

VANISHING CYCLE SHEAVES AND HOLONOMIC SYSTEMS  
OF DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

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1. Let  $X$  be a complex manifold and  $f$  a holomorphic function on  $X$ . Then, for a complex of sheaves  $\underline{F}'$  on  $X$ , we can define a "vanishing cycle sheaf"  $R\Psi\underline{F}'$  (in Deligne's notation) on  $f^{-1}(0)$  (See [3], [1]). The purpose of this paper is to give a corresponding holonomic system when  $\underline{F}'$  is given as a de Rham complex of a regular holonomic system.

2. Let  $X$  be a smooth complex manifold and  $Y$  a smooth submanifold of  $X$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{O}_X$  and  $\underline{I}_Y$  the sheaf of holomorphic functions on  $X$  and the defining Ideal of  $Y$ . We denote by  $\mathbf{A}$  the graded  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -Algebra  $\bigoplus_{k \in \mathbf{Z}} \underline{I}_Y^k t^{-k} \subset \mathcal{O}_X[t, t^{-1}]$ . Here,  $\underline{I}_Y^k$  stands for  $\mathcal{O}_X$  if  $k \leq 0$ . We denote by  $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  the space  $\text{Specan } \mathbf{A}$  over  $X$ . Then  $\tilde{X}$  is smooth and  $t$  defines a hypersurface of  $\tilde{X}$  isomorphic to the normal bundle  $T_Y X$  of  $Y$ .

Let  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}$  be the real manifold  $(\mathcal{C} - \{0\}) \sqcup S^1$  with the boundary  $S^1 = \mathcal{C}^\times / \mathbf{R}^+$ , with the obvious projection  $\tilde{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ . For a complex of sheaves  $\underline{F}'$ , we define

$$(2.1) \quad v_Y(\underline{F}') = i^{-1} Rj_* p^{-1} \underline{F}'.$$

Here  $p$  is the projection  $\tilde{X} - T_Y X = (\mathbb{C} - \{0\}) \times_{\mathbb{C}} \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  and  $j: \tilde{X} - T_Y X \hookrightarrow \tilde{\mathbb{C}} \times \tilde{X}$ , which are given by  $t: \tilde{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ . The map  $i$  is the inclusion  $T_Y X \hookrightarrow S^1 \times T_Y X \hookrightarrow \tilde{\mathbb{C}} \times \tilde{X}$  given by  $(1 \bmod \mathbb{R}^+) \in S^1$ .

By using a local coordinate system  $(x_1, \dots, x_\ell, \dots, x_n)$  of  $X$  such that  $Y$  is  $x' = (x_1, \dots, x_\ell) = 0$ , the stalks of  $v_Y(\underline{F}^*)$  are described as follows. For  $(x_0, v) \in T_Y X$  ( $x_0 \in \mathbb{C}^{n-\ell}, v \in \mathbb{C}^\ell$ ), we have

$$(2.2) \quad H^j(v_Y(\underline{F}^*))_{(x_0, v)} = \varinjlim_U H^j(U; \underline{F}^*).$$

Here,  $U$  runs over the set of open subsets of  $X$  which contain  $\{x = (x', x'') \in \mathbb{C}^\ell \times \mathbb{C}^{n-\ell}; |x'| < \varepsilon, |x'' - x_0| < \varepsilon, x' \in \Gamma\}$  for some  $\varepsilon > 0$  and an open cone  $\Gamma \ni v$  of  $\mathbb{C}^\ell$ .

3. Let  $\mathcal{D}_X$  be the sheaf of differential operators on  $X$  and  $\mathbb{M}$  a regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}_X$ -Module. We shall then construct a regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}_{T_Y X}$ -Module  $\mathbb{M}'$  such that

$$v_Y(\mathbb{R} \underline{\text{Hom}}_{\mathcal{D}_X}(\mathbb{M}, \mathcal{O}_X)) = \mathbb{R} \underline{\text{Hom}}_{\mathcal{D}_{T_Y X}}(\mathbb{M}', \mathcal{O}_{T_Y X}).$$

If such an  $\mathbb{M}'$  exists, it is unique up to an isomorphism. We shall denote it by  $v_Y(\mathbb{M})$ .

4. Keeping  $X$  and  $Y$  as in the preceding section, we shall define the filtration  $F^* = F^*(\mathcal{D}_X)$  of  $\mathcal{D}_X$  by

$$(4.1) \quad F^k(\mathcal{D}_X) = \{P \in \mathcal{D}_X; P(\underline{I}_Y^j) \subset \underline{I}_Y^{j+k} \text{ for any } j\}.$$

Then, one can show easily the following

Proposition 1. (1)  $F^k(\mathcal{D}_X)/F^{k+1}(\mathcal{D}_X)$  is isomorphic to the sheaf of

differential operators on  $T_Y X$  homogeneous of degree  $k$ . Hence its graduation  $gr_F(\mathcal{D}_X)$  is a subring of  $\mathcal{D}_{T_Y X}$ .

(2) There exists (locally) a vector field  $\theta$  tangent to  $Y$  acting on  $I_Y/I_Y^2$  as the identity.

5. Now, let  $\mathfrak{M}$  be a coherent  $\mathcal{D}_X$ -Module. A filtration  $F_I^\bullet$  of  $\mathfrak{M}$  is called a good filtration of  $\mathfrak{M}$  with respect to  $F^\bullet(\mathcal{D}_X)$  if it satisfies

$$(5.1) \quad F^k(\mathcal{D}_X)F_I^j \subset F_I^{k+j} \quad \text{for any } k \text{ and } j$$

$$(5.2) \quad F^k(\mathcal{D}_X)F_I^j = F_I^{k+j} \quad \text{if } j \gg 0 \text{ and } k \geq 0 \\ \text{or if } j \ll 0 \text{ and } k \leq 0.$$

$$(5.3) \quad F_I^j \text{ is a coherent } F^0(\mathcal{D}_X)\text{-Module.}$$

$$(5.4) \quad \mathfrak{M} = \bigcup F_I^j.$$

The following proposition is proved in [2].

Proposition 2. Let  $\mathfrak{M}$  be a regular holonomic system. Then there exist locally a coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X$  sub-Module  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $\mathfrak{M}$  and a non-zero polynomial  $b(\theta)$  such that

$$(5.5) \quad b(\theta)\mathcal{F} \subset (\mathcal{D}_X(\text{deg } b) \cap F^1(\mathcal{D}_X))\mathcal{F}$$

$$(5.6) \quad \mathfrak{M} = \mathcal{D}_X \mathcal{F} .$$

Here  $\mathcal{D}_X(m)$  denotes the sheaf of differential operators of order  $\leq m$ , and  $\theta$  is the one given in Proposition 1.

6. Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be the abelian category of coherent  $\mathcal{D}_X$ -Modules satisfying the conclusion in Proposition 2. Let  $G$  be a subset of  $\mathcal{C}$  satisfying the following condition:

(6.1) For any  $a \in \mathcal{C}$ ,  $G \cap (a+Z)$  consists of a single point.

Then we have the following

Theorem 1. (1) For any  $\mathfrak{M} \in \mathcal{R}$ , there exists a good filtration  $F_G^i(\mathfrak{M})$  of  $\mathfrak{M}$  satisfying the following condition: there exists a polynomial  $b(\theta)$  such that  $b^{-1}(0) \subset G$  and  $b(\theta-k)F_G^k(\mathfrak{M}) \subset F_G^{k+1}(\mathfrak{M})$  for any  $k$ .

Moreover such a filtration is unique.

(2) For  $\mathfrak{M} \in \mathcal{R}$ ,  $\text{gr}_{F_G}(\mathfrak{M})$  does not depend on the choice of  $G$  as a (not graded)  $\text{gr}_{F_G}(\mathcal{D})$ -Module. We shall denote it by  $\text{gr } \mathfrak{M}$ .

(3)  $\mathfrak{M} \mapsto \text{gr } \mathfrak{M}$  is an exact functor from  $\mathcal{R}$  into the category of coherent  $\text{gr}_{F_G}(\mathcal{D})$ -Modules.

(4)  $\nu_Y(\mathbb{R} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_X}(\mathfrak{M}, \mathcal{O}_X)) = \mathbb{R} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_{T_Y X}}(\mathcal{D}_{T_Y X} \otimes_{\text{gr } \mathcal{D}_X} \text{gr } \mathfrak{M}, \mathcal{O}_{T_Y X})$

$\nu_Y(\mathbb{R} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_X}(\mathcal{O}_X, \mathfrak{M})) = \mathbb{R} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_{T_Y X}}(\mathcal{O}_{T_Y X}, \mathcal{D}_{T_Y X} \otimes_{\text{gr } \mathcal{D}_X} \text{gr } \mathfrak{M}).$

(5) If  $\mathfrak{M}$  is regular holonomic, so is  $\mathcal{D}_{T_Y X} \otimes_{\text{gr } \mathcal{D}_X} \text{gr } \mathfrak{M}$ .

We shall indicate the proof of the theorem.

Proof of (1). By using Proposition 2, there exists a good filtration  $F_I^i$  of  $\mathfrak{M}$  and a non-zero polynomial  $b$  such that

(6.2)  $b(\theta-k)F_I^k \subset F_I^{k+1}$  for any  $k$ .

In fact, setting  $F_I^k = F^k(\mathcal{D}) \mathcal{F}$  we apply the following lemma.

Lemma 1. For any  $f(\theta) \in \mathbb{C}[\theta]$  and  $P \in F^k(\mathfrak{D})$ ,  $f(\theta)P - Pf(\theta+k) \in F^{k+1}(\mathfrak{D})$ .

Now, assume that  $b(\theta)$  in (6.2) is a product of two polynomials  $b_1(\theta)$  and  $b_2(\theta)$  and we set  $F_{II}^k = F_I^{k+1} + b_1(\theta-k)F_I^k$ . Then  $F_{II}$  is a good filtration satisfying  $b_1(\theta-k-1)b_2(\theta-k)F_{II}^k \subset F_{II}^{k+1}$ . Repeating this procedure, we can show the existence of  $F_G^*$ .

The uniqueness of  $F_G^*$  is proved as follows.

Let  $F_I$  and  $F_{II}$  be two good filtrations and  $b_I(\theta)$  and  $b_{II}(\theta)$  two polynomials satisfying  $b_J(\theta-k)F_J^k \subset F_J^{k+1}$  and  $b_J^{-1}(0) \subset G$  for  $J = I, II$ . There exists  $N \geq 1$  such that  $F_I^k \subset F_{II}^{k-N}$  for any  $k$ . Then  $b_I(\theta-k)F_I^k \subset F_I^{k+1} \subset F_{II}^{k-N+1}$  and  $b_{II}(\theta-k+N)F_I^k \subset b_{II}(\theta-k+N)F_{II}^{k-N} \subset F_{II}^{k-N+1}$ . Since  $b_I(s-k)$  and  $b_{II}(s-k+N)$  have no common root,  $F_I^k \subset F_{II}^{k-N+1}$ . Repeating this, we finally obtain  $F_I^k \subset F_{II}^k$ . (3) is proved by a similar discussion.

Proof of (2). Let  $G$  and  $G'$  be two subsets of  $\mathbb{C}$  satisfying (6.1). We shall show  $\text{gr } F_G \cong \text{gr } F_{G'}$ . We may assume  $G \ni \lambda$  and  $G' = (G - \{\lambda\}) \cup \{\lambda+1\}$ . We write  $\text{gr } F_G$  for  $\text{gr}_{F_G} \mathfrak{M}$ .

Let  $b(\theta)$  be a polynomial such that  $b^{-1}(0) \subset G$  and  $b(\theta-k)F_G^k \subset F_G^{k+1}$ . Set  $b(\theta) = (\theta-\lambda)^m a(\theta)$  with  $a(\lambda) \neq 0$ . Then  $F_G^k = (\theta-\lambda-k)^m F_G^k + F_G^{k+1}$ . Let us take  $\varphi, \psi \in \mathbb{C}[\theta]$  satisfying

$$(6.3) \quad \begin{aligned} \varphi &\equiv 0 \pmod{(\theta-\lambda)^m(\theta-\lambda-1)^m}, \\ \varphi &\equiv 1 \pmod{a(\theta)}, \\ \psi &\equiv 0 \pmod{a(\theta)a(\theta-1)}, \\ \psi &\equiv 1 \pmod{(\theta-\lambda)^m}. \end{aligned}$$

We shall define  $f: \text{gr } F_G \rightarrow \text{gr } F_{G'}$  and  $g: \text{gr } F_{G'} \rightarrow \text{gr } F_G$  as follows.

$$(6.4) \quad f: \text{gr } F_G = \bigoplus_{F_G^k/F_G^{k+1}} \ni \sum u_k \mapsto \sum v_k \in \text{gr } F_{G'} = \bigoplus_{F_{G'}^k/F_{G'}^{k+1}}$$

$$v_k = \varphi(\theta - k)u_k + \psi(\theta - k - 1)u_{k+1}$$

$$(6.5) \quad g: \text{gr } F_{G'} \ni \sum v_k \mapsto \sum u_k \in \text{gr } F_G$$

$$\text{by } u_k = v_k + \psi(\theta - k)v_{k-1}.$$

Then one can easily show that  $f$  and  $g$  are inverses to each other.

(4) is shown by reducing the problem to the following special case, which is easy to prove.

Proposition 2. Let  $b(\theta)$  be a non-zero polynomial of degree  $m$  with  $b^{-1}(0) \subset G$  and  $P$  an  $N \times N$  matrix of differential operators in  $F^1(\mathcal{D}) \cap \mathcal{D}(m)$ .

Set  $\mathfrak{M} = \mathcal{D}^N / \mathcal{D}^N(b(\theta) - P)$ . Then (4) in Theorem 1 is true for  $\mathfrak{M}$ .

(5) is proved in [2].

7. Suppose that  $Y$  is a smooth hypersurface of  $X$  given by  $f = 0$ . Then, for a complex of sheaves  $F'$  whose cohomology groups are constructible, one can define  $R\psi$  and  $R\varphi$  and can:  $R\Phi \rightarrow R\Psi$  and  $\text{Var}: R\Psi \rightarrow R\Phi$  (See [3]). If we take a vector field  $\partial$  such that  $\partial f \equiv 1 \pmod{\mathcal{I}_Y}$ , then  $\theta = f\partial$  and  $\text{gr}_{F'}^0(\mathcal{D})$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{D}_Y$ . Suppose  $\underline{F}' = R \underline{\text{Hom}}_{\mathcal{D}_X}(\mathfrak{M}, \mathcal{O}_X)$  for a regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}_X$ -Module  $\mathfrak{M}$ . Then we have the following

Theorem 2. Assume  $G \subset \mathbb{C}$  satisfies (6.1) and contains  $0$ .

(0)  $\text{gr}_G^k \mathfrak{M}$  is a regular holonomic  $\mathcal{D}_Y$ -Module.

(1)  $\mathbb{R}\Psi = \mathbb{R} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_Y}(\text{gr}_G^0 \mathfrak{M}, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  and  $\mathbb{R}\Phi = \mathbb{R} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_Y}(\text{gr}_G^{-1} \mathfrak{M}, \mathcal{O}_Y)$ .

(2) can is given by  $f: \text{gr}_G^{-1} \mathfrak{M} \mapsto \text{gr}_G^0 \mathfrak{M}$  and Var is given by

$$\partial \frac{e^{2\pi i \theta} - 1}{\theta} : \text{gr}_G^0 \mathfrak{M} \rightarrow \text{gr}_G^{-1} \mathfrak{M} .$$

Remark 1. We can replace in (2),  $f$  and  $\partial \frac{e^{2\pi i \theta} - 1}{\theta}$  with  $\frac{e^{2\pi i \theta} - 1}{\theta} f$  and  $\partial$ .

Remark 2. If we replace  $\mathbb{R} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_X}(*, \mathcal{O}_X)$  with  $\mathbb{R} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_X}(\mathcal{O}_X, *)$ , then (1) holds by replacing  $\mathbb{R} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_X}(*, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  with  $\mathbb{R} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_Y}(\mathcal{O}_Y, *)$ . Accordingly, (2) holds by exchanging Var and can.

Sketch of proof. The theorem is essentially equivalent to the following one-dimensional case. Let  $X = \mathbb{C}$  and  $Y = \{0\}$ . Let  $V_0$  and  $V_{-1}$  be two vector spaces and let  $A: V_0 \rightarrow V_{-1}$  and  $B: V_{-1} \rightarrow V_0$  be two homomorphisms. Let  $\mathfrak{M}$  be a  $\mathcal{D}_X$ -Module generated by  $V_0 \oplus V_{-1}$  with the fundamental relation:

$$xu = Bu \quad \text{for } u \in V_{-1}$$

$$\partial v = Av \quad \text{for } v \in V_0.$$

If we assume the eigen-values of  $AB$  are contained in  $G$ , then

$$\text{gr}_G^k \mathfrak{M} = V_k \quad \text{for } k = 0, -1.$$

Let  $U$  be a non-empty convex cone in  $\mathbb{C}$  such that  $U \not\ni 0$ .

Then we have

$$\mathbb{R}\Psi = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_X}(\mathfrak{M}, \mathcal{O}_X(U)) \quad \text{and}$$

$$\mathbb{R}\Phi = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_X}(\mathfrak{M}, \mathcal{O}_X(U) / \mathcal{O}_X(\mathbb{C})).$$

The homomorphism can be given by  $\mathcal{O}_X(U) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(U)/\mathcal{O}_X(\mathbb{C})$ . The homomorphism  $\text{Var}$  is given as follows: for  $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_X}(\mathbb{M}, \mathcal{O}(U)/\mathcal{O}(X))$  and  $s \in \mathbb{M}$ , let us choose a representative  $u \in \mathcal{O}(U)$  of  $\varphi(s)$ . Then  $u$  can be continued to a multi-valued holomorphic function on  $\mathbb{C}-\{0\}$ , so that we can obtain the holomorphic function  $Tu$  defined on  $U$  by the analytic continuation of  $u$  along a path around the origin. Then  $Tu-u$  does not depend on the choice of a representative  $u$  and  $s \mapsto Tu-u$  gives a homomorphism from  $\mathbb{M}$  to  $\mathcal{O}_X(U)$ . This is the homomorphism  $\text{Var}$ .

Now,  $\mathbb{R}\Psi$  and  $\mathbb{R}\Phi$  are isomorphic to  $V_0^*$  and  $V_{-1}^*$  as follows:

$$V_0^* \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbb{M}, \mathcal{O}_X(U)), \quad V_{-1}^* \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(\mathbb{M}, \mathcal{O}_X(U)/\mathcal{O}_X(\mathbb{C}))$$

by  $V_0^* \ni \alpha \mapsto \varphi$  and  $V_{-1}^* \ni \beta \mapsto \psi$ , where  $\varphi(u) = \langle \alpha, x^{BA-1}Bu \rangle$ ,  $\varphi(v) = \langle \alpha, x^{BA}v \rangle$  and  $\psi(u) = \langle \beta, x^{AB-1}\Gamma(1-AB)u \rangle$ ,  $\psi(v) = \langle \beta, Ax^{BA}\Gamma(-BA)v \rangle$  for  $u \in V_{-1}$  and  $v \in V_0$ .

Remark that  $x^{\lambda}\Gamma(\lambda)$  defines well an element of  $\mathcal{O}(U)/\mathcal{O}(\mathbb{C})$  by the analytic continuation on  $\lambda$  (e.g.  $x^{\lambda}\Gamma(\lambda) = \log x$  at  $\lambda = 0$  and  $x^{\lambda}\Gamma(\lambda) = \log x + ((\log x)^2/2 - \gamma \log x)N + ((\log x)^3/6 - \gamma(\log x)^2/2 + (\pi^2/3 + \gamma^2/2)\log x)N^2$  at  $\lambda = N$  with  $N^3 = 0$ ;  $\gamma$  is the Euler constant).

Thus with these identifications, can be given by  $\alpha \mapsto \alpha B(\Gamma(1-AB))^{-1}$  and  $\text{Var}$  is given by  $\beta \mapsto \beta(2\pi i A e^{\pi i BA} / \Gamma(1+BA))$ . Finally it is enough to note that  $x, \partial, \theta$  correspond to  $B, A$  and  $BA$  (or  $AB-1$ ) and  $(\Gamma(1-AB))^{-1}$  is invertible under the condition on the eigenvalues of  $AB$ .

## References

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