

On non fundamental group equivalent surfaces

MINA TEICHER
MICHAEL FRIEDMAN

In this paper we present an example of two polarized K3 surfaces which are not Fundamental Group Equivalent (their fundamental groups of the complement of the branch curves are not isomorphic; denoted by FGE) but the fundamental groups of their related Galois covers are isomorphic. For each surface, we consider a generic projection to $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$ and a degenerations of the surface into a union of planes – the “pillow” degeneration for the non-prime surface and the “magician” degeneration for the prime surface. We compute the Braid Monodromy Factorization (BMF) of the branch curve of each projected surface, using the related degenerations. By these factorizations, we compute the above fundamental groups. It is known that the two surfaces are not in the same component of the Hilbert scheme of linearly embedded K3 surfaces. Here we prove that furthermore they are not FGE equivalent, and thus they are not of the same Braid Monodromy Type (BMT) (which implies that they are not a projective deformation of each other).

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1 Introduction

Given $X \subset \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n$ a smooth algebraic surface of degree m , one can obtain information on X by considering it as a branched cover of $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$. It is well-known that for $X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$ a generic projection, the branch locus is a plane curve $\bar{S} \subset \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$ which is, in general, singular, and its singularities are nodes and cusps. Let $S \subset \mathbb{C}^2 \subset \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$ be a generic affine portion of \bar{S} .

It was proven in Kulikov–Teicher [8] that if the Braid Monodromy Factorizations (BMF) of the branch loci of two surfaces X_1 and X_2 are Hurwitz-equivalent, then the surfaces are diffeomorphic. Moreover, if the factorizations are not Hurwitz-equivalent, then X_1 and X_2 are not projectively deformation equivalent. Therefore, the BMT invariant (the equivalence class of a BMF) is really in the “middle”, ie, between the diffeomorphism equivalence and the projectively deformation equivalence. We need to find an algorithm that decides whether two BMFs are equivalent. In general, it was shown in Liberman–Teicher [9] that there is no finite algorithm which determines whether two positive

factorizations are Hurwitz- equivalent. However, [9] did not examine the particular case of the BMFs. Therefore, we have to extract the information contained in the braid monodromy factorization via the introduction of more manageable (but less powerful) invariants.

Two discrete invariants are induced from the BMF of the branch curve – S : the fundamental group of the complement of the branch curve (see Amram–Friedman–Teicher [2], Friedman–Teicher [7], Moishezon [11], Moishezon–Teicher [17]) and its subquotient: the fundamental group of the Galois Cover of X (see Liedtke [10], Moishezon–Robb–Teicher [12], Moishezon–Teicher [13]). We say that two surfaces are Fundamental Group Equivalent (FGE) if their fundamental groups of the complement of the branch curve are isomorphic.

In this article we present two surfaces, which are embeddings of a K3 surface with respect to two different linear systems; therefore they are diffeomorphic. Due to the nature of the particular linear systems, these embedded surfaces are not projectively deformation equivalent. It is also known that any two K3 surfaces can be abstractly deformed one into the other. Thus one can raise the questions: Are the surfaces FGE? Are the fundamental groups of the corresponding Galois covers isomorphic? Here we prove that although the latter groups are isomorphic, the surfaces are not FGE. Therefore, these surfaces are also not BMT-equivalent, which means that the surfaces are not in the same component of the Hilbert scheme of linearly embedded K3 surfaces.

Acknowledgments

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2 Preliminaries: The K3 surfaces and the BMT invariant

In this section we recall the main definitions and constructions regarding the two embeddings of the K3 surface, and the braid monodromy factorization (BMF) related to a (branch) curve. We begin with the introduction of the two embeddings of a K3 surface.

2.1 Two embeddings of a $K3$ surface

Recall that the surfaces with Kodaira dimension which equals to 0, that are simply connected, have in fact trivial canonical bundle, and are called $K3$ surfaces. The invariants for such surfaces are $p_g = 1, q = 0, e = 24$. The moduli space of all $K3$ surfaces is 20-dimensional.

Most $K3$ surfaces are not algebraic; the algebraic ones are classified by an infinite collection (depending on an integer $g \geq 2$) of 19-dimensional moduli spaces. The general member of the family has a rank one Picard group, generated by an ample class H with $H^2 = 2g - 2$; the general member of the linear system $|H|$ is a smooth curve of genus g , and this linear system maps the $K3$ surface to \mathbb{P}^g as a surface of degree $2g - 2$. For example, a $K3$ surface is a smooth quartic surface in \mathbb{P}^3 . The quartic surfaces in \mathbb{P}^3 form the family with $g = 3$. The integer g is called the *genus* of the family.

The first embedded surface is a $K3$ surface of genus 9, embedded in $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^9$ by the pillow (2,2)-pillow degeneration (see Ciliberto–Miranda–Teicher [6] for details). The resulting embedding can be degenerated into a union of 16 planes, such that the whole degenerated object would “resemble a pillow” (see Figure 1 for clarification). We denote by X_1 the embedded $K3$ surface, and by $(X_1)_0$ the degenerated surface (see [17] for an explicit definition of a degeneration).

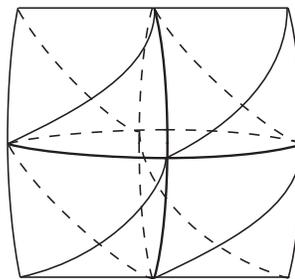


Figure 1: $(X_1)_0$ – the (2,2)-pillow degeneration: every triangle denotes a plane

The degeneration process has a “local inverse” – the regeneration process (see an explanation in the following subsection), and for it we need to fix a numeration of vertices (and the lines; see Amram–Ciliberto–Miranda–Teicher [1] for details). This is done as shown in Figure 3.

The 16 planes meet each other along a total of 24 lines, each joining 2 of the 10 coordinate points. We numerate the lines as follows: if L has endpoints $a < b$ and M has endpoints $c < d$, then $L < M$ if $b < d$ or $b = d$ and $a < c$. This gives a total

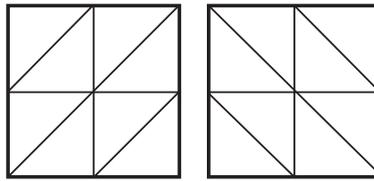


Figure 2: A 2–dimensional figure of $(X_1)_0$: the boundaries are identified (top to top, bottom to bottom, side to side)

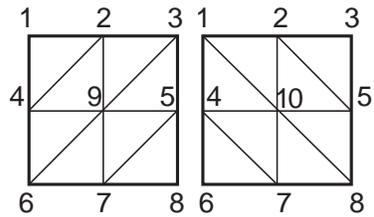


Figure 3: The numeration of the singular points of $(X_1)_0$

ordering of the lines, which we interpret as a numbering from 1 to 24, as shown in Figure 4.

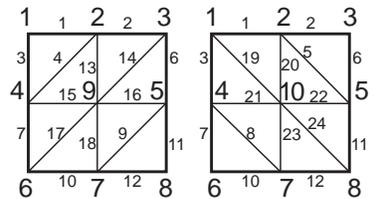


Figure 4: The numeration of the intersection lines of $(X_1)_0$

Under a general projection $\pi_1: (X_1)_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^2$, each of the 16 planes is mapped isomorphically to $\mathbb{C}P^2$. The ramification locus R_1 of π_1 is a local isomorphism. Here R_1 is exactly the 24 lines. Let $(S_1)_0 = \pi_1(R_1)$ be the degenerated branch curve. It is a line arrangement, composed of the image of the 24 lines.

The second embedded surface is also an embedded $K3$ surface of genus 9 in $\mathbb{C}P^9$. We call this surface the “magician” surface, since its degeneration “resembles” a magician’s hat. The surface and its degeneration into a union of 16 planes are described in Ciliberto–Miranda [5]. The dual graph of the degenerated surface is presented explicitly in [5, pg. 430] – and from it we can build the degenerated surface (see Figure 5).

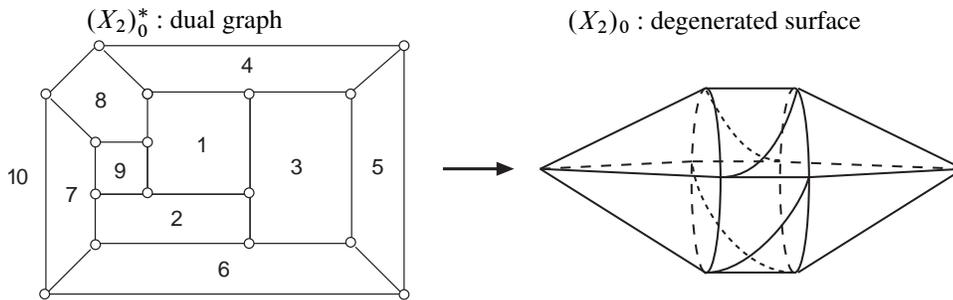


Figure 5: Every point in the dual graph represents a plane; every plane represents a point

Denote by X_2 this embedded surface, and by $(X_2)_0$ the degenerated surface. We can depict a 2-dimensional graph of $(X_2)_0$, where the boundaries are identified (see Figure 6).

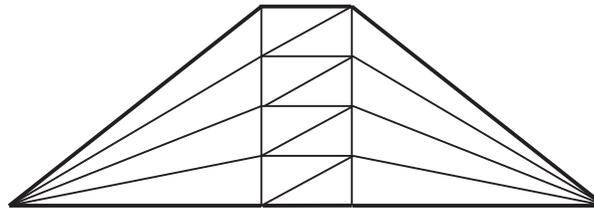


Figure 6: $(X_2)_0$ – the boundaries are identified (top to bottom)

Once again, we numerate the vertices and then the edges. We note that the extreme edges of the graph $(X_2)_0$ are actually 4–points: singular points in the degenerated surface which are the intersection of four planes. In order to regenerate it (see Robb [19] for the possible degenerations of this point), we need to numerate the vertices in such a way that the number of “entering” and “exiting” lines from these points will be equal. Therefore, we numerate them as vertices 5 and 6. Following the symmetry appearing in the graph, we numerate the other vertices as follows (see Figure 7).

Note that $(X_2)_0$ also contains 24 intersection lines and 10 singular points. We denote by $(S_2)_0 = \pi_2(R_2)$ the degenerated branch curve with respect to a generic projection $\pi_2: (X_2)_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$.

Since every two $K3$ surfaces are diffeomorphic, X_1 and X_2 are also diffeomorphic. Note that the Hilbert scheme of embedded linearly normal $K3$ surfaces can be reducible. This is indeed the case here – the Picard group $\text{Pic } X_1$ is generated by $\frac{1}{2}H$ (where H

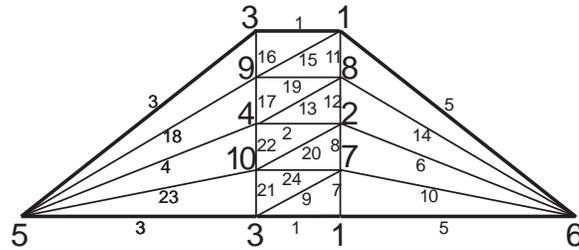


Figure 7: Numeration of $(X_2)_0$

is the hyperplane class; see Ciliberto–Miranda–Teicher [6]) and $\text{Pic } X_2$ is generated by H (see Ciliberto–Miranda [5]).

Two polarized K3 surfaces are projectively deformation equivalent if and only if there is a diffeomorphism which carries the hyperplane class to the hyperplane class. As indicated above, this is not the case. We show in the following sections that these surfaces are also not BMT–equivalent, and that the fundamental groups of complement of the branch curve can also be used in order to differentiate between irreducible components of the Hilbert scheme. Thus it is a topological invariant that arises in algebro-geometric considerations.

2.2 The braid group and the BMF

Recall that computing the braid monodromy is the main tool to compute fundamental groups of complements of curves. The reader who is familiar with this subject can skip the following definitions. We begin by defining the braid monodromy associated to a curve.

Let D be a closed disk in \mathbb{R}^2 , $K \subset \text{Int}(D)$, K finite, $n = \#K$. Recall that the braid group $B_n[D, K]$ can be defined as the group of all equivalent diffeomorphisms β of D such that $\beta(K) = K$, $\beta|_{\partial D} = \text{Id}|_{\partial D}$.

Definition ($H(\sigma)$, half-twist defined by σ) Let $a, b \in K$, and let σ be a smooth simple path in $\text{Int}(D)$ connecting a with b s.t. $\sigma \cap K = \{a, b\}$. Choose a small regular neighborhood U of σ contained in $\text{Int}(D)$, s.t. $U \cap K = \{a, b\}$. Denote by $H(\sigma)$ the diffeomorphism of D which switches a and b by a counterclockwise 180° rotation and is the identity on $D \setminus U$. Thus it defines an element of $B_n[D, K]$, called *the half-twist defined by σ* .

Denote $[A, B] = ABA^{-1}B^{-1}$, $\langle A, B \rangle = ABAB^{-1}A^{-1}B^{-1}$. We recall the Artin presentation of the braid group.

Theorem 2.1 B_n is generated by the half-twists H_i of a frame H_i and all the relations between H_1, \dots, H_{n-1} follow from

$$[H_i, H_j] = 1 \text{ if } |i - j| > 1$$

$$\langle H_i, H_j \rangle = 1 \text{ if } |i - j| = 1.$$

Assume that all of the points of K are on the X -axis (when considering D in \mathbb{R}^2). In this situation, if $a, b \in K$, and $z_{a,b}$ is a path that connects them, then we denote it by $Z_{a,b} = H(z_{a,b})$. If $z_{a,b}$ is a path that goes below the X -axis, then we denote it by $\underline{Z}_{a,b}$, or just $Z_{a,b}$. If $z_{a,b}$ is a path that goes above the x -axis, then we denote it by $\overline{Z}_{a,b}$. We also denote by $\overset{(c-d)}{\underline{Z}_{a,b}}$ ($\overset{(c-d)}{\overline{Z}_{a,b}}$) the braid induced from a path connecting the points a and b below (resp. above) the X -axis, going above (resp. below) it from the point c till point d .

Definition (The braid monodromy w.r.t. S, π, u) Let S be a curve, $S \subseteq \mathbb{C}^2$. Let $\pi: S \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^1$ be defined by $\pi(x, y) = x$. We denote $\deg \pi$ by m . Let $N = \{x \in \mathbb{C}^1 \mid \#\pi^{-1}(x) < m\}$. Take $u \notin N$, s.t. $\Re(x) \ll u \quad \forall x \in N$. Let $\mathbb{C}_u^1 = \{(u, y)\}$. There is a naturally defined homomorphism

$$\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^1 - N, u) \xrightarrow{\varphi} B_m[\mathbb{C}_u^1, \mathbb{C}_u^1 \cap S]$$

which is called *the braid monodromy w.r.t. S, π, u* , where B_m is the braid group. We sometimes denote φ by φ_u . In fact, denoting by E , a big disk in \mathbb{C}^1 s.t. $E \supset N$, we can also take the path in $E \setminus N$ not to be a loop, but just a non-self-intersecting path. This induces a diffeomorphism between the models (D, K) at the two ends of the considered path, where D is a big disk in \mathbb{C}_u^1 , and $K = \mathbb{C}_u^1 \cap S \subset D$.

Definition (ψ_T , Lefschetz diffeomorphism induced by a path T) Let T be a path in $E \setminus N$ connecting x_0 with x_1 , $T: [0, 1] \rightarrow E \setminus N$. There exists a continuous family of diffeomorphisms $\psi_{(t)}: D \rightarrow D$, $t \in [0, 1]$, such that $\psi_{(0)} = \text{Id}$, $\psi_{(t)}(K(x_0)) = K(T(t))$ for all $t \in [0, 1]$, and $\psi_{(t)}(y) = y$ for all $y \in \partial D$. For emphasis we write $\psi_{(t)}: (D, K(x_0)) \rightarrow (D, K(T(t)))$. A Lefschetz diffeomorphism induced by a path T is the diffeomorphism

$$\psi_T = \psi_{(1)}: (D, K(x_0)) \xrightarrow{\sim} (D, K(x_1)).$$

Since $\psi_{(t)}(K(x_0)) = K(T(t))$ for all $t \in [0, 1]$, we have a family of canonical isomorphisms

$$\psi_{(t)}^\vee: B_p[D, K(x_0)] \xrightarrow{\sim} B_p[D, K(T(t))], \text{ for all } t \in [0, 1].$$

We recall Artin's theorem on the presentation of the Dehn twist of the braid group as a product of braid monodromy elements of a geometric-base (a base of $\pi = \pi(\mathbb{C}^1 - N, u)$ with certain properties; see Moishezon–Teicher [14] for definitions).

Theorem 2.2 *Let S be a curve transversal to the line in infinity, and φ is a braid monodromy of S , $\varphi: \pi \rightarrow B_m$. Let δ_i be a geometric (free) base (g -base) of π , and Δ^2 is the generator of $\text{Center}(B_m)$. Then:*

$$\Delta^2 = \prod \varphi(\delta_i).$$

This product is also defined as the braid monodromy factorization (BMF) related to a curve S .

Note that if x_1, \dots, x_{n-1} are the generators of B_n , then we know that $\Delta^2 = (x_1 \cdots x_{n-1})^n$ and thus $\deg(\Delta^2) = n(n-1)$.

So in order to find out what is the braid monodromy factorization of Δ_p^2 , we have to find out what are $\varphi(\delta_i)$, $\forall i$. We refer the reader to the definition of a *skeleton* (see Moishezon–Teicher [15]) $\lambda_{x_j}, x_j \in N$, which is a model of a set of paths connecting points in the fiber, s.t. all those points coincide when approaching $A_j = (x_j, y_j) \in S$, when we approach this point from the right. To describe this situation in greater detail, for $x_j \in N$, let $x'_j = x_j + \alpha$. So the skeleton in x_j is defined as a system of paths connecting the points in $K(x'_j) \cap D(A_j, \varepsilon)$ when $0 < \alpha \ll \varepsilon \ll 1$, $D(A_j, \varepsilon)$ is a disk centered in A_j with radius ε .

For a given skeleton, we denote by $\Delta\langle \lambda_{x_j} \rangle$ the braid which rotates by 180° counter-clockwise a small neighborhood of the given skeleton. Note that if λ_{x_j} is a single path, then $\Delta\langle \lambda_{x_j} \rangle = H(\lambda_{x_j})$.

We also refer the reader to the definition of δ_{x_0} , for $x_0 \in N$ (see [15]), which describes the Lefschetz diffeomorphism induced by a path going below x_0 , for different types of singular points (tangent, node, branch; for example, when going below a node, a half-twist of the skeleton occurs and when going below a tangent point, a full-twist occurs).

We define, for $x_0 \in N$, the following number: $\varepsilon_{x_0} = 1, 2, 4$ when (x_0, y_0) is a branch/node/tangent point (respectively). So we have the following statement (see [15, Proposition 1.5]).

Let γ_j be a path below the real line from x_j to u , s.t. $\ell(\gamma_j) = \delta_j$. So

$$\varphi_u(\delta_j) = \varphi(\delta_j) = \Delta\left\langle (\lambda_{x_j}) \left(\prod_{m=j-1}^1 \delta_{x_m} \right) \right\rangle^{\varepsilon_{x_j}}.$$

When denoting $\xi_{x_j} = (\lambda_{x_j}) \left(\prod_{m=j-1}^1 \delta_{x_m} \right)$ we get –

$$\varphi(\delta_j) = \Delta \langle (\xi_{x_j}) \rangle^{\varepsilon_{x_j}}.$$

Note that the last formula gives an algorithm to compute the needed factorization.

For a detailed explanation of the braid monodromy, see [14].

We shall now define an equivalence relation on the BMF.

Definition (Hurwitz moves) Let $\vec{t} = (t_1, \dots, t_m) \in G^m$. We say that

$$\vec{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_m) \in G^m$$

is obtained from \vec{t} by the Hurwitz move R_k (or \vec{t} is obtained from \vec{s} by the Hurwitz move R_k^{-1}) if

$$\begin{aligned} s_i &= t_i \text{ for } i \neq k, k + 1, \\ s_k &= t_k t_{k+1} t_k^{-1}, \\ s_{k+1} &= t_k. \end{aligned}$$

Definition (Hurwitz move on a factorization) Let G be a group $t \in G$. Let $t = t_1 \cdot \dots \cdot t_m = s_1 \cdot \dots \cdot s_m$ be two factorized expressions of t . We say that $s_1 \cdot \dots \cdot s_m$ is obtained from $t_1 \cdot \dots \cdot t_m$ by a Hurwitz move R_k if (s_1, \dots, s_m) is obtained from (t_1, \dots, t_m) by a Hurwitz move R_k .

Definition (Hurwitz equivalence of factorization) Two factorizations are Hurwitz equivalent if they are obtained from each other by a finite sequence of Hurwitz moves.

Definition (Braid monodromy type of curves (BMT)) Two curves S_1 and S_2 are of the same BMT (denoted by \cong) if they have related BMF that are equivalent.

In 1998, the following theorem was proved by Kulikov–Teicher [8].

Theorem 2.3 *If $S_1 \cong S_2$, then S_1 is isotopic to S_2 (when S_1, S_2 are any curves).*

Thus, an invariant of surfaces can be derived from the BMT of the branch curve of a surface.

Definition (Braid monodromy type of surfaces (BMT)) The BMT of a projective surface is the BMT of the branch curve of a generic projection of the surface embedded in a projective space by means of a complete linear system.

Consequently, the following was proved [8].

Theorem 2.4 *The BMT of a projective surface X determines the diffeomorphism type of X .*

We recall now the regeneration methods.

The regeneration methods are actually, locally, the reverse process of the degeneration method. When regenerating a singular configuration consisting of lines and conics, the final stage in the regeneration process involves doubling each line, so that each point of K corresponding to a line labelled i is replaced by a pair of points, labelled i and i' . The purpose of the regeneration rules is to explain how the braid monodromy behaves when lines are doubled in this manner. We denote by $Z_{i,j} = H(z_{i,j})$ where $z_{i,j}$ is a path connecting points in K .

The rules are (see Moishezon–Teicher [16, pages 336–337]):

- (i) **First regeneration rule** (the regeneration of a branch point of any conic): A factor of the braid monodromy of the form $Z_{i,j}$ is replaced in the regeneration by $Z_{i',j} \cdot \underline{Z}_{i,j}^{(j)}$.
- (ii) **Second regeneration rule** (the regeneration of a node): A factor of the form Z_{ij}^2 is replaced by a factorized expression $Z_{i'j,j}^2 := Z_{i'j}^2 \cdot Z_{ij}^2$, $Z_{i,jj'}^2 := Z_{ij'}^2 \cdot Z_{ij}^2$ or by $Z_{i'j,jj'}^2 := Z_{i'j'}^2 \cdot Z_{ij'}^2 \cdot Z_{i'j}^2 \cdot Z_{ij}^2$.
- (iii) **Third regeneration rule** (the regeneration of a tangent point): A factor of the form Z_{ij}^4 in the braid monodromy factorized expression is replaced by $Z_{i,jj'}^3 := (Z_{ij}^3)^{Z_{jj'}} \cdot (Z_{ij}^3) \cdot (Z_{ij}^3)^{Z_{jj'}^{-1}}$.

As a result, we get a factorized expression, which, by [8], determines the diffeomorphism type of our surface, and, by Van Kampen [20], determines $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2 - \bar{S})$. This is explained in the following paragraphs.

Assume that we have a curve \bar{S} in $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$ and its BMF. Then we can calculate the groups $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2 - \bar{S})$ and $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S)$ (where $S = \bar{S} \cap \mathbb{C}^2$).

Recall that a g -base is an ordered free base of $\pi(D \setminus F, v)$, where D is a closed disc, F is a finite set in $\text{Int}(D)$, $v \in \partial D$ which satisfies several conditions; see [14; 15] for the explicit definition.

Let $\{\Gamma_i\}$ be a g -base of $G = \pi_1(\mathbb{C}_u - S, u)$, where $\mathbb{C}_u = \mathbb{C} \times u$, and here $S = \mathbb{C}_u \cap \bar{S}$. We cite now the Zariski–Van Kampen Theorem (for cuspidal curves) in order to compute the relations between the generators in G .

Theorem 2.5 (Zariski–Van Kampen – cuspidal curves version) *Let \overline{S} be a cuspidal curve in $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2$. Let $S = \mathbb{C}^2 \cap \overline{S}$. Let φ be a braid monodromy factorization w.r.t. S and u . Let $\varphi = \prod_{j=1}^p V_j^{v_j}$, where V_j is a half-twist and $v_j = 1, 2, 3$.*

For every $j = 1, \dots, p$, let $A_j, B_j \in \pi_1(\mathbb{C}u - S, u)$ be such that A_j, B_j can be extended to a g -base of $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}u - S, u)$ and $(A_j)V_j = B_j$. Let $\{\Gamma_i\}$ be a g -base of $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}u - S, u)$ corresponding to the $\{A_i, B_i\}$, where A_i, B_i are expressed in terms of Γ_i . Then $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S, u)$ is generated by the images of $\{\Gamma_i\}$ in $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S, u)$ and the only relations are those implied from $\{V_j^{v_j}\}$, as follows:

$$\begin{cases} A_j \cdot B_j^{-1} & \text{if } v_j = 1 \\ [A_j, B_j] = 1 & \text{if } v_j = 2 \\ \langle A_j, B_j \rangle = 1 & \text{if } v_j = 3. \end{cases}$$

$\pi_1(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^2 - \overline{S}, *)$ is generated by $\{\Gamma_i\}$ with the above relations and one more relation $\prod_i \Gamma_i = 1$.

Figure 8 illustrates how to find A_i, B_i from the half-twist $V_i = H(\sigma)$.

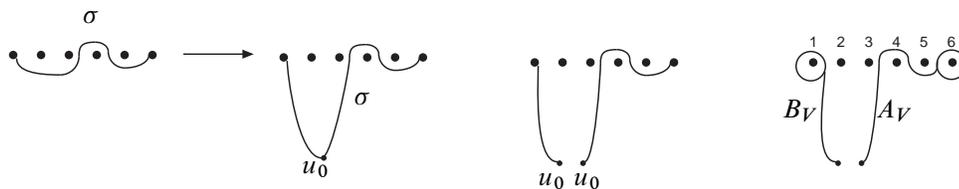


Figure 8

So:

$$A_V = \Gamma_4^{-1} \Gamma_6 \Gamma_4, \quad B_V = \Gamma_1.$$

We finish this subsection by recalling the definition of \tilde{B}_n .

Definition

- (i) Let X, Y be two half-twists in $B_n = B_n(D, K)$. We say that X, Y are *transversal* if they are defined by two simple paths ξ, η which intersect transversally in one point different from their ends.
- (ii) Let N be the normal subgroup of B_n generated by conjugates of $[X, Y]$, where X, Y is a transversal pair of half-twists. Define $\tilde{B}_n = B_n/N$.

- (iii) Let $Y_i, i = 1, \dots, 4$ be four half-twists in B_n (resp. \tilde{B}_n) corresponding to simple paths η_1, \dots, η_4 . Assume that $\eta_i, i = 1, \dots, 4$, could be chosen so that they form a quadrangle without self intersections and such that in its interior there are no points of K . Then we say that Y_1, Y_2, Y_3, Y_4 form a *good quadrangle* in B_n (resp. in \tilde{B}_n).

Lemma 2.6 *If $y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4 \in \tilde{B}_n$ form a good quadrangle then $y_1^2 y_3^2 = y_2^2 y_4^2$.*

Proof See Moishezon [11, section 1.1]. □

3 Computing the BMFs

Let φ_1, φ_2 be the BMF of the branch curve of the first (resp. second) K3 surface. Before computing φ_1, φ_2 , we need some notation. Denote the intersection lines on $(X_i)_0$ as $\{\hat{L}_{i,j}\}_{j=1}^{24}, i = 1, 2$ (recall that $(X_i)_0$ is the degeneration of the K3-surfaces $X_i, i = 1, 2$), and by $\{\hat{v}_{i,j}\}_{j=1}^{10}, i = 1, 2$ the intersection points of these lines. Take generic projections $\pi_i: (X_i)_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^2$, and let $(S_i)_0$ be the branch curve in $\mathbb{C}P^2, (\gamma_i)_0$ – their braid monodromy, and $L_{i,j} = \pi_i(\hat{L}_{i,j}), i = 1, 2, j = 1, \dots, 24$. So, $(S_i)_0 = \bigcup_{j=1}^{24} L_{i,j}, v_{i,j} \doteq \pi_i(\hat{v}_{i,j}), i = 1, 2, j = 1, \dots, 24$ are the singular points of $(S_i)_0$. Let C_i be the union of all lines connecting pairs of the $v_{i,j} \in (S_i)_0$. $(S_i)_0$ is a subcurve of C_i . By [14, Theorem IX], we get a full description of the braid monodromy of $C_i: \Delta_{C_i}^2 = \prod_{j=10}^1 C_{i,j} \Delta_{v_{i,j}}^2 (i = 1, 2)$ with an appropriate description of the corresponding braids. We use this formula to obtain a description of $(\varphi_i)_0$ by deleting factors that involve lines which do not appear in $(S_i)_0$. Thus, we get $(\gamma_i)_0 = \Delta_{(S_i)_0}^2 = \prod_{j=10}^1 \tilde{C}_{i,j} \tilde{\Delta}_{v_{i,j}}^2$. We describe each factor separately.

$\tilde{C}_{i,j}$: The factors $\tilde{C}_{i,j}$ correspond to parasitic intersections; these are intersections created by lines that do not intersect in $\mathbb{C}P^9$ but may intersect in $\mathbb{C}P^2$. By [14] we know that $\tilde{C}_{i,j} = \prod_{v_{i,j} \in L_{i,t}} D_{i,t}$, where $D_{i,t} = \prod_{\substack{p < t \\ L_{i,p} \cap L_{i,t} = \emptyset}} \tilde{Z}_{pt}^2$. For $i = 1$, the global BMF, together with the $\tilde{C}_{1,j}$ is presented in Amram–Ciliberto–Miranda–Teicher [1, Section 4.1]. For $i = 2$, we have (by [14, Theorem X.2.1]):

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_{2,1} &= \text{Id} & D_{2,2} &= \underline{Z}_{1,2}^2 & D_{2,3} &= \underline{Z}_{2,3}^2 \\
 D_{2,4} &= \overset{(2)}{\underline{Z}_{1,4}^2} & D_{2,5} &= \bar{Z}_{2,5}^2 \bar{Z}_{3,5}^2 \underline{Z}_{4,5}^2 & D_{2,6} &= \overset{(2-3)}{\underline{Z}_{1,6}^2} \overset{(4)}{\underline{Z}_{3,6}^2} \underline{Z}_{4,6}^2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_{2,7} &= \prod_{i=2,3,4,6} \bar{Z}_{i,7}^2 & D_{2,8} &= \prod_{i=1,3,4,5} \bar{Z}_{i,8}^2 & D_{2,9} &= \bar{Z}_{2,9}^2 \bar{Z}_{4,9}^2 \bar{Z}_{5,9}^2 \bar{Z}_{6,9}^2 \\
 & & & & & (5-6) \quad (6) \\
 & & & & & (7-8) \\
 D_{2,10} &= \prod_{i=1,2,3,4} \bar{Z}_{i,10}^2 & D_{2,11} &= \prod_{\substack{i=2,3,4, \\ 6,8,9,10}} \bar{Z}_{i,11}^2 & D_{2,12} &= \prod_{\substack{i=1,3,4,5 \\ 7,9,10}} \bar{Z}_{i,12}^2 \\
 & & & & & (11) \\
 D_{2,13} &= \prod_{\substack{i=1,3,5, \\ 7,\dots,10}} \bar{Z}_{i,13}^2 & D_{2,14} &= \prod_{\substack{i=1,\dots,4 \\ 7,8,9}} \bar{Z}_{i,14}^2 & D_{2,15} &= \prod_{\substack{i=2,\dots,14 \\ 1\neq 5,7,11}} \bar{Z}_{i,15}^2 \\
 D_{2,16} &= \prod_{\substack{i=2,\dots,14 \\ i\neq 3,9}} \bar{Z}_{i,16}^2 & D_{2,17} &= \prod_{\substack{i=1,\dots,14 \\ i\neq 2,4,13}} \bar{Z}_{i,17}^2 & D_{2,18} &= \prod_{\substack{i=1,\dots,14 \\ i\neq 3,4}} \bar{Z}_{i,18}^2 \\
 D_{2,19} &= \prod_{i=1,\dots,10} \bar{Z}_{i,19}^2 & D_{2,20} &= \prod_{\substack{i=2,\dots,19 \\ i\neq 2,6,8,12}} \bar{Z}_{i,20}^2 & D_{2,21} &= \prod_{\substack{i=2,\dots,19 \\ i\neq 3,9,16}} \bar{Z}_{i,21}^2 \\
 & & & & & (20) \\
 D_{2,22} &= \prod_{\substack{i=1,\dots,19 \\ i\neq 2,4,13,14}} \bar{Z}_{i,22}^2 & D_{2,23} &= \prod_{\substack{i=1,\dots,19 \\ i\neq 3,4,18}} \bar{Z}_{i,23}^2 & D_{2,24} &= \prod_{\substack{i=1,\dots,19 \\ i\neq 7,\dots,10}} \bar{Z}_{i,24}^2 \\
 & & & & & (20-21) \quad (20-22) \quad (20-23)
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{C}_{2,1} &= \prod_{\substack{t=5,7 \\ 11,15}} D_{2,t} & \tilde{C}_{2,2} &= \prod_{\substack{t=2,6,8 \\ 12,20}} D_{2,t} & \tilde{C}_{2,3} &= \prod_{\substack{t=3,9 \\ 16,21}} D_{2,t} \\
 \tilde{C}_{2,4} &= \prod_{\substack{t=4,13 \\ 17,22}} D_{2,t} & \tilde{C}_{2,5} &= \prod_{t=18,23} D_{2,t} & \tilde{C}_{2,6} &= \prod_{t=10,14} D_{2,t} \\
 \tilde{C}_{2,7} &= D_{2,24} & \tilde{C}_{2,18} &= D_{2,19} & \tilde{C}_{2,9} &= \tilde{C}_{2,10} = \text{Id}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Recall that a point in a totally degenerated surface is called a k -point if it is a singular point which is the intersection of k planes.

$\tilde{\Delta}_{v_{i,j}}^2$: In $(S_1)_0$, we have six points, which are 6-point $(v_{1,j}, j = 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10)$ and four points which are 3-point $(v_{1,j}, j = 1, 3, 6, 8)$; note that the regeneration of this 3-point is not similar to the regular 3-point. See [1] for the braid monodromy factorization of the regeneration of our 3-point.

In $(S_2)_0$, we have eight points which are 5-point $(v_{2,j}, 1 \leq j \leq 10, j \neq 5, 6)$ and two points which are 4-point $(v_{2,j}, j = 5, 6)$. Note that the original branch curve, S_2 , has also a few extra branch points. The existence of the extra branch points will be proved later (see Proposition 3.7).

The local braid monodromies, which are $\tilde{\Delta}_{v_{2,j}}^2$, are introduced and regenerated in the following paragraphs. We denote the outcoming local BMF, resulting from the total regeneration $\tilde{\Delta}_{v_{2,j}}^2$, as $\varphi_{2,j}$. Thus after performing a total regeneration

to the whole BMF, the resulting BMF will be of the form $\varphi_2 = \prod_{i=10}^1 C_i \varphi_i \prod b_i$,

where b_i are braids corresponding to the extra branch points.

Before presenting the expressions for local and global BMFs, we give some notation. Let $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$; denote: $F_u(a, b, c, d) := F_u(F_u)_{Z_{a,a'}^{-1} Z_{d,d'}^{-1}}$, where $\{b, c\} < \{a, d\}$, and $c < b, a < d$ and

$$F_u = Z_{bb',a}^{(3)} Z_{a'd}^2 (Z_{ad}^2)_{Z_{bb'a}^2} (Z_{bb',d}^3)_{Z_{bb',a}^2} (Z_{cb'})_{Z_{b'd}^2 Z_{b'a}^2} \\ (Z_{c'b})_{Z_{bd}^2 Z_{ba}^2 Z_{bb'}^2}$$

$$F_m(a, b, c, d) := F_m \cdot (F_m)_{Z_{a,a'}^{-1} Z_{d,d'}^{-1}} \text{ where } a < \{b, c\} < d \text{ and}$$

$$F_m = Z_{a',cc'}^{(3)} \cdot Z_{bb',d}^{(3)} \cdot \tilde{Z}_{c,b'} \cdot \tilde{Z}_{b',c} (Z_{a',d}^2)_{Z_{c',cc'}^2} \cdot Z_{ad}^2$$

where

$$\tilde{Z}_{cb'} = (Z_{cb'})_{Z_{b',d}^2 Z_{c'c'}^2 Z_{a'd}^2} \text{ and } \tilde{Z}_{b',c} = (Z_{b',c})_{Z_{b'd}^2 Z_{a'c'}^2}$$

$$F_\ell(a, b, c, d) := F_\ell \cdot (F_\ell)_{Z_{a,a'}^{-1} Z_{d,d'}^{-1}} \text{ where } \{b, c\} > \{a, b\} \text{ and}$$

$$F_\ell = Z_{a'd}^2 \cdot Z_{a',cc'}^{(3)} (Z_{a'd'}^2)_{Z_{a',cc'}^2 Z_{a'd}^2} (Z_{a',cc'}^{(3)})_{Z_{a'd}^2} \\ \cdot (\bar{Z}_{cb'})_{Z_{a',c}^2 Z_{a'c}^2 Z_{a'd}^2} (Z_{cb'})_{Z_{c'c'}^2 Z_{d'c'}^2 Z_{a'c'}^2 Z_{a'd}^2}.$$

Note that for $(\varphi_1)_0$ and the singular points of $(S_1)_0$, the regeneration process was already done [1], and thus we have the following theorem.

Theorem 3.1 *The BMF of the branch curve of X_1 is*

$$\varphi_1 = \prod_{j=10}^1 C_{1,j} \varphi_{1,j}$$

where $C_{1,j}, \varphi_{1,j}$ can be found in [1].

Proof See [1]. □

Thus, we have to compute the BMF of the branch curve of X_2 . We begin by citing the results about the points $v_{2,5}$ and $v_{2,6}$; these are 4–points and for this type, the BMF of a fully regenerated neighbourhood was computed in Amram–Teicher [3].

Proposition 3.2 *The local braid monodromy $\varphi_{2,5}$ in a small neighbourhood around $v_{2,5}$ has the following form:*

$$\varphi_{2,5} = F_u(18, 4, 3, 23)$$

and the local braid monodromy $\varphi_{2,6}$ (for $v_{2,6}$) has the same form, when substituting $3 \rightarrow 5, 4 \rightarrow 6, 18 \rightarrow 10, 14 \rightarrow 23$.

Proof See [3]. □

We now move on to compute the local braid monodromy around a small neighbourhood of $v_{2,3}$, which is a 5–point. We will give – for this point – a detailed treatment for the computation of the local BMF, while for the other points $(v_{2,j}, j = 1, 2, 4, 7, \dots, 10)$ we will just give the final results.

We examine the point $v_{2,3}$ in the degenerated surface $(X_2)_0$. Drawing a local neighbourhood of $v_{2,3}$ and numerating the lines $-L_i (1 \leq i \leq 5)$ locally, we get Figure 9.

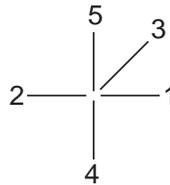


Figure 9

By the degeneration process, line 3 is regenerated first. By the claim in Moishezon–Teicher [16, Section 2], we know that line L_3 is regenerated into a conic. More explicitly, we get that after regenerating $V = \bigcup_{i=1}^5 L_i$ in a small neighbourhood U of $v_{2,3}$, L_3 turns into a conic Q_3 such that Q_3 is tangent to L_1 and L_5 . Denote the resulting branch curve, after the regeneration by \tilde{V} . Thus, the singularities of $T = \tilde{V} \cap U$ are as in Figure 10.

Proposition 3.3 *The local braid monodromy factorization of the above configuration is*

$$\tilde{\varphi} = Z_{2,3}^2 Z_{3',4}^2 Z_{1,3}^4 \bar{Z}_{3',5}^4 \tilde{Z}_{3',4}^2 \tilde{Z}_{2,3}^2 \tilde{Z}_{3,3'}^2 (\Delta^2 \langle 1, 2, 4, 5 \rangle)^{Z_{3,4}^{-2}}$$

where the braids $\tilde{Z}_{3',4}, \tilde{Z}_{2,3}, \tilde{Z}_{3,3'}$ correspond to the paths shown in Figure 11.

Proof Let $\{p_j\}_{j=1}^8$ be the singular points of a small neighbourhood (that is U) of $v_{2,3}$ (see Figure 10) with respect to π_1 (the projection to the X –axis) as follows.

- (i) $\{p_1, p_2\}, \{p_2, p_5\}$ – the intersection points of Q_3 with L_2, L_4 .

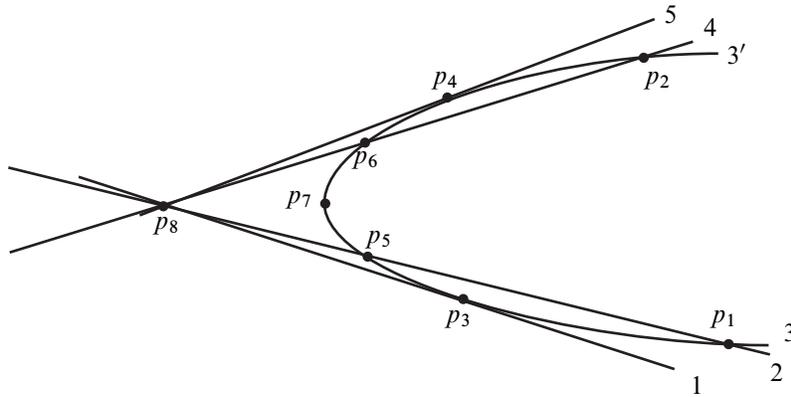


Figure 10

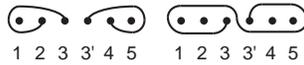


Figure 11

- (ii) p_3, p_4 – the tangent points of Q_3 and L_1, L_5 .
- (iii) p_7 – the branch point of Q_3 .
- (iv) p_8 – the intersection point of $\{L_i\}_{i=1,2,4,5}$.

Let E (resp. D) be a closed disk on the X -axis (resp. Y -axis). Let $N = \{x(p_j) = x_j | 1 \leq j \leq 8\}$, s.t. $N \subset E - \partial E$. Let M be a real point on the x -axis, s.t. $x_j \ll M, \forall x_j \in N, 1 \leq j \leq 8$. There is a g -base $\ell(\gamma_j)_{j=1}^8$ of $\pi_1(E - N, u)$, s.t. each path γ_j is below the real line and the values of φ_M with respect to this base and $E \times D$ are the ones given in the proposition. We look for $\varphi_M(\ell(\gamma_j))$ for $j = 1, \dots, 8$. Choose a g -base $\ell(\gamma_j)_{j=1}^8$ as above and put all the data in the following table.

j	λ_j	ε_j	δ_j
1	$\langle 2, 3 \rangle$	2	$\Delta \langle 2, 3 \rangle$
2	$\langle 3', 4 \rangle$	2	$\Delta \langle 3', 4 \rangle$
3	$\langle 1, 2 \rangle$	4	$\Delta^2 \langle 1, 2 \rangle$
4	$\langle 4, 5 \rangle$	4	$\Delta^2 \langle 4, 5 \rangle$
5	$\langle 3', 4 \rangle$	2	$\Delta \langle 3', 4 \rangle$
6	$\langle 2, 3 \rangle$	2	$\Delta \langle 2, 3 \rangle$
7	$\langle 3, 3' \rangle$	1	$\Delta_{IR}^{1/2} \langle 2 \rangle$
8	$\langle 1, 2, 4, 5 \rangle$	2	-

So, we get the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_{x_1} &= z_{2,3} \\ \varphi_M(\ell(\gamma_1)) &= Z_{2,3}^2 \\ \xi_{x_2} &= z_{3',4} \\ &\quad (\Delta \langle 2, 3 \rangle \text{ does not affect this path}) \\ \varphi_M(\ell(\gamma_2)) &= Z_{3,4}^2 \\ \xi_{x_3} &= \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \xrightarrow{\Delta \langle 3', 4 \rangle} \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \\ 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \quad \Delta \langle 2, 3 \rangle \quad 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \end{array} = z_{1,3} \\ \varphi_M(\ell(\gamma_3)) &= Z_{1,3}^4 \\ \xi_{x_4} &= \begin{array}{c} \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \xrightarrow{\Delta^2 \langle 1, 2 \rangle} \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \\ 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \quad \Delta \langle 3', 4 \rangle \quad 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \end{array} = \bar{z}_{3,5} \\ &\quad (\Delta \langle 2, 3 \rangle \text{ does not affect this path}) \\ \varphi_M(\ell(\gamma_4)) &= \bar{Z}_{3',5}^4 \\ \xi_{x_5} &= \begin{array}{c} \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \xrightarrow{\Delta^2 \langle 4, 5 \rangle} \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \\ 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \quad \Delta^2 \langle 1, 2 \rangle \quad \Delta \langle 3', 4 \rangle \quad 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \end{array} = \tilde{z}_{3',4} \\ &\quad (\Delta \langle 2, 3 \rangle \text{ does not affect this path}) \\ \varphi_M(\ell(\gamma_5)) &= \tilde{Z}_{3',4}^2 \\ \xi_{x_6} &= \begin{array}{c} \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \xrightarrow{\Delta \langle 3', 4 \rangle} \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \xrightarrow{\Delta \langle 3', 4 \rangle} \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \\ 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \quad \Delta^2 \langle 4, 5 \rangle \quad \Delta \langle 2, 3 \rangle \quad 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \end{array} = \tilde{z}_{2,3} \\ \varphi_M(\ell(\gamma_6)) &= \tilde{Z}_{2,3}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_{x_7} &= \begin{array}{c} \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \xrightarrow{\Delta(2,3)} \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \xrightarrow{\Delta^2(4,5)} \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \\ 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \quad \Delta(3',4) \quad 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \quad \Delta^2(1,2) \quad 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \end{array} \\ &\xrightarrow[\Delta(2,3)]{\Delta(3',4)} \begin{array}{c} \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \\ 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \end{array} = \tilde{Z}_{3,3'} \\ \varphi_M(\ell(\gamma_7)) &= \tilde{Z}_{3,3'} \\ \xi_{x_8} &= \begin{array}{c} \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \xrightarrow{\Delta^{\frac{1}{2}}_{IR}(2)} \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \xrightarrow{\Delta(2,3)} \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \\ 1 \ 2 \ 4 \ 5 \quad 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \quad \Delta(3',4) \quad 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \end{array} \\ &\xrightarrow[\Delta^2(1,2)]{\Delta^2(4,5)} \begin{array}{c} \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \xrightarrow{\Delta(3',4)} \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \\ 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \quad 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 3' \ 4 \ 5 \end{array} = \Delta\langle 1, 2, 4, 5 \rangle Z_\alpha, \end{aligned}$$

where Z_α is the braid induced from the motion 

$$\varphi_M(\ell(\gamma_8)) = \Delta^2\langle 1, 2, 4, 5 \rangle Z_\alpha. \quad \square$$

The following regeneration regenerates a small neighborhood of $\bigcup_{i=1,2,4,5} L_i$, which is, by definition, a 4–point. Since this type of 4–point and its BMF of its regeneration was treated earlier [3], we can find out what is the BMF of $v_{2,3}$ after the full regeneration.

Proposition 3.4 *The local BMF $\varphi_{2,3}$ around a small neighborhood of $v_{2,3}$ is:*

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{2,3} &= Z_{2',3}^2 Z_{2,3}^2 Z_{3',4'}^2 Z_{3',4}^2 Z_{11',3}^{(3)} \cdot \bar{Z}_{3',55'}^{(3)} \tilde{Z}_{3',4'}^2 \tilde{Z}_{3',4}^2 \tilde{Z}_{2',3}^2 \tilde{Z}_{2,3}^2 \\ &\quad \tilde{Z}_{3,3'}(F_3 \cdot (F_3)^\vartheta) Z_\alpha \end{aligned}$$

where $\vartheta = Z_{4,4'}^{-1} \cdot Z_{5,5'}^{-1}$, the braids $\tilde{Z}_{3',4'}$, $\tilde{Z}_{3',4}$, $\tilde{Z}_{2',3}$, $\tilde{Z}_{2,3}$, $\tilde{Z}_{3,3'}$ correspond to the following paths:



and Z_α is the braid induced from the motion shown in Figure 12 and

$$F_3 = Z_{22',4}^{(3)} Z_{4',5}^2 (Z_{4,5}^2)_{Z_{22',4}} (Z_{22',5}^{(3)})_{Z_{22',4}} (Z_{1,2'})_{Z_{2',5}} Z_{2',4}^2 (Z_{1',2})_{Z_{2,5}} Z_{2,4}^2 Z_{2,2'}.$$

Proof Using the regeneration rules, we replace

- (i) $Z_{2,3}^2$ ($Z_{3,4}^2$, $\tilde{Z}_{3,4}^2$, $\tilde{Z}_{2,3}^2$) by $Z_{22',3}^2$ (resp. $Z_{3,44'}^2$, $\tilde{Z}_{3,44'}^2$, $\tilde{Z}_{22',3}^2$) (by the second regeneration rule)

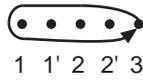


Figure 12

- (ii) $Z_{1,3}^4 (\bar{Z}_{3',5}^4)$ by $Z_{1'1',3}^{(3)}$ (resp. $\bar{Z}_{3',5,5'}^{(3)}$) (by the third regeneration rule)
- (iii) $\Delta^2 \langle 1, 2, 4, 5 \rangle$ by $F_3 \cdot (F_3)_\vartheta$. □

Remark 3.5 Note that the last BMF was given when numerating the lines in the neighbourhood of $v_{2,3}$ locally. So, when numerating globally, we get:

$$\varphi_{2,3} = Z_{3',9}^2 Z_{3,9}^2 Z_{9',16'}^2 Z_{9',16}^2 Z_{1'1',9}^{(3)} \bar{Z}_{9',21,21'}^{(3)} \tilde{Z}_{9',16'}^2 \tilde{Z}_{9',16}^2 \tilde{Z}_{3',9}^2 \tilde{Z}_{3,9}^2 \tilde{Z}_{9,9'} \cdot (F_3 \cdot (F_3)_\vartheta) Z_{\alpha_3}$$

where $\vartheta = Z_{16,16'}^{-1} Z_{21,21'}^{-1}$, Z_{α_3} is the braid induced from the motion shown in Figure 13 and

$$F_3 = Z_{3'3',16}^{(3)} Z_{16',21}^2 (Z_{16,21}^2) Z_{3'3',16}^{(3)} (Z_{3'3',21}^{(3)}) Z_{3'3',16}^2 (Z_{1,3'}) Z_{3',21}^2 Z_{3',16}^2 \cdot (Z_{1',3}) Z_{3,21}^2 Z_{3,16}^2 Z_{3,3'}^2$$

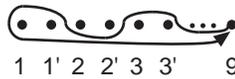


Figure 13

We now write the other BMFs.

Proposition 3.6 The local braid monodromy $\varphi_{2,1}$ is:

$$\varphi_{2,1} = Z_{11,11',15}^{(3)} (F_u(11, 5, 1, 7)) Z_{11,11',15}^2 Z_{11',15}^{(7-7') / (5-5')} \tilde{Z}_{15,15'} Z_{5',15,15'}^2 Z_{7,7',15'}^{(7-7')} \tilde{Z}_{7,7',15}^2$$

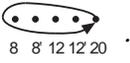
where $\tilde{Z}_{15,15'}$, $\tilde{Z}_{7,7',15'}$ correspond to the paths shown in Figure 14.



Figure 14

The local braid monodromy $\varphi_{2,2}$ is:

$$\varphi_{2,2} = Z_{12\ 12',20}^2 Z_{8\ 8',20}^{(3)} \tilde{Z}_{12\ 12',20}^2 (F_u(8, 6, 2, 12)) Z_{\alpha_2} Z_{2\ 2',20'}^{(3)} \tilde{Z}_{20,20'}^2 Z_{6\ 6',20'}^2 Z_{6\ 6',20}^2$$

where $\tilde{Z}_{12\ 12',20}$, $\tilde{Z}_{20,20'}$, $\tilde{Z}_{6\ 6',20'}$ correspond to the paths shown in Figure 15 and Z_{α_2} is the braid induced from the motion: 

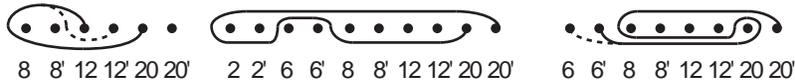
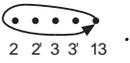


Figure 15

The local braid monodromy $\varphi_{2,4}$ is:

$$\varphi_{2,4} = Z_{4\ 4',13}^2 Z_{13',17\ 17'}^{(3)} Z_{2\ 2',13}^{(3)} Z_{4\ 4',13}^2 \tilde{Z}_{13,13'}^{(17-17')} \tilde{Z}_{13',22\ 22'}^2 (F_u(22, 4, 2, 17)) Z_{\alpha_4}$$

where $\tilde{Z}_{13,13'}$, $\tilde{Z}_{13',22\ 22'}$ correspond to the paths shown in Figure 16 and Z_{α_4} is the braid induced from the motion: 

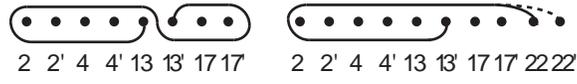


Figure 16

The local braid monodromy $\varphi_{2,7}$ is:

$$\varphi_{2,7} = Z_{8\ 8',9}^2 Z_{10\ 10',9'}^{(10-10')} Z_{7\ 7',9}^{(3)} Z_{9',24\ 24'}^{(3)} \tilde{Z}_{9',10\ 10'}^2 \tilde{Z}_{8\ 8',9}^2 \tilde{Z}_{9,9'} (F_\ell(7, 10, 24, 8)) Z_{\alpha_7}$$

where $\tilde{Z}_{9',10\ 10'}$, $\tilde{Z}_{8\ 8',9'}$, $\tilde{Z}_{9,9'}$ correspond to the paths shown in Figure 17 and Z_{α_7} is the braid induced from the motion: 

The local braid monodromy $\varphi_{2,8}$ is:

$$\varphi_{2,8} = Z_{13',14\ 14'}^2 Z_{12\ 12',13}^{(3)} Z_{13',19\ 19'}^{(14-14')} \tilde{Z}_{13',14\ 14'}^2 \tilde{Z}_{13,13'} \tilde{Z}_{11\ 11',13'}^2 Z_{11\ 11',13}^2 F_\ell(12, 14, 19, 11) Z_{\alpha_8}$$



Figure 17

where $\tilde{Z}_{13',14\ 14'}$, $\tilde{Z}_{11\ 11',13'}$, $\tilde{Z}_{13,13'}$ correspond to the paths shown in Figure 18 and Z_{α_8} is the braid induced from the motion: 



Figure 18

The local braid monodromy $\varphi_{2,9}$ is:

$$\varphi_{2,9} = Z_{15',16\ 16'}^{(3)} F_{\ell}(17, 19, 18, 16) Z_{15',16\ 16'}^2 \overset{(16-16')}{Z_{15',19\ 19'}^{(3)}} \tilde{Z}_{15\ 15'}$$

$$\tilde{Z}_{15,18\ 18'}^2 \overset{(16-16')}{Z_{15',18\ 18'}^2} \bar{Z}_{15',17\ 17'}^2 \tilde{Z}_{15,17\ 17'}^2$$

where $\tilde{Z}_{15\ 15'}$, $\tilde{Z}_{15\ 18\ 18'}$, $\tilde{Z}_{15,17\ 17'}$ correspond to the paths shown in Figure 19.

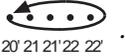


Figure 19

The local braid monodromy $\varphi_{2,10}$ is:

$$\varphi_{2,10} = Z_{20',21\ 21'}^2 \bar{Z}_{20',22\ 22'}^{(3)} \tilde{Z}_{20',21\ 21'}^2 (F_{\ell}(21, 24, 23, 22)) Z_{\alpha_{10}} \bar{Z}_{20',24\ 24'}^{(3)}$$

$$\tilde{Z}_{20\ 20'} \bar{Z}_{20',23\ 23'}^2 \tilde{Z}_{20,23\ 23'}^2$$

where $\tilde{Z}_{20',21\ 21'}$, $\tilde{Z}_{20\ 20'}$, $\tilde{Z}_{20,23\ 23'}$ correspond to the paths shown in Figure 20 and $Z_{\alpha_{10}}$ is the braid induced from the motion: 

Performing the regeneration affects also the braids induced from the parasitic line intersection. Denote by $C_{2,i}$ the braid, which is created from $\tilde{C}_{2,i}$ during the regeneration process.



Figure 20

Every $\tilde{C}_{2,i}$ is a product of a 2-degree braid $Z_{i,j}^2$, which becomes, as a consequence of the second regeneration rule, an 8-degree braid: $Z_{ii',jj'}^2 = Z_{i',j'}^2 Z_{i',j}^2 Z_{i,j'}^2 Z_{i,j}^2$. If the path representing the braid $Z_{i,j}^2$ was above/below a point p , then the induced braids would be above/below the points p and p' .

Before we present the global BMF, we have to check if there are extra branch points in the branch curves, that are created during the regeneration of a line L_i . An extra branch point contributes to a factorization the factor $Z_{i,i'}$. (By “contributes” we mean that one should multiply the old factorization $Z_{i,i'}$ from the right).

X_1 It was proven in [1, prop. 16] that the factorization $\varphi_1 = \prod_{j=10}^1 C_{1,j} \varphi_{1,j}$ is a BMF of the branch curve of X_1 . Thus, there are no missing braids in the factorization above, and therefore there are no extra branch points.

X_2 Denote by $\tilde{\Delta} = \prod_{j=10}^1 C_{2,j} \varphi_{2,j}$. If $\tilde{\Delta}$ was the BMF of the branch curve of X_2 , then $\deg(\tilde{\Delta}) = \deg(\Delta_{48}^2) = 48 \cdot (48 - 1) = 2256$. We show that this is not the situation here. $\deg(\tilde{\Delta}) = \sum_{j=1}^{10} \deg(C_{2,j}) + \sum_{j=1}^{10} \deg(\varphi_{2,j})$. $\sum \deg(C_{2,j}) = 8 \cdot 184 = 1472$. For $j = 5, 6$, $v_{2,j}$ are 4-point, and by [16], $\deg(\varphi_{2,5}) = \deg(\varphi_{2,6}) = 48$. For $1 \leq j \leq 10$, $j \neq 5, 6$ $v_{2,j}$ are 5-point. Although these points have different configurations, their BMFs $\varphi_{2,j}$ still have 6 factors of degree 3, 8 factors of degree 2, one factor of degree 1, and a factor representing the BMF of the regeneration of a 4-point, whose degree is 48. Thus $\forall 1 \leq j \leq 10$, $j \neq 5, 6$, $\deg(\varphi_{2,j}) = 6 \cdot 3 + 8 \cdot 2 + 1 + 48 = 83$. So, $\deg(\tilde{\Delta}) = 1472 + 2 \cdot 48 + 8 \cdot 83 = 2232 < 2256$.

Define the forgetting homomorphisms:

$$1 \leq i \leq 24 \quad f_i: B_{48}[D, \{1, 1', \dots, 24, 24'\}] \rightarrow B_2[D, \{i, i'\}].$$

It is clear that if $\tilde{\Delta}$ was a BMF, then $\forall i, \deg(f_i(\tilde{\Delta})) = 2$. However, this is not the case in the current situation. It was proven in Robb [18] (see also [19]), that if

$\deg(f_i(\tilde{\Delta})) = k < 2$, then there are $(2 - k)$ extra branch points, and so there is a contribution of the factorization $\prod_{m=1}^{2-k} Z_{i,i'}$ to $\tilde{\Delta}$.

Proposition 3.7

- (i) The regeneration of the lines $L_{2,j}$, $j = 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 14, 18, 23$ contributes the factors $Z_{j,j'} \cdot Z_{j,j'}$ to $\tilde{\Delta}$.
- (ii) The regeneration of the lines $L_{2,j}$ $j = 7, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 21, 22$ contributes the factor $Z_{j,j'}$ to $\tilde{\Delta}$.

Proof

- (i) We prove this case for $j = 3$; the other cases are done using the same method. By Lemma 3.3.3 (or Proposition 3.3.4) in [19], it is enough to prove that $\deg(f_3(\tilde{\Delta})) = 0$. The braids coming from the parasitic intersection are sent by f_3 (and by any f_i , in fact) to Id, so it is enough to look only at the factors $\varphi_{2,k}$, $1 \leq k \leq 10$ that involve braids, one of whose end points are 3 or 3'. The only suitable k 's are $k = 5$ and $k = 3$. Since $v_{2,3}$ and $v_{2,5}$ are both of 4–point, by Moishezon–Teicher [16, Lemma 8, (iv)], $\deg(f_3(\varphi_{2,3})) = \deg(f_3(\varphi_{2,5})) = 0$. Therefore $\deg(f_3(\tilde{\Delta})) = 0$.
- (ii) We prove for $j = 7$; the other cases are done using the same method. It is enough to prove that $\deg(f_7(\tilde{\Delta})) = 1$ (by [19]).
 As in (i), we only consider the factors $\varphi_{2,1}$ and $\varphi_{2,7}$. $v_{2,1}$ is a 5–point. The first regeneration is of the line $L_{2,15}$, (which turns into a conic, that intersects the line $L_{2,7}$ at two nodes, which induce braids of the form $Z_{7,15}^2$ and $Z_{7,15'}^2$), which does not contribute to the regeneration factors of the form $Z_{7,7'}$. After this regeneration, we are left with the regeneration of a 4–point, and by [16, Lemma 8, (iv)], we get $\deg(f_7(\varphi_{2,1})) = 0$.
 $v_{2,7}$ is also a 5–point. The first regeneration is of the line $L_{2,9}$, which turns into a conic, $Q_{2,(9,9')}$, that is tangent to $L_{2,7}$ (by [16, Claim 1]). This tangency point is regenerated into three cusps (see Moishezon–Teicher [15]) which induces the product of three braids – $Z_{7',9}^3 \cdot Z_{7,9}^3 \cdot (Z_{7',9}^3)_{Z_{7,7'}^{-1}} =: Z_{77',9}^{(3)}$. By [16, Lemma 2, (i)], we see that $\deg(f_7(Z_{77',9}^{(3)})) = 1$. Again, the regeneration afterwards of the 4–point does not contribute a factor of the form $Z_{7,7'}$ to the factorization. Thus, we get $\deg(f_7(\varphi_{2,7})) = 1$, and $\deg(f_7(\tilde{\Delta})) = 1$. □

Define an ordered set

$$\{i_n\}_{n=1}^{16} := \{3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23\},$$

and for $1 \leq n \leq 16$ let:

$$b_n = \begin{cases} Z_{i_n, i'_n} \cdot Z_{i_n, i'_n} & i_n = \{3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 14, 18, 23\} \\ Z_{i_n, i'_n} & i_n = \{7, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 21, 22\}. \end{cases}$$

Proposition 3.8

$$\varphi_2 = \prod_{j=10}^1 C_{2,j} \varphi_{2,j} \prod_{n=1}^{16} b_n$$

is a braid monodromy factorization for S_2 .

The proof is divided into a number of lemmas.

Lemma 3.9 $\varphi_2 = \prod_{j=10}^1 C_{2,j} \tilde{\varphi}_{2,j} \prod_{n=1}^{16} b_n$ is a braid monodromy factorization for S_2 , where $\tilde{\varphi}_{2,j} = (\varphi_{2,j})_{h_j}$ for some $h_j \in \langle Z_{kk'} | v_{2,j} \in L_{2,k} \rangle$.

Proof Using [14, Proposition VI.2.1] on S_2 , we get that $\varphi_2 = \prod_{j=10}^1 C_{2,j} \tilde{\varphi}_{2,j} \prod b_\ell$. $h_j \in \langle Z_{kk'} | v_{2,j} \in L_{2,k} \rangle$ are determined by the regeneration of the embedding $B_k \hookrightarrow B_{24}$ to $B_{2k} \hookrightarrow B_{48}$ where $k = 4$ when $j = 5, 6$ and $k = 5$ otherwise ($1 \leq j \leq 10$, $j \neq 5, 6$; see the definition of regeneration of an embedding in [16, Section 1]). b_ℓ are factors that are not converted by $\prod C_{2,j} \tilde{\varphi}_{2,j}$, and each b_n is of the form $Y_i^{t_i}$, Y_i is a positive half-twist, $0 \leq t_i \leq 3$. Note that $\deg(\tilde{\varphi}_{2,j}) = \deg(\varphi_{2,j})$. By the previous proposition, we know part of the b_ℓ 's; so we can say that $\varphi_2 = \prod_{j=10}^1 C_{2,j} \tilde{\varphi}_{2,j} \prod_{n=1}^{16} b_n \prod b_\ell$. We

compute $\deg\left(\prod_{j=10}^1 C_{2,j} \tilde{\varphi}_{2,j} \prod_{n=1}^{16} b_n\right)$. By earlier computations and the previous proposition,

$$\deg\left(\prod_{j=10}^1 C_{2,j} \tilde{\varphi}_{2,j} \prod_{n=1}^{16} b_n\right) = 2232 + 2 \cdot 8 + 8 = 2256 = 48 \cdot 47 = \deg(\Delta_{48}^2) = \deg \varphi_2.$$

Thus, we have to compute $\deg(\prod b_\ell)$. Since $\forall \ell, b_\ell$ is a positive power of a positive half-twist, we get $b_\ell = 1 \forall \ell$. So we have

$$\varphi_2 = \prod_{j=10}^1 C_{2,j} \tilde{\varphi}_{2,j} \prod_{n=1}^{16} b_n. \quad \square$$

Lemma 3.10 $\varphi_2 = \prod_{j=10}^1 C_{2,j} \varphi_{2,j} \prod_{n=1}^{16} b_n.$

Proof Recalling the invariance rules for the BMF of 4- and 5- point (see [16] and Section 5), we can apply them as in [16], and get that $\prod_{j=10}^1 C_{2,j} \varphi_{2,j} \prod_{n=1}^{16} b_n$ is also a braid monodromy factorization.

Note that although the invariance rules for the 5–point are different from the invariance rules of the standard 4/6 – point, what matters, as can be seen in [16, Section 4] is that the invariance rule regarding the horizontal lines in the 5–point (the two lines that are regenerated last) remains the same in this type of point. \square

4 Computing the fundamental groups

4.1 Computation for X_2

By the Van Kampen theorem (Theorem 2.5), we can compute the relations between the generators in the fundamental group of the complement of the branch curve.

We will prove that $\pi_1(\mathbb{C} - S_2)$ is a quotient of \tilde{B}_{16} . In order to do so, we have to compute the local relations (or the local fundamental groups of the complement of the branch curve) arising from each singular point of the branch curve. Note that points $v_{2,5}, v_{2,6}$ are of the type 4–point, which was investigated by Moishezon [11] and Robb [18]. Thus, we have to look at the remaining 5–points. We focus only on one 5–point – $v_{2,3}$; for the other 5–points, the procedure for deducing the relations is the same, and we state (later) only the relations coming from the branch points for these points.

Recall that in the regeneration process, every line is “doubled”, and thus $S_i \cap \mathbb{C}$ will contain $48 = 2 \cdot 24$ points. The generators of $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S, u)$ (see the Van Kampen Theorem, Theorem 2.5) induced from this doubling are denoted as $\{\Gamma_i, \Gamma_{i'}\}_{i=1}^{24}$, where each pair $\{\Gamma_i, \Gamma_{i'}\}$ originates from the same line.

Denote $\bar{\Gamma}_i = \Gamma_i$ or $\Gamma_{i'}$. Before examining $\varphi_{2,3}$ we state the following remark.

Remark 4.1 $\forall_{i,j}$ s.t. $L_{2,i} \cap L_{2,j} = \emptyset$, we have the following relations in $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2)$:

$$[\bar{\Gamma}_i, \bar{\Gamma}_j] = 1.$$

The proof of this remark is based on the parasitic intersection braids. From each braid of the expressions $C_{2,i}$ ($i = 1, \dots, 10$), using complex conjugation and the Van Kampen Theorem, we can induce the above relations.

Proposition 4.2 *The following relations in $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2)$ are induced from $\varphi_{2,3}$:*

- (i) $\langle \bar{\Gamma}_{16}, \bar{\Gamma}_1 \rangle = \langle \bar{\Gamma}_1, \bar{\Gamma}_9 \rangle = \langle \bar{\Gamma}_9, \bar{\Gamma}_{21} \rangle = \langle \bar{\Gamma}_{21}, \bar{\Gamma}_3 \rangle = \langle \bar{\Gamma}_3, \bar{\Gamma}_{16} \rangle = 1$
- (ii) $[\bar{\Gamma}_i, \bar{\Gamma}_j] = 1$ where L_i, L_j do not bound the same triangle, besides $(i = 1', j = 3)$, $(i = 1, j = 3')$ and $(i = 1, j = 21)$
- (iii) $\Gamma_1 = (\Gamma_{3'})_{\Gamma_{16}^{-1}\Gamma_{21}^{-1}\Gamma_9}$.

Proof In the course of the proof we use the Van Kampen Theorem, the invariance relations of the 5-point, and the complex conjugation method (see [16]). We prove the proposition in several steps.

Step 1 By looking at the braids (in $\varphi_{2,3}$) $Z_{3'3',9}^2, Z_{99',16}^2, Z_{11',9}^{(3)}$ and $\bar{Z}_{9',2121'}^{(3)}$, we induce immediately (using invariance relations and complex conjugation for the last braid) the following relations:

$$[\bar{\Gamma}_9, \bar{\Gamma}_{16}] = [\bar{\Gamma}_3, \bar{\Gamma}_9] = \langle \bar{\Gamma}_1, \bar{\Gamma}_9 \rangle = \langle \bar{\Gamma}_9, \bar{\Gamma}_{21} \rangle = 1.$$

Step 2 Note that the factors in $(F_3 \cdot (F_3)_\vartheta)$ are conjugated by Z_{α_3} . Denote the corresponding generators induced from $(F_3 \cdot (F_3)_\vartheta)$ (after the conjugation) by $\tilde{\Gamma}_i$.

So:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\Gamma}_3 &= \Gamma_9 \Gamma_3 \Gamma_9^{-1} \stackrel{\text{by step 1}}{=} \Gamma_3 & \tilde{\Gamma}_{3'} &= \Gamma_9 \Gamma_{3'} \Gamma_9^{-1} = \Gamma_{3'} \\ \tilde{\Gamma}_1 &= \Gamma_9 \Gamma_1 \Gamma_9^{-1} & \tilde{\Gamma}_{1'} &= \Gamma_9 \Gamma_{1'} \Gamma_9^{-1}, \end{aligned}$$

the other $\tilde{\Gamma}_i$ are not changed. So, we have, by the braid $Z_{3'3',16}^{(3)}$ in F_3 the relation

$$\langle \bar{\Gamma}_3, \bar{\Gamma}_{16} \rangle = 1.$$

Step 3 From the braid $Z_{16',21}^2$ in F_3 , we get the relation: $[\Gamma_{16'}, \Gamma_{21}] = 1$. Looking on the complex conjugate of the braid $(Z_{16',21}^2)_\vartheta$, we now get the relation

$$[\Gamma_{16}, \Gamma_{21}^{-1} \Gamma_{21'} \Gamma_{21}] = 1 \xrightarrow{(\text{inv. rel. } \rho_{16\rho_{21}})} [\Gamma_{16'}, \Gamma_{21}^{-2} \Gamma_{21'} \Gamma_{21}^2] = [\Gamma_{16'}, \Gamma_{21'}] = 1.$$

By performing another time the invariance relation $(\rho_{16\rho_{21}})$, we get $[\Gamma_{16}, \Gamma_{21}] = 1$. From $[\Gamma_{16'}, \Gamma_{21}^{-1} \Gamma_{21'} \Gamma_{21}] = 1$, we get $[\Gamma_{16}, \Gamma_{21'}] = 1$.

So we have the relation $[\bar{\Gamma}_{16}, \bar{\Gamma}_{21}] = 1$.

Step 4 From the braid $(Z_{3'3',21}^{(3)})_{Z_{3'3',16}^{(3)}}$, we get the relation: $\langle \Gamma_{21}, \Gamma_{16} \Gamma_{3'} \Gamma_{16}^{-1} \rangle = 1$. By step 3 we get $\langle \Gamma_{21}, \Gamma_{3'} \rangle = 1$; in the same way, we get $\langle \Gamma_{21}, \Gamma_{3'} \rangle = 1$ and by invariance relation, we get: $\langle \bar{\Gamma}_{21}, \bar{\Gamma}_3 \rangle = 1$.

Step 5 From the braid $((Z_{1,3'})Z_{3',21}^2Z_{3',16}^2)Z_{\alpha_3}$, we get the relation:

$$\Gamma_1 = (\Gamma_{3'})_{\Gamma_{16}^{-1}\Gamma_{21}^{-1}\Gamma_9}.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Gamma_{16}, \Gamma_1 \rangle &= \langle \Gamma_{16}, (\Gamma_{3'})_{\Gamma_{16}^{-1}\Gamma_{21}^{-1}\Gamma_9} \rangle = \langle (\Gamma_{16})_{\Gamma_{21}}, (\Gamma_{3'})_{\Gamma_{16}^{-1}} \rangle \\ &\stackrel{[\Gamma_{16}, \Gamma_{21}] = 1}{=} \langle \Gamma_{16}, \Gamma_{16}\Gamma_{3'}\Gamma_{16}^{-1} \rangle = \langle \Gamma_{16}, \Gamma_{3'} \rangle = 1. \end{aligned}$$

By the invariance relations, we get: $\langle \bar{\Gamma}_{16}, \bar{\Gamma}_1 \rangle = 1$.

Step 6 We know that $\Gamma_1 = (\Gamma_{3'})_{\Gamma_{16}^{-1}\Gamma_{21}^{-1}\Gamma_9}$ and thus $(\Gamma_1)_{\Gamma_9^{-1}\Gamma_{16}} = (\Gamma_{3'})_{\Gamma_{21}^{-1}}$ (by $[\Gamma_{16}, \Gamma_{21}] = 1$). From the braid $((Z_{16,21}^2)Z_{33',16}^2)Z_{\alpha_3}$, we get the relation:

$$\begin{aligned} [\Gamma_{16}, (\Gamma_{21})_{\Gamma_3, \Gamma_3}] &= 1 \text{ or} \\ 1 &= [\Gamma_3\Gamma_{16}\Gamma_3^{-1}, \Gamma_{3'}^{-1}\Gamma_{21}\Gamma_{3'}] \\ \langle \Gamma_3, \Gamma_{16} \rangle &\stackrel{\langle \Gamma_{3'}, \Gamma_{21} \rangle = 1}{=} [\Gamma_{16}^{-1}\Gamma_3\Gamma_{16}, \Gamma_{21}\Gamma_{3'}\Gamma_{21}^{-1}] \\ &= [\Gamma_{16}^{-1}\Gamma_3\Gamma_{16}, \Gamma_{16}^{-1}\Gamma_9\Gamma_1\Gamma_9^{-1}\Gamma_{16}^{-1}] \\ [\Gamma_9, \Gamma_{16}] &\stackrel{[\Gamma_9, \Gamma_3] = 1}{=} [\Gamma_3, \Gamma_1] \end{aligned}$$

and by invariance we get $[\Gamma_{3'}, \Gamma_{1'}] = 1$. □

The following proposition proves the missing relations (eg, $[\bar{\Gamma}_1, \bar{\Gamma}_{21}] = 1$). The reason for separating this proposition from the former is because we use now relations which are not necessarily from $\varphi_{2,3}$.

Proposition 4.3 *The following relations in $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2)$ hold*

$$[\bar{\Gamma}_1, \bar{\Gamma}_3] = [\bar{\Gamma}_1, \bar{\Gamma}_{21}] = 1.$$

Proof Due to the invariance relations of $v_{2,3}$, it is enough to prove $[\Gamma_1, \Gamma_{3'}] = 1$ and $[\Gamma_1, \Gamma_{21}] = 1$.

By the braid $Z_{3,3'}$ (induced from an extra branch point), we know that $\Gamma_3 = \Gamma_{3'}$. Thus, by the last Proposition 4.2, step 6, we have

$$1 = [\Gamma_1, \Gamma_3] = [\Gamma_1, \Gamma_{3'}].$$

Looking on the local BMF of $v_{2,1}$, we have the following relation from the braid $((Z_{1,5'})Z_{5',11}^2Z_{5',7}^2)Z_{11,11',15}^2$:

$$\Gamma_1 = (\Gamma_{5'})_{\Gamma_7^{-1}\Gamma_{15}\Gamma_{11}^{-1}\Gamma_{15}^{-1}}.$$

Since Γ_{21} commutes with $\Gamma_{5'}, \Gamma_7, \Gamma_{15}$ and Γ_{11} (due to the parasitic intersection braids), we have that $[\Gamma_1, \Gamma_{21}] = 1$. \square

Proposition 4.4 $\forall i, 1 \leq i \leq 24, i \neq 9, 13, 15, 20, \Gamma_i = \Gamma_{i'}$ in $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2)$.

We divide the proof into two lemmas.

Lemma 4.5 For $i = 3, \dots, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23$: $\Gamma_i = \Gamma_{i'}$.

Proof The relation $\Gamma_i = \Gamma_{i'}$ is induced from the braids $Z_{i,i'}$ which are created from the extra branch points (by Proposition 3.8). \square

Lemma 4.6 For $i = 1, 2, 19, 24$: $\Gamma_i = \Gamma_{i'}$.

Proof We will prove in details only for $i = 1$; the proof for the other i is the same. We know (from the braid $((Z_{1,5'})_{Z_{5',7}^2, Z_{5',11}^2})_{Z_{11,11',15}^2}$ in $\varphi_{2,1}$) the relation: $\Gamma_1 = \Gamma_{15}\Gamma_{11}\Gamma_7\Gamma_5\Gamma_7^{-1}\Gamma_{11}^{-1}\Gamma_{15}^{-1}$ (we used the relation $\Gamma_5 = \Gamma_{5'}$). Operating the invariance relations $(\rho_1\rho_5)(\rho_7\rho_{11})$ and taking the inverse, we get:

$$\Gamma_1^{-1} = \Gamma_{15}\Gamma_{11'}\Gamma_{7'}\Gamma_{5'}^{-1}\Gamma_{7'}^{-1}\Gamma_{11'}^{-1}\Gamma_{15}^{-1}.$$

Multiplying the above relations and using Lemma 4.5, we get $\Gamma_{1'}^{-1}\Gamma_1 = 1$, or $\Gamma_1 = \Gamma_{1'}$.

For $i = 2$, we use the braid $((Z_{2,6'})_{Z_{6',8}^2, Z_{6',12}^2})_{Z_{\alpha_2}}$ from $\varphi_{2,2}$ and the same method as above.

For $i = 19, 24$, one can use the braids $((\bar{Z}_{10',24})_{\dots})_{Z_{\alpha_7}}$ from $\varphi_{2,7}$ (or the braid $((\bar{Z}_{14',19})_{\dots})_{Z_{\alpha_8}}$ from $\varphi_{2,8}$) and continue as above. \square

Remark 4.7 For each $1 \leq i \leq 10$ we denote by $G_{2,i}$ the local fundamental whose generators are Γ_j , such that one of the endpoints of $L_{2,j}$ is $v_{2,i}$. Generalizing Proposition 4.2 and Proposition 4.3, it is easy to prove that $\forall_{i,j}$ s.t. $L_{2,i}$ and $L_{2,j}$ do not bound a common triangle, $[\bar{\Gamma}_i, \bar{\Gamma}_j] = 1$; and $\forall_{i,j}$ s.t. $L_{2,i}$ and $L_{2,j}$ bound a common triangle, $\langle \bar{\Gamma}_i, \bar{\Gamma}_j \rangle = 1$ (in $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2)$).

Remark 4.8 It is important to state which braids are coming from the branch points. We list below (for each $\varphi_{2,i}$, for $1 \leq i \leq 10, i \neq 5, 6$) which braid is induced from

a branch point, that is created during the regeneration of the horizontal lines of the 5–point. We use the double and triple relations, and the last proposition, and we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 i = 1: & \quad \Gamma_1 = (\Gamma_5)_{\Gamma_7^{-1}\Gamma_{11}^{-1}\Gamma_{15}^{-1}} \\
 i = 2: & \quad \Gamma_2 = (\Gamma_6)_{\Gamma_8^{-1}\Gamma_{12}^{-1}\Gamma_{20}^{-1}} \\
 i = 3: & \quad \Gamma_1 = (\Gamma_3)_{\Gamma_{16}^{-1}\Gamma_{21}^{-1}\Gamma_9} \\
 i = 4: & \quad \Gamma_2 = (\Gamma_4)_{\Gamma_{17}^{-1}\Gamma_{13}\Gamma_{22}^{-1}} \\
 i = 7: & \quad \Gamma_{24} = (\Gamma_{10})_{\Gamma_7^{-1}\Gamma_8^{-1}\Gamma_9^{-1}} \\
 i = 8: & \quad \Gamma_{19} = (\Gamma_{14})_{\Gamma_{11}\Gamma_{12}\Gamma_{13}} \\
 i = 9: & \quad \Gamma_{18} = (\Gamma_{17})_{\Gamma_{19}^{-1}\Gamma_{15'}\Gamma_{16}^{-1}} \\
 i = 10: & \quad \Gamma_{23} = (\Gamma_{24})_{\Gamma_{20'}\Gamma_{22}^{-1}\Gamma_{21}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 4.9 For $i = 5, 6$, there exist a homomorphism $\alpha_i: \widetilde{B}_4 \rightarrow G_{2,i}$.

Proof This proposition is proven in [18]. □

Proposition 4.10 For $1 \leq i \leq 10, i \neq 5, 6$, there exist a homomorphism $\alpha_i: \widetilde{B}_5 \rightarrow G_{2,i}$.

Proof Using the Remark 4.8 we prove only for $i = 1$, and the proof for the other i is done in the same way.

It is easy to check that $\alpha_1: B_5 \rightarrow G_{2,1}$ is well-defined:

$$\alpha_1(X_1) = \Gamma_7 \quad \alpha_1(X_2) = \Gamma_5 \quad \alpha_1(X_3) = \Gamma_{11} \quad \alpha_1(X_4) = \Gamma_{15}.$$

Let x_1, \dots, x_4 be the images of X_1, \dots, X_4 in \widetilde{B}_5 . Consider

$$T = X_4 X_3 X_1 X_2 X_1^{-1} X_3^{-1} X_4^{-1}$$

in B_5 (see Figure 21).

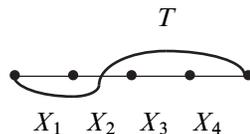


Figure 21

T is transversal to X_2 . Let t be the image of T in \widetilde{B}_5 ; by the definition of \widetilde{B}_5 we have $[t, x_2] = 1$. To show that $\alpha_1: B_5 \rightarrow G_{2,1}$ defines the desired $\alpha_1: \widetilde{B}_5 \rightarrow G_{2,1}$, it is enough to check that

$$[\alpha_1(T), \alpha(X_2)] = 1.$$

We claim that $\alpha(T) = \Gamma_1$, because

$$\alpha(T) = \alpha(X_4 X_3 X_1 X_2 X_1^{-1} X_3^{-1} X_4^{-1}) = (\Gamma_5)_{\Gamma_7^{-1} \Gamma_{11}^{-1} \Gamma_{15}^{-1}} = \Gamma_1.$$

So we have $[\alpha(T), \alpha(X_2)] = [\Gamma_1, \Gamma_5] = 1$.

The last proposition deals with the relations between $\Gamma_{i'}$ and Γ_i in $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2)$, where $i = 9, 13, 15, 20$. \square

Proposition 4.11 *The following relations in $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2)$ hold:*

- (i) $\Gamma_{13'} = (\Gamma_{13}^2)_{\Gamma_{17}^2} \Gamma_{13}^{-1}$,
- (ii) $\Gamma_{9'} = (\Gamma_9^2)_{\Gamma_{21}^2} \Gamma_9^{-1}$,
- (iii) $\Gamma_{15'} = \Gamma_{15}$,
- (iv) $\Gamma_{20'} = \Gamma_{20}$.

Proof

- (i) From the braid $\widetilde{Z}_{13,13'}$ in $\varphi_{2,3}$, we induce:

$$\Gamma_{13} = \Gamma_2^{-1} \Gamma_{2'}^{-1} \Gamma_4^{-1} \Gamma_{4'}^{-1} \Gamma_{13}^{-1} \Gamma_{17}^{-1} \Gamma_{17'}^{-1} \Gamma_{17} \Gamma_{13'} \Gamma_{17}^{-1} \Gamma_{17'}^{-1} \Gamma_{13} \Gamma_4 \Gamma_4 \Gamma_2 \Gamma_2.$$

Using $[\bar{\Gamma}_4, \bar{\Gamma}_2] = [\bar{\Gamma}_4, \bar{\Gamma}_{13}] = 1$ and $\Gamma_2 = \Gamma_{2'}$, $\Gamma_{17} = \Gamma_{17'}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \Gamma_2^{-2} \Gamma_{13}^{-1} \Gamma_{17}^2 \Gamma_{13'} \Gamma_{17}^{-2} \Gamma_{13} \Gamma_2^2 \Gamma_{13}^{-1} \text{ or :} \\ 1 &= \Gamma_2^{-2} (\Gamma_{17}^2)_{\Gamma_{13}} \cdot (\Gamma_{13}^{-1} \Gamma_{13'})_{\Gamma_{17}^{-2}} (\Gamma_2^2)_{\Gamma_{13}^{-1}}. \end{aligned}$$

By $[\bar{\Gamma}_2, \bar{\Gamma}_{17}] = 1$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{13}^{-1} \Gamma_{13'} &= (\Gamma_{17}^{-2})_{\Gamma_{13}} (\Gamma_2^{-2})_{\Gamma_{13}^{-1}} \Gamma_2^2 \Gamma_{17}^2 \\ &= (\Gamma_{17}^{-2})_{\Gamma_{13}} ((\Gamma_{17}^{-2})_{\Gamma_{13}^{-1}})^{-1} \underbrace{(\Gamma_{17}^{-2})_{\Gamma_{13}^{-1}} (\Gamma_2^{-2})_{\Gamma_{13}^{-1}} \Gamma_2^2 \Gamma_{17}^2}_{F_{13}}. \end{aligned}$$

By Proposition 4.10, the braids in F_{13} : $\Gamma_2, \Gamma_{17}, (\Gamma_2)_{\Gamma_{13}^{-1}}, (\Gamma_{17})_{\Gamma_{13}^{-1}}$ are images of a good quadrangle by α_4 in \widetilde{B}_5 , and thus $F_{13} = 1$ (by Lemma 2.6 on good quadrangles in \widetilde{B}_n). Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{13}^{-1} \Gamma_{13'} &= \Gamma_{13}^{-1} \Gamma_{17}^{-2} \Gamma_{13}^2 \Gamma_{17}^2 \Gamma_{13}^{-1} \\ \text{or } \Gamma_{13'} &= (\Gamma_{13}^{-2})_{\Gamma_{17}^{-2}} \cdot \Gamma_{13}^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

- (ii) We apply the same procedure as in (i) to the braid $\widetilde{Z}_{9,9'}$ from $\varphi_{2,3}$.
- (iii) Taking the complex conjugate of $\widetilde{Z}_{15,15'}$ in $\varphi_{2,1}$, we induce the relation (using $\Gamma_1 = \Gamma_{1'}, \Gamma_{11} = \Gamma_{11'}$):

$$\Gamma_{15'} = \Gamma_1^{-2} \Gamma_{11}^{-2} \Gamma_{15} \Gamma_{11}^2 \Gamma_1^2$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \Gamma_{11}^2 \Gamma_1^2 (\Gamma_{15'} \Gamma_{15}^{-1}) (\Gamma_1^{-2})_{\Gamma_{15}^{-1}} (\Gamma_{11}^{-2})_{\Gamma_{15}^{-1}} \\ \Gamma_{15} \cdot \Gamma_{15'}^{-1} &= (\Gamma_1^{-2})_{\Gamma_{15}^{-1}} (\Gamma_{11}^2)_{\Gamma_{15}^{-1}} \Gamma_{11}^2 \Gamma_1^2. \end{aligned}$$

By the same method as in (i) (using $\alpha_1: \widetilde{B}_5 \rightarrow G_{2,1}$), we get that

$$\Gamma_{15} \Gamma_{15'}^{-1} = 1 \text{ or } \Gamma_{15} = \Gamma_{15'}.$$

- (iv) Taking the complex conjugation of $\widetilde{Z}_{20,20'}$ in $\varphi_{2,2}$, we induce the relation (using $\Gamma_2 = \Gamma_{2'}, \Gamma_8 = \Gamma_{8'}$, and $[\overline{\Gamma}_{12}, \overline{\Gamma}_{20}] = 1$):

$$\Gamma_{20'} = \Gamma_2^{-2} \Gamma_8^{-2} \Gamma_{20} \Gamma_8^2 \Gamma_2^2$$

and we proceed as in (iii). Thus: $\Gamma_{20} = \Gamma_{20'}$. □

These propositions show that $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2)$ is generated only by $\{\Gamma_i\}_{i=1}^{24}$, since the $\{\Gamma_{i'}\}_{i=1}^{24}$ can be expressed only in terms of the $(\Gamma_{i'})$. Our last goal is to prove the following theorem.

Theorem 4.12 $G_2 = \pi_1(\mathbb{C} - S_2)$ is a quotient of \widetilde{B}_{16} .

Proof We need to build an epimorphism $\tilde{\alpha}: \widetilde{B}_{16} \rightarrow G_2$. But first we build a new representation for B_{16} . Consider the geometric model (D, K) , $\#K = 16$ as in Figure 22. Let $\{t_i\}_{i \in I}$, $I = \{1 \leq i \leq 24, i \neq 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 22, i \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ segments that connect points in K and T_i be the half-twists corresponding to t_i (that is, $T_i = H(t_i)$, $i \in I$).

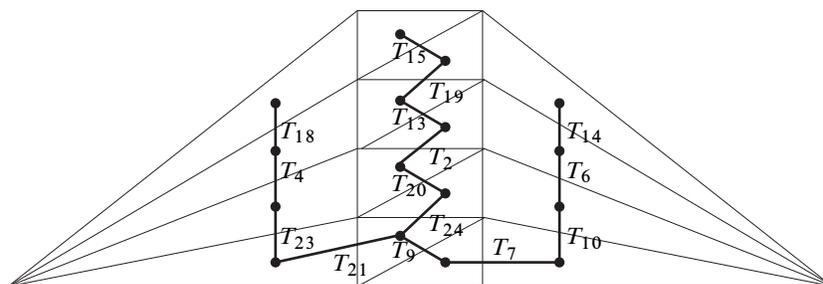


Figure 22

Lemma 4.13 *There exists a presentation of B_{16} when the generators are $\{T_i \mid i \in I\}$ and the relations are:*

$$\begin{aligned} \langle T_i, T_j \rangle &= 1 \text{ if } T_i, T_j \text{ are consecutive,} \\ [T_i, T_j] &= 1 \text{ if } T_i, T_j \text{ are disjoint,} \\ [T_9, T_{24}T_{21}T_{24}^{-1}] &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

Proof This is a standard consequence of the usual presentation of $B_{16}(D, K)$ (see [14]). □

Let $X, Y \in B_{16}$ be transversal half-twists and let $\tilde{B}_{16} = B_{16}/\langle [X, Y] \rangle$. By the previous lemma, \tilde{B}_{16} is generated by $\{\tilde{T}_i\}_{i \in I}$ (where \tilde{T}_i are the images of T_i in \tilde{B}_{16}), and has same relations.

Using Remark 4.8 we can define the “missing” T_j (where $1 \leq j \leq 24, j \notin I$). We begin with $j = 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 22$:

$$T_8 = (T_{10})_{T_7^{-1}T_9^{-1}T_{24}} \quad T_{12} = (T_6)_{T_8^{-1}T_{20}^{-1}T_2} \quad T_{11} = (T_{14})_{T_{12}T_{13}T_{19}^{-1}}$$

(we can use T_8 and T_{12} since these T 's are already defined)

$$T_{22} = (T_{24})_{T_{20}T_{21}T_{23}} \quad T_{17} = (T_2)_{T_{22}T_3^{-1}T_4} \quad T_{16} = (T_{17})_{T_{19}^{-1}T_{15}T_{18}}$$

(we used $\Gamma_{20} = \Gamma_{20'}$).

In order to find out how to define T_3 (and T_5), we look at a relation induced from $\varphi_{2,5}$ ($\varphi_{2,6}$). Looking at the braid $(Z_{3,4'})_{Z_{4',23}^2 Z_{4',18}^2}$ from $\varphi_{2,5}$, we get the relation $\Gamma_3 = (\Gamma_4)_{\Gamma_{18}^{-1}\Gamma_{23}^{-1}}$. Thus we define $T_3 = (T_4)_{T_{18}^{-1}T_{23}^{-1}}$. In the same way we define $T_5 = (T_6)_{T_{10}^{-1}T_{14}^{-1}}$. By Remark 4.8, let $T_1 = (T_5)_{T_7^{-1}T_{11}^{-1}T_{15}^{-1}}$.

Denoting by $\{\tilde{T}_j\}_{j=1}^{24}$ the images of $\{T_j\}_{j=1}^{24}$ in \tilde{B}_{16} , we can say that \tilde{B}_{16} is generated by $\{\tilde{T}_j\}_{j=1}^{24}$ with the same relations as above, and when the $\{\tilde{T}_j\}_{j \notin I}$ are defined as above. Define $\tilde{\alpha}(\tilde{T}_j) = \Gamma_j$, $1 \leq j \leq 24$. By Remark 4.7, it is easy to see that $\forall i, j$ such that T_i and T_j are consecutive, $\langle \Gamma_i, \Gamma_j \rangle = 1$; and when T_i and T_j are disjoint, $[T_i, T_j] = 1$. The relations induced from the action of taking quotient by $\langle [X, Y] \rangle$ (when $X, Y \in B_{16}$ are transversal) are also preserved, due to Proposition 4.9 and Proposition 4.10. Also, $\tilde{\alpha}$ is an epimorphism, since for every generator Γ_j of G_2 there exists a \tilde{T}_j s.t. $\tilde{\alpha}(\tilde{T}_j) = \Gamma_j$. Thus $G_2 \simeq \tilde{B}_{16} / \ker \tilde{\alpha}$. \square

4.2 Computation for X_1

As in Section 4.1, we can compute the local relations induced from each local braid monodromy. However, a quotient of the fundamental group of X_1 – called the stabilized fundamental group – was already computed in Auroux–Donaldson–Katzarkov–Yotov [4]. Noticing that X_1 can be regarded as a double cover of $\mathbb{C}P^1 \times \mathbb{C}P^1$ branched along a smooth algebraic curve of degree (4,4), we can use [4, Theorem 4.6].

Let $\Theta_1: \pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_1) \rightarrow S_n$ be the geometric monodromy representation morphism (here $n = 16$).

Theorem 4.14 *Let K_1 be the normal subgroup of $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_1)$ generated by all commutators $[\gamma_1, \gamma_2]$, γ_1, γ_2 – geometric generators of $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_1)$, such that $\Theta_1(\gamma_1)$ and $\Theta_1(\gamma_2)$ are disjoint transpositions. Let*

$$G_1^0 \doteq (\ker(\Theta_1: \pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_1) \rightarrow S_n) \cap \ker(\deg: \pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_1) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z})) / K_1,$$

where \deg is the degree morphism. Then

$$\text{Ab}(G_1^0) \simeq (\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2)^{15} \text{ and } [G_1^0, G_1^0] \simeq \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2.$$

Proof See [4, Theorem 4.6]. \square

The group $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_1) / K_1$ is called the *stabilized fundamental group*. Note that the stabilization procedure does not affect $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2) = G_2$, since $G_2 \simeq \tilde{B}_{16} / \ker \tilde{\alpha}$, and \tilde{B}_{16} is already stabilized.

4.3 Comparing the BMTs

In this subsection we prove that the BMF of the branch curves X_1 and X_2 are not equivalent. We will do this by looking at the stabilized fundamental groups, related to X_1 and X_2 . We denote by K_2 the normal subgroup of $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2)$ generated

by all commutators $[\gamma_1, \gamma_2]$, γ_1, γ_2 - geometric generators of $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2)$, such that $\Theta_2(\gamma_1)$ and $\Theta_2(\gamma_2)$ are disjoint transpositions (here $\Theta_2: \pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2) \rightarrow S_{16}$ is the geometric monodromy morphism). As was noted, $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2)/K_2 = \pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2)$. We also note that $K_1 = K_2$; since it is enough to pick one pair of geometric generators (eg, x_2 and $(x_2)_{x_3x_1}$, when the x_i are geometric generators), and define $K_1 = K_2 = \langle [x_2, (x_2)_{x_3x_1}] \rangle$.

Theorem 4.15 $G_1/K_1 \not\cong G_2/K_2$.

Proof Note that $\tilde{B}_{16}/\ker \tilde{\alpha} \simeq G_2 \simeq G_2/K_2$. Denote

$$G_2^0 \doteq (\ker(\Theta_2: \pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2) \rightarrow S_n) \cap \ker(\deg: \pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_2) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}))/K_2.$$

It is known from [18] what is the commutant subgroup of

$$\tilde{P}_{n,0} = \ker(\tilde{B}_n \rightarrow S_n) \cap \ker(\deg: \tilde{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}).$$

Explicitly, $[\tilde{P}_{n,0}, \tilde{P}_{n,0}]$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}_2 . Therefore, $[G_2^0, G_2^0]$ is a subgroup of \mathbb{Z}_2 , whereas $[G_1^0, G_1^0] \simeq \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$. But if $G_1/K_1 \simeq G_2/K_2$ were isomorphic, then these two commutant subgroups would be equal. \square

Remark 4.16 We believe that an explicit computation of $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_1)$ (as in [11; 17]) would have shown that $K_1 = \{e\}$.

4.4 Computation for the Galois covers

Let $\tilde{\pi}_i: \tilde{X}_i \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$ be the Galois covering corresponding to π_1 (see [11] for definitions). Recall that $\pi_1(\tilde{X}_i) = \ker \Theta_i / \langle \Gamma_{i,j}^2 \rangle$ where $\Theta_i: \pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_i) \rightarrow S_n$, $n = \deg \pi_i$ ($i = 1$ or 2 ; the degree is the same) and $\{\Gamma_{i,j}\}$ are the generators of $\pi_1(\mathbb{C}^2 - S_i)$, for $i = 1, 2$.

In [1] it was proved that $\pi_1(\tilde{X}_1^{Aff}) = \{e\}$. This is also the case for X_2 . We know that the divisibility index of (the embedding of) X_2 is 1. Since G_2 is a quotient of \tilde{B}_{16} , we can now use Liedtke [10, Theorem 4.1] to prove that $\pi_1(\tilde{X}_2^{Aff}) = \{e\}$.

The Main Result Since the stabilized fundamental groups induced from them are not isomorphic, φ_1 is not Hurwitz-equivalent to φ_2 . Therefore, X_1 and X_2 are not BMT-equivalent. Note that this inequivalence cannot be deduced from the computation of the fundamental groups of the Galois covers, as these groups are isomorphic.

5 Appendix: Invariance rules for the BMF of a 5–point

This appendix shows that the BMF of a 5–point is invariant under certain braids. We focus on the BMF $\varphi_{2,3}$, where the invariance rules for the other $\varphi_{i,j}$ ($i = 1, 2, 1 \leq j \leq 10$) are calculated in the same way.

Recall that two factorizations are Hurwitz equivalent if they are obtained from each other by a finite sequence of Hurwitz moves.

Definition (A factorized expression invariant under h) Let $t = t_1 \cdot \dots \cdot t_m$ be a factorized expression in a group G . We say that t is invariant under $h \in G$ if $(t_1)_h \cdot \dots \cdot (t_m)_h$ is Hurwitz equivalent to $t_1 \cdot \dots \cdot t_m$.

We recall now a few invariance rules (see [16, section 3]):

Invariance rule II: $Z_{i,j j'}^2$ ($Z_{i i',j j'}^2$) is invariant under $Z_{j j'}^q$ (resp. $Z_{j j'}^q, Z_{i i'}^p$).

Invariance rule III: $Z_{i,j j'}^{(3)}$ is invariant under $Z_{j j'}^q$.

For our purposes (see the last paragraph in the proof of Lemma 3.10), it is enough to prove the following proposition.

Proposition 5.1 $\varphi_{2,3}$ is invariant under $(Z_{1 1'} Z_{3 3'})^p (Z_{21 21'} Z_{16 16'})^q \quad \forall p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Proof We first look at the factors outside $(F_3 \cdot (F_3)_\vartheta)_{Z_{\alpha_3}}$. By the Invariance rule II, the factors $Z_{3 3',9}^2, Z_{9',16 16'}^2, \tilde{Z}_{9',16 16'}^2, \tilde{Z}_{3 3',9}^2$ are invariant under $Z_{3 3'}$ and $Z_{16 16'}$; by ([16, invariance remark (iv)]), these factors are also invariant under $Z_{1 1'}$ and $Z_{21 21'}$ (since the paths are disjoint). Again, by the same invariance remark, $\tilde{Z}_{9,9'}$ is invariant under $Z_{i i'} \quad i = 1, 3, 16, 21$. By the Invariance rule III, the factors $Z_{1 1',9}^{(3)}$ and $\bar{Z}_{9,21 21'}^{(3)}$ are invariant under $Z_{1 1'}$ and $Z_{21 21'}$ (and also under $Z_{3 3'}$ and $Z_{16 16'}$ by the invariance remark (iv)).

We note that the conjugation by the braid Z_{α_3} is actually conjugation by $Z_{3 3',9}^2 Z_{1 1',9}^2$, so it is also invariant under $Z_{i i'} \quad i = 1, 3, 16, 21$ (by invariance rule II and remark (iv)). When looking at the expression $F_3 \cdot (F_3)_\vartheta$, we see that this case was already done in [3, invariance property 8.7]; it was proved there that $F_3 \cdot (F_3)_\vartheta$ is invariant under $(Z_{1 1'} Z_{3 3'})^p (Z_{21 21'} Z_{16 16'})^q$. \square

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Department of Mathematics, Bar-Ilan University, 52900 Ramat Gan, Israel.

teicher@macs.biu.ac.il, fridmam@macs.biu.ac.il

<http://www.cs.biu.ac.il/~teicher/>

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