

GLOBAL CFT

§1. The function field analogy.

WARNING: this is no more than an analogy!

There are (as of yet) no theorems/formalisation to view the analogy as a special case of a 'global' statement.

Basic idea

\mathbb{Z} looks a lot like $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$: they're PIDs with infinitely many primes & finitely many units.

So field extensions of $\mathbb{Q} = \text{Frac} \mathbb{Z}$ should behave like field extensions of $\mathbb{F}_p(x) = \text{Frac} \mathbb{F}_p[x]$.

Fin dim extensions of \mathbb{Q} are number fields.

Fin dim extensions of $\mathbb{F}_p(x)$ are function fields of curves (recall $k(x) = \text{Frac} \Gamma(x)$)

Analogy goes much deeper:

eg. • number fields have a genus, like curves

• curves have Weil zeta functions, like number fields have Dedekind zeta functions (eg. Riemann zeta!)

Aside: one possible attempt to formalise this is using \mathbb{F}_1 , the 'field with one element'. Number fields then become function fields of curves over \mathbb{F}_1 & one ideally can eg. prove RH by doing intersection theory on the 'surface' $\mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_1} \mathbb{Z}$.

Instead of working over \mathbb{F}_p , one can try to look at curves over \mathbb{C} instead & use complex geometry.

Dictionary

Number fields

\mathbb{Z}

\mathbb{Q}

p prime

$\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$

K number field

\mathcal{O}_K

~~$\text{Spec } \mathcal{O}_K \rightarrow \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$~~

Arithmetic curves

$\mathbb{F}_p[x]$

$\mathbb{F}_p(x)$

$y \in \mathbb{F}_p$

$A'_{\mathbb{F}_p}$

function field of curve C

\mathcal{O}_C

Complex curves

\mathcal{O}_C (holomorphic functions)

meromorphic functions

$y \in C$

A'_C

function field of curve C

\mathcal{O}_C

Further remarks The place at ∞ of \mathbb{Z} is like the point at ∞ of $\mathbb{CP}^1 = \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$

& the morphism $\text{Spec } \mathcal{O}_K \rightarrow \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$ is like $\text{Spec } \mathcal{O}_C \rightarrow \mathbb{CP}^1$ given by the Riemann existence theorem: every complex curve is a branched cover of the Riemann sphere.

(So rings of integers of n° fields are like branched covers of \mathbb{Z} , & ramification in the number-theoretic sense is like geometric ramification)

How to ~~generate~~ interpret CFT in the setting of complex curves?

§2. Local systems

recall that Artin reciprocity says that for an abelian extension $\mathbb{Q} \rightarrow K$, there's an isomorphism

$$\text{Frob: } \underbrace{\{ \text{ray class gp. of } K \}}_{\text{congruence conditions}} \xrightarrow{\sim} \underbrace{\text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q})}_{\text{splitting behavior of primes}}$$

Let's start by focusing on the RHS.

Schemes have étale fundamental groups $\pi_1^{\text{ét}} X$, defined via étale covers.

If K is a (number) field then $\pi_1^{\text{ét}} \text{Spec } K \cong \text{Gal}(K^{\text{sep}}/K)$ the absolute Galois group of K .

$$\left[\text{For reasonable } X/K \text{ there's an exact seq. } \right]$$
$$1 \rightarrow \pi_1^{\text{ét}}(X^{\text{sep}}) \rightarrow \pi_1^{\text{ét}}(X) \rightarrow \text{Gal}(K^{\text{sep}}/K) \rightarrow 1$$

If X is a variety over \mathbb{C} , one can regard it as a topological space using the analytic topology & compute its usual fundamental group $\pi_1 X$.

Then $\pi_1^{\text{ét}} X$ is the profinite completion of $\pi_1 X$.

Takeaway across the FF analogy, Galois groups behave like (analytic) fundamental groups.

If Σ is a Riemann surface, a local system on Σ is a locally constant (in analytic topology) sheaf of vector spaces L .

Fact when $\dim(\text{fibres of } L)$ is constant, call this the rank of L .

Prop $\left\{ \text{reps of } \pi_1 X \text{ on } GL_n \right\} \xleftrightarrow{1:1} \left\{ \text{rank } n \text{ local systems} \right\}$

Proof idea

if L is a local system with fibre V ,

fix a point $x \in X$. Given a loop σ based at x we get a local system on $[0,1]$, which is constant, & hence an isomorphism $kxV_0 \cong V_1 \cong V$.

This gives, after picking a local trivialisation, an element $p \in GL(V)$.

Local systems on X^n of rank n fit together into a stack $\text{Loc}_n X$, the character variety of maps

A module over this stack should be something like a representation of $\pi_1 X$.

$\pi_1 X \rightarrow GL_n$

§3. Bundles

Now let's think about how to encode ray class groups geometrically.

If Σ is a curve, a rank n bundle is a ^{holomorphic} complex vector bundle of rank n .

Line bundles are rank 1 bundles

There's a classifying stack $B\text{un}_n \Sigma$ which classifies rank n bundles.

For $n=1$, $B\text{un}_1 \Sigma \cong \text{Pic} \Sigma$ the Picard stack.

Black box

The geometric analogue of representations of the ray class group ^{in GL_n} should be the category of D-modules on $B\text{un}_n$

Can be made more precise using adeles:
Both are locally double coset spaces.

(Weil uniformisation theorem)

End up with something like ℓ -adic perverse sheaves on a curve/ \mathbb{F}_p ,

and perverse sheaves on a ~~Riemann surface~~ smooth complex variety are the same as

D-modules by the Riemann-Hilbert correspondence.

A D-module is a device which encodes differential equations on a variety.

More precisely, there's a sheaf of differential operators $\text{Diff } X$ & a D -module is a module over this algebra.

Locally, $\text{Diff } \mathbb{C}^n \simeq \mathbb{C}\langle x_1, \dots, x_n, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \rangle$
the n th Weyl algebra.

So D -modules on \mathbb{C}^n are the same as modules over $\text{Diff } W_n$.

§4 Geometric CFT

Th^m (Lanman, Rothstein) if Σ is a ~~Riemann~~ smooth complex curve then there's an equivalence

$$\text{Mod}(\text{Loc}, \Sigma) \simeq \text{DMod}(\text{Pic } \Sigma)$$

of derived categories.

Even better, this takes skyscraper sheaves on the LHS (ie. local systems on Σ) to "Hecke eigenbeaves"

More generally we have

$$\text{Mod}(\text{Loc}_n, \Sigma) \simeq \text{DMod}(\text{Bun}_n \Sigma)$$

this is "geometric Langlands for GL_n "