

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910154750003321
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Titolo	Gauss Sums, Kloosterman Sums, and Monodromy Groups. (AM-116), Volume 116 // Nicholas M. Katz
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Princeton, NJ : , : Princeton University Press, , [2016] ©1988
ISBN	1-4008-8212-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (257 pages) : illustrations
Collana	Annals of Mathematics Studies ; ; 338
Disciplina	512/.7
Soggetti	Gaussian sums Kloosterman sums Homology theory Monodromy groups
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Bibliography.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Introduction -- CHAPTER 1. Breaks and Swan Conductors -- CHAPTER 2. Curves and Their Cohomology -- CHAPTER 3. Equidistribution in Equal Characteristic -- CHAPTER 4. Gauss Sums and Kloosterman Sums: Kloosterman Sheaves -- CHAPTER 5. Convolution of Sheaves on $G_m$ -- CHAPTER 6. Local Convolution -- CHAPTER 7. Local Monodromy at Zero of a Convolution: Detailed Study -- CHAPTER 8. Complements on Convolution -- CHAPTER 9. Equidistribution in $(S^1)^r$ of $r$ -tuples of Angles of Gauss Sums -- CHAPTER 10. Local Monodromy at $\infty$ of Kloosterman Sheaves -- CHAPTER 11. Global Monodromy of Kloosterman Sheaves -- CHAPTER 12. Integral Monodromy of Kloosterman Sheaves (d'après O. Gabber) -- CHAPTER 13. Equidistribution of "Angles" of Kloosterman Sums -- References
Sommario/riassunto	The study of exponential sums over finite fields, begun by Gauss nearly two centuries ago, has been completely transformed in recent years by advances in algebraic geometry, culminating in Deligne's work on the Weil Conjectures. It now appears as a very attractive mixture of algebraic geometry, representation theory, and the sheaf-theoretic incarnations of such standard constructions of classical analysis as

convolution and Fourier transform. The book is simultaneously an account of some of these ideas, techniques, and results, and an account of their application to concrete equidistribution questions concerning Kloosterman sums and Gauss sums.

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