

§ Talk 2. Smooth representations of locally profinite groups.

§ 1. Locally profinite groups.

• Definition 1. A locally profinite group is a topological group G s.t. every open neighbourhood U of $1 \in G$ contains a compact open subgroup K of G .

• Examples 2.

(1) Any discrete group (or in general, any profinite group) is loc. prof.

(2) If G is loc. prof. and H is a closed subgroup of G , then H is loc. prof.

(3) If G is loc. prof. and H is a closed normal subgroup of G , then G/H is loc. prof.

• Let F be a non-Archimedean field, \mathcal{O}_F its ring of integers (which is a DVR), \mathfrak{p} the maximal ideal of \mathcal{O}_F and $k = \mathcal{O}_F/\mathfrak{p}$ the residue class field. We assume that k is finite and set $q := |k|$.

Let $\alpha \in \mathcal{O}_F$ be s.t. $\alpha \mathcal{O}_F = \mathfrak{p}$. Then, every $x \in F^\times$ can be written as $x = u \alpha^n$ for some $u \in \mathcal{O}_F^\times =: \mathcal{U}_F$ and some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ (we use the notation $n =: v_F(x)$). This allows us to define a norm

$$\|x\| = q^{-n} = q^{-v_F(x)}, \quad \|0\| = 0,$$

and thus a metric space topology in F , relative to which it is complete.

Moreover, with this topology, F is a top. field. The fractional ideals

$$\mathfrak{p}^n = \alpha^n \mathcal{O}_F = \{ x \in F : \|x\| \leq q^{-n} \}, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z},$$

are open subgroups of F and give a fundamental system of open neighbourhoods of 0 in F (i.e. for every open $\mathcal{U} \ni 0$, there $\exists n \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $\mathfrak{p}^n \subseteq \mathcal{U}$).

One checks that each \mathfrak{p}^n is compact, which means:

• Proposition 3. The group $(F, +)$ is locally prof., and F is the union of its compact open subgroups.

• Similarly, we consider now the multiplicative group (F^\times, \cdot) . This is again loc. profinite, with the congruence unit groups

$$\mathcal{U}_F^n := 1 + \mathfrak{p}^n, \quad n \geq 1$$

being compact open and a fund. system of open neighb. of 1 in F^\times .

• Let $n \geq 1$ be an integer. The F -v.s. $F^n = F \times \dots \times F$ with the product topology can be seen to be a loc. prof. group.

In particular, the matrix ring $M_n(F)$ is a locally profinite group under addition, in which mult. of matrices is continuous.

The group $G = GL_n(F)$ is an open subset of $M_n(F)$, and since inversion of matrices is continuous, G is a top. group. The subgroups

$$K = GL_n(\mathcal{O}_F), \quad K_j = 1 + \mathfrak{p}^j M_n(\mathcal{O}_F), \quad j \geq 1$$

are compact open and give a fund. system of open neighb. of 1 in G .

Therefore, G is loc. prof.

In general, if V is an F -v.s. of finite dimension n , choosing a basis gives us an isom. $V \cong F^n$, which we use to give V a topology (which is independent of the basis) - our previous remarks apply to the algebra $\text{End}_F(V)$ and the group $\text{Aut}_F(V)$.

• Proposition 4. Let G be a loc. prof. group, and $\psi: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ a group hom.

TFAE:

(1) ψ is cont.,

(2) $\ker \psi$ is open in G .

If ψ satisfies these conditions and G is the union of its compact open subgroups, then $\text{int} \psi \subseteq S^\pm$.

Proof

(2) \Rightarrow (1) Clear, using that if $g \in \psi^{-1}(\{z\})$ for some $z \in \mathbb{C}^\times$, then $\psi^{-1}(\{z\}) = g \cdot \ker \psi$, and since the map $G \rightarrow G, x \mapsto gx$ is a homeom., $\psi^{-1}(\{z\})$ is open.

(1) \Rightarrow (2) Let $U \subseteq \mathbb{C}^\times$ be an open neighb. of 1. Then $\psi^{-1}(U)$ is open in G and contains 1, hence $\exists K \subseteq G$ compact open subgroup s.t. $\psi(K) \subseteq U$. But if we choose U sufficiently small, it contains no non-trivial subgroup of \mathbb{C}^\times , so $\psi(K) = \{1\}$.

In general, if $g \in \ker(\psi)$, $g \cdot K \subseteq \ker \psi$ is an open neighb., showing that $\ker(\psi)$ is open.

For the last statement, one sees that S^\pm is the maximal compact subgroup of \mathbb{C}^\times . If $K \subseteq G$ is a compact subgroup, by continuity $\psi(K) \subseteq \mathbb{C}^\times$ also is compact, and thus contained in S^\pm . \square

• Definition 5. A character of a loc. prof. gp. G is a continuous group hom. $\chi: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$. We write $\mathbb{1}_G$, or $\mathbb{1}$, for the trivial (constant) character. Further, a character χ is said to be unitary if $\text{im } \chi \subseteq S^1$.

By Prop. 4, if G is the union of its open compact subgroups, every character of G is unitary.

• Let $\widehat{F} := \{ \chi: F \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times \mid \chi \text{ a character of } F \}$, which is a group under multiplication. Since F is the union of its compact open subgroups β^n , every $\chi \in \widehat{F}$ is unitary.

On the other hand, if $\chi \in \widehat{F} \setminus \{ \mathbb{1} \}$, then there is a least integer $d \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $\beta^d \subseteq \ker \chi$. Such a d is called the level of χ .

• Proposition 6. (Additive duality). Let $\psi \in \widehat{F} \setminus \{ \mathbb{1} \}$ of level d .

(1) Let $a \in F$. Then, the map $a\psi: F \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ given by $x \mapsto \psi(ax)$ is a character of F , and if $a \neq 0$, it has level $d - v_F(a)$.

(2) The map $a \mapsto a\psi$ is a group isom. $F \cong \widehat{\widehat{F}}$.

Proof

(1) Trivial.

(2) The map is clearly an inj. group hom. For surj., if $\theta \in \widehat{F}$ has level l , one finds a sequence $\{ u_n \}$ of elements of \mathcal{U}_F s.t. the character $\theta_n := u_n \alpha^{d-l} \psi$ agrees with θ on β^{d-l} and $u_{n+1} \equiv u_n \pmod{\beta^n}$. This Cauchy sequence converges to some $u \in \mathcal{U}_F$, and $\theta = u \alpha^{d-l} \psi$. \square

- For the multiplicative case $G = F^\times$, we cannot use the same reasoning as before. Still, if χ is a non-trivial char. on F^\times , we define its level as the least integer $n \geq 0$ s.t. $\mathcal{U}_F^{n+1} \subseteq \ker \chi$.

(By Prop. 4, χ vanishes on \mathcal{U}_F^m for some $m \geq 0$, since $\ker \chi$ is open).

of course, there are non-unitary characters of \mathcal{U}_F , such as $x \mapsto \|x\|$.

In contrast to the additive case, F has a maximal compact subgroup, \mathcal{U}_F .

In order to define the characters on F^\times , we will use the following iso.: if $1 \leq m < n \leq 2m$, then:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{F}^m / \mathbb{F}^n &\xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{U}_F^m / \mathcal{U}_F^n \\ x + \mathbb{F}^n &\longmapsto (1+x) \cdot \mathcal{U}_F^n, \end{aligned}$$

and thus $(\mathbb{F}^m / \mathbb{F}^n)^\wedge \cong (\mathcal{U}_F^m / \mathcal{U}_F^n)^\wedge$.

Fix $\psi_F \in \widehat{F}$ of level 1. For any $a \in F$, we define

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{F,a} : F &\rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times \\ x &\mapsto \psi_F(a(x-1)) \end{aligned}$$

we then get:

- Proposition 7. Let $\psi \in \widehat{F}$ have level 1. Let $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ s.t. $0 \leq m < n \leq 2m+1$.

The map $a \mapsto \psi_{F,a} |_{\mathcal{U}_F^{m+1}}$ induces an iso.

$$\mathbb{F}^{-m} / \mathbb{F}^{-n} \xrightarrow{\sim} \left(\mathcal{U}_F^{m+1} / \mathcal{U}_F^{n+1} \right)^\wedge$$

Sketch of proof } one checks that this map is the composition

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{F}^{-m} / \mathbb{F}^{-n} &\xrightarrow{\sim} \left(\mathbb{F}^{m+1} / \mathbb{F}^{n+1} \right)^\wedge \xrightarrow{\sim} \left(\mathcal{U}_F^{m+1} / \mathcal{U}_F^{n+1} \right)^\wedge \\ a + \mathbb{F}^{-m} &\longmapsto a\psi |_{\mathbb{F}^{m+1}} \\ &\longmapsto b\psi |_{\mathbb{F}^{m+1}} \longmapsto b\psi(\cdot + 1) |_{\mathcal{U}_F^{m+1}} \end{aligned}$$

§ 2. Smooth representations of loc. prof. groups.

• Definition 8. Let G be a loc. prof. group, and let (π, V) be a representation of G , i.e. V is a \mathbb{C} -v.s. and $\pi: G \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{C}}(V)$ a group homomorphism.

(a) We say that (π, V) is smooth if $\forall v \in V, \exists K \subseteq G$ compact open subgroup (depending on v) s.t. $\pi(k)v = v$. Equivalently,

$$V = \bigcup_K V^K$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_{\text{points of } V \text{ fixed by } K}$
 \swarrow
 running over all compact open subgroups of G

(b) A smooth rep. (π, V) is called admissible if V^K is finite-dim^l. for all $K \subseteq G$ compact open subgroups.

(c) If (π, V) is a smooth rep., then any G -stable subspace $W \subseteq V$ defines smooth repr. $G \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{C}}(W)$ and $G \rightarrow \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{C}}(V/W)$. We say that (π, V) is irreducible if $V \neq 0$ and V has no G -stable subspace W s.t. $0 \neq W \neq V$.

(d) Let $(\pi_1, V_1), (\pi_2, V_2)$ smooth repr. of G . We define the set of maps as

$$\text{Hom}_G(\pi_1, \pi_2) = \{ \varphi: V_1 \rightarrow V_2 \text{ } \mathbb{C}\text{-linear map} \mid \varphi \circ \pi_1(g) = \pi_2(g) \circ \varphi \text{ of } \forall g \in G \}.$$

Using this, we can define a category $\text{Rep}(G)$ of smooth repr. of G , which is in fact abelian.

(e) Two smooth repr. $(\pi_1, V_1), (\pi_2, V_2)$ of G are isomorphic, or equivalent, if there exists a \mathbb{C} -isom. $f: V_1 \rightarrow V_2$ s.t.

$$f \circ \pi_1(g) = \pi_2(g) \circ f \text{ of } \forall g \in G.$$

• Example 9. A character χ of G is a smooth rep. $\chi: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times = \text{Aut}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{C})$.

In fact, there is a bijection

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{1-dim'l smooth} \\ \text{reps. of } G \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{\cong} \widehat{G} \xrightarrow{1-1}$$

• Example 10. Assume that G is compact, and thus profinite. Let (ρ, V) be an irred. smooth rep. of G . We claim that V is fin. dim'l.

Indeed, if $v \in V, v \neq 0$, then $\exists K \subseteq G$ compact open subgroup s.t. $v \in V^K$.

But then, the subspace spanned by the finite set (since $[G:K] < +\infty$)

$$\{ \rho(g)v : g \in G/K \}$$

is G -stable and non-trivial, so irreducibility means that it spans V .

Further, if $K' := \bigcap_{g \in G/K} gKg^{-1}$, then it is an open normal subgroup of G of finite index acting trivially on V . This means that V is an irred. rep. of the finite discrete group G/K' .

• Proposition 11. Let G be loc. prof., and (ρ, V) a smooth rep. of G . TFAE:

(1) V is the sum of its irred. G -subspaces.

(2) V is the direct sum of a family of irred. G -subspaces.

(3) Any G -subspace of V has a G -complement in V .

If these conditions are satisfied, we say that (ρ, G) is G -semisimple.

• Lemma 12. Let G loc. prof., and $K \subseteq G$ compact open subgrp. Let (ρ, V) be a smooth rep. of G . Then V is the sum of its irreducible K -subspaces (i.e. V is K -semisimple).

• Proposition 13. A sequence

$$U \longrightarrow V \longrightarrow W$$

of maps between smooth reps. of G is exact if and only if

$$U^K \longrightarrow V^K \longrightarrow W^K$$

is exact for all $K \in G$ compact open subgroups.

• Proposition 14. Let $(\pi, V) \in \text{AbsRep}(G)$, an abstract rep. of G (i.e. not necessarily smooth). Define

$$V^\infty := \bigcup_K V^K \quad \rightarrow \text{going over all compact open subgrps. of } G$$

V^∞ is a G -stable subspace of V , and the map

$$\pi^\infty : G \rightarrow \text{Aut}_G(V^\infty), \quad g \mapsto \pi(g)|_{V^\infty}$$

is a grp. hom. s.t. (π^∞, V^∞) is a smooth rep. of G .

This defines a functor

$$(-)^\infty : \text{AbsRep}(G) \longrightarrow \text{Rep}(G),$$

which is right-adjoint to the forgetful functor $\text{Rep}(G) \rightarrow \text{AbsRep}(G)$.

In other words, if $(\pi, V) \in \text{Rep}(G)$ and $(\sigma, W) \in \text{AbsRep}(G)$, then

$$\text{Hom}_G(V, W) = \text{Hom}_G(V, W^\infty).$$

Note, that, in particular, $(-)^\infty$ is left-exact.

§ 3. Frobenius reciprocity and Schur's lemma.

• Let G be loc. prof., and H a closed subgroup. (and hence also loc. prof.).

Let (σ, W) be a smooth rep. of H . We define a space X

of functions $f: G \rightarrow W$ satisfying the following properties:

the automorphism $\sigma(h): \mathcal{W} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$ acting on $f(g) \in \mathcal{W}$

$$(1) f(hg) = \overbrace{\sigma(h)} f(g) \quad \forall h \in H, g \in G.$$

(2) there exists a compact open subgroup K of G (depending on f)

$$\text{s.t. } f(gx) = f(g) \quad \forall g \in G, x \in K.$$

Now, we define a group hom. $\Sigma: G \rightarrow \text{Aut}_c(X)$ by

$$\underbrace{\Sigma(g)f}_{\in X}: x \longmapsto f(xg) \quad \forall g, x \in G, f \in X.$$

$\in X$, so a map $G \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$.

Note that $\Sigma(g)f$ satisfies (2) for gKg^{-1} , where K is the corresponding compact open subgroup for f .

The pair (Σ, X) is a smooth rep. of G , called the rep. of G smoothly induced by σ , written as

$$(\Sigma, X) = \text{Ind}_H^G \sigma.$$

The map $\sigma \mapsto \text{Ind}_H^G \sigma$ gives a functor $\text{Rep}(H) \rightarrow \text{Rep}(G)$.

On the other hand, there is a canonical H -hom.

$$\alpha_\sigma: \text{Ind}_H^G \sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$$

$$f \longmapsto f(1).$$

• Proposition 15 (Frobenius Reciprocity). Let H be a closed subgroup of a loc. prof. group G . For a smooth rep. (σ, \mathcal{W}) of H and a smooth rep. (π, \mathcal{V}) of G , the canonical map

$$\text{Hom}_G(\pi, \text{Ind}_H^G \sigma) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}_H(\pi, \sigma)$$

$$\phi \longmapsto \alpha_\sigma \circ \phi$$

is an isom. functorial on π, σ .

Proof } Let $f: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$ be an H -morph. We define a G -morph.

$$f_*: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \text{Ind}_H^G \sigma \text{ as}$$

$$f_{\otimes}(v): G \longrightarrow W, \quad g \longmapsto f(\pi(g)v).$$

One then checks that the map $f \longmapsto f_{\otimes}$ inverts our desired map. \square

• Proposition 16. The functor $\text{Ind}_H^G: \text{Rep}(H) \rightarrow \text{Rep}(G)$ is additive and exact.

Proof | Let (σ, W) be a smooth rep. of H . We define

$$I(\sigma) := \{ f: G \rightarrow W \mid \underbrace{f(hg) = \sigma(h)f(g) \quad \forall h \in H, g \in G}_{\text{first condition of } \mathcal{X}} \}$$

This gives a functor $I: \text{Rep}(H) \rightarrow \text{AbsRep}(G)$. One can clearly check that I is additive and exact, and that

$$\text{Ind}_H^G(\sigma) = I(\sigma)^{\infty}.$$

Therefore, Ind_H^G is also additive, and by Prop. 14, it is left-exact.

For right-exactness, let $(\sigma, W), (\tau, U)$ smooth reps. of H and $f: W \rightarrow U$ an H -surjection. Let $\phi \in I(\tau)^{\infty}$, and choose a compact open subgroup $K \subseteq G$ fixing ϕ .

The support of ϕ is a union of cosets HgK , and the value $\phi(g) \in U$ must be fixed by $\tau(H \cap gKg^{-1})$.

By Prop. 13 applied to H and its compact open subgroup $H \cap gKg^{-1}$, the H -homomorphism $W^{H \cap gKg^{-1}} \rightarrow U^{H \cap gKg^{-1}}$ is surjective, and thus we can find some $wg \in W$, fixed by $\sigma(H \cap gKg^{-1})$, and s.t.

$$f(wg) = \phi(g).$$

We define a function $\Phi: G \rightarrow W$ with the same support as ϕ and $\Phi(hgk) = \sigma(h)wg$ for each $g \in H \backslash \text{supp } \phi / K$. Then Φ is fixed by K , and hence lies in $I(\sigma)^{\infty}$. Since its image in $I(\tau)^{\infty}$ is ϕ , this finishes the proof. \square

• Definition 17. Let G be a loc. prof. grp., $H \leq G$ a closed subgroup, and (σ, \mathbb{W}) a smooth rep. of H . Consider now the following \mathbb{C} -v.s. of functions which are compactly supported modulo H :

$$X_c := \{ f: G \rightarrow \mathbb{W}, f \in X \mid \text{supp } f \text{ is compact in } H \backslash G \}.$$

Equivalently, we may ask that $\text{supp } f \subseteq Hc$ for some compact set c in G .

The space X_c is stable under the action of G and provides a smooth rep. of G , which we denote by $c\text{-Ind}_H^G \sigma$. This provides a functor

$$c\text{-Ind}_H^G \sigma: \text{Rep}(H) \longrightarrow \text{Rep}(G).$$

It is called compact induction, or smooth induction with compact supports.

• Proposition 18. Let G be loc. prof., and $H \leq G$ a closed subgroup.

(1) The functor $c\text{-Ind}_H^G \sigma: \text{Rep}(H) \rightarrow \text{Rep}(G)$ is additive and exact.

(2) There is a morphism of functors $c\text{-Ind}_H^G \rightarrow \text{Ind}_H^G$, which is an isom. iff $H \backslash G$ is compact.

(3) (Frob. reciprocity) Assume that H is open, $(\sigma, \mathbb{W}) \in \text{Rep}(H)$ and $(\pi, \mathbb{V}) \in \text{Rep}(G)$. There is a functorial isomorphism

$$\text{Hom}_G(c\text{-Ind}_H \sigma, \pi) \cong \text{Hom}_H(\sigma, \pi).$$

• From now on, we assume that G/K is countable for all compact open subgroups $K \leq G$.

• Lemma 19. Let (ρ, V) be an irred. smooth rep. of G . Then, the dimension $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} V$ is countable.

Proof | Let $v \in V, v \neq 0$. By smoothness, $v \in V^{\bar{K}}$ for some compact open subgroup $K \in G$. Since the subspace spanned by the (countable) set

$$\{\rho(g)v : g \in G/K\}$$

is G -stable and non-zero, it must be V (by irreducibility). \square

• Schur's Lemma. If (ρ, V) is an irred. smooth rep. of G , then $\text{End}_G(V) = \mathbb{C}$.

Proof. | Let $\phi \in \text{End}_G(V), \phi \neq 0$. Since $\ker \phi, \text{im } \phi$ are both G -stable subspaces of V (and $\phi \neq 0$), then ϕ must be bijective and invertible. It follows that $\text{End}_G(V)$ is a complex division algebra.

Fix $v \in V, v \neq 0$, s.t. the translates $\rho(g)v$ of v span V . Then, any $\phi \in \text{End}_G(V)$ is clearly uniquely determined by $\phi(v) \in V$. Since V has countable \mathbb{C} -dim., then $\text{End}_G(V)$ also has countable \mathbb{C} -dim.

On the other hand, let $\phi \in \text{End}_G(V), \phi \notin \mathbb{C}$. This means that ϕ is transcendental (i.e. if $P \in \mathbb{C}[x]$, and $P(\phi) = 0 \Rightarrow P = 0$), and that the field $\mathbb{C}(\phi)$ is contained in $\text{End}_G(V)$. But the following subset of $\mathbb{C}(\phi)$ is \mathbb{C} -lin. independent:

$$\{(\phi - a)^{-1} \mid a \in \mathbb{C}\},$$

which means that $\mathbb{C}(\phi)$ (and hence $\text{End}_G(V)$) has uncountable dimension over \mathbb{C} . This is a contradiction, so ϕ must be in \mathbb{C} ,

and thus $\text{End}_G(V) = \mathbb{C}$. \square

• Corollary 20. Let (π, V) be an irred. smooth rep. of G . The centre Z of G acts on V via a character $\omega_\pi: Z \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$, i.e.

$$\pi(z)v = \omega_\pi(z) \cdot v \quad \forall v \in V, z \in Z.$$

ω_π is the central char. of π .

• Corollary 21. If G is abelian, any irred. smooth rep. of G is one-dimensional.

• Lastly, we discuss how semisimplicity behaves with regards to induction.

• Lemma 22. Let G be loc. prof., and $H \subseteq G$ an open subgroup of G of finite index.

(1) If (π, V) is a smooth rep. of G , then V is G -semisimple if and only if it is H -semisimple.

(2) Let (σ, W) be a semisimple smooth rep. of H . The induced representation $\text{Ind}_H^G \sigma$ is G -semisimple.