

Ischia Group Theory

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The Zassenhaus filtration and \mathbb{F}_p -cohomology for profinite groups



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To the memory of
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Introduction

How much information on the structure of a group G does the cohomology provide?

The following results shed some light on some cases (with [arithmetic relevance](#)) when the structure of the \mathbb{F}_p -cohomology of a group G determines the structure of a canonical algebra related to G .

These results have the following arithmetic motivation:

Koszulity conjecture (L. Positselski, 2015)

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Pro- p groups

Let p be a prime number.

Recall: a pro- p group G is a compact group s.t. the unit element has a basis of neighbourhoods consisting of open and closed normal subgroups of index a p -power.

Galois groups of (infinite) Galois p -extensions are pro- p groups. Arithmetic people are greatly interested in maximal pro- p quotients and pro- p Sylow subgroups of **Absolute Galois groups** of fields.



The p -Zassenhaus filtration of a group

For a group G the p -Zassenhaus filtration $(G_{(n)})_{n \geq 1}$ is the **fastest** descending series such that $G_{(n)}^p \subseteq G_{(np)}$ and $[G_{(i)}, G_{(j)}] \subseteq G_{(i+j)}$

$$\text{One has } G_{(n)} = G_{\lceil n/p \rceil} \cdot \prod_{i+j=n} [G_{(i)}, G_{(j)}] = \prod_{ip^h \geq p} \gamma_i(G)^{p^h}$$

Equivalently, one has $G_{(n)} = \{g \in G \mid g - 1 \in I^n\}$, where $I = \langle g - 1 \rangle$ is the **augmentation ideal** of the group algebra $\mathbb{F}_p[G]$

We define the (non-negatively) graded algebra over \mathbb{F}_p

$$\text{gr}_\bullet(G) = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} I^n / I^{n+1}, \quad I^0 = \mathbb{F}_p[G],$$

so that $\text{gr}_0(G) = \mathbb{F}_p$ and $G_{(n)} / G_{(n+1)} \hookrightarrow \text{gr}_n(G)$ for all $n \geq 1$.



The graded group algebra and \mathbb{F}_p -cohomology

If F is a free pro- p group on d generators, then $\text{gr}_\bullet(F)$ is the free associative algebra $\mathbb{F}_p\langle X \rangle$, with $X = \{X_1, \dots, X_d\}$, and the elements of $F_{(n)}/F_{(n+1)}$ are homogeneous polynomials of degree n in $\mathbb{F}_p\langle X \rangle$.

In general, if $G = F/R$ then $\text{gr}_\bullet(G)$ is a quotient of $\text{gr}_\bullet(F) = \mathbb{F}_p\langle X \rangle$.

\mathbb{F}_p -cohomology

The cohomology with coefficients in \mathbb{F}_p is endowed with the cup product

$$\cup: H^r(G, \mathbb{F}_p) \times H^s(G, \mathbb{F}_p) \longrightarrow H^{r+s}(G, \mathbb{F}_p)$$

which is graded-commutative, i.e., $\beta \cup \alpha = (-1)^{rs} \alpha \cup \beta$.



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The cup product and defining relations

How do these two things relate?

$$\text{Let } 1 \longrightarrow R \longrightarrow F \longrightarrow G \longrightarrow 1$$

be a minimal presentation ($\Rightarrow R \subseteq F_{(2)}$) with R generated by r_1, \dots, r_m as normal subgroup of F .

Theorem

For a finitely generated pro- p group G the following are equivalent

- $H^1(G, \mathbb{F}_p) \times H^1(G, \mathbb{F}_p) \rightarrow H^2(G, \mathbb{F}_p)$;
- $R \cap F_{(3)} = R^p[R, F]$;
- $r_i \in F_{(2)} \setminus F_{(3)}$ for all i – i.e., the images of the r_i 's in $\text{gr}_\bullet(F) = \mathbb{F}_p\langle X \rangle$ are of degree 2.



Quadratic algebras

A graded algebra $A_\bullet = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} A_n$, $A_0 = \mathbb{F}_p$, is **quadratic** if $A_\bullet = \mathbb{F}_p\langle X \rangle / \langle \Omega \rangle$, Ω a set of homogeneous polynomials of degree 2, with $X = \{X_1, \dots, X_d\}$.

Examples

- $S_\bullet(X) = \mathbb{F}_p\langle X \rangle / \langle \Omega \rangle$ with $\Omega = \{X_i X_j - X_j X_i, i, j \in \dots\}$;
- $\Lambda_\bullet(X) = \mathbb{F}_p\langle X \rangle / \langle \Omega \rangle$ with $\Omega = \{X_i X_j + X_j X_i, i, j \in \dots\}$.

The **quadratic dual** of a quadratic algebra $A_\bullet = \mathbb{F}_p\langle X \rangle / \langle \Omega \rangle$ is the algebra $A_\bullet^! = \mathbb{F}_p\langle X^* \rangle / \langle \Omega^\perp \rangle$, with

$$\Omega^\perp = \{\phi \in (\mathbb{F}_p X^*)^{\otimes 2} \mid \phi(f) = 0 \forall f \in \Omega\}$$

and X^* a dual basis of X – i.e., $X_i^*(X_j) = \delta_{ij}$.

E.g., $S_\bullet(X)^! = \Lambda_\bullet(X^*)$, as $(X_i^* X_j^* + X_j^* X_i^*)(X_h X_k - X_k X_h) = 0$ for all i, j, h, k .



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Quadratic cohomology and the algebra $\text{gr}_\bullet(G)$

Let $1 \rightarrow R \rightarrow F \rightarrow G \rightarrow 1$ be again a minimal presentation.

Theorem

If G is a finitely generated pro- p group and the cohomology $H^\bullet(G, \mathbb{F}_p) = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} H^n(G, \mathbb{F}_p)$ is quadratic then

- $H^\bullet(G, \mathbb{F}_p)^\dagger = \mathbb{F}_p\langle X \rangle / \mathcal{R}$, with \mathcal{R} the ideal generated by the images of the r_i 's in $\mathbb{F}_p\langle X \rangle$ (they are of degree 2);
- $H^\bullet(G, \mathbb{F}_p)^\dagger \twoheadrightarrow \text{gr}_\bullet(G)$ (it is an isomorphism in degree 0, 1, 2), and if $\text{gr}_\bullet(G)$ is quadratic then we have an isomorphism.

Pro- p Sylow subgroups of absolute Galois groups of fields, and Galois groups of certain p -extensions of number fields with restricted ramification have quadratic \mathbb{F}_p -cohomology.



Example 1: 1-relator pro- p groups

Let G be a one-relator group, i.e., $R = \langle r \rangle$. If $r \in F_{(2)} \setminus F_{(3)}$ (r has “degree” 2) then there is a basis $X = \{X_1, \dots, X_d\}$ such that

$$\bar{r} = [X_1, X_2] + [X_3, X_4] + \dots + [X_{s-1}, X_s] \in F_{(2)}/F_{(3)} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p \langle X \rangle$$

for some even $s \leq d$ (here $[X_i, X_j] = X_i X_j - X_j X_i$). Also

$$H^\bullet(G, \mathbb{F}_p) = \mathbb{F}_p \oplus \left(\bigoplus_{i=1}^d \mathbb{F}_p \cdot X_i \right) \oplus \mathbb{F}_p \cdot X_1^* X_2^*, \quad \text{and}$$

$$\text{gr}_\bullet(G) = \mathbb{F}_p \langle X \rangle / \langle \bar{r} \rangle,$$

where $X_{2i-1}^* X_{2i}^* = -X_{2i}^* X_{2i-1}^* = X_1^* X_2^*$, for $i = 1, \dots, s/2$, and all other monomials of degree 2 are 0.



Example 2: Right angled Artin pro- p groups

Set $G = F/R$ with $R = \{[x_i, x_j], 1 \leq i < j \leq d\}$ s.t. if $[x_i, x_j], [x_j, x_k] \in R$ then $[x_i, x_k] \notin R$ (no “triangles”).

$$\text{E.g.: } \begin{array}{ccccc} x_1 & \text{---} & x_2 & & x_3 \\ | & & | & & | \\ x_4 & \text{---} & x_5 & \text{---} & x_6 \end{array} \rightsquigarrow R = \left\langle \begin{array}{l} [x_1, x_2], [x_2, x_5] \\ [x_5, x_4], [x_4, x_1] \\ [x_5, x_6], [x_6, x_3] \end{array} \right\rangle$$

Then

$$H^\bullet(G, \mathbb{F}_p) = \mathbb{F}_p \oplus \left(\bigoplus_{i=1}^d \mathbb{F}_p \cdot X_i \right) \oplus \left(\bigoplus_{[x_i, x_j] \in R} \mathbb{F}_p \cdot X_i^* X_j^* \right), \quad \text{and}$$

$$\text{gr}_\bullet(G) = \mathbb{F}_p \langle X \rangle / \langle X_i X_j - X_j X_i \rangle, \quad \text{s.t. } [x_i, x_j] \in R$$

(In $H^\bullet(G, \mathbb{F}_p)$ one has $X_j^* X_i^* = -X_i^* X_j^*$ and all other degree-2 monomials are 0.)



Example 3: free products

The graded algebras $H^\bullet(G, \mathbb{F}_p)$ and $\text{gr}_\bullet(G)$ “behave well” with respect to free products (in the category of pro- p groups):

If $G = G_1 * G_2$ then




$$H^\bullet(G, \mathbb{F}_p) = H^\bullet(G_1, \mathbb{F}_p) \sqcap H^\bullet(G_2, \mathbb{F}_p), \quad \text{and} \\ \text{gr}_\bullet(G) = \text{gr}_\bullet(G_1) \sqcup \text{gr}_\bullet(G_2).$$

Moreover, if $H^\bullet(G_i, \mathbb{F}_p)^\dagger \simeq \text{gr}_\bullet(G_i)$ for $i = 1, 2$, then also

$$H^\bullet(G, \mathbb{F}_p)^\dagger \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{gr}_\bullet(G).$$



THANKS I

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