

LECTURE 13

EXAMPLE.  $\langle a, b | abab^2ab^3 \dots ab^{100}, baba^2ba^3 \dots ba^{100} \rangle$ . Symbols  $ab^n a, ba^n b$  occur uniquely for  $n > 1$ . Thus largest piece is smaller than  $b^{99}ab^{100}, a^{99}ba^{100}$ , so has length  $< 200$ . But each relator has length 5150. Therefore  $X$  satisfies  $C'(\frac{200}{5150}) \Rightarrow C'(\frac{1}{25}) \Rightarrow C(26) \Rightarrow C(7)$

EXAMPLE.  $\langle a, b | W^n \rangle$  satisfies  $C'(\frac{1}{n}), C(n+1)$ , as any piece has length  $< |W|$ . (A longer piece would imply  $W = V^m$  for some  $m > 1$ .)

**Lemma 1.** *A positive presentation satisfies  $T(4)$ . (All relators are positive words in generators, e.g.  $\langle a, b, c | abac, bbaabccb \rangle$ .)*

*More generally, if  $X$  is a 2-complex and  $X^1$  is a directed graph, and all attaching maps are directed cycles, then  $X$  satisfies  $T(4)$  condition.*

PROOF. There can't be any valence 3 vertices.

$\langle a, b | a^n bab^2 ab^3 \dots ab^{100} \rangle, n \rightarrow \infty$  satisfies  $C(p)$  with  $p$  constant,  $C'(\alpha)$  with  $\alpha \rightarrow 1$ . So in a sense  $C(p)$  condition is far more general than  $C'(\alpha)$ .

EXAMPLE.  $\langle a, b | R_1, \dots, R_m \rangle$ . Fix  $m$ . Suppose each  $R_i$  has length  $< n$ . Then presentation satisfies  $C'(\alpha), \alpha \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Thus  $C'(\frac{1}{6})$  presentations are quite common for presentations with few long relators.  $T(4)$  is rare.

**Lemma 2.**  $T(5) \Rightarrow$  all pieces have length 1.

PROOF. Suppose  $R_1, R_2$  share piece of length  $\geq 2$ . Then there is a degree 2 branch cover which fails  $T(5)$  condition.

(figure: degree 2 branch cover)

So, for example,  $T(5), C(10) \Rightarrow C'(\frac{1}{10})$ .

$T(5)$  condition is rather rare.

**Lemma 3.** *For  $q \geq 5$   $X$  is  $T(q)$  iff each  $\text{link}(v)$  of each 0-cell has girth  $\geq q$ . (More generally, we can require "all pieces have length 1" instead of " $X$  is  $T(q \geq 5)$ ")*

**Theorem 1.** *If  $X$  is compact and finite 2-complex and either of  $\{C(3)-T(7), C(4)-T(5), C(5)-T(4), C(7)-T(3)\}$  then  $\pi_1 X$  has a linear isoperimetric function, thus word-hyperbolic.*

PROOF. Any reduced disc diagram  $D \rightarrow X$  satisfies a  $(p, q)$  condition after ignoring valence 2 vertices in its interior, and subdividing the boundary a bounded amount. (As  $X$  satisfies negative weight test:  $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{7} > \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} < \frac{1}{2}$ ). Thus  $\text{Area}(D) \leq k|\partial_p D|$  for some constant  $k = k(X)$ .

(figure: subdividing)

Amount of new vertices is bounded by  $|\partial_p D| \cdot p \leq 6|\partial_p D|$ . Subdividing didn't change area, so

$$\text{Area}(D) = \text{Area}(D') \leq k|\partial_p D'| \leq 6|\partial_p D|.$$

**Theorem 2.**  *$X$  is either of  $\{C(3)-T(6), C(4)-T(4), C(6)-T(3)\}$  and compact then  $X$  has at most quadric isoperimetric function.*

PROOF. Analogous.

**Dehn Presentation.**

**Definition 1.**  $G = \langle a_1, \dots, a_m | R_1, \dots, R_n \rangle$  is a Dehn presentation if for each word  $P$  with  $P =_G 1_G$  there either

- 1)  $P$  has a backtrack, or
- 2)  $P$  has a subpath  $Q$  such that
  - $QS = \text{some cyclic permutation of } R_i^{\pm 1}$
  - $|Q| \geq |S|$  i.e.  $|Q| \geq \frac{1}{2}|R_i|$ .

(figures: cases 1 and 2)

**Theorem 3.** *If  $\langle a_1, \dots, a_m | R_1, \dots, R_n \rangle$  is a Dehn presentation then its group  $G$  has linear isoperimetric function.*

PROOF. Proved by induction that  $\text{Area}(P) \leq |P|$ . Let  $P$  be a word  $P =_G 1_G$ .  
Base case:  $0 = \text{Area}(1), 0 = |1|$ .

By hypothesis either

- 1)  $P = Aee^{-1}B$ , where  $e = a_i^{\pm 1}$ , or
- 2)  $P = AQB$ , where  $Q \subset \partial R_i, |Q| > |R_i|$ .

Then  $P' = AB$  or  $P' = AS^{-1}B$  respectively also represents  $1_G$ .  $|P'| < |P|$ , therefore  $\text{Area}(P') \leq |P'|$  by induction. Let  $D'$  be a reduced disc diagram for  $P'$ .

Then

$$\text{Area}(P) \leq \text{Area}(P') + 1 \leq |P'| + 1 \leq |P|,$$

because to obtain a diagram  $D$  for  $P$  from  $D'$ , we add a spur in case 1) and add a copy of  $R_i$  along  $S$  in case 2).

(figures: adding spur/cell)

**Definition 2.**  *$i$ -shell is a 2-cell  $R$  in disc diagram  $D$  whose boundary such that  $|\partial_p R = QS$  where  $Q$  is a subpath of  $\partial_p D$  and  $S$  is an internal path (i.e. no external 1-cells in  $S$ ) which is concatenation of exactly  $i$  pieces.*

*A spur is a 1-cell ending at valence 1 cell.*

(figures:  $i$ -shells, spur)

**Theorem 4.** *(Greendlinger's Lemma) Any nontrivial  $C(6) - T(3)$  disc diagram has at least two  $i$ -shells or spurs ( $i \leq 3$ ).*

*Any nontrivial  $C(4) - T(4)$  disc diagram has at least two  $i$ -shells or spurs ( $i \leq 2$ ). ("Nontrivial" means it's not a single point or loop.)*

**Corollary 1.** *If  $X$  is a  $C'(\frac{1}{4}) - T(4)$  or  $C'(\frac{1}{6}) - T(3)$  complex, then it is a Dehn complex (presentation).*

PROOF of Corollary. Let  $P$  be a nullhomotopic path in  $X$ . Let  $D$  be a minimal area disc diagram  $D \rightarrow X$ . By Greendlinger's Lemma, if  $D$  is nontrivial, it has 2  $i$ -shells or spurs, so at least one  $i$ -shell or spur away from a base point.

- 1) Spur has a backtrack.
- 2)  $i$ -shell with interior subpath  $S$  and exterior subpath  $Q$ . (figure:  $i$ -shell)
  - $C'(\frac{1}{6}) \Rightarrow i \leq 3$ , then  $|S| \leq |P_1| + |P_2| + |P_3| < \frac{1}{6}|R| + \frac{1}{6}|R| + \frac{1}{6}|R| = \frac{1}{2}|R|$ , thus  $|S| < |Q|$ ,
  - $C'(\frac{1}{4}) \Rightarrow i \leq 2$ , then  $|S| \leq |P_1| + |P_2| < \frac{1}{4}|R| + \frac{1}{4}|R| = \frac{1}{2}|R|$ , thus  $|S| < |Q|$ .