Tangle sums and factorization of A-polynomials

Masaharu ISHIKAWA

Tohoku University

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PLAN OF THIS TALK

- $\S1$. Factorization of *A*-polynomials
- §2. Alexander polynomials and epimorphisms
- §3. Cyclic surgeries

$\S1$. Factorization of *A*-polynomials

K : a knot in S^3

 M_K : the complement of K

 $i^*: X(M_K) \to X(\partial M_K)$: induced by the $i_{\#}: \pi_1(\partial M_K) \to \pi_1(M_K)$ $\Lambda \subset R(\partial M_K)$: the set of diagonal representations of $\pi_1(\partial M_K)$ $t|_{\Lambda}: \Lambda \to X(\partial M_K)$

 $p:\Lambda\to \mathbb{C}^*\times \mathbb{C}^*$: taking the left-top entries of $\rho(\mu)$ and $\rho(\lambda)$

 X_1, \cdots, X_k : irreducible components of $X(M_K)$

$$X_i \stackrel{\imath^*}{\longrightarrow} \imath^*(X_i) \stackrel{\operatorname{alg. closure in } X(\partial M_K)}{\longrightarrow} Y_i \stackrel{p \cdot t|_{\Lambda}^{-1}}{\longrightarrow} D_i$$

 $A_i(L,M)$: the defining equation of D_i

Definition

The A-polynomial of a knot K is defined as

$$A_K(L,M) = \prod_{i=1}^k A_i(L,M).$$

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The A-Polynomial

For more information about the A-poynomial we have posted a pdf version of a <u>seminar presentation</u> given by <u>Marc Culler</u>. The original source for the A-polynomial is the paper by Cooper, Culler, Gillet, Long, and P. Shalen, referenced below. We thank Abhijit Champanerkar for helping with the exposition on this page.

There is a map of the $SL_2(\mathbf{C})$ representation space of a knot complement to $\mathbf{C}^* \mathbf{x} \mathbf{C}^*$, given by evaluating the trace of the representation on the meridian and longitude. The closure of the image is a variety defined by a single polynomial, called the A-Polynomial. <u>Jim Hosse</u> gave us information on 2-bridge knots and Marc Culler provided us with further tables, based on glueing equations. These have not been proved to equal the A-polynomial; the issue is described next.

The set of isometry classes of ideal hyperbolic tetrahedra is paramaterized by the upper half complex plane. Thus, if the complement of a knot is decomposed into tetrahedra, the set of glueing guations defines an algebraic variety that maps to the PSL₂(C) character variety of the knot. To the image variety there is associated an "A-polynomial", which is the PSL₂(C) version of the classical A-polynomial. In many cases the PSL₂(C) A-polynomial can be computed directly from the glueing quations defines an algebraic variety that maps to the PSL₂(C) version of the classical A-polynomial. In many cases the PSL₂(C) A-polynomial are a computed directly from the glueing and completeness equations by eliminating the tetrahedral parameters to get a 2-variable polynomial. However, the resulting polynomial depends on the choice of the triangulation and in general only divides the PSL₂(C) A-polynomial. For an exposition of this alternative viewpoint of A-polynomials, see the appendix by N. Dunfield to Mahler's Measure and the Dilogarithm by Boyd, Rodrigues-Villegas, and Dunfield or "A-polynomial and Bloch invariants of hyperbolic 3-manifolds" by A. Champanerkar.

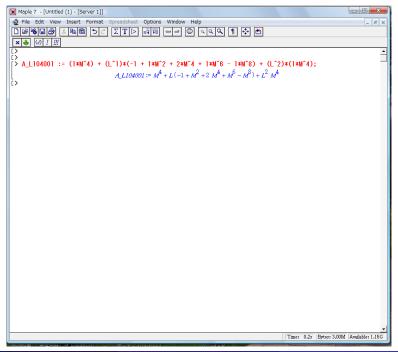
We have provided three tables of A-polynomials, all linked in <u>Table of A-Polynomials</u>: two-bridge knots. Jim Hoste has provided us with this table of values for 2-bridge knots of 9 crossings or less.

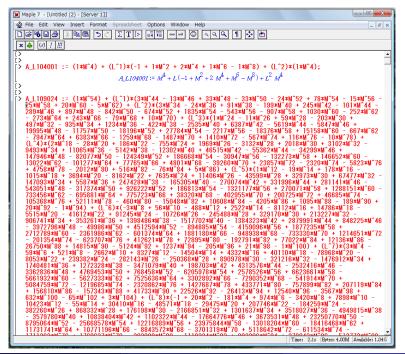
Table of A-Polynomials (Glueing equations approach). This data, based on glueing equaitons, was provided by Marc Culler.

<u>Table of A-Polynomial: tetrahedral census (Glueing equations approach)</u>. This table, also provided by Marc Culler, lists the A-polynomials of knots in the <u>tetrahedral enumeration</u>. There is an overlap in the two tables. Warning: in the overlap, orientations changed for some knots, so one polynomial is related to the other by a change of variable (something like $L \rightarrow L^{-1}$).

Warning: a change of orientation, from a knot to its mirror image, changes the A-polynomial. The data in our tables has not be checked for its match to the choice of orientation in our diagrams. Also, the A-polynomial can be defined so that repeated factors are significant. In our table repeated factors have been removed.

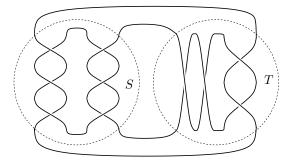
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A_L103001 :=	:(1*M^6)+(L^1)*	[*] (1);						
A_L104001 :=	(1*M^4) + (L^1)*	*(-1 + 1*N	4^2 + 2*M^4 + 1	l*M^6 - 1*M	[^8) + (L^2)*(1*M^4);			- 1
A_L105001 :=	(1*M^10) + (L^1)*(1);						- 1
A_L105002 :=	(1) + (L^1)*(-1 +	2*M^2+	2*M^4 - 1*M^8	+ 1*M^10) +	+ (L^2)*(1*M^4 - 1*M^6 + 2*	M^10 + 2*M^12 -	1*M^14)+(L^3)*(1*M^14);	- 1
	: (1*M^8) + (L^1)* L^3)*(-1 + 1*M^2					^2 - 1*M^4 + 3*M	^6 + 6*M^8 + 3*M^10 - 1*M^12 - 3*M^	14
+13*M^14-3	*M^16 - 8*M^18	+ 3*M^2	0) + (L^3)*(3*M	[^10 - 8*M^1		M^18 - 3*M^20 -	(^4 - 1*M^6 - 5*M^8 - 3*M^10 + 12*M^ 5*M^22 - 1*M^24 + 3*M^26 - 1*M^28)	
6*M^10 + 2*M 8*M^12 + 34*	M^12 + 17*M^14 M^14 + 8*M^16 M^14 + 2*M^16	+ 2*M^16 - 21*M^1	5 - 6*M^18 + 2*1 8 - 2*M^20 + 9*	M^20 + 4*M M^22 + 3*M	^22 - 4*M^24 + 1*M^26) + (L 1^24 - 5*M^26 + 1*M^28) + (I	^3)*(1 - 5*M^2 + 1 L^4)*(1*M^2 - 4*M	*M^2 - 4*M^4 + 4*M^6 + 2*M^8 - 3*M^4 + 9*M^6 - 2*M^8 - 21*M^10 + M*4 + 4*M^6 + 2*M^8 - 6*M^10 + I^12 + 10*M^14 + 1*M^16 - 5*M^18 +	
A_L107001 :=	(1*M^14) + (L^1)*(1);						
2*M^18-4*M		(L^3)*(1					[^8 - 4*M^10 + 6*M^14 + 5*M^16 + 18) + (L^4)*(-2 + 4*M^2 + 3*M^4 -	
							*M^24 - 3*M^26 + 3*M^28 + 2*M^30 + 2*M^22 + 6*M^24 + 24*M^26 + 6*M^2	





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$-45 M^{30} + 125 M^{32} - 104 M^{34} - 235 M^{36} + 683 M^{38} - 491 M^{40} - 649 M^{42} + 1321 M^{44} - 159 M^{46} - 787 M^{48} + 523 M^{50}$
$-148 M^{52} - 57 M^{54} + 198 M^{56} - 181 M^{58} + 86 M^{60} - 24 M^{62} + 3 M^{64})$
$+ L^{13} \left(-4 M^{36} + 15 M^{38} - 15 M^{40} - 28 M^{42} + 73 M^{44} - 10 M^{46} - 41 M^{48} + 33 M^{50} - 14 M^{52} + 3 M^{54}\right) + L^{14} M^{44}$
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$+ M^{8} L^{3} + 2 M^{6} L + 2 M^{10} L + 6 M^{12} L + 2 M^{12} L^{2} + 6 L^{2} M^{6} - 2 M^{2} L - 7 M^{8} L - 2 L^{2} M^{4} + L + M^{10} - 7 L^{2} M^{10}) (31 L^{2} M^{34} - 2 M^{2} L + 2 M^{10} L $
$+34 L^{2} M^{18} + 12 L M^{28} + 1091 L^{3} M^{22} + 4 L^{5} M^{8} - 30 M^{18} L - 26 L^{2} M^{8} - 89 L^{4} M^{4} + 105 L^{3} M^{4} - 254 M^{16} L^{2} - 2 M^{14} L$
$+85 L^2 M^{14} - 15 L M^{30} + 829 L^2 M^{20} + 41 L M^{20} + 363 L^2 M^{32} - 1196 L^4 M^{16} - 69 L M^{24} + 841 L^4 M^{12} + 164 M^8 L^3$
$-37 L^{6} M^{44} - 26 L^{6} M^{48} + 42 L^{6} M^{46} + 1604 L^{3} M^{16} + 12 M^{16} L - 113 L^{2} M^{36} - 45 L^{5} M^{10} - 442 M^{14} L^{3} - 980 M^{12} L^{3}$
$+35 \ M^{26} \ L+45 \ L^2 \ M^{38} - 376 \ L^3 \ M^{18} - 37 \ M^{12} \ L^2 + 1085 \ L^2 \ M^{26} - 96 \ L^2 \ M^{28} + 4 \ L \ M^{32} - 742 \ L^2 \ M^{22} - 687 \ L^2 \ M^{24}$
$+449 L^{4} M^{14} + 625 M^{10} L^{3} + 242 L^{4} M^{6} - 277 L^{3} M^{6} + 8 L^{2} M^{6} + 15 L^{4} M^{2} - 17 L^{3} M^{2} + 8 L^{6} M^{50} - L^{6} M^{52} - 6 L^{2} M^{40}$
$-186 M^{3} L^{4} - 1208 L^{3} M^{20} - 588 L^{2} M^{30} - L^{2} M^{4} - M^{24} + L^{3} + 190 L^{3} M^{44} - 45 L^{3} M^{46} + 4 L^{3} M^{48} - 1236 L^{3} M^{34}$
$-751 L^{3} M^{36} + 1073 L^{3} M^{38} - 140 L^{3} M^{40} - 308 L^{3} M^{42} + 583 L^{3} M^{24} - 1091 L^{3} M^{26} - 1005 L^{3} M^{28} + 947 L^{3} M^{30}$
$+1433 L^{3} M^{32} - L^{4} + 15 L^{4} M^{54} + 841 L^{4} M^{44} - 471 L^{4} M^{46} - 186 L^{4} M^{48} + 242 L^{4} M^{50} - 89 L^{4} M^{52} - L^{4} M^{56}$
$+ 1728 L^4 M^{34} + 1290 L^4 M^{36} - 919 L^4 M^{38} - 1196 L^4 M^{40} + 449 L^4 M^{42} - 1614 L^4 M^{24} - 1044 L^4 M^{26} + 1840 L^4 M^{28}$
$-1044 L^4 M^{30} - 1614 L^4 M^{32} - 919 L^4 M^{18} + 1290 L^4 M^{20} + 1728 L^4 M^{22} - 17 L^5 M^{54} - 980 L^5 M^{44} + 625 L^5 M^{46}$
$+164 L^{5} M^{43} - 277 L^{5} M^{50} + 105 L^{5} M^{52} + L^{5} M^{56} + 1091 L^{5} M^{34} - 1208 L^{5} M^{36} - 376 L^{5} M^{38} + 1604 L^{5} M^{40} - 442 L^{5} M^{42} - 1208 L^{5} M^{50} + 1001 L^{5} M^$
$+ 1433 L^5 M^{24} + 947 L^5 M^{26} - 1005 L^5 M^{28} - 1091 L^5 M^{30} + 583 L^5 M^{32} + 1073 L^5 M^{18} - 751 L^5 M^{20} - 1236 L^5 M^{22}$
$+190 L^{5} M^{12} - 308 L^{5} M^{14} - 140 L^{5} M^{16} - 742 L^{6} M^{34} + 829 L^{6} M^{36} + 34 L^{6} M^{38} - 254 L^{6} M^{40} + 85 L^{6} M^{42} + 363 L^{6} M^{24}$
$-588 L^{6} M^{26} - 96 L^{6} M^{28} + 1085 L^{6} M^{30} - 687 L^{6} M^{32} + 45 L^{6} M^{18} - 113 L^{6} M^{20} + 31 L^{6} M^{22} - 6 L^{6} M^{16} + 4 L^{7} M^{34}$
$+41 L^{7} M^{36} - 30 L^{7} M^{38} + 12 L^{7} M^{40} - 2 L^{7} M^{42} + 4 L^{7} M^{24} - 15 L^{7} M^{26} + 12 L^{7} M^{28} + 35 L^{7} M^{30} - 69 L^{7} M^{32} - L^{8} M^{32}$
$+4 L M^{22} - 471 M^{10} L^4 + 42 L^2 M^{10}$
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• 9_{24} is given by the sum of tangles 1/3 + (-1/3) and 5/2.



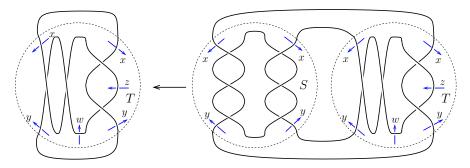
• 9_{37} is given by the sum of tangles 1/3 + (-1/3) and 5/3.

Theorem (Mattman-Shimokawa-I., 2011)

Suppose that N(T) and N(S+T) are knots and N(S) is a split link in S^3 . Then

$A^\circ_{N(T)}(L,M) \mid A_{N(S+T)}(L,M)$

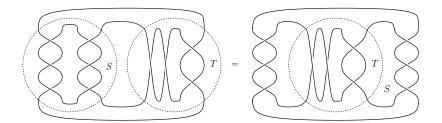
Here $A_K^{\circ}(L, M)$ is the product of factors of $A_K(L, M)$ containing the variable L.



§2. 4	Alexander	polynomials	and	epimorphisms
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	RТЯ	A_K fac.	type	Alex. poly.	epi.
810	1/3, 3/2, -1/3	$\mathbf{3_1}$	Α	$(3_1)^3$	$\rightarrow 3_1$
811	$\left[2,-2,3,2,-2 ight]$	3_1	В	$(3_1)(6_1)$	No
924	1/3, 5/2, -1/3	4_1	Α	$(3_1)^2(4_1)$	$\rightarrow 3_1$
9 ₃₇	1/3, 5/3, -1/3	4_1	В	$(4_1)(6_1)$	$\rightarrow 4_1$
1021	$\left[2,-2,5,2,-2 ight]$	5_1	В	$(5_1)(6_1)$	No
10_{40}	$\left[2,2,3,-2,-2 ight]$	3_1	В	$(3_1)(8_8)$	$ ightarrow 3_1$
				(continue.

(continued)



	RТЯ	A_K fac.	type	Alex. poly.	epi.
10_{59}	2/5, 3/2, -2/5	3_1	Α	$(3_1)(4_1)^2$	$\rightarrow 4_1$
1062	1/3, 5/4, -1/3	$\mathbf{5_1}$	Α	$(3_1)^2(5_1)$	$ ightarrow 3_1$
10_{65}	1/3, 7/4, -1/3	$\mathbf{5_2}$	Α	$(3_1)^2(5_2)$	$ ightarrow 3_1$
1067	1/3, 7/5, -1/3	$\mathbf{5_2}$	В	$(5_2)(6_1)$	No
1074	1/3, 7/3, -1/3	$\mathbf{5_2}$	В	$(5_2)(6_1)$	$ ightarrow 5_2$
1077	1/3, 7/2, -1/3	$\mathbf{5_2}$	Α	$(3_1)^2(5_2)$	$ ightarrow 3_1$
1098	$1/3, \ T_0, \ -1/3$	$3_1 \# 3_1$	В	$(3_1)^2(6_1)$	$ ightarrow 3_1$
1099	$1/3,\ T_1,\ -1/3$	$3_1 \# 3_1^{mir}$	Α	$(3_1)^4$	$ ightarrow 3_1$
10143	1/3, 3/4, -1/3	3_1	Α	$(3_1)^3$	$ ightarrow 3_1$
10147	1/3, 3/5, -1/3	3_1	В	$(3_1)(6_1)$	No

Table: Factorizations of RT9 knots (2nd page)

Lemma.

Let $K = N(R + T + \Re)$ be an RT \Re knot with R = R(p/q) and q > 0. Then

- (i) q > 1.
- (ii) If K is of type A then $\Delta_K(t) = \Delta_{N(T)}(t)\Delta_{D(R)}(t)^2$.
- (iii) If K is of type B then $\Delta_K(t) = \Delta_{N(T)}(t) \Delta_{N(\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{R}(1/1)+\mathrm{Fl})}(t).$
- (iv) The knot determinant of K is divisible by q^2 .

Proposition

Let K be a prime knot of 10 or fewer crossings. Suppose that K is not 8_{18} , 9_{40} , 10_{82} , 10_{87} , or 10_{103} . Then K is RT9 with N(T) a non-trivial knot of 10 or fewer crossings if and only if it is in the above table.

Definition

An epimorphism $\phi : \pi_1(M_{K_1}) \to \pi_1(M_{K_2})$ is said to be preserving peripheral structures if $\phi(\pi_1(\partial M_{K_1})) \subset \pi_1(\partial M_{K_2})$.

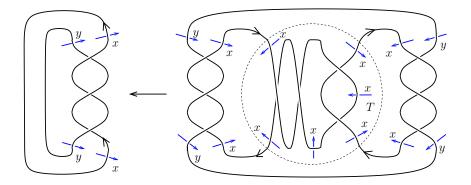
Theorem (Hoste-Shanahan, 2010)

Suppose that there exists an epimorphism $\phi : \pi_1(M_{K_1}) \to \pi_1(M_{K_2})$ preserving peripheral structures. Then

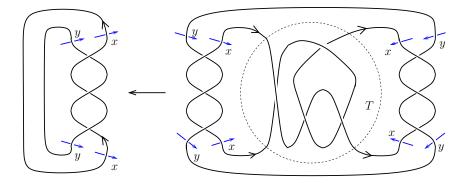
•
$$\phi(\mu_1)=\mu_2$$
 and $\phi(\lambda_1)=\lambda_2^d$ for some $d\in\mathbb{Z}.$

•
$$A_{K_2}(L,M) \mid (L^d-1)A_{K_1}(L^d,M).$$

	RТЯ	A_K fac.	type	Alex. poly.	epi.
9_{24}	1/3, 5/2, -1/3	4_1	Α	$(3_1)^2(4_1)$	$ ightarrow 3_1$



	RТЯ	A_K fac.	type	Alex. poly.	epi.
811	$\left[2,-2,3,2,-2 ight]$	3_1	В	$(3_1)(6_1)$	No
9 ₃₇	1/3, 5/3, -1/3	4_1	В	$(4_1)(6_1)$	$\rightarrow 4_1$



			type	Alex. poly.	epi.
9 ₃₇	1/3, 5/3, -1/3	4_1	В	$(4_1)(6_1)$	$\rightarrow 4_1$

Fact (Kitano-Suzuki, 2008)

There exists an epimorphism $\phi:\pi_1(M_{9_{37}}) o \pi_1(M_{4_1})$ such that

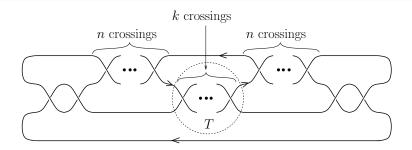
$\pi_1(M_{9_{37}})$	$81\bar{8}\bar{2}, 72\bar{8}\bar{3}, 94\bar{9}\bar{3}, 34\bar{3}\bar{5}, 15\bar{1}\bar{5}, 56\bar{5}\bar{7}, 27\bar{2}\bar{8}, 49\bar{4}\bar{8}$
(μ_1,λ_1)	$(1,ar{8}ar{7}9ar{3}1ar{5}ar{2}461)$
(μ_2,λ_2)	$(2,ar{1}2ar{3}4)$
ϕ	$1\mapsto 2, 2\mapsto 3, 3\mapsto 14ar{1}, 4\mapsto 3, 5\mapsto 1$,
	$6\mapsto ar{1}41, 7\mapsto 4, 8\mapsto 1, 9\mapsto 4$
$\phi(\lambda)$	$\bar{4}3\bar{2}1 = -\lambda$

By Hoste-Shanahan, $A_{4_1}(L,M) \mid A_{9_{37}}(L,M)$.

 $K_{2,k}$: (2,k)-torus knot.

Corollary (Mattman-Shimokawa-I., 2011)

Let K be the 2-bridge knot described below, where k > 2 is odd and n > 1. Then $\pi_1(M_K)$ admits no epimorphism onto $\pi_1(M_{K_{2,k}})$ preserving peripheral structure, although $A_{K_{2,k}}(L,M) \mid A_K(L,M)$.



- First assertion follows from González-Acuña Ramírez.
- Second assertion is a corollary of our factorization.

- §3. Cyclic surgeries
- $$\begin{split} M &: \text{ a compact, connected, irreducible and }\partial\text{-irreducible 3-manifold} \\ & \text{whose boundary }\partial M \text{ is a torus.} \\ R(M) &= \text{Hom}(\pi_1(M), SL(2, \mathbb{C})) \\ X(M) &: \text{ the character variety of } M \\ & \bullet R(M) \ni \rho \mapsto \chi_\rho \in X(M) : \text{ the character of } \rho \\ \gamma \in \pi_1(M) \end{split}$$
 - $I_\gamma:X(M)
 ightarrow \mathbb{C}$: the regular function defined by

$$I_{\gamma}(\chi_{
ho}) = \chi_{
ho}(\gamma)$$

• $f_{\gamma}: X(M) \to \mathbb{C}$: defined by $f_{\gamma} = I_{\gamma}^2 - 4.$

Definition

A 1-dimensional algebraic subset X_1 of X(M) is called a norm curve if f_{α} is not constant for any $\alpha \in H_1(\partial M, \mathbb{Z}) \setminus \{0\}$.

- X_1 : a norm curve
- $ilde{X}_1$: the smooth model of the projective completion of X_1
- $\alpha \in \pi_1(\partial M)$
- $\|lpha\|_{X_1}$: the degree of f_lpha on $ilde{X}_1$

Lemma

 $\|\cdot\|_{X_1}$ is a norm.

$$X_1^{(i)}$$
 : irreducible component of X_1
 $d_1^{(i)}$: the degree of the map $\imath^*|_{X_1^{(i)}}: X_1^{(i)} o X(\partial M)$

Definition

The A-polynomial of X_1 with multiplicity is defined as

$$A_1^{\mathrm{d}}(L,M) = \prod_{i=1}^k A_1^{(i)}(L,M)^{d_1^{(i)}}.$$

Theorem (Boyer-Zhang, 2001)

 $\|\cdot\|_{X_1} = \|\cdot\|_{A_1^{\mathrm{d}}}.$

Example:

$$A_{4_1}(L,M) = M^4 + L(-1 + M^2 + 2M^4 + M^6 - M^8) + L^2 M^4$$

The next results follow immediately from CGLS.

Theorem

Suppose that N(S+T) is a knot, N(T) is a hyperbolic knot and N(S) is a split link in S^3 . Let X_0 be the irreducible component of $X(M_{N(T)})$ containing the character of a discrete faithful representation of $\pi_1(M_{N(T)})$. If α is not a strict boundary class of N(T) associated with an ideal point of X_0 and satisfies $\|\alpha\|_{X_0} > \|\mu\|_{X_0}$ then $\pi_1(M_{N(S+T)}(\alpha))$ is not cyclic as well as $\pi_1(M_{N(T)}(\alpha))$ is not.

Corollary

Suppose further that N(S+T) is a small knot. If every $\alpha \in H_1(\partial M_{N(T)}; \mathbb{Z}) \setminus \{0\}$ except strict boundary classes of N(T)satisfies $\|\alpha\|_{X_0} > \|\mu\|_{X_0}$ then N(S+T) has no non-trivial cyclic slope.

Definition

A 1-dimensional algebraic subset Y of X(M) is called an *r*-curve if $\|\cdot\|_Y$ is non-zero, not a norm curve and $\|\alpha\|_Y = 0$ only when $\alpha = r$.

Proposition (CCGLS, 1994)

The A-polynomial of the $(p,q)\mbox{-torus}$ knot has the factor $1+LM^{pq}$ or $L+M^{pq}.$

Hence the (p,q)-torus knot has the *r*-curve with slope r = pq.

K: a knot in S^3 M_K : the complement of K.

Proposition

Suppose that X(M) contains an algebraic curve X_1 consisting of two r-curves, with different slopes, containing the characters of irreducible representations. If α is not the slopes of these curves and satisfies $\|\alpha\|_{X_1} > \|\mu\|_{X_1}$ then $\pi_1(M(\alpha))$ is not cyclic.

- Y consists of reducible representations
 - $\Rightarrow A_Y(L,M) = L 1$ (mentioned in CCGLS).
- If K is small and $\|\alpha\|_{X_1} > \|\mu\|_{X_1}$ for any $\alpha \neq \mu$ then K has no non-trivial cyclic slope.

<u>The list of *r*-curves</u> (The torus knots are removed from the list)

$$\begin{array}{ll} 8_{11}:L+M^6 & 10_{139}:1-LM^{20} \\ 8_{21}:L+M^2 & 10_{140}:1-L \\ 9_{23}:L+M^{18} & 10_{141}:(L-M^4)(1+LM^2) \\ 9_{37}:L-M^4 & 10_{142}:1-LM^{12} \\ 9_{38}:(1-M)^2(1+M)^2 & 10_{143}:L-M^8 \\ 9_{41}:1+LM^2 & 10_{144}:L-M^{12} \\ 9_{46}:1+LM^2 & 10_{152}:(L+M^{11})(L-M^{11}) \\ 9_{48}:L-M^4 & 10_{155}:L+M^2 \\ 10_{61}:1-LM^{12} \end{array}$$

Remark. Among the RT \Re knots with torus knot factor, 8_{10} , 8_{11} , 10_{21} , 10_{143} and 10_{147} are calculated by Culler, though we could not find the *r*-curves in his calculation except 8_{11} .

Theorem (Boyer-Zhang, 1998)

Suppose that an *r*-curve in $X^{PSL}(M)$ contains the character of an irreducible representation and that *r* is not a boundary slope of an essential surface in *M*. If $\pi_1(M(\alpha))$ is cyclic then $\Delta(r, \alpha) \leq 1$.

Here $\Delta(p_1/q_1, p_2/q_2) = |p_1q_2 - p_2q_1|$.

Corollary $(SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ -version of Boyer-Zhang, 1998)

Let K be a knot in S^3 . Suppose that the meridian is not a boundary slope of an essential surface (for instance when K is small). If $X(M_K)$ has an r-curve then $r \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Proof. Let Y be an r-curve in $X(M_K)$. If Y consists of the characters of reducible representations, then $r = 0 \in \mathbb{Z}$. Suppose that Y contains the character of an irreducible representation. There exists an r-curve in $X^{PSL}(M_K)$ with the same r. Since 1/0 is not a boundary slope, $r \neq \infty$. Since $M(1/0) = S^3$, $\alpha = 1/0$ is a cyclic slope. Hence $\Delta(p/q, 1/0) \leq 1$ only when q = 1.

The following result also follows from Boyer-Zhang.

Corollary

Let K be a small knot in S^3 . Suppose that $X(M_K)$ has an r_1 -curve and r_2 -curve with $r_i \neq 0$ for i = 1, 2 and $|r_1 - r_2| > 2$. Then K has no cyclic slope.

Example. $10_{141} = N(1/4 + 2/3 + (-1/3))$ is small and have two r-curves $(L - M^4)(1 + LM^2)$, whose slopes are -4 and 2. Hence 10_{141} has no cyclic slope.

Refereces

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Thank you for your attention!