

# C. Polarized Variations of Hodge Structure (PVHS)

Recall that a PHS is a triple  $(V_{\mathbb{Z}}, F^{\bullet}, Q)$  where  $F^{\bullet}$  is a filtration on  $V_{\mathbb{C}}$  satisfying HRI & II.

Let

$$S = \mathbb{C}\text{-manifold}$$

$$W_{\mathbb{Z}} = \text{finite-rank local system of abelian groups over } S \\ (\text{with obvious associated } \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{C}\text{-local systems via } \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}, \text{ etc.})$$

Given

$$\{U_{\alpha}\} = \text{good open cover of } S,$$

$$W_{\mathbb{C}}|_{U_{\alpha}} \text{ is constant and } \{ \underbrace{W_{\mathbb{C}}(U_{\alpha})}_{(\text{vect-sp})} \times U_{\alpha} \} \text{ patch together}$$

via the sheaf-restriction maps. Viewed as transition functions, these are constant ( $\Rightarrow$  holomorphic) sections

$$\{ \mathbb{I}_{\alpha\beta} \in \Gamma(U_{\alpha\beta}, GL(W_{\mathbb{C}}(U_{\alpha\beta}))) \}_{\alpha,\beta};$$

hence we have constructed:

$$V = \text{holomorphic vector bundle over } S.$$

One also has its sheaf of holomorphic sections

$$\mathcal{V} := \mathcal{O}_S(V) = W_{\mathbb{Z}} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathcal{O}_S,$$

and the flat ( $\Leftrightarrow$  integrable) connection

$$(C.1) \quad \boxed{\nabla : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \Omega^1_S \otimes \mathcal{V}}$$

defined locally (on  $U_\alpha$ , given a basis  $\{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r\} \subset V_G(U_\alpha)$ ) by (200)

$$\nabla(\sum f_j \sigma_j) = \sum df_j \otimes \sigma_j$$

and compatible with the  $\mathbb{Z}$ - $\mathbb{C}$  by  $\mathbb{C}$ -linearity of  $d$ .

Definition 1: A PVHS of weight  $n$  over  $S$  consists of

- $W_{\mathbb{Z}}$  (=  $\mathbb{Z}$ -local system of rank  $r < \infty$ )
- $Q: W_{\mathbb{Z}} \times W_{\mathbb{Z}} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (-1)^n\text{-symmetric bilinear form} \\ \text{nondegenerate} \end{array} \right.$  (map of local systems)
- $F^\bullet$  = filtration of  $V$  by holomorphic subbundles [write  $F^\bullet = \mathcal{O}_S(F^\bullet V)$ ]

such that (a) the fiberwise restrictions  $(W_{\mathbb{Z},s}, F^\bullet_s, Q_s)$  yield PHS of weight  $n$  and (b)  $\nabla(F^p) \subset \Omega^1_S \otimes F^{p-1}$  ( $\forall p$ ). □

The ranks  $h^{p,n} = \text{rk}(F^p/F^{p+1})$  are constant, and as in §B one has  $\bar{\nabla}$  and its  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -linearity. Moreover, fixing a base point  $s_0 \in S$ , the local system gives rise to a monodromy representation

$$(C.2) \quad \boxed{\rho: \pi_1(S) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(W_{\mathbb{Z},s_0}, Q_{s_0}) =: G_{\mathbb{Z}}}$$

since  $Q(\sigma, \sigma)$  remains globally\* constant for (multivalued) sections of  $W_{\mathbb{Z}}$ .

How about some examples. By Griffiths transversality, we have

Proposition 1: The  $n^{\text{th}}$  primitive cohomology of a smooth projective family  $\pi: X \rightarrow S$  produces a PVHS /  $S$ .

Such a PVHS is said to come from geometry, and if  $\pi, X, S$  are defined over a field  $K \subset \mathbb{C}$ , to be motivated over  $K$ .

\*  $\mathbb{Z}$  is a constant sheaf; so locally constant  $\Rightarrow$  globally constant

Here are 2 more concrete examples along these lines, with (201)

$$S = \mathbb{D}^*, \quad T := \rho(\mathbb{D})$$

Example 1 ( $n=1, r=2$ ):  $V_{\mathbb{Z}, s_0} = \mathbb{Z}\langle \beta, \alpha \rangle$ ,  $Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$$F'_s = \mathbb{C}\langle \omega_s \rangle, \quad \omega_s = \underbrace{\beta}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{single-valued!}}} + \underbrace{(g(s) - l(s))}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{holo. on } \mathbb{D}}} \underbrace{\alpha}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \frac{\log(s)}{2\pi i}}}$$

think of as giving multivalued sections of  $V_{\mathbb{Z}}$ .

Note that one can reparametrize by  $g(s) := \exp\left(\frac{2\pi i Q(\beta, \omega_s)}{Q(\alpha, \omega_s)}\right) = s \cdot e^{-2\pi i g(s)}$

to get rid of  $g$ . The transversality condition (b) is empty.

Example 2 (type  $(1,1,1)$ ,  $n=3, r=4$ ):  $V_{\mathbb{Z}, s_0} = \mathbb{Z}\langle \gamma_3, \gamma_2, \gamma_1, \gamma_0 \rangle$ ,  $Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & & 0 \\ 3 & -5 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & 8 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$F^3_{\mathbb{Z}} = \mathbb{C}\langle \omega_q \rangle$$

$$F^2_{\mathbb{Z}} = \mathbb{C}\langle \omega_q, \nabla_{\partial_q} \omega_q \rangle$$

$$F^1_{\mathbb{Z}} = \mathbb{C}\langle \omega_q, \nabla_{\partial_q}^2 \omega_q, \nabla_{\partial_q}^3 \omega_q \rangle$$

where  $\omega_q := \gamma_3 - \tau \gamma_2 + \left(-\frac{5}{2}\tau^2 - \frac{11}{2}\tau + \frac{25}{12}\right)\gamma_1 + \left(-\frac{5}{6}\tau^3 - \frac{25}{12}\tau + \frac{25i}{\pi} S(\tau)\right)\gamma_0 + O(\tau \log^3 \tau)$

is single-valued

and one has the (Griffiths-)Yukawa coupling

$$y(q) := Q\left(\underbrace{\omega_q}_{\in F^3}, \underbrace{\nabla_{\partial_q}^3 \omega_q}_{\in F^0}\right)$$

Remark 1: Ex. 1 comes from  $H^1$  of a nodally degenerating family of elliptic curves; Ex. 2 from  $H^3$  of the "mirror quintic" family of Calabi-Yau 3-folds. Why "mirror"? Around 1990, [Candelas et al] realized that the coefficients  $n_d$  of the power-series expansion of  $y$  counted "rational" curves of degree  $d$  on the Fermat quintic family of CY 3-folds (cf. pp. 174-5,  $n=4$ ), giving rise to mirror symmetry.

† more succinctly, of type  $(1,1) (= (h^{1,0}, h^{0,1}))$ . In general, we call a PMS of "type  $(h^{1,0}, h^{0,1}, \dots, h^{0,n}) = \underline{h}$ ".

Ex/ derive Example 1 from the Picard-Fuchs equation in Problem set 5

Exercise 8. Also show how it arises from the natural family of complex 1-tori over the upper half-plane. //



Continuity to fix a base point  $s_0 \in \mathcal{S}$ , we may consider instead  $F_s^*$  as a multivalued family of flags on  $V_{s_0}$ , with multivaluedness described by

$\Gamma := \rho(\pi_1(\mathcal{S})) \subseteq G_{\mathbb{Z}}$  of type  $h$  / pol.  $Q$

acting on the integral basis  $\gamma$ . Hence from our VHS /  $\mathcal{S}$  we get a well-defined map\*

$\Phi: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \Gamma \backslash D = \Gamma \backslash G_{\mathbb{R}} / H_0$  period domain for HS of type  $h$  / pol. by  $Q$

with local liftings  $U_\alpha \rightarrow D$  since  $\pi_1(U_\alpha) = \{1\}$ .

Here  $H_0 =$  stabilizer of a reference flag  $F_0 \in D$ , and

$D = G_{\mathbb{R}} / H_0$   
 $\cap$   
 $D = G_{\mathbb{C}} / B_0$ ,  $H_0 = B_0 \cap G_{\mathbb{R}}$

$T_p \text{Grass}(F^p, V)$ ,  $f_p = \dim F_0^p$

Now  $T_{F^p} \text{Grass}(F^p, V) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(F^p, V/F^p)$  [holomorphic tangent space]

$\Rightarrow T_{F^p} D \cong \bigoplus_p \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(F^p, V/F^p)$ ;

and since the flags  $F_s^*$  vary holomorphically, this implies  $\Phi$  is a holomorphic mapping of  $\mathbb{C}$ -manifolds.

\*  $\Gamma$  acts on the left,  $H_0$  on the right. This makes sense if you think in terms of period matrices: columns are ( $\mathbb{C}$ -)basis vectors of  $F^p$ , written in terms of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis. Acting on the left changes  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis; acting on the right moves the flag. (This has to be interpreted carefully, since they are acting on  $G_{\mathbb{R}}$  which acts on pd. matrices on left.)

Next consider the horizontal distribution

$$(C.3) \quad \boxed{W_F := T_F \overset{\sim}{D} \cap \left( \bigoplus_P \text{Hom}_C(F^P, F^{P-1}/F^P) \right) \subset T_F \overset{\sim}{D}};$$

clearly  $\overline{\Phi}$  is horizontal:

$$(C.4) \quad \boxed{d\overline{\Phi}(T\mathcal{L}) \subset W.}$$

Definition 2: A period map (from a  $\mathbb{C}$ -manifold  $\mathcal{L}$ ) is a locally liftable, holomorphic, horizontal mapping  $\overline{\Phi}: \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \Gamma \overset{D}{\curvearrowright}$ , where  $D$  is a period domain and  $\Gamma \leq G_{\mathbb{Z}}$ .

Proposition 2: The notions of "period map" <sup>+ compatible local system</sup> and PVHS are equivalent.

One has the dual distribution

$$I = W^\perp \subset T^* \overset{\vee}{D}$$

and the differential ideal it generates (= an "order differential system")

$$\mathcal{I}_D \subset \bigoplus_j \Omega_D^j$$

is called the IPR (= infinitesimal period relation). An integral <sup>(C-)</sup> manifold

of  $\mathcal{I}_D$  is a holomorphic mapping  $f: M \hookrightarrow \overset{\vee}{D}$  with

$$f^*(\mathcal{I}) = 0.$$

Proposition 3: The local liftings of a period map give integral manifolds of the IPR.

Example 3: The PVHS of Example 1 maps  $\mathbb{D}^* \rightarrow \langle T \rangle^{\vee} \cong \mathbb{D}^*$ .

For weight 1. Hs, the IPR is trivial. (clear)

Definition 3: A period domain is classical  $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{I}_D = 0$ .

Ex / Show that the IPR is trivial for weight  $n=2$   
 and  $h^{2,0} (= h^{0,2}) > 1$ .

Moreover, this is the only other example (of classical period domain.) //

Example 4: The PVHS of Example 2 maps  $\mathbb{D}^* \rightarrow \langle T \rangle \underbrace{\mathbb{P}_4(\mathbb{R}) / U(1)^{\times 2}}_D$ .

Claim:  $\dim(D) = 4$ . 2 proofs: ①  $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{P}_4(\mathbb{R}) = 10$   
 $\Rightarrow \dim_{\mathbb{C}} D = \frac{10-2}{2} = 4$ .

② choosing  $F^3$ : 3 degrees of freedom  
 $Q(F^2, F^3) = 0$  (MRI)  $\Rightarrow \{F^2 \text{ is 2-plane thru line } F^3\} \Rightarrow$  1 degree of freedom  
 in 3-space  $(F^3)^\perp$   
 $Q(F^1, F^3) = 0 \Rightarrow F^1 = (F^3)^\perp \Rightarrow$  0 degrees of freedom. //

Now  $W \subset TD \cap \{ \text{Hom}(F^3, F^1/F^2) \oplus \text{Hom}(F^2, F^1/F^2) \oplus \text{Hom}(F^1, F^0/F^1) \}$   
 contains

evidently has rank 2.

Moreover, if  $\omega_j \in \bigvee_0^{j-1} F^j$  is a basis and  $\omega$  a local section of  $F^3$   
 (for a general PVHS), it is clear that

$\begin{cases} \omega_3^*(0) \longleftrightarrow \text{the Hom}(F^3, F^2/F^3) \text{ part above} \\ \omega_2^*(0) \longleftrightarrow \text{" Hom}(F^2, F^1/F^2) \text{ " " "} \end{cases} \Rightarrow$  maximal integral manifold has dimension 1 !! //

Remark 2: This example reflects the fact that  $W$  is non-integrative  
 (i.e. nonintegrable) whenever it is nontrivial \*: so the dimension of  
 integral manifolds is always strictly less than the rank of  $W$  (when  $\text{rk } W < \dim D$ ).  
 In weight 2, the IPR is related to contact equations. //

We also have the curvatures

\* at least under the assumption of no gaps in the nonzero Hodge numbers  $h$ .

Theorem 1: In a nonclassical period domain  $D$ , the set of PHS coming from geometry (cf. Prop. 1) has measure zero.

Proof: Given a family  $X \xrightarrow{\pi} S$  defined /  $\mathbb{C}$ , it sits inside a larger family  $\tilde{X} \xrightarrow{\tilde{\pi}} \tilde{S}$  ( $\tilde{\pi}^{-1}(S) = X$ ) defined /  $\mathbb{Q}$ , called the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -spread.  
 [This is constructed as follows (roughly): the original  $\pi, X, S$  are

defined over a finitely generated extension  $K \in \mathbb{C}$  of  $\bar{\mathbb{Q}}$ , and one has  $K(\delta) \cong \bar{\mathbb{Q}}(\tilde{\delta})$  for some smooth projective  $\tilde{\delta}/\bar{\mathbb{Q}}$ . Hence we may replace coefficients of defining eqn. of  $X$  in  $K(\delta)$  by ones in  $\bar{\mathbb{Q}}(\tilde{\delta})$ ; this yields (after a "good compactification")  $\tilde{X}$ . ] Hence, every motivated PVHS can be embedded in one motivated  $\mathbb{Q}$ ; the latter are countable in number. So if every period map image has dimension  $< \dim D$ , the points in  $D$  coming from geometry are a union of countably many proper submanifolds.  $\square$

Remark 3: And yet, not a single explicit non-motivic PHS is known. //

An interesting question is: how can one compute the dimension of the maximal integral submanifolds? To at least hint at this, and to elucidate some of the constructions above, we can look at period domains from a Lie algebra standpoint: writing

$$V_0 = V_{s_0} (= \mathbb{C}\text{-vector space}) \supset V_{0,\mathbb{R}} (= \text{invariants under complex conj.})$$

we have

$$\mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}} = \text{Lie}(G_{\mathbb{C}}) = \{ X \in \mathfrak{gl}(V_0) \mid \mathbb{Q}(Xu, v) + \mathbb{Q}(u, Xv) = 0 \ (\forall u, v \in V_0) \}$$

$$\mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{R}} = \text{Lie}(G_{\mathbb{R}}) = \mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}} \cap \mathfrak{gl}(V_{0,\mathbb{R}}).$$

Using our choice of reference flag  $F_0 \in D$ , define

$$F^a \mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}} := \{ X \in \mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}} \mid X(F_0^p) \subset F_0^{p+a} \ (\forall p) \}.$$

This puts a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -HS\* of weight 0 on  $\mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}}$ :

$$\mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{a,-a} := \{ X \in \mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}} \mid X(V_0^{p,a}) \subset V_0^{p+a, p-a} \} = F^a \mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}} \cap \overline{F^{-a} \mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}}},$$

and clearly

$$(C.5) \quad [F^p \mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}}, F^q \mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}}] \subset F^{p+q} \mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}}, \quad [\mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{a,-a}, \mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{b,-b}] \subset \mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{a+b, -(a+b)}$$

\* in fact, polarized, by the Killing form

Now a flag varies infinitesimally under  $(1 + \epsilon X) \Leftrightarrow$

$$X(F^p) \notin F^p \text{ for some } p ;$$

hence,  $\eta_0 = F^0 \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}$  and  $\eta_0 = F^0 \alpha_{\mathbb{R}} \cap \alpha_{\mathbb{R}} = \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}^{0,0} \cap \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}$ .

It follows that

$$T_{F_0} \check{D} = \alpha_{\mathbb{R}} / \eta_0 \quad [\text{holo. tangent space}]$$

and  $T\check{D} = \check{D} \times_{B_0} \alpha_{\mathbb{R}} / \eta_0$ . [holo. tangent bundle as a homogeneous bundle]

Since  $[F^0 \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}, F^p \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}] \subset F^p \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}$ , the adjoint action of  $B_0$  leaves the  $F^p$  invariant and they extend to global subbundles  $\mathfrak{F}^p$ . In particular,

we have

$$W = \mathfrak{F}^{-1} T\check{D} \quad \text{with} \quad W_{F_0} = \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}^{-1,1} \rightarrow \left[ \text{and so } [W_{F_0}, W_{F_0}] \subset \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}^{-2,2} \right. \\ \left. (\text{by (C.5)}) \text{ rather than } W_{F_0} \right]$$

For  $D$ , considered as a real manifold,

$$T_{F_0} D = \alpha_{\mathbb{R}} / \eta_0 = \alpha_{\mathbb{R}} / \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}^{0,0} \cap \alpha_{\mathbb{R}} \quad [\text{real tangent bundle}]$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{F_0} D \otimes_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{C} = \left( \underbrace{T_{F_0}^{0,0} D}_{\alpha_{\mathbb{R}} / \eta_0} \oplus T_{F_0}^{0,1} D \right) = \left( \bigoplus_{i>0} \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}^{-i,i} \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{i>0} \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}^{i,-i} \right) \quad [\text{choice of } \mathbb{C}\text{-structure}]$$

Remark 4:  $\bigoplus_{i>0} \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}^{-i,i}$  is involutive, so Newlander-Nirenberg  $\Rightarrow$

this complex structure is integrable. (But then, from  $\check{D}$ , we know that!)

With  $\mathfrak{k} = \bigoplus_{i \text{ even}} \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}^{i,-i}$ ,  $\mathfrak{p} = \bigoplus_{i \text{ odd}} \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}^{i,-i} \Rightarrow \alpha_{\mathbb{R}} = \mathfrak{k} \oplus \mathfrak{p}$

exp  $\rightarrow$  maximal compact s.g.p.  $K \in G$

So  $D$  is a Hermitian symmetric domain  $\Leftrightarrow H_0$  maximal compact

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{k} = \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}^{0,0}$$

and

the IPR is trivial  $\Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{F}^{-1} TD = TD \Leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathfrak{k} = \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}^{0,0} \text{ AND} \\ \mathfrak{p} = \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}^{-1,1} \oplus \alpha_{\mathbb{R}}^{1,-1} \end{array} \right.$



[N.B. For period domains (as opposed to the more general Mumford-Tate domains), however, there are essentially no interesting examples with D HSD and IPR nontrivial: just Hodge #'s  $\underline{h} = (1, 1, 0, 1, 1), (1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1), \text{etc.}$ ]

Finally, to answer the question about integral submanifolds, there is the (fairly obvious) "integral element"

Proposition 4: Given an abelian subalgebra  $\mathfrak{a} \subset \mathfrak{g}_0^{-1,1}$ , the  $\mathbb{C}$ -manifold  $\exp(\mathfrak{a})$  is an integral manifold of  $\mathcal{H}_0$  with tangent space  $\mathfrak{a}$ .



Notes: (i) Regarding Example 4 on p. 204, the point is that if  $\text{Ham}(\mathbb{F}^3, \mathbb{F}^2/\mathbb{F}^2) \oplus \text{Ham}(\mathbb{F}^2, \mathbb{F}^1/\mathbb{F}^2)$  is the tangent plane to some surface  $S$  integral to  $W$ , with local <sup>Complex</sup> coordinates

$\omega_3$   $\rightarrow$   $x$  and  $y$ , the relation  $x'' = y/x'$  leads to a contradiction. We should be able, locally, to draw any curve  $(x(t), y(t))$  in  $S$ , but already  $(t^2, t)$  leads to a contradiction.\* There is a paper by Carlson, Griffiths, & Green (recent) which gives an explicit local normal form for  $\mathcal{H}_0$  in this case.

\* Thus, there are lots of curves thru  $F_0^0$  integral for  $W$ , but there is not an integral surface.