1. Definition

Any orientation preserving self diffeomorphism of $S^1 \times S^2$ is either isotopic to identity or to the map $\varphi : S^2 \times S^1 \to S^2 \times S^1$ defined by $\varphi(x, y) = (\alpha(y)x, y)$, where $\alpha \in \pi_1(SO(3)) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ is the generator (e.g. [6] p.232). For any smooth 4-manifold $X$, and an imbedded 2-sphere in $S \subset X$ with a trivial normal bundle, the operation of removing the regular neighborhood $\nu(S) \cong S^2 \times D^2$ of $S$ from $X$ and then regluing it via the nontrivial diffeomorphism:

$$X \mapsto X_S = (X - \nu(S)) \circlearrowleft \varphi (S^2 \times D^2)$$

is called the Gluck twisting of $X$ along $S$. This operation was introduced in [5].

2. Examples

When $X$ is described as a handlebody, and $S$ is represented by a 2-handle attached along an unknotted circle with zero framing, then the handlebody of $X_S$ is obtained from the handlebody of $X$ by putting one full right (or left) twist to all of the attaching framed circles of the other 2-handles going through this circle.

![Figure 1](https://www.map.mpim-bonn.mpg.de/Gluck_construction)

3. Some Results

It is known that $X_S \# P$ is diffeomorphic to $X \# P$, when $P$ is a copy of $\mathbb{C}P^2$ with either orientation. When $S$ is null-homologous and $X$ is simply connected this operation does not change the homeomorphism type of $X$. It is not known whether a Gluck twisting operation can change the diffeomorphism type of any smooth orientable manifold, while it is known that this is possible in the nonorientable case ([2]). In many instances Gluck twisting of manifolds appear naturally, where this operation do not change their diffeomorphism types (e.g. [5], [3], [4], [1]).

*Atlas page: [www.map.mpim-bonn.mpg.de/Gluck_construction](https://www.map.mpim-bonn.mpg.de/Gluck_construction)*

Accepted: 15th April 2013
REFERENCES


Department of Mathematics
Michigan State University
MI, 48824, USA

E-mail address: akbulut@math.msu.edu
Web address: http://www.mth.msu.edu/~akbulut/