

## CUT-AND-PASTES OF INCOMPRESSIBLE SURFACES IN 3-MANIFOLDS

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### 1. Introduction

Let  $M$  be a compact orientable 3-manifold and  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  properly embedded surfaces in  $M$ . If  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  intersect transversely, then by cutting  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  along the intersection and regluing them in a different way, we obtain another embedded surface in  $M$ .

DEFINITION. Let  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  be orientable surfaces properly embedded in  $M$  intersecting transversely. A *cut-and-paste (CP) operation* on a component  $C$  of  $F_1 \cap F_2$  is the following operation in a regular neighborhood of  $C$ ,  $N(C)$ : Cut  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  on  $C$  and reglue them in a different way. See Figure 1.1.

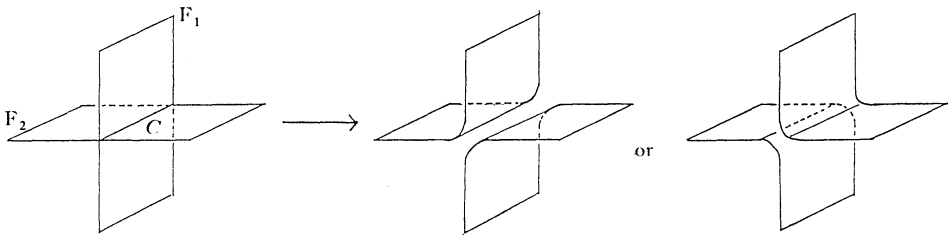


Fig 1.1.

Note that there are two choices in regluing. When we apply a CP operation on each component of  $F_1 \cap F_2$ , we obtain an embedded surface  $F$  in  $M$ . We say that  $F$  is obtained from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  by a (way of) CP operation.

Suppose that both  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are incompressible. In general, a surface which is obtained from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  by a CP operation is possibly compressible. But we can prove that in certain cases there is a CP operation which yields an

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incompressible surfaces.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  be incompressible surfaces of genus greater than zero properly embedded in  $M$  which intersect transversely. If  $F_1$  or  $F_2$  is a torus, then we can obtain an incompressible surface  $F$  from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  by a CP operation.*

Then we show that the assumption of Theorem 1 cannot be omitted in general. In fact, we prove;

**Theorem 2.** *For any integers  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  which are greater than one, there exist a closed orientable 3-manifold  $M$  and connected incompressible surfaces  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  properly embedded in  $M$  such that they intersect transversely,  $g(F_i) = n_i$  ( $g(F)$  is the genus of  $F$ ) and for any surface  $F$  obtained from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  by CP operations, each component of  $F$  bounds a handlebody.*

By applying Theorem 1 a number of times, we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.** *Let  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) be properly embedded incompressible tori in  $M$  such that any two of them intersect transversely. Then there exists an incompressible surface  $F$  such that  $F \subset \cup_{i=1}^n T_i \cup N(\cup_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} T_i \cap T_j)$ .*

Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the set of isotopy classes of orientable, incompressible,  $\partial$ -incompressible surfaces in  $M$ . And let  $\mathcal{S}'$  be the set of isotopy classes of (not necessarily orientable) surfaces  $S$  properly embedded in  $M$  such that each component of the closure of  $\partial N(S) - \partial M$  is incompressible and  $\partial$ -incompressible. We call such a surface injective and  $\partial$ -injective respectively. Then Oertel [5] defined a function  $q: \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \{\text{finite subset of } \mathcal{S}'\}$  as follows: Given a pair of isotopy classes of incompressible surfaces, we choose representatives  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  with suitably simplified intersection. Then  $q([F_1], [F_2])$  is defined to be the set of isotopy classes of injective surfaces obtained from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  by CP operations. Oertel showed that the function  $q$  is well-defined. In general, for a given pair  $[F_1], [F_2]$ ,  $q([F_1], [F_2])$  is possibly an emptyset. But when  $F_1$  or  $F_2$  is a torus, Theorem 1 immediately implies the following:

**Corollary 4.** *Let  $[F_1], [F_2]$  be a pair of isotopy classes of incompressible surfaces in  $M$ . If  $F_1$  or  $F_2$  is a torus, then  $q([F_1], [F_2])$  is not an emptyset.*

REMARK. When  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are oriented surfaces, we often use a cut-and-paste operation such that the way of regluing is compatible with orientations on  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ . We call this operation an *oriented cut-and-paste (OCP) operation*. We can consider the same problem as Theorem 1 for OCP operations. But there is an example such that we cannot obtain incompressible surfaces from incompressible tori by OCP operations. For example, let  $M$  be a Seifert fibered space

over  $S^2$  with four singular fibers. Let  $p$  be a projection of  $M$  to  $S^2$ . We consider two incompressible tori  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  such that  $T_i$  is a union of regular fibers and  $p(T_i)$  ( $i=1, 2$ ) are as indicated in Figure 1.2. Then we can check that for any orientations of  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ , we cannot obtain an incompressible surface from  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  by an OCP operation.

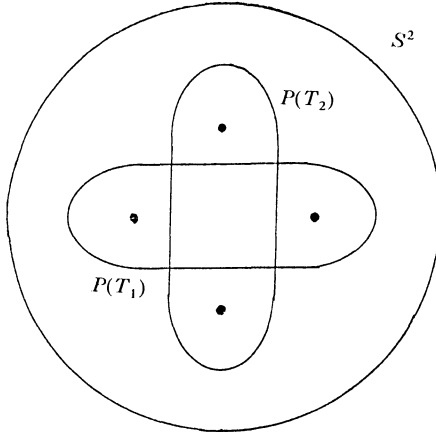


Fig 1.2.

Throughout this paper, we work in the piecewise linear category. For the definition of standard terms of 3-dimensional topology, see [2]. For a subcomplex  $K$  of a given  $H$ ,  $N_H(K)$  denotes a regular neighborhood of  $K$  in  $H$ . When  $H$  is well understood, we often abbreviate  $N_H(K)$  to  $N(K)$ .

**2. Proof of Theorem 1**

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  be incompressible surfaces in a 3-manifold  $M$  with transverse intersection. Then we can obtain incompressible surfaces  $\tilde{F}_1$  and  $\tilde{F}_2$  by some CP operations on closed curves of  $F_1 \cap F_2$  which are inessential on  $F_1$ , such that  $\tilde{F}_i$  is homeomorphic to  $F_i$  ( $i=1, 2$ ) and each component of  $\tilde{F}_1 \cap \tilde{F}_2$  is essential in  $\tilde{F}_1$ .*

Proof. If each component of  $F_1 \cap F_2$  is an essential curve of  $F_1$ , we take  $\tilde{F}_i = F_i$  ( $i=1, 2$ ). In general, we apply an argument of the proof of [2, Lemma 4, 6].

Let  $n$  be the number of components of  $F_1 \cap F_2$  which is inessential on  $F_1$ . Assume  $n \geq 1$ . Let  $S = F'_1 \cup F'_2$  be a 2-component 2-manifold such that  $F'_i \cong F_i$  ( $i=1, 2$ ) and  $f_0: S \rightarrow M$  an immersion such that  $f_0|_{F'_i}: F'_i \rightarrow F_i$  is a homeomorphism. Let  $\Sigma_0 = \{x \in S \mid \exists x' \in S \text{ such that } f_0(x) = f_0(x')\}$ . Then  $f_0(\Sigma_0) = F_1 \cap F_2$  and  $\Sigma_0$  consists of closed curves on  $S$ . Let  $\Sigma'_0$  be a subset of  $\Sigma_0$  which consists of inessential curves on  $S$ . Since  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are incompressible,  $C_1 \subset \Sigma'_0$  if and

only if  $C_2 \subset \Sigma'_0$  for  $C_2 \subset \Sigma_0$  with  $f_0^{-1}(f_0(C_1)) = C_1 \cup C_2$ . Hence  $\Sigma'_0$  consists of  $2n$  closed curves.

We define an immersion  $f_1|S \rightarrow M$  as follows; fix a closed curve  $C_1^1 \subset \Sigma'_0$  and let  $f_0^{-1}(f_0(C_1^1)) = C_1^1 \cup C_2^1$ . Let  $D_i$  be a disk on  $S$  such that  $\partial D_i = C_i^1$  and  $V$  a solid torus which is a regular neighborhood of  $f_0(C_1^1)$ . Then  $f_0^{-1}(V)$  is a union of two disjoint annuli  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  with  $C_i^1 \subset A_i (i=1, 2)$ . Put  $D_i' = D_i - \text{Int } A_i$ ,  $D_i'' = D_i \cup A_i$ . There exists disjoint annuli  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  on  $\partial V$  with  $\partial B_1 = f_0(\partial D_1'' \cup \partial D_2')$  and  $\partial B_2 = f_0(\partial D_2'' \cup \partial D_1')$ . We define  $f_1$  by putting  $f_1|_{S-(D_1'' \cup D_2'')} = f_0|_{S-(D_1'' \cup D_2'')}$ ,  $f_1(A_i) = B_i$ ,  $f_1(D_1') \subset f_0(D_2')$  and  $f_1(D_2') \subset f_0(D_1')$  so that  $\Sigma_1 = \Sigma_0 - \{C_1^1 \cup C_2^1\}$ . Then  $\Sigma'_1$  consists of  $2(n-1)$  closed curves. Note that  $f|_{F_i} (i=1, 2)$  may have self intersections.

For  $2 \leq k \leq n$ , we define an immersion  $f_k: S \rightarrow M$  inductively. Assume  $f_{k-1}$  was defined,  $\Sigma_{k-1} = \{x \in S | \exists x' \in S \text{ such that } f_{k-1}(x) = f_{k-1}(x')\}$  consists of closed curves, and for each component  $C_1 \subset \Sigma_{k-1} = \{C \subset \Sigma_{k-1} | C \text{ is an inessential curve on } S\}$ ,  $f_{k-1}^{-1}(f_{k-1}(C_1)) = C_1 \cup C_2$  and  $C_2 \subset \Sigma'_{k-1}$ . Fix a component  $C_1^k$  of  $\Sigma'_{k-1}$  and let  $f_{k-1}^{-1}(f_{k-1}(C_1^k)) = C_1^k \cup C_2^k$ . For  $i=1, 2$ , let  $D_i$  a disk on  $S$  such that  $\partial D_i = C_i^k$ ,  $V$  a regular neighborhood of  $f_{k-1}(C_1^k)$ ,  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  disjoint annuli of  $f^{-1}(V)$  with  $C_i^k \subset A_i$ ,  $D_i' = D_i - \text{Int } A_i$ ,  $D_i'' = D_i \cup A_i$ ,  $B_1, B_2 \subset \partial V$  annuli with  $\partial B_1 = f_{k-1}(\partial D_1'' \cup \partial D_2')$  and  $\partial B_2 = f_{k-1}(\partial D_2'' \cup \partial D_1')$ .

We divide into two cases a)  $D_1 \cap D_2 = \emptyset$  and b)  $D_2 \subset \text{Int } D_1$ .

In case a), we define  $f_k$  by putting  $f_k|_{S-(D_1'' \cup D_2'')} = f_{k-1}|_{S-(D_1'' \cup D_2'')}$ ,  $f_k(A_i) = B_i$ ,  $f_k(D_1') \subset f_{k-1}(D_2')$  and  $f_k(D_2') \subset f_{k-1}(D_1')$  so that  $\Sigma_k = \Sigma_{k-1} - \{C_1^k \cup C_2^k\}$ . In case b), put  $E = D_1' - \text{Int } D_2''$ . We define  $f_k$  by putting  $f_k|_{S-D_1''} = f_{k-1}|_{S-D_1''}$ ,  $f_k(D_2') \subset f_{k-1}(D_2')$ ,  $f_k(A_i) = B_i$ , and  $f_k(E) \subset f_{k-1}(E)$  so that  $\Sigma_k = \Sigma_{k-1} - \{C_1^k \cup C_2^k\}$ .

In this way, we obtain a sequence of maps  $f_0, f_1, \dots, f_n$  from  $S$  to  $M$  such that  $\Sigma_k = \Sigma_{k-1} - \{C_1^k \cup C_2^k\}$ , where  $C_1^k, C_2^k \subset \Sigma'_{k-1}$  with  $f_{k-1}(C_1^k) = f_{k-1}(C_2^k)$  for  $1 \leq k \leq n$ .

Since  $\Sigma'_0$  consists of  $2n$  components,  $\Sigma_n = \Sigma_0 - \Sigma'_0$  and  $\Sigma'_n = \emptyset$ . Put  $f_n(F'_i) = \tilde{F}_i (i=1, 2)$ . Since the definition of  $f_k|_{A_1 \cup A_2}$  corresponds to a CP operation on  $f_{k-1}(C_1^k) (1 \leq k \leq n)$ ,  $\tilde{F}_1$  and  $\tilde{F}_2$  is obtained from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  by CP operations on  $f_0(\Sigma'_0)$ , which is equal to the set of inessential curves in  $F_1 \cap F_2$ . And  $\tilde{F}_1 \cap \tilde{F}_2$  consists of essential curves. On the other hand, since  $f_k|_{S-(D_1'' \cup D_2'')} = f_{k-1}|_{S-(D_1'' \cup D_2'')}$ , for  $i=1, 2$ ,  $\tilde{F}_i - \tilde{E}_i = F_i - E_i$  for a union of certain disks  $E_i$  ( $\tilde{E}_i$ , resp.) on  $F_i$  ( $\tilde{F}_i$ , resp.). Hence  $\tilde{F}_i$  is incompressible.

This completes the proof of Lemma 2.1.

DEFINITION. Let  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  be properly embedded surfaces in  $M$  which intersect transversely. Let  $F'_i$  be a closure of a component of  $F_i - (F_1 \cap F_2) (i=1, 2)$ . We say that  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  have a *semi-product region* between  $F'_1$  and  $F'_2$  if there exists a map  $f$  of a manifold  $X$  to  $M$  satisfying the following (1)-(4):

- (1)  $X = W \times [0, 1] - \cup_{i=1}^n \text{Int } B_i$ , where  $W$  is homeomorphic to  $F'_1$  and

- $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$  are mutual,y disjoint 3-balls in  $\text{Int}(W \times [0, 1])$ .
- (2)  $f(\partial W \times [0, 1]) = \partial F'_1 = \partial F'_2$ .
  - (3)  $f|_{W \times \{0\}}$  is a homeomorphism of  $W \times \{0\}$  to  $F'_1$  and  $f|_{W \times \{1\}}$  is a homeomorphism of  $W \times \{1\}$  to  $F'_2$ .
  - (4)  $f|_{X - (\partial W \times [0, 1])}$  is an embedding.

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  be properly embedded incompressible surfaces in  $M$  which intersect transversely. Suppose that  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  have a semi-product region between  $F'_1$  and  $F'_2$  ( $F'_i \subset F_i, i=1, 2$ ). Then  $\hat{F}_i = (F_i - F'_i) \cup F'_{2-i}$  is also incompressible ( $i=1, 2$ ).*

Proof. It is enough to prove that  $\hat{F}_1 = (F_1 - F'_1) \cup F'_2$  is incompressible. Assume that there exists a compressing disk  $D$  of  $\hat{F}_1$ . Since  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are incompressible, we may assume that  $D \cap F'_2$  consists of some arcs  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$ . Using  $X = W \times [0, 1] - \cup_{i=1}^n \text{Int } B_i$  and the map  $f$ , we can find a disk  $D_i$  in  $M$  such that  $\partial D_i = a_i \cup b_i$  and  $b_i \subset F'_1$  ( $i=1, 2, \dots, m$ ). Let  $D' = D \cup_{i=1}^m D_i$ . Then  $D'$  is an immersed disk in  $M$  with  $\partial D' \subset F_1$ . Clearly  $\partial D'$  is essential on  $F_1$ , contradicting the incompressibility of  $F_1$ . Hence  $\hat{F}_1$  is incompressible.

This completes the proof of Lemma 2.2.

Proof of Theorem 1. If  $F_1 \cap F_2$  contains a component  $C$  which is inessential on  $F_1$ , then we consider incompressible surfaces  $\tilde{F}_1$  and  $\tilde{F}_2$  in Lemma 2.1. Moreover if  $\tilde{F}_1$  and  $\tilde{F}_2$  have a semi-product region, we consider incompressible surfaces  $\hat{F}_1$  and  $\hat{F}_2$  in Lemma 2.2. If Theorem 1 holds for  $\hat{F}_1$  and  $\hat{F}_2$ , we may regard that the obtained surface  $F$  is also obtained from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  by a CP operation by Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2. Hence, without loss of generality, we may assume the following (1)-(3):

- (1)  $F_1$  is a torus and  $F_2$  is a surface of genus greater than zero.
- (2) Each component of  $F_1 \cap F_2$  is an essential curve on  $F_1$ .
- (3)  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  do not have a semi-product region.

Let  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  be components of  $N(F_1) - F_1$ . Let  $F$  be a surface obtained from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  by the following CP operation; for each component  $A$  of  $F_1 - \text{Int } N(F_1 \cap F_2)$ , a component of  $\partial A$  is reglued to  $N_1 \cap \partial(F_2 - \text{Int } N(F_1 \cap F_2))$  and the other component of  $\partial A$  is reglued to  $N_2 \cap \partial(F_2 - \text{Int } N(F_1 \cap F_2))$ . See Figure 2.1.

We will prove that  $F$  is incompressible.

We may assume that  $F_1$  and  $F$  intersect transversely and for each component  $A$  of  $F_1 - \text{Int } N(F_1 \cap F_2)$ ,  $A \cap F$  consists of an essential simple closed curve in  $A$ .

Suppose that there exists a compressing disk  $D$  of  $F$ . Since  $F_1$  is incompressible, we may assume  $D \cap F_1$  does not contain a circle component.

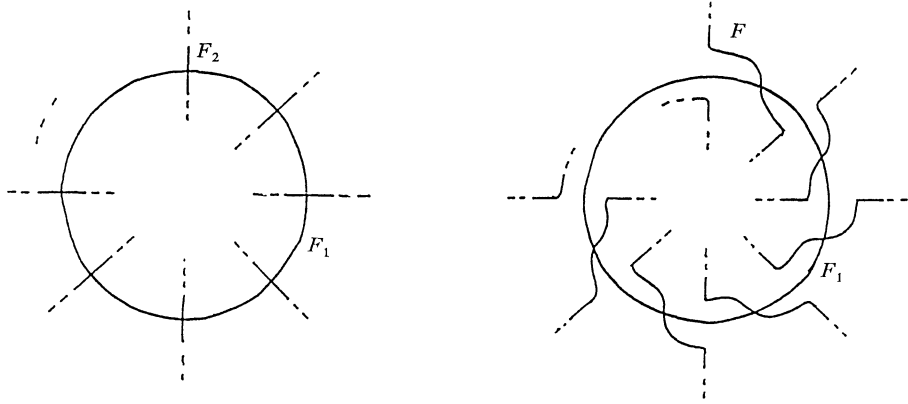


Fig 2.1.

**Claim 2.3.**  $\partial D \cap (F_1 \cap F) \neq \emptyset$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\partial D \cap (F_1 \cap F) = \emptyset$ . Then we may assume  $\partial D \subset F \cap F_2$ . Since  $F_2$  is incompressible, there exists a disk  $D'$  on  $F_2$  such that  $\partial D = \partial D'$ . Since  $\partial D$  is an essential curve on  $F$ ,  $D'$  contain a component  $C$  of  $F_1 \cap F_2$ .  $C$  bounds a disk  $D'' (\subset D')$  and by the condition (2),  $C$  is an essential curve on  $F_1$ . It contradicts the incompressibility of  $F_1$ . Therefore  $\partial D \cap (F_1 \cap F) \neq \emptyset$ , completing the proof of Claim 2.3.

By Claim 2.3,  $D \cap F_1$  consists of some arcs. Let  $a$  be an outermost arc of  $D \cap F_1$  on  $D$ , and  $D' \subset D$  an outermost disk such that  $\partial D' = a \cup b$  with  $b \subset \partial D$ . Then using  $D'$ , we can find an embedded disk  $E$  in  $M$  such that  $\partial E = a' \cup b'$ ,  $a' \subset F_1, b' \subset F_2$  with  $a \cap a' \neq \emptyset, b \cap b' \neq \emptyset$  and  $\text{Int } E \cap (F_1 \cup F_2) = \emptyset$ . Let  $A$  be a closure of a component of  $F_1 - (F_1 \cap F_2)$  which contains  $a'$ , and  $B$  a closure of a component of  $F_2 - (F_1 \cap F_2)$  which contains  $b'$ . By the condition (2),  $A$  is an annulus. Consider  $E \times [0, 1]$  with  $E \times [0, 1] \cap (F_1 \cup F_2) = \partial E \times [0, 1]$ . Then  $E' = (E \times [0, 1] \cup A) - (E \times (0, 1))$  is an embedded disk in  $M$  such that  $\partial E' \subset F_2$ . Since  $F_2$  is incompressible,  $\partial E'$  is an inessential curve on  $F_2$ . Let  $E''$  be a disk on  $F_2$  with  $\partial E'' = \partial E'$ . If  $E'' \cap (E \times (0, 1)) \neq \emptyset$ , then each component of  $\partial A (\subset F_1 \cap F_2)$  also bounds a disk on  $F_2$ . But it contradicts the condition (2). Hence  $E'' \subset B$  and  $B$  is an annulus. Using  $A \cup B \cup E \times [0, 1]$ , we can see that  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  have a semi-product region between  $A$  and  $B$ . It contradicts the condition (3). Therefore  $F$  is incompressible.

This completes the proof of Theorem 1.

### 3. Boundary irreducibility of certain 3-manifolds

For the proof of Theorem 2, we construct certain 3-manifolds with incompressible surfaces. A closed orientable surface  $F$  properly embedded in a 3-

manifold  $M$  is incompressible if and only if  $\partial N(F)$  is incompressible in each component of  $M - \text{Int } N(F)$ . In this section, we examine the incompressibility of boundaries of certain 3-manifolds. We say that an orientable 3-manifold  $M$  is  $\partial$ -irreducible if  $M$  is irreducible and  $\partial M$  is incompressible in  $M$ .

Suppose that  $M$  does not contain a fake 3-ball. Then  $M$  is  $\partial$ -irreducible iff  $\pi_1(M)$  is not a free product or a cyclic group (cf. [2]). Lemma 3.1 shows that for certain one-relator groups, we can examine that the group is a free product or not.

**DEFINITION.** Let  $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_g \rangle$  be a free group of rank  $g (g \geq 2)$  with generators  $x_1, x_1, \dots, x_g$  and  $H_g$  a handlebody of genus  $g$ . We say that a simple closed curve  $C$  on  $\partial H_g$  is a *representation curve* of an element  $r \in \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_g \rangle$  if  $\pi_1(H_g) \cong \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_g \rangle \ni \text{Incl}_*(C) = r$ . ( $\text{Incl}_*$  is a homomorphism which is induced by the inclusion map.)

**Lemma 3.1.** *Suppose that  $r$  has (at least one) representation curve. Then the following (1)-(3) are mutually equivalent:*

- (1)  $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_g : r \rangle$  is not a free product group or a cyclic group.
- (2) There exists a representation curve  $C$  of  $r$  on  $\partial H_g$  such that  $\partial H_g - C$  is incompressible in  $H_g$ .
- (3) For any representation curve  $C$  of  $r$ ,  $\partial H_g - C$  is incompressible in  $H_g$ .

Proof. (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) is clear.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): Let  $M = H_g \cup_C (D^2 \times I)$  be a 3-manifold obtained from  $H_g$  by attaching a 2-handle  $D^2 \times I$  along  $C$ . By [1], [3] or [6],  $M$  is  $\partial$ -irreducible. On the other hand,  $\pi_1(M) \cong \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_g : r \rangle$ . Hence (1) holds.

(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (3): Suppose that there exists a representation curve  $C$  of  $r$  such that  $\partial H_g - C$  is compressible in  $H_g$ . Let  $B$  be a compressing disk of  $\partial H_g - C$  in  $H_g$ . If  $B$  is a non-separating disk of  $H_g$ , then  $B$  is also a non-separating disk of  $M = H_g \cup_C (D^2 \times I)$ . If  $H_g - B = V_1 \cup V_2$  and  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  are handlebodies, then  $M$  is a disk sum of  $V_1$  and  $V_2 \cup_C (D^2 \times I)$ . In both cases,  $\pi_1(M) \cong \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_g : r \rangle \cong Z * G$  for some group  $G$ .

This completes the proof of Lemma 3.1.

Next, we examine the  $\partial$ -irreducibility of manifolds which are obtained from handlebodies by Dehn surgeries on links in them. Let  $V$  be a handlebody and  $k$  a simple closed curve on  $\partial V$ . We define a *surgery on pushed  $k$  with surgery coefficient  $p/q$*  (g.c.d( $p, q$ )=1) as follows: Consider an annulus  $A$  in  $V$  such that  $\partial A = k \cup k'$  and  $A \cap \partial V = k$  (We say  $k'$  is a *pushed  $k$* ). There is a neighborhood of  $k'$ ,  $N(k')$  such that  $N(k') \cap A$  is an annulus. Put  $l = \partial N(k') \cap A$  and let  $m$  be a meridian of  $k'$  on  $\partial N(k')$ . Remove  $\text{Int } N(k')$  and attach a solid torus  $V'$  to it so that a meridian  $m'$  on  $\partial V'$  is attached to a curve  $C$  on  $\partial N(k')$  with  $[C] = p[m] +$

$q[l] \in H_1(\partial N(k'); Z)$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $V$  be a handlebody of genus greater than one and  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) mutually disjoint simple closed curves on  $\partial V$ . If  $\partial V - \cup_{i=1}^n C_i$  is incompressible in  $V$  and  $|p_i| \geq 2$  ( $i=1, 2, \dots, n$ ), then the manifold  $M$  which obtained from  $V$  by surgeries on pushed  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n$  with surgery coefficient  $p_1/q_1, p_2/q_2, \dots, p_n/q_n$  is  $\partial$ -irreducible.*

*Proof.* Let  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n$  be solid tori and  $m_i$  and  $l_i$  meridian and longitude on  $\partial V_i$ . Consider a simple closed curve  $C'_i$  on  $\partial V_i$  such that  $[C'_i] = r_i[m_i] + p_i[l_i] \in H_1(\partial V_i; Z)$ , for integers  $r_i$  and  $s_i$  with  $p_i s_i - q_i r_i = 1$ . Then we can regard  $M$  as the 3-manifold obtained from  $V$  and  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n$  by identifying  $N_{\partial V_i}(C'_i)$  to  $N_{\partial V}(C_i)$ .

Since  $|p_i| > 0$  and  $\partial V - \cup_{i=1}^n C_i$  is incompressible in  $V$ ,  $M$  is irreducible. We will prove that  $\partial M$  is incompressible in  $M$ . Note that since  $|p_i| \geq 2$ , for any compressing disk  $D$  of  $V_i$ ,  $\#(\partial D \cap N_{\partial V_i}(C'_i)) \geq 2$ . Suppose that there exists a compressing disk  $D$  of  $\partial M$  in  $M$ . Since  $\partial V - \cup_{i=1}^n C_i$  is incompressible in  $V$ ,  $D$  must intersect with  $\cup_{i=1}^n N_{\partial V}(C_i)$  in at least one arc. We may assume  $D$  has a minimal number of components in all such disks. By standard innermost circle and outermost arc arguments, we may assume  $D \cap (\cup_{i=1}^n N_{\partial V}(C_i))$  consists of some essential arcs in  $N_{\partial V}(C_i)$ . Let  $a$  be an outermost arc of  $D \cap (\cup_{i=1}^n N_{\partial V}(C_i))$  on  $D$ ,  $D'$  an outermost disk on  $D$  with  $\partial D' = a \cup b, b \subset \partial D$  and  $a \subset N_{\partial V}(C_j)$  ( $1 \leq j \leq n$ ). By the minimality of the number of intersections,  $\partial D'$  is an essential curve on  $\partial V$  or  $\partial V_j$ . Since  $\partial D'$  intersects with  $N_{\partial V}(C_j)$  in an arc,  $D'$  is contained in  $V$ . But it contradicts the following Claim 3.3.

**Claim 3.3.** *If  $\partial V - \cup_{i=1}^n C_i$  is incompressible in  $V$ , then for any compressing disks  $D$  of  $V$ ,  $\#(\partial D \cap (\cup_{i=1}^n C_i)) \geq 2$ .*

*Proof of Claim 3.3.* Suppose that there exists a compressing disk  $D$  of  $\partial V$  such that  $\partial D$  intersects with  $\cup_{i=1}^n C_i$  in a point  $p \in C_j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq n$ ). Consider a regular neighborhood of  $D$ ,  $D \times [0, 1] \subset V$  such that  $D \times [0, 1] \cap \partial V = \partial D \times [0, 1]$  and  $(\partial D \times [0, 1]) \cap (\cup_{i=1}^n C_i) = p \times [0, 1]$ . Then  $D' = \partial(N(C_j) \cup (D \times [0, 1])) - \text{Int}(\partial N(C_j) \cap \partial V) \cup (\partial D \times (0, 1))$  is a compressing disk of  $\partial V - \cup_{i=1}^n C_i$ , a contradiction.

Hence Claim 3.3 holds.

This completes the proof of Lemma 3.2

To know the incompressibility of  $\partial V - \cup_{i=1}^n C_i$  in  $V$ , we use the following Lemma 3.4.

Let  $H_g$  be a handlebody of genus  $g$  ( $g \geq 2$ ) and  $\{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_{3g-3}\}$  a set of mutually disjoint non-parallel compressing disks in  $H_g$ . Then each component of  $H_g - \cup_{i=1}^{3g-3} (D_i \times (0, 1))$  is a 3-ball  $B$  such that  $\partial B - \text{Int}(\partial H_g \cap \partial B)$  consists of



three disks  $D'_1, D'_2, D'_3$  and  $D'_i$  is parallel to  $D_j$  for some  $1 \leq j \leq 3g-3$  in  $H_g$  ( $i=1, 2, 3$ ). Let  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n$  be mutually disjoint simple closed curves on  $\partial H_g$ . We may assume each component of  $(D_i \times [0, 1]) \cap C_j$  is an essential arc on  $\partial D_i \times [0, 1]$ . We say that  $C = \cup_{i=1}^n C_i$  is *full with respect to*  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_{3g-3}$  if for any component  $B$  of  $H_g - \cup_{i=1}^{3g-3} (D_i \times (0, 1))$ ,  $C$  satisfies the following conditions (1), (2);

- (1) each component of  $C \cap \partial B$  is an arc connecting  $D'_i$  and  $D'_j$  for  $i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $i \neq j$ .
- (2) for any pair of  $D'_i$  and  $D'_j$  ( $i \neq j$ , and  $i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ ), there is a sub arc  $a$  of  $C$  on  $\partial B$  connecting  $D'_i$  and  $D'_j$ .

**Lemma 3.4.** ([3, Lemma 6.1]). *Let  $\{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n\}$  be a set of mutually disjoint simple closed curves on  $\partial H_g$ . If there exists a set of mutually disjoint non-parallel compressing disks  $\{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_{3g-3}\}$  of  $H_g$  such that  $C = \cup_{i=1}^n C_i$  is full with respect to  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_{3g-3}$ , then  $\partial H_g - C$  is incompressible in  $H_g$ .*

Let  $N$  be a  $\partial$ -irreducible 3-manifold with boundary and  $\{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n\}$  a set of mutually disjoint non-parallel simple closed curves such that  $\partial N - \cup_{i=1}^n C_i$  is incompressible in  $N$ . We consider a manifold  $M$  which is obtained from  $N$  by attaching 2-handles along  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n$ . In the case that  $n=1$ ,  $M$  is  $\partial$ -irreducible by [1], [3], or [6]. But in general cases,  $M$  may not be  $\partial$ -irreducible. The following Lemma 3.5 gives a sufficient condition for  $M$  to be  $\partial$ -irreducible.

Let  $C$  be a simple closed curve on a surface  $F$  and  $a$  an arc on  $F$  with  $a \cap C = \partial a$ . We say that  $a$  is an *inessential arc relative to*  $C$  if there exists a disk  $D$  on  $F$  such that  $\partial D = a \cup b$  with  $b \subset C$ . If  $a$  is not an inessential arc relative to  $C$ , then we say that  $a$  is an *essential arc relative to*  $C$ .

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let  $\{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n\}$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) be a set of mutually disjoint simple closed curves on  $\partial N$ . Suppose that there exists a set of mutually disjoint properly embedded disks  $\{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n\}$  which satisfies the following conditions (1)-(3);*

- (1) *each component of  $N - \cup_{i=1}^n (D_i \times (0, 1))$  is  $\partial$ -irreducible,*
- (2) *if  $i \neq j$ , then  $D_i \cap C_j = \emptyset$ ,*
- (3) *if  $i = j$ , then  $\#(D_i \cap C_j) = 2$ , the algebraic intersection number of  $\partial D_i$  and  $C_j$  on  $\partial N$  is 0, and each component of  $C_i - (C_i \cap \partial D_i)$  is an essential arc relative to  $\partial D_i$ .*

*Then the manifold  $M$  which is obtained from  $N$  by attaching 2-handles along  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n$  is  $\partial$ -irreducible.*

**Proof.** Put  $\bar{D} = \cup_{i=1}^n D_i$  and  $\bar{C} = \cup_{i=1}^n C_i$ . Let  $\bar{D} \times [0, 1]$  be a regular neighborhood of  $\bar{D}$ . We may assume that each component of  $(\partial \bar{D} \times [0, 1]) \cap \bar{C}$  is an essential arc on a component of  $\partial \bar{D} \times [0, 1]$ . Let  $N'$  be a component of  $N - (\bar{D} \times (0, 1))$ . We abbreviate  $D_i \times \{0\}$  and  $D_i \times \{1\}$  on  $\partial N'$  to  $D_i$  for simplicity. Then  $\partial N'$  is a union of some  $D_i$ 's and  $N' \cap \partial N$ .

**Claim 3.6.** *Let  $a$  be a component of  $C_i - (C_i \cap (D_i \times (0, 1)))$  and  $N'$  the component of  $N - (\bar{D} \times (0, 1))$  which contains  $a$ . Then  $a$  is an essential arc relative to  $\partial D_i$  on  $\partial N'$ .*

Proof. Note that since  $\text{Int}_{\partial N}[\partial D_i, C_i] = 0$ ,  $\partial a$  is contained in one component of  $\partial N' - \partial N$ . Assume that  $a$  is an inessential arc relative to  $\partial D_i$  on  $\partial N'$ . Then  $a \cup b$  ( $b \subset \partial D_i$ ) bounds a disk  $D$  on  $\partial N'$ . We may assume  $a \cup b$  is an "innermost" curve on  $\partial N'$ , i.e.  $D$  does not contain any other  $D_j$ . Hence  $D$  is contained in  $\partial N' \cap \partial N$  and  $a$  is an inessential arc relative to  $\partial D_i$  on  $\partial N$ . It contradicts to the condition (3). Therefore  $a$  is an essential arc relative to  $\partial D_i$  on  $\partial N'$ .

This completes the proof of Claim 3.6.

We say that a closed curve  $J$  on  $\partial N$  is  $\bar{C}$ -inessential if  $J$  bounds a disk on  $\partial N$  or  $J$  and some components of  $\bar{C}$  bounds a planar surface on  $\partial N$ . If  $J$  is not  $\bar{C}$ -inessential, we say that  $J$  is  $C$ -essential.

Suppose that  $M$  is not  $\partial$ -irreducible, i.e. there exists an essential sphere or a disk  $F$  in  $M$ . By standard innermost circle and outermost arc arguments, we may assume that  $F$  intersects the 2-handles in horizontal disks. Hence  $S = F \cap N$  is a planar surface such that at most one component of  $\partial S$  is a  $\bar{C}$ -essential curve and other components are parallel to a component of  $\bar{C}$ . We will prove that there does not exist such a planar surface  $S$ .

The next claim gives a proof of this assertion in a very special case (the case of  $S$  a disk).

**Claim 3.7.** *There does not exist a disk  $S$  such that  $\partial S$  is  $\bar{C}$ -essential.*

Proof. Assume that there exists such a disk  $S$ . We suppose that  $\#(S \cap \bar{D})$  is minimal over all such disks. Suppose that  $\#(S \cap \bar{D}) \geq 1$ . Then there is an outermost arc  $a$  on  $S$  and an outermost disk  $D$  on  $S$  such that  $\partial D = a \cup b$ ,  $b \subset \partial S$ . Let  $D_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) be the disk which contains  $a$  and  $N'$  the component of  $N - (\bar{D} \times (0, 1))$  which contains  $D$ . By the  $\partial$ -irreducibility of  $N'$ , there exists a 3-ball  $B$  in  $N'$  such that  $\partial B = D \cup D' \cup D'_i$ , where  $D' \subset \partial N' \cap \partial N$  and  $D'_i \subset D_i$ . By Claim 3.6,  $D'$  does not intersect  $\bar{C}$ . Hence by using  $B$ , we can obtain a disk  $S'$  such that  $\partial S'$  is  $\bar{C}$ -essential and  $\#(S' \cap \bar{D}) < \#(S \cap \bar{D})$ , a contradiction.

Hence  $\#(S \cap \bar{D}) = 0$ . Then  $S$  is contained in a component  $N'$  of  $N - (\bar{D} \times (0, 1))$ . Since  $N'$  is  $\partial$ -irreducible, there is a disk  $E$  on  $\partial N'$  such that  $\partial E = \partial S$  and  $E$  contains some  $D_i$ 's. Then a component  $d$  of  $C_i - (\partial D_i \times (0, 1))$  intersects  $E$ . By Claim 3.6,  $d$  is an essential arc relative to  $D_i$  on  $N'$ . Hence  $d$  intersects  $\partial E = \partial S$ . It contradicts the choice of  $S$ . Hence there does not exist a disk in  $N$  whose boundary is  $\bar{C}$ -essential.

This completes the proof of Claim 3.7.

By Claim 3.7, if there exists such a planar surface  $S$ , then  $\#(\partial S) \geq 2$  and

$\partial S \cap \bar{D} \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $S$  be a planar surface in  $N$  such that at most one component  $J$  of  $\partial S$  is  $\bar{C}$ -essential, and that each component  $J'$  of  $\partial S - J$  is parallel to a component  $C_i$  of  $\bar{C}$ . We assume that  $\#(S \cap \bar{D})$  is minimal over all such planar surfaces. Let  $J$  be a component of  $\partial S$  (if exists) which is  $\bar{C}$ -essential and  $D_i$  a component of  $\bar{D}$  intersecting  $\partial S - J$ . Let  $K_1, K_2, \dots, K_n$  be the components of  $\partial S - J$  which are parallel to  $C_i$  and we suppose that  $K_1, K_2, \dots, K_n$  are contained in  $N_{\partial N}(C_i)$  in this order. Since each component of  $N - (\bar{D} \times (0, 1))$  is  $\partial$ -irreducible, by using standard innermost circle and outermost arc arguments, we may assume  $S \cap D_i$  consists of arcs. Let  $a$  be an outermost arc of  $S \cap D_i$  on  $D_i$  and  $D$  an outermost disk on  $D_i$  with  $D \cap S = a$ . Put  $\partial a = p_1 \cup p_2$ . Then we have the following four possible cases.

- (a) Both  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are on  $J$ .
- (b)  $p_1 \in J$  and  $p_2 \in \partial S - J$ .
- (c)  $p_1 \in K_j$  and  $p_2 \in K_{j+1}$  ( $1 \leq j \leq n - 1$ ).
- (d)  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are on the same component  $K$  ( $= K_1$  or  $K_n$ ) of  $\partial S - J$ .

Let  $S' = (S \cup D \times [0, 1]) - D \times (0, 1)$ . Then  $S'$  is a planar surface. In Case (a),  $S'$  has two components, at least one component  $S''$  of  $S'$  has a  $\bar{C}$ -essential curve in  $\partial S''$  and  $\#(S'' \cap \bar{D}) < \#(S \cap \bar{D})$ . It contradicts the choice of  $S$ . In Case (b), clearly a component of  $S'$  is  $\bar{C}$ -essential and  $\#(S' \cap \bar{D}) < \#(S \cap \bar{D})$ , a contradiction. In case (c),  $\partial S'$  has a component  $L = (K_j \cup K_{j+1} \cup b \times [0, 1]) - b \times (0, 1)$ , where  $b = \partial D - a$ .  $L$  bounds a disk  $B$  on  $\partial N$ . By capping off  $S'$  by  $B$  and pushing  $B$  into  $N$ , we obtain a planar surface  $S''$  such that  $\#(S'' \cap \bar{D}) < \#(S \cap \bar{D})$ , a contradiction. In Case (d),  $S'$  consists of two components. Let  $S''$  be a component of  $S'$  which does not contain  $J$ . Let  $J'$  be a component of  $\partial S''$  which consists of a subarc of  $K$  and a copy of  $\partial D - a$ .

**Claim 3.8.**  $J'$  is  $\bar{C}$ -essential.

*Proof.* Assume that  $J'$  is  $\bar{C}$ -inessential. If  $J'$  bounds a disk  $D$  on  $\partial N$ , then a subarc of  $K$  is an inessential arc relative to  $\partial D_i$ . It contradicts the condition (3). Hence  $J'$  bounds a planar surface  $P$  on  $\partial N$  with some  $C_j$ 's, say  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_l$ . Note that  $J' \cap (\cup_{i=1}^n \partial D_i) = \emptyset$ . By conditions (2) and (3), for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, l$ , a subarc of  $\partial D_j, d_j$  is contained in  $P$  and  $d_j$  is an essential arc relative to  $C_j$ . Hence  $P - \cup_{j=1}^l d_j$  consists of  $l$  components  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_l$  and for each  $j = 1, 2, \dots, l, \chi(P_j) \leq 0$ . But  $1 - l = \chi(P) = \sum_{j=1}^l \chi(P_j) - l \leq -l$ , a contradiction.

This completes the proof of Claim 3.8.

By Claim 3.8 and the fact  $\#(S'' \cap \bar{D}) < \#(S \cap \bar{D})$ , we have a contradiction.

Hence in any cases it contradicts the choice of  $S$ . Therefore  $M = N \cup_{\bar{c}} (D^2 \times I)$  is  $\partial$ -irreducible.

This completes the proof of Lemma 3.5.

**4. Proof of Theorem 2**

Proof of Theorem 2. We consider the following two cases and construct a 3-manifold  $M$  and incompressible surfaces  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  in  $M$  which satisfy the conditions in Theorem 2:

- (I)  $n_1 = n_2 \geq 2$ .
- (II)  $n_1 > n_2 \geq 2$ .

Case (I)  $n_1 = n_2 \geq 2$ .

We put  $n = n_1 = n_2$ . Let  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  be handlebodies with  $g(H_i) = n$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) and  $C_{i,1}, C_{i,2}, \dots, C_{i,n+1}$  simple closed curves on  $\partial H_i$  as indicated in Figure 4.1 (a) (in Figure 4.1,  $n = 4$ ). For each  $C_{i,j}$ , we consider a simple closed curve  $C'_{i,j}$  in  $H_i$  such that there exists an embedded annulus  $A$  and  $\partial A = C_{i,j} \cup C'_{i,j}$ .  $C'_{i,j}$  is a pushed  $C_{i,j}$  in the sense of Section 3. Let  $F_{i,2}$  be a properly embedded surface in  $H_i$  with  $F_{i,2} \cap (\cup_{j=1}^n C_{i,j}) = \emptyset$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) as indicated in Figure 4.1 (b).  $F_{1,2}$  ( $F_{2,2}$ , resp.) consists of  $[(n+1)/2]$  ( $[n/2]$ , resp.) components, where  $[x]$  is the greatest integer which is less than or equal to  $x$ .

Put  $M = H'_1 \cup_f H'_2$ , where  $H'_i$  is obtained from  $H_i$  by performing 2-surgery on  $C'_{i,j}$  ( $;$  pushed  $C_{i,j}$ ), ( $i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2, \dots, n+1$ ), and  $f$  is a homeomorphism of  $\partial H'_2$  to  $\partial H'_1$  such that  $f(\partial F_{2,2}) = \partial F_{1,2}$  and  $f^{-1}(C_{1,2k+1})$  and  $f(C_{2,2k})$  ( $k = 1, 2, \dots, [n/2]$ ) are as indicated in Figure 4.1 (c).

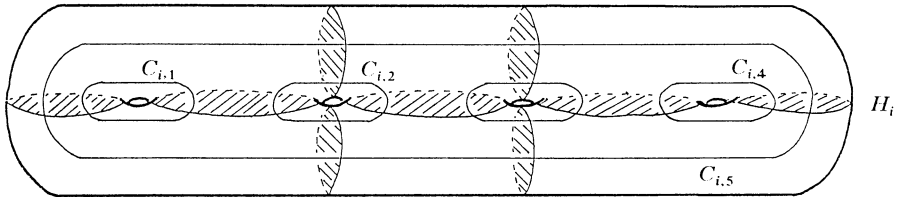


Fig 4.1. (a)

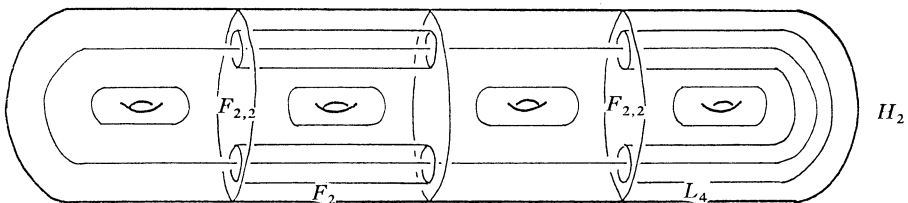
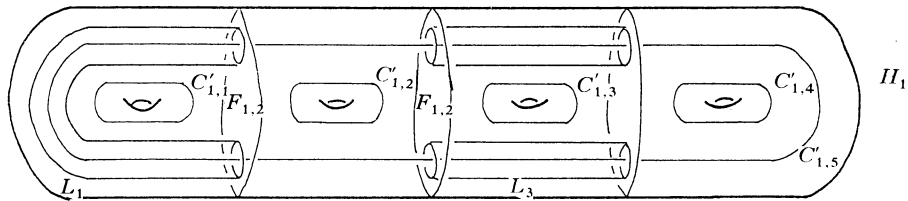


Fig 4.1. (b)

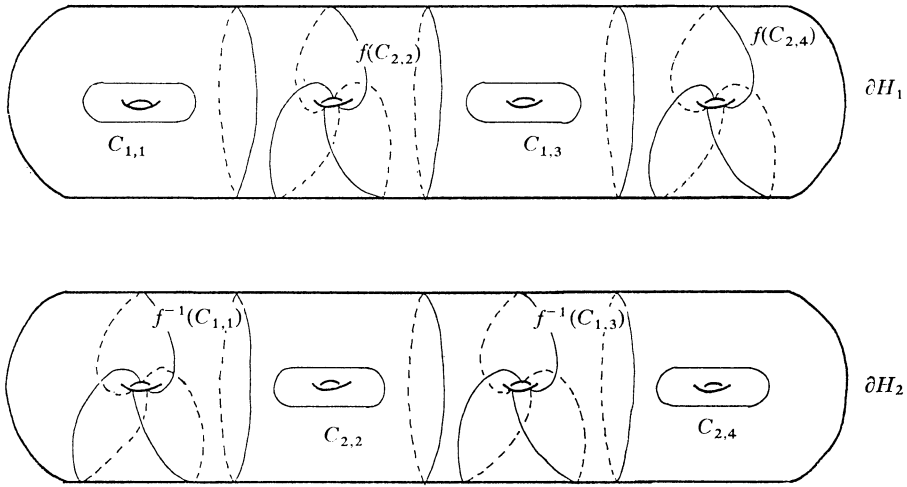


Fig 4.1. (c)

Then  $M$  is an orientable closed 3-manifold,  $F_1 = \partial H'_1$  and  $F_2 = F_{1,2} \cup F_{2,2}$  are embedded surfaces of genus  $n$ , and  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  intersect transversely.

For any orientation of  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ , an OCP operation produces two genus  $n$  surfaces or two genus two surfaces and  $n-2$  genus three surfaces. In both cases, these surfaces bound handlebodies. Let  $L_i (i=1, 2, \dots, n)$  be a closure of a component of  $H_j - F_{j,2} (j \equiv i \pmod 2)$  which contains  $C'_{j,i}$ . And let  $L'_i$  be a manifold which is obtained from  $L_i$  by 2-surgery on  $C'_{j,i}$ . Then  $L'_1 (L'_n, \text{ resp.})$  has a compressing disk  $D_1 (D_n, \text{ resp.})$  and  $L'_i (i=2, 3, \dots, n-1)$  has compressing disks  $D_{i,1}$  and  $D_{i,2}$  which are indicated in Figure 4.2.

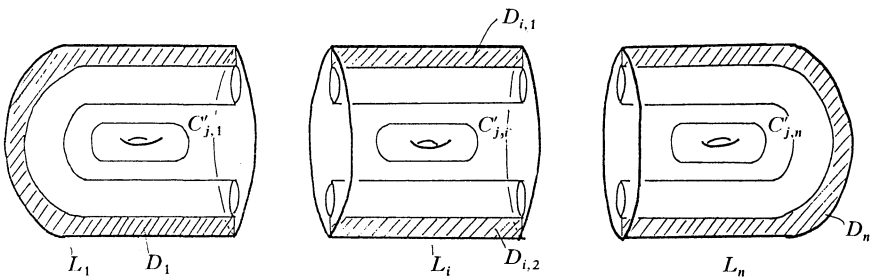


Fig 4.2.

Note that  $L'_i (i=1, 2, \dots, n)$  is a handlebody and  $L'_i - D_i \times (0, 1) (i=1, n)$  and  $L'_i - \cup_{i=1}^2 (D_{i,i} \times (0, 1)) (i=2, 3, \dots, n-1)$  are solid tori. Suppose that  $F$  is a surface which is obtained from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  by a CP operation which cannot be realized by an OCP operation. Then each component of  $F$  bounds a handlebody  $L'_i$  or a manifold which is homeomorphic to  $\tilde{L} = \cup_{i=h}^k L'_i \cup (\cup_{j=h}^{k-1} N(L'_j \cap L'_{j+1})) (1 \leq h < k \leq n, \text{ if } h=1 (k=n, \text{ resp.}) \text{ then } k < n (1 < h, \text{ resp.}))$ . If  $1 < h < k <$

$n$ , then for  $l=1, 2, \bar{D}_l = (\cup_{i=h}^k D_{i,l}) \cup (\cup_{j=h}^{k-1} E_{j,l})$ , where  $E_{i,l}$  is a meridional disk of  $N(L'_i \cap L'_{i+1})$  such that  $N(L'_i \cap L'_{i+1}) \cap (D_{i,l} \cup D_{i+1,l}) \subset E_{i,l}$ , is a compressing disk of  $\tilde{L}$ . And we can see that  $\tilde{L} - (\cup_{i=1}^2 \bar{D}_i \times (0, 1))$  is obtained from solid tori  $L'_j - \cup_{i=1}^2 (D_{j,i} \times (0, 1))$  ( $j=h, h+1, \dots, k$ ) by identifying disks on boundaries of these solid tori. Hence  $\tilde{L}$  is a handlebody. If  $h=1$  ( $k=n$ , resp.),  $\bar{D} = D_1 \cup \cup_{i=1}^2 ((\cup_{j=2}^k D_{j,i}) \cup (\cup_{i=1}^{k-1} E_{i,i})) (= \cup_{i=1}^2 ((\cup_{j=h}^{n-1} D_{j,i}) \cup E_{j,i}) \cup D_n, \text{ resp.})$  ( $D_{i,1} = D_{i,2} = D_i$  for  $i=1, 2$ ) is a compressing disk of  $\tilde{L}$ . And  $\tilde{L} - \bar{D} \times (0, 1)$  is obtained from solid tori  $L'_1 - D_1 \times (0, 1)$  ( $L'_n - D_n \times (0, 1)$ , resp.) and  $L'_j - \cup_{i=1}^2 D_{i,l} \times (0, 1)$  ( $j=2, 3, \dots, k, j=h, h+1, \dots, n-1$ , resp.) by identifying disks on boundaries of these solid tori. Hence  $\tilde{L}$  is a handlebody.

Therefore any surface obtained from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  by a CP operation bounds handlebodies.

We will prove the incompressibility of  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ . For the incompressibility of  $F_1$ , note that  $\cup_{j=1}^{n+1} C_{i,j}$  is full with respect to a set of compressing disks of  $H_i$  which are indicated in Figure 4.1 (a). Hence by Lemmas 3.2 and 3.4,  $\partial H'_i$  is incompressible in  $H'_i$  ( $i=1, 2$ ), and  $F_1$  is incompressible in  $M$ .

Note that we can regard  $L_i$  as  $F' \times [0, 1] / \{(x, t) \sim (x, t') \mid x \in \partial F', t, t' \in [0, 1]\}$ , where  $F' = F_1 \cap L_i$ , and  $F' \times 1 = F_{j,2} \cap L_i$  ( $j \equiv i \pmod 2$ ). Let  $M_1$  be the closure of the component of  $M - F_2$  which contains  $C_{1,2}$ . Then by the above fact,  $M_1$  is obtained from a handlebody  $V = (H_1 - \cup_{k=1}^{[n+1/2]} L_{2k-1}) \cup (\cup_{k=1}^{[n/2]} L_{2k})$  by 2-surgeries on  $C'_{1,2k}$ , pushed  $C''_{2,2k}$  (i.e.  $C'_{2,2k}$ ) ( $1 \leq k \leq [n/2]$ ) and  $C'_{1,n+1}$  as indicated in Figure 4.3.

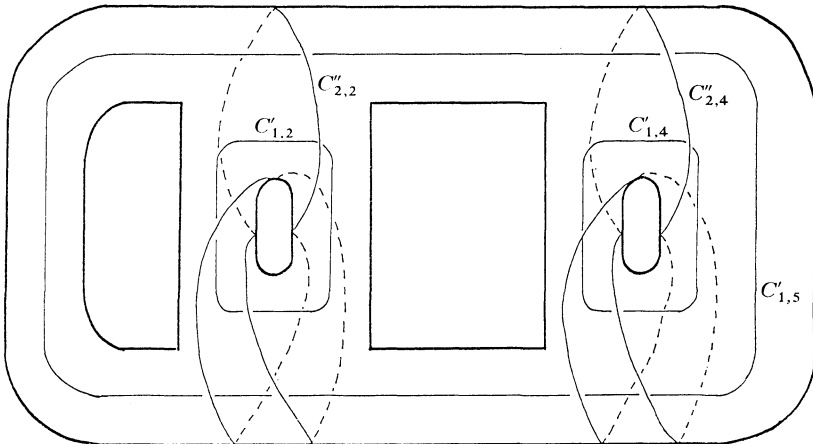


Fig 4.3.

By the same way as the above, the closure  $M_2$  of the other component of  $M - F_2$  is also obtained from a handlebody of genus  $n$  by 2-surgeries on such closed curves. We consider the following two cases:

- (a)  $n=2$ .

- (b)  $n \geq 3$ .
- (a)  $n=2$ . Since  $M_2$  is homeomorphic to  $M_1$ , it is enough to prove the incompressibility of  $F_2$  in  $M_1$ .

We use Lemma 3.1. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_1(M_1) &= \langle a, b, c, d, e, f \mid c^2 ab = 1, d^2 b = 1, e^2 bcd b(cd)^2 = 1, f = d^{-2} cd \rangle, \\ &= \langle d, e, f \mid e^2 f^2 d^2 f = 1 \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

where  $a, b, c, d, e$  are represented by curves which are indicated in Figure 4.4.

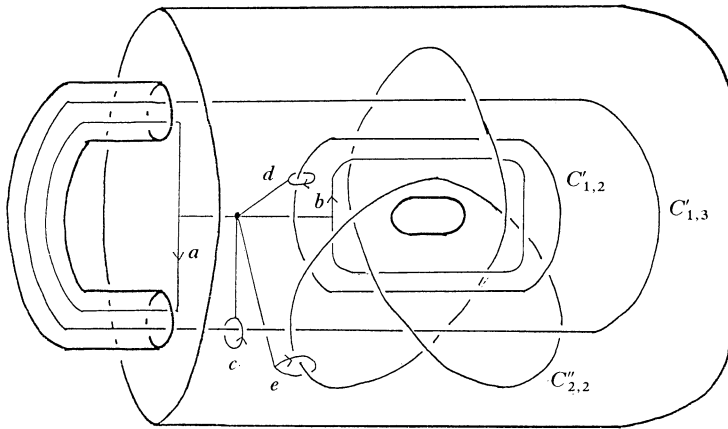


Fig 4.4.

Let  $r=e^2 f^2 d^2 f$ . We have a representation curve  $C$  of  $r$  on a handlebody  $V$  as indicated in Figure 4.5.

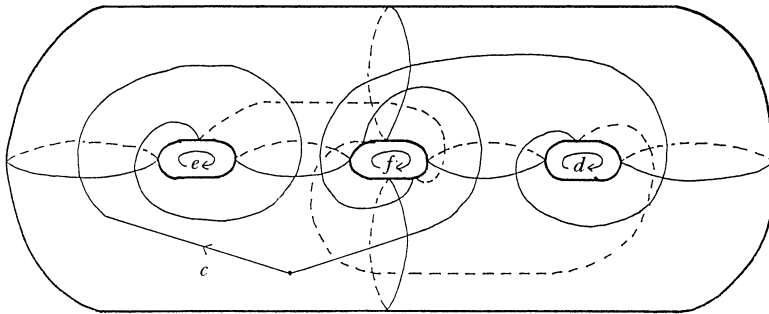


Fig 4.5.

$C$  is full with respect to a set of compressing disks whose boundaries are indicated in Figure 4.5. Hence by Lemma 3.4,  $\partial H - C$  is incompressible in  $H$  and by Lemma 3.1,  $\pi_1(M_1)$  is not a free product group or a cyclic group. Therefore  $F_2$  is incompressible in  $M_1$ .

- (b)  $n \geq 3$ . We prove the incompressibility of  $F_2$  in  $M_1$ .

We use Lemma 3.2. Recall that  $M_1$  is obtained from a handlebody  $V$  by 2-surgeries on  $C'_{1,2k}$ , pushed  $C''_{2,2k}(1 \leq k \leq [n/2])$  and  $C'_{1,n+1}$ . Note that a manifold  $V'$  which is obtained from  $V$  by 2-surgeries on  $C'_{1,2k}(1 \leq k \leq [n/2])$  and  $C'_{1,n+1}$  is a handlebody. Hence we may regard that  $M_1$  is obtained from the handlebody  $V'$  by 2-surgeries on pushed  $C''_{2,2k}(1 \leq k \leq [n/2])$ . We consider a set of compressing disks  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_{3n-3}$  of  $V'$  such that  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_{n-1}$  separates  $H'$  into  $[n/2+1]$  solid tori and each of which contains  $C'_{1,j}$ . See Figure 4.6.

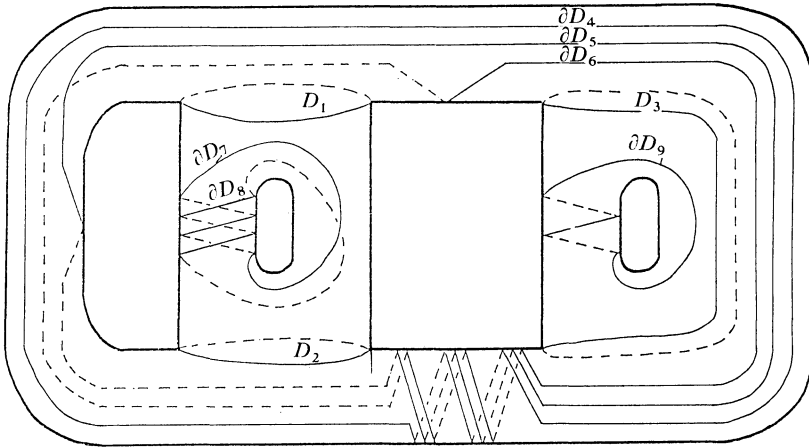


Fig 4.6.

Then we can check that  $\cup_{k=1}^{[n/2]} C''_{2,2k}$  is full with respect to  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_{3n-3}$ . Hence by Lemmas 3.2 and 3.4,  $F_2$  is incompressible in  $M_1$ .

We can prove the incompressibility of  $F_2$  in  $M_2$  in the same way as the above.

This completes the proof of Case (I).

Case (II)  $n_1 > n_2 \geq 2$ .

Let  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  be handlebodies of genus  $n_1$ . We consider  $n+1$  surgery

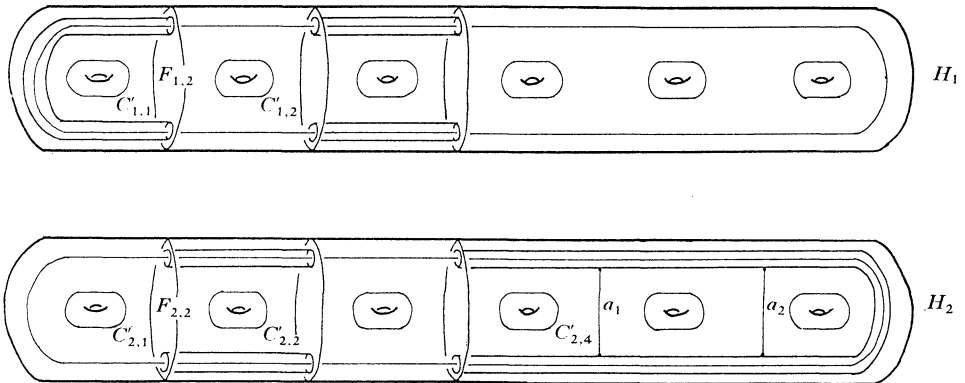


Fig 4.7. (a)



curves as in the proof of Case (I) and properly embedded surfaces  $F_{i,2}$  in  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  as indicated in Figure 4.7 (a). Put  $M=H'_1 \cup_f H'_2$ . Here  $H'_i$  is obtained from  $H_i$  ( $i=1, 2$ ) by performing 2-surgeries on those curves and  $f$  is a homeomorphism of  $\partial H'_2$  to  $\partial H'_1$  such that

- (1)  $f(\partial F_{2,2})=\partial F_{1,2}$ ,
- (2)  $f^{-1}(C_{1,j})$  ( $j \equiv 1 \pmod 2, 1 \leq j \leq n_2-1$  or  $j=n_1$ ) and  $f(C_{2,k})$  ( $k \equiv 2 \pmod 2, 2 \leq k \leq n_2-1$  or  $k=n_1$ ) are as indicated in Figure 4.7 (b),
- (3)  $f(C_{2,i})$  ( $i=n_2, n_2+1, \dots, n_1-1$ ) is parallel to  $C_{1,i}$ .

(In Figure 4.7.  $n_1=6$  and  $n_2=4$ .)

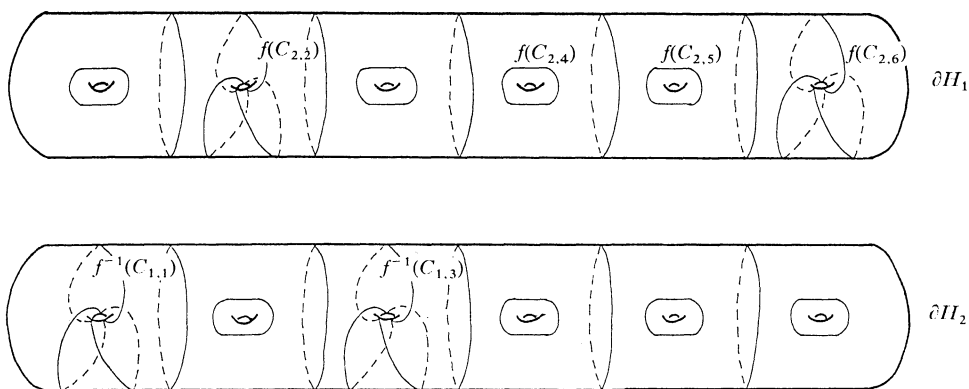


Fig 4.7. (b)

Then  $M$  is an orientable closed 3-manifold, and  $F_1=\partial H'_1$  and  $F_2=F_{1,2} \cup F_{2,2}$  are properly embedded surfaces such that  $g(F_1)=n_1$  and  $g(F_2)=n_2$ .

In the same way as in the proof of Case (I), we can prove that for any surface  $F$  obtained from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  by CP operations, each component of  $F$  bounds a handlebody, and  $F_1$  is incompressible in  $M$ .

We will prove the incompressibility of  $F_2$  in  $M$ . Let  $M_1$  be a closure of a component of  $M-F_2$  which does not contain  $C_{1,n_2}$ . Then  $M_1$  is the same manifold as obtained in the proof of Case (I). Hence  $F_2$  is incompressible in  $M_1$ .

Let  $L$  be the closure of a component of  $H_i-F_{i,2}$  ( $i \equiv n_2 \pmod 2$ ) which contains  $C'_{i,n_2}$ . We consider properly embedded arcs  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$  ( $m=n_1-n_2$ ) in  $L$  as indicated in Figure 4.7 (a). Let  $N_L(a_i)=a_i \times D^2$ . Then  $L - \cup_{i=1}^m a_i \times \text{Int } D^2$  has a form  $F' \times [0, 1] / \{(x, t) \sim (x, t') \mid x \in \partial F', t, t' \in [0, 1]\}$ , where  $F'=F_1 \cap L$ . Using this fact, we can see that  $M_2$  is obtained from handlebody  $V$  of genus  $n_2$  by performing 2-surgeries on closed curves indicated in Figure 4.8, and by attaching 2-handles  $N_L(a_i)=a_i \times D^2$  ( $i=1, 2, \dots, m$ ) so that  $a'_i=p_i \times \partial D^2$  ( $p_i \in a_i$ ) is identified with such curves as that indicated in Figure 4.8.

Consider properly embedded disks  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_m$  as indicated in Figure 4.8. Then the closure of each component of  $M_2 - \cup_{i=1}^m D_i$  is a manifold which is obtained from solid torus by performing 2-surgeries on two parallel curves which

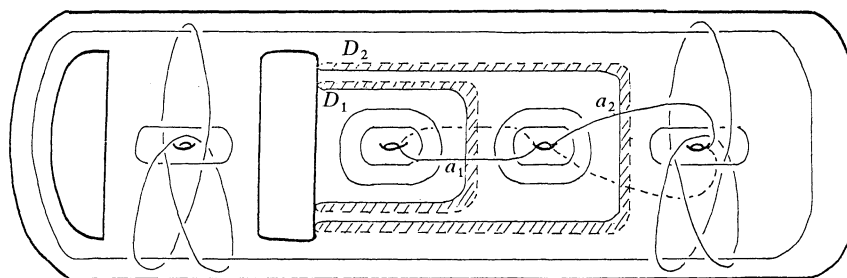


Fig 4.8.

are parallel to a core of solid torus, or the same manifold as that was obtained in the proof of Case (I). In both cases the manifolds are  $\partial$ -irreducible. Hence  $a'_1, a'_2, \dots, a'_m$  and  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_m$  satisfy the assumption of Lemma 3.5. Therefore  $M_2$  is  $\partial$ -irreducible and  $F_2$  is incompressible in  $M_2$ .

Hence  $F_2$  is incompressible in  $M$ , completing the proof of Case (II).

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.

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