Arithmetic Dynamics on Character varieties

Cigole Thomas, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA – 22030

Abstract

For a reductive algebraic group over \mathbb{Z} , the *G*-character variety of a finitely presented group Γ parametrizes the set of closed conjugation orbits in Hom(Γ, G). The dynamics of the action of the group of outer automorphisms, Out(Γ), on the finite field (\mathbb{F}_q) points of the character variety is explored. We provide a criterion for Out(Γ)-action to be non-transitive on *G*-character variety of Γ . We prove that the action is transitive on the set of epimorphisms from Γ to *G* when Γ is of free type. The action is said to be asymptotically transitive if the ratio of the number of points in the orbit to that of the character variety equals one as $q \to \infty$. Time permitting, we will also show that the action is not asymptotically transitive on $\mathrm{SL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ of \mathbb{Z}^r for n = 2, 3.

Keywords: algebraic group, character variety, group orbits, asymptotically transitive.