

$K \subset S^3$ knot

• K is ribbon if $K = \partial D$ where D is an immersed disk in S^3 with only ribbon singularities:



ribbon



clasp

• K is slice if $K = \partial D$ where D is a properly embedded disk in B^4 .

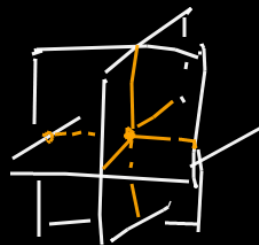
Facr: ribbon \Rightarrow slice

Q₀: slice \Rightarrow ribbon?

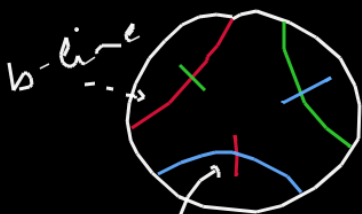
(Fox '62)

Other singularities

• Triple points

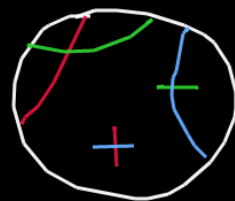


on the preimage disk:



i-line

bornmean



non bornmean

• Branched points



Normal singular disk:

disk immersed in S^3 except at a finite number of branched points.



ribbon

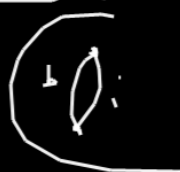


branched ribbon



circle

Marking

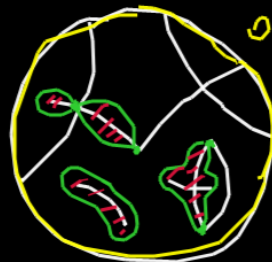


branched circle

Theorem (Kawachi-Shibuya-Suzuki '83)

A knot K in S^3 is slice iff it bounds a marked normal singular disk with no clasp and no baroque triple point.

Sketch of proof



> 1

$K \mapsto 0$

(b-i) triple point } $\mapsto 1$
 branched point }
 other pts on i-line $\mapsto > 1$
 other pts on b-line $\mapsto 0 < < 1$

Reciprocally:



Th: The slice genus of a knot K is the minimal genus of a marked normal singular compact surface in S^3 with no clasp and no baroncean triple pt.

Kaplan ('79): Any knot bounds a normal singular disk with no clasp.

Murakami-Sugishita ('84):

T -genus $T_s(K)$:

minimal number of baroncean triple points on a marked normal singular disk with no clasp.

- T_s is a concordance invariant
- $g_s(K) \leq T_s(K)$
- $T_s(K) \equiv_2 \text{A}_2 f(K) \rightarrow$ "for any realization"

\hookrightarrow values of $T_s(K)$ for several knots

$$\text{s.t. } T_s(K) = \begin{cases} g_s(K) \\ g_s(K) + 1 \end{cases}$$

Qu^o: Can $T_s - g_s$ be greater than one?

Th (M.): $T_s - g_s$ can be arbitrarily large.

4D class number

$C_4(K) = \min \{ \# \text{ transverse double points} \\ \text{on an immersed disk } D \subset B^4 \\ \text{s.t. } \partial D = K \}$

$C_4^+(K) = \min \{ \text{--- positive double points} \\ \text{---} \}$

$C_4^b(K) = \min \{ \# \text{ pairs of double points} \\ \text{with opposite signs on a } D \text{ s.t. } \partial D = K \}$

$$C_4^+ \leq C_4^b \leq C_4 \leq 2C_4^b$$

Fact: $g_s(K) \leq C_4^b(K)$

Th (Dacari-Scardubs 2020)

$C_4^+(K) - g_s(K)$ can be arbitrarily large.

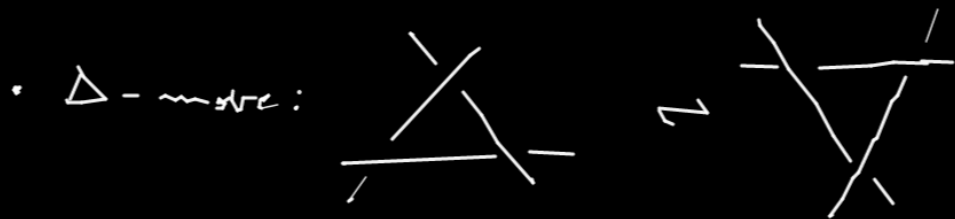
Th (M.) $C_4^b(K) \leq T_s(K)$

T -ribbon disk in S^3 : immersed disk with
no branched pt.
no clasp and no non-baroque triple pt.
exist by Kaplan

Ribbon T -genus $T_n(K)$:

minimal number of baroque triple points on a T -ribbon disk with boundary K .

$$T_s(K) \leq T_n(K)$$



• Δ -slicing number $s_\Delta(K)$:
 minimal number of Δ -moves from K
 to a slice knot.

• Δ -ribboning number $\pi_\Delta(K)$:

to a ribbon knot

Th (Kawachi - Murakami - Sugisita '83)

$$T_s(K) = s_\Delta(K)$$

$$\underline{\text{Th}} (\text{R.}) \quad T_n(K) = \pi_\Delta(K)$$



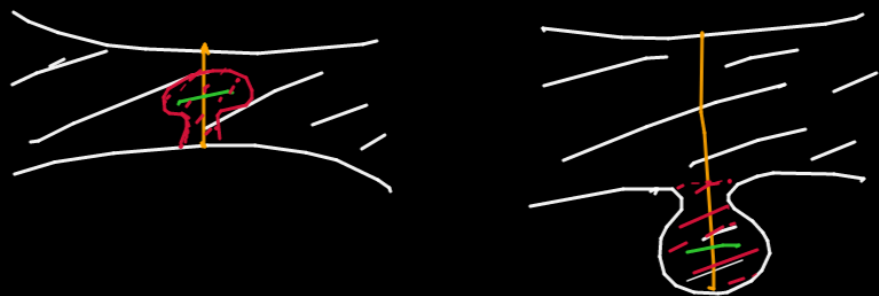
ribbon knot $K_0 \rightsquigarrow K$
 " Δ -moves
 $\partial(\text{ribbon disk})$

$$T_n(K) \leq \pi_\Delta(K)$$

$$T_s(K) \leq s_\Delta(K)$$

\rightarrow at most 1 triple pt on a
 given ribbon.





Corollary: $g_n(k) \leq T_n(k)$
 \uparrow
 ribbon genus

Corollary: The equality $T_s(k) = T_n(k)$
 is true for all knots iff all slice
 knots are ribbon.