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## **Travaux de Dwork**

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TRAVAUX DE DWORK

par Nicholas KATZ

Introduction.

This talk is devoted to a part of Dwork's work on the variation of the zeta function of a variety over a finite field, as the variety moves through a family. Recall that for a single variety  $V/\mathbb{F}_q$ , its zeta function is the formal series in  $t$

$$\text{Zeta}(V/\mathbb{F}_q; t) = \exp\left(\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{t^n}{n} (\# \text{ of points on } V \text{ rational over } \mathbb{F}_{q^n})\right).$$

As a power series it has coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , and in fact it is a rational function of  $t$  [4]. We shall generally view it as a rational function of a  $p$ -adic variable.

Suppose now we consider a one parameter family of varieties, i.e. a variety  $V/\mathbb{F}_p[\lambda]$ . For each integer  $n \geq 1$  and each point  $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$ , the fibre  $V(\lambda_0)/\mathbb{F}_{p^n}$  has a zeta function  $\text{Zeta}(V(\lambda_0)/\mathbb{F}_{p^n}; t)$ . We want to understand how this rational function of  $t$  varies when we vary  $\lambda_0$  in the algebraic closure of  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . Ideally, we might wish a "formula", of a  $p$ -adic sort, for, say, one of the reciprocal zeroes of  $\text{Zeta}(V(\lambda_0)/\mathbb{F}_{p^n}; t)$ . A natural sort of "formula" would be a  $p$ -adic power series  $a(x) = \sum a_n x^n$  with coefficients  $a_n \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  tending to zero, with the property :

for every  $n \geq 1$  and for every  $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$ , let  $X_0 \in$  the algebraic closure of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$  be the unique quantity lying over  $\lambda_0$  which satisfies  $X_0 = X_0^{p^n}$ . Then

$$a(X_0)a(X_0^p)\dots a(X_0^{p^{n-1}})$$

is a reciprocal zero of  $\text{Zeta}(V(\lambda_0)/\mathbb{F}_{p^n}; t)$ , i.e., the numerator of  $\text{Zeta}(V(\lambda_0)/\mathbb{F}_{p^n}; t)$  is divisible by  $(1 - a(X_0)a(X_0^p)\dots a(X_0^{p^{n-1}})t)$ .

Now it is unreasonable to expect such a formula unless we can at least describe a priori which reciprocal zero it's a formula for ! If, for example, we knew a priori that one and only one of the reciprocal zeroes were a  $p$ -adic unit, then we might reasonably hope for a formula for it. If, on the other hand, we knew a priori that precisely  $\nu \geq 2$  of the reciprocal zeroes were  $p$ -adic units, we oughtn't hope to single one out ; we could expect at best that we could describe the polynomial of degree  $\nu$  which has those  $\nu$  as its reciprocal zeroes. For instance, we might hope for a  $\nu \times \nu$  matrix  $A(X)$  with entries in  $\mathbb{Z}_p[[X]]$ , their coefficients tending to zero, so that for each  $\lambda_o \in \mathbb{F}_p^n$ , the characteristic polynomial

$$\det(I - t A(X_o)A(X_o^p) \dots A(X_o^{p^{n-1}}))$$

is the above polynomial.

In another optic, zeta functions come from cohomology, and to study their variation we should study the variation of cohomology. As Dwork discovered in 1961-63 in his study of families of hypersurfaces, their cohomology is quite rigid  $p$ -adically, forming a sort of structure on the base now called an  $F$ -crystal. Thanks to crystalline cohomology, we now know that this is a general phenomenon (cf. pt. 7 for a more precise statement). The relation with the "formula" viewpoint is this : a formula  $a(X)$  for one root is sub- $F$ -crystal of rank 1, a formula  $A(X)$  for the  $\nu$  roots "at once" is a sub- $F$ -crystal of rank  $\nu$  .

So in fact this exposé is about some of Dwork's recent work on variation of  $F$ -crystals, from the point of view of  $p$ -adic analysis. Due to space limitations, we have systematically suppressed the Monsky-Washnitzer "over-convergent" point of view in favor of the simpler but less rich "Krasner-analytic" or "rigid analytic" one ( but cf. [16]). Among the casualties are Dwork's work on "excellent Liftings of Frobenius", and on the  $p$ -adic use of the Picard-Lefschetz formula, both of which are entirely omitted.

1. F-crystals ([1],[2]).

In down-to-earth terms, an F-crystal is a differential equation on which a "Frobenius" operates. Let us make this precise.

(1.0) Let  $k$  be a perfect field of characteristic  $p > 0$ ,  $W(k)$  its Witt vectors, and  $S = \text{Spec}(A)$  a smooth affine  $W(k)$ -scheme. For each  $n \geq 0$ , we put  $S_n = \text{Spec}(A/p^{n+1}A)$ , an affine smooth  $W_n(k)$ -scheme, and for  $n = \infty$  we put  $S^\infty =$  the  $p$ -adic completion of  $S = \text{Spec}(\varprojlim A/p^{n+1}A)$ . (Function theoretically,  $A^\infty = \varprojlim A/p^{n+1}A$  is the ring of those rigid analytic functions of norm  $\leq 1$  on the rigid analytic space underlying  $S$  which are defined over  $W(k)$ ). For any affine  $W(k)$ -scheme  $T$  and any  $k$ -morphism  $f_0 : T_0 \rightarrow S_0$ , there exists a compatible system of  $W_n(k)$ -morphisms  $f_n : T_n \rightarrow S_n$  with  $f_{n+1}$  lifting  $f_n$  (because  $T$  is affine and  $S$  smooth), or, equivalently, a  $W(k)$ -morphism  $f : T^\infty \rightarrow S^\infty$  lifting  $f_0$ . Of course, there is in general no unicity in the lifting  $f$ .

In particular, noting by  $\sigma$  the Frobenius automorphism of  $W(k)$ , there exists a  $\sigma$ -linear endomorphism  $\varphi$  of  $S^\infty$  which lifts the  $p$ 'th power endomorphism of  $S_0$ . The interplay between  $S_0, S, S^\infty$  and  $\varphi$  is given by :

Lemma 1.1. (Tate-Monsky [24],[27]). Denote by  $\mathbb{C}$  the completion of the algebraic closure of the fraction field  $K$  of  $W(k)$ , and by  $\mathbb{C}_\mathbb{C}$  its ring of integers.

1.1.1. The successive inclusions between the sets below are all bijections

- a) the  $\mathbb{C}$ -valued points of  $S$  (as  $W(k)$ -scheme)
- b) the continuous  $W(k)$ -homomorphisms  $A^\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\mathbb{C}$
- c) " " "  $A^\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$
- d) the closed points of  $S^\infty \otimes \mathbb{C}$ .

1.1.2. Every  $k$ -valued point  $e_0$  of  $S_0$  lifts uniquely to a  $W(k)$ -valued point  $e$  of  $S^\infty$  which verifies  $\varphi \circ e = e \circ \sigma$ . In fact, for any isometric extension  $\bar{\sigma}$  of  $\sigma$  to  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $e$  is the unique  $\mathbb{C}$ -valued point of  $S^\infty$  which lifts  $e_0$  and verifies  $\varphi \circ e = e \circ \bar{\sigma}$ . The point  $e$  is called the  $\varphi$ -Teichmüller representative of  $e_0$ . The Teichmüller points of  $S^\infty$  ( $\mathbb{C}$ -valued points  $e$  satisfying  $\varphi \circ e = e \circ \bar{\sigma}$ ) are in bijective correspondence with the points of  $S_0$  with values in the algebraic closure  $\bar{k}$  of  $k$ , and all take values in  $W(\bar{k})$ .

(1.2) Let  $H$  be a locally free  $S^\infty$ -module of finite rank, with an integrable connection  $\nabla$  (for the continuous derivations of  $S^\infty/W(k)$ ) which is nilpotent. This means that for any continuous derivation  $D$  of  $S^\infty/W(k)$  which is  $p$ -adically topologically nilpotent as additive endomorphism of  $A^\infty$ , the additive endomorphism  $\nabla(D)$  of  $H$  is also  $p$ -adically topologically nilpotent. For any affine  $W(k)$ -scheme  $T$  which is  $p$ -adically complete, any pair of maps

$$T \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{array} S^\infty$$

which are congruent modulo a divided-power ideal of  $T$  ( $(p)$ , for example), the connection  $\nabla$  provides an isomorphism

$$\chi(f,g) : f^*H \xrightarrow{\sim} g^*H .$$

This isomorphism satisfies

- (i)  $\chi(g,h) \chi(f,g) = \chi(f,h)$  if  $T \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \\ \xrightarrow{h} \end{array} S^\infty$
- (ii)  $\chi(fk, gk) = k^* \chi(f,g)$  if  $R \xrightarrow{k} T \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{array} S^\infty$
- (iii)  $\chi(\text{id}, \text{id}) = \text{id}$ .

The universal example of such a situation  $T \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{array} S^\infty$  is provided by

the "closed divided power neighborhood of the diagonal"  $\text{P.D.}-\Delta(S^\infty)$ , with its two projections to  $S^\infty$ . When, for examples,  $S$  is etale over  $\mathbb{A}_{W(k)}^n$ ,  $\text{P.D.}-\Delta(S^\infty)$  is the spectrum of the ring of convergent divided power series over  $A^\infty$  in  $n$  indeterminates, the formal expressions

$$\sum a_{i_1, \dots, i_n} \frac{t_1^{i_1}}{i_1!} \cdots \frac{t_n^{i_n}}{i_n!}$$

whose coefficients  $a_{i_1, \dots, i_n}$  are elements of  $A^\infty$  which tend to zero (in the  $p$ -adic topology of  $A^\infty$ ).

Any situation  $T \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{array} S^\infty$  of the type envisioned above can be factored uniquely

$$T \xrightarrow{f \times g} \text{P.D.}-\Delta(S^\infty) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\text{pr}_2} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{pr}_2} \end{array} S^\infty,$$

and we have

$$\chi(f, g) = (f \times g)^* \chi(\text{pr}_1, \text{pr}_2).$$

In fact, giving the isomorphism  $\chi(\text{pr}_1, \text{pr}_2)$ , subject to a cocycle condition, is equivalent to giving the nilpotent integrable connection  $\nabla$ .

(1.3) We may now define an  $F$ -crystal  $\underline{H} = (H, \nabla, F)$  as consisting of :

- (1) a "differential equation"  $(H, \nabla)$  as above
- (2) for every lifting  $\varphi : S^\infty \rightarrow S^\infty$  of Frobenius, a horizontal

morphism

$$F(\varphi) : \varphi^* H \rightarrow H$$

which becomes an isomorphism upon tensoring with  $Q$ .

For different liftings  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$ , we require the commutativity of the diagram below. (compare [11], section 5 and [12], section 2)

$$(1.3.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \varphi_1^* H & \xrightarrow{F(\varphi_1)} & H \\ \chi(\varphi_1, \varphi_2) \int \downarrow & \nearrow F(\varphi_2) & \\ \varphi_2^* H & & \end{array}$$

(1.4) Given a  $k$ -valued point  $e_o$  of  $S_o$ , let  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  be two liftings of Frobenius, and  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  the corresponding Teichmuller representatives. By inverse image, we obtain two  $F$ -crystals on  $W(k)$ ,  $(e_1^* H, e_1^*(F(\varphi_1)))$  and  $(e_2^* H, e_2^*(F(\varphi_2)))$  which are explicitly isomorphic

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (e_1^* H)(\sigma) & \xrightarrow{e_1^*(F(\varphi_1))} & e_1^* H \\ \sigma^* \chi(e_1, e_2) \int \downarrow & & \int \downarrow \chi(e_1, e_2) \\ (e_2^* H)(\sigma) & \xrightarrow{e_2^*(F(\varphi_2))} & e_2^* H \end{array}$$

We thus obtain an  $F$ -crystal on  $W(k)$  (a free  $W(k)$ -module of finite rank together with a  $\sigma$ -linear endomorphism which is an isomorphism over  $K$ ) which depends only on the point  $e_o$  of  $S_o$ . In case  $k$  is a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_n$ , then for every multiple,  $m$ , of  $n$ , the  $m$ -th iterate of the  $\sigma$ -linear endomorphism is linear over  $W(\mathbb{F}_m)$ . Its characteristic polynomial  $\det(1 - t F^m)$  is denoted

$$P(\underline{H}; e_o, \mathbb{F}_m, t) .$$

2. F-crystals over  $W(k)$  and their Newton polygons [19].

Theorem 2.(Manin-Dieudonné). Let  $(H, F)$  be an  $F$ -crystal over  $h/(k)$ , and suppose  $k$  algebraically closed.

2.1.  $H$  admits an increasing finite filtration of  $F$ -stable sub-modules

$$0 \subset H_0 \subset H_1 \subset \dots$$

whose associated graded is free, with the following property. There exists a sequence of rational numbers in "lowest terms"

$$0 \leq \frac{a_0}{n_0} < \frac{a_1}{n_1} < \frac{a_2}{n_2} < \dots$$

(if  $a_0 = 0$ ,  $n_0 = 1$ ;  $n_i \geq 1$ ,  $a_i \geq 0$ , and  $(a_i, n_i) = 1$  if  $a_i \neq 0$ )

such that

2.1.1.  $(H_i/H_{i-1}) \otimes K$  admits a K-base of vectors  $x$  which satisfy  
 $F^{n_i}(x) = p^{a_i}x$ , and its dimension is a multiple of  $n_i$ .

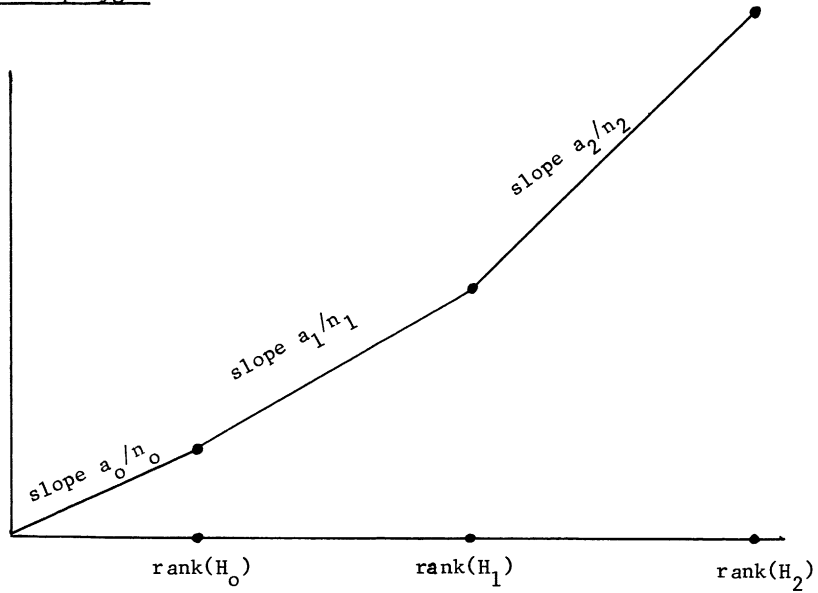
2.1.2. If  $a_0/n_0 = 0$ , then  $H_0$  itself admits a  $W(k)$  base of elements  
 $x$  satisfying  $Fx = x$ ,  $F$  is topologically nilpotent on  $H/H_0$ , and the  
rank of  $H_0$  is equal to the stable rank of the  $p$ -linear endomorphism of  
the  $k$ -space  $H/pH$  induced by  $F$ ;  $H_0$  is then called the "unit root part" of  
 $H$ , or the "slope zero" part.

2.1.3. If  $(H, F)$  is deduced by extension of scalars from an  $F$ -crystal  
 $(H, F)$  over  $W(k_0)$ ,  $k_0$  a perfect subfield of  $k$ , then the filtration  
descends to an  $\mathbb{F}$ -stable filtration of  $H$ . In case  $k_0$  is a finite field  
 $\mathbb{F}_n$ , the eigenvalues of  $\mathbb{F}^n$  on the  $i$ 'th associated graded have  $p$ -adic  
ordinal  $na_i/n_i$ .

2.2. The rational numbers  $a_i/n_i$  are called the slopes of the  $F$ -crystal,  
and the ranks of  $H_i/H_{i-1}$  are called the multiplicities of the slopes.  
The slopes and their multiplicities characterize the  $F$ -crystal up to isogeny.



It is convenient to assemble the slopes and their multiplicities in the Newton polygon



When  $(H, F)$  comes by extension of scalars from  $(\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{F})$  over  $W(\mathbb{F}_p^n)$ , this Newton polygon is the "usual" Newton polygon of the characteristic polynomial  $P(\mathbb{H}; e_0, \mathbb{F}_p^n, t)$ , calculated with the ordinal function normalized by  $\text{ord}(p^n) = 1$ .

3. Local Results ; F-crystals on  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$ .

(3.0) The completion of  $S^\infty$  along a  $k$ -valued point  $e_0$  of  $S_0$  is (non-canonically) isomorphic to the spectrum of  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$ . In this optic, the set of  $W(k)$ -valued points of  $S^\infty$  lying over  $e_0$  becomes the  $n$ -fold product of  $pW(k)$ , and the set of  $\mathbb{C}_k$ -valued points of  $S^\infty$  lying over  $e_0$  becomes the  $n$ -fold product of the maximal ideal of  $\mathbb{C}_k$  (namely, the values of  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ ).

By inverse image, any F-crystal on  $S^\infty$  gives an F-crystal on  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$ .

Proposition 3.1. Let  $(H, \nabla, F)$  be an F-crystal over  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$ .

3.1.1. Let  $W(k)\langle\langle t_1, t_n \rangle\rangle$  denote the ring of convergent divided power series over  $W(k)$  (cf. 1.2 ). Then  $H \otimes W(k)\langle\langle t_1, \dots, t_n \rangle\rangle$  admits a basis of horizontal (for  $\nabla$ ) sections.

3.1.2. Let  $K\{\{t_1, \dots, t_n\}\}$  denote the ring of power series over  $K$  which are convergent in the open polydisc of radius one (i.e. series  $\sum a_{i_1 \dots i_n} t_1^{i_1} \dots t_n^{i_n}$  such that for every real number  $0 \leq r < 1$ ,  $|a_{i_1 \dots i_n}| r^{i_1 + \dots + i_n}$  tends to zero). Then  $H \otimes K\{\{t_1, \dots, t_n\}\}$  admits a basis of horizontal sections.

3.1.3. Every horizontal section of  $H \otimes W(k)\langle\langle t_1, \dots, t_n \rangle\rangle$  fixed by  $F$  "extends" to a horizontal section of  $H$  (i.e. over all of  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$ ).

Proof: 3.1.1. is completely formal : the two homomorphisms

$f, g : W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]] \longrightarrow W(k)\langle\langle t_1, \dots, t_n \rangle\rangle$  given by

$f =$  natural inclusion,  $g =$  evaluation  $e$  at  $(0, \dots, 0)$ , followed

by the inclusion of  $W(k)$  in  $W(k)\langle\langle t_1, \dots, t_n \rangle\rangle$ , are congruent

modulo the divided power ideal  $(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  of the  $p$ -adically

complete ring  $W(k)\langle\langle t_1, \dots, t_n \rangle\rangle$ . Thus  $\chi(f, g)$  is an isomorphism

between  $H \otimes W(k)\langle\langle t_1, \dots, t_n \rangle\rangle$  with its induced connection and

the "constant" module  $H(0, \dots, 0) \otimes_{W(k)} W(k)\langle\langle t_1, \dots, t_n \rangle\rangle$  with

connection  $1 \otimes d$ .

3.1.2. is more subtle. Let's choose a particularly simple  $\varphi$  (as we may using 1.3.1), the one which sends  $t_i \longmapsto t_1^p$ ,  $i=1, \dots, n$ , and is  $\sigma$ -linear. Choose a basis of the free  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$  module  $H$ , and let  $A_\varphi$  denote the matrix of

$F(\varphi) : \varphi^*H \longrightarrow H$ . Denote by  $Y$  the matrix with entries in  $W(k)\langle\langle t_1, \dots, t_n \rangle\rangle$  whose columns are a basis of horizontal sections of  $H \otimes W(k)\langle\langle t_1, \dots, t_n \rangle\rangle$  (a "fundamental solution matrix"); in the notation of (2) above, it's the matrix of  $\chi(g, f)$ . Because  $F(\varphi)$  is horizontal, we have the matricial relation

$$A_\varphi \cdot \varphi(Y) = Y \cdot A_\varphi(0, \dots, 0) .$$

We must deduce that  $Y$  converges in the open unit polydisc. We know this is true of  $A_\varphi$ , as it even has coefficients in  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$ . Since  $A_\varphi(0, \dots, 0)$  is invertible over  $K$  by definition of an F-crystal, we conclude that for any real number  $0 \leq r < 1$ , we have the implication

$\varphi(Y)$  converges in the polydisc of radius  $r \implies Y$  converges in the polydisc of radius  $r$  .

On the other hand, writing  $Y = \sum Y_{i_1, \dots, i_n} t_1^{i_1} \dots t_n^{i_n}$ , we have  $\varphi(Y) = \sum \alpha(Y_{i_1, \dots, i_n}) t_1^{pi_1} \dots t_n^{pi_n}$ , whence for any real  $r \geq 0$ , we have the implication

$Y$  converges in the polydisc of radius  $r \implies \varphi(Y)$  converges in the polydisc of radius  $r^{1/p}$  .

Since  $Y$  has entries in  $W(k)\langle\langle t_1, \dots, t_n \rangle\rangle$ , it converges in the polydisc of radius  $r_0 = |p|^{1/p-1}$ , hence, iterating our two implications, in the polydisc of radius  $r_0^{1/p^n}$  for every  $n$ ; as  $\lim(r_0)^{1/p^n} = 1$ , we are done.

3.1.3. is similar to 3.1.2, only easier. If  $y$  is a column vector with entries in  $W(k)\langle\langle t_1, \dots, t_n \rangle\rangle$  satisfying

$$A_\varphi \cdot \varphi(y) = y$$

then for every integer  $m \geq 1$  we have

$$A_\varphi \cdot \varphi(A_\varphi) \cdot \varphi^2(A_\varphi) \dots \varphi^{m-1}(A_\varphi) \cdot \varphi^m(y) = y$$

Since  $\varphi^m(y)$  is congruent to  $\sigma^m(y(0, \dots, 0))$  modulo  $(t_1^{pm}, \dots, t_n^{pm})$ , we have a  $(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ -adic limit formula for  $y$

$$y = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_\varphi \cdot \varphi(A_\varphi) \dots \varphi^{n-1}(A_\varphi) \sigma^n(\varphi(0, \dots, 0))$$

which shows that  $y$  has entries in  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$ .

Q.E.D.

Remark 3.2. 3.1.2 shows that "most" differential equations do not admit any structure of F-crystal. For example, the differential equation for  $\exp(t^p)$  is nilpotent provided  $n \geq 1$ , but its local solutions around any point  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  converge only in the disc of radius  $|p|^{1/p^n(p-1)}$ :

The meaning of 3.1.2 is this : for any two points  $e_1, e_2$  of  $S^\infty$  with values in  $\mathbb{C}$  which are sufficiently near (congruent modulo  $p^{1/p-1}$ ), the connection provides an explicit isomorphism of the two  $\mathbb{C}$ -modules  $e_1^*(H)$  and  $e_2^*(H)$ . If the two points are further apart, but still congruent modulo the maximal ideal of  $\mathbb{C}$ , 3.1.2 says the connection still gives an explicit isomorphism of the  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector spaces  $e_1^*(H) \otimes \mathbb{C}$  and  $e_2^*(H) \otimes \mathbb{C}$ .

4. Global results : gluing together the "unit root" parts ([11], thm 4.1)

(4.0) Given an F-crystal  $\underline{H} = (H, \nabla, F)$  and an integer  $n \geq 0$ , we denote by  $\underline{H}(-n)$  the F-crystal  $(H, \nabla, p^n F)$ . An F-crystal of the form  $\underline{H}(-n)$  necessarily has all its slopes  $\geq n$ , though the converse need not be true.

Theorem 4.1. Suppose  $k$  algebraically closed, and  $\underline{H}$  an F-crystal on  $S^\infty$  such that at every  $k$ -valued point of  $S_0$ , its Newton polygon begins with a side of slope zero, always of the same length  $\nu \geq 1$  (i.e., point by point, the unit root part has rank  $\nu$ ). Suppose further that there exists a locally free submodule  $\text{Fil} \subset H$  such that  $H/\text{Fil}$  is locally free of rank  $\nu$ , and such that for every lifting  $\varphi$  of Frobenius, we have

$$F(\varphi)(\varphi^* \text{Fil}) \subset p H.$$

Then there exists a sub-crystal  $\underline{U} \subset \underline{H}$ , of rank  $\nu$ , whose underlying module  $U$  is transversal to  $\text{Fil}$  ( $H = U \oplus \text{Fil}$ ) such that

- 4.1.1.  $F$  is an isomorphism on  $U$ .
- 4.1.2. The connection  $\nabla$  on  $U$  prolongs to a stratification.
- 4.1.3. The quotient F-crystal  $\underline{H}/\underline{U}$  is of the form  $\underline{V}(-1)$ .
- 4.1.4. The extension of F-crystals  $0 \rightarrow \underline{U} \rightarrow \underline{H} \rightarrow \underline{H}/\underline{U} \rightarrow 0$  splits when pulled back to  $W(k)$  along any  $W(k)$ -valued point of  $S^\infty$ .
- 4.1.5. If the situation  $(\underline{H}, \text{Fil})$  on  $S^\infty/W(k)$  comes by extension of scalars from a situation  $(\underline{H}, \text{Fil})$  on  $S^\infty/W(k_0)$ ,  $k_0$  a perfect subfield of  $k$ , the F-crystal  $\underline{U}$  descends to an F-crystal  $\underline{U}$  on  $S^\infty/W(k_0)$ .

Proof. We may assume  $\text{Fil}$ ,  $H$  and  $H/\text{Fil}$  are free, say of ranks  $r-\nu$ ,  $r$  and  $\nu$ . In terms of a basis of  $H$  adopted to the filtration  $\text{Fil} \subset H$ , the matrix of  $F(\varphi)$  for some fixed choice of  $\varphi$  is of the form

$$\begin{array}{c} r-\nu \\ \nu \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{cc} pA & C \\ pB & D \end{array} \right. \\ \hline r-\nu \quad \nu \end{array} .$$

The hypothesis that there be  $\nu$  unit root point by point means  $D$  is invertible. Let's begin by finding for a free submodule  $U \subset H$  which is transversal to  $\text{Fil}$  and stable by  $F(\varphi) \cdot \varphi^*$ . This means finding an  $(r-\nu) \times \nu$  matrix  $\eta$ , such that the submodule of  $H$  spanned by the columns of

$$\begin{pmatrix} \eta \\ I \end{pmatrix}$$

( $I$  denoting the  $\nu \times \nu$  identity matrix) is stable under  $F(\varphi) \circ \varphi^*$ .

But

$$F(\varphi)\varphi^* \begin{pmatrix} \eta \\ I \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} pA & C \\ pB & D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \varphi^*(\eta) \\ I \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} pA\varphi^*(\eta)+C \\ pB\varphi^*(\eta)+D \end{pmatrix} ,$$

so that  $F$ -stability of  $\begin{pmatrix} \eta \\ I \end{pmatrix}$  is equivalent to having

$$\begin{pmatrix} pA\varphi^*(\eta)+C \\ pB\varphi^*(\eta)+D \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \eta(pB\varphi^*(\eta)+D) \\ I(pB\varphi^*(\eta)+D) \end{pmatrix} ,$$

or equivalently ( $D$  being invertible) that  $\eta$  satisfy

$$4.1.6 \quad \eta = (pA\varphi^*(\eta) + C)(I + pD^{-1}B\varphi^*(\eta))^{-1} \cdot D^{-1} .$$

Because the endomorphism of  $r\text{-}\nu \times \nu$  matrices given by

$$(4.1.7) \quad \eta \longrightarrow (pA\varphi^*(\eta) + C)(I + pD^{-1}B\varphi^*(\eta))^{-1} \cdot D^{-1}$$

is a contraction mapping in the p-adic topology of  $A^\infty$ , it has a unique fixed point.

In order to prove that  $U$  is horizontal, it suffices to do so over the completion of  $S^\infty$  along any closed point  $e_0$  of  $S_0$ . Let  $e$  be the  $\varphi$ -Teichmuller point of  $S^\infty$  with values in  $W(k)$  lying over  $e_0$ . By hypothesis,  $e^*(H)$  contains  $\nu$  fixed points of  $e^*(F(\varphi))$  which span a direct factor of  $e^*(H)$ , which is necessarily transverse to  $e^*(\text{Fil})$ . By 3.1.3, these fixed points extend to horizontal sections over  $H \otimes W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]] \xrightarrow{\text{dfn}} \hat{H}(e)$ , which span a direct factor of  $\hat{H}(e)$ , still transversal to  $\text{Fil}(e)$ . Write these sections as column vectors :

$$\begin{array}{c} r - \nu \\ \nu \end{array} \left[ \begin{array}{c} S_2 \\ S_1 \end{array} \right] \in M_{r, \nu}^{(W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]])} .$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_{\nu}$

By transversality we have  $S_1$  invertible. The fixed-point property is

$$\begin{pmatrix} pA & C \\ pB & D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \varphi^*(S_2) \\ \varphi^*(S_1) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} S_2 \\ S_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

or equivalently

$$\begin{pmatrix} pA & C \\ pB & D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \varphi^*(S_2 S_1^{-1}) \\ I \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} S_2 S_1^{-1} \cdot S_1 \varphi^*(S_1^{-1}) \\ S_1 \varphi^*(S_1^{-1}) \end{pmatrix} .$$

Let's put  $\mu = S_2 \cdot S_1^{-1}$  ; we have

$$\begin{cases} pA\varphi^*(\mu) + C & = \mu S_1 \varphi^*(S_1^{-1}) \\ pB\varphi^*(\mu) + D & = S_1 \varphi^*(S_1^{-1}) \end{cases}$$

so  $\mu$  satisfies  $\mu = (pA\varphi^*(\mu) + C) \cdot (1 + pD^{-1}B\varphi^*(\mu))^{-1} D^{-1}$  .

Since the endomorphism of  $M_{r-\nu, \nu}(W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]])$  defined by 4.1.7 is still a contraction mapping in its p-adic topology, it follows that  $\mu$  is its unique fixed point, and hence that  $\mu$  is the power series expansion of our global fixed point  $\eta$  near  $e_0$  . This proves that

4.1.8. the inverse image  $\hat{U}(e)$  of  $U$  over  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$  is the module spanned by the horizontal fixed points of  $F(\varphi) \cdot \varphi^*$  in  $\hat{H}(e)$  . Hence  $\hat{U}(e)$  is horizontal, and stratified, which proves 4.1.2.

4.1.9. The matrices  $\mu = S_2 S_1^{-1}$  and  $S_1 \varphi^*(S_1^{-1})$  with entries in  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$  are the local expansion of the global matrices  $\eta$  and  $pB\varphi^*(\eta) + D$  respectively. This is an example of analytic continuation par excellence.

To see that  $U$  is F-stable, notice that once we know it's horizontal, it suffices for it to be  $F(\varphi)$ -stable for one choice of  $\varphi$  (as it is), thanks to 1.3.1. In terms of the new base of  $H$  , adopted to  $H = \text{Fil} \oplus U$  , the matrix of  $F(\varphi)$  is



$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \eta \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} pA & C \\ pB & D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \varphi^*(\eta) \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} pA - p\eta B & 0 \\ pB & D + pB\varphi^*(\eta) \end{pmatrix}$$

which proves 4.1.1 and 4.1.3. That 4.1.5 holds is clear from the "rational" way  $\eta$  was determined.

It remains to prove 4.1.4. The matrix of  $F$  in  $M_r(W(k))$  looks like

$$\begin{array}{c} r-\nu \\ + \\ \nu \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{cc} pa & 0 \\ pb & d \end{array} \right| \begin{array}{c} r-\nu \\ \nu \end{array}$$

in a base adopted to  $H = \text{Fil} \oplus U$ , with  $d$  invertible. It's again a fixed point problem, this time to find a matrix  $E \in M_{\nu, r-\nu}(W(k))$  so that the span of the column vectors  $\begin{pmatrix} I \\ pE \end{pmatrix}$  is  $F$ -stable. But

$$\begin{pmatrix} pa & 0 \\ pb & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I \\ \sigma_p(E) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} pa \\ pb + pd\sigma(E) \end{pmatrix},$$

so  $F$ -stability is equivalent to the equation

$$\begin{pmatrix} pa \\ pb + pd\sigma(E) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} pa \\ pE.pa \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus  $E$  must be a fixed point of  $E \longrightarrow \sigma^{-1}(-d^{-1}b + pd^{-1}Ea)$ , which is again a contraction of  $M_{\nu, r-\nu}(W(k))$ . Q.E.D.

5. Hodge F-crystals ([20])

5.0. A Hodge F-crystal is an F-crystal  $(H, \nabla, F)$  together with a finite decreasing "Hodge filtration"  $H = \text{Fil}^0 \supset \text{Fil}^1 \supset \dots$  by locally free sub-modules with locally free quotients, subject to the transversality condition

$$5.0.1 \quad \nabla \text{Fil}^i \subset \text{Fil}^{i-1} \otimes \Omega^1$$

Its Hodge numbers are the integers  $h^i = \text{rank}(\text{Fil}^i / \text{Fil}^{i+1})$ .

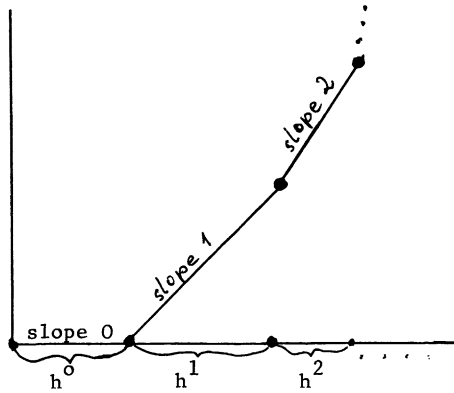
A Hodge F-crystal is called divisible if for some lifting  $\varphi$  of Frobenius, we have

$$5.0.2 \quad F(\varphi)(\varphi^*(\text{Fil}^i)) \subset p^i H \quad \text{for } i = 0, 1, \dots$$

It is rather striking that if  $p$  is sufficiently large that  $\text{Fil}^p = 0$ , then 5.0.2 will hold for every choice of  $\varphi$  if it holds for one.

[To see this, one uses the explicit formula (1.3.1) for the variation of  $F(\varphi)$  with  $\varphi$ , transversality (5.0.1), and the fact that the function  $f(n) = \text{ord}(p^n/n!)$  satisfies  $f(n) \geq \inf(n, p-1)$  for  $n \geq 1$ .]

The Hodge polygon associated to the Hodge numbers  $h^0, h^1, \dots$  is the polygon which has slope  $\nu$  with multiplicity  $h^\nu$ :



By looking at the first slopes of all exterior powers, one sees:

Lemma 5.1. The Newton polygon of a divisible Hodge F-crystal is always above (in the (x, y) plane) its Hodge polygon.

5.2. A Hodge F-crystal is called autodual of weight  $N$  if  $H$  is given a horizontal autoduality  $\langle , \rangle : H \otimes H \longrightarrow \mathbb{Q}_{S^\infty}$  such that

5.2.1 the Hodge filtration is self-dual, meaning  $\perp(\text{Fil}^i) = \text{Fil}^{N+1-i}$ .

5.2.2  $F$  is  $p^N$ -symplectic, meaning that for  $x, y \in H$ , and any lifting  $\varphi$ , we have  $\langle F(\varphi)(\varphi^*x), F(\varphi)(\varphi^*y) \rangle = p^N \varphi^*(\langle x, y \rangle)$ .

The Newton polygon of an autodual Hodge F-crystal of weight  $N$  is symmetric, in the sense that its slopes are rational numbers in  $[0, N]$  such that the slopes  $\alpha$  and  $N-\alpha$  occur with the same multiplicity.

As an immediate corollary of 4.1, we get

Corollary 5.3. Let  $(H, \nabla, F, \text{Fil}, \langle , \rangle)$  be an autodual divisible Hodge F-crystal, whose Newton polygon over every closed point of  $S_0$  has slope zero with multiplicity  $h^0$ . Then  $H$  admits a three-step

filtration

$$\underline{U} \subset \underline{L}(\underline{U}) \subset \underline{H}$$

with:

5.3.1.  $\underline{U}$  the "unit root" part of  $\underline{H}$  , from 4.1.

5.3.2.  $\underline{H}/\underline{L}(\underline{U})$  is of the form  $\underline{V}_N(-N)$  , where  $\underline{V}_N$  is a unit-root F-crystal (its  $F$  is an isomorphism).

5.3.3.  $\underline{L}(\underline{U})/\underline{U}$  is of the form  $\underline{H}_1(-1)$  , where  $\underline{H}_1$  is an autodual divisible Hodge F-crystal of weight  $N-2$  .

Similarly, we have

Corollary 5.4. Suppose  $(H, \nabla, F, \text{Fil})$  is a Hodge F-crystal whose Newton polygon coincides with its Hodge polygon over every closed point of  $S_0$  . Then  $\underline{H}$  admits a finite increasing filtration

$$0 \subset \underline{U}_0 \subset \underline{U}_1 \subset \dots$$

such that

5.4.1.  $\underline{U}_i/\underline{U}_{i+1}$  is of the form  $\underline{V}_i(-i)$  , with  $\underline{V}_i$  a unit-root F-crystal (  $F$  an isomorphism)

5.4.2. the filtration is transverse to the Hodge filtration:

$$H = \text{Fil}^i \oplus \underline{U}_{i-1} .$$

5.4.3. if  $(H, \nabla, F, \text{Fil})$  admits an autoduality of weight  $N$  , the filtration by the  $\underline{U}_i$  is autodual:  $\underline{L}(\underline{U}_i) = \underline{U}_{N-1-i}$  .

Remark 5.5. F-crystals and p-adic representations.

The category of "unit-root" F-crystals on  $S^\infty$  (F an isomorphism), such as the  $V_i$  occurring in 5.4, is equivalent to the category of continuous representations of the fundamental group  $\pi_1(S_0)$  on free  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -modules of finite rank (i.e., to the category of "constant tordeu" étale p-adic sheaves on  $S_0$ ).

[Given  $\underline{H}$  and a choice of  $\varphi$ , one shows successively that for each  $n \geq 0$ , there exists a finite étale covering  $T_n$  of  $S_n$  over which  $H/p^{n+1}H$  admits a basis of fixed points of  $F(\varphi) \cdot \varphi^*$ . The fixed points form a free  $\mathbb{Z}/p^{n+1}\mathbb{Z}$  module of rank = rank (H), on which  $\text{Aut}(T_n/S_n)$ , hence  $\pi_1(S_n) = \pi_1(S_0)$  acts. For n variable, these representations fit together to give the desired p-adic representation of  $\pi_1(S_0)$ . This construction is inverse to the natural functor from constant tordeu p-adic étale sheaves on  $S_0$  to F-crystals on  $S^\infty$  with F invertible].

6. A conjecture on the L-function of an F-crystal.

6.0. Suppose  $\underline{H}$  is an F-crystal on  $S^\infty/W(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Denote by  $\Delta_n$  the points of  $S_0$  with values in  $\mathbb{F}_{q^n}$  which are of degree precisely n over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . The L-function of  $\underline{H}$  is the formal power series in  $1 + tW(\mathbb{F}_q)[[t]]$  defined by the infinite product (cf. [13], [26])

$$L(\underline{H}; t) = \prod_{n \geq 1} \prod_{e_0 \in \Delta_n} \left[ P(\underline{H}; e_0, \mathbb{F}_{q^n}, t^n) \right]^{-1/n}$$

When  $\underline{H}$  is a unit root F-crystal, its L-function is the L-function

associated to the corresponding étale  $p$ -adic sheaf (cf. [13], [26]).

Conjecture 6.1. (cf. [8], [13])

6.1.1.  $L(\underline{H}; t)$  is  $p$ -adically meromorphic.

6.1.2. if  $\underline{H}$  is a unit root  $F$ -crystal, denote by  $M$  the corresponding  $p$ -adic étale sheaf on  $S_0$ , and by  $H_c^i(M)$  the étale cohomology groups with compact supports of the geometric fibre  $\bar{S}_0 = S_0 \times_{\mathbb{F}_q} \bar{\mathbb{F}}_q$  with coefficients in  $M$ . These are  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -modules of finite rank, zero for  $i > \dim S_0$ , on which  $\text{Gal}(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_q/\mathbb{F}_q)$  acts. Let  $f \in \text{Gal}(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_q/\mathbb{F}_q)$  denote the inverse of the automorphism  $x \mapsto x^q$ . Then the function

$$L(\underline{H}; t) \cdot \prod_{i=0}^{\dim S_0} \det(1 - tf | H_c^i(M))^{(-1)^i}$$

has neither zero nor pole on the circle  $|t| = 1$ .

Remarks 6.1.1. is (only) known in cases where the  $F$ -crystal  $\underline{H}$  on  $S^\infty$  "extends" to the Washnitzer-Monsky weak completion  $S^+$  of  $S$  ([23]), in which case it follows from the Dwork-Reich-Monsky fixed point formula ([4], [25], [24]). Unfortunately, such cases are as yet relatively rare (but cf. [10] for a non-obvious example). It is known ([12a]) that when  $S_0 = \mathbb{A}^n$ , then  $L(\underline{H}; t)$  is meromorphic in the closed disc  $|t| \leq 1$ . The extension to general  $S_0$  of this result should be possible by the methods of ([25]); it would at least make the second part 6.1.2 of the conjecture meaningful. As for 6.1.2 itself, it doesn't seem to be known for any non-constant  $M$ . Even for  $M = \mathbb{Z}_p$ , when  $L =$  zeta of  $S_0$ , 6.1.2 has only been checked for curves and abelian varieties.

7. F-crystals from geometry ([1], [2])

Let  $f : X \longrightarrow S^\infty$  be a proper and smooth morphism, with geometrically connected fibres, whose de Rham cohomology is locally free (to avoid derived categories!). Crystalline cohomology tells us that for each integer  $i \geq 0$ , the de Rham cohomology  $H^i = R^i f_* (\Omega_{X/S^\infty}^i)$  with its Gauss-Manin connection  $\nabla$  is the underlying differential equation of an F-crystal  $\underline{H}^i$  on  $S^\infty$ . When  $k$  is finite, say  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , then for every point  $e_0$  of  $S_0$  with values in  $\mathbb{F}_{q^n}$ , the inverse image  $X_{e_0}$  of  $X$  over  $e_0$  is a variety over  $\mathbb{F}_{q^n}$ , and its zeta function is given by (cf. 1.4)

$$\text{Zeta}(X_{e_0} / \mathbb{F}_{q^n}; t) = \prod_{i=0}^{2\dim X_{e_0}} P(\underline{H}^i; e_0, \mathbb{F}_{q^n}, t)^{(-1)^{i+1}}$$

If in addition we suppose that the Hodge cohomology of  $X/S^\infty$  is locally free, and that  $X/S^\infty$  is projective, then according to Mazur [20], the Hodge F-crystal  $\underline{H}^i$  is divisible, provided that  $p > i$ .

For every  $p$  and  $i$  we have  $F(\varphi)\varphi^*(\text{Fil}^1) \subset_p H^i$ , and the  $p$ -linear endomorphism of  $H^i/pH^i + \text{Fil}^1 \simeq R^i f_*(\mathcal{O}_X^i)/pR^i f_*(\mathcal{O}_X^i) = R^i f_{p*}(\mathcal{O}_{X_0}^i)$

( $f_0 : X_0 \longrightarrow S_0$  denoting the "reduction modulo  $p$ " of  $f : X \longrightarrow S^\infty$ ) is the classical Hasse-Witt operation, deduced from the  $p$ 'th power endomorphism of  $\mathcal{O}_{X_0}$ . Thus if Hasse-Witt is invertible, we may apply 4.1 to the situation  $\underline{H}^i, H^i \supset \text{Fil}^1$ .

When  $X/S^\infty$  is a smooth hypersurface in  $\mathbb{P}_{S^\infty}^{N+1}$  of degree prime to  $p$  which satisfies a mild technical hypothesis of being "in general position", Dwork gives ([5], [7]) an a priori description of an

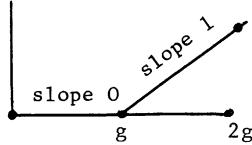
F-crystal on  $S^\infty$  whose underlying differential equation is (the primitive part of  $H_{DR}^N(X/S^\infty)$  with its Gauss-Manin connection, and whose characteristic polynomial is the "interesting factor" in the zeta function ([14]).

The identification of Dwork's  $F$  with the crystalline  $F$  follows from [14] and (as yet unpublished) work of Berthelot and Meredith (c.f. the Introduction to [2]) relating the crystalline and Monsky-Washnitzer theories ([23], [24]). Dwork's  $F$ -crystal is isogenous to a divisible one for every prime  $p$  ([7], lemma 7.2).



8. Local study of ordinary curves : Dwork's period matrix T ([11])

7.0. Let  $f : X \rightarrow \text{Spec}(W(k) [[t_1, \dots, t_n]])$  be a proper smooth curve of genus  $g \geq 1$ . It's crystalline  $H^1$  is an autodual (cup-product) divisible Hodge F-crystal of weight 1. We assume that it is ordinary, in the sense that modulo  $p$  its Hasse-Witt matrix is invertible, or equivalently that its Newton polygon is



(this means geometrically that the jacobian of the special fibre has  $p^g$  points of order  $p$ ). Let's also suppose  $k$  algebraically closed, and denote by  $e$  the homomorphisme "evaluation at  $(0, \dots, 0)$ ":  $W(k) [[t_1, \dots, t_n]] \rightarrow W(k)$ . By 2.1.2 and 4.1.4,  $e^*(H^1)$  admits a symplectic base of  $F$ -eigenvectors

$$\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_g, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_g$$

satisfying

$$7.0.1 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} e^*(F)(\alpha_i) = \alpha_i, \quad e^*(F)(\beta_i) = p\beta_i \\ \langle \alpha_i, \alpha_j \rangle = \langle \beta_i, \beta_j \rangle = 0, \\ \langle \alpha_i, \beta_j \rangle = - \langle \beta_j, \alpha_i \rangle = \delta_{ij} \end{array} \right. .$$

By 3.1.2, this base is the value at  $(0, \dots, 0)$  of a horizontal base of  $H^1 \otimes K[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$ , which we continue to note  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_g, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_g$ . For each choice of lifting  $\varphi$ , we have

$$7.0.2 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} F(\varphi)(\varphi^*(\alpha_i)) = \alpha_i \\ F(\varphi)(\varphi^*(\beta_i)) = p\beta_i \end{array} \right. .$$

According to 3.1.3, the sections  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_g$  extend to horizontal sections over "all" of  $H^1$ , where they span the submodule  $U$  of 4.1; in general the  $\beta_i$  do not extend to all of  $H^1$ .

We now wish to express the position of the Hodge filtration  $\text{Fil}^1 \subset H$  in terms of the horizontal "frame" provided by the  $\alpha_i$  and  $\beta_j$ . Since  $H^1 = U \oplus \text{Fil}^1$  is a decomposition of  $H^1$  in submodules isotropic for  $\langle, \rangle$ , there is a base  $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_g$  of  $\text{Fil}^1$  dual to the base  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_g$  of  $U$ .

$$7.0.3 \quad \langle \omega_i, \omega_j \rangle = 0, \quad \langle \alpha_i, \omega_j \rangle = \delta_{ij} .$$

In  $H \otimes K\{\{t_1, \dots, t_n\}\}$ , the differences  $\omega_i - \beta_i$  are orthogonal to  $U$ , hence lie in  $U$ :

$$7.0.4 \quad \omega_i - \beta_i = \sum_j \tau_{ji} \alpha_j ; \quad \tau_{ji} = \langle \omega_i, \beta_j \rangle .$$

The matrix  $T = (\tau_{ij})$  is Dwork's "period matrix"; it has entries in  $W(k) \llbracket t_1, \dots, t_n \rrbracket \cap K\{\{t_1, \dots, t_n\}\}$ . Differentiating 7.0.4 via the Gauss-Manin connection, we see:

Lemma 7.1.  $T$  is an indefinite integral of the matrix of the mapping "cup-product with the Kodaira-Spencer class": for every continuous  $W(k)$ -derivation  $D$  of  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$ ,  $D(T)$  is the matrix of the composite

$$7.1.1 \quad \text{Fil}^1 \hookrightarrow H^1 \xrightarrow{\nabla(D)} H^1 \xrightarrow{\text{proj}} H/\text{Fil}^1 \simeq U$$

expressed in the dual bases  $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_g$  and  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_g$  .

Lemma 7.2. For any lifting  $\varphi$  of Frobenius, we have the following congruences on the  $\tau_{ij}$  :

$$7.2.1 \quad \varphi^*(\tau_{ij}) - p \tau_{ij} \in pW(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$$

$$7.2.2 \quad \tau_{ij}(0, \dots, 0) \in pW(k) \quad .$$

Proof. Applying  $F(\varphi) \circ \varphi^*$  to the defining equation (7.0.4), we get

$$F(\varphi)(\varphi^*(\omega_i)) - p \beta_i = \sum_j \varphi^*(\tau_{ji}) \alpha_j \quad .$$

Subtracting  $p$  times (7.0.4), we are left with

$$F(\varphi)(\varphi^*(\omega_i)) - p \omega_i = \sum_j [\varphi^*(\tau_{ji}) - p \tau_{ji}] \alpha_j \quad .$$

Since the left side lies in  $pH^1$ , we get

$$\varphi^*(\tau_{ij}) - p \tau_{ij} = \langle F(\varphi)\varphi^*(\omega_i) - p\omega_i, \omega_j \rangle \in pW(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]] .$$

To prove that  $\tau_{ij}(0, \dots, 0) \in pW(k)$ , choose a lifting  $\varphi$  which preserves  $(0, \dots, 0)$ , for instance,  $\varphi(t_i) = t_i^p$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , and evaluate (7.21) at  $(0, \dots, 0)$  :

$$\sigma(\tau_{ij}(0, \dots, 0)) - p \tau_{ij}(0, \dots, 0) \in pW(k) \quad .$$

which implies  $\tau_{ij}(0, \dots, 0) \in pW(k)$ !

QED.

7.3. According to a criterion of Dieudonné and Dwork ([3]), these congruences for  $p \neq 2$  imply that the formal series

$$q_{ij} \stackrel{\text{defn}}{=} \exp(\tau_{ij})$$

lie in  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$ , and have constant terms in  $1 + pW(k)$ .

(When  $p = 2$ , we cannot define  $q_{ij}$  unless  $\tau_{ij}$  has constant term  $\equiv 0$  (4), in which case we would again have the  $q_{ij}$  in  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$ ).

It is expected that the  $g^2$  principal units  $q_{ij}$  in  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$  are the Serre-Tate parameters of the particular lifting to  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$  of the jacobian of the special fibre of  $X$  given by the jacobian of  $X/W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$  (cf. [18], [22]). This seems quite reasonable, because over the ring of ordinary divided power series  $W(k)\langle t_1, \dots, t_n \rangle$ ,  $p \neq 2$ , such liftings are known to be parameterized by the position of the Hodge filtration, ([21]), which is precisely what  $(\tau_{ij})$  is.

Proposition 7.4. The following conditions are equivalent

7.4.1. The Gauss-Manin connection on  $H^1$  extends to a stratification (i.e. horizontal section of  $H^1 \otimes W(k)\langle\langle t_1, \dots, t_n \rangle\rangle$  extend to horizontal sections of  $H^1$ )

7.4.2. Every horizontal section of  $H \otimes \mathbb{K}\{\{t_1, \dots, t_n\}\}$  is bounded in the open unit polydisc (i.e. lies in  $p^{-m}H^1$  for some  $m$ ).

7.4.3. The  $\tau_{ij}$  are all bounded in the open unit polydisc (i.e., lie in  $p^{-m}W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$  for some  $m$ ).

7.4.4. The  $\tau_{ij}$  all lie in  $W(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$ .

7.4.5. The  $\tau_{ij}$  all lie in  $pW(k)[[t_1, \dots, t_n]]$ .

Proof. Using the congruences 7.2, we get  $7.4.3 \iff 7.4.4 \iff 7.4.5$ , by choosing for  $\varphi$  the lifting  $\varphi(t_i) = t_i^p$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . By 7.0.4,  $7.4.1 \iff 7.4.4$  and  $7.4.2 \iff 7.4.3$ .

QED.

Corollary 7.5. Suppose  $X/W(k)[[t]]$  is an elliptic curve with ordinary special fibre, and that the induced curve over  $k[t]/(t^2)$  is non-constant. Then every horizontal section of  $H^1$  is a  $W(k)$ -multiple of  $\alpha_1$ , the horizontal fixed point of  $F$  in  $H^1$ .

Proof. The non-constancy modulo  $(p, t^2)$  means precisely that the Kodaira-Spencer class in  $H^1(X_{\text{special}}, T)$  is non-zero, which for an elliptic curve is equivalent to the non-vanishing modulo  $(p, t)$  of the composite mapping :

$$\text{Fil}^1 \hookrightarrow H^1 \xrightarrow{\nabla \left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)} H^1 \xrightarrow{\text{proj}} H/\text{Fil} \simeq U ,$$

whose matrix is  $\frac{d\tau}{dt}$ . Thus  $\frac{d\tau}{dt} \notin (p, t)$ , and hence by 7.4 there exists an unbounded horizontal section of  $H^1 \otimes K\{\{t\}\}$ . Writing it as  $a\alpha_1 + b\beta_1$ ,  $a, b \in K$ , we must have  $b \neq 0$  because  $\alpha_1$  is bounded. Hence  $\beta_1$  is unbounded, hence any bounded horizontal section is a  $K$ -multiple of  $\alpha_1$ , and  $H^1 \cap K\alpha_1 = W(k)\alpha_1$ .

The interest of this corollary is that it describes the filtration  $U \subset H^1$  purely in terms of the differential equation (i.e., without reference to  $F$ ) as being the span of the horizontal sections of  $H^1$  (the "bounded solutions" of the differential equation). (cf. [9], pt. 4 where this is worked out in great detail for

Legendre's family of elliptic curves]. The general question of when the filtration by slopes can be described in terms of growth conditions to be imposed on the horizontal sections of  $H^1 \otimes K\{\{t\}\}$  is not at all understand.

8. An example ([6], [10]). Let's see what all this means in a concrete case : the ordinary part of Legendre's family of elliptic curves. We take  $p \neq 2$ ,  $H(\lambda) \in \mathbb{Z}[\lambda]$  the polynomial  $\sum (-1)^j \binom{p-1}{j} \lambda^j$  of degree  $p-1/2$ ,  $S$  the smooth  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -scheme  $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z}_p[\lambda][1/\lambda(1-\lambda)H(\lambda)])$ , and  $X/S$  the Legendre curve whose affine equation is  $y^2 = x(x-1)(x-\lambda)$  (\*). The De Rham  $H^1$  is free of rank 2, on  $\omega$  and  $\omega'$ , where

$$8.0 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \omega \text{ is the class of the differential of the first} \\ \text{kind } dx/y \\ \omega' = \nabla\left(\frac{d}{d\lambda}\right)(\omega) \end{array} \right. .$$

The Gauss-Manin connection is specified by the relation

$$8.1 \quad \lambda(1-\lambda) \omega'' + (1-2\lambda) \omega' = \frac{1}{4} \omega \quad ; \quad (\omega'' \stackrel{\text{defn}}{=} \left(\nabla\left(\frac{d}{d\lambda}\right)\right)^2(\omega))$$

The Hodge filtration is  $H^1 \supset \text{Fil}^1 \subset H^1 = \text{span of } \omega$ . The cup-product is given by  $\langle \omega, \omega \rangle = \langle \omega', \omega' \rangle = 0$  ;  $\langle \omega, \omega' \rangle = -\langle \omega', \omega \rangle = -2/\lambda(1-\lambda)$ .

Horizontal sections are those of the form  $\lambda(1-\lambda)f'\omega - \lambda(1-\lambda)f\omega'$ , where  $f$  is a solution of the ordinary differential equation  $(\nabla\left(\frac{d}{d\lambda}\right))$

$$8.2. \quad \lambda(1-\lambda)f'' + (1-2\lambda)f' = \frac{1}{4} f \quad .$$

For any point  $\alpha \in W(\mathbb{F}_q)$  for which  $|H(\alpha) \cdot \alpha \cdot (1-\alpha)| = 1$  we know by 7.5 and 4.1 that the  $W(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_q)$ -module of solutions in  $W(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_q)[[t-\alpha]]$  of the differential equation 9.2 is free of rank one, and is generated by a solution whose constant term is 1. Denote this solution  $f_\alpha$ . According to 4.1.9, the ratio  $f'_\alpha/f_\alpha$  is the local expression of a "global" function  $\eta \in$  the  $p$ -adic completion of  $\mathbb{Z}_p[\lambda][1/\lambda(1-\lambda)H(\lambda)]$ . Now choose a lifting  $\varphi$  of Frobenius, say the one with  $\varphi^*(\lambda) = \lambda^p$ . For each Teichmuller point  $\alpha$ , there exists a unit  $C_\alpha$  in  $W(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_q)$ , such that the function  $C_\alpha f_\alpha / \varphi^*(C_\alpha f_\alpha)$  is the local expression of the  $1 \times 1$  matrix of  $F(\varphi)$  on the rank one module  $U$ .

(\*)  $H(\lambda)$  modulo  $p$  is the Hasse invariant =  $1 \times 1$  Hasse-Witt matrix.

This is just the spelling out of 4.1.9, the constant  $C_\alpha$  so chosen as to make  $C_\alpha f_\alpha$  a fixed point of  $F$ . In terms of this matrix, call it  $a(\lambda)$ , we have a formula for zeta :

For each  $\alpha_0 \in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}$  such that  $y^2 = X(X-1)(X-\alpha_0)$  is the affine equation of an ordinary elliptic curve  $E_{\alpha_0}$ , denote by  $\alpha \in W(\mathbb{F}_{p^n})$  its Teichmüller representative. The unit root of the numerator of Zeta  $(E_{\alpha_0}/\mathbb{F}_{p^n}; t)$  is

$$8.3 \quad u_n(\alpha) \stackrel{\text{defn}}{=} a(\alpha)a(\alpha^p)\dots a(\alpha^{p^{n-1}})$$

and hence

$$8.4 \quad \text{Zeta}(E_{\alpha_0}/\mathbb{F}_{p^n}; t) = \frac{(1 - u_n(\alpha)t)(1 - (p^n/u(\alpha))t)}{(1-t)(1-p^nt)}$$

This formula, known to Dwork by a completely different approach in 1957, ([6]) was the starting point of his application of p-adic analysis to zeta !



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