

ANNOUNCEMENTS MAR 11

- Cameras on
- Midterm due 11:59 pm
- No HW this week
- First draft due Apr 2
- Office hours by appt.

Today

Normal forms...

in $BS(1,2)$

in B_3

Hyperbolic plane?

Normal Forms

G = group

S = gen set

We have

$$\pi: \{\text{words in } S \cup S^{-1}\} \rightarrow G$$

A normal form for G is an

$$\eta: G \rightarrow \{\text{words in } S \cup S^{-1}\}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \pi \circ \eta = \text{id}.$$

To tell if two elements are same,
put them in normal form &
compare.

This solves word problem.

We can also think of a normal form as a subset of $\{\text{words in } S \cup S^{-1}\}$,
one word in $\pi^{-1}(g)$ for each $g \in G$.

Examples. ① $\mathbb{Z}^2 = \langle a, b \mid ab = ba \rangle$
normal form: $\{a^m b^n : m, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

② F_2 normal form: freely red. words

Normal forms for $BS(1,2) = \langle a, t \mid tat^{-1} = a^2 \rangle$

We know

$$BS(1,2) \xrightarrow{\cong} \left\{ g(x) = 2^n x + \frac{m}{2^k} : \begin{matrix} m, n, k \\ \in \mathbb{Z} \end{matrix} \right\}$$

$$a \mapsto g(x) = x+1$$

$$t \mapsto g(x) = 2x$$

We can check:

$$t^{-k} a^m t^k t^n \mapsto g(x) = 2^n x + \frac{m}{2^k}$$

Guess for normal form:

$$\left\{ t^{-k} a^m t^{k+n} \right\}$$

FAILS!

$$tat^{-1} = a^2$$

$$k=-1 \quad m=1 \quad n=0 \quad \begin{matrix} k=n=0 \\ m=2 \end{matrix}$$

The ambiguity is that $m/2^k$ might be reduced, i.e. m even.

The fix: write elements of $BS(1,2)$ as

$$g(x) = 2^n x + \frac{2m+1}{2^k}$$

or $g(x) = 2^n x$

\leadsto Normal form:

$$\left\{ t^{-k} a^{2m+1} t^{k+n} : \begin{matrix} k, m, n \\ \in \mathbb{Z} \end{matrix} \right\}$$

$$\cup \left\{ t^n : n \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

Normal form for B_3 (or B_n)

Generators:



Multiplication is stacking.



Poll. Which are equiv to

- 1 2 1 1 2 2 2 ?
- 2 1 2 1 2 2 2
- 2 1 1 2 1 2 2
- 2 1 1 1 2 1 2
- 2 1 1 1 1 2 1

Garside Normal Form

Ingredient # 1 :

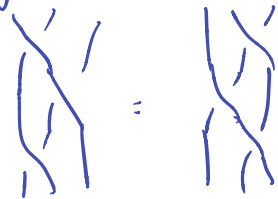
$$B_3 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\sigma_1 \mapsto 1$$

$$\sigma_2 \mapsto 1$$

"signed word length"

Ingredient # 2 :



"half-twist"

$$\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1 = \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2 = \Delta$$

Running example: $\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2^{-1}$

Step 1. Replace each σ_i^{-1} with Δ^{-1} pos. word.

Why can we do this?

$$\Delta^{-1} = \sigma_2^{-1} \sigma_1^{-1} \sigma_2^{-1}$$

and $\Delta^{-1} = \sigma_1^{-1} \sigma_2^{-1} \sigma_1^{-1}$

$$\Delta^{-1} \sigma_2 \sigma_1 = \sigma_2^{-1}$$

$$\Delta^{-1} \sigma_1 \sigma_2 = \sigma_1^{-1}$$

example. $\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2^{-1} \rightarrow \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \underline{\Delta^{-1}} \sigma_2 \sigma_1$

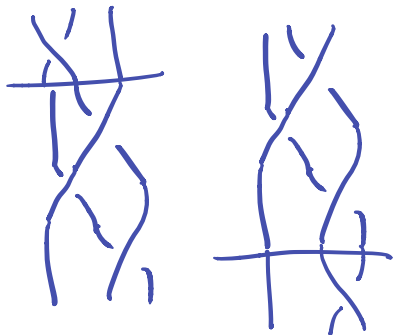
Step 2. Move all Δ^{-1} to the left.

Why can we do this? $\sigma_i \Delta^{-1} = \Delta^{-1} \sigma_{n-i}$

example. $\rightsquigarrow \Delta^{-1} \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_2 \sigma_1$

Check:

$$\sigma_i \Delta^{-1} = \Delta^{-1} \sigma_{n-i}$$



We now have Δ^i pos word $i \leq 0$.

Step 3. Find maximal i so our braid is Δ^i pos word $i \leq 0$.

In our example:

$$\Delta^{-1} \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_2 \sigma_1 = \Delta^{-2} \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_2 \sigma_1$$

How do we know our example is not

Δ^0 pos word?

It is!

$$\Delta^0 \sigma_2 \sigma_1$$

In general, use ingredient #1.

Alternate example: (not related to running example)
How do I know

$$\Delta^{-1} \sigma_1 \neq \Delta^0 \cdot \text{pos word?}$$

↓
signed word
length -2

↓
signed word length
 ≥ 0 .

Another example:

How do I know

$$\Delta^{-1} \sigma_1^4 \neq \Delta^0 \cdot \underbrace{\text{pos word}}_{\substack{\text{must have} \\ \text{length} \\ 1}}?$$

only 2 such words.

Step 4 Find all Δ^i pos word
equalling g .

Choose the smallest in
lexicographic order.

example. $\Delta^0 \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \leftarrow$ normal form.

only candidates are ~~$\Delta^0 \sigma_1 \sigma_2$~~

~~$\Delta^0 \sigma_1^2$~~

~~$\Delta^0 \sigma_2^2$~~

Steps 3 & 4 use:

Thm. If two positive braids
are equal, they differ
by finitely many

$121 \leftrightarrow 212$

no inverses needed!

In fancy language:

The braid monoid B_n^+
embeds into B_n .

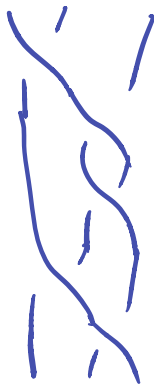
Prove this theorem?



21221

12121

11211



12212

positive crossing



neg. crossing



