

# MODULAR CLASSES AND THE VOLUME OF A DIFFERENTIABLE STACK

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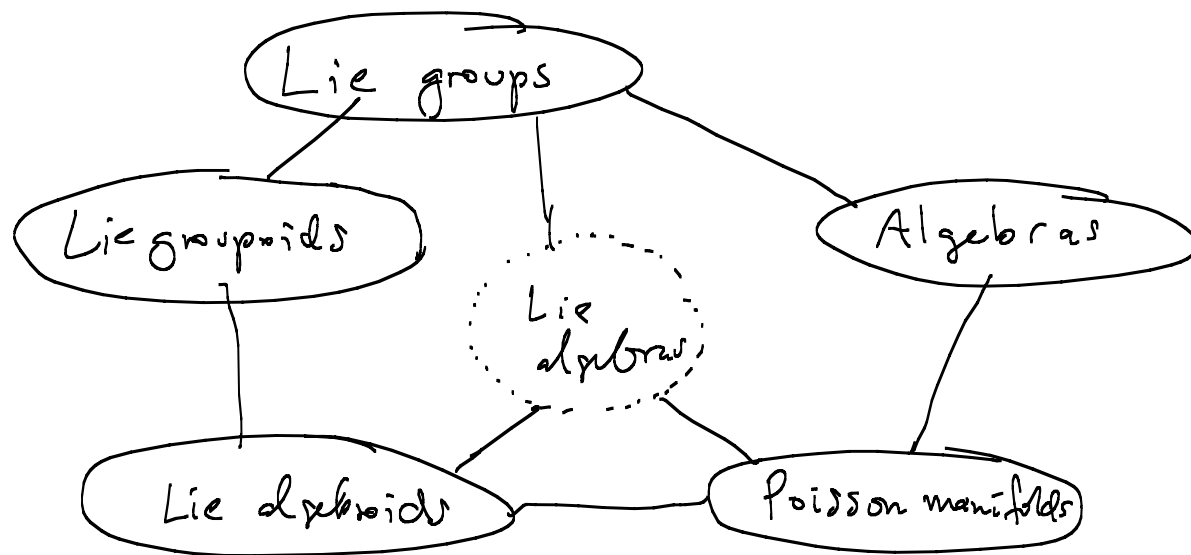
Use of the term "modular" in the sense of today's talk was first introduced in the theory of locally compact groups (by A. Weil?), based on the following "ordinary language" word.

mod-ule

*n.*

1. A standard or unit of measurement.
2. *Architecture* The dimensions of a structural component, such as the base of a column, used as a unit of measurement or standard for determining the proportions of the rest of the construction.

From groups, it migrated to other mathematical objects.



Modular (co)homology class is obstruction  
to existence of some kind of "nice measure"  
(volume rather than length.)

- Groups :
- Associative algebras:
- Poisson manifolds:
- Lie algebras:
- Lie algebroids:
- Lie groupoids:

## This talk:

- Modular classes of objects (with SE + JHL)
- Modular classes of mappings (with YKS + CLG)
- What can you do when the obstruction vanishes?
- The case of Poisson (including symplectic) manifolds.

# Groups

Obstruction to bi-invariant measure:

function  $H \xrightarrow{\text{mod } H} \mathbb{R}^X$ .

Given inclusion  $K \xrightarrow{\Phi} H$

mod  $\Phi$  = mod  $K/\Phi^*$  mod  $H$ .

$\rightarrow H/K$  IC-invariant measure

mod  $H = \det(\Lambda^{\text{top}} \text{Ad})$  ( $H$  acting  
on  $\Lambda^{\text{top}} \mathfrak{h}$ )

Lie algebras  $\text{tr ad} : \mathfrak{h} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Algebras obstruction to a trace

$$A \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \quad \mu(ab) = \mu(ba).$$

Tomita-Takesaki-Connes

modular automorphism group

data: "state"  $\mu : A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

dependence upon data: change  $\mu$  mod by  
inner automorphism.

"Reduces" to usual in case of group algebra;  
(evaluation at identity)  $e \text{ mod } \mathfrak{H}$

# Poisson manifolds

(earlier by Gellavotti-Pulvirenti, Koszul)

Quasi-classical limit of algebra case

$f \xrightarrow{X_b} \text{div } H_f$  modular vector field.

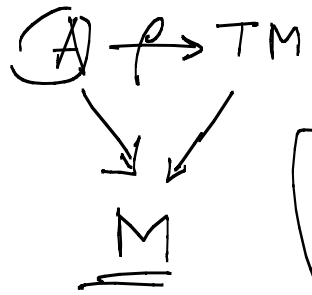
data: smooth measure  $b$

dependence on data:  $b \rightarrow \gamma_b$ ,

$$X_{\gamma_b} = \underline{X_b} + H_{\log|\gamma|}$$

Reduces to standard one for  $\mathfrak{g}^*$  (Relation to group algebra: "Fourier transform".)

# Lie algebroids (with Evens and Lu)



What are the data?

$$Q_A = \int^{\text{top}} \rho^* A \otimes \int^{\text{top}} T^* M$$

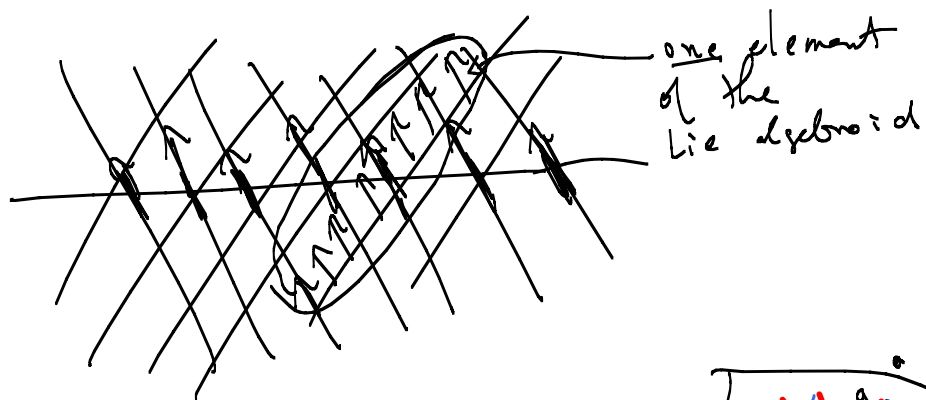
Action (representation) of  $\Gamma(A)$  by bracket.

$\lambda \in \Gamma(Q_A) \rightsquigarrow$  modular cocycle  $\alpha_\lambda \in \Gamma(A^*)$ .

dependence on data:  $\alpha_{\gamma\lambda} = \alpha_\lambda + d_A \log |Y|$

Special cases: Lie algebra, Poisson.  $\rightarrow (T^*P) \otimes 2$   
 $\rightarrow$  Dual of Lie algebroid.  
 (Trace obstructions: Neumaier-Waldmann)

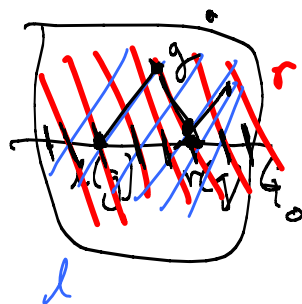




## Groupoids

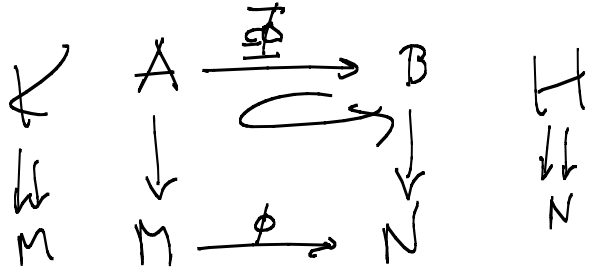
Very much like Lie algebroids.

$G$  acts on  $Q_A$ , action leads to cocycle  $G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^x$ .



Note: does not reduce to Lie algebroid when groupoid is not connected. Can be nontrivial cocycle even for discrete groupoid. (Invariance condition on function on  $G_0$ )

Relative classes (with Kosmann-Schwarzbach  
+ Laurent-Gengoux)



A acts on  $Q_{\underline{\Phi}} = Q_A \otimes_{\underline{\mathbb{D}}} (Q_B^*) = \text{"Hom}_{\underline{\mathbb{D}}}(Q_B, Q_A)"$

$\text{Mod } \underline{\mathbb{D}} = \text{Mod}_A - \underline{\mathbb{D}}^* \text{Mod}_B = \text{characteristic class of } Q_{\underline{\Phi}}$

Meaning?

## Special case:

Pullback morphism by surjective submersion  
= equivalence. Inverting these gives  
generalized morphisms, in particular,  
equivalences.

(In Lie algebroid case, need 1-connected  
fibres.)

Relative class defined for "morphisms of stacks."

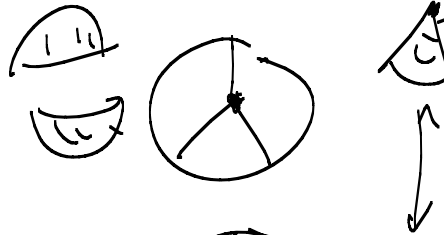




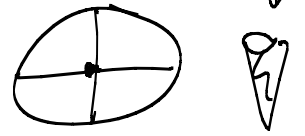
Matches defn. of Euler characteristic of orbifold.

Example:

$$\chi(\text{orbifold}) = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{7}{12}$$



volume is  $\frac{2\pi}{3} + \frac{2\pi}{4} = \frac{7}{12} \times 2\pi$



curvature  $K=1$ ,  $\frac{1}{2\pi} \int K dV = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left( \frac{7}{12} \cdot 2\pi \right) = \frac{7}{12} = \chi$

≡ ≡ ≡

PROBLEM: Extend notion of volume to more general stacks, e.g. quotients  $X//H$ , where  $H$  is a Lie group acting on a manifold  $X$ . (Don't just push measure forward!)

Corresponding groupoid here is

$$G = \underbrace{H \times X} \rightrightarrows \underbrace{X} \quad (h, x) \mapsto (hx, x).$$

$$A = \underbrace{h \times X} \rightarrow \underbrace{X}$$

$$Q_A = \underbrace{\Lambda^{\text{top}} h \otimes \Lambda^{\text{top}} T^* X}$$

Section of  $Q_A$  is suitable data, e.g. in free

case, can make sense of  $\text{vol}(X)/\text{vol}(H)$ .

## General Lie groupoid

Lemma: For  $G \rightrightarrows G_0$  finite,

$$\#(G/G_0) = \sum_{\partial \in G/G_0} \#(G_\partial)^{-1} = \sum_{y \in G_0} \#(r^{-1}(y))^{-1}.$$

This suggests, for  $G \rightrightarrows G_0$  compact Lie,  
given  $a \in \Gamma \wedge^{\text{top}} A^*$ ,  $b \in \Gamma \wedge^{\text{top}} T^*G^0$

$$\int_{G/G_0} a \wedge b = \int_{y \in G_0} \left( \int_{r^{-1}(y)} a_r \right) b.$$

Here we use identification of  $\Gamma(A)$  with left-invariant sections of  $\ker \text{Tr} \subseteq TG$ ;  $a_r$  is right-invariant "extension" of  $A$  to left-invariant volume element along  $r$ -fibres.

Problem: How do we know that this depends only on  $a^{-1}b \in \Gamma(Q_A)$ .

Solution: Go back to discrete case; try to imitate the original Baez-Dolan construction.

It turns out that we need to assume  $\lambda = \underline{a^{-1}b} \in \Gamma(Q_A)$  is an invariant section.

We can then do the following:

Use exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow \ker \rho \rightarrow A \rho \rightarrow TG_0 \rightarrow \operatorname{coker} \rho \rightarrow 0$$

to get  $Q_A \cong \underline{\Lambda^{\text{top}} \ker \rho} \otimes \underline{\Lambda^{\text{top}} (\operatorname{coker} \rho)^*}$ .

Now work over regular part of  $G, G_0$ .

The rest is ignorable thanks to Zung's linearization theorem (and slice theorem --)



Write  $a^{-1}b = \alpha^{-1}\beta$  where  
 $\alpha \in \Gamma(\Lambda^{\text{top}} \ker p^*)$  and  $\beta \in \Gamma(\Lambda^{\text{top}} \text{coker } p^*)$   
 are separately invariant. (Can do this because  
 $G$  compact  $\Rightarrow G/G_0$  proper, and vanishing  
 theorem [Tu? Crainic?].)

Now, recalling

$$\#(G/G_0) = \sum_{\theta \in G/G_0} \#(G_\theta)^{-1} = \sum_{y \in G_0} \#(r^{-1}(y))^{-1}$$

prove

$$\int_{\theta \in G/G_0} \left[ \int_{G_\theta} \alpha \right]^{-1} \beta = \int_{y \in G_0} \left[ \int_{r^{-1}(y)} a_2 \right]^{-1} b.$$

The expression on the left does not depend on  
 $\alpha + \beta$  except through  $\alpha^{-1}\beta = a^{-1}b$ , so we get a  
 well-defined  $\nu d_\lambda(G_0//G)$ , even for  
 proper (not necessarily compact) groupoids.

# Interpretation of the relative class

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G & \xrightarrow{\Phi} & G' \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ G_0 & & G'_0 \end{array} \quad \text{generalized morphism}$$

induces map of stacks  $G_0 // G \xrightarrow{\Phi} G'_0 // G'$ .

Modular class mod  $\Phi$  is obstruction to integration along fibres of  $\Phi$ .

Example:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K & \subseteq & H \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ pt & & pt \end{array}$$

leads to map of stacks

$$pt // K \rightarrow pt // H,$$

$$\text{or } BK \rightarrow BH.$$

If we think topologically,

$BH = EH/H$ ,  $BK$  can be  $EH/K$ , and we have fibration  $\underbrace{EH/K}_{\mathbb{H}/K} \rightarrow BK \rightarrow BH$ ,

so measure along fibres is "really" measure on  $H/K$ , which takes us back to A. Weil's criterion.

## The Poisson case

For Poisson manifold  $P$ ,  $A = T^*P$  is naturally associated Lie algebroid, and  $Q_A = \left( \frac{TP}{T^*P} \right)^{\otimes 2}$ .

( $\Rightarrow$  Modular class of  $P$  is  $2 \times \text{mod } A$ .)

$G \rightrightarrows P$  is symplectic groupoid. What is  $\text{vol}(P/G)$  (i.e. volume of symplectic leaf space)?

For symplectic  $P$ , a natural choice of  $\lambda$  is square of Liouville measure. For fundamental groupoid,  $\text{vol}_\lambda(P/\pi_1(P)) = \frac{1}{\#(\pi_1(P))}$

(for  $P$  connected, otherwise sum over components).

For pair groupoid,  $\text{vol}_\lambda = 1$  (or  $\# \pi_0(P)$ ).

Other invariant  $\lambda$ 's are (locally constant) multiples of Liouville measure and give rise to different volumes.

## A simple Poisson example

$M = \Sigma \times \mathbb{R}$ , where  $\Sigma$  is a compact symplectic surface, symplectic structure varying with  $t$  so that, in dual coordinate  $\theta$  on isotropy, length of isotropy is  $K(t)$  (proportional to rate of change of symplectic volume of  $\Sigma$  with respect to  $t$ ),

Choose  $\lambda = \left[ \omega_t \wedge \underline{f(t) dt} \right]^2$ , where  $\omega_t$  is symplectic form. Then the induced measure on the leaf space turns out to be

$$\frac{f(t)^2}{K(t)} dt.$$

On the other hand, the "quotient measure" of  $\sqrt{\lambda}$  by symplectic leaf measure is just  $\underline{f(t) dt}$ . These agree when  $f(t) = K(t)$ , thus producing a "natural measure" on the symplectic leaf space.

I think that this is the measure associated to the natural  $GL(n; \mathbb{Z})$  structure on the quotient space of an integrable system.

## SOME QUESTIONS

For  $G$  acting on  $G$  by conjugation, there is a canonical trivization of  $\mathcal{Q}_A$  for the action groupoid, hence a canonical measure on  $G//G$ , and its push-forward to  $G/G$ . What is it? How is it related to canonical measures on conjugacy classes?

same for  $\mathcal{J}/G$ . ←

How about  $\mathcal{J}^*/G$ ? Relation to Plancherel measure?

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What else can we do with these ideas? (Relation to duality theories in algebraic geometry,  $\mathcal{D}$ -modules?)

