

## Mutation and recombination for hyperbolic 3-manifolds

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ABSTRACT. We give a short topological proof for Ruberman’s Theorem about mutation and volume, using the Maskit combination theorem and the homology of the linear group.

### 1. Introduction

Let  $\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  be a faithful representation with discrete, torsion-free image, and let  $M = \Gamma \backslash \mathbf{H}^3$  be the associated orientable, hyperbolic 3-manifold. We assume that  $\Gamma$  has finite covolume, that is  $vol(M) < \infty$ .

Let  $\Sigma \subset M$  be a properly embedded, incompressible, boundary-incompressible, 2-sided surface. Let  $\tau : \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma$  be a diffeomorphism. We will denote by  $M^\tau$  the result of cutting  $M$  along  $\Sigma$  and regluing via  $\tau$ .

Ruberman’s Theorem ([9, Theorem 1.3]) states that for some specific pairs  $(\Sigma, \tau)$ , for example for the hyperelliptic involution of the genus 2 surface, one always has that  $M^\tau$  is hyperbolic and  $vol(M^\tau) = vol(M)$ .

The pairs  $(\Sigma, \tau)$  considered in [9] have in common that  $\tau$  has finite order and that for each  $\rho$  as above the representation  $\rho|_{\pi_1 \Sigma} \circ \tau_* : \pi_1 \Sigma \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  is conjugate in  $SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  to  $\rho|_{\pi_1 \Sigma}$ , see [9, Theorem 2.2].

As indicated in [9, Theorem 4.4] this is actually the only specific property of the pairs  $(\Sigma, \tau)$  which is needed. That is, the conclusion of  $M^\tau$  being hyperbolic and having the same volume as  $M$  does actually hold for all pairs  $(\Sigma, \tau)$  such that  $\rho|_{\pi_1 \Sigma} \circ \tau_*$  is conjugate in  $SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  to  $\rho|_{\pi_1 \Sigma}$  (and such that  $\Sigma$  is not a virtual fiber).

The proof in [9] uses hard results about minimal surfaces. As Ruberman points out in [9, Theorem 4.4], an alternative proof is possible using Bers’ Theorem about the deformation space of quasifuchsian groups, yet another hard analytical theorem.

The aim of this paper is to give a purely topological proof of Ruberman’s result which does not use any facts from analysis, but rather a simple version of the Maskit combination theorems and group-homological arguments. (The combination theorems have a purely topological proof in [7], although nowadays there exist also analytical proofs using minimal surfaces or harmonic maps.)

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*Key words and phrases.* Mutation, volume, hyperbolic 3-manifold.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $M$  be a compact, orientable, connected 3-manifold with (possibly empty) boundary. Let  $\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  be a representation that is a lift of a faithful representation  $\Gamma \rightarrow Isom^+(\mathbf{H}^3) = PSL(2, \mathbf{C})$  with discrete, torsion-free image. Assume that  $\rho(\Gamma) \backslash \mathbf{H}^3$  has finite volume and is diffeomorphic to  $int(M) = M - \partial M$ .*

*Let  $\Sigma \subset M$  be a properly embedded, connected, incompressible, boundary-incompressible, 2-sided surface which is not a virtual fiber.*

*Let  $\tau : (\Sigma, \partial\Sigma) \rightarrow (\Sigma, \partial\Sigma)$  be an orientation-preserving diffeomorphism of pairs such that  $\tau^m = id$  for some  $m \in \mathbf{N}$  and such that there exists some  $A \in SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  with  $\rho(\tau_*h) = A\rho(h)A^{-1}$  for all  $h \in \pi_1\Sigma$ .*

*Then  $int(M^\tau)$  is hyperbolic and  $vol(M^\tau) = vol(M)$ .*

The proof of  $vol(M^\tau) = vol(M)$  will follow an argument analogous to the proof of [8, Theorem 2.13] but will use the constructions from [5, Section 4] to handle the case of manifolds with several cusps (where relative group homology does not directly apply).

## 2. Preliminaries

Let  $M$  be an orientable, complete, hyperbolic 3-manifold of finite volume and  $\Sigma$  a properly embedded, 2-sided surface. Let  $\Gamma = \pi_1 M$ . (We assume without further mention  $M$  and  $\Sigma$  to be connected and we omit basepoints from the notation.) The monodromy has image in  $Isom^+(\mathbf{H}^3) = PSL(2, \mathbf{C})$ . By Culler's Theorem [4, Corollary 2.2] the monodromy comes from a representation  $\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  and we will henceforth assume such a representation  $\rho$  to be fixed.

Let  $\tau : \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma$  be a diffeomorphism. Throughout the paper we will work with the following assumption on  $(\Sigma, \tau)$ :

**Assumption 1.1.** *There exists some  $A \in SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  with*

$$\rho(\tau_*h) = A\rho(h)A^{-1}$$

*for all  $h \in \pi_1\Sigma$ .*

An obvious example where this condition is satisfied, is the case that  $\Sigma$  is totally geodesic and  $\tau$  is an isometry of the induced metric. In this case one can upon conjugation assume that  $\rho(\pi_1\Sigma) \subset SL(2, \mathbf{R})$  and then  $A$  is an elliptic element in  $SL(2, \mathbf{R}) \subset SL(2, \mathbf{C})$ . Less obvious examples are provided by [9, Theorem 2.2] which asserts that Assumption 1.1 holds whenever  $(\Sigma, \tau)$  is what [9] calls a symmetric surface, for example if  $\Sigma$  has genus 2 and  $\tau$  is a hyperelliptic involution, or for certain symmetries of the 3- or 4-punctured sphere or the 1- or 2-punctured torus. For these symmetric surfaces  $(\Sigma, \tau)$ , Assumption 1.1 holds regardless how  $\Sigma$  is embedded (as an incompressible, boundary-incompressible surface) into a hyperbolic 3-manifold  $M$ .

Let  $M^\tau$  be the result of cutting  $M$  along  $\Sigma$  and regluing via  $\tau$ . Since  $\Sigma$  is a 2-sided, properly embedded surface, it has a neighborhood  $N \simeq \Sigma \times [0, 1]$  in  $M$ , and a neighborhood  $N^\tau \simeq \Sigma \times [0, 1]$  in  $M^\tau$ . The complements  $M - int(N)$  and  $M^\tau - int(N^\tau)$  are diffeomorphic and we let  $X$  be the union of  $M$  and  $M^\tau$  along this identification of

$M - \text{int}(N)$  and  $M^\tau - \text{int}(N^\tau)$ . The union of  $N$  and  $N^\tau$  yields a copy of the mapping torus  $T^\tau$  in  $X$ .

Let  $\pi_1 M = \langle S \mid R \rangle$  be a presentation of  $\pi_1 M$ . The Seifert-van Kampen Theorem implies

$$\pi_1 X = \langle S, t \mid R, tht^{-1} = \tau_*(h) \ \forall h \in \pi_1 \Sigma \rangle.$$

If Assumption 1.1 holds, then we have a well-defined representation

$$\rho_X : \pi_1 X \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbb{C})$$

by  $\rho_X(s) = \rho(s)$  for all  $s \in S$  and  $\rho_X(t) = A$ .

Composition with the homomorphisms  $\pi_1 M \rightarrow \pi_1 X$  and  $\pi_1 M^\tau \rightarrow \pi_1 X$  induced by the inclusions yields the given representation  $\rho$  of  $\pi_1 M$  and a representation  $\rho^\tau$  of  $\pi_1 M^\tau$ . We will show in the Section 3 that under certain hypotheses (namely that  $\Sigma$  is incompressible, boundary-incompressible and not a virtual fiber) the representation  $\rho^\tau$  will be discrete and faithful and therefore  $M^\tau$  is a hyperbolic manifold (although  $X$  is not).

For use in Section 3 we mention that the Seifert-van Kampen Theorem also allows a description of  $\pi_1 M^\tau$  (as a subgroup of  $\pi_1 X$  with the above presentation), where we have to distinguish the cases whether the surface  $\Sigma$  is a separating surface in  $M$  or not.

If an incompressible, 2-sided surface  $\Sigma$  separates  $M$  into two submanifolds  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ , then  $\pi_1 M = \pi_1 M_1 *_{\pi_1 \Sigma} \pi_1 M_2$  is the amalgamated product of  $\pi_1 M_1$  and  $\pi_1 M_2$  over  $\pi_1 \Sigma$  for two monomorphisms  $\phi_1 : \pi_1 \Sigma \rightarrow \pi_1 M_1, \phi_2 : \pi_1 \Sigma \rightarrow \pi_1 M_2$ . For the mutation  $M^\tau$  we obtain that  $\pi_1 M^\tau$  is the amalgamated product of  $\pi_1 M_1$  and  $t\pi_1 M_2 t^{-1}$  amalgamated over  $\pi_1 \Sigma$  via the monomorphisms  $\psi_1 : \pi_1 \Sigma \rightarrow \pi_1 M_1, \psi_2 : \pi_1 \Sigma \rightarrow \pi_1 M_2$  defined by

$$\psi_1(h) = \phi_1(\tau_* h), \ \psi_2(h) = t\phi_2(h)t^{-1}$$

for all  $h \in \pi_1 \Sigma$ .

If an incompressible, 2-sided surface  $\Sigma$  does not separate  $M$ , then there is a manifold  $N$  with  $\partial N = \Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2$  such that  $M$  is the quotient of  $N$  under some diffeomorphism  $f : \Sigma_1 \rightarrow \Sigma_2$ . We assume the basepoint  $x_0$  to belong to  $\Sigma_1$ , let  $u$  be some path in  $N$  from  $x_0$  to  $f(x_0)$ , let  $K_1 = \pi_1 \Sigma_1$  and let  $K_2 \subset \pi_1 N$  the subgroup of all based homotopy classes of loops of the form  $u * \sigma * \bar{u}$ , where  $\sigma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \Sigma_2$  with  $\sigma(0) = \sigma(1) = f(x_0)$ . Then  $\pi_1 M = \pi_1 N *_{\alpha}$  is the HNN-extension of  $\pi_1 N$  for the two monomorphisms  $\phi_1 : K_1 \rightarrow \pi_1 N, \phi_2 : K_2 \rightarrow \pi_1 N$  induced by the inclusions and the isomorphism  $\alpha : K_1 \rightarrow K_2$  defined by  $\alpha([\sigma]) = [u * f(\sigma) * \bar{u}]$ , where  $[\sigma]$  is the based homotopy class of  $\sigma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \Sigma_1$  with  $\sigma(0) = \sigma(1) = x_0$ . Let  $v$  be the extending element. For the mutation  $M^\tau$  we obtain that  $\pi_1 M^\tau = \pi_1 N *_{\alpha\tau_*}$  is the HNN-extension of  $\pi_1 N$ , with extending element  $vt$ , for the same monomorphisms  $\phi_1, \phi_2$  and the isomorphism  $\alpha\tau_* : K_1 \rightarrow K_2$ .

We mention that  $X$  clearly is not a manifold, let alone a hyperbolic one. In fact, the representation  $\rho_X$  is not faithful and its image is not torsion-free, as the following elementary observation shows.

**Observation 1.2.** *Let  $\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  be a discrete, faithful representation of a torsion-free group, let  $M = \rho(\Gamma) \backslash \mathbf{H}^3$  be the associated hyperbolic 3-manifold, and let  $\Sigma \subset M$  be a properly embedded, incompressible, boundary-incompressible surface. Assume that  $\Sigma$  is not boundary-parallel.*

*Let  $\tau : \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma$  be a diffeomorphism such that  $\tau^m = \text{id}$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and such that there exists some  $A \in SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  with  $\rho(\tau_* h) = A\rho(h)A^{-1}$  for all  $h \in \pi_1 \Sigma$ .*

*Then  $A^m = \pm \mathbf{1}$ .*

*Proof:* We have  $A^m \rho(h) A^{-m} = A^{m-1} \rho(\tau_* h) A^{-(m-1)} = \dots = \rho(\tau_*^m h) = \rho(h)$  for all  $h \in \pi_1 \Sigma$ , thus  $A^m$  conjugates  $\rho(\pi_1 \Sigma)$  to itself. If  $\Sigma$  is not boundary-parallel, then the image of  $\pi_1 \Sigma$  in  $Isom^+(\mathbf{H}^3)$  contains at least two non-commuting hyperbolic elements. The corresponding matrices in  $\rho(\pi_1 \Sigma) \subset SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  are then diagonalisable with respect to two distinct bases.

A matrix that conjugates a diagonalizable 2-by-2-matrix (with 2 distinct eigenvalues) to itself must be diagonalizable with respect to the same basis. Thus the conjugating matrix  $A^m \in SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  must be diagonal with respect to two distinct bases. This implies, by elementary linear algebra, that  $A^m$  is a multiple of the identity matrix. Together with  $\det(A^m) = 1$  this enforces  $A^m = \pm \mathbf{1}$ . QED

### 3. Discreteness of recombinations

Let  $M$  be an oriented (and connected) compact 3-manifold with boundary such that its interior  $\text{int}(M) = M - \partial M$  is hyperbolic. The hyperbolic structure is given by the conjugacy class of a representation  $\pi_1 M \rightarrow PSL(2, \mathbb{C})$  which by Culler's Theorem [4, Corollary 2.2] is the composition of a representation  $\rho : \pi_1 M \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  with the canonical projection  $SL(2, \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow PSL(2, \mathbb{C})$ . For a diffeomorphism  $\tau : \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma$  we let  $\rho^\tau : \pi_1 M^\tau \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbb{C})$  be the representation defined in Section 2.

**Proposition 3.1.** *If  $\Sigma \subset M$  is a properly embedded, connected, incompressible, boundary-incompressible, 2-sided surface, which is not a virtual fiber, and if Assumption 1.1 holds for a diffeomorphism  $\tau : \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma$ , then  $\rho^\tau(\pi_1 M^\tau)$  is a discrete subgroup of  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ . In particular,  $\text{int}(M^\tau)$  is hyperbolic.*

*Proof:* Since  $\Sigma$  is incompressible, boundary-incompressible and not a virtual fiber, the subgroup  $H := \rho(\pi_1 \Sigma)$  is geometrically finite by the Thurston-Bonahon Theorem<sup>1</sup>. This implies that the limit set  $W = \Lambda(H) \subset \partial_\infty \mathbf{H}^3$  is a quasi-circle, in particular  $W$  is a Jordan curve. The Schönflies theorem implies that  $W$  decomposes  $\partial_\infty \mathbf{H}^3 \cong \mathbf{S}^2$  into two topological disks.

We distinguish the cases that  $\Sigma$  is separating in  $M$  (and thus in  $M^\tau$ ) or not. We wish to apply the Maskit combination theorems [7, Chapter VII] and have to check that their assumptions hold for  $\rho^\tau(\pi_1 M^\tau)$ .

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<sup>1</sup>The Thurston-Bonahon Theorem is a combination of results in [6],[10],[1]. An explicit statement can be found in [3, Theorem 1.1] or [2, Corollary 8.3].

**Case 1:  $\Sigma$  is separating.** Then we obtain from Section 2 that  $G = \rho(\pi_1 M)$  is an amalgamated product  $G = G_1 *_H G_2$  with  $G_1 = \rho(\pi_1 M_1)$  and  $G_2 = \rho(\pi_1 M_2)$ . The complement of the limit set  $\partial_\infty \mathbf{H}^3 - W$  consists of two open topological disks  $B_1, B_2$  such that  $B_i$  is precisely  $H$ -invariant in  $G_i$  for  $i = 1, 2$ , that is

$$\begin{aligned} h(B_i) &\subset B_i \quad \forall h \in H \\ g(B_i) &\subset B_{3-i} \quad \forall g \in G_i - H. \end{aligned}$$

To apply the first Maskit combination theorem we have to check that the analogous condition is satisfied for the decomposition of  $G^\tau := \rho^\tau(\pi_1 M^\tau)$  as amalgamated product of  $G_1$  and  $AG_2A^{-1}$  over  $H$ .

We already know that  $h(B_i) \subset B_i$  for  $h \in H$  and  $g(B_1) \subset B_2$  for  $g \in G_1 - H$ . We have to check that  $AgA^{-1}(B_2) \subset B_1$  for  $g \in G_2 - H$ .

Assumption 1.1 implies that conjugation by  $A \in SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  maps  $H$  to  $H$ , thus  $A$  and  $A^{-1}$  map the limit set  $W = \Lambda(H)$  to itself. Since  $A$  is orientation-preserving it must then also map  $B_1$  to  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  to  $B_2$ . Hence  $g(B_2) \subset B_1$  implies  $AgA^{-1}(B_2) \subset B_1$  for  $g \in G_2 - H$ .

The first combination theorem implies then that  $G^\tau$  is discrete.

**Case 2:  $\Sigma$  is non-separating.** Then we obtain from Section 2 that  $G = \rho(\pi_1 M)$  is an HNN-extension  $G = G_0 *_\alpha$  of  $G_0 := \rho(\pi_1 N)$  for some isomorphism  $\alpha : H \rightarrow H_2$ , where  $H := \rho(K_1) = \rho(\pi_1 \Sigma_1)$ ,  $H_2 := \rho(K_2)$ .

Let  $f = \rho(v) \in G$  be the extending element of the HNN-extension  $G = G_0 *_\alpha$  and let  $W_2 = f(W) \subset \partial_\infty \mathbf{H}^3$ . Then  $W$  and  $W_2$  are disjoint simple closed curves and the complement  $\partial_\infty \mathbf{H}^3 - (W \cup W_2)$  consists of two open topological disks  $B_1, B_2$  and an open annulus  $R$  such that  $B_i$  is precisely  $H_i$ -invariant in  $G_0$  for  $i = 1, 2$  and, moreover,

$$f(R \cup B_2) = B_2.$$

To apply the second Maskit combination theorem we have to check that the analogous conditions are satisfied for the description of  $G^\tau := \rho^\tau(\pi_1 M^\tau)$  as an HNN-extension  $G^\tau = G_0 *_\alpha \tau_*$  for the isomorphism  $\alpha \tau_* : H \rightarrow H_2$ , with extending element  $\rho(vt) = fA$ .

This is clear for the first condition: we already know that  $B_i$  is precisely  $H_i$ -invariant in  $G_0$ .

Assumption 1.1 implies again that  $A$  and  $A^{-1}$  map the limit set  $W = \Lambda(H)$  to itself. Since  $A$  is orientation-preserving it must then also map  $B_1$  bijectively to  $B_1$  and  $R \cup B_2$  bijectively to  $R \cup B_2$ . In particular  $f(R \cup B_2) = B_2$  implies

$$fA(R \cup B_2) = B_2.$$

The second combination theorem implies then that  $G^\tau$  is discrete.

*QED*

One may wonder whether it is possible to apply the topological combination theorems ([7, Theorem VII.A.12., C.13.]) directly to the actions on  $\mathbf{H}^3$  rather than to the actions on  $\partial_\infty \mathbf{H}^3$ . Letting  $\tilde{\phi} : \mathbf{H}^3 \rightarrow \mathbf{H}^3$  be the “lift” of  $\tau$  defined as the lift of the isometry  $\phi : \rho(\pi_1 \Sigma) \backslash \mathbf{H}^3 \rightarrow \rho(\pi_1 \Sigma) \backslash \mathbf{H}^3$  from [9, Lemma 2.5.] this would require to have a

$\tilde{\phi}$ -invariant copy of  $\tilde{\Sigma}$  in  $\mathbf{H}^3$ . The main part of the argument in [9] actually consists in providing such a  $\tilde{\phi}$ -invariant surface, using heavy machinery from the theory of minimal surfaces. The advantage of using the combination theorem for the action on  $\partial_\infty \mathbf{H}^3$  instead of the action on  $\mathbf{H}^3$  is that one can avoid this machinery.

## 4. Volume of mutations

### 4.1. Recollections

We recollect some constructions from [5, Section 4] which will be needed in the proof of Theorem 1, in particular to handle the case of disconnected boundary, where relative group homology does not directly apply.

Let  $(X, Y)$  be a pair of topological spaces. Assume that  $X$  is path-connected and  $Y$  has path-components  $Y_1, \dots, Y_s$ . Let  $\Gamma = \pi_1(X, x)$ . Using paths from  $y_i$  to  $x$  one can fix isomorphisms  $l_i : \pi_1(Y_i, y_i) \rightarrow \Gamma_i$  to subgroups  $\Gamma_i \subset \Gamma$  for  $i = 1, \dots, s$ .

As in [5, Section 4.2.1], we will denote by  $DCone(\cup_{i=1}^s Y_i \rightarrow X)$  the union along  $Y$  of  $X$  with the *disjoint* cones over  $Y_1, \dots, Y_s$ . Let  $\Psi_X : X \rightarrow |B\Gamma|$  be the classifying map for  $\pi_1 X$ . (We consider  $B\Gamma$  as a simplicial set and denote  $|B\Gamma|$  its geometric realization.)

As in [5, Definition 7] we denote  $B\Gamma^{comp} = DCone(\cup_{i=1}^s B\Gamma_i \rightarrow B\Gamma)$ , that is the quasi-simplicial set which is the union along  $\cup_{i=1}^s B\Gamma_i$  of the simplicial set  $B\Gamma$  and the cones  $Cone(B\Gamma_i)$  over  $B\Gamma_i$  with cone point  $c_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, s$ .  $\Psi_X$  extends to a continuous map  $\Psi_X : DCone(\cup_{i=1}^s Y_i \rightarrow X) \rightarrow |B\Gamma^{comp}|$ . If  $X$  and  $Y_1, \dots, Y_s$  are aspherical, then composition of  $(\Psi_X)_*$  with the isomorphism  $\iota : H_*(|B\Gamma^{comp}|) \rightarrow H_*^{simp}(B\Gamma^{comp})$  yields the inverse of the Eilenberg-MacLane isomorphism:

$$\iota \circ (\Psi_X)_* = EM^{-1} : H_*(DCone(\cup_{i=1}^s Y_i \rightarrow X)) \rightarrow H_*^{simp}(B\Gamma^{comp}).$$

In particular, if  $M$  is a compact, connected, oriented, aspherical manifold with aspherical boundary  $\partial M = \partial_1 M \cup \dots \cup \partial_s M$ , then there is for  $* \geq 2$  a canonical isomorphism<sup>2</sup>  $H_*(M, \partial M) \cong H_*(DCone(\cup_{i=1}^s \partial_i M \rightarrow M))$  and we obtain the isomorphism ([5, Lemma 8])

$$EM^{-1} : H_*(M, \partial M) \rightarrow H_*^{simp}(B\Gamma^{comp}).$$

Now assume that  $int(M) = M - \partial M$  is hyperbolic and  $\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  is a representation defining the hyperbolic structure. As in [5, Definition 6] let

$$BSL(2, \mathbf{C})^{comp} = DCone(\dot{\cup}_{c \in \partial_\infty \mathbf{H}^3} BSL(2, \mathbf{C}) \rightarrow BSL(2, \mathbf{C})),$$

where each of the cone points of the disjoint copies of  $Cone(BSL(2, \mathbf{C}))$  is identified with a point  $c \in \partial_\infty \mathbf{H}^3$ .

Assume that  $vol(M) < \infty$ . Then for each  $i = 1, \dots, s$  there is a unique  $c_i \in \partial_\infty \mathbf{H}^3$  with  $\Gamma_i \subset Fix(c_i)$ . Therefore  $B\rho : B\Gamma \rightarrow BSL(2, \mathbf{C})$  can be extended to

$$B\rho : B\Gamma^{comp} \rightarrow BSL(2, \mathbf{C})^{comp}$$

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<sup>2</sup>An explicit realisation of this isomorphism is as follows. Let  $z \in Z_*(M, \partial M)$  be a relative cycle, then  $\partial z \in Z_{*-1}(\partial M)$  and thus  $z + Cone(\partial z) \in Z_*(DCone(\cup_{i=1}^s \partial_i M \rightarrow M))$  is a cycle. This induces an isomorphism in homology.

by mapping the cone point of  $Cone(B\Gamma_i)$  to the cone point  $c_i \in \partial_\infty \mathbf{H}^3$  of  $BSL(2, \mathbf{C})^{comp}$  with  $\Gamma_i \subset Fix(c_i)$ .

In [5, Section 4.2.3] we defined a cocycle  $\overline{cv_3} \in C_{simp}^3(BSL(2, \mathbf{C})^{comp}; \mathbf{R})$  whose cohomology class  $[\overline{cv_3}]$ , by the proof of [5, Theorem 4], satisfies

$$\langle [\overline{cv_3}], (B\rho)_* EM^{-1}[M, \partial M] \rangle = vol(M).$$

In particular,  $vol(M)$  is determined by the element

$$(B\rho)_* EM^{-1}[M, \partial M] \in H_3^{simp}(BSL(2, \mathbf{C})^{comp}; \mathbf{Q}).$$

## 4.2. Proof of Theorem 1

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $M$  be a compact, orientable, connected 3-manifold with boundary  $\partial M$ . Let  $\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  be a representation that is a lift of a faithful representation  $\Gamma \rightarrow Isom^+(\mathbf{H}^3) = PSL(2, \mathbf{C})$  with discrete, torsion-free image. Assume that  $\rho(\Gamma) \setminus \mathbf{H}^3$  has finite volume and is diffeomorphic to  $int(M) = M - \partial M$ .*

*Let  $\Sigma \subset M$  be a properly embedded, connected, incompressible, boundary-incompressible, 2-sided surface which is not a virtual fiber.*

*Let  $\tau : (\Sigma, \partial\Sigma) \rightarrow (\Sigma, \partial\Sigma)$  be an orientation-preserving diffeomorphism of pairs such that  $\tau^m = id$  for some  $m \in \mathbf{N}$  and such that there exists some  $A \in SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  with  $\rho(\tau_* h) = A\rho(h)A^{-1}$  for all  $h \in \pi_1\Sigma$ .*

*Then  $int(M^\tau)$  is hyperbolic and  $vol(M^\tau) = vol(M)$ .*

*Proof:* We have proved in Proposition 2.1 that  $M^\tau$  is hyperbolic, that is, the representation  $\rho^\tau : \pi_1 M^\tau \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  is faithful and has discrete image.

Let  $X$  be constructed as in Section 2 and let  $\partial X = X \cap (\partial M \cup \partial M^\tau)$ . Let  $\Gamma^X := \pi_1 X$  and let  $\rho_X : \Gamma^X \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  be the representation, defined in Section 1, with  $\rho_X|_{\Gamma} = \rho$  and  $\rho_X(t) = A$ .

The construction of  $X$  implies that

$$i_{M*}[M, \partial M] - i_{M^\tau*}[M^\tau, \partial M^\tau] = i_{T^\tau*}[T^\tau, \partial T^\tau] \in H_3(X, \partial X; \mathbf{Q}), \quad (1)$$

where  $i_M, i_{M^\tau}, i_{T^\tau}$  are the inclusions of  $M, M^\tau$  and the mapping torus  $T^\tau$  into  $X$ , and  $[M, \partial M], [M^\tau, \partial M^\tau]$ , and  $[T^\tau, \partial T^\tau]$  are the fundamental classes in homology with  $\mathbf{Q}$ -coefficients.

We observe that there is a one-to-one correspondance between the path-components  $\partial_1 M, \dots, \partial_s M$  of  $\partial M$  with the path-components  $\partial_1 M^\tau, \dots, \partial_s M^\tau$  of  $\partial M^\tau$  and with the path-components  $\partial_1 X, \dots, \partial_s X$  of  $\partial X$ . To each path-component  $\partial_j \Sigma$  of  $\partial \Sigma$  there is some path-component  $\partial_{i_j} M$  of  $\partial M$  with  $\partial_j \Sigma \subset \partial_{i_j} M$ . The path-components  $\partial_j \Sigma$  are in one-to-one correspondence with the path-components  $\partial_j T^\tau$  of  $T^\tau$ , and we have then  $\partial_j T^\tau \subset \partial_{i_j} X$ .

We choose the base point  $x$  of  $\Gamma = \pi_1(M, x)$  to belong to  $M \cap M^\tau \cap T^\tau$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, s$  the base point  $x_i$  of  $\pi_1(\partial_i M, x_i)$  to belong to  $\partial_i M \cap \partial_i M^\tau \cap \partial T^\tau$ , and for all  $j$  the base point  $y_j$  of  $\pi_1(\partial_j T^\tau, y_j)$  to belong to  $\partial_j T^\tau \cap \partial_{i_j} M \cap \partial_{i_j} M^\tau$ .

Let  $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ . Recall that a path  $p_i$  from  $x_i$  to  $x$  yields an isomorphism  $l_i : \pi_1(X, x_i) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x)$ . Let  $\Gamma_i^X = l_i(\pi_1(\partial_i X, x_i)) \subset \Gamma^X := \pi_1(X, x)$ , that is  $\Gamma_i^X$  is an isomorphic image of  $\pi_1(\partial_i X, x_i)$  in  $\Gamma^X$ . We can choose the path  $p_i$  in  $M \cap M^\tau$ , thus if  $i_{\partial_i M} : \pi_1(\partial_i M, x_i) \rightarrow \pi_1(\partial_i X, x_i)$  is induced by the inclusion  $i_{\partial_i M} : \partial_i M \rightarrow \partial_i X$ , then  $j_{\partial_i M} l_i|_{\pi_1(\partial_i M, x_i)} = l_i i_{\partial_i M}$ , where  $j_{\partial_i M} : \Gamma_i \rightarrow \Gamma_i^X$  is the inclusion. An analogous fact holds by replacing  $M$  with  $M^\tau$ .

For each  $y_j \in \partial_j T^\tau \cap \partial_{i_j} M \cap \partial_{i_j} M^\tau$  we can choose a path from  $y_j$  to  $x_{i_j}$  in  $\partial_{i_j} M \cap \partial_{i_j} M^\tau$ . This yields an isomorphism  $l_j$  from  $\pi_1(\partial_j T^\tau, y_j)$  to a subgroup of  $\pi_1(\partial_{i_j} M, x_{i_j})$ . Composition of  $l_j$  with  $l_{i_j}$  yields an isomorphism from  $\pi_1(\partial_j T^\tau, y_j)$  to a subgroup  $\Gamma_j^T$  of  $\Gamma$ . The same paths can be used to construct an isomorphism from  $\pi_1(\partial_j T^\tau, y_j)$  to a subgroup of  $\Gamma^\tau$ , and both images are then by construction the same subgroup of  $\Gamma^X$ .

By Section 4.1  $B\rho$  extends to a simplicial map  $B\rho : B\Gamma^{comp} \rightarrow BSL(2, \mathbf{C})^{comp}$  where the cone point over  $B\Gamma_i$  is mapped to the (unique)  $c_i$  with  $\Gamma_i \subset \text{Fix}(c_i)$ . However  $B\rho_X : B\Gamma^X \rightarrow BSL(2, \mathbf{C})$  does not extend to  $(B\Gamma^X)^{comp}$  in such a way that restriction to  $B\Gamma^{comp}$  would give back  $B\rho$ . Indeed, in general there is no  $c_i \in \partial_\infty \mathbf{H}^3$  with  $\rho_X(\Gamma_i^X)$  in  $\text{Fix}(c_i)$ . (This is because  $\rho_X(t) = A$  is not parabolic but elliptic.) Therefore we have to<sup>3</sup> go to a finite cover as follows.

Let  $\pi_1 X = \langle S, t \mid R, tht^{-1} = \tau_*(h) \ \forall h \in \pi_1 \Sigma \rangle$  be the presentation from Section 2. Then

$$a(t) = 1, \ a(s) = 0 \ \forall s \in S$$

yields a well-defined, surjective homomorphism

$$a : \pi_1 X \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}/2m\mathbf{Z}.$$

Let  $\pi : \widehat{X} \rightarrow X$  be the  $2m$ -fold cyclic covering with  $\Gamma^{\widehat{X}} := \pi_1(\widehat{X}, \hat{x}) \cong \ker(a)$  for some  $\hat{x} \in \pi^{-1}(x)$ . For each  $i \in \{1, \dots, s\}$  we let  $\partial_i \widehat{X} \subset \widehat{X}$  be the preimage of  $\partial_i X$ , we fix the preimage  $\hat{p}_i$  of the path  $p_i$  ending at  $\hat{x}$ , and use  $\hat{p}_i$  to define the isomorphism from  $\pi_1 \partial_i \widehat{X}$  to a subgroup  $\Gamma_i^{\widehat{X}} \subset \Gamma^{\widehat{X}}$ . Then  $\pi(\hat{p}_i) = p_i$  implies  $\pi_*(\Gamma_i^{\widehat{X}}) \subset \Gamma_i^X$ .

$\widehat{X}$  contains a copy of  $\Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1$  which is a  $2m$ -fold covering of  $T^\tau$ . Let  $\widehat{M} = \pi^{-1}(M)$ , and  $\widehat{M}^\tau = \pi^{-1}(M^\tau)$ . Since  $a|_{\pi_1 M}$  is trivial,  $\widehat{M}$  consists of  $2m$  copies of  $M$ . If  $\Sigma$  is separating, then  $a|_{\pi_1 M^\tau}$  is trivial, thus also  $\widehat{M}^\tau$  consists of  $2m$  copies of  $M^\tau$ . If  $\Sigma$  is non-separating, then  $a|_{\pi_1 M^\tau}$  is surjective, thus  $\widehat{M}^\tau$  is a connected  $2m$ -fold covering of  $M^\tau$ .

Consider the transfer map  $tr : H_*(X, \partial X; \mathbf{Q}) \rightarrow H_*(\widehat{X}, \partial \widehat{X}; \mathbf{Q})$  of the finite covering  $\widehat{X} \rightarrow X$ . Application of the transfer map to Equation (1) yields

$$i_{\widehat{M}*} [\widehat{M}, \partial \widehat{M}] - i_{\widehat{M}^\tau*} [\widehat{M}^\tau, \partial \widehat{M}^\tau] = i_{\Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1*} [\Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1, \partial \Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1] \quad (2)$$

<sup>3</sup>If  $M$  is a closed manifold, then one can use  $B\rho_X$  as in [8, Theorem 2.13] and does not need to go to a finite cover.

in  $H_3(\widehat{X}, \partial\widehat{X}; \mathbf{Q})$ , where  $i_*$  denotes the respective inclusions into  $\widehat{X}$ .

Composition of  $\pi_* : \pi_1 \widehat{X} \rightarrow \pi_1 X$  with the representation  $\rho_X : \pi_1 X \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbf{C})$  yields a representation  $\rho_{\widehat{X}} : \Gamma^{\widehat{X}} \rightarrow SL(2, \mathbf{C})$ . By Observation 1.2 we have  $A^m = \pm \mathbf{1}$ , thus  $A^{2m} = \mathbf{1}$ . Recall that  $\rho_X(t) = A$ , thus  $\rho_{\widehat{X}}(t^{2m}) = A^{2m} = \mathbf{1}$ .

The Seifert-van Kampen Theorem implies that  $\pi_* \left( \Gamma_i^{\widehat{X}} \right)$  is generated by elements of  $\Gamma_i$  and  $t^{2m}$ . Since  $\rho_X(t^{2m}) = A^{2m} = \mathbf{1}$ , this implies  $\rho_{\widehat{X}} \left( \Gamma_i^{\widehat{X}} \right) = \rho_X(\Gamma_i) \subset \text{Fix}(c_i)$ . Thus we can extend

$$B\rho_{\widehat{X}} : \left( B\Gamma^{\widehat{X}} \right)^{comp} \rightarrow BSL(2, \mathbf{C})^{comp},$$

by mapping the cone point over  $B\Gamma_i^{\widehat{X}}$  to  $c_i$ , such that  $B\rho_{\widehat{X}}Bj = B\rho$  for the homomorphism of pairs  $j : (\Gamma, \Gamma_i) \rightarrow (\Gamma^{\widehat{X}}, \Gamma_i^{\widehat{X}})$  induced by the inclusion  $i : \widehat{M} \rightarrow \widehat{X}$ .

We do not know whether  $X$  and  $\widehat{X}$  are aspherical or not, but we do have the classifying map  $\Psi_{\widehat{X}} : \widehat{X} \rightarrow |B\Gamma^{\widehat{X}}|$ , whose restriction to  $\partial_i \widehat{X}$  is (upon a homotopy) the classifying map  $\partial_i \widehat{X} \rightarrow |B\Gamma_i^{\widehat{X}}|$  and which therefore extends to

$$\Psi_{\widehat{X}} : DCone \left( \cup_{i=1}^s \partial_i \widehat{X} \rightarrow \widehat{X} \right) \rightarrow |B\Gamma^{\widehat{X}}|^{comp}.$$

Let  $P_1 : \Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1 \rightarrow \Sigma$  be the projection to the first factor, then the compositions  $|B\rho_{\widehat{X}}| \Psi_{\widehat{X}} i_{\Sigma} P_1$  and  $|B\rho_{\widehat{X}}| \Psi_{\widehat{X}} i_{\Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1}$  from  $DCone(\cup_j \partial_j \Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1 \rightarrow \Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1)$  to  $|BSL(2, \mathbf{C})|^{comp}$  are homotopic since  $\Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1$  and  $\partial_j \Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1$  are aspherical and since the induced homomorphisms between fundamental groups agree because  $\rho_{\widehat{X}}$  sends the generator  $t^{2m}$  of  $\pi_*(\pi_1 \mathbf{S}^1) \subset \pi_*(\pi_1(\Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1))$  to  $A^{2m} = \mathbf{1}$ .

Since the maps  $(|B\rho_{\widehat{X}}| \Psi_{\widehat{X}} i_{\Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1})_* = (|B\rho_{\widehat{X}}| \Psi_{\widehat{X}} i_{\Sigma} P_1)_*$  from  $H_3(\Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1, \partial \Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1)$  to  $H_3(|BSL(2, \mathbf{C})|^{comp})$  factor over  $H_3(\Sigma, \partial \Sigma) = 0$  we obtain

$$(|B\rho_{\widehat{X}}| \Psi_{\widehat{X}} i_{\Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1})_* [\Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1, \partial \Sigma \times \mathbf{S}^1] = 0.$$

Thus Equation (2) implies that in  $H_3(|BSL(2, \mathbf{C})|^{comp}; \mathbf{Q})$  we get

$$(|B\rho_{\widehat{X}}| \Psi_{\widehat{X}} i_{\widehat{M}})_* [\widehat{M}, \partial \widehat{M}] = (|B\rho_{\widehat{X}}| \Psi_{\widehat{X}} i_{\widehat{M}^\tau})_* [\widehat{M}^\tau, \partial \widehat{M}^\tau] \quad (3)$$

Let  $\widehat{M}_1$  be the path-component of  $\widehat{M}$  with  $\hat{x} \in \widehat{M}_1$ , let  $i_{\widehat{M}_1} : \widehat{M}_1 \rightarrow \widehat{X}$  be the inclusion and  $I_1 : M \rightarrow \widehat{M}_1$  the homeomorphism inverse to  $\pi|_{\widehat{M}_1}$ . Let  $j_1 = (i_{\widehat{M}_1} I_1)_* : \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma^{\widehat{X}}$  be the induced homomorphism, then we have  $\rho = \rho_{\widehat{X}} j_1$  and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} (|B\rho_{\widehat{X}}| \Psi_{\widehat{X}} i_{\widehat{M}_1} I_1)_* &= (|B\rho_{\widehat{X}}| |Bj_1| \Psi_M)_* = (|B\rho| \Psi_M)_* \\ &= (|B\rho|)_* \iota^{-1} E M^{-1} = \iota^{-1} (B\rho)_* E M^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

(where  $\iota : H_*(| \cdot |) \rightarrow H_*^{simp}(\cdot)$  denotes the isomorphism between singular and simplicial homology).

If  $\widehat{M}_l$  is another path-component of  $\widehat{M}$ , then we have a deck transformation  $\sigma_l$  of  $\widehat{X}$  with  $\sigma_l(\widehat{M}_1) = \widehat{M}_l$ . We denote  $I_l = \sigma_l I_1$  and obtain by the same computation  $(|B\rho_{\widehat{X}}| \Psi_{\widehat{X}} i_{\widehat{M}_l} I_l)_* = \iota^{-1}(B\rho)_* EM^{-1}$ . If  $\Sigma$  is separating, then the same argument applies to the path-components of  $\widehat{M}^\tau$ : let  $\widehat{M}_1^\tau$  be the path-component of  $\widehat{M}^\tau$  with  $\hat{x} \in \widehat{M}_1^\tau$ , let  $I_1^\tau : M^\tau \rightarrow \widehat{M}_1^\tau$  be the homeomorphism inverse to  $\pi|_{\widehat{M}_1^\tau}$  and  $I_l^\tau = \sigma_l I_1^\tau$ , then we obtain  $(|B\rho_{\widehat{X}}| \Psi_{\widehat{X}} i_{\widehat{M}_l^\tau} I_l^\tau)_* = \iota^{-1}(B\rho^\tau)_* EM^{-1}$ .

We have  $[\widehat{M}, \partial\widehat{M}] = \sum_{l=1}^{2m} I_{l*} [M, \partial M]$  and, if  $\Sigma$  is separating, we also have  $[\widehat{M}^\tau, \partial\widehat{M}^\tau] = \sum_{l=1}^{2m} I_{l*}^\tau [M^\tau, \partial M^\tau]$ .

Thus Equation (3) implies

$$2m(B\rho)_* EM^{-1} [M, \partial M] = 2m(B\rho^\tau)_* EM^{-1} [M^\tau, \partial M^\tau]$$

if  $\Sigma$  is separating, and

$$2m(B\rho)_* EM^{-1} [M, \partial M] = (B\hat{\rho}^\tau)_* EM^{-1} [\widehat{M}^\tau, \partial\widehat{M}^\tau]$$

with  $\hat{\rho}^\tau := \rho_{\widehat{X}}(i_{\widehat{M}^\tau})_*$  if  $\Sigma$  is non-separating, respectively. (In the latter case  $\widehat{M}^\tau$  was connected.)

By Section 4.1 we have

$$\langle [\overline{cv}_3], (B\rho)_* EM^{-1} [M, \partial M] \rangle = \text{vol}(M),$$

$$\langle [\overline{cv}_3], (B\rho^\tau)_* EM^{-1} [M^\tau, \partial M^\tau] \rangle = \text{vol}(M^\tau),$$

and, if  $\Sigma$  is non-separating,

$$\langle [\overline{cv}_3], (B\hat{\rho}^\tau)_* EM^{-1} [\widehat{M}^\tau, \partial\widehat{M}^\tau] \rangle = \text{vol}(\widehat{M}^\tau) = 2m \text{vol}(M^\tau).$$

Hence  $\text{vol}(M) = \text{vol}(M^\tau)$ .

*QED*

**Remark:** The assumption that  $\Sigma$  is not a virtual fiber is needed “only” for the proof that  $M^\tau$  is hyperbolic, that is for the application of Proposition 2.1.

If  $\Sigma$  is a virtual fiber then  $M^\tau$  may or may not be hyperbolic. For example, if  $M = T^\alpha$  is a mapping torus of  $\alpha : \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma$ , then  $M^\tau$  is the mapping torus of  $\alpha \circ \tau : \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma$ . By Thurston’s hyperbolization theorem, the mapping torus  $T^\alpha$  is hyperbolic if and only if  $\alpha$  is pseudo-Anosov. However, if  $\alpha$  is pseudo-Anosov and  $\tau$  is of finite order, then  $\alpha \circ \tau$  may or may not be pseudo-Anosov, so there is no general statement whether  $M^\tau$  is hyperbolic or not.

Examples for both phenomena can be easily found in  $SL(2, \mathbf{Z})$ , the mapping class group of the once-punctured torus. Here Anosov diffeomorphisms correspond to hyperbolic elements in  $SL(2, \mathbf{Z})$  and finite order diffeomorphisms correspond to elliptic elements in

$SL(2, \mathbf{Z})$ . One easily finds hyperbolic elements  $A_1, A_2$  and elliptic elements  $B_1, B_2$  such that  $A_1 B_1$  is hyperbolic while  $A_2 B_2$  is not.

However, if  $M^\tau$  happens to be hyperbolic, then the proof of Theorem 3.1 shows that  $\text{vol}(M^\tau) = \text{vol}(M)$  even if  $\Sigma$  was a virtual fiber.

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