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*Groups acting on hyperbolic surfaces.*

Allcock proved that every countable group is isomorphic to the isometry group of some complete hyperbolic surface. Allcock's construction is unconcerned with the resulting topology of the hyperbolic surface. This leads us to ask: is there a topologically sufficient condition on a (topological) surface  $S$  such that every countable group is realized as the isometry group of some complete hyperbolic structure on  $S$ ?

In this talk, we will provide an answer. This work is joint with Tarik Aougab and Priyam Patel. (Received August 05, 2019)