# On the Connectivity of Branch Loci of Spaces of Curves 

Milagros Izquierdo

## Applied Combinatorial Geometric Topology 8ECM, June 24, 2021

Joint work with A. Costa and other (important) people


Given an orientable, closed surface $X$ of genus $g \geq 2$ The equivalence: $(X, \mathcal{M}(X)$, complex atlas) $(\mathcal{M}(X)=\langle x, y\rangle, p(x, y)=0$, the field of meromorphic functions on $X$ )
$X \cong \frac{\mathbb{H}}{\Delta}$, with $\Delta$ a (cocompact) Fuchsian group
$\Delta$ discrete subgroup of $\operatorname{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$
$(X, \mathcal{M}(X)$, complex curve $)(\mathcal{M}(X)=\mathbb{C}[x, y] / p(x, y)$, the field of rational functions on $X$ )
$(Y$, dianalytic atlas $) \cong(X / \bar{\sigma}, \bar{\sigma}$ class of anticonformal involution $) \cong$ real curve $(Y$, birational structure). $Y \cong \frac{\mathbb{H}}{\Delta}$, with $\widehat{\Delta}$ an NEC group

The ovals of the curve $Y$ are the boundary components of the surface $X / \bar{\sigma}$, the orientability is the one of $X / \bar{\sigma}$, the genus (is the genus): topological type t
$(X$, complex atlas $) \cong \mathbb{H} / \Delta$, with $\Delta$ a (cocompact) Fuchsian group
Surface Fuchsian Group $\Gamma_{g}=\left\langle a_{1}, b_{1}, \ldots, a_{g}, b_{g} \mid \Pi\left[a_{i}, b_{i}\right]=1\right\rangle$

- Teichmüller space $\mathcal{T}_{g}$, space of geometries on a surface of genus $g$ $\mathcal{T}_{g}=\left\{\sigma: \Gamma_{0} \rightarrow \operatorname{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R}) \mid\right.$ oinjective, $\sigma\left(\Gamma_{0}\right)$ discrete $\} / \operatorname{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$
A Riemann surface with prescribed geometry is given by a marked polygon (and all its conjugate by a hyperbolic transformation) in the hyperbolic plane, or the space of conjugacy classes of Fuchsian groups isomorphic to the abstract group $\Gamma_{0}=\left\langle a_{1}, b_{1}, \ldots, a_{g}, b_{g} ; a_{1} b_{1} a_{1}^{-1} b_{1}^{-1} \ldots a_{g} b_{g} a_{g}^{-1} b_{g}^{-1}=1\right\rangle$.
- Moduli space $\mathcal{M g}_{g}$, space (orbifold) of conformal structures on a surface of genus $g$
- Mapping Class Group (Teichmüller Modular Group)
$M_{g}^{+}=\operatorname{Diff}^{+}(X) / \operatorname{Diff}_{0}(X)=\operatorname{Out}\left(\Gamma_{g}\right)$
- Orbifold Universal Covering $\mathcal{M}_{g}=\mathcal{T}_{g} / M_{g}^{+}$
$\mathcal{B}_{g}$ Branch Locus $=$ Singular Locus of $\mathcal{M}_{g}$ as orbifold (Not the singular set of $\mathcal{M}_{2,3}$ as algebraic variety, A. Costa- A. Porto for a proof with Fuchsian groups)

Nielsen Realization Theorem (Abikoff 1980, Macbeath for NEC groups)
$\mathcal{B}_{g}=\left\{X \in \mathcal{M}_{g} \mid \operatorname{Aut}(X) \neq 1\right\}$
( $\mathcal{B}_{2}$ : surfaces with more automorphisms than the hyperelliptic involution)
$g=1$ Euclidean case: $\mathcal{T}_{1}=\mathbb{H}, M_{1}=\operatorname{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z}), \mathcal{B}_{1}=\left\{i, e^{i \pi / 3}\right\}, \mathcal{M}_{1}$ hyperbolic triangle with a vertex at $\infty$, the nodal curve $y^{2}=x^{3}$.

Considering $(X$, dianalytic atlas, top. type $\mathbf{t}) \cong \mathbb{H} / \widehat{\Delta}$, with $\widehat{\Delta}$ an NEC group $\mathcal{T}_{t}^{K}$ and $\mathcal{M}_{t}^{K}$ the Teichmüller and moduli space of Klein surfaces of topological type $\mathbf{t}$.
$\mathcal{M}_{t}^{K}=\mathcal{T}_{t}^{K} / M(\widehat{\Delta}), \quad M(\widehat{\Delta})=\operatorname{Out}(\widehat{\Delta})$. Branch locus $\mathcal{B}_{t}^{K}$
Studies of branch locus and moduli spaces:
For $g=1$ Schwarz
For $g=2$ Bolza (1887, moduli of automorphic functions)
For hyperbolic surfaces Harvey, Natanzon, Macbeath.

Deligne-Mumford Complection (going to $\infty$ in $\mathcal{M g}_{g}$ )
Curves whose singularities are ordinary double points (nodes), all of whose irreducible components isomorphic to $\mathbb{P}^{1}$ (or $\widehat{\mathbb{C}}$ ), meet the other irreducible components in at least 3 nodes: stable curves
$\widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{g}=\mathcal{M}_{g} \cup\{$ stable curves $\}$ (deforming by variating the coeffcients or roots)

Geometrically: Riemann surfaces with a geodesic multicurve pinched to length 0 (deforming by variating the lengths of a system of curves)
Consider the complection $\widehat{\mathcal{B}}_{g}$ of $\mathcal{B}_{g}$ in $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{g}$

Wish: If $\mathcal{B}_{g}, \mathcal{B}_{t}^{K}, \widehat{\mathcal{B}}_{g}$ connected one can deform a curve with symmetry to another curve with symmetry along a path of curves, all they with symmetry, maybe pinching some multicurve.

1. The branch loci $\mathcal{B}_{g}$ of moduli spaces of hyperbolic Riemann surfaces are disconnected for all genera with the exception of genera 3, 4, 7, 13, 17, 19 and 59.

Bartolini-Costa-I 2013 (Ann. Acad. Sci. Fenn.)
In genus 2 Wiman's curve (of type I) is isolated.
2. It constains several connected components. E.g. $\mathcal{B}_{g}$ contains isolated strata formed by p -gonal RS for genera a multiple g of $(\mathrm{p}-1) / 2$, at least $2(\mathrm{p}-1) / 2$ Bartolini-Costa-I-Porto 2010/2012 (RACSAM), Costa-I 2011 (Math. Scand.) Question: How much does the no. of connected comp. grow?
3. Considering RS as Klein surfaces, $\mathcal{B}_{(g,+, 0)}^{K}$ is connected! Bartolini-Costa-I-Porto 2010 (RACSAM)
4. $\mathcal{B}_{(g,+, k)}^{K}$ is connected (orientable Klein surfaces) Costa-l-Porto 2015 (Geom. Dedic.)
5. $\mathcal{B}_{(g,-, 0)}^{K}$ is connected ( $g=4,5$ Bujalance-Etayo-Martínez-Szpietowski 2014) In general? (Costa-I-Porto 2021).

6 Considering $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{g}$,

- Question1: Is $\widehat{\mathcal{B}}_{g}$ connected?
- Question 2: Is the locus of stable p-gonal curves connected, p odd prime?

7 The hyperelliptic locus is connected (Seppälä 1982), the p-gonal locus is in general disconnected, each connected comp. associated to a partition of Omodp (González-Diez 1995, Buser-Silhol-Seppälä 1995 )
8 The locus of hyperelliptic non-orientable Klein surface with one boundary component is disconnected. It is connected for the corresponding orientable surfaces.
Costa-I-Porto 2017 (Inter. J. Math.)
9 The complection of the trigonal locus is connected Costa-I-Parlier 2014 (Rev. Mat. Complut.)
$10 \widehat{\mathcal{B}}_{g}$ contains isolated strata of dim. 1 for genera $g=p-1, p \geq 11$. These strata consists of p-gonal curves
Costa-I-Parlier 2014 (Rev. Mat. Complut.)
11 The locus of principally polarized abelian varieties (ppav) admitting involutions is connected
Reyes-Carocca - Rodríguez 2018

Riemann \& Surfaces and Fuchsian \& NEC Groups
Teichmüller Spaces
Connectedness of Branch Locus

## Introduction

Fuchsian \& NEC groups


## Conformal Geometry and Low Dimensional Manifolds

# A conference in Honour of Antonio F. Costa <br> 27 June - 1 July 2022 UNED Ávila 

## Fuchsian and NEC Groups

- $\Delta$ (cocompact) discrete subgroup of $\operatorname{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$
- A (compact) Riemann (surface) orbifold of genus $g \geq 2 \quad X=\frac{\mathbb{H}}{\Delta}$
- $\Delta$ has presentation:
generators: $x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}, a_{1}, b_{1}, \ldots, a_{h}, b_{h}$ relations: $x_{i}^{m_{i}}, i=1: r, x_{1} \ldots x_{r} a_{1} b_{1} a_{1}^{-1} b_{1}^{-1} \ldots a_{h} b_{h} a_{h}^{-1} b_{h}^{-1}$
- $X=\frac{\mathbb{H}}{\Delta}$ : orbifold with $r$ cone points and underlying surface of genus $g$
- Algebraic structure of $\Delta$ and geometric structure of $X$ are determined by the signature $\quad s(\Delta)=\left(h ; m_{1}, \ldots, m_{r}\right)$
- NEC group $\Delta$ (hyperbolic silvered 2-orbifolds)
- extra generators: $e_{1}, \ldots, e_{k}, c_{i, j}, 1 \leq i \leq k, 1 \leq j \leq r_{i}+1$ extra relations: $\left(c_{i, j-1} c_{i, j}\right)^{n_{i, j}}, j=1, \ldots, r_{i}, e_{i}^{-1} c_{i, r_{i}} e_{j}^{-1} c_{i, 0}, i=1, \ldots, k$, long relation: either $x_{1} \ldots x_{r} e_{1} \ldots e_{k} a_{1} b_{1} a_{1}^{-1} b_{1}^{-1} \ldots a_{h} b_{h} a_{h}^{-1} b_{h}^{-1}$

$$
\text { or } x_{1} \ldots x_{r} e_{1} \ldots e_{k} d_{1}^{2} \ldots d_{h}^{2},
$$

- $s(\Delta)=\left(h ; \pm ;\left[m_{1}, \ldots, m_{r}\right] ;\left\{\left(n_{1,1}, \ldots, n_{1, r_{1}}\right), \ldots,\left(n_{k, 1}, \ldots, n_{k, r_{k}}\right)\right\}\right)$.

Singerman 1970-1974

## Fundamental polygon

- Area of $\Delta$ : area of a fundamental region $P$

$$
\mu(\Delta)=2 \pi\left(2 h-2+\sum_{1}^{r}\left(1-\frac{1}{m_{i}}\right)\right)
$$

- For NEC group
$\mu(\Delta)=2 \pi\left(\varepsilon h-2+k+\sum_{i=1}^{r}\left(1-\frac{1}{m_{i}}\right)+\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{k} \sum_{j=1}^{r_{i}}\left(1-\frac{1}{n_{i, j}}\right)\right)$,
- $X$ hyperbolic equivalent to $P /\langle$ pairing〉
- Every Riemann/Klein orbifold is diconformally equiv. to a Riemann/Klein surface $X$ (uniformized by a surface group $\Gamma_{g}, \Gamma_{(g, \pm, k)}$ ) Moore 197X, Bujalance 1982, (Armstrong 1984 for structures associated to more general discontinuos groups)


## Automorphisms and Morphisms of RS

$G$ finite group of automorphisms of $X_{g}=\mathbb{H} / Г, \Gamma$ a surface group iif there exist $\Delta$ Fuchsian/NEC group and epimorphism $\theta: \Delta \rightarrow G$ with $\operatorname{Ker}(\theta)=\Gamma$
$\theta$ is the monodromy of the (regular) covering $f: \mathbb{H} / \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{H} / \Delta$

$\Delta$ : lifting to $\mathbb{H}$ of $G$
An automorphism of $X$ will fix the class of the uniformizing Fuchsian/NEC group

A morphism $f: X=\mathbb{H} / \Lambda \rightarrow Y=\mathbb{H} / \Delta$, given by the group inclusion $i: \Lambda \rightarrow \Delta$ Covering $f$ determined by monodromy $\theta: \Delta \rightarrow \Sigma_{\mid \Delta: \Lambda}, \Lambda \mid=\theta^{-1}(S T b(1))$ (symbol $\leftrightarrow \Lambda$-coset $\leftrightarrow$ sheet for $f$ )
Theorem (Singerman 1971) $\wedge$ (and so $i$ ) determined $\theta$ (and $\Delta$ ): If $s(\Delta)=\left(h ; m_{1}, \ldots, m_{r}\right)$, then $s(\Lambda)=\left(h^{\prime} ; m_{11}^{\prime}, \ldots, m_{1 s_{1}}^{\prime}, \ldots, m_{r 1}^{\prime}, \ldots, m_{r s_{r}}^{\prime}\right)$ iff $\theta: \Delta \rightarrow \Sigma_{|\Delta: \Lambda|}$ st.
i) Riemann-Hurwitz $\frac{\mu(\Lambda)}{\mu(\Delta)}=|\Delta: \Lambda|$
ii) $\theta\left(x_{i}\right)$ product of $s_{i}$ cycles each of length $\frac{m_{i}}{m_{i 1}^{\prime}}, \ldots, \frac{m_{i}}{m_{i s_{i}}^{\prime}}$

Analogous result for NEC group \& Klein surfaces Singerman 1974, Hoare 1990, Pride 1990
focally a cycle of $\theta\left(x_{i}\right)$


In case of automorphism groups $G \quad \theta: \Delta \rightarrow G \leq \sum_{n} \quad \theta\left(x_{i}\right)$ )of order mi

$$
\theta\left(x_{1} \cdots x_{r} \pi\left[a_{j}, b_{j}\right]\right)=1_{d}
$$

Example: Surfaces of genus 2 with 8 automorphisms. They admit an action of Dy with monodromy $\theta: \Delta(0 ; 2,2,2,4) \longrightarrow D_{y}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \theta\left(x_{1}\right)=a=(1,3,5,7)(2,4,6,8) \\
& \theta\left(x_{2}\right)=s=(1,2)(4,7)(3,8)(6,5) \\
& \theta\left(x_{3}\right)=s a=(1,4)(2,3)(5,8)(6,7)
\end{aligned}
$$



Oof course $\theta\left(x_{4}\right)=$
No singular pts for order 4 ,

for one of order a
(2i), 47), (38) and (65
The are is $2 A 8\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)=4 a$, so genus is $2 \quad \operatorname{Arec}\left(x_{g}\right)=4 a(q-1)^{c}$

## p-gonal Riemann Surfaces

- A Riemann surface $X$ is called $p$-gonal if it admits a morphism of degree $p$ on the Riemann sphere
- $X$ is called cyclic p-gonal when $X$ has an automorphism $\varphi$ of order $p$ such that $X /\langle\varphi\rangle=\hat{\mathbb{C}}$.
- Case $p=2: \mathrm{X}$ hyperelliptic R.S.
- A Riemann surface $X$ is called elliptic-p-gonal if it admits a morphism of degree $p$ on a torus.
- $X$ is called cyclic elliptic-p-gonal when the morphism is a regular covering.
- Severi-Castelnuovo inequality: A $p$-gonal morphism of $X$ is unique if the genus of $X \geq(p-1)^{2}$.
- An elliptic- $p$-gonal morphism of $X$ is unique if the genus of $X \geq 2 p+(p-1)^{2}$.


## Teichmüller and Moduli Spaces

$\Delta$ abstract Fuchsian group $\quad s(\Delta)=\left(h ; m_{1}, \ldots, m_{r}\right)$
$\mathcal{T}_{\Delta}=\{\sigma: \Delta \rightarrow \operatorname{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R}) \mid$ oinjective, $\sigma(\Delta)$ discrete $\} / \operatorname{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$
Teichmüller space $\mathcal{T}_{\Delta}$ has a complex structure of $\operatorname{dim} 3 h-3+r$, diffeomorphic to a ball of $\operatorname{dim} 6 h-6+2 r$.

If $\Lambda$ subgroup of $\Delta(i: \Lambda \rightarrow \Delta) \Rightarrow i_{*}: \mathcal{T}_{\Delta} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_{\Lambda}$ embedding
$\Gamma_{g}$ surface Fuchsian group $\quad \Gamma_{g} \leq \Delta \quad \mathcal{T}_{\Delta} \subset \mathcal{T}_{\Gamma_{g}}=\mathcal{T}_{g}$
$G$ finite group $\quad \mathcal{T}_{g}^{G}=\left\{[\sigma] \in \mathcal{T}_{g} \mid g[\sigma]=[\sigma] \forall g \in G\right\} \neq \emptyset$
$\mathcal{T}_{g}^{G}$ : surfaces with $G$ as a group of automorphisms.
Mapping class group $M^{+}(\Delta)=\operatorname{Out}(\Delta)=\frac{\operatorname{Diff}(\mathbb{H} / \Delta)}{\operatorname{Diff}(\mathbb{H} / \Delta)}$
$\Delta=\pi_{1}(\mathbb{H} / \Delta)$ as orbifold
$M^{+}(\Delta)$ acts properly discontinuously on $\mathcal{T}_{\Delta} \quad \mathcal{M}_{\Delta}=\mathcal{T}_{\Delta} / M^{+}(\Delta)$

- We can give coordinates to this space by considering decomposition in pairs of pants: Fenchel-Nielsen Coordinates.
- A pairs of pants is a surface with boundary obtained by taking two identical copies of a right-angle hexagon and gluing 3 of the sides. A pair of pants is homeomorphic to a sphere with three holes, the boundaries are totally geodesic (any point on the boundary has a neighbourhood isometric to a half-disc). Given three positive real numbers $I_{1}, l_{2}, l_{3}$, there is a pair of pants whose boundaries have lengths $l_{1}, l_{2}, l_{3}$ respectively.
- Any hyperbolic surface $S_{g}$ admits a decomposition in $2 g-2$ pairs of pants with $3 g-3$ boundaries (there are many such decompositions)
- So we have $3 g-3$ parameters that are the lengths of the boundaries in the pant decompositions $\left(I_{1}, l_{2}, \ldots l_{3 g-3}, \ldots \ldots\right)$ ). The remaining $3 g-3$ parameters $\theta_{1}, \ldots \theta_{3 g-3}$ are the twist parameters, each one giving the angle along which two pairs of pants are glued together along the common boundary.

$$
\left(I_{1}, I_{2}, \ldots I_{3 g-3}, \theta_{1}, \ldots \theta_{3 g-3}\right)
$$

- (Teichmüller) In fact the map asinging to each class of triples the Fenchel-Nielsen parameters is a homeomorphism $\mathcal{T}_{g} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{6 g-6}$.
- This map is not only a homeomorphism but also a conformal map $\mathcal{T}_{g} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{3 g-3}$. ( Beltrami, Ahlfors).

Surfaces with automorphisms: Branch Locus
Consider a marked surface $\sigma(X) \in \mathcal{T}_{g}$ and $\beta \in M_{g}^{+}$, we have

$\beta[\sigma]=[\sigma] \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \gamma \in \operatorname{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R}), \quad \sigma\left(\Gamma_{g}\right)=\gamma^{-1} \sigma \beta\left(\Gamma_{g}\right) \gamma$
$\gamma$ induces an automorphism of $[\sigma(X)]$
$\operatorname{Stb}_{\mathcal{M}_{g}}[\sigma]=\left\{\beta \in M_{g} \mid \beta[\sigma]=[\sigma]\right\}=\operatorname{Aut}([\sigma(X)])$
$G=\operatorname{Aut}(X)$ finite, determines a conjugacy class of finite subgroups of $M_{g}$, the symmetry of $X$
$X_{g}, Y_{g}$ equisymmetric if $\operatorname{Aut}\left(X_{g}\right)$ conjugate to $\operatorname{Aut}\left(Y_{g}\right)$
( $\operatorname{Aut}\left(X_{g}\right)$ : full automorphism group)
Singerman's list of non-maximal signatures.

## Equisymmetric Stratification

Action: $\theta: \Delta \rightarrow \operatorname{Aut}\left(X_{g}\right)=G, \operatorname{ker}(\theta)=\Gamma_{g}$
$\operatorname{Aut}\left(X_{g}\right)=G$ conjugate $\operatorname{Aut}\left(Y_{g}\right) \quad$ iff $w \in \operatorname{Aut}(G), h \in \operatorname{Diff}^{+}(X)$ $\epsilon, \epsilon^{\prime}: G \rightarrow \operatorname{Diff}^{+}(X), \epsilon^{\prime}(g)=h \in w(g) h^{-1}$
Two (surface) monodromies $\theta_{1}, \theta_{2}: \Delta \rightarrow G$ topologically equiv. actions of $G$

$$
\begin{array}{lcccc} 
& \Delta \in \operatorname{Aut}(\Delta) & \downarrow & & G \\
& \downarrow & & \\
& \Delta & \xrightarrow[\rightarrow]{\theta_{2}} & G
\end{array} \quad w \in \operatorname{Aut}(G)
$$

$\theta_{1}, \theta_{2}$ equiv under $\mathcal{B}(\Delta) \times \operatorname{Aut}(G), \mathcal{B}(\Delta)$ braid group
Broughton (1990): Equisymmetric Stratification
$\mathcal{M}_{g}^{G, \theta}=\left\{X \in \mathcal{M}_{g} \mid\right.$ symmetry type of $X$ is $\left.G\right\}$
$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g}^{G, \theta}=\left\{X \in \mathcal{M}_{g} \mid\right.$ symmetry type of $X$ contains $\left.G\right\}$
$\mathcal{M}_{g}^{G, \theta}$ smooth, connected, locally closed alg. var. of $\mathcal{M}_{g}$, dense in $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g}^{G, \theta}$

$$
\mathcal{B}_{g}=\cup \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g}^{G, \theta}
$$

Costa-I (2008) $\mathcal{B}_{g}=\cup \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g}^{C_{p}, \theta}$ (Cornalba 1987 and 2008)

Connectedness, we are interested in $Y \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g}^{G_{1}, \theta_{1}} \cap \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g}^{G_{2}, \theta_{2}}$
Finding $\theta: \Delta \rightarrow G=\operatorname{Aut}(Y)$ extends both $\theta_{1}: \Delta_{1} \rightarrow G_{1}$ and $\theta_{2}: \Delta_{2} \rightarrow G_{2}$ with $\operatorname{Ker}(\theta)=\operatorname{Ker}\left(\theta_{1}\right)=\operatorname{Ker}\left(\theta_{2}\right)=\Gamma_{g}$


Corresponding to groups:


We need to look at maximal actions of $C_{p}$ for isolated strata

## Some Results

- Costa-I (2008). $\mathcal{B}_{4}$ is connected
- Kulkarni (1991). Existence of isolated points in $\mathcal{B}_{g}$ iff $g=2$ or $2 \mathrm{~g}+1$ a prime $\geq 11$
Isolated points are given by actions $\theta: \Delta(0 ; p, p, p) \rightarrow C_{p}, p=2 g+1$
The actions of $C_{7}$ in $\mathcal{M}_{3}$ extend to actions of $C_{14}$ or $\operatorname{PSL}(2,7)$
- Bartolini-l (2009): $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g}^{C_{2}, \theta}$ and $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g}^{C_{3}, \theta^{\prime}}$ belong to the same connected component of $\mathcal{B}_{g}$.
All the closed strata induced by actions of $C_{2}$ or $C_{3}$ intersect the closed stratum formed by surfaces $X_{g}$ admitting an automorphism of order 2 with quotient Riemann surface of genus highest possible: $\frac{g}{2}$ for even $g$ and $\frac{g+1}{2}$ for odd $g$.
- Costa-I (2011): $\mathcal{B}_{g}$ contains isolated strata of dimension 1 iff $\mathrm{g}+1$ is a prime $\geq 11$
The isolated strata are given by actions:
$\theta_{h}: \Delta(0 ; p, p, p, p) \rightarrow C_{p}: \theta_{h}\left(x_{1}\right)=a, \theta_{h}\left(x_{2}\right)=a^{i}, \theta_{h}\left(x_{3}\right)=a^{j}$
$i \neq 1, p-1, j \neq 1, p-1, i, p-i, p-1-i-j \neq 1, i, j$.
These actions are maximal and the strata contain no curve with more symmetry.
- Branch loci in genera four, seven, thirteen, seventeen, nineteen and fifty-nine are connected.
GAP-machinery !!
- Bartolini-Costa-I (2013). These are the only genera with connected branch locus.


## Actions given isolated stratum of maximal dimension

- $\mathbf{g}=\mathbf{6 0}$, action $\theta: \Delta\left(0 ; 5^{32}\right) \rightarrow C_{5}:$
$\theta\left(x_{1}\right)=\cdots=\theta\left(x_{19}\right)=\alpha, \theta\left(x_{20}\right)=\cdots=\theta\left(x_{24}\right)=\alpha^{2}, \theta\left(x_{25}\right)=\alpha^{3}$, $\theta\left(x_{26}\right)=\cdots=\theta\left(x_{32}\right)=\alpha^{4}$.
- $\mathbf{g}=\mathbf{6 1}$, action $\theta: \Delta\left(1 ; 5^{30}\right) \rightarrow C_{5}$
$\theta(a)=\theta(b)=1, \theta\left(x_{1}\right)=\cdots=\theta\left(x_{23}\right)=\alpha, \theta\left(x_{24}\right)=\cdots=\theta\left(x_{28}\right)=\alpha^{2}$, $\theta\left(x_{29}\right)=\alpha^{3}, \theta\left(x_{30}\right)=\alpha^{4}$.
- $\mathbf{g}=63$, action $\theta: \Delta\left(0 ; 7^{23}\right) \rightarrow C_{7}:$
$\theta\left(x_{1}\right)=\cdots=\theta\left(x_{14}\right)=\alpha, \theta\left(x_{15}\right)=\cdots=\theta\left(x_{19}\right)=\alpha^{5}, \theta\left(x_{20}\right)=\alpha^{4}$,
$\theta\left(x_{21}\right)=\cdots=\theta\left(x_{23}\right)=\alpha^{2}$.
- $\mathbf{g}=67$, action $\theta: \Delta\left(1 ; 7^{22}\right) \rightarrow C_{7}$
$\theta(a)=\theta(b)=1, \theta\left(x_{1}\right)=\cdots=\theta\left(x_{17}\right)=\alpha, \theta\left(x_{18}\right)=\cdots=\theta\left(x_{20}\right)=\alpha^{6}$, $\theta\left(x_{21}\right)=\alpha^{3}, \theta\left(x_{22}\right)=\alpha^{4}$.
- $\mathbf{g}=\mathbf{7 1}$, action $\theta: \Delta\left(2 ; 7^{21}\right) \rightarrow C_{7}$
$\theta\left(a_{i}\right)=\theta\left(b_{i}\right)=1, i=1,2, \theta\left(x_{1}\right)=\cdots=\theta\left(x_{13}\right)=\alpha$, $\theta\left(x_{14}\right)=\cdots=\theta\left(x_{16}\right)=\alpha^{2}, \theta\left(x_{17}\right)=\theta\left(x_{18}\right)=\alpha^{5}, \theta\left(x_{19}\right)=\alpha^{3}, \theta\left(x_{20}\right)=\alpha^{4}$, $\theta\left(x_{21}\right)=\alpha^{6}$.


## Isolated strata in the complection of branch loci

Costa-l-Parlier (2015): The complections in the Deligne-Munford compactification $\widehat{\mathcal{B}}_{g}$ of isolated strata of dim 1 given by the monodromies $\theta_{h}$ are isolated.

$$
\left(\theta_{h}: \Delta(0 ; p, p, p, p) \rightarrow C_{p}: \theta_{h}\left(x_{1}\right)=a, \theta_{h}\left(x_{2}\right)=a^{i}, \theta_{h}\left(x_{3}\right)=a^{j}\right)
$$

The limit points in $\widehat{\mathcal{B}}_{g}$ of every such stratum (given by a monodromy $\theta_{h}$ with quotient the sphere with four branch points of order p ) is the covering given by $f_{\theta_{h}}$ of the limit point of pinched spheres with a decomposition in two pairs of pants, each pair of pants has as boundary two branch points and a curve surrounding two branch points. As in the next slide.


Consider the (hyperbolic) orbifold of genus 0 with two branch points of order $p$ and a cusp. The cyclic p -gonal coverings are given by the monodromies
$\theta: \Delta(0 ; p, p, \infty)=<y_{1}, y_{2} \mid y_{1}^{p}=y_{2}^{p}>\rightarrow<t>$ where $\left.\theta\left(y_{1}\right)=t^{a}, \theta\left(y_{2}\right)\right)=t^{b}$
Two such maps $\left(t^{a}, t^{b}\right)$ and $\left(t^{a^{\prime}}, t^{b^{\prime}}\right)$ induce equivalent surfaces iif there exists a $c$ such that $a^{\prime} \equiv c a \bmod (p), \quad b^{\prime} \equiv c b \bmod (p)$. Each equivalence class of monodromies has a representative of type $(1, j)$. Call $P_{j}$ the covering given by the monodromy of type $(1, j)$.
The limit points of each stratum are
$P_{i}+P_{-1-\frac{i+1}{j}}, P_{j}+P_{-1-\frac{j+1}{i}}, P_{\frac{j}{j}}+P_{p-1-i-j}$
where $2 \leq i \leq \frac{p-1}{2}, i<j \leq p-3, p-1-i-j \notin\{1, i, j, p-1,-i,-j\}$
The limit points for other strata of p-gonal Riemann surfaces with quotient the sphere with four branch points are
$P_{1}+P_{p-3} ; P_{1}+P_{1}, P_{p-1}+P_{p-1} ; P_{p-1}+P_{p-1}, P_{i}+P_{i}, P_{-i}+P_{-i}$ with $2 \leq i \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$ and $P_{1}+P_{\frac{p-i-2}{i}}, P_{i}+P_{p-i-2}$ where $2 \leq i \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$

Using elementary number theory, the limit points $P_{i}+P_{-1-\frac{i+1}{j}}, P_{j}+P_{-1-\frac{j+1}{i}}$, $P_{j}+P_{p-1-i-j}$ do no coincide with limit points of other stratum.
Finally these limit points do not admit any other automorphism.
$B_{(a,-, 1)}^{k_{1} H_{y p}}$ consits of $\frac{g t_{2}}{2}$ connected components if g even $\frac{g+1}{2}$ connected components if $g$ odd
Consider Y hyperelliptic surface of top type $\epsilon=(g,-, 1)$; Y $=1 \mathrm{H} / \rho \mathrm{PS} \cdot \mathrm{Gr}_{\mathrm{r}}$ $\rho$ index 2 subgr in $\Delta: s(\Delta)=\left(0 ;+;\left[2,-\frac{9}{2}\right],\{(2,2) 4)\right.$

$$
\text { Hut }(y) \leq C_{2} \times C_{2} \text { (Bujalance-Etayo-Gamboa-Gromad=ki; 1990) }
$$

Geometrically; we have the conjiguretion for the action of AutH $/ 4) / 4>$ ( $\varphi$ hype elíphic involution)
if we have $\theta_{1}: \Lambda \rightarrow C_{2} \times C_{2}=\langle a, b\rangle 0 \leq r \leq\left\lfloor\frac{9}{2}\right\rfloor$
$s(\Lambda)=10 ; t ;\left[2^{r}\right] ;\left\{\left(2^{s}\right) 4\right)$ and monodromies

$$
\theta_{r}: \Lambda \xrightarrow{\longrightarrow} C_{2} \times C_{2}=1 / r ; s\left(\theta^{c}\langle a\rangle\right)=\left(0 ;+;\left[2^{\eta}\right] ;\right)((2,2))
$$

$\theta_{r}\left(x_{i}\right)=a ; \theta_{r}(e)=a / 1 d$ accoreling $r$ 's parity
$\theta\left(c_{0}\right)=\theta\left(e_{s}\right)=a ; \theta_{r}\left(c_{1}\right)=1 d$
Alteru-Aing $\theta_{1}\left(C_{2 j}\right)=b<O_{r}\left(C_{2 j+1}\right)=a b$
The actions given by Or are maximal. They produce $\frac{g}{2}+1=\frac{g+2}{2}$ connected components for $g$ even and $\frac{9-1}{2}+1=\frac{9 t^{2}}{2}$ connected components for good
$B_{(g, t, 1)}^{k, H_{y p}}$ is connected.
Consider again $y$ hyper. with top type $t=(g, t, 1)$, 4 hyper. involution

$$
Y=\mid H / p \text { and } V /\langle\varphi\rangle=H / \Lambda \text { with } s(\Delta)=\left(0 ; t^{t} ;\left[2^{2 q^{+1}}\right]:\{(-)!)\right.
$$

la disc with $2 q+1$ cone pts
the groups of automorphisms of $y / \angle u s$ can be dihedral or cyclic
Aut(y): $\operatorname{Cn} x C_{2}$, $n$ a proper divisor of $2 q+1$

$$
S(\Lambda)^{2}=\left(0 ; t ;[n, 2 r],\{(-1)) \quad r=\frac{2 q+1}{n}\right.
$$

$C_{2 n}$; $n$ a propo divisor of $2 g$

$$
s(1)=\left(0 ;+;\left[2 n, 2^{r}\right] ;\{(-) 4) ; r=2 g / n\right.
$$

$D_{n}$ : $n$ an even divisor of 4 g

$$
\begin{aligned}
& s(1)=\left(0 ; t ;\left[2^{r}\right] ;\left\{\left(n ; 2^{s}-2\right)\right\} ; s=\frac{4 g}{n}+2-2 r\right. \\
& \operatorname{Dn} / 2 x(2 ; n \text { an even divisor of } 4 g+2 \\
& s(1)=\left(0 ;+\left[2^{r}\right] ;\left\{\left(\frac{n}{2}, 2^{s}\right) 4\right) ; s=\frac{4 g+2}{n}+2-2 r\right. \\
& \text { (Buj<larce-Etayo }\text { - Gambol - Gromedzhi; } 1990)
\end{aligned}
$$

Graphically: Consider Configurations


The following configurations show actions connecting ell the stab induced by anticonformel involutions


## THANK YOU

