

# Twisted Conjugacy

## Computation with twisted conjugacy classes

1.0.1

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## Acknowledgements

This documentation was created using the AUTODOC package. The algorithms in this package are based on [\[Fel00\]](#) and [\[DT20\]](#).

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# Chapter 1

## Twisted Conjugacy

Please note that currently the functions in this chapter are implemented only for (endomorphisms of) finite groups and pcp-groups.

### 1.1 Twisted Conjugation Action

Let  $G$  be a group and  $\varphi : G \rightarrow G$  an endomorphism. Then  $\varphi$  induces a (right) group action on  $G$  given by  $G \times G \rightarrow G : (g, h) \mapsto g \cdot h = h^{-1}g\varphi(h)$ . This group action is called  *$\varphi$ -twisted conjugation*, and induces an equivalence relation on the group. We say that  $g_1, g_2 \in G$  are  *$\varphi$ -twisted conjugate*, denoted by  $g_1 \sim_{\varphi} g_2$ , if and only if there exists some element  $h \in G$  such that  $g_1 \cdot h = g_2$ , or equivalently  $g_1 = hg_2\varphi(h)^{-1}$ .

#### 1.1.1 TwistedConjugation (for IsGroupHomomorphism)

▷ `TwistedConjugation(endo)` (operation)

Implements the twisted conjugation (right) group action induced by the endomorphism *endo*. This is the twisted conjugacy analogue of `OnPoints`.

#### 1.1.2 IsTwistedConjugate (for IsGroupHomomorphism, IsObject, IsObject)

▷ `IsTwistedConjugate(endo, g1, g2)` (operation)

Tests whether the elements *g1* and *g2* are twisted conjugate under the twisted conjugacy action of the endomorphism *endo*. This is the twisted conjugacy analogue of `IsConjugate`.

#### 1.1.3 RepresentativeTwistedConjugation (for IsGroupHomomorphism, IsObject, IsObject)

▷ `RepresentativeTwistedConjugation(endo, g1, g2)` (operation)

Computes an element that maps *g1* to *g2* under the twisted conjugacy action of the endomorphism *endo* and returns `fail` if no such element exists. This is the twisted conjugacy analogue of `RepresentativeAction`.

## Example

```

gap> G := Group([ (3,4)(5,6), (1,2,3)(4,5,7) ]);;
gap> phi := GroupHomomorphismByImages( G, G, [ (2,7)(4,6), (1,4,5,6,7,2,3) ],
> [ (2,4)(6,7), (1,2,4,6,5,7,3) ] );;
gap> tc := TwistedConjugation( phi );;
gap> IsTwistedConjugate( phi, G.1, G.1^2 );
false
gap> g := RepresentativeTwistedConjugation( phi, G.1, G.2 );
(1,6,7,5)(3,4)
gap> tc( G.1, g ) = G.2;
true

```

## 1.2 Reidemeister Classes

The equivalence classes of the equivalence relation  $\sim_\varphi$  are called the *Reidemeister classes of  $\varphi$*  or the  *$\varphi$ -twisted conjugacy classes*. We denote the Reidemeister class of  $g \in G$  by  $[g]_\varphi$ . The number of Reidemeister classes is called the Reidemeister number  $R(\varphi)$  and is always a positive integer or infinity.

### 1.2.1 ReidemeisterClass (for IsGroupHomomorphism, IsObject)

▷ `ReidemeisterClass(endo, g)` (operation)  
 ▷ `TwistedConjugacyClass(endo, g)` (operation)

Creates the Reidemeister class of an endomorphism *endo* of a group *G* with representative *g*. The following attributes and operations are available:

- `Representative`, which returns *g*,
- `GroupHomomorphismsOfReidemeisterClass`, which returns a list containing *endo* and the identity map on *G* (to be compatible with double twisted conjugacy classes),
- `ActingDomain`, which returns the group *G*,
- `FunctionAction`, which returns the twisted conjugacy action of *endo* on *G*,
- `Random`, which returns a random element belonging to the Reidemeister class,
- `\in`, which can be used to test if an element belongs to the Reidemeister class - only guaranteed to work if the Reidemeister number of *endo* is finite,
- `AsList`, which lists all elements in the Reidemeister class - only works for finite groups.
- `Size`, which gives the number of elements in the Reidemeister class - only works for finite groups.

This is the twisted conjugacy analogue of `ConjugacyClass`.

### 1.2.2 ReidemeisterClasses (for IsGroupHomomorphism)

- ▷ `ReidemeisterClasses(endo)` (operation)
- ▷ `TwistedConjugacyClasses(endo)` (operation)

Returns a list containing the Reidemeister classes of *endo* if the Reidemeister number of *endo* is finite, and returns `fail` otherwise. It is guaranteed that the Reidemeister class of the identity is in the first position. This is the twisted conjugacy analogue of `ConjugacyClasses`.

### 1.2.3 ReidemeisterNumber (for IsGroupHomomorphism)

- ▷ `ReidemeisterNumber(endo)` (operation)
- ▷ `NrTwistedConjugacyClasses(endo)` (operation)

Returns the Reidemeister number of *endo*, i.e. the number of Reidemeister classes. This is the twisted conjugacy analogue of `NrConjugacyClasses`.

Example

```
gap> tcc := ReidemeisterClass( phi, G.1 );
(3,4)(5,6)^G
gap> Representative( tcc );
(3,4)(5,6)
gap> GroupHomomorphismsOfReidemeisterClass( tcc );
[ [ (2,7)(4,6), (1,4,5,6,7,2,3) ] -> [ (2,4)(6,7), (1,2,4,6,5,7,3) ],
  IdentityMapping( Group([ (3,4)(5,6), (1,2,3)(4,5,7) ]) ) ]
gap> ActingDomain( tcc ) = G;
true
gap> FunctionAction( tcc )( G.1, g );
(1,2,3)(4,5,7)
gap> Random( tcc ) in tcc;
true
gap> List( tcc );
[ (3,4)(5,6), (1,3)(2,6), (1,6,7)(2,4,3), ... ]
gap> Size( tcc );
42
gap> ReidemeisterClasses( phi );
[ ()^G, (3,4)(5,6)^G, (3,6)(4,5)^G, (2,3,6)(4,7,5)^G ]
gap> NrTwistedConjugacyClasses( phi );
4
```

## 1.3 Reidemeister Spectra

The set of all Reidemeister numbers of automorphisms is called the *Reidemeister spectrum* and is denoted by  $\text{Spec}_R(G)$ , i.e.

$$\text{Spec}_R(G) := \{R(\varphi) \mid \varphi \in \text{Aut}(G)\}.$$

The set of all Reidemeister numbers of endomorphisms is called the *extended Reidemeister spectrum* and is denoted by  $\text{ESpec}_R(G)$ , i.e.

$$\text{ESpec}_R(G) := \{R(\varphi) \mid \varphi \in \text{End}(G)\}.$$

### 1.3.1 ReidemeisterSpectrum (for IsGroup)

▷ `ReidemeisterSpectrum(G)` (attribute)

Returns the Reidemeister spectrum of *G*.

### 1.3.2 ExtendedReidemeisterSpectrum (for IsGroup)

▷ `ExtendedReidemeisterSpectrum(G)` (attribute)

Returns the extended Reidemeister spectrum of *G*.

Example

```
gap> ReidemeisterSpectrum( G );
[ 4, 6 ]
gap> ExtendedReidemeisterSpectrum( G );
[ 1, 4, 6 ]
```

## 1.4 Zeta Functions

Let  $\varphi : G \rightarrow G$  be an endomorphism such that  $R(\varphi^n) < \infty$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then the Reidemeister zeta function  $R_\varphi(z)$  of  $\varphi$  is defined as

$$R_\varphi(z) := \exp \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} R(\varphi^n) \frac{z^n}{n}.$$

Please note that the functions below are only implemented for endomorphisms of finite groups.

### 1.4.1 ReidemeisterZeta (for IsGroupHomomorphism)

▷ `ReidemeisterZeta(endo)` (operation)

Returns the Reidemeister zeta function of *endo*.

### 1.4.2 PrintReidemeisterZeta (for IsGroupHomomorphism)

▷ `PrintReidemeisterZeta(endo)` (operation)

Returns a string describing the Reidemeister zeta function of *endo*.

### 1.4.3 ReidemeisterZetaCoefficients (for IsGroupHomomorphism)

▷ `ReidemeisterZetaCoefficients(endo)` (attribute)

For a finite group, the sequence of Reidemeister numbers of the iterates of *endo*, i.e. the sequence  $R(\text{endo})$ ,  $R(\text{endo}^2)$ , ..., is periodic (see [Fel00, Theorem 16]). This function returns a list containing the first period of this sequence.

## Example

```
gap> zeta1 := ReidemeisterZeta( phi );;  
gap> zeta1( 10/3 );  
-729/218491  
gap> PrintReidemeisterZeta( phi );  
"( 1-z^1 )^-4 * ( 1-z^2 )^-1"  
gap> ReidemeisterZetaCoefficients( phi );  
[ 4, 6 ]
```



## Chapter 2

# Double Twisted Conjugacy

Please note that currently the functions in this chapter are implemented only for (homomorphisms of) finite groups and (endomorphisms of) pcg-groups.

### 2.1 Double Twisted Conjugation Action

Let  $G, H$  be groups and  $\varphi, \psi : H \rightarrow G$  group homomorphisms. Then the pair  $(\varphi, \psi)$  induces a (right) group action on  $G$  given by  $G \times H \rightarrow G : (g, h) \mapsto g \cdot h = \psi(h)^{-1} g \varphi(h)$ . This group action is called  $(\varphi, \psi)$ -twisted conjugation, and induces an equivalence relation on the group. We say that  $g_1, g_2 \in G$  are  $(\varphi, \psi)$ -twisted conjugate, denoted by  $g_1 \sim_{\varphi, \psi} g_2$ , if and only if there exists some element  $h \in H$  such that  $g_1 \cdot h = g_2$ , or equivalently  $g_1 = \psi(h) g_2 \varphi(h)^{-1}$ .

#### 2.1.1 TwistedConjugation (for IsGroupHomomorphism, IsGroupHomomorphism)

▷ `TwistedConjugation(hom1, hom2)` (operation)

Implements the twisted conjugation (right) group action induced by the pair of homomorphisms (`hom1, hom2`).

#### 2.1.2 IsTwistedConjugate (for IsGroupHomomorphism, IsGroupHomomorphism, IsObject, IsObject)

▷ `IsTwistedConjugate(hom1, hom2, g1, g2)` (operation)

Tests whether the elements  $g1$  and  $g2$  are double twisted conjugate under the twisted conjugacy action of the pair of homomorphisms (`hom1, hom2`).

#### 2.1.3 RepresentativeTwistedConjugation (for IsGroupHomomorphism, IsGroupHomomorphism, IsObject, IsObject)

▷ `RepresentativeTwistedConjugation(hom1, hom2, g1, g2)` (operation)

Computes an element that maps  $g1$  to  $g2$  under the twisted conjugacy action of the pair of homomorphisms (`hom1, hom2`) and returns `fail` if no such element exists.

## Example

```

gap> G := AlternatingGroup( 6 );;
gap> H := SymmetricGroup( 5 );;
gap> phi := GroupHomomorphismByImages( H, G, [ (1,2)(3,5,4), (2,3)(4,5) ],
> [ (1,2)(3,4), () ] );;
gap> psi := GroupHomomorphismByImages( H, G, [ (1,2)(3,5,4), (2,3)(4,5) ],
> [ (1,4)(3,6), () ] );;
gap> tc := TwistedConjugation( phi, psi );;
gap> g1 := (4,6,5);;
gap> g2 := (1,6,4,2)(3,5);;
gap> IsTwistedConjugate( psi, phi, g1, g2 );
false
gap> h := RepresentativeTwistedConjugation( phi, psi, g1, g2 );
(1,2)
gap> tc( g1, h ) = g2;
true

```

## 2.2 Reidemeister Coincidence Classes

The equivalence classes of the equivalence relation  $\sim_{\varphi, \psi}$  are called the *Reidemeister coincidence classes* of  $(\varphi, \psi)$  or the  $(\varphi, \psi)$ -*twisted conjugacy classes*. We denote the Reidemeister class of  $g \in G$  by  $[g]_{\varphi, \psi}$ . The number of Reidemeister coincidence classes is called the Reidemeister coincidence number  $R(\varphi, \psi)$  and is always a positive integer or infinity.

### 2.2.1 ReidemeisterClass (for IsGroupHomomorphism, IsGroupHomomorphism, IsObject)

▷ `ReidemeisterClass(hom1, hom2, g)` (operation)  
 ▷ `TwistedConjugacyClass(hom1, hom2, g)` (operation)

Creates the Reidemeister coincidence class of the pair of homomorphisms  $(hom1, hom2) : H \rightarrow G$  with representative  $g$ . The following attributes and operations are available:

- `Representative`, which returns  $g$ ,
- `GroupHomomorphismsOfReidemeisterClass`, which returns  $[hom1, hom2]$ ,
- `ActingDomain`, which returns the group  $H$ ,
- `FunctionAction`, which returns the twisted conjugacy action on  $G$ ,
- `Random`, which returns a random element belonging to the Reidemeister class,
- `\in`, which can be used to test if an element belongs to the Reidemeister class - only guaranteed to work if the Reidemeister number  $R(hom1, hom2)$  is finite,
- `AsList`, which lists all elements in the Reidemeister class - only works for finite groups.
- `Size`, which gives the number of elements in the Reidemeister class - only works for finite groups.

### 2.2.2 ReidemeisterClasses (for IsGroupHomomorphism, IsGroupHomomorphism)

- ▷ `ReidemeisterClasses(hom1, hom2)` (operation)
- ▷ `TwistedConjugacyClasses(hom1, hom2)` (operation)

Returns a list containing the Reidemeister coincidence classes of  $(hom1, hom2)$  if the Reidemeister number  $R(hom1, hom2)$  is finite, and returns fail otherwise. It is guaranteed that the Reidemeister class of the identity is in the first position.

### 2.2.3 ReidemeisterNumber (for IsGroupHomomorphism, IsGroupHomomorphism)

- ▷ `ReidemeisterNumber(hom1, hom2)` (operation)
- ▷ `NrTwistedConjugacyClasses(hom1, hom2)` (operation)

Returns the Reidemeister number of  $(hom1, hom2)$ , i.e. the number of Reidemeister classes.

Example

```
gap> tcc := ReidemeisterClass( phi, psi, g1 );
(4,6,5)^G
gap> Representative( tcc );
(4,6,5)
gap> GroupHomomorphismsOfReidemeisterClass( tcc );
[ [ (1,2)(3,5,4), (2,3)(4,5) ] -> [ (1,2)(3,4), () ],
  [ (1,2)(3,5,4), (2,3)(4,5) ] -> [ (1,4)(3,6), () ] ]
gap> ActingDomain( tcc ) = H;
true
gap> FunctionAction( tcc )( g1, h );
(1,6,4,2)(3,5)
gap> Random( tcc ) in tcc;
true
gap> List( tcc );
[ (4,6,5), (1,6,4,2)(3,5) ]
gap> Size( tcc );
2
gap> ReidemeisterClasses( phi, psi );
[ ()^G, (4,5,6)^G, (4,6,5)^G, ... ]
gap> NrTwistedConjugacyClasses( phi, psi );
184
```

## Chapter 3

# Miscellaneous

### 3.1 Groups

#### 3.1.1 FixedPointGroup (for IsGroupHomomorphism)

▷ FixedPointGroup(*endo*) (operation)

Let *endo* be an endomorphism of a group *G*. This command returns the subgroup of *G* consisting of the elements fixed under the endomorphism *endo*. This command is implemented only for endomorphisms of finite groups and abelian groups.

#### 3.1.2 CoincidenceGroup (for IsGroupHomomorphism, IsGroupHomomorphism)

▷ CoincidenceGroup(*hom1*, *hom2*) (operation)

Let *hom1*, *hom2* be group homomorphisms from *H* to *G*. This command returns the subgroup of *H* consisting of the elements *h* for which  $h^{\sim hom1} = h^{\sim hom2}$ . This command is implemented only for homomorphisms where either *H* is finite or *G* is abelian.

Example

```
gap> G := AlternatingGroup( 6 );;
gap> phi := GroupHomomorphismByImages( G, G, [ (1,2,3,4,5), (4,5,6) ],
> [ (1,2,6,3,5), (1,4,5) ] );;
gap> FixedPointGroup( phi );
Group([ (), (1,6,5,2,4), (1,5,4,6,2), (1,2,6,4,5), (1,4,2,5,6) ])
gap> H := SymmetricGroup( 5 );;
gap> khi := GroupHomomorphismByImages( H, G, [ (1,2)(3,5,4), (2,3)(4,5) ],
> [ (1,2)(3,4), () ] );;
gap> psi := GroupHomomorphismByImages( H, G, [ (1,2)(3,5,4), (2,3)(4,5) ],
> [ (1,4)(3,6), () ] );;
gap> CoincidenceGroup( khi, psi );
<permutation group with 60 generators>
```

## 3.2 Morphisms

### 3.2.1 InducedEndomorphism

▷ `InducedEndomorphism(epi, endo)` (function)

Let *endo* be an endomorphism of a group *G* and *epi* be an epimorphism from *G* to a group *H* such that the kernel of *epi* is fixed under *endo*. This command returns the endomorphism of *H* induced by *endo* via *epi*, that is, the endomorphism of *H* which maps  $g^{\text{epi}}$  to  $(g^{\text{endo}})^{\text{epi}}$ , for any element *g* of *G*. This generalises `InducedAutomorphism` to endomorphisms.

### 3.2.2 RestrictedEndomorphism

▷ `RestrictedEndomorphism(endo, N)` (function)

Let *endo* be an endomorphism of a group *G* and *N* be subgroup of *G* invariant under *endo*. This command returns the endomorphism of *N* induced by *endo*. This is similar to `RestrictedMapping`, but the range is explicitly set to *N*.

Example

```
gap> G := ExamplesOfSomePcpGroups( 5 );
gap> phi := GroupHomomorphismByImages( G, G, [ G.1, G.2, G.3, G.4 ],
> [ G.1*G.4^-1, G.3, G.2*(G.3*G.4)^2, G.4^-1 ] );
gap> N := DerivedSubgroup(G);
gap> p := NaturalHomomorphismByNormalSubgroup( G, N );
[ g1, g2, g3, g4, g2^2, g3^2, g4^2 ] -> [ g1, g2, g3, g4, id, id, id ]
gap> InducedEndomorphism( p, phi );
[ g1, g2, g3, g4 ] -> [ g1*g4, g3, g2, g4 ]
gap> RestrictedEndomorphism( phi, N );
[ g2^2, g3^2, g4^2 ] -> [ g3^2, g2^2*g3^4*g4^8, g4^-2 ]
```

# References

- [DT20] Karel Dekimpe and Sam Tertooy. Algorithms for twisted conjugacy classes of polycyclic-by-finite groups. *arXiv:2002.08285 [math.GR]*, 2020. [2](#)
- [Fel00] Alexander Fel'shtyn. Dynamical zeta functions, nielsen theory and reidemeister torsion. *Mem. Amer. Math. Soc.*, 147(699):xii+146, 2000. [2](#), [7](#)