

Class 1 Introduction to sutured Floer homology

Office Hour : SC 505 H , M 4:20-5:20 W 2:00-3:00 pm

GCA : Jiakai Li SC 321 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

Some ref assume without γ
we always assume $\gamma \neq \emptyset$

$$\gamma = A(\gamma) \cup T(\gamma)$$

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

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

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

$$R(\gamma) = \partial M \setminus \text{int } \gamma \text{ oriented by } S(\gamma)$$

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

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

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

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

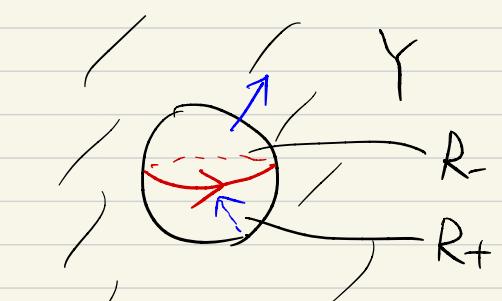
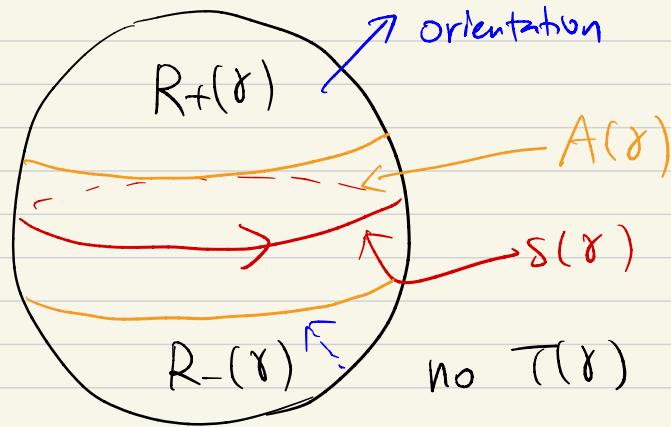
In sutured Floer homology, we only consider $T(\gamma) = \emptyset$

and write γ for $S(\gamma)$, R_\pm for $R_\pm(\gamma)$

(connected, oriented)

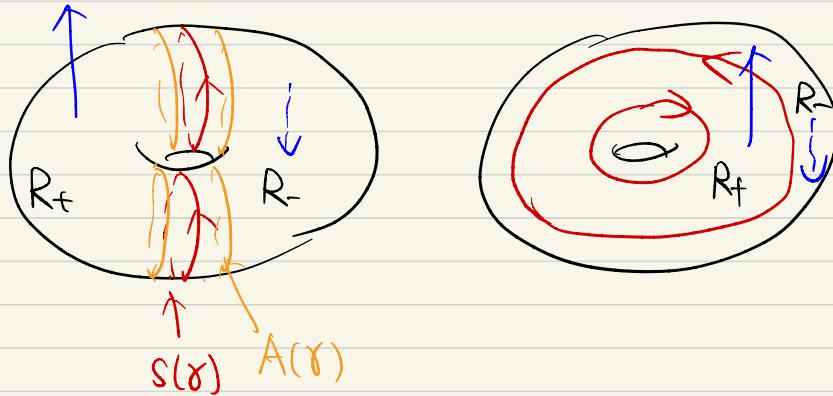
Ex • 3-ball B^3

• closed $\sqrt{3}$ -mfd $Y - B^3$



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

- $S^1 \times D^2$



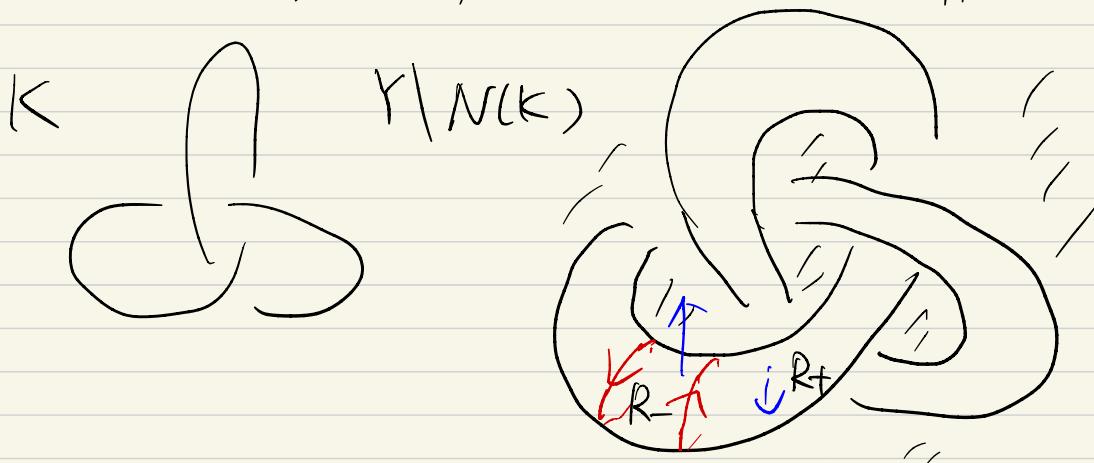
or any other two parallel curves on
 $\partial(S^1 \times D^2) = T^2$

- closed 3-mfd Y , an embedding $K: S^1 \rightarrow Y$ called a knot

$N(K)$ nbhd of K differs to $S^1 \times D^2$

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

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



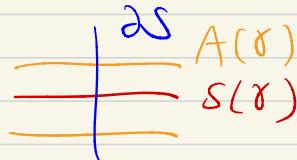
Rem An invariant of sutured mfd will induce an inv of knots or closed 3-mfds by above construction.

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

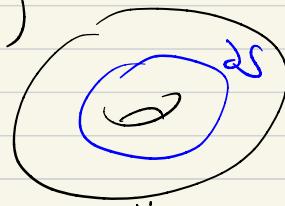
$$\text{s.t. } |\lambda \cap S(\gamma)| = 1$$



(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 mfld decomposition

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

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

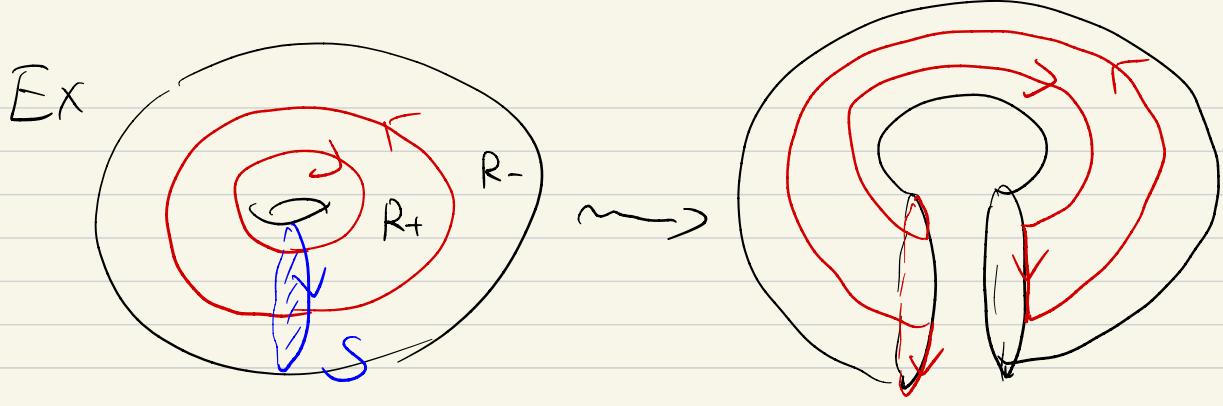
S'_\pm are components of $\partial N(S) \cap M'$ whose orientations
out of / into M'

$$\gamma' = (\gamma \cap M') \cup N(S'_+ \cap R_-(\gamma)) \cup N(S'_- \cap R_+(\gamma))$$

$$(R_+(\gamma') = (R_+(\gamma) \cap M') \cup S'_+) \setminus \text{int } \gamma'$$

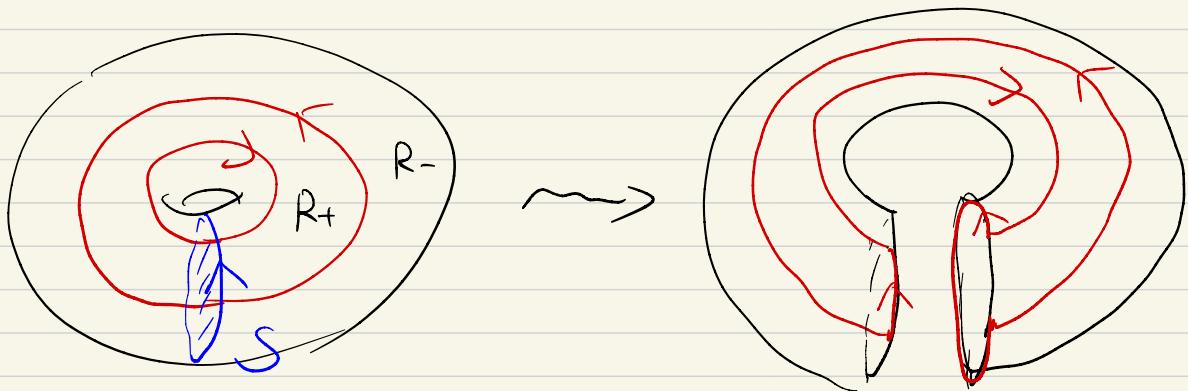
$$(R_-(\gamma') = (R_-(\gamma) \cap M') \cup S'_-) \setminus \text{int } \gamma'$$

A good way to remember γ' is by example



$$S(\gamma') = S(\gamma) \cup \text{a copy of } \partial S \text{ with compatible ori'}$$

Note ori of $S(\gamma)$ 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

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

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

(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
- $R_F(\gamma)$ is incompressible
- $R_F(\gamma)$ 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) $S^1 \times D^2, T^3, \dots$

Important nonexample: $S^1 \times S^2$. 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 mfds 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. $\alpha \cap S = \text{pt}$

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

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 $H_2(M, \gamma)$)

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

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

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

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

Poincaré/Lefschetz duality universal coeff thm

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

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 $K = \text{unknot} \circ$

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 there exists S

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

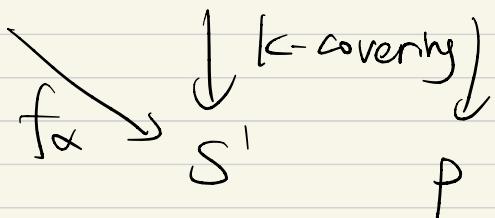
Sketch: $\alpha \in H_2(M, \partial M; \mathbb{Z}) \cong H^1(M; \mathbb{Z})$

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

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

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

If $\alpha = k\beta$, then $M \xrightarrow{f_\beta} S^1 \xrightarrow{\text{proj}} p_1, \dots, p_k$



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

Cor (1) $X_T(\alpha)$ is well-defined (2) $X_T(k\alpha) = kX_T(\alpha)$ for $k \geq 0$

Pf: $[S, \partial S] = \alpha \quad X_T(k\alpha) \leq X_T(kS) = kX_T(S)$

By above (2), $[S', \partial S'] \geq k\alpha \quad X_T(S') \geq kX_T(\alpha)$

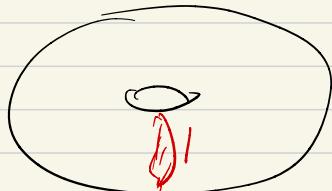
Class 3 compression

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

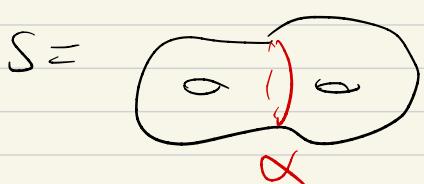


Note $[S] = [S']$ in homology SP.

$$\chi(S') = \chi(S) + 2 \quad (\text{replace annulus by two disks})$$

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 $[\alpha] \neq 0 \in H_1(S)$



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

Lem Y closed, oriented, irreducible
 S_1, S_2 both incompressible

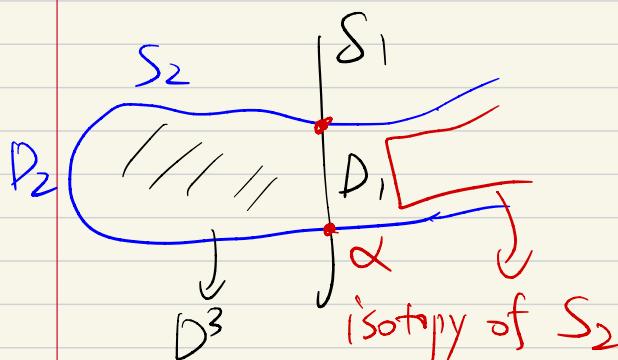
Then we can isotope S_1 and S_2 in Y to make any component of $S_1 \cap S_2$ essential in both S_1 and S_2 .

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, $S_1 \cap S_2' = \emptyset$

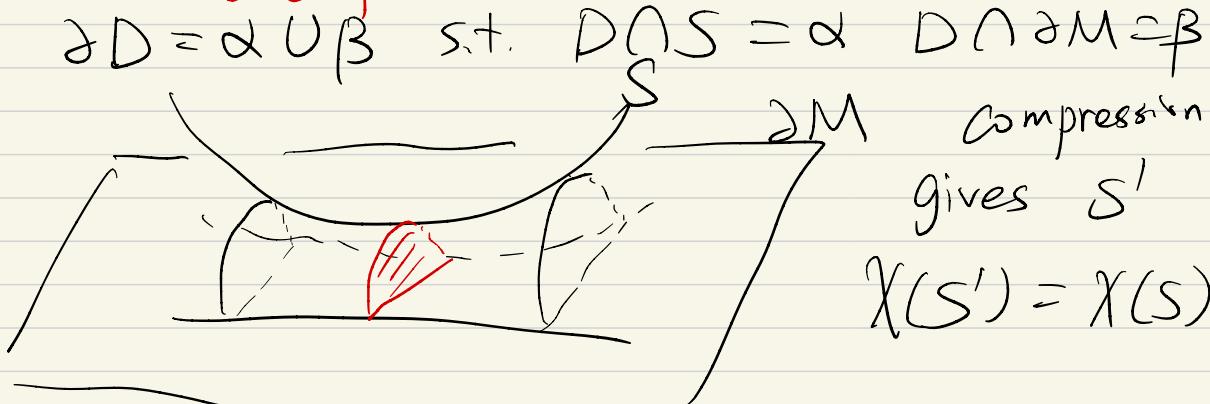
General case: $S_1 \cap S_2$

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. $D \cap S = \alpha$ $D \cap \partial M = \beta$



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 X_T

Prop If M is irreducible and ∂M is incompressible,

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

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

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

compress S_i if possible. to obtain S'_i $X(S'_i) \geq X(S_i)$

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

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

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

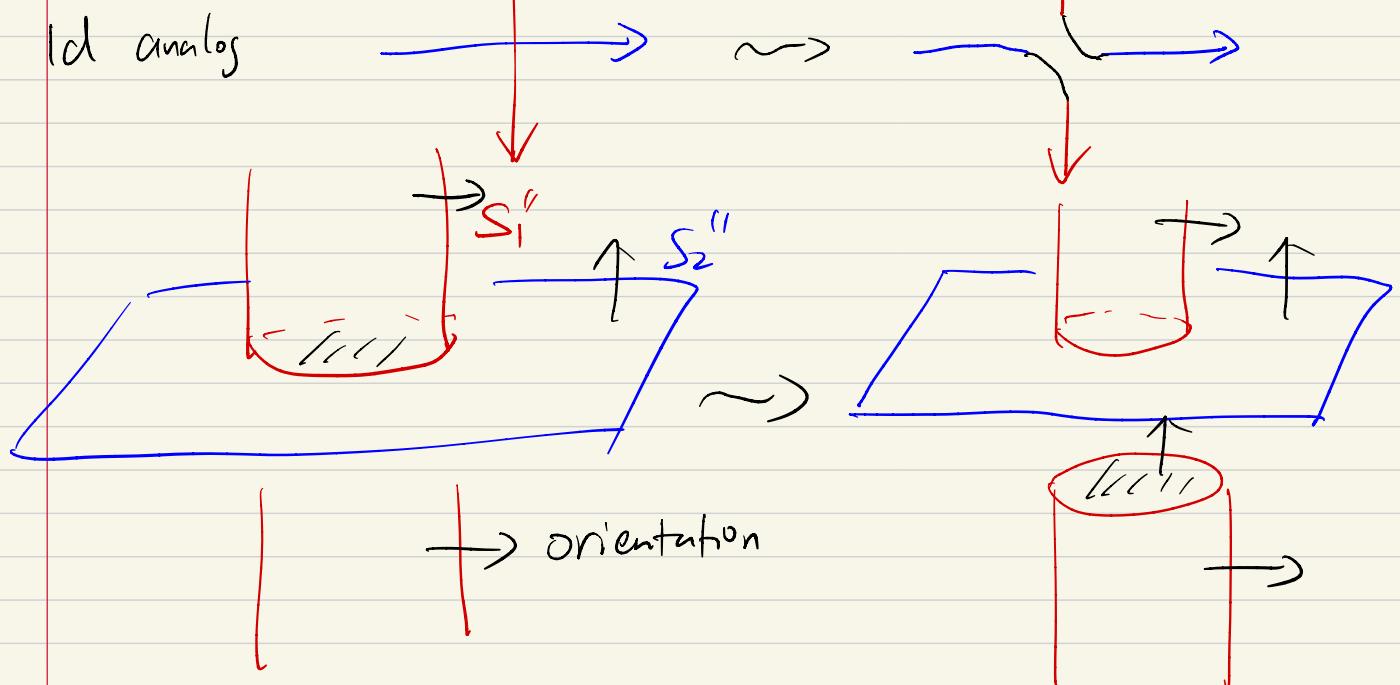
isotope S''_i to make any curve in $S''_i \cap S''_2$ essential

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

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

(called double curve surgery by Scharlemann)

Cut open along $S''_i \cap S''_2$, reglue respect orientation



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. catenoidal), 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 $l \geq 0$

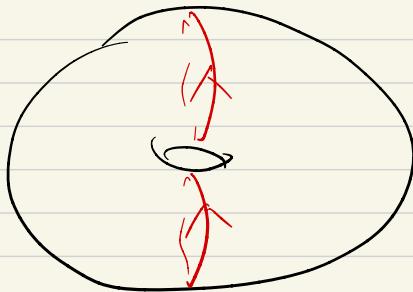
$$X_T(\alpha + (k+l)\beta) = X(\alpha + k\beta) + lX_T(\beta)$$

We omit the pf.

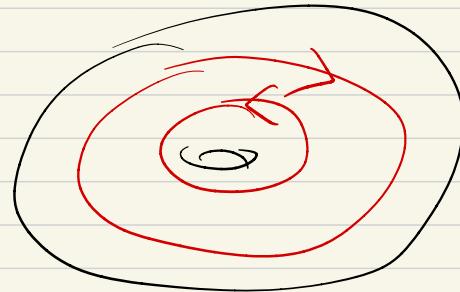
Def. (M, γ) is taut if

- M is irreducible
- $R_F(\gamma)$ is incompressible
- $R_F(\gamma)$ 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

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

s.t. $(M_n, \gamma_n) \cong (R \times I, \partial R \times I)$ for surface R $R_F = R \times S^1$
(called product sutured mfd) Indeed $(M_n, \gamma_n) = \coprod (B^3, S^1)$

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

Idea of the pf:

Prop. If (M, δ) taut and $\alpha \neq 0 \in H_2(M, \partial M; \mathbb{Z})$
 then we can find S st. $[S, \delta S] = \alpha$
 $(M, \delta) \xrightarrow{\sim} (M', \delta')$ taut. (omt 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 δ , the inclusion

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

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

$$\text{pf: } H_2(M, \partial M) \xrightarrow{\delta^*} H_1(\partial M) \xrightarrow{i^*} H_1(M)$$

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

$$\dim \ker i^* = \dim \text{coker } i^*$$

$$= \dim \text{coker } \delta^*$$

$$= \dim H_1(\partial M) - \dim \text{Im } \delta^*$$

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

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

$$\ker i^* = \text{Im } \delta^* = 0 \quad H_1(\partial M; \mathbb{Q}) = 0$$

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

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

Q: why finite step?

A: there is a complexity ($\in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$)

that decreases every decomposition

There is also another important prop.

Prop: If $(M, \delta) \xrightarrow{\text{f}} (M', \delta')$ 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 KCS^3 is not the unknot \bigcirc .

then $S^3_0(K) \neq S^1 \times S^2$ (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

$\{Q \cup f \frac{1}{d} = \infty\} \xleftarrow{1-1} \{ \text{simple closed curves on } \partial(S^3 \setminus \text{Int } N(K)) \}$

p/q

$pm + ql$

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

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

$$\phi(pt \times \partial D^2) = pm + gL$$

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

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

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

Thm (Kronheimer-Mrowka) If $K \neq 0$, then

$$S^3_{P/\xi}(K) \not\cong S^3$$

Rem. By homology,

it suffices to prove for $P/\xi = \pm 1$.