

Stability in the Homology of Torelli Groups

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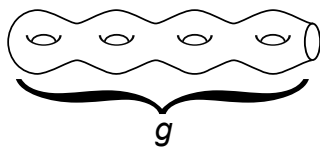
joint with Jeremy Miller (Purdue) and Peter Patzt (Purdue)

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Stability in the homology of Torelli groups

$\Sigma_{g,1}$ = compact orientable smooth
genus- g surface with 1 boundary
component



Today's goal:

Theorem (Miller–Patz–Wilson)

Let $\mathcal{I}_{g,1}$ denote the Torelli group of $\Sigma_{g,1}$. The sequence of $Sp_{2g}(\mathbb{Z})$ -reps $\{H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g,1}; \mathbb{Z})\}_g$ is centrally stable for $g \geq 45$.

Analogous results (Miller–Patz–Wilson):

$IA_n \subseteq \text{Aut}(F_n)$, congruence subgroups of $GL_n(R)$

The Mapping Class Group

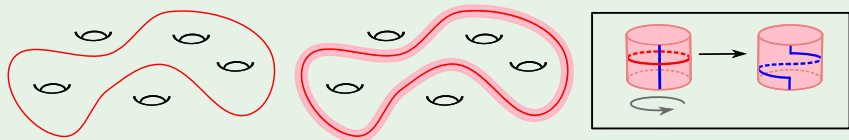
Definition (Mapping Class Group $\text{Mod}(\Sigma)$)

Surface Σ .

$$\text{Mod}(\Sigma) := \text{Diffeo}^+(\Sigma, \partial\Sigma) / (\text{isotopy fixing } \partial\Sigma).$$

Example (Dehn Twist about γ)

γ – simple closed curve in Σ



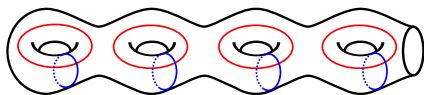
Theorem (Dehn, Mumford, Lickorish, Humphries)

$\text{Mod}(\Sigma_{g,1})$ is f.g. by $(2g + 1)$ Dehn twists.

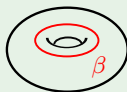
Action on Homology

$$\text{Mod}(\Sigma_{g,1}) \curvearrowright H_1(\Sigma_{g,1}, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^{2g}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \text{Mod}(\Sigma_{g,1}) \rightarrow \text{Sp}_{2g}(\mathbb{Z})$$



Example (Closed Torus T^2)



$$\xrightarrow{T_\alpha}$$



$$T_\alpha(\beta) = \alpha + \beta$$

$$\text{Mod}(T^2) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Sp}_2(\mathbb{Z}) \cong \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$$

$$T_\alpha \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T_\beta \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

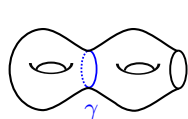
The Torelli Group

Definition (Torelli group $\mathcal{I}_{g,1}$)

Torelli group $\mathcal{I}_{g,1}$ = kernel of the symplectic representation

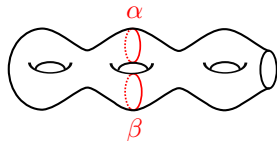
$$1 \longrightarrow \mathcal{I}_{g,1} \longrightarrow \text{Mod}(\Sigma_{g,1}) \longrightarrow \text{Sp}_{2g}(\mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow 1$$

Examples of mapping classes in $\mathcal{I}_{g,1}$:



separating curve

$$T_\gamma \in \mathcal{I}_{g,1}$$



homologous curves

$$T_\alpha T_\beta^{-1} \in \mathcal{I}_{g,1}$$

Finiteness Properties of Torelli

Theorem (McCullough–Miller). $\mathcal{I}_{2,1}$ is not f.g.

Theorem (Johnson). $\mathcal{I}_{g,1}$ is f.g. for $g \geq 3$.

Major Open Question. Is $\mathcal{I}_{g,1}$ finitely presentable for $g \geq 3$?

Finiteness Properties of Torelli

Open Question. Which groups $H_i(\mathcal{I}_{g,1})$ are f.g.?

$H_i(\mathcal{I}_{g,1})$ – known **not** f.g. for certain i

[Mess, Johnson–Millson–Mess, Hain, Akita, Bestvina–Bux–Margalit]

Little is known about $H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g,1})$.

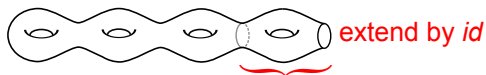
Action on $\{H_*(\mathcal{I}_{g,1})\}_g$

Key: The sequence $\{H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g,1})\}_g$ has more structure.

$$1 \longrightarrow \mathcal{I}_{g,1} \longrightarrow \text{Mod}(\Sigma_{g,1}) \longrightarrow \text{Sp}_{2g}(\mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow 1$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \text{Sp}_{2g}(\mathbb{Z}) \hookrightarrow H_*(\mathcal{I}_{g,1}).$$

$$\Sigma_{g,1} \hookrightarrow \Sigma_{g+1,1}$$



$$\rightsquigarrow \text{Mod}(\Sigma_{g,1}) \longrightarrow \text{Mod}(\Sigma_{g+1,1}) \quad \text{respects Torelli}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow H_*(\mathcal{I}_{g,1}) \longrightarrow H_*(\mathcal{I}_{g+1,1}) \quad \text{Sp}_{2g}(\mathbb{Z})\text{-equivariant}$$

$\{H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g,1})\}$ as an SI-module

Key: Realize $\{H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g,1})\}_g$ as a functor $\text{SI} \rightarrow \text{AbGp}$.

Category SI (Putman–Sam)

objects = \mathbb{Z}^{2g} with symplectic structure

morphisms = symplectic embeddings

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z}^2 & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z}^4 & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z}^6 \longrightarrow \dots \\ & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ & & \text{Sp}_2(\mathbb{Z}) & & \text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{Z}) & & \text{Sp}_6(\mathbb{Z}) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & H_2(\mathcal{I}_{1,1}) & \longrightarrow & H_2(\mathcal{I}_{2,1}) & \longrightarrow & H_2(\mathcal{I}_{3,1}) \longrightarrow \dots \\ & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ & & \text{Sp}_2(\mathbb{Z}) & & \text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{Z}) & & \text{Sp}_6(\mathbb{Z}) \end{array}$$

Results: stability for $\{H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g,1})\}$

Theorem (Boldsen–Hauge Døllerup)

For $g > 6$,

$$Sp_{2g}(\mathbb{Z}) \cdot \text{im } H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g-1,1}; \mathbb{Q}) = H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g,1}; \mathbb{Q})$$

Theorem (Miller–Patz–Wilson)

$H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g,1}; \mathbb{Z})$ is centrally stable as an SI -module in degree ≤ 45 .

Consequences: stability for $\{H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g,1})\}$

Corollary (Miller–Patz–Wilson)

The sequence $\{H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g,1})\}_g$ is **presentable** as an SI-module in degree ≤ 45 .

Corollary (Miller–Patz–Wilson)

The sequence $\{H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g,1})\}_g$ and all maps are determined by

$$0 \longrightarrow H_2(\mathcal{I}_{1,1}) \longrightarrow H_2(\mathcal{I}_{2,1}) \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow H_2(\mathcal{I}_{45,1})$$

Corollary (Miller–Patz–Wilson)

For $g > 45$, there is a partial resolution

$$\text{Ind}_{\text{Sp}_{2g-4}(\mathbb{Z})}^{\text{Sp}_{2g}(\mathbb{Z})} H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g-2,1}) \longrightarrow \text{Ind}_{\text{Sp}_{2g-2}(\mathbb{Z})}^{\text{Sp}_{2g}(\mathbb{Z})} H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g-1,1}) \longrightarrow H_2(\mathcal{I}_{g,1}) \longrightarrow 0$$

Proof Ingredients

- For an Sp -module $\{V_g\}$, construct a chain complex

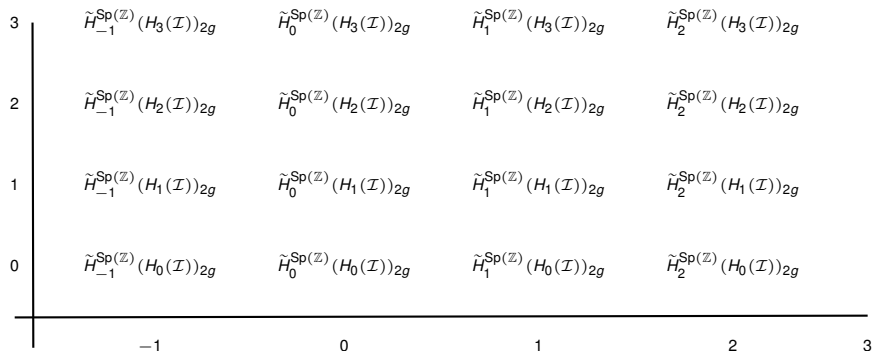
$$\dots \longrightarrow \mathrm{Ind}_{\mathrm{Sp}_{2g-4}(\mathbb{Z})}^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2g}(\mathbb{Z})} V_{g-2} \longrightarrow \mathrm{Ind}_{\mathrm{Sp}_{2g-2}(\mathbb{Z})}^{\mathrm{Sp}_{2g}(\mathbb{Z})} V_{g-1} \longrightarrow V_g \longrightarrow 0$$

Main Lemma. If $\{V_g\}$ is a *polynomial functor*, the homology satisfies a certain regularity result.

- **Theorem** (Hatcher–Vogtmann). The space of tethered chains in $\Sigma_{g,1}$ is $\binom{g-3}{2}$ -connected.

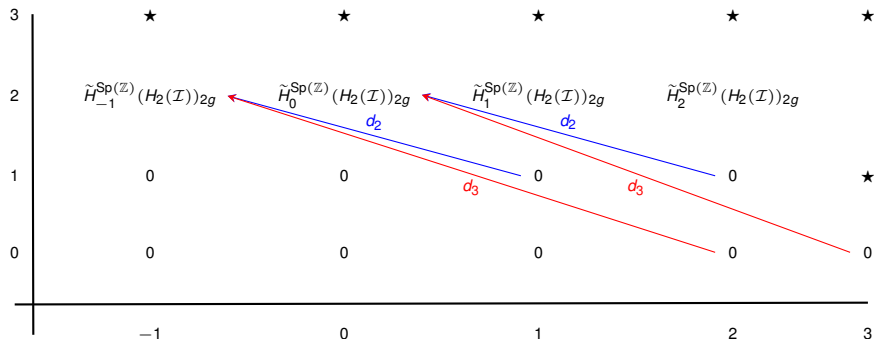
Proof Ingredients

- spectral sequence analysis (Quillen homological stability argument)



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- spectral sequence analysis (Quillen homological stability argument)



Thank you!