Fundamental Lemma and Hitchin Fibration

Gérard Laumon

CNRS and Université Paris-Sud

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With Pierre-Henri Chaudouard, we have extended Ngô’s proof in order to get Arthur’s weighted Fundamental Lemma.

If time permits, I shall say a few words about our work at the end of the talk.
The Arthur-Selberg trace formula is a powerful tool for proving Langlands functorialities for automorphic representations:

- the cyclic base change,
- the transfer between inner forms,
- the transfer from classical groups to $\text{GL}(n)$,
- and more generally all the Langlands functorialities of endoscopic type.
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Unfortunately, as it was first remarked by Langlands himself, in order to use that tool one first needs rather obscure and technical combinatorial identities between orbital integrals. These conjectural identities form the so-called Fundamental Lemma.
The Fundamental Lemma has been formulated by:

- Langlands and Shelstad (ordinary Fundamental Lemma),
- Kottwitz and Shelstad (twisted Fundamental Lemma),
- Arthur (weighted and twisted weighted Fundamental Lemmas).
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Several cases of the ordinary Fundamental Lemma have been proved by direct computations:

- $\text{SL}(2)$ by Labesse-Langlands (1979),
- $\text{U}(3)$ by Kottwitz (1992) and Rogawski (1990),
- $\text{SL}(n)$ by Waldspurger (1991),
- $\text{Sp}(4)$ by Hales (1997) and Weissauer (1993).
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- It is enough to consider a variant of the Fundamental Lemma for Lie algebras which is easier to formulate.
- The unequal characteristic case (over $\mathbb{Q}_p$) which is the most interesting, follows from the equal characteristic case (over $\mathbb{F}_p((t))$).
- The twisted versions of the Fundamental Lemma follow from the untwisted ones.
Geometric approaches

Using equivariant cohomology of affine Springer fibers, Goresky, Kottwitz and MacPherson have proved the Langlands-Shelstad Fundamental Lemma in the equivaluated unramified case. Two years ago, the general case of the Langlands-Shelstad Fundamental Lemma has been proved by Ngô as a consequence of his cohomological study of the elliptic part of the Hitchin fibration. With Chaudouard, we have extended the work of Goresky, Kottwitz and MacPherson to the weighed Fundamental Lemma and we have proved it in the equivaluated unramified case. More recently, we have obtained the general case of the weighted Fundamental Lemma by extending Ngô’s cohomological study to the hyperbolic part of the Hitchin fibration.
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Notation

- $k$ an algebraically closed field,
- $G$ a semisimple algebraic group of adjoint type over $k$,
- $T \subseteq G$ a maximal torus,
- $W$ the Weyl group of $(G, T)$; we assume that $|W|$ is invertible in $k$,
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- $\mathfrak{g} \subset \mathfrak{t}$ the corresponding Lie algebras,
- $n$ the rank of $\mathfrak{g}$, i.e. the dimension of $\mathfrak{t}$,
- $\mathfrak{t}^{G-\text{reg}} \subset \mathfrak{t}$ the open subset of $G$-regular elements,
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- $\text{Ad} : G \rightarrow \text{End}(\mathfrak{g})$ the adjoint representation,
- $C$ a smooth, connected, projective curve over $k$ of genus $g$,
- $D = 2D' \subset C$ an even effective divisor of degree $> 2g$,
- $\infty$ a closed point of $C$ which is not in the support of $D$. 
Chevalley theorem

Chevalley has proved that

\[ \text{car} := \frac{t}{\mathcal{W}} = \text{Spec}(k[t]^\mathcal{W}) \cong \frac{g}{G} = \text{Spec}(k[g]^G) \]

is a standard affine space of dimension \( n \) over \( k \). Let \( \chi : g \rightarrow \text{car} \) be the quotient morphism.
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Over $C$, we have:

- $t_D = t \otimes_k O_C(D)$ and $g_D = g \otimes_k O_C(D)$ viewed as vector bundles.
- $W$ and $G$ act in an obvious way on these vector bundles.
- The quotients are isomorphic affine bundles

$$\text{car}_D := g_D//G \cong t_D//W \to C.$$

- $\chi_D : g_D \to \text{car}_D$ the quotient morphism.
- $\chi_D$ makes sense when one replaces $g_D$ by $\text{Ad}(E)(D)$ where $E$ is any $G$-torsor on $C$. 
Let $\mathcal{M}_G$ be the stack of triples $(\mathcal{E}, \theta, t_\infty)$ where:

- $\mathcal{E}$ is a $G$-torsor over $C$,
- $\theta \in H^0(C, \text{Ad}(\mathcal{E})(D))$,
- $t_\infty \in t^G_{\text{reg}}$ such that $\chi(t_\infty) = \chi(\theta_\infty) \in \text{car}$, where $\theta_\infty \in \text{Ad}(\mathcal{E}_\infty) \cong g$ is the fiber of $\theta$ at $\infty$. 

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Let $\mathcal{A}_G$ be the variety of pairs $a = (h, t_\infty)$ with $h \in \Gamma(\text{car}_D/C)$ and $t_\infty \in t^G_{\text{reg}}$ such that $h(\infty) = \chi(t_\infty) \in \text{car}_D, \infty = \text{car}$. 

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**Definition**

The Hitchin fibration is the stack morphism

$$f_G : \mathcal{M}_G \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_G$$

which maps $(\mathcal{E}, \theta, t_\infty)$ to $a = (h, t_\infty)$ where $h = \chi_D(\theta)$. 
Basic properties of the Hitchin fibration

The stack $\mathcal{M}_G$ is algebraic in the sense of Artin, but it is not of Deligne-Mumford type.
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By deformation theory it is easy to prove:

**Proposition**

*The algebraic stack $\mathcal{M}_G$ is smooth over $k$.***
Levi strata

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For each $M \in \mathcal{L}(T)$ we may consider the base $A_M$ of the Hitchin fibration of $M$ and its open subset

$$A_M^{\text{reg}} \subset A_M$$

where it is required that $t_\infty$ is in $t^{\text{G-reg}} \subset t^{\text{M-reg}}$. 
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which maps \((h_M, t_\infty)\) to \((h, t_\infty)\) where

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h : C \xrightarrow{h_M} \text{car}_{M,D} = t_D//\mathcal{W}_M \twoheadrightarrow t_D//\mathcal{W}_G = \text{car}_D.
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The elliptic part

The elliptic part is the open subset

\[ \mathcal{A}_G^{\text{ell}} = \mathcal{A}_G - \bigcup_{M \in \mathcal{L}(T), \ M \neq G} \mathcal{A}_M^{G-\text{reg}}. \]

Let \( f_G^{\text{ell}} = \mathcal{M}_G^{\text{ell}} \to \mathcal{A}_G^{\text{ell}} \) be the restriction of the Hitchin fibration to the elliptic open subset.
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The main geometric property of \( f_G^{\text{ell}} \) is:

**Proposition (Faltings)**

*The algebraic stack \( \mathcal{M}_G^{\text{ell}} \) is a scheme (smooth over \( k \)) and the morphism \( f_G^{\text{ell}} \) is proper.*
Adeles

Assume for a while that $k$ is an algebraic closure of a finite field $\mathbb{F}_q$ and that $C$, $D$ and $\infty$ are defined over $\mathbb{F}_q$. Then the set of $\mathbb{F}_q$-rational points of the Hitchin fibration has a nice adelic description.
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We shall use the standard notation:

- $F$ the function field of $C$ over $\mathbb{F}_q$,
- for each closed point $c$ of $C$, $\mathcal{O}_c$ is the completed local ring of $C$ at $c$ and $F_c$ its fraction field,
- $\mathbb{A}$ the ring of adeles of $F$,
- $\mathcal{O} = \prod_c \mathcal{O}_c \subset \mathbb{A}$ its maximal compact subring,
- for each closed point $c$ in $C$, $\varpi_c$ is an uniformizer of $F_c$,
- if $D = \sum_c d_c[c]$, $\varpi^{eD} = \prod_c \varpi_c^{ed_c}$ for any $e \in \mathbb{Z}$. 
Adelic description of the Hitchin fibration

For simplicity, let us forget the extra component $t_\infty$ and the hypothesis of generic semi-simplicity of $\theta_\infty$. 
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Then at the level of $\mathbb{F}_q$-rational points, the Hitchin fibration is given by the map

$$G(F) \backslash \{(g, \gamma) \in G(\mathbb{A})/G(\mathcal{O}) \times \mathfrak{g}(F) \mid \text{Ad}(g)^{-1}(\gamma) \in \varpi^{-D} \mathfrak{g}(\mathcal{O})\} \downarrow$$

$$\{a \in F^r \mid \varpi^{e_i D} a_i \in \mathcal{O}\}$$

which maps $(g, \gamma)$ to $\chi(a) = (\chi_1(\gamma), \ldots, \chi_r(\gamma))$. 
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Here $(\chi_1, \ldots, \chi_r)$ is a basis of the $\mathbb{F}_q$-algebras of $G$-invariant polynomials on $\mathfrak{g}$ and the $e_i$’s are the degrees of the $\chi_i$’s.
Lemma

The number of $\mathbb{F}_q$-rational points of the Hitchin fiber $f_G^{-1}(a)$ at some point $a \in A_G^{\text{ell}}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ is the sum of the orbital integrals

$$J^G(\gamma_a, 1_{\varpi - D_g(O)}) = \int_{G_{\gamma_a}(F) \backslash G(A)} 1_{\varpi - D_g(O)}(\text{Ad}(g)^{-1}(\gamma_a)) \, dg$$

where $\gamma_a \in \mathfrak{g}(F)$ runs through a set of representatives of the $G(F)$-conjugacy classes in $\chi^{-1}(a) \subset \mathfrak{g}(F)$. 
Orbital integrals

Lemma
The number of $\mathbb{F}_q$-rational points of the Hitchin fiber $f_G^{-1}(a)$ at some point $a \in \mathcal{A}^\text{ell}_G(\mathbb{F}_q)$ is the sum of the orbital integrals

$$J^G(\gamma_a, 1_{\omega-D_g(O)}) = \int_{G_{\gamma_a}(F) \backslash G(\mathbb{A})} 1_{\omega-D_g(O)}(\text{Ad}(g)^{-1}(\gamma_a))dg$$

where $\gamma_a \in g(F)$ runs through a set of representatives of the $G(F)$-conjugacy classes in $\chi^{-1}(a) \subset g(F)$.

Here:

- $G_{\gamma_a} \subset G$ is the centralizer of $\gamma_a$,
- $1_{\omega-D_g(O)}$ is the characteristic function of $\omega^{-D}g(O)$ in $g(\mathbb{A})$,
- the Haar measure $dg$ is normalized by $\text{vol}(G(O), dg) = 1$. 
Langlands duality

Let us work again over an arbitrary algebraically closed field $k$. Fix a prime number $\ell$ invertible in $k$ and an algebraic closure $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell$ of the field of $\ell$-adic numbers.
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Let $\hat{T} = \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell \otimes X^*(T)$ be the dual torus of $T$.

Let $(\hat{G}, \hat{T})$ be the Langlands dual of $(G, T)$: $\hat{G}$ is a reductive group over $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell$ which admits $\hat{T}$ as a maximal torus and the roots of $\hat{T}$ in $\hat{G}$ are the coroots of $T$ in $G$ and vice versa.
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For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$G$</th>
<th>$\hat{G}$</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSL($n$)</td>
<td>SL($n$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSp($2n$)</td>
<td>Spin($2n+1$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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For any $s \in \hat{T}$ we may consider the centralizer $Z_s(\hat{G})$ of $s$ in $\hat{G}$:

- $Z_s(\hat{G})$ is a connected reductive group over $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell$ since $\hat{G}$ is simply connected (recall that $G$ is adjoint).
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**Definition (Langlands)**

For each \( s \in \hat{T} \), the **endoscopic group** \( H_s \) of \( G \) is “the” reductive group over \( k \) containing \( T \), whose dual is \( Z_s(\hat{G}) \).
Endoscopic groups

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Definition (Langlands)

For each $s \in \hat{T}$, the endoscopic group $H_s$ of $G$ is “the” reductive group over $k$ containing $T$, whose dual is $Z_s(\hat{G})$. The endoscopic group $H_s$ is said elliptic if $Z_s(\hat{G})$ is not contained in any proper Levi subgroup of $\hat{G}$. 
Endoscopic strata

If $H = H_s$ is an endoscopic group, the Weyl group $W^H$ of $(H, T)$ is naturally embedded in $W$ since it is equal to the Weyl group of $(Z_s(\hat{G}), \hat{T}) \subset (\hat{G}, \hat{T})$. 

The endoscopic group $H$ is elliptic if and only if $i^{-1}_H(A_{\text{ell}}G) \neq \emptyset$.

We denote by $i_{\text{ell}}H$ the restriction of $i_H$ to the elliptic open subset.
Endoscopic strata

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Therefore, as for a Levi subgroup, we have a closed embedding

$$i_H : A_H^{G \text{--reg}} \hookrightarrow A_G$$

which maps $(h_H, t_\infty)$ to $(h, t_\infty)$ where

$$h : C \xrightarrow{h_H} \text{car}_{H,D} = t_D/\mathcal{W}_H \twoheadrightarrow t_D/\mathcal{W}_G = \text{car}_D.$$
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The endoscopic group $H$ is elliptic if and only if

$$i_H^{-1}(\mathcal{A}_G^{\text{ell}}) \neq \emptyset.$$ 

We denote by $i_H^{\text{ell}}$ the restriction of $i_H$ to the elliptic open subset.
Ngô’s support theorem

We may consider the complex of \( \ell \)-adic sheaves

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Rf_G^{\text{ell}} \overline{\mathbb{Q}_\ell}
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over \( \mathcal{A}_G \) and the direct sum of its perverse cohomology sheaves

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**Theorem (Ngô Bao Châu)**

The support of any irreducible constituent of \( \bigoplus_i \mathcal{P}H^i(Rf_{G,*}^{\operatorname{ell}} \overline{\mathbb{Q}_\ell}) \) is equal to \( \mathcal{A}_G^{\operatorname{ell}} \cap i_H(\mathcal{A}_H^{\operatorname{G-reg}}) \) for some elliptic endoscopic group \( H \).
The good open subset

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- As it is formulated, the above theorem is only proved if $k$ is of characteristic 0.
- In positive characteristic, it might be also true in general but for the moment it is only proved over a dense open subset of $\mathcal{A}_G$, the so-called good open subset.
- Fortunately, the good open subset is large enough for proving the (local) Fundamental Lemma.
Symmetries

The Hitchin fibration has a lot of symmetries. In particular, it is equipped with an action of the discrete group $X_*(T)$ which can be described as follows:

1. A Hitchin pair $(E, \theta)$ on $C$ can be obtained by gluing a Hitchin pair on $C - \{\infty\}$ and a Hitchin pair on the formal completion $\text{Spf}(O_{\infty})$ of $C$ at $\infty$.
2. As $\theta_{\infty}$ is semisimple, the restriction of $(E, \theta)$ to $\text{Spf}(O_{\infty})$ admits a reduction to $T$.
3. This reduction is canonical if one takes into account the extra data $t_{\infty}$.
4. Therefore, the set of glueing data can be identified with $X_*(T) \cong T(F_{\infty}) / T(O_{\infty})$.
5. Hence we have an action by translation of $X_*(T)$ on the set of glueing data.
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- This reduction is canonical if one takes into account the extra data $t_\infty$.
- Therefore, the set of glueing data can be identified with $X_*(T) \cong T(F_\infty)/T(\mathcal{O}_\infty)$.
- Hence we have an action by translation of $X_*(T)$ on the set of gluing data.
Ngô’s main theorem

Over $\mathcal{A}_G^{\text{ell}}$ the action of $X_*(T)$ is of finite order and thus we have a canonical decomposition into isotypical components

$$p\mathcal{H}^\bullet(Rf_G^{\text{ell}}\mathbb{Q}_\ell) = \bigoplus_{s \in \hat{T}_\mu} p\mathcal{H}^\bullet(Rf_G^{\text{ell}}\mathbb{Q}_\ell)_s$$

where $\hat{T}_\mu \subset \hat{T} = \text{Hom}(X_*(T), \mathbb{Q}_\ell^\times)$ is the torsion subgroup.
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Theorem (Ngô)

Let $s \in \hat{T}^\mu$. If $H_s$ is elliptic, we have

$$p\mathcal{H}^\bullet(Rf_{G,*}^{\text{ell}}\overline{\mathcal{Q}_\ell})_s = (i_{H_s,*})^\text{ell} p\mathcal{H}^\bullet-2r_{H_s}(Rf_{H_s,*}^{\text{ell}}\overline{\mathcal{Q}_\ell})1(-r_{H_s})$$

where $r_{H_s}$ is the codimension of $\mathcal{A}_{H_s}^{G-\text{reg}}$ in $\mathcal{A}_G$. Otherwise, we have

$$p\mathcal{H}^\bullet(Rf_{G,*}^{\text{ell}}\overline{\mathcal{Q}_\ell})_s = (0).$$
If we assume again that $k$ is an algebraic closure of a finite field $\mathbb{F}_q$ and that $C$, $D$ and $\infty$ are defined over $\mathbb{F}_q$, we can take the traces of Frobenius on both sides of Ngô’s main theorem.
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Finally, a standard global-to-local argument gives the Langlands-Shelstad Fundamental Lemma for Lie algebras in the equal characteristic case.
Chaudouard-L.’s extension of Ngô’s work

Outside the elliptic locus, the Hitchin fibration is neither of finite type nor separated. One first needs to truncate it. We do it by using Mumford stability.
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In some sense the weighted Fundamental Lemma follows from the ordinary Fundamental Lemma by middle extension.