

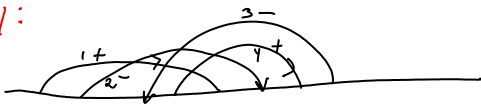
The Alexander Formula

May-01-09
8:47 AM

1. [KAL of August 6 Summary and expansion](#) in 2008-08
2. [Det and Tr](#) in 2008-07
3. [wAlex](#) in 2008-07
4. [AcademicPensive/2008-07/nb/WFormulaForAlexander.pdf](#)

Digest: [Everything here ignores $D_L = \text{---}$ & $D_R = \text{---}$]

From 1:
(Edits:
 $z \rightarrow \}$)



$a_i :=$ arrow # i
 $d_i :=$ direction of a_i here: $(++-+)$
 $s_i :=$ sign of a_i here: $(+---)$

T - the trapping matrix
 $T_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } a_j \text{ ends within the open span of } a_i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
 $S = \text{diag}(s_i d_i)$

Let $B = T(e^{xS} - I)$ $C = (I + T)S$
 $\} = \text{Tr}((I - B)^{-1} B C) = \text{Tr}[(I - B)^{-1} C - C]$

Proposition $\} = \frac{d}{dx} \log(\det(I - B))$

Conjecture $\}(x) = -x \frac{A'(x)}{A(x)}$, with $A(x)$ being the Alexander polynomial.

conjecture:
 $A(x) = \det(I - B)$,
 perhaps up to a power of x & a sign.

From 3:
(w/ $\log z \rightarrow E z$)

$\} = z^{-1} E z = \text{The "glow" of } z$
 \uparrow
 The Euler operator

Moral: Also assuming $w_k w_l = w_{k+l}$ we have

$z^{-1} x z' = \} = -x \frac{A'}{A} \Rightarrow z = -A$

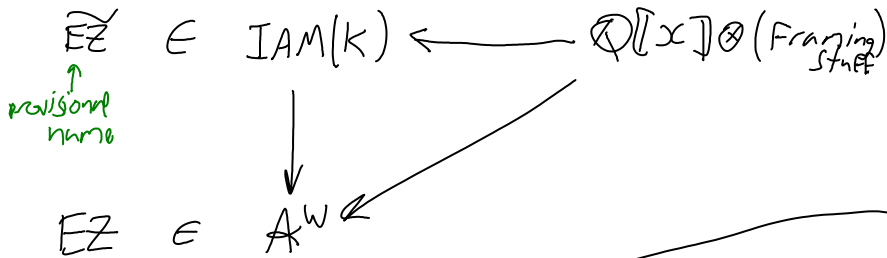
Without $w_k w_l = w_{k+l}$, we should have [yet still ignoring D_L & D_R]

must be a sign error because of the unknot.

$z = \exp_{\text{new}}[W(\log_{\text{old}} A(e^x))]$

Aside Wouldn't it be nice to have a direct construction of the map $A^w \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[D_L, D_R, W_i]$ in terms of some determinant or trace of some "trapping matrix"?

Proof diagram:



Applying \tilde{E} : $A(K)(X) := \det(I + T(I - X^{-S}))$ ← From WKO

$$Z(K) = \underbrace{\exp_{A^w}(sl_L(K)D_L) \cdot \exp_{A^w}(sl_R(K)D_R)}_{\text{self linking coded in arrows}} \cdot \underbrace{\exp_{A^w}(w(\log_{\mathbb{Q}[x]} A(K)(e^x)))}_{\text{Alexander coded in wheels}},$$

$\Downarrow \tilde{E}$

$$\tilde{E}Z(K) = \underbrace{sl_L(K)D_L + sl_R(K)D_R}_{=: SL} + w(E(\log A(K)(e^x)))$$

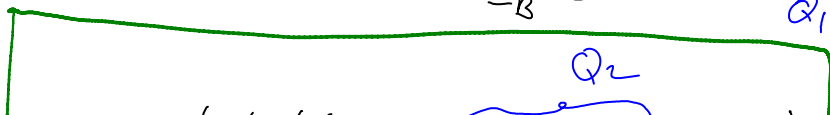
$$= SL + w\left(x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \log \det B(e^x)\right)$$

$$= SL + w\left(x e^x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \log \det B(x) \Big|_{x=e^x}\right)$$

$$= SL + w\left(x e^x \text{tr}(B(x)^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} B) \Big|_{x=e^x}\right)$$

$$= SL + w\left(x e^x \cdot \text{tr}\left(\left(I + T(I - X^{-S})\right)^{-1} \cdot T \cdot S X^{-S-1}\right) \Big|_{x=e^x}\right)$$

$$= SL + w\left(x \text{tr}\left(\underbrace{\left(I + T(I - X^{-S})\right)^{-1}}_{-B} \cdot \underbrace{T \cdot X^{-S} S}_{Q_1}\right) \Big|_{x=e^x}\right)$$



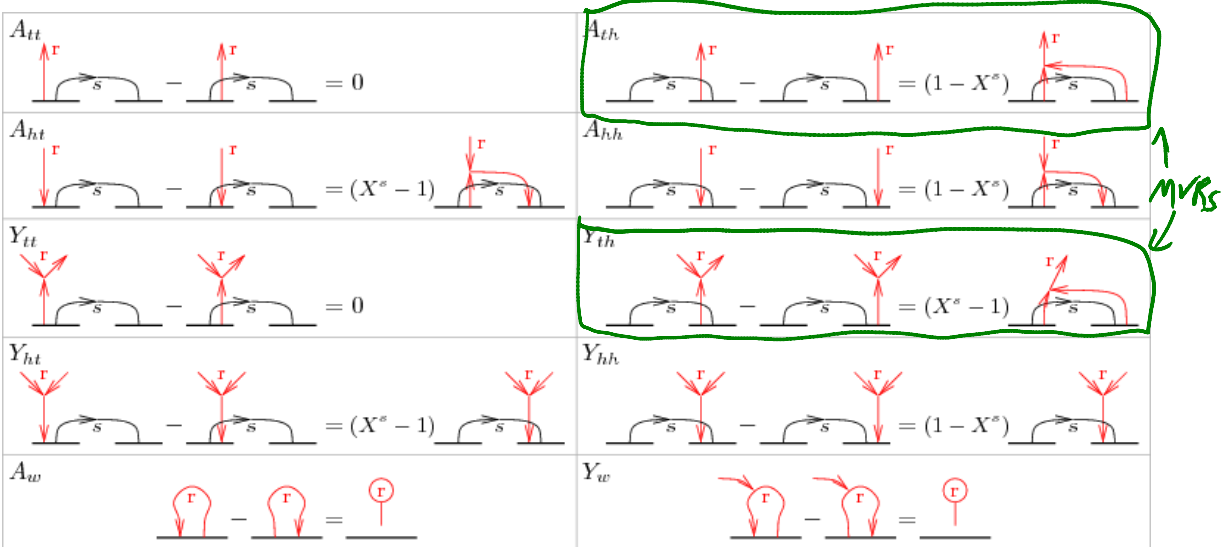
$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \det A_x &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \det A_0 \det A_0^{-1} A_x \\
 &= \det A_0 \text{tr} A_0^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} A_x
 \end{aligned}$$

Fob II: (-) missing?

$$= SL + W(x \operatorname{tr} \left((I-B)^{-1} B (I+T) S \right)_{x=e^x})$$

as $Q_1 - Q_2 = TX^{-s}S - B(I+T)S =$
 $= [TX^{-s} - T(x^{-s} - I)(I+T)]S$
 $= [(I - T(x^{-s} - I))T]S = (I-B)TS$
 so $\operatorname{tr}((I-B)^{-1}(Q_1 - Q_2)) = \operatorname{tr}(TS) = 0.$

And now the IAM part: Some fixing of $X \rightarrow e^x$ is necessary.



$$\lambda = \text{[Diagram 1]} + \text{[Diagram 2]} - \text{[Diagram 3]}$$

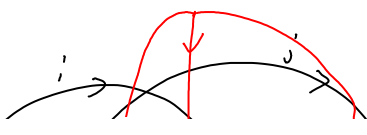
$$= \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 - \lambda_3$$

So -

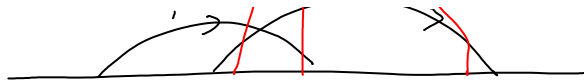
Let a_i be the arrows of \mathcal{G} ; each carries a sign s_i and a direction d_i (+ for right, - for left) (consistent with Def 3.20). Let $\lambda_i \in \text{IAM}_k$ be "red excitation parallel to a_i "; so

$$\lambda = \sum s_i \lambda_i.$$

Let $m \cdot h_e$:



Let η_{ij} be j

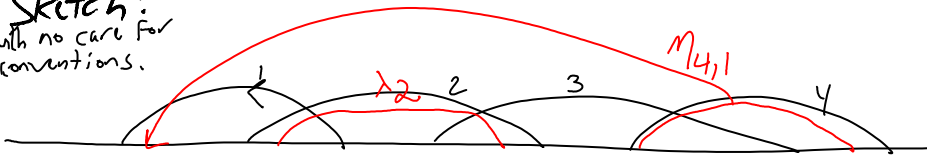


formally, this is the γ diagram whose head is inside of the head of α_i , whose left tail is inside of the ...

Try something more uniform ... "red tails to the right, red heads to the left"

The goal: $\lambda = \underbrace{sl_L \delta_L + sl_R \delta_R}_{\substack{\text{move to other} \\ \text{side.}}} + \text{tr}(B(I-B)^{-1}(I+T)S) \omega_1$
 with $B := T(\exp(-xS) - I)$

Sketch:
 with no care for conventions.



$$\eta_i = \begin{pmatrix} \eta_{11} \\ \eta_{21} \\ \vdots \\ \eta_{41} \end{pmatrix}$$

~~$$\lambda_i = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$~~
~~$$\delta_i = \begin{pmatrix} \delta_{d_1} \\ \vdots \\ \delta_{d_n} \end{pmatrix}$$~~

~~Lemma 1. $\lambda_i - \delta_i = (B\eta)_i$
 (First approx) 2. $\eta_i = B\eta_i + \omega_1(I+T)e_i$~~

~~Lemma 1. $\lambda - \delta = B\eta$
 (2nd iteration) 2. $\eta_i = B\eta_i$~~

Wrong approach!

New sketch:

~~Lemma: $\eta = B\eta + T\omega_1$
 more or less ...~~

~~$\Rightarrow \eta = (I-B)^{-1} T\omega_1$
 $\Rightarrow \text{tr } \eta = (\text{tr}(I-B)^{-1} T) \omega_1$~~

λ should really be a matrix (perhaps a diagonal matrix?) (perhaps better, a matrix for $\lambda_i - \lambda_j$)
 maybe $\lambda_i - \lambda_j$

Too clever; should not aim to merge Λ & γ .

~~Lemma 1. $\Lambda = B\eta + (\text{a traceless } \omega_1 \text{ factor})$
 2. $\eta = B\eta + (I+T)S\omega_1$~~

~~$\Rightarrow \Lambda = (\text{traceless}) + B\eta = (\text{traceless}) + B(I-B)^{-1}(I+T)S\omega_1$~~

QED

~~First working version: With Λ & Y as in the paper (Feb 10) & with $S = \text{diag}(s_i)$ & $D = \text{diag}(d_i)$ (so S is not as in the Feb 10 paper,~~

- Lemma
1. $\lambda - SL = \text{Tr}(\Lambda \cdot S)$
 2. $\Lambda = D \cdot B \cdot D \cdot Y - D \cdot T \cdot X^{-SD} \cdot w_1$
 3. $Y = D \cdot B \cdot D \cdot Y - D \cdot T \cdot X^{-SD} \cdot w_1$

Fix in nb:
 $S \Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda S$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \lambda - SL &= \text{Tr}(\Lambda S) = \text{Tr} D \cdot B \cdot D \cdot Y \cdot S \\ &= -\text{Tr} D \cdot B \cdot D \cdot (I - D \cdot B \cdot D)^{-1} \cdot D \cdot T \cdot X^{-SD} \cdot S \\ &= -\text{Tr} B \cdot (I - B)^{-1} \cdot \underbrace{T \cdot X^{-SD} \cdot S \cdot D}_{\text{Traceless}} \\ &= -\text{Tr} (I - B)^{-1} \cdot T \cdot X^{-SD} \cdot S \cdot D \end{aligned}$$

Aside:

$$\begin{aligned} I + B(I - B)^{-1} &= \\ [(I - B) + B](I - B)^{-1} &= \\ &= (I - B)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Moral - Better change basis along D .

Final Version (optimism never killed anyone)

Lemma with Λ & Y as in the Feb 11 version of the paper, and with $S = \text{diag}(s_i)$ & $D = \text{diag}(d_i)$ (modify paper!), we have:

- Lemma
1. $\lambda - SL = \text{Tr}(D \cdot S \cdot \Lambda)$
 2. $\Lambda = -BY - T X^{-SD} w_1$
 3. $Y = BY + T X^{-SD} w_1$

(note: SD here is S in the paper)

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \lambda - SL &= \text{Tr}(D S \Lambda) = -\text{Tr}(D S B Y + D S T X^{-SD}) w_1 \\ &= -\text{Tr}(D S B (I - B)^{-1} T X^{-SD} + D S T X^{-SD}) w_1 \\ &= -\text{Tr}(D S (I - B)^{-1} T X^{-SD}) w_1 \end{aligned}$$