# Fundamental groups of small covers

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1. Introduction

2. Presentations of Fundamental Groups

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• An *n*-dimensional <u>small cover</u> is a closed *n*-manifold M with a locally standard  $\mathbb{Z}_2^n$ -action whose orbit space is a simple convex polytope P.

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such that

$$\forall f = F_1 \cap F_2 \cap \cdots \cap F_k,$$

$$G_f \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \langle \lambda(F_1), \lambda(F_2), \cdots, \lambda(F_k) \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^k.$$

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Rk: 
$$\mathcal{F}(P) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \{F_1, F_2, \cdots, F_m\}.$$

### Small cover

$$M = P \times \mathbb{Z}_2^n / \sim$$

where  $(p,g) \sim (q,h)$  iff  $p=q \in \partial P$ ,  $g^{-1}h \in G_{f(p)}$ , and f(p) is the unique face of P that contains p in its relative interior.

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• Define right-angled Coxeter group of P

$$W = \langle s_F, \forall F \in \mathcal{F}(P) \mid s_F^2 = 1, (s_F s_{F'})^2 = 1, F \cap F' \neq \emptyset \rangle$$

### Borel construction

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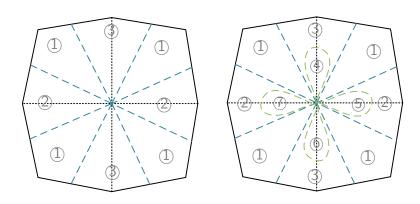
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•  $M \to BP \to B\mathbb{Z}_2^n$  induces an right-split exact sequence

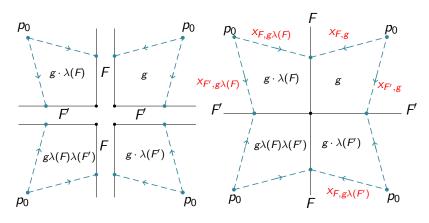
$$1 \longrightarrow \pi_1(M) \longrightarrow W \xrightarrow{\phi} \mathbb{Z}_2^n \longrightarrow 1$$

where 
$$\phi(s_F) = \lambda(F), \ \forall F \in \mathcal{F}(P).$$

# Cell decomposition



### Generators and relations

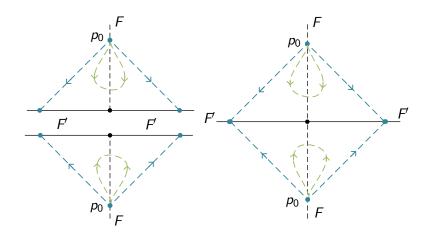


Cell-(1)

Relation-1:  $x_{F,g}x_{F,g\lambda(F)} = 1$ 

Relation-2:  $x_{F,g}x_{F',g\lambda(F)} = x_{F',g}x_{F,g\lambda(F')}$ 

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Relation-3:  $x_{F,g} = 1$ ,  $p_0 \subset F$ 

# Presentation of $\pi_1(M)$

# Presentation of $\pi_1(M, p_0)$

$$\begin{split} \pi_1(\textit{M},\textit{p}_0) &= \langle \textit{x}_{\textit{F},\textit{g}}, \forall \textit{F},\textit{g} \mid \textit{x}_{\textit{F},\textit{g}} \textit{x}_{\textit{F},\textit{g}\lambda(\textit{F})} = 1; \\ & \textit{x}_{\textit{F},\textit{g}} \textit{x}_{\textit{F}',\textit{g}\lambda(\textit{F})} = \textit{x}_{\textit{F}',\textit{g}} \textit{x}_{\textit{F},\textit{g}\lambda(\textit{F}')}, \; \textit{F} \cap \textit{F}' \neq \varnothing; \\ & \textit{x}_{\textit{F},\textit{g}} = 1, \textit{p}_0 \in \textit{F}; \rangle \end{split}$$

$$\mathcal{M} = Q \times \pi_1(M)/\sim = P \times W/\sim$$

$$F$$
 $F_1$ 
 $F$ 
 $F_1$ 
 $F$ 
 $F_2$ 

Rk: 
$$\lambda(F_1, F_2, F, F') = (e_1, e_2, e_1e_2, e_2).$$

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 $F$ 
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 $X_{F,1}(Q,1) \mapsto (Q, X_{F,1})$ 
 $S_F(P,1) \mapsto (P, S_F)$ 

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 $F_2$ 

$$\alpha: \pi_1(M, p_0) \longrightarrow W$$

$$x_{F,g} \longmapsto \gamma(g\lambda(F)) \cdot \gamma(\lambda(F)) s_F \cdot (\gamma(g\lambda(F)))^{-1}$$

$$= \gamma(g) s_F \gamma(g\lambda(F))$$

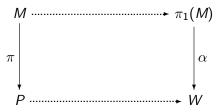
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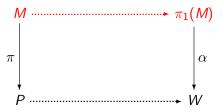
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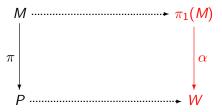
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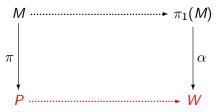
$$1 \longrightarrow \pi_{1}(M) \xrightarrow{\alpha} W \xrightarrow{\phi} \mathbb{Z}_{2}^{n} \longrightarrow 1$$

$$(1)$$











#### Some notions

For any proper face f of P,

• Define  $\mathcal{F}(f^{\perp}) \stackrel{\triangle}{=} \{F \in \mathcal{F}(P) \mid \dim(f \cap F) = \dim(f) - 1\}$ . So  $\mathcal{F}(f^{\perp})$  consists of those facets of P that intersect f transversely.

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- A submanifold  $\Sigma$  in M is called  $\pi_1$ -injective if the inclusion  $\Sigma \hookrightarrow M$  induces a monomorphism in the fundamental group.
- A <u>k-circuit</u> in the simple polytope P is a simple loop on the boundary of P which intersects transversely with the interior of exactly k distinct edges, and a k-circuit is called <u>prismatic</u> if the endpoints of those edges are distinct.

# $\pi_1$ -injectivity of facial submanifolds

### Theorem (Wu-Yu, 2017)

Let M be a small cover over a simple polytope P and f be a proper face of P. The following two statements are equivalent.

- > The facial submanifold  $M_f$  is  $\pi_1$ -injective.
- > For any  $F, F' \in \mathcal{F}(f^{\perp})$ , we have  $f \cap F \cap F' \neq \emptyset$  whenever  $F \cap F' \neq \emptyset$ .

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Rk: We can determine the kernel of  $i_*: \pi_1(M_f) \longrightarrow \pi_1(M)$ .

#### Other results

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Let M be a small cover over P. Then P is flag if and only if every facial submanifold of M is  $\pi_1$ -injective.

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### Proposition (Wu-Yu, 2017)

For any small cover M over a 3-dimensional simple polytope P, there always exists a facet F of P so that the facial submanifold  $M_F$  is  $\pi_1$ -injective.

## **Applications**

Let M be a 3-small cover over  $P(\neq \Delta^3)$ , the following facts was referred in DJ's paper(corrected):

• If there exist prismatic 3-circuits in P, then M can be decomposed into pieces glued along  $S^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}P^2$ .

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- If there is no prismatic 3-circuit but 4-circuits in P, then M
  can be decomposed into geometric pieces glued along tori or
  Klein bottles.
- If there is no prismatic 3 or 4-circuit in P, then M is hyperbolic.

Let M be a connected 3-manifold.

• M is called <u>prime</u> if  $M = M_1 \# M_2$  implies  $M_1 = S^3$  or  $M_2 = S^3$ .

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### Theorem (Kneser, Prime Decomposition Theorem)

Every compact oriented 3 manifold M factors as a connected sum of prime manifolds,  $M\cong M_1\#\cdots\# M_n$ , and this decomposition is unique up to insertion or deletion of  $S^3$  summands.

#### Proposition

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Let M be a 3-dimensional small cover over a simple polytope P, then M is  $P^2$ -irreducible if and only if there is no prismatic 3-circuit in P.

In particular, the prime decomposition of an oriented 3-small cover is equivalent to cutting surgery along prismatic 3-circuits in P.

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# Theorem (Jaco-Shalen-Johannson, Torus Decomposition Theorem)

Let M be an oriented, irreducible, closed 3-manifold. There exists a (possibly empty) collection of disjointly embedded incompressible tori  $T_1, \dots, T_m$  such that each component of M cut along  $T_1 \cup \dots \cup T_m$  is atoroidal or Seifert fibered. Any such collection of tori with a minimal number of components is unique up to isotopy.

#### Theorem (Perelman, Geometrization Theorem)

Let M be a irreducible colsed 3-manifold. There exists a (possibly empty) collection of disjointly embedded incompressible surface  $S_1, \dots, S_m$  which are either tori or Klein bottles, such that each component of M cut along  $S_1 \cup \dots \cup S_m$  is geometric. Any such collection of tori with a minimal number of components is unique up to isotopy.

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### Proposition

Let M be a 3-small cover over a simple polytope P, then M is atoroidal if and only if there is no prismatic 4-circuit in P. In particular, the JSJ decomposition or geometric decomposition of a 3-small cover is equivalent to cutting surgery along prismatic 4-circuits in P.

#### Geometric structure

### Theorem (Thurston, Hyperbolization Theorem)

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### Proposition

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#### Geometric structure

### Proposition

A small cover M over a simple 3-polytope P can admit a Riemannian metric with nonnegative scalar curvature if and only if P is combinatorially equivalent to the cube  $[0,1]^3$  or a polytope obtained from  $\Delta^3$  by a sequence of vertex cuts. In particular, all the oriented 3-dimensional small covers that can admit Riemannian metrics with non-negative scalar curvature are the two oriented real Bott manifolds in dimension 3 and the connected sum of k copies of  $\mathbb{R}P^3$  for any  $k \geq 1$ .

# End of Talk

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