# Fundamental groups of small covers

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#### Small Covers

- $\mathcal{F}(P) = \{F_1, F_2, \cdots, F_m\}$ : the facets set of a given simple polytope P.
- A map  $\lambda : \mathcal{F}(P) \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2^n$  satisfied  $\forall f = F_1 \cap F_2 \cap \cdots \cap F_k$ ,

$$G_f \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \langle \lambda(F_1), \lambda(F_2), \cdots, \lambda(F_k) \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^k.$$

called *characteristic function* on  $\mathcal{F}(P)$ .

•  $\lambda(F)$ : the color on a facet F.

#### Small Covers

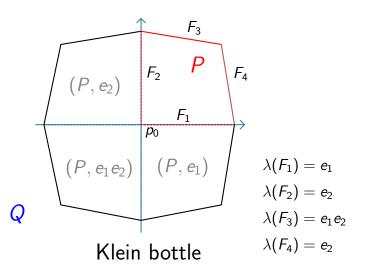
#### Definition ( small cover over P)

$$M = P \times \mathbb{Z}_2^n / \sim$$

Where  $(p,g) \sim (q,h)$  iff  $p = q, g^{-1}h \in G_{f(p)}$ , and f(p) is the unique face of P that contains p in its relative interior.

- $\pi: M \longrightarrow P$  the nature projective.
- $(P,g) \stackrel{F}{\sim} (P,h) \iff g^{-1}h = \lambda(F).$

$$(P,g)$$
  $F$   $(P,h)$ 



General Case:  $p_0 = F_1 \cap F_2 \cap \cdots \cap F_n$  is a vertex of P, and  $\lambda(F_i) = e_i, i = 1, 2, \cdots, n$ .

## Coxeter Group and Exact Sequence

 For any simple polytope P, define a right-angle Coxeter group

$$W_P = \langle s_F | s_F^2 = 1, (s_F s_{F'})^2 = 1, F, F' \in \mathcal{F}(P), F \cap F' \neq \emptyset \rangle$$

• The following (right split) exact sequence is given by Davis-Januszkiewicz [3].

$$1 \longrightarrow \pi_1(M) \stackrel{\alpha}{\longrightarrow} W_P \stackrel{\psi}{\longrightarrow} \mathbb{Z}_2^n \longrightarrow 1$$

where 
$$\psi(s_F) = \lambda(F), \ \forall F \in \mathcal{F}(P)$$

Rk: 
$$W_P \cong \pi_1(M) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_2^n$$
.

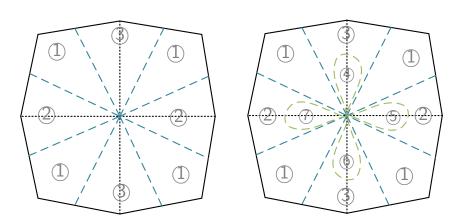
#### *Notations*

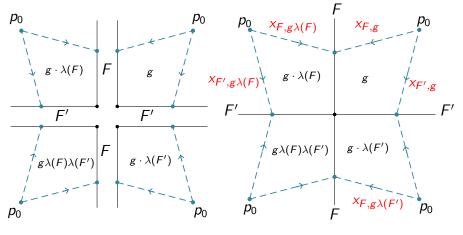
P a n-dimension simple convex polytope in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .  $\mathcal{F}(P)$  the facets set of P.  $\lambda$   $(\mathcal{F}(P) \to \mathbb{Z}_2^n)$ the characteristic function.

M a small cover over P.  $\pi$   $(M \to P)$  the nature project.  $W_P$  the Coxeter group associated with

 $\pi_1(M)$  the fundamental group of M.

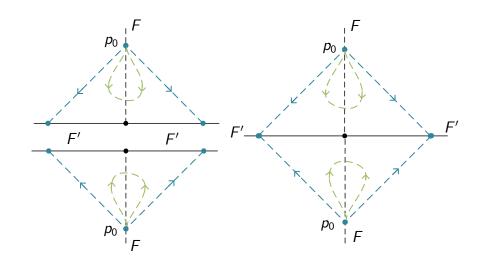
# $Single \ {\tt O-}cell \ Cell \ Structure$





Relation-1:  $x_{F,g}x_{F,g\lambda(F)} = 1$ 

Relation-2:  $x_{F,g}x_{F',g\lambda(F)} = x_{F',g}x_{F,g\lambda(F')}$ 



Relation-2: 
$$x_{F,g}x_{F',g\lambda(F)} = x_{F',g}x_{F,g\lambda(F')}$$

Relation-3:  $x_{F,g} = 1$ ,  $p_0 \subset F$ 

# Presentation of $\pi_1$

- Generators:  $x_{F,g}$
- Relations:  $[\phi_F(g) = g \cdot \lambda(F)]$ 
  - $\times x_{F,g} x_{F,\phi_F(g)} = 1$
  - $x_{F,g} x_{F',\phi_F(g)} = x_{F',g} x_{F,\phi_{F'}(g)}$
  - $x_{F,g}=1$

#### **Theorem**

The presentation of  $\pi_1(M)$ .

$$\pi_{1}(M, p_{0}) = \langle x_{F,g}, F \in \mathcal{F}(P), g \in \mathbb{Z}_{2}^{n} :$$

$$x_{F,g} = 1, p_{0} \in F; x_{F,g} x_{F,\phi_{F}(g)} = 1;$$

$$x_{F,g} x_{F',\phi_{F}(g)} = x_{F',g} x_{F,\phi_{F'}(g)}, F \cap F' \neq \emptyset \rangle$$

# Universal Cover Space

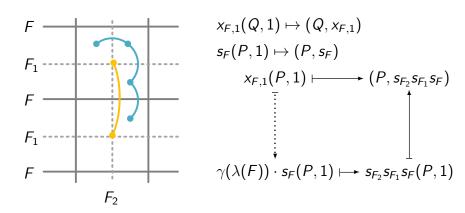
- $\bullet \mathcal{M} = Q \times \pi_1(\mathcal{M}) / \sim^1$   $(Q, \nu_1) \stackrel{F_g \sim F_h}{\sim} (Q, \nu_2) \Longleftrightarrow \nu_1^{-1} \nu_2 = x_{F,h}, g^{-1} h = \lambda(F).$
- $\mathcal{L} = P \times W_P / \sim^2$  $(P, \omega_1) \stackrel{F \sim F}{\sim} (P, \omega_2) \Longleftrightarrow \omega_1^{-1} \omega_2 = s_F.$

#### Lemma

 $\mathcal{M}\cong\mathcal{L}$ , in the other words, the universal cover space of small cover is determined only by simple polytope P.



# Relation between $\pi_1(M)$ and $W_P$



Rk: 1: the unit element of  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$  or  $W_P$ .

# Relation between $\pi_1(M)$ and $W_P$

$$\alpha: \pi_{1}(M, p_{0}) \longrightarrow W$$

$$x_{F,g} \longmapsto \gamma(g) \cdot \gamma(\lambda(F)) s_{F} \cdot (\gamma(g))^{-1}$$

$$= \gamma(g\lambda(F)) \cdot s_{F} \cdot \gamma(g)$$

$$= \gamma(\phi_{F}(g)) s_{F} \gamma(g)$$

$$1 \longrightarrow \pi_{1}(M) \xrightarrow{\alpha} W_{P} \xrightarrow{\psi} \mathbb{Z}_{2}^{n} \longrightarrow 1$$

#### Main Results

## Theorem (Wu-Yu, 2017)

Let M be a small cover over a simple polytope P and f be a proper face of P. The following two statements are equivalent.

- ¿ The facial submanifold  $M_f$  is  $\pi_1$ -injective in M.
- ¿ For any  $F, F' \in \mathcal{F}(f^{\perp})$ , we have  $f \cap F \cap F' \neq \emptyset$ .

Rk: The  $\pi_1$ -injectivity of facial submanifold of small cover only depended on P.

#### Main Results

 A simple polytope P is called a flag polytope if a collection of facets of P have common intersection whenever they pairwise intersect.

# Corollary (Wu-Yu)

- \* Let P be a flag simple polytope and M be a small cover over P. Then  $i_*: \pi_1(M_f) \longrightarrow \pi_1(M)$  is injective for any proper face f of P.
- \*\* For any small cover M over a 3-dimensional simple polytope P, there always exists a facet F of P so that the facial submanifold  $M_F$  is  $\pi_1$  injective in M.

#### Notations.

```
\begin{array}{c|c}
f & F_1 \cap F_2 \cap \cdots \cap F_k. \\
\mathcal{F}(f^{\perp}) & \{F: f \cap F \neq \varnothing, F \in \mathcal{F} - \{F_1, \cdots, F_k\}\}.
\end{array}

  M_f \mid \pi^{-1}(f), the submanifold of M.
    i \mid (M_f \to M), the inclusion.
   i_* \mid (\pi_1(M_f) \to \pi_1(M)), the group homomor-
             phism induced by i.
       W_f \rightarrow W_P, a natural group homomor-
             phism as transformation group.
```

#### Proof.

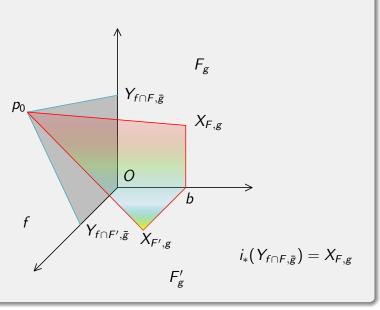
$$1 \longrightarrow \pi_{1}(M_{f}) \xrightarrow{\alpha_{f}} W_{f} \xrightarrow{\psi_{f}} \mathbb{Z}_{2}^{n-k} \longrightarrow 1$$

$$\downarrow i_{*} \downarrow j_{*} \downarrow q \downarrow q$$

$$1 \longrightarrow \pi_{1}(M) \xrightarrow{\alpha} W_{P} \xrightarrow{\psi} \mathbb{Z}_{2}^{n} \longrightarrow 1$$

$$j: W_f \longrightarrow W_P$$
  $q: \mathbb{Z}_2^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2^k = \mathbb{Z}_2^n / G_f$   $g \longmapsto \bar{g}$ 

## Continuing.



#### Continuing.

$$\pi_{1}(M_{f})/\alpha_{f}^{-1}(\ker j_{*}) \xrightarrow{\alpha_{f}'} W_{f}/\ker j_{*}$$

$$\downarrow i_{*}' \qquad \qquad \downarrow j_{*}' \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad$$

- $\bullet \ \eta \circ j'_* \circ \alpha'_f = \eta \circ \alpha \circ i'_*$
- $\eta \circ j'_* \circ \alpha'_f$  injective  $\Longrightarrow i'_*$  injective
- $\ker j_* = \langle [F, F'] : F, F' \in \mathcal{F}(f^{\perp}), f \cap F \cap F' = \varnothing \rangle$



End

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