

TOPIC

Page: ..... Date: 24/06/2022

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Theorems

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TOPIC

Page: ..... Date: .....

Sr No	Name	page NO
1	introduction	2
2	statement	2
3	proofs	3
4	Application of the theorem	4
5	<u>References</u>	5



## ★ Introduction.

- In mathematics, especially algebraic geometry the decomposition theorem is a set of results concerning the cohomology of algebraic varieties.

## \* Statement

## \* Decomposition for smooth proper map.

The first case of the decomposition theorem arises via the hard Lefschetz theorem which gives isomorphisms, for a smooth proper map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  of relative dimension  $d$

between two projective varieties

$$-U \eta^i : R^{d-i} f_* (\mathbb{Q}) \xrightarrow{\cong} R^{d+i} f_* (\mathbb{Q}).$$

Here  $\eta$  is the fundamental class of a hyperplane section,  $f_*$  is the direct image (pushforward) &  $R^n f_*$  is the  $n$ -th derived functor of the direct image. This derived functor measures the  $n$ -th cohomologies of  $f^{-1}(U)$ , for  $U \subset Y$ . In fact, the particular case when  $Y$  is a point, amounts to the isomorphism.

$$-U \eta^i : H^{d-i}(X, \mathbb{Q}) \xrightarrow{\cong} H^{d+i}(X, \mathbb{Q}).$$

This hard Lefschetz isomorphism induces canonical isomorphisms:

$$R f_* (\mathbb{Q}) \xrightarrow{\cong} \bigoplus_{i=-d}^d R^{d+i} f_* (\mathbb{Q}) [-d-i].$$



## \* Decomposition for proper maps

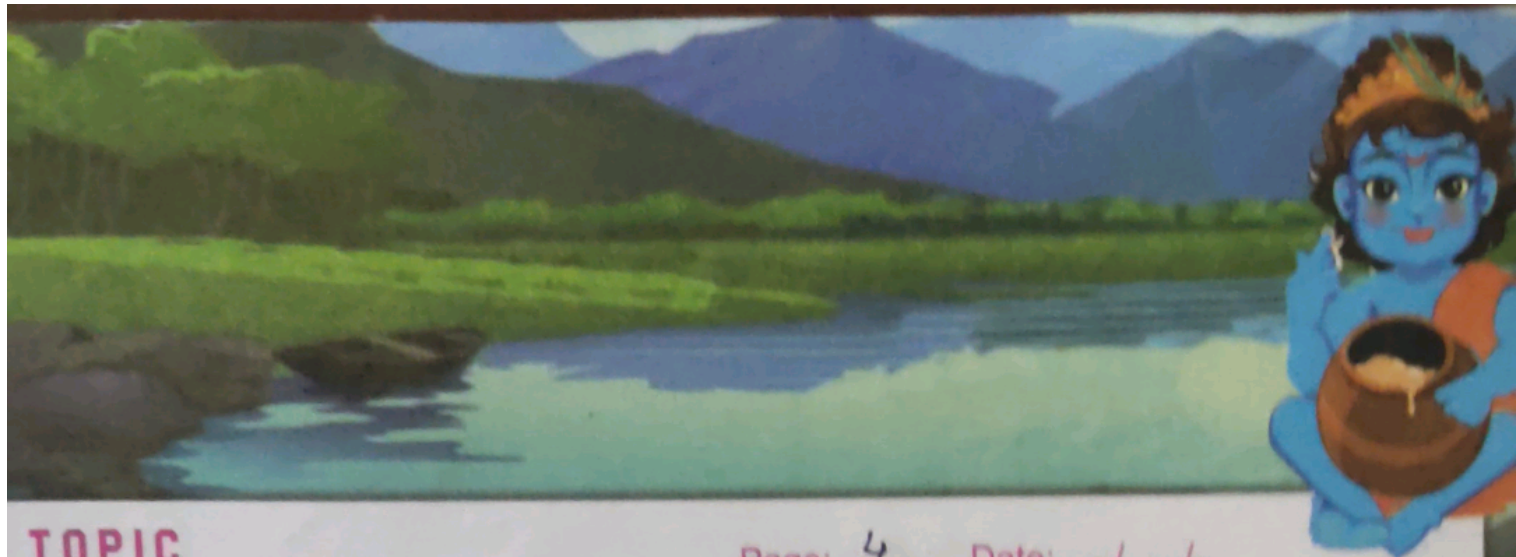
The decomposition theorem generalises this fact to the case of a proper, but not necessarily,

smooth map  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  bet<sup>n</sup> varieties. In a nutshell, the results above remain true when the notion of local systems is replaced by perverse sheaves.

The hard lefschetz theorem above takes the following form: there is an isomorphism in the derived category of sheaves on  $Y$ :

$${}^p H^{-i}(Rf_* Q) \cong {}^p H^{+i}(Rf_* Q),$$

where  $Rf_*$  is the total derived function of  $f_* \mathcal{F}$ .  ${}^p H^i$  is the  $i$ -th function with respect to the perverse  $t$ -structure. Moreover, there is an isomorphism



TOPIC

Page: 4 ..... Date: .....

$$Rf_* IC_x \cong \bigoplus^p H^i(Rf_* IC_x)[-i].$$

Where the summands are semi-simple perverse sheaves, meaning they are direct sums of push forward of intersection cohomology sheaves.

If  $X$  is not smooth, then the above results remain true when  $\mathbb{Q}[\dim X]$  is replaced by the intersection cohomology complex  $IC$ .

## \* Proofs:-

The decomposition theorem was first proved by Beilinson, Bernstein, & Deligne. Their proof is based on the usage of weights on  $\ell$ -adic sheaves in positive characteristic.

A different proof using mixed Hodge modules was given by Saito. A more geometric proof, based on the notion of semismall maps was given by de Cataldo & Migliorini.

For semismall maps, the decomposition theorem also applies to Chow motives.

## \* Applications of the theorem

### \* Cohomology of a Rational Lefschetz pencil

consider a rational morphism  $f: X \rightarrow P^1$  from a smooth quasi-projective variety given by  $[f_1(x):f_2(x)]$ . If we set the vanishing locus of  $f_1, f_2$  as  $Y$  then there is an induced morphism

$\tilde{X} = \text{Bl}_Y(X) \rightarrow P^1$ . We can compute the cohomology of  $X$  from the intersection cohomology of  $\text{Bl}_Y(X)$  & subtracting off the cohomology from the blowup along  $Y$ . This can be done using the perverse spectral sequence.

$$E_2^{l,m} = H^l(P^1; {}^p H^m(\mathbb{I}C_{\tilde{X}}^*(\mathbb{Q}))) \rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{I}H^{l+m}(\tilde{X}; \mathbb{Q}) \cong H^{l+m}(X; \mathbb{Q})$$



## ★ References

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