Moduli space of pairings on complex roots of unity

Laurent Poinsot

LIPN - UMR CNRS 7030 Université Paris XIII, Sorbonne Paris Cité - Institut Galilée

Joint-work with Nadia El Mrabet - Université Paris 8



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Pairings

Let A, B, C be three modules over some commutative ring R with a unit.

A pairing is a non-degenerate bilinear map $f: A \times B \rightarrow C$.

Non-degeneracy means that

 $\gamma_f \colon a \in A \mapsto f(a, \cdot)$

and

 $\delta_f\colon b\in B\mapsto f(\cdot,b)$

are both one-to-one.

Examples

- Let $1 \to A \to G \to B \to 1$ be a short exact sequence of groups, where A, B are abelian, and A lies in Z(G). The commutator $[\cdot, \cdot]$ of G factors to a bilinear map $[\cdot, \cdot]$: $B \times B \to A$ which is non-degenerate if, and only if, A = Z(G) (R. Baer, 1938).
- Let $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle : A \times \widehat{A} \to \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$ defined by $\langle a | \chi \rangle = \chi(a)$.
- Weil, Tate pairings and their recent generalizations to Abelian varieties.
- Let \mathbb{K} be any field, and X be any set. Let us denote by $\mathbb{K}^{(X)}$ the vector space of finitely supported maps (*i.e.*, the vector space with basis X). The map $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle \colon \mathbb{K}^X \times \mathbb{K}^{(X)} \to \mathbb{K}$ given by $\langle f | g \rangle = \sum_{x \in X} f(x)g(x)$ is a pairing.

Cryptographic applications

- MOV attack to solve the discrete logarithm problem by transport from an elliptic curve to a finite field.
- A. Joux's one-round key exchange tri-partite Diffie-Hellman protocol.
- Identity-based cryptography.

Objective of this talk

• Provide a categorical setting to study pairings in a unified way in several categories (e.g., abelian groups, modules or commutative monoids).

• Provide a classification of pairings – under a suitable equivalence relation – from finite abelian groups to the complex unit circle (this classification is rather disappointing).

• Show that the set of equivalence classes of pairings is almost a moduli space: it is actually a subset of rational points of some (pro-)affine algebraic variety.

Warning: The classification from this talk is of course different from C.T.C Wall's classification of skew or symmetric non-singular bilinear forms on finite abelian groups (1964) because the equivalence relations under consideration are not the same. My equivalence relation is of a categorical nature, since it is the relation of isomorphism in a suitable category, and it is strictly coarser than C.T.C Wall's relation (more pairings are identified).

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Bilinear maps

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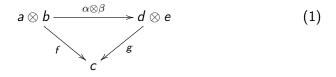
• A bilinear map on c is a pair (f, (a, b)) where a, b are both finite abelian groups and f is a group homomorphism $f: a \otimes b \to c$ (\otimes being the usual tensor product of abelian groups that classifies bi-additive maps).

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• A pair (α, β) of group homomorphisms between finite abelian groups, $\alpha: a \to d, \beta: b \to e$, is said to be an arrow or a morphism $(\alpha, \beta): (f, (a, b)) \to (g, (d, e))$ if the following triangle commutes

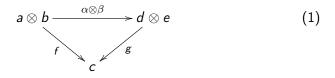


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In other terms, $g_0(\alpha(x), \beta(y)) = f_0(x, y)$ for every $x \in a, y \in b$ (where $f_0: a \times b \to c$ and $g_0: d \times e \to c$ are the bi-additive maps associated to f and g respectively).

Bilinear maps (cont'd)

• Bilinear maps on *c* with these morphisms form a category denoted by **Bil_{Abfin}**(*c*), the composition of morphisms being defined component-wise $(\alpha_1, \beta_1) \circ (\alpha_2, \beta_2) = (\alpha_1 \circ \alpha_2, \beta_1 \circ \beta_2)$, and the identity morphism $id_{(f,(a,b))}$ on (f, (a, b)) being just (id_a, id_b) .

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(Perfect) Pairings

• A (perfect) pairing (on c) is a bilinear map (f, (a, b)) on c such that γ_f and δ_f are both monomorphisms (respectively, isomorphisms) (recall from the introduction that $\gamma_f(x) = f_0(x, \cdot)$ and $\delta_f(y) = f_0(\cdot, y)$).

Remark

In category-theoretical terms, a *monomorphism* f is a left-cancellable morphism. For the categories of sets, abelian groups, commutative monoids, modules over some commutative unital ring, and many other categories but not all, monomorphisms coincide with one-to-one maps.

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- $\operatorname{Perf}_{\operatorname{Abfin}}(c)$ is of course a full sub-category of $\operatorname{Pair}_{\operatorname{Abfin}}(c)$.

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- Of course, if $c_1 \cong c_2$, then also $\operatorname{Pair}_{\operatorname{Abfin}}(c_1) \cong \operatorname{Pair}_{\operatorname{Abfin}}(c_2)$ (isomorphic categories), but the converse is false. For instance, $\operatorname{Pair}_{\operatorname{Abfin}}(0) \cong \operatorname{Pair}_{\operatorname{Abfin}}(\mathbb{Z})$.

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$$\underline{\mathsf{Bil}}_{\mathsf{Abfin}}(c) = \underline{\mathsf{Pair}}_{\mathsf{Abfin}}(c) \cup \underline{\mathsf{Degen}}_{\mathsf{Abfin}}(c)$$

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Everything remains valid if one replaces

- the category of abelian groups by any *closed symmetric monoidal* category **C** (i.e., with a tensor bifunctor, an internal hom functor, and some properties...),

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For instance, **C** may be

- the category of sets ($\otimes = \times)$ with D the category of finite sets,

- the category of commutative monoids ($\otimes=\otimes_{\mathbb N}$ similar to $\otimes_{\mathbb Z}$), with D that of finite commutative monoids,

- the category $_R$ **Mod** of modules on a commutative ring $R \ (\neq 0)$ with a unity ($\otimes = \otimes_R$), and **D** = $_R$ **Modfreefin**, the category of free R-modules of finite rank.

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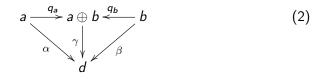
Let a, b be two abelian groups, and let $a \oplus b$ denote their direct sum with canonical injections $q_a: a \hookrightarrow a \oplus b, x \mapsto (x, 0)$ and $q_b: b \hookrightarrow a \oplus b, y \mapsto (0, y)$.

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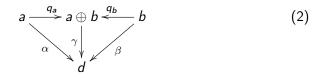
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In concrete terms, $\gamma(x, y) = \alpha(x) + \beta(y)$.

\otimes distributes over \oplus

It is a well-known fact that for every abelian groups a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2 ,

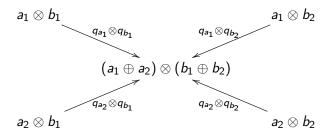
 $(a_1 \oplus a_2) \otimes (b_1 \oplus b_2) \cong (a_1 \otimes b_1) \oplus (a_1 \otimes b_2) \oplus (a_2 \otimes b_1) \oplus (a_2 \otimes b_2).$

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More precisely, $(a_1\oplus a_2)\otimes (b_1\oplus b_2)$ admits a direct sum presentation as



(This comes from the fact that for every abelian group *a*, both functors $a \otimes -$ and $- \otimes a$ admit a right adjoint, and this is true in any symmetric monoidal closed category with binary coproducts.)

A tensor bifunctor \bot

It is thus possible to define for every abelian group d, and any group homomorphisms $\alpha_1 \colon a_1 \otimes b_1 \to d$, $\beta_1 \colon a_1 \otimes b_2 \to d$, $\alpha_2 \colon a_2 \otimes b_1 \to d$, and $\beta_2 \colon a_2 \otimes b_2 \to d$, a unique group homomorphism $\gamma \colon (a_1 \oplus a_2) \otimes (b_1 \oplus b_2) \to d$ (using the universal property of the direct sum).

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 $\gamma((x_1, x_2) \otimes (y_1, y_2)) = \alpha_1(x_1 \otimes y_1) + \alpha_2(x_2 \otimes y_1) + \beta_1(x_1 \otimes y_2) + \beta_2(x_2 \otimes y_2).$

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\perp and non-degeneracy

Proposition

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The bilinear map $(f_1 \perp f_2, (a_1 \oplus a_2, b_1 \oplus b_2))$ is a pairing (respectively, a perfect pairing) if, and only if, $(f_i, (a_i, b_i))$, i = 1, 2, are both pairings (respectively, perfect pairings).

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Definition

We refer to the monoid $\underline{Pair}_{Abfin}(c)$ to as the moduli space of pairings on c.

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Remark

Everything remains valid if we replace abelian groups for instance by R-modules or by commutative monoids, and **Abfin** by any full sub-category of these.

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Bialgebras

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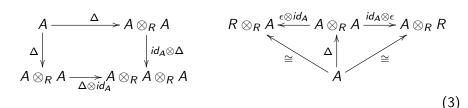
An *R*-algebra *A* is said to be a coassociative and counital *R*-bialgebra if it is equipped with two algebra maps $\Delta: A \to A \otimes_R A$, and $\epsilon: A \to R$, respectively called coproduct and counit which are coassociative and counital.

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This means that the two following diagrams commute.



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• Let *R* be any algebraically closed field. Let *F* be an affine scheme with representing object the algebra $\mathcal{O}(F)$. The R-rational points of *F* are given by $F(R) \cong \mathbf{CAlg}_R(\mathcal{O}(F), R)$.

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- By Yoneda's lemma, this is equivalent to the fact that the representing algebra $\mathcal{O}(M)$ of M is actually a (commutative, unital) coassociative and counital *R*-bialgebra.

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The isomorphism relation of bilinear maps $(f, (a, b)) \cong (g, (d, e))$ on c implies that $a \cong d$ and $b \cong e$ (isomorphic groups), and thus |a| = |d| and |b| = |e|.

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According to the previous theorem, if R is an algebraically closed field, then the moduli space of pairings is a sub-monoid of the R-rational points of an affine monoid scheme.

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Remark

This equality may be false when $c \neq \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ (or more precisely when $c \not\subseteq \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$). For instance, le *p* be a prime number, and m > 1, then $f: (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^m \times \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z} \to (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^m$ given by $f((x_i \mod p)_{i=1}^m, y \mod p) = (x_i y \mod p)_{i=1}^m$ is an imperfect pairing.

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Theorem

Let (f, (a, b)) be a pairing on \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} . Then,

 $(f,(a,b))\cong(\mathsf{nat}_a,(a,\hat{a}))$.

Since $a \cong b$, we may choose an isomorphism $\alpha \colon b \to a$.

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Let us define a bi-additive map $g_0: a \times a \to \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ by $g_0(x, y) = f(x \otimes \alpha^{-1}(y)), x, y \in a$, and let us denote by $g: a \otimes a \to \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ the corresponding group homomorphism.

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Corollary

The moduli space of pairings $\underline{\text{Pair}}_{Abfin}(\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z})$ is the free commutative monoid generated by all the (p, i)'s, where p is a prime number, and $i \in \mathbb{N}^*$.

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Let p be a prime number, and let $\mathbb{Z}(p^{\infty})$ be the Prüfer p-group, i.e., the direct limit $0 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p^2\mathbb{Z} \hookrightarrow \cdots$

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Corollary

The monoid $\underline{\operatorname{Pair}}_{p\operatorname{Abfin}}(\mathbb{Z}(p^{\infty}))$ is free (as a commutative monoid) with basis \mathbb{N}^* .

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For any abelian group without 2-torsion c, no two non-trivial (i.e., $\neq 0$) bilinear maps $f, g: a \times a \rightarrow c$, f symmetric and g skew-symmetric, may be equivalent modulo \equiv .

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To obtain more isomorphic classes we must

- either consider other choices for c, for instance a finite non-cyclic abelian group (in the case c is finite, it may be proved that $f: a \otimes b \to c$ is a pairing, then a and b share the same exponent).

When $c = \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$, the classification of pairings is achieved (there is a one-one correspondence between isomorphic classes of finite abelian groups and isomorphic classes of pairings).

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- either consider other choices for c, for instance a finite non-cyclic abelian group (in the case c is finite, it may be proved that $f: a \otimes b \to c$ is a pairing, then a and b share the same exponent).

- or consider the category of finite commutative monoids in which we should have a richer structure for the moduli space of pairings since there is no dualizable object such as \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z} .