

Skinning Maps

and a

Lost Theorem of Thurston

Yair Minsky , Tech Topology 2021

joint work with R. Canary & K. Bromberg

## Plan:

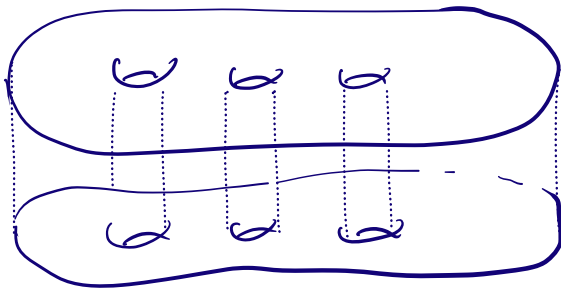
- 3-Manifolds and hyperbolic structures
- The skinning map and the gluing problem
- Thurston's last theorem
- Uniform models and the proof

### 3-manifolds in this talk:

---

compact, oriented, irreducible, atoroidal,  
with incompressible boundary.

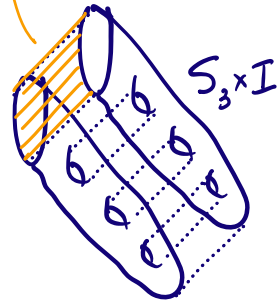
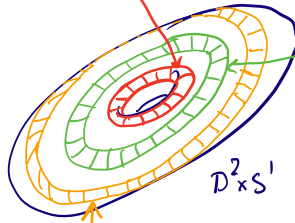
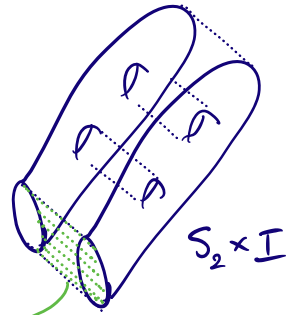
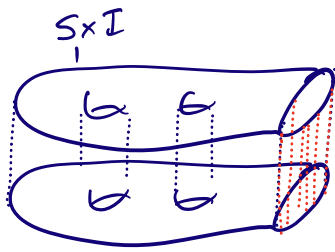
Examples to keep in mind:



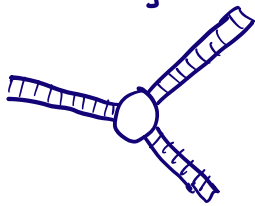
"product I-bundle"

$S \times [0,1]$

"Book of I-bundles"

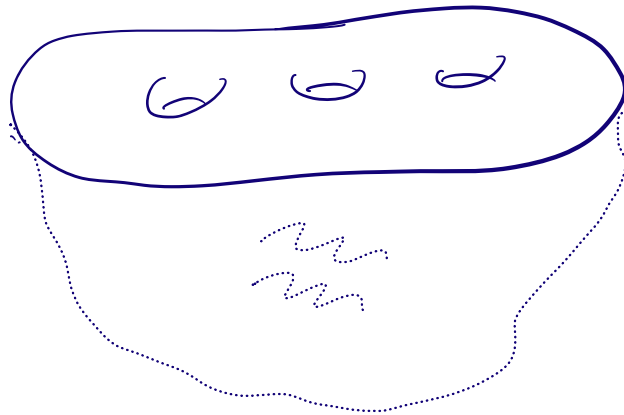


Schematically:





Acyindrical manifolds



no properly embedded essential  $(S' \times I, \partial(S' \times I)) \rightarrow (M, \partial M)$

These all admit hyperbolic structures :

$$\text{int } M \cong \mathbb{H}^3 / \Gamma$$

and in fact convex-cocompact ones :

$$\partial_{\infty} \mathbb{H}^3 = \Lambda \sqcup \Omega$$

$\Lambda$  = limit set (closed)

$\Omega$  = domain of discontinuity

$$M \cong (\mathbb{H}^3 \cup \Omega) / \Gamma$$

# Pictures of limit sets

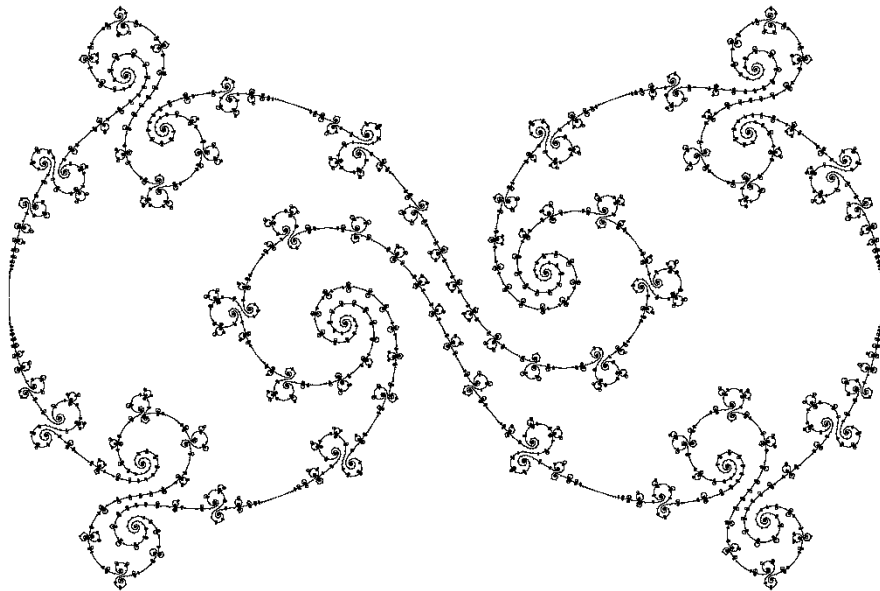
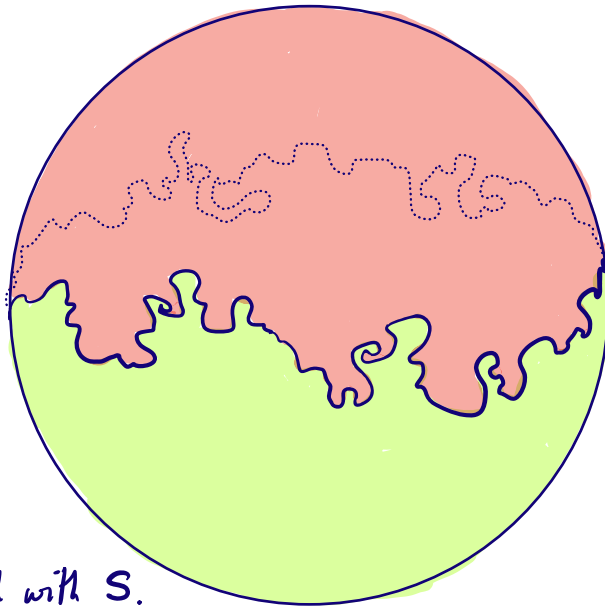


I-bundles:

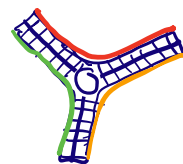
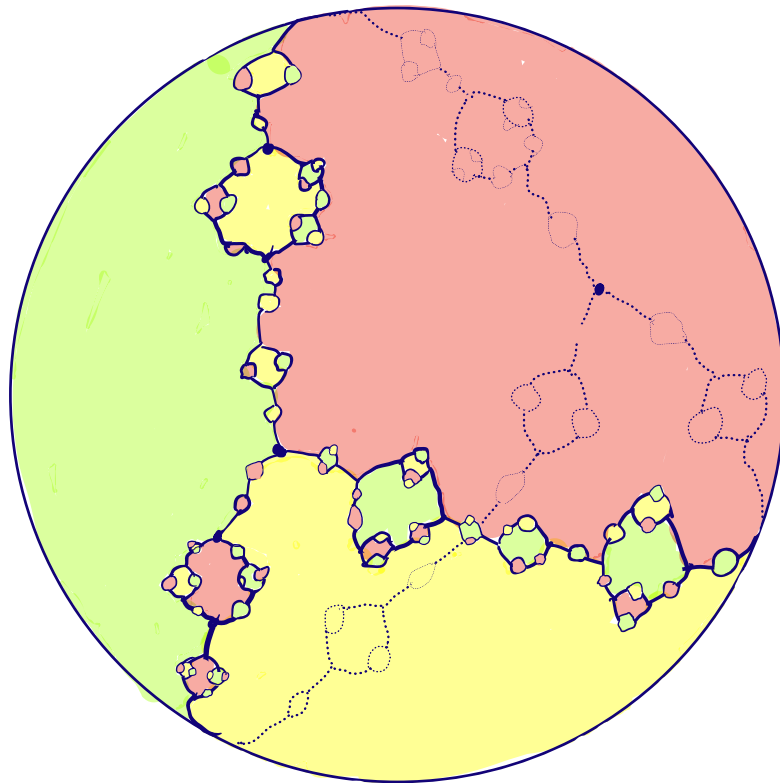
$\Gamma$  is quasifuchsian

$$\Omega = \Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2$$

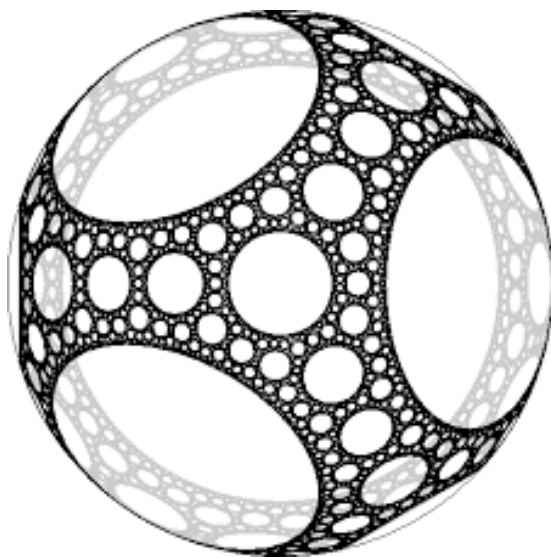
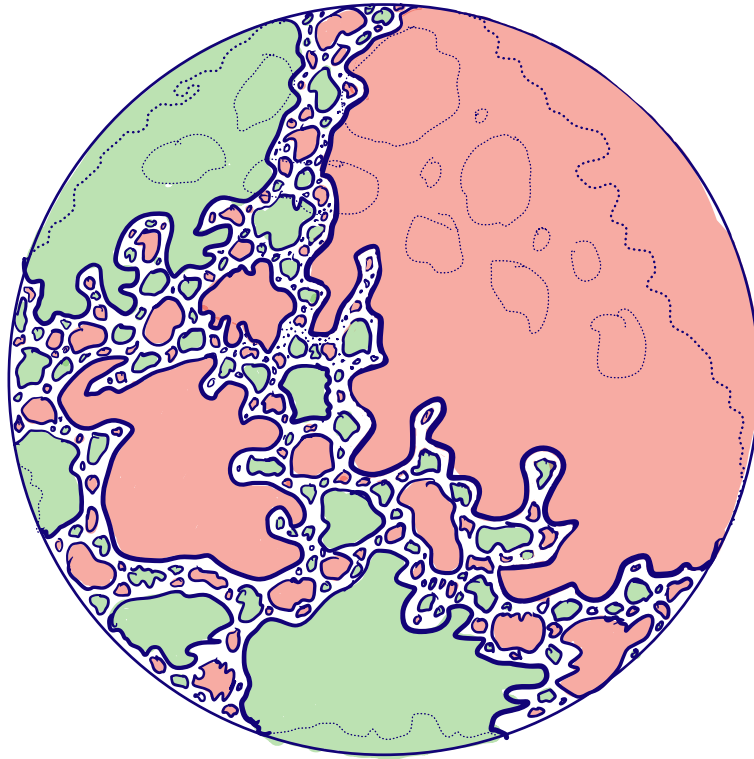
$\Omega_1/\Gamma, \Omega_2/\Gamma$   
are two Riemann  
surface identified with  $S$ .



Body of I-bundles:



# Acylindrical Manifold



## Bers' Simultaneous Uniformization Theorem

Ahlfors Maskit Kra Marden Sullivan

$$\mathcal{CC}(M) = \{ \text{convex-cocompact hyp. structures on } M \}$$

Teichmüller space

$$\cong \mathcal{T}(\underline{\partial M})$$

$$(M \cong \mathbb{H}^3/\Gamma) \longleftrightarrow (\partial M \cong \Omega/\Gamma)$$

In particular for  $M = S \times I$

$$\mathcal{T}(\partial M) = \mathcal{T}(S) \times \mathcal{T}(\bar{S})$$

## The problem of uniform models:

How do we, given data in  $T(\partial M)$ ,  
(e.g. a minimal-length pants decomposition)  
answer geometric questions about the hyperbolic  
structure?  
(e.g. volume, diameter, injectivity radii...)

One kind of solution when  $M = S \times [0, 1]$ :  
(w. Masur, Brock & Canary)

$\nu = (\underline{\nu}^+, \underline{\nu}^-) \in T(S) \times T(\bar{S})$  → minimal length pants decompositions in  $S, \bar{S}$

→ "hierarchical paths" in curve complex of  $S$

→ Explicit "model"  $M_\nu$

K-bilipschitz homeo.  $f: M_\nu \rightarrow \mathbb{H}^3/\Gamma_\nu$

"Uniform" means: K depends only on S.

# The skinning map and Thurston's gluing problem

---

$S$  component of  $\partial M$

inclusion  $\pi_1 S \rightarrow \pi_1 M$

induces  $CC(M) \rightarrow CC(S \times [0,1])$

by passage to covers.

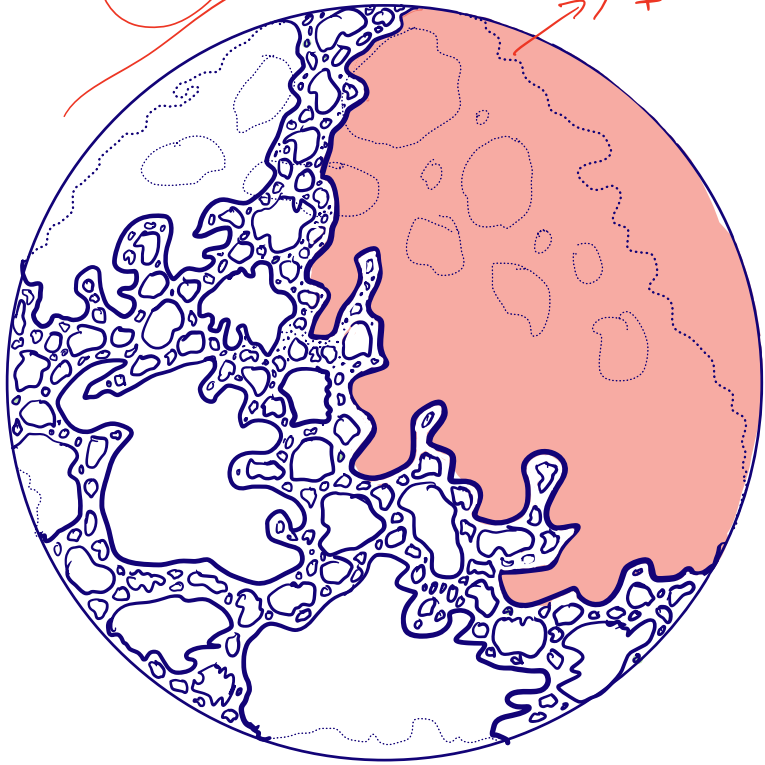
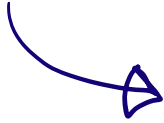
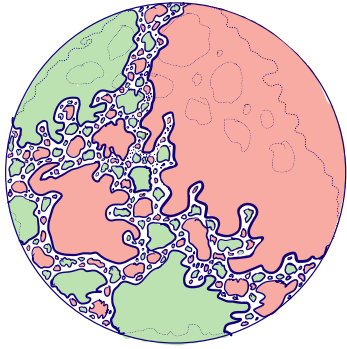
Bers parameters:

$$\nu \in T(\partial M) \rightarrow (\mu_S^+, \mu_S^-) \in T(S) \times T(\bar{S})$$

in fact  $\mu_S^+ = \nu_S$

$\mu_S^-$  is a (holomorphic) function of  $\nu$





$\mu_-^S$

$\mu_+^S = \nu^S$

Combining over all components of  $\partial M$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_M : \mathcal{T}(\partial M) &\rightarrow \mathcal{T}(\partial \bar{M}) \\ (\nu_S) &\longmapsto (\mu_S^-)\end{aligned}$$

The "skinning map".

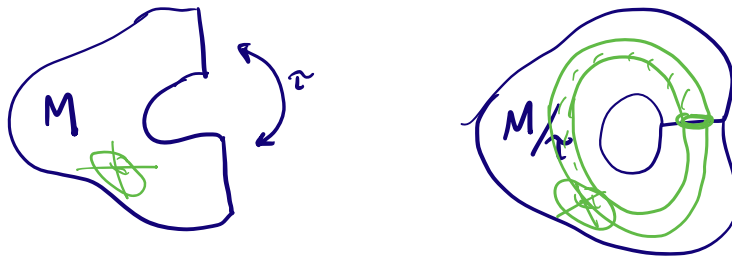
What is it good for?

The gluing problem:

---

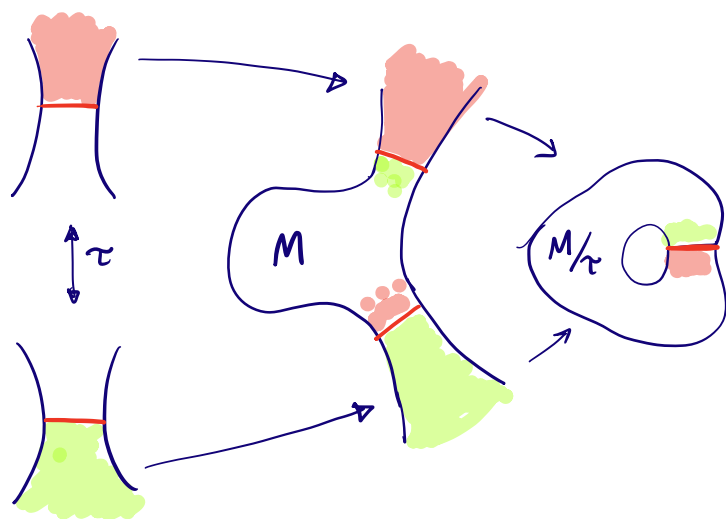
(inductive step in Thurston's proof  
of hyperbolization of Haken manifolds)

$\tau: \partial M \rightarrow \partial M$  orientation-reversing,  
fixed point free involution



Theorem (Thurston): If  $M$  admits convex-cocompact hyperbolic structures and  $M/\tau$  has no essential tori, then  $M$  admits a hyperbolic structure.

# Gluing and fixed points



A solution is given by a fixed point  
of the map  $\tau_* \circ \sigma_M$ .

Thurston proved a fixed point exists.

He also made a stronger statement:

Theorem Given  $M$  there exists  $k > 0$   
such that, if  $M/\tau$  is atoroidal,

$$(\tau_* \circ \sigma_M)^k (\mathcal{T}(\partial M))$$

is bounded in  $\mathcal{T}(\partial M)$ .



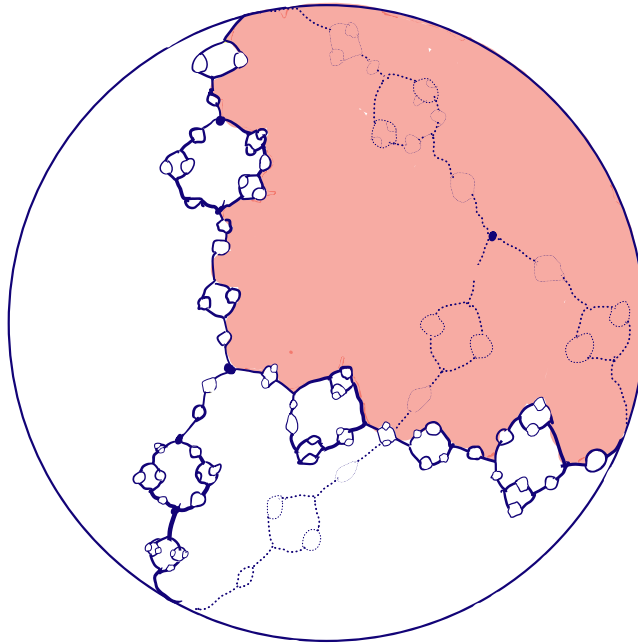
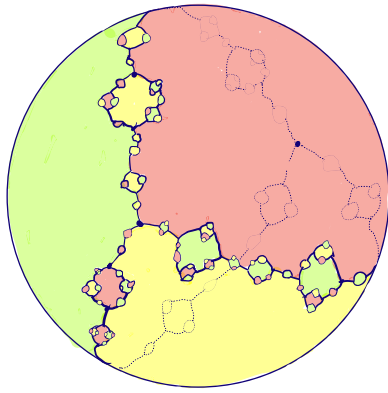
When  $M$  is acylindrical:

$M/\tau$  is always atoroidal,

and  $\sigma_M(\mathcal{T}(\partial M))$  is bounded.

(Thurston's Bounded Image Theorem,  
full proof A. Kent 2010)

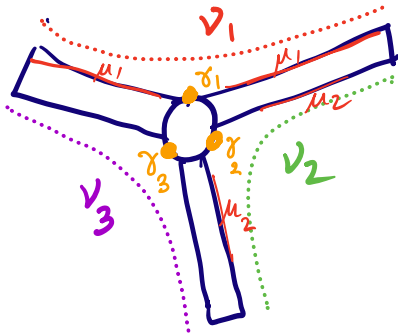
In the cylindrical case  
 $\text{diam } \sigma_M(\mathcal{T}(\partial M)) = \infty$



About the proof :

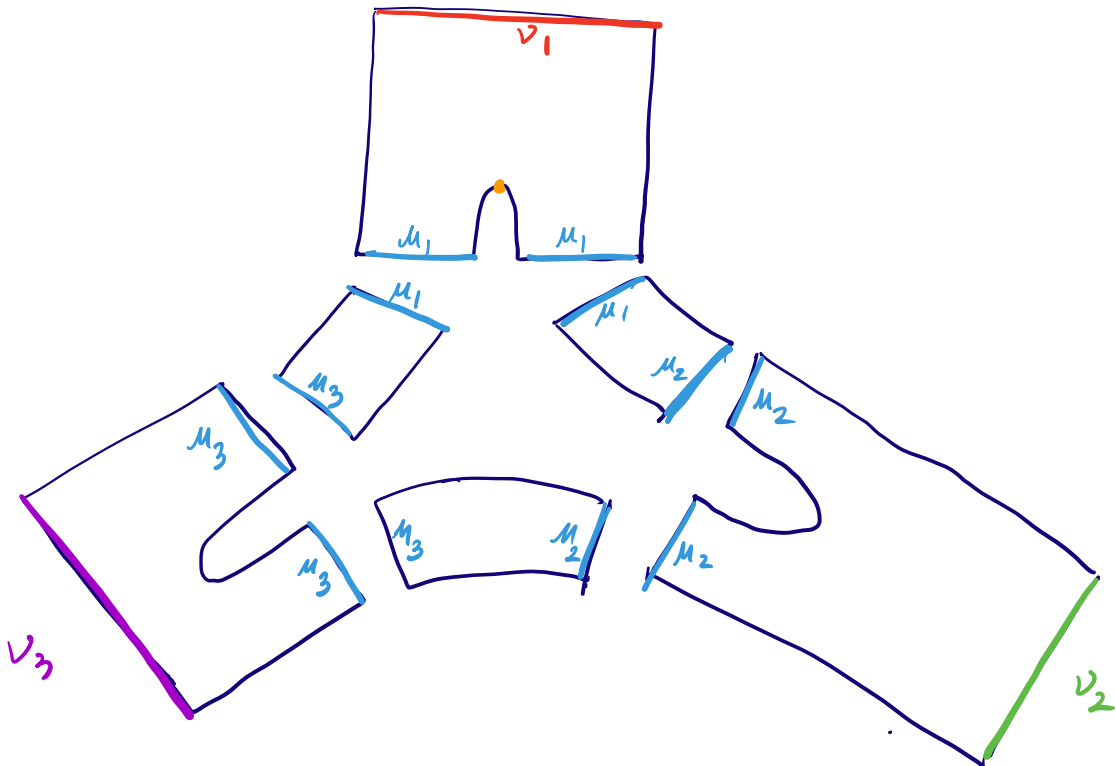
I. Main geometric part: model building

$\gamma_i \sim$  core of solid torus.



$\nu$  projects combinatorially to give a marking  $\mu$  on  $S-\gamma$ .  
 Subsurface Projection

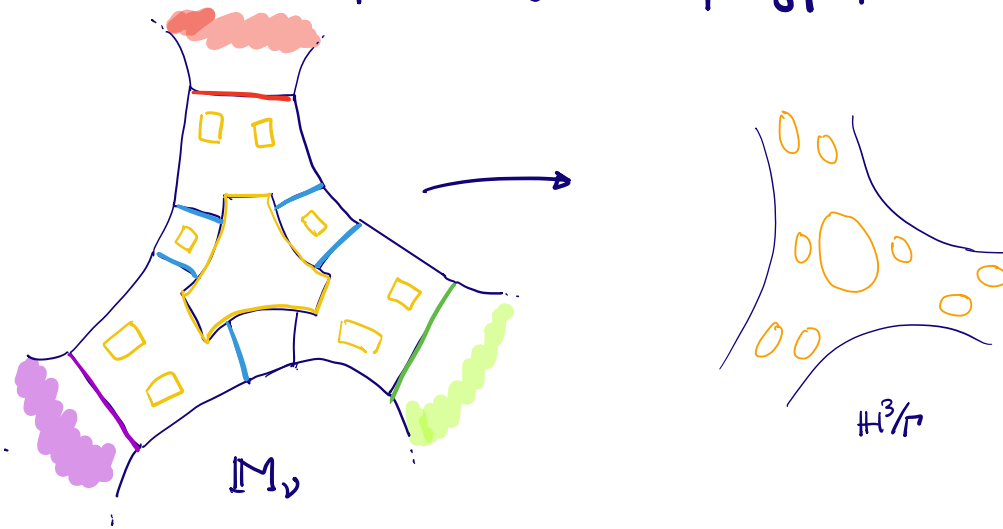
use BCM models for  $I$ -bundles :



Theorem: (Bromberg-Canary-M)

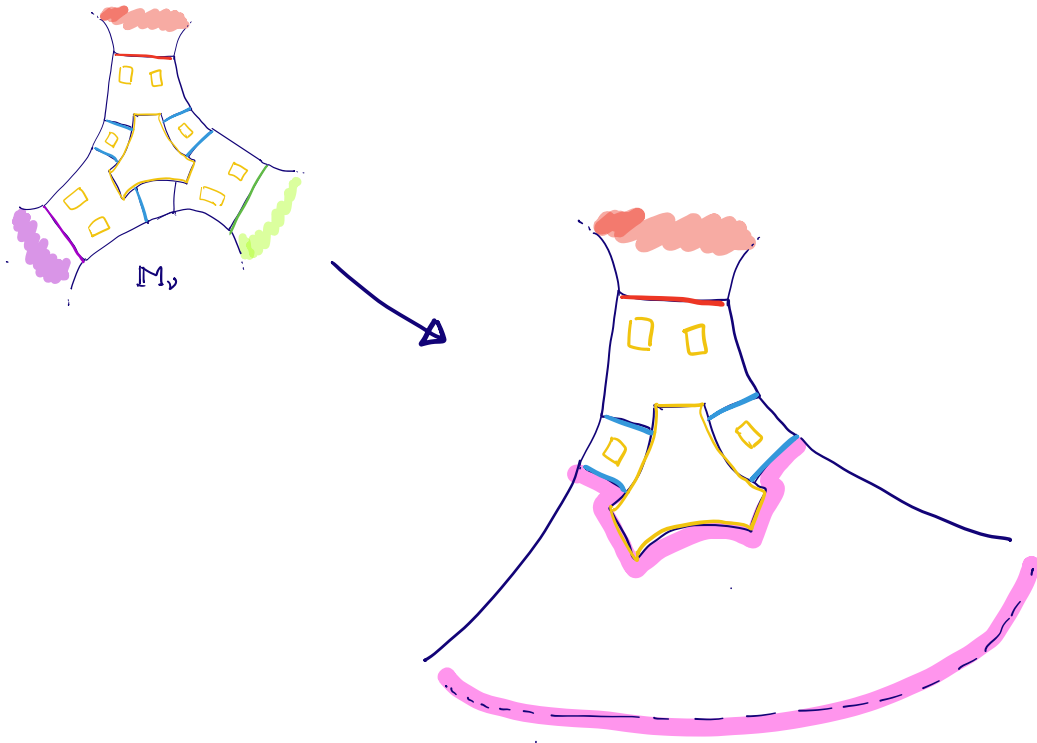
This model admits a  $K$ -Lipschitz  
Proper hom. eq. to  $\mathbb{H}^3/\Gamma$  which respects  
the thick-thin decomposition.

$K$  depends only on topology of  $M$





## II. Estimating the skinning image from the model



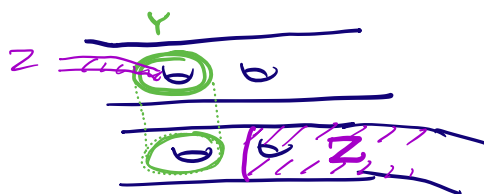
### III. Topological Endgame: propagating control

Def.  $Z, Y \subset \partial M$ . essential subsurfaces

$Y$  escapes from  $Z$  if:

$$\exists h: (Y \times [0, 1], Y \times \{0, 1\}) \rightarrow (M, \partial M)$$

- $h(\cdot, 0) = \text{id}_Y$
- $h(Y \times 1) \cap Z = \emptyset$
- $h$  not homotopic into  $\partial M$  as map of pairs.



Let  $w(Z) =$  maximal essential subsurface  
that escapes from  $Z$

$$\psi(Z) = \partial M \setminus w(Z)$$

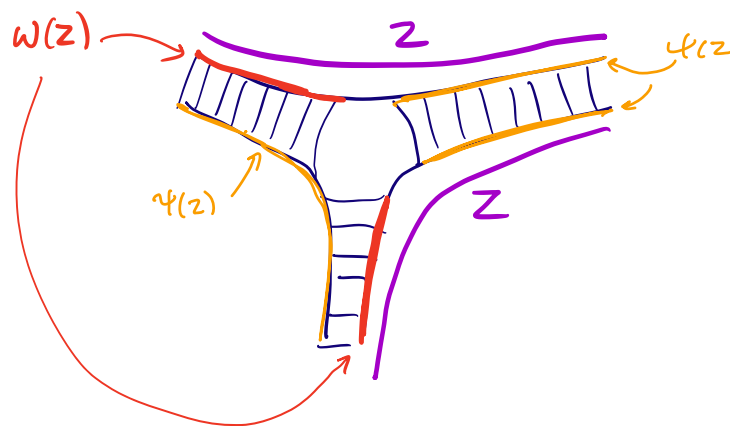
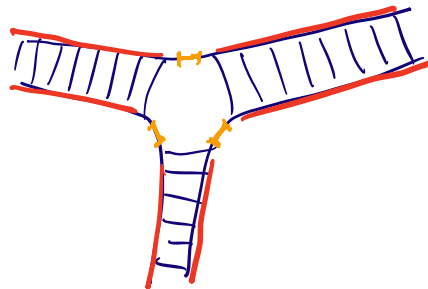
= subsurface "controlled by  $Z$ "

examples:

$$Z = \emptyset$$

$w(Z) =$   $\mathbb{I}$ -bundle  
boundaries

$\psi(Z) =$  solid torus annuli



$\psi$  monotonic:  $w \subseteq Z \Rightarrow \psi(w) \subseteq \psi(Z)$

$Z \subset \partial M$  let  $r_Z: T(\partial M) \rightarrow T(Z)$   
be restriction map.  $T(\phi) = \{*\}$

Geometry in (I) & (II) suffices to give:

Theorem (Bromberg-Canary-M)

Given  $Z \subset \partial M$ ,  $K \subset T(Z)$  compact  
 $\exists L \subset T(\psi(Z))$  compact

$$\sigma_M(r_Z^{-1}(K)) \subset r_{\psi(Z)}^{-1}(L)$$

"control on  $Z \Rightarrow$  control on  $\psi(Z)$  after skinning"

Now given  $\tau$ , define  $Z_0 \subseteq Z_1 \subseteq Z_2 \dots$

$$Z_0 = \emptyset$$

$$Z_{i+1} = \tau(\Psi(Z_i))$$

The theorem gives compact  $L_i \subset \tau(Z_i)$

such that

$$(\tau \circ \sigma_M)^i(\tau(s)) \subset r_{Z_i}^{-1}(L_i)$$

Eventually  $Z_{n+1} = Z_n$ . (note  $n$  depends on topology  
of  $\partial M$  only)

if  $Z_n = \partial M$

$$r_{Z_n}^{-1}(L_n) = L_n \quad \text{and we are done}$$

If  $Z_n \neq \partial M$ : (and must be nonempty)

Then  $\partial Z_n$  bounds a union of annuli in  $M$  which assemble to essential tori in  $M/\tau$ .

Illustration for book of  $I$ -bundles:

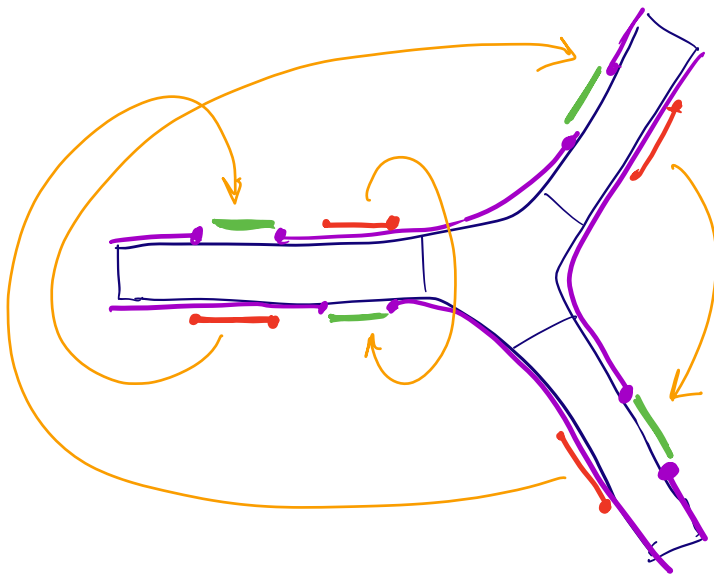
$$Z_0 = \emptyset$$

$$Z_1 = \Psi(\emptyset) = \text{annuli } \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \gamma_3$$

⋮

$Z_n$  contains  $\gamma_1 \cup \gamma_2 \cup \gamma_3$  so  $Z_n^c \subset I$ -bundles

$$Z_{n+1} = Z_n$$



$$\begin{aligned} \omega(Z_n) \\ Z_n \\ \tau(\omega(Z_n)) &= Z_{n+1}^c \\ &= Z_n^c \end{aligned}$$

THANKS!

