

The Jouanolou foliation in positive characteristic

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Structure

- Part I: Introduction
- Part II: Foliations in characteristic $p > 0$;
- Part III: The Jouanolou foliation in positive characteristic

Part I: Introduction

Foliations

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A **foliation**, \mathcal{F} , of degree d on the projective plane \mathbb{P}_K^2 is given, mod K^* , by a non-zero element $\omega \in H^0(\mathbb{P}_K^2, \Omega_{\mathbb{P}_K^2}^1(d+2))$ with finite singular locus

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Explicitly:

- Using the Euler exact sequence we can see ω as a projective 1-form:

$$\omega = Adx + Bdy + Cdz$$

on \mathbb{A}_K^3 such that $A, B, C \in K[x, y, z]$ are homogeneous of degree $d+1$ and $Ax + By + Cz = 0$ with

$$\text{sing}(\omega) = \mathcal{Z}(A, B, C) = \{p \in \mathbb{P}_K^2 \mid A(p) = B(p) = C(p) = 0\}$$

finite.

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- In this sense, a foliation of degree d on \mathbb{P}_K^2 is determined, modulo K^* , by a homogeneous vector field on \mathbb{A}_K^3 :

$$v = A_0 \partial_x + A_1 \partial_y + A_2 \partial_z \in \mathfrak{X}_d(\mathbb{A}_K^3)$$

where $A_0, A_1, A_2 \in K[x, y, z]$ are homogeneous of degree d with

$$\operatorname{div}(v) = \partial_x A_0 + \partial_y A_1 + \partial_z A_2 = 0$$

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The equivalence of these notions is given by the following result:

Proposition

^a There is a bijection between the set of projective 1-forms on \mathbb{A}_K^3 of degree $d + 1$ and homogeneous vector fields with divergent zero of degree d .

^aJouanolou - **Equations de Pfaff algébriques**

Example

Suppose that \mathcal{F} is defined by the homogeneous 1-form

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and write

$$d\omega = (d+2)(L dy \wedge dz - M dx \wedge dz + N dx \wedge dy).$$

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Definition

The curve C is \mathcal{F} -invariant if there is a homogeneous 2-form σ on \mathbb{A}_K^3 such that

$$dF \wedge \omega = F\sigma$$

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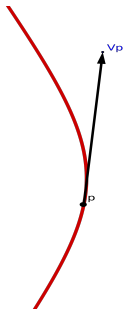
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- Logarithmic foliations:** Let $d_1, d_2, \dots, d_r \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and $F_1, \dots, F_r \in K[x, y, z]$ homogeneous polynomials with $d_i = \deg(F_i)$. Suppose that F_1, \dots, F_r are irreducible and coprime. Let $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r \in K^*$ such that $\sum_{i=1}^r \alpha_i d_i = 0$ and consider the 1-form

$$\Omega = F_1 F_2 \cdots F_{r-1} F_r \sum_{i=1}^r \alpha_i \frac{dF_i}{F_i}.$$

The 1-form Ω defines, \mathcal{F}_Ω , a foliation of degree $d = \sum_i d_i - 2$ on \mathbb{P}_K^2 . We say that \mathcal{F}_Ω is a **logarithmic foliation** of type (d_1, \dots, d_r) . The curves $C_i = \{F_i = 0\}$ are \mathcal{F}_Ω -invariant.

Jouanolou example: foliations without invariant curves

Let $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}$ and consider the foliation on \mathbb{P}_K^2 given by the projective 1-form:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}_d: \Omega_d &= (x^d z - y^{d+1})dx + (xy^d - z^{d+1})dy + (z^d y - x^{d+1})dz \\ v_d &= z^d \partial_x + x^d \partial_y + y^d \partial_z\end{aligned}$$

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Theorem (Jouanolou)

^a If $K = \mathbb{C}$ the foliation \mathcal{F}_d does not have invariant algebraic curves.

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This result implies in particular that on $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2$ **almost all** foliation on the complex projective plane have no algebraic invariant curves.

Part II: Foliations in characteristic $p > 0$

The p -divisor on \mathbb{P}_K^2

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The p -**divisor** is given by

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{F}} = \{i_{v_\omega}^p \omega = 0\}.$$

Note that $\Delta_{\mathcal{F}}$ has degree $p(d - 1) + d + 2$.

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The foliation \mathcal{F} is p -closed if $\Delta_{\mathcal{F}} = 0$.

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By iteration we get:

$$v^p = \left(\frac{2\alpha^p - 1}{3}\right) x\partial_x + \left(\frac{2 - \alpha^p}{3}\right) y\partial_y + \left(\frac{-1 - \alpha^p}{3}\right) z\partial_z$$

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If $\alpha \notin \mathbb{F}_p$:

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{F}} = \{x = 0\} + \{y = 0\} + \{z = 0\}.$$

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Proposition

^a Let \mathcal{F} be a non- p -closed foliation on \mathbb{P}_k^2 and $C \subset \mathbb{P}_k^2$ be an algebraic curve.

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- If $\text{ord}_C(\Delta_{\mathcal{F}}) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ then C is \mathcal{F} -invariant.

^aW.Mendson - **Foliations on smooth algebraic surface in positive characteristic**

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Proposition (J.V.Pereira)

^a Let \mathcal{F} be a foliation \mathbb{P}_K^2 and suppose that $\deg(\mathcal{F}) < p - 1$. Then, \mathcal{F} has an invariant algebraic curve.

^aJ.V.Pereira - **Invariant Hypersurfaces for Positive Characteristic Vector Fields**

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On the projective plane over characteristic $p > 0$ any non- p -closed foliation of degree d has an invariant algebraic curve of degree less than or equal to $p(d - 1) + d + 2$.

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Proposition

^a A foliation is p -closed if and only if it has infinitely many solutions.

^aBrunella, Nicolau - **Sur les hypersurfaces solutions des équations de Pfaff**

Curious examples

Example

Suppose that K has characteristic 3 and consider the Jouanolou foliation of degree 2 defined over K . Then, the 3-divisor is irreducible with $\text{sing}(\Delta_{\mathcal{F}}) \not\subset \text{sing}(\mathcal{F})$.

Example (F.Touzet)

Consider the foliation 5-closed foliation given by:

$$\omega = 2z(x+y)dx + z(2z+x)dy + 4(2x^2 + 3xy + 2yz)dz$$

The curve $C = \{-x^4 + x^3y + x^2yz + y^2z^2\}$ is \mathcal{F} -invariant with $[0 : 0 : 1] \in \text{sing}(C)$ but not in $\text{sing}(\mathcal{F})$.

Reduction modulo p

Consider the case where $K = \mathbb{C}$. Let \mathcal{F} be a foliation on $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2$ of degree d defined by the projective 1-form:

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For the Jouanolou foliation, $A, B, C \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y, z]$ so that $\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{F}_d] = \mathbb{Z}$.

Reduction modulo p

Fact: For each maximal ideal $\mathfrak{p} \in \mathbf{Spm}(\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{F}])$ the residue field $\mathbb{F}_{\mathfrak{p}} = \mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{F}]/\mathfrak{p}$ is finite, in particular of characteristic $p > 0$.

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Denote by $\omega_{\mathfrak{p}}$ the 1-form over $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_{\mathfrak{p}}$ obtained by reduction modulo \mathfrak{p} of all coefficient which appears in A, B and C . We obtain a non-zero element of $H^0(\mathbb{P}_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_{\mathfrak{p}}}^2, \Omega_{\mathbb{P}_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_{\mathfrak{p}}}^2}^1 \otimes \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_{\mathfrak{p}}}^2}(d+2))$ and $\omega_{\mathfrak{p}}$ determines a foliation on $\mathbb{P}_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_{\mathfrak{p}}}^2$:

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Definition

*The foliation determined by $\omega_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is denoted by $\mathcal{F}_{\mathfrak{p}}$ and is called the **reduction modulo p** of \mathcal{F} .*

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Suppose that an abstract property P holds for \mathcal{F}_p for an infinitely many primes (or almost all primes) $p \in \mathbf{Spm}(\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{F}])$. What we can say about \mathcal{F} ?

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When $\mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{F}] = \mathbb{Z}$ then the notions: **infinitely many primes** and **all most primes** are the usual notions.

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Proposition

Let \mathcal{F} be a foliation on $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2$ and suppose that \mathcal{F}_p has an invariant curve of degree less than d for almost all primes p . Then, \mathcal{F} has an invariant curve of degree less than d .

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- the foliation \mathcal{F}_p has irreducible/reduced p -divisor;

Proposition

Let \mathcal{F} be a foliation on $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2$ and suppose that \mathcal{F}_p has an invariant curve of degree less than d for almost all primes p . Then, \mathcal{F} has an invariant curve of degree less than d .

Idea: the set $S(\mathcal{F}, K, d)$ of foliations on \mathbb{P}_K^2 that have invariant curves of degree $\leq d$ is algebraic variety over K . In particular, $S(\mathcal{F}, \mathbb{C}, d) \neq \emptyset$ if and only if $S(\mathcal{F}, \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p, d) \neq \emptyset$ for almost all primes p .

Algebraic solutions

Goal: use reduction modulo p to prove the non-algebraicity of holomorphic foliations

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Proposition

^a Let \mathcal{F} be a non-dicritical foliation on $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2$ defined by a projective 1-form $\omega = Adx + Bdy + Cdz$ with $A, B, C \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y, z]$. Let p be a prime number such that $p > d + 2$. If $\Delta_{\mathcal{F}_p}$ is irreducible then \mathcal{F} has no algebraic solutions.

^aW.Mendson - **Foliations on smooth algebraic surfaces in position characteristic**

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^aW.Mendson - Foliations on smooth algebraic surfaces in position characteristic

Idea: Suppose that there is an invariant curve $C = \{F = 0\}$ that is \mathcal{F} -invariant. We can assume that $F \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y, z]$. The Carnicer bound¹ implies that $\deg(C) \leq d + 2$. Reducing modulo p and using the irreducibility of $\Delta_{\mathcal{F}_p}$ we get a contradiction.

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Applications

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The Jouanolou foliation of degree 2 or 3 has no algebraic solutions.

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Idea: Suppose that there is a invariant curve $C = \{F = 0\}$ that is \mathcal{F} -invariant. This curve has degree e . For large primes p we obtain $C \bmod p = \Delta_{\mathcal{F}_p}$, a contradiction since the degree of the p -divisor depends on p .

From \mathbb{F}_2 to \mathbb{C}

Using similar ideas we can prove the following result (Jouanolou):

Theorem

A very generic foliation of odd degree $d > 1$ with $d \not\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ does not have algebraic solutions

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The reduction modulo 2 and comparison of degrees (the 2-divisor is irreducible) gives us a contradiction

Jouanolou foliation in positive characteristic

Theorem

Let $p > 2$ be a prime number such that $7 \nmid p + 4$ and such that $p \not\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$. Then, the Jouanolou foliation of degree two \mathcal{F}_2 defined over a field of characteristic p has irreducible p -divisor.

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In the proof, we use a particular automorphism of \mathcal{F}_2 .

Let \mathcal{F} be a foliation on \mathbb{P}_K^2 defined by a projective 1-form ω .

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An automorphism of a foliation \mathcal{F} is a automorphism Φ of \mathbb{P}_K^2 which preserves \mathcal{F} :

$$\Phi^* \omega = \sigma(\Phi) \omega$$

for some $\sigma(\Phi) \in K^*$. The automorphism group of \mathcal{F} is denoted by $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{F})$.

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$$\Phi: \mathbb{P}_K^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{P}_K^2 \quad [x : y : z] \mapsto [\gamma^{d^2+1}x : \gamma y : z]$$

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Proposition

Let \mathcal{F} be a foliation on \mathbb{P}_K^2 non- p -closed and $\Phi \in \text{Aut}(\mathcal{F})$. Then $\Phi^\Delta_{\mathcal{F}} = \Delta_{\mathcal{F}}$.*

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Case $d = 2$

$$\mathcal{F}_2: \Omega_2 = (x^d z - y^3)dx + (xy^2 - z^3)dy + (z^2 y - x^3)dz.$$

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$$dF \wedge \omega = F \left(\left(\frac{\deg(C)}{4} \right) d\omega + i_R \beta \right)$$

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- ② Φ^l does not fix C for all $l \in \{1, \dots, 6\}$: In that case for any prime divisor P in the support of $\Delta_{\mathcal{J}}$ we have: $P, \Phi^* P, \dots, (\Phi^6)^* P$ are distinct and this implies that $7 \mid p + 4$, a contradiction;

Jouanolou foliation

Corollary

In the conditions of the Theorem, a generic foliation of degree two on the projective plane over characteristic $p > 0$ has irreducible p -divisor.

- \mathcal{F}_d on $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2$:

$$\omega_d = (x^d z - y^{d+1})dx + (xy^d - z^{d+1})dy + (z^d y - x^{d+1})dz$$

$$v_d = z^d \partial_x + x^d \partial_y + y^d \partial_z$$

- ❶ $(p, d) = (5, 2)$:

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{F}_{5,2}} = [i_{v_2^5} \omega_2] = \{X^5 Z^4 + X^4 Y^5 + 2X^3 Y^3 Z^3 + Y^4 Z^5 = 0\} \in \text{Div}(\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{F}_5}^2)$$

- ❷ $(p, d) = (11, 3)$:

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{F}_{11,3}} = [i_{v_3^{11}} \omega_3] = \{X^{19} Z^8 - 2X^{16} Y^4 Z^7 + \dots + 3XY^{11} Z^{15} + Y^8 Z^{19} = 0\} \in \text{Div}(\mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{F}_{11}}^2)$$

Jouanolou foliation II

For $d > 2$ we have:

Theorem

^a Let K be an algebraically closed field of characteristic $p > 0$. Let $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ such that

- $p < d$ and $p \not\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$;
- $d^2 + d + 1$ is prime.

Then the Jouanolou foliation \mathcal{F}_d has irreducible p -divisor **or** $\Delta_{\mathcal{F}_d} = C + pR$ with $\deg(C) = pl + d + 2$ with $l > 0$ and R not \mathcal{F}_d -invariant.

^aW.Mendson - **Arithmetic aspects of the Jouanolou foliation**

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Remark

^a It is conjectured that there are infinitely many $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ such that $d^2 + d + 1$ is prime. This is a particular case of the Bunyakovsky conjecture (1857).

^a<https://mathoverflow.net/questions/438807/primes-of-the-form-d2d1>

characteristic $p = 5$ and $d \leq 100$

d	$d^2 + d + 1$	$\deg(C)$	l	R
6	43	18	2	$\{xyz = 0\}$
12	157	39	5	$\{xyz = 0\}$
17	307	54	7	$\{xyz = 0\}$
21	463	63	8	$\{xyz = 0\}$
27	757	84	11	$\{xyz = 0\}$
41	1723	123	16	$\{xyz = 0\}$
57	3307	174	23	$\{xyz = 0\}$
62	3907	189	25	$\{xyz = 0\}$
66	4423	198	26	$\{xyz = 0\}$
71	5113	213	28	$\{xyz = 0\}$
77	6007	234	31	$\{xyz = 0\}$

- for $d \in \{2, 14, 24, 54, 59, 69, 89, 99\}$, $\Delta_{\mathcal{F}_d}$ is irreducible;
- for the remaining cases, $\Delta_{\mathcal{F}_d} = 0$.

Thank you ;-)