

Knot Theory for spatial graphs

[Lecture 3]

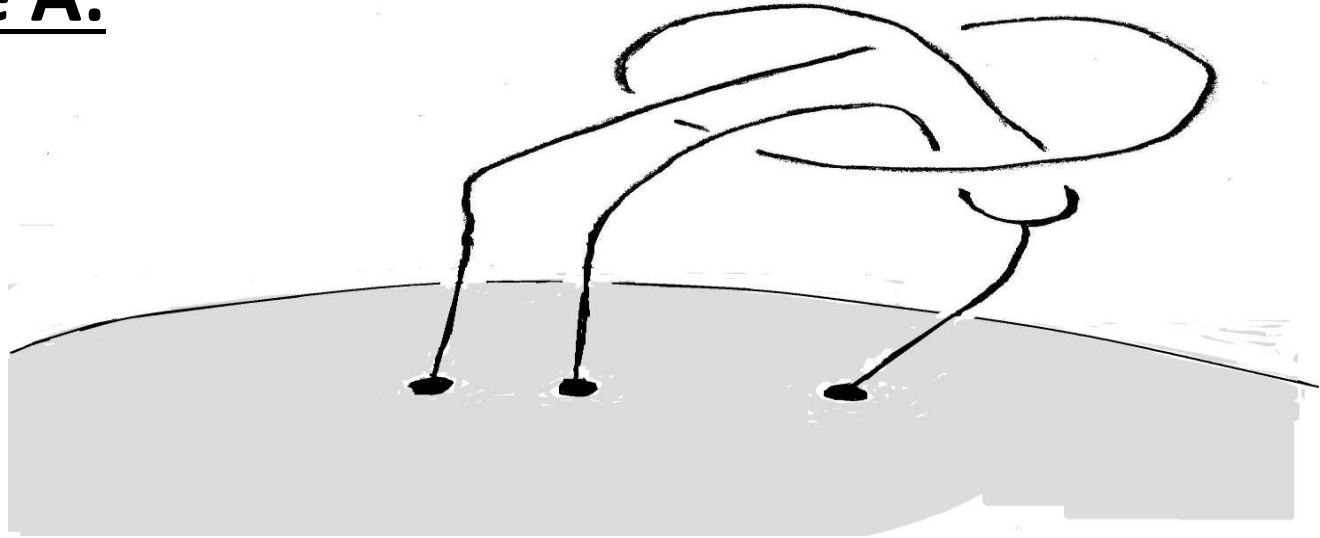
**Spatial graphs with degree one vertices
attaching to a surface**

**cf. A. Kawauchi, Spatial graphs attaching to a surface,
in preparation.**

Akio Kawauchi

**Osaka City University
Advanced Mathematical Institute**

Example A:



Question. *In what sense, this object is
“knotted” or “unknotted” ?*

In this talk, the answer will be “ β -unknotted”
but “knotted”, “ γ -knotted” and “ Γ -knotted”
under some definitions introduced from now.

Example B: Proteins attached to a cell surface

Some points of S. B. Prusiner's theory are:

(1) By losing the N-terminal region, Prion precursor protein changes into Cellular PrP (PrP^c) or Scrapie PrP (PrP^{Sc}), and α -helices change into β -sheets.

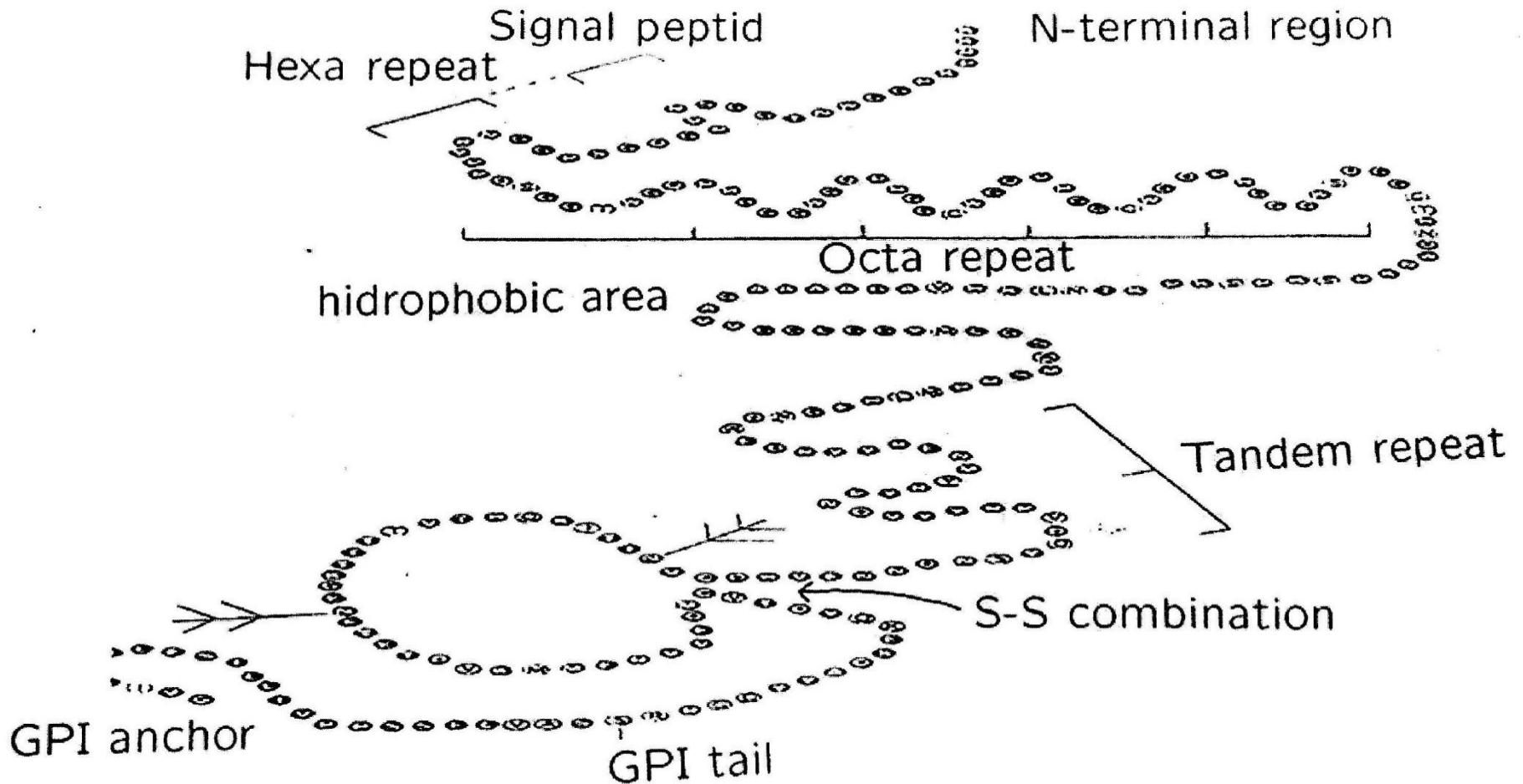
(2) The conformations of PrP^c and PrP^{Sc} may differ although the linear structures are the same.

(3) There is one S-S combination.

● **Z. Huang et al., Proposed three-dimensional Structure for the cellular prion protein, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 91(1994), 7139-7143.**

● **K. Basler et al., Scrapie and cellular PrP isoforms are encoded by the same chromosomal gene, Cell 46(1986), 417-428.**

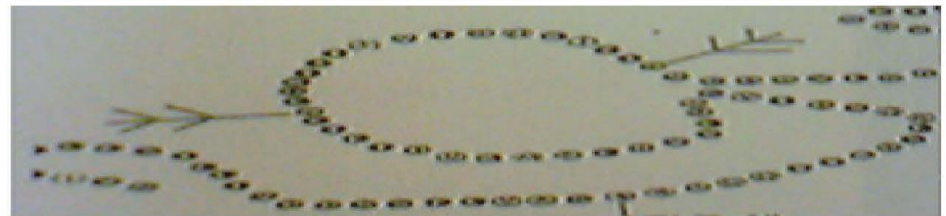
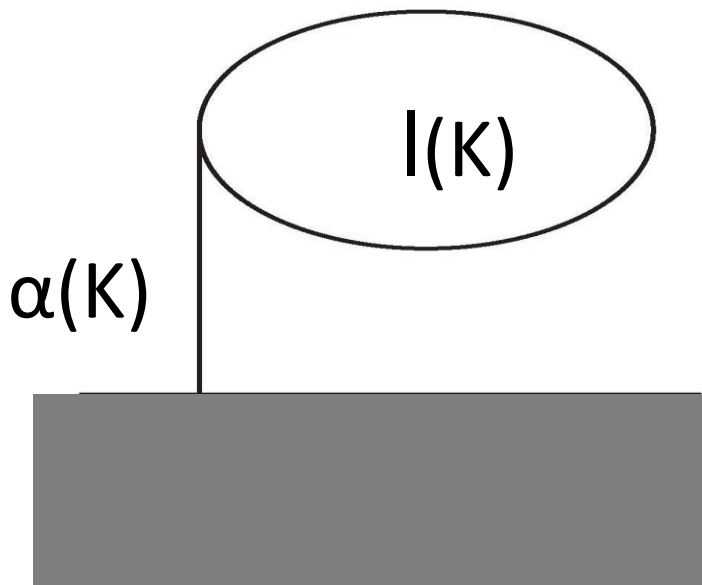
Prion Precursor Protein

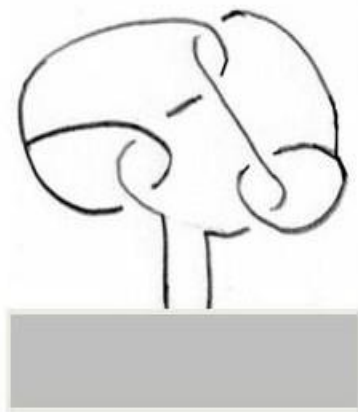


From:

K. Yamanouchi & J. Tateishi Editors, Slow Virus Infection and Prion (in Japanese), Kindaishuppan Co. Ltd. (1995)

Definition. A prion-string is a spatial graph $K = I(K) \cup \alpha(K)$ in the upper half space \mathbb{H}^3 consisting of S-S loop $I(K)$ and GPI-tail $\alpha(K)$ joining the S-S vertex in $I(K)$ with the GPI-anchor in $\partial\mathbb{H}^3$.

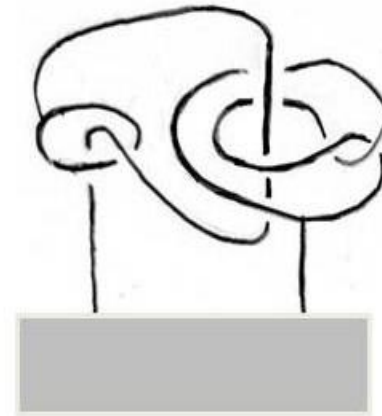




Type I



Type II



Type III

Topological models of prion-proteins

(cf. [J. Math. System Sci. 2012])

[J. Math. System Sci. 2012]

A. Kawauchi and K. Yoshida, Topology of prion proteins,
Journal of Mathematics and System Science 2(2012), 237-248.

Example C: A string-shaped virus

**A virus of EBOLA
haemorrhagic fever**



<http://www.scumdoctor.com/Japanese/disease-prevention/infectious-diseases/virus/ebola/Pictures-Of-The-Effects-Of-Ebola.html>

3.1. A spatial graph attached to a surface

Let Γ be a finite graph, and $v_1(\Gamma)$ the set of degree one vertices. Assume $|v_1(\Gamma)| \geq 2$.

Let F be a compact surface in \mathbb{R}^3 .

Definition.

A spatial graph on F of Γ is the image G of an embedding $f: \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ such that

- (1) G meets F with $G \cap F = f(v_1(\Gamma)) = v_1(G)$,
- (2) $G - v_1(G)$ is contained in one component of $\mathbb{R}^3 - F$,
- (3) \exists a homeomorphism $h: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ such that $h(G \cup F)$ is a polyhedron.

- F does not need $\partial F = \emptyset$.
- Though Γ , G or F may be disconnected, but assume that $|F_c \cap v_1(G)| \geq 2$ for \forall comp. F_c of F .
- Ignore the degree 2 vertices in G .

Definition. A spatial graph G on F is equivalent to a spatial graph G' on F' if \exists an orientation-preserving homeomorphism $h: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ such that

$$h(F \cup G) = F' \cup G'.$$

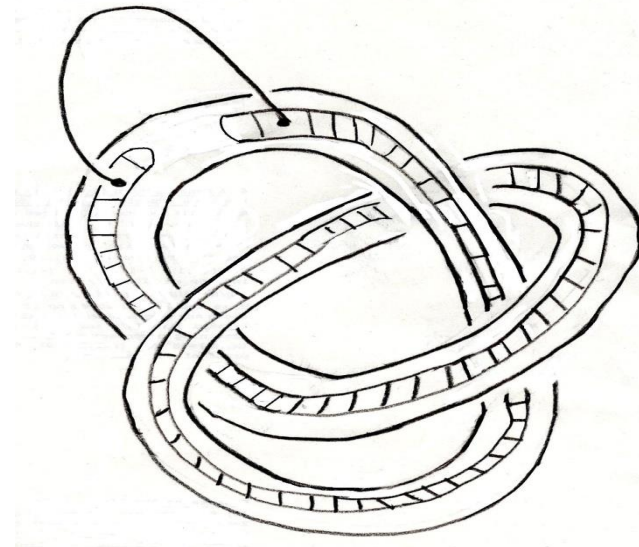
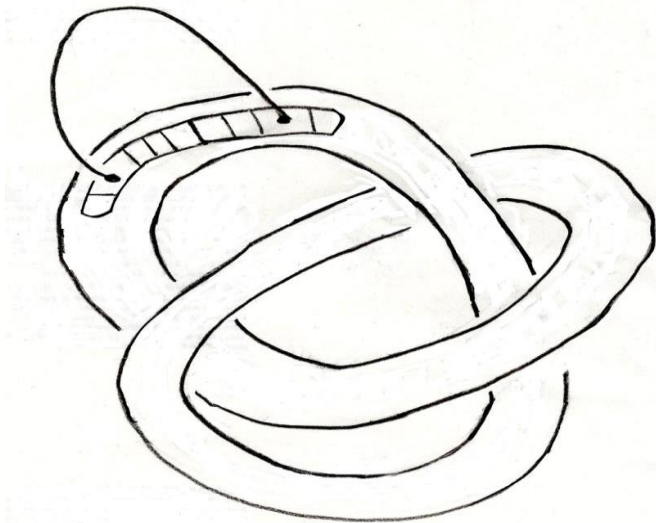
Let $[G]$ be the class of spatial graphs G' on F' which are equivalent to G on F .

3.2. An unknotted graph on a surface and the induced unknotting number

Definition. G on F is unknotted if \exists a 2-cell Δ' in \forall comp. F' of F such that the union Δ of all Δ' contains $v_1(G)$ and the shrunked spatial graph G^\wedge with $v_1(G^\wedge) = \phi$ (i.e. a spatial graph obtained from G by shrinking $\forall \Delta'$ into a point) is unknotted in R^3 .

Note. If $\forall F' = S^2$ or a 2-cell, then $[G^\wedge]$ does not depend on a choice of Δ .

However, in a general F , $[G^\wedge]$ depends on a choice of Δ , although the shrunked graph Γ^\wedge with $v_1(\Gamma^\wedge) = \phi$ associated with F is uniquely defined.



Because $\forall G^\wedge$ is a spatial graph of the same graph Γ^\wedge , we have:

Lemma. For \forall given graph Γ and \forall given F in \mathbb{R}^3 , \exists only finitely many unknotted graphs G of Γ on F up to equivalences.

Let $O = \{\text{unknotted graphs of } \Gamma^\wedge\}$.

Definition.

The unknotting number $u(G)$ of a spatial graph G of Γ on F is the distance from the set $\{G^\wedge\}$ to O by crossing changes on edges attaching to a base:

$$u(G) = \rho(\{G^\wedge\}, O).$$

3.3. A β -unknotted graph on a surface and the induced unknotting number

Definition. G on F is β -unknotted if \exists a 2-cell Δ' in \forall component F' of F such that the union Δ of all Δ' contains $v_1(G)$ and the shrunked spatial graph G^\wedge with $v_1(G^\wedge) = \emptyset$ is β -unknotted in R^3 .

unknotted \Rightarrow β -unknotted

Let $O_\beta = \{\beta\text{-unknotted graphs of } \Gamma^\wedge\}$.

Definition.

The β -unknotting number $u_\beta(G)$ of a spatial graph G of Γ on F is the distance from the set $\{G^\wedge\}$ to O_β by crossing changes on edges attaching to a

base: $u_\beta(G) = \rho(\{G^\wedge\}, O_\beta)$.

3.4. A γ -unknotted graph on a surface and the induced unknotting number

Definition. G on F is γ -unknotted if \exists a 2-cell Δ' in \forall component F' of F such that the union Δ of all Δ' contains $v_1(G)$ and the shrunked spatial graph G^\wedge with $v_1(G^\wedge) = \emptyset$ is γ -unknotted in R^3 .

γ -unknotted \Rightarrow unknotted \Rightarrow β -unknotted

Given G , let

$$\{D_{G^\wedge, \gamma}\} = \{(D; T) \in [D_{G^\wedge}] \mid c(D; T) = c_\gamma(G^\wedge), \forall G^\wedge\}.$$

Definition.

The γ -unknotting number $u_\gamma(G)$ of a spatial graph G of Γ on F is the distance from $\{D_{G^\wedge, \gamma}\}$ to O by crossing changes on edges attaching to a base:

$$u_\gamma(G) = \rho(\{D_{G^\wedge, \gamma}\}, O).$$

Note. G on F is γ -unknotted $\Leftrightarrow u_\gamma(G) = 0$.

3.5. Γ -unknotted graph on a surface and the induced unknotting numbers

Definition. G on F is Γ -unknotted if \exists a 2-cell Δ' in \forall component F' of F such that the union Δ of all Δ' contains $v_1(G)$ and the shrunk spatial graph G^\wedge with $v_1(G^\wedge) = \emptyset$ obtained from G by shrinking $\forall \Delta'$ into a point is Γ^\wedge -unknotted in \mathbb{R}^3 .

Γ -unknotted $\Rightarrow \gamma$ -unknotted \Rightarrow unknotted

$\Rightarrow \beta$ -unknotted

Let $O_{\Gamma^\wedge} = \{\Gamma^\wedge\text{-unknotted graphs}\}$. Then $O_\beta \supset O \supset O_{\Gamma^\wedge}$.

Definition.

The Γ -unknotting number $u^\Gamma(G)$ of G on F is the distance from the set $\{G^\wedge\}$ to O_{Γ^\wedge} by crossing changes on edges attaching to a base:

$$u^\Gamma(G) = \rho(\{G^\wedge\}, O_{\Gamma^\wedge})$$

The (γ, Γ) -unknotting number $u_{\gamma}^{\Gamma}(G)$ of G on F is the distance from $\{D_{G^\wedge, \gamma}\}$ to O_Γ by crossing changes on edges attaching to a base: $u_{\gamma}^G(G) = \rho(\{D_{G^\wedge, \gamma}\}, O_{\Gamma^\wedge})$.

3.6. Properties on the unknotting numbers

Theorem 3.6.1. The topological invariants

$$u_{\beta}(G), u(G), u^{\Gamma}(G), u_{\gamma}(G), u_{\gamma}^{\Gamma}(G)$$

of \forall spatial graph G of \forall graph Γ on \forall surface F satisfy the following inequalities :

$$u_{\beta}(G) \leq u(G) \leq \{u_{\gamma}(G), u^{\Gamma}(G)\} \leq u_{\gamma}^{\Gamma}(G),$$

and are distinct for some graphs G of some Γ on $F=S^2$.

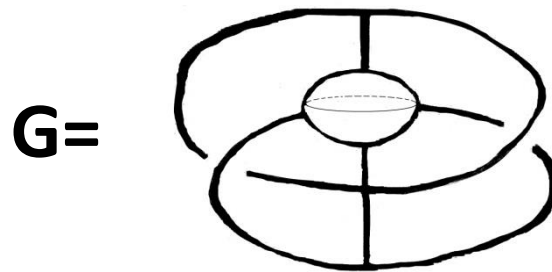
Theorem 3.6.2. For \forall given graph Γ , \forall surface F in R^3 and \forall integer $n \geq 1$, \exists ∞ -many spatial graphs G of Γ on F such that

$$u_{\beta}(G) = u(G) = u_{\gamma}(G) = u^{\Gamma}(G) = u_{\gamma}^{\Gamma}(G) = n.$$

Proof of Theorem 4.6.1. The inequalities are direct from definitions.

We show that these invariants are distinct.

(1)



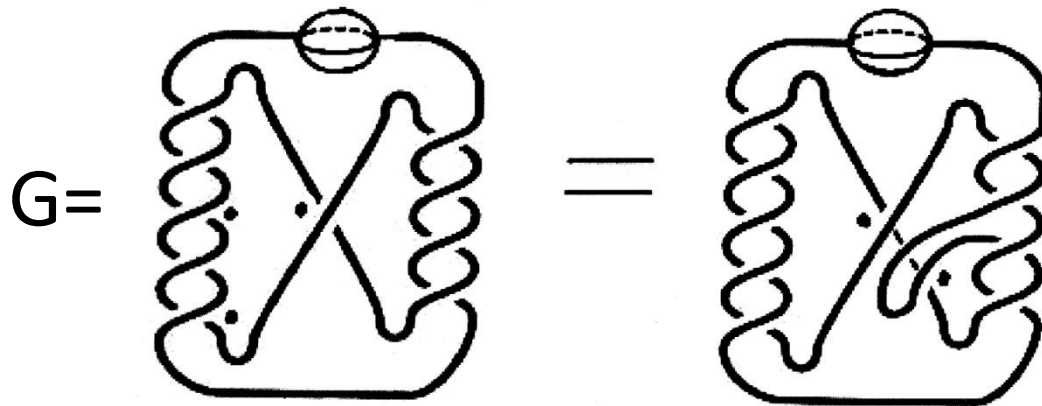
G^\wedge has $c_\gamma(G^\wedge) = 2$ and hence $u_\beta(G) = u(G) = u_\gamma(G) = 0$.

On the other hand, we have

$$u^\Gamma(G) = u^\Gamma_\gamma(G) = 1,$$

for G^\wedge is a spatial graph of a plane graph with a Hopf link as a constituent link and hence not Γ -unknotted.

(2)

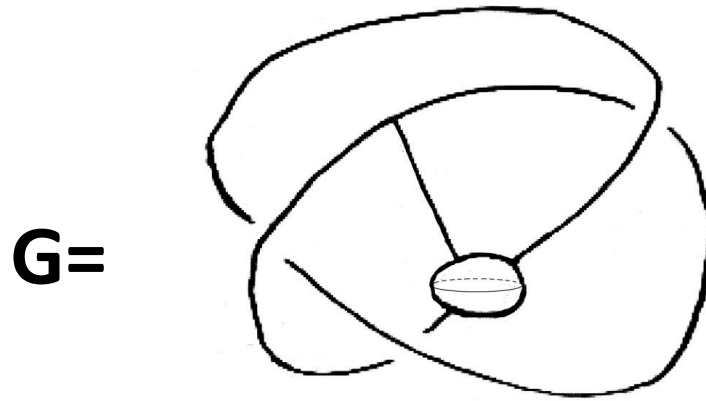


$G^{\wedge} = 10_g$ has $u(10_g) = 2$ and $u_{\gamma}(10_g) = 3$
by [Nakanishi 1983] and [Bleiler 1984].

Hence

$$u_{\beta}(G) = u(G) = u^{\Gamma}(G) = 2 < u_{\gamma}(G) = u^{\Gamma}_{\gamma}(G) = 3.$$

(3)



Then $u_{\beta}(G) = 0$. Since G^{\wedge} is a Θ -curve,

$u(G^{\wedge}) = 0 \Leftrightarrow G^{\wedge}$ is isotopic to a plane graph.

Thus, $u(G) \geq 1$ and we have

$$u(G) = u^{\Gamma}(G) = u_{\gamma}(G) = u^{\Gamma}_{\gamma}(G) = 1. //$$

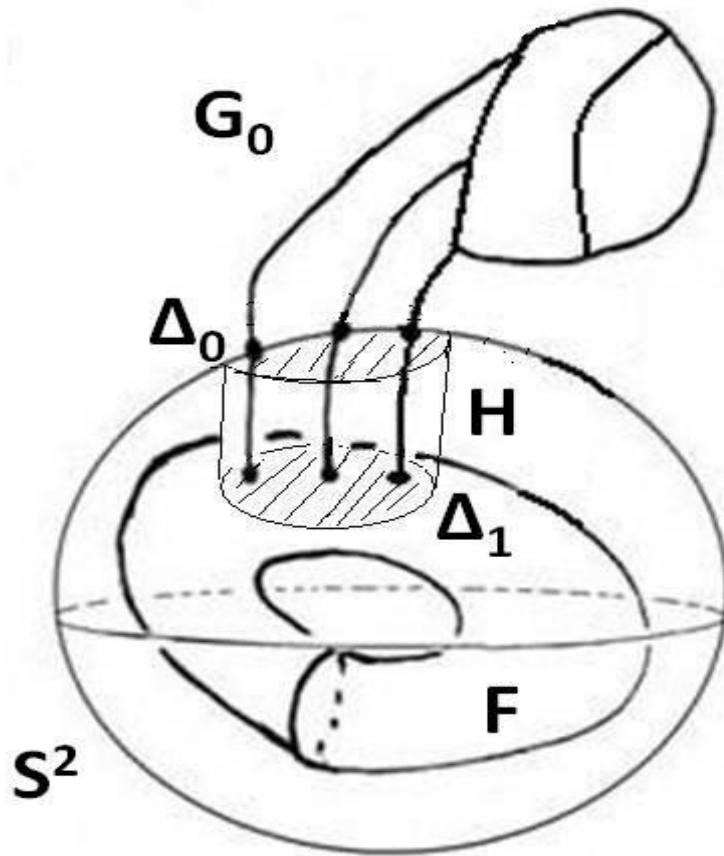
Proof of Theorem 3.6.2.

Assume $v_1(\Gamma) \neq \emptyset$.

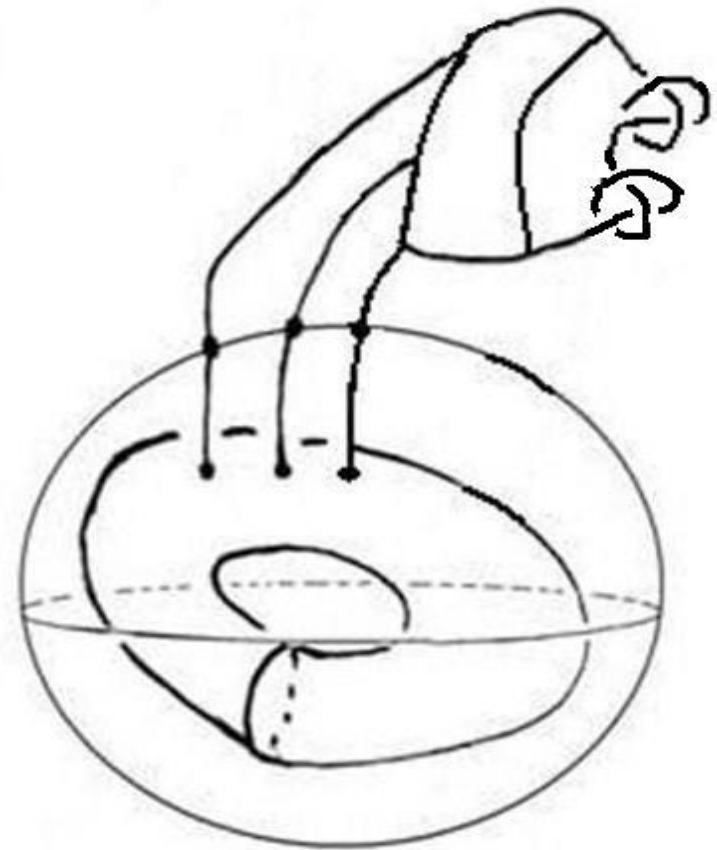
Assume Γ and F are connected for simplicity.

Let F be in the interior of a 3-ball $B \subset S^3$, and $S^2 = \partial B$.

Let G_0 be a Γ -unknotted graph on S^2 in $B^c = \text{cl}(S^3 - B)$ and extend it to a Γ -unknotted graph G_1 on F by taking in B a 1-handle H joining a 2-cell Δ_0 of S^2 and a 2-cell Δ_1 of F and then taking $|v_1(\Gamma)|$ parallel arcs in H .



**A Γ -unknotted
graph G_1 on F**



**A Γ -spatial graph
 G on F**

Note that $G_0^\wedge = G_0 / \Delta_0$ and $G_1^\wedge = G_1 / \Delta_1$ are isotopic Γ -unknotted graphs in S^3 .

We take a Γ -spatial graph G on F with $v_1(G) \subset \Delta_1$ such that $G^\wedge = G / \Delta_1$ is a connected sum $G_1^\wedge \# K(n)$ of an edge of G_1^\wedge (in a part of G_0) and $K(n)$ attaching to a base of G_1^\wedge , where $K(n)$ is the n -fold connected sum of a trefoil knot K .

Then $u_\gamma^\Gamma(G) \leq n$.

We show $u_\beta(G) \geq n$.

Let $u_\beta(G) = u_\beta(G^\wedge')$ for $G^\wedge' = G / \Delta'$ for a 2-cell Δ' in F .

Assume that $u_\beta(G) = k$ and a β -unknotted graph $(G^\wedge)'$ is obtained from G^\wedge' by k crossing changes on edges α_i ($i=1,2,\dots,m$) attaching to a base T' in G^\wedge' .

As it is explained in the case $v_1(\Gamma) = F = \phi$, we take orientations on the edges α_i ($i=1,2,\dots,m$) and take an epimorphism $\chi: H_1(E(G^\wedge')) \rightarrow Z$.

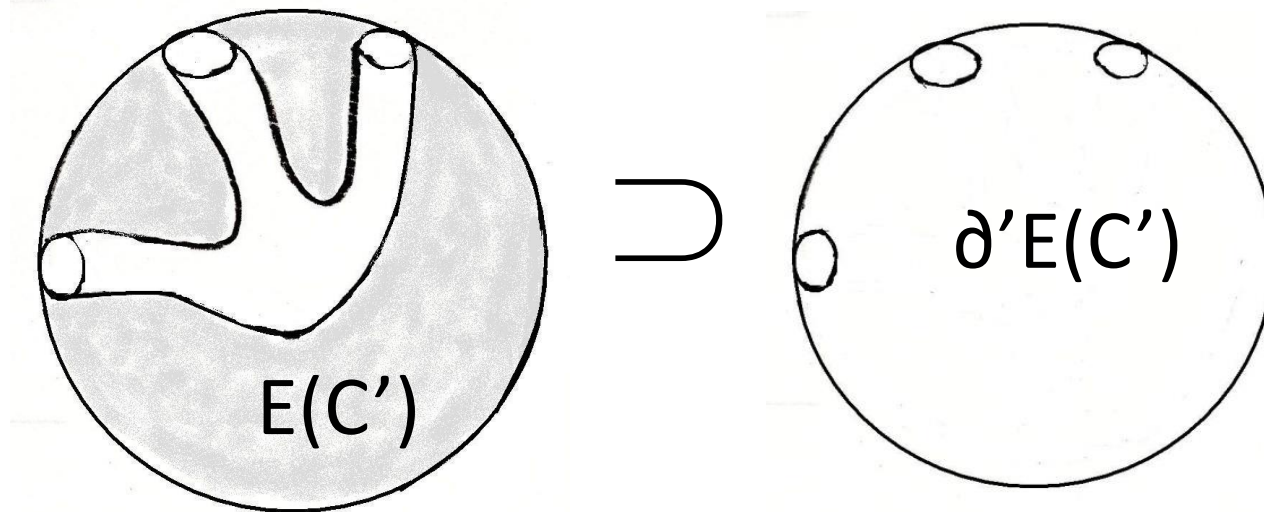
By Lemma A, $|m(G^{\wedge'}, T')_{\infty} - m((G^{\wedge'})', T')_{\infty}| \leq k$.

Note that $m((G^{\wedge'})', T')_{\infty} = m - 1$.

Let $C' = G^{\wedge'} \cap B$ and $G' = G^{\wedge'} \cap B^c$. Then $G^{\wedge'} = G' \cup C'$.

Let $E(G') = \text{cl}(B^c - N(G'))$, $E(C') = \text{cl}(B - N(C'))$ and

$\partial' E(C') = E(C') \cap \partial B$.



Let $E(G')_\infty$, $E(C')_\infty$ and $\partial'E(C')_\infty$ be the lifts of $E(G')$, $E(C')$ and $\partial'E(C')$ under the covering $E(G^\wedge')_\infty \rightarrow E(G^\wedge')$, respectively.

Let

$$M(G')_\infty = H_1(E(G')_\infty) \text{ and} \\ M(C', \partial'C')_\infty = H_1(E(C')_\infty, \partial'E(C')_\infty).$$

Lemma B. \exists a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M(G')_{\infty} \rightarrow M(G^{\wedge}, T')_{\infty} \rightarrow M(C', \partial' C')_{\infty} \rightarrow 0,$$

Further, the finite Λ -torsion part $DM(C', \partial' C')_{\infty} = 0$.

Proof. By excision,

$$H_d(E(G^{\wedge})_{\infty}, E(G')_{\infty}) = H_d(E(C')_{\infty}, \partial' E(C')_{\infty}).$$

Since $H_d(E(C'), \partial' E(C')) = 0$ for $d=1, 2$, we see from
A. Kawauchi, Three dualities on the integral homology of infinite
cyclic coverings of manifolds, Osaka J. Math. 23(1986), 633-651.

that $H_2(E(C')_{\infty}, \partial' E(C')_{\infty}) = 0$ and $M(C', \partial' C')_{\infty}$ is a
torsion Λ -module with $DM(C', \partial' C')_{\infty} = 0$.

The homology exact sequence of the pair $(E(G^\wedge)_\infty, E(G')_\infty)$ induces an exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow H_1(E(G')_\infty) \rightarrow H_1(E(G^\wedge)_\infty) \rightarrow H_1(E(G^\wedge)_\infty, E(G')_\infty) \rightarrow 0.$$

This sequence is equivalent to an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow M(G')_\infty \rightarrow M(G^\wedge, T')_\infty \rightarrow M(C', \partial' C')_\infty \rightarrow 0. //$$

Note that $M(G')_{\infty} = M(G^{\wedge}, T)_{\infty}$ for a base T of G^{\wedge} corresponding to the base T' of G^{\wedge}' .

By an argument of the case $v(\Gamma) = F = \phi$,

$$m(G')_{\infty} = m(G^{\wedge}, T)_{\infty} = m+n-1$$

for the minimal number $m(G')_{\infty}$ of Λ -generators of $M(G')_{\infty}$.

Lemma C

A. Kawauchi, On the integral homology of infinite cyclic coverings of links, Kobe J. Math. 4(1987),31-41.

Let M' be a Λ -submodule of a finitely generated Λ -module M . Let m' and m be the minimal numbers of Λ -generators of M' and M , respectively. If $D(M/M') = 0$, then $m' \leq m$.

Proof. For a Λ -epimorphism $f: \Lambda^m \rightarrow M$, let $B = f^{-1}(M') \subset \Lambda^m$, which is mapped onto M' . Since Λ^m/B is isomorphic to M/M' which has projective dimension ≤ 1 , B is Λ -free, i.e., $B = \Lambda^b$ with $b \leq m$. Hence $m' \leq b \leq m$. //

By Lemma C,

$$m(G^{\wedge'}, T')_{\infty} \geq m(G')_{\infty} = m+n-1.$$

Since $m((G^{\wedge'})', T')_{\infty} = m-1$, we have

$$k \geq m(G^{\wedge'}, T')_{\infty} - m((G^{\wedge'})', T')_{\infty} \geq n.$$

Hence $u_{\beta}(G) \geq n$ and

$$u_{\beta}(G) = u(G) = u_{\gamma}(G) = u^{\Gamma}(G) = u^{\Gamma}_{\gamma}(G) = n. //$$