Gaudin subalgebras and stable rational curves

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Reference

L. Aguirre, G. Felder and A.P. Veselov arXiv:1004.3253. To appear in Compositio Math.

Configuration space Σ_n and cohomology of pure braid group

Configuration space of n distinct points on the plane

$$\Sigma_n = \{(z_1, \ldots, z_n), z_i \neq z_j, z_i \in \mathbb{C}\} = \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \Delta$$

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Arnold (1969): Cohomology $H^*(\Sigma_n) = H^*(P_n)$ is generated by the elements

$$\omega_{ij} = d \log(z_i - z_j) = \omega_{ji}, \quad , i, j = 1, \ldots, n$$

with the relations

$$\omega_{ij} \wedge \omega_{jk} - \omega_{ik} \wedge \omega_{kj} + \omega_{ij} \wedge \omega_{ik} = 0$$

for all triples $i \neq j \neq k$ (Arnold's relations)

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Generalisations: Brieskorn, Orlik and Solomon



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$$[t_{ij},t_{kl}]=0,\ i\neq j\neq k\neq l$$

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- 3. Universal flat Knizhnik-Zamolodchikov connection (Drinfeld):

$$\nabla_i = \partial_i - \kappa \sum_{i \neq i}^n \frac{t_{ij}}{z_i - z_j}, \quad [\nabla_i, \nabla_j] = 0$$



Some representations

1. $U\mathfrak{t}_n \to U\mathfrak{G}^{\otimes n}$, \mathfrak{G} is a semisimple Lie algebra:

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3. $U\mathfrak{t}_n \to \mathbb{C}[S_n]$:

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Gaudin subalgebras

are abelian subalgebras $\mathfrak{g}\subset\mathfrak{t}_n^1=< t_{ij}>$ of maximal dimension **Lemma.** dim $\mathfrak{g}=n-1$.

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Examples.

1. Gaudin: Integrable spin chain model

$$\mathfrak{g}_n(z) = \{\sum_{i < j}^n \frac{a_i - a_j}{z_i - z_j} t_{ij}, \ a \in \mathbb{C}^n, z \in \Sigma_n\} \subset U\mathfrak{G}^{\otimes n}$$

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3. **Jucys, Murphy**: Representation theory of symmetric group S_n

$$JM = \langle t_{12}, t_{13} + t_{23}, t_{14} + t_{24} + t_{34}, \dots, t_{1n} + t_{2n} + \dots + t_{n-1n} \rangle \subset \mathbb{C}[S_n]$$



Let

$$\textit{M}_{0,n+1} = \{(z_1,\ldots,z_{n+1}), z_i \neq z_j, z_i \in \mathbb{C}P^1\}/\textit{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C}) = \Sigma_n/\textit{Aff}$$

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Deligne, Mumford, Knudsen: compactification $\bar{M}_{0,n+1}$ - moduli space of *stable* genus zero curves C with n+1 marked points

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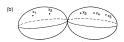
Examples. $\bar{M}_{0,4}=\mathbb{C}P^1,\ \bar{M}_{0,5}=dP_5$ is degree 5 del Pezzo surface.

Witten's picture

E. Witten Nucl. Phys B340 (1990)

294 E. Witten / Two-dimensional gravity





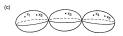


Fig. 1. (a) A generic configuration of distinct points x_i on \mathbb{CP}^1 . (b, c) To compactify the moduli space, one adds additional configurations in which the underlying Riemann surface breaks up into two or more branches.

Real version

Kapranov, Devadoss

 $\bar{M}_{0,n+1}(\mathbb{R})$ is smooth and glued from n!/2 copies of **Stasheff polytopes** (associahedra) K_n

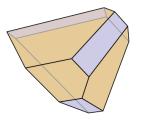


Figure: Stasheff polyhedron K_5

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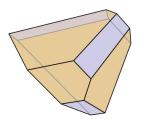


Figure: Stasheff polyhedron K₅

Etingof, Henriques, Kamnitzer, Rains: cohomology ring of $\bar{M}_{0,n+1}(\mathbb{R})$



Main result

Let G_n be the set of all Gaudin subalgebras of Kohno-Drinfeld algebra \mathfrak{t}_n . Since every Gaudin subalgebra is a linear subspace in $\mathfrak{t}_n^1 \approx \mathbb{C}^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}}$ we have a natural imbedding

$$\varphi: G_n \to G(n-1, n(n-1)/2)$$

in the Grassmannian G(n-1, n(n-1)/2).

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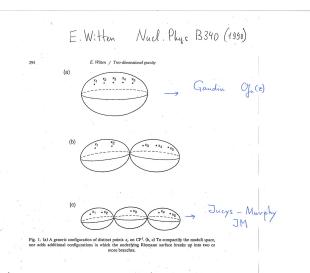
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Proof is based on results by Gerritzen, Herrlich and van der Put.

Witten's picture again



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 Jucys-Murphy elements and Millson-Kapovich's bending flows.
- ▶ Atiyah et al (2001-2): possible links between configuration spaces and flag varieties $F_n = U_n/T_n$

Perspective



MANY HAPPY RETURNS, IGOR!