Miquel dynamics for circle patterns

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Skoltech March 12 2018 • Circle patterns form a well-studied class of objects in discrete differential geometry (discretization of conformal maps).

• Many discrete integrable systems have been discovered recently (pentagram, dimers,...).

• Attempt to construct a discrete integrable system on some space of circle patterns.

• First review the Goncharov-Kenyon discrete integrable system for dimers.

The dimer model





• Probabilistic model : draw a configuration at random with probability proportional to its weight. Edge correlations ?

Dimer local moves

• Contraction of degree 2 vertices :



• Urban renewal :





















• Start with spatially biperiodic edge weights, with fundamental domain of size $m \times n$. The weights remain $m \times n$ biperiodic under the dynamics.

• It is seen as an $m \times n$ square grid graph on the torus.



The Kasteleyn operator K

- K is a weighted signed adjacency matrix of the graph with edge weights.
- For planar graphs, the determinant of K gives the partition function (sum of the weights of all dimer configurations). The dimer correlations are given by minors of K^{-1} (Kasteleyn, Temperley, Fisher).
- For graphs on a torus, the Fourier transform of K will give the spectral curve.



- We shall only consider bipartite graphs, that is graphs where the vertices can be colored black and white with each edge connecting a black vertex to a white vertex.
- Kasteleyn signing : assign a sign to each edge such that the number of minus signs around a face of degree 2 mod 4 (resp. 0 mod 4) is even (resp. odd).
- K: weighted signed adjacency matrix with rows (resp. columns) indexed by white (resp. black) vertices.





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- Consider a bipartite graph on a torus together with two cycles generating the first homology group of the torus.
- K(z,w): for an edge from a white vertex to a black vertex, the corresponding coefficient is multiplied by z, z⁻¹, w or w⁻¹ if the edge crosses the right, left, top or bottom boundary of the fundamental domain.



Spectral data

- Spectral curve : the set of all $(z, w) \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^2$ such that $\det K(z, w) = 0$.
- Associate to each (z, w) on the spectral curve a vector in the kernel of K(z, w).

• Divisor on the spectral curve : values of (z, w) on the spectral curve for which the first coordinate of the vector vanishes.

Algebro-geometric integrability

• Consider the Goncharov-Kenyon dynamics for $m \times n$ square-grid dimer model on the torus.

• The dynamics preserves the spectral curve, hence the integrals of motion are the coefficients of the polynomial $\det K(z, w)$.

• The motion of divisor corresponds to translation on the Jacobian of the spectral curve.

Unrelated dimer story : Aztec diamond

Aztec diamond of size 3



Pick a dimer configuration of the Aztec diamond of size n uniformly at random.

• Appearance of a limit shape in the limit $n \to \infty$.



color code for dimers:

picture by Cris Moore tuvalu.santafe.edu/ ~moore/aztec256.gif • To any dimer configuration one can associate a height function, whose graph is a stepped surface.

• A random dimer configuration of the Aztec diamond is a random surface.

• For $n \to \infty$, this random surface concentrates around a deterministic surface called the limit shape.

• The limit shape is obtained by solving a variational problem, minimizing a certain functional with prescribed boundary conditions.

• Main topic of this talk : Miquel dynamics on circle patterns.

• Its definition by Kenyon was inspired by the Goncharov-Kenyon dimer integrable system.

Miquel's theorem



Miquel's theorem



Theorem (Miquel, 1838). In this setting, A, B, C, D concyclic $\Leftrightarrow A', B', C', D'$ concyclic.

THÉORÈMES

Sur les intersections des cercles et des sphères;

PAR AUG. MIQUEL.

Théorème I.

« Lorsque quatre points A, B, C, D (fig. 1, planche III) sont situés » sur une même circonférence de cercle ABCD; si par les points » consécutifs A et B, B et C, C et D, D et A, on fait passer des » circonférences de cercle, les quatre secondes intersections A', B', » C', D' des circonférences consécutives se trouveront sur une même » circonférence de cercle A'B'C'D'. »





Theorem (R., 2017). $\theta_1 + \theta_3 = \theta_2 + \theta_4 \Leftrightarrow$ A, B, C, D concyclic $\Leftrightarrow A', B', C', D'$ concyclic.



ABCD concyclic $\Leftrightarrow \hat{A} + \hat{C} = \hat{B} + \hat{D}$



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 $ABCD \text{ concyclic} \Leftrightarrow \hat{A} + \hat{C} = \hat{B} + \hat{D}$ $\hat{A} = \theta_1 + \mathbf{)} + \mathbf{)} \qquad \hat{B} = \theta_2 + \mathbf{)} + \mathbf{)}$ $\hat{C} = \theta_3 + \mathbf{)} + \mathbf{)} \qquad \hat{D} = \theta_4 + \mathbf{)} + \mathbf{)}$

Square grid circle patterns

A square grid circle pattern (SGCP) is a map
S: Z² → R² such that any four vertices around a face of Z² get mapped to four concyclic points.



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Miquel dynamics

• Checkerboard coloring of the faces of \mathbb{Z}^2 : black and white circles.



• Define two maps from the set of SGCPs to itself, black mutation μ_B and white mutation μ_W .

• Black mutation μ_B : each vertex gets moved to the other intersection point of the two white circles it belongs to. All the vertices move simultaneously.



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• Why does μ_B produce an SGCP ?



- The maps μ_B and μ_W are involutions.
- Miquel dynamics : discrete-time dynamics obtained by alternating between μ_B and μ_W .
- Invented by Richard Kenyon.



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Biperiodic SGCPs

• An SGCP S is spatially biperiodic if there exist m, n integers and $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ such that for all $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$,

$$S(x+m,y) = S(x,y) + \vec{u}$$
$$S(x,y+n) = S(x,y) + \vec{v}$$



- The vector \vec{u} (resp. \vec{v}) is called the monodromy in the direction (m, 0) (resp. (0, n)).
- A biperiodic SGCP is mapped by Miquel dynamics to another biperiodic SGCP with the same periods and monodromies.

• This reduces the problem to a finite-dimensional one.

• A biperiodic circle pattern in the plane projects down to a circle pattern on a flat torus.

[Mathematica]

Dimers vs circle patterns

- The limit shape in the dimer model is a deterministic surface which minimizes some surface tension with prescribed boundary conditions (Cohn-Kenyon-Propp).
- For circle patterns, one can find the radii knowing the intersection angles by solving a variational principle. The functional minimized is similar to the one occurring for dimers (Rivin, Bobenko-Springborn).
- Miquel dynamics mimics the Goncharov-Kenyon dimer discrete integrable system. Can it give us a direct connection between dimers and circle patterns ?

Dimension of the space

Coordinates on that space

"Many" independent conserved quantities

Spectral curve

Identify black and white mutation as cluster algebra mutations

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Spectral curve

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What space of circle patterns ?

- Fix m and n in \mathbb{Z}_+ and consider the space $\mathcal{M}_{m,n}$ of SGCPs that have both (m,0) and (0,n) as a period, considered up to similarity.
- SGCPs whose faces form a cell decomposition of the torus (no folds, no non-convex quads) are an open subset of $\mathcal{M}_{m,n}$.
- Bobenko-Springborn (2004) : this subspace of celldecomposition SGCPs has dimension mn + 1.





- Four ϕ variables in each of the mn faces of a fundamental domain.
- These variables must satisfy some relations.

Coordinates for $\mathcal{M}_{m,n}$



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- These variables must satisfy some relations.

- Flatness at each face and vertex.
- Consistency of radii around a vertex.





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- Global relations across the torus, expressing the consistency of radii and the parallelism of edges.



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$$\int \sin \frac{\phi}{2} = \int \sin \frac{\phi}{2}$$

$$\int \phi = \sum \phi$$

$$m = 4$$
$$n = 2$$















We easily reconstruct the SGCP from such ϕ variables.

Conjecture. One can choose $mn+1 \phi$ variables freely, they provide local coordinates "almost everywhere" on $\mathcal{M}_{m,n}$.



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- imposed
- deduced

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Local recurrence formulas

• Replace the ϕ variables by $X = e^{i\phi}$, complex numbers of modulus one.



central face is black

• How does black mutation act on the X_i 's and Y_i 's ?

$$Y'_{N} = Y_{N} \frac{\left(1 - \frac{\left(1 - X_{W}^{-1}\right)\left(1 - Y_{N}^{-1}\right)}{\left(1 - Y_{W}\right)\left(1 - X_{N}\right)}\right) \left(1 - \frac{\left(1 - X_{E}^{-1}\right)\left(1 - Y_{N}^{-1}\right)}{\left(1 - Y_{E}\right)\left(1 - X_{N}\right)}\right)}{\left(1 - \frac{\left(1 - X_{W}\right)\left(1 - Y_{N}\right)}{\left(1 - Y_{W}^{-1}\right)\left(1 - Y_{N}^{-1}\right)}\right) \left(1 - \frac{\left(1 - X_{E}\right)\left(1 - Y_{N}\right)}{\left(1 - Y_{E}^{-1}\right)\left(1 - X_{N}^{-1}\right)}\right)}$$

$$X'_{N} = \frac{1 - \frac{\left(1 - X_{N}^{-1}\right)\left(1 - Y_{W}^{-1}\right)\left(1 - Y_{N}^{\prime}\right)^{-1}}{\left(1 - Y_{N}\right)\left(1 - X_{W}\right)\left(1 - Y_{W}^{\prime}\right)}}{1 - \frac{\left(1 - X_{N}\right)\left(1 - Y_{W}\right)\left(1 - Y_{W}^{\prime}\right)}{\left(1 - Y_{N}^{-1}\right)\left(1 - X_{W}^{-1}\right)\left(1 - Y_{W}^{\prime}\right)^{-1}}}$$

• Reminiscent of the mutation of ratios of cluster variables in cluster algebras.

Conserved quantities

• The pair of monodromy vectors (\vec{u}, \vec{v}) up to similarity (two real conserved quantities).

• Signed sums of intersection angles along loops on the torus.

$$m = 4$$
$$n = 2$$

• For any directed loop l drawn on the dual graph, define $\gamma(l) = \sum_{e \in l} \pm \theta_e$.

0		0	
	0		0

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m = 4n = 2

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• For any directed loop l drawn on the dual graph, define $\gamma(l) = \sum_{e \in l} \pm \theta_e$. intersection angle associated with e minus if traversing e in the wrong way • $\gamma(l)$ only depends on the homology class of l on the torus. We can upgrade γ to be a group homomorphism from $H_1(\mathbb{T},\mathbb{Z})$ to $\mathbb{R}/(2\pi\mathbb{Z})$.

Theorem (R., 2017). Black mutation and white mutation change γ to $-\gamma$.

• Provides only two independent conserved quantities.

Isoradial patterns

• An SGCP is called isoradial if all the circles have a common radius.

Theorem (R., 2017). Isoradial patterns are periodic points in $\mathcal{M}_{m,n}$, with a common period depending on m and n.

- When (m, n) = (2, 1) or (m, n) = (4, 1), every pattern is isoradial.
- The isoradial Miquel dynamics coincides with the isoradial dimer dynamics.

Isoradial Miquel vs Goncharov-Kenyon



The 2×2 case



• Construction of a 2×2 SGCP : pick B, D, F and H freely, pick E to be any point on the equilateral hyperbola through B, D, F, H and extend it to a biperiodic SGCP with monodromies $\vec{u} = \overrightarrow{DF}$ and $\vec{v} = \overrightarrow{BH}$.



• Absolute motion : iterating Miquel dynamics, all the points usually drift to infinity.



- Relative motion : apply black or white mutation and translate to bring A back to its original position.
- A, C, G and I are fixed.



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- A, C, G and I are fixed.
- B, D, F and H move along arcs of circles.



Quartic curve for E

• Given a 2×2 SGCP, elementary construction of three points Ω, P, P' (cf Geogebra).

Theorem (R., 2017). *E* moves along the quartic curve Q defined as the set of the points *M* satisfying

$$PM^2P'M^2 - \lambda\Omega M^2 = k,$$

where λ and k are chosen such that the curve goes through A, C, G and I.

[Geogebra] then [Mathematica]

Binodal quartic curves

• Taking coordinates centered at Ω such that P is on the horizontal axis, Q has an equation of the form

$$(X^2 + Y^2)^2 + aX^2 + bY^2 + c = 0$$

• As a curve in \mathbb{CP}^2 , the quartic \mathcal{Q} has two nodes, the circular points at infinity (1 : i : 0) and (1 : -i : 0), hence has geometric genus 1 and its normalization $\widehat{\mathcal{Q}}$ is an elliptic curve.

• For any binodal quartic curve \mathcal{C} with nodes P_1 and P_2 , the group law on $\widehat{\mathcal{C}}$ can be defined using conics going through P_1, P_2 and a fixed base point $P_0 \in \mathcal{C}$: the other three intersection points of the conic with \mathcal{C} are declared to have zero sum.

Theorem (Glutsyuk-R., 2018). Denote by E'_w (resp. E'_b) the renormalized position of E after white (resp. black) mutation. Then Miquel dynamics is translation on \widehat{Q} :

$$E'_w = -E - 2A$$
$$E'_b = -E - 2C$$

[Geogebra] cubic then quartic

(then the end)