

# Cheat Sheet 3D Topology

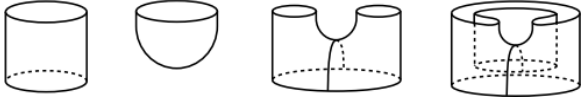
Follows Hatcher's notes [Ha] and Hempel's book [He].

http://drorbn.net/AcademicPensieve/2013-11/  
initiated 31/8/13; continues 2013-10; continued Projects/Agenda; modified 27/11/13

**Definition.**  $M$  prime:  $M = P\#Q \Rightarrow (P = S^3) \vee (Q = S^3)$ .  
 $M$  Irreducible: an embedded 2-sphere in  $M$  bounds a 3-ball.  
(Irreducible  $\Rightarrow$  Prime).

**Theorem** (Alexander, 1920s).  $S^3$  is irreducible.

**Proof.** Study the change to the "canonical closure" of a cropped embedded  $S^2$  under the following cases:



**Theorem.** Orientable, prime, not irreducible  $\Rightarrow S^2 \times S^1$ .  
Nonorientable? Also  $S^2 \tilde{\times} S^1$  (Klein 3D).

**Theorem.** Compact connected orientable 3-manifolds have unique decomposition into primes.

**Proof.** • Given a system of splitting spheres (sss) and a  $\theta$ -partition of one member, at least one part will make an sss.

• An sss can be simplified relative to a fixed triangulation  $\tau$ : only disk intersections with simplices; circle and single-edge-arc intersections with faces of  $\tau$  can be eliminated. • The size of an sss is bounded by  $4|\tau| + \text{rank } H_1(M; \mathbb{Z}/2)$  and

hence prime-decompositions exist. • Uniqueness.  $\square$

Nonorientable  $M$ ? Same but  $M\#(S^2 \times S^1) = M\#(S^2 \tilde{\times} S^1)$ .

**Theorem.** If a covering is irreducible, so is the base. ([Ha] proof is fishy).

**Examples.** Lens spaces, surface bundles  $F \rightarrow M \rightarrow S^1$  with  $F \neq S^2, \mathbb{RP}^2$ . Yet  $S^1 \times S^2/(x, y) \sim (\bar{x}, -y) = \mathbb{RP}^3 \# \mathbb{RP}^3$ , a prime covers a sum.

**Definition.**  $S \subset M^3$  a 2-sided surface,  $S \neq S^2, S \neq D^2$ .  
Compressing disk for  $S$  is a disk  $D \subset M$  with  $D \cap S = \partial D$ .  
If for every compressing  $D$  there's a disk  $D' \subset S$  with  $\partial D' = \partial D$ ,  $S$  is *incompressible*.

**Claims.** •  $\pi_1(S) \hookrightarrow \pi_1(M) \Rightarrow S$  incompressible. • No incompressibles in  $\mathbb{R}^3/S^3$ . • In irreducible  $M^3$ ,  $T^2$  is 2-sided incompressible iff  $T$  bounds a  $D^2 \times S^1$  or  $T$  is contained in a  $B^3$ . • A  $T^2$  in  $S^3$  bounds a  $D^2 \times S^1$  on at least one side. •  $S \subset M$  incompressible  $\Rightarrow (M$  irreducible iff  $M|S$  irreducible). •  $S$  a collection of disjoint incompressibles or disks or spheres in  $M$ ,  $T \subset M|S$ . Then  $T$  is incompressible in  $M$  iff in  $M|S$ .

**Dehn's Lemma** (Dehn 1910 (wrong), Papakyriakopoulos 1950s).  $M$  a 3-manifold,  $f: B^2 \rightarrow M$  s.t. for some neighborhood  $A$  of  $\partial B^2$  in  $B^2$  the restriction  $F|_A$  is an embedding and  $f^{-1}(f(A)) = A$ . Then  $f|_{\partial B^2}$  extends to an embedding  $g: B^2 \rightarrow M$ .

**The Loop Theorem** (Stallings 1960, implies Dehn's

lemma).  $M$  a 3-manifold,  $F$  a connected 2-manifold in  $\partial M$ ,  $\ker(\pi_1(F) \rightarrow \pi_1(M)) \not\subset N \triangleleft \pi_1(F)$ . Then there is a proper embedding  $g: (B^2, \partial B^2) \rightarrow (M, F)$  s.t.  $[g|_{\partial B^2}] \notin N$ .

**The Sphere Theorem.**  $M$  orientable 3-manifold,  $N$  a  $\pi_1(M)$ -invariant proper subgroup of  $\pi_2(M)$ . Then there is an embedding  $g: S^2 \rightarrow M$  s.t.  $[g] \notin N$ .