ON THE STRUCTURE OF TAKAHASHI MANIFOLDS

By

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Abstract. We study the topological structure of the closed orientable 3-manifolds obtained by Dehn surgeries along certain links, first considered by Takahashi in [23]. The interest about such manifolds arises from the fact that they include well-known families of 3-manifolds, previously studied by several authors, as the Fibonacci manifolds [7], [10], [11], the Fractional Fibonacci manifolds [14], and the Sieradski manifolds [5], [6], respectively. Our main result states that the Takahashi manifolds are 2-fold coverings of the 3-sphere branched along the closures of specified 3-string braids. We also describe many of the above-mentioned manifolds as n-fold cyclic branched coverings of the 3-sphere.

1. Introduction and main results

The goal of the paper is to study the topological structure of the closed connected orientable 3-manifolds obtained by Dehn surgeries along certain chains of unknotted oriented circles in the oriented 3-sphere. Our results complete in a sense the ones of a previous paper of Takahashi [23]. It turns out that the above manifolds contemporarily include well-known families of manifolds, treated in the literature (see references), as the (Fractional) Fibonacci manifolds and the Sieradski manifolds. So we can re-obtain several results of the quoted papers as simple corollaries of our main theorem. To state it we first consider the link L_{2n} resp. L'_n with 2n resp. n components, $n \ge 2$, each of which is unknotted oriented and linked with exactly two adjacent components as shown in Figure 1a resp. 1b.

Revised May 7, 1998

¹⁹⁹¹ Mathematics Subject Classification. 57N10, 57R65, 57M12, 20F36.

Key words and phrases. 3-Manifolds, Dehn surgery, Group presentations, Branched coverings, Braids, Orbifolds, RR-systems.

Work performed under the auspices of the G.N.S.A.G.A. of the C.N.R. (National Research Council) of Italy and partially supported by the Ministero per la Ricerca Scientifica e Tecnologica of Italy within the project "Classificazione e Proprietà geometriche delle Varietà Reali e Complesse". Received September 22, 1997

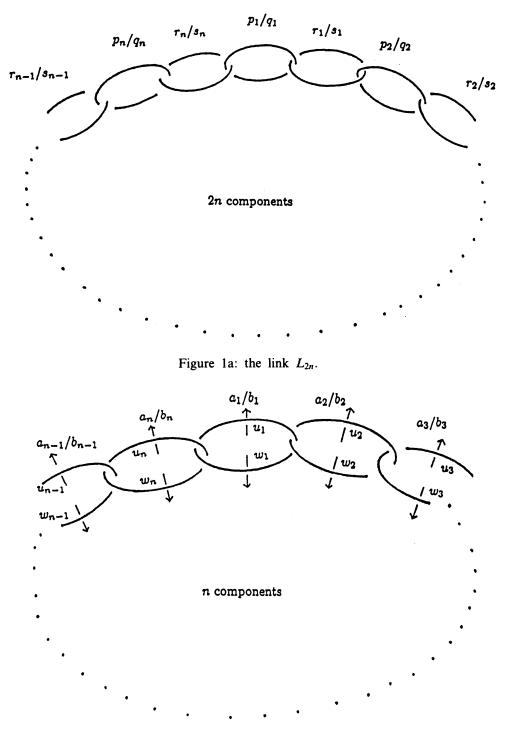


Figure 1b: the link L'_n .

Let us denote by $M(p_1/q_1, \ldots, p_n/q_n; r_1/s_1, \ldots, r_n/s_n)$ resp. $M'(a_1/b_1, \ldots, a_n/b_n)$ the closed connected orientable 3-manifold obtained by Dehn surgery along L_{2n} resp. L'_n with surgery coefficients p_i/q_i and r_i/s_i resp. a_i/b_i , $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$, according to Figure 1. In [23] Takahashi gave finite presentations of the fundamental group of the manifolds $M(p_i/q_i; r_i/s_i)$, so for convenience we refer to such manifolds as the Takahashi manifolds.

These presentations actually coincide with the standard ones of the Fibonacci groups

$$F(2,2n) = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{2n} : x_i x_{i+1} = x_{i+2} \text{ (indices mod } 2n) \rangle$$

resp. the Fractional Fibonacci groups

$$F^{k/l}(2,2n) = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{2n} : x_i^l x_{i+1}^k = x_{i+2}^l \text{ (indices mod } 2n) \rangle$$

when $p_i/q_i = 1$ and $r_i/s_i = -1$ resp. $p_i/q_i = k/l$ and $r_i/s_i = -k/l$ for every i = 1, 2, ..., n. It is well-known that the above presentations correspond to spines of closed orientable 3-manifolds, called the Fibonacci manifolds and the Fractional Fibonacci manifolds, respectively. It was also proved that the Fibonacci manifolds resp. the Fractional Fibonacci manifolds are two-fold cyclic coverings of the 3-sphere branched over the Turk's head links Th_n resp. the links $Th_n^{k/l}$, that are the closures of the 3-string braids $(\sigma_1 \sigma_2^{-1})^n$ resp. $(\sigma_1^{k/l} \sigma_2^{-k/l})^n$ (see [7], [10], [11] and [14]). Our main theorem extends these results to the case of Takahashi manifolds.

THEOREM 1. For any coprime integers p_i and q_i resp. r_i and s_i , i = 1, 2, ..., n, and for any integer $n \ge 2$, the Takahashi manifold $M(p_1/q_1, ..., p_n/q_n;$ $r_1/s_1, ..., r_n/s_n)$ is the two-fold cyclic covering of the 3-sphere branched along the closure of the rational 3-string braid

$$\sigma_1^{p_1/q_1}\sigma_2^{r_1/s_1}\cdots\sigma_1^{p_n/q_n}\sigma_2^{r_n/s_n}$$

We also obtain finite presentations of the fundamental group of the manifolds $M'(a_1/b_1, \ldots, a_n/b_n)$, and further prove that these manifolds are still examples of Takahashi manifolds. Our presentations coincide with the standard ones of the Sieradski groups

$$S(n) = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n : x_i x_{i+2} = x_{i+1} \text{ (indices mod } n) \rangle$$

when $a_i/b_i = -1$, for every i = 1, 2, ..., n. It was proved that S(n) corresponds to a spine of the *n*-fold cyclic covering of the 3-sphere branched over the trefoil knot (see [5], also for other types of generalizations).

The following extends this result to the case of manifolds $M'(a_i/b_i)$.

THEOREM 2. For any coprime integers a_i and b_i , i = 1, 2, ..., n, and for any integer $n \ge 2$, the manifold $M'(a_1/b_1, ..., a_n/b_n)$ is homeomorphic to the Takahashi manifold $M(p_1/q_1, ..., p_n/q_n; r_1/s_1, ..., r_n/s_n)$, where $r_i/s_i = 1$ and $p_i/q_i = a_i/b_i + 2$, and so it is the two-fold cyclic covering of the 3-sphere branched along the closure of the rational 3-string braid

$$\sigma_1^{a_1/b_1+2}\sigma_2\cdots\sigma_1^{a_n/b_n+2}\sigma_2$$

Finally we remark that the link L_{2n} is hyperbolic (see [1], p. 222) so according to the Thurston-Jorgensen theory of hyperbolic surgery (see [24]) we get the following result:

THEOREM 3. For any integer $n \ge 2$, and for all but a finite number of pairs (p_i, q_i) and (r_i, s_i) , the Takahashi manifolds $M(p_1/q_1, \ldots, p_n/q_n; r_1/s_1, \ldots, r_n/s_n)$ are hyperbolic.

2. The Takahashi manifolds

The following was proved by Takahashi in [23].

THEOREM 4. The fundamental group of the 3-manifold $M(p_i/q_i; r_i/s_i)$ obtained by Dehn surgery along the oriented link L_{2n} with surgery coefficients p_i/q_i and r_i/s_i , i = 1, 2, ..., n, admits the finite presentation

$$\Pi_1(M(p_i/q_i;r_i/s_i)) = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{2n} : x_{2i}^{s_i} x_{2i+1}^{p_{i+1}} = x_{2(i+1)}^{s_{i+1}}, x_{2i-1}^{q_i} x_{2i}^{-r_i} = x_{2i+1}^{q_{i+1}}$$

(indices mod n)>.

Generalizing an example given in [23] (case n = 3) yields the following

THEOREM 5. The fundamental group of the 3-manifold $M'(a_1/b_1, \ldots, a_n/b_n)$ obtained by Dehn surgery along the oriented link L'_n with surgery coefficients a_i/b_i , $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$, admits the finite presentation

$$\Pi_1(M'(a_1/b_1,\ldots,a_n/b_n)) = \langle x_1, x_2,\ldots,x_n : x_i^{a_i+b_i} x_{i+1}^{b_{i+1}} x_i^{-b_i} x_{i-1}^{b_{i-1}} = 1$$
(indices mod n)>.

PROOF. Let

$$\Pi_1(\mathbf{S}^3 \setminus L'_n) = \langle u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n : w_i u_{i-1} = u_{i-1} u_i \ (R_i)$$
$$u_i w_{i+1} = w_{i+1} w_i \ (Q_i)$$
(indices mod n)

be the Wirtinger presentation of the link group of L'_n where the generators u_i , w_i are taken as shown in Figure 1b. If m_i and l_i denote the meridian and the longitude, respectively, of the *i*-th component of L'_n , then we have

$$m_i = u_i, \quad l_i = w_{i+1}u_{i-1}, \quad [m_i, l_i] = 1.$$

The presentation of $\Pi_1(M'(a_1/b_1, \ldots, a_n/b_n))$ comes from the one of $\Pi_1(S^3 \setminus L'_n)$ by adding the relations $m_i^{a_i} l_i^{b_i} = 1$, for any $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$.

Since a_i and b_i are coprime integers, there exist two integers c_i and d_i such that

$$b_i c_i - a_i d_i = 1$$

for every $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$. Setting

 $x_i = m_i^{c_i} l_i^{d_i},$

it follows that

$$m_i = x_i^{b_i}$$
$$l_i = x_i^{-a_i}$$
$$u_i = x_i^{b_i},$$

and hence

$$w_i = l_{i-1}u_{i-2}^{-1} = x_{i-1}^{-a_{i-1}}x_{i-2}^{-b_{i-2}}$$
 (S_i).

Now relations R_i and S_i directly imply

$$x_i^{a_i+b_i}x_{i+1}^{b_{i+1}}x_i^{-b_i}x_{i-1}^{b_{i-1}} = 1,$$

where the indices are taken mod n as usual. Finally, using these relations and S_i , one can verify that relations Q_i become identities for every i = 1, 2, ..., n. Thus the proof is completed.

Now we are going to prove that the finite group presentations of Theorems 4 and 5 correspond to spines of the represented manifolds. For that, we first recall

some definitions about RR-systems (see [20]). Let D be a regular hexagon in the plane E^2 . For each pair of opposite faces construct a finite set (possibly empty), station say, of parallel line segments, called tracks, through D with endpoints on these opposite faces. Let $\{D_i : i = 1, 2, ..., s\}$ be a set of disjoint regular hexagons in E^2 . A route is an arc whose interior lies in $E^2 \setminus U_{i=1}^s D_i$ connecting endpoints of tracks. A RR-system is the union in E^2 of a finite set of hexagons with stations and a finite set of disjoint routes in $S^2 \setminus U_{i=1}^s D_i$ such that each endpoint of every track intersects exactly one route in one of its endpoints. A RR-system gives rise to a family of group presentations whose generators x_i (i = 1, 2, ..., s) are in oneto-one correspondence with the hexagons D_i . In each hexagon we start from some vertex of the boundary and proceed clockwise (according to an orientation of S^2) along an edge which corresponds to a station m_i of D_i . Orient the tracks of this station so that the positive direction is toward this edge. Label the stations corresponding to the second and third edges encountered by $m_i + n_i$ and n_i respectively, and orient the tracks of these stations toward the respective edges. By walking along each closed arc (made by tracks and routes) we write a word on generators x_i (i = 1, 2, ..., s) in the following way: as we enter in each hexagon D_i we give the name of the station as exponent of x_i with sign +1 resp. -1 if our direction of travel concords resp. opposes the orientation of the tracks (see [20] for more details). Osborne and Stevens proved in [20] that a finite group presentation with the same number of generators and relations corresponds to a spine of a closed connected orientable 3-manifold if and only if it arises from an RR-system. Since the group presentation of Theorem 4 resp. 5 is induced by the RR-system depicted in Figure 2 (as communicated us by Hog-Angeloni [12]) resp. 3, we get the following

THEOREM 6. The finite group presentation

$$\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{2n} : x_{2i}^{s_i} x_{2i+1}^{p_{i+1}} = x_{2(i+1)}^{s_{i+1}}, x_{2i-1}^{q_i} x_{2i}^{-r_i} = x_{2i+1}^{q_{i+1}} \rangle$$

resp.

$$\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n : x_i^{a_i+b_i} x_{i+1}^{b_{i+1}} x_i^{-b_i} x_{i-1}^{b_{i-1}} = 1 \rangle$$

corresponds to a spine of the 3-manifold $M(p_1/q_1, \ldots, p_n/q_n; r_1/s_1, \ldots, r_n/s_n)$ resp. $M'(a_1/b_1, \ldots, a_n/b_n)$.

We observe that if $p_i = q_i = s_i = 1$ and $r_i = -1$, for any i = 1, 2, ..., n, then $\Pi_1(M(1, ..., 1; -1, ..., -1)) = \langle x_1, x_2, ..., x_{2n} : x_i x_{i+1} = x_{i+2} \pmod{2n}$ is the Fibonacci group F(2, 2n), first introduced by Conway in [8].

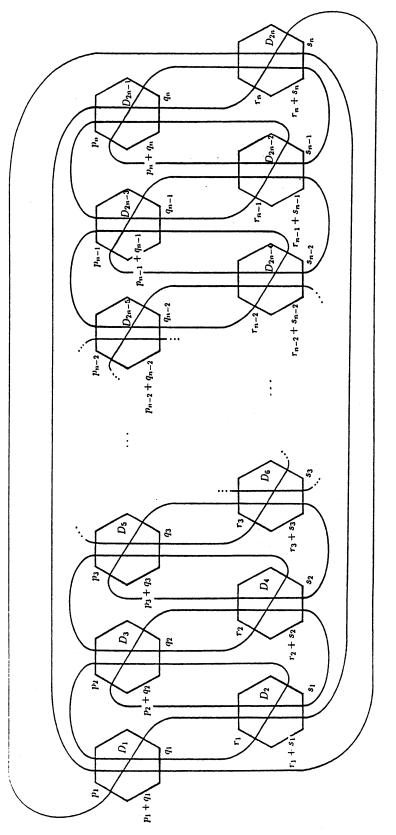
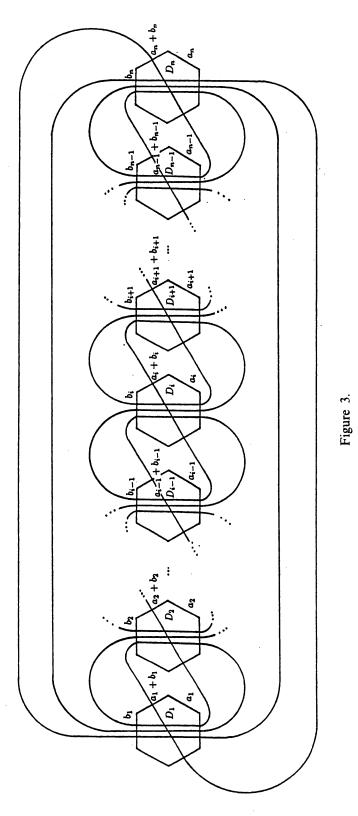


Figure 2.



If
$$p_i = k$$
, $r_i = -k$ and $q_i = s_i = l$, for any $i = 1, 2, ..., n$, then

$$\Pi_1(M(k/l, ..., k/l; -k/l, ..., -k/l)) = \langle x_1, x_2, ..., x_{2n} : x_i^l x_{i+1}^k = x_{i+2}^l$$
(indices mod $2n \rangle$)

is the Fractional Fibonacci group $F^{k/l}(2, 2n)$, studied by Kim and Vesnin in [14]. If $a_i = -1$ and $b_i = 1$, for any i = 1, 2, ..., n, then

 $\Pi_1(M'(-1,\ldots,-1)) = \langle x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n : x_i x_{i+2} = x_{i+1} \text{ (indices mod } n) \rangle$

is the Sieradski group (see [22] and [5]).

Now we apply the Kirby-Rolfsen calculus on links with coefficients (see [15], [16] and [21]) to prove the following result.

THEOREM 7. The manifold $M'(a_1/b_1, \ldots, a_n/b_n)$ is homeomorphic to the Takahashi manifold $M(p_1/q_1, \ldots, p_n/q_n; r_1/s_1, \ldots, r_n/s_n)$ if $r_i/s_i = 1$ and $p_i/q_i = a_i/b_i + 2$ for any $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$.

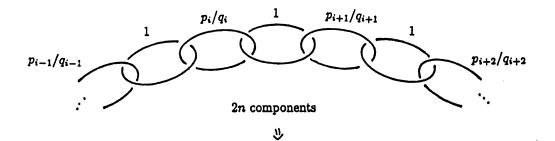
PROOF. Let us consider the link L_{2n} of Figure 1a with surgery coefficients $r_i/s_i = 1$, for any i = 1, 2, ..., n and twist about each component of L_{2n} with coefficient $r_i/s_i = 1$ in the left-hand sense $(\tau = -1)$. We obtain the link L'_n with n components of Figure 1b and surgery coefficients $a_i/b_i = p_i/q_i - 2$, for any i = 1, 2, ..., n. The sequence of surgery moves is illustrated in Figure 4.

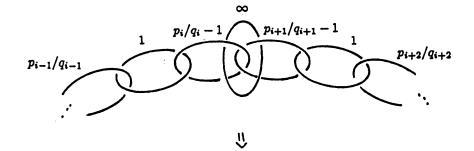
3. Branched coverings

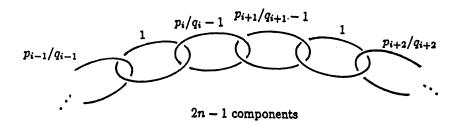
In this section we are going to prove Theorem 1. For this we use a wellknown result of Montesinos (Theorem 1 of [19]) which states that a closed orientable 3-manifold, obtained by Dehn surgery along a strongly-invertible link L of n components, is a 2-fold cyclic covering of S^3 branched over a link of at most n+1 components. Following [4] and [9], let $\sigma_i^{t/h}$ denote the rational t/htangle, whose incoming arcs are *i*-th and (i+1)-th strings (Here t and h are coprime integers). If t/h is written as a continued fraction

$$t/h = \frac{1}{c_1 + \frac{1}{\ddots + \frac{1}{c_z}}}$$

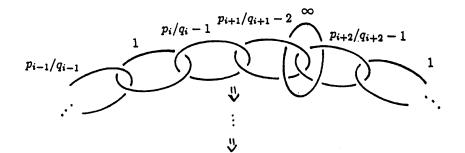
and t, h, c_1, \ldots, c_z are positive integers with $c_z \ge 2$, then the rational t/h-tangle is defined as in Figure 5.

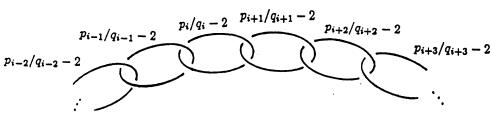






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n components



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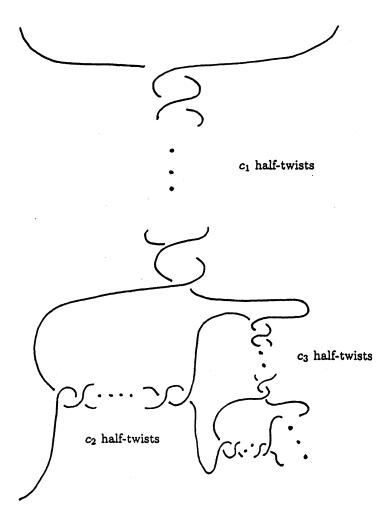


Figure 5: the rational t/h-tangle with t, h > 0.

PROOF OF THEOREM 1. The link L_{2n} is strongly-invertible. In fact there exists an involution $p: S^3 \to S^3$ whose axis r intersects each component of the link L_{2n} in two points (see Figure 6a).

The Montesinos theorem assures that $M(p_1/q_1, \ldots, p_n/q_n; r_1/s_1, \ldots, r_n/s_n)$ is a two-fold covering of the 3-sphere branched along the link constructed as follows.

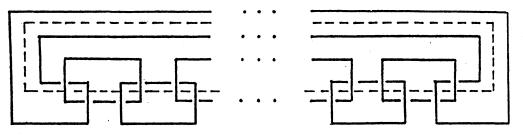


Figure 6a: the strongly-invertible link L_{2n} .

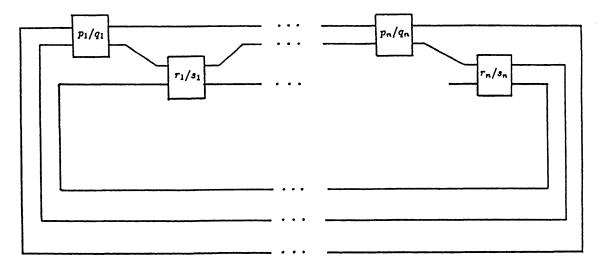


Figure 6b: the closure of the 3-string braid $\sigma_1^{p_1/q_1}\sigma_2^{r_1/s_1}\cdots\sigma_1^{p_n/q_n}\sigma_2^{r_n/s_n}$.

Let N_i be a tubular neighbourhood of the *i*-th component of the link L_{2n} , for each i = 1, 2, ..., 2n. If $\pi : S^3 \to S^3/p$ is the canonical projection, then $\pi(N_i)$ is the trivial tangle which consists of a 3-ball B_i where $\pi(r \cap N_i)$ are two arcs. Let us denote by B'_{2j-1} resp. B'_{2j} the (p_j/q_j) -tangle resp. (r_j/s_j) -tangle for j = 1, 2, ..., nwith the underlying 3-ball B_i . The manifold $M(p_1/q_1, ..., p_n/q_n; r_1/s_1, ..., r_n/s_n)$ is the 2-fold branched covering of

$$\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{2n} B_i'\right) \cup_{\pi} \left(S^3 \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^{2n} N_i\right)$$

where the branch set is a link formed by arcs of tangles B'_i and $\pi(r \cap (S^3 \setminus U_{i=1}^{2n} N_i))$. Using Reidemeister moves, one can easily see that the branch set is

$$\sigma_1^{p_1/q_1}\sigma_2^{r_1/s_1}\cdots\sigma_1^{p_n/q_n}\sigma_2^{r_n/s_n}$$

as shown in Figure 6b.

COROLLARY 8. If $p_i/q_i = p/q$ and $r_i/s_i = r/s$, for every i = 1, 2, ..., n, then the Takahashi manifold M(p/q, r/s) = M(p/q, ..., p/q; r/s, ..., r/s) is the twofold covering of the 3-sphere branched over the link $(\sigma_1^{p/q}\sigma_2^{r/s})^n$, and then n-fold cyclic covering of the 3-sphere branched over the link $(\sigma_1^{p/q}\sigma_2^{r/s})^2$.

In particular we obtain as corollaries some results proved in [14], [11], [10], and [7].

COROLLARY 9. If $p_i/q_i = k/l$ and $r_i/s_i = -k/l$, for every i = 1, 2, ..., n, then the Takahashi manifold M(k/l, -k/l) = M(k/l, ..., k/l; -k/l, ..., -k/l) is the Fractional Fibonacci manifold defined in [14], and so it is the two-fold covering of the 3-sphere branched over the link $(\sigma_1^{k/l}\sigma_2^{-k/l})^n$ and the n-fold cyclic covering of the 3-sphere S^3 branched over the link $(\sigma_1^{k/l}\sigma_2^{-k/l})^2$.

Some particular case of Corollary 9 was also treated in [17] and [18].

COROLLARY 10. If $p_i/q_i = 1$ and $r_i/s_i = -1$, for every i = 1, 2, ..., n, then the Takahashi manifold M(1, -1) = M(1, ..., 1; -1, ..., -1) is the Fibonacci manifold considered in [10], [7], [11], and so it is the two-fold covering of the 3-sphere branched over the link $(\sigma_1 \sigma_2^{-1})^n$ and the n-fold cyclic covering of the 3-sphere branched over the figure-eight knot $(\sigma_1 \sigma_2^{-1})^2$.

Now Theorems 1 and 7 directly imply Theorem 2, and the following corollaries (compare also with [5]).

COROLLARY 11. If $a_i/b_i = k/l$, for any i = 1, 2, ..., n, then the Takahashi manifold M'(k/l, ..., k/l) is the 2-fold covering of S^3 branched over the closed 3-string braid $(\sigma_1^{k/l+2}\sigma_2)^n$, and the n-fold cyclic covering of S^3 branched over the link $(\sigma_1^{k/l+2}\sigma_2)^2$.

COROLLARY 12. If $a_i/b_i = -1$, for any i = 1, 2, ..., n, then we have the Sieradski manifold M'(-1, ..., -1) which is the 2-fold covering of S^3 branched over the torus link $(\sigma_1 \sigma_2)^n = K(n, 3)$ and the n-fold cyclic covering of S^3 branched over the trefoil knot $(\sigma_1 \sigma_2)^2$.

We note that the 3-string braid $\sigma_1^{p_1}\sigma_2^{r_1}\cdots\sigma_1^{p_n}\sigma_2^{r_n}$ is a 6-plat (see [2]) so it may be represented as a 3-bridge link. By Theorem 5 of [3] we obtain the following

COROLLARY 13. The manifold $M(p_1, \ldots, p_n; r_1, \ldots, r_n)$ has Heegaard genus ≤ 2 . In particular, the Fibonacci manifolds and the Sieradski manifolds have Heegaard genus ≤ 2 .

4. Orbifolds

Let L(1/q, 1/s, n)(2) resp. L(1/q, 1/s, 2)(n) be the orbifold whose underlying space is S^3 and whose singular set is the link $L(1/q, 1/s, n) := \sigma_1^{1/q} \sigma_2^{1/s} \cdots \sigma_1^{1/q} \sigma_2^{1/s}$

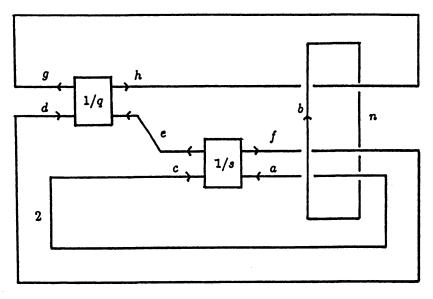


Figure 7a: the link $\mathscr{L}(1/q, 1/s)$.

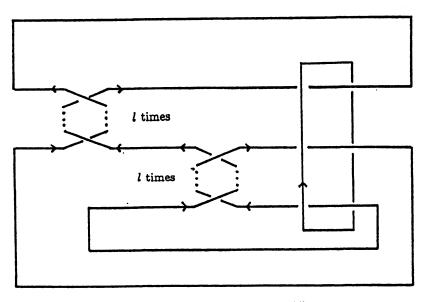


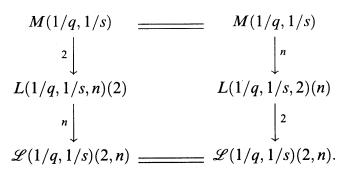
Figure 7b: $\mathscr{L}(1/l, -1/l) = \mathscr{L}^{1/l}$.

(*n* times) resp. $L(1/q, 1/s, 2) := \sigma_1^{1/q} \sigma_2^{1/s} \sigma_1^{1/q} \sigma_2^{1/s}$ with branch index 2 resp. n. Let $\mathscr{L}(1/q, 1/s)(2, n)$ be the orbifold whose underlying space is the 3-sphere and whose singular set is the two-component link $\mathscr{L}(1/q, 1/s)$ shown in Figure 7a, with branch indices 2 and *n* on its components (which are equivalent).

The following extends Theorem 3.2 of [14].

THEOREM 14. The following diagram of cyclic branched coverings holds:

On the structure of Takahashi



PROOF. The statement follows from the following easily verifiable facts: 1) The manifold M(1/q, 1/s) admits a $(\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_n)$ -action which is induced by the natural $(\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_n)$ -symmetry of the link L_{2n} ;

2) The quotient orbifolds $M(1/q, 1/s)/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_n)$, $M(1/q, 1/s)/\mathbb{Z}_2$, and $M(1/q, 1/s)/\mathbb{Z}_n$ are equivalent to $\mathcal{L}(1/q, 1/s)(2, n)$, L(1/q, 1/s, n)(2) and L(1/q, 1/s, 2)(n), respectively.

Hence we have the following sequences of maps

$$M(1/q, 1/s) \xrightarrow{2} L(1/q, 1/s, n)(2) \xrightarrow{n} \mathscr{L}(1/q, 1/s)(2, n)$$

and

$$M(1/q, 1/s) \xrightarrow{n} L(1/q, 1/s, 2)(n) \xrightarrow{2} \mathscr{L}(1/q, 1/s)(2, n)$$

which induce the subgroup embeddings

$$\Pi_1(M(1/q,1/s)) \lhd \Pi_1(L(1/q,1/s,n)(2)) \lhd \Pi_1(\mathscr{L}(1/q,1/s)(2,n))$$

and

$$\Pi_1(M(1/q,1/s)) \lhd \Pi_1(L(1/q,1/s,2)(n)) \lhd \Pi_1(\mathscr{L}(1/q,1/s)(2,n)),$$

where

$$[\Pi_1(\mathscr{L}(1/q, 1/s)(2, n)) : \Pi_1(L(1/q, 1/s, n)(2))]$$

=
$$[\Pi_1(L(1/q, 1/s, 2)(n)) : \Pi_1(M(1/q, 1/s))] = n$$

and

$$[\Pi_1(L(1/q, 1/s, n)(2)) : \Pi_1(M(1/q, 1/s))]$$

=
$$[\Pi_1(\mathcal{L}(1/q, 1/s)(2, n)) : \Pi_1(L(1/q, 1/s, 2)(n))] = 2$$

This completes the proof.

For q = l and s = -l we re-obtain Theorem 3.2 of [14] since $\mathcal{L}(1/l, -1/l)$ coincides with the link $\mathcal{L}^{1/l}$ defined in [14], and shown in Figure 7b for convenience.

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