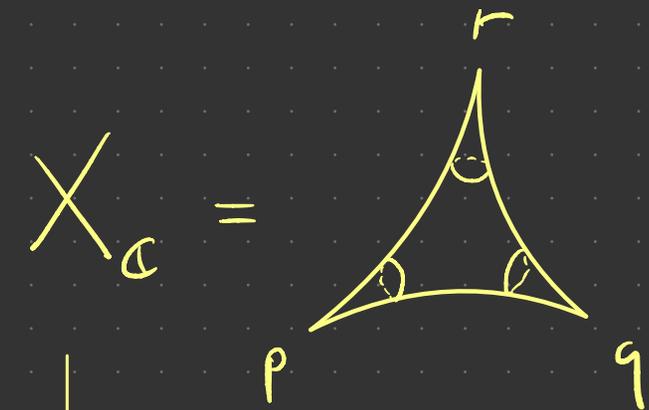
A representation of $\overline{\Pi}_1 X$ should induce

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \mapsto \sigma_{L_1} \\ y \mapsto \sigma_{L_2} \\ z \mapsto \sigma_{L_3} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\sigma_{L_i} \in U(r) \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

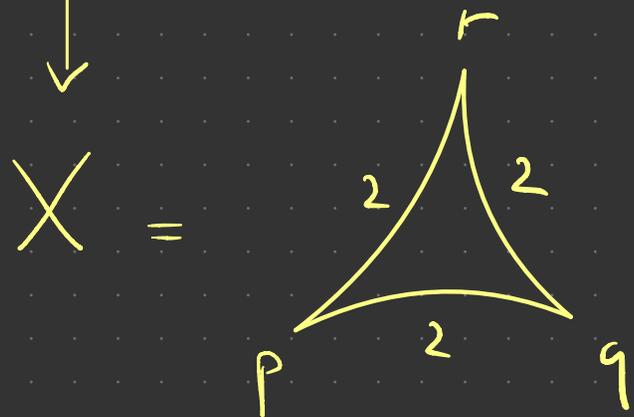
$$\sigma_{L_i} \sigma_{L_{i+1}} \in U(r)$$

Index 2 subgroups



$$\pi_1 X_c = \langle a, b, c \mid abc = a^p = b^q = c^r \rangle$$

$$a \mapsto xy, \quad b \mapsto yz, \quad c \mapsto zx$$



$$1 \rightarrow \pi_1 X_c \rightarrow \pi_1 X \xrightarrow{\varphi} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 1$$

$$\downarrow \cong \mid_{\pi_1 X_c} \downarrow \cong$$

$$1 \rightarrow U(r) \rightarrow U(r) \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 1$$

"Twisted" character varieties

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}}(\pi_1 X, U(r) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) / U(r)$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{FW '06}} \text{Hom}(\pi_1 X_c; U(r)) / U(r)$$

\mathcal{X}

\longmapsto

$\mathcal{X} |_{\pi_1 X_c}$

$$\simeq H^1_{\varphi}(\pi_1 X; U(r))$$

$$= H^1(\pi_1 X_c; U(r))$$

$$\varphi: \pi_1 X \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \curvearrowright U(r) \text{ via } u \mapsto \bar{u}.$$

$$r \mapsto \varphi_r$$

$$e: \pi_1 X \rightarrow U(r)$$

$$r_1 r_2 \mapsto e(r_1) \varphi_{r_1}(e(r_2))$$

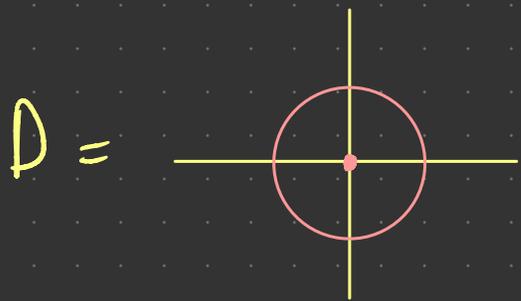
$$\hat{e}: \pi_1 X \rightarrow U(r) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

$$r \mapsto (e(r), \varphi_r)$$

is a group morphism.

\mathcal{X} from above

Differential equations with symmetry



$$A(z) = \begin{pmatrix} z^2 & -z \\ z & z^2 \end{pmatrix} = {}^t A(-z)$$

$$U'(z) = A(z) U(z)$$

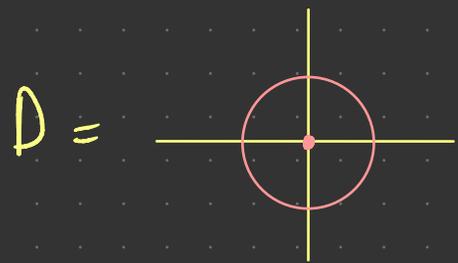
\leadsto germs of solutions = locally constant sheaf of 2-dim. \mathbb{C} -vector spaces

[in fact, constant, since D is simply connected]

\leadsto bases of solutions = locally constant sheaf of $GL(2; \mathbb{C})$ -spaces [torsors]

if $M(z)$ is such a basis,
so is $N(z) := {}^t M(z)^{-1}$

Recovering symmetry via monodromy



$$A(z) = \begin{pmatrix} z^2 & -z \\ z & z^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$U'(z) = A(z) U(z)$$

Trivial monodromy



$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$



$GL(2, \mathbb{C})$

via $g \mapsto {}^t g^{-1}$

symmetry of the equation \rightsquigarrow
 ${}^t A(-z) = A(z)$

germs of solutions

$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -equivariant sheaf

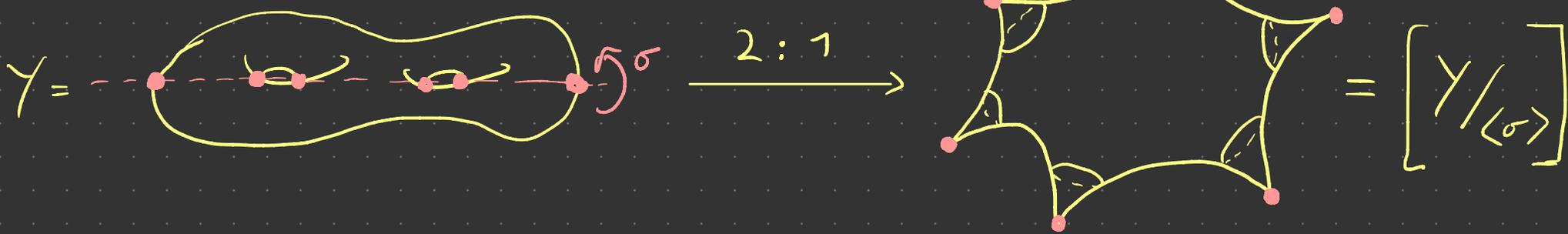
generalized monodromy
 (on $[D/(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})]$)



$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -action on bases of solutions

$\left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\} M(z) \mapsto {}^t M(z)^{-1}$

Hyperelliptic curves



"anti-invariant
rank r local system"

\mathcal{V}
 \downarrow such that $(\sigma^* \mathcal{V})^\vee \simeq \mathcal{V}$
 Y

[global version of the
previous example]

How to
define / characterize
them via
monodromy?

Extended monodromy

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 1 & \rightarrow & \pi_1 \gamma & \longrightarrow & \pi_1 [\gamma / \langle \sigma \rangle] & \xrightarrow{p} & \langle \sigma \rangle \rightarrow 1 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \parallel \\
 1 & \rightarrow & GL(r; \mathbb{C}) & \longrightarrow & GL(r; \mathbb{C}) \rtimes \langle \sigma \rangle & \longrightarrow & \langle \sigma \rangle \rightarrow 1
 \end{array}$$

$GL(r; \mathbb{C}) \hookrightarrow \text{Hom}_{\langle \sigma \rangle} (\pi_1 [\gamma / \langle \sigma \rangle], GL(r; \mathbb{C}) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$

$\rightsquigarrow H_1^{\text{ét}} (\pi_1 [\gamma / \langle \sigma \rangle]; GL(r; \mathbb{C}))$

with $\langle \sigma \rangle \curvearrowright GL(r; \mathbb{C})$

via $g \mapsto {}^t g^{-1}$

Twisted character varieties

group morphism $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \varphi: \Pi \rightarrow \text{Aut}(G) \\ \gamma \mapsto \varphi_\gamma \end{array} \right.$ Lie group

"twisted" representation

$$H_\varphi^1(\Pi; G) = \frac{\left\{ e: \Pi \rightarrow G \mid e(\gamma_1 \gamma_2) = e(\gamma_1) \varphi_{\gamma_2}(e(\gamma_1)) \right\}}{e \sim (g \cdot e): \gamma \mapsto g e(\gamma) \varphi_\gamma(g^{-1})}$$

$$e \sim (g \cdot e): \gamma \mapsto g e(\gamma) \varphi_\gamma(g^{-1})$$

Main example:

$$\Pi < \text{PGL}(2; \mathbb{R}) = \text{Isom}(\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{R}}^2)$$

discrete, cocompact

$$\Pi \cong \pi_1 \left(\underbrace{[\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{R}}^2 / \Pi]}_{X_\Pi} \right)$$

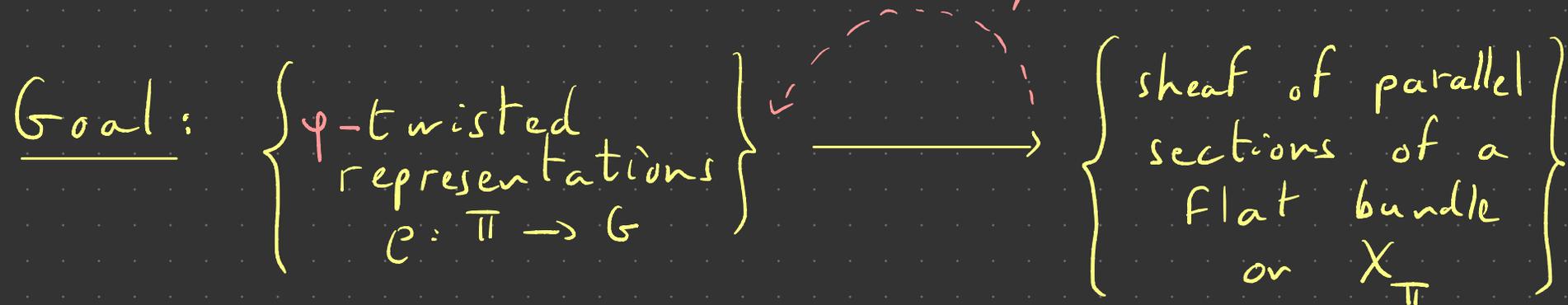
\leadsto local systems on X_Π ?

Twisted local systems

$$\varphi: \pi \rightarrow \text{Aut}(G)$$

$$\gamma \mapsto \varphi_\gamma$$

monodromy



\rightsquigarrow the flat bundle on X_π is given

$$\text{by } \mathcal{E}(\rho) := (\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{R}}^2 \times G) / \pi \quad \text{where}$$

$$\gamma \cdot (\xi, h) = (\gamma \cdot \xi, \rho(\gamma) \varphi_\gamma(h))$$



When φ is non-trivial, $\mathcal{E}(\rho)$ is not a principal G -bundle in general, but a "twisted" version of it.

Principal homogeneous spaces (a.k.a. torsors)

$$\varphi: \Pi \rightarrow \text{Aut}(G)$$

group bundle on X_Π $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{G}_\varphi = \left(\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{R}}^2 \times G \right) / \Pi \quad \text{where } \Pi \text{ acts via} \\ \gamma \cdot (\xi, g) := (\gamma \cdot \xi, \varphi_\gamma(g)) \end{array} \right.$

$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{G}_\varphi$ acts on $\mathcal{E}(\rho)$: $\mathcal{E}(\rho) \times_{X_\Pi} \mathcal{G}_\varphi \rightarrow \mathcal{E}(\rho)$

$\rightsquigarrow \Delta$ the associated map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{E}(\rho) \times_{X_\Pi} \mathcal{G}_\varphi & \rightarrow & \mathcal{E}(\rho) \times_{X_\Pi} \mathcal{E}(\rho) \\ (v, g) & \mapsto & (v, v \cdot g) \end{array} \quad \text{is an isomorphism}$$

$\rightsquigarrow \Delta \forall x \in X_\Pi, \mathcal{E}(\rho)_x \cong (\mathcal{G}_\varphi)_x$ non-canonically

Betti space

" Twisted character varieties parameterize twisted local systems. "

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_{\varrho}^1(\pi_1 X; G) & \xrightarrow{\text{monodromy}} & \{ \varrho\text{-twisted } G\text{-local systems} \} \\ (\varrho: \pi_1 X \rightarrow G) & \longmapsto & \mathcal{E}(\varrho) = (\tilde{X} \times G) / \pi_1 X \end{array}$$

Simpson's question (1991):

What is the corresponding Dolbeault space?

Group bundles

New assumption: X is endowed with a complex analytic structure

Example: $X = [\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{R}}^2 / \Gamma]$, $\Gamma < \text{PSL}(2; \mathbb{R}) = \text{Isom}^+(\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{R}}^2)$
discrete

\mathcal{G} a complex analytic group bundle:
 \downarrow
 X

$$\mathcal{G} \times_x \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$$

+ associativity
+ neutral section
 $\tau_{\mathcal{G}}: X \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$

Example:

- $X \times G$, with G a complex Lie group
- $\text{Ad}(P)$, where P is a principal G -bundle

Principal homogeneous spaces

= a bundle $\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{E} \\ \downarrow \\ X \end{array}$ endowed with an action

$\mathcal{E}_x \times G \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ such that the associated
morphism $\mathcal{E}_x \times G \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_x \times \mathcal{E}$ is an
isomorphism.

Example: $\mathcal{G} = X \times G$

principal homogeneous G -space = principal G -bundle

Higgs bundles

$$\mathfrak{g}_\varphi = [(\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{R}}^2 \times G) / \pi]$$

with G a complex analytic

Lie group and $\varphi: \pi \rightarrow \text{Aut}(G)$
a group morphism $\sigma \mapsto \varphi_\sigma$

$$\text{Lie}(\mathfrak{g}_\varphi) = [(\mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{R}}^2 \times \text{Lie}(G)) / \pi] \quad \gamma \in \pi \curvearrowright \text{Lie}(G)$$

via $T_{\gamma, G} \varphi$

Definition A \mathfrak{g}_φ -Higgs bundle is

a pair (\mathcal{E}, θ) where \mathcal{E} is a \mathfrak{g}_φ -torsor
and θ is a morphism of vector bundles

$$\theta: TX \rightarrow \text{ad}(\mathcal{E}) := (\mathcal{E} \times_x \text{Lie}(\mathfrak{g}_\varphi)) / \mathfrak{g}_\varphi.$$

$\theta \in H^0(X, \Omega_x^1 \otimes \text{ad}(\mathcal{E}))$: Higgs Field

Rank 2 Higgs bundles

$$G = \mathbb{C}^* \quad \mathfrak{g} = X \times \mathbb{C}^*$$

$\mathcal{E} \leftrightarrow \mathcal{L}$, a holomorphic line bundle

$$\text{ad}(\mathcal{E}) \leftrightarrow \text{End}(\mathcal{L}) \simeq \mathcal{L}^\vee \otimes \mathcal{L} \simeq X \times \mathbb{C}$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \theta: TX \rightarrow X \times \mathbb{C} \\ \searrow \quad \swarrow \\ \quad X \end{array} \right) \leftrightarrow \text{a holomorphic 1-form}$$

Dolbeault space: (\mathcal{L}, θ) such that $\deg \mathcal{L} = 0$

$$\rightsquigarrow \underbrace{\text{Jac}(X) \times H^0(X, \Omega_X^1)}_{T^\vee \text{Jac}(X)}$$

Nonabelian Hodge correspondence (Simpson)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{semistable degree 0} \\ \text{rank } r \text{ Higgs bundles} \end{array} \right\} \longleftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{rank } r \\ \text{flat bundles} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\longleftrightarrow H^1(\pi_1 X; GL(r, \mathbb{C}))$$

Rank 1 case ($\dim_{\mathbb{C}} X = 1$)

$$\text{Jac}(X) \times H^0(X, \Omega_X^1) \xrightarrow[\text{exponential sequence}]{\text{linearization map}} \underbrace{H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X) \oplus H^0(X, \Omega_X^1)}$$

Dolbeault's thm: $H^{0,1}(X) \oplus H^{1,0}(X)$

Hodge decomposition: $H^1(X, \underline{\mathbb{C}}_X)$

$$T^v \text{Jac}(X) \underset{\text{homeo}}{\simeq} H^1(X, \underline{\mathbb{C}}_X^*) \underset{\text{homeo}}{\simeq} \text{Hom}(\pi_1 X, \mathbb{C}^*)$$

A twisted example (rank 1)

$$Y \rightarrow [Y/\langle \sigma \rangle] \quad \sigma^2 = \text{id}_Y \quad (\text{e.g. hyperelliptic curve})$$

$$\langle \sigma \rangle \curvearrowright \mathbb{C}^* \quad \text{via} \quad z \mapsto z^{-1}$$

$$H_{\text{Betti}}^1([Y/\langle \sigma \rangle]; \mathbb{C}^*) \simeq \text{Hom}_{\langle \sigma \rangle}(\pi_1([Y/\langle \sigma \rangle]); \mathbb{C}^* / \langle \sigma \rangle) / \mathbb{C}^*$$

$$g_\sigma = \left[(Y \times \mathbb{C}^*) / \langle \sigma \rangle \right]$$

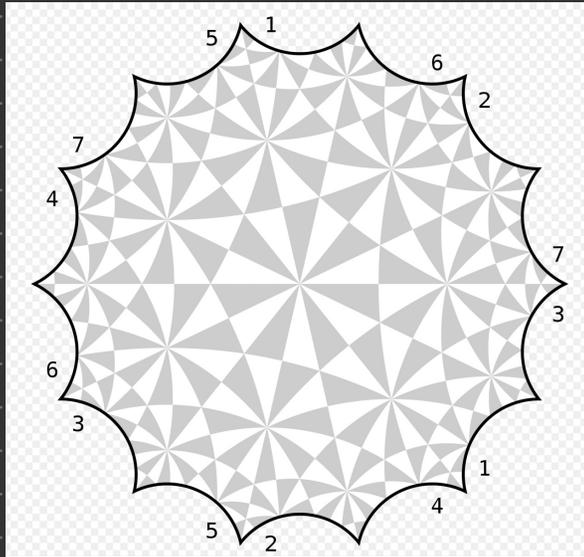
$$H_{\text{Dol}}^1([Y/\langle \sigma \rangle]; \mathbb{C}^*) \simeq \underbrace{\text{Prym}(Y \rightarrow [Y/\langle \sigma \rangle])}_{\text{Fix}_{\langle \sigma \rangle} H^0(Y, \Omega_Y^1)}$$

$$\underbrace{T^v \text{Bur}(g_\sigma)_0}$$

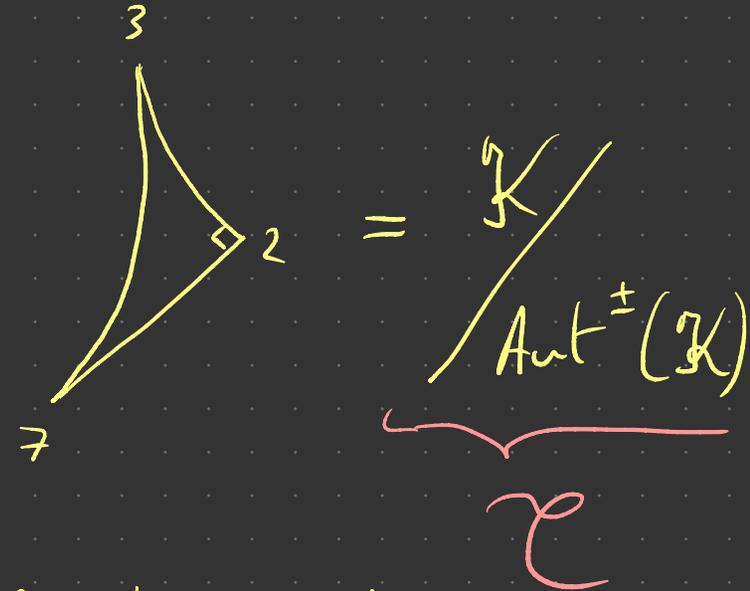
$$\underbrace{\{Z \in \text{Jac}(Y) \mid (\sigma^* Z)^v \simeq Z\}_0} \quad \underbrace{-\sigma^* \omega = \omega}$$

An example

$\mathcal{K} :=$



$$\xrightarrow{336:1}$$



The Klein quartic

(genus 3 Riemann surface
with 168 automorphisms)

A hyperbolic
(2, 3, 7) triangle

$$1 \rightarrow \pi_1 \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \pi_1 \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \underbrace{\text{Aut}^{\pm}(\mathcal{K})}_{\Gamma} \rightarrow 1$$

+ $(\Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$

Hitchin components

(j/w Alessandrini-Lee)

JEMS 2022

We look at Hitchin components:

- representations into groups such as $PGL(n; \mathbb{R})$
 - Hitchin representations are deformations of Fuchsian representations
- $PSp^{\pm}(2n; \mathbb{R})$
 $PO(p, p+1)$
 \vdots
 G_2

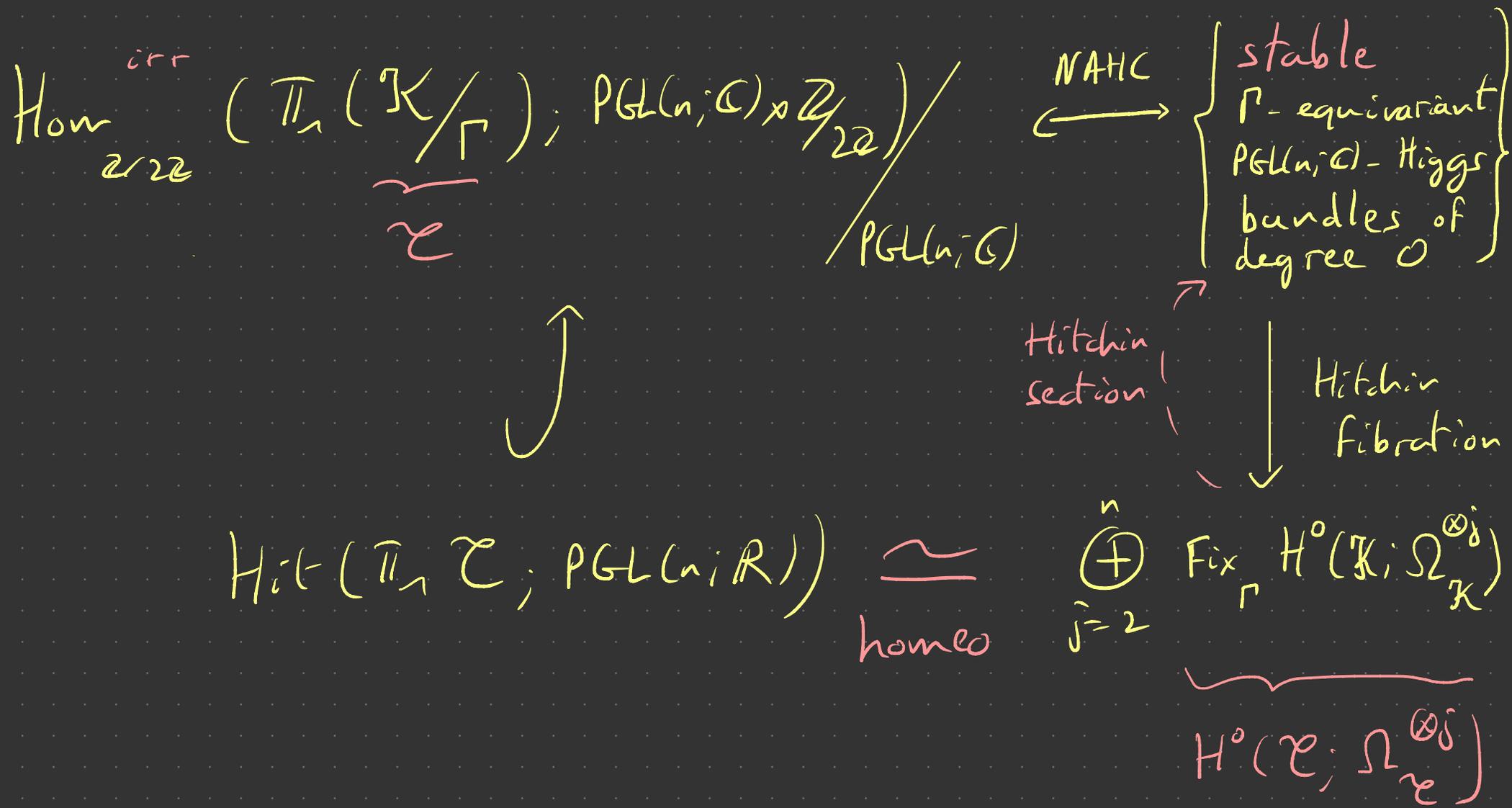
by definition

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & \rightarrow PGL(2; \mathbb{R}) \\ & \nearrow & \downarrow \kappa \\ \pi_1 X & \longrightarrow & PGL(n; \mathbb{R}) \end{array}$$

- Hitchin representations form a connected component of $\text{Hom}(\pi_1 X; PGL(n; \mathbb{R})) / PGL(n; \mathbb{R})$.

Parameterization by symmetric differentials

Orbifold version of Hitchin's approach:



Dimension

$$\dim \text{Hit}(\pi_1 \mathcal{C}; \text{PGL}(n; \mathbb{R}))$$

$$= \frac{(n-1)(n-2)}{2} - \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \left[\frac{j+1}{i} - 1 \right] \right) e_i$$

$$= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i=2,3,7 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

n	\dim	
2	0	(Thurston)
3	0	(Choi-Goldman)
4,5	0	no rigidity of Hitchin
$6 \leq n \leq 11$	1	$(2,3,7)$ groups

1-parameter family in $\text{Hit}(\pi_1 \mathcal{K}; \text{PGL}(7; \mathbb{R}))$

$$e \mapsto e|_{\pi_1 \mathcal{K}}$$

Vanishing differentials \neq \mathbb{P} -invariant d -differentials on \mathcal{K}

$$\text{Hit}(\Pi_1 \mathcal{C}; \text{PGL}(6; \mathbb{R})) \simeq H^0(\mathcal{C}, \Omega_{\mathcal{C}}^{\otimes 6}) \quad \text{for } 2 \leq d \leq 5$$

$$\simeq \text{Hit}(\Pi_1 \mathcal{C}, \text{PSp}^{\pm}(6; \mathbb{R}))$$

Consequence: If a Hitchin representation

$$\rho: \Pi_1 \mathcal{K} \rightarrow \text{PGL}(6; \mathbb{R})$$

extends to

$$\hat{\rho}: \Pi_1 \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{PGL}(6; \mathbb{R})$$

(then $\text{Im } \rho \subset \text{PSp}^{\pm}(6; \mathbb{R})$).

In particular, ρ is not Zariski-dense.

Deformations of $\mathrm{PSL}(2; \mathbb{R})$ -structures

M : closed 3-manifold with $\underbrace{\mathcal{D}_{\mathrm{PSL}(2; \mathbb{R})}(M)}_{\text{deformation space}} \neq \emptyset$.

Example: $M = UX$ unit tangent bundle of a closed orientable surface

Facts:

- M as above is a Seifert manifold, a d -folded cover of $U\mathcal{H}$, where \mathcal{H} is a closed orientable orbisurface.

- There is a canonical map

$$\mathcal{D}_{\mathrm{PSL}(2; \mathbb{R})}(M) \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}_{\mathbb{R}P_3}(M).$$

Rigidity

Theorem (ALS, 2022)

The image of the canonical map

$$\mathcal{D}_{\mathrm{PSL}(2; \mathbb{R})}^{(M)} \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}_{\mathbb{RP}_3}^{(M)}$$

is a connected component of $\mathcal{D}_{\mathbb{RP}_3}^{(M)}$,
homeomorphic to

$$\mathrm{Hit}(\Pi_1 \mathcal{X}; \mathrm{PGL}(4; \mathbb{R})).$$

= a point if $\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{C}(2, 3, 7)$.

Remarks

• When $M = \cup X$ ($X =$ closed orientable surface)
the theorem above is due to Guichard
& Wienhard (2008).

• More generally, we have:

$$\mathcal{D}_{\mathrm{PSL}(2; \mathbb{R})}^{\circ}(M) \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}_{\mathbb{RP}_3^{\omega}}^{\circ}(M) \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}_{\mathbb{RP}_3}^{\circ}(M)$$

$$\mathrm{Hit}(\Pi_n X; \mathrm{PGL}(2; \mathbb{R})) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Hit}(\Pi_n X; \mathrm{PSp}^{\pm}(4; \mathbb{R})) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Hit}(\Pi_n X; \mathrm{PGL}(4; \mathbb{R}))$$

$$-3\chi^{\mathrm{top}}(Y) + 2k + l$$

$$-10\chi^{\mathrm{top}}(Y) + 8k + 4l$$

$$-15\chi^{\mathrm{top}}(Y) + 12k + 6l$$

$$-2k_2 - 2k_3 - l_2 - l_3$$

$$-4k_2 - 2k_3 - 2l_2 - l_3$$

$X = (2, 3, 7)$: the canonical projective structure of M is rigid.

$(3, 3, 4)$: M is contact-rigid but not rigid.

$(2, 4, 5)$: not rigid but $\mathcal{D}_{\mathbb{RP}_3}^{\circ}(M) = \mathcal{D}_{\mathbb{RP}_3^{\omega}}^{\circ}(M)$.