

(Cor 5) Every link complement contains an unknot U s.t. $S^3 - (LUU)$ has a complete hyperbolic structure.

Thm (Menasco) If L is a non-split, prime, alternating link which is not a $(2, q)$ torus link then $S^3 - L$ has a complete hyperbolic structure.

Proof of Cor 5 summarized:

Show every link L has a diagram D s.t. there exists an augmenting component U in $S^3 - L$ that projects to a simple closed curve in D so that LUU is a non-split, prime alternating link that is not a $(2, q)$ -torus link. In particular, we show G is an alternating diagram.

Defining a new knot invariant

Given a link L , let U be an unknot embedded in $S^3 - L$ s.t. LUU is an alternating hyperbolic link. By cor. 5, U always exists.

Define $\text{Altvol}(L) = \inf_U \text{vol}(LUU)$.

Fact: Any collection of hyperbolic volumes always ~~has a minimum~~ attains its minimum. (Thurston)

So, there ~~is~~ exists a unknot $U_s \subset S^3 - L$ s.t.

$$\text{Altvol}(L) = \text{Vol}(S^3 - (L \cup U_s)). \leftarrow \text{Key}^{**}$$

Thm (Lackenby) Let $V_3 =$ volume of a regular ideal hyperbolic tetrahedron. Let D be a prime ^{alternating} diagram of a hyperbolic link K in S^3 . Then

$$V_3 (\ell(D) - 2) / 2 \leq \text{vol}(S^3 - K) < V_3 (16\ell(D) - 16).$$

Def A diagram D is prime, if it is connected and if there do not exist any simple closed curves in S^2 that meet D in exactly two points in edges of D s.t. this simple closed curve separates vertices of D .

If L is any link in S^3 , Let G be a prime alternating diagram for $L \cup U_s$. By Lackenby

$$V_3 (\ell(G) - 2) / 2 \leq \overset{\text{Altvol}(L)}{\overset{\parallel}}{\text{Vol}(S^3 - (L \cup U_s))} \leq V_3 (16\ell(G) - 16)$$

Technically need to show the following

$$\textcircled{1} \ t(L) \leq t(G)$$

↑
a prime alternating diagram of LUs.

$\textcircled{2}$