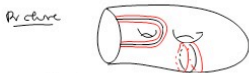


Lecture 2: Loops and arcs

Def: A loop (curve) is a 1-submanifold in S homeo. to S^1 . An arc is a 1-submanifold homeo. to $I = [0,1]$.



So arcs and loops have product neighborhoods.



I.e. $N(\alpha) \cong I \times \alpha \hookrightarrow S$ so that $\frac{1}{2} \times \alpha \subset \text{int } N(\alpha)$ via the projection onto 2nd factor.

Def: If $\alpha \subset S$ then $S_\alpha = \underline{S}$ cut along α is $S \setminus \text{int } N(\alpha)$.

S minus the interior of $N(\alpha)$.

Recall: A cut system is a collection of loops $A = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_g\}$ so that S_A is planar.

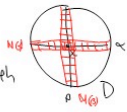
Def: $\alpha \subset S$ is separating if S_α is not connected.

Exercise: Prove S is planar iff every loop $\alpha \subset S$ is separating.

[Hints available via email.]

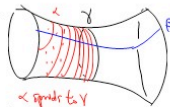
Def: $\alpha, \beta \subset S$ are transverse iff for every $x \in \alpha \cap \beta$ there is a disk neighborhood of x and products $N(\alpha), N(\beta)$ so that

$D \cap N(\alpha) \cap N(\beta)$ is a square in both $N(\alpha)$ and in $N(\beta)$



[I.e. of form $I \times J \subseteq I \times \alpha, J$ an interval and $I \times K \subseteq I \times \beta, K$ " "]

Exercise: If α, β are transverse then $|\alpha \cap \beta| = \text{finite}$ [NB this requires compactness.]



Exercise:

$\alpha \subset S$ is nonsep iff $\exists \beta \subset S$ so that $\alpha \cap \beta$ is exactly one transverse intersection.

Exercise: Prove that Def 2 & Def 3 of genus are equivalent

Reading Exercise: Epstein's paper (1966)

Prove the 2-Dim'l Poincaré Conj:

If $\pi_1(S) = \mathbb{1}$ then $S = D^2$ or S^2

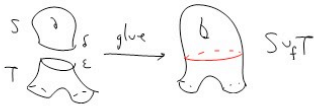
In summary: A surface is determined up to homeomorphism, by genus(S), $b = |\partial S|$.

[Class. Thm.]

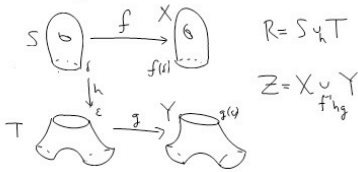
Want to classify curves on surfaces up to homeomorphism of the surface.

But first: Gluing

Suppose S, T are surfaces, $S \subset \partial S, C \subset \partial T$
 Pick $f: S \rightarrow C$



Gluing homeomorphisms is also allowed:

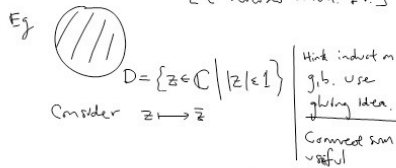


Define: $F: R \rightarrow Z$ via $F(x) = \begin{cases} f(x), & x \in S \\ g(x), & x \in T \end{cases}$ } The glued homeomorphism

Lots of homeomorphisms

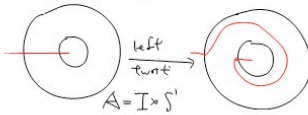
Exercise: $\forall S$ there is a homeo

$\tau: S \rightarrow S$ s.t. $\tau^2 = \mathbb{1}_S$
 * τ fixes every $S \subset \partial S$
 * $\tau|_S$ is a reflection
 [τ reverses orient. of S .]



Call τ a reflection.

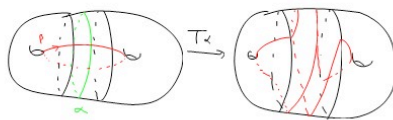
Dehn twists



$T_A(t, \theta) = (t, \theta + 2\pi t)$

the inverse is a right twist. [NB: This depends on the orientation of A]

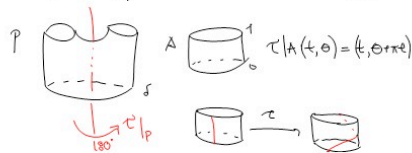
Prop: If $\alpha \subset S, A \cong N(\alpha)$



$T_\alpha(x) = \begin{cases} x, & x \notin N(\alpha) \\ T_A(x), & x \in N(\alpha) \end{cases}$

Half-twists:

Let $\tau|_P$ be 180° rotation of $P \subset S_{g,2}$



Glue to get a half twist:

