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PRESENTATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS OF SURFACE SINGULAR BRAID MONOIDS

MICHAŁ JABŁONOWSKI

Dedicated to Małgorzata

ABSTRACT. The surface singular braid monoid corresponds to marked graph diagrams of knotted surfaces in braid form. In a quest to resolve linearity problem for this monoid, we will show that if it is defined on at least two or at least three strands, then its two or respectively three dimensional representations are not faithful. We will also derive new presentations for the surface singular braid monoid, one with reduced the number of defining relations, and the other with reduced the number of its singular generators. We include surface singular braid formulations of all knotted surfaces in Yoshikawa's table.

1. Introduction

The well known Artin representation of the braid group B_n may be used to calculate the group of a knot. Applying Fox' free differential calculus to this representation, we can derive the Burau representation. Its irreducible part may be used to calculate the Alexander polynomial of a knot. In [2], B. Gemein extend the Artin and the Burau representation to a representation of the Baez-Birman singular braid monoid SB_n . A monoid is said to be linear if it is isomorphic to a submonoid of matrices $M_n(K)$ for some natural number nand some field K. In [1], O. T. Dasbach and B. Gemein showed the faithfulness of the two dimensional extended Burau representation of SB_3 , therefore this monoid is linear.

It is natural then to search for a faithful representation of the surface singular braid monoid SSB_n defined in [3], where the author classified knotted surfaces in \mathbb{R}^4 that have surface singular braid index equal to one or two, and also showed that there exist infinitely many surface-link types that are closures of elements from SSB_3 . We will show in this paper that any representation of SSB_n , for

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any $n \ge 3$, to the multiplicative monoid of all 2×2 or 3×3 matrices with entries in a given field, is not faithful. We will also derive new presentations for the surface singular braid monoid, one with reduced the number of defining relations, and the other with reduced the number of its defining non-classical generators.

2. Marked graph diagrams

An embedding (or its image) of a closed (i.e., compact, without boundary) surface into \mathbb{R}^4 is called a *knotted surface* (or *surface-link*). Two knotted surfaces are *equivalent* (or have the same *type*) if there exists an orientation preserving homeomorphism of the four-space \mathbb{R}^4 to itself (or equivalently autohomeomorphism of the four-sphere \mathbb{S}^4), mapping one of those surfaces onto the other. We will work in the standard smooth category. Let \mathbb{R}^3_t denote $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{t\}$ for $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

It is well known ([4, 5, 8]) that for any knotted surface F, there exists a surface-link F' satisfying the following: F' is equivalent to F and has only finitely many Morse's critical points, all maximal points of F' lie in \mathbb{R}^3_1 , all minimal points of F' lie in \mathbb{R}^3_{-1} , all saddle points of F' lie in \mathbb{R}^3_0 .

The zero section $\mathbb{R}^3_0 \cap F'$ of the surface F' gives us then a 4-valent graph. We assign to each vertex a *marker* that informs us about one of the two possible types of saddle points (see Fig. 1) depending on the shape of $\mathbb{R}^3_{-\epsilon} \cap F'$ or $\mathbb{R}^3_{\epsilon} \cap F'$ for a small real number $\epsilon > 0$. The resulting graph is called a *marked graph*.

Making now a projection in general position of this graph to \mathbb{R}^2 and assigning types of classical crossings between regular arcs, we obtain a *marked graph diagram*. For a marked graph diagram D, we denote by $L_+(D)$ and $L_-(D)$ the diagrams obtained from D by smoothing every vertex as presented in Fig. 1 for $+\epsilon$ and $-\epsilon$, respectively.



FIGURE 1. Rules for smoothing a marker.

Theorem 1 ([6,7,9]). Any two marked graph diagrams representing the same type of knotted surface are related by a finite sequence of Yoshikawa local moves presented in Fig. 2 (and an isotopy of the diagram in \mathbb{R}^2).

3. Surface singular braid monoid

We can present every marked diagram of a surface-link in a *braid form* defined as the geometric closure of a singular braid with markers. We have the



FIGURE 2. A generating set of Yoshikawa moves (compare [10]).

monoid SSB_m that corresponds to marked graph diagrams in braid form on m strands. For m = 1 this monoid is trivial with one element, let us assume that m > 1. Elements of SSB_m , called *surface singular braids*, are generated by four types of elements a_i, b_i, c_i, c_i^{-1} for $i = 1, \ldots, m - 1$, where the correspondence of types of crossings and types of markers between *i*-th and *i* + 1-th strand (in the horizontal position, numbered from the top to the bottom) is presented in Fig. 3.



FIGURE 3. The correspondence of monoid generators.

Definition 2 ([3]). Let $m \in \mathbb{Z}$, m > 1 and $i, k, n \in \{1, \ldots, m-1\}$ such that |k-i| = 1, moreover let $x_i, y_i \in \{a_i, b_i, c_i, c_i^{-1}\}$. Monoid SSB_m is subject to the following relations.

(A1) $c_i c_i^{-1} = 1$, (A2) $x_i y_n = y_n x_i$ for $n \neq k$, (A3) $x_i c_k c_i = c_k c_i x_k$, (A4) $x_i c_k^{-1} c_i^{-1} = c_k^{-1} c_i^{-1} x_k$, (A5) $a_i b_k = b_k a_i$, (A6) $a_i b_{i-2} (c_{i-1} c_{i-2} c_i c_{i-1})^2 = a_i b_{i-2}$ for i > 2, (A7) $b_i a_{i-2} (c_{i-1} c_{i-2} c_i c_{i-1})^2 = b_i a_{i-2}$ for i > 2, (A8) $a_i^2 = a_i$, (A9) $b_i^2 = b_i$,

(A10) $a_i b_i c_i^2 = a_i b_i$, (A11) $a_i b_k (c_i c_k c_i)^2 = a_i b_k.$

We will indicate our closure of a marked graph diagram in a braid form by adding square brackets around its words and adding lower index after it, saying how many strands we are joining. Let us further denote by CSB_m a subset of SSB_m containing only those elements x such that $L_+([x]_m)$ and $L_-([x]_m)$ are diagrams of trivial classical links. We define the following additional relations on closed braids.

(C1) $[x_iS_n]_n = [S_nx_i]_n$ for $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ and i < n and $x_iS_n \in CSB_n$, (C2) $[S_n]_n = [S_nx_n]_{n+1}$ for $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ and $S_n \in CSB_n$.

Theorem 3 ([3]). Making change in a closed braid word formulation of a knotted surface by using one of relations from (A1)-(A11) or (C1)-(C2), we receive a formula of a knotted surface of the same type.

Proposition 4. The monoid SSB_m for $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ and m > 1 is generated by a_i, b_i, c_i, c_i^{-1} for $i, j \in \{1, \ldots, m-1\}$, $x_i, y_i \in \{a_i, b_i, c_i, c_i^{-1}\}$ and is subject to the following relations:

(R1)
$$c_i c_i^{-1} = 1 = c_i^{-1} c_i,$$

(R2)
$$x_i y_j = y_j x_i \qquad \qquad for \ |i - j| > 1,$$

(R3)
$$a_i c_i = c_i a_i.$$

(R4)
$$b_i c_i = c_i b_i,$$

(R5)
$$c_{i+1}c_ic_{i+1} = c_ic_{i+1}c_i$$
 for $i < m - 1$

(R6)
$$a_{i+1}c_ic_{i+1} = c_ic_{i+1}a_i$$
 for $i < m-1$,

(R7)
$$b_{i+1}c_ic_{i+1} = c_ic_{i+1}b_i$$
 for $i < m-1$,
(R8) $a_ic_{i+1}c_i = c_{i+1}c_ia_{i+1}$ for $i < m-1$.

(R9)
$$b_i c_{i+1} c_i = c_{i+1} c_i b_{i+1}$$
 for $i < m - 1$,
 $b_i c_{i+1} c_i = c_{i+1} c_i b_{i+1}$

(R10)
$$a_i b_{i+1} = b_{i+1} a_i$$
 for $i < m - 1$,

(R11)
$$a_i b_i = b_i a_i,$$

(B12)
$$a_{i}^{2} = a_{i}$$

$$(R13) b_i^2 = b_i$$

$$(\mathbf{D} \mathbf{1} \mathbf{4}) \qquad \qquad \mathbf{b} \mathbf{1} \mathbf{2} \mathbf{2} \mathbf{3} \mathbf{1}$$

(R14)
$$a_i b_i c_i = a_i b_i,$$
(R15)
$$a_i b_i (a_i a_i a_i)^2 = a_i b_i$$

(R15)
$$a_i o_{i+1} (c_i c_{i+1} c_i)^2 = a_i o_{i+1}$$
 for $i < m-1$,

(R16)
$$a_i b_{i+2} (c_{i+1} c_i c_{i+2} c_{i+1})^2 = a_i b_{i+2}$$
 for $i < m-2$.

Proof. Some relations from (A2)-(A4) that includes c_i^{-1} are known, from classical singular braid theory, to follow from (R1)-(R9). The remaining relations are either the same or derived as follows.

Sometimes (for computational reasons) we want to have less generators and therefore the following presentation is useful.

Proposition 5. The monoid SSB_n for $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and n > 1 is generated by a, b and c_i, c_i^{-1} for i = 1, ..., n - 1 and is subject to the following relations:

$$(m13) b^2 = b,$$

$$(m14) ac_1b = ac_1^{-1}b,$$

(m15)
$$a(c_1c_2c_1)b = a(c_1c_2c_1)^{-1}b,$$

(m16)
$$a(c_2c_3c_1c_2)b = a(c_2c_3c_1c_2)^{-1}b.$$

Proof. Set $a = a_1, b = b_1$ and introduce

$$a_{i+1} = c_i c_{i+1} a_i c_{i+1}^{-1} c_i^{-1}, \ b_{i+1} = c_i c_{i+1} b_i c_{i+1}^{-1} c_i^{-1}$$

for i > 1 from the relations (R6), (R7). The relations (R1), (R5) are the same as (m1), (m3) respectively. From the proof of Prop. 2.2 in [1] (when τ is replaced here either by a or b, and σ is replaced by c), it follows that:

- (1) the relations $a_1a_3 = a_3a_1$, $b_1b_3 = b_3b_1$ (part of (R2)) follow from the relations (m1), (m8), (m9), (R6), (R7),
- (2) other relations from (R2) follow from (m1)-(m5), (R6), (R7),
- (3) the relations (R3), (R4) follow from (m1)-(m3), (R6), (R7),
- (4) the relations (R8), (R9) follow from (m1), (m6), (m7), (R6), (R7).

For i = 1, the relations (m10), (m14)-(m16) are easily equivalent to (R10), (R14)-(R16) respectively. Moreover, for i = 1 the relations (R11)-(R13) are the same as (m11)-(m13) respectively. We now derive the relations (R10)-(R16) for i > 1. The relation (R10) follows from (m10) and the following inductive step

$$a_{i}b_{i+1} = c_{i-1}c_{i}a_{i-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}c_{i-1}b_{i+1}c_{i-1}^{-1} = c_{i-1}c_{i}a_{i-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}b_{i}c_{i+1}^{-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}$$
$$= c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}a_{i-1}b_{i}c_{i+1}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1} \stackrel{\text{ind.}}{=} c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}b_{i}a_{i-1}c_{i+1}^{-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}$$
$$= b_{i+1}c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}a_{i} = b_{i+1}a_{i}.$$

The relation (R11) follows from (m11) and the following inductive step

$$a_{i}b_{i} = a_{i}c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}b_{i} = c_{i-1}c_{i}a_{i-1}b_{i-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1} \stackrel{\text{ind.}}{=} c_{i-1}c_{i}b_{i-1}a_{i-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}$$
$$= b_{i}c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}a_{i} = b_{i}a_{i}.$$

The relation (R12) follows from (m12) and the following inductive step

$$a_i^2 = a_i a_i = a_i c_{i-1} c_i c_i^{-1} c_{i-1}^{-1} a_i = c_{i-1} c_i a_{i-1} a_{i-1} c_i^{-1} c_{i-1}^{-1} \stackrel{\text{ind.}}{=} c_{i-1} c_i a_{i-1} c_i^{-1} c_{i-1}^{-1}$$
$$= a_i c_{i-1} c_i c_i^{-1} c_{i-1}^{-1} = a_i.$$

The relation (R13) follows from (m13) by the similar argument as in the relation (R12).

The relation (R14) follows from (m14) and the following inductive step

$$a_{i}b_{i}c_{i}^{2} = a_{i}b_{i}c_{i-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}c_{i}c_{i-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}c_{i} = a_{i}b_{i}c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i}$$
$$= c_{i-1}c_{i}a_{i-1}b_{i-1}c_{i-1}^{2}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1} \stackrel{\text{ind.}}{=} c_{i-1}c_{i}a_{i-1}b_{i-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}$$
$$= a_{i}b_{i}c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1} = a_{i}b_{i}.$$

The relation (R15) follows from (m15) and the following inductive step

$$\begin{aligned} a_{i}b_{i+1}(c_{i}c_{i+1}c_{i})^{2} &= c_{i-1}c_{i}a_{i-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}c_{i-1}b_{i+1}c_{i-1}^{-1}(c_{i}c_{i+1}c_{i})^{2} \\ &= c_{i-1}c_{i}a_{i-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}b_{i}c_{i+1}^{-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}(c_{i}c_{i+1}c_{i})(c_{i}c_{i+1}c_{i}) \\ &= c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}a_{i-1}b_{i}c_{i+1}^{-1}c_{i-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}c_{i+1}c_{i}(c_{i}c_{i+1}c_{i}) \\ &= c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}a_{i-1}b_{i}c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}c_{i}(c_{i}c_{i+1}c_{i}) \\ &= c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}a_{i-1}b_{i}(c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i-1})c_{i+1}^{-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}(c_{i}c_{i+1}c_{i}) \\ &= c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}a_{i-1}b_{i}(c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i-1})^{2}c_{i+1}^{-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1} \\ &= c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}a_{i-1}b_{i}c_{i-1}^{-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1} \\ &= a_{i}c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}a_{i-1}b_{i}c_{i-1}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1} \\ &= a_{i}c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}b_{i+1} = a_{i}b_{i+1}. \end{aligned}$$

The relation (R16) follows from (m16) and the following inductive step

$$\begin{aligned} a_{i}b_{i+2}(c_{i+1}c_{i}c_{i+2}c_{i+1})^{2} \\ &= c_{i-1}c_{i}a_{i-1}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}c_{i-1}c_{i}b_{i+2}c_{i}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}(c_{i+1}c_{i}c_{i+2}c_{i+1})^{2} \\ &= c_{i-1}c_{i}a_{i-1}c_{i+1}c_{i+2}b_{i+1}c_{i+2}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}(c_{i+1}c_{i}c_{i+2}c_{i+1})^{2} \\ &= c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}c_{i+2}a_{i-1}b_{i+1}(c_{i}c_{i-1}c_{i+1}c_{i})^{2}c_{i+2}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1} \\ &\stackrel{\text{ind.}}{=} c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}c_{i+2}a_{i-1}b_{i+1}c_{i+2}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1} \\ &= a_{i}c_{i-1}c_{i}c_{i+1}c_{i+2}c_{i+2}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}c_{i-1}^{-1}b_{i+2} = a_{i}b_{i+2}. \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 6 ([3]). We have the following all (un)knotted surfaces whose surface singular braids can be defined with two strands $\mathbb{P}^2_+ = [ac_1]_2$, $\mathbb{P}^2_- = [ac_1^{-1}]_2$, $\mathbb{T}^2 = [ab]_2$, $\mathbb{KB}^2 = [abc_1]_2$, $\mathbb{S}^2 = [c_1]_2$, $\mathbb{S}^2 \sqcup \mathbb{S}^2 = [1]_2$. The n-twistspun surface-knot of the classical rational link $C[k_1, k_2, \ldots, k_{2m+1}]$ in Conway notation encodes as

$$\tau^{n}(C[k_{1},k_{2},\ldots,k_{2m+1}]) = [ac_{2}^{k_{2m+1}}c_{1}^{-k_{2m}}\cdots c_{2}^{k_{1}}bc_{2}^{-k_{1}}c_{1}^{k_{2}}\cdots c_{2}^{-k_{2m+1}}(c_{1}c_{2}c_{1})^{2n}]_{3}$$

Some of knotted surfaces in Yoshikawa's table are included in the above case as follows: $6_1^{0,1} = \tau^0(C[2]), 8_1 = \tau^0(C[3]), 10_1 = \tau^0(C[2,1,1]), 10_2 = \tau^2(C[3]), 10_3 = \tau^3(C[3]), 10_1^{0,1} = \tau^0(C[4])$. These and algebraic formulations of other knotted surfaces in Yoshikawa's table are summarized in Table 1.

Proposition 7. In the monoid SSB_n for $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and n > 1 the following relations hold.

- (e1) $abc_1 \neq ab$,
- (e2) $ac_1^2 \neq a,$
- (e3) $bc_1^2 \neq b$,
- (e4) $ac_2 \neq c_2 a$ for n > 2,
- (e5) $bc_2 \neq c_2 b$ for n > 2,

Name(s) of knotted surface	Surface singular braid form
0_1 , unknotted \mathbb{S}^2	$[1]_1$
2_1^1 , unknotted \mathbb{T}^2	$[ab]_2$
2_1^{-1} , unknotted \mathbb{P}^2_+	$[ac_1]_2$
unknotted \mathbb{P}^2_{-}	$[bc_1]_2$
unknotted \mathbb{KB}^2	$[abc_1]_2$
$7^{0,-2}_{1}$	$[abc_2^{-1}c_1^{-2}c_2^{-1}c_1^{-1}]_3$
$10^{0,1}_{2}$	$[ab(c_2c_1^2c_2)^2]_3$
τ^n (rational link $C[k_1, k_2, \dots, k_{2m+1}]$)	$[ac_2^{k_{2m+1}}c_1^{-k_{2m}}\cdots c_2^{k_1}bc_2^{-k_1}c_1^{k_2}\cdots c_2^{-k_{2m+1}}(c_1c_2c_1)^{2n}]_3$
$8_1^{1,1}$, spun surface of Hopf link	$[(abc_2^{-1}c_3^{-1}c_1c_2)^2]_4$
$8^{-1,-1}_{1}$	$[bc_2^{-1}c_1^{-1}c_2c_1^2c_3^{-1}c_2bc_2^{-1}c_1^{-1}c_2^{-1}c_1^2c_3^{-1}c_2]_4$
$9^{0,1}_1$	$[abc_2^{-1}c_3^{-1}c_2^2c_3^{-1}c_2c_1^2c_2]_4$
$9_1^{1,-2}$	$[(abc_2^{-1}c_3^{-1}c_1c_2)^2c_1^{-1}]_4$
10_1^1 , spun torus of the trefoil	$\left[ac_{2}c_{3}c_{1}c_{2}bc_{2}^{-1}c_{1}^{-1}c_{3}^{-1}c_{2}^{3}c_{3}c_{1}c_{2}ac_{2}^{-1}c_{1}^{-1}c_{3}^{-1}c_{2}^{-1}bc_{2}^{-3}\right]_{4}$
$10^{1,1}_{1}$	$[ac_2^{-1}c_1^{-1}c_3c_2^{-1}bc_2^{-1}c_1^2c_2ac_2^{-1}c_1^{-1}c_3^{-1}c_2bc_2^2]_4$
$10^{0,0,1}_{1}$	$[abc_3c_2^{-1}c_1^{-2}c_2^{-1}c_3^{-1}c_2c_1^2c_2]_4$
$10^{0,-2}_{1}$	$[abc_2^{-1}c_1^{-1}c_2^{-1}c_1^{-1}c_3c_2^{-2}c_3]_4$
$10^{0,-2}_{2}$	$[ac_{2}^{-1}c_{3}c_{2}c_{1}^{-1}c_{2}^{2}bc_{2}^{-1}c_{1}^{-1}c_{3}^{-1}c_{2}^{-1}c_{1}c_{2}^{-1}]_{4}$
$10^{-1,-1}_{1}$	$[ac_2^{-1}c_1^{-1}c_3^{-1}c_2bc_2c_1^{-1}c_2c_3c_2^{-1}c_1c_2^{-1}c_1^2c_2]_4$
$10^{-2,-2}_{1}$	$[(abc_2^{-1}c_3^{-1}c_1c_2c_1^{-1})^2]_4$
91	$ \begin{bmatrix} ac_2^{-1}c_1^{-1}c_3^{-1}c_2^{-1}c_4^{-1}c_3^{-2}c_2c_1^{-1}c_3c_2c_3c_4c_2c_3c_1c_2bc_2^{-1}\cdot \\ \cdot c_1^{-1}c_3^{-1}c_2^{-1}c_4^{-1}c_5^{-1}c_4^{-1}c_5c_7^{-1}c_6^{-1}c_4^{-1}c_3^{-1}c_4c_2^{-1}c_3^{-1}\cdot \\ \end{bmatrix} $
	$ \cdot c_1 c_2^{-1} c_4 c_5 c_4 c_3 c_4 c_5^{-1} c_6 c_5^{-1} c_4^{-1} c_7 c_6 c_5 c_3 c_4 c_2 c_3 c_1 c_2]_8$

TABLE 1. Surface singular braid formulations of knotted surfaces.

(e6)
$$c_1c_2 \neq c_2c_1$$
 for $n > 2$,

(e7) $(c_1c_2c_1)^2 \neq 1$ for n > 2.

Proof. For elements of the monoid SSB_n it follows that (see Theorem 3 and Proposition 6):

$$[abc_1]_n = \mathbb{KB}^2 \sqcup \underbrace{\mathbb{S}^2 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup \mathbb{S}^2}_{n-2} \neq \mathbb{T}^2 \sqcup \underbrace{\mathbb{S}^2 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup \mathbb{S}^2}_{n-2} = [ab]_n,$$
$$[ac_1]_n = [bc_1^{-1}]_n = \mathbb{P}^2_+ \sqcup \underbrace{\mathbb{S}^2 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup \mathbb{S}^2}_{n-2} \neq \mathbb{P}^2_- \sqcup \underbrace{\mathbb{S}^2 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup \mathbb{S}^2}_{n-2} = [bc_1]_n = [ac_1^{-1}]_n.$$

This implies the relations (e1)-(e3). Consider now the spun 2-knot of the trefoil, it is the well known nontrivial 2-knot, as its group is isomorphic to the group of the classical trefoil. It follows from Prop. 6 that this knotted 2-sphere can be presented as $\tau^0(T(2,3)) = [ac_2^{-3}bc_2^3]_3$, we also have trivial 2-sphere $\tau^1(T(2,3)) = [ac_2^{-3}bc_2^3(c_1c_2c_1)^2]_3$ (see [11] for the proof), therefore we have

$$\mathbb{T}^2 \sqcup \bigsqcup_{n-2} \mathbb{S}^2 = [ab]_n \neq [ac_2^{-3}bc_2^3]_n \neq [ac_2^{-3}bc_2^3(c_1c_2c_1)^2]_n$$
$$\neq [abc_1c_2]_n = \mathbb{KB}^2 \sqcup \bigsqcup_{n-3} \mathbb{S}^2.$$

This, together with the relations (m1), (m3)-(m7), (m14), (m15) implies the relations (e4)-(e7). \Box

4. Representations

Let K throughout this paper denote a field. By a representation of a monoid D of dimension n over K we mean a homomorphism ρ of D into the multiplicative monoid of $M_n(K)$ of all $n \times n$ matrices with entries in K. If ρ is injective, then the representation is said to be *faithful*. Denote I_t and 0_t the identity matrix and the zero matrix of size $t \times t$ respectively.

Proposition 8. For $n, m \ge 2$ and any faithful representation $\phi : SSB_n \rightarrow C$ $M_m(K)$, there is a faithful representation $\rho: SSB_n \to M_m(K)$ such that:

- $\rho(a) = I_s \oplus 0_{m-s}$ where $s \in \{1, ..., m-1\},\$ (p1)
- $\rho(b) \notin \{0_m, I_m\},\$ (p2) $\rho(a) \neq \rho(b),$ (p3) $\rho(a)\rho(b) \neq \rho(a),$ (p4) $\rho(a)\rho(b) \neq \rho(b),$ (p5)(p6) $\rho(a)\rho(b)\rho(c_1) \neq \rho(a)\rho(b),$
- $\rho(a)\rho(c_2) \neq \rho(c_2)\rho(a)$ for n > 2, (p7)for n > 2, $\rho(b)\rho(c_2) \neq \rho(c_2)\rho(b)$ (p8)
- for n > 2, $\rho(c_1)\rho(c_2) \neq \rho(c_2)\rho(c_1)$ (p9)for n > 2,
- $(\rho(c_1)\rho(c_2)\rho(c_1))^2 \neq I_m$ (p10)
- $\rho(a)\rho(c_1)^2 \neq \rho(a),$ (p11)
- $\rho(b)\rho(c_1)^2 \neq \rho(b).$ (p12)

Let us recall the following property of idempotent matrix.

Lemma 9. If a matrix X with entries in a field K satisfies $X^2 = X$, then it is diagonalizable and all its eigenvalues are either 0 or 1.

Proof. Consider X as an endomorphism operator on a vector space V. Take any nonzero vector $u \in imX$, then there exists $v \in V$ such that Xv = u, from the idempotency relation $X^2 = X$ we have u = Xv = XXv = Xu which yields $u \notin \ker X$, so we have $V = \operatorname{im} X \oplus \ker X$, therefore X is diagonalizable. If λ is its eigenvalue, then there exists nonzero vector $v \in V$ such that $\lambda v = Xv =$ $X^2v = X\lambda v = \lambda^2 v$. We must have then that $\lambda(\lambda - 1) = 0$, and because K is a field, this implies $\lambda \in \{0, 1\}$. \square

Proof of Proposition 8. The monoid $M_m(K)$ of $m \times m$ matrices over K can be identified with $\operatorname{End}_{K}(V)$, the monoid of endomorphisms of a vector space V over K of finite dimension m. Applying Lemma 9 for $X = \phi(a)$, we can conclude that there exists a matrix $P \in GL_m(K)$ such that $P^{-1}\phi(a)P = I_s \oplus$ 0_{m-s} , where $s \in \{0, \ldots, m\}$. We define a new representation by setting $\rho(x) = P^{-1}\phi(x)P$ for any $x \in SSB_n$, and now its injectivity follows immediately from injectivity of ϕ . It proves (p1) beside the cases s = 0, s = m which will be excluded later.

From Proposition 7 we have $abc_1 \neq ab$, $ac_1^2 \neq a$ and $bc_1^2 \neq b$, and together with the relations (m1) and (m12)-(m14) we moreover have $a \neq b$, $b \neq 1$, $a \neq 1$, hence from injectivity of ρ we have the cases (p2), (p3), (p6), (p11), (p12) and remaining cases s = 0, s = m from (p1). The relations (p4) and (p5) follow from (m14) together with (p11) and (p12) respectively. The remaining relations (p7)-(p10) follow directly from (e4)-(e7).

Proposition 10. If a representation $\rho : SSB_n \to M_m(K)$ for $n, m \ge 2$ satisfies $rank(\rho(a)) = 1$ or $rank(\rho(b)) = 1$, then ρ is not faithful.

Proof. From the symmetric role of a and b in SSB_n , we can assume that rank $(\rho(a)) = 1$. Denote $A = \rho(a), B = \rho(b)$ and $B = (b_{i,j})_{i,j \in \{1,\ldots,m\}}$. From the relation (p1) of Proposition 8 we can assume that $A = I_1 \oplus 0_{m-1}$, then from AB = BA it follows that $b_{1,2} = \cdots = b_{1,m} = 0$ and $b_{2,1} = \cdots = b_{m,1} = 0$. This implies that $AB = (b_{1,1}) \oplus 0_{m-1}$, and combining it with $B^2 = B$ gives us the relation AB = A that contradicts the relation (p4) of Proposition 8.

From Proposition 8 and Proposition 10 we immediately have the following.

Corollary 11. No representation $\rho: SSB_n \to M_2(K)$ for $n \ge 2$ is faithful.

Example 12. A faithful representation ρ of the monoid SSB_2 can be defined (in a field of characteristic zero) as follows:

$$\rho(a) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \ \rho(b) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \ \rho(c_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Theorem 13. No representation $\rho: SSB_n \to M_3(K)$ for $n \ge 3$ is faithful.

Proof. Assume the contrary, that ρ is faithful and denote $X := \rho(x)$ for $x \in \{a, b, c_1\}$. From the relations (m11) and (m13) of Prop. 5 we have $B^2 = B$ and AB = BA. From Prop. 8 we can assume that $B \notin \{0_3, I_3\}, AB \neq A, AB \neq B$, $ABC_1 \neq AB$ and that $A = I_2 \oplus 0_1$. Let $B = (b_{i,j})_{i,j \in \{1,2,3\}}$. Then from the relation AB = BA it follows that $B = G \oplus (b_{3,3})$ for some matrix $G \in M_2(K)$. From the relation $B^2 = B$ it follows that $G^2 = G$ and $b_{3,3} \in \{0,1\}$. If $b_{3,3} = 0$, then $AB = G \oplus 0_1 = B$, a contradiction, so it follows that $b_{3,3} = 1$, and combining it with $B \neq I_3$ gives moreover detG = 0.

Consider now $C_1 = (c_{i,j})_{i,j \in \{1,2,3\}}$, from the relation (m4) it follows that $C_1 = F \oplus (c_{3,3})$ for some matrix $F \in M_2(K)$. Non-invertability of matrix G together with the relation $ABC_1 \neq AB$ implies that $G \notin \{0_2, I_2\}$ and $GF \neq G$, additionally from the relations (m1), (m5) and (m14) we have det $F \neq 0$, GF = FG and $GF^2 = G$. Consider the following two main cases.

Case (a). Assume $b_{1,1}b_{2,2}b_{1,2}b_{2,1} = 0$. Then by detG = 0 we must have that $b_{1,2}b_{2,1} = 0$. From the symmetric role of $b_{1,2}$ and $b_{2,1}$, without loss of generality, assume $b_{1,2} = 0$. Then from $G^2 = G$ and $G \notin \{0_2, I_2\}$ we obtain that G is one of the two possible forms: $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ b_{2,1} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ or $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ b_{2,1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. From GF = FG it follows that $c_{1,2} = 0$, and the relation $GF^2 = G$ together with $GF \neq G$ yields that F is one of the two possible forms $\begin{pmatrix} c_{1,1} & 0 \\ -b_{2,1}(1+c_{1,1}) & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ or $\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ -b_{2,1}(1+c_{2,2}) & c_{2,2} \end{pmatrix}$ one for each mentioned type of G respectively. Additionally from (m1) and (p11) we have that $c_{1,1} \neq 0$, $c_{1,1}^2 \neq 1$ in the first and $c_{2,2} \neq 0$, $c_{2,2}^2 \neq 1$ in the second case respectively. From (m1) and (p12) we moreover have $c_{3,3} \neq 0$ and $c_{3,3}^2 \neq 1$ in both cases.

Case (b). Assume $b_{1,1}b_{2,2}b_{1,2}b_{2,1} \neq 0$. Then from the relations (m1), (m4), (m5), (m11), (m13), (m14), (p2), (p4)-(p6), (p11) and (p12) it follows that B, C_1 are in the form:

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} b_{1,1} & b_{1,2} \\ \frac{(1-b_{1,1})b_{1,1}}{b_{1,2}} & 1-b_{1,1} \end{pmatrix} \oplus I_1,$$

$$C_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{(b_{1,1}-1)c_{1,2}-b_{1,2}}{b_{1,2}} & c_{1,2} \\ \frac{(1-b_{1,1})b_{1,1}c_{1,2}}{b_{1,2}^2} & -\frac{b_{1,1}c_{1,2}}{b_{1,2}} - 1 \end{pmatrix} \oplus (c_{3,3}),$$

for $b_{1,1}b_{1,2}c_{1,2}c_{3,3} \neq 0$, $c_{1,2} \neq -b_{1,2}$, $c_{1,2} \neq -2b_{1,2}$, $b_{1,1} \neq 1$ and $c_{3,3}^2 \neq 1$.

Introducing now a matrix $\rho(c_2)$ and making simple, but tedious computations (summarized in the following Appendix) we can show that in both of the above cases, the relations (m1), (m3), (m6), (m7), (m10), (m15), (p7), (p8) and (p10) form a self-contradictory set.

Appendix

Let $\rho(c_2) = (d_{i,j})_{i,j \in \{1,2,3\}}$, we consider further subcases. **Case (a1)**. Assume $b_{1,1} = 0$, $b_{2,2} = 1$, $c_{2,2} = -1$ and $c_{2,1} = -b_{2,1}(1 + c_{1,1})$. Consider further two cases. **Case (a1a)**. Assume $d_{3,3} = 0$. Consider further two cases. **Case (a1a1)**. Assume $d_{3,2} = 0$. From (m1) and (m3) we have $d_{3,1} \neq 0$, $d_{1,1} = c_{3,3}$, $d_{1,2} = 0$ and $d_{1,3} = 0$, a contradiction with (m1). **Case (a1a2)**. Assume $d_{3,2} \neq 0$. From (m1) and (m10) we have $d_{3,1} = b_{2,1}d_{3,2}$, now (m3) with (m6) contradict (m1). **Case (a1b1)**. Assume $d_{3,2} \neq 0$. From (m1), (m3) and (m10) we have $d_{3,1} = 0$, now (m1) with (m3) yield $d_{3,3} = c_{3,3}$. Consider further two cases.

Case (a1b1a). Assume $d_{1,2} = 0$. From (m10) we have $d_{1,3} = 0$, from (m3) it follows that $d_{1,1} = c_{1,1}$ and $d_{2,2} = -1$. Now (m6) with (p7) contradict (p10). **Case (a1b1b)**. Assume $d_{1,2} \neq 0$. From (m15) we have $d_{2,3} = \frac{1}{d_{1,2}}(d_{1,3}d_{2,2} - c_{3,3}^3d_{1,3})$ and $d_{2,1} = \frac{1}{d_{1,2}}(\frac{1}{c_{1,1}^2} + d_{1,1}d_{2,2})$. From (p7) we have $d_{1,3} \neq 0$, now (m3) with (m6) contradict (m15).

Case (a1b2). Assume $d_{3,2} \neq 0$. From (m6) we have $d_{2,1} = b_{2,1}c_{1,1}^2d_{1,1} - b_{2,1}c_{1,1}^2d_{1,1}$ $b_{2,1}d_{1,1} - \frac{c_{1,1}^2d_{1,1}d_{3,1}}{d_{3,2}} - \frac{c_{3,3}^2d_{3,1}d_{3,3}}{d_{3,2}} \text{ and } d_{2,2} = b_{2,1}c_{1,1}^2d_{1,2} - b_{2,1}d_{1,2} - \frac{c_{1,1}^2d_{1,2}d_{3,1}}{d_{3,2}} - c_{3,3}^2d_{3,3}.$ From (m3) we have $d_{2,3} = \frac{1}{d_{3,2}}(-b_{2,1}c_{1,1}d_{1,3}d_{3,2} - b_{2,1}d_{1,3}d_{3,2} - b_{2,1}d_{1,3}d_{3,2} - b_{3,1}d_{3,3}d_{3,2} - b_{3,1}d_{3,3}d_{3,3}d_{3,3}$ $c_{3,3}^2d_{3,3} + c_{3,3}d_{3,3}^2 + c_{1,1}d_{1,3}d_{3,1}$). Consider further two cases. **Case (a1b2a)**. Assume $d_{3,1} = 0$. Form (m1) and (m7) we have $d_{1,3} =$

 $\frac{d_{1,2}}{d_{3,2}}(d_{3,3} - \frac{c_{1,1}^2 d_{1,1}}{c_{3,3}^2})$. From (m3) and (m10) we obtain $d_{3,3} = \frac{-1}{c_{3,3}+1}$ and $d_{1,1} =$ $c_{1,1}$. From (m3), (m6), (m10) and (p8) we have $b_{2,1} = 0$, $c_{1,1}^3 = 1$ and $c_{3,3}^3 = 1$, a contradiction with (p10).

Case (a1b2b). Assume $d_{3,1} \neq 0$. Consider further two cases.

Case (a1b2b1). Assume $d_{1,2} = 0$. From (m3) we have $d_{1,3} = 0$, $d_{1,1} = c_{1,1}$ and $d_{3,3} = \frac{-1}{c_{3,3}+1}$. Now (m15) contradicts (p10).

Case (a1b2b2). Assume $d_{1,2} \neq 0$. Form (m1), (m7) and (m10) we have $b_{2,1} = \frac{d_{3,1}}{d_{3,2}}$ and $d_{1,1} = -\frac{c_{3,3}^2 d_{1,3} d_{3,2}}{c_{1,1}^2 d_{1,2}} + \frac{c_{3,3}^2 d_{3,3}}{c_{1,1}^2} + \frac{d_{1,2} d_{3,1}}{d_{3,2}}$. From (m3) we have $d_{3,3} = \frac{-1}{c_{3,3}+1}$, and (m15) yields $c_{3,3}^2 + c_{3,3} = -1$. This together with (m10) implies $d_{1,3} = 0$, a contradiction with (p10).

Case (a2). Assume $b_{1,1} = 1$, $b_{2,2} = 0$, $c_{1,1} = -1$ and $c_{2,1} = -b_{2,1}(1 + c_{2,2})$. Consider further two cases.

Case (a2a). Assume $d_{3,2} = 0$. Consider further two cases.

Case (a2a1). Assume $d_{1,2} = 0$. From (m1) and (m3) we have $d_{2,2} = c_{2,2}$. Consider further two cases.

Case (a2a1a). Assume $d_{1,3} = 0$. From (m1) and (m3) we have $d_{1,1} = -1$, $d_{3,3} = c_{3,3}$, from (m10) we obtain $d_{2,3} = 0$. From (p7) and (m6) we obtain $c_{3,3}^3 = 1$, from (p8) and (m7) we obtain $c_{2,2}^3 = 1$, a contradiction with (p10). **Case (a2a1b).** Assume $d_{1,3} \neq 0$. From (m3) we have $d_{1,1} = c_{3,3}(d_{3,3} + 1)$ and $d_{3,1} = -\frac{c_{3,3}d_{3,3}(c_{3,3}-d_{3,3})}{d_{1,3}}$, from (m6) we have $d_{3,3} = \frac{-1}{c_{3,3}+1}$ and $d_{1,1} =$ $\frac{c_{3,3}^2}{c_{3,3}+1}$. From (m15) we have $c_{3,3}^3 = 1$, then from (m6) and (m10) we have $d_{2,1} = b_{2,1}(-c_{2,2} + c_{3,3} + \frac{1}{c_{3,3}+1} - 1)$ and $d_{2,3} = b_{2,1}d_{1,3}$, a contradiction with

(p8).

Case (a2a2). Assume $d_{1,2} \neq 0$. From (m6) we have $d_{3,1} = 0$, and (m7) yields $d_{1,1} = b_{2,1}c_{2,2}^2d_{1,2} - b_{2,1}d_{1,2} - c_{2,2}^2d_{2,2}$. From (m1) and (m3) it follows that $d_{3,3} =$ $a_{1,1} = b_{2,1}c_{2,2}a_{1,2} \quad b_{2,1}a_{1,2} \quad b_{2,2}a_{2,2}c_{2,$

(m15) it follows that $c_{2,2}^3 = 1$, a contradiction with (p10).

(m16) is role in the 2,2 = 0, where $d_{3,2} \neq 0$. Then from (m3) we have the relations $d_{2,1} = \frac{d_{1,1}(b_{2,1}(c_{2,2}+1)d_{3,2}+d_{3,1})-c_{3,3}(b_{2,1}(c_{2,2}+1)d_{3,2}+d_{3,1}(d_{3,3}+1))}{c_{2,2}d_{3,2}},$ $d_{2,2} = \frac{d_{1,2}(b_{2,1}(c_{2,2}+1)d_{3,2}+d_{3,1})+c_{3,3}d_{3,2}(c_{2,2}-d_{3,3})}{c_{2,2}d_{3,2}}$ and

$$a_{2,2} = \frac{12(2,1(2,2)) + 0,2(2,2) + 0,3(2,2)}{c_{2,2}d_{3,2}}$$

 $d_{2,3} = \frac{d_{1,3}(b_{2,1}(c_{2,2}+1)d_{3,2}+d_{3,1}) + c_{3,3}d_{3,3}(c_{3,3}-d_{3,3})}{c_{2,2}d_{3,2}}.$ Consider further two cases.

Case (a2b1). Assume $d_{3,1} = 0$. Consider further two cases. **Case (a2b1a)**. Assume $b_{1,2} = 0$. Then (m10) implies $c_{2,2} = 0$, a contradiction

with (m1). **Case (a2b1b)**. Assume $b_{1,2} \neq 0$. Then (m10) implies $d_{1,3} = \frac{b_{2,1}d_{1,2}d_{3,3}+d_{1,1}d_{3,3}}{b_{2,1}d_{3,2}}$ again from (m10) we obtain $d_{3,2} = 0$, a contradiction.

Case (a2b2). Assume $d_{3,1} \neq 0$. Consider further two cases.

Case (a2b2a). Assume $c_{2,2} = c_{3,3}$. Then (m1) and (m15) yields $d_{1,1} = \frac{-b_{2,1}c_{2,2}^2d_{1,2}-b_{2,1}c_{2,2}d_{1,2}+1}{c_{2,2}c_{1,2}-b_{2,1}c_{2,2}d_{1,2}+1}$, later from (m10) we obtain

$$b_{2,1} = \frac{c_{2,2}^2 \left(-d_{1,3}\right) d_{3,1} - c_{2,2} d_{1,3} d_{3,1} + d_{3,3}}{\left(c_{2,2}^2 + c_{2,2}\right) d_{1,3} d_{3,2}}.$$

Again from (m10) we obtain $d_{3,3} = 0$, a contradiction with (m1). **Case (a2b2b)**. Assume $c_{2,2} \neq c_{3,3}$. Then from (m6) we have

$$d_{3,3} = \frac{(c_{2,2}+1) d_{1,2} (b_{2,1} d_{3,2} + d_{3,1}) + c_{3,3} c_{2,2}^2 d_{3,2}}{(c_{2,2} - c_{3,3}) c_{3,3} d_{3,2}},$$

from (m3) we can obtain

$$d_{1,3} = \frac{d_{1,2}(d_{1,2}(b_{2,1}(c_{2,2}+1)d_{3,2}+(c_{3,3}+1)d_{3,1}) + d_{3,2}(c_{2,2}(c_{3,3}^2+c_{3,3}+d_{1,1})-c_{3,3}d_{1,1}-c_{2,2}^2))}{(c_{2,2}-c_{3,3})c_{3,3}d_{3,2}^2}.$$

Then from (m3) we have $d_{3,1} = -b_{2,1} (c_{2,2} + 1) d_{3,2}$. Consider further two cases. **Case (a2b2b1)**. Assume $b_{1,2} = 0$. Then (m10) implies $c_{2,2} = 0$, a contradiction with (m1).

Case (a2b2b2). Assume $b_{1,2} \neq 0$. Then (m10) implies $b_{2,1} = \frac{c_{3,3}^2}{(c_{2,2}+1)d_{1,2}}$, again from (m10) we have $c_{3,3} = -1$, a contradiction.

Case (b1). Assume $d_{3,3} = 0$. Consider further two cases.

Case (b1a). Assume $d_{3,2} = 0$. From (m1) we have $d_{3,1} \neq 0$, from (m10) we have $d_{2,3} = 0$ and $d_{1,3} = 0$, a contradiction with (m1).

Case (b1b). Assume $d_{3,2} \neq 0$. From (m1) and (m10) we have $d_{3,1} = \frac{(b_{1,1}-1)d_{3,2}}{b_{1,2}}$ or $d_{3,1} = \frac{b_{1,1}d_{3,2}}{b_{1,2}}$, in both of those cases (m3) contradicts (m1).

Case (b2). Assume $d_{3,3} \neq 0$. From (m10) we have $d_{2,1} = \frac{(b_{1,1}-1)d_{2,2}}{b_{1,2}}$, $d_{3,2} = \frac{b_{1,2}d_{3,1}}{b_{1,1}}$ and $d_{2,3} = 0$. From (m1) we have $d_{2,2} \neq 0$ then (m6) yields $d_{1,3} = 0$, the relation (p7) yields $d_{3,1} \neq 0$, and (m3) yields $d_{3,3} = c_{3,3}$. Now (m3) with (m6) contradict (p10).

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MICHAL JABLONOWSKI INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICS UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW 02-097 WARSAW, POLAND AND INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICS FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS PHYSICS AND INFORMATICS UNIVERSITY OF GDAŃSK 80-308 GDAŃSK, POLAND *E-mail address*: michal.jablonowski@gmail.com