

REFLEXIVE MODULES OVER
RATIONAL DOUBLE POINTS

by

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§0. Introduction

(0.0) This note is an appendix to the article of the same title by M. Artin and J.-L. Verdier (Math. Ann. 270 (1985), 79-82), whose main content is the following.

Let $(X,0)$ be a germ of a rational double point over an algebraically closed field k , let $\pi : \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ be the minimal desingularization and let E be the exceptional locus. There is a one-to-one correspondence $[M_i] \leftrightarrow E_i$ between isomorphism classes of non trivial indecomposable reflexive modules M_i on $(X,0)$ and the irreducible components E_i of E : For such a module M_i let \tilde{M}_i be the locally free sheaf on \tilde{X} defined by $\tilde{M}_i := \pi^*(M_i)/\text{torsion}$. If r_i is the rank of M_i one has $(\wedge^{r_i} \tilde{M}_i) \cdot E_j = \delta_{ij}$ and $r_i = (\wedge^{r_i} \tilde{M}_i) \cdot Z$, where Z denotes the fundamental cycle of \tilde{X} .

(0.1) We assume moreover that $(X,0)$ is a germ of a quotient singularity. This means that there exists a cover $q : (\mathbb{A}_k^2, 0) \rightarrow (X,0)$ with Galois group $G \subset \text{SL}(2,k)$ whose order is prime to the characteristic of k . This is always the case in characteristic 0.

(0.2) For each M_i as in (0.0) define N_i to be the reflexive hull of $M_i \otimes \Omega_X^1$, where Ω_X^1 is the module of Kähler differential forms and set $\tilde{N}_i = \pi^*(N_i)/\text{torsion}$.

(0.3) The aim of this note is to prove the multiplication formula

Theorem:
$$\Lambda^{2r_i} N_i \cong (\Lambda^{r_i} M_i)^{\otimes 2} \otimes \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}}(E_i)$$

(0.4) Originally this multiplication formula was proven case by case by G.Gonzalez-Sprinberg and J.-L. Verdier [Construction géométrique de la correspondance de Mc Kay, Ann.Sc.Éc. Norm.Sup., 16 (1983), 409-449]. Recently they computed examples of rational double points in characteristic 2,3,5 where this multiplication formula does not hold.

§1. Proof of theorem (0.3)

(1.1) Let α be the Euler differential on $(\mathbb{A}_k^2, 0)$:

$$\alpha = x \cdot dy - y \cdot dx .$$

As α is invariant under $SL(2,k)$ one can think of α as being a differential one-form on X and on \tilde{X} as well. One has the exact sequence

$$(1.1.1) \quad 0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{(\mathbb{A}^2, 0)} \xrightarrow{\otimes \alpha} \Omega^1_{(\mathbb{A}^2, 0)} \xrightarrow{\wedge \alpha} \mathfrak{m}_{(\mathbb{A}^2, 0)} \otimes \omega_{(\mathbb{A}^2, 0)} \longrightarrow 0$$

where \mathfrak{m} denotes the maximal ideal and ω the dualizing module. Applying q_* and taking the G-invariants one obtains the exact sequence

$$(1.1.2) \quad 0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{(X, 0)} \xrightarrow{\otimes \alpha} \Omega^1_{(X, 0)} \xrightarrow{\wedge \alpha} \mathfrak{m}_{(X, 0)} \otimes \omega_{(X, 0)} \longrightarrow 0 .$$

(1.2) Let F_i be the non trivial indecomposable representation of G such that $M_i \cong (O_{(\mathbb{A}^2, 0)} \otimes_k F_i)^G$. Tensorize

(1.1.1) by F_i :

(1.2.1)

$$0 \longrightarrow (O_{(\mathbb{A}^2, 0)} \otimes_k F_i) \longrightarrow (\Omega^1_{(\mathbb{A}^2, 0)} \otimes_k F_i) \longrightarrow (m_{(\mathbb{A}^2, 0)} \otimes \omega_{(\mathbb{A}^2, 0)} \otimes F_i) \longrightarrow 0 .$$

Apply q_* and take the G -invariant parts. Since the representation F_i is not trivial there are no invariants of degree 0. Therefore one obtains the exact sequence on $(X, 0)$:

$$(1.2.2) \quad 0 \longrightarrow M_i \xrightarrow{\otimes \alpha} N_i \xrightarrow{\wedge \alpha} M_i \longrightarrow 0$$

where N_i is as in (0.2) and we identify $\omega_{(X, 0)}$ with $O_{(X, 0)}$.

(1.3) Pulling back (1.1.2) on \tilde{X} one obtains the complex

$$(1.3.1) \quad 0 \longrightarrow O_{\tilde{X}} \xrightarrow{\otimes \alpha} \tilde{\Omega} \xrightarrow{\wedge \alpha} O_{\tilde{X}}(-Z) \longrightarrow 0$$

where $\tilde{\Omega} := \pi^* \Omega^1_{(X, 0)} / \text{torsion}$. This complex is exact away from E , and also left and right exact. Let K be the kernel of $\wedge \alpha$ in (1.3.1).

Claim: (i) K is locally free.

(ii) $K \cong O_{\tilde{X}}(R)$ for an effective divisor R supported on E .

Proof: Since $\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}}(-Z)$ is locally free one has the exact sequence

$$0 \longleftarrow K^V \longleftarrow \tilde{\Omega}^V \longleftarrow \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}}(Z) \longleftarrow 0$$

By definition K^V is reflexive on \tilde{X} , and therefore K^V is locally free. Dualizing once again one obtains the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K^{VV} \longrightarrow \tilde{\Omega} \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}}(-Z) \longrightarrow 0,$$

and therefore $K = K^{VV}$ is locally free. Since the inclusion $\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}} \hookrightarrow K$ is an isomorphism outside of E one has $K \cong \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}}(R)$ for an effective R supported on E .

(1.4) Claim: The complex (1.3.1) is exact.

Proof: From (1.3) one obtains

$$\bigwedge^2 \tilde{\Omega} \cong \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}}(-Z+R)$$

Since $(\bigwedge^2 \tilde{\Omega}) \cdot E_\ell$ is non-negative for all ℓ and $(-Z)$ is the largest vertical divisor intersecting each E_ℓ non negatively one has $R = 0$, or $R = Z$. Assume $R = Z$. Then by the theorem of Artin-Verdier (0.0), one has $\Omega_X^1 = \mathcal{O}_X \oplus \mathcal{O}_X$. Therefore $m_{(X,0)}$ has two generators by (1.1.2); and $(X,0)$ has to be smooth.

(1.5) We now pull (1.2.2) back to \tilde{X} . One obtains the complex

$$(1.5.1) \quad 0 \longrightarrow M_i \xrightarrow{\otimes \alpha} N_i \xrightarrow{\wedge \alpha} M_i \longrightarrow 0 .$$

This complex is left exact since M_i is torsion free, and it is right exact as π^* is. In addition the complex is exact away from E . Let K_i be the kernel of $(\wedge \alpha)$ in (1.5.1).

Claim: K_i is locally free.

The proof is the same as for (1.3).

(1.6) Claim: $(\wedge^{2r_i} N_i) \cong (\wedge^{r_i} M_i) \otimes (\wedge^{r_i} M_i) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{X}}(R_i)$ for an effective divisor R_i supported on E .

Proof: One has

$$(\wedge^{2r_i} N_i) \cong (\wedge^{r_i} M_i) \otimes (\wedge^{r_i} K_i)$$

and the inclusion $M_i \hookrightarrow K_i$ is an isomorphism outside of E .

(1.7) Claim: One has $R_i = E_i + R_i'$ for an effective divisor R_i' supported on E .

Proof: Assume that R_i does not contain E_i . Then $R_i \cdot E_i \geq 0$. Since $(\wedge^{r_i} M_i) \cdot E_j = 0$ for $j \neq i$ one has $R_i \cdot E_j = (\wedge^{2r_i} N_i) \cdot E_j \geq 0$ for $i \neq j$. Therefore $R_i^2 \geq 0$.

As the intersection matrix of E is negative definite one

gets $R_i = 0$. Therefore $(\wedge^{2r_i} N_i) \cong (\wedge^{r_i} M_i)^{\otimes 2}$, and by the theorem of Artin-Verdier (0.0) we obtain

$$N_i \cong M_i \oplus M_i$$

Restrict this isomorphism to $U := X - \{0\} = \tilde{X} - E$ and tensor with $M_i^V|_U$. One obtains

$$(1.7.1) \quad (\text{End } M_i)|_U \otimes \Omega_U^1 \cong \text{End}(M_i)|_U \otimes (\mathcal{O}_U \otimes \mathcal{O}_U)$$

The trace map $\text{End}(M_i)|_U \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_U$ defines a natural splitting since the characteristic of k is prime to the order of G and hence to the rank r_i of M_i . Taking traces on both sides of (1.7.1) one gets

$$\Omega_U^1 \cong \mathcal{O}_U \oplus \mathcal{O}_U$$

which contradicts (1.4)

(1.8) By the normal basis theorem one has

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{q}_* \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{A}^2, 0) &\cong \mathcal{O}_{(X,0)} \oplus \bigoplus_i r_i M_i && \text{and} \\ \mathfrak{q}_* \Omega^1(\mathbb{A}^2, 0) &\cong \Omega^1_{(X,0)} \oplus \bigoplus_i r_i N_i \end{aligned}$$

As $\Omega^1_{(\mathbb{A}^2, 0)}$ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{O}_{(\mathbb{A}^2, 0)} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{(\mathbb{A}^2, 0)}$ as an $\mathcal{O}_{(\mathbb{A}^2, 0)}$ -module one has

$$(1.8.1) \quad \Omega_{(X,0)}^1 \otimes \bigoplus_i r_i N_i \cong 2\Omega_{(X,0)} \otimes \bigoplus_i r_i M_i$$

(1.9) Pull (1.8.1) back to \tilde{X} and apply (1.7) and (1.4).

This gives

$$O_{\tilde{X}}(-Z + \sum r_i (E_i + R'_i)) \otimes \bigotimes_i (\wedge^{r_i} M_i)^{\otimes 2r_i} \cong \bigotimes_i (\wedge^{r_i} M_i)^{\otimes 2r_i}$$

Therefore $O_{\tilde{X}}(\sum r_i R'_i) \cong O_{\tilde{X}}$. As each R'_i is effective we have $R'_i = 0$ for all i , and the theorem (0.3) is proven.