

# The L-Space Conjecture

## 2-manifolds



$g=0$



$g=1$



$g=2$

...

Closed orientable 2-manifolds  
are distinguished by  $H_1$

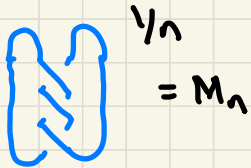
## L-Space Conjecture

(Boyer-Gordon-Watson, Juhász)

Relates three Yes/No properties  
of closed oriented 3-manifolds

## 3-manifolds

Not distinguished  
by  $H_*$



$1/n$   
 $= M_n$

$$H_*(M_n) = H_*(S^3)$$

BUT: Largely distinguished  
by  $\pi_1$

- algebraic
- geometric
- analytic

## Left-Orderability:

Def: A nontrivial group  $G$  is LO  
if  $\exists$  a total order  $<$  on  $G$   
st.  $a < b \Rightarrow ga < gb$  for  $\forall g \in G$ .

Ex:  $\mathbb{Z}$  is LO

Ex: If  $|G| < \infty$ ,  $G$  is not LO (NLO)

Proof:  $G$  is nontrivial: choose  
 $g \in G, g \neq e$ . Wlog  $e < g$ , so  
 $e < g < g^2 < \dots < g^{|G|} = e$  **X**

## Subgroups

If  $H \subset G$  and  $G$  is LO,  
then  $H$  is LO.

$\Rightarrow$  If  $\pi: \bar{Y} \rightarrow Y$  is a covering map  
and  $Y$  is LO, so is  $\bar{Y}$ .

### Thm (Boyer-Rolfser-Wiest):

Suppose  $Y$  is a prime 3-manifold  
and  $G$  is LO. If  $\varphi: \pi_1(Y) \rightarrow G$   
is nontrivial, then  $Y$  is LO

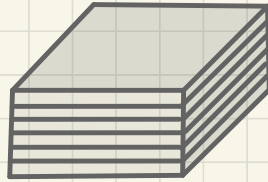
Cor: If  $b_1(Y) > 0$ ,  $Y$  is LO.

# Foliations:

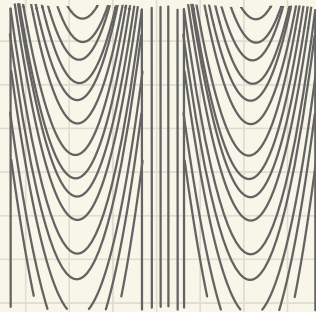
Def: A foliation on  $Y$  is

a decomposition  $Y = \coprod_{\alpha \in A} F_{\alpha}$

locally modeled on  $\mathbb{R}^n = \coprod_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \mathbb{R}^{n-1} \times t$



$F$  is coorientable if  
the line bundle  $TF_{\alpha}^{\perp}$   
is orientable  $\Leftrightarrow$  it has  
a nowhere 0 section



## 2-manifolds:

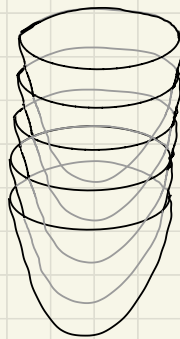
If  $M^2$  has a coorientable foliation,  $TM$  has a nowhere 0 section  $\Rightarrow \chi(M) = 0$

If an orientable closed surface  $M$  admits a coorientable foliation, every cpt of  $M$  is a torus.

## 3-Manifolds:

$M^3$  closed  $\Rightarrow \chi(M^3) = 0$

Thm: Every closed orientable  $M^3$  admits a coorientable foliation.



Reeb foliation on  $\mathbb{R} \times D^2$

$\rightsquigarrow$  foliate  $S^1 \times D^2$

$$S^3 = \partial D^4 = \partial(D^2 \times D^2)$$

$$\approx S^1 \times D^2 \cup D^2 \times S^1$$

## Taut foliations:

$F$  is taut if there is a closed loop  $\delta$  transverse to every leaf  $F_x$

⇔ Sullivan

$F$  is taut if there is a metric  $g$  on  $Y$  wst which leaves of  $F$  are minimal surfaces

Ex:  $Y$  fibres over  $S$

$Y: \Sigma_g \times [0, 1] / (0, x) \sim (1, \varphi(x))$

$\varphi: \Sigma_g \xrightarrow{\cong} \Sigma_g$

Covers: Suppose  $\pi: \bar{Y} \rightarrow Y$  is a covering map. If  $Y$  admits a CTF, so does  $\bar{Y}$

Thm: (Novikov):  $\pi_1(Y)$  finite  $\Rightarrow$  no CTF on  $Y$ .

Thm: (Calegari-Dunfield)

Suppose  $H_1(Y) = 0$ . If  $Y$  is CTF,  $Y$  is LO.

## Taut foliations:

$F$  is taut if there is a closed loop  $\delta$  transverse to every leaf  $F_\alpha$

$\iff$  Sullivan

$F$  is taut if there is a metric  $g$  on  $Y$  s.t. which leaves of  $F$  are minimal surfaces

Ex:  $Y$  fibres over  $S$

$Y: \Sigma_g \times [0, 1] / (0, x) \sim (1, \varphi(x))$

$\varphi: \Sigma_g \xrightarrow{\cong} \Sigma_g$

Thm (Thurston): If  $F$  is taut and  $F_\alpha$  is a compact leaf of  $F$ , then  $F_\alpha$  is genus-minimizing:

$$g(F_\alpha) \leq g(\Sigma) \text{ whenever } \Sigma \hookrightarrow Y \text{ with } [\Sigma] = [F_\alpha]$$

Gabai: If  $\Sigma \hookrightarrow Y$  is genus-minimizing, then it is a leaf of a taut foliation

Cor: If  $b_1(Y) > 0$  it has a CTF

## L-spaces

Heegaard Floer homology (Ozsváth-Szabó)

Closed, oriented  $Y^3 \rightarrow \widehat{HF}(Y) = \bigoplus_s \widehat{HF}(Y, s)$

If  $b_1(Y) = 0$ ,  $\chi(\widehat{HF}(Y, s)) = 1$

Def: A QHS<sup>3</sup>  $Y$  is an L-space

if  $\widehat{HF}(Y, s) \cong \mathbb{F}$  for all  $s, \mathbb{F}$

$\Leftrightarrow HF^{\text{red}}(Y) = 0$

Ex: If  $\tilde{Y} = S^3$ ,  $Y$  has only reducible SW solutions (Witten)

$\Rightarrow Y$  is an L-space

Thm: (Kronheimer-Mrowka, Ozsváth-Szabó)

$Y$  has c CTF  $\Rightarrow Y$  is NLS

## The conjecture:

L-space Conjecture:

$$\text{NLS} \Leftrightarrow \text{LO} \Leftrightarrow \text{CTF}$$

for prime, closed orientable  
3-manifolds

Thm (BGW): Conj holds for branched  
double covers of alternating knots

True for

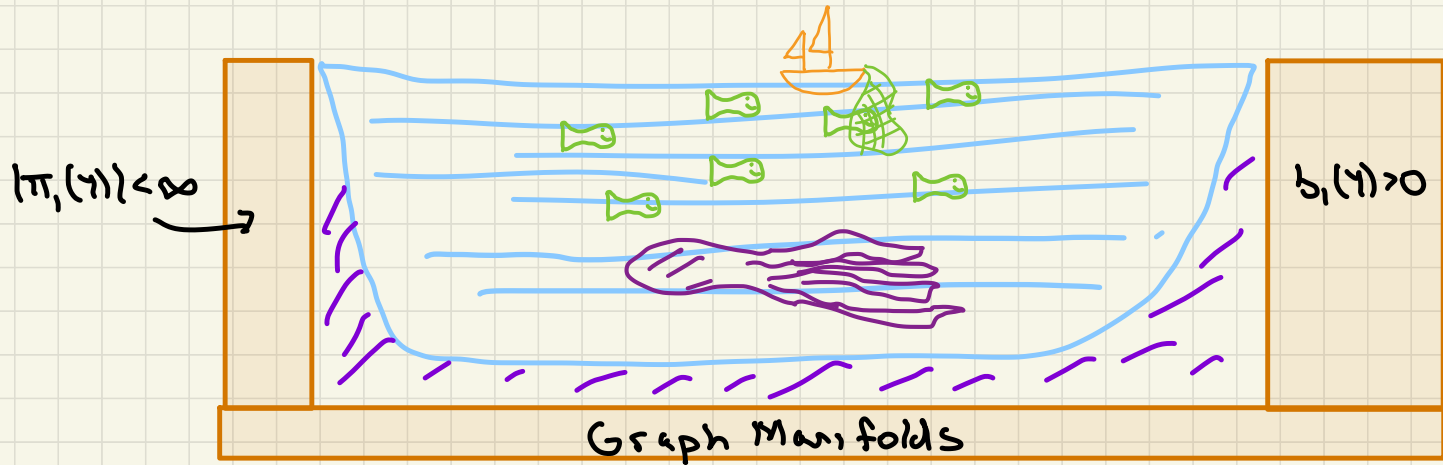
	$\pi$ , finite	$H_1$ , infinite
CTF	Novikov	Gabai
LO	trivial	BRW
NLS	Witten	KMOS

$\pi: \bar{Y} \rightarrow Y$  finite cover  
 $Y$  CTF, LO  $\Rightarrow \bar{Y}$  CTF, LO

Thm (Lidman-Manolescu)  
 $Y$  NLS  $\Rightarrow \bar{Y}$  NLS

Counter-examples?

None so far



Dunfield: examined  $\sim 300,000$  hyperbolic  $\mathbb{Q}HS^3$ 's

Determined: LS/NLS for all (47% LS, 53% NLS)

CTF/NCTF for all but 662

LO/NLO for  $> 60\%$

Something is true.

What is it?

## Possible Explanations:

1) Maybe Conj holds if  $Y$  has Heegaard genus 2.

Thm: (S. Rasnussen, T. Li):

If  $Y$  has Heegaard genus 2 and is  $\mathbb{Z}D$  then  $Y$  is CTF.

2) Thm: (F. Lin) If  $Y$  is CTF,  $HF^-(Y)$  has a  $\mathbb{Z}[U]/U$  summand.

Does every NLS have a  $\mathbb{Z}[U]/U$  summand?

Maybe Conj holds for such manifolds

## Order of $H_1$ :

Dunfield: examined  $\sim 300,000$  hyperbolic  $\mathbb{Q}H S^3$ 's

Determined: LS/NLS for all (47% LS, 53% NLS)

BUT:

Conj: (Ozsváth-Szabó)

The only prime L-spaces with  $H_1=0$  are  $S^3$  and the Poincaré sphere

(Heegaard Floer Poincaré Conj)

Thm (Eftekhary): An L-space with  $H_1=0$  is hyperbolic

## Relative Version of LSC:

Boyer + Clay:  $\partial M = T^2$   $\mathcal{G}(\partial M) = \mathcal{IP}(H, (\partial M))$

$$LO(M) = \{\alpha \in \mathcal{G}(\partial M) \mid M^\cup(\alpha) \text{ is } LO\}$$

$$LO^{\circ}(M) = \{\alpha \in \mathcal{G}(\partial M) \mid M(\alpha) \text{ is } LO\}$$

Similarly for CTF, NLS

Thm: LSC holds for graph manifolds

Boyer-Clay, S. Rasmussen

Hanselman-JR-S. Rasmussen-Watson

-, S. Rasmussen

$$\mathcal{L}(M) = \mathcal{G} \setminus NLS^{\circ}(M)$$

is one of

- 1)  $\mathcal{G} - \lambda$
- 2) a closed interval in  $\mathcal{G}$

Floor  
simple

- 3)  $\{\alpha_0\} \in \mathcal{G}$
- 4)  $\emptyset$

Interval in 2) is explicitly determined

Ex:  $(O_2 - S_2)$   $\mathcal{L}(S^2 - k) = \pm [2g(k)-1, \infty]$

Dunfield cusped census:  
~ 60,000 1-cusped  $M$   
> 50,000 Floor simple

## Questions:

- 1) Which  $\psi: \Sigma \xrightarrow{\sim} \Sigma$  are monodromies of Floer simple  $M$ ?
- 2) Why do geometrically simple  $M$  tend to be Floer simple?
- 3) Why is  $\mathcal{L}(M)$  so big?

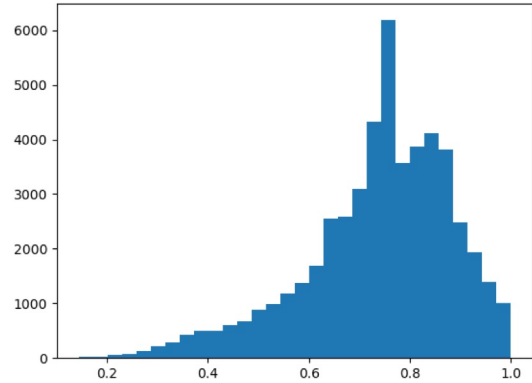


FIGURE 3. Distribution of  $L(M)$ , courtesy of Nathan Dunfield.

$$\mathcal{L}(M) = \text{fraction of } \mathcal{L}(\partial M) \text{ occupied by } \mathcal{L}(M)$$

## Dehn filling / Gluing:

Boyer + Clay:  $\partial M = T^2$

$$\alpha \in \mathcal{L}(M) = \mathcal{PH}_1(M)$$

Dehn filling:  $M(\alpha) = M \cup S^1 \times D^2$   
 $\alpha \leftrightarrow \partial D^2$

$$M^s(\alpha) = M \cup N_\alpha$$

$\alpha \rightarrow \lambda$

$$\text{CTF}(M) = \{ \alpha \in \mathcal{L}(M) \mid M(\alpha) \text{ is CTF} \}$$

$$\text{CTF}^s(M) = \{ \alpha \in \mathcal{L}(M) \mid M^s(\alpha) \text{ is CTF} \}$$

Thm (Boyer-Clay):

Suppose  $M_1, M_2$  are  $\partial$  incompressible

$Y = M_1 \cup_{T^2} M_2$ . Then  $Y \in \mathcal{C}$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{C}^s(M_1) \cap \mathcal{C}^s(M_2) \neq \emptyset$$

$$\mathcal{C} = \text{CTF, LO}$$

$$\mathcal{C} = \text{NLS (HRRW)}$$

Thank You!