

# Rank $n$ swapping algebra for the $\mathrm{PSL}(n, \mathbb{R})$ Hitchin component

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ABSTRACT

F. Labourie [arXiv:1212.5015] characterized the Hitchin components for  $\mathrm{PSL}(n, \mathbb{R})$  for any  $n > 1$  by using the swapping algebra, where the swapping algebra should be understood as a ring equipped with a Poisson bracket. We introduce the rank  $n$  swapping algebra, which is the quotient of the swapping algebra by the  $(n+1) \times (n+1)$  determinant relations. The main results are the well-definedness of the rank  $n$  swapping algebra and the “cross-ratio” in its fraction algebra. As a consequence, we use the sub fraction algebra of the rank  $n$  swapping algebra generated by these “cross-ratios” to characterize the  $\mathrm{PSL}(n, \mathbb{R})$  Hitchin component for a fixed  $n > 1$ . We also show the relation between the rank 2 swapping algebra and the cluster  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(2, \mathbb{R}), D_k}$ -space.

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

Let  $S$  be a connected oriented closed surface of genus  $g > 1$ . When  $G$  is a reductive Lie group, the character variety is

$$R(S, G) := \{ \text{homomorphisms } \rho : \pi_1(S) \rightarrow G \} // G,$$

where the group  $G$  acts on homomorphisms above by conjugation, and the quotient is taken in the sense of geometric invariant theory [MFK94]. When  $G = \mathrm{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ , the character variety  $R(S, \mathrm{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R}))$  has  $4g - 3$  connected components [G88]. Two of these components correspond to all discrete faithful homomorphisms from  $\pi_1(S)$  to  $\mathrm{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ . By the uniformization theorem, any one of the two components is diffeomorphic to the Teichmüller space of complex structures on  $S$  up to isotopy. For  $n \geq 2$ , we define  $n$ -Fuchsian representation to be a representation  $\rho$ , which can be written as  $\rho = i \circ \rho_0$ , where  $\rho_0$  is a discrete faithful representation of  $\pi_1(S)$  with values in  $\mathrm{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  and  $i$  is the irreducible representation of  $\mathrm{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  in  $\mathrm{PSL}(n, \mathbb{R})$ . In [H92], N. Hitchin found one of the connected components of the character variety  $R(S, \mathrm{PSL}(n, \mathbb{R}))$ , which contains the  $n$ -Fuchsian representations, called *Hitchin component* and denoted by  $H_n(S)$ . By N. Hitchin [H92], the GIT quotient of the Hitchin component  $H_n(S)$  coincides with its usual topological quotient. Furthermore, the Hitchin component  $H_n(S)$  is diffeomorphic to a ball  $\mathbb{R}^{(2g-2)(n^2-1)}$ .

A decade later, F. Labourie [L06] and O. Guichard [Gu08] showed that every  $\rho$  in the Hitchin component  $H_n(S)$  is one to one associated to a  $\rho$ -equivariant  $(\xi_\rho(\gamma x) = \rho(\gamma)\xi_\rho(x))$  hyperconvex Frenet curve  $\xi_\rho$  from the boundary at infinity of  $\pi_1(S) - \partial_\infty \pi_1(S)$  to  $\mathbb{R}\mathbb{P}^{n-1}$ , where *hyperconvex*

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*2010 Mathematics Subject Classification* 53D30 ,05E99 (primary).

*Keywords:* Hitchin component, rank  $n$ , swapping algebra, Fock-Goncharov, cluster.

The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Research Council under the *European Community's seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013)/ERC grant agreement.*

means that for any pairwise distinct points  $(x_1, \dots, x_p)$  with  $p \leq n$ , the sum  $\xi(x_1) + \dots + \xi(x_p)$  is direct. Let  $\xi_\rho^*$  be its associated  $\rho$ -equivariant osculating hyperplane curve from  $\partial_\infty \pi_1(S)$  to  $\mathbb{RP}^{n-1*}$ . Let  $\tilde{\xi}_\rho$  ( $\tilde{\xi}_\rho^*$  resp.) be the lifts of  $\xi_\rho$  ( $\xi_\rho^*$  resp.) with values in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  ( $\mathbb{R}^{n*}$  resp.). F. Labourie defined the *weak cross ratio*  $\mathbb{B}_\rho$  of four different points  $x, y, z, t$  in  $\partial_\infty \pi_1(S)$ :

$$\mathbb{B}_\rho(x, y, z, t) = \frac{\langle \tilde{\xi}(x) | \tilde{\xi}^*(z) \rangle}{\langle \tilde{\xi}(x) | \tilde{\xi}^*(t) \rangle} \cdot \frac{\langle \tilde{\xi}(y) | \tilde{\xi}^*(t) \rangle}{\langle \tilde{\xi}(y) | \tilde{\xi}^*(z) \rangle}. \quad (1)$$

Such cross ratios are the only cross ratios, called the rank  $n$  cross ratios, that satisfy some symmetry properties, normalisation properties, multiplicative cocycle identities,  $\pi_1(S)$ -invariant properties and  $\mathbb{R}^n$ -linear algebraic properties [L07]. Therefore, the space of the rank  $n$  cross ratios identifies with the Hitchin component  $H_n(S)$ .

Later on, F. Labourie [L12] defined the swapping algebra to characterize the union of the Hitchin components  $\bigcup_{n=2}^\infty H_n(S)$ . The swapping algebra is defined on the ordered pair of points of a subset  $\mathcal{P} \subseteq S^1$ . More precisely, we represent an ordered pair  $(x, y)$  of  $\mathcal{P}$  by the expression  $xy$ , and we consider the ring  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P}) := \mathbb{K}[\{xy\}_{\forall x, y \in \mathcal{P}}] / (\{xx\}_{\forall x \in \mathcal{P}})$  over a field  $\mathbb{K}$  of characteristic zero. Then we equip  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$  with a Poisson bracket  $\{\cdot, \cdot\}$ , called the swapping bracket, by extending the formula on generators for any  $rx, sy \in \mathcal{P}$ :

$$\{rx, sy\} = \mathcal{J}(rx, sy) \cdot ry \cdot sx, \quad (2)$$

to  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$  by using Leibniz's rule. We will define the *linking number*  $\mathcal{J}(rx, sy)$  in Section 2. Therefore, the *swapping algebra* of  $\mathcal{P}$  is  $(\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$ . Let  $x, y, z, t$  belong to  $\mathcal{P}$  so that  $x \neq t$  and  $y \neq z$ . The *cross fraction* determined by  $(x, y, z, t)$  is the element:

$$[x, y, z, t] := \frac{xz}{xt} \cdot \frac{yt}{yz}.$$

Let  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P})$  be the sub fraction ring of  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$  generated by all the cross fractions. Then, the *swapping multifraction algebra* of  $\mathcal{P}$  is  $(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$ . Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be the subset of  $\partial_\infty \pi_1(S)$  given by the end points of periodic geodesics. F. Labourie consider a natural homomorphism  $I$  from  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R})$  to  $C^\infty(H_n(S))$  by extending the following formula on generators to  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R})$ :

$$I([x, y, z, t]) = \mathbb{B}_\rho(x, y, z, t). \quad (3)$$

**Theorem 1.1** [F. LABOURIE [L12]] *Let  $S$  be a connected oriented closed surface of genus  $g > 1$ . Let  $\{\cdot, \cdot\}$  be the swapping bracket. For  $n \geq 2$ , let  $\{\cdot, \cdot\}_S$  be the Atiyah-Bott-Goldman Poisson bracket [AB83][G84] of the Hitchin component  $H_n(S)$ . If  $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_k, \dots$  is a vanishing sequence of finite index subgroups of  $\pi_1(S)$ . Let  $S_k = \mathbb{H}^2 / \Gamma_k$ , vanishing means that any two primitive representatives of  $\pi_1(S)$  in the sequence  $S_1, \dots, S_k, \dots$  intersect simply at zero or one point at last. For any  $b_0, b_1 \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R})$ , we have*

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \{I(b_0), I(b_1)\}_{S_k} = I \circ \{b_0, b_1\}.$$

The above theorem is true for any integer  $n > 1$ , therefore the swapping multifraction algebra  $(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$  asymptotically characterizes the union of Hitchin components  $\bigcup_{n=2}^\infty H_n(S)$ .

F. Labourie also showed that, for the space  $\mathcal{L}_n$  of the Drinfeld-Sokolov reduction [DS85][Se91] on the space of  $\mathrm{PSL}(n, \mathbb{R})$ -Hitchin opers with trivial holonomy, the natural homomorphism  $i$  from the swapping multifraction algebra  $\mathcal{B}(S^1)$  to the function space  $C^\infty(\mathcal{L}_n)$  is Poisson with respect to the swapping bracket and the Poisson bracket corresponding to second Gelfand-Dickey symplectic structure.

Both the homomorphism  $I$  and the homomorphism  $i$  have large kernels arising from linear algebra of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Is the swapping algebra  $(\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$  still well-defined after divided by these corresponding linear algebraic relations? Is the associated sub fraction algebra generated by all the cross fractions well-defined? These two questions are the main focus of this paper.

## 1.2 Rank $n$ swapping algebra and the main results

For  $n \geq 2$ , let  $R_n(\mathcal{P})$  be the ideal of  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$  generated by

$$\left\{ D \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P}) \mid D = \det \begin{pmatrix} x_1 y_1 & \cdots & x_1 y_{n+1} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ x_{n+1} y_1 & \cdots & x_{n+1} y_{n+1} \end{pmatrix}, \forall x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n+1} \in \mathcal{P} \right\}.$$

Let  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  be the quotient ring  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})/R_n(\mathcal{P})$ . The following two theorems are the main results of this paper, which will be proven in Section 3 and 4. By induction on corresponding positions of the points on the circle, we prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.2** *For  $n \geq 2$ ,  $R_n(\mathcal{P})$  is a Poisson ideal with respect to the swapping bracket, thus  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  inherits a Poisson bracket from the swapping bracket.*

It then follows the Theorem 1.2 that the rank  $n$  swapping algebra of  $\mathcal{P}$  is the compatible pair  $(\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$ . For the well-definedness of the cross fractions of the ring  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$ , by using very classical geometric invariant theory [CP76][W39] and Lie group cohomology [CE48], we prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.3** *For  $n \geq 2$ , the quotient ring  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  is an integral domain.*

Let  $\mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{P})$  be the sub fraction ring of  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  generated by all the cross fractions. Then, the rank  $n$  swapping multifraction algebra of  $\mathcal{P}$  is the pair  $(\mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$ . Thus, the homomorphism  $I$  naturally factors through  $\mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{P})$  because of the rank  $n$  cross ratio conditions [L07], which provides a homomorphism

$$I_n : \mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{R}) \rightarrow C^\infty(H_n(S)).$$

Then we can replace  $I$  by  $I_n$  in Theorem 1.1. Therefore, for a fixed  $n \geq 2$ , the rank  $n$  swapping multifraction algebra  $(\mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$  is the Poisson algebra which characterizes  $H_n(S)$ . But the homomorphism  $I_n$  is not injective, since the image of the cross fractions are  $\pi_1(S)$  invariant. Still, the non-injectivity and the asymptotic behavior of  $I_n$  are two obstructions to characterize  $(H_n(S), \omega_{ABG})$  exactly. We suggest that these two obstructions are worth of being investigated.

For the homomorphism  $i$ , we do not have these two obstructions. Similarly, we also have a homomorphism

$$i_n : \mathcal{B}_n(S^1) \rightarrow C^\infty(\mathcal{L}_n)$$

induced from the homomorphism  $i$ . The homomorphism  $i_n$  is Poisson by Theorem 10.7.2 in [L12] and Theorem 1.2, and injective by Theorem 4.6. As a consequence, the rank  $n$  swapping multifraction algebra  $(\mathcal{B}_n(S^1), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$  should be regarded as the dual of  $\mathcal{W}_n$  algebra.

## 1.3 Rank 2 swapping algebra and the cluster $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(2, \mathbb{R}), D_k}$ -space

Let  $S$  be a connected oriented surface with non-empty boundary and a finite set  $P$  of special points on boundary, considered modulo isotopy. The rank  $n$  swapping algebra also relates to the Fock-Goncharov's cluster- $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(n, \mathbb{R}), S}$  space. V. Fock and A. Goncharov [FG06] introduced the positive structure in sense of [L94][L98] and the cluster algebraic structure for the moduli space

$\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(n,\mathbb{R}),S}$  of framed local systems of the surface  $S$ . The positive part of the moduli space  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(n,\mathbb{R}),S}$  is related to the Hitchin component  $H_n(S)$ . (For the surface  $S$  with boundary or punctures, we can still define  $H_n(S)$ , but the monodromy around a boundary component is conjugated to an upper or lower triangular totally positive matrix.) Moreover, they introduced a special coordinate system for the cluster  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(n,\mathbb{R}),S}$ -space in [FG06] Section 9, which generalizes Thurston's shear coordinates for Teichmüller space [T86]. (The Fock-Goncharov coordinates are also used in case of the closed surface  $S$  of genus  $g > 1$  [FD14].) This coordinate system is local, because it depends on the ideal triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ . Moreover, the coordinate system for  $\mathcal{T}$  gives us a split tori  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{T}}$  of  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(n,\mathbb{R}),S}$ . The space  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(n,\mathbb{R}),S}$  is a variety glued by all these  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{T}}$ , and the transition function from  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{T}}$  to another  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{T}'}$  is defined by a positive rational transformation corresponding to a composition of flips, where each flip is a composition of mutations in its cluster algebraic structure. The positive structure of  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(n,\mathbb{R}),S}$  arises from the positivity of the rational transformations.

Let  $D_k$  be a disc with  $k$  special points on the boundary. In the last section, we will prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.4** *Given an ideal triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  of  $D_k$ , there is an injective and Poisson homomorphisms from the fraction algebra generated by the Fock-Goncharov coordinates for the cluster  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(2,\mathbb{R}),D_k}$ -space to the rank 2 swapping multifraction algebra  $(\mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$ , with respect to the natural Fock-Goncharov Poisson bracket and the swapping bracket.*

Then we will show that the cluster dynamic of the cluster  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(2,\mathbb{R}),D_k}$ -space can also be interpreted by the rank 2 swapping algebra. As a consequence, the natural Fock-Goncharov Poisson bracket does not depend on the triangulations. The above theorem is generalized for  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(n,\mathbb{R}),D_k}$ -space in the following papers. For  $n = 3$ , in Chapter 3 of [Su14], we showed a complicated homomorphism, where  $k$  flags of  $\mathbb{RP}^2$  correspond to the set  $\mathcal{P}$  with  $k$  elements. For a general  $n$ , the homomorphism is discussed in [Su15], where the set  $\mathcal{P}$  has  $(n - 1) \cdot k$  elements, each flag of  $\mathbb{RP}^{n-1}$  corresponding to  $n - 1$  points near each other on the boundary  $S^1$ .

Therefore, the rank  $n$  swapping algebra provides the links among the Hitchin component  $H_n(S)$ ,  $\mathcal{W}_n$  algebra and the cluster  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(2,\mathbb{R}),D_k}$ -space.

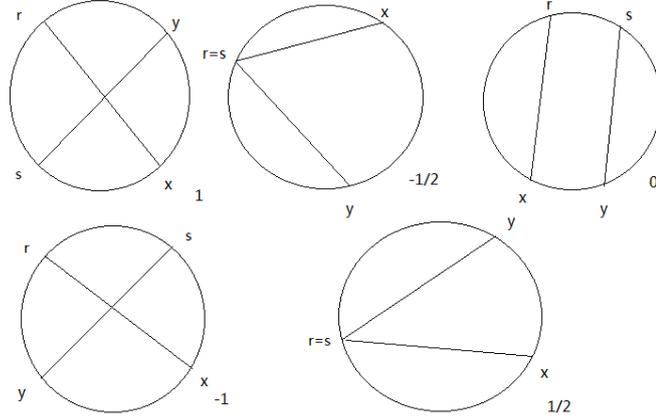
## 1.4 Further discussions

In the upcoming paper [Su1511], we will define a quantized version of the rank  $n$  swapping algebra. The quantization of  $\mathcal{X}_{D_k, \mathrm{PSL}(n,\mathbb{R})}$  by Fock-Goncharov [FG06] [FG09] is embedded into our quantization of the rank  $n$  swapping algebra. We will glue the rank  $n$  swapping algebras to characterize the cluster  $\mathcal{X}_{S, \mathrm{PSL}(n,\mathbb{R})}$ -space for the surface  $S$  in general. We expect to build a TQFT and some geometric invariants from the rank  $n$  swapping algebra.

In [Su1412], we relate the rank  $n$  swapping algebra to the discrete integrable system of the configuration space of  $N$ -twisted polygon in  $\mathbb{RP}^{n-1}$  [FV93][SOT10][KS13]. When  $n = 2$ , there is a bi-hamiltonian structure for the configuration space of  $N$ -twisted polygon in  $\mathbb{RP}^{n-1}$ . This was conjectured in [SOT10] for  $n = 3$ . We expect that there exists a bi-hamiltonian structure for  $n$  in general.

## 2. Swapping algebra revisited

In this section, we will recall some basic definitions about the swapping algebra introduced by F. Labourie in Section 2 of [L12]. The new part of this section is that we take care of the


 FIGURE 1. Linking number between  $rx$  and  $sy$ .

compatibilities of the rings related to  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$  and the swapping bracket, particularly the sub fraction ring  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P})$  generated by “cross ratios”.

## 2.1 Linking number

**Definition 2.1** [LINKING NUMBER] *Let  $(r, x, s, y)$  be a quadruple of four points in  $S^1$ . The linking number between  $rx$  and  $sy$  is*

$$\mathcal{J}(rx, sy) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot (\sigma(r-x) \cdot \sigma(r-y) \cdot \sigma(y-x) - \sigma(r-x) \cdot \sigma(r-s) \cdot \sigma(s-x)), \quad (4)$$

such that for any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , we define  $\sigma(a)$  as follows. Remove any point  $o$  different from  $r, x, s, y$  in  $S^1$  in order to get an interval  $]0, 1[$ . Then the points  $r, x, s, y \in S^1$  correspond to the real numbers in  $]0, 1[$ ,  $\sigma(a) = -1; 0; 1$  whenever  $a < 0; a = 0; a > 0$  respectively.

In fact, the value of  $\mathcal{J}(rx, sy)$  belongs to  $\{0, \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{2}\}$ , depends on the corresponding positions of  $r, x, s, y$  and does not depend on the choice of the point  $o$ . In Figure 1, we describe five possible values of  $\mathcal{J}(rx, sy)$ .

## 2.2 Swapping algebra

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a cyclic subset of  $S^1$ , we represent an ordered pair  $(r, x)$  of  $\mathcal{P}$  by the expression  $rx$ . Then we consider the associative commutative ring

$$\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P}) := \mathbb{K}[\{xy\}_{\forall x, y \in \mathcal{P}}] / \{xx \mid \forall x \in \mathcal{P}\}$$

over a field  $\mathbb{K}$  of characteristic 0, where  $\{xy\}_{\forall x, y \in \mathcal{P}}$  are variables. Then we equip  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$  with a swapping bracket.

**Definition 2.2** [SWAPPING BRACKET [L12]] *The swapping bracket over  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$  is defined by extending the following formula for any  $rx, sy$  in  $\mathcal{P}$  to  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$  by using Leibniz’s rule:*

$$\{rx, sy\} = \mathcal{J}(rx, sy) \cdot ry \cdot sx. \quad (5)$$

By direct computations, F. Labourie proved the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.3** [F. LABOURIE [L12]] *The swapping bracket is Poisson.*

**Definition 2.4** [SWAPPING ALGEBRA] The swapping algebra of  $\mathcal{P}$  is the ring  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$  equipped with the swapping bracket, denoted by  $(\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$ .

### 2.3 Swapping multifraction algebra

In this subsection, we consider the rings related to  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$  and their compatibilities with the swapping bracket.

**Definition 2.5** [CLOSED UNDER SWAPPING BRACKET] For a ring  $R$ , if  $\forall a, b \in R$ , we have  $\{a, b\} \in R$ , then we say that  $R$  is closed under swapping bracket.

Since  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$  is an integral domain, let  $\mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{P})$  be the total fraction ring of  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$ . By Leibniz's rule, we have  $\{a, \frac{1}{b}\} = -\frac{\{a, b\}}{b^2}$ , thus the swapping bracket is well defined on  $\mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{P})$ . Therefore we have the following definition.

**Definition 2.6** [SWAPPING FRACTION ALGEBRA OF  $\mathcal{P}$ ] The swapping fraction algebra of  $\mathcal{P}$  is the ring  $\mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{P})$  equipped with the induced swapping bracket, denoted by  $(\mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$ .

**Definition 2.7** [CROSS FRACTION] Let  $x, y, z, t$  belong to  $\mathcal{P}$  so that  $x \neq t$  and  $y \neq z$ . The cross fraction determined by  $(x, y, z, t)$  is the element of  $\mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{P})$ :

$$[x, y, z, t] := \frac{xz}{xt} \cdot \frac{yt}{yz}. \quad (6)$$

**Remark 2.8** Notice that the cross fractions verify the following cross-ratio conditions [L07]:

*Symmetry:*  $[a, b, c, d] = [b, a, d, c]$ ,

*Normalisation:*  $[a, b, c, d] = 0$  if and only if  $a = c$  or  $b = d$ ,

*Normalisation:*  $[a, b, c, d] = 1$  if and only if  $a = b$  or  $c = d$ ,

*Cocycle identity:*  $[a, b, c, d] \cdot [a, b, d, e] = [a, b, c, e]$ ,

*Cocycle identity:*  $[a, b, d, e] \cdot [b, c, d, e] = [a, c, e, f]$ .

Let  $\mathcal{CR}(\mathcal{P}) = \{[x, y, z, t] \in \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{P}) \mid \forall x, y, z, t \in \mathcal{P}, x \neq t, y \neq z\}$  be the set of all the cross-fractions in  $\mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{P})$ . Let  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P})$  be the subring of  $\mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{P})$  generated by  $\mathcal{CR}(\mathcal{P})$ .

**Proposition 2.9** The ring  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P})$  is closed under swapping bracket.

*Proof.* By Leibniz's rule,  $\forall c_1, \dots, c_n, d_1, \dots, d_m \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$

$$\frac{\{c_1 \cdots c_n, d_1 \cdots d_m\}}{c_1 \cdots c_n \cdot d_1 \cdots d_m} = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{\{c_i, d_j\}}{c_i \cdot d_j}, \quad (7)$$

we only need to show that for any two elements  $[x, y, z, t]$  and  $[u, v, w, s]$  in  $\mathcal{CR}(\mathcal{P})$ , where  $x \neq t$ ,  $y \neq z$ ,  $u \neq s$ ,  $v \neq w$  in  $\mathcal{P}$ , then  $\{\frac{xz}{xt} \cdot \frac{yt}{yz}, \frac{uw}{us} \cdot \frac{vs}{vw}\} \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P})$ . Let  $e_1 = xz$ ,  $e_2 = \frac{1}{xt}$ ,  $e_3 = yt$ ,  $e_4 = \frac{1}{yz}$ ,  $h_1 = uw$ ,  $h_2 = \frac{1}{us}$ ,  $h_3 = vs$ ,  $h_4 = \frac{1}{vw}$ . By the definition of the swapping bracket, we have

$$\frac{\{e_1, h_1\}}{e_1 \cdot h_1} = \mathcal{J}(xz, uw) \cdot \frac{xw}{xz} \cdot \frac{uz}{uw} \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P}).$$

Then by the Leibniz's rule, we deduce that for any  $e, h \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$ , we have

$$\frac{\{e, \frac{1}{h}\}}{e/h} = -\frac{\{e, h\}}{e \cdot h}, \quad \frac{\{\frac{1}{e}, h\}}{h/e} = -\frac{\{e, h\}}{e \cdot h}, \quad \frac{\{\frac{1}{e}, \frac{1}{h}\}}{1/(eh)} = \frac{\{e, h\}}{e \cdot h}.$$

So for any  $i, j = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , we have  $\frac{\{e_i, h_j\}}{e_i \cdot h_j} \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P})$ . Since  $e_1 e_2 e_3 e_4$  and  $h_1 h_2 h_3 h_4$  are also in  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P})$ , so

$$\{e_1 e_2 e_3 e_4, h_1 h_2 h_3 h_4\} = \sum_{i=1}^4 \sum_{j=1}^4 \frac{\{e_i, h_j\}}{e_i \cdot h_j} \cdot (e_1 e_2 e_3 e_4 h_1 h_2 h_3 h_4) \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P}).$$

Finally, we conclude that  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P})$  is closed under swapping bracket.  $\square$

**Definition 2.10** [SWAPPING MULTIFRACTION ALGEBRA OF  $\mathcal{P}$ ] The swapping multifraction algebra of  $\mathcal{P}$  is the ring  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P})$  equipped with the swapping bracket, denoted by  $(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$ .

### 3. Rank $n$ swapping algebra

Swapping algebra  $(\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$  corresponds to  $\bigcup_{n=2}^{\infty} H_n(S)$ . In this section, we define the rank  $n$  swapping algebra  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$ , in order to restrict the correspondence for a fixed  $n$ . In theorem 3.4, we will prove that the ring  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  is compatible with the swapping bracket.

#### 3.1 The rank $n$ swapping ring $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$

**Notation 3.1** Let

$$\Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1})) = \det \begin{pmatrix} x_1 y_1 & \dots & x_1 y_{n+1} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ x_{n+1} y_1 & \dots & x_{n+1} y_{n+1} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Inspired by linear algebra for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and the space of the rank  $n$  cross-ratios identified with the Hitchin component  $H_n(S)$  [L07], we define the rank  $n$  swapping ring as follows.

**Definition 3.2** [THE RANK  $n$  SWAPPING RING  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$ ] For  $n \geq 2$ , let  $R_n(\mathcal{P})$  be the ideal of  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$  generated by  $\{D \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P}) \mid D = \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1})), \forall x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n+1} \in \mathcal{P}\}$ .

The rank  $n$  swapping ring  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  is the quotient ring  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})/R_n(\mathcal{P})$ .

**Remark 3.3** Decomposing the determinant  $D$  in the first row, we have by induction that

$$R_2(\mathcal{P}) \supseteq R_3(\mathcal{P}) \supseteq \dots \supseteq R_n(\mathcal{P}). \quad (8)$$

#### 3.2 Swapping bracket over $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$

We will prove by induction the first fundamental theorem of the rank  $n$  swapping algebra.

**Theorem 3.4** [First main result] For  $n \geq 2$ , the ideal  $R_n(\mathcal{P})$  is a Poisson ideal with respect to the swapping bracket. Thus the ring  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  inherits a Poisson bracket from the swapping bracket.

*Proof.* The above theorem is equivalent to say that for any  $h \in R_n(\mathcal{P})$  and any  $f \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$ , we have  $\{f, h\} \in R_n(\mathcal{P})$  where  $n \geq 2$ . By the Leibniz's rule of the swapping bracket, it suffices to prove the case where  $f = ab \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})$ ,  $h = \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))$ . The points  $x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}$  ( $y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}$  resp.) should be different from each other in  $\mathcal{P}$ , otherwise  $h = 0$ . Therefore the theorem follows from Lemma 3.5.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.5** Let  $n \geq 2$ . Let  $x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}$  ( $y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}$  resp.) in  $\mathcal{P}$  be different from each other and ordered anticlockwise,  $a, b$  belong to  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_l, y_1, \dots, y_k$  are on the right side of  $\overrightarrow{ab}$  (include

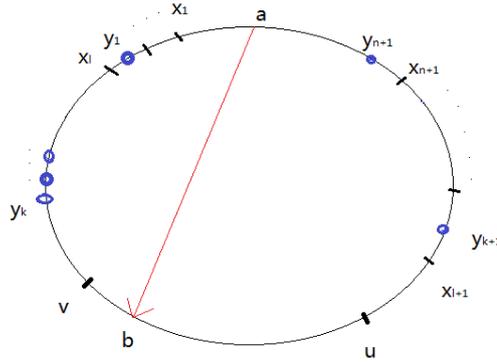


FIGURE 2.  $\{ab, \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\}$ .

coinciding with  $a$  or  $b$ ) as illustrated in Figure 2. Let  $u$  ( $v$  resp.) be strictly on the left (right resp.) side of  $\overrightarrow{ab}$ . Let

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^R(a, b) &= \sum_{d=1}^l \mathcal{J}(ab, x_d u) \cdot x_d b \cdot \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{d-1}, a, x_{d+1}, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1})) \\ &+ \sum_{d=1}^k \mathcal{J}(ab, u y_d) \cdot a y_d \cdot \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{d-1}, b, y_{d+1}, \dots, y_{n+1})), \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

We obtain that

$$\{ab, \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\} = \Delta^R(a, b). \quad (10)$$

*Proof.* The main idea of the proof is to consider the change of  $\{ab, \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\}$  when  $ab$  moves topologically in the circle with special points  $a, b, x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}$ .

We will prove that

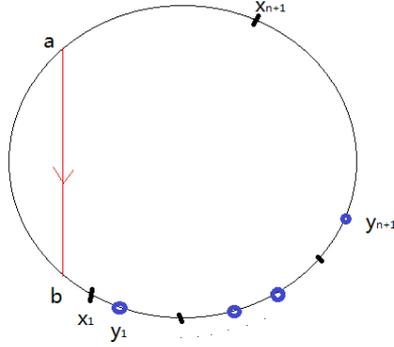
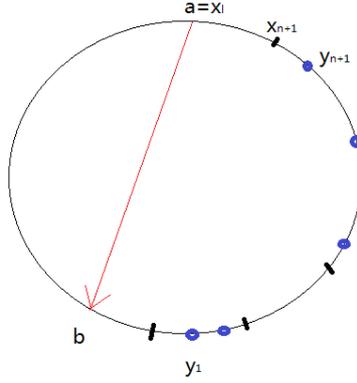
$$\{ab, \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\} = \Delta^R(a, b)$$

by induction on the number of elements of  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}\}$  on the right side of  $\overrightarrow{ab}$  (includes coinciding with  $a$  or  $b$ ), which is  $m = l + k$ . Let  $S_{n+1}$  be the permutation group of  $\{1, \dots, n+1\}$ , the signature of  $\sigma \in S_{n+1}$  denoted by  $\text{sgn}(\sigma)$ , is defined as 1 if  $\sigma$  is even and  $-1$  if  $\sigma$  is odd. Then we have

$$\Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1})) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_{n+1}} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i y_{\sigma(i)}. \quad (11)$$

By the Leibniz's rule, we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} \{ab, \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\} &= \sum_{\sigma \in S_{n+1}} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i y_{\sigma(i)} \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \frac{\{ab, x_j y_{\sigma(j)}\}}{x_j y_{\sigma(j)}} \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in S_{n+1}} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i y_{\sigma(i)} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \frac{\mathcal{J}(ab, x_j y_{\sigma(j)}) \cdot a y_{\sigma(j)} \cdot x_j b}{x_j y_{\sigma(j)}} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$


 FIGURE 3.  $m = 0$ .

 FIGURE 4.  $m = q + 1$  case  $a = x_l$ .

When  $m = 0$  as illustrated in Figure 3, since  $\mathcal{J}(ab, x_j y_{\sigma(j)}) = 0$ , we have  $\{ab, x_j y_{\sigma(j)}\} = 0$  for any  $j = 1, \dots, n + 1$  and any  $\sigma \in S_{n+1}$ . By Equation 12, we have

$$\{ab, \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\} = 0 = \Delta^R(a, b)$$

in this case.

Suppose

$$\{ab, \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\} = \Delta^R(a, b)$$

for  $m = q \geq 0$ .

When  $m = q + 1$ , suppose that  $x_l$  is the first point of  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}\}$  on the right side of  $\vec{ab}$  (include coinciding with  $a$  or  $b$ ) with respect to the clockwise orientation.

- (i) If  $x_l$  coincides with  $a$  as illustrated in Figure 4, then  $m = 1$ . So we have  $\mathcal{J}(ab, x_l y_{\sigma(l)}) = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\mathcal{J}(ab, x_j y_{\sigma(j)}) = 0$  for  $j \neq l$ . By Equation 12, we have

$$\{ab, \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot ab \cdot \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1})) = \Delta^R(a, b).$$

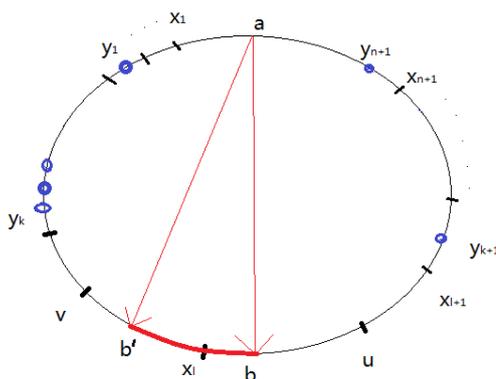


FIGURE 5.  $m = q + 1$  case  $a \neq x_l$ .

- (ii) If  $x_l$  does not coincide with  $a$ , we move  $b$  clockwise to the point  $b'$ , such that  $b' \neq x_l$  and the intersection between  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}\}$  and the arc  $bb'$  is  $x_l$  as illustrated in Figure 5.

Then  $\{ab', \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\}$  corresponds to the case  $m = q$ . Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ab', \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\} \\ &= \sum_{d=1}^{l-1} \mathcal{J}(ab', x_d u) \cdot x_d b \cdot \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{d-1}, a, x_{d+1}, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1})) \\ &+ \sum_{d=1}^k \mathcal{J}(ab', u y_d) \cdot a y_d \cdot \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{d-1}, b, y_{d+1}, \dots, y_{n+1})). \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

On the other hand, by Equation 12,

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ab', \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\} \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in S_{n+1}} \operatorname{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i y_{\sigma(i)} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \frac{\mathcal{J}(ab', x_j y_{\sigma(j)}) \cdot a y_{\sigma(j)} \cdot x_j b'}{x_j y_{\sigma(j)}} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

is a polynomial of  $ab', x_1 b', \dots, x_{n+1} b'$ , denoted by  $P(ab', x_1 b', \dots, x_{n+1} b')$ . Then

$$P(ab, x_1 b, \dots, x_{n+1} b) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_{n+1}} \operatorname{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i y_{\sigma(i)} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \frac{\mathcal{J}(ab, x_j y_{\sigma(j)}) \cdot a y_{\sigma(j)} \cdot x_j b}{x_j y_{\sigma(j)}} \right).$$

By the cocycle identity [L12]:  $\mathcal{J}(ab, xy) - \mathcal{J}(ab', xy) = \mathcal{J}(b'b, xy)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ab, \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\} - P(ab, x_1 b, \dots, x_{n+1} b) \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in S_{n+1}} \operatorname{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i y_{\sigma(i)} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \frac{(\mathcal{J}(ab, x_j y_{\sigma(j)}) - \mathcal{J}(ab', x_j y_{\sigma(j)})) \cdot a y_{\sigma(j)} \cdot x_j b}{x_j y_{\sigma(j)}} \right) \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in S_{n+1}} \operatorname{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i y_{\sigma(i)} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} \frac{\mathcal{J}(b'b, x_j y_{\sigma(j)}) \cdot a y_{\sigma(j)} \cdot x_j b}{x_j y_{\sigma(j)}} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

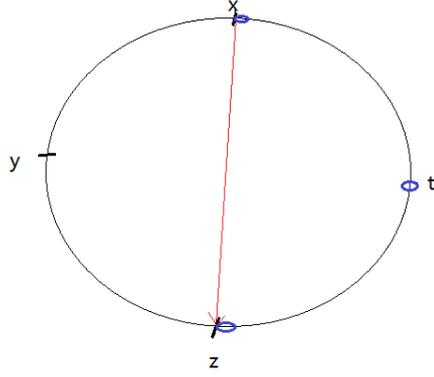


FIGURE 6. Example.

Since  $\mathcal{J}(b'b, x_j y_{\sigma(j)}) = 0$  when  $j \neq l$ ,  $\mathcal{J}(b'b, x_l y_{\sigma(l)}) = \mathcal{J}(ab, x_l u)$ . So the above sum equals to

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{S}_{n+1}} \operatorname{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i y_{\sigma(i)} \cdot \frac{\mathcal{J}(b'b, x_l y_{\sigma(l)}) \cdot a y_{\sigma(l)} \cdot x_l b}{x_l y_{\sigma(l)}} \\ & = \mathcal{J}(ab, x_l u) \cdot x_l b \cdot \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{l-1}, a, x_{l+1}, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1})). \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

Since  $\mathcal{J}(ab', x_d u) = \mathcal{J}(ab, x_d u)$  for  $d = 1, \dots, l-1$ ,  $\mathcal{J}(ab', u y_d) = \mathcal{J}(ab, u y_d)$  for  $d = 1, \dots, k$ , by Equations 13 15 16, we have

$$\{ab, \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\} = \Delta^R(a, b)$$

in this case.

When  $y_k$  is the first point of  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}\}$  on the right side of  $\overrightarrow{ab}$  (include coinciding with  $a$  or  $b$ ) with respect to clockwise orientation, the result follows the similar argument. By induction, we have

$$\{ab, \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\} = \Delta^R(a, b)$$

in general.

Finally, we conclude that

$$\{ab, \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1}))\} = \Delta^R(a, b).$$

□

**Remark 3.6** We can also consider  $\Delta^L(a, b)$  similar to  $\Delta^R(a, b)$  with respect to the left side of  $\overrightarrow{ab}$ . The equation  $\Delta^R(a, b) = \Delta^L(a, b)$  follows

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} a y_i \cdot \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}, b, y_{i+1}, \dots, y_{n+1})) \\ & = \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i b \cdot \Delta((x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, a, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n+1}), (y_1, \dots, y_{n+1})). \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

**Example 3.7** As shown in Figure 6, we have

$$\{xz, \Delta((x, z, y), (z, x, t))\} = -xt \cdot \Delta((x, z, y), (z, x, z)) = 0. \quad (18)$$

Therefore, the swapping bracket over  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  is well defined for  $n \geq 2$ .

**Definition 3.8** [RANK  $n$  SWAPPING ALGEBRA OF  $\mathcal{P}$ ] For  $n \geq 2$ , the rank  $n$  swapping algebra of  $\mathcal{P}$  is the rank  $n$  swapping ring  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  equipped with the swapping bracket, denoted by  $(\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$ .

#### 4. The ring $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$ is an integral domain

In this section, we will show that the cross fractions are well-defined in the fraction ring of  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$ , by proving that the ring  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  is an integral domain. The strategy of the proof is the following. First, we introduce a geometric model studied by H. Weyl [W39] and C. D. Concini and C. Procesi [CP76] to characterize the ring  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  as a  $\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})$ -module. Then, we transfer the integrality of the ring  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  to another ring  $K_{n,p}^{\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})}$  by an injective ring homomorphism. The homomorphism is recovered by a long exact sequence of Lie group cohomology with values in  $\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})$ -modules by Proposition 4.9. In the end, we prove that the ring  $K_{n,p}$  is integral, which will complete the proof of the theorem.

##### 4.1 A geometric model for $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$

Let us introduce a geometric model to characterize  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$ . Let  $M_{n,p} = (\mathbb{K}^n \times \mathbb{K}^{n*})^p$  be the space of  $p$  vectors in  $\mathbb{K}^n$  and  $p$  co-vectors in  $\mathbb{K}^{n*}$ .

**Notation 4.1** Let  $a_i = (a_{i,1}, \dots, a_{i,n})^T$ ,  $b_i = \sum_{l=1}^n b_{i,l} \sigma_l$  where  $a_{i,l}, b_{i,l} \in \mathbb{K}$ ,  $\sigma_l \in \mathbb{K}^{n*}$  and  $\sigma_l(a_i) = a_{i,l}$ . We define the product between a vector  $a_i$  in  $\mathbb{K}^n$  and a co-vector  $b_j$  in  $\mathbb{K}^{n*}$  by

$$\langle a_i | b_j \rangle := b_j(a_i) = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{i,k} \cdot b_{j,k}. \quad (19)$$

The group  $\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})$  acts naturally on the vectors and the covectors by

$$g \circ a_i := g \cdot (a_{i,1}, \dots, a_{i,n})^T,$$

$$g \circ b_j := (b_{j,1}, \dots, b_{j,n}) \cdot (g^{-1}) \cdot (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n)^T$$

where  $T$  is the transpose of the matrix. When we consider the action on their products, we write  $b_j = (b_{j,1}, \dots, b_{j,n})^T$  in column as  $a_i$ , then

$$g \circ b_j := (g^{-1})^T \cdot (b_{j,1}, \dots, b_{j,n})^T.$$

For any  $g \in \mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]$ ,

$$g \circ (a \cdot b) := (g \circ a) \cdot (g \circ b).$$

It induces a  $\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})$  action on  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]$  satisfying:

– For any  $g \in \mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]$ , we have

$$g \circ (a + b) = g \circ a + g \circ b,$$

– For any  $g_1, g_2 \in \mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]$ , we have

$$g_1 \circ (g_2 \circ a) = (g_1 \cdot g_2) \circ a.$$

Then the polynomial ring  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]$  is a  $\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})$ -module.

Let  $B_{n\mathbb{K}}$  be the subring of  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]$  generated by  $\{\langle a_i | b_j \rangle\}_{i=1, j=1}^p$ . We denote the  $\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})$  invariant ring of  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]$  by  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]^{\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})}$ . Since  $\langle a_i | b_j \rangle \in \mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]$  is invariant under  $\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})$  action, we have  $B_{n\mathbb{K}} \subseteq \mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]^{\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})}$ . Moreover, C. D. Concini and C. Procesi proved that

**Theorem 4.2** [C. D. CONCINI AND C. PROCESI [CP76]<sup>1</sup>]  $B_{n\mathbb{K}} = \mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]^{\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})}$ .

Since  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]$  is an integral domain, they obtained the following corollary.

**Corollary 4.3** [C. D. CONCINI AND C. PROCESI [CP76]] *The subring  $B_{n\mathbb{K}}$  is an integral domain.*

H. Weyl describe  $B_{n\mathbb{K}}$  as a quotient ring.

**Theorem 4.4** [H. WEYL [W39]] *All the relations in  $B_{n\mathbb{K}}$  are generated by  $R = \{f \in B_{n\mathbb{K}} \mid f = \det \begin{pmatrix} \langle a_{i_1} | b_{j_1} \rangle & \cdots & \langle a_{i_1} | b_{j_{n+1}} \rangle \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ \langle a_{i_{n+1}} | b_{j_1} \rangle & \cdots & \langle a_{i_{n+1}} | b_{j_{n+1}} \rangle \end{pmatrix}, \forall i_k, j_l = 1, \dots, p\}$ .*

**Remark 4.5** *In other words, let  $W$  be the polynomial ring  $\mathbb{K}[\{x_{i,j}\}_{i,j=1}^p]$ ,  $r = \{f \in W \mid f = \det \begin{pmatrix} x_{i_1, j_1} & \cdots & x_{i_1, j_{n+1}} \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ x_{i_{n+1}, j_1} & \cdots & x_{i_{n+1}, j_{n+1}} \end{pmatrix}, \forall i_k, j_l = 1, \dots, p\}$ , let  $T$  be the ideal of  $W$  generated by  $r$ , then we have  $B_{n\mathbb{K}} \cong W/T$ .*

Let us recall that  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P}) = \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{P})/R_n(\mathcal{P})$  is the rank  $n$  swapping ring where  $\mathcal{P} = \{x_1, \dots, x_p\}$ . When we identify  $a_i$  with  $x_i$  on the left and  $b_i$  with  $x_i$  on the right of the pairs of points in  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$ , we obtain the main result of this subsection below.

**Theorem 4.6** *Let  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  be the rank  $n$  swapping ring. Let  $S_{n\mathbb{K}}$  be the ideal of  $B_{n\mathbb{K}}$  generated by  $\{\langle a_i | b_i \rangle\}_{i=1}^p$ , then  $B_{n\mathbb{K}}/S_{n\mathbb{K}} \cong \mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$ .*

## 4.2 Proof of the second main result

**Theorem 4.7** [Second main result] *For  $n > 1$ ,  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  is an integral domain.*

Firstly, let us first consider the following  $\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})$ -modules:

- (i) Let  $L$  be the ideal of  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]$  generated by  $(\{\langle a_i | b_i \rangle\}_{i=1}^p)$ ,
- (ii) let  $K_{n,p}$  be the quotient ring  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]/L$ ,
- (iii) let  $S_{n\mathbb{K}}$  be the ideal of  $B_{n\mathbb{K}}$  generated by  $\{\langle a_i | b_i \rangle\}_{i=1}^p$ .

Thus there is an exact sequence of  $\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})$ -modules (the right arrows are not only module homomorphisms, but also ring homomorphisms):

$$0 \rightarrow L \rightarrow \mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}] \rightarrow K_{n,p} \rightarrow 0. \quad (20)$$

By Lie group cohomology [CE48], the exact sequence above induces the long exact sequence :

$$0 \rightarrow L^{\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})} \rightarrow \mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]^{\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})} \rightarrow K_{n,p}^{\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})} \rightarrow H^1(\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K}), L) \rightarrow \dots \quad (21)$$

---

<sup>1</sup>Thanks for the reference provided by J. B. Bost.

**Lemma 4.8** *Let  $S$  be the finite subset  $\{\langle a_i | b_i \rangle\}_{i=1}^p$ . Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field of characteristic 0. Then*

$$(\mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}] \cdot S)^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})} = \mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})} \cdot S.$$

*Proof.* The proof follows from Weyl's unitary trick. Let

$$U(n) = \{g \in \mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K}) \mid g \cdot \bar{g}^T = I\}.$$

We want to prove that

$$(\mathbb{K}[M_p] \cdot S)^{U(n)} = \mathbb{K}[M_p]^{U(n)} \cdot S.$$

Notice first that one inclusion is obvious

$$(\mathbb{K}[M_p] \cdot S)^{U(n)} \supseteq \mathbb{K}[M_p]^{U(n)} \cdot S.$$

We next prove the other inclusion:

$$(\mathbb{K}[M_p] \cdot S)^{U(n)} \subseteq \mathbb{K}[M_p]^{U(n)} \cdot S.$$

For this, let  $dg$  be a Haar measure on  $U(n)$ . Let  $x$  belongs to  $(\mathbb{K}[M_p] \cdot S)^{U(n)}$ . We represent  $x$  by  $\sum_{l=1}^k t_l \cdot s_l$ , where  $t_l \in \mathbb{K}[M_p]$  and  $s_l \in S$ . Since  $S \subseteq \mathbb{K}[M_p]^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})} \subseteq \mathbb{K}[M_p]^{U(n)}$ , for any  $g \in U(n)$ ,  $g \circ s_l = s_l$ . Thus we have

$$x = g \circ x = \sum_{l=1}^k (g \circ t_l) \cdot (g \circ s_l) = \sum_{l=1}^k (g \circ t_l) \cdot s_l.$$

By integrating over  $U(n)$ :

$$g \circ x = \int_{U(n)} \sum_{l=1}^k (g \circ t_l) \cdot s_l dg = \sum_{l=1}^k \left( \int_{U(n)} g \circ t_l dg \right) \cdot s_l, \quad (22)$$

where

$$b_l = \int_{U(n)} g \circ t_l dg \in \mathbb{K}[M_p].$$

For any  $g_1$  in  $U(n)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} g_1 \circ b_l &= \int_{U(n)} g_1 \circ (g \circ t_l) dg = \int_{U(n)} ((g_1 \cdot g) \circ t_l) dg \\ &= \int_{U(n)} ((g_1 \cdot g) \circ t_l) d(g_1 \cdot g) = b_l. \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Thus  $b_l$  belongs to  $\mathbb{K}[M_p]^{U(n)}$ ,  $x$  belongs to  $\mathbb{K}[M_p]^{U(n)} \cdot S$ . Hence

$$(\mathbb{K}[M_p] \cdot S)^{U(n)} \subseteq \mathbb{K}[M_p]^{U(n)} \cdot S.$$

Therefore, we obtain

$$(\mathbb{K}[M_p] \cdot S)^{U(n)} = \mathbb{K}[M_p]^{U(n)} \cdot S.$$

By extending the ground field  $\mathbb{K}$  of  $U(n)$ , the property is extended to  $\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})$ . Therefore, we conclude that

$$(\mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}] \cdot S)^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})} = \mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})} \cdot S.$$

This complete the proof of the lemma.  $\square$

Then, the integrality of  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  is transferred to another ring  $K_{n,p}^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})}$  by the following proposition.

**Proposition 4.9** *There is a ring homomorphism  $\theta : B_{n\mathbb{K}}/S_{n\mathbb{K}} \rightarrow K_{n,p}^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})}$  induced from the long exact sequence:*

$$0 \rightarrow L^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})} \rightarrow \mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})} \rightarrow K_{n,p}^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})} \rightarrow H^1(\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K}), L) \rightarrow \dots, \quad (24)$$

which is injective.

*Proof.* By Theorem 4.2, we have  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})} = B_{n\mathbb{K}}$ . By Lemma 4.8, we have

$$L^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})} = (\mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}] \cdot (\{\langle a_i | b_i \rangle\}_{i=1}^p))^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})} = \mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})} \cdot (\{\langle a_i | b_i \rangle\}_{i=1}^p) = B_{n\mathbb{K}} \cdot (\{\langle a_i | b_i \rangle\}_{i=1}^p) = S_{n\mathbb{K}}.$$

Hence Long exact sequence 21 becomes into:

$$0 \rightarrow S_{n\mathbb{K}} \rightarrow B_{n\mathbb{K}} \rightarrow K_{n,p}^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})} \rightarrow H^1(\mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{K}), L) \rightarrow \dots \quad (25)$$

Therefore, there is an injective module homomorphism  $\theta$  from  $B_{n\mathbb{K}}/S_{n\mathbb{K}}$  to  $K_{n,p}^{\mathrm{GL}(n,\mathbb{K})}$ . By definition of  $\theta$  with respect to Exact sequence 20, for any  $a, b \in B_{n\mathbb{K}}/S_{n\mathbb{K}}$ , we have

$$\theta(a \cdot b) = \theta(a) \cdot \theta(b).$$

Thus the module homomorphism  $\theta$  is also a ring homomorphism. As such, we conclude that the ring homomorphism  $\theta$  is injective.  $\square$

Therefore, we only need to prove that  $K_{n,p}$  is integral. This is the content of the following proposition.

**Proposition 4.10** *For  $n > 1$ ,  $K_{n,p}$  is an integral domain.*

*Proof.* We prove the proposition by induction on the number of the vectors or covectors  $p$ . Let us start with  $p = 1$ . When  $p = 1$ ,  $K_{n,1} = \mathbb{K}[M_{n,1}] / (\{\sum_{k=1}^n a_{1,k} \cdot b_{1,k}\})$ . Let us define the degree of a monomial in  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,1}]$  to be the sum of the degrees in all the variables. Let the degree of a polynomial  $f$  in  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,1}]$  be the maximal degree of the monomials in  $f$ , denoted by  $\deg(f)$ . Suppose that  $\sum_{k=1}^n a_{1,k} \cdot b_{1,k}$  is a reducible polynomial in  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,1}]$ , we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_{1,k} \cdot b_{1,k} = g \cdot h,$$

where  $g, h \in \mathbb{K}[M_{n,1}]$ ,  $\deg(g) > 0$  and  $\deg(h) > 0$ . Since  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,1}]$  is an integral domain,  $2 = \deg(gh) = \deg(g) + \deg(h)$ , so we have  $\deg(g) = \deg(h) = 1$ . Suppose that

$$g = \lambda_0 + \lambda_1 \cdot c_1 + \dots + \lambda_r \cdot c_r,$$

$$h = \mu_0 + \mu_1 \cdot d_1 + \dots + \mu_s \cdot d_s,$$

where  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_s$  are non zero elements in  $\mathbb{K}$ ,  $c_1, \dots, c_r$  ( $d_1, \dots, d_s$  resp.) are different elements in  $\{a_{1,k}, b_{1,k}\}_{k=1}^n$ . Since there is no square in  $g \cdot h$ , we have

$$\{c_1, \dots, c_r\} \cap \{d_1, \dots, d_s\} = \emptyset.$$

Because there are  $n$  monomials in  $gh$ , we obtain

$$r \cdot s = n.$$

Moreover, there are  $2n$  variables in  $g \cdot h$ , we have

$$r + s = 2n,$$

thus

$$r \cdot s \geq 2n - 1.$$

Since  $n > 1$ , we obtain that

$$r \cdot s \geq 2n - 1 > n = r \cdot s,$$

which is a contradiction. We therefore conclude that  $\sum_{k=1}^n a_{1,k} \cdot b_{1,k}$  is an irreducible polynomial in  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,p}]$ . Since  $\mathbb{K}[M_{n,1}]$  is an integral domain, we obtain that  $K_{n,1}$  is an integral domain. Suppose that the proposition is true for  $p = m \geq 1$ . When  $p = m + 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} K_{n,m+1} &= \mathbb{K} \left[ \{a_{i,k}, b_{i,k}\}_{i,k=1}^{m+1,n} \right] / \left( \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^n a_{i,k} \cdot b_{i,k} \right\}_{i=1}^{m+1} \right) \\ &= K_{n,m} [\{a_{m+1,k}, b_{m+1,k}\}_{k=1}^n] / \left( \sum_{k=1}^n a_{m+1,k} \cdot b_{m+1,k} \right), \end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

we have  $K_{n,m}$  is an integral domain by induction, thus  $K_{n,m}[\{a_{m+1,k}, b_{m+1,k}\}_{k=1}^n]$  is an integral domain. By the above argument, the polynomial  $\sum_{k=1}^n a_{m+1,k} \cdot b_{m+1,k}$  is an irreducible polynomial over  $\mathbb{K}[\{a_{m+1,k}, b_{m+1,k}\}_{k=1}^n]$ . Moreover,  $a_{m+1,k}, b_{m+1,k}$  ( $k = 1, \dots, n$ ) are not variables that appear in  $K_{n,m}$ , so  $\sum_{k=1}^n a_{m+1,k} \cdot b_{m+1,k}$  is an irreducible polynomial over  $K_{n,m}[\{a_{m+1,k}, b_{m+1,k}\}_{k=1}^n]$ . Hence  $K_{n,m+1}$  is an integral domain.

We therefore conclude that  $K_{n,p}$  is an integral domain for any  $p \geq 1$  and  $n > 1$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 4.7.* By Proposition 4.10, the ring  $K_{n,p}$  is an integral domain, we deduce that the invariant ring  $K_{n,p}^{\text{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})}$  is an integral domain. By Proposition 4.9, there is an injective ring homomorphism  $\theta$  from  $B_{n\mathbb{K}}/S_{n\mathbb{K}}$  to  $K_{n,p}^{\text{GL}(n, \mathbb{K})}$ , so  $B_{n\mathbb{K}}/S_{n\mathbb{K}}$  is an integral domain. Moreover, by Theorem 4.6  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P}) \cong B_{n\mathbb{K}}/S_{n\mathbb{K}}$ , we conclude that for  $n > 1$ , the rank  $n$  swapping ring  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$  is an integral domain.  $\square$

**Remark 4.11** *The ring  $\mathcal{Z}_1(\mathcal{P})$  is not an integral domain, since*

$$D = xy \cdot yz = \det \begin{pmatrix} xy & xz \\ yy & yz \end{pmatrix}$$

*is zero in  $\mathcal{Z}_1(\mathcal{P})$ , but we have  $xy$  and  $yz$  are not zero in  $\mathcal{Z}_1(\mathcal{P})$  whenever  $x \neq y, y \neq z$ .*

### 4.3 Rank $n$ swapping multifraction algebra of $\mathcal{P}$

After Theorem 4.7, we define rank  $n$  swapping multifraction algebra of  $\mathcal{P}$  without any obstruction.

**Definition 4.12** [RANK  $n$  SWAPPING FRACTION ALGEBRA OF  $\mathcal{P}$ ] *Let  $\mathcal{Q}_n(\mathcal{P})$  be the total fraction ring of  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\mathcal{P})$ . The rank  $n$  swapping fraction algebra of  $\mathcal{P}$  is the total fraction ring  $\mathcal{Q}_n(\mathcal{P})$  equipped with the swapping bracket, denoted by  $(\mathcal{Q}_n(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$ .*

Let  $\mathcal{CR}_n(\mathcal{P}) = \{[x, y, z, t] = \frac{xz}{xt} \cdot \frac{yt}{yz} \in \mathcal{Q}_n(\mathcal{P}) \mid \forall x, y, z, t \in \mathcal{P}, x \neq t, y \neq z\}$  be the set of all the cross fractions in  $\mathcal{Q}_n(\mathcal{P})$ . Let  $\mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{P})$  be the sub fraction ring of  $\mathcal{Q}_n(\mathcal{P})$  generated by  $\mathcal{CR}_n(\mathcal{P})$ .

Similar to Proposition 2.9, we have the following.

**Proposition 4.13** *The sub fraction ring  $\mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{P})$  is closed under swapping bracket.*

**Definition 4.14** [RANK  $n$  SWAPPING MULTIFRACTION ALGEBRA OF  $\mathcal{P}$ ] *Let  $n \geq 2$ , the rank  $n$  swapping multifraction algebra of  $\mathcal{P}$  is the sub fraction ring  $\mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{P})$  equipped with the closed swapping bracket, denoted by  $(\mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$ .*

Then the ring homomorphism  $I$  from  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R})$  to  $C^\infty(H_n(S))$  for any  $n > 1$ , induces the homomorphism  $I_n$  from  $\mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{R})$  to  $C^\infty(H_n(S))$  by extending the following formula on generators to  $\mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{R})$ :

$$I_n([x, y, z, t]) = \mathbb{B}_\rho(x, y, z, t), \quad (27)$$

for any  $[x, y, z, t] \in \mathcal{CR}_n(\mathcal{R})$ . By the rank  $n$  cross ratio condition, the homomorphism  $I_n$  is well-defined. Then we rephrase Theorem 1.1 as follows.

**Theorem 4.15** [F. LABOURIE [L12]] *With the same conditions as in Theorem 1.1, for any  $b_0, b_1 \in \mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{R})$ , we have*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{I_n(b_0), I_n(b_1)\}_{S_n} = I_n \circ \{b_0, b_1\}.$$

Hence the rank  $n$  swapping multifraction algebra  $(\mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{R}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$  characterizes the Hitchin component  $H_n(S)$  for a fixed  $n > 1$ .

## 5. Cluster $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(2, \mathbb{R}), D_k}$ -space

Even though the rank  $n$  swapping multifraction algebra  $(\mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$  characterizes the  $\mathrm{PSL}(n, \mathbb{R})$  Hitchin component asymptotically, we still have the rank  $n$  swapping multifraction algebra  $(\mathcal{B}_n(\mathcal{P}), \{\cdot, \cdot\})$  characterizes the related object—cluster  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(n, \mathbb{R}), D_k}$ -space without this asymptotic behavior where  $D_k$  is a disc with  $k$  special points on the boundary. We will show a simple case when  $n = 2$ . We show that the cluster dynamic of  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(2, \mathbb{R}), D_k}$  can be demonstrated in the rank 2 swapping algebra. As a byproduct, we reprove that the Fock-Goncharov Poisson bracket for  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(2, \mathbb{R}), D_k}$  is independent of the ideal triangulation.

### 5.1 Cluster $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(2, \mathbb{R}), D_k}$ -space and rank 2 swapping algebra

Let  $S$  be an oriented surface with non-empty boundary and a finite set  $P$  of special points on boundary, considered modulo isotopy. In [FG06], Fock and Goncharov introduced the moduli space  $\mathcal{X}_{G, S}(\mathcal{A}_{G, S}$  resp.) which is a pair  $(\nabla, f)$ , where  $\nabla$  is a flat connection on the principal  $G$  bundle on the surface  $S$ ,  $f$  is a flat section of  $\partial S \setminus P$  with values in the flag variety  $G/B$  (decorated flag variety  $G/U$  resp.). They found that the pair of two moduli spaces  $(\mathcal{X}_{G, S}, \mathcal{A}_{G^L, S})$  is equipped with a cluster ensemble structure. Particularly, the moduli space  $\mathcal{X}_{G, S}$  is called the *cluster  $\mathcal{X}_{G, S}$ -space*. Moreover, each one of the moduli spaces  $\mathcal{X}_{G, S}, \mathcal{A}_{G, S}$  is equipped with a positive structure. When the set  $P$  is empty, the hole on the surface  $S$  should be regarded as the puncture, the positive part of  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(2, \mathbb{R}), S}$  is related to the Teichmüller space of  $S$ , and the positive part of  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}), S}$  is related to Penner's decorated Teichmüller space [P87]. The fact that Penner's decorated Teichmüller space is related to a cluster algebra was independently observed by M. Gekhtman, M. Shapiro, and A. Vainshtein [GSV05].

When  $D_k$  is a disc with  $k$  special points on the boundary, the generic cluster  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(2, \mathbb{R}), D_k}$ -space corresponds to the generic configuration space  $\mathrm{Conf}_{2, k}$  of  $k$  flags in  $\mathbb{RP}^1$  up to projective transformations. Given a generic configuration of  $k$  flags  $m^1, y^1, z^1, t^1, n^1, x^1, \dots$  in  $\mathbb{RP}^1$ , let  $P_k$  be the associated convex  $k$ -gon with  $k$  vertices  $m, y, z, t, n, x, \dots$  as illustrated in Figure 7. The ideal triangulation of  $D_k$  corresponds to the triangulation of  $P_k$ . Given a triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  of the  $k$ -gon  $P_k$ , for any pair of triangles  $(\Delta_{xyz}, \Delta_{xzt})$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  where  $x, y, z, t$  are anticlockwise ordered, the Fock-Goncharov coordinate [FG06] corresponding to the inner edge  $xz$  is

$$X_{xz} = -\frac{\Omega(\hat{y}^1 \wedge \hat{z}^1)}{\Omega(\hat{t}^1 \wedge \hat{z}^1)} \cdot \frac{\Omega(\hat{t}^1 \wedge \hat{x}^1)}{\Omega(\hat{y}^1 \wedge \hat{x}^1)}.$$

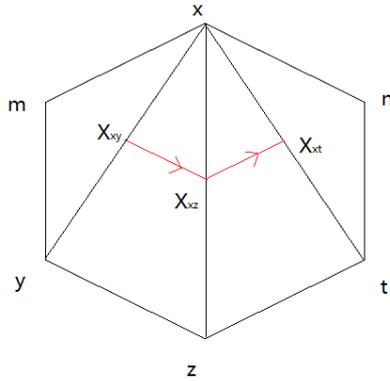


FIGURE 7. Fock-Goncharov coordinates for the triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ .

By definition  $X_{xz} = X_{zx}$ , so there are  $k - 3$  different coordinates.

**Definition 5.1** [FOCK-GONCHAROV ALGEBRA] *Let  $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{T})$  be the fraction ring generated by  $k - 3$  Fock-Goncharov coordinates for the triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , the natural Fock-Goncharov Poisson bracket  $\{\cdot, \cdot\}_2$  is defined on the fraction ring  $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{T})$  by extending the following map on the generators:*

$$\{X_{ab}, X_{cd}\}_2 = \varepsilon_{ab,cd} \cdot X_{ab} \cdot X_{cd}$$

for any inner edges  $ab, cd$ , where the value of  $\varepsilon_{ab,cd}$  only depend on the anticlockwise orientation of  $P_k$  as illustrated in Figure 7. More precisely,  $\varepsilon_{ab,cd} = 1$  ( $\varepsilon_{ab,cd} = -1$  resp.) when  $a = c$  and  $\Delta_{abd}$  is a triangle of  $\mathcal{T}$  such that  $a, b, d$  are ordered anticlockwise (clockwise resp.) in  $P_k$ ; otherwise  $\varepsilon_{ab,cd} = 0$ .

The Fock-Goncharov algebra of  $\mathcal{T}$  is a pair  $(\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{T}), \{\cdot, \cdot\}_2)$ .

**Definition 5.2** *Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the vertices of the convex  $k$ -gon  $P_k$ . We define an injective ring homomorphism  $\theta_{\mathcal{T}}$  from  $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{T})$  to  $\mathcal{B}_2(\mathcal{P})$ , by extending the following map on the generators:*

$$\theta_{\mathcal{T}}(X_{xz}) := -\frac{yz}{tz} \cdot \frac{tx}{yx} \tag{28}$$

for any inner edge of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

**Theorem 5.3** *The injective ring homomorphism  $\theta_{\mathcal{T}}$  is Poisson with respect to the Poisson bracket  $\{\cdot, \cdot\}_2$  and the swapping bracket  $\{\cdot, \cdot\}$ .*

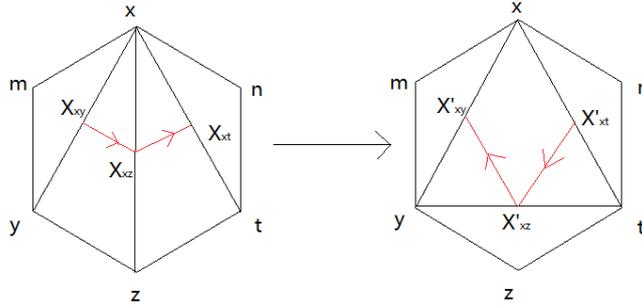
*Proof.* By direct calculations, for any inner edge  $ab$  of the triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , we have

$$\left\{ ab, \frac{yz}{tz} \cdot \frac{tx}{yx} \right\} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } ab = zx; \\ -1 & \text{if } ab = xz; \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \tag{29}$$

The theorem follows from the above equation and the Leibniz's rule. □

## 5.2 Cluster dynamic in rank 2 swapping algebra

The cluster  $\mathcal{X}$ -space is introduced by Fock and Goncharov [FG06] by using the same set-up as the cluster algebra [FZ02]. We consider the case for the cluster  $\mathcal{X}_{\text{PGL}(2, \mathbb{R}), D_k}$ -space.


 FIGURE 8. Cluster transformation at  $xz$ .

**Definition 5.4** [CLUSTER  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(2, \mathbb{R}), D_k}$ -SPACE [FG04] [FG06]] Let  $I_{\mathcal{T}}$  be the set of  $k-3$  inner edges of the triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  of  $D_k$ . The function  $\varepsilon$  from  $I_{\mathcal{T}} \times I_{\mathcal{T}}$  to  $\mathbb{Z}$  is defined as in Definition 5.1, a seed is  $\mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{T}} = (I_{\mathcal{T}}, \varepsilon)$ .

A mutation at the edge  $e \in I_{\mathcal{T}}$  changes the seed  $\mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{T}}$  to a new one  $\mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{T}'} = (I_{\mathcal{T}'}, \varepsilon')$ , where the edge  $e$  of the triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  is changed into the edge  $e'$  of  $\mathcal{T}'$  by a flip illustrated in Figure 8. We identify  $I_{\mathcal{T}}$  with  $I_{\mathcal{T}'}$  by identifying  $e$  with  $e'$ , where

$$\varepsilon'_{i,j} = \begin{cases} -\varepsilon_{i,j} & \text{if } e \in \{i, j\}; \\ \varepsilon_{i,j} + \varepsilon_{i,e} \max\{0, \varepsilon_{i,e} \varepsilon_{e,j}\} & \text{if } e \notin \{i, j\}. \end{cases}$$

A cluster transformation is a composition of mutations and automorphisms of seeds.

We assign to the seed  $\mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{T}}$  ( $\mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{T}'}$  resp.) the split tori  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{T}}$  ( $\mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{T}'}$  resp.) associated to the the Fock-Goncharov coordinates  $\{X_i\}_{i \in I_{\mathcal{T}}}$  ( $\{X'_i\}_{i \in I_{\mathcal{T}'}}$  resp.). Then the transition function from  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{T}}$  to  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{T}'}$  is

$$\mu_e(X'_i) = g_e(X_i) = \begin{cases} X_i(1 + X_e)^{-\varepsilon_{i,e}} & \text{if } e \neq i, \varepsilon_{i,e} \leq 0; \\ X_i(1 + X_e^{-1})^{-\varepsilon_{i,e}} & \text{if } e \neq i, \varepsilon_{i,e} > 0; \\ X_e^{-1} & \text{if } i = e. \end{cases}$$

Any two triangulations are related by a composition of flips, therefore any two split tori are also related by a composition of the rational functions as above.

The cluster  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(2, \mathbb{R}), D_k}$ -space is obtained by gluing all the possible algebraic tori  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{T}}$  according to the transition functions described as above.

We show the cluster dynamic of  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{PGL}(2, \mathbb{R}), D_k}$  in the rank 2 swapping algebra as follows.

**Lemma 5.5** The triangulation  $\mathcal{T}'$  is the flip of  $\mathcal{T}$  at the edge  $e$ . Then

$$\theta_{\mathcal{T}} \circ g_e(X_i) = \theta_{\mathcal{T}'}(X'_i).$$

*Proof.* Let us consider the case where  $e = xz$  and the triangulations  $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{T}'$  is illustrated in Figure 8. For  $i = xz$ , we have

$$\theta_{\mathcal{T}'}(X'_{xz}) = -\frac{zt}{xt} \cdot \frac{xy}{zy},$$

$$\theta_{\mathcal{T}} \circ g_e(X_{xz}) = \theta_{\mathcal{T}} \left( \frac{1}{X_{xz}} \right) = -\frac{tz}{yz} \cdot \frac{yx}{tx}.$$

By the rank 2 swapping algebra relations:

$$yz \cdot zt \cdot ty + tz \cdot zy \cdot yt = 0,$$

$$tx \cdot xy \cdot yt + yx \cdot xt \cdot ty = 0,$$

we obtain

$$\theta_{\mathcal{T}} \circ g_e(X_{xz}) = \theta_{\mathcal{T}'}(X'_{xz}).$$

For  $i = xy$ , we have

$$\theta_{\mathcal{T}'}(X'_{xy}) = -\frac{my}{ty} \cdot \frac{tx}{mx},$$

$$\theta_{\mathcal{T}} \circ g_e(X_{xy}) = \theta_{\mathcal{T}} \left( X_{xy} \cdot (1 + X_{xz}^{-1})^{-1} \right) = -\frac{my}{zy} \cdot \frac{zx}{mx} \left( 1 - \frac{tz}{yz} \cdot \frac{yx}{tx} \right)^{-1}.$$

By the rank 2 swapping algebra relation:

$$yz \cdot ty \cdot zx + yx \cdot tz \cdot zy - yz \cdot zy \cdot tx = 0,$$

we obtain

$$\theta_{\mathcal{T}} \circ g_e(X_{xy}) = \theta_{\mathcal{T}'}(X'_{xy}).$$

We have same results for the other inner edges and the other cases different from the one illustrated in Figure 8, by the similar arguments. We therefore conclude that

$$\theta_{\mathcal{T}} \circ g_e(X_i) = \theta_{\mathcal{T}'}(X'_i).$$

□

**Proposition 5.6** *The homomorphism  $\mu_e$  preserves the Poisson bracket, so the Poisson bracket  $\{\cdot, \cdot\}_2$  does not depend on the triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ .*

*Proof.* We need to prove that

$$\{\mu_e(X'_i), \mu_e(X'_j)\}_2 = \mu_e(\{X'_i, X'_j\}_2),$$

which is equivalent to

$$\{g_e(X_i), g_e(X_j)\}_2 = \varepsilon'_{i,j} \cdot g_e(X_i) \cdot g_e(X_j).$$

Since  $\theta_{\mathcal{T}}$  is injective, we only need to prove that

$$\theta_{\mathcal{T}} \circ \{g_e(X_i), g_e(X_j)\}_2 = \theta_{\mathcal{T}}(\varepsilon'_{i,j} \cdot g_e(X_i) \cdot g_e(X_j)).$$

By Theorem 5.3 and Lemma 5.5, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_{\mathcal{T}} \circ \{g_e(X_i), g_e(X_j)\}_2 &= \{\theta_{\mathcal{T}} \circ g_e(X_i), \theta_{\mathcal{T}} \circ g_e(X_j)\} \\ &= \{\theta_{\mathcal{T}'}(X'_i), \theta_{\mathcal{T}'}(X'_j)\} = \theta_{\mathcal{T}'} \circ \{X'_i, X'_j\}_2 \\ &= \varepsilon'_{i,j} \cdot \theta_{\mathcal{T}'}(X_i) \cdot \theta_{\mathcal{T}'}(X_j) = \theta_{\mathcal{T}}(\varepsilon'_{i,j} \cdot g_e(X_i) \cdot g_e(X_j)). \end{aligned} \tag{30}$$

We therefore conclude that the homomorphism  $\mu_e$  preserves the Poisson bracket. □

**Remark 5.7** *For  $n$  in general, the generalized injective ring homomorphism  $\theta_{\mathcal{T}_n}$  is shown in [Su15], where the set  $\mathcal{P}$  has  $(n-1) \cdot k$  elements, each flag of  $\mathbb{RP}^{n-1}$  corresponds to  $n-1$  points near each other on the boundary  $S^1$ . We expect to glue the rank  $n$  swapping algebras for the purpose of characterizing  $\mathcal{X}_{\text{PGL}(n, \mathbb{R}), S}$  for the surface case.*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This article is the first part of my thesis [Su14] under the direction of François Labourie at university of Paris-Sud. I am deeply indebted to François Labourie for suggesting the subject and for the guidance without which this work would not have been accomplished. I also thank to Vladimir Fock for discussions and for suggesting many improvements to this article. I also thank Jean Benoît Bost and Laurent Clozel for suggesting relevant references. Finally, I am grateful to my home institute University of Paris-Sud, Max Planck Institute for Mathematics and Yau Mathematical Sciences Center at Tsinghua University for their hospitality.

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