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Lecture 14: Kasteleyn Theory II: From Dimer Models to Toric Varieties

Recall from last week:

Given a planar graph G with Boltzmann ($\in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$) weights on edges, we adorn this weighting with signs to obtain a Kasteleyn weighting.

Kasteleyn Matrix K is $|B| \times |W|$ matrix with $K_{bw} =$ ^{Kasteleyn} weighting on edge(s) between b and w

Partition function $Z = \sum_{\substack{M \text{ a perfect} \\ \text{matching of } G}} \prod_{e \in M} w(e)$
↑
Boltzmann weights without signs

Thm: If $|B| = |W|$, then

$$Z = |\det K|.$$

Rem: If G embeds into genus $g \geq 1$ Riemann surface Y (i.e. G not planar), we still have

terms in Z , i.e. perfect matchings \leftrightarrow terms in $\det K$
(but signs on RHS might not all be the same)

3/9/15 (2) Proof: First note that if $|B| \neq |W|$, there are no perfect matchings and $Z = 0$.

we thus assume $|B| = |W|$ and K is square below,

Let \tilde{G} be the complete bipartite graph on ~~$n = |B|$~~
 $n = |B|$ black vertices
and $n = |W|$ white vertices (with weights $w(b_i, w_j) \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$
on all edges

we let $w(b_i, w_j) = 0 \Leftrightarrow G$ has no edge (b_i, w_j)
in \tilde{G} .

With this convention $Z_{\tilde{G}} = Z_G$.

Note that $\det K = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \text{sgn}(\sigma) K(b_1, w_{\sigma(1)}) \cdots K(b_n, w_{\sigma(n)})$

and since σ is a permutation, it follows that σ
corresponds to a perfect matching of \tilde{G} .

However $K(b_i, w_j) = w(b_i, w_j) \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow G$ has edge (b_i, w_j)
and so each non-zero term in the expansion of $\det K$
corresponds to a perfect matching of G .

Rem:


This portion
of proof did

not use
planarity.

It suffices to verify that the signs of all non-zero
terms are the same.

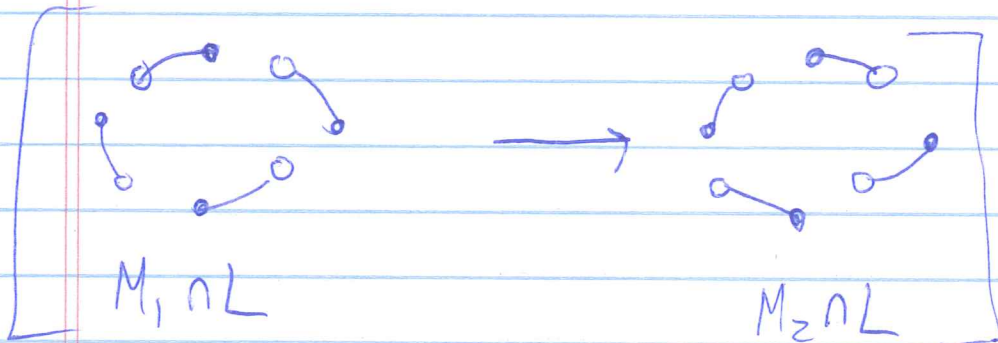
Draw two perfect matchings M_1 and M_2 as a
superposition on G .

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Since $M_1 \cup M_2$ is degree 2 at every vertex,
 then $M_1 \cup M_2$ can be decomposed into connected components
 of loops including 2-loops , a.k.a. doubled edges.

Note that we can transform M_1 into M_2
 by the following operation:

- For every loop L of size ≥ 4 (note that loops are of even size by bipartiteness)



$M_1 \cap L$ is one of two possible perfect matchings of
 a $(2k)$ -cycle.

We define M_2 so that $M_2 \cap L$ is the other perf. matching.

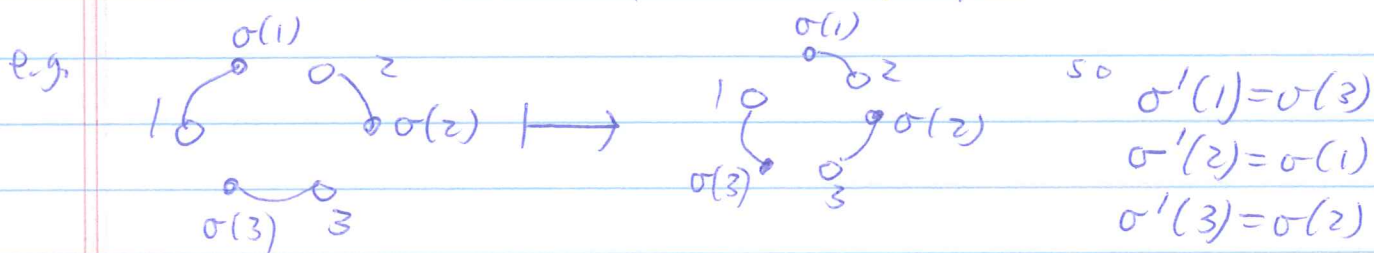
Note that L can be a general cycle in graph G
 that encircles numerous faces (in the planar case)
 or even is homologous to a fundamental cycle of genus g
 Riemann surface Y (in general)

Lemma: Given a Kasteleyn weighting and a $(2k)$ -cycle
 L enclosing l vertices (in the planar case) then the
 alternating product of Kasteleyn weights
~~is $(-1)^{k+l+1}$ in the real case~~

is $(-1)^{k+l+1}$.

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⊛ Each local change on a loop L of size $2k$ also changes σ by multiplying by a k -cycle



Note also that l , the # interior vertices enclosed by L , must be even since enclosed vertices come from other loops (which are $2m$ -gons) or doubled edges.

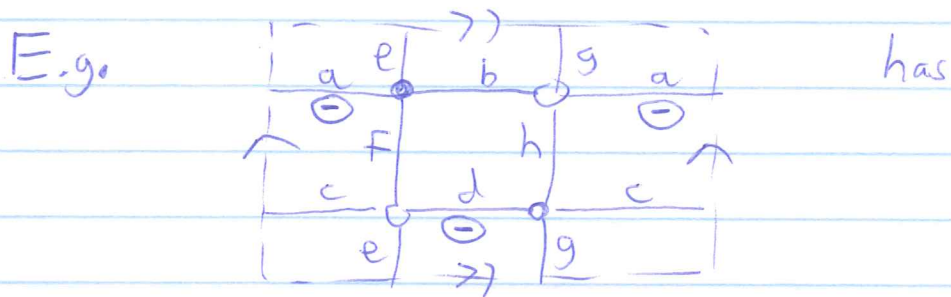
\Rightarrow Each local change by L alters alternating product of Kasteleyn weights by $(-1)^{k+1}$.

At the same time, $\text{sgn } \sigma$ changes by $(-1)^{k+1} = \text{sgn of a } k\text{-cycle}$.

Thus all perfect matchings of a planar graph yield the same sign for its product of Kasteleyn weights. ▣

We now consider all this theorem can be adapted to the case where G is on a Riemann surface Y of genus g (as opposed to planar).

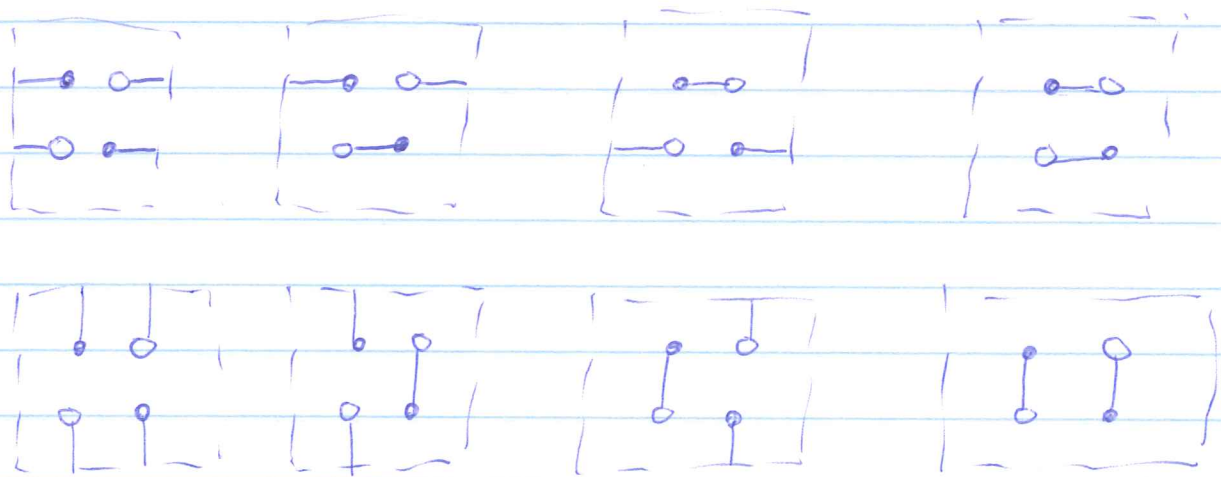
3/9/15 ⑤ Let us focus on $g=1$ case



$$K = \begin{bmatrix} -a+b & e+f \\ g+h & c-d \end{bmatrix}$$

with $\det K = -ac + ad + bc - bd$
 $-eg - eh + fg - fh$


In fact, there are eight perfect matchings




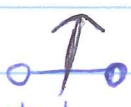

Since $g=1$, there are \mathbb{Z} fundamental cycles to torus, we wish to consider these cycles as data as we build K or \mathbb{Z} .

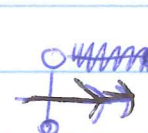
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Example continued: Let z_1 represent \uparrow in torus
 ~~z_2~~ represent \rightarrow in torus

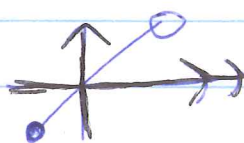
If we have  then in K_{bw} the contribution of w edge e is scaled by z_1^{+1} .

Similarly,  leads to scaling contribution e by z_2^{+1} .

on the other hand,  (or equiv. ) scales contribution instead by z_1^{-1} .

and  scales by z_2^{-1} .

Lastly, we can have combinations of these contributions e.g.

 would scale by $z_1^{+1} z_2^{-1}$.

With these rules, K becomes (for our eg conts)

$$\begin{bmatrix} -az_1^{-1} + b & ez_2^{-1} + f \\ gz_2 + h & cz_1 + d \end{bmatrix}$$

with $\det \Rightarrow$
 $-ac + adz_1^{-1} + bcz_1 - bd$
 $-eg - ehz_2^{-1} - fgz_2 - fg$

Called the
Characteristic
 polynomial

Rem: If we set $a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h = 1$, $\det K$ simplifies to

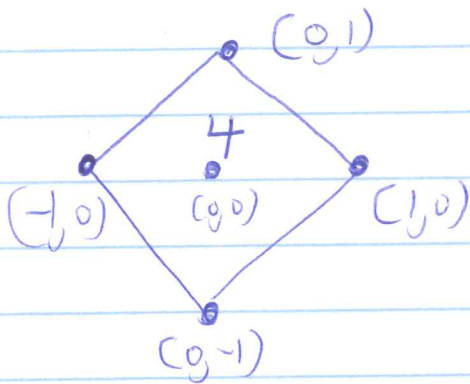
$$\boxed{z_1^{-1} + z_1 - z_2^{-1} - z_2 - 4}$$

Note that no terms cancelled.

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This Laurent polynomial in z_1 and z_2 determines a Newton polygon Δ , defined as convex hull of (i,j) 's $\in \mathbb{Z}^2$ appearing as exponents of nonzero terms in det K.

e.g.

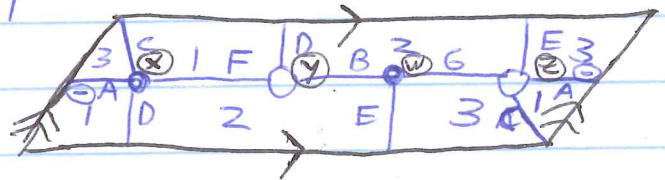


We let $\|\text{coeff of } z_i^i z_j^j\|$ signify multiplicity of that point in Newton polygon Δ .

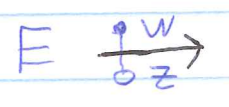
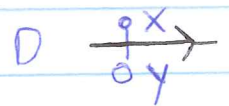
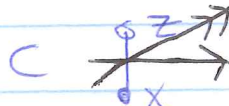
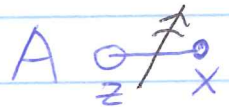
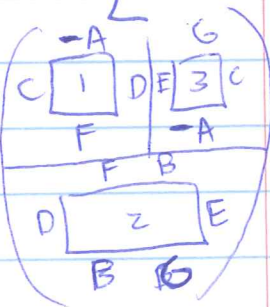
Note that vertices of Δ all have multiplicity 1.

Another example: SPP

[With Kasteleyn signs \oplus everywhere except \ominus on A]



Let $\otimes, \ominus, \oplus, \otimes$ label the four vertices.



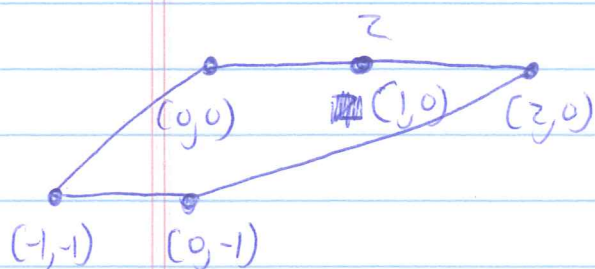
so $K(z_1, z_2) =$

$$\begin{matrix} y & 0 & z & 0 \\ x & \begin{bmatrix} Dz_1 + F & -Az_2^{-1} + (z_1/z_2)^{-1} \\ B & Ez_1 + G \end{bmatrix} \\ w & \end{matrix}$$

with $\det = DEz_1^2 + DGz_1 + EFz_1 + FG + ABz_2^{-1} - B(z_1^{-1}z_2^{-1})$

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Newton polygon for SPP (with this choice of fund. domain)



Again, vertices of Δ have multiplicity 1.

We will see shortly that the Newton polygon corresponding to char poly = det $K(z_1, z_2)$

is the toric diagram of a toric variety geometrically related to the superpotential algebra corresponding to $Q = (Q_0, Q_1)$ and $W [z_1 \leftrightarrow Q_0, z_2 \leftrightarrow Q_1]$.

Moreover, Newton polygon can be used to construct bipartite tiling directly.

Sec 2.2 of Goncharov-Kenyon

Given convex polygon N in \mathbb{R}^2 with vertices in \mathbb{Z}^2 ,

let $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k\} =$ primitive integer vectors (\vec{a}, \vec{b}) [with $\gcd(a, b) = 1$]

corresponding to sides of N in counter-clockwise order.

By construction $\sum e_i = \vec{0}$.