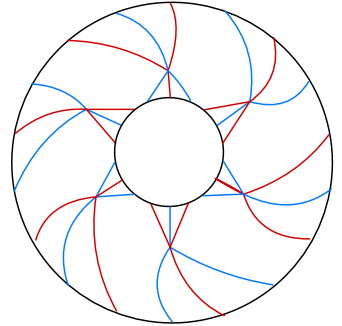
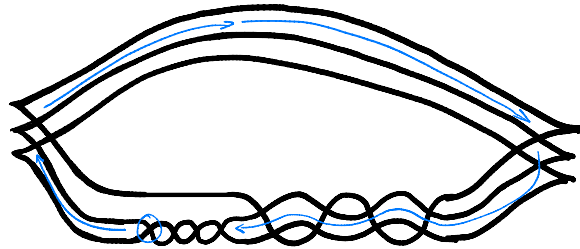
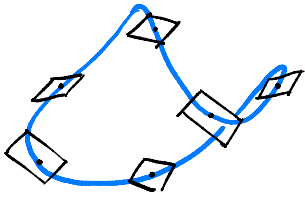


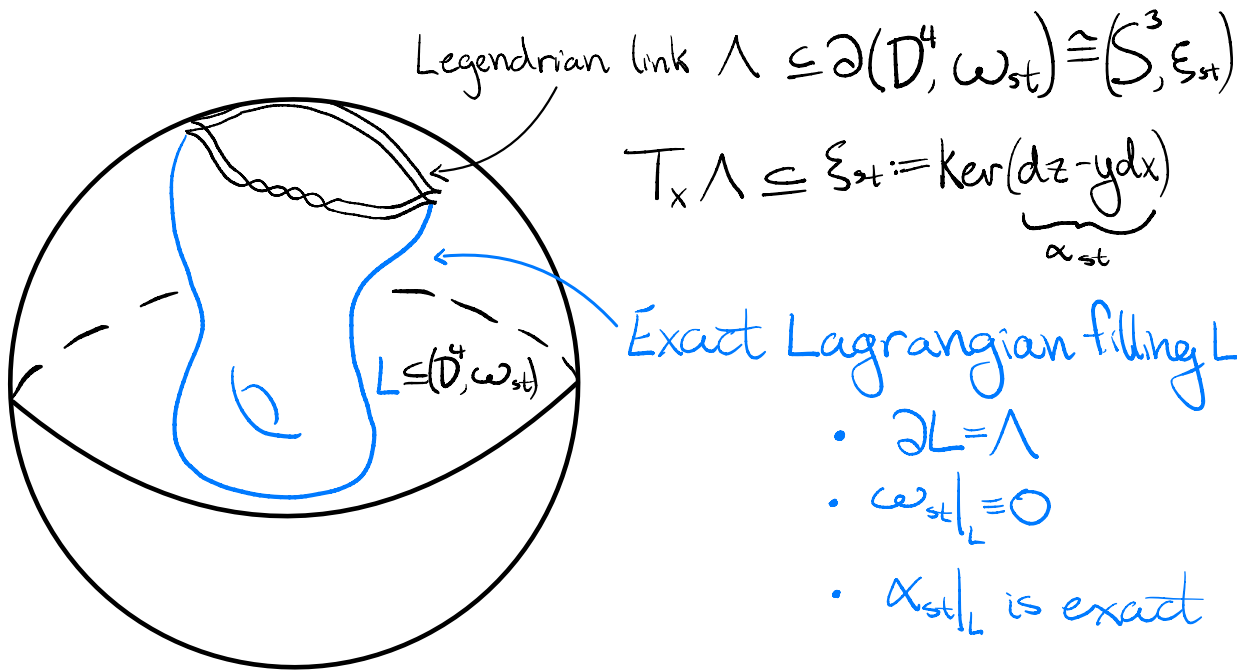
# A Nielsen-Thurston classification of Legendrian Loops

James Hughes (Duke)

@Tech Topology 2023

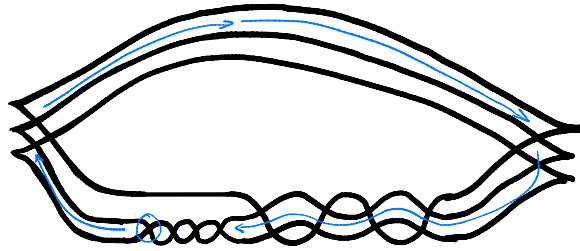


# Legendrian Links + Lagrangian Fillings



## Legendrian Loops

Def: A Legendrian Loop of  $\Lambda$  is a Legendrian isotopy fixing  $\Lambda$  pointwise at time 1.



Legendrian loops act on the set of exact Lagrangian fillings by concatenation.

## Contact geometry

- Legendrian link  $\Lambda$   
(braid positive)

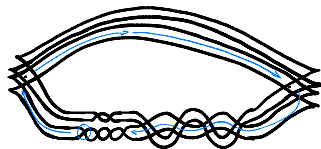
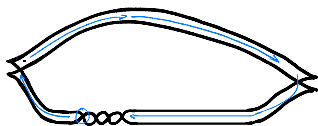
## (Cluster) algebraic invariants

- Algebraic variety  $\mathcal{M}_1(\Lambda)$
- Exact Lagrangian filling  $L$  of  $\Lambda$   $\longrightarrow$  Toric chart  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^{b_1(L)} \subseteq \mathcal{M}_1(\Lambda)$
- Legendrian loop  $\longrightarrow$  (cluster) automorphism of  $\mathcal{M}_1(\Lambda)$

## Nielsen-Thurston Classification

Def: A Legendrian loop  $\varphi$  of  $\Lambda$  is:

- periodic if  $\tilde{\varphi}^n = \text{id}$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- reducible if  $\tilde{\varphi}$  fixes some set of cluster coordinates in  $\mathcal{M}_1(\Lambda)$
- pseudo-Anosov if  $\tilde{\varphi}^n$  is neither periodic nor reducible.



## Fixed Points

Thm(H. 23): The induced action of any periodic Legendrian loop has a fixed point in  $M_1(1)_{>0}$ .

Ex:  $\Lambda((2,1)^9) \cong \Lambda(3,6)$

$$a_1 = \frac{a_2 + a_3 + a_1 a_4}{a_2} \quad a_7 = \frac{a_1 a_3 a_5 a_6 a_8 + (a_1 a_3 a_6^2 + ((a_1 a_4 + (a_2 + a_3) a_5) a_6) a_7) a_9}{a_1 a_3 a_6 a_7 + (a_1 a_4 + (a_2 + a_3) a_5) a_7^2} a_{10} \quad / (a_1 a_3 a_5 a_7 a_8)$$

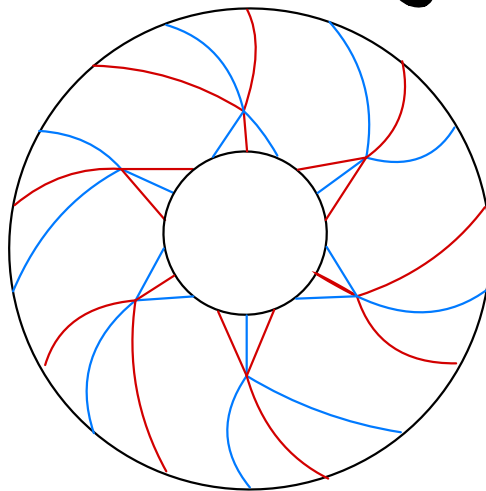
$$a_2 = a_4 \quad a_8 = a_{10}$$

$$a_3 = \frac{a_2 + a_3}{a_1} \quad a_9 = \frac{a_1 a_3 a_5 a_8 + (a_1 a_3 a_6 + (a_1 a_4 + (a_2 + a_3) a_5) a_7) a_9}{a_1 a_3 a_5 a_7}$$

$$a_4 = \frac{a_3 a_6 + a_4 a_7}{a_5} \quad a_{10} = a_9$$

$$a_5 = \frac{a_1 a_3 a_6 + (a_1 a_4 + (a_2 + a_3) a_5) a_7}{a_1 a_3 a_5}$$

Thank you!



# Fundamental Groups of nontrivial genus-2 Lefschetz Fibrations

Sierra Knavel

Tech Topology Conference 2023

Georgia Tech, Advised by John Etnyre



# Lefschetz Fibrations: Why do we care?

- Lefschetz fibrations<sup>\*</sup>  $\longleftrightarrow$  symplectic 4-mfds

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Question:

what are possible  $\pi_1$ 's of genus- $g$  LF?

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- Lefschetz fibrations<sup>\*</sup>  $\longleftrightarrow$  symplectic 4-mfds

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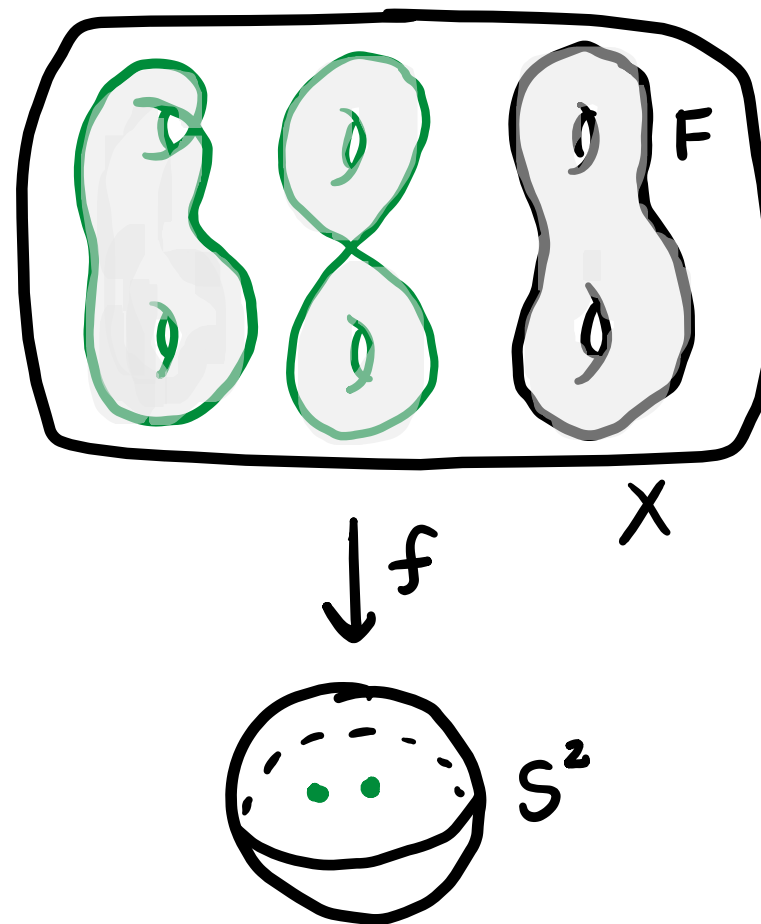
What are possible  $\pi_1$ 's of genus- $g$  LF?

Question for today:

What are possible  $\pi_1$ 's of genus 2 LFs over  $S^2$ ?

# Lefschetz Fibrations: definition

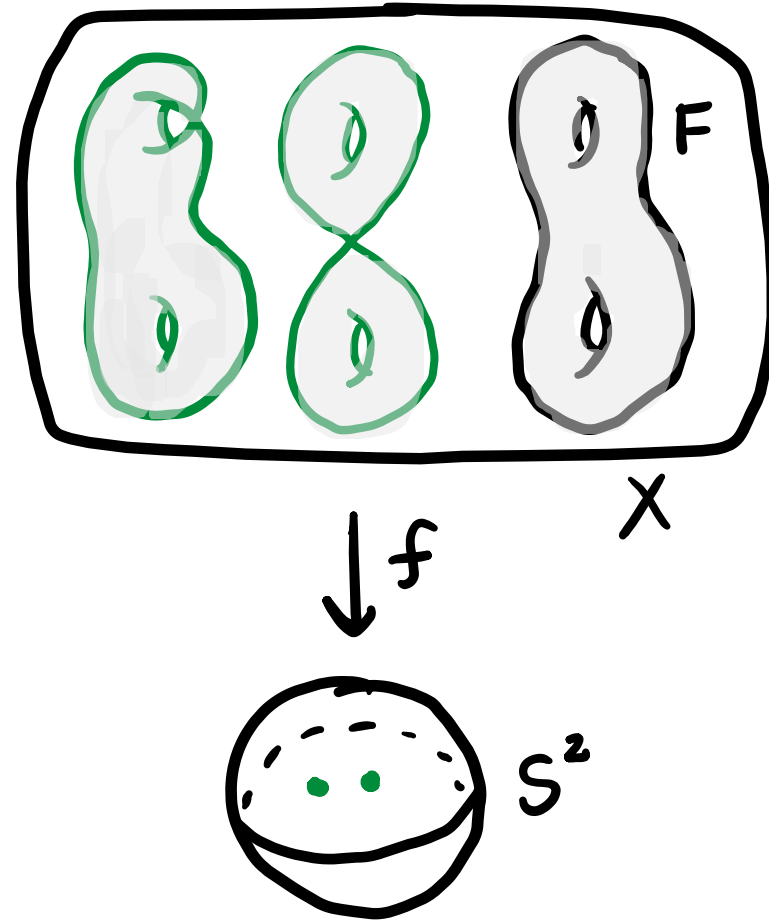
Lefschetz fibration:



# Lefschetz Fibrations: definition

Lefschetz fibration:

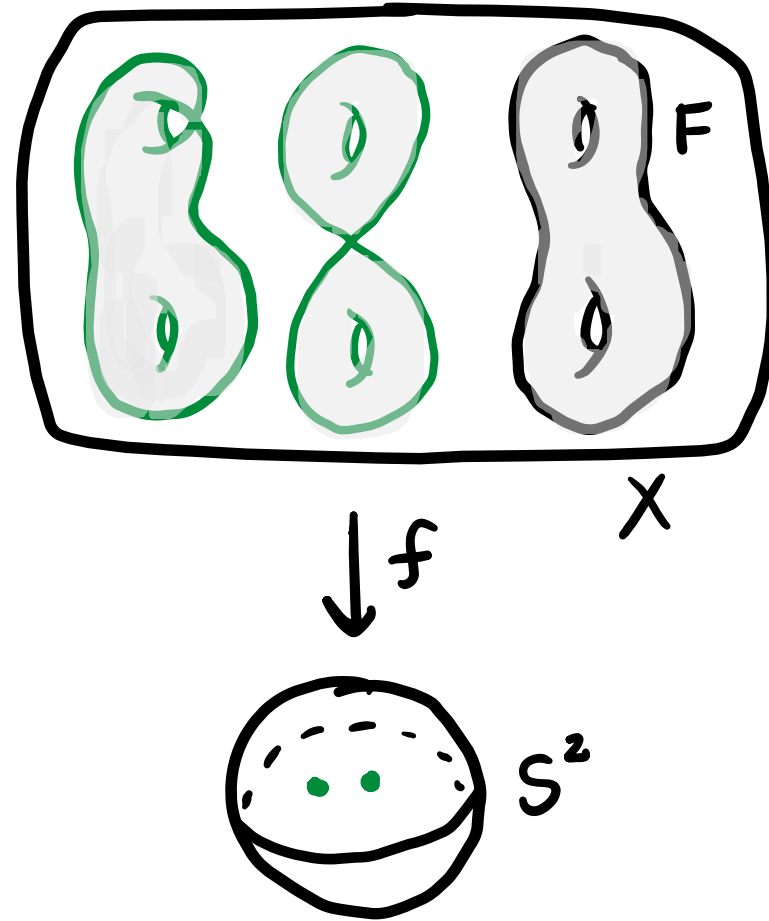
- surjection  $f: X^4 \rightarrow \Sigma_h^2$



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Lefschetz fibration:

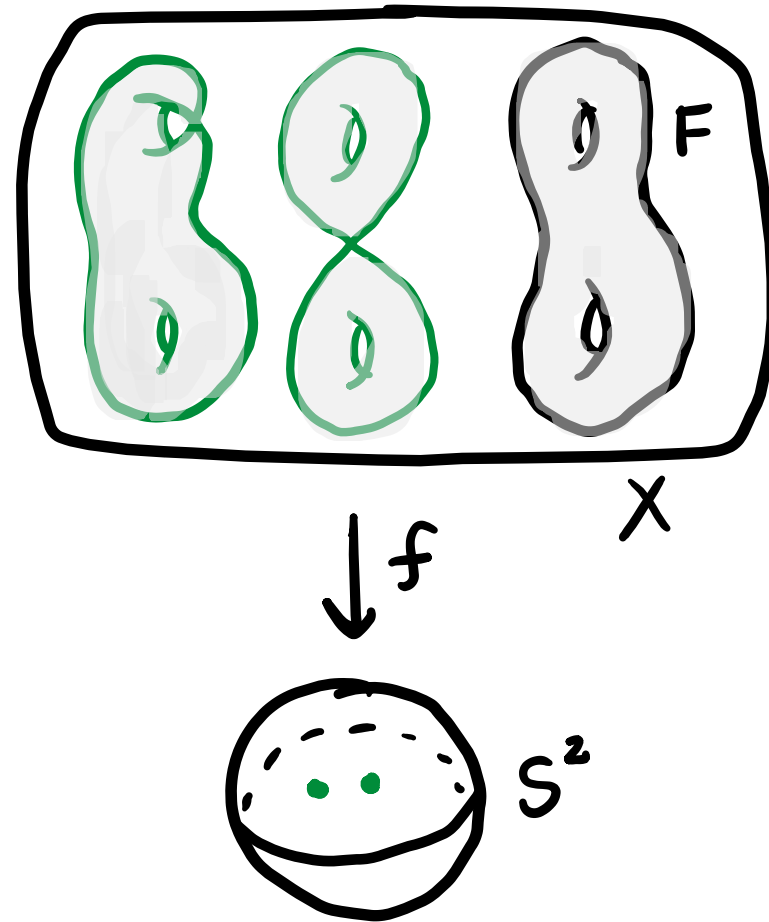
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Lefschetz fibration:

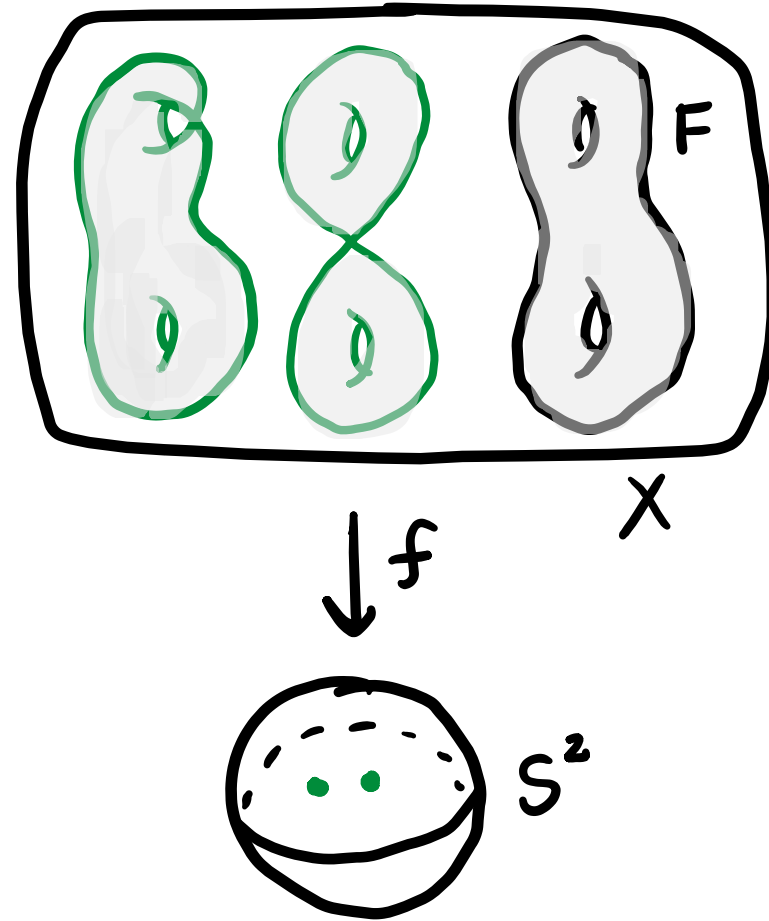
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↳ finitely many



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Lefschetz fibration:

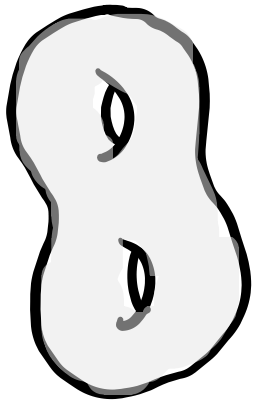
- surjection  $f: X^4 \rightarrow \Sigma_h^2$
- singular points  $\mathcal{P}(z,w) = zw$ 
  - ↳ finitely many
- genus of LF = genus of fiber





# Lefschetz Fibrations: fibers

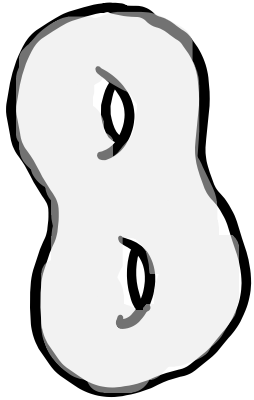
regular fiber



genus  $g$

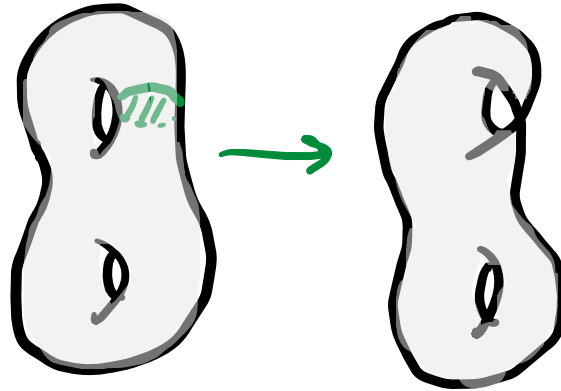
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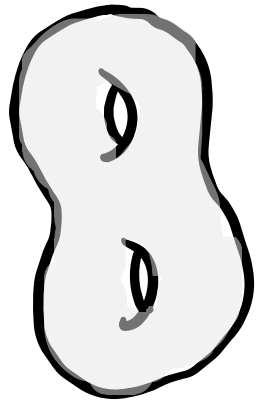
singular fiber



non-separating

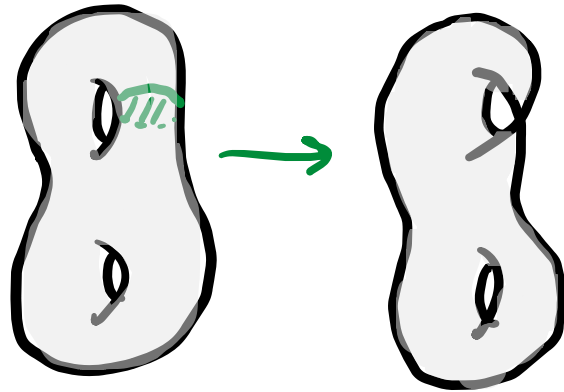
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regular fiber

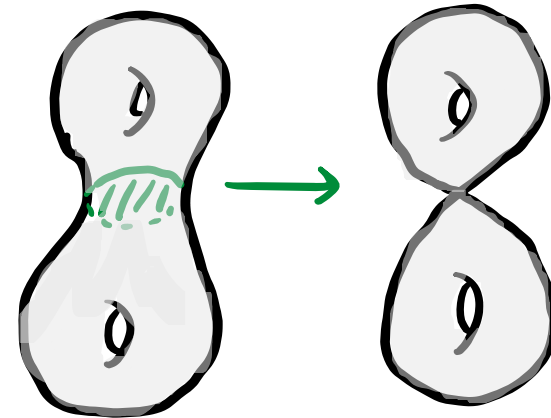


genus  $g$

singular fiber



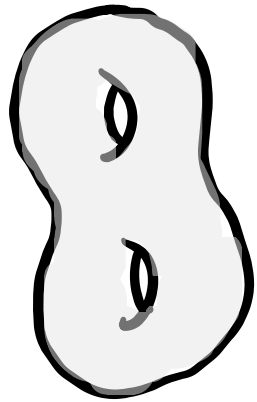
non-separating



separating

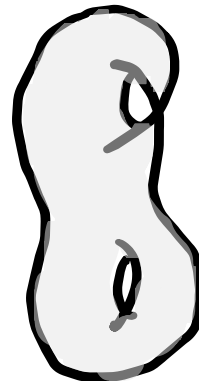
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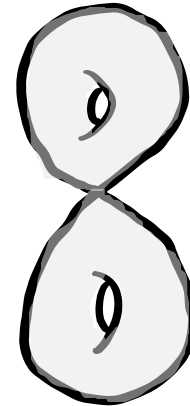
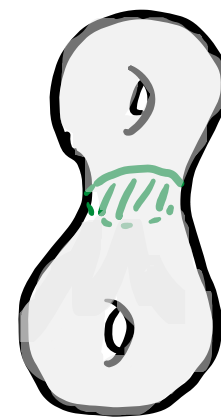


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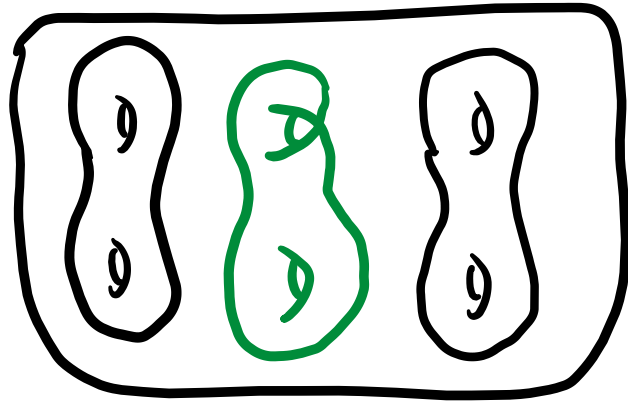
non-separating



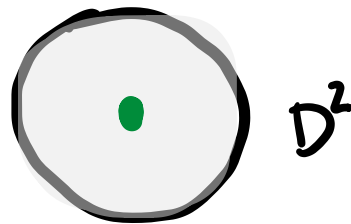
separating

 = vanishing cycle

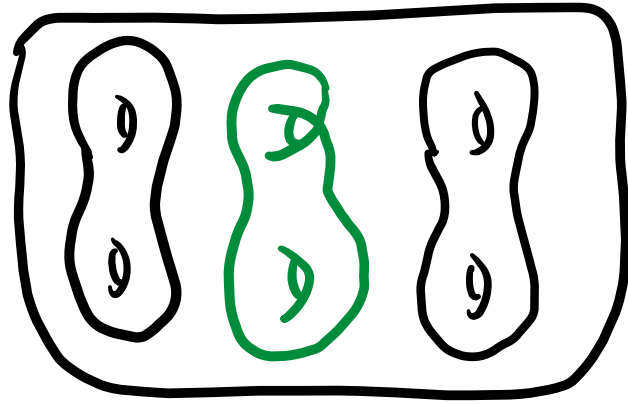
# Lefschetz Fibrations: monodromy



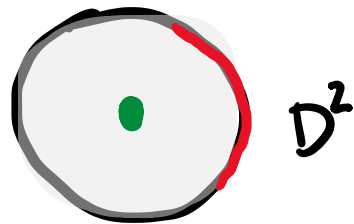
↓  $f$



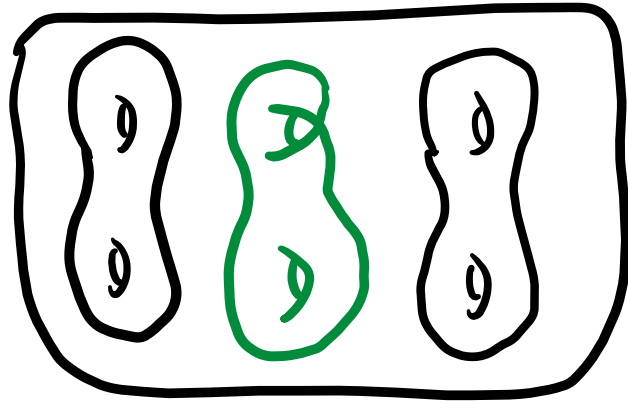
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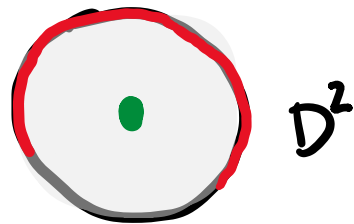
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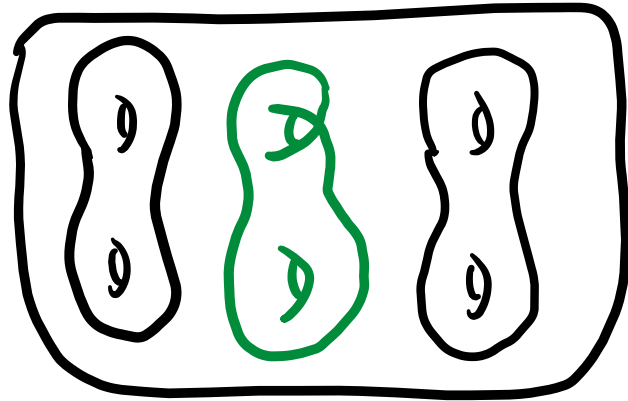
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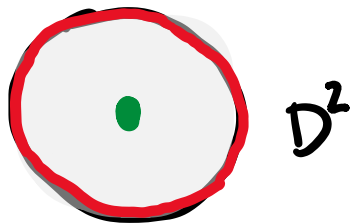
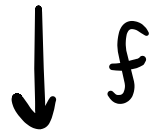
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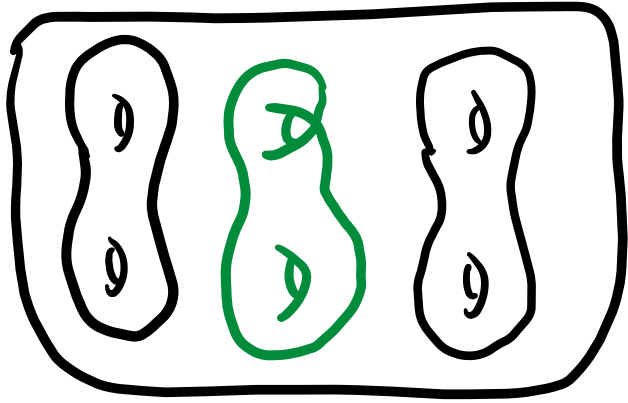


- tracing disks in base space  
give  $F$ -bundle/ $S^1$

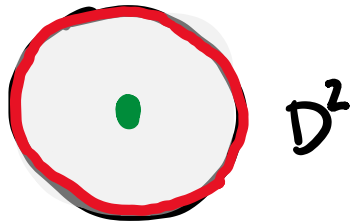




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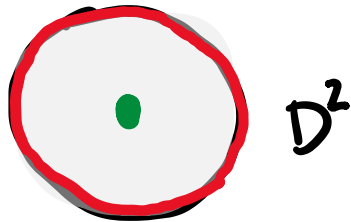
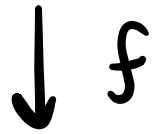
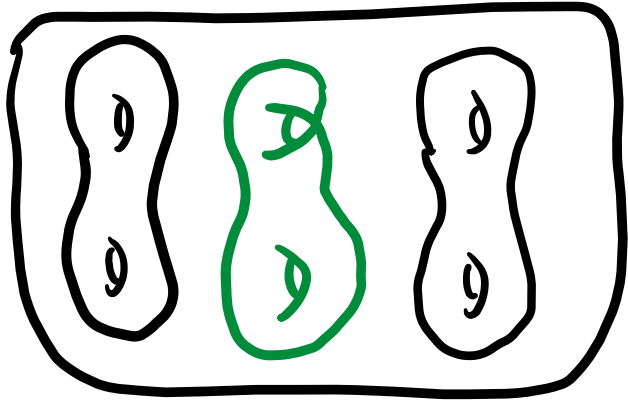


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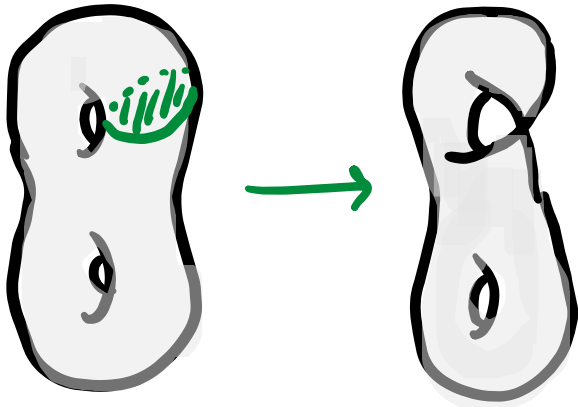
# Lefschetz Fibrations: monodromy



- tracing disks in base space  
give  $F$ -bundle/ $S^1$
- monodromy  $\phi: F \rightarrow F$  is  
a Dehn twist about v.c.
- going around all singular values  
gives factorization of  $\text{id} \in \text{Mod}(F)$

# Lefschetz Fibrations: $vc$ 's as 2-handles

Takeaway:

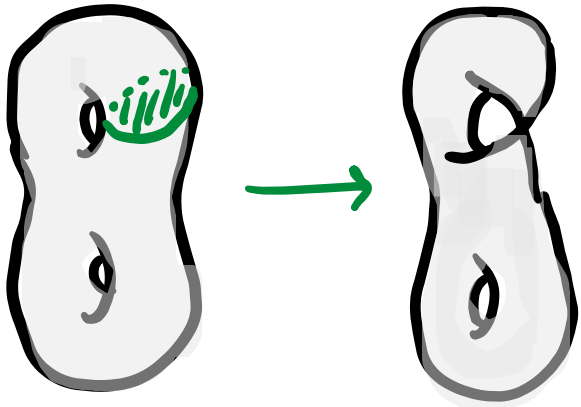


 = vanishing cycle

# Lefschetz Fibrations: vc's as 2-handles

Takeaway:

- vanishing cycles on singular fibers = important



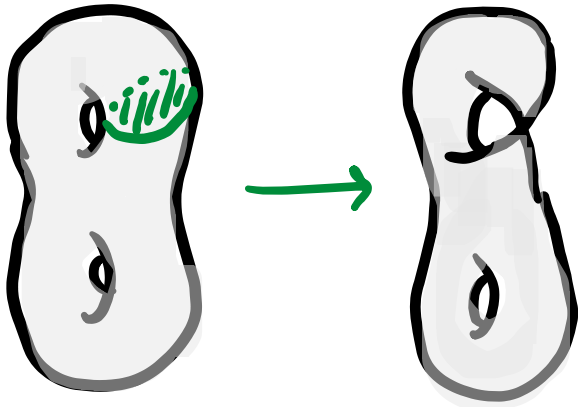
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Fundamental Group:

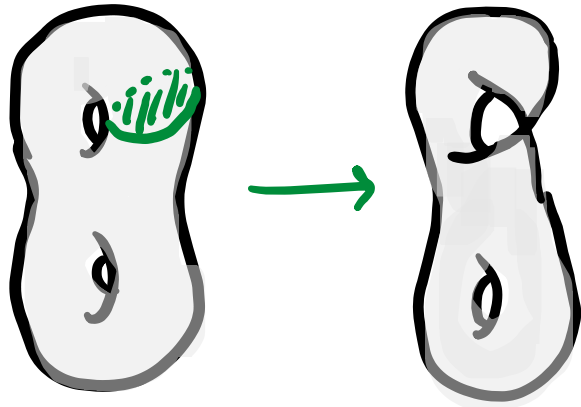


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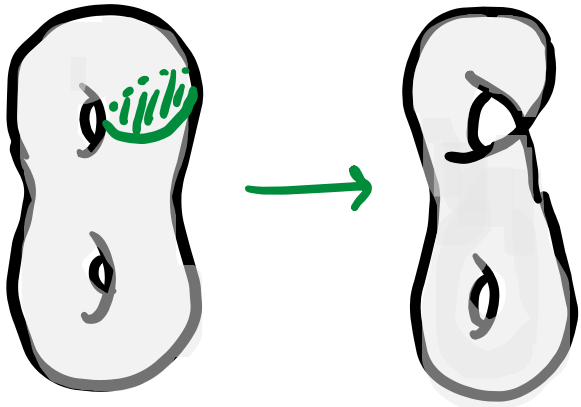
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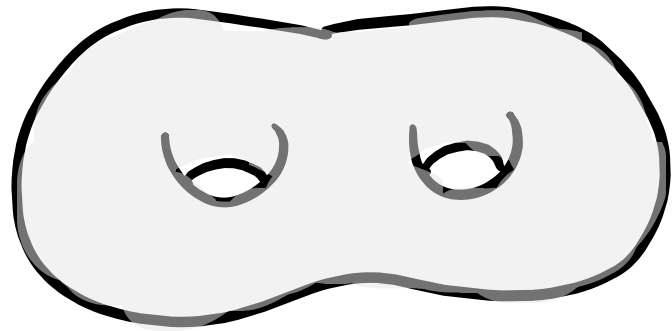


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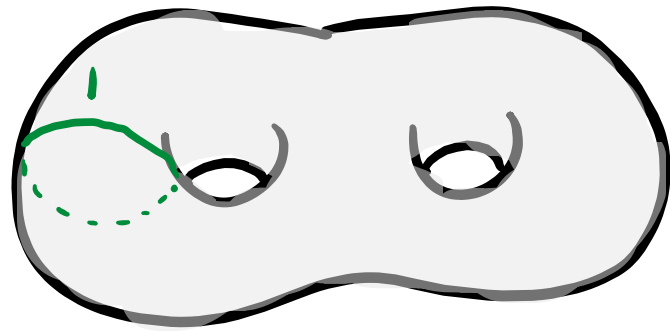
- generators = 1-handles
- relations = 2-handles
- $\therefore$  disks glued along v.c.'s give relations

# Simply Connected Genus-2 Lefschetz Fibrations

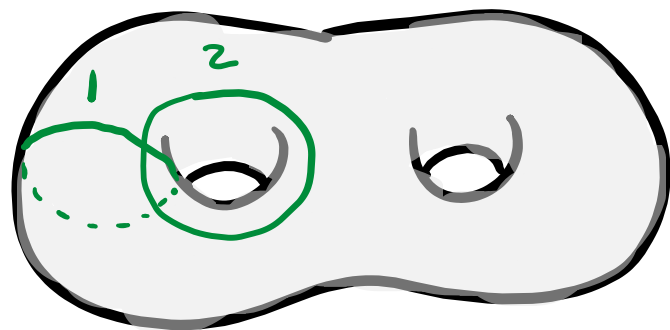




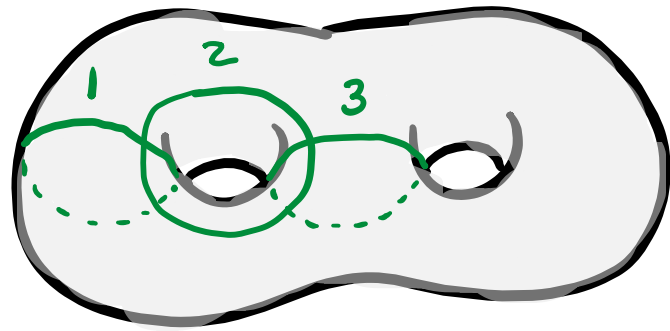
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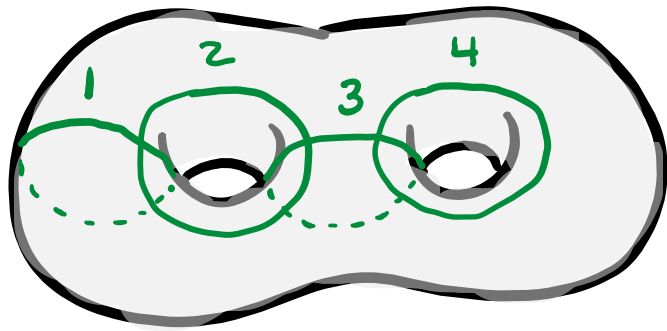
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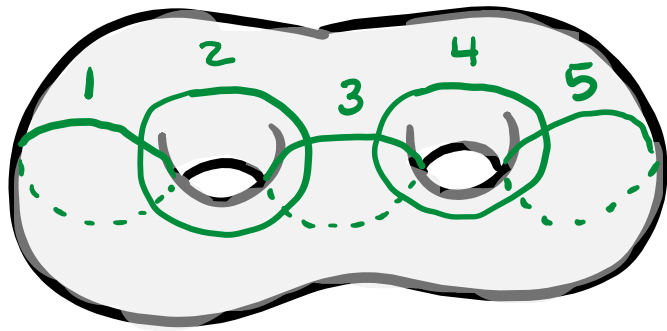
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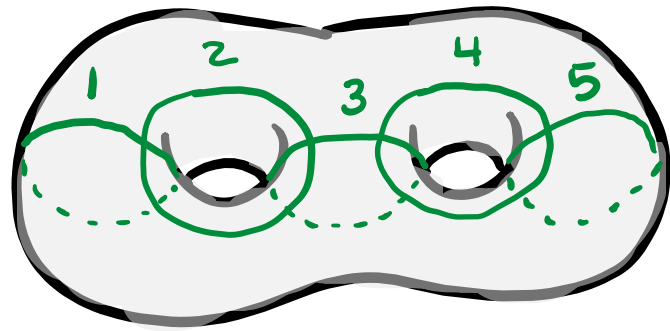
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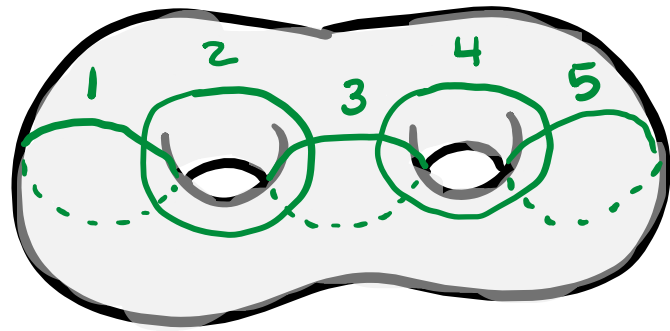
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Chakiris '83

Every holomorphic genus 2 LF  
with no separating vc's  
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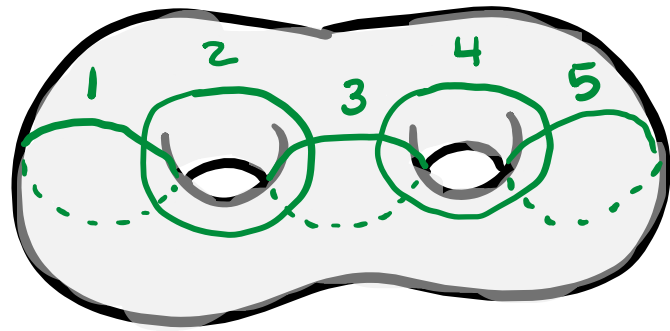


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is a fiber sum of  $\alpha$

$$\alpha: (t_1 t_2 t_3 t_4 t_5 t_5 t_4 t_3 t_2 t_1)^2$$

# Simply Connected Genus-2 Lefschetz Fibrations



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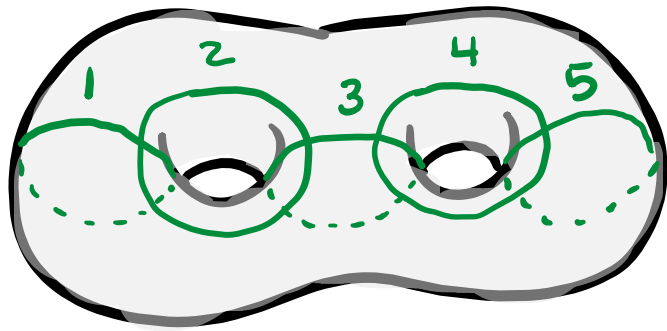
Every holomorphic genus 2 LF  
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is a fiber sum of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$

$$\alpha: (t_1 t_2 t_3 t_4 t_5 t_5 t_4 t_3 t_2 t_1)^2$$

$$\beta: (t_1 t_2 t_3 t_4 t_5)^6$$



# Simply Connected Genus-2 Lefschetz Fibrations



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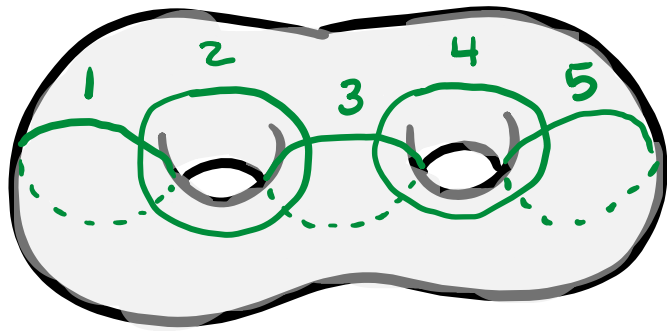
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Siebert-Tian '03:

- no separating
- transitive monodromy

# Results with separating vanishing cycles

all non-separating:

- $\pi_1(X) = 0$
- except for case of technical condition

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future directions:

- Always Abelian?
- At most 2 generators?

thanks for listening! ☺

# The Homotopy Cardinality of the the Representation Category

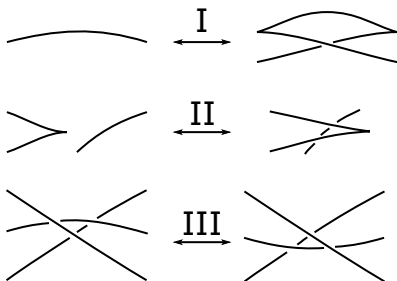
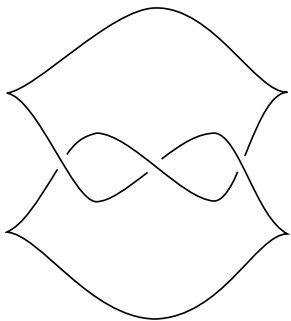
Justin Murray

Louisiana State University

Tech Topology  
December 8, 2023

# The Setup

For us,  $\Lambda \subset (\mathbb{R}^3, \ker(dz - ydx))$  is a connected Legendrian with  $r(\Lambda) = 0$ .





Given  $\Lambda$  one can form a differential graded algebra (DGA),  $(\mathcal{A}_\Lambda, \partial_\Lambda)$  such that  $H_*((\mathcal{A}_\Lambda, \partial_\Lambda))$  is invariant under Legendrian isotopy.

# Cooking up Invariants

Given  $\Lambda$  one can form a differential graded algebra (DGA),  $(\mathcal{A}_\Lambda, \partial_\Lambda)$  such that  $H_*((\mathcal{A}_\Lambda, \partial_\Lambda))$  is invariant under Legendrian isotopy. **BUT**  $H_*((\mathcal{A}_\Lambda, \partial_\Lambda))$  is hard to compute in general!

Given  $\Lambda$  one can form a differential graded algebra (DGA),  $(\mathcal{A}_\Lambda, \partial_\Lambda)$  such that  $H_*((\mathcal{A}_\Lambda, \partial_\Lambda))$  is invariant under Legendrian isotopy. **BUT**  $H_*((\mathcal{A}_\Lambda, \partial_\Lambda))$  is hard to compute in general! Instead we can look at DGA

maps

$$\varepsilon : (\mathcal{A}_\Lambda, \partial_\Lambda) \rightarrow (\mathbb{F}, 0) \quad \text{called augmentations}$$

or

$$\rho : (\mathcal{A}_\Lambda, \partial_\Lambda) \rightarrow (\text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{F}), 0) \quad \text{called representations}$$

If  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{F}_q$ , then you can count these maps

Count all maps and renormalize	$Aug(\Lambda, \mathbb{F}_q)$	$Rep_n(\Lambda, \mathbb{F}_q)$
Count isomorphism classes of maps	$\#\pi_{\geq 0} Aug_+(\Lambda, \mathbb{F}_q)^*$	$\#\pi_{\geq 0} Rep_n^+(\Lambda, \mathbb{F}_q)^*$

If  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{F}_q$ , then you can count these maps

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**Theorem (Pan, Capovilla-Searle-Legout-Limouzeau-Murphy-Pan-Traynor)**

*If there is an exact Lagrangian cobordism from  $\Lambda_-$  to  $\Lambda_+$  then*

$$\#\pi_{\geq 0} Aug_+(\Lambda_-, \mathbb{F}_q)^* \leq \#\pi_{\geq 0} Aug_+(\Lambda_+, \mathbb{F}_q)^*$$

# Some Results

## Theorem (M'23)

*Two representations in the representation category are isomorphic  $\iff$  they are conjugate up to DGA homotopy.*

## Theorem (M'23)

*The homotopy cardinality can be computed via colored ruling polynomials:*

$$\#\pi_{\geq 0} \mathcal{R}ep_n^+(\Lambda, \mathbb{F}_q)^* = q^{n^2 \text{tb}(\Lambda)/2} R_{n, \Lambda}(q)$$

## Corollary

*If there is an exact Lagrangian cobordism from  $\Lambda_-$  to  $\Lambda_+$  then*

$$\#\pi_{\geq 0} \mathcal{R}ep_n^+(\Lambda_-, \mathbb{F}_q)^* \leq \#\pi_{\geq 0} \mathcal{R}ep_n^+(\Lambda_+, \mathbb{F}_q)^*$$

## Conjecture A

There exists a Legendrian  $\Lambda_n$  that has no augmentations but a higher  $n$ -dimensional (0-graded) representation.

## Conjecture B

The obstruction to reversing Lagrangian concordance using representations is strictly stronger than that for augmentations (would follow from Conjecture A).

Preprint:



Legendrian Knot Atlas:



(Where you might find  $\Lambda_n$ , still  
under construction)



Negative contact surgery on Legendrian  
non-simple knots  
(Joint with Hugo Zhou)

Shunyu Wan  
University of Virginia

Tech Topology Conference Lightning Talk

# Contact 3-manifolds and Legendrian knots

- ▶ A contact 3-manifold  $(Y, \xi)$  is a smooth 3-manifold  $Y$  together with a 2-plane field distribution  $\xi$  such that for any one form  $\alpha$  with  $\ker(\alpha) = \xi$ ,  $\alpha \wedge d\alpha > 0$ .
- ▶ A **Legendrian knot**  $L$  in  $(Y, \xi)$  is an embedded  $S^1$  that is always tangent to  $\xi$ .

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Classical invariants associated to a Legendrian knot  $L$

- ▶  $tb(L)$  (Thurston-Bennequin number)
- ▶  $rot(L)$  (rotation number)

A knot is called **Legendrian non-simple** if it has two Legendrian representatives with same  $tb$  and  $rot$  that are not Legendrian isotopic to each other.

## Contact surgery on non-simple knots

An oriented Legendrian knot  $L$  in a contact 3-manifold  $(Y, \xi)$  admits a canonical contact framing, and we can perform  $r$ -surgery with respect to the contact framing. Moreover, we can put a contact structure  $\xi_r(L)$  on the surgery manifold  $Y_r(L)$ .

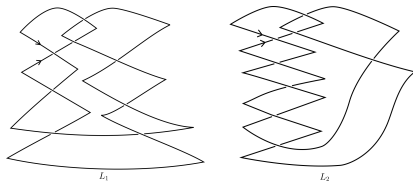
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Question: If  $K$  is a Legendrian non-simple knot, and we let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be two Legendrian non isotopic representatives of  $K$  in  $(Y, \xi)$ , then what can we say about the contact manifolds  $(Y_r(L_1), \xi_1)$ , and  $(Y_r(L_2), \xi_2)$ ?

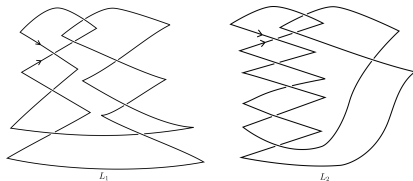
## Specific example

We focus on the following two Legendrian non-isotopic representatives  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  of the twist knot  $E_5$  in  $(S^3, \xi_{std})$ . Both  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  have  $tb = 1$  and  $rot = 0$ .



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**Theorem 1 (Etnyre, 2006)**

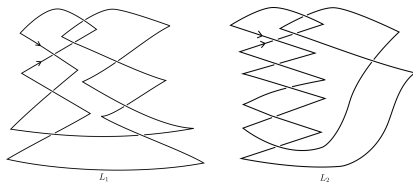
$(S^3_{+1}(L_1), \xi_1)$ , and  $(S^3_{+1}(L_2), \xi_2)$  are contactomorphic.

**Theorem 2 (Bourgeois-Ekholm-Eliashberg, 2009)**

$(S^3_{-1}(L_1), \xi_1)$ , and  $(S^3_{-1}(L_2), \xi_2)$  are not contactomorphic.

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**Theorem 3 (W, Zhou)**

$(S^3_r(L_1), \xi_1)$ , and  $(S^3_r(L_2), \xi_2)$  are not contact isotopic for all  $r < 0$ .



## Contact invariant and LOSS invariant

Ozsváth-Szabó and later Honda-Kazez-Matić showed that  $(Y, \xi)$  determines a distinguished element  $c(\xi) \in \widehat{HF}(-Y)$ , called the Heegaard Floer "contact invariant". Subsequently, for a Legendrian knot  $L$  in  $(Y, \xi)$ , Lisca-Ozsváth-Stipsicz-Szabó defined the "LOSS invariant"  $\mathfrak{L}(L) \in HFK^-( -Y, L)$ .

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Ozsváth and Stipsicz proved these two Legendrian representatives of  $E_5$ ,  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  have different LOSS invariants.

# Relation between contact invariant and LOSS invariant

## Lemma 4 (Lisca-Ozsváth-Stipsicz-Szabó)

*For any 3-manifold  $Y$  and a knot  $K$  in  $Y$  there is a natural chain map*

$$g : \text{CFK}^-(Y, K, \mathfrak{t}) \rightarrow \widehat{\text{CF}}(Y, \mathfrak{t}).$$

*Moreover let  $L$  be a null-homologous Legendrian knot in a contact 3-manifold  $(Y, \xi)$ , then the map on homology induced by  $g$*

$$G : \text{HFK}^-(-Y, L, \mathfrak{t}) \rightarrow \widehat{\text{HF}}(-Y, \mathfrak{t}) \quad (1.1)$$

*has the property that*

$$G(\mathfrak{L}(L)) = c(\xi).$$

## Contact $-2$ surgery on $L_1$ and $L_2$

Theorem 5 (Wan, Zhou)

*Contact  $-2$  surgery on  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  give different contact manifolds with different contact invariants.*

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### Proof.

1. Let  $P_i$  be the Legendrian push-offs of  $L_i$ ,  $P'_i$  be the induced Legendrian knots of  $P_i$  in  $S^3_{-2}(L_i)$ .

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2.  $L_i$  have different LOSS invariants will tell us  $P'_i$  have different LOSS invariants.
3. Calculate  $HFK^-(-S^3_{-2}(L_i), P'_i)$ , and show the map  $G$  is injective on the LOSS invariants. (Using Hedden-Levine mapping cone formula for dual knot.)





Thank You for Your Attention!

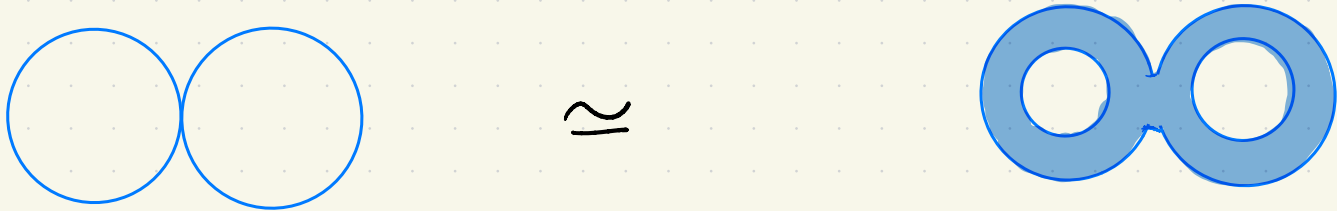
# Thickening finite complexes into manifolds

- Arka Banerjee

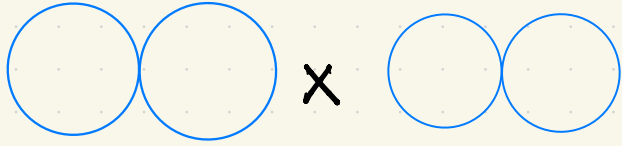
Tech Topology conference, 2023

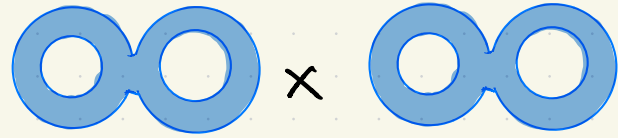
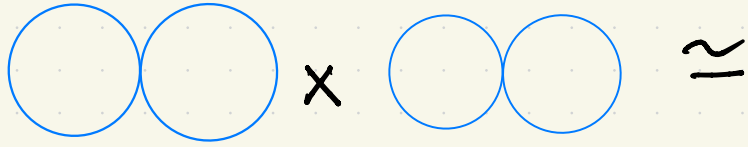
Definition: The thickening dimension of a simplicial complex  $K$ , denoted by  $\text{thkdim}(K)$ , is the minimum dimension of a manifold  $(M, \alpha)$  that is homotopy equivalent to  $K$ .

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- $\text{thkdim} \left( \text{two circles} \right) = 2$

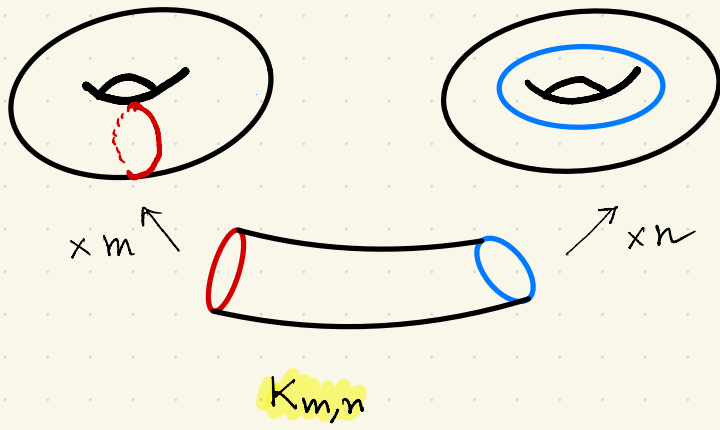




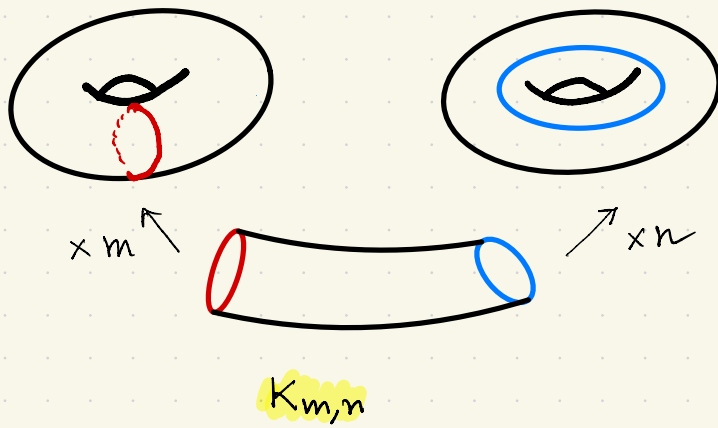


Thm (Bestvina-Kapovich-Kleiner, 2002) :

$$\text{thkdem} \left( \text{two circles} \times \text{two circles} \right) = 4$$



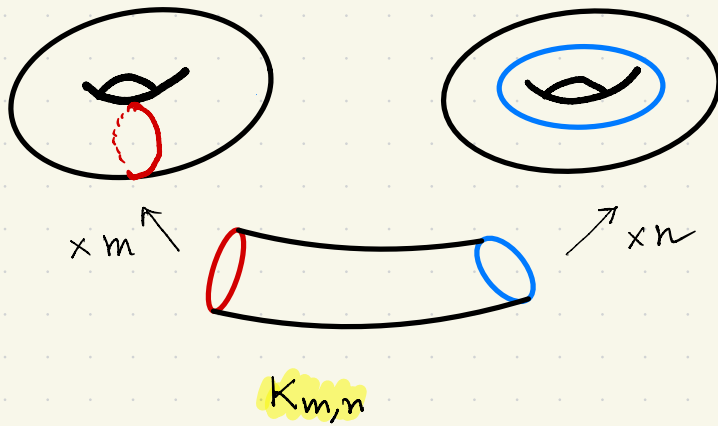




- $\text{thkdim}(K) \leq 2 \dim(K)$   
(Stallings)



$$\text{thkdim}(K_{m,n}) \leq 4$$

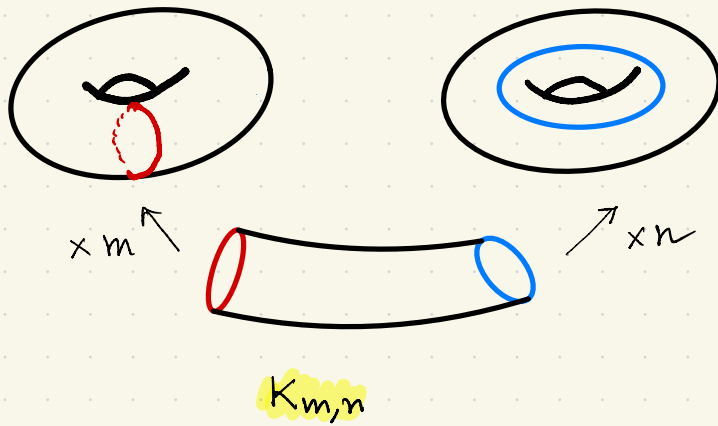


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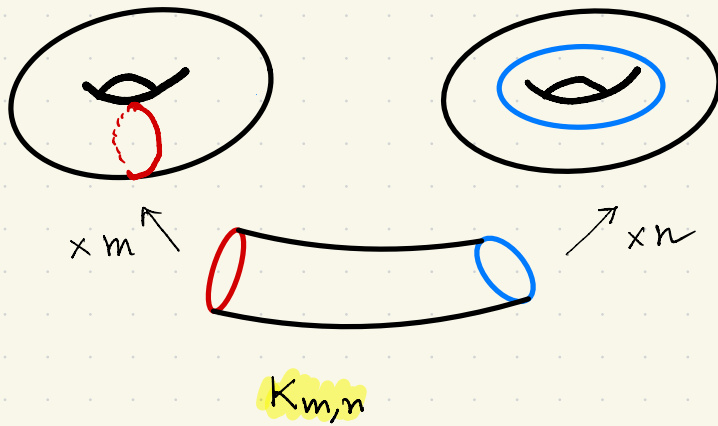
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$$\text{thkdim}(K_{m,n} \times K_{m,n})$$



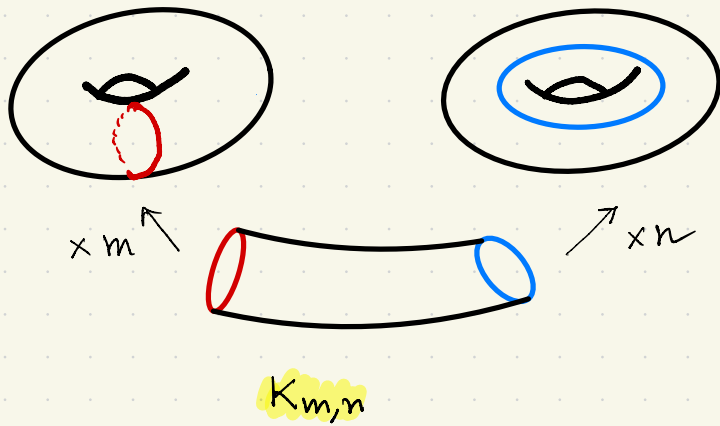
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$$\text{thkdim}(K_{m,n} \times K_{m,n}) \leq 8$$

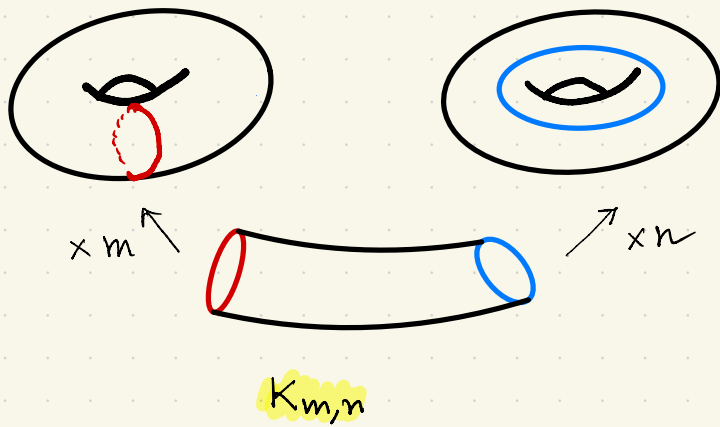


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( Stallings )



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- $\text{thkdim}(K_{m,n}) = 4$  if  $m \geq 3$  or  $n \geq 3$  (Hruska-Stark-Tran, '17)
- $7 \leq \text{thkdim}(K_{m,n} \times K_{m,n}) \leq 8$  if  $m \not\equiv 4$  or  $n \not\equiv 4$  (Schreive, '19)



- $\text{thkdim}(K) \leq 2 \dim(K)$   
( Stallings )

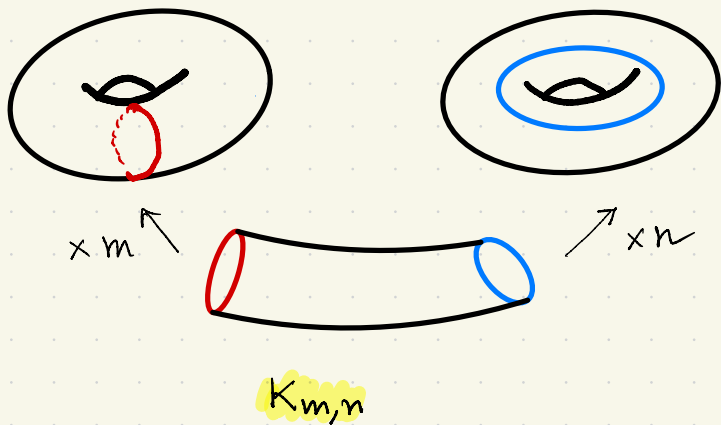


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- $7 \leq \text{thkdim}(K_{m,n} \times K_{m,n}) \leq 8$  if  $m \geq 3$  or  $n \geq 3$  (B., in progress)



Question:  
 $\text{thkdim}(K_{m,n} \times K_{m,n})$   
 $= ?$

Thank you



# **Towards a count of holomorphic sections of Lefschetz fibrations over the disc**

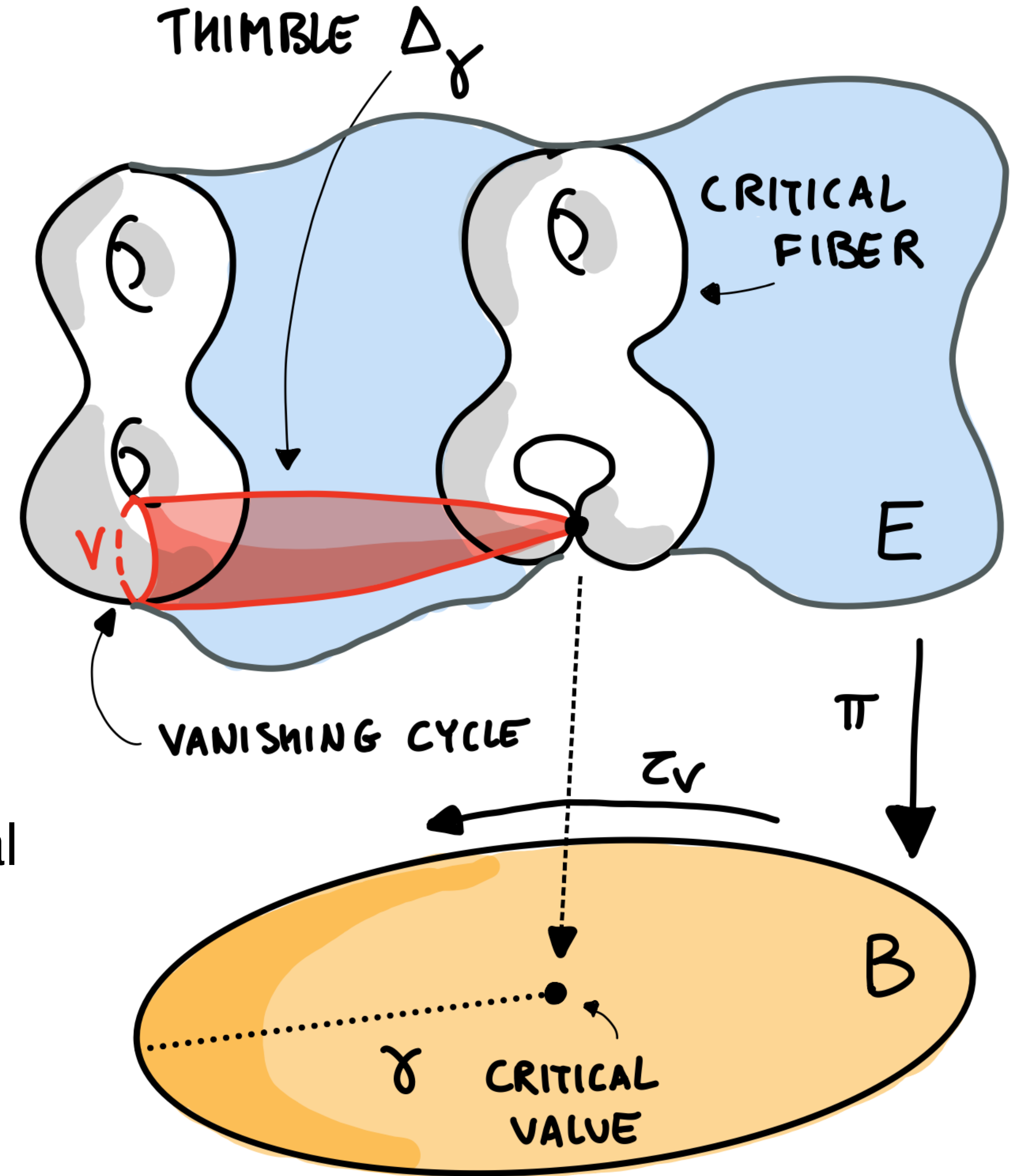
2023 Tech Topology Conference - Lightning Talk

Riccardo Pedrotti - UT Austin

( Work in progress w/ T. Perutz )

# Lefschetz fibration

- $\pi : E^4 \rightarrow B^2$  (smooth, proper)
- $\partial E = \pi^{-1}(\partial B)$
- Standard neighbourhood around critical points of  $\pi$

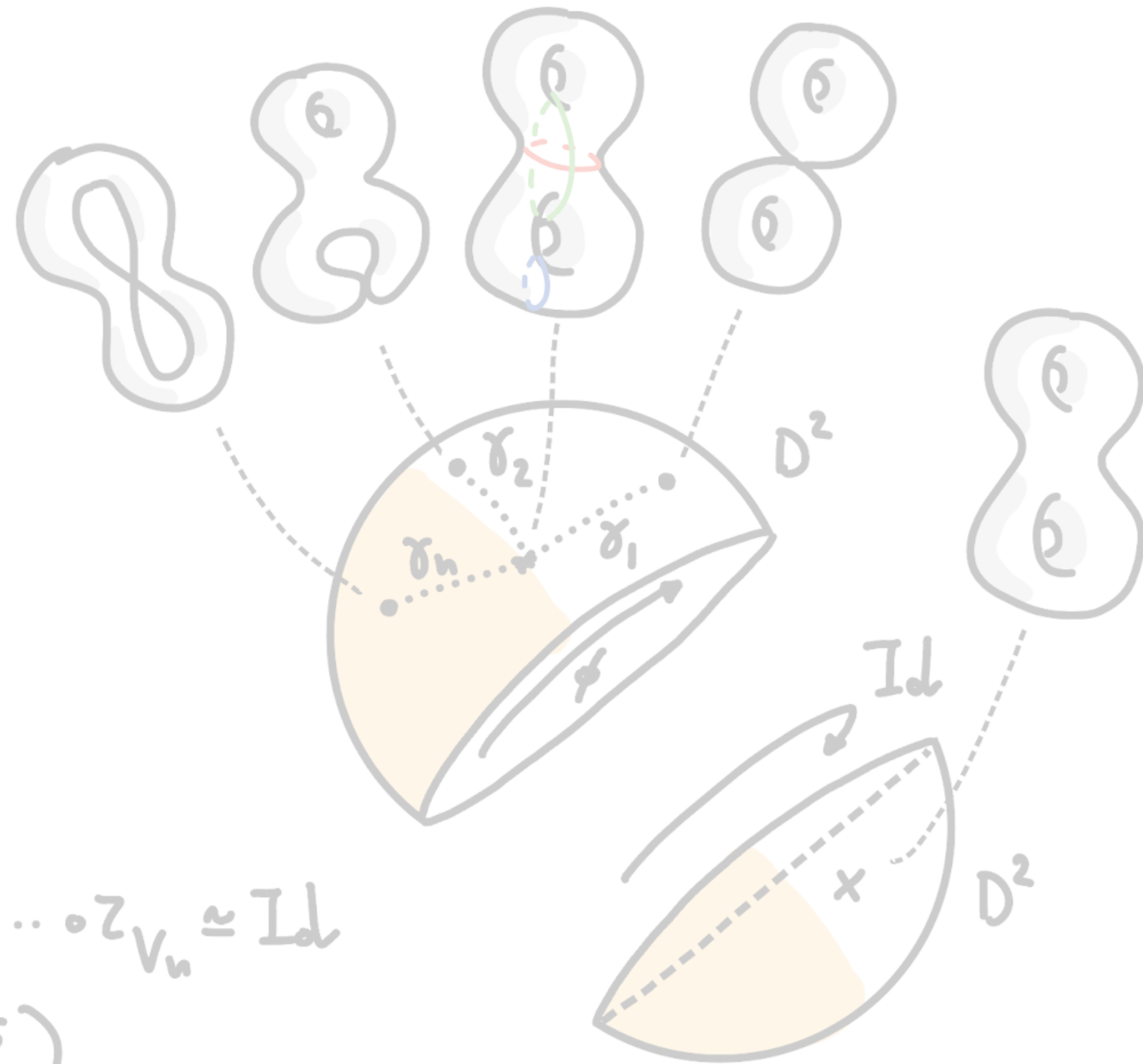


[Symplectic 4-mfolds]  $\longleftrightarrow$  [Lefschetz Pencils]

[Lefschetz fibrations  
 $X \rightarrow S^2$ ]

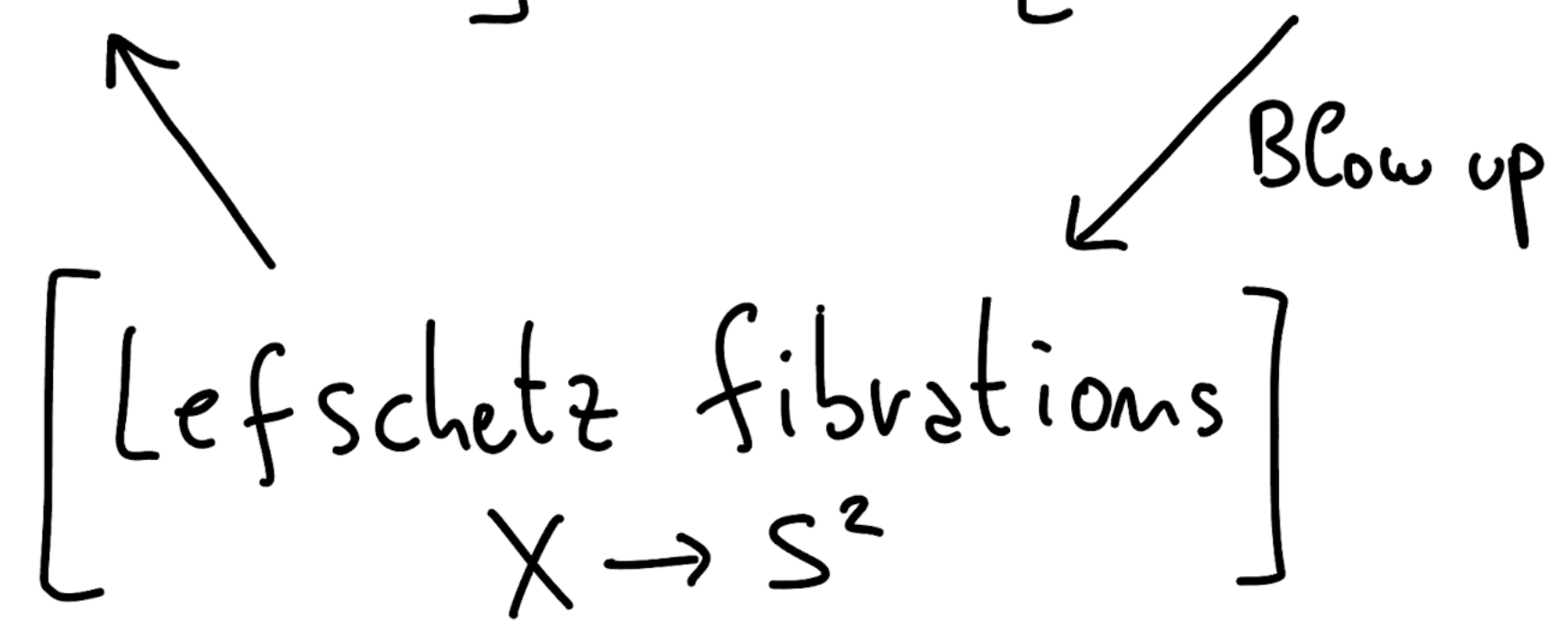
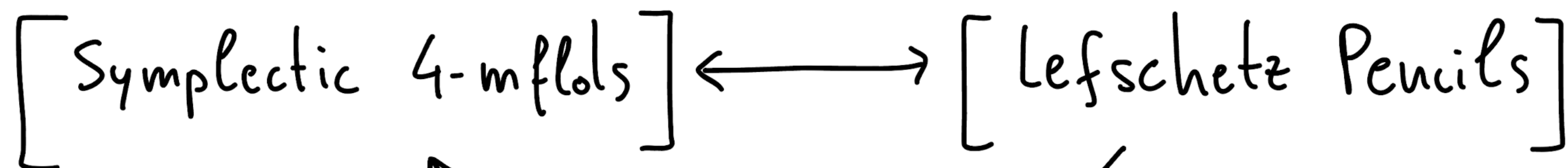
Blow up

- Donaldson and Gompf:

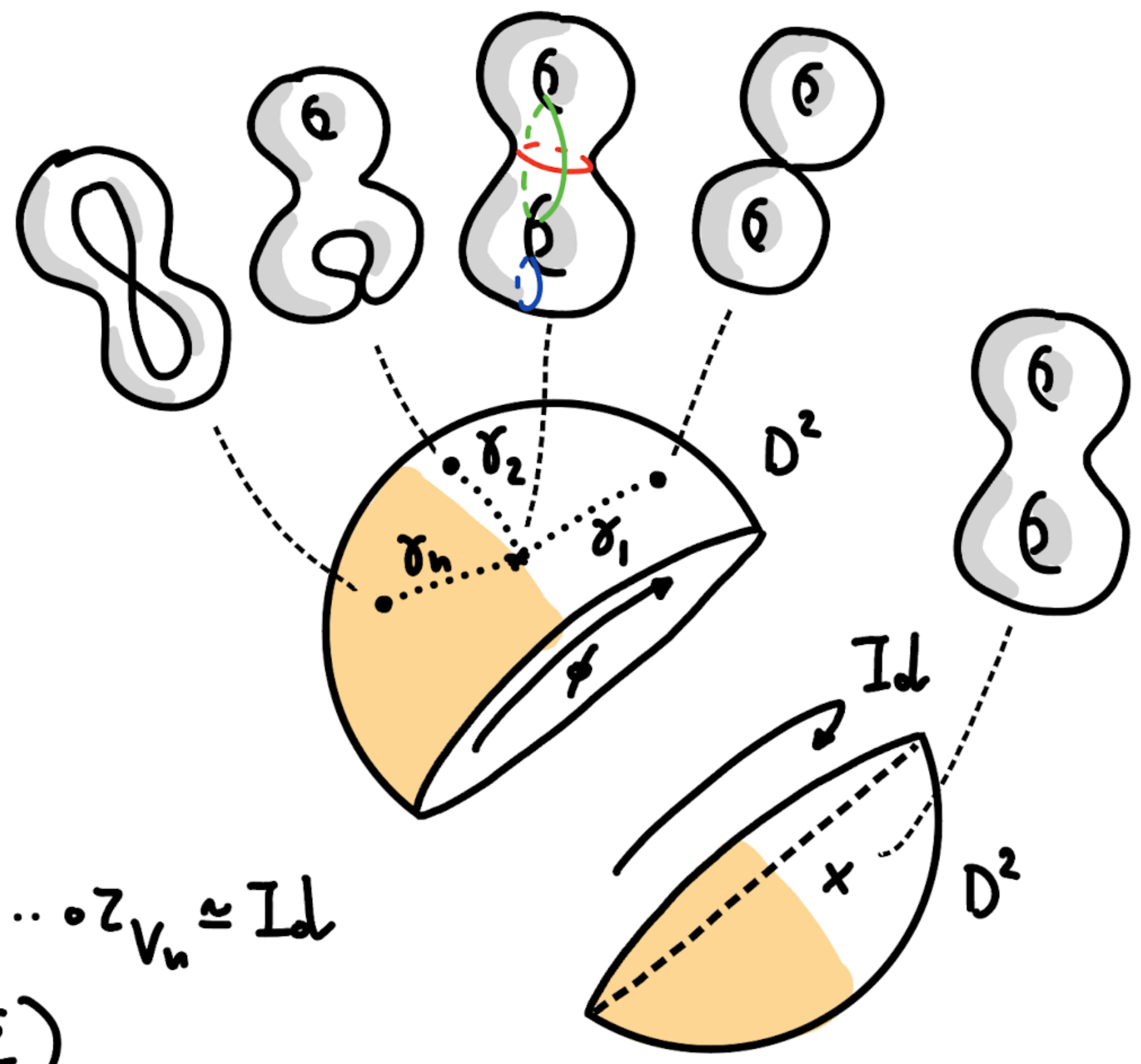


$\phi = \tau_{V_1} \circ \tau_{V_2} \circ \dots \circ \tau_{V_n} \simeq \text{Id}$   
in  $MCG(\Sigma)$

- “Bijection” between positive factorization of the identity in  $MCG(\Sigma)$  and Lefschetz fibrations over  $S^2$



• Donaldson and Gompf:



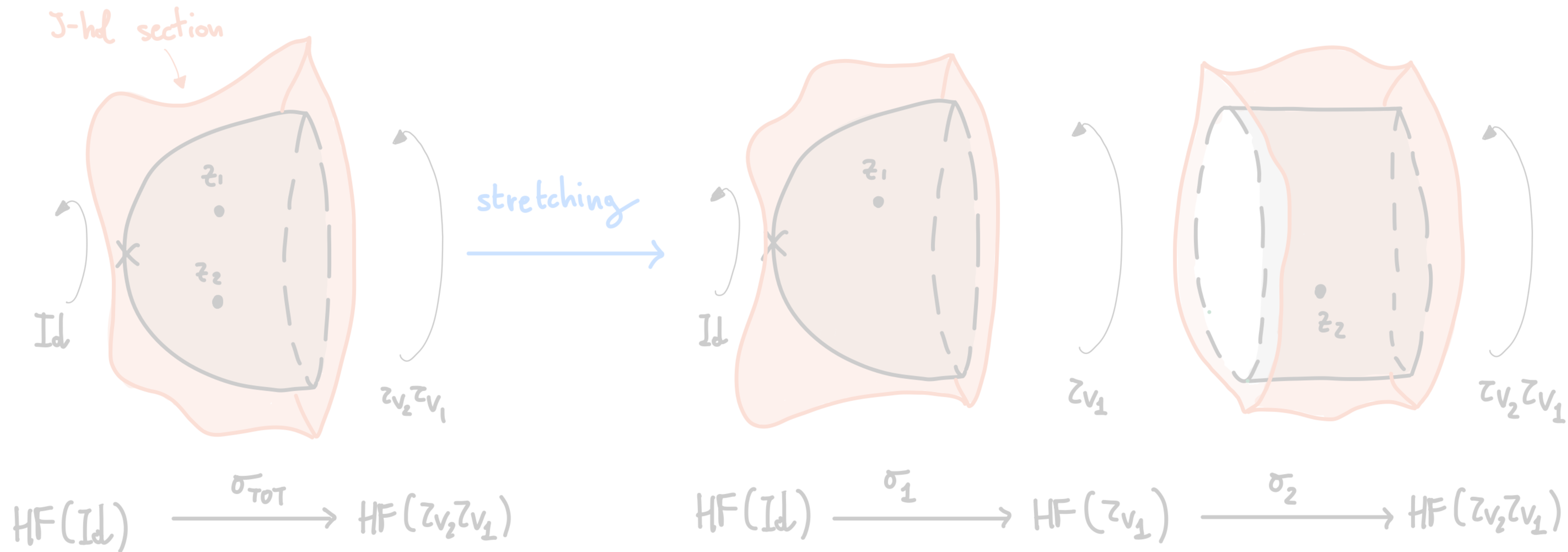
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• “Bijection” between positive factorization of the identity in  $MCG(\Sigma)$  and Lefschetz fibrations over  $S^2$

# Can we use this combinatorial description of $X^4$ to compute its SW invariants?

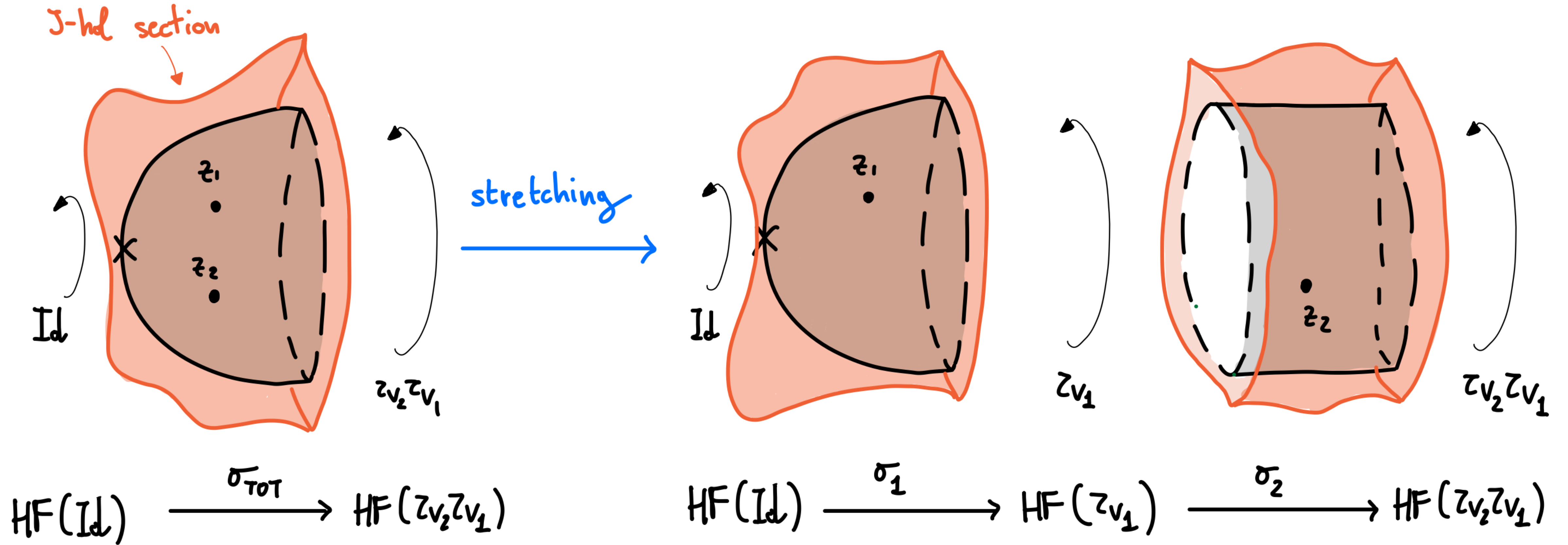
- We want to count pseudo-holomorphic sections of  $\pi : X^4 \rightarrow D^2$  by keeping track of their (relative) homology class
- We can get insights into SW invariants of the (capped-off) symplectic manifold  $X^4$

# Counting sections



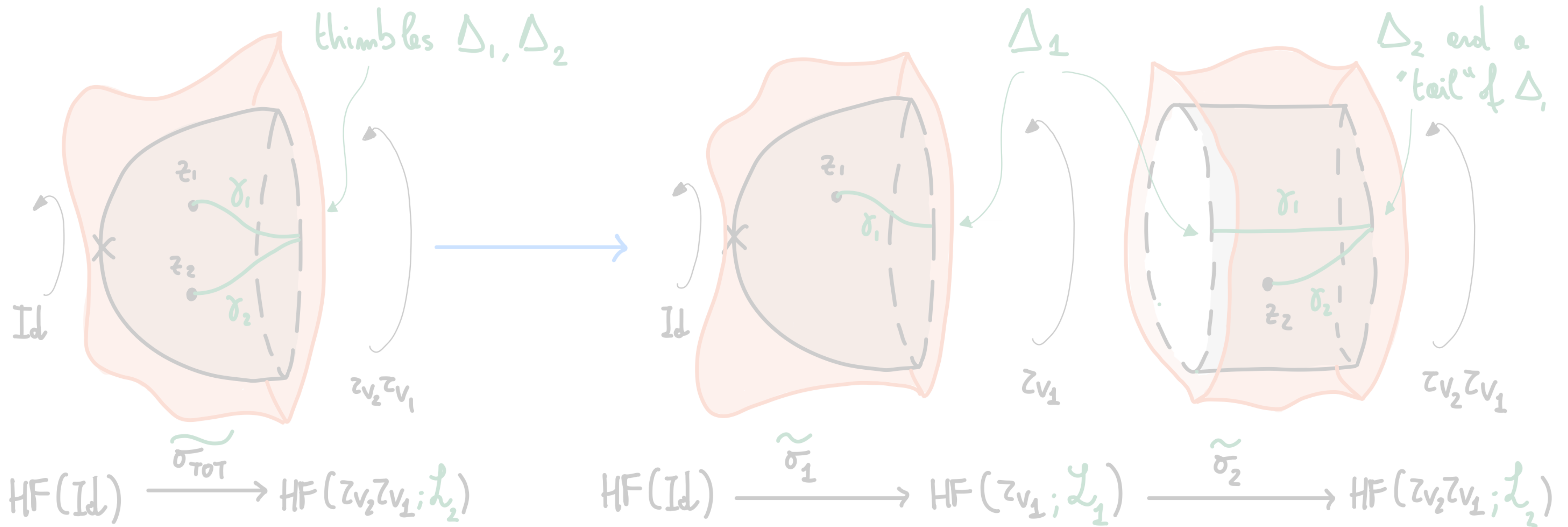
$$\dots \rightarrow \text{HF}_*(\phi) \xrightarrow{\sigma_i} \text{HF}_*(\tau_{V_1} \phi) \rightarrow \text{HF}^{-*}(\phi V_i, V_i) \rightarrow \dots$$

# Counting sections



$$\dots \rightarrow HF_*(\phi) \xrightarrow{\sigma_i} HF_*(\tau_{V_1} \phi) \rightarrow HF^{-*}(\phi V_i, V_i) \rightarrow \dots$$

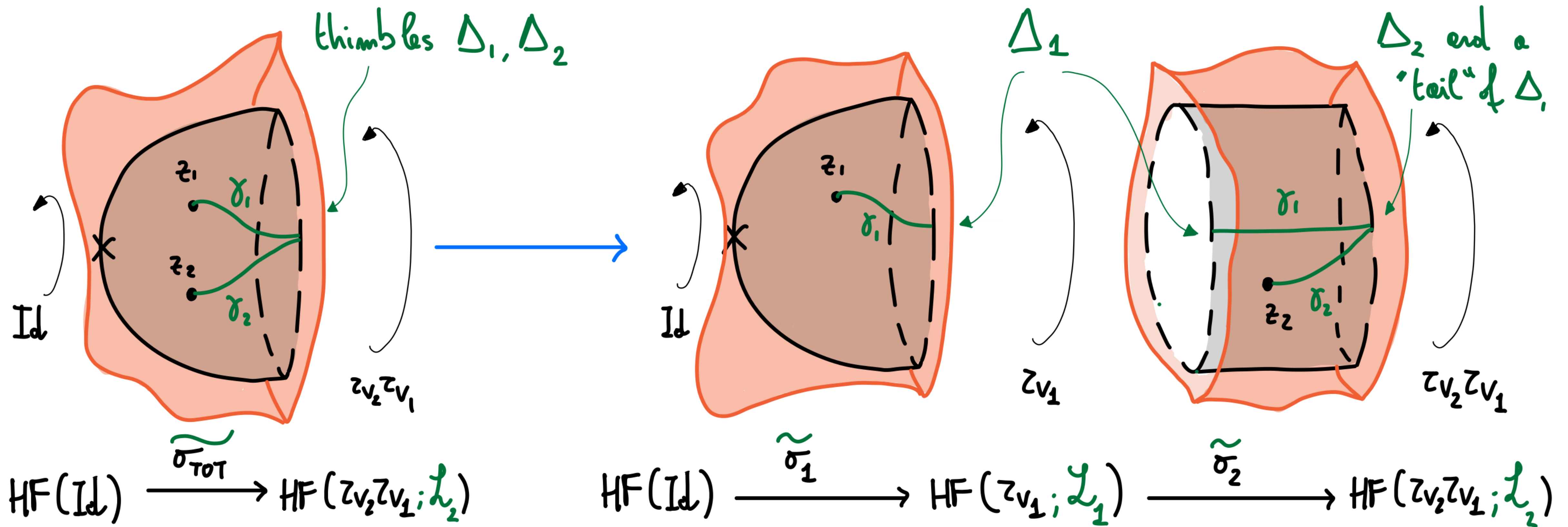
# Counting sections **keeping track of their homology class**



$$\cdots \rightarrow \text{HF}_*(\phi; \mathcal{L}_i) \xrightarrow{\bar{\sigma}_i} \text{HF}_*(\tau_{V_1} \phi; \mathcal{L}_i) \rightarrow \text{HF}^{-*}(\phi V_i, V_i; \mathcal{L}_i) \rightarrow \cdots$$



# Counting sections keeping track of their homology class



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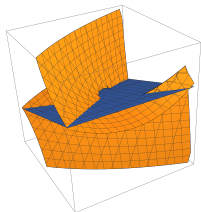
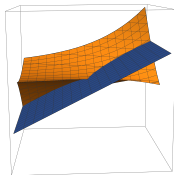
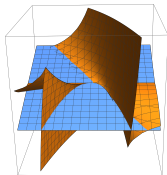
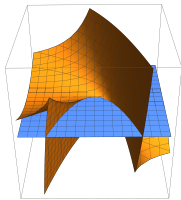
# State of the project

- Using the mapping cone, we have a combinatorial formula for  $\widetilde{\sigma}_{tot}$  in the Lagrangian and Fixed Point case (more complicate)
  - (Lagrangian) it involves counting triangles and heart-shaped domains in the regular fiber, with appropriate weights.
  - By iterating the mapping cone, we have formula for composition of twists
- We want to compare it with SW invariants (GW=SW)
- Extend to multi-sections (via relative Hilbert schemes?)

**THANKS**

# Geometric Structures and Foliations Associated to $\mathrm{PSL}_4\mathbb{R}$ Hitchin Representations

Alex Nolte  
Rice University / Georgia Tech



# $\mathrm{PSL}_n\mathbb{R}$ Hitchin components

$\mathrm{Hit}_n(S)$ :

- Special component of  $\mathrm{Hom}(\pi_1 S, \mathrm{PSL}_n\mathbb{R})/\mathrm{PSL}_n\mathbb{R}$
- Analogues of Teichmüller spaces

Question (Hitchin '92)

What geometric content does  $\rho \in \mathrm{Hit}_n(S)$  have?

# Guichard-Wienhard's work ('08, '11)

- Analogues of hyperbolic structures exist. **Non-qualitative.**
- Qualitative  $n = 4$  theory:
  - ▶  $\rho \in \text{Hit}_4(S)$  acts on  $\Omega_\rho \subset \mathbb{RP}^3 \rightsquigarrow$  projective structure on  $T^1S$
  - ▶  $\Omega_\rho$  has invariant foliations  $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}$  by convex sets in  $\mathbb{RP}^2, \mathbb{RP}^1$
  - ▶ “Decorates” projective structure on  $T^1S$
  - ▶ Characterizes Hitchin condition

## Motivating Question

How rigid are the “decorations” of these projective structures?

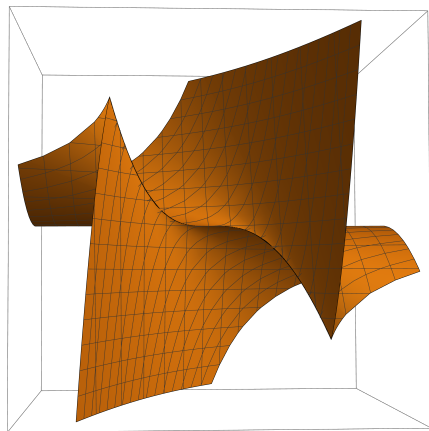
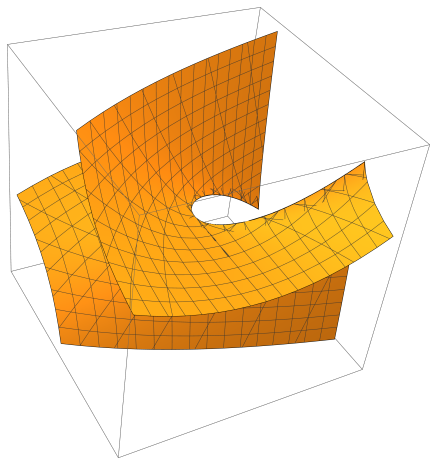
- Going the “other way” of Guichard-Wienhard’s ’08

# Results (N)

- Classification of similar “decorations”:
  - ▶ There are 2. (1 new). Analogue for other connected component
- Foliations of  $\Omega_\rho$  by properly embedded properly convex domains:
  - ▶ In  $\mathbb{RP}^1$ s: exactly 2 group-invariant foliations (central theorem)
  - ▶ In  $\mathbb{RP}^2$ s: unique foliation
- Detailed basic structure of  $\Omega_\rho$
- Projective equivalences of Guichard-Wienhard's structures automatically preserve decorations
  - ▶ Answers question in Guichard-Wienhard '08



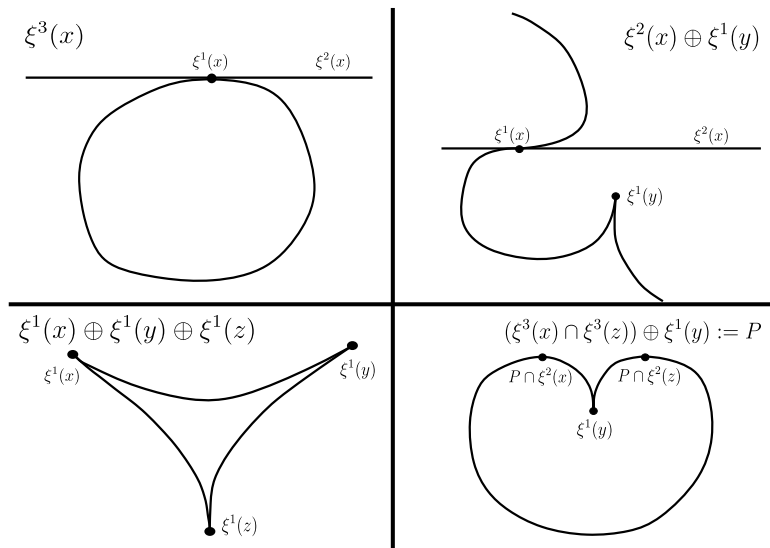
## Fuchsian domain



Not like  $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$ , where domain is convex!

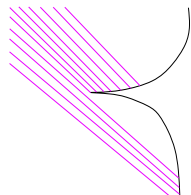
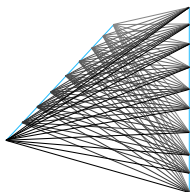
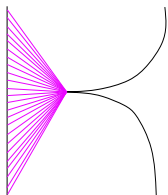
# Sample Basic Structure Theorem (N)

$\rho \in \text{Hit}_4(S)$ . Frenét curve  $(\xi^1, \xi^2, \xi^3)$ . Projective planes in  $\mathbb{RP}^3$  and their qualitative intersections with  $\partial\Omega_\rho$  have 4 forms:

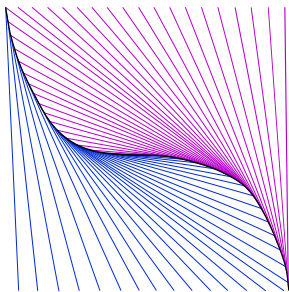


## Geometry in Pf. of Only 2 Foliations by Segments

- Invariant foliation  $\mathcal{F}$ . Arrange for a leaf to stare straight at cusp
- Control these with qualitative geometry:



- Conclude from ruling's structure in what the staring leaf sees:





# Crossing Number of Cable Knots (Joint with E. Kalfagianni)

Rob McConkey

Binghamton University

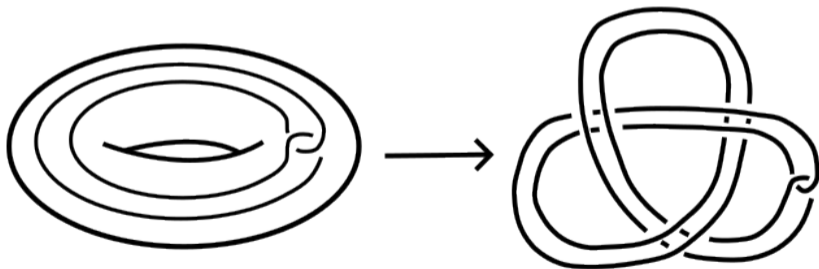
November 11th, 2023

# Crossing Number

- Knot Theory is the study of knots and links.
- We study invariants of links to differentiate links, but also other topological objects which arise.
- One such invariant is the **crossing number**, which is the minimum number of crossing for a knot across all diagrams.
- We will refer to the crossing number of a knot  $K$  as  $c(K)$ .
- Despite being easy to define, the crossing number is notoriously intractable.

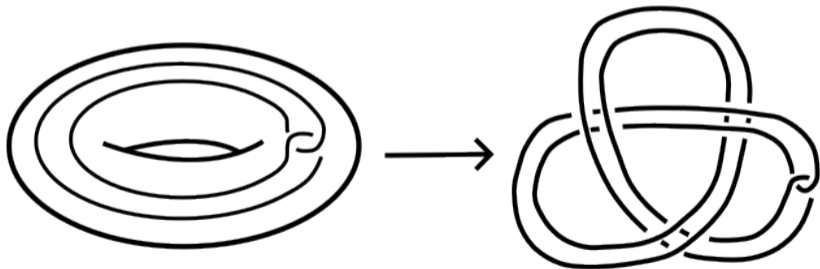
# Satellite Knots

- To construct a **satellite knot**  $K$  start with a non-trivial knot  $K'$  inside of a torus  $T$ , then given a non-trivial knot  $C$  in  $S^3$  we map  $T$  to a neighborhood of  $C$ .
- We will refer to  $C$  as the *companion knot* for  $K$ .



# Satellite Knots

- Crossing number is not well understood for satellite and connect sums of knots.
- Remains an open conjecture whether or not  $c(K) \geq c(C)$  where  $C$  is the companion knot for a satellite knot  $K$ .



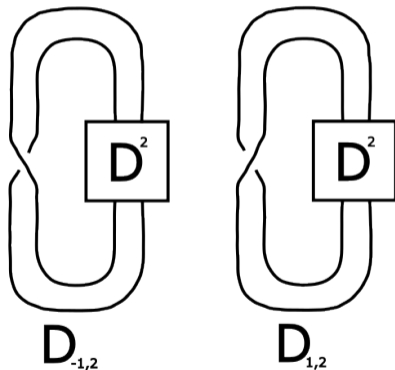
## Theorem (Kalfagianni and Lee)

Let  $W(K)$  be the untwisted whitehead double of a knot  $K$ . If  $K$  is adequate with writhe number zero, then  $c(W(K)) = 4c(K) + 2$ .



# Satellite Knots

- We consider the satellite knots  $K_{p,q}$  which is the  $(p, q)$ -cabling operation on a knot  $K$ .



# Results

## Theorem (Kalfagianni and M.)

For any adequate knot  $K$  with crossing number  $c(K)$ , and any coprime integers  $p, q$ , we have  $c(K_{p,q}) \geq q^2 \cdot c(K) + 1$ .

## Corollary (Kalfagianni and M.)

Let  $K$  be an adequate knot with crossing number  $c(K)$  and writhe number  $w(K)$ . If  $p = 2w(K) \pm 1$ , the  $K_{p,2}$  is non-adequate and  $c(K_{p,2}) = 4c(K) + 1$ .



**Thank You!**

**MICHIGAN STATE**  

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**UNIVERSITY**

# On the Hofer-Zehnder Conjecture for Semipositive Symplectic Manifolds

joint work with Marcelo Atallah

Han Lou

University of Georgia

Tech Topology Conference

Georgia Institute of Technology

Dec 8 - Dec 10, 2023

Main Result (Atallah - L.)  $(M, \omega)$  closed **semipositive** symplectic manifold

for definitions of Hamiltonian Floer homology and Gromov-Witten invariants.

$H_{ev}(M, \mathbb{Q}) \otimes \Lambda_{\mathbb{Q}, \text{univ}}$  is **semisimple**

$\sum a_i T^{\lambda_i}$ ,  $a_i \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$  generated by idempotents

Hamiltonian diffeomorphism  $\phi$  has finitely many contractible **1-periodic** orbits.

$\phi^t(x)$  where  $\phi(x) = x$ ,  $\phi^1 = \phi$

$\#\{\text{contractible 1-periodic orbits}\} > \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} H(M, \mathbb{Q})$

$\implies \phi$  has infinitely many contractible periodic orbits.

key: The coefficient field of Hamiltonian Floer homology has characteristic  $p$ .

There is an upper bound of **Usher's boundary depth** that is independent of  $p$  for sufficiently large  $p$ .

Basis of chain complex  $\{\zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_k, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_B, \zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_B\}$  such that  $d(\zeta_i) = 0$ ,  $d(\zeta_i) = \eta_i$

$d(\zeta_i) : (-\infty, \ell(\zeta_i)]$

$d(\zeta_i) = \eta_i : [\ell(\eta_i), \ell(\zeta_i)]$  "longest finite bar length"

$\ell(\cdot)$ : filtration.

Thank you for listening!