

P=W CONJECTURES  
FOR CHARACTER VARIETIES  
WITH SYMPLECTIC RESOLUTION

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## Plan of the talk

- 1<sup>st</sup> part :
- Introduce  $M_{\text{Dol}}$  and  $M_B$  and their twists
  - NAHT :  $M_{\text{Dol}}^{\text{tw}} \xrightarrow{\sim} M_B^{\text{tw}}$
  - $\text{P} H^*(M_{\text{Dol}}^{\text{tw}}) \simeq \text{W} H^*(M_B^{\text{tw}})$

- 2<sup>nd</sup> part :
- How to verify the  $P=W$  for  $M_{\text{Dol}}$  and  $M_B$ ?

$$PI = WI$$



$P=W$  for  
resolution

- prove both conjectures for char. var.  
with symplectic resolution

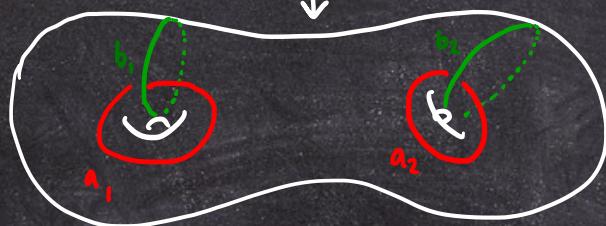
$C$  smooth projective curve /  $\mathbb{C}$  of genus  $g \geq 1$

$G = GL_n \mathbb{C}, SL_n \mathbb{C}$

$$M_B(g, G) = \frac{\text{BETTI MODULI SPACE}}{} = \text{Hom}(\pi_1, G) / \text{conjugation}$$

or  
character variety

$$= \left\{ (A_1, \dots, A_g, B_1, \dots, B_g) \in GL_n^{2g} \mid \prod_{i=1}^g [A_i, B_i] = \text{Id} \right\} // G$$



$$\pi_1(C, o) = \langle a_1, b_1, \dots, a_g, b_g \rangle / \langle \prod [a_i, b_i] = \text{id} \rangle$$

Example  $GL_1 \text{ } n=1$

$$\begin{aligned} M_B(g, \mathbb{C}^*) &= \left\{ A_1, \dots, A_g, B_1, \dots, B_g \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^g \mid \pi \left[ \underbrace{[A_i, B_j]}_{\text{in } GL_1} \right] = \text{Id} \right\} \\ &= (\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*)^g \end{aligned}$$

•  $g=1$

$$\begin{aligned} MB(1, GL_n) &= \left\{ (A, B) \in GL_n^2 \mid ABA^{-1}B^{-1} = \text{Id} \right\} / \text{conj} \\ &= (\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*)^{(n)} \end{aligned}$$

On general: singular affine variety

$$M_B^{\text{sm}} = \{\text{irreducible reps}\}$$

Def (Higgs bundle)

$SL_n$

A  $GL_n$ - Higgs bundle is a pair  $(E, \phi)$

- $E$  holomorphic vector bundle of rank  $n$  and degree  $0$  on  $C$
- $\phi \in H^0(\text{End } E \otimes K_C)$  +  $\text{tr } \phi = 0$

$\uparrow$   
 Higgs field

$$M_{\text{Dol}}(C, G) := \frac{\text{DOLBEAULT MODULI SPACE}}{\text{semistable}} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{G-Higgs bundles on } C \\ \end{array} \right\} / \sim$$



quasi-projective variety of dim  
 $2n^2(g+1)-2$  (for  $GL_n$ )

Def A vector bundle  $E$  is called (semi)stable iff  
 & proper subbundles  $F \subseteq E$   
 $\mu(F) = \frac{\deg F}{\text{rank } F} \leqslant, \frac{\deg E}{\text{rank } E} = d$

Any semistable bdl admits  
 $\{F\} \subset E_0 \subset \dots \subset E_n = E$  s.t.

$E_i/E_{i-1}$  are stable bds

with the same slope as  $E$

$$E \longrightarrow \text{Gr } E = \bigoplus E_i/E_{i-1}$$

We say that  $E$  and  $E'$  are  $S$ -equivalent iff  $\text{Gr } E' \cong \text{Gr } E$

Thm The moduli space of semistable vector bds is a proj. variety of dim  $n^2(g+1) - 1$

Rank For Higgs bundle the def. of stability is analogous considering just  $\phi$ -invariant proper subbundles

## Example

$$n = 1$$

$$L \in \text{Pic}^0(C) + \phi \in H^0(K)$$

$$M_{\text{Dol}}(C, \mathbb{C}^*) = \text{Pic}^0(C) \times H^0(K)$$

$$g=1$$

$C$  is an elliptic curve

$$\begin{cases} K_C = \mathcal{O} \\ \text{semistab} = \text{semist.} \\ \text{for vb} \quad \text{for HB} \end{cases}$$

$$M_{\text{Dol}} = \left\{ (L_1, \phi_1) \oplus \dots \oplus (L_n, \phi_n) \mid \begin{array}{l} L_i \in \text{Pic}^0(C) \\ \phi_i \in H^0(S) \end{array} \right\}$$

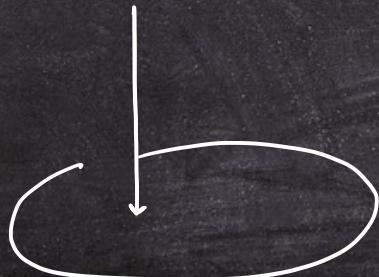
$$= (\text{Pic}^0(C) \times \mathbb{C})^{(n)} = (C \times \mathbb{A}^1)^{(n)}$$

# Geometry of $M_{\text{Dol}}$

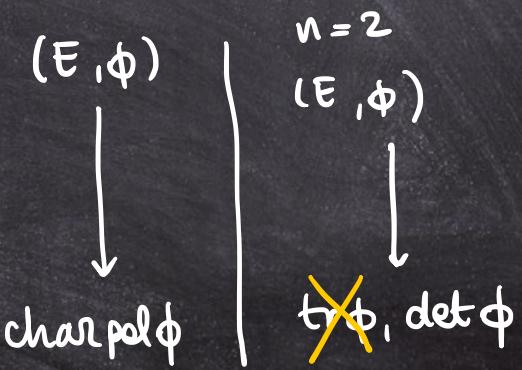
$$G = GL_n \quad SL_n$$

- $M_{\text{Dol}}$  is a quasi-projective variety, generally singular  
 $\{ \text{singularities} \} \longleftrightarrow \{ \begin{array}{l} \text{strictly semistable} \\ \text{Higgs bundles} \end{array} \}$
- $\exists$  a symplectic form on  $M_{\text{Dol}}^{\text{sm}}$
- $\exists$  a proper holomorphic map **Hitchin fibration**

$$\chi : M_{\text{Dol}}(C, G)$$



$$A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n H^0(K^{\otimes i})$$



# Non Abelian Hodge theorem

$$M_{\text{Dol}}(C, G) \xrightarrow[\cong]{\varphi} M_B(g, G)$$

↑  
fibred with  
cpt subvar.

`affine

Rmk:

- Preserves the local structure of ring
- It is NOT algebraic

Example

$$g=1 \quad C = \mathbb{C}/\langle 1, i \rangle$$
$$M_{Dol} = \left( \overset{\substack{S^1 \times S^1 \\ \parallel}}{C} \times \overset{\substack{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \\ \parallel}}{A^1} \right)^{(n)} \xrightarrow{\Psi} \left( \overset{\substack{\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^* \\ \parallel}}{\mathbb{C}^*} \times \overset{\substack{\mathbb{C}^* \\ \parallel}}{\mathbb{C}^*} \right)^{(n)} = M_B$$
$$\chi = pr_U^{(n)} \downarrow \quad \quad \quad S^1 \times \mathbb{R} \quad S^1 \times \mathbb{R}$$
$$(A^1)^{(n)} = A^n$$

$$n=1 \quad S^1 \times S^1 \quad \mathbb{R} \quad \mathbb{R} \quad \longrightarrow$$
$$(\theta_1, \theta_2, \rho_1 + i\rho_2) \longrightarrow (e^{-2\rho_1} e^{i\theta_1}, e^{+2\rho_2} e^{i\theta_2})$$

$$C \times A^1 = \underbrace{S^1 \times S^1 \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}}_{\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*} = \mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*$$

# P=W CONJECTURE [ de Cataldo - Hausel Migliorini ]

$$H^*(M_{Dol}(C, G)) \xleftarrow{\psi^*} H^*(M_B(g, G))$$

$$P_k H^*(M_{Dol}(C, G)) \xleftarrow{\simeq} W_{2k}(M_B(g, G))$$

perverse Leray filtration  
associated to  $\chi$

weight filtration  
arising from the  
MHS

# Mixed Hodge structures

$$H^k(M) \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} = \bigoplus_{p+q=k} H^{p,q} \quad H^{p,q} = \overline{H^{q,p}}$$

A mixed Hodge structure on  $H^*(M)$  is the datum of

- an increasing filtration  $W_\cdot$  on  $H^*(M)$  **WEIGHT FILTRATION**

- a decreasing filtration  $F_\cdot$  on  $H^*(M) \otimes \mathbb{C}$  Hodge filtration

such that  $\text{Gr}_W^k := W_k / W_{k-1} \otimes \mathbb{C}$  admit a Hodge decomp. induced by  $F$

## YOGA of WEIGHTS

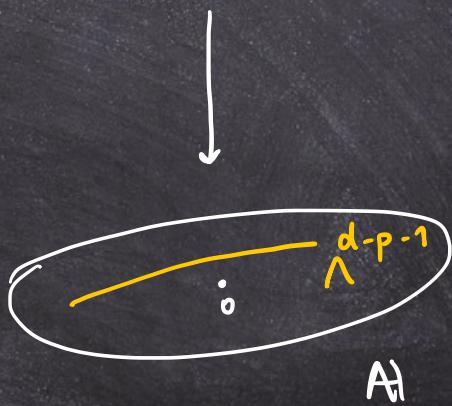
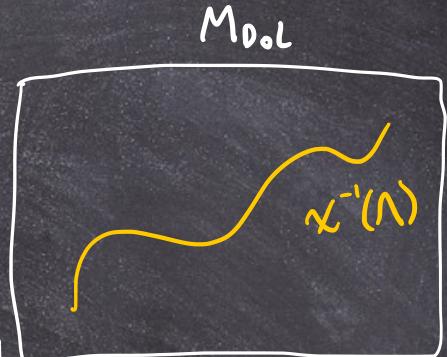
$$M \text{ smooth} \Rightarrow W_k H^i = 0 \quad \forall k < i \quad \text{high weights}$$

$$M \text{ compact} \Rightarrow W_k H^i = W_i H^i \quad \forall k \geq i \quad \text{low weights}$$

# Perverse filtration

$$\chi : M_{DOL}(C, G) \longrightarrow A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n H^0(K^{\otimes i})$$

$$P_p H^d = \ker \left\{ H^i(M_{DOL}) \longrightarrow H^i(\chi^{-1}(\wedge^{d-p-1})) \right\}$$



Motivation : mixed Hodge structure on twisted moduli

$$d \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad (n, d) = 1 \quad L \in \text{Pic}^d(C)$$

$$M_B^{tw}(g, G) = \left\{ (A_1, \dots, A_g, B_1, \dots, B_g) \in GL_n^{2g} \mid \prod_{i=1}^g [A_i, B_i] = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{d}} I \right\} // G$$

↑  
||S

$$M_{Dol}^{tw}(C, G) = \text{for } G = GL_n \quad \left\{ (E, \phi) \mid \begin{array}{l} E \text{ holo vector bdl} \\ \text{of rk } n \text{ and deg } d \\ \phi \in H^0(\text{End } E \otimes K_C) \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\text{for } G = SL_n \quad \left\{ (E, \phi) + \begin{array}{l} \det E \cong L \\ \text{tr } \phi = 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

Thm (CURIOUS HARD LEFSCHETZ) [Hausel - Rodriguez Villegas, Mellit]

$$\exists \alpha \in H^2(M_B^{tw}(g, G))$$

$$U\alpha^\ell : Gr_{2d-2l}^W H^*(M_B^{tw}) \xrightarrow{\simeq} Gr_{2d+2l}^W H^{*+2l}(M_B^{tw})$$

Thm (RELATIVE HARD LEFSCHETZ) for the Hitchin Map

$$\exists \alpha \in H^2(M_{Dol}^{tw}(C, G)) \text{ } \chi\text{-ample}$$

$$U\alpha^\ell : Gr_{d-l}^P H^*(M_{Dol}^{tw}) \xrightarrow{\simeq} Gr_{d+l}^P H^{*+2l}(M_{Dol}^{tw})$$



In the untwisted case

RHL and CHL may fail for  $H^*(M)$ !

Example:  $E(M_B, SL_2) = \sum_{k,d} (\dim Gr_{2k}^W H_c^d) q^k$

$$= 1 + q^2 + 17q^4 + q^6$$

CHL  $\Rightarrow E$  palindromic!

# How to restore symmetries?

take intersection  
cohomology

$$P_I = W_I$$

resolve singularities

$$P = W \text{ for resolutions}$$

# $P_1 = W_1$ CONJECTURE

[de Cataldo - Maulik]

$$\begin{array}{ccc} |H^*(M_{Dol}(C, G)) & \xleftarrow{\Psi^*} & |H^*(M_B(C, G)) \\ \text{UI} & & \text{UI} \\ P_k |H^*(M_{Dol}(C, G)) & \xleftarrow{\approx} & W_k |H^*(M_B(C, G)) \end{array}$$

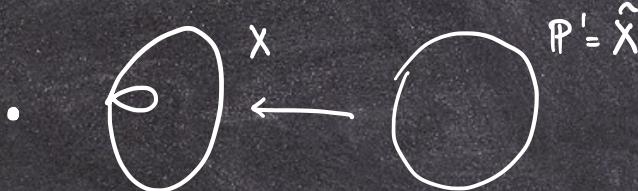
- RHL holds for  $|H^*(M_{Dol})$
- $P_k$  is independent of the complex structure on  $C$

## Interlude: Intersection cohomology

- $X$  non-singular ,  $IH^*(X) = H^*(X)$
- finite quotient sing
- Duality ,  $IH^*(X) = IH_c^{2\dim X - *}(X)$
- $\hat{X} \rightarrow X$  normalization  $IH(X) = IH(\hat{X})$
- $IH(X)$  carry a MHS as the cohomology

## Example

$$H^*(X) \longrightarrow IH^*(X) \hookrightarrow H^*(\tilde{X})$$



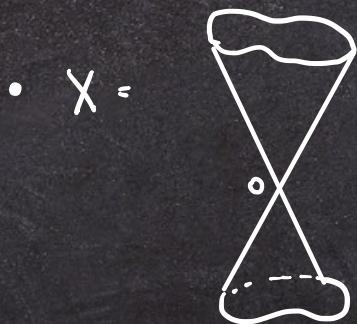
$$\Rightarrow IH^*(X) = H^*(P')$$

Observe that

$$IH^*(X) = \mathbb{Q}$$

$$IH^*(X) = \mathbb{Q} \quad 0$$

$$IH^2(X) = \mathbb{Q}$$



were over a smooth manifold  $M$   
of  $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} 2n-1$ :

$$IH^i(X) = \begin{cases} H^i(X - o) & \text{if } i < n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Rmk:

- $IH$  remembers the cohomology of the smooth locus
- $IH$  reflects dualities

## Thm [FM] (LIFT OF $\psi$ TO A RESOLUTION)

There exist

- $f_{Dol} : \tilde{M}_{Dol} \longrightarrow M_{Dol}$
  - $f_B : \tilde{M}_B \longrightarrow M_B$
  - $\tilde{\psi} : \tilde{M}_{Dol} \longrightarrow \tilde{M}_B$  diffeo
- $\left. \begin{matrix} \\ \\ \end{matrix} \right\}$  res. of  
 $\left. \begin{matrix} \\ \\ \end{matrix} \right\}$  ring.

such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{M}_{Dol} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\psi}} & \tilde{M}_B \\ f_{Dol} \downarrow & & \downarrow f_B \\ M_{Dol} & \xrightarrow{\psi} & M_B \end{array}$$

commutes up to isometry.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H^*(\tilde{M}_{Dol}) & \xleftarrow{\tilde{\psi}^*} & H^*(\tilde{M}_B) \\ f_{Dol}^* \uparrow & \curvearrowleft & \uparrow f_B^* \\ H^*(M_{Dol}) & \xleftarrow{\psi^*} & H^*(M_B) \end{array}$$

P=W CONJECTURE FOR  
RESOLUTION

$$P_k H^*(\tilde{M}_{Dol}) = W_{2k} H^*(\tilde{M}_B)$$

Example

$g=1$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} ((C \times A^1)^{(n)}) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & (\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*)^{(n)} \\ \downarrow & \curvearrowright & \downarrow \\ ((C \times A^1)^{(n)}) & \xrightarrow{\Psi} & (\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*)^{(n)} \end{array}$$

[Trotter's  
PhD thesis]

## MAIN RESULT

Thm [FM]  $P=W$ ,  $P_1=W_1$ ,  $P=W$  conjecture for resolution hold for character varieties which admit a symplectic resolution,  
i.e. for

$g=1$  and arbitrary rank

$g=2$  and rank 2

$G = GL, SL$

Def A resolution  $f: \tilde{M} \longrightarrow M$  is symplectic if a symplectic form on  $M^{\text{an}}$  extends to a holomorphic form on  $\tilde{M}$ .  
 $\wedge$   
symp.

## Remark

- First nontrivial evidence for  $P_1 = W_1$
- Any symplectic resolution  $\tilde{M}_{\text{Dol}}$  is a degeneration of one of the 4 known examples of compact hyperkähler manifolds.

$$g = 1 \quad , \text{rk} = n$$

$$K3^{[n]}$$

$$g = 2 \quad , \text{rk} = 2$$

$$\mathrm{OG}_{10}$$

$$G = \mathrm{GL}_n$$

$$K^{[n]}$$

$$\mathrm{OG}_6$$

$$G = \mathrm{SL}_n$$

- By the Decomposition theorem, a symplectic resolution gives a splitting

$$H^*(\tilde{M}_{\text{Dol}}) = IH^*(M_{\text{Dol}}) \oplus \bigoplus H^*\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{strata inside} \\ \text{sing}(M_{\text{Dol}}) \end{array}\right)$$

### Strategy of the proof

$$\boxed{P=W \text{ for resolutions}} = \boxed{PI = WI} + \boxed{P=W \text{ for lower dim. strata}}$$

||  
 ↓  
 $H \in IH^*$

$$\boxed{P=W}$$

## Sketch of the proof in an extended example

From now on  $M := M_{\text{Dol.}}(C, \text{SL}_2)$  with  $g(C) = 2$

- $M$  is a singular 6-fold
- The singular locus has dim 4

$$\Sigma = \left\{ (L, \theta) \oplus (L^{-1}, -\theta) \mid \begin{array}{l} L \in \text{Pic}^0(C) \\ \theta \in H^0(K) \end{array} \right\} = \frac{\text{Pic}^0(C) \times H^0(K)}{(L, \theta) \mapsto (L^{-1}, \theta)} / \mathbb{Z}_2$$

UI

$$\Omega = \left\{ (L, 0) \oplus (L, 0) \mid L^2 = \mathcal{O} \right\} = 16 \text{ points}$$

- $M$  is endowed with two group actions
    - $\Gamma = \text{Pic}^0(C)[2] \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^4 \curvearrowright M$
    - $(\mathcal{L}, (E, \phi)) \mapsto (E \otimes \mathcal{L}, \varphi)$

Upshot :  $P = W$  s for M  $\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} P = W & \text{for variant part} \\ P = W & \text{for invariant part} \end{cases}$

- $$\bullet \quad \mathbb{C}^* \curvearrowright M \quad (\lambda, (E, \phi)) \mapsto (E, \lambda\phi)$$

$$M^{C^*} = N \sqcup \bigsqcup_{j=1}^{16} \theta_j \quad \left( K^{1/2} \oplus K^{-1/2}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

$\{(E, 0)\} = \text{moduli space of rk 2 vb with } \simeq \mathbb{P}^3$   
 trivial determinant

$$H(M) = H^*(N) \oplus \bigoplus_{j=1}^{16} H^{*+6}(\Theta_j)$$

↑      ↑  
 trivial       $\Gamma$  acts w.g. rep  
 $\Gamma$ -mod

d	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
$\dim H^d(M)$	1	0	1	0	$+ \frac{1}{1}$	0	2

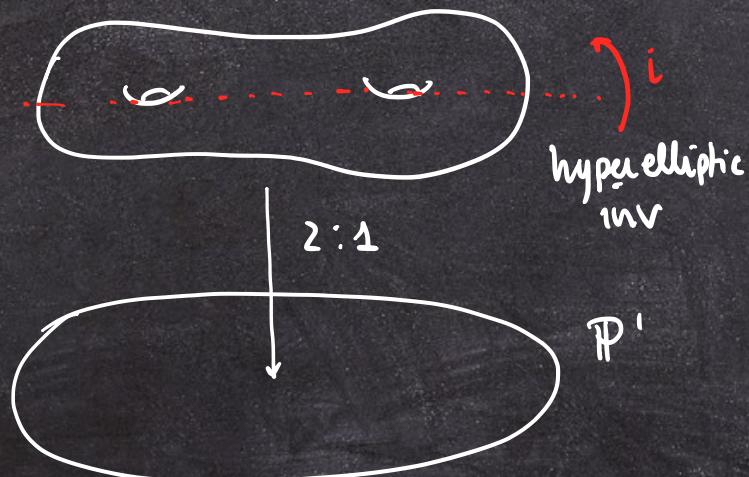
Q: Where does +1 come from?

- Tautological classes : in the twisted case the generators are Künneth factors of  $C_2(\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{E}))$  where  $\mathcal{E}$  is a universal Higgs bdl on  $M^{\text{tw}} \times C$ , i.e.

$$\mathcal{E} \mid_{\{(E,\phi) \times C\}} \equiv (E, \phi)$$

- no universal bundle on  $M$ .

Solution: The additional class in  $\mathrm{IH}^4$  is a tautological class coming from a quasi-étale cover of  $M$



Def

$$M_i = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{equivariant} \\ \text{Higgs bals} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ (E, \phi) + \boxed{\begin{array}{c} E \xrightarrow{h} i^* E \\ \downarrow \\ C \xrightarrow{i} C \end{array}} \right\}$$

lift of  $i$ -action  
 $i^* h \circ h = \text{id}$

$\downarrow$

$(E, \phi)$

## Prop [FM]

- $q : M_i \longrightarrow M$  is a quasi-étale cover branched along  $\Sigma$
- $M_i$  has isolated singularities ( $q^{-1}(\Sigma)$ )
- $q$  is the only nontrivial quasi-étale cover of  $M(C, SL_2)$  with  $g(C) \geq 2$

Thm  $\exists$  a universal equivariant bundle on  $M_i^{sm} \times C$



Let  $P_i = \langle P, \text{deck transf. of } q \rangle$ .

$P(E)$

•  $c_2(P(E)) \in H^4(M_i^{sm})^{P_i}$

$$H^4(M_i)_{\overset{\text{II}}{P_i}}$$

$$\overset{\text{II}}{H^4(M)}_{P_i}$$

Thm  $c_2(P(E))$  has purity  $< 4$

weight = 4

# The weight filtration

$$\left[ \text{Logares - Munoz - Newstead} \right]: \quad E(M_B^S) = q^6 + 16q^4 - 5q^2 \quad , \quad q = uv$$

$$\Sigma_B = (\mathbb{C}^*)^4 / \mathbb{Z}_2$$

$$\begin{cases} |P_t(M_B)|^n = 1 + t^2 + 2t^4 + 2t^6 \\ |E(M_B)|^n = 1 + 2q^2 + 2q^4 + q^6 \end{cases}$$

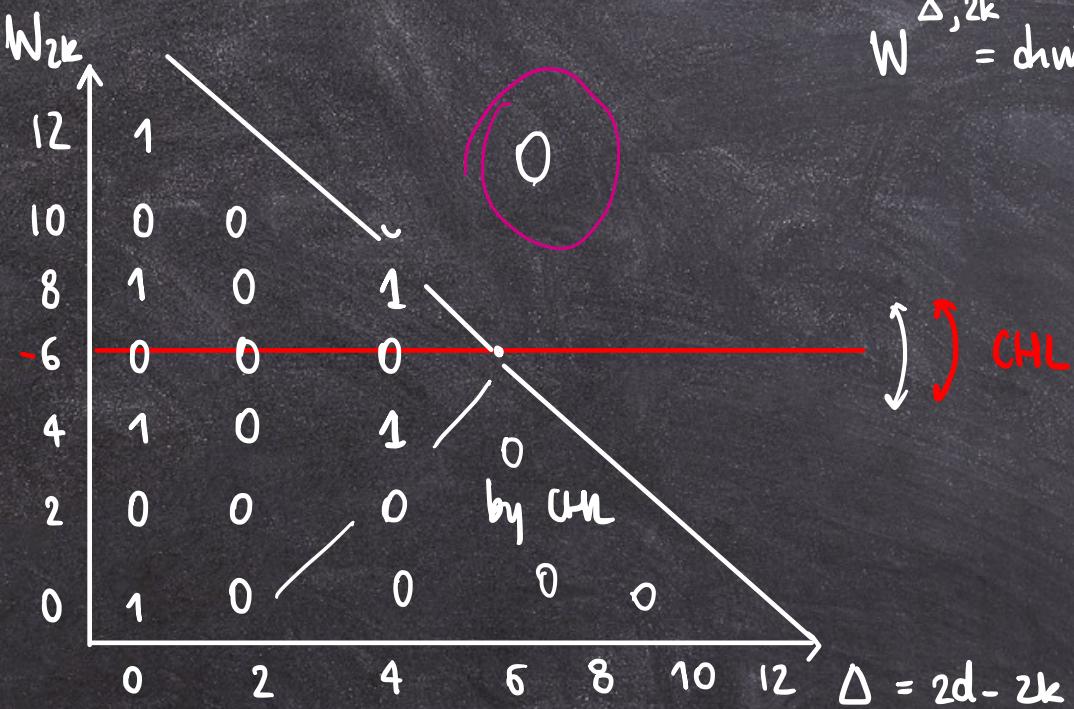
Poincaré duality: 1 class of weight 12  $\longrightarrow H^6$

$$2 \quad " \quad " \quad 8 \quad \longrightarrow 1H^4 + 1H^6$$

$$2 \quad " \quad " \quad 4 \quad \longrightarrow 1H^2 + 1H^4$$

$$1 \quad " \quad " \quad 0 \quad \longrightarrow H^0$$

$$W^{\Delta, 2k} = \dim \mathrm{Gr}_W^{2k} H^d(M_B)$$



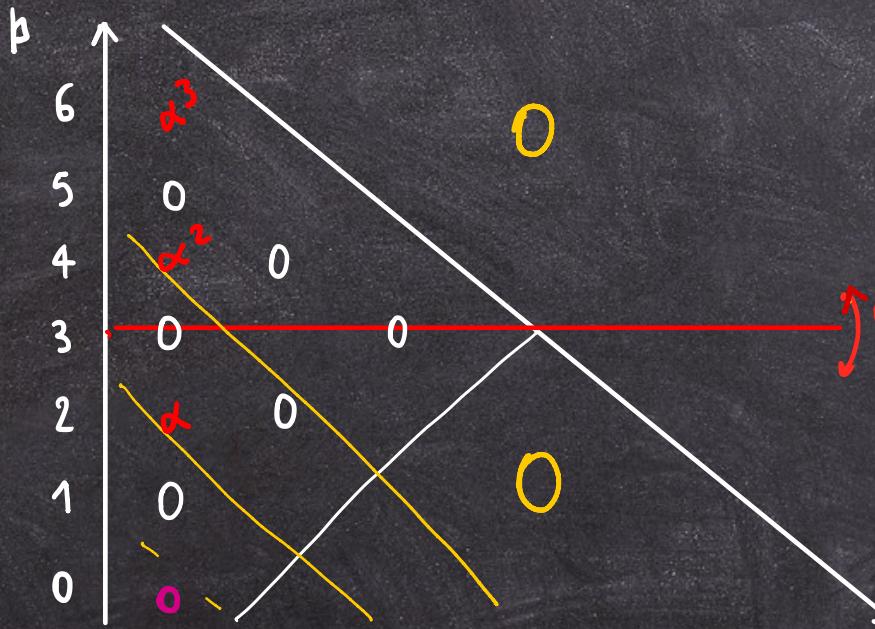
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1

2

2

# Perverse filtration



$$P^{\Delta, P} = \dim Gr_p^P H^{k+\Delta}(M)^r$$

•  $\alpha \in H^2$   $\chi$ -ample

$$P_{d-1} H^d = \text{Ker } \{ H^d(M) \}$$

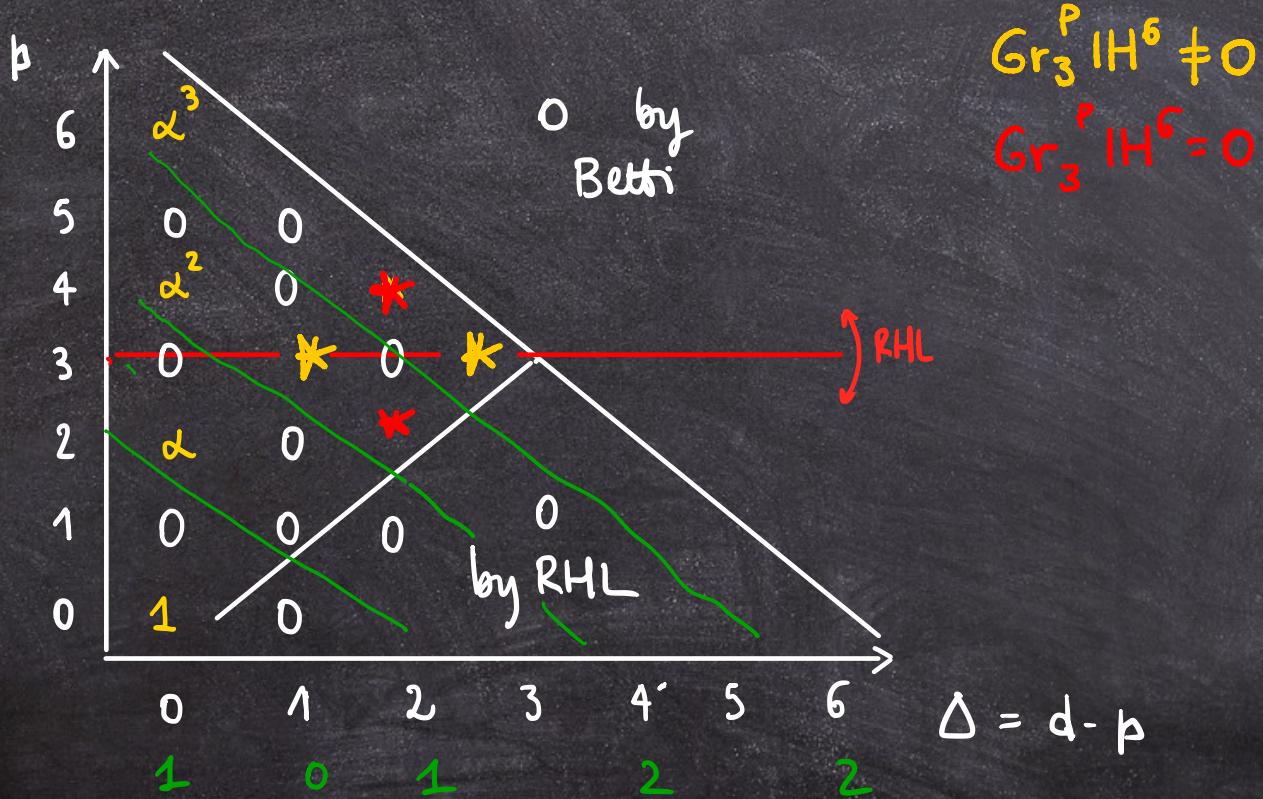
$$\downarrow H^d(\mathcal{X}'(s))$$

$$\alpha^d \longmapsto \alpha|_{\mathcal{X}'(s)} \neq 0$$

$$\Delta = d - p$$

$$\begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{matrix}$$

# Perverse filtration



## Intersection form

[de Cataldo - Migliorini]

$$\dim \text{Gr}_3^P H^6(\tilde{M})^{\Gamma} \leq \text{rank intersection form}$$

$$\begin{matrix} H_c^1(\tilde{M})^{\Gamma} \\ \parallel \end{matrix} \times H_c^6(\tilde{M})^{\Gamma} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Q}$$

$$\dim \text{Gr}_3^P IH^6(M)^{\Gamma} + 1 \quad \text{as} \quad IH^6(\tilde{M})^{\Gamma} = IH^6(M)^{\Gamma} \oplus \underbrace{H^2(\Sigma)^{\Gamma}}_{\text{per } v > 3} \oplus H^0(\Omega)^{\Gamma}$$

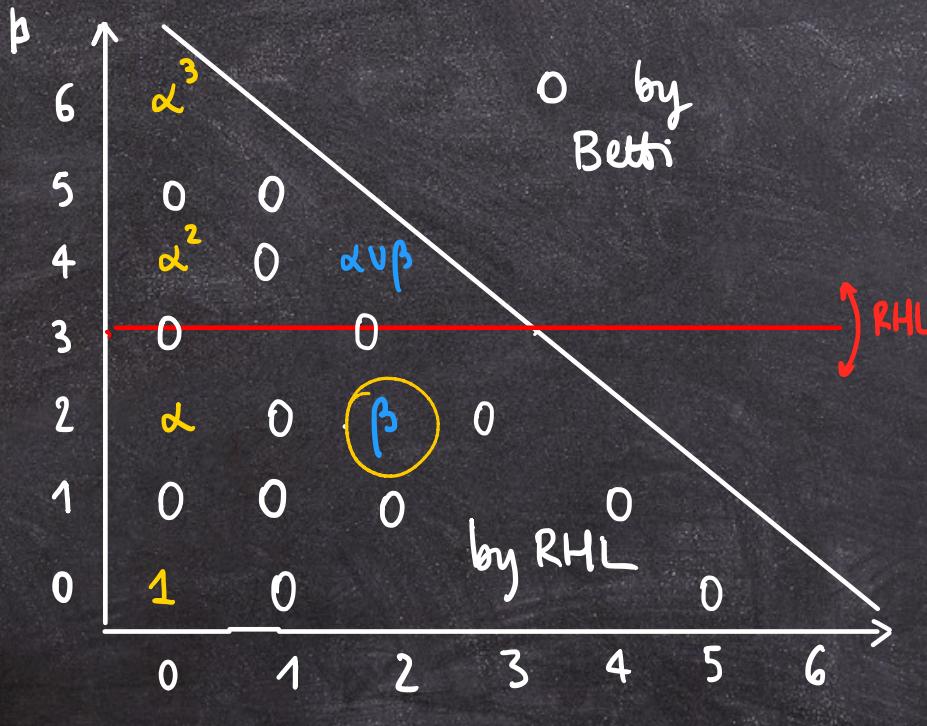
$$\text{if rank} = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \dim \text{Gr}_3^P IH^6(M)^{\Gamma} = 0$$

## Thm [FM]

The intersection form on  $H_c^6(\tilde{M})^\Gamma$  can be represented by the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 & 16 & -8 \\ 0 & 16 & -64 & 32 \\ 0 & -8 & 32 & -16 \end{bmatrix}$$

in the basis  $[(X \cdot f)^{(0)}], [\tilde{N}], [f'(\Omega)], [f'(\bar{\Omega})]$



# Summarizing

$\beta := c_2(P(\varepsilon))$  has weight 4  
 $\alpha$  has weight 4

$$\Downarrow$$

$P_1 = W_1$  for  
invariant part

