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# Twisted acyclicity of circle and link signatures

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# Twisted homology

- Twisted homology
- Duality
- Unitary local coefficients
- Signatures
- Link signatures
- Digression on higher dim links.
- Estimates of twisted homology
- Span inequalities
- Slice inequalities

Homology with coefficients in local system

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Homology with coefficients in local system,  
a  $\mathbb{C}$ -bundle with a fixed flat connection,

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Homology with coefficients in local system,  
a  $\mathbb{C}$ -bundle with a fixed flat connection,  
that is an operation of parallel transport.

It is defined by the monodromy representation  $\pi_1(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ .

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Simplicial model: chains are  $\sum_{\sigma} a_{\sigma} \sigma$

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Differential involves restrictions of the sections to the faces.

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Theory is **parallel to** the **untwisted** homology theory.

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Theory is **parallel to** the **untwisted** homology theory, but  $H_0$  may be **trivial**.

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**Example.**  $X = S^1$ , with **non-trivial** monodromy  
 $\pi_1(X) = \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ , say  $\mu : 1 \mapsto a \neq 1$ .

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**Generalization.**  $X = S^1 \times Y$ ,  $\pi_1(X) = \mathbb{Z} \times \pi_1(Y)$ . The monodromy is  $\varphi \times \psi : \mathbb{Z} \times \pi_1(Y) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ .

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**Furthermore**, the same holds true for any locally trivial fibration with fiber  $S^1$  and non-trivial monodromy along the fiber.

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Pieces of a space of this kind are

**invisible for twisted homology.**

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Let  $X$  be a connected oriented compact manifold of dim  $n$ .

$$H_n(X, \partial X) = \mathbb{Z}, \quad H_n(X, \partial X; \mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C},$$

an orientation of  $X$  = a generator of  $H_n(X, \partial X)$ .

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Poincaré duality isomorphisms:

$$H^p(X; \mathbb{C}_\mu) \rightarrow H_{n-p}(X, \partial X; \mathbb{C}_\mu) \text{ and}$$

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Pairings of local coefficient systems:  $\mathbb{C}_\mu \otimes \mathbb{C}_{\mu^{-1}} = \mathbb{C}$ .

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induces a non-singular bilinear intersection pairing

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pointwise:  $(\mu(\alpha))^{-1} = \overline{\mu(\alpha)}$  for any  $\alpha \in \pi_1(X)$ .

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In the middle dimension this is

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If  $\partial X = \emptyset$ ,

then the intersection pairing is **non-singular**.

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$$H_p(X, \partial X; \mathbb{C}_\mu) \otimes H_{n-p}(X; \mathbb{C}_\mu) \rightarrow \mathbb{C},$$

composed with relativization, it gives

$$H_p(X; \mathbb{C}_\mu) \otimes H_{n-p}(X; \mathbb{C}_\mu) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}.$$

In the middle dimension this is

a **Hermitian** or **skew-Hermitian** form.

If  $\partial X = \emptyset$ , or  $\partial X$  is fibered with fibre  $S^1$ ,

then the intersection pairing is **non-singular**.

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- Twisted homology
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- Link signatures
- Digression on higher dim links.
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Let  $M$  be a compact oriented  $2n$ -dimensional manifold

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Let  $M$  be a compact oriented  $2n$ -dimensional manifold,  $L_1, \dots, L_k$  its oriented compact  $(2n - 2)$ -dimensional submanifolds transversal to each other with  $\partial L_i = L_i \cap \partial M$ , let  $L = \cup_i L_i$ .

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If  $n$  is **odd**, then denote by  $\sigma_\mu(M \setminus L)$  the signature of the Hermitian form obtained from the skew-Hermitian intersection form in  $H_n(M \setminus L; \mathbb{C}_\mu)$  multiplied by  $\sqrt{-1}$ .

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1. If  $W$  is an oriented compact manifold,  $M = \partial W$ ,

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In particular,  $\partial M = \emptyset$  and  $\partial L_i = \emptyset$

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$$\sigma_{\mu \cup \mu'}((M \cup M') \setminus (L \cup L')) = \sigma_\mu(M \setminus L) + \sigma_{\mu'}(M' \setminus L').$$

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**Corollary.**  $\sigma_{\mu}(M \setminus L)$  is invariant with respect to cobordisms of  $(M; L_1, \dots, L_k; \mu)$ .

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Let  $L = L_1 \cup \cdots \cup L_m \subset S^3$  be a classical link.

$\zeta_i \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $|\zeta_i| = 1$ ,  $\zeta = (\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_m) \in (S^1)^m$  and

$\mu : \pi_1(S^3 \setminus L) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  takes a meridian of  $L_i$  to  $\zeta_i$ .

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The same arguments work for  $L = \cup_{i=1}^m L_i$ , where  $L_i$  are oriented submanifolds of codimension 2 of  $S^{2n-1}$  transversal to each other, and  $F_i$  are submanifolds of  $D^{2n}$  transversal to each other.

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If  $n$  is odd, then the intersection form in  $H_n(D^{2n} \setminus \cup_i F_i; \mathbb{C}_\mu)$  is skew-Hermitian. Multiply it by  $i = \sqrt{-1}$  and denote the signature of the Hermitian form by  $\sigma_\zeta(L)$ .

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The closest generalization of classical knots are pairs  $(S^n, K)$ , where  $K$  is a smooth submanifold diffeomorphic to  $S^{n-2}$ .

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Then the requirements on  $K$  are weakened.

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There is a spectrum of objects considered generalizations of classical knots and links.

The closest generalization of classical knots are pairs  $(S^n, K)$ , where  $K$  is a smooth submanifold diffeomorphic to  $S^{n-2}$ .

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but they are usually required to be **disjoint**.

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I can prove something in this situation.

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1. In the classical dimension it is easy to be disjoint. Generic submanifolds of codimension 2 in a manifold of dimension  $> 3$  intersect.
2. A link of an algebraic hypersurface  $H \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  with  $n \geq 3$  cannot be a union of **disjoint** submanifolds.

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Sometimes one may want to get rid of **twisted homology**.

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We will show that **often the dimensions of twisted homology are estimated by the dimensions of untwisted ones.**

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**Lemma 1. (The principal algebraic lemma of the Morse theory.)** For a complex  $C : \cdots \rightarrow C_i \xrightarrow{\partial_i} C_{i-1} \rightarrow \cdots$  of finite dimensional vector spaces over a field  $F$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{s=r}^{2n+r} (-1)^{s-r} \dim_F H_s(C) &= \\ &= \sum_{s=r}^{2n+r} (-1)^{s-r} \dim_F C_s - \text{rk } \partial_{r-1} - \text{rk } \partial_{2n+r}. \end{aligned}$$

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In general case, make alternating summation of this for  $s = r, \dots, 2n + s$ . □

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**Proof.**  $\dim_Q C_i \otimes RQ = \dim_P C_i \otimes hP$ ,  $\text{rk } \partial_i^Q \geq \text{rk } \partial_i^P$ .  $\square$

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**Theorem.** Let  $X$  be a finite cw-complex,  $\mu : H_1(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  a homomorphism. If  $\text{Im } \mu \subset \mathbb{C}^\times$  generates a subring  $R$  of  $\mathbb{C}$  and there is a ring homomorphism  $h : R \rightarrow P$ , where  $P$  is a field, such that  $h\mu(H_1(X)) = 1$ , then

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**Special cases: 1.**  $H_1(X)$  is generated by  $g$ ,

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**Theorem.** Let  $X$  be a finite cw-complex,  $\mu : H_1(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  a homomorphism. If  $\text{Im } \mu \subset \mathbb{C}^\times$  generates a subring  $R$  of  $\mathbb{C}$  and there is a ring homomorphism  $h : R \rightarrow P$ , where  $P$  is a field, such that  $h\mu(H_1(X)) = 1$ , then

$$\sum_{s=r}^{2n+r} (-1)^{s-r} \dim H_s(X; \mathbb{C}_\mu) \leq \sum_{s=r}^{2n+r} (-1)^{s-r} \dim_P H_s(X; P). \quad \square$$

**Special cases: 3.**  $H_1(X)$  is generated by  $g$ ,

$\mu(g)$  is a transcendental number.

Then  $R = \mathbb{Z}[\mu(g)]$ ,  $P = \mathbb{Q}$  and

$h : \mathbb{Z}[\mu(g)] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\mu(g) \mapsto 1$ .

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For generic  $\mu(g)$  twisted homology are not greater than untwisted.

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**Theorem.**  $H_1(X)$  is generated by  $g_1, \dots, g_k$ ,  $\mu, \nu : H_1(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  be homomorphisms,  $\mu(g_1), \dots, \mu(g_k), \nu(g_1), \dots, \nu(g_k)$  be transcendental numbers such that  $(\mu(g_1), \dots, \mu(g_k)) \in \mathbb{C}^k$  is a general point of a variety  $V$  and  $(\nu(g_1), \dots, \nu(g_k)) \in \mathbb{C}^k$  is a general point of a subvariety  $W \subset V$ . Then

$$\sum_{s=r}^{2n+r} (-1)^{s-r} \dim H_s(X; \mathbb{C}_\mu) \leq \sum_{s=r}^{2n+r} (-1)^{s-r} \dim H_s(X; \mathbb{C}_\nu). \quad \square$$

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Similarly one can prove:

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**Theorem.** For any integer  $r$  with  $0 \leq r \leq \frac{n}{2}$

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**Theorem.** For any integer  $r$  with  $0 \leq r \leq \frac{n}{2}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\sigma_\zeta(L)| + \sum_{s=0}^{2r} (-1)^s \dim H_{r-1-s}(S^{2n-1} \setminus L; \mathbb{C}_\zeta) \\
 \leq \sum_{s=0}^{2r} (-1)^s \dim H_{n-1+s}(F, L; \mathbb{Z}/p) \\
 + \sum_{s=0}^{2r} (-1)^s \dim H_{n-2-s}(F, L; \mathbb{Z}/p)
 \end{aligned}$$

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Let  $F_i \subset D^{2n}$  be oriented compact smooth submanifolds transversal to each other, with  $\partial F_i = F_i \cap \partial D^{2n} = L_i$ .

The  $r$ th nullity  $n_\zeta^r(L)$  is defined as

$$\sum_{s=0}^{2r} (-1)^s \dim H_{n+s}(S^{2n-1} \setminus \cup_{i=1}^m L_i; \mathbb{C}_\mu).$$

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Let  $F_i \subset D^{2n}$  be oriented compact smooth submanifolds transversal to each other, with  $\partial F_i = F_i \cap \partial D^{2n} = L_i$ .

**Theorem.** For any integer  $r$  with  $0 \leq r \leq \frac{n}{2}$

$$|\sigma_\zeta(L)| + n_\zeta^r(L) \leq \sum_{s=0}^{2r} (-1)^s \dim H_{n-1+s}(F, L; \mathbb{Z}/p) \\ + \sum_{s=0}^{2r} (-1)^s \dim H_{n-2-s}(F, L; \mathbb{Z}/p)$$

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Let  $F_i \subset D^{2n}$  be oriented compact smooth submanifolds transversal to each other, with  $\partial F_i = F_i \cap \partial D^{2n} = L_i$ .

In particular, 
$$|\sigma_\zeta(L)| + \dim H_n(S^{2n-1} \setminus L; \mathbb{C}_\mu) \leq \dim H_n(F, L; \mathbb{Z}/p) + \dim H_{n-1}(F, L; \mathbb{Z}/p)$$

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That is 
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Let  $\Lambda_i \subset S^{2n}$  be oriented closed smooth submanifolds transversal to each other and to  $S^{2n-1}$ , with  $\partial\Lambda_i \cap S^{2n-1} = L_i$ .

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Again, let  $L_1, \dots, L_m \subset S^{2n-1}$  be smooth oriented transversal to each other submanifolds of codimension 2,

$$L = L_1 \cup \dots \cup L_m .$$

Let  $\zeta_i \in \mathbb{C}$  be algebraic numbers with  $|\zeta_i| = 1$ , and

$f_i$  be irreducible integer polynomials with  $f_i(\zeta_i) = 0$ .

Suppose prime number  $p$  divides  $f_i(1)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ .

Let  $\mu : \pi_1(S^{2n-1} \setminus L) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  take a meridian of  $L_i$  to  $\zeta_i$ .

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Put  $\Lambda = \cup_i \Lambda_i$ . Extend  $\mu : \pi_1(S^{2n-1} \setminus L) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  to  $\mu : \pi_1(S^{2n} \setminus \Lambda) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ .

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$$\begin{aligned} |\sigma_\zeta(L)| + n_\zeta^0(L) \\ \leq \frac{1}{2} \dim H_{n-1}(\Lambda; \mathbb{Z}/p) + \dim H_{n-2}(\Lambda \setminus L; \mathbb{Z}/p) \end{aligned}$$

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$$|\sigma_\zeta(L)| + n_\zeta^r(L) \leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{s=-2r}^{2r} (-1)^s \dim H_{n-1+s}(\Lambda; \mathbb{Z}/p) + \sum_{s=0}^{2r} (-1)^s \dim H_{n-2-s}(\Lambda \setminus L; \mathbb{Z}/p)$$