

## On the ends of groups and the Veech groups of infinite-genus surfaces\*

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we study the PSV construction, which provides a step by step method for obtaining tame translation surfaces with a suitable Veech group. In addition, we slightly modify this construction, and for each finitely generated subgroup  $G < GL_+(2, \mathbb{R})$  without contracting elements, we produce a tame translation surface  $S$  with infinite genus such that its Veech group is  $G$ . Furthermore, the ends space of  $S$  can be written as  $\mathcal{B} \sqcup \mathcal{U}$ , where  $\mathcal{B}$  is homeomorphic to the ends space of the group  $G$ , and  $\mathcal{U}$  is a countable, discrete, dense, and open subset of the ends space of  $S$ .

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### 1. Introduction

Geometrically, an *end* of a topological space is a point at infinity. In [9], Freudenthal introduced the concept of ends and explored some of its applications in group theory. One can define the ends space  $\text{Ends}(G)$  of a finitely generated group  $G$  as the ends space of the Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(G, H)$ , where  $H$  is a generating set of  $G$  (see [10, 13]). In the context of orientable surfaces, Kerékjártó [17] studied their ends and introduced the classification of non-compact orientable surfaces, which determines the topological type of any orientable surface  $S$  by its genus  $g(S) \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$  and two closed subsets,  $\text{Ends}_\infty(S) \subseteq \text{Ends}(S)$ , of the Cantor set. These subsets are referred to as the ends space of  $S$ , and the ends of  $S$  having (infinite) genus (see [28]). Our focus is on studying surfaces with infinite genus.

*Translation surfaces* have naturally appeared in various contexts: dynamical systems (see [16, 15]), Teichmüller theory (see [18, 21]), Riemann surfaces (see [20, 34]), among others. Our focus is on the so-called *tame* translation surfaces. Using the charts of a translation surface  $S$ , one can pull back the standard Riemannian metric on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  to equip the surface  $S$  with a flat Riemannian metric  $\mu$ . This flat metric induces a distance map  $d$  on  $S$ . A translation surface  $S$  is said to be *tame* [30] if, for each point  $x \in \widehat{S}$  (where  $\widehat{S}$  is the metric completion of  $S$  with respect to

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$d$ ), there is a neighborhood  $U_x \subset \widehat{S}$  that is isometric to either an open subset of the Euclidean plane or an open subset around a ramification point of a (finite or infinite) cyclic branched covering of the unit disk. It is worth noting that if  $S$  is a compact translation surface, then  $S$  is necessarily tame. Several authors have studied such surfaces (see, for instance, [3, 7, 8, 26, 31]), which provides strong motivation for our research.

During the 1980s, Veech [32] associated a group of matrices  $\Gamma < \mathrm{GL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  to each translation surface, now commonly known as the *Veech group of  $S$* . He proved that if the Veech group  $\Gamma(S)$  of a compact translation surface  $S$  is a lattice—meaning  $\Gamma(S)$  is a Fuchsian group such that the quotient space  $\mathbb{H}^2/\Gamma$  has a finite hyperbolic area—then the behavior of the geodesic flow on  $S$  exhibits dynamical properties similar to those described by Weyl’s theorem for the geodesic flow on the torus. This result is known as the *Veech’s dichotomy*. It has since attracted the attention of many researchers (see, for example, [6, 12, 14]).

The Veech group associated to a compact translation surface is a Fuchsian group [33]. In the case of a tame translation surface, if  $\Gamma(S)$  is the Veech group of the tame translation surface  $S$ , then one of the following holds [24, Theorem 1.1]:

- (1)  $\Gamma(S)$  is countable and without contracting elements, it means  $\Gamma(S)$  is disjoint from the set  $\{A \in \mathrm{GL}_+(2, \mathbb{R}) : \|Av\| < \|v\| \text{ for all } v \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}\}$ , where  $\|\cdot\|$  is the Euclidean norm on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , or
- (2)  $\Gamma(S)$  is conjugated to  $P := \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t \\ 0 & s \end{pmatrix} : t \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } s \in \mathbb{R}^+ \right\}$ , or
- (3)  $\Gamma(S)$  is conjugated to  $P' < \mathrm{GL}_+(2, \mathbb{R})$ , the subgroup generated by  $P$  and  $-\mathrm{Id}$ , or
- (4)  $\Gamma(S)$  is equal to  $\mathrm{GL}_+(2, \mathbb{R})$ .

Our work contributes to the problem of realizing subgroups of  $\mathrm{GL}_+(2, \mathbb{R})$  as Veech groups of (non-compact) tame translation surfaces. We will discuss some of the studies involved in the problem of realizing groups as symmetry groups of translation surface. In [24], the authors developed a step-by-step process referred to as the *PSV construction*, aimed at constructing, for each subgroup  $G < \mathrm{GL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  without contracting elements, a tame Loch Ness monster with Veech group  $G$ . Up to homeomorphism, the *Loch Ness monster* is the only surface with infinite genus and a unique end [23]. In the case of *origamis*, translation surfaces formed by appropriately gluing unit squares, any finite group can be represented as the automorphism group of the Loch Ness monster when it is viewed as an origami [11]. The PSV construction, with slight modifications, was used in [25] to realize any subgroup  $G < \mathrm{GL}_+(2, \mathbb{R})$  without contracting elements as the Veech group of a large class of tame translation surfaces of infinite genus. These results, along with those addressing the realization of Veech groups for translation surfaces with non-self-similar end spaces [22], have been extended to resolve the problem of realizing symmetry groups of infinite genus translation surfaces [2].

We have also explored and made slight modifications to the PSV construction, resulting in a theorem that establishes an explicit connection between the ends space of a tame translation surface and the ends space of its respective Veech group.

**Theorem 1.** *Given a finitely generated subgroup  $G$  of  $\mathrm{GL}_+(2, \mathbb{R})$  without contracting elements, there exists a tame translation surface  $S$  whose Veech group is  $G$ . The ends space  $\mathrm{Ends}(S)$  of  $S$  satisfies:*

- (1) *If  $G$  is finite, then the surface  $S$  has as many ends as there are elements in the group  $G$ , and each end has infinite genus.*
- (2) *If  $G$  is not finite, then the ends space of  $S$  can be represented as*

$$\mathrm{Ends}(S) = \mathrm{Ends}_\infty(S) = \mathcal{B} \sqcup \mathcal{U},$$

*where  $\mathcal{B}$  is a closed subset of  $\mathrm{Ends}(S)$  homeomorphic to  $\mathrm{Ends}(G)$ , and  $\mathcal{U}$  is a countable, discrete, dense, and open subset of  $\mathrm{Ends}(S)$ .*

As the ends space of a finitely generated group has either zero, one, two, or infinitely many ends [10, 13], we immediately obtain the following corollary:

**Corollary 1.** *The ends space of the tame translation surface  $S$  is one of the following:*

- (1) *If the group  $G$  has one end, then  $\mathrm{Ends}(S)$  is homeomorphic to the ordinal number  $\omega + 1$ . In other words, the ends space of  $S$  is homeomorphic to the closure of  $\{\frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .*
- (2) *If the group  $G$  has two ends, then  $\mathrm{Ends}(S)$  is homeomorphic to the ordinal number  $\omega \cdot 2 + 1$ . This means that the ends space of  $S$  is homeomorphic to two copies of the closure of  $\{\frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ .*
- (3) *If the group  $G$  has infinitely many ends, then  $\mathrm{Ends}(S)$  contains a subset homeomorphic to the Cantor set, with its complement being a countable, discrete, dense, and open subset of  $\mathrm{Ends}(S)$ .*

The paper is structured as follows: In Section 2, we collect the principal tools needed to understand the classification of non-compact surfaces theorem and explore the concept of ends on groups. Section 3 provides an introduction to the theory of tame translation surfaces and discusses the Veech group. Finally, Section 4 is dedicated to proving our main result.

## 2. Ends

In this section, we shall introduce the concept of the space of ends of a topological space  $X$  in its most general context. We shall also explore the classification theorem of non-compact orientable surfaces based on their ends spaces. Finally, we shall discuss the concept of ends of groups.

**Definition 1** (see [9]). *Let  $X$  be a locally compact, locally connected, connected, and Hausdorff space, and let  $(U_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be an infinite nested sequence  $U_1 \supset U_2 \supset \dots$  of non-empty connected open subsets of  $X$ , such that the following conditions hold:*

- (1) *For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the boundary  $\partial U_n$  of  $U_n$  is compact.*

(2) The intersection  $\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \overline{U_n} = \emptyset$ .

(3) For any compact subset  $K \subset X$ , there is  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $K \cap U_m = \emptyset$ .

Two nested sequences  $(U_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $(U'_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  are equivalent if for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exist  $j, k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $U_n \supset U'_j$  and  $U'_n \supset U_k$ . The corresponding equivalence classes of these sequences are called the ends of  $X$ . The ends space  $\text{Ends}(X)$  of  $X$  is the space whose elements are the ends of  $X$ , and it is endowed with the following topology: for any non-empty open subset  $U$  of  $X$ , such that its boundary  $\partial U$  is compact, we define

$$U^* := \{[U_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \text{Ends}(X) \mid U_j \subset U \text{ for some } j \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

Then the set of all such  $U^*$ , where  $U$  is open and has a compact boundary in  $X$ , forms a basis for the topology of  $\text{Ends}(X)$  (see [9, 1. Kapitel]).

**Theorem 2** (see [27]). *The space  $\text{Ends}(X)$ , with the topology defined above, is Hausdorff, totally disconnected, and compact.*

## 2.1. Ends of a surface

A *surface*  $S$  is a connected 2-manifold without boundary, which may or may not be closed. In this manuscript, we shall only consider orientable surfaces. By a *subsurface* of  $S$  we mean an embedded surface, which is a closed subset of  $S$ , and whose boundary consists of a finite number of nonintersecting simple closed curves. Note that a subsurface may or may not be compact. The *reduced genus* of a compact subsurface  $\tilde{S} \subset S$ , with  $q(\tilde{S})$  boundary curves and Euler characteristic  $\chi(\tilde{S})$ , is the number

$$g(\tilde{S}) = 1 - \frac{1}{2} (\chi(\tilde{S}) + q(\tilde{S})).$$

The *genus* of the surface  $S$  is the supremum of the genera of its compact subsurfaces. This genus may be a non-negative integer or  $\infty$ . The surface  $S$  is said to be *planar* if it has genus zero; in other words,  $S$  is homeomorphic to an open of the complex plane.

**Remark 1.** *In this case, from the definition of ends given in Definition 1, we may assume that for the sequence  $(U_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  the closures  $\overline{U_n}$  are subsurfaces. In this setting, an end  $[U_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of a surface  $S$  is called planar if there is  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  such that the subsurface  $\overline{U_l} \subset S$  is planar.*

We define the subset  $\text{Ends}_\infty(S)$  of  $\text{Ends}(S)$  to consist of all ends of  $S$ , which are not planar (*ends having infinite genus*). It follows directly from the definition that  $\text{Ends}_\infty(S)$  is a closed subset of  $\text{Ends}(S)$  (see [28, p. 261]), and the triplet  $(g, \text{Ends}_\infty(S), \text{Ends}(S))$ , where  $g$  is the genus of  $S$ , is a topological invariant.

**Theorem 3** (Classification of non-compact surfaces [17, 28]). *Two surfaces  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  having the same genus are topologically equivalent if and only if there exists a homeomorphism  $f : \text{Ends}(S_1) \rightarrow \text{Ends}(S_2)$  such that  $f(\text{Ends}_\infty(S_1)) = \text{Ends}_\infty(S_2)$ .*

**Definition 2** (see [23]). *The Loch Ness monster is the unique, up to homeomorphism, infinite genus surface with exactly one end.*

**Remark 2** (see [29]). *The surface  $S$  has  $m$  ends, for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , if and only if for any compact subset  $K \subset S$ , there is a compact  $K' \subset S$  such that  $K \subset K'$  and  $S \setminus K'$  consists of  $m$  connected components.*

## 2.2. Ends of a group

Given a generating set  $H$  (closed under inverse) of a group  $G$ , the *Cayley graph of  $G$  with respect to the generating set  $H$*  is the graph  $\text{Cay}(G, H)$ , where the vertices are the elements of  $G$ , and there is an edge between two vertices  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  if and only if there is  $h \in H$  such that  $g_1 h = g_2$ . Throughout this paper, the Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(G, H)$  will be the geometric realization of an abstract graph [4, p. 226].

When the set  $H$  is finite, the Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(G, H)$  is a locally compact, locally connected, connected, and Hausdorff space. In this case, we define the *ends space of  $G$*  as  $\text{Ends}(G) := \text{Ends}(\text{Cay}(G, H))$ .

**Proposition 1** (see [19]). *Let  $G$  be a finitely generated group. The ends space of the Cayley graph of  $G$  does not depend on the choice of the finite generating set.*

**Theorem 4** (see [10, 13]). *Let  $G$  be a finitely generated group. Then  $G$  has either zero, one, two, or infinitely many ends.*

## 3. Tame translation surfaces

An atlas  $\mathcal{A} = \{(U_\alpha, \phi_\alpha)\}_{\alpha \in I}$  on the surface  $S$  is called a *translation atlas* if  $S$ , except for a subset of points  $\text{Sing}(S) \subset S$ , can be covered by the charts from such atlas. Moreover, for any pair of charts  $(U_\alpha, \phi_\alpha)$  and  $(U_\beta, \phi_\beta)$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \neq \emptyset$ , the associated transition map

$$\phi_\alpha \circ \phi_\beta^{-1} : \phi_\beta(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta) \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \phi_\alpha(U_\alpha \cap U_\beta) \subset \mathbb{R}^2$$

is locally the restriction of a translation. We assume that each point in  $\text{Sing}(S)$  is non-removable, which means the translation atlas can not be extended to any of the points in  $\text{Sing}(S)$ . An element  $x$  in  $\text{Sing}(S)$  is called a *singular point of  $S$*  or *singularity*. A *translation structure* on  $S$  is a maximal translation atlas on the surface. If  $S$  admits a translation structure, it will be called a *translation surface*.

For a translation surface  $S$ , we can pull back the Euclidean (Riemannian) metric of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  via its translation structure; thus we obtain a flat Riemannian metric  $\mu$  on  $S$ . Let  $\widehat{S}$  denote the *metric completion of  $S$*  with respect to the flat Riemannian metric  $\mu$ . According to the uniformization theorem [1, p. 580], the only complete translation surfaces  $S = \widehat{S}$  are the Euclidean plane, the torus, and the cylinder [5, p. 193].

**Definition 3** (see [30]). *A translation surface  $S$  is said to be tame if for each point  $x \in \widehat{S}$ , there exists a neighborhood  $U_x \subset \widehat{S}$  isometric to either:*

- (1) *Some open subset of the Euclidean plane, or*

- (2) *An open subset of the ramification point of a (finite or infinite) cyclic branched covering of the unit disk in the Euclidean plane.*

*In the latter case, if the neighborhood  $U_x$  is isometric to the finite cyclic branched covering of finite order  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , then the point  $x$  is called a finite cone angle singularity of angle  $2m\pi$ . If  $U_x$  is isometric to the infinite cyclic branched covering, then  $x$  is called an infinite cone angle singularity.*

We denote by  $\text{Sing}(\widehat{S})$  the set of all finite and infinite cone angle singularities of  $\widehat{S}$ . An element of  $\text{Sing}(\widehat{S})$  is called a *cone angle singularity of  $\widehat{S}$* , or simply a *cone point*.

### 3.1. Saddle connection and markings

A *saddle connection*  $\gamma$  on a tame translation surface  $S$  is a geodesic interval joining two cone points and not having cone points in its interior. In the translation structure of  $S$ , we can find a chart  $(U, \varphi)$  such that the open  $U$  contains the saddle connection  $\gamma$ , excluding its endpoints. The map  $\varphi$  sends  $\gamma$  to a straight line segment in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . This straight line segment can be oriented in two possible directions denoted by  $[\theta], [-\theta] \in \mathbb{R}/2\pi\mathbb{Z}$ , for some  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then we can associate to  $\gamma$  two oppositely oriented vectors  $\{v, -v\} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ , corresponding to directions  $[\theta]$  and  $[-\theta]$ , respectively. Moreover, the norm of these vectors is equal to the length of  $\gamma$  measured with respect to the flat Riemannian metric  $\mu$  on  $S$ . Each of these vectors is called a *holonomy vector of  $\gamma$* . Clearly, the holonomy vectors of  $\gamma$  are well-defined, that is, they do not depend on the choice of the chart  $(U, \varphi)$ .

A *marking*  $m$  on the tame translation surface  $S$  is a finite length geodesic not having cone points inside it. Similarly to the case of saddle connection, we can associate to the marking  $m$  two *holonomy vectors*  $\{v, -v\} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ . Two markings are said to be *parallel* if their respective holonomy vectors are also parallel. It does not matter if the markings are on different surfaces [24, Definition 3.4].

**Definition 4** (see [25]). *Let  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  be two parallel markings having the same length on translation surfaces  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , respectively. We cut  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  along  $m_1$  and  $m_2$ , respectively, turning  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  into the surfaces with boundary  $\tilde{S}_1$  and  $\tilde{S}_2$ , respectively. Each of their boundaries is formed by two straight line segments. Now, we consider the union  $\tilde{S}_1 \cup \tilde{S}_2$  and identify (glue) such (four) segments using translations to obtain a connected tame translation surface  $S$  (see Figure 1). This gluing relation of these segments will be denoted as  $m_1 \sim_{glue} m_2$ , and called the operation of gluing the markings  $m_1$  and  $m_2$ . Then the surface  $S$  will be written in the following form:*

$$S := (S_1 \cup S_2)/m_1 \sim_{glue} m_2.$$

*We say that  $S$  is obtained from  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  by regluing along  $m_1$  and  $m_2$ .*

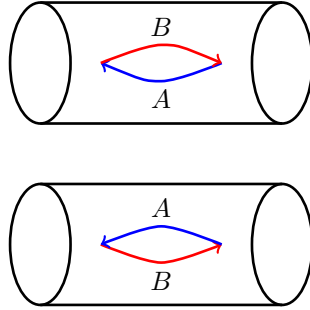


Figure 1: *Gluing markings*

### 3.2. Veech group

Let  $S$  be a tame translation surface. A homeomorphism  $T : \widehat{S} \rightarrow \widehat{S}$  is called an *affine diffeomorphism* if it satisfies the following properties:

- (1) It sends cone points to cone points.
- (2) The function  $T$  is an affine map in the local coordinates of the translation atlas on  $S$ .

We denote by  $\text{Aff}_+(S)$  the group of all affine orientations preserving diffeomorphism from the tame translation surface  $S$  to itself.

Given a tame translation surface  $S$  and a map  $T \in \text{Aff}_+(S)$ , then using the translation structure on  $S$ , we hold that the differential  $dT(p)$  of  $T$  at any point  $p \in S$  is a constant matrix  $A$  that belongs to  $\text{GL}_+(2, \mathbb{R})$ . We then define the map

$$D : \text{Aff}_+(S) \rightarrow \text{GL}_+(2, \mathbb{R}),$$

where  $D(T)$  is the differential matrix of  $T$ . Using the chain rule, it is easy to verify that  $D$  is a group homomorphism.

**Definition 5** (see [32]). *The image of  $D$ , denoted by  $\Gamma(S)$ , is called the Veech group of  $S$ .*

The group  $\text{GL}_+(2, \mathbb{R})$  acts on the set of all translation surfaces by postcomposition on charts. More precisely, this action sends the couple  $(g, S)$  to the translation surface  $S_g$ , which is called *the affine copy of  $S$* . The translation structure on  $S_g$  is obtained by postcomposing each chart on  $S$  by the affine transformation associated to the matrix  $g$ . Further, this action defines an affine diffeomorphism  $f_g : S \rightarrow S_g$ , where the differential  $df_g(p)$  of  $f_g$  at any point  $p \in S$  is the matrix  $g$ .

### 4. Proof of Theorem 1

Let  $G$  be a finitely generated subgroup of  $\text{GL}_+(2, \mathbb{R})$  without contracting elements, and let  $H$  be a finite generating set of  $G$ . The set  $H$  can be written as  $H = \{h_j :$

$j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ , for some  $J \in \mathbb{N}$ . We shall obtain the surface  $S$  using the PSV construction, which will be briefly outlined below. Afterward, we shall prove that  $S$  is a tame translation surface with Veech group  $G$ . Finally, we will describe the ends space of  $S$ .

#### 4.1. PSV construction

For each countable subgroup  $G$  of  $\mathrm{GL}_+(2, \mathbb{R})$  without contracting elements, Przytycki, Weitze-Schmithüsen, and Valdez, in [24, 4. Countable Veech group], described a method to construct a tame translation surface homeomorphic to the Loch Ness monster, with Veech group  $G$ . We refer to this method as the *PSV construction*. From a metric spaces point of view, the process is as follows:

##### Step 1. The decorated surface

We build a *suitable* tame Loch Ness monster  $S_{\mathrm{dec}}$  using copies of the Euclidean plane and a cyclic branched covering of the Euclidean plane, which are appropriately attached via gluing markings. The resulting surface  $S_{\mathrm{dec}}$  is referred to as *decorated*. For each  $h_j \in H$ , we mark  $S_{\mathrm{dec}}$  with two infinite families of (suitable) markings

$$h_j \check{M}^{-j} := \left\{ h_j \check{m}_i^{-j} : \forall i \in \mathbb{N} \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad M^{-j} := \left\{ m_i^{-j} : \forall i \in \mathbb{N} \right\}.$$

##### Step 2. The puzzle associated to the triplet $(1, G, H)$

For each  $g \in G$ , we take the affine copy  $S_g$  of the decorated surface  $S_{\mathrm{dec}}$ . We then define two families of markings on  $S_g$ :

$$gh_j \check{M}^{-j} := \left\{ gh_j \check{m}_i^{-j} : \forall i \in \mathbb{N} \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad gM^{-j} := \left\{ gm_i^{-j} : \forall i \in \mathbb{N} \right\}.$$

These families corresponded to the image of  $h_j \check{M}^{-j}$  and  $M^{-j}$  on  $S_{\mathrm{dec}}$  (respectively) under the diffeomorphism  $f_g : S_{\mathrm{dec}} \rightarrow S_g$ . Thus, we define the *puzzle associated to the triplet*  $(1, G, H)$  as

$$\mathfrak{P}(1, G, H) := \{S_g : g \in G\},$$

as defined in [25, Definition 3.1]. The term 1 means that the decorated surface has only one end.

##### Step 3. The assembled surface $S$ to the puzzle $\mathfrak{P}(1, G, H)$ .

We define the *assembled surface to the puzzle*  $\mathfrak{P}(1, G, H)$  (see [25, Definition 3.1]) as follows:

$$S := \bigcup_{g \in G} S_g / \sim,$$

where  $\sim$  is the equivalence relation given by the following gluing of the markings: for each edge  $(g, gh_j)$  of the Cayley graph  $\mathrm{Cay}(G, H)$ , the marking  $gh_j \check{m}_i^{-j}$  on  $S_g$  is glued to the marking  $gh_j m_i^{-j}$  on  $S_{gh_j}$ , for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ .



## 4.2. We employ PSV construction to obtain the surface $S$

### Step 1. The decorated surface

The following auxiliary construction is necessary to obtain the decorated surface.

**Construction 1** (Buffer surface). *For each  $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ , we consider  $\mathbb{E}(j, 1)$  and  $\mathbb{E}(j, 2)$  copies of the Euclidean plane, which are endowed with a fixed origin  $\mathbf{0}$  and an orthogonal basis  $\beta = \{e_1, e_2\}$ . We define markings on these surfaces, which are described by their endpoints. On  $\mathbb{E}(j, 1)$ , we draw the families of markings:*

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{M}^j &:= \left\{ \tilde{m}_i^j := (4ie_1, (4i+1)e_1) : \forall i \in \mathbb{N} \right\}, \text{ and} \\ L &:= \{l_i := ((4i+2)e_1, (4i+3)e_1) : \forall i \in \mathbb{N}\}. \end{aligned}$$

On  $\mathbb{E}(j, 2)$  we take the family of markings:

$$L' := \left\{ l'_i := ((2i+1)e_2, e_1 + (2i+1)e_2) : \forall i \in \mathbb{N} \right\},$$

and the marking:

$$h_j \tilde{m}^{-j} := (2e_2, e_1 + 2e_2).$$

Finally, the marking  $l_i \in L$  on  $\mathbb{E}(j, 1)$  and the marking  $l'_i \in L'$  on  $\mathbb{E}(j, 2)$  are glued, for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Thus, we obtain a tame Loch Ness monster

$$S(\text{Id}, h_j), \tag{1}$$

which is called the buffer surface associated to the element  $h_j$  of  $H$  (see Figure 2).

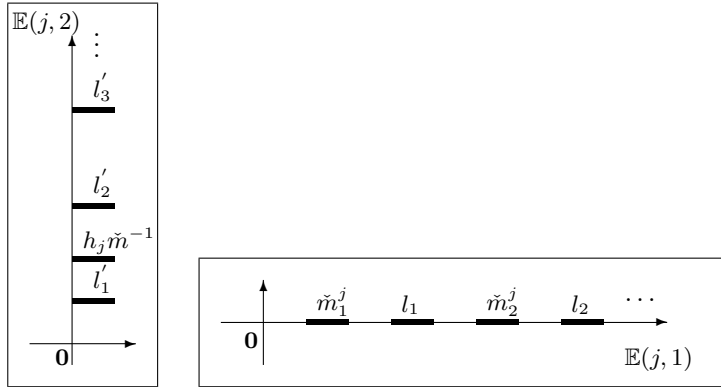


Figure 2: Buffer surface  $S(\text{Id}, h_j)$

**Remark 3.** *The buffer surface  $S(\text{Id}, h_j)$  is a modification of the surface appearing in Construction 4.4 in [24]. We emphasize that the family of markings  $\tilde{M}^j$  and the marking  $h_j \tilde{m}^{-j}$  on  $S(\text{Id}, h_j)$  have not been glued yet. In addition, the set of singular points of  $S(\text{Id}, h_j)$  consists of infinitely many cone angle singularities of angle  $4\pi$ .*

**Construction 2** (Decorated surface). We take  $\mathbb{E}$ , the Euclidean plane, endowed with a fixed origin  $\bar{0}$ , and an orthogonal basis  $\beta = \{e_1, e_2\}$ . Analogously, we shall define markings on this surface, described by their endpoints. For each  $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ , on  $\mathbb{E}$  we define the families of markings:

$$M^j := \left\{ m_i^j := ((2i-1)e_1 + je_2, 2ie_1 + je_2) : \forall i \in \mathbb{N} \right\}, \text{ and}$$

$$M := \{ m_i := ((4i-1)e_1, 4ie_1) : \forall i \in \mathbb{N} \}.$$

Now, we recursively draw new markings on  $\mathbb{E}$ . For  $j = 1$ , we choose two suitable real numbers  $x_1 > 0$  and  $y_1 < 0$  and define the marking:

$$m^{-1} := (x_1e_1 + y_1e_2, x_1e_1 + h_1^{-1}e_1 + y_1e_2)$$

on  $\mathbb{E}$ , such that  $m^{-1}$  is disjoint from the families of markings  $M$  and  $M^j$  for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ .

For  $n \leq J$ , we choose two suitable real numbers  $x_n > 0$  and  $y_n < 0$  and define the marking:

$$m^{-n} := (x_ne_1 + y_n e_2, x_n e_1 + h_n^{-1} e_1 + y_n e_2)$$

on  $\mathbb{E}$ , such that  $m^{-n}$  is disjoint from the families of markings  $M$  and  $M^j$  for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ . Moreover, the marking  $m^{-n}$  is also disjoint from the markings  $m^{-1}, \dots, m^{-(n-1)}$  defined in the previous steps.

Let  $\pi : \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$  be the three fold cyclic covering of  $\mathbb{E}$ , branched over the origin. Then we denote as

$$\tilde{M} := \{ \tilde{m}_i : \forall i \in \mathbb{N} \}$$

one of the three sets of markings on  $\tilde{\mathbb{E}}$  defined by  $\pi^{-1}(M)$ . Now, we take on  $\mathbb{E}$  the markings  $t_1 := (e_2, 2e_2)$  and  $t_2 := (-e_2, -2e_2)$ , which will be used to generate new markings on  $\tilde{\mathbb{E}}$ . Then we denote as  $\tilde{t}_1$  and  $\tilde{t}_2$  one of the three markings on  $\tilde{\mathbb{E}}$  defined by  $\pi^{-1}(t_1)$  and  $\pi^{-1}(t_2)$ , respectively, such that they are on the same fold of  $\tilde{\mathbb{E}}$  as  $\tilde{M}$ .

Finally, we take the union of surfaces  $\mathbb{E} \cup \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \cup_{j \in \{1, \dots, J\}} S(\text{Id}, h_j)$  (see equation (1)), and glue markings as follows:

- (1) The markings  $\tilde{t}_1$  and  $\tilde{t}_2$  on  $\tilde{\mathbb{E}}$  are glued.
- (2) The marking  $m_i$  on  $\mathbb{E}$  is glued to the marking  $\tilde{m}_i$  on  $\tilde{\mathbb{E}}$ , for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- (3) The marking  $m_i^j$  on  $\mathbb{E}$  is glued to the marking  $\tilde{m}_i^j$  on  $S(\text{Id}, h_j)$ , for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$  and each  $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ .

Thus, we obtain the tame Loch Ness monster

$$S_{\text{dec}}, \tag{2}$$

which is called a decorated surface (see Figure 3).

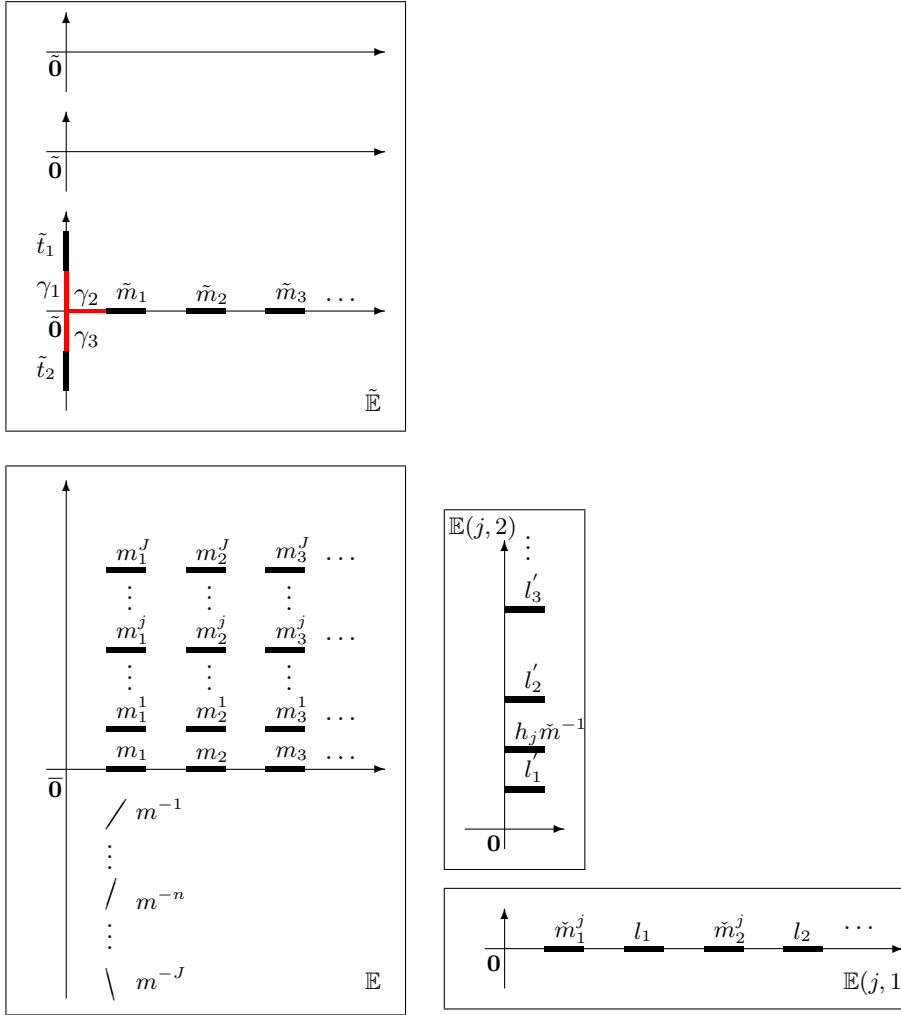


Figure 3: Decorated surface  $S_{\text{dec}}$

**Remark 4.** For each  $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ , the markings  $h_j \tilde{m}^{-j}$  and  $m^{-j}$  on the decorated surface  $S_{\text{dec}}$  have not been glued yet. Moreover, the surface  $S_{\text{dec}}$  has the following properties:

- (1) Its set of singular points consists of infinitely many cone angle singularities of angle  $4\pi$ , and only one cone angle singularity of angle  $6\pi$ , which is denoted by  $\tilde{\mathbf{0}}$ .
- (2) There are only three saddle connections  $\gamma_1$ ,  $\gamma_2$ , and  $\gamma_3$ , such that each one of them has the singularity  $\tilde{\mathbf{0}}$  as one of their endpoints (see Figure 3). The holonomy vectors of these saddle connections are  $\{\pm e_1, \pm e_2\}$ .

The surface  $S_{\text{dec}}$  is a slight modification of the surface appearing in Construction 4.6 in [24]. In that construction, the authors introduced a tame Loch Ness monster with infinitely many markings on it. Nevertheless, in our case, we consider the same surface but with only a subset of these markings. Additionally, the decorated surfaces appearing in [25] cover different ends spaces; however, each of them has drawn an infinite family of markings for each element of  $H$ . This implies that our decorated surface  $S_{\text{dec}}$  is not studied in the aforementioned article.

## Step 2. The puzzle associated to the triplet $(1, G, H)$

Let  $S_g$  be the affine copy of the decorated surface  $S_{\text{dec}}$ , for each  $g \in G$ . We denote by  $gh_j\check{m}^{-j}$  and  $gm^{-j}$  (respectively) the markings on  $S_g$ , which are the images of the markings  $h_j\check{m}^{-j}$  and  $m^{-j}$  (respectively) via the affine diffeomorphism  $f_g : S_{\text{dec}} \rightarrow S_g$ , where  $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ . Thus, we define the *puzzle associated to the triplet*  $(1, G, H)$  as

$$\mathfrak{P}(1, G, H) := \{S_g : g \in G\}.$$

The following lemma will be used to prove the tameness of our surface  $S$ .

**Lemma 1** (see [24]). *For every  $g \in G$ , the distance in  $S_g$  between the families of markings  $\{gh_j\check{m}^{-j} : j \in \{1, \dots, J\}\}$  and  $\{gm^{-j} : j \in \{1, \dots, J\}\}$  is at least  $1/\sqrt{2}$ .*

## Step 3. The assembled surface $S$ to the puzzle $\mathfrak{P}(1, G, H)$

We consider the union  $\bigcup_{g \in G} S_g$  and glue markings as follows: given the edge  $(g, gh_j)$  of the Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(G, H)$ , we glue the marking  $gh_j\check{m}^{-j}$  on  $S_g$  to the marking  $gh_jm^{-j}$  on  $S_{gh_j}$ .

We remark that, by construction, the markings  $gh_j\check{m}^{-j}$  and  $gh_jm^{-j}$  are parallel, so the gluing is well-defined. Thus, the *assembled surface to the puzzle*  $\mathfrak{P}(1, G, H)$  obtained from the above gluing is a translation surface denoted by

$$S := \bigcup_{g \in G} S_g / \sim.$$

## 4.3. The surface $S$ is a tame translation surface and its Veech group is the subgroup $G < \text{GL}_+(2, \mathbb{R})$

One can use several of the ideas described in [25, Theorem 3.7] to easily prove the following lemmas.

**Lemma 2.** *The translation surface  $S$  is tame.*

**Proof.** We must show that  $S$  is a complete metric space with respect to its natural flat metric  $d$ , and its set of singularities is discrete in  $S$ . Let  $(\widehat{S}, \widehat{d})$  be the metric completion space of  $(S, d)$ . For each  $g \in G$ , we define the connected open subset

$$S'_g := S_g \setminus \{gh_j\check{m}^{-j}, gm^{-j} : j \in \{1, \dots, J\}\} \subset S_g, \quad (3)$$

which is obtained from  $S_g$  (see equation (2)) by removing the markings  $gh_j\tilde{m}^{-j}$  and  $gm^{-j}$  for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ . Using the inclusion map, the open subset  $S'_g \subset S_g$  can be considered as a connected open subset of  $S$ . Then, the closure  $\overline{S'_g}$  of  $S'_g$  in  $S$  is complete. If we take a Cauchy sequence  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  in  $S$  and the real number  $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}$ , then there is a positive integer  $N(\varepsilon) \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all natural numbers  $m, n \geq N(\varepsilon)$ , the terms  $x_m, x_n$  satisfy  $\widehat{d}(x_m, x_n) < \varepsilon$ . By Lemma 1, there is  $g \in G$  such that the open ball  $B_\varepsilon(x_{N(\varepsilon)})$  is contained in  $\overline{S'_g}$ . Since  $\overline{B_\varepsilon(x_{N(\varepsilon)})} \subset \overline{S'_g}$  is complete, the Cauchy sequence  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges within  $\overline{B_\varepsilon(x_{N(\varepsilon)})}$ . The discreteness of the singularities follows immediately from Lemma 1.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.** *The Veech group of  $S$  is  $G$ .*

**Proof.** Given that the group  $G$  acts on  $\mathfrak{P}(1, G, H) := \{S_g : g \in G\}$  by post-composition on charts, then if we fix a matrix  $\tilde{g} \in G$ , for each  $g \in G$ , there exists a natural affine diffeomorphism  $f_{\tilde{g}g} : S_g \rightarrow S_{\tilde{g}g}$ , satisfying the following properties:

- (1) The differential of  $f_{\tilde{g}g}$  is the matrix  $\tilde{g}$ .
- (2) The map  $f_{\tilde{g}g}$  sends parallel markings to parallel markings.

Hence, the map  $f : \bigcup_{g \in G} S_g \rightarrow \bigcup_{g \in G} S_{\tilde{g}g}$  defined by  $f|_{S_g} := f_{\tilde{g}g}$ , is a gluing markings-preserving map. This yields an affine diffeomorphism in the quotient  $F_{\tilde{g}} : S \rightarrow S$  with differential matrix  $\tilde{g}$ . Thus, we conclude that  $G < \Gamma(S)$ . Conversely, we consider  $f : S \rightarrow S$  an affine orientation preserving diffeomorphism different from the identity. From Remark 4, for each  $g \in G$ , the surface  $S_g$  has one singularity of angle  $6\pi$ , which is denoted by  $\tilde{\mathbf{O}}_g$ . There are only three saddle connections  $\gamma_1^g, \gamma_2^g$ , and  $\gamma_3^g$  such that each one of them has that singularity as one of their endpoints. The holonomy vectors associated to these saddle connections are  $\{\pm g \cdot e_1, \pm g \cdot e_2\}$ . The function  $f$  sends the singularity  $\tilde{\mathbf{O}}_{\text{Id}}$  to the singularity  $\tilde{\mathbf{O}}_g$  for some  $g \in G$ , and the differential matrix  $df$  of  $f$  must map  $\{\pm e_1, \pm e_2\}$  to  $\{\pm g \cdot e_1, \pm g \cdot e_2\}$ . The only possibility is that  $df = g$ . Thus, we conclude that  $\Gamma(S) < G$ .  $\square$

#### 4.4. Ends space of the surface $S$

The description of the ends space of  $S$ , as stated in Theorem 1, follows from the following lemmas.

**Lemma 4.** *If  $G$  is finite, then the surface  $S$  has as many ends as there are elements in the group  $G$ , and each end has infinite genus.*

**Lemma 5.** *If  $G$  is not finite, then the ends space of  $S$  can be represented in the form*

$$\text{Ends}(S) = \text{Ends}_\infty(S) = \mathcal{B} \sqcup \mathcal{U},$$

where  $\mathcal{B}$  is a closed subset of  $\text{Ends}(S)$  homeomorphic to  $\text{Ends}(G)$ , and  $\mathcal{U}$  is a countable, dense, and open subset of  $\text{Ends}(S)$ .

### Proof of Lemma 4

The group  $G$  has cardinality  $k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $K$  be a compact subset of  $S$ ; we must prove that there exists a compact subset  $K' \subset S$  such that  $K \subset K'$ , and  $S \setminus K'$  consists of  $k$  open connected components, each one of them having infinite genus.

For each  $g \in G$ , the affine copy  $S_g$  is homeomorphic to the Loch Ness monster (see equation (2)). Since the generating set  $H$  of  $G$  is finite, the set of markings

$$\{gh_j\check{m}^{-j}, gm^{-j} : j \in \{1, \dots, J\}\}$$

on the affine copy  $S_g$  is finite. We consider the connected subsurface  $S'_g$  of  $S_g$  as in equation (3), which has the following properties:

- (1) This subsurface  $S'_g$  has infinite genus, and via the inclusion map, it can be considered as a connected subsurface of  $S$  with infinite genus.
- (2) The boundary  $\partial S'_g$  of  $S'_g$  in  $S$  is compact because it is conformed by a finitely many disjoint closed curves.

As  $G$  is finite, from the preceding properties we hold that the set

$$S \setminus \bigcup_{g \in G} \partial S'_g = \bigcup_{g \in G} S'_g$$

consists of  $k$  open connected components, and each one of them has infinite genus.

On the other hand, let  $K_g$  be the closure of the set  $K \cap S'_g$  in  $S_g$  for each  $g \in G$ . As  $K_g$  is a compact subset of  $S_g$ , there exists a compact subset  $K'_g \subset S_g$  such that

$$K_g \cup \{gh_j\check{m}^{-j}, gm^{-j} : j \in \{1, \dots, J\}\} \subset K'_g,$$

and  $S_g \setminus K'_g$  consist of an open connected with infinite genus. We take  $K'$  to be the closure of

$$\bigcup_{g \in G} (K'_g \setminus \{gh_j\check{m}^{-j}, gm^{-j} : j \in \{1, \dots, J\}\})$$

in  $S$ . As  $G$  is finite, then  $K'$  is a compact subset of  $S$ . By construction, we hold that  $K \subset K'$ , and the set

$$S \setminus K' = \bigcup_{g \in G} (S_g \setminus K'_g) \subset \bigcup_{g \in G} S'_g$$

consists of  $k$  open connected components and each one of them having infinite genus.  $\square$

### Proof of Lemma 5

The sketch of the proof is the following. We begin by defining the set  $\mathcal{U}$  from the ends of the affine copies  $S_g$ , and we will prove that it is a countable, discrete, and open subset of  $\text{Ends}(S)$ . Then, we shall give an appropriate embedding  $i_*$  from

$\text{Ends}(G)$  to  $\text{Ends}(S)$ , where the image of  $\text{Ends}(G)$  under  $i_*$  will be denoted by  $\mathcal{B}$ . By using an embedding from the Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(G, H)$  to the surface  $S$ , we shall establish the equality

$$\text{Ends}(S) = \text{Ends}_\infty(S) = \mathcal{B} \sqcup \mathcal{U},$$

where  $\mathcal{B}$  is closed, and  $\mathcal{U}$  is a dense and open subset of  $\text{Ends}(S)$ .

**Step 1. The set  $\mathcal{U}$**

For each  $g \in G$ , we take the subsurface  $S'_g \subset S_g$  defined in equation (3). Recall that the boundary  $\partial S'_g$  of the subsurface  $S'_g$  is compact because it consists of finitely many disjoint closed curves. Let  $[U(g)_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be the unique end of the Loch Ness monster  $S_g$ . Without loss of generality, we can assume that  $U(g)_n \subset S'_g$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . From the inclusion map, the surface  $S'_g$  can be considered as a subsurface of  $S$ . Then the sequence  $(U(g)_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of  $S_g$  defines an end with infinite genus of the surface  $S$ .

**Remark 5.** *For any two different  $g \neq \tilde{g} \in G$ , the subsurfaces  $S'_g$  and  $S'_{\tilde{g}}$  of  $S$  are disjoint.*

From the previous remark, we obtain the countable set  $\mathcal{U}$  conformed by different ends of  $S$  given by

$$\mathcal{U} := \{[U(g)_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \text{Ends}(S) : g \in G\} \subset \text{Ends}(S). \tag{4}$$

Let us note that the subset  $\mathcal{U} \subset \text{Ends}(S)$  is both discrete and open. This is a consequence of the following fact. For each  $g \in G$ , the open subset  $U(g)_1$  of  $S$  has a compact boundary  $\partial U(g)_1$  in  $S$ . Thus, we define the open subset  $(U(g)_1)^*$  of  $\text{Ends}(S)$ , which satisfies

$$(U(g)_1)^* \cap \mathcal{U} = \{[U(g)_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}\}.$$

**Step 2. The embedding  $i_* : \text{Ends}(G) \hookrightarrow \text{Ends}(S)$**

Let  $\overline{S'_g}$  be the closure in  $S$  of the surface  $S'_g$  (see equation (3)). Given a non-empty connected open subset  $W$  of  $\text{Cay}(G, H)$  with compact boundary  $\partial W$ , we can suppose, without loss of generality, that the boundary  $\partial W \subset V(\text{Cay}(G, H)) = G$ . We then define the subset  $\tilde{W} \subset S$  given by

$$\tilde{W} := \text{Int} \left( \bigcup_{g \in G \cap (W \cup \partial W)} \overline{S'_g} \right) \subset S. \tag{5}$$

This set  $\tilde{W}$  is a non-empty, connected, and open subset of  $S$  with a compact boundary. Moreover, it is a subsurface of  $S$  with infinite genus. In the following remark, we state two properties of this object, which can be easily deduced.

**Remark 6.** *Given that  $W$  and  $V$  are two non-empty, connected, and open subsets of  $\text{Cay}(G, H)$ , each one having compact boundaries  $\partial W$  and  $\partial V$ , respectively, such that  $\partial W, \partial V \subset G$ , then*

- (1) If  $W \supset V$ , then  $\tilde{W} \supset \tilde{V}$ .
- (2) If  $W \cap V = \emptyset$ , then  $\tilde{W} \cap \tilde{V} = \emptyset$ .

From the above remark, the end  $[W_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of the group  $G$  naturally defines the end  $[\tilde{W}_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of the surface  $S$ , which has infinite genus. Hence, we obtain a well-defined map  $i_* : \text{Ends}(G) \rightarrow \text{Ends}(S)$  given by

$$[W_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mapsto [\tilde{W}_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}. \quad (6)$$

**Claim 1.** *The map  $i_*$  is an embedding.*

**Proof.** We must show that  $i_*$  is *injective*. Let  $[W_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $[V_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be two different ends of  $G$ . Then, there is  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $W_l \cap V_l = \emptyset$ . By item (2) of Remark 6, it follows that  $\tilde{W}_l \cap \tilde{V}_l = \emptyset$ . It proves that the ends  $i_*([W_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}) = [\tilde{W}_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $i_*([V_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}) = [\tilde{V}_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  in  $\text{Ends}(S)$  are different.

*Continuity.* We consider an end  $[W_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of the group  $G$  and an open subset  $V \subset S$  with a compact boundary such that  $i_*([W_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}) = [\tilde{W}_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in V^* \subset \text{Ends}(S)$ . We must prove that there is a neighborhood  $Z^* \subset \text{Ends}(G)$  of  $[W_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that  $i_*(Z^*) \subset V^*$ . Given that  $[\tilde{W}_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in V^*$ , there exists some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$\tilde{W}_k \subset V.$$

We take the open subset  $W_k$  of the Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(G, H)$ , which defines the open subset  $\tilde{W}$  (see equation (5)), and consider the open

$$Z^* := (W_k)^*$$

of  $\text{Ends}(G)$ , which is a neighborhood of  $[W_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ . To ensure that  $i_*(Z^*) \subset V^*$ , we consider any end  $[U_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \text{Ends}(G)$  such that  $[U_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in Z^* = (W_k)^*$ , and check that  $i_*([U_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}) = [\tilde{U}_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in V^*$ . Since  $U_m \subset W_k$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , it follows from item (1) of Remark 6 that

$$\tilde{U}_m \subset \tilde{W}_k.$$

As  $\tilde{W}_k \subset V$ , we conclude that  $\tilde{U}_m \subset V$ , which implies that  $i_*([U_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}) = [\tilde{U}_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in V^*$ .

Finally, the map  $i_*$  is *closed* because any continuous map from a compact space to a Hausdorff space is closed. Therefore,  $i_*$  is an embedding.  $\square$

We denote the image of the map  $i_*$  as

$$\mathcal{B} := i_*(\text{Ends}(G)).$$

From the definition of the set  $\mathcal{U}$  given in equation (4), we conclude that  $\mathcal{B} \cap \mathcal{U} = \emptyset$ , and  $\mathcal{B} \sqcup \mathcal{U} \subset \text{Ends}(S)$ .



**Step 3. The embedding  $i : \text{Cay}(G, H) \hookrightarrow S$**

We now describe the image of each vertex and edge of  $\text{Cay}(G, H)$  under the map  $i$ .

For each  $g \in G$ , let  $\bar{\mathbf{0}}_g$  denote the point in the affine copy  $S_g$  that corresponds to the image of the point  $\bar{\mathbf{0}}$  (see equation (2)) in the decorated surface  $S_{\text{dec}}$  via the affine diffeomorphism  $f_g : S_{\text{dec}} \rightarrow S_g$ . Then the surface  $S'_g$  described in equation (3) contains the point  $\bar{\mathbf{0}}_g$ . Thus, we define the map  $h : V(\text{Cay}(G, H)) = G \rightarrow S$  given by

$$g \mapsto \bar{\mathbf{0}}_g. \tag{7}$$

On the other hand, for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ , there is a simple polygonal path  $\beta_j : [0, 1] \rightarrow S$  satisfying the following properties:

- (1) The initial and terminal points of  $\beta_j$  are  $\bar{\mathbf{0}}_{\text{Id}}$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{0}}_{h_j}$ , respectively. See Figure 4.
- (2) For each  $i \neq j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ , the intersection  $\beta_i([0, 1]) \cap \beta_j([0, 1]) = \{\bar{\mathbf{0}}_{\text{Id}}\}$ .

Since the edge  $(\text{Id}, h_j)$  of the Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(G, H)$  is homeomorphic to the open interval  $(0, 1)$ , we can suppose, without loss of generality, that the curve  $\beta_j$  is defined from  $[\text{Id}, h_j]$  to  $S$  such that  $\beta_j(\text{Id}) = \bar{\mathbf{0}}_{\text{Id}}$  and  $\beta_j(h_j) = \bar{\mathbf{0}}_{h_j}$ . Given that the Veech group of the surface  $S$  is  $G$ , for each  $g \in G$ , there is an affine diffeomorphism  $f_g : S \rightarrow S$  whose differential is  $df_g = g$ . Thus, we get the composition path

$$f_g \circ \beta_j : [0, 1] \rightarrow S, \tag{8}$$

satisfying the following properties:

- (1) The initial and terminal points of  $f_g \circ \beta_j$  are  $\bar{\mathbf{0}}_g$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{0}}_{gh_j}$ , respectively.
- (2) For each  $i \neq j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ , the intersection  $f_g \circ \beta_i([0, 1]) \cap f_g \circ \beta_j([0, 1]) = \{\bar{\mathbf{0}}_g\}$ .

Similarly, since the edge  $(g, gh_j)$  of the Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(G, H)$  is homeomorphic to the open interval  $(0, 1)$ , we can suppose, without loss of generality, that the composition path  $f_g \circ \beta_j$  is defined from  $[g, gh_j]$  to  $S$  such that  $f_g \circ \beta_j(g) = \bar{\mathbf{0}}_g$  and  $f_g \circ \beta_j(gh_j) = \bar{\mathbf{0}}_{gh_j}$ .

From equations (7) and (8), we obtain the embedding

$$i : \text{Cay}(G, H) \hookrightarrow S, \tag{9}$$

such that  $i|_G := h$  and  $i|_{[g, gh_j]} := f_g \circ \beta_j$  for each  $g \in G$  and  $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ .

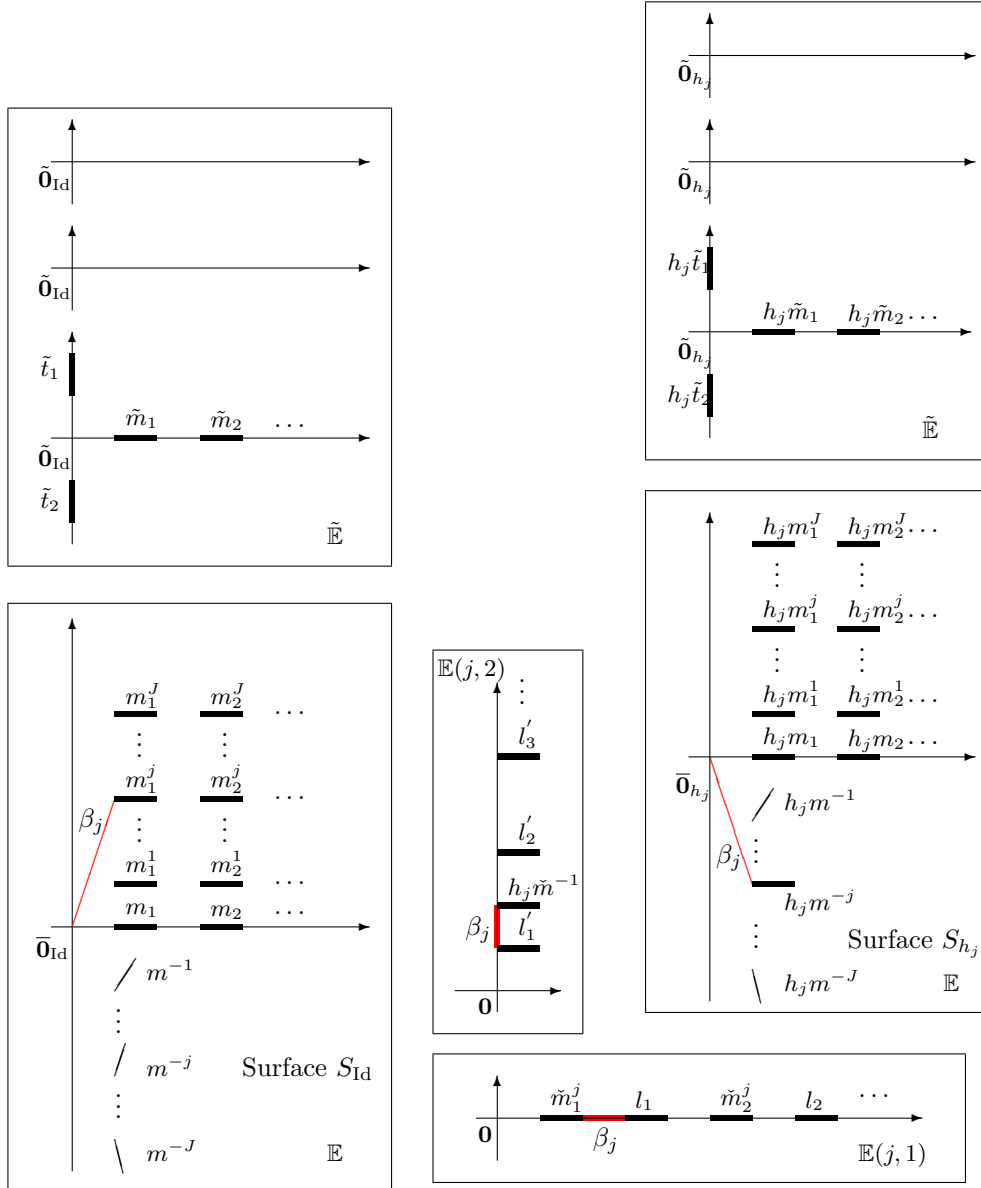


Figure 4: Image of  $\beta_j$

**Step 4. The equality  $\text{Ends}(S) = \mathcal{B} \sqcup \mathcal{U}$**

We must prove that  $\text{Ends}(S) \subset \mathcal{B} \sqcup \mathcal{U}$ . Let  $[U_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be an end of  $S$ . Since  $S = \bigcup_{g \in G} \overline{S'_g}$ , for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we consider the subset

$$G(n) = \{g \in G : \overline{S'_g} \cap U_n \neq \emptyset\} \subset G,$$

and define the open subset

$$Z_n := \text{Int} \left( \bigcup_{g \in G(n)} \overline{S'_g} \right) \subset S,$$

which has the following properties:

- (1) Since  $U_n$  is a non-empty, connected, and open subset of  $S$  with a compact boundary, the set  $Z_n$  is also a connected and open subset of  $S$  with a compact boundary for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- (2) As  $U_n \supset U_{n+1}$ , it follows that  $Z_n \supset Z_{n+1}$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Using the definition of an end and the construction of  $Z_n$ , it is easy to show that the sequences  $(Z_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $(U_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  define the same end of  $S$ . In other words,  $[U_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}} = [Z_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ . We shall now prove that the end  $[Z_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{B} \sqcup \mathcal{U}$ . We notice that one of the following cases must occur:

**Case 1.** There is  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $G(N)$  is finite. Then there exists  $g \in G$  such that for all  $m \geq N$  we hold

$$Z_m \subset S'_g.$$

This implies that the sequences  $(Z_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $(U(g)_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  must be equivalent (see equation (4)). Thus,  $[U_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \mathcal{U}$ .

**Case 2.** Otherwise, for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the subset  $G(n) \subset G$  is infinite. As the embedding  $i$  described in equation (9) is a continuous map, the inverse image

$$\hat{Z}_n := i^{-1}(Z_n \cap i(\text{Cay}(G, H)))$$

is a connected and open subset of  $\text{Cay}(G, H)$  with a compact boundary for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Moreover, the sequence  $(\hat{Z}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  defines an end of the group  $G$ . By the construction of the sequence  $(Z_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of  $S$ , the embedding  $i_*$  defined in (6) sends the end  $[\hat{Z}_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of  $G$  to the end  $[Z_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of  $S$ . This implies that  $[Z_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{B}$ . Thus, we conclude that  $\text{Ends}(S) = \mathcal{B} \sqcup \mathcal{U}$ .

**Step 5. The set  $\mathcal{B}$  is closed and the set  $\mathcal{U}$  is dense and open**

Since  $\mathcal{U}$  is an open subset of  $\text{Ends}(S)$ , its complement  $\text{Ends}(S) \setminus \mathcal{U} = \mathcal{B}$  is a closed subset of  $\text{Ends}(S)$ . We shall prove that  $\mathcal{U}$  is dense. Let  $[Z_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be an end of  $\mathcal{B}$ . We must show that this end belongs to the closure of  $\mathcal{U}$ .

Let  $U$  be a non-empty, connected, and open subset of  $S$  with a compact boundary such that the open subset  $U^* \subset \text{Ends}(S)$  contains the end  $[Z_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ . There exists  $\tilde{g} \in \{g \in G : \overline{S'_g} \cap U \neq \emptyset\}$  such that  $S'_g \subset U$ . This condition implies that the end  $[U(\tilde{g})_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of  $\mathcal{U}$  belongs to  $U^*$ . Therefore, the end  $[Z_n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is in the closure of  $\mathcal{U}$ .  $\square$

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