

Pseudo-Anosov mapping classes  
are sign-stable

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joint work with Teukasa Ishibashi

⑩ Ichihashi (2019)

Cluster algebraic analogue of Nielsen-Thurston classification

→ cluster pseudo-Anosov.

↑ weaker than usual pseudo-Anosov.

i.e. cluster pA  $\not\Rightarrow$  pA

Today

Giving complete translation of pA property into cluster alg.  
via sign stability.

## Main Theorem [Ishibashi - K, in prep]

Let  $\Sigma$  be a punctured surface without boundary comp.

For  $\phi \in \text{MC}(\Sigma)$ , TFAE:

(1)  $\phi$  is pseudo-Anosov §1

(2)  $\phi \sim \mathcal{B}\mathcal{X}_{\Sigma}(\mathbb{R}^{\text{top}})$ ; NS dynamics §3

(3) Any representation paths of  $\phi$  are  
sign-stab on  $\Omega_{\Sigma}^{\mathbb{R}} \subset \mathcal{X}_{\Sigma}(\mathbb{R}^{\text{top}})$  §4

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§1 Exchange graph.

§2 Pseudo-Anosov mapping classes.

§3 Dynamics on the space of measured foliations.

§4 Main theorem.

( §5 Train track ).

# §1. Exchange graph ← Cayley graph

$$\mathbb{E}_I := \prod_I \times \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{S}_I; \{\text{transpositions}\})$$

$$\kappa : \prod_I \rightarrow t \mapsto (N^{(t)}, B^{(t)}) : \text{seed pattern}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{X}_\kappa = \bigcup_{t \in \prod_I} \mathcal{X}_{(t)}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \tilde{\kappa} : \mathbb{E}_I \rightarrow (t, \sigma) \mapsto \left( \begin{array}{c} N^{(t, \sigma)} \\ \parallel \\ \bigoplus_{i \in I} e_i^{(t, \sigma)} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} B^{(t, \sigma)} \\ \parallel \\ (b_{\sigma^{-1}(i), \sigma^{-1}(j)}^{(t)})_{i, j \in I} \end{array} \right)$$

: labeled seed pattern

$$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{X}_\kappa = \bigcup_{(t, \sigma) \in \mathbb{E}_I} \mathcal{X}_{(t, \sigma)} \quad \left( \bigcup_{\sigma \in \mathcal{S}_I} \mathcal{X}_{(t, \sigma)} \cong \mathcal{X}_{(t)} \right)$$

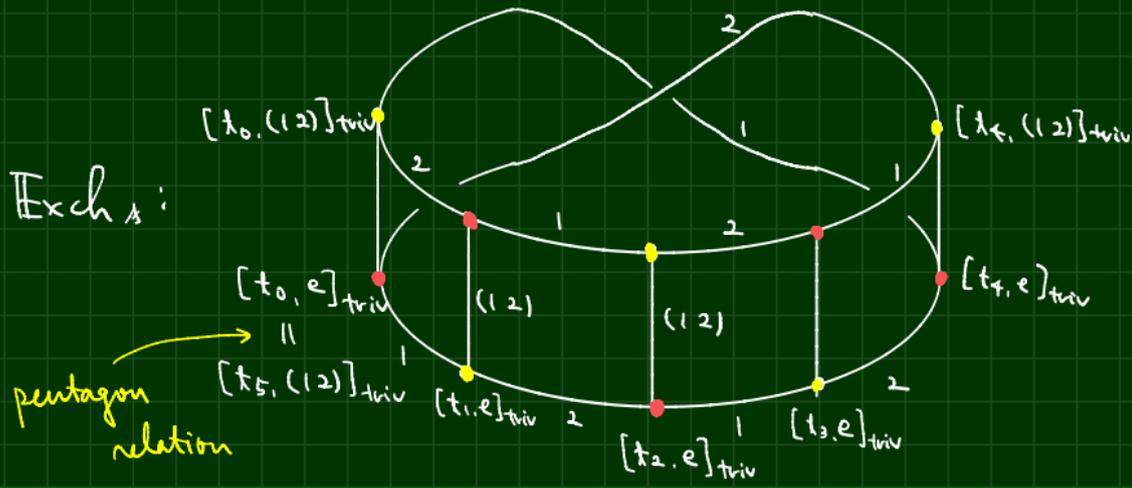
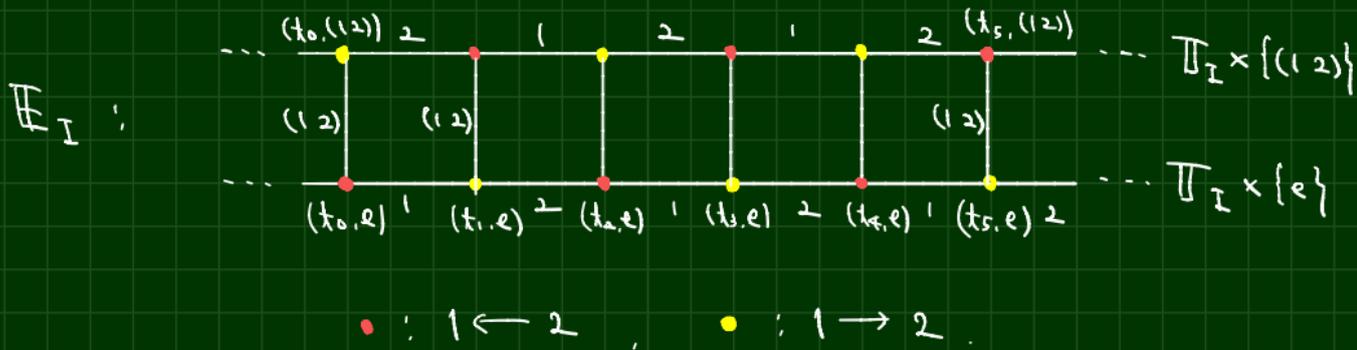
$$(t, \sigma) \sim_{\text{triv}} (t', \sigma') \Leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \cdot \underline{B(t, \sigma)} = B(t', \sigma') \\ \cdot \forall \gamma : (t, \sigma) \rightarrow (t', \sigma') : \text{path in } \mathbb{E}_I : \\ \quad \mathcal{X}_{(t, \sigma)} \xrightarrow{\mu_\gamma} \mathcal{X}_{(t', \sigma')} \simeq \mathcal{X}_{(t, \sigma)} \end{array} \right.$$

$\rightsquigarrow \text{Exch}_\Delta := \mathbb{E}_I / \sim_{\text{triv}}$  : labeled exchange graph.

$\rightsquigarrow \lambda_{\text{Ex}} : \text{Exch}_\Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{V} \mapsto (N^{(v)}, B^{(v)})$  "seed pattern"  
 $\quad \quad \quad \downarrow \quad \quad \quad \parallel$   
 $\quad \quad \quad (t, \sigma) \quad \quad \quad B(t, \sigma)$

$$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{X}_\Delta = \bigcup_{v \in \text{Exch}_\Delta} \mathcal{X}_{(v)}$$

# Example: $A_2$ quiver



$\Sigma = (\Sigma, P)$ ; a punctured surface (without boundary comp.)  
the set of punctures  $\nearrow$  s.t.  $\chi(\Sigma) < 0, \dots$

$\Delta_0$ : triangulation of  $\Sigma$ ; fix

$\rightsquigarrow \mathfrak{N}_\Sigma : \Pi_\Sigma \ni t_0 \mapsto (N^{\Delta_0}, B^{\Delta_0}) \rightsquigarrow \text{Exch}_\Sigma$   
 $\nwarrow$  fix

$\Pi_{\text{Tri}}^\infty(\Sigma)$ : the graph of

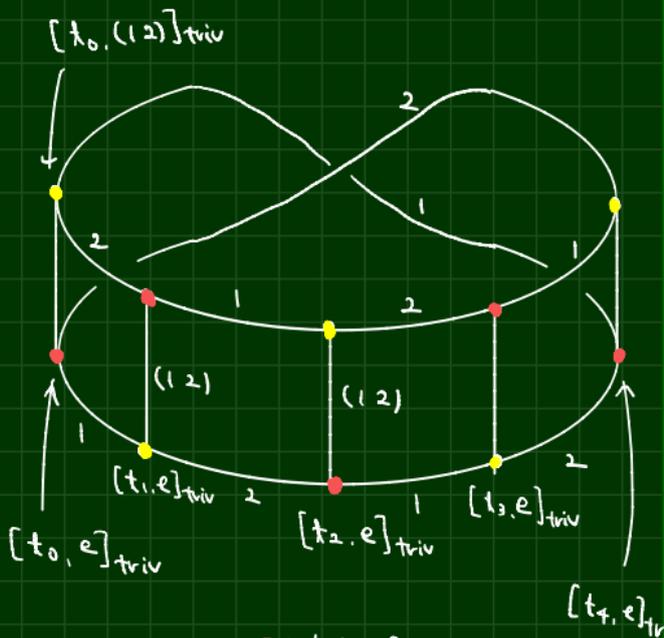
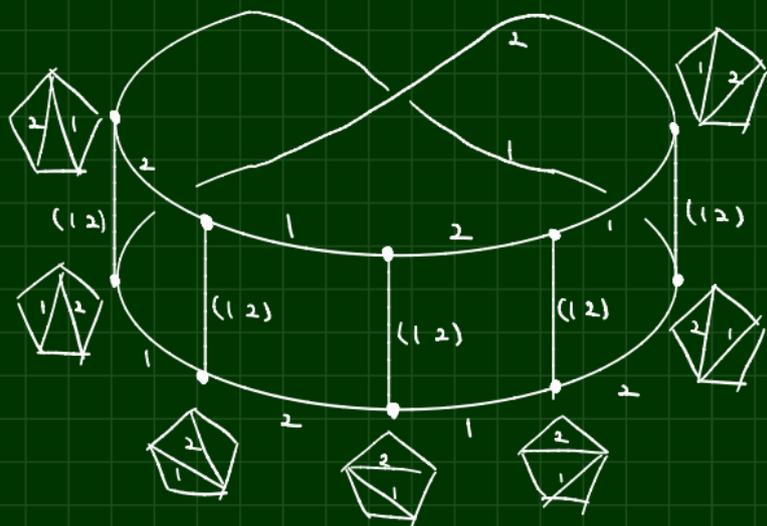
- vertices: labeled tagged triangulations
- edges: labeled flips or actions of transpositions for labelings.

Thm (Fomin-Shapiro-Thurston, Fomin-Thurston)

$$\Pi_{\text{Tri}}^\infty(\Sigma) \simeq \text{Exch}_\Sigma$$

Example

$\Sigma = \text{pentagon} :$    $: A_2 \text{ quiver}$



• :  $1 \leftarrow 2$

• :  $1 \rightarrow 2$

## Cluster modular group

$s$ : seed pattern  $\rightsquigarrow \text{Exch}_s$

$\Gamma_s := \{ \text{edge paths in } \text{Exch}_s \} / \text{parallel transl. } \dots$

• composition = concatenation of representation paths

### Thm

• If  $\Sigma$  is neither a once-punctured torus nor a sphere w/ 4 punct's.

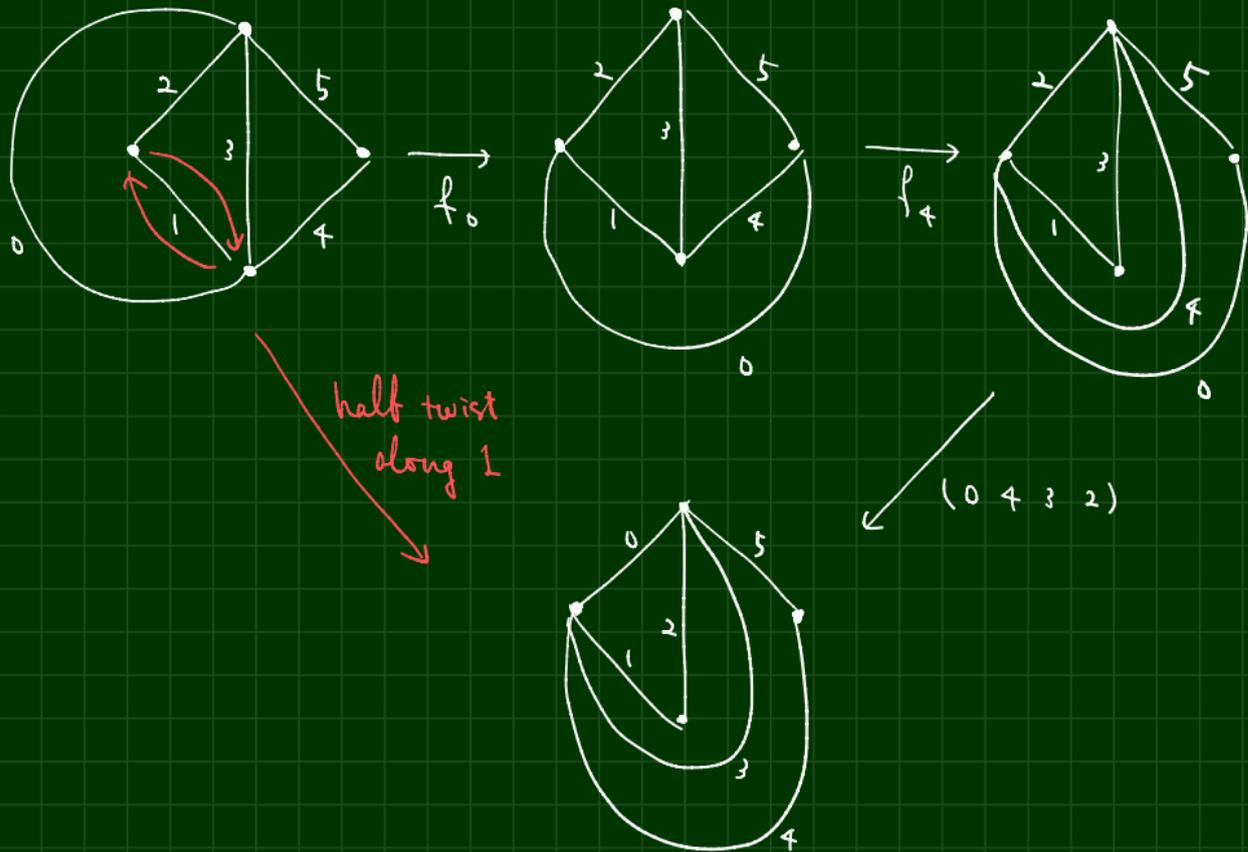
$$\Gamma_\Sigma \simeq \begin{cases} \text{MC}(\Sigma) & \text{if } p=1 \\ \text{MC}(\Sigma) \times (\mathbb{Z}/2)^p & \text{if } p>1 \end{cases}$$

tag change

( •  $\Sigma$  is a once-punctured torus,  $\Gamma_\Sigma \simeq \text{MC}(\Sigma) / (\mathbb{Z}/2)$  hyperelliptic involution

•  $\Sigma$  is a sph. w/ 4 punct's,  $\Gamma_\Sigma > \text{MC}(\Sigma)$  index  $\geq 2$ .

Example  $\Sigma = \text{sph. w/ 4 punct's}$



## §2. pA mapping classes.

### Measured foliations.

- $\mathcal{F} = (\mathcal{F}, \nu)$  : a measured foliation on  $\Sigma$

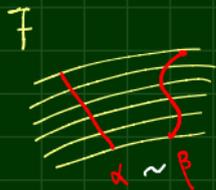
$\Leftrightarrow$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet \mathcal{F} : \text{singular foliation on } \Sigma \\ \text{s.t. } \{\text{singular points of } \mathcal{F}\} \supset P \end{array} \right.$



- $\nu$  : transverse measure of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

i.e.  $\nu : \{\text{curves transv. to } \mathcal{F}\} / \sim \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{>0}$

$\mathcal{MF}(\Sigma) := \{\text{measured foliations on } \Sigma\} / \sim$  (homotopy, Whitehead move)



## Definition

$f : \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma$  : homeo  $\cong$  pseudo-Anosov (pA)

$\iff \exists \mathcal{F}_f^+, \mathcal{F}_f^-$  : measured foliations,  $\exists \lambda_f > 1$

s.t.  $\cdot \mathcal{F}_f^+ \pitchfork \mathcal{F}_f^-$   $\swarrow$  foli w/ transverse measure.

$$\cdot f(\mathcal{F}_f^\pm) = \lambda_f^{\pm 1} \cdot \mathcal{F}_f^\pm$$

$\phi \in \text{MC}(\Sigma) = \{f : \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma : \text{ori. pres. homeo}\} / \text{homotopy}$

$\cong$  pA iff  $\exists f : \Sigma \circlearrowleft : \text{pA homeo s.t. } \phi = [f]$ .

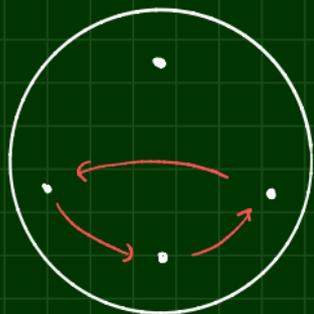
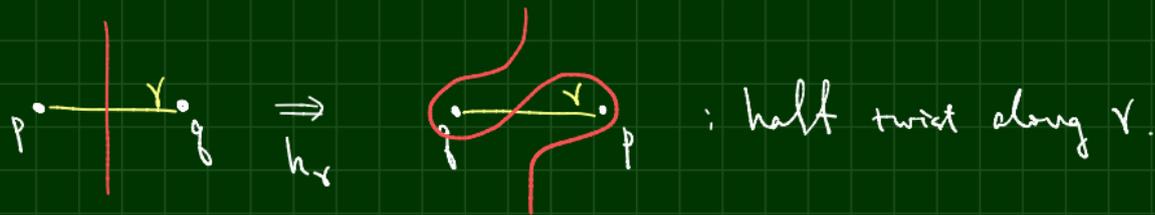
## Thm (Nielsen-Thurston classification)

$\forall \phi \in MC(\Sigma)$  is classified into:

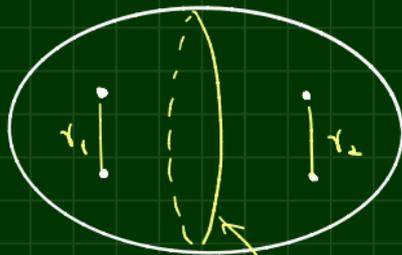
- periodic ( $\Leftrightarrow$  finite order)
- reducible ( $\Leftrightarrow$  fix some curve system)
- pA.

i.e.  $\phi$  is not periodic nor reducible, then pA.

Example.  $\Sigma$ : a sphere w/ 4 punctures.



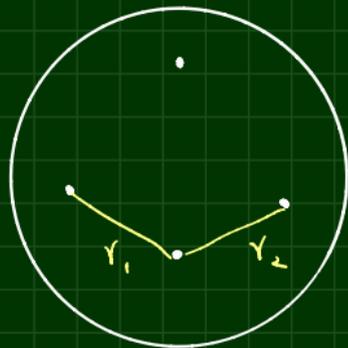
periodic



fixed

$$\phi = h_{r_2} h_{r_1}$$

reducible.



$$\phi = h_{r_2}^{-1} h_{r_1}$$

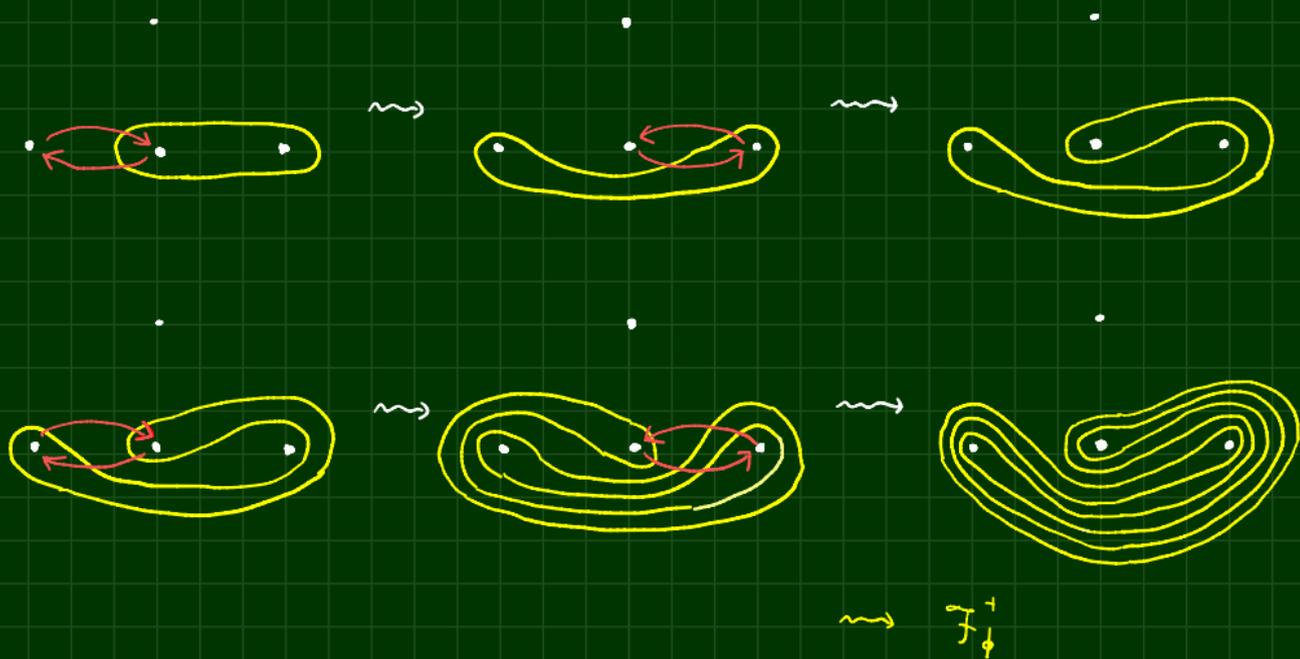
$pA$ .



i.e.  $\exists x_\phi^\pm \in \partial\mathcal{T}(\Sigma)$ .  $\forall x \in \partial\mathcal{T}(\Sigma) \setminus \{x_\phi^\pm\}$  :

$$\llbracket \mathcal{F}_\phi^\pm \rrbracket \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi^{\pm n}(x) = x_\phi^\pm$$

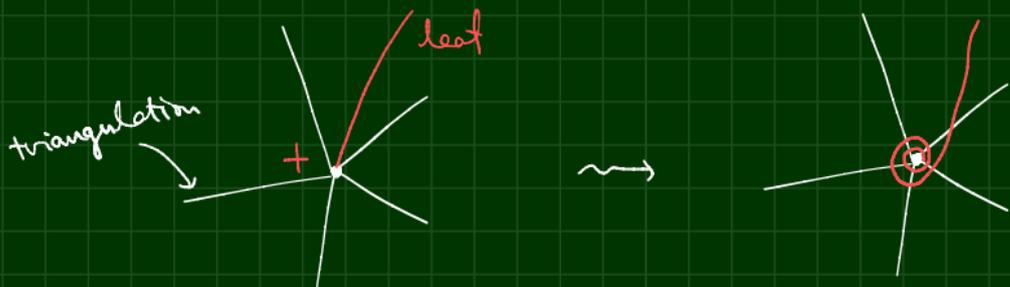
e.g.  $\Sigma =$  a sphere w/ 4-punctures



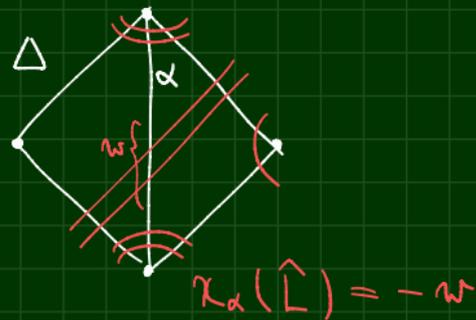
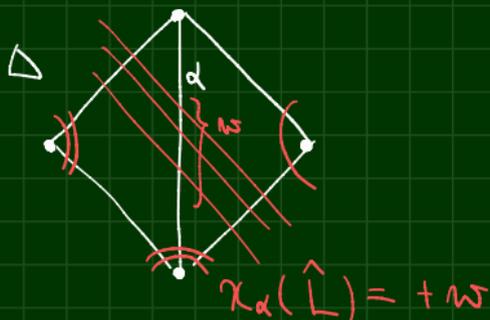
# $\mathcal{X}$ - laminations

$$\mathcal{L}^{\mathcal{X}}(\Sigma, \mathbb{Q})$$

$$:= \left\{ \hat{L} = \left( \bigcup_i w_i l_i, \sigma \right) \mid \begin{array}{l} l_i : \text{pairwise disjoint} \\ \text{closed curve or ideal curve.} \\ w_i \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}, \sigma \in \{+, -, 0\}^P \end{array} \right\} \sim$$



shear coordinate:



# Prop (Fock - Goncharov)

$$(\alpha_\alpha)_{\alpha \in \Delta}: \mathcal{L}^x(\Sigma, \mathbb{Q}) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{Q}^\Delta : \text{bij}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{L}^x(\Sigma, \mathbb{Q}) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \mathbb{Q}^\Delta \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{completion} \\ \mathcal{L}^x(\Sigma, \mathbb{R}) & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \mathbb{R}^\Delta \\ \uparrow & \swarrow \text{X-lamination} & \\ \mathbb{R} & & \end{array}$$

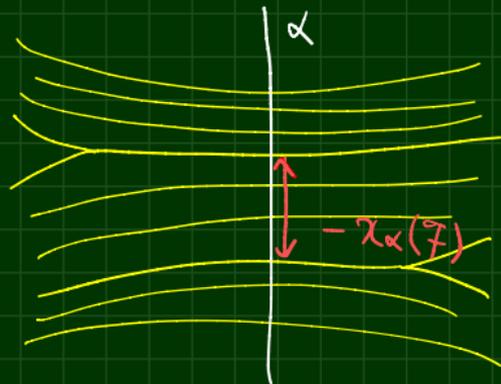
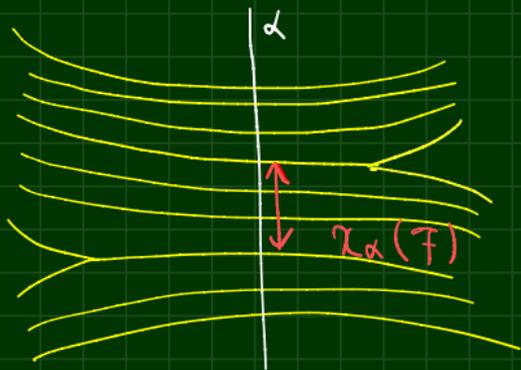
$$\mathcal{X}_\Sigma(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}})$$

$$\text{Exch}_\Sigma \simeq \text{Tri}^\Delta(\Sigma),$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathcal{L}^x(\Sigma; \mathbb{R}) & \\ (\alpha_\alpha)_\alpha \swarrow & & \searrow (\alpha_{\alpha'})_{\alpha'} \\ \mathbb{R}^\Delta & \xrightarrow{\text{trop. cluster X-transf.}} & \mathbb{R}^{\text{trop} \Delta} \end{array}$$

$$\alpha_{\alpha'}(\hat{L}) = \begin{cases} -\alpha_\kappa(\hat{L}) & : \alpha = \kappa \\ \alpha_\alpha(\hat{L}) + [\text{sgn}(\alpha_\kappa(\hat{L})) b_{\alpha\kappa}^\Delta]_+ \alpha_\kappa(\hat{L}) & : \alpha \neq \kappa. \end{cases}$$

◦ shear coordinate for measured foliations



$$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{MF}(\Sigma) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{X}_\Sigma(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}}).$$

$\downarrow$   
codim = #P

• For  $\phi \in MC(\Sigma) : pA$ .  $\mathcal{F}_\phi^\pm$  are rational

i.e. not saddle connection

↑ a leaf connecting singular pts

Prop

$\mathcal{F} \in MF(\Sigma) : \text{rational}$

$\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{X}_\Sigma(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}}) : \mathcal{X}\text{-filling.}$

$(\Leftrightarrow \forall \Delta : \text{triangulation of } \Sigma, \forall \alpha \in \Delta ;$   
 $\chi_\alpha(\mathcal{F}) \neq 0.)$

$\leadsto$  strict sign of a path  $\gamma$

## §4. Main theorem

Thm (Ishibashi-K.)

$\Sigma$ : punctured surface w/o.  $\partial$

$\phi \in \Gamma_{\Sigma} : pA \quad (\Leftrightarrow \Gamma_{\Sigma} \rightarrow MC(\Sigma))$   
 $\downarrow \phi \mapsto \underline{\phi} : pA$

TFAE:

(1)  $\phi : pA$

(2)  $\phi \in \mathcal{B}\mathcal{X}_{\Sigma}(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}})$ : NS dynamics.

(3) For any representation path  $\gamma$  of  $\phi$ ,

$\gamma$  is sign-stable on  $\Omega_{\Sigma}^{\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}}}$

$\mathbb{R}_{>0} \cdot \underline{\mathcal{X}_{\Sigma}(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}})}$   
rational  $\mathcal{X}$ -laminations

# Sketch of proof

(1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (2)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{MF}(\Sigma) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{X}_{\Sigma}(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^p & & \\
 \downarrow \phi^u & \downarrow \phi^x & \downarrow \sigma : \text{permutation} \\
 \mathcal{MF}(\Sigma) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{X}_{\Sigma}(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^p & & \uparrow \text{of punctured} \\
 & & \text{fin. order}
 \end{array}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow E_r(\hat{L}) \sim \left( \begin{array}{c|c} E^u & * \\ \hline 0 & \sigma \end{array} \right)$$

$\uparrow$  pres. mat at  $\hat{L} \in \mathcal{X}_{\Sigma}(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}})$

(1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3)  $\gamma$  : sign-stab on  $\Omega_{\Sigma}^{\mathbb{Q}}$

$$\Leftrightarrow \forall \hat{L} \in \mathcal{X}_{\Sigma}(\mathbb{Q}^{\text{trop}}), \exists \underbrace{\varepsilon_r^{\text{stab}} \in \{+, -\}}_{\text{rationality}}^{h(r)}$$

$\text{s.t. } \varepsilon_r(\phi^n \hat{L}) = \varepsilon_r^{\text{stab}} \text{ for } n \gg 0.$

$\uparrow$  of  $\mathbb{F}_q^+$



## Rnk

(1)  $\mathfrak{E}_\gamma(l_\Delta) = \text{tropical sign of } \gamma$ .

$\therefore$  tropical sign of representative of  $pA$

$\mathfrak{B}$  converges to  $\mathfrak{E}_\gamma^{\text{stab}}$

$\exists$  geometric meaning  
(train track splitting)

(2) When  $\Sigma$  has boundary components

$$\phi \in \text{MC}(\Sigma) : pA \iff \phi|_{\Sigma} \text{ is } pA$$

$\Sigma \setminus \overline{\text{cutter wbd of } \partial\Sigma}$

$\Rightarrow \phi$  is weakly sign-stable on  $\mathcal{X}_\Sigma(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}}) \setminus \Delta_\phi$

(In this case arational  $\not\iff$   $\mathcal{X}$ -filling)

## § 5 Train track

A train track " = " A combinatorial model of measured foliations

$\tau \subset \Sigma$  : "smoothly" embedded (trivalent) graph

is a (complete) train track

$\Leftrightarrow$  Each component of  $\Sigma \setminus \tau$  is



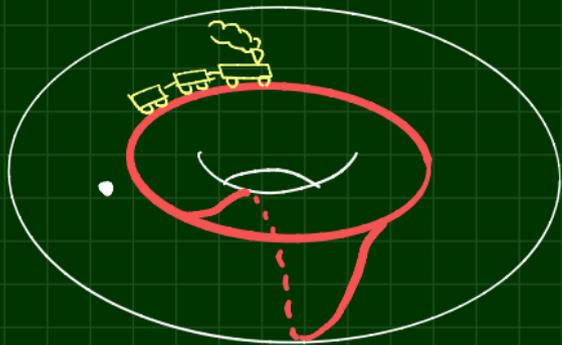
once punctured  
monogon

or

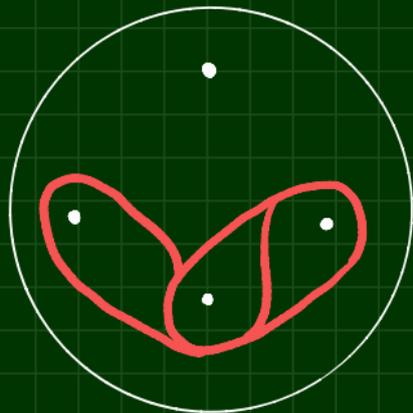


unpunctured  
triangle

# Examples of train tracks



once punctured torus



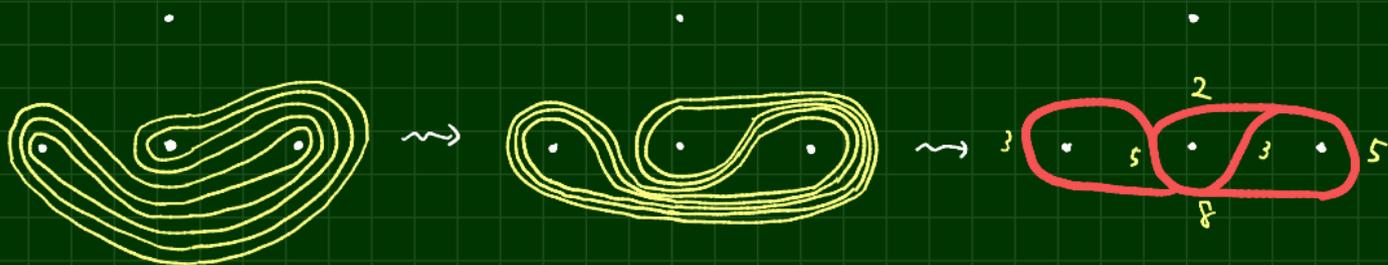
sphere w/ 4-punctures

For a train track  $\tau$ , its measure is a map

$$\nu : \{\text{edges of } \tau\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \text{ s.t. } \nu(e_1) = \nu(e_2) + \nu(e_3)$$


(measured foliation)

$$\tau \succ \mathcal{F} \text{ " } (\mathcal{F}, \nu) \iff \exists \iota : \Sigma \setminus \{\text{singular pts of } \mathcal{F}\} \rightarrow \tau \text{ s.t. } \dots \text{ "smoothness"}$$



For  $e \subset \tau$ : edge,  $\nu(t^{-1}(p))$  gives a measure of  $\tau$ .

$$V(\tau) := \{\text{measures of } \tau\} \simeq \{F \mid \tau > F\} \subset \mathcal{MF}(\Sigma).$$

Thm [Thurston]

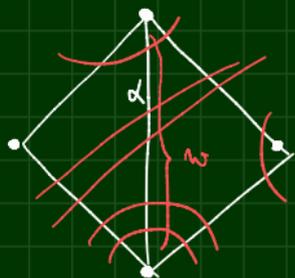
$\{V(\tau) \mid \tau: \text{recurrent complete train tracks}\}$

gives a PL atlas of  $\mathcal{MF}(\Sigma)$ .

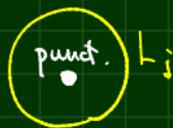
# $\Delta$ -laminations

$$\mathcal{L}^a(\Sigma, \mathbb{Q})$$

$$:= \left\{ L = \bigsqcup_i \omega_i L_i \mid \begin{array}{l} L_i : \text{pairwise disjoint closed curves} \\ \omega_i \in \mathbb{Q}^{\times}, \omega_i > 0 \text{ if } L_i \text{ is not } \underline{\text{peripheral}} \end{array} \right\} / \sim$$



$$a_\alpha(L) := \frac{\omega}{2}$$



Prop [Fock-Goncharov]

$$(a_\alpha)_{\alpha \in \Delta} : \mathcal{L}^a(\Sigma, \mathbb{Q}) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{Q}^\Delta$$

$$\mathcal{A}_\Sigma(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}}) \simeq \mathcal{L}^a(\Sigma, \mathbb{R}) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{R}^\Delta$$

↓ completion

# (Tropicalized) Gocharov - Shen potential

$$W_{\Delta} : \mathcal{A}_{\Delta}(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^P$$

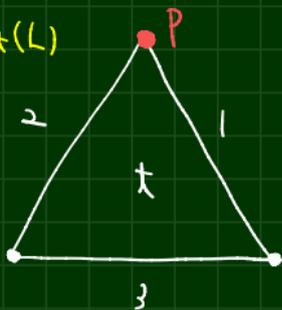
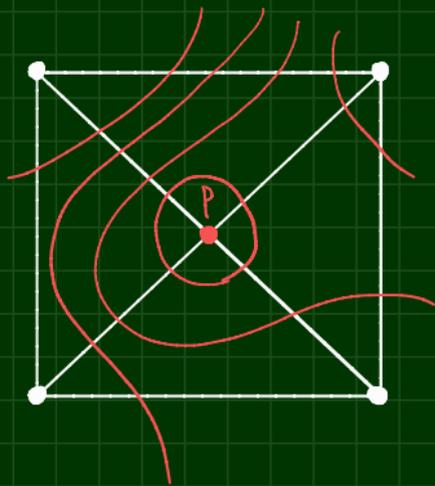
$$\parallel$$

$$(W_{\Delta, p})_{p \in P}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$L \mapsto \min_x \{ \underbrace{a_1(L) + a_2(L) - a_3(L)}_{w_x(L)} \}$$

↑  
triangles of  $\Delta$



$$W_{\Delta, p}(L)$$

$$= 2 \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{peripheral weight} \\ \text{around } p \in P \end{array} \right)$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \mathcal{A}_{\Sigma}(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}}) \supset W^{-1}(0) \simeq \mathcal{MF}(\Sigma).$$

$$\text{Cont}_{\Delta, p} := \left\{ \# = (t_p)_p \in \prod_{p \in P} \{ \text{triangles of } \Delta \text{ around } p \} \mid t_{p_1} \neq t_{p_2} \right\}$$

↓

$$\# \rightsquigarrow V_{\Delta}(\#) := \left\{ L \in W^{-1}(0) \mid W_{\Delta, p}(L) = w_{t_p}(L) \right\}$$

Prop

$\tau$  : complete train track,  $\exists \# \in \text{Cont}_{\Delta, p}$

$$\mathcal{MF}(\Sigma) \simeq W^{-1}(0)$$

∪

$$V(\tau) \simeq V_{\Delta}(\#)$$



cluster algebraic interpretation  
of train tracks.

# Splitting sequence of train tracks

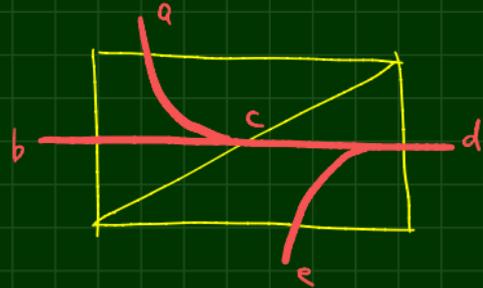
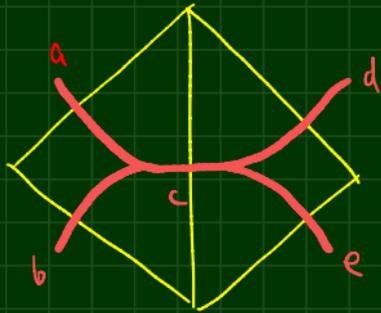
$$\phi \in MC(\Sigma) : pA \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{F}_\phi^+ \in MF(\Sigma).$$

Take  $\tau > \mathcal{F}_\phi^+$  s.t.  $\tau > \phi(\tau)$  (existence of suitable retraction)

$$\rightsquigarrow \begin{array}{ccccc} MF(\Sigma) = MF(\Sigma) & \xrightarrow{\phi_*} & MF(\Sigma) \\ \cup & & \cup & & \cup \\ V(\phi\tau) & \hookrightarrow & V(\tau) & \longrightarrow & V(\phi\tau) \\ \downarrow & \nearrow & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathcal{F} & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{F} & \longrightarrow & \phi(\mathcal{F}) \end{array}$$

decomposable into  
elementary moves!

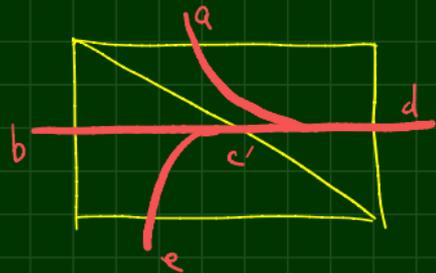
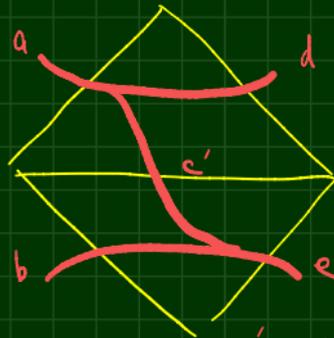
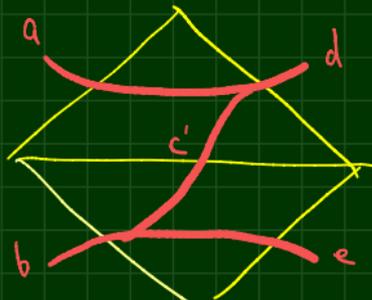
• Elementary moves of a train track correspond to a flip.



$a + e < b + d$

$a + e > b + d$

splitting



$c' = d + b - c$

$c' = a + e - c$

tropical cluster  $\Delta$ -transf.

Thm (Penner-Papadopoulos, Agol)

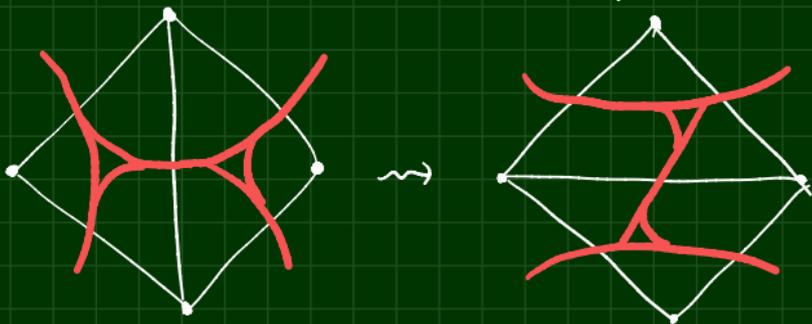
$\forall \phi \in MC(\Sigma) ; pA, \exists \tau \subset \Sigma : \text{train track}$

s.t.  $\tau \rightsquigarrow \phi(\tau)$   
 $\uparrow$   
sequence of splittings.

$\uparrow$  RLS sequence (Penner-Papadopoulos)  
maximal splitting seq. (Agol)

Any relationships between stable sign & this sequences?

Problem: in gen.



Thm ( $\kappa$  in prep.)

$$\exists \Sigma^\circ = (\Sigma, P \cup P^\circ).$$

$$\forall \phi \in MC(\Sigma), \exists \Delta^\circ : \text{tri. of } \Sigma^\circ. \exists \delta : \Delta^\circ \rightarrow \Delta_i$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \mathcal{A}_{\phi(\Delta)}(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}}) & \hookrightarrow & \mathcal{A}_{\phi(\Delta^\circ)}(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}}) & \xrightarrow{\mu_\delta} & \mathcal{A}_{\phi(\Delta_i)} \\
 \downarrow \mu_\gamma & \searrow \cup \mathcal{V}(\phi\tau) & \downarrow E_\delta^{\text{stab}} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \downarrow \mu_{\gamma^\circ} \\
 \mathcal{A}_\Delta(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}}) & \hookrightarrow & \mathcal{A}_{\Delta^\circ}(\mathbb{R}^{\text{trop}}) & \xrightarrow{\mu_\delta} & \mathcal{A}_{\Delta_i} \\
 \downarrow \cup & \searrow \mathcal{V}(\tau) & \downarrow & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \downarrow \cup \\
 & & & & \text{splitting sequence}
 \end{array}$$

splitting  
sequence

# Idea of proof

