

# Hodge Modules

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October 28, 2020

# Filtered holonomic $\mathcal{D}$ -modules

Let  $X$  be a complex algebraic variety of dimension  $n$ .

## Definition

A filtered regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}$ -module with  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a triple  $M = (\mathcal{M}, F_{\bullet}\mathcal{M}, K)$ , consisting of the following objects:

- 1 A constructible complex of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector spaces  $K$ .
- 2 A regular holonomic right  $\mathcal{D}_X$ -module  $\mathcal{M}$  with an isomorphism

$$DR(M) \simeq \mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} K.$$

By the Riemann Hilbert correspondance, this makes  $K$  a perverse sheaf.

- 3 A good filtration  $F_{\bullet}M$  by  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -coherent subsheaves of  $\mathcal{M}$  such that
  - 1  $F_p\mathcal{M} \cdot F_k\mathcal{D}_X \subseteq F_{p+k}\mathcal{M}$
  - 2  $gr_{\bullet}^F\mathcal{M}$  is coherent over  $gr_{\bullet}^F\mathcal{D}_X$

# Remark on the de Rham Complex

For a right  $\mathcal{D}_X$ -module  $\mathcal{M}$ , we have a left  $\mathcal{D}$ -module  $\mathcal{N}$  such that  $\omega_X \otimes \mathcal{N} = \mathcal{M}$ .

With the following isomorphism,

$$DR(\mathcal{M}) \simeq DR(\mathcal{N})[n] = \\ [\mathcal{N} \rightarrow \Omega_X^1 \otimes \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow \Omega_X^{n-1} \otimes \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \Omega_X^n \otimes \mathcal{N}][n]$$

When we have a filtered  $\mathcal{D}$ -module  $\mathcal{M}$ , we have

$$F_p \mathcal{M} = F_{p+n} \mathcal{N} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \omega_X.$$

We also have the natural filtered family of subcomplexes

$$F_p DR(\mathcal{M}) \simeq F_p DR(\mathcal{N})[n] = \\ [\mathcal{N}_p \rightarrow \Omega_X^1 \otimes \mathcal{N}_{p+1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow \Omega_X^n \otimes \mathcal{N}_{p+n}][n]$$

# Example

Let  $\mathcal{M} = \omega_X$  with the following filtration

$$F_p \omega_X = \begin{cases} \omega_X & \text{if } p \geq -n \\ 0 & \text{if } p < -n \end{cases}$$

Then  $(\omega_X, F_\bullet \omega_X, \mathbb{Q}[n])$  is a filtered regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}$ -module with  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure.

For  $0 \leq p \leq n$  we have

$$F_{-p} DR(\omega_X) \simeq [0 \rightarrow \Omega_X^p \rightarrow \Omega_X^{p+1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow \Omega_X^n][n]$$

$$gr_{-p}^F DR(\omega_X) \simeq \Omega_X^p[n-p]$$

# Nearby and Vanishing Cycles

For a holomorphic function  $f : X \rightarrow \Delta$  which is submersive over the punctured unit disk  $\Delta^* = \Delta \setminus \{0\}$ , we have following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \tilde{X} & \xrightarrow{\pi} & X & \xleftarrow{i} & X_0 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow f & & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{H} & \xrightarrow{e} & \Delta & \xleftarrow{} & \{0\} \end{array}$$

$\mathbb{H}$  = Upper half-plane

$\tilde{X}$  = the fiber product of  $X$  and  $\mathbb{H}$  over  $\Delta$

$X_0 = f^{-1}(0)$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \tilde{X} & \xrightarrow{\pi} & X & \xleftarrow{i} & X_0 \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow f & & \downarrow \\
 \mathbb{H} & \xrightarrow{e} & \Delta & \xleftarrow{\quad} & 0
 \end{array}$$

## Definition

Let  $K$  be a constructible complex of  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector spaces on  $X$ . We have the following two complexes:

*Complex of nearby cycles*

$$\psi_f K = i^{-1} R\pi_*(\pi^{-1} K)$$

*Vanishing cycles*

$$\phi_f K = \text{Cone}(i^{-1} K \rightarrow \psi_f K)$$

# Example

Suppose  $f : X \rightarrow \Delta$  is proper and smooth on  $X \setminus X_0$ . If  $x \in X_0$ , then we have

$$\mathcal{H}^i(\psi_f K)_x \simeq \mathbb{H}^i(B_{\epsilon, x}^\circ \cap X_t; K|_{X_t})$$

$$\mathcal{H}^i(\phi_f K)_x \simeq \mathbb{H}^{i+1}(B_{\epsilon, x}^\circ, B_{\epsilon, x}^\circ \cap X_t; K|_{X_t})$$

$$\mathbb{H}^i(X_0; \psi_f K) \simeq \mathbb{H}^i(X_t; K|_{X_t})$$

Where  $X_t = f^{-1}(t)$  for  $0 < |t|$  sufficiently small and  $B_{\epsilon, x}^\circ$  is an open ball of radius  $\epsilon$  in  $X$ , centered at  $x$ .

Reference: L. Maxim, Intersection Homology & Perverse Sheaves

## Recall:

- (Gabber) When  $K$  is perverse, the shifted complexes

$${}^p\psi_f K = \psi_f K[-1] \text{ and } {}^p\phi_f K = \phi_f K[-1]$$

are perverse sheaves.

- ${}^p\psi_f K$  has a monodromy operator  $T$ , induced by the automorphism  $z \rightarrow z + 1$  of the upper half-plane  $\mathbb{H}$ .
- Since perverse sheaves form an abelian category, we have the following decomposition

$${}^p\psi_f K = \bigoplus_{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^\times} {}^p\psi_{f,\lambda} K$$

Where  ${}^p\psi_{f,\lambda} K = \ker(T - \lambda \text{id})^m$ , for  $m \gg 0$ , are the eigenspaces.

We have a similar decomposition for  ${}^p\phi_f$ .



Let  $f \in \mathcal{O}_X$  an arbitrary nontrivial function. For a filtered  $\mathcal{D}_X$ -module  $M = (\mathcal{M}, F_\bullet \mathcal{M}, K)$ , we use the graph embedding

$$(id, f) : X \hookrightarrow X \times \mathbb{C}$$

to obtain a filtered  $\mathcal{D}_{X \times \mathbb{C}}$ -module  $(\mathcal{M}_f, F_\bullet \mathcal{M}_f)$ .

Where

$$\mathcal{M}_f = (id, f)_+ \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}[\partial_t]$$

$$F_\bullet \mathcal{M}_f = F_\bullet (id, f)_+ \mathcal{M} = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{\infty} F_{\bullet-i} \mathcal{M} \otimes \partial_t^i.$$

## Definition

A V-filtration on  $\mathcal{M}_f$  is a rational filtration  $(V_\gamma = V_\gamma \mathcal{M}_f)_{\gamma \in \mathbb{Q}}$  that is exhaustive and increasing such that the following conditions are satisfied:

- Each  $V_\gamma$  is a coherent module over  $\mathcal{D}_X[t, \partial_t t]$
- For each  $\gamma \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have an inclusion

$$V_\gamma \cdot V_i \mathcal{D}_{X \times \mathbb{C}} \subseteq V_{\gamma+i}.$$

Furthermore,  $V_\gamma \cdot t = V_{\gamma-1}$  for  $\gamma < 0$ .

- For every  $\gamma \in \mathbb{Q}$ , if we set  $V_{<\gamma} = \bigcup_{\gamma' < \gamma} V_{\gamma'}$ , then  $t\partial_t - \gamma$  acts nilpotently on  $gr_\gamma^V = V_\gamma / V_{<\gamma}$ .

## Recall:

- (Kashiwara, Malgrange) When  $\mathcal{M}$  is regular holonomic and  ${}^p\psi_f K$  is quasi-unipotent, the  $V$ -filtration for  $\mathcal{M}_f$  exists and it is unique.
- (Kashiwara, Malgrange) The graded quotients  $gr_k^V \mathcal{M}_f$  are again regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}$ -modules on  $X$  whose support is contained in the original divisor  $X_0 = f^{-1}(0)$ .
- We endow each  $\mathcal{D}_X$ -module  $gr_\gamma^V \mathcal{M}_f$  with the filtration induced by  $F_\bullet \mathcal{M}_f$

$$F_p gr_\gamma^V \mathcal{M}_f = \frac{F_p \mathcal{M}_f \cap V_\gamma \mathcal{M}_f}{F_p \mathcal{M}_f \cap V_{<\gamma} \mathcal{M}_f}$$

## Definition

The unipotent nearby cycles  $D_X$ -module of  $\mathcal{M}_f$  along  $t$  is defined as

$$\psi_{t,1}\mathcal{M} := \text{gr}_{-1}^V \mathcal{M}_f.$$

The vanishing cycles  $D_X$ -module of  $\mathcal{M}_f$  along  $t$  is

$$\phi_{t,1}\mathcal{M} := \text{gr}_0^V \mathcal{M}_f$$

From the previous discussion and the definitions above, it seems as though we have the following to be filtered regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}$ -modules with  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure:

$$\psi_{f,1}M = (\text{gr}_{-1}^V \mathcal{M}_f, F_{\bullet-1} \text{gr}_{-1}^V \mathcal{M}_f, {}^p\psi_{f,1}K)$$

$$\phi_{f,1}M = (\text{gr}_0^V \mathcal{M}_f, F_{\bullet} \text{gr}_0^V \mathcal{M}_f, {}^p\phi_{f,1}K)$$

## Definition

We say that  $(\mathcal{M}, F_\bullet \mathcal{M}, K)$  is quasi-unipotent along  $f = 0$  if all eigenvalues of the monodromy operator on  ${}^p\psi_f K$  are roots of unity, and if the  $V$ -filtration  $V_\bullet \mathcal{M}_f$  satisfies the following two additional conditions:

- 1  $t : F_p V_\gamma \mathcal{M}_f \rightarrow F_p V_{\gamma-1} \mathcal{M}_f$  is surjective for  $\gamma < 0$ .
- 2  $\partial_t : F_p \text{gr}_\gamma^V \mathcal{M}_f \rightarrow F_{p+1} \text{gr}_{\gamma+1}^V \mathcal{M}_f$  is surjective for  $\gamma > -1$ .

We say the  $(\mathcal{M}, F_\bullet \mathcal{M}, K)$  is regular along  $f = 0$  if  $F_\bullet \text{gr}_\gamma^V \mathcal{M}_f$  is a good filtration for every  $-1 \leq \gamma \leq 0$ .

## Theorem (Saito)

If  $\mathcal{M}$  is holonomic, and is regular and quasi-unipotent along  $f$ , then we have

$$DR(\mathrm{gr}_\gamma^V \mathcal{M}_f) \simeq \begin{cases} \psi_\lambda DR(\mathcal{M})[-1] & \text{for } -1 \leq \gamma < 0 \\ \phi_\lambda DR(\mathcal{M})[-1] & \text{for } -1 < \gamma \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

where  $\lambda = e^{2\pi i \gamma}$ . Furthermore, we have the following identification between perverse sheaves and  $\mathcal{D}$ -modules

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \xrightarrow{\text{can}} & \\ {}^p\psi_{f,1}K & & {}^p\phi_{f,1}K \\ & \xleftarrow{\text{Var}} & \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ccc} & \xrightarrow{\partial_t} & \\ \psi_{f,1}\mathcal{M} & & \phi_{f,1}\mathcal{M} \\ & \xleftarrow{t} & \end{array}$$

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \log T_u = N = \text{Var} \circ \text{can} \Leftrightarrow t \partial_t$$

If  $M = (\mathcal{M}, F_{\bullet}\mathcal{M}, K)$  is a filtered regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}$ -module with  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure which is quasi-unipotent and regular along  $f$ , then

$$\psi_f M = \bigoplus_{-1 \leq \gamma < 0} (gr_{\gamma}^V \mathcal{M}_f, F_{\bullet-1} gr_{\gamma}^V \mathcal{M}_f, {}^p\psi_{f, e^{2\pi i \gamma}} K)$$

$$\psi_{f,1} M = (gr_{-1}^V \mathcal{M}_f, F_{\bullet-1} gr_{-1}^V \mathcal{M}_f, {}^p\psi_{f,1} K)$$

$$\phi_{f,1} M = (gr_0^V \mathcal{M}_f, F_{\bullet} gr_0^V \mathcal{M}_f, {}^p\phi_{f,1} K)$$

are filtered regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}$ -modules with  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure on  $X$  whose support is contained in  $X_0 = f^{-1}(0)$ .

Remark:

Let  $j : X \times \mathbb{C} \setminus X \times \{0\} \hookrightarrow X \times \mathbb{C}$  be the natural inclusion map.

- Suppose  $M$  has strict support  $Z$  and  $M$  is quasi-unipotent and regular along  $f$ . If the restriction of  $f$  to  $Z$  is not constant, then

$$F_p \mathcal{M}_f = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} (V_{<0} \mathcal{M}_f \cap j_* j^* F_{p-i} \mathcal{M}_f) \partial_t^i$$

provided that  $\partial_t : F_p \text{gr}_{-1}^V \mathcal{M}_f \rightarrow F_{p+1} \text{gr}_0^V \mathcal{M}_f$  is surjective.

- The equality implies  $M$  is uniquely determined by its restriction to  $Z \setminus (Z \cap X_0)$ .



Given a filtered regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}$ -module with  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure  $M = (\mathcal{M}, F_{\bullet}\mathcal{M}, K)$ . When is  $M$  a Hodge Module?

- First, for any Zariski-open subset  $U \subset X$  and  $f \in \Gamma(U, \mathcal{O}_U)$ , the restriction of  $M$  to  $U$  is quasi-unipotent and regular along  $f = 0$ .
- Second, Saito requires  $M$  to admit a decomposition by strict support, in the category of regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}$ -modules with  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure.

## Theorem

Let  $M$  be a filtered regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}$  module with  $\mathbb{Q}$  structure, and suppose that  $(M, F_{\bullet}M)$  is quasi-unipotent and regular along  $f = 0$  for every locally defined holomorphic function  $f$ . Then  $M$  admits a decomposition

$$M \simeq \bigoplus_{Z \subseteq X} M_Z$$

by strict support, in which each  $M_Z$  is again filtered regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}$ -module with  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure, if and only if one has

$$\phi_{f,1}M = \ker(\text{Var} : \phi_{f,1}M \rightarrow \psi_{f,1}M(-1)) \oplus \text{im}(\text{can} : \psi_{f,1}M \rightarrow \phi_{f,1}M)$$

for every locally defined holomorphic function  $f$ .

The problem of defining Hodge modules is reduced to defining Hodge modules with strict support on irreducible closed subvarieties  $Z$ .

Let  $Z$  be an irreducible closed subvariety of  $X$ . Saito uses a recursive procedure to define the following category.

$$HM_Z(X, w) = \left\{ \text{Hodge Modules on } X \text{ with strict support on } Z \text{ with weight } w \right\}$$

- 1 If  $Z$  is a point  $x \in X$ , then we have an equivalence of categories between Hodge Structures and Hodge Modules with strict support on  $x$ .

$$(i_x)_* : HS(w) \simeq HM_x(X, w)$$

- 2 If  $d_Z > 0$ , then  $M$  belongs in  $HM_Z(X, w)$  if the following conditions hold:

Let  $f \in \Gamma(U, \mathcal{O}_U)$  and suppose  $Z \cap U \not\subseteq f^{-1}(0)$ , then we have

$$gr_{i-w+1}^W \psi_f M_U, gr_{i-w}^W \phi_{f,1} M_U \in HM_{<d_Z}(U, i)$$

Where  $W$  is the monodromy filtration of the nilpotent operator  $N$  on the nearby cycles of  $\psi_f M$ .

$HM_{<d_Z}(U, i)$  is the direct sum of  $HM_{Z'}(U, i)$  with  $Z'$  running over closed irreducible subvarieties of  $U$  with  $d_{Z'} < d_Z$ .

## Definition

The category of Hodge modules of weight  $w$  on  $X$  has objects

$$HM(X, w) = \bigcup_{d \geq 0} HM_{\leq d}(X, w) = \bigoplus_{Z \subseteq X} HM_Z(X, w);$$

its morphisms are the morphisms of regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}$ -modules with  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure.

A polarization on a Hodge module  $M \in HM(X, w)$  is a perfect pairing

$$S : K \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} K \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_X(n - w)[2n]$$

with the following properties:

- 1 It's compatible with the filtration. That is, it extends to an isomorphism  $M(w) \simeq \mathbf{DM}$  in the category of Hodge modules.
- 2 For every summand  $M_Z$  in the decomposition of  $M$  by strict support, and for every locally defined holomorphic function  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  this is not identically zero on  $U \cap Z$ , we have

$${}^p\psi_f S \circ (id \otimes N^i)$$

is a polarization of  ${}^P gr_{i-w+1}^W \psi_f M_U := \ker(N^{i+1})$  (primitive part).

- 3 If  $\dim M_Z = 0$ , then  $S$  is induced by a polarization of Hodge structures in the usual sense.

## Definition

We say a Hodge module is polarizable if it admits at least one polarization, and we denote by

$$HMP(X, w) \subseteq HM(X, w) \text{ and } HM_Z^p(X, w) \subseteq HM_Z(X, w)$$

the full subcategories of polarizable Hodge modules.

## Theorem (Properties)

- 1 *There are no nonzero morphism from an object in  $HMP(X, w_1)$  to an object  $HMP(X, w_2)$  if  $w_2 > w_1$*
- 2 *The category  $HMP(X, w)$  is abelian and any morphism is strict.*
- 3 *The category  $HMP(X, w)$  is semi-simple.*

## Theorem (Saito)

*For any closed irreducible subvariety  $Z \subseteq X$ , the restriction to sufficiently small open subvarieties of  $Z$  induces an equivalence of categories*

$$HM_Z^p(X, w) \simeq VHS_{gen}^p(Z, w - \dim Z)$$

*where the right-hand side is the category of polarizable variations of pure Hodge structures of weight  $w - \dim Z$  defined on a smooth dense open subvarieties  $U$  of  $Z$ . Moreover, we have a one-to-one correspondence between polarizations of  $M \in HM_Z(X, w)$  and those of the corresponding generic variation of Hodge structure.*

## Theorem (Saito)

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- $(\omega_X, F_\bullet \omega_X, \mathbb{Q}[n])$  is a polarizable Hodge module of weight  $n$ .



## Theorem (Saito)

Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a projective morphism of smooth complex algebraic varieties, and  $M = (\mathcal{M}, F_\bullet, K) \in \mathrm{HM}_\mathbb{Z}^p(X, w)$ . Let  $\ell$  be the first Chern class of an  $f$ -ample line bundle. Then the direct image  $f_*(M, F_\bullet)$  as a filtered  $\mathcal{D}$ -module is strict, and we have

$$\mathcal{H}^i f_* M := (\mathcal{H}^i f_*^{\mathcal{D}}(\mathcal{M}, F), {}^p \mathcal{H}^i f_* K) \in \mathrm{HMP}^p(Y, w + i)$$

together with isomorphisms

$$\ell^i : \mathcal{H}^{-i} f_* M \simeq \mathcal{H}^i f_* M(i)$$

Moreover, a polarization of  $M$  induces a polarization on  $\mathcal{H}^i f_* M$  in the Hodge-Lefschetz sense.

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