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Symbolic dynamics for surface diffeomorphisms: updates

Smooth surface diffeomorphisms with positive topological entropy can be coded by countable state Markov shifts, but the transitivity of the diffeomorphism does not seem to imply the transitivity of the symbolic space. I will report on joint work with J. Buzzi and S. Crovisier which shows how to break "most" of the surface into "basic pieces" which admit transitive coding.