

p-adic gauge theory in number theory

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Dirichlet's theorem

F : totally real field, O_F : the integer ring, $[F : \mathbb{Q}] = d$.

p : a prime number.

Dirichlet's unit theorem:

$$O_F^\times \simeq \{\pm 1\} \times \mathbb{Z}^{d-1}$$

Moreover, for a basis $\langle \epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_{d-1} \rangle$ of the free part, he showed

$$\text{rank}(\log |\iota(\epsilon_j)|)_{1 \leq j \leq d-1, \iota: F \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}} = d - 1$$

\Leftrightarrow non-vanishing of the regulator

(= $\det (d - 1) \times (d - 1)$ -minor)

Leopoldt's conjecture

$$\text{rank}(\log_p \iota(\epsilon_j))_{1 \leq j \leq d-1, \iota: F \hookrightarrow \hat{\mathbb{Q}}_p} = d - 1$$

\Leftrightarrow non-vanishing of the p -adic regulator R_p

$$\Leftrightarrow \delta = 0$$

Here

$$\delta = \delta_{F,p} = \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}_p} \ker(O_F^\times \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}_p \rightarrow \prod_{v|p} (o_{F_v}^\times)_p)$$

is the Leopoldt defect.

By the classical class field theory, $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}_p} \mathcal{X}_p = 1 + \delta_{F,p}$.
Here $\mathcal{X}_p = (G_{\{v|p\}}^{\text{ab}})_p$.

Leopoldt's conjecture

\Leftrightarrow Any \mathbb{Z}_p -extension is cyclotomic

P. Colmez:

Leopoldt's conjecture

\Leftrightarrow p -adic zeta function of F has a pole at $s = 1$

The conjecture \in Iwasawa theory for $\mathbf{GL}(1)$

Known results

- $\delta_{F,p} = 0$ if F is abelian over \mathbb{Q} (Brumer, 1967).
- $\delta_{F,p} \leq [\frac{d}{2}]$ (Waldschmidt, 1984).

These results \Leftarrow Transcendental number theory:

In Brumer's case, p -adic regulator R_p is a product of $\bar{\mathbb{Q}}$ -linear forms of p -adic log of units. Then apply a p -adic version of Baker's theorem.

Question

Based on works of Serre, Ribet,

Mazur-Wiles: $\mathbf{GL}(2)$ -class field theory

\Rightarrow Iwasawa's main conjecture for $\mathbf{GL}(1)$

Question: Is $\mathbf{GL}(2)$ -class field theory effective to understand Leopoldt's conjecture?

Digression: meaning of the title

Theorem 0.1. (*Donaldson*)

M : closed, oriented, simply connected smooth 4-manifold

If the intersection form $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ on $H^2(M, \mathbb{Z})$ is positive definite $\Rightarrow \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is standard.

Use the moduli of ASD- $SU(2)$ connections to understand the topology of M .

Remark 0.2. *$C = \text{Spec } \mathcal{O}_F \setminus \Sigma$ should be considered as an analogue of hyperbolic 3-manifold N , so Thurston's theory of the moduli of flat bundles on N is the right geometric analogy.*

Leopoldt's conjecture $\Leftrightarrow \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} H^1(N, \mathbb{Q}) = 1$.

Partial answer

Theorem 0.3. *F : totally real field.*

$$\mathfrak{p} \gg 0 \Rightarrow \delta_{F,\mathfrak{p}} = 0,$$

i.e., Leopoldt's conjecture is true for (F, \mathfrak{p}) .

Remark 0.4. *Theorem is proved under $\mathfrak{p} \geq 3$, and Assumption $\mathbf{A}_{(F, \mathfrak{p})}$ explained later (instead of $\mathfrak{p} \gg 0$).*

Strategy

The proof of the theorem is divided into:

- Part I : Existence of nice characters of F
- Part II: Modularity of some 2-dimensional reducible residual representations
- Part III: Main argument

Based on recent (= last thirteen years after Wiles) development in $\mathbf{GL}(2)$ -class field theory. Also, Hida's theory of nearly ordinary Hecke algebras for $\mathbf{GL}(2)$ plays an essential role.

Proof Plan

- Find a nice **2**-dimensional *reducible* $\bar{\rho}$.
- Define a deformation ring \mathbf{R} from $\bar{\rho}$. Let \mathbf{I} be the defining ideal of the reducible locus (Eisenstein ideal). Determine the Krull dimension of \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{I} . Larger than the expected value if $\delta_{F,p} > 0$.
- Determine the number of the generators of \mathbf{I} . Smaller than the expected value if $\delta_{F,p} > 0$.
- Look at the tangent space of \mathbf{R} , and the local distributions of tangent vectors coming from \mathbf{I} . Conclude $\delta_{F,p} = 0$ by showing the surjectivity of global to local restriction map.

Part I

E_λ : a p -adic field, \mathfrak{o}_λ : the ring of the integers.

$\chi : G_F \rightarrow \mathfrak{o}_\lambda^\times$: a character of finite order is *nice if*

- χ is totally odd, of order prime to p .
- χ is unramified at $\forall v|p$, $\chi(\text{Fr}_v) \neq 1$.
- $H_f^1(F, \bar{\chi}^{\pm 1}) = 0$ (\Leftrightarrow the relative class number of F_χ/F is prime to p if χ is quadratic).

Here $\bar{\chi} = \chi \pmod{\lambda}$.

Existence of nice quadratic characters

Assumption $A_{(F, p)}$: there is *at least one* nice character χ .

$A_{(F, p)}$ is satisfied with some quadratic χ in the following cases:

- $p = 3$ (Davenport-Heilbronn, ...).
- $p \nmid$ the numerator of $\zeta_F(-1)$ (P. Hartung, H. Naito).
- (Hopefully) $\zeta_p \notin F_v$ for any $v|p$, and $[F(\zeta_p) : F] > 2$ (F.)

Some trace formula argument (Selberg or Lefschetz) is used.

Part II

Assume $\mathbf{A}_{(F, p)}$, fix a nice character χ . Construct an indecomposable reducible $\bar{\rho} : G_F \rightarrow \mathbf{GL}_2(k_\lambda)$ by the following conditions:

- $\bar{\rho}$ takes a form

$$0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow \bar{\rho} \rightarrow \bar{\chi} \rightarrow 0.$$

- $\bar{\rho}|_{I_v}$ is split except one finite place y s.t.
 $\chi(\mathrm{Fr}_y)^{-1} \equiv q_y \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.

$$\Sigma = \{v|p\} \cup \{\text{ramification set of } \bar{\rho}\}.$$

Theorem 0.5. *Assume $d > 1$, and q_y : sufficiently large. Then $\bar{\rho}$ is (minimally) modular in the following sense:*

- $\exists \pi$: *cuspidal rep. of $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{A}_F)$, unramified outside $\Sigma \cup \{v|\infty\}$ and of parallel weight 2,*
- π *is nearly ordinary at $\forall v|p$,*
- $\bar{\rho} \simeq \bar{\rho}_{\pi, \lambda}$.

Proof: Rather complicated (congruences between Eisenstein series, level lowering argument, ...).

Related talk: Arithmetic Geometry Kyoto 09/2006.

E. Urban has a simpler construction.

Part III: Preliminaries

S : an auxiliary set of finite places

- $\Sigma \cap S = \emptyset, \#S \leq \delta.$
- $\chi(\text{Fr}_v) \equiv q_v \equiv -1 \pmod{p} \quad \forall v \in S.$

$$\Sigma_{\mathcal{D}} = \Sigma \cup S.$$

$\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}_S$: minimal deformation data for $\bar{\rho}$

Deformation conditions

$\rho : G_{\Sigma_{\mathcal{D}}} \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_2(A)$: a deformation of $\bar{\rho}$

Local conditions:

- At $v|p$, ρ is nearly ordinary:

$$\rho|_{G_{F_v}} \sim \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\chi}_{1,v} & * \\ 0 & \tilde{\chi}_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\tilde{\chi}_{1,v} \text{ lifts } \bar{\chi}|_{G_{F_v}} \text{ (converse to } \bar{\rho} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & * \\ 0 & \bar{\chi} \end{pmatrix} \text{)}.$$

- At $v \in S$, ρ is special:

$$\rho|_{G_{F_v}} \sim \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\chi}_{1,v} & * \\ 0 & \tilde{\chi}_{1,v}(-1) \end{pmatrix},$$

$\tilde{\chi}_{1,v}$ lifts $\bar{\chi}|_{G_{F_v}}$ (converse to $\bar{\rho}$).

- At other places in $\Sigma_{\mathcal{D}}$: finite deformation (special at \mathbf{y} , in other cases the restriction to the inertia is the “same as $\bar{\rho}$ ”).

Global condition: $\det \rho$ is fixed (to $\chi \cdot \chi_{\text{cycle},p}^{-1}$).

Nearly ordinary Hecke algebra

$R_{\mathcal{D}}$ = universal deformation ring of $\bar{\rho}$

$T_{\mathcal{D}}$ = nearly ordinary cuspidal Hecke algebra (exists by Part II and a lifting argument of Diamond-Taylor (need to find a lift which is special at S)).

Since χ is nice, \exists universal modular representation

$$\rho_{\mathcal{D}}^{\text{modular}} : G_{\Sigma_{\mathcal{D}}} \rightarrow \text{GL}_2(T_{\mathcal{D}})$$

(existence of free lattice), and we have a surjective map

$$R_{\mathcal{D}} \twoheadrightarrow T_{\mathcal{D}}.$$

$R = T$ and the consequence

Proposition 0.6. *Under the conditions, $R_{\mathcal{D}} \simeq T_{\mathcal{D}}$, and $R_{\mathcal{D}}$ is a complete intersection of Krull dimension $d + 1$.*

Proof: Standard application of Taylor-Wiles system.

Using the proposition, one can calculate the reducible (=Eisenstein) locus:

Proposition 0.7. $I_{\mathcal{D}} :=$ Eisenstein ideal of $T_{\mathcal{D}}$

$T_{\mathcal{D}}/I_{\mathcal{D}} = R_{\mathcal{D}}/I_{\mathcal{D}}$ is \mathcal{O}_{λ} -flat, complete intersection of Krull dimension $= 1 + \delta - \#\mathcal{S}$ under a mild assumption on S .

Eisenstein locus

The Eisenstein locus is isomorphic to

$$o_\lambda[[\mathcal{X}_p]] / (L_y, \chi^{\text{univ}}(\text{Fr}_v) - 1 \quad (v \in S)),$$

where L_y is (Euler factor at y of) a p -adic L -function.

(Recall $\mathcal{X}_p = (G_{\{v|p\}}^{\text{ab}})_p$, $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}_p} \mathcal{X}_p = 1 + \delta$.)

If Fr_y and Fr_v for $v \in S$ are linearly independent in \mathcal{X}_p
 \Rightarrow the Krull dimension is as in the proposition.

TW-system

A TW system is a family $(R_Q, M_Q)_{Q \in X}$ which satisfies

- Q : a finite set of finite places of F .
- $Q = \emptyset \Rightarrow (R_\emptyset, M_\emptyset) = (R, M)$.
- R_Q : complete noeth. local $\mathfrak{o}_\lambda[\Delta_Q]$ -algebra, (Δ_Q : finite abelian \mathfrak{p} -group).
- M_Q : non-zero R_Q -module, *finite free* over $\mathfrak{o}_\lambda[\Delta_Q]$.

Complete intersection-freeness theorem

Under certain assumptions, \mathbf{R} is a complete intersection, and \mathbf{M} is \mathbf{R} -free ($\Rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is equal to $\mathbf{T} = \text{image}(\mathbf{R} \rightarrow \text{End}_{o_\lambda} \mathbf{M})$). In particular, \mathbf{M} is a faithful \mathbf{R} -module, and \mathbf{R} can not be quite large.

TW-system with local variables

Our choice to prove $R = T$:

- $Q \in X \Leftrightarrow Q \cap \Sigma_{\mathcal{D}} = \emptyset$,
 $Q \subset \{v : q_v \equiv 1 \pmod{p}, \chi(\text{Fr}_v) \neq 1\}$
- $R_{\mathcal{D}_Q}$: the universal deformation ring with unrestricted conditions at Q
- $\Delta_Q = \prod_{v \in Q} k(v)_p^\times$ (\Leftrightarrow split maximal torus of $\text{SL}(2)$)
- M_Q : obtained from the middle dimensional cohomology of compact modular varieties of complex dimension ≤ 1

Part III: Control of Eisenstein ideals

Speculation: $I_{\mathcal{D}}$ may be generated by

$$\begin{aligned} & \dim R_{\mathcal{D}} - \dim R_{\mathcal{D}}/I_{\mathcal{D}} \\ &= d + 1 - (1 + \delta - \#S) = d + \#S - \delta \end{aligned}$$

elements (the argument is correct if $R_{\mathcal{D}}$ were smooth).

Theorem 0.8. *For a suitably chosen S , $I_{\mathcal{D}}$ is generated by $d + \#S - \delta$ -elements.*

Proof: Use virtual smoothing argument using “TW-system with global variables”.

TW-system with global variables

Estimate of $I_{\mathcal{D}}$ is done by using a modified system:

$\mathcal{X}_Q =$ the maximal quotient of $(G_{\{v|p\} \cup Q}^{ab})_p$ which is split at $S \cup \{y\}$.

$\tilde{\Delta}_Q =$ the image of Δ_Q in \mathcal{X}_Q .

$\tilde{R}_{\mathcal{D}_Q} = R_{\mathcal{D}_Q} \otimes_{o_\lambda[\Delta_Q]} o_\lambda[\tilde{\Delta}_Q]$, etc. \Rightarrow Modified TW system $(\tilde{R}_{\mathcal{D}_Q}, \tilde{M}_Q)$.

Looks more like Euler systems.

Conditions on S

There is a subspace in the dual cohomology group

$$\mathcal{L}_{\bar{\rho}} \subset H^1(F, \bar{\rho}^\vee(1)) \subset H^1(F, \text{ad}^0 \bar{\rho}(1))$$

(the Leopoldt part). $\dim \mathcal{L}_{\bar{\rho}} \leq \delta$, and S should satisfy

- Fr_y and Fr_v for $v \in S$ are linearly independent in \mathcal{X}_p .
- All classes in $\mathcal{L}_{\bar{\rho}}$ are unramified at S ,

$$\mathcal{L}_{\bar{\rho}} \simeq \prod_{s \in S} H_f^1(F_s, \bar{\rho}^\vee(1)).$$

Consequence: $H_{\mathcal{D}^*}^1(F, \text{ad}^0 \bar{\rho}(1)) \cap \mathcal{L}_{\bar{\rho}} = \{0\}$.

Proof plan of Theorem 0.8

Choose a nice S by the Chebotarev density theorem.
Then the Leopoldt part in $H_{\mathcal{D}^*}^1(F, \text{ad}^0 \bar{\rho}(1))$ is zero,
and there are no obstructions to make $(\tilde{R}_{\mathcal{D}_Q}, \tilde{R}_{\mathcal{D}_Q}/\tilde{I}_{\mathcal{D}_Q})$
larger \Rightarrow Theorem 0.8.

Proposition 0.9. Q : general, $\tilde{I}_{\mathcal{D}_Q}$: the Eisenstein ideal
of $\tilde{R}_{\mathcal{D}_Q}$.

Then $\tilde{I}_{\mathcal{D}_Q}$ is generated by $d + \#S - \delta$ -elements.

Proof: Reduction to the minimal case using the flatness
of $\tilde{R}_{\mathcal{D}_Q}$ and $\tilde{R}_{\mathcal{D}_Q}/\tilde{I}_{\mathcal{D}_Q}$ over $\mathcal{O}_\lambda[\tilde{\Delta}_Q]$.

Part III: Control of Tangent spaces

The tangent space V_Q of $\tilde{R}_{\mathcal{D}_Q}$ is

$$\ker(H^1(F, \text{ad}^0 \bar{\rho}) \rightarrow \prod_{v \notin Q} H^1(F_v, \text{ad}^0 \bar{\rho}) / L_v)$$

for the local tangent spaces $\{L_v\}$.

General Principle (Vague form):

Assume $(R_Q, M_Q)_{Q \in X}$ satisfies the assumption of the complete intersection-freeness criterion.

For a finite set P of finite places, the union of

$\text{image}(V_Q \xrightarrow{\text{res}_Q} \prod_{v \in P} L_v)$ for $Q \in X$ spans $\prod_{v \in P} L_v$.

The principle \Rightarrow Leopoldt

Use TW-system $(\tilde{R}_{\mathcal{D}_Q}, \tilde{M}_Q)$ with global variables.

There is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 V_Q & \xrightarrow{\text{res}_Q} & \prod_{v \in P} L_v \\
 \downarrow & & \prod \text{pr}_v \downarrow \\
 (\tilde{I}_{\mathcal{D}_Q} \otimes k_\lambda)^\vee & \xrightarrow{f_Q} & \prod_{v \in P} L'_v
 \end{array}$$

Here $P = \{v|p\} \cup S$, $L'_v = H^1(F_v, \bar{\chi}) \xleftarrow{\text{pr}_v} L_v$.

$$\dim_{k_\lambda} (\tilde{I}_{\mathcal{D}_Q} \otimes k_\lambda)^\vee = d + \#S - \delta,$$

$$\dim_{k_\lambda} \prod_{v \in P} L'_v = d + \#S.$$

$\exists Q, \text{res}_Q$: surjective $\Rightarrow \exists Q, f_Q$: surjective $\Rightarrow \delta = 0$.

Example of the Principle

Assume $\bar{\rho}$ and $\text{ad}^0 \bar{\rho}$: abs. irred (with large monodromy).

P : a finite set of finite places, \mathcal{D} : minimal

\Rightarrow there is some Q s.t. $H_{\mathcal{D}_Q}^1(F, \text{ad}^0 \bar{\rho}) \xrightarrow{\text{res}_Q} \prod_{v \in P} L_v$ is surjective.

Sketch: Take a subspace $W \subset \prod_{v \in P} L_v$ s.t. the image of res_Q is in W for any Q .

$H_{\tilde{\mathcal{D}}^*}^1(F, \text{ad}^0 \bar{\rho}(1))$: the dual cohomology group, the condition at P is the annihilator of W (modified from $\prod_{v \in P} L_v$ to W).

Using the Chebotarev density theorem, a Taylor-Wiles system $(R_Q, M_Q)_{Q \in X}$ is constructed with

$$r = \dim H_{\mathcal{D}}^1(F, \text{ad}^0 \bar{\rho}),$$

$$r' = \#Q = \dim H_{\tilde{\mathcal{D}}^*}^1(F, \text{ad}^0 \bar{\rho}(1)).$$

$$r' - r = \dim\left(\prod_{v \in P} L_v / W\right)$$

holds by Euler characteristic formula. $r = r'$ by a ring theoretic consideration $\Rightarrow W = \prod_{v \in P} L_v$.

Remark 0.10. *This method depends heavily on the Chebotarev density argument.*

Proof Plan revisited

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