

Pro étale topology

§ Étale cohomology

We began with the question:

Question Given a smooth projective variety X/\mathbb{F}_q ,
how many \mathbb{F}_{q^n} -points does X have for each n ?
That is, calculate

$$Z(X, t) = \exp \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |X(\mathbb{F}_{q^n})| \frac{t^n}{n} \right) \in \mathbb{Q}((t))$$

Theorem (Weil conjectures)

$$\mathbb{Q}(t) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}((t))$$

If X is a (connected) smooth projective variety of dimension d over \mathbb{F}_q .

1) (Rationality) $Z(X, t)$ is a rational function of t .

i.e., its in $\mathbb{Q}(t)$

2) (Functional equation) There is an integer e such that

$$Z(X, q^{-d}t^{-e}) = \pm q^{ed/2} t^e Z(X, t)$$

3) (Riemann Hypothesis) We can write

$$Z(X, t) = \frac{P_1(t) P_2(t) \dots P_{2d-1}(t)}{P_0(t) P_2(t) \dots P_{2d}(t)}$$

with $P_i(t) \in \mathbb{Z}[t]$, such that the roots of $P_i(t)$ have absolute value $q^{-i/2}$. Moreover, $P_0(t) = 1-t$ and

(Betti numbers)

$$P_{2d}(t) = 1 - q^d t.$$

4) If X comes from a smooth projective variety over $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)} \subset \mathbb{C}$

$$\deg P_i(t) = \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} H_{\text{sing}}^i(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q})$$

The strategy was to develop a cohomology theory

$H^i: (\text{Varieties}/k)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{graded } \mathbb{Q}\text{-vector spaces}$
for arbitrary varieties over any field k , which satisfies the following when X is smooth and projective.

- 1) (Finiteness) $\dim_{\mathbb{Q}} H^i(X)$ is finite, and $H^i(X) = 0$ for $i \notin \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2 \dim X\}$
- 2) (Poincaré Duality) There is a canonical isomorphism $H^{2 \dim X}(X) \cong \mathbb{Q}$ and a natural perfect pairing $H^i(X) \times H^{2d-i}(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ (i.e., $H^i(X) \cong \text{hom}_{\mathbb{Q}}(H^{2d-i}(X), \mathbb{Q})$).
- 3) (Lefschetz Trace Formula)

$$|X(\mathbb{F}_{q^n})| = \sum_{i=0}^{2 \dim X} (-1)^i \text{Tr}(\phi_i^n)$$

where $X_{\mathbb{F}_{q^n}} := X \times_{\mathbb{F}_q} \mathbb{F}_{q^n}$, $\phi: X_{\mathbb{F}_q} \rightarrow X_{\mathbb{F}_q}$ is the Frobenius,

and $\phi_i^n: H^i(X_{\mathbb{F}_q}) \rightarrow H^i(X_{\mathbb{F}_q})$ is the induced morphism.

- 4) (Compatibility) If $k = \mathbb{C}$, then $H^i(X)$ is isomorphic to singular cohomology. Then,

(Lefschetz Trace Formula) \Rightarrow (Rationality)

(Poincaré Duality) \Rightarrow (Functional Equation)

(Compatibility) \Rightarrow (Betti numbers)

Eigenvalues $\alpha_{i,j}$ of ϕ_i on $H^i(X_{\mathbb{F}_q})$ have $|\alpha_{i,j}| = q^{-i/2} \Rightarrow$ (Riemann Hypothesis)

Remarks

- ① (Serre) Due to the existence of super-singular elliptic curves, there cannot be any cohomology theory with the above properties taking values in \mathbb{Q} -vector spaces.

$$E \times E^{\text{mult.}} \rightarrow E$$

$$H^1(E, \mathbb{Q}) \quad \mathbb{Q}\text{-algebra}$$

Super-singular \Rightarrow not split

$$\mathbb{Q} \rightarrow H^1_{\text{ét}}$$

- ② For curves, étale cohomology with \mathbb{Z}/ℓ^n -coefficients has Poincaré Duality and

$$\text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}/\ell^n} H^i_{\text{ét}}(X_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_n}, \mathbb{Z}/\ell^n) = \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} H^i_{\text{sing}}(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q})$$

So we define

$$H^i_{\text{ét}}(X, \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}) := \left(\varprojlim_{n \geq 1} H^i_{\text{ét}}(X, \mathbb{Z}/\ell^n) \right) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}$$

$$\mathbb{Q}_{\ell} = \varprojlim \mathbb{Z}/\ell^n = \mathbb{Z}_{\ell}$$

Successes

Theorem The \mathbb{Q}_{ℓ} -vector spaces $H^i_{\text{ét}}(X, \mathbb{Q}_{\ell})$ satisfy (Finiteness), (Poincaré Duality), (Lefschetz), (Riemann Hypothesis).

Much stronger form of Poincaré Duality:

Theorem For any separated finite type morphism between noetherian \mathbb{Z}/ℓ^n -schemes $f: Y \rightarrow X$, and object $E \in D(X_{\text{ét}}, \mathbb{Z}/\ell^n)$ there are adjunctions

$$f^* : D(X_{\text{ét}}, \mathbb{Z}/\ell^n) \rightleftarrows D(Y_{\text{ét}}, \mathbb{Z}/\ell^n) : f_*$$

$$f_! : D(Y_{\text{ét}}, \mathbb{Z}/\ell^n) \rightleftarrows D(X_{\text{ét}}, \mathbb{Z}/\ell^n) : f^!$$

$$-\otimes E : D(X_{\text{ét}}, \mathbb{Z}/\ell^n) \rightleftarrows D(X_{\text{ét}}, \mathbb{Z}/\ell^n) : \text{hom}(E, -)$$

satisfying a number of properties such as proper base change, smooth base change, etc...

$j: U \hookrightarrow X$ j : extension by zero

$\hookrightarrow H_c^i(X, \mathbb{Z}/\ell^n)$
 $i: \mathbb{Z} \xrightarrow{\text{dual}} X, i^!$

To have these functors for \mathbb{Z}_ℓ -coefficients takes some work.

Def. For a scheme X , define $\text{Shv}_{\text{et}}(X)^{\mathbb{N}}$ to be the category of \mathbb{N} -indexed projective systems in $\text{Shv}_{\text{et}}(X)$, i.e., $(\dots \rightarrow F_2 \rightarrow F_1)$. The derived category of $\text{Shv}_{\text{et}}(X)^{\mathbb{N}}$ is denoted by $D(X_{\text{et}}^{\mathbb{N}})$.
 Write

$D(X_{\text{et}}, (\mathbb{Z}_\ell)_\bullet) \subseteq D(X_{\text{et}}^{\mathbb{N}})$ for the full subcategory of those objects $(\dots \rightarrow K_2 \rightarrow K_1)$ such that $K_m \in D(X_{\text{et}}, \mathbb{Z}/\ell^m)$ and $K_m \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}/\ell^m}^L \mathbb{Z}/\ell^{m-1} \rightarrow K_{m-1}$ is a quasi-isomorphism.

Theorem (Ekedahl) The functors $f^*, f_*, f_!, f^!, \otimes, \text{hom}$ can be extended to $D(X_{\text{et}}, (\mathbb{Z}_\ell)_\bullet)$ in a sensible way.

Theorem Let X be a connected scheme, $\bar{x} \in X$ a geometric point, Fet_X the category of finite étale X -schemes, and consider the functor

$$F: \text{Fet}_X \rightarrow \text{Set} \quad Y \mapsto |Y_{\bar{x}}|$$

The étale fundamental group of X is the profinite group $\pi_1^{\text{ét}}(X, \bar{x}) := \text{Aut}(F)$

and F induces an equivalence of categories

$$\text{Fet}_X \cong \text{Fin} - \pi_1^{\text{ét}} - \text{Set}$$

category of finite sets equipped with a continuous $\pi_1^{\text{ét}}$ -action.

Linear version: $\text{Loc}_X(\mathcal{R}) = \text{sheaves } F \text{ of } \mathcal{R}\text{-modules s.t. } \exists \{f_i: U_i \rightarrow X\} \text{ each } f_i^* F \text{ is iso. to constant sheaf } \mathcal{R}^n \text{ for } n \in \mathbb{N}$

Prop.

$$\mathbb{Q}_c \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}_c} \varinjlim \text{Loc}_X(\mathbb{Z}_c^n) \cong \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{continuous lin. dim.} \\ \mathbb{Q}_c\text{-linear representations} \\ \text{of } \pi_1^{\text{ét}}(X) \end{array} \right\}$$

defined up to multiplication by $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow (\dots \rightarrow F_3 \rightarrow F_2 \rightarrow F_1) \hookrightarrow \pi_1^{\text{ét}} \text{ cont.} \rightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{Q}_c)$
 $\uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow$
 $\mathbb{Z}_c \quad \mathbb{Z}_c \quad \mathbb{Z}_c$

Shortcomings

Problem ① The definition $H_{\text{ét}}^i(X, \mathbb{Q}_c) := \left(\varinjlim H_{\text{ét}}^i(X, \mathbb{Z}_c^n) \right) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}_c} \mathbb{Q}_c$ is ad hoc, not pleasant to work with.

② The categories $\mathcal{D}(X_{\text{ét}}, (\mathbb{Z}_c)_*)$ are horrible to work with.

③ $\mathbb{Q}_c \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}_c} \varinjlim \text{Loc}_X(\mathbb{Z}_c^n)$ is not nice.

Question Why can't we use sheaves with \mathbb{Z}_c -coefficients?

Representability!

Finite coefficients work well due to:

$$\text{Fet}_X \cong \text{Loc}_X(\text{FinSet})$$

If we want to work with \mathbb{Z}_c -coefficients we should allow/add inverse limits in Fet_X

Pro-étale schemes

Def. A morphism $\text{Spec}(B) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(A)$ of affine schemes is pro-étale if there exists a cofiltered system $(B_\alpha)_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$ of étale finite presentation A -algebras such that $B = \varinjlim B_\alpha$. The system (B_α) is called a presentation for B .

Exercise 1.

1. Show that $\text{Primes}(\varinjlim B_\alpha) = \varprojlim \text{Primes}(B_\alpha)$
2. Show that for any $\bar{f} \in B_\alpha$ with image $\bar{f} \in \varinjlim B_\alpha$, the set $D(\bar{f}) \in \text{Primes}(\varinjlim B_\alpha)$ of primes not containing \bar{f} is the preimage of the set $D(f) \in \text{Primes}(B_\alpha)$ of primes not containing f .
3. Deduce that $\text{Spec}(\varinjlim B_\alpha) = \varprojlim \text{Spec}(B_\alpha)$

Exercise 2

Let k be an algebraically closed field. Using Ex 1 show that for every pro-finite set S , \exists a pro-étale k -scheme $\text{Spec}(B) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ with $\text{Spec}(B) \cong S$.

$S = \varprojlim S_i$
 \uparrow limit topology \uparrow finite, discrete topology

Exercise 3 Let k be a field, $k \hookrightarrow k^{\text{sep}}$ a ^(or any algebraic) separable extension. Show that $\text{Spec}(k^{\text{sep}}) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(k)$ is pro-étale.

Exercise 4 Suppose $\text{Spec}(B) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(A)$, $\text{Spec}(C) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(A)$ are pro-étale. Show that $\text{Spec}(B) \times_{\text{Spec}(A)} \text{Spec}(C) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(A)$ is pro-étale.

(Birkhoff)

Exercise 5 Recall: If L/h is Galois then $\text{Spec}(L \otimes_h L) \cong \coprod_{\text{Gal}(L/h)} \text{Spec}(L)$.
 Recall: k^{sep}/k is the union of the finite Galois subextensions $k^{\text{sep}}/L/h$, and $\text{Gal}(k^{\text{sep}}/h) = \varprojlim \text{Gal}(L/h)$

Show that $\text{Spec}(k^{\text{sep}} \otimes_h k^{\text{sep}}) \cong \text{Gal}(k^{\text{sep}}/h)$ as topological spaces.

Theorem Let X be a connected noetherian scheme.

$$1. \quad H_{\text{proet}}^i(X, \mathbb{Q}_\ell) \cong H_{\text{et}}^i(X, \mathbb{Q}_\ell)$$

\uparrow sheaf cohomology of the constant sheaf \mathbb{Q}_ℓ
 \nwarrow $(\varprojlim H_{\text{et}}^i(X, \mathbb{Z}/\ell^r\mathbb{Z})) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}_\ell$

2. The six functors $R^*, P_*, L_!, L^!, \otimes, \text{hom}$ work with Per the honest derived category of sheaves $D(X_{\text{proet}}, \mathbb{Z}_\ell)$

3. If $X = \text{Spec}(h)$ is the spectrum of a field, the subcategory of qcqs objects $X_{\text{proet}}^{\text{qcqs}}$ is canonically isomorphic to the category of profinite continuous (not necessarily finite) $\text{Gal}(k^{\text{sep}}/h)$ -sets

$$\text{Spec}(h)_{\text{proet}}^{\text{qcqs}} \cong \text{Pro-Fin-Gal-Set}.$$

4. Honest \mathbb{Q}_ℓ -local systems on X are equivalent to continuous representations of $\pi_{1, \text{proet}}(X)$ on finite dimensional \mathbb{Q}_ℓ -vector spaces.

Ex. 6

$\text{Spec}(A_p) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(A)$ is pro-étale

($\text{Spec}(A_p^{\text{sh}}) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(A)$ as well)

||

cdm $\Gamma(U, \mathcal{O}_U)$

$\text{Spec}(k[x]) \xrightarrow{\text{sp}} U \rightarrow X$
étale

~~$\{ \text{Spec}(A_p^{\text{sh}}) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(A) \}_{p \in \text{Spec}(A)}$~~ ← not finite.

Next work:

$\{ \text{Spec } B_i \rightarrow \text{Spec } A \}$

$\forall \{ \text{Spec } C_j \rightarrow \text{Spec } B_i \}$
 $\Gamma \dots$

locally contractible topological spaces

locally compact top. spaces.

cdm. vs. cdm

v-topology vs h-topology.

A is a Gorenstein