THE ARTIN TYPE REPRESENTATION OF BRAID GROUP AND A INVARIANT OF LINKS

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From a group H and a element $h \in H$, we define a representation $\rho : B_n \to Aut(H^{*n})$, where B_n denotes the braid group on n strands, and H^{*n} denotes the free product of n copies of H. We call ρ the Artin type representation associated to the pair (H, h). Here we study various aspects of such representations.

Firstly, we associate to each braid β a group $\Gamma_{(H,h)}(\beta)$ and prove that the operator $\Gamma_{(H,h)}$ determines a group invariant of oriented links. We then give a topological construction of the Artin type representations and of the link invariant $\Gamma_{(H,h)}$, and we prove that the Artin type representations are faithful if and only if h is nontrivial.

1 Mathematical Results

Teorema 1.1. Let β be a braid, and let $\hat{\beta}$ denote the braid closure of β . Let X be a CW-complex with basepoint P_0 and let α be a loop in X. Then

$$\pi_1(\Omega(\widehat{\beta}, X)) \simeq \Gamma_{(H,h)}(\beta) \tag{1.1}$$

where $H = \pi_1(X, P_0)$ and h is the element of H represented by α .

Teorema 1.2. Let $\rho : B_n \to Aut(H^{*n})$ be the Artin type representation of B_n associated to the pair (H,h) where H is a group and $h \in H$.

- (1) If $h \neq e_H$ then ρ is faithful.
- (2) If $h = e_H$ then $Ker(\rho)$ is the pure braid group and $B_n/Ker(\rho) \simeq \S_n$, the symmetric group, acts by permutation of the free factors of H^{*n} (respecting of the isomorphisms $\{\phi_1, \ldots, \phi_n\}$).

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