

**Zeitschrift:** Commentarii Mathematici Helvetici  
**Herausgeber:** Schweizerische Mathematische Gesellschaft  
**Band:** 57 (1982)

**Artikel:** The module of a 2-component link.  
**Autor:** Levine, J.  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-43892>

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 11.12.2025

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

## The module of a 2-component link

J. LEVINE

The most prominent algebraic invariant of a link  $L$  in 3-space is the fundamental group  $\Pi$  of the complement. One might try to extract “abelian” invariants from  $\Pi$ . The most obvious candidate:  $\Pi/\Pi'$ , where  $\Pi'$  is the commutator subgroup of  $\Pi$ , is not very useful since, by Alexander duality, this is just the free abelian group with rank the multiplicity (i.e. number of components) of  $L$ . A reasonable next candidate is  $A(L) = \Pi'/\Pi''$ , considered as a module over  $\Pi/\Pi'$ . If  $L$  is oriented, a canonical basis of  $\Pi/\Pi'$  is defined by the meridians of  $L$ . Thus  $A(L)$  has a well-defined structure as module over  $\Lambda_\mu = \mathbb{Z}[t_1, t_1^{-1}, \dots, t_\mu, t_\mu^{-1}]$  ( $\mu$  = multiplicity of  $L$ ). We refer to this as the *module of  $L$* . An alternative description can be given by considering the universal abelian covering  $\tilde{X}$  of the complement  $X$  of  $L$ . The group of covering translations of  $\tilde{X}$  is canonically identified with  $\Pi/\Pi'$  and then  $H_1(\tilde{X}) \approx A(L)$ , as a  $\Pi/\Pi'$ -module.

A closely related invariant of  $L$  is what is sometimes called the *Alexander module of  $L$* ,  $\tilde{A}(L)$ . This is classically defined as the  $\Lambda_\mu$ -module presented by the Jacobian matrix of any presentation of  $\Pi$ . Equivalently  $\tilde{A}(L) \approx H_1(\tilde{X}, \tilde{*})$ , where  $\tilde{*}$  is the inverse image of a base-point  $*$  of  $X$ . Thus we have an exact sequence:  $0 \rightarrow A(L) \rightarrow \tilde{A}(L) \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$ , where  $M$  is the “augmentation ideal” of  $\Lambda_\mu$  generated by  $t_1 - 1, \dots, t_\mu - 1$ .

A classical collection of invariants considered by Fox [F] is the sequence of elementary ideals, or Fitting invariants,  $\tilde{E}_i(L)$ ,  $i \geq 0$ .  $\tilde{E}_i(L)$  is defined to be the ideal of  $\Lambda_\mu$  generated by the  $(n-i)$ -order minors of a presentation matrix of  $\tilde{A}(L)$  obtained from  $n$  generators. One also considers the greatest common divisor  $\tilde{\Delta}_i(L)$  of  $\tilde{E}_i(L)$  – note that  $\tilde{E}_{i+1}(L) \supseteq \tilde{E}_i(L)$ , and so  $\tilde{\Delta}_{i+1}(L) \mid \tilde{\Delta}_i(L)$ . Furthermore  $\tilde{E}_0(L) = 0 = \tilde{\Delta}_0(L)$ :  $\tilde{\Delta}_1(L)$  is the *Alexander polynomial* of  $L$ . One can define  $E_i(L)$  and  $\Delta_i(L)$  from  $A(L)$  in the same way; then  $\Delta_i(L) = \tilde{\Delta}_{i+1}(L)$ , but  $E_i(L) \neq \tilde{E}_{i+1}(L)$ , in general. If  $\mu = 1$ , then  $E_i(L) = \tilde{E}_{i+1}(L)$ , in fact,  $\tilde{A}(L) = A(L) \oplus \Lambda_1$ , and  $E_0(L)$  is principal and non-zero.

See [C], [F], [H], [H1], [L], [M] for details and more information.

The torsion submodule  $tA$  of  $A = A(L)$  carries a sesqui-linear Hermitian

pairing  $\langle \ , \ \rangle$  with values in  $S(\Lambda) = Q(\Lambda)/\Lambda$  ( $Q(\Lambda)$  is the quotient field of  $\Lambda$ ), referred to as the *Blanchfield pairing* (see [B], [L1]). If  $\beta: \bar{A} \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\Lambda}(A, S(\Lambda))$  is the adjoint of  $\langle \ , \ \rangle$ , ( $\bar{A}$  is the conjugate of  $A$ , defined by changing the action of  $\Lambda$  on  $A$  via the anti-automorphism  $f(x, y) \rightarrow f(x^{-1}, y^{-1})$ ) then Kernel  $\beta$  is referred to as the *null-space* of  $\langle \ , \ \rangle$  and cokernel  $\beta$  as the *conull-space*. If  $\mu = 1$ , the pairing is non-singular. See [B], [H] for more information.

The problem of giving a purely algebraic characterization of  $A(L)$ , with the Blanchfield pairing, has been solved in the case  $\mu = 1$  (see [L1]). Bailey [By] has given a characterization of  $A(L)$  in terms of the presentation matrix, when  $\mu = 2$ . The present paper is devoted to a further examination of  $A(L)$  when  $\mu = 2$ ; in particular the identification of some of its algebraic properties and a characterization of certain natural "parts" of  $A(L)$ .

We write  $\Lambda = \Lambda_2 = \mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}, y, y^{-1}]$ , and use the notation  $G = \pi/\pi'$ ,  $A = A(L)$ ,  $B = H_2(\tilde{X})$ —note that  $H_i(\tilde{X}) = 0$ , for  $i > 2$ . We begin by presenting the main results.

A.  $r = \text{rank } A = \text{rank } B \leq 1$ .  $B$  is a free  $\Lambda$ -module. If  $l$  is the linking number of the link components, then  $r = 1$  implies  $l = 0$ .  $A \otimes \mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z}/l$ .

B. If  $l \neq 0$ , then  $A$  has projective dimension one, (we will say  $A$  is *one-dimensional*), the Blanchfield pairing is non-degenerate (i.e. null-space = 0) and the conull-space  $\approx \Lambda/I_l$ , where  $I_l$  is the ideal generated by

$$(x-1)(y-1) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{(xy)^l - 1}{xy - 1}.$$

C. If  $l = 0$ , we define *longitudinal elements*  $\xi_x, \xi_y \in A$  by lifting into  $\tilde{X}$  "longitudinal" circles parallel to the  $x$  and  $y$  components of  $L$  which link neither component ( $\xi_x, \xi_y$  are, therefore, determined up to multiplication by elements of  $\Pi/\Pi'$ ).  $\xi_x$  (resp  $\xi_y$ ) generates the submodule of elements invariant under  $x$  (resp.  $y$ ). The annihilator ideal of  $\xi_x$  (resp.  $\xi_y$ ) is generated by  $x-1$  (resp.  $y-1$ ) and one more element  $\mu(y)$  (resp.  $\lambda(x)$ ). Thus  $\mu(y)$  (resp.  $\lambda(x)$ ) is well-defined up to unit multiple in  $\mathbb{Z}[y, y^{-1}]$  (resp.  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ );  $\lambda(x), \mu(y)$  will be called the *longitudinal orders* of  $L$  and depend only on  $A$ .

D. If  $l = 0$  and  $r = 0$ , then  $\lambda(x) = 0 = \mu(y)$  and  $A$  is one-dimensional and contains an element  $\alpha$  such that  $(y-1)\alpha = \xi_x$  and  $(x-1)\alpha = \xi_y$ . Thus the annihilator ideal of  $\alpha$  is generated by  $(x-1)(y-1)$ . The null-space of  $\langle \ , \ \rangle$  is generated by  $\alpha$ , while the conull-space  $\approx \Lambda/(x-1)(y-1)$ . In fact,  $A/(\alpha)$  is one-dimensional and the pairing on  $A/(\alpha)$  induced by the Blanchfield pairing is non-singular.

E. If  $r = 1$ , then, we may choose  $\lambda(1) = 1 = \mu(1)$  and, in fact,  $\lambda(x) \mid \Delta(x)$  and  $\mu(y) \mid \Delta(y)$ , where  $\Delta(x), \Delta(y)$  are the Alexander polynomials of the individual components of  $L$  considered as knots.

Furthermore,  $tA \otimes Z = 0$  and  $fA = A/tA$  is isomorphic to an ideal  $I$  of  $\Lambda$ .  $I$  may be uniquely specified by demanding that its greatest common divisor be 1; in that case,  $I + M = \Lambda$ . Another ideal  $J \subseteq I$  can be defined from  $L$ ;  $J$  is generated by  $(x-1)(y-1)I$  and an element  $\sigma(x, y) \in I$ , which is well-defined modulo  $(x-1)(y-1)I$ . Then  $\sigma(x, y) \equiv \lambda(x^{-1}) + \mu(y^{-1}) - 1 \pmod{(x-1)(y-1)}$  and so  $\sigma(x, y)$  defines a slightly sharper invariant of  $L$  than the pair  $(\lambda(x), \mu(y))$ , since  $I/(x-1)(y-1)I \rightarrow \Lambda/(x-1)(y-1)$  has kernel

$$\frac{I \cap (x-1)(y-1)\Lambda}{(x-1)(y-1)I}.$$

F. If  $r = 1$ , the null-space of  $\langle \ , \ \rangle$  is the “pseudo-null” submodule  $P(\bar{A})$  of  $\bar{A}$  (i.e. the set of all elements whose annihilator ideal has greatest common divisor 1 see [Bo]).  $P(A)$  contains the submodule  $P_0$  generated by  $\xi_x, \xi_y$  which coincides with the submodule generated by  $\xi = \xi_x + \xi_y$ , whose annihilator ideal is generated by  $\sigma(x, y)$  and  $(x-1)(y-1)$ .  $P_0$  is the submodule of elements annihilated by  $(x-1)(y-1)$ .  $P(\bar{A})/\bar{P}_0 \approx e^1(I)$  – we use the notation  $e^i(R) = \text{Ext}_\Lambda^i(R, \Lambda)$  for any  $\Lambda$ -module  $R$ . In fact,  $P(\bar{A}) \approx e^1(J)$ . The conull-space  $C$  is isomorphic to the kernel of a homomorphism  $e^2(I) \rightarrow \Lambda/\bar{J}$ , whose cokernel is isomorphic to  $e^2(tA)$ .  $A$  and  $tA$  have projective dimension  $\leq 2$ .

G. *Realization*: Let  $\lambda(x), \mu(y)$  be polynomials and  $I$  an ideal of  $\Lambda$  satisfying: (i)  $\lambda(1) = 1 = \mu(1)$ ; (ii) greatest common divisor of  $I$  is 1 and (iii)  $\lambda(x^{-1}) + \mu(y^{-1}) - 1 \in I$ . Then there exists a 2-component link whose module  $A$  has longitudinal orders  $\lambda(x), \mu(y)$  and  $fA \approx I$ . Note (i), (ii) and (iii) are necessary conditions (see (C) and (E)).

We refer the reader to work of Hillman [H], [H1], [H2] and Sato [S] for related and overlapping results.

## §1

We begin by considering the Cartan–LeRay spectral sequence of the covering  $\tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ .  $E_{pq}^2 = H_p(G; H_q(\tilde{X})) = 0$  for  $p > 2$  or  $q > 2$  and so  $E_{pq}^3 = E_{pq}^\infty$ . Straightforward examination obtains an exact sequence:  $H_2(X) \xrightarrow{\phi} H_2(G) \rightarrow A \otimes Z \rightarrow 0$  where  $\phi$  is induced by the map  $X \rightarrow K(G, 1)$  corresponding to the covering  $\tilde{X}$ . Now  $H_2(X) = H_2(G) = Z$  and  $\phi = \text{multiplication by } l$ ; thus  $A \otimes Z$  is infinite cyclic, if  $l = 0$ , and cyclic of order  $l$ , if  $l \neq 0$ . Now a standard Nakayama lemma argument allows us to construct  $\Delta \in \Lambda$  such that  $\Delta A = 0$  and  $\Delta(1, 1) = l^k$ , for some integer  $k > 0$ : if  $\{\alpha_i\}$  generate  $A$ , then we may write  $l\alpha_i = \sum \lambda_{ij}\alpha_j$ , where  $\lambda_{ij} \in M$ , and, thus,  $\Delta = \det(l\delta_{ij} - \lambda_{ij})$  annihilates  $A$ . This shows that  $A$  is a torsion module if  $l \neq 0$ .

That  $\text{rank } A = \text{rank } B$  follows from consideration of the Euler characteristic:



$\text{rank } B - \text{rank } A = \chi_\Lambda(\tilde{X}) = \chi(X) = 0$ . ( $\chi_\Lambda$  is the Euler characteristic using rank as a  $\Lambda$ -module.) To see that  $\text{rank } B \leq 1$ , choose a finite 2-dimensional cellular structure on  $X$  (actually a compact-deformation retract of  $X$ ) and let  $C_*$ ,  $\tilde{C}_*$  denote the corresponding chain complexes of  $X$  and  $\tilde{X}$ . If  $D_{ij}$  and  $d_{ij}$  are matrix representatives, with respect to the cell basis, of the boundary maps  $C_2(\tilde{X}) \rightarrow C_1(\tilde{X})$  and  $C_2(X) \rightarrow C_1(X)$ , then  $d_{ij} = D_{ij}(1, 1)$ . Now  $\text{rank } B = \text{null}_\Lambda(D_{ij}) \leq \text{null}_\mathbb{Z}(D_{ij}(1, 1)) = \text{rank } H_2(X) = 1$ . Note that this argument shows  $\text{rank } H_2(\tilde{X}) \leq \mu - 1$  for a  $\mu$ -component link.

## §2

We now define the Blanchfield pairing  $\langle \ , \ \rangle$  on  $tA$  with values in  $S(\Lambda)$ .

Let  $K$  be a triangulation of  $X$  and  $K'$  the dual triangulation – let  $\tilde{K}$  and  $\tilde{K}'$  be the induced triangulations of  $\tilde{X}$ . If  $\alpha, \beta \in tA$ , choose representative cycles  $z$  of  $\alpha$  in  $\tilde{K}$  and  $w$  of  $\beta$  in  $\tilde{K}'$ . If  $\lambda\alpha = 0$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , choose a chain  $c$  in  $\tilde{K}$  such that  $\partial c = \lambda z$ .

Now define  $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle = \frac{c \cdot w}{\lambda} \bmod \Lambda$ . Standard arguments (see [L1]) show this is well-defined. Furthermore  $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle = \overline{\langle \beta, \alpha \rangle}$ , using the usual symmetry properties of intersection. An alternative definition of the adjoint  $\beta$  of  $\langle \ , \ \rangle$  is obtained by composing the maps:

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{tH_1(\tilde{X})} \subseteq H_1(\tilde{X}) &\xrightarrow{j^*} \overline{H_1(\tilde{X}, \partial\tilde{X})} \stackrel{D}{\cong} H^2(\tilde{X}; \Lambda) \\ &\xrightarrow{\rho} e^1(H_1(\tilde{X})) \longrightarrow e^1(tH_1(X)) \approx \text{Hom}_\Lambda(tH_1(\tilde{X}), S(\Lambda)) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

$D$  is the Reidemeister–Milnor duality isomorphism ([M]) and  $\rho$  is a “universal coefficient” homomorphism defined on  $Dj_* \overline{tH_1(\tilde{X})}$  which will be explained below. We are now taking  $X$  to be a compact manifold, the complement of an open tubular neighborhood of  $L$ .

It is not hard to equate this definition with the following reformulation;

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{H_1(\tilde{X})} &\xleftarrow{\partial_*} \overline{H_2(\tilde{X}; S(\Lambda))} \longrightarrow \overline{H_2(\tilde{X}, \partial\tilde{X}; S(\Lambda))} \stackrel{D}{\cong} H^1(\tilde{X}; S(\Lambda)) \\ &\xrightarrow{\bar{\rho}} \text{Hom}_\Lambda(H_1(\tilde{X}), S(\Lambda)) \longleftarrow \text{Hom}_\Lambda(tH_1(\tilde{X}), S(\Lambda)) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where  $\bar{\rho}$  is the standard Kronecker map on cohomology, and  $\partial_*$  is the Bockstein from the coefficient sequence  $0 \rightarrow \Lambda \rightarrow Q(\Lambda) \rightarrow S(\Lambda) \rightarrow 0$ . Note that  $\text{Image } \partial_* = \overline{tH_1(\tilde{X})}$  and so any element  $\alpha$  of  $tH_1(\tilde{X})$ , can be pulled back to  $\alpha' \in \overline{H_2(X; S(\Lambda))}$ . Any two pull-backs  $\alpha', \alpha''$  differ by the image of an element of  $H_2(\tilde{X}; Q(\Lambda))$ .

Using naturality of the maps of (2) with respect to the homomorphism  $Q(\Lambda) \rightarrow S(\Lambda)$ , we see that  $\alpha' - \alpha''$  passes to an element of  $\text{Hom}_\Lambda(tH_1(\tilde{X}), S(\Lambda))$  which comes from  $\text{Hom}_\Lambda(tH_1(\tilde{X}), Q(\Lambda)) = 0$ . Thus the composition defined by (2) is well-defined on  $tH_1(\tilde{X})$ . This reformulation is seen to be equivalent to our first definition using the definition of  $D$  via the intersection pairing.

### §3

To understand the maps  $\rho, \bar{\rho}$  used in our definitions of the Blanchfield pairing we need a “universal coefficient” consideration of the relation between homology and cohomology. Recall the universal coefficient spectral sequence (see [Mc]): Given a free left chain complex  $C_*$  over a ring  $\Lambda$  and a left module  $N$ , there exists a spectral sequence “converging” to  $H^*(C; N)$ , with  $E^2$ -terms given by  $E_{pq}^2 = \text{Ext}_\Lambda^q(H_p(C), N)$ , and differential  $d_r$  in  $E^r$  of degree  $(1-r, r)$ . There is a filtration

$$H^m(C; N) = J_{m0} \supseteq J_{m-1,1} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq J_{1,m-1} \supseteq J_{0,m}$$

where  $J_{pq}/J_{p-1,q+1} \approx E_{pq}^\infty$ . To define  $\bar{\rho}$ , we simply consider  $H^m(C; N) = J_{m,0} \twoheadrightarrow E_{m0}^\infty \subseteq E_{m0}^2 = \text{Hom}_\Lambda(H_m(C), N)$ . To define  $\rho$  (on  $\text{Ker } \bar{\rho}$ ), we take  $\text{Ker } \bar{\rho} = J_{m-1,1} \twoheadrightarrow E_{m-1,1}^\infty \subseteq E_{m-1,1}^2 = \text{Ext}_\Lambda^1(H_{m-1}(C), N)$ . Looking back at (1), we see that  $\rho$  is well-defined on elements coming from  $tH_1(\tilde{X})$ , since  $\bar{\rho}$  is obviously zero on any torsion element when  $N = \Lambda$  (and  $\Lambda$  is a domain).

We will consider the universal coefficient spectral sequences for  $C = C^*(\tilde{X})$  and  $C = C^*(\tilde{X}, \partial\tilde{X})$ , with  $N = \Lambda$ . In each case the spectral sequence can be reduced to one or more exact sequences. This reduction is straightforward and we omit the details. The exact sequences obtained are the following:

$$0 \rightarrow H^1(\tilde{X}; \Lambda) \xrightarrow{\bar{\rho}} A^* \rightarrow Z \rightarrow J_{11} \xrightarrow{\rho} e^1(A) \rightarrow 0 \quad (3)$$

$$0 \rightarrow J_{11} \rightarrow H^2(\tilde{X}; \Lambda) \xrightarrow{\bar{\rho}} B^* \rightarrow e^2(A) \rightarrow 0 \quad (4)$$

$$e^3(A) \approx e^1(B) \quad (5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow e^1(A_0) \rightarrow H^2(\tilde{X}, \partial\tilde{X}; \Lambda) \rightarrow B_0^* \rightarrow e^2(A_0) \rightarrow H^3(\tilde{X}, \partial\tilde{X}) \\ \rightarrow e^1(B_0) \rightarrow e^3(A_0) \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

$$A_0^* \approx H^1(\tilde{X}, \partial\tilde{X}; \Lambda) \quad (7)$$

where we use the notation  $A = H_1(\tilde{X})$ ,  $B = H_2(\tilde{X})$ , (as before)  $A_0 = H_1(\tilde{X}, \partial\tilde{X})$ ,  $B_0 = H_2(\tilde{X}, \partial\tilde{X})$ ,  $e^i = \text{Ext}_\Lambda^i(\ , \Lambda)$  and  $*$  =  $e^0 = \text{Hom}_\Lambda(\ , \Lambda)$ .

We also note the exact homology sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow B_0 \rightarrow H_1(\partial\tilde{X}) \rightarrow A \rightarrow A_0 \rightarrow H_0(\partial\tilde{X}) \rightarrow H_0(\tilde{X}) \rightarrow 0. \quad (8)$$

It is easy to see that  $H_*(\partial\tilde{X})$  depends only on the linking number  $l$  and is given as follows:

$$H_0(\partial\tilde{X}) = \Lambda/(x-1, y^l-1) \oplus \Lambda/(y-1, x^l-1) \quad (9)$$

$$H_1(\partial\tilde{X}) = \begin{cases} 0 & l \neq 0 \\ \Lambda/(x-1) \oplus \Lambda/(y-1) & l = 0 \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

In (10), when  $l = 0$ , generators are given by the two longitudes, lifted into  $\tilde{X}$ .

#### §4

In the case  $r=0$ , it follows from (8) that  $\text{rank } A_0 = \text{rank } B_0 = 0$  also. Thus  $A^* = B^* = A_0^* = B_0^* = 0$ . From (3) and (7) we conclude  $B_0 \approx H^1(\tilde{H}; \Lambda) = 0$  and  $B \approx H^1(\tilde{X}, \partial\tilde{X}; \Lambda) = 0$ . From (4) and (5), we conclude  $e^2(A) = 0 = e^3(A)$  and so  $A$  is one-dimensional (note  $e^q = 0$  for  $q > 3$ , since  $\Lambda$  has homological dimension 3).

The Blanchfield pairing  $\beta: \bar{A} \rightarrow \text{Hom}_\Lambda(A, S(\Lambda)) \approx e^1(A)$  can be written as the composition (according to (1)):

$$\bar{A} \rightarrow \bar{A}_0 \approx H^2(X; \Lambda) = J_{11} \rightarrow e^1(A).$$

If  $P$  denotes the null-space of  $\beta$ , and  $C$  the conull-space, we can deduce from (3) and (8) an exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow \overline{H_1(\partial\tilde{X})} \rightarrow P \rightarrow Z \rightarrow \bar{K} \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0 \quad (11)$$

where  $K = \text{Kernel } \{H_0(\partial\tilde{X}) \rightarrow H_0(\tilde{X}) \approx Z\}$  – from (8).

In order to analyze the map  $Z \rightarrow \bar{K} \subseteq \overline{H_0(\partial\tilde{X})}$ , we first recall that the edge homomorphism

$$\text{Ext}_\Lambda^q(H_0(C), N) = E_{0q}^2 \twoheadrightarrow E_{0q}^\infty = J_{0q} \subseteq J_{q0} = H^q(C; N)$$

is equivalent to the homomorphism induced by a chain map  $C_* \rightarrow F_*$ , where  $F_*$  is a free resolution of  $H_0(C)$ , which induces the identity map on  $H_0(C) = H_0(F)$ . In case  $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}\pi$  and  $C_* = C_*(\tilde{X})$ , where  $\tilde{X}$  is a regular  $\pi$ -covering of  $X$ , this coincides

with the homomorphism  $\text{Ext}_\Lambda^q(Z, N) = H^q(\pi; N) \rightarrow H^q(\tilde{X}, N)$  induced by the classifying map  $X \rightarrow B\pi$  of the covering  $\tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ . Now our map  $Z \rightarrow \bar{K} \subseteq \overline{H_0(\partial\tilde{X})}$  is the composition

$$Z = e^2(Z) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon'} H^2(\tilde{X}; \Lambda) \approx \overline{H_1(\tilde{X}, \partial\tilde{X})} \xrightarrow{\partial^*} \overline{H_0(\partial\tilde{X})},$$

where  $\varepsilon'$  is the edge homomorphism of the universal coefficient spectral sequence of  $H^*(\tilde{X}; \Lambda)$ , which coincides with the composition  $Z = e^2(Z) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon'} H^2(\partial\tilde{X}; \Lambda) \approx \overline{H_0(\partial\tilde{X})}$ , where  $\varepsilon'$  is the edge homomorphism of the universal coefficient spectral sequence of  $H^*(\partial\tilde{X}; \Lambda)$ . Now the map  $\partial X \rightarrow BG$ , which classifies the covering  $\partial\tilde{X} \rightarrow \partial X$ , is an  $l$ -fold covering on each component of  $\partial X$  ( $\partial X$  is the disjoint union of two tori and  $BG$  a single torus). Therefore the induced map  $H^2(G; \Lambda) \rightarrow H^2(\partial\tilde{X}; \Lambda) \approx \Lambda/(x-1, y^l-1) \oplus \Lambda/(y-1, x^l-1)$  maps a generator onto  $(\phi_l(y), \phi_l(x))$ , where  $\phi_l(x) = \frac{x^l-1}{x-1}$ . If  $l \neq 0$ , this is a monomorphism, and, since  $H_1(\partial\tilde{X}) = 0$  (see (10)), we conclude  $P = 0$ . Furthermore we now see that  $\text{Cok}\{Z \rightarrow \bar{K} \subseteq H_0(\partial\tilde{X})\}$  has a presentation  $\{\alpha, \beta: (x-1)\alpha = 0 = (y-1)\beta, \phi_l(y)\alpha = \phi_l(x)\beta\}$ , and it, therefore, follows from (11) that  $C$  corresponds to the submodule of elements  $\lambda\alpha + \mu\beta$  ( $\lambda, \mu \in \Lambda$ ) satisfying:

$$\lambda(1, 1) + \mu(1, 1) = 0.$$

It is not hard to see that  $C$  will, therefore, be generated by  $\gamma = \alpha - \beta$ , subject to the relations

$$(x-1)(y-1)\gamma = 0 = (\phi_l(y) + \phi_l(x) - l)\gamma.$$

To complete the proof of (B) it suffices to check that:

$$\phi_l(xy) \equiv \phi_l(x) + \phi_l(y) - l \pmod{(x-1)(y-1)}.$$

But this follows from the easy fact that, for any  $f(x, y) \in \Lambda$ :

$$f(x, y) \equiv f(x, 1) + f(1, y) - f(1, 1) \pmod{(x-1)(y-1)}.$$

## §5

The longitudinal elements  $\xi_x, \xi_y$  of (C) are the generators of the image  $H_1(\partial\tilde{X}) \rightarrow A$  in (8). According to (10)  $(x-1)\xi_x = 0 = (y-1)\xi_y$ . If  $r = 0$ , then  $B_0 = 0$

and, from (10), we see that  $x-1$  ( $y-1$ ) generates the annihilator of  $\xi_x$  ( $\xi_y$ ). Note that our computation of  $Z \rightarrow \bar{K}$ , in the preceding paragraph, shows that it is zero, when  $l=0$ , and, therefore, (11) contains the short exact sequence:  $0 \rightarrow H_1(\partial\tilde{X}) \rightarrow P \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0$ .

If we can show that  $P \approx \Lambda/(x-1)(y-1)$  (with generator  $\alpha$ ), then it follows that we may choose  $\xi_x = (y-1)\alpha$ ,  $\xi_y = (x-1)\alpha$  as longitudinal elements, i.e. they are images, under  $H_1(\partial\tilde{X}) \rightarrow N$ , of generators of the respective summands (see (10)). Since we have already proved  $C \approx \Lambda/(x-1)(y-1)$ , the remaining assertions of (D) follows from the Hermitian property of the Blanchfield pairing together with:

**LEMMA.** *Let  $A$  be a one-dimensional torsion  $\Lambda$ -module equipped with a sesquilinear Hermitian pairing  $\langle \ , \ \rangle$  with null-space  $K$  and conull-space  $C$ . Then  $K \approx e^1(\bar{C})$  and, if  $A' = A/K$ , the induced pairing on  $A'$  is non-degenerate with conull-space  $\approx e^2(\bar{C})$ . If  $e^3(C) = 0$ , then  $A'$  is one-dimensional.*

*Proof of Lemma:*

Denote the adjoint of  $\langle \ , \ \rangle$  by  $\phi: A \rightarrow e^1(\bar{A})$ ; we have, by hypothesis an exact sequence:  $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{\phi} e^1(\bar{A}) \rightarrow C \rightarrow 0$ . The transpose of  $\phi: A \rightarrow e^1 e^1 A \xrightarrow{e^2 \phi} e^1 \bar{A}$  coincides with  $\phi$  (this is what Hermitian means), where  $A \rightarrow e^1 e^1 A$  is a standard "double dual" map. Since  $A$  is one-dimensional this double dual map is an isomorphism. Now consider the diagram of exact sequences:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & 0 & & & & \\
 & & \downarrow & & & & \\
 0 & \rightarrow & K & \rightarrow & A & \rightarrow & A' \rightarrow 0 \\
 & & & & \searrow \phi & & \downarrow \\
 & & & & & & e^1 \bar{A} \\
 & & & & & & \downarrow \\
 & & & & & & C \\
 & & & & & & \downarrow \\
 & & & & & & 0
 \end{array}$$

From this we derive the diagram of exact sequences:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & & 0 & & \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \\
 0 & \rightarrow & e^1(C) & \rightarrow & e^1 e^1(\bar{A}) & \rightarrow & e^1(A') \rightarrow e^2(C) \rightarrow e^2 e^1(\bar{A}) = 0 \\
 & & & & \parallel & \searrow e^1 \phi & \downarrow \\
 & & & & \bar{A} & & e^1(A)
 \end{array}$$

as well as the isomorphism  $e^i(A') \approx e^{i+1}(C)$ ,  $i \geq 2$ . We immediately see that  $\bar{K} \approx e^1(C)$ , the cokernel of the map  $\bar{A}' \rightarrow e^1(A')$ , induced by  $e^1\phi = \bar{\phi}$ , is  $e^2(C)$ , and that  $A'$  is one-dimensional if  $e^3(C) = 0$ .

## §6

From now on we will assume  $r = 1$ , since all the statements for  $r = 0$  have been proved. We first point out that  $B \approx H^1(\tilde{X}, \partial\tilde{X}; \Lambda)$ , by duality, and, by (7), we then conclude  $B \approx A_0^*$ , which is free – over a unique factorization domain,  $R^*$  is free for any module  $R$  of rank  $\leq 1$ .

We examine the longitudinal elements. We can define  $\xi_x, \xi_y \in A$ , when  $l = 0$ , by choosing translates of the components  $K_x, K_y$  of  $L$  into  $X$  which have 0 linking number with their associated components – since  $l = 0$  these translates lift into  $\tilde{X}$  defining  $\xi_x, \xi_y$  up to multiplication by a unit of  $\Lambda$ . Clearly  $\xi_x, \xi_y$  generate  $\text{Image}\{H_1(\partial\tilde{X}) \rightarrow H_1(\tilde{X})\}$ , and we have  $(x-1)\xi_x = 0 = (y-1)\xi_y$  (this distinguishes  $\xi_x$  from  $\xi_y$ ). We now show the existence of  $\lambda(x), \mu(y)$ , as in (C).

Consider the infinite cyclic covering  $X_x$  of  $X$  defined by the homomorphism  $\Pi \rightarrow G \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ , which sends  $x \rightarrow 1$  and  $y \rightarrow 0$ . Thus  $\tilde{X}$  is an infinite cyclic covering of  $X_x$ , and in fact,  $C_*(X_x) \approx C_*(\tilde{X})/(y-1)C_*(\tilde{X})$ . We obtain, by tensoring  $C_*(\tilde{X})$  with the short exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow \Lambda \xrightarrow{y-1} \Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda/(y-1) \rightarrow 0$$

the following exact homology sequence:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow H_2(\tilde{X}) \xrightarrow{y-1} H_2(\tilde{X}) \rightarrow H_2(X_x) \rightarrow H_1(\tilde{X}) \xrightarrow{y-1} H_1(\tilde{X}) \\ \rightarrow H_1(X_x) \rightarrow H_0(\tilde{X}) \xrightarrow{y-1} H_0(\tilde{X}) \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Now  $X_x$  is closely related to the infinite cyclic covering  $Y_x$  of the complement of  $K_x$ . In fact  $\overline{Y_x - X_x}$  is the union of translates, by powers of  $x$ , of the solid torus formed by lifting a tubular neighborhood of  $K_y$  into  $Y_x$ . Thus  $H_i(Y_x, X_x) \approx \Lambda/(y-1)$ , if  $i = 2, 3$ , and zero otherwise. By considering the exact sequence of the pair  $(Y_x, X_x)$  and the facts that  $H_i(Y_x) = 0$  if  $i \geq 2$ , we see easily that  $H_2(X_x) \approx \Lambda/(y-1)$  and obtain an exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow \Lambda/(y-1) \rightarrow H_1(X_x) \rightarrow H_1(Y_x) \rightarrow 0. \quad (13)$$

The sequence (12) can now be put in the simpler form:

$$0 \rightarrow \Lambda/(y-1) \rightarrow \Lambda/(y-1) \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{y-1} A \rightarrow H_1(X_x) \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0 \quad (12')$$

since  $H_2(\tilde{X}) = B \approx \Lambda$ . The image of a generator, under the injection  $\Lambda/(y-1) \rightarrow \Lambda/(y-1)$  is represented by a non-zero polynomial  $\lambda(x)$ . Since a generator  $\hat{\xi}_y$  of  $H_2(X_x) \approx \Lambda/(y-1)$  is represented by the boundary torus of a tubular neighborhood of  $K_y$  (lifted into  $X_x$ ), it is straightforward to check, from the definition of the boundary homomorphism  $H_2(X_x) \rightarrow H_1(\tilde{X}) = A$ , that  $\hat{\xi}_y \rightarrow \xi_y \in A$ . It follows immediately that  $\lambda(x)$  and  $y-1$  generate the annihilator ideal of  $\xi_y$ . A similar argument establishes the existence of  $\mu(y)$ .

Note from (12') that  $\xi_y$  generates the submodule of elements invariant under  $y$ . Thus  $\lambda(x)$  is defined, purely algebraically, up to unit multiple, by the property of being a generator, together with  $y-1$ , of the annihilator ideal of this submodule – similarly for  $\mu(y)$ .

We now show  $\lambda(x) \mid \Delta(x)$ , where  $\Delta(x)$  is the Alexander polynomial of  $K_x$  – this will imply  $\lambda(1) = \pm 1$ . Let  $T$  be the torsion sub-module of  $A$ . We first derive from (12') and (13) an exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow R \rightarrow T \xrightarrow{y-1} T \rightarrow S \rightarrow 0 \quad (14)$$

where  $R = \Lambda/(\lambda(x), y-1)$ ,  $S \subseteq H_1(Y_x)$  is the image of  $T$  under  $A \rightarrow H_1(X_x) \rightarrow H_1(Y_x)$ . The only point not immediately obvious is:  $\text{Ker}\{T \rightarrow S\} \subseteq (y-1)T$ . Suppose  $\alpha \in T$  and  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$  in  $S$ . If  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$  in  $H_1(X_x)$ , then  $\alpha = (y-1)\beta$  for some  $\beta \in A$ , by exactness of (12'). But then  $\alpha \in T$  implies  $\beta \in T$ . To see  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$  in  $H_1(X_x)$  it suffices by (13) to show  $f(x)\alpha \rightarrow 0$  for any non-zero  $f(x)$ . But, since  $\alpha \in T$ ,  $f(x, y)\alpha = 0$  for some non-zero  $f(x, y)$ . If we write  $f(x, y) = f(x) + (y-1)g(x, y)$ , then  $0 = f(x)\alpha + (y-1)g(x, y)\alpha$ . Since  $(y-1)A \rightarrow 0$  in  $H_1(X_x)$ , so does  $f(x)\alpha$ . If  $f(x) = 0$ , then, by (12'),  $\lambda(x)g(x, y)\alpha = 0$ . But this would be impossible if we had chosen  $f(x, y)$  with the smallest number of  $y-1$  factors.

Now recall that  $\Delta(x) = \Delta(H_1(Y_x))$ , where  $\Delta(A)$ , for any  $\Lambda_x$ -module  $A$  ( $\Lambda_x = z[x, x^{-1}] \approx \Lambda/(y-1)$ ) is the greatest common divisor of the *order ideal* of  $A$  (see [L]). We also recall the following property of  $\Delta(A)$ : if  $0 \rightarrow A' \rightarrow A \rightarrow A'' \rightarrow 0$  is a short exact sequence of  $\Lambda_x$ -modules, then  $\Delta(A) = \Delta(A') \Delta(A'')$  (see [L] for a proof). Thus, for example,  $\Delta(S) \mid \Delta(x)$  and, so, it suffices to prove that  $\lambda(x)$  ( $= \Delta(R)$ ,  $R$  considered as a  $\Lambda_x$ -module) divides  $\Delta(S)$ . Define

$$T_i = \frac{\text{Ker } \phi^{i+1}}{\text{Ker } \phi^i} \quad \text{and} \quad T^i = \frac{\phi^i T}{\phi^{i+1} T},$$



where  $\phi: T \rightarrow T$  is multiplication by  $y-1$ . These are  $\Lambda_x$ -modules and we have a family of short exact sequences:  $0 \rightarrow T_{i+1} \rightarrow T_i \rightarrow T^i \rightarrow T^{i+1} \rightarrow 0$ , for  $i \geq 0$  (see [L2]). From (14) we see that  $T_0 \approx R$  and  $T^0 \approx S$ . From the above-mentioned multiplicative property of  $\Delta$  we have  $\Delta(T_{i+1})\Delta(T^i) = \Delta(T_i)\Delta(T^{i+1})$  for  $i \geq 0$ . Therefore, we see that  $\Delta(T_{i+1}) \mid \Delta(T^{i+1})$  would imply  $\Delta(T_i) \mid \Delta(T^i)$ —note that these are all non-zero, since  $\Delta(T_{i+1}) \mid \Delta(T_i)$ ,  $\Delta(T^{i+1}) \mid \Delta(T^i)$  and  $\Delta(T_0), \Delta(T^0)$  are non-zero. Thus it suffices to show  $\Delta(T_i) \mid \Delta(T^i)$  for some value of  $i$ . But  $T_i = 0$ , for large enough  $i$ , since  $\{\text{Ker } \phi_i\}$  is an increasing sequence of submodules in a finitely-generated module over a Noetherian ring. This completes the proof.

Of course, by a similar argument, we can show  $\mu(y) \mid \Delta(y)$ .

We can now show that  $P_0$ , the submodule of  $A$  generated by  $\xi_x$  and  $\xi_y$ , is the submodule of elements annihilated by  $(x-1)(y-1)$ . Suppose  $(x-1)(y-1)\alpha = 0$ ; then  $(y-1)\alpha = f\xi_x$  for some  $f \in \Lambda$ . So  $\mu(y)(y-1)\alpha = 0$  which means  $\mu(y)\alpha = g\xi_y$ . Since  $\mu(1) = 1$ , we may write  $\mu(y) = 1 + (y-1)\mu'(y)$  and so  $\alpha + (y-1)\mu'(y)\alpha = g\xi_y$  or  $\alpha + \mu'(y)f\xi_x = g\xi_y$ . Thus  $\alpha \in P_0$ .

## §7

We now examine  $fA$  and prove  $fA \otimes_{\Lambda} Z$  is infinite cyclic. (over  $Z$ ) We already know  $A \otimes_{\Lambda} Z$  is infinite cyclic, which implies  $fA \otimes_{\Lambda} Z$  is cyclic. If  $fA \otimes_{\Lambda} Z$  were finite of order  $k > 0$ , then  $fA \otimes_{\Lambda} Z/p = 0$ , for any  $p$  relatively prime to  $k$ . If so, by Nakayama's lemma,  $\Delta \cdot fA = 0$  for some  $\Delta \notin M_p$ , where  $M_p = \ker \{\Lambda \rightarrow Z/p\}$ . But  $fA$  is torsion-free. If we define  $I$  to be the ideal of  $\Lambda$  with greatest common divisor 1 which is isomorphic to  $fA$ , then  $I + M = \Lambda$ . To see this choose  $\lambda \in I$  which generates  $I/MI \approx I \otimes Z \approx Z$ —we will show  $\lambda(1, 1) = \pm 1$ .  $M(I/(\lambda)) = I/(\lambda)$ , which implies, by Nakayama's lemma, that  $\Delta \cdot I/(\lambda) = 0$ , i.e.  $\Delta I \subseteq (\lambda)$ , for some  $\Delta \equiv 1 \pmod{M}$ —i.e.  $\Delta(1, 1) = \pm 1$ . Since  $I$  has greatest common divisor one,  $\Delta \in (\lambda)$  and so  $\lambda(1, 1) = \pm 1$ . To see that  $tA \otimes_{\Lambda} Z = 0$  (when  $r = 1$ ) consider the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow tA \rightarrow A \rightarrow fA \rightarrow 0$  and apply  $\otimes_{\Lambda} Z$  to obtain  $\text{Tor}^1(fA, Z) \rightarrow tA \otimes Z \rightarrow A \otimes Z \rightarrow fA \otimes Z \rightarrow 0$ . Since  $A \otimes Z \approx Z \approx fA \otimes Z$ , it suffices to show  $\text{Tor}^1(fA, Z) = \text{Tor}^1(I, Z) = 0$ . Now  $\text{Tor}^1(I, Z) = \text{Tor}^2(\Lambda/I, Z)$  which can be considered to be the submodule of *invariant* elements of  $\Lambda/I$ —i.e. of elements  $\alpha$  satisfying  $x\alpha = y\alpha = \alpha$ . But  $\lambda\alpha = 0$ , where  $\lambda \in I$  satisfying  $\lambda(1, 1) = 1$  has been found in the preceding paragraph, and so  $0 = (1 + (x-1)\lambda' + (y-1)\lambda'')\alpha = \alpha + \lambda'(x-1)\alpha + \lambda''(y-1)\alpha = \alpha$ .

By the results of §7, we may break (8) up into two shorter exact sequences (for

$r = 1$ ):

$$0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow B_0 \rightarrow \Lambda/(x-1) \oplus \Lambda/(y-1) \rightarrow 0 \quad (15a)$$

$$0 \rightarrow \Lambda/(\rho, (x-1)(y-1)) \rightarrow A \rightarrow A_0 \rightarrow \Lambda/(x-1)(y-1) \rightarrow 0 \quad (15b)$$

where  $\rho = \lambda(x) + \mu(y) - 1$  (choosing  $\lambda(1) = 1 = \mu(1)$ ). Note that the quotient of  $\Lambda/(x-1) \oplus \Lambda/(y-1)$  by the submodule generated by  $(\mu(y), 0)$  and  $(0, \lambda(x))$  is isomorphic to  $\Lambda/(\rho, (x-1)(y-1))$ , using the generator  $(1, 1)$ , and the kernel of the epimorphism  $\Lambda/(x-1) \oplus \Lambda/(y-1) \rightarrow Z$  is isomorphic to  $\Lambda/(x-1)(y-1)$ , using the generator  $(1, -1)$ . Applying  $\text{Hom}(\_, \Lambda)$  to (15a) yields an exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow B_0^* \rightarrow B^* \rightarrow \Lambda/(x-1) \oplus \Lambda/(y-1) \rightarrow e^1(B_0) \rightarrow e^1(B).$$

Now  $e^1(B) = 0$ , since  $B$  is free. From (3), we conclude that  $\bar{B}_0 \approx H^1(\tilde{X}; \Lambda)$  is free or isomorphic to  $M$  (the ideal in  $\Lambda$  generated by  $(x-1, y-1)$ ), since  $A^*$  is free. But (15a) is possible only if  $\bar{B}_0 \approx M$ . Thus  $e^1(B_0) \approx Z$ . We, therefore, have the exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow B_0^* \rightarrow B^* \rightarrow \Lambda/(x-1)(y-1) \rightarrow 0 \quad (16)$$

We now apply  $\text{Hom}(\_, \Lambda)$  to (15b) and obtain exact sequences:

$$0 \rightarrow A_0^* \rightarrow A^* \rightarrow \Lambda/(x-1)(y-1) \rightarrow e^1(A_0) \rightarrow e^1(A) \rightarrow 0 \quad (17a)$$

$$0 \rightarrow e^2(A_0) \rightarrow e^2(A) \rightarrow \Lambda/(\rho, (x-1)(y-1)) \rightarrow e^3(A_0) \rightarrow 0. \quad (17b)$$

Note that

$$e^1(\Lambda/(\rho, (x-1)(y-1))) = 0$$

$$e^2(\Lambda/(\rho, (x-1)(y-1))) \approx \Lambda/(\rho, (x-1)(y-1))$$

and  $e^3(A) = 0$  (by (5), since  $B$  is free).

We now examine the homomorphisms  $tA \rightarrow tA_0$  and  $fA \rightarrow fA_0$ , using (15b). Denoting the kernel and cokernel, respectively, by  $K_1, K_2$  and  $C_1, C_2$ , we can apply the snake lemma, using (15b) to obtain an exact sequence:  $0 \rightarrow K_1 \rightarrow \Lambda/(\rho, (x-1)(y-1)) \rightarrow K_2 \rightarrow C_1 \rightarrow \Lambda/(x-1)(y-1) \rightarrow C_2 \rightarrow 0$ . Since  $K_2$  is torsion-free and  $C_1$  torsion, we see that  $K_2 = 0$ . For some ideal  $S \supseteq (x-1)(y-1)$ , we have

$$C_1 \approx S/(x-1)(y-1), \quad C_2 \approx \Lambda/S$$

and we have:

$$0 \rightarrow \Lambda/(\rho, (x-1)(y-1)) \rightarrow tA \rightarrow tA_0 \rightarrow S/(x-1)(y-1) \rightarrow 0 \quad (18a)$$

$$0 \rightarrow fA \rightarrow fA_0 \rightarrow \Lambda/S \rightarrow 0. \quad (18b)$$

## §8

We now deduce some facts from (3)–(6) and duality:

$$\overline{tA} = e^1(A_0). \quad (19)$$

This follows from (6), since  $e^1(A_0)$  is torsion and  $B_0^*$  is free.

$$0 \rightarrow \bar{B}_0 \rightarrow A^* \rightarrow Z \rightarrow \overline{tA_0} \rightarrow e^1(A) \rightarrow 0. \quad (20)$$

This is just (3), since  $J_{11} \simeq \overline{tA_0}$  from (4).

$$0 \rightarrow \overline{fA_0} \rightarrow B^* \rightarrow e^2(A) \rightarrow 0. \quad (21)$$

This follows from (4).

$$0 \rightarrow \overline{fA} \rightarrow B_0^* \rightarrow e^2(A_0) \rightarrow 0, \quad e^3(A_0) \approx Z/k, \quad (\text{some } k > 0). \quad (22)$$

This follows from (6), since  $H^3(\tilde{X}, \partial\tilde{X}) \approx Z$  and  $e^3(A_0)$  cannot be isomorphic to  $Z$ , since  $e^2(Z) \neq 0$  but  $e^2e^3 = 0$  over  $\Lambda$  (see [Ba]).

We use the map  $\tilde{X} \rightarrow (\tilde{X}, \partial\tilde{X})$  to map (22)  $\rightarrow$  (21). Using (18b), (16) and (17b), we obtain a commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & \\
 & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 0 \rightarrow & \overline{fA} & \rightarrow & B_0^* & \rightarrow & e^2(A_0) & \rightarrow 0 \\
 & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 0 \rightarrow & \overline{fA_0} & \rightarrow & B^* & \rightarrow & e^2(A) & \rightarrow 0 \\
 & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 & \Lambda/S & & \Lambda/(x-1)(y-1) & & \Lambda/(\rho, (x-1)(y-1)) & \\
 & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 & 0 & & 0 & & e^3(A_0) & \\
 & & & & & \downarrow & \\
 & & & & & 0 & 
 \end{array} \quad (23)$$

From the snake lemma we deduce an exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow \Lambda/S \rightarrow \Lambda/(x-1)(y-1) \rightarrow \Lambda/(\rho, (x-1)(y-1)) \rightarrow e^3(A_0) \rightarrow 0. \quad (24)$$

From this sequence we may deduce:  $e^3(A_0) = 0$  and  $S = (x-1)(y-1)$ . The first of these follows from the fact that any epimorphism  $\Lambda \rightarrow Z/k$  is of the form  $f(x, y) \rightarrow af(1, 1)$ , where  $a \in Z$  is relatively prime to  $k$ , and  $\rho(1, 1) = 1$ . To see the second, let  $\alpha \in \Lambda$  represent the image of 1 under  $\Lambda/S \rightarrow \Lambda/(x-1)(y-1)$ . Then  $(\alpha, (x-1)(y-1)) = (\rho, (x-1)(y-1))$  and so  $\alpha(1, 1) = \pm 1$ . But  $\beta \in S$  if and only if  $(x-1)(y-1) \mid \alpha\beta$  and so  $S \subseteq (x-1)(y-1)$ . Since we already know  $S \supseteq (x-1)(y-1)$ , we have  $S = (x-1)(y-1)$ .

Now define  $J$  to be the ideal of  $\Lambda$ , with greatest common divisor 1, isomorphic to  $fA_0$ . We can rewrite (23) as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & \\ & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ 0 \rightarrow & I & \xrightarrow{\tau'} & \Lambda & \rightarrow & e^2(\bar{A}_0) & \rightarrow 0 \\ & \downarrow \tau & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ 0 \rightarrow & J & \xrightarrow{\tau''} & \Lambda & \rightarrow & e^2(\bar{A}) & \rightarrow 0 \\ & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ 0 \rightarrow & \Lambda/(x-1)(y-1) & \rightarrow & \Lambda/(x-1)(y-1) & \rightarrow & \Lambda/(\bar{\rho}, (x-1)(y-1)) & \rightarrow 0 \\ & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & \end{array} \quad (25)$$

The maps indicated by  $\tau, \tau', \tau''$  and  $\tau_0$  are all multiplication by elements of  $Q(\Lambda)$  – we also use  $\tau, \tau', \tau'', \tau_0$  to denote these elements. Obviously  $\tau_0 \in \Lambda$  and is a unit multiple of  $(x-1)(y-1)$  and, since  $I$  and  $J$  have greatest common divisor one,  $\tau'$  and  $\tau''$  are also in  $\Lambda$ . Now  $e^2(\bar{A}_0)$  and  $e^2(\bar{A})$  are pseudo-null since they are  $\text{grade} \geq 2$  (see [Ba]) and  $\text{grade} \geq 2$  means pseudo-null (see [R]). Therefore  $\tau'$  and  $\tau''$  must be units of  $\Lambda$ ; so  $\tau \in \Lambda$  and is a unit multiple of  $\tau_0$  or  $(x-1)(y-1)$ .

Now choose an element  $\sigma \in J$  which maps onto a generator of  $\Lambda/(x-1)(y-1)$ . Therefore  $J = (x-1)(y-1)I + (\sigma)$ . From the left-most vertical row of (25) we see that  $f\sigma \in (x-1)(y-1)I$  if and only if  $(x-1)(y-1) \mid f$ . If  $f = (x-1)(y-1)$ , this says  $\sigma \in I$ , and so  $J \subseteq I$ . If  $\sigma'$  is another element such that  $J = (x-1)(y-1)I + (\sigma')$ , then a straight-forward computation shows  $\sigma' = \alpha\sigma \bmod (x-1)(y-1)I$ , where  $\alpha = u \bmod (x-1)(y-1)$  for some unit  $u$  of  $\Lambda$ . Since  $\sigma \in I$ , we have  $\sigma' \equiv u\sigma \bmod (x-1)(y-1)I$  and so  $\sigma$  is well-defined up to unit multiple,  $\bmod (x-1)(y-1)I$ . Finally, it follows from (25) that  $(\sigma, (x-1)(y-1)) = (\bar{\rho}, (x-1)(y-1))$ , which implies  $\sigma \equiv u'\bar{\rho} \bmod (x-1)(y-1)$  for some unit  $u'$  of  $\Lambda$ .

## §9

We now determine the null-space  $N$  and co-null space  $C$  of the Blanchfield pairing. Its adjoint  $\overline{tA} \rightarrow e^1(tA)$ , whose kernel and cokernel are  $N$  and  $C$ , can be described as the composition:

$$\overline{tA} \rightarrow e^1(A_0) \rightarrow e^1(tA_0) \rightarrow e^1(tA) \quad (26)$$

where the first homomorphism is the isomorphism of (19) and the others are induced by inclusion  $tA_0 \subseteq A_0$  and  $A \rightarrow A_0$ . By its Hermitian property this coincides with the composition;

$$\overline{tA} \rightarrow \overline{tA_0} \rightarrow e^1(A) \rightarrow e^1(tA). \quad (27)$$

The middle map comes from (20).

In (26), the last map is also an isomorphism – this follows from (18a), since  $S = (x-1)(y-1)$  and  $e^0(\Lambda/(\rho, (x-1)(y-1))) = e^1(\Lambda/(\rho, (x-1)(y-1))) = 0$ . Thus  $N$  and  $C$  are isomorphic to the kernel and cokernel, respectively, of  $e^1(A_0) \rightarrow e^1(tA_0)$ . From the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow tA_0 \rightarrow A_0 \rightarrow fA_0 \rightarrow 0$ , we conclude  $N \approx e^1(fA_0) = e^1(J)$ . Since  $e^1(tA) \approx \text{Hom}_\Lambda(tA, S(\Lambda))$  is pseudo-null free, and  $e^1(J) \approx e^2(\Lambda/J)$  is pseudo-null, it follows that  $N$  is the pseudo-null submodule of  $\overline{tA}$ .

We show that the map  $\overline{tA_0} \rightarrow e^1(A)$  in (27) is an isomorphism. Referring to (20) we have already seen that  $A^* \rightarrow Z$  is non-trivial, since  $B_0 \approx M$  and  $A^*$  is free. It remains to show that  $tA_0$  cannot contain a submodule isomorphic to  $Z/k$ , unless  $k = 0$  or  $1$ . But we have seen  $e^3(A_0) = 0$  and an inclusion  $Z/k \rightarrow A_0$  would induce an epimorphism  $e^3(A_0) \rightarrow e^3(Z/k) \approx Z/k$  (if  $k > 0$ ).

From the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow tA \rightarrow A \rightarrow fA \rightarrow 0$  we deduce an exact sequence.

$$0 \rightarrow e^1(I) \rightarrow e^1(A) \rightarrow e^1(tA) \rightarrow e^2(I) \rightarrow e^2(A) \rightarrow e^2(tA) \rightarrow 0 \quad (28)$$

since  $fA \approx I$  and  $e^3(I) \approx e^4(\Lambda/I) = 0$ . From (28) and (18a), we can deduce exact sequences:

$$0 \rightarrow \Lambda/(\bar{\rho}, (x-1)(y-1)) \rightarrow N \rightarrow e^1(I) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{and}$$

$$0 \rightarrow C \rightarrow e^2(I) \rightarrow e^2(A) \rightarrow e^2(tA) \rightarrow 0.$$

Recall  $S = (x-1)(y-1)$ . Since  $e^2(A) \approx \Lambda/\bar{J}$  from (25), we have completed the proof of (F).

## §10

To prove (G) we will use the following special case of a result of Bailey [By]

**THEOREM.** *Let  $(\lambda_{ij})$  be an  $(n \times n)$ -matrix over  $\Lambda$  satisfying (i)  $\lambda_{11} = 0$ ; (ii)  $\lambda_{ij} = \bar{\lambda}_{ji}$  if  $n \geq i, j > 1$  (iii)  $\lambda_{1j} = (x^{-1} - 1)(y^{-1} - 1)\bar{\lambda}_{j1}$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n$  (iv)  $\lambda_{ij}(1, 1) = \pm \delta_{ij}$  if  $n \geq i, j > 1$ . Then there exists a link, with  $l = 0$ , whose module  $A$  has presentation*

$$\left\{ \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n : \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_{ij} \alpha_j = 0, i = 1, \dots, n \right\}.$$

Since a proof this theorem has not appeared in a journal, we present one in the Appendix. We point out that our proof is very different from Bailey's. Also see [N]. ( $(\lambda_{ij})$  is referred to as a *presentation matrix* of  $A$ .) We prove two lemmas.

**LEMMA 1.** *Let  $A$  be a link module with a presentation matrix  $(\lambda_{ij})$  satisfying (i)–(iv). Suppose  $(\sigma_i)$  is an  $(n \times 1)$ -row vector, whose entries are relatively prime, such that  $\sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i \lambda_{ij} = 0$  for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ . Then  $\sigma_1(s, 1)$  and  $\sigma_1(1, y)$  are the longitudinal orders of  $A$ .*

The next lemma deals with a more general situation.

**LEMMA 2.** *Let  $(\lambda_{ij})$  be an  $(n \times n)$  matrix over a domain  $\Lambda$ , a presentation matrix of a module  $A$  of rank one. Let  $M$  be the  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$ -matrix  $(\lambda_{ij}), 2 \leq i, j \leq n$  and suppose  $\Delta = \det M \neq 0$ . Let  $(\mu_{ij}) = \Delta \cdot M^{-1} (2 \leq i, j \leq n)$ , the cofactor matrix of  $M$  and set  $\rho_i = \sum_{j=2}^n \mu_{ij} \lambda_{j1}$ . Then  $fM$  is isomorphic to the ideal of  $\Lambda$  generated by  $(\Delta, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_n)$ .*

*Proof of Lemma 1.* Let  $0 \rightarrow W \rightarrow F_0 \xrightarrow{d} F_1 \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$  be the resolution defined by  $(\lambda_{ij})$ , i.e.  $F_0$  and  $F_1$  are free modules of rank  $n$  with bases  $\{\alpha_i\}, \{\beta_i\}$  with  $d(\beta_i) = \sum_j \lambda_{ij} \alpha_j$ . Since  $\text{rank } A = 1$  and projective dimension  $A \leq 2$ ,  $W$  is free of rank one. If a generator of  $W \subset F_0$  is  $\sum_i \sigma'_i \beta_i$ , then  $\sigma'_i = u \sigma_i$ , for some unit  $u$  in  $\Lambda$ . Let  $\Lambda_x = \Lambda/(y-1)$ : then  $\text{Tor}_1^\Lambda(A, \Lambda_x)$  is the submodule of elements of  $A$  annihilated by  $y-1$  (using exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow \Lambda \xrightarrow{y-1} \Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda_x \rightarrow 0$ ) which, by (C), is isomorphic to  $\Lambda_x/(\lambda(x))$ . Using the resolution of  $A$  given above  $\text{Tor}_1^\Lambda(A, \Lambda_x)$  is the homology of the chain complex:

$$W \otimes_{\Lambda} \Lambda_x \xrightarrow{d'} F_0 \otimes_{\Lambda} \Lambda_x \xrightarrow{d''} F_1 \otimes_{\Lambda} \Lambda_x$$

where the modules are free over  $\Lambda_x$  and  $d', d''$  are represented by the matrices:  $(\sigma_i(x, 1))$  and  $(\lambda_{ij}(x, 1))$ , respectively. Since  $\lambda_{1j}(x, 1) = 0$ , for all  $j$ , and  $\lambda_{ij}(1, 1) = \pm \delta_{ij}$  for  $i, j \geq 2$ , it follows easily that kernel  $d''$  is the free submodule of  $F_0 \otimes_{\Lambda} \Lambda_x$  generated by  $\beta_1 \otimes 1$ . Thus, since  $\text{Image } d' \subseteq \text{kernel } d''$ ,  $\sigma_i(x, 1) = 0$  for  $i > 1$ , and  $\text{Tor}_1^{\Lambda}(A, \Lambda_x) \approx \Lambda/(\sigma_1(x, 1))$ .

A similar argument for  $\mu(y)$  completes the proof.

*Proof of Lemma 2.* Suppose  $(\rho_{ij})$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ , is any matrix over  $\Lambda$ ; consider the module  $A'$  presented by the product matrix  $(\rho_{ij})(\lambda_{ij})$ —i.e.  $A' = \{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n : \sum_j \rho_{ij} \lambda_{sj} \beta_j = 0, i = 1, \dots, n\}$ . If  $\{\alpha_i\}$  are the generators of  $A$ , subject to relations  $\sum_j \lambda_{ij} \alpha_j = 0$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ), then  $\beta_i \rightarrow \alpha_i$  defines an epimorphism  $\phi: A' \rightarrow A$ . The kernel of  $\phi$  is generated by  $\{\gamma_i\}$ , where  $\gamma_i = \sum_j \lambda_{ij} \beta_j$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ), and the  $\{\gamma_i\}$  are subject to relations  $\sum_j \rho_{ij} \gamma_j = 0$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ). We apply these observations to the matrix  $(\rho_{ij})$  given by

$$\rho_{ij} = \begin{cases} \mu_{ij} & i, j \geq 2 \\ \delta_{ij} & i = 1 \text{ or } j = 1. \end{cases}$$

The matrix  $(\sigma_{ij}) = (\rho_{ij})(\lambda_{ij})$  is given by

$$\sigma_{ij} = \begin{cases} \lambda_{ij} & i = 1 \\ \rho_i & j = 1, \quad i > 1 \\ \Delta \delta_{ij} & i, j \geq 2. \end{cases}$$

Now  $\det(\rho_{ij}) = \Delta \neq 0$ , which implies, since  $(\rho_{ij})$  is a relation matrix for  $\text{Ker } \phi$ , that  $\text{Ker } \phi$  is a torsion module. Thus  $\phi$  induces an isomorphism  $fA \approx fA'$ . To compute  $fA'$ , we define a homomorphism  $\psi: A' \rightarrow \Lambda$  by  $\psi(\beta_1) = -\Delta$ ,  $\psi(\beta_i) = \rho_i$  for  $i \geq 2$ . This is well-defined since it preserves the relations given by all the rows of  $(\sigma_{ij})$ , except perhaps the first—but, since  $\text{rank } A' = 1$ , the rows of  $(\sigma_{ij})$  are linearly dependent and, therefore, the relations given by the first row must also be preserved (note that rows 2 through  $n$  are linearly independent). Since  $\text{rank } A' = 1$ ,  $\psi$  induces an isomorphism  $fA' \approx \text{Image } \psi = (\Delta, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_n)$ . This completes the proof of lemma 2.

## §11

We can now prove the realization theorem (G). Let  $\sigma(x, y) = \lambda(x^{-1}) + \mu(y^{-1}) - 1$  and choose elements  $\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k \in I$  so that  $(\sigma, \tau_1, \dots, \tau_k) = I$ .



Define the  $(n \times n)$ -matrix  $(\lambda_{ij})$ , where  $n = 2k + 1$  as follows:

$$\lambda_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & i = 1 = j \\ \bar{\sigma}\tau_{i-1} & 2 \leq i \leq k+1, j = 1 \\ \tau_{i-k-1} & k+1 < i \leq n, j = 1 \\ (x^{-1} - 1)(y^{-1} - 1)\sigma\bar{\tau}_{j-1} & i = 1, 2 \leq j \leq k+1 \\ (x^{-1} - 1)(y^{-1} - 1)\bar{\tau}_{j-k-1} & i = 1, k+1 < j \leq n \\ -\delta_{ij}\sigma\bar{\sigma} & k+1 \geq i \geq 2 \\ \delta_{ij} & n \geq i \geq k+1. \end{cases}$$

This matrix satisfies the conditions of Bailey's theorem and is, therefore, the presentation matrix of a 2-link module  $A$ .

We can define a row-vector  $(\sigma_i)$  satisfying the hypothesis of lemma 1 by setting:

$$\sigma_i = \begin{cases} \bar{\sigma} & i = 1 \\ (x^{-1} - 1)(y^{-1} - 1)\bar{\tau}_{i-1} & 2 \leq i \leq k+1 \\ -(x^{-1} - 1)(y^{-1} - 1)\bar{\sigma}\bar{\tau}_{i-k-1} & k+1 < i \leq n. \end{cases}$$

Since  $\sigma, \tau_1, \dots, \tau_k$  are relatively prime, and  $\sigma(1, 1) = 1$ , the  $\{\sigma_i\}$  are relatively prime. Clearly  $\sigma_1(x, 1) = \lambda(x)$ ,  $\sigma_1(1, y) = \mu(y)$  and so, by lemma 1, these are the longitudinal orders of  $A$ . To show  $fA \approx I$ , we apply lemma 2. For our matrix  $(\lambda_{ij})$ ,  $\Delta = (-\sigma\bar{\sigma})^k$  and  $(\mu_{ij})$  is given by:

$$\mu_{ij} = \begin{cases} (-\sigma\bar{\sigma})^{k-1}\delta_{ij} & 2 \leq i \leq k+1 \\ (-\sigma\bar{\sigma})^k\delta_{ij} & k+1 < i \leq n. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\rho_i = \sum_j \mu_{ij}\lambda_{j1} = \begin{cases} (-\sigma)^{k-1}\bar{\sigma}^k\tau_{i-1} & 2 \leq i \leq k+1 \\ (-\sigma\bar{\sigma})^k\tau_{i-k-1} & k+1 < i \leq n. \end{cases}$$

Thus  $fA \approx$  ideal generated by  $\{(-\sigma\bar{\sigma})^k, (-\sigma)^{k-1}\bar{\sigma}^k\tau_i (1 \leq i \leq k), (-\sigma\bar{\sigma})^k\tau_i (1 \leq i \leq k)\}$ .

If we divide out  $\pm\sigma^{k-1}\bar{\sigma}^k$  from these elements, we find  $fA \approx$  ideal generated by  $\{\sigma, \tau_i, \sigma\tau_i\} = \{\sigma, \tau_i\} = I$ .

This completes the proof of (G).

## Appendix

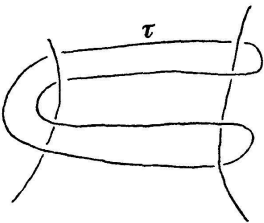
We outline a proof of Bailey's Theorem as stated in §11. The construction of the desired link proceeds, in the spirit of [L], by surgery on the complement of the "unlink", i.e. the link formed by the boundary of two disjoint 2-disks in 3-space.

Let  $X_0$  be the complement of the unlink – then  $H_1(\tilde{X}_0)$  is free of rank one. Choose a generator  $e$  of  $H_1(\tilde{X}_0)$  and let  $\{\sigma_i\}$  ( $2 \leq i \leq n$ ) be disjoint imbedded circles in  $X_0$  which lift to imbedded circles  $\{\tilde{\sigma}_i\}$  in  $\tilde{X}_0$  such that  $\tilde{\sigma}_i$  represents  $\lambda_{i1}e$ . We would also like  $\{\sigma_i\}$ , considered as a link in 3-space, to be the  $(n-1)$ -component unlink. If we give each  $\sigma_i$  the normal framing which winds once around and do surgery on  $S^3$ , using these framed imbedded circles, the result  $\Sigma$ , as in [L], is again diffeomorphic to  $S^3$ . The desired link  $L$  will be the original unlink regarded, now, as a link in  $\Sigma$ .

Let  $Y$  be the complement of the  $\{\sigma_i\}$  in  $X_0$  and  $X$  be the complement of  $L$  in  $\Sigma$ .  $\tilde{Y}$  and  $\tilde{X}$  will be the coverings of  $Y$  and  $X$  inherited from  $\tilde{X}_0$ ;  $\tilde{X}$  is the universal abelian covering of  $X$ . To compute  $H_1(\tilde{Y})$  we examine the homology sequence of  $(\tilde{X}_0, \tilde{Y})$ . From this we conclude that  $H_1(\tilde{Y})$  is generated by elements  $\{e', \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_n\}$  where  $e' \rightarrow e$  under the inclusion  $\tilde{Y} \rightarrow \tilde{X}_0$ , and  $\varepsilon_i$  is represented by a small circle which links  $\tilde{\sigma}_i$  simply. There is a single relation  $\sum_{i=2}^n \alpha_i \varepsilon_i = 0$ , where  $\alpha_i = E \cdot \tilde{\sigma}_i$ , the intersection in  $\Lambda$  of a generator  $E$  of  $H_2(\tilde{X}_0)$  with  $\tilde{\sigma}_i$ . Since  $\tilde{\sigma}_i$  represents  $\lambda_{i1}e$ , we have

$$\alpha_i = \bar{\lambda}_{i1}(E \cdot e).$$

Finally, one may calculate  $E \cdot e = (x-1)(y-1)$  by a direct computation:  $E$  is represented by a 2-sphere separating the components of the unlink and  $e$  is represented by the loop  $\tau$  as follows:



So the relation is  $(x-1)(y-1) \sum_{i=2}^n \bar{\lambda}_{i1} \varepsilon_i = 0$ .

To compute  $H_1(\tilde{X})$  we now examine the homology sequence of  $(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y})$ . From this we conclude that  $H_1(\tilde{X})$  has generators  $e'', \varepsilon'_2, \dots, \varepsilon'_n$ , the images of  $e', \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_n$  under the inclusion  $\tilde{Y} \rightarrow \tilde{X}$ , with the relation:

$$(x-1)(y-1) \sum_{i=2}^n \bar{\lambda}_{i1} \varepsilon'_i = 0$$

and, in addition, new relations

$$(*) \quad \lambda_{i1}e'' + \sum_j \lambda'_{ij}\varepsilon'_j = 0, \quad \text{for some } \{\lambda'_{ij}\}.$$

$\lambda_{i1}e' + \sum_j \lambda'_{ij}\varepsilon_j \in H_1(\tilde{Y})$  is the class represented by the circle  $\tilde{\sigma}'_i$  obtained by translating  $\tilde{\sigma}_i$  along one of the vector fields of the normal framing of  $\tilde{\sigma}_i$  used in the surgery. That the coefficient of  $e'$  is  $\lambda_{i1}$  follows from the fact that  $\tilde{\sigma}_i$  represents  $\lambda_{i1}e$  in  $H_1(\tilde{X}_0)$ . We show that the correct original choice of  $e'$  results in the following properties:

$$(i) \quad \lambda'_{ij} = \bar{\lambda}'_{ji}$$

$$(ii) \quad \phi(\lambda'_{ij}) = \delta_{ij}$$

where  $\phi: \Lambda \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  is the usual augmentation  $f(x, y) \rightarrow f(1, 1)$ .

LEMMA. Suppose  $X$  is a compact oriented 3-manifold,  $\tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  a regular covering with  $\tau$  as the group of covering transformations. Let  $T_1, \dots, T_n$  be tori components of  $\partial X$  which lift to  $\tilde{T}_i \subseteq \tilde{X}$  trivially covering  $T_i$ , for each  $i$ . Let  $\alpha_i, \beta_i$  be the canonical generators of  $H_1(\tilde{T}_i)$  represented by meridian and longitude circles. Satisfying  $\alpha_i\alpha_j = 0 = \beta_i\beta_j$  and  $\alpha_i \cdot \beta_j = \delta_{ij}$ . If  $\sum_j \lambda_{ij}i_*(\alpha_j) + \sum_j \mu_{ij}i_*(\beta_j) = 0$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , is any set of relations in  $H_1(\tilde{X})$ ,  $i: \tilde{T}_i \subseteq \tilde{X}$ , then, for any  $i, j$

$$\sum_s \lambda_{is}\bar{\mu}_{js} = \sum_s \mu_{is}\bar{\lambda}_{js},$$

where  $\mu \rightarrow \bar{\mu}$  is the usual conjugation in  $\mathbb{Z}\pi$ .

*Proof.* Write  $\sum_j (\lambda_{ij}\alpha_j + \mu_{ij}\beta_j) = \partial_*\theta_i$  for some  $\theta_i \in H_2(\tilde{X}, \tilde{T})$  where  $\partial_*: H_2(\tilde{X}, \tilde{T}) \rightarrow H_1(\tilde{T})$  is the boundary homomorphism. Then, using the property: If  $\alpha \in H_1(\tilde{T})$ ,  $\theta \in H_2(\tilde{X}, \tilde{T})$ , then  $\partial_*\theta \cdot \alpha = \theta \cdot i_*\alpha$  we conclude that  $\theta_i \cdot i_*(\alpha_j) = -\mu_{ij}$ ;  $\theta_i \cdot i_*(\beta_j) = \lambda_{ij}$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \theta_i \cdot (i_*\partial_*\theta_j) = \theta_i \cdot \sum_k (\lambda_{jk}i_*(\alpha_k) + \mu_{jk}i_*(\beta_k)) \\ &= \sum_k (\bar{\lambda}_{jk}\theta_i \cdot i_*(\alpha_k) + \bar{\mu}_{jk}\theta_i \cdot i_*(\beta_k)) \\ &= \sum_k (-\bar{\lambda}_{jk}\mu_{ik} + \bar{\mu}_{jk}\lambda_{ik}). \end{aligned}$$

We have the equality  $\tilde{\sigma}'_i = \lambda_{i1}e' + \sum_j \lambda'_{ij}\varepsilon_j$  in  $H_1(\tilde{Y})$ . If we remove a tubular neighborhood of the loop  $\tau$ , representing  $e'$ , from  $Y$  to obtain a new manifold  $W$ , we obtain new equations:  $\tilde{\sigma}'_{0i} = \lambda_{i1}e'_0 + \sum \lambda'_{ij}\varepsilon_{0j} + \mu_i C$  in  $H_1(\tilde{W})$  where  $C$  is represented by a meridian of the newly removed tube,  $e'_0$  is represented by a

translate  $\tilde{\tau}'$  of  $\tilde{\tau}$  into  $\tilde{W}$ , and  $\varepsilon_{0j} \rightarrow \varepsilon_j$ ,  $\sigma'_{0i} \rightarrow \sigma'_i$ . We apply the lemma to these relations and conclude:

$$\lambda'_{ij} - \lambda_{i1}\mu_j = \bar{\lambda}'_{ji} - \bar{\mu}_i\bar{\lambda}_{j1}$$

assuming that  $\{\varepsilon_j\}$  and  $C$  are oriented correctly. We now replace our original choice of  $e'$  by  $e' + \sum_j \mu_j \varepsilon_j$  and check that  $\lambda'_{ij}$  is replaced by  $\lambda'_{ij} - \lambda_{i1}\mu_j$ . Now property (i) is satisfied.

To verify property (ii), we need to add to the above argument the constraint that  $\tau'$  be chosen to have linking number 0 with  $\tau$  in  $S^3$ . If we now project everything to  $W \subseteq S^3$ , the above equations imply:

$$(a) \quad \phi(\mu_i) = l(\tau, -\sigma_i + \phi(\lambda_{i1})\tau')$$

$$(b) \quad \phi(\lambda'_{ij}) = l(\sigma_j, \sigma'_i - \phi(\lambda_{i1})\tau)$$

where  $l$  denotes linking number in  $S^3$ . Since  $l(\tau, \tau') = 0$  by choice, and  $l(\sigma_i, \sigma'_j) = \delta_{ij}$  by definition of  $\sigma'_j$ , (a) and (b) imply:

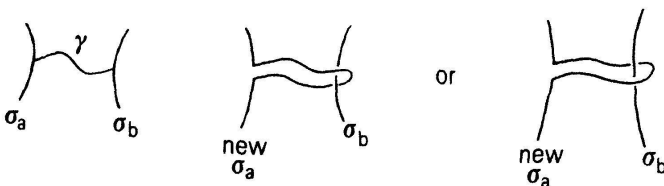
$$\phi(\lambda'_{ij}) = \delta_{ij} + \phi(\lambda_{i1})\phi(\mu_j)$$

or  $\phi(\lambda'_{ij} - \lambda_{i1}\mu_j) = \delta_{ij}$ , as desired.

We finally propose to alter the  $\{\sigma_i\}$  in order to change the  $\{\lambda'_{ij}\}$  to the prescribed  $\{\lambda_{ij}\}$  for  $2 \leq i, j \leq n$ . As a preliminary consideration we show how to make certain elementary changes in the  $\{\lambda'_{ij}\}$ . Choose  $g \in G$ , and  $2 \leq a, b \leq n$ ; we will change  $\sigma_a$  to effect the change:

$$\lambda'_{ij} \mapsto \begin{cases} \lambda'_{ij} \pm g & i = a, j = b, a \neq b \\ \lambda'_{ij} \pm g^{-1} & i = b, j = a, a \neq b \\ \lambda'_{ij} \pm (g + g^{-1}) & i = j = a = b \\ \lambda'_{ij} & (i, j) \neq (a, b) \text{ or } (b, a). \end{cases}$$

Choose an arc  $\tilde{\gamma}$  in  $\tilde{X}_0$  from  $\tilde{\sigma}_a$  to  $g\tilde{\sigma}_b$  avoiding all lifts of  $\sigma_i$ ,  $\tau$ , and use  $\gamma$  to form a connected sum of  $\sigma_a$  with a small circle linking  $\sigma_b$ , as in the following picture:

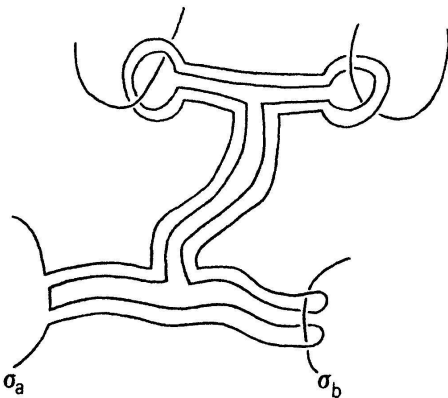


To see that the  $\{\lambda'_{ij}\}$  are changed as claimed, we use the following characterization: given chains  $\theta_i$  in  $\tilde{X}_0$  such that  $\tilde{\sigma}_i - \lambda_{i1}\tilde{\tau} = \partial\theta_i$ , then  $\lambda'_{ij} = \theta_i \cdot \tilde{\sigma}'_j$ . If we now make the obvious change in  $\theta_a$  to accompany our change of  $\sigma_a$ , it is straight forward to verify the new values of  $\{\lambda'_{ij}\}$ . The ambiguity in sign is achieved by the ambiguity in the connected sum, as in the picture.

Note that this construction will destroy the property that  $\{\sigma_i\}$  should form a trivial link in  $S^3$ , as well as property (ii) of  $\{\lambda'_{ij}\}$ . The elementary changes in  $\{\lambda'_{ij}\}$  which would generate an arbitrary change preserving properties (i), (ii) are of the following type: give  $g \in G$  and  $2 \leq a, b \leq n$ :

$$\lambda'_{ij} \mapsto \begin{cases} \lambda'_{ij} \pm (g-1) & i = a, j = b, a \neq b \\ \lambda'_{ij} \pm (g^{-1}-1) & i = b, j = a, a \neq b. \\ \lambda'_{ij} \pm (g + g^{-1} - 2) & i = j = a = b \\ \lambda'_{ij} & (i, j) \neq (a, b) \text{ or } (b, a) \end{cases}$$

But this change is realized by a pair of changes of the original type and, therefore, we will be done if such a pair can be effected without changing the link type of  $\{\sigma_i\}$  in  $S^3$ . To see this it is merely necessary to choose the two arcs from  $\sigma_a$  to  $\sigma_b$  so that, in  $S^3 - \{\sigma_i\}$ , they will be isotopic rel boundary, as suggested by the following picture.



## REFERENCES

- [B] BLANCHFIELD, R. C. *Intersection theory of manifolds with operators with applications to knot theory*, Annals of Math. 65 (1957), 340–56.
- [Ba] BASS, H. *On the ubiquity of Gorenstein rings*, Math. Zeit. 82 (1963), 8–28.
- [Bo] BOURBAKI, N. “Elements de Mathematiques,” XXVII, Algebre Commutative Ch. VII, Hermann, Paris, 1968.
- [By] BAILEY, J. *Alexander invariants of links*, Ph.D. dissertation, U. of British Columbia, 1977.

- [C] CROWELL, R. *Corresponding group and module sequences*, Nagoya Math. J. 19 (1961), 27–40.
- [F] FOX, R. *Free differential calculus II*, Annals of Math. 59 (1954), 196–210.
- [H] J. Hillman, *Knots and links in low dimensions*, Ph.D. dissertation, Australian National University 1978.
- [H1] HILLMAN, J. *Alexander polynomials, annihilator ideals and the Steinitz–Fox–Smythe invariant*, Proc. London Math. Soc. (to appear).
- [H2] HILLMAN, J. *Alexander ideals, longitudes, etc.*, Abstracts 80T-G110, Abstracts Amer. Math. Soc., 1 (1980), 595.
- [L] J. Levine, *A method for generating link polynomials*, Amer. J. Math. 89 (1967), 69–84.
- [L1] J. Levine, *Knot modules*, Trans. A.M.S. 229 (1978), 1–50.
- [L2] LEVINE, J. “Algebraic structure of knot modules,” Lecture Notes in Mathematics Number 772, Springer-Verlag, New York.
- [M] MILNOR, J. *A duality theorem for Reidemeister torsion*, Annals. of Math 76 (1962), 137–47.
- [Mc] MACLANE, S. “Homology”, Academic Press New York, 1963.
- [N] NAKANISHI, Y. *A surgical view of Alexander invariants of links*, Math. Sem. Notes, Kobe U. 8 (1980), 199–218.
- [R] REES, D. *The grade of an ideal or module*, Proc. Camb. Phil. Soc. 53 (1957), 28–42.
- [S] SATO, N. *On the Alexander modules of links*, Illinois J. Math. 25 (1981), 508–19.

Brandeis University  
Waltham, Mass. 02153

Received May 5, 1981/May 7, 1982