

Connectedness of Kisin varieties associated to absolutely irreducible Galois representations

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Notations

- K : a finite extension of \mathbb{Q}_p with $p > 2$
- $\Gamma_K := \text{Gal}(\bar{K}|K)$ absolute Galois group of K
- \mathbb{F} : a finite field of characteristic p
- $\bar{\rho} : \Gamma_K \rightarrow \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F})$, a n -dimensional continuous representation of Γ_K .
- $\text{Rep}_{\mathbb{F}_p}(\Gamma_K)$: category of finite dimensional continuous \mathbb{F}_p -representations of Γ_K .
- FGp_K : category of (commutative) finite group schemes over K which are p -torsion.
- There is a natural equivalence of categories:

$$\text{Rep}_{\mathbb{F}_p}(\Gamma_K) \simeq \text{FGp}_K.$$

In particular, $\bar{\rho}$ can be viewed as a finite group scheme over K .

Kisin constructed a projective scheme $C(\bar{\rho})$ over \mathbb{F} such that for any $\mathbb{F}'|\mathbb{F}$,

$$C(\bar{\rho})(\mathbb{F}') := \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{finite flat group schemes over } \mathcal{O}_K \\ \text{with generic fiber } \bar{\rho} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \mathbb{F}' \end{array} \right\}.$$

When the ramification index $e(K|\mathbb{Q}_p) < p - 1$, Raynaud showed that $C(\bar{\rho})$ has at most one point.

Motivation: modularity lifting

Kisin varieties \longleftrightarrow Local deformation ring

$\bar{\rho}$ via p -adic Hodge theory

Recall $\bar{\rho} : \Gamma_K \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F})$.

- k : the residue field of K
- π be a uniformizer of K
- $\pi_n := \pi^{\frac{1}{p^n}}$ be a compatible system of p^n -th root of π for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.
- $K_\infty := \bigcup_n K(\pi_n)$.

Theorem (Fontaine-Wintenberger)

There exists a canonical isomorphism of absolute Galois groups

$$\Gamma_{K_\infty} \simeq \Gamma_{k((u))}$$

where $\Gamma_{K_\infty} = \mathrm{Gal}(\bar{K}_\infty | K_\infty)$ and $\Gamma_{k((u))} = \mathrm{Gal}(k((u))^{\mathrm{sep}} | k((u)))$.

$\bar{\rho}|_{\Gamma_{K_\infty}}$ can be viewed as a \mathbb{F} -representation of $\Gamma_{k((u))}$.

Classification of mod p -representations of $\Gamma_{k((u))}$

Let φ be the absolute Frobenius on $k((u))$.

An étale φ -module over $k((u))$ is a pair (N, Φ) where

- N is a $k((u))$ -vector space of finite rank,
- $\Phi : N \rightarrow N$ is semi-linear with respect to φ ,

such that $1 \otimes \Phi : \varphi^*(N) \rightarrow N$ is an isomorphism.

Let $\text{Mod}_{k((u))}^{\varphi, \text{ét}}$ be the category of étale φ -modules over $k((u))$.

Theorem (Fontaine)

There is an equivalence of categories

$$\text{Rep}_{\mathbb{F}_p}(\Gamma_{k((u))}) \simeq \text{Mod}_{k((u))}^{\varphi, \text{ét}}.$$

Breuil-Kisin classification of finite flat group schemes over \mathcal{O}_K

- $\text{FFGp}_{\mathcal{O}_K}$: the category of finite flat group schemes over \mathcal{O}_K which is killed by p .
- $\text{Mod}_{k[[u]]}^{\varphi}$: the category of finite free $k[[u]]$ -modules \mathfrak{M} with an injective semi-linear map $\Phi : \mathfrak{M} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}$ such that the cokernel of $\varphi^*\mathfrak{M} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}$ is killed by u^e , where $e = e(K|\mathbb{Q}_p)$.

Note that $\mathfrak{M}[\frac{1}{u}]$ is an étale φ -module over $k((u))$, for $\mathfrak{M} \in \text{Mod}_{k[[u]]}^{\varphi}$.

Breuil-Kisin classification of finite flat group schemes over \mathcal{O}_K

Theorem (Breuil-Kisin)

There is an equivalence of categories

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{FFGp}_{\mathcal{O}_K} &\stackrel{BK}{\simeq} \mathrm{Mod}_{k[[u]]}^{\varphi} \\ \mathcal{G} &\mapsto \mathrm{BK}(\mathcal{G}) \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, for $\mathcal{G} \in \mathrm{FFGp}_{\mathcal{O}_K}$, then there is a canonical isomorphism of étale φ -modules over $k((u))$:

$$N_{\mathcal{G}_K(-1)} \simeq \mathrm{BK}(\mathcal{G})\left[\frac{1}{u}\right].$$

Summary

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \bar{\rho} \in \mathrm{Rep}_{\mathbb{F}_p}(\Gamma_K) & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{Rep}_{\mathbb{F}_p}(\Gamma_{K_\infty}) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathrm{Rep}_{\mathbb{F}_p}(\Gamma_{k((u))}) \\
 \uparrow \sim & & \downarrow \sim \\
 \mathrm{FGp}_K & & \mathrm{Mod}_{k((u))}^{\varphi, \mathrm{et}} \\
 \uparrow \begin{array}{l} \text{generic} \\ \text{fiber} \end{array} & & \uparrow (-)[\frac{1}{u}](1) \\
 \mathrm{FFGp}_{\mathcal{O}_K} & \xrightarrow[\sim]{BK} & \mathrm{Mod}_{k[[u]]}^{\varphi}
 \end{array}$$

$\bar{\rho}(-1)|_{\Gamma_{K_\infty}}$ in terms of an étale φ -module

Recall: $\bar{\rho}|_{\Gamma_{K_\infty}} : \Gamma_{k((u))} \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F})$.

Let $\varphi : \mathbb{F} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p} k((u)) \xrightarrow{1 \otimes \varphi} \mathbb{F} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p} k((u))$.

Hence $\bar{\rho}|_{\Gamma_{K_\infty}}(-1)$ can be viewed as an étale φ -module

$N_{\bar{\rho}} = (N_{\bar{\rho}}, \Phi_{\bar{\rho}})$ with \mathbb{F} -action. More precisely,

- $N_{\bar{\rho}}$ is a free $\mathbb{F} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p} k((u))$ -module of rank n ;
- $\Phi_{\bar{\rho}} : N_{\bar{\rho}} \rightarrow N_{\bar{\rho}}$ is semi-linear with respect to φ such that $\varphi^* N_{\bar{\rho}} \rightarrow N_{\bar{\rho}}$ is an isomorphism.

Let $G = \text{Res}_{k|\mathbb{F}_p} \text{GL}_n$.

The affine Grassmannian for G is the ind-projective scheme over \mathbb{F}_p such that for any $\mathbb{F}'|\mathbb{F}_p$:

$$\text{Grass}_G(\mathbb{F}') = G(\mathbb{F}'((u))) / G(\mathbb{F}'[[u]]).$$

This parametrizes lattices inside $\mathbb{F}' \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p} k((u))^n$.

Kisin variety in terms of moduli space of lattices

For any $\mathbb{F}'|\mathbb{F}$,

$$C(\bar{\rho})(\mathbb{F}') = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathfrak{M} \subset N_{\bar{\rho}} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \mathbb{F}' \text{ lattice such that} \\ u^e \mathfrak{M} \subset \Phi_{\bar{\rho}}(\varphi^* \mathfrak{M}) \subset \mathfrak{M} \end{array} \right\},$$

where $\Phi_{\bar{\rho}}(\varphi^* \mathfrak{M})$ denote the image of $1 \otimes \Phi_{\bar{\rho}} : \varphi^* \mathfrak{M} \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}$.

\rightsquigarrow Kisin variety is a closed subscheme inside the affine Grassmannian $\mathcal{G}rass_G$.

More generally, we consider a closed subscheme $C_{\mu}(\bar{\rho})$ inside $C(\bar{\rho})$:

$$C_{\mu}(\bar{\rho})(\mathbb{F}') := \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathfrak{M} \subset N_{\bar{\rho}} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \mathbb{F}' \text{ lattice such that the relative} \\ \text{position of } \Phi_{\bar{\rho}}(\varphi^* \mathfrak{M}) \text{ and } \mathfrak{M} \text{ is controlled by } \mu \end{array} \right\}$$

where μ is a cocharacter of G .

Relation of Kisin varieties and deformation rings

$R_{\bar{\rho}}^{fl, \nu}$: flat deformation ring of $\bar{\rho}$ such that Hodge-Tate weights are given by ν , which is a cocharacter of $\text{Res}_{K|\mathbb{Q}_p} \text{GL}_n$.

To ν , we can associate a cocharacter of G :

$$\mu(\nu) : \mathbb{G}_{m, |\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p} \xrightarrow{\nu \otimes \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p} \text{Res}_{\mathcal{O}_K|\mathbb{Z}_p}(\text{GL}_n)_{|\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p} \rightarrow \text{Res}_{k|\mathbb{F}_p}(\text{GL}_n)_{|\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p}.$$

Theorem (Kisin)

There is a bijection:

$$\pi_0(C_{\mu(\nu)}(\bar{\rho})) \simeq \pi_0(\text{Spec}(R_{\bar{\rho}}^{fl, \nu}[\frac{1}{p}])).$$

Question: $\pi_0(C_{\mu}(\bar{\rho})) = ?$

Multiplicative and étale rank of finite flat groups over \mathcal{O}_K

- \mathcal{G} : a finite flat group scheme over \mathcal{O}_K ;
- There is a connected-étale exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^0 \rightarrow \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^{\text{ét}} \rightarrow 0.$$

- Cartier dual \mathcal{G}^\vee : for any scheme T over \mathcal{O}_K ,

$$\mathcal{G}^\vee(T) := \text{Hom}_{T\text{-gp}}(\mathcal{G}_T, \mathbb{G}_{m,T}).$$

We have $\mathcal{G}^{\vee\vee} = \mathcal{G}$.

- $\mathcal{G}^m := (\mathcal{G}^{\vee,\text{ét}})^\vee \subset \mathcal{G}$ is the maximal multiplicative subgroup scheme of \mathcal{G} .

Multiplicative and étale rank of finite flat groups over \mathcal{O}_K

Define:

- $d_m(\mathcal{G}) := \text{rank} \mathcal{G}^m$ multiplicative rank of \mathcal{G} ,
- $d_{et}(\mathcal{G}) := \text{rank} \mathcal{G}^{et}$ étale rank of \mathcal{G} .

Suppose $(\mathfrak{M}, \Phi) = \text{BK}(\mathcal{G})$.

- \mathcal{G} is étale (i.e. $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}^{et}$) if and only if $\Phi(\varphi^* \mathfrak{M}) = u^e \mathfrak{M}$;
- \mathcal{G} is multiplicative (i.e. $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}^m$) if and only if $\Phi(\varphi^* \mathfrak{M}) = \mathfrak{M}$.

Examples:

- $\mathcal{G} = \underline{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}$ constant, $d_m(\mathcal{G}) = 0$, $d_{et}(\mathcal{G}) = 1$;
- $\mathcal{G} = \mu_p$ multiplicative, $d_m(\mathcal{G}) = 1$, $d_{et}(\mathcal{G}) = 0$.

Kisin's conjecture on the set of connected components

$C_\mu(\bar{\rho})^{d_m, d_{et}}$: closed subscheme of $C_\mu(\bar{\rho})$ which parametrizes finite flat group schemes of multiplicative rank d_m and étale rank d_{et} .

$$C_\mu(\bar{\rho}) = \coprod_{d_m, d_{et} \in \mathbb{N}^2} C_\mu(\bar{\rho})^{d_m, d_{et}}$$

Conjecture (Kisin)

If $\bar{\rho}$ is indecomposable, then $C_\mu(\bar{\rho})^{d_m, d_{et}}$ is connected for any (d_m, d_{et}) . In particular, if $\bar{\rho}$ is irreducible, then $C_\mu(\bar{\rho})$ is connected.

$n = 2$

- Kisin: K is totally ramified, μ is of particular form,
- Gee, Imai: any K , μ is of particular form,
- Hellmann: $\bar{\rho}$ irreducible, any K , any μ .

Question: What happens for $n \geq 3$?

Group theoretic notations

- $G = \text{Res}_{k|\mathbb{F}_p}(\text{GL}_n)$.
- T : a maximal torus of G .
- $X_*(T)$: group of cocharacters of T . $X_*(T) \simeq \mathbb{Z}^{n, \text{Hom}(k, \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p)}$.
- $X_*(T)^+ \subset X_*(T)$: subset of dominant cocharacters of T with respect to a fixed Borel subgroup B containing T .

$$X_*(T)^+ \simeq \prod_{\tau \in \text{Hom}(k, \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p)} \mathbb{Z}_+^n$$
$$\mu \mapsto (\mu_\tau)_\tau$$

with $\mu_\tau = (\mu_{\tau,1}, \dots, \mu_{\tau,n}) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n$ where
 $\mathbb{Z}_+^n := \{(a_i)_i \in \mathbb{Z}^n \mid a_1 \geq \dots \geq a_n\}$.

Cartan decomposition inside the affine Grassmannian

Let $L := \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p((u))$, $\mathcal{O}_L := \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p[[u]]$.

We have the Cartan decomposition

$$G(L) = \coprod_{\mu \in X_*(T)^+} G(\mathcal{O}_L)u^\mu G(\mathcal{O}_L)$$

This gives a stratification inside the affine Grassmannian:

$$G(L)/G(\mathcal{O}_L) = \coprod_{\mu \in X_*(T)^+} G(\mathcal{O}_L)u^\mu G(\mathcal{O}_L)/G(\mathcal{O}_L)$$

satisfying

$$\overline{G(\mathcal{O}_L)u^\mu G(\mathcal{O}_L)/G(\mathcal{O}_L)} = \coprod_{\substack{\nu \in X_*(T)^+ \\ \nu \leq \mu}} G(\mathcal{O}_L)u^\nu G(\mathcal{O}_L)/G(\mathcal{O}_L).$$

Group theoretic description of Kisin varieties

Recall $N_{\bar{\rho}} \otimes \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p = (N_{\bar{\rho}} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \Phi_{\bar{\rho}})$ the étale φ -module with $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ -action associated to $\bar{\rho}(-1) \otimes \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$, where

- $N_{\bar{\rho}} \otimes \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ is a free $k \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p} L$ -module of rank n ;
- $\Phi_{\bar{\rho}} : N_{\bar{\rho}} \otimes \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p \rightarrow N_{\bar{\rho}} \otimes \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ is semi-linear with respect to φ such that $\varphi^* N_{\bar{\rho}} \otimes \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p \rightarrow N_{\bar{\rho}} \otimes \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ is an isomorphism.

Fix a basis of $N_{\bar{\rho}} \otimes \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$, we have

$$(N_{\bar{\rho}} \otimes \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \Phi_{\bar{\rho}}) \simeq (k \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p} L^n, b\varphi)$$

where $b \in G(L)$ with $G = \text{Res}_{k|\mathbb{F}_p}(\text{GL}_n)$.

The isomorphism class of $(N_{\bar{\rho}} \otimes \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \Phi_{\bar{\rho}})$ depends on the φ -conjugacy class of $b \in G(L)$.

Group theoretic description of Kisin varieties

For $\mu \in X_*(T)^+$,

$$\begin{aligned} C_\mu(\bar{\rho})(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p) &= \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathfrak{M} \subset N_{\bar{\rho}} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p \text{ lattice such that the relative} \\ \text{position of } \Phi_{\bar{\rho}}(\varphi^* \mathfrak{M}) \text{ and } \mathfrak{M} \text{ is controlled by } \mu \end{array} \right\} \\ &= \{gG(\mathcal{O}_L) \in G(L)/G(\mathcal{O}_L) \mid g^{-1}b\varphi(g) \in \overline{G(\mathcal{O}_L)u^\mu G(\mathcal{O}_L)}\} \\ &:= C_\mu(b)(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p). \end{aligned}$$

This resemble affine Deligne-Lusztig varieties (ADLV) with a different Frobenius φ .

Comparison of Kisin varieties and ADLV

	ADLV	Kisin varieties
Frobenius φ	automorphism	endomorphism
μ	mostly minuscule	arbitrary
G	any type	type A
φ -conjugacy classes in $G(L)$	Dieudonné-Manin classification	only simple objects are classified by Caruso

Hypothesis: $\bar{\rho}$ is absolutely irreducible.

Reason: We can get a good representative of b in its φ -conjugacy class in $G(L)$ by Caruso's classification of simple étale φ -modules over L .

Theorem (C.-Nie)

Suppose $\bar{\rho}$ is absolutely irreducible, then $C_\mu(\bar{\rho})$ is geometrically connected if one of the following two conditions are satisfied:

- 1 K is totally ramified and $n = 3$ (i.e. $G = \mathrm{GL}_3$);
- 2 $\mu = (\mu_\tau)_\tau$ with $\mu_{\tau,2} = \mu_{\tau,3} = \cdots = \mu_{\tau,n}$ for all $\tau \in \mathrm{Hom}(k, \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p)$.

The second part of the theorem is proved by Hellmann when $n = 2$.

Counter-examples to Kisin's conjecture

We have examples when $\bar{\rho}$ is absolutely irreducible, $C_\mu(\bar{\rho})$ might have two points in the following cases:

- K is totally ramified with $[K : \mathbb{Q}_p] \geq 2p - 1$ and $n = 4$.
Let $G = \mathrm{GL}_4$, $b = u^{(2,0,2,0)}(1243) \in G(\mathbb{F}_p((u)))$ and $\mu = (2p - 1, p, p, 1)$. Then

$$C_\mu(b)(\mathbb{F}_p) = C_\mu(b)(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p) = \{u^{(2,1,1,0)}, u^{(1,1,1,1)}\}.$$

- $f(K|\mathbb{Q}_p) = 2$, $e(K|\mathbb{Q}_p) \geq p + 1$ and $n = 3$.
Let $G = \mathrm{Res}_{k|\mathbb{F}_p} \mathrm{GL}_3$ with $[k : \mathbb{F}_p] = 2$. Choose \mathbb{F} containing k . $G|_{\mathbb{F}} \simeq \mathrm{GL}_3 \times \mathrm{GL}_3$. Let $b = (u^{(2,0,1)}(123), u^{(0,0,1)}) \in G(\mathbb{F}((u)))$ and $\mu = ((p + 1, 0, 0), (p, p, 0))$, then

$$C_\mu(b)(\mathbb{F}) = C_\mu(b)(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p) = \{u^\chi, u^{\chi'}\},$$

where $\chi = ((1, 0, 1), (0, 0, 1))$ and $\chi' = ((1, 1, 0), (1, 0, 0))$.

Corollary

Suppose $\bar{\rho}$ is absolutely irreducible. For any minuscule $\nu \in X_*(\mathrm{Res}_{K|\mathbb{Q}_p}\mathbb{G}_m^n)^+ \simeq (\mathbb{Z}_+^n)^{\mathrm{Hom}(K, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p)}$, the scheme $\mathrm{Spec}(R_{\bar{\rho}}^{\mathrm{fl}, \nu}[\frac{1}{p}])$ is connected if one of the following two conditions holds:

- 1 K is totally ramified and $n = 3$;
- 2 $\nu_\tau = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$ or central for all $\tau \in \mathrm{Hom}(K, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p)$.

Strategy of Proof: Semi-module stratification

IAK decomposition inside the affine Grassmannian:

$$G(L)/G(\mathcal{O}_L) = \coprod_{\lambda \in X_*(T)} Iu^\lambda G(\mathcal{O}_L)/G(\mathcal{O}_L),$$

where I is the standard Iwahori subgroup of G (i.e., I is the preimage of $B^{op}(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p)$ under natural map $G(\mathcal{O}_L) \xrightarrow{u \mapsto 0} G(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p)$).

This induces the semi-module decomposition

$$C_\mu(b)(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p) = \sqcup_{\lambda \in X_*(T)} C_\mu^\lambda(b)(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p),$$

where each piece $C_\mu^\lambda(b)$ is locally closed subscheme of $C_\mu(b) \times_{\mathbb{F}} \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ with $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ -points

$$C_\mu^\lambda(b)(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p) = (Iu^\lambda G(\mathcal{O}_L)/G(\mathcal{O}_L)) \cap C_\mu(b)(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p).$$

Step 1: semi-module strata are connected

Key Proposition

Let $b = u^\eta w$ with $\eta \in X_*(T)$ and $w \in W_0$ such that $b\varphi(I)b^{-1} \subset I$. The following conditions are equivalent:

- 1 $C_\mu^\lambda(b)$ is non-empty;
- 2 $u^\lambda \in C_\mu(b)(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p)$;
- 3 $-\lambda + \eta + w\varphi(\lambda) \leq \mu$.

Under these equivalent conditions, we have $C_\mu^\lambda(b)$ is connected. Moreover, if μ is minuscule, there is a dimension formula for $C_\mu^\lambda(b)$.

Step 2: Connecting different semi-module strata

- K is totally ramified and $n = 3$:
Construct explicit lines to connect the representatives in different semi-module strata.
- μ is of a particular form:
Reduce to multi-copy case: $C_{\mu_\bullet}^{G_\bullet}(b_\bullet) \twoheadrightarrow C_\mu^G(b)$ with μ_\bullet minuscule. The scheme $C_{\mu_\bullet}^{G_\bullet}(b_\bullet)$ has only one 0-dimensional semi-module stratum.

Thank you!