Notes on the peripheral volume of hyperbolic 3-manifolds

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Abstract

We consider hyperbolic 3-manifolds with either non-empty compact geodesic boundary, or some toric cusps, or both. For any such M we analyze what portion of the volume of M can be recovered by inserting in M boundary collars and cusp neighbourhoods with disjoint embedded interiors. Our main result is that this portion can only be maximal in some combinatorially extremal configurations. The techniques we employ are very elementary but the result is in our opinion of some interest. MSC (2010): 57M50 (primary); 57M27 (secondary).

The issue of understanding volumes of hyperbolic 3-manifolds has been one of the central themes of geometric topology since the pioneering work of Jorgensen and Thurston, who showed that the set of possible volumes is a well-ordered subset of \mathbb{R} (see, e.g., [2]). In particular, considerable energy has been devoted to identifying the minima of the volume within given classes of manifolds, and the following instances have by now been settled:

- The minimal-volume compact hyperbolic 3-manifolds with non-empty geodesic boundary were proved [12] to be the 8 manifolds that decompose into two truncated regular tetrahedra of dihedral angle $\frac{\pi}{6}$ (these 8 manifolds were first described in [8]);
- The minimal-volume hyperbolic 3-manifolds with toric cusps (but no boundary) were shown [5] to be the figure-eight knot complement and its sibling (these manifolds were first described in [16] and [4]);

- The minimal-volume closed hyperbolic 3-manifold was very recently proved [9, 10, 11, 14] to be the Weeks manifold (first described in [4] and [13]);
- The two minimal-volume hyperbolic 3-manifolds with two toric cusps (but no boundary) were identified in [1].

Other instances, however, remain open, as that of manifolds with one toric cusp and one compact boundary component.

The general (and very roughly described) idea of the papers quoted so far is to show that an upper or lower bound on the volume implies constraints on the topology of a manifold. Moreover, estimates on the volume of boundary collars or cusp neighbourhoods often play an important role. We also mention that the same ideas appear in other interesting articles, such as [3] and [6]. In this paper we address the following natural question:

• Let M be a hyperbolic 3-dimensional manifold with either non-empty compact geodesic boundary, or some toric cusps, or both. What is the optimal way of inserting in M boundary collars and/or cusp neighbourhoods having disjoint embedded interiors?

Optimality here is of course meant in the sense of volume maximization, collars are defined using the distance, and cusp neighbourhoods are bounded by horospherical cross-sections. We will refer to a boundary collar or cusp neighbourhood using the collective term of *peripheral component*. Employing *very* elementary techniques we will prove in this paper that an optimal choice of the peripheral components necessarily occurs in a combinatorially extremal configuration, a fact that we consider to be of some interest.

To state our main results we denote by v the volume function and we establish the convention that, when we mention distinct peripheral components, they always have disjoint and embedded interiors. We then have:

Proposition 0.1. Let M have two peripheral components P_1 and P_2 . Then $v(P_1)+v(P_2)$ can have a local maximum only if, up to reordering the indices, P_1 is chosen so that $v(P_1)$ is maximal regardless of P_2 , and then P_2 is chosen so that $v(P_2)$ is maximal given P_1 .

(When both peripheral components are cusps, or both are collars of boundary components having the same genus, we will also show that one must maximize first the component that individually can be made bigger than the other one.)

For the next result we will need to refer to a certain modified volume $\tilde{v}(P)$ of a peripheral component P, that coincides with v(P) when P is a cusp neighbourhood, and will be defined below when P is a boundary collar.

Theorem 0.2. Let M have three peripheral components P_1 , P_2 , and P_3 . Then $v(P_1) + v(P_2) + v(P_3)$ can have a local maximum only in one of the following configurations:

- Up to reordering the indices, first P_1 is chosen so that $v(P_1)$ is maximal regardless of P_2 and P_3 , next P_2 is chosen so that $v(P_2)$ is maximal given P_1 , and last P_3 is chosen so that $v(P_3)$ is maximal given P_1, P_2 ;
- Each of P_1 , P_2 , P_3 is tangent to the other two, and the modified volumes $\widetilde{v}(P_1)$, $\widetilde{v}(P_2)$, $\widetilde{v}(P_3)$ satisfy the strict triangular inequalities.

Moreover, if in the latter case no P_j is individually maximal, then the configuration indeed gives a local maximum for $v(P_1) + v(P_2) + v(P_3)$.

Proposition 0.1 and Theorem 0.2 of course have similar flavours, since they both state that a local maximum of the peripheral volume is attained at a combinatorially non-generic configuration, namely one involving individual maximality of one peripheral component or a cycle of tangencies. A punctual analysis similar to that given by Theorem 0.2 is perhaps possible also for four or more peripheral components, but we will refrain from carrying it out. We confine ourselves to the following general result (a more refined version of which will be stated and proved below):

Proposition 0.3. Let M have n peripheral components P_1, \ldots, P_n such that:

- No P_j is such that $v(P_j)$ is maximal regardless of the other P_i 's;
- There are fewer than n tangencies between different P_j 's.

Then the configuration cannot be a local maximum for $v(P_1) + \ldots + v(P_n)$.

We conclude this introduction with two remarks. First, one could simplify the attempt to partially recover the volume of M by imposing all the collars of the boundary components to have the same width, and all the toric cusps to have the same volume, but our results show that this attempt would typically be very inefficient. Second, we explain why we do not consider in this paper the case of manifolds having annular cusps, the reason being that for the boundary components entering such cusps one could not take a collar at all, so the theory would have limited interest.

1 Preliminaries

Let us fix for the rest of this article a hyperbolic 3-manifold M with either non-empty compact geodesic boundary, or some toric cusps, or both. We will denote by $\Sigma_1, \ldots, \Sigma_b$ the components of ∂M and by T_1, \ldots, T_k the toric boundary components of the compactification of M. Moreover for d > 0 we will indicate by $U_j(d)$ the d-collar of Σ_j in M, and for v > 0 by $C_i(v)$ the volume-v horospherical cusp neighbourhood at T_i in M. When certain $U_j(d_j)$'s and $C_i(v_i)$'s are simultaneously considered we will always assume that they have embedded and disjoint interiors. We begin by recalling that each Σ_j has a well-defined hyperbolic area $\mathcal{A}(\Sigma_j) = -2\pi\chi(\Sigma_j)$. We then prove the following:

Lemma 1.1. Suppose that M has both geodesic boundary and cusps. Then the cusp torus T_i has a well-defined area $\mathcal{A}_j(T_i) = \frac{\mathcal{A}(\mathbb{E}^2/\Lambda_i)}{r_j^2}$ relative to the boundary component Σ_j , where:

- A universal cover $p: \widetilde{M} \to M$ is chosen with \widetilde{M} being the intersection of a family of hyperbolic half-spaces in the half-space model $\mathbb{E}^2 \times (0, +\infty)$ of \mathbb{H}^3 , in such a way that with respect to p the torus T_i lifts to ∞ ;
- Λ_i is the lattice acting horizontally on \mathbb{H}^3 to give the i-th cusp of M;
- r_j is the maximal Euclidean radius of a half-sphere centered at $\mathbb{E}^2 \times \{0\}$ that bounds \widetilde{M} and projects in M to Σ_j .

Proof. A universal cover as in the statement exists and r_j is well-defined because the maximum has to be taken over a Λ_i -equivariant family of half-spheres. Two distinct universal covers as in the statement differ by the composition of a horizontal Euclidean isometry and a dilation in $\mathbb{E}^2 \times (0, +\infty)$, and the ratio in the statement is preserved by both.

We now start dealing with peripheral volume, by quoting the following formula from [9]:

Proposition 1.2.
$$v\left(U_{j}\left(d\right)\right) = \frac{\mathcal{A}\left(\Sigma_{j}\right)}{4} \cdot \left(2d + \sinh\left(2d\right)\right).$$

Before proceeding, we define the modified volume \tilde{v} for a boundary collar $U_i(d)$ by setting

$$\widetilde{v}\left(U_{j}\left(d\right)\right) = \frac{\mathcal{A}\left(\Sigma_{j}\right)}{4} \cdot \left(1 + \cosh\left(2d\right)\right).$$

Note that $\widetilde{v}(U_j(d))$ is a strictly increasing function of $v(U_j(d))$, but one cannot describe the function explicitly.

The next result will be the core of our arguments. It describes how a peripheral component changes when it varies subject to the condition of staying tangent to another one that is also varying.

Proposition 1.3.

- If $C_{i_1}(v_1)$ and $C_{i_2}(v_2)$ vary while remaining tangent to each other, then the product $v_1 \cdot v_2$ remains constant;
- If $U_j(d)$ and $C_i(v)$ vary while remaining tangent to each other then $v = \frac{A_j(T_i)}{2} \cdot e^{-2d}$;
- If $U_{j_1}(d_1)$ and $U_{j_2}(d_2)$ vary while remaining tangent to each other, then the sum $d_1 + d_2$ remains constant.

Proof. Let us prove the first statement. Suppose that in some universal cover contained in $\mathbb{H}^3 = \mathbb{E}^2 \times (0, +\infty)$ the cusp $C_{i_1}(v_1)$ is the quotient of the horoball $\mathbb{E}^2 \times [z_{i_1}, +\infty)$ acted on horizontally by a lattice Λ_{i_1} . If the cusp changes so that in M its boundary moves of some small distance $d \in \mathbb{R}$ (with d < 0 meaning that the cusp is shrinking) then it becomes the quotient under Λ_{i_1} of $\mathbb{E}^2 \times [z, +\infty)$ with

$$\int_{-\infty}^{z_{i_1}} \frac{1}{t} \, \mathrm{d}t = d$$

whence $z = z_{i_1}e^{-d}$. The cusp volume v_1 then changes from

$$\mathcal{A}\left(\mathbb{E}^2/\Lambda_{i_1}\right) \cdot \int_{z_{i_1}}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{t^3} dt = \frac{\mathcal{A}\left(\mathbb{E}^2/\Lambda_{i_1}\right)}{2} \cdot z_{i_1}^{-2}$$

to $\frac{A(\mathbb{E}^2/\Lambda_{i_1})}{2} \cdot z^{-2}$, namely it changes by a factor e^{2d} . During a simultaneous variation of v_1 and v_2 with $C_{i_1}(v_1)$ and $C_{i_2}(v_2)$ remaining tangent to each other, the boundary of $C_{i_2}(v_2)$ moves by a distance -d. The calculations already carried out show that then its volume varies by a factor e^{-2d} , and the conclusion follows.

Turning to the second statement, we choose a universal cover of M with $C_i(v)$ lifting to some horoball $\mathbb{E}^2 \times [z, +\infty)$ in $\mathbb{E}^2 \times (0, +\infty)$. With r_j being as in the definition of $\mathcal{A}_j(T_i)$, the condition that $U_j(d)$ is tangent to $C_i(V)$ implies that

$$\int_{r_i}^{z} \frac{1}{t} \, \mathrm{d}t = d$$

whence $z = r_j e^d$ and

$$v = \frac{\mathcal{A}\left(\mathbb{E}^2/\Lambda_{i_1}\right)}{2r_j^2} \cdot e^{-2d} = \frac{\mathcal{A}_j\left(T_i\right)}{2} \cdot e^{-2d}.$$

This proves the desired formula. The third statement is obvious.

2 Two peripheral components and the general case

We will establish here the two propositions stated in the introduction. For the sake of conciseness let us say that a peripheral component P is maximal if v(P) is maximal regardless of the other peripheral components, i.e., if ∂P is tangent either to itself or to ∂M .

Proof of Proposition 0.1. We must show that $v(P_1) + v(P_2)$ cannot have a local maximum unless, up to switching indices, P_1 is maximal and P_2 is either maximal or tangent to P_1 . If one of P_1 or P_2 is not maximal or tangent to the other one, of course $v(P_1) + v(P_2)$ cannot be locally maximal. We are then left to exclude only the situation where P_1 and P_2 are tangent to each other but neither of them is tangent to itself or to the boundary. To this configuration we can locally apply Proposition 1.3. Depending on whether P_1 and P_2 are both cusps, a cusp and a collar, or two collars, the total volume

 $V = v(P_1) + v(P_2)$ with respect to an appropriate parameter is given by

$$C_1(v_1) \cup C_2(v_2): V(v_1) = v_1 + \frac{v_0^2}{v_1}$$
 for some $v_0 > 0$,

$$U_1(d_1) \cup C_1(v_1): V(d_1) = \frac{A(\Sigma_1)}{4} \cdot (2d_1 + \sinh(2d_1)) + \frac{A_1(T_1)}{2} \cdot e^{-2d_1},$$

$$U_1(d_1) \cup U_2(d_2): V(d_1) = \frac{A(\Sigma_1)}{4} \cdot (2d_1 + \sinh(2d_1)) + \frac{A(\Sigma_2)}{4} \cdot (2(2d_0 - d_1) + \sinh(2(2d_0 - d_1)))$$
 for some $d_0 > 0$

Since in all cases V is a convex function and our starting point is in the interior of the domain of definition of V, the conclusion follows.

In two special cases for the types of the two peripheral components we have the following improvement on Proposition 0.1, also announced above:

Proposition 2.1. Suppose that M has either two cusps and no geodesic boundary or two geodesic boundary components of the same genus and no cusps. For j = 1, 2 let v_j^{max} be the maximal volume that the j-th peripheral component P_j can attain regardless of the other one. If $v_1^{\text{max}} \ge v_2^{\text{max}}$ then the maximum of $v(P_1) + v(P_2)$ is attained by maximizing first P_1 and then P_2 given P_1 .

Proof. We start with the case of two cusps. Taking v_1 as a variable to parameterize $C_1\left(v_1\right)\cup C_2\left(v_2\right)$ in tangency position, we have $v_2=\frac{v_0^2}{v_1}$ for some $v_0>0$, and v_1 varies in $\left[v_1^{\min},v_1^{\max}\right]$ with $v_1^{\min}=\frac{v_0^2}{v_2^{\max}}$. We must maximize on $\left[v_1^{\min},v_1^{\max}\right]$ the convex function $v_1\mapsto v_1+\frac{v_0^2}{v_1}$, that attains its minimum at $v_1=v_0$. We may now have $v_1^{\min}>v_0$ or $v_1^{\min}\leqslant v_0$. In the former case of course the maximum of $v_1+\frac{v_0^2}{v_1}$ is attained at v_1^{\max} . In the latter case we have $v_2^{\max}=\frac{v_0^2}{v_1^{\min}}\geqslant v_0$, but $v\mapsto v+\frac{v_0^2}{v}$ is increasing on $\left[v_0,+\infty\right)$, therefore the inequalities $v_1^{\max}\geqslant v_2^{\max}\geqslant v_0$ imply

$$v_1^{\text{max}} + \frac{v_0^2}{v_1^{\text{max}}} \geqslant v_2^{\text{max}} + \frac{v_0^2}{v_2^{\text{max}}} = \frac{v_0^2}{v_1^{\text{min}}} + v_1^{\text{min}}$$

and the conclusion follows.

For two boundary components of the same genus g the argument is similar. Let d_j^{max} be the maximal d_j such that $U_j(d_j)$ has embedded interior, and

let d_i^{\min} for $\{i,j\} = \{1,2\}$ be the maximal d_i such that $U_i(d_i)$ has embedded interior in $M \setminus U_j\left(d_j^{\max}\right)$. Note that $d_1^{\max} + d_2^{\min} = d_1^{\min} + d_2^{\max}$, and denote by $2d_0$ this quantity. Since $v_j^{\max} = \pi(g-1)\left(2d_j^{\max} + \sinh\left(2d_j^{\max}\right)\right)$ we have $d_1^{\max} \geqslant d_2^{\max}$. Using d_1 as a deformation parameter we must now maximize on $\left[d_1^{\min}, d_1^{\max}\right]$ the convex function

$$f(d_1) = \pi(g-1) \left(2d_1 + \sinh(2d_1) + 2(2d_0 - d_1) + \sinh(2(2d_0 - d_1)) \right),$$

that attains its minimum at d_0 . If $d_1^{\min} \geqslant d_0$ the maximum is of course attained at d_1^{\max} . If $d_1^{\min} < d_0$ we have $d_2^{\max} > d_0$, but we also know that $d_1^{\max} \geqslant d_2^{\max}$, whence

$$f\left(d_{1}^{\max}\right)\geqslant f\left(d_{2}^{\max}\right)=f\left(d_{1}^{\min}\right)$$

and the proof is complete.

We conclude this section by proving a result that easily implies Proposition 0.3:

Proposition 2.2. Let M have n peripheral components P_1, \ldots, P_n and construct a graph with vertices P_1, \ldots, P_n and edges joining peripheral components that are tangent to each other. Suppose that this graph has a connected component Γ such that:

- Γ is a tree:
- No vertex P_i of Γ is maximal.

Then the configuration cannot be a local maximum for $v(P_1) + \ldots + v(P_n)$.

Proof. Under the stated assumptions we can locally deform the peripheral components corresponding to the vertices in Γ using one parameter that can be both increased and decreased. If in Γ there are only cusps and no boundary components, choosing v_1 as a deformation parameter we see that each other v_i in Γ varies either as $c_i \cdot v_1$ or as $\frac{c_i}{v_1}$ for some $c_i > 0$, which implies that the sum of all the volumes of the peripheral components in Γ is a convex function of v_1 , whence the conclusion.

Suppose then that in Γ there exists at least one boundary collar component and choose d_1 as a deformation parameter. We then claim that each d_j in Γ varies as either $c_j + d_1$ or as $c_j - d_1$ for some $c_j \in \mathbb{R}$, and each v_i in Γ varies as either $c_i \cdot e^{-2d_1}$ or as $c_i \cdot e^{2d_1}$ for some $c_i > 0$. This can be

easily checked using Proposition 1.3 and induction on the number of edges in Γ one needs to travel through in passing from $U_1(d_1)$ to $U_j(d_j)$ or $C_i(v_i)$. Since $v(U_j(d_j))$ is a convex function of d_j we deduce that the sum of the volumes of the peripheral components in Γ is a convex function of d_1 , and the proposition is proved.

Experimental facts A census was carried out in [7] of all the 5,192 hyperbolic 3-manifolds with non-empty compact geodesic boundary that can be triangulated using up to 4 tetrahedra. It turns out that the geodesic boundary is always connected, and that there is one cusp for 31 manifolds and two cusps for one manifold. We were now able to check [15] that for all the 32 relevant cases the largest peripheral volume is obtained by maximizing first the boundary collar and then the cusp neighbourhood(s, that both become tangent to the boundary collar when there are two of them, before becoming tangent themselves or to each other).).

3 Three peripheral components

This section is devoted to the proof of Theorem 0.2. We already know from Proposition 0.3 that at a local maximum for $v(P_1) + v(P_2) + v(P_3)$ either some P_j is maximal or each P_j is tangent to each other P_i . In the former case, suppose that P_1 is maximal. If P_2 or P_3 is maximal given P_1 then up to switching P_2 and P_3 we have a configuration as described in the first item of the statement. Otherwise P_2 and P_3 are tangent to each other but not to themselves or to P_1 , and the argument given in the proof of Proposition 0.1 shows that the configuration cannot locally maximize the volume.

We are left to deal with the configuration in which each P_j is tangent to each other P_i but it is not individually maximal. This implies that each P_j is not tangent to itself and that it has positive width if it is of collar type (otherwise some other P_i would be maximal). In this case the local deformation we can perform is as follows:

- We can inflate P_1 and shrink P_2 and P_3 so that they stay tangent to P_1 , with shapes varying as described in Proposition 1.3;
- We can shrink P_1 , in which case we can further deform P_2 and P_3 in such a way that they stay tangent to each other. But thanks to the argument showing Proposition 0.1 we know that along this deformation

we cannot have a local maximum except at the extrema, namely when either P_2 or P_3 is tangent to P_1 .

To analyze exactly how the volume behaves under this deformation we need to distinguish according to the types of P_1 , P_2 , P_3 , noting that our choice of P_1 in the above description of the deformation was an arbitrary one. The argument is similar in all four cases, with complications increasing (and amount of details we supply decreasing) as the number of boundary components grows.

CASE I: THREE CUSPS Let $C_1\left(v_1^{(0)}\right), C_2\left(v_2^{(0)}\right), C_3\left(v_3^{(0)}\right)$ be the initial cusps with indices chosen so that $v_2^{(0)} \geqslant v_3^{(0)}$. We then let v_1 vary in a neighbourhood of $v_1^{(0)}$ and note that, according to the above description of the deformation, for $v_1 \leqslant v_1^{(0)}$ the total deformed volume is given by v_1 plus

$$\max \left\{ \frac{v_1^{(0)} \cdot v_2^{(0)}}{v_1} + \frac{v_3^{(0)}}{v_1^{(0)}} \cdot v_1, \ \frac{v_2^{(0)}}{v_1^{(0)}} \cdot v_1 + \frac{v_1^{(0)} \cdot v_3^{(0)}}{v_1} \right\},$$

but the assumption $v_2^{(0)} \ge v_3^{(0)}$ readily implies that the maximum is given by the first expression. Therefore near $v_1^{(0)}$ the total deformed volume is

$$V(v_1) = \begin{cases} v_1 + \frac{v_1^{(0)} \cdot v_2^{(0)}}{v_1} + \frac{v_3^{(0)}}{v_1^{(0)}} \cdot v_1 & \text{for } v_1 \leqslant v_1^{(0)} \\ v_1 + \frac{v_1^{(0)} \cdot v_2^{(0)}}{v_1} + \frac{v_1^{(0)} \cdot v_3^{(0)}}{v_1} & \text{for } v_1 \geqslant v_1^{(0)}. \end{cases}$$

We now have

$$V'_{-}\left(v_{1}^{(0)}\right) = 1 - \frac{v_{2}^{(0)}}{v_{1}^{(0)}} + \frac{v_{3}^{(0)}}{v_{1}^{(0)}}, \qquad V'_{+}\left(v_{1}^{(0)}\right) = 1 - \frac{v_{2}^{(0)}}{v_{1}^{(0)}} - \frac{v_{3}^{(0)}}{v_{1}^{(0)}}$$

and we note that under the assumption $v_2^{(0)} \geqslant v_3^{(0)}$ the strict triangular inequalities for $v_1^{(0)}, v_2^{(0)}, v_3^{(0)}$ read as

$$v_2^{(0)} - v_3^{(0)} < v_1^{(0)} < v_2^{(0)} + v_3^{(0)},$$

therefore they are equivalent to the conditions

$$V'_{+}\left(v_{1}^{(0)}\right) < 0 < V'_{-}\left(v_{1}^{(0)}\right),$$

so they imply that V has a local maximum at $v_1^{(0)}$. We must show that, conversely, if one of the strict triangular inequalities is violated then V does not have a local maximum at $v_1^{(0)}$, which is because in this case we have either $V'_-\left(v_1^{(0)}\right)\leqslant 0$ or $V'_+\left(v_1^{(0)}\right)\geqslant 0$, but $V''_-\left(v_1^{(0)}\right)>0$ and $V''_+\left(v_1^{(0)}\right)>0$.

CASE II: ONE BOUNDARY COMPONENT AND TWO CUSPS We denote by Σ the boundary component and for i=2,3 by $\mathcal{A}\left(T_{i}\right)$ the areas relative to Σ of the tori T_{2} and T_{3} , with indices chosen so that $\mathcal{A}\left(T_{2}\right) \geqslant \mathcal{A}\left(T_{3}\right)$. Suppose that the initial peripheral components are $U_{1}\left(d_{1}^{(0)}\right), C_{2}\left(v_{2}^{(0)}\right), C_{3}\left(v_{3}^{(0)}\right)$, with volumes

$$v_1^{(0)} = \frac{\mathcal{A}(\Sigma)}{4} \cdot \left(2d_1^{(0)} + \sinh\left(2d_1^{(0)}\right)\right), \qquad v_i^{(0)} = \frac{\mathcal{A}(T_i)}{2} \cdot e^{-2d_1^{(0)}}$$

(therefore $v_2^{(0)} \geqslant v_3^{(0)}$ by our choice of the indices). Using d_1 to parameterize the deformation we have for $d_1 < d_1^{(0)}$ that the deformed total volume is given by $\frac{\mathcal{A}(\Sigma)}{4} \cdot (2d_1 + \sinh{(2d_1)})$ plus

$$\max \left\{ \frac{\mathcal{A}(T_2)}{2} \cdot e^{-2d_1} + \frac{\mathcal{A}(T_3)}{2} \cdot e^{-2\left(2d_1^{(0)} - d_1\right)}, \frac{\mathcal{A}(T_2)}{2} \cdot e^{-2\left(2d_1^{(0)} - d_1\right)} + \frac{\mathcal{A}(T_3)}{2} \cdot e^{-2d_1} \right\}$$

and the first expression prevails thanks to the assumption $\mathcal{A}(T_2) \geqslant \mathcal{A}(T_3)$. The deformed total volume is therefore

$$V\left(d_{1}\right) = \begin{cases} \frac{\mathcal{A}\left(\Sigma\right)}{4} \cdot \left(2d_{1} + \sinh\left(2d_{1}\right)\right) + \frac{\mathcal{A}\left(T_{2}\right)}{2} \cdot e^{-2d_{1}} + \frac{\mathcal{A}\left(T_{3}\right)}{2} \cdot e^{2d_{1} - 4d_{1}^{(0)}} \\ & \text{for } d_{1} \leqslant d_{1}^{(0)} \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{A}\left(\Sigma\right)}{4} \cdot \left(2d_{1} + \sinh\left(2d_{1}\right)\right) + \frac{\mathcal{A}\left(T_{2}\right)}{2} \cdot e^{-2d_{1}} + \frac{\mathcal{A}\left(T_{3}\right)}{2} \cdot e^{-2d_{1}} \\ & \text{for } d_{1} \geqslant d_{1}^{(0)} \end{cases}$$

and we easily have

$$V'_{-}\left(d_{1}^{(0)}\right) = 2\left(\widetilde{v}_{1}^{(0)} - v_{2}^{(0)} + v_{3}^{(0)}\right), \qquad V'_{+}\left(d_{1}^{(0)}\right) = 2\left(\widetilde{v}_{1}^{(0)} - v_{2}^{(0)} - v_{3}^{(0)}\right).$$

Since $V''_{\pm}\left(d_1^{(0)}\right) > 0$, the conclusion follows precisely as in Case I.

CASE III: TWO BOUNDARY COMPONENTS AND ONE CUSP Let the peripheral components be $C_1\left(v_1^{(0)}\right), U_2\left(d_2^{(0)}\right), U_3\left(d_3^{(0)}\right)$, whence

$$v_1^{(0)} = \frac{\mathcal{A}_2(T_1)}{2} \cdot e^{-2d_2^{(0)}} = \frac{\mathcal{A}_3(T_1)}{2} \cdot e^{-2d_3^{(0)}}.$$

For the sake of brevity we now set $f_j(t) = \frac{A(\Sigma_j)}{4}(2t + \sinh(2t))$, so that $v(U_j(d_j)) = f_j(d_j)$, and $f'_j(d_j^{(0)}) = 2\widetilde{v}_j^{(0)}$. We now choose indices so that $\widetilde{v}_2^{(0)} \geqslant \widetilde{v}_3^{(0)}$. We deform the configuration using the parameter v_1 , to do which we define the functions

$$d_j\left(v_1\right) = -\frac{1}{2}\log\frac{2v_1}{\mathcal{A}_j\left(T_1\right)},$$

noting that for $v_1 \geqslant v_1^{(0)}$ the peripheral configuration is given by

$$C_1(v_1), U_2(d_2(v_1)), U_3(d_3(v_1)).$$

For $v_1 < v_1^{(0)}$, on the contrary, we have one of the following:

•
$$d_2 = d_2(v_1)$$
 and $d_3 = d_3^{(0)} + d_2^{(0)} - d_2(v_1)$,

•
$$d_3 = d_3(v_1)$$
 and $d_2 = d_2^{(0)} + d_3^{(0)} - d_3(v_1)$.

The total deformed volume for $v_1 \leq v_1^{(0)}$ is then v_1 plus

$$\max \left\{ f_2(d_2(v_1)) + f_3(d_3^{(0)} + d_2^{(0)} - d_2(v_1)), f_2(d_2^{(0)} + d_3^{(0)} - d_3(v_1)) + f_3(d_3(v_1)) \right\}$$

and the first expression prevails thanks to our assumption, because at the point $v_1 = v_1^{(0)}$ it has the same value as the second expression but smaller first derivative. Therefore

$$V(v_1) = \begin{cases} v_1 + f_2(d_2(v_1)) + f_3(d_3^{(0)} + d_2^{(0)} - d_2(v_1)) & \text{for } v_1 \leq v_1^{(0)} \\ v_1 + f_2(d_2(v_1)) + f_3(d_3(v_1)) & \text{for } v_1 \geq v_1^{(0)} \end{cases}$$

whence

$$V'_{-}\left(v_{1}^{(0)}\right) = 1 - \frac{\widetilde{v}_{2}^{(0)}}{v_{1}^{(0)}} + \frac{\widetilde{v}_{3}^{(0)}}{v_{1}^{(0)}}, \qquad V'_{+}\left(v_{1}^{(0)}\right) = 1 - \frac{\widetilde{v}_{2}^{(0)}}{v_{1}^{(0)}} - \frac{\widetilde{v}_{3}^{(0)}}{v_{1}^{(0)}}$$

and precisely as in the previous two cases we conclude that we have a local maximum if and only if $v_1^{(0)}, \widetilde{v}_2^{(0)}, \widetilde{v}_3^{(0)}$ satisfy the strict triangular inequalities.

Case IV: Three boundary components be $\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \Sigma_3$ and the initial configuration be $U_1\left(d_1^{(0)}\right), U_2\left(d_2^{(0)}\right), U_3\left(d_3^{(0)}\right)$ with $\widetilde{v}_2^{(0)} \geqslant \widetilde{v}_3^{(0)}$. Setting

$$f_{j}(t) = \frac{\mathcal{A}(\Sigma_{j})}{4} (2t + \sinh(2t))$$

and using d_1 to parameterize the deformation we have that the deformed volume is given by

$$V\left(d_{1}\right) = \begin{cases} f_{1}\left(d_{1}\right) + f_{2}\left(d_{2}^{(0)} + d_{1}^{(0)} - d_{1}\right) + f_{3}\left(d_{3}^{(0)} - d_{1}^{(0)} + d_{1}\right) & \text{for } d_{1} \leqslant d_{1}^{(0)} \\ f_{1}\left(d_{1}\right) + f_{2}\left(d_{2}^{(0)} + d_{1}^{(0)} - d_{1}\right) + f_{3}\left(d_{3}^{(0)} + d_{1}^{(0)} - d_{1}\right) & \text{for } d_{1} \geqslant d_{1}^{(0)}. \end{cases}$$

This gives

$$V_{-}'\left(d_{1}^{(0)}\right)=2\left(\widetilde{v}_{1}^{(0)}-\widetilde{v}_{2}^{(0)}+\widetilde{v}_{3}^{(0)}\right), \qquad V_{+}'\left(d_{1}^{(0)}\right)=2\left(\widetilde{v}_{1}^{(0)}-\widetilde{v}_{2}^{(0)}-\widetilde{v}_{3}^{(0)}\right)$$

and the conclusion is once again the same.

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