

# Complete regular dessins and skew-morphisms of cyclic groups

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Grothendieck was inspired by the following remarkable theorem of Belyi:

## Theorem (Belyi, 1979)

*A compact Riemann surface  $S$ , regarded as a projective algebraic curve, can be defined by a polynomial  $P(x, y)$  with coefficients from the algebraic number field  $\bar{\mathbb{Q}}$   $\iff$  there exists a meromorphic function  $\beta: S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{C})$  unbranched outside  $\{0, 1, \infty\}$ .*

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The preimage  $\beta^{-1}([0, 1])$  of the unit interval is a connected bipartite graph drawn on  $S \implies$  **dessin d'enfant**

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- **complete regular dessin** = regular dessin whose underlying graph is a complete bipartite graph
- **$(m, n)$ -complete regular dessin** = regular dessin whose underlying graph is  $K_{m,n}$

# Combinatorial representation of dessins

Every dessin  $\mathcal{D}$  can be identified with a triple  $(\Omega; \rho, \lambda)$  where

- (1)  $\Omega$  is a non-empty finite set
- (2)  $\rho$  and  $\lambda$  are permutations of  $\Omega$
- (3) the permutation group  $G = \langle \rho, \lambda \rangle$  is transitive on  $\Omega$ .

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Given such a triple  $(\Omega; \rho, \lambda)$

- edges of  $\mathcal{D} \longleftrightarrow$  elements of  $\Omega$
- black vertices  $\longleftrightarrow$  cycles of  $\rho$
- white vertices  $\longleftrightarrow$  cycles of  $\lambda$
- $\rho =$  rotation around black vertices
- $\lambda =$  rotation around white vertices

# Representing regular dessins

Every regular dessin  $\mathcal{D}$  can be identified with a triple  $(G; a, b)$  where  $G$  is a finite group such that  $G = \langle a, b \rangle$ .

- edges of  $\mathcal{D} \longleftrightarrow$  elements of  $G$
- black vertices  $\longleftrightarrow$  left cosets  $g\langle a \rangle$
- white vertices  $\longleftrightarrow$  left cosets  $g\langle b \rangle$
- an edge  $g$  joins  $s\langle a \rangle$  to  $t\langle b \rangle \iff g \in s\langle a \rangle \cap t\langle b \rangle$
- the underlying graph is simple  $\iff \langle a \rangle \cap \langle b \rangle = 1$
- rotation around a black vertex  $s\langle a \rangle$ :  $sa^i \mapsto sa^{i+1}$
- rotation around a white vertex  $t\langle b \rangle$ :  $tb^i \mapsto tb^{i+1}$

# From complete regular dessins to exact bicyclic groups

## Definition

A finite group  $G$  is **bicyclic** if there exist  $\langle a \rangle \leq G$  and  $\langle b \rangle \leq G$  such that  $G = \langle a \rangle \langle b \rangle$ . A bicyclic group is **exact** if  $\langle a \rangle \cap \langle b \rangle = 1$ .

Bicyclic groups have been extensively studied by group theorists since 1950's: [Huppert](#), [Douglas](#), [Ito](#), [Blackburn](#), etc.

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## Theorem (Jones, Nedela & S., 2007)

- (i) A regular dessin  $\mathcal{D} = (G; a, b)$  is complete  $\iff G = \langle a \rangle \langle b \rangle$  is an exact bicyclic group.
- (ii) The isomorphism classes of  $(m, n)$ -complete regular dessins with are in a 1-1 correspondence with the equivalence classes of exact bicyclic triples  $(G; a, b)$  where  $|a| = m$  and  $|b| = n$ .

Two triples  $(G; a, b)$  and  $(G; a', b')$  are **equivalent** if there is an automorphism of  $G$  such that  $a \mapsto a'$  and  $b \mapsto b'$ .

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$\impliedby$ : Similar.

# Skew-morphisms

A skew-morphism is a generalisation of a group automorphism introduced by Jajcay and Širáň (2002) in the context of regular Cayley maps

## Definition

A **skew-morphism** of  $G$  is a bijection  $\varphi: G \rightarrow G$  such that

$$\varphi(1) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi(xy) = \varphi(x)\varphi^{\pi(x)}(y)$$

for some function  $\pi: A \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ , a **power function** for  $\varphi$ .

If  $\pi(x) = 1$  for all  $x \in G$ , then  $\varphi$  is an automorphism of  $G$ .

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A Cayley map  $\mathcal{M} = CM(G, X, \rho)$  is regular  $\iff$  there is a skew-morphism  $\varphi$  of  $G$  such that  $\varphi|X = \rho$ .



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$\text{Aut}(\mathcal{M}) \cong G\langle\varphi\rangle$  with multiplication defined by the rule  $\varphi.g = \varphi(g)\varphi^{\pi(g)}$ .

# Skew-morphisms and cyclic subgroups

Let  $G$  be a finite group expressible as a product  $AB$  of two subgroups  $A$  and  $B$  where  $B = \langle b \rangle$  is cyclic and  $A \cap B = 1$ .

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- We define  $\varphi_b(x) = y$  and  $\pi_b(x) = k$ .
- $\varphi_b: A \rightarrow A$  is a skew-morphism and  $\pi_b$  is the associated power function. [Conder, Jajcay & Tucker (2006)].

We call  $\varphi_b$  the skew-morphism of  $H$  **induced** by  $b \in B$ .

# From bicyclic groups to skew-morphisms

Let  $G = AB$  be an exact bicyclic group,  $A = \langle a \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_m$  and  $B = \langle b \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_n$ .



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Every  $(m, n)$ -complete regular dessin  $\mathcal{D}$  gives rise to a pair of skew-morphisms  $(\sigma, \tau)$  where  $\sigma: \mathbb{Z}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$  and  $\tau: \mathbb{Z}_m \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_m$ .

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- The pair  $(\sigma, \tau)$  is a **complete invariant** of  $\mathcal{D}$ :

$\mathcal{D}$  can be reconstructed from  $(\sigma, \tau)$  by letting  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  act on the disjoint union  $\mathbb{Z}_m \cup \mathbb{Z}_n$  and producing the triple  $(G; a, b)$  where

$$a = \tau \rho_m \quad \text{and} \quad b = \sigma \rho_n,$$

$\rho_k$  being the **cyclic shift** in  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ .

## Example: The standard $(m, n)$ -complete regular dessin

- For every pair of integers  $m \geq 2$  and  $n \geq 2$ , the group  $\mathbb{Z}_m \times \mathbb{Z}_n$  gives rise to the triple  $(\mathbb{Z}_m \times \mathbb{Z}_n; 1_m, 1_n)$  which represents a regular dessin with underlying graph  $K_{m,n}$ .

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- The pair of skew-morphisms induced by  $\mathcal{D}$  is  $(\text{id}_m, \text{id}_n)$ .
- The algebraic curve associated with  $\mathcal{D}$  is the generalised Fermat curve  $x^m + y^n = 1$ .

# Reciprocal pairs of skew-morphisms of cyclic groups

## Definition

A pair of skew-morphisms  $\varphi: \mathbb{Z}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$  and  $\varphi^*: \mathbb{Z}_m \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_m$  with power functions  $\pi$  and  $\pi^*$ , respectively, is called **reciprocal** if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i)  $|\varphi|$  divides  $m$  and  $|\varphi^*|$  divides  $n$
- (ii)  $\pi(x) = \varphi^{*x}(1_m)$  and  $\pi^*(y) = \varphi^y(1_n)$ .



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## Theorem

*There exists a one-to-one correspondence between any pair of the following three types of objects:*

- (1) *isomorphism classes of  $(m, n)$ -complete regular dessins,*
- (2) *equivalence classes of exact  $(m, n)$ -bicyclic triples, and*
- (3)  *$(m, n)$ -reciprocal pairs of skew-morphisms.*

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We determine all regular dessins on  $K_{27,9}$  by deriving all  $(27, 9)$ -reciprocal pairs of skew-morphisms  $\varphi: \mathbb{Z}_9 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_9$  and  $\varphi^*: \mathbb{Z}_{27} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{27}$ .

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**Type I:** Both  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi^*$  are group automorphisms.

In this case  $\varphi(x) = ex$  and  $\varphi^*(x) = fx$  where

- (i)  $e = 1$  and  $f \in \{1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 25\}$ , or
- (ii)  $e \in \{4, 7\}$  and  $f \in \{1, 10, 19\}$ .

Hence, there are  $9 + 6 = 15$  reciprocal pairs of Type I.

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Hence, there are  $9 + 6 = 15$  reciprocal pairs of Type I.

**Type II:**  $\varphi$  is a group automorphism but  $\varphi^*$  is not.

In this case  $\varphi(x) = ex$  and  $\varphi^*(y) = y + 3t \sum_{i=1}^y \sigma(s, e^{i-1})$  where  $e \in \{4, 7\}$  and  $\sigma(s, e^{i-1}) = \sum_{j=1}^{e^{i-1}} s^{j-1}$  where  $(s, t) = (4, 1), (7, 2), (4, 4), (7, 5), (4, 7)$  or  $(7, 8)$ .

These give rise to  $2 \times 6 = 12$  reciprocal skew-morphism pairs of Type II.

# Uniqueness theorem

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*The following statements are equivalent.*

- (i) *The pair  $(m, n)$  is singular.*
- (ii) *Every finite group factorisable as a product of two cyclic groups of orders  $m$  and  $n$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_m \times \mathbb{Z}_n$ .*
- (iii)  *$(\text{id}_n, \text{id}_m)$  is the only  $(m, n)$ -reciprocal pair of skew-morphisms.*
- (iv) *There is a unique isomorphism class of regular dessins on  $K_{m,n}$ .*
- (v) *There exists a unique orientable edge-transitive embedding of  $K_{m,n}$ .*



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## Theorem

*The isomorphism classes of orientably regular embeddings of complete bipartite graphs  $K_{n,n}$  are in a 1-1 correspondence with symmetric skew-morphisms of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ .*

## Example: Regular embeddings of $K_{8,8}$ via skew-morphisms

The cyclic group  $\mathbb{Z}_8$  has the total of 6 symmetric skew-morphisms. They correspond to 6 different orientably regular embeddings of  $K_{8,8}$ :

- four automorphisms
- two proper symmetric skew-morphisms:

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_1 &= (0)(1357)(2)(4)(6), & \pi_1 &= [1] [3333] [1] [1] [1], \\ \varphi_2 &= (0)(1753)(2)(4)(6), & \pi_2 &= [1] [3333] [1] [1] [1].\end{aligned}$$

# Classification of orientably regular embeddings of $K_{n,n}$

## Theorem

*The isomorphism classes of orientably regular embeddings of complete bipartite graphs  $K_{n,n}$  are in a 1-1 correspondence with symmetric skew-morphisms of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ .*

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During 2008–2010 Yanquan Feng, Roman Nedela, and M.S. attempted to approach classification of orientably regular embeddings of  $K_{n,n}$  via symmetric skew-morphisms of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ .



## Problem 1

Classify complete regular dessins via reciprocal skew-morphisms.  
Determine the symmetric skew-morphisms by explicit formulae.

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Classify complete regular dessins via reciprocal skew-morphisms. Determine the symmetric skew-morphisms by explicit formulae.

## Problem 2

Classify orientably regular embeddings of  $K_{n,n}$  via symmetric skew-morphisms of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ .

## Problem 3

Which complete regular dessins correspond to reciprocal pairs  $(\varphi, \varphi^*)$  of skew-morphisms where both  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi^*$  are automorphisms?

**Thank you for listening**



26. 8. – 30. 8. 2019

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