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Princeton, NJ 08540. *Virtual Homological Torsion of Closed Hyperbolic 3-manifolds*. Preliminary
report.

We will generalize Kahn and Markovic's construction of almost geodesic surfaces to construct certain π_1 -injective 2-complexes in closed hyperbolic 3-manifolds. Such 2-complexes are locally almost totally geodesic except along a 1-dimensional subcomplex. Using Agol's result that fundamental groups of hyperbolic 3-manifolds are LERF, we will show that closed hyperbolic 3-manifolds virtually contain any prescribed homological torsion: For any finite abelian group A , and any closed hyperbolic 3-manifold M , we can find a finite cover N of M , such that A embeds into $Tor(H_1(N; \mathbb{Z}))$. (Received August 12, 2013)