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Sutured embedded contact homology is an invariant.

Embedded contact homology (ECH) is an invariant of a closed contact 3-manifold, but proving its invariance is not so straightforward: the only known proof (due to Taubes) is to show that it is isomorphic to monopole Floer homology, which only depends on the underlying manifold. Colin, Ghiggini, Honda, and Hutchings defined a version of ECH for contact 3-manifolds with boundary, which are naturally sutured manifolds, and conjectured that this is also an invariant of the underlying sutured manifold. In this talk I will show that sutured ECH is indeed an invariant and discuss how it can be made into a natural one. (Received January 25, 2014)