

Braid computations using certified path tracking

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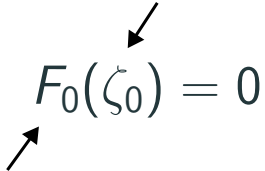
A diagram consisting of a stylized, italicized letter F . A black arrow points diagonally upwards and to the right towards the bottom-left corner of the letter F .

Parametrized polynomial system

Certified homotopy continuation

Input: F

Point in $\mathbb{C}^n$

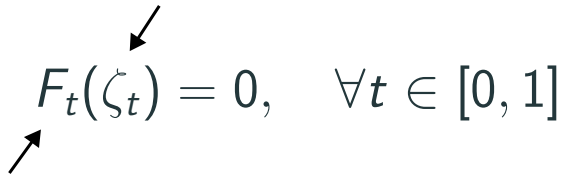

$$F_0(\zeta_0) = 0$$

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Input: F, ζ_0

Unique continuous extension

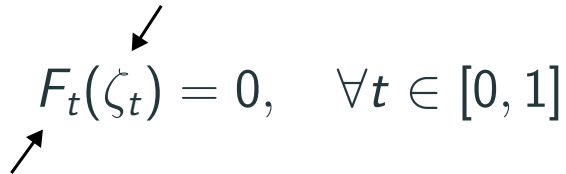

$$F_t(\zeta_t) = 0, \quad \forall t \in [0, 1]$$

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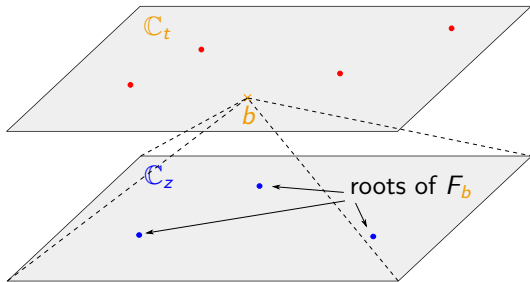
Parametrized polynomial system

Certified homotopy continuation

Input: F, ζ_0

Output: A “certified approximation” of ζ

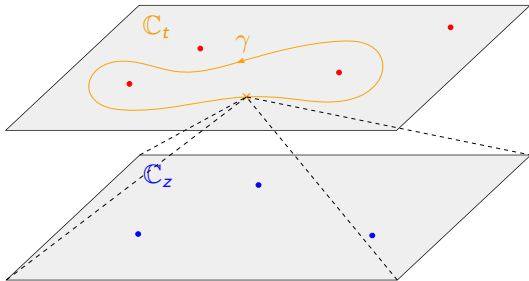
Motivation: braid computations



Setup

- Let $g \in \mathbb{C}[t, z]$,
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- Let $b \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \Sigma$ be a base point,

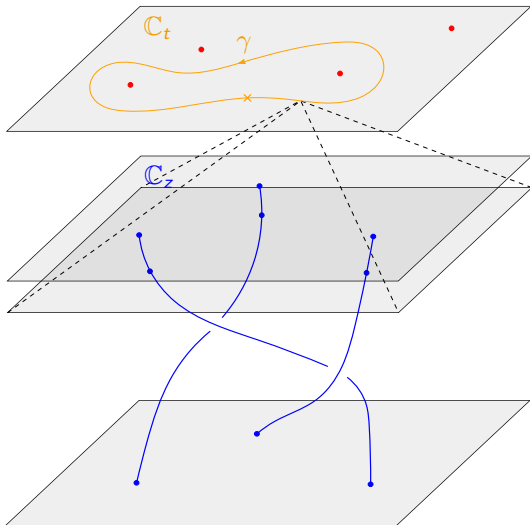
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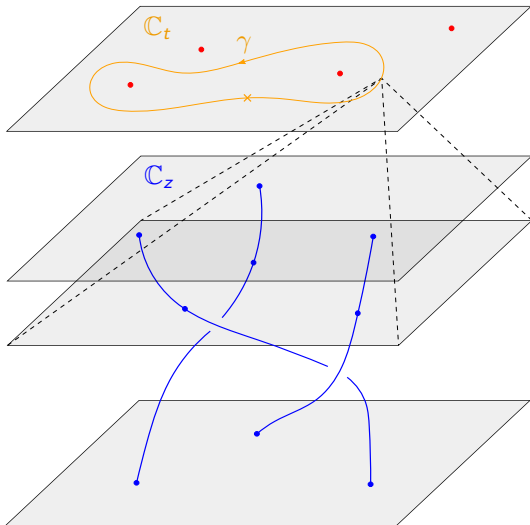
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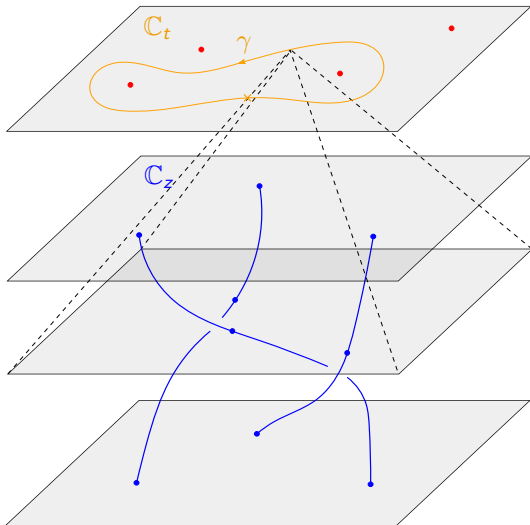
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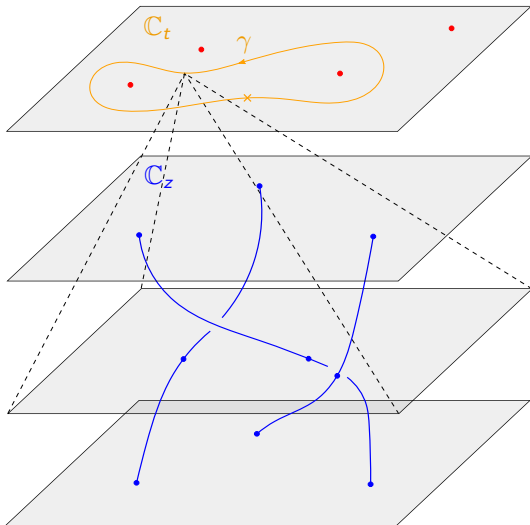
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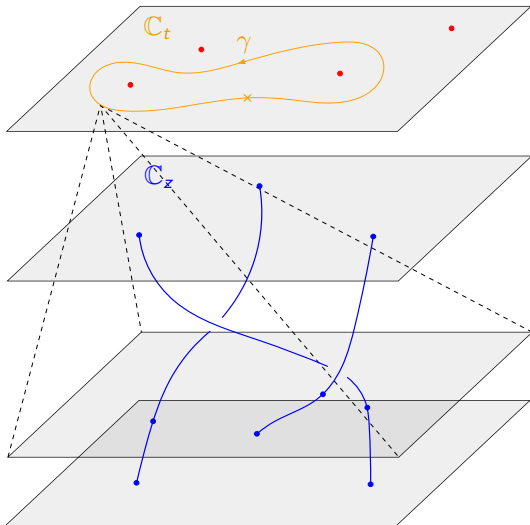
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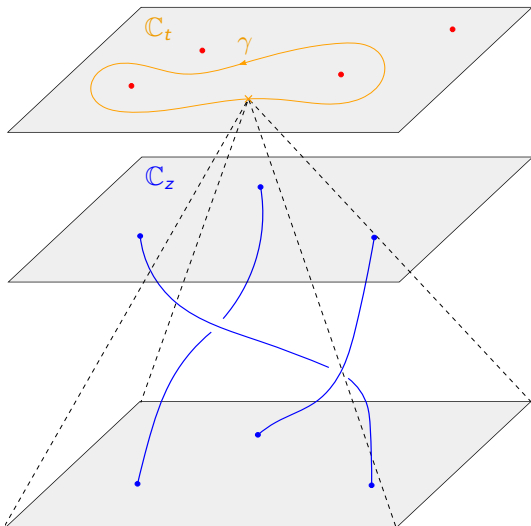
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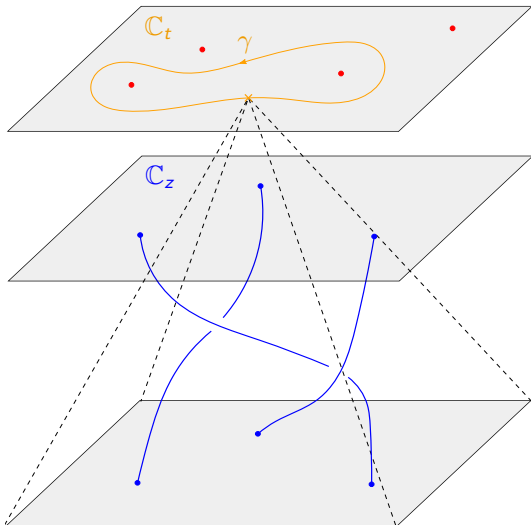
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Algorithmic goal

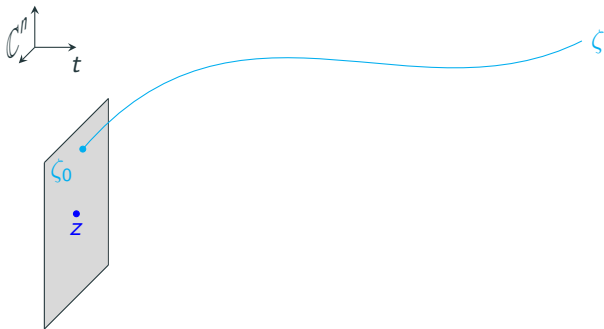
Input: g, γ

Output: the associated braid

Tool: certified path tracking

Generic corrector-predictor loop

Recall: for all $t \in [0, 1]$, $F_t(\zeta_t) = 0$



```
def track( $F, z$ ):
```

```
1  $t \leftarrow 0$ ;    $L \leftarrow []$ 
```

```
2 while  $t < 1$ :
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```
3      $z \leftarrow \text{refine}(F_t, z)$ 
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4      $\delta \leftarrow \text{validate}(F, t, z)$ 
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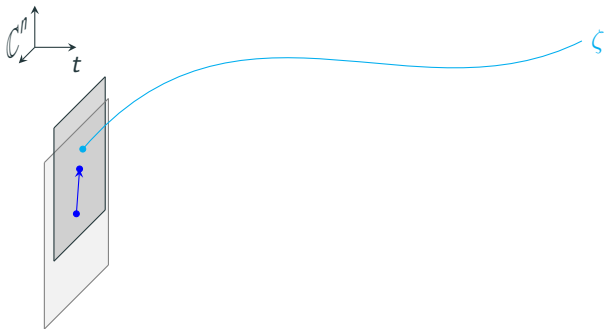
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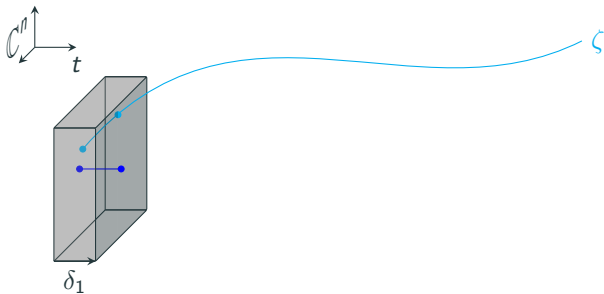
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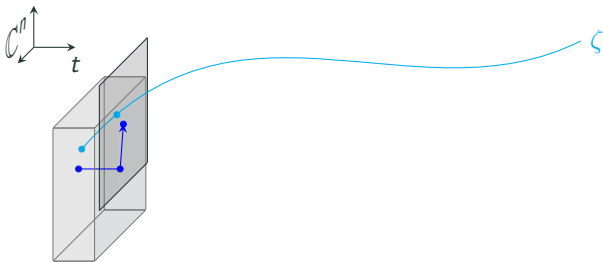
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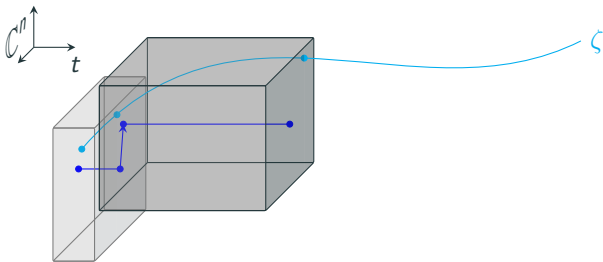
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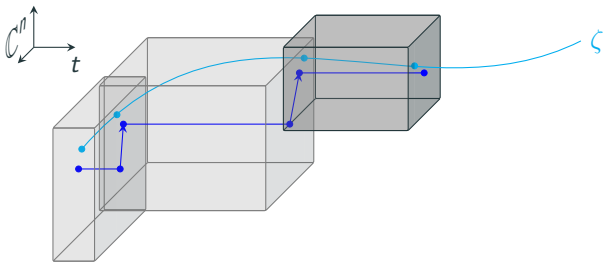
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Main tool: interval arithmetic

Problem

Given $f \in \mathbb{R}[x]$, I and J intervals, check $f(I) \subseteq J$.

Sufficient solution

- Define interval binary operations $\boxplus$ and $\boxtimes$ that take two intervals, give an interval and is such that for all $x \in A$, $y \in B$,

$$x + y \in A \boxplus B, xy \in A \boxtimes B$$

- Write f as a composition of binary operations and replace each operation by its interval counterpart (**interval extension**, denoted by $\square f$), then plug I and check if the result is contained in J (as $f(I) \subseteq \square f(I)$).

! This is only a sufficient condition

Main tool: interval arithmetic

Rational endpoints interval arithmetic

- Interval endpoints : $\mathbb{Q}$
- $[a, b] \boxplus [c, d] = [a + c, b + d]$,
- $[a, b] \boxtimes [c, d] = [\min\{ac, ad, bc, bd\}, \max\{ac, ad, bc, bd\}]$.

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$$f = x^2 - x + 2, I = [0, 1]$$

- If we decompose f as $(x \cdot x - x) + 2$, we get $[1, 3]$.
- If we decompose f as $x \cdot (x - 1) + 2$, we get $[1, 2]$.
- Actually, $f([0, 1]) = [1.75, 2]$.

- ! Decomposition dependant, dependency issue, overestimation
- ! Coefficient swell (we will adress this problem later...)

Moore boxes, the datastructure for isolating boxes

Root isolation criterion [Krawczyk, 1969], [Moore, 1977], [Rump, 1983]

- $f : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$ polynomial, $\rho \in (0, 1)$,
- $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$, $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, $B \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n$ a ball of center 0,

such that for all $u, v \in B$,

$$-Af(z) + [I_n - A \cdot Jf(z + u)]v \in \rho B.$$

Then f has a unique zero in $z + \rho B$.

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Then f has a unique zero in $z + \rho B$.

Proof sketch

We show that $\varphi : z + \rho B \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$ defined by $\varphi(w) = w - Af(w)$ is a ρ -contraction map with values in $z + \rho B$.

Definition

A ρ -Moore box for f is a triple (z, B, A) which satisfies Moore's criterion.

Refine

Input: $f : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$ polynomial; z, B, A a $\frac{7}{8}$ -Moore box for f .

Output: A $\frac{1}{8}$ -Moore box for f with same associated zero as z, B, A .

```
def refine( $f, z, B, A$ ):
```

```
1  $U \leftarrow A$ 
```

```
2 while not  $-A \cdot \square f(z) + [I - A \cdot \square Jf(z + B)] B \subseteq \frac{1}{8}B$ :
```

```
3   if left term is small compared to  $\frac{1}{8}B$ :
```

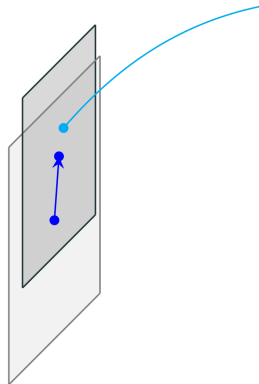
```
4     shrink  $B$ 
```

```
5   else:
```

```
6      $z \leftarrow z - Uf(z)$ 
```

```
7      $A \leftarrow Jf(z)^{-1}$  # unchecked arithmetic
```

```
8 return  $z, B, A$ 
```



Validate

Input: $F : \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$ polynomial; $t \in [0, 1]$; z, B, A a $\frac{1}{8}$ -Moore box for F_t .

Output: $\delta > 0$ such that for all $s \in [t, t + \delta]$, z, B, A is a $\frac{7}{8}$ -Moore box for F_s .

```
def validate( $F, t, z, B, A$ ):
```

```
1  $\delta \leftarrow 1$ 
```

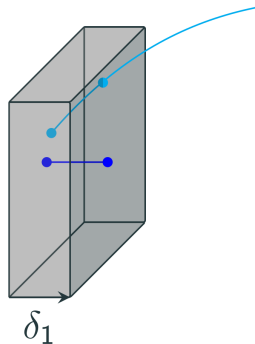
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2  $T \leftarrow [t, t + \delta]$ 
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```
3 while  $-A \cdot \square F_T(z) + [I - A \cdot \square JF_T(z + B)] B \not\subseteq \frac{7}{8}B$ :
```

```
4    $\delta \leftarrow \frac{\delta}{2}$ 
```

```
5    $T \leftarrow [t, t + \delta]$ 
```

```
6 return  $\delta$ 
```



Important aspects that I did not adress

Model

- ✗ Rational endpoints: coefficient swell
- ✗ 64-bits float interval arithmetic: bad theoretical properties
- ✓ Arbitrary precision interval arithmetic: precision management allows for termination
It requires careful handling!

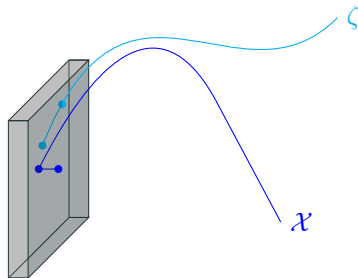
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- ✗ Check that (z, B, A) is a Mb for F_t on T



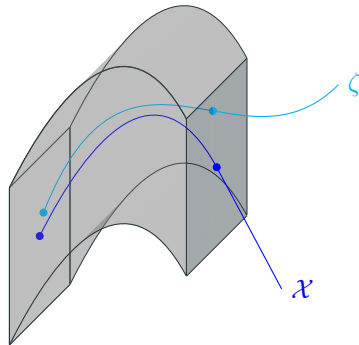
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Predictor

- ✗ Check that (z, B, A) is a Mb for F_t on T
- ✓ Check that $(\mathcal{X}(t), B, A)$ is a Mb for F_t on T .
- ! Replacing T by $\mathcal{X}(T)$ in `validate` does not work:
computing directly $F_T(\mathcal{X}(T))$ suffers from the
dependency problem (though $F_s(\mathcal{X}(s)) \approx 0$)
- 💡 Taylor models: “expand then evaluate”



Implementation

Alpath is a Rust implementation of the presented algorithm.

Generic implementation with respect to the interval arithmetic. Can use:

- 64-bit float endpoints.  fast  cannot increase precision
- Arb ¹ (adaptive precision interval arithmetic library).  can manage precision  slower than float endpoints

Mixed precision

At each iteration of the main loop, chooses between float endpoints or Arb for the next corrector predictor round, depending on precision.  little overhead over float endpoints

Predictor

Hermite's cubic predictor (degree 3)

¹Johansson. “Arb: Efficient Arbitrary-Precision Midpoint-Radius Interval Arithmetic”.

Benchmarks

name	dim	degree	HomotopyContinuation.jl			Algpath		
			time (s)	failures	max steps	time (s)	max prec.	max steps
dense	1	1000	11		100	27 min	59	24 k
dense	1	2000	48	3	79	2 h	62	71 k
katsura	21	2^{20}	5 h		468	89 h	65	13 k
resultants	3	$16 \cdot 4^2$	7.6		128	160	58	3510
resultants	2	$40 \cdot 5$	4.2	200		13 min	69	2205
structured *	3	20^3	3.7	12	164	6.3	56	634
structured *	3	30^3	3.5	92	133	97	71	820
W_{20}	1	20	2.4	20		3 h	118	2316 k
clustered (10, 5, 10)	1	50	3.8		153	153	70	17 k

Figure 1: Total degree homotopy benchmarks. A * means that only 100 random roots were tracked.

²Breiding and Timme. *“HomotopyContinuation.Jl: A Package for Homotopy Continuation in Julia”*.

Introduction to braids

Definition

The configuration space on n elements C_n is $\{c \subset \mathbb{C} : \text{card}(c) = n\}$ (we call its elements configurations). The (geometric) braid group is $B_n = \pi_1(C_n, \{1, \dots, n\})$.

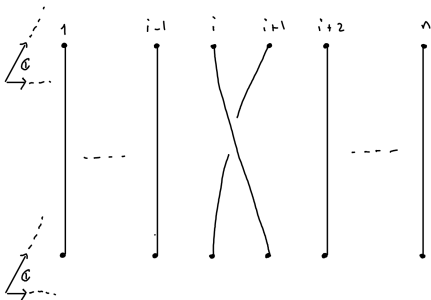


Figure 2: Standard generator σ_i

Theorem [Artin, 1947]

The σ_i 's generate B_n (+ explicit relations).

Goal

Given some data representing a braid (e.g. output of Algpath), decompose it in terms of the σ_i 's.

Computing a decomposition

Input: $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n$ continuous paths in $\mathbb{C}$ such that $\gamma_i(t) \neq \gamma_j(t)$ for all $i \neq j$ and $t \in [0, 1]$

Output: a decomposition in standard generators of the braid induced by the input

Naive idea

Project on the real axis, process crossings in order.

- ! Multiple/non transversal crossings
- ! The output of Algbraid is a piecewise tubular neighborhood around each strand. Each piece follows a degree three curve.

Work in progress

- ✓ Refine the naive approach
- ⚙️ Prove correction and termination
- ⚙️ Implement and pipe the output of Algbraid

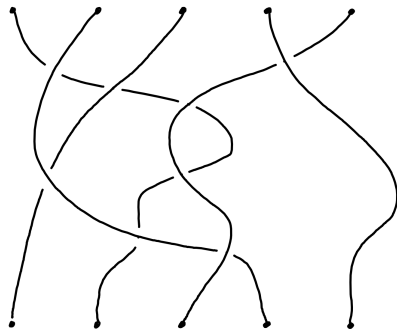


Figure 3: $\sigma_4\sigma_1^{-1}\sigma_2^{-1}\sigma_3^{-1}\sigma_3\sigma_1\sigma_2\sigma_3^{-1}$

References i



Artin, E. (1947). Theory of Braids. *Annals of Mathematics*, 48(1), 101–126.



Breiding, P., & Timme, S. (2018). HomotopyContinuation.jl: A Package for Homotopy Continuation in Julia. In J. H. Davenport, M. Kauers, G. Labahn, & J. Urban (Eds.), *Mathematical Software – ICMS 2018* (pp. 458–465). Springer International Publishing.



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Rump, S. M. (1983). SOLVING ALGEBRAIC PROBLEMS WITH HIGH ACCURACY. In U. W. Kulisch & W. L. Miranker (Eds.), *A New Approach to Scientific Computation* (pp. 51–120). Academic Press.

Test data

We tested systems of the form $g_t(z) = t f^\ominus(z) + (1 - t) f^\triangleright(z)$ ($f^\triangleright$ is the start system, $f^\ominus$ is the target system).

Target systems

- Dense: $f_i^\ominus$'s of given degree with random coefficients
- Structured: $f_i^\ominus$'s of the form $\pm 1 + \sum_{i=1}^5 \left(\sum_{j=1}^n a_{i,j} z_j \right)^d$, $a_{i,j} \in_R \{-1, 0, 1\}$
- Katsura family (sparse - high dimension - low degree)

Start systems

- Total degree homotopies: $f_i^\triangleright$'s of the form $\gamma_i(z_i^{d_i} - 1)$, $\gamma_i \in_R \mathbb{C}$, $d_i = \deg f_i^\ominus$
- Newton homotopies: $f^\triangleright(z) = f^\ominus(z) - f^\ominus(z_0)$