

Unknotting operations, crosscap numbers, and volume bounds

Noboru Ito

(National Institute of Technology, Ibaraki College)

MSCS Quantum Topology Seminar

organized by L.H.Kauffman

August 20, 2020

PDF Information

non-arXiv, I will mention the reason today.

- A lower bound of crosscap numbers of alternating knots, JKTR, March 2020
- Crosscap number of knots and volume bounds, submitted to IJM, revised under review.

To access them,

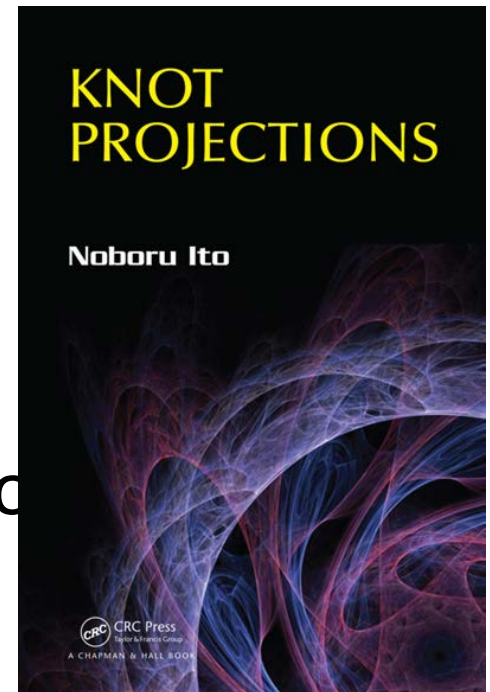
https://researchmap.jp/noboru_ito?lang=en

(from JST researchmap, my portal)

Knot Projections (by NI, 2016/12)

This book includes Perko's pair, introductory contents quoting from Kauffman Lecture note and results of papers Takimura-I. from 2013.

Mr. Perko gave “5 stars” for this book, also positive opinions for the paper of “Thirty-two equivalence relations on knot projections (2015)”, but commented —“mostly not Knot theory” (Zbl 06720087).

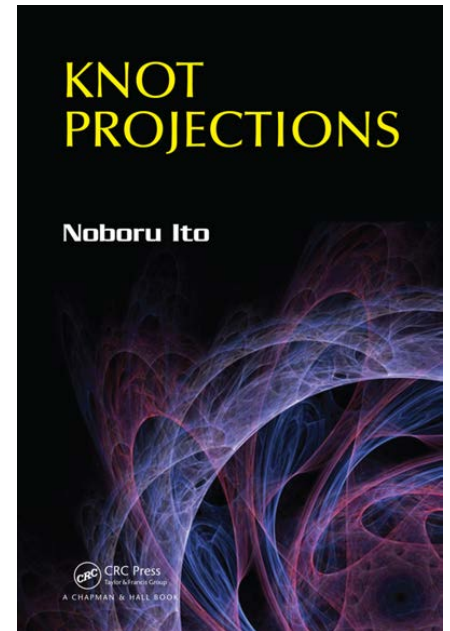


Knot Projections (by NI, 2016/12)

I agreed his opinions and replied to his message.

NI to Perko (July 25, 2017):

“I think I can write new application to knot from our knot projection theory. Please be looking forward to it.”

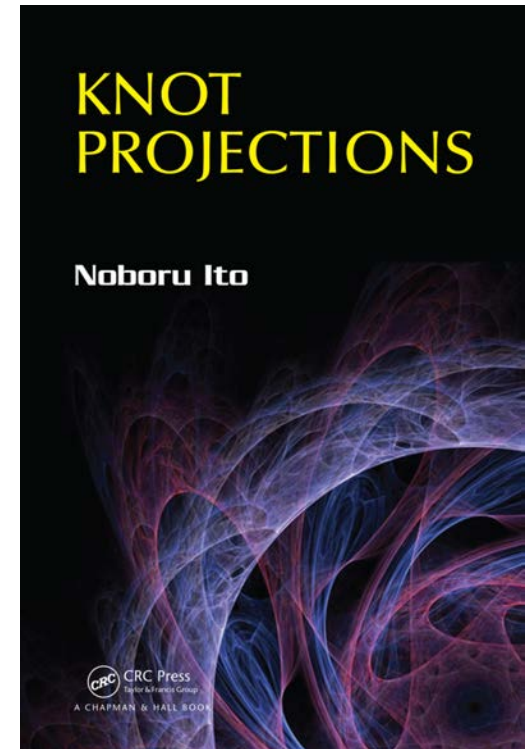


Knot Projections (NI, 2016)

Prof. Kauffman gave a comment.

—“But the point of doing mathematics is follow the trail as far as you can. He is doing that.”

→ This message encouraged me.



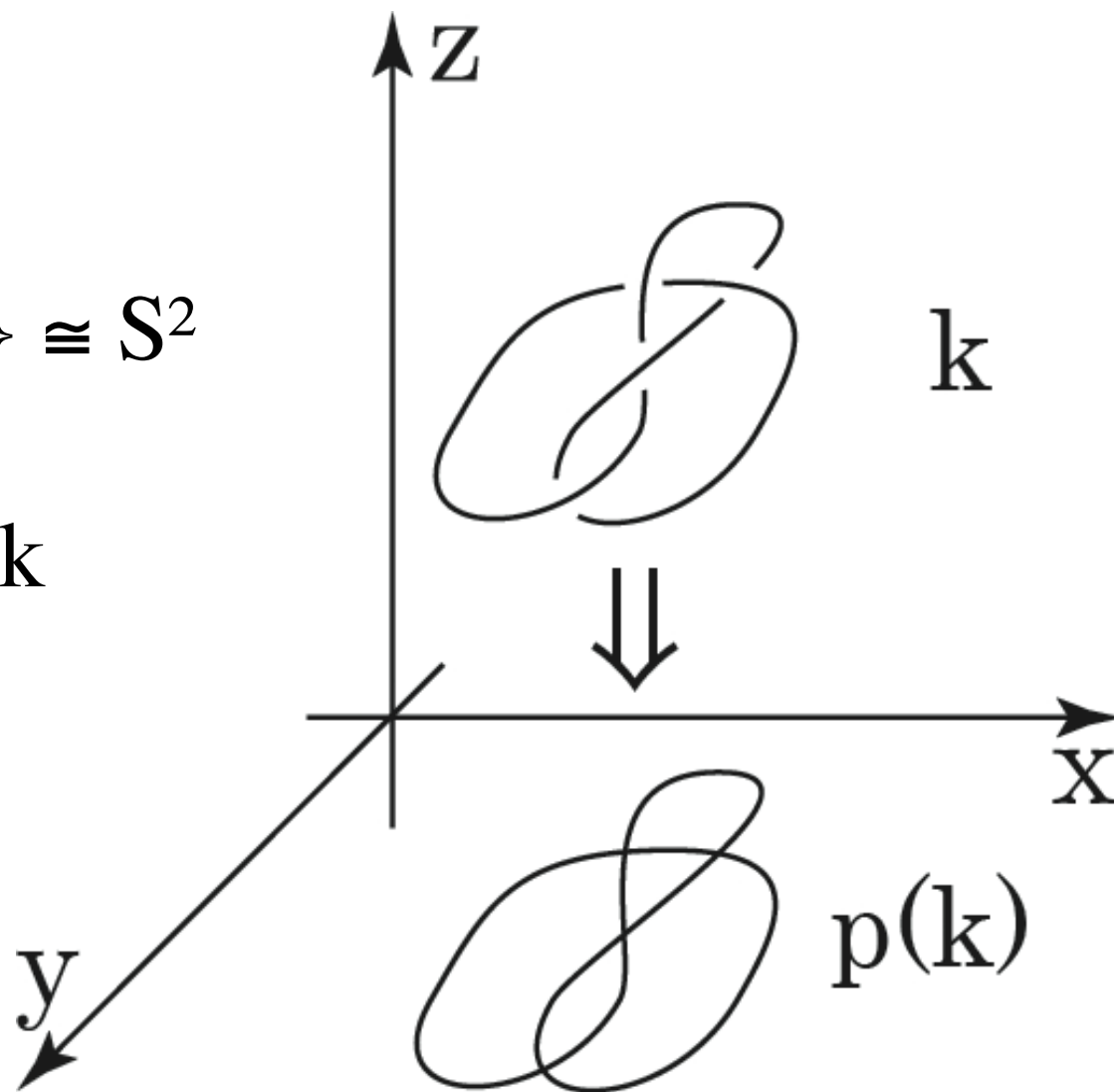
Definition (knot projection)

k : knot in \mathbb{R}^3

$p : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \cup \{\infty\} \cong S^2$

$p(k)$: knot projection of k

Let $P = p(K)$,
called knot projection.



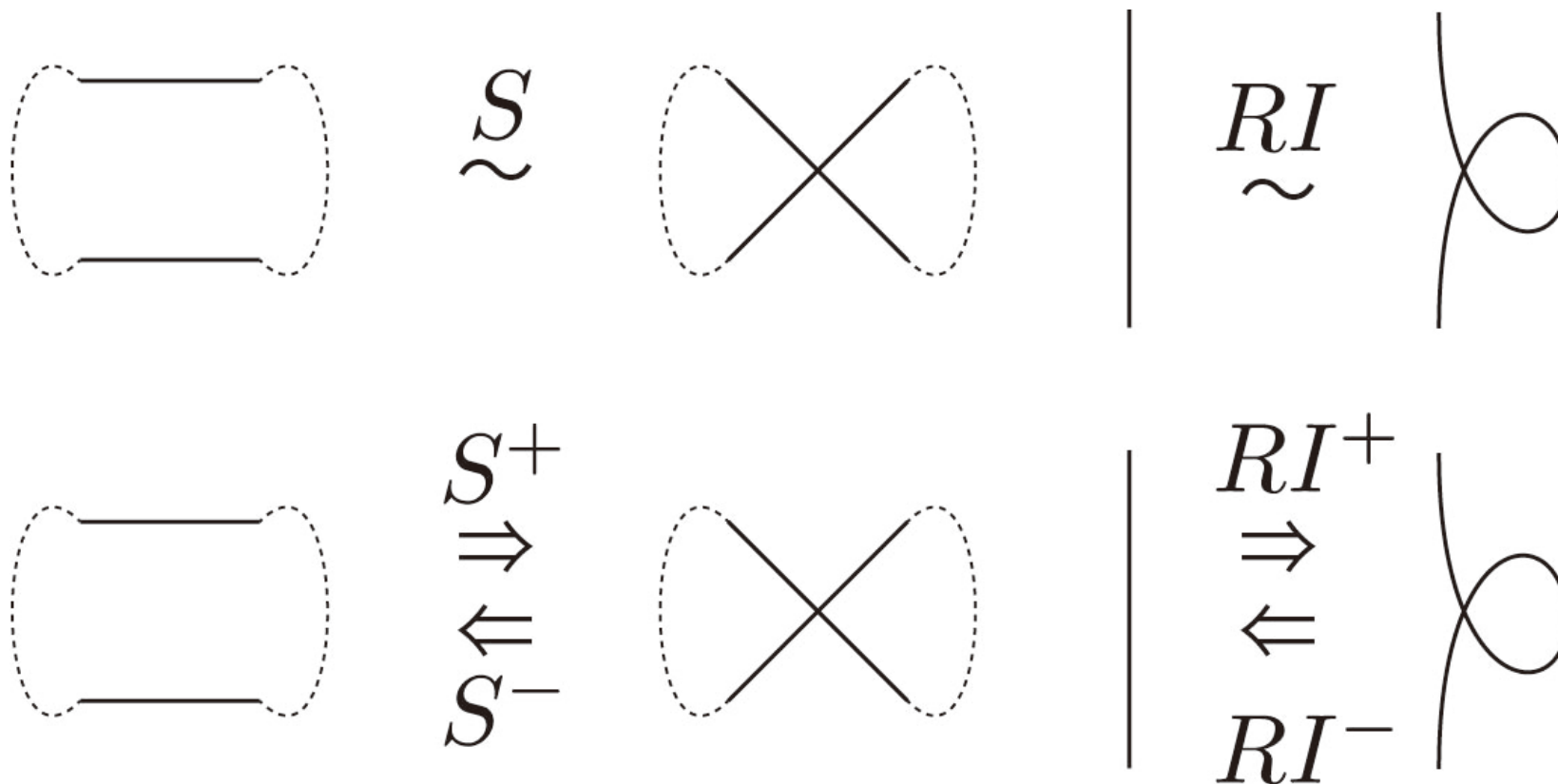
First Question of NI to Takimura (2016)

What is an appropriate “unknotting-type”
number for knot projection?

Dr. Yusuke Takimura: a young person who is a teacher of junior high school, took PhD on 2020.

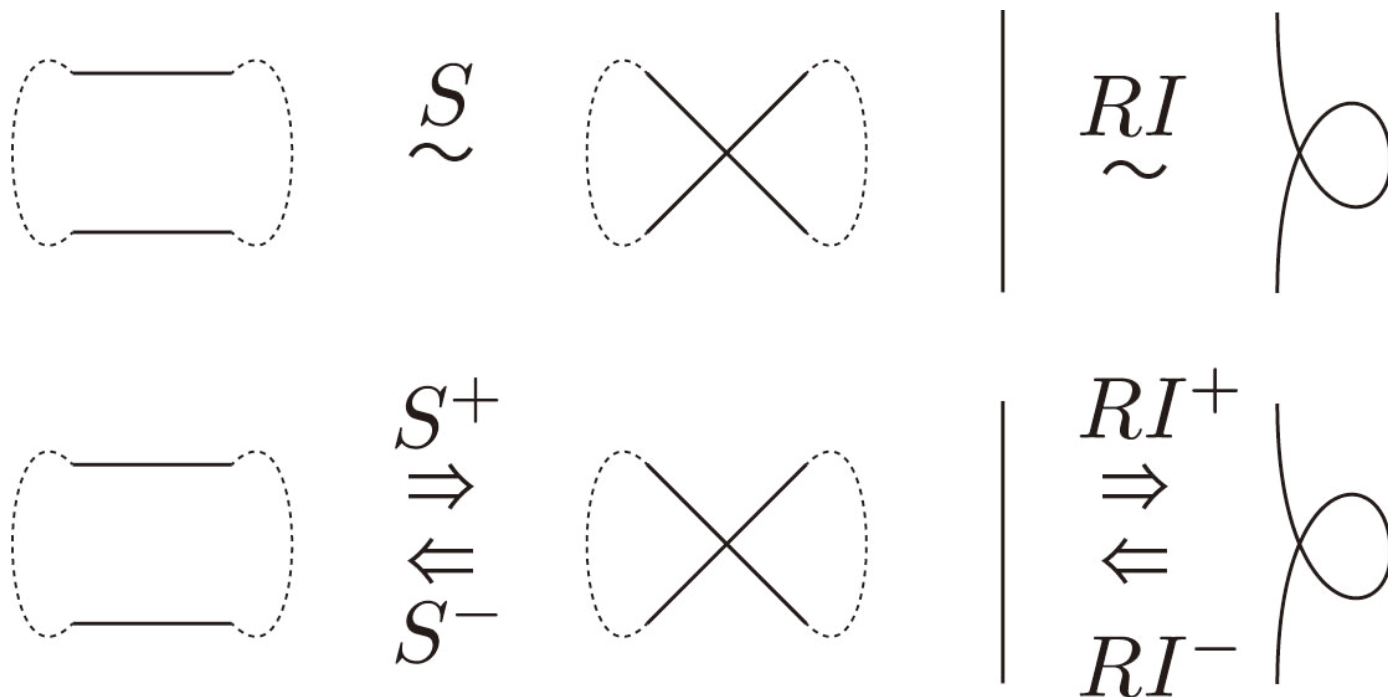
Takimura's Answer

Let us consider splices and inverses of type S & RI:

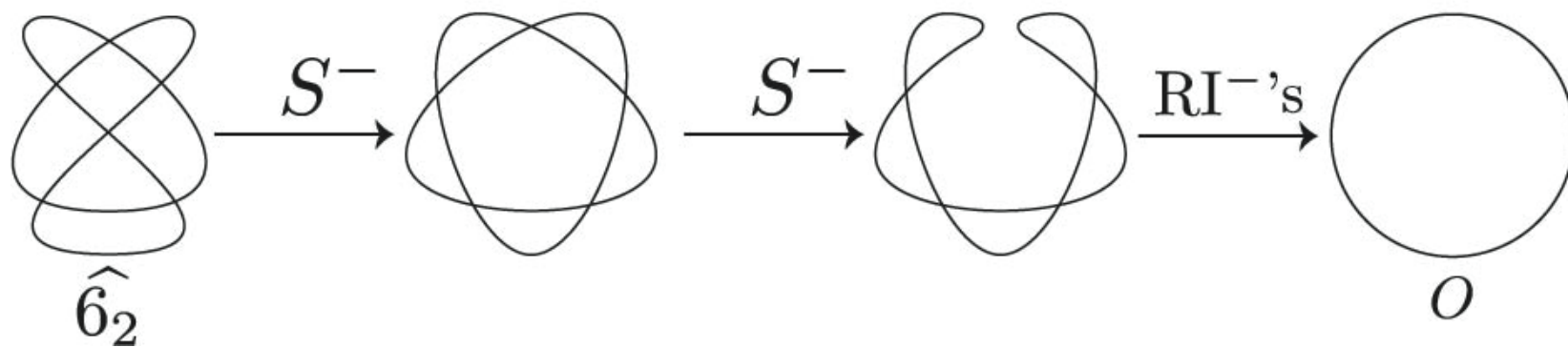
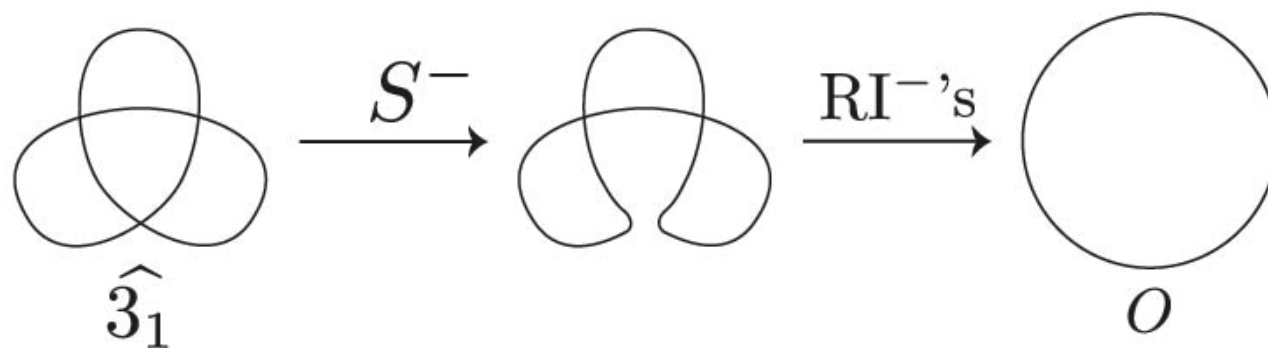
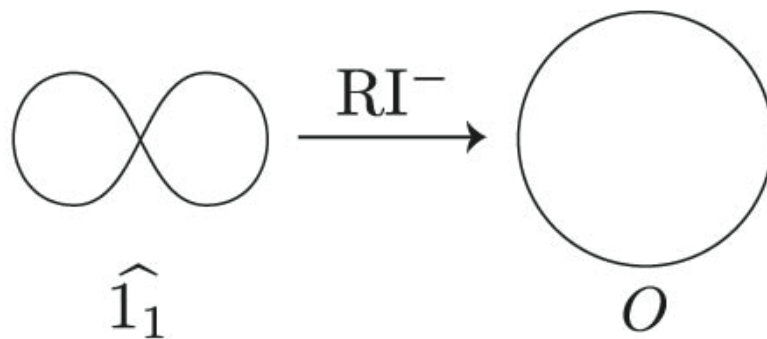


Takimura's $u(P)$

$u(P)$ is the minimum number of necessary operations of type S among any sequences of S and RI to obtain 0-crossing knot projection O.



e.g.

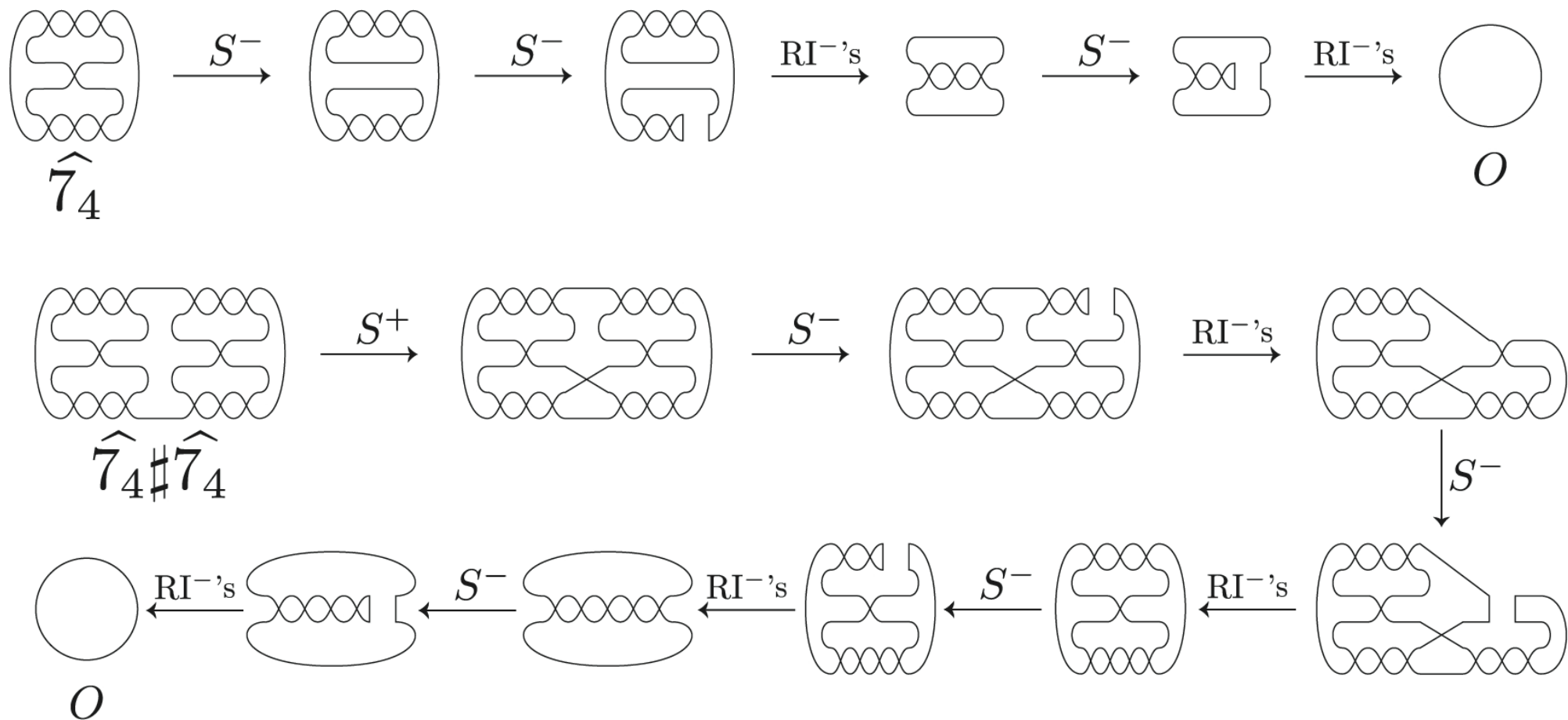


$$u(\hat{1}_1) = 0$$

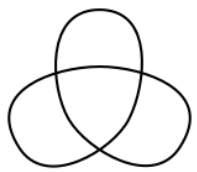
$$u(\hat{3}_1) = 1$$

$$u(\hat{6}_2) = 2$$

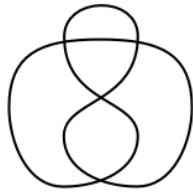
Example: $u(\widehat{\tau}_4 \# \widehat{\tau}_4) \cong 5$ whereas $u(\widehat{\tau}_4) = 3$.



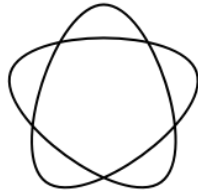
$u(P)$ (Takimura made table up to 8 crossings)



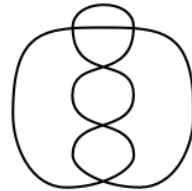
1



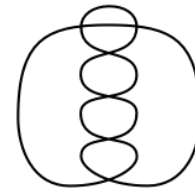
2



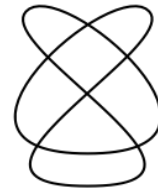
1



2



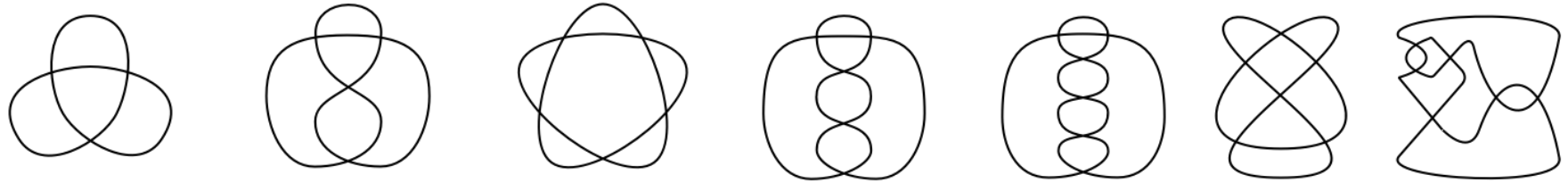
2



2

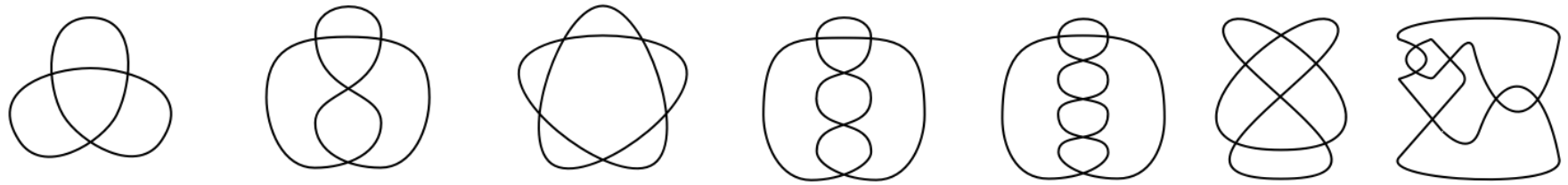


3



1 2 1 2 2 2 3

Seeing it, NI noticed that this table matched
Crosscap numbers of prime alt. knots.



1 2 1 2 2 2 3

Seeing it, NI noticed that this table matched
Crosscap numbers of prime alt. knots.

→NI took S^- and RI^- only from Takimura's $u(P)$.

Modified Definition: $u^-(P)$ by NI.

- $u^-(P)$ is the minimum number of necessary splices of type S^- among any sequences of S^- and RI^- to obtain O .
- $u(P)$ is the minimum number of necessary operations of type S among any sequences of S and RI to obtain O .

*Fact (Khovanov, 1997) Any RI 's sequence is arranged to a seq. of only RI^- 's / RI^+ 's.

Modified Def. and Main result

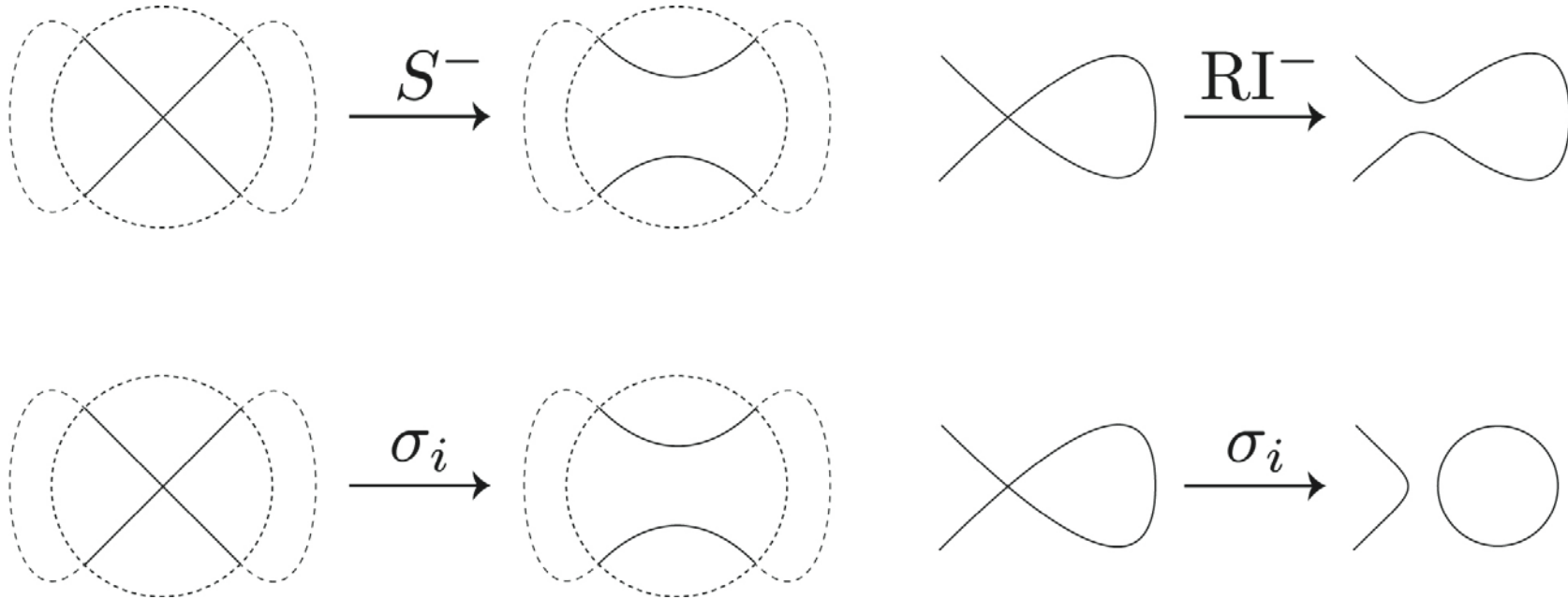
Main Result 1 (our preprint, 2nd revised, under review).

Let $u^-(K) = \min \{ u^-(D) \mid D : \text{knot diagram of } K \}$.

For any prime alternating knot K ,

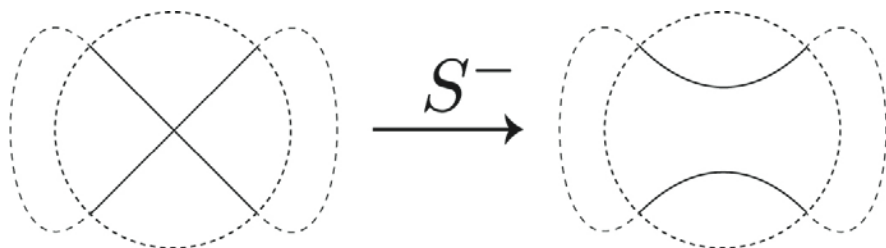
$$u^-(K) = C(K).$$

We define a splice (= removing band) σ_i corresponding to S^- or RI^- ($1 \leq i \leq n(P)$).

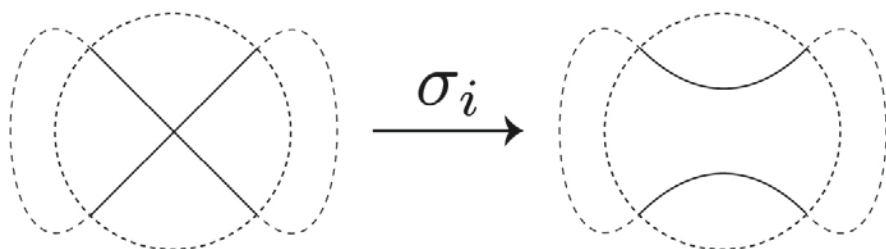
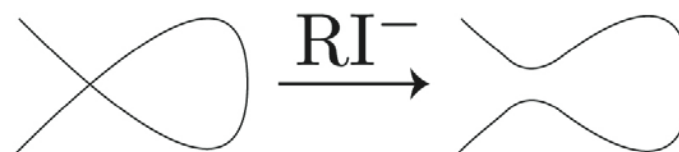


S_σ : Kauffman state by applying $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \cdots \sigma_{n(P)})$ to P .
 $|S_\sigma|$: the number circles in S_σ

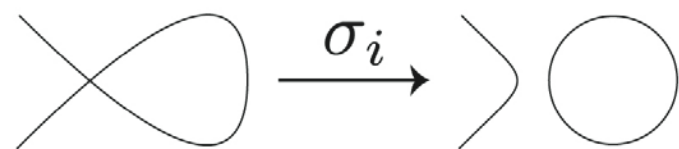
We define a splice (= removing band) σ_i corresponding to S^- or RI^- ($1 \leq i \leq n(P)$).



Non-counting

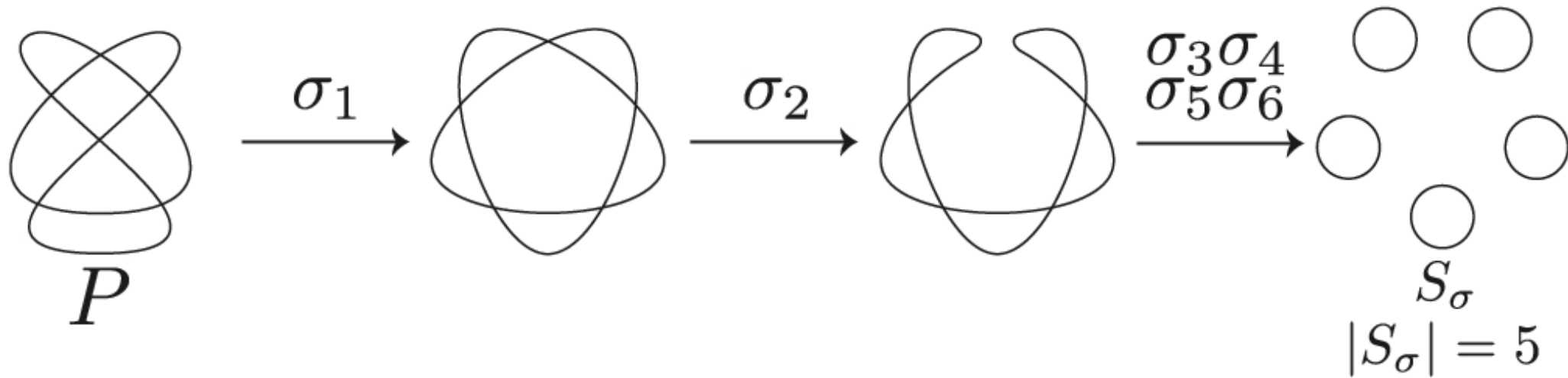
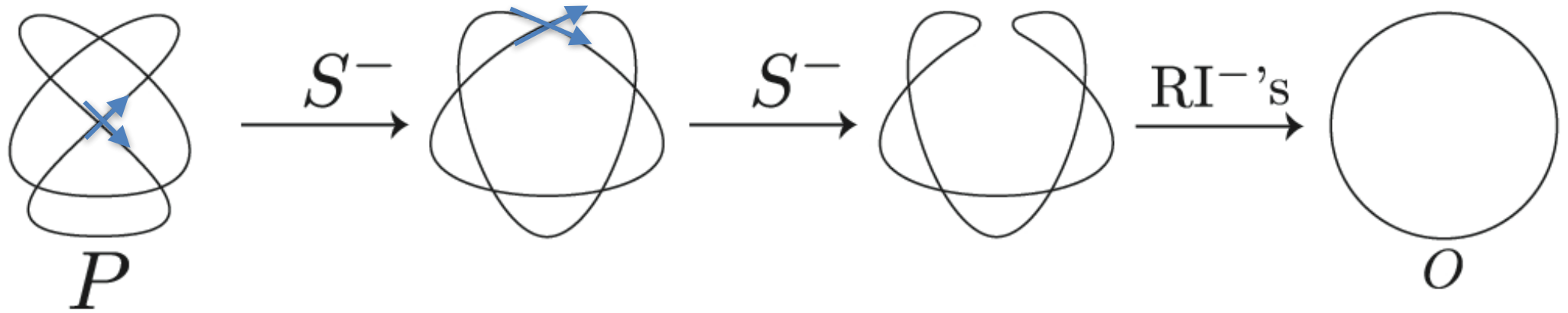


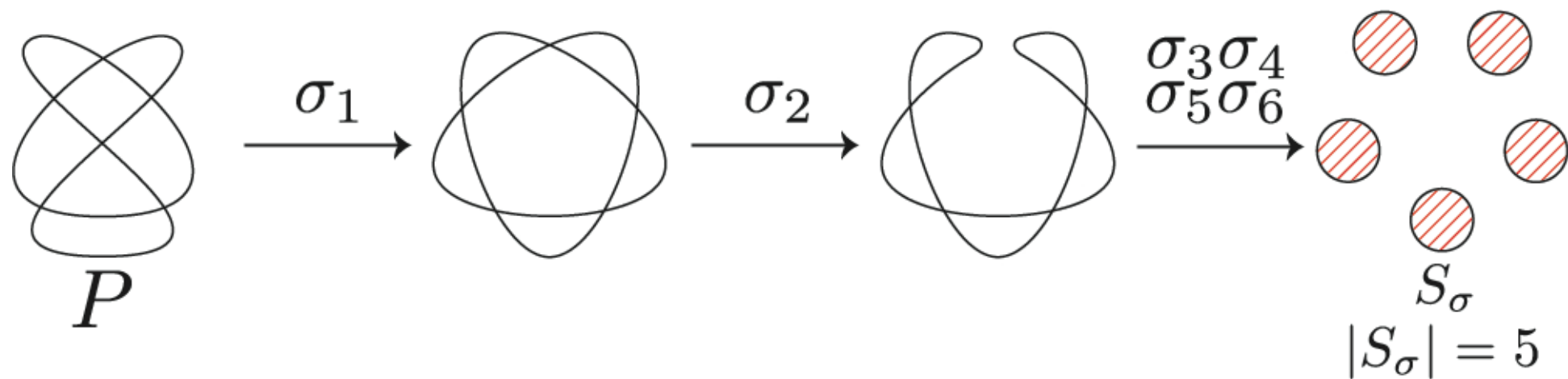
Euler char. unchanged



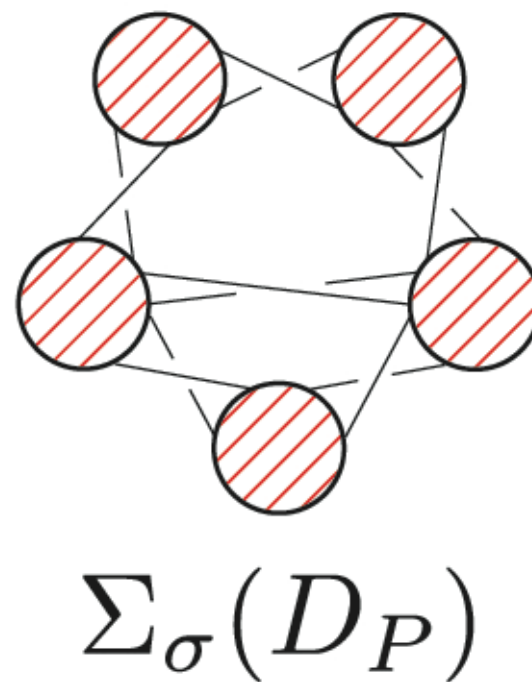
S_σ : Kauffman state by applying $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \cdots \sigma_{n(P)})$ to P .
 $|S_\sigma|$: the number circles in S_σ .

Example





*In general, we do not need alt. diag.



Upper bound

Result (Takimura-I. 2018, IJM).

For any knot K ,

$$C(K) \leq u^-(K).$$

Proof of Upper bound

$$\chi(\Sigma_{\max}) \cong \chi(\Sigma_{\sigma})$$

where

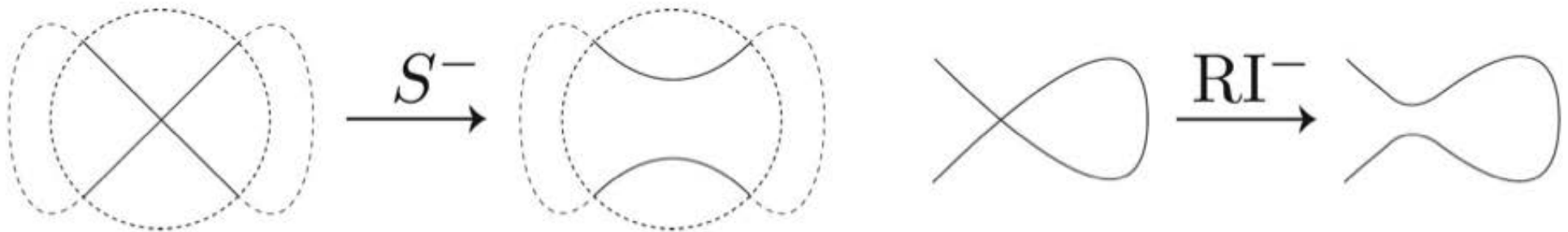
Σ_{\max} : non-ori. surf. with maximal Euler char.

Σ_{σ} : non-ori. surf. given by σ .

Letting $n(P) := \# \text{ crossings}$,

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & Op_1 & Op_2 & Op_3 & \cdots & Op_{n(P)} & \\
 P = P_0 & \rightarrow & P_1 & \rightarrow & P_2 & \rightarrow & \cdots \rightarrow P_{n(P)} = 0
 \end{array}$$

where $Op_i = S^-$ or RI^- ($1 \leq Op_i \leq n(P)$).



$$|S_{\sigma}| = \#\{Op_i \mid Op_i = RI^{-}\} + 1$$

$$n(P) = \#\{Op_i \mid Op_i = S^{-}\} + \#\{Op_i \mid Op_i = RI^{-}\}$$

$$1 - C(K) = \chi(\Sigma_{\max}) \cong \chi(\Sigma_{\sigma}) = |S_{\sigma}| - n(P)$$

$$= (\#\{Op_i \mid Op_i = RI^{-}\} + 1) - (\#\{Op_i \mid Op_i = S^{-}\} + \#\{Op_i \mid Op_i = RI^{-}\})$$

Proof of Upper bound

$$1 - c(K) \geq |S_\sigma| - n(P)$$

$$= (\#\{Op_i \mid Op_i = RI^-\} + 1) - (\#\{Op_i \mid Op_i = S^-\} + \#\{Op_i \mid Op_i = RI^-\})$$

$$= 1 - \#\{Op_i \mid Op_i = S^-\}$$

$$= 1 - u^-(P) .$$

Proof of Upper bound

$$1 - C(\mathbf{K}) \geq |S_\sigma| - n(P)$$

$$= (\#\{Op_i \mid Op_i = RI^-\} + 1) - (\#\{Op_i \mid Op_i = S^-\} + \#\{Op_i \mid Op_i = RI^-\})$$

$$= 1 - \#\{Op_i \mid Op_i = S^-\}$$

$$= 1 - u^-(P).$$

$$C(\mathbf{K}) \leq u^-(P).$$

Lower bound (non-short proof)

$$C(K) \leq u^-(K) \quad (\text{Takimura-I. 2018, IJM}).$$

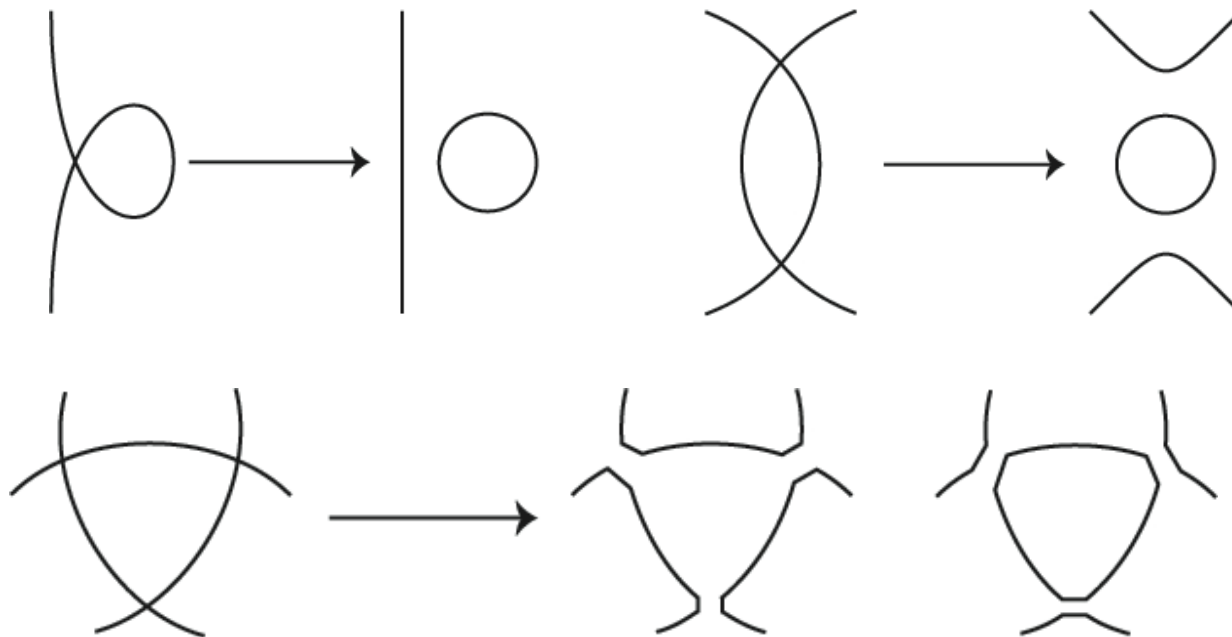
If K is prime alternating, this equality always exists.

Adams-Kindred Theorem (2013, AGT)

For any n -crossing alternating diagram, there exists
a state giving the minimal genus among 2^n candidates.

Adams-Kindred algorithm to obtain (ori/non-ori)
state surfaces with the maximal Euler char.

Find m -gon of the smallest m and splice as follows (Note that any knot projection P has a 3-gon if $3 \leq m$ by [Eliahou-Harary-Kauffman, 2008](#)):



Lower bound (non-short proof)

Compare

Σu : non-ori. state surface realizing $u^-(D)$

with

Σ_{AK} : a surf. with maximal χ by Adams-Kindred.

Sketch

Proof. Σ_{AK} gives a state $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \cdots \sigma_{n(P)})$, and we give reordered $(\sigma'_1, \sigma'_2 \cdots \sigma'_{n(P)})$ to recover Σu giving $S^- \dots S^- RI^- \dots RI^-$ using an argument of Gauss chord of S^- .

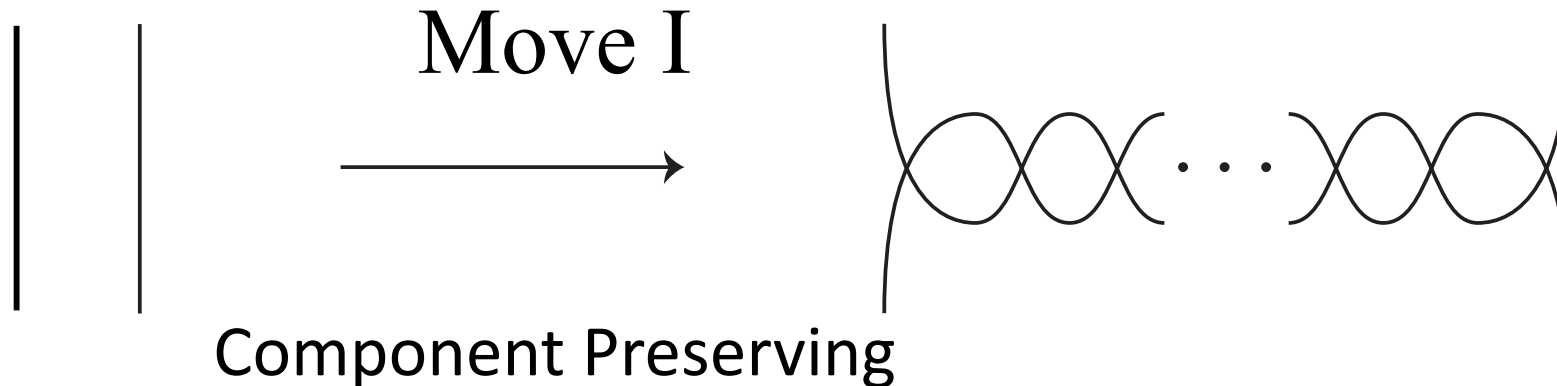
Is $u^-(K)$ computable?

$u^-(P)$, Computation

Conditions (A) and (B) are equivalent.

(A) $u^-(P) = n$.

(B) P is obtained from O by applying Move I, “ n ” times followed by RI^+ ’s.



$u^-(K)$, still computable for some K .

If K is alternating,

there exists $u^-(P)$ such that $C(K) = u^-(P)$.

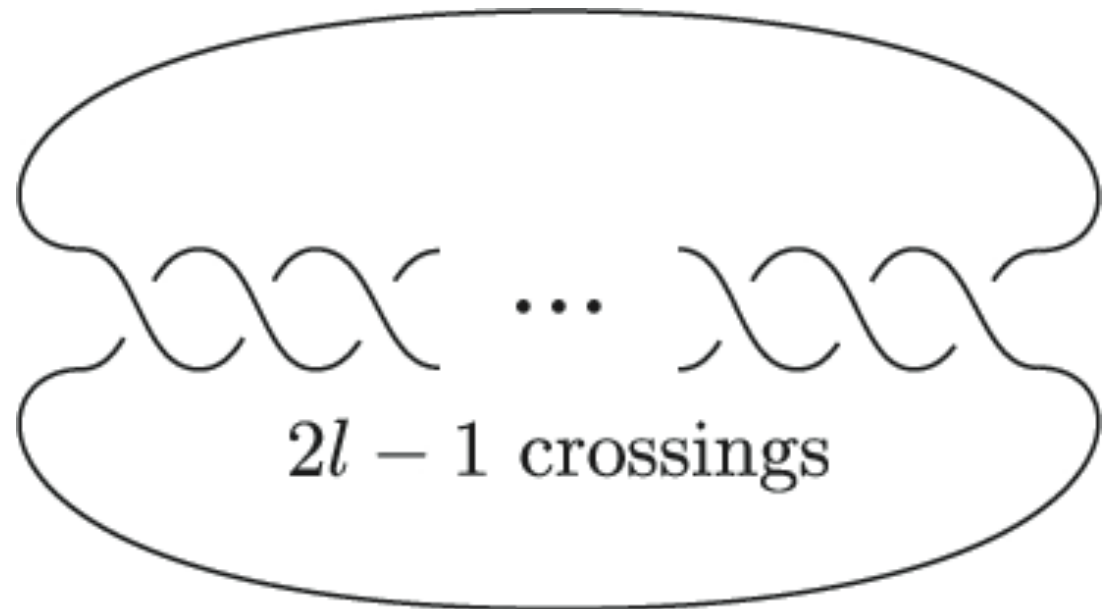
First Example. (Takimura-I., IJM, 2018)

For a prime alternating knot, $(A) \Leftrightarrow (B) \Leftrightarrow (C)$.

(A) $C(K) = 1$.

(B) $u^-(K) = 1$.

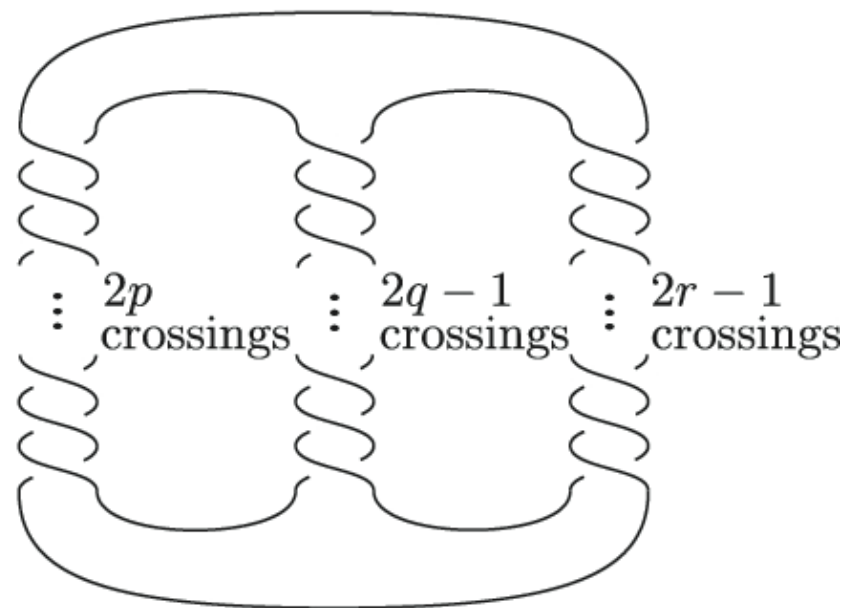
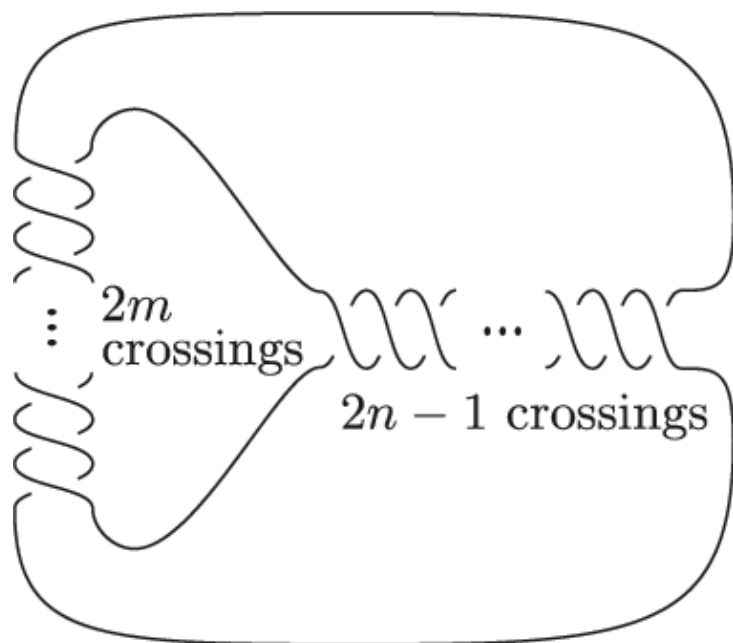
(C) K is as in the right.



Second Example (Takimura-I., IJM, 2018)

For any prime alt. knot K , $(A) \Leftrightarrow (B) \Leftrightarrow (C)$.

(A) $C(K) = 2$, (B) $u-(K) = 2$, (C) K is as below.



Is there nothing non-
alternating knots?

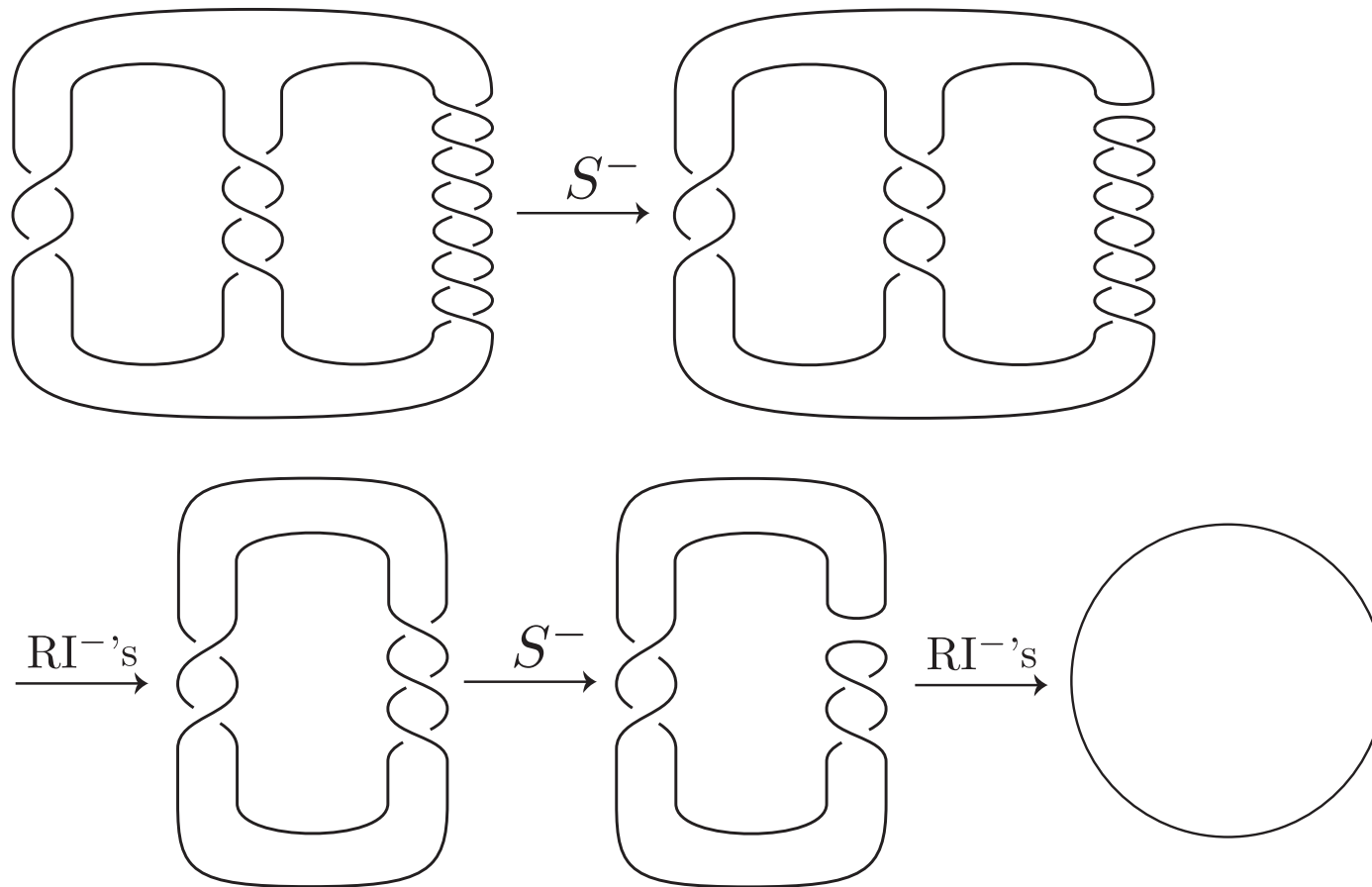
By the argument of this proof, we have:

Main Result 2 (our preprint under review now)

For any knot K , if there exists a state realizing the maximal Euler characteristic,

$$u^-(K) = C(K).$$

Example (taught by T. Kindred)



$u^-(K)$, still computable for some K .

If K is alternating, everything works.

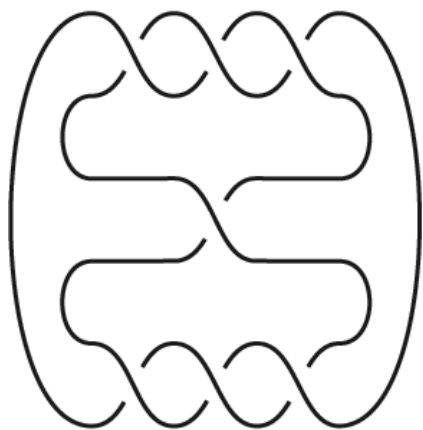
<sufficient condition>

Comment.

There is a possibility to generalize the above condition (as Main Result 2).

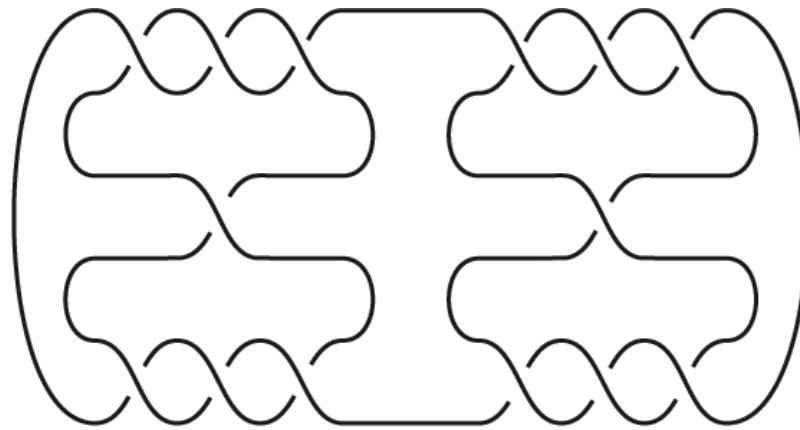
Is “primeness”
essential ?

$u^-(K_1 \# K_2) = u^-(K_1) + u^-(K_2)$, but



7_4

$$C(7_4) = 3$$



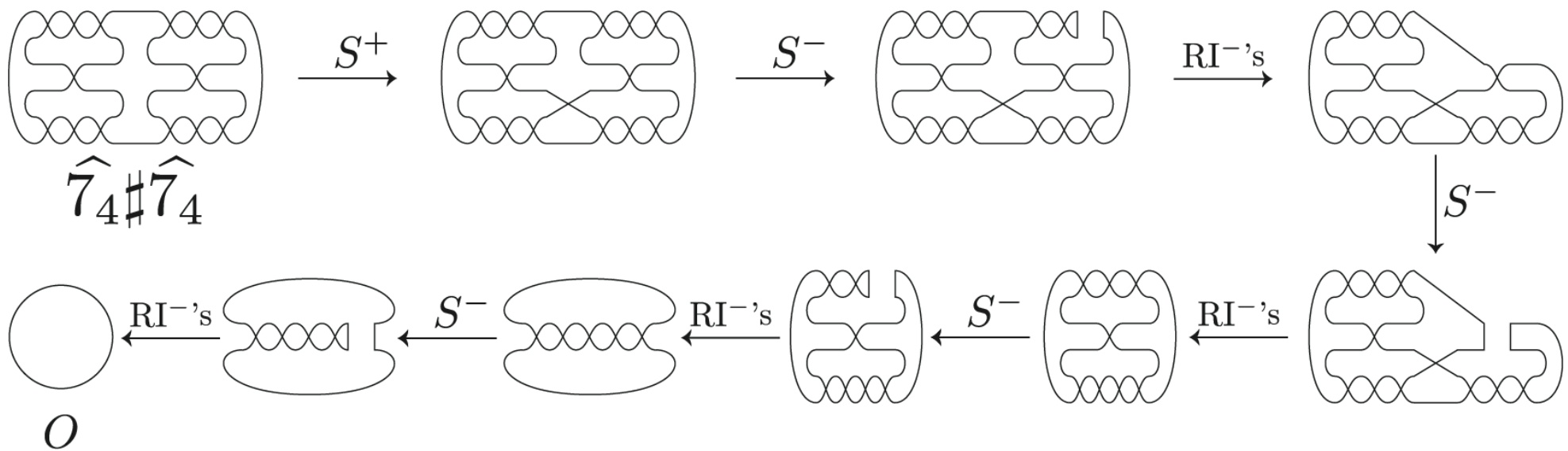
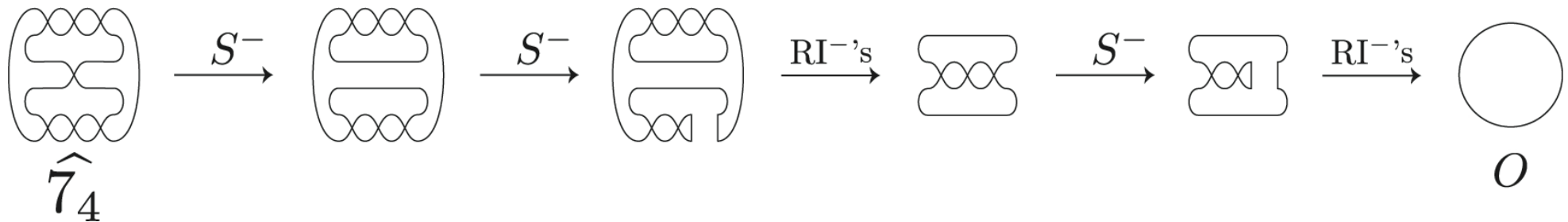
$7_4 \# 7_4$

$$C(7_4 \# 7_4) = 5$$

by Murakami-Yasuhara, PJM, 1997.

Note: there is an interesting example. $u^-(7_4 \# 7_4) = 6$,
but Takimura's original u satisfies $u(7_4 \# 7_4) \leq 5$.

Question: Which prime knot K does satisfy $u(K) = u^-(K)$?



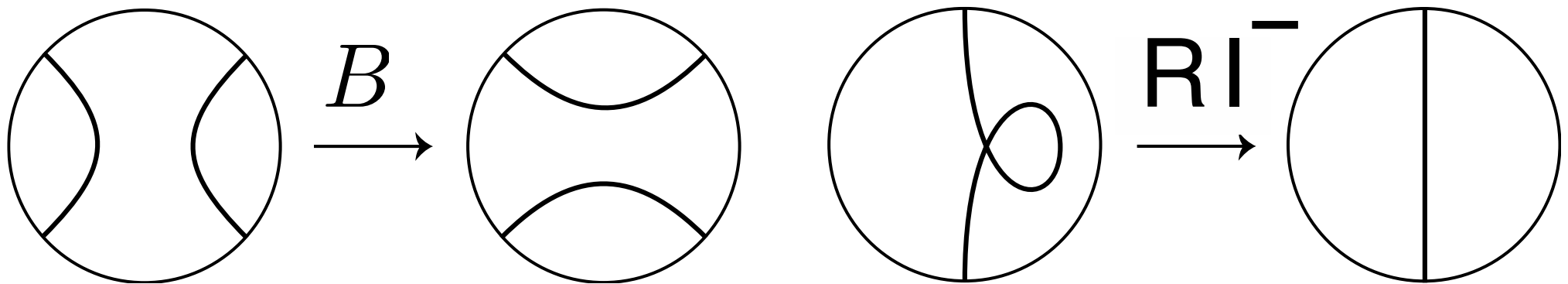
Can we give lower
bound even non-
prime knots easily?

Can we give lower bound even non-prime
knots easily?

—>Yes, we do by “band surgery” though we
drop convenience for computation & results
for non-alternating knots.

My answer : for alt. knots, via band surgery

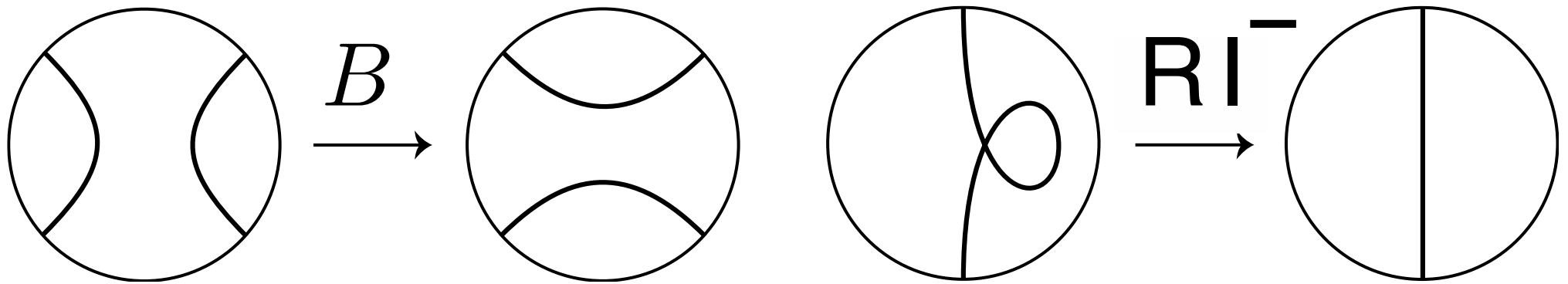
Definition (Band surgery “B” for diagram).



Definition($B(D)$)

Let D be an alternating knot diagram.

$B(D)$ is the minimum number of necessary band surgeries B among any sequences of B and RI^- to obtain O .



Alternating knot invariant $B(K)$.

K : alternating knot,

$Z(K)$: the set of alt. knot diag. of K ,

$$B(K) := \min_{D \in Z(K)} B(D) .$$

Note: Takimura has given $B(P)$ for any knot projection P .

I use it.

Main Result 3 (Takimura-I., JKTR, 2020)

$\Gamma(K)$: min of 1st Betti num. of alt. knot K .

$$(1) C(K)=B(K) \Leftrightarrow C(K) = \Gamma(K).$$

$$(2) C(K) = B(K) + 1 \Leftrightarrow C(K) \neq \Gamma(K).$$

$$(3) B(K \# K') = B(K) + B(K').$$

$$\text{NOTE: } C(K) \neq \Gamma(K) \Leftrightarrow C(K) = 2g(K)+1.$$

1978, Clark, Fixed K s.t. $C(K) = 1$.

1996, H. Murakami-Yasuhara, Fixed condi., connected sum.

2004, Teragaito, Fixed $C(K)$, torus knots

Hatcher-Thurston, 1985



2006, Hirasawa-Teragaito, Fixed $C(K)$, 2-bridge knots

2006, Ichihara-Mizushima, Fixed $C(K)$, *many* pretzel knots

2013, Adams-Kindred, Algorithm for alternating knots

(using state surface, introduced by Ozawa)

Hatcher-Ortel, 1989



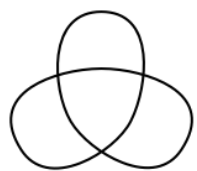
2016, Kalfagianni-Lee, Lower bounds w/ Jones polynomial

(via Adams-Kindred algorithm)

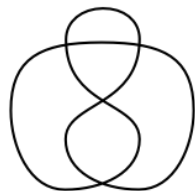
2019, by us, crosscap number n of alt. knots., also by Kindred.

Time line (by us, and Kindred)

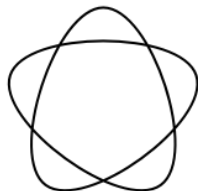
- 2019, March 8, we submitted a paper for B(K) to JKTR.
- 2019, April 4, we submitted a paper for $u^-(K)$.
- 2019, May 17, Kindred contacted me that he was working for the same equality $C(K) = u^-(K)$.
- I like arXiv, but do not like “arXiv competition”, thus, I did not post our papers to arXiv and said OK for him.
- 2019, May 27, Kindred submitted his paper to arXiv.
- 2020, March 20, Our B(K) result was published (JKTR).
- 2020, June 25, Kindred's $u^-(K)$ -paper was published (IJM).
- 2020, July 26, we submitted 2nd revised ver. to IJM.



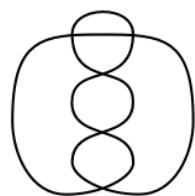
1



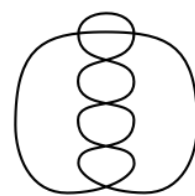
2



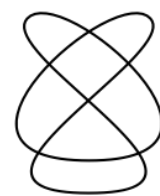
1



2



2



2



3