

## ON THE COHOMOLOGY OF $\Gamma_p$

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ABSTRACT. Let  $\Gamma_g$  denote the mapping class group of genus  $g$ . In this paper, we calculate  $p$ -torsion of Farrell cohomology  $\hat{H}^*(\Gamma_p)$  for any odd prime  $p$ .

### INTRODUCTION

The mapping class group  $\Gamma_g^s$  of a connected oriented surface  $F_g^s$  of genus  $g$  with  $s$  punctures is defined as the group of connected components of the group of orientation-preserving diffeomorphisms of  $F_g^s$  which possibly permute  $s$  punctures. We will also denote  $\Gamma_g^0$  simply by  $\Gamma_g$ . The cohomology  $H^*(\Gamma_g)$  is one of the central topics in contemporary mathematics since it is closely related to algebraic topology, algebraic geometry, the theory of Riemann surfaces, the theory of three-dimensional manifolds, the theory of combinatorial groups and physics. It is well known that  $\Gamma_1$  is the special linear group  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  and the cohomology  $H^*(\Gamma_1; \mathbb{Z}) = H^*(SL_2(\mathbb{Z}); \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}[u]/\langle 12u \rangle$ , where  $u$  is a generator of degree 2. The cohomology  $H^*(\Gamma_2; \mathbb{Z})$  was completely calculated by Benson and Cohen in [BC]. Recently, Looijenga obtained  $H^*(\Gamma_3; \mathbb{Q})$  with rational coefficient [L]. Recall that Farrell and ordinary cohomologies of  $\Gamma_3$  coincide above the  $\text{vcd}(\Gamma_3) = 7$  (see [Br]). It is easy to see that the Farrell cohomology  $\hat{H}^*(\Gamma_3; \mathbb{Z})$  contains only 2, 3 and 7 torsion since  $\Gamma_3$  does. The 7-component  $\hat{H}^*(\Gamma_3; \mathbb{Z})_{(7)}$  is included in a general result of  $\hat{H}^*(\Gamma_{(p-1)/2}; \mathbb{Z})_{(p)}$  by the author in [X1]. The 2-component  $\hat{H}^*(\Gamma_3; \mathbb{Z})_{(2)}$  is more difficult to calculate and remains open. In this note, we give the 3-component  $\hat{H}^*(\Gamma_3; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)}$ .

Let  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  denote representatives of the two different conjugacy classes of order 3 subgroups of  $\Gamma_3$ . We describe explicitly the quotients  $N(\pi_1)/\pi_1$  and  $N(\pi_2)/\pi_2$  as finite index subgroups of  $\Gamma_1^2$  and  $\Gamma_0^5$ , where  $N(-)$  stands for the normalizer. The cohomology  $H^*(\Gamma_1^2)$  is completely calculated. The Shapiro lemma and a result of Cohen about  $H^*(\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z})$  as  $\Sigma_5$ -module are employed for computing  $H^*(N(\pi_1))_{(3)}$  and  $H^*(N(\pi_2))_{(3)}$  respectively. Then, the Farrell cohomology  $\hat{H}^*(\Gamma_3; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)}$  follows immediately because  $\Gamma_3$  is 3-periodic. It is generally believed that  $\hat{H}^*(\Gamma_g)$  (and  $H^*(\Gamma_g)$ ) might be calculated inductively via  $H^*(\Gamma_h^n)$ 's ( $h < g$ ), the mapping class groups of lower genus with punctures. For a fixed prime  $p > 2$ , the first two genera  $g$ 's such that  $\Gamma_g$  contains a cyclic subgroup of order  $p$  are  $(p-1)/2$  and  $p-1$ . We have completed the

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calculations of the  $p$ -component of  $\widehat{H}^*(\Gamma_{(p-1)/2}; \mathbb{Z})$  and  $\widehat{H}^*(\Gamma_{p-1}; \mathbb{Z})$  in our previous papers [X1] and [X2] respectively. Next, the third genus  $g$  such that  $\Gamma_g$  contains a cyclic subgroup of order  $p$  is  $p$ . As one more successful example along these basic lines, we finish by calculating the  $p$ -component of  $\widehat{H}^*(\Gamma_p; \mathbb{Z})$  for any prime  $p \geq 3$  (not only  $p = 3$ ) in this note. Note that the 2-component of  $H^*(\Gamma_2; \mathbb{Z})$  is given in [BC].

The main results of this note are as follows.

**Theorem 5.4.**

$$\widehat{H}^n(\Gamma_3; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} = \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9$$

for  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ;

$$\widehat{H}^n(\Gamma_3; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} = \mathbb{Z}/3$$

for  $n$  odd;

$$\widehat{H}^n(\Gamma_3; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} = \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9$$

for  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ .

It is easy to see a dihedral subgroup  $D_{2p}$  of order  $2p$  sitting in  $\Gamma_p$  for any prime  $p > 2$ .

**Theorem 6.5.** *For any prime  $p > 3$ , the restriction map*

$$R : \widehat{H}^n(\Gamma_p; \mathbb{Z})_{(p)} \rightarrow \widehat{H}^n(D_{2p}; \mathbb{Z})_{(p)}$$

*is an isomorphism for any  $n$ . Namely,*

$$\widehat{H}^n(\Gamma_p; \mathbb{Z})_{(p)} = \mathbb{Z}/p$$

for  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ;

$$\widehat{H}^n(\Gamma_p; \mathbb{Z})_{(p)} = 0$$

for other  $n$ 's.

The organization of the rest of this note is as follows. In section 1, we exactly describe two quotients  $N(\pi_1)/\pi_1$  and  $N(\pi_2)/\pi_2$  as finite index subgroups of  $\Gamma_1^2$  and  $\Gamma_0^5$ . In section 2, we calculate  $H^*(\Gamma_1^2)$ . In sections 3 and 4, we compute  $H^*(N(\pi_1)/\pi_1)$  and  $H^*(N(\pi_2)/\pi_2)$  respectively. In section 5, we obtain  $H^*(N(\pi_1))$ ,  $H^*(N(\pi_2))$  and prove the main result, Theorem 5.4. In last section, we finish the proof of Theorem 6.2.

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### 1. THE $N(\mathbb{Z}/3)/\mathbb{Z}/3$ 'S OF $\Gamma_3$

Recall that for  $x$  an orientation-preserving periodic diffeomorphism of a closed orientable surface  $F_g$  of prime period  $p$ , the fixed point data of  $x$  are a set (unordered)  $\delta(x) = \langle \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_q \rangle$ , where  $q$  is the number of fixed points of  $x$  and  $\beta_i$  is the integer (mod  $p$ ) such that  $x^{\beta_i}$  acts as multiplication by  $e^{2\pi i/p}$  in the local invariant complex structure at the  $i$ th fixed point. The fixed point data are well defined for an element  $\bar{x} \in \Gamma_g$  of period  $p$  too. According to a classical theorem of Nielsen, the conjugacy classes of elements of  $\Gamma_g$  of period  $p$  are exactly given by all possible fixed point data. It is easy to check that there are exactly two conjugacy classes of order 3 subgroups of  $\Gamma_3$ ,

the one with the fixed point data of a generator  $\langle 1, 2 \rangle$  is denoted as  $\pi_1$  and the other with the fixed point data of a generator  $\langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 2 \rangle$  is denoted as  $\pi_2$ . The structure of quotients  $N(\pi_1)/\pi_1$  and  $N(\pi_2)/\pi_2$  are described as follows.

A result of MacLachlan and Harvey [MH] states that for a finite subgroup  $G \subset \Gamma_g$  the quotient  $N(G)/G$  maps injectively into the mapping class group  $\Gamma_h^q$ , where  $h$  is the genus of orbit space  $F_g/G$ , and  $q$  the number of singular points. It is clear in our cases that the quotients  $N(\pi_1)/\pi_1$  and  $N(\pi_2)/\pi_2$  are isomorphic to subgroups of mapping class groups  $\Gamma_1^2$  and  $\Gamma_0^5$  respectively. We give a more precise description now.

Consider a natural homomorphism

$$\lambda : \Gamma_h^n \rightarrow GL(n - 1 + 2h, \mathbb{Z})$$

that is given by mapping a diffeomorphism  $f \in \text{Diff}_+(F_h; \{n\})$  to its action on  $H_1(F_h - \{n\}; \mathbb{Z})$  with a base  $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, a_1, \dots, a_h, b_1, \dots, b_h \rangle$  in the obvious notation. The map  $\lambda$  is clearly not a surjection. An element of  $\text{Im}(\lambda)$  must be in the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ 0 & D \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $A \in G$  ( $\cong \Sigma_n$ , the symmetric group of  $n$  letters),  $D \in Sp(2g, \mathbb{Z})$ , the symplectic group. Reducing the group  $GL(n - 1 + 2h, \mathbb{Z})$  to a finite group  $GL(n - 1 + 2h, \mathbb{Z}/p)$  with coefficient in the field  $\mathbb{Z}/p$ , one gets a map  $\tilde{\lambda} : \Gamma_h^n \rightarrow GL(n - 1 + 2h, \mathbb{Z}/p)$ . Actually, for any elementary abelian  $p$  subgroup  $E \subset \Gamma_g$ , the quotient  $N(E)/E$  is isomorphic to a finite index subgroup of  $\Gamma_h^n$ , which is a preimage of a subgroup  $K_E \subset GL(n - 1 + 2h, \mathbb{Z}/p)$  under the map  $\tilde{\lambda}$ . The group  $K_E$  is specifically determined by some geometric data, for example, the fixed point data of  $E$ . The details of this general result will appear somewhere else. Here, only special cases of the quotients  $N(\pi_1)/\pi_1$  and  $N(\pi_2)/\pi_2$  are illustrated for the purpose of the calculation of  $\hat{H}^*(\Gamma_3; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)}$ .

Consider the natural map

$$\tilde{\lambda} : \Gamma_1^2 \rightarrow GL(3, \mathbb{Z}/3)$$

defined as above for  $h = 1$  and  $n = 2$ . Let  $K_1$  denote a subgroup of  $\text{Im}(\tilde{\lambda})$  consisting of all elements of  $GL(3, \mathbb{Z}/3)$  in the form of

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & D \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $A \in \{1, -1\}$ , and  $D \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z}/3)$ .

**Proposition 1.1.** *The quotient  $N(\pi_1)/\pi_1$  is isomorphic to  $\tilde{\lambda}^{-1}(K_1) \subset \Gamma_1^2$ .*

The following well-known lemma is needed in the proof of Proposition 1.1 above.

**Lemma 1.2.** *Let  $p : F_g \rightarrow F_h$  be a  $p$ -sheeted branched covering map with  $n$  ramification points. Then a diffeomorphism  $w \in \text{Diff}_+(F_h, \{n\})$  lifts to a diffeomorphism  $w \in \text{Diff}_+(F_g, \{n\})$  if and only if every closed curve which lifts to a closed curve maps (via  $w$ ) to a closed curve which lifts to a closed curve.*

*Proof* (of Proposition 1.1). Let  $p : F_3 \rightarrow F_1$  be the 3-sheeted branched covering map with ramification points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  induced by a generator of  $\pi_1$

(strictly speaking, some lift of  $\pi_1$  to  $\text{Diff}_+(F_3, \{2\})$ ). We show that  $w \in \text{Diff}_+(F_1, \{2\})$  lifts if and only if  $\tilde{\lambda}(w) \in K_1$  (we abuse the notation  $w$  here). Let  $f : \pi_1(F_1 - \{x_1, x_2\}) \rightarrow \pi_1$  be the surjective map determined by the map  $p$ . Up to conjugation of  $\pi_1$ , one could choose

$$f : \pi_1(F_1 - \{x_1, x_2\}) = \langle a, b, x_1, x_2 \mid [a; b]x_1x_2 = 1 \rangle \rightarrow \pi_1 = \langle y \rangle$$

as  $f(a) = f(b) = 1$ ,  $f(x_1) = y$  and  $f(x_2) = y^2$ . The basic covering space theory says that a closed curve  $\gamma \in F_1 - \{x_1, x_2\}$  lifts to a closed curve  $\gamma' \in F_3 - \{\bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2\}$  if and only if  $f([\gamma]) = 1$ , where  $[-]$  stands for homotopy class here. Note that the set of surjective homomorphisms  $\text{epi}(\pi_1(F_1 - \{x_1, x_2\}) \rightarrow \pi_1)$  is in one-to-one correspondence to the set of surjective homomorphisms  $\text{epi}(H_1(F_1 - \{x_1, x_2\}; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \pi_1)$  since the group  $\pi_1$  is abelian. Let  $\bar{\gamma} \in H_1(F_1 - \{x_1, x_2\}; \mathbb{Z})$  be the homology class of  $\gamma$ . Suppose  $\bar{\gamma} = x_1^m a^{l_1} b^{l_2}$  and  $\tilde{f} : H_1(F_1 - \{x_1, x_2\}; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \pi_1$  is induced by  $f : \pi_1(F_1 - \{x_1, x_2\}) \rightarrow \pi_1$ . It is easy to see that  $\tilde{f}(\bar{\gamma}) = 1$  is equivalent to  $m \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ . Let  $\tilde{\lambda}(w)$  be denoted by

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ 0 & D \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then  $\tilde{f}(\bar{w}\bar{\gamma}) = 1$  is equivalent to  $Am + BL = 0 \pmod{3}$ , where  $\begin{pmatrix} m \\ L \end{pmatrix}$  is a 3-vector of  $H_1(F_1 - \{x_1, x_2\}; \mathbb{Z})$  with

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} l_1 \\ l_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Lemma 1.2 above says that  $w$  lifts is equivalent to the statement  $\tilde{f}(\bar{w}\bar{\gamma}) = 1$  if  $\tilde{f}(\bar{\gamma}) = 1$ ; i.e.,  $B = 0 \pmod{3}$  because  $L$  could be an arbitrary two vector. We complete the proof.

Consider, for any  $n$ , the well-known map  $\mu : \Gamma_0^n \rightarrow \Sigma_n$  defined via the permutation of  $f \in \text{Diff}_+(S^2, \{n\})$  on  $n$  punctures. Recall that the quotient  $N(\pi_2)/\pi_2$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $\Gamma_0^5$ . Then, one has

**Proposition 1.3.** *The quotient  $N(\pi_2)/\pi_2$  is isomorphic to  $\mu^{-1}(\Sigma_4) \subset \Gamma_0^5$ .*

This proposition is a special case of Lemma 1.1 of [X2].

## 2. COHOMOLOGY OF $\Gamma_1^2$

Let  $P\Gamma_g^n$  denote the pure mapping class group of genus  $g$  with  $n$  punctures, i.e., the group of path components of orientation-preserving diffeomorphisms of a connected oriented surface  $F_g^n$  with  $n$  punctures which fix  $n$  punctures. Consider the group extension (see [Bi])

$$(1) \quad 1 \rightarrow F(2) = \pi_1(F_1 - \{x_1\}) \rightarrow P\Gamma_1^2 \rightarrow P\Gamma_1^1 = SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow 1$$

given by forgetting one puncture, where  $F(2)$  is the free group of 2 generators. The Lyndon-Hochschild-Serre spectral sequence (LHS<sup>3</sup>) for the extension above is given by

$$E_2^{p,q} = H^p(SL(2, \mathbb{Z}); H^q(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) \Rightarrow H^{p+q}(P\Gamma_1^2; \mathbb{Z})$$

where  $H^0(F(2); \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}$  as a trivial  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  module;  $H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$  as the  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  module is obtained by the usual  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  action on  $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ .

It is well known that there is an amalgamated product decomposition  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}/6 *_{\mathbb{Z}/2} \mathbb{Z}/4$ . Choose generators  $x \in \mathbb{Z}/6$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{Z}/4$  and  $z \in \mathbb{Z}/2$  as

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad y = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$z = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

A direct calculation gives

$$H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})^{\mathbb{Z}/6} = 0, \quad H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})_{\mathbb{Z}/6} = 0, \quad H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})^{\mathbb{Z}/4} = 0, \\ H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})_{\mathbb{Z}/4} = H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})/M_4 = \mathbb{Z}/2$$

where  $M_4$  is a submodule consisting of all elements  $\langle -2b, a - 2b \rangle^T$  ( $a$  and  $b$  are integers);

$$H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})^{\mathbb{Z}/2} = 0$$

and

$$H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})_{\mathbb{Z}/2} = H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})/M_2 = \mathbb{Z}/2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2$$

where  $M_2$  is a submodule consisting of all elements  $\langle -2a, -2b \rangle^T$ . This implies

$$H^n(\mathbb{Z}/6; H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) = 0$$

for any  $n$ ;

$$H^{\text{odd}}(\mathbb{Z}/4; H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) = \mathbb{Z}/2,$$

$$H^{\text{even}}(\mathbb{Z}/4; H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) = 0$$

and

$$H^{\text{odd}}(\mathbb{Z}/2; H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) = \mathbb{Z}/2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2,$$

$$H^{\text{even}}(\mathbb{Z}/2; H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) = 0.$$

Applying the M-V sequence to the group  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  with module  $H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})$ , one gets a long exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow H^n(\mathbb{Z}/4; H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) \oplus H^n(\mathbb{Z}/6; H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) \\ \rightarrow H^n(\mathbb{Z}/2; H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) \rightarrow H^{n+1}(SL(2, \mathbb{Z}); H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) \\ \rightarrow H^{n+1}(\mathbb{Z}/4; H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) \oplus H^{n+1}(\mathbb{Z}/6; H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) \\ \rightarrow H^{n+1}(\mathbb{Z}/2; H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) \rightarrow . \end{aligned}$$

Note that the restriction map

$$H^n(\mathbb{Z}/4; H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) \rightarrow H^n(\mathbb{Z}/2; H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z}))$$

is an injection. It follows that

$$H^n(SL(2, \mathbb{Z}); H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) = 0$$

if  $n = 0$  or odd; and

$$H^n(SL(2, \mathbb{Z}); H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z})) = \mathbb{Z}/2$$

if  $n > 0$  even. Recall  $H^*(SL(2, \mathbb{Z}); \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}[u]/\langle 12u \rangle$ . One claims that the LHS<sup>3</sup> for (1) collapses by dimension reason. We conclude now

**Proposition 2.1.**

$$H^0(P\Gamma_1^2; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}, \quad H^{\text{odd}}(P\Gamma_1^2; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}/2, \quad H^{\text{even}}(P\Gamma_1^2; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}/12.$$

It is a routine to construct a  $\mathbb{Z}/3$  action on Torus  $F_1$  with three fixed points. This gives an order 3 subgroup  $\pi \subset P\Gamma_1^2 \subset \Gamma_1^2$ . Proposition 2.1 tells that the restriction map  $H^*(P\Gamma_1^2; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} \rightarrow H^*(\pi; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)}$  is an isomorphism. Furthermore, the universal coefficient theorem implies that the restriction map  $H^*(P\Gamma_1^2; M)_{(3)} \rightarrow H^*(\pi; M)_{(3)}$  is an isomorphism for any trivial  $P\Gamma_1^2$ -module  $M$ . Note  $H^*(\Gamma_1^2; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} = H^*(P\Gamma_1^2; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)}^{\Sigma_2}$ . In order to show the restriction map  $H^*(\Gamma_1^2; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} \rightarrow H^*(\pi; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)}$  is an isomorphism too, we only need to show the 3-period of  $\Gamma_1^2$  is 2. The general form of the 3-period of a group is  $\text{LCM}\{2 | N(\pi)/C(\pi)\}p^\alpha$  (see [GMX] for details). We know that  $\alpha = 0$  above from Proposition 2.1. Therefore, we only need to see the order  $|N_{\Gamma_1^2}(\pi)/C_{\Gamma_1^2}(\pi)| = 1$  in this case. Let  $x \in \text{Diff}_+(F_1, \{2\})$  denote a period 3 element with three fixed points. It is obvious that  $x$  is not conjugate to  $x^2$  because they are not conjugate even mapping to  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ . In summary, one obtains

**Theorem 2.2.** *The restriction map*

$$R : H^*(\Gamma_1^2; M)_{(3)} \rightarrow H^*(P\Gamma_1^2; M)_{(3)} \rightarrow H^*(\pi; M)_{(3)}$$

*is an isomorphism for any trivial  $\Gamma_1^2$ -module  $M$ .*

3. COHOMOLOGY OF  $N(\pi_1)/\pi_1$

Recall that we defined the map  $\tilde{\lambda} : \Gamma_1^2 \rightarrow GL(3, \mathbb{Z}/3)$  and a subgroup  $K_1 \subset GL(3, \mathbb{Z}/3)$  in section 1. Proposition 1.1 says the quotient  $N(\pi_1)/\pi_1$  is isomorphic to  $\tilde{\lambda}^{-1}(K_1)$ . Let  $G$  denote the image of  $\tilde{\lambda}$ . Recall that any element of  $G$  must be in the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ 0 & D \end{pmatrix}$$

(see section 1 for details). We remark here that in our case  $G$  is exactly the group consisting of all such matrices. In fact, one can see from geometry that  $\tilde{\lambda}(F(2))$  contains matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus, the index of  $K_1$  in  $G$  is 9 and  $F(2)$  acts on  $G/K_1$  via the map  $\tilde{\lambda}$  transitively. It is clear that  $\Gamma_1^2/N(\pi_1)/\pi_1$  is in one-one correspondence to  $G/K_1$  as cosets. By the well-known Shapiro lemma, one has  $H^*(N(\pi_1)/\pi_1; \mathbb{Z}) = H^*(\Gamma_1^2; \mathbb{Z}[G/K_1])$ , where  $\Gamma_1^2$  acts on the permutation module  $\mathbb{Z}[G/K_1]$  via the map  $\tilde{\lambda}$ .

We have seen that  $\Gamma_1^2$  contains a subgroup  $\pi$  of order 3 in section 2. However, one can show

**Proposition 3.1.** *The group  $N(\pi_1)/\pi_1$  does not contain any subgroup of order 3.*

*Proof.* It is obvious from the Riemann-Hurwitz formula that  $\Gamma_3$  does not contain  $\mathbb{Z}/3 \times \mathbb{Z}/3$ . We only need to show that the third power 3 of any order 9

diffeomorphism of  $F_3$  has five fixed points, not two fixed points like a lift of  $\pi_1$ . This again follows directly from the Riemann-Hurwitz formula.

Proposition 3.1 above implies that the permutation module  $\mathbb{Z}[G/K_1]$  is not the trivial module  $\mathbb{Z}$  and  $\pi_1$  acts on  $\mathbb{Z}[G/K_1]$  (by multiplication) nontrivially. It is elementary to observe that

**Lemma 3.2.** *The group  $\pi_1$  acts on the coset  $G/K_1$  freely.*

*Proof.* If not, assume that  $x \in \pi_1$  fixes  $\bar{g} \in G/K_1$ ; i.e.,  $xgk = gk'$ , or  $g^{-1}xg = k'k^{-1} \in K_1$ . This contradicts Proposition 3.1.

Therefore, one has the invariant  $\mathbb{Z}[G/K_1]^{\pi_1} = \bigoplus \mathbb{Z}\langle \bar{n}_i \rangle$ , where  $\bar{n}_i = \bar{g}_i + x\bar{g}_i + x^2\bar{g}_i$  for some  $g_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq 3$ ) in this case. The co-invariant  $\mathbb{Z}[G/K_1]_{\pi_1} = \mathbb{Z}[G/K_1]/M_1 = \bigoplus \mathbb{Z}$  spanned by  $\bar{g}_i$ 's. A direct computation implies the normal map

$$N : \mathbb{Z}[G/K_1]_{\pi_1} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[G/K_1]^{\pi_1}$$

is an isomorphism. So, one gets

**Proposition 3.3.**  $H^n(\pi_1; \mathbb{Z}[G/K_1]) = 0$  for  $n > 0$ .

Consider the LHS<sup>3</sup> given by

$$E_2^{p,q} = H^p(SL(2, \mathbb{Z}); H^q(F(2); \mathbb{Z}[G/K_1])) \Rightarrow H^{p+q}(P\Gamma_1^2; \mathbb{Z}[G/K_1])$$

for the extension (1) with coefficient  $\mathbb{Z}[G/K_1]$ .

It is immediate from Proposition 3.3 and the M-V sequence that

**Proposition 3.4.**  $H^n(SL(2, \mathbb{Z}); \mathbb{Z}[G/K_1]^{F(2)})_{(3)} = 0$  for  $n > 0$ .

Note that the  $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  acts on

$$H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z}[G/K_1]) = H^1(\mathbb{Z}; \mathbb{Z}[G/K_1]) \oplus H^1(\mathbb{Z}; \mathbb{Z}[G/K_1])$$

as matrix multiplications given in Section 2. One obtains

**Proposition 3.5.**  $H^n(SL(2, \mathbb{Z}); H^1(F(2); \mathbb{Z}[G/K_1]))_{(3)} = 0$  for  $n > 0$ .

Combining Propositions 3.4 and 3.5, one concludes

**Proposition 3.6.**  $H^n(N(\pi_1)/\pi_1; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} = 0$  for any  $n \geq 0$ .

Repeating the argument above with  $\mathbb{Z}/3$  coefficient, one gets

**Proposition 3.7.**  $H^n(N(\pi_1)/\pi_1; \mathbb{Z}/3) = 0$  for  $n > 0$ .

A similar proof of Proposition 2.1 and the Shapiro lemma give

**Proposition 3.8.**  $H^n(N(\pi_1)/\pi_1; \mathbb{Z})$  does not contain any copy of  $\mathbb{Z}$  for  $n > 0$ .

#### 4. COHOMOLOGY OF $N(\pi_2)/\pi_2$

Consider the group extension

$$(2) \quad 1 \rightarrow P\Gamma_0^5 \rightarrow N(\pi_2)/\pi_2 \rightarrow \Sigma_4 \rightarrow 1$$

described in Proposition 1.3. The LHS<sup>3</sup> for the extension above is given by

$$E_2^{p,q} = H^p(\Sigma_4; H^q(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)) \Rightarrow H^{p+q}(N(\pi_2)/\pi_2; \mathbb{Z}/3)$$

where  $\Sigma_4$  acts on  $H^q(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)$  as shown in work of Cohen (the  $P\Gamma_0^5$  is denoted by  $K_5$  in [BC]). Recall that  $H^*(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)$  is generated by one-dimen-

sional elements  $B_{42}, B_{43}, B_{52}, B_{53}$  and  $B_{54}$  subject to some relations specifically given in [BC]. Let  $x = (123) \in \Sigma_4$  be a generator of a Sylow 3-subgroup. It is a routine to have

$$H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)^{\langle x \rangle} = \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3 = \langle 2B_{42} + B_{43}, B_{52} + 2B_{53} \rangle$$

and

$$H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)_{\langle x \rangle} = H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)/M_5$$

where the submodule  $M_5$  consists of all elements in the form

$$(m_1 + m_2 + m_5)B_{42} + (2m_2 - m_1)B_{43} + (m_3 + m_4 - m_5)B_{52} + (2m_4 - m_3 - m_5)B_{53}$$

with  $m_i \in \mathbb{Z}/3$ . Let  $b_1 = m_1 + m_2 + m_5$ ,  $b_2 = 2m_2 - m_1$ ,  $b_3 = m_3 + m_4 - m_5$  and  $b_4 = 2m_4 - m_3 - m_5$ . Elementary linear algebra implies  $3m_1 = 2b_1 - b_2 - 2m_5 = 0$ ,  $3m_2 = b_1 + b_2 - m_5 = 0$ ,  $3m_3 = 2b_3 - b_4 + m_5$  and  $3m_4 = b_3 + b_4 + 2m_5 = 0$ . Thus, the equation  $b_1 + b_2 + 2b_3 + 2b_4 = 0$  holds. This amounts to showing

$$H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)_{\langle x \rangle} = \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3$$

generated by  $\langle \overline{B}_{54}, \overline{B}_{42} \rangle$ . It is easy to check that the normal map

$$N : H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z})_{\langle x \rangle} \rightarrow H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z})^{\langle x \rangle}$$

is given by  $N(\overline{B}_{54}) = B_{42} + 2B_{43} + B_{52} + 2B_{53}$  and  $N(\overline{B}_{42}) = 0$ . Thus, one obtains

**Lemma 4.1.**

$$\begin{aligned} H^0(\langle x \rangle; H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)) &= \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3, \\ H^{\text{odd}}(\langle x \rangle; H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)) &= \mathbb{Z}/3, \\ H^{\text{even}}(\langle x \rangle; H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)) &= \mathbb{Z}/3. \end{aligned}$$

Consider the  $x$  action on  $H^2(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)$ ; one gets the invariant

$$H^2(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)^{\langle x \rangle} = \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3 = \langle B_{42}B_{53} + 2B_{43}B_{52}, B_{42}B_{52} + B_{43}B_{52} + B_{43}B_{53} \rangle$$

and the co-invariant

$$H^2(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z})_{\langle x \rangle} = H^2(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z})/M_5$$

where the submodule  $M_5$  consists of all elements in the form

$$\begin{aligned} &(m_1 - m_5 + m_6)B_{42}B_{52} + (m_2 + m_4 - m_5 + m_6)B_{42}B_{53} \\ &+ (m_3 + m_6)B_{42}B_{54} + (m_2 - m_3 + m_4 - m_5 + m_6)B_{43}B_{52} \\ &+ (m_2 - m_1 - m_3 + m_4 + m_6)B_{43}B_{53} + (-m_3 + 2m_6)B_{43}B_{54} \end{aligned}$$

with  $m_i \in \mathbb{Z}/3$ . Let  $b_1 = m_1 - m_2 + m_6$ ,  $b_2 = m_2 + m_4 - m_5 + m_6$ ,  $b_3 = m_3 + m_6$ ,  $b_4 = m_2 - m_3 + m_4 - m_5 + m_6$ ,  $b_5 = -m_1 + m_2 - m_3 + m_4 + m_6$  and  $b_6 = -m_3 + 2m_6$ . It is easy to have from linear algebra that  $-2b_3 + b_6 = 0$ ,  $b_1 + 2b_2 - b_3 - 2b_4 + b_5 = 0$ ,  $m_1 = b_1 + b_2 - b_3 - b_4 + m_5$ ,  $m_2 = 2b_2 - b_3 - b_4 - m_4 + m_5$ ,  $m_3 = b_2 - b_4$  and  $m_6 = -b_2 + b_3 + b_4$ . Thus, one gets

$$H^2(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)_{\langle x \rangle} = \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3$$

generated by  $\langle \overline{B}_{42}\overline{B}_{52}, \overline{B}_{43}\overline{B}_{54} \rangle$ . Also, it is straightforward to check that the normal map

$$N : H^2(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)_{\langle x \rangle} \rightarrow H^2(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)^{\langle x \rangle}$$

given by

$$N(\overline{B}_{42}\overline{B}_{52}) = 2B_{42}B_{52} + B_{42}B_{53} + B_{43}B_{52} + 2B_{43}B_{52}$$

and

$$N(\overline{B}_{43}\overline{B}_{54}) = -B_{42}B_{52} - B_{43}B_{52} - B_{43}B_{53}$$

is an isomorphism. This implies

**Lemma 4.2.**  $H^0(\langle x \rangle; H^2(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)) = \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3$  and  $H^n(\langle x \rangle; H^2(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)) = 0$  for  $n > 0$ .

Recall that  $H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)_{\langle x \rangle}$  is generated by  $\overline{B}_{54}$  and  $\overline{B}_{42}$ . We can check directly that  $(12) \in \Sigma_4$  permutes  $\overline{B}_{54}$  to  $\overline{B}_{54} - \overline{B}_{42}$  and  $\overline{B}_{42}$  to  $-\overline{B}_{42}$ ; that is,  $H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)_{\langle x \rangle}^{(12)} = 0$ . It is also straightforward to verify  $(12) \in \Sigma_4$  acts on generators  $2B_{42} + B_{43}$  and  $B_{52} + 2B_{53}$  of  $H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)^{\langle x \rangle}$  trivially and acts on the one-dimensional space generated by

$$2B_{42}B_{52} + B_{43}B_{52} + B_{42}B_{53} + 2B_{43}B_{53} \in H^2(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)^{\langle x \rangle}$$

trivially. These calculations imply

**Lemma 4.3.**

$$H^0(\Sigma_4; H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)) = \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3,$$

$$H^0(\Sigma_4; H^2(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z})) = \mathbb{Z}/3,$$

$$H^n(\Sigma_4; H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)) = \mathbb{Z}/3$$

for  $n \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}$ ;

$$H^n(\Sigma_4; H^1(P\Gamma_0^5; \mathbb{Z}/3)) = 0$$

for  $n \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4}$ .

It is easy to see a  $\mathbb{Z}/3 \subset N(\pi_2)/\pi_2 \subset \Gamma_0^5$  by constructing a  $\mathbb{Z}/3$  action on  $S^2$  with two fixed points and permuting three points. The following lemma is needed for the study of  $LHS^3$  associated to the extension (2) in the beginning of this section.

**Lemma 4.4.** *The group  $N(\pi_2)/\pi_2$  has the  $\mathbb{Z}/3$  as a retract.*

*Proof.* Recall the group  $N(\pi_2)/\pi_2$  is an extension of  $P\Gamma_0^5$  over  $\Sigma_4$ . There is a surjective map by forgetting the fifth puncture from  $N(\pi_2)/\pi_2$  to  $\Gamma_0^4$ , therefore, to  $H_1(\Gamma_4; \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}/2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3$ , to  $\mathbb{Z}/3$ . Note the  $\mathbb{Z}/3 \subset N(\pi_2)/\pi_2$  is compatible with the  $\mathbb{Z}/3 \subset \Gamma_0^4$ . The lemma follows since  $\Gamma_0^4$  has the  $\mathbb{Z}/3$  as a retract.

Now, one can conclude the  $LHS^3$  collapses by Lemma 4.4 and

**Proposition 4.5.**

$$H^0(N(\pi_2)/\pi_2; \mathbb{Z}/3) = \mathbb{Z}/3,$$

$$H^n(N(\pi_2)/\pi_2; \mathbb{Z}/3) = \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3$$

if  $n = 1, 2$ ;

$$H^n(N(\pi_2)/\pi_2; \mathbb{Z}/3) = \mathbb{Z}/3$$

if  $n \geq 3$ .

Repeat the calculation in this section above with coefficient  $\mathbb{Z}$  and consider  $LHS^3$  for the extension (2) with coefficient  $\mathbb{Z}$ ; one gets

**Proposition 4.6.** *The restriction map*

$$R : H^n(N(\pi_2)/\pi_2; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} \rightarrow H^n(\mathbb{Z}/3; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)}$$

*induces an isomorphism; the group  $H^n(N(\pi_2)/\pi_2; \mathbb{Z})$  contains exactly one copy of  $\mathbb{Z}$  for  $n = 0, 1, 2$  and contains no copy of  $\mathbb{Z}$  for  $n \geq 3$ .*

5. FARRELL COHOMOLOGY OF  $\Gamma_3$

We actually calculate not only the 3-components of

$$H^*(N(\pi_1); \mathbb{Z}) \quad \text{and} \quad H^*(N(\pi_2); \mathbb{Z}),$$

but also their free parts. Consider the group extensions

$$1 \rightarrow \pi_1 \rightarrow N(\pi_1) \rightarrow N(\pi_1)/\pi_1 \rightarrow 1$$

and

$$1 \rightarrow \pi_2 \rightarrow N(\pi_2) \rightarrow N(\pi_2)/\pi_2 \rightarrow 1.$$

One has the LHS<sup>3</sup> for the extensions above giving as

$$E_2^{p,q} = H^p(N(\pi_i)/\pi_i; H^q(\pi_i; \mathbb{Z})) \Rightarrow H^{p+q}(N(\pi_i); \mathbb{Z}).$$

Note that the group  $N(\pi_1)$  acts on  $\pi_1$  nontrivially and the group  $N(\pi_2)$  acts on  $\pi_2$  trivially from the observation of the fixed point data of generators of  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ .

It is easy to see a dihedral subgroup  $D_6 \subset \Gamma_3$  of order 6 containing the  $\pi_1$  by realizing a  $D_6$  action on  $F_3$  with four singular points of order 2 and one singular point of order 3 in the orbit space  $F_3/D_6 = S^2$  (2 sphere). The following proposition is immediate.

**Proposition 5.1.**

(1) *The restriction map*

$$R : H^n(N(\pi_1); \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} \rightarrow H^n(D_6; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)}$$

*is an isomorphism for any  $n \geq 0$ .*

(2)  *$H^n(N(\pi_1); \mathbb{Z})$  does not contain any  $\mathbb{Z}$  for  $n > 0$ .*

Again, it is clear that the  $\pi_2$  is contained in a  $\mathbb{Z}/9 \subset \Gamma_3$  if one notices that there is a  $\mathbb{Z}/9$  action on  $F_3$  with two singular points of order 9 and one singular point on the orbit space  $F_3/\mathbb{Z}/9 = S^2$  (2 sphere). Comparing the LHS<sup>3</sup> for the extension

$$1 \rightarrow \pi_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/9 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/3 \rightarrow 1$$

with Proposition 4.5, one obtains

**Proposition 5.2.**

$$H^n(N(\pi_2); \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} = 0$$

for  $n = 0, 1$ ;

$$H^2(N(\pi_2); \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} = \mathbb{Z}/9, \quad H^n(N(\pi_2); \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} = \mathbb{Z}/3$$

for  $n \geq 3$  odd;

$$H^n(N(\pi_2); \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} = \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9$$

for  $n \geq 4$  even.

**Proposition 5.3.**  $H^n(N(\pi_2); \mathbb{Z})$  contains exactly one copy of  $\mathbb{Z}$  for  $n = 0, 1, 2$  and contains no  $\mathbb{Z}$  for  $n \geq 3$ .

The main result about Farrell cohomology now follows readily since  $\Gamma_3$  is 3-periodic.

**Theorem 5.4.**

$$\widehat{H}^n(\Gamma_3; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} = \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9$$

for  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ;

$$\widehat{H}^n(\Gamma_3; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} = \mathbb{Z}/3$$

for  $n$  odd;

$$H^n(\Gamma_3; \mathbb{Z})_{(3)} = \mathbb{Z}/3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}/9$$

for  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ .

### 6. THE $p$ -COMPONENT OF FARRELL COHOMOLOGY OF $\Gamma_p$ FOR $p > 3$

For any prime  $p > 3$ , it is easy to check from possible fixed point data that there is one and only one conjugacy class of order  $p$  subgroup of  $\Gamma_p$ , denoted as  $\pi \subset \Gamma_p$ . The fixed point data of a generator of  $\pi$  is  $\langle 1, p - 1 \rangle$ . Thus, the cyclic group  $N(\pi)/C(\pi)$  is  $\mathbb{Z}/2$ . Actually, it is not difficult to observe a dihedral subgroup  $D_{2p} \subset \Gamma_p$  by constructing a surjective map from  $\pi_1(F_1 - \{x_1, x_2\})$  onto  $D_{2p}$ .

Let  $K_1$  denote a subgroup of  $\text{Im}(\tilde{\lambda})$  consisting of all elements of  $GL(3, \mathbb{Z}/p)$  in the form of

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & D \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $A \in \{1, -1\}$  and  $D \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z}/p)$ , where

$$\tilde{\lambda} : \Gamma_1^2 \rightarrow GL(3, \mathbb{Z}/p)$$

is defined as in section 1.

**Proposition 6.1.** The quotient  $N(\pi)/\pi$  is isomorphic to  $\tilde{\lambda}^{-1}(K_1) \subset \Gamma_1^2$ .

The proof is the same as Proposition 1.1.

**Proposition 6.2.**  $H^n(\Gamma_1^2; M)_{(p)} = 0$  for any prime  $p > 3$ ,  $n > 0$  and  $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma_1^2$ -module  $M$ .

Repeat the argument in section 2 with any coefficient  $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma_1^2$ -module  $M$ ; the proof follows immediately.

By using the Shapiro lemma again, one gets

**Proposition 6.3.**  $H^n(N(\pi)/\pi; \mathbb{Z})_{(p)} = 0$  for any  $p > 3$  and  $n > 0$ .

Finally, comparing two short exact sequences

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \rightarrow \pi \rightarrow N(\pi) \rightarrow N(\pi)/\pi \rightarrow 1, \\ 1 \rightarrow \pi \rightarrow D_{2p} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2 \rightarrow 1 \end{aligned}$$

and considering two LHS<sup>3</sup> associated to them, one obtains

**Proposition 6.4.** *The restriction map*

$$R : H^n(N(\pi); \mathbb{Z})_{(p)} \rightarrow H^n(D_{2p}; \mathbb{Z})_{(p)}$$

*is an isomorphism for any  $p > 3$  and  $n \geq 0$ .*

**Theorem 6.5.** *For a prime  $p > 3$ , the restriction map*

$$R : \widehat{H}^n(\Gamma_p; \mathbb{Z})_{(p)} \rightarrow \widehat{H}^n(D_{2p}; \mathbb{Z})_{(p)}$$

*is an isomorphism for any  $n$ . Namely,*

$$\widehat{H}^n(\Gamma_p; \mathbb{Z})_{(p)} = \mathbb{Z}/p$$

*for any  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ;*

$$\widehat{H}^n(\Gamma_p; \mathbb{Z})_{(p)} = 0$$

*for any  $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ .*

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