

2/OCT/2007/TUE

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(1)

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Though we will talk about representation theory - which involves groups and their actions on something - typically linear maps (invertible) on vector spaces -

nevertheless, since we'll deal with geometric rep. theory, we'll see more objects than just vector spaces.

e.g.  $\text{Diff}(M)$  = group of diffeomorphisms of a smooth manifold  
preserves the differentiable structure.

(b)

Our guiding principle is:

[ Every transformation group is the group of "something-morphisms" (!)  
for some essentially unique structure. ]

(c)

What is structure? Very vaguely, it allows us to tell elements of a set apart. For example, an axiomatic theory (involving axioms about abstract predicates) ~~allows~~ gives structure on some sets, e.g. Euclidean geometry.

In some sense, symmetry and structure are dual, & inverse to each other, in the same sense that intermediate fields are dual to Galois (sub)groups: when one of them becomes bigger, the other grows smaller.

So, we ~~will~~ now see that there are two points of view about talking about structures: one is positive like actually putting an axiomatic system on some set ...

predicates), and the other is negative, & recursive/circular/tautological: we just define the ~~symmetric~~ structure as "dual to" (and hence isomeric / identified bijectively, via) the group of transformations that is supposed to preserve it.

(2) So, we now seek a positive answer, & an axiomatic theory to the following question:  
(answer)

(a) Given a transformation group  $G \subseteq S! = \text{Perm}(S)$ , &  
 $[G = \text{group}, S = \text{set}, \text{action } G \curvearrowright S!]$

find the structure that is preserved by exactly  $G$   
(from among  $S!$ )

(b) We'll work towards this goal; ~~thus~~, a transformation group ~~preserves~~ will give rise to an axiomatic theory.

In fact, the converse is also true, and easier to do!

Given a complete (every statement is either true & false)  
axiomatic theory, with an axiom stating that  
the "universe" of the model is bounded by  $\mathbb{N}^\text{can}$   
(some)

one can ~~conclude from it~~ a ~~we have~~ can conclude that

- (1) every statement ~~is~~ is either false  
or true and provable..

② all models of the axiomatic system are isomorphic

(e.g. the plane is a model of Euclidean geometry)

Given such an axiomatic system, take some model (which one?)  
and look at its automorphism group. Thus, we get a  
→ transformation group, and it acts on the universe, and the  
→ Symmetries that it preserves, are exactly our axiomatic system!

③ How does one go the other way? I.e. from a finite transformation group (i.e.  $G, S$  are both finite, where  $G \subseteq S!$ ), find an axiomatic theory!

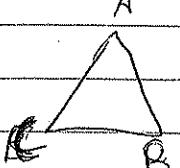
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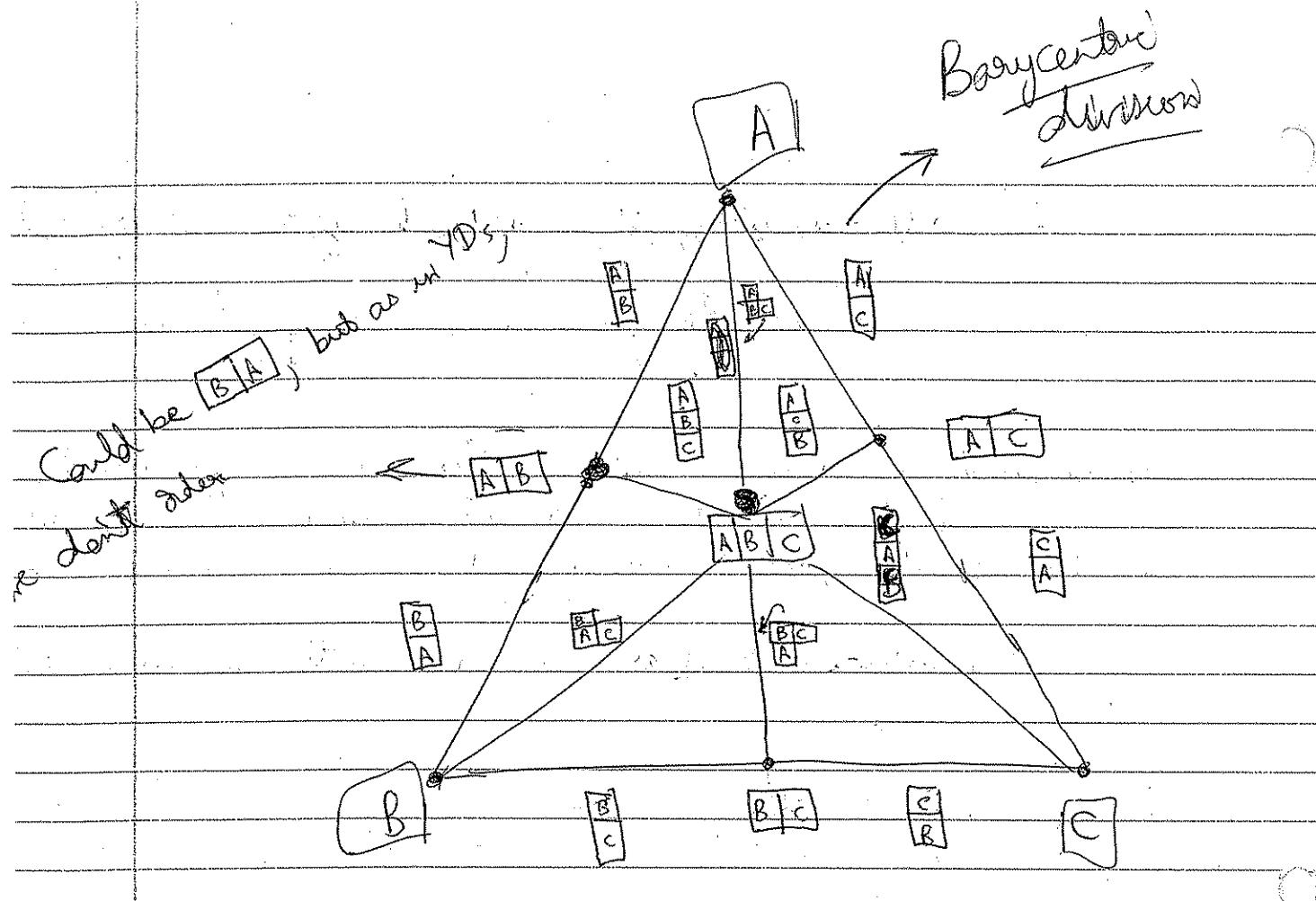
③ Back to recovering the ~~sym~~ structure (positively) from the group of Symmetries:

We'll introduce the orbisimplex picture of  $G \subseteq S!$

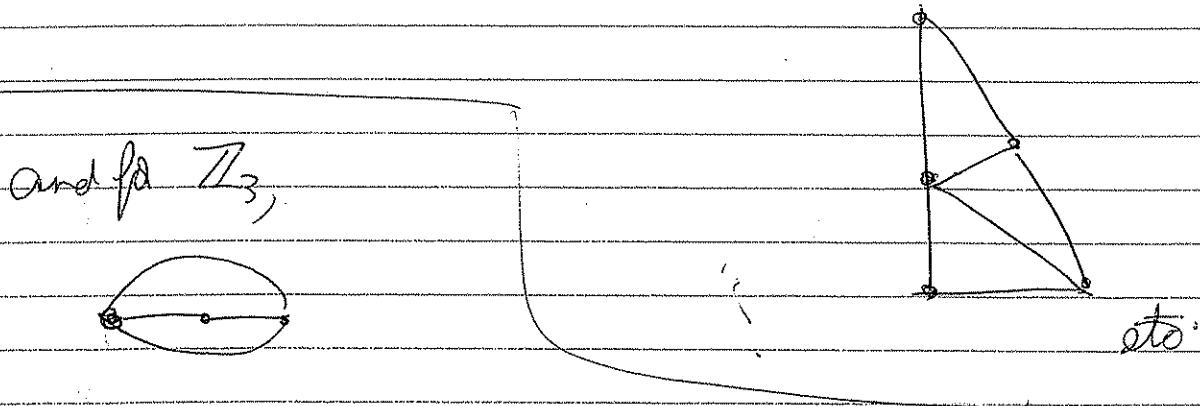
This is the orbit space of the action of  $G$  on the simplex whose vertices are the elements of  $S$ .

Example:  $S = \{A, B, C\}$ ,  $G = \text{permutations that fix } A$ . ( $\#|G| = 2$ )

We draw the simplex  and ~~then~~ draw the "pre"-picture



and having labelled the components, we now "fold" along all axes of symmetry obtained from  $G \leq S_4$  and look at this - this is the orbisimplex picture. So, e.g. for one  $G$  here, the picture would be



and for  $S_3$ ,