

12 Jan 2009 Algebraic Lie Theory at the  
Newton Institute

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Plan:

- I. Motivation from representation theory of finite groups
- II.  $sl_2$ -categorification and construction of derived equivalences
- III. Perverse equivalences.

Broué's abelian defect <sup>group</sup> conjecture

$G$  - finite group

$k$  - algebraically closed field

$k[G]$  - group algebra

$\mathbb{C}[G]$  is semisimple so

$$\mathbb{C}[G] \cong M_{n_1}(\mathbb{C}) \times \cdots \times M_{n_s}(\mathbb{C})$$

$M_n(\mathbb{C}) = n \times n$  matrices over  $\mathbb{C}$

Assume  $\text{char } k = p > 0$

$k[G] \cong B_1 \times \cdots \times B_s$ ,  $B_i$  are the blocks of  $k[G]$ .

$k[G]\text{-mod} \cong B_1\text{-mod} \oplus \cdots \oplus B_s\text{-mod}$

Example  $G = S_3$   
 $p > 3 : k[G] = M_2(k) \times k \times k$

$p = 2 : k[G] = M_2(k) \times k[x] / (x^2)$

$p = 3 : k[G]$  is indecomposable

A defect group of a block  $B$  is a subgroup  $\Delta \leq G$  such that every  $B$ -module is a summand of a module induced from  $\Delta$  and is minimal w/ this property.

$\Delta$  is a ~~sub~~  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ , unique  $\uparrow$  class upto conjugacy.

$\Delta = 1 \iff B$  is a matrix algebra

$\Delta$  is cyclic  $\iff$  there are finitely many indecomposable  $B$ -modules (upto  $\cong$ )

Each block  $B$  has a Brauer correspondent  $C$  a block of  $k[N_G(\Delta)]$   
 $\uparrow$   
 defect group of  $B$ .

conjecture (Alperin) if  $\Delta$  is abelian then  $B$  and  $C$  have the same # of simple modules.

example  $G = A_5, p = 3$

$$K[G] \simeq B \times M_3(K) \times M_3(K)$$

$B$  has defect group  $D \simeq \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$   
and  $N_G(D) \simeq S_3$ .

So its Brauer correspondent is  $C = K[S_3]$ .

Both  $B$  and  $C$  have 2 simple modules  
Explanation:  $B$  and  $C$  are Morita equivalent, i.e.  $B\text{-mod} \simeq C\text{-mod}$

example  $G = A_5, p = 2$

$$K[G] \simeq B \times M_4(K)$$

$B$  has defect group  $D \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$

w/ Brauer correspondent  $K[N_G(D)] \simeq K[A_4]$

Both  $B$  and  $C$  have 3 simple modules  
But  $B\text{-mod} \not\cong C\text{-mod}$ .

Instead, B. Rickard showed that

$$D^b(B\text{-mod}) \xrightarrow{\sim} D^b(C\text{-mod})$$

simple objects of  $B\text{-mod}$

$s_1$

$\longmapsto$

$T_1$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} T_i \text{'s simples} \\ \text{in } C\text{-mod} \end{array} \right.$

$s_2$

$\longmapsto$

$\begin{pmatrix} T_1 \\ T_2 \end{pmatrix}$

element of  $\text{Ext}^1(T_1, T_2)$

$s_3$

$\longmapsto$

$\begin{pmatrix} T_1 \\ T_3 \end{pmatrix} [1]$

conjecture (Broué) If  $\mathcal{B}$  is abelian  
 $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  are derived equivalent, i.e.  
 $\mathcal{D}^b(\mathcal{B}\text{-mod}) \simeq \mathcal{D}^b(\mathcal{C}\text{-mod})$

Recall that given an abelian category  
 $\mathcal{A}$ , the Grothendieck group  $K_0(\mathcal{A})$  is  
the free abelian group on symbols  
 $[x]$ ,  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  modulo

$$[Y] = [X] + [Z] \text{ for each}$$

short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0$$

If  $\mathcal{A}$  is Artinian (i.e. finite composition  
- or series) then  $[L]$ ,  $L$ -simple is a  
basis of  $K_0(\mathcal{A})$ .

$$K_0(\mathcal{B}\text{-mod}) = \bigoplus_{S\text{-simple}} \mathbb{Z}[S]$$

If  $F: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is an exact functor  
between abelian categories then

$$[F]: K_0(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow K_0(\mathcal{B})$$

$$[M] \mapsto [FM]$$

is a homomorphism. If  $F$  is an  
equivalence, we get an isomorphism  
in  $K_0$  preserving simples.

$\mathcal{T}$ -triangulated category  
define  $K_0(\mathcal{T})$  as in abelian case  
by replacing short exact sequences  
w/ distinguished triangles.

$\mathcal{A}$ -abelian

$$\mathcal{A} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{D}^b(\mathcal{A})$$

induces  $K_0(\mathcal{A}) \xrightarrow{\sim} K_0(\mathcal{D}^b(\mathcal{A}))$

For  $x^\circ \in \mathcal{D}^b(\mathcal{A})$ ,  $^\circ$  in  $K_0(\mathcal{D}^b(\mathcal{A}))$

$$[x^\circ] = \sum_i (-1)^{i-1} H^i(x^\circ)$$

depend on  
 $\mathcal{A} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{D}^b(\mathcal{A})$   
 $\mathbb{Z}$  being in degree  
- ee 1.8

$$\begin{aligned} \text{so } \mathcal{D}^b(\mathcal{B}\text{-mod}) &\xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{D}^b(\mathcal{C}\text{-mod}) \\ \Rightarrow K_0(\mathcal{B}\text{-mod}) &\xrightarrow{\sim} K_0(\mathcal{C}\text{-mod}) \end{aligned}$$

but classes of simples may not be preserved.

### Symmetric groups

$B$ : block of  $\mathbb{Q}\Delta$   $k[S_n]$

$B'$ : block of  $k[S_{n'}]$

$D, D'$ : respective defect groups

$C, C'$ : resp. Brauer correspondents.

Fact:  $D \cong D' \Leftrightarrow C$  and  $C'$  are Morita equivalent

Given  $B$  w/ abelian  $\mathcal{D}$ , Brauer's conjecture can be proved for some  $B'$  w/  $\mathcal{D}' \cong \mathcal{D}$ .

(Rickard, Markus, C-Kessar)

$B'$ -Rouquier block.

Brauer's abelian defect group conjecture for symmetric groups follows from:

Thm (C-Rouquier)

$B$  and  $B'$  are derived equivalent

$\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{D} \cong \mathcal{D}'$ .

LaScoux - Ledec - Thibon's approach

$M \in k[S_n]\text{-mod}$

$\mathcal{F} = \bigoplus_{n \geq 0} k[S_n]\text{-mod}$

$\text{Res}_{S_{n-1}}^{S_n}(M)$  defines an endofunctor

$\text{Res}: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$ . Similarly,  $\uparrow$  define

$\text{Ind}: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$

$L_n \in \text{End}(k[S_n])^{k[S_{n-1}]}$

$L_n = (1, n) + (2, n) + \dots + (n-1, n)$

~~$E_n M = \{m \in M \mid (L_n - a)^N m = 0 \text{ for } N \gg 0\}$~~

$E_n M = \{m \in M \mid \text{Res } M \mid (L_n - a)^N m = 0, \text{ for } N \gg 0\}$

$F_n M = \{m \in \text{Ind } M \mid (L_n - a)^N m = 0, \text{ for } N \gg 0\}$ .

$\uparrow$   
 $M \in S_n\text{-mod}$

Thm The action of  $e_a = [E_a]$   
and  $f_a = [F_a]$  on  $K_0(\mathcal{F})$  extends  
to an action of  $\hat{S}L_p$ , w/ weight  
space decomposition

$$K_0(\mathcal{F}) = \bigoplus_{\substack{\text{B-blocks} \\ \text{of symmet} \\ \text{-ric groups}}} K_0(\mathcal{B})$$

and the Weyl group  $W$  acts on  
wt. spaces (= blocks) transitively on  
blocks of a fixed defect group