

On the H_* of the MCG of the Loch Ness monster

Joint work with Xiaolei Wu

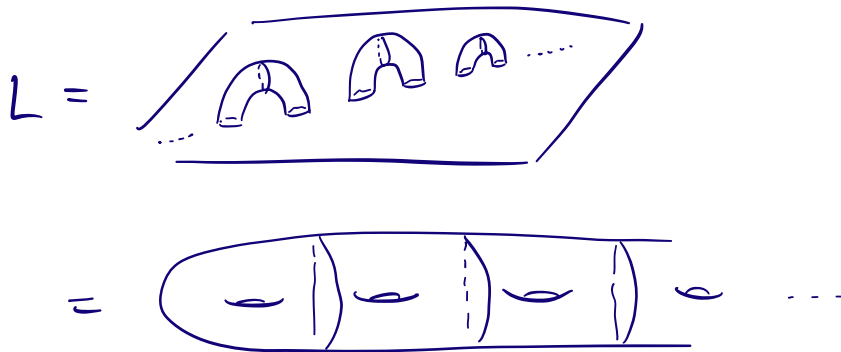
Based on arXiv: 2211.07470
2212.11942
2405.03512

Topology seminar

Aberdeen

27 November 2024

Loch Ness monster:



$$\text{Mod}(L) = \pi_0 \text{Homeo}^+(L)$$

$$\text{Mod}_c(L) = \{[\varphi] \in \text{Mod}(L) \mid \varphi \text{ has compact support}\}$$

$$\cong \text{colim}_g \text{Mod}(\Sigma_{g,1})$$

Thm (Madsen-Weiss) $\cdot H_* \text{Mod}_c(L) \cong H_*(\Omega_0^\infty \text{MTSO}(2))$

\cdot rationally gen. by duals of monomials in MMM classes
 $\mathbb{Q}[x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots]^*$

Q1: What is $H_* \text{Mod}(L)$?

Q2: What is the image of $H_* \text{Mod}_c(L)$ in $H_* \text{Mod}(L)$?

(Partial) A1:

Thm (A) (P.-Wu'22)

$$H_i \text{Mod}(L) \cong \bigoplus_{2^x \leq i} \mathbb{Z} \quad \forall i > 0$$

Extends Thm (Domat'20) $H_1 \text{Mod}(L) \cong \bigoplus_{2^x} \mathbb{Q}$

Remark: No known torsion.

A2:

Thm (B) (P.-Wu'24)

With field coefficients, the image is zero.

Coro: dual MMM-classes vanish in $H_* \text{Mod}(L)$

Remark: \nRightarrow image is zero with \mathbb{Z} coeffs
(consider $S^1 \rightarrow B(\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$)

More general surfaces

S any connected, orientable surface

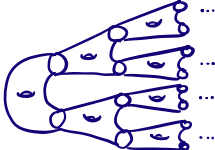
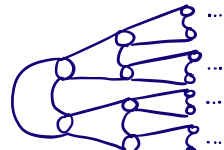
$\bar{S} :=$ its Freudenthal compactification (maximal compactⁿ with 0-dim remainder)

[Kelekjanto, Richards]

S is classified up to homeo. by

- $g(S) = \max \{g \mid \Sigma_{g,1} \hookrightarrow S\} \in \mathbb{N}_0 \cup \{\infty\}$
- $\mathcal{E}(S) = \bar{S} - S$ (\cong subspace of $\mathcal{C} = \text{Cantor}$)
- $\mathcal{E}_{np}(S) = \{e \in \mathcal{E}(S) \mid S \cup \{e\} \text{ is not a mfld}\}$

Examples

S	$g(S)$	$\mathcal{E}(S)$	$\mathcal{E}_{np}(S)$
L	∞	$\{*\}$	$\{*\}$
L_e Cantor's Loch Ness monster 	∞	e	e
$S^2_e \cong$ 	0	e	\emptyset

Q1': What is $H_* \text{Mod}(S)$?

- Unknown in most cases.
- Very sensitive to the structure of $\Sigma(S)$.

Thm © (P. Wu'22)

$$H_* \text{Mod}(L_e - \text{pt}) \cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & * \text{ even} \\ 0 & * \text{ odd} \end{cases} \cong H_* \text{Mod}(\mathbb{R}^2 - e)$$

Coro: $H_1 \text{Mod}(S^2 - e) = 0$ [Vanninis, Calegari-Clen]
 $H_1 \text{Mod}(L_e) = 0$

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{because } \text{Mod}(L_e - \text{pt}) \longrightarrow \text{Mod}(L_e) \\ \text{Mod}(\mathbb{R}^2 - e) \longrightarrow \text{Mod}(S^2 - e) \end{array} \right)$$

Q2': In general, $\text{Mod}_c(S) \not\cong \underset{\Sigma_{\text{cpt}} \cong S}{\text{colim}} (\text{Mod}(\Sigma)) \cong \widetilde{\text{Mod}}_c(S)$

Example: $S = 1$ -punctured disc.

Lemma: central extension

$$0 \rightarrow \bigoplus_{P(S)} \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \widetilde{\text{Mod}}_c(S) \rightarrow \text{Mod}_c(S) \rightarrow 1$$

\uparrow punctures of S
 $=$ planar, isolated ends

Q: What is $\text{image} \left(H_* \widetilde{\text{Mod}}_c(S) \rightarrow H_* \text{Mod}(S) \right) = \widetilde{\mathbb{I}}(S)$

$\text{image} \left(H_* \text{Mod}_c(S) \rightarrow H_* \text{Mod}(S) \right) = \mathbb{I}(S)$

?

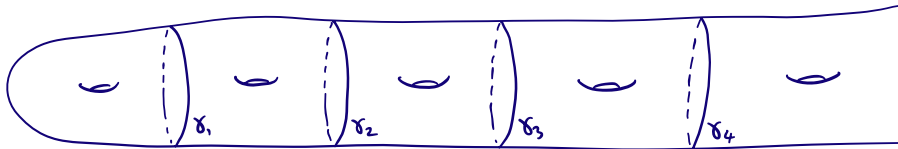
Thm (B) (gen.) (P-Wu'24)

- If $g(s) = \infty$ then $\tilde{I}(s) = 0$ (with field coeffs).
- If $g(s) = \infty$
and $\#P(s) \in [1, \infty)$ then $I(s) \geq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & * \text{ even} \\ 0 & * \text{ odd} \end{cases}$

Proof of Thm (A) $(H_i \text{ Mod}(L) \geq \bigoplus_c \mathbb{Z} \quad \forall i > 0)$
" 2^i "

Idea: Factor $\bigoplus_c \mathbb{Z} \hookrightarrow \bigoplus_c \mathbb{Q}$ through $\text{Mod}(L)$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \downarrow & & & & \\
 \rightarrow & H_* \left(\bigoplus_c \mathbb{Z} \right) & \rightarrow & H_* \left(\text{Mod}(L) \right) & \rightarrow & H_* \left(\bigoplus_c \mathbb{Q} \right) \\
 & \parallel & & & & \parallel \\
 & \Lambda_{\mathbb{Z}}^* \left(\bigoplus_c \mathbb{Z} \right) & \xrightarrow{\text{injective}} & & \Lambda_{\mathbb{Z}}^* \left(\bigoplus_c \mathbb{Q} \right) &
 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 X \subseteq \mathbb{N} &\longrightarrow f(X) = \prod_{i \in X} (T_{\delta_i})^{i!} \\
 & f_n(X) = \prod_{\substack{i \in X \\ i \geq n}} (T_{\delta_i})^{i!/n}
 \end{aligned}$$

Exercise : \exists a continuum collection $\{X_a \subseteq \mathbb{N} \mid a \in \mathbb{R}\}$ so that

$$(*) \begin{cases} \cdot \text{all } X_a \text{ are infinite} \\ \cdot \text{all } X_a \cap X_b \text{ are finite} \end{cases}$$

Construction :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \bigoplus_{a \in \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{1_a \mapsto f(X_a)} & \text{Mod}(L) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \bigoplus_{a \in \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{Q} & \xrightarrow[\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)_a \mapsto [f_n(X_a)]]{\theta} & \text{Mod}(L)^{ab} \end{array}$$

check:

- $f(X_a) - f_n(X_a)^n$ cpt support
- [Birman, Powell '70] \Rightarrow

$$[f(X_a) - f_n(X_a)^n] = 0$$

$(*) + [\text{Donat '20}] \leftarrow [\text{Bestvina - Bromberg - Fujiwara '15}]$

$\Rightarrow \theta$ is injective

But every injection $\bigoplus_{\mathbb{I}} \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow A$ admits a retraction.

$\rightsquigarrow \square$

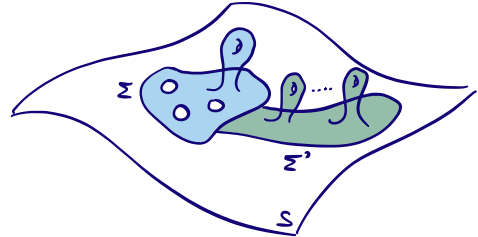
Rmk

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H^i(\bigoplus_c \mathbb{Z}) & \xleftarrow{0} & H^i(\bigoplus_c \mathbb{Q}) \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ \prod_c \mathbb{Z} & & \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 & i=1 \\ \bigoplus_c \mathbb{Q} & i \geq 2 \end{array} \right\} \end{array}$$

Proof of Thm (B)

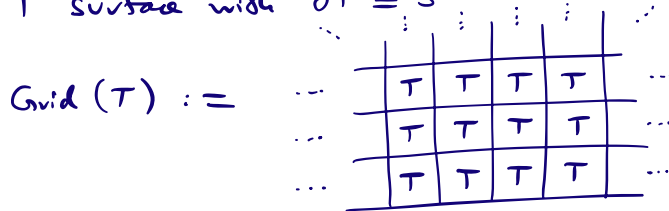
$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \Sigma \text{ compact} \subseteq S \text{ } \infty\text{-genus} \\ \Rightarrow H_* \text{Mod}(\Sigma) \longrightarrow H_* \text{Mod}(S) \\ \text{is zero with field coeff} \end{array} \right)$$

① find $\Sigma' \hookrightarrow S$ with $\Sigma' \cap \Sigma = \text{interval}$ for any $h \geq 0$
 \cong
 $\Sigma_{h,1}$

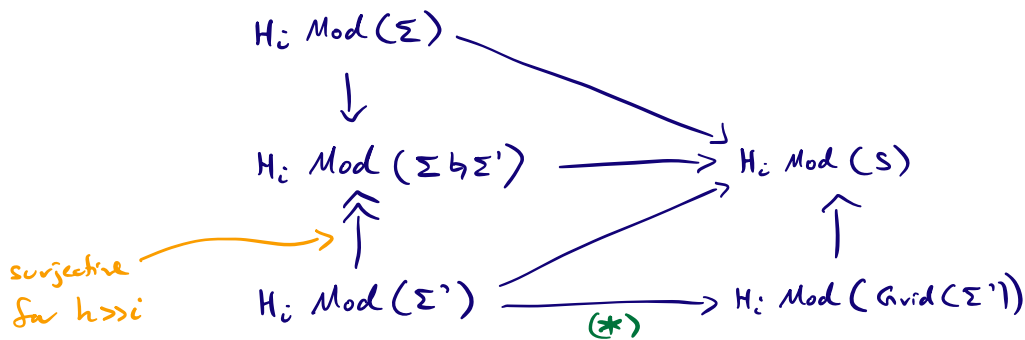


② extend $\Sigma' \hookrightarrow S$
 to $\text{Grid}(\Sigma') \hookrightarrow S$ (proper embedding)

Def T surface with $\partial T \cong S^1$



This induces ($i \geq 1$):



\Rightarrow enough to show that $(*)$ is 0.

③ prove this via a 2-dim. "infinite iteration trick"

Rmk

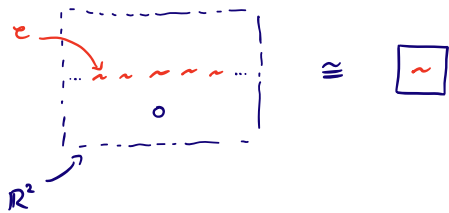
- [Varadarajan, Berrick] prove that pseudo-metric (binate) groups are acyclic via a 1-dim. "infinite iteration trick".
- Here we require field coeffs — need natural splitting in the Künneth SES.

Proof of Thm (c) $\left(H_* \text{Mod}(\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus e) \cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z} & * \text{ even} \\ 0 & * \text{ odd} \end{cases} \right)$

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \text{Mod}(\mathbb{D}^2 \setminus e) \rightarrow \text{Mod}(\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus e) \rightarrow 1$$

→ Enough to prove $\text{Mod}(\mathbb{D}^2 \setminus e)$ is acyclic.

Note that $\left(\frac{\perp e}{\mathbb{N}} \right)^+ \cong e$.



→ Can use 1-dim "infinite iteration trick".

Key input needed is that $\text{Mod}(\square) \rightarrow \text{Mod}(\square \sqcup \square)$
is a H_* -isomorphism

Thm : $\text{Mod}(\square) \rightarrow \text{Mod}(\square \sim \square) \rightarrow \text{Mod}(\square \sim \square \sim \square) \rightarrow \dots$
is homologically stable.

(Use strategy & proof following [Szymik-Wahl])

Note that $e \perp e \cong e$.

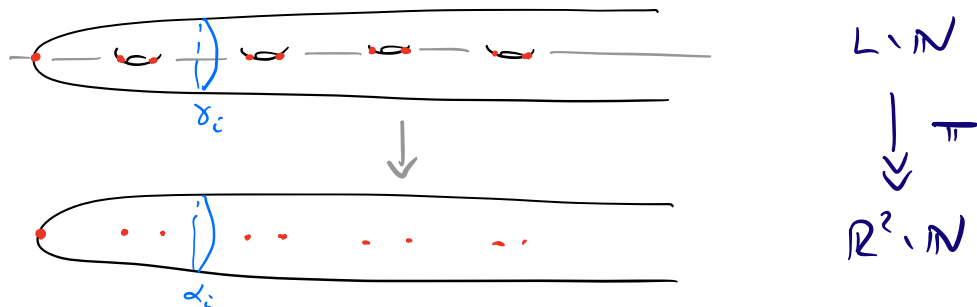
$$\square \sim \square \cong \square$$

Hence hom. stability $\Rightarrow H_*$ -isomorphism.

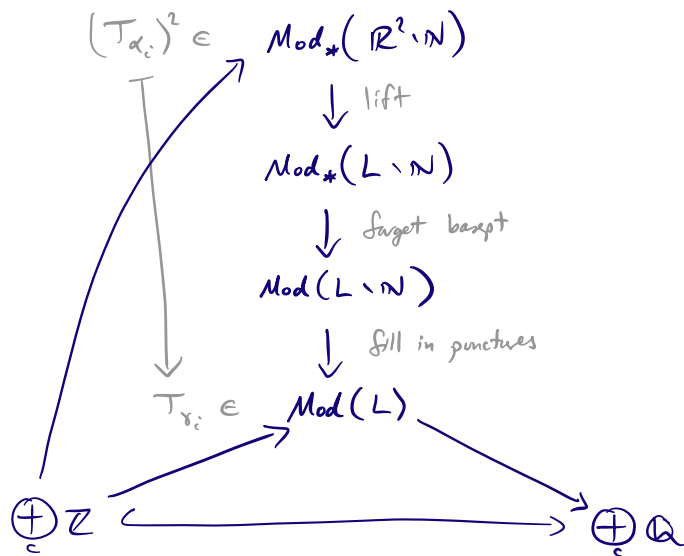
BONUS': Addendum to Thm (A)

$$H_* \text{Mod}(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{N}) \cong \Lambda_{\mathbb{Z}}^*(\bigoplus_{\mathbb{C}} \mathbb{Z})$$

Adapt [Molestein-Tao '21]:



Lemma Every based homeo. of $\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \mathbb{N}$ preserves $\pi_1(L \setminus \mathbb{N}) \triangleleft \pi_1(\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \mathbb{N})$ and hence lifts uniquely to a based homeo. of $L \setminus \mathbb{N}$.



Then pass to $\text{Mod}(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{N})$ via

$$1 \rightarrow \pi_1(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow \text{Mod}_*(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow \text{Mod}(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow 1$$

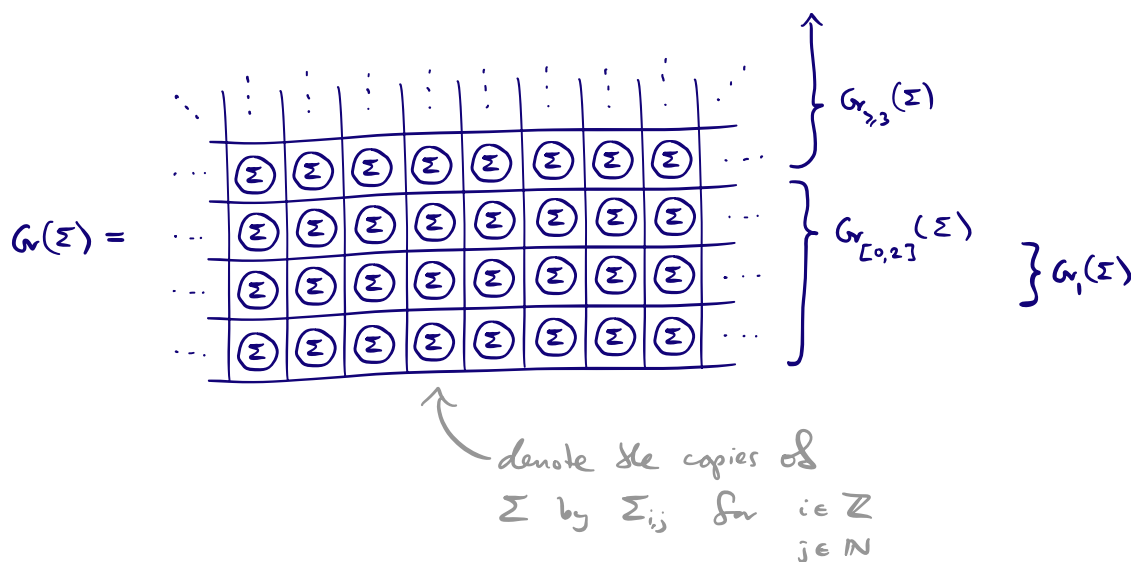
\parallel
 F_{∞}
countable

BONUS²: 2-dim. ∞ iteration trick (from proof of Thm (B))

$$\text{genus}(S) = \infty$$

$$\Sigma_{g,1} \cong \Sigma \hookrightarrow S \quad \text{compact subsurface.}$$

Definition Grid surface:



Since $\text{genus}(S) = \infty$, the inclusion $\Sigma \hookrightarrow S$ extends to a proper embedding $Gr(\Sigma) \hookrightarrow S$.

Hence we have a factorisation of $Mod(\Sigma) \rightarrow Mod(S)$ into

$$Mod(\Sigma) \xrightarrow{(*)} Mod(Gr(\Sigma)) \longrightarrow Mod(S)$$

The proof reduces to:

Prop. The map $(*)$ induces the zero map on \tilde{H}_j for all $j \geq 0$.

Proof — by induction on j .

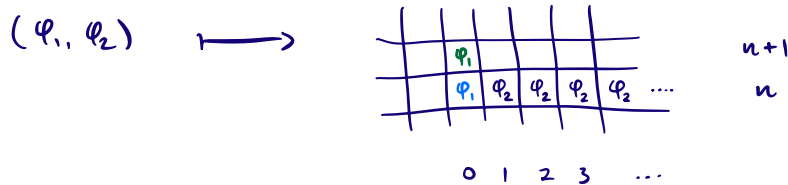
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}(n, j) : \quad & \text{The map } \text{Mod}(\Sigma) \xrightarrow{i_n} \text{Mod}(Gr_{\geq n}(\Sigma)) \\ (n \geq 0, j \geq 0) \quad & [\varphi] \longmapsto \begin{bmatrix} \varphi & \text{on } \Sigma_{\geq n} \\ \text{id} & \text{elsewhere} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

induces the zero map on \tilde{H}_j .

$j=0$ ✓

$j \geq 1$:

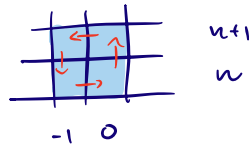
$$\text{Mod}(\Sigma) \times \text{Mod}(\Sigma) \xrightarrow{\begin{matrix} \gamma_n & \gamma_n \end{matrix}} \text{Mod}(Gr_{\geq n}(\Sigma))$$



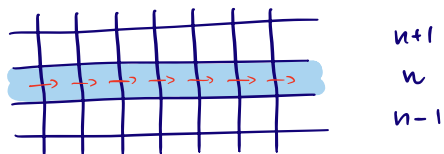
$$\psi_{0,n}(\varphi) := \gamma_n(\varphi, \varphi)$$

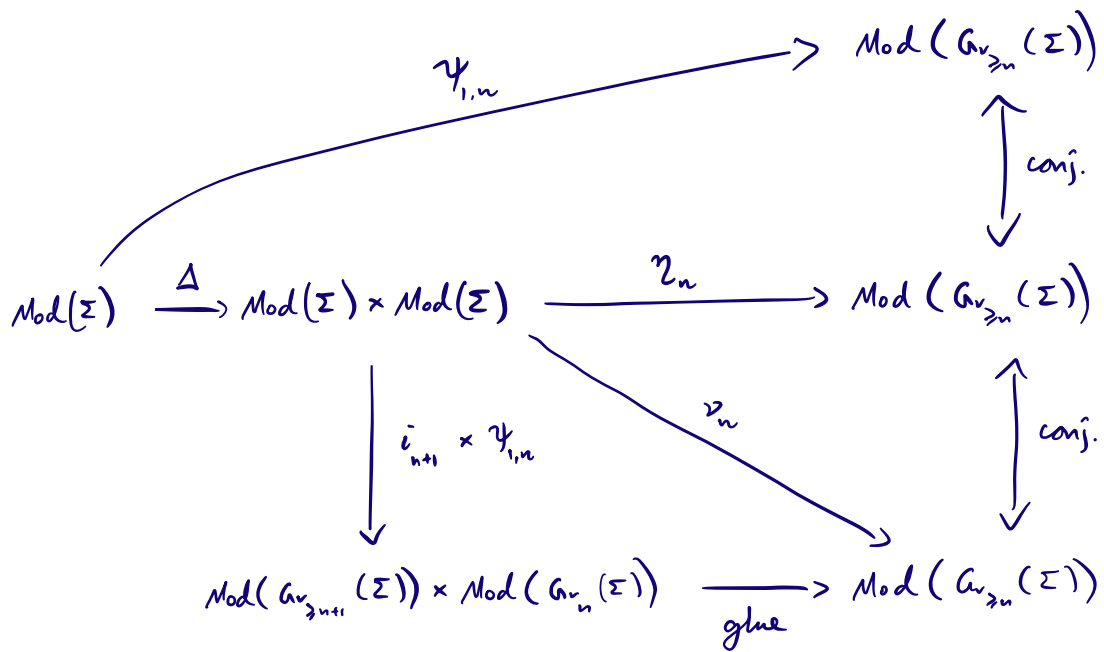
$$\psi_{1,n}(\varphi) := \gamma_n(\text{id}, \varphi)$$

Obs : $\gamma_n \sim \gamma_n$



$$\psi_{0,n} \sim \psi_{1,n}$$





$$\alpha \in H_j(\text{Mod}(\Sigma))$$

$$\Delta_*(\alpha) \in H_j(\text{Mod}(\Sigma)) \cong \bigoplus_{k+l=j} H_k(\text{Mod}(\Sigma)) \otimes H_l(\text{Mod}(\Sigma))$$

[Künneth]

||

$$\alpha \otimes 1 + \dots + 1 \otimes \alpha$$

↑ vanish under the map $(i_{n+1})_* \otimes (\psi_{1,n})_*$ by induction.

Image of α in $H_j(\text{Mod}(G_{\gamma_{2n}}(\Sigma)))$ is $(i_{n+1})_*(\alpha) + (\psi_{1,n})_*(\alpha)$

But its image is also $(\psi_{1,n})_*(\alpha)$.

Hence $(i_{n+1})_*(\alpha) = 0$ in $H_j(\text{Mod}(G_{\gamma_{2n}}(\Sigma)))$.

||

$$(i_n)_*(\alpha)$$

since $i_n \sim i_{n+1}$

□

We can also define:

$$\underline{TC_\infty(A, X)}$$

same vertices

$\{\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_p\}$ simplex if

- disjoint except at $*$
- exterior $\cong X$

This is ∞ -dim,

but has the same $(n-2)$ -skeleton as $TC_n(A, X)$.

(only clopen subsets of \mathcal{E} are \emptyset and \mathcal{E})

Proposition $TC_\infty(A, X)$ is contractible.

Follows ideas from the proofs of [Szymik-Wahl], who
proved that $\tilde{H}_*(Y) = 0$ via hom. stab. for $V \rightarrow V \rightarrow V \rightarrow \dots$.

Thompson group

BONUS⁴: Idea of proof of 2nd part of Thm (B)

if $g(S) = \infty$ and $\#P(S) \in [1, \infty)$
 then image $(H_* \text{Map}_c(S) \rightarrow H_* \text{Map}(S))$
 contains $H_*(\mathbb{C}P^\infty)$.

Def [Bödigheimer-Tillmann in fin. type case]

$$\text{Mod}(S) \cong \text{Mod}(\hat{S}, P(S)) \quad \hat{S} = S \cup P(S)$$

$$= \pi_0 \text{Homeo}^+(\hat{S}, P(S))$$

$$\simeq \text{Homeo}^+(\hat{S}, P(S))$$

- [Hamstrom '66] fin. type
- [Yagasaki '00] in general
- ↳ contractible components
- $\text{MCG}(S)$ is totally disconnected

$$\simeq \text{Diff}^+(\hat{S}, P(S))$$

[Kirby-Siebenmann '77]

$$\downarrow$$

$$S^1 \wr \mathbb{G}_p$$

permutation of $P(S)$
 rotations of tangent planes to \hat{S} at $P(S)$
 (fix framing on $P(S)$)

$$\mathcal{B} \text{Mod}(S) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(S^1 \wr \mathbb{G}_p)$$

Obs Restricting to $\mathcal{B} \text{Mod}_c(S)$:

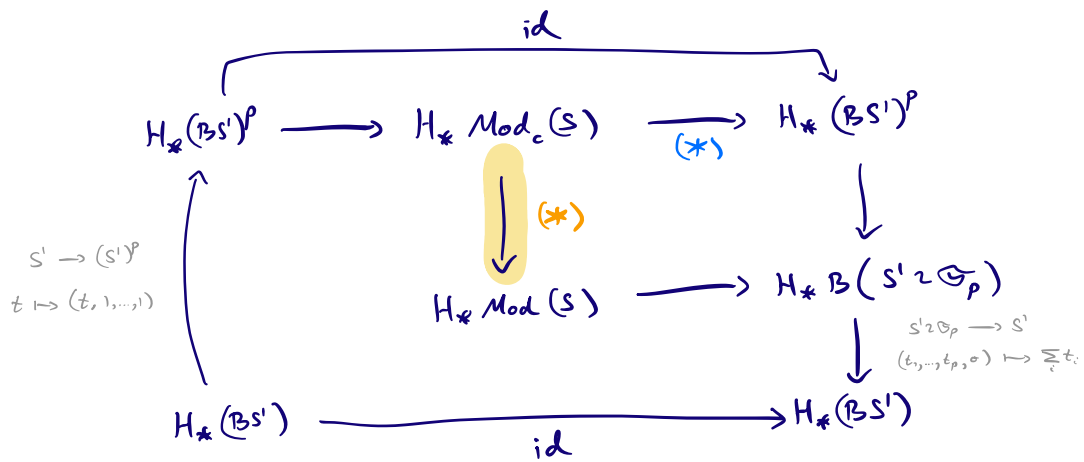
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{B} \text{Mod}_c(S) & \xrightarrow{(*)} & (\mathcal{B}S^1)^p \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathcal{B} \text{Mod}(S) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{B}(S^1 \wr \mathbb{G}_p) \end{array}$$

Thm [Bödigheimer-Tillmann '01 (+ Madsen-Weiss '07)]

$B \text{Mod}_c(S)$ splits as $\Omega_0^\infty \text{MTSO}(2) \times (BS')^p$ on $H_* / +$ construction

$(*)$ is the projection onto the second factor

Coro $(*)$ has a section on H_*



$\Rightarrow \text{image } (*) \supseteq H_*(BS')$