

THE LOWER BOUND OF THE w -INDICES OF SURFACE LINKS VIA QUANDLE COCYCLE INVARIANTS

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ABSTRACT. The w -index of a surface link F is the minimal number of the triple points of surface braids representing F . In this paper, for a given 3-cocycle, we consider the minimal number of the w -indices of surface links whose quandle cocycle invariants associated with f are non-trivial, and denote it $\omega(f)$. In particular, we show that $\omega(\theta_3) = 6$ and $\omega(\theta_p) \geq 7$, where θ_n is Mochizuki's 3-cocycle of the dihedral quandle of order n and p is an odd prime integer $\neq 3$. As a consequence, for a given non-negative integer g , there are surface knots with genus g with the w -index 6.

1. INTRODUCTION

A *surface link* is a closed oriented surface embedded in Euclidean 4-space \mathbf{R}^4 locally flatly. Two surface links F and F' are *equivalent* if there is an orientation-preserving homeomorphism $h : \mathbf{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^4$ such that $h(F) = F'$. A *closed surface braid of degree m* is a closed oriented surface embedded in $D_1 \times U_0$ locally flatly such that the restriction map $\pi|_S$ of the projection map $\pi : D_1 \times U_0 \rightarrow U_0$ is a simple m -fold branched covering map where D_1 is a 2-disk and U_0 is a 2-sphere. Two surface braids S and S' with the same degree are *equivalent* if they are ambient isotopic by a fiber-preserving isotopy $\{h_u\}_{0 \leq u \leq 1}$ of $D_1 \times U_0$, as a D_1 -bundle over U_0 . Alexander's theorem in dimension four, i.e., any surface link is equivalent to a closed surface braid of a certain degree as surface links, was announced in [18] and proved in [10].

By the *w -index of a closed surface braid S* , we mean the minimal number of triple points of S' such that S' is equivalent to S . The minimal number of the w -indices of closed surface braids equivalent to a surface link F is called the *w -index of F* , which is denoted by $w(F)$. S. Kamada [8] proved that a surface link F is ribbon if and only if $w(F) = 0$. I. Hasegawa [6] proved that the w -index of a non-ribbon surface link is at least four and the w -index of a non-ribbon spherical link is at least six. M. Ochiai, T. Nagase and A. Shima [15] proved that there is no surface link whose w -index is five.

J. S. Carter, D. Jelsovsky, S. Kamada, L. Langford and M. Saito [2] defined the quandle cocycle invariant $\Phi_f(F)$ of a surface link F associated with an A -valued quandle 3-cocycle f , where A is an Abelian group. See [2] for the original definition of $\Phi_f(F)$. The quandle cocycle invariant $\Phi_f(F)$ is considered as a multi-set of A

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as in [4]. By the definition of $\Phi_f(F)$, we see that if the triple point number of F is zero, then every element in $\Phi_f(F)$ is zero. Here, we have a natural question, i.e., for a given 3-cocycle f , how many is the minimal number $\tau(f)$ of the triple point number of surface links whose quandle cocycle invariants associated with f include a non-zero element? The answer to this question is known for a few 3-cocycles as follows: S. Satoh and A. Shima [16, 17] proved that $\tau(\theta_3) = 4$ for Mochizuki's 3-cocycle θ_p of the dihedral quandle whose order is an odd prime p and $\tau(f) = 6$ for a 3-cocycle f of the tetrahedral quandle given in [3]. E. Hatakenaka's result given in [7] implies that $\tau(\theta_5) \geq 6$. Using these results, S. Satoh and A. Shima [16, 17] proved that the triple point numbers of 2- and 3-twist spun trefoil knots are 4 and 6, respectively.

If the w -index of F is zero, then the triple point number of F is also zero, so we have a similar question as in the above paragraph, i.e., for a given 3-cocycle f , how many is the minimal number $\omega(f)$ of the w -indices of surface links whose quandle cocycle invariants associated with f include a non-zero element? Let T_2 be a 2-twist spun trefoil. It is known that $w(T_2) = 6$ (cf. [6]) and $\Phi_{\theta_3}(T_2) = \{0, 0, 0, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2\}$ (cf. [2]), so $\omega(\theta_3) \leq 6$.

Theorem 1.1.¹ *Let Q be a quandle such that for any $x, y \in Q$, $x = y$ if $x * y = x$. (For example, Q is a dihedral quandle whose order is odd.) Let f be a 3-cocycle of Q .*

- (i) *Then, $\omega(f) \geq 6$. In particular, $\omega(\theta_3) = 6$.*
- (ii) *If p is an odd prime integer $\neq 3$, then $\omega(\theta_p) \geq 7$.*

Remark 1.2. Let F be an S^2 -link and Q be a quandle as in Theorem 1. For any 3-cocycle f , if $\Phi_f(F)$ includes non-zero element, then F is non-ribbon, so $w(F) \geq 6$ (cf. [6]). In Theorem 1 (i), we generalize it for surface links with any genus.

Corollary 1.3. *For a non-negative integer g , there is a surface knot F such that $w(F) = 6$ and the genus of F is g .*

We review a chart description and prove a key proposition (Proposition 2.3) in §2. In §3, we define quandle cocycle invariants of surface links in terms of chart descriptions. In §4, we consider subgraphs of charts with 2, 3 or 4 white vertices. In §5, we prove Theorem 1 and Corollary 1.3. In §6, we prove Lemma 5.4.

2. CHART DESCRIPTION

In this section, we review a chart description and prove a key proposition (Proposition 2.3). The original notation of a chart, which is a graph in a 2-disk, was introduced for an “unclosed” surface braid and we can modify it to present a closed surface braid (cf. §23 in [12]).

An m -chart is a (possibly empty) finite immersed one-valent or six-valent graph Γ in a 2-sphere U_0 satisfying the following conditions:

- (i) Every edge is directed and labeled by an integer in $\{1, 2, \dots, m-1\}$.
- (ii) For each vertex of degree six, three consecutive edges are directed inward and the other three are directed outward; these six edges are labeled by i and $i+1$ alternately for some i .

¹T. Nagase and A. Shima announced that there is no surface link whose w -index is seven in [14], and they may prove it on the numbering series. It follows that if $p \neq 3$, then $\omega(\theta_p) \geq 8$.

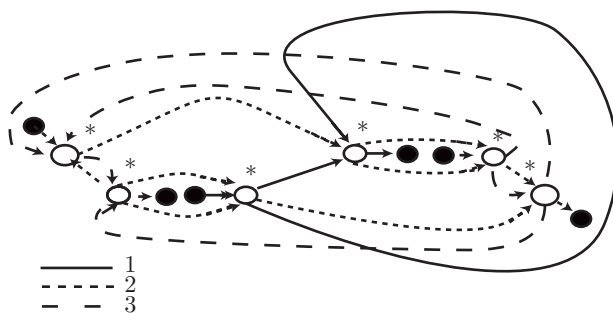


FIGURE 1

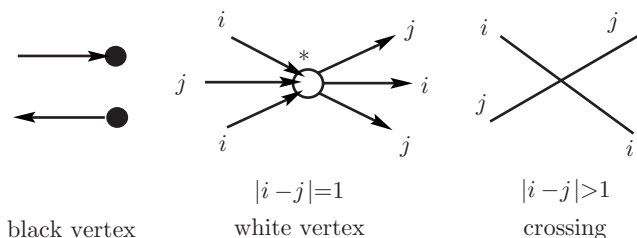


FIGURE 2

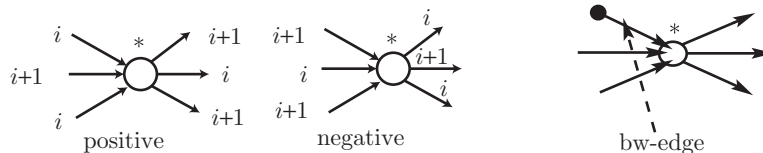


FIGURE 3

FIGURE 4

(iii) Each singularity of Γ is a transverse double point of two edges whose difference in labels is more than one.

An example of a 4-chart is in Fig. 1. We call a one-valent or six-valent vertex a *black vertex* or *white vertex*, respectively. We call a singularity a *crossing*. For each white vertex W , we mark ‘*’ to the left side region of the left side edge among three consecutive edges directed inward to W . See Fig. 2. For a chart Γ (or subgraph G of a chart), we denote the number of white vertices of Γ (or G) by $w_C(\Gamma)$ (or $w_C(G)$). By $c(\Gamma)$ and $b(\Gamma)$, we denote the number of crossings and black vertices of a chart Γ , respectively. For a white vertex W such that the labels of edges incident to W are i and $i + 1$, W is *positive* (or *negative*) if the label of the middle of the three consecutive edges directed inward is $i + 1$ (or i). See Fig. 3. A *middle-edge* e is an edge that is incident to a white vertex W such that e is the middle of three consecutive edges directed inward to W or the middle of other edges. An edge whose ends are black and white vertices is called a *bw-edge*. See Fig. 4. A *free edge* is an edge whose endpoints are black vertices. A closed edge is called a *ring* if it contains a crossing but not a white vertex nor a black vertex. See Fig. 5.

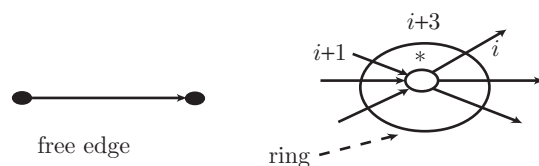


FIGURE 5

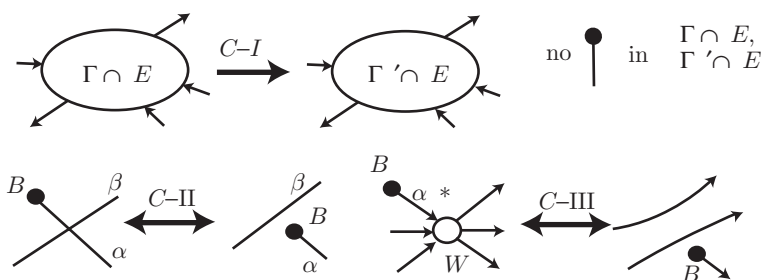


FIGURE 6

The operations listed below (and their inverses) are called a C_I -, C_{II} - and C_{III} -move, respectively. These moves are called C -moves. Two m -charts Γ and Γ' are C -move equivalent if they are related by a finite sequence of such C -moves and ambient isotopies.

- (C_I) For a 2-disk E on U_0 such that $\Gamma \cap E$ and $\Gamma' \cap E$ have no black vertices, replace $\Gamma \cap E$ with $\Gamma' \cap E$.
- (C_{II}) Suppose that an edge α is attached to a black vertex B and intersects another edge β near B . Shorten α to remove the intersection and transmit B across β .
- (C_{III}) Let a black vertex B and a white vertex W be connected by a non-middle edge α of W . Remove α and W , attach B to the edge of W opposite to α , and connect the other four edges in a natural way.

We illustrate C_I - C_{III} -moves in Fig. 6.

S. Kamada proved that two m -charts are C -move equivalent if and only if their presented closed surface braids of degree m are equivalent (cf. [11, 12]).

Remark 2.1. In fact, white vertices, black vertices and edges in a chart Γ represent triple points, branch points and crossings of one sheet and another one in a diagram of its presented closed surface braid S , respectively. The labels and orientations of edges indicate which two sheets of S cross each other and which sheet of them is above another one in \mathbf{R}^4 , respectively. Moreover, the w -index of S , which is denoted by $w_B(S)$, can be redefined in terms of charts as follows:

$$w_B(S) = \min\{w_C(\Gamma') | \Gamma' \text{ is } C\text{-move equivalent to } \Gamma\}.$$

Futhermore,

$$w(F) = \min\{w_B(S) | S \text{ is a closed surface braid representing } F\}.$$

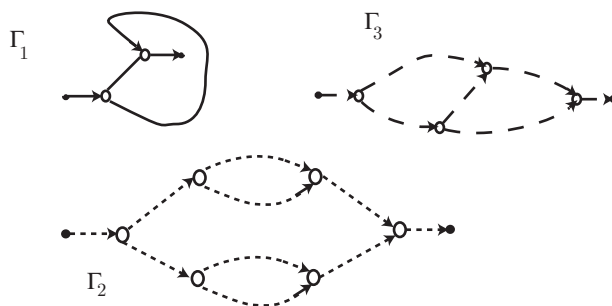


FIGURE 7

We can also define the w -index $\bar{w}_B(S)$ of “unclosed” surface braids in a manner similar to $w_B(S)$. The original definition of the w -index of F was given as the minimal number of $\bar{w}_B(S)$ such that S is an “unclosed” surface braid representing F . See [9].

An m -chart Γ is *ribbon* if Γ is C -move equivalent to an m -chart Γ' such that $w_C(\Gamma') = 0$. An m -chart Γ is C_{23} -*minimal* if there is no an m -chart Γ' obtained from Γ by at most one C_{II} -move or one C_{III} -move such that $w_C(\Gamma') + c(\Gamma') < w_C(\Gamma) + c(\Gamma)$.

Lemma 2.2 ([6]). *For any m -chart Γ , there exists a C_{23} -minimal m -chart Γ' such that*

- Γ is C -move equivalent to Γ' , and
- $w_C(\Gamma) \geq w_C(\Gamma')$.

Let Γ be a C_{23} -minimal m -chart. For each $i \in \{1, \dots, m - 1\}$, we denote the subgraph consisting of edges with label i and their vertices by Γ_i . For example, for a 4-chart Γ in Fig. 1, subcharts $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2, \Gamma_3$ are illustrated in Fig. 7. Let $X(\Gamma)$ be

$$X(\Gamma) = \{G \subset \Gamma \mid G \text{ is a connected component of } \Gamma_i, w_C(G) \neq 0\}.$$

Proposition 2.3. *Let Γ be a C_{23} -minimal chart. If $|X(\Gamma)| \leq 2$, then Γ is ribbon.*

Proof. It is obvious that Γ is ribbon when $|X(\Gamma)| = 0$ and it has not happened that $|X(\Gamma)| = 1$, so we suppose that $|X(\Gamma)| = 2$. In particular, it is sufficient to consider when $X(\Gamma) = \{G, G'\}$ such that $G \subset \Gamma_i$ and $G' \subset \Gamma_{i+1}$. Repeating C_I -moves as in Fig. 8, we deform Γ to the union of two disjoint charts Γ' and E such that all free edges are in E and G, G' are in Γ' . We will prove that if Γ' is ribbon, it follows that Γ is C -move equivalent to the union of a chart with no white vertices and E with some surrounded loops, and hence Γ is ribbon. Since $G \cup G'$ is connected, each hoop h and ring r that does not intersect $G \cup G'$ bounds a 2-disk D in $U_0 \setminus (G \cup G')$, so h and r are made to vanish by C_I -moves. See Fig. 9. Thus, we assume that $\Gamma' = G \cup G' \cup R$ such that R consists of rings that intersect $G \cup G'$. If R is empty, by the proof of S. Kamada’s theorem (Theorem 11) in [8], Γ' can be deformed to Γ'' with $w_C(\Gamma'') = 0$, and hence Γ' is ribbon. Thus, we will prove that any rings can be removed in the intersection with $G \cup G'$ by C -moves. We remark that the label of each ring in R is neither i nor $i + 1$. We consider a ring r in R whose label is $i - 1$. The ring r does not intersect G since the difference of labels of r and G

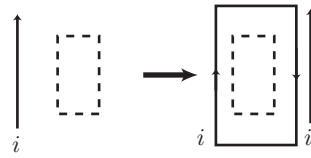


FIGURE 8

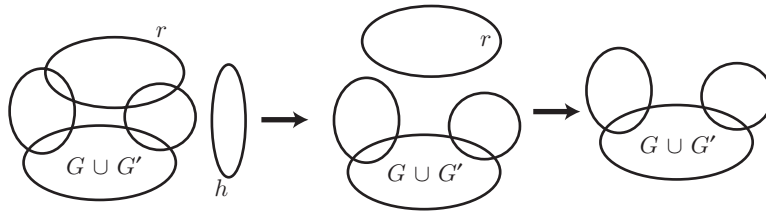


FIGURE 9

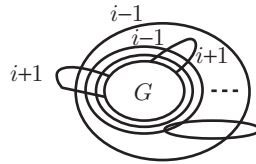


FIGURE 10

is 1, so G is in the one of two 2-disks given by dividing U_0 along r . We see that all rings with label $i - 1$ in R are parallel and surround G . See Fig. 10. Let r' be an innermost ring with label j among rings in R whose label is less than $i - 1$ although r' may have an intersection with other rings whose labels are not $j - 1, j$ and $j + 1$. If r' is non-parallel to rings with label $i - 1$, then r' can be removed since r' bounds a 2-disk containing no edges with label $j - 1$ or $j + 1$. Thus, we suppose that all rings whose labels are less than i are parallel and surround G . If r'' is an outermost ring among rings whose labels are less than i , then the intersection of r'' and $G \cup G'$ can be removed by C -moves. Repeating this process, the intersections of all rings whose labels are less than i and $G \cup G'$ can be removed by C -moves. By applying a similar argument to G' and rings whose labels are more than $i + 1$, the proof of this proposition is complete. \square

3. QUANDLE COCYCLE INVARIANTS

In this section, we will define quandle cocycle invariants in terms of charts. This is a slight modification of the definition given in §11 of [2].

3.1. Quandle and quandle cohomology. A *quandle* is a set Q with a binary operation $* : Q \times Q \rightarrow Q$ satisfying the following properties:

- (i) For any $q \in Q, q * q = q$.
- (ii) For any $q_1, q_2 \in Q$, there is a unique $q_3 \in Q$ such that $q_1 = q_3 * q_2$.

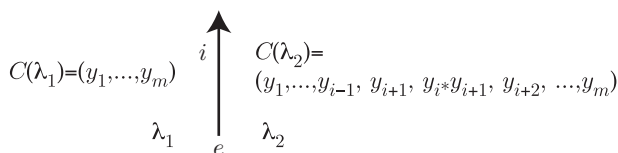


FIGURE 11

(iii) For any $q_1, q_2, q_3 \in Q$, $(q_1 * q_2) * q_3 = (q_1 * q_3) * (q_2 * q_3)$.

The homology and cohomology for quandles are developed in [2]. For an Abelian group A , let $C^n(Q; A)$ be the free Abelian group generated by the maps $f : Q^n \rightarrow A$ such that $f(q_1, \dots, q_n) = 0$ if $q_i = q_{i+1}$ for some $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. The coboundary map $\delta^n : C^n(Q; A) \rightarrow C^{n+1}(Q; A)$ is given by

$$(\delta^n f)(q_1, \dots, q_{n+1}) = \sum_{k=2}^{n+1} (-1)^k \{f(q_1, \dots, q_{k-1}, q_{k+1}, \dots, q_{n+1}) - f(q_1 * q_k, \dots, q_{k-1} * q_k, q_{k+1}, \dots, q_{n+1})\}.$$

The quandle cohomology group $H^*(Q; A)$ is defined by $C^*(Q; A) = \{C^*(Q; A), \delta^*\}$ in a usual manner, and the cocycle group is defined by $Z^*(Q; A)$.

Example 3.1. The set $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$ becomes a quandle under the binary operation $a * b = 2b - a \pmod n$, which is called the *dihedral quandle* of order n and denoted by R_n . Mochizuki [13] proved that $H^3(R_p; \mathbf{Z}_p) \cong \mathbf{Z}_p$ for any odd prime p . Mochizuki also gave a 3-cocycle

$$\theta_p(x, y, z) = (x - y) \frac{y^p + (2z - y)^p - 2z^p}{p} \in \mathbf{Z}_p$$

whose cohomology class generates $H^3(R_p; \mathbf{Z}_p)$. Here, $y^p + (2z - y)^p - 2z^p$ is divisible by p , so θ_p is well-defined.

3.2. Quandle cocycle invariants of charts. Let Γ be an m -chart and the set of regions of $D_2 \setminus \Gamma$ be denoted by $\Sigma(\Gamma)$. A map $C : \Sigma(\Gamma) \rightarrow Q^m$ is a Q -coloring of Γ if it is such that $C(\lambda_1) = (y_1, \dots, y_m)$ and $C(\lambda_2) = (y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}, y_{i+1}, y_i * y_{i+1}, y_{i+2}, \dots, y_m)$ for each edge e with label i where λ_1 and λ_2 are regions separated by e and λ_1 is on the left side of e . See Fig. 11. The set of Q -colorings of Γ is denoted by $Col_Q(\Gamma)$.

Let Q be a finite quandle and $f \in Z^*(Q; A)$ be a 3-cocycle of Q . Let C be a Q -coloring of Γ . Define the Boltzmann weight at each white vertex W by

$$W_f(W; C) = \epsilon(W) f(y_i, y_{i+1}, y_{i+2}) \in A,$$

where $C(\lambda) = (y_1, \dots, y_m)$, λ is the region with the asterisk around W and $\epsilon(W)$ is the sign of W . We put $W_f(C) = \sum W_f(W; C) \in A$. Let

$$S_f(\Gamma) = \{W_f(C)\}_{C \in Col_Q(\Gamma)}$$

as a multi-set of A .

Proposition 3.2. *Let S be a closed surface braid that is equivalent to a surface link F . Let Γ be an m -chart presenting S . Then, $S_f(\Gamma)$ is equal to $\Phi_f(F)$.*

Proof. It is easy to prove that $S_f(\Gamma)$ is equal to $\Phi_f(\Gamma)$ in the sense of §11 of [2]. \square

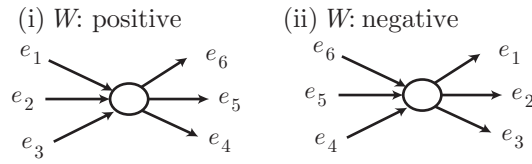


FIGURE 12

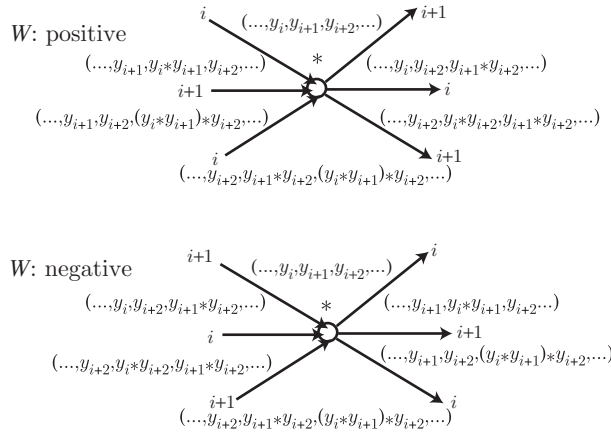


FIGURE 13

3.3. Edge-colorings of a chart. Let $E(\Gamma)$ be the set of edges of an m -chart Γ . A map $EC : E(\Gamma) \rightarrow Q^2$ is a Q -edge-coloring of Γ if the following conditions are satisfied: (i) if e is an edge connected to a black vertex, then $EC(e) = (a, a)$ for some $a \in Q$, and (ii) if e_1, \dots, e_6 are edges around a white vertex W as in Fig. 12, then $EC(e_1) = (a, b), EC(e_2) = (a*b, c), EC(e_3) = EC(e_6) = (b, c), EC(e_4) = (a*c, b*c)$ and $EC(e_5) = (a, c)$ for some $a, b, c \in Q$. A Q -edge-coloring EC is *trivial* if the image of EC consists of a unique element (a, a) for some $a \in Q$.

Let Q be a finite quandle and $f \in Z^*(Q; A)$ be a 3-cocycle of Q . Let EC be a Q -edge-coloring of Γ . Then, define the weight at each white vertex W by

$$\widetilde{W}_f(W; EC) = \epsilon(W)f(a, b, c) \in A,$$

where a, b, c are given as in the above paragraph and $\epsilon(W)$ is the sign of W . Put $\widetilde{W}_f(EC) = \sum \widetilde{W}_f(EC; W)$.

Let C be a Q -coloring of Γ . Let EC be a map $EC : E(\Gamma) \rightarrow Q^2$ such that if for each edge e with label i , λ is a left-side region of e and $C(\lambda) = (y_1, \dots, y_m)$, then $EC(e) = (y_i, y_{i+1})$. At each white vertex W , it happens that the colors of regions around W by C are as in Fig. 13. Then, we see that $EC(e_1) = (y_i, y_{i+1}), EC(e_2) = (y_i * y_{i+1}, y_{i+2}), EC(e_3) = EC(e_6) = (y_{i+1}, y_{i+2}), EC(e_4) = (y_i * y_{i+2}, y_{i+1} * y_{i+2})$ and $EC(e_5) = (y_i, y_{i+2})$. Thus, EC is a Q -edge-coloring. Such a Q -edge-coloring is said to be a Q -edge-coloring EC induced by C .

Lemma 3.3. *Let EC be a Q -edge-coloring induced by C . Then, $W_f(C) = \widetilde{W}_f(EC)$.*

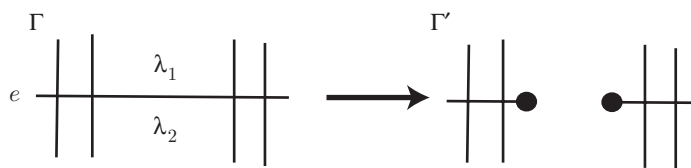


FIGURE 14

Proof. At each white vertex W , $W_f(W; C) = \widetilde{W}_f(W; EC)$. Thus,

$$W_f(C) = \widetilde{W}_f(EC).$$

□

A Q -degenerated edge is an edge in Γ such that for any Q -edge-coloring EC of Γ , there is an element $q \in Q$ such that $EC(e) = (q, q)$.

Lemma 3.4. *Let Γ be an m -chart with a Q -degenerated edge e . Let Γ' be an m -chart given by cutting e and attaching black vertices at its boundary. (See Fig. 14.) Then, $S_f(\Gamma') = S_f(\Gamma)$.*

Proof. Let C be a Q -coloring of Γ . Then, the Q -edge-coloring EC induced by C satisfies that $EC(e) = (q, q)$, so $C(\lambda_1) = C(\lambda_2)$, where λ_1, λ_2 are opposite regions to each other on e . Then, it is easy to see that there is a natural one-to-one correspondence between $Col_Q(\Gamma')$ and $Col_Q(\Gamma)$ and that corresponding colorings have the same weight at each white vertex. Thus, $S_f(\Gamma') = S_f(\Gamma)$. The proof is completed. □

4. SUBGRAPHS OF C_{23} -MINIMAL CHARTS

In this section, we consider any graph G that is an element in $X(\Gamma)$ with $w_C(G) = 2, 3, 4$ for a certain C_{23} -minimal m -chart Γ and we always assume that Q is a finite quandle such that $x = y$ if $x * y = x$.

We denote the mirror image and the reverse of an oriented graph (or chart) G in S^2 by G^* and $-G$, respectively. By $-G^*$, we mean the reverse of G^* .

Let $G \in X(\Gamma)$ be a subgraph of a C_{23} -minimal chart Γ . Then, all bw-edges in Γ are middle edges. Thus, a white vertex W in G is one of the following four types:

- (1) Two edges are directed outward and an edge is directed inward among three edges incident to W and they are not bw-edges.
- (2) Two edges are directed outward and an edge is a directed-inward bw-edge among three edges incident to W .
- (3) An edge is directed outward and two edges are directed inward among three edges incident to W and they are not bw-edges.
- (4) An edge is a directed-outward bw-edge and two edges are directed inward among three edges incident to W .

See Fig. 15.

We denote the number of white vertices with type (1), (2), (3) and (4) by $w_1(G), w_2(G), w_3(G)$ and $w_4(G)$, respectively. Since the sum of the edges directed

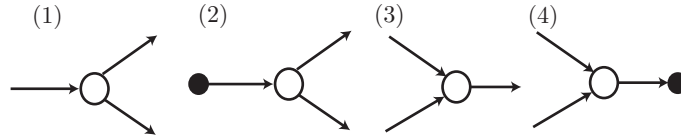


FIGURE 15

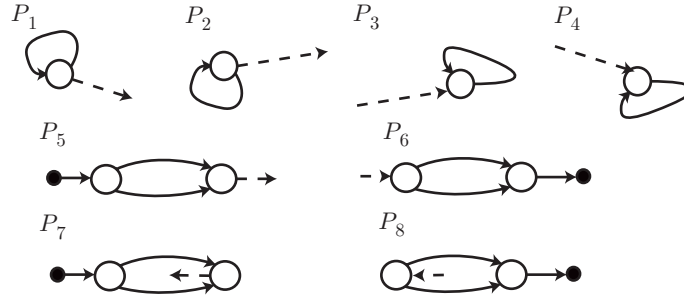


FIGURE 16

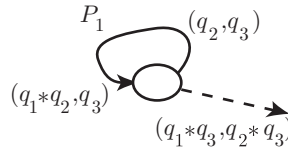


FIGURE 17

inward to white vertices of G is equal to the sum of the edges directed outward to white vertices of G , the following equations hold:

$$(4.1) \quad 2w_1(G) + 2w_2(G) + w_3(G) = w_1(G) + 2w_3(G) + 2w_4(G),$$

$$(4.2) \quad w_1(G) + 2w_2(G) = w_3(G) + 2w_4(G).$$

Lemma 4.1. *Let G be a graph in $X(\Gamma)$ containing parts P_1, \dots, P_8 with dotted edge e as illustrated in Fig. 16. Then, e is a Q -degenerated edge.*

Proof. In general, the colors of edges around a white vertex W with a sign by a Q -edge-coloring are determined locally by three elements in Q . This gives a necessary condition for a Q -edge-coloring of Γ as a simultaneous equation when the signs of all white vertices of P_i are fixed. In the case that W is a white vertex in P_1 whose sign is positive, the simultaneous equation is $(q_2, q_3) = (q_1 * q_2, q_3)$. See Fig. 17. Then, $q_1 = q_2$. Since the color of the dotted line e in P_1 is $(q_1 * q_3, q_2 * q_3)$, e is a Q -degenerated edge. In the other cases, such a simultaneous equation can be given. By solving it, we see that any dotted line in P_1, \dots, P_8 is a Q -degenerated edge. \square

In Lemmas 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4, we consider the list of subgraphs in $X(\Gamma)$ for a C_{23} m -chart Γ satisfying the following condition \star ;

- \star $G \in X(\Gamma)$ does not contain P_1, \dots, P_4 and if G contains parts P_5, \dots, P_8 with dotted edge e , then e is a bw-edge.

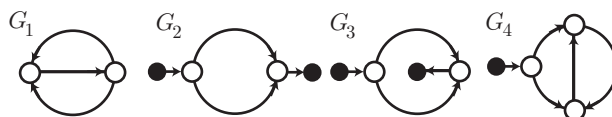


FIGURE 18

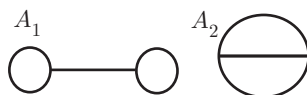


FIGURE 19

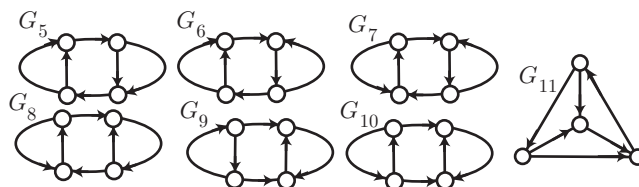


FIGURE 20

Lemma 4.2. *Let G with $w(G) = 2$ be a graph in $X(\Gamma)$ for a certain C_{23} -minimal m -chart Γ . If G satisfies condition \star , then G is one of G_1, G_2 and G_3 . Each graph G_i is illustrated in Fig. 18.*

Proof. By Equation 4.2, we see that $(w_1(G), w_2(G), w_3(G), w_4(G)) = (1, 0, 1, 0), (0, 1, 0, 1)$. First, we consider when $(w_1(G), w_2(G), w_3(G), w_4(G)) = (1, 0, 1, 0)$. By Euler's formula, the number of regions of $S^2 \setminus N(G)$ is 3, where $N(G)$ is a regular neighborhood of G . Thus, G without orientation is one of two graphs A_1, A_2 illustrated in Fig. 19. We see that A_1 has not satisfied condition \star and A_2 with orientation is G_1 . See Fig. 18. Second, we consider when $(w_1(G), w_2(G), w_3(G), w_4(G)) = (0, 1, 0, 1)$. By Euler's formula, the number of regions of $S^2 \setminus N(G)$ is 2. There are two graphs G_2, G_3 depending on whether two bw-edges are in the same region or not. See Fig. 18. \square

Lemma 4.3. *Let G with $w(G) = 3$ be a graph in $X(\Gamma)$ for a certain C_{23} -minimal m -chart Γ . If G satisfies condition \star , then G is one of $G_4, -G_4, G_4^*$ and $-G_4^*$. The graph G_4 is illustrated in Fig. 18.*

Proof. By Equation 4.2, we see that $(w_1(G), w_2(G), w_3(G), w_4(G)) = (0, 1, 2, 0), (2, 0, 0, 1)$. By Euler's formula, the number of regions of $S^2 \setminus N(G)$ is 3, so G is without one bw-edge e and the orientation is one of the graphs A_1, A_2 illustrated in Fig. 19. We see that A_1 does not satisfy condition \star wherever e attaches to A_1 . It is a unique choice how to attach e to A_2 , and there are four graphs $G_4, -G_4, G_4^*, -G_4^*$ depending on the choice of an orientation of A_2 . \square

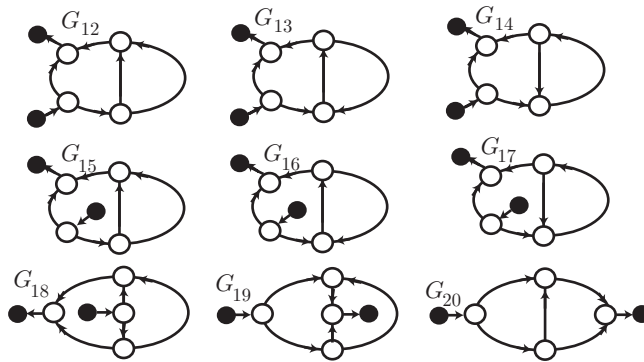


FIGURE 21

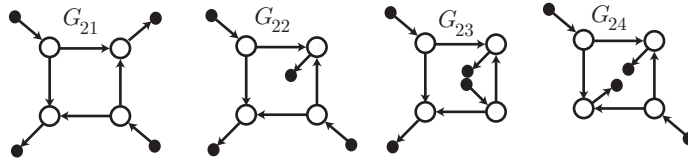


FIGURE 22

Lemma 4.4. *Let G with $w(G) = 4$ be a graph in $X(\Gamma)$ for a certain C_{23} -minimal m -chart Γ . If G satisfies condition \star , then G is one of*

$$G_5, \dots, G_{24}, G_6^*, G_7^*, G_9^*, \dots, G_{20}^*, \\ -G_{18}, -G_{22}, -G_{18}^*.$$

Each graph G_i with $i = 5, \dots, 24$ is illustrated in Figs. 20, 21 and 22.

Proof. By Equation 4.2, we see that

$$(w_1(G), w_2(G), w_3(G), w_4(G)) \\ = (2, 0, 2, 0), (1, 1, 1, 1), (0, 2, 0, 2).$$

First, we consider when $(w_1(G), w_2(G), w_3(G), w_4(G)) = (2, 0, 2, 0)$. By Euler's formula, the number of regions of $S^2 \setminus N(G)$ is 4. Thus, G without orientation is one of the four graphs A_3, A_4, A_5, A_6 illustrated in Fig. 23. We see that A_5 and A_6 do not satisfy condition \star . There are ten (or two) graphs $G_5, \dots, G_{10}, G_6^*, G_7^*, G_9^*, G_{10}^*$ (or G_{11}, G_{11}^*) depending on the orientation of A_3 (or A_4). See Fig. 20. Second, we consider when $(w_1(G), w_2(G), w_3(G), w_4(G)) = (1, 1, 1, 1)$. By Euler's formula, the number of regions of $S^2 \setminus N(G)$ is 3. Thus, G without orientation is one of the two graphs A_1, A_2 illustrated in Fig. 19. If it is A_1 , then G does not satisfy condition \star . There are six cases A_7, \dots, A_{12} depending on where we attach two bw-edges to A_2 . See Fig. 24. There are six, three, three, four, two and two graphs depending on the choice of orientation of graphs A_7, \dots, A_{12} , respectively. They are graphs G_{12}, \dots, G_{20} illustrated in Fig. 21, their mirror image and $-G_{18}, -G_{18}^*$. Third, we consider when $(w_1(G), w_2(G), w_3(G), w_4(G)) = (0, 2, 0, 2)$. By Euler's formula, the number of regions of $S^2 \setminus N(G)$ is 2, so G without all bw-edges is a circle. There

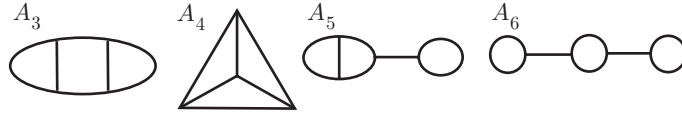


FIGURE 23

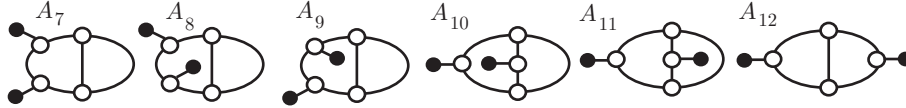


FIGURE 24

are five graphs $G_{21}, \dots, G_{24}, -G_{22}$ depending on where we attach four bw-edges to the circle. This completes the proof. \square

Remark 4.5. For G_1, \dots, G_{24} , we see that

$$\begin{aligned} G_i &= G_i^* = -G_i = -G_i^* && \text{if } i = 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 21, 23, 24, \\ G_i &= -G_i \neq G_i^* = -G_i^* && \text{if } i = 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, \\ G_i &= G_i^* \neq -G_i = -G_i^* && \text{if } i = 22, \\ G_i &= -G_i^* \neq G_i^* = -G_i && \text{if } i = 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14, \\ G_i &\neq -G_i \neq G_i^* \neq -G_i^* && \text{if } i = 4, 18. \end{aligned}$$

5. PROOF OF THEOREM 1

In this section, we will prove Theorem 1 and Corollary 1.3.

For graphs G_1, \dots, G_{24} given in §4, let W_1, \dots, W_j be white vertices in G_i as illustrated in Fig. 25 (i)-(viii), where $W_C(G_i) = j$. For a given C_{23} -minimal chart Γ such that $G_i \in X(\Gamma)$ for $i \in \{1, \dots, 24\}$, let a_k be the label of all edges that are incident to W_k in $\Gamma \setminus G_i$. For $G = -G_i, G_i^*, -G_i^*$, let W_1, \dots, W_j and a_1, \dots, a_j be white vertices and edges of G corresponding to those of G_i . We see that each a_k is uniquely determined.

Let \mathfrak{G}_1 and \mathfrak{G}_2 be the sets of graphs given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{G}_1 &= \{G_1, G_2, G_3, G_4, G_4^*, -G_4, -G_4^*\}, \\ \mathfrak{G}_2 &= \{G_5, \dots, G_{24}, G_6^*, G_7^*, G_9^*, \dots, G_{20}^*, -G_{18}, -G_{22}, -G_{18}^*\}. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 5.1. *Let G be one of $\mathfrak{G}_1 \cup \mathfrak{G}_2$. Suppose that Γ is a C_{23} -minimal m -chart such that $G \in X(\Gamma)$.*

(a) *If $\sum_{k=1}^j \widetilde{W}_f(W_k; EC) \neq 0$ for $G \in \mathfrak{G}_1$ where EC is a Q -edge-coloring of Γ , then there are the following cases:*

- (i) $G = G_3$ and $a_1 = a_2$;
- (ii) $G = G_4, G_4^*, -G_4, -G_4^*$ and $a_1 = a_2 = a_3$.

Furthermore, every middle-edge incident to G in $\Gamma \setminus G$ is not a bw-edge.

(b) *If $\sum_{k=1}^j \widetilde{W}_{\theta_p}(W_k; EC) \neq 0$ for $G \in \mathfrak{G}_2$, where θ_p is Mochizuki's 3-cocycle of the dihedral quandle R_p of order p with an odd prime integer $\neq 3$ and EC is an R_p -edge-coloring of Γ , then there are the following cases:*

- (iii) $G = G_9, G_{10}, G_{11}, G_{20}, G_9^*, G_{10}^*, G_{11}^*, G_{20}^*$ and $a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = a_4$.

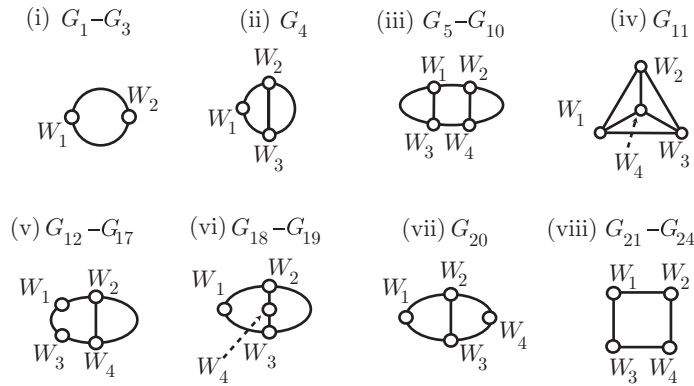


FIGURE 25

- (iv) $G = G_{18}, G_{19}, G_{22}, G_{24}, G_{18}^*, G_{19}^*, -G_{18}, -G_{22}, -G_{18}^*$ and $a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = a_4$.
- (v) $G = G_{12}, G_{15}, G_{12}^*, G_{15}^*$ and $a_1 = a_4 \neq a_2 = a_3$.
- (vi) $G = G_{15}, G_{15}^*$ and $a_1 = a_3, a_2 = a_4$.
- (vii) $G = G_{18}, G_{19}, G_{18}^*, G_{19}^*, -G_{18}, -G_{18}^*$ and $a_1 = a_2 = a_3 \neq a_4$.
- (viii) $G = G_{19}, G_{19}^*$ and $a_1 \neq a_2 = a_3 = a_4$.
- (ix) $G = G_{22}, -G_{22}, G_{24}$ and $a_1 = a_2 \neq a_3 = a_4$ or $a_1 = a_3 \neq a_2 = a_4$.
- (x) $G = G_{23}$ and $a_1 = a_2 \neq a_3 = a_4$.

Furthermore, there is a middle-edge incident to G in $\Gamma \setminus G$ that is not a bw-edge when $G = G_{18}, G_{19}, G_{18}^*, G_{19}^*, -G_{18}, -G_{18}^*$, and every middle-edge incident to G in $\Gamma \setminus G$ is not a bw-edge when $G = G_{12}, G_{15}, G_{19}, G_{20}, G_{22}, G_{23}, G_{24}, G_{12}^*, G_{15}^*, G_{19}^*, G_{20}^*, -G_{22}$.

Proof. We will consider a simultaneous equation as in the proof of Lemma 4.1 for each graph $G \in \mathfrak{G}_1 \cup \mathfrak{G}_2$ when the signs of all white vertices in G are fixed.

When $G = G_1$ and the signs of W_1 and W_2 are the same (and hence $a_1 \neq a_2$), there exist $q_1, \dots, q_6 \in Q$ such that $(q_1, q_3) = (q_4 * q_5, q_6), (q_1, q_2) = (q_5, q_6)$ and $(q_2, q_3) = (q_4 * q_6, q_5 * q_6)$. See Fig. 26. Solving this simultaneous equation, we have $q_1 = \dots = q_6$, so the weights of W_1 and W_2 are zeros. We see that $\sum_{k=1}^2 \widetilde{W}_f(W_k; EC) = 0$. Similarly, when $G = G_1$ and the signs of W_1 and W_2 are different (and hence $a_1 = a_2$), we see that $\widetilde{W}_f(W_1; EC) = -\widetilde{W}_f(W_2; EC)$ for any Q -edge-coloring EC , so $\sum_{k=1}^2 \widetilde{W}_f(W_k; EC) = 0$. Hence, the hypothesis of (a) is not satisfied in this case. Solving similar simultaneous equations given for each $G \in \mathfrak{G}_1$ and each choice of signs of white vertices in G , we have the cases (i)-(ii).

In the case (i), we see that the weights of W_1 and W_2 of G_3 are (q, q', q) and $-(q', q, q')$, respectively. If a middle-edge incident to G_3 in $\Gamma \setminus G_3$ is a bw-edge, then it is required that $q * q' = q$ or $q' * q = q'$ since Γ is C_{23} -minimal, so $q = q'$. Thus, it does not satisfy the hypothesis of (a) in this case. By a similar argument, this completes the proof of (a).

Solving similar simultaneous equations given for $Q = R_p$ and $G \in \mathfrak{G}_2$ when the signs of all white vertices in G are fixed, we also have cases (iii)-(x). If $G = G_{12}, G_{15}, G_{19}, G_{20}, G_{22}, G_{23}, G_{24}$ and both middle-edges incident to G in $\Gamma \setminus G$ are bw-edges, or if $G = G_{12}, G_{15}, G_{19}, G_{20}, G_{22}, G_{23}, G_{24}, G_{12}^*, G_{15}^*, G_{19}^*, G_{20}^*, -G_{22}$ and

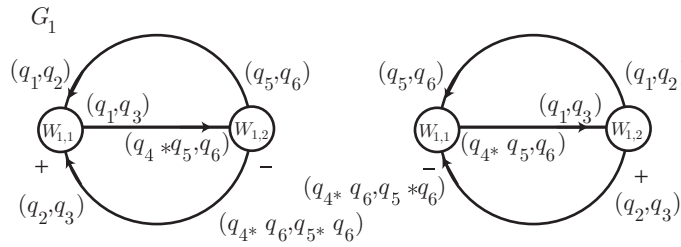


FIGURE 26

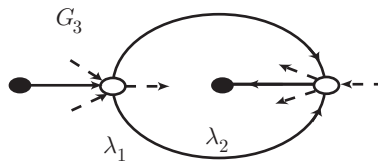


FIGURE 27

a middle-edge incident to G in $\Gamma \setminus G$ is a bw-edge, then the hypothesis of (b) is not satisfied. This completes the proof. \square

Lemma 5.2. *In the hypothesis of Lemma 5.1 (a), $w_C(\Gamma) \geq 6$.*

Proof. It is sufficient to consider the cases (i) and (ii) in Lemma 5.1 (a). In the case (i), let λ_1 and λ_2 be 2-disks of $S^2 \setminus N(G_3)$ as in Fig. 27. In λ_1 , there are three edges with label a_1 in Γ such that they are not bw-edges and directed inward to white vertices in G by Lemma 5.1 (a). These edges cannot cross G , so we need at least two white vertices in λ_1 . Similarly, we also need at least two white vertices in λ_2 . Thus, $w_C(\Gamma) \geq 6$. In the case (ii), by an argument similar to case (i), we also need at least one white vertex in each region of $S^2 \setminus G$. Thus, $w_C(\Gamma) \geq 6$. This completes the proof. \square

Proof of Theorem 1 (a). There is not a non-ribbon m -chart Γ with $w_C(\Gamma) = 1, 2, 3$. See [6]. Thus, we suppose that there exists a C_{23} -minimal m -chart Γ such that $w_C(\Gamma) = 4, 5$ and $S_f(\Gamma)$ includes a non-identity element.

Since $S_f(\Gamma)$ includes a non-identity element, there are a Q -coloring C of Γ and a Q -edge-coloring EC induced by C such that $\widetilde{W}_f(EC) = W_f(C) \neq 0$ by Lemma 3.3. By Proposition 2.3, $|X(\Gamma)| \geq 2$. Since Γ is a C_{23} -minimal m -chart, each graph in $X(\Gamma)$ includes at least two white vertices, so $|X(\Gamma)| = 2$. Thus, there is a graph $G \in X(\Gamma)$ such that $\sum_{W \in G} \widetilde{W}_f(W; EC) \neq 0$ and $w_C(G) = 2$ or 3 . If G does not satisfy condition \star in §4, then G contains one of P_1, \dots, P_4 or contains one of P_5, \dots, P_8 whose dotted line is not a bw-edge. Each dotted line in their parts is a Q -degenerated edge by Lemma 4.1. Let Γ' be an m -chart given by cutting edges corresponding to such dotted lines in G and attaching black vertices at its boundary. Then, by Lemma 3.4, $S_f(\Gamma) = S_f(\Gamma')$. This process divides G into two pieces $H_1, H_2 \in X(\Gamma')$ such that $W_C(H_i) = 1$ for some i since $w_C(G) \leq 3$. Then, by C -moves, Γ' is C -move equivalent to a C_{23} -minimal m -chart Γ'' such that

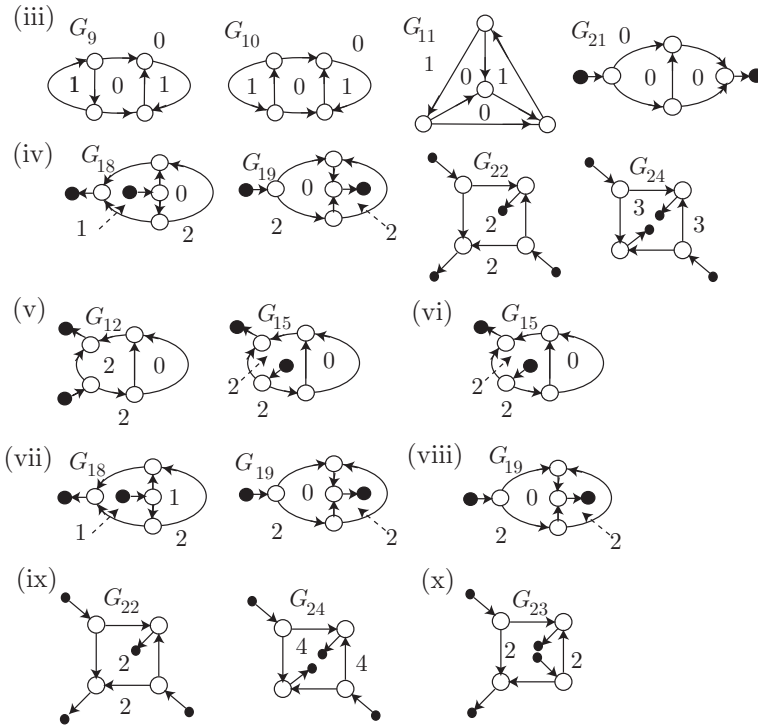


FIGURE 28

$w_C(\Gamma'') < w_C(\Gamma') = w_C(\Gamma)$. If $w_C(\Gamma) = 4$, then Γ'' is ribbon, so $S_f(\Gamma) = S_f(\Gamma') = S_f(\Gamma'')$ consists of zero-elements, so this is a contradiction. If $w_C(\Gamma) = 5$, then Γ'' is ribbon or $w_C(\Gamma'') = 4$. There is a contradiction if Γ'' is ribbon. If $w_C(\Gamma'') = 4$, then we perform the above argument once more after replacing Γ with Γ'' . If G satisfies condition \star , then $G \in \mathfrak{G}_1$ by Lemmas 4.2 and 4.3. Since $\sum_{W \in \mathcal{G}} \widetilde{W}_f(EC; W) \neq 0$, $w_C(\Gamma) \geq 6$ by Lemma 5.2. This is a contradiction. This completes the proof. \square

Lemma 5.3. *In the hypothesis of Lemma 5.1 (b), $w_C(\Gamma) \geq 7$ when G is satisfied by one of the cases (iv) – (x) of Lemma 5.1 (b).*

Proof. By a similar argument as in the proof of Lemma 5.2, in the cases (iv)-(x) and $G = G_i$ for some i , we need some white vertices in each region of $S^2 \setminus N(G)$ as in Fig. 28, so $w_C(\Gamma) \geq 7$. Since $G, -G, G^*, -G^*$ require the same number of white vertices in each corresponding region, $w_C(\Gamma) \geq 7$ in the other case. \square

Proof of Theorem 1 (b). By Theorem 1 (a), $\omega(\theta_p) \geq 6$. Thus, suppose that there exists a C_{23} -minimal m -chart Γ such that $w_C(\Gamma) = 6$ and $S_{\theta_p}(\Gamma)$ includes a non-identity element.

By a similar argument as in the proof of Theorem 1 (a), there exist an R_p -coloring C of Γ and an R_p -edge-coloring EC induced by C such that $\widetilde{W}_{\theta_p}(EC) = W_{\theta_p}(C) \neq 0$, and there is a graph G in $X(\Gamma)$ such that $w_C(G) = 2, 3$ or 4 and $\sum_{W \in \mathcal{G}} \widetilde{W}_{\theta_p}(EC; W)$ is non-zero. Moreover, if G does not satisfy condition \star in §4, there is an m -chart Γ' such that $S_f(\Gamma) = S_f(\Gamma')$ and G is divided into two pieces

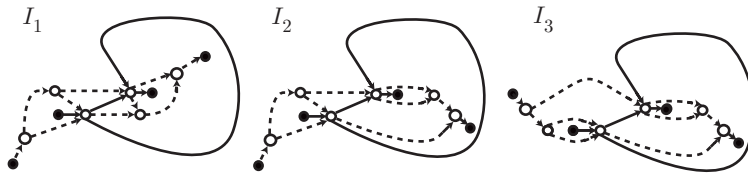


FIGURE 29

$H_1, H_2 \in X(\Gamma')$. If $w_C(G) = 2, 3$ or $w_C(G) = 4, w_C(H_i) = 1$ for some i , then Γ is C -move equivalent to a C_{23} -minimal chart Γ'' such that $w_C(\Gamma'') < w_C(\Gamma') = w_C(\Gamma) = 6$ and $S_f(\Gamma) = S_f(\Gamma') = S_f(\Gamma'')$. Thus, $\omega(\theta_p) \leq 5$, so this is a contradiction. If $w_C(G) = 4$ and $w_C(H_1) = w_C(H_2) = 2$, then we perform the above argument once more after replacing Γ with Γ'' . If G satisfies condition \star , then $G \in \mathfrak{G}_1 \cup \mathfrak{G}_2$ by Lemmas 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4. By Lemmas 5.1 and 5.3, G is satisfied by one of cases (i)-(iii) of Lemma 5.1.

In the case (i), by the proof of Lemma 5.2, each region of $S^2 \setminus N(G_3)$ includes exactly two white vertices. There are eight cases $I_1, I_2, I_3, I_1^*, I_2^*, I_3^*, -I_2, -I_2^*$ such that these white vertices and G are connected by edges with label a_1 as in Fig. 29; in the other cases, we need other white vertices. Therefore, Γ is C -move equivalent to one of a C_{23} -minimal chart $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_5, \Gamma_1^*, \dots, \Gamma_5^*, -\Gamma_3, -\Gamma_3^*$ with some loops, rings and free edges. See Fig. 30. Similarly, in cases (ii) and (iii) except for $G = G_9, G_9^*, G_{20}, G_{20}^*$, Γ is C -move equivalent to a C_{23} -minimal chart $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_i, -\Gamma_i, \Gamma_i^*, -\Gamma_i^*$ for $i = 6, \dots, 9$ with some loops, rings and free edges.

If $G = G_9$ and $a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = a_4$, then it is required that some edges incident to G with label i be connected as in Fig. 33. Let J be the graph as in Fig. 33. Then, all R_p -edge-colorings EC of Γ are such that $\sum_{W \in J} \widetilde{W}_{\theta_p}(EC; W) = 0$ by solving the similar simultaneous equations of J as in the proof of Lemma 4.1. Similarly, if $G = G_9^*$ and $a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = a_4$, then all R_p -edge-colorings EC of Γ are such that $\sum_{W \in J} \widetilde{W}_{\theta_p}(EC; W) = 0$.

When $G = G_{20}$ and $a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = a_4$, let e_1, \dots, e_6 be edges incident to G_{20} as in Fig. 34. Similarly, when $G = G_{20}^*$ and $a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = a_4$, let e_1, \dots, e_6 be the corresponding edges. If $e_1 = e_4, e_5$ or e_6 , then all R_p -edge-colorings EC of Γ are such that $\sum_{W \in G_{20}} \widetilde{W}_{\theta_p}(EC; W) = 0$ by solving the similar simultaneous equations as in the proof of Lemma 4.1. Thus, in the case $G = G_{20}, G_{20}^*$, Γ is C -move equivalent to a C_{23} -minimal chart Γ_4, Γ_4^* with some loops, rings and free edges.

Lemma 5.4. *Let p be an odd prime integer $\neq 3$. Then, $\widetilde{W}_{\theta_p}(EC) = 0$ for an R_p -edge-coloring EC of $\Gamma_i, \Gamma_i^*, -\Gamma_i$ and $-\Gamma_i^*$ with $i = 1, \dots, 9$.*

Lemma 5.4 will be proved in §6.

By Lemma 5.4, for an R_p -edge-coloring EC of a C_{23} -minimal chart Γ that is Γ_i with some loops, rings and free edges, $\widetilde{W}_{\theta_p}(EC) = 0$. By Lemma 3.3, $S_{\theta_p}(\Gamma)$ consists of zero elements. This is a contradiction. This completes the proof of Theorem 1 (b). \square

Proof of Corollary 1.3. A 4-chart Γ illustrated in Fig. 1 presents a 2-twist spun trefoil T_2 . Let Γ' be a 5-chart illustrated in Fig. 35 and F be a surface knot

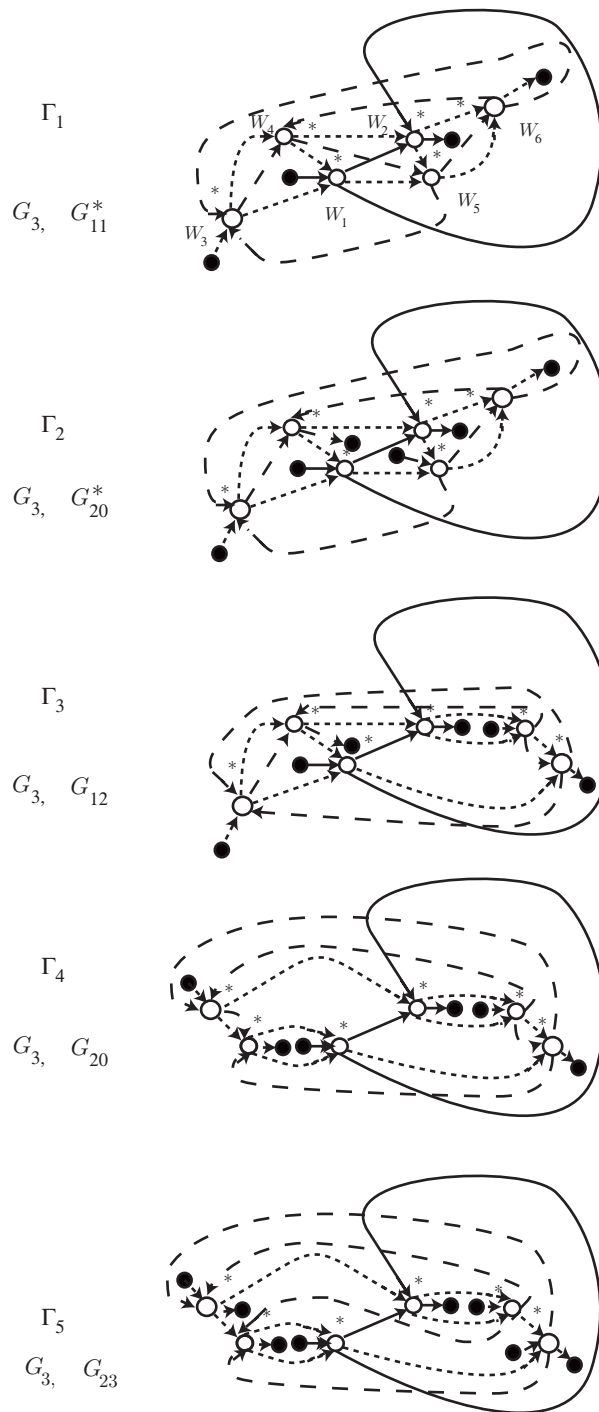


FIGURE 30

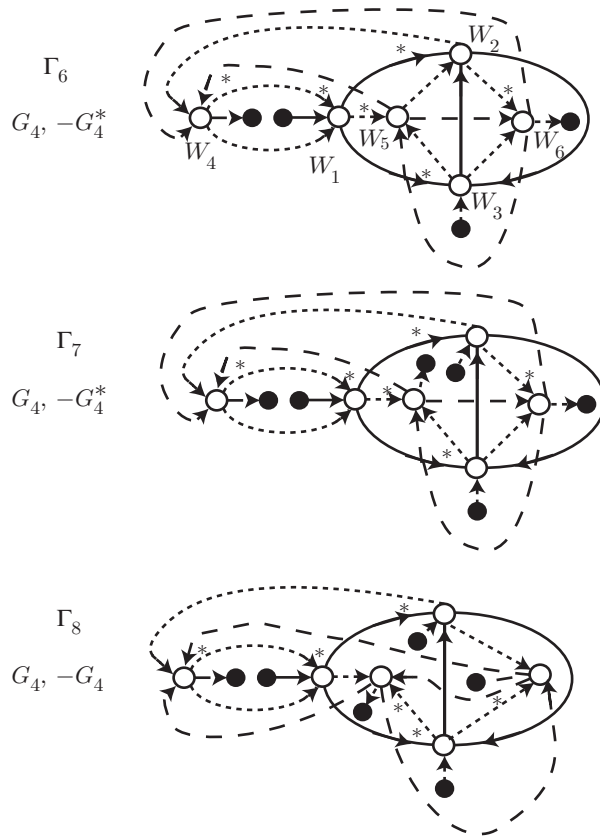


FIGURE 31

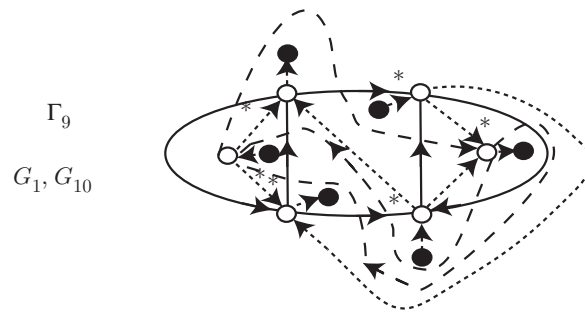


FIGURE 32

presented by Γ' . Then, $S_{\theta_3}(\Gamma) = S_{\theta_3}(\Gamma') = \{0, 0, 0, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2\}$. On the other hand, F is T_2 with trivial g_1 1-handles. This completes the proof. \square

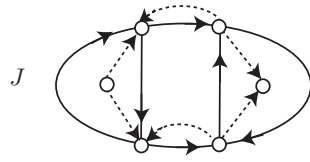


FIGURE 33

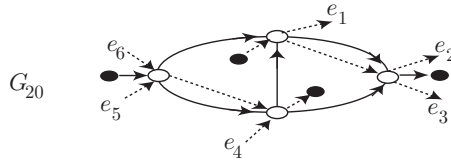


FIGURE 34

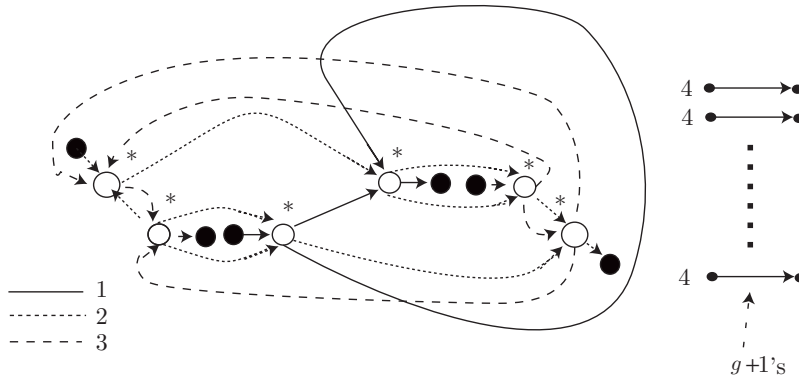


FIGURE 35

	type (A)	type (B)
—————	i	$i+2$
.....	$i+1$	$i+1$
- - - - -	$i+2$	i

FIGURE 36

6. PROOF OF LEMMA 5.4

In this section, we will prove Lemma 5.4 and we assume that p is an odd prime integer $\neq 3$.

It is remarked that $\Gamma_i = -\Gamma_i \neq \Gamma_i^* = -\Gamma_i^*$ for $i = 1, 2, 4, 5$ and $\Gamma_i, \Gamma_i^*, -\Gamma_i$ and $-\Gamma_i^*$ are mutually different for $i = 3, 6, 7, 8, 9$. In §5, there are two types (A),(B) of a choice of labels of Γ_i (cf. Fig. 36), but their presented surface braids S, S' are equivalent as surface links. Thus, $S_i = S_i^* \neq -S_i = -S_i^*$ for $i = 8$ and $S_i = -S_i^* \neq S_i^* = -S_i$ for $i = 6, 7$. In particular, we consider only Γ_i, Γ_i^* for $i = 1, 6$.

Let W_1, \dots, W_6 be white vertices of Γ_1, Γ_6 as in Figs. 30, 31. Let W_s be a white vertex of Γ_i^* corresponding to W_s of Γ_i for each i, s . By solving the similar simultaneous equations as in the proof of Lemma 4.1, there are p^2 R_p -edge-colorings of $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_6, \Gamma_1^*, \Gamma_6^*$ and all R_p -edge-colorings of Γ_i, Γ_i^* are trivial for $i \neq 1, 6$. Each weight at W_s of $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_6, \Gamma_1^*, \Gamma_6^*$ is given in Table 1. Their colorings are determined by $a, b \in R_p$, so we denote them by $EC(a, b)$.

TABLE 1. $a, b \in R_p(R_3), c = a * b, d = (b * a) * b, e = b * a$

	W_1	W_2	W_3	W_4	W_5	W_6
Γ_1	$-\theta_p(a, b, a)$	$\theta_p(b, a, b)$	$-\theta_p(b * a, a, b * a)$	$-\theta_p(b * a, b, a)$	$\theta_p(b, a * b, a)$	$\theta_p(a, b, a)$
Γ_1^*	$-\theta_p(a * d, b * d, c * d)$	$\theta_p(b, c, d)$	$-\theta_p(b, c, d)$	$-\theta_p(a, b, d)$	$\theta_p(a, c, d)$	$\theta_p(a, b, c)$
Γ_6	$-\theta_p(a, b, a)$	$\theta_p(a, b, e)$	$\theta_p(b, a, e)$	$-\theta_p(b, a, e)$	$\theta_p(a * b, a, e)$	$\theta_p(a * e, b * e, a * e)$
Γ_6^*	$-\theta_p(a, b, a)$	$\theta_p(e, b, a)$	$\theta_p(e, a, b)$	$-\theta_p(b, a, e)$	$\theta_p(c * b, a * b, a)$	$\theta_p(a, b, a)$

Given Γ_1 ,

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{W}_{\theta_p}(EC(a, b)) &= +\theta_p(b, a, b) - \theta_p(b * a, a, b * a) - \theta_p(b * a, b, a) + \theta_p(b, a * b, a) \\ &= \frac{b-a}{p}(a^p + (2b-a)^p - 2b^p) \\ &\quad - \frac{a-b}{p}(a^p + (3a-2b)^p - 2(2a-b)^p) \\ &\quad - \frac{2(a-b)}{p}(b^p + (2a-b)^p - 2a^p) \\ &\quad + \frac{a-b}{p}((2b-a)^p + (3a-2b)^p - 2a^p) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Given Γ_1^* ,

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{W}_{\theta_p}(EC(a, b)) &= -\theta_p(a * d, b * d, c * d) - \theta_p(a, b, d) + \theta_p(a, c, d) + \theta_p(a, b, c) \\ &= -\frac{b-a}{p}((2d-b)^p + d^p - 2(2d-c)^p) \\ &\quad - \frac{a-b}{p}(b^p + (2d-b)^p - 2d^p) \\ &\quad + \frac{2(a-b)}{p}(c^p + (2d-c)^p - 2d^p) + \frac{a-b}{p}(b^p + d^p - 2c^p) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Given Γ_6 ,

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{W}_{\theta_p}(EC(a, b)) &= -\theta_p(a, b, a) + \theta_p(a, b, c) + \theta_p(a * b, a, c) + \theta_p(a * c, b * c, a * c) \\ &= -\frac{a-b}{p}(b^p + c^p - 2a^p) + \frac{a-b}{p}(b^p + (2c-b)^p - 2c^p) \\ &\quad + \frac{2(b-a)}{p}(a^p + (2c-a)^p - 2c^p) \\ &\quad + \frac{b-a}{p}((2c-b)^p + c^p - 2(2c-a)^p) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Given Γ_6^* ,

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{W}_{\theta_p}(EC(a, b)) &= +\theta_p(c, b, a) + \theta_p(c, a, b) - \theta_p(b, a, c) + \theta_p(c * b, a * b, a) \\ &= \frac{2(a-b)}{p}(b^p + c^p - 2a^p) + \frac{a-b}{p}(a^p + (2b-a)^p - 2b^p) \\ &\quad - \frac{b-a}{p}(a^p + (2c-a)^p - 2c^p) \\ &\quad + \frac{b-a}{p}((2b-a)^p + (2c-a)^p - 2a^p) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since all R_p -edge-colorings of Γ_i, Γ_i^* are trivial for $i \neq 1, 6$ and the above calculation results are zero, we have Lemma 5.4.

Remark 6.1. Let Γ be a chart for one of $\Gamma_i, \Gamma_i^*, -\Gamma_i, -\Gamma_i^*$ for $i = 5, 7, 9$. Then, $\Phi_{\theta_3}(\Gamma)$ includes non-zero elements.

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