

# Symplectic Construction of Moduli Spaces

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$X$  is a compact Kähler manifold of (complex) dimension  $k$  with form  $\omega$ .

$G$  a (complex) reductive group with algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

$K \subseteq G$  a real (compact) form with algebra  $\mathfrak{k}$ .

$B$  a non-degenerate  $\text{Ad}(G)$ -invariant (resp.  $\text{Ad}(K)$ -invariant) bi-linear form on  $\mathfrak{g}$  (resp.  $\mathfrak{k}$ ).

$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} \oplus \mathfrak{p}$ . (Example:  $\mathfrak{sl}(n, \mathbb{C}) = \mathfrak{su}(n) \oplus \mathfrak{p}$ .)

Example: If  $\mathfrak{g}$  is semi-simple, then  $B$  is the Killing form.

The Betti moduli  $\mathcal{M}_B$ :

Assume  $\pi = \pi_1(X)$  is finitely generated with  $n$  generators and finitely many relations.

$\text{Hom}(\pi_1, G)$  is an affine algebraic variety over  $\mathbb{C}$ , in fact a subvariety of  $G^n$ .

There is an algebraic adjoint  $G$ -action on  $\text{Hom}(\pi_1, G)$ ,

$$G \times \text{Hom}(\pi_1, G) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(\pi_1, G)$$

$$(g, \rho) \mapsto \text{Ad}(g)(\rho)$$

Categorical quotient:

$\text{Hom}(\pi_1, G)$  is an affine variety, so is defined by a ring  $R$ .

Hence the  $\text{Ad}(G)$ -action on  $\text{Hom}(\pi_1, G)$  induces a  $G$ -action on  $R$ . Denote by  $R^G$  the invariant subring.

The Betti moduli

$$\mathcal{M}_B(G) = \text{Hom}(\pi_1, G)/G$$

is the variety defined by  $R^G$ .

Geometric explanation:

The orbits  $\text{Ad}(G)$ -action may not be closed in  $\text{Hom}(\pi_1, G)$ .

This implies that the geometric quotient of the  $\text{Ad}(G)$ -action may not be Hausdorff.

Must identify each orbit with the orbits in its closure.

$\mathcal{M}_B(G)$  parameterizes the reductive representations.

Remark:  $\mathcal{M}_B(G)$  has a variety structure coming from the variety structure on  $G$ .

Example:  $X$  a compact Riemann surface of genus  $g$ .

$$G = \mathbb{C}^\times.$$

$$\text{Set } [A, B] = ABA^{-1}B^{-1}$$

$$\pi_1 = \langle A_i, B_i, 1 \leq i \leq g \mid \prod_{i=1}^g [A_i, B_i] \rangle$$

$$\text{Hom}(\pi_1, \mathbb{C}^\times) \cong (\mathbb{C}^\times)^{2g}.$$

$$\mathcal{M}_B(\mathbb{C}^\times) \cong (\mathbb{C}^\times)^{2g}.$$

Example:  $G = \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})$ .

$$\mathrm{Hom}(\pi_1, G) \cong \{a_i, b_i : 1 \leq i \leq g, \prod_{i=1}^g [a_i, b_i] = e \in G\}.$$

Consider the representation  $\rho$  corresponding to

$$a_i, b_i = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq g.$$

The  $G$ -orbit of  $\rho$  is not closed because it does not contain the trivial representation.

Symplectic structures

$\rho \in \text{Hom}(\pi, G)$  together with the  $\text{Ad}(G)$ -action on  $\mathfrak{g}$  defines a  $\pi$ -module structure on  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

The tangent space at  $[\rho] \in \mathcal{M}_B(G)$  is  $H^1(\pi, \text{Ad}_\rho \mathfrak{g})$ .

Suppose  $X$  is a compact Riemann surface.

Then there is a symplectic structure  $\Omega_{\mathbb{J}}$  on  $\mathcal{M}_B(G)$ :  
 $H^1(\pi, \text{Ad}_\rho \mathfrak{g}) \times H^1(\pi, \text{Ad}_\rho \mathfrak{g}) \longrightarrow H^2(\pi, \mathbb{C}) \cong \mathbb{C}$ .

$\mathcal{M}_B(K)$  is symplectic while  $\mathcal{M}_B(G)$  is complex symplectic, i.e.  $\mathcal{M}_B(G)$  has two symplectic structures.



The de Rham construction

We begin with bilinear forms

$$\Omega(\eta_1, \eta_2) = \int_X B(\eta_1, \eta_2) \omega^i.$$

Notice that multiplication on the form is the wedge.

For each  $\eta \in \Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})$ , the curvature is

$$F(\eta) = d\eta + \frac{1}{2}[\eta, \eta].$$

$\Omega^2(\mathfrak{g})$  is canonically dual to  $\Omega^0(\mathfrak{g})$ :

$$\Omega^0(\mathfrak{g}) \times \Omega^2(\mathfrak{g}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}, \quad (\eta, w) = \int_X B(\eta, w) \omega^{k-1}.$$

## Complex symplectic quotient

There is a (gauge) action

$$\Omega^0(G) \times \Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}) \longrightarrow \Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}), \quad (g, \eta) \mapsto (dg)g^{-1} + \text{Ad}(g)(\eta).$$

Define the (moment) map by curvature

$$\mu : \Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}) \longrightarrow \Omega^2(\mathfrak{g}) \cong \Omega^0(\mathfrak{g}), \quad \mu(\eta) = F(\eta).$$

The de Rham moduli  $\mathcal{M}_{dR} \cong \mu^{-1}(0) // \Omega^0(G)$ .

$\mathcal{M}_{dR}$  acquires a natural symplectic form  $\Omega_{\mathbb{J}}$  from the reduction.

Suppose that  $\rho \in \text{Hom}(\pi, G)$  is a representation.

Let  $\tilde{d} : \Omega^0(\tilde{X}, \mathfrak{g}) \longrightarrow \Omega^1(\tilde{X}, \mathfrak{g})$ ,  
be the exterior derivative operator.

Form the  $\rho$ -twisted bundle  $\tilde{X} \times_{\text{Ad}(\rho)} \mathfrak{g}$ .

$\tilde{d}$  descends to a flat connection  $d + \eta$  on  $X$ , where  
 $\eta \in \Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})$ .

This defines  $\mathcal{M}_B \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{M}_{dR}$ .

Example:  $G = \mathbb{C}$ . (a not so great example)

This is simply the de Rham cohomology:

Gauge group is  $\Omega^0(\mathbb{C})$  and  $\mu(A) = dA$

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega^0(\mathbb{C}) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^1(\mathbb{C}) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^2(\mathbb{C}) \cdots$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{dR} \cong H_{dR}^1(\Omega^\bullet(\mathbb{C})).$$

Suppose  $X$  is a Riemann surface of genus  $g$ .

$$\text{Then } \mathcal{M}_{dR} \cong (\mathbb{C})^{2g}.$$

Example:  $G = \mathbb{C}^\times$  and  $G = \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})$ .

Gauge group is  $\Omega^0(\mathbb{C}^\times)$  and  $\mu(A) = dA$ .

$$\Omega^0(\mathbb{C}^\times) \xrightarrow{d \log} \Omega^1(\mathbb{C}) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^2(\mathbb{C}) \longrightarrow \dots$$

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{\exp} \mathbb{C}^\times \longrightarrow 0$$

$$\dots \rightarrow H^1(\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^1(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow H^1(\mathbb{C}^\times) \rightarrow H^2(\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \dots$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{dR} \cong H^1(\mathbb{C}^\times)^0 \cong H^1(\mathbb{C}) / \mathrm{im}(H^1(\mathbb{Z})).$$

Suppose  $X$  is a Riemann surface of genus  $g$ .

Then  $\mathcal{M}_{dR} \cong (\mathbb{C}^\times)^{2g}$ .

The Dolbeault construction

Let  $h$  be the Hermitian metric  $h(X, Y) = B(X, \bar{Y})$ .

Let  $K \subset G$  be the compact form preserving  $h$ .

The Kähler metric on  $X$  together with  $h$  defines a Hermitian metric  $h_j$  on  $\Omega^j(\mathfrak{g})$ :

$$h_j(\eta_1, \eta_2) = \int_X h(\eta_1, \eta_2) \omega^k.$$

For  $A \in \Omega^1(\mathfrak{k})$ , let

$$D_A : \Omega^0(\mathfrak{g}) \longrightarrow \Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}), \quad D_A(f) = df + [A, f].$$

Let  $D_A^* : \Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}) \longrightarrow \Omega^0(\mathfrak{g})$ ,  $h_0(D_A^* \eta, f) = h_1(\eta, D_A f)$ .

HyperKähler structure on  $\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}) \cong \mathfrak{g} \otimes \Omega^1(X)$

$\mathbb{I} = i \otimes 1$ ,  $\mathbb{J} = \tau \otimes j$ ,  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{I}\mathbb{J}$ , where

$j$  is the complex structure on  $X$ ,

$\tau : \mathfrak{g} \longrightarrow \mathfrak{g}$  is the adjoint with respect to  $B$ .

The Riemannian metric from  $h$  is compatible with  $\mathbb{I}$ ,  $\mathbb{J}$ ,  $\mathbb{K}$ . Together, they form a HyperKähler structure on  $\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})$ .

The following action is symplectic with respect to

$\Omega_{\mathbb{I}}$ ,  $\Omega_{\mathbb{J}}$ ,  $\Omega_{\mathbb{K}}$ :

$$\Omega^0(K) \times \Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}) \longrightarrow \Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}), \quad (g, \eta) \mapsto (dg)g^{-1} + \text{Ad}(g)(\eta).$$

HyperKähler reduction

$$\eta \in \Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}), \eta = A + \Psi,$$

where  $A \in \Omega^1(\mathfrak{k}), \Psi \in \Omega^1(\mathfrak{p})$

The action is also Hamiltonian with respect to the three symplectic structures, resulting in the HyperKähler quotient  $\mathcal{M}$  with moment maps

$$\begin{cases} \mu_{\mathbb{I}}(\eta) &= D_A^* \Psi \\ \mu_{\mathbb{J}}(\eta) &= \text{Im}(F(\eta)) \\ \mu_{\mathbb{K}}(\eta) &= \text{Re}(F(\eta)) \end{cases}$$

The smooth part of  $\mathcal{M}_{Dol} \cong \Omega^1(\mathfrak{g})///\Omega^0(K)$  has a HyperKähler structure.



The twister space.

Let  $a \in S^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ . Then

$a_1\mathbb{I} + a_2\mathbb{J} + a_3\mathbb{K}$  is a complex structure on  $\mathcal{M}$  compatible with  $g$ .

This gives a family of Kähler structures on  $\mathcal{M}$ , parameterized by  $S^2$ .

All these structures are isomorphic to each other, except  $\mathbb{J}$ .

The Abelian case (Hodge Theory):

$X$  a compact Riemann surface,  $G = \mathbb{C}$   
(Bad example)

Fix the trivial Hermitian metric  $h$  on  $X \times \mathbb{C}$ .

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega^0(\mathbb{C}) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^1(\mathbb{C}) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^2(\mathbb{C}) \cdots$$

$$\eta \in \Omega^1(\mathbb{C}), \quad \eta = 0 + \Psi, \quad \Psi \in \Omega^1(\mathbb{C})$$

$$dA = d\Psi = 0, \quad d^*\Psi = 0.$$

$\Psi \in \mathcal{H}^1(\mathbb{C})$  is harmonic.

$X$  a compact Riemann surface,  $G = \mathbb{C}^\times$ :

$$\eta \in \Omega^1(\mathbb{C}), \quad \eta = A + \Psi, \quad A \in \Omega^1(i\mathbb{R}), \quad \Psi \in \Omega^1(\mathbb{R})$$

$$dA = d\Psi = 0, \quad d^*\Psi = 0.$$

$dA = 0 \Rightarrow A$  is closed.

$d\Psi = 0, \quad d^*\Psi = 0 \Rightarrow \Psi$  is harmonic.

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega^0(\mathrm{U}(1)) \xrightarrow{d \log} Z^1(i\mathbb{R}) \times \mathcal{H}^1(\mathbb{R}) \xrightarrow{d} \Omega^2(\mathbb{C}) \cdots$$

The complex structure  $\mathbb{J}$  gives the complex structure on  $\mathcal{M}_{Dol} = T^* \mathrm{Jac}(X)$ .

Real forms:

If  $K \subset G$  is a real form, then  $\mathbb{I}$  and  $\Omega_{\mathbb{I}}$  disappear, but  $\mathbb{J}$  and  $\Omega_{\mathbb{J}}$  still exist. Hence  $\mathcal{M}_{Dol}(K)$  is a Kähler quotient with respect to  $\mathbb{J}$ .

Example:  $K = U(1)$ ,  $\mathcal{M}_{Dol}(K) \cong Jac(X)$ .

Example:  $K = \mathbb{R}^\times$ ,  $\mathcal{M}_{Dol}(K) = \mathbb{J}_2(X) \times H^0(\Omega^1)$ , where  $\Omega^1$  is the sheaf of holomorphic 1-forms on  $X$ .

The complex structure  $\mathbb{J}$  depends on the complex structure of  $X$ .

The symplectic structure  $\Omega_{\mathbb{J}}$  depends on the symplectic structure  $\omega$  on  $X$  only.

In general, there are more symplectomorphisms than there are complex automorphisms.

Example: If  $X$  is a compact Riemann surface, then the space of complex automorphism is finite when  $g > 1$ . By the  $\mathcal{M}_B$  construction,  $\Omega_{\mathbb{J}}$  is topological.

Dynamics of the mapping class group:  $X$  a Riemann surface of genus  $g > 0$ .

$$MCG = \text{Homeo}(X)/\text{Homeo}(X)_0.$$

There are actions

$$\text{Homeo}(X) \times \pi \longrightarrow \pi.$$

$$MCG \times \pi \longrightarrow \pi.$$

$$MCG \times \text{Hom}(\pi, G) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(\pi, G)$$

$$MCG \times \mathcal{M}_B \longrightarrow \mathcal{M}_B.$$

Hamiltonian actions on  $\mathcal{M}_B$

Let  $X$  be of genus  $g > 1$  and  $\gamma \subset X$  a based simple closed curve.

$$\mathrm{Tr}_\gamma : \mathcal{M}_B \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}, \quad \mathrm{Tr}_\gamma([\rho]) = \mathrm{Tr}(\rho(\gamma)).$$

There are  $3g - 3$  mutually non-intersecting simple closed curves.

There is a  $(\mathbb{C}^\times)^{3g-3}$ -action on  $\mathcal{M}_B(G)$ .

Suppose  $K \subset G$  is a compact form.

Then  $\mathcal{M}_B(K)$  is compact.

There is a  $U(1)^{3g-3}$ -action on  $\mathcal{M}_B(K)$ .

If  $K = \text{SU}(2)$ , then  $\mathcal{M}_B(K)$  is integrable.



$X$  is a (punctured) torus;  $K = \text{SU}(2)$ .

$$\pi = \langle A, B | [A, B] \rangle$$

$\mathcal{M}_B$  is defined by  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - xyz - 2$ .

$k = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - xyz - 2$  is the boundary trace function.









