

# A calculus for monomials in Chow group $A^{n-3}(n)$

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# basic setting

- Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq 3$ , set  $N := \{1, \dots, n\}$ .
- A partition  $(I, J)$  of  $N$  where both cardinality of  $I$  and  $J$  are at least 2 is called a **cut** (of  $M_n$ ).
- This talk focus on the Chow ring of  $M_n$ , where  $M_n$  is the moduli space of stable n-pointed curves of genus zero.
- Denote  $\delta_{I,J}$  as the class of a cut subvariety  $D_{I,J}$  of  $M_n$ .
- We will not focus on the details of  $M_n$ , what is important for this talk is the properties of this Chow ring.
- We denote the Chow ring of  $M_n$  as  $A^*(n)$ .

# properties of $A^*(n)$

- It is a graded ring, we have  $A^*(n) = \bigoplus_{k=0}^{n-3} A^k(n)$ ; and these homogeneous components are defined as Chow groups (of  $M_n$ ). Here, for instance, we say  $A^r(n)$  is a **Chow group of dimension  $r$** .
- Fact1:  $A^r(n) = \{0\}$  for  $r > n - 3$ .
- Fact2:  $A^{n-3}(n) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ , we denote this isomorphism as  $\int : A^{n-3}(n) \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ .
- $\{\delta_{I,J} \mid \{I, J\} \text{ is a cut}\}$  is a set of generators for  $A^1(n)$ ; hence they are also generators for  $A^*(n)$ .
- For simplicity, we call them **generators** in the later text.
- $\prod_{i=1}^{n-3} \delta_{I_i, J_i}$  can be viewed as an element in  $A^{n-3}(n)$  since we are in a graded ring.
- Quadratic relations between the generators.
- Linear relations between the generators.

# Keel's quadratic relation

Among the generators of  $A^*(n)$ ,  $\delta_{I_1, J_1} \cdot \delta_{I_2, J_2} = 0$  and we say these two generators fulfill **Keel's quadratic relation** if the following conditions hold:

- $I_1 \cap I_2 \neq \emptyset$ ;
- $I_1 \cap J_2 \neq \emptyset$ ;
- $J_1 \cap I_2 \neq \emptyset$ ;
- $J_1 \cap J_2 \neq \emptyset$ .

Easy example: When  $n = 5$ ,  $\delta_{12|345} \cdot \delta_{13|245} = 0$  but  $\delta_{12|345}$  and  $\delta_{123|45}$  does not fulfill this relation.

# Keel's linear relation

Denote  $\epsilon_{ij|kl} := \sum_{i,j \in I, k,l \in J} \delta_{I,J}$ . Then we have the equality relations  $\epsilon_{ij|kl} = \epsilon_{il|kj} = \epsilon_{ik|jl}$ , we call it **Keel's linear relation**.

## Example

When  $n = 6$ , we have  $\epsilon_{12|35} = \epsilon_{13|25} = \epsilon_{15|23}$ , i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} & \delta_{12,3456} + \delta_{124,356} + \delta_{126,345} + \delta_{1246,35} \\ &= \delta_{13,2456} + \delta_{134,256} + \delta_{136,245} + \delta_{1346,25} \\ &= \delta_{15,2346} + \delta_{145,236} + \delta_{156,234} + \delta_{1456,23} \end{aligned}$$

# motivation

- Many problems from yesterday's rigidity workshop can be reduced to computation of  $\int \prod_{r=1}^{n-3} \epsilon_{i_r j_r | k_r l_r}$ , subproblem of which is to compute  $\int \prod_{r=1}^{n-3} \delta_{l_r, j_r}$ .
- Denote  $T := \prod_{r=1}^{n-3} \delta_{l_r, j_r}$ , we define the **value of**  $T$  to be  $\int (\prod_{r=1}^{n-3} \delta_{l_r, j_r})$ .
- A easy case is when two factors of the monomial fulfill Keel's quadratic relation; we simply get value zero because of Keel's quadratic relation.
- What if this is not the case?
- Now we only need to consider the monomials  $T := \prod_{i=1}^{n-3} \delta_{l_i, j_i}$  where no two factors fulfill Keel's quadratic relation; we call this type of monomials **tree monomial** since there is a one-to-one correspondence between these monomials and *loaded tree with  $n$  labels and  $k$  edges*. We come to the definition of these trees now.

# loaded tree

A **loaded tree with  $n$  labels and  $k$  edges** is a tree  $(V, E)$  together with a labeling function  $h$  from  $V$  to the power set of  $N$  such that the following conditions hold:

- Non-empty labels  $\{h(v)\}_{v \in V}$  form a partition of  $N$ ;
- Number of edges is  $k$  and here multiple edges are allowed;
- $\deg(v) + |h(v)| \geq 3$  holds for every  $v \in V$ .

# loaded tree

See some examples of loaded trees. (check with definitions)



Figure: This is a loaded tree with 5 labels and 2 edges.

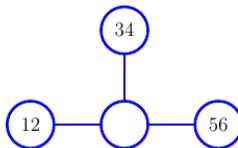


Figure: This is a loaded tree with 6 labels and 3 edges.



# monomial of a given tree

- We define the **monomial of a given loaded tree** as the following:
- For each edge we collect the labels on one side of it to form  $I$  and labels on the other side of it to form  $J$ . And we say  $(I, J)$  is the corresponding cut for this edge.
- The monomial of this given loaded tree is  $\prod_{i=1}^{n-3} \delta_{I_i, J_i}$ ; each edge of the tree contributes to the monomial a factor  $\delta_{I, J}$  if  $(I, J)$  is the corresponding cut for this edge.
- It is well-defined and each loaded tree has a unique monomial representation.

# monomial of a given tree



Figure: This is a loaded tree with 5 labels and 2 edges, the corresponding tree of tree monomial  $\delta_{12|345} \cdot \delta_{123|45}$ .

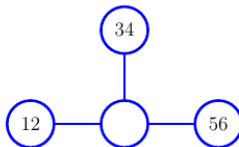


Figure: This is a loaded tree with 6 labels and 3 edges, the corresponding tree of tree monomial  $\delta_{34|1256} \cdot \delta_{12|3456} \cdot \delta_{56|1234}$ .

# one-to-one correspondence

We claim that any monomial of a given loaded tree is actually a tree monomial; and every tree monomial uniquely represents a loaded tree.

## Theorem

*There is a one to one correspondence between tree monomials  $T = \prod_{i=1}^m \delta_{l_i, j_i} (1 \leq m \leq n - 3)$  and loaded trees with  $n$  labels and  $m$  edges. We call the corresponding tree of a tree monomial **tree of the given tree monomial**.*

# one-to-one correspondence

## Proof.

- Prove by induction on  $m$ .
- Base case:  $m = 1$ ,  $T = \delta_{I_1, J_1}$ . We define its corresponding tree simply as a tree with two vertices and one edge connecting them, setting two labeling sets of the vertices as  $I_1$  and  $J_1$ , respectively. Obviously this tree is a loaded tree with  $n$  labels and 1 edge and its monomial is exactly  $T$ .
- Assume the statement holds for all  $m \leq k$  ( $1 \leq k \leq n - 3$ ).
- When  $T = \prod_{i=1}^{k+1} \delta_{I_i, J_i}$ , we define its corresponding tree as the following:



# one-to-one correspondence

## Proof.

- First collect these  $I_i, J_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k+1$ ) together in a set  $C$  (which can be a multi-set).
- Then pick any element  $x \in C$  such that  $x$  has minimum cardinality; assume  $(x, y)$  is the cut (for  $M_n$ ).
- Define  $T_1 := \frac{T}{\delta_{x,y}}$ , obviously it is still a tree monomial. By induction, there is a unique loaded tree  $LT_1 = (V_1, E_1, h_1)$  with  $n$  labels and  $k$  edges representing  $T_1$ .
- Then all nodes of  $x$  must be together in  $h_1(v)$  for some  $v \in V_1$ ; otherwise, there will be another factor of  $T$  fulfilling Keel's quadratic relation with  $\delta_{x,y}$  and this contradicts with the fact that  $T$  is a tree monomial.
- Then there are two cases: (1)  $x = h_1(v)$ ; (2)  $x \subsetneq h_1(v)$ .



# one-to-one correspondence

## Proof.

- First case:  $x = h_1(v)$ , since  $x$  has minimal cardinality in set  $C$ ,  $v$  must be a leaf and its adjacent edge corresponds to cut  $(x, y)$ . In this case, we simply add one more multiplicity to this edge. Denote this new tree as  $LT$ .
- Second case:  $x \subsetneq h_1(v)$ . Add a new vertex  $u$  with labelling set  $x$  and one more edge  $uv$  connecting  $v$  and  $u$ ; denote this new tree as  $LT = (V, E, h)$ .
- It is not hard to verify that in both cases  $LT$  is a loaded tree with  $n$  labels and  $k + 1$  edges and the monomial of  $LT$  is just the product of  $\delta_{x,y}$  and the monomial of  $LT_1$ , i.e.,  $T_1 \cdot \delta_{x,y}$ , which is exactly  $T$ . In this way, we proved the uniqueness.
- By induction, the statement holds.



# one-to-one correspondence

- From the proof above, we can extract an algorithm for constructing a loaded tree of the given tree monomial.
- However, the mutiplicity issue of edges can be simplified a bit.
- We can set that set  $C$  in the algorithm to be a normal set.
- The multiplicity of edges can be considered after the tree structure is constructed easily.
- (illustrate the example on the blackboard)
- We call it **tree algorithm**.

# one-to-one correspondence

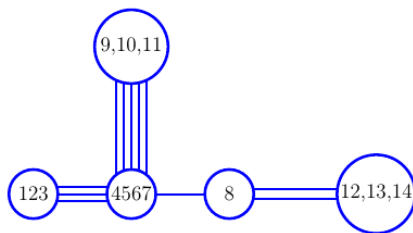


Figure: This is the corresponding loaded tree of the given monomial.



# value of a loaded tree

- Goal: calculate  $\int(T)$  for any tree monomial  $T$
- Recall:  $\int$  represents the isomorphism from  $A^{n-3}(n)$  to  $\mathbb{Z}$
- Because of this one-to-one correspondence, now we define **value of a loaded tree** as  $\int(T)$ , where  $T$  is the corresponding monomial of this loaded tree.

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- Recall:  $\int$  represents the isomorphism from  $A^{n-3}(n)$  to  $\mathbb{Z}$
- Because of this one-t-one correspondence, now we define **value of a loaded tree** as  $\int(T)$ , where  $T$  is the corresponding monomial of this loaded tree.
- Goal: Given a loaded tree with  $n$  labels and  $n - 3$  edges, we want to calculate its value.

# special case

## Theorem

*If all factors are distinct in  $T := \prod_{i=1}^{n-3} \delta_{l_i, j_i}$ , then  $\int(T) = 1$ . We call this type of tree monomial **clever monomial** and its corresponding loaded tree **clever tree**.*

## Remark

*For clever trees, we know that they have value 1. What about non-clever trees? Let's see the following example for a general idea.*

# Recall Keel's linear relation

## Example

When  $n = 6$ , we have  $\epsilon_{12|35} = \epsilon_{13|25} = \epsilon_{15|23}$ , i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} & \delta_{12,3456} + \delta_{124,356} + \delta_{126,345} + \delta_{1246,35} \\ &= \delta_{13,2456} + \delta_{134,256} + \delta_{136,245} + \delta_{1346,25} \\ &= \delta_{15,2346} + \delta_{145,236} + \delta_{156,234} + \delta_{1456,23} \end{aligned}$$

## Remark

*From the example above we easily see that we can replace some  $\delta_{I,J}$ , say  $\delta_{12|3456}$ , by  $\epsilon_{13|25} - (\epsilon_{12|35} - \delta_{12|3456})$ . Basically we can replace  $\delta_{I,J}$  by a sum of  $(2^{n-3} - 1)$  many  $(\pm)\delta_{I',J'}$ .*

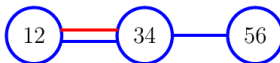
# main idea behind

## Example

- Given:  $\delta_{12|3456}^2 \cdot \delta_{1234|56}$
- corresponding tree see below
- use Keel's linear relation:

$$\delta_{12|3456}^2 \cdot \delta_{1234|56} = \delta_{12|3456} \cdot \delta_{1234|56} \cdot (\epsilon_{13|25} - \delta_{124|356} - \delta_{126|345} - \delta_{1246|35})$$

- After cancellations caused by Keel's quadratic relation, we get
- $$\delta_{12|3456}^2 \cdot \delta_{1234|56} = -\delta_{12|3456} \cdot \delta_{1234|56} \cdot \delta_{124|356}.$$
- obtain tree value/monomial value:  $-1$



# main idea behind

- For simpler monomials we can try to replace those higher powered factors using Keel's linear relation.
- And hopefully finally get a sum of clever monomials (maybe with a negative sign).
- Then the number of of clever monomials should be the absolute value of given monomial.
- Based on this idea, we have an algorithm for calculus for all tree monomials in  $A^{n-3}(n)$ .

# sketch of the algorithm

- Input: a loaded tree with  $n$  labels and  $n - 3$  edges
- Output: a natural number
- Transfer the loaded tree to a **semi-redundancy tree**.
- Calculate the **sign of the tree value**.
- Construct a **redundancy forest** from the semi-redundancy tree.
- Apply a recursive algorithm to this redundancy forest, obtaining the absolute tree value.
- Product of the sign and absolute value gives us tree value.
- We call it **forest algorithm**.
- Now we explain these terminologies.

# semi-redundancy tree

- Given: loaded tree  $LT = (V, E, h)$ .
- Define a weight function  $w : V \cup E \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  as the following:
- For any  $v \in V$ ,  $w(v) := \deg(v) + |h(v)| - 3$ .
- Note that here in the degree of  $v$ , multiple edges are counted only once. And from the definition of loaded tree we know the weight of any vertex must be non-negative.
- For any  $e \in E$ ,  $w(e) := \text{multiplicity of } e - 1$ . Then we see the weight of any edge is also non-negative.
- **semi-redundancy tree** (of  $LT$ )  $SRT := (LT, w)$ .



# semi-redundancy tree

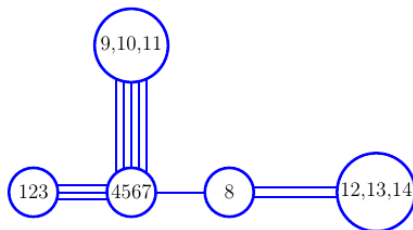
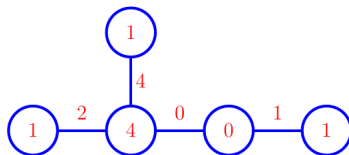


Figure: This is a loaded tree  $LT$  with 14 labels and 11 edges.

Let's figure out its semi-redundancy tree!

# semi-redundancy tree



**Figure:** This is the semi-redundancy tree of the loaded tree  $LT$ , where the weight of vertices and edges are tagged in red. For simplicity we omit labels for vertices here.

# sign of the tree value

- Given a semi-redundancy tree  $SRT = (LT, w)$ .
- Let  $S$  be the sum of vertex weight (or edge weight) of  $LT$ .
- **Sign of the tree value** of loaded tree  $LT$  is  $(-1)^S$ .
- It's not hard to verify that weight sum of edges and of vertices are the same.

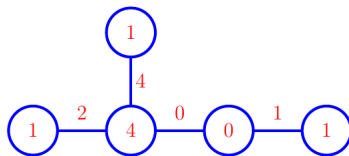
# sign of the tree value

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{v \in V} w(v) &= \sum_{v \in V} (\deg(v) + |h(v)| - 3) \\&= \sum_{v \in V} \deg(v) + \sum_{v \in V} |h(v)| - 3 \cdot |V| \\&= 2 \cdot |E| + n - 3 \cdot |V| \\&= 2 \cdot |E| + n - 3 \cdot |E| - 3 \\&= n - 3 - |E|\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{e \in E} w(e) &= \sum_{e \in E} (\text{multiplicity}(e) - 1) \\&= \sum_{e \in E} \text{multiplicity}(e) - |E| \\&= n - 3 - |E|\end{aligned}$$

Note that here in  $|E|$  multiple edges are counted only once.

# sign of the tree value



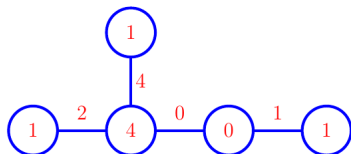
**Figure:** This is the semi-redundancy tree of the loaded tree  $LT$ , where the weight of vertices and edges are tagged in red. For simplicity we omit labels for vertices here.

Sum of vertex weight  $S = 1 + 4 + 1 + 0 + 1 = 7$ , so the sign of  $LT$  value is  $(-1)^7 = -1$ .

# redundancy forest

- How do we transfer a semi-redundancy tree  $(LT, w)$  (assume  $LT = (V, E, h)$ ) to a redundancy forest?
- Replace each edge by a length-two edge with a new vertex connecting them which has the same weight as the replaced edge.
- Then we obtain the redundancy tree (of loaded tree  $LT$ )  $RT := (V \cup E, E_1, h, w)$ .
- Union of subtrees of  $RT$  such that no vertex has weight zero is the **redundancy forest** of  $LT$ .

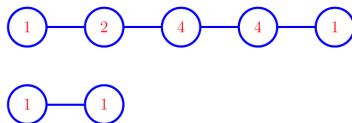
# redundancy forest



**Figure:** This is the semi-redundancy tree of the loaded tree  $LT$ , where the weight of vertices and edges are tagged in red. For simplicity we omit labels for vertices here.

Let's figure out its redundancy forest!

# redundancy forest



**Figure:** This is the redundancy forest  $RF$  of loaded tree  $LT$ , which contains two trees and the weight of vertices of  $RF$  are tagged in red.

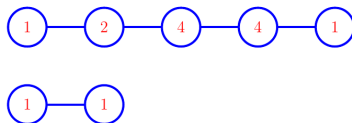
Let's figure out how to apply the recursive algorithm to obtain the absolute value!



# absolute value

- Let  $RF = (V, E, h, w)$  be the redundancy forest of a loaded tree  $LT$ .
- We define the **value of  $RF$**  as the following:
- Pick any leaf of this forest, say  $l \in V$ , denote the unique parent of  $l$  as  $l_1$ .
- If  $w(l) > w(l_1)$ , return 0 and terminate the algorithm; otherwise, remove  $l$  from  $RF$  and assign weight  $(w(l_1) - w(l))$  to  $l_1$ , replacing its previous weight. Denote the new forest as  $RF_1$ .
- Value of  $RF$  is the product of binomial coefficient  $\binom{w(l_1)}{w(l)}$  and the value of  $RF_1$ .
- Base cases: whenever we reach a degree-zero vertex, if it has non-zero weight, return 0 and terminate the algorithm; otherwise, return 1.
- **Product of absolute value of the corresponding redundancy forest of  $LT$  and sign of its tree value gives us the value of  $LT$ .**

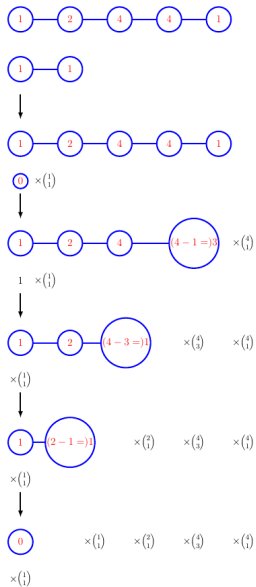
# absolute value



**Figure:** This is the redundancy forest  $RF$  of loaded tree  $LT$ , which contains two trees and the weight of vertices of  $RF$  are tagged in red.

Let's figure out how to apply the recursive algorithm to obtain the absolute value!

## absolute value



# tree value

- Finally we get the absolute value of  $RF$  as
$$1 \times \binom{1}{1} \times \binom{2}{1} \times \binom{4}{3} \times \binom{4}{1} \times \binom{1}{1} = 32.$$
- Combining with the sign  $-1$ , we obtain the value of  $LT$  as  $-32$ .

# forest algorithm

- Input: a loaded tree with  $n$  labels and  $n - 3$  edges
- Output: a natural number
- Transfer the loaded tree to a **semi-redundancy tree**.
- Calculate the **sign of the tree value**.
- Construct a **redundancy forest** from the semi-redundancy tree.
- Apply a recursive algorithm to this redundancy forest, obtain the absolute tree value.
- Product of the sign and absolute value gives us tree value.
- Implemented in Python; based on forest algorithm, computation of  $\int \prod_{r=1}^{n-3} \epsilon_{i_r j_r | k_r l_r}$  is also implemented in Python.

# well-definedness; termination

- Not hard to verify that at every step it does not matter from which leaf we start and base cases are well-defined. Hence forest algorithm is well-defined.
- Input is a tree with  $(n - 2)$  vertices maximally, the redundancy forest can have at most  $(2n - 5)$  vertices.
- The recursive algorithm strictly reduces the number of vertices by 1 in each step, obtaining a proper sub-forest.
- Hence the algorithm terminates and is well-defined.

# correctness

## Conjecture

*Forest algorithm is correct.*

# Thank You