

Motivic Computations in Magma
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- 1. Invariants of algebraic varieties**
- 2. Familiar examples**
- 3. Hypergeometric motives**
- 4. L-factors of Hypergeometric motives at wild primes, an example**

1. Invariants of algebraic varieties. Let X be a smooth projective variety over \mathbb{Q} of dimension d . The $2d$ -dimensional real manifold $X(\mathbb{C})$ has cohomology groups $H^w(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q})$. Because of the arithmetic source, these cohomology groups have extra structure.

Three types of extra structures which are local in the sense that they are associated with a place $v \in \{\infty, 2, 3, 5, 7, \dots\}$ of \mathbb{Q} :

From the infinite place $v = \infty$. There is a Hodge decomposition

$$H^w(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{C}) = \bigoplus_{p=0}^w H^{p, w-p}.$$

with $H^{p,q} = \overline{H}^{q,p}$. In particular the w^{th} Betti number decomposes $b = \sum h^{p, w-p}$ with

$$h^{p,q} = h^{q,p}.$$

Complex conjugation $\text{Fr}_\infty : X(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow X(\mathbb{C})$ interchanges $H^{p,q}$ and $H^{q,p}$ so that moreover

$$h^{w/2, w/2} = h_+^{w/2, w/2} + h_-^{w/2, w/2} \quad (\text{for } w \text{ even}).$$

From a good place p . From the integers $|X(\mathbb{F}_{p^f})|$, one gets a Frobenius operator Fr_p on $H^w(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q})$, well-defined up to conjugation (Dwork, Grothendieck, Deligne). The eigenvalues α_i have absolute value $p^{w/2}$. It is best to package them into a polynomial

$$F_p(H^w(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q}), T) = \prod_{i=1}^b (1 - \alpha_i T) \in \mathbb{Z}[T].$$

From a bad place p . The case is similar to the case of good places, but much more complicated, even still depending on resolution-of-singularities type conjectures for some basic statements. One still has a polynomial $F_p(H^w(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q}), T)$, now of degree $< b$. One also has a conductor p^{n_p} , with $n_p \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$ measuring the badness of the mod p reduction, from a cohomological viewpoint.

L-functions. The local invariants discussed so far are naturally combined into a global L-function

$$L(H^w(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q}), s) = \Gamma(h, s) \prod_p \frac{1}{F_p(H^w(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q}), p^{-s})}.$$

This function conjecturally satisfies a functional equation $s \leftrightarrow w + 1 - s$ in which the conductor $N = \prod_p p^{n_p}$ enters fundamentally and measures computational complexity.

One can also work with suitable direct summands $M \subseteq H^w(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q})$ called motives, where all the above invariants are defined. The motivic L-functions $L(M, s)$ are very well implemented in *Magma* (Dokchitser, Watkins). They are the subject of many conjectures: connections to automorphic forms, special values at integers, Riemann hypothesis and further properties of zeros,

A natural problem is to produce motives M with small conductor N for given Hodge numbers h (and given “motivic Galois group”)

2. Familiar examples. Our examples are in increasing order of $w = \dim(X)$ and focus on $M \subseteq H^w(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q})$.

A. Number Fields. Taking X of dimension zero, the study of $M = H^0(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q})$ is the study of number fields K in a fancy language. If $K \otimes \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R}^r \times \mathbb{C}^s$ then signature translates to Hodge numbers:

$$(r, s) = (h_+^{0,0} - h_-^{0,0}, 2h_-^{0,0}).$$

The absolute discriminant translates to conductor: $D = N$. The Dedekind zeta function is an example of an L-function: $\zeta(K, s) = L(M, s)$.

B. Curves. Taking X of dimension one, the study of $M = H^1(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q})$ is essentially the study of Jacobians in a fancy language. An example of *Magma* functionality:

```
>ZT<T> := PolynomialRing(Integers());  
>P2<x,y,z> := ProjectiveSpace(FiniteField(5),2);  
>Factorization(LPolynomial(Curve(P2,x^4+y^4+z^4)));  
[<5*T^2 - 2*T + 1, 3>]
```

C. Surfaces and their Hodge numbers.

```
>P3<w,x,y,z> := ProjectiveSpace(Rationals(),3);
>fermat := func<n|Surface(P3,w^n+x^n+y^n+z^n)>;
>hodgesquare := func<S|
>   [[HodgeNumber(S,i,j):i in [0..2]] :
>   j in [2..0 by -1]]>;
>[hodgesquare(fermat(n)) : n in [1..5]];
```

```
[[[ 0, 0, 1 ],
  [ 0, 1, 0 ],
  [ 1, 0, 0 ]],
```

The projective plane \mathbb{P}^2

```
[[ 0, 0, 1 ],
  [ 0, 2, 0 ],
  [ 1, 0, 0 ]],
```

The quadric $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$

```
[[ 0, 0, 1 ],
  [ 0, 7, 0 ],
  [ 1, 0, 0 ]],
```

\mathbb{P}^2 with six points blown up

```
[[ 1, 0, 1 ],
  [ 0, 20,0 ],
  [ 1, 0, 1 ]],
```

K3 surface

```
[[ 4, 0, 1 ],
  [ 0, 45,0 ],
  [ 1, 0, 4 ]]
```

General type surface

3. Hypergeometric Motives. Let d be an integer. Let $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_d \in \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ with always $\alpha_i \neq \beta_j$. Suppose the number of times a rational number occurs depends only on its denominator. Then for every $t \in \mathbb{Q} - \{0, 1\}$ one has a rank d *motive*

$$M_t = H(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d; \beta_1, \dots, \beta_d; t).$$

One would like to compute the L-series $L(M_t, s)$ completely.

The Hodge numbers depend only on how the α 's and the β 's intertwine in the circle \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} . At one extreme, if the α 's and the β 's are separated, then

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

At the other extreme,

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

if there is complete intertwining.

Magma's HGM package (Watkins) implements much of what is known about HGMs:

- It computes Hodge numbers and their parity split, hence $L_\infty(M, s) = \Gamma(h, s)$.
- For p not wild, meaning not dividing a denominator of an α_i or a β_j , it very efficiently computes (Katz, Cohen, ...) the L-factor $L_p(M, s) = 1/F_p(M, p^{-s})$ and the conductor p^{n_p} .
- For (α, β) “sufficiently classical,” it identifies M as coming from a specific variety X and sometimes thereby computes $L_p(M, s)$ for wild primes p too.

The HGM package feeds nicely into the L-Series package, but the ambiguity at wild primes limits its usefulness.

4. Wild L-factors of HGMs. Example 1 (works perfectly!):

```
>M1 := HypergeometricData([1/6,1/3,2/3,5/6],
>      [0,1/4,1/2,3/4]);
>L1 := LSeries(M1,2);      (t = 2 as an example)
>EulerFactor(L1,2);
1-T
>EulerFactor(L1,3);
1
>Factorization(Conductor(L1));
[ <2, 10>, <3, 6> ]
>CheckFunctionalEquation(L1);
1.31266454628776364420511633263E-27 ≈ 0 ✓
```

Here the wild primes are 2 and 3. The α_i 's and β_j 's completely intertwine, so the Hodge vector is $(h^{0,0}) = (4)$. *Magma* identifies

$$L(M1_t, s) = \frac{\zeta(\mathbb{Q}[x]/(729x^2(x-1)^4t-16), s)}{\zeta(\mathbb{Q}[x]/(x^2-t), s)}.$$

Because of this identification, the local factors $L_p(M1_2, s)$ and local conductors p^{n_p} have been correctly calculated.

Example 2 (problem at 3):

```
>M2 := HypergeometricData([1/3,1/3,2/3,2/3],
>      [0,0,0,0]);
>L2 := LSeries(M2,2);      (t = 2 as an exam-
ple)
WARNING: Guessing wild prime information
>EulerFactor(L2,2);
1          (2 is tame, so right)
>EulerFactor(L2,3);
1          (3 is wild, so dubious(but right))
>Factorization(Conductor(L2));
[<2, 4>] (right at 2, dubious at 3 (and wrong))
>CheckFunctionalEquation(L2);
|Sign| is nowhere near 1,
wrong functional equation?
-0.3074980512625301093947618264671 ≠ 0  X
```

Here the only wild prime is 3. The α_i 's and β_j 's are completely separated, so the Hodge vector is $(h^{3,0}, h^{2,1}, h^{1,2}, h^{0,3}) = (1, 1, 1, 1)$. Any underlying variety has to have dimension at least three. *Magma* cannot appeal to its more classical parts to get the correct invariants at 3.

Connection between the two examples. An element of \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} is the sum of its p -primary parts. E.g. $1/6 = 1/2 + 2/3$ has 2-primary part $1/2$ and 3-primary part $2/3$. In our case, taking 3-primary parts of the indices of

$M1 = H([1/6, 1/3, 2/3, 5/6], [0, 1/4, 1/2, 3/4])$
gives the indices of

$$M2 = H([1/3, 1/3, 2/3, 2/3], [0, 0, 0, 0]).$$

Via this connection, as an instance of a general theorem, one has the following fact: If $\text{ord}_3(N1_t) \geq 6$ then $F_3(M1_t, T) = F_3(M2_t, T) = 1$ and $c_3(M1) = c_3(M2)$.

In other words, using the ability of the L-series package to input specified bad factors,

```
LSeries(M2,t : BadPrimes :=
[<3,Valuation(Conductor(LSeries(M1,t))),3),1>])
```

gives the right L-series when $\text{ord}_3(N1_t) \geq 6$.

As numerical examples, all double-checked with `CheckFunctionalEquation`, some conductors are as follows.

t	$N1_t$	$N2_t$
-1	$2^9 3^6$	$2^1 3^6$
1/2	$2^{11} 3^6$	$2^3 3^6$
2	$2^{10} 3^6$	$2^4 3^6$ ← was 0, now fixed!
-8	$2^8 3^6$	$2^2 3^6$
-1/8	$2^{11} 3^6$	$2^3 3^6$
-2	$2^{10} 3^7$	$2^4 3^7$
8/9	$2^8 3^8$	$2^2 3^8$
-1/3	$2^6 3^9$	$2^1 3^9$
1/3	$2^9 3^9$	$2^1 3^9$
2/3	$2^{10} 3^9$	$2^4 3^9$
4/3	$2^6 3^9$	$2^4 3^9$
9/8	$2^{11} 3^{10}$	$2^3 3^{10}$
-3	$2^6 3^{10}$	$2^1 3^{10}$
3/4	$2^4 3^{10}$	$2^3 3^{10}$
3/2	$2^{11} 3^{10}$	$2^3 3^{10}$
3	$2^9 3^{10}$	$2^1 3^{10}$

We hope to implement the general theorem so as to allow *Magma* to compute most low degree Hypergeometric L-series completely.