

73. Indistinguishability of Conjugacy Classes of the Pro- l Mapping Class Group

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Introduction. Let l be a fixed prime number and $\pi^{(g)}$ denote the pro- l completion of the topological fundamental group of a compact Riemann surface of genus $g \geq 2$. So, we have

$$\pi^{(g)} = F/N,$$

where F is the free pro- l group of rank $2g$ generated by x_1, \dots, x_{2g} and N is the closed normal subgroup of F which is normally generated by $[x_1, x_{g+1}] \cdots [x_g, x_{2g}]$, $[,]$ being the commutator; $[x, y] = xyx^{-1}y^{-1}$ ($x, y \in F$). We denote by Γ_g the outer automorphism group of $\pi^{(g)}$ and call it the pro- l mapping class group. Let

$$\lambda: \Gamma_g \longrightarrow \mathrm{GSp}(2g, \mathbf{Z}_l)$$

be the canonical homomorphism induced by the action of Γ_g on $\pi^{(g)}/[\pi^{(g)}, \pi^{(g)}]$ (cf. Asada-Kaneko [2, §2]). We treat the case $g=2$. Then, our result is the following

Theorem. *Assume that $l \geq 5$. Then, there exists an integer $N \geq 1$ such that the following statement holds:*

If $A \in \mathrm{GSp}(4, \mathbf{Z}_l)$ satisfies the condition $A \equiv 1_4 \pmod{l^N}$, $\lambda^{-1}(C_A)$ contains more than one Γ_2 -conjugacy class. Here, C_A denotes the $\mathrm{GSp}(4, \mathbf{Z}_l)$ -conjugacy class containing A .

In our previous paper [2, §6], we have proved this “indistinguishability of conjugacy class” under the assumption that $g \geq 3$. The method adopted there is the “calculations modulo $\pi^{(g)}(3)$ ”, which does not seem to work in case $g=2$. ($\{\pi^{(g)}(k)\}_{k \geq 1}$ denotes, as usual, the descending central series of $\pi^{(g)}$.) So, to prove the above theorem, we use the method “calculations modulo $\pi^{(g)}(4)$ ”. Although this requires rather complicated calculations, it is carried out by using the “Lie algebra” of the nilpotent pro- l group $\pi^{(g)}/\pi^{(g)}(4)$.

For those results on the indistinguishability of conjugacy class of the pro- l braid group and the motivation of these studies, see Ihara [3], [4], Kaneko [5].

§ 1. Preliminaries for proving theorem. To prove Theorem, we need some preliminaries. As before, let π ($=\pi^{(2)}$) denote the pro- l completion of the topological fundamental group of a compact Riemann surface of genus 2 and $\tilde{\Gamma}$ denote the automorphism group of π . For an automorphism ρ of π , we put

$$s_i(\rho) = x_i^\rho x_i^{-1} \quad (1 \leq i \leq 4).$$