

Physics and mathematics of knots

Sergei Chmutov

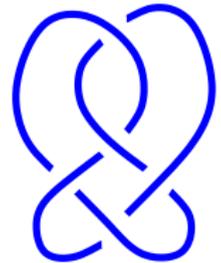
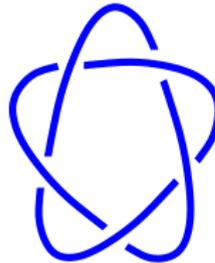
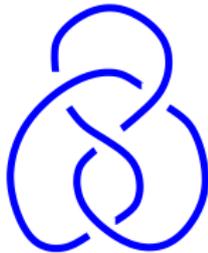
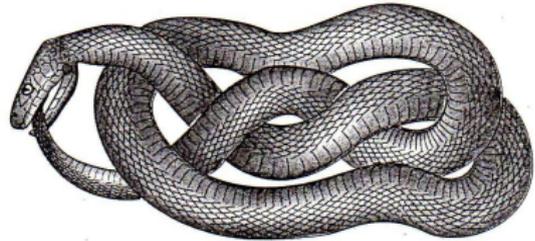
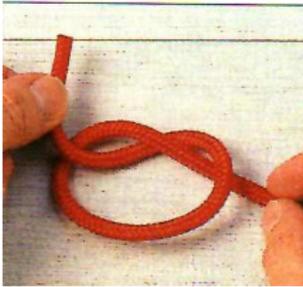
Ohio State University, Mansfield

Ohio Wesleyan University

Tuesday, March 1, 2011

12:15 — 12:55 PM

Knots



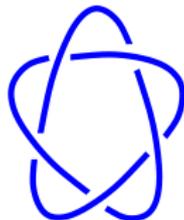
Knot Table



3_1



4_1



5_1



5_2



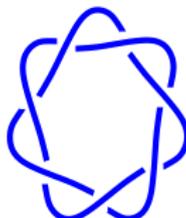
6_1



6_2



6_3



7_1



7_2

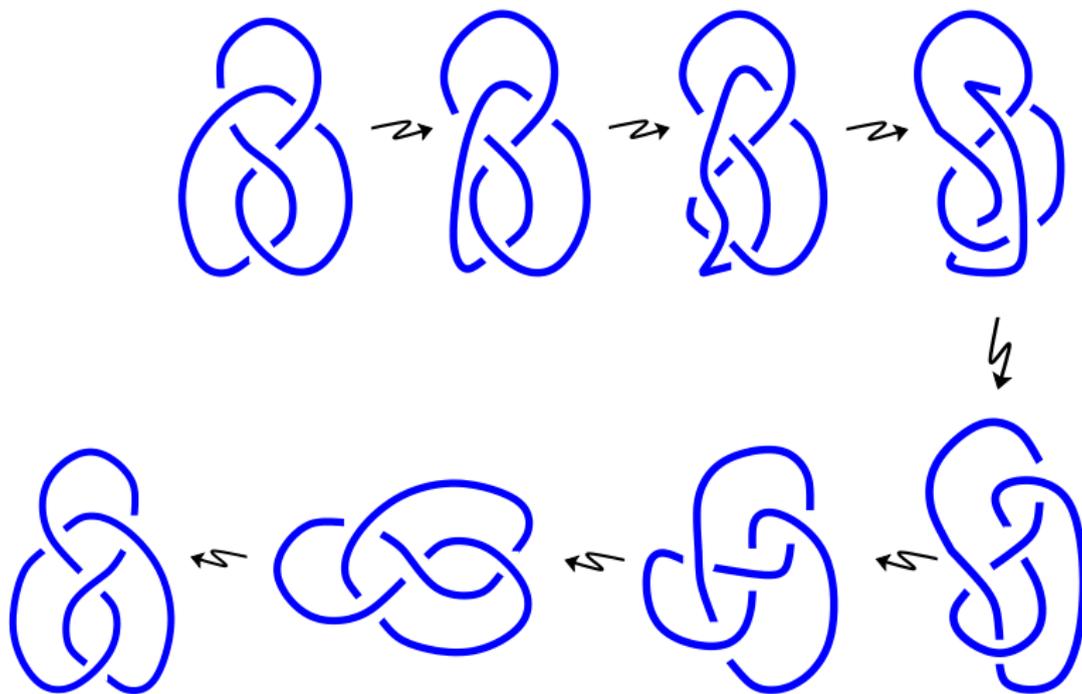


7_3

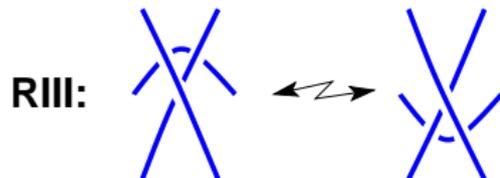
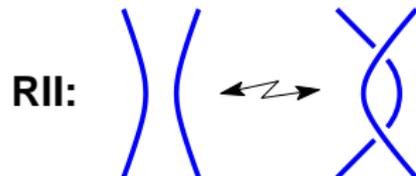
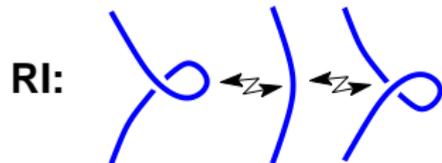
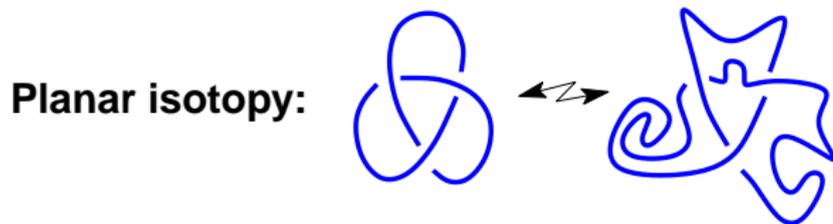
Unknots = Trivial Knots



Knot isotopy



Reidemeister moves



Potts model (C.Domb 1952)

$q = 2$ the Ising model (W.Lenz, 1920)

Let G be a graph.

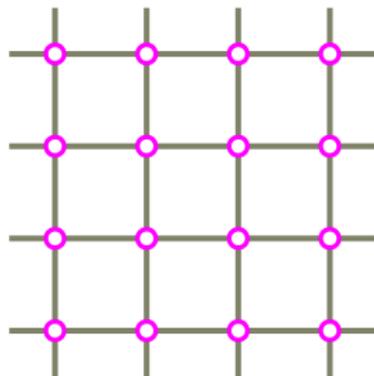
Particles are located at vertices of G .

Each particle has a *spin*, which takes q different values .

A *state*, $\sigma \in \mathcal{S}$, is an assignment of spins to all vertices of G .

Neighboring particles interact with each other only if their spins are the same. The energy of the interaction along an edge e is $-J_e$ (*coupling constant*).

The model is called *ferromagnetic* if $J_e > 0$ and *antiferromagnetic* if $J_e < 0$.



Potts model

Energy of a state σ (*Hamiltonian*),

$$H(\sigma) = - \sum_{(a,b)=e \in E(G)} J_e \delta(\sigma(a), \sigma(b)).$$

Boltzmann weight of σ :

$$e^{-\beta H(\sigma)} = \prod_{(a,b)=e \in E(G)} e^{J_e \beta \delta(\sigma(a), \sigma(b))} = \prod_{(a,b)=e \in E(G)} \left(1 + (e^{J_e \beta} - 1) \delta(\sigma(a), \sigma(b)) \right),$$

where the *inverse temperature* $\beta = \frac{1}{\kappa T}$, T is the temperature, $\kappa = 1.38 \times 10^{-23}$ joules/Kelvin is the *Boltzmann constant*.

The Potts partition function (for $x_e := e^{J_e \beta} - 1$)

$$Z_G(q, x_e) := \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{S}} e^{-\beta H(\sigma)} = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{S}} \prod_{e \in E(G)} (1 + x_e \delta(\sigma(a), \sigma(b)))$$

Potts model (properties)

Probability of a state σ : $P(\sigma) := e^{-\beta H(\sigma)} / Z_G$.

Expected value of a function $f(\sigma)$:

$$\langle f \rangle := \sum_{\sigma} f(\sigma) P(\sigma) = \sum_{\sigma} f(\sigma) e^{-\beta H(\sigma)} / Z_G.$$

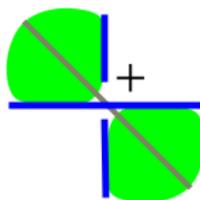
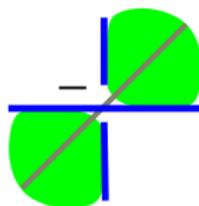
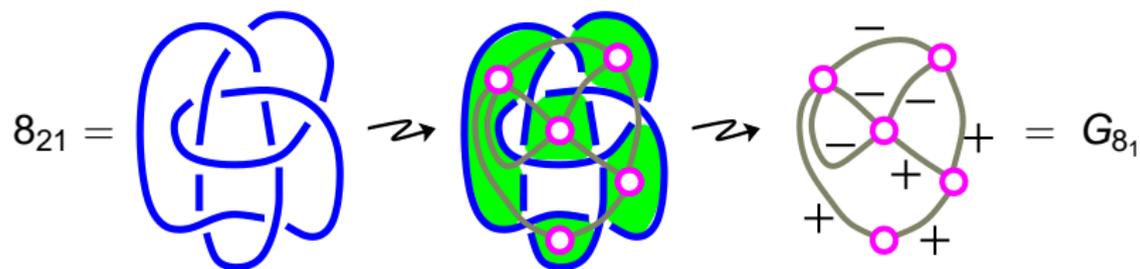
Expected energy: $\langle H \rangle = \sum_{\sigma} H(\sigma) e^{-\beta H(\sigma)} / Z_G = -\frac{d}{d\beta} \ln Z_G$.

Fortuin—Kasteleyn'1972: $Z_G(q, x_e) = \sum_{F \subseteq E(G)} q^{k(F)} \prod_{e \in F} x_e$,

where $k(F)$ is the number of connected components of the spanning subgraph F .

$$Z_G = Z_{G \setminus e} + x_e Z_{G/e}.$$

From knots to graphs



Let L be a diagram of a link,

G_L be the corresponding signed graph,

e_- be the number of negative edges of G_L ,

e_+ be the number of positive edges of G_L ,

v be the number of vertices of G_L .

Then

$$[L](A, B, d) = \frac{A^{e_+} B^{e_-}}{d^{v+1}} Z_{G_L}(q, x_e),$$

where $q = d^2$, $x_+ = \frac{Bd}{A}$, and $x_- = \frac{Ad}{B}$.

$$\begin{aligned} J_L(t) &= (-1)^{w(L)} t^{3w(L)/4} [L](t^{-1/4}, t^{1/4}, -t^{1/2} - t^{-1/2}) \\ &= \frac{(-1)^{w(L)} t^{(3w(L)+2e_- - 2e_+)/4}}{(-t^{1/2} - t^{-1/2})^{v+1-e_- - e_+}} Z_{G_L}(q, x_e), \end{aligned}$$

where $q = t + t^{-1} + 2$, $x_+ = -t - 1$, and $x_- = -t^{-1} - 1$.