

## PROBLEM SET 2 - SPECIAL DIVISORS ON CHAIN OF LOOPS

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In this worksheet, we will largely be interested in the so-called “chain of  $g$  loops”, depicted in the figure below. Our goal will be to establish a correspondence between Young tableaux and special divisors on the chain.

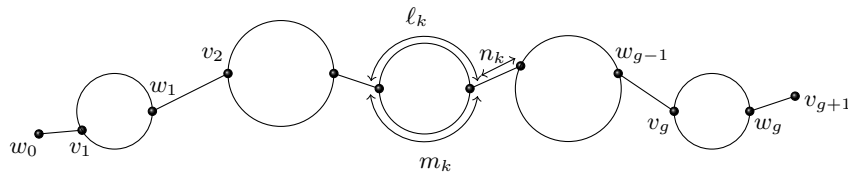


FIGURE 1. The chain of  $g$  loops.

- (1) Show that the chain is hyperelliptic if and only if  $m_i = \ell_i$  for  $i = 2, \dots, g - 1$ .
- (2) Let  $\Gamma$  be a chain of 4 loops with generic edge lengths (that is,  $\frac{m_i}{\ell_i} \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ ). Up to equivalence, there are precisely two divisors of degree 3 and rank 1. Find them.  
*Hint:* Try to first find a configuration of two chips to the left of  $w_1$ , such that at least one chip can be moved to the third loop.
- (3) What happens when the lengths above are not generic? For instance, if the chain is hyperelliptic, what are the divisors of degree 3 and rank 1?
- (4) Let  $\Gamma$  be the loop of 3 loops.

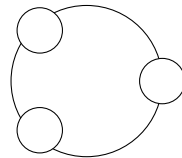


FIGURE 2. The chain of 3 loops.

How many  $g_3^1$ 's are there? The answer may or may not be finite and may depend on the edge length.

Let  $\Gamma$  be a chain of  $g$  loops. Fix integers  $d$  and  $r$ , denote  $h = g - d + r$ , and let

$$\rho(g, r, d) = g - (r + 1)h.$$

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*Date:* July 29, 2016.

**Generic edge length,  $\rho = 0$ .** By *generic* we mean that the ratio between the upper and lower arc of each loop is an irrational number. Consider a Young tableaux with  $r + 1$  columns and  $h$  rows, filled with integers  $1, \dots, g$  (confirm that since  $\rho = 0$ , the number of boxes equals  $g$ ). Define a divisor  $D_\lambda$  as follows. Let  $i \in \{1, \dots, g\}$ . If it appears on the rightmost column of  $\lambda$ , then the  $i$ -th loop will not contain a chip. Otherwise, let  $c_i$  be the column number that contains  $i$  (counted from the left),  $d_i$  the row number (counted from the top), and  $e_i$  the number indices smaller than  $i$  on the rightmost column. Now, place a chip on the  $i$ -th loop at distance  $(r - c_i + d_i - e_i) \cdot m_i$  counter clockwise from the rightmost vertex of the loop. Place the remaining chips (confirm that there are precisely  $r$  of them when  $\rho = 0$ ) at the leftmost vertex.

- (1) Find the divisors associated with the following tableaux:

1	2
3	4

1	4	7
2	5	8
3	6	9

1	2	...	g
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(Hint: you don't actually need to follow the construction for the last case).

- (2) Show that for each  $k = 0, \dots, r$ , the divisor  $D_\lambda$  has a representative with  $r - k$  chips at  $w_0$  and  $k$  chips at  $v_{g+1}$ .  
 (3) Prove that  $D_\lambda$  as constructed above has degree  $d$  and rank exactly  $r$ .  
 (4) Prove that different tableaux yield non-equivalent divisors.  
 (5) Show that every  $g_d^r$  corresponds to a tableaux as above. Hint: consider the  $w_0$  reduced divisor, and start passing chips from left to right.  
 (6) Given a tableaux  $\lambda$ , which tableaux corresponds to the divisor  $K - D_\lambda$ ?  
 (7) Show that there are exactly

$$g! \prod_{i=0}^r \frac{i!}{(h+i)!}$$

divisor classes of degree  $d$  and rank  $r$ .

- (8) Show that when  $\rho < 0$  there are no divisors of degree  $d$  and rank  $r$ .

**Generic edge length,  $\rho > 0$ .** In this case, the genus is strictly larger than the number of boxes. Construct a divisor  $D_\lambda$  by placing chips on loops as before when an index appears in the tableaux, and a chip at an arbitrary position on a loop corresponding to an index that does not appear in the tableaux.

- (1) Check that the number of chips placed at  $w_0$  is still  $r$ .  
 (2) Show that  $D_\lambda$  has rank  $r$ .  
 (3) Show that the set of divisors of degree  $d$  and rank  $r$  has dimension  $\rho$  (we will not provide a precise description to the space of  $g_d^r$ 's, but there is a very natural way of doing that).

**Any edge length.** Let  $t_i$  be the torsion order of  $m_i$  in the group  $\mathbb{Z}/(\ell_i + m_i)\mathbb{Z}$ . In other words, it is the smallest integer such that  $t_i \cdot m_i$  is a multiple integer of the length of the entire loop, and is 0 if such an integer doesn't exist. Consider a tableaux in which numbers are allowed to repeat, as long as the following rule is preserved: if  $i = \lambda(a, b) = \lambda(c, d)$  then  $a - b \equiv c - d \pmod{t_i}$ , and construct a divisor  $D_\lambda$  following the recipe above.

- (1) Show that a divisor constructed this way is well defined.
- (2) Find edge lengths for which the following tableaux are admissible, and construct the corresponding divisors:

1	2
2	3

1	2	...	$g - 1$
2	3	...	$g$

- (3) Show that  $D_\lambda$  has rank  $r$ .