On open 3-manifolds School on Geometric Evolution Problems

G. Besson

Université Grenoble Alpes

Centro De Giorgi June, 23rd 2014





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Outline

The question

Post-Perelman Question : what could be a good statement for the classification (geometrization) of open 3-manifolds?

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Involves the structure at infinity of non compact surfaces.

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In 1935 he realizes the mistake and constructed the first contractible 3-manifold not homeomorphic to \mathbf{R}^3 , the so-called Whitehead manifold.

Outline

Take $T_1 \supset T_2 \supset T_3 \supset \ldots$ solid tori.

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► T₁ is unknotted in S³ and T_i is a null-homotopic knot in T_{i-1}, for i > 1.

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On the picture $T_{i+2} \subset T_{i+1} \subset T_i \subset T_{i-1}$.

• $W = \cap T_i$ is the Whitehead continuum.

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Theorem (J.H.C. Whitehead)

X is contractible and not homeomorphic to \mathbf{R}^3 .

Whitehead continuum



Whitehead continuum



Hausdorff dimension > 1.

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Whitehead manifolds : remarks

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► X is a limit of solid tori.

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• symmetry $\Rightarrow X = \bigcup S_i$.

Whitehead link is symmetric \rightsquigarrow consequences.

- Define $S_i = S^3 \setminus T_i$.
- S_i is a solid torus,
- $S_i \subset S_{i+1}$ knotted in the same way,

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- symmetry $\Rightarrow X = \bigcup S_i$.
- A more general construction.
Contractibility (easy)



Contractibility (easy)

• S_i is null homotopic in S_{i+1} *i.e.* it is homotopic to a point.

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- ▶ For any *k*-sphere \mathbb{S}^k in *X*, $\exists i$ such that $\mathbb{S}^k \subset S_i$,
- $\forall k, \pi_k(X) = \{1\} \rightsquigarrow X \text{ is contractible.}$

Contractibility (easy)

• S_i is null homotopic in S_{i+1} *i.e.* it is homotopic to a point.

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Non-homeomorphy to R^3 (less easy)

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X is not simply connected at infinity.

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Non-homeomorphy to R^3 (less easy)

X is not simply connected at infinity.

Definition

X topological space is simply connected at infinity if $\forall C$ compact, $\exists D$ compact, $D \supset C$ s.t. any loop in $X \setminus D$ is null homotopic in $X \setminus C$.

What is known :



What is known :

• $X \times \mathbf{R} \simeq \mathbf{R}^4$ (Glimm-Shapiro) and $X \times X \simeq \mathbf{R}^6$ (Glimm).

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- S^3/W is not a manifold.
- Uncountably many examples (McMillan) (compare to countably many closed 3-manifolds).

What is known :

- $X \times \mathbf{R} \simeq \mathbf{R}^4$ (Glimm-Shapiro) and $X \times X \simeq \mathbf{R}^6$ (Glimm).
- S^3/W is not a manifold.
- Uncountably many examples (McMillan) (compare to countably many closed 3-manifolds).
- Uncountably many examples which do not embed in S³ (Kister-McMillan).

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What is known :

- $X \times \mathbf{R} \simeq \mathbf{R}^4$ (Glimm-Shapiro) and $X \times X \simeq \mathbf{R}^6$ (Glimm).
- S^3/W is not a manifold.
- Uncountably many examples (McMillan) (compare to countably many closed 3-manifolds).
- Uncountably many examples which do not embed in S³ (Kister-McMillan).
- Examples that cannot cover non-trivially any manifold (Myers).



The idea is to use geometry to understand these spaces and eventually what could be the right statement of geometrization.

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• **Question 1** : what is the "best" metric on *M*?



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- **Question 1** : what is the "best" metric on *M*?
- Question 2 : what is the evolution of the Ricci flow (with surgery)?

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Remark Whitehead manifolds cannot carry a complete metric of non-positive curvature.

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Theorem (Gang Liu)

Whitehead manifolds cannot carry complete metrics of nonnegative Ricci curvature.

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Higher genus Whitehead manifolds



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Outline

 \mathcal{X} = a class of closed 3-manifolds. A manifold *M* is a *connected sum* of members of \mathcal{X} if

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such that removing 3-balls and gluing $S^2 \times I$ to the X_v 's according to the edges of T

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such that removing 3-balls and gluing $S^2 \times I$ to the X_v 's according to the edges of $T \rightsquigarrow M$.

•
$$\mathcal{X} = \{S^3\}, T = \text{the half-line}$$

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Graphs versus trees

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Graphs versus trees



One result

Definition

(M,g) has bounded geometry if $\exists Q, \rho > 0$ such that $| \text{Sect}_g | \leq Q$ and $\text{inj}_g \geq \rho$.

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Theorem (Bessières-B.-Maillot)

M has a complete metric of bounded geometry and $Scal \ge 1$ iff there is a finite collection \mathcal{F} of spherical manifolds such that *M* is a (maybe infinite) connected sum of copies of $S^2 \times S^1$ and members of \mathcal{F} .

Remark

 Compact case due to Perelman + Schoen-Yau or Gromov-Lawson.

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- Compact case due to Perelman + Schoen-Yau or Gromov-Lawson.
- Uses a version of the Ricci flow with surgery for non compact manifolds.

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What if we relax the assumptions?

Let M be an orientable open 3-manifold and define

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Let M be an orientable open 3-manifold and define

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Question If $\mathcal{R}_1 \neq \emptyset$, is $\mathcal{R}_1/Diff(M)$ path connected?

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The compact case is a result of F. Codá Marques.

Outline

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Let $E \subset {\bm S}^3$ (closed set), what is the "best" complete metric on ${\bm S}^3 \setminus E$?

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- If E is a link \rightsquigarrow Thurston's theory.
- What if E is a Cantor set or a fractal?



A Cantor set is a compact metrizable set which is totally discontinuous and has no isolated points.





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Facts



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All Cantor sets are homeomorphic.



A Cantor set is a compact metrizable set which is totally discontinuous and has no isolated points.

Facts

- All Cantor sets are homeomorphic.
- ► The homeomorphism may not extend to **R**³ or **S**³.



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Facts

• The binary tree of spheres is a triadic Cantor.





Facts

- The binary tree of spheres is a triadic Cantor.
- If E has "holes" $\rightsquigarrow S^3 \setminus E$ is not contractible.

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Cantor sets in S^3

Facts

- The binary tree of spheres is a triadic Cantor.
- If E has "holes" $\rightsquigarrow S^3 \setminus E$ is not contractible.
- It is simply connected and has no metric of non positive curvature.

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Facts

- The binary tree of spheres is a triadic Cantor.
- If E has "holes" $\rightsquigarrow S^3 \setminus E$ is not contractible.
- It is simply connected and has no metric of non positive curvature.

Theorem (Souto-Stover)

There is a cantor set $E \subset S^3$ such that the complement $S^3 \setminus E$ admits a complete hyperbolic metric.

Question : Complete metric of constant scalar curvature conformal to the standard one on $\mathbf{S}^n \setminus E \ (n \ge 3)$?

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D. Labutin ('05) :

constant negative scalar curvature $\iff E$ is not thin.

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$$\forall p \in E, \quad \int_0^{1/2} \Big(\frac{\mathcal{C}(B(p,r) \cap E)}{\mathcal{C}(B(p,r))} \Big)^{(2/n-2)} \frac{dr}{r} = +\infty.$$

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Satisfied for E = Whitehead continuum.

Conical singularities

Question : Constant scalar curvature metrics with conical singularities on *E* ?

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What does that mean?
Conical singularities

Question : Constant scalar curvature metrics with conical singularities on *E* ?

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- What does that mean?
- Start with n = 2.

Antoine's necklace



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Antoine's necklace birth



Antoine's necklace birth



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