#### Hairy Graphs and the Homology of $Out(F_n)$

#### Jim Conant Univ. of Tennessee joint w/ Martin Kassabov and Karen Vogtmann

July 11, 2012

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Virtual cohomological dimension

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  - of. Mod(S)!

Unstable computations

#### Unstable computations

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- $\begin{array}{l} \textcircled{0} \quad H_8(\operatorname{Aut}(F_6);\mathbb{Q}) \neq 0, \ H_8(\operatorname{Aut}(F_6);\mathbb{Q}) = \mathbb{Q}, \\ H_{12}(\operatorname{Aut}(F_8);\mathbb{Q}) \neq 0 \neq H_{12}(\operatorname{Out}(F_8);\mathbb{Q}), \ H_{11}(\operatorname{Aut}(F_7);\mathbb{Q}) \neq 0 \\ (Ohashi, C.-Kassabov-Vogtmann, Gray) \end{array}$

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- P → H<sub>8</sub>(Aut(F<sub>6</sub>); Q) ≠ 0, H<sub>8</sub>(Aut(F<sub>6</sub>); Q) = Q, H<sub>12</sub>(Aut(F<sub>8</sub>); Q) ≠ 0 ≠ H<sub>12</sub>(Out(F<sub>8</sub>); Q), H<sub>11</sub>(Aut(F<sub>7</sub>); Q) ≠ 0 (Ohashi, C.-Kassabov-Vogtmann, Gray)
- Orbifold Euler characteristic (If G<sub>0</sub> < G is of index n and is of finite cohomological dimension, then χ<sub>orb</sub>(G) := <sup>1</sup>/<sub>n</sub>χ(BG<sub>0</sub>))

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 A generating function for these orbifold Euler characteristics is known. (Kontsevich, Smillie-Vogtmann)

# $H_k(\operatorname{Aut}(F_n);\mathbb{Q})$

$_{k} \setminus ^{n}$	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2	vcd	0	0	stable						
3	_	0	0	0	0	stable				
4	_	vcd	$\mu_1$	0	0	0	stable			
5	_	_	0	0	0	0	0	0	stable	
6	_	-	vcd	0	0	0	0	0	0	stable
7	_	_	-	$\epsilon_1$	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	_	_	_	vcd	$\mu_2$	?	?	?	?	?
9	_	_	_	_	?	?	?	?	?	?
10	_	_	_	_	vcd	?	?	?	?	?
11	_	_	_	_	_	$\epsilon_2$	?	?	?	?
12	-	-	-	_	-	vcd	$\mu_{3}$	?	?	?

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4	_	_	$\mu_1$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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6	_	_	_	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	_	_	_	vcd	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	_	_	_	_	$\mu_2$	?	?	?	?	?
9	_	_	_	_	vcd	?	?	?	?	?
10	_	_	_	_	_	?	?	?	?	?
11	_	_	_	_	_	vcd	?	?	?	?
12	-	-	-	-	-	-	$\mu_{3}$	?	?	?

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- ②  $\epsilon_k \in H_{4k+3}(Aut(F_{2k+3}); \mathbb{Q})$  (CKV). It is unknown if  $\epsilon_k \neq 0$  unless k = 1, 2. We could call these *Eisenstein classes*.
- Let S<sub>2k</sub> be the space of cusp forms for SL(2, Z) of weight 2k. (This can be defined as follows. Spaces of all modular forms of weight 2k, M<sub>2k</sub>, are defined by Q[x<sub>4</sub>, x<sub>6</sub>] ≅ ⊕<sub>k</sub>M<sub>k</sub>. Then dim(S<sub>2k</sub>) = dim(M<sub>2k</sub>) 1 for k ≥ 2.) There is an embedding

$$\bigwedge^2 \mathcal{S}_{2k}^* \hookrightarrow Z_{4k-2}(\mathrm{Out}(F_{2k+1});\mathbb{Q}).$$

The first potential class lies in  $Z_{46}(Out(F_{25}))!$ 

The main goal of this talk is to give an idea how these classes are produced.

#### The Lie operad





• 
$$L_n(V) := \text{Lie}((n+1)) \otimes_{\Sigma_n} V^{\otimes n}$$
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The free Lie algebra over the vector space V is

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- **2**  $\mathfrak{h}_V$  is remarkably ubiquitous in low-dimensional topology.
  - If  $V = H_1(S_{g,1}; \mathbb{Q})$ , then  $\mathfrak{h}_V$  is the target of the (associated graded) Johnson homomorphism on  $Mod(S_{g,1})$  and on 3-dimensional homology cylinders. (Johnson, S. Morita, J. Levine)

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  - If V = Q<sup>m</sup> then h<sub>V</sub> parameterizes Milnor invariants of *m*-component links in S<sup>3</sup>. (Over Z, h<sub>V</sub> measures the failure of the Whitney move in 4 dimensions. (C.-Schneiderman-Teichner))

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  - **9** If V is a direct limit of finite-dimensional symplectic vector spaces, then

$$PH^*(\mathfrak{h}_V)^{\mathrm{Sp}} = \bigoplus_{r \geq 2} H_*(\mathrm{Out}(F_r); \mathbb{Q}).(\mathsf{Kontsevich})$$

$$PH_*(\mathfrak{h}_V; L(V))_{\mathrm{Sp}} = \bigoplus_{r \ge 2} H^*(\mathrm{Aut}(F_r); \mathbb{Q}).(\mathsf{Gray})$$

#### Lie graph homology

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2 More formally, for every template graph G, define

$$\mathcal{G}_{G} = \left[ \bigotimes_{v \in V(G)} \operatorname{Lie}((\operatorname{val}(v))) \right]_{\operatorname{Aut}(G)}$$

•  $\mathcal{G}_k^{(n)} := \bigoplus_G \mathcal{G}_G$ , where  $G \simeq \vee_{i=1}^n S^1$ , has k vertices, and all vertices have valence  $\geq 3$ .

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- **2** Boundary operator:  $\partial: \mathcal{G}_k^{(n)} \to \mathcal{G}_{k-1}^{(n)}$



#### Theorem

$$H_k(\mathcal{G}^{(n)}_{\bullet}) \cong H^{2n-3-k}(\operatorname{Out}(F_n);\mathbb{Q})$$

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- 2 This is how the isomorphism to the homology of  $\mathfrak{h}_V$  is proven.


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# Lie<sub>V</sub>((3)) = $\mathbb{Q}$ $\begin{cases} 0 & v_1 & v_2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 \\ \end{cases}$ /IHX + AS

A hairy Lie graph is a Lie<sub>V</sub>-graph.



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• The hairy graph complex  $\mathcal{H}_V$  is spanned by all (not necessarily connected) hairy Lie graphs.  $\mathcal{PH}_V$  is the subspace spanned by connected graphs.

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- $\textcircled{O} \ \partial \colon \mathcal{H}_V \to \mathcal{H}_V \text{ is defined similarly to before.}$
- $\mathcal{G} \subset \mathcal{H}_V$  is a subcomplex.

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The chain map

$$\exp(S) = \sum_{i=0}^{n} \frac{S^{i}}{i!} \colon \mathcal{H}_{V} \to \mathcal{H}_{V} \cong \mathbb{Q}[\mathcal{P}\mathcal{H}_{V}]$$

is a sum over snipping some subset of the black edges of a hairy graph and labeling the new ends by paired vectors  $x, x^*$ .

## The cohomological assembly map

0 Dualizing the restriction to  $\mathcal{G}\subset\mathcal{H}_V,$  we get a degree-preserving assembly map

```
\exp(S)^* \colon S(PH^*(\mathcal{H}_V)) \to H^*(\mathcal{G})
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From now on we restrict to the simplest piece H<sup>1</sup>(H<sub>V</sub>) or H<sub>1</sub>(H<sub>V</sub>).
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   (Note PH<sub>1</sub>(H<sub>V</sub>) = H<sub>1</sub>(H<sub>V</sub>).)
- $H_1(\mathcal{H}_V)$  is graded by first Betti number:

$$H_1(\mathcal{H}_V) \cong \bigoplus_{k=0}^{\infty} H_1(\mathcal{H}_V)^{(k)}$$

## Theorem (CKV)

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$$H_1(\mathcal{H}_V)^{(0)}\cong \bigwedge^3 V$$

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#### Theorem (CKV)

$$egin{aligned} &\mathcal{H}_1(\mathcal{H}_V)^{(0)}\cong igwedge^3 V\ &\mathcal{H}_1(\mathcal{H}_V)^{(1)}\cong igoplus S^{2k+1}V \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_1(\mathcal{H}_V)^{(1)} \cong \bigoplus_{k=0}^{\infty} S^{2k+1} V$$

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2

$$H_1(\mathcal{H}_V)^{(r)} \cong H^{2r-3}(\operatorname{Out}(F_r); S(\mathbb{Q}^r \otimes V)) \text{ for } r \geq 2.$$

Here  $\operatorname{Out}(F_r)$  acts on  $\mathbb{Q}^r$  via the standard  $\operatorname{GL}(r,\mathbb{Z})$  action twisted by the determinant.

So we get an assembly map that takes formal products of homology classes in lower rank groups (with twisted coefficients) and produces homology classes with rational coefficients.

$$S\left(\bigwedge^{3} V \oplus \bigoplus_{k=0}^{\infty} S^{2k+1} V \oplus \bigoplus_{r=2}^{\infty} H_{2r-3}(\operatorname{Out}(F_{r}); S(\mathbb{Q}^{r} \otimes V))\right)_{\operatorname{Sp}}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\bigoplus_{r=2}^{\infty} H_{*}(\operatorname{Out}(F_{r}); \mathbb{Q})$$

(CKV)

$$H_1(\mathcal{H}_V)^{(2)} \cong H^1(\mathrm{Out}(F_2); S(\mathbb{Q}^2 \otimes V)) \qquad \cong \bigoplus_{k > \ell > 0} \mathbb{S}_{(k,\ell)} V \otimes W_{(k,\ell)}$$

where 
$$W_{(k,\ell)} = \begin{cases} \mathcal{S}_{k-\ell+2} & \text{if } k, \ell \text{ are even.} \\ \mathcal{M}_{k-\ell+2} & \text{if } k, \ell \text{ are odd.} \\ 0 & \text{if } k+\ell \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

• Recall that  $S_r$  are cusp forms of weight r and  $M_r$  is one higher dimension, including the Eisenstein series.

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- $\mathbb{S}_{\lambda}V := P_{\lambda} \otimes_{\Sigma_n} V^{\otimes n}$ , where  $\lambda$  is a partition of n and  $P_{\lambda}$  is the irreducible  $\Sigma_n$ -representation corresponding to  $\lambda$ .

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- The proof uses the Eichler-Shimura computation  $H^1(\mathrm{SL}(2,\mathbb{Z}); S^{2k}(\mathbb{Q}^2)) \cong \mathcal{M}_{2k+2} \oplus \mathcal{S}_{2k+2}.$



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## $\left[\bigwedge^2(\mathbb{S}_{(2m,0)}V\otimes\mathcal{S}_{2m+2})\right]^{\operatorname{Sp}}\cong\bigwedge^2\mathcal{S}_{2m+2}$

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# $\mathbf{O} = \left[ \bigwedge^2 (\mathbb{S}_{(2m,0)} V \otimes \mathcal{S}_{2m+2}) \right]^{\operatorname{Sp}} \cong \bigwedge^2 \mathcal{S}_{2m+2}$

2 dim  $S_{2m+2} \approx m/6$ . The first time the dimension is  $\geq 2$  is m = 11.

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Q dim S<sub>2m+2</sub> ≈ m/6. The first time the dimension is ≥ 2 is m = 11.
 Q This will give a class in H<sub>46</sub>(Out(F<sub>25</sub>Q). Too large to test by computer. :(

# $\left[\bigwedge^2(\mathbb{S}_{(2m,0)}V\otimes\mathcal{S}_{2m+2})\right]^{\mathrm{Sp}}\cong\bigwedge^2\mathcal{S}_{2m+2}$

2 dim  $S_{2m+2} \approx m/6$ . The first time the dimension is  $\geq 2$  is m = 11.

- This will give a class in H<sub>46</sub>(Out(F<sub>25</sub>Q). Too large to test by computer. :(
- 2 This gives a growing family of cycles in dimension vcd 1. If these survive in homology, it would contradict a conjecture of Church-Farb-Putman that the homology stabilizes in fixed codimension.

#### **1** Let $\mathcal{A}$ be an algebra with involution, $a \mapsto \overline{a}$ .

Jim Conant Univ. of Tennessee joint w/ MartHairy Graphs and the Homology of  $\operatorname{Out}(F_n)$ 

- Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an algebra with involution,  $a \mapsto \overline{a}$ .
- 2 There is a chain complex  $CD_k(\mathcal{A}) = [\mathcal{A}^{\otimes k}]_{D_{2k}}$ , where  $D_{2k}$  acts with certain signs, imagining a copy of  $\mathcal{A}$  at each corner of a k-gon.



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$$a_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes a_n \mapsto (-1)^{n-1} a_n \otimes a_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes a_{n-1} a_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes a_n \mapsto (-1)^{n+\binom{n}{2}} \overline{a}_n \otimes \cdots \otimes \overline{a}_1$$

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- One of the probability of the probability



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- Soundary operator:  $\partial: CD_k(\mathcal{A}) \to CD_{k-1}(\mathcal{A})$ . This is induced by multiplication of algebra elements along edges of the polygon.
- (twisted) Dihedral homology is defined as

$$HD_k(\mathcal{A}) = H_k(CD_{\bullet}(\mathcal{A}), \partial).$$
 (Loday)

• Consider the algebra  $\mathcal{A} = S(V)$ , the free commutative algebra on V, with involution defined on generators  $v \mapsto -v$ .

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#### Theorem

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#### Theorem

$$H_k(\mathcal{H}_V)^{(1)} = HD_k(S(V))$$

• So dihedral homology class could combine with other hairy graph homology classes to produce classes in  $Out(F_n)$ .

Morita, who was studying  $\mathfrak{h}_V$  in connection with the Johnson homomorphisms of mapping class groups, constructed a trace homomorphism:



### On a Conjecture of Morita

Morita conjectured that the trace homomorphism (the range being abelian) induces an isomorphism on the abelianization:

$$\mathfrak{h}_V^{\mathrm{ab}}\cong igwedge^3V\oplus S(V)_{\mathbb{Z}_2}?$$

### On a Conjecture of Morita

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 We recognize that the middle term in the above trace map definition is an element of a hairy graph complex, and lift Tr<sup>M</sup> to a map T: h<sub>V</sub> → H<sub>V</sub> defined by summing over contractions:



## On a Conjecture of Morita

#### Theorem (CKV)

#### Tr = exp(T) induces an monomorphism h<sup>ab</sup><sub>V</sub> → H<sub>1</sub>(H<sub>V</sub>). (dim V = ∞)
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## Theorem (CKV)

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- **2** Let  $V^+ < V$  be a Lagrangian subspace. There is a natural projection  $\pi: H_1(\mathcal{H}_V) \to H_1(\mathcal{H}_{V^+})$ . Then  $\pi \circ \operatorname{Tr}$  is an epimorphism. (Note that  $H_1(\mathcal{H}_V) \cong H_1(\mathcal{H}_{V^+})$  as GL-modules!)

# On a Conjecture of Morita

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#### Corollary

 $\mathfrak{h}_{V}^{\mathrm{ab}} \cong \bigoplus_{k=0}^{\infty} \mathfrak{h}_{V}^{\mathrm{ab}}[k]$ , where  $\mathfrak{h}_{V}^{\mathrm{ab}}[0] \cong \bigwedge^{3} V$ ,  $\mathfrak{h}_{V}^{\mathrm{ab}}[1] = S(V)_{\mathbb{Z}_{2}}$ , and  $\mathfrak{h}_{V}^{\mathrm{ab}}[k]$  is a "large" subspace of  $H^{2k-3}(\operatorname{Out}(F_{k}); S(\mathbb{Q}^{2} \otimes V))$ . In particular, it contains infinitely many irreducible Sp-modules when k = 2, contradicting Morita's conjecture.

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- Are all  $\mu_k, \epsilon_k, \cdots$  nontrivial?
- Item (non)-trivial is the cohomological assembly map?
- Ooes the assembly map have a more direct definition/interpretation?
- What is H<sub>1</sub>(H<sub>V</sub>)<sup>(k)</sup> for k ≥ 3? We know it is highly nontrivial for k = 3, and can describe it fairly explicitly. We don't know for k ≥ 4. Likely these are related to modular and automorphic forms.
- Sonstruct new elements of the cokernel of the Johnson filtration?