

# SERRE FUNCTORS AND SYMMETRIC ALGEBRAS

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## 1. Serre functors

$\mathbb{k}$  — algebraically closed field.

$\mathcal{C}$  —  $\mathbb{k}$ -linear additive category with finite-dimensional morphism spaces.

**Definition.** (Bondal-Kapranov) An additive functor,  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ , is called a *Serre functor* if  $F$  is an auto-equivalence of  $\mathcal{C}$  and there are isomorphisms

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(X, FY) \cong \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(Y, X)^*,$$

natural in  $X$  and  $Y$ .

**Example 1.** Let  $X$  be a smooth projective variety,  $n = \dim X$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{D}_{coh}^b(X)$  be the derived category of coherent sheaves on  $X$ ,  $K_X = \Omega_X^n$  be the canonical sheaf. Then  $(-) \otimes K_X[n]$  is a Serre functor on  $\mathcal{A}$  because of the Serre duality.

**Example 2.** Let  $A$  be a finite-dimensional  $\mathbb{k}$ -algebra of finite global dimension,  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{D}^b(A)$  be the derived category of finite-dimensional  $A$ -modules. Then the left derived of the Nakayama functor  $A^* \otimes_A -$  is a Serre functor on  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Some properties:

- If a Serre functor exists, it is unique up to an isomorphism.
- Let  $A$  be a finite-dimensional  $\mathbb{k}$ -algebra. Then  $\mathcal{D}^b(A)$  has a Serre functor if and only if  $\text{gl.dim}(A) < \infty$ .
- Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a category, which is equivalent to  $A\text{-mod}$  for some finite-dimensional  $\mathbb{k}$ -algebra of finite global dimension. If  $A$  is not given explicitly, then the Serre functor on  $\mathcal{D}^b(\mathcal{C})$  can be very hard to compute.

**Main theorem for detection of Serre functors.** Let  $A$  be a finite dimensional  $\mathbb{k}$ -algebra of finite global dimension. Assume that a basic projective-injective  $A$ -module has isomorphic socle and top and that both,  $A$  and  $A^{opp}$ , have the double centralizer property with respect to a projective-injective module. Let  $F : A\text{-mod} \rightarrow A\text{-mod}$  be a right exact functor. Then  $\mathcal{L}F$  is a Serre functor of  $\mathcal{D}^b(A)$  if and only if the following conditions are satisfied:

1. Its left derived functor  $\mathcal{L}F : \mathcal{D}^b(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}^b(A)$  is an auto-equivalence.
2.  $F$  maps projective  $A$ -modules to injective  $A$ -modules.
3.  $F$  preserves the full subcategory  $\mathcal{PI}$  of  $A\text{-mod}$ , consisting of all projective-injective modules, and the restrictions of  $F$  and the Nakayama functor to  $\mathcal{PI}$  are isomorphic.

## 2. Category $\mathcal{O}$

$\mathfrak{g}$  — semi-simple complex finite-dimensional Lie algebra

$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{n}_- \oplus \mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n}_+$  — fixed triangular decomposition.

$U(\mathfrak{g})$  — the universal enveloping algebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

$\mathcal{O}$  — full subcategory of  $\mathfrak{g}$ -mod, consisting of those modules, which are

- finitely generated;
- $\mathfrak{h}$ -diagonalizable;
- $U(\mathfrak{n}_+)$ -finite.

$\mathcal{O}_0$  — the principal block of  $\mathcal{O}$ , that is the indecomposable block, containing the trivial module.

$W$  — the Weyl group of  $\mathfrak{g}$ .

$\mathcal{O}_0 \cong A\text{-mod}$  for some  $A$ , which is not explicitly given.

$s$  — simple reflection in  $W$ .

$U(\mathfrak{g})_s$  — the localization of  $U(\mathfrak{g})$  with respect to  $Y_\alpha$ , where  $\alpha$  is the root corresponding to  $s$ .

$$F_1^s = U(\mathfrak{g})_s \otimes_{U(\mathfrak{g})} -.$$

$$F_2^s = \text{Coker}(\text{ID} \rightarrow F_1) \text{ induced by } U(\mathfrak{g}) \hookrightarrow U(\mathfrak{g})_s.$$

$T_s : \mathcal{O}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_0$  is the composition of  $F_2^s$  and the inner automorphism of  $\mathfrak{g}$ , corresponding to  $s$ .

$T_s$ — Arkhipov's twisting functor.

$T_s$ 's satisfy braid relations.

$w \in W$ ,  $w = s_1 s_2 \cdots s_k$ .

$T_w = T_{s_1} T_{s_2} \cdots T_{s_k}$ .

$w_0$  — the longest element of  $W$ .

**Theorem.**  $\mathcal{L}T_{w_0}T_{w_0}$  is the Serre functor on  $\mathcal{D}^b(\mathcal{O}_0)$ .

Note that  $w_0^2$  generates the center of the braid group (at least for type  $A$ ).

**Idea of the proof:** Use our main theorem and known properties of Arkhipov's functors.

### 3. Parabolic category $\mathcal{O}$

$\mathfrak{p}$  — a parabolic subalgebra of  $\mathfrak{g}$ , containing  $\mathfrak{h} \oplus \mathfrak{n}_+$ .

$\mathcal{O}^{\mathfrak{p}}$  the subcategory of  $\mathcal{O}$ , consisting of  $U(\mathfrak{p})$ -locally finite modules (the parabolic category of Rocha-Caridi).

$W^{\mathfrak{p}}$  — the Weyl group of  $\mathfrak{p}$ .

$w_0^{\mathfrak{p}}$  — the longest element in  $W^{\mathfrak{p}}$ .

**Theorem.**  $\mathcal{L}(T_{w_0}^2)[-2l(w_0^{\mathfrak{p}})]$  is the Serre functor on  $\mathcal{D}^b(\mathcal{O}_0^{\mathfrak{p}})$ .

A finite-dimensional algebra,  $A$ , is called *symmetric* if  $A \cong A^*$  as  $A$ -bimodules.

**Corollary.** (The positive answer to a conjecture of Khovanov)  
The endomorphism algebra of a basic projective-injective module in  $\mathcal{O}_0^{\mathfrak{p}}$  is symmetric.

## **Explanation:**

Let  $B$  be the endomorphism algebra of a basic projective-injective module in  $\mathcal{O}_0^{\mathfrak{p}}$ .

We know the Serre functor for  $\mathcal{D}^b(\mathcal{O}_0^{\mathfrak{p}})$ .

A direct computation shows that it induces the identity functor on the category of projective-injective modules.

However, it also induces a Serre functor for the perfect part of the bounded derived category of  $B$ -mod.

Hence for  $\mathcal{K}^{perf}(B)$  the Serre functor is the identity functor.

This means that  $B \cong B^*$ , namely that  $B$  is symmetric.

Using our main theorem one can compute Serre functors for various categories of Harish-Chandra bimodules and for several rational Cherednik algebras.