

Introduction to the theory of \mathcal{D} -modules

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Lecture 1

Basic constructions

1.1. The sheaf of holom. diff. operators

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- P local section of $F_{k+1} \mathcal{D}_X \iff [P, \varphi]$ local section of $F_k \mathcal{D}_X \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{O}_X$.

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- The filtration $F_\bullet \mathcal{D}_X$ is exhaustive ($\mathcal{D}_X = \bigcup_k F_k \mathcal{D}_X$) and

$$F_k \mathcal{D}_X \cdot F_\ell \mathcal{D}_X = F_{k+\ell} \mathcal{D}_X.$$

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- \Rightarrow No interesting two-sided \mathcal{D}_X -mod.

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DEFINITION 1.1.3 (Integrable connection):

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A holomorphic connection: a \mathbb{C} -linear morphism

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$$P \longmapsto \nabla(1) \cdot P \stackrel{\text{loc.}}{\equiv} \sum_i dx_i \otimes (\partial_{x_i} \cdot P).$$

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EXAMPLE:

A holom. vector bundle with integrable holom. connection.
 (V, ∇) is a left \mathcal{D}_X -module.

1.2. Left and right

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LEMMA 1.2.1 (Generating left \mathcal{D}_X -modules):

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Then \exists unique struct. of left \mathcal{D}_X -mod. on \mathcal{M} s.t.

$\xi m = \varphi(\xi \otimes m) \forall \xi, m$.

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E.g., (\mathcal{M}, ∇) , $\varphi(\xi, m) = \nabla_{\xi} m$.

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LEMMA: Both are isomorphic.

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- $\mathcal{D}\mathbf{b}_X$: sheaf of distributions on X . This is a left \mathcal{D}_X -module and a left $\mathcal{D}_{\overline{X}}$ -module.

1.3.g. Solutions of \mathcal{D}_X -modules

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 $(\nabla\varphi)(m) := \nabla(\varphi(m)) - \varphi(\nabla m)$.

1.3.g. Solutions of \mathcal{D}_X -modules

DEFINITION 1.3.1: \mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N} left \mathcal{D}_X -mod.

Solutions of \mathcal{M} in \mathcal{N} : sheaf $\boxed{\mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{D}_X}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})}$.

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PROOF: Use the **contraction**

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1.4. De Rham and Spencer complexes

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Lecture 2

Coherence and characteristic varieties

2.0. Reminder on coherence

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2.1. Coherence of \mathcal{D}_X

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PROOF: Choose a pres. $\mathcal{D}_{X|U}^q \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_{X|U}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{M}|U \rightarrow 0$.

Show that $F.\mathcal{M}|U := \text{Im } F.\mathcal{D}_{X|U}^p$ is a good filtr. \square

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ARTIN-REES THEOREM (Cor. 2.2.8 and Ex. E.2.6):

Short exact seq. $0 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}' \rightarrow \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}'' \rightarrow 0$,

$\mathcal{M}', \mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M}''$ are \mathcal{D}_X -coh. and $F_\bullet \mathcal{M}$ good filtr. of \mathcal{M} .

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DEFINITION 2.2.1:

$F_\bullet \mathcal{M}$: a \mathcal{D}_X -filtration of \mathcal{M} . It is **good** if $\text{gr}^F \mathcal{M}$ is coherent over $\text{gr}^F \mathcal{D}_X$ (i.e., locally finitely presented).

PROPOSITION 2.2.2:

\mathcal{M} is \mathcal{D}_X -coherent \Rightarrow **locally** \exists good filtr.

PROOF: Choose a pres. $\mathcal{D}_{X|U}^q \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_{X|U}^p \rightarrow \mathcal{M}|_U \rightarrow 0$.

Show that $F_\bullet \mathcal{M}|_U := \text{Im } F_\bullet \mathcal{D}_{X|U}^p$ is a good filtr. \square

ARTIN-REES THEOREM (Cor. 2.2.8 and Ex. E.2.6):

Short exact seq. $0 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}' \rightarrow \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}'' \rightarrow 0$,

$\mathcal{M}', \mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M}''$ are \mathcal{D}_X -coh. and $F_\bullet \mathcal{M}$ good filtr. of \mathcal{M} .

Then

$$F_\bullet \mathcal{M}' := \mathcal{M}' \cap F_\bullet \mathcal{M} \quad \text{and} \quad F_\bullet \mathcal{M}'' := \text{Im } F_\bullet \mathcal{M}$$

are **good filtr.**

2.2. Coherent \mathcal{D}_X -mod. and good filtr.

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- (U, x_1, \dots, x_n) : coord. chart,

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Then $\mathcal{D}_U / \mathcal{I}$ is \mathcal{D}_U -coherent: presentation

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \mathcal{D}_U^{\ell} & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{D}_U & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{D}_U / \mathcal{I} & \longrightarrow & 0 \\
 \left(\begin{array}{c} p_1 \\ \vdots \\ p_\ell \end{array} \right) & \longmapsto & \sum p_j P_j & & & & \\
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Good filtr: $F_k(\mathcal{D}_U/\mathcal{I}) = F_k(\mathcal{D}_U)/F_k(\mathcal{D}_U) \cap \mathcal{I}$.

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- \mathcal{O}_X is \mathcal{D}_X -coherent: loc., $\mathcal{I} = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{D}_U \partial_{x_i}$.
 Good filtr.: $F_k \mathcal{O}_X = 0$ if $k < 0$, $F_k \mathcal{O}_X = \mathcal{O}_X$ if $k \geq 0$.

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2.4. Characteristic variety

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LEMMA 2.4.1: Given a local good filtr. $F.\mathcal{M}|_U$, the sheaf of ideals $\text{Rad ann}_{\text{gr}^F \mathcal{D}_U} \text{gr}^F \mathcal{M}|_U \subset \text{gr}^F \mathcal{D}_U$ is **coherent** and **independent** of the chosen good filtr. It glues **globally** as a coherent sheaf $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{M})$ of ideals of $\text{gr}^F \mathcal{D}_X$.

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DEFINITION 2.4.2: *Characteristic variety* $\text{Char } \mathcal{M}$:
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DEFINITION: V : a reduced anal. subspace of T^*X ,

V_0 : smooth part.

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- With this good filtr., $\text{Char } i^+ \mathcal{M} \subset \varpi(\text{Char } \mathcal{M}|_Y)$.

Lecture 3

Direct images of \mathcal{D} -modules

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PROOF: $p = \sum_{i=1}^d \partial_t^i a_i(t)$. $p \cdot [\omega] = 0 \iff$

$$\exists \eta = \sum_{j=0}^{d+k} \eta_j \tau^j \in \Omega^{n-1}[\tau], \quad \sum_i (a_i \circ f) \omega \tau^i = (d - \tau df \wedge) \eta.$$

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$$0 = \quad - df \wedge \eta_{d+k}$$

$$0 = d\eta_{d+k} - df \wedge \eta_{d+k-1}$$

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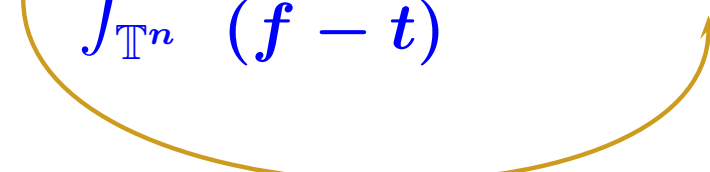
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$$Tf : \Theta_X \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_X \otimes_{f^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y} f^{-1}\Theta_Y.$$

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EXAMPLE 3.2.2: $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, t : coord. on \mathbb{C} . Then

$$\mathcal{D}_{X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}} = \mathcal{O}_X[\partial_t]. \quad \partial_{x_i} \cdot 1 = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}, \quad 1 \cdot g(t) = g(f).$$

3.3. Direct images

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\mathcal{N} : a *right* \mathcal{D}_X -mod.

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\mathcal{N} : a **right** \mathcal{D}_X -mod. “Basic” direct image by f :

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LEMMA 3.3.1: The complex

$$\text{Sp}_{X \rightarrow Y}^\bullet(\mathcal{D}_X) := \text{Sp}(\mathcal{D}_X) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{D}_{X \rightarrow Y}$$

is a resolution of $\mathcal{D}_{X \rightarrow Y}$ as a bimodule by locally free left \mathcal{D}_X -modules.

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$$\text{Sp}(\mathcal{D}_X) = \{0 \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_X \otimes \wedge^n \Theta_X \xrightarrow{\delta} \cdots \mathcal{D}_X \otimes \Theta_X \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_X \rightarrow 0\}$$

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EXAMPLE: In the alg. setting,

$$(\mathbb{C}^*)^n = \mathrm{Spec} \mathbb{C}[x_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, x_n^{\pm 1}], \quad f : (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}.$$

$$f_+ \mathcal{O}_{(\mathbb{C}^*)^n} = (\Omega_X^\bullet[\partial_t], d - \partial_t \cdot df \wedge)$$

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EXAMPLE:

- \mathcal{M} holonomic (see later) $\implies \mathcal{N}$ f -good for any f .

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- 1rst step: $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{D}_X$, with \mathcal{L} coh. \mathcal{O}_X -mod. and f proper on $\text{Supp } \mathcal{L}$. $\mathcal{H}^j f_+ \mathcal{N} = (R^j f_* \mathcal{L}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_Y} \mathcal{D}_Y$. Grauert's thm \Rightarrow OK.

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 Artin-Rees \Rightarrow can continue \Rightarrow infinite resol.
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- \Rightarrow long exact seq.

$$\begin{aligned} \dots \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^{j+\ell}(f_+ \mathcal{N}') \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^j(f_+ \mathcal{N}_\bullet) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^j(f_+ \mathcal{N}) \\ \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^{j+\ell+1}(f_+ \mathcal{N}') \rightarrow \dots \end{aligned}$$

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- $\mathcal{H}^j(f_+ \mathcal{N}) \neq 0 \Rightarrow \mathcal{H}^j(f_+ \mathcal{N}_\bullet) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{H}^j(f_+ \mathcal{N})$.

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- $\mathcal{H}^j(f_+ \mathcal{N}) \neq 0 \Rightarrow \mathcal{H}^j(f_+ \mathcal{N}_\bullet) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{H}^j(f_+ \mathcal{N})$.
- Apply Step 2. □

3.5. Direct images and char. varieties

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PROBLEM: To compute (or estimate) $\text{Char } \mathcal{H}^j(f_+ \mathcal{M})$ from $\text{Char } \mathcal{M}$.

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Basic diagram:
$$T^*X \xleftarrow{T^*f} f^*T^*Y \xrightarrow{\tilde{f}} T^*Y.$$

3.5. Direct images and char. varieties

X, Y cplx mfld, $f : X \rightarrow Y$ holom. map. \mathcal{M} : f -good \mathcal{D}_X -mod., f proper on $\text{Supp } \mathcal{M}$.

PROBLEM: To compute (or estimate) $\text{Char } \mathcal{H}^j(f_+ \mathcal{M})$ from $\text{Char } \mathcal{M}$.

Basic diagram:
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$$\forall j, \quad \boxed{\text{Char } \mathcal{H}^j(f_+ \mathcal{M}) \subset \tilde{f}((T^*f)^{-1}(\text{Char } \mathcal{M}))}$$

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- Show that $\exists \ell \gg 0$ s.t. $\mathrm{gr}_{[\ell]}^F \mathcal{H}^j(\mathfrak{f}_+ \mathcal{M})$ is a quotient of a submodule of $\mathcal{H}^j(\mathfrak{f}_+ \mathrm{gr}_{[\ell]}^F \mathcal{M})$.

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Lecture 4

Holonomic \mathcal{D} -modules

4.1. Motivation: division of distributions

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- Fix $s \in \mathbb{C}$ s.t. $\operatorname{Re} s \geq 0$. map $x \mapsto |f(x)|^{2s}$ is cont. \Rightarrow
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• $\Rightarrow |f|^2 S(\varphi) = \int \varphi$, i.e., $|f|^2 S = 1$. $T := \bar{f} S$ **OK**.

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- **Assume:** $\exists P \in \mathbb{C}[s][x]\langle \partial_x \rangle, Q \in \mathbb{C}[s][\bar{x}]\langle \partial_{\bar{x}} \rangle,$
 $\exists b'(s), b''(s) \in \mathbb{C}[s] \setminus \{0\}$ s.t.:

$$b'(s)|f|^{2s} = P \cdot (|f|^{2s} f)$$

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- (Set $\psi = Q^* P^* \varphi$) \Rightarrow

$$\begin{aligned} b''(s)b'(s) \int |f|^{2s} \varphi &= b''(s) \int |f|^{2s} f P^* \varphi \\ &= \int (Q|f|^{2s} \bar{f}) f P^* \varphi = \int |f|^{2(s+1)} \psi \end{aligned}$$

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- Iterate this process \Rightarrow merom. ext.

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SOLUTION (contd): $\exists P, b'$ s.t. $b'(s)|f|^{2s} = P(|f|^{2s} f)$?

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Holonomy related to **finite length**.

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● $Y^o \subset X$ sub-mfld. **Conormal bundle:**

$$T_{Y^o}^* X = \{v \in T^* X \mid p = \pi(v) \in Y^o \text{ and } v \text{ annihilates } T_p Y\}$$

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- \mathcal{M} holonomic $\Rightarrow \exists (Y_\alpha)_{\alpha \in A}$ closed analytic in X ,

$$\text{Char } \mathcal{M} = \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} T_{Y_\alpha}^* X.$$

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 $\text{Char } \mathcal{M} = \{\sigma(P) = 0\}$, so $\text{codim Char } \mathcal{M} = 1$.

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COROLLARY 4.2.6: Decreasing seq. $\mathcal{M}_1 \supset \mathcal{M}_2 \supset \dots$ of holon. \mathcal{D}_X -mod is **locally stationary**.

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$$\implies \text{Char } \mathcal{M} = \text{Char } \mathcal{M}' \cup \text{Char } \mathcal{M}''.$$

RMK: Can define char. **cycle:** $\text{CChar } \mathcal{M} = \sum_{\alpha} \nu_{\alpha} T_{Y_{\alpha}}^* X$.

$$\implies \text{CChar } \mathcal{M} = \text{CChar } \mathcal{M}' + \text{CChar } \mathcal{M}''.$$

COROLLARY 4.2.6: Decreasing seq. $\mathcal{M}_1 \supset \mathcal{M}_2 \supset \dots$ of holon. \mathcal{D}_X -mod is **locally stationary**.

$\Rightarrow \exists$ **Jordan-Hölder** seq. for each holon. \mathcal{M} .

4.3. Vector bdles with integr. connection

4.3. Vector bundles with integrable connection

\mathcal{E} : locally free \mathcal{O}_X -mod., finite rank r ,

+ **integrable** connect. $\nabla : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \Omega_X^1 \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{E} \quad (\nabla^2 = 0)$.

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LEMMA 4.3.1 (Cauchy-Kowalevski): $\forall x \in X, \exists \text{nb}(x)$
and local basis $e_1, \dots, e_r \in \mathcal{E}(\text{nb}(x))$ s.t. $\nabla(e_i) = 0$:

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and local basis $e_1, \dots, e_r \in \mathcal{E}(\text{nb}(x))$ s.t. $\nabla(e_i) = 0$:

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Converse:

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$D \subset X, \text{codim } D = 1. \nabla : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \Omega_X^1(*D) \otimes \mathcal{E}$ merom.
integr. conn. $\Rightarrow (\mathcal{E}(*D), \nabla)$ left \mathcal{D}_X -mod.

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RECALL: OK if D non-singular.

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THEOREM 4.3.2: \mathcal{M} : coherent \mathcal{D}_X -mod.

$$\mathcal{M}|_{X \setminus D} \text{ holon.} \Rightarrow \mathcal{M}(*D) \text{ holon. (hence } \mathcal{D}_X\text{-coh.)}$$

4.3. Vector bundles with integr. connection

COROLLARY 4.3.3: $(\mathcal{E}(*D), \nabla)$ is holonomic.

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PROOF:

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• $\mathcal{M} := \mathcal{D}_X \cdot \mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{E}(*D)$ with filtr. $F_k \mathcal{M} = F_k \mathcal{D}_X \cdot \mathcal{E}$.

4.3. Vector bundles with integr. connection

COROLLARY 4.3.3: $(\mathcal{E}(*D), \nabla)$ is holonomic.

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- $F_\bullet \mathcal{M}$ **good**

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- $\Rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ coh. \mathcal{D}_X -mod.

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- $\Rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ coh. \mathcal{D}_X -mod.
- $\mathcal{M}|_{X \setminus D} = (\mathcal{E}|_{X \setminus D}, \nabla)$ holonomic.

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- Thm 4.3.2 $\Rightarrow \mathcal{M}(*D)$ holonomic

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- $\mathcal{M}|_{X \setminus D} = (\mathcal{E}|_{X \setminus D}, \nabla)$ holonomic.
- Thm 4.3.2 $\Rightarrow \mathcal{M}(*D)$ holonomic
- $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{E}(*D) \Rightarrow \mathcal{M}(*D) = \mathcal{E}(*D)$. □

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CONVERSE (Th. 4.3.4): \mathcal{M} : holon. \mathcal{D}_X -mod.

4.3. Vector bdles with integr. connection

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CONVERSE (Th. 4.3.4): \mathcal{M} : holon. \mathcal{D}_X -mod.

- Char $\mathcal{M}|_{X \setminus D} = T_{X \setminus D}^*(X \setminus D) \Rightarrow$
 $\exists (\mathcal{E}, \nabla)$ coh. \mathcal{O}_X -mod. s.t. $\mathcal{M}(*D) = (\mathcal{E}(*D), \nabla)$.

4.3. Vector bundles with integr. connection

COROLLARY 4.3.3: $(\mathcal{E}(*D), \nabla)$ is holonomic.

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 $\exists (\mathcal{E}, \nabla)$ coh. \mathcal{O}_X -mod. s.t. $\mathcal{M}(*D) = (\mathcal{E}(*D), \nabla)$.
- In general, \mathcal{M} has a globally defined good filtration.

4.4. Direct images of holon. \mathcal{D}_X -mod.

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THEOREM 4.4.1: X, Y : cplx mflds, $f : X \rightarrow Y$: proper,
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- $\Rightarrow \mathcal{H}^j(f_+ \mathcal{M})$ coh. and
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- **LEMMA 4.4.2:** $Z \subset X$: closed anal. set, $\Lambda := T_Z^* X$.
Then each irreducible component of $\tilde{f}((T^* f)^{-1} \Lambda)$ is isotropic in $T^* Y$.

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- \Rightarrow each irred. compon. of $\text{Char}(\mathcal{H}^j(f_+ \mathcal{M}))$ isotropic.
- $\Rightarrow \dim \text{Char}(\mathcal{H}^j(f_+ \mathcal{M})) \leq n$ (hence $= n$). \square

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PROOF: $f : X \xrightarrow{i_f} Z := X \times Y \xrightarrow{p} Y$.
 $\quad \quad \quad x \quad \quad \quad (x, f(x)) \quad \quad \quad f(x)$

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Lemma for $f =$ inclusion: easy. Consider $f = p$.

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- $\Lambda' \subset \Lambda$ closed anal. in $T^* X$.
 Λ isotropic $\Rightarrow \Lambda'$ isotropic (Whitney's thm).

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- Basic diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 T^* Z & \xleftarrow{T^* p =: \rho} & X \times T^* Y & \xrightarrow{\tilde{p}} & T^* Y \\
 \omega_Z & & \rho^* \omega_Z = \tilde{p}^* \omega_Y & & \omega_Y
 \end{array}$$

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$$\omega_Z \quad \quad \quad \rho^* \omega_Z = \tilde{p}^* \omega_Y \quad \quad \quad \omega_Y$$

- $\omega_Z|_{\Lambda^\circ} = 0 \Rightarrow \omega_Z = 0$ on $(\Lambda \cap f^* T^* Y)^\circ$

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Then each irreducible component of $\tilde{f}((T^* f)^{-1} \Lambda)$ is isotropic in $T^* Y$.

PROOF: $f : X \xrightarrow{i_f} Z := X \times Y \xrightarrow{p} Y$.
 $\quad \quad \quad x \quad \quad \quad (x, f(x)) \quad \quad \quad f(x)$

Lemma for $f =$ inclusion: easy. Consider $f = p$.

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 Λ isotropic $\Rightarrow \Lambda'$ isotropic (**Whitney's thm**).

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 - \rightsquigarrow Wild pure twistor \mathcal{D} -modules (Mochizuki, C.S.).