

# The Grothendieck $p$ -curvature conjecture - variations No Boundaries

But: this talk will be all about boundaries

Let  $X/\mathbb{C}$  smooth, alg variety

$(V, \nabla)$  a vector bundle + integrable (flat)  
connection  $\nabla: V \rightarrow V \otimes \Omega^1_{X/\mathbb{C}}$

$\text{Ker}(\nabla)$  on  $X(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow$  a local system  $\rightarrow f(V, \nabla): \Pi_1(x) \rightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{C})$

E.g.  $X = \mathbb{G}_m = \mathbb{C}^* = \mathbb{C} - \{0\}$

$$V = \mathcal{O}_x \quad \nabla(f) = df - a \frac{dz}{z}, \quad \text{ker}(\nabla) = z^a \cdot \mathbb{C}$$

$\downarrow$   
 $a \in \mathbb{C}$

$$\begin{aligned} f(V, \nabla): \Pi_1(\mathbb{G}_m) &\rightarrow \mathbb{C}^* \\ \mathbb{Z} &\ni \gamma \mapsto e^{2\pi i a} \end{aligned}$$

Suppose  $X, V, \nabla$  defined over a number field  $K$

$\leadsto$  reduce mod  $p$   $X_p, V_p, \nabla_p$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Eg. } a \in K \quad \nabla(f) &= df - a \frac{dz}{z} \text{ mod } p \\ &\text{OK } \forall p \end{aligned}$$

The  $p$ -curvature  $\psi_p$   $\psi_p \equiv 0 \Leftrightarrow (V, \Delta)_p$  has a full set of algebraic solutions

$$\text{If } D \in T_{X_p} \quad \nabla(D) : V \rightarrow V \otimes \Omega^1_{X/\mathbb{C}} \xrightarrow{\langle , D \rangle} V \\ D \stackrel{\parallel}{\mapsto} D_{\text{Lie}}(O_{X_p}, O_X)$$

$$D^p \in T_{X_p} \quad \psi_p(D) := \nabla(D^p) - \nabla(D)^p \in \text{End}_{G_{X_p}} V_p$$

Conj (Grothendieck): If  $\psi_p \equiv 0 \ \forall p \Rightarrow \mathcal{F}(V, \nabla)$  has finite image

$a \in K$  - number field

$$\psi_p(z \frac{d}{dz})(1) = \bar{a} - \bar{a}^p \pmod{p}$$

$\psi_p \equiv 0 \Leftrightarrow \bar{a} - \bar{a}^p = 0 \Leftrightarrow \bar{a} \in \mathbb{F}_p \Leftrightarrow$  In  $\mathbb{Q}(a)$  almost all primes  $p$  split completely

$$\Leftrightarrow a \in \mathbb{Q} \\ \Rightarrow e^{2\pi i a} - a \text{ root of } f$$

Thm (Katz) If  $\psi_p \equiv 0 \ \forall p$  then  $\mathcal{F}(V, \nabla)$  has finite local monodromy

In general,  $X \hookrightarrow \overline{X}$  = compact  
st.  $\overline{X} \setminus X$  is a normal crossing



The proof is similar to  $G_m$  case one shows  $(V, \nabla)$  has regular singular points.

Cor Thm (Farb-K) Let  $A_g$  the moduli space of principally polarized abelian var's. If  $g \geq 2$  the conjecture holds for  $A_g$ .

More general: Suppose  $X = \Gamma \backslash G(\mathbb{R}) / K_\infty$  locally symmetric with  $G(\mathbb{R}) / K_\infty$  Hermitian symmetric,  $\Gamma \subseteq G(\mathbb{R})$  arithmetic

Thm (Farb-K) Suppose that  $G$  is simple.

If Either i)  $G$  has  $\mathbb{R}$ -rank  $\geq 2$  and is classical ( $A, B, C, D$ )  
or ii) \_\_\_\_\_ and  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank  $\geq 1$

Then the conjecture holds for  $X$ .

Pf of (ii):  $\bullet X$  has toroidal compactifications  $\underline{X} \hookrightarrow \overline{X}$   
 $\overline{X} \setminus X \subseteq \overline{X}$  incl

$\bullet \text{rk}_{\mathbb{Q}} G \geq 1 \Rightarrow \overline{X} \setminus X \neq \emptyset$

$\bullet$  a loop around a boundary component is given by a unipotent  $1 \neq \gamma \in \overline{\Gamma} = \overline{\Pi}_1(X)$

$$f(V, \nabla): \Pi_1(X) \rightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{C})$$

By Katz,  $f(V, \nabla)(\gamma)$  has finite order  
 $\Rightarrow f(V, \nabla)(\gamma^i) = 1$  for some  $i > 0$

$\Rightarrow \ker f(V, \nabla)$  is infinite  $\Rightarrow \ker$  has finite index  $\Rightarrow$  conj

Change setup: Suppose  $X/\mathbb{C}$  is a closed complex curve which is generic

- $\text{Spec } \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_g/\mathbb{Q}$   
has Zariski dense image
- or, • Field of definition  $K$  of  $\mathbb{C}$  satisfies  
 $\text{tr deg } K/\mathbb{Q} \geq \dim \mathcal{M}_g$

Thm (Ananth Shankar): Suppose  $(V, \nabla)$  or  $X/\mathbb{C}$  satisfies  $\psi_p \equiv 0 \quad \forall p$ . If  $\gamma \subseteq X$  a simple closed curve then  $\mathfrak{f}_{(V, \nabla)}(\gamma)$  has finite order.

Idea:  $\gamma \subseteq X$



Q: Does this imply  $\text{Im } \mathfrak{f}_{(V, \nabla)}$  is finite?

Thm (Koberda-Santharoubang) No.