Hyperbolic 3-manifolds Lecture 2: Hyperbolic Dehn fillings

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The figure-eight knot complement

Let *K* be the figure-eight knot¹:



¹jim.belk, from wikipedia

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The figure-eight knot complement – cont.

Consider the manifold $M = \mathbb{S}^3 - K$.

Claim

The manifold M is homeomorphic to the following gluing of two tetrahedra.

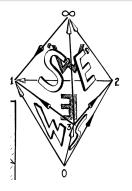
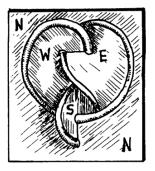


Figure: Picture by G. Francis, "A Topological Picturebook".

The figure-eight knot complement – cont.

To see this, consider the following edges and disks:²

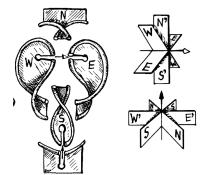


The two tetrahedra are the two 3-balls above and below the figure.

²Francis G., "A Topological Picturebook".

The figure-eight knot complement – cont.

Around each edge we see the following configuration³:



Exercise

Find the gluing of the two tetrahedra from these figures.

³Francis G., "A Topological Picturebook".

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Hyperbolic 3-manifolds

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Goal: Identify each tetrahedron with an ideal tetrahedron, and answer the following

- Why does it have finite volume ?
- Why is it hyperbolic ? ?
- Why is it complete ? ? ?

The Figure-eight knot complement

Ideal tetrahedra

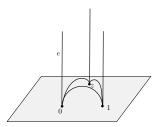
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The parameter of an ideal tetrahedron

Given an ideal tetrahedron T and an edge e, up to an isometry of \mathbb{H}^3 we can place T such that three of its vertices are $0, \infty, 1$, where the edge e connects 0 and ∞ , and the fourth ideal vertex is some $z(e) \in \mathbb{C}$ with $\Im z(e) > 0$.

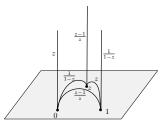


Exercise

Every ideal tetrahedron has finite volume.

Exercises

- z(e) does not depend on the orientation of e.
- If e, e' are opposite then z(e) = z(e').
- If z, z', z'' are the invariants of the three edges incident to a vertex of T, in clockwise order, then $z' = \frac{z-1}{z}$ and $z'' = \frac{1}{1-z}$. In particular, they satisfy: zz'z'' = -1 and 1 z zz' = 0.



The Figure-eight knot complement

2 Ideal tetrahedra

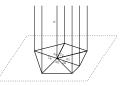
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The gluing condition

Assume M is glued from ideal tetrahedra.Let e be an edge of M, assume that T_1, \ldots, T_r are the tetrahedra of M that are cyclically glued around e, and let z_i be the invariant of the ideal tetrahedra T_i at the edge e.

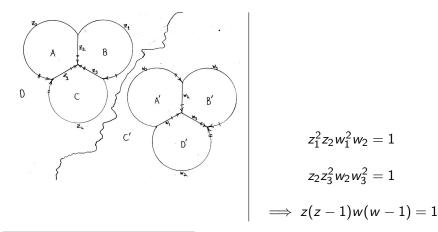


For *M* to have a hyperbolic metric we need to verify that the dihedral angles around *e* add up to 2π . That is, $\arg(z_1) + \cdots + \arg(z_r) = 2\pi$.

But this does not suffice, we need to make sure that when going around an edge the accumulated gluing makes sense. This amounts to checking that $z_1 \dots z_r = 1$.

Gluing condition for fig-8

Recall that the figure-eight knot complement $M = \mathbb{S}^3 - K$ is the gluing of two tetrahedra $M = T \cup T'$. Assume each is ideal, with parameters $z = z_1, z_2, z_3$ and $w = w_1, w_2, w_3$ as follows⁴:



⁴Thurston W., "The Geometry and Topology of Three-Manifolds".

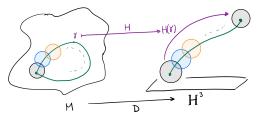
The Figure-eight knot complement

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The developing and holonomy maps

Given a hyperbolic metric M we can consider its *developing map* $D: \widetilde{M} \to \mathbb{H}^3$ defined by sending a neighborhood of some point in M to a neighborhood of a point in \mathbb{H}^3 and continuing the map along paths so that it is a local isometry.



The developing map is equivariant with respect to the holonomy map $H : \pi_1(M) \to \mathsf{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C}).$

Exercise

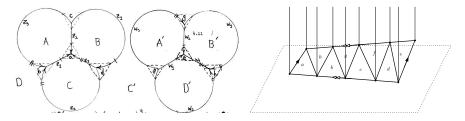
Verify that H is a well-defined homomorphism, and that the D is well-defined and H-equivariant.

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To check that the metric is complete, it suffices to check that a small neighborhood N of the ideal vertex of M is a cusp. This happens if and only if the holonomy image $H(\pi_1(N))$ of $\pi_1(N)$ is a discrete parabolic subgroup, that is, it lands in the subgroup $P = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & * \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ (up to conjugation).

Since *N* is homeomorphic to a small neighborhood of *K* in $\mathbb{S}^3 - K$ it is homeomorphic to $\mathbb{T}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$, and $\pi_1(N) \simeq \mathbb{Z}^2$.

Explicitly, the developing map of N given as follows⁵:

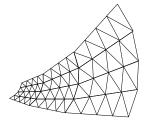


We see that the holonomy image $H(\pi_1(N))$ fixes the point ∞ , i.e. it is in the subgroup $B = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} z & * \\ 0 & z^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \right\}$. The group B acts on \mathbb{C}^2 by affine linear transformation $\{z \mapsto az + b\}$. It lands in P if and only if the affine transformations are translations (i.e. a = 1).

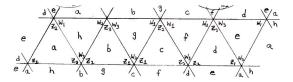
⁵Thurston, "The Geometry and Topology of Three-Manifolds" A State of the second stat

The developing map around an ideal vertex

If it does not land in P the developing map will look like:



Let us compute the linear part (the derivative) of the holonomy:



 $H'(x) = \left(\frac{z}{w}\right)^2$ and H'(y) = w(1-z).

To summarize, for the gluing of tetrahedra to be hyperbolic and complete we need to satisfy:

hyperbolic:
$$z(z-1)w(w-1) = 1$$
 $\Im(z) > 0, \Im(w) > 0$
complete: $\left(\frac{z}{w}\right)^2 = H'(x) = 1$ $w(1-z) = H'(y) = 1$

We see that $z_0 = w_0 = e^{2\pi i/3}$ is the only solution to all equations. Note that this is exactly the parameter of the regular ideal tetrahedron.

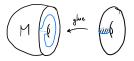
This completes the proof that the Figure-eight knot complement has a finite-volume hyperbolic metric.

The Figure-eight knot complement

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Definition

Let M be a compact manifold with tori boundaries. M' is a *Dehn filling* of M if it is obtained from M by gluing solid tori to (some of) its boundary components.



Theorem (Lickorish – Wallace)

Any closed orientable 3-manifold can be obtained by Dehn filling a link complement.

Goal: Hyperbolic Dehn fillings of the figure-eight knot complement.

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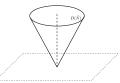
Incomplete metrics

Let us analyze further the case of incomplete metrics on M. That is, H'(x), H'(y) are not both 1

Both H(x), H(y) fix ∞ and since they are commuting contracting (or expanding) maps they both fix one point in \mathbb{C}^2 . WLOG, let this point be 0.

So the holonomy simply consists of linear maps $(z \mapsto az)$, and is determined by $H(\cdot)' : \pi_1(N) \to \mathbb{C}^*$. This map can be lifted to $\widetilde{H} : \pi_1(N) \to \widetilde{\mathbb{C}^*} \simeq \mathbb{C}^2$ (where the last map is log map).

It stabilizes the geodesic η connecting $0, \infty$ (the *z*-axis), and the action of $g \in \pi_1(N)$ on η is given by H(g).t = |H'(g)|t. Finally, the developing image $D(\tilde{N}) = C - \eta$ where C is, WLOG, the cone around the *z*-axis η :



If there are generators a, b for $\pi_1(N) \simeq \mathbb{Z}^2$ so that $\widetilde{H}(a) = \pm 2\pi i$. Then $\pi_1(N)$ acts discretely and freely on C.

The completion of $C - \eta$ is the full cone C. By moding out by $\pi_1(N)$ we get that the completion \overline{N} of N is the hyperbolic solid torus C/N (obtained by adding a circle η/N to N).

Thus, the completion \overline{M} of M is a Dehn filling. Note also that the curve described by a is the slope of the filling.

Given $\widetilde{H}(x), \widetilde{H}(y)$ there are unique $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ (up to sign) so that

$$\alpha \widetilde{H}(x) + \beta \widetilde{H}(b) = \pm 2\pi i.$$

Thus, to find hyperbolic Dehn fillings it suffices to find a **primitive pair of integers** $(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$, because in this case $a = \alpha x + \beta y$ is part of a generating set a, b for $\pi_1(N)$ which has the desired properties. Summary, for the figure-eight knot complement: Given the parameter w for one of the ideal tetrahedra we get

•
$$\rightsquigarrow z$$

• $\rightsquigarrow \widetilde{H}(x), \widetilde{H}(y)$
• $\rightsquigarrow (\alpha, \beta).$

So we get a map $S: w \mapsto \alpha + i\beta \in \mathbb{C}$, we can extend it to w_0 by sending $S(w_0) = \infty \in \overline{\mathbb{C}}$.

This map $S: U \to \overline{\mathbb{C}}$ is analytic in the neighborhood of w_0 , and so S(U) is a neighborhood of ∞ in \mathbb{C} . Therefore, for all but finite many primitive pairs $(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ we have $\alpha + i\beta \in S(U)$.

Theorem (Thurston's Hyperbolic Dehn Filling)

Let M be a compact manifold with tori boundaries $\partial M = T_1 \cup \ldots \cup T_r$. If $M - \partial M$ admits a complete (finite-volume) hyperbolic metric then with the exception of finitely many slopes for each $1 \le i \le r$, the Dehn filling of M' is hyperbolic.