

Hypergeometric motives and their wild ramification

David P. Roberts

University of Minnesota, Morris

Goal of group project: illustrate the theory of motives with a well-organized and broad collection of examples having completely computed L-functions with numerically checked functional equations.

Review of generalities with two examples:

- 1. Motives in $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q})$**
- 2. Galois representations in $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{F}_\ell)$**
- 3. Wild ramification at p**

Explicitation for hypergeometric motives:

- 4. HGMs in $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q})$**
- 5. Their reduction to $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{F}_\ell)$**
- 6. Their wild ramification at p**
- 7. Examples**

1. Motives in $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q})$. In the 1990s André modified Grothendieck's original 1960s definitions to get an unconditional and useful theory of pure motives. In particular,

- There is a reductive proalgebraic group \mathbb{G} , called the absolute motivic Galois group of \mathbb{Q} . It surjects to $\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$.
- The category $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q})$ of motives “over \mathbb{Q} with coefficients in \mathbb{Q} ” is the category of representations of \mathbb{G} on finite dimensional \mathbb{Q} -vector spaces, thus semisimple.
- For X a smooth projective variety over \mathbb{Q} , the cohomology groups $H^w(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q})$ are objects in $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q})$ and they generate the whole category.

- \mathbb{C}^\times sits naturally in $\mathbb{G}(\mathbb{R})$. On a motive M , it gives a Hodge decomposition $M \otimes \mathbb{C} = \bigoplus M^{p,q}$ with \mathbb{C}^\times acting by $z^p \bar{z}^q$ on $M^{p,q}$.
- For each prime ℓ , there is a section $\text{Gal}(\bar{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \mathbb{G}(\mathbb{Q}_\ell)$.

To motivically understand a given X , one should

- 1:** Express each cohomology group as a sum of irreducibles, $H^w(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q}) = \bigoplus_i M_{w,i}$.
- 2:** Study each appearing M individually, starting with computing its motivic Galois group $G_M := \text{Image}(\mathbb{G}) \subseteq GL_M$.

In Step 2, the original variety X may fade into the background. For example, one may already have encountered M in the study of another variety.

Famous conjectures in arithmetic geometry can be studied for individual motives:

- (Hodge) $\rho_\infty : \mathbb{C}^\times \rightarrow G_M(\mathbb{R})$ has \mathbb{Q} -Zariski dense image in the identity component G_M^0 .
- (Tate) $\rho_\ell : \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow G_M(\mathbb{Q}_\ell)$ has open image for each ℓ .
- (Compatibility) L -functions $L(M, s)$ and conductors N defined via ℓ -adic cohomology are independent of ℓ . [*We tacitly assume compatibility to simplify statements*]
- (Automorphy) For $M \subseteq H^w(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q})$, the L -function $L(M, s)$ is automorphic and hence satisfies a functional equation with respect to $s \mapsto w + 1 - s$.

The conjectures are known for many motives, sometimes easily, sometimes by deep theorems.

Examples: Let

$$X_1 : y^2 = x(x-1)(x-9) \quad (\text{Elliptic Curve } 24.a3),$$

$$X_3 : y^2 = x_1x_2x_3(x_1+x_2)(x_2+x_3)(x_1+1)(x_3+1),$$

and take

$$M_1 = H^1(X_1(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q}) \quad (\text{so } (h^{1,0}, h^{0,1}) = (1, 1)),$$

$$M_3 = H^3(X_3(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q}) \quad (\text{so } (h^{3,0}, \dots, h^{0,3}) = (1, 0, 0, 1)).$$

Put

$$L(M_1, s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{n^s} = 1 \cdot \frac{1}{1+3^{-s}} \prod_{p \geq 5} \frac{1}{1 - a_p p^{-s} + p^{1-s}},$$

$$L(M_3, s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{b_n}{n^s} = 1 \cdot \prod_{p \geq 3} \frac{1}{1 - b_p p^{-s} + p^{3-s}}.$$

Then automorphy holds via

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n q^n = \eta_{12} \eta_6 \eta_4 \eta_2 \in S_2(\Gamma_0(24)),$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n q^n = \eta_4^4 \eta_2^4 \in S_4(\Gamma_0(8)),$$

where $\eta_k = q^{k/24} \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^{kj})$.

2. Galois representations in $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{F}_\ell)$. Let $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{F}_\ell)$ be the category of representations of $\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$ on finite-dimensional \mathbb{F}_ℓ -vector spaces. A motive M in $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q})$ determines a semisimple object M/ℓ in $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{F}_\ell)$ up to isomorphism. We write $M \stackrel{\ell}{\equiv} M'$ for $M/\ell \cong M'/\ell$.

Examples. Here $a_p \stackrel{3}{\equiv} b_p$ for all primes and so $M_1 \stackrel{3}{\equiv} M_3$. Via $GL_2(\mathbb{F}_3) \subset S_8$ the common mod 3 Galois representation corresponds to

$$f(x) = x^8 - 6x^4 + 4x^2 - 3.$$

Some data illustrating the connections:

p	2	3	5	7	11	13	17	19	23	29
a_p	0	-1	-2	0	4	-2	2	-4	-8	6
b_p	0	-4	-2	24	-44	22	50	44	-56	198
\bar{a}_p	0	2	1	0	1	1	2	2	1	0
\bar{p}	2	0	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	2
λ_p			8	44	8	62	8	62	8	$2^3 1^2$

Here λ_p is the factorization partition of $f(x) \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$. It is correlated with $(\bar{a}_p, \bar{p}) \in \mathbb{F}_3 \times \mathbb{F}_3^\times$:

\bar{a}_p	0	1	1	2	2	0	1	2
\bar{p}	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
λ_p	44	62	2^4	$3^2 1^2$	1^8	$2^3 1^2$	8	8

3. Wild ramification at p . Fix a decomposition group $D = \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p/\mathbb{Q}_p) \subset \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q})$ with inertial subgroup I , wild inertia group P , and canonical filtration

$$D \supset \hat{\mathbb{Z}} \supset \hat{\mathbb{Z}}^P \supset \dots \supset P^{\geq s} \supset P^{> s} \supset \dots$$

with s running over positive rationals. Let $\text{Fr}_p \in D$ generate $D/I \cong \hat{\mathbb{Z}}$. For M in $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q})$ its local L -factor is

$$L_p(M, s) = \frac{1}{\det(1 - \text{Fr}_p p^{-s} | M_\ell^I)}$$

The *tame exponent* of M is $\tau_p(M) = \dim(M_\ell/M_\ell^I)$.

One has a canonical decomposition into summands indexed by Swan slopes:

$$M_\ell = M_\ell^P \oplus \bigoplus_{s>0} M_\ell^s$$

Here $P^{\geq s}$ acts non-trivially and $P^{> s}$ acts trivially on M_ℓ^s . The *Swan exponent* of M is

$$s_p(M) = \sum_{s>0} \dim(M_\ell^s) s$$

The *exponent* of M is $c_p(M) = \tau_p(M) + s_p(M)$.

Write $M \stackrel{p}{\sim} M'$ if $M_\ell \cong M'_\ell$ as P -representations. Elementary group theory then says an equivalent condition is $M/\ell \cong M'/\ell$ as P -representations. Hence

$$\boxed{M \stackrel{\ell}{\cong} M' \xrightarrow{\star} M \stackrel{p}{\sim} M'}$$

Only the conductor $N = \prod_p p^{c_p}$ appears in the functional equation for $L(M, s)$. However it is good to focus on the s_p part of c_p because of the stability (\star). **“Wild ramification is sometimes easier than tame ramification.”**

Examples. The splitting field K of

$$x^8 - 6x^4 + 4x^2 - 3$$

has $\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q}) = GL_2(3)$. The quotient filtration is

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} D & \supset & I & \supset & P^{\geq 1/3} & \supset & P^* & \supset & P^{> 1/2} \\ \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ GL_2(3) & \supset & SL_2(3) & \supset & Q_8 & \supset & C_2 & \supset & \{e\} \end{array}$$

with $P^* = P^{> 1/3} = P^{\geq 1/2}$. For both M_1 and M_3 , this forces $s_2 = 1/2 + 1/2 = 1$ and $\tau_2 = 2$ so that $c_2 = 3$.

4. HGMs in $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q})$. Indices and matrices.

For

$$f(x) = x^d + c_1x^{d-1} + \cdots + c_d,$$

let

$$C(f) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & -c_d \\ 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & -c_{d-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & -c_3 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 & 0 & -c_2 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 & -c_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

be its companion matrix. Let

$$A = [a_1, a_2, \dots] \text{ and } B = [b_1, b_2, \dots]$$

be such that

$$f_\infty(x) = \prod_i \Phi_{a_i}(x) \text{ and } f_0(x) = \prod_j \Phi_{b_j}(x)$$

have the same degree d . Put

$$g_\infty = C(f_\infty) \text{ and } g_0 = C(f_0).$$

Assume for several slides that A and B are disjoint. In this case, $\langle g_\infty, g_0 \rangle$ acts absolutely irreducibly on \mathbb{Q}^d .

Monodromy Representations. Define g_1 by $g_0 g_1 g_\infty = 1$. Let $T = \mathbb{P}^1 - \{0, 1, \infty\}$. View (g_0, g_1, g_∞) as giving a representation of the fundamental group

$$\pi_1(T(\mathbb{C}), 1/2) = \langle \gamma_0, \gamma_1, \gamma_\infty \mid \gamma_0 \gamma_1 \gamma_\infty = 1 \rangle.$$

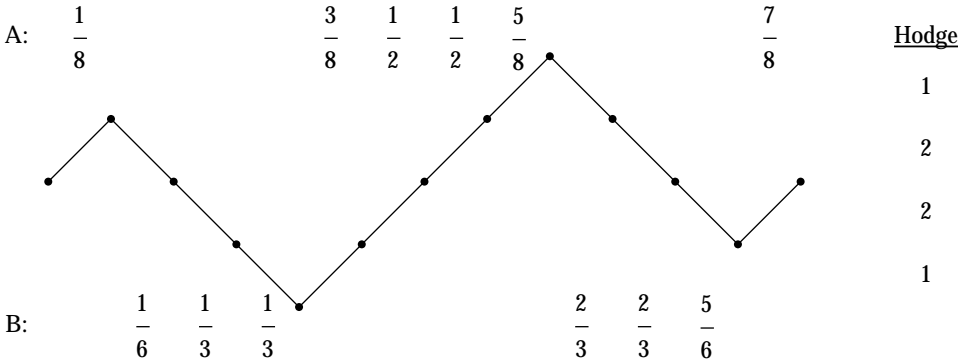
The representation corresponds to an absolutely irreducible local system $H(A, B, t)$ of \mathbb{Q} -vector spaces over $T(\mathbb{C})$. (The local system underlies classical hypergeometric functions, e.g.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{1}{5}\right)_n \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)_n \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)_n \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)_n t^n}{n! n! \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)_n \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)_n}$$

for $A = [5]$ and $B = [1, 1, 6]$.)

Hypergeometric Motives. For $t \in T(\mathbb{Q}) = \mathbb{Q}^\times - \{1\}$, the vector space $H(A, B, t)$ is naturally a degree d motive in $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q})$. Also one naturally has a motive $H(A, B, 1)$ (which we won't mention again until §7).

Hodge numbers. Hodge numbers are determined by how the roots of $f_\infty(x)$ and $f_0(x)$ intertwine on the unit circle. For example, for $(A, B) = ([2, 2, 8], [3, 3, 6])$, the diagram



yields the Hodge vector

$$(h^{3,0}, h^{2,1}, h^{1,2}, h^{0,3}) = (1, 2, 2, 1).$$

Both extremes are particularly interesting: complete intertwining yields

$$h^{0,0} = (d).$$

Complete separation yields

$$(h^{d-1,0}, \dots, h^{0,d-1}) = (1, 1, \dots, 1, 1).$$

Signatures. Action of $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{R})$ on $H(A, B, t)$ is known, completing the determination of the ∞ -factor $L_\infty(H(A, B, t), s)$.

Monodromy groups. Hodge numbers are always normalized by requiring Hodge vectors of the form $(h^{w,0}, \dots, h^{0,w})$ with $h^{w,0} > 0$. If $w = 0$, then monodromy groups $\langle g_\infty, g_0 \rangle$ are finite. If $w > 0$ and $\gcd(a_1, \dots, b_1, \dots) = 1$, then Zariski closures of monodromy groups are

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Symplectic } Sp_d, & \text{if } w \text{ is odd,} \\ \text{Orthogonal } O_d, & \text{if } w \text{ is even.} \end{array}$$

Similar but more complicated statements hold for mod ℓ monodromy groups and motivic Galois groups of specializations.

Types of primes. A prime p is called *very bad* for $(A, B, u/v)$ if it divides an index in A or B . It is called *slightly bad* if it is not very bad, but it divides $uv(u-v)$. It is called *good* otherwise.

Good primes are unramified in $H(A, B, t)$. Slightly bad primes are at most tamely ramified. Very bad primes are typically wildly ramified.

Frobenius traces. Frobenius traces and hence good factors $L_p(H(A, B, t), s)$ are given by an efficient formula. As a special case, for odd prime powers q define functions on \mathbb{F}_q^\times :

$$m_1(t, q) = \left(\frac{1-t}{q} \right) \quad (\text{Legendre Symbol}),$$

$$m_d(t, q) = - \sum_{u \in \mathbb{F}_q^\times} m_{d-1}\left(\frac{t}{u}, q\right) m_1(u, q).$$

Then, for $t \in \mathbb{Q}^\times - \{1\}$ reducing to an element of \mathbb{F}_p^\times ,

$$\text{Trace} \left(\text{Fr}_q | H([2^d], [1^d], t) \right) = m_d(t, q).$$

Modifications of the general formula work for slightly bad primes and for $t = 1$.

Earlier examples.

$$M_1 = H([2, 2], [1, 1], 9), \quad \text{so } a_p = m_2(9, p),$$

$$M_3 = H([2^4], [1^4], 1), \quad \text{so } b_p = m_4(1, p) - p.$$

Examples from trinomials. For positive integers b and β , put

$$\begin{aligned} a &= b + \beta, \\ g &= \gcd(b, \beta), \\ d &= a - g. \end{aligned}$$

Take

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \text{Divs}(a) - \text{Divs}(g) \\ B &= \text{Divs}(b) + \text{Divs}(\beta) - \text{Divs}(g) \end{aligned}$$

Then $T(b, \beta) := H(A, B)$ is a motivic family with unique Hodge number $h^{0,0} = d$. It arises from trinomial covers of \mathbb{P}^1 .

Example. $T(4, 1) = H([5], [4, 2, 1])$. Indices really do intertwine:

[5]:	$\frac{1}{5}$	$\frac{2}{5}$	$\frac{3}{5}$	$\frac{4}{5}$
[4, 2, 1]:	$\frac{0}{1}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$

For $t \in \mathbb{Q}^\times - \{1\}$, trinomials enter via

$$\begin{aligned} X_t &= \text{Spec} \left(\mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^5 - 5tx - 4t) \right), \\ H^0(X_t(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q}) &= T(4, 1, t) \oplus \mathbb{Q} \quad \text{in } M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}). \end{aligned}$$

More weight zero examples. Beukers and Heckman classified all finite monodromy examples, with Weyl groups figuring prominently:

$$W(E_6) : \quad BH45 - BH49,$$

$$W(E_7) : \quad BH58 - BH62,$$

$$W(E_8) : \quad BH63 - BH77.$$

We have equations for almost all these covers.

Example. $BH45 = H([3, 12], [1, 2, 8])$ has indices that really do intertwine:

$[3, 12]:$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{5}{12}$	$\frac{7}{12}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{11}{12}$
$[1, 2, 8]:$	$\frac{0}{1}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{7}{8}$

Governing polynomial is

$$f(t, x) = t2^4 x^3 (x^2 - 3)^{12} - 3^9 (x - 2)(x - 1)^8 (x^2 - 2x - 1)^8.$$

Uniform normalization. For §5, an alternative normalization is needed, where $h(A, B)$ is the “Tate twist” of $H(A, B)$ which has weight 0 or 1.

Degenerate cases. Also for §5, It is convenient to define $h(A, B, t)$ also when there is overlap between A and B . Write

$$\begin{aligned} A &= A' + [c_1^{m_1}, \dots, c_k^{m_k}], \\ B &= B' + [c_1^{m_1}, \dots, c_k^{m_k}]. \end{aligned}$$

Then, by definition,

$$h(A, B, t) = h(A', B', t) \bigoplus_{i=1}^k \bigoplus_{j=0}^{m_i-1} H_{\text{prim}}^0(X_{c_i}(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q}(j)),$$

where $X_{c_i} = \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^{c_i} - t))$.

We call $h(A', B')$ the *core* of $h(A, B)$.

5. Reduction of HGMs to $M(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{F}_\ell)$. Let ℓ be a prime. If $c = u\ell^k$ with u coprime to ℓ then

$$\Phi_c(x) \stackrel{\ell}{\equiv} \Phi_u(x)\phi(\ell^k).$$

Thus the monodromy representation of $H(A, B, t)$ does not change modulo ℓ when one “kills ℓ ” and thereby passes to the associated ℓ -free family $H(A^\ell, B^\ell, t)$. In the uniform normalization, Frobenius traces do not change modulo ℓ either and for $t \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$,

$$h(A, B, t) \stackrel{\ell}{\equiv} h(A^\ell, B^\ell, t).$$

as semisimple Galois representations.

Examples:

$$\begin{aligned} h([5], [1, 1, 6]) &\stackrel{2}{\equiv} h([5], [1, 1, 3]), \\ h([5], [1, 1, 6]) &\stackrel{3}{\equiv} h([5], [1, 1, 2, 2]), \\ h([5], [1, 1, 6]) &\stackrel{5}{\equiv} h([1, 1, 1, 1], [1, 1, 6]). \end{aligned}$$

The ℓ -free families on the right are often degenerate, making their analysis reduce to HGMs of lower degree.

The prime ℓ being disallowed in indices, there aren't so many mod ℓ families in low degrees and it is reasonable to tabulate them.

Mod 2 hypergeometric families in rank ≤ 7						
Label	M	A	B	Ram for §6		
				3	5	7
0	1	—	—			
$T(2, 1)$	$O_2^-(2)$	3	11	$2a$		
$T(4, 2)$	$O_4^+(2)$	33	1111	$4a$		
$T(3, 2)$	$O_4^-(2)$	5	311	$2a$	$4a$	
•T(4, 1)•	$O_4^-(2)$	5	1111		$4a$	
$T(5, 1)$	$Sp_4(2)$	5	33	$4a$	$4a$	
$T(6, 3)$	$S_3 \wr A_3$	9	3311	$6b$		
$T(5, 2)$	S_7	7	511		$4a$	$6a$
$T(6, 1)$	S_7	7	3311	$4a$		$6a$
$T(4, 3)$	S_7	7	31111	$2a$		$6a$
$T(7, 1)$	$O_6^+(2)$	7	111111			$6a$
$T(5, 3)$	$O_6^+(2)$	53	111111	$2a$	$4a$	
•6BH45•	$O_6^-(2)$	333	111111	$6e$		
6BH46	$O_6^-(2)$	333	511	$6e$	$4a$	
6BH47	$O_6^-(2)$	9	111111	$6d$		
6BH48	$O_6^-(2)$	9	31111	$6c$		
6BH49	$O_6^-(2)$	9	511	$6d$	$4a$	
7BH58	$Sp_6(2)$	9	333	$6a$		
7BH59	$Sp_6(2)$	9	53	$6c$	$4a$	
7BH60	$Sp_6(2)$	9	7	$6d$		$6a$
7BH61	$Sp_6(2)$	7	333	$6e$		$6a$
7BH62	$Sp_6(2)$	7	53	$2a$	$4a$	$6a$

Mod 3 hypergeometric families in ranks ≤ 4					
Label	M	A	B	Ram for §6	
				2	5
1^3A	$O_1(3)$	2	1	1A	
$T(4, 2)$	$O_2^-(3)$	4	21	2A	
31, 31, 22	$Sp_2(3)$	4	11	2a	
31, 31, 31	$Sp_2(3)$	22	11	2b	
$T(3, 1)$	$O_3(3)$	42	111	3A	
$T(3, 3)$	$O_3^+(3)$	222	111	3B	
$T(4, 4)$	64	8	421	4A	
$\bullet T(4, 1) \bullet$	120	5	421	3A	4a
$T(3, 2)$	120	5	2111	1A	4a
4^3D	384	8	2111	4B	
4BH37	576	44	2111	4C	
$T(5, 1)$	$O_4(3)^-$	10	2111	3B	4a
4^3a	1152	8	44	4a	
4^3b	1152	8	2211	4d	
4^3c	1152	44	2211	4f	
4BH24	$Sp_4(3)$	2222	1111	4h	
4BH25	$Sp_4(3)$	422	1111	4g	
4BH26	$Sp_4(3)$	44	1111	4e	
4BH27	$Sp_4(3)$	8	411	4b	
4BH28	$Sp_4(3)$	8	1111	4c	
4BH29	$Sp_4(3)$	10	5	4h	
4BH30	$Sp_4(3)$	5	44	4e	4a
4BH31	$Sp_4(3)$	8	5	4c	4a
4BH32	$Sp_4(3)$	5	2211	2b	4a
4BH33	$Sp_4(3)$	10	411	4g	4a
4BH34	$Sp_4(3)$	5	411	2a	4a
4BH35	$Sp_4(3)$	5	1111		4a
4BH36	$Sp_4(3)$	10	1111	4h	4a

Mod 3 hypergeometric families in rank 5					
Label	M	A	B	Ram for §6	
				2	5
$T(5, 5)$	$2^5.5$	10, 2	51	$5F$	
$T(8, 2)$	$2^4.S_5$	82	51	$5C$	$4a$
$T(6, 4)$	$2^5.S_5$	10, 2	4111	$5E$	$4a$
5BH41	$O_5(3)^*$	442	11111	$5D$	
5BH42	$O_5(3)^*$	442	51	$5D$	$4a$
5BH43	$O_5(3)^*$	10, 2	11111	$5F$	$4a$
5BH44	$O_5(3)^*$	22222	11111	$5F$	
●6BH45●	$O_5(3)^+$	82	441	$5A$	
6BH46	$O_5(3)^+$	52	441	$4C$	$4a$
6BH47	$O_5(3)^+$	4222	11111	$5E$	
6BH48	$O_5(3)^+$	82	11111	$5C$	
6BH49	$O_5(3)^+$	52	11111	$1A$	$4a$
$N1$	$O_5(3)$	82	4111	$5B$	
$N2$	$O_5(3)$	52	81	$4B$	$4a$
$N3$	$O_5(3)$	52	101	$3B$	
$N4$	$O_5(3)$	52	4111	$2A$	$4a$

We have computed a corresponding cover for almost all of the Galois representations just listed, many having been already seen in characteristic zero.

6. Analysis of HGMs at p . Let p be a prime. One can kill all $\ell \neq p$ in turn to get from a given $H(A, B, t)$ to its associated p -primary $H(A_p, B_p, t)$. The original and new motives have the same wild p -adic ramification:

$$H(A, B, t) \stackrel{p}{\sim} H(A_p, B_p, t).$$

Example with no degree drop at each p :

			Type
$H([5], [12])$	$\stackrel{2}{\sim}$	$H([1, 1, 1, 1], [4, 4])$	$4e$
$H([5], [12])$	$\stackrel{3}{\sim}$	$H([1, 1, 1, 1], [3, 3])$	$4a$
$H([5], [12])$	$\stackrel{5}{\sim}$	$H([5], [1, 1, 1, 1])$	$4a$

Example with full degree drop at each p :

			Type
$H([3, 2, 2], [6, 1, 1])$	$\stackrel{2}{\sim}$	$H([1, 1, 2, 2], [1, 1, 2, 2])$	0
$H([3, 2, 2], [6, 1, 1])$	$\stackrel{3}{\sim}$	$H([1, 1, 3], [1, 1, 3])$	0

Most examples have an intermediate behavior depending on p .

All examples in low degrees can be studied via explicitly computed covers:

Possibilities for 2-adic ramification in degrees ≤ 5										
L	A	B	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mod 3
0	–	–		1		7		26		
1A	2	1	1	1	2	4	10	21	46	
2A	4	21		1	1	3	5	12	24	
2a	4	11		2		10		50		
2b	22	11		3		8		46		
3A	42	111			2	4	8	20	42	
3B	222	111			3	4	7	16	39	
4A	8	421				1	1	3	5	$T(8,4)$
4B	8	2111				2	4	6	16	4^3D
4C	44	2111				4	8	12	32	4BH37
4a	8	44				2		4		4^3a
4b	8	411				2		10		4BH27
4c	8	1111				4		16		4BH28
4d	8	2211				3		8		4^3b
4e	44	1111				8		32		4BH26
4f	44	2211				6		16		4^3c
4g	422	1111				8		40		4BH33
4h	2222	1111				10		32		4BH24
5A	82	441					2	4	6	●6BH45●
5B	82	4111					2	4	8	$N1$
5C	82	11111					4	8	12	$T(8,2)$
5D	442	11111					8	16	24	5BH41
5E	4222	11111					8	16	32	$T(6,4)$
5F	22222	11111					10	16	26	$T(5,5)$

(Lower case in L: symplectic. Capital: orthogonal.)

Possibilities for p -adic ramification in degrees ≤ 7

3-adic ramification										
L	A	B	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mod 2
0	–	–	1	4	4	30	25	135	102	
2a	3	11		4	4	32	28	216	164	$T(2,1)$
4a	33	1111				28	24	124	96	$T(4,2)$
6a	9	333						6	12	$7BH58$
6b	9	3311						16	16	$T(6,3)$
6c	9	31111						24	24	$6BH47$
6d	9	111111						30	24	$6BH48$
6e	333	111111						90	72	$6BH45$

5-adic ramification										
L	A	B	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mod 2
0	–	–	1	8	8	68	53	425	326	
4a	5	1111				22	24	216	184	$\bullet T(4,1) \bullet$

7-adic ramification										
L	A	B	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mod 2
0	–	–	1	8	8	90	77	565	434	
6a	7	111111						76	76	$T(6,1)$

Possibilities for wild p -adic ramification in a given degree d decrease rapidly with p . E.g. in degree seven for $p = 2, 3, 5, 7$ there are 13, 8, 2, 2 possibilities for the p -core.

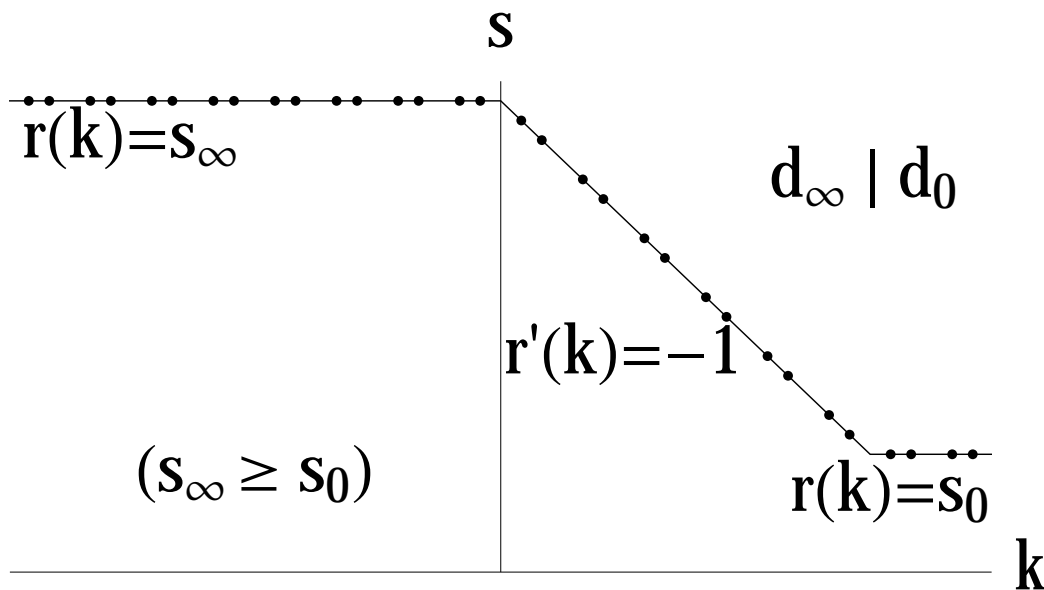
p -adic ramification as a function of t . For a family $H(A, B)$, define

$$\begin{aligned} d_\infty &= \sum_{p|a} \phi(a), & d_0 &= \sum_{p|b} \phi(b), \\ s_\infty &= \sum_{p|a} s(a), & s_0 &= \sum_{p|b} s(b). \end{aligned}$$

where

$$s(a) = \phi(a) \left(\text{ord}_p(a) + \frac{1}{p-1} \right).$$

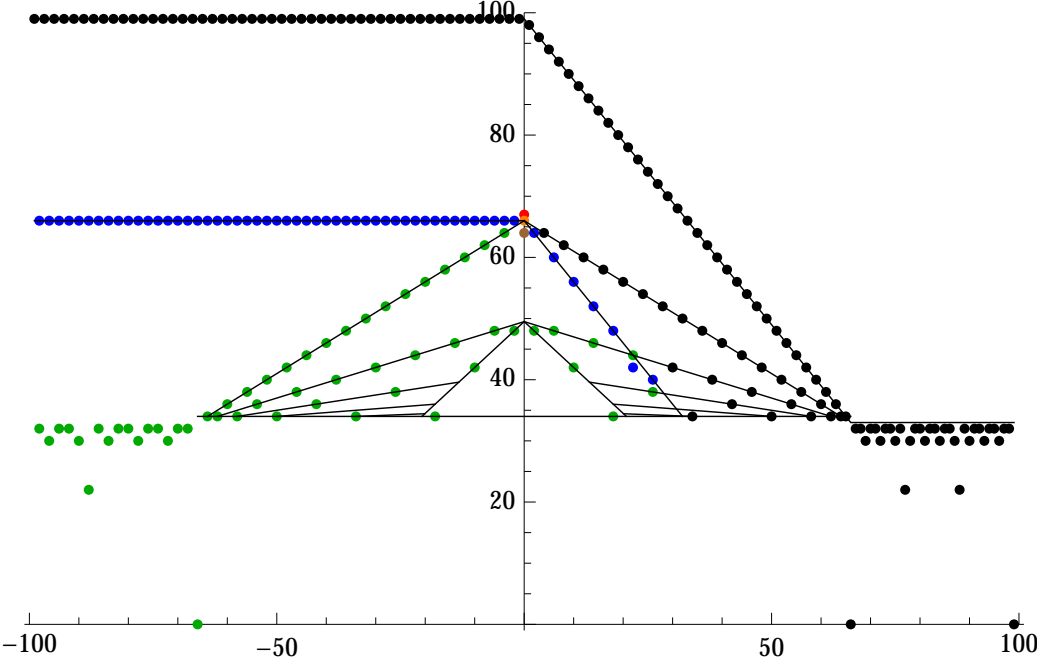
Define a “ramp function” $r(k)$ as indicated:



Conjecture (with FRV). *The Swan conductor of $H(A, B, up^k)$ is at most $r(k)$. If k is coprime to p then one has equality, there being exactly d_∞ or d_0 wild slopes as indicated.*

There are other general patterns, but computation suggests that a universal formula covering all cases would be complicated.

Example. for d odd, $H([2d], [d], t)$ can be analyzed via $2^{2d}x^d(x - 1)^d + t = 0$. Then conclusions about 2-wild ramification can be transferred to other motives like $H([2^d], [1^d], t)$. The case $d = 33$, with c_2 as a function of $t = u2^k$:



A black dot is above k if u does not matter. Otherwise a green dot indicates $u \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ and a blue dot indicates $u \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$.

7. Examples. For uniformity: all families are symplectic with Hodge vector $(1, 1, \dots, 1, 1)$; all specializations have wild L -factors $L_p(M, s) = 1$. All L -functions are numerically checked via `CheckFunctionalEquation` to high precision.

Wild at 3. Some $H([3^{d/2}], [1^d], t)$, all with conductor $N = 2^a 3^b$ with $a \in \{0, 1\}$.

$d \setminus t$	1/9	1/3	-1/3	1	-1	3	-3	9
2	5	5	5		<u>3</u>	4	4	3
4	10	10	10	3	<u>6</u>	9	9	8
6	15	15	15	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	14	14	13
8				<u>9</u>	<u>12</u>			
10				<u>12</u>				(exponents b)

The order of central vanishing is indicated by the number of boxes. The underlined bold entries are not covered by the ramp formula.

Example. The motive $M = H([3^4], [1^8], 1)$ has Hodge vector $(1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1)$, Galois group CSp_6 , conductor 3^9 , and rank two with

$$L''(M, 4) \approx 6.494840100810020078040772$$

Wild at 2. Specializations of $H([2^d], [1^d], t)$ with conductor $2^a 3^b$ with $b \in \{0, 1\}$:

	$-\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	1	-1	-2	2	4	-8
2	6	<u>3</u>	6	<u>6</u>		<u>5</u>	5	5	<u>3</u>	3
4	12	<u>7</u>	<u>12</u>	12	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>11</u>	11	<u>7</u>	9
6	<u>18</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>18</u>	18	<u>6</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>15</u>
8		<u>15</u>			<u>7</u>	<u>17</u>			<u>15</u>	
10					<u>12</u>					
12					<u>13</u>					

(exponents a)

Here $H([2^d], [1^d], t)$ and $H([2^d], [1^d], 1/t)$ are twists of one another, forcing a drop in Galois group at $t = -1$ and a decomposition at $t = 1$.

Example. $H([2^8], [1^8], 1) = M_2 \oplus M_4$ with

$$\text{Hodge}(M_2) = (1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1)$$

$$\text{Hodge}(M_4) = (1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1)$$

$$\text{Conductor}(M_2) = 2^2$$

$$\text{Conductor}(M_4) = 2^5$$

and M_2 corresponding to $\eta_2^{12} \in S_6(\Gamma_0(4))$.

Wild at 2 and 3. When several wild primes are involved, one often knows the L -function completely from congruences. However the range of degrees that can be analytically studied is smaller because conductors are larger.

Example. $M = H([3^3], [2^6], 1)$ has Hodge vector $(1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1)$, motivic Galois group CSp_4 , and conductor $2^6 3^5$. All initial good a_p are negative:

p	5	7	11	13	17	19	23
a_p	-6	-126	-477	-883	-426	-1898	-4692

From 8000 coefficients and two minutes of computation, it has numeric rank two with

$$L''(M, 3) \approx 12.6191334778913437117846768$$

Longer run times and less precision make many more $L(M, s)$ in computational reach.

Some reports by other group members available online:

Henri Cohen. *L-functions of Hypergeometric Motives* (slides).

Fernando Rodriguez Villegas. *Hypergeometric Motives* (video).

Mark Watkins. *What I know about Hypergeometric Motives* (text).

Some key references:

Yves André. *Pour une théorie inconditionnelle de motifs*. Inst. Hautes Études Sci. Publ. Math. No. 83 (1996), 5–49.

Frits Beukers and Gert Heckman. *Monodromy for the hypergeometric function ${}_nF_{n-1}$* . Invent. Math. 95 (1989), no. 2, 325–354.

Alessio Corti and Vasily Golyshev. Hypergeometric equations and weighted projective spaces. *Sci. China Math.* 54 (2011), no. 8, 1577–1590.

Nicholas M. Katz. *Exponential sums and differential equations.* *Annals of Mathematics Studies*, 124.

A key software resource:

John Cannon, et al. *MAGMA*. Especially the Hypergeometric Motive package (Mark Watkins) and the L-function package (Tim Dokchitser).