

Towards bordered Heegaard Floer homology

R. Lipshitz, P. Ozsváth and D. Thurston

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- 1 Review of Heegaard Floer
- 2 Basic properties of bordered HF
- 3 Bordered Heegaard diagrams
- 4 The algebra
- 5 Gradings
- 6 The cylindrical setting for Heegaard Floer
- 7 The module \widehat{CFD}
- 8 The module \widehat{CFA}
- 9 The pairing theorem
- 10 Knot complements

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- We'll focus on $\widehat{HF} = H_*(\widehat{CF})$, the mapping cone of $U : CF^+ \rightarrow CF^+$.
- Conjecturally, $HF^+ = \widetilde{HM} = ECH_*$.

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such that

- If $Y = Y_1 \cup_F Y_2$ then

$$\widehat{\text{CF}}(Y) = \widehat{\text{CFA}}(Y_1) \otimes_{\mathcal{A}(F)} \widehat{\text{CFD}}(Y_2).$$

Precisely, bordered HF assigns...

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Bordered Y^3 , $\partial Y^3 = F$	compact, oriented 3-manifold with connected boundary, orientation-preserving homeomorphism $F \rightarrow \partial Y$	Right A_∞ -module $\widehat{\text{CFA}}(Y)$ over $\mathcal{A}(F)$, Left dg -module $\widehat{\text{CFD}}(Y)$ over $\mathcal{A}(-F)$, well-defined up to homotopy.

Satisfying the pairing theorem:

Theorem

If $\partial Y_1 = F = -\partial Y_2$ then

$$\widehat{CF}(Y_1 \cup_{\partial} Y_2) \simeq \widehat{CFA}(Y_1) \tilde{\otimes}_{\mathcal{A}(F)} \widehat{CFD}(Y_2).$$

Further structure (in progress):

- To an $\phi \in \text{MCG}(F)$, bimodules $\widehat{\text{CFDA}}(\phi)$, $\widehat{\text{CFAD}}(\phi)$.

$$\widehat{\text{CFA}}(\phi(Y)) \simeq \widehat{\text{CFA}}(Y) \tilde{\otimes}_{\mathcal{A}(F)} \widehat{\text{CFDA}}(\phi)$$

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- To F , bimodules $\widehat{\text{CFDD}}$ and $\widehat{\text{CFAA}}$, such that

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{\text{CFD}}(Y) &\simeq \widehat{\text{CFA}}(Y) \widetilde{\otimes}_{\mathcal{A}(F)} \widehat{\text{CFDD}} \\ \widehat{\text{CFA}}(Y) &\simeq \widehat{\text{CFAA}} \widetilde{\otimes}_{\mathcal{A}(-F)} \widehat{\text{CFD}}(Y).\end{aligned}$$

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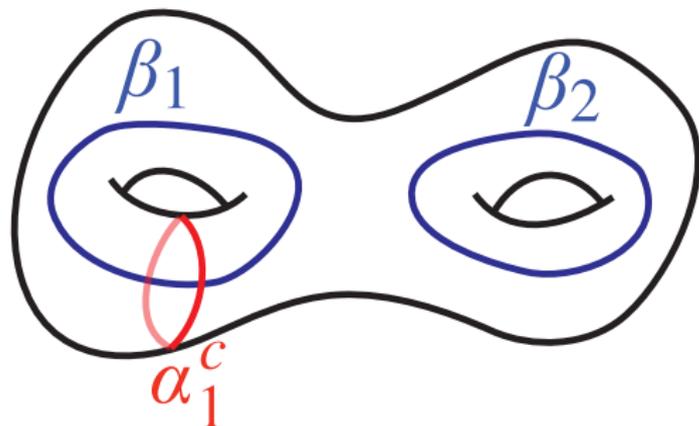
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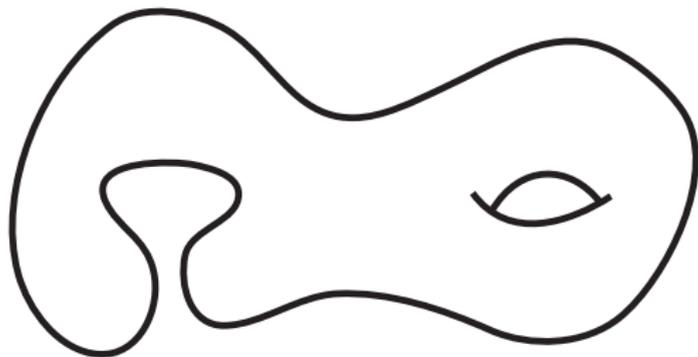
Bordered Heegaard diagrams

- Let $(\bar{\Sigma}_g, \alpha_1^c, \dots, \alpha_{g-k}^c, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_g)$ be a Heegaard diagram for a Y^3 with bdy.



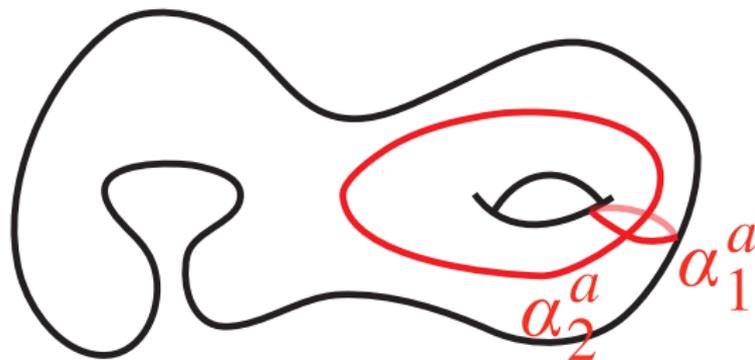
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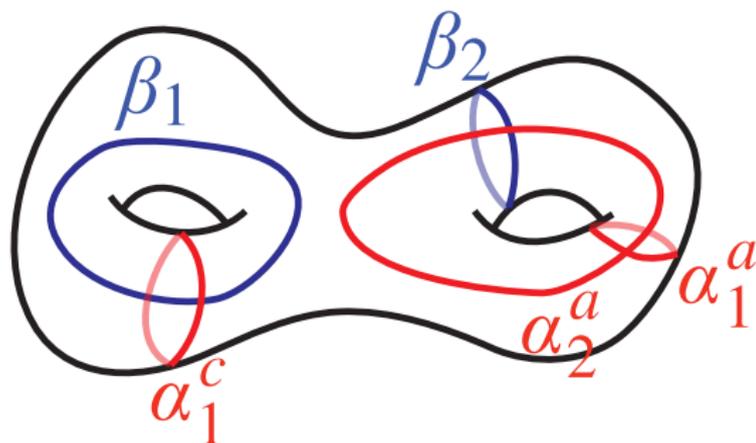
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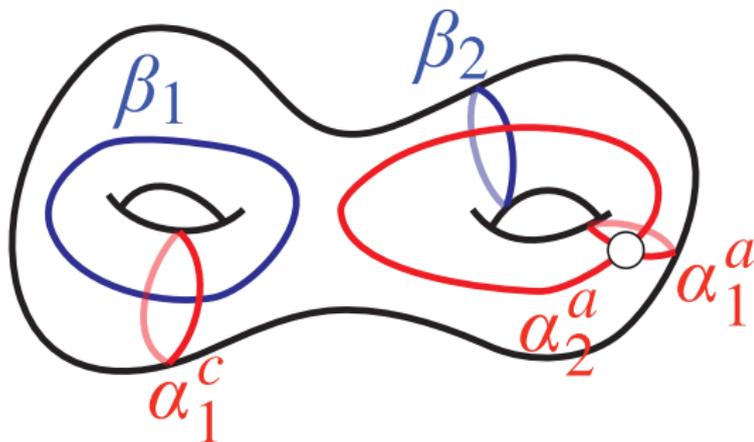


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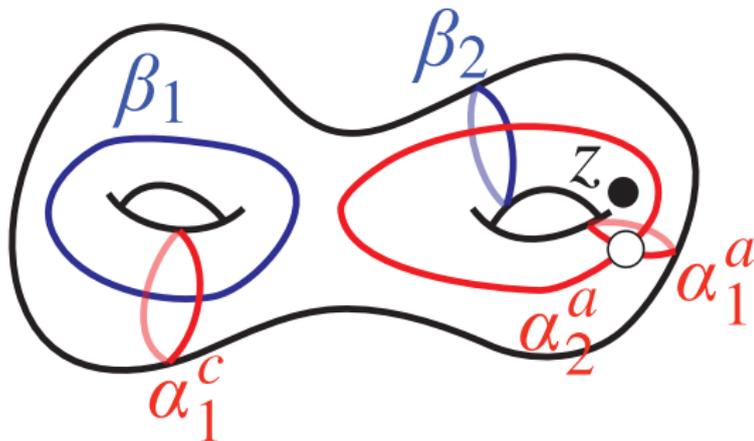
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- These give circles $\alpha_1^a, \dots, \alpha_{2k}^a$ in $\bar{\Sigma}$.



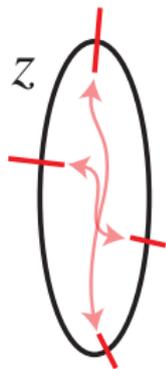
- Let $\Sigma = \bar{\Sigma} \setminus \mathbb{D}_\epsilon(p)$.
- $(\Sigma, \alpha_1^c, \dots, \alpha_{g-k}^c, \bar{\alpha}_1^a, \dots, \bar{\alpha}_{2k}^a, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_g)$ is a bordered Heegaard diagram for Y .



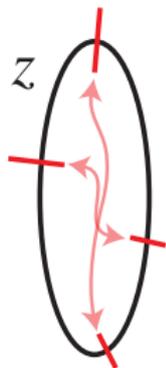
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- Fix also $z \in \bar{\Sigma}$ near p .



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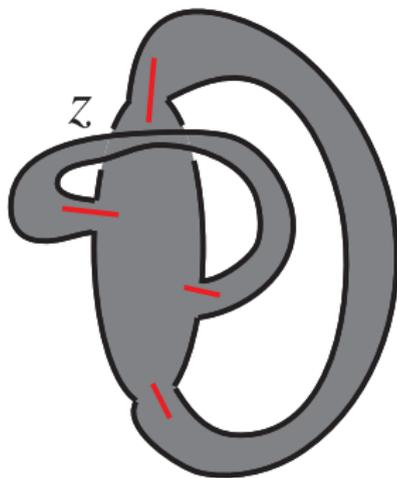
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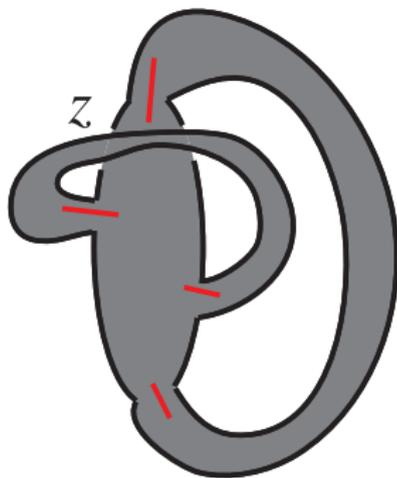


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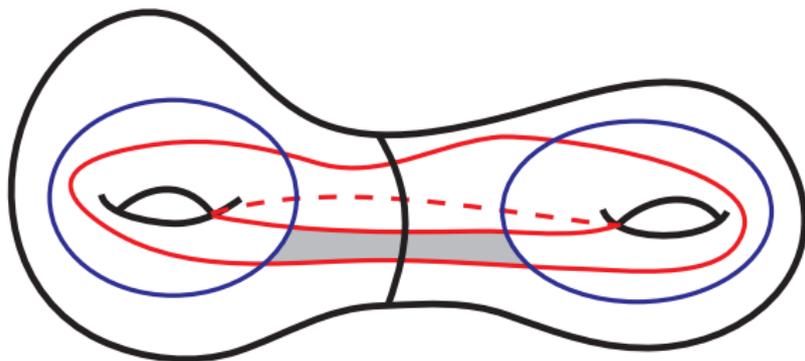
We will associate a *dg algebra* $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{Z})$ to \mathcal{Z} .



Where the algebra comes from.

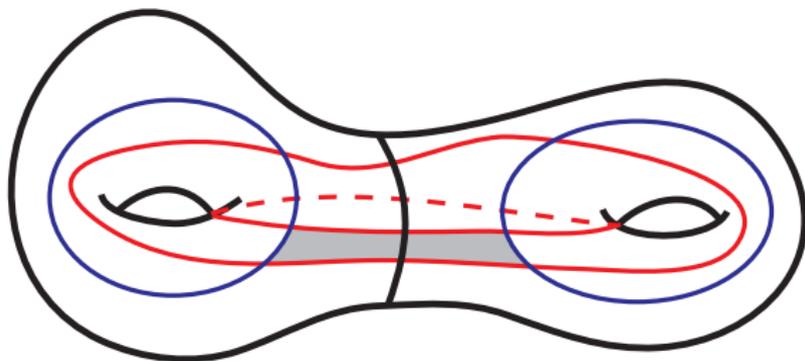
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- Decomposing ordinary (Σ, α, β) into bordered H.D.'s $(\Sigma_1, \alpha_1, \beta_1) \cup (\Sigma_2, \alpha_2, \beta_2)$, would want to consider holomorphic curves crossing $\partial\Sigma_1 = \partial\Sigma_2$.



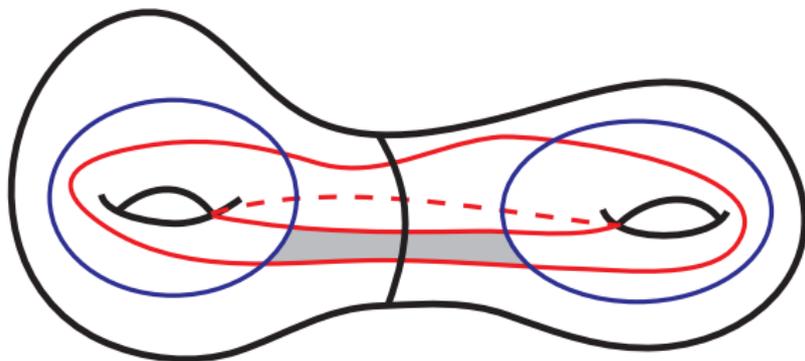
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- This suggests the algebra should have to do with Reeb chords in $\partial\Sigma_1$ relative to $\alpha \cap \partial\Sigma_1$.



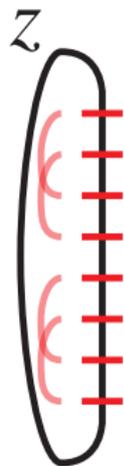
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- This suggests the algebra should have to do with Reeb chords in $\partial\Sigma_1$ relative to $\alpha \cap \partial\Sigma_1$.
- Analyzing some simple models, in terms of *planar grid diagrams*, suggested the product and relations in the algebra.



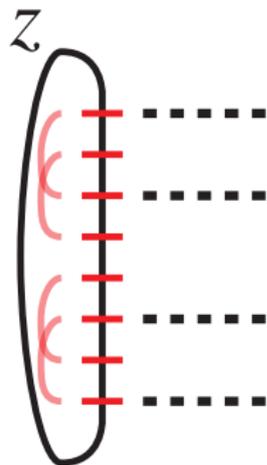
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- Let \mathcal{Z} be a pointed matched circle, for a genus k surface.
- Primitive idempotents of $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{Z})$ correspond to k -element subsets I of the $2k$ pairs in \mathcal{Z} .
- We draw them like this:



- A pair (l, ρ) , where ρ is a Reeb chord in $\mathcal{Z} \setminus z$ starting at l specifies an algebra element $a(l, \rho)$.
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More generally, given (I, ρ) where $\rho = \{\rho_1, \dots, \rho_\ell\}$ is a set of Reeb chords starting at I , with:

- $i \neq j$ implies ρ_i and ρ_j start and end on different pairs.
- $\{\text{starting points of } \rho_i\text{'s}\} \subset I$.

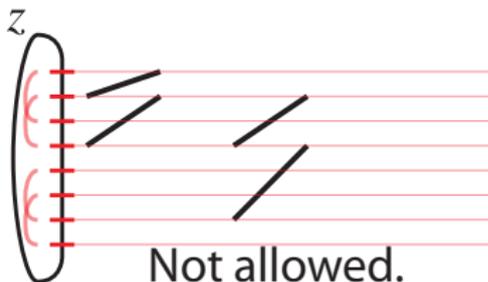
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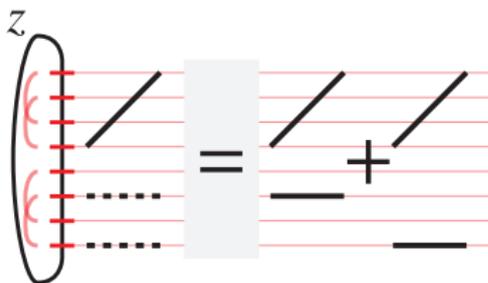
These generate $\mathcal{A}(Z)$ over \mathbb{F}_2 .

That is, $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{Z})$ is the subalgebra of the algebra of k -strand, upward-veering flattened braids on $4k$ positions where:

- no two start or end on the same pair

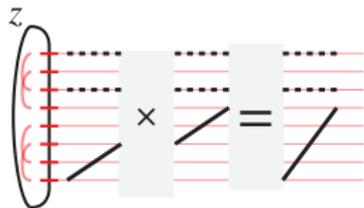


- Algebra elements are fixed by “horizontal line swapping”.



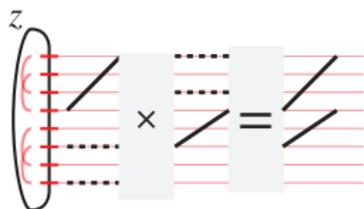
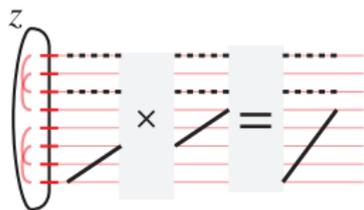
Multiplication...

...is concatenation if sensible, and zero otherwise.



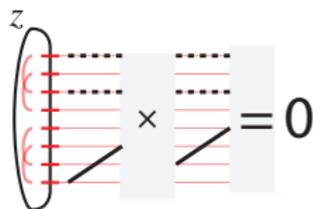
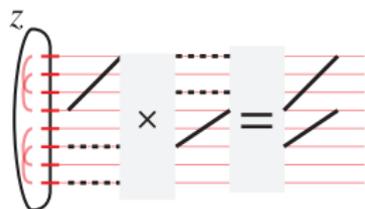
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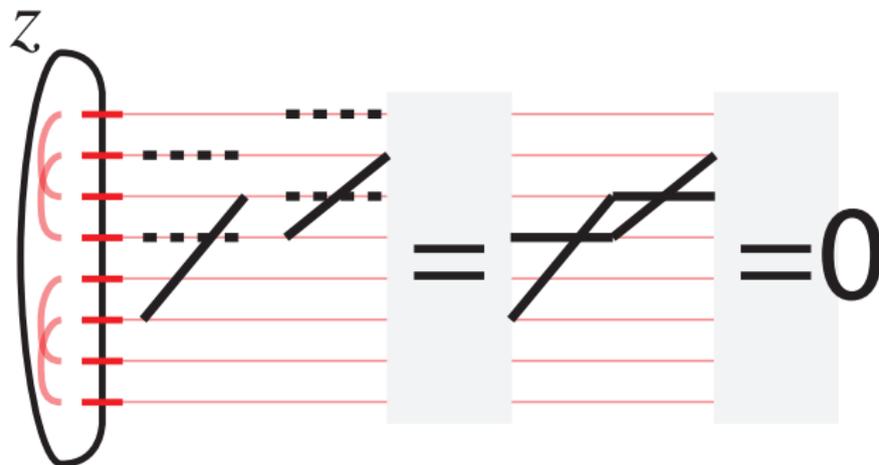


Double crossings

We impose the relation

$$(\text{double crossing}) = 0.$$

e.g.,

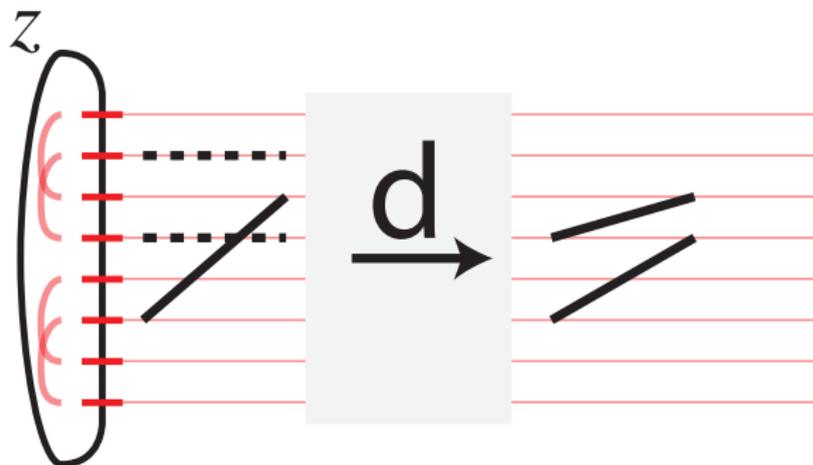


The differential

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$$d(a) = \sum \text{smooth one crossing of } a.$$

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 - Multiplying consecutive Reeb chords concatenates them.
 - Far apart Reeb chords commute.
- The algebra is finite-dimensional over \mathbb{F}_2 , and has a nice description in terms of flattened braids.

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It was a good suggestion.

$\text{HM}(Y)$ is graded by homotopy classes of nonvanishing vector fields on Y . So $\mathcal{A}(F)$ should be graded by homotopy classes of nonvanishing vector fields v on $F \times [0, 1]$ such that

$$v|_{F \times \partial[0,1]} = v_0$$

for some given v_0 .

(Think of $F \times [0, 1]$ as a collar of ∂Y .)

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This is a group G under concatenation in $[0, 1]$.

- It is easy to see that $G \cong [\Sigma F, S^2]$.

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- It follows that G is a \mathbb{Z} -central extension of $H_1(F)$,

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow G \rightarrow H_1(F) \rightarrow 0.$$

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- Note: in the end, we define these gradings combinatorially, not geometrically.

The cylindrical setting for classical \widehat{CF} :

Fix an ordinary H.D. $(\Sigma_g, \alpha, \beta, z)$. (Here, $\alpha = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_g\}$.)

- The chain complex \widehat{CF} is generated over \mathbb{F}_2 by g -tuples $\{x_i \in \alpha_{\sigma(i)} \cap \beta_i\} \subset \alpha \cap \beta$. ($\sigma \in S_g$ is a permutation.)
(cf. $T_\alpha \cap T_\beta \subset \text{Sym}^g(\Sigma)$.)

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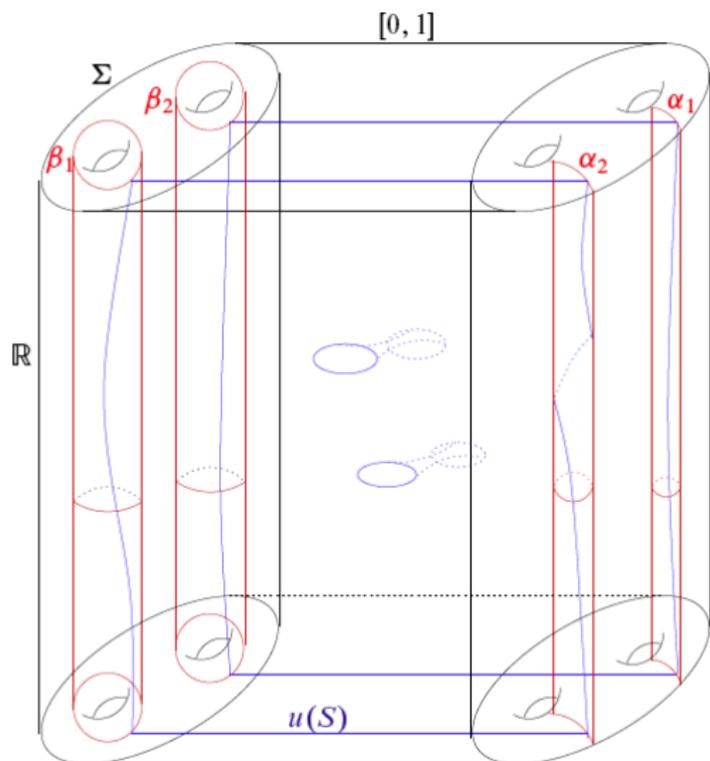
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- The differential counts embedded holomorphic maps

$$(S, \partial S) \rightarrow (\Sigma \times [0, 1] \times \mathbb{R}, (\alpha \times 1 \times \mathbb{R}) \cup (\beta \times 0 \times \mathbb{R}))$$

asymptotic to $\mathbf{x} \times [0, 1]$ at $-\infty$ and $\mathbf{y} \times [0, 1]$ at $+\infty$.

- For \widehat{CF} , curves may not intersect $\{z\} \times [0, 1] \times \mathbb{R}$.

A useless schematic of a curve in $\Sigma \times [0, 1] \times \mathbb{R}$.



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- For $(\Sigma, \alpha, \beta, z)$ a **bordered** Heegaard diagram, view $\partial\overline{\Sigma}$ as a cylindrical end, p .
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- The $e\infty$ asymptotics are *Reeb chords* $\rho_i \times (1, t_i)$.

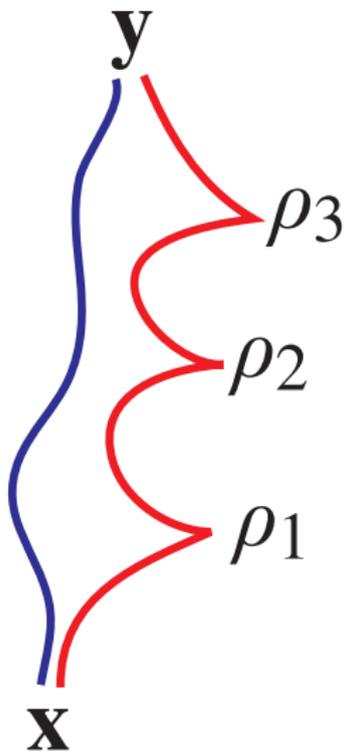
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- The $e\infty$ asymptotics are *Reeb chords* $\rho_i \times (1, t_i)$.
- The asymptotics $\rho_{i_1}, \dots, \rho_{i_\ell}$ of u inherit a partial order, by \mathbb{R} -coordinate.

Another useless schematic of a curve in $\Sigma \times [0, 1] \times \mathbb{R}$.

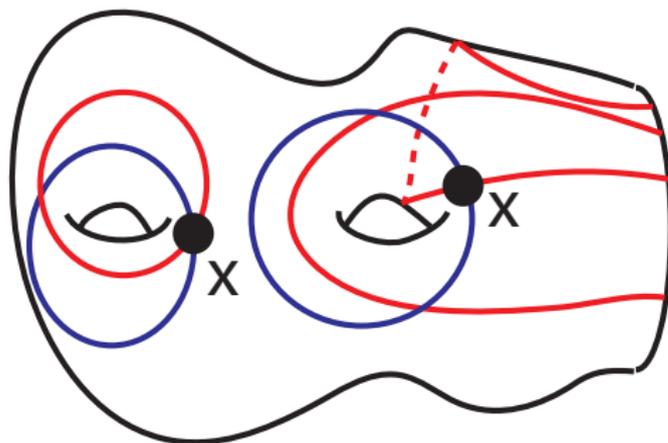


Generators of $\widehat{\text{CFD}}$...

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$\widehat{\text{CFD}}(\Sigma)$ is generated by g -tuples $\mathbf{x} = \{x_i\}$ with:

- one x_i on each β -circle
- one x_i on each α -circle
- no two x_i on the same α -arc.

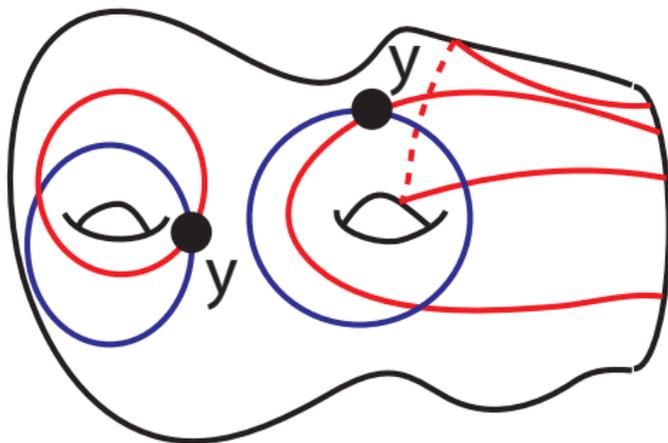


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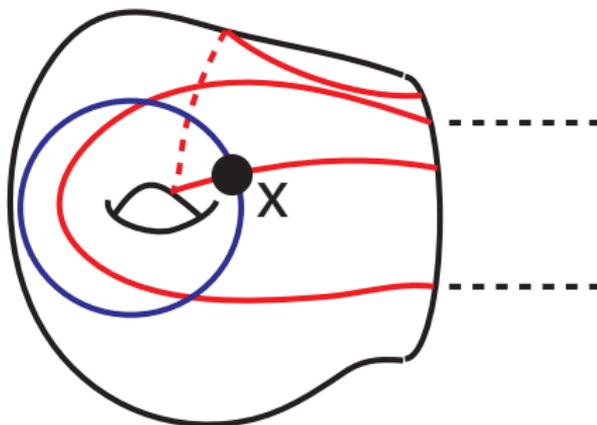
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...and associated idempotents.

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- As a left \mathcal{A} -module,

$$\widehat{\text{CFD}} = \bigoplus_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{A}I(\mathbf{x}).$$

- So, if I is a primitive idempotent, $I\mathbf{x} = 0$ if $I \neq I(\mathbf{x})$ and $I(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}$.

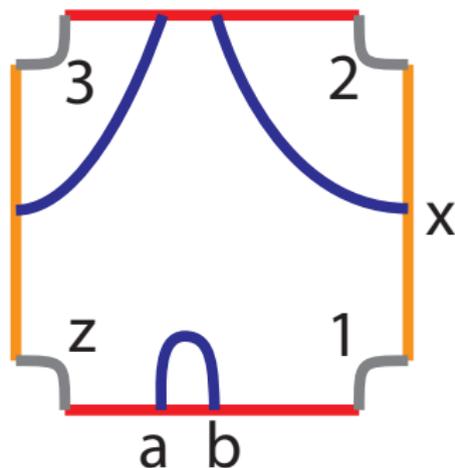
The differential on $\widehat{\text{CFD}}$.

$$d(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{y}} \sum_{(\rho_1, \dots, \rho_n)} (\#\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}; \rho_1, \dots, \rho_n)) a(\rho_1, l(\mathbf{x})) \cdots a(\rho_n, l_n) \mathbf{y}.$$

where $\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}; \rho_1, \dots, \rho_n)$ consists of holomorphic curves asymptotic to

- \mathbf{x} at $-\infty$
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- ρ_1, \dots, ρ_n at $e\infty$.

Example D1: a solid torus.

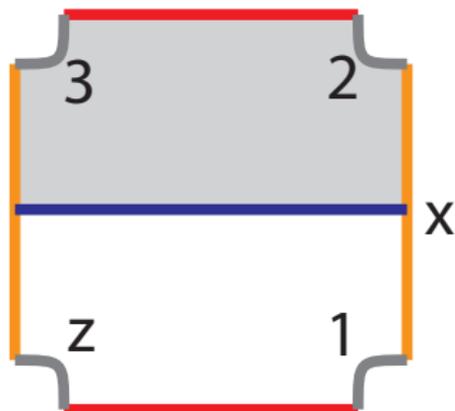


$$d(a) = b + \rho_3 x$$

$$d(x) = \rho_2 b$$

$$d(b) = 0.$$

Example D2: same torus, different diagram.



$$d(\mathbf{x}) = \rho_2 \rho_3 \mathbf{x} = \rho_{23} \mathbf{x}.$$

Comparison of the two examples.

First chain complex:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} a & & \\ \downarrow \rho_3 & \searrow 1 & \\ x & \xrightarrow{\rho_2} & b \end{array}$$

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Theorem

If $(\Sigma, \alpha, \beta, z)$ and $(\Sigma, \alpha', \beta', z')$ are pointed bordered Heegaard diagrams for the same bordered Y^3 then $\widehat{\text{CFD}}(\Sigma)$ is homotopy equivalent to $\widehat{\text{CFD}}(\Sigma')$.

Generators and idempotents of $\widehat{\text{CFA}}$.

Fix a bordered Heegaard diagram $(\Sigma_g, \alpha, \beta, z)$

$\widehat{\text{CFA}}(\Sigma)$ is generated by the same set as $\widehat{\text{CFD}}$: g -tuples $\mathbf{x} = \{x_i\}$ with:

- one x_i on each β -circle
- one x_i on each α -circle
- no two x_i on the same α -arc.

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This is much smaller than $\widehat{\text{CFD}}$.

The differential on $\widehat{\text{CFA}}...$

...counts only holomorphic curves contained in a compact subset of Σ , i.e., with no asymptotics at $e\infty$.

The module structure on $\widehat{\text{CFA}}$

- To \mathbf{x} , associate the idempotent $J(\mathbf{x})$, the α -arcs **occupied** by \mathbf{x} (opposite from $\widehat{\text{CFD}}$).

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- Given a set ρ of Reeb chords, define

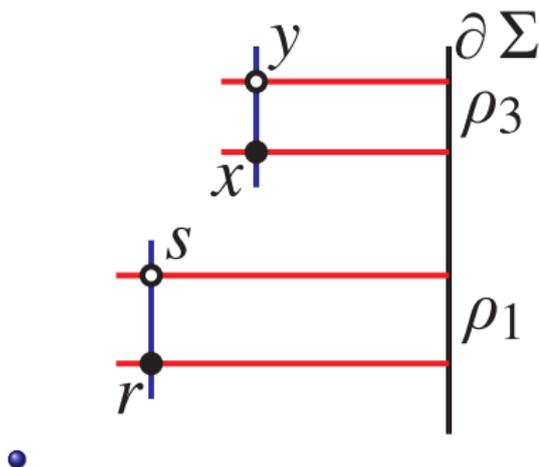
$$\mathbf{x} \cdot a(J(\mathbf{x}), \rho) = \sum_{\mathbf{y}} (\#\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}; \rho)) \mathbf{y}$$

where $\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}; \rho)$ consists of holomorphic curves asymptotic to

- \mathbf{x} at $-\infty$.
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- ρ at $e\infty$, *all at the same height*.

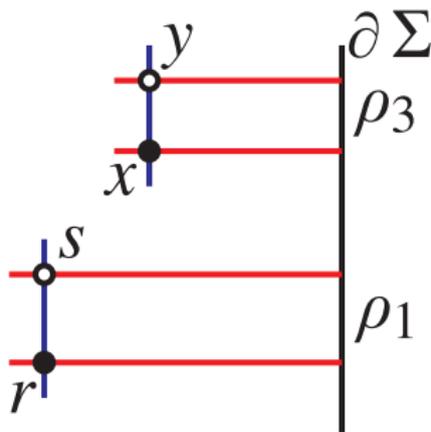
A local example of the module structure on $\widehat{\text{CFA}}$.

- Consider the following piece of a Heegaard diagram, with generators $\{r, x\}, \{s, x\}, \{r, y\}, \{s, y\}$.



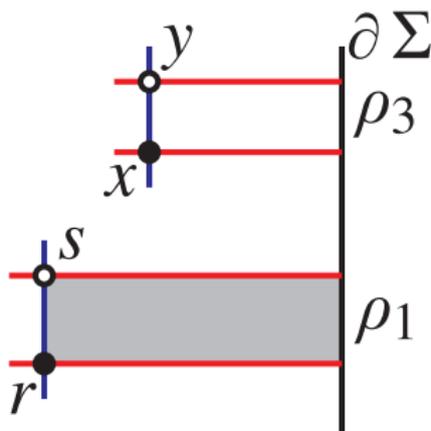
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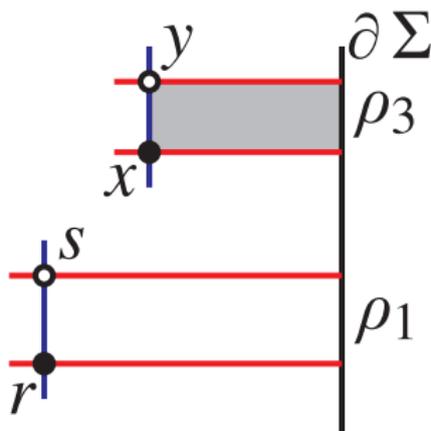
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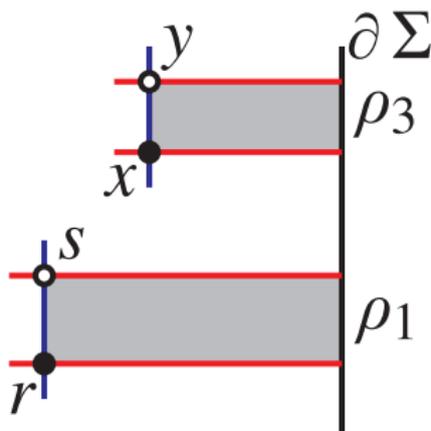
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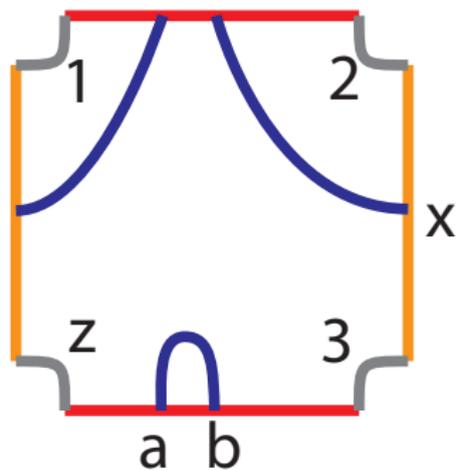


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Example A1: a solid torus.



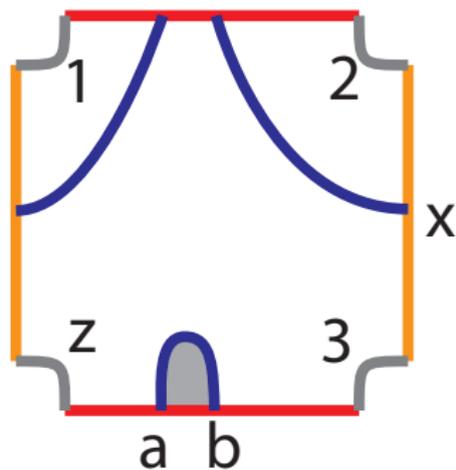
$$d(a) = b$$

$$a\rho_1 = x$$

$$a\rho_{12} = b$$

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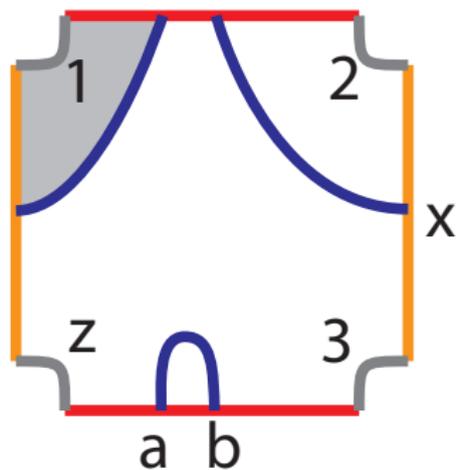
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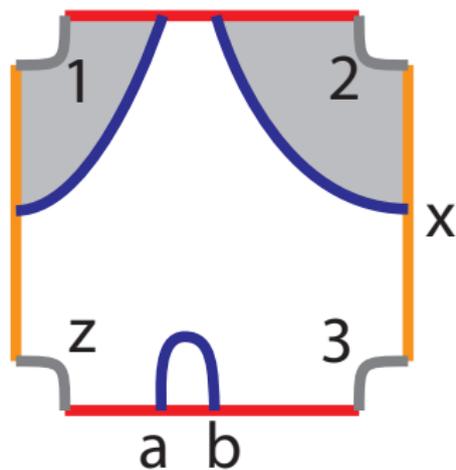
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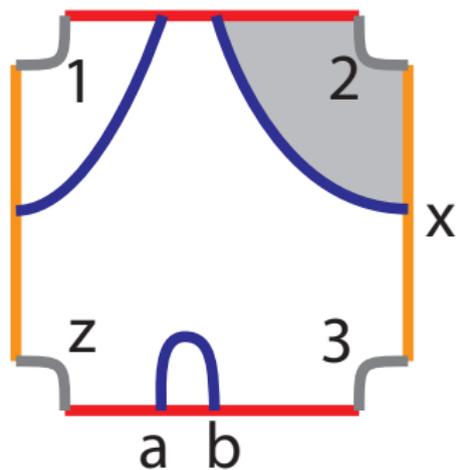
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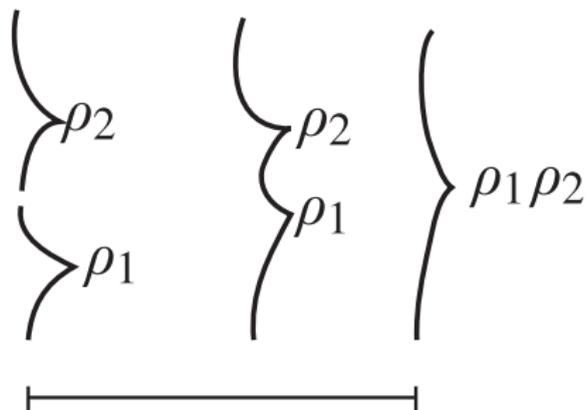
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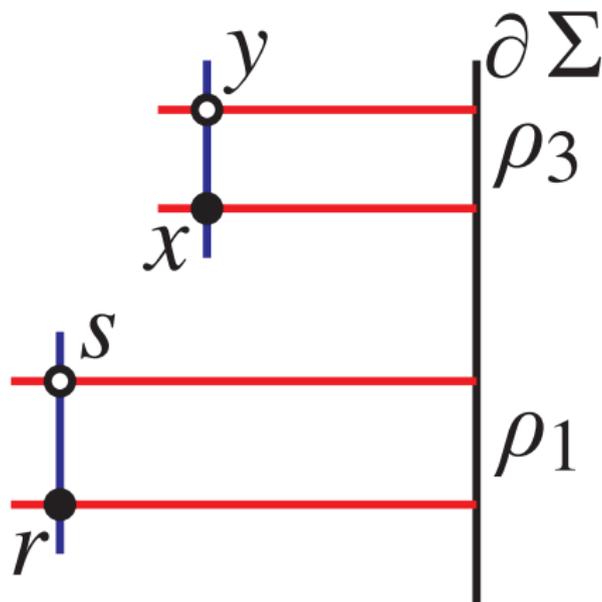
$$x\rho_2 = \mathbf{b}.$$

Why associativity should hold...

- $(\mathbf{x} \cdot \rho_i) \cdot \rho_j$ counts curves with ρ_i and ρ_j infinitely far apart.
- $\mathbf{x} \cdot (\rho_i \cdot \rho_j)$ counts curves with ρ_i and ρ_j at the same height.
- These are ends of a 1-dimensional moduli space, with height between ρ_i and ρ_j varying.

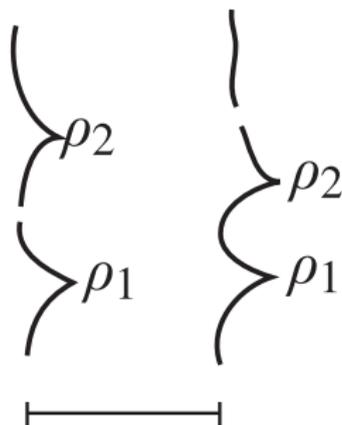


The local model again.



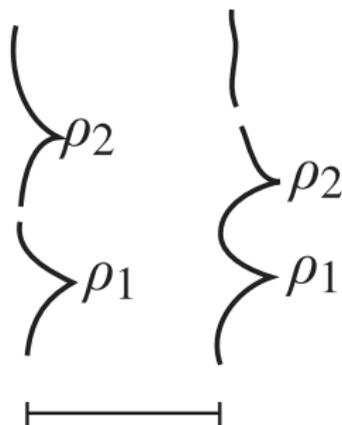
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- But this moduli space might have other ends: broken flows with ρ_1 and ρ_2 at a fixed nonzero height.



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- But this moduli space might have other ends: broken flows with ρ_1 and ρ_2 at a fixed nonzero height.
- These moduli spaces – $\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}; (\rho_1, \rho_2))$ – measure failure of associativity. So...



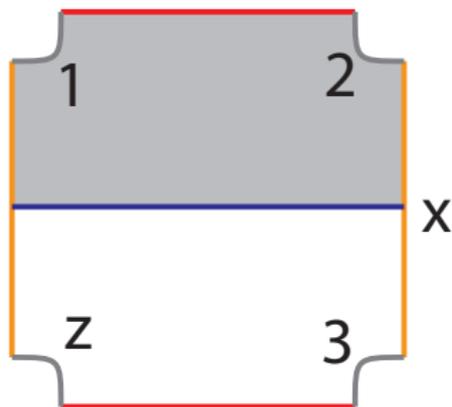
Define

$$m_{n+1}(\mathbf{x}, a(\rho_1), \dots, a(\rho_n)) = \sum_{\mathbf{y}} (\#\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}; (\rho_1, \dots, \rho_n))) \mathbf{y}$$

where $\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}; (\rho_1, \dots, \rho_n))$ consists of holomorphic curves asymptotic to

- \mathbf{x} at $-\infty$.
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- ρ_1 all at one height at $e\infty$, ρ_2 at some other (higher) height at $e\infty$, and so on.

Example A2: same torus, different diagram.



$$m_3(x, \rho_2, \rho_1) = x$$

$$m_4(x, \rho_2, \rho_{12}, \rho_1) = x$$

$$m_5(x, \rho_2, \rho_{12}, \rho_{12}, \rho_1) = x$$

⋮

Comparison of the two examples.

First chain complex:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} a & & \\ \downarrow m_2(\cdot, \rho_1) & \searrow 1 + \rho_{12} & \\ x & \xrightarrow{m_2(\cdot, \rho_2)} & b \end{array}$$

Second chain complex:

$$x \xrightarrow{m_3(\cdot, \rho_2, \rho_1) + m_4(\cdot, \rho_2, \rho_{12}, \rho_1) + \dots} x$$

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They're A_∞ homotopy equivalent (exercise).

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Suggestive remark:

$$\begin{aligned} (1 + \rho_{12})^{-1} &\text{“=”} 1 + \rho_{12} + \rho_{12}, \rho_{12} + \dots \\ \rho_2(1 + \rho_{12})^{-1}\rho_1 &\text{“=”} \rho_2, \rho_1 + \rho_2, \rho_{12}, \rho_1 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Again, that's a relief, since:

Theorem

If $(\Sigma, \alpha, \beta, z)$ and $(\Sigma, \alpha', \beta', z')$ are pointed bordered Heegaard diagrams for the same bordered Y^3 then $\widehat{\text{CFA}}(\Sigma)$ is A_∞ -homotopy equivalent to $\widehat{\text{CFA}}(\Sigma')$.

The pairing theorem

Recall:

Theorem

If $\partial Y_1 = F = -\partial Y_2$ then

$$\widehat{CF}(Y_1 \cup_{\partial} Y_2) \simeq \widehat{CFA}(Y_1) \widetilde{\otimes}_{\mathcal{A}(F)} \widehat{CFD}(Y_2).$$

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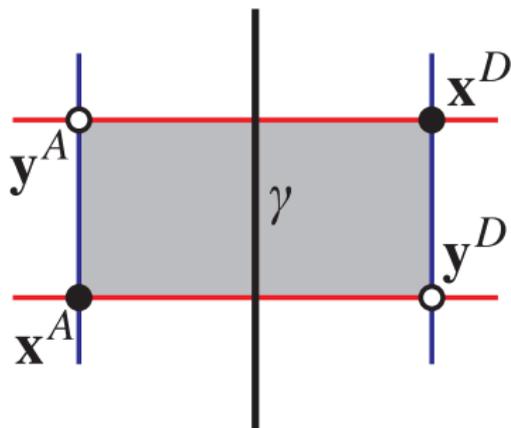
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At this point, one might wonder:

- Why the distinction between \widehat{CFD} and \widehat{CFA} ?
- And why is the pairing theorem true?

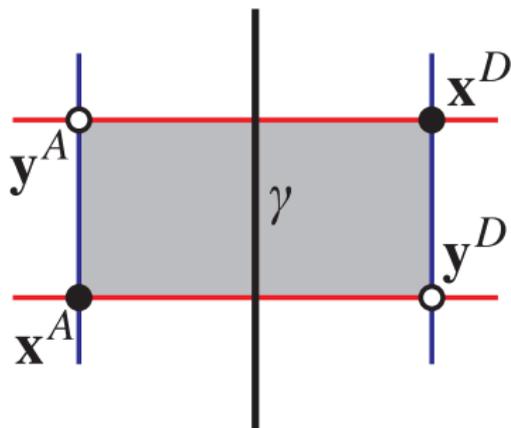
Consider this local picture



Here,

$$\begin{aligned}d(\mathbf{x}^A \otimes \mathbf{x}^D) &= \mathbf{x}^A \otimes d(\mathbf{x}^D) \\ &= \mathbf{x}^A \otimes \gamma \mathbf{y}^D \\ &= \mathbf{x}^A \gamma \otimes \mathbf{y}^D \\ &= \mathbf{y}^A \otimes \mathbf{y}^D\end{aligned}$$

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as desired.

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- For a knot K in S^3 , \widehat{CFD} and \widehat{CFA} are determined by $CFK^-(K)$.

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- ...and studying boundary degenerations when curves in a bordered H.D. are allowed to cross z .



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- More generally, these techniques imply HFK^- of satellites of K is determined by CFK^- of K . i.e.,

Theorem

Suppose K and K' are knots with $\text{CFK}^-(K)$ filtered homotopy equivalent to $\text{CFK}^-(K')$. Let K_C (resp. K'_C) be the satellite of K (resp. K') with companion C . Then $\text{HFK}^-(K_C) \cong \text{HFK}^-(K'_C)$.