

# Braid monodromy and conjugate curves

Enrique Artal (Universidad de Zaragoza)

Oberwolfach, September 2002

*Fundamental Group in Geometry*

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Joint work [[ACC02](#), [ACC02a](#)] with:

Jorge Carmona (Universidad Complutense)

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## 1. Startup problem

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- ▷  $\Sigma^{\text{irr}}$ : irreducible curves

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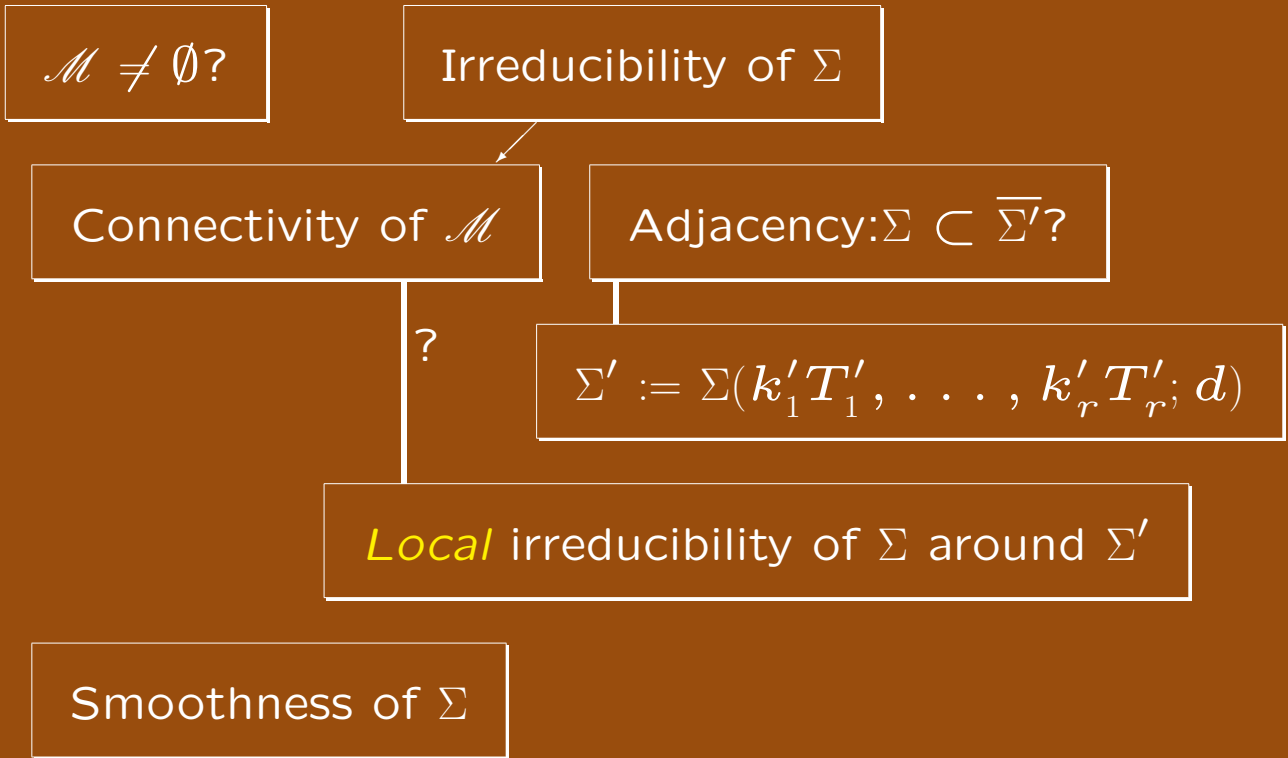
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*Local* irreducibility of  $\Sigma$  around  $\Sigma'$

Smoothness of  $\Sigma$



$\tilde{\Sigma} \subset \Sigma$  connected component  $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2 \in \tilde{\Sigma} \Rightarrow \exists$  *oriented* isotopy  $h_t$  such that  $h_0 = 1_{\mathbb{P}^2}$ ,  $h_1(\mathcal{C}_1) = \mathcal{C}_2$ .

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If there exists an *oriented* isotopy (homeomorphism)

$$\Phi : \mathbb{P}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$$

such that  $\Phi(\mathcal{C}_1) = \mathcal{C}_2$ , do they belong to the same connected component of  $\Sigma$ ?

## 2. Previous results

- ▷ Works of Severi [[SEV21](#)], Zariski [[ZAR29](#)], Harris [[HAR87](#)], Greuel [[GLS98](#), [GLS98a](#), [GL99](#), [GLS99](#), [GLS02](#)], Shustin [[SHU97](#), [SHU97a](#)], Lossen about irreducibility, smoothness, existence, . . .

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- ▷ Existence and connectedness have been solved for  $d \leq 5$  by Namba [[NMB86](#)] and Degtyarev [[DEG90](#)], see [here](#).

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▷ Study the case  $d = 6, T_i = A_k, D_l, E_r$

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- ▶  $\mathcal{C} \in \Sigma$ ,  $\pi : \hat{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$  double covering ramified along  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $\tau : Y \rightarrow \hat{Y}$  minimal resolution,  $Y$   $K3$  surface (see Barth-Peters-Van de Ven [[BPV84](#)])



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  - ◀ Yang also studies  $\Sigma(\Gamma)$ : global irreducible components

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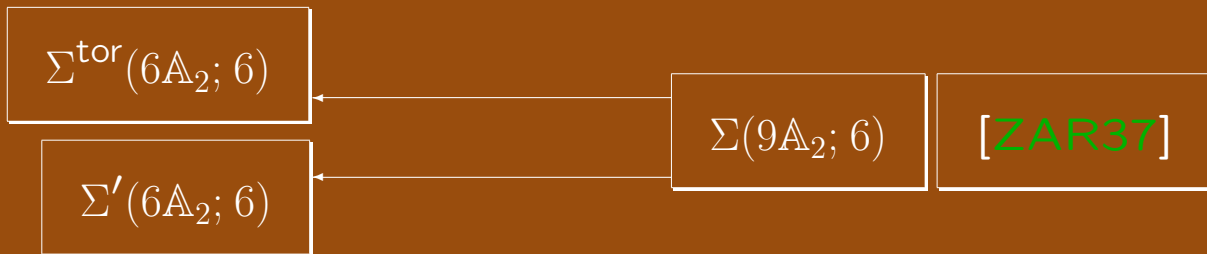
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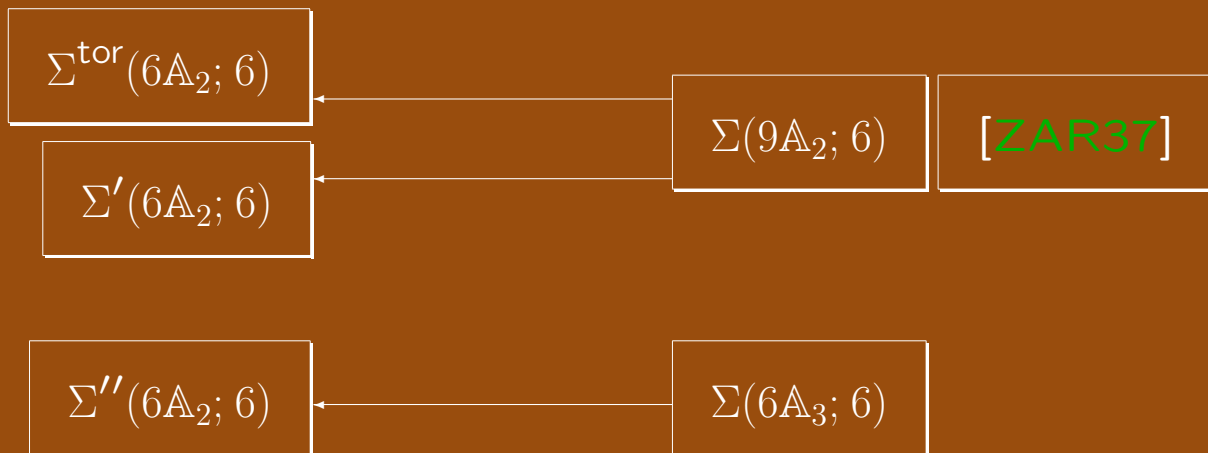
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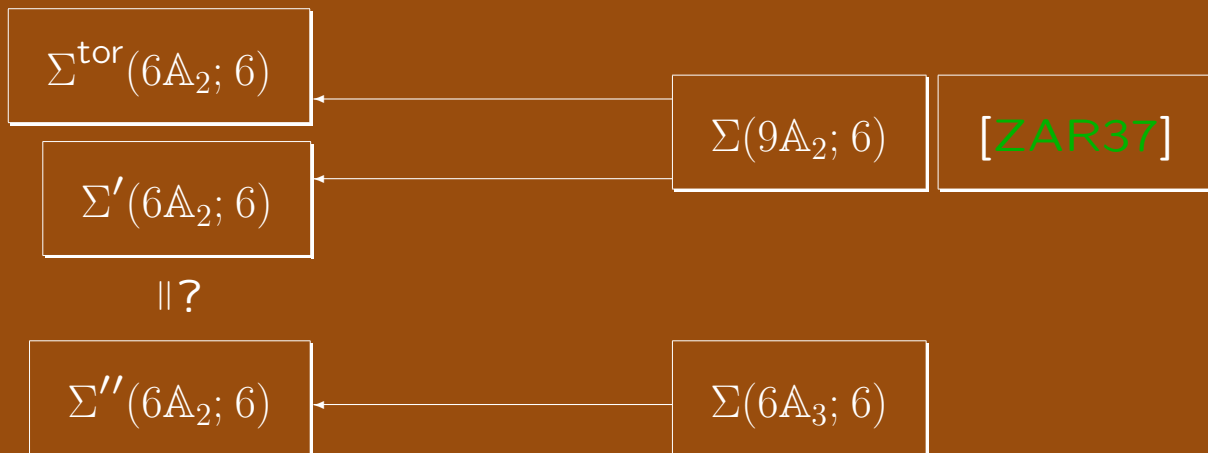
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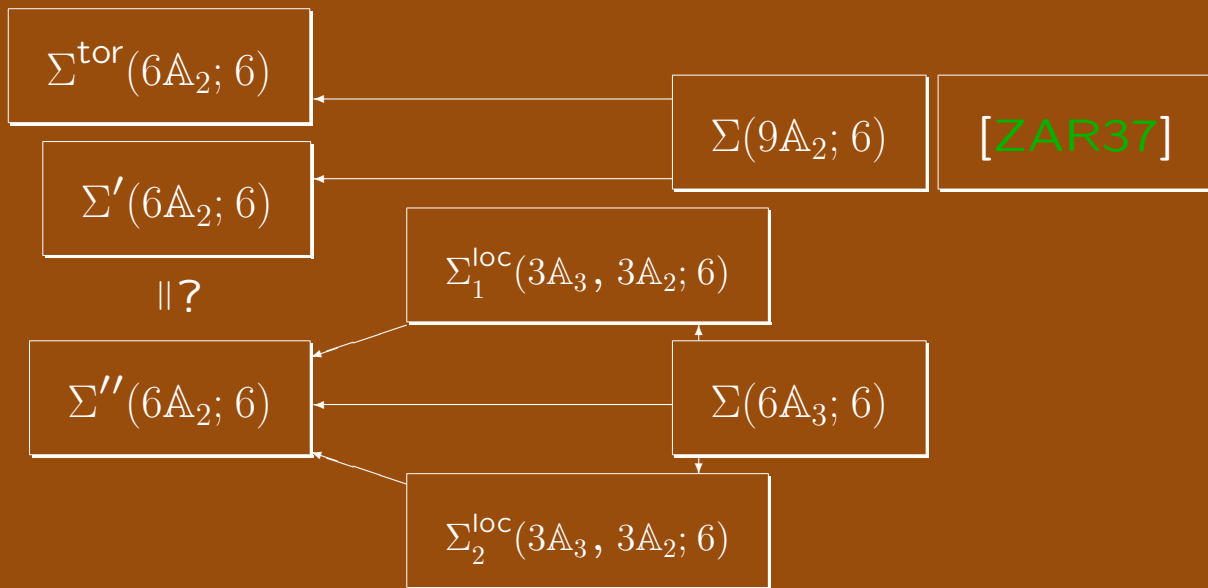
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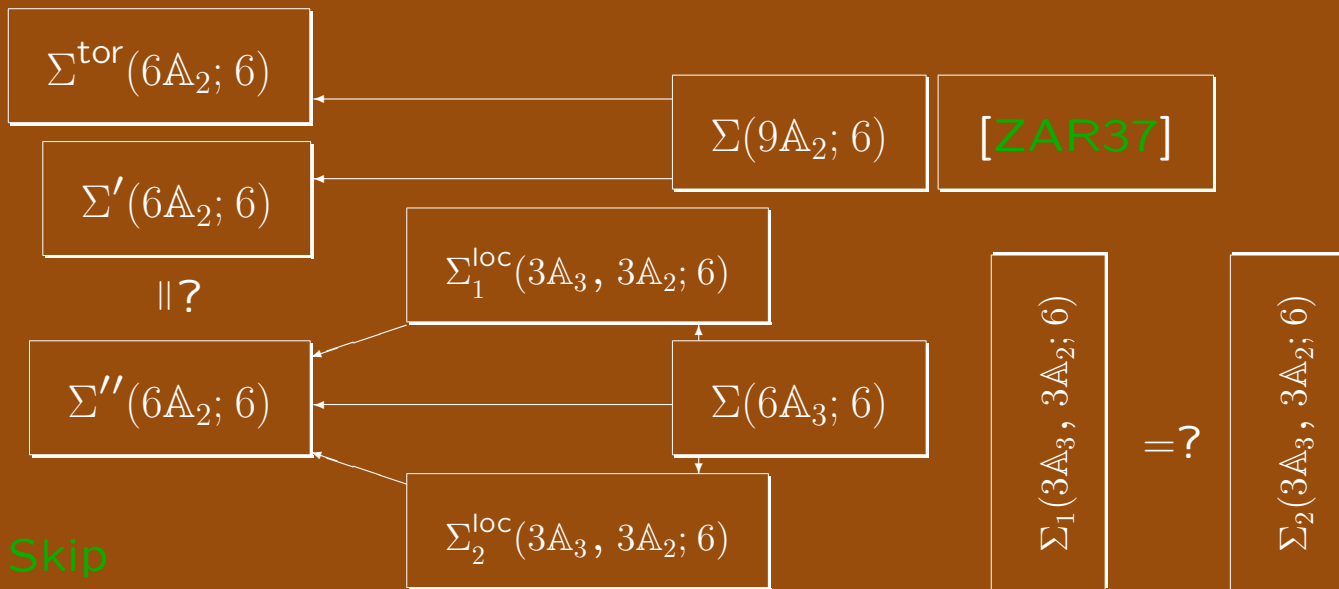
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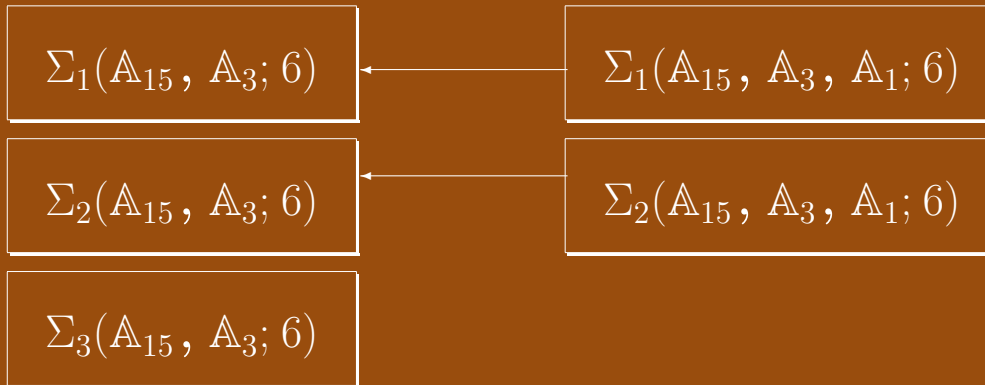
$$\Sigma_1(\mathbb{A}_{15}, \mathbb{A}_3; 6)$$

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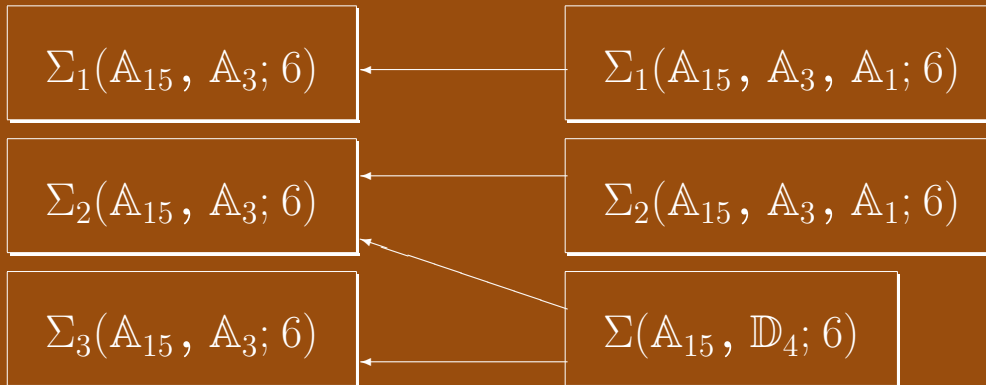
- ▶  $\Sigma_1$ : tangent line at  $\mathbb{A}_{15}$  pass through  $\mathbb{A}_3$
- ▶  $\Sigma_2$ : *generic*
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[ACC02b]

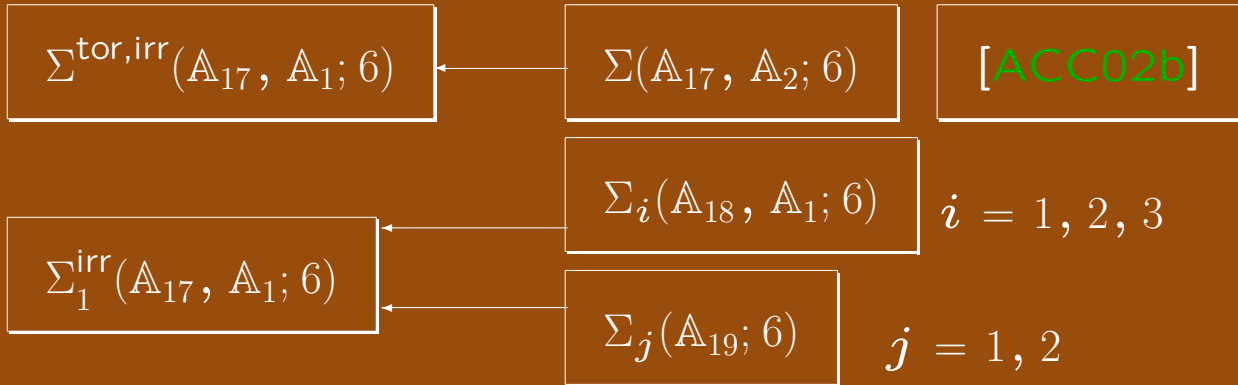
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- ▶  $\Sigma_i(\mathbb{A}_{18}, \mathbb{A}_1; 6)$ :  $\exists$  conjugate representatives with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Q}(19s^3 + 50s^2 + 36s + 8)$
- ▶  $\Sigma_j(\mathbb{A}_{19}; 6)$ :  $\exists$  conjugate representatives in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})$  (see [YOS79] for a more complicated extension)

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- Many topological invariants come from algebraic properties
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- ▶  $V := \{p(t) \in \mathbb{C}[t] \mid p \text{ monic of degree } d\}$ ,  $D$  discriminant hypersurface
- ▶  $V \setminus D \equiv \{A \subset \mathbb{C} \mid \#A = d\}$

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{f} : \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathcal{D} &\rightarrow V \setminus D \\ x &\mapsto f(x, t)\end{aligned}$$

$*$  :=  $R$  s. t.  $\mathcal{D} \subset \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z| < R\}$ ,  $y^* := \tilde{f}(*)$

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Braid monodromy of  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{aff}}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla := \tilde{f}_* : \pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus \mathcal{D}; *) &\rightarrow \pi_1(V \setminus D; y^*) \\ &\Downarrow \\ &B_{y^*} \end{aligned}$$



# Geometric bases of the free group $\pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus \mathcal{D}; *)$

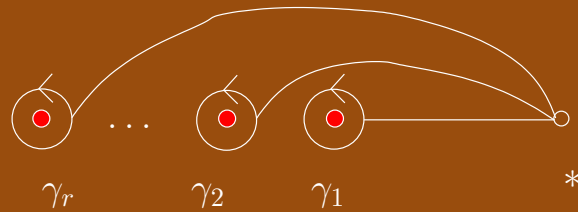


Figure 1: Geometric basis

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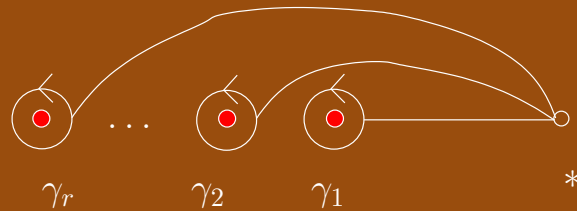


Figure 1: Geometric basis

- ♠ Each loop is meridian of a point of  $\mathcal{D}$
- ♠  $c_\gamma := \gamma_r \cdot \dots \cdot \gamma_1$  is the boundary of a big geometric disk;  $c_\gamma^{-1}$  is **meridian** of  $\infty$
- ♠  $(\nabla(\gamma_1), \dots, \nabla(\gamma_r)) \in (B_{y^*})^r$

$$y^0 := \{-1, \dots, -d\}$$

$$B_{y^0} \equiv B_d := \langle \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{d-1} : \\ [\sigma_i, \sigma_j] = 1, \quad |i - j| \geq 2, \\ \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i = \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1}, \quad i = 1, \dots, d - 2 \rangle$$

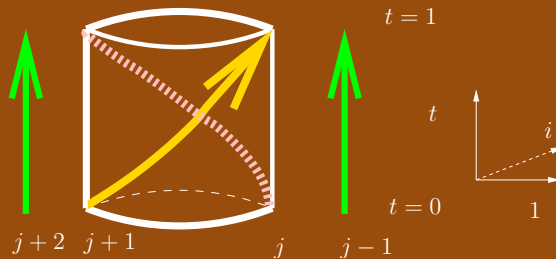


Figure 2:  $\sigma_j$

- $\tau \in B(\mathbf{y}^*, \mathbf{y}^0)$  braid starting at  $\mathbf{y}^*$  and ending at  $\mathbf{y}^0$
- $\Phi_\tau : B_{\mathbf{y}^*} \rightarrow B_d, \Phi_\tau(\sigma) := \tau \cdot \sigma \cdot \tau^{-1}$

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Braid monodromy + ...



An element of  $(B_d)^r$

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- Right action of  $B_r$  on  $\mathcal{G}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_r)^{\sigma_i} := \\ & (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{i-1}, \gamma_{i+1}, \gamma_{i+1}\gamma_i\gamma_{i+1}^{-1}, \gamma_{i+2}, \dots, \gamma_r) \end{aligned}$$

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- Choice of  $\tau \in B(\mathbf{y}^*, \mathbf{y}^0)$  and base point  $*$

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$$\begin{aligned} (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_r)^{\sigma_i} := \\ (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{i-1}, \gamma_{i+1}, \gamma_{i+1}\gamma_i\gamma_{i+1}^{-1}, \gamma_{i+2}, \dots, \gamma_r) \end{aligned}$$

- It is a free and transitive action, [ARTIN47]

- Choice of  $\tau \in B(\mathbf{y}^*, \mathbf{y}^0)$  and base point  $*$

- Right action of  $B_d$  on  $B_d^r$  by **simultaneous conjugation**.

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- **Pseudogeometric** basis of  $\pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus \mathcal{D}; *)$ :  $c_\gamma^{-1}$  is a meridian of the line at infinity

Right action of  $B_r \times B_d$  on  $(B_d)^r$ :

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Braid monodromy does not depend on Jung automorphisms as:

$$(x, y) \mapsto (ax + b, cy + p(x))$$

$$a, c \in \mathbb{C}^*, b \in \mathbb{C}, p(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$$

## 6. An example

$$\#\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{E}_6, \mathbb{A}_7, \mathbb{A}_3, \mathbb{A}_2, \mathbb{A}_1; 6) = 2$$

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Representantatives  $\mathcal{C}_\beta$ ,  $\beta^2 = 2$ , with equations

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having coefficients in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$

$$\begin{aligned} f_\beta(x, y, z) := & y^2 z^3 + (303 - 216 \beta) y z^2 x^2 + \\ & + (-636 + 450 \beta) y z x^3 + \\ & + (-234 \beta + 331) y x^4 + (-18 \beta + 27) z x^4 + \\ & + (18 \beta - 26) x^5, \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g_\beta(x, y, z) := & y + \left( \frac{10449}{196} - \frac{3645}{98} \beta \right) z + \\ & + \left( -\frac{432}{7} + \frac{297}{7} \beta \right) x. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Take affine curves for  $z = 1$

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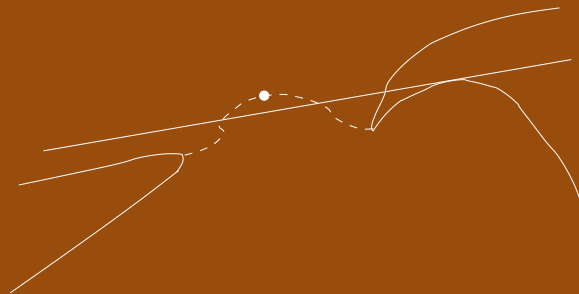
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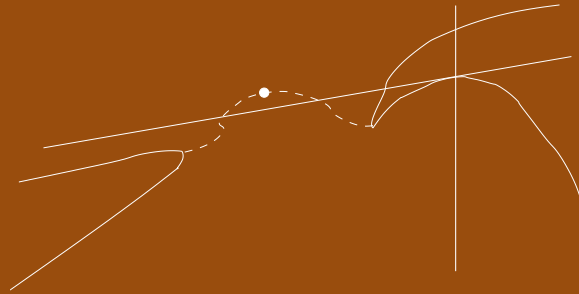
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- ▶ Corresponding  $\mathcal{D}$  are subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$

# Curve $C_{\sqrt{2}}$



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$$\gamma_1^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

$$\gamma_2^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

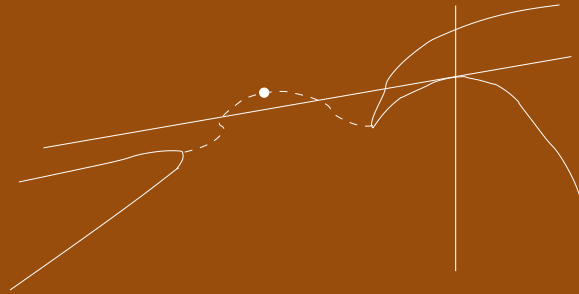
$$\gamma_3^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

$$\gamma_4^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

$$\gamma_5^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

$$\sigma_2^8$$

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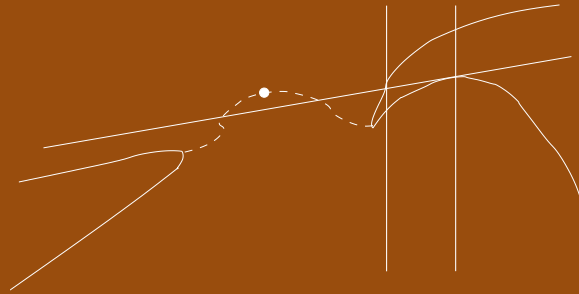
$$\gamma_3^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

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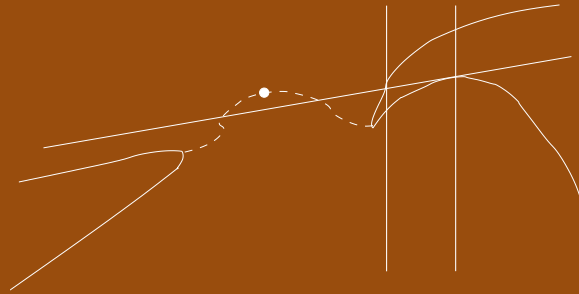
$$\gamma_3^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

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$$\gamma_5^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

$$\sigma_2^8 * \sigma_1^2$$

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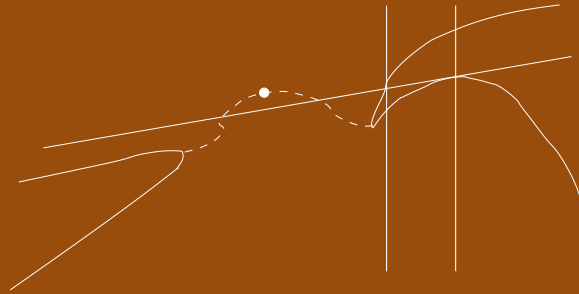
$$\gamma_5^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

$$\sigma_2^8$$

$$\sigma_2^4 * \sigma_1^2$$

$$\sigma_2^4$$

# Curve $C_{\sqrt{2}}$



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$$\gamma_2^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

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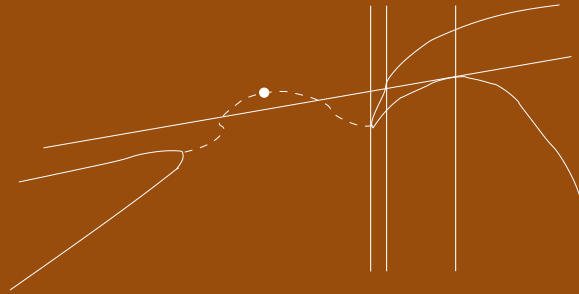
$$\sigma_2^8$$

$$\sigma_2^4 * \sigma_1^2$$

$$\sigma_2^4 \sigma_1$$



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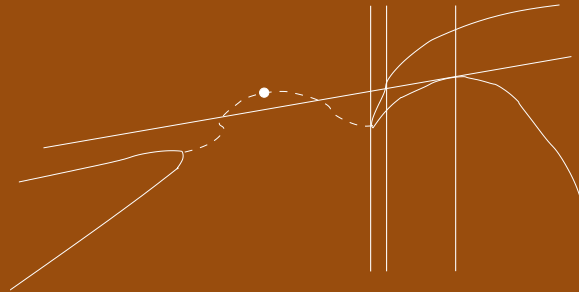
$$\gamma_5^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

$$\sigma_2^8$$

$$\sigma_2^4 * \sigma_1^2$$

$$\sigma_2^4 \sigma_1^4 * \sigma_2^3$$

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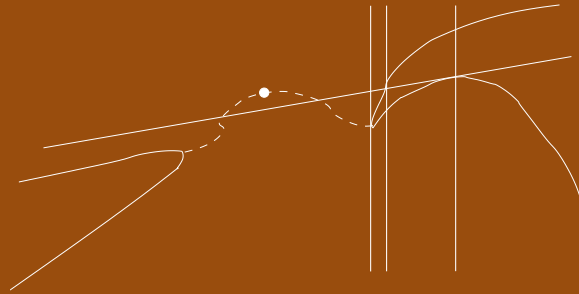
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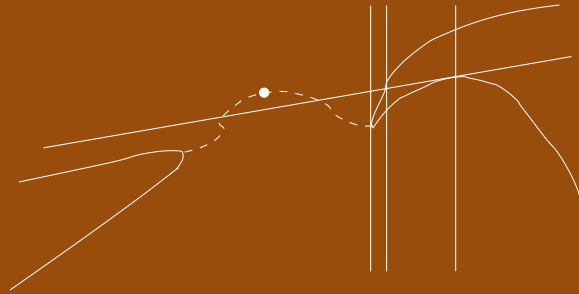
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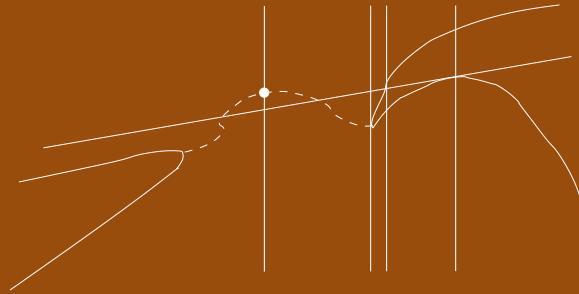
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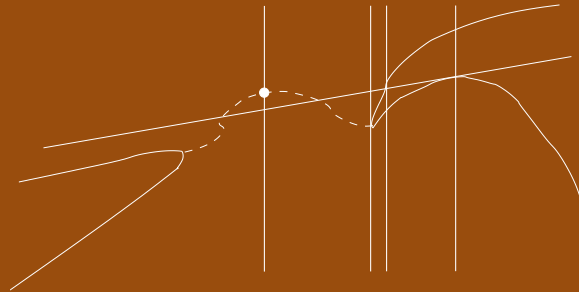
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# Curve $C_{\sqrt{2}}$



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$$\sigma_2^8$$

$$\gamma_2^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

$$\sigma_2^4 * \sigma_1^2$$

$$\gamma_3^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

$$\sigma_2^4 \sigma_1 * \sigma_2^3$$

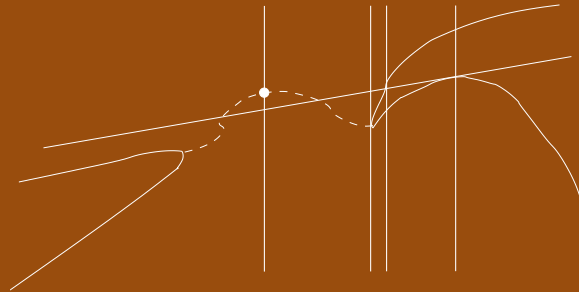
$$\gamma_4^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

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# Curve $C_{\sqrt{2}}$



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$$\gamma_3^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

$$\sigma_2^4 \sigma_1 * \sigma_2^3$$

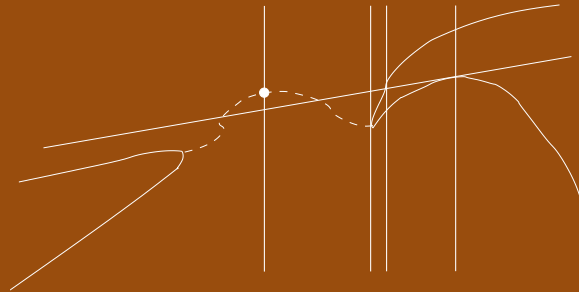
$$\gamma_4^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

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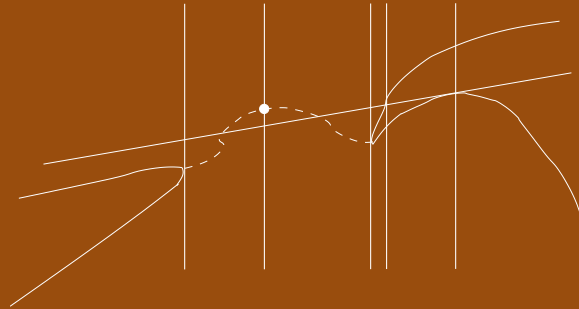
$$\sigma_2^4 \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1^{-1} \sigma_2 * \sigma_1^4$$

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$$\sigma_2^4 \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1^{-1} \sigma_2 \sigma_1^2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2^{-1}$$



## Curve $C_{\sqrt{2}}$



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$$\gamma_2^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

$$\sigma_2^4 * \sigma_1^2$$

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$$\sigma_2^4 \sigma_1 * \sigma_2^3$$

$$\gamma_4^{\sqrt{2}} \mapsto$$

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$$\sigma_2^4 \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1^{-1} \sigma_2 \sigma_1^2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2^{-1} * \sigma_2$$

# Curve $C_{-\sqrt{2}}$



## Curve $C_{-\sqrt{2}}$



$$\gamma_1^{-\sqrt{2}} \mapsto \sigma_2^3$$

$$\gamma_2^{-\sqrt{2}} \mapsto \left( \sigma_2 \sigma_1^{-1} \sigma_2 \right) * \sigma_1$$

$$\gamma_3^{-\sqrt{2}} \mapsto \sigma_2 * \sigma_1^8$$

$$\gamma_4^{-\sqrt{2}} \mapsto \sigma_1^{-2} * \sigma_2^4$$

$$\gamma_5^{-\sqrt{2}} \mapsto \sigma_1^{-3} * \sigma_2^2.$$

## 7. Braid monodromy of projective curves

- ▲  $(\mathcal{C}, L, P)$  triple:  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathbb{P}^2$  projective curve,  $L \not\subset \mathcal{C}$  line,  $P \in L$

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- ▲ Classic case: generic choice of  $L$  and  $P$
- ▲ Generalization because of computing reasons: use real curves, or programs (Carmona, Bessis)

In the example,

- $P$  singular point  $\mathbb{E}_6$
- $L$  tangent line at  $P$



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Look for topological consequences

- Zariski-Van Kampen theorem [[ZAR29](#)] [[VK33](#)]: **fundamental group** of the complement of the curve (braid monodromy appears implicitly)

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- Developed by B. Moishezon (1981) [[MOI81](#)] and in a series of papers with M. Teicher, [[MoTeI](#)] a [[MoTeV](#)]

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- J. Carmona (2002) [[CAR02](#)]: Same result **without the restrictions on the types of singularities**



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Then, braid monodromies of the triples are equal.

**Corollary 3.**  $C_{\sqrt{2}}^{\varphi} \cup L$  and  $C_{-\sqrt{2}}^{\varphi} \cup L$  are non-homeomorphic curves, conjugated in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$



Sketch of the proof of Theorem 2 [Skip](#)

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$\pi : \mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \mathcal{C}^\varphi \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathcal{D}$ ,  $\pi(x, y) := x$  locally trivial fiber bundle with fiber  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{d \text{ points}\}$

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Long exact sequence of homotopy

$$1 \rightarrow \pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus \mathcal{Y}^*; M) \rightarrow \pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \mathcal{C}^\varphi; (*, M)) \xrightarrow{\pi_*} \pi_1(\mathbb{C}_{\mathcal{C}}; *) \rightarrow 1$$

(2)

Sketch of the proof of Theorem 2 [Skip](#)

$\pi : \mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \mathcal{C}^\varphi \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathcal{D}$ ,  $\pi(x, y) := x$  locally trivial fiber bundle with fiber  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \{d \text{ points}\}$

Long exact sequence of homotopy

$$1 \rightarrow \pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus \mathcal{Y}^*; M) \rightarrow \pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \mathcal{C}^\varphi; (*, M)) \xrightarrow{\pi_*} \pi_1(\mathbb{C}_{\mathcal{C}}; *) \rightarrow 1$$

(2)

Look for a presentation

■  $M \gg 0$  such that  $f(x, y) = 0$  and  $|x| \leq R$   
 $\Rightarrow |y| < M$

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- Given  $\tau \in B(y^*, y^0)$  we have an automorphism  $\Psi_\tau : \pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus y^*; M) \rightarrow \pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus y^0; M)$ ; the standard basis  $\mu_1^0, \dots, \mu_d^0$  of  $\pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus y^0; M)$ , see Figure 6, determines a geometric basis  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_d$  of  $\pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus y^*; M)$ ,  $\Psi_\tau(\mu_j) = \mu_j^0$ .

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- Natural right actions of  $B_d$  on  $\pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus y^0; M)$  and of  $B_{y^*}$  on  $\pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus y^*; M)$ , see Figure 7

$$\mu_i^{\sigma_i} = \mu_{i+1} \quad \mu_{i+1}^{\sigma_i} = \mu_{i+1} * \mu_i \quad a * b := a b a^{-1}$$

- Actions of  $\sigma \in B_{y^*}$  and  $\Phi_\tau(\sigma) \in B_d$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus y^*; M) & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & \pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus y^*; M) \\
 \Psi_\tau \downarrow & & \downarrow \Psi_\tau \\
 \pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus y^0; M) & \xrightarrow{\Phi_\tau(\sigma)} & \pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus y^0; M)
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 \end{array}$$

- Recall (2). Lift a pseudo-geometric basis  $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_r$  of  $\pi_1(\mathbb{C} \setminus \mathcal{D}; *)$  to  $\tilde{\gamma}_1, \dots, \tilde{\gamma}_r$  in  $\mathbb{C} \times \{M\}$ , see Figure 8
- $\mu_i^{\tilde{\gamma}_j} = ?$

$$\begin{aligned}
\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \mathcal{C}^\varphi; (*, M)) &= \left\langle \mu_1, \dots, \mu_d, \tilde{\gamma}_1, \dots, \tilde{\gamma}_r : \right. \\
\mu_i^{\tilde{\gamma}_j} &= \mu_i^{\nabla(\gamma_j)}, i = 1, \dots, d, j = 1, \dots, r \left. \right\rangle \cong \\
&\left\langle \mu_1^0, \dots, \mu_d^0, \tilde{\gamma}_1, \dots, \tilde{\gamma}_r : \right. \\
(\mu_i^0)^{\tilde{\gamma}_j} &= (\mu_i^0)^{\nabla_\tau(\gamma_j)}, i = 1, \dots, d, j = 1, \dots, r \left. \right\rangle
\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

■  $\nabla_\tau(\gamma_j) \in B_d$  is determined by the presentation

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\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

- $\nabla_\tau(\gamma_j) \in B_d$  is determined by the presentation
- *A priori* these data are not topological invariants
- The goal is to prove that the *oriented topology* of  $(\mathcal{C}^\varphi, L, P)$  does determine these data.

Skip

**Step 1.** Meridians of  $\mathcal{C}$  are determined by the oriented topology of  $(\mathcal{C}^\varphi, L, P)$

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**Step 3.** Let us choose  $*$  near one  $x_i$ ; the element  $c := \mu_d \cdot \dots \cdot \mu_1$  is well-defined by the **oriented topology** of  $(\mathcal{C}^\varphi, L, P)$

**Step 4.** An ordered family  $\hat{\mu}_1, \dots, \hat{\mu}_d$  of meridians of  $\mathcal{C}$  such that  $c = \hat{\mu}_d \cdot \dots \cdot \hat{\mu}_1$  is a geometric basis of  $K$



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- ◀  $\tilde{\gamma}_j$  is a meridian of the line  $x = x_j z$
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**Step 6.** The product  $(\tilde{\gamma}_r \cdot \dots \cdot \tilde{\gamma}_1)^{-1}$  is a meridian of the line  $L$  in  $\pi_1(\mathbb{P}^2 \setminus (L_1 \cup \dots \cup L_r \cup L); (*, M))$



## Sketch of the proof of Corollary 3

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- ▲ Let us suppose there exists a homeomorphism  $\Phi : \mathbb{P}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$  such that  $\Phi(\mathcal{C}_{\sqrt{2}}^\varphi \cup L) = \mathcal{C}_{-\sqrt{2}}^\varphi \cup L$

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- ▲ It is easily seen that  $\Phi(P) = P$ ,  $\Phi(L) = L$  and  $\Phi(\mathcal{C}_{\sqrt{2}}^\varphi) = \mathcal{C}_{-\sqrt{2}}^\varphi$
- ▲ By orientation properties of algebraic knots, the homeomorphism  $\Phi$  preserves the orientation of  $\mathbb{P}^2$
- ▲ Since curves have real equations, eventually applying complex conjugation, we may suppose that  $\Phi$  preserves the orientations of the quintics in  $\mathcal{C}_{\sqrt{2}}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{-\sqrt{2}}$

- From the relationship of intersection and linking numbers, we deduce that  $\Phi$  preserves the orientations of  $L$ ,  $C_{\sqrt{2}}^{\varphi}$  and  $C_{-\sqrt{2}}^{\varphi}$

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- $\Phi$  verifies the conditions stated in Theorem 2
- Contradiction with Theorem 1

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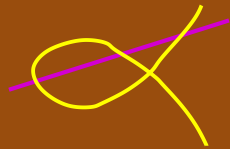
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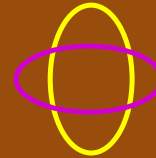
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(a) Nodal cubic and line

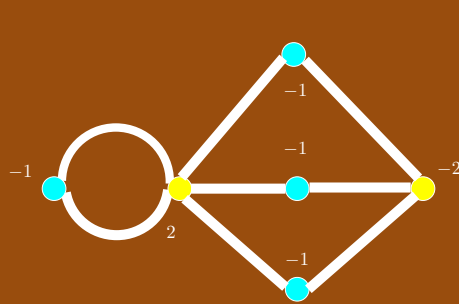


(b) Two conics

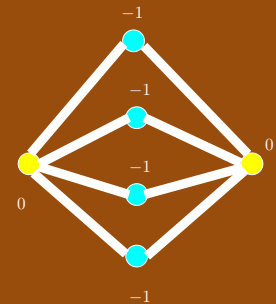
Figure 3:  $\Sigma(4A_1; 4)$

Define  $\Sigma(\Gamma)$  and  $\mathcal{M}(\Gamma)$  where  $\Gamma$  is:

- A weighted bi-coloured graph, which is dual to  $\sigma^{-1}(\mathcal{C})$ ,  $\sigma : Y \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$ , minimal embedded resolution of  $\text{Sing}(\mathcal{C})$ .
- Weight  $\equiv$  self-intersection number
- Vertices  $\alpha \equiv$  exceptional divisor of  $\sigma$
- Vertices  $\beta \equiv$  strict transform of  $\mathcal{C}$



(a) Nodal cubic and line



(b) Two conics

Figure 4: Graphs

If  $d \leq 5$  and  $\Sigma(\Gamma) \neq \emptyset$ ,  $\Sigma(\Gamma)$  is irreducible

Go back



## Definition of meridian

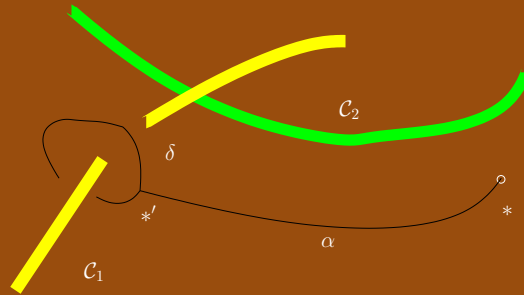


Figure 5: Meridian

- $X$  surface,  $\mathcal{C} \subset X$  curve,  $\mathcal{C}_1 \subset \mathcal{C}$  irreducible component,  $* \in X \setminus \mathcal{C}$ ,  $G := \pi_1(X \setminus \mathcal{C}; *)$

## Definition of meridian

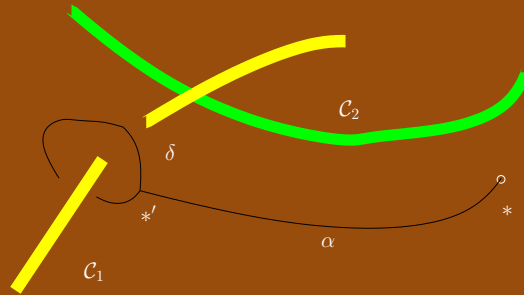


Figure 5: Meridian

- $X$  surface,  $\mathcal{C} \subset X$  curve,  $\mathcal{C}_1 \subset \mathcal{C}$  irreducible component,  $* \in X \setminus \mathcal{C}$ ,  $G := \pi_1(X \setminus \mathcal{C}; *)$
- $\Delta$  small analytic disk  $\pitchfork \mathcal{C}_1$ ,  $*' \in \partial\Delta$ ,  $\alpha$  path from  $*$  to  $*'$ ,  $\delta$  loop en  $*'$  running once and counterclockwise  $\partial\Delta$

## Definition of meridian

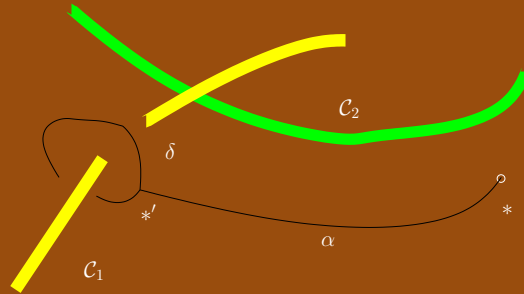


Figure 5: Meridian

- $X$  surface,  $\mathcal{C} \subset X$  curve,  $\mathcal{C}_1 \subset \mathcal{C}$  irreducible component,  $* \in X \setminus \mathcal{C}$ ,  $G := \pi_1(X \setminus \mathcal{C}; *)$
- $\Delta$  small analytic disk  $\pitchfork \mathcal{C}_1$ ,  $*' \in \partial\Delta$ ,  $\alpha$  path from  $*$  to  $*'$ ,  $\delta$  loop en  $*'$  running once and counterclockwise  $\partial\Delta$
- $\alpha \cdot \delta \cdot \alpha^{-1}$  is a **meridian** of  $\mathcal{C}_1$  in  $G$ . The set of meridians of  $\mathcal{C}_1$  is a conjugation class. **Go back**

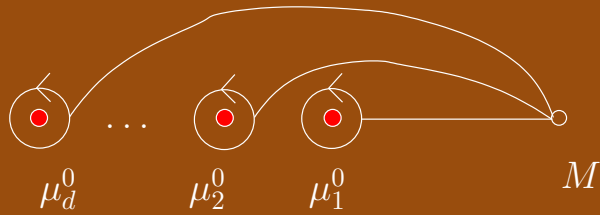


Figure 6: Geometric basis in the fiber



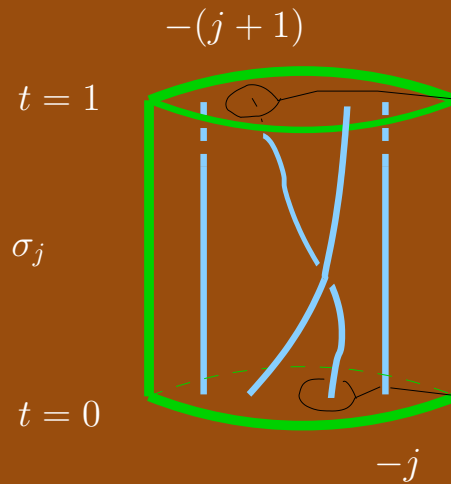


Figure 7: Action of  $\sigma_j$

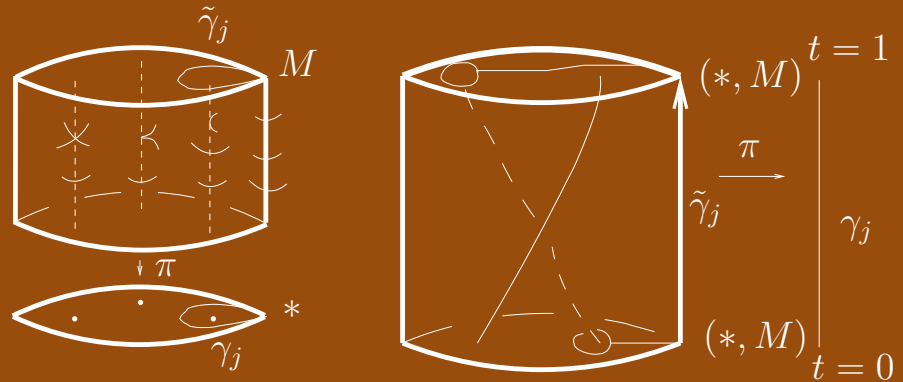


Figure 8: Adapted polydisks and conjugation