

# Families of non-alternating knots

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結び目の数学 VIII

Waseda University, Japan

- 1 Notation
- 2 HOMFLY polynomial
  - Conway polynomial
  - Alexander polynomial
- 3 Non-alternating knots
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# 3-tangles

## Definition

An  $n$ -**tangle** is a pair  $(B^3, T)$  where  $B^3$  is a 3-ball and  $T$  is a one-dimensional, embedded submanifold with non-empty boundary, which contains  $n$  arcs (i.e.,  $n$  subsets homeomorphic to  $[0, 1]$ ) and satisfies  $\partial T = T \cap \partial B^3$

3-tangle diagrams



# 3-braids

We shall denote a 3-braid by  $\mathcal{T}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$

Examples:



$$\mathcal{T}(3, 2, 2)$$



$$\mathcal{T}(1, -1, 1) = \mathcal{E}$$



$$\mathcal{T}(-1, 1, -1) = \mathcal{E}^{-1}$$

The set of 3-braids forms a group.

# Homfly polynomial

Remember that the **HOMFLY polynomial** of an oriented link is computed by the following:

- 1  $v^{-1}P(L_+) - vP(L_-) = zP(L_0)$
- 2  $P(\bigcirc) = 1$

where  $(L_+, L_-, L_0)$  is a skein triple of oriented links that are the same, except in a crossing neighbourhood where they look like:



$L_+$



$L_-$

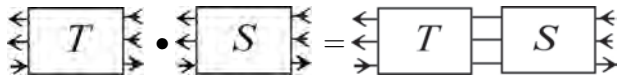


$L_0$

$$P(L_1 \cup L_2) = \delta P(L_1)P(L_2), \quad \delta = \frac{v^{-1}-v}{z}$$

$$P(L; v, z) \in \mathbb{Z}[v^{\pm 1}, z^{\pm 1}]$$

Operation:



For a given  $T$ , we have that  $P(T) = \sum_{i=1}^6 p_i P(\chi_i)$  where

$$p_i \in \mathbb{Z}[v^{\pm 1}, z^{\pm 1}]$$



$\chi_1$



$\chi_2$



$\chi_3$



$\chi_4$



$\chi_5$



$\chi_6$

Example:  $P\left(\begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \diagup \\ \hline \end{array}\right) = v^{-2} P\left(\begin{array}{c} \diagdown \\ \hline \end{array}\right) - v^{-1} z P\left(\begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \hline \end{array}\right).$

## Theorem

Let  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  be two 3-tangles, such that

$$P(T_1) = \sum_{i=1}^6 p_i P(\chi_i) \text{ and } P(T_2) = \sum_{i=1}^6 q_i P(\chi_i), \text{ then}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(T_1 \cdot T_2) = & \\ & [p_1 q_1 + p_3 q_3 v^2] P(\chi_1) \\ & + [p_1 q_2 + p_2(q_1 + q_4 + q_2 \delta) + p_3 q_4 v^2 + p_5(q_2 + q_3 v^2 + (vz + v^2 \delta) q_4)] P(\chi_2) \\ & + [p_1 q_3 + p_3 q_1 + vz p_3 q_3] P(\chi_3) \\ & + [p_1 q_4 + p_3(q_2 + vz q_4) + p_4(q_1 + q_4 + q_2 \delta) + p_6(q_2 + q_3 v^2 + (vz + v^2 \delta) q_4)] P(\chi_4) \\ & + [p_1 q_5 + p_2(q_3 + q_6 + q_5 \delta) + p_3 q_6 v^2 + p_5(q_1 + q_5 + vz q_3 + (vz + v^2 \delta) q_6)] P(\chi_5) \\ & + [p_1 q_6 + p_3(q_5 + vz q_6) + p_4(q_3 + q_6 + q_5 \delta) + \\ & \quad p_6(q_1 + q_5 + vz q_3 + (vz + v^2 \delta) q_6)] P(\chi_6), \\ \text{where } \delta = & \frac{v^{-1} - v}{z}. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.*

$$P(T_1 \cdot T_2) =$$

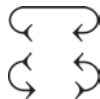
$$\begin{aligned}
 & p_1 q_1 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1} \\ \text{Diagram 2} \\ \text{Diagram 3} \end{array} \right) + p_1 q_2 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 4} \\ \text{Diagram 5} \\ \text{Diagram 6} \end{array} \right) + p_1 q_3 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 7} \\ \text{Diagram 8} \\ \text{Diagram 9} \end{array} \right) + p_1 q_4 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 10} \\ \text{Diagram 11} \\ \text{Diagram 12} \end{array} \right) \\
 & + p_1 q_5 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 13} \\ \text{Diagram 14} \\ \text{Diagram 15} \end{array} \right) + p_1 q_6 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 16} \\ \text{Diagram 17} \\ \text{Diagram 18} \end{array} \right) + p_2 q_1 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 19} \\ \text{Diagram 20} \\ \text{Diagram 21} \end{array} \right) + p_2 q_2 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 22} \\ \text{Diagram 23} \\ \text{Diagram 24} \end{array} \right) \\
 & + p_2 q_3 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 25} \\ \text{Diagram 26} \\ \text{Diagram 27} \end{array} \right) + p_2 q_4 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 28} \\ \text{Diagram 29} \\ \text{Diagram 30} \end{array} \right) + p_2 q_5 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 31} \\ \text{Diagram 32} \\ \text{Diagram 33} \end{array} \right) + p_2 q_6 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 34} \\ \text{Diagram 35} \\ \text{Diagram 36} \end{array} \right) \\
 & + p_3 q_1 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 37} \\ \text{Diagram 38} \\ \text{Diagram 39} \end{array} \right) + p_3 q_2 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 40} \\ \text{Diagram 41} \\ \text{Diagram 42} \end{array} \right) + p_3 q_3 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 43} \\ \text{Diagram 44} \\ \text{Diagram 45} \end{array} \right) + p_3 q_4 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 46} \\ \text{Diagram 47} \\ \text{Diagram 48} \end{array} \right) \\
 & + p_3 q_5 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 49} \\ \text{Diagram 50} \\ \text{Diagram 51} \end{array} \right) + p_3 q_6 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 52} \\ \text{Diagram 53} \\ \text{Diagram 54} \end{array} \right) + p_4 q_1 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 55} \\ \text{Diagram 56} \\ \text{Diagram 57} \end{array} \right) + p_4 q_2 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 58} \\ \text{Diagram 59} \\ \text{Diagram 60} \end{array} \right) \\
 & + p_4 q_3 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 61} \\ \text{Diagram 62} \\ \text{Diagram 63} \end{array} \right) + p_4 q_4 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 64} \\ \text{Diagram 65} \\ \text{Diagram 66} \end{array} \right) + p_4 q_5 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 67} \\ \text{Diagram 68} \\ \text{Diagram 69} \end{array} \right) + p_4 q_6 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 70} \\ \text{Diagram 71} \\ \text{Diagram 72} \end{array} \right) \\
 & + p_5 q_1 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 73} \\ \text{Diagram 74} \\ \text{Diagram 75} \end{array} \right) + p_5 q_2 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 76} \\ \text{Diagram 77} \\ \text{Diagram 78} \end{array} \right) + p_5 q_3 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 79} \\ \text{Diagram 80} \\ \text{Diagram 81} \end{array} \right) + p_5 q_4 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 82} \\ \text{Diagram 83} \\ \text{Diagram 84} \end{array} \right) \\
 & + p_5 q_5 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 85} \\ \text{Diagram 86} \\ \text{Diagram 87} \end{array} \right) + p_5 q_6 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 88} \\ \text{Diagram 89} \\ \text{Diagram 90} \end{array} \right) + p_6 q_1 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 91} \\ \text{Diagram 92} \\ \text{Diagram 93} \end{array} \right) + p_6 q_2 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 94} \\ \text{Diagram 95} \\ \text{Diagram 96} \end{array} \right) \\
 & + p_6 q_3 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 97} \\ \text{Diagram 98} \\ \text{Diagram 99} \end{array} \right) + p_6 q_4 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 100} \\ \text{Diagram 101} \\ \text{Diagram 102} \end{array} \right) + p_6 q_5 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 103} \\ \text{Diagram 104} \\ \text{Diagram 105} \end{array} \right) + p_6 q_6 P \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 106} \\ \text{Diagram 107} \\ \text{Diagram 108} \end{array} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$



# Closures of $T$



$N_1$



$N_2$



$N_3$



$N_4$



$N_5$



$N_6$

## Lemma

Let  $T$  be a 3-tangle. If  $P(T) = \sum_{i=1}^6 p_i P(\chi_i)$  then

$$P(N_1(T)) = \delta^2 p_1 + \delta p_2 + \delta p_3 + p_4 + p_5 + (v^2 \delta + vz) p_6,$$

$$P(N_2(T)) = \delta p_1 + \delta^2 p_2 + p_3 + \delta p_4 + \delta p_5 + p_6,$$

$$P(N_3(T)) = \delta p_1 + p_2 + (v^2 \delta^2 + vz \delta) p_3 + (v^2 \delta + vz) p_4 + (v^2 \delta + vz) p_5 + (v^2 + vz(v^2 \delta + vz)) p_6,$$

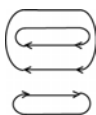
$$P(N_4(T)) = p_1 + \delta p_2 + (v^2 \delta + vz) p_3 + p_4 + (v^2 \delta^2 + vz \delta) p_5 + (v^2 \delta + vz) p_6,$$

$$P(N_5(T)) = p_1 + \delta p_2 + (v^2 \delta + vz) p_3 + (v^2 \delta^2 + vz \delta) p_4 + p_5 + (v^2 \delta + vz) p_6,$$

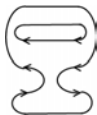
$$P(N_6(T)) = (v^2 \delta + vz) p_1 + p_2 + (v^2 + vz(v^2 \delta + vz)) p_3 + (v^2 \delta + vz) p_4 + (v^2 \delta + vz) p_5 + (v^2(v^2 \delta^2 + vz \delta) + vz(v^2 \delta + vz)) p_6.$$

*Proof.* Suppose that  $P(T) = \sum_{i=1}^6 p_i P(\chi_i)$ , then

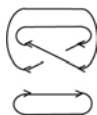
$P(N_j(T)) = \sum_{i=1}^6 p_i P(N_j(\chi_i))$ . We prove for  $N_1(T)$ , the other cases are analogous.



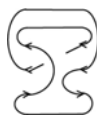
$N_1(\chi_1)$



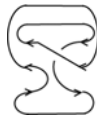
$N_1(\chi_2)$



$N_1(\chi_3)$



$N_1(\chi_4)$



$N_1(\chi_5)$



$N_1(\chi_6)$

Furthermore,  $P(N_1(T)) = \delta^2 p_1 + \delta p_2 + \delta p_3 + p_4 + p_5 + (v^2 \delta + vz) p_6$ .  $\square$

## Theorem

Let  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  be two 3-tangles. If

$$P(T_1) = \sum_{i=1}^6 p_i P(\chi_i) \quad \text{and} \quad P(T_2) = \sum_{i=1}^6 q_i P(\chi_i), \quad \text{then,}$$
$$P(N_1(T_1 \cdot T_2)) = \sum_{i=1}^6 p_i P(N_i(T_2)).$$

*Proof.* Previous results. □

## Theorem

Let  $D = \mathcal{E}^{2k}$  be a 3-tangle with  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $P(D) = \sum_{i=1}^6 A_{i_k} P(\chi_i)$ , where:

$$\begin{aligned}A_{1_k} &= A_{1_{k-1}} v^{-2} + A_{3_{k-1}} v^{-1} z, \\A_{2_k} &= [-A_{3_k} - (\delta + z v^{-1})(1 - A_{1_k})]/((1 - \delta^2)), \\A_{3_k} &= A_{1_{k-1}} v^{-3} z + (1 + z^2) v^{-2} A_{3_{k-1}}, \\A_{4_k} &= [\delta A_{3_k} + v^{-2}(1 - A_{1_k})]/(1 - \delta^2), \\A_{5_k} &= [\delta A_{3_k} + v^{-2}(1 - A_{1_k})]/(1 - \delta^2), \\A_{6_k} &= -A_{3_k} - \delta[\delta A_{3_k} + v^{-2}(1 - A_{1_k})]/(1 - \delta^2),\end{aligned}$$

with  $A_{3_0} = 0$ ,  $A_{1_0} = 1$  and  $\delta = \frac{v^{-1} - v}{z}$ ,

*Proof.* Induction. □

$$\begin{aligned} A_{1_k} &= A_{1_{k-1}} v^{-2} + A_{3_{k-1}} v^{-1} z, \\ A_{3_k} &= A_{1_{k-1}} v^{-3} z + (1 + z^2) v^{-2} A_{3_{k-1}}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{1_k} \\ A_{3_k} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} v^{-2} & v^{-1} z \\ v^{-3} z & v^{-2}(1 + z^2) \end{pmatrix}^k \begin{pmatrix} A_{1_0} \\ A_{3_0} \end{pmatrix}$$

## Lemma

*If  $A_{1_0} = 1$  and  $A_{3_0} = 0$  then  $A_{1_k} = v^{-2k} \alpha_{1_k}$  and  $A_{3_k} = v^{-(2k+1)} \alpha_{3_k}$ .*

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{1_k} \\ \alpha_{3_k} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & z \\ z & 1 + z^2 \end{pmatrix}^k \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{1_0} \\ \alpha_{3_0} \end{pmatrix}$$

## Lemma

- i)  $P(\mathcal{T}(2l)) = A_{1_l} v^{4l} P(\chi_1) + A_{3_l} v^{4l} P(\chi_3).$
- ii)  $P(\mathcal{T}(2l+1)) = A_{3_l} v^{4l+2} P(\chi_1) + A_{1_{l+1}} v^{4l+2} P(\chi_3).$
- iii)  $P(\mathcal{T}(-2l)) = A_{1_{l+1}} v^2 P(\chi_1) - A_{3_l} P(\chi_3).$
- iv)  $P(\mathcal{T}(-(2l+1))) = -A_{3_l} v^2 P(\chi_1) + A_{1_{l+1}} P(\chi_3)$
- v)  $P(\mathcal{T}(0, 2l)) = v^{2l} P(\chi_1) + z \sum_{i=1}^l v^{2i-1} P(\chi_2).$
- vi)  $P(\mathcal{T}(0, -2l)) = v^{-2l} P(\chi_1) - z \sum_{i=1}^l v^{-(2i-1)} P(\chi_2),$

where  $A_{1_0} = 1, A_{3_0} = 0.$

*Proof.* Induction. □

## Corollary

Let  $T$  be a 3-tangle and  $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . If

$$P(T) = \sum_{i=1}^6 p_i P(\chi_i) \quad \text{and} \quad P(\mathcal{E}^{2k}) = \sum_{i=1}^6 A_{i_k} P(\chi_i),$$

then

$$P(N_1(T \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = p_1 P(N_1(\mathcal{E}^{2k})) + p_2 \delta + p_3 P(N_3(\mathcal{E}^{2k})) + p_4 + p_5 + p_6 (v^2 \delta + v z).$$

*Proof.*

$$P(N_1(T \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = \sum_{i=1}^6 p_i P(N_i(\mathcal{E}^{2k})).$$

□



# Conway-Alexander polynomial

$$P(L; v, z) \in \mathbb{Z}[v^{\pm 1}, z^{\pm 1}]$$

$$\nabla(L; z) \in \mathbb{Z}[z]$$

$$\Delta(L; t) \in \mathbb{Z}[t^{\pm \frac{1}{2}}]$$

$$\nabla(L; z) = P(L; 1, z)$$

$$\Delta(L; t) = P(L; 1, t^{\frac{1}{2}} - t^{-\frac{1}{2}})$$

$$\delta = \frac{v^{-1} - v}{z}$$

$$A_{1_k} = v^{-2k} \alpha_{1_k}$$

$$A_{3_k} = v^{-(2k+1)} \alpha_{3_k}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{1_k} \\ \alpha_{3_k} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & z \\ z & 1 + z^2 \end{pmatrix}^k \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{1_0} \\ \alpha_{3_0} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P(N_1(T \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = p_1 P(N_1(\mathcal{E}^{2k})) + p_2 \delta + p_3 P(N_3(\mathcal{E}^{2k})) + p_4 + p_5 + p_6 (v^2 \delta + vz).$$

$$\nabla(N_1(T \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = p_1 \nabla(N_1(\mathcal{E}^{2k})) + p_3 \nabla(N_3(\mathcal{E}^{2k})) + p_4 + p_5 + zp_6.$$

$$\nabla(N_1(T \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = p_1 (2(1 - \alpha_{1_k}) - z\alpha_{3_k}) + p_3 (-(2 + z^2)\alpha_{3_k} + z(1 - \alpha_{1_k})) + \nabla(N_1(T)).$$

# Alexander polynomial

With the change  $z = t^{\frac{1}{2}} - t^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , we have:

## Proposition

For all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  we have

$$\alpha_{1_k} = \left[ \sum_{i=1}^k (t^{-(i-1)} + t^{i-1})(-1)^{k-i} \right] + (-1)^k, \quad (1)$$

$$\alpha_{3_k} = - \sum_{i=1}^k (t^{-(i-\frac{1}{2})} - t^{i-\frac{1}{2}})(-1)^{k-i}. \quad (2)$$

$$\alpha_{1_k} = \alpha_{1_{k-1}} + z\alpha_{3_{k-1}}, \quad (3)$$

$$\alpha_{3_k} = z\alpha_{1_{k-1}} + (1 + z^2)\alpha_{3_{k-1}}. \quad (4)$$

with  $\alpha_{1_0} = 1$  and  $\alpha_{3_0} = 0$ .

## Theorem

[Murasugi, 1958] Suppose  $K$  is an alternating knot and

$$\Delta_K(t) = a_{-m}t^{-m} + a_{-m+1}t^{-m+1} + \dots + a_mt^m \text{ with } a_m \neq 0 \neq a_{-m}.$$

Then

- 1  $a_{-m}, a_{-m+1}, \dots, a_m$  are never equal to zero;
- 2 the sign of two consecutive coefficients alternates, i.e.,

$$a_i a_{i+1} < 0 \quad (i = -m, -m+1, \dots, m-1).$$

Note that if  $K$  is a knot such that its Alexander polynomial does not satisfy (1) or (2), then  $K$  is non-alternating.

## Lemma

$$\Delta(N_1(\mathcal{E}^{2k})) = -(t^{-k} + t^k) + 2 \text{ and}$$

$$\Delta(N_3(\mathcal{E}^{2k})) = (t^{-(k+\frac{1}{2})} - t^{(k+\frac{1}{2})}) + t^{\frac{1}{2}} - t^{-\frac{1}{2}} \text{ for } k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}.$$

## Theorem

Let  $T$  be a 3-tangle such that  $N_1(T)$  is a knot. Then there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $L \geq k, L \in \mathbb{N}$  the family  $\{N_1(T \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2L})\}$  is non-alternating.

*Proof.*

$$\nabla(N_1(T \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = p_1 \nabla(N_1(\mathcal{E}^{2k})) + p_3 \nabla(N_3(\mathcal{E}^{2k})) + \nabla(N_1(T)).$$

$$\Delta(N_1(T \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) =$$

$$p_1(-(t^{-k} + t^k) + 2) + p_3(t^{-(k+\frac{1}{2})} - t^{(k+\frac{1}{2})}) + t^{\frac{1}{2}} - t^{-\frac{1}{2}} + \Delta(N_1(T)).$$

□

## Lemma

For all  $l, k, r \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $n_i, m_i \in \mathbb{N}, i = 1, \dots, r$ , if  $r \geq 1$  the  $\text{span}(\Delta(N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2n_1, 2m_1, \dots, 2n_r, 2m_r) \cdot c))) = 2g_r + 2$  and  $\text{span}(\Delta(N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1) \cdot c))) = 2l$  if  $r = 0$ , where  $g_r = l + \sum_{i=1}^r m_i$ .

## Theorem

Let  $T = \mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2n_1, 2m_1, \dots, 2n_r, 2m_r) \cdot c$  be a 3-tangle, for all  $l, k, r \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $n_i, m_i \in \mathbb{N}, i = 1, \dots, r$  and  $k \geq 3$ . Then the family of knots  $\{N_1(T \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})\}$  is non-alternating.

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} & \Delta(N_1(T \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) \\ &= \Delta(N_1(T)) - (t^{-g_r} + t^{g_r}) + (t^{-(g_r+1)} + t^{(g_r+1)}) \\ & \quad + (t^{-(g_r+k)} + t^{(g_r+k)}) - (t^{-(g_r+k+1)} + t^{(g_r+k+1)}). \end{aligned}$$

□

## Corollary

For all  $l \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  the knots  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1) \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})$  are non-alternating.

*Proof.*

From the previous results:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1) \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) &= \left[ \sum_{i=1}^l (t^{-i} + t^i)(-1)^{l-i} \right] + (-1)^l \\ &+ (-t^{-l} - t^l + t^{-(l+1)} + t^{(l+1)}) \\ &+ (t^{-(l+k)} + t^{(l+k)} - t^{-(l+k+1)} - t^{(l+k+1)}). \end{aligned}$$

□

## Corollary

For all  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  the knots  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2, 2) \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})$  are non-alternating.

*Proof.*

$$\Delta(N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2, 2) \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) =$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[ \sum_{i=1}^l (t^{-(i-1)} + t^{(i-1)}) (-1)^{l-i} \right] + (-1)^l \\ & + 2(-t^{-(l+1)} - t^{l+1} + t^{-(l+2)} + t^{l+2}) \\ & + (t^{-(l+k+1)} + t^{l+k+1} - t^{-(l+k+2)} - t^{l+k+2}). \end{aligned}$$

□



### $alt(L)$ Alternation number

The alternation number of a link diagram  $D$  is the minimum number of crossing changes necessary to transform  $D$  into some (possibly non-alternating) diagram of an alternating link.

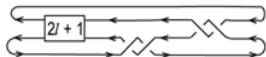
The alternation number of a link  $L$ , denoted  $alt(L)$ , is the minimum alternation number of any diagram of  $L$ .

Kawauchi introduced the alternation number of a knot  $K$  [Kawauchi, 2010].

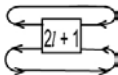
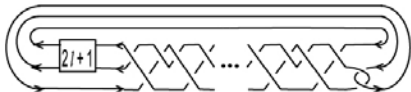
## Corollary

If  $K$  is, either the knot  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2, 2) \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})$  for  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  or the knot  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1) \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})$  for  $l \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $\text{alt}(K) = 1$ .

Note that:



and



$NK = \{K \in \{N_1(\mathcal{T} \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})\} \mid K \text{ is non-alternating}\}.$

### Lemma

*If  $K$  is a knot in  $NK$  then  $br(K) = 3$*

*Proof.* The knot  $K$  has  $br(K) \leq 3$  and is non-alternating. □

### Theorem

*If  $K$  is a knot in  $NK$  then it is a prime knot.*

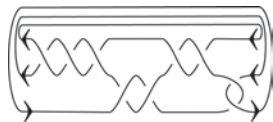
*Proof.* If  $K$  is the connected sum of  $K_1$  and  $K_2$ , then the bridge index of  $K$  is one less than the sum of the bridge index of  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  [Schubert, 1954]. As  $br(K) = 3$  then  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  have bridge index two and therefore they are alternating knots. Further, the connected sum of alternating knots is an alternating knot and then  $K \notin NK$ . Hence  $K$  is a prime knot. □

## Corollary

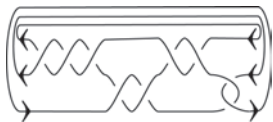
*If  $K$  is a knot in  $NK$  different to  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(3, 2, 2) \cdot c)$  or  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(5, 2, 2) \cdot c)$  then it is a hyperbolic knot.*

*Proof.* Let  $K \in NK$ . Then  $K$  is prime, it has bridge index 3 and alternation number one. The prime knots with bridge index  $\leq 3$ , that are not torus knots, are hyperbolic [Kawauchi, 2012]. The only torus knots with alternation number one are  $8_{19}$  and  $10_{124}$  [Abe, 2009].  $\square$

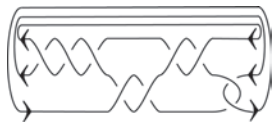
# Some diagrams



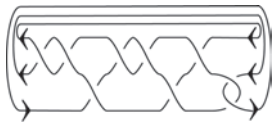
$$N_1(\mathcal{T}(3, 2, 2) \cdot c)$$



$$N_1(\mathcal{T}(-3, 2, 2) \cdot c)$$



$$N_1(\mathcal{T}(3, 2, -2) \cdot c)$$



$$N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l + 1) \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^2)$$

## Homogeneous links

Let  $D$  be a diagram of an oriented link and let  $G$  be its Seifert graph. Each edge in  $G$  can be given a sign  $+$  or  $-$  depending on whether it passed through a positive or negative crossing. If the signs of all edges in each blocks of  $G$  is the same, then  $D$  is a homogeneous diagram. A knot  $K$  is homogeneous if  $K$  has a homogeneous diagram.

The class of homogeneous knots includes alternating knots and positive knots [Cromwell, 1989].

## Theorem

[Cromwell, 1989] A link is non-homogeneous if  $P(L)$  has no terms of the form  $\lambda(-1)^{\frac{1}{2}(r-s)}v^s z^r$  for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $r = \max \deg_z P(L)$ ,  $s \leq r$ .

## Lemma

$$P(N_1(E^{2k})) = -(A_{1_k} + A_{1_{k+1}})v^2 + \delta^2 A_{1_k} + \delta A_{3_k} + 2,$$

$$P(N_3(E^{2k})) =$$

$$-(A_{3_k} + A_{3_{k+1}})v^2 + \delta^2(1 + z^2)A_{1_k} + (3tz\delta + z^3\delta + \delta^2v^2)A_{3_k} - (\delta z^2 - zv^{-1})$$

## Theorem

- 1 The links  $N_1(\mathcal{E}^{2k})$ ,  $N_3(\mathcal{E}^{2k})$  and  $N_1(\mathcal{E}^{2k} \cdot c)$  are non-homogeneous.
- 2 The knots  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1) \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})$ ,  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(-(2l+1), 2, 2) \cdot c)$  and  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(3, 2, -2l) \cdot c)$  are non-homogeneous knots.

*Proof.*

$$-v^{-2k} z^{2k}$$

$$P(N(\mathcal{T} \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) =$$

$$p_1 P((N_1(\mathcal{E}^{2k}))) + p_2 \delta + p_3 P((N_3(\mathcal{E}^{2k}))) + p_4 + p_5 + p_6 (v^2 \delta + vz).$$
$$-v^{2l-2k+2} z^{2l+2k+2}$$

□



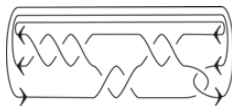
## Theorem

[Cromwell, 1989] Let  $L$  be a homogeneous link. Then  $L$  is fibred if and only if the leading coefficient of  $\nabla(L)$  is  $\pm 1$ .

## Theorem

- 1 The knots  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1) \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^2)$  are fibred knots (these knots are non-homogeneous).
- 2 The knots  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2, 2) \cdot c)$  and  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2, 2) \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^2)$  are fibred knots.

*Proof.*



□

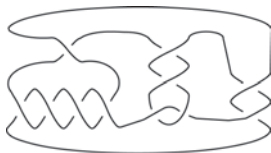
## Corollary

The genus of the knots  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1) \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^2)$ ,  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2, 2) \cdot c)$  and  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2, 2) \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^2)$  is  $g_r + 1 + k$ .

## Theorem

The knots  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1) \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^2)$ ,  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2, 2) \cdot c)$  and  $N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2, 2) \cdot c \cdot \mathcal{E}^2)$  are Montesinos knots.

*Proof.*



## Corollary

The  $\det(N_1(T \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = | \Delta(T; -1) + 4((-1)^k - 1)(-1)^{g_r} |$  where  $g_r = l + \sum_{i=1}^r m_i$  if  $r \geq 1$  and  $g_r = l$  if  $r = 0$ .

In particular,

$$\det(N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1) \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = | 2l+1 + 4((-1)^k - 1) | \text{ and}$$
$$\det(N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2, 2) \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = | -2l+9 + 4(-1)^k |.$$

## Corollary

Let  $K = N_1(T \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})$  then  $\text{Arf}(K) = 0$  if and only if  $\Delta(N_1(T); -1) \cong \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ .

$$\text{Arf}(N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1) \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = 0 \Leftrightarrow l \cong 0 \pmod{4} \text{ or } l \cong 3 \pmod{4},$$
$$\text{Arf}(N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2, 2) \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = 0 \Leftrightarrow l \cong 2 \pmod{4} \text{ or } l \cong 3 \pmod{4}.$$

## Proposition

$$\sigma(N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1) \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = \begin{cases} -2(l+1) & \text{if } k \text{ is odd and } l \leq 3 \\ -2l & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
$$\sigma(N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2, 2) \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = \begin{cases} -2(l+2) & \text{if } k \text{ is odd and } l \leq 6 \text{ or} \\ & \text{if } k \text{ is even and } l \leq 2 \\ -2(l+1) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} .$$

## Proposition

$$u(N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1) \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = l+1 \text{ if } k \text{ is odd and } l \leq 3.$$
$$u(N_1(\mathcal{T}(2l+1, 2, 2) \cdot \mathcal{E}^{2k})) = l+2 \text{ if } k \text{ is odd and } l \leq 6 \text{ or if } k \text{ is even and } l \leq 2.$$

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