

A Heegaard Floer analog of algebraic torsion

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June 15, 2015



BACKGROUND AND MOTIVATION

Definition A co-oriented *contact structure* on a 3-manifold M is a 2-plane field ξ defined as the kernel of a *contact 1-form* λ such that $\lambda \wedge d\lambda$ is a volume form. For example, $\lambda = dz - ydx$ on \mathbb{R}^3 .

Definition An *overtwisted disk* in a contact 3-manifold (M, ξ) is an embedded disk $D \subset M$ such that ξ is transverse to D in $\nu(\partial D)$ and $T\partial D \subset \xi$.

A contact 3-manifold (M, ξ) is called *overtwisted*, if it contains an overtwisted disk. Otherwise, it is called *tight*.

- **Eliashberg:**

$$\{2 - \text{plane fields}\} \sim \{\text{OT contact structures}\}.$$

- Tight contact structures naturally appear on the boundary of symplectic manifolds. (**Eliashberg–Gromov**)

Question How to distinguish tight from OT via Floer homology?

The contact class:

- $c^+(\xi) \in HF^+(-M, \mathfrak{s}_\xi)$ ($\widehat{c}(\xi) \in \widehat{HF}(-M, \mathfrak{s}_\xi)$) by Ozsváth–Szabó.
Alternative description of $\widehat{c}(\xi)$ by Honda–Kazez–Matić.
- $\psi(\xi) \in \widetilde{HM}_\bullet(-M, \mathfrak{s}_\xi, c_b, \Lambda_\eta)$ by Kronheimer–Mrowka, and by Taubes.

Theorem (Ozsváth–Szabó, Honda–Kazez–Matić)

If ξ is OT, then $c^+(\xi) = 0$.

(The converse is false.)

Theorem (Kronheimer–Mrowka)

If ξ is symplectically fillable, then $\psi(\xi) \neq 0$.

Theorem (Taubes + Colin–Ghiggini–Honda)

$$\begin{aligned} HF^+(-M, \mathfrak{s}_\xi) &\cong \widetilde{HM}_\bullet(-M, \mathfrak{s}_\xi) \\ c^+(\xi) &\mapsto \psi(\xi). \end{aligned}$$

Factors through Hutchings’s embedded contact homology (*ECH*).

ECH preliminaries: Let Y be a closed orientable 3-manifold. A *stable Hamiltonian structure* on Y is a pair (λ, ω) where

- $\omega \in \Omega^2(Y)$ such that $d\omega = 0$,
- $\lambda \in \Omega^1(Y)$ such that $d\lambda = h\omega$ for $h \in C^\infty(Y)$,
- $\lambda \wedge \omega \neq 0$.

The associated *Reeb vector field* R is uniquely defined by

- $\omega(R, \cdot) = 0$,
- $\lambda(R) = 1$.

A closed integral curve γ of R , modulo linear parametrization, is called a *Reeb orbit*.

A Reeb orbit γ is *non-degenerate* if 1 is not an eigenvalue of the linearized return map $P_\gamma : \xi_x \rightarrow \xi_x \in SL(2, \mathbb{R})$, where $\xi = \ker(\lambda)$.

A Reeb orbit γ is *elliptic* (resp. *hyperbolic*) if $|\text{tr}(P_\gamma)| < 2$ (resp. > 2).

Suppose that all Reeb orbits are non-degenerate.

Definition Fix $\Gamma \in H_1(Y)$. An *orbit set* Θ is a finite collection $\{(\gamma, m)\}$ where

- γ are distinct embedded Reeb orbits, and $m \in \mathbb{Z}_+$,
- $\sum m[\gamma] = \Gamma$.

Let (X, ω) be a symplectic cobordism from $(Y_-, \lambda_-, \omega_-)$ to $(Y_+, \lambda_+, \omega_+)$, i.e. $\omega|_{Y_\pm} = \omega_\pm$, and J be an almost complex structure on \overline{X} such that

- ω tames J ,
- J is cylindrical on the ends.

Fix $\Theta_{\pm} \subset Y_{\pm}$ orbit sets such that $[\Theta_+] = [\Theta_-]$ in $H_1(X)$. Then for any $Z \in H_2(X, \Theta_+, \Theta_-)$, Hutchings defines

$$J_{\circ}(\Theta_+, \Theta_-, Z) := -c_{\tau}(Z) + Q_{\tau}(Z) + \mu'_{\tau}(\Theta_+) - \mu'_{\tau}(\Theta_-),$$

and

$$J_{\pm}(\Theta_+, \Theta_-, Z) := J_{\circ}(\Theta_+, \Theta_-, Z) \pm |\Theta_+| \mp |\Theta_-|.$$

In particular, if $X = [0, 1] \times Y$ for some (Y, λ, ω) , then

- J_* depends only on Z ,
- J_* is additive, i.e.

$$J_*(\Theta_+, \Theta_-, Z + Z') = J_*(\Theta_+, \Theta, Z) + J_*(\Theta, \Theta_-, Z').$$

Fact If C is an embedded J -holomorphic curve in X with ends at distinct embedded Reeb orbits, then

$$J_{\circ}(C) = -\chi(C).$$

AN ANALOG OF ALGEBRAIC TORSION (FOLLOWING HUTCHINGS'S RECIPE)

Let (S, ϕ) be an (abstract) open book decomposition for M supporting ξ :

- S compact oriented surface with genus- g and B boundary components,
- $\phi : S \rightarrow S$ orientation reversing diffeomorphism.

Let $a = \{a_1, \dots, a_G\}$, where $G = 2g + B - 1$, be a basis of arcs for S .

Then (Σ, α, β) is a Heegaard diagram for M . Suppose that $(\Sigma, \alpha, \beta, z)$ is strongly admissible for \mathfrak{s}_ξ (after an isotopy of ϕ).

Construct $Y \simeq M \# \mathcal{H}_0 \# \mathcal{H}_1 \# \dots \# \mathcal{H}_G$ where $\mathcal{H}_i \simeq S^1 \times S^2$.

There exists a stable Hamiltonian structure (λ, ω) on Y “compatible” with $(\Sigma, \alpha, \beta, z)$.

Fix $\Gamma \in H_1(Y)$ such that $\Gamma|_{H_1(M)} = 0$ and

$$\Gamma \cdot [S^2] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{in } \mathcal{H}_0 \\ 1 & \text{in } \mathcal{H}_i, i \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

Then for any orbit set $\Theta = \{(\gamma, m)\}$ with $[\Theta] = \Gamma$, γ are **non-degenerate**, and **hyperbolic**. Define

$$\mathcal{Z}_{ech,M} := \{\Theta = \{\gamma\} \mid [\Theta] = \Gamma\}.$$

We have

$$\mathcal{Z}_{ech,M} \simeq \mathcal{Z}_{HF} \times \prod_{i=1}^G \mathbb{Z} \times \mathfrak{o},$$

where $\mathfrak{o} = \{0, +1, -1, \{+1, -1\}\}$.

Consider the chain complex $(\widehat{ecc}(Y, \lambda, \omega, \Gamma; J), \widehat{\partial}_{ech})$ where \widehat{ecc} is freely generated by $\mathcal{Z}_{ech, M}$.

Let $\Theta_{\pm} \subset \mathcal{Z}_{ech, M}$ and $C \in \mathcal{M}(\Theta_+, \Theta_-)$ be embedded. Then

$$J_+(C) = -\chi(C) + |\Theta_+| - |\Theta_-|,$$

or

$$J_+(C) = \sum_j (2g(C_j) - 2 + 2|\Theta_{+j}|),$$

where C_j is connected. Hence

- $2|J_+(C)|$,
- $J_+(C) \geq 0$ unless each $g(C_j) = 0$ and $\Theta_{+j} = \emptyset$ for some j .

Instead, work with the subcomplex $\widehat{ecc}_o(Y, \lambda, \omega, \Gamma; J)$ freely generated by those $\Theta \in \mathcal{Z}_{ech, M}$ such that

$$\Theta|_{\mathcal{H}_i} = (0, 0)$$

for each $i = 1, \dots, G$. Then, we have

$$\widehat{ecc}_o(Y, \lambda, \omega, \Gamma; J) \stackrel{\text{K.-Lee-Taubes}}{\cong} \widehat{CF}(-M, \mathfrak{s}_\xi).$$

On $\widehat{ecc}_o(Y, \lambda, \omega, \Gamma; J)$, write

$$\widehat{\partial}_{ech} = \partial_0 + \partial_1 + \dots + \partial_k + \dots$$

where ∂_k counts $J_+ = 2k$ curves. Since $\widehat{\partial}_{ech} \circ \widehat{\partial}_{ech} = 0$, and J_+ is additive,

$$\sum_{i+j=l} \partial_i \circ \partial_j = 0$$

for all $l \geq 0$. In particular, $\partial_0 \circ \partial_0 = 0$, $\partial_0 \circ \partial_1 + \partial_1 \circ \partial_0 = 0$, etc.

As a result, there is a spectral sequence $E^*(S, \phi, a; J)$ such that

$$E^{k+1}(S, \phi, a; J) \cong H_*(E^k(S, \phi, a; J), \partial_k),$$

and $E^0(S, \phi, a; J) \cong \widehat{ecc}_o(Y, \lambda, \omega, \Gamma; J)$.

Definition Given (S, ϕ, a) and J , let $AT(S, \phi, a; J)$ denote the smallest non-negative integer such that $[\Theta_\xi] = 0$ in $E^{k+1}(S, \phi, a; J)$.

(M, ξ) is said to have *algebraic k -torsion* if $AT(S, \phi, a; J) = k$ for some choice of (S, ϕ, a) and J .

Remark If $\widehat{c}(\xi) = 0$, then $AT(S, \phi, a; J) < \infty$. The converse is not necessarily true.

Description via Heegaard diagram: Use Lipshitz's reformulation.

$$\begin{aligned}\Theta_{\pm} &\longleftrightarrow \mathbf{x}_{\pm} \\ \mathcal{M}_{I=1}(\Theta_+, \Theta_-) &\xleftrightarrow{1-1} \mathcal{M}_{ind=1}(\mathbf{x}_+, \mathbf{x}_-) \\ C &\longleftrightarrow C_L.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}J_+(C) &= -\chi(C) + |\Theta_+| - |\Theta_-| \\ &= -\chi(C_L) + G + |\Theta_+| - |\Theta_-|.\end{aligned}$$

Meanwhile, Lipshitz finds

$$\begin{aligned}\chi(C_L) &= G - n_{\mathbf{x}_+}(\mathcal{D}) - n_{\mathbf{x}_-}(\mathcal{D}) + e(\mathcal{D}) \\ ind(C_L) &= n_{\mathbf{x}_+}(\mathcal{D}) + n_{\mathbf{x}_-}(\mathcal{D}) + e(\mathcal{D}).\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$J_+(C) = 2[n_{\mathbf{x}_+}(\mathcal{D}) + n_{\mathbf{x}_-}(\mathcal{D})] - 1 + |\mathbf{x}_+| - |\mathbf{x}_-|.$$

More generally, for any domain \mathcal{D} ,

$$J_+(\mathcal{D}) = \mu(\mathcal{D}) - 2e(\mathcal{D}) + |\mathbf{x}_+| - |\mathbf{x}_-|.$$

Theorem If ξ is OT, then (M, ξ) has algebraic 0-torsion.

Proof There exists an open book (S, ϕ) with non-right-veering monodromy, and a basis of arcs a such that

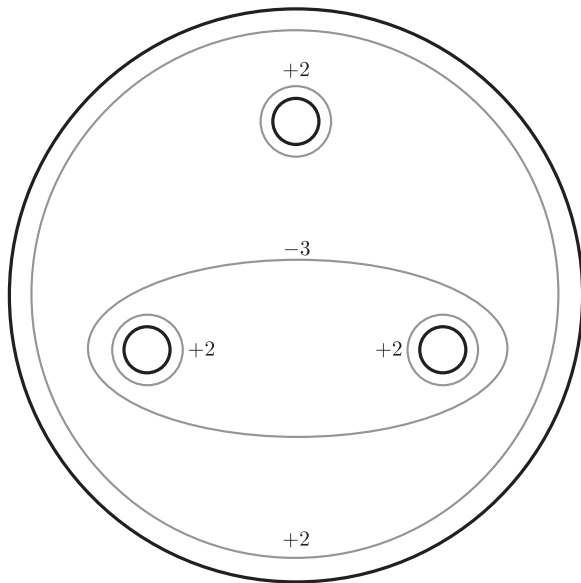
$$\widehat{\partial}_{HFY} = x_\xi$$

with one non-trivial index-1 curve, which is represented by a bigon domain \mathcal{D} . Then

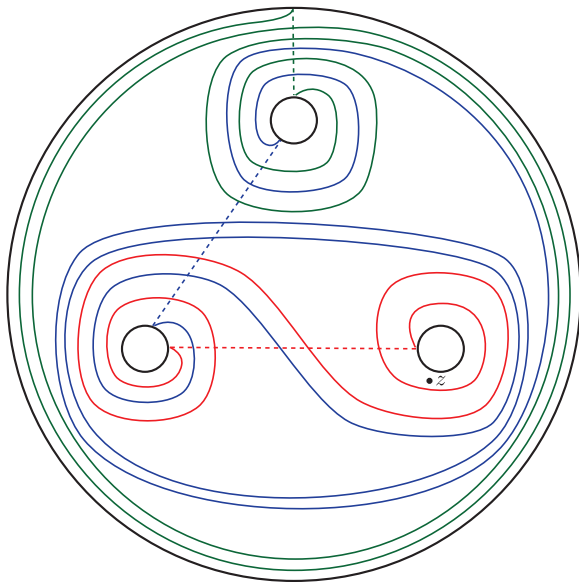
- $n_y(\mathcal{D}) = \frac{1}{4} = n_{x_\xi}(\mathcal{D})$,
- $|y| = G = |x_\xi|$,

gives $J_+(\mathcal{D}) = 0$.

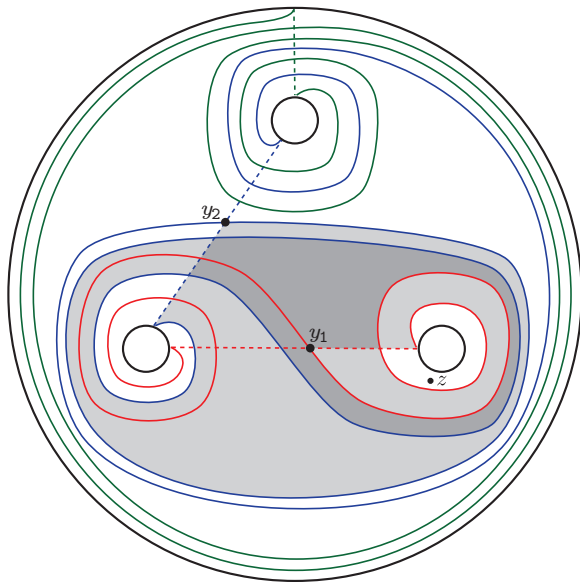
AN EXAMPLE



AN EXAMPLE



AN EXAMPLE



WHAT TO DO NEXT?

Need to show

- J -independence, ✓
- arc basis independence, in progress
- stabilization invariance. ✓ given arc basis independence

Question Can AT detect overtwistedness?

Question $AT \leq \text{planar torsion}$?

Thanks for your attention!