

# Combinatorial map as multiplication of combinatorial knots

Dainis Zeps \*

## Abstract

We show that geometrical map can be expressed as multiplication of combinatorial maps, i.e. map  $P$  is equal to multiplication of its knot, inner knot's square and trivial knot ( $= \mu \cdot \nu^2 \cdot \pi_1$ ).

## 1 Introduction

We proceed with building combinatorial map theory that from different points of view and formulations is considered in from [1] to [35].

We multiply permutations from left to right. Geometrical *combinatorial map* is pair of permutations, *vertex and face rotations*,  $(P, Q)$  acting on set of elements  $C$  if  $P \cdot Q^{-1} = \rho$  *edge rotation* or *inner edge rotation*  $\pi = Q^{-1}P$  is involution without fixed elements. We consider set of maps with fixed  $\pi$  calling them *normalized maps*. Mostly we use one particular choice of  $\pi$  equal to  $(12) \dots (2k-1 \ 2k)$ ,  $k > 1$ . If so, map may be characterized with one permutation, say vertex rotation  $P$ .

In [30] we saw that particular choice of  $\rho$  by fixed  $\pi$  induces partitioning of the set  $C$  into to subsets  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  [in general in several ways] so that the *knot*  $\mu = \begin{cases} C_1 : \pi \\ C_2 : \rho \end{cases}$  is defined. Here, knot  $\mu$  as permutation has  $2^k$  choices if  $k$  is number of cycles in it. Rightly, changing direction of some cycle of  $\mu$  we get another possible value for knot  $\mu$ . Moreover,  $\rho$  with choice of particular  $\mu$  partitions  $\pi$  into  $\pi_1 \cdot \pi_2$ , where we call  $\pi_1$  *cut edges* and  $\pi_2$  *cycle edges*, so that  $P \cdot \pi_1 : C_1 \mapsto C_2$  and  $P \cdot \pi_2 : C_1 \mapsto C_1$ . In [31] was shown that by fixing  $\mu$  map  $P$  may be expressed as multiplication  $\gamma_1 \cdot \gamma_2 \cdot \pi_2$ , where  $\gamma_1$  acts within  $C_1$  and  $\gamma_2$  acts within  $C_2$ .

In [30] was shown that normalized map always may be expressed as  $P = \mu \cdot \alpha$ , where  $\alpha$  is called *knotting* and it is selfconjugate map in sense that  $\alpha^\pi = \alpha$ . In [32] we got formulas for  $\mu$  and  $\alpha$ , i.e.,

$$\mu = \gamma_2 \pi \gamma_1^{-1}$$

---

\*Author's address: Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Latvia, 29 Rainis blvd., Riga, Latvia. [dainize@mii.lu.lv](mailto:dainize@mii.lu.lv)

and

$$\alpha = \gamma_1 \gamma_1^\pi.$$

From [30] we know that  $\alpha$ 's form a group  $K_\pi$  with respect to multiplication of maps. Moreover, classes of maps with fixed  $\rho$ 's, denoted as  $K_\rho$ , are cosets (left and right) of  $K_\pi$ .

## 2 Main part

We are going to regain main formulae from introduction.

Let us prove some theorems that leads us to the main result.

**Theorem 1.**  $\rho \cdot \pi$  [or  $\pi \cdot \rho$ ] is equal to some combinatorial knot  $\mu$  squared and one or other color cycles induced from this knot reversed.

*Proof.* Let us write knot  $\mu$  in the form  $\begin{cases} C_1 : \pi \\ C_2 : \rho \end{cases}$ . Then square of  $\mu$  we would get applying  $\pi \cdot \rho$  for one color corners and  $\rho \cdot \pi$  for other color corners.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.** By fixing the square of the knot it has  $2^k$  knots in correspondence [in general for different maps] where  $k$  is the number of cycles in the knot.

*Proof.* Two joined cycles of square of knot may be combined in the cycle of knot in two ways, and thus,  $k$  independent operations give  $2^k$  results.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.** [ $\mu \cdot \pi$  is knot's half-square]

- 1)  $\mu \cdot \pi$  contains squared knot's cycles of only one color.
- 2) For vertex rotation  $\mu \cdot \pi$  corresponding face rotation and knot are equal to  $\mu$ , and knotting equal to  $\pi$ .  $\gamma_1 = id$ ,  $\gamma_2 = \mu \cdot \pi$ , and  $\pi_1 = \pi$ , because all edges of this map are cut edges.

*Proof.* 1)  $\mu$  expressing as  $\begin{cases} C_1 : \pi \\ C_2 : \rho \end{cases}$ , and multiplying by  $\pi$ , we obtain

$\begin{cases} C_1 : \pi \cdot \pi \\ C_2 : \rho \cdot \pi \end{cases}$  and using Theorem 1 what was to be proved.

2) Corresponding graph to this map is set of star graphs as many as cycles in  $\mu$ . Direct calculation gives what is stated by theorem.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.** Map  $P$  can be expressed as  $P\pi_1 = \gamma_1\gamma_2\pi = \gamma_2\gamma_1\pi$  with  $\mu(P) = \gamma_2\pi\gamma_1^{-1} [= \gamma_1\rho\gamma_2^{-1}]$  and  $\pi_1$  as inner cut edge rotation and  $\pi_2$  inner cycle edge rotation.

*Proof.* Let knot  $\mu = \mu(P)$  be fixed. Then set of corners is partitioned into two sets  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ . From form of  $\mu (= \gamma_2 \cdot \pi \cdot \gamma_1^{-1})$  we directly judge that  $\gamma_1$  belongs to, say,  $C_1$  and  $\gamma_2$  to  $C_2$ . Thus,  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$  commute by multiplying. Let us choose vertex rotation with this fixed knot and  $\pi_1 = id$ , i.e., with all edges being cycle edges. Then vertex rotation is alternation of corners from  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  respectively, and face rotation's cycles are correspondingly of one color. Then form of  $\mu = \gamma_2 \cdot \pi \cdot \gamma_1^{-1}$  shows directly that  $P \cdot \pi_1$  must be equal to  $\gamma_1 \cdot \gamma_2 (= \gamma_2 \cdot \gamma_1)$ . Finally, in general we get

$$\mu = \begin{cases} C_1 : \pi \\ C_2 : \rho \end{cases} = \begin{cases} C_2 : \gamma_2\pi\gamma_1^{-1} \\ C_1 : \gamma_1\rho\gamma_2^{-1} \end{cases} .$$

□

**Theorem 5.** Map  $P \cdot \pi_1$  can be expressed as  $\begin{cases} C_1 : \beta_1 \\ C_2 : \beta_2 \end{cases}$ , where involutions  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  are equal to  $\beta_1 = \pi^{-\gamma_1}$  and  $\beta_2 = \pi^{-\gamma_2}$ . Moreover,  $\beta_1 = \gamma_1\gamma_2^{-1}\mu$  and  $\beta_2 = \gamma_2\gamma_1^{-1}\mu$ . Moreover,  $\beta_1\beta_2$  is squared knot  $\mu(\dots, \beta_1)$  with one color cycles reversed. See theorem 1.  $\delta = \pi^{\gamma_1}$ .  $P = \gamma_1\gamma_2\pi_2$ .

*Proof.*

$$P\pi_1 = \begin{cases} C_1 : \beta_1 \\ C_2 : \beta_2 \end{cases} = \begin{cases} C_1 : \gamma_1\pi\gamma_1^{-1} \\ C_2 : \gamma_2\pi\gamma_2^{-1} \end{cases} = \left( \begin{cases} C_1 : \gamma_1 \\ C_2 : \gamma_2 \end{cases} \right) \cdot \pi = \gamma_1\gamma_2\pi.$$

□

**Corollary 6.** Map  $P\pi_1$  is a knot for inner edge rotation  $\beta_1$  and edge rotation  $\beta_2$ .

**Theorem 7.** Let for some fixed knot the map  $P$  be equal to  $\mu\alpha$ . Then  $\alpha$  is equal to  $\gamma_1\pi\gamma_1\pi_2$  or  $\gamma_1\gamma_1^\pi\pi_1$ .

*Proof.*  $\alpha = \mu^{-1}P\pi_1 = \gamma_1\pi\gamma_2^{-1}\gamma_2\gamma_1\pi = \gamma_1\pi\gamma_1\pi = \gamma_1\gamma_1^\pi$ . This  $\alpha$  is knotting for  $P\pi_1$ . For map  $P$  knotting is  $\gamma_1\pi\gamma_1\pi_2$  or  $\gamma_1\gamma_1^\pi\pi_1$ . □

**Corollary 8.**  $\alpha^\pi = \alpha$ . Selfconjugate  $\alpha$ 's comprise group.

*Proof.*  $\alpha^\pi = (\gamma_1\gamma_1^\pi\pi_1)^\pi = \gamma_1^\pi\gamma_1^{\pi\pi}\pi_1^\pi = \gamma_2\gamma_1\pi_1 = \alpha$ . □

**Theorem 9.**  $\gamma_1\gamma_1^\pi$  is some knot's square.

*Proof.* Let us denote this knot by  $\nu$ . Direct observation shows that theorem is correct. Then fixed knot  $\mu$  induces  $\alpha$  and it determines fixed  $\nu$  such that  $\nu^2 = \gamma_1\gamma_1^\pi$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 10.** Every combinatorial  $P$  can be expressed as multiplication of knots in the form

$$P = \mu \cdot \nu^2 \cdot \pi_1.$$

*Proof.* It directly follows from previous theorems. Really,  $P = \mu\alpha = \gamma_2\pi\gamma_1^{-1}\gamma_1\gamma_1^\pi\pi_1 = \gamma_2\gamma_1\pi_2 = \mu(\gamma_1\pi)^2\pi_1 = \mu\nu^2\pi_1$ .  $\square$

It must be noted that  $\pi_1$  is some knot too. We call this knot trivial knot. Let us call knot  $\nu$  map's inner knot.

**Corollary 11.** Map is multiplication of its knot with its inner knot's square and with its trivial knot.

**Theorem 12.** For  $P\pi_1$   $\mu$  commutes with  $\alpha$ , i.e.,

$$P\pi_1 = \mu \cdot \alpha = \alpha \cdot \mu.$$

In general,

$$P = \mu\alpha = \alpha\mu^{\pi_1}.$$

*Proof.* For  $P\pi_1$ ,  $\mu^\alpha = (\gamma_2\pi\gamma_1^{-1})\gamma_1\pi\gamma_1^\pi$ . Further,  $\gamma_2^{\gamma_1\pi\gamma_1^\pi} = \gamma_2^{\pi \cdot \pi} = \gamma_2$ , because corners of  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$  do not intersect. The same is true for the member  $\gamma_1^{-1}$ . Further,  $\pi^{\gamma_1\pi\gamma_1^\pi} = \pi^\alpha = \pi$ . Thus, we get  $\mu^\alpha = \mu$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 13.** For partial map  $[P, \mu]$  its inner edge rotation is  $\alpha$ .

*Proof.* Direct observation.  $\square$

### 3 Conclusions

There are four types of permutations that are used to build "all" in combinatorial map theory, i.e., knot-type, knot-square-type, knot-square-with-reversed-cycles-type, two-color-involutions. Comprehensive algebra of all these types should be ground for combinatorial map theory.

## References

- [1] P. Bonnington, C.H.C. Little, *Fundamentals of topological graph theory*, Springer-Verlag, N.Y.,1995.
- [2] G. Burde, H. Zieschang. *Knots*, Walter de Gruiter, Berlin N.Y., 1985.
- [3] R. Cori. *Un Code pour les Graphes Planaires et ses Applications*. Astérisque, 1975, vol. 27.
- [4] R. Cori, A. Machi. *Maps, Hypermaps and their Automorphisms: A Survey, I, II, III*. Expositiones Mathematicae, 1992, vol. 10, 403-427, 429-447, 449-467.
- [5] J. K. Edmonds. *A combinatorial representation for polyhedral surfaces*, Notices Amer. Math. Soc. (1960), 646.
- [6] M. Ferri, C. Gagliardi. *Cristallisation Moves*, Pacific Journ. Math., Vol.100. No 1, 1982.
- [7] P. J. Giblin. *Graphs, Surfaces, and Homology*. John Willey & Sons, 1977.
- [8] L. Heffter. Über das Problem der Nachbargebiete. Math. Ann., 1891, vol. 38, 477-508.
- [9] L. Heffter. *Über metacyklische Gruppen und Nachbarconfigurationen*, Math. Ann. 50, 261- 268, 1898.
- [10] A. Jacques. *Sur le genre d'une paire de substitutions*, C.R.Acad. Sci.Paris ser:I Math. **367**, 625-627,1968.
- [11] P.Ķikusts, D. Zeps. *Graphs on surfaces*, Conf. LMS, Riga, 1994.
- [12] Sergei K. Lando , Alexander K. Zvonkin. *Graphs on Surphaces and Their Applications*. Springer, 2003.
- [13] S. Lins. *Graph Encoded Maps*, Journ.Comb.Theory, Series B 32, 171-181, 1982.
- [14] C.H.C. Little. *Cubic combinatorial maps*, J.Combin.Theory Ser. B 44 (1988), 44-63.

- [15] Yanpei A. Liu *Polyhedral Theory on Graphs*, Acta Mathematica Sinica, New Series, 1994, Vol.10, No.2, pp.136-142.
- [16] G.Ringel. *Map Color Theorem*, Springer Verlag, 1974.
- [17] P. Rosenstiel, R.C. Read. *On the principal edge tripartition of a graph*, Discrete Math. 3,195-226, 1978.
- [18] S. Stahl. *The Embedding of a Graph - A Survey*. J.Graph Th., Vol 2 (1978), 275-298.
- [19] S. Stahl. *Permutation-partition pairs: A combinatorial generalisation of graph embedding*, Trans Amer. Math. Soc. 1 (259) (1980), 129-145.
- [20] S. Stahl. *A combinatorial analog of the Jordan curve theorem*, J.Combin.Theory Ser.B 35 (1983), 28-38.
- [21] S. Stahl. *A duality for permutations*, Discrete Math. 71 (1988), 257-271.
- [22] S. Stahl. *The Embedding of a Graph — A Survey*, Journ.Graph Theory, Vol.2, 275-298, 1978.
- [23] W.T. Tutte. *What is a map? New directions in the theory of graphs*. Academic Press, NY, 1973, pp. 309-325.
- [24] W.T.Tutte. *Combinatorial maps*, in *Graph theory*, chapter X, 1984.
- [25] A. Vince. *Combinatorial maps*, J.Combin.Theory Ser.B 34 (1983), 1-21.
- [26] T. R. S. Walsh, *Hypermaps Versus Bipartite Maps*, Journ. Comb. Math., Ser B 18, 155-163, 1975.
- [27] A. T. White. *Graphs, Groups and Surfaces*, North-Holland, P.C., 1973.
- [28] H. Wielandt. *Finite Permutations Groups*, Academic Press, New York, 1964.
- [29] D. Zeps. *Graphs with rotation in permutation technique*, KAM Series, N 94-274, 1994, Prague, Charles University, 8pp.
- [30] D. Zeps. *Graphs as rotations*, KAM Series, 96-327, Prague,1996, 9pp.
- [31] D. Zeps. *Graphs with rotations:partial maps*, KAM Series, 97-365, 1996, 12pp.

- [32] D. Zeps. *The use of the combinatorial map theory in graph-topological computations*, KAM Series, 97-364, Prague, 1997, 8pp.
- [33] D.Zeps. *The theory of Combinatorial Maps and its Use in the Graph-topological computations*, PhD thesis, 1998.
- [34] D. Zeps. *Using combinatorial maps in graph-topological computations* , KAM Series, 99-438, Prague, 1997, 11pp.
- [35] D. Zeps. *Combinatorial Maps. Tutorial*, Online book, <http://www.ltn.lv/~dainize/tutorial/CombinatorialMps.Tutorial.htm>, 2004.