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**Rachel Davis\*** ([rachel.davis@wisc.edu](mailto:rachel.davis@wisc.edu)). *Fox calculus in Galois theory.*

Given  $C$ , a smooth genus  $g$  curve with  $n$  punctures defined over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and a prime  $\ell$ , there exists an exterior Galois representation (terminology of Nakamura) from  $G_{\mathbb{Q}}$  to the outer automorphism group of the pro- $\ell$  part of the fundamental group of  $C \otimes \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ . The image is known to lie in the pro- $\ell$  mapping class group  $\Gamma_{g,n}$ . The goal of this talk is to describe how Fox calculus and the Magnus representation can be used to further analyze the image. (Received September 16, 2016)