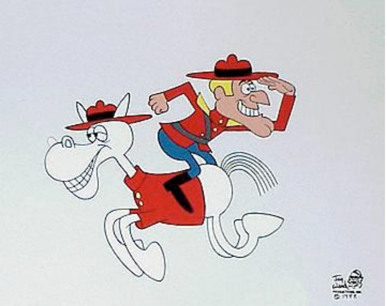

Exotic Cyclic Group Actions on Smooth 4-Manifolds

Ronald Fintushel
Michigan State University

March, 2009

Joint work with **Ron Stern** and **Nathan Sunukjian**

How exotic is 'exotic'?

Exotic smooth structures

Important consequences of Seiberg-Witten (and Donaldson) theory

• Existence of nondiffeomorphic but homeomorphic smooth 4-manifolds

• Existence of surfaces in a fixed smooth 4-manifold which are topologically but not smoothly equivalent

Exotic smooth group actions

• Existence of smooth actions of a group on a smooth 4-manifold which are equivariantly homeomorphic but not equivariantly diffeomorphic.

Example: Exotic involutions on S^4, Quotient = Fake RP^4 (F- Stern/ Cappell - Shaneson, Gompf)

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Ue's examples

Ue's Theorem, 1998

For any nontrivial finite group G there exists a smooth 4-manifold that has infinitely many free G-actions so that their orbit spaces are homeomorphic but mutually nondiffeomorphic.

The examples

Y: $\mathbb{Q}$-homology S^4 with $\pi_1(Y) \to G$, onto, s. t. corr. cover is $\tilde{Y} = S^2 \times S^2 \# Z$, some Z. Get Y by spinning known 3D example.

$X_0 = E(2)_p,\ X_1 = E(2)_q$, $p \neq q$ odd (log transformed K3's)

$X_0 \# Y,\ X_1 \# Y$ homeo not diffeo using Seiberg-Witten

The G-covers Q_i come from $\pi_1(X_i \# Y) \to \pi_1(Y) \to G$

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Exotic cyclic group actions

Theorem (F., Stern, Sunukjian)

Let Y be a simply connected 4-manifold with $b^+ \geq 1$ containing an embedded surface Σ of genus $g \geq 1$ of nonnegative self-intersection. Suppose that $\pi_1(Y \smallsetminus \Sigma) = \mathbb{Z}_d$ and that the pair (Y, Σ) has a nontrivial relative Seiberg-Witten invariant. Suppose also that Σ contains a nonseparating loop which bounds an embedded 2-disk in $Y \smallsetminus \Sigma$. Let d' divide d, and let X be the (simply connected) d'-fold cover of Y branched over Σ. Then X admits an infinite family of smoothly distinct but topologically equivalent actions of $\mathbb{Z}_{d'}$.

Some simple examples

Curves in $\mathbb{CP}^2$

$Y = \mathbb{CP}^2$, $\Sigma =$ embedded degree d curve.
$X =$ degree d hypersurface in $\mathbb{CP}^3$

If $d = 3$, $X = \mathbb{CP}^2 \# 6\overline{\mathbb{CP}}^2 \implies$ we have infinitely many smoothly inequivalent topologically equivalent $\mathbb{Z}_3$-actions on $\mathbb{CP}^2 \# 6\overline{\mathbb{CP}}^2$.

If $d = 4$, $X = K3$, $\implies$ smoothly inequivalent topologically equivalent $\mathbb{Z}_4$-actions on the K3-surface.
Also theorem $\implies$ families of $\mathbb{Z}_2$ and $\mathbb{Z}_3$-actions on K3.

$\mathbb{Z}_5$-actions on quintics, etc.

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Knot and rim surgery (F. - Stern)

Knot surgery

K: Knot in S^3, T: square 0 essential torus in X

$X_K = X \setminus N_T \cup S^1 \times (S^3 \setminus N_K)$

$S^1 \times (S^3 \setminus N_K)$ has the homology of $T^2 \times D^2$.

Facts

- If X and $X \setminus T$ both simply connected, so is X_K. (So X_K homeo to X)
- $\mathcal{SW}_{X_K} = \mathcal{SW}_X \cdot \Delta_K(t^2)$

Rim surgery

$\Sigma \subset X$: embedded orientable surface in simply connected 4-manifold.

C: homologically essential loop in Σ

Rim torus: preimage of C in bdry of normal bundle of Σ.

Rim surgery = knot surgery on rim torus.

Can change embedding type of Σ. Get $\Sigma_K \subset X$.

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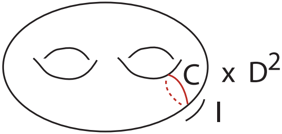

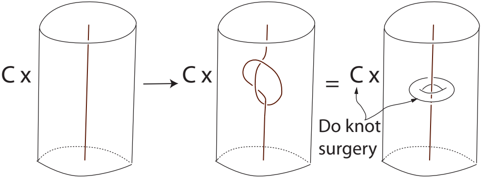

Spinning a knot K in S^3 gives 2-knot in S^4:
S^1-action on S^4. Orbit space B^3.
Spun knot = preimage of knotted arc. Preimage of ∂B^3= twin
Knot surgery replaces $C \times S^1 \times D^2$ with $S^4 \setminus$(spun knot $\cup$ twin)
$C \times B^3$ = complement of trivial twin in S^4.

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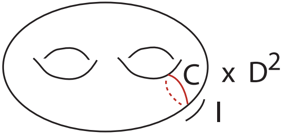

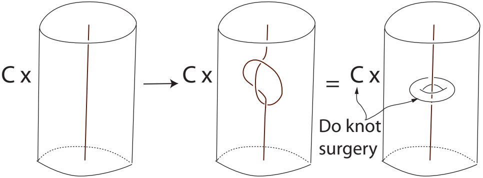

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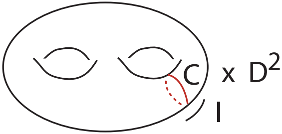

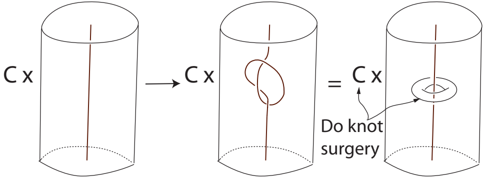

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(Can't get enough of that) Rim surgery

Theorem (F - Stern). Let $g(\Sigma) > 0$. If $\pi_1(X) = 0 = \pi_1(X \setminus \Sigma)$ then there is a self-homeo of X throwing Σ_K on Σ. If $\Sigma^2 > 0$, then the relative SW-invariant of (X, Σ_K) is the relative SW-invariant of (X, Σ) times the Alexander polynomial of K.

Get smoothly inequivalent embeddings if original SW inv't is $\neq 0$. (E.g. symplectic submanifold.)
Relative SW-invariant lives in monopole Floer homology group.

Want to take cyclic branched covers — need $\pi_1(X \setminus \Sigma) = \mathbb{Z}_d$.
Problem: Rim surgery will not preserve this condition.

Solution (Kim - Ruberman) k-Twist-spun rim surgery does preserve $\pi_1 = \mathbb{Z}_d$ as long as k is prime to d.
In fact, they show that the new surface obtained is topologically equivalent to the old one in this case.
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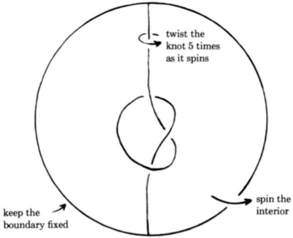
Twist-spinning a knot

K: knot in S^3. Twist-spinning operation due to Zeeman.
Get knotted S^2 in S^4 and circle action.



Twist-spun rim surgery, $\Sigma_{K,k}$

Twist-rim $C \times S^1 \times D^2$ with S^4(twist-spun knot $\cup$ twin)
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Annulus on surface replaced by twist-spun knot minus polar caps.

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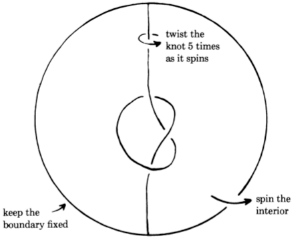

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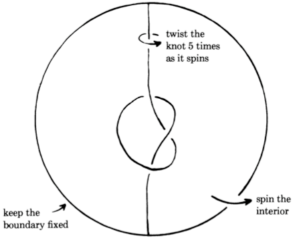

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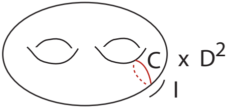

Circle actions on S^4 and Twist-spinning

Determined up to equivariant diffeomorphism by orbit data.
Orbit space: B^3 or S^3
Fixed point set = S^0 or S^2. Exceptional orbit image $0, 1$ or 2 arcs.

Twist-spinning a knot

K: knot in S^3. S^1-action on S^4 with orbit space S^3, $p : S^4 \to S^3$ where the isotropy type corresponding to the arc A is trivial.

k-twist spin of K = $p^{-1}(\bar{A}) \subset S^4$.

Twist-spun rim surgery, $\Sigma_{K,k}$

gets replaced with $S^4 \setminus \mathrm{Nbd}(p^{-1}(E_k))$ where E_k = closed arc labeled '$\mathbb{Z}_k$'.

Circle actions on S^4 and Twist-spinning

Determined up to equivariant diffeomorphism by orbit data.
Orbit space: B^3 or S^3
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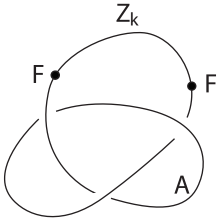

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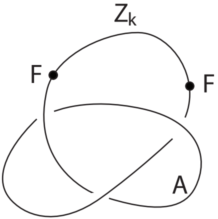

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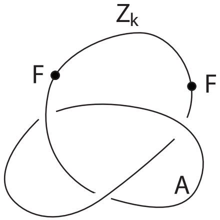

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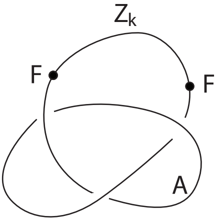

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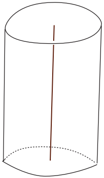

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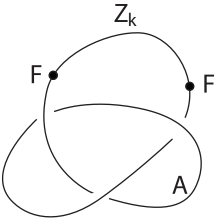

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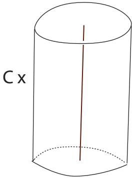

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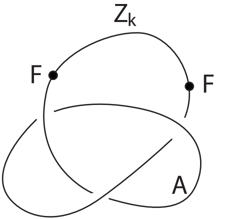

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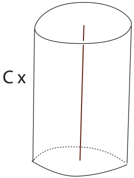

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Relative Seiberg-Witten invariants

By blowing up, assume $\Sigma \cdot \Sigma = 0$.

Seiberg-Witten invariant of $Y \smallsetminus N(\Sigma)$ obtained from spin^c-structures $\mathfrak{s}$ on Y satisfying $\langle c_1(\mathfrak{s}), \Sigma \rangle = 2g - 2$.

$SW_{(Y|\Sigma)} : H_2(Y \smallsetminus N(\Sigma), \Sigma \times S^1; \mathbb{R}) \to \mathbb{R}$ (Kronheimer/ Mrowka)

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Y: simply connected smooth 4-manifold.
Σ genus ≥ 1 surface embedded in Y such that $\pi_1(Y \setminus \Sigma) = \mathbb{Z}_d$.
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X = d-fold branched cyclic cover.

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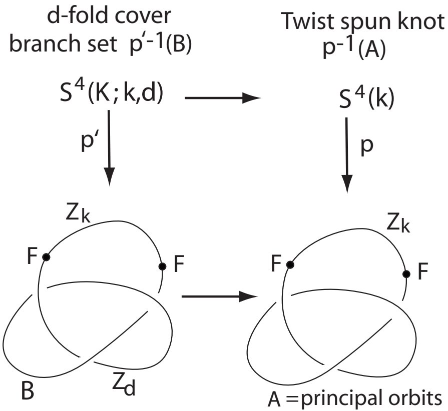
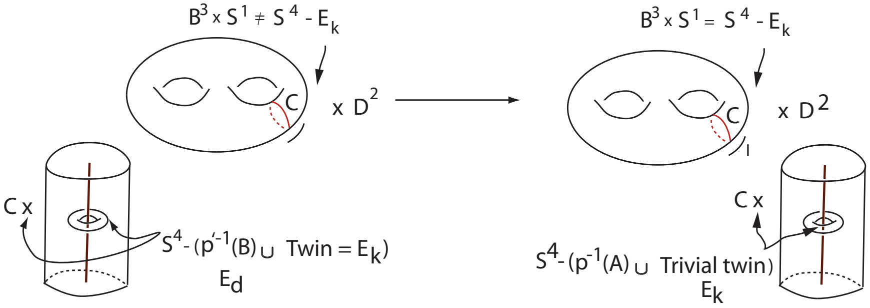
Branched covers of twist-spun knots



Covering spaces



In cover, replacing $C \times I \times D^2$ with $S^4 \setminus E_k \neq S^1 \times B^3$

C bounds disk, $C \times I \times D^2 \cup \text{Nbd(disk)} = B^4$ in X

After knot surgery in Y, B^4 in cover becomes $S^4(K; k, d) \setminus B^4$.
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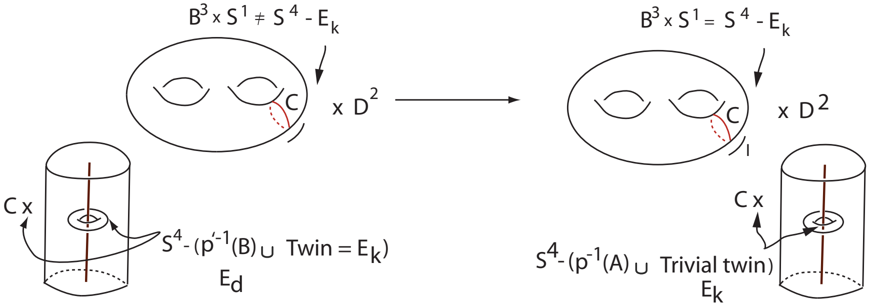

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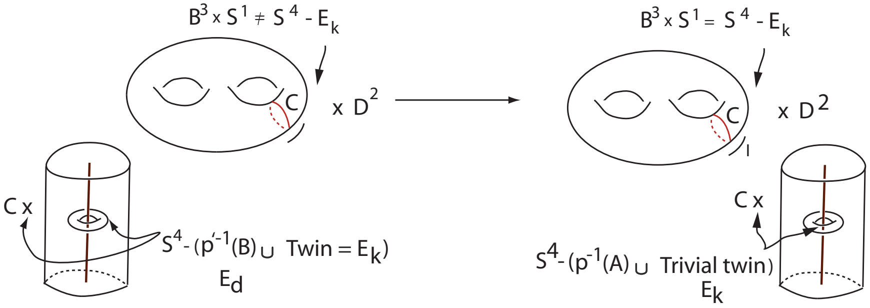

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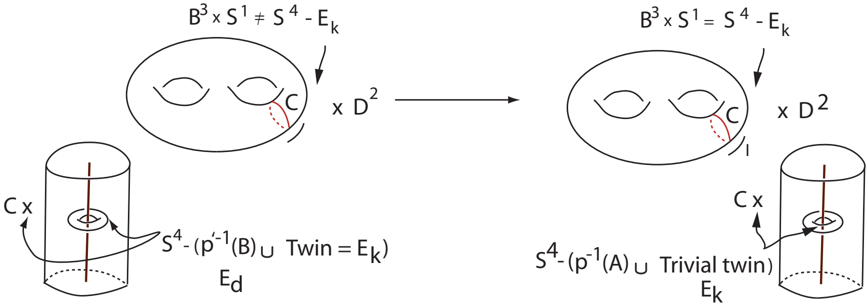

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