

## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Basic definitions</b>	<b>February 25, 2019</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1	Reidemeister moves . . . . .		4
1.2	Seifert surface . . . . .		4
1.3	Seifert matrix . . . . .		7
<b>2</b>	<b>Alexander polynomial</b>	<b>March 4, 2019</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1	Existence of Seifert surface - second proof . . . . .		8
2.2	Alexander polynomial . . . . .		9
2.3	Decomposition of 3-sphere . . . . .		11
2.4	Dehn lemma and sphere theorem . . . . .		11
<b>3</b>	<b>Examples of knot classes</b>	<b>March 11, 2019</b>	<b>13</b>
3.1	Algebraic knots . . . . .		13
3.2	Alternating knot . . . . .		16
<b>4</b>	<b>Concordance group</b>	<b>March 18, 2019</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Genus <math>g</math> cobordism</b>	<b>March 25, 2019</b>	<b>22</b>
5.1	Slice knots and metabolic form . . . . .		22
5.2	Four genus . . . . .		23
5.3	Topological genus . . . . .		26
<b>6</b>		<b>April 8, 2019</b>	<b>28</b>
6.1	Fundamental cycle . . . . .		29
<b>7</b>	<b>Linking form</b>	<b>April 15, 2019</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>8</b>		<b>May 6, 2019</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>9</b>		<b>May 20, 2019</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>10</b>		<b>May 27, 2019</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Surgery</b>	<b>June 3, 2019</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Surgery</b>	<b>June 3, 2019</b>	<b>47</b>

**Definition 1.1**

A knot  $K$  in  $S^3$  is a smooth (PL - smooth) embedding of a circle  $S^1$  in  $S^3$ :

$$\varphi : S^1 \hookrightarrow S^3$$

Usually we think about a knot as an image of an embedding:  $K = \varphi(S^1)$ .

**Example 1.1**

- *Knots:*  (unknot),  (trefoil).
- *Not knots:*  (it is not an injection),  (it is not smooth).

**Definition 1.2**

Two knots  $K_0 = \varphi_0(S^1)$ ,  $K_1 = \varphi_1(S^1)$  are equivalent if the embeddings  $\varphi_0$  and  $\varphi_1$  are isotopic, that is there exists a continuous function

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi : S^1 \times [0, 1] &\hookrightarrow S^3, \\ \Phi(x, t) &= \Phi_t(x) \end{aligned}$$

such that  $\Phi_t$  is an embedding for any  $t \in [0, 1]$ ,  $\Phi_0 = \varphi_0$  and  $\Phi_1 = \varphi_1$ .

**Theorem 1.1**

Two knots  $K_0$  and  $K_1$  are isotopic if and only if they are ambient isotopic, i.e. there exists a family of self-diffeomorphisms  $\Psi = \{\psi_t : t \in [0, 1]\}$  such that:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(t) &= \psi_t \text{ is continuous on } t \in [0, 1], \\ \psi_t &: S^3 \hookrightarrow S^3, \\ \psi_0 &= id, \\ \psi_1(K_0) &= K_1. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 1.3**

A knot is trivial (unknot) if it is equivalent to an embedding  $\varphi(t) = (\cos t, \sin t, 0)$ , where  $t \in [0, 2\pi]$  is a parametrisation of  $S^1$ .

**Definition 1.4**

A link with  $k$  - components is a (smooth) embedding of  $\overbrace{S^1 \sqcup \dots \sqcup S^1}^k$  in  $S^3$ .

**Example 1.2**

Links:

- a trivial link with 3 components: ,
- a Hopf link: ,
- a Whitehead link: ,
- a Borromean link: .

**Definition 1.5**

A link diagram  $D_\pi$  is a picture over projection  $\pi$  of a link  $L$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3(S^3)$  to  $\mathbb{R}^2(S^2)$  such that:

- (1)  $D_{\pi|_L}$  is non degenerate: ,
- (2) the double points are not degenerate: ,
- (3) there are no triple point: .

There are under- and overcrossings (tunnels and bridges) on a link diagrams with an obvious meaning.

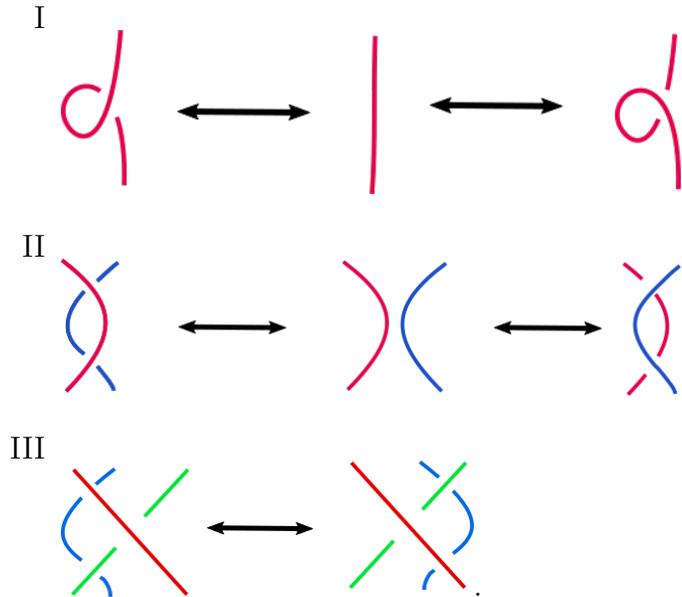
**Fact 1.1**

Every link admits a link diagram.

Let  $D$  be a diagram of an oriented link (to each component of a link we add an arrow in the diagram). We can distinguish two types of crossings: right-handed () , called a positive crossing, and left-handed () , called a negative crossing.

## Reidemeister moves

A Reidemeister move is one of the three types of operation on a link diagram as shown below:



**Theorem 1.2** (Reidemeister, 1927 )

*Two diagrams of the same link can be deformed into each other by a finite sequence of Reidemeister moves (and isotopy of the plane).*

## Seifert surface

Let  $D$  be an oriented diagram of a link  $L$ . We change the diagram by smoothing each crossing:

$$\begin{aligned} \nearrow \searrow &\mapsto \searrow \nearrow, \\ \searrow \nearrow &\mapsto \nearrow \searrow. \end{aligned}$$

We smooth all the crossings, so we get a disjoint union of circles on the plane. Each circle bounds a disk in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  (we choose disks that don't intersect). For each smoothed crossing we add a twisted band: right-handed for a positive and left-handed for a negative one. We get an orientable surface  $\Sigma$  such that  $\partial\Sigma = L$ .

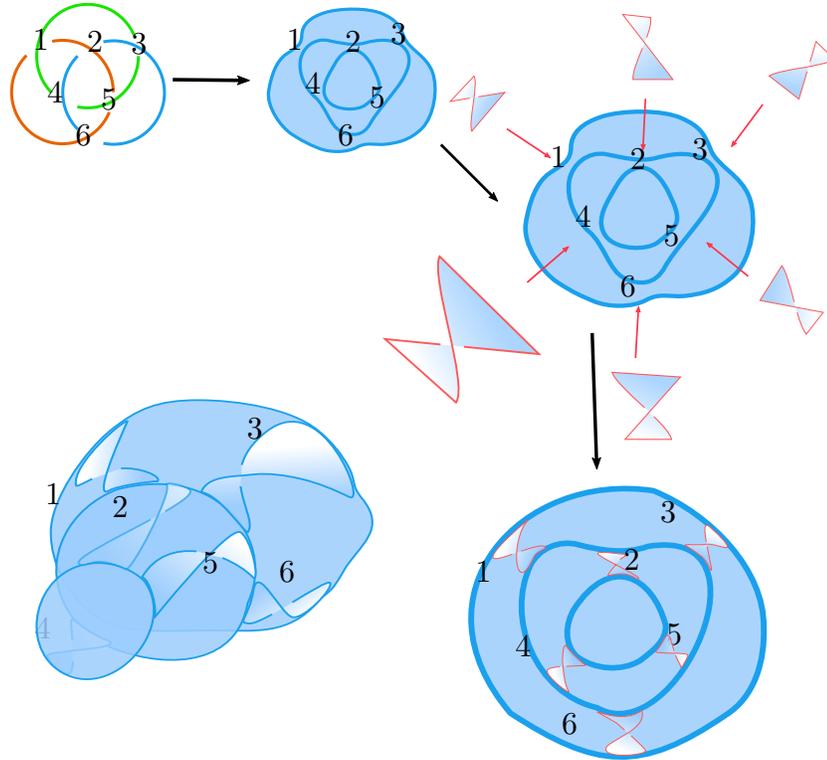


Figure 1: Constructing a Seifert surface.

Note: the obtained surface isn't unique and in general doesn't need to be connected, but by taking connected sum of all components we can easily get a connected surface (i.e. we take two disconnected components and cut a disk in each of them:  $D_1$  and  $D_2$ . Then we glue both components on the boundaries:  $\partial D_1$  and  $\partial D_2$ ).

**Theorem 1.3** (Seifert)

*Every link in  $S^3$  bounds a surface  $\Sigma$  that is compact, connected and orientable. Such a surface is called a Seifert surface.*

**Definition 1.6**

*The three genus  $g_3(K)$  ( $g(K)$ ) of a knot  $K$  is the minimal genus of a Seifert surface  $\Sigma$  for  $K$ .*

**Corollary 1.1**

*A knot  $K$  is trivial if and only  $g_3(K) = 0$ .*

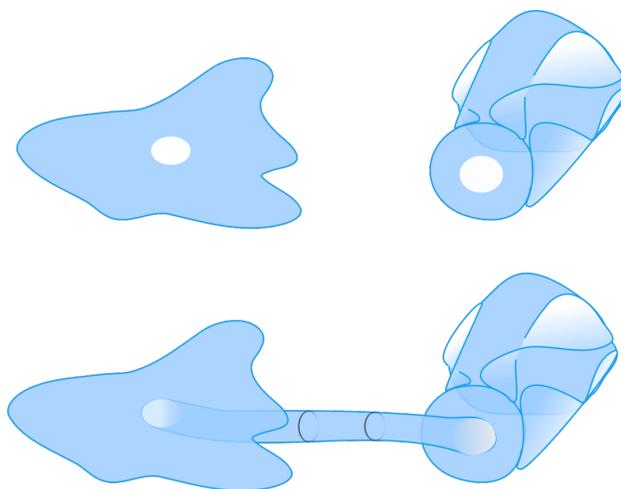


Figure 2: Connecting two surfaces.

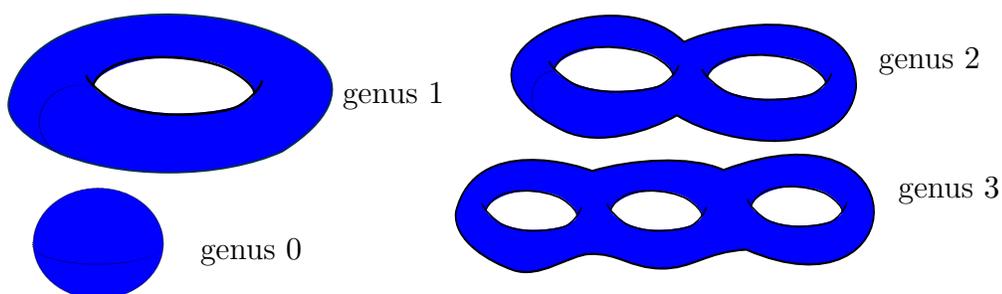


Figure 3: Genus of an orientable surface.

Remark: there are knots that admit non isotopic Seifert surfaces of minimal genus (András Juhász, 2008).

**Definition 1.7**

Suppose  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are two simple closed curves in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . On a diagram  $L$  consider all crossings between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . Let  $N_+$  be the number of positive crossings,  $N_-$  - negative. Then the linking number:  $\text{lk}(\alpha, \beta) = \frac{1}{2}(N_+ - N_-)$ .

**Definition 1.8**

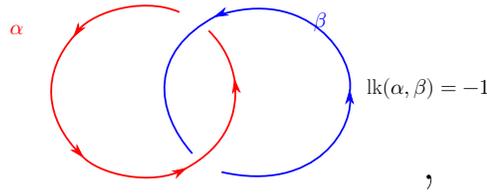
Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be two disjoint simple cross curves in  $S^3$ . Let  $\nu(\beta)$  be a tubular neighbourhood of  $\beta$ . The linking number can be interpreted via first homology group, where  $\text{lk}(\alpha, \beta)$  is equal to evaluation of  $\alpha$  as element of first homology

group of the complement of  $\beta$ :

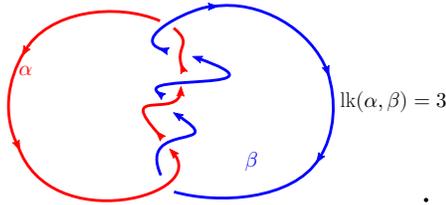
$$\alpha \in H_1(S^3 \setminus \nu(\beta), \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}.$$

**Example 1.3**

- A Hopf link:



- $T(6, 2)$  link:



**Fact 1.2**

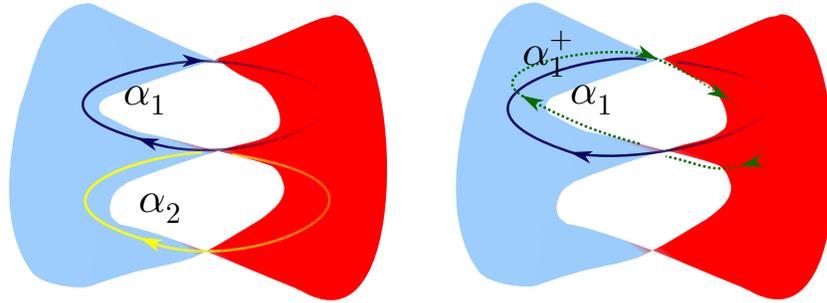
$g_3(\Sigma) = \frac{1}{2}b_1(\Sigma) = \frac{1}{2} \dim_{\mathbb{R}} H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{R})$ , where  $b_1$  is first Betti number of  $\Sigma$ .

**Seifert matrix**

Let  $L$  be a link and  $\Sigma$  be an oriented Seifert surface for  $L$ . Choose a basis for  $H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z})$  consisting of simple closed curves  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ . Let  $\alpha_1^+, \dots, \alpha_n^+$  be copies of  $\alpha_i$  lifted up off the surface (push up along a vector field normal to  $\Sigma$ ). Note that elements  $\alpha_i$  are contained in the Seifert surface while all  $\alpha_i^+$  don't intersect the surface. Let  $\text{lk}(\alpha_i, \alpha_j^+) = \{a_{ij}\}$ . Then the matrix  $S = \{a_{ij}\}_{i,j=1}^n$  is called a Seifert matrix for  $L$ . Note that by choosing a different basis we get a different matrix.

**Theorem 1.4**

The Seifert matrices  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  for the same link  $L$  are  $S$ -equivalent, that is,  $S_2$  can be obtained from  $S_1$  by a sequence of following moves:



(1)  $V \rightarrow AVA^T$ , where  $A$  is a matrix with integer coefficients,

$$(2) V \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc} & & & * & 0 \\ & V & & \vdots & \vdots \\ & & & * & 0 \\ \hline * & \dots & * & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \quad \text{or} \quad V \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc} & & & * & 0 \\ & V & & \vdots & \vdots \\ & & & * & 0 \\ \hline * & \dots & * & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right),$$

(3) inverse of (2).

## Lecture 2 Alexander polynomial

March 4, 2019

### Existence of Seifert surface - second proof

*Proof.* (Theorem 1.3)

Let  $K \in S^3$  be a knot and  $N = \nu(K)$  be its tubular neighbourhood. Because  $K$  and  $N$  are homotopy equivalent, we get:

$$H^1(S^3 \setminus N) \cong H^1(S^3 \setminus K).$$

Let us consider a long exact sequence of cohomology of a pair  $(S^3, S^3 \setminus N)$  with integer coefficients:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
& & & \mathbb{Z} & & & \\
& & & \Downarrow & & & \\
& & & H^0(S^3) \rightarrow H^0(S^3 \setminus N) \rightarrow & & & \\
& \rightarrow & H^1(S^3, S^3 \setminus N) \rightarrow & H^1(S^3) \rightarrow & H^1(S^3 \setminus N) \rightarrow & & \\
& & & \Downarrow & & & \\
& & & 0 & & & \\
& & & \Downarrow & & & \\
& \rightarrow & H^2(S^3, S^3 \setminus N) \rightarrow & H^2(S^3) \rightarrow & H^2(S^3 \setminus N) \rightarrow & & \\
& \rightarrow & H^3(S^3, S^3 \setminus N) \rightarrow & H^3(S) \rightarrow & 0 & & \\
& & & \Downarrow & & & \\
& & & \mathbb{Z} & & & 
\end{array}$$

The tubular neighbourhood of the knot is homomorphic to  $D^2 \times S^1$ . So its boundary  $\partial N \cong S^1 \times S^1$  and therefore:  $H^1(N, \partial N) \cong \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ . By excision theorem we have:

$$H^*(S^3, S^3 \setminus N) \cong H^*(N, \partial N).$$

Therefore:

$$H^1(S^3 \setminus N) \cong H^1(S^3 \setminus K) \cong \mathbb{Z}.$$

Let us consider the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
H^1(S^3 \setminus K) & \longrightarrow & H^1(N \setminus K) \\
\downarrow \tilde{\Theta} & & \downarrow \Theta \\
[S^3 \setminus K, S^1] & \longrightarrow & [N \setminus K, S^1]
\end{array}$$

$\Sigma = \tilde{\Theta}^{-1}(X)$  is a surface, such that  $\partial \Sigma = K$ , so it is a Seifert surface.  $\square$

## Alexander polynomial

### Definition 2.1

Let  $S$  be a Seifert matrix for a knot  $K$ . The Alexander polynomial  $\Delta_K(t)$  is

a Laurent polynomial:

$$\Delta_K(t) := \det(tS - S^T) \in \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}] \cong \mathbb{Z}[\mathbb{Z}]$$

**Theorem 2.1**

$\Delta_K(t)$  is well defined up to multiplication by  $\pm t^k$ , for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

*Proof.* We need to show that  $\Delta_K(t)$  doesn't depend on  $S$ -equivalence relation.

- (1) Suppose  $S' = CSC^T$ ,  $C \in \text{GL}(n, \mathbb{Z})$  (matrices invertible over  $\mathbb{Z}$ ). Then  $\det C = 1$  and:

$$\begin{aligned} \det(tS' - S'^T) &= \det(tCSC^T - (CSC^T)^T) = \\ &= \det(tCSC^T - CS^T C^T) = \det C(tS - S^T)C^T = \det(tS - S^T) \end{aligned}$$

- (2) Let

$$A := t \left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc} & & & * & 0 \\ & & & \vdots & \vdots \\ & S & & * & 0 \\ \hline * & \dots & * & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) - \left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc} & & & * & 0 \\ & & & \vdots & \vdots \\ & S^T & & * & 0 \\ \hline * & \dots & * & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc} & & & * & 0 \\ & & & \vdots & \vdots \\ & tS - S^T & & * & 0 \\ \hline * & \dots & * & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & t & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Using the Laplace expansion we get  $\det A = \pm t \det(tS - S^T)$ .

□

**Example 2.1**

If  $K$  is a trefoil then we can take  $S = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then

$$\Delta_K(t) = \det \begin{pmatrix} -t+1 & -t \\ 1 & -t+1 \end{pmatrix} = (t-1)^2 + t = t^2 - t + 1 \neq 1 \Rightarrow \text{trefoil is not trivial.}$$

**Fact 2.1**

$\Delta_K(t)$  is symmetric.

*Proof.* Let  $S$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix.

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_K(t^{-1}) &= \det(t^{-1}S - S^T) = (-t)^{-n} \det(tS^T - S) = \\ &= (-t)^{-n} \det(tS - S^T) = (-t)^{-n} \Delta_K(t) \end{aligned}$$

If  $K$  is a knot, then  $n$  is necessarily even, and so  $\Delta_K(t^{-1}) = t^{-n} \Delta_K(t)$ . □

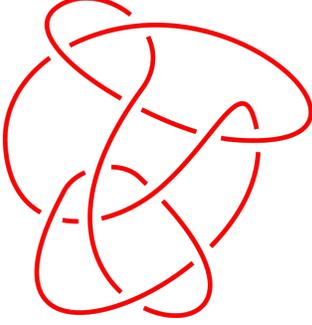
### Lemma 2.1

$$\frac{1}{2} \deg \Delta_K(t) \leq g_3(K), \text{ where } \deg(a_n t^n + \dots + a_1 t^l) = k - l.$$

*Proof.* If  $\Sigma$  is a genus  $g$  - Seifert surface for  $K$  then  $H_1(\Sigma) = \mathbb{Z}^{2g}$ , so  $S$  is an  $2g \times 2g$  matrix. Therefore  $\det(tS - S^T)$  is a polynomial of degree at most  $2g$ .  $\square$

### Example 2.2

There are not trivial knots with Alexander polynomial equal 1, for example:



$$\Delta_{11n34} \equiv 1.$$

### Decomposition of 3-sphere

We know that 3 - sphere can be obtained by gluing two solid tori:

$$S^3 = \partial D^4 = \partial(D^2 \times D^2) = (D^2 \times S^1) \cup (S^1 \times D^2).$$

So the complement of solid torus in  $S^3$  is another solid torus.

Analytically it can be describes as follow.

Take  $(z_1, z_2) \in \mathbb{C}$  such that  $\max(|z_1|, |z_2|) = 1$ . Define following sets:

$$S_1 = \{(z_1, z_2) \in S^3 : |z_1| = 0\} \cong S^1 \times D^2,$$

$$S_2 = \{(z_1, z_2) \in S^3 : |z_2| = 1\} \cong D^2 \times S^1.$$

The intersection  $S_1 \cap S_2 = \{(z_1, z_2) : |z_1| = |z_2| = 1\} \cong S^1 \times S^1$ .

### Dehn lemma and sphere theorem

#### Lemma 2.2 (Dehn)

Let  $M$  be a 3-manifold and  $D^2 \xrightarrow{f} M^3$  be a map of a disk such that  $f|_{\partial D^2}$  is

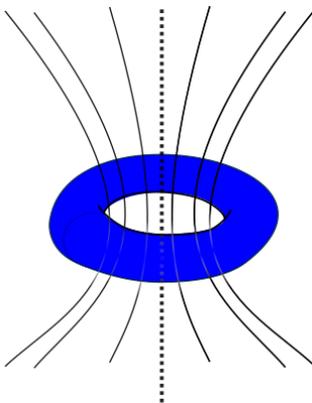


Figure 4: The complement of solid torus in  $S^3$  is another solid torus.

an embedding. Then there exists an embedding  $D^2 \xrightarrow{g} M$  such that:

$$g|_{\partial D^2} = f|_{\partial D^2}.$$

Remark: Dehn lemma doesn't hold for dimension four.

Let  $M$  be connected, compact three manifold with boundary. Suppose  $\pi_1(\partial M) \rightarrow \pi_1(M)$  has non-trivial kernel. Then there exists a map  $f : (D^2, \partial D^2) \rightarrow (M, \partial M)$  such that  $f|_{\partial D^2}$  is non-trivial loop in  $\partial M$ .

**Theorem 2.2** (Sphere theorem)

Suppose  $\pi_1(M) \neq 0$ . Then there exists an embedding  $f : S^2 \hookrightarrow M$  that is homotopy non-trivial.

**Problem 2.1**

Prove that  $S^3 \setminus K$  is Eilenberg–MacLane space of type  $K(\pi, 1)$ .

**Corollary 2.1**

Suppose  $K \subset S^3$  and  $\pi_1(S^3 \setminus K)$  is infinite cyclic ( $\mathbb{Z}$ ). Then  $K$  is trivial.

*Proof.* Let  $N$  be a tubular neighbourhood of a knot  $K$  and  $M = S^3 \setminus N$  its complement. Then  $\partial M = S^1 \times S^1$ . Let  $f : \pi_1(\partial M) \rightarrow \pi_1(M)$ . If  $\pi_1(M)$  is infinite cyclic group then the map  $f$  is non-trivial. Suppose  $\lambda \in \ker(\pi_1(S^1 \times S^1) \rightarrow \pi_1(M))$ . There is a map  $g : (D^2, \partial D^2) \rightarrow (M, \partial M)$  such that  $g(\partial D^2) = \lambda$ .

By Dehn's lemma there exists an embedding  $h : (D^2, \partial D^2) \hookrightarrow (M, \partial M)$

such that  $h|_{\partial D^2} = f|_{\partial D^2}$  and  $h(\partial D^2) = \lambda$ . Let  $\Sigma$  be a union of the annulus and the image of  $\partial D^2$ . If  $g_3(\Sigma) = 0$ , then  $K$  is trivial. Now we should proof that:

$$H_1(M) \cong \mathbb{Z} \implies \lambda \in \ker(\pi_1(S^1 \times S^1) \longrightarrow \pi_1(M)).$$

Choose a meridian  $\mu$  such that  $\text{lk}(\mu, K) = 1$ . Recall the definition of linking

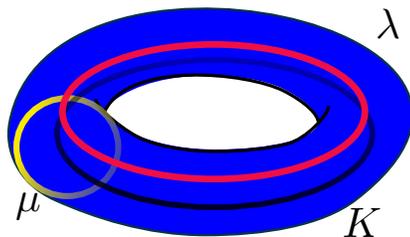


Figure 5:  $\mu$  is a meridian and  $\lambda$  is a longitude.

number via homology group (Definition 1.8).  $[\mu]$  represents the generator of  $H_1(S^3 \setminus K, \mathbb{Z})$ . From definition of  $\lambda$  we know that  $\lambda$  is trivial in  $H_1(M)$  ( $\text{lk}(\lambda, K) = 0$ , therefore  $[\lambda]$  was trivial in  $\pi_1(M)$ ). If  $K$  is non-trivial then  $\lambda$  is non-trivial in  $\pi_1(M)$ , but it is trivial in  $H_1(M)$ .  $\square$

### Lecture 3 Examples of knot classes

March 11, 2019

#### Algebraic knots

Suppose  $F : \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a polynomial and  $F(0) = 0$ . Let take a small sphere  $S^3$  around zero. This sphere intersect set of roots of  $F$  (zero set of  $F$ ) transversally and by the implicit function theorem the intersection is a manifold. The dimension of sphere is 3 and  $F^{-1}(0)$  has codimension 2. So there is a subspace  $L$  - compact one dimensional manifold without boundary. That means that  $L$  is a link in  $S^3$ .



**Theorem 3.2**

Suppose  $L$  is an algebraic link.  $L = F^{-1}(0) \cap S^3$ . Let

$$\varphi : S^3 \setminus L \rightarrow S^1$$

$$\varphi(z, w) = \frac{F(z, w)}{|F(z, w)|} \in S^1, \quad (z, w) \notin F^{-1}(0).$$

The map  $\varphi$  is a locally trivial fibration.

??????  
 $rhD\varphi \equiv 1$

**Definition 3.1**

A map  $\Pi : E \rightarrow B$  is locally trivial fibration with fiber  $F$  if for any  $b \in B$ , there is a neighbourhood  $U \subset B$  such that  $\Pi^{-1}(U) \cong U \times$

????????????  
 $\Gamma$  ??????????????

FIGURES

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Theorem 3.3**

The map  $j : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^\infty$  is a surjection that maps  $K_n$  to a linear independent set. Moreover  $\mathcal{C} \cong \mathbb{Z}$

...  
In general  $h$  is defined only up to homotopy, but this means that

$$h_* : H_1(F, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H_1(F, \mathbb{Z})$$

is well defined  
????????????  
map.

**Theorem 3.4**

Suppose  $S$  is a Seifert matrix associated with  $F$  then  $h = S^{-1}S^T$ .

Proof. TO WRITE REFERENCE!!!!!!!!!!!! □

Consequences:

(1) the Alexander polynomial is the characteristic polynomial of  $h$ :

$$\Delta_L(t) = \det(h - tId)$$

In particular  $\Delta_L$  is monic (i.e. the top coefficient is  $\pm 1$ ), ??????????????????

(2)  $S$  is invertible,

(3)  $F$  minimize the genus (i.e.  $F$  is minimal genus Seifert surface).  
????????????????????

**Definition 3.2**

A link  $L$  is fibered if there exists a map  $\phi : S^3 \setminus L \rightarrow S^1$  which is locally trivial fibration.

If  $L$  is fibered then Theorem 3.4 holds and all its consequences.

**Problem 3.1**

If  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are fibered knots, then also  $K_1 \# K_2$  is fibered.

????????????????????

**Problem 3.2**

Prove that connected sum is well defined:

$$\Delta_{K_1 \# K_2} = \Delta_{K_1} + \Delta_{K_2} \text{ and } g_3(K_1 \# K_2) = g_3(K_1) + g_3(K_2).$$

**Alternating knot**

**Definition 3.3**

A knot (link) is called alternating if it admits an alternating diagram.

**Definition 3.4**

A reducible crossing in a knot diagram is a crossing for which we can find a circle such that its intersection with a knot diagram is exactly that crossing. A knot diagram without reducible crossing is called reduced.

**Fact 3.1**

Any reduced alternating diagram has minimal number of crossings.

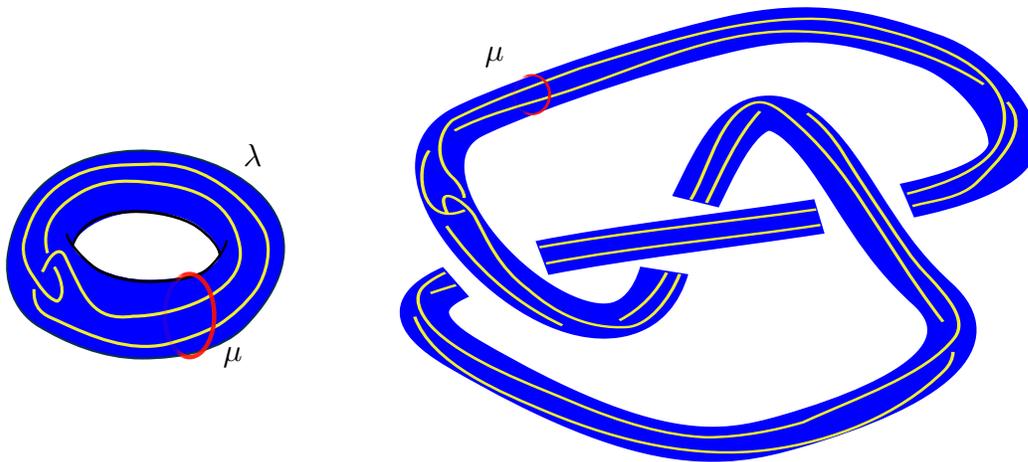


Figure 8: Example for a satellite knot: a Whitehead double of a trefoil. The pattern knot embedded non-trivially in an unknotted solid torus  $T$  (e.i.  $K \not\subset S^3 \subset T$ ) on the left and the pattern in a companion knot - trefoil - on the right.

**Definition 3.5**

The writhe of the diagram is the difference between the number of positive and negative crossings.

**Fact 3.2** (Tait)

Any two diagrams of the same alternating knot have the same writhe.

**Fact 3.3**

An alternating knot has Alexander polynomial of the form:  $a_1 t^{n_1} + a_2 t^{n_2} + \dots + a_s t^{n_s}$ , where  $n_1 < n_2 < \dots < n_s$  and  $a_i a_{i+1} < 0$ .

**Problem 3.3** (open)

What is the minimal  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  such that if  $z$  is a root of the Alexander polynomial of an alternating knot, then  $\Re(z) > \alpha$ .

Remark: alternating knots have very simple knot homologies.

**Proposition 3.1**

If  $T_{p,q}$  is a torus knot,  $p < q$ , then it is alternating if and only if  $p = 2$ .

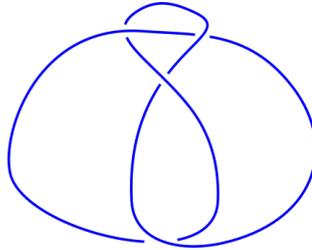


Figure 9: Example: figure eight knot is an alternating knot.

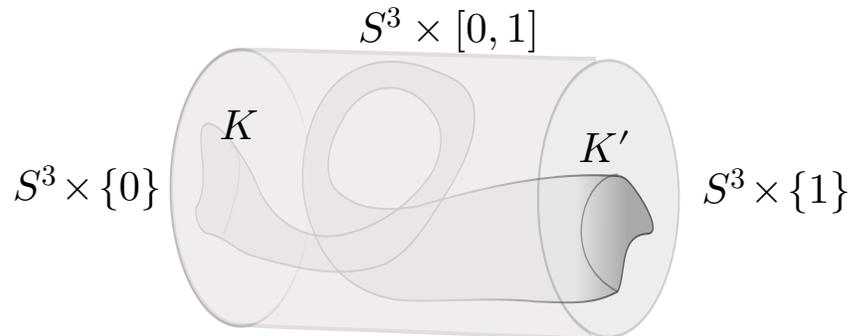
## Lecture 4 Concordance group

March 18, 2019

### Definition 4.1

Two knots  $K$  and  $K'$  are called (smoothly) concordant if there exists an annulus  $A$  that is smoothly embedded in  $S^3 \times [0, 1]$  such that

$$\partial A = K' \times \{1\} \sqcup K \times \{0\}.$$



### Definition 4.2

A knot  $K$  is called (smoothly) slice if  $K$  is smoothly concordant to an unknot. Put differently: a knot  $K$  is smoothly slice if and only if  $K$  bounds a smoothly embedded disk in  $B^4$ .

Let  $m(K)$  denote a mirror image of a knot  $K$ .

### Fact 4.1

For any  $K$ ,  $K \# m(K)$  is slice.

**Fact 4.2**

*Concordance is an equivalence relation.*

**Fact 4.3**

*If  $K_1 \sim K_1'$  and  $K_2 \sim K_2'$ , then  $K_1 \# K_2 \sim K_1' \# K_2'$ .*

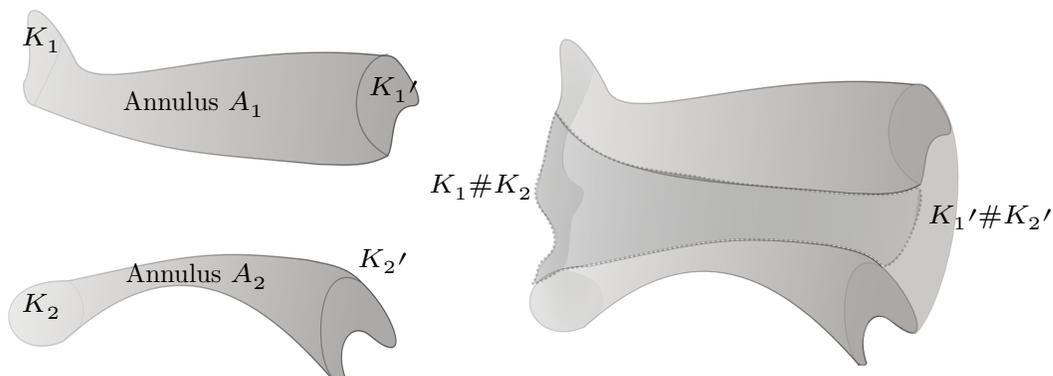


Figure 10: Sketch for Fact 4.3.

**Fact 4.4**

*$K \# m(K) \sim$  the unknot.*

**Theorem 4.1**

*Let  $\mathcal{C}$  denote a set of all equivalent classes for knots and  $[0]$  denote class of all knots concordant to a trivial knot.  $\mathcal{C}$  is a group under taking connected sums. The neutral element in the group is  $[0]$  and the inverse element of an element  $[K] \in \mathcal{C}$  is  $-[K] = [mK]$ .*

**Fact 4.5**

*The figure eight knot is a torsion element in  $\mathcal{C}$  ( $2K \sim$  the unknot).*

**Problem 4.1** (open)

*Are there in concordance group torsion elements that are not 2 torsion elements?*

Remark:  $K \sim K' \Leftrightarrow K \# -K'$  is slice.

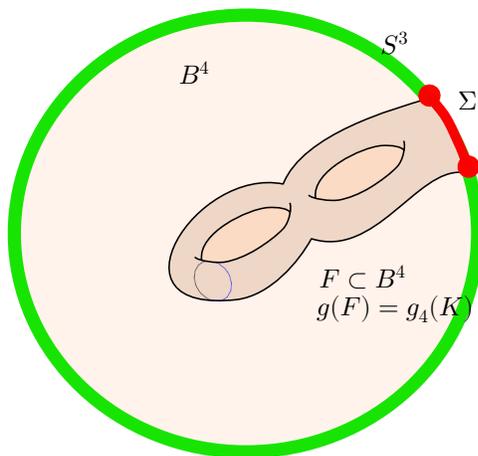


Figure 11:  $Y = F \cup \Sigma$  is a smooth closed surface.

Pontryagin-Thom construction tells us that there exists a compact oriented three - manifold  $\Omega \subset B^4$  such that  $\partial\Omega = Y$ .

Suppose  $\Sigma$  is a Seifert surface and  $V$  a Seifert form defined on  $\Sigma$ :  $(\alpha, \beta) \mapsto \text{lk}(\alpha, \beta^+)$ . Suppose  $\alpha, \beta \in H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z})$ , i.e. there are cycles and

$$\alpha, \beta \in \ker(H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow H_1(\Omega, \mathbb{Z})).$$

Then there are two cycles  $A, B \in \Omega$  such that  $\partial A = \alpha$  and  $\partial B = \beta$ . Let  $B^+$  be a push off of  $B$  in the positive normal direction such that  $\partial B^+ = \beta^+$ . Then  $\text{lk}(\alpha, \beta^+) = A \cdot B^+$ . But  $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint, so  $\text{lk}(\alpha, \beta^+) = 0$ . Then the Seifert form is zero.

Let us consider following maps:

$$\Sigma \xrightarrow{\phi} Y \xrightarrow{\psi} \Omega.$$

Let  $\phi_*$  and  $\psi_*$  be induced maps on the homology group. If an element  $\gamma \in \ker(H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow H_1(\Omega, \mathbb{Z}))$ , then  $\gamma \in \ker \phi_*$  or  $\gamma \in \ker \psi_*$ .

**Proposition 4.1**

$$\dim \ker(H_1(Y, \mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow H_1(\Omega, \mathbb{Z})) = \frac{1}{2}b_1(Y),$$

where  $b_1$  is first Betti number.

*Proof.* Consider the following long exact sequence for a pair  $(\Omega, Y)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow H_3(\Omega) \rightarrow H_3(\Omega, Y) \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow H_2(Y) \rightarrow H_2(\Omega) \rightarrow H_2(\Omega, Y) \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow H_1(Y) \rightarrow H_1(\Omega) \rightarrow H_1(\Omega, Y) \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow H_0(Y) \rightarrow H_0(\Omega) \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

By Poincaré duality we know that:

$$\begin{aligned} H_3(\Omega, Y) &\cong H^0(\Omega), \\ H_2(Y) &\cong H^0(Y), \\ H_2(\Omega) &\cong H^1(\Omega, Y), \\ H_1(\Omega, Y) &\cong H^1(\Omega). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\dim_{\mathbb{Q}} H_1(Y)/_V = \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} V$ .

Suppose  $g(K) = 0$  ( $K$  is slice). Then  $H_1(\Sigma, \mathbb{Z}) \cong H_1(Y, \mathbb{Z})$ . Let  $g_{\Sigma}$  be the genus of  $\Sigma$ ,  $\dim H_1(Y, \mathbb{Z}) = 2g_{\Sigma}$ . Then the Seifert form  $V$  on a  $K$  has a subspace of dimension  $g_{\Sigma}$  on which it is zero:

$$V = \left\{ \begin{array}{cccccc} \overbrace{0 \dots 0}^{g_{\Sigma}} & * & \dots & * \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & * & \dots & * \\ * & \dots & * & * & \dots & * \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ * & \dots & * & * & \dots & * \end{array} \right\}_{2g_{\Sigma} \times 2g_{\Sigma}}$$

□

Let  $V = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & A \\ B & C \end{pmatrix}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} {}^tV - V^T &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & {}^tA \\ {}^tB & {}^tC \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & B^T \\ A^T & C^T \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & {}^tA - B^T \\ {}^tB - A^T & {}^tC - C^T \end{pmatrix} \\ \det({}^tV - V^T) &= \det({}^tA - B^T) - \det({}^tB - A^T) \end{aligned}$$

**Corollary 4.1**

If  $K$  is a slice knot then there exists  $f \in \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$  such that

$$\Delta_K(t) = f(t) \cdot f(t^{-1}).$$

**Example 4.1**

Figure eight knot is not slice.

**Fact 4.6**

If  $K$  is slice, then the signature  $\sigma(K) \equiv 0$ :

$$V + V^T = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & A + B^T \\ B + A^T & C + C^T \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \sigma = 0.$$

**Lecture 5 Genus  $g$  cobordism**

March 25, 2019

**Slice knots and metabolic form****Theorem 5.1**

If  $K$  is slice, then  $\sigma_K(t) = \text{sign}((1-t)S + (1-\bar{t})S^T)$  is zero except possibly of finitely many points and  $\sigma_K(-1) = \text{sign}(S + S^T) \neq 0$ .

**Lemma 5.1**

If  $V$  is a Hermitian matrix ( $\bar{V} = V^T$ ) of size  $2n \times 2n$ ,  $V = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & A \\ \bar{A}^T & B \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\det V \neq 0$  then  $\sigma(V) = 0$ .

**Definition 5.1**

A Hermitian form  $V$  is metabolic if  $V$  has structure  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & A \\ \bar{A}^T & B \end{pmatrix}$  with half-dimensional null-space.

Theorem 5.1 can be also express as follow: non-degenerate metabolic hermitian form has vanishing signature.

*Proof.* We note that  $\det(S + S^T) \neq 0$ . Hence  $\det((1 - t)S + (1 - \bar{t})S^T)$  is not identically zero on  $S^1$ , so it is non-zero except possibly at finitely many points. We apply the Lemma 5.1.

Let  $t \in S^1 \setminus \{1\}$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \det((1 - t)S + (1 - \bar{t})S^T) &= \det((1 - t)S + (t\bar{t} - \bar{t})S^T) = \\ &= \det((1 - t)(S - \bar{t} - S^T)) = \det((1 - t)(S - \bar{t}S^T)). \end{aligned}$$

As  $\det(S + S^T) \neq 0$ , so  $S - \bar{t}S^T \neq 0$ . □

**Corollary 5.1**

*If  $K \sim K'$  then for all but finitely many  $t \in S^1 \setminus \{1\} : \sigma_K(t) = -\sigma_{K'}(t)$ .*

*Proof.* If  $K \sim K'$  then  $K \# K'$  is slice.

$$\sigma_{-K'}(t) = -\sigma_{K'}(t)$$

The signature gives a homomorphism from the concordance group to  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Remark: if  $t \in S^1$  is not algebraic over  $\mathbb{Z}$ , then  $\sigma_K(t) \neq 0$  (we can use the argument that  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  as well). □

**Four genus**

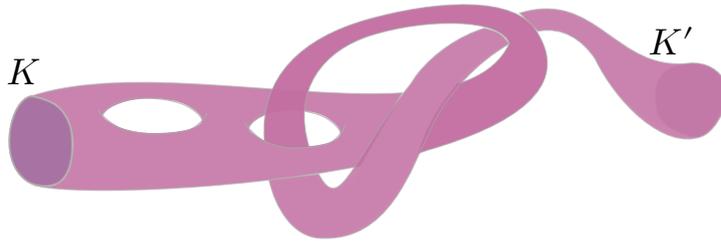


Figure 12:  $K$  and  $K'$  are connected by a genus  $g$  surface.

**Proposition 5.1** (Kawauchi inequality)

*If there exists a genus  $g$  surface as in Figure 12 then for almost all  $t \in S^1 \setminus \{1\}$  we have  $|\sigma_K(t) - \sigma_{K'}(t)| \leq 2g$ .*

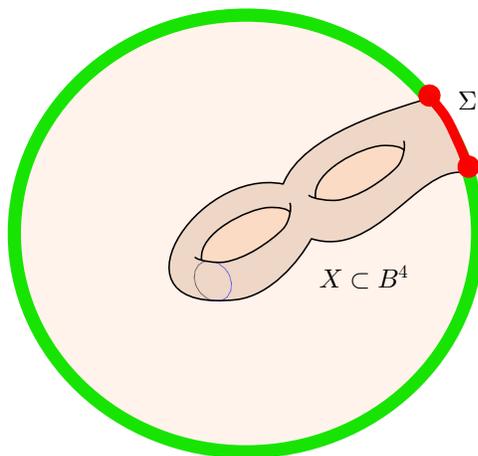


Figure 13: There exists a 3 - manifold  $\Omega$  such that  $\partial\Omega = X \cup \Sigma$ .

**Lemma 5.2**

If  $K$  bounds a genus  $g$  surface  $X \in B^4$  and  $S$  is a Seifert form then  $S \in M_{2n \times 2n}$  has a block structure  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & A \\ B & C \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $0$  is  $(n - g) \times (n - g)$  submatrix.

*Proof.* Let  $K$  be a knot and  $\Sigma$  its Seifert surface as in Figure 13. There exists a 3 - submanifold  $\Omega$  such that  $\partial\Omega = Y = X \cup \Sigma$  (by Thom-Pontryagin construction). If  $\alpha, \beta \in \ker(H_1(\Sigma) \rightarrow H_1(\Omega))$ , then  $\text{lk}(\alpha, \beta^+) = 0$ . Now we have to determine the size of the kernel. We know that  $\dim H_1(\Sigma) = 2n$ . When we glue  $\Sigma$  (genus  $n$ ) and  $X$  (genus  $g$ ) along a circle we get a surface of genus  $n + g$ . Therefore  $\dim H_1(Y) = 2n + 2g$ . Then:

$$\dim(\ker(H_1(Y) \rightarrow H_1(\Omega))) = n + g.$$

So we have  $H_1(W)$  of dimension  $2n + 2g$  - the image of  $H_1(Y)$  with a subspace corresponding to the image of  $H_1(\Sigma)$  with dimension  $2n$  and a subspace corresponding to the kernel of  $H_1(Y) \rightarrow H_1(\Omega)$  of size  $n + g$ . We consider minimal possible intersection of this subspaces that corresponds to the kernel of the composition  $H_1(\Sigma) \rightarrow H_1(Y) \rightarrow H_1(\Omega)$ . As the first map is injective, elements of the kernel of the composition have to be in the kernel of the second map. So we can calculate:

$$\dim \ker(H_1(\Sigma) \rightarrow H_1(\Omega)) = 2n + n + g - 2n - 2g = n - g.$$

□

**Corollary 5.2**

If  $t$  is not a root of  $\det(tS - S^T)$ , then  $|\sigma_K(t)| \leq 2g$ .

**Fact 5.1**

If there exists cobordism of genus  $g$  between  $K$  and  $K'$  like shown in Figure 14, then  $K\# - K'$  bounds a surface of genus  $g$  in  $B^4$ .



Figure 14: If  $K$  and  $K'$  are connected by a genus  $g$  surface, then  $K\# - K'$  bounds a genus  $g$  surface.

**Definition 5.2**

The (smooth) four genus  $g_4(K)$  is the minimal genus of the surface  $\Sigma \in B^4$  such that  $\Sigma$  is compact, orientable and  $\partial\Sigma = K$ .

Remarks:

- (1) 3 - genus is additive under taking connected sum, but 4 - genus is not,
- (2) for any knot  $K$  we have  $g_4(K) \leq g_3(K)$ .

**Example 5.1**

- Let  $K = T(2, 3)$ .  $\sigma(K) = -2$ , therefore  $T(2, 3)$  isn't a slice knot.

- Let  $K$  be a trefoil and  $K'$  a mirror of a trefoil.  $g_4(K') = 1$ , but  $g_4(K\#K') = 0$ , so we see that 4-genus isn't additive,
- the equality:

$$g_4(T(p, q)) = \frac{1}{2}(p-1)(q-1)$$

was conjecture in the '70 and proved by P. Kronheimer and T. Mrowka (1994).

**Proposition 5.2**

$g_4(T(p, q)\# -T(r, s))$  is in general hopelessly unknown.

**Proposition 5.3**

Supremum of the signature function of the knot is bounded almost everywhere by two times 4 - genus:

$$\text{ess sup } |\sigma_K(t)| \leq 2g_4(K).$$

**Topological genus**

**Definition 5.3**

A knot  $K$  is called topologically slice if  $K$  bounds a topological locally flat disc in  $B^4$  (i.e. the disk has tubular neighbourhood).

**Theorem 5.2** (Freedman, '82)

If  $\Delta_K(t) = 1$ , then  $K$  is topologically slice (but not necessarily smoothly slice).

**Theorem 5.3** (Powell, 2015)

If  $K$  is genus  $g$  (topologically flat) cobordant to  $K'$ , then

$$|\sigma_K(t) - \sigma_{K'}(t)| \leq 2g$$

if  $g_4^{\text{top}}(K) \geq \text{ess sup } |\sigma_K(t)|$ .

The proof for smooth category was based on following equality:

$$\dim \ker(H_1(Y) \rightarrow H_1(\Omega)) = \frac{1}{2} \dim H_1(Y).$$

For this equality we assumed that there exists a 3 - dimensional manifold  $\Omega$  (as shown in Figure 13) which was guaranteed by Pontryagin-Thom Construction.

Pontryagin-Thom Construction relies on taking  $\Omega$  as preimage of regular value:

$$H^1(B^4 \setminus Y, \mathbb{Z}) = [B^4 \setminus Y, S^1],$$

what relies on Sard's theorem, that the set of regular values has positive measure. But Sard's theorem doesn't work for topologically locally flat category. So there was a gap in the proof for topological locally flat category - the existence of  $\Omega$ .

Remark: unless  $p = 2$  or  $p = 3 \wedge q = 4$ :

$$g_4^{\text{top}}(T(p, q)) < q_4(T(p, q)).$$

From the category of cobordant knots (or topologically cobordant knots) there exists a map to  $\mathbb{Z}$  given by signature function. To any element  $K$  we can associate a form

$$(1 - t)S + (1 - \bar{t})S^T \in W(\mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]).$$

This association is not well define because id depends on the choice of Seifert form. However, different choices lead ever to congruent forms ( $S \mapsto CSC^T$ ) or induced the change on the form by adding or subtracting a hyperbolic element.

**Definition 5.4**

*The Witt group  $W$  of  $\mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$  elements are classes of non-degenerate forms over  $\mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$  under the equivalence relation  $V \sim W$  if  $V \oplus -W$  is metabolic.*

If  $S$  differs from  $S'$  by a row extension, then  $(1 - t)S + (1 - \bar{t}^{-1})S^T$  is Witt equivalence to  $(1 - t)S' + (1 - \bar{t}^{-1})S'^T$ .

A form is meant as hermitian with respect to this involution:  $A^T = A : (a, b) = (a, \bar{b})$ .

$$W(\mathbb{Z}_p) = \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \text{ or } \mathbb{Z}_4$$

$$\sum a_g t^j \longrightarrow \sum a_g t^{-j}$$

**Theorem 5.4** (Levine '68)

$$W(\mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm 1}]) \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_2^\infty \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4^\infty \oplus \mathbb{Z}$$

Lecture 6

April 8, 2019

$X$  is a closed orientable four-manifold. Assume  $\pi_1(X) = 0$  (it is not needed to define the intersection form). In particular  $H_1(X) = 0$ .  $H_2$  is free (exercise).

$$H_2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{\text{Poincaré duality}} H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \xrightarrow{\text{evaluation}} \text{Hom}(H_2(X, \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{Z})$$

Intersection form:  $H_2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \times H_2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  is symmetric and non singular.  
Let  $A$  and  $B$  be closed, oriented surfaces in  $X$ .  
????????????????????????????

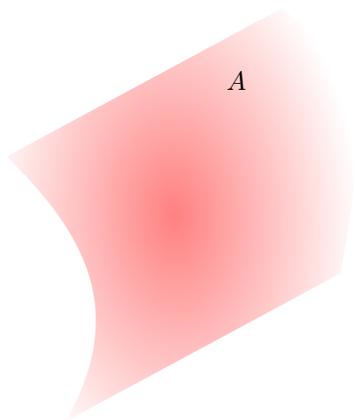


Figure 15:  $T_X A + T_X B = T_X X$

$$\begin{aligned}
x &\in A \cap B \\
T_X A \oplus T_X B &= T_X X \\
\{\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n\} &= A \cap C \\
A \cdot B &= \sum_{i=1}^n \epsilon_i
\end{aligned}$$

**Proposition 6.1**

Intersection form  $A \cdot B$  doesn't depend of choice of  $A$  and  $B$  in their homology classes:

$$[A], [B] \in H_2(X, \mathbb{Z}).$$

**Fundamental cycle**

If  $M$  is an  $m$  - dimensional close, connected and orientable manifold, then  $H_m(M, \mathbb{Z})$  and the orientation of  $M$  determined a cycle  $[M] \in H_m(M, \mathbb{Z})$ , called the fundamental cycle.

**Example 6.1**

If  $\omega$  is an  $m$  - form then:

$$\int_M \omega = [\omega]([M]), \quad [\omega] \in H_\Omega^m(M), \quad [M] \in H_m(M).$$

$$\alpha \cdot \beta = -\beta \cdot \alpha$$

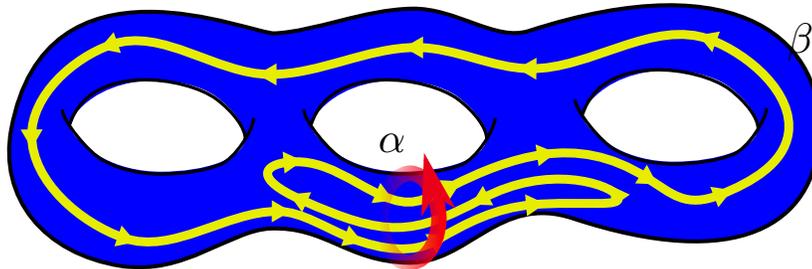


Figure 16:  $\beta$  cross 3 times the disk bounded by  $\alpha$ .  $T_X \alpha + T_X \beta = T_X \Sigma$

**Example 6.2**

*Künneth* ?????????????????????????????????

Let  $X = S^2 \times S^2$ . We know that:

$$\begin{aligned} H_2(S^2, \mathbb{Z}) &= \mathbb{Z} \\ H_1(S^2, \mathbb{Z}) &= 0 \\ H_0(S^2, \mathbb{Z}) &= \mathbb{Z} \end{aligned}$$

We can construct a long exact sequence for a pair:

$$\begin{aligned} H_2(\partial X) \rightarrow H_2(X) \rightarrow H_2(X, \partial X) \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow H_1(\partial X) \rightarrow H_1(X) \rightarrow H_1(X, \partial X) \rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

????????????????????????????

Simple case  $H_1(\partial X)$

????????????????

is torsion.  $H_2(\partial X)$  is torsion free (by universal coefficient theorem),

????????????????????????????????

therefore it is 0.

????????????????????????????

We know that  $b_1(X) = b_2(X)$ . Therefore by Poincaré duality:

$$b_1(X) = \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} H_1(X, \mathbb{Q}) \stackrel{\text{PD}}{=} \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} H^2(X, \mathbb{Q}) = \dim_{\mathbb{Q}} H_2(X, \mathbb{Q}) = b_2(X)$$

??

$H_2(X, \mathbb{Z})$  is torsion free and  $H_2(X_1, \mathbb{Q}) = 0$ , therefore  $H_2(X, \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ . The map  $H_2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H_2(X, \partial X, \mathbb{Z})$  is a monomorphism.

????????????

(because it is an isomorphism after tensoring by  $\mathbb{Q}$ .)

Suppose  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  is a basis of  $H_2(X, \mathbb{Z})$ . Let  $A$  be the intersection matrix in this basis. Then:

1.  $A$  has integer coefficients,
2.  $\det A \neq 0$ ,
3.  $|\det A| = |H_1(\partial X, \mathbb{Z})| = |\text{coker } H_2(X) \rightarrow H_2(X, \partial X)|$ .





????????????????????????????????????

The intersection form on a four-manifold determines the linking on the boundary.

**Fact 7.1**

Let  $K \in S^1$  be a knot,  $\Sigma(K)$  its double branched cover. If  $V$  is a Seifert matrix for  $K$ , then

$$H_1(\Sigma(K), \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^n / A\mathbb{Z} \quad ,$$

where  $A = V \times V^T$  and  $n = \text{rank } V$ .

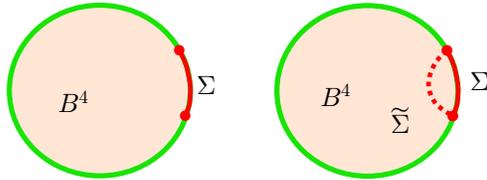


Figure 17: Pushing the Seifert surface in 4-ball.

Let  $X$  be the four-manifold obtained via the double branched cover of  $B^4$  branched along  $\tilde{\Sigma}$ .

**Fact 7.2**

- $X$  is a smooth four-manifold,
- $H_1(X, \mathbb{Z}) = 0$ ,
- $H_2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^n$
- The intersection form on  $X$  is  $V + V^T$ .

Let  $Y = \Sigma(K)$ . Then:

$$H_1(Y, \mathbb{Z}) \times H_1(Y, \mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{Q} / \mathbb{Z}$$

$$(a, b) \mapsto aA^{-1}b^T, \quad A = V + V^T.$$

????????????????????????????????

We have a primary decomposition of  $H_1(Y, \mathbb{Z}) = U$  (as a group). For any  $p \in \mathbb{P}$  we define  $U_p$  to be the subgroup of elements annihilated by the same power of  $p$ . We have  $U = \bigoplus_p U_p$ .

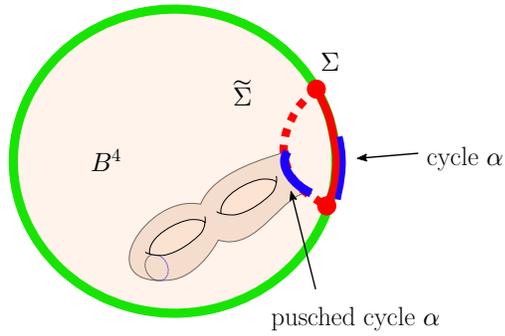


Figure 18: Cycle pushed in 4-ball.

**Example 7.1**

If  $U = \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{45} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{15} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{75}$  then  
 $U_3 = \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_9 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3$  and  
 $U_5 = (e) \oplus \mathbb{Z}_5 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_5 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_{25}$ .

**Lemma 7.1**

Suppose  $x \in U_{p_1}$ ,  $y \in U_{p_2}$  and  $p_1 \neq p_2$ . Then  $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$ .

*Proof.*

$$x \in U_{p_1}$$

□

$$H_1(Y, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^n / AZ$$

$$A \rightarrow BAC^T \quad \text{Smith normal form}$$

????????????????????

In general

**Definition 8.1**

Let  $X$  be a knot complement. Then  $H_1(X, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}$  and there exists an epimorphism  $\pi_1(X) \xrightarrow{\phi} \mathbb{Z}$ .

The infinite cyclic cover of a knot complement  $X$  is the cover associated with the epimorphism  $\phi$ .

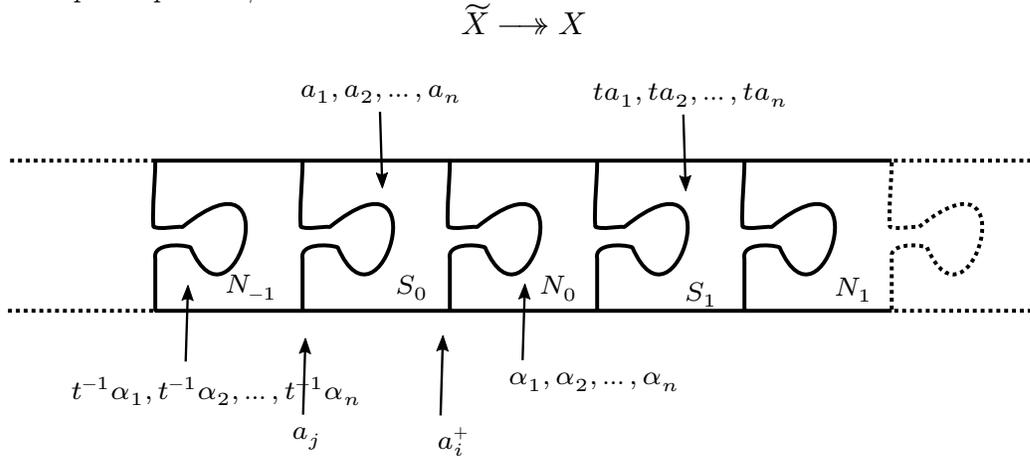


Figure 19: Infinite cyclic cover of a knot complement.

Formal sums  $\sum \phi_i(t)a_i + \sum \phi_j(t)\alpha_j$  finitely generated as a  $\mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$  module.

Let  $v_{ij} = \text{lk}(a_i, a_j^+)$ . Then  $V = \{v_{ij}\}_{i,j=1}^n$  is the Seifert matrix associated to the surface  $\Sigma$  and the basis  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ . Therefore  $a_k^+ = \sum_j v_{jk} \alpha_j$ . Then  $\text{lk}(a_i, a_k^+) = \text{lk}(a_k^+, a_i) = \sum_j v_{jk} \text{lk}(\alpha_j, a_i) = v_{ik}$ . We also notice that  $\text{lk}(a_i, a_j^-) = \text{lk}(a_i^+, a_j) = v_{ij}$  and  $a_j^- = \sum_k v_{kj} t^{-1} \alpha_k$ .

The homology of  $\tilde{X}$  is generated by  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  and relations. Let now  $H = H_1(\tilde{X})$ . Can we define a pairing?

Let  $c, d \in H(\tilde{X})$  (see Figure 21),  $\Delta$  an Alexander polynomial. We know that  $\Delta c = 0 \in H_1(\tilde{X})$  (Alexander polynomial annihilates all possible elements). Let consider a surface  $F$  such that  $\partial F = c$ . Now consider intersection points  $F \cdot d$ . This points can exist in any  $N_k$  or  $S_k$ .

$$\frac{1}{\Delta} \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}t^{-j}} (F \cdot t^j d) \in \mathbb{Q}[t, t^{-1}] / \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$$

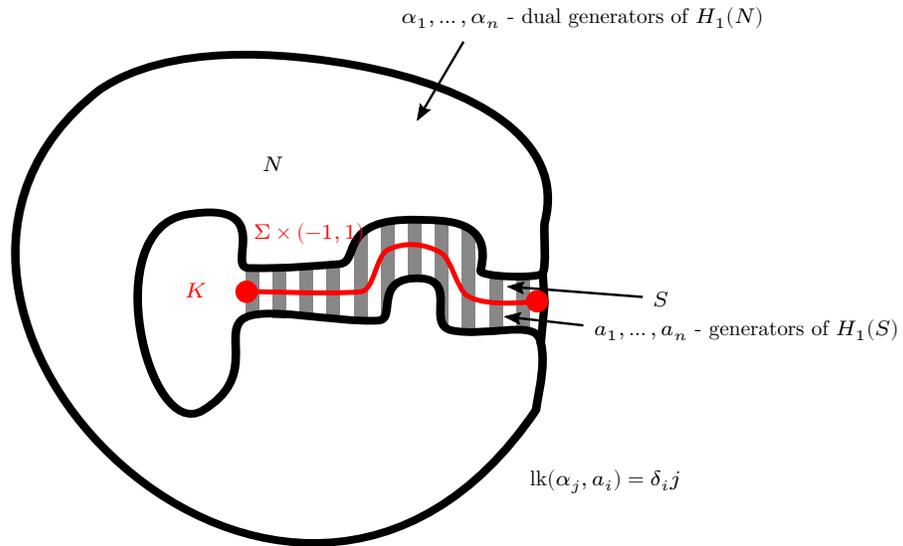


Figure 20: A knot complement.

??????????????

There is at least one paper where the structure of (Alexander module?) is calculated from a specific knot (?minimal number of generators?)

C. Kearton, S. M. J. Wilson

**Fact 8.1**

Let  $A$  be a matrix over principal ideal domain  $R$ . Then there exist matrices  $C$ ,  $D$  and  $E$  such that  $A = CDE$ ,

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & d_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & d_{n-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 & d_n \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $d_{i+1} | d_i$ , and matrices  $C$  and  $E$  are invertible over  $R$ .  $D$  is called a Smith normal form of the matrix  $A$ .

**Definition 8.2**

The  $\mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$  module  $H_1(\tilde{X})$  is called the Alexander module of a knot  $K$ .

Let  $R$  be a PID,  $M$  a finitely generated  $R$  module. Let us consider

$$R^k \xrightarrow{A} R^n \twoheadrightarrow M,$$

where  $A$  is a  $k \times n$  matrix, assume  $k \geq n$ . The order of  $M$  is the gcd of all determinants of the  $n \times n$  minors of  $A$ . If  $k = n$  then  $\text{ord } M = \det A$ .

**Theorem 8.1**

*Order of  $M$  doesn't depend on  $A$ .*

For knots the order of the Alexander module is the Alexander polynomial.

**Theorem 8.2**

$$\forall x \in M : (\text{ord } M)x = 0.$$

$M$  is well defined up to a unit in  $R$ .

????????????????????

General picture :  $K, X$  knot complement...

$$\begin{aligned} H_1(X, \mathbb{Z}) &= \mathbb{Z} \\ H_1(\tilde{X}, \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]) & \\ \pi_1(X) & \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 8.3**

*The Nakanishi index of a knot is the minimal number of generators of  $H_1(\tilde{X})$ .*

Remark about notation: sometimes one writes  $H_1(X; \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}])$  (what is also notation for twisted homology) instead of  $H_1(\tilde{X})$ .

????????????????????

$$\Sigma_\gamma(K) \rightarrow S^3 \text{ ?????}$$

$$H_1(\Sigma_\gamma(K), \mathbb{Z}) = h$$

$$H \times H \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$$

...

**Blanchfield pairing**

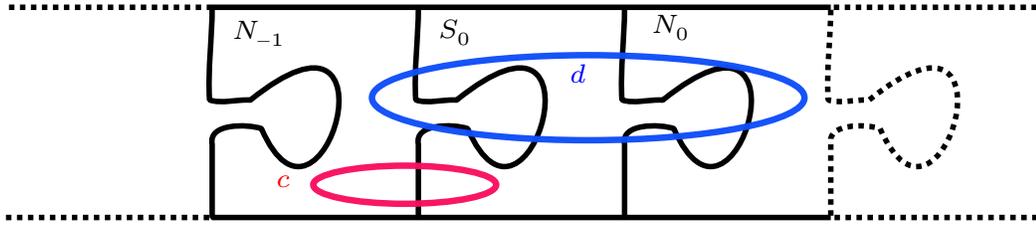


Figure 21:  $c, d \in H_1(\tilde{X})$ .

**Lecture 9**

May 20, 2019

Let  $M$  be compact, oriented, connected four-dimensional manifold. If  $H_1(M, \mathbb{Z}) = 0$  then there exists a bilinear form - the intersection form on  $M$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 H_2(M, \mathbb{Z}) & \times & H_2(M, \mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z} \\
 \cong & & \\
 \mathbb{Z}^n & &
 \end{array}$$

Let us consider a specific case:  $M$  has a boundary  $Y = \partial M$ . Betti number  $b_1(Y) = 0$ ,  $H_1(Y, \mathbb{Z})$  is finite. Then the intersection form can be degenerated in the sense that:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 H_2(M, \mathbb{Z}) \times H_2(M, \mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z} & & H_2(M, \mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(H_2(M, \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{Z}) \\
 (a, b) \mapsto \mathbb{Z} & & a \mapsto (a, \_) \in H_2(M, \mathbb{Z})
 \end{array}$$

has coker precisely  $H_1(Y, \mathbb{Z})$ .

????????????????

Let  $K \subset S^3$  be a knot,  $X = S^3 \setminus K$  a knot complement and  $\tilde{X} \xrightarrow{\rho} X$  an infinite cyclic cover (universal abelian cover).

$C_*(\tilde{X})$  has a structure of a  $\mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}] \cong \mathbb{Z}[\mathbb{Z}]$  module.

Let  $H_1(\tilde{X}, \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}])$  be the Alexander module of the knot  $K$  with an intersection form:

$$H_1(\tilde{X}, \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]) \times H_1(\tilde{X}, \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]) \longrightarrow \mathbb{Q} / \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$$

**Fact 9.1**

$$H_1(\widetilde{X}, \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]) \cong \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]^n / (tV - V^T)\mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]^n,$$

where  $V$  is a Seifert matrix.

**Fact 9.2**

$$\begin{aligned} H_1(\widetilde{X}, \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]) \times H_1(\widetilde{X}, \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]) &\longrightarrow \mathbb{Q} / \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}] \\ (\alpha, \beta) &\mapsto \alpha^{-1}(t-1)(tV - V^T)^{-1}\beta \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$  is not PID. Therefore we don't have primary decomposition of this module. We can simplify this problem by replacing  $\mathbb{Z}$  by  $\mathbb{R}$ . We lose some data by doing this transition, but we can

$$\begin{aligned} \xi \in S^1 \setminus \{\pm 1\} \quad p_\xi &= (t - \xi)(t - \xi^{-1})t^{-1} \\ \xi \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{\pm 1\} \quad q_\xi &= (t - \xi)(t - \xi^{-1})t^{-1} \\ \xi \notin \mathbb{R} \cup S^1 \quad q_\xi &= (t - \xi)(t - \bar{\xi})(t - \xi^{-1})(t - \bar{\xi}^{-1})t^{-2} \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\Lambda = \mathbb{R}[t, t^{-1}]$ . Then:

$$H_1(\widetilde{X}, \Lambda) \cong \bigoplus_{\substack{\xi \in S^1 \setminus \{\pm 1\} \\ k \geq 0}} (\Lambda / p_\xi^k)^{n_k, \xi} \oplus \bigoplus_{\substack{\xi \notin S^1 \\ l \geq 0}} (\Lambda / q_\xi^l)^{n_l, \xi}$$

We can make this composition orthogonal with respect to the Blanchfield pairing.

Historical remark:

- John Milnor, *On isometries of inner product spaces*, 1969,
- Walter Neumann, *Invariants of plane curve singularities*, 1983,
- András Némethi, *The real Seifert form and the spectral pairs of isolated hypersurfaceenumerated singularities*, 1995,
- Maciej Borodzik, Stefan Friedl *The unknotting number and classical invariants II*, 2014.

Let  $p = p_\xi$ ,  $k \geq 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda/p^k\Lambda \times \Lambda/p^k\Lambda &\longrightarrow \mathbb{Q}(t)/\Lambda \\ (1, 1) &\mapsto \kappa \end{aligned}$$

Now:  $(p^k \cdot 1, 1) \mapsto 0$

$$p^k\kappa = 0 \in \mathbb{Q}(t)/\Lambda$$

therefore  $p^k\kappa \in \Lambda$

we have  $(1, 1) \mapsto \frac{h}{p^k}$

$h$  is not uniquely defined:  $h \rightarrow h + gp^k$  doesn't affect paring.  
Let  $h = p^k\kappa$ .

### Example 9.1

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_0((1, 1)) &= \frac{+1}{p} \\ \phi_1((1, 1)) &= \frac{-1}{p} \end{aligned}$$

$\phi_0$  and  $\phi_1$  are not isomorphic.

*Proof.* Let  $\Phi : \Lambda/p^k\Lambda \rightarrow \Lambda/p^k\Lambda$  be an isomorphism.

Let:  $\Phi(1) = g \in \Lambda$

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda/p^k\Lambda &\xrightarrow{\Phi} \Lambda/p^k\Lambda \\ \phi_0((1, 1)) = \frac{1}{p^k} &\quad \phi_1((g, g)) = \frac{1}{p^k} \quad (\Phi \text{ is an isometry}). \end{aligned}$$

Suppose for the pairing  $\phi_1((g, g)) = \frac{1}{p^k}$  we have  $\phi_1((1, 1)) = \frac{-1}{p^k}$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{-g\bar{g}}{p^k} &= \frac{1}{p^k} \in \mathbb{Q}(t) / \Lambda \\ \frac{-g\bar{g}}{p^k} - \frac{1}{p^k} &\in \Lambda \\ -g\bar{g} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p} \text{ in } \Lambda \\ -g\bar{g} - 1 &= p^k \omega \text{ for some } \omega \in \Lambda \end{aligned}$$

evaluating at  $\xi$ :

$$\overbrace{-g(\xi)g(\xi^{-1})}^{>0} - 1 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \Leftarrow$$

□

????????????????????

$$\begin{aligned} g &= \sum g_i t^i \\ \bar{g} &= \sum g_i t^{-i} \\ \bar{g}(\xi) &= \sum g_i \xi^i \quad \xi \in S^1 \\ \bar{\bar{g}}(\xi) &= g(\bar{\xi}) \end{aligned}$$

Suppose  $g = (t - \xi)^\alpha g'$ . Then  $(t - \xi)^{k-\alpha}$  goes to 0 in  $\Lambda / p^k \Lambda$ .

**Theorem 9.1**

*Every sesquilinear non-degenerate pairing*

$$\Lambda / p^k \times \Lambda / p \longrightarrow \frac{h}{p^k}$$

*is isomorphic either to the pairing with  $h = 1$  or to the pairing with  $h = -1$  depending on sign of  $h(\xi)$  (which is a real number).*

*Proof.* There are two steps of the proof:

1. Reduce to the case when  $h$  has a constant sign on  $S^1$ .
2. Prove in the case, when  $h$  has a constant sign on  $S^1$ .

**Lemma 9.1**

If  $P$  is a symmetric polynomial such that  $P(\eta) \geq 0$  for all  $\eta \in S^1$ , then  $P$  can be written as a product  $P = g\bar{g}$  for some polynomial  $g$ .

*Sketch of proof.* : Induction over  $\deg P$ .

Let  $\zeta \notin S^1$  be a root of  $P$ ,  $P \in \mathbb{R}[t, t^{-1}]$ . Assume  $\zeta \notin \mathbb{R}$ . We know that polynomial  $P$  is divisible by  $(t-\zeta)$ ,  $(t-\bar{\zeta})$ ,  $(t^{-1}-\zeta)$  and  $(t^{-1}-\bar{\zeta})$ . Therefore:

$$P' = \frac{P}{(t-\zeta)(t-\bar{\zeta})(t^{-1}-\zeta)(t^{-1}-\bar{\zeta})}$$

$$P' = g'\bar{g}$$

We set  $g = g'(t-\zeta)(t-\bar{\zeta})$  and  $P = g\bar{g}$ . Suppose  $\zeta \in S^1$ . Then  $(t-\zeta)^2|P$  (at least - otherwise it would change sign). Therefore:

$$P' = \frac{P}{(t-\zeta)^2(t^{-1}-\zeta)^2}$$

$$g = (t-\zeta)(t^{-1}-\zeta)g' \quad \text{etc.}$$

The map  $(1, 1) \mapsto \frac{h}{p^k} = \frac{g\bar{g}h}{p^k}$  is isometric whenever  $g$  is coprime with  $P$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 9.2**

Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are two symmetric polynomials that are coprime and that  $\forall z \in S^1$  either  $A(z) > 0$  or  $B(z) > 0$ . Then there exist symmetric polynomials  $P, Q$  such that  $P(z), Q(z) > 0$  for  $z \in S^1$  and  $PA + QB \equiv 1$ .

*Idea of proof.* For any  $z$  find an interval  $(a_z, b_z)$  such that if  $P(z) \in (a_z, b_z)$  and  $P(z)A(z) + Q(z)B(z) = 1$ , then  $Q(z) > 0$ ,  $x(z) = \frac{az+bz}{i}$  is a continues function on  $S^1$  approximating  $z$  by a polynomial .  
 ???

$$(1, 1) \mapsto \frac{h}{p^k} \mapsto \frac{g\bar{g}h}{p^k}$$

$$g\bar{g}h + p^k\omega = 1$$

Apply Lemma 9.2 for  $A = h$ ,  $B = p^{2k}$ . Then, if the assumptions are satisfied,

$$\begin{aligned}
Ph + Qp^{2k} &= 1 \\
p > 0 &\Rightarrow p = g\bar{g} \\
p &= (t - \xi)(t - \bar{\xi})t^{-1} \\
\text{so } p &\geq 0 \text{ on } S^1 \\
p(t) = 0 &\Leftrightarrow t = \xi \text{ or } t = \bar{\xi} \\
h(\xi) &> 0 \\
h(\bar{\xi}) &> 0 \\
g\bar{g}h + Qp^{2k} &= 1 \\
g\bar{g}h &\equiv 1 \pmod{p^{2k}} \\
g\bar{g} &\equiv 1 \pmod{p^k}
\end{aligned}$$

????????????????????????????????????

If  $P$  has no roots on  $S^1$  then  $B(z) > 0$  for all  $z$ , so the assumptions of Lemma 9.2 are satisfied no matter what  $A$  is.  $\square$

????????????????????

$$\begin{aligned}
\Lambda/p_\xi^k \times \Lambda/p_\xi^k &\longrightarrow \frac{\epsilon}{p_\xi^k}, \quad \xi \in S^1 \setminus \{\pm 1\} \\
\Lambda/q_\xi^k \times \Lambda/q_\xi^k &\longrightarrow \frac{1}{q_\xi^k}, \quad \xi \notin S^1
\end{aligned}$$

???????????????????? 1 ?? epsilon?

**Theorem 9.2** (Matumoto, Borodzik-Conway-Politarczyk)

Let  $K$  be a knot,

$$H_1(\tilde{X}, \Lambda) \times H_1(\tilde{X}, \Lambda) = \bigoplus_{\substack{k, \xi, \epsilon \\ \xi \in S^1}} (\Lambda/p_\xi^k, \epsilon)^{n_{k, \xi, \epsilon}} \oplus \bigoplus_{k, \eta} (\Lambda/p_\xi^k)^{m_k} \text{ and}$$

$$\delta_\sigma(\xi) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \sigma(e^{2\pi i \epsilon \xi}) - \sigma(e^{-2\pi i \epsilon \xi}),$$

$$\text{then } \sigma_j(\xi) = \sigma(\xi) - \frac{1}{2} \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \sigma(e^{2\pi i \epsilon \xi}) + \sigma(e^{-2\pi i \epsilon \xi})$$

The jump at  $\xi$  is equal to  $2 \sum_{k_i \text{ odd}} \epsilon_i$ .

The peak of the signature function is equal to  $\sum_{k_i \text{ even}} \epsilon_i$ .

????????????????????

$$(\eta_{k, \xi_l^+} - \eta_{k, \xi_l^-})$$

□

## Lecture 10

May 27, 2019

????????

### Theorem 10.1

Such a pairing is isometric to a pairing:

$$[1] \times [1] \rightarrow \frac{\epsilon}{p_\xi^k}, \epsilon \in \pm 1$$

????????????????

$$[1] = 1 \in \Lambda / p_\xi^k \Lambda$$

????????

### Theorem 10.2

The jump of the signature function at  $\xi$  is equal to  $2 \sum_{k_i \text{ odd}} \epsilon_i$ .

The peak of the signature function is equal to  $\sum_{k_i \text{ even}} \epsilon_i$ .

$$(\Lambda / p^{k_1} \Lambda, \epsilon_1) \oplus \cdots \oplus (\Lambda / p^{k_n} \Lambda, \epsilon_n)$$

### Definition 10.1

A matrix  $A$  is called Hermitian if  $\overline{A(t)} = A(t)^T$

**Theorem 10.3** (Borodzik-Friedl 2015, Borodzik-Conway-Politarczyk 2018)  
*A square Hermitian matrix  $A(t)$  of size  $n$  with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$  (or  $\mathbb{R}[t, t^{-1}]$ ) represents the Blanchfield pairing if:*

$$\begin{aligned} H_1(\bar{X}, \Lambda) &= \Lambda^n / A\Lambda^n, \\ (x, y) &\mapsto \bar{x}^T A^{-1}y \in \Omega / \Lambda \\ H_1(\tilde{X}, \Lambda) \times H_1(\tilde{X}, \Lambda) &\longrightarrow \Omega / \Lambda, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$  or  $\mathbb{R}[t, t^{-1}]$ ,  $\Omega = \mathbb{Q}(t)$  or  $\mathbb{R}(t)$

?????????  
 field of fractions ???????

$$\begin{aligned} H_1(\Sigma(K), \mathbb{Z}) &= \mathbb{Z}^n / (V + V^T)\mathbb{Z}^n \\ H_1(\Sigma(K), \mathbb{Z}) \times H_1(\Sigma(K), \mathbb{Z}) &\longrightarrow \mathbb{Q} / \mathbb{Z} \\ (a, b) &\mapsto a(V + V^T)^{-1}b \end{aligned}$$

????????????????????

$$\begin{aligned} y &\mapsto y + Az \\ \bar{x}^T A^{-1}(y + Az) &= \bar{x}^T A^{-1}y + \bar{x}^T \mathbb{1}z \end{aligned}$$

**Lecture 11 Surgery**

**June 3, 2019**

**Theorem 11.1**

*Let  $K$  be a knot and  $u(K)$  its unknotting number. Let  $g_4$  be a minimal four genus of a smooth surface  $S$  in  $B^4$  such that  $\partial S = K$ . Then:*

$$u(K) \geq g_4(K)$$

*Proof.* Recall that if  $u(K) = u$  then  $K$  bounds a disk  $\Delta$  with  $u$  ordinary double points.  
 ??????????????????

$$\begin{aligned}\chi(D^2) &= 1 \\ \chi(\Delta) &= 1 - u \\ \gamma &= 0 \in \pi_1(B^4 \setminus S)\end{aligned}$$

????????????????

Remove from  $\Delta$  the two self intersecting disks and glue the Seifert surface for the Hopf link. The reality surface  $S$  has Euler characteristic  $\chi(S) = 1 - 2u$ . Therefore  $g_4(S) = u$ . □

**Example 11.1**

The knot  $\delta_{20}$  is slice:  $\sigma \equiv 0$  almost everywhere but  $\sigma(e^{\frac{2\pi i}{6}}) = +1$ .

**Surgery**

Recall that  $H_1(S^1 \times S^1, \mathbb{Z}) = \mathbb{Z}^2$ . As generators for  $H_1$  we can set  $\alpha = [S^1 \times \{\text{pt}\}]$  and  $\beta = [\{\text{pt}\} \times S^1]$ . Suppose  $\phi : S^1 \times S^1 \rightarrow S^1 \times S^1$  is a diffeomorphism. Consider an induced map on the homology group:

$$\begin{aligned}H_1(S^1 \times S^1, \mathbb{Z}) \ni \phi_*(\alpha) &= p\alpha + q\beta, & p, q \in \mathbb{Z}, \\ \phi_*(\beta) &= r\alpha + s\beta, & r, s \in \mathbb{Z}, \\ \phi_* &= \begin{pmatrix} p & q \\ r & s \end{pmatrix}.\end{aligned}$$

As  $\phi_*$  is diffeomorphis, it must be invertible over  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Then for a direction preserving diffeomorphism we have  $\det \phi_* = 1$ . Therefore  $\phi_* \in \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$ .

**Theorem 11.2**

Every such a matrix can be realized as a torus.

Proof. (I) Geometric reason

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi_t : S^1 \times S^1 &\longrightarrow S^1 \times S^1 \\
S^1 \times \{\text{pt}\} &\longrightarrow \{\text{pt}\} \times S^1 \\
\{\text{pt}\} \times S^1 &\longrightarrow S^1 \times \{\text{pt}\} \\
(x, y) &\mapsto (-y, x)
\end{aligned}$$

(II)

□

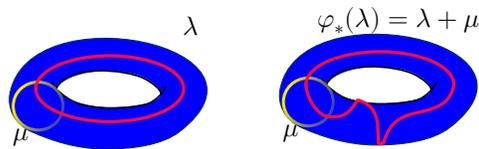


Figure 22: Dehn twist.

**Lecture 12 Surgery**

**June 3, 2019**

**Fact 12.1** (Milnor Singular Points of Complex Hypersurfaces)

An oriented knot is called negative amphichiral if the mirror image  $m(K)$  of  $K$  is equivalent to the reverse knot of  $K$ :  $K^r$ .

**Problem 12.1**

Prove that if  $K$  is negative amphichiral, then  $K \# K = 0$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

**Example 12.1**

*Figure 8 knot is negative amphichiral.*

**Theorem 12.1**

*Let  $H_p$  be a  $p$  - torsion part of  $H$ . There exists an orthogonal decomposition of  $H_p$ :*

$$H_p = H_{p,1} \oplus \cdots \oplus H_{p,r_p}.$$

$H_{p,i}$  is a cyclic module:

$$H_{p,i} = \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}] / p^{k_i} \mathbb{Z}[t, t^{-1}]$$

The proof is the same as over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

