

22 Jan. 2007

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# Applications of braid group representations to dynamical systems

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# 1 Generalized Lefschetz number

$X$  connected, finite cell complex

$f : X \rightarrow X$  continuous,  $\text{Fix}(f)$ : fixed point set

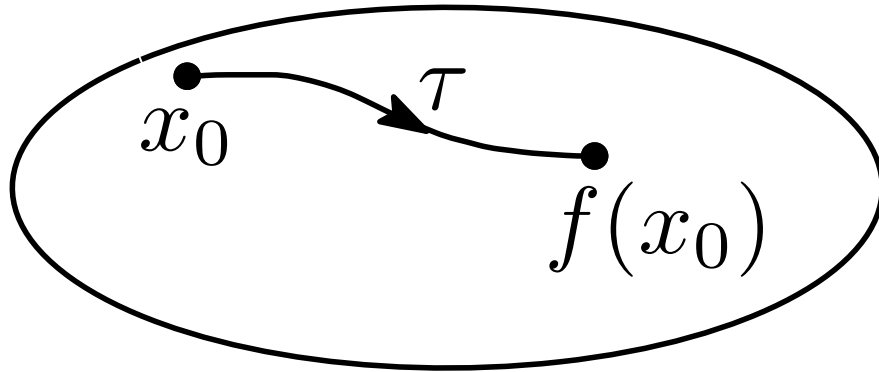
Lefschetz number

$$\begin{aligned} L(f) &= \sum_{q \geq 0} (-1)^q \text{tr} [f_* : H_q(X) \rightarrow H_q(X)] \\ &= \text{ind}(\text{Fix}(f)) \end{aligned}$$

The generalized Lefschetz number  $\mathcal{L}(f)$  is obtained by decomposing  $\text{Fix}(f)$  using the action of  $f$  on  $\pi_1(X)$ .

Choose a base point  $x_0$ , and a base path  $\tau$ .

Let  $\pi = \pi_1(X, x_0)$ ,  $f_\pi = \tau_*^{-1} \circ f_* : \pi \rightarrow \pi$ .



**Definition.**  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \pi$  are  $f_\pi$ -conjugate (or Reidemeister equivalent) if

$$\exists \lambda \in \pi \text{ s.t. } \lambda_2 = f_\pi(\lambda) \lambda_1 \lambda^{-1}$$

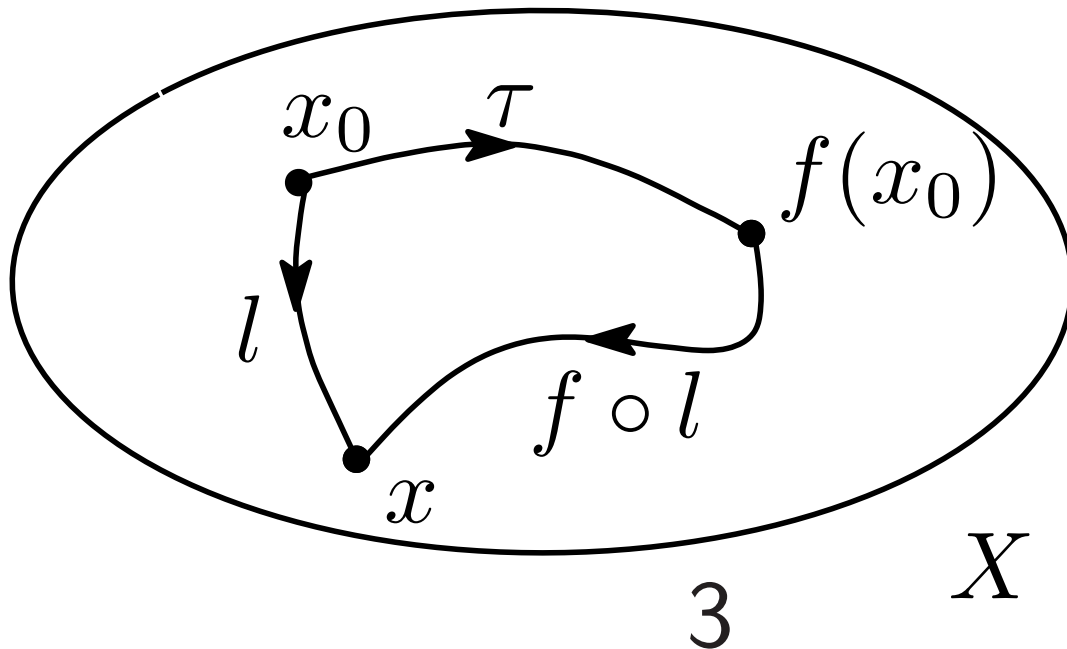
$\pi / f_\pi := \{f_\pi\text{-conjugacy classes}\}$

$\mathbb{Z}[\pi / f_\pi]$ : free abelian group generated by  $\pi / f_\pi$ .

Define  $R : \text{Fix}(f) \rightarrow \pi / f_\pi$  :

For  $x \in \text{Fix}(f)$ , choose a path  $l$  from  $x_0$  to  $x$ .

Let  $R(x)$  be the  $f_\pi$ -conjugacy class represented by  $[\tau(f \circ l)l^{-1}] \in \pi$  (**Reidemeister class** or **coordinate** of  $x$ ) ( $R(x)$  depends on  $x_0, \tau$ .)



For  $\alpha \in \pi / f_\pi$  , let

$$\text{Fix}_\alpha(f) = \{x \in \text{Fix}(f) \mid R(x) = \alpha\}$$

: **fixed point class** determined by  $\alpha$ .

$$\text{Fix}(f) = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \pi / f_\pi} \text{Fix}_\alpha(f) \text{ (disjoint union)}$$

There are only finitely many  $\alpha$  with  $\text{Fix}_\alpha(f) \neq \emptyset$ .

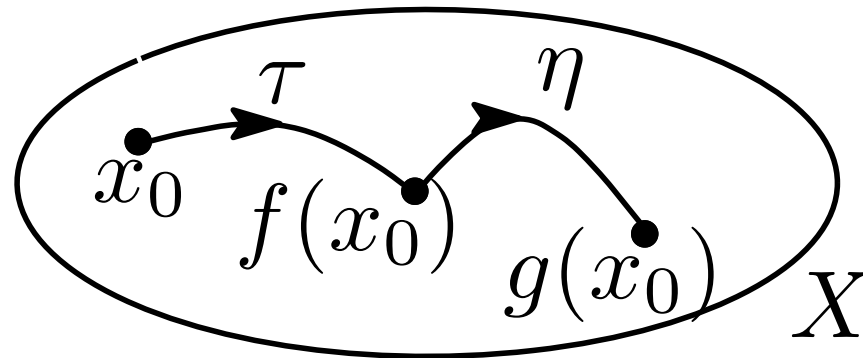
**Definition** ( the gen. Lefschetz number )

$$\mathcal{L}(f) = \sum_{\alpha \in \pi / f_\pi} \text{ind}(\text{Fix}_\alpha(f)) \cdot \alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\pi / f_\pi]$$

## Homotopy invariance

$f \sim g$ ,  $\{h_t\}$  : homotopy between  $f$  and  $g$ .

$\tau \cdot \eta$  : a base path for  $g$ , where  $\eta(t) = h_t(x_0)$ .



Then  $f_\pi = g_\pi$  and

$$\mathcal{L}(f) = \mathcal{L}(g) \in \mathbb{Z}[\pi/f_\pi] = \mathbb{Z}[\pi/g_\pi]$$

$\mathcal{L}(f)$  is a generalization (refinement) of  $L(f)$ .  
(The sum of coefficients in  $\sum_{\alpha} \text{ind}(\text{Fix}_{\alpha}(f)) \cdot \alpha$  is equal to  $L(f)$ .)

$$\begin{aligned} \because \sum_{\alpha} \text{ind}(\text{Fix}_{\alpha}(f)) &= \text{ind}\left(\bigcup_{\alpha} \text{Fix}_{\alpha}(f)\right) \\ &= \text{ind}(\text{Fix}(f)) = L(f). \end{aligned}$$

**Problem:** *Compute  $\mathcal{L}(f)$ !*

## Reidemeister trace formula

( Reidemeister 1936, Wecken 1941, Husseini 1982 )

$$L(f) = \sum_{q \geq 0} (-1)^q \operatorname{tr} [f_{\#q} : C_q(X) \rightarrow C_q(X)]$$

$\tilde{X}$ : universal covering space

$C_q(\tilde{X})$ : finitely gen. free  $\mathbb{Z}[\pi]$ -module

$$\operatorname{tr}[\tilde{f}_{\#q} : C_q(\tilde{X}) \rightarrow C_q(\tilde{X})] \in \mathbb{Z}[\pi / f_\pi]$$

is independent of the choice of a basis of  $C_q(\tilde{X})$ . (Reidemeister trace)

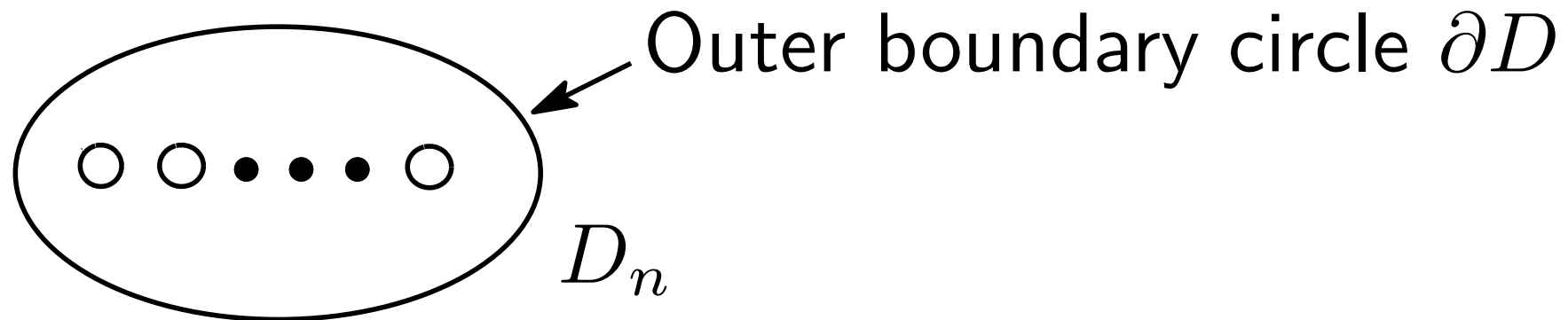
Trace formula:  $\mathcal{L}(f) = \sum_{q \geq 0} (-1)^q \operatorname{tr} \tilde{f}_{\#q}$



## 2 Homeomorphisms on a punctured disk

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Assume  $n \geq 3$ . Let  $D_n$  be a compact  $n$ -punctured disk. ( $D_n = D - \{n \text{ open disks}\}$ )



Consider a homeomorphism  $f : D_n \rightarrow D_n$  preserving orientation and  $\partial D$  setwise.

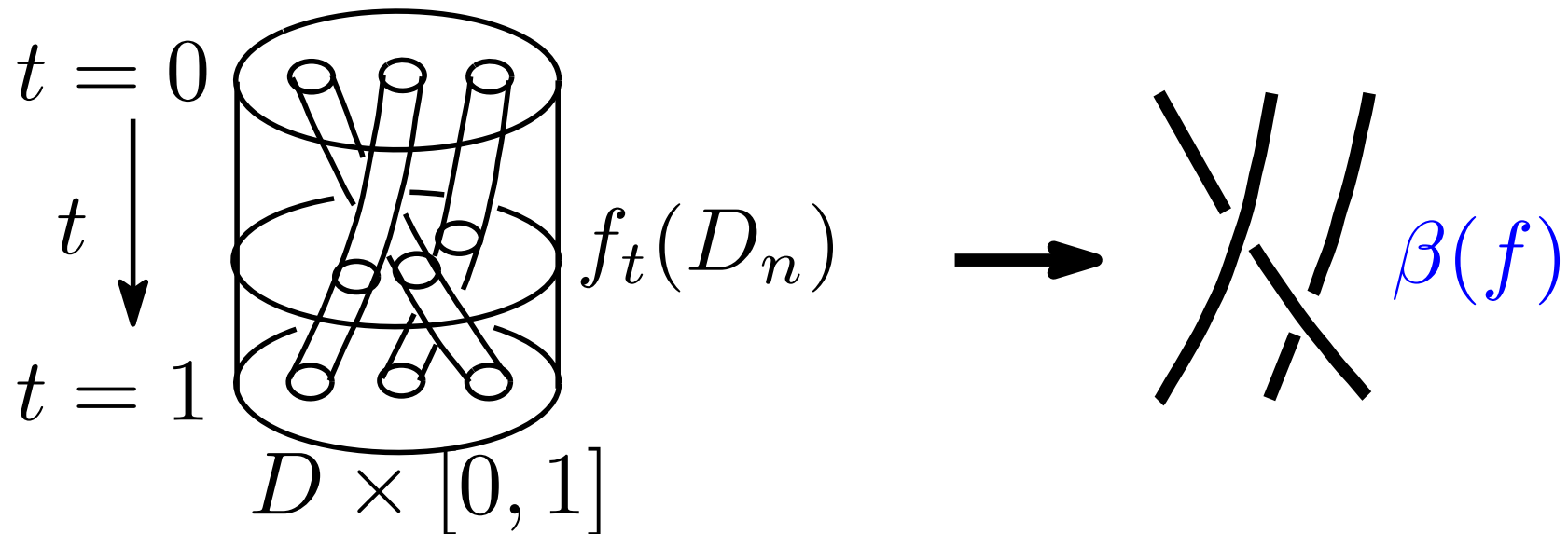
$B_n$  : braid group,  $\theta$  : full-twist braid

Center of  $B_n = \{\theta^m \mid m \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

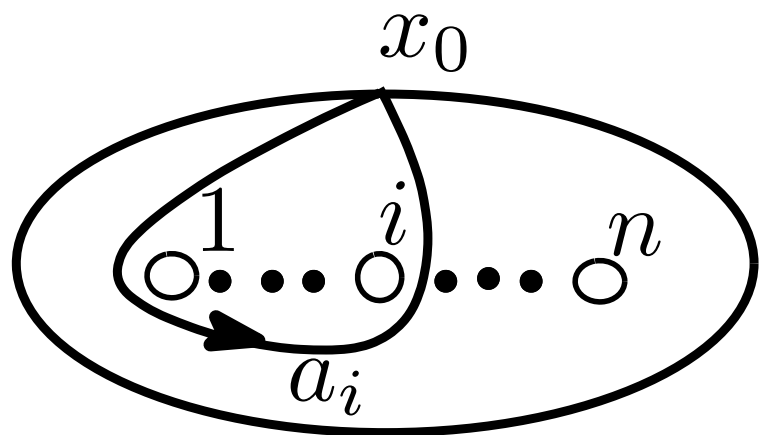
$$\text{Iso}_+(D_n, \partial D) \longleftrightarrow B_n / \text{Center}$$

( $[f]$  corresponds to a braid  $\beta(f)$  mod Center)

$\exists$  isotopy  $f_t : D \rightarrow D$  s.t.  $f_0 = \text{id}$ ,  $f_1|_{D_n} = f$



A surface with boundary is homotopy equiv. to a wedge of circles  $X$ .  $\tilde{f}_{\#1} : C_1(\tilde{X}) \rightarrow C_1(\tilde{X})$  coincides with the Jacobian matrix  $J(f_\pi)$  w.r.t. Fox differential calculus., and hence  $\mathcal{L}(f) = [1 - \text{tr}J(f_\pi)]$  (Fadell & Husseini, 1983).



$$x_0 \in \partial D$$

$\pi_1(D_n) = F_n$  : free group with generators  $a_1, \dots, a_n$

$$J(f_\pi) = (\partial f_\pi(a_i) / \partial a_j)$$

$B_n$  acts on  $F_n$  by

$$\sigma_i : a_j \longrightarrow \begin{cases} a_{i+1} a_i^{-1} a_{i-1} & j = i \\ a_j & j \neq i. \end{cases}$$

Denote the image of  $w \in F_n$  under  $\beta$  by  $w^\beta$ .  
 Since  $a_n^\beta = a_n$ , we have  $\partial a_n^\beta / \partial a_j = \delta_{n,j}$ .

Therefore,  $J(\beta)$  has the form  $\begin{pmatrix} J_r(\beta) & * \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$J_r : B_n \rightarrow GL_{n-1}(\mathbb{Z}[F_n])$  gives a twisted representation.

$$(J_r(\beta\beta') = J_r(\beta)^{\beta'} J_r(\beta'))$$

## Relationship between $J_r$ and fixed points

As a base path, choose  $\tau(t) = f_t(x_0)$ .

Then,  $f_\pi = \beta(f) : F_n \rightarrow F_n$ ,  $\pi/f_\pi = F_n/\beta(f)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(f) &= [\text{tr} \tilde{f}_{\#0} - \text{tr} \tilde{f}_{\#1}] = [1 - \text{tr} J(\beta(f))] \\ &= -[\text{tr} J_r(\beta(f))] \in \mathbb{Z}[F_n/\beta(f)]\end{aligned}$$

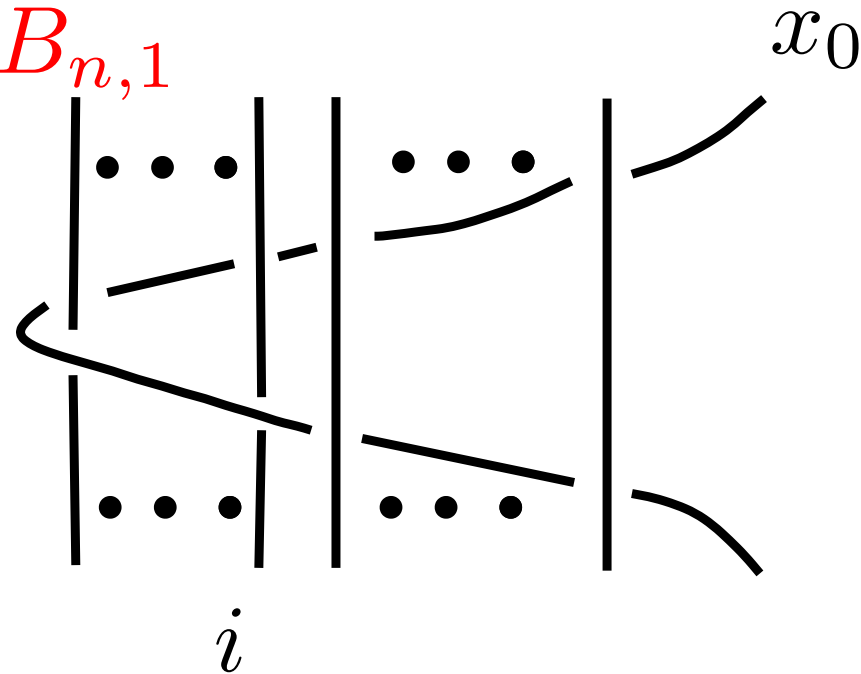
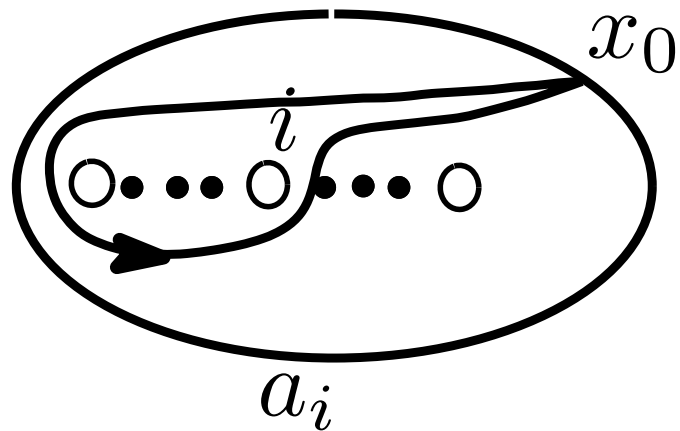
$\mathcal{L}(f)$  depends on the choice of  $\{f_t\}$ , but is uniquely determined up to multiples of  $a_n$ .

(Note that  $J_r(\theta^\mu \beta) = a_n^\mu J_r(\beta)$ ).

A genuine representation can be made from  $J_r$  (B. Jiang) .

$B_{n,1}$ : the subgroup of  $B_{n+1}$  consisting of braids with associated permutation fixing  $n + 1$ .

$$B_n \subset B_{n,1}, \quad F_n \subset B_{n,1}$$



For  $\forall w \in F_n, \forall \beta \in B_n, w\beta = \beta w^\beta \in B_{n,1}$ .  
 (i.e.,  $w^\beta = \beta^{-1}w\beta$ )

Define  $\zeta : B_n \rightarrow GL_{n-1}(\mathbb{Z}[B_{n,1}])$  by

$$\zeta(\beta) = \beta J_r(\beta).$$

$\zeta$  is a representation.

$$\begin{aligned} (\because \zeta(\beta\beta') &= \beta\beta' J_r(\beta\beta') = \beta\beta' (J_r(\beta))^{\beta'} J_r(\beta')) \\ &= \beta J_r(\beta) \beta' J_r(\beta').) \end{aligned}$$

$(B_{n,1})_c$  : the set of conjugacy classes of  $B_{n,1}$   
 $F_n/\beta \subset (B_{n,1})_c$  can be defined by

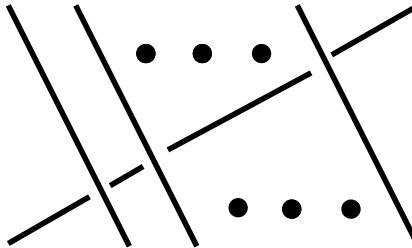
$$[w] \rightarrow [\beta w].$$

Note that  $[\text{tr} J_r(\beta)] \mapsto [\text{tr} \beta J_r(\beta)] = [\text{tr} \zeta(\beta)]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(f) &= -[\text{tr} J_r(\beta(f))] \in \mathbb{Z}[F_n/\beta(f)] \\ &= -[\text{tr} \zeta(\beta(f))] \in \mathbb{Z}[(B_{n,1})_c] \end{aligned}$$



## An expression of braids

$$\rho = \sigma_{n-1} \cdots \sigma_2 \sigma_1 =$$


For  $I = (i_1, \dots, i_d) \in \mathbb{N}^d$ , let

$$\beta(I) = \beta(i_1, \dots, i_d) = \sigma_1^{i_1} \rho \cdots \sigma_1^{i_d} \rho.$$

Then,  $\forall$  braid is conjugate to

$$\theta^\mu \beta(I) \quad (\mu \in \mathbb{Z}, I \in \mathbb{N}^d) \quad (\text{M, 1993})$$

*Example.*  $\sigma_1 \sigma_2^{-1} \sim \beta(4) \in B_3.$

*Remark.* This expression is not unique.

$$\text{(Ex. } \beta(i, \underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{n-2}, j) = \theta \beta(i + j - 1).)$$

$$I \rightarrow \beta(I) \longleftrightarrow [f] \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(f)$$

(up to Center)

**Problem:** Determine  $\mathcal{L}(f)$  directly by  $I$ .

### 3 Abelianization of $\mathcal{L}(f)$

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$\mathcal{E} : F_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  ( $\mathcal{E}(a_i) = i$ ) induces

$\mathcal{E} : \mathbb{Z}[F_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\mathbb{Z}] \cong \mathbb{Z}[q, q^{-1}]$ , and then

$\mathcal{E} : \mathbb{Z}[F_n/\beta] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[q, q^{-1}]$  for  $\forall \beta \in B_n$ .

$\mathcal{E}(J_r(\beta)) = \text{Bur}(\beta)$ : the reduced Burau matrix

Since  $\mathcal{L}(f) = -[\text{tr} J_r(\beta(f))]$ ,

we have  $\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{L}(f)) = -\text{tr Bur}(\beta(f))$ .

If  $\beta(f) = \theta^\mu \gamma^{-1} \beta(I) \gamma$ ,

$\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{L}(f)) = -q^{n\mu} \text{tr Bur}(\beta(I))$ .

$\text{tr Bur}(\beta(I))$  has been computed

(M, Contemp. Math. Vol. 152(1993)).

$$\text{Bur}(\beta(i)) =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -\sum_{\ell=2}^i (-q)^\ell & (-q)^i & \sum_{\ell=0}^{i-1} (-q)^\ell & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ -q^2 & 0 & 1 & & & \vdots \\ -q^3 & 0 & 0 & 1 & & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ -q^{n-1} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{tr Bur}(\beta(i)) = -\sum_{\ell=2}^i (-q)^\ell.$$

Next, consider  $\beta(i)^d = \beta(\underbrace{i, \dots, i}_d)$ .

For  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\mathbb{Z}_d = \mathbb{Z}/d\mathbb{Z} = \{1, \dots, d\}$ .

For  $1 \leq p, q \leq d$ , define a sequence  $[p, q]$  of consecutive elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_d$  by

$$[p, q] = \begin{cases} (p, \dots, q) & p \leq q \\ (p, \dots, d, 1, \dots, q) & p > q \end{cases}$$

: a **block** in  $\mathbb{Z}_d$

## Definition

(1) A set of blocks  $\{B_1, \dots, B_s\}$  is a **partition** of  $\mathbb{Z}_d$

$$\iff \mathbb{Z}_d = \underline{B}_1 \cup \dots \cup \underline{B}_s, \text{ (disjoint)}$$

where  $\underline{B}_r$  is the set of integers contained in  $B_r$ .

(2)  $\mathcal{P}(d) = \{\text{partitions of } \mathbb{Z}_d\}$

*Example :*

$\mathcal{P}(4)$  consists of 15 partitions:

$\{(1), (2), (3), (4)\},$

$\{(1, 2), (3), (4)\}, \{(1), (2, 3), (4)\},$

$\{(1), (2), (3, 4)\}, \{(2), (3), (4, 1)\},$

$\{(1, 2), (3, 4)\}, \{(2, 3), (4, 1)\},$

$\{(1, 2, 3), (4)\}, \{(1), (2, 3, 4)\},$

$\{(2), (3, 4, 1)\}, \{(3), (4, 1, 2)\},$

$\{(1, 2, 3, 4)\}, \{(2, 3, 4, 1)\}, \{(3, 4, 1, 2)\}, \{(4, 1, 2, 3)\}$

## Fact on linear algebra

Let  $A \in M_\nu(R)$ ,  $\nu \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $R$ : commutative ring.

Let  $\text{PM}(A; k) = 0$  for  $k > \nu$ , and for  $1 \leq k \leq \nu$

$$\text{PM}(A; k) = \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq \nu} \det A \begin{pmatrix} j_1, \dots, j_k \\ j_1, \dots, j_k \end{pmatrix}$$

: the sum of principal minors of order  $k$ .

$\text{tr} A^d$

$$= \sum_{\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{P}(d)} (-1)^{d + \#\mathcal{B}} \text{PM}(A; |B_1|) \cdots \text{PM}(A; |B_s|),$$

where  $\mathcal{B} = \{B_1, \dots, B_s\}$ .



*Example.*

$d = 2$ . Since  $\mathcal{P}(2) = \{\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2, \mathcal{B}_3\}$ , where  
 $\mathcal{B}_1 = \{(1), (2)\}$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_2 = \{(1, 2)\}$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_3 = \{(2, 1)\}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{tr} A^2 &= (-1)^4 \operatorname{PM}(A; 1)^2 + 2(-1)^3 \operatorname{PM}(A; 2) \\ &= (\operatorname{tr} A)^2 - 2 \operatorname{PM}(A; 2).\end{aligned}$$

$d = 3$

$$\operatorname{tr} A^3 = (\operatorname{tr} A)^3 - 3 \operatorname{PM}(A; 2) \operatorname{tr} A + 3 \operatorname{PM}(A; 3).$$

Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}[q, q^{-1}]$  and  $A = \text{Bur}(\beta(i))$ .

Define a polynomial  $P(i; k)$  by

$$P(i, k) = \text{PM}(\text{Bur}(\beta(i)); k) \\ = \begin{cases} - \sum_{\ell=k+1}^{i+k-1} (-q)^\ell & \text{if } k < n - 1 \\ (-q)^{i+n-1} & \text{if } k = n - 1. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{tr Bur}(\beta(i)^d) = \text{tr}(\text{Bur}(\beta(i)))^d \\ = \sum_{\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{P}(d)} (-1)^{d+\#\mathcal{B}} P(i; |B_1|) \cdots P(i; |B_s|).$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{tr Bur}(\beta(i, \dots, i)) \\ &= \sum_{\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{P}(d)} (-1)^{d + \#\mathcal{B}} P(i; |B_1|) \cdots P(i; |B_s|). \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 1.** (M,1993)

For  $\forall I = (i_1, \dots, i_d) \in \mathbb{N}^d$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{tr Bur}(\beta(I)) \\ &= (-1)^{d + \#\mathcal{B}} \sum_{\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{P}(d)} P(i_{p_1}; |B_1|) \cdots P(i_{p_s}; |B_s|), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathcal{B} = \{B_1, \dots, B_r\}$  and  $p_r$  is the initial element of  $B_r$  ( $r = 1, \dots, s$ ).

# 4 Computation of $\mathcal{L}(f)$

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For  $\beta \in B_n$ , let  $\Phi_\beta : \mathbb{Z}F_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[F_n/\beta]$  be the projection. Assume  $\beta(f) = \beta(I)$ .

Find **element**  $\in \mathbb{Z}[F_n]$

$$\left( \text{element} = \sum_{\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{P}(d)} W_I(\mathcal{B}) \right) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & & \downarrow \Phi_{\beta(f)} \\ \mathcal{L}(f) \in \mathbb{Z}[F_n/\beta(f)] & & \end{array}$$

$$\sum_{\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{P}(d)} P_I(\mathcal{B}) = -\text{trBur}(\beta(I)) \ni \mathbb{Z}[q, q^{-1}]$$

The Jacobian matrix  $J_r(\beta(I))$  can be computed by

$$a_k^{\beta(i)} = \begin{cases} (a_3 a_1^{-1})^{\frac{i-1}{2}} a_3 a_2^{-1} (a_3 a_1^{-1})^{-\frac{i-1}{2}} & (k = 1, i \text{ odd}) \\ (a_3 a_1^{-1})^{\frac{i}{2}} a_2 a_1^{-1} (a_3 a_1^{-1})^{-\frac{i}{2}} & (k = 1, i \text{ even}) \\ a_{k+1} a_1^{-1} & (2 \leq k \leq n-1) \\ a_n & (k = n) \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbb{Z}[F_n] \ni g_j = \begin{cases} -a_2^{j/2} & j \text{ even} \\ a_1 a_2^{(j-1)/2} & j \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

For  $1 \leq \ell \leq d$ , let  $\beta_\ell(I) = \beta(i_\ell, \dots, i_d) \in B_n$ .

For a block  $B = [p, q]$ , define

$\alpha(B), \omega(B) \in \mathbb{Z}[F_n]$  by

$$\alpha(B) = \beta_p(I),$$

$$\omega(B) = \begin{cases} \beta_q(I) & p \leq q \\ \beta_q(I)\beta(I)^{-1} & p > q. \end{cases}$$

For a block  $B$ , define  $W_I(B) \in \mathbb{Z}[F_n]$  by

$$W_I(B) = \begin{cases} (g_0 + \cdots + g_{i_p-2})^{\alpha(B)} a_{|B|+1}^{\omega(B)} & \text{if } |B| < n - 1 \\ g_{i_p}^{\alpha(B)} a_{n-1}^{\omega(B)} & \text{if } |B| = n - 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } |B| \geq n. \end{cases}$$

Define  $W_I : \mathcal{P}(d) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[F_n]$  by

$$W_I(\mathcal{B}) = W_I(B_1) \cdots W_I(B_s)$$

for  $\mathcal{B} = \{B_1, \dots, B_s\}$  ( $1 \leq p_1 \leq \cdots \leq p_s \leq d$ )

## Theorem 2.

$$\beta(f) = \theta^\mu \gamma^{-1} \beta(I) \gamma \quad (\mu \in \mathbb{Z}, \gamma \in B_n)$$

$$\implies \mathcal{L}(f) = -\Phi_{\beta(f)} \left( a_n^\mu \sum_{\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{P}(d)} W_I(\mathcal{B})^\gamma \right).$$

$$\in \mathbb{Z}[F_n / \beta(f)].$$



# 5 Applications

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A surface homeomorphism  $\varphi$  is a **canonical homeomorphism** if it is finite order, pseudo-Anosov, or reducible (decomposed into finite order and pseudo-Anosov components).

A canonical homeomorphism has the "simplest" dynamical complexity in its isotopy class.

Let  $\varphi : D_n \rightarrow D_n$  be a canonical homeo. preserving orientation and  $\partial D$  (setwise).

**Problem 1** : *Determine the period and rotation number of periodic points of  $\varphi$  on  $\partial D$  .*

The following lemma shows Theorem 2 can be applied to solve this problem.

**Lemma.**  $m \in \mathbb{N}, \nu \in \mathbb{Z}$  : rel. prime. Assume  $\Phi_{\beta(\varphi^m)}(a_n^\nu)$  has non-zero coefficient in  $\mathcal{L}(\varphi^m)$ . Then, the periodic points on  $\partial D$  has period  $m$  and rotation number  $\nu/m$ .

Suppose  $\beta(\varphi) = \beta(I)$ , and

$i_1, \dots, i_d \geq 2$  if  $n \geq 4$ ,  $i_1, \dots, i_d \geq 3$  if  $n = 3$ .

**Proposition 1.**  $\exists \mathcal{P}'(d) \subset \mathcal{P}(d)$ ,  $\exists W'_I(\mathcal{B}) \in \mathbb{Z}[F_n]$

s.t. (i)  $\mathcal{L}(f) = -\Phi_{\beta(I)} \left( \sum_{\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{P}'(d)} W'_I(\mathcal{B}) \right)$

(ii) If  $w \in F_n$  has non-zero coefficient in  $\sum_{\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{P}'(d)} W'_I(\mathcal{B})$ , then  $[w] \in F_n/\beta(I)$  has non-zero coefficient in  $\mathcal{L}(f)$ .

**Proposition 2 .** period =  $\text{LCM}\{d, n - 2\}/d$ ,

rotation number =  $d/(n - 2)$

**Problem 2** : *Given  $f$  , determine the finite-order and pseudo-Anosov components of the canonical homeomorphism  $\varphi$  in  $[f]$ .*

There are several algorithms (Bestvina-Handel(1995), Benardete, Gutierrez, and Nitecki(1995), Hamidi-Tehrani and Chen (1996) etc.). But, the computation is still difficult.

As an application of the computation of the Burau matrices, we have

**Theorem 3**(M, 1993). If  $n \geq 4$ ,  $i_1, \dots, i_d \geq 2$ ,  $(i_1, \dots, i_d) \neq (2, \dots, 2)$ , then  $\varphi$  has a pseudo-Anosov component.

As an application of Proposition 2 (period  $= \text{LCM}\{d, n - 2\}/d$ , rot. number  $= d/(n - 2)$  on  $\partial D$ ), we have

**Proposition 3** .  $n \geq 5$ ,  $i_1, \dots, i_d \geq 2$  all even or all odd. Then,  $\varphi$  is pseudo-Anosov with foliations having no interior singularities.

## Estimations of the Nielsen number

(Corollary of Proposition 1)

$N(f)$  : the number of non-zero terms in  $\mathcal{L}(f)$ .

(Nielsen number)

In the case of  $n = 3$ ,  $i_1, \dots, i_d \geq 3$ , we have

$$\#S(I) - 4 \leq N(f) \leq \#S(I),$$

where  $S(I)$  is the set of  $(j_1, \dots, j_d) \in \mathbb{N}^d$  with  $2 \leq j_\ell \leq i_\ell$ ,  $(j_\ell, j_{\ell+1}) \neq (i_\ell, 2)$  for  $1 \leq \forall \ell \leq d$ .

Also, a similar estimation is obtained if

$$n \geq 4, i_1, \dots, i_d \geq 2.$$

## 6 Braid representations for periodic orbits

H. Zheng (J. Knot Th. Ramif. (2005)) generalized  $\zeta : B_n \rightarrow GL_{n-1}(\mathbb{Z}[B_{n,1}])$  to representations  $\zeta_{n,m} : B_n \rightarrow GL_N(\mathbb{Z}[B_{n,m}])$  for any  $m \geq 2$ ,

where  $N = \binom{n+m-2}{n-2}$  and

$B_{n,m}$  is the subgroup of  $B_{n+m}$  consisting of braids with associated permutation fixing the subset  $\{n+1, \dots, n+m\}$ .

$f : D_n \rightarrow D_n$  induces a homeomorphism  
 $f_m : C_m(D_n) \rightarrow C_m(D_n)$ , where  $C_m(D_n)$  is  
the  $m$ -th configuration space of  $D_n$ .

$$\{m\text{-periodic orbits}\} \subset \text{Fix}(f_m).$$

$$B_m(D_n) \subset B_{n,m}. \quad \Gamma_{\beta,m} = \langle \beta, B_m(D_n) \rangle \subset B_{n,m}.$$

$$\pi_1(C_m(D_n))/\beta = B_m(D_n)/\beta \subset (\Gamma_{\beta,m})_c$$

$$([w] \mapsto [\beta w])$$

$$\mathcal{L}(f_m) \in \mathbb{Z}[\pi_1(C_m(D_n))/\beta] \subset \mathbb{Z}[(\Gamma_{\beta(f),m})_c]$$



$\zeta_{n,m} : B_n \rightarrow GL_N(\mathbb{Z}[B_{n,m}])$  satisfies

$$\zeta_{n,m}(\beta) \in \mathbb{Z}[\Gamma_{\beta,m}] \text{ for any } \beta.$$

**Theorem 4.**(Jiang and Zheng, Topology(2007))

$$\mathcal{L}(f_m) = (-1)^m \text{tr} \zeta_{n,m}(\beta(f)) \in \mathbb{Z}[(\Gamma_{\beta(f),m})_c]$$

up to collapsible terms.

Case of  $m = 2$ .

$$B_{n,2} = \langle \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{n-1}, \sigma_n^2, \sigma_{n+1} \rangle.$$

Consider  $\rho : \mathbb{Z}[B_{n,2}] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[q^{\pm 1}, t^{\pm 1}]$  defined by

$$\rho(\sigma_i) = 1 (i < n), \quad \rho(\sigma_n^2) = q, \quad \rho(\sigma_{n+1}) = t.$$

Then,

$$\rho \circ \zeta_{n,2} = \mathbf{LK} : B_n \rightarrow GL_{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}}(\mathbb{Z}[q^{\pm 1}, t^{\pm 1}]).$$

(the Lawrence-Krammer representation)

As a corollary of Jiang-Huang(2007) and Zheng(2005), we have

**Corollary.** For any integers  $i, j$  with  $i$  odd, the coefficient of  $q^i t^j$  in  $\rho(\mathcal{L}(f_2))$  coincides with that of  $\text{tr LK}(\beta(f)^{-1})^*$ . where  $q^* = q^{-1}, t^* = t^{-1}$ .

**Problem.** Compute  $\text{tr LK}(\beta)$ .

Clearly,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{tr LK}(\beta(i, \dots, i)) \\ &= \sum_{\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{P}(d)} (-1)^{d + \#\mathcal{B}} Q(i; |B_1|) \cdots Q(i; |B_s|), \end{aligned}$$

where  $Q(i; k) = \text{PM}(\text{LK}(\beta(i)); k)$ .

*How to generalize this to any  $I \in \mathbb{N}^d$ ?*

Let

$$\begin{aligned}
Q_{i,j} &= (-1)^{j+1} t(1-t) \sum_{k=j+6}^{i+j+4} (-q)^k \sum_{l=0}^{j-2} (tq)^l \\
&\quad + (-1)^{j+1} tq^{j+2} Q(i; 1) \\
&\quad + (-1)^{i+j+1} t^2 q^{i+j+4} + (-1)^j t^{j+1} q^{2j+4}
\end{aligned}$$

Note that  $Q_{i,i} = Q(i; 2) = \text{PM}(\text{LK}(\beta(i); 2))$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Then, } \text{tr LK}(\beta(i, j)) \\
&= Q(i; 1)Q(j; 1) - Q_{i,j} - Q_{j,i}.
\end{aligned}$$