

# Parabolic Higgs bundles and representations

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## Unitary case

disc



$$\pi_1(D \setminus \{0\}) \rightarrow U_n$$

$$D = d + A d\theta \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \alpha_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{monodromy} = e^{-2\pi A} \quad \text{choice } 0 \leq \alpha_1 \leq \dots \leq \alpha_n < 1$$

$$\text{Holomorphic bundle: } \mathcal{D}^{(0,1)} = \bar{\partial} - \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \alpha_n \end{pmatrix} \frac{d\bar{z}}{z} \leftarrow \text{holomorphic over } D \setminus \{0\}$$

orthonormal basis  $(e_i)$ , holomorphic sections  $(s_i) = r^{\alpha_i} e_i$

$$\bar{\partial} r^{\alpha_i} = \frac{\alpha_i}{2} r^{\alpha_i} \frac{d\bar{z}}{z}$$

(We can multiply by  $z^{\alpha_i}$ .)

The sections  $(s_i)$  define an extension of the bundle over 0.



More intrinsically: ~~the~~ the holom. sections of  $E$  outside near 0 are those of  $E|_{D \setminus \{0\}}$  which remain bounded.

Automorphisms of  $E$ : automorphism of  $E|_{D \setminus \{0\}}$  which remain bounded

In basis  $(s_i)$ ,  $g = (g_{ij})$   $g$  bounded  $\Leftrightarrow r^{\alpha_i - \alpha_j} g_{ij}$  bounded over  $D$   
 $\uparrow$   
 holomorphic outside 0  $\Leftrightarrow g$  holomorphic and if  $\alpha_i < \alpha_j$  then  $g_{ij}(0) = 0$ .

Hence  $g(0) \in \begin{pmatrix} * & & 0 \\ * & * & \\ * & & * \end{pmatrix}$  parabolic subgroup generated by the  $(\alpha_i)$ .

Parabolic holomorphic bundle  $\Sigma$  Riemann surface, marked points  $x_i \in \Sigma$

def A parabolic holomorphic bundle is:

- a holomorphic bundle  $E \rightarrow \Sigma$
- at each  $x_i$ , a parabolic subgroup  $P_i \subset GL(E_{x_i})$ , + a compatible set of weights (= strictly dominant character of  $P_i$ ).

The curvature of  $D = d + A d\theta$  is  $F(D) = 2\pi A \delta_0 dx \wedge dy$   
 If this is the behavior of a flat connection on  $E$ , then:

$$\deg E = \frac{E}{2\pi} \int \text{Tr}(F(D)) = - \sum \alpha_i$$

def par-deg  $E = \deg E + \sum \alpha_i$

Theorem (Mehtra-Seshadri)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{irreducible repr.} \\ \pi_1(\Sigma) \{v_i\} \rightarrow U_n \end{array} \right\} \longleftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{stable/parabolic} \\ \text{bundles of par-deg} = 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

at each  $x_i$ , monodromy  $\leftarrow \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_i & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha_n \end{pmatrix}$   
 $e^{-2\pi i \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_i & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha_n \end{pmatrix}}$

Other groups - same theorem

- some problem with the logarithm

(example, for  $SU_2$   $\begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$   $\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & -\alpha \end{pmatrix}$   $0 \leq \alpha < \frac{1}{2}$ )

Complex case (Simpson 1990)

Local model:  $D = d + A d\theta$   $A \in \mathfrak{gl}_n \mathbb{C}$ . suppose  $A$  semisimple.  
 take  $n=1$  for simplicity.

$$D = d + i(\alpha + i\beta) d\theta$$

$$= \underbrace{d + i\alpha d\theta}_{\text{unitary}} - \underbrace{\beta d\theta}_{\text{hermitian}}$$

isomorphism,  
simple pole

$\rightarrow$  same parabolic bundle as before + Higgs field  $\varphi = (-\beta d\theta)^{1/2}$   
 $= \frac{i}{2} \beta \frac{d\theta}{\tau}$

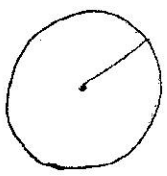
Correspondence

	local system	Higgs
monodromy	$e^{-2\pi i \beta \alpha + 2\pi \beta}$	parabolic weight $\alpha$ eigenvalue of $R_{\beta,0}$ ; imaginary part $\mu = \frac{\beta}{2}$
filtered local system weight $\lambda$		real part $\lambda = -\frac{\alpha}{2}$

$h = |z|^{2\alpha}$  is also a harmonic metric.

Then  $\varphi = \left( \frac{r}{2}\beta - \frac{\gamma}{2} \right) \frac{dz}{z}$

Geometrically



$r \cdot \beta$ : the different growth over defines a flag in  $E_0$ .

$F_\alpha(E_0) = \{ \text{sections growing at most as } r^\alpha \}$

Need to have picked a ray.

This extends to other groups.

$h(s, s) = O(r^{2\alpha})$ .

Theorem (Simpson)  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{stable} \\ \text{irreducible representations} \\ \pi_1(E \setminus X) \rightarrow GL(n, \mathbb{C}) \\ \text{few simple monodromy} \\ \text{around punctures} \end{array} \right\} \Leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{stable parabolic} \\ \text{Higgs bundle } \text{par-deg} = 0 \\ \text{Re } \lambda = 0 \end{array} \right\}$

Parabolic Higgs bundle: parabolic bundle  $E$ ,  $D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ .

$\varphi \in H^0(\underbrace{\Omega^1 \otimes \mathcal{O}(D)}_{S_{log D}} \otimes \mathcal{G}_E)$  s.t.  $\text{Res}_{x_i} \varphi \in \mathcal{P}_i \subset (\mathcal{G}_E)_{x_i}$   
 ↙ parabolic subalgebra corresponding to  $\mathcal{P}_i$

For filtered local systems have a stability condition, and  $\varphi$  is arbitrary.

The nilpotent part  $Y$  of  $\text{Res}_{x_i} \varphi$  corresponds to the nilpotent part  $e^Y$  of the monodromy at  $x_i$ .

Moduli spaces

hyperkähler: fixing the conjugacy class of monodromy at punctures. (+ filtered structure). (Higgs bundle local system)

On the loc. system side, fix parabolic structure at  $x_i$  at  $x_i$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_i = \mathfrak{L}_i \oplus \mathfrak{M}_i$

When projecting  $\pi_{\mathfrak{L}_i}(\text{Res}_{x_i} \varphi) \in \mathfrak{L}_i$  is fixed in a fixed orbit in the Lie algebra.

Example Unitary monodromy at puncture  $\Leftrightarrow \text{Res}_{x_i} \varphi \in \mathfrak{M}_i$   
 unipotent " " " "  $\Leftrightarrow$  trivial parabolic structure, fix nilpotent adjoint orbit to which  $\text{Res}_{x_i} \varphi$  belongs.  
 then  $\mathfrak{M}_i = 0$ , so  $\mathcal{P}_i = \mathfrak{L}_i$

Real representations

$G$  real noncpct,  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} \oplus \mathfrak{m}$  Cartan decomposition.

Higgs bdl case:

$H^0$ -principal bdl  $E$   
 $\rho \in H^0(K \otimes E(m\mathfrak{g}))$

parabolic

$P \subset H^0$

extend to  $G^0$

$\varphi \in H^0(K \otimes \mathfrak{g} \otimes E(m\mathfrak{g}))$

$\text{Res}_{x_i} \varphi \in \mathfrak{p}_i$

Repr

$\{ \pi_1([1, x_i]) \rightarrow G \} \leftrightarrow \{ G\text{-parabolic Higgs bundle} \}$

moduli space? fix adjoint orbit in  $\mathfrak{g}$

nilpotent case Kostant-Sekiguchi-Vergne correspondence.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{nilpotent } G \text{ orbits} \\ \text{in } \mathfrak{g} \end{array} \right\} \xleftrightarrow{1:1} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{nilpotent } H^0\text{-orbits} \\ \text{in } \mathfrak{m}^0 \end{array} \right\}$$

Vergne proved that each orbit on the left is diffeomorphic to the orbit on the right.

Can generalize to other orbits.

Toledo invariant

$G/H$  Herm. symm.  $\Rightarrow Z(H) = U_1$

then  $E \rightsquigarrow$  line bundle

Toledo = parabolic degree of this line bundle

assuming  $2g \geq 0$  even

Hitchin component

$SL(2n, \mathbb{R})$  choose  $L$  s.t.  $L^2 = K \otimes \mathcal{O}(D)$

bundle:  $L^{-2n+1} + L^{-2n+3} + \dots + L^{-1} + L + \dots + L^{n-1}$   $SO(2n, \mathbb{C})$  bundle

$$\varphi = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & & 0 \\ a_1 & & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ 0 & & & \\ a_m & \dots & a_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$q_d \in H^0(K^d \otimes \mathcal{O}(dD))$

if  $q_d \in H^0(K^d \otimes \mathcal{O}((d-1)D)) \rightarrow$  unipotent monodromy

if  $q_d \in H^0(K^d \otimes \mathcal{O}(dD)) \rightarrow$  split

adding a parabolic structure  $\rightarrow$  unitary monodromy at  $x_i$