

From Lecture 1

- 1 (Dehn twists) Consider a Dehn twist in a neighborhood of a 2-sphere in M_n . Explain what happens in each slice perpendicular to the axis of rotation.
- 2 (Star graphs) Explain how the star graph changes when you exchange a sphere A for a new sphere separating A from \bar{A} .

Outer space

2. Show that an inner automorphism acts trivially on the space of free actions of F_n on trees.
3. Show that an action of F_n on T is minimal if and only if the quotient graph is finite and has no univalent vertices.
4. Compute the dimension of O_n .
5. Draw a connected piece of O_2 containing 5 open 2-simplices. Then explain the picture of O_2 that I drew in the lecture.
6. Convince yourself that a sphere system is complete if and only if the dual graph has fundamental group F_n .

7. Prove that the action of $\text{Out}(F_n)$ on $\mathcal{L}(M_n)$ is cocompact. Explain why it is not proper.

8. Prove that the action of $\text{Out}(F_n)$ on \mathcal{O}_n is proper. Explain why it is not cocompact.

$\mathcal{O}_{n,s}$

9. Work out the space $\mathcal{O}_{n,s}$ for any $s \geq 1$.

* Then determine the quotient $\mathcal{O}_{n,s}/A_{n,s}$ and its homology.