

A Plateau problem at infinity in $H^2 \times \mathbb{R}$

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Joint work with Leonor Ferrer, Rafe Mazzeo and Francisco Martín

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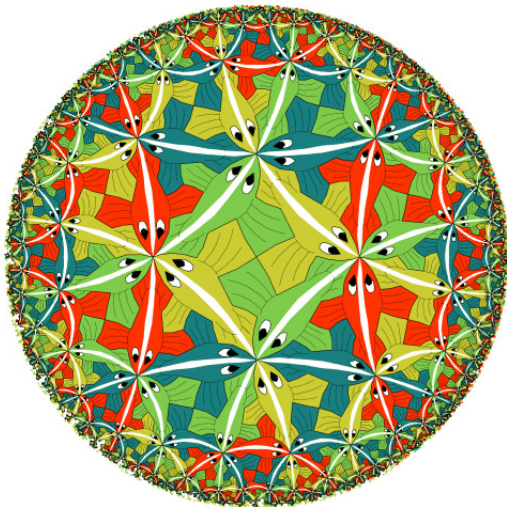
UNIVERSIDAD
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"Una manera de hacer Europa"

Proyectos cofinanciados con FEDER (Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional)

$$\mathbb{H}^2 = \{r = |z| < 1\}, \quad g_{-1} = \frac{4}{(1-|z|^2)^2} |dz|^2$$



Question 1

Given $\Gamma : \partial_\infty \mathbb{H}^2 \equiv \mathbb{S}^1 \rightarrow \partial_\infty \mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ cont.,
 $\exists M \subset \mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ prop. emb. min. sup. s.t. $\partial_\infty M = \Gamma$?

Nelli and Rosenberg, 2002 $\rightsquigarrow \exists M =$ vertical graph (+ uniqueness)

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Prop. emb. $\rightsquigarrow \Gamma^- < \Gamma^+$

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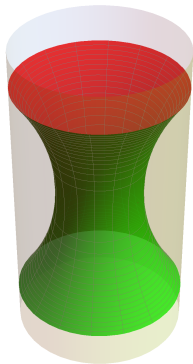
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Known examples

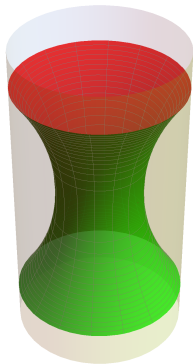
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An important property

Proposition

*Let A be a prop. emb. min annulus s.t. $\partial_\infty A = \Gamma^- \cup \Gamma^+$.
Then neighborhoods of the ends of A are vertical graphs.*

Ideas by Collin, Hauswirth and Rosenberg
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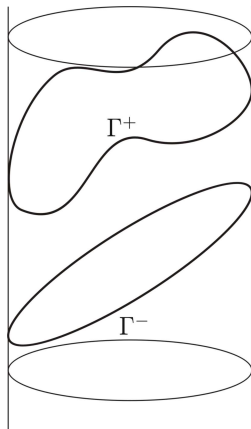
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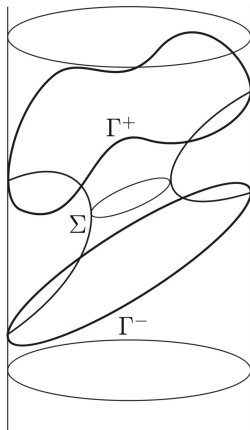
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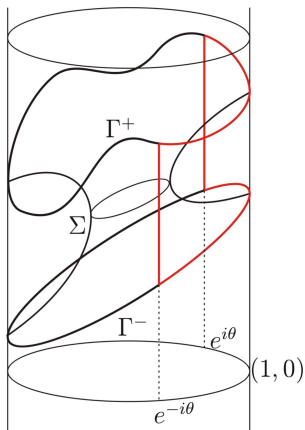
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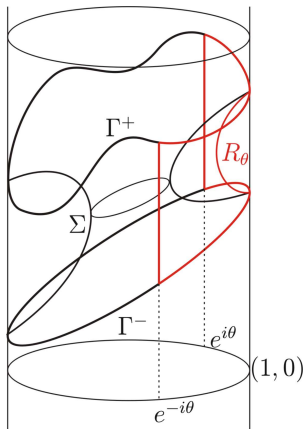
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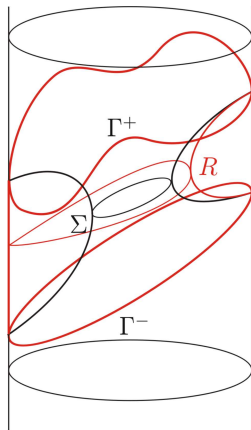
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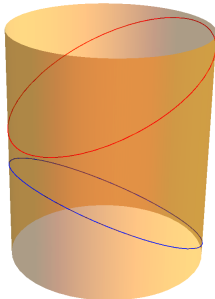
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Sup. $\exists A$ prop. emb. min. annulus s.t. $\partial_\infty A = \Gamma^- \cup \Gamma^+$ and $\exists \theta_1 < \theta_2 \in [0, 2\pi)$ s.t.:

- $\bullet \Gamma^+$ decreasing in (θ_1, θ_2) and increasing in $(\theta_2, \theta_1 + 2\pi)$.*
- $\bullet \Gamma^-$ increasing in (θ_1, θ_2) and decreasing in $(\theta_2, \theta_1 + 2\pi)$.*

Then Γ^\pm horizontal and A is a vertical catenoid.



Space of annuli and projection map

$$\mathcal{B} = \{(\Gamma^-, \Gamma^+) \subset (\mathcal{C}^{2,\alpha}(\mathbb{S}^1))^2 \mid 0 < \Gamma^+ - \Gamma^- < \pi\}$$

$$\mathcal{A} = \{A \subset \mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R} \text{ prop. emb. min. annulus} \mid \partial_\infty A \in \mathcal{B}\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi : \mathcal{A} &\rightarrow \mathcal{B} & (\Pi \text{ is not onto}) \\ A &\mapsto \partial_\infty A \end{aligned}$$

Theorem

\mathcal{A} is a Banach submanifold in the space of prop. emb. surf. in $\mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ and Π is Fredholm of index 0.

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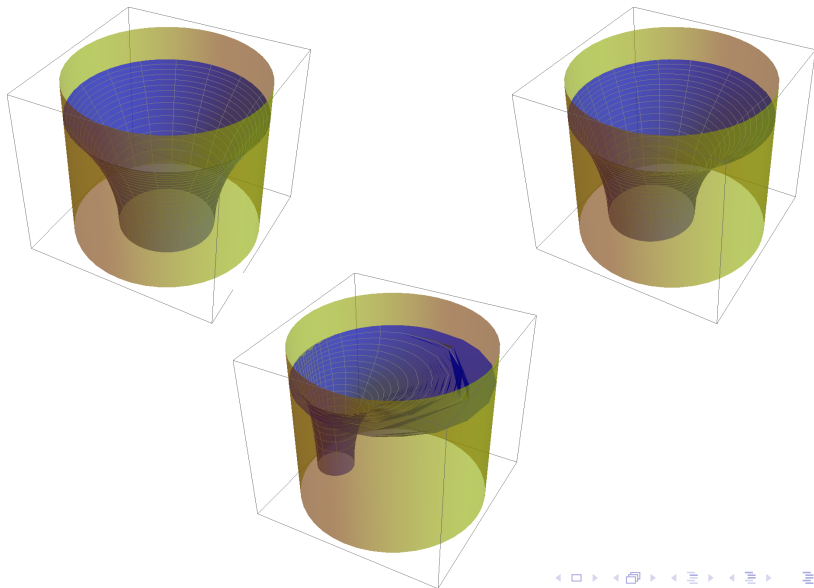
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Π is not proper



$\{A_n\} \subset \mathcal{A}$ s.t. $\Pi(A_n) = (\Gamma_n^-, \Gamma_n^+) \rightarrow (\Gamma^-, \Gamma^+) \in \mathcal{B}$, $A_n \rightarrow ?$

We know $A_n \setminus (B(q_n, R_n) \times \mathbb{R})$ is the union of vertical graphs u_n^\pm .
Possible cases (up to a subsequence):

- 1 q_n, R_n independent of n
- 2 R_n independent of n , $q_n \rightarrow q_\infty \in \partial_\infty \mathbb{H}^2$
- 3 $R_n \rightarrow +\infty$

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CASE 1: $q_n = q \in \mathbb{H}^2$, $R_n = R > 0$, independent of n

Theorem

In case 1, $A_n \rightarrow A \in \mathcal{A}$ (subsequence) and $\Pi(A) = (\Gamma^-, \Gamma^+)$.

Proof:

Elliptic estim. + Arzelà-Ascoli Th. $\rightsquigarrow u_n^\pm \rightarrow u^\pm$ on $\mathbb{H}^2 \setminus B(q, R)$

$\Rightarrow M_n = A_n \cap (B(q, R) \times \mathbb{R})$ are compact annuli

with ∂M_n locally uniformly bounded

and the area blowup set Z of A_n lies in the solid cylinder.

Take $C \subset (\mathbb{H}^2 \setminus \overline{B(q, R)}) \times \mathbb{R}$ catenoid symmetric w.r.t. $\mathbb{H}^2 \times \{t_0\}$

and the continuous family of catenoids going from C to $\mathbb{H}^2 \times \{t_0\}$

By White's Th., $Z \cap (\mathbb{H}^2 \times \{t_0\}) = \emptyset$

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Theorem (White)

$\{M_n\} \subset \mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ *prop. embeb. min. surf.*

Sup. the area and genus of M_n are uniformly bounded indep. of n .

Then (a subseq.) M_n converge to a prop. embeb. min. surf. M .

Moreover, for each c.c. Σ of M either:

- ① *the convergence to Σ is smooth with multiplicity one, or*
- ② *the convergence to Σ is smooth (with some multiplicity > 1) away from a discrete set.*

CASE 2: R_n independent of n , $q_n \rightarrow q_\infty \in \partial_\infty \mathbb{H}^2$

Theorem

In case 2, $A_n \rightarrow D^- \cup D^+$, min. graphs bounded by Γ^\pm , together with a vertical segment joining $(q_\infty, t^-) \in \Gamma^-$ to $(q_\infty, t^+) \in \Gamma^+$. $T_n = \text{hyp. transl. mapping } q_n \text{ to } 0 \Rightarrow \Sigma_n = T_n(A_n) \rightarrow C$ a catenoid. In particular, $t^+ - t^- < \pi$.

Proof:

Since $\mathbb{H}^2 \setminus B(q_n, R) \rightarrow \mathbb{H}^2$, $u_n^\pm \rightarrow u^\pm$ entire minimal graphs.

By uniqueness, $A_n \rightarrow D^- \cup D^+$.

Σ_n annulus and $\Sigma_n \setminus (B(0, R) \times \mathbb{R})$ union of 2 graphs

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By uniqueness, $A_n \rightarrow D^- \cup D^+$.

Σ_n annulus and $\Sigma_n \setminus (B(0, R) \times \mathbb{R})$ union of 2 graphs

$\Rightarrow \Sigma_n \rightarrow C = \text{annulus bounded by } \mathbb{H}^2 \times \{t^\pm\}$

$\Rightarrow C$ is a catenoid

CASE 3: $R_n \rightarrow +\infty$

Theorem

In case 3, $\exists \ell \subset \partial_\infty \mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ vertical segment in the limit set of A_n s.t. $\exists p_n \in A_n$ with hor. normal vector converging to a point in ℓ and $T_n = \text{hyp. transl. mapping } p_n \text{ to } (0, t_n) \Rightarrow \Sigma_n = T_n(A_n) \rightarrow \Sigma = \text{generalized catenoid. In particular, } \text{length}(\ell) = \pi.$

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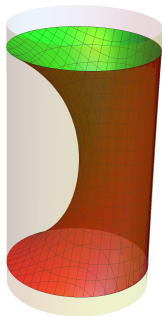
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$G \subset \text{Isom}(\mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R})$ finite group leaving invariant some catenoid C .

Sup. no element of $\mathcal{J}^0(C)$ is left invariant by G .

$\mathcal{J}^0(C)$ is spanned by $\varphi_1 = \left(\frac{1}{r} - r\right) \cos\theta$ and
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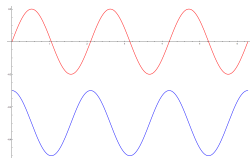
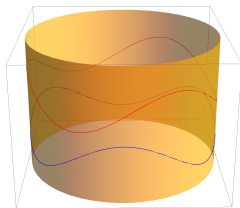
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Example:

$G = \langle R_k \rangle$, $R_k = \text{rotation by } 2\pi/k \text{ around the axis of } C$, $k \geq 2$



Existence

$$\mathcal{B}_G = \{\Gamma = (\Gamma^-, \Gamma^+) \in \mathcal{B}, \text{ } G\text{-invariant}\}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_G = \{A \in \mathcal{A}, \text{ } G\text{-invariant}\}, \quad \Pi_G = \Pi|_{\mathcal{A}_G}$$

Theorem

Π_G is onto, i.e. $\forall \Gamma \in \mathcal{B}_G, \exists A \in \mathcal{A}_G$ s.t. $\Pi(A) = \Gamma$.

Proof:

\mathcal{B}_G and \mathcal{A}_G are Banach manifolds and Π_G is Fredholm of index 0.

Moreover, Π_G is proper: $\{A_n\} \subset \mathcal{A}_G$ s.t. $\Pi(A_n) \rightarrow \Gamma \in \mathcal{B}_G$.

Boundary cond. avoids case 3; symmetry avoids case 2.

$\{A_n\}$ in case 1 $\Rightarrow A_n \rightarrow A = G$ -invariant, $\Pi(A) = \Gamma$.

Π_G has a well-defined \mathbb{Z} -valued degree

$$\deg(\Pi_G) = \sum_{A \in \Pi_G^{-1}(\Gamma)} (-1)^{\text{index}(A)}$$

where Γ is any reg. val. of Π_G and $\text{index}(A) = \#$ neg. eigenval. of Jacobi operator acting on G -inv. functions

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Open problem

Sharp conditions for the existence of this Plateau problem at infinity?

Existence: GENERAL RESULT

$A \in \mathcal{A}^*$ if A is proper, Alexandrov embedded min. annulus with embedded ends and

$$u_r^-(1, \theta) - v_r^-(1, \theta) < 0, \quad \forall \theta \in \mathbb{S}^1$$

where u^- is the graph parametrizing the bottom end of A and v^- is the entire minimal graph bounded by Γ^-

Existence: GENERAL RESULT

$$\tilde{\Pi} : \mathcal{A}^* \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{C} \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}^{2,\alpha}(\mathbb{S}^1))^2 \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{C}$$

$$\tilde{\Pi}(A, a, z) = \left(\Gamma^-, \Gamma^+ + a + \operatorname{Re}(ze^{i\theta}), G_0(A), G(A) \right)$$

where $G_0(A) = f_0(A) - f_0(A)^{-1}$,

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and $G(A) = \frac{1}{f_0(A)} \int_{\mathbb{S}^1} e^{i\theta} (u_r^-(1, \theta) - v_r^-(1, \theta)) d\theta \in \mathbb{H}^2$

is called the **center** of A .

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$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}^* = \tilde{\Pi}^{-1} ((\mathcal{C}^{2,\alpha}(\mathbb{S}^1))^2 \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{H}^2)$$

Theorem

The map $\tilde{\Pi} : \tilde{\mathcal{A}}^* \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{C} \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}^{2,\alpha}(\mathbb{S}^1))^2 \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{H}^2$ is:

- ① *Locally invertible near any catenoid.*
- ② *A proper Fredholm map of index 0 and degree ± 1 .*

In particular, $\forall (\Gamma^-, \Gamma^+) \in (\mathcal{C}^{2,\alpha}(\mathbb{S}^1))^2$, there exist constants a_0, a_1, a_2 s.t. $(\Gamma^-, \Gamma^+ + a_0 + a_1 \cos \theta + a_2 \sin \theta)$ bound a proper Alexandrov-embedded min. annulus with embedded ends.

Remark

We can prescribe one of the boundary curves, the vertical flux and the center of the neck.

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