

HYPERBOLICITY OF AUGMENTED LINKS IN THE THICKENED TORUS

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ABSTRACT. For a hyperbolic link K in the thickened torus, we show there is a decomposition of the complement of a link L , obtained from augmenting K , into torihedra. We further decompose the torihedra into angled pyramids and finally angled tetrahedra. These fit into an angled structure on a triangulation of the link complement, and thus by [5], this shows that L is hyperbolic.

1. INTRODUCTION

Given a twist-reduced diagram of a link K , *augmenting* is a process in which an unknotted circle component (augmentation) is added to one or more twist regions (a single crossing or a maximal string of bigons) of K . The newly obtained link is called an *augmented link* and the newly obtained diagram is called an *augmented link diagram*. See Figure 2.

Adams showed in [2] that given a hyperbolic alternating link K in S^3 the link L obtained by augmenting K is hyperbolic. In this paper we investigate if this statement holds for links in the thickened torus i.e. if L is a link obtained from augmenting a hyperbolic alternating link K in the thickened torus. We define augmenting similarly for links in the thickened torus with their associated link diagram on $\mathbb{T}^2 \times \{0\}$.

Menasco [9] showed that there are decompositions of the complements of alternating links in S^3 into two topological polyhedra, a top polyhedron and a bottom polyhedron. For alternating links K in the thickened torus, Champanerkar, Kofman and Purcell [4] showed that there is a decomposition of the complement of K into objects called torihedra, which we think of as counterparts to Menasco's decomposition for links in the thickened torus; just like Menasco's decomposition, one obtains a top and a bottom torihedron.

In Section 2 we show that for augmented links in the thickened torus (not necessarily fully augmented), one can also obtain a decomposition of the complement into a top and bottom torihedron. In Section 3, we prove that many augmented alternating links in the thickened torus are hyperbolic.

We point out that [7], the first author proved that *fully* augmented links in the thickened torus are hyperbolic, so this paper can be seen as a generalization of that work.

While revising this paper, we learned that [1] proves a generalization of our work here, showing hyperbolicity of generalized augmented links in an arbitrary thickened surface. We note that our approach, based on angle structures, is different from theirs, which is based on topological arguments.

2. AUGMENTED LINKS

We denote $I = (-1, 1)$.

Champanerkar, Kofman and Purcell have studied alternating links in the thickened torus [4]. They define a link in the thickened torus as a quotient of a biperiodic alternating link as follows:

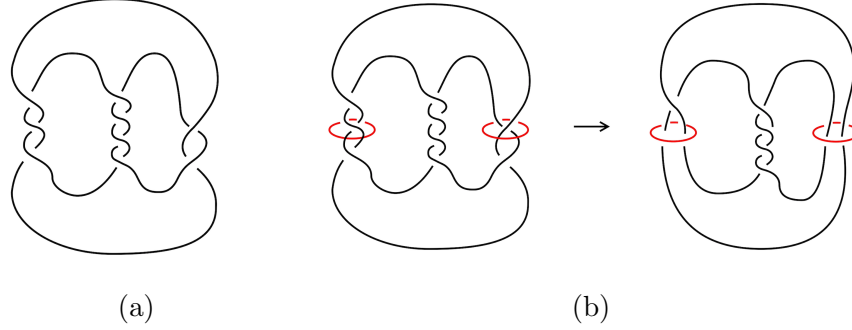


FIGURE 1. (a) pretzel knot before augmentation (b) pretzel knot after augmentation; second diagram shows removal of full twists in the augmented twist regions.

Definition 2.1. A *biperiodic alternating link* \mathcal{L} is an infinite link in $\mathbb{R}^2 \times I$ with a link diagram $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ such that \mathcal{L} and \mathcal{D} are invariant under the action of a two dimensional lattice Λ on \mathbb{R}^2 by translations.

The quotient $L = \mathcal{L}/\Lambda$ is an alternating link in the thickened torus $\mathbb{T}^2 \times I$, whose projection onto $\mathbb{T}^2 \times \{0\} = \mathbb{R}^2 \times \{0\}/\Lambda$ is an alternating link diagram \mathcal{D}/Λ .

We refer to $\mathbb{T}^2 \times \{0\}$ as the *projection plane*.

Remark 2.2. Since $\mathbb{T}^2 \times I \cong S^3 - H$, where H is a Hopf link. The complement $\mathbb{T}^2 \times I - L = S^3 - (L \cup H)$.

Champanerkar, Kofman and Purcell [4] extended the definition of prime links in S^3 for links in $\mathbb{T}^2 \times I$ called weakly prime.

Definition 2.3. A diagram $D \subset \mathbb{T}^2$ of a link L in the thickened torus $\mathbb{T}^2 \times I$ is *weakly prime* if whenever a disk is embedded in \mathbb{T}^2 meets the diagram transversely in exactly two edges, then the disk contains a simple edge of the diagram and no crossings.

Definition 2.4. Recall that a *twist region* in a link diagram is a maximal sequence of vertices such that consecutive vertices are two vertices of a bigon face, and consecutive bigons meet only at a vertex (not an edge).

TODO terrible defn.

We say that the *direction* of a twist region is the pair of faces (possibly the same face) that are across from the bigons at the end; if a twist region consists of only one vertex, a direction is a pair of opposite faces (again, possibly the same face) meeting at the crossing. We say that a twist region consisting of only one vertex is *trivial*.

For links in the thickened torus, a *twist region* in a link diagram of $L = \mathcal{L}/\Lambda$ in $\mathbb{T}^2 \times I$, is the quotient of a twist region in the biperiodic link \mathcal{L} .

A biperiodic link \mathcal{L} is called *twist-reduced* if for any simple closed curve on the plane that intersects the diagram of \mathcal{L} transversely in four points, with two points adjacent to one crossing and the other two points adjacent to another crossing, the simple closed curve bounds a subdiagram consisting of a (possibly empty) collection of bigons strung end to end between these crossings. We say the diagram of L is *twist-reduced* if it is the quotient of a twist-reduced biperiodic link diagram.

We note that when a link diagram is cellular (Definition 2.7), a twist region in the torus cannot be a cycle; otherwise, the face adjacent to the twist region would be an annulus.

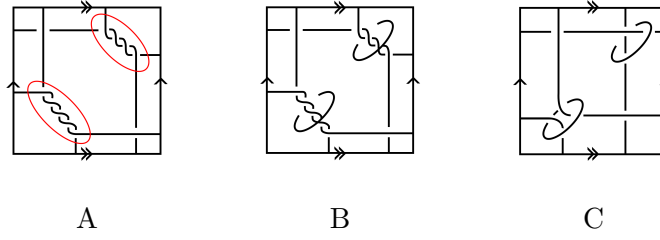


FIGURE 2. A: The top right has an odd number of twists while the bottom left has an even number of twists. B: The picture of the link on the right after augmentation twist regions circled in red. C: The link with full twists removed.

Now we can define augmentation for a link in $\mathbb{T}^2 \times I$ the same way we define augmentation for links in S^3 :

Definition 2.5. Let $D(K)$ be a twist-reduced diagram of a link K in $\mathbb{T}^2 \times I$. We define *augmenting* as a process in which an unknotted circle component, called a *crossing circle*, is added to one or more twist regions of $D(K)$ (see Figure 2); we call the resulting link L an *augmented link obtained from K* . We say L is *fully augmented* if L is obtained by augmenting K at *every* crossing/twist site.

As pointed out in the introduction, after augmenting a twist region, a standard Dehn twist argument allows us to remove a full twist (that is, two bigons).

Definition 2.6. We say an augmentation has a *half twist* if at least one of the augmented twist regions has an odd number of vertices (i.e. even number of bigons).

Definition 2.7. A graph $G = (V, E)$ on the torus is *cellular* if its complement is a collection of open disks.

2.1. Torihedral Decomposition of Augmented Alternating Links in Thickened Torus. We present a method of decomposing an augmented link (not necessarily fully augmented) in the thickened torus into objects called “torihedra” as defined below. Decomposing alternating links in the thickened torus into torihedra were first described in [4], then later used for fully augmented links in the thickened torus in [7]. The idea is to combine methods of Menasco [9] and the use of crossing edges at each crossing of our link and Lackenby’s “cut-slice-flatten” method [8] on the augmentation sites.

Definition 2.8. [4] A *torihedron* \mathcal{T} is a cone on the torus, i.e. $\mathbb{T}^2 \times [0, 1]/(\mathbb{T}^2 \times \{1\})$, with a cellular graph $G = G(\mathcal{T})$ on $\mathbb{T}^2 \times \{0\}$. The *ideal torihedron* \mathcal{T}° is \mathcal{T} with the vertices of G and the vertex $\mathbb{T}^2 \times \{1\}$ removed. Hence, an ideal torihedron is homeomorphic to $\mathbb{T}^2 \times [0, 1]$ with a finite set of points (ideal vertices) removed from $\mathbb{T}^2 \times \{0\}$. We refer to the vertex $\mathbb{T}^2 \times \{1\}$ as the *cone point* of \mathcal{T} .

For visualization purposes, we typically draw the graph $G(\mathcal{T})$ of a torihedron from the perspective of the cone point $\mathbb{T}^2 \times \{1\}$. Note however that later we will be dealing with “top” and “bottom” torihedra that are glued together along their torus boundary faces; to avoid confusion, we will visualize the graphs of both torihedra from the perspective of the cone point of the “top” torihedron.

If the faces of $G(\mathcal{T})$ are disks, then \mathcal{T} can be decomposed into a union of pyramids, obtained by coning each face to the cone point of \mathcal{T} . This also gives a decomposition of

the corresponding ideal torihedron \mathcal{T}° into ideal pyramids. We call these the *pyramidal decompositions* of \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{T}° .

Definition 2.9. Let G be a graph on the torus. Let v be a vertex and e, e' be distinct edges that meet v . A *left (resp. right) bow-tie modification* to v, e, e' is the process of removing v, e, e' and adding in a pair of triangular faces, which we refer to as a “bow-tie” (see Figure 3). The edges of the bow-tie are of three types; *diagonal* edges, which do not touch v , *long* edges, which are “parallel” to the original edges e, e' , and *short* edges, which connect v to the two new vertices. We call the new triangular faces the *bow-tie faces*.

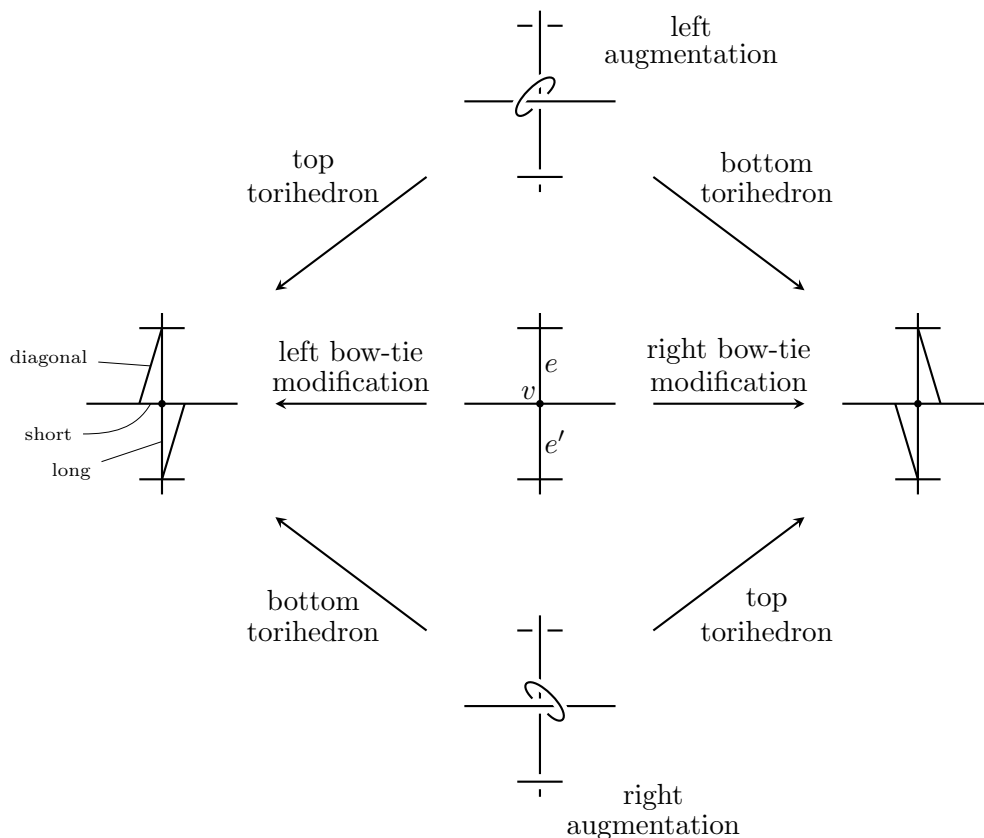


FIGURE 3. Bow-tie modifications

Definition 2.10. We say a twist region is *right-augmented* if, when both strands are (locally) oriented so that they cross the augmentation disk in the same direction, the crossing is a right-handed half-twist. We say a twist is *left-augmented* if it is not right-augmented. (See Figure 3).

We can recover L from the link diagram of K together with labels at twist regions indicating left- or right-augmentation.

Definition 2.11. Let L be a link obtained from augmenting an alternating link K with a cellular link diagram $D = D(K)$. We define the *top/bottom bow-tie graph* of L as follows.

Let D' be the graph obtained from D by collapsing each augmented twist region of K to a vertex. Clearly, D' is the link diagram of a link K' obtained from K by removing half-twists from each augmented twist region until one crossing remains. Let v_t denote a vertex

of D' corresponding to an augmented twist region of K , and let v_c denote a vertex of D' corresponding to a crossing of K not in an augmented twist region.

Orient the edges of D' to point from an undercrossing to an overcrossing. Label the two outgoing edges at vertex v (which corresponds to a crossing or a twist region) by $e_v^{(1)}, e_v^{(2)}$ (in arbitrary order). For each left- (resp. right-) augmented twist region t , we perform a left (resp. right) bow-tie modification to $v_t, e_{v_t}^{(1)}, e_{v_t}^{(2)}$.

We call the resulting graph the *top bow-tie graph of L* , denoted by $\Gamma_T(L)$. If we had oriented the edges of D' the other way, and subsequently performed the same operations, we obtain another graph, which we call the *bottom bow-tie graph of L* , denoted by $\Gamma_B(L)$.

Note that the non-bow-tie faces of $\Gamma_T(L)$ and $\Gamma_B(L)$ are naturally identified with the faces of D' (as the bow-tie modification procedure does not remove faces).

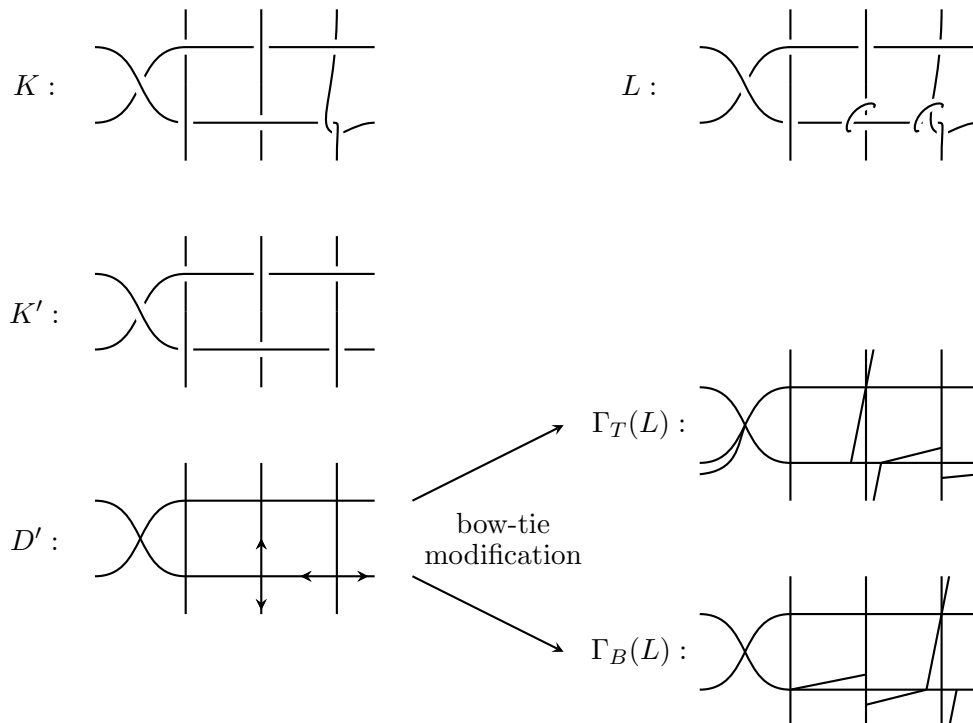


FIGURE 4. Constructing the top and bottom bow-tie graphs, using bow-tie modifications

Proposition 2.12. *Let K be an alternating link in the thickened torus with a cellular link diagram, and let L be an augmented link obtained from K . There is a decomposition of the complement, $(\mathbb{T}^2 \times I) - L$, into two ideal torihedra.*

Moreover, the graphs of the torihedra are the top and bottom bow-tie graphs from Definition 2.11, $\Gamma_T(L)$ and $\Gamma_B(L)$, respectively.

We call this the torihedral decomposition of the link complement of L in the thickened torus.

Proof. As mentioned before, we will be combining Menasco’s method using crossing edges at each crossing and Lackenby’s “cut-slice-flatten” method on augmentation sites.

Let $L = K \cup C$, with C being the collection of crossing circles. Arrange L in the following way: place the circle components in C perpendicular to the projection plane $\mathbb{T}^2 \times \{0\}$, and

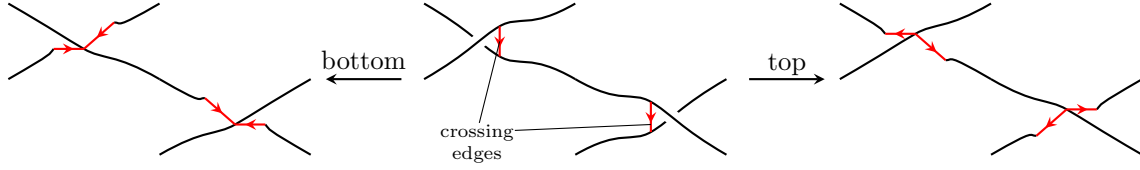


FIGURE 5. Splitting and flattening crossing edges.

leave the remaining part of the link $K \subseteq L$ lying in the projection plane (except at crossings of K). Thus, the projection of L onto the projection plane will be a diagram $D(K)$ of K together with line segments corresponding to crossing circles.

We now place a *crossing edge* at each crossing of K , connecting the top and bottom strands at the crossing (see Figure 2.1). We also place three horizontal edges for each crossing circle (see Figure 6, leftmost diagram).

View the link from the point at infinity from the top end ($\mathbb{T}^2 \times \{1\}$) of the thickened torus. At each crossing of K , push the top strand towards the bottom strand, splitting the crossing edge into two identical edges and spreading them apart as in Figure 2.1. Note that after this operation, the link (which is no longer a link) for both top and bottom look the same, but a crossing edge associated to a crossing is pushed in different directions; this contributes to a “ $2\pi/n$ ” twist when gluing back the faces of the top and bottom torihedra.

Now for each crossing circle c , consider a spanning (twice-punctured) disk B_c . The following operations are depicted in Figure 6. B_c intersects the projection plane $\mathbb{T}^2 \times \{0\}$, cutting B_c into two pieces B_c^+, B_c^- , each being an ideal triangle. We then slice along the disk B_c , turning it into two copies, $B_c^{(1)}, B_c^{(2)}$ (in no particular order); each copy $B_c^{(j)}$ is also cut horizontally into two pieces, $B_c^{(j),+}, B_c^{(j),-}$. We untwist all crossings in the twist region which c encircles, rotating $B_c^{(j)}$ by 180° for each crossing. Then we flatten the disks; the crossing circle is shrunk to a point, as it is at infinity.

Finally, we shrink all remaining segments of the link L to ideal vertices. It is easy to see that the top and bottom graphs are exactly $\Gamma_T(L)$ and $\Gamma_B(L)$ from Definition 2.11. To recover the link complement, we glue bow-tie to bow-tie as described in Figure 6, and glue each non-bow-tie face to its natural counterpart (see Definition 2.11), with a “ $2\pi/n$ ” twist as discussed before.

□

The Figures 7 to 10 depict an example which decomposes the link (C) of Figure 2.

Remark 2.13. We note that our main Theorem 3.4 requires that all non-trivial twist regions be augmented, but Proposition 2.12 does not require it.

Definition 2.14. An *angled torihedron* $(\mathcal{T}, \theta_\bullet^*)$ is a torihedron \mathcal{T} with an assignment of an *interior dihedral angle* $\theta_e^* \in [0, \pi]$ to each edge e of $G(\mathcal{T})$ such that for each vertex $v \in G(\mathcal{T})$, $\sum_{e \ni v} \theta_e^* = (\deg(v) - 2)\pi$. We also denote $\theta_e = \pi - \theta_e^*$, so $\sum_{e \ni v} \theta_e = 2\pi$; we refer to θ_e as the *exterior dihedral angle*. For brevity, we write dihedral angle to mean interior dihedral angle.

We say $(\mathcal{T}, \theta_\bullet^*)$ is *degenerate* if $\theta_e^* = 0$ for some edge; we say it is *non-degenerate* otherwise.

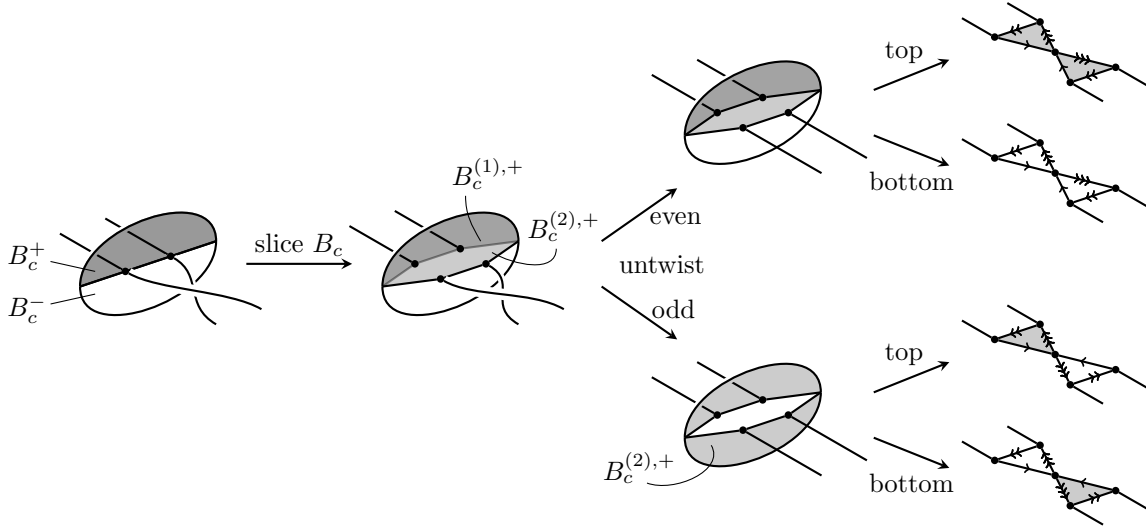


FIGURE 6. Cut-slice-flatten; the even and odd refer to the number of crossings in that twist region (we only draw one crossing in the first diagram); the top and bottom graphs are glued back, gray face to gray face, white face to white face; note that the graph does not depend on the parity of the number of crossings, but the gluing is different

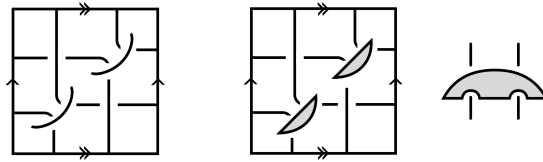


FIGURE 7. Each crossing circle bounds a twice-punctured disk; the rightmost figure shows half of the disk.

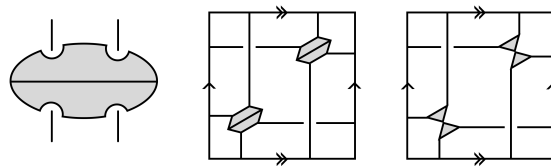


FIGURE 8. We split the disk and collapse the arc of each crossing circle to ideal vertices; the leftmost figure shows the view from the top of a half disk being spread apart.

One may ask for the pyramidal decomposition of a torihedron to “respect” angles. The following definitions, in particular an “angle splitting”, make sense of this.

Definition 2.15. An *angled ideal tetrahedron* is an ideal tetrahedron with an assignment of an interior dihedral angle θ_e^* to each edge e , such that

- each dihedral angle is in $[0, \pi]$;
- for each tetrahedron, opposite edges have equal dihedral angles;
- the three distinct interior angles at edges incident to one vertex sum to π .

We say an angled ideal tetrahedron is *degenerate* if one dihedral angle is 0; we say it is *non-degenerate* otherwise.

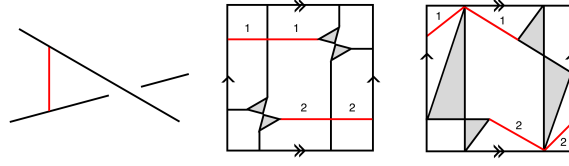


FIGURE 9. Left: The crossing arc is the edge in red. Middle: Picture of splitting the crossing edge and bow-ties. Right: The link components are pushed off to infinity (diagrammatically, they are shrunk to points).

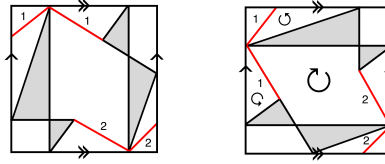


FIGURE 10. Left: The top torihedron. Right: The bottom torihedron with rotation indicating face gluing

Definition 2.16. A *base-angled ideal pyramid* is a pyramid whose base is an n -gon, $n \geq 3$, and each boundary edge e_i of the base face is assigned a dihedral angle $\alpha_i \geq 0$ such that their sum is $\sum \alpha_i = \pi$. The vertical edge e'_i that meets e_i and e_{i+1} is automatically assigned the dihedral angle $\pi - \alpha_i - \alpha_{i+1}$.

We say a base-angled ideal pyramid is *degenerate* if $\alpha_i = 0$ for some i ; we say it is *non-degenerate* otherwise.

Clearly, the dihedral angles of an ideal hyperbolic pyramid make it a base-angled ideal pyramid (with $\alpha_i = \varphi_{e_i}$); it is not hard to see that the converse is true: simply consider a circumscribed polygon such that the side e_i subtends an angle of $2\alpha_i$ at the center, and take the ideal hyperbolic pyramid over it in upper-half space. Also, an angled ideal tetrahedron is simply a base-angled ideal pyramid with base a triangle, and with no preferred face.

Definition 2.17. An *angle-splitting* of an angled torihedron $(\mathcal{T}, \theta_\bullet^*)$ is an assignment of an angle $\varphi_{\vec{e}}$ to each oriented edge \vec{e} , such that

- for each edge e , $\theta_e^* = \varphi_{\vec{e}} + \varphi_{\overleftarrow{e}}$, where \overleftarrow{e} is the opposite orientation on e ,
- for each face f , $\sum_{\vec{e} \in \partial f} \varphi_{\vec{e}} = \pi$, where $\vec{e} \in \partial f$ is the edge in the boundary of f taken with outward-orientation (see Convention 2.18).

Equivalently, an angle-splitting is a decomposition of \mathcal{T} into base-angled pyramids, one for each face F of $G(\mathcal{T})$, such that the interior dihedral of the edge $\vec{e} \in \partial F$ is $\varphi_{\vec{e}}$.

We also say that φ_\bullet is an angle-splitting of the edge-labeled graph $(G(\mathcal{T}), \theta_\bullet^*)$.

We say that an angle-splitting is *degenerate* if $\varphi_{\vec{e}} = 0$ for some oriented edge \vec{e} ; it is *non-degenerate* otherwise.

Convention 2.18. The *outward-orientation on the boundary of a face* is the orientation such that the face is to the left of the boundary. An assignment/label on an oriented edge \vec{e} (for example, $\varphi_{\vec{e}}$) will usually be drawn to the left of that edge.

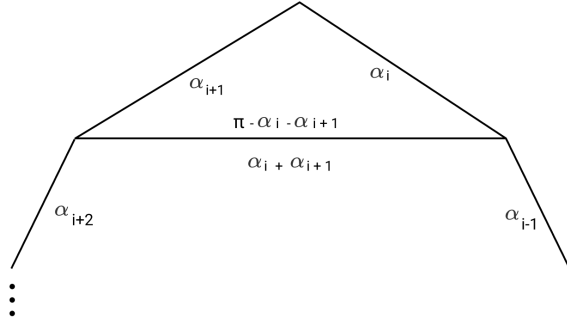


FIGURE 11. Angle-splitting on a polygonal face of the graph

Remark 2.19. These θ 's are the same as the θ 's in [3], and angle-splittings φ_\bullet 's are the same as their “coherent angle system”.

Lemma 2.20. *Let P_n be a base-angled ideal pyramid, and suppose we are given a decomposition of the base face into triangles by adding new edges. One gets an obvious corresponding triangulation of P_n , where a new face is added for each new edge. Then there is an assignment of a dihedral angle to each edge of each ideal tetrahedron in this triangulation such that*

- *each tetrahedron is an angled ideal tetrahedron;*
- *the sum of dihedral angles around each new edge is π ;*
- *the dihedral angles of the edges of the original base face are the same as before.*

Moreover, if P_n is non-degenerate, then the resulting angled tetrahedra are also non-degenerate.

Proof. Induct on n ; there is nothing to prove for the base case $n = 3$.

The proof is essentially given in Figure 11. We spell it out here in words.

Suppose the edges are labeled e_i , for an edge which goes between vertices v_i and v_{i+1} , and suppose e_i is assigned dihedral angle α_i . Let e' be a new edge added to the base face of P_n such that it separates the base face into a triangle and an $(n - 1)$ -gon; suppose the sides of the triangle are e_i, e_{i+1} , and e' . The new face corresponding to e' separates P_n into an ideal tetrahedron T and an ideal pyramid P_{n-1} . We assign the dihedral angle of $\pi - \alpha_i - \alpha_{i+1}$ to e' in T , and assign $\alpha_i + \alpha_{i+1}$ to e' in P_{n-1} . Clearly the sum of dihedral angles condition is satisfied in T and P_{n-1} . It remains to check that the dihedral angles assigned to the vertical (non-base) edges are correct. For the vertical edge associated to v_j for $j \neq i, i + 2$, there is nothing to check; for $j = i$, the dihedral angles are $\pi - \alpha_i - (\pi - \alpha_i - \alpha_{i-1})$ in T and $\pi - \alpha_{i-1} - (\alpha_i + \alpha_{i+1})$ in P_{n-1} , which sum to $\pi - \alpha_i - \alpha_{i+1}$; it is similar for $j = i + 2$.

Non-degeneracy of the resulting angled tetrahedra follows easily from the observation that the angles assigned to each side of a new edge is simply the sum of the angles of original edges on the other side. \square

3. HYPERBOLICITY OF AUGMENTED LINKS

Thurston introduced a method for finding the unique complete hyperbolic metric for a given 3-manifold M with boundary consisting of tori [10]. Thurston wrote down a system of gluing and consistency equations which can be translated to equations involving angles for a triangulation of M whose solutions correspond to the complete hyperbolic metric on

the interior of M . Casson and Rivin separated Thurston's gluing equations into a linear and non-linear part [5]. Angle structures are solutions to the linear part of Thurston's gluing equations; we will use them to attain hyperbolicity of complements of augmented links in the thickened torus.

Definition 3.1. Let M be an orientable 3-manifold with boundary consisting of tori. An angle structure on an ideal triangulation τ of M is an assignment of a dihedral angle to each edge of each tetrahedron, such that

- each tetrahedron is a non-degenerate angled ideal tetrahedron,
- around each edge of τ , the dihedral angles sum to 2π .

Theorem 3.2. [6, Theorem 1.1] *Let M be a 3-manifold with a triangulation that admits an angle structure. Then M is hyperbolic.*

TODO rephrase to more careful.

For a hyperbolic link K in $\mathbb{T}^2 \times I$, we show that the link L obtained from augmenting K is hyperbolic. The idea is to start with a graph from the torihedral decomposition of the link K which will give us a graph on each torihedron with an angle assignment of $\pi/2$ to each edge [4]. By Proposition 2.12, there is a torihedral decomposition of the complement of the augmented link L . Using those angles from K , we then assign new angles locally to edges of torihedra from a torihedral decomposition of L and decompose them into base-angled pyramids which can be decomposed into tetrahedra, thus obtaining an angle structure on a triangulation.

We need the following theorem, adapted from [3, Theorem 4], specialized to genus 1 surfaces:

Theorem 3.3. [3, Theorem 4] *Let $\Gamma = (V, E)$ be a graph on the torus, and let $\check{\Gamma} = (F, \check{E})$ be the dual graph, with \check{E} being naturally identified with E . Let $f \in (0, \pi)^E$ be a function on the set of edges E that sums to 2π around each vertex of V ; let $f^*(e) = \pi - f(e)$.*

There exists a non-degenerate angle-splitting of (Γ, f^) if and only if the following is satisfied:*

Suppose we cut the torus along a subset of edges in the dual graph $\check{\Gamma}$, obtaining one or more pieces; Then for any piece that is a disk, the sum of f over the edges in the boundary of the piece is at least 2π , with equality if and only if the piece contains exactly one vertex of Γ .

The original theorem [3, Theorem 4] proves that a circle pattern combinatorially equivalent to Γ exists; a circle pattern naturally yields an angle-splitting (which they call a coherent angle system).

Theorem 3.4. *Let K be a weakly prime, alternating link in the thickened torus whose diagram is cellular and has no bigons. Let L be a link obtained from augmenting K . Then L is hyperbolic.*

More generally, if K is as above with a twist-reduced diagram containing bigons, and L is obtained by augmenting K such that for every twist region with at least one bigon, either the twist region is augmented, or each vertex of the twist region is augmented in the other direction, or both. then L is hyperbolic.

Proof. By Proposition 2.12, $\mathbb{T}^2 \times I - L$ can be obtained by gluing two torihedra $\mathcal{T}_T(L), \mathcal{T}_B(L)$ with graphs $\Gamma_T(L), \Gamma_B(L)$.

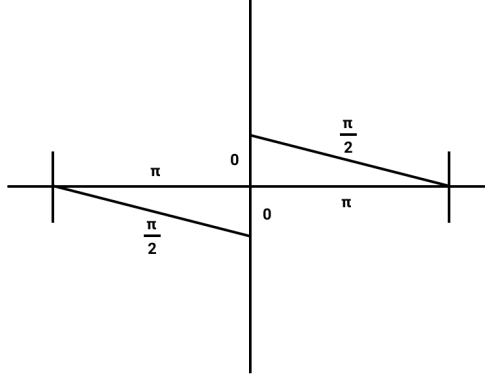


FIGURE 12. Assignments of θ^* to edges of a bow-tie corresponding to a left augmentation site; the long edges are assigned π , the short edges are assigned 0 , and the diagonal edges are assigned $\pi/2$ (same for a right augmentation).

Recall that $\Gamma_T(L), \Gamma_B(L)$ are obtained by bow-tie modifications of the diagram D' of a link K' (see Definition 2.11). Assign to each edge e of D' the angle $\theta_e = \pi/2$ (so that $\theta_e^* = \pi/2$ too). This assignment has the property that the sum of dihedral angles around each identified edge (in the complement of K') is 2π . This can be achieved because of the hypotheses on bigons in our theorem statement.

Using the fact that K' is weakly prime (which easily follows from K being weakly prime), it is not hard to see that the condition on cocycles of Theorem 3.3 is satisfied by this assignment. Thus, there exists a non-degenerate angle-splitting φ_\bullet of (D', θ_\bullet^*) .

Now we perform the bow-tie modifications to obtain $\Gamma_T(L), \Gamma_B(L)$. For each step (i.e. each bow-tie modification), we show how to modify the θ^* assignments and how to get angle-splittings. Say we perform such a modification at some vertex v and two edges $e^{(1)}, e^{(2)}$. We assign new θ_\bullet^* angles to the resulting bow-tie modification graph as in Figure 12. Note that the sum of θ (not θ^*) around each vertex is still 2π . Figure 13 shows an angle-splitting of this assignment.

We check that upon gluing the top and bottom torihedra, the sum of interior dihedral angles θ^* around each edge is 2π : crossing edges have $\theta^* = \pi/2$, and appear four times, twice in each torihedron, while for bow-tie edges, simply check for half-twist and non-half-twist cases separately.

Now we have a decomposition of the two torihedra into degenerate base-angled pyramids (recall that that means some of the interior dihedral angles θ^* are 0); since we need the pyramids to be non-degenerate, we modify the graph on the torihedra and the angle assignments to make all θ^* nonzero as follows.

We first modify the graphs on the torihedra by adding edges to them for some extra “flexibility”. Consider a face f of $\Gamma_T(L)$ that is not from a bow-tie. Suppose the corresponding face \bar{f} of D' had vertices v_1, \dots, v_n in counter-clockwise order. Note that f may meet a vertex twice, but we label each occurrence with its own index. We label the edges of f by $e_{i,0}$, $e_{i,\pi}$, or e_i , depending on whether the θ^* of that edge is 0 , π , or $\pi/2$ respectively. More precisely, for a vertex v_i corresponding to a crossing of K that is not augmented, we label $e_{v_i}^{(\cdot)}$ by e_i (here $e_{v_i}^{(\cdot)}$ is $e_{v_i}^{(1)}$ or $e_{v_i}^{(2)}$, whichever meets \bar{f} ; see Definition 2.11). For a vertex v_i that corresponds to a twist region of K , if the direction of the twist region is towards \bar{f} , then

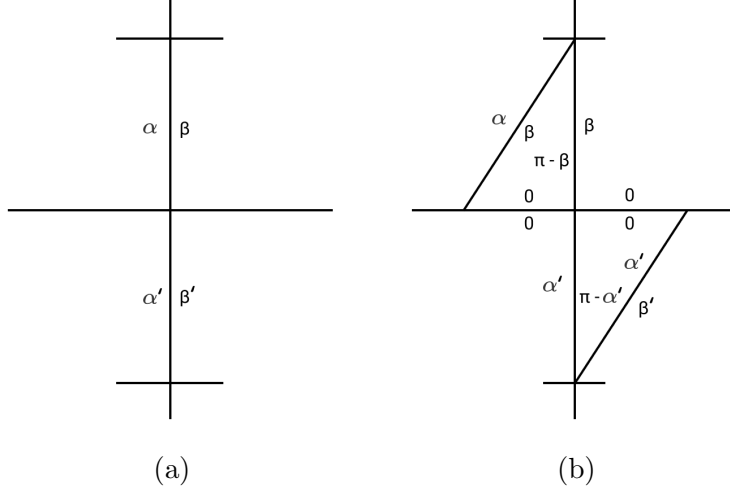


FIGURE 13. (a) Angle splitting before augmentation (b) Angle splitting for bowtie corresponding to left bow-tie modification/augmentation. For right bow-tie modification/augmentation, just flip both diagrams (a) and (b) horizontally.

f meets a diagonal edge of the bow-tie corresponding to v_i , and we label it e_i ; if not, then f meets a short and long edge of the corresponding bow-tie, and we label them by $e_{i,0}$ and $e_{i,\pi}$, respectively.

If \bar{f} does not have vertices of the latter kind, i.e. if f does not meet short or long edges, then we will not modify f . So assume that \bar{f} does have such a vertex, and suppose it is right-augmented (the other case is treated similarly). Then for all right-augmented vertices v_i of \bar{f} , f would meet the short, long edges $e_{i,0}, e_{i,\pi}$, while for all left-augmented vertices, f would meet the diagonal edges. In particular, the edges $e_{i,0}, e_{i,\pi}$ always appear in counter-clockwise order.

Suppose, after cyclically reindexing, v_1, \dots, v_k is a maximally contiguous subsequence of right-augmented vertices of D' around \bar{f} ; the edges around f would start $e_{1,0}, e_{1,\pi}, e_{2,0}, e_{2,\pi}, \dots, e_{k,0}, e_{k,\pi}, \dots$. We add new edges across f as follows (see Figure 14; ignore the + and - signs for now.):

- **Case $k = n$:** (i.e. every vertex of \bar{f} is right-augmented.) In this case, we do nothing.
- **Case: There is only one such maximal contiguous subsequence:**
 - **Subcase: $k = 1$:** We add an edge that goes across $e_{1,0}, e_{1,\pi}, e_2$ (in the sense that the new edge separates the edges of f into two sets, one of them being those three edges; since $n \geq 3$, this edge is new).
 - **Subcase: $k \geq 2$:** We add an edge across $e_{1,0}, e_{1,\pi}$ and another edge across $e_{2,0}, e_{2,\pi}, e_{3,0}, \dots, e_{k,\pi}$ (these two edges do not form a bigon because we've ruled out $k = n$).
- **Case: There are multiple such maximal contiguous subsequences.** We just add edges as in the previous case for each contiguous subsequence, except one special case: when the edges of f are exactly $e_{1,0}, e_{1,\pi}, e_2, e_{3,0}, e_{3,\pi}, e_4$, we add only one edge separating the first three edges from the other three. (This prevents formation of a bigon.)

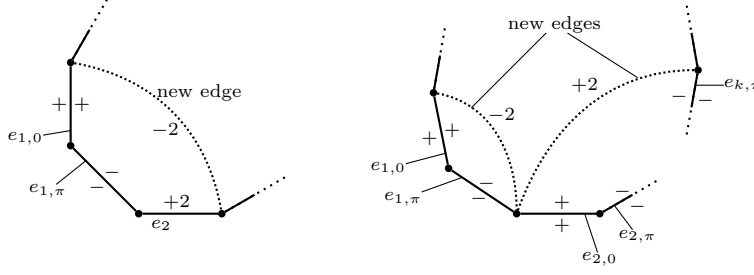


FIGURE 14. Adding edges to non-bow-tie faces; the $+$, $-$ labels are short for $+1$, -1 respectively.

This way we obtain a new graph Γ'_T , which defines a new torihedron \mathcal{T}'_T . We make \mathcal{T}'_T angled using the angles from $\mathcal{T}_T(L)$ for old edges, and putting $\theta^* = \pi$ for all new edges.

We can get an angle-splitting for (Γ'_T, θ^*) , using the angle-splitting for $\Gamma_T(L)$ for old edges, and for a new edge e (as in Figure 14) that cuts through some face f of $\Gamma_T(L)$, we assign $\varphi_{\vec{e}} = \sum \varphi_{\vec{e}'}$, where the sum is over all the edges $\vec{e}' \in \partial f$ that on the other side of \vec{e} . By non-degeneracy of the angle-splitting on D' , these assignments to the new edges are all non-zero.

Now fix some small $\varepsilon > 0$. Let $\varphi'_{\vec{e}} = \varphi_{\vec{e}} + x \cdot \varepsilon$, where x is the label on \vec{e} (0 if unlabeled). Let $\theta'^*_{\vec{e}} = \varphi'_{\vec{e}} + \varphi'_{-\vec{e}}$. It is easy to check that the sum of θ'^* around each vertex is the same as for θ^* , so it defines an angled torihedron $(\mathcal{T}'_T, \theta'^*)$. For each face of Γ'_T , the $+/-$ labels on the inner side of boundary edges cancel out: for bow-tie faces, the short edge gets a $+1$ and the long edge gets -1 , while for non-bow-tie faces, it is clear from Figure 14. Hence, φ' is an angle-splitting of $(\mathcal{T}'_T, \theta'^*)$. Furthermore, all shorts edges (which are the only edges with $\varphi_{\vec{e}} = 0$) have a $+1$ label on each side, so φ' is non-degenerate.

Now we perform the same operations for the bottom torihedron, adding new edges to $\Gamma_B(L)$ to get Γ'_B in the same manner; note that left and right augmentations are switched, so that the order of $e_{i,0}, e_{i,\pi}$ are switched. Thus all the $+/-$ labels in Figure 14 should have switched signs. We also get a nondegenerate angle-splitting φ' of an angled torihedron $(\mathcal{T}'_B, \theta'^*)$.

By construction, under the gluing of $\mathcal{T}_T(L)$ to $\mathcal{T}_B(L)$, the new edges added to $\Gamma_T(L)$ are glued to the new edges added to $\Gamma_B(L)$, since they are added by the same procedure. As noted before, upon gluing $\mathcal{T}_T(L)$ to $\mathcal{T}_B(L)$ the sum of exterior dihedral angles θ^* around each edge is 2π . This clearly remains true after adding the new edges (they're label π on each torihedron). Again by construction, the $+/-$ labels coming from the top and bottom diagrams get canceled out. Thus, upon gluing \mathcal{T}'_T to \mathcal{T}'_B , the sum of new exterior dihedral angles θ'^* around each edge is 2π .

Finally, we obtain a triangulation with an angle structure as follows. For each face of Γ'_T that has more than three sides, we arbitrarily decompose it into triangles and apply Lemma 2.20 to obtain a triangulation of \mathcal{T}'_T into non-degenerate angled tetrahedra; perform the corresponding decomposition for faces of Γ'_B and obtain a triangulation of \mathcal{T}'_B into non-degenerate angled tetrahedra. These triangulations glue up into a triangulation of $\mathbb{T}^2 \times I - L$ with an angle structure. Thus, by Theorem 3.2, L is hyperbolic. \square

Remark 3.5. Note that for our definition of augmentation, we exclude the case where an unknotted circle component is added around two parallel strands that do not meet at a crossing. In particular, this implies that a non-weakly prime link cannot become weakly prime under augmentation.

If we have an augmentation around two such parallel strands, we may consider the related link where those two strands have a full twist; the hyperbolicity is unaltered, and Theorem 3.4 would apply.

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