

On the Existence of Minimal Tori in S^3 of Arbitrary Spectral Genus

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Abstract

In 1988, Hitchin showed that the data of a conformal structure τ on T^2 , together with a generic harmonic map f from (T^2, τ) to S^3 , is equivalent to certain spectral data, including an algebraic curve. Thus there is a natural invariant one may associate to a pair (τ, f) , namely the genus of its spectral curve. I prove that every value of this invariant is realised by some minimal immersion of a torus in S^3 .