# Crossed modules, homotopy 2-types, knotted surfaces and loop braids

## Algebra and Representation Theory in the North (Edinburgh)

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Papakyriakopoulos theorem: S<sup>3</sup> \ K is an aspherical space.

- Asphericity means that:  $\pi_i(S^3 \setminus K) = 0$ , if  $i \ge 2$ .
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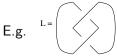
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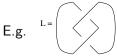
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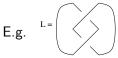
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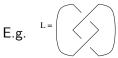
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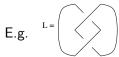
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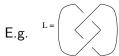
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Well known theorem: The fundamental group functor

 $\pi_1 \colon \{1 ext{-types}\} o \{ ext{groups}\}$ 

is an equivalence of categories. This implies:

- 1. Two 1-types X and Y are homotopic iff  $\pi_1(X) \cong \pi_1(Y)$ .
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**Also recall:** Wirtinger presentation for  $\pi_1(S^3 \setminus K)$ .

A generator for each arc of projection. A relation for each crossing:

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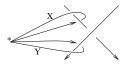
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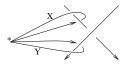
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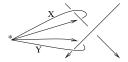
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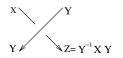
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# Beyond 1-types: complements of knotted surfaces $\Sigma \subset S^4$

- Let  $\Sigma \subset S^4$  be a closed surface smoothly embedded in  $S^4$ . (Any genus, any number of components, possibly non-orientable.) Fact:  $S^4 \setminus \Sigma$  need not be aspherical. (Likely it never is.) Also  $\pi_1(S^4 \setminus \Sigma)$  does not classify  $S^4 \setminus \Sigma$  up to homotopy.
- We need to look at 'higher order' homotopy type information in order to classify  $S^4 \setminus \Sigma$  up to homotopy.
- Let us look at the homotopy 2-type  $\mathcal{P}_2(S^4 \setminus \Sigma)$  of  $S^4 \setminus \Sigma$ .
- This topological space  $\mathcal{P}_2(S^4 \setminus \Sigma)$  is obtained from  $S^4 \setminus \Sigma$  by functorially killing all homotopy groups  $\pi_i$ , for  $i \geq 3$ .
- I.e. we throw away homotopy theoretical information of order  $\geq$  3. Hence  $\mathcal{P}_2(S^4 \setminus \Sigma)$  is a 2-type.

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Category of 2-types is equivalent to homotopy category of 2-groups. ... To be explained later.

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# Crossed modules

Definition (Crossed module)

A crossed module  $\mathcal{G} = (\partial \colon E \to G, \triangleright)$  is given by:

- ▶ A group map (i.e. homomorphism) ∂: E → G. (G is called the "base-group". E is the "principal group".)
- A left action  $\triangleright$  of G on E, by automorphisms,
- such that the following conditions (*Peiffer equations*) hold:
   1. ∂(g ▷ e) = g∂(e)g<sup>-1</sup>, where g ∈ G, e ∈ E;

2.  $\partial(e) \triangleright f = efe^{-1}$ , where  $e, f \in E$ .

Example

G a group; A an <u>abelian group</u>.
 Consider a left-action ▷ of G on A, by automorphisms.
 We have a crossed module G = (A → 1G G, ▷).

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- An algebraic 2-type is a triple (A, K, ω), where A is an abelian group with a left action of K, and ω ∈ H<sup>3</sup>(K, A).

We have a fundamental algebraic 2-type functor:

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We also have a functor:

# $\rho_{2}: \{ \text{Crossed Modules} \} \rightarrow \{ \text{Algebraic 2-types} \}$ $\mathcal{G} \mapsto (\pi_{2}(\mathcal{G}), \pi_{1}(\mathcal{G}), k(\mathcal{G}))$

- 1. Crossed modules and their maps form a category.
- 2. Each crossed module embeds into an exact sequence like:

$$\pi_2(\mathcal{G}) \doteq \ker(\partial) \xrightarrow{i} \boxed{E \xrightarrow{\partial} \mathcal{G}} \xrightarrow{p} \pi_1(\mathcal{G}) \doteq \operatorname{coker}(\partial).$$

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Theorem  $Ho(\{Crossed Modules\}) \cong \{2\text{-types}\}$  . I.e.

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This equivalence of categories can be made more concrete.

Given a reduced CW-complex X, let X<sup>1</sup> be its one-skeleton. We have a crossed module:

 $\Pi_2(X, X^1) = (\partial \colon \pi_2(X, X^1) \to \pi_1(X^1), \triangleright)$ 

Let {CW-complexes}/ ≅ be the category with objects reduced CW-complexes, with chosen CW-decomposition. Maps X → Y are pointed homotopy classes of pointed maps. We have a functor

 $\Pi_2: \ \{\text{CW-complexes}\} \ / \cong \ \longrightarrow \{\text{Cof-Crossed Modules}\} / \cong.$ 

- 1. When restricted to 2-types,  $\Pi_2$  is an equivalence of categories.
- Π<sub>2</sub>(X, X<sup>1</sup>) faithfully represents the homotopy 2-type of X. Hence π<sub>2</sub>(X) = ker(∂), π<sub>1</sub>(X) = coker(∂), k(X) = k(Π<sub>2</sub>(X)).

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- 1. When restricted to 2-types,  $\Pi_2$  is an equivalence of categories.
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Theorem  $Ho(\{Crossed Modules\}) \cong \{2\text{-types}\}$  . I.e.

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This equivalence of categories can be made more concrete.

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# Presentation of $\Pi_2(X, X^1)$ by generators and relations

Let X be a reduced CW-complex.  $X^i$  union of cells of index  $\leq i$ . Procedure to describe a presentation of the crossed module:

## $\Pi_2(X, X^1) = (\pi_2(X, X^1) \to \pi_1(X^1))$

by generators and relations. (In the world of crossed modules.)

1.  $\pi_1(X^1) = \mathcal{F}(1\text{-cells})$ : free group on the set of 1-cells of X. 2.  $\Pi_2(X^2, X^1) = (\partial : \pi_2(X^2, X^1) \to \pi_1(X^1))$ 

is the free crossed module on the attaching maps of the 2-cells.

$$\Pi_2(X^2, X^1) = \mathcal{U}\left\langle \{2\text{-cells}\} \xrightarrow{\partial} \pi_1(X^1) \right\rangle.$$

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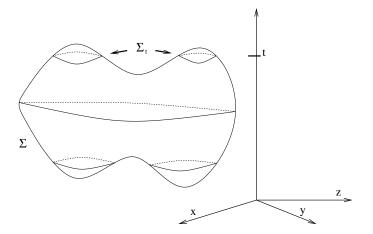
To simplify, suppose critical points appear in increasing order.

Let  $\Sigma \subset S^4 = \mathbb{R}^4 \cup \{\infty\}$  be a knotted surface.

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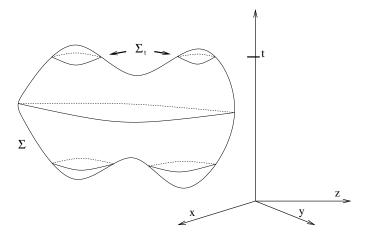


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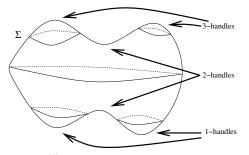
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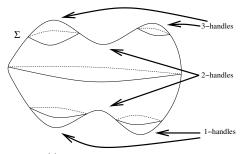
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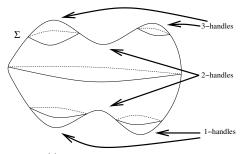
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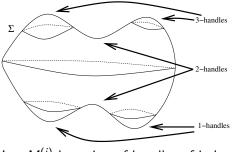
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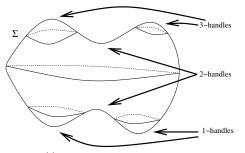
Let  $M^{(i)}$  be union of handles of index  $\leq i$ .

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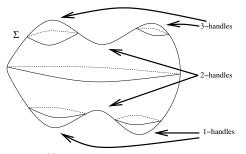
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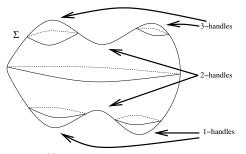
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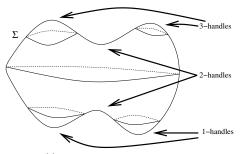
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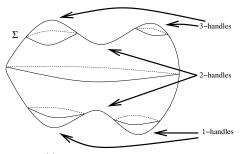


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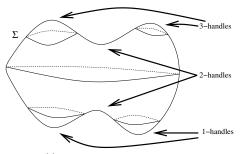


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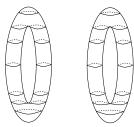
Handle decomposition (fat CW-decomposition) of  $M = S^4 \setminus \Sigma$ 

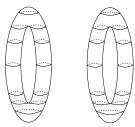


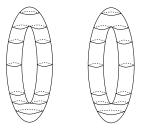
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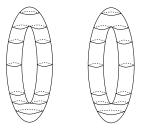
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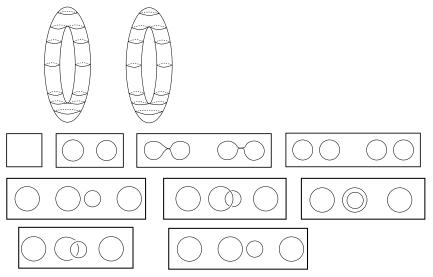


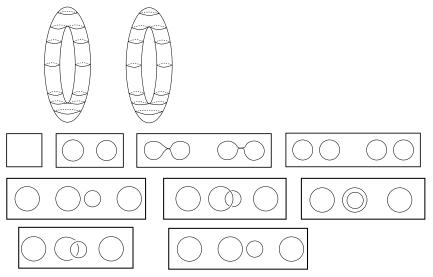


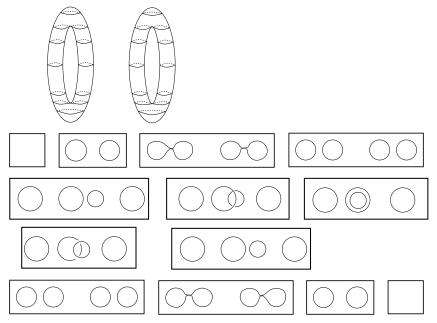












Let  $\Sigma \subset S^4$ , oriented surface, Morse conditions as above. Let  $M = S^4 \setminus \Sigma$ . Let  $M^{(i)}$  be union of handles of degree  $\leq i$ .

Locally, an oriented minimal point looks like:

A minimal point yields a 1-handle of M.Hence a free generator of  $X\in \pi_1(M^{(1)}).$  Denote it:

Concretely,  $X\in\pi_1(M^{(1)})$  can be defined as:

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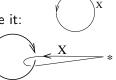
As the movie evolves, throughout an isotopy, we colour the link arcs of each still  $\Sigma_t$  by the generators of  $\pi_1(M^{(1)})$  they represent. There are relations between generators at different times. For R2:

X

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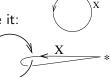
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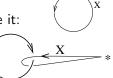
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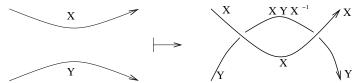
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Locally, an (oriented) saddle point looks like:

When passing saddle point, add a 'band', kept throughout movie: This band will later bookkeep where the saddle point was made, and the attaching region of corresponding 2-handle of *M*.

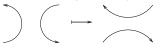
Each band gives free crossed module generator  $e\in \pi_2(M^{(2)},M^{(1)}).$ 

### Free generators of $\Pi_2(M^{(2)}, M^{(1)})$ at saddle points Locally, an (oriented) saddle point looks like:

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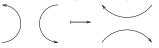
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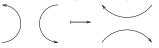
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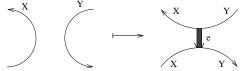
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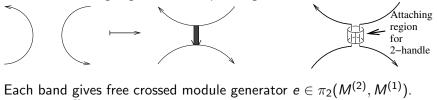


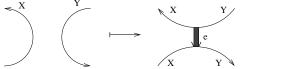
## Free generators of $\Pi_2(M^{(2)}, M^{(1)})$ at saddle points

Locally, an (oriented) saddle point looks like:



When passing saddle point, add a 'band', kept throughout movie: This band will later bookkeep where the saddle point was made, and the attaching region of corresponding 2-handle of M.





$$\partial(e) = X^{-1}Y.$$

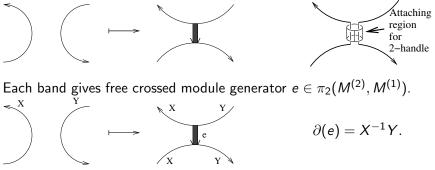
Bands are to be kept and evolve throughout the rest of the movie. Each arc of a band in a projection gives element of  $\pi_2(M^{(2)}, M^{(1)})$ .

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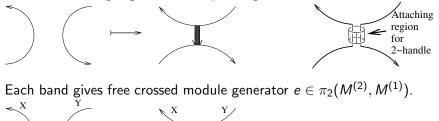
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Bands are to be kept and evolve throughout the rest of the movie. Each arc of a band in a projection gives element of  $\pi_2(M^{(2)}, M^{(1)})$ .

Locally, an oriented maximal point looks like:

Some bands will possibly be present. Before maximal point, configuration looks like:

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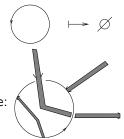
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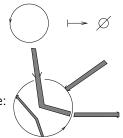
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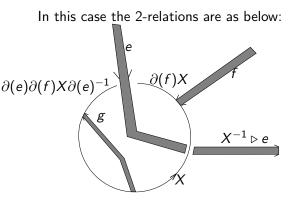
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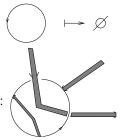
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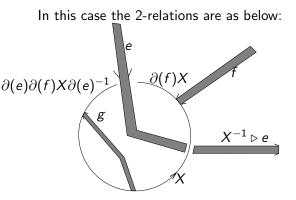
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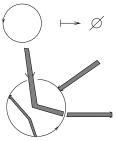




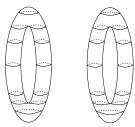
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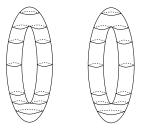
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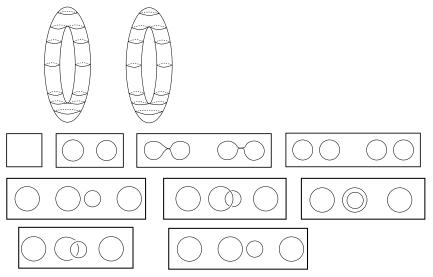


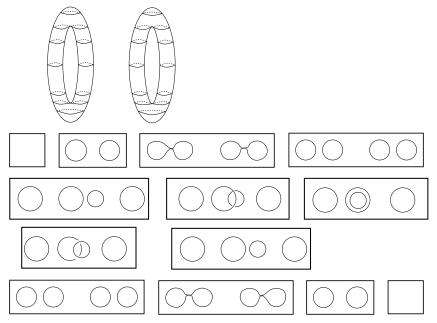
2-relation:  $e f (X^{-1} \triangleright e^{-1})$ = 1.









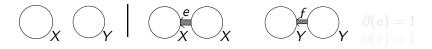


 $\partial(e) = 1$  $\partial(f) = 1$ 

 $\begin{aligned} \partial(g) &= 1\\ \partial(h) &= XYX^{-1}Y^{-1}\\ e \, e^{-1} \left(X \triangleright f^{-1}\right) f &= 1\\ (X \triangleright f)f^{-1} &= 1. \end{aligned}$ 



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 $X, Y \in \pi_1(M^{(1)});$ 

 $\partial(\mathbf{g}) = 1$   $\partial(h) = XYX^{-1}Y^{-1}$   $e e^{-1} (X \triangleright f^{-1}) f = 1$  $(X \triangleright f)f^{-1} = 1.$ 

 $\bigcirc_{\mathbf{v}} \bigcirc_{\mathbf{v}} | \bigcirc_{\mathbf{x}} e \bigcirc_{\mathbf{x}} f \bigcirc_{\mathbf{y}} e \bigcirc_{\mathbf{y}} e$ 

 $X, Y \in \pi_1(M^{(1)}); e, f \in \pi_2(M^{(2)}, M^{(1)}).$ 

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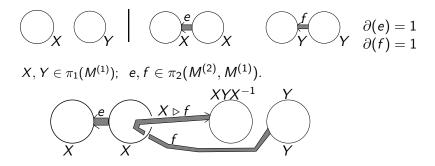
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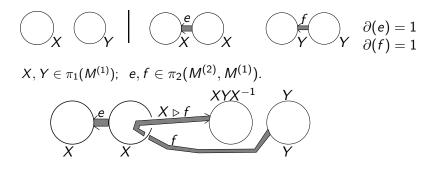
 $\bigcirc_{\mathbf{v}} \bigcirc_{\mathbf{v}} | \bigcirc_{\mathbf{v}} e \\ X \bigcirc_{\mathbf{x}} f \bigcirc_{\mathbf{x}} f \bigcirc_{\mathbf{x}} e \\ \partial(e) = 1 \\ \partial(f) = 1$ 

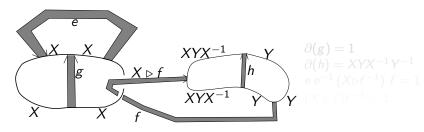
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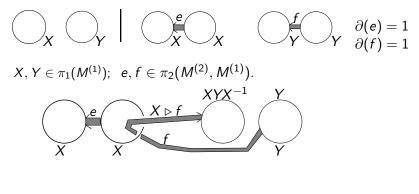
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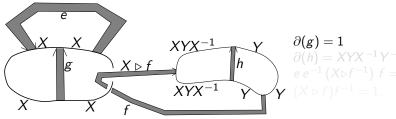


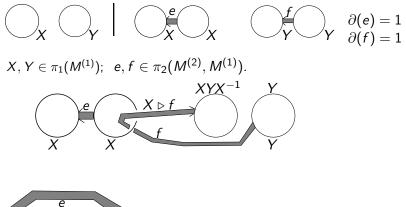
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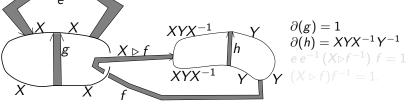


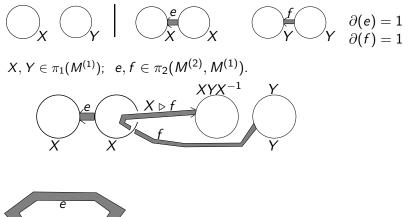


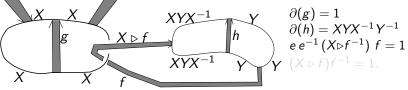


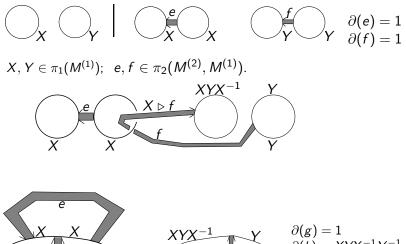


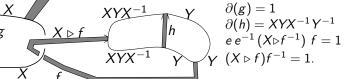












Hence

$$\Pi_{2}(M, M^{(1)}) = \mathcal{U}\left\langle \left\{ e, f, g, h \right\} \xrightarrow{\substack{\substack{f \mapsto 1 \\ g \mapsto 1 \\ h \to [X, Y]}} \mathcal{F}(\{X, Y\}) \mid f = X \triangleright f \right\rangle$$

 $\pi_1(M) = \langle \{X, Y\} | [X, Y] = 1 \rangle$ , free abelian group on X and Y.

 $\pi_2(M) = \mathbb{Z}[X, X^{-1}, Y, Y^{-1}]\{e, f, g\} / \langle f = X.f \rangle$ . Quotient of the free module over the algebra of Lauren polynomials in X and Y, on the generators e, f, g, by the relation f = X.f.

If  $\mathcal{G} = (E o \mathcal{G}, \triangleright)$  is finite and  $\partial(E) = \{1_{\mathcal{G}}\}$  then:

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Quotient of the free module over the algebra of Laurent polynomials in X and Y, on the generators e, f, g, by the relation f = X.f.

If  $\mathcal{G} = (E \to G, \triangleright)$  is finite and  $\partial(E) = \{\mathbf{1}_G\}$  then:  $I_{\mathcal{G}}(M) = \#\{(X, Y, f) \in G \times G \times E \mid XY = YX, f = X \triangleright f\}(\#E).$   $\Sigma =$  Knotted  $T^2 \sqcup T^2$  above.  $M = S^4 \setminus \Sigma$ 

Hence

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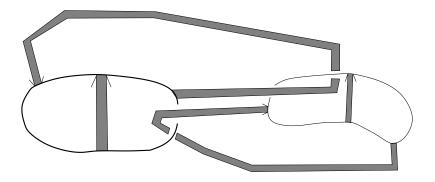
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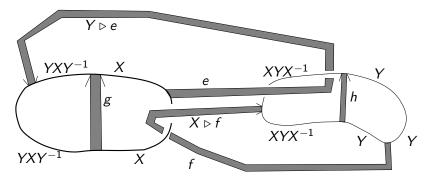
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 is finite and  $\partial(E) = \{1_G\}$  then:

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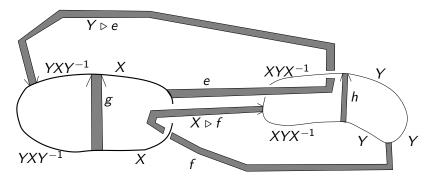
 $\begin{aligned} \partial(e) &= 1\\ \partial(f) &= 1\\ \partial(g) &= YXY^{-1}X^{-1}\\ \partial(h) &= XYX^{-1}Y^{-1}\\ (Y \triangleright e) e^{-1}(X \triangleright f^{-1}) f = \end{aligned}$ 

 $\partial(e) = 1$   $\partial(f) = 1$   $\partial(g) = YXY^{-1}X^{-1}$   $\partial(h) = XYX^{-1}Y^{-1}$  $(Y \triangleright e) e^{-1}(X \triangleright f^{-1}) f =$ 

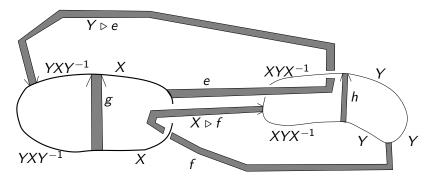




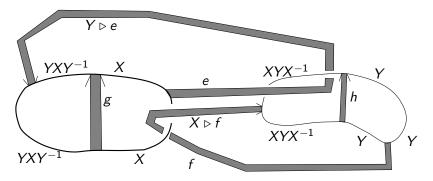
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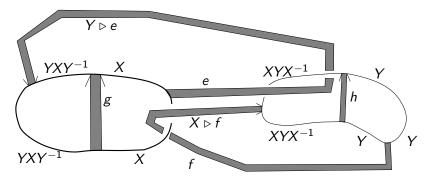
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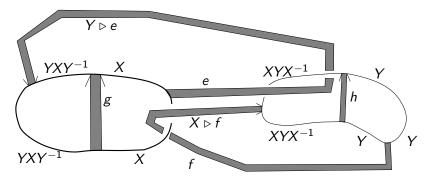
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Hence

$$\Pi_{2}(M, M^{(1)}) = \mathcal{U}\left\langle \{e, f, g, h\} \xrightarrow{\substack{g \mapsto [Y, X] \\ h \mapsto [X, Y]}} \mathcal{F}(X, Y) \mid \begin{array}{c} (Y \triangleright e) e^{-1} \\ (X \triangleright f^{-1}) f \\ =1 \end{array} \right\rangle$$

 $\pi_1(M) = \langle \{X, Y\} | [X, Y] = 1 \rangle$ , free abelian group on X and Y.

$$\pi_2(M) = \frac{\mathbb{Z}[X, X^{-1}, Y, Y^{-1}]\{e, f, m\}}{\langle (Y \triangleright e) - e - (X \triangleright f) + f = 0 \rangle}$$

If  $\mathcal{G}=(E
ightarrow {\mathcal{G}},
ho)$  is finite and  $\partial(E)=\{1_{\mathcal{G}}\}$  then:

 $I_{\mathcal{G}}(M) = \# \left\{ (X, Y, e, f) \in G^2 \times E^2 \mid \frac{XY = YX,}{(Y \triangleright e) - e - (X \triangleright f) + f = 0} \right\}.$ 

$$\Pi_{2}(M, M^{(1)}) = \mathcal{U}\left\langle \{e, f, g, h\} \xrightarrow{\substack{g \mapsto 1 \\ h \mapsto [X, Y]}} \mathcal{F}(X, Y) \mid \begin{array}{c} (Y \triangleright e) e^{-1} \\ (X \triangleright f^{-1}) f \\ =1 \end{array} \right\rangle$$

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$$\Pi_{2}(M, M^{(1)}) = \mathcal{U}\left\langle \{e, f, g, h\} \xrightarrow{\substack{g \mapsto [Y, X] \\ g \mapsto [Y, X] \\ h \mapsto [X, Y]}} \mathcal{F}(X, Y) \mid \begin{array}{c} (Y_{\triangleright e}) e^{-1} \\ (X_{\triangleright f^{-1}}) f \\ =1 \end{array} \right\rangle$$

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If  $\mathcal{G} = (E \to G, \triangleright)$  is finite and  $\partial(E) = \{1_G\}$  then:

 $I_{\mathcal{G}}(M) = \# \left\{ (X, Y, e, f) \in G^2 \times E^2 \mid \frac{XY = YX,}{(Y \triangleright e) - e - (X \triangleright f) + f = 0} \right\}.$ 

$$\Pi_{2}(M, M^{(1)}) = \mathcal{U}\left\langle \{e, f, g, h\} \xrightarrow{\substack{g \mapsto [Y, X] \\ f \mapsto [Y, X] \\ h \mapsto [X, Y]}} \mathcal{F}(X, Y) \middle| \begin{array}{c} (Y \triangleright e) e^{-1} \\ (X \triangleright f^{-1}) f \\ =1 \end{array} \right\rangle$$

 $\pi_1(M) = \langle \{X,Y\} | [X,Y] = 1 \rangle$ , free abelian group on X and Y.

$$\pi_2(M) = \frac{\mathbb{Z}[X, X^{-1}, Y, Y^{-1}]\{e, f, m\}}{\langle (Y \triangleright e) - e - (X \triangleright f) + f = 0 \rangle}$$

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$$\Pi_{2}(M, M^{(1)}) = \mathcal{U}\left\langle \{e, f, g, h\} \xrightarrow{\substack{g \mapsto 1 \\ g \mapsto [Y, X] \\ h \mapsto [X, Y]}} \mathcal{F}(X, Y) \mid \begin{array}{c} (Y_{\triangleright e}) e^{-1} \\ (X_{\triangleright f^{-1}}) f \\ =1 \end{array} \right\rangle$$

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Let  $\mathcal{G} = (E \rightarrow G, \triangleright)$  be a finite crossed module.

1.  $\Sigma \mapsto I_{\mathcal{G}}(S^4 \setminus \Sigma)$  is able to separate between pairs of knotted surfaces with different knot groups. (For some choices of  $\mathcal{G}$ .)

2. Recal Shin Satoh's "tube-map"  $T: \{Welded links\} \rightarrow \{Knotted Tori\}$ 

Suppose  $\mathcal{G} = (E \to G, \triangleright)$  is finite and  $\partial(E) = \{1_G\}$ . The welded knot invariant

 $K\mapsto I_{\mathcal{G}}(S^4\setminus T(K))$ 



# More results on $I_{\mathcal{G}}(S^4 \setminus \Sigma)$ Let $\mathcal{G} = (E \to G, \triangleright)$ be a finite crossed module.

 Σ → I<sub>G</sub>(S<sup>4</sup> \ Σ) is able to separate between pairs of knotted surfaces with different knot groups. (For some choices of G.)

2. Recal Shin Satoh's "tube-map"  $\mathcal{T}: \{ Welded \ links \} \rightarrow \{ Knotted \ Tori \}$ 

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Let  $\mathcal{G} = (E \rightarrow G, \triangleright)$  be a finite crossed module.

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Suppose  $\mathcal{G} = (E \to G, \triangleright)$  is finite and  $\partial(E) = \{\mathbf{1}_G\}$ . The welded knot invariant

 $K \mapsto l_{\mathcal{G}}(S^4 \setminus T(K))$ 

can be calculated from the biquandle on the set  $G \times E$ :

 $(x, a) \qquad (w, b)$   $(w, a + b - w^{-1} \triangleright a) \qquad (w^{-1}zw, w^{-1} \triangleright a)$ 

Let  $\mathcal{G} = (E \rightarrow G, \triangleright)$  be a finite crossed module.

1.  $\Sigma \mapsto I_{\mathcal{G}}(S^4 \setminus \Sigma)$  is able to separate between pairs of knotted surfaces with different knot groups. (For some choices of  $\mathcal{G}$ .)

**2.** Recal Shin Satoh's "tube-map"  $T: \{ Welded links \} \rightarrow \{ Knotted Tori \}$ 

Suppose  $\mathcal{G} = (E \to G, \triangleright)$  is finite and  $\partial(E) = \{\mathbf{1}_G\}$ . The welded knot invariant

 $K\mapsto I_{\mathcal{G}}(S^4\setminus T(K))$ 

can be calculated from the biquandle on the set  $G \times E$ :

 $(x, a) \qquad (w, b)$   $(w, a + b - w^{-1} \triangleright a) \qquad (w^{-1}zw, w^{-1} \triangleright a)$ 

Let  $\mathcal{G} = (E \rightarrow G, \triangleright)$  be a finite crossed module.

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#### 2. Recal Shin Satoh's "tube-map"

 $T: \{ Welded \ links \} \rightarrow \{ Knotted \ Tori \}$ 

Suppose  $\mathcal{G} = (E \to G, \triangleright)$  is finite and  $\partial(E) = \{1_G\}$ . The welded knot invariant

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Let  $\mathcal{G} = (E \rightarrow G, \triangleright)$  be a finite crossed module.

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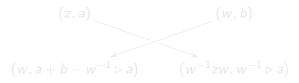
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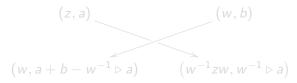


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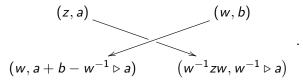


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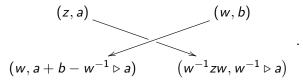


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