

# Exotic closed aspherical 4-manifolds

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joint with M. Davis, K. Hayden, D. Ruberman and N. Sunukjian

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# Motivation: Borel conjecture

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- ③ What if  $n = 4$ ?

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- 2 We will explain the basic building blocks  $X, X'$  due to Hayden-Piccirillo.
- 3 We explain why the manifolds after closing up are not diffeomorphic.

# Ingredient I: The reflection group trick of Davis

Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite simplicial graph with its vertex set  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ . The associated *right-angled Coxeter groups*  $G_\Gamma$  is a group with generating set  $\{v_i\}_{i=1}^n$  and the following two types of relators:

- ①  $v_i^2 = 1$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ;
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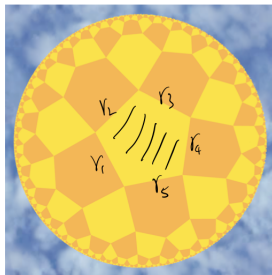
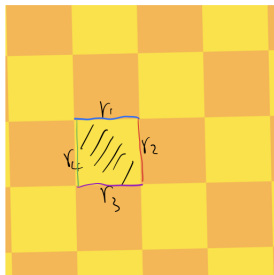
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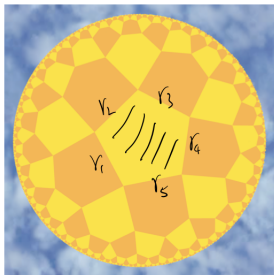
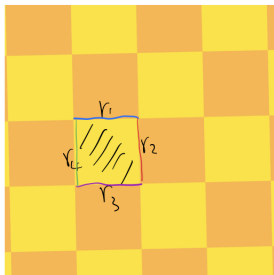
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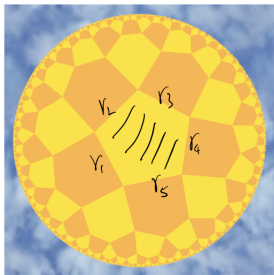
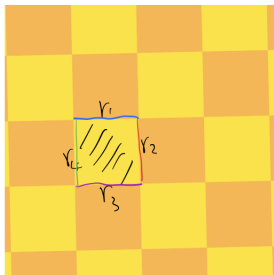




$$W = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 \mid v_i^2 = 1, v_i v_{i+1} = v_{i+1} v_i, 1 \leq i \leq 4 \rangle$$



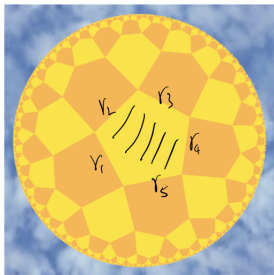
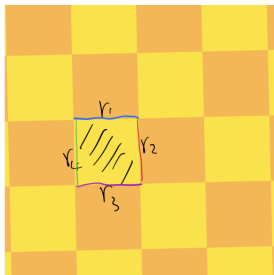


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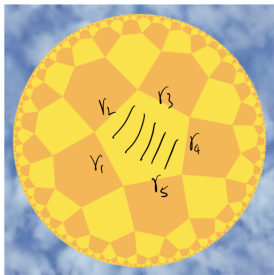
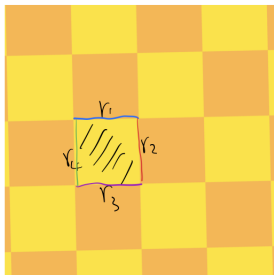
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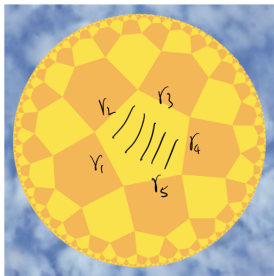
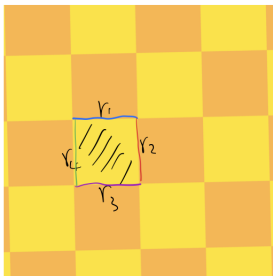
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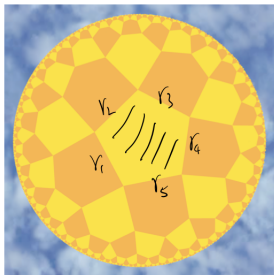
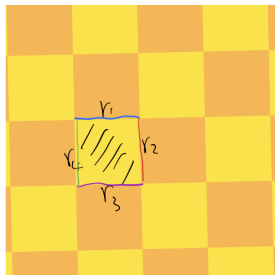




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We glue copies of  $X$  to obtain a manifold  $D(X)$  such that  $G \curvearrowright D(X)$  properly discontinuously, with fundamental domain  $X$ .



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Step 3: Take  $G'$  to be a finite index torsion free subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $Q(X) = D(X)/G'$  is a closed manifold.

# On panel structure on $\partial X$

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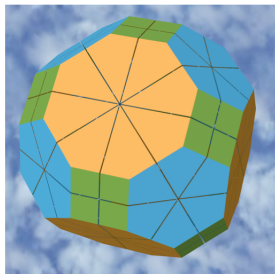


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Each flag triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$  of  $\partial X$  determines a panel structure on  $\partial X$ , whose panels are top-dimensional “dual cells” of this triangulation.

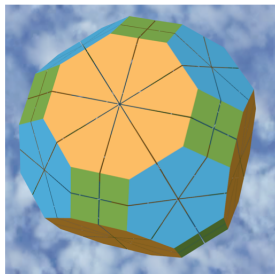


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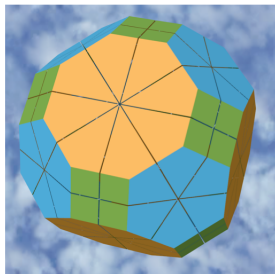
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The defining graph of the associated right-angled Coxeter group  $G$  is exactly the 1-skeleton of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

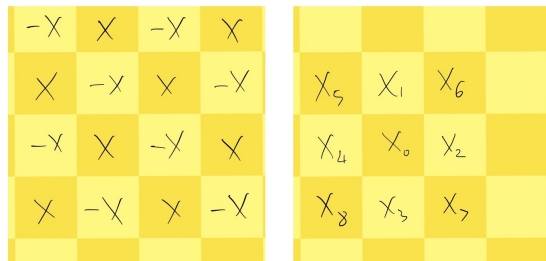
# More about $D(X)$

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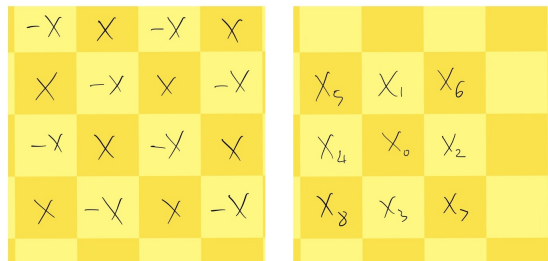
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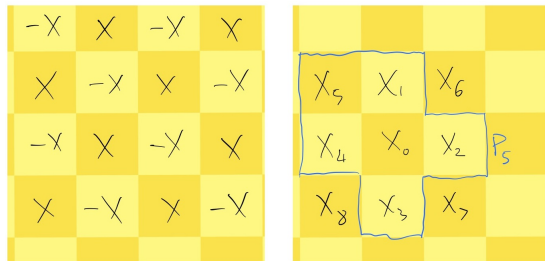
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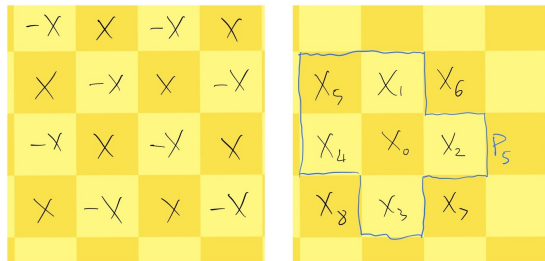
We enumerate copies of  $X$  in  $D(X)$  as  $X_0, X_1, X_2, \dots$  such that  $d(X_i, X_0) \leq d(X_{i+1}, X_0)$ .

# Properties of Davis construction



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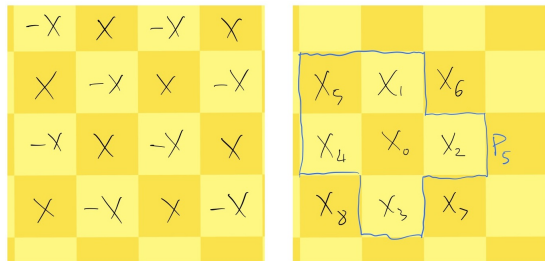
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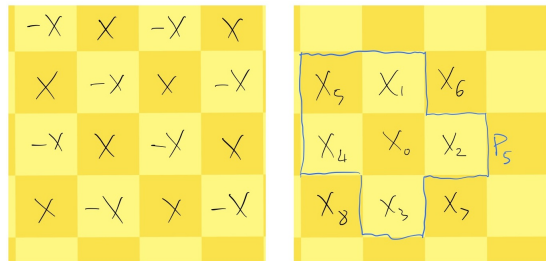
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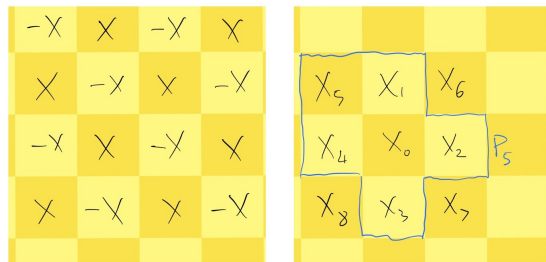
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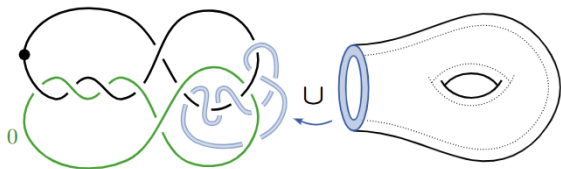
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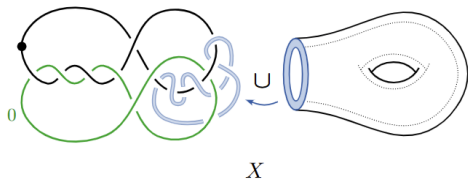
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A genus 1-handle is a copy of  $F \times \mathbb{D}^2$  where  $F$  is a genus-1 surface with one boundary component. We identify  $\partial F \times \mathbb{D}^2$  with a tubular neighborhood of a knot  $K$  in  $\partial C$ .



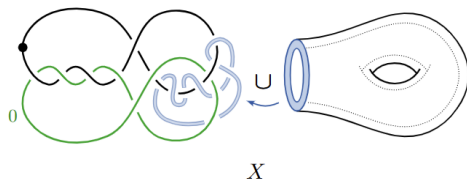
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## Key properties of Hayden-Piccirillo manifolds



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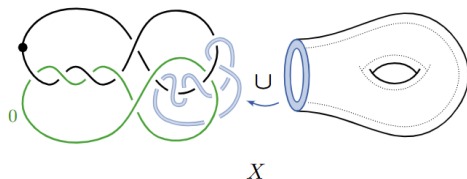
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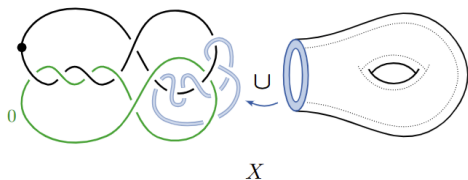


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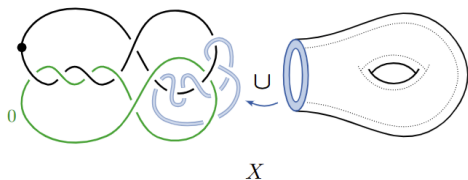


Let  $X'$  be obtained from  $X$  by removing the interior of  $C$  and regluing using the cork twist  $f : \partial C \rightarrow \partial C$ .

## Theorem

- ①  $X$  and  $X'$  are homeomorphic (the homeomorphism is  $Id$  outside  $\mathring{C}$ );
- ②  $X$  is homotopic equivalent to the 2-torus;
- ③  $X$  embeds smoothly in  $B^4$ ;
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- ⑤  $H_2(X')$  is generated by a smoothly embedded torus in  $X'$ .

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Observation:  $D(X)$  and  $D(X')$  are homeo, hence  $Q(X)$  and  $Q(X')$  are homeo.

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Take a tile  $X'$  in  $D(X')$ , and a smoothly embedded torus  $T^2 \hookrightarrow X'$  representing the generator of  $H_2(X')$ .

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*As a consequence,  $\pi_1(D(X))$  is a characteristic subgroup of  $\pi_1(Q(X))$ .*



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## Theorem (Moussong 1988)

*If  $G$  has a  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ -subgroup, then  $\mathcal{T}$  has a square.*

# Flag no-square triangulation of manifolds

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## Theorem

*Suppose  $X$  and  $X'$  are a pair of Hayden-Piccirillo manifolds (with genus 1 handles), with a flag no-square triangulation of  $\partial X = \partial X'$ . Then  $Q(X)$  and  $Q(X')$  are closed aspherical manifolds that are homeomorphic, but not diffeomorphic.*

Thank you!

# Kirby diagrams for $X$ and $X'$

