

9TH GRADUATE STUDENT TOPOLOGY AND GEOMETRY CONFERENCE.

Michigan State University

**“Puncture Stability”**  
for the pure mapping class group

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April 3, 2011



# The setting

Sequence  $\{X_n\}$  of groups or spaces  
with maps  $\phi_n : X_n \rightarrow X_{n+1}$ .

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with maps  $\phi_n : X_n \rightarrow X_{n+1}$ .

**Question:** How does  $H_i(X_n)$  change as the parameter  $n$  gets large?

## Homological Stability:

The map  $\phi_n$  induces isomorphism

$$H_i(X_n) \approx H_i(X_{n+1}),$$

when the parameter  $n$  is large with respect to  $i$ .

# The Pure Mapping Class Group

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## Definition (Pure Mapping Class Group)

$$\mathrm{PMod}_{g,r}^n := \pi_o(\mathrm{PDiff}^+(\Sigma_{g,r}^n, \mathrm{rel} \partial))$$

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- The pure braid group:  $\text{PMod}_{0,1}^n = P_n$

## Remarks:

The group  $PMod_{g,r}^n$ :

- Is a finite index subgroup of the mapping class group  $Mod_{g,r}^n$ :

$$1 \rightarrow PMod_{g,r}^n \rightarrow Mod_{g,r}^n \rightarrow S_n \rightarrow 1$$

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- Is related with the topology of

$\mathcal{M}_{g,n} :=$  the moduli space of  $n$ -pointed genus  $g$  projective curves,

since

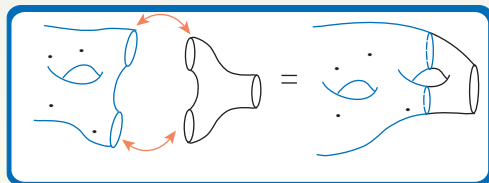
$$H^*(PMod_g^n; \mathbb{Q}) \approx H^*(\mathcal{M}_{g,n}; \mathbb{Q})$$

# Parameters $g$ and $r$ : The maps.

Surfaces with boundary:

(1) *Increasing the Genus  $g$ .*

The inclusion  $\Sigma_{g,r}^n \hookrightarrow \Sigma_{g+1,r-1}^n$

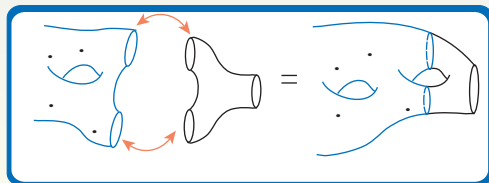


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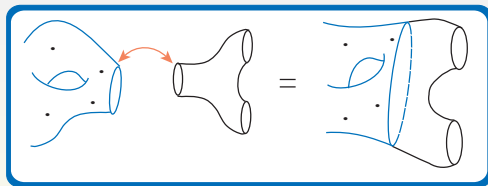
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$$\alpha : \text{PMod}_{g,r}^n \rightarrow \text{PMod}_{g+1,r-1}^n$$

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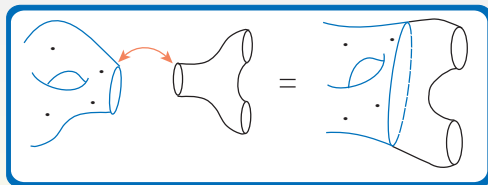
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# “Genus” homological stability.

Theorem (Harer 1985)

*The groups*

$$H_i(\mathrm{PMod}_{g,r}^n; \mathbb{Z})$$

*do not depend on the parameters  $g$  and  $r$  if  $g$  is large with respect to  $i$ .*

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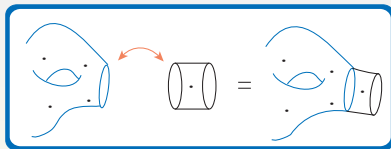
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- Stable ranges have been improved by Ivanov and others.

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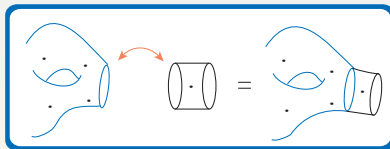
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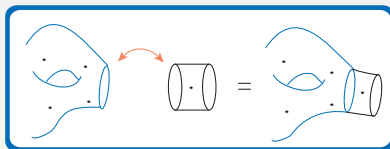
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Pure braid group case:

$$\mu_n : P_n \rightarrow P_{n+1}$$

*“adding a strand”*

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The dimension of  $H_i(P_n; \mathbb{Q})$  blows up to infinity for each fixed  $i > 0$  as  $n$  gets very large.

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FAILURE OF STABILITY!

In general, the pure mapping class group fails to satisfy “puncture” homological stability.

## Alternative: The forgetful map

The inclusion  $\Sigma_{g,r}^{n+1} \hookrightarrow \Sigma_{g,r}^n$  induces

$$f_n : \text{PMod}_{g,r}^{n+1} \rightarrow \text{PMod}_{g,r}^n$$



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**Remarks:**

- $f_n$  is defined for closed surfaces.
- For surfaces with boundary:  $f_n \circ \mu_n = \text{id}$ .

# Cohomology groups as $S_n$ -representations

- (a)  $H^i(\mathrm{PMod}_{g,r}^n; \mathbb{Q})$  is a finite dimensional  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector space with an  $S_n$ -action from

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$$f_n^i : H^i(\mathrm{PMod}_{g,r}^n; \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow H^i(\mathrm{PMod}_{g,r}^{n+1}; \mathbb{Q})$$

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$\{H^i(\mathrm{PMod}_{g,r}^n; \mathbb{Q}), f_n^i\}$  is a **consistent sequence** of  $S_n$ -representations.

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- Irreducible representations of  $S_n$  are classified by partitions of  $n$ :

## Irreducible $S_n$ -representations

$$V(\lambda)_n = V(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_l)_n$$

$V(0)_n =$  Trivial Representation of  $S_n$

$V(1)_n =$  Standard Representation of  $S_n$

$$V(\underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_k)_n = \bigwedge^k (\text{standard})$$

## Partitions of $n$

$$(n - \sum \lambda_i \geq \lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_l)$$

$$(n - 0, 0) = (n)$$

$$(n - 1, 1)$$

$$(n - k, \underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_k)$$

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$$H^1(P_n; \mathbb{Q}) = \mathbb{Q}^{n(n-1)/2} = V(0)_n \oplus V(1)_n \oplus V(2)_n$$

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## Main Theorem (informal statement):

The decomposition into irreducibles is eventually independent of  $n$ .

Roughly speaking this is the notion of

**“representation stability”**.

# The pure braid group case

Theorem (Church-Farb 2010)

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Corollary (Rational Arnol'd 1969)

*The braid groups satisfy homological stability:*

$$H_i(B_n; \mathbb{Q}) \approx H_i(B_{n+1}; \mathbb{Q})$$

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The multiplicity of the trivial representation is constant for  $n$  large enough and

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**Corollary (Rational Hatcher-Wahl 2010)**

*The groups  $\text{Mod}_{g,r}^n$ , with  $r > 0$ , satisfy “puncture” homological stability:*

$$H_i(\text{Mod}_{g,r}^n; \mathbb{Q}) \approx H_i(\text{Mod}_{g,r}^{n+1}; \mathbb{Q})$$

*if  $n$  is large with respect to  $i$ .*

# Ingredients for the proof:

- The Birman exact sequence for  $g \geq 2$ :

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- Associated “sequence of Hochschild-Serre spectral sequences”

$$E_2^{p,q}(n) = H^p(\mathrm{Mod}_{g,r}; H^q(\pi_1(\mathrm{Conf}_n(\Sigma_g^r)); \mathbb{Q})) \Rightarrow H^{p+q}(\mathrm{PMod}_{g,r}^n; \mathbb{Q}).$$

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## Theorem (Church )

*The sequence  $\{H^q(\pi_1(\text{Conf}_n(\Sigma_g^r)), f_n^q)\}$  is uniformly representation stable and monotone.*



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- Base of the induction:  $E_2$ -page

**Theorem (Representation stability with changing coefficients, J.R.)**

*Let  $\{V_n, \phi_n\}$  be a consistent sequence compatible with  $G$ -actions. If the sequence is monotone and uniformly representation stable, then so is the sequence  $\{H^p(G; V_n), \phi_n^p\}$ .*

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- Induction step: uses monotonicity and naturality of the spectral sequence.
- The conclusion of the Theorem is recovered from the  $E_\infty$ -page.

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Get a similar theorem for the cohomology of pure mapping class groups of some manifolds of higher dimension.

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- Same approach:  
Get a similar theorem for the cohomology of pure mapping class groups of some manifolds of higher dimension.
- Future:  
Representation stability for the cohomology of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$  the Deligne-Mumford compactification of  $\mathcal{M}_{g,n}$ .

## Final remarks:

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**Thank you**