

In lecture of Dec. 1, I defined:

Def: A translation surface M is completely periodic in direction θ if there are cylinders $C_1, \dots, C_k$ in direction θ such that $M = \bigcup_{i=1}^k \bar{C}_i$.

The following lemma was proved:

Lemma 1. M is completely periodic in direction θ $\Leftrightarrow$ any straightline trajectory in direction θ is either periodic or part of a saddle connection.

The following strengthening was stated but not proved:

Lemma 2 If there is no straightline trajectory in direction θ which is an infinite ray then M is completely periodic in direction θ .

By an infinite ray in direction θ we mean a trajectory of the form $\{\phi_t^\theta(z) : t \in I\}$,

where $I = (a, \infty)$ or $I^\pm = (-\infty, b)$, the trajectory is defined for all $t \in I$, but

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \partial I, t \in I} \phi_t^\theta(z) \in \Sigma.$$

Pf of Lemma 2 If there is no straightline trajectory which is an infinite ray, then every straightline trajectory which is bounded above is also bounded

below, and is part of a saddle connection. That is, if for some $z \in M \setminus \Sigma$, $\phi^\theta(z)$ is defined for $t \in (a, b)$ for some $b > a$, and $\lim_{t \rightarrow b^-} \phi^\theta(z) \in \Sigma$, then there is $a < 0$ s.t. $\lim_{t \rightarrow a^+} \phi^\theta(z) \in \Sigma$; and vice versa.

Let Ξ denote the union of saddle connections on M in direction θ , and let $\varepsilon > 0$ be small enough so that for every $x \in \Xi$, the straightline flow trajectory $\{\phi_t^{\theta \pm \pi/2}(x) : |t| \leq \varepsilon\}$ is defined. Here, for $x \in \Sigma$, we mean that all trajectories in direction $\theta \pm \pi/2$ starting at x are defined.

Let y be any point which is at distance ε from a point of Ξ in direction $\theta \pm \pi/2$. Then

$\{\phi_t^\theta(y) : t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is defined for all times

since this trajectory stays at distance ε from

Ξ and Ξ contains Σ . Also, this trajectory is periodic since the total length of Ξ is finite and therefore so is the total length of the set of points obtained as

$$\{\phi_z^{\theta \pm \pi/2}(\varepsilon) : z \in \Xi\}.$$

We have shown that any connected component of $M \setminus \Xi$ contains a periodic trajectory in direction θ .

As in the lecture, the connected components
of $M \setminus \Xi$ are all cylinders.