

# Moduli spaces of parabolic Higgs bundles

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Joint work in progress with Frank Loray

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## Settings

- $X$ : a smooth curve (over  $\mathbb{C}$ ) of genus  $g \geq 0$
- $t_1, \dots, t_n$  distinct points on  $X$

$$D = t_1 + \dots + t_n$$

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- We can construct:
  - 1 Moduli spaces of connections: parametrizing vector bundles  $E$  with a  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear map  $\nabla : E \rightarrow E \otimes \Omega_X^1(D)$  satisfying the Leibniz's rule.
  - 2 Moduli spaces of Higgs bundles: parametrizing vector bundles  $E$  with an  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -homomorphism  $\theta : E \rightarrow E \otimes \Omega_X^1(D)$

In this talk the rank is two.

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- Fixed data: Usually we fix a determinant linebundle, a trace connection on it, and the eigenvalues of the residual part over poles. Moreover, the construction needs a choice of weights to impose stability conditions.
- It turns out to be a quasi-projective variety, mostly irreducible.

(Nitsure 1993, Simpson 1994, Inaba-Iwasaki-M.-H.Saito 2003, Inaba 2013)

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- 4  $g(X) = 1$  and  $n > 1$ :
  - F - F.Loray, *Flat parabolic vector bundles on elliptic curves*, (2017)
  - F - F.Loray - A.Muniz, *On the moduli of logarithmic connections on elliptic curves*, (2020)

# Higgs bundles

Higgs bundles were introduced by Hitchin:

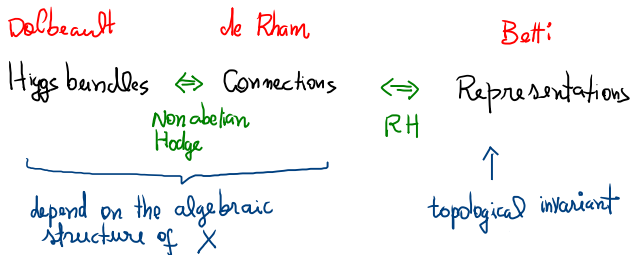
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## Relations between moduli spaces



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- One interest for moduli spaces of Higgs bundles is to study additional structures (e.g. the Hitchin fibration) which reflect the algebraic structure of the curve  $X$ .

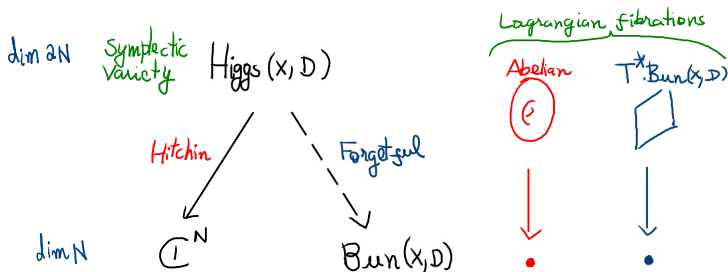
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An important paper:

- Beauville - Narasimhan - Ramanan, spectral curves and the generalized theta divisor (1989)

# B-N-R correspondence

Hitchin map

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Higgs}(X, D) & & (E, \theta) \\ \downarrow \text{Hitchin map} & & \downarrow H \\ \mathbb{C}^N & \ni & (-\text{tr}\theta, \det\theta) \end{array}$$

General Hitchin fiber

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \textcircled{\rho} & H^{-1}(s) \simeq & \text{Picard variety of } X_s \\ \downarrow & & \uparrow \text{spectral curve} \\ & = & s \end{array}$$

$$\text{locally: } X_s = \{ (x, z) \mid z^2 - (\text{tr}\theta(x))z + \det\theta(x) = 0 \}$$

# Remaining Hitchin fibers...

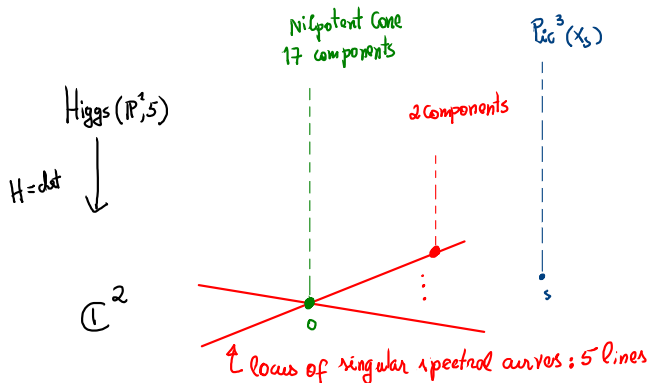
One of our motivation is to give a description of the remain special fibers of the Hitchin map, at least in the following cases

- $\text{Higgs}(\mathbb{P}^1, 5)$ :  $X = \mathbb{P}^1$  and  $n = 5$
- $\text{Higgs}(C, 2)$ :  $X = C$  is an elliptic curve and  $n = 2$

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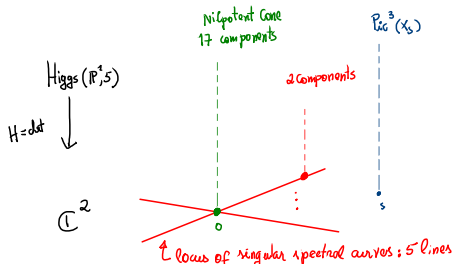
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- 3 the fiber over zero (nilpotent cone) has 17 components: Bun and one component for each one of the 16 lines
- 4 other singular fibers are birational to an elliptic curve times a degenerate elliptic curve (i.e. two copies of  $\mathbb{P}^1$  meeting in two points). This confirms a guess of C. Simpson in

• C. Simpson, An explicit view of the Hitchin fibration on the Betti side for  $\mathbb{P}^1$  minus 5 points, (2017)





## The case $(C, 2)$

- 1 Using the elliptic cover  $\pi : C \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  we define a **degree two** map

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- 2  $\text{Higgs}(C, 2)$  can be obtained as a quotient of  $\text{Higgs}(\mathbb{P}^1, 5)$  by the involution of the covering
- 3  $\Phi$  preserves the Hitchin fibration and its restriction to a general fiber gives a **degree two** map

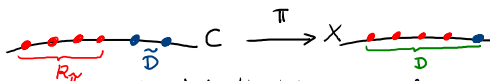
$$\Phi_s : \text{Pic}^3(X_s) \rightarrow \text{Prym}^2(C_r) \subset \text{Pic}^2(C_r)$$

# The modular map $\Phi$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{finite} & & \\
 \text{map} & & \\
 \downarrow & & \\
 \text{modular} & & \\
 \text{map} & & \\
 \text{Higgs}(X, D) & \xrightarrow{\Phi} & \text{Higgs}(C, \tilde{D})
 \end{array}$$

$$\Phi = \text{elem} \circ \pi^*$$

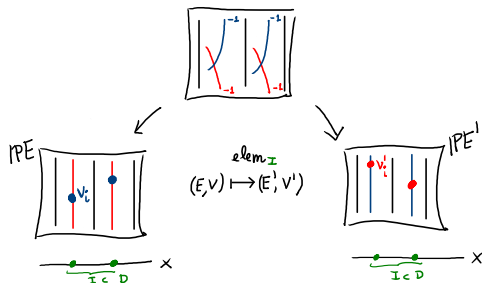
↑  
 $R_{\pi}$   
 poles over ramification points  
 became regular after elem



We are led to study the behavior of elem  
 w.r.t the B-N-R correspondence

# Elementary transformations

- From the point of view of ruled surfaces

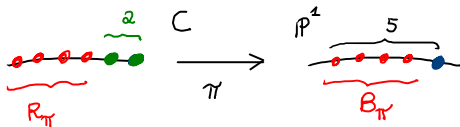


- For vector bundles:

$$0 \rightarrow E' \xrightarrow{\alpha} E \xrightarrow{\beta} \bigoplus_{i \in I} E/V_i \rightarrow 0$$

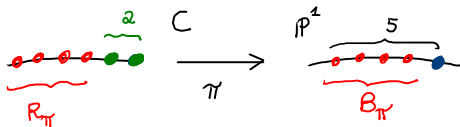
$$\text{elem}_{B_\pi} \hookrightarrow \text{Higgs}(\mathbb{P}^1, 5) \xrightarrow{2:1} \text{Higgs}(\mathbb{C}, 2)$$

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$$\text{elem}_{B_\pi} \hookrightarrow \text{Higgs}(\mathbb{P}^1, 5) \xrightarrow{\alpha: 1} \text{Higgs}(\mathbb{C}, 2)$$

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Thank you!