

TOPOLOGY AND GEOMETRY OF COHOMOLOGY JUMP LOCI

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SUPPORT LOCI

- Let \mathbb{k} be an algebraically closed field.
- Let S be a commutative, finitely generated \mathbb{k} -algebra.
- Let $\text{Spec}(S) = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{k}\text{-alg}}(S, \mathbb{k})$ be the maximal spectrum of S .
- Let $E : \cdots \rightarrow E_i \xrightarrow{d_i} E_{i-1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow E_0 \rightarrow 0$ be an S -chain complex.
- The *support varieties* of E are the subsets of $\text{Spec}(S)$ given by

$$\mathcal{W}_d^i(E) = \text{supp} \left(\bigwedge^d H_i(E) \right).$$

- They depend only on the chain-homotopy equivalence class of E .
- For each $i \geq 0$, $\text{Spec}(S) = \mathcal{W}_0^i(E) \supseteq \mathcal{W}_1^i(E) \supseteq \mathcal{W}_2^i(E) \supseteq \cdots$.
- If all E_i are finitely generated S -modules, then the sets $\mathcal{W}_d^i(E)$ are Zariski closed subsets of $\text{Spec}(S)$.

HOMOLOGY JUMP LOCI

- The *homology jump loci* of the S -chain complex E are defined as

$$\mathcal{V}_d^i(E) = \{\mathfrak{m} \in \text{Spec}(S) \mid \dim_{\mathbb{k}} H_i(E \otimes_S S/\mathfrak{m}) \geq d\}.$$

- They depend only on the chain-homotopy equivalence class of E .
- For each $i \geq 0$, $\text{Spec}(S) = \mathcal{V}_0^i(E) \supseteq \mathcal{V}_1^i(E) \supseteq \mathcal{V}_2^i(E) \supseteq \dots$.
- (Papadima–S. 2013) Suppose E is a chain complex of *free*, finitely generated S -modules. Then,
 - Each $\mathcal{V}_d^i(E)$ is a Zariski closed subset of $\text{Spec}(S)$.
 - For each q ,

$$\bigcup_{i \leq q} \mathcal{V}_1^i(E) = \bigcup_{i \leq q} \mathcal{W}_1^i(E).$$

RESONANCE VARIETIES

- Let A be a commutative graded \mathbb{k} -algebra, with $A^0 = \mathbb{k}$.
- Let $a \in A^1$, and assume $a^2 = 0$ (this condition is redundant if $\text{char}(\mathbb{k}) \neq 2$, by graded-commutativity of the multiplication in A).
- The *Aomoto complex* of A (with respect to $a \in A^1$) is the cochain complex of \mathbb{k} -vector spaces,

$$(A, a): A^0 \xrightarrow{a} A^1 \xrightarrow{a} A^2 \xrightarrow{a} \dots,$$

with differentials given by $b \mapsto a \cdot b$, for $b \in A^i$.

- The *resonance varieties* of A are the sets

$$\mathcal{R}_d^i(A) = \{a \in A^1 \mid a^2 = 0 \text{ and } \dim_{\mathbb{k}} H^i(A, a) \geq d\}.$$

- If A is locally finite (i.e., $\dim_{\mathbb{k}} A^i < \infty$, for all $i \geq 1$), then the sets $\mathcal{R}_d^i(A)$ are Zariski closed cones inside the affine space A^1 .

CHARACTERISTIC VARIETIES

- Let X be a connected, finite-type CW-complex.
- Fundamental group $\pi = \pi_1(X, x_0)$: a finitely generated, discrete group, with $\pi_{ab} \cong H_1(X, \mathbb{Z})$.
- Fix a field \mathbb{k} with $\bar{\mathbb{k}} = \mathbb{k}$, and let $S = \mathbb{k}[\pi_{ab}]$.
- Identify $\text{Spec}(S)$ with the character group $\widehat{\pi_{ab}} = \hat{\pi} = \text{Hom}(\pi, \mathbb{k}^*)$.
- The characteristic varieties of X are the homology jump loci of free S -chain complex $E = C_*(X^{ab}, \mathbb{k})$:

$$\mathcal{V}_d^i(X, \mathbb{k}) = \{\rho \in \hat{\pi} \mid \dim_{\mathbb{C}} H_i(X, \mathbb{k}_\rho) \geq d\}.$$

- Each set $\mathcal{V}_d^i(X, \mathbb{k})$ is a subvariety of $\hat{\mathbb{k}}$.

- *Homotopy invariance:* If $X \simeq Y$, then $\mathcal{V}_d^i(Y, \mathbb{k}) \cong \mathcal{V}_d^i(X, \mathbb{k})$.
- *Product formula:*

$$\mathcal{V}_1^i(X_1 \times X_2, \mathbb{k}) = \bigcup_{p+q=i} \mathcal{V}_1^p(X_1, \mathbb{k}) \times \mathcal{V}_1^q(X_2, \mathbb{k}).$$
- *Degree 1 interpretation:* The sets $\mathcal{V}_d^1(X, \mathbb{k})$ depend only on $\pi = \pi_1(X)$ —in fact, only on π/π'' . Write them as $\mathcal{V}_d^1(\pi, \mathbb{k})$.
- *Functoriality:* If $\varphi: \pi \twoheadrightarrow G$ is an epimorphism, then $\hat{\varphi}: \hat{G} \hookrightarrow \hat{\pi}$ restricts to an embedding $\mathcal{V}_d^1(G, \mathbb{k}) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{V}_d^1(\pi, \mathbb{k})$, for each d .
- *Universality:* Given any subvariety $W \subset (\mathbb{k}^*)^n$, there is a finitely presented group π such that $\pi_{ab} = \mathbb{Z}^n$ and $\mathcal{V}_1^1(\pi, \mathbb{k}) = W$.
- *Alexander invariant interpretation:* Let $X^{ab} \rightarrow X$ be the maximal abelian cover. View $H_*(X^{ab}, \mathbb{k})$ as a module over $S = \mathbb{k}[\pi_{ab}]$. Then:

$$\bigcup_{j \leq i} \mathcal{V}_1^j(X) = \text{supp} \left(\bigoplus_{j \leq i} H_j(X^{ab}, \mathbb{k}) \right).$$

THE TANGENT CONE THEOREM

- The *resonance varieties* of X (with coefficients in \mathbb{k}) are the loci $\mathcal{R}_d^i(X, \mathbb{k})$ associated to the cohomology algebra $A = H^*(X, \mathbb{k})$.
- Each set $\mathcal{R}_d^i(X) := \mathcal{R}_d^i(X, \mathbb{C})$ is a homogeneous subvariety of $H^1(X, \mathbb{C}) \cong \mathbb{C}^n$, where $n = b_1(X)$.
- Recall that $\mathcal{V}_d^i(X) := \mathcal{V}_d^i(X, \mathbb{C})$ is a subvariety of $H^1(X, \mathbb{C}^*) \cong (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \times \text{Tors}(H_1(X, \mathbb{Z}))$.
- (Libgober 2002) $\text{TC}_1(\mathcal{V}_d^i(X)) \subseteq \mathcal{R}_d^i(X)$.
- Given a subvariety $W \subset H^1(X, \mathbb{C}^*)$, let $\tau_1(W) = \{z \in H^1(X, \mathbb{C}) \mid \exp(\lambda z) \in W, \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{C}\}$.
- (Dimca–Papadima–S. 2009) $\tau_1(W)$ is a finite union of rationally defined linear subspaces, and $\tau_1(W) \subseteq \text{TC}_1(W)$.
- Thus, $\tau_1(\mathcal{V}_d^i(X)) \subseteq \text{TC}_1(\mathcal{V}_d^i(X)) \subseteq \mathcal{R}_d^i(X)$.

- X is *formal* if there is a zig-zag of cdga quasi-isomorphisms from $(A_{\text{PL}}(X, \mathbb{Q}), d)$ to $(H^*(X, \mathbb{Q}), 0)$.
- X is k -*formal* (for some $k \geq 1$) if each of these morphisms induces an iso in degrees up to k , and a monomorphism in degree $k + 1$.
- X is **1**-formal if and only if $\pi = \pi_1(X)$ is **1**-formal, i.e., its Malcev Lie algebra, $\mathfrak{m}(\pi) = \widehat{\text{Prim}(\mathbb{Q}\pi)}$, is quadratic.
- For instance, compact Kähler manifolds and complements of hyperplane arrangements are formal.
- (Dimca–Papadima–S. 2009) Let X be a **1**-formal space. Then, for each $d > 0$,

$$\tau_1(\mathcal{V}_d^1(X)) = \text{TC}_1(\mathcal{V}_d^1(X)) = \mathcal{R}_d^1(X).$$

Consequently, $\mathcal{R}_d^1(X)$ is a finite union of rationally defined linear subspaces in $H^1(X, \mathbb{C})$.

This theorem yields a very efficient formality test.

EXAMPLE

Let $\pi = \langle x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \mid [x_1, x_2], [x_1, x_4][x_2^{-2}, x_3], [x_1^{-1}, x_3][x_2, x_4] \rangle$. Then $\mathcal{R}_1^1(\pi) = \{x \in \mathbb{C}^4 \mid x_1^2 - 2x_2^2 = 0\}$ splits into linear subspaces over \mathbb{R} but not over \mathbb{Q} . Thus, π is *not* 1-formal.

EXAMPLE

Let $F(\Sigma_g, n)$ be the configuration space of n labeled points of a Riemann surface of genus g (a smooth, quasi-projective variety).

Then $\pi_1(F(\Sigma_g, n)) = P_{g,n}$, the pure braid group on n strings on Σ_g . Compute:

$$\mathcal{R}_1^1(P_{1,n}) = \left\{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{C}^n \times \mathbb{C}^n \mid \begin{array}{l} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i = 0, \\ x_i y_j - x_j y_i = 0, \text{ for } 1 \leq i < j < n \end{array} \right\}$$

For $n \geq 3$, this is an irreducible, non-linear variety (a rational normal scroll). Hence, $P_{1,n}$ is not 1-formal.

PROPAGATION OF COHOMOLOGY JUMP LOCI

(Denham–S.–Yuzvinsky 2013)

- Assume X is an *abelian duality space* of dimension n , i.e., $H^p(X, \mathbb{Z}\pi_{\text{ab}}) = 0$ for $p \neq n$ and $H^n(X, \mathbb{Z}\pi_{\text{ab}}) \neq 0$ and torsion-free.
- Given a character $\rho: \pi \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$, if $H^p(X, \mathbb{C}_\rho) \neq 0$, then $H^q(X, \mathbb{C}_\rho) \neq 0$ for all $p \leq q \leq n$.

- Thus, the characteristic varieties of X “propagate”:

$$\mathcal{V}_1^1(X) \subseteq \mathcal{V}_1^2(X) \subseteq \cdots \subseteq \mathcal{V}_1^n(X).$$

- Moreover, if X admits a minimal cell structure, then

$$\mathcal{R}_1^1(X) \subseteq \mathcal{R}_1^2(X) \subseteq \cdots \subseteq \mathcal{R}_1^n(X).$$

- If \mathcal{A} is an arrangement of rank d , then its complement, $M(\mathcal{A})$, is an abelian duality space of dim d . Thus, both the characteristic and the resonance varieties of $M(\mathcal{A})$ propagate.

APPLICATIONS OF COHOMOLOGY JUMP LOCI

- Homological and geometric finiteness of regular abelian covers
 - Bieri–Neumann–Strebel–Renz invariants
 - Dwyer–Fried invariants
- Obstructions to (quasi-) projectivity
 - Right-angled Artin groups and Bestvina–Brady groups
 - 3-manifold groups, Kähler groups, and quasi-projective groups
- Resonance varieties and representations of Lie algebras
 - Homological finiteness in the Johnson filtration of automorphism groups
- Homology of finite, regular abelian covers
 - Homology of the Milnor fiber of an arrangement
 - Rational homology of smooth, real toric varieties
- Lower central series and Chen Lie algebras
 - The Chen ranks conjecture for arrangements

FINITENESS PROPERTIES IN ABELIAN COVERS

- Recall X is a connected, finite-type CW-complex, $\pi = \pi_1(X)$.
- Let A be an abelian group (quotient of π_{ab}).
- Equivalence classes of Galois A -covers of X can be identified with $\text{Epi}(\pi, A) / \text{Aut}(A) \cong \text{Epi}(\pi_{\text{ab}}, A) / \text{Aut}(A)$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \pi & \xrightarrow{\text{ab}} & \pi_{\text{ab}} \\
 & \searrow \nu & \downarrow \pi \\
 & & A
 \end{array}
 \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 X^{\text{ab}} & \xrightarrow{\rho_\pi} & X^\nu \\
 & \searrow \rho_{\text{ab}} & \downarrow \rho_\nu \\
 & & X
 \end{array}$$

- In particular, Galois \mathbb{Z}^r -covers are parametrized by the Grassmannian $\text{Gr}_r(H^1(X, \mathbb{Q}))$, via the correspondence

$$X^\nu \rightarrow X \longleftrightarrow P_\nu := \text{im}(\nu^* : \mathbb{Q}^r \rightarrow H^1(X, \mathbb{Q}))$$

- Goal: Use the cohomology jump loci of X to analyze the geometric and homological finiteness properties of regular A -covers of X .

THE BIERI-NEUMANN-STREBEL-RENZ INVARIANTS

- Let π be a finitely generated group, $n = b_1(\pi)$.
- Let $\mathcal{S}(\pi)$ be the unit sphere in $\text{Hom}(\pi, \mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{R}^n$.
- The BNSR-invariants of π form a descending chain of open subsets, $\mathcal{S}(\pi) \supseteq \Sigma^1(\pi, \mathbb{Z}) \supseteq \Sigma^1(\pi, \mathbb{Z}) \supseteq \dots$.
- $\Sigma^k(\pi, \mathbb{Z})$ consists of all $\chi \in \mathcal{S}(\pi)$ for which the monoid $\pi_\chi = \{g \in \pi \mid \chi(g) \geq 0\}$ is of type FP_k , i.e., there is a projective $\mathbb{Z}\pi$ -resolution $P_\bullet \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$, with P_i finitely generated for all $i \leq k$.
- The Σ -invariants control the finiteness properties of normal subgroups $N \triangleleft \pi$ for which π/N is free abelian:

$$N \text{ is of type } \text{FP}_k \iff \mathcal{S}(\pi, N) \subseteq \Sigma^k(\pi, \mathbb{Z})$$

where $\mathcal{S}(\pi, N) = \{\chi \in \mathcal{S}(\pi) \mid \chi(N) = 0\}$.

- In particular: $\ker(\chi: \pi \rightarrow \mathbb{Z})$ is f.g. $\iff \{\pm\chi\} \subseteq \Sigma^1(\pi, \mathbb{Z})$.

- More generally, let X be a connected CW-complex with finite k -skeleton, for some $k \geq 1$.
- Let $\pi = \pi_1(X, x_0)$. For each $\chi \in \mathcal{S}(X) := \mathcal{S}(\pi)$, set

$$\widehat{\mathbb{Z}\pi}_\chi = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}^\pi \mid \{g \in \text{supp } \lambda \mid \chi(g) < c\} \text{ is finite, } \forall c \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

be the Novikov-Sikorav completion of $\mathbb{Z}\pi$.

- Define $\Sigma^q(X, \mathbb{Z}) = \{\chi \in \mathcal{S}(X) \mid H_i(X, \widehat{\mathbb{Z}\pi}_{-\chi}) = 0, \forall i \leq q\}$.
- (Bieri) If π is FP_k , then $\Sigma^q(\pi, \mathbb{Z}) = \Sigma^q(K(\pi, 1), \mathbb{Z}), \forall q \leq k$.
- The sphere $\mathcal{S}(\pi)$ parametrizes all regular, free abelian covers of X . The Σ -invariants of X keep track of the geometric finiteness properties of these covers.

AN UPPER BOUND FOR THE Σ -INVARIANTS

- Let $\chi \in \mathcal{S}(X)$, and set $\Gamma = \text{im}(\chi)$; then $\Gamma \cong \mathbb{Z}^r$, for some $r \geq 1$.
- A Laurent polynomial $p = \sum_{\gamma} n_{\gamma} \gamma \in \mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ is χ -monic if the greatest element in $\chi(\text{supp}(p))$ is 0 , and $n_0 = 1$.
- Let $\mathcal{R}\Gamma_{\chi}$ be the Novikov ring: the localization of $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ at the multiplicative subset of all χ -monic polynomials (it's a PID).
- Let $b_i(X, \chi) = \text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}\Gamma_{\chi}} H_i(X, \mathcal{R}\Gamma_{\chi})$ be the Novikov-Betti numbers.
- (Papadima–S. 2010) Let $\mathcal{V}^k(X) = \bigcup_{i \leq k} \mathcal{V}_1^i(X)$. Then,
 - $-\chi \in \Sigma^k(X, \mathbb{Z}) \implies b_i(X, \chi) = 0, \forall i \leq k.$
 - $\chi \notin \tau_1^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathcal{V}^k(X)) \iff b_i(X, \chi) = 0, \forall i \leq k.$

Thus, $\Sigma^j(X, \mathbb{Z}) \subseteq \mathcal{S}(X) \setminus \mathcal{S}(\tau_1^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathcal{V}^j(X)))$.

- In particular, $\Sigma^j(X, \mathbb{Z})$ is contained in the complement of a finite union of rationally defined great subspheres.

THE DWYER–FRIED INVARIANTS

- The *Dwyer–Fried invariants* of X are the subsets

$$\Omega_r^i(X) = \{P_\nu \in \text{Gr}_r(H^1(X, \mathbb{Q})) \mid b_j(X^\nu) < \infty \text{ for } j \leq i\}.$$

- (Dwyer–Fried 1987, Papadima–S. 2010)

$$\Omega_r^i(X) = \{P \in \text{Gr}_r(H^1(X, \mathbb{Q})) \mid \dim(\exp(P \otimes \mathbb{C}) \cap \mathcal{V}^i(X)) = 0\}.$$

- More generally, for any abelian group A , define

$$\Omega_A^i(X) = \{[\nu] \in \text{Epi}(\pi, A) / \text{Aut}(A) \mid b_j(X^\nu) < \infty, \text{ for } j \leq i\}.$$

- (S.–Yang–Zhao 2012)

$$\Omega_A^i(X) = \{[\nu] \in \text{Epi}(\pi_1(X), A) / \text{Aut}(A) \mid \text{im}(\hat{\nu}) \cap \mathcal{V}^i(X) \text{ is finite}\}.$$

- Let V be a homogeneous variety in \mathbb{k}^n . The set $\sigma_r(V) = \{P \in \text{Gr}_r(\mathbb{k}^n) \mid P \cap V \neq \{0\}\}$ is Zariski closed.
- If $L \subset \mathbb{k}^n$ is a linear subspace, $\sigma_r(L)$ is the *special Schubert variety* defined by L . If $\text{codim } L = d$, then $\text{codim } \sigma_r(L) = d - r + 1$.
- (S. 2013) $\Omega_r^i(X) \subseteq \text{Gr}_r(H^1(X, \mathbb{Q})) \setminus \sigma_r(\tau_1^{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathcal{V}^i(X)))$.
- Thus, each set $\Omega_r^i(X)$ is contained in the complement of a finite union of special Schubert varieties.
- If $r = 1$, the inclusion always holds as an equality. In general, though, the inclusion is strict.
- (SYZ) Similar inclusions hold for the sets $\Omega_A^i(X)$, but things get more complicated.

COMPARING THE Σ - AND Ω -BOUNDS

- Theorem (S. 2012) If $\Sigma^i(X, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathcal{S}(X) \setminus \mathcal{S}(\tau_1^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathcal{V}^i(X)))$, then $\Omega_r^i(X) = \text{Gr}_r(H^1(X, \mathbb{Q})) \setminus \sigma_r(\tau_1^{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathcal{V}^i(X)))$, for all $r \geq 1$.
- Corollary. Suppose there is an integer $r \geq 2$ such that $\Omega_r^i(X)$ is *not* Zariski open. Then $\Sigma^i(X, \mathbb{Z}) \subsetneq \mathcal{S}(\tau_1^{\mathbb{R}}(\mathcal{V}^i(X)))^c$.
- Application. There exist arrangements \mathcal{A} for which the inclusion $\Sigma^1(M(\mathcal{A}), \mathbb{Z}) \subseteq \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{R}^1(M(\mathcal{A}), \mathbb{R}))^c$ is strict.
- On the other hand, if \mathcal{A} is the braid arrangement in \mathbb{C}^n , with $\pi_1(M(\mathcal{A})) = P_n$, then equality holds (Koban–McCammond–Meier 2013).
- For more on Novikov homology/BNSR invariants of arrangements, see (Kohno–Pajitnov 2011/13) and (Denham–S.–Yuzvinsky).

- (Delzant 2010/ PS 2010) Let M be a compact Kähler manifold with $b_1(M) > 0$. Then

$$\Sigma^1(M, \mathbb{Z}) = S(\mathcal{R}^1(M))^c$$

if and only if there is no pencil $f: M \rightarrow E$ onto an elliptic curve E such that f has multiple fibers.

- (S. 2013) Let M be a compact Kähler manifold.
 - If M admits an orbifold fibration with base genus $g \geq 2$, then $\Omega_r^1(M) = \emptyset$, for all $r > b_1(M) - 2g$.
 - Otherwise, $\Omega_r^1(M) = \text{Gr}_r(H^1(M, \mathbb{Q}))$, for all $r \geq 1$.
 - Suppose M admits an orbifold fibration with multiple fibers and base genus $g = 1$. Then $\Omega_2^1(M)$ is *not* an open subset of $\text{Gr}_2(H^1(M, \mathbb{Q}))$.

3-MANIFOLD GROUPS & KÄHLER GROUPS









- Question (Donaldson–Goldman 1989, Reznikov 1993): Which 3-manifold groups are Kähler groups?
- Reznikov (2002) gave a partial solution.
- Theorem (Dimca–S. 2009) Let π be the fundamental group of a closed 3-manifold. Then π is a Kähler group $\iff \pi$ is a finite subgroup of $O(4)$, acting freely on S^3 .
- Idea: compare the resonance varieties of (orientable) 3-manifolds to those of Kähler manifolds:
 - Let M be a closed, orientable 3-manifold. Then $H^1(M, \mathbb{C})$ is not 1-isotropic. Moreover, if $b_1(M)$ is even, then $\mathcal{R}_1^1(M) = H^1(M, \mathbb{C})$.
 - Let M be a compact Kähler manifold with $b_1(M) \neq 0$. If $\mathcal{R}_1^1(M) = H^1(M, \mathbb{C})$, then $H^1(M, \mathbb{C})$ is 1-isotropic.







- This result can be extended, by allowing the 3-manifold to have toroidal boundary.
- Theorem (Friedl–S. 2013) Let N be a 3-manifold with non-empty, toroidal boundary. If $\pi_1(N)$ is a Kähler group, then $N \cong S^1 \times S^1 \times [0, 1]$.
- A key ingredient in the proof is a refinement of a result from (Dimca–Papadima–S. 2008): If π is a Kähler group, then the Alexander polynomial of π is constant.
- Further improvements have been obtained since then by Kotschick and by Biswas, Mj, and Seshadri.

3-MANIFOLD GROUPS & QUASI-PROJECTIVE GROUPS

- Theorem (Dimca–Papadima–S. 2011). Let $\pi = \pi_1(N)$, where N is a closed, orientable 3-manifold, and π is 1-formal. TFAE:
 - $\mathfrak{m}(\pi) \cong \mathfrak{m}(\pi_1(X))$, for some smooth, quasi-projective variety X .
 - $\mathfrak{m}(\pi) \cong \mathfrak{m}(\pi_1(M))$, where $M = S^3$, $\#^n S^1 \times S^2$, or $S^1 \times \Sigma_g$.
- Theorem (Friedl–S. 2013) Let N be a compact 3-manifold with empty or toroidal boundary. If $\pi_1(N)$ is a quasi-projective group, then all the prime components of N are graph manifolds.
- Again, we use a refinement of a result from (DPS 2008): If π is a quasi-projective group, and $b_1(\pi) > 2$, then the Newton polytope of the Alexander polynomial of π is a line segment.
- This refinement relies on work of (Artal–Cogolludo–Matei 2013).
- We also use recent, deep results of Agol, Kahn–Markovic, Przytycki–Wise, and Wise on the topology of 3-manifolds that complete the Thurston program.

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