

# Skew bracoid webs arising from abelian maps

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An Example

Hopf-Galois  
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Joint work with

Paul J. Truman

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Recall: a **skew left bracoid** (hereafter, **bracoid**) is a quintuple  $(G, \cdot, N, \star, \odot)$  such that:

- 1  $(G, \cdot)$  and  $(N, \star)$  are groups;
- 2  $G$  acts on  $N$  via  $(g, \eta) \mapsto g \odot \eta$ ,  $g \in G, \eta \in N$ ; and
- 3 the following **bracoid relation** holds:

$$g \odot (\eta \star \pi) = (g \odot \eta) \star (g \odot 1_N)^{-1} \star (g \odot \pi), \quad g \in G, \eta, \pi \in N.$$

Conventions:

- Write  $(G, N)$  when operations are understood.
- Write  $gh$  for  $g \cdot h$ .
- Write  $()^{-1}$  for the inverse in  $G$  and  $N$ .

$$g \odot (\eta \star \pi) = (g \odot \eta) \star (g \odot 1_N)^{-1} \star (g \odot \pi)$$

## Examples

- 1 A skew left brace  $(B, \circ, \cdot)$  is a bracoid:  
 $G = (B, \cdot)$ ,  $N = (B, \circ)$  and  $a \odot b = a \cdot b$ .  
 Note that  $(B, \circ)$  is the “additive group”.
- 2 Let  $G = S_3$ ,  $N = C_3 = \langle \eta \rangle$ . Define  $\odot$  by

| $g$     | $g \odot \eta^i$ |
|---------|------------------|
| $\iota$ | $\eta^i$         |
| (12)    | $\eta^{-i}$      |
| (13)    | $\eta^{1-i}$     |
| (23)    | $\eta^{2-i}$     |
| (123)   | $\eta^{i+1}$     |
| (132)   | $\eta^{i+2}$     |

Then  $(S_3, C_3)$  is a bracoid.

Let  $G = (G, \cdot)$  be a group, usually taken to be nonabelian.

We say  $\psi \in \text{End}(G)$  is an **abelian map** if  $\psi(G)$  is abelian.

Denote the set of abelian maps on  $G$  by  $\text{Ab}(G)$ .

$\psi \in \text{Ab}(G)$  gives rise to a **biskew brace**  $(G, \circ, \cdot)$ , where the new operation is given by

$$g \circ h = g\psi(g^{-1})h\psi(g), \quad g, h \in G.$$

Note that  $\psi_1, \psi_2 \in \text{Ab}(G)$  give the same binary operation iff  $\psi_1(g)\psi_2(g)^{-1} \in Z(G)$  for all  $g \in G$ .

$$g \circ h = g\psi(g^{-1})h\psi(g)$$

Note, for example, that the trivial map yields the trivial brace.

While  $(G, \circ)$  is not necessarily isomorphic to  $(G, \cdot)$ , there is a homomorphism  $\phi : (G, \circ) \rightarrow (G, \cdot)$  given by  $\phi(g) = g\psi(g^{-1})$ .

$\phi$  is an isomorphism if and only if  $\psi(g) \neq g$  for all  $g \neq 1_G$ .

This  $\phi$ , which will always be implicitly dependent on  $\psi$ , will be important throughout this talk.

A **brace block** is a set  $G$  together with a family of binary operations  $\{\circ_i : i \in \mathcal{I}\}$  (where  $\mathcal{I}$  is some index set) such that  $(G, \circ_i, \circ_j)$  is a (biskew) brace for all  $i, j \in \mathcal{I}$ .

Let  $\psi \in \text{Ab}(G)$ , and for each  $n \geq 0$  define  $\psi_n : G \rightarrow G$  by  $\psi_n(g) = \phi^n(g)^{-1}g$ .

Note  $\psi_0 = \text{id}$  and  $\psi_1 = \psi$ .

Generally,  $\psi_n \in \text{Ab}(G)$ , allowing us to create a group  $(G, \circ_n)$  with

$$g \circ_n h = g\psi_n(g^{-1})h\psi_n(g).$$

Can show:  $(G, \{\circ_n : n \geq 0\})$  is a brace block.



We can also get non-brace bracoids from an abelian map.

Let  $\psi \in \text{Ab}(G)$  and construct the brace as above.

Recall  $\phi : (G, \circ) \rightarrow (G, \cdot)$ ,  $\phi(g) = g\psi(g^{-1})$  is a homomorphism.

We say  $H \leq G$  is  $\psi$ -admissible if  $[G, \phi(H)] \subseteq H$ .

Suppose  $H \leq G$  is  $\psi$ -admissible. Let  $N = G/H$  (left cosets (with respect to  $\cdot$ )) then

$$xH \star yH = (x \circ y)H = x\psi(x^{-1})y\psi(x)H, \quad xH, yH \in N$$

makes  $(N, \star)$  into a group.

Letting  $g \odot xH = (gx)H$  makes  $(G, N)$  a bracoid.

Furthermore, this construction works if and only if  $H$  is  $\psi$ -admissible.

One way to construct bracoids is the following:

Let  $\mathfrak{B} = (B, \circ, \cdot)$  be a brace.

Let  $A$  be a strong left ideal of  $\mathfrak{B}$ —that is:

- $A \trianglelefteq (B, \circ)$ ;
- $A \leq (B, \cdot)$ ;
- $b^{-1} \circ (b \cdot a) \in A$  for all  $a \in A$ ,  $b \in B$ .

Then  $(B, \cdot, B/A, \star, \odot)$  is a bracoid, where  $bA \star cA = (b \circ c)A$  and  $b \odot cA = bcA$ .

**Fact.** If  $\psi \in \text{Ab}(G)$  and  $H$  is  $\psi$ -admissible then  $H$  is a strong left ideal of  $(G, \circ, \cdot)$ , and our bracoid construction can be seen as an example of this more general case.

$$[G, \phi(H)] \subseteq H, \phi(g) = g\psi(g^{-1})$$

## Example

Let  $G = S_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ . Define  $\psi : G \rightarrow G$  by

$$\psi(\sigma) = \begin{cases} 1_G & \sigma \in A_n \\ (12) & \sigma \notin A_n \end{cases}.$$

Since  $\psi(G) = \langle (12) \rangle$  this is an abelian map.

Let  $H = \langle (12) \rangle$ . Then  $\phi(H) = \{1_G\}$  and  $[G, \{1_G\}] \subseteq H$ .

Hence  $H$  is  $\psi$ -admissible.

Write  $N = G/H$ . The group  $(N, \star) \cong A_n$ .

If  $n = 3$  then  $G$  acts on  $N$  as in the previous example.

## Question

Does every abelian map yield  $\psi$ -admissible subgroups?

Yes:

- $H = G$ ,  $H = \{1_G\}$ , though these are not terribly interesting.
- $H = \ker \psi$  since  $\phi(k) = k\psi(k^{-1}) = k$  for  $k \in \ker \psi$ , and  $[G, \ker \psi] \subseteq \ker \psi$  since  $\ker \psi \trianglelefteq G$ .
- $H = \text{fix } \psi$ , the subgroup of fixed points, since  $\phi(H) = \{1_G\}$ .  
But  $\text{fix } \psi$  may be trivial.
- $H \leq \text{fix } \psi$ .
- $H = \text{fix } \psi \ker \psi$  (which could possibly be all of  $G$ ).

However, most subgroups tend not to be  $\psi$ -admissible.

Background

**Bracoid Webs**

An Example

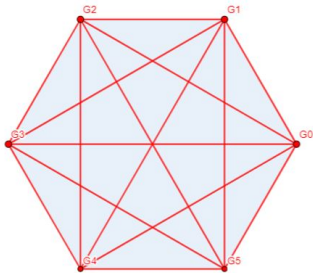
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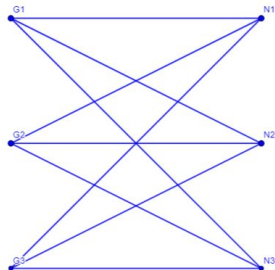
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A **bracoid web** is a collection

$(G, \{\circ_m : m \geq 0\}, N, \{\star_n : n \geq 0\}, \{\odot_{m,n} : m, n \geq 0\})$  such that  $(G, \circ_m, N, \star_n, \odot_{m,n})$  is a bracoid for every  $m, n \geq 0$ .



Brace Block: Complete Graph



Bracoid Web: Bipartite Graph

Let  $\psi \in \text{Ab}(G)$ , and recall  $\phi(g) = g\psi(g^{-1})$ .

We say  $H \leq G$  is **fully  $\psi$ -admissible** if  $[G, \phi^n(H)] \subseteq H$  for all  $n \geq 1$ .

## Examples

- 1  $H = \text{fix } \psi$ . Then  $[G, \phi^n(H)] = [G, \{1_G\}] = \{1_G\} \subseteq H$ .
- 2  $H = \ker \psi$ . Then  $[G, \phi^n(H)] = [G, H] \subseteq H$  since  $H \trianglelefteq G$ .
- 3  $H = \text{fix } \psi \ker \psi$ . Then  $[G, \phi^n(H)] = [G, \ker \psi] \subseteq H$ .

$$[G, \phi^n(H)] \subseteq H.$$

## Key concepts.

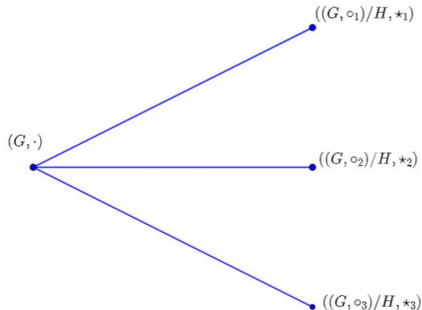
- If  $\psi \in \text{Ab}(G)$ , so is  $\psi_n : g \mapsto \phi^n(g)^{-1}g$  for all  $n$ , allowing us to form the group  $(G, \circ_n)$ .
- A subgroup  $H$  is  $\psi_n$ -admissible iff  $[G, \phi_n(H)] \subseteq H$ , where  $\phi_n(h) = h\psi_n(h)^{-1} = h(h^{-1}\phi^n(h)) = \phi^n(h)$ .
- A subgroup  $H$  is  $\psi_n$ -admissible iff  $[G, \phi^n(H)] \subseteq H$ .

Let  $N = G/H$  (left cosets) and define  $xH \star_n yH = (x \circ_n y)H$ . Then  $(G, \cdot, N, \star_n, \odot)$  is a bracoid, where  $g \odot xH = gxH$ .



## Theorem

Let  $H \leq (G, \cdot)$  be fully  $\psi$ -admissible. Then  $(G, \cdot, N, \{\star_n : n \geq 1\}, \odot)$  is a bracoid web.



First Bracoid Web

Of course, given  $\psi \in \text{Ab}(G)$  we have a collection of groups  $\{(G, \circ_m) : m \geq 0\}$  with  $a \circ_0 b = a \cdot b$ .

Let  $[a, b]_m$  be the commutator of  $a$  and  $b$  in  $(G, \circ_m)$ .

### Proposition

*If  $H \leq (G, \cdot)$  is fully  $\psi$ -admissible then  $[G, \phi^n(H)]_m \subseteq H$  for all  $m, n \geq 1$ , and  $H \leq (G, \circ_m)$ .*

So  $(G, \circ_m, N, \star_n, \odot_{m,n})$  is a brace as well, where  $N = (G, \circ_n)/H$  and  $g \odot_m (x \circ_n H) = (g \circ_m x) \circ_n H$ .

For  $\psi \in \text{Ab}(G)$  and  $H$  a  $\psi$ -admissible subgroup, there appear to be two types of cosets:

$$xH = \{xh : h \in H\} \quad x \circ H = \{x \circ h : h \in H\}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} x \circ h &= x\psi(x^{-1})h\psi(x) \\ &= x\psi(x^{-1})h\psi(h^{-1}xh) \\ &= x\psi(x^{-1})\phi(h)\psi(x)\phi(h)^{-1}h \\ &= x[\psi(x^{-1}), \phi(h)]h \\ &= xh', \quad h' \in H. \end{aligned}$$

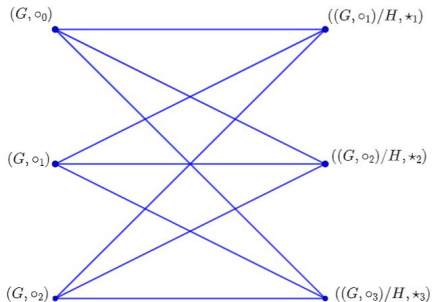
Thus the cosets coincide. Generally,  $x \circ_n H = xH$ .

For context, we will continue to represent the cosets as  $x \circ_n H$  when  $N = (G, \circ_n)/H$ .

## Theorem

Let  $H \leq (G, \cdot)$  be fully  $\psi$ -admissible. Then

$(G, \{\circ_m : m \geq 0\}, \cdot, N, \{\star_n : n \geq 1\}, \{\odot_{m,n} : m \geq 0, n \geq 1\})$  is a bracoid web.



Bracoid Web

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Recall  $\psi_m(g) = \phi^m(g)^{-1}g$ Let  $G = F(a, b)$  be a free group.Let  $\psi : G \rightarrow G$  be given by  $\psi(a) = 1_G$ ,  $\psi(b) = b^{-1}$ .Generally,  $\psi(\prod a^i b^{s_i}) = b^{s(g)}$  where  $s(g) = \sum s_i$ .Then  $\psi(G) = \langle b \rangle$  and  $\psi \in \text{Ab}(G)$ .Note that  $\phi(a^i) = a^i$ ,  $\phi(b^i) = b^{2i}$ .Then  $\psi_m(a) = 1$  and  $\psi_m(b) = b^{1-2^m}$  for all  $m \geq 1$ .For  $m \geq 0$  operation in  $(G, \circ_m)$  is

$$g \circ_m h = g\psi_m(g^{-1})h\psi_m(g) = gb^{(2^m-1)s(g)}hb^{(1-2^m)s(g)}.$$

Note that all of the binary operations are different because  $\psi_{m_1} \neq \psi_{m_2}$ ,  $m_1 \neq m_2$  and  $Z(F(a, b))$  is trivial.

Also,  $(G, \circ_m)$  nonabelian since  $a \circ_m b = ab$  and  $b \circ_m a = b^{2^m}ab^{1-2^m}$ .

Let  $H = \langle b^2 \rangle = \text{fix } \psi$ 

So  $H$  is fully  $\psi$ -admissible. Let us try to understand  
 $N = (G, \circ_n)/H$ .

We have  $x \circ_n H = y \circ_n H$  iff  $\psi^n(y)y^{-1}\psi^n(y^{-1}) \circ_n x \in \langle b^2 \rangle$ .

Let  $\bar{y} = \psi^n(y)y^{-1}\psi^n(y^{-1})$  (inverse to  $y \in (G, \circ_n)$ ).

Since

$$(a \circ_n H) \star_n (b \circ_n H) = (ab) \circ_n H$$

$$(b \circ_n H) \star_n (a \circ_n H) = (b^{2^n} ab^{1-2^n}) \circ_n H$$

$$\overline{ab} \circ_n b^{2^n} ab^{1-2^n} \notin \langle b^2 \rangle$$

$$\overline{b^{2^n} ab^{-2^n}} \circ_n (b^{2^{n'}} ab^{-2^{n'}}) \notin \langle b^2 \rangle, \quad n \neq n'$$

the groups  $(G, \star_n)$  are nonabelian and pairwise distinct.

Let  $g \odot_{m,n} (x \star_n H) = (g \circ_m x) \star_n H$ . The resulting braicoid web is  $(G, \{\circ_m : m \geq 0\}, G/H, \{\star_n : n \geq 1\}, \{\odot_{m,n} : m \geq 0\})$ .

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Throughout this section, all groups and field extensions are finite.

Let:

- $L/K$  be a separable field extension;
- $E/L$  be an extension such that  $E/K$  is Galois;
- $G = \text{Gal}(E/K)$ ,  $H = \text{Gal}(E/L)$ .

It follows from Greither-Pareigis theory that Hopf-Galois structures on  $L/K$  correspond to regular subgroups  $N \leq \text{Perm}(G/H)$  which are stabilized by  $G$ , where  $G$  acts on  $\text{Perm}(G/H)$  by conjugation by  $\lambda(G)$  (left translation of cosets).

The isomorphism class of  $N$  is the **type** of the Hopf-Galois structure.

For  $k \in G$  and  $\eta \in N$  we write  ${}^k\eta = \lambda(k)\eta\lambda(k^{-1})$ .

We will explicitly describe two regular subgroups for each bracoid.

Let  $\psi \in \text{Ab}(G)$ , and let  $H \leq G$  be  $\psi$ -admissible.

Define  $N = \{\eta_g : g \in G\} \subseteq \text{Perm}(G/H)$  where

$$\eta_g[xH] = (g \circ x)H = gH \star xH.$$

Then  $N$  is a subgroup of  $\text{Perm}(G/H)$ :  $\eta_{g_1}\eta_{g_2} = \eta_{g_1 \circ g_2}$ .

**Fact.**  $\eta_{g_1} = \eta_{g_2}$  if and only if  $g_1 g_2^{-1} \in H$ , so  $|N| = |G/H|$ .

Since  $\eta_g[1_G H] = gH$  the subgroup  $N \leq \text{Perm}(G/H)$  is transitive, hence regular.

Can show  ${}^k \eta_g = \eta_{k(g \circ k^{-1})}$  hence the action is  $G$ -stable.

So  $N \leq \text{Perm}(G/H)$  gives a Hopf-Galois structure on  $L/K$ .

Keep the notation from above.

Define  $P = \{\pi_g : g \in G\} \leq \text{Perm}(G/H)$  where

$$\pi_g[xH] = (x \circ g)H = xH \star gH.$$

As before:

- $P$  is indeed a subgroup; here  $\pi_{g_1}\pi_{g_2} = \pi_{g_2 \circ g_1}$ .
- $\pi_{g_1} = \pi_{g_2}$  iff  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  are in the same left coset;
- $P$  is regular;
- $P$  is  $G$ -stable:  ${}^k\pi_g = \pi_{k(k^{-1} \circ g)}$ .

So  $P \leq \text{Perm}(G/H)$  gives a Hopf-Galois structure on  $L/K$ , distinct from  $N$  if  $(G, \circ)$  is nonabelian.

Let  $H \leq G$  be fully  $\psi$ -admissible.

For  $m \geq 0$ , let  $E_m/K_m$  be a Galois extension,  
 $\text{Gal}(E_m/K_m) = (G, \circ_m)$ .

Let  $N_n = \{\eta_g^{(m,n)} : g \in (G, \circ_m)\} \leq \text{Perm}((G, \circ_m)/H)$  with  
 $\eta_g^{(m,n)}[x \circ_m H] = (g \circ_n x) \circ_m H$ .

This gives a Hopf-Galois structure on  $L_{m,n} := E_m^{N_n}$ .

Similar results hold for  $P_n$ .

So we may get Hopf-Galois structures on field extensions  
 we (presumably) don't care about.

Let  $G = D_n \times D_n = \langle r, s, t, u \rangle$ ,  $|r| = |t| = n$ ,  $|s| = |u| = 2$ .

Define  $\psi \in \text{Ab}(G)$  by  $\psi(r) = \psi(t) = 1_G$ ,  $\psi(s) = u$ ,  $\psi(u) = s$ .

Then  $H = \langle su \rangle$  is fully  $\psi$ -admissible.

Can compute the entire bracoid web:

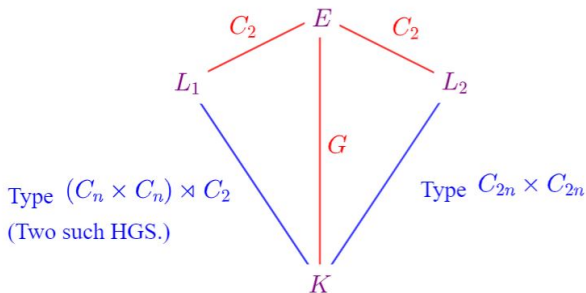
$$(G, \circ_0) = D_n \times D_n$$

$$(G, \circ_1) \cong C_2 \times ((C_n \times C_n) \rtimes C_2) \quad (N, \star_1) \cong (C_n \times C_n) \rtimes C_2$$

$$(G, \circ_2) \cong C_{2n} \times C_{2n} \quad (N, \star_2) \cong C_{2n}$$

$$(G, \circ_n) = (G, \circ_2) \quad (N, \star_n) = (N, \star_2), \quad n \geq 2.$$

So we get Hopf-Galois structures on two subextensions of three different Galois extensions...



$$G \cong D_n \times D_n, C_2 \times ((C_n \times C_n) \rtimes C_2), \text{ or } C_{2n} \times C_{2n}$$

**Classical Galois Structures**  
 Regular subgroups of  $\text{Perm}(G/C_2)$

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- Does “ $\psi$ -admissible” imply “fully  $\psi$ -admissible”?  
We have no example of  $H \leq G$  such that  $[G, \phi(H)] \leq H$   
but  $[G, \phi^n(H)] \not\leq H$  for some  $n$ .  
We expect they exist.
- Under what conditions are the bracoids in a brace web reduced?  
Recall **reduced** means that no nontrivial element of  $(G, \circ_m)$  acts trivially on  $(N, \star_n)$ .



- What is the group structure of  $(G/H, \star_n)$ ?

Can be difficult in general.

If  $H = \text{fix } \psi$ , then  $H = \ker \phi$ , hence

$$(G/H, \star_1) = (G, \circ)/H \cong \phi(G) \leq (G, \cdot)$$

hence  $(G/H, \star_1)$  can be realized as a subgroup of  $G$ .

In general,  $H \neq \text{fix } \psi_n$ .

- Can this construction be extended to recent generalizations of “abelian” maps (Caranti-Stefanello, K., Stefanello-Trappeniers)?

Possible, but it seems the definition of  $\psi$ -admissible would need to change.



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Thank you.