

Are 3-pole braids elliptic? Colloquium Dartmouth ①
Numbers College 26/04/2014

(1) $A, AA, AAA, AAAA, \dots$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, AA = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, AAA = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, AAAA = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

\mathbb{Z}_{30} is the free monoid on one generator.

(2) $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ make $ABBA, BAAA$

$$ABBA = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$BAAA = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$SL_2(\mathbb{Z}_{30}) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}_{30} \right. \\ \left. ad - bc = 1 \right\} \text{ is the}$$

free monoid on two generators.

(3) $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z} \right. \\ \left. ad - bc = 1 \right\}$ is 8 copies of $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}_{30})$:

$$SL_2(\mathbb{Z}) = SL_2(\mathbb{Z}_{30}) \cup \delta_1 SL_2(\mathbb{Z}_{30}) \cup 5SL_2(\mathbb{Z}_{30}) \cup \delta_1 \cup 4\delta_1 SL_2(\mathbb{Z}_{30}) \cup \delta_1$$

$$\cup 4(-1)SL_2(\mathbb{Z}_{30}) \cup (-1)\delta_1 SL_2(\mathbb{Z}_{30}) \cup (-1)SL_2(\mathbb{Z}_{30}) \cup \delta_1 \cup 4(-1)\delta_1 SL_2(\mathbb{Z}_{30}) \cup \delta_1$$

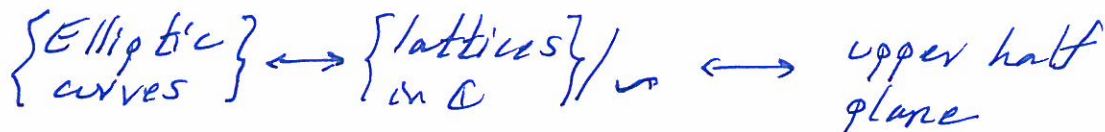
$$\text{where } \delta_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } (-1) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(4) $GL_2(\mathbb{Z}) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z} \right. \\ \left. ad - bc \in \mathbb{Z}^\times = \{\pm 1\} \right\}$ is 2 copies of $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$.

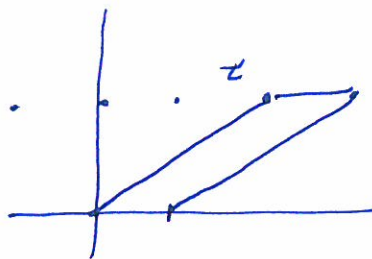
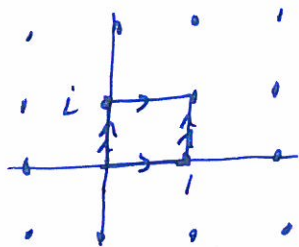
$$GL_2(\mathbb{Z}) = SL_2(\mathbb{Z}) \cup SL_2(\mathbb{Z}) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Elliptic curves

$GL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ is basis changes on $\mathbb{Z}^2 = \mathbb{Z}v_1 + \mathbb{Z}v_2$.



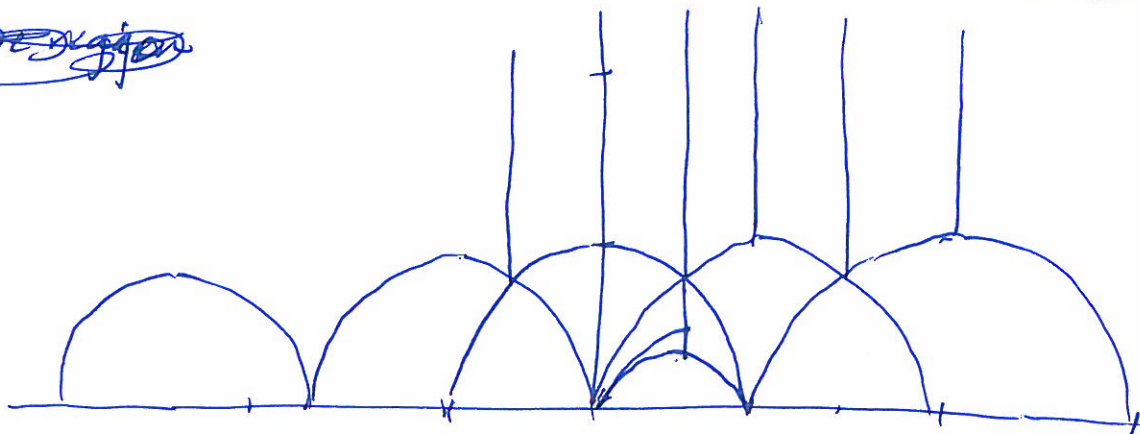
$E_\tau = \frac{\mathbb{C}}{\mathbb{Z} + \tau\mathbb{Z}} \longleftrightarrow \mathbb{Z} + \tau\mathbb{Z} \longleftrightarrow \tau$



$SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ acts by basis changes on $\mathbb{Z} + \tau\mathbb{Z}$, $\forall \tau \in \mathbb{R} + i\mathbb{R}_{>0}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \tau = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tau \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a\tau + b \\ c\tau + d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}$$

~~Diagram~~



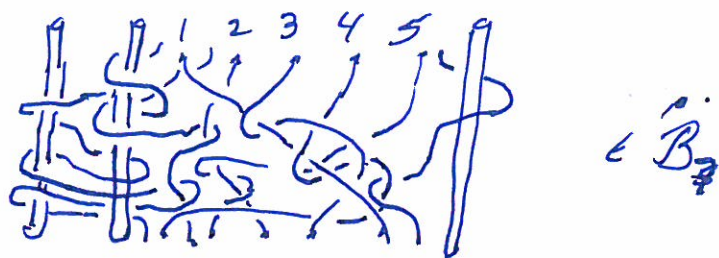
regions in the upper half plane \leftrightarrow Half of $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$.

Three
~~two~~

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(3)

Braids with n strands and n poles

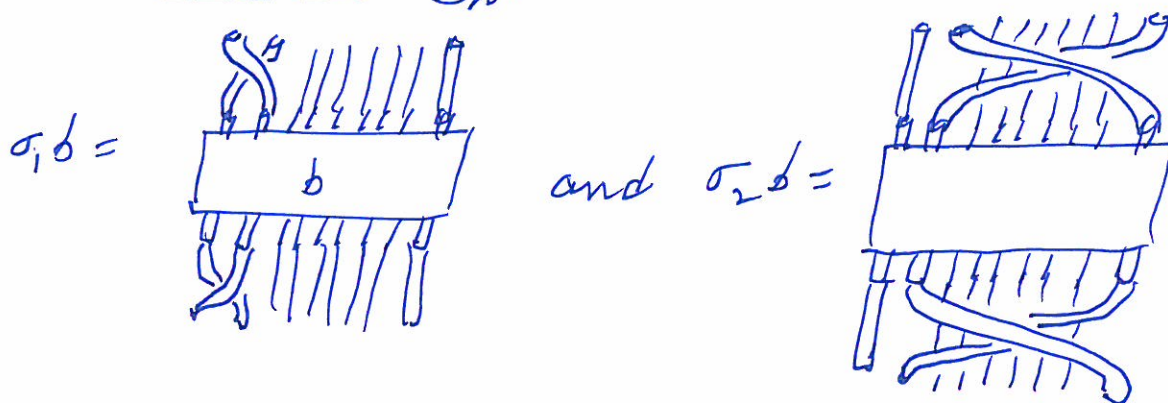


Hans Wenzel
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Why are 3-poles better? A_3 has generators



and acts on \tilde{B}_n :



(a) A_3 is generated by σ_1, σ_2 with relations



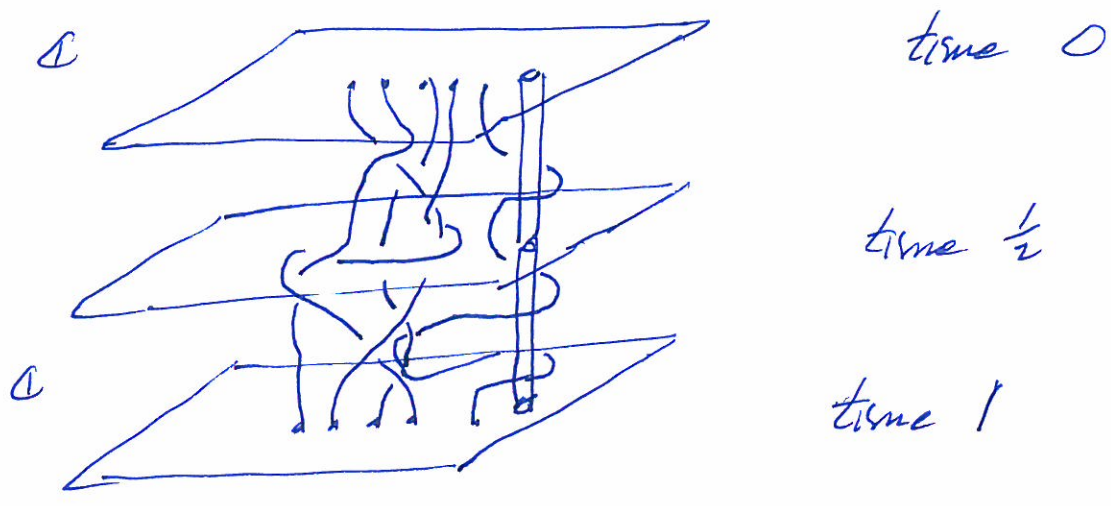
(b) $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ is generated by

$$\sigma_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

with relations $\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1 = \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2$ and $(\sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1)^4 = 1$.

$\cong A_3$ and $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ are the same (they aren't).

Are 3-pole braids elliptic?



$$\sigma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \text{Bug space}$$

$$t \mapsto (z_1(t), z_2(t), \dots, z_n(t))$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Bug space} &= \{ (z_1, \dots, z_n) \mid z_1, \dots, z_n \in \mathbb{C} \} / S_n \\ &\quad z_i \neq z_j \\ &= \{ (z_1, \dots, z_n) \mid z_1, \dots, z_n \in \mathbb{C} \} / S_n \\ &\quad z_i - z_j \neq 0 \\ &= (\mathbb{C}^n - \bigcup_{i < j} H_{ij}) / S_n \end{aligned}$$

where $H_{ij} = \{ (z_1, \dots, z_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n \mid z_i - z_j = 0 \}$.

and $S_n = \text{symmetric group} = \text{permutations of the } n \text{ houses.}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{1-pole bug space} &= \{ (z_1, \dots, z_n) \mid z_1, \dots, z_n \in \mathbb{C} \} / S_n \\ &\quad z_i - z_j \neq 0, z_i \neq 0 \\ &= (\mathbb{C}^n - \bigcup_{i < j} H_{ij} - \bigcup_i H_i) / S_n. \end{aligned}$$

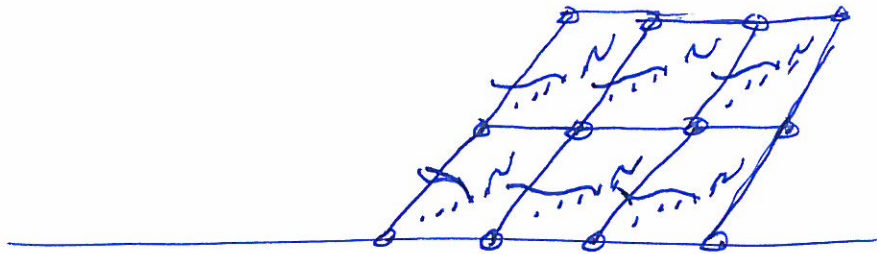
where $H_i = \{ (z_1, \dots, z_n) \mid z_1, \dots, z_n \in \mathbb{C}^n \text{ and } z_i = 0 \}$.

$$\text{1-pole elliptic braid space} = \left\{ (z_1, \dots, z_n) \mid \begin{array}{l} z_1, \dots, z_n \in E_{\mathbb{C}} \\ z_i \neq z_j \text{ and } z_i \neq 0 \end{array} \right\} / S_n$$

$$= \left(E_{\mathbb{C}}^n - \bigcup_{i,j} H_{ij} - \bigcup_i H_i \right) / S_n$$



$$E_{\mathbb{C}} = \frac{\mathbb{C}}{\mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z}}$$



$$\text{1-pole elliptic braid space} = \left(\left(\frac{\mathbb{C}}{\mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z}} \right)^n - \bigcup_{i,j} H_{ij} - \bigcup_i H_i \right) / S_n$$

$$= \left(\frac{\mathbb{C}^n}{(\mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z})^n} - \{\text{stuff}\} \right) / S_n$$

$$= \left(\frac{\mathbb{C}^n - \{\text{stuff}\}}{(\mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z})^n} \right) / S_n = (\mathbb{C}^n - \{\text{stuff}\}) / (S_n \times (\mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z})^n)$$

Point! The answer is YES.

3-Pole braids are elliptic.