

VEERING TRIANGULATIONS  
AND  
THEIR POLYNOMIALS

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JOINT WORK W.

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## GOALS:

- Recall McMullen's polynomial  $\Theta_F$  for fibred 3-mflds
- Recall Agol's veering triangulations
- Define the Veering polynomial  $V_\tau$  & the Taut polynomial  $\Theta_\tau$
- $\Theta_\tau$  reduces to  $\Theta_F$  in the fibred case
- $V_\tau = \Theta_\tau \cdot \prod (1 \pm q_i)$

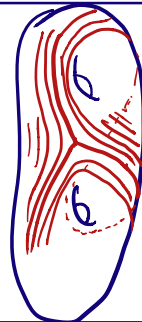
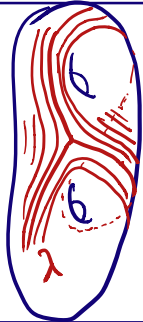
# McMullen's Teichmüller polynomial (1999)

$M$  cpct,

$h: M \rightarrow S^1$  fibration.  
fibre  $S = h^{-1}(p)$

monodromy  
assume

$\Psi: S \rightarrow S$ .  
pseudo-Anosov.



$$M = S \times \mathbb{R} / \Phi$$

$$\bar{\Phi}: (x, t) \mapsto (\Psi(x), t+1)$$

$\lambda$  = expanding foliation (or lamination) of  $\Psi$ .

$$\mathcal{L} = \text{suspension of } \lambda = \lambda \times \mathbb{R} / \bar{\Phi}$$

Thurston & Fried:  $\mathcal{L}$  is the same for all  
fibrations in the same face as  $h$ .

Faces of Thurston's norm:

$$x: H_2(M, \partial M) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$x(c) = \min \left\{ |x(T)| : [T] = c, \begin{array}{l} T \text{ has no sphere} \\ \text{components} \end{array} \right\}$$

for  $c \in H_2(M, \partial M; \mathbb{Z})$ .

Thm (Thurston)

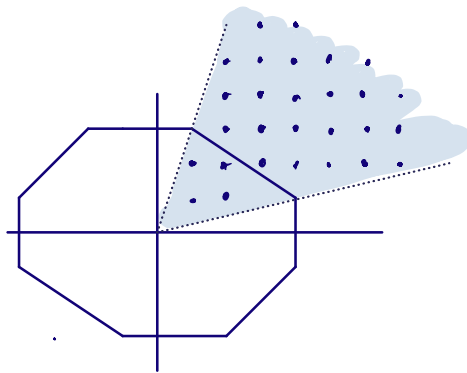
$x$  on integer points extends to a norm.

The unit ball  $B$  is a polyhedron.

Fibres  $[S]$  are in cones  $\mathbb{R}_+ F$   
over open top-dim faces of  $B$ .

and if one integer pt in  $\mathbb{R}_+ F$  is a fibre,  
they all are.

( $F$  is called a fibered face)



Thm (Fried) for all fibres in  $F$ , the suspension  
flow & foliation are the same up to  
isotopy.

The Teichmüller polynomial of a fibred face  $F$ :

$$\Theta_F \in \mathbb{Z}[G] \quad \text{where } G = H_1(M, \mathbb{Z}) / \text{torsion}$$

(the construction only uses  $\mathcal{L}$ ).

Why is this a polynomial?

Write  $G$  multiplicatively:  $x_1, \dots, x_b$  generators.

$g \in G$  is a monomial  $x_1^{n_1} \dots x_b^{n_b}$

elt of  $\mathbb{Z}[G]$  is  $\sum_{i=1}^m a_i g_i$        $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}$   
 $g_i$  monomials.

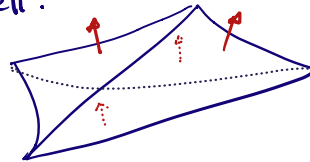
# Veering triangulations.

$M$  (oriented) has nonempty toroidal boundary.

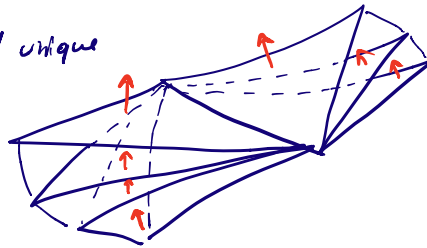
$\tau$  ideal triangulation, with:

- co-orientation of faces such that:  
2 incoming, 2 outgoing on each 3-cell.

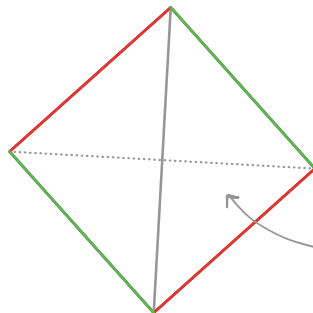
"transverse taut" structure  
(Hodgson-Rubinstein-Segerman-Tillman)



each edge is at bottom of unique 3-cell & at top of unique 3-cell.



- 2-coloring of edges ("left-veering", "right-veering")  
s.t. each 3-cell when placed in std pos'n, looks like:



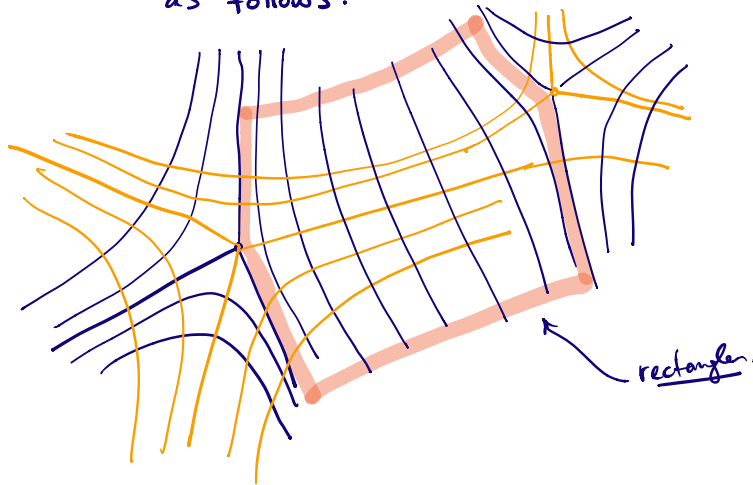
(coorientation toward us)

diagonal arcs allowed to be either color.

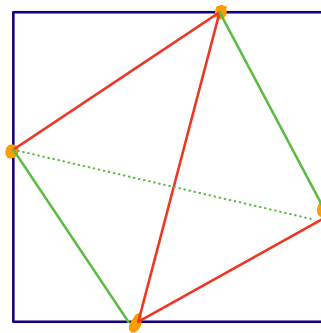
Fibred setting: Agol showed  $\overset{\circ}{M} = M - (\text{singular orbits of flow})$   
has a veering triangulation  $\tau$   
which only depends on the fibred face  $F$ .

Gueritand:  $\tau$  can be obtained from structure of  $\lambda^\pm$  as follows:

S:



maximal rectangle has singularities in all 4 edges



defines tetrahedron,  
color edges  
using slope.

Agol-Gueritand: same construction yields  
veering triangulation for any  
pseudo-Anosov flow w/out perfect fits.

Schleimer-Segerman: (in progress): vice versa.

## Defining polynomials.

(“following McMullen’s philosophy”)

fix  $M, \tau$ .

$$G = H_1(M, \mathbb{Z}) / \text{torsion}.$$

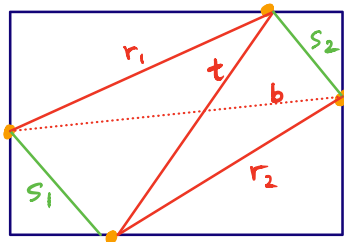
$G \curvearrowright \tilde{M} =$  cover associated to  $\pi, M \rightarrow G$

$E =$  edges of  $\tau$ .

$\tilde{E} =$  lifts to  $\tilde{M}$ .

Relations among edges: (motivated by the rectangular picture)

for each tetrahedron:



$$b = s_1 + t + s_2$$

would hold for widths

if a transverse measure were defined.

consider formal combinations of edges / these relations

this should be the object on which a transverse measure would have to be defined.



work in  $\tilde{M}$ :

$$\mathbb{Z}\text{-module: } \mathbb{Z}^{\tilde{E}} = \left\{ \sum a_i e_i \mid \begin{array}{l} a_i \in \mathbb{Z} \\ e_i \text{ edges in } \tilde{E} \end{array} \right\}.$$

$\mathbb{Z}[G]$  module: for each  $e \in E$  pick one lift  $\tilde{e}$  to  $\tilde{E}$ .  
 another lift must be  $g\tilde{e}$  for  $g \in G$   
 ( $G \curvearrowright \tilde{E}$  freely)

so this gives a  $\mathbb{Z}[G]$  action,  
 and  $\cong \mathbb{Z}[G]^E$

one relation per tetrahedron gives map

$$L: \mathbb{Z}[G]^T \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[G]^E$$

can identify  $T \cong E$ : tetrahedron  $\leftrightarrow$  bottom edge.

so  $L: \mathbb{Z}[G]^E \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[G]^E$  square matrix with polynomial entries.

$$\mathbb{Z}[G]^E \xrightarrow{L} \mathbb{Z}[G]^E \rightarrow \mathcal{E} = \text{coker}(L)$$

Define:  $V_\tau = \det L \in \mathbb{Z}[G]$ .

Remark:  $V_\tau$  well-defined up to multiplication by a unit  $\pm g$ .  
 $\uparrow$   
 monomial

Note:  $V_\tau$  is the generator of the Fitting Ideal of  $\mathcal{E}$ :

if  $\mathcal{E}$   $\mathbb{Z}[G]$  module. Let  $\mathbb{Z}[G]^r \xrightarrow{M} \mathbb{Z}[G]^s \rightarrow \mathcal{E} \rightarrow 0$   
 be any free resolution. Then  
 $\text{Fitt} =$  ideal generated by  $s \times s$  minors of  $M$ .

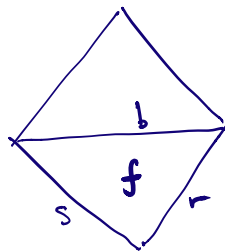
Independent of the resolution.

Another construction:

Face relations:

A face  $f$  lies at the bottom of a unique tetrahedron:

-  $b$  = bottom edge of that tetrahedron.



$$L^\Delta(f) = b - s - r.$$

$$\mathbb{Z}[G]^F \xrightarrow{L^\Delta} \mathbb{Z}[G]^E \rightarrow \mathcal{E}^\Delta \rightarrow 0$$

Let  $\Theta_c =$  generator of Fitting ideal of  $\mathcal{E}^\Delta$   
 $=$  gcd of  $(E \times E)$  minors of  $L^\Delta$ .

Anna Parlab:

- independent development of some of this
- explicit computations
- relation to Alexander polynomial.

$\Theta_\tau$  and the Teichmüller polynomial.

$M$  fibers.  $F$  face

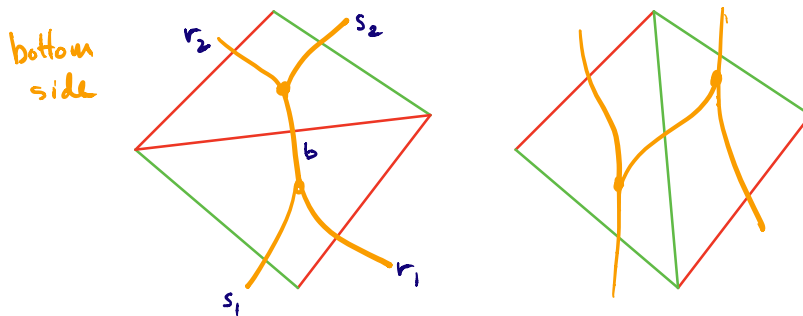
$\overset{\circ}{M} = M - \text{singular orbits}$        $\overset{\circ}{F} = \text{face for } \overset{\circ}{M} \text{ fibration}$

$\tau$  veering triang for  $\overset{\circ}{M}$  (unique given  $F$ )

Thm       $\Theta_\tau = \Theta_{\overset{\circ}{F}}$

Essentially, construction of  $\Theta_\tau$  mimics McMullen construction using an invariant train track on the fibre.

local train-track picture for  $\tau$ :



face relations are the switch relations

What about on  $M$ ?

inclusion  $z: \overset{\circ}{M} \rightarrow M$  induces map  
 $i_x: \mathbb{Z}[H_1(\overset{\circ}{M})/\text{tor}] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[H_1(M)/\text{tor}]$

Thm       $i_x(\Theta_\tau) = \Theta_F$

$\Theta_\tau$  and  $V_\tau$

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Thm  $V_\tau = \Theta_\tau \cdot V^{AB}$

where  $V^{AB}$  has the form  $\prod (1 \pm g_i)$   
 $g_i \in G$  cycles arising from the dual graph  
of  $\tau$ .