

Logarithmic geometry and moduli

Lectures at the Sophus Lie Center

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Brown University

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Heros:

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- Olsson
- Chen, Gillam, Huang, Satriano, Sun
- Gross - Siebert

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- $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_g$

Moduli of curves

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Working with a non-complete moduli space is like keeping change in a pocket with holes

Angelo Vistoli

Deligne–Mumford

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- $\mathcal{M}_g \subset \overline{\mathcal{M}}_g$ - moduli of *stable* curves, a modular compactification.
- allow only nodes as singularities
- What's so great about nodes?
- One answer: from the point of view of logarithmic geometry, these are the *logarithmically smooth* curves.

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- K. Kato

Logarithmic structures

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Definition

It is a *logarithmic structure* if $\alpha : \alpha^{-1}\mathcal{O}_{\underline{X}}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\underline{X}}^*$ is an isomorphism.

“Trivial” examples

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- $(\underline{X}, \mathbb{N} \xrightarrow{\alpha} \mathcal{O}_{\underline{X}})$, where α is determined by an arbitrary choice of $\alpha(1)$.
This one is important but only pre-logarithmic.

The associated logarithmic structure

You can always fix a pre-logarithmic structure:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \alpha^{-1} \mathcal{O}^* \subset & \longrightarrow & M \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{dotted} \\ \mathcal{O}^* \subset & \xrightarrow{\text{dotted}} & M^a \\ & \searrow & \downarrow \alpha^a \\ & & \mathcal{O} \end{array}$$

The diagram illustrates a commutative diagram of maps between logarithmic structures. The top row shows a map from $\alpha^{-1} \mathcal{O}^* \subset$ to M . The middle row shows a map from $\mathcal{O}^* \subset$ to M^a . The bottom row shows the target structure \mathcal{O} . A vertical arrow labeled α maps M to \mathcal{O} . A vertical arrow labeled α^a maps M^a to \mathcal{O} . A curved arrow maps $\mathcal{O}^* \subset$ to \mathcal{O} . A dotted arrow maps $\mathcal{O}^* \subset$ to M^a . A dotted arrow maps M to M^a .

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You can always fix a pre-logarithmic structure:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \alpha^{-1}\mathcal{O}^*\mathcal{C} & \longrightarrow & M \\ \downarrow & & \vdots \\ \mathcal{O}^*\mathcal{C} & \dashrightarrow & M^a \\ & \searrow & \downarrow \alpha^a \\ & & \mathcal{O} \end{array}$$

The diagram illustrates a commutative diagram with nodes $\alpha^{-1}\mathcal{O}^*\mathcal{C}$, M , $\mathcal{O}^*\mathcal{C}$, M^a , and \mathcal{O} . Arrows include a solid arrow from $\alpha^{-1}\mathcal{O}^*\mathcal{C}$ to M , a solid arrow from $\alpha^{-1}\mathcal{O}^*\mathcal{C}$ to \mathcal{O} , a solid arrow from M to \mathcal{O} labeled α , a solid arrow from $\mathcal{O}^*\mathcal{C}$ to \mathcal{O} , a dotted arrow from $\mathcal{O}^*\mathcal{C}$ to M^a , a solid arrow from M^a to \mathcal{O} labeled α^a , and a dotted arrow from M to M^a .

Key examples

Example (Divisorial logarithmic structure)

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This is particularly important for normal crossings divisors and toric divisors - these will be logarithmically smooth structures.

Example (Standard logarithmic point)

Let k be a field,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{N} \oplus k^\times &\rightarrow k \\ (n, z) &\mapsto z \cdot 0^n\end{aligned}$$

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Works with P a monoid with $P^\times = 0$, giving the *P -logarithmic point*. This is what you get when you restrict the structure on an affine toric variety associated to P to the maximal ideal generated by $\{p \neq 0\}$.

Morphisms

A morphism of (pre)-logarithmic schemes $f : X \rightarrow Y$ consists of

- $\underline{f} : \underline{X} \rightarrow \underline{Y}$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\underline{X}} \xleftarrow{\underline{f}^\#} \underline{f}^{-1} \mathcal{O}_{\underline{Y}}$$

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A morphism of (pre)-logarithmic schemes $f : X \rightarrow Y$ consists of

- $\underline{f} : \underline{X} \rightarrow \underline{Y}$
- A homomorphism f^\flat making the following diagram commutative:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M_X & \xleftarrow{f^\flat} & \underline{f}^{-1} M_Y \\ \alpha_X \downarrow & & \downarrow \alpha_Y \\ \mathcal{O}_X & \xleftarrow{f^\sharp} & \underline{f}^{-1} \mathcal{O}_Y \end{array}$$

Definition (Inverse image)

Given $\underline{f} : \underline{X} \rightarrow \underline{Y}$ and $Y = (\underline{Y}, M_Y)$ define the *pre-logarithmic inverse image* by composing

$$\underline{f}^{-1}M_Y \rightarrow \underline{f}^{-1}\mathcal{O}_{\underline{Y}} \xrightarrow{f^\#} \mathcal{O}_{\underline{X}}$$

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This is the universal logarithmic structure on \underline{X} with commutative

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$\underline{X} \rightarrow \underline{Y}$ is **strict** if $M_X = \underline{f}^* M_Y$.

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- $\underline{X \times_Z Y} = \underline{X} \times_{\underline{Z}} \underline{Y}$
- If N is the pushout of

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \pi_Z^{-1} M_Z & \\ & \swarrow & \searrow \\ \pi_X^{-1} M_X & & \pi_Y^{-1} M_Y \end{array}$$

then the log structure on $X \times_Z Y$ is defined by N^a .

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The morphism $\underline{f} : \text{Spec}(R[P]) \rightarrow \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Z}[P])$ gives

$$X = \underline{X} \times_{\underline{X}_0} X_0.$$

Charts

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- the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Q_X & \longrightarrow & f^{-1}M_Y \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ P_X & \longrightarrow & M_X \end{array}$$

is commutative.

Types of logarithmic structures

- We say that (\underline{X}, M_X) is *coherent* if *étale locally* at every point there is a *finitely generated* monoid P and a local chart $P_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$ for X .

Types of logarithmic structures

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- We say that a logarithmic structure is *fine* if it is *coherent* with local charts $P_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$ with P *integral*.
- We say that a logarithmic structure is *fine and saturated* (or *fs*) if it is coherent with local charts $P_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$ with P *integral and saturated*.

Definition (The characteristic sheaf)

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The characteristic sheaf records the combinatorics of a logarithmic structure, especially for fs logarithmic structures.

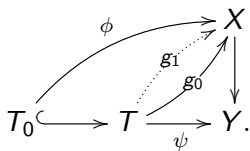
Differentials

Say $T_0 = \text{Spec } k$ and $T = \text{Spec } k[\epsilon]/(\epsilon^2)$, and consider a morphism $X \rightarrow Y$.

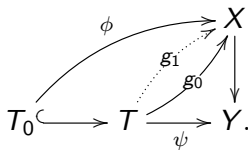
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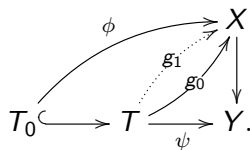
We contemplate the following diagram:



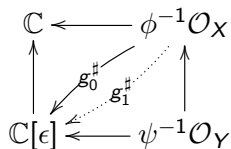
Differentials (continued)



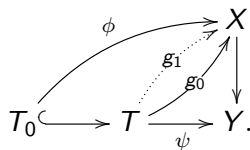
Differentials (continued)



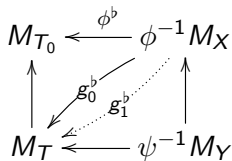
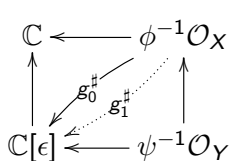
This translates to a diagram of groups



Differentials (continued)



This translates to a diagram of groups and a diagram of monoids



Differentials (continued)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{C} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X \\
 \uparrow & \nearrow g_0^\# & \uparrow \\
 \mathbb{C}[\epsilon] & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y
 \end{array}$$

A commutative diagram with two rows and two columns. The top row consists of \mathbb{C} on the left and $\phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X$ on the right, connected by a horizontal arrow pointing left. The bottom row consists of $\mathbb{C}[\epsilon]$ on the left and $\psi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y$ on the right, also connected by a horizontal arrow pointing left. A vertical arrow points upwards from $\mathbb{C}[\epsilon]$ to \mathbb{C} . Another vertical arrow points upwards from $\psi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y$ to $\phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X$. A solid arrow labeled $g_0^\#$ points from $\phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X$ down and left to $\mathbb{C}[\epsilon]$. A dotted arrow labeled $g_1^\#$ points from $\psi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y$ down and left to $\mathbb{C}[\epsilon]$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 M_{T_0} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}M_X \\
 \uparrow & \nearrow g_0^b & \uparrow \\
 M_T & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}M_Y
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Differentials (continued)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{C} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X \\
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$\nearrow g_1^\sharp$ (dotted arrow)

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$\nearrow g_1^b$ (dotted arrow)

The difference $g_1^\sharp - g_0^\sharp$ is a **derivation** $\phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{d} \epsilon\mathbb{C} \simeq \mathbb{C}$

Differentials (continued)

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Namely $D(m) = “g_1^b(m) - g_0^b(m)” \in J$.

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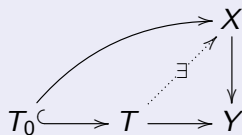
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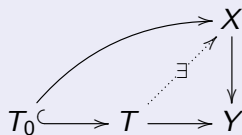
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The morphism is *logarithmically étale* if the lifting in (2) is unique.

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Lemma

If $X \rightarrow Y$ is *strict* and $\underline{X} \rightarrow \underline{Y}$ *smooth* then $X \rightarrow Y$ is *logarithmically smooth*.

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(proof on board!)

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- $\text{Spec}(\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{N}]) \rightarrow \text{Spec}((\mathbb{N} \setminus 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[(\mathbb{N} \setminus 1)])$.

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One direction:

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Deformations

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Sketch of proof: locally $X_0 \rightarrow X'_0 \rightarrow Y_0$, where

$$X'_0 = Y_0 \times_{\mathrm{Spec} \mathbb{Z}[Q]} \mathrm{Spec} \mathbb{Z}[P].$$

So $X'_0 \rightarrow Y_0$ is combinatorially smooth, and automatically provided a deformation to

$$Y \times_{\mathrm{Spec} \mathbb{Z}[Q]} \mathrm{Spec} \mathbb{Z}[P],$$

and $X_0 \rightarrow X'_0$ is strict and smooth so deforms by the classical result.

Kodaira-Spencer theory

Theorem (K. Kato)

Let Y_0 be artinian, $Y_0 \subset Y$ a strict square-0 extension with ideal J , and $f_0 : X_0 \rightarrow Y_0$ *logarithmically smooth*.

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Corollary

Logarithmically smooth curves are unobstructed.

Saturated morphisms

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This guarantees that if $X \rightarrow Y$ is logarithmically smooth, then the fibers are reduced.

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 - ▶ Away from s_i we have that $X^0 = \underline{X}_0 \times_{\underline{S}} S$, so π is strict away from s_i

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- *Fibers have at most nodes as singularities*
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Moduli of stable log curves

We define a category $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{\log}$ of stable log curves: objects are log (g, n) -curves $X \rightarrow S$ and arrows are fiber diagrams compatible with sections

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There is a forgetful functor

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So $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{\log}$ is a category fibered in groupoids over $\mathcal{L}\text{og}\mathcal{S}\text{ch}^{\text{fs}}$.

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(Proof sketch on board)

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Given a stable curve $\underline{X} \rightarrow \underline{S}$ we define

$$X^{\min} = \underline{X} \times_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n+1}} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n+1}^{\log} \quad \text{and} \quad S^{\min} = \underline{S} \times_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{\log}.$$

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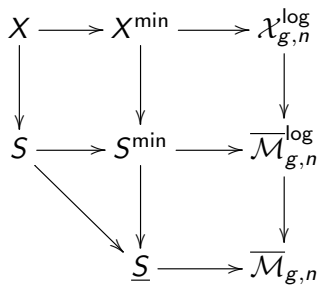
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We write

$$S^{\min} = (\underline{S}, M_{X/S}^S) \quad \text{and} \quad X^{\min} = (\underline{X}, M_{X/S}^X).$$

Fundamental diagram



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$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \longrightarrow & X^{\min} & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{X}_{g,n}^{\log} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ S & \longrightarrow & S^{\min} & \longrightarrow & \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{\log} \\ & \searrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & \underline{S} & \longrightarrow & \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n} \end{array}$$

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- $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{\log}$ parametrizes stable log curves over $\mathcal{L}\text{og}\mathcal{S}\text{ch}^{\text{fs}}$
- $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$ parametrizes **minimal** stable log curves over $\mathcal{S}\text{ch}$.

Stable logarithmic maps

Definition

A **stable logarithmic map** is a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C & \xrightarrow{f} & X \\ \downarrow \pi & & \\ S & & \end{array}$$

s_i (curved arrow from S to C)

where

- $(C/S, s_i)$ is a prestable log curve, and
- in fibers $\text{Aut}(\underline{C}_s \rightarrow \underline{X}, s_i)$ is finite.

contact orders

Apart from the underlying discrete data $\underline{\Gamma} = (g, \beta, n)$, a stable logarithmic map has *contact orders* c_i at the marked points.

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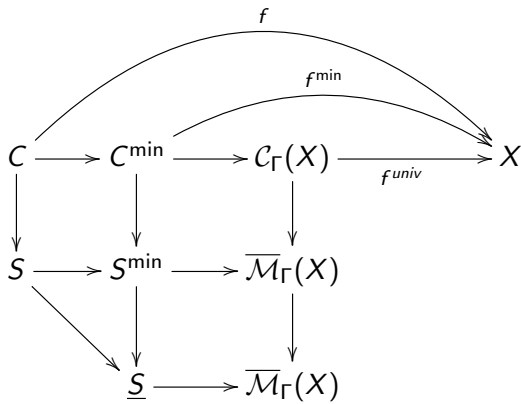
We collect the numerical data under the umbrella $\Gamma = (g, \beta, c_i)$.

Stable logarithmic maps (continued)

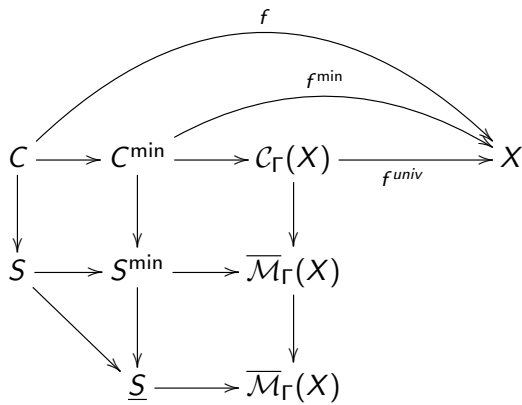
Theorem (Gross-Siebert, Chen, \(\infty\)-Chen-Marcus-Wise)

Let X be projective logarithmically scheme. Stable logarithmic maps to X form a logarithmic Deligne–Mumford stack $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\Gamma}(X)$. It is finite and representable over $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\Gamma}(\underline{X})$.

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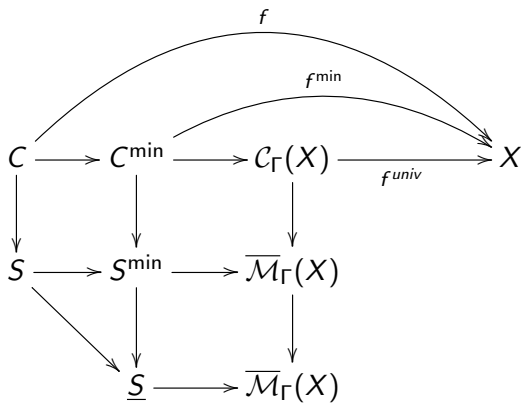


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As such it comes with a logarithmic structure $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_\Gamma(X)$ which parametrizes *all* stable logarithmic maps over $\mathcal{L}\text{og}\mathcal{S}\text{ch}^{\text{fs}}$.

Stable logarithmic maps (continued)

This requires two steps:

- first find a morphism from $(C \rightarrow S, f : C \rightarrow X)$ to a *minimal* object $(C^{\min} \rightarrow S^{\min}, f^{\min} : C^{\min} \rightarrow X)$.
- then show that the object $(C^{\min} \rightarrow S^{\min}, f^{\min} : C^{\min} \rightarrow X)$ has a versal deformation space, whose fibers are also minimal.

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But the nodes impose crucial conditions.

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Unfortunately it is unnatural to consider maps into a coproduct, and we give an alterante description of

$$P \oplus^{\mathbb{N}} \mathbb{N}^2 = P \langle \log x, \log y \rangle / (\log x + \log y = \rho_q)$$

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Recall that the stalk of a sheaf at a point q maps, via a “generalization map”, to the stalk at any point specializing to q , such as η_q^1, η_q^2 .

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This means that we have a monoid homomorphism, which is clearly injective,

$$P \oplus^{\mathbb{N}} \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow P \times P.$$

Its image is precisely the set of pairs

$$\{(p_1, p_2) \mid p_2 - p_1 \in \mathbb{Z}\rho_q\}$$

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Or better: we have $u_q : M_q \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$(p_2 - p_1) \circ f_q^b(m) = u_q(m) \cdot \rho_q. \quad (0.0.1)$$

Putting nodes and generic points together

The maps $p_1 \circ f_q^b : M_q \rightarrow P$ and $p_2 \circ f_q^b : M_q \rightarrow P$, since they come from maps of sheaves, are compatible with generization maps.

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the data of $p_1 \circ f_q^b$ and $p_2 \circ f_q^b$ is already determined by the data at the generic points η_i of the curve.

Putting nodes and generic points together (continued)

The *only* data the node provides is the element $\rho_q \in P$ and homomorphism $u_q : M_q \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$, in such a way that equation

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$$Q_f = \left(\left(\prod_{\eta} M_{\sigma_{\eta}} \times \prod_q \mathbb{N} \right) / R \right)^{sat}$$

where R is generated by all the relations implied by equation (0.0.2)

Putting nodes and generic points together (continued)

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It is quite a bit more natural to describe the dual lattice

$$Q_f^{\vee} = \left\{ ((v_{\eta}), (e_{\eta})) \in \prod_{\eta} N_{\sigma_{\eta}} \times \prod_q \mathbb{N} \mid \begin{array}{l} \forall \eta_q^1 \xrightarrow{q} \eta_q^2 \\ v_q^1 - v_q^2 = e_j u_q \end{array} \right\}.$$

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- vertices $v_i \in N_{\sigma_\eta} \subset \sigma_\eta$
- edges proportional to $u_q \in N_q^{\text{gp}}$ such that $v_q^1 - v_q^2 = e_j u_q$

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- edges proportional to $u_q \in N_q^{\text{gp}}$ such that $v_q^1 - v_q^2 = e_j u_q$

this means

- The equations $v_q^1 - v_q^2 = e_j u_q$ define the cone of all such graphs

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Theorem (Gross-Siebert)

The minimal object exists, with characteristic sheaf Q_f , dual to the lattice in the corresponding space of tropical curves.