

RAAGs in Ham

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- ▶ Negative results: L. Polterovich; Franks and Handel: A non-uniform lattice of rank ≥ 2 cannot embed in $Diff(M, \omega)$. A non-uniform (irreducible) lattice in a Lie group (different from $O(n, 1)$) cannot embed in $Diff(M, \omega)$ if $\chi(M) \leq 0$.

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- ▶ **Question:** What happens with lattices in $O(n, 1)$?

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- ▶ $Ham(M, \omega)$ is the group of Hamiltonian symplectomorphisms. If M is a surface, $Ham(M, \omega) \subset Diff(M, \omega)$.
- ▶ Note: If M is a surface, then, as a group, $Ham(M, \omega)$ is independent of ω (Mozer); thus, $Ham(M, \omega) = Ham(M)$.

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- ▶ Examples: Free groups, free abelian groups,...
- ▶ **Theorem** (Bergeron, Haglind, Wise): If Γ is an arithmetic lattice in $O(n, 1)$ of the simplest type then a finite-index subgroup in Γ embeds in some RAAG.

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- ▶ **Corollary.** For every n there exist finite volume hyperbolic n -manifolds N (compact and not) so that $\pi_1(N)$ embeds in every *Ham*.
- ▶ The most difficult case is $M = S^2$.

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- ▶ **Step 3.** Smooth out the action preserving faithfulness.

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- ▶ Such ρ is probably faithful for “generic” functions H_v , but I do not know how to prove it!

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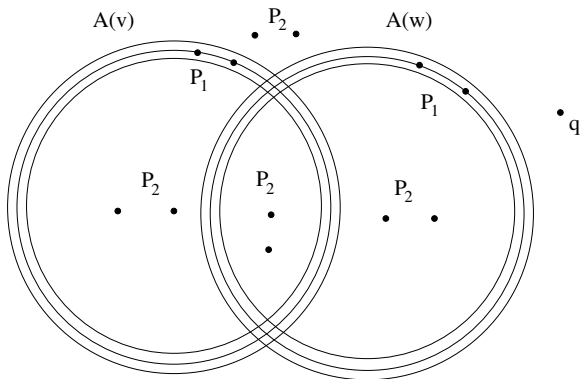
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▶ Figure: Points p_i, q are punctures to be removed from the surface.

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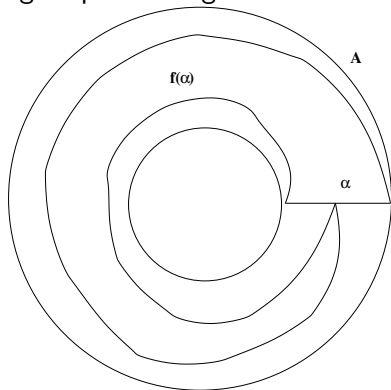
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▶ Figure: Point-pushing map (up to C^0 relative isotopy).

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- ▶ Then the maps f_ν fix middle circles of the annuli $A(\nu)$ (and points outside the annuli) and, hence, induce elements of the mapping class group $Map(M')$ of the punctured surface $M' = M - \{p_i, q\}$.

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- ▶ But Γ need not be planar.
- ▶ One can show (with a bit of trickery) that if Γ admits a finite planar orbi-cover $\Lambda \rightarrow \Gamma$ then $G_\Gamma \hookrightarrow G_\Lambda$ and we are again OK.

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- ▶ Let ω_0 be the spherical area form on S^2 .
- ▶ We can lift functions H_v to D and try to use ω_0 to define new time-2 Hamiltonian maps using these functions. The resulting maps preserve ω_0 on D , but ...

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- ▶ the resulting time-1 maps (with respect to ω_0) are double Dehn twists.

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- ▶ In particular, the action of the group $\hat{\rho}(G)$ on D extends to a Lipschitz action on S^2 (by the identity).
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Step 2: Cntd

- ▶ We then get a new representation $\hat{\rho} : G \rightarrow Ham(D)$ which preserves D' and, moreover, has the same projection to $Map(D')$ as $\tilde{\rho}$.
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Step 3 (analysis: mollification)

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- ▶ But the latter is impossible since $\hat{\rho} = \hat{\rho}_0$ is faithful.
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- ▶ I do not know what happens for non-generic ϵ , even those close to 0.

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- ▶ Then extend the diagonal action by the identity to the rest of M .

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- ▶ For example: Take Λ which is a connected linear graph on n vertices. Is it true that for every finite graph Γ there exists an embedding $G_\Gamma \rightarrow G_\Lambda$?
- ▶ If this is the case, then, since Λ embeds in S^1 , $G_\Lambda \hookrightarrow \text{Diff}(S^1)$, so we should also get an embedding $G_\Gamma \hookrightarrow \text{Diff}(S^1)$.

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- ▶ Not a single example is known.
- ▶ Note: All RAAGs are locally indicable (every f.g. subgroup has infinite abelianization). On the other hand, there are uniform lattices in $SU(2, 1)$ which are not known to have virtually positive b_1 .