

Three-Dimensional Manifolds and Heegaard Floer Homology

Eaman Eftekhary

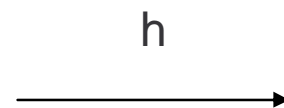
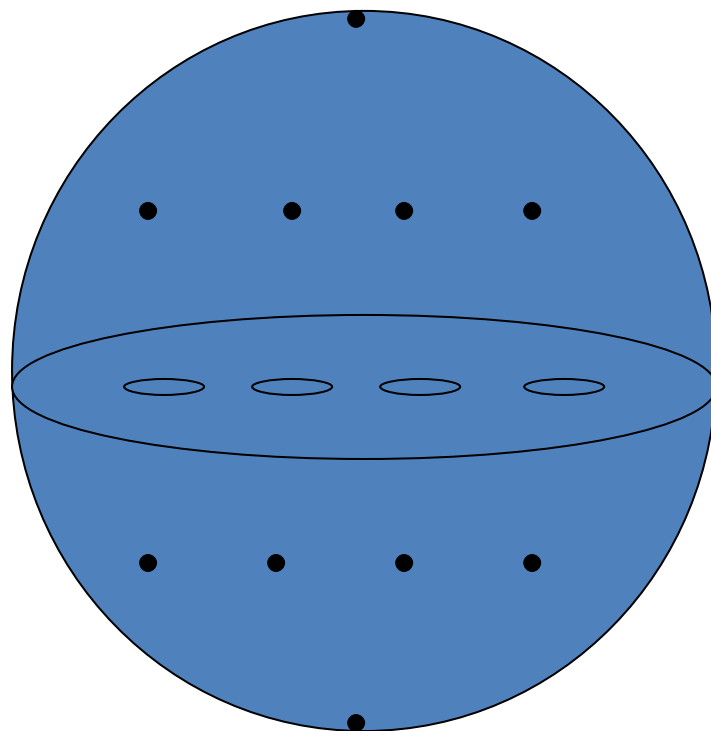
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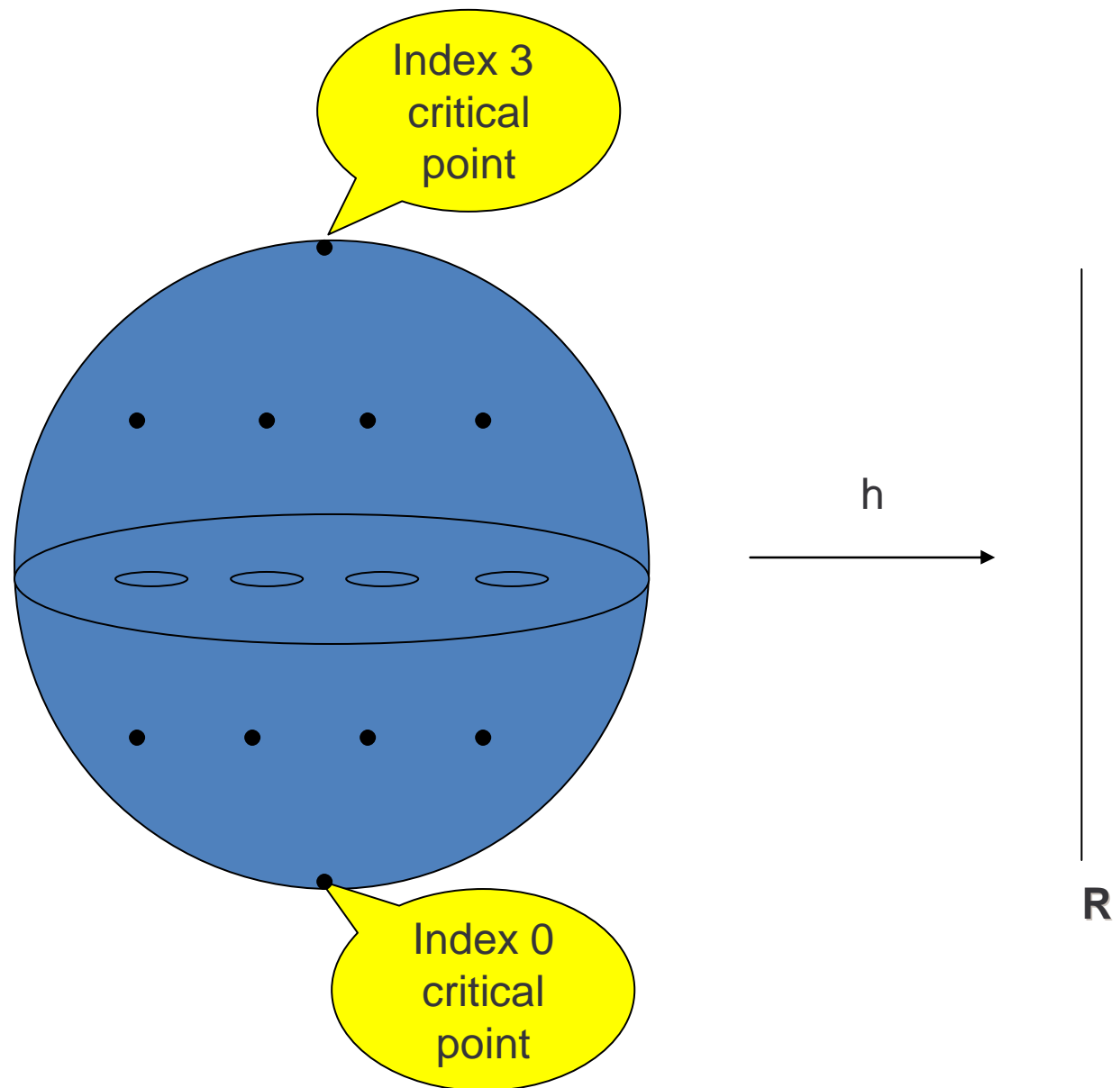
General Construction

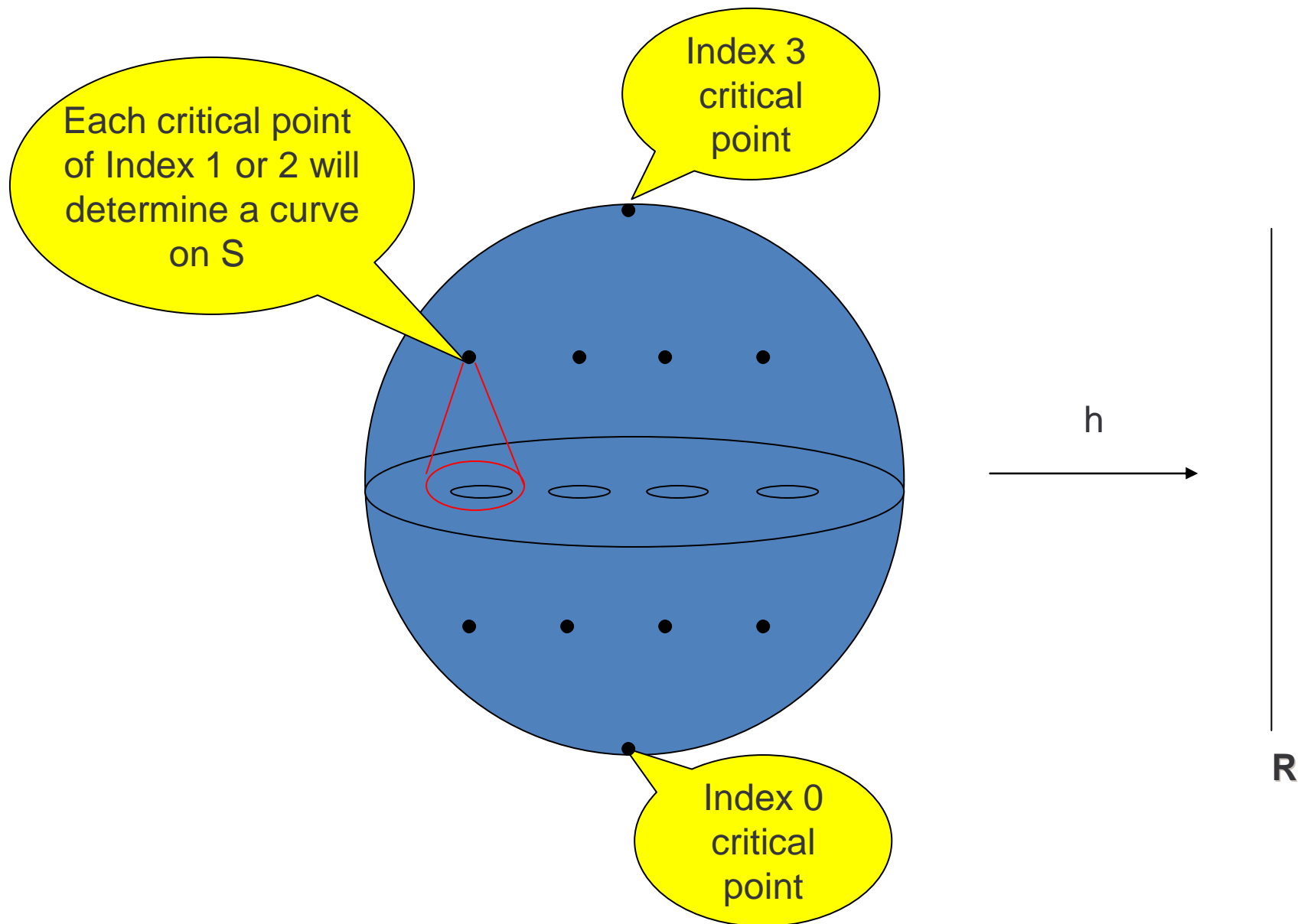
- Suppose that Y is a compact oriented three-manifold equipped with a self-indexing Morse function h with a unique minimum, a unique maximum, g critical points of index 1 and g critical points of index 2.
- The pre-image of 1.5 under h will be a surface of genus g which we denote by S .

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Heegaard diagrams for three-manifolds

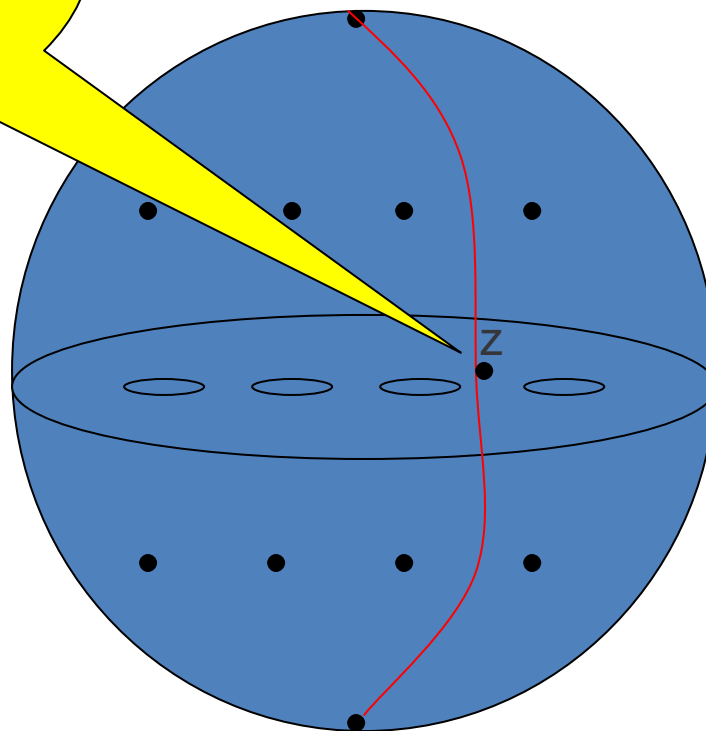
- Each critical point of index 1 or 2 determines a simple closed curve on the surface S . Denote the curves corresponding to the index 1 critical points by α_i , $i=1,\dots,g$ and denote the curves corresponding to the index 2 critical points by β_i , $i=1,\dots,g$.

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- The curves α_i , $i=1,\dots,g$ are (homologically) linearly independent. The same is true for β_i , $i=1,\dots,g$.

- We add a marked point z to the diagram, placed in the complement of these curves. Think of it as a flow line for the Morse function h , which connects the index 3 critical point to the index 0 critical point.

The marked point z
determines a flow line
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h



R

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- The set of data

$$H=(S, (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_g), (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_g), z)$$

is called a **pointed Heegaard diagram** for the three-manifold Y .

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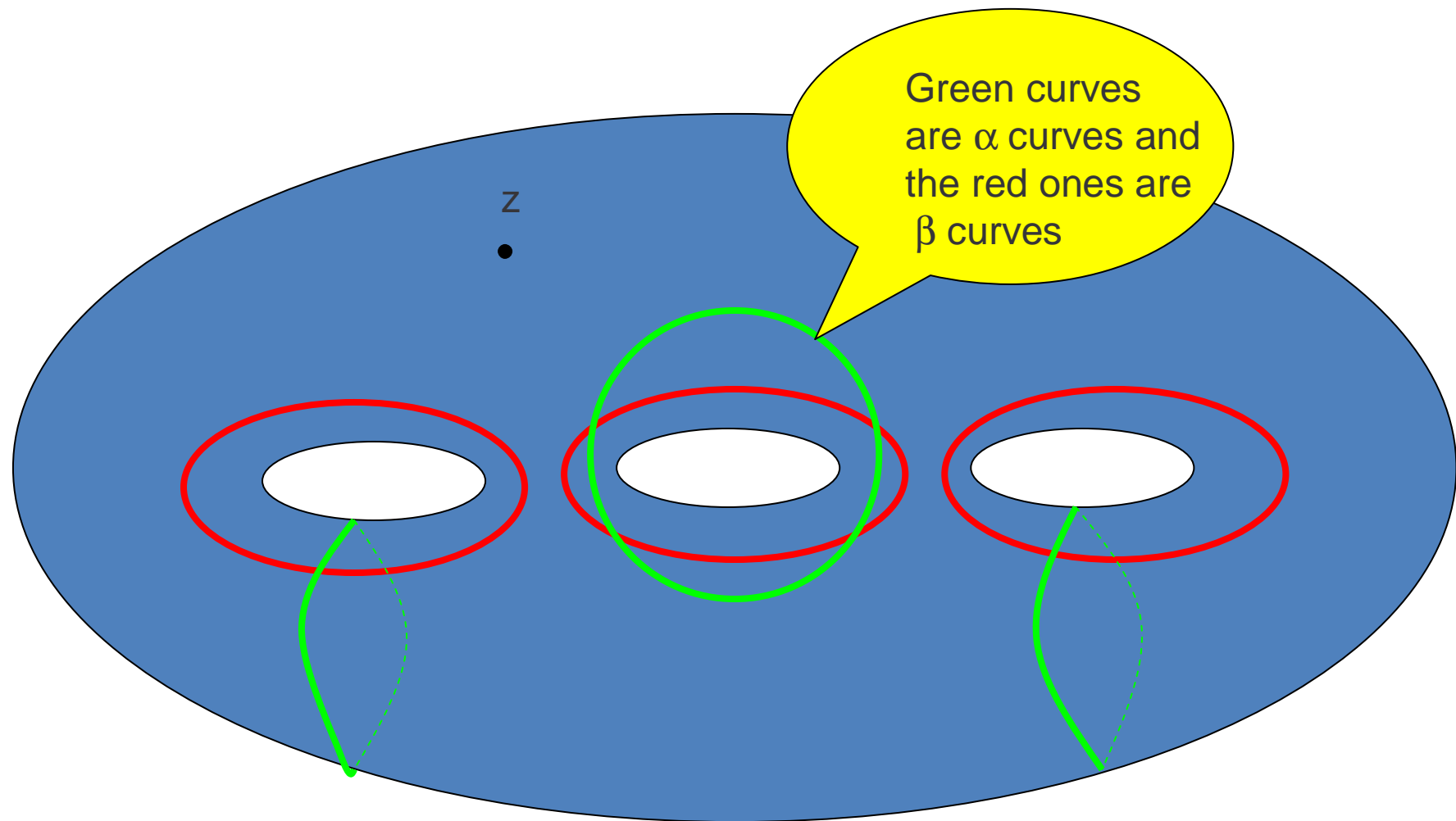
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$$H = (S, (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_g), (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_g), z)$$

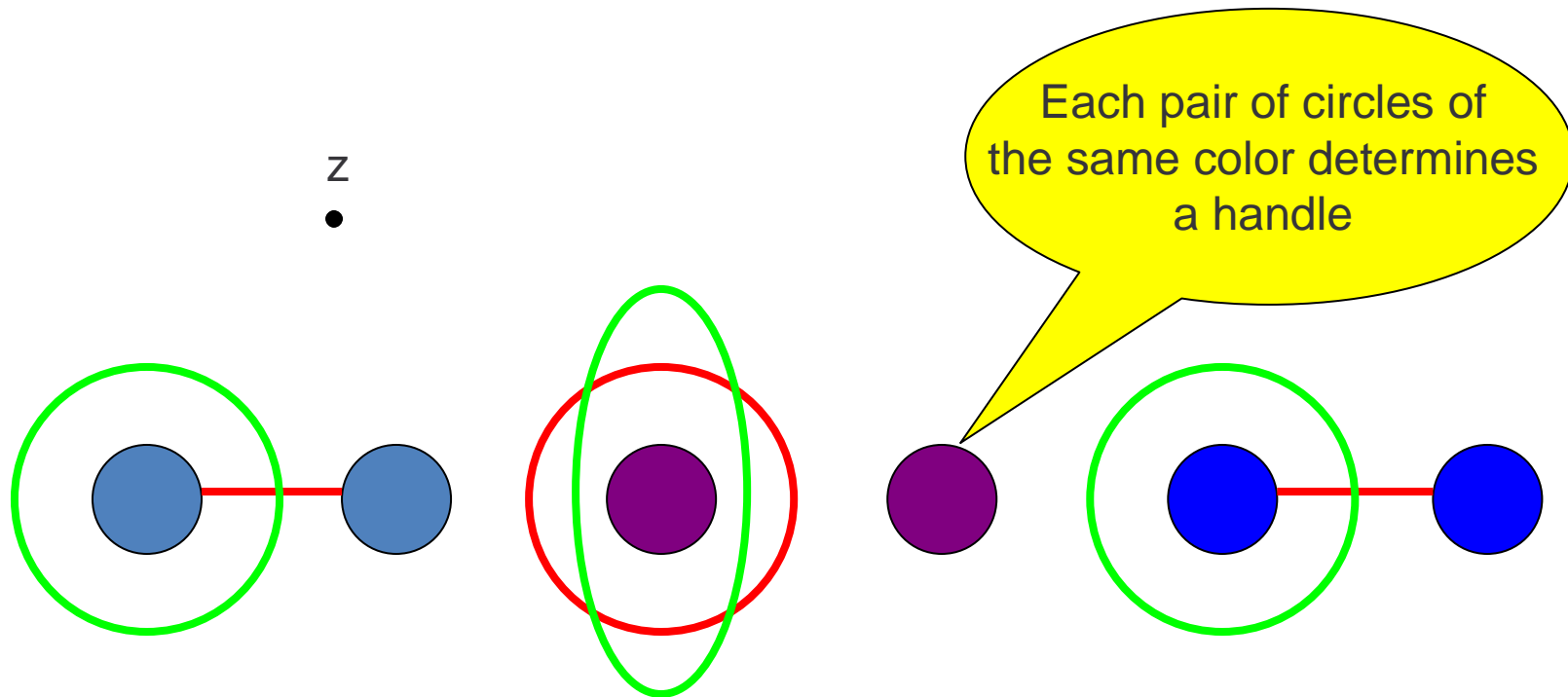
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- H uniquely determines the three-manifold Y but not vice-versa

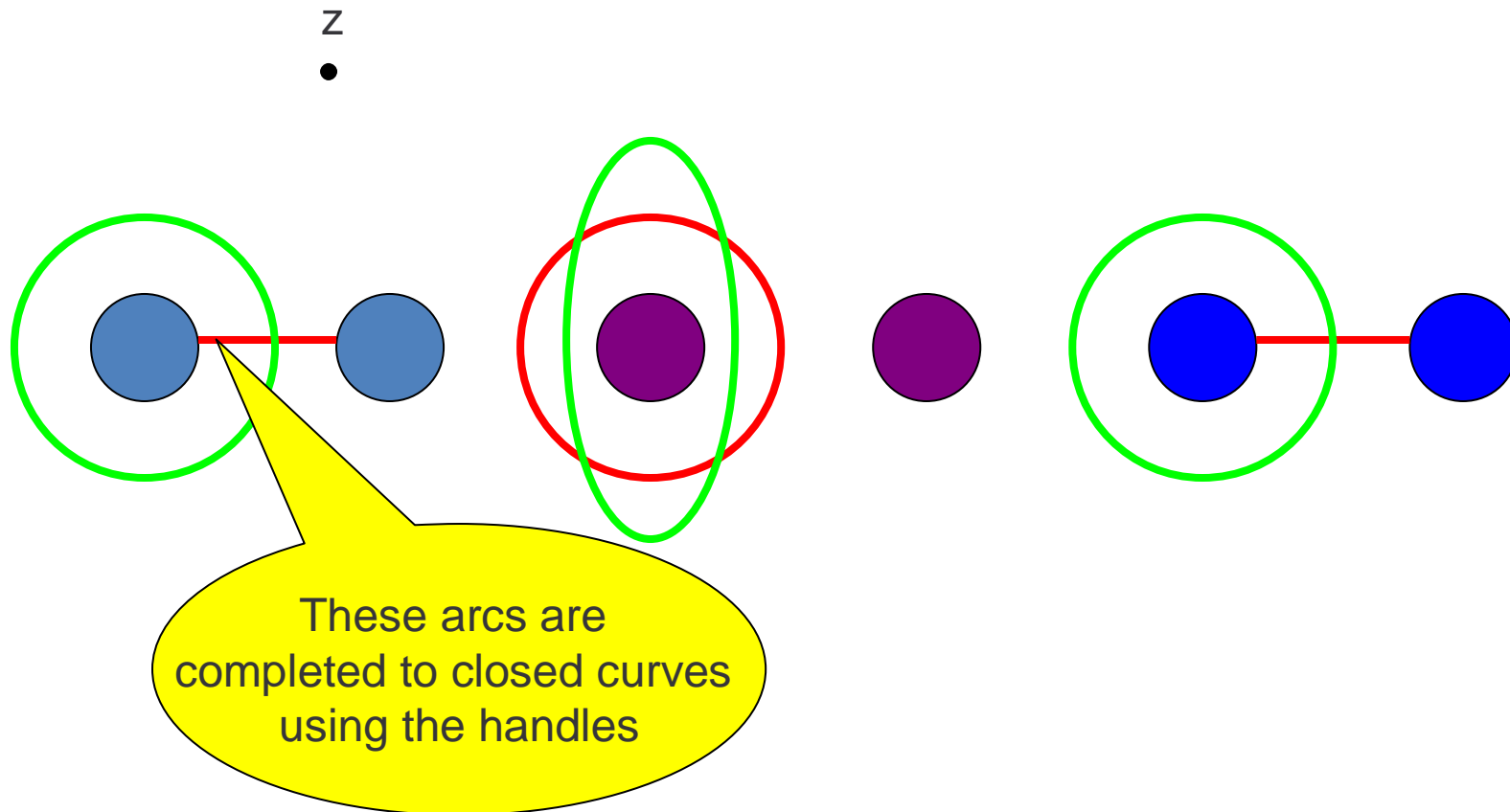
A Heegaard Diagram for $S^1 \times S^2$



A different way of presenting this Heegaard diagram



A different way of presenting this Heegaard diagram



Knots in three-dimensional manifolds

- Any map embedding S^1 to a three-manifold Y determines a homology class $\beta \in H_1(Y, \mathbf{Z})$.

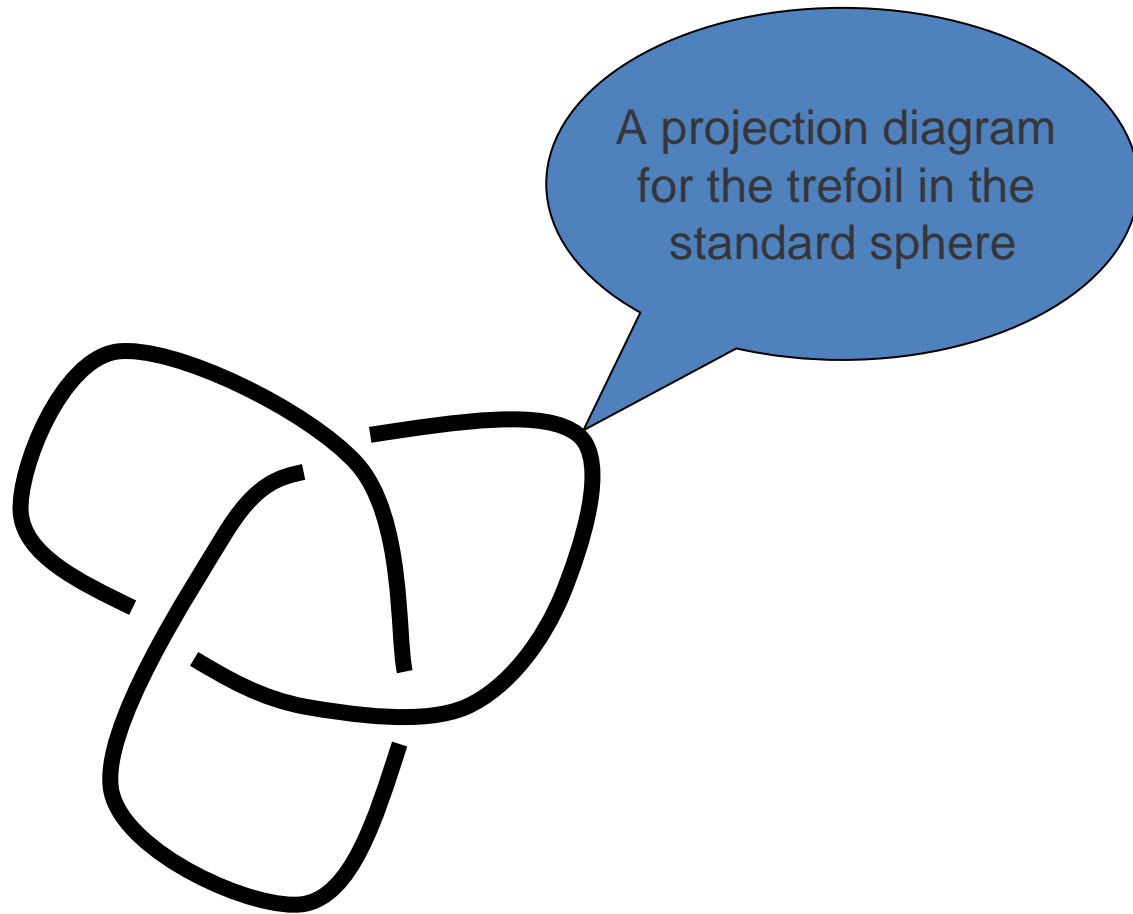
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- Any such map which represents the trivial homology class is called a **knot**.
- In particular, if $Y=S^3$, any embedding of S^1 in S^3 will be a knot, since the first homology of S^3 is trivial.

Trefoil in S^3



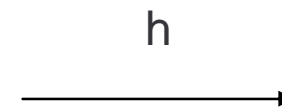
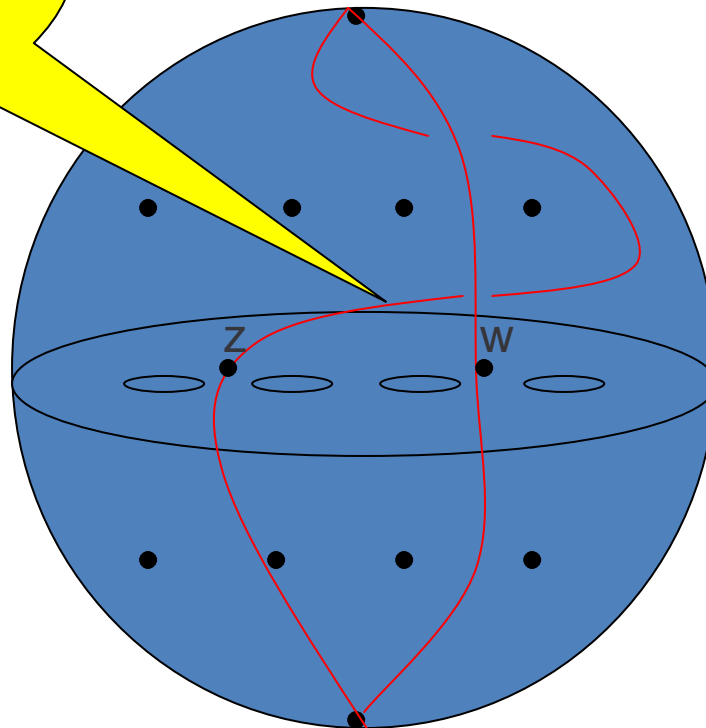
Heegaard diagrams for knots

- A pair of marked points on the surface S of a Heegaard diagram H for a three-manifold Y determine a pair of paths between the critical points of indices 0 and 3. These two arcs together determine an image of S^1 embedded in Y .

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- A pair of marked points on the surface S of a Heegaard diagram H for a three-manifold Y determine a pair of paths between the critical points of indices 0 and 3. These two arcs together determine an image of S^1 embedded in Y .
- Any knot in Y may be realized in this way using some Morse function and the corresponding Heegaard diagram.

Two points on the
surface S determine
a knot in Y



Heegaard diagrams for knots

- A Heegaard diagram for a knot K is a set $H=(S, (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_g), (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_g), z, w)$ where z, w are two marked points in the complement of the curves $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_g$, and $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_g$ on the surface S .

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- There is an arc connecting z to w in the complement of $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_g)$, and another arc connecting them in the complement of $(\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_g)$. Denote them by ε_α and ε_β .

Heegaard diagrams for knots

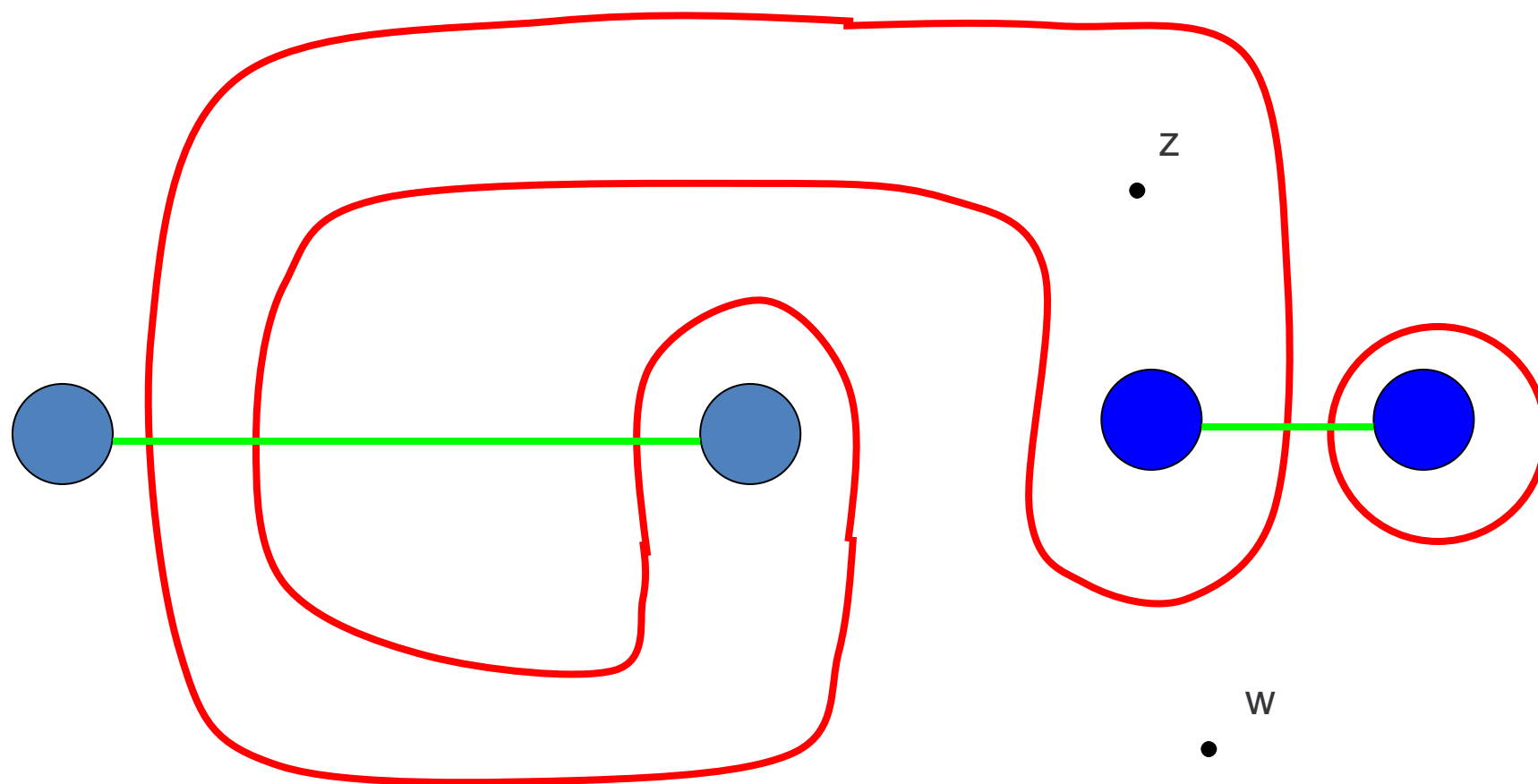
- The two marked points z, w determine the trivial homology class if and only if the closed curve $\varepsilon_\alpha - \varepsilon_\beta$ can be written as a linear combination of the curves $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_g)$, and $(\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_g)$ in the first homology of S .

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- The first homology group of Y may be determined from the Heegaard diagram H :

$$H_1(Y, \mathbb{Z}) = H_1(S, \mathbb{Z}) / [\alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_g = \beta_1 = \dots = \beta_g = 0]$$

A Heegaard diagram for the trefoil



Constructing Heegaard diagrams for knots in S^3

- Consider a plane projection of a knot K in S^3 .

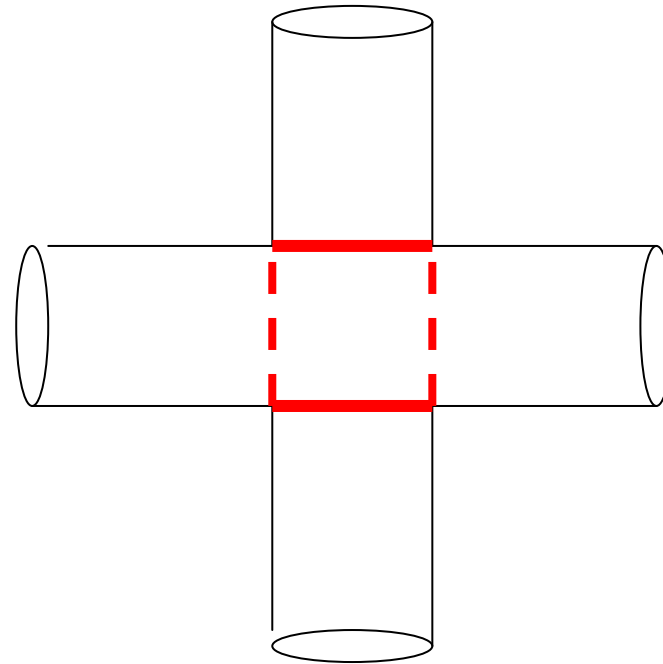
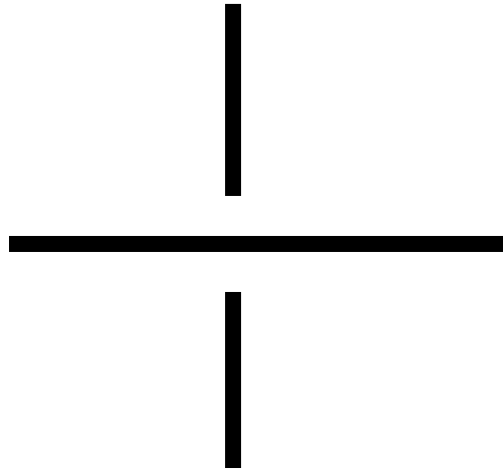
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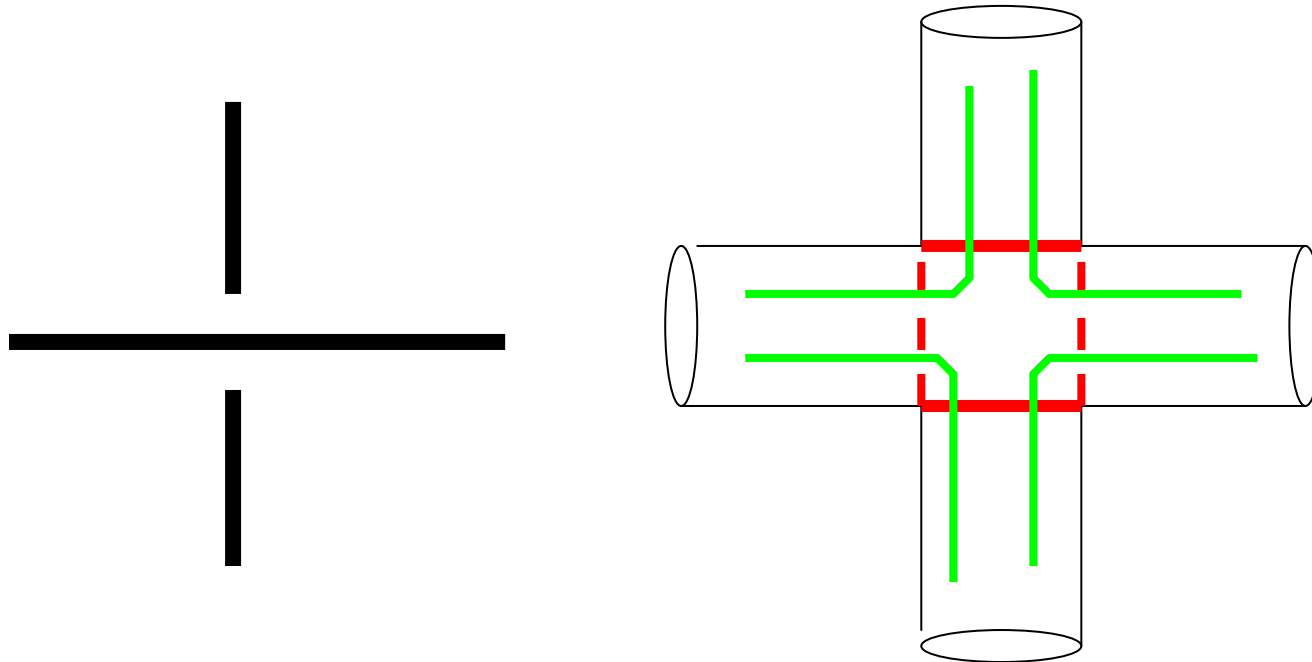
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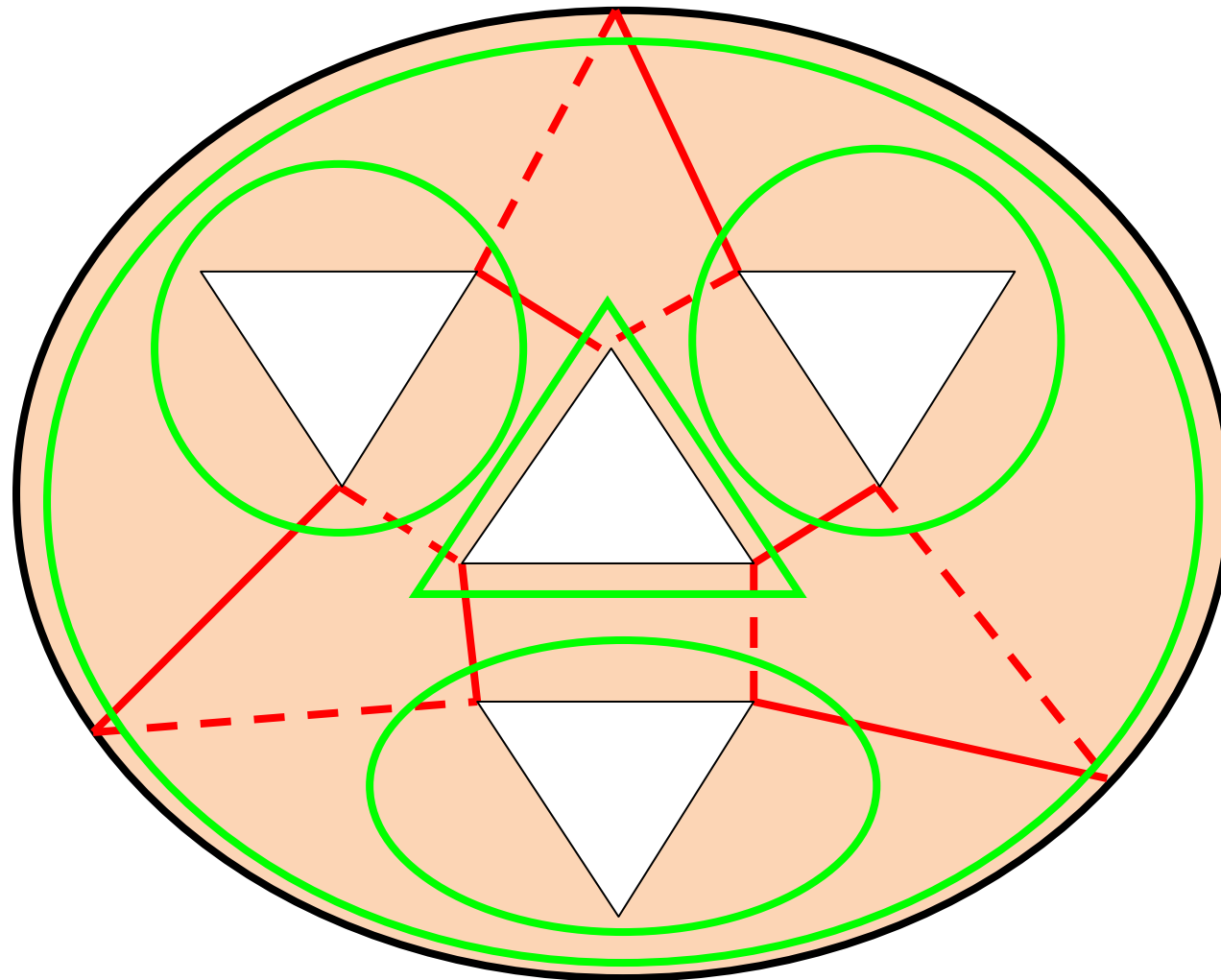
- Consider a plane projection of a knot K in S^3 .
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- Construct a union of simple closed curves of two different colors, red and green, using the following procedure:

The local construction
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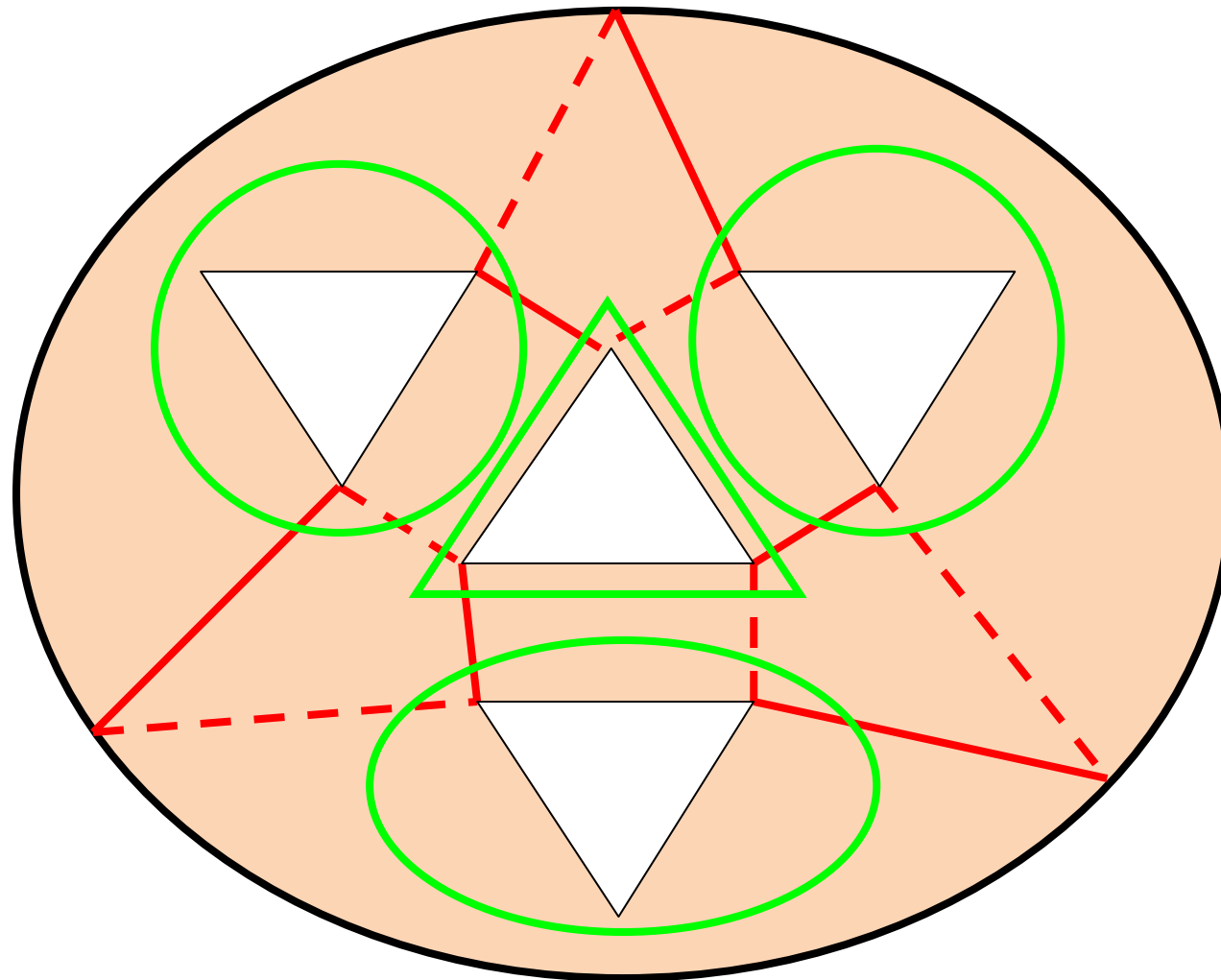


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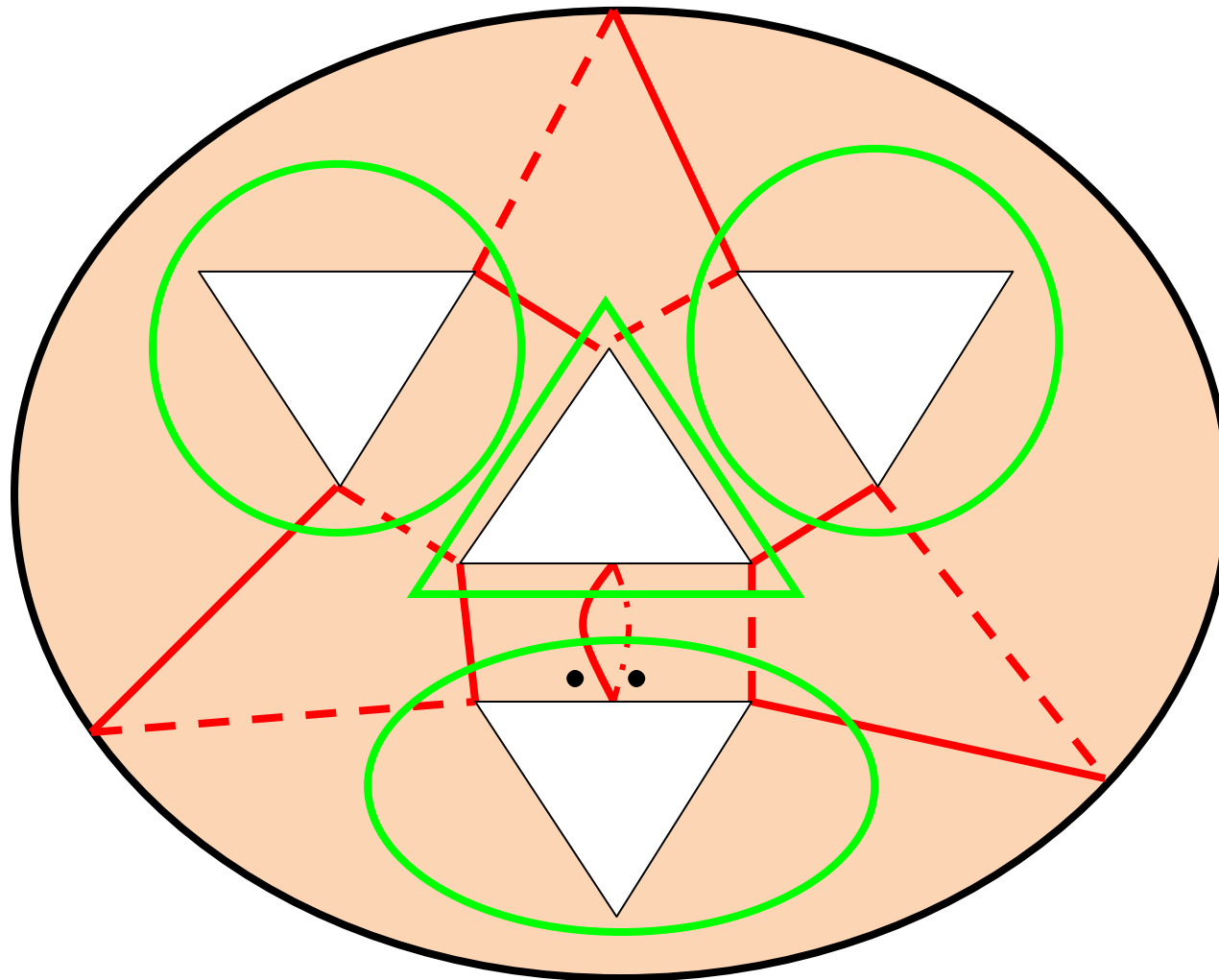




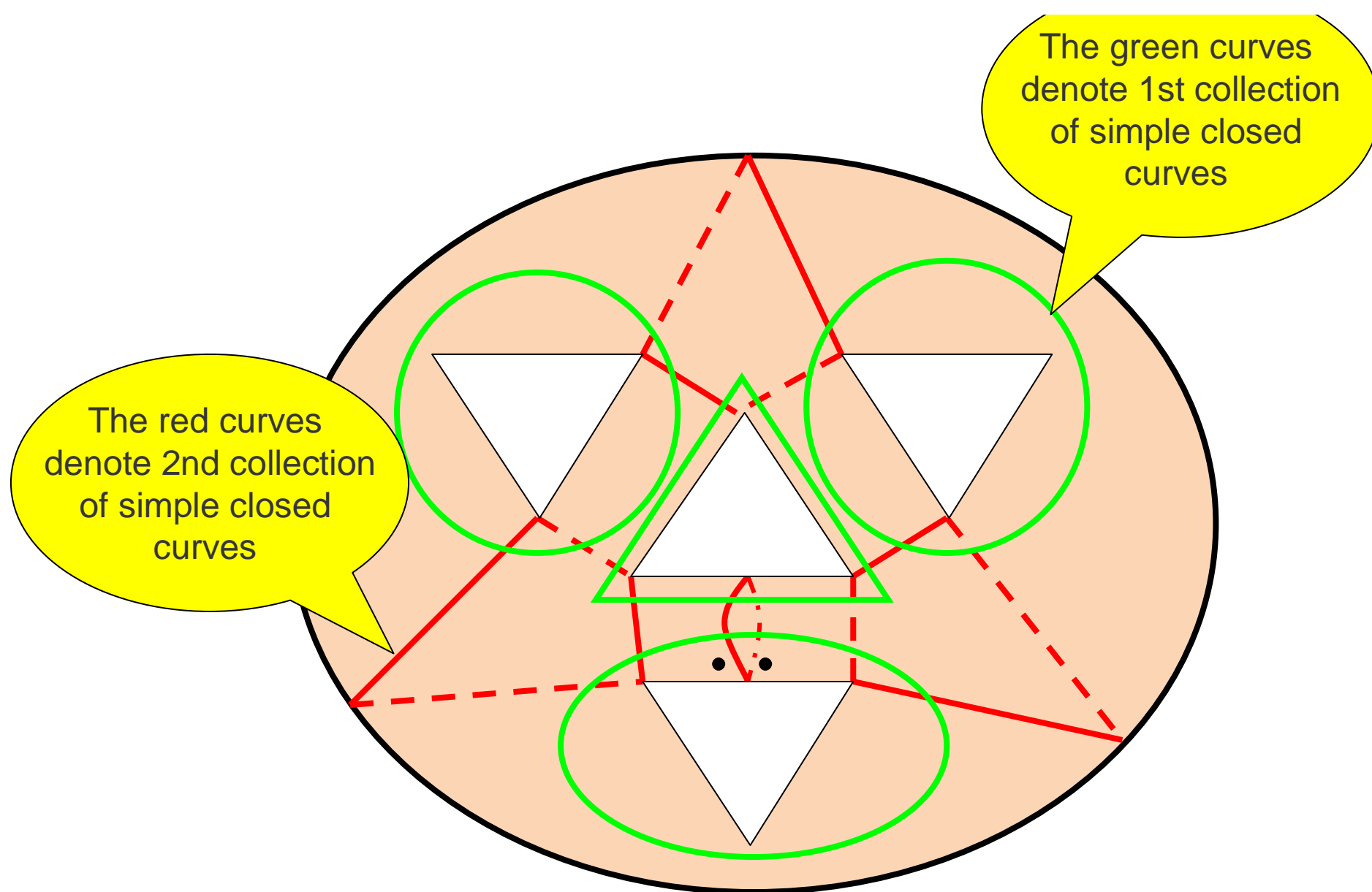
The Heegaard diagram for trefoil after 2nd step



Delete the outer green curve



Add a new red curve and a pair of marked points on its two sides so that the red curve corresponds to the meridian of K .



From topology to Heegaard diagrams

- Using this process we successfully extract a topological structure (a three-manifold, or a knot inside a three-manifold) from a set of combinatorial data: a marked Heegaard diagram

$$H=(S, (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_g), (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_g), z_1, \dots, z_n)$$

where n is the number of marked points on S .

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- Heegaard Floer homology associates a homology theory to any Heegaard diagram with marked points.
- In order to obtain an invariant of the topological structure, we should show that if two Heegaard diagrams describe the same topological structure (i.e. 3-manifold or knot), the associated homology groups are isomorphic.

From Heegaard diagrams to Floer homology

- Given a marked Heegaard diagram
 $H=(S, (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_g), (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_g), z_1, \dots, z_n),$
and a ring A which has the structure of a $\mathbb{Z}[u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n]$ -module, Heegaard Floer homology associates a homology group $HF(H; A)$.

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and a ring A which has the structure of a $\mathbb{Z}[u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n]$ -module, Heegaard Floer homology associates a homology group $HF(H; A)$.
- $HF(H; A)$ is an A -module and is equipped with a \mathbb{Z} -grading if $n=2$.

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- So each $HF(K, s)$ has a well-defined Euler characteristic $\chi(K, s)$

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- The polynomial

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- $HF(K)$ determines the genus of K as follows;

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- The **genus** $g(K)$ of K is the minimum genus for a Seifert surface for K .

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HFH determines the genus

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- Theorem (Ozsváth-Szabó) For any knot K in S^3 , $d(K)=g(K)$.

HFH and the 4-ball genus

- In fact there is a slightly more interesting invariant $\tau(K)$ defined from $HF(K,A)$, where $A=\mathbf{Z}[u_1^{-1},u_2^{-1}]$, which gives a lower bound for the 4-ball genus $g_4(K)$ of K .

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- The 4-ball genus is the smallest genus of a surface in the 4-ball with boundary K in S^3 , which is the boundary of the 4-ball.

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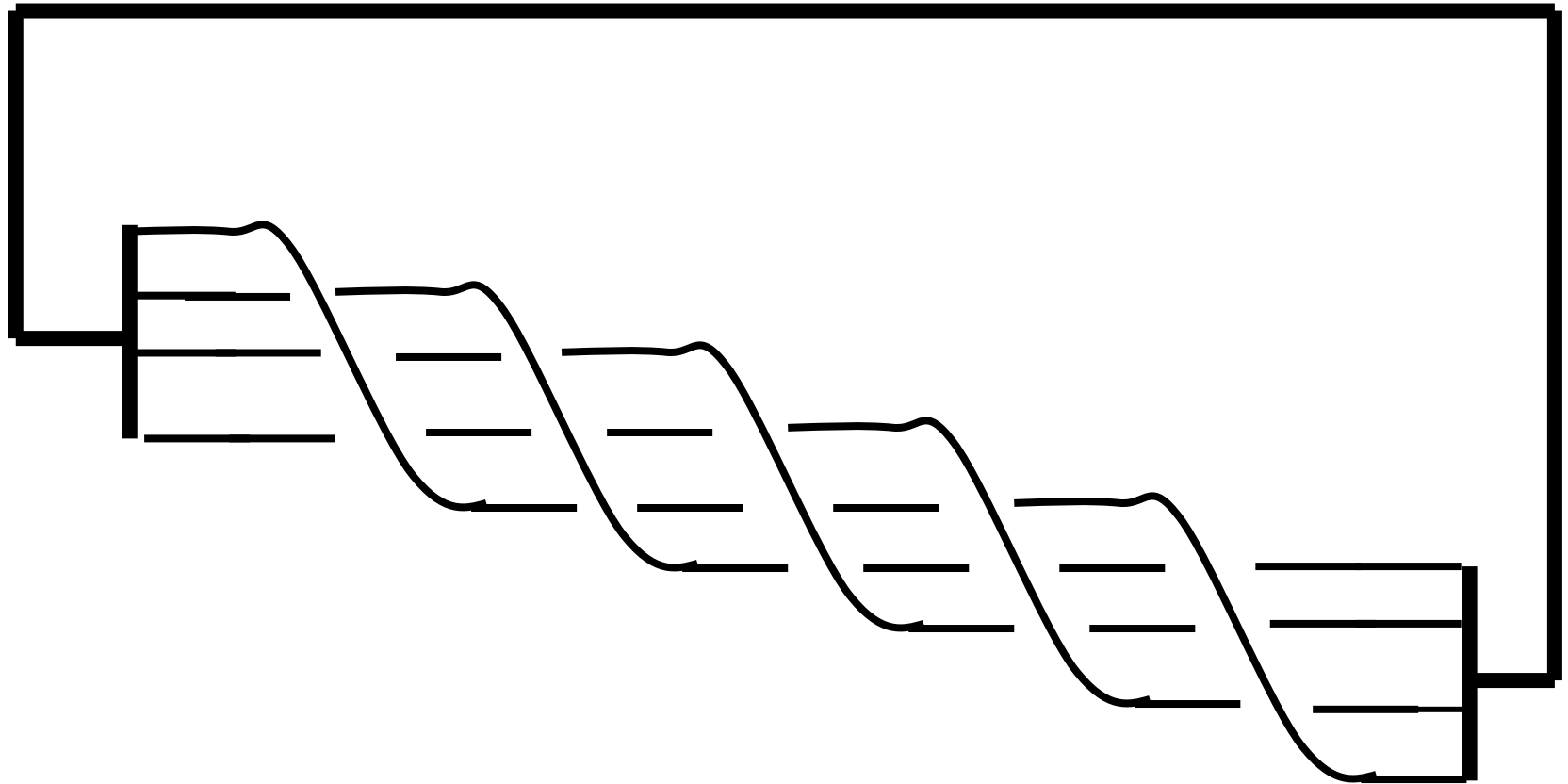
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- Corollary(Milnor conjecture, 1st proved by Kronheimer-Mrowka using gauge theory)

If $T(p,q)$ denotes the (p,q) torus knot, then
 $u(T(p,q)) = (p-1)(q-1)/2$

$T(p,q)$: p strands, q twists



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- For $Y=S^3$, $HF(Y,A)=A$.
- For $A=\mathbb{Z}$ there is a combinatorial algorithm for computing $HF(Y,\mathbb{Z})$ for any given 3-manifold from its Heegaard diagram.
- Question: *Are there other 3-manifolds with trivial Heegaard Floer homology?*

3-manifolds with trivial HF

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- Thurston Geometrization (Perelman): If Y is a prime 3-manifold without any incompressible torus inside it, then Y is either hyperbolic, or has one of the other 7 geometries of Thurston.

3-manifolds with trivial HF

- Thurston Geometrization (**Perelman**): If Y is a prime 3-manifold without any incompressible torus inside it, then Y is either hyperbolic, or has one of the other 7 geometries of Thurston.
- Theorem (**E.**). If Y is a homology sphere which has one of the 7 other geometries of Thurston and $HF(Y, \mathbf{Z}) = \mathbf{Z}$, then Y is either S^3 or the Poincare sphere P . Moreover, $HF(P, A) = A$ for all A !

3-manifolds with trivial HF

- Conjecture. If Y is a hyperbolic homology sphere, then $HF(Y, \mathbf{Z})$ is not equal trivial (i.e. equal to \mathbf{Z}).

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- Conjecture. If Y is a hyperbolic homology sphere, then $HF(Y, \mathbf{Z})$ is not equal trivial (i.e. equal to \mathbf{Z}).
- If the conjecture is true, the only 3-manifolds with trivial Heegaard Floer homology are proved to be connected sums of several copies of the Poincare sphere.

Main construction of HFH

- Fix a Heegaard diagram

$$H=(S, (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_g), (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_g), z_1, \dots, z_n)$$

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- Construct the complex $2g$ -dimensional smooth manifold

$$X=\text{Sym}^g(S)=(S \times S \times \dots \times S)/S(g)$$

where $S(g)$ is the permutation group on g letters acting on the g -tuples of points from S .

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- Every complex structure on S determines a complex structure on X .

Main construction of HFH

- Consider the two g -dimensional tori

$$T_{\alpha} = \alpha_1 \times \alpha_2 \times \dots \times \alpha_g \quad \text{and} \quad T_{\beta} = \beta_1 \times \beta_2 \times \dots \times \beta_g$$

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- These tori are **totally real** sub-manifolds of the complex manifold X .
- If the curves $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_g$ meet the curves $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_g$ transversally on S , T_α will meet T_β transversally in X .

Intersection points of T_α and T_β

- A point of intersection between T_α and T_β consists of a g -tuple of points (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_g) such that for some element $\sigma \in S(g)$ we have $x_i \in \alpha_i \cap \beta_{\sigma(i)}$ for $i=1, 2, \dots, g$.

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- The complex $CF(H)$, associated with the Heegaard diagram H , is generated by the intersection points $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_g)$ as above. The coefficient ring will be denoted by A , which is a $\mathbf{Z}[u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n]$ -module.

Differential of the complex

- The differential of this complex should have the following form:

$$d(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in T_\alpha \cap T_\beta} b(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \cdot \mathbf{y}$$

The values $b(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \in A$ should be determined.
Then d may be linearly extended to $CF(H)$.

Differential of the complex; $b(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$

- For $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in T_\alpha \cap T_\beta$ consider the space $\pi_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ of the homotopy types of the disks satisfying the following properties:

$$u: [0, 1] \times \mathbf{R} \subset \mathbf{C} \rightarrow X$$

$$u(0, t) \in T_\alpha, \quad u(1, t) \in T_\beta$$

$$u(s, \infty) = \mathbf{x}, \quad u(s, -\infty) = \mathbf{y}$$

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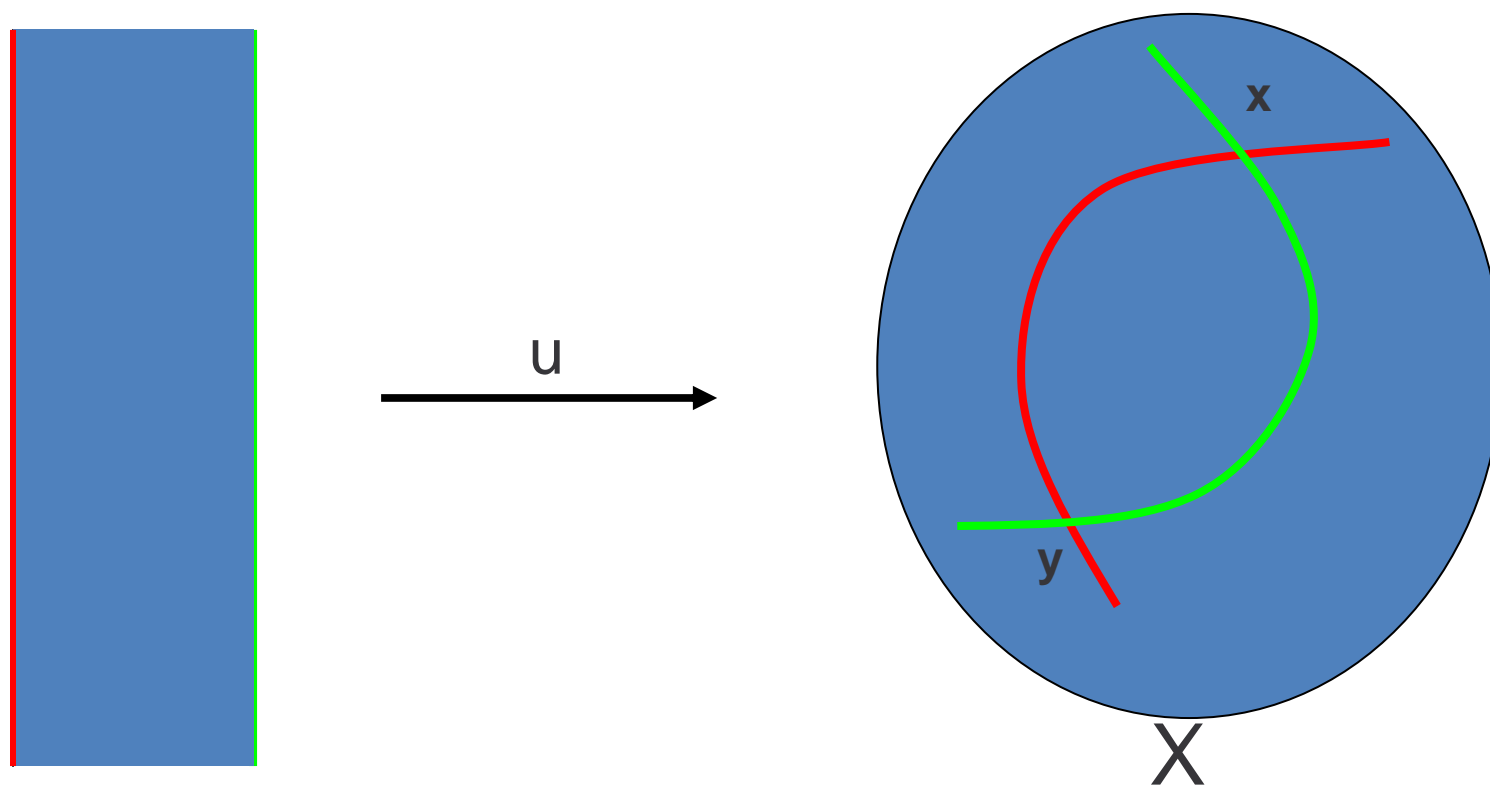
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- For each $\phi \in \pi_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ let $M(\phi)$ denote the moduli space of holomorphic maps u as above representing the class ϕ .

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- If $\mu(\phi)$ denotes the **formal dimension** or **expected dimension** of $M(\phi)$, then the quotient moduli space is expected to be of dimension $\mu(\phi)-1$. We may manage to achieve the correct dimension.

Differential of the complex; $b(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$

- Let $n(\phi)$ denote the number of points in the quotient moduli space (counted with a sign) if $\mu(\phi)=1$. Otherwise define $n(\phi)=0$.

Differential of the complex; $b(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$

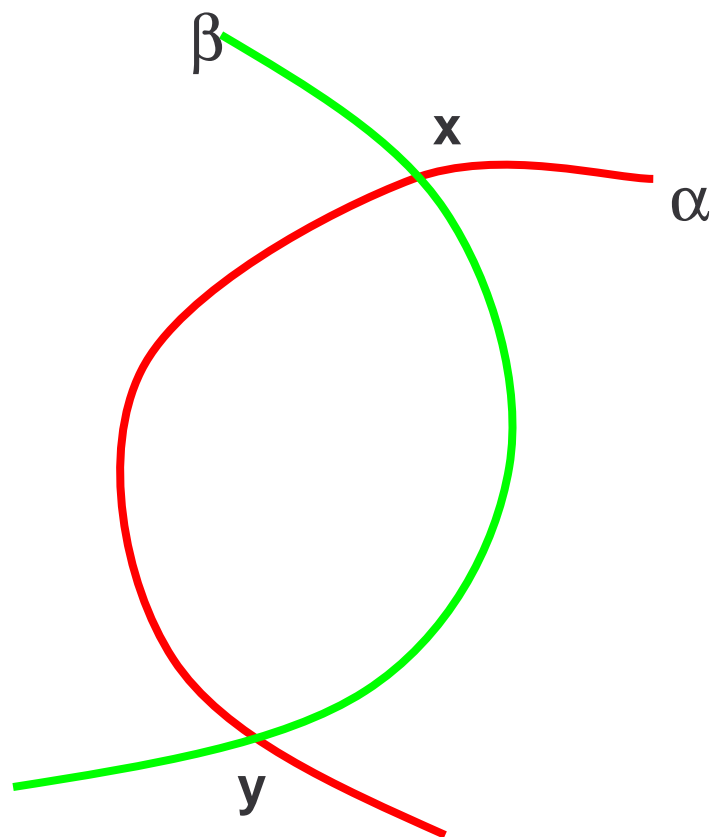
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- Define $b(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sum_{\phi} n(\phi) \cdot \prod_j u_j^{n(j, \phi)}$ where the sum is over all $\phi \in \pi_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$.

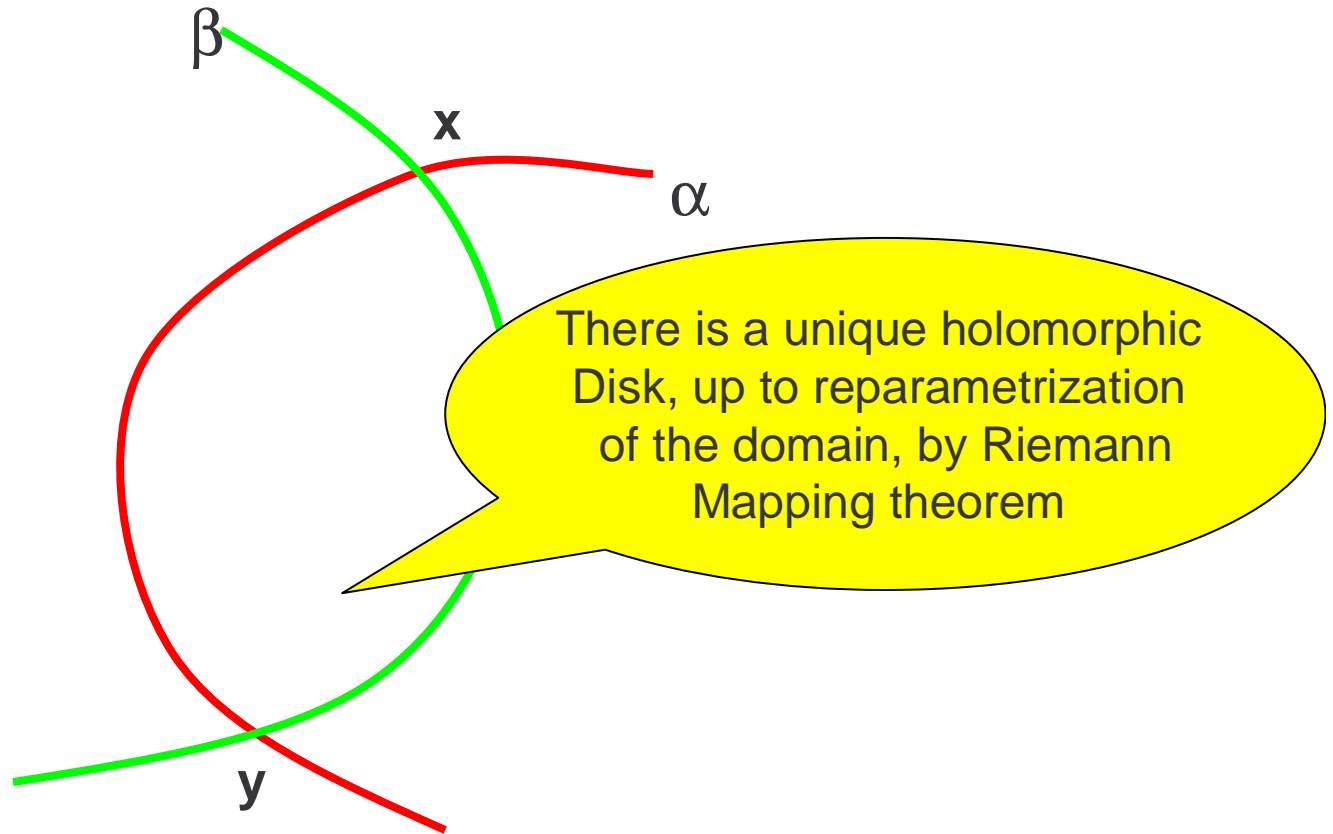
Two examples in dimension two

Example 1.



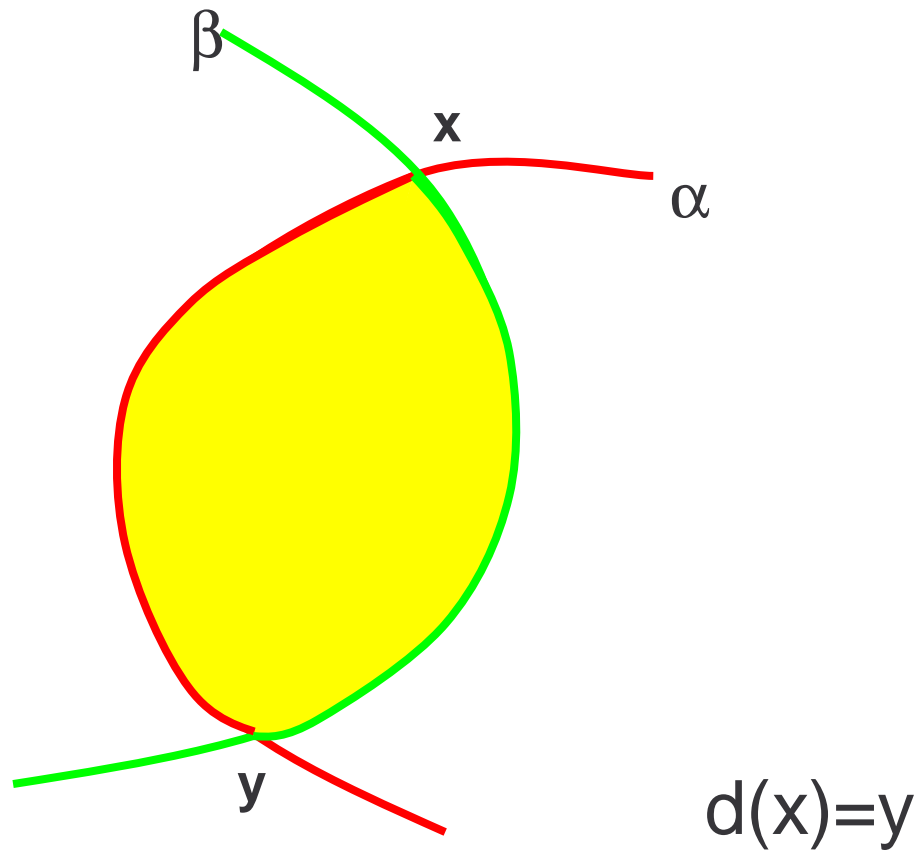
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Example 1.



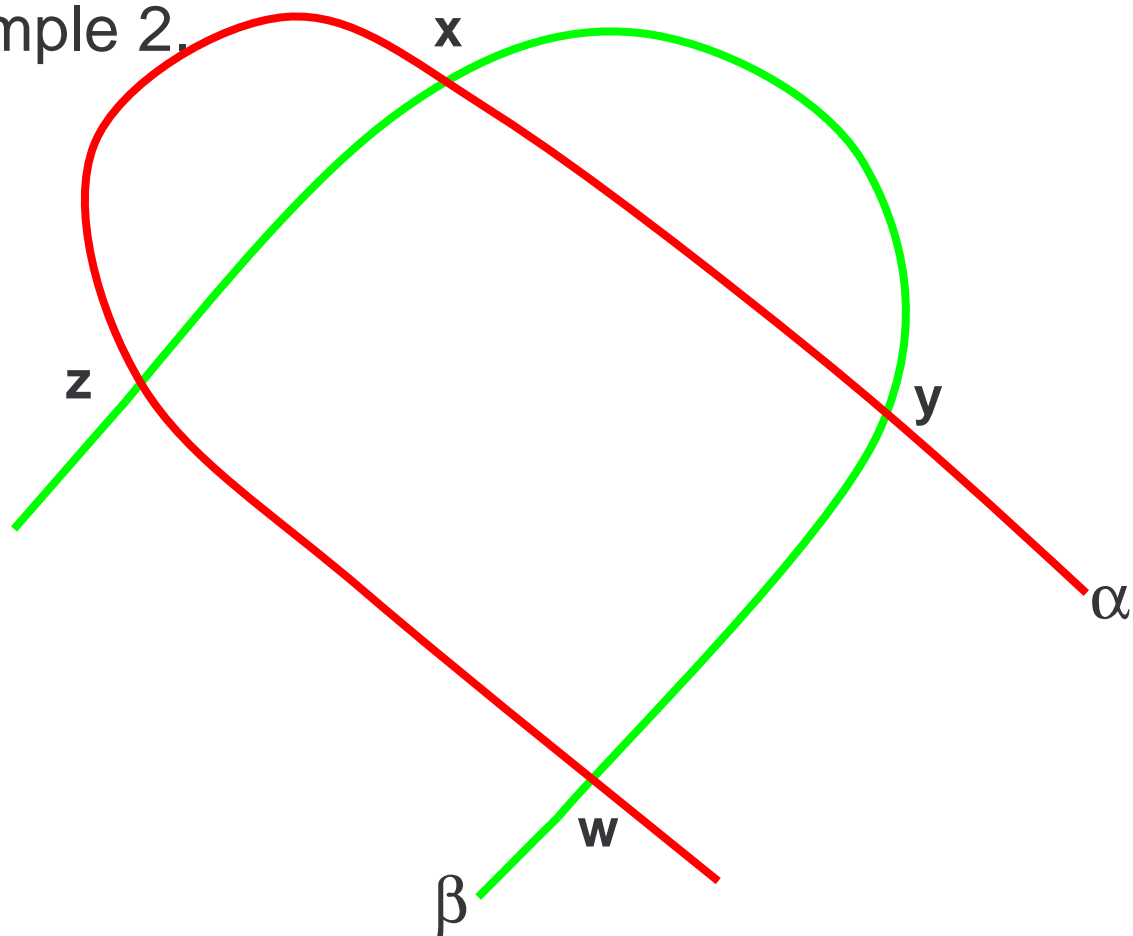
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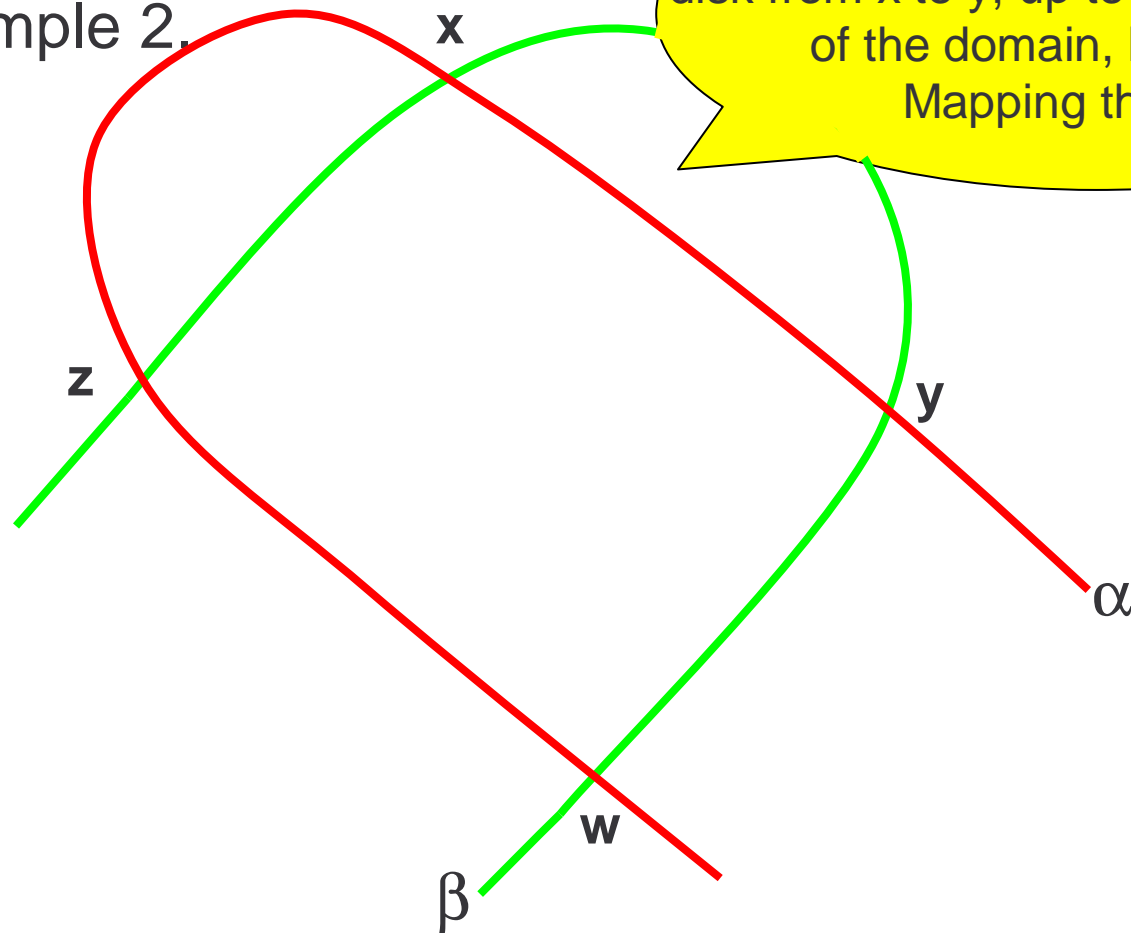
Two examples in dimension two

Example 2.



Two examples in dimension two

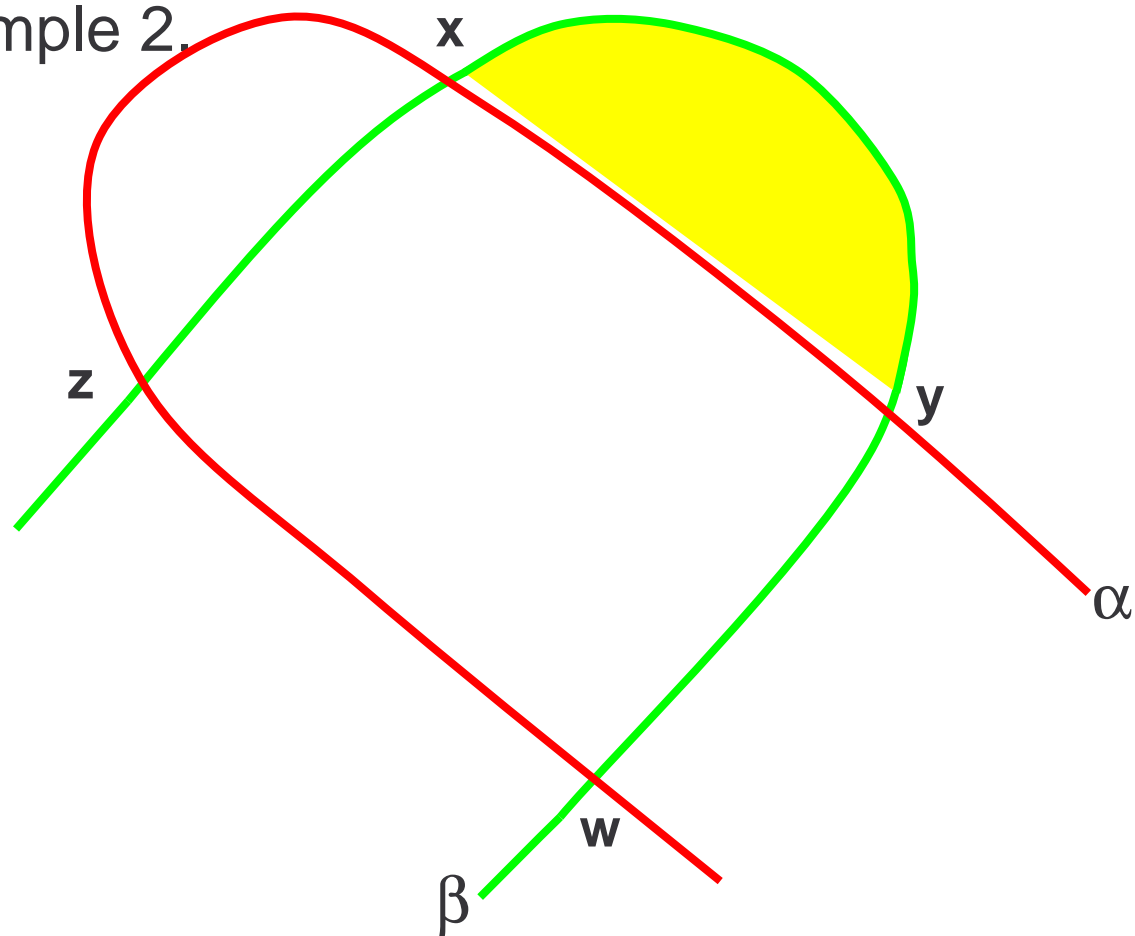
Example 2.



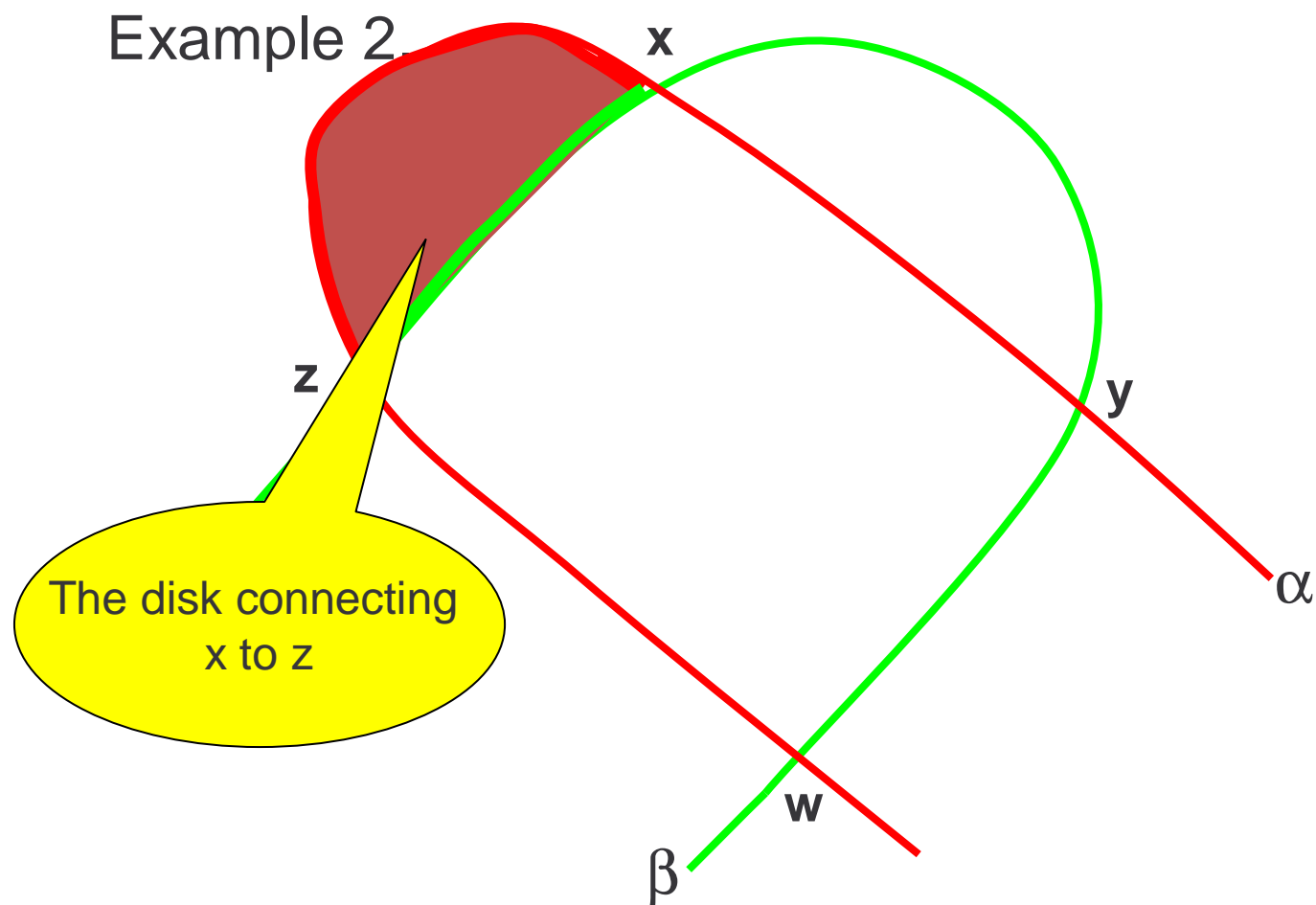
There is a unique holomorphic disk from x to y , up to reparametrization of the domain, by Riemann Mapping theorem

Two examples in dimension two

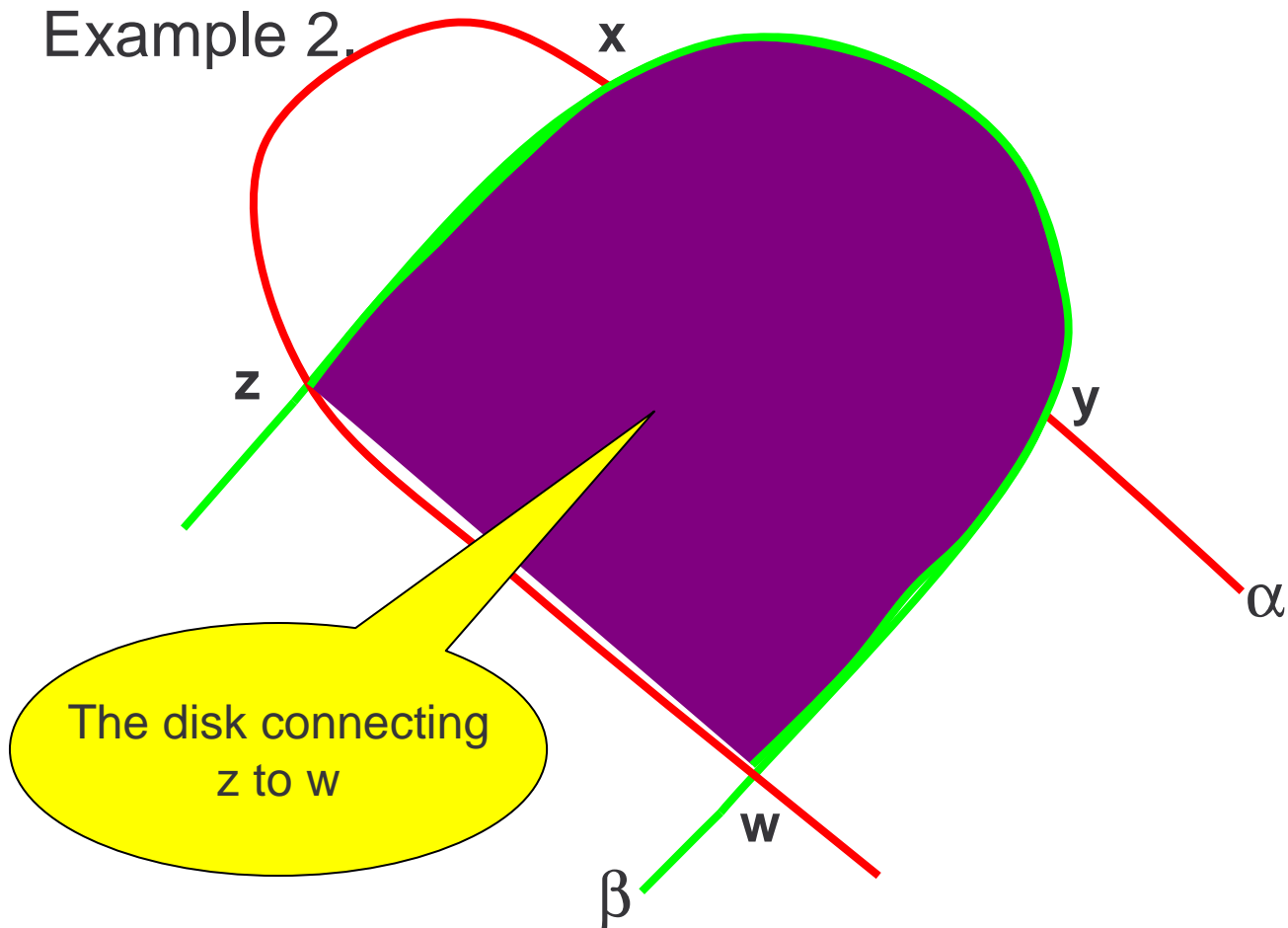
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Two examples in dimension two

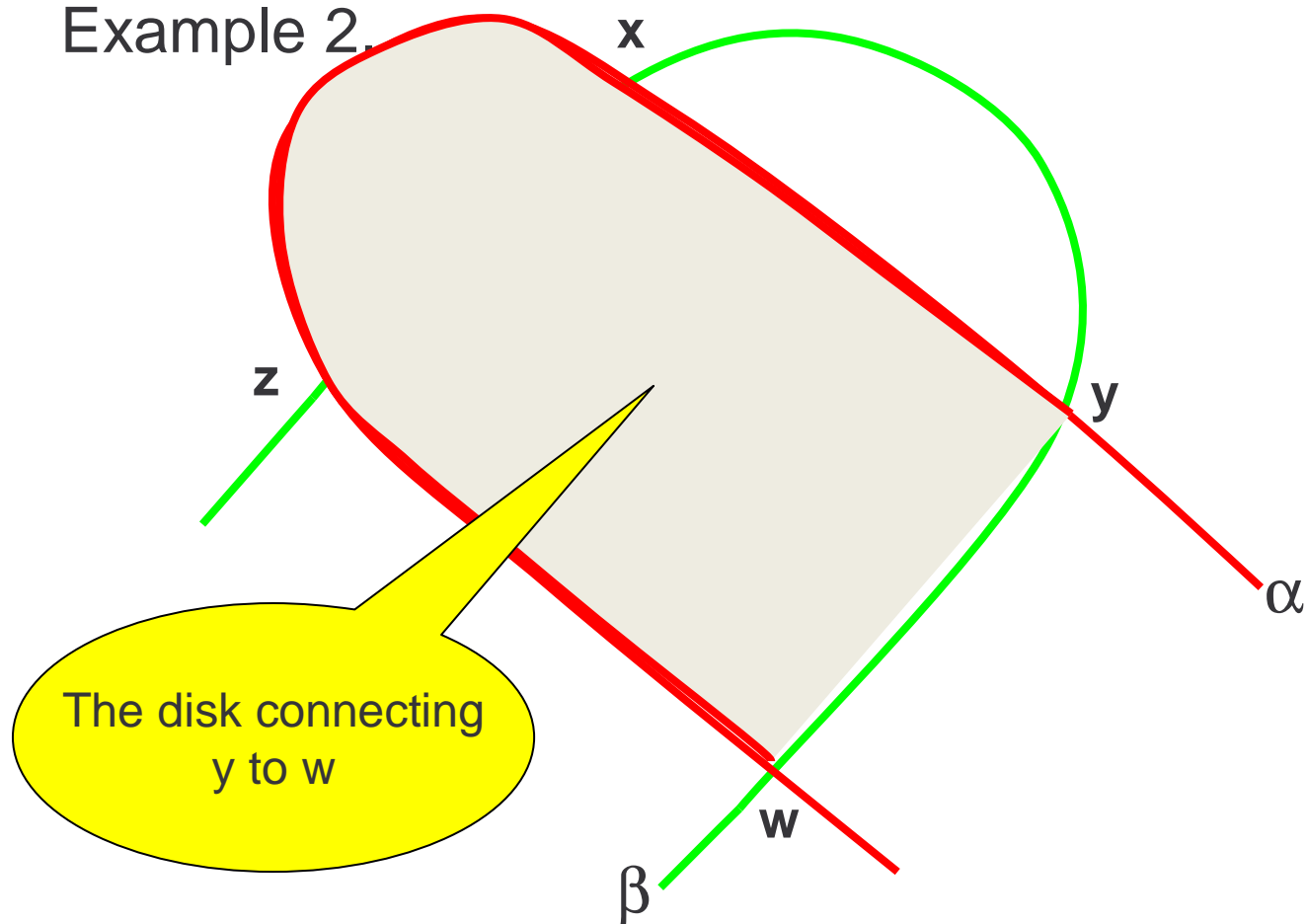


Two examples in dimension two



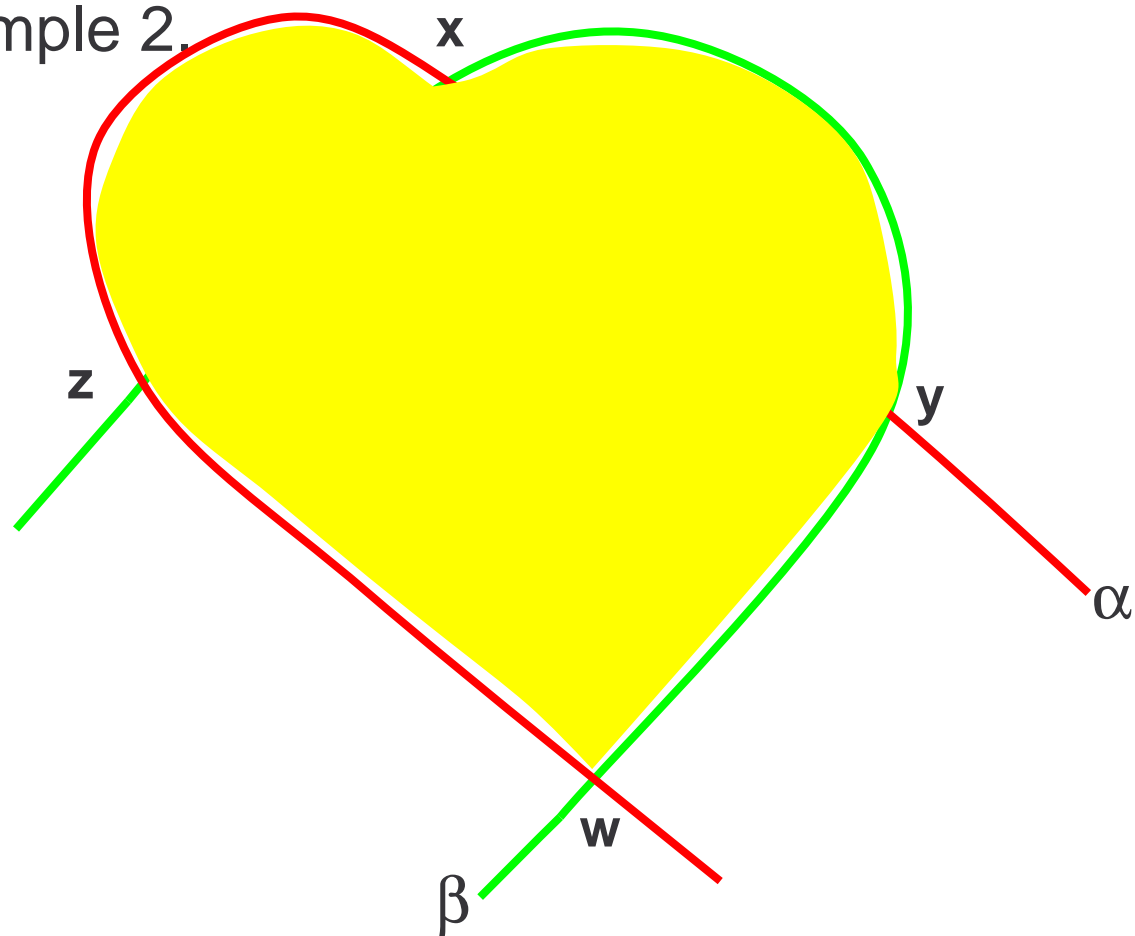
Two examples in dimension two

Example 2.



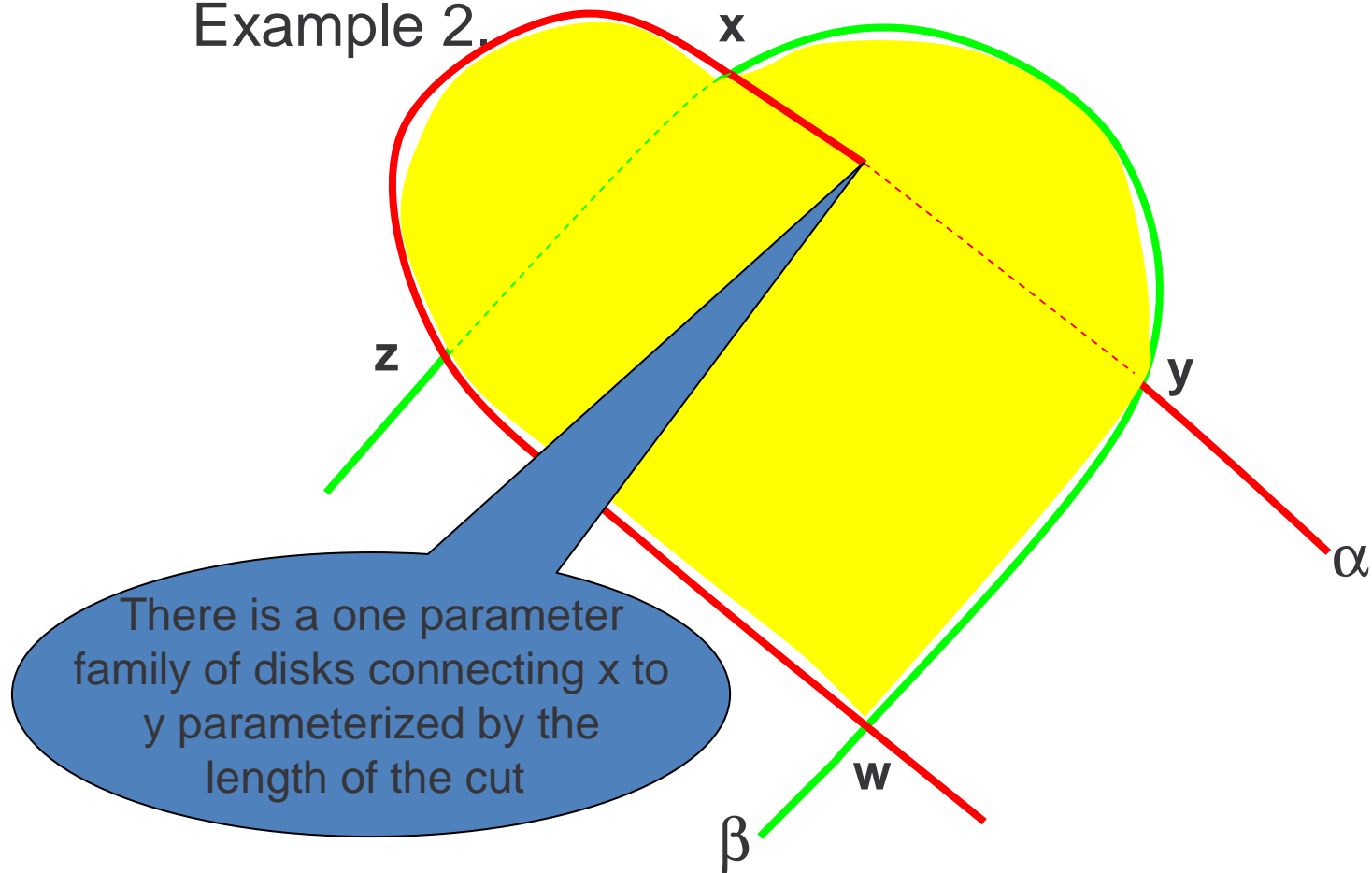
Two examples in dimension two

Example 2.



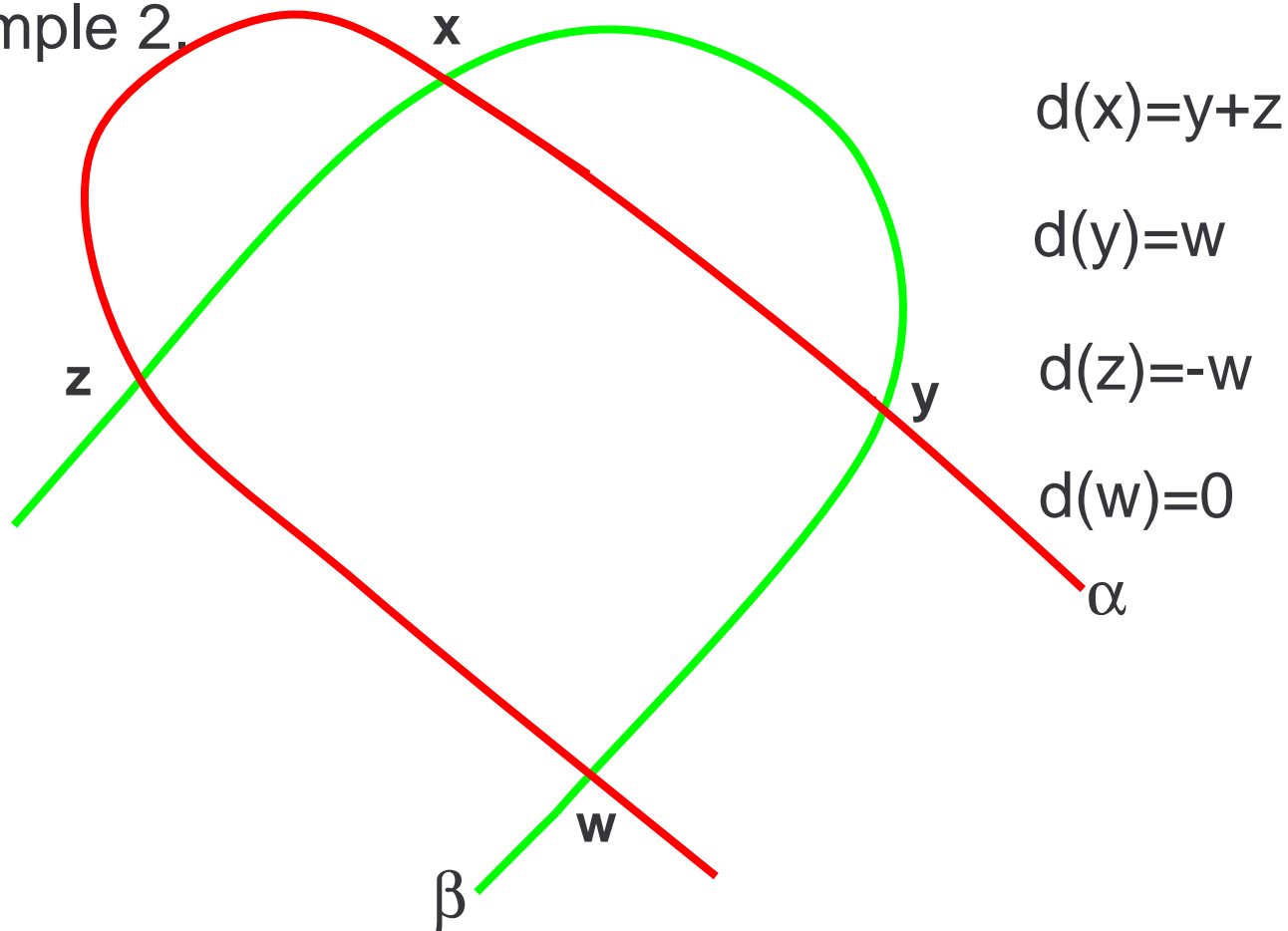
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Basic properties

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- This may be checked easily in the two examples discussed here.
- In general the proof uses a description of the boundary of $M(\phi)/\sim$ when $\mu(\phi)=2$. Here \sim denotes the equivalence relation obtained by \mathbf{R} -translation. Gromov compactness theorem and a gluing lemma should be used.

Basic properties

- Theorem (Ozsváth-Szabó) The homology groups $HF(H,A)$ of the complex $(CF(H),d)$ are invariants of the pointed Heegaard diagram H . For a three-manifold Y , or a knot $(K \subset Y)$, the homology group is in fact independent of the specific Heegaard diagram used for constructing the chain complex and gives homology groups $HF(Y,A)$ and $HFK(K,A)$ respectively.

Refinements of these homology groups

- Consider the space $\text{Spin}^c(Y)$ of Spin^c -structures on Y . This is the space of **homology classes** of nowhere vanishing vector fields on Y . Two non-vanishing vector fields on Y are called homologous if they are isotopic in the complement of a ball in Y .

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- The marked point z defines a map \mathbf{s}_z from the set of generators of $\text{CF}(H)$ to $\text{Spin}^c(Y)$:

$$\mathbf{s}_z: T_\alpha \cap T_\beta \rightarrow \text{Spin}^c(Y)$$

defined as follows :

Refinements of these homology groups

- If $\mathbf{x}=(x_1,x_2,\dots,x_g)\in T_\alpha\cap T_\beta$ is an intersection point, then each of x_j determines a flow line for the Morse function h connecting one of the index-1 critical points to an index-2 critical point. The marked point z determines a flow line connecting the index-0 critical point to the index-3 critical point.
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- If $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in T_\alpha \cap T_\beta$ are intersection points with $\pi_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \neq \emptyset$, then $\mathbf{s}_z(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{s}_z(\mathbf{y})$.

Refinements of these homology groups

- This implies that the homology groups $HF(Y,A)$ decompose according to the Spin^c structures over Y :

$$HF(Y,A) = \bigoplus_{s \in \text{Spin}(Y)} HF(Y,A;s)$$

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- For each $\mathbf{s} \in \text{Spin}^c(Y)$ the group $HF(Y,A;\mathbf{s})$ is also an invariant of the three-manifold Y and the Spin^c structure \mathbf{s} .

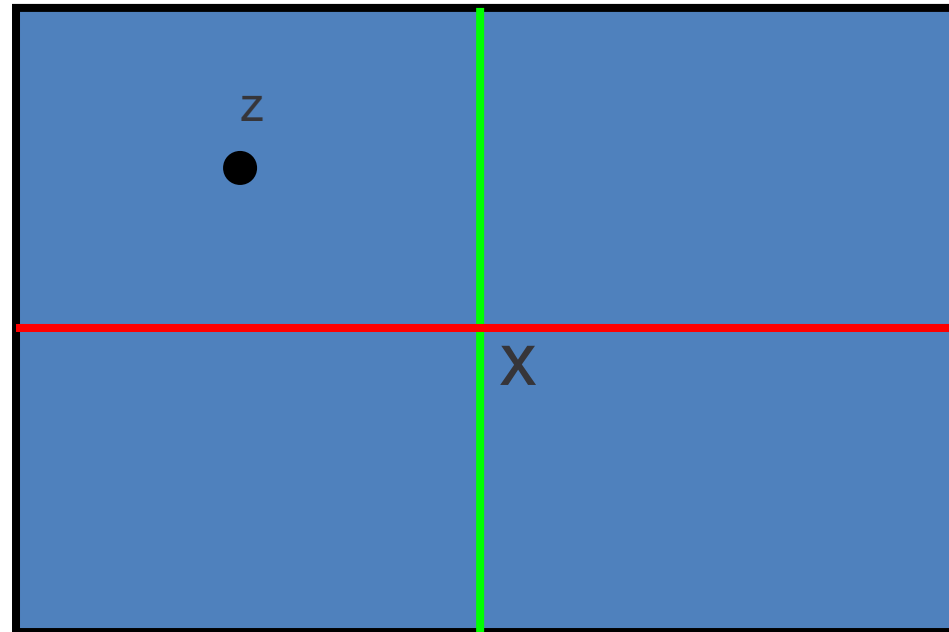
Some examples

- For S^3 , $\text{Spin}^c(S^3)=\{\mathbf{s}_0\}$ and $\text{HF}(Y,A;\mathbf{s}_0)=A$

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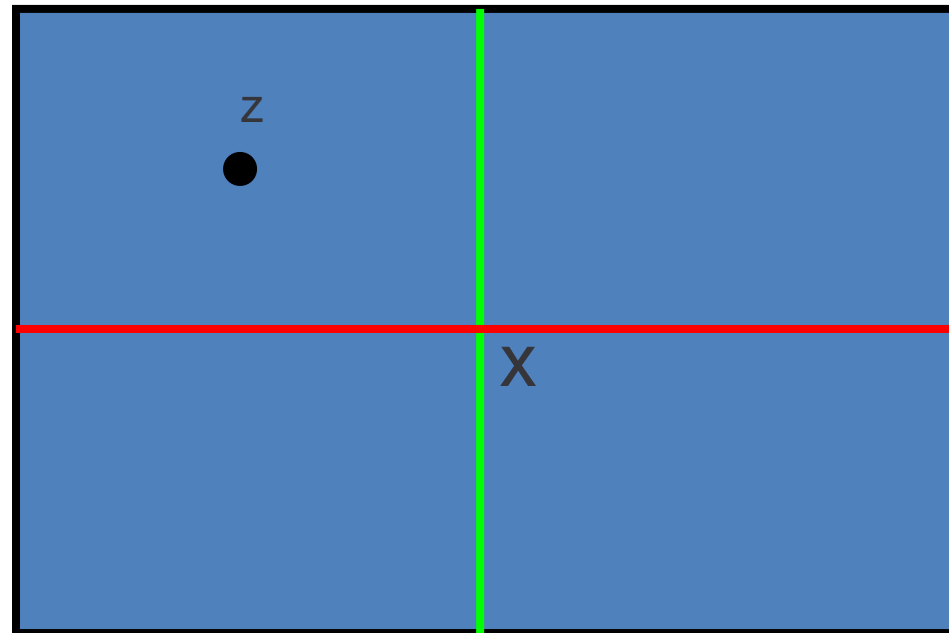
- For S^3 , $\text{Spin}^c(S^3)=\{\mathbf{s}_0\}$ and $\text{HF}(Y,A;\mathbf{s}_0)=A$
- For $S^1\times S^2$, $\text{Spin}^c(S^1\times S^2)=\mathbf{Z}$. Let \mathbf{s}_0 be the Spin^c structure such that $c_1(\mathbf{s}_0)=0$, then for $\mathbf{s}\neq\mathbf{s}_0$, $\text{HF}(Y,A;\mathbf{s})=0$. Furthermore we have $\text{HF}(Y,A;\mathbf{s}_0)=A\oplus A$, where the homological gradings of the two copies of A differ by 1.

Heegaard diagram for S^3



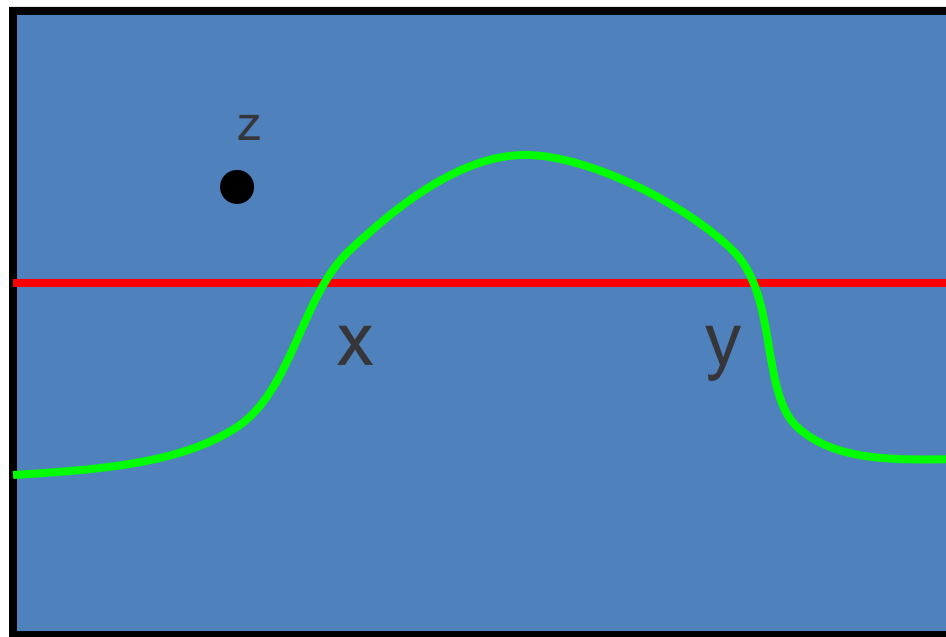
The opposite sides
of the rectangle
should be identified
to obtain a torus
(surface of genus 1)

Heegaard diagram for S^3



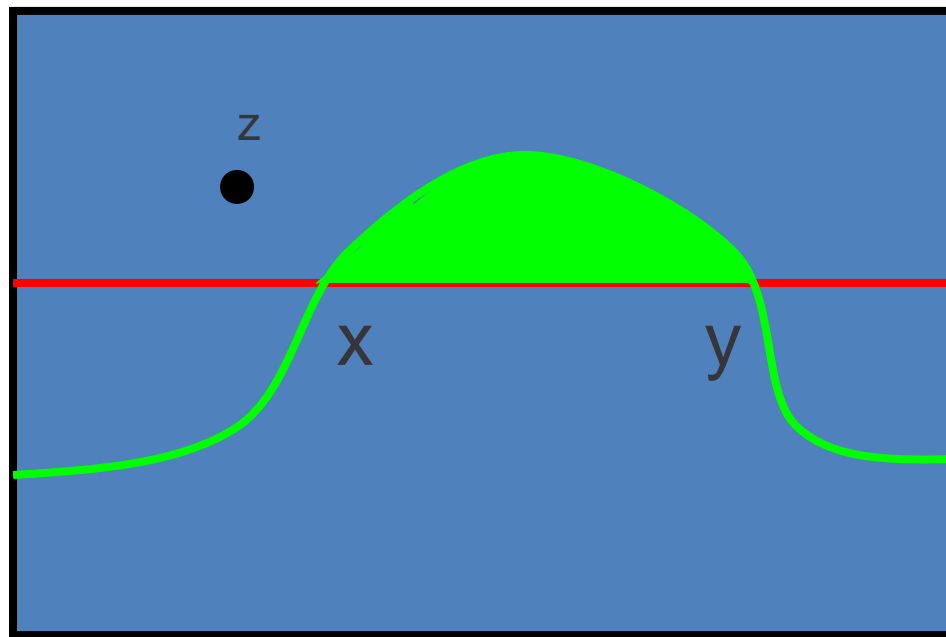
Only one generator x , and no differentials; so the homology will be A

Heegaard diagram for $S^1 \times S^2$



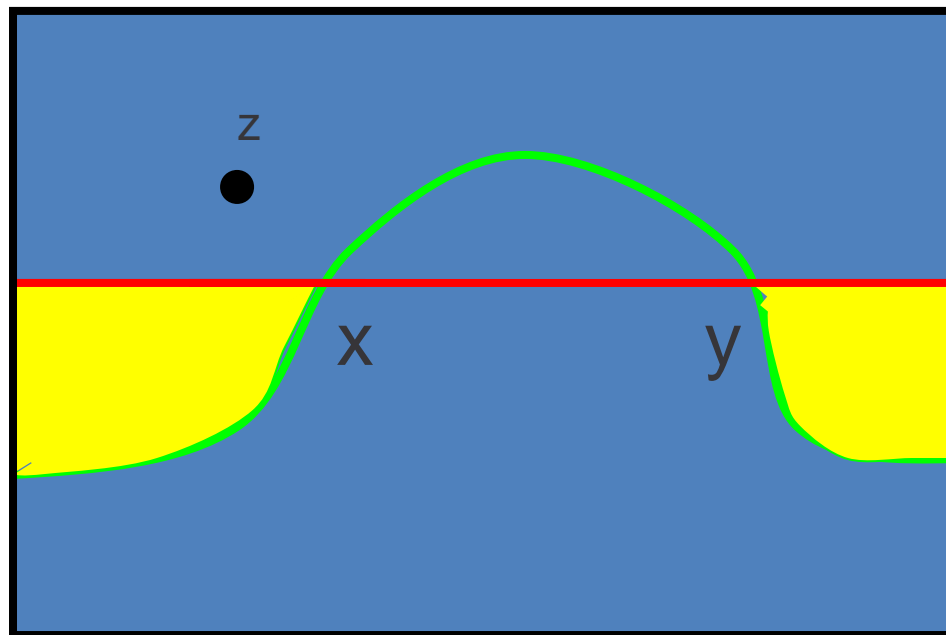
Only two generators x, y and two homotopy classes of disks of index 1.

Heegaard diagram for $S^1 \times S^2$



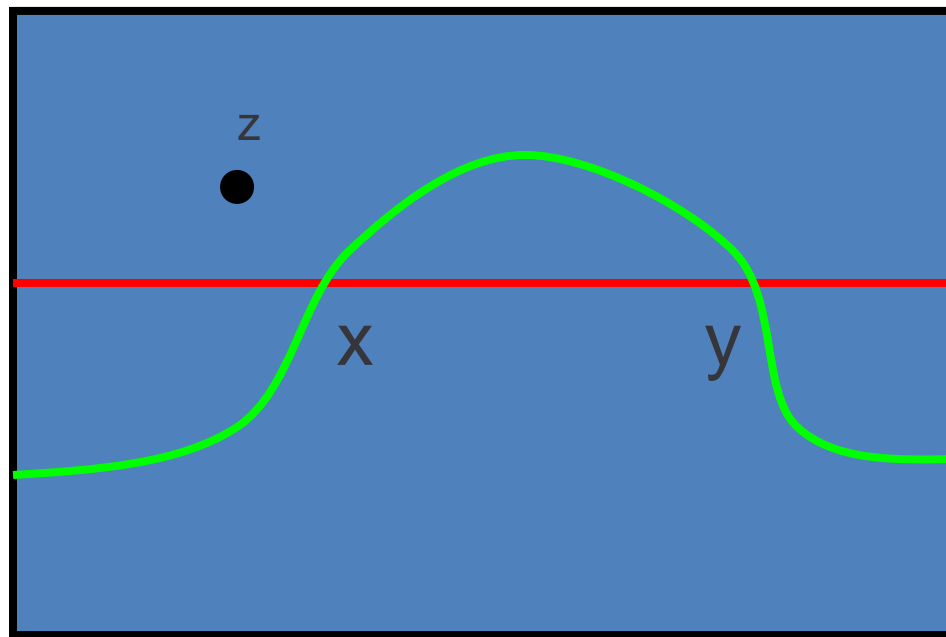
The first disk
connecting x to y ,
with Maslov index
one.

Heegaard diagram for $S^1 \times S^2$



The second disk connecting x to y , with Maslov index one. The sign will be different from the first one.

Heegaard diagram for $S^1 \times S^2$



$$d(x)=d(y)=0$$

$$\mathbf{s}_z(x)=\mathbf{s}_z(y)=\mathbf{s}_0$$

$$\mu(x)=\mu(y)+1=1$$

$$HF(S^1 \times S^2, A, \mathbf{s}_0) =$$

$$A\langle x \rangle \oplus A\langle y \rangle$$

Some other simple cases

- Lens spaces $L(p,q)$.

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- Lens spaces $L(p,q)$.
- $S^3_n(K)$: the result of n -surgery on alternating knots in S^3 . The result may be understood in terms of the Alexander polynomial of the knot.
- Connected sums of pieces of the above type: There is a connected sum formula.

Connected sum formula

- $\text{Spin}^c(Y_1 \# Y_2) = \text{Spin}^c(Y_1) \oplus \text{Spin}^c(Y_2)$; Maybe the better notation is
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- $\text{HF}(Y_1 \# Y_2, A; \mathbf{s}_1 \# \mathbf{s}_2) =$
 $\text{HF}(Y_1, A; \mathbf{s}_1) \otimes_A \text{HF}(Y_2, A; \mathbf{s}_2)$

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- $\text{HF}(Y_1 \# Y_2, A; \mathbf{s}_1 \# \mathbf{s}_2) = \text{HF}(Y_1, A; \mathbf{s}_1) \otimes_A \text{HF}(Y_2, A; \mathbf{s}_2)$
- In particular for $A = \mathbb{Z}$, as a trivial $\mathbb{Z}[u_1]$ -module, the connected sum formula is usually simple (in practice).

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- $\text{Spin}^c(Y, K)$ is by definition the space of homology classes of non-vanishing vector fields in the complement of K which converge to the orientation of K .

Refinements for knots

- The pair of marked points (z,w) on a Heegaard diagram H for K determine a map from the set of generators $\mathbf{x} \in T_\alpha \cap T_\beta$ to $\text{Spin}^c(Y,K)$, denoted by $\mathbf{s}_K(\mathbf{x}) \in \text{Spin}^c(Y,K)$.

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- In the simplest case where $A=Z$, the coefficient of any $\mathbf{y} \in T_\alpha \cap T_\beta$ in $d(\mathbf{x})$ is zero, unless $\mathbf{s}_K(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{s}_K(\mathbf{y})$.

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- In particular for $Y = S^3$ and standard knots we have

$$\text{Spin}^c(K) := \text{Spin}^c(S^3, K) = \mathbf{Z}$$

We restrict ourselves to this case, with $A = \mathbf{Z}$!

Computations

- $HF(K)$ is completely determined from the symmetrized Alexander polynomial and the signature $\sigma(K)$, if K is an alternating knot.

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- Torus knots, three-strand pretzel knots, etc.
- Small knots: We know the answer for all knots up to 14 crossings.

Why is it possible to compute?

- There is an easy way to understand the homotopy classes of disks in $\pi_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ when the associated relative Spin^c structures associated with \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} in $\text{Spin}^c(K)$ are the same.

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- Let ϕ be an element in $\pi_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$, and let z_1, z_2, \dots, z_m be marked points on S , one in each connected component of the complement of the curves in S .

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- Consider the subspaces $L(z_j) = \{z_j\} \times \text{Sym}^{g-1}(S)$ and let $n(j, \phi)$ be the intersection number of ϕ with $L(z_j)$.

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- The collection of integers $n(j, \phi)$, $j=1, \dots, m$ determine the homotopy class ϕ .
- There is a simple combinatorial way to check if such a collection determines a homotopy class in $\pi_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ or not.

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- There is a combinatorial formula for the expected dimension of $\mu(\phi)$ of $M(\phi)$ in terms of $n(j, \phi)$ and the geometry of the curves on S .

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- There is a combinatorial formula for the expected dimension of $\mu(\phi)$ of $M(\phi)$ in terms of $n(j, \phi)$ and the geometry of the curves on S .
- We know that if $n(\phi)$ is not zero, then $\mu(\phi)=1$, and all $n(j, \phi)$ are non-negative. Furthermore, if $z=z_1$ and $w=z_2$, then $n(1, \phi)=n(2, \phi)=0$.

Why is it possible to compute?

- These are strong restrictions. For example these restrictions are enough for a complete computation for alternating knots.

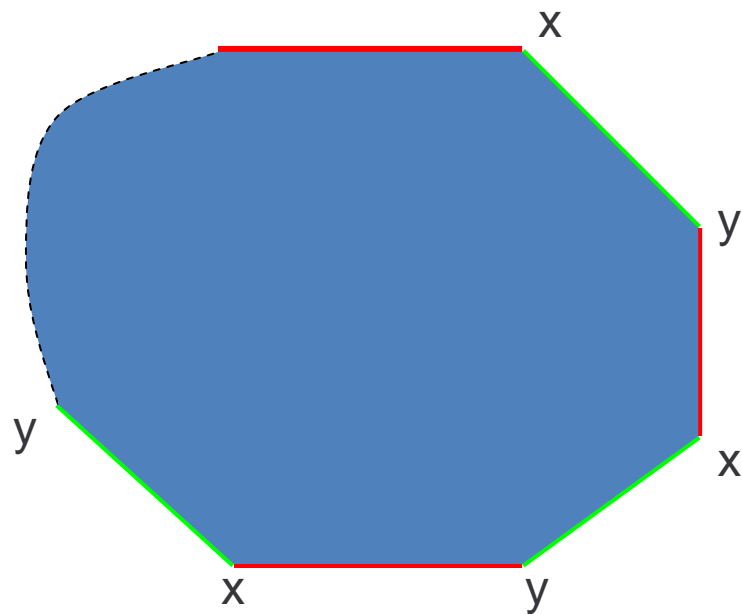
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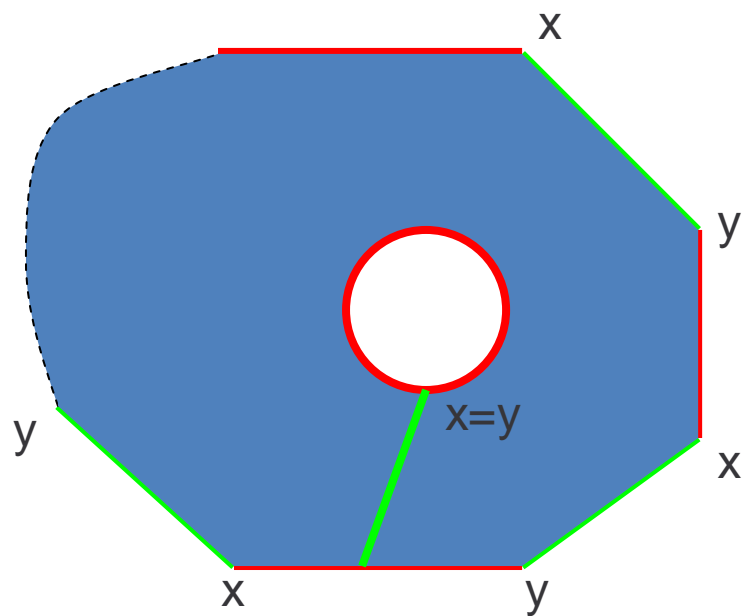
- These are strong restrictions. For example these restrictions are enough for a complete computation for alternating knots.
- In other cases, these are still pretty strong, and help a lot with the computations.
- There are computer programs (e.g. by Monalescue) which provide all the simplifications of the above type in the computations.

Some domains for which the moduli space is known



Any $2n$ -gon as shown here with alternating red and green edges corresponds to a moduli space contributing 1 to the differential

Some domains for which the moduli space is known



The same is true for the same type of polygons with a number of circles excluded as shown in the picture.

Relation to the three-manifold invariants

- Theorem (**Ozsváth-Szabó**) Heegaard Floer complex for a knot K determines the Heegaard Floer homology for three-manifolds obtained by surgery on K .

Relation to the three-manifold invariants

- Theorem (E.) More generally if a 3-manifold is obtained from two knot-complements by identifying them on the boundary, then the Heegaard Floer complexes of the two knots, determine the Heegaard Floer homology of the resulting three-manifold