

THE CHOW MOTIVE OF SEMISMALL RESOLUTIONS

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ABSTRACT. We show that the topological Decomposition Theorem for a proper semismall map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ implies a “motivic” decomposition theorem for the rational algebraic cycles of X and, in the case X is compact, for the Chow motive of X . We work in the category of pure Chow motives over a base. Under suitable assumptions on the stratification, we also prove an explicit version of the motivic decomposition theorem and compute the Chow motives and groups in some examples, e.g. the nested Hilbert schemes of points of a surface. In an appendix with T. Mochizuki, we do the same for the parabolic Hilbert scheme of points on a surface.

1. Introduction

Borho and MacPherson [3] first realized that the Decomposition Theorem of Beilinson, Bernstein, Deligne and Gabber [2] has a simple and explicit statement for complex proper algebraic *semismall* maps $f : X \rightarrow Y$ from a manifold. See §2 for definitions and Theorem 2.2.3.

Semismall maps appear naturally in a variety of contexts arising in geometry and representation theory, e.g. the Springer resolutions of nilpotent cones, maps from Gieseker to Uhlenbeck moduli spaces, Hilbert-Chow maps for various Hilbert schemes of points on surfaces, holomorphic symplectic resolutions, etc. Every stratum for f on Y gives rise to the local system given by the monodromy action on the irreducible components of maximal dimension of the fibers over the stratum. Associated with this local system there is the corresponding intersection cohomology complex on the closure of the stratum.

The Decomposition Theorem for f states that the direct image complex $Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[\dim X]$ is isomorphic to the direct sum over the set of *relevant* strata of these intersection cohomology complexes.

A striking consequence is that, for these maps, the cohomology of the fiber over a point of a stratum gets decomposed in, so to speak, the easiest possible way: all but its top cohomology is a direct sum of the stalks of the cohomology sheaves of the intersection cohomology complexes of the strata “near” the point; the top cohomology comes, naturally, from the stratum itself.

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This statement is, in a sense, surprising. It is *as if* the geometry of the fiber did not really count, but only the irreducible components of the fiber and their monodromy along the stratum.

In this paper we show, using the Decomposition Theorem, that given a map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ as above, the picture for the Chow groups and the Chow motive of X is analogous. Here, we freely use the language and properties of correspondences and projectors even if X is not proper, in view of the refined Gysin formalism; see [13] and [8]. In order to do so more efficiently, following a suggestion of the referee, we make use of the category of pure motives over a base. This has been introduced in [6] for smooth varieties. We introduce the analogous notion for \mathbb{Q} -varieties. This works well in view of [27] and [28].

We show that new decompositions arise for semismall maps. They imply analogous ones for Chow groups, singular cohomology and mixed Hodge structures.

Every relevant stratum with the associated local system gives rise to a non trivial correspondence in $X \times X$ which is a projector. This correspondence is constructed with the monodromy datum of the irreducible components of the fibers over the stratum.

These projectors are orthogonal to each other. This is the Chow-theoretic and motivic analogue of the fact that each relevant stratum contributes a direct summand in the Decomposition Theorem.

The sum of these projectors is the diagonal of X . This corresponds to the fact that the direct summands above add up to the direct image complex $Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[\dim X]$.

The precise formulation is given in Theorem 2.3.8 which one may call the *Motivic Decomposition Theorem* for semismall maps.

In general, even though the formulation of the Decomposition Theorem may be quite explicit, as it is in the case of semismall maps, it may still be difficult in practice to compute the intersection cohomology complexes involved. It is important to know that the decomposition occurs, but it may be difficult to extract information from that fact alone. The geometry of the particular situation is instrumental in making this tool one of the most effective methods of computation in the homology of algebraic maps.

The main result of this paper is that, under suitable hypotheses on the strata, which are verified in many cases of interest, one can recover the algebraic cycles and the motive of X in terms of the corresponding objects for the strata. See Theorem 2.3.8.

Let us state the following easy consequence of Theorem 2.3.8. It is sufficient for many applications and may give the reader a better idea of the results of this paper and of its computational consequences.

Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a semismall map of complex projective varieties with X nonsingular. For every connected relevant stratum Y_a , let $t_a := (1/2)(\dim Y_a - \dim X)$, $y_a \in Y_a$ and consider the $\pi_1(Y_a, y_a)$ -set of irreducible maximal dimensional components of $f^{-1}(y_a)$. Let $\nu_a : Z_a \rightarrow Y_a$ be the corresponding not

necessarily connected covering. Assume that every Z_a has a projective compactification \overline{Z}_a which is the disjoint union of quotients of nonsingular varieties such that the map ν_a extends to a finite map $\overline{\nu}_a : \overline{Z}_a \rightarrow \overline{Y}_a$. We denote the Chow motive of a nonsingular (or quotient) proper variety T by $[T]$, and the n -th twist of it by the Tate motive by $[T](n)$; e.g. $[\mathbb{P}^1] \simeq [pt] \oplus [pt](-1)$. We construct a correspondence $\overline{\Gamma} \subseteq \coprod_a \overline{Z}_a \times X$ and prove

Theorem 1.0.1. *There are natural isomorphisms of Chow motives:*

$$\overline{\Gamma} : \bigoplus_a [\overline{Z}_a](t_a) \simeq [X].$$

The analogous statement for Chow groups follows easily. The one for Hodge structures, though not new, as it follows from Saito's [25], is given here a direct proof using correspondences, i.e. without relying on the theory of mixed Hodge modules.

We provide the following applications of Theorem 2.3.8.

For every nonsingular complex surface, we determine the Chow groups, the mixed Hodge structures and the Chow motive of Hilbert schemes (Theorem 3.2.1), of nested Hilbert schemes (Theorem 3.3.1) and, in an appendix with T. Mochizuki (§4), of parabolic Hilbert schemes of points. The former is not new; see [8] and also [17]. The second refines Göttsche's result [17]. The third is new.

Our results allow to verify that for some semismall and crepant resolutions of orbifolds, the mixed Hodge structure of the resolution is canonically isomorphic to the corresponding orbifold structure. See §3.4. This refines the known fact that one had an equality for the corresponding Hodge numbers. See [12] and [29].

The first-named author dedicates this paper to the memory of Meeyoung Kim.

2. A motivic decomposition theorem for semismall maps

We work with algebraic varieties over the field of complex numbers and consider Chow groups with rational coefficients. The results of this paper hold, with minor changes, left to the reader, over an algebraically closed field K and in the complex analytic setting. Over the field K one must work with \mathbb{Q}_l -coefficients, $l \neq \text{char } K$, and with étale homology (cfr. [20]). The results for (parabolic) Hilbert schemes also hold over *any* field.

2.1. Fibred products of semismall maps. Throughout this section, $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is a proper surjective and *semismall* morphism of complex algebraic varieties with $n := \dim X$.

Recall that, in this context, the semismallness of f is equivalent to the following condition: let $\delta \in \mathbb{N}$ and $Y_f^\delta := \{y \in Y \mid \dim f^{-1}(y) = \delta\}$, then $2\delta \leq \dim Y - \dim Y_f^\delta, \forall \delta \geq 0$. On the other hand, the *smallness* of f is equivalent to requiring that $2\delta < \dim Y - \dim Y_f^\delta, \forall \delta > 0$. By checking the semismallness condition on $\delta > 0$, one sees immediately that f must be generically finite so that $\dim X = \dim Y = n$.

The following elementary fact plays an important role in what follows.

Proposition 2.1.1. *Let $f' : X' \rightarrow Y$ and $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be proper maps, semismall over their images. Then*

$$\dim X' \times_Y X \leq 1/2(\dim X + \dim X').$$

Remark 2.1.2. A map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is semismall if and only if the irreducible components of $X \times_Y X$ have dimension at most equal to $\dim X$. Similarly, a map $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is small if and only if the n -dimensional irreducible components of $X \times_Y X$ dominate Y .

Remark 2.1.3. If we assume that f and f' are small over their image and $\dim X = \dim X'$, then $\dim X \times_Y X' \leq \dim X = \dim X'$ and equality holds if and only if $f(X) = f'(X')$.

By ‘‘Thom-Mather Theory,’’ see [15], page 43, we can choose a finite algebraic Whitney stratification for $f : X \rightarrow Y$. By this we mean that, in particular, $Y = \coprod_{b \in B} Y_b$, where every space Y_b is a locally closed and smooth subvariety of Y and the induced maps $f|_b : f^{-1}(Y_b) \rightarrow Y_b$ are locally topologically trivial over Y_b .

Definition 2.1.4. Let $A := \{a \in B \mid 2 \dim f^{-1}(y) = \dim Y - \dim Y_a, \forall y \in Y_a\}$. We call A the set of *relevant strata* for f .

Remark 2.1.5. While there may be many different stratifications for f , the set of subvarieties $\{\overline{Y_a}\}_{a \in A}$ is uniquely determined by f .

Remark 2.1.6. A small map has only one relevant stratum, i.e. the dense one.

2.2. The intersection forms and the decomposition theorem for semismall maps. The goal of this section is to define certain intersection numbers which can be defined when X is nonsingular and also when X is a \mathbb{Q} -variety.

Definition 2.2.1. A \mathbb{Q} -variety is a variety X which is isomorphic, locally in the étale topology, to the quotient of a nonsingular variety X' by the action of a finite group G of automorphisms of X' .

For more details on what follows see [9] and [15].

Let S be a relevant stratum for f and $s \in S$. We have $2 \dim f^{-1}(s) = n - \dim S$. Let N be a contractible euclidean neighborhood of s and $N' = f^{-1}(N)$. Let $\{F_i\}$ be the set of irreducible components of maximal dimension $(1/2)(n + \dim S)$ of $f^{-1}(S \cap N)$, and let $\{f_i\}$ be the set of irreducible components of maximal dimension $(1/2)(n - \dim S)$ of $f^{-1}(s)$. We denote by $f_i \cdot F_j$ the rational valued refined intersection product defined in N' ; see [13]. It is independent of the choice of $s \in S \cap N$ and is a monodromy invariant, i.e. it is $\pi_1(S, s)$ -invariant.

We denote Borel-Moore homology (cfr.[5] for example) with rational coefficients by $H^{BM}(-)$. As s varies on S , the Borel-Moore classes

$$[f_i] \in H_{n-\dim S}^{BM}(f^{-1}(s))$$

form a local system L_S^* and the intersection pairing above forms a pairing $L_S^* \otimes L_S^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_S$ on this local system. Since the monodromy is finite, L_S^* is abstractly, i.e. not necessarily via the pairing above, isomorphic to its dual which can be identified with $L_S := (R^{n-\dim S} f_* \mathbb{Q}_X)|_S$.

For constant coefficients, the Decomposition Theorem of Beilinson, Bernstein, Deligne and Gabber has a simple statement in the case of semismall maps from a \mathbb{Q} -variety; see [9].

Given a variety Z and a local system L on a Zariski-dense open subset of its regular part Z_{reg} , we denote by $IC_Z(L)$ the Goresky, MacPherson, Deligne intersection cohomology complex associated with L . We denote $IC_Z(\mathbb{Q}_{Z_{reg}})$ simply by IC_Z .

Remark 2.2.2. If Z is a \mathbb{Q} -variety, then $IC_Z \simeq \mathbb{Q}_Z[\dim Z]$.

The following is a special case of the Decomposition Theorem of Beilinson, Bernstein, Deligne and Gabber. See [2], [25], [3], [9], [11].

Theorem 2.2.3. *Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a proper, semismall algebraic map of algebraic varieties with X a \mathbb{Q} -variety. There is a canonical isomorphism*

$$Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[n] \simeq_{D_{cc}^b(Y)} \bigoplus_{a \in A} IC_{\overline{Y}_a}(L_a)$$

where L_a are the semisimple local systems on \overline{Y}_a given by the monodromy action on the maximal dimensional irreducible components of the fibers of f over Y_a , and $D_{cc}^b(Y)$ is the bounded derived category of constructible complexes of sheaves of rational vector spaces on Y .

Remark 2.2.4. The Decomposition Theorem is equivalent to the fact that the intersection forms associated with the relevant strata defined in §2.2 are non-degenerate. In fact, they are definite. See [9] and [11].

2.3. A motivic decomposition for semismall maps. Following [6], we first define the category of pure Chow motives over a base S . Note that, according to [27] and [28], the intersection theory formalism developed in [13] for nonsingular varieties can be extended to \mathbb{Q} -varieties if we use Chow groups with rational coefficients. In particular, if Y is a \mathbb{Q} -variety and $\delta : Y \rightarrow Y \times Y$ is the diagonal imbedding, there exists a refined Gysin map $\delta^!$. Given $\phi : Z \rightarrow Y \times Y$, then there is $\delta^! : A_*(Z) \rightarrow A_{*-dim Y}(Z \times_{Y \times Y} Y)$. The Gysin map is in fact defined for the bigger class of Alexander schemes introduced in [27]. However, all the examples we give are \mathbb{Q} -varieties, in fact global quotients of nonsingular varieties so that we will stick with \mathbb{Q} -varieties.

Let S be an algebraic variety.

Definition 2.3.1. *Define a category $\mathcal{C}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}$ as follows. The objects are proper maps $X \xrightarrow{f} S$ from a not necessarily connected \mathbb{Q} -variety X . Let $Y \rightarrow S$ be an object with Y pure-dimensional. Set*

$$Hom_{\mathcal{C}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}}(X \rightarrow S, Y \rightarrow S) := A_{dim Y}(X \times_S Y)$$

and extend the definition to the case when Y is not equidimensional by additivity.

The composition of morphisms in this category is defined as follows: given $\phi \in A_{dim Y}(X \times_S Y) = Hom_{\mathcal{C}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}}(X \rightarrow S, Y \rightarrow S)$ and $\psi \in A_{dim Z}(Y \times_S Z) = Hom_{\mathcal{C}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}}(Y \rightarrow S, Z \rightarrow S)$, $\psi \circ \phi$ is defined by means of the fiber product diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X \times_S Z & \xleftarrow{p_{XZ}} & X \times_S Y \times_S Z & \longrightarrow & X \times_S Y \times Y \times_S Z \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & Y & \xrightarrow{\delta} & Y \times Y \end{array}$$

as $\psi \circ \phi := p_{XZ*}\delta^!(\phi \times \psi)$.

Definition 2.3.2. The category $\mathcal{M}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}$ of pure Chow motives over S is defined by adding in the usual way Tate twists to the pseudoabelianization of $\mathcal{C}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}$. See [6] for more details.

An element of $\mathcal{M}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}$ is denoted by $(X \xrightarrow{f} S, P)(r)$ where $P \in A_{\dim X}(X \times_S X)$ is a projector, i.e. $P \circ P = P$ as correspondences, and r is an integer. If $r = 0$, then we drop it from the notation and if $P = \Delta_X$, then we simply write $X \xrightarrow{f} S$. This latter is called the pure Chow motive of X over S .

The notation $[X]$ is reserved for the usual Chow motive (X, Δ_X) , X complete.

Remark 2.3.3. A theorem by B. Toen, [26], shows that the category $\mathcal{M}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}$ is equivalent to the one defined using only proper morphisms $f : X \rightarrow S$ from a smooth variety X . This latter is the definition used in [6].

Remark 2.3.4. a) The category $\mathcal{M}_{\text{Spec } \mathbb{C}, \mathbb{Q}}$ coincides with the classical category of rational Chow motives.

b) If S is a \mathbb{Q} -variety, then $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}}((X \rightarrow S)(i), (S \xrightarrow{id} S)(j)) = A_{\dim S+i-j}(X)$.

c) There is the contravariant functor $\text{Sch}/S \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}$ which assigns the graph Γ_f to a S -morphism $f : X \rightarrow Y$.

d) Given a proper map $S \rightarrow S'$, using composition we obtain a natural covariant functor $\mathcal{M}_{S,\mathbb{Q}} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{S',\mathbb{Q}}$. In particular, if S is complete, then $\mathcal{M}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}$ maps to rational Chow motives.

The motives just introduced have a topological realization which is obtained associating functorially with $(X \xrightarrow{f} S)(r)$ the complex $Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[2r]$ in $D_{cc}^b(S)$. To define the topological realization at the level of morphisms we need the following

Lemma 2.3.5. *Let $f : X \rightarrow S, g : Y \rightarrow S, h : Z \rightarrow S$ be three proper maps of analytic varieties with X, Y and Z \mathbb{Q} -varieties and i, j and k be integers. There are canonical isomorphisms*

$$\varphi_{XY} : \text{Hom}_{D_{cc}^b(S)}(Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[i], Rg_*\mathbb{Q}_Y[j]) \simeq H_{2\dim Y+i-j}^{BM}(X \times_S Y).$$

Given morphisms $u : Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[i] \rightarrow Rg_*\mathbb{Q}_Y[j], v : Rg_*\mathbb{Q}_Y[j] \rightarrow Rh_*\mathbb{Q}_Z[k]$, one has $\varphi_{XZ}(v \circ u) = \varphi_{YZ}(v) \bullet \varphi_{XY}(u)$, where “ \bullet ” denotes the refined composition of homological correspondences, defined in a way analogous to the definition of composition in $\mathcal{M}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}$.

Proof. [6], Lemma 2.21, Lemma 2.23. □

We define the realization for morphisms by means of the diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}}((X \xrightarrow{f} S)(i), (Y \xrightarrow{g} S)(j)) & \simeq & A_{\dim Y+i-j}(X \times_S Y) \\ & & \downarrow \\ \text{Hom}_{D_{cc}^b(S)}(Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[2i], Rg_*\mathbb{Q}_Y[2j]) & \simeq & H_{2(\dim Y+i-j)}^{BM}(X \times_S Y) \end{array}$$

where the vertical arrow is the cycle map; see [13], Chapter 19. By Lemma 2.3.5 this map is compatible with the composition of maps in $\mathcal{M}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}$ and $D_{cc}^b(S)$. In particular, there are \mathbb{Q} -algebra homomorphisms:

$$\text{End}_{\mathcal{M}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}}(X \xrightarrow{f} S) \longrightarrow \text{End}_{D_{cc}^b(S)}(Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[\dim X]).$$

Remark 2.3.6. It is also possible to define a mixed Hodge realization of the category $\mathcal{M}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}$ associating with $X \xrightarrow{f} S$ the cohomology groups $H^*(X)$ with their mixed Hodge structure. In order to define the realization on morphisms it is necessary to check that the Gysin map defines a morphism of Mixed Hodge structures. This is proved in [10].

Lemma 2.3.7. *Let $X \xrightarrow{f} S$ and $Y \xrightarrow{g} S$ be proper maps from \mathbb{Q} -varieties, semismall on their images and suppose that $t := \frac{\dim Y - \dim X}{2}$ is an integer. Then the map:*

$Hom_{\mathcal{M}_{S,\mathbb{Q}}}(X \xrightarrow{f} S, (Y \xrightarrow{g} S)(t)) \rightarrow Hom_{D_{cc}^b(S)}(Rf_\mathbb{Q}_X[\dim X], Rg_*\mathbb{Q}_Y[\dim Y])$*
is an isomorphism.

Proof. By Proposition 2.1.1, every component of $X \times_S Y$ has dimension at most $(1/2)(\dim X + \dim Y)$, so that the cycle map

$$A_{(1/2)(\dim X + \dim Y)}(X \times_S Y) \longrightarrow H_{\dim X + \dim Y}^{BM}(X \times_S Y)$$

is an isomorphism. The statement follows from Lemma 2.3.5. \square

Let X be a \mathbb{Q} -variety, $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a proper, surjective and semismall map and A be the set of relevant strata for f . Let $a \in A$, Y_a be the corresponding relevant stratum, $t_a = (1/2)(\dim Y_a - \dim X)$, $y_a \in Y_a$, E_a be the $\pi_1(Y_a, y_a)$ -set given by the irreducible components of maximal dimension of $f^{-1}(y_a)$ and $\nu_a : Z_a = \coprod_i Z_{a,i} \rightarrow Y_a$ be the not necessarily connected étale covering associated with E_a . For every a, i , let $\overline{Z_{a,i}}$ be a \mathbb{Q} -variety containing $Z_{a,i}$ as a Zariski-dense open subset and such that there is a *proper* surjective map $\overline{\nu_{a,i}} : \overline{Z_{a,i}} \rightarrow \overline{Y_a}$ extending $\nu_{a,i} := \nu_a|_{Z_{a,i}}$, i.e. such that $\overline{\nu_{a,i}}|_{Z_{a,i}} = \nu_{a,i}$. Set $\overline{\nu_a} : \overline{Z_a} = \coprod_i \overline{Z_{a,i}} \rightarrow \overline{Y_a}$. We will denote by $\overline{\nu_a}$ also the composition $\overline{Z_a} \xrightarrow{\overline{\nu_a}} \overline{Y_a} \rightarrow Y$, where the second map is the natural inclusion. Let

$$Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[n] \simeq_{D_{cc}^b(Y)} \bigoplus_{a \in A} IC_{\overline{Y_a}}(L_a)$$

be the topological decomposition, and let $P_a^{top} \in End_{D_{cc}^b(Y)}(Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[\dim X])$ be the corresponding projectors. By Lemma 2.3.7, they correspond to projectors $P_a \in End_{\mathcal{M}_{Y,\mathbb{Q}}}(X \xrightarrow{f} Y)$. Denote by IH_f the projector corresponding to the open stratum of Y . Note that if f is generically one-to-one, IH_f^{top} gives the projection on the Intersection Cohomology complex of Y .

Theorem 2.3.8. (Motivic Decomposition Theorem) *Let things be as above.*

a) *There is an isomorphism in $\mathcal{M}_{Y,\mathbb{Q}}$*

$$(X \xrightarrow{f} Y) \simeq \bigoplus_a (X \xrightarrow{f} Y, P_a).$$

b) *If the maps $\overline{\nu_{a,i}} : \overline{Z_{a,i}} \rightarrow \overline{Y_a}$ are semismall, then there is an isomorphism in $\mathcal{M}_{Y,\mathbb{Q}}$*

$$(X \xrightarrow{f} Y, P_a) \simeq \bigoplus_a (\overline{Z_a} \xrightarrow{\overline{\nu_a}} \overline{Y_a}, IH_{\overline{Y_a}})(t_a).$$

Proof. From the definition of P_a^{top} , we have the equality $Id_{Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[n]} = \sum_a P_a^{top}$ in $End_{D_{cc}^b(Y)}(Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[n])$. By Lemma 2.3.7, this implies the statement a). Similarly, b) is checked by proving the corresponding equality in $End_{D_{cc}^b(Y)}$. The topological realization of $(X \xrightarrow{f} Y, P_a)$ is $IC_{\overline{Y}_a}(L_a)[-n]$, the topological realization of $(\overline{Z}_a \xrightarrow{\overline{\nu}_a} Y, IH_{\overline{\nu}_a})$ is $IC_{\overline{Y}_a}(L_a)[-dim Y_a]$, whence the statement. \square

In the discussion of the examples in §3 and §4 we will use the following corollary of Theorem 2.3.8:

Corollary 2.3.9. *Let things be as in Theorem 2.3.8. Furthermore, assume that the maps $\overline{\nu}_{a,i} : \overline{Z}_{a,i} \rightarrow \overline{Y}_a$ are small. Then*

$$(X \xrightarrow{f} Y) \simeq \bigoplus_a (\overline{Z}_a \xrightarrow{\overline{\nu}_a} \overline{Y}_a)(t_a)$$

Proof. The only $\dim Y_a$ -dimensional components of $\overline{Z}_a \times_{\overline{Y}_a} \overline{Z}_a$ are dominant, see Remark 2.1.2. It follows that $(\overline{Z}_{a,i} \xrightarrow{\overline{\nu}_{a,i}} \overline{Y}_a) = (\overline{Z}_{a,i} \xrightarrow{\overline{\nu}_{a,i}} \overline{Y}_a, IH_{\overline{\nu}_{a,i}})$. \square

Corollary 2.3.10. *Let things be as in Corollary 2.3.9. Then there exists a correspondence $\overline{\Gamma} \in Z_*(\prod_a \overline{Z}_a \times X)$ inducing isomorphisms of Chow groups*

$$\overline{\Gamma}_* = \bigoplus_{a \in A} A_*(\overline{Z}_a) \longrightarrow A_*(X) \quad (\text{with } A_*(\overline{Z}_a) \longrightarrow A_{*-t_a}(X)),$$

and of mixed Hodge structures

$$\overline{\Gamma}_*^H = \bigoplus_{a \in A} H^*(\overline{Z}_a)(t_a) \longrightarrow H^*(X).$$

2.4. Intersection Chow motives and groups in the presence of semismall resolutions. What follows is a generalization of the construction of Mumford [23] of a (rational valued) intersection product on possibly singular surfaces which we now recall. Let X be a normal surface with a singular point x and let $r : \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ be a resolution. Denote by E_i the exceptional divisors in $r^{-1}(x)$ and by Λ the inverse of the intersection matrix (E_i, E_j) . Given a curve C on X , one has a unique lifting to a curve \tilde{C} on \tilde{X} with the condition that $\tilde{C} \cdot E_i = 0$ for all exceptional curves E_i . In other words, one is considering the cycle $P = \Delta_{\tilde{X}} - \sum \Lambda_{i,j} E_i \times E_j$ in $\tilde{X} \times_X \tilde{X}$, which is easily seen to be a projector. A direct computation shows that the Chow motive (X, P) has the intersection cohomology of X as its Betti realization.

In a completely analogous way, whenever a singular variety Y is given a semismall resolution $f : X \rightarrow Y$, it is possible to construct a projector $P \in A(X \times_Y X)$ whose Betti realization is the intersection cohomology of Y . This construction is meaningful because the Chow motive turns out to be independent of the semismall resolution chosen, as we prove in Proposition 2.4.1. One can therefore talk about *intersection Chow motives and groups*, in the presence of semismall resolutions.

Let $f : X \rightarrow Y \leftarrow X' : f'$ be two proper surjective semismall maps, with X and X' n -dimensional proper nonsingular algebraic varieties. Assume that there

exists a Zariski-dense open subset U of Y and an isomorphism $g : f^{-1}(U) \rightarrow f'^{-1}(U)$ such that $f|_U = f'_| \circ g$ and that $f^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U \leftarrow f'^{-1}(U)$ are topological coverings with associated isomorphic local systems L_f and $L_{f'}$.

The projections $IH_f^{top} : Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[n] \rightarrow IC_Y(L_f) = IC_Y(L_{f'}) \leftarrow Rf'_*\mathbb{Q}_{X'}[n] : IH_{f'}^{top}$ induce, as in the proof of Theorem 2.3.8, algebraic cycles $IH_f \in Z_n(X \times_Y X)$ and $IH_{f'} \in Z_n(X' \times_Y X')$ which give Chow motives $(X \xrightarrow{f} Y, IH_f)$ and $(X' \xrightarrow{f'} Y, IH_{f'})$, direct summands of $(X \xrightarrow{f} Y)$ and $(X' \xrightarrow{f'} Y)$, respectively.

Proposition 2.4.1. *Let f and f' be as above. There is a canonical isomorphism of pure Chow motives over Y*

$$IH_{f'f} : (X' \xrightarrow{f'} Y, IH_{f'}) \rightarrow (X \xrightarrow{f} Y, IH_f)$$

defined by an algebraic cycle $IH_{f'f} \in Z_n(X' \times_Y X)$.

In addition, if Y is complete, then there is a canonical isomorphism of Chow motives $(X, IH_f) \simeq (X', IH_{f'})$ each term of which has the intersection cohomology $IH(Y)$ as its Betti realization.

Proof. Let $p_{f'f} : Rf'_*\mathbb{Q}_{X'}[n] \rightarrow Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[n]$ be the map obtained as the composition of the natural maps: $Rf'_*\mathbb{Q}_{X'}[n] \rightarrow IC_Y(L_{f'}) = IC_Y(L_f) \rightarrow Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[n]$. Consider the isomorphism of \mathbb{Q} -vector spaces

$\psi_{X'X} : Hom_{D_{cc}^b(Y)}(Rf'_*\mathbb{Q}_{X'}[n], Rf_*\mathbb{Q}_X[n]) \simeq H_{2n}^{BM}(X' \times_Y X) \simeq Z_n(X' \times_Y X)$ (see Lemma 2.3.7 and Proposition 2.1.1) and define $IH_{f'f} := \psi(p_{f'f})$. Analogously, define $p_{ff'}$ and $IH_{ff'}$. Clearly, $p_{ff'} \circ p_{f'f} = p_{f'}$ and $p_{f'f} \circ p_{ff'} = p_f$. Since ψ is compatible with compositions, see Lemma 2.3.7, the same equations hold for the corresponding cycles, i.e. $IH_{ff'} \circ IH_{f'f} = IH_{f'}$ and $IH_{f'f} \circ IH_{ff'} = IH_f$. The result follows by noting that $IH_{f'}$ and IH_f induce the identity on the motives $(X' \xrightarrow{f'} Y, IH_{f'})$ and $(X \xrightarrow{f} Y, IH_f)$, respectively.

The last statement follows from Remark 2.3.4.d. \square

Remark 2.4.2. By what above, any two small resolutions of an algebraic variety have canonical isomorphic motives, cycles and mixed Hodge structures. This could also be shown directly using the graph of the corresponding birational map.

Remark 2.4.3. If $X \rightarrow Y \leftarrow X'$ are two semismall resolutions (in general there is none), then $(X \xrightarrow{f} Y, IH_f)$ and $(X' \xrightarrow{f'} Y, IH_{f'})$ are both motivic counterparts of the topological IC_Y . Proposition 2.4.1 states that they are canonically isomorphic and therefore independent of the semismall resolution.

2.5. Construction of correspondences. In this section we give an explicit description of the correspondences that define the isomorphism of motives stated in Corollary 2.3.9.

We define a set of correspondences $\Gamma_{a,i,I}$ associated with a relevant stratum Y_a . Their closures define the wanted isomorphisms.

Let S_a be a relevant stratum, $s \in S_a$, E_a be the right $G_a := \pi_1(S_a, s)$ -set of maximal dimensional irreducible components of $f^{-1}(s)$. Denote by $\nu_a : Z_a \rightarrow S_a$ the not necessarily connected étale cover of S_a corresponding to E_a .

By assumption, Z_a is a Zariski-dense open subset of a disjoint union of \mathbb{Q} -varieties $\overline{Z_a}$, and $\nu_a : Z_a \rightarrow S_a$ extends to a small map $\overline{\nu_a} : \overline{Z_a} \rightarrow \overline{S_a} \subseteq Y$. Note that $\overline{Z_a}$ is of pure dimension $\dim S_a$. The correspondences we will use are supported on the closures in $\overline{Z_a} \times_Y X$ of $Z_a \times_Y X$. We introduce notation in order to deal with their top-dimensional irreducible components.

From now on we use the term ‘‘component’’ to refer to a top-dimensional one.

Fix representatives o_1, \dots, o_r of the G_a -orbits of E_a ; this corresponds to fixing base points s_1, \dots, s_r in the various connected components $Z_{a,1}, \dots, Z_{a,r}$ of Z_a . Let G_i be the stabilizer of o_i in G_a . The following is a well-known and elementary fact on G -sets:

Lemma 2.5.1. *The irreducible components of $Z_{a,i} \times_Y X$ are in 1-1 correspondence with the G_i orbits of E_a .*

It follows that in order to specify an irreducible component $\Gamma_{a,i,I}$ of $Z_{a,i} \times_Y X$ it suffices to specify a G_i -orbit $I = \{f_{i_1}, \dots, f_{i_l}\}$ of components of $f^{-1}(s)$.

Let $\Gamma_{a,i}$ denote the correspondence Γ_{a,i,o_i} associated with the G_i orbit $\{o_i\}$, $i = 1, \dots, r$. Note that the fiber over s_i of the natural map $\Gamma_{a,i} \rightarrow Z_{a,i}$ is naturally identified with the corresponding irreducible component of $f^{-1}(s)$ and that $\Gamma_{a,i}$ is an irreducible variety.

Let $\Lambda^a = (\Lambda_{i,j}^a)_{i,j \in E_a}$ be the inverse of the intersection matrix associated with the pair (S_a, s) . Clearly, $\Lambda_{ig,jg}^a = \Lambda_{i,j}^a$, $\forall g \in G_a$, for the intersection numbers are monodromy invariant. From this follows that, for every $i \in E_a$, $\sum_j \Lambda_{i,j}^a f_j$ is a rational linear combination of G_i -orbits in the set of maximal dimensional components of $f^{-1}(s)$, and thus defines, by Lemma 2.5.1, a correspondence $\Gamma'_{a,i} \in Z(Z_{a,i} \times_Y X)$. Note that in general its support is not irreducible.

Let us summarize what we have done. In general, the pre-image of the stratum S_a is not irreducible. In addition, each irreducible component may fail to be irreducible over small euclidean neighborhoods of $s \in S_a$. Each irreducible component of the pre-image of a stratum corresponds to a connected étale cover $Z_{a,i}$ and the pull-back $\Gamma_{a,i}$ of this irreducible component to $Z_{a,i}$ is irreducible locally in the euclidean topology over $Z_{a,i}$ and in fact has irreducible fibers over $Z_{a,i}$. The intersection forms being non-degenerate allow to define $\Gamma'_{a,i}$.

Define $Z_a = \coprod_i Z_{a,i}$ and $\overline{\Gamma_{a,i}}$ to be the closure of $\Gamma_{a,i} \subseteq Z_{a,i} \times_Y X$ in $\overline{Z_a} \times_Y X$. Similarly for $\overline{\Gamma'_{a,i}}$.

Let $\overline{\Gamma_a} := \coprod_i \overline{\Gamma_{a,i}}$, $\overline{\Gamma} := \coprod_a \overline{\Gamma_a}$, $\overline{\Gamma'_a} := \coprod_i \overline{\Gamma'_{a,i}}$, $\overline{\Gamma'} := \coprod_a \overline{\Gamma'_a}$.

By using the explicit nature of these correspondences, one can easily show the following equality of cycles (proof omitted):

$${}^t \overline{\Gamma'_{b,j}} \circ \overline{\Gamma_{a,i}} = \delta_{ab} \delta_{ij} \Delta_{\overline{Z_{a,i}} \times \overline{Z_{a,i}}}$$

from which one can easily deduce that

$$\overline{\Gamma} : \bigoplus_a (\overline{Z_a} \xrightarrow{\overline{\nu_a}} \overline{Y_a})(t_a) \simeq (X \xrightarrow{f} Y)$$

is the isomorphism of Corollary 2.3.9 with inverse ${}^t \overline{\Gamma'}$.

3. Applications of the Motivic Decomposition Theorem 2.3.8

We now give a series of applications of Theorem 2.3.8 to the computation of Chow motives and groups; see §3.2, §3.3, §3.4 and §4. It will be sufficient to determine the relevant strata for the maps in question, the fibers over them, and the monodromy on the components of maximal dimension. Except for the situations in §3.4 and §4, the fibers are irreducible. This fact alone implies trivial monodromy. Theorem 2.3.8 applies to give the Chow motive and groups of Hilbert schemes and of nested Hilbert schemes. In the former case, that determination had been done in [8] using the same correspondences, but additional knowledge was required, such as the affine cellular structure of the fibers, and the fact that the pre-image of each stratum maps locally trivially over the stratum in the étale topology. By way of contrast, here one only needs to know that the fibers have only one component of maximal dimension. For nested Hilbert schemes, the result is new. The fibers of the maps in §3.4 are not irreducible, but have trivial monodromy. Finally, the fibers of the Hilbert-Chow map for parabolic Hilbert schemes (cfr. §4) are not irreducible, but they are over the relevant strata and that is enough.

3.1. Maps induced by maps between surfaces. Let X be a nonsingular, connected complex algebraic surface, Y be an algebraic surface and $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a proper surjective holomorphic map. Note that f is automatically semismall. The map f induces semismall maps $f_n : X^{[n]} \rightarrow Y^{(n)}$. We write down the relevant strata for f_n and prove Theorem 3.1.1, an explicit version of Theorem 2.3.8. An application is given in Theorem 3.4.1.

Let n be a positive integer, $X^{[n]}$ the Hilbert scheme of n -points of X (cfr. [24], [7]), S_n be the n -th symmetric group and $X^{(n)} := X^n/S_n$ be the n -th symmetric product of X . There is a natural crepant and semismall map $\pi_n : X^{[n]} \rightarrow X^{(n)}$. Let $P(n)$ be the set of partitions ν of n , and let $a = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$, where $a_i :=$ the number of times i appears in ν . Clearly, $\sum ia_i = n$ and the length $l(a) = l(\nu) := l = \sum a_i$.

The morphism π_n admits a stratification $X^{[n]} = \coprod_{\nu \in P(n)} X_\nu^{[n]} \rightarrow \coprod_{\nu \in P(n)} X_\nu^{(n)} = X^{(n)}$, where every $X_\nu^{(n)} := \{x \in X^{(n)} \mid x = \sum \nu_k x_k, x_k \in X, x_k \neq x_{k'} \text{ for } k \neq k'\}$, is a connected locally closed smooth subvariety of $X^{(n)}$ of dimension $2l(\nu)$, $X_\nu^{[n]} := (\pi_n^{-1}(X_\nu^{(n)}))_{red}$ and the fibers of π over $X_\nu^{(n)}$ are irreducible of dimension $n - l(\nu)$.

Let $X^{(\nu)} := \prod_{i=1}^n X^{(a_i)}$. There is a natural map $\pi_\nu : X^{(\nu)} \rightarrow X^{(n)}$ which factors through the normalization of $\overline{X_\nu^{(n)}} \subseteq X^{(n)}$.

The composition $f_n : X^{[n]} \xrightarrow{\pi_n} X^{(n)} \xrightarrow{f^{(n)}} Y^{(n)}$ is semismall.

A stratification for f induces one for $f^{(n)}$. Using the known one for π_n in conjunction with the one for $f^{(n)}$ one gets one for f_n . For our purposes, we need only the stratification by the dimension of the fibers which requires less indices.

Let $V := Y_f^0 \subseteq Y$, $U := f^{-1}V \subseteq X$ and $Y_f^1 := \{y_1, \dots, y_N\}$. Note that V contains the unique dense stratum for f , which is relevant for f and that all the y_k are relevant strata, if $Y_f^1 \neq \emptyset$. There are no more relevant strata.

Let $D_k := (f^{-1}(y_k))_{red}$. D_k is not necessarily pure-dimensional. Let H_k be the set of its one-dimensional components. The one-dimensional part of D_k is a not necessarily connected configuration of curves $\{C_{kh}\}_{h \in H_k}$ on X .

Let $N \neq 0$. Define, for every $h \geq 0$, $Q_N(h) = \{\underline{m} = (m_1, \dots, m_N) \mid m_k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}, \sum m_k = h\}$.

If $N = 0$, then define $Q_0(0) = \{\star\}$ to be a set with one element and $Q_0(h) = \emptyset, \forall h > 0$.

We have a decomposition

$$Y^{(n)} = \prod_{i=0}^n \prod_{\nu \in P(i)} \prod_{\underline{m} \in Q(n-i)} V_\nu^{(i)} \times \star_{\underline{m}}$$

where \star denotes a point and we identify $V_\nu^{(i)} \times \star_{\underline{m}}$ with the locally closed subset of points of type $\sum \nu_j v_j + \sum_{k=1}^N m_k y_k$.

We have that $f_n^{-1}(V_\nu^{(i)} \times \star_{\underline{m}}) = U_\nu^{[i]} \times \prod_{k=1}^N \pi_{m_k}^{-1}(D_k^{(m_k)})$, where both sides are given the reduced structure.

The reduced fibers over the corresponding stratum for f_n are the product of a fiber of π_i over $X_\nu^{(i)}$ with the reduced configuration $\prod_{k=1}^N \pi_{m_k}^{-1}(D_k^{(m_k)})$.

Let Σ be a finite set and $M_d(\Sigma)$ be the set of degree d monomials on the set of variables Σ .

The first factor above is irreducible and the second has irreducible components of top dimension labeled by $M_{\underline{m}} := \prod_{k=1}^N M_{m_k}(H_k)$. The monodromy on these components is trivial.

Consider the natural map $X^{(\nu)} = X_{\underline{m}}^{(\nu)} \rightarrow Y^{(n)}$ obtained by composing $f^{(\nu)}$ with the assignment $(z_1^1, \dots, z_{a_1}^1; z_1^2, \dots, z_{a_2}^2; \dots; z_1^i, \dots, z_{a_i}^i) \rightarrow \sum_{j=1}^i \sum_{t=1}^{a_j} j z_t^j + \sum_{k=1}^N m_k y_k$.

Each one of this will count as a relevant stratum as many times as the numbers of irreducible components over it. At this point we can apply Theorem 2.3.8 to f_n .

Theorem 3.1.1. *There are natural isomorphisms of pure Chow motives over $X^{(n)}$*

$$\bigoplus_{i=0}^n \bigoplus_{\nu \in P(i)} \bigoplus_{\underline{m} \in Q(n-i)} (X_{\underline{m}}^{(\nu)} \rightarrow X^{(n)}, P^{(\nu)})^{\oplus |M_{\underline{m}}|} (i + l(\nu) - 2n) \rightarrow (X^{[n]} \rightarrow X^{(n)})$$

of Chow groups

$$\bigoplus_{i=0}^n \bigoplus_{\nu \in P(i)} \bigoplus_{\underline{m} \in Q(n-i)} P_*^{(\nu)}(A_*(X_{\underline{m}}^{(\nu)}))^{\oplus |M_{\underline{m}}|} \simeq A_*(X^{[n]}),$$

and of mixed Hodge structures

$$\bigoplus_{i=0}^n \bigoplus_{\nu \in P(i)} \bigoplus_{\underline{m} \in Q(n-i)} H^*(X_{\underline{m}}^{(\nu)})^{\oplus |M_{\underline{m}}|} ((i + l(\nu) - 2n)) \simeq H^*(X^{[n]}).$$

If X is assumed to be proper, then there is the isomorphism of Chow motives

$$\bigoplus_{i=0}^n \bigoplus_{\nu \in P(i)} \bigoplus_{\underline{m} \in Q(n-i)} (X_{\underline{m}}^{(\nu)}, P^{(\nu)})^{\oplus |M_{\underline{m}}|} (i + l(\nu) - 2n) \longrightarrow [X^{[n]}].$$

Remark 3.1.2. ((Symmetric) products of semismall maps) Let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be semismall with X a \mathbb{Q} -variety. The induced maps $f^l : X^l \rightarrow Y^l$, $f^{(l)} : X^{(l)} \rightarrow Y^{(l)}$ and $f^{(\nu)} : X^{(\nu)} \rightarrow Y^{(\nu)}$ are semismall.

We leave to the reader the task of making explicit, using the set of indices A^l , $A^{(l)}$ and $A^{(\nu)}$, the analogue of Theorem 2.3.8 for the maps f^l , $f^{(l)}$ and $f^{(\nu)}$.

3.2. The Hilbert scheme of points on a surface. The following result follows from Corollary 2.3.9:

Theorem 3.2.1. *Let X be a nonsingular algebraic surface. There are natural isomorphisms of pure Chow motives over $X^{(n)}$:*

$$\bar{\Gamma} : \bigoplus_{\nu \in P(n)} (X^{(\nu)} \rightarrow X^{(n)})(l(\nu) - n) \simeq (X^{[n]} \rightarrow X^{(n)})$$

inducing isomorphisms of Chow groups

$$\bar{\Gamma}_* : \bigoplus_{\nu \in P(n)} A_*(X^{(\nu)}) \simeq A_*(X^{[n]})$$

and of mixed Hodge structures

$$\bar{\Gamma}_*^H : \bigoplus_{\nu \in P(n)} H^*(X^{(\nu)})(l(\nu) - n) \simeq H^*(X^{[n]}).$$

If X is assumed to be proper, then there is the isomorphism of Chow motives

$$\bar{\Gamma} : \bigoplus_{\nu \in P(n)} [X^{(\nu)}](l(\nu) - n) \simeq [X^{[n]}].$$

Remark 3.2.2. Note that the sign convention in this paper is the opposite of the one in [9].

Remark 3.2.3. Let A be an abelian surface and K_n be its n -th generalized Kummer variety ([1]). An application of the Corollary 2.3.9 gives a refinement at the level of Chow motives of the formulae for the Betti and Hodge numbers of $A \times K_n$ given in [18], Theorems 7 and 8. We omit the details.

3.3. The motive of nested Hilbert schemes of surfaces $X^{[n,n+1]}$. We apply Theorem 2.3.8 to nested Hilbert schemes. The results we obtain refine Göttsche's [17]. Let X be a nonsingular quasi-projective surface, n be a positive integer and define the nested Hilbert scheme of points on X , $X^{[n,n+1]}$, to be the closed subscheme $\{(\eta, \beta) \mid \eta \subseteq \beta\} \subseteq X^{[n]} \times X^{[n+1]}$ given its reduced structure. As is well-known (cfr. [4]), it is connected and smooth of dimension $2n + 2$ and admits a semismall map $\pi_{n,n+1} : X^{[n,n+1]} \rightarrow X^{(n)} \times X$. It is not crepant, e.g. $X^{[1,2]} \rightarrow X \times X$ is the blowing up of the diagonal. This map admits a natural stratification which we now describe.

Fix $\nu \in P(n)$. Define $I_\nu = \{0\} \amalg \{j \mid a_j \neq 0\}$. Clearly, $I_\nu \setminus \{0\} \neq \emptyset$.

Define subvarieties $X_{\nu,j} \subseteq X^{(n)} \times X$ as follows

$$X_{\nu,j} = \begin{cases} \{(\zeta, x) \mid \zeta \in X_{\nu}^{(n)}, x \notin |\zeta|\} & \text{if } j = 0, \\ \{(\zeta, x) \mid \zeta \in X_{\nu}^{(n)}, x \in |\zeta|, \text{length}_x(\zeta) = j\} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The subvarieties $X_{\nu,j} \subseteq X^{(n)} \times X$ are irreducible, smooth, locally closed of dimension $2l(\nu) + 2$, if $j = 0$ and $2l(\nu)$ otherwise. The stratification $X^{(n)} \times X = \coprod_{\nu \in P(n)} \coprod_{j \in I_{\nu}} X_{\nu,j}$ induces, as in §3.1, a stratification for the map $\pi_{n,n+1}$ for which the fibers are irreducible. The fibers over the stratum $X_{\nu,j}$ have dimension $n - l(\nu)$, if $j = 0$ and $n - l(\nu) + 1$, if $j \neq 0$. All strata are relevant.

For every $\nu \in P(n)$ and for every $j \in I_{\nu}$, there is a quotient variety $X^{(\nu,j)}$ and a natural generically injective map $X^{(\nu,j)} \rightarrow X^{(n)} \times X$ which factors through the normalization of $\overline{X_{\nu,j}} \subseteq X^{(n)} \times X$, see [4] for details. We are in the position to apply Theorem 2.3.8 and prove the following result

Theorem 3.3.1. *Let X be a nonsingular algebraic surface. There are isomorphisms of pure Chow motives over $X^{(n)} \times X$*

$$\overline{\Gamma} : \bigoplus_{\nu \in P(n), j \in I_{\nu}} (X^{(\nu,j)} \rightarrow X^{(n)} \times X)(m(\nu, j)) \simeq (X^{[n,n+1]} \rightarrow X^{(n)} \times X),$$

inducing isomorphisms of Chow groups

$$\overline{\Gamma}_* : \bigoplus_{\nu \in P(n), j \in I_{\nu}} A_*(X^{(\nu,j)}) \simeq A_*(X^{[n,n+1]}),$$

and of mixed Hodge structures

$$\overline{\Gamma}^H : \bigoplus_{\nu \in P(n), j \in I_{\nu}} H^*(X^{(\nu,j)})(m(\nu, j)) \simeq H^*(X^{[n,n+1]}),$$

where $m(\nu, j) = l(\nu) - n$ if $j = 0$ and $m(\nu, j) = l(\nu) - n - 1$ if $j \neq 0$.

If X is proper, then there is the isomorphism of Chow motives

$$\overline{\Gamma} : \bigoplus_{\nu \in P(n), j \in I_{\nu}} [X^{(\nu,j)}](m(\nu, j)) \simeq [X^{[n,n+1]}].$$

3.4. Wreath products, rational double points and orbifolds. Let G be a finite group, n be an integer and G_n be the associated Wreath product, i.e. the semidirect product of G^n and S_n . For background on what follows see [30] from which all the constructions below are taken. Let $G \subseteq SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ be a finite group. Their classification is known. Let $\tau : \widetilde{\mathbb{C}^2/G} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2/G$ be the minimal and crepant resolution of the corresponding simple singularity. Let $D := \tau^{-1}(o)$ where $o \in Y$ is the singular point. With the notation of this section, $N = 1$, $y_1 = o$ and the divisor D is supported on a tree of nonsingular rational curves: $|D| = \cup_{k \in H_1} C_k$.

There is a commutative diagram of semismall and crepant birational morphisms

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \widetilde{\mathbb{C}^2/G}^{[n]} & \xrightarrow{\pi_n} & \widetilde{\mathbb{C}^2/G}^{(n)} \\ \downarrow \tau_n & & \downarrow \tau^{(n)} \\ \mathbb{C}^{2n}/G_n & \simeq & (\mathbb{C}^2/G)^{(n)}. \end{array}$$

Let $\mathbb{C}_0^2/G := \mathbb{C}^2/G \setminus \{o\}$. The following is a natural stratification for τ_n for which every stratum is relevant:

$$\tau_n = \coprod_{i=0}^n \tau_{n,i,\nu} : \coprod_{i=0}^n \coprod_{\nu \in P(i)} (\mathbb{C}_0^2/G)_\nu^{[i]} \times \pi_{n-i}^{-1}(D^{(n-i)}) \longrightarrow \coprod_{i=0}^n \coprod_{\nu \in P(i)} (\mathbb{C}_0^2/G)_\nu^{(i)} \times \{(n-i)o\}.$$

The fibers over each stratum $(\mathbb{C}_0^2/G)_\nu^{(i)}$ are isomorphic to the product of the corresponding irreducible fibers of $\pi_{i,\nu}$ with $\pi_{n-i}^{-1}(D^{(n-i)})$. The latter factor has dimension $n - i$ and its irreducible components of dimension $n - i$ are naturally labeled by the set $M_{n-i}(H_1)$ of monomials of degree $n - i$ in the set of variables H_1 .

Let $P(i) \ni \nu = (a_1, \dots, a_i)$. The stratum $(\mathbb{C}_0^2/G)_\nu^{(i)} \subseteq \prod_{j=1}^i (\mathbb{C}^2/G)^{(a_j)} = \prod_{j=1}^i \mathbb{C}^{2a_j}/G_{a_j} = \mathbb{C}^{2l(\nu)}/\prod_{j=1}^i G_{a_j}$. The natural finite map $\mathbb{C}^{2l(\nu)}/\prod_{j=1}^i G_{a_j} \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^2/G)^{(n)}$ factors through the normalization of the closure of the stratum $(\mathbb{C}_0^2/G)_\nu^{(i)}$.

Denote by $P = \Delta_{\mathbb{C}^2} - \sum_{h,k} \Lambda_{h,k} C_h \times C_k$ be the projector corresponding to the projection $R\tau_* \mathbb{Q}_{\mathbb{C}^2/G}[2] \rightarrow IC_{\mathbb{C}^2/G} \simeq \mathbb{Q}_{\mathbb{C}^2/G}[2]$. Note that one can compute explicitly the projectors $P^{(\nu)}$, for every partition ν of every integer. We can apply Theorem 2.3.8 and Theorem 3.1.1 and prove

Theorem 3.4.1. *There are canonical isomorphisms of Chow groups*

$$\begin{aligned} \bigoplus_{i=0}^n \bigoplus_{\nu \in P(i)} \bigoplus_{M_{n-i}(G_* \setminus \{1^-\})} A_*(\mathbb{C}^{2l(\nu)}/\prod_{j=1}^i G_{a_j}) &\simeq \\ \bigoplus_{i=0}^n \bigoplus_{\nu \in P(i)} \bigoplus_{M_{n-i}(G_* \setminus \{1^-\})} P_*^{(\nu)} A_*(\widetilde{\mathbb{C}^2/G}^{(\nu)}) &\simeq \\ A(\widetilde{\mathbb{C}^2/G}^{[n]}) &\simeq \bigoplus_{\mu \in P(n)} A(\widetilde{\mathbb{C}^2/G}^{(\mu)}). \end{aligned}$$

Let G_* be the set of conjugacy classes of G . There is a well-known bijection $b : G_* \setminus \{1^-\} \rightarrow T_G$ (cfr. [19]).

Using the bijection $b : G_* \setminus \{1^-\} \rightarrow T_G$ we get a natural set of bijections $M_{n-i}(G_* \setminus \{1^-\}) \rightarrow M_{n-i}(T_G)$.

The set of triplets (i, ν, x) with $0 \leq i \leq n$, $\nu \in P(i)$, $x \in M_{n-i}(G_* \setminus \{1^-\})$ is in natural bijection with the set G_{n*} of conjugacy classes of G_n .

It follows easily that one can identify canonically the orbifold mixed Hodge structure of the orbifold \mathbb{C}^{2n}/G_n with the mixed Hodge structure of $\widetilde{\mathbb{C}^2/G}^{[n]}$.

The following result refines slightly [29].

Corollary 3.4.2. *There is a canonical isomorphism of mixed Hodge structures*

$$(H^*(\mathbb{C}^{2n}/G_n))_{orb} \simeq H^*(\widetilde{\mathbb{C}^2/G}^{[n]}).$$

Remark 3.4.3. More generally, let Y' be a nonsingular algebraic surface on which a finite group acts as a finite group of automorphism such that the only fixed points are isolated points on Y' . Let $Y = Y'/G$ and $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be its

minimal resolution, which is automatically crepant. One can prove, using the method above and the analysis of twisted sectors in [29], that the orbifold mixed Hodge structure of Y'^{n/G_n} is isomorphic to the mixed Hodge structure of $X^{[n]}$. This refines slightly results in [12] and [29].

4. Appendix: the Chow groups and the Chow motive of parabolic Hilbert schemes; with T. Mochizuki

M. de Cataldo, L. Migliorini, T. Mochizuki

In this appendix we deal explicitly with Chow motives only. See Definition 2.3.2. We do so only because of the lengthy nature of the formulæ. We leave to the reader the task of re-writing the results in terms of pure Chow motives over the base $X^{(n)} \times D^{l_*}$.

4.1. The parabolic Hilbert scheme of points on a surface. Let X be an irreducible nonsingular surface defined over an algebraically closed field and D be a nonsingular curve on X . Let I be an ideal sheaf on X . Recall that a *parabolic structure* on I of depth h at D is a filtration of the \mathcal{O}_D -modules, denoted here using the induced successive quotients

$$I \otimes \mathcal{O}_D \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}_1 \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}_2 \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}_h \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}_{h+1} = 0.$$

An ideal sheaf of points with a parabolic structure is called a parabolic ideal of points. The moduli scheme of the ideal sheaves of points with parabolic structure is called the *parabolic Hilbert scheme of points*. For simplicity, we only consider the case that \mathcal{G}_1 is torsion. There is no loss of generality, see [22].

We put the $\mathcal{K}_i = \text{Ker}(\mathcal{G}_i \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}_{i+1})$. For a parabolic ideal sheaf, we denote the length of \mathcal{K}_α by l_α , for $\alpha = 1, \dots, h$. We denote the h -tuple (l_1, \dots, l_h) by l_* . The data (n, h, l_*) is called the type of the parabolic ideal sheaf (I, \mathcal{G}_*) .

We denote the parabolic Hilbert scheme of points of X of type (n, h, l_*) by $\text{Hilb}(X, D; n, h, l_*)$. It is irreducible, nonsingular of dimension $2n + \sum_{\alpha=1}^h l_\alpha$ (cfr. [22]). Note that if $l_\alpha = 0$ for every α , then $\text{Hilb}(X, D; n, h, l_*)$ is isomorphic to $X^{[n]}$.

4.2. The corresponding Hilbert-Chow morphism. For any sheaf \mathcal{G} of finite length, we denote its support with multiplicity by $[\mathcal{G}]$, i.e., if the length of \mathcal{G} at x is $l(x)$, then $[\mathcal{G}]$ defined to be $\sum l(x) \cdot x$. We denote $X^{(n)} \times \prod_i D^{(l_i)}$ by $X^{(n)} \times D^{(l_*)}$. We have the natural morphism F_{n, l_*} : of $\text{Hilb}(X, D; n, h, l_*) \rightarrow X^{(n)} \times D^{(l_*)}$ defined by the assignment $(I, \mathcal{G}_*) \mapsto ([\mathcal{O}_X/I], [\mathcal{K}_\alpha])$. We call it the *Hilbert-Chow* morphism. [22], Corollary 3.1 implies the following

Lemma 4.2.1. *The morphism $F_{(n, l_*)}$ is semismall.*

Remark 4.2.2. The fibers of F_{n, l_*} are not irreducible, in general. However, the ones over relevant strata are; see Lemma 4.3.2.

4.3. Stratification of the morphism $F_{(n,l_*)}$. We denote the set of integers larger than i by $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq i}$. We put $A = \prod_{\alpha=0}^h \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$. An element v of A is described as $v = (v_0, v_*)$, where v_0 is an element of $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ and $v_* = (v_1, \dots, v_h)$ is an element of $\prod_{\alpha=1}^h \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$. We denote the set $A - \{(0, \dots, 0)\}$ by A' . We denote the set $\{\chi : A' \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \mid \sum_v \chi(v) < \infty\}$ by $\mathcal{S}(A')$. We have the natural morphism $\Phi : \mathcal{S}(A') \rightarrow A$ defined by $\chi \mapsto \sum_v \chi(v) \cdot v$. For any element u of A , we put $\mathcal{S}(A', u) := \Phi^{-1}(u)$.

For any element $\chi \in \mathcal{S}(A')$, we set:

$$X_\chi := \prod_{v \in A', v_* = 0} X^{(\chi(v))} \times \prod_{v \in A', v_* \neq 0} D^{(\chi(v))}.$$

A point of X_χ is denoted $(\sum_{k=1}^{\chi(v)} x_{vk} \mid v \in A')$, where x_{vk} is a point of X (resp. D) if $v_* = 0$ (resp. $v_* \neq 0$). The dimension of X_χ is $2 \sum_{v_* = 0} \chi(v) + \sum_{v_* \neq 0} \chi(v)$. Let $X_{0\chi}$ denote the open set of X_χ determined by the condition that $x_{vk} \neq x_{v'k'}$ for any $(v, k) \neq (v', k')$.

For any $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ and $l_* \in \prod_{\alpha=1}^h \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$, we have the element $l_*(n) = (n, l_*) \in A$. If χ is contained in $\mathcal{S}(A', l_*(n))$, we have the finite morphism G_χ of X_χ to $X^{(n)} \times D^{(l_*)}$ defined as follows:

$$\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\chi(v)} x_{vk} \mid v \in A' \right) \mapsto \left(\sum_v \sum_{k=1}^{\chi(v)} v_\alpha x_{vk}, \mid \alpha = 0, 1, \dots, h \right).$$

The restriction of G_χ to $X_{0\chi}$ is an embedding. We denote the image $G_\chi(X_{0\chi})$ also by $X_{0\chi}$. Then $\{X_{0\chi} \mid \chi \in \mathcal{S}(A', l_*(n))\}$ gives a stratification for the morphism $F_{(n,l_*)}$.

Let e_α denote the element of A' whose β -th component is defined to be 1 ($\alpha = \beta$) or 0 ($\alpha \neq \beta$). We put $C := \{m \cdot e_0 \mid m \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}\} \cup \{m \cdot e_0 + e_\alpha \mid m \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}, \alpha = 1, \dots, h\}$. The following two lemmata follow from [22], Corollary 3.1.

Lemma 4.3.1. *For any point $P \in X_{0\chi}$, the dimension of the fiber $F_{(n,l_*)}^{-1}(P)$ is $(n - \sum_{v_* = 0} \chi(v))$. The codimension of the stratum $X_{0\chi}$ is $2(n - \sum_{v_* = 0} \chi(v)) + \sum_\alpha l_\alpha - \sum_{v_* \neq 0} \chi(v)$. A stratum $X_{0\chi}$ is a relevant stratum if and only if $\chi(v) = 0$ for any v which is not contained in C .*

Lemma 4.3.2. *If a stratum $X_{0\chi}$ is relevant, then the top dimensional part of the inverse image $F_{(n,l_*)}^{-1}(X_{0\chi})$ is irreducible.*

Let $\bar{\mathcal{S}}(A', l_*(n))$ denote the subset of $\chi \in \mathcal{S}(A', l_*(n))$ given by the relevant strata. The set $\bar{\mathcal{S}}(A', l_*(n))$ can be regarded as the set of $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ -valued functions χ on C satisfying $\sum_{v \in C} \chi(v)v = l_*(n)$.

Example 4.3.3. ($h = 1, n = 1, l_1 = 1$)

In this case, the parabolic Hilbert scheme is isomorphic to the blowing up of $X \times D$ with center D , where D is embedded by the composition of the diagonal embedding $D \subset D \times D$ with the natural inclusion $D \times D \subset X \times D$. The Hilbert-Chow morphism is the blowing up morphism. The set $\mathcal{S}(A', (1, 1))$ has two elements: $\delta_{(0,1)} + \delta_{(1,0)}$ and $\delta_{(1,1)}$. Here the function $\delta_v : A' \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ is defined by $\delta_v(w) = 0$ ($w \neq v$) and $\delta_v(w) = 1$ ($w = v$). In this case $\bar{\mathcal{S}}(A', (1, 1)) =$

$\mathcal{S}(A', (1, 1))$. The stratum corresponding to $\delta_{(1,0)} + \delta_{(0,1)}$ (resp. $\delta_{(1,1)}$) is $(X \times D \setminus D)$ (resp. D). The dimensions of the fibers corresponding to $\delta_{(1,0)} + \delta_{(0,1)}$ and $\delta_{(1,1)}$ are 0 and 1, respectively.

Example 4.3.4. ($h = 1, n = 1, l_1 = 2$)

In this case, $\mathcal{S}(A', (1, 2))$ has four elements: $\chi_1 := \delta_{(1,0)} + 2\delta_{(0,1)}$, $\chi_2 := \delta_{(1,0)} + \delta_{(0,2)}$, $\chi_3 := \delta_{(1,1)} + \delta_{(0,1)}$ and $\chi_4 := \delta_{(1,2)}$. The dimensions d_i of the fibers and the codimensions c_i of the strata corresponding to χ_i are as follows: $(d_1, c_1) = (0, 0)$, $(d_2, c_2) = (0, 1)$, $(d_3, c_3) = (1, 2)$, $(d_4, c_4) = (1, 3)$. Thus $\bar{\mathcal{S}}(A', (1, 2))$ has two elements χ_1 and χ_3 .

4.4. The results. Let $\bar{\Gamma}$ be the correspondence constructed using the relevant strata above and §2.5. Let $t_\chi = \sum_{v_*=0} \chi(v) - n$.

Theorem 4.4.1. *We have natural isomorphisms of Chow groups*

$$\bar{\Gamma}_* : \bigoplus_{\chi \in \bar{\mathcal{S}}(A', l_*(n))} A_*(X_\chi) \longrightarrow A_*(\text{Hilb}(X, D; n, h, l_*)),$$

and, if X is assumed to be proper, of Chow motives

$$\bar{\Gamma} : \bigoplus_{\chi \in \bar{\mathcal{S}}(A', l_*(n))} [X_\chi](t_\chi) \longrightarrow [\text{Hilb}(X, D; n, h, l_*)].$$

In what follows, for an algebraic variety Y , $b_i(Y)$ denotes the i -th Betti number of Y , $P(Y)(z) = \sum_i b_i(Y)z^i$ denotes the Poincaré polynomial of Y , $h^{p,q}(Y)$ denote the (p, q) -th Hodge number of Y , $h(Y)(x, y) = \sum_{x,y} h^{p,q}(Y)x^p y^q$ denotes the Hodge polynomial of Y , and we put $\epsilon(p, q) = (-1)^{p+q-1}$.

Corollary 4.4.2. *The generating functions for Chow motives (where we denote a motive (T, Δ_T) simply by $[T]$), Betti and Hodge numbers are*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n, l_*} [\text{Hilb}(X, D; n, h, l_*)] \cdot t^n \prod_{\alpha=1}^h s_\alpha^{l_\alpha} = \\ & \prod_{i=1}^\infty \left(\sum_{m=0}^\infty [X^{(m)}]((i-1)m) \cdot t^{im} \right) \times \prod_{\alpha=1}^h \prod_{i=0}^\infty \left(\sum_{m=0}^\infty [D^{(m)}](im) \cdot t^{im} s_\alpha^m \right), \\ & \sum_{n, l_*} P(\text{Hilb}(X, D; n, h, l_*))(z) \cdot t^n \prod_{\alpha=1}^h s_\alpha^{l_\alpha} = \\ & \prod_{m \geq 1} \frac{(1 + z^{2m-1} t^m)^{b_1(X)} (1 + z^{2m+1} t^m)^{b_3(X)}}{(1 - z^{2m-2} t^m)^{b_0(X)} (1 - z^{2m} t^m)^{b_2(X)} (1 - z^{2m+2} t^m)^{b_4(X)}} \times \\ & \prod_{\alpha=1}^h \prod_{m \geq 0} \frac{(1 + z^{2m+1} t^m s_\alpha)^{b_1(D)}}{(1 - z^{2m} t^m s_\alpha)^{b_0(D)} (1 - z^{2m+2} t^m s_\alpha)^{b_2(D)}}. \\ & \sum_{n, l_*} h(\text{Hilb}(X, D, n, h, l_*))(x, y) t^n \prod_{\alpha=1}^h s_\alpha^{l_\alpha} = \end{aligned}$$

$$\prod_{m \geq 1} \prod_{0 \leq p, q \leq 2} \left(1 + \epsilon(p, q)x^{p+m-1}y^{q+m-1}t^m\right)^{\epsilon(p, q) \cdot h^{p, q}(X)} \times$$

$$\prod_{\alpha=1}^h \prod_{m \geq 0} \prod_{0 \leq p, q \leq 1} \left(1 + \epsilon(p, q)x^{p+m}y^{q+m}t^m s_\alpha\right)^{\epsilon(p, q) \cdot h^{p, q}(D)}$$

Remark 4.4.3. The generating functions for the Betti and Hodge numbers can be found in [22]. The slightly weaker statement in the Grothendieck ring of motives can also be deduced easily from [22].

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