

Class 1 Introduction to sutured Floer homology

Office Hour: SC505 H, M 4:20-5:20 W 2:00-3:00 pm

GCA: Jiakai Li SC321 G, Th 6:00-7:00 pm

Grading 60% Homework every 2 weeks

40% Take home exam

References on webpage. Notes on slides.

Class 2 Sutured manifold

Def (Gabai) A sutured mfd (M, γ) consists of

- M compact oriented 3-mfd with boundary
 - $\gamma \subseteq \partial M$ a subset
- $\gamma = A(\gamma) \cup T(\gamma)$
- Some ref assume without ∂
we always assume $\partial \neq \emptyset$*

$T(\gamma)$: disjoint union of tori

$A(\gamma)$: disjoint union of annuli

$s(\gamma)$: core of $A(\gamma)$, oriented called suture

$R(\gamma) = \partial M \setminus \text{Int } \gamma$ oriented by $s(\gamma)$

$R(\gamma) = R_+(\gamma) \cup R_-(\gamma)$

$R_+(\gamma)$ ori points out of M (compatible w/ ∂M)

$R_-(\gamma)$ ori points in M

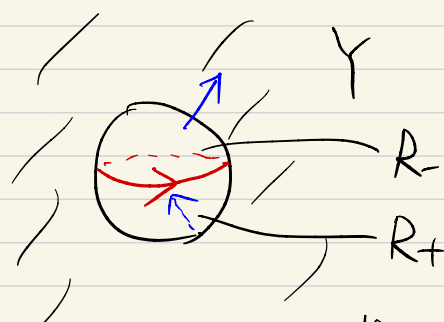
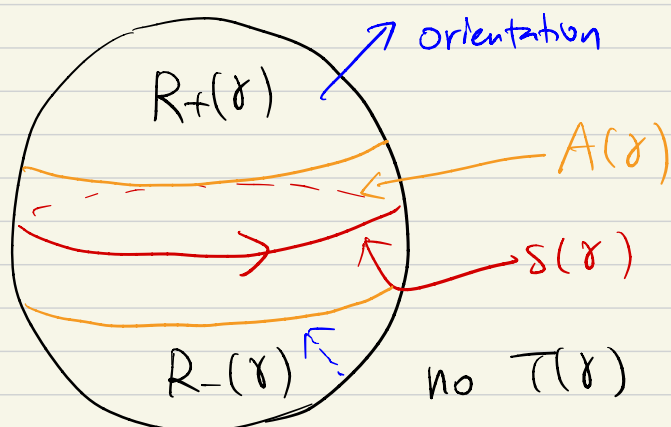
Rem usually just draw $s(\gamma)$ on ∂M

In sutured Floer homology, we only consider $T(\gamma) = \emptyset$
and write γ for $s(\gamma)$, $R_{\pm}$ for $R_{\pm}(\gamma)$

(connected, oriented)

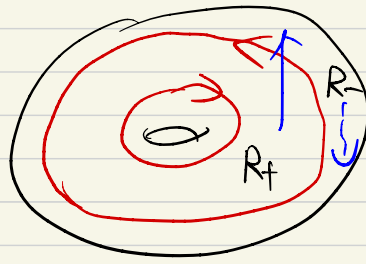
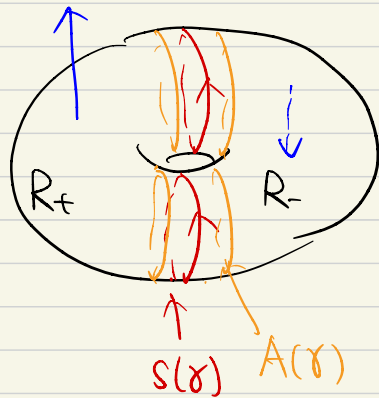
Ex • 3-ball B^3

• closed $\vee$ 3-mfd $Y - B^3$



Note $R_{\pm}(\gamma)$ are different from the left picture

- $S' \times D^2$

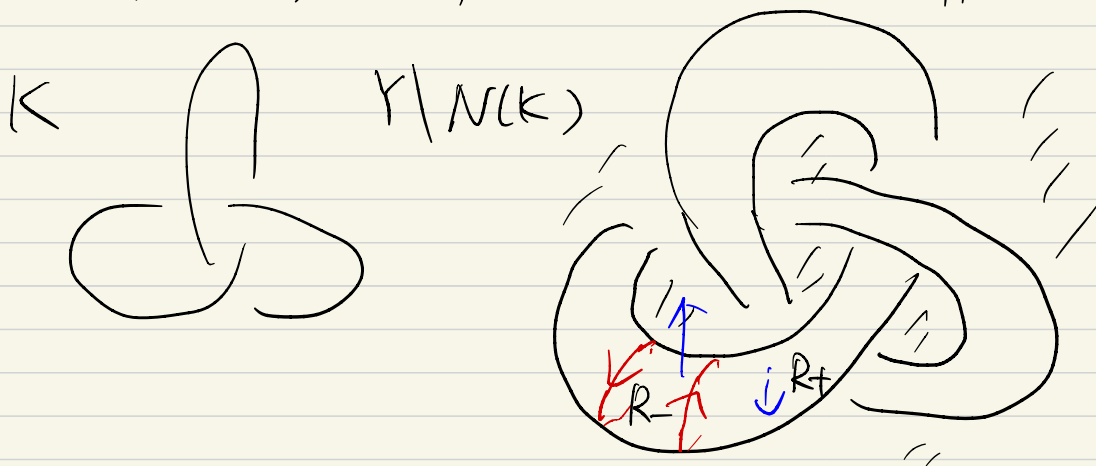


or any other two
parallel curves on
 $\partial(S' \times D^2) = T^2$

- closed 3-mfd Y , an embedding $K: S' \rightarrow Y$ called a knot
 $N(K)$ nbhd of K diffeos to $S' \times D^2$

$$M = Y \setminus \text{int } N(K)$$

γ (or $s(\gamma)$) two parallel curves with opposite orientations

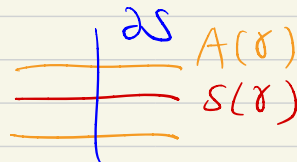


Rem An invariant of sutured mfd will
induce an inv of knots or closed 3-mfds
by above construction.

We can decompose sutured mfd into simpler pieces
by some embedded surfaces as follows

Def A decomposition surface S is a properly embedded oriented surface in M s.t. for any component λ of $\partial S \cap \gamma$, one of (1) - (3) holds

(1) λ is a properly embedded nonseparating arc in γ s.t. $|\lambda \cap S(\gamma)| = 1$



(2) λ is a simple closed curve in a component A of $A(\gamma)$ in the same homology class as the core $A \cap S(\gamma)$



(3) λ is a homological nontrivial curve in a component T of $T(\gamma)$ (all other components of $\partial S \cap \gamma$ in T are parallel to λ because of the embedding assumption)



Then S define a sutured mfd decomposition

$$(M, \gamma) \xrightarrow{S} (M', \gamma') \quad \text{where}$$

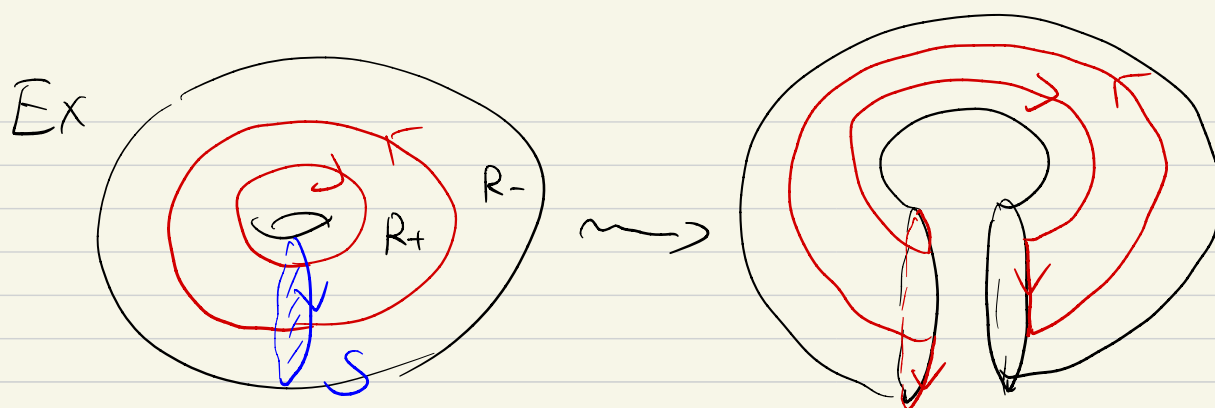
$$M' = M \setminus \text{int}(N(S)) \quad (\text{cut } M \text{ open by } S)$$

$S_{\pm}'$ are components of $\partial N(S) \cap M'$ whose orientations out of / into M'

$$\gamma' = (\gamma \cap M') \cup N(S_{+}' \cap R_{-}(\gamma)) \cup N(S_{-}' \cap R_{+}(\gamma))$$

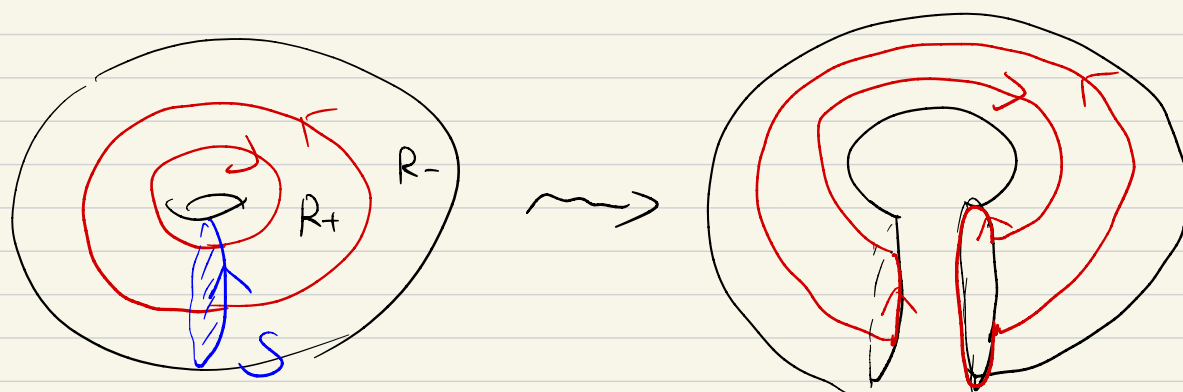
$$\begin{pmatrix} R_{+}(\gamma') = (R_{+}(\gamma) \cap M') \cup S_{+}' \setminus \text{int } \gamma' \\ R_{-}(\gamma') = ((R_{-}(\gamma) \cap M') \cup S_{-}') \setminus \text{int } \gamma' \end{pmatrix}$$

A good way to remember γ' is by example



$S(\delta') = S(\delta) \cup$ a copy of ∂S with compatible ori

Note ori of $S(\delta)$ and S are important



The main topological thm we will use in
Sutured Floer homology is the following

Thm (sutured mfd hierarchy, Gabai)

Let (M, γ) be a connected taut sutured mfd.

Then there exists a sequence of surface decomp

$$(M, \gamma) = (M_0, \gamma_0) \xrightarrow{S_1} (M_1, \gamma_1) \xrightarrow{S_2} \dots \xrightarrow{S_n} (M_n, \gamma_n)$$

s.t. $(M_n, \gamma_n) \cong (R \times I, \partial R \times I)$ for surface R $R_{\pm} = R \times \{\pm 1\}$
(called product sutured mfd)

Moreover, each surface S_i can be connected,
and satisfies more topological conditions

The rest of these two weeks is to explain this thm.

Def. (M, γ) is taut if

- M is irreducible
- $R_{\pm}(\gamma)$ is incompressible
- $R_{\pm}(\gamma)$ is (Thurston)-norm minimizing in $H_2(M, \gamma)$

Def. A 3-mfd is called irreducible
if any embedded S^2 bounds a B^3 in M

Ex. S^3 (Alexander thm), $S^1 \times D^2$, T^3 , ...

Important nonexample: $S^1 \times S^2$. $\text{pt} \times S^2$ doesn't bound B^3

Prop. A 3-mfd is not irreducible if and only if
it is either a connected sum of two mfd's except S^3 ,
or $S^1 \times S^2$

Pf: Let S be an embedded S^2 doesn't bound B^3

Two cases

(1) S separates M into 2 pieces $M = M_1 \cup_S M_2$

$$Y_i = M_i \cup_S D^2 \quad Y_i \neq S^3 \quad M = M_1 \# M_2$$

(2) S is nonseparating $M \setminus S$ is connected

a point on S induces two points in $M \setminus S$

that can be connected by a path in M

Hence $\exists$ a curve $\alpha \subset M$ s.t. $\alpha \cap S = \text{pt}$

$$(Ex) N(\alpha \cup S^2) = S^1 \times S^2 \setminus B^3 \Rightarrow M = M' \# S^1 \times S^2 \quad \square$$

Rem. Connected sum operation doesn't depend on the base pt.

$$\text{Moreover, } X \# Y \cong Y \# X, (X \# Y) \# Z \cong X \# (Y \# Z)$$

Thurston norm.

Def. For a connected, oriented surface S of genus g with b boundary components. the Euler characteristic of S

$$\chi(S) = 2 - 2g - b$$

For properly embedded surface S (i.e. $(S, \partial S) \subset (M, \partial M)$) with components $S_1, \dots, S_n$

$$\text{define } x_T(S) = \sum_i \max\{0, -\chi(S_i)\}$$

For $\alpha \in H_2(M, \partial M)$ (or $H_2(M, \mathbb{R})$)

$$x_T(\alpha) = \min \{x_T(S) \mid [S, \partial S] = \alpha\}$$

If S achieves the minimal, it is called norm-minimizing

Ex. a knot $K \subset S^3$ $M = S^3 \setminus \text{int } N(K)$

$$H_2(M, \partial M; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H^1(M; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \text{Hom}(H_1(M; \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{Z})$$

$\uparrow$ Poincaré/Lefschetz duality $\uparrow$ universal coeff thm

$$H_1(S^3 \setminus \text{int } N(K); \mathbb{Z}) \cong H^1(N(K); \mathbb{Z}) \cong H^1(S^1 \times D^2; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$$

$\uparrow$ Alexander duality.

A Seifert surface S of K is a surface in $S^3 \setminus K$ with $\partial S = K$. $g(K) = \min\{g(S) \mid S \text{ Seifert surface}\}$

Any Seifert surface generates $H_2(M, \partial M; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$

$$x_T([S]) = \max\{0, 2g(K) - 1\}$$

Rem $g(K) = 0$ K bounds a disk D $K = \text{unknot } \bigcirc$

Prop (Thurston)

(1) Let $\alpha \in H_2(M, \partial M; \mathbb{Z})$. Then $\exists (S, \partial S) \subset (M, \partial M)$

$$\text{s.t. } [S, \partial S] = \alpha$$

(2) If $\alpha = k \cdot \beta$ for $k \in \mathbb{Z}$, then the above S

$$\text{satisfying } S = S_1 \cup \dots \cup S_k \text{ s.t. } [S_i, \partial S_i] = \beta$$

Sketch: $\alpha \in H_2(M, \partial M; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H^1(M; \mathbb{Z})$

$$\Rightarrow f_\alpha: M \rightarrow S^1$$

$p \in S^1$ regular value $S = f_\alpha^{-1}(p)$ represents α

If S represents α , we can find f_α s.t. above holds

$$\text{If } \alpha = k\beta, \text{ then } \begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{f_\beta} & S^1 \\ & \searrow f_\alpha & \downarrow \text{ } k\text{-covering} \\ & & S^1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} p_1, \dots, p_k \\ \downarrow \\ p \end{array}$$

$$S_i = f_\beta^{-1}(p_i) \text{ represents } \beta$$

Cor (1) $X_T(\alpha)$ is well-defined (2) $X_T(k\alpha) = k X_T(\alpha)$

$$\text{Pf: } [S, \partial S] = \alpha \quad X_T(k\alpha) \leq X_T(kS) = k X_T(S) \quad \text{for } k \geq 0$$

$$\text{By above (2), } [S', \partial S'] = k\alpha \quad X_T(S') \geq k X_T(\alpha)$$

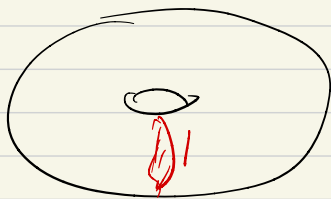
Class 3 compression

Def a disk $D \subset M$ is called a compression disk of a surface S if

- $D \cap S = \partial D$
- ∂D doesn't bound a disk in ∂S



Ex $\partial(S' \times D^2) \cong T^2$ compressible

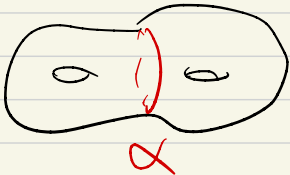


Note $[S] = [S']$ in homology gp.

$\chi(S') = \chi(S) + 2$ (replace annulus $\chi=0$ by two disks $\chi=1$)

Def. A simple closed curve α in a surface S is called essential if it doesn't bound a disk in S

Ex. $S = T^2$ α essential iff $[\alpha] \neq 0 \in H_1(S)$

$S =$  α essential but $[\alpha] = 0 \in H_1(S)$

Lem Y closed, oriented, irreducible

S_1, S_2 both incompressible

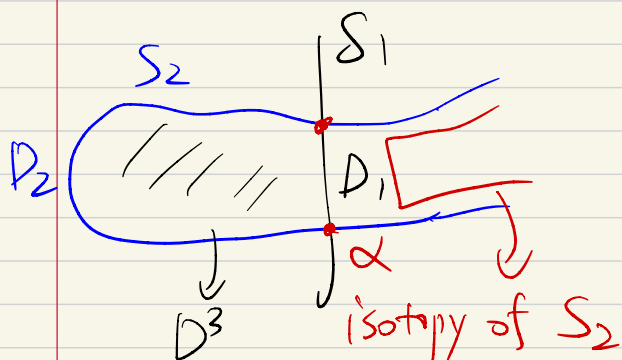
Then we can isotope S_1 and S_2 in Y to make any component of $S_1 \cap S_2$ essential in both S_1 and S_2

Idea of pf: simple case $S_1 \cap S_2 = \alpha$ connected.

If α is inessential in $S_1 \Rightarrow \alpha = \partial D_1, D_1 \subset S_1$
 $D_1 \cap S_2 = \partial D_1 = \alpha$

S_2 incompressible $\Rightarrow \alpha$ bounds D_2 in S_2

$D_1 \cup D_2 = S \cong S^2$ Y irreducible $\Rightarrow S$ bounds B^3



Then after isotopy, $S_1 \cap S_2' = \emptyset$

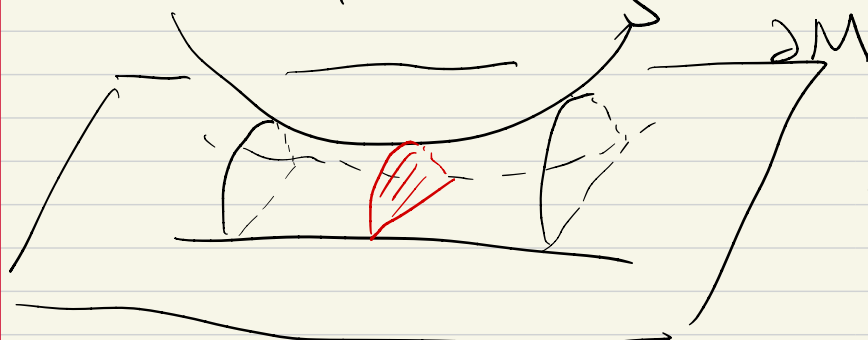
General case: $S_1 \cap S_2$ has more components

Choose innermost inessential curve and do above operation

Def. $(S, \partial S) \subset (M, \partial M)$

a boundary compression disk $D \subset M$ of S satisfying

$\partial D = \alpha \cup \beta$ s.t. $D \cap S = \alpha$ $D \cap \partial M = \beta$



compression gives S'
 $\chi(S') = \chi(S) + 1$

we can define ∂ -essential arc in S similarly and prove all components of $S_1 \cap S_2$ are ∂ -essential under incompression conditions for $S_1, S_2, \partial M$.

We prove more properties of Thurston norm χ_T

Prop If M is irreducible and ∂M is incompressible,

$$\text{then } \chi_T(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) \leq \chi_T(\alpha_1) + \chi_T(\alpha_2)$$

for $\alpha_i \in H_2(M, \partial M; \mathbb{Z})$

Pf: Pick S_1, S_2 s.t. $[S_i, \partial S_i] = \alpha_i$ $\chi_T(S) = \chi_T(\alpha)$

compress S_i if possible, to obtain S'_i $\chi(S'_i) \geq \chi(S_i)$

but $[S'_i] = [S_i]$ so $\chi_T(S'_i) = \chi_T(S_i)$ by minimal condition

Then throw S^2 components of S'_i to obtain S''_i

S''_i incomp, ∂ -incomp, has no S^2 components

isotope S''_i to make any curve in $S''_1 \cap S''_2$ essential

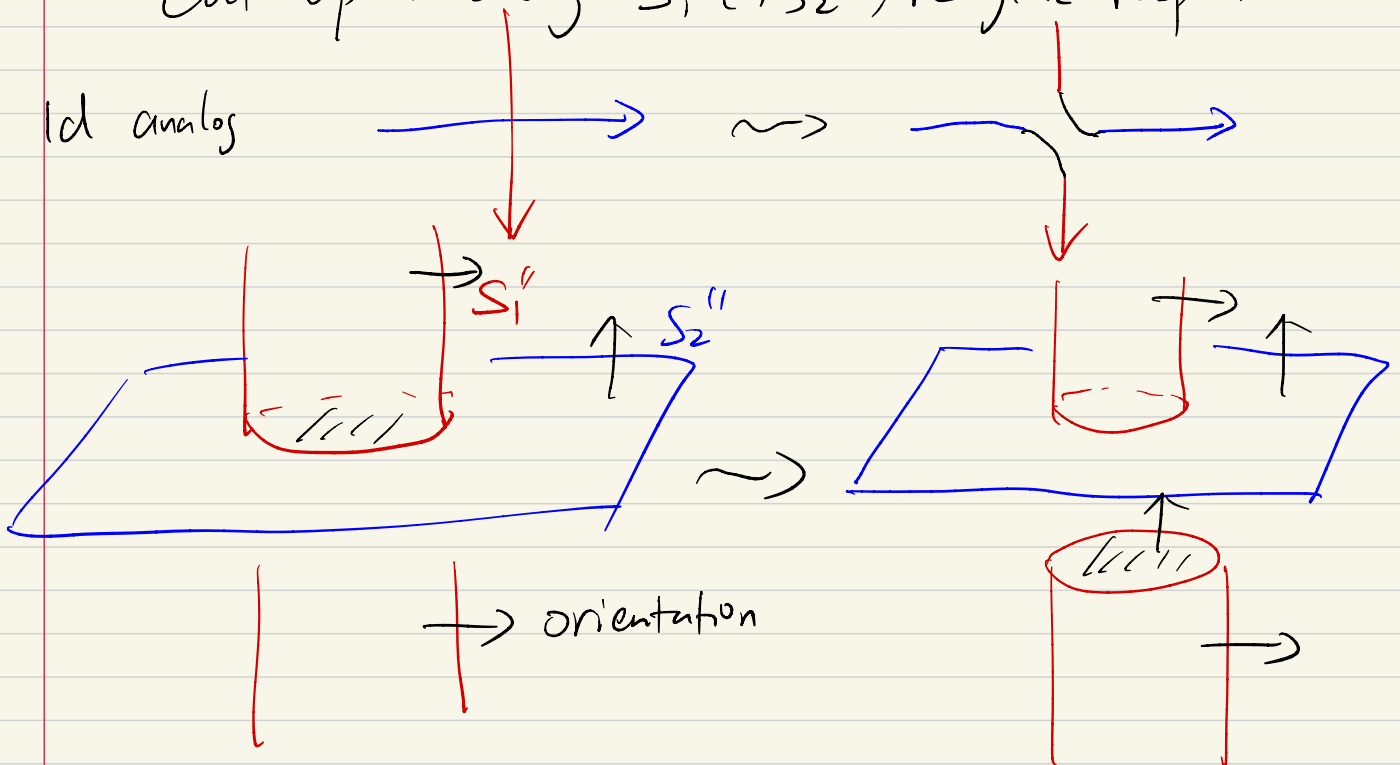
any arc in $S''_1 \cap S''_2$ ∂ -essential

perform a cut and glue surgery on S''_1 and S''_2

(called double curve surgery by Scharlemann)

Cut open along $S''_1 \cap S''_2$, re glue respect orientation

Id analog



We obtain R after surgery.

$$\chi(S_1'') + \chi(S_2'') = \chi(R)$$

$$\chi_T(R) = -\chi(R)?$$

Need to think about disk and sphere components

Claim 1 R has no S^2 comp

Claim 2 disk comp R all come from S_1'' and S_2''
(without pt)

$$\Rightarrow \chi_T(R) = \chi_T(S_1'') + \chi_T(S_2'')$$

$$\chi_T(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) \leq \chi_T(R) = \chi_T(\alpha_1) + \chi_T(\alpha_2)$$

We obtain the following thm

Thm: If M is hcomp and ∂M is ∂ -hcomp,

$$\text{then } \chi_T: H_2(M, \partial M; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$$

extends to a continuous map

$$\chi_T: H_2(M, \partial M; \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$$

which is a semi-norm

Rem. we can also define χ_T for $H_2(M, N; \mathbb{R})$
when $N \subset \partial M$.

If M has no essential tori and annuli
(i.e. atoroidal), then χ_T is a norm.

Prop (Gabai, Scharlemann)

For any $\alpha, \beta \in H_2(M, \partial M)$, there exists a large number k s.t. for any number $L \geq 0$

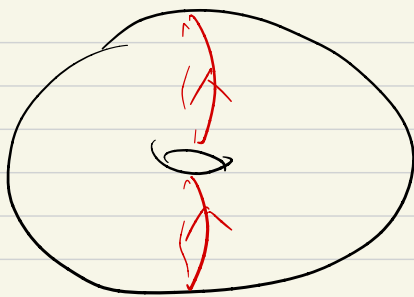
$$X_T(\alpha + (k+L)\beta) = X(\alpha + k\beta) + L X_T(\beta)$$

We omit the pf.

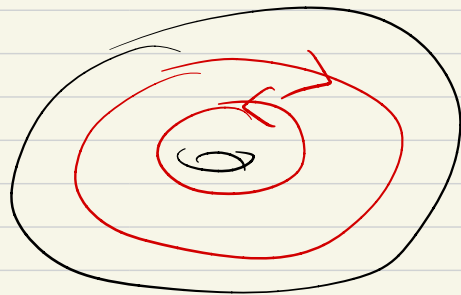
Def. (M, γ) is taut if

- M is irreducible
- $R_{\pm}(\gamma)$ is incompressible
- $R_{\pm}(\gamma)$ is (Thurston)-norm minimizing in $H_2(M, \gamma)$

Ex



not taut (1) (3) ✓ (2) ✗



taut

Thm (Sutured mfd hierarchy, Gabai)

Let (M, γ) be a connected taut sutured mfd.

Then there exists a sequence of surface decomp

$$(M, \gamma) = (M_0, \gamma_0) \xrightarrow{S_1} (M_1, \gamma_1) \xrightarrow{S_2} \dots \xrightarrow{S_n} (M_n, \gamma_n)$$

s.t. $(M_n, \gamma_n) \cong (R \times I, \partial R \times I)$ for surface R $R_{\pm} = R \times S_{\pm 1}$

(called product sutured mfd) Indeed $(M_n, \gamma_n) = \sqcup (B^3, S')$

Moreover, each surface S_i can be connected,

and satisfies more topological conditions

Idea of the pf:

Prop. If (M, ∂) taut and $\alpha \neq 0 \in H_2(M, \partial M; \mathbb{Z})$

then we can find S st. $[S, \partial S] = \alpha$

$(M, \partial) \rightsquigarrow^S (M', \partial') \text{ taut. (omit pf)}$

In the case $H_2(M, \partial M; \mathbb{Z}) = 0$,
we use the following prop.

Prop (half lives, half dies)

For any 3d M with ∂ , the inclusion

$$i_*: H_1(\partial M; \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow H_1(M; \mathbb{Q})$$

satisfies $\dim \ker i_* = \dim \operatorname{Im} i_* = \frac{1}{2} \dim H_1(\partial M; \mathbb{Q})$

$$\text{Pf: } H_2(M, \partial M) \xrightarrow{\partial_*} H_1(\partial M) \xrightarrow{i_*} H_1(M)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \parallel & \hookrightarrow & \parallel & \hookrightarrow & \parallel \\ H^1(M) & \xrightarrow{i^*} & H^1(\partial M) & \xrightarrow{\delta^*} & H^2(M, \partial M) \end{array}$$

$$\dim \ker i_* = \dim \operatorname{coker} i^*$$

$$= \dim \operatorname{coker} \partial_*$$

$$= \dim H_1(\partial M) - \dim \operatorname{Im} \partial_*$$

$$= \dim H_1(\partial M) - \dim \ker i_* \quad \square$$

$$H_2(M, \partial M; \mathbb{Z}) = 0 \Rightarrow H^1(M) = 0 \quad H_1(M; \mathbb{Q}) = 0$$

$$\ker i_* = \operatorname{Im} \partial_* = 0 \quad H_1(\partial M; \mathbb{Q}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \partial M = \coprod S^2$$

$$M \text{ irreducible} \Rightarrow M = \coprod B^3$$

Q: why finite step?

A: there is a complexity ($\in \mathbb{Z}_{20}$)
that decreases every decomposition

There is also another important prop.

Prop: If $(M, \delta) \xrightarrow{S} (M', \delta')$ is a surface decomp,
and (M', δ') taut, then (M, δ) is also taut
(omit pf)

Class 4 Application of hierarchy:

Thm (Property R conj. Gabai)

If $K \subset S^3$ is not the unknot $\bigcirc$,
then $S^3_0(K) \not\cong S^1 \times S^2$ (omit pf)

Dehn surgery on knot:

$\partial(S^3 \setminus \text{int } N(K)) \cong T^2$ has canonical basis

$m = \partial(\text{pt} \times D^2) \subset S^1 \times D^2 \cong N(K)$ called meridian

$L = \partial S$ for any Seifert surface called longitude

(It is also in the kernel of $H_1(\partial M) \hookrightarrow H_1(M)$)

Orient m, L s.t. $m \cdot L = -1$ (point into M)

Then we have

$$\mathbb{Q} \cup \{\frac{1}{0} = \infty\} \xrightarrow{1-1} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{simple closed curves on } \partial(S^3 \setminus \text{int } N(K)) \\ p m + q L \end{array} \right.$$

In particular $0 = \frac{0}{1} \mapsto L = \partial S$

$$S^3_{p/q}(K) = (S^3 \setminus \text{int } N(K)) \cup_{\phi} S^1 \times D^2$$

$$\phi(pt \times \partial D^2) = pm + \frac{p}{q}L$$

(doesn't depend on $\phi(S^1 \times pt)$)

$$H_1(S^3_{p/q}(K)) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/p & p \neq 0 \\ \mathbb{Z} & p = 0 \end{cases}$$

Using sutured instanton theory, we will prove property P conj state as follows

Thm (Kronheimer-Mrowka) If $K \neq \emptyset$, then

$$S^3_{p/q}(K) \not\cong S^3$$

Rem. By homology,

it suffices to prove for $p/q = \pm 1$.