
On Coxeter links associated to cycle graphs

Mikami Hirasawa (Nagoya Inst. of Tech.)

Joint w/ K. Murasugi (Univ. Toronto)

Abstract: Through study of zeros of the Alexander polynomials of links, we came to study the class of "Coxeter links".

Coxeter links are fibered links associated to labeled graphs with certain conditions.

In this talk, we classify those links arising from cycle graphs, and determine which of them are Coxeter links. We calculate the multivariate Alexander polynomials and see that all the zeros of the reduced Alexander polynomials of these links are on the unit circle.

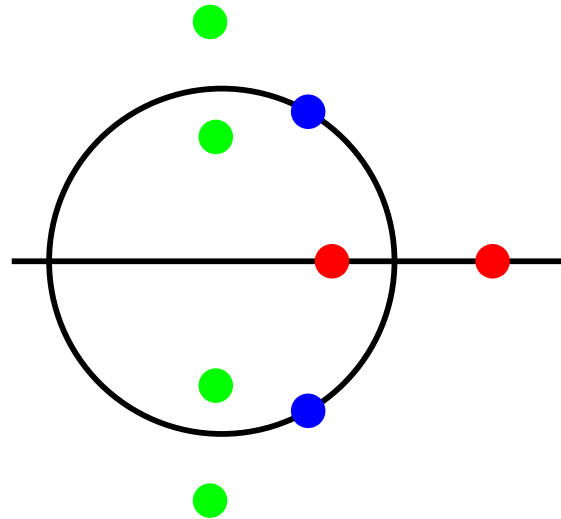
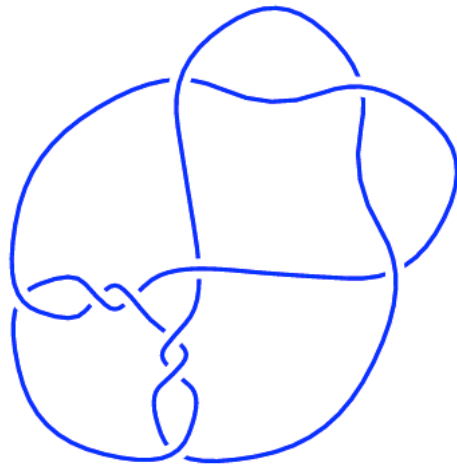
Motivation

- Study of zeros of Alexander pol. of links.

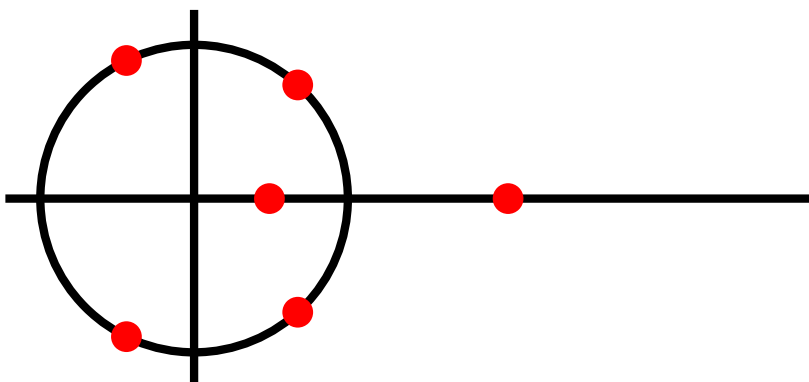
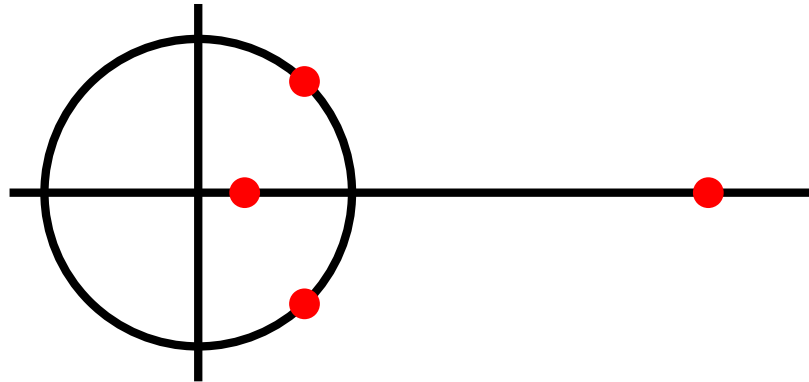
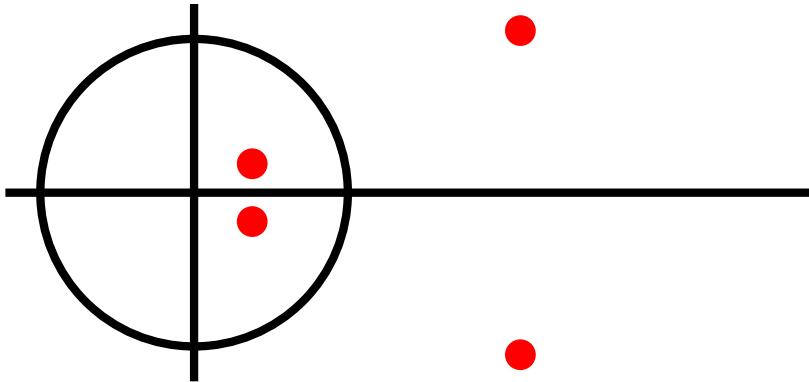
$$\Delta_L(\alpha) = 0, \alpha \in \mathbb{C}$$

For a given link, how they are distribute on \mathbb{C} ?

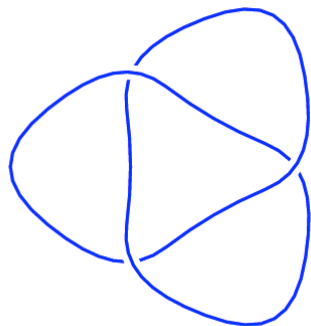
e.g. 10_{64}



$$1 - 3t + 6t^2 - 10t^3 + 11t^4 - 10t^5 + 6t^6 - 3t^7 + t^8$$



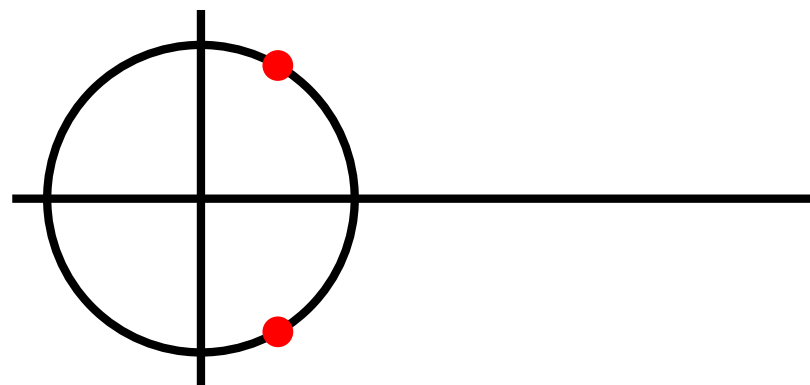
$3_1 :$



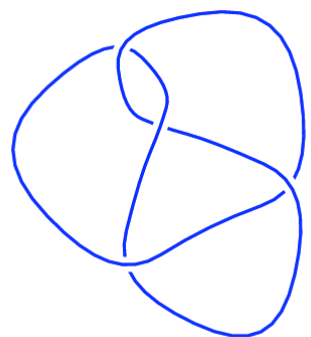
$$t^2 - t + 1 = 0$$

\Rightarrow

$$t = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{3} i}{2}$$



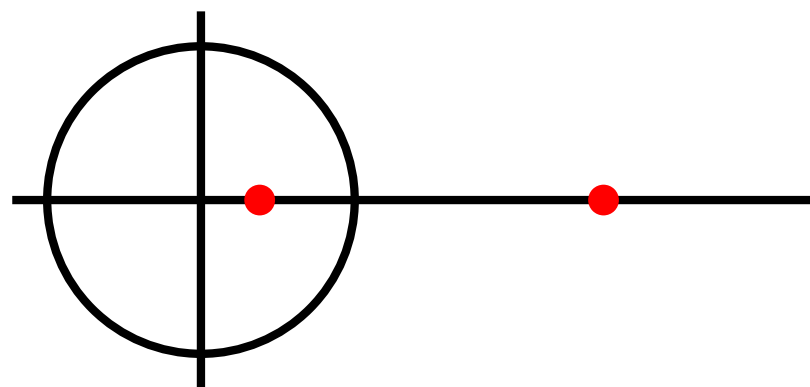
$4_1 :$



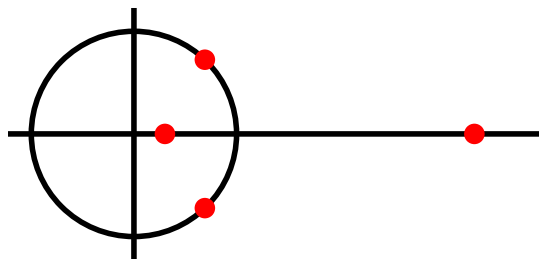
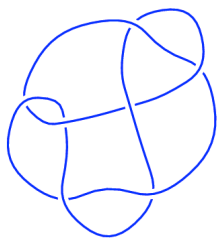
$$t^2 - 3t + 1 = 0$$

\Rightarrow

$$t = \frac{3 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

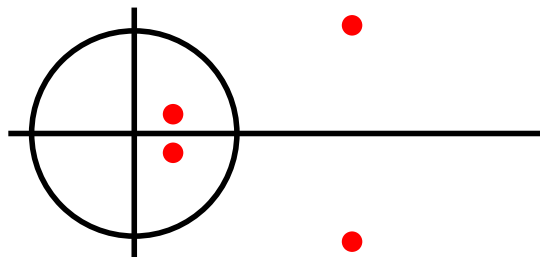
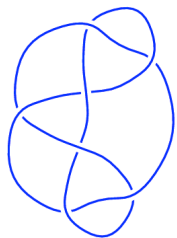


$7_6 :$



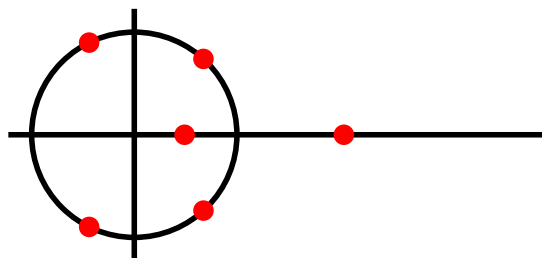
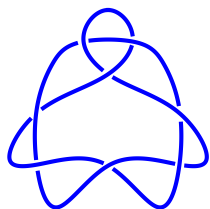
$$1 - 5t + 7t^2 - 5t^3 - t^4$$

$7_7 :$



$$1 - 5t + 9t^2 - 5t^3 + t^4$$

$8_2 :$



$$1 - 3t + 3t^2 - 3t^3 + 3t^4 - 3t^5 + t^6$$

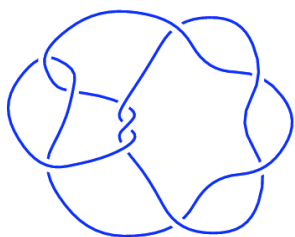
8_2

Note that for any alternating knot K ,

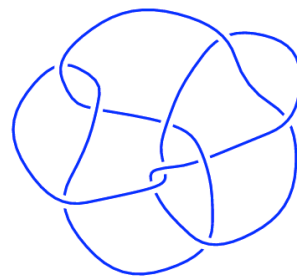
$$\Delta_K(\alpha) = 0, \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \alpha > 0.$$

This shows that the following are non-alt'g.
(All knots up to 10c with "real zero < 0 ".)

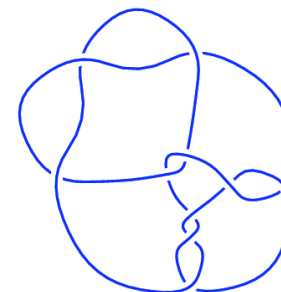
10₁₃₉



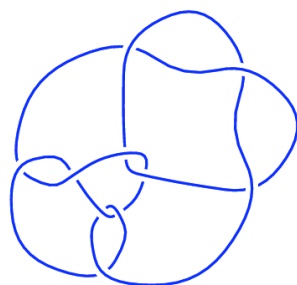
10₁₄₅



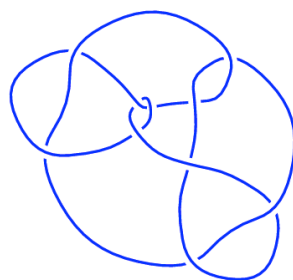
10₁₅₂



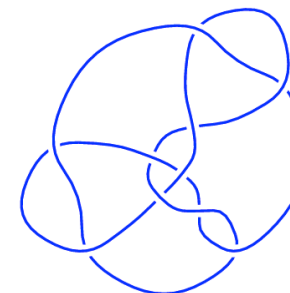
10₁₅₃



10₁₅₄



10₁₆₁



The following are non-alt'g.

(All knots up to 10c with "real zero < 0 ".)

$$10_{139}, 1 - t + 2t^3 - 3t^4 + 2t^5 - t^7 + t^8$$

$$10_{145}, 1 + t - 3t^2 + t^3 + t^4$$

$$10_{152}, 1 - t - t^2 + 4t^3 - 5t^4 + 4t^5 - t^6 - t^7 + t^8$$

$$10_{153}, 1 - t - t^2 + 3t^3 - t^4 - t^5 + t^6$$

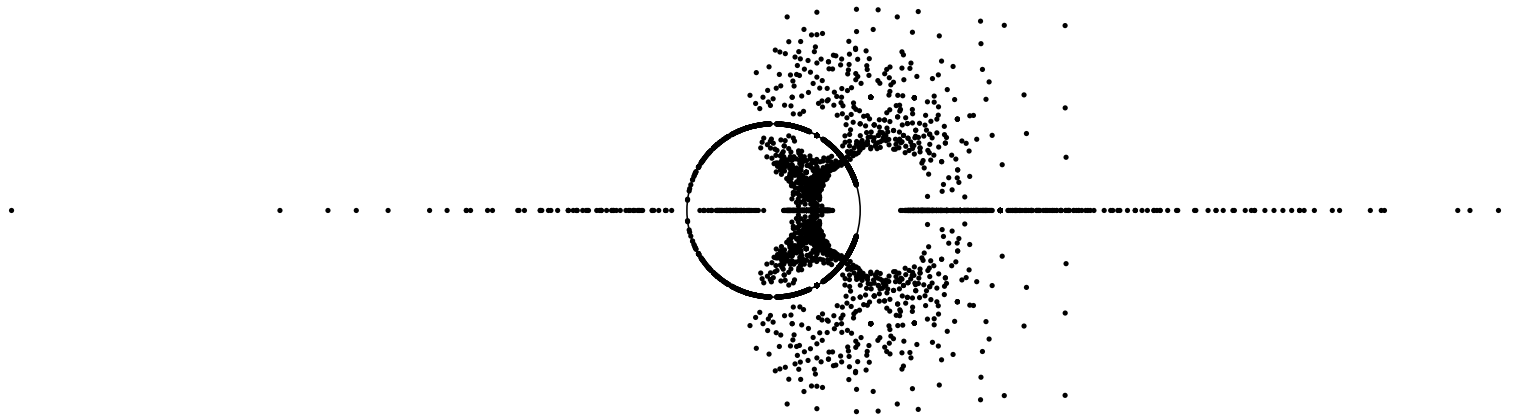
$$10_{154}, 1 - 4t^2 + 7t^3 - 4t^4 + t^6$$

$$10_{161}, 1 - 2t^2 + 3t^3 - 2t^4 + t^6$$

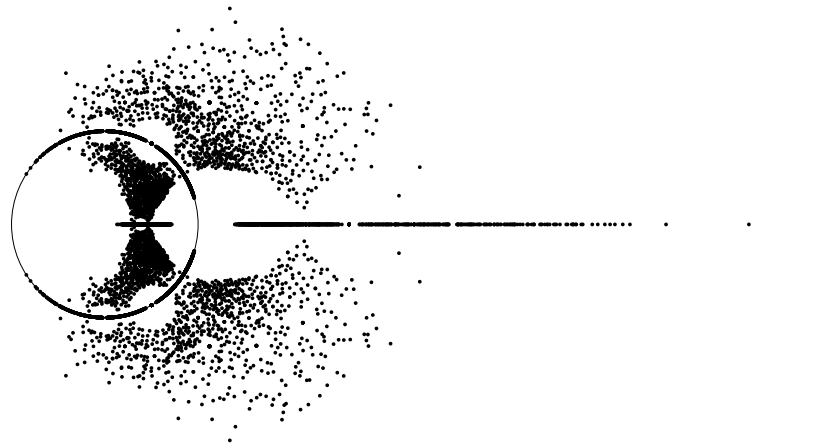
For alt'g knots, coefficients of Alex.pol. alternate in sign.

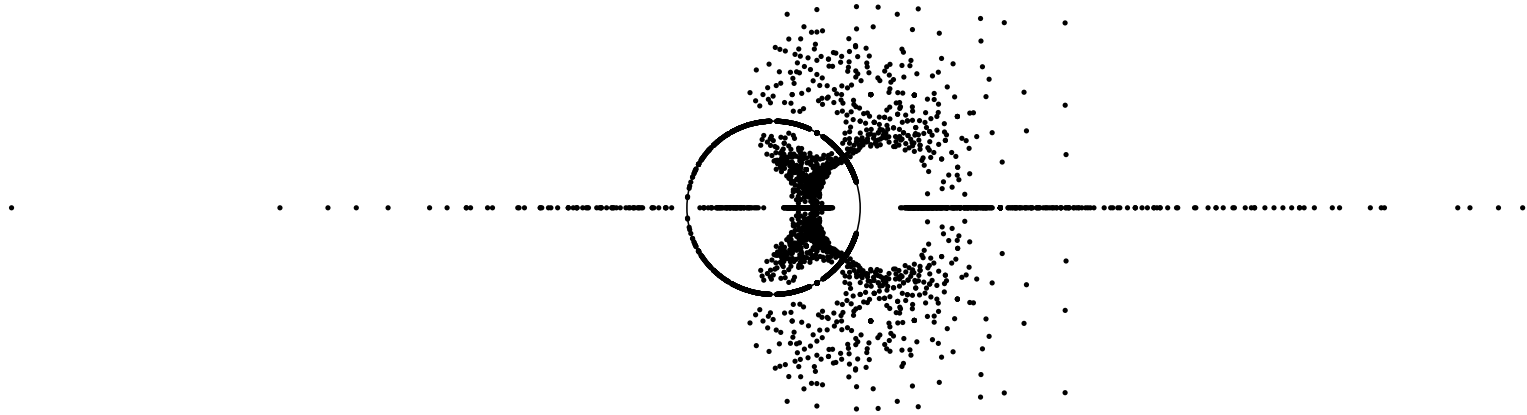
Note the famous "trapezoid conjecture".

What do you see in this ?

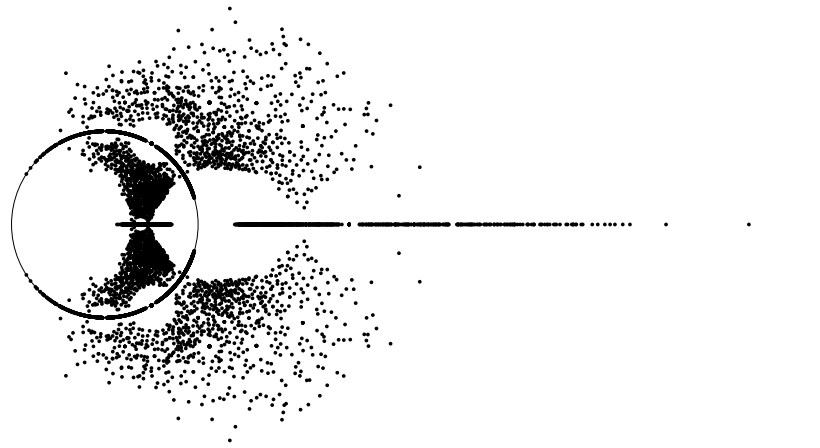


How about this ?





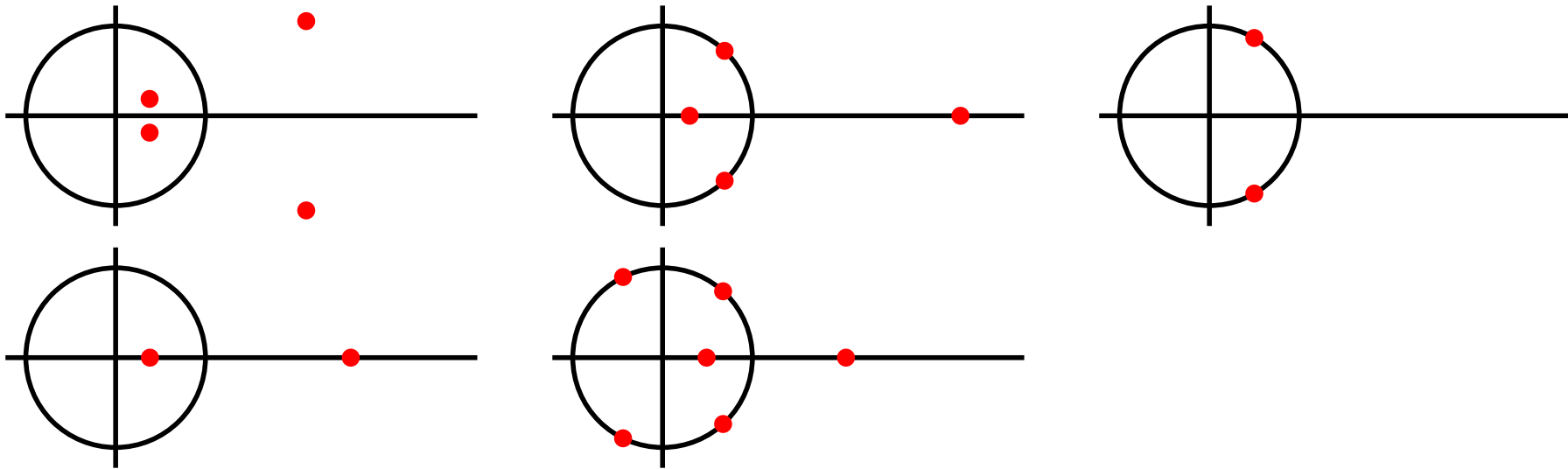
zeros for non-alt'g knots w/ crossings 11 and 12.



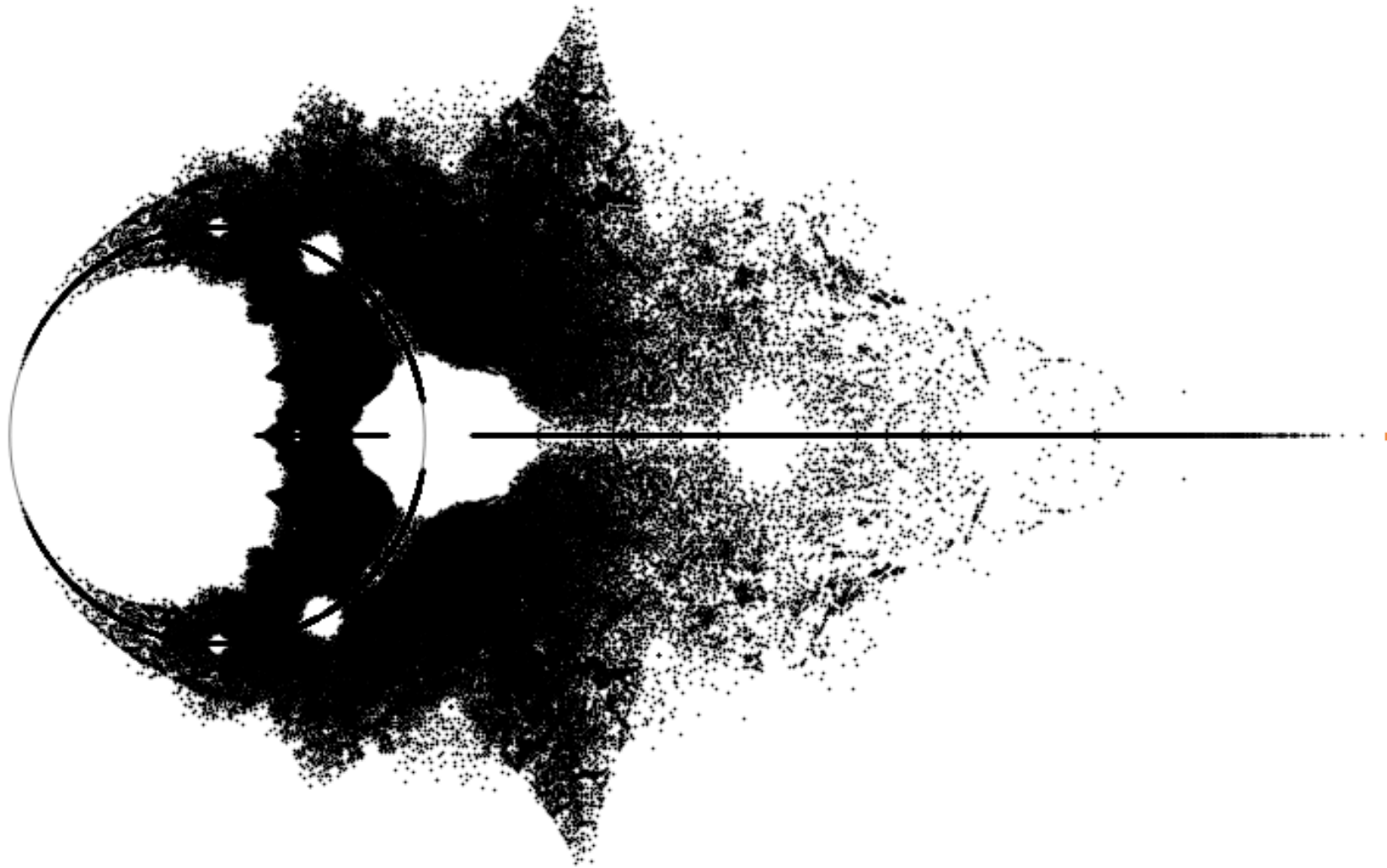
zeros for alt'g knots w/ crossings 11 and 12.

Conjecture 1.1. (*J. Hoste 2002*)

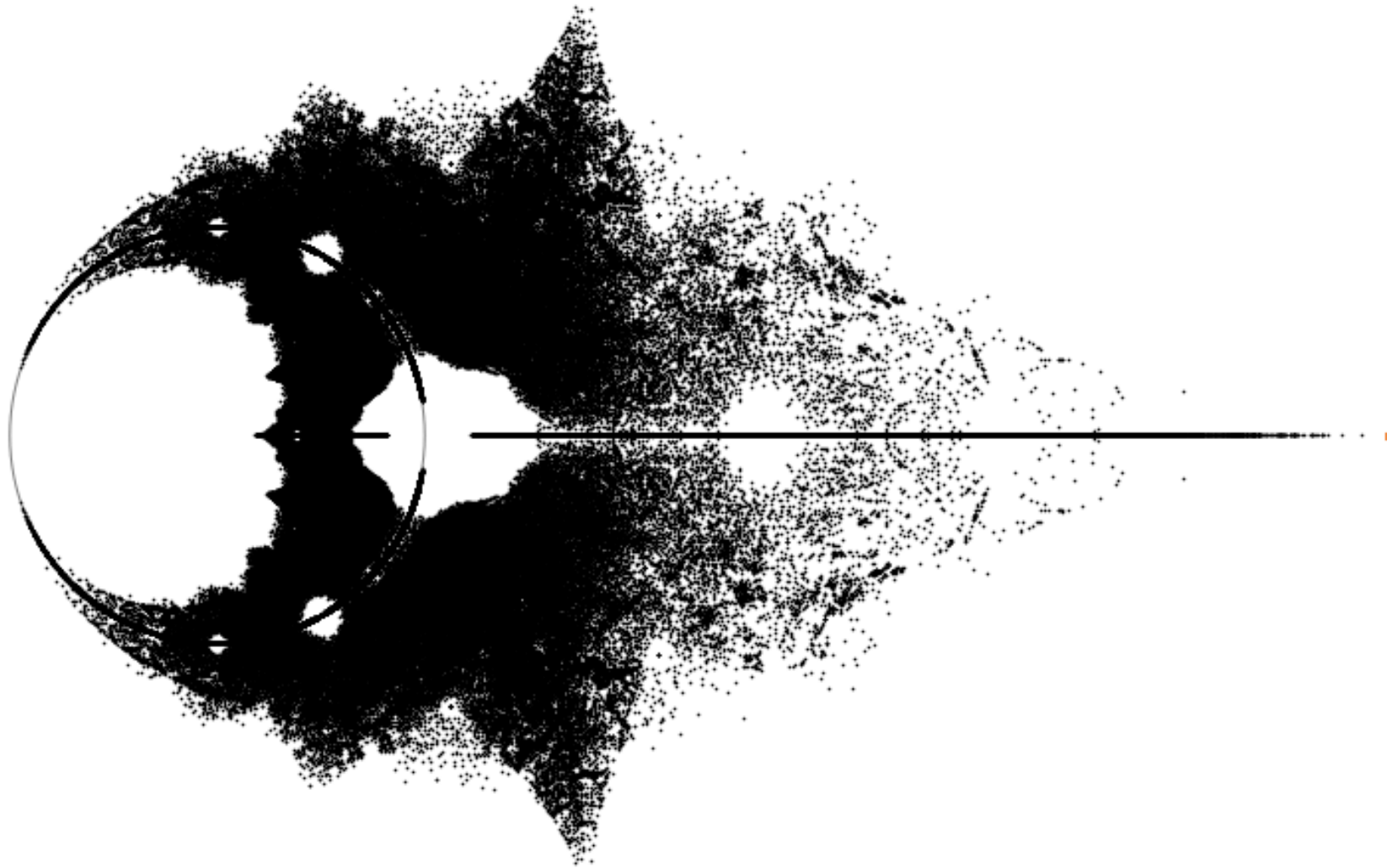
For any alternating knot K , we have $\boxed{\operatorname{Re}(\alpha) > -1}$, where $\Delta_K(\alpha) = 0$.



It is unknown: What $\Delta_K(t)$ can be that of "alternating knot" or even "2-bridge knot".

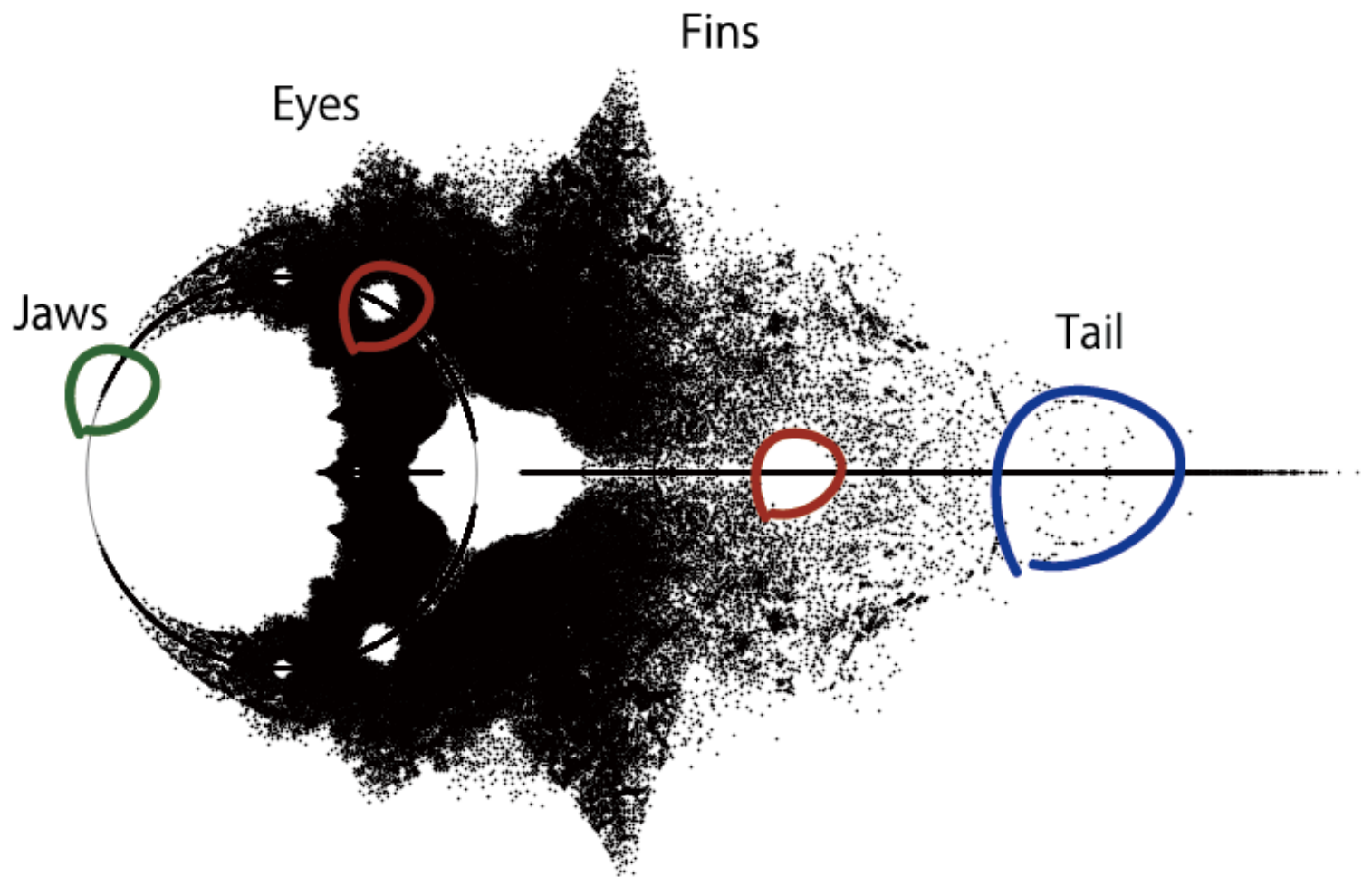


What is this?



zeros for rational knots up to 20 crossings.
Murasugi-Lyubich proved $-3 < \operatorname{Re}(\alpha) < 6$. (Top. Appl. 2012)

Beside Hoste's conjecture, we have many conjectures for the zeros for 2-bridge knots.



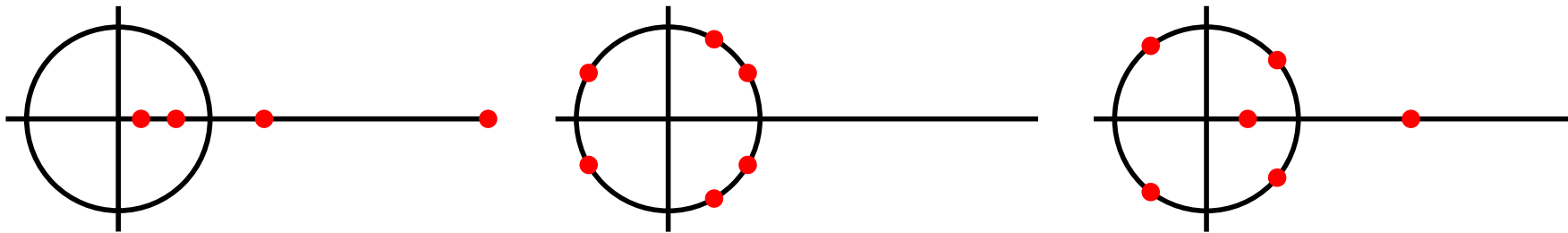
Position of zeros of Alex.pol. not only distinguishes links but also indicates some are similar.

Definition 1.2. α : zero of $\Delta_L(t)$.

L is real stable if $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$.

L is circular cable if $\forall |\alpha| = 1$.

L is bi-stable if $\forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ or $|\alpha| = 1$.



Note.

Proposition 1.3. *Trapezoidal conjecture holds for r -stable alternating knots.*

H.S.Wilf, Generatingfunctionolgy,
Academic press (1990) See p127.

Rational knots

Rational knots (a.k.a 2-bridge knots) are boundary of linear plumbing of annuli with twists $[2a_1, 2b_1, \dots, 2a_n, 2b_n]$. e.g. $3_1 = [2, 2]$, $4_1 = [2, -2]$.

Theorem 1.4.

- (i) $\forall a_i, b_i > 0 \Rightarrow K$ is *c-stable*.
- (ii) $\forall a_i > 0, b_i < 0 \Rightarrow K$ is *r-stable*.

- exceptionally stable rational knots.

Proposition 1.5.

- (i) For $[2a, -2, -2b, 2c]$, $a, b, c > 0$,
 $bc > 2a(c + 1) \Rightarrow K$ is r -stable.
- (ii) For $[2a, 2b, -2b, -2a]$, $a, b > 0$,
 $a \geq 4b \Leftrightarrow K$ is r -stable.

- systematic construction of c -stable knots.

Theorem 1.6. \forall Seifert surface F , we can twist some bands of F into F' , where $\partial F'$ is c -stable.

Sideways: flat plumbing basket

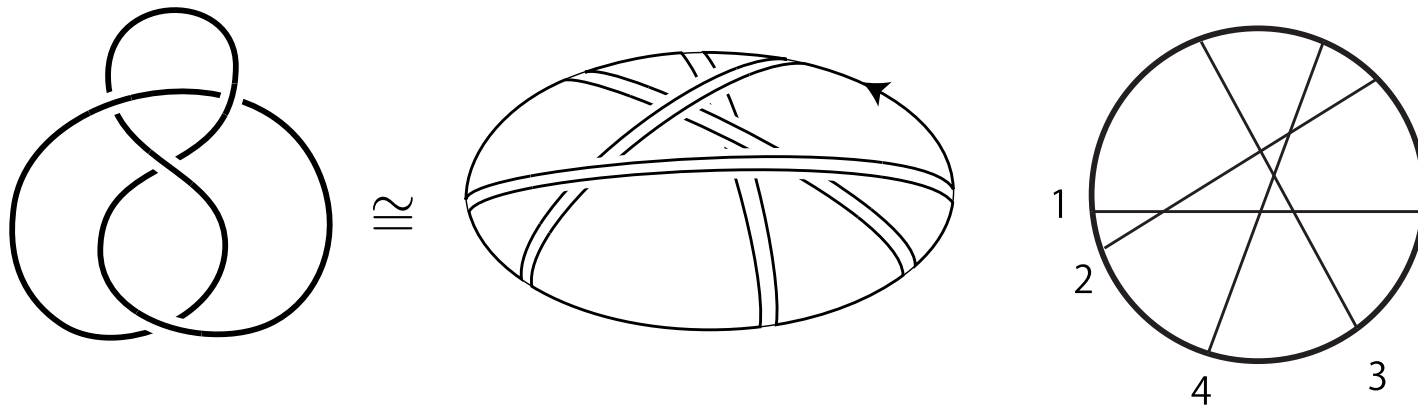
\forall link has a Seifert surf. F obtained by attaching flat bands to a disk. F is called *flat plumbing basket*.

We gave an algorithm to obtain f.p.b.

R.Furihata-H-T.Kobayashi

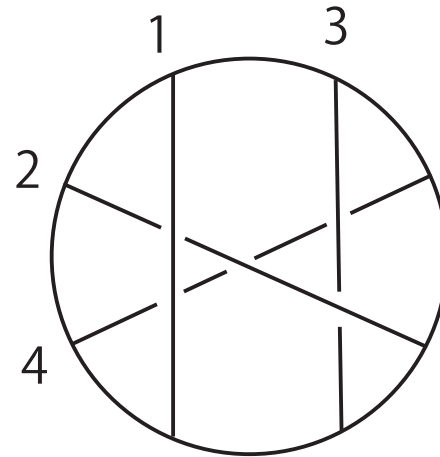
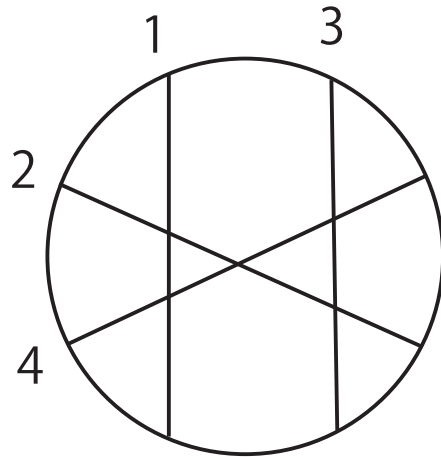
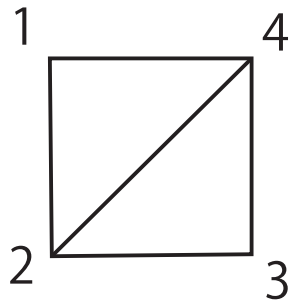
Bull. L.M.S. 40 (2008) 405-414.

Seifert surfaces in open books, and a new coding algorithm for links.



links associated to a labelled graph

Adjacency graph, labeled chord diag. & associated link L .



adjacency graph

chord diagram

disk with arcs attached

A right-full-twisted bands are attached to a disk to form a Seifert surface F . Then ∂F is the link associated to Γ .



Note that these links are fibered, i.e.,

$$cl(S^3 - N(L)) \cong (F \times I) / \sim.$$

F : a Seifert surface for L .

i.e., the link complement is a surface bundle over F .

Therefore, not all links are associated to chord diagram.

And fibered knot 4_1 does not arise, since it is a plumbing of $+$ and $-$ Hopf bands.

Background of Coxeter links

c.f E.Hironaka, J.London Math. Soc 69 (2004) 243-257.

Chord diagrams and Coxeter links

Γ : finite graph w/o loops and multi-edge.

$S = \{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$: ordering of vertices of Γ .

A : adjacency mtx of Γ , i.e., $a_{ij} = 1$ or 0 .

$$W = \langle S \mid (s_i s_j)^{m_{ij}} = 1 \rangle, m_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & (i + j) \\ a_{ij} + 2 & (i \neq j) \end{cases}$$

(W, S) is called a simply-laced Coxeter system,

with Coxeter system $c = s_1 s_2 \dots s_n$.

Coxeter system has a natural repre. as an action on \mathbb{R}^n .

(W, S) : *spherical* if W is a finite reflection group.

(W, S) : *affine* if W is isom to a group of affine reflection.

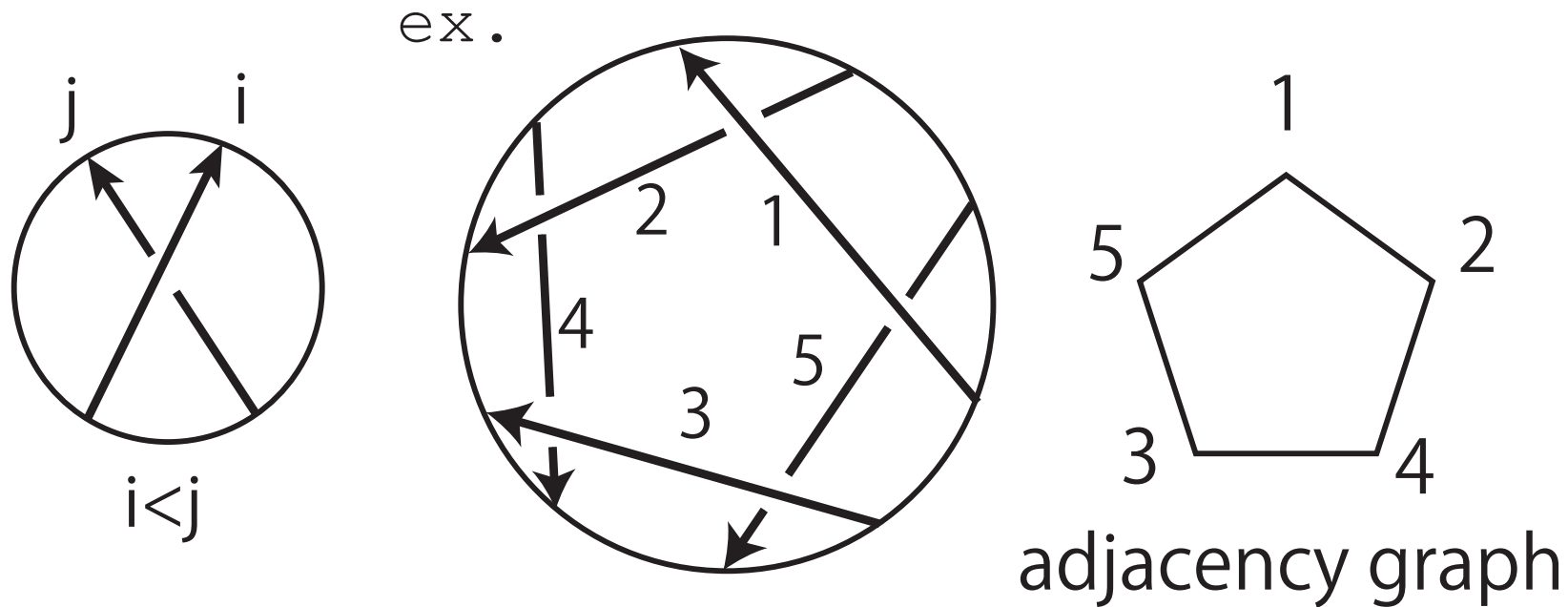
Theorem 1.7. (Howlett 1982) (W, S) is

(i) *spherical* \Leftrightarrow all e -val of c are roots of unity ($\neq 1$).

(ii) *affine* $\Leftrightarrow c$ has e -val 1 and other e -val's are modulus 1 .

E.Hironaka formulated Coxeter links so that their Alex.pols are the Characteristic pols of c .

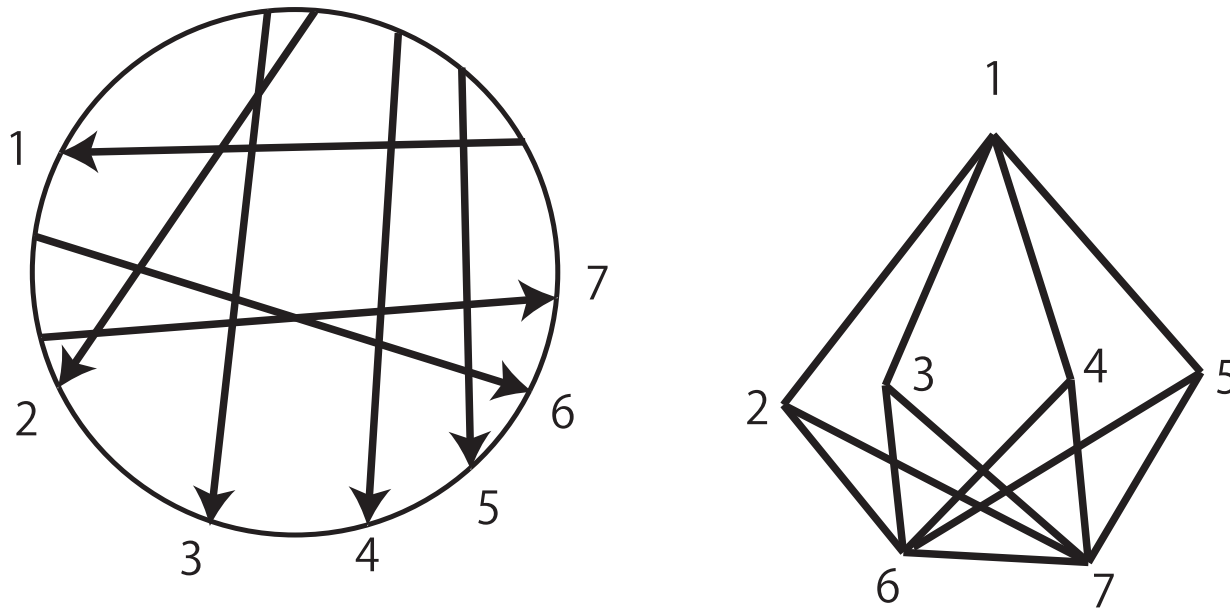
Definition 1.8. A **Coxeter link** is a link obtained from an ordered chord diagram such that for some orientation of chords, the following is satisfied.



An ordered chord diagram is of **Coxeter type** if it yields a Coxeter link.

Proposition 1.9. *For any chord diagram, we can give some ordering and orientation so that it yields a coveter link.*

e.g.

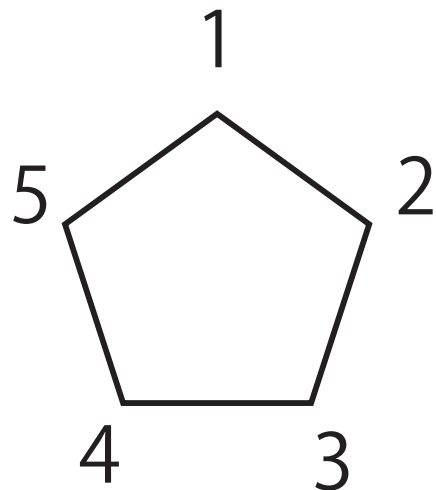


Not all labelled graphs are realizable.

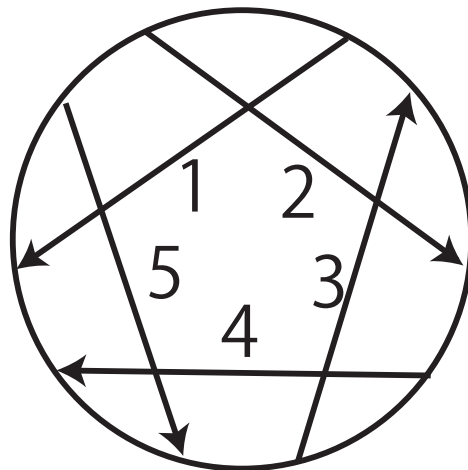
(i.e, Some can not yield a ordered chord diagram.)

In this talk, we deal with links associated to chord diagrams whose adjacency graph is a cycle.

Note: For a given ordered cycle graph, there are exactly two ways to realize it by ordered chord diagram.

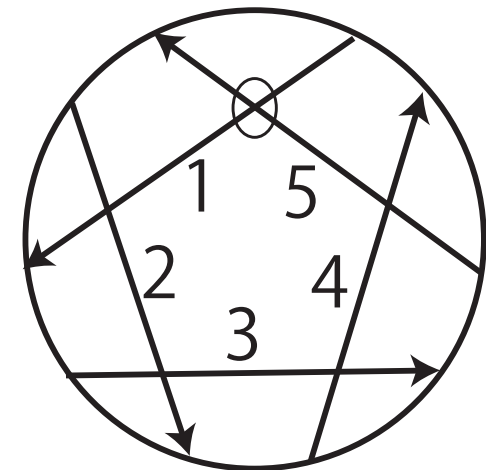


Coxeter



15432

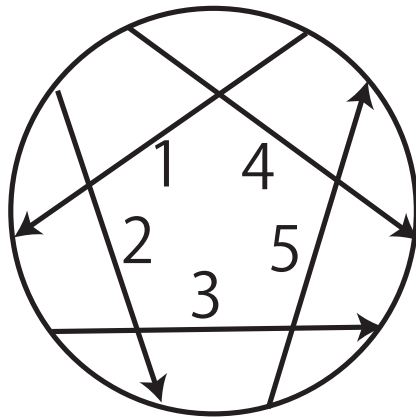
Not



12345

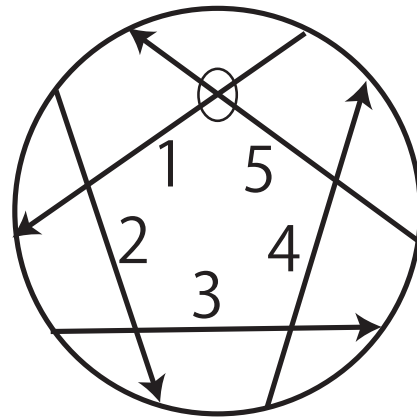
To denote the link, read the chords counter-clockwise.

Coxeter



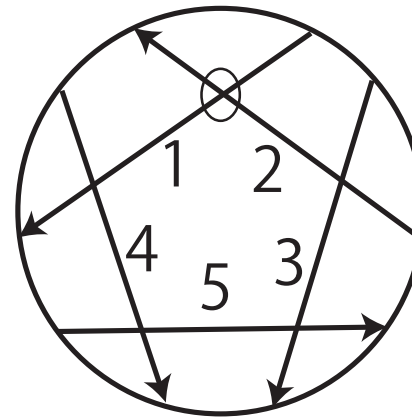
12354
odd

Not



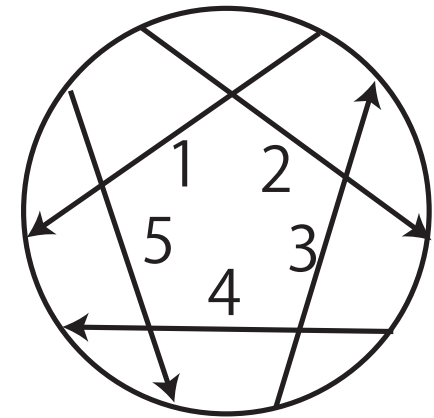
12345
even

Not



14532
odd

Coxeter



15432
even

Parity of permutations does not work to detect whether Coxeter type or not.

To determine which chord diag (of length n) is of Coxeter-type, we introduce the swirl move.

Suppose chord k is locally highest (i.e, k is locally minimal).

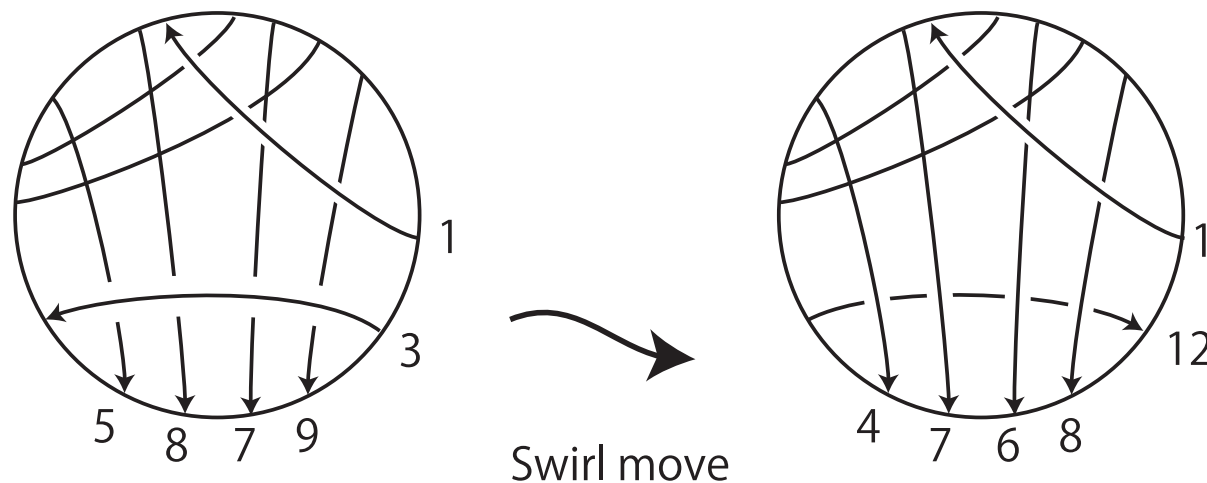
(i) Swirl the chord to be locally lowest.

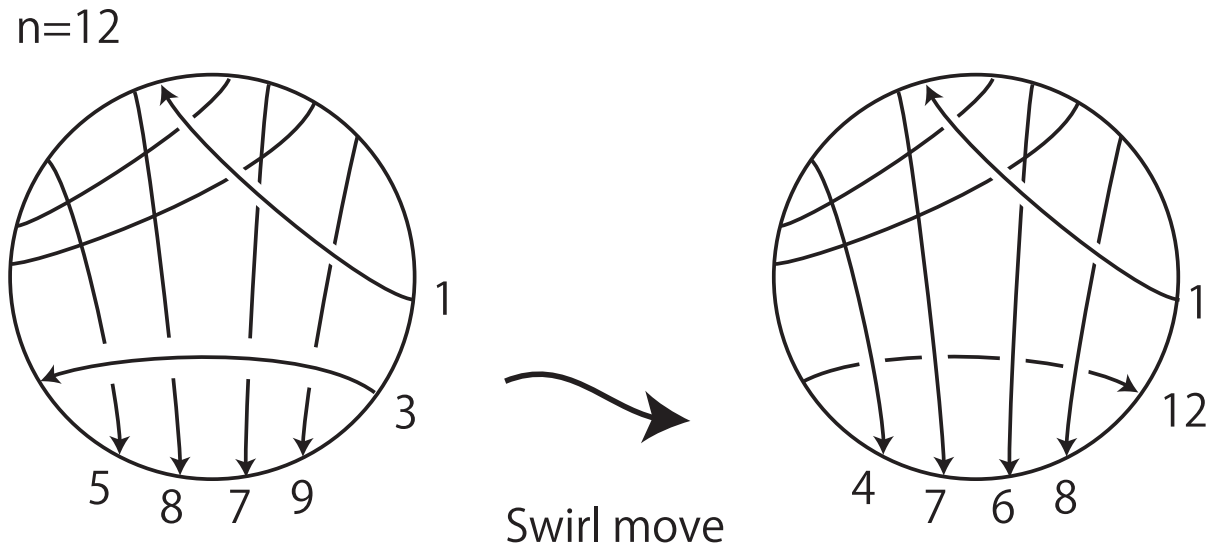
(ii) re-label it as $n + 1$.

(iii) reverse the orientation of the swirled chord.

(iv) slide the labels $k + 1, k + 2, \dots, n + 1$ down by 1.

$n=12$





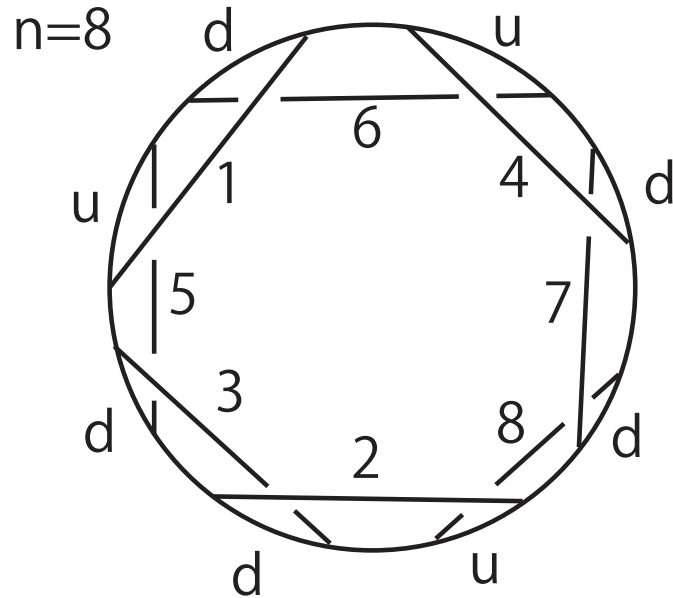
Note that the swirl move does not change the accosted link, but change the bases of $H_1(F)$.

However, by base change, we have the following.

Theorem 1.10. *The swirl move preserves whether or not the chord diagrams are of Coxeter-type.*

To give a standard form, we introduce the

u - d notation



1_u 5_d 3_d 2_u 8_d 7_d 4_u 6_d 1

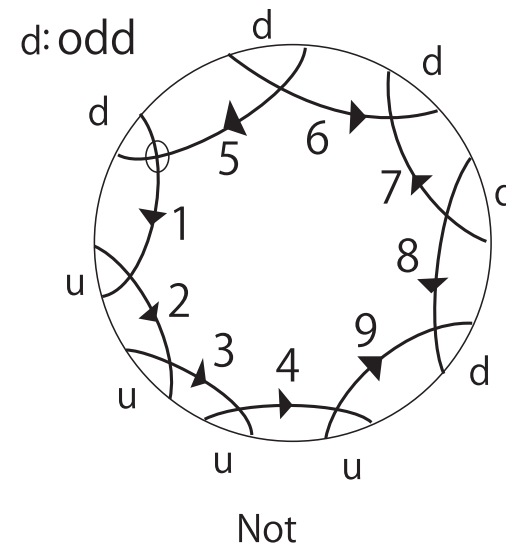
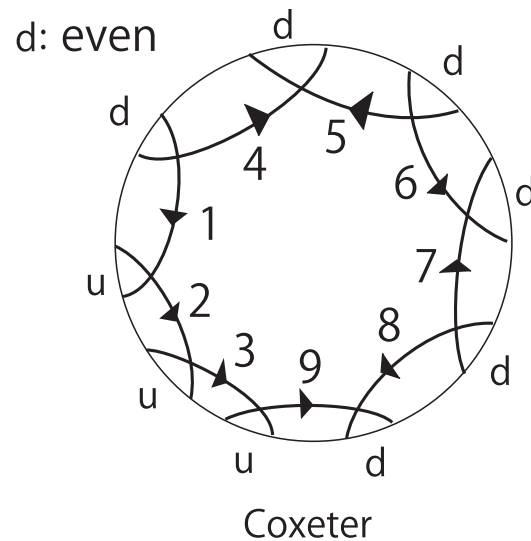
Proposition 1.11. *The swirl move makes adjacent d and u changes to adjacent u and d .*

Therefore, we can change the chord diagram so that the u - d notation is $uu \cdots udd \cdots d$.

In chord diagram whose u - d notation is $uu \cdots udd \cdots d$,
it is of Coxeter-type $\Leftrightarrow \#(d)$ is even.

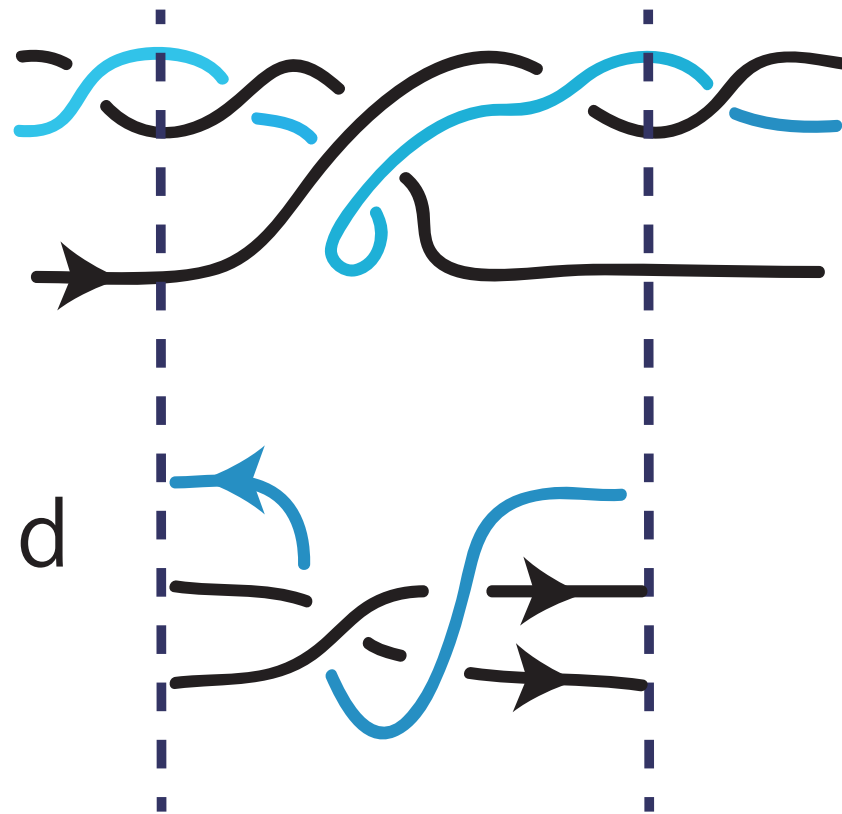
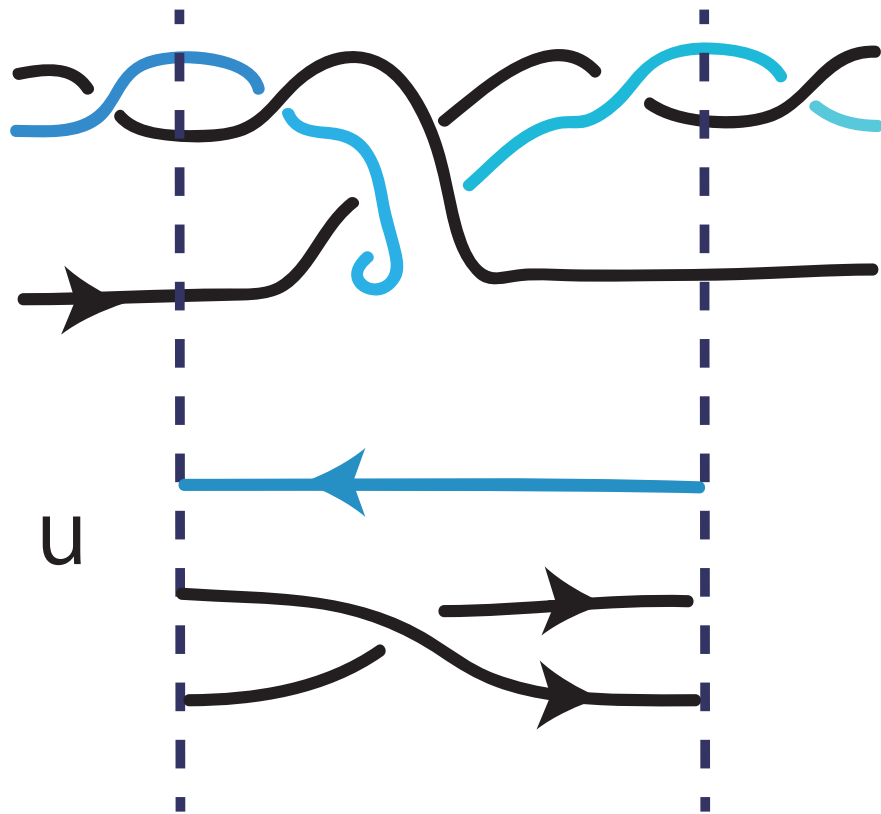
Therefore, we have;

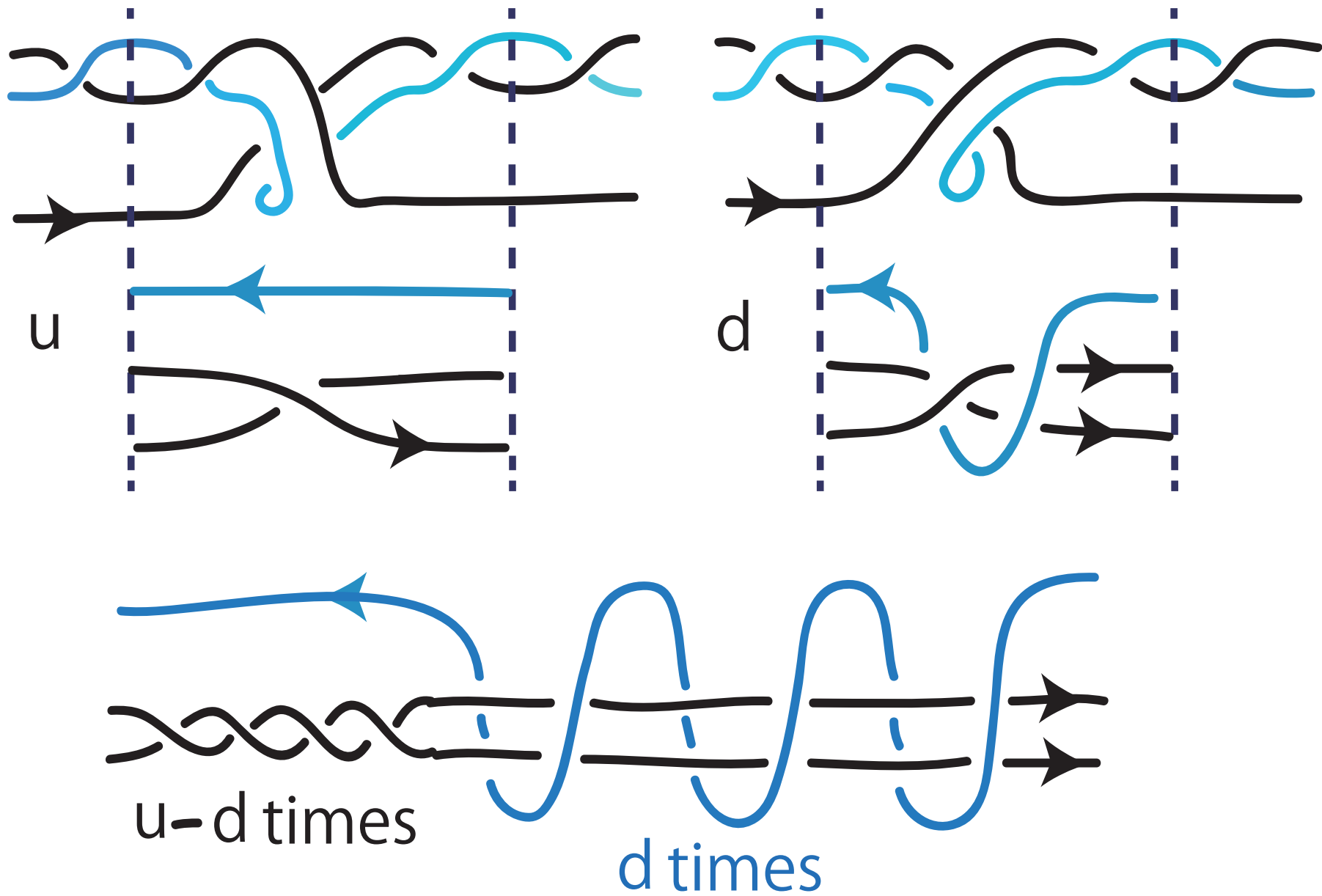
Theorem 1.12. *Let D be a relatively ordered chord diagram associated to a cycle graph. Then,
 D is of Coxeter-type $\Leftrightarrow \#(d)$ is even.*



Now we classify the links associated to cycle graph !

Local twisting of strings:





For Alex. pol, we used Summers' cabling formula.

Case 1: n is odd. L has 2 components.

• Reduced Alexander polynomial (coming from Seifert mtx).

$$\Delta_L(t) = (t^u + 1)(t^d - 1)$$

• Multivariate Alexander polynomial

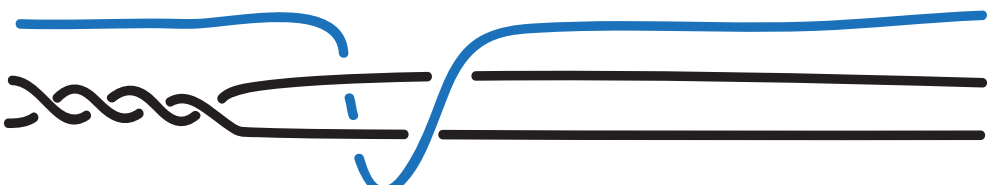
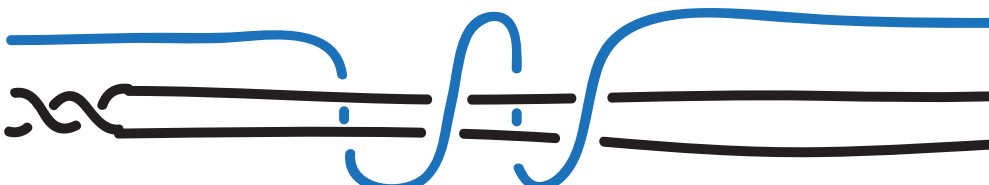
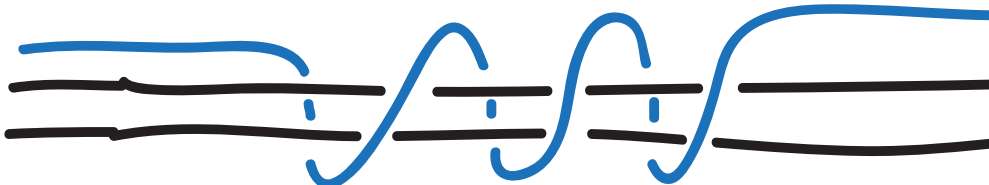
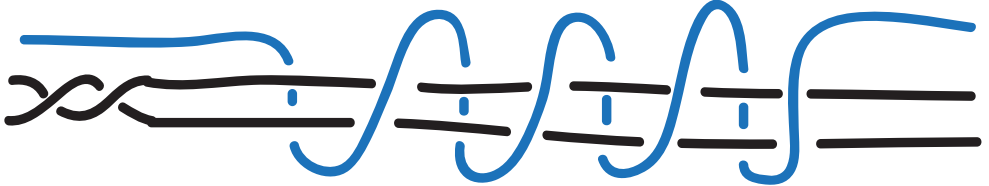
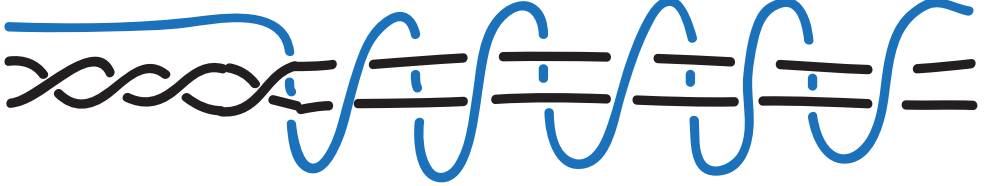
$$D_L(t_1, t_2) = \left(t_1^d t_2^{u-d} + 1 \right) \frac{(t_1^{-1} t_2^2)^d - 1}{t_1^{-1} t_2^2 - 1}$$

In this case, links associated to cycle graphs are determined completely by their Alexander polynomial alone.

Their zeros are on the unit circle,
more precisely, 1 and roots of ± 1 .

$n = 6$

(u, d)

$(5, 1)$		$(t^5 - 1)(t - 1)$
$(4, 2)$		$(t^4 - 1)(t^2 - 1)$
$(3, 3)$		$(t^3 - 1)(t^3 - 1)$
$(2, 4)$		$(t^2 - 1)(t^4 - 1)$
$(1, 5)$		$(t - 1)(t^5 - 1)$

Case 2. n is even. L has 3 components.

• Reduced Alexander polynomial (coming from Seifert mtx).

$$\Delta_L(t) = (t^u - 1)(t^d - 1)$$

• Multivariate Alexander polynomial

$$D_L(t_1, t_2, t_3) = \left(t_1^d t_2^{\frac{u-d}{2}} t_3^{\frac{u-d}{2}} - 1 \right) \frac{(t_1^{-1} t_2 t_3)^d - 1}{t_1^{-1} t_2 t_3 - 1}$$

In this case, the links are not determined by their Alex. pol. alone, but 3-variate Alex. pol. classifies them.

In stead of Multi-variate Alex. pol., reduced Alex. pol and linking number among components also can classify them.

Their zeros are roots of 1.

Conclusion for links accosted to n -cycle graphs.

There are $(n - 1)$ such links.

We can tell when a Coxeter link arises.

When n is odd: They all have different Alex. pol. and all the zeros are roots of ± 1 .

$\frac{n-1}{2}$ of them are Coxeter links.

When n is even: Some of them have the same Alex. pol. but has different linking numbers.

All the zeros are roots of 1 .

$\frac{n}{2} - 1$ of them are Coxeter links.

• References

- **R.Furihata, M.Hirasawa and T.Kobayashi**,
Seifert surfaces in open books, and a new coding algorithm for links.
Bull.L.M.S. 40 (2008) 405-414.
- **M.Hirasawa and K.Murasugi**,
Stability of Alexander polynomials of knots and links (survey),
Knots in Poland III, Banach Center Publ. vol 100, 85-98.
- **M.Hirasawa and K.Murasugi**,
Various stabilities of the Alexander polynomials of knots and links,
arXiv:1307.1578v1, 92 pages.
- **E.Hironaka**, *Chord diagrams and Coxeter links,*
Jour.L.M.S. 69 (2004) 243-257.
- **L.Lyubich and K.Murasugi**,
On zeros of the Alexander polynomial of an alternating knot,
Topoplogy Appl. 159 (2012) 290-303
- **R.Howlett**, *Coxeter groups and M -matrices,*
Bull.L.M.S. 14 (1982) 137-141

- **D.W.Summers and J.M. Woods**,
The monodromy of reducible plane curves,
Invent. Math. 40 (1977), 107-141
- **V.G.Turaev**, *Reidemeister torsion in knot theory*,
Russian Math. Surveys 41:1 (1986), 119-182
- **H.S.Wilf**, *Generatingfunctionolgy*,
Academic press (1990)