# **PICTURES OF HYPERBOLIC SPACES**

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# Hyperbolic 2-space, $\mathbb{H}^2$



[M.C. Escher (1959)]

## Hyperbolic 3-space, $\mathbb{H}^3$ : tiling by dodecahedra



[Pierre Berger https://www.espaces-imaginaires.fr/works/ExpoEspacesImaginaires2.html]

## The figure 8 knot k(5/3)



[Francis, p.150]

## Theorem (Robert Riley (c.1974); William P. Thurston (c.1975))

The complement of the figure 8 knot,

 $S^3 \setminus k(5/3),$ 

admits a hyperbolic geometry.

#### Theorem (Thurston (c.1979))

Almost every knot complement<sup>1</sup> admits a hyperbolic geometry.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>All but a small family of tabulated exceptions

#### THE HYPERBOLIC STRUCTURE



[Guéritaud/Segerman/Schleimer, https://youtu.be/xGf5jY\_v5GE]

#### THE BORROMEAN RINGS COMPLEMENT



[Gunn/Maxwell, Not Knot]

#### IDEA: VISUALISE KNOT COMPLEMENTS BY TILING



[Matsuzaki/Taniguchi, p.34]

## Weeks' algorithm

#### SnapPea Algorithm (Jeff Weeks, c.1985)

- 1. Embed the knot in  $S^2 \times [-1, 1]$  'flatly' around  $S^2 \times \{0\}$ .
- 2. Cut straight down along the dual graph & the knot graph.



3. Collapse the quadrilateral slices to tetrahedra.



- 4. Glue four cusps onto these vertices to get spherical tetrahedra.
- 5. Do a bit of fiddling to get the hyperbolic geometry back.

Theorem (Thurston, c.1979)

Every hyperbolic 3-manifold can be obtained by 'Dehn surgery' along some hyperbolic link.

Thus Weeks' algorithm triangulates every hyperbolic 3-manifold.

#### Theorem (Hyperbolic developing)

Let M be a hyperbolic orbifold. Then M is isometric to a orbifold of the form  $\mathbb{H}^3/G$  for some discrete group G of hyperbolic isometries (called the **holonomy group** of M). Conversely, given any discrete group  $G \leq \text{Isom}^+(\mathbb{H}^3)$ ,  $\mathbb{H}^3/G$  is a hyperbolic orbifold.

#### Definition

A discrete group  $G \leq \text{Isom}^{+}(\mathbb{H}^{3})$  is called a **Kleinian group**.

#### Theorem (Poincaré extension)

There is a natural isomorphism between the group Isom<sup>+</sup>( $\mathbb{H}^3$ ) of orientation-preserving hyperbolic isometries and the group PSL(2,  $\mathbb{C}$ ) of conformal maps on  $\partial \mathbb{H}^3 = \hat{\mathbb{C}}$ .

## Example (Robert Riley, c.1972)

The holonomy group of the figure 8 knot complement is

$$\left\langle \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\exp(2\pi/3) & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\rangle.$$



[M.C. Escher (1957)]

The dynamics of the action of a Kleinian group G on  $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$  are complicated. There is a partition  $\hat{\mathbb{C}} = \Omega(G) \cup \Lambda(G)$  similar to the partition between the Fatou and Julia sets of a holomorphic dynamical system.

#### Definition

If G is non-elementary, then the **limit set** of G is the closure of the set of fixed points of elements of G.

## EXAMPLES

## Figure 8 knot group (dense in $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$ )



#### Elliptic Riley groups



#### Left: parabolic Riley group. Right: Indra's Necklace group.



Theorem (Thurston (c.1979); The ending lamination theorem (Epstein/Marden/Minsky))

If G is non-degenerate<sup>2</sup> then there is a strong deformation retract

$$\frac{\mathbb{H}^3 \cup \Omega(G)}{G} \twoheadrightarrow \frac{\text{h.conv} \Lambda(G)}{G}$$

and the 'folding structure' on the convex hull determines the hyperbolic geometry entirely.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>non-Fuchsian and non-elementary

#### **BUG ON NOTES OF THURSTON**



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- In the case of interest to me, loxodromic elements are easy to find — we can take 'Farey words'.
- So the problem is reduced to (1) enumerating 'lots of words', and (2) doing matrix products quickly.
- These are standard problems in computational combinatorial group theory.

#### A DEFINITION

The (a, b)-**Riley slice**,  $\mathcal{R}^{a,b}$ , is the set of  $\rho \in \mathbb{C}$  such that the limit set of the matrix group

$$\Gamma_{\rho} \coloneqq \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} e^{\pi i/a} & 1\\ 0 & e^{-\pi i/a} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} e^{\pi i/b} & 0\\ \rho & e^{-\pi i/b} \end{bmatrix} \right\rangle$$

is neither dense in a circle packing, nor dense in  $\hat{\mathbb{C}}.$ 



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## Limit set deformations in $\mathcal{R}^{5,\infty}$



- The definition I gave is hiding the term 'quasiconformal deformation space' behind the geometry of limit sets.
- Equivalent definition: R<sup>a,b</sup> is the moduli space of hyperbolic orbifolds (...together with conformal boundary...) homeomorphic to a 3-ball with two cone arcs, one of order a and one of order b (whose boundary is a sphere with two a-cone points and two b-cone points).
- The closure R<sup>a,b</sup> is the moduli space of discrete groups, free on two elliptic generators (where we view parabolic elements as limiting cases of elliptic elements).
- Discrete groups in the exterior C \ *R<sup>a,b</sup>* parameterise the 2-bridge link groups and their 'untwistings' (Heckoid groups).

#### THE KEEN-SERIES RATIONAL LAMINATION

Theorem (Linda Keen & Caroline Series (1994); Yohei Komori & Series (1998); Elzenaar, Martin, Schillewaert (2022))

There exists a dense foliation of  $\mathcal{R}^{a,b}$  by smooth analytic curves, indexed by  $p/q \in \mathbb{Q}$ , such that

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- The curve is a connected component of the inverse image of (-∞, -2) under some Farey polynomial Φ<sub>p/q</sub> (which depends on a and b).
- 3. The inverse images of -2 which lie at the ends of the curves (called **cusp points**) are dense in the boundary of  $\mathcal{R}^{a,b}$  [Curtis McMullen, 1991]; they have circle packing limit sets and the points corresponding to different curves are distinct [Keen/Maskit/Series, 1991].

# The Keen–Series rational lamination of $\mathcal{R}^{\infty,\infty}$



[Yasushi Yamashita, c.2007]

# A method for drawing the Riley slice boundary and exterior

- Compute all of the Farey polynomials. (A priori, each such computation requires 2q matrix multiplications. We have a recurrence relation that computes them all just with polynomial arithmetic [EMS22].)
- 2. Compute all of the inverse images  $\Phi_{p/q}^{-1}(-2)$ . (This is the computationally hard step. Geometric arguments show that even the inverse images which are not cusps lie in the exterior of the slice)

#### Conjecture

## The points $\Phi_{p/q}^{-1}(-2)$ $(p/q \in \mathbb{Q})$ are dense in $\mathcal{R}^{a,b}$ .



Some work has been done by Jane Gilman (2008) to explain the patterns of density that are visible (the 'parabolic dust').

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#### Bedtime reading

- George K. Francis, A topological picturebook (Springer, 1987)
- William P. Thurston, Geometry and topology of 3-manifolds (unpublished lecture notes, c.1979)
- William P. Thurston, Three-dimensional geometry and topology, Vol. 1 (Princeton, 1997)
- Jeff Weeks, "Computation of hyperbolic structures in knot theory". In: *Handb. of Knot Theory* (Elsevier, 2005)
- David Mumford, Caroline Series, David Wright, Indra's pearls (Cambridge, 2002)
- Albert Marden, *Hyperbolic manifolds* (Cambridge, 2015)
- Jessica Purcell, Hyperbolic knot theory (AMS, 2021)