Differential operators in positive characteristic and modular representations

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Abstract

(With Roman Bezrukavnikov and Dmitriy Rumynin.)

The ring of differential operators (without divided powers) is an Azumaya algebra if the characteristic of the field is not zero. This leads to a translation of an algebraic problem of listing irreducible representations of a semisimple Lie algebra over a field of positive characteristic, into a geometric problem of the study of coherent sheaves on the Springer subvarieties of the flag variety.