

Symplectic knots (joint w/ J. Etnyre)

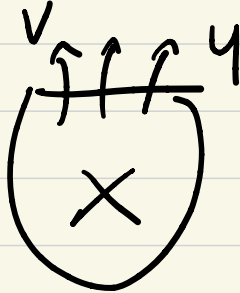
def Symplectic filling: (Y^3, ξ)

contact 3-mfld, (X^4, ω)

a symplectic 4-mfld

X is a filling of Y if $L_V \omega = \omega$

$\exists$ Liouville v.f. V for ω

∇Y & "goes out" of X 

X is a (symplectic) cap for

Y if V points in (towards int X)

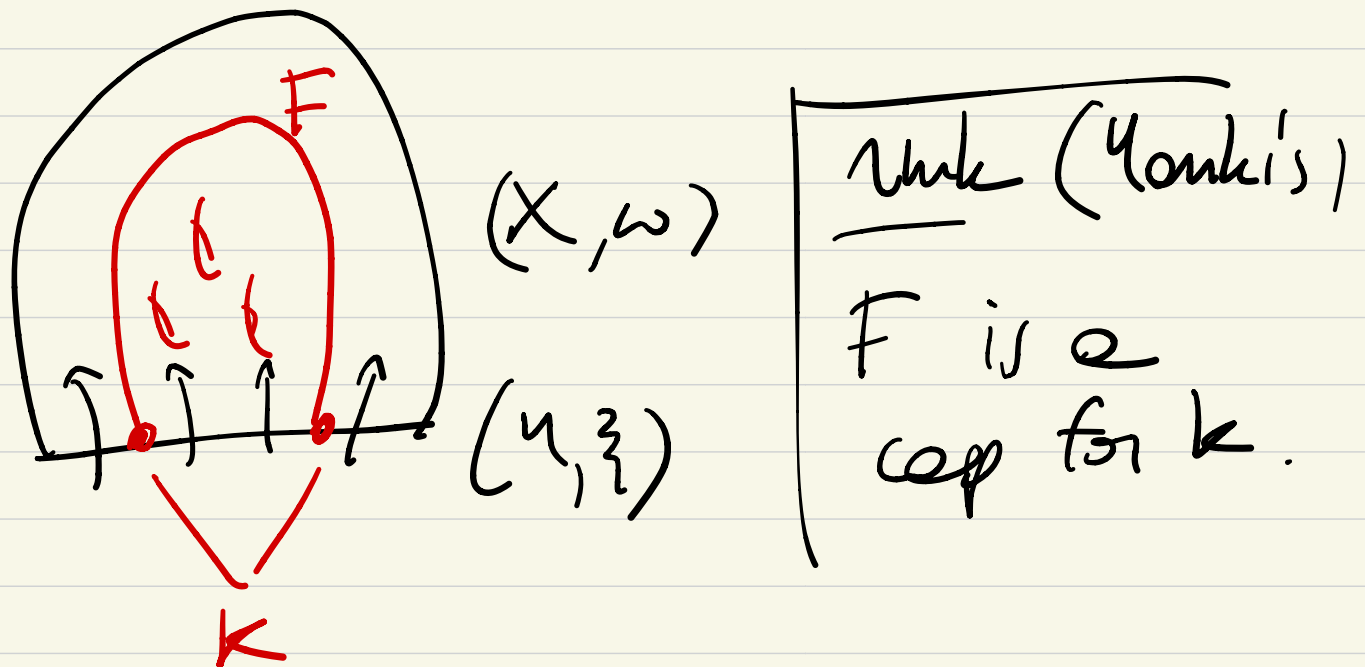
$$\partial X = -Y.$$



s.t. $\omega(V, -)$

is a contact form for ξ .

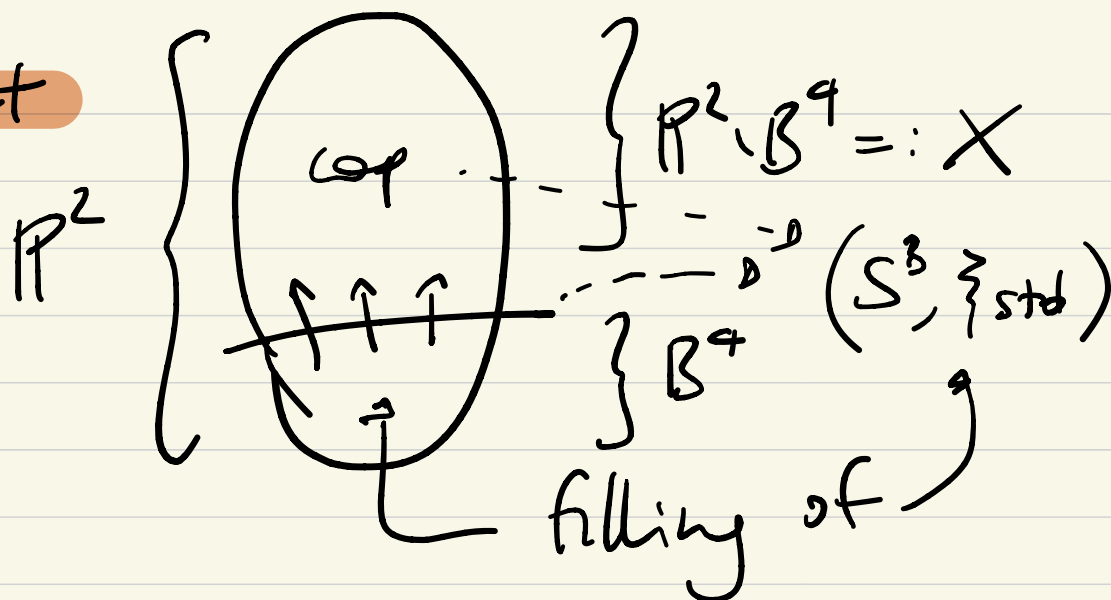
A symplectic **hot** for a transverse knot $k \subset (Y, \xi)$ is a symplectic surface $F \subset (X, \omega)$ in a cap for Y s.t. F is symplectic, $F \pitchfork Y$, $\partial F = -k$.
 $\uparrow$ orient. reversed.



q When do hots exist?

ex P^2 (ex proj plane), $\omega_{FS} = \omega$
 $\cup$ $\uparrow$ Fubini-Study.
 B^4 Darboux ball

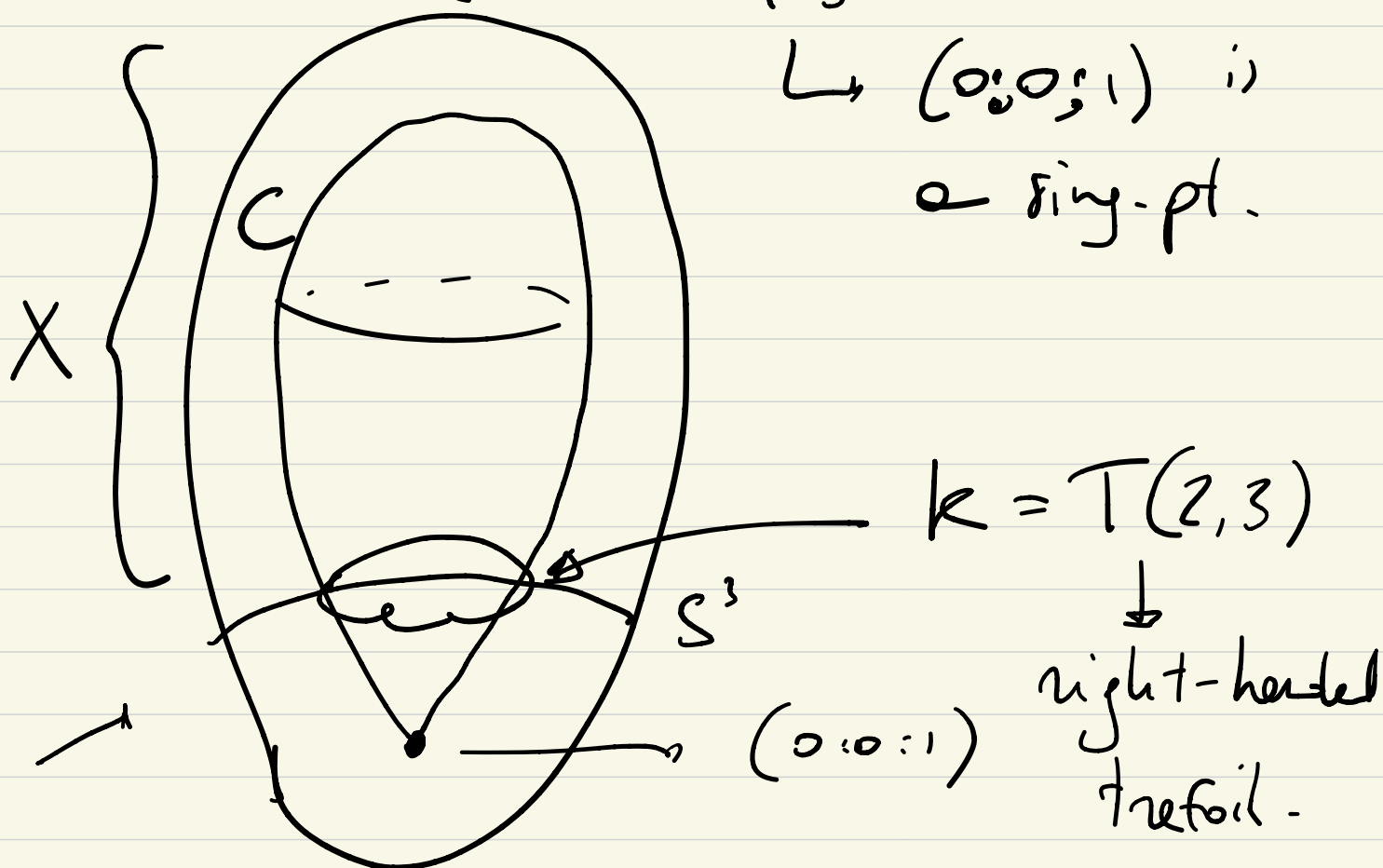
fact



Complex curves: e.g. cuspidal

$$\text{cusp} C := \{x^2 z = y^3\} \subset P^2$$

$\hookrightarrow (0:0:1)$ is
a sing. pt.



$C \cap X$ is a knot for k .

thm (Etnyre - G.) 1) If k is a transverse knot in (S^3, ξ_{st}) , then k has a bet in X .

2) k has a disc bet in $X \# k \overline{\mathbb{P}^2}$ (X blown up k times).

3) If $(Y, \xi) \supset k$ transverse, then exists a cap (X', ω) for Y s.t. k has a disc bet in (X', ω) (X' depends on k)

prop (Etnyre - G.) $(-\Sigma(2, 3, 7), \xi_0)$

Consider an exact filling W of this contact mfd. Then

$$H_*(W) = \mathbb{Z}_{(0)} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{(2)}^{\oplus 10}$$

X int. form is $E_8 \oplus H$.

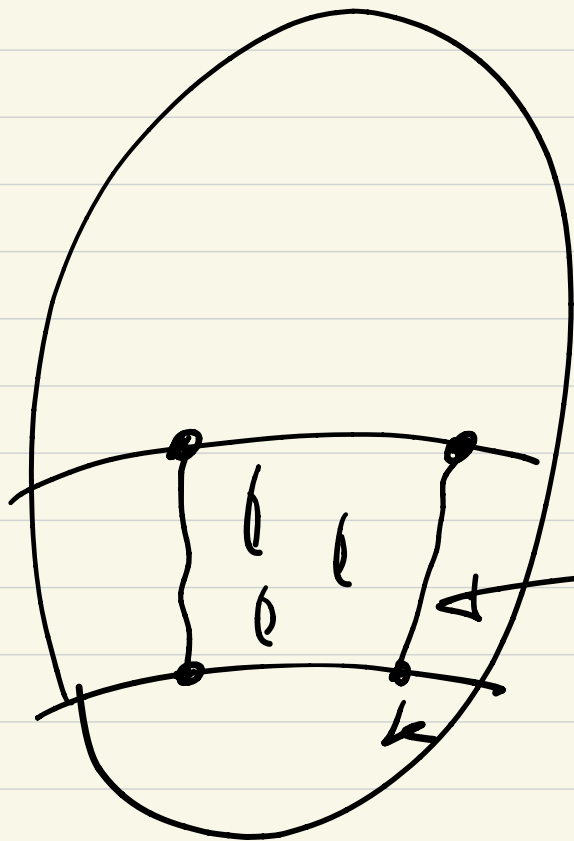
by contrast, $\mathbb{R}^3$ has strong
sympl. filling, w/ arbitrarily large
 b_2^+ .

link • In the absolute case, we
know that every (Y, Σ) has a
symplectic cap. (our theorem is
a relative version of this fact).

- We can think of knot as
symplectic surfaces w/ an isolated
singularity, whose link is the
transverse knot k .

main tools is the proof of the 1 on
braids & complex curves.

Structure of the proof:



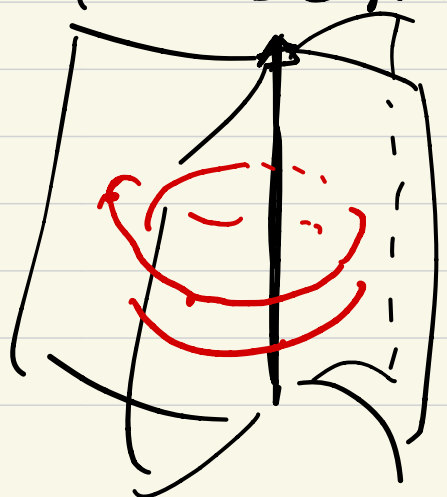
Step II

cop off k' !
CX curve

Step I

symp. cob.
(using local moves)
braids

Step I: recall even transverse knot
 k is isotopic to the closure of
a braid β .
(Alexander, Wrinkle)



Use braids to construct cobordisms:

$$\beta \in B_n \quad (n\text{-strands braid})$$

adding a positive generator

$$\sigma_i \text{ to } \beta \quad (\text{anywhere})$$

$$\beta = \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \quad \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---}$$

$$\beta' = \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1' \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \quad \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---}$$

claim 1: $\exists$ a symplectic cobordism
in $S^3 \times \mathbb{I}$ from $\hat{\beta}$ to $\hat{\beta}'$

$$\beta'' = \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1^2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \quad \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---}$$

claim 2: $\exists$ an immersed symplectic
cobordism from $\hat{\beta}$ to $\hat{\beta}''$.

proof claim 2 inserting square of
a generator $\Leftrightarrow$ adding a
double point in a braid
homotopy.

$\rightarrow$ on inn. annulus, is $S^1 \times I$
with a positive double pt.

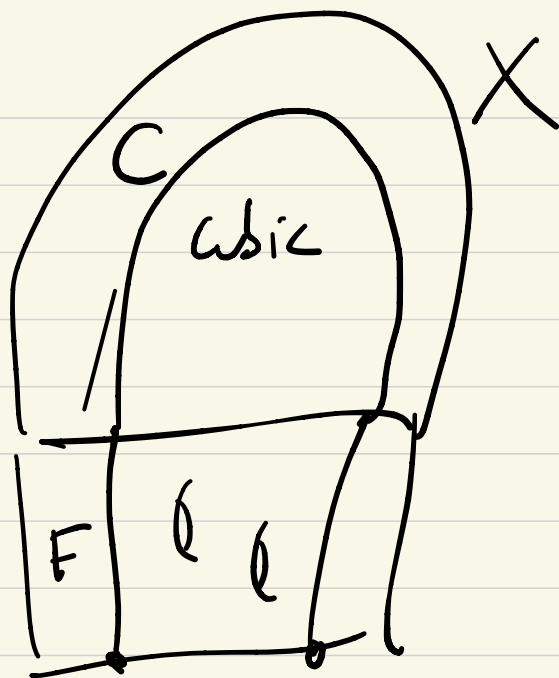
resolve it
(increases
genus)

blow it up
(keep the genus
but changes
the 4-fold)

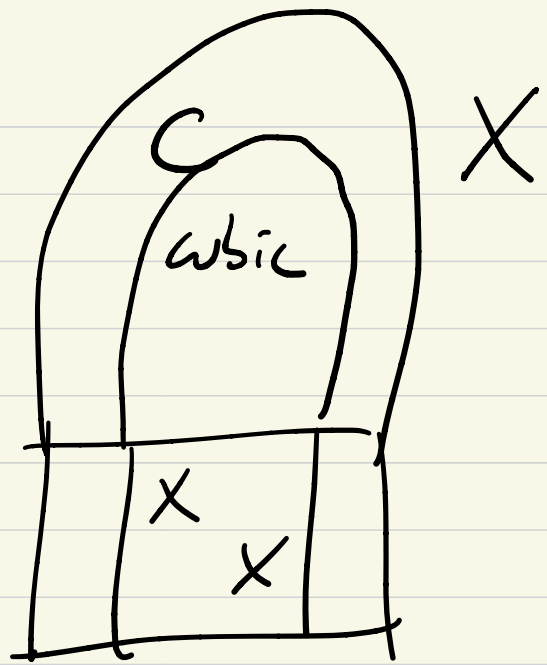
claim 3 Using claim 1 or 2

you can go from any k
to a torus knot with maximal
sl.

ex $\sigma_1^{-1} \sigma_2 \sigma_1^{-1} \sigma_2 \sim_F \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2$
 $\uparrow$ add $\square$ of σ_1 $\downarrow$ trefoil, max sl.



$\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_1^{-1}, \sigma_2$
genus-2 knot



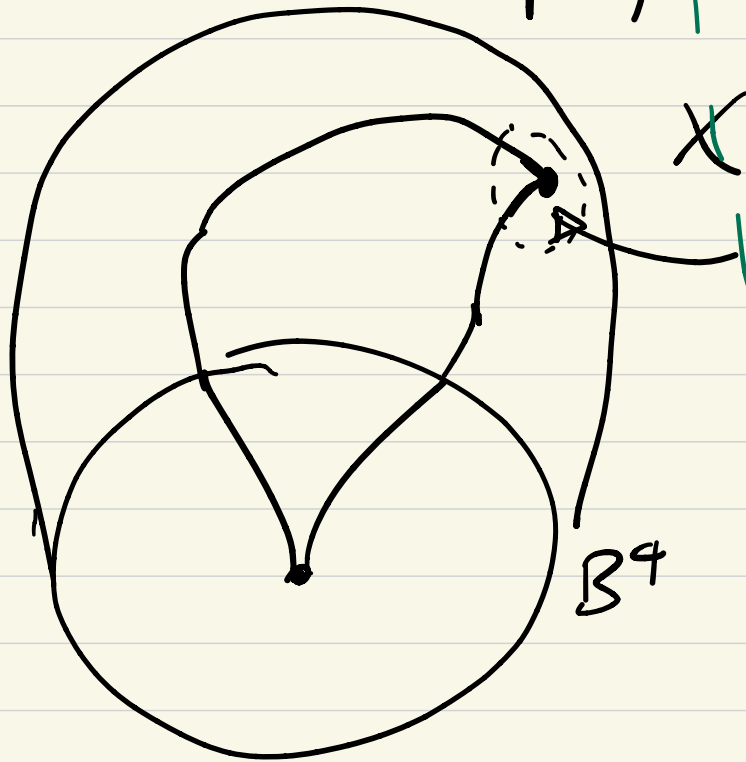
genus-0 knot
w/ two pos.
double pts.

claim 4 Every torus knot has a
knot in X .

proof claim 4 $T_{p,q}$ = link of the
sing. $\{x^p = y^q\} \subset \mathbb{C}^2$ at the
origin.
(suppose $p < q$)

$$C = \{ | x^p z^{q-p} - y^q = 0 \} \subset \mathbb{P}^2$$

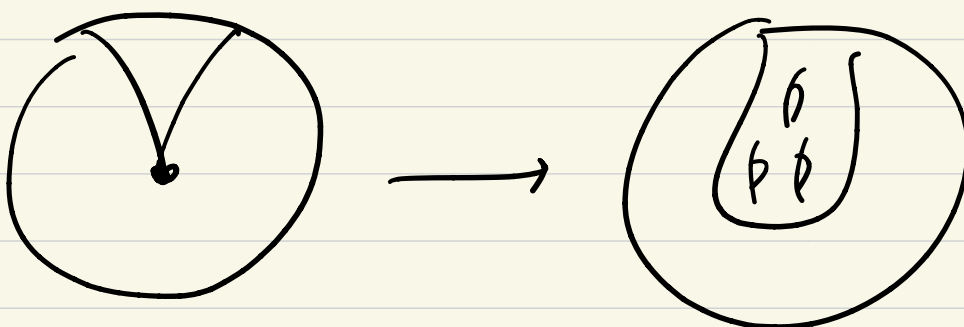
C is the proj. of $|x^p = y^q|$



another sing. of C
(unless $p = q - 1$)

We can eliminate
this sing. by
def. the equation.

def.: remove a small ball around
the other sing. & replace it
with the Milnor fibre.





$T_{P,9}$

$\sim$

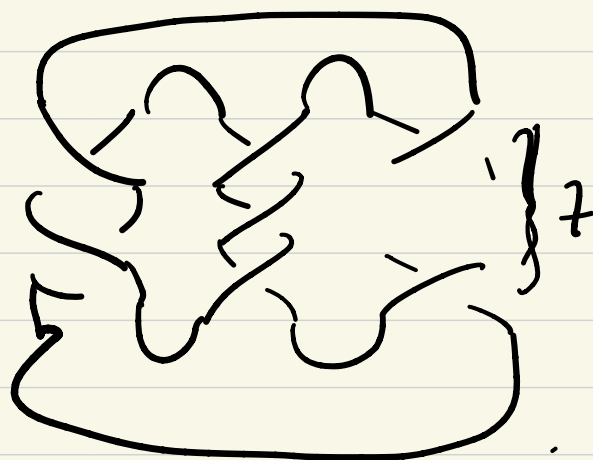
$\square$ claim 4.

ends step II.

ex

$$P(-2, 3, 7) =$$

$\hookrightarrow$ Pretzel



$$= \overbrace{\sigma_1 \sigma_2^2 \sigma_1^2 \sigma_2^7} =: K$$

claim: K has a cobordism

to $T_{3,11}$ & therefore

it has a knot of genus 5

& degree 6 = rel. hom. class.

proof : ~~old~~ a bunch of generators

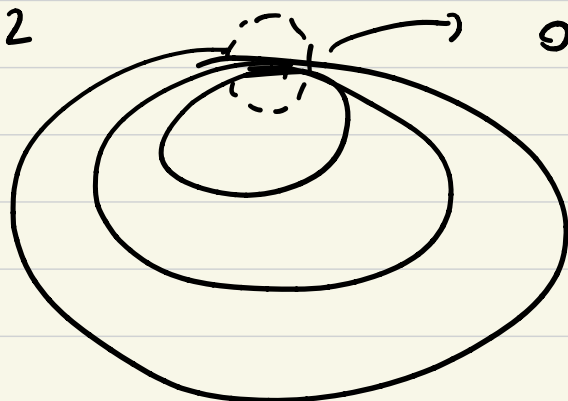
$$\underbrace{\sigma_1 \sigma_2}_{\text{red}} \underbrace{\sigma_1 \sigma_2}_{\text{red}} \underbrace{\sigma_1 \sigma_2}_{\text{red}} \underbrace{\sigma_1 \sigma_2}_{\text{red}} (\sigma_1 \sigma_2)^6 \underbrace{\sigma_1 \sigma_2}_{\text{red}}$$

$$= (\sigma_1 \sigma_2)^{11} \sim \text{Whisk down to } T_{3,11}.$$

claim $T_{3,11}$ has a degree-6 disc knot.

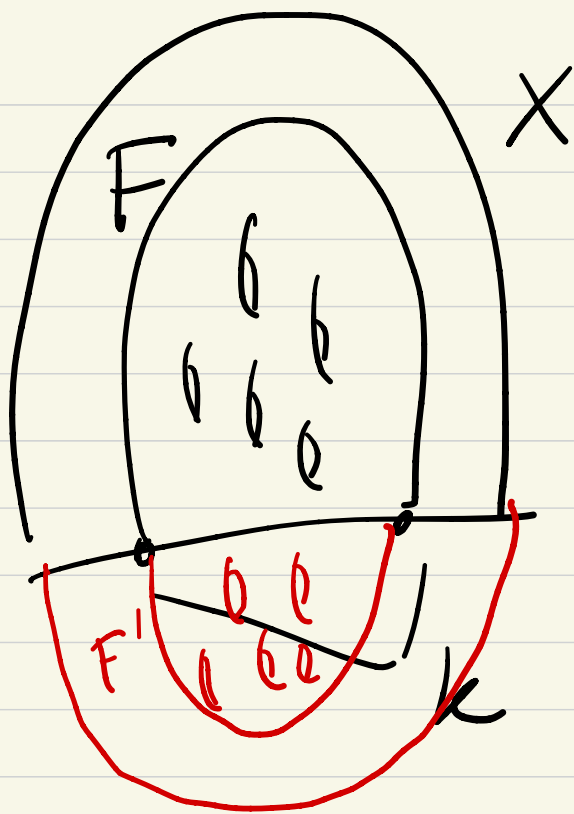
$$\{ (zy - x^2)^3 - xy^5 = 0 \}$$

$T_{3,12}$

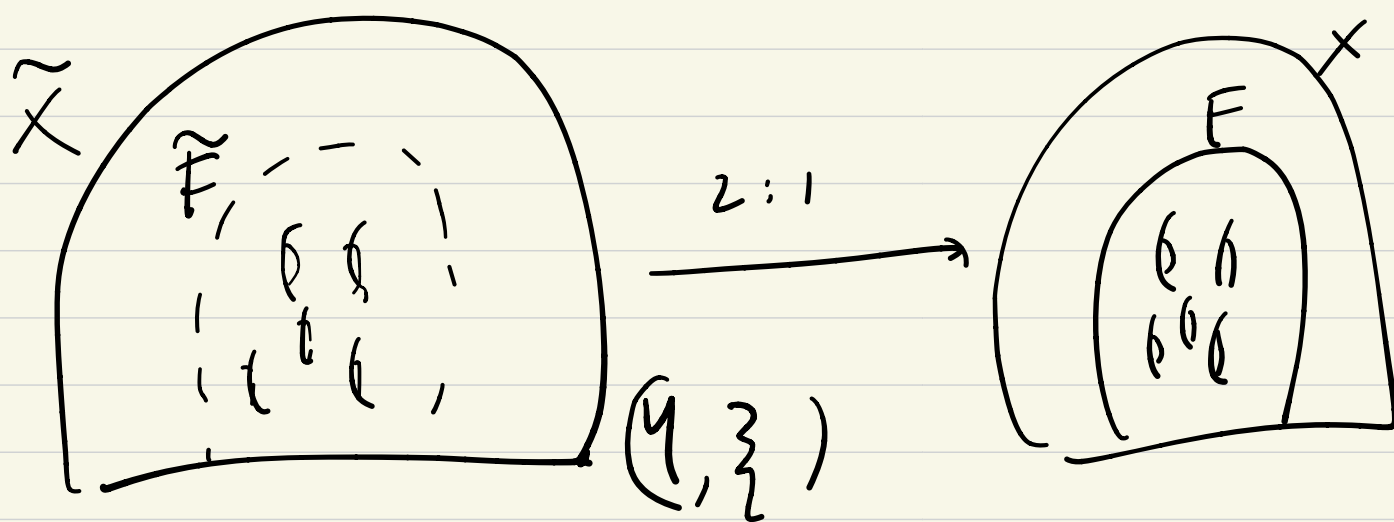


def. this to

$T_{3,11}$



can take the
 $\sim$ double
 cover of X
 branched over
 F .



Whole point: having "nice" caps
 for contact 2-mfld, allows
 for classification of filling.

$(Y, \mathcal{Z})$: Y is the double cover of S^3 branched over K .

$$\Rightarrow Y = -\Sigma(2, 3, 7).$$

K is a quasipositive knot

$K = \partial$ sympl. surface^F in B^4

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{Z}$ is tight (fillable)

$\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{unk} \exists! \text{ tight c.s. on } -\Sigma(2, 3, 7) \\ \sim \mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{Z}_0 \text{ of the proposition} \end{array} \right)$

$\tilde{X}$ is a Gabai-Yasui cap for $\mathcal{Z}_0$.

→ (Li-Mok-Yasui, Sivukh-

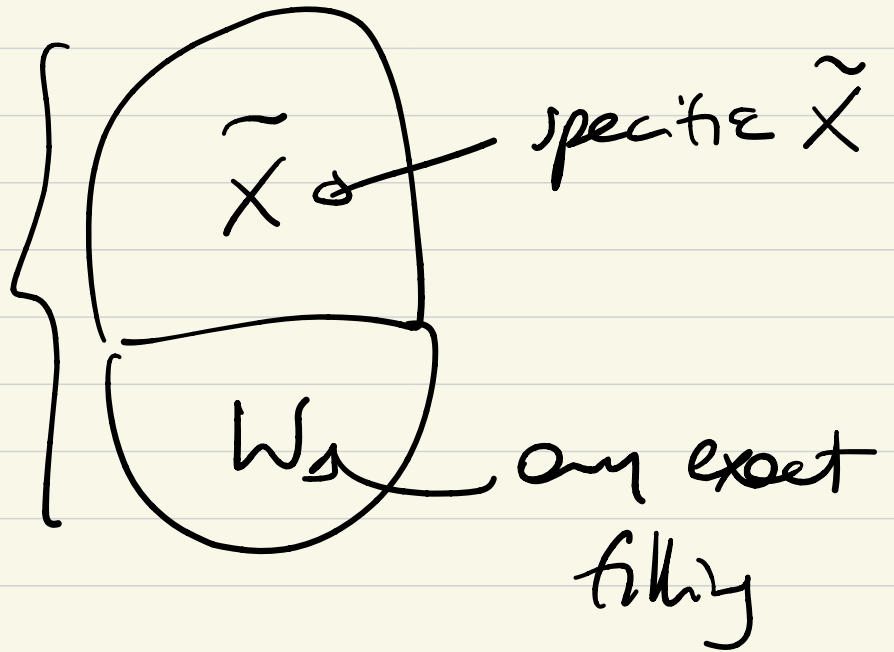
→ van Horn-Morris):

can we push cap to

bound the topology of filling.

main point:

bounded
topology

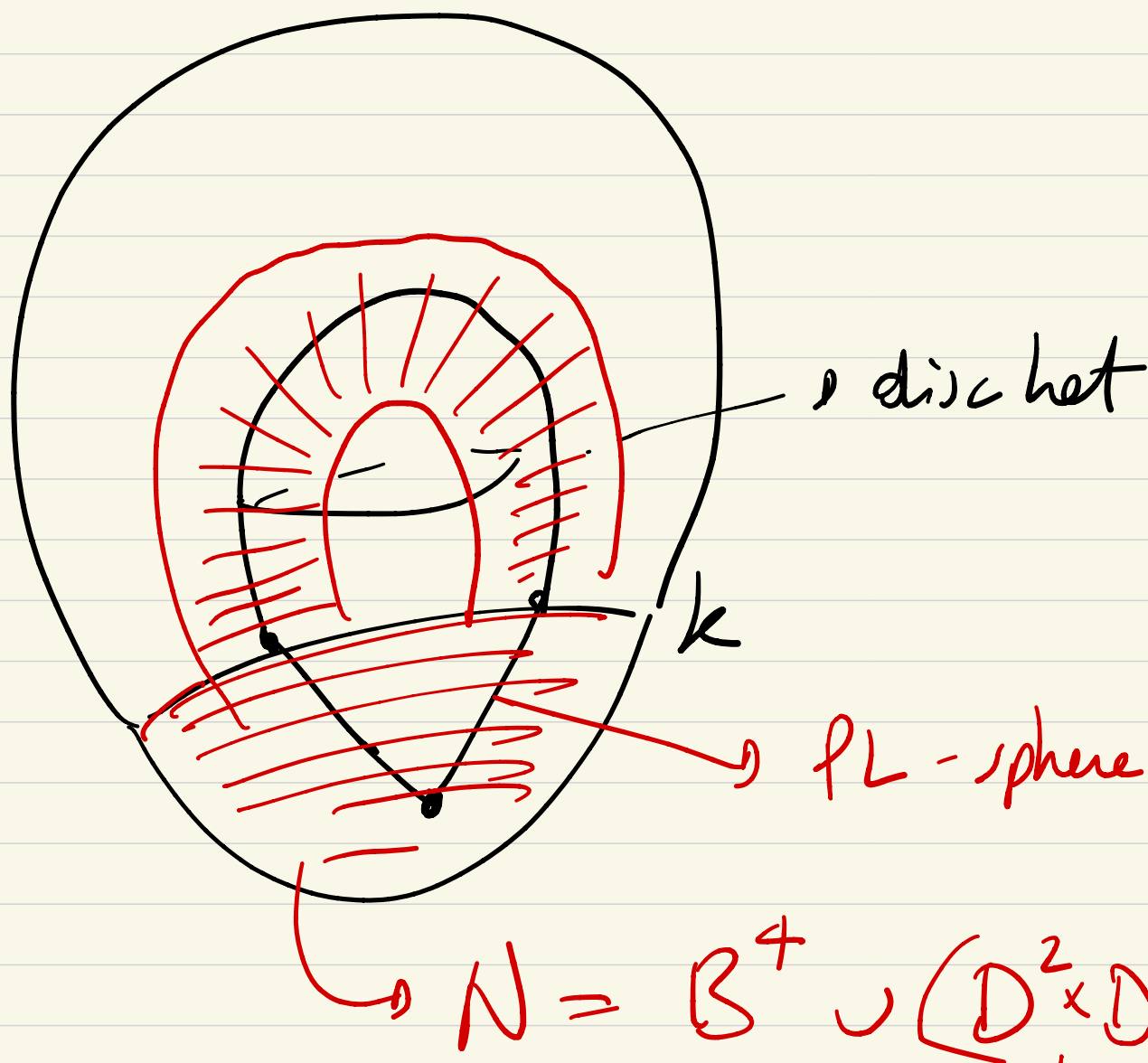


can prove that

$W \cup \tilde{X}$ is a $k3$ surface.

(Bauer, Fintush-Shtan, Morger-Szabo, Parker, Li)...

obstruction to having disc hats;
 come from Heegaard Fiber hom.



Claim

$\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus N$ is
 a rational hom.

ball, whose boundary is $S_{d^2}^3(k)$.

degree

ex $T_{2,2,1}$ does not have a
disc bet in P^2 .

It number gives an obstruction
 $\leadsto$ It has to be a
 triangular number for
 k to have a disc bet.

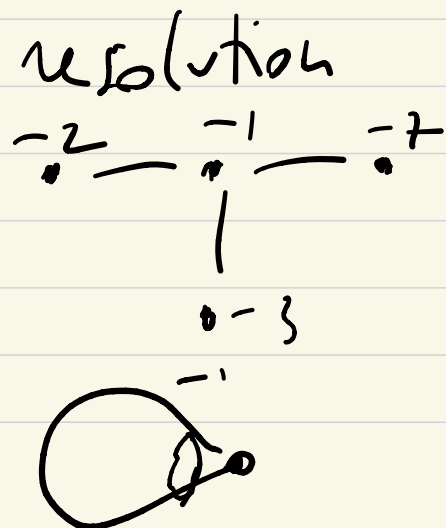
$$(\Sigma(2,3,7), \{can\})$$

$$\{x^2 + y^3 + z^7 = 0\} \subset \mathbb{C}^3.$$

Miller fibe

$$b_2 = (2-1)(3-1)(7-1) = 12$$

$$\sigma = -8 \quad E_8 \oplus H \oplus H$$



$$- \Sigma(2,3,7) = \partial \overbrace{\cdots}^{\curvearrowright}$$

$\vdots$

$$\parallel$$

$$\Sigma(B^4, F')$$