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Douglas J. LaFountain* (d-lafountain@wiu.edu). *Interlocking solid tori in contact 3-manifolds*. Preliminary report.

Non-thickenable solid tori in contact 3-manifolds are exotic embeddings which have been used to establish knot types with non-destabilizable Legendrian and transverse representatives, and are also related to admissible transverse surgeries that do not preserve tightness of contact structures. In this talk we revisit another family of exotic embeddings of solid tori discovered by Pinciu and further studied by Menasco and Matsuda, namely interlocking solid tori. We show that every positive braid which is not an obvious stabilization supports interlocking solid tori, and also outline a number of open questions concerning these two classes of solid tori. (Received July 19, 2017)