

Homotopy Groups of Embedding Spaces

Shruthi Sridhar Shapiro

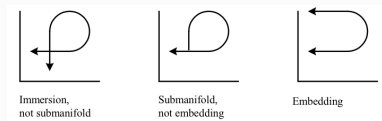
ssridhar@princeton.edu

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Embedding spaces

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Given 2 manifolds M, N , an embedding $f : N \rightarrow M$ is a smooth immersion homeomorphic to its image.



Source: “Mathematics for Physics, An Illustrated Handbook”

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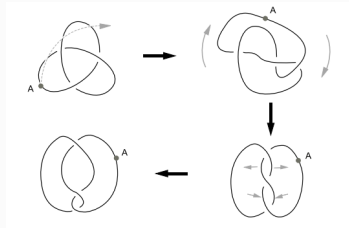
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Source: Skopenkov <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2001.01472v1.pdf>

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Let M denote a compact 4-manifold with boundary.

The main embedding space in this talk will be:

$\text{Emb}_{\partial}(I, M) := \{ \text{embeddings } f : I \rightarrow M \mid \text{end points of } I \text{ are fixed in } M \}$

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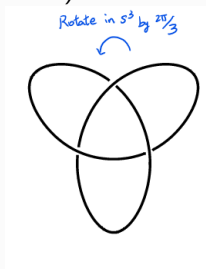
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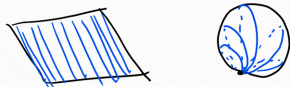


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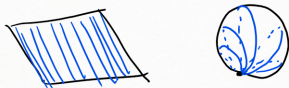


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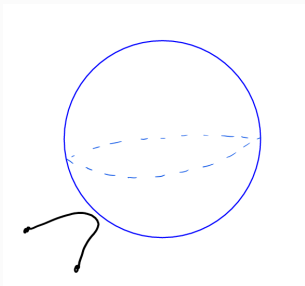


Budney and Gabai (2021) construct 'knotted balls' in $S^1 \times B^3$ by viewing them as elements of $\pi_2(\text{Emb}_{\partial}(I, S^1 \times B^3))$.

Lasso Operations in 4-manifolds

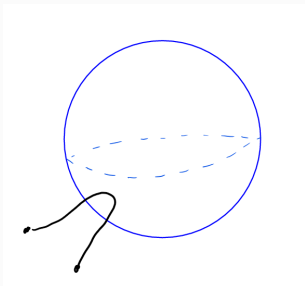
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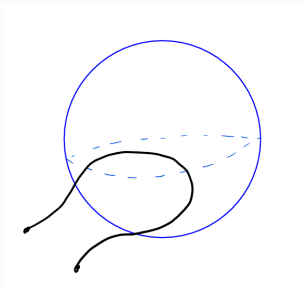
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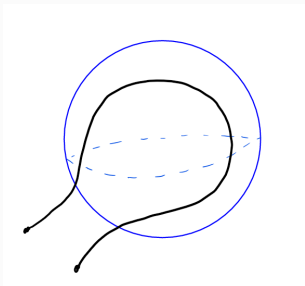
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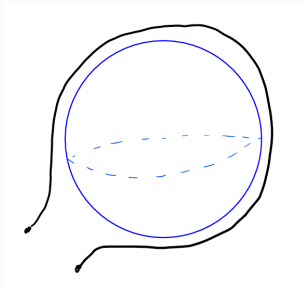
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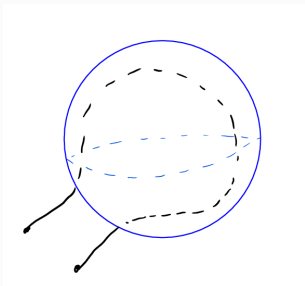
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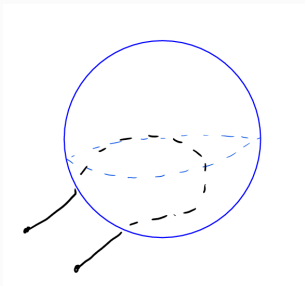
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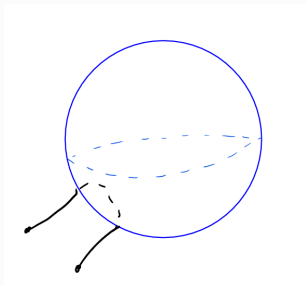
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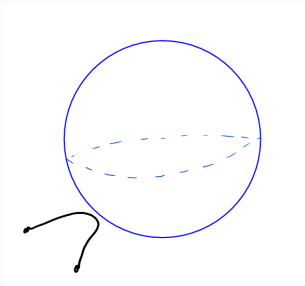
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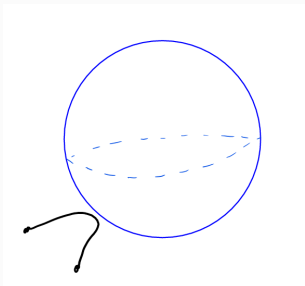
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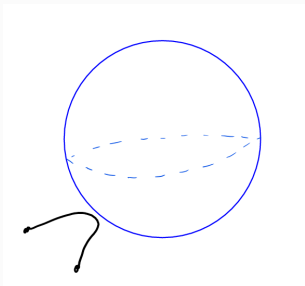
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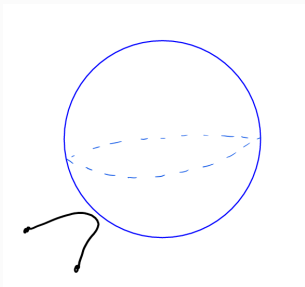


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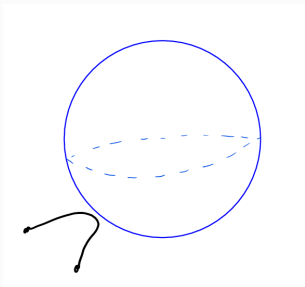


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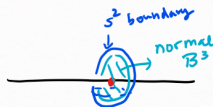


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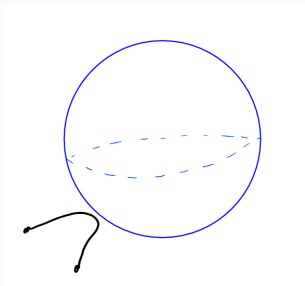


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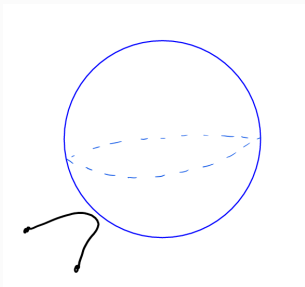


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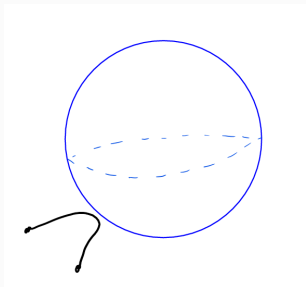


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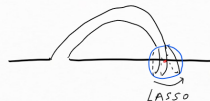


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$$\begin{array}{ccc} S^1 \times S^1 / S^1 \vee S^1 & \xrightarrow{\quad\quad\quad} & \text{Emb}_{\partial}(I, M) \\ & \searrow & \nearrow \\ & S^2 & \end{array}$$

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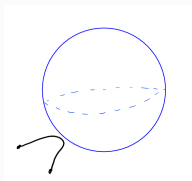
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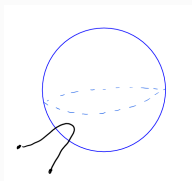
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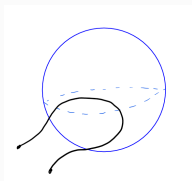
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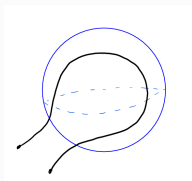
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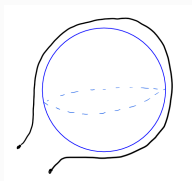
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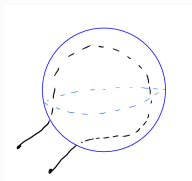
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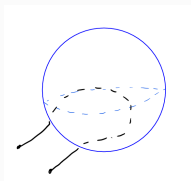
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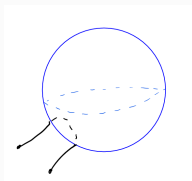
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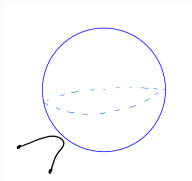
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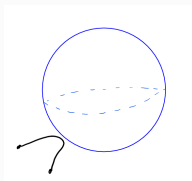
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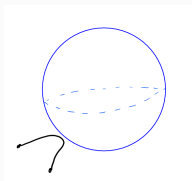
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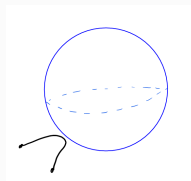
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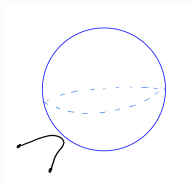


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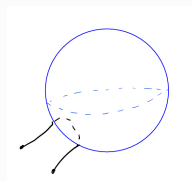
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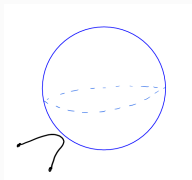


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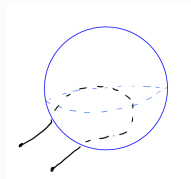
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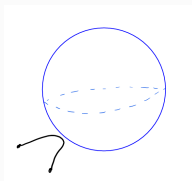


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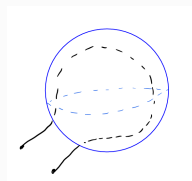
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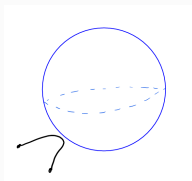


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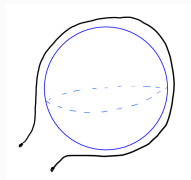
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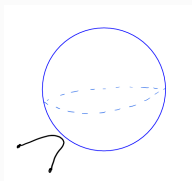


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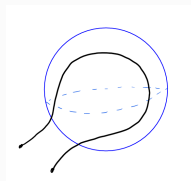
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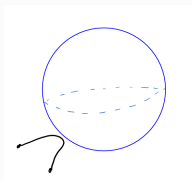


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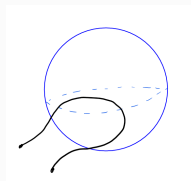
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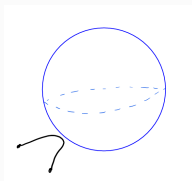


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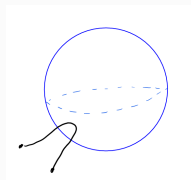
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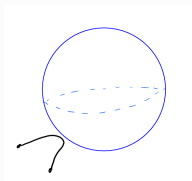


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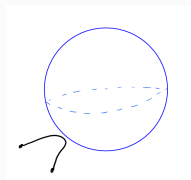
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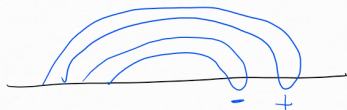
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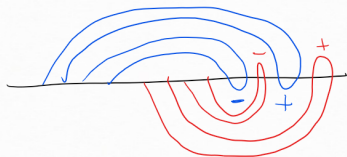
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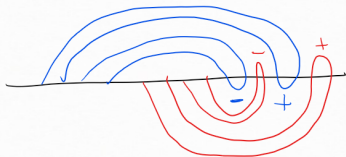
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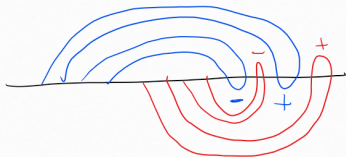
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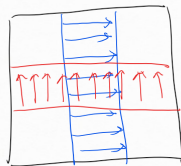
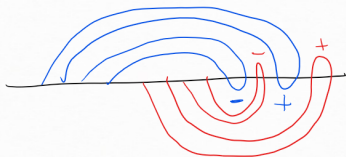
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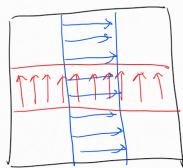
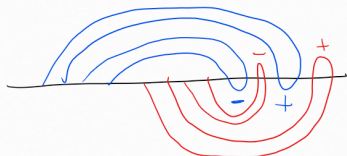
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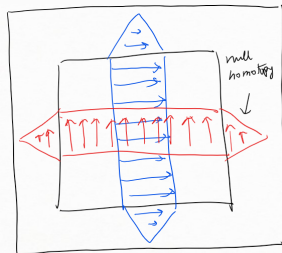
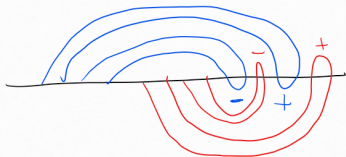
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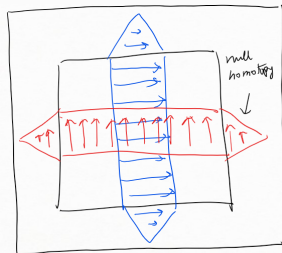
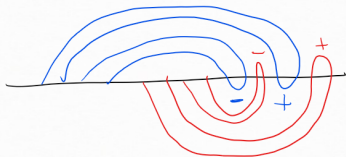
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We have thus constructed a map $S^2 \rightarrow \text{Emb}_{\partial}(I, M)$

Configuration spaces

Definition

The n -point configuration space of a manifold M is

$$C_n(M) := \{(p_1, \dots, p_n) \in M^n \mid p_i \neq p_j \text{ for } i \neq j\}$$

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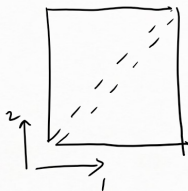
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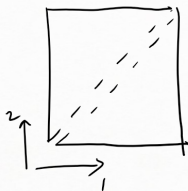
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$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_k(Emb_{\partial}(I, M)) & \xrightarrow{\quad\quad\quad} & \pi_k(Map^{sp}(C_n(I), C_n(M))) \\ & \searrow & \downarrow \\ & & Map^{sp}(I^k \times I^n, C_n(M)) / \sim \\ & & \downarrow \text{collapse boundary} \\ & \searrow & \pi_{n+k}(C_n(M)) / \langle R \rangle \end{array}$$

Main result

Gabai (2020) and Kosanovic (2021) completely determine the groups $\pi_1(\text{Emb}_\partial(I, M))$ and $\pi_1(\text{Emb}(S^1, M))$

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Theorem (S.S.)

There exist nontrivial elements of $\pi_3(\text{Emb}_\partial(I, M))$, arising from a nontrivial map to $\pi_7(C_4(M))/\langle R \rangle$.

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Thank You!