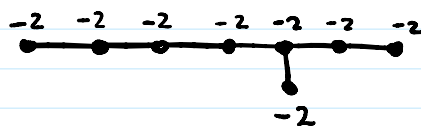


Two Key Examples:

①  $E_8$  = linking matrix of this link:



exercise: check this is even, negative definite,  
and compute  $\sigma(E_8) = -8$

②  $H = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  = linking form on  $S^2 \times S^2$

exercise: check it's even and indefinite  
check that  $\sigma(H) = 0$

Facts about unimodular, symmetric, bilinear integral forms

1.)  $Q$  is odd and indefinite

$$\implies Q \cong b_+(+1) \oplus b_-(-1)$$

$$\cong \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} +1 & \dots & +1 \\ \hline & & \\ \hline & & -1 & \dots & -1 \end{array} \right] \left. \begin{array}{l} \} b_+ \\ \} b_- \end{array} \right.$$

$$\text{rank } Q = b_+ + b_-$$

$$\sigma(Q) = b_+ - b_-$$

$$b_+ = \frac{\text{rk } Q + \sigma(Q)}{2} \quad b_- = \frac{\text{rk } Q - \sigma(Q)}{2}$$

2.)  $Q$  even  $\implies \sigma(Q) = 0 \pmod 8$

3.)  $Q$  even and indefinite

a) if  $\sigma(Q) \leq 0$ , then  $Q \cong a \cdot E_8 \oplus b \cdot H$

a) If  $\sigma(Q) \leq 0$ , then  $Q \cong a \cdot E_8 \oplus b \cdot H$

$$\text{where } a = \frac{-\sigma(Q)}{8} = \frac{b_- - b_+}{8}$$

$$b = \frac{\text{rk}(Q) + \sigma(Q)}{2} = b_+$$

b) If  $\sigma(Q) > 0$ , then  $Q \cong a \cdot E_8 \oplus b \cdot H$

$$\text{where } a = \frac{\sigma(Q)}{8}$$

$$b = \frac{\text{rk} Q - \sigma(Q)}{2}$$

**Upshot:**

We understand indefinite forms quite well

Question: How much does the intersection form determine the 4-mfd?

**Theorem: (Whithead)**

If  $X_1, X_2$  are simply connected, closed, oriented 4-mfds, then they are homotopy equivalent iff their intersection forms are isomorphic

Example:

$$\mathbb{C}P^2 \# \overline{\mathbb{C}P^2}$$

$$\text{odd, } \begin{pmatrix} +1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$S^2 \times S^2$$

$$\text{even, } \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\therefore$  not homotopy equivalent

### Theorem (Wall)

Let  $X_1, X_2$  be simply connected, closed, oriented, smooth 4-mfds. If their intersection forms are isomorphic, then  $\exists k \geq 0$  st.

$$X_1 \# k(S^2 \times S^2) \cong_{\text{diffco}} X_2 \# k(S^2 \times S^2)$$

"stably diffeomorphic"

### Rmk:

$\exists$  examples where  $k \neq 0$  but as far as I know, it is open whether  $k$  ever needs to be  $> 1$ .

"1 is enough?"

Example: (where  $k \neq 0$ )

$$X_1 = K3 \# \overline{\mathbb{C}P^2}$$

$$Q_{X_1} = 2E_8 \oplus 3H \oplus (-1)$$

$$\text{rk}(Q_{X_1}) = 16 + 6 + 1 = 23$$

$$\sigma(Q_{X_1}) = -16 - 1 = -17$$

odd (not even)

indefinite

$$b_+ = 3$$

$$b_- = 20$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{odd} + \text{indefinite} \Rightarrow Q_{X_1} \cong 3(+1) \oplus 20(-1)$$

Another 4-mfd w/  $Q_{X_1}$  is  $3\mathbb{C}P^2 \# 20\overline{\mathbb{C}P^2} = X_2$

**fact:** Kronheimer-Mrowka show that  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are NOT diffeos using Donaldson polynomial

Remark:

$K3 \# \mathbb{C}P^2$  is in fact diffeo to  $4\mathbb{C}P^2 \# 19\overline{\mathbb{C}P^2}$   
(exercise)

Question: Which forms can be realized as the intersection form of a 4-mfd?

**Theorem:** (Rohlin)

If  $X$  is a simply connected, closed, smooth, orient. 4-mfd with even intersection form, then

$$\sigma(X) \equiv 0 \pmod{16}$$

Example:

$E_8$  does not arise as the intersection form of a simply connected, closed, smooth 4-mfd

Same with  $E_8 \oplus H$

\* What if we relaxed smooth condition?

**Theorem** (Freedman)

Given a unimodular, symmetric, bilinear integral form which is even, then there exists up to homeo exactly one simply conn. closed topological 4-mfd representing

one simply conn. closed topological 4-mfd representing that form.

If odd, there are exactly two top-4-mfds rep'ing that form.

In the odd case, one of those topological 4-mfds never admits a smooth structure.

### Corollary

If  $X_1, X_2$  are closed, simply connected, smooth 4-mfds with  $Q_{X_1} \cong Q_{X_2}$  then  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are homeomorphic

Ex:

$$K3 \# \overline{\mathbb{C}P^2} \simeq_{\text{homeo}} 3\mathbb{C}P^2 \# 20\overline{\mathbb{C}P^2}$$

but

$$K3 \# \overline{\mathbb{C}P^2} \not\cong_{\text{diffeo}} 3\mathbb{C}P^2 \# 20\overline{\mathbb{C}P^2}$$

↑ these are what we call an exotic pair

defn: manifolds that are homeo but not diffeo

Ex:

$\exists$  a simply connected, closed topological 4-mfd  $X$  with  $Q_X = E_8$

$X$  cannot be smooth by Rokhlin's theorem

### Corollary

If a topological 4-mfd  $X$  is homotopy equivalent to  $S^4$  then it has to be homeomorphic to  $S^4$

# "Topological 4-dim Poincaré Conjecture"

## Smooth 4-dim Poincaré Conjecture (open)

Every smooth 4-mfd which is homeo to  $S^4$  is in fact diffeo to  $S^4$

## Theorem (Donaldson)

If the intersection form is positive definite, then the form is isomorphic over  $\mathbb{Z}$  to  $(+1)$ 's along the diagonal.

"

" negative definite,

"

"  $(-1)$ 's

Remark: the number of positive-definite unimodular symm, unimodular bilinear forms of a fixed rank is finite, but grows rapidly

EX:  $> 10^{51}$  such forms of rank 40

Donaldson says that only the diagonalizable ones are realized as  $Q_X$  for smooth  $X$

## Theorem (Furuta)

If the intersection form  $Q$  of a smooth, simply conn closed, oriented 4-mfd is even, then

$$\text{rk } Q > \frac{10}{8} |\sigma(Q)|$$

Note: If even, indefinite

$Q_x \cong a E_8 \oplus b H$  then

$$\sigma(Q_x) = -8a$$

$$\text{rk}(Q_x) = 8a + 2b$$

so Furuta implies  $8a + 2b > \frac{10}{8} \cdot 8a$

$$b > a$$

$11/8$  th's conjecture:

Hypothesis as above:

$$\text{rk } Q \geq \frac{11}{8} |\sigma(Q)|$$

(open)

Ex:  $K3$

$$\text{rk } Q_{K3} = 22$$

$$|\sigma(Q_{K3})| = 16$$

So far, we've described some smooth closed 4-mfds as

$$\underbrace{B^4 \cup n(2\text{-h})'s \cup B^4}_{\text{resulting boundary} = S^3} \quad (\text{e.g. } K3)$$

But not all 4-mfds admit such a description.

Q: Is there a general way to describe a closed 4-mfd?

answer: yes. as a union of handles

## Handle Decomposition:

n-dim k-handle

$$D^k \times D^{n-k}$$

attached along the attaching region

$$(\partial D^k) \times D^{n-k}$$

attaching sphere

$$(\partial D^k) \times \{0\}$$

core

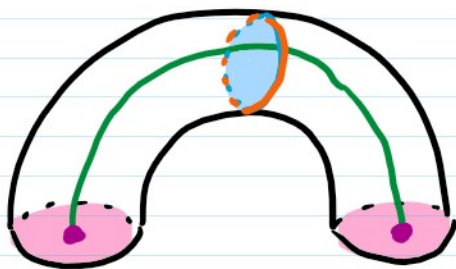
$$D^k \times \{0\}$$

co-core

$$\{0\} \times D^{n-k}$$

belt-sphere

$$\{0\} \times \partial D^{n-k}$$



Exercise: think about what it would look like for other  $n$  and  $k$ .

Exercise: An integral form  $Q_x$  is even



$$Q(e_i, e_i) \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$

for every basis  $\{e_i\}$

every matrix representing  $Q$  has even diagonal



$$Q(e_i, e_i) \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \text{ for at least one basis}$$



$\exists$  at least 1 matrix representation  $Q$



$\iff$   
 $\exists$  at least 1 matrix representation  $Q$   
 where diagonal is even

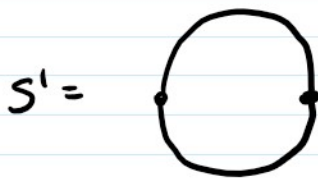
Example: n-dim 0-handle

$$D^0 \times D^n$$

attaching region =  $\emptyset$

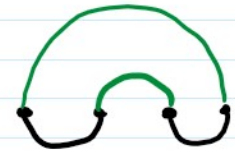
A **handle decomposition** of smooth  $M^n$  is a description of  $M$  by attaching handles

Example:



1-handle  
0-handle

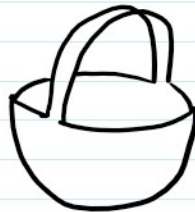
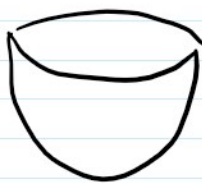
OR



1-h's

0-h's

Example:



$\cup$

1-handle



$\cup$

2-handle



$\cup$

2-handle

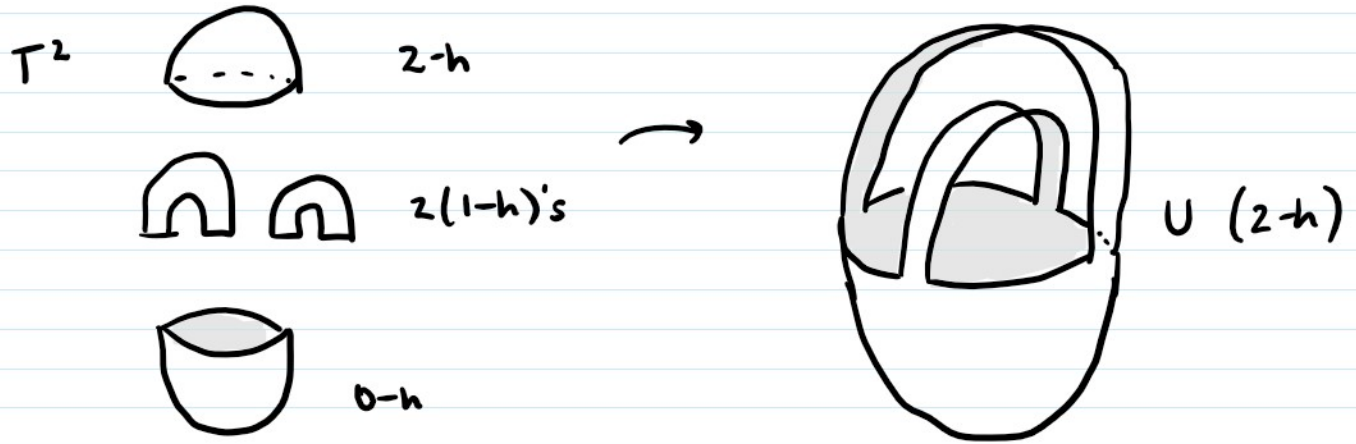
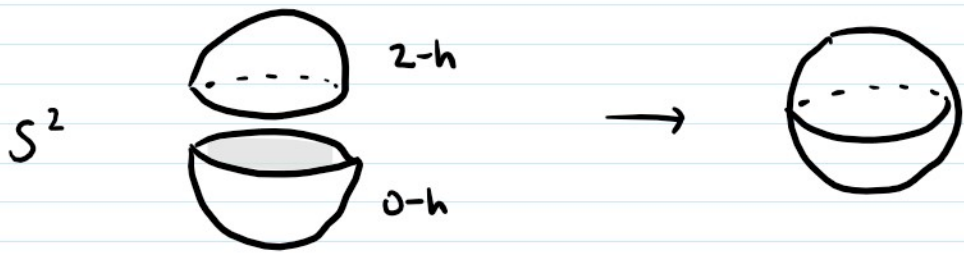


**Theorem**

Every smooth compact manifold admits a handle decomposition

proof: Morse theory: critical point of index  $k \rightsquigarrow$   $k$ -handle

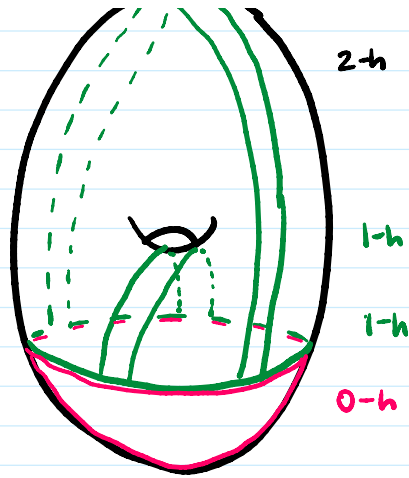
SURFACES:



Can visualize:



can visualize.

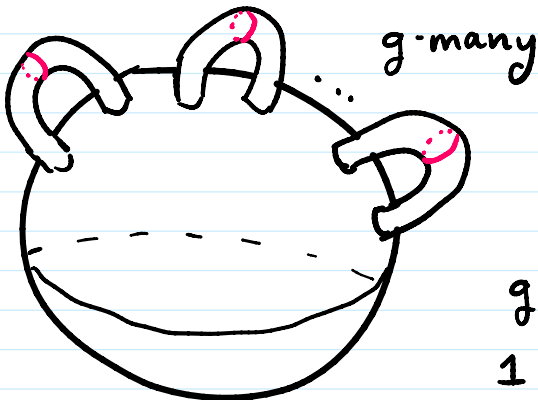


Exercise: Find a handle decomposition for any closed oriented surface

# THREE MANIFOLDS

Heegaard splittings/diagrams

$\alpha$ -handlebody



$g$  (1-h)'s  
1 (0-h)

$\beta$ -handlebody

$g$  (2-h)'s  
1 (3-h)

(by flipping factors  
can think of this as  
same as left picture)

$$\Sigma = \partial(\alpha\text{-handlebody}) = \partial(\beta\text{-handlebody})$$

$\alpha$ -curves = belt spheres of  $(1-h)$ 's

$\alpha$ -disks = co-cores of  $(1-h)$ 's

$\beta$ -curves = attaching sphere of  $(2-h)$ 's

$\beta$ -disks = cores of  $(2-h)$ 's

Example:



$\cup (3-h)$

belt sphere of 1-handle

glue in 2-handle along blue

new boundary is  $S^2$

(attach 3-h to this

and gives  $S^3$ )

Conclusion:

Heegaard diagrams give us handle decompositions.

**Proposition**

We can always isotope the attaching maps so handles are attached in order of increasing index. Handles of the same index can be attached in any order (or simultaneously).

proof: Gompf & Stipsicz Prop 4.2.7

**Proposition**

If  $M^n$  is compact and connected, then it admits a handle decomp. with exactly 1  $(0-h)$ .

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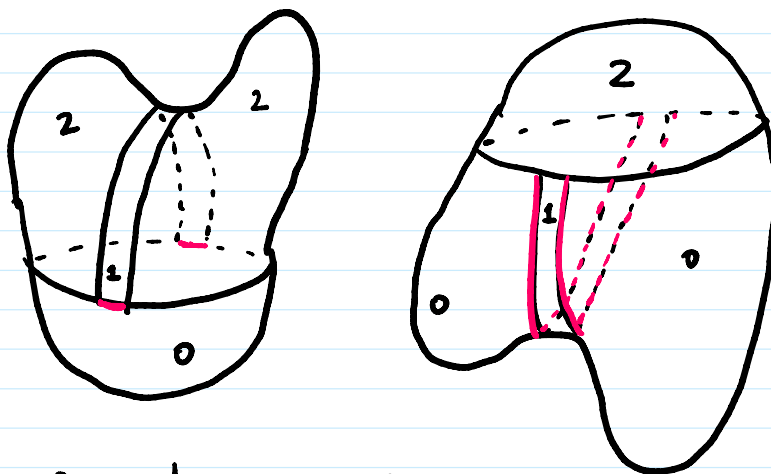
If  $\partial M \neq \emptyset$ , we can also assume there is exactly 1  $n$ -handle

proof: Gompf & Stipsitz Prop 4.2.13

Note:

1) Can turn a handle decomp. "upside down"  
 $n$ -dim  $k$ -handle  $\rightsquigarrow$   $(n-k)$ -handle

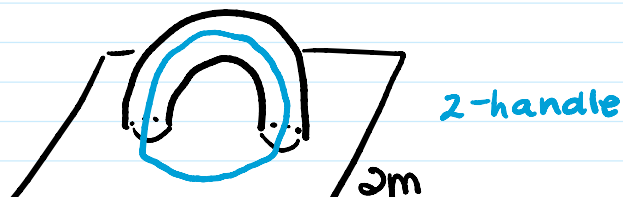
Example:



cores and cocores swap  
attaching regions in red

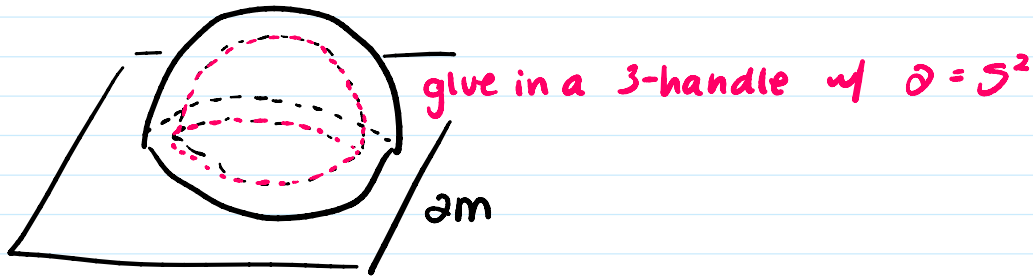
2.) Can create "cancelling" pairs of handles  
 $(k-1)$ -handle and  $k$ -handle  $1 \leq k \leq n$

ex:

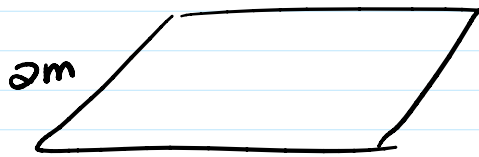




3-dim 2-handle and a 3-handle:



In general, we can do this:

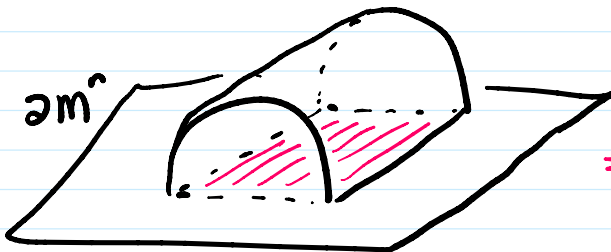
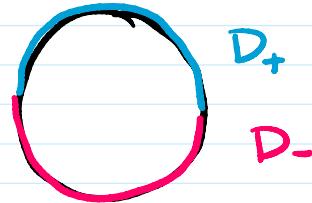


$M^n$

boundary sum = connect sum the boundaries

$$M^n \cup D^n \\ \parallel \\ D^k \times D^{n-k}$$

$$\partial D^k = S^{k-1} = D_+^{k-1} \cup D_-^{k-1}$$

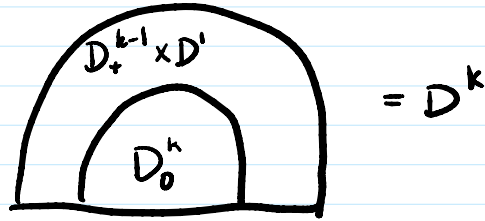


$$= D^{k-1} \times D^{n-k}$$

$M^n$



Slice off a nbhd of  $D_+^{k-1}$



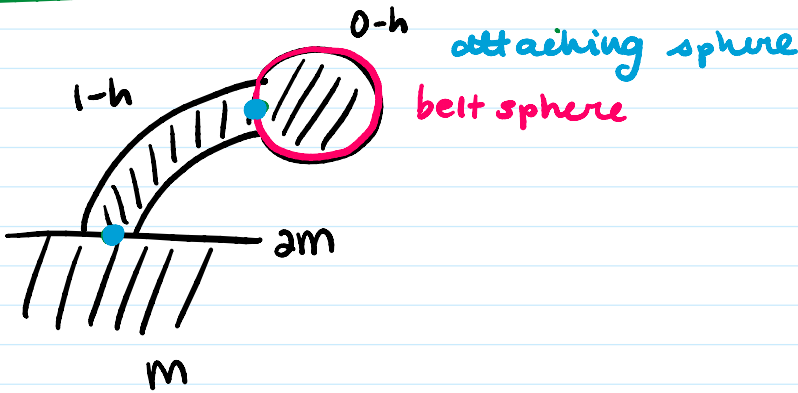
(k-1)-handle is  $D_+^{k-1} \times D^1 \times D^{n-k}$  attached to  $\partial M$   
cancelling k-handle  $D_0^k \times D^{n-k}$

**Proposition**

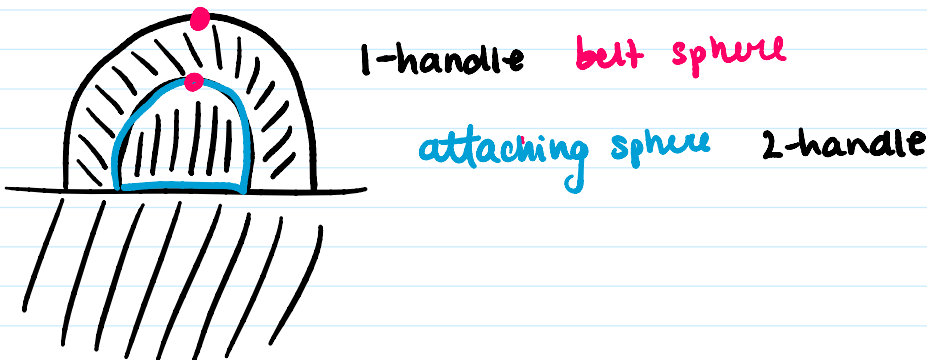
A  $(k-1)$ -handle  $h_{k-1}$  and a  $k$ -handle  $h_k$  can be cancelled provided the attaching sphere of  $h_k$  intersects the belt sphere of  $h_{k-1}$  transversely in a single point.

proof: Gromff & Stipsicz Prop 4.2.9

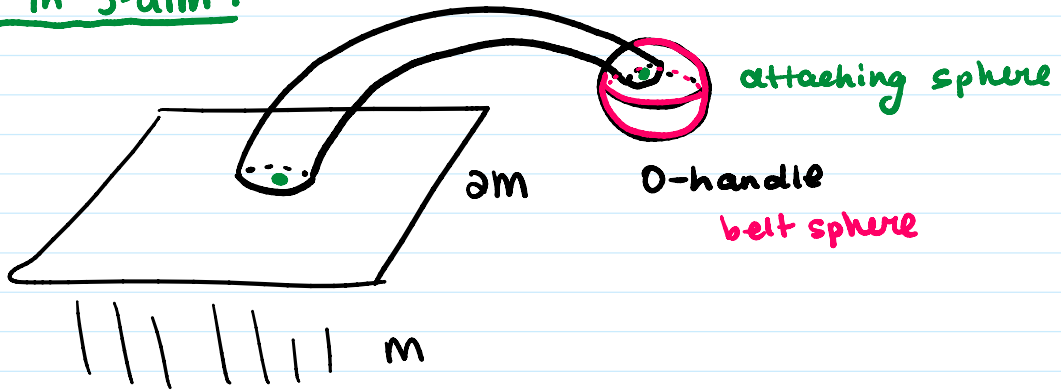
Example:



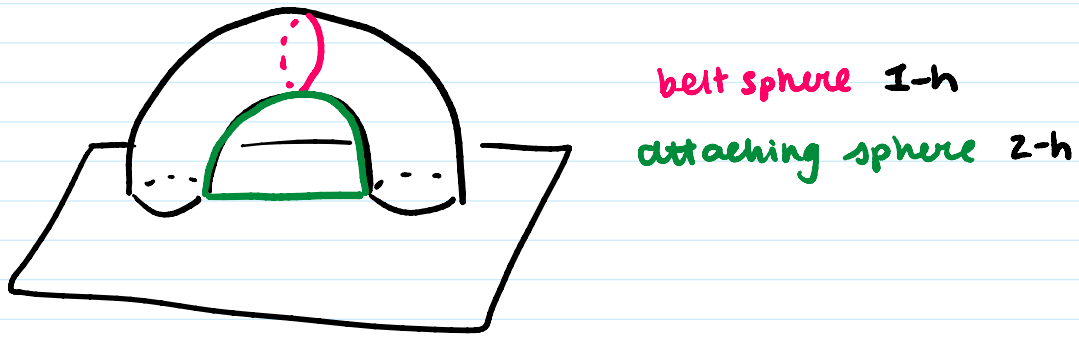
Example:



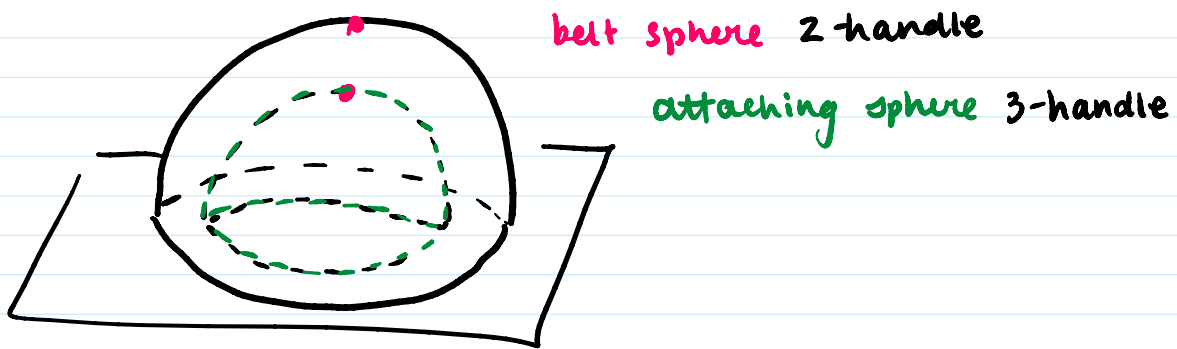
Ex: in 3-dim:



0-, 1- cancelling pair



1-, 2- cancelling pair



2-, 3- cancelling pair

Exercise:

Show that destab of a Heegaard diagram is a 1-, 2- cancelling pair



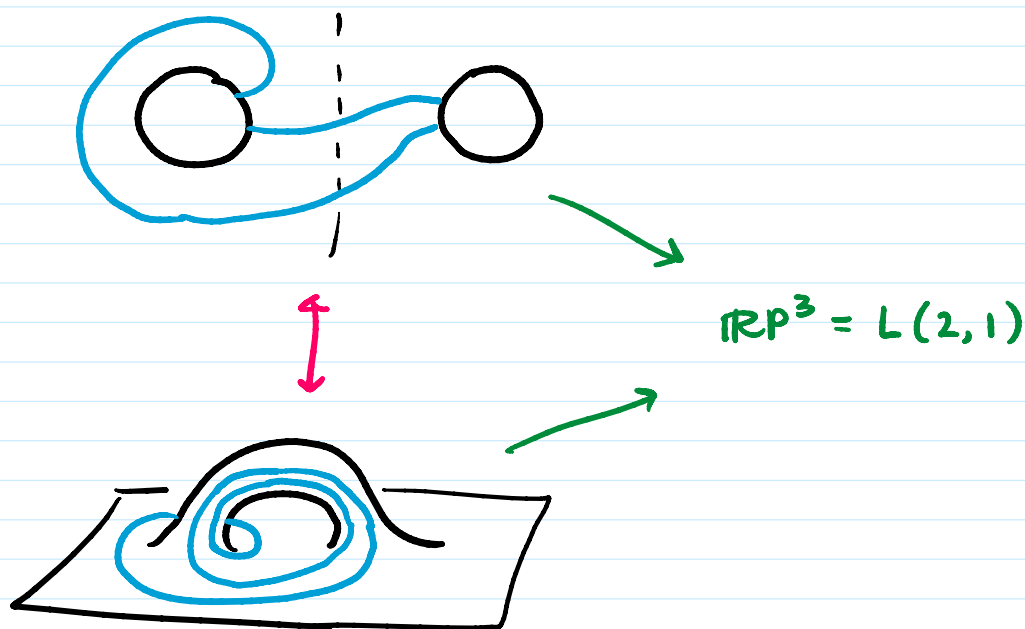
## DIMENSION 3: HEEGAARD DIAGRAMS

Unique 0-, 3- handle

$$\partial D^3 = S^2 = \mathbb{R}^2 \cup \{\infty\} \quad (\text{think of paper as } \mathbb{R}^2)$$

attaching region of 1-handles  $(\partial D^1) \times D^2 = D^2 \amalg D^2$

attaching spheres of 2-handles  $(\partial D^2) \times \{0\}$



If resulting boundary is  $S^2$ , attach a 3-handle to get a closed 3-mfd.

to see it's  $\mathbb{RP}^3$ , look at torus:

