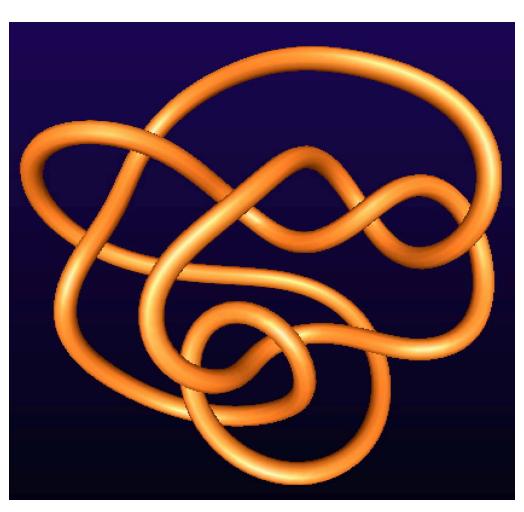
### Khovanov Homology and Virtual Knot Cobordism

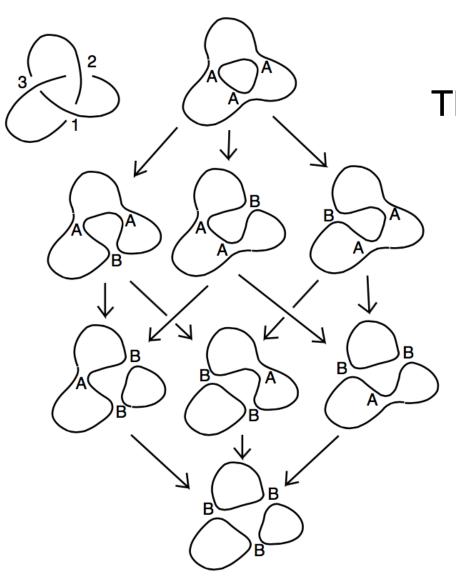
Louis H. Kauffman, UIC



### Khovanov Homology

Two key motivating ideas are involved in finding the Khovanov invariant. First of all, one would like to *categorify* a link polynomial such as  $\langle K \rangle$ . There are many meanings to the term categorify, but here the quest is to find a way to express the link polynomial as a *graded Euler characteristic*  $\langle K \rangle = \chi_q \langle H(K) \rangle$  for some homology theory associated with  $\langle K \rangle$ .

$$\langle \rangle \langle \rangle = A \langle \rangle \rangle + A^{-1} \langle \rangle \langle \rangle$$
$$\langle K \bigcirc \rangle = (-A^2 - A^{-2}) \langle K \rangle$$
$$\langle \rangle \rangle = (-A^3) \langle \rangle \rangle$$
$$\langle \rangle \rangle = (-A^{-3}) \langle \rangle \rangle$$



### Cubism

The bracket states form a category. How can we obtain topological information from this category?



# Exploration: Examine the Bracket Polynomial for Clues.

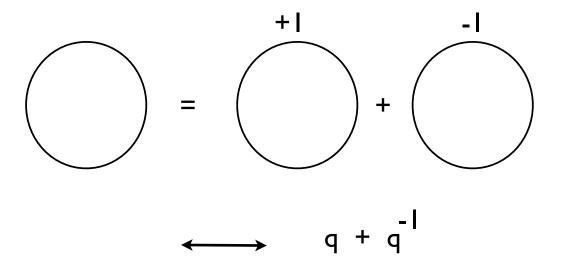
Let c(K) = number of crossings on link K.

Form A -c(K) <K> and replace A by -q.

Then the skein relation for <K> will be replaced by:

$$\langle \rangle \langle \rangle = \langle \rangle \rangle - q \langle \rangle \langle \rangle$$
 $\langle \bigcirc \rangle = q + q^{-1}$ 
 $\langle K \bigcirc \rangle = (q + q^{-1}) \langle K \rangle$ 

Use enhanced states by labeling each loop with +1 or -1.



#### **Enhanced States**

$$q^{-1} \Longleftrightarrow -1 \Longleftrightarrow X$$

$$q^{+1} \Longleftrightarrow +1 \Longleftrightarrow 1$$

For reasons that will soon become apparent, we let -I be denoted by X and +I be denoted by I.

$$\langle K \rangle = \sum_{s} (-1)^{n_B(s)} q^{j(s)}$$
$$j(s) = n_B(s) + \lambda(s)$$
$$\langle K \rangle = \sum_{i,j} (-1)^i q^j dim(\mathcal{C}^{ij})$$

 $n_B(s)$  = number of B-smoothings in the state s.

 $\lambda(s)$  = number of +1 loops minus number of -1 loops.

 $C^{ij}$  = module generated by enhanced states with  $i = n_B$  and j as above.

$$\langle K \rangle = \sum_{i,j} (-1)^i q^j dim(\mathcal{C}^{ij})$$

Wanted: differential acting in the form

$$\partial: \mathcal{C}^{ij} \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}^{i+1j}$$

For j to be constant as i increases by I, we need

 $\lambda(s)$  to decrease by I.

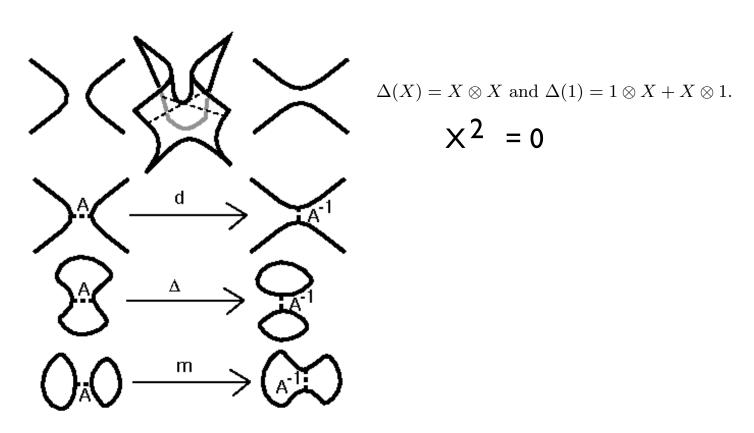
The differential should increase the homological grading i by I and leave fixed the quantum grading j.

#### Then we would have

$$\langle K \rangle = \sum_{j} q^{j} \sum_{i} (-1)^{i} dim(\mathcal{C}^{ij}) = \sum_{j} q^{j} \chi(\mathcal{C}^{\bullet j})$$
$$\chi(H(\mathcal{C}^{\bullet j})) = \chi(\mathcal{C}^{\bullet j})$$
$$\langle K \rangle = \sum_{j} q^{j} \chi(H(\mathcal{C}^{\bullet j}))$$

$$\partial(s) = \sum_{\tau} \partial_{\tau}(s)$$

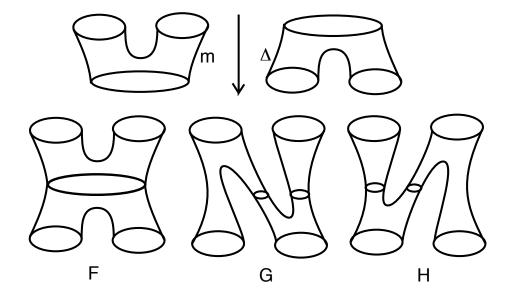
The boundary is a sum of partial differentials corresponding to resmoothings on the states.

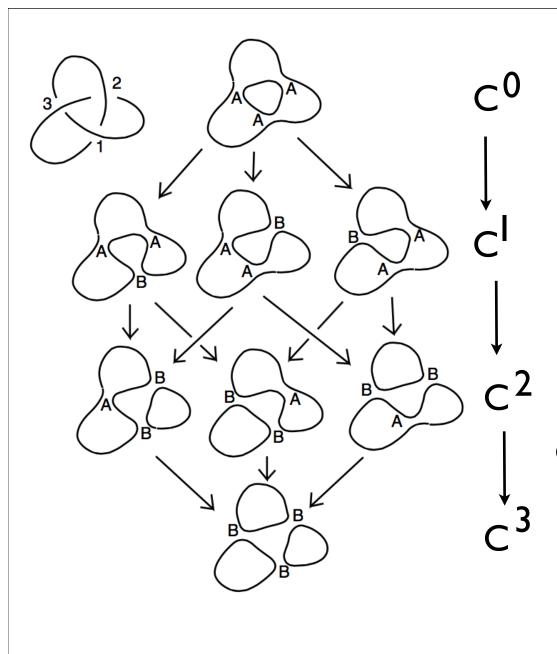


**Proposition.** The partial differentials  $\partial_{\tau}(s)$  are uniquely determined by the condition that j(s')=j(s) for all s' involved in the action of the partial differential on the enhanced state s. This unique form of the partial differential can be described by the following structures of multiplication and comultiplication on the algebra  $A=k[X]/(X^2)$  where k=Z/2Z for mod-2 coefficients, or k=Z for integral coefficients.

1. The element 1 is a multiplicative unit and  $X^2 = 0$ .

2. 
$$\Delta(1) = 1 \otimes X + X \otimes 1$$
 and  $\Delta(X) = X \otimes X$ .

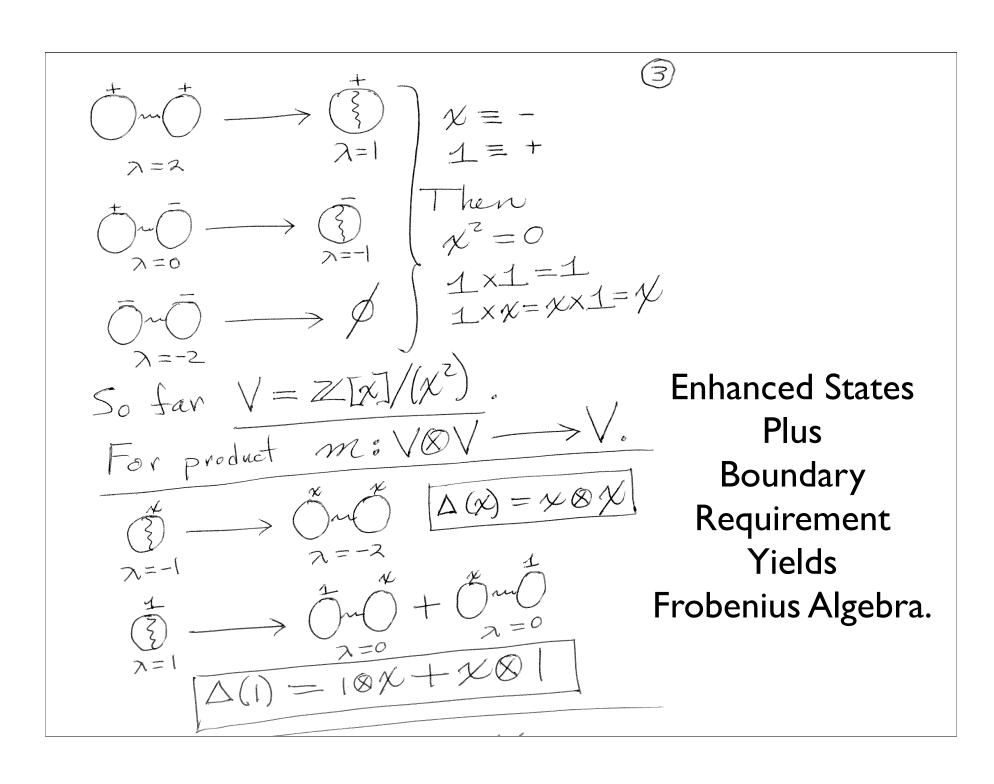




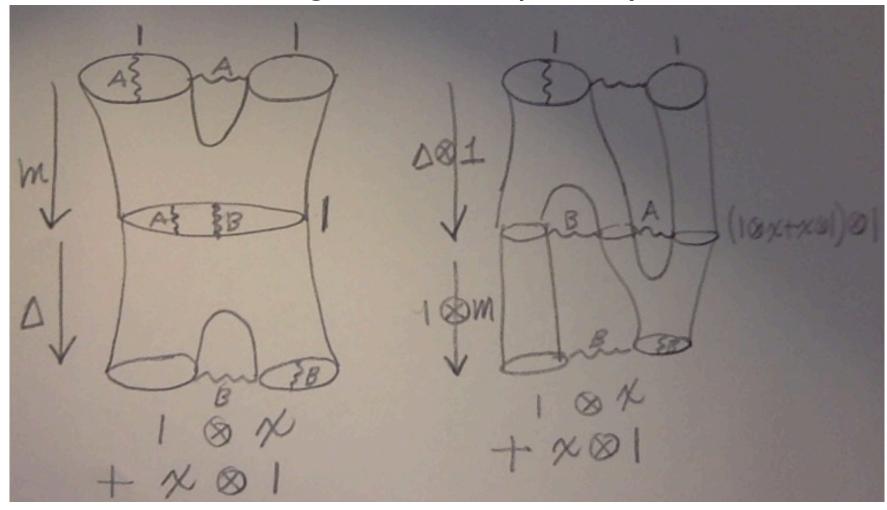
Bracket states
form a
category that
assembles
itself into a chain
complex.

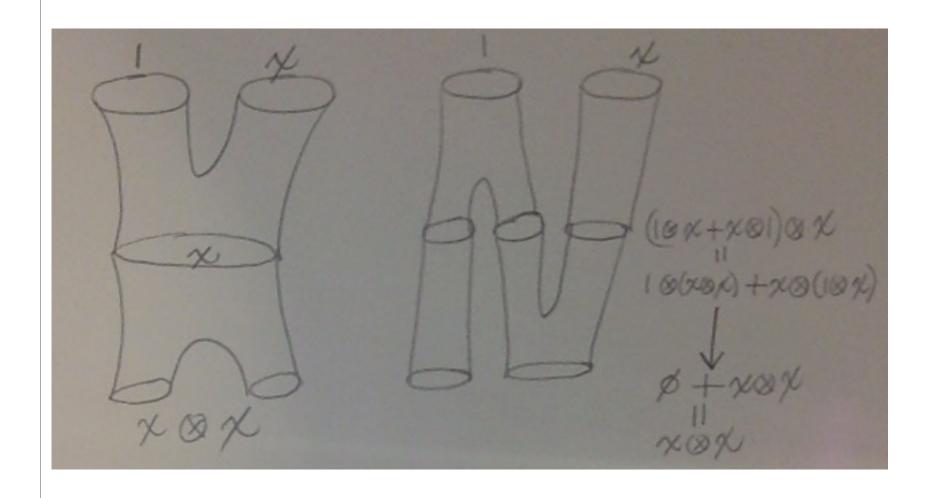
Levels in the chain complex are direct sums of modules corresponding to states with a constant number of B smoothings.

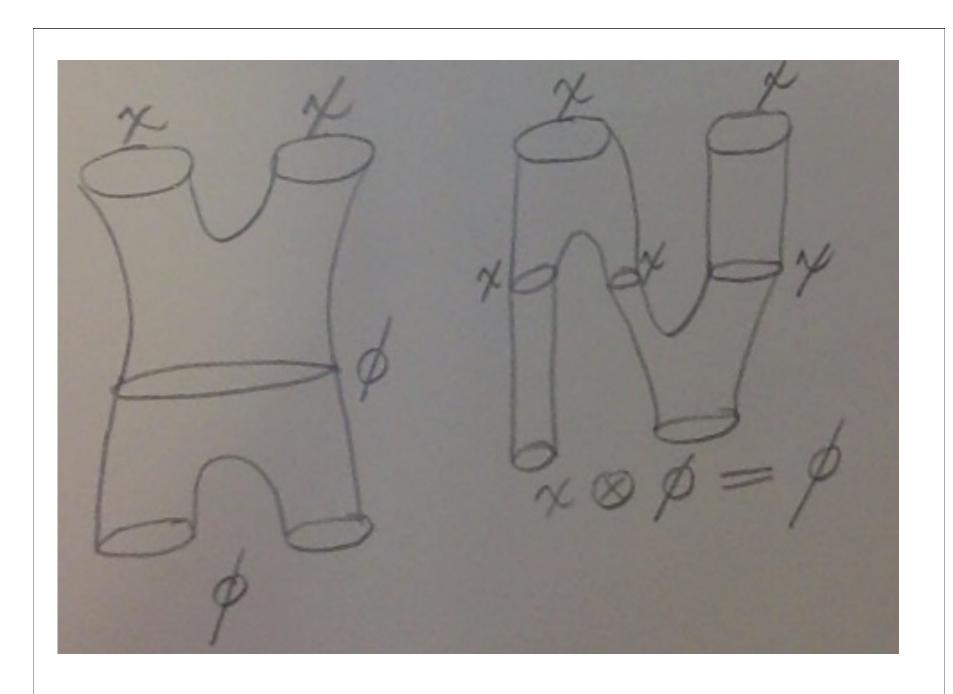
D: Ci, i → Cisis For it to remain fixed, we need 2 1 3 2-14 where  $\lambda(A) = \#(+|loops)$  -#(-|loops).a is determined this condition.

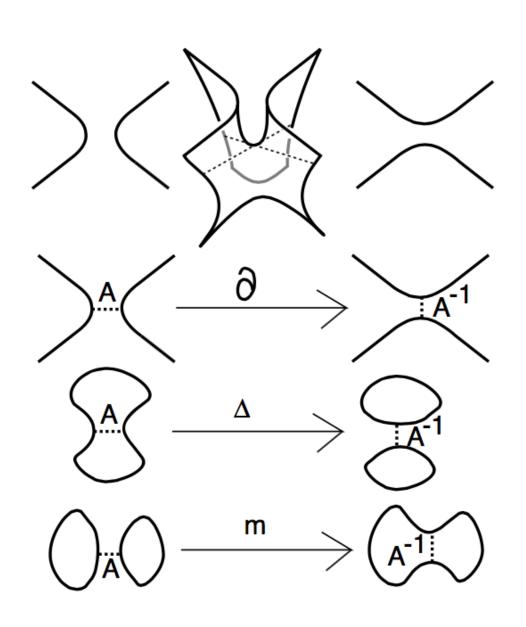


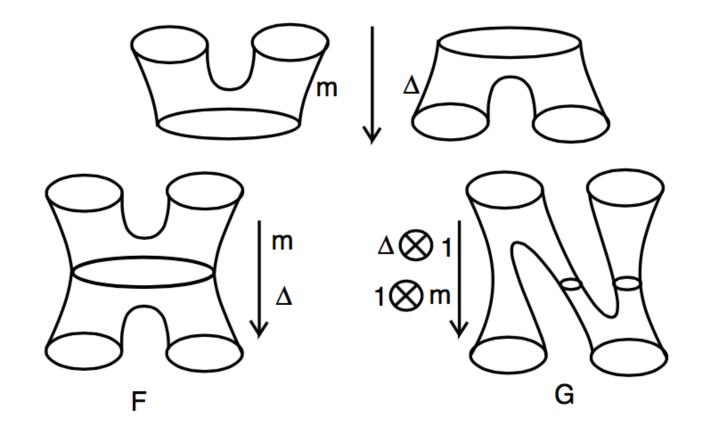
# Checking Order Compatibility

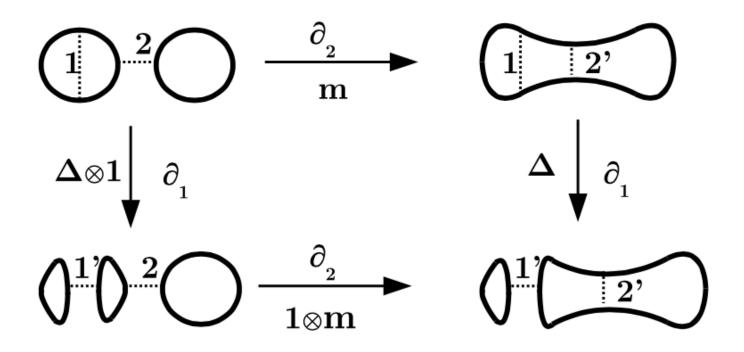




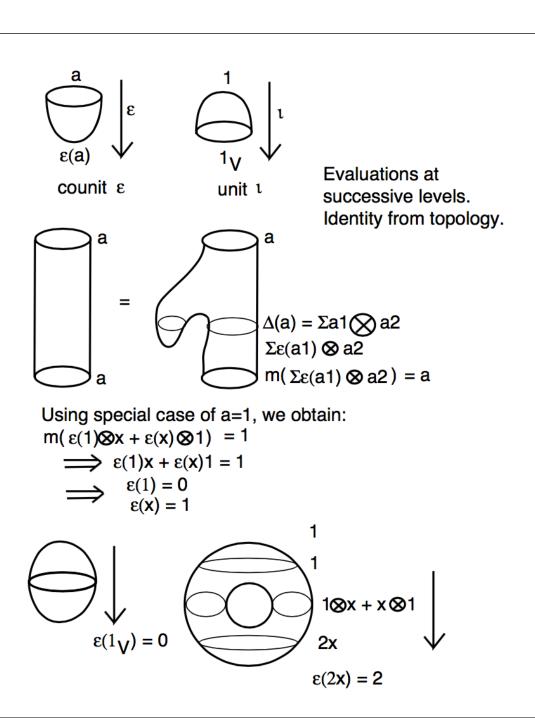






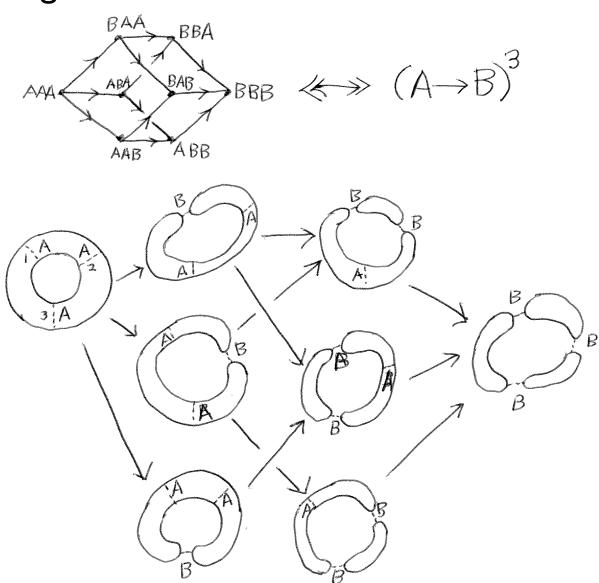


$$\begin{aligned} &\partial_{2}\partial_{1} = (1 \otimes \mathbf{m})(\Delta \otimes 1) \\ &\partial_{1}\partial_{2} = (\Delta)(\mathbf{m}) \\ &\partial_{1}\partial_{2} = \partial_{2}\partial_{1} \end{aligned}$$



We have arrived at the Frobenius algebra, but there is still work to be done to see the invariance under ambient isotopy of knots and links.

## Cubism Again



### Categorification and the Morse Dream



(flattening a higher category)

$$(A \rightarrow B)^{2} = (A \rightarrow B)(A \rightarrow B) = A(A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow B(A \rightarrow B)$$

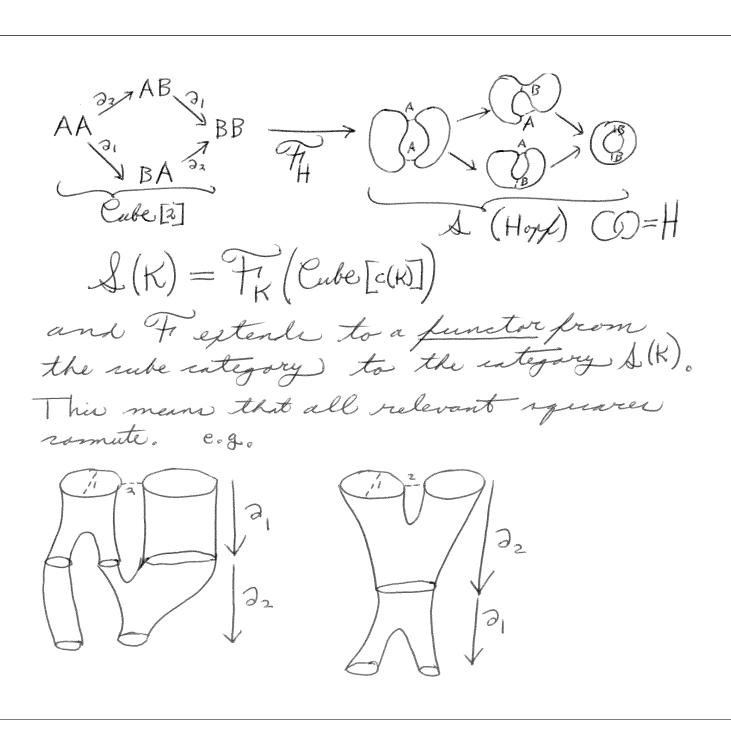
$$= (AA \rightarrow AB) \rightarrow (BA \rightarrow BB)$$

$$= AA \rightarrow AB = AA \rightarrow AB$$

$$= AA \rightarrow BB$$

$$= AA \rightarrow AB$$

We have category S(K) where objecte are states  $S \propto K + mughisms gen by arrows <math>S \longrightarrow S'$ , b(S)+1 = b(S'). Regard the arrow as a surface robordism. I wa surface robe are = as norghimm iff the roverporting surface are homeomorphic.



We make an abstract analogue of a stain romplet from S(K) by extending to an additive entegory with dir sums.

A<sub>1</sub>,..., A<sub>n</sub> 
$$\longrightarrow$$
  $A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n} A_{i}$   
 $f: A \longrightarrow B$ ,  $B = \bigoplus_{j=1}^{m} B_{j}$   
 $f = (f_{ij})$ ,  $f_{ij}: A_{i} \longrightarrow B_{j}$ .  
 $f: A \longrightarrow B_{k}$   
 $f: A \longrightarrow B_{k}$ 

$$S \in Obj(A(K))$$

$$C^{i}(K) = \bigoplus S$$

$$S \in Obj(A(K))$$

$$b(S) = i$$

$$\partial : C^{i}(K) \xrightarrow{c(K)} C^{iH}(K)$$

$$\partial = \sum_{K=1}^{K} \pm \partial_{K}$$

### Dror's Canopoly

An abstract categorical analog of a chain complex. That can be taken up to chain homotopy. The maps are additive combinations of surface cobordisms.

We ray frog iff  $\exists H: e \rightarrow e' s.t.$   $\exists H: e \rightarrow e' s.t.$   $\exists H+H \ni = f-g.$ Work Mod 2. [Categorical Chain Hanotopy]

Question: What is least equive relax on  $e \in E(K)$  ...  $t \in E(K)$  (= chain homotopy equive removes) is invar under  $e \in E(K)$ .

We examine this question as though we had not seen the Frobenius algebra.

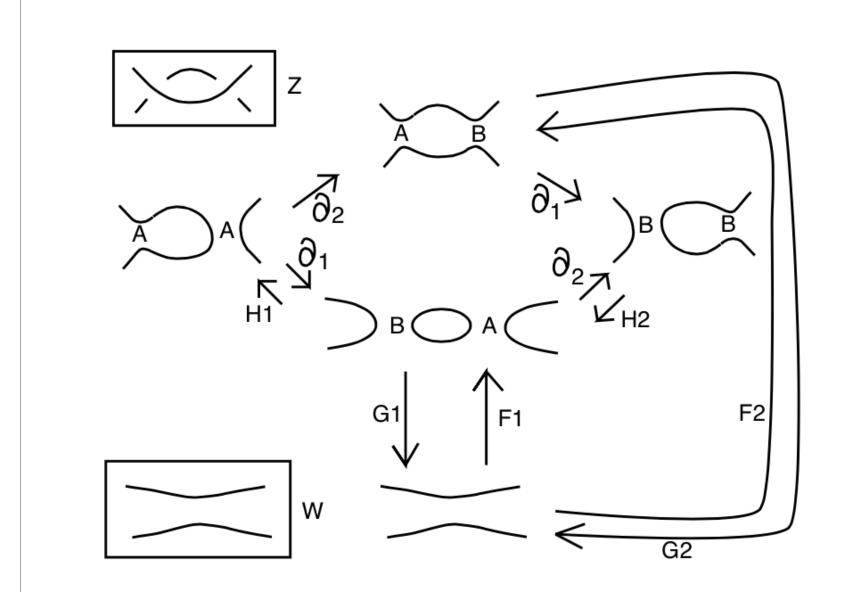


Figure 11: Complexes for Second Reidemeister Move

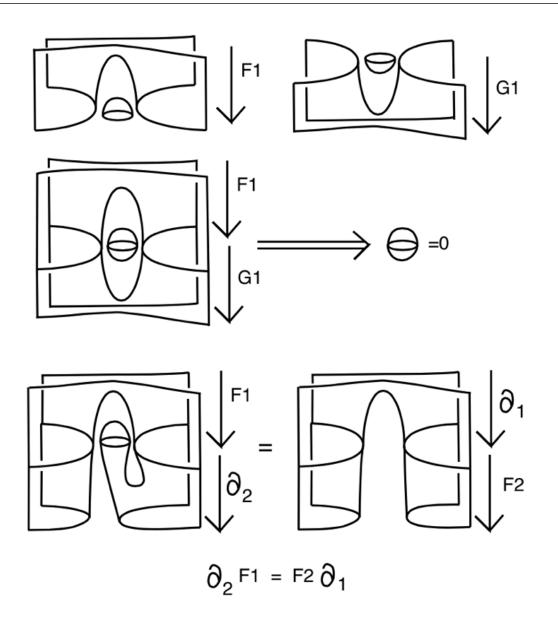


Figure 12: Cobordism Compositions for Second Reidemeister Move

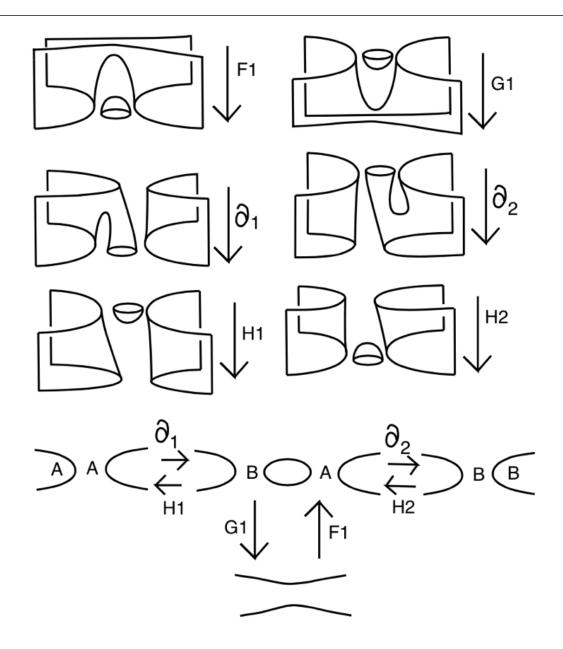


Figure 13: Preparation for Homotopy for Second Reidemeister Move

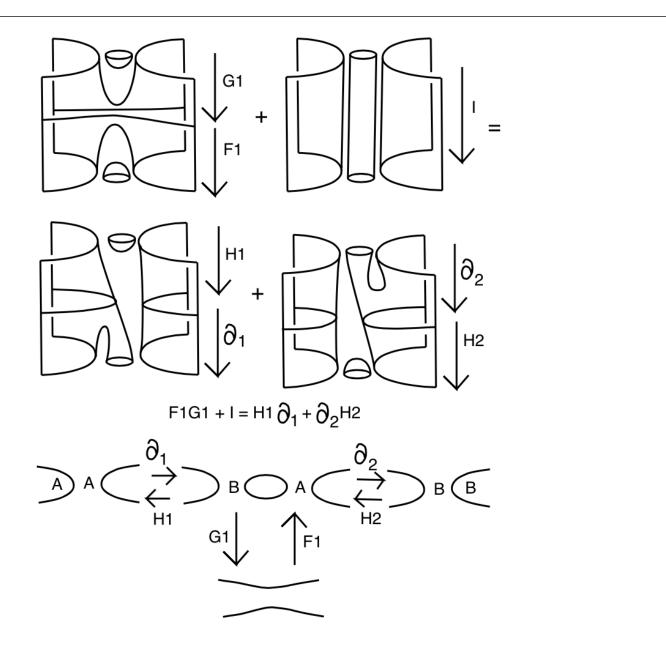


Figure 14: Homotopy for Second Reidemeister Move

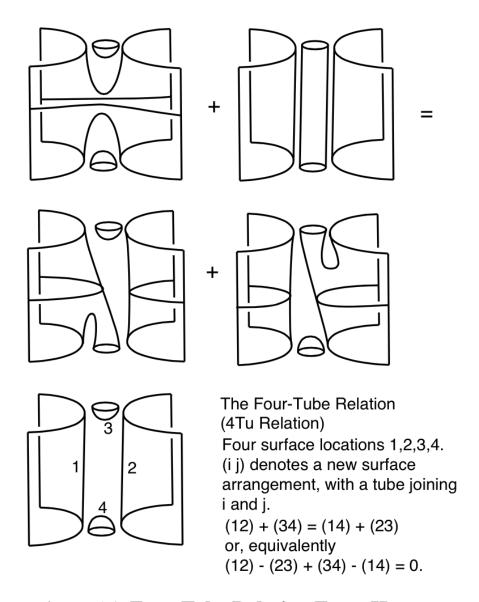
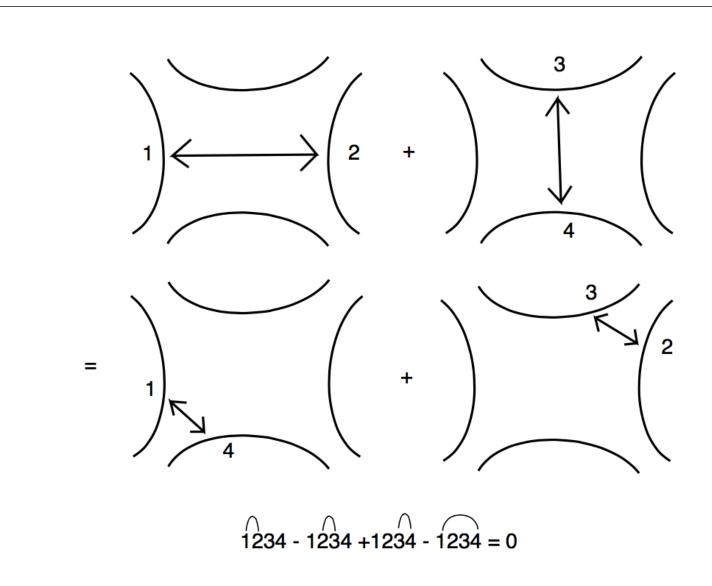
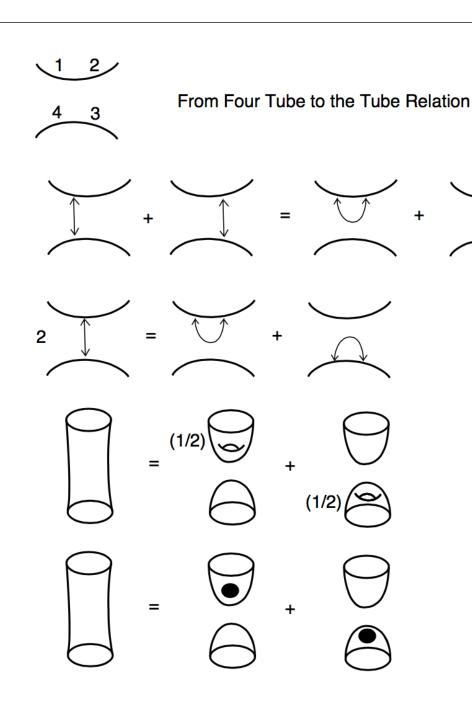


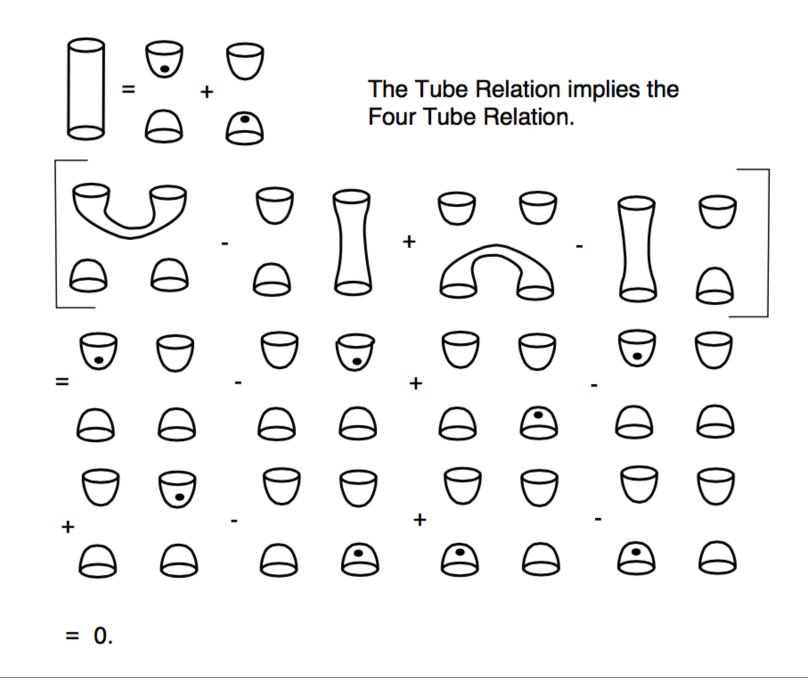
Figure 15: Four-Tube Relation From Homotopy

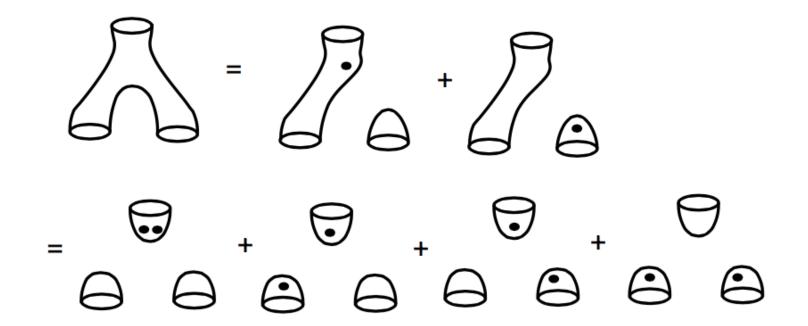


Schematic Four-Tube Relation



The dot can be taken to represent an algebra element x.





Coproduct via the Tube-Relation

### From 4Tu to Frobenius Algebra

Mow find algebra 
$$\mathcal{A}$$

$$= \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{A}$$

$$= \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{A}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{A} = \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{A}) + \mathcal{E$$

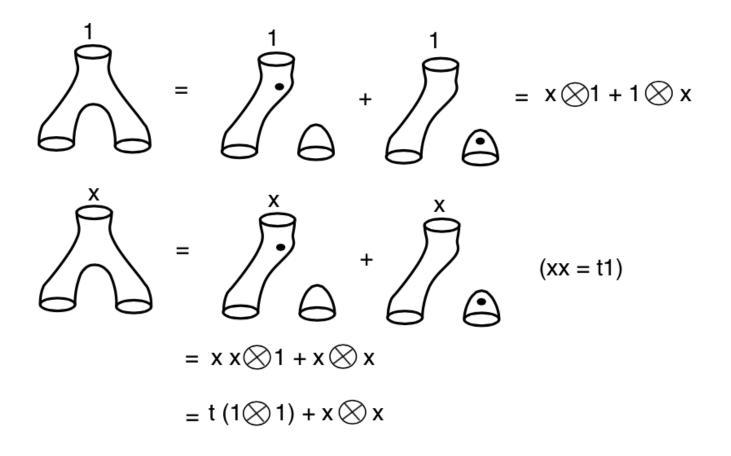


Figure 20: Coproducts of 1 and x Via Tube-Cutting Relation

# Algebra from 4Tu - Guaranteed to Produce Link Homology

$$Cl = Z[X]/(\chi^2 - k)$$

$$E(\chi) = 1, E(1) = 0$$

$$\Delta(1) = 1 \otimes \chi + \chi \otimes 1$$

$$\Delta(\chi) = k(1 \otimes 1) + \chi \otimes \chi$$

$$k = 0; Khovanov$$

$$k = 1; Lee$$

## Lee's Algebra

$$x^{2} = 1,$$

$$\Delta(1) = 1 \otimes x + x \otimes 1,$$

$$\Delta(x) = x \otimes x + 1 \otimes 1,$$

$$\epsilon(x) = 1,$$

$$\epsilon(1) = 0.$$

This gives a link homology theory that is distinct from Khovanov homology. In this theory, the quantum grading j is not preseved, but we do have that

$$j(\partial(\alpha)) \ge j(\alpha)$$

for each chain  $\alpha$  in the complex. This means that *one can use* j *to filter the chain complex for the Lee homology*. The result is a spectral sequence that starts from Khovanov homology and converges to Lee homology.

Lee's Algebra

$$\mathcal{A} = \mathbf{Q}[\chi]/(\chi^2 - 1)$$

$$\mathcal{E}(\chi) = 1, \ \mathcal{E}(1) = 0$$

$$\Delta(1) = 1 \otimes \chi + \chi \otimes 1$$

$$\Delta(\chi) = (1 \otimes 1) + \chi \otimes \chi$$

Lat  $r = \frac{1+x}{2}$ ,  $g = \frac{1-x}{2}$   $\xi(r) = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\xi(g) = -\frac{1}{2}$  r + g = 1  $r^2 = r$ ,  $g^2 = g$  rg = 0  $\Delta(r) = 2r \otimes r$  $\Delta(g) = -2g \otimes g$  Lee Homology is gen by Seifert smoothy states for all their for all their arrientations link. Lee homology is simple. One has that the dimension of the Lee homology is equal to  $2^{comp(L)}$  where comp(L) denotes the number of components of the link L. Up to homotopy, Lee's homology has a vanishing differential, and the complex behaves well under link concondance. In his paper [4] Dror BarNatan remarks "In a beautiful article Eun Soo Lee introduced a second differential on the Khovanov complex of a knot (or link) and showed that the resulting (double) complex has non-interesting homology. This is a very interesting result." Rasmussen [49] uses Lee's result to define invariants of links that give lower bounds for the four-ball genus, and determine it for torus knots. This gives an (elementary) proof of a conjecture of Milnor that had been previously shown using gauge theory by Kronheimer and Mrowka [29].

Rasmussen's result uses the Lee spectral sequence. We have the quantum (j) grading for a diagram K and the fact that for Lee's algebra  $j(\partial(s)) \geq j(s)$ . Rasmussen uses a normalized version of this grading denoted by g(s). Then one makes a filtration  $F^kC^*(K) = \{v \in C^*(K) | g(v) \geq k\}$  and given  $\alpha \in Lee^*(K)$  define

$$S(\alpha) := \max\{g(v)|[v] = \alpha\}$$

$$s_{\min}(K) := \min\{S(\alpha)|\alpha \in Lee^*(K), \alpha \neq 0\}$$

$$s_{\max}(K) := \max\{S(\alpha)|\alpha \in Lee^*(K), \alpha \neq 0\}$$

and

$$s(K) := (1/2)(s_{min}(K) + s_{max}(K)).$$

This last average of  $s_{min}$  and  $s_{max}$  is the Rasmussen invariant.

We now enter the following sequence of facts:

- 1.  $s(K) \in Z$ .
- 2. s(K) is additive under connected sum.
- 3. If  $K^*$  denotes the mirror image of the diagram K, then

$$s(K^*) = -s(K).$$

4. If K is a positive knot diagram (all positive crossings), then

$$s(K) = -r + n + 1$$

where r denotes the number of loops in the canonical oriented smoothing (this is the same as the number of Seifert circuits in the diagram K) and n denotes the number of crossings in K.

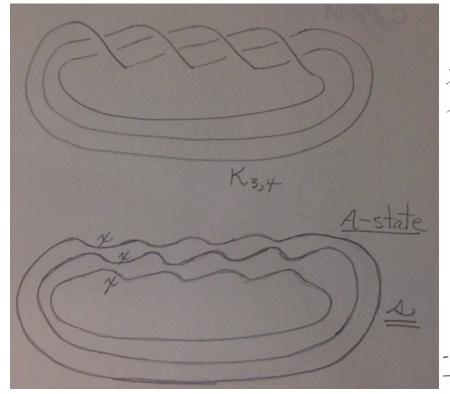
- 5. For a torus knot  $K_{a,b}$  of type (a, b),  $s(K_{a,b}) = (a 1)(b 1)$ .
- 6.  $|s(K)| \le 2g^*(K)$  where  $g^*(K)$  is the least genus spanning surface for K in the four ball.
- 7.  $g^*(K_{a,b}) = (a-1)(b-1)/2$ . This is Milnor's conjecture.

This completes a very skeletal sketch of the construction and use of Rasmussen's invariant.

Facts: 
$$s_{max}(K) = s_{min}(K) + 2$$
  
 $s(K) = s_{min}(K) + 1$ 

A-State: 
$$s(K) = I - (\#loops) + (\#crossings) = 2genus(Seifert(K))$$

For positive knot all loops labelled x.



For A- state of a Kp, as

town knot have (with all

x's): Ploops

(P-1)& vraning

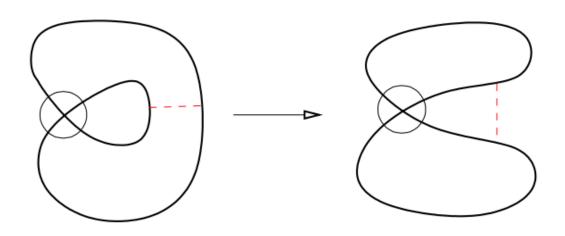
Av g(1) = (0-P) + (P-1)&

= P& -P

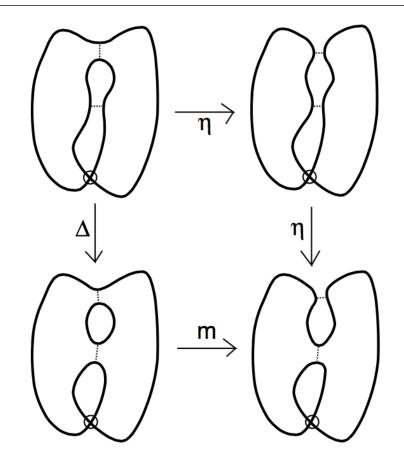
g(4) = (P-1)(2-1)-1

> (Kpg) = (P-1)(2-1)

Khovanov Homology for Virtual Links (our latest evolution of Manturov's approach)
(with Dye,Kaestner,
Ogasa,Baldridge,McCarty)



Problem of Single Cycle Smoothing

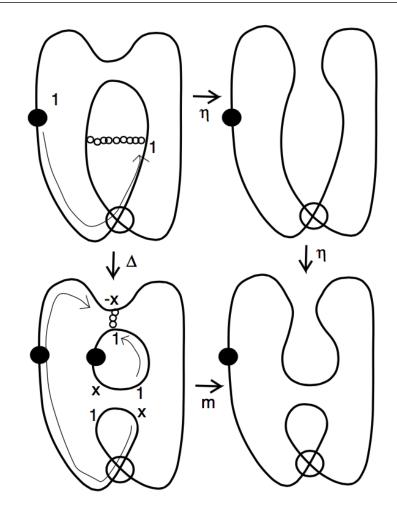


$$\eta(a) = 0 \text{ for all } a$$

$$\eta \circ \eta = 0.$$

But composing along the opposite sides we see

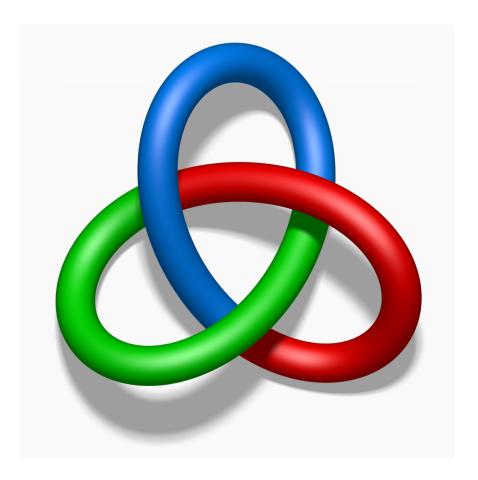
$$m \circ \Delta(1) = m(1 \otimes X + X \otimes 1) = X + X = 2X.$$



Thus  $1 \otimes x + x \otimes 1$  is transported to  $1 \otimes x + (-x) \otimes 1$  at the multiplication site. Upon multiplying we have  $m(1 \otimes x + (-x) \otimes 1) = x - x = 0$ .

Solution over the integers by counting transport through virtual crossings. Change x to -x for each virtual passing. Local coefficient system. Use the unoriented complex. Extends to Lee homology. Has Rasmussen Invariant.

### Virtual Knot Cobordism



#### **Virtual Knot Cobordism**

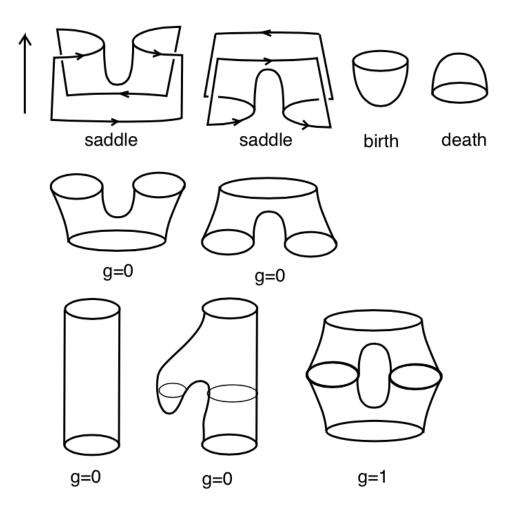


Figure 16: Saddles, Births and Deaths

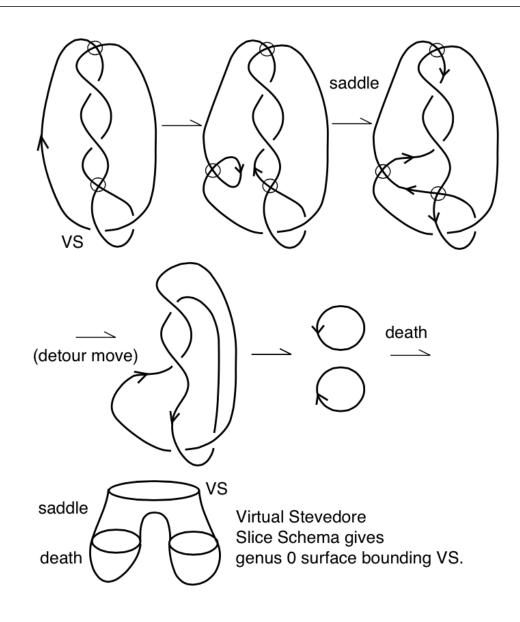
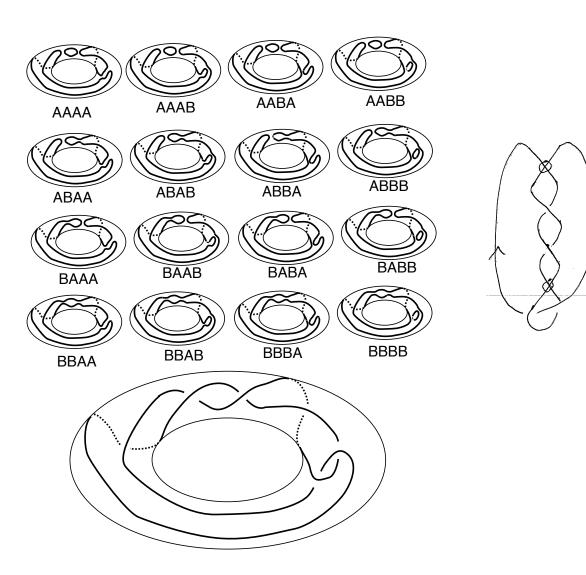
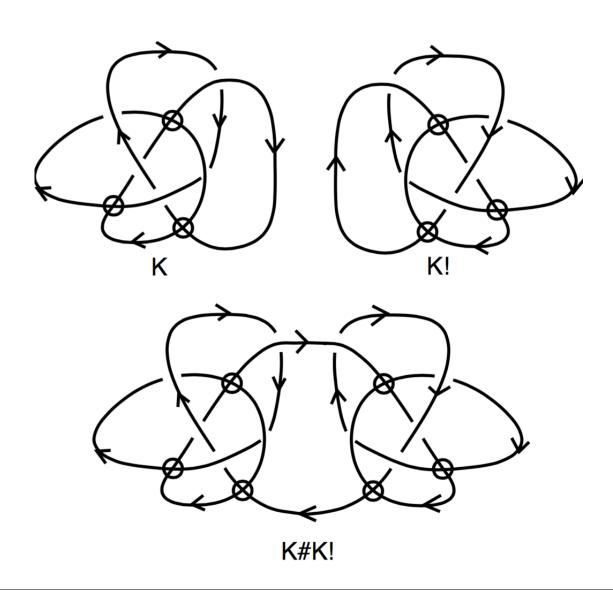


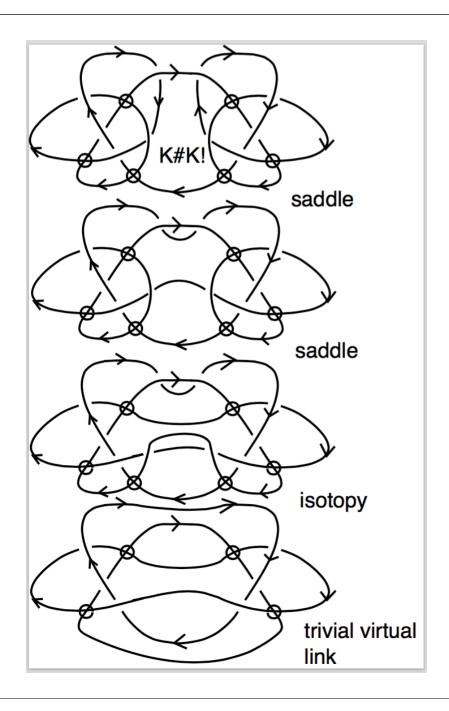
Figure 17: Virtual Stevedore is Slice

#### Virtual Stevedore is not classical.



## Vertical Mirror Image





Connected Sum
with the
Vertical Mirror Image
is
Slice.

We say that K is concordant to K'  $K \curvearrowright_{C} K `$  if there exists a cobordism from K to K' of genus 0.

A virtual knot is said to be slice if it is concordant to the unknot.

#### **Spanning Surfaces for Knots and Virtual Knots.**

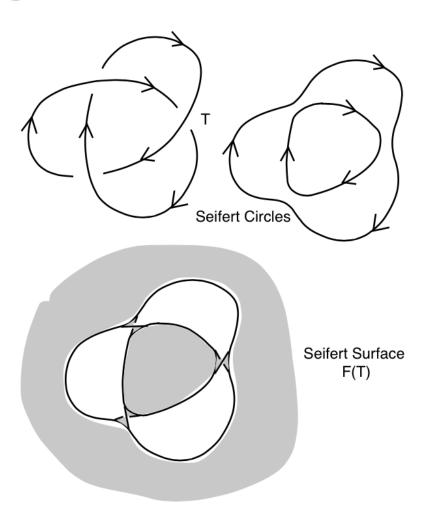
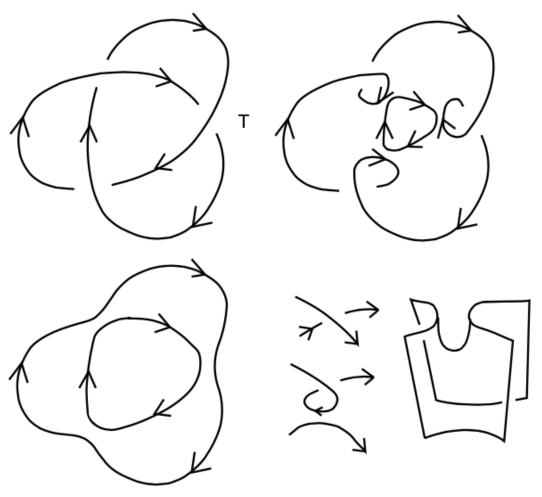
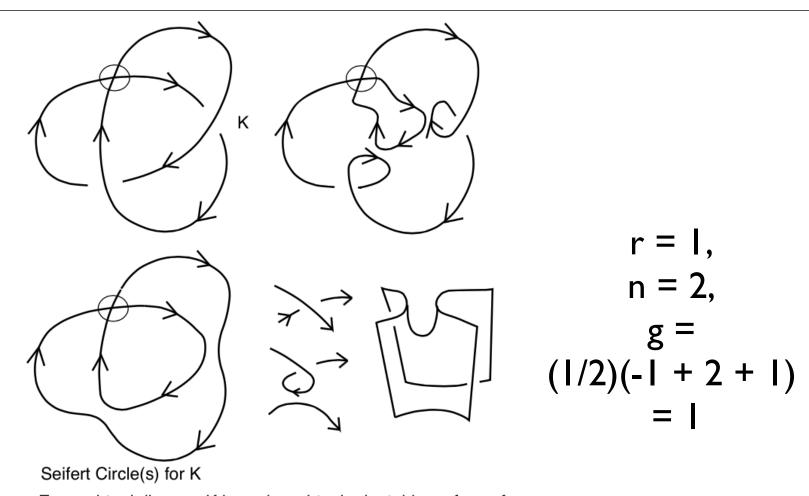


Figure 18: Classical Seifert Surface



Every classical knot diagram bounds a surface in the four-ball whose genus is equal to the genus of its Seifert Surface.

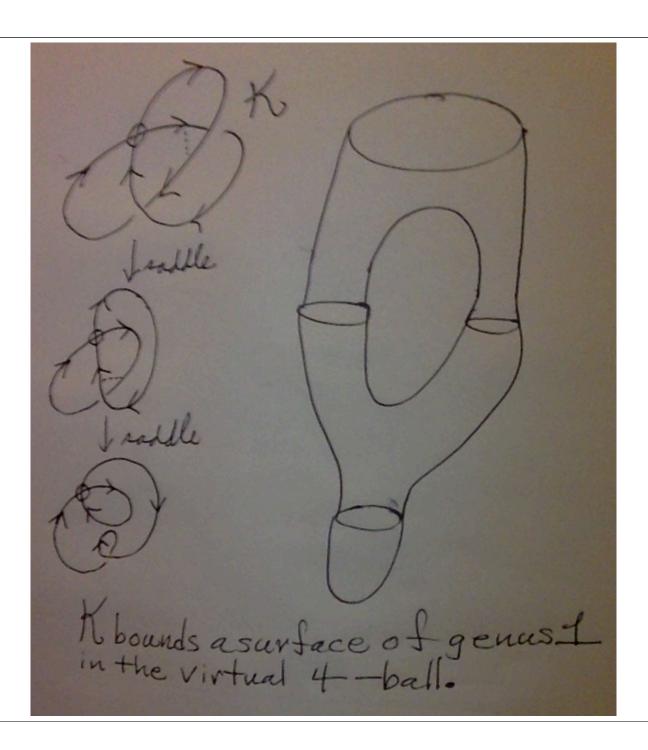
Figure 19: Classical Cobordism Surface



Every virtual diagram K bounds a virtual orientable surface of genus g = (1/2)(-r + n + 1) where r is the number of Seifert circles, and n is the number of classical crossings in K.

This virtual surface is the cobordism Seifert surface when K is classical.

Figure 20: Virtual Cobordism Seifert Surface



Heather Dye, Aaron Kaestner and LK, prove the following generalization of Rasmussen's Theorem, giving the four-ball genus of a positive virtual knot.

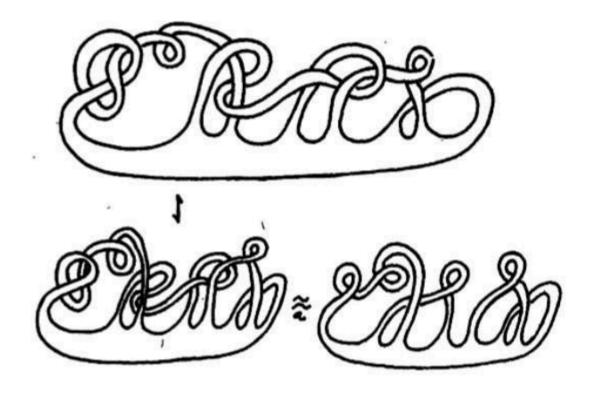
**Theorem [2].** Let K be a positive virtual knot (all classical crossings in K are positive), then the four-ball genus  $g_4(K)$  is given by the formula

$$g_4(K) = (1/2)(-r+n+1) = g(S(K))$$

where r is the number of virtual Seifert circles in the diagram K and n is the number of classcial crossings in this diagram. In other words, that virtual Seifert surface for K represents its minimal four-ball genus.

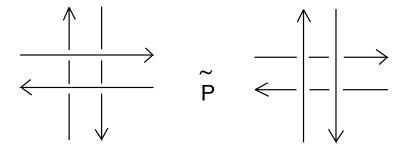
The virtual Seifert surface for positive virtual K represents the minimal four-ball genus of K.

The Theorem is proved by generalizing both Khovanov and Lee homology to virtual knots and generalizing the Rasmussen invariant to virtual knots.



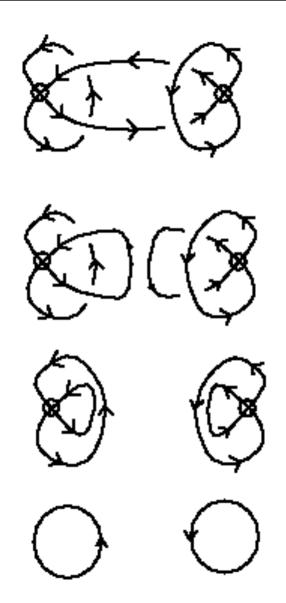
Classical Spanning Surfaces simplify by passing bands. Every classical knot is pass equivalent to either a trefoil or an unknot. Trefoil and unknot are distinguished by the Arf invariant.

Virtual Band Passing VKT +



Classically there are two pass classes for knots: Trefoil and Unknot.

What are the pass classes for virtual knots and links?



The Kishino
diagram gives a
virtual knot
that is slice but it
is not
PASS trivial.

Kishino is not pass trivial since it is a non-trivial flat virtual knot. And its flat class IS its pass class since passing does not affect it as a flat.

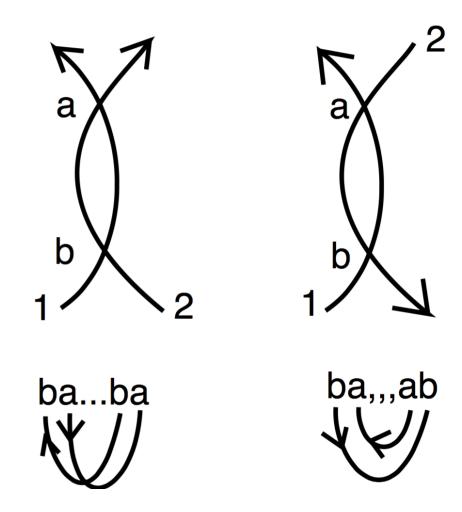
#### Manturov Parity Bracket

$$\langle \rangle = A \langle \rangle + A^{-1} \langle \rangle \langle \rangle$$

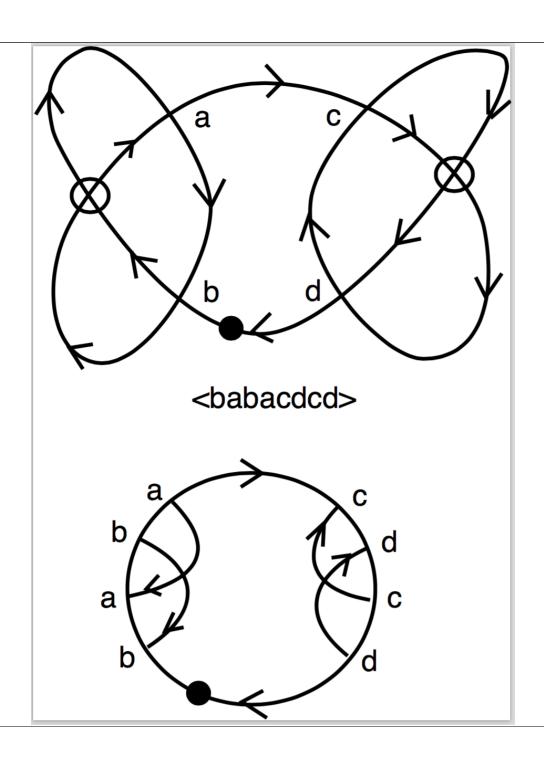
$$\langle \rangle = \langle \rangle \rangle$$
Kishino Knot

The Parity Bracket provides the simplest proof that the Kishino diagram is non-trivial.

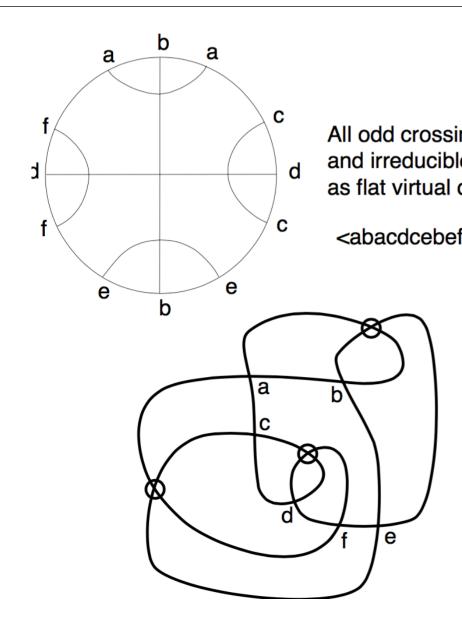
Parity bracket is calculated for virtuals and flat virtuals by replacing all odd crossings (odd interstice in Gauss code) with nodes. Then apply state sum with graphs (up to type two reducion) and polynomial coefficients. Kishino invariant is a single reduced diagram.



In flat Gauss code, two-moves require oppositely oriented parallel or crossed chords.



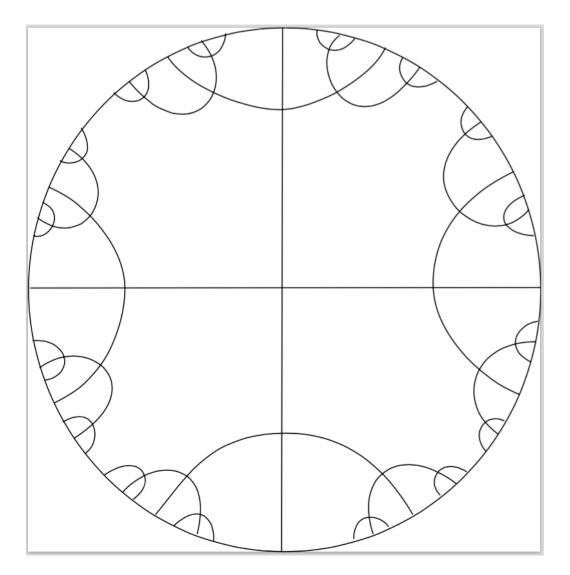
Reducing twomoves are not available on the flat Kishino diagram.



All odd crossings and irreducible as flat virtual diagram.

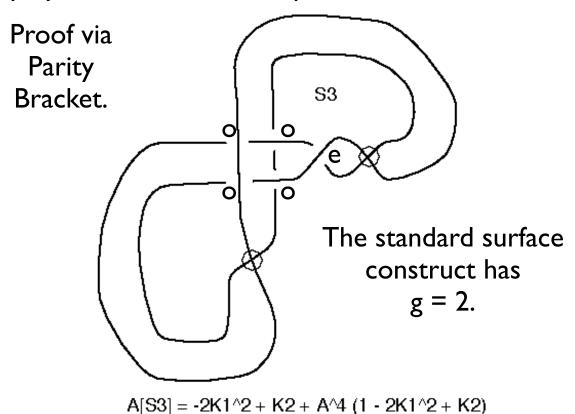
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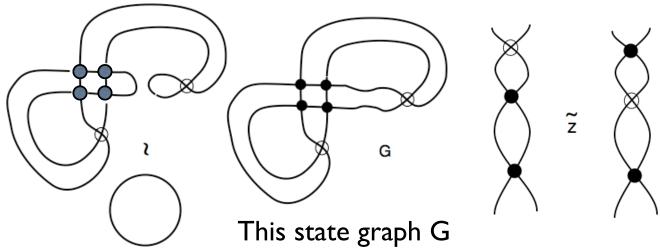
Here is another example of a flat with all odd crossings. It is non trivial by parity bracket and it is its own pass class.



This Gauss code schema shows how to produce infinitely many distinct flat virtuals, each their own pass class. Thus there are infinitely many distinct pass classes for virtual knots.

The Knot S3 (found with Slavik Jablan) has unit Jones polynomial. It is not Z-equivalent to a classical knot.



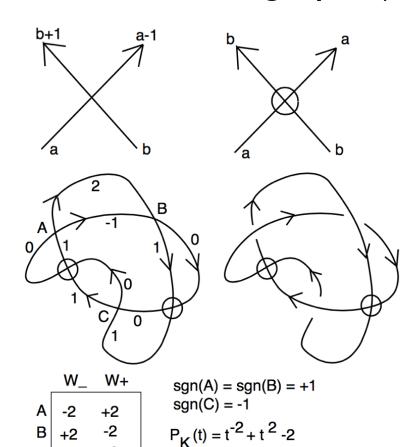


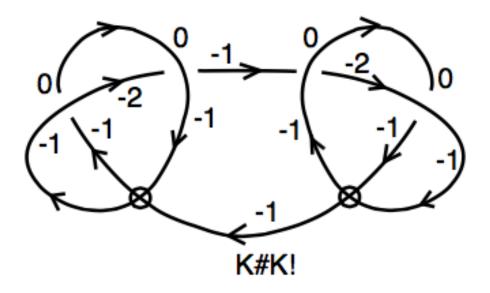
has g = 2 and does not reduce under graphical Z move.

The Parity bracket of S3 has only two terms and includes the graph G. The virtual graph G cannot be reduced by Reidemeister Two moves on its nodes.

Conclusion: The knot S3 has surface genus g = 2.

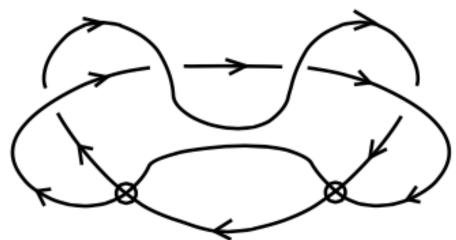
# Affine Index Polynomial (See LK and Folwazcny and variants from Henrich, Cheng, Dye,...)





$$P_{K\#K!} = t^{-1} + t - t^{-1} - t = 0.$$

A slice knot with non-zero but cancelling weights.



$$P_K = \sum_{c} sgn(c)(t^{W_K(c)} - 1) = \sum_{c} sgn(c)t^{W_K(c)} - wr(K)$$

$$P_K = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} wr_n(K)(t^n - 1)$$

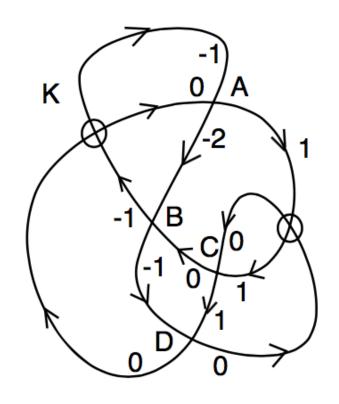
$$wr_n(K) = \sum_{c:W_K(c)=n} sgn(c).$$

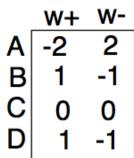
**Remark.** We define the *flat affine index polynomial*,  $PF_K$ , for a flat virtual knot K (in a flat virtual link the classical crossings are immersion crossings, neither over not under, Reidemeister moves are allowed independent of over and under, but virtual crossings still take detour precedence over classical crossings [14]) by the formula

$$PF_K(t) = \sum_{c} (t^{|W_K(c)|} + 1)$$

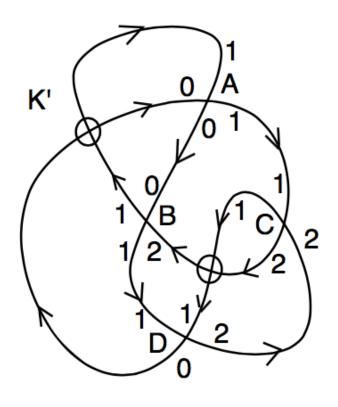
where the polynomial is taken over the integers modulo two, but the exponents (the absolute values of the weights at the crossings) are integral. It is not hard to see that  $PF_K(t)$  is an invariant of flat virtual knots, and that the concordance results of the present paper hold in the flat category for this invariant. These results will

The Flat Index Polynomial is of particular interest here because we will prove below that it is a flat concordance invariant.



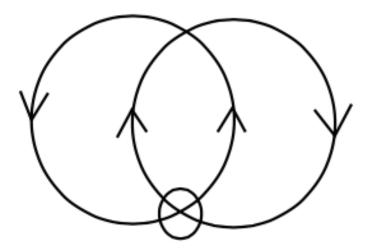


$$PF(K) = t^2 + 1 \pmod{2}$$
  $PF(K') = 0 \pmod{2}$ 

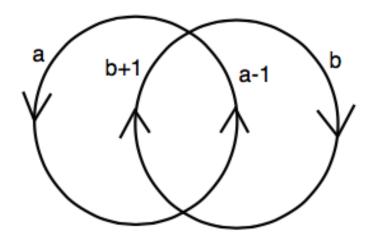


<u>w+</u>		W-	
Α	0	0	
В	1	-1	
C	0	0	
D	-1	1	

$$PF(K') = 0 \pmod{2}$$

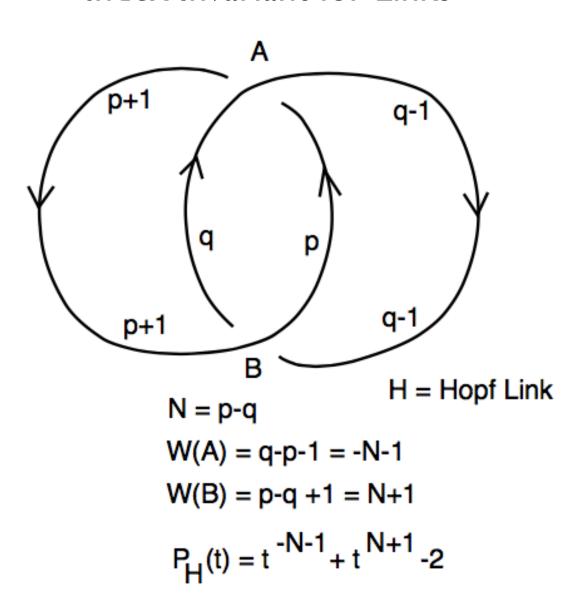


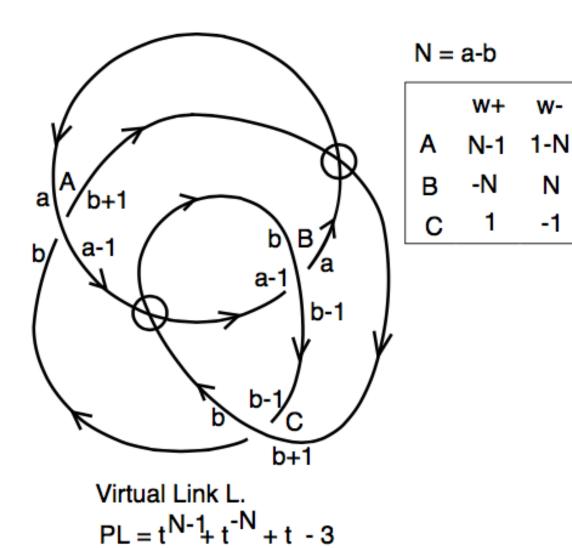
impossible to label



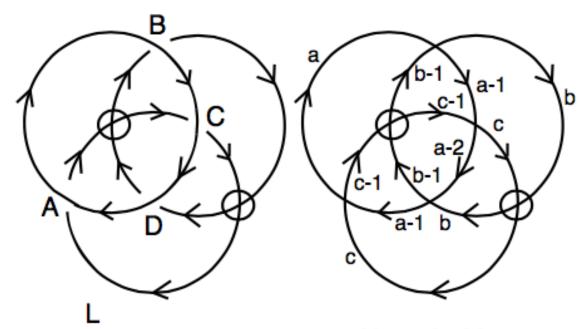
can be labeled

### Index Invariant for Links





### Virtual Borromean Rings

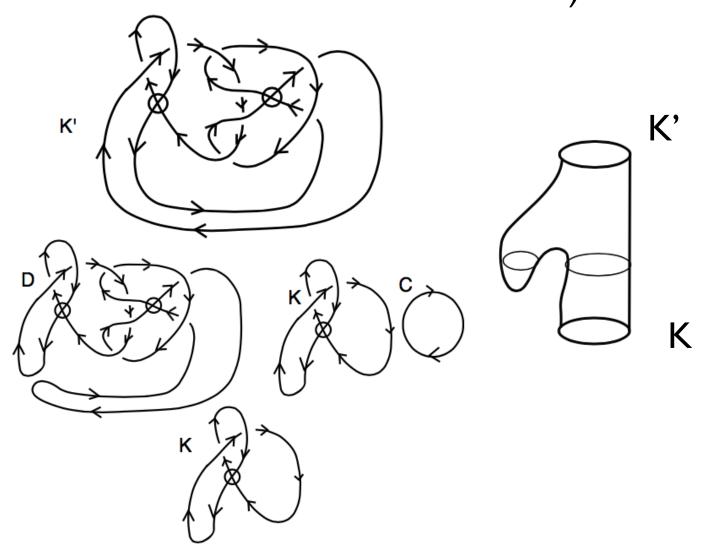


$$PL = -t^{M} + t^{N} + t^{M-1} - t^{N-1}$$

Ν	=	a-	b,	М	=	а-с
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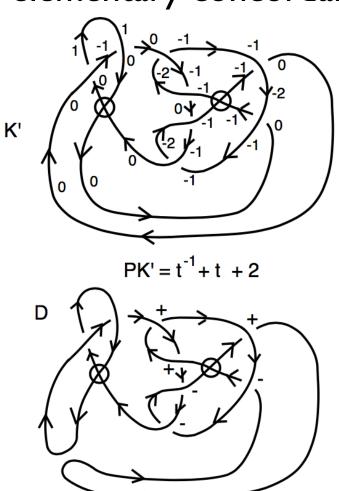
	W+	W-
Α	-M	М
В	N	-N
С	M-1	-M+1
D	-N+1	N-1

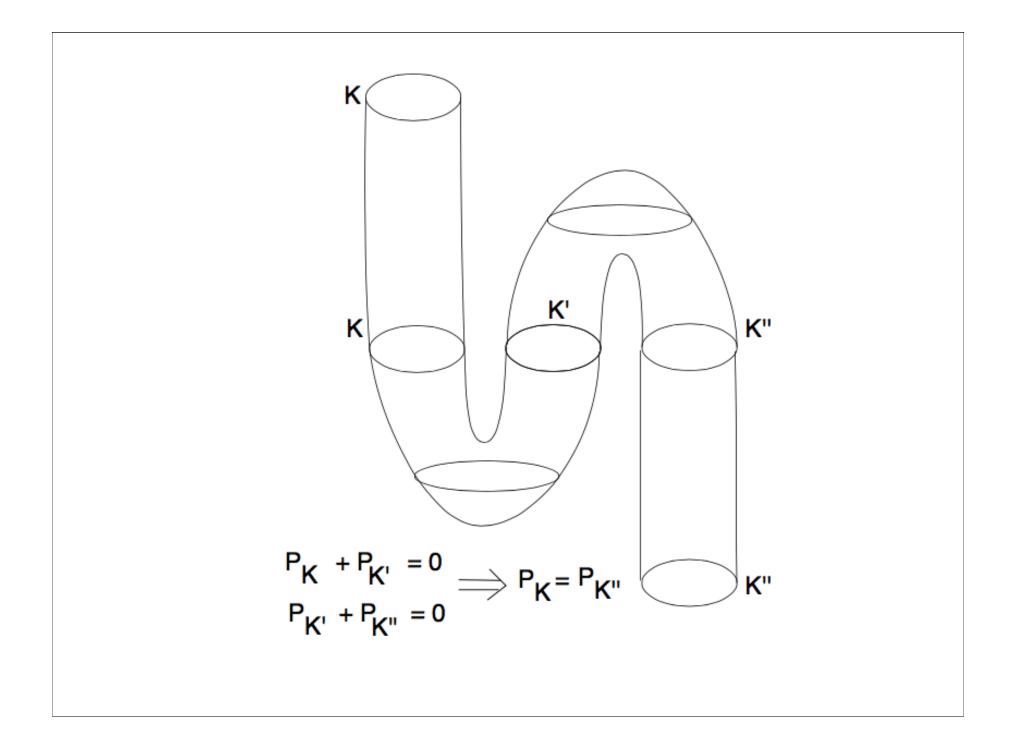
## Concordances are Composed of Elementary Concordances (Cancellation of Saddle and Max or Min)

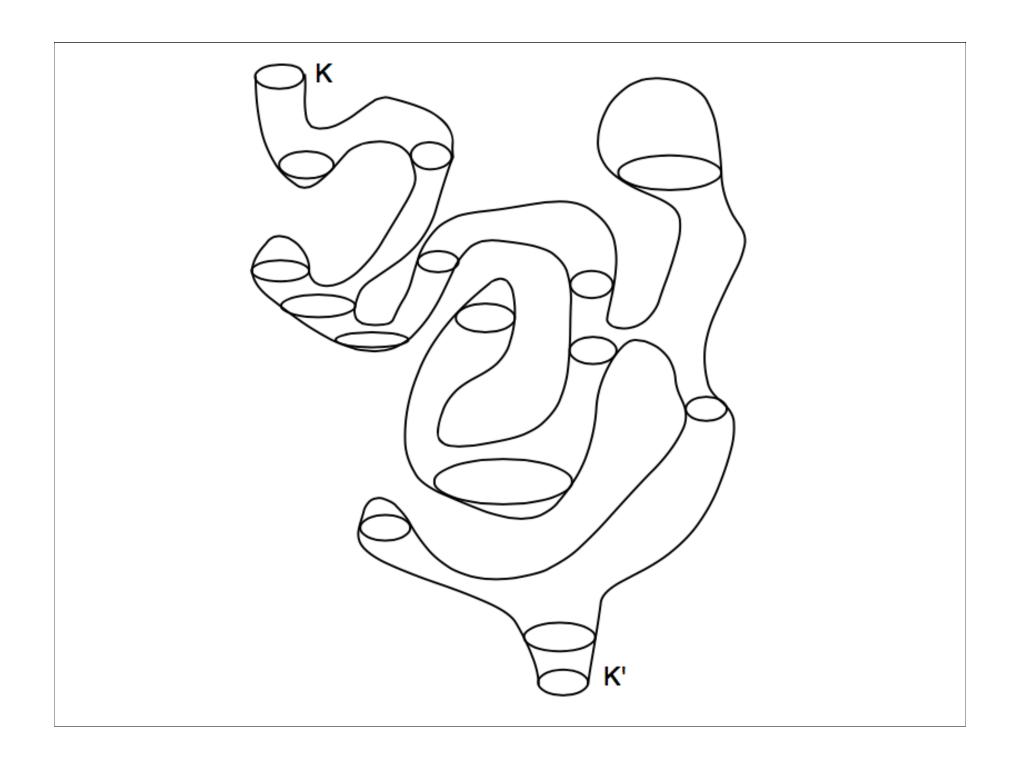


Theorem. P\_K and PF\_K are concordance invariants.

Proof. Concordances are compositions of elementary concordances.//





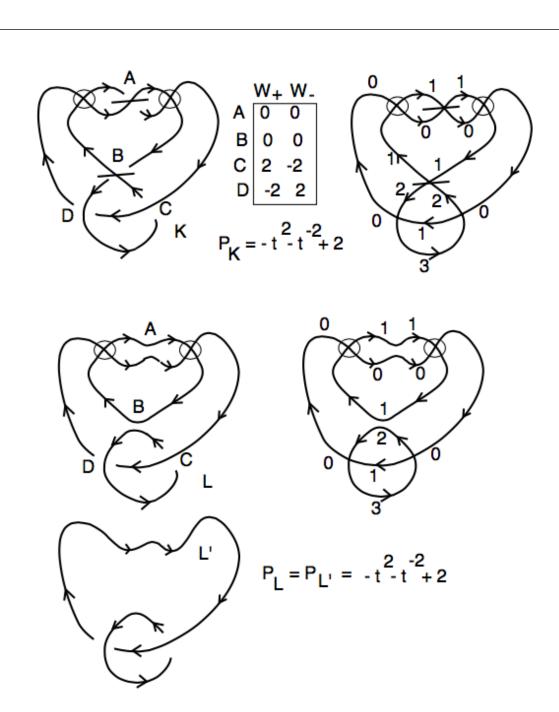


Theorem. P\_K and PF\_K are concordance invariants.

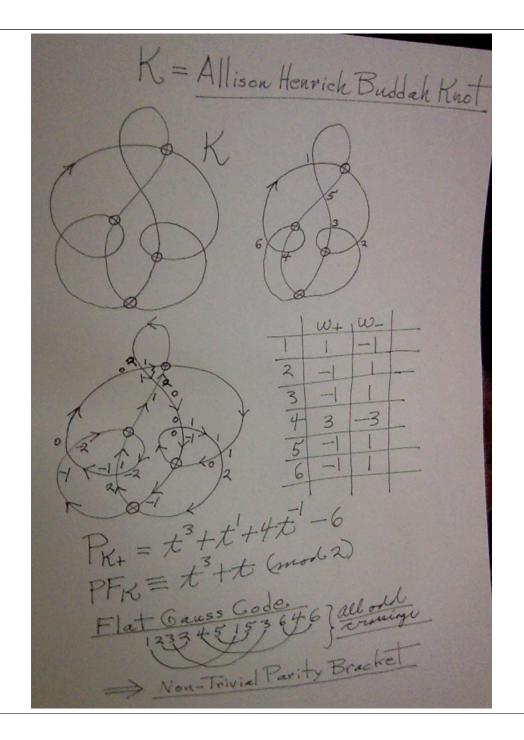
Proof. Concordances are compositions of elementary concordances.//

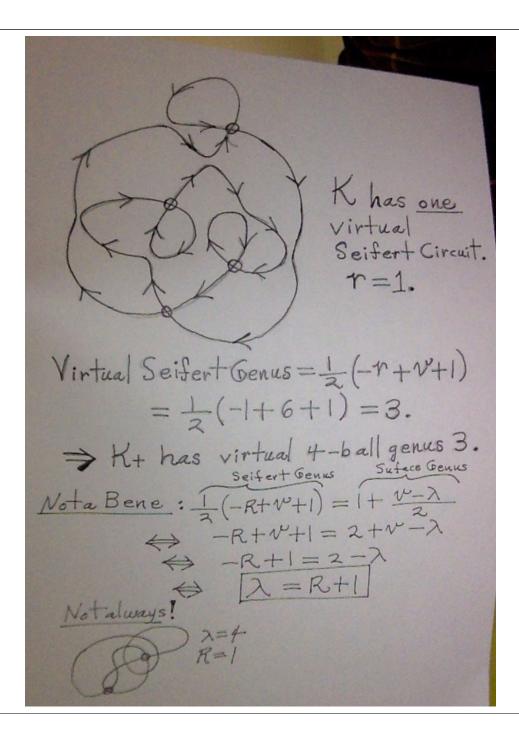
A special concordance of links is DEFINED to be a composition of elementary concordances.

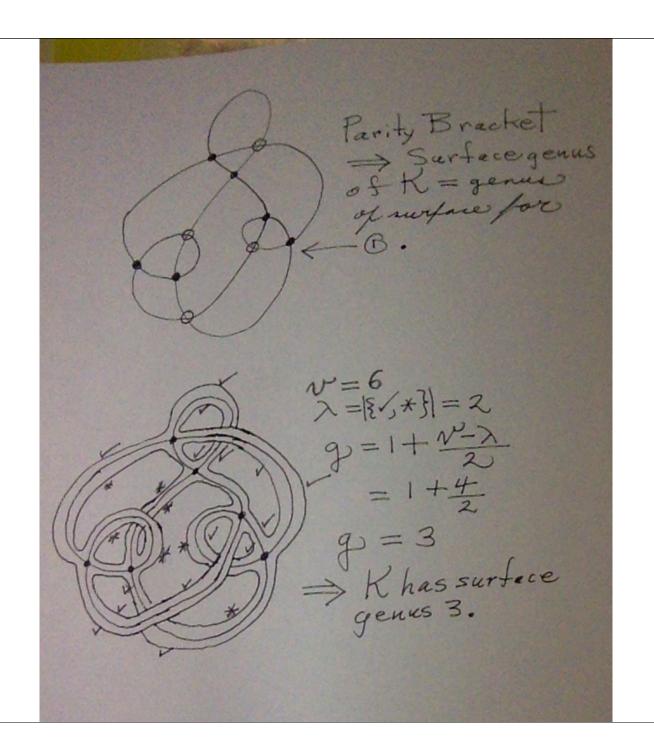
P\_K and PF\_K are invariants of special concordance for links that have an affine labeling.

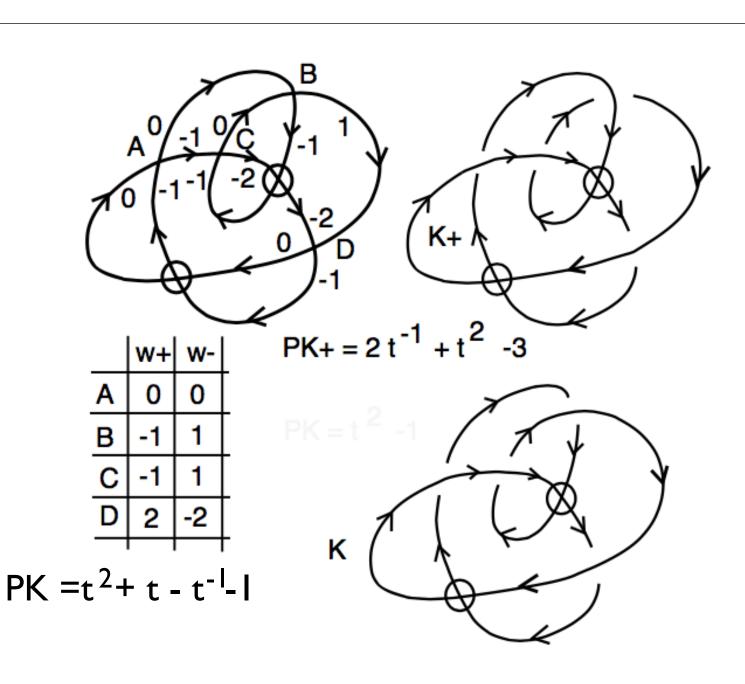


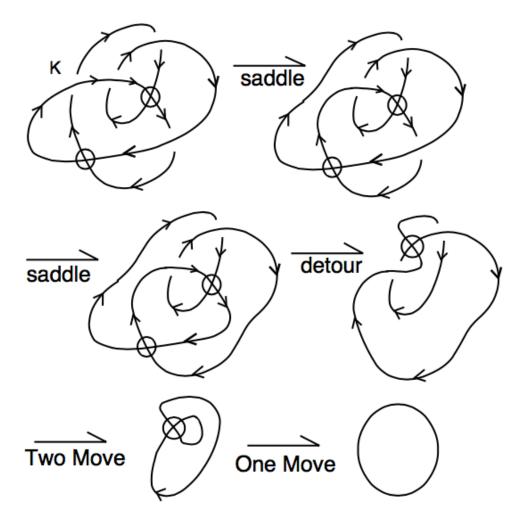
A labeled cobordism of a knot to a link.











K bounds a virtual surface of genus one.

Hence, via P\_K, K has genus one.

We can often use the concordance invariance of Index polynomials to determine genus one, when it occurs.

Is there a deeper relationship between virtual genus and the Index polynomials?

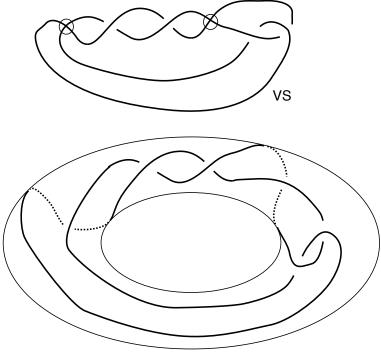
Understand concordance of virtual knots.

Fully understand concordance of flat virtual knots and links.

## Thank you for your attention!



#### More about the Virtual Stevedore's Knot



VS on a torus.