

THE ARF INVARIANT OF PROPER LINKS IN SOLID TORI

Dedicated to Professor Junzo Tao on his 60 th birthday

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Let $L=K_1 \cup \cdots \cup K_n$ be a tame oriented link with n components in a 3-space R^3 . L is said to be *proper* if the linking number of a knot K_i and $L-K_i$, denoted by $Link(K_i, L-K_i)$ ($= \sum_{1 \leq j \leq n, j \neq i} Link(K_i, K_j)$), is even for $i=1, \dots, n$. The *total linking number* of L , denoted by $Link(L)$, means $\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} Link(K_i, K_j)$.

For two links L_1, L_2 in $R^3[a], R^3[b]$ respectively for $a < b$, L_1 is said to be *related to* L_2 (or L_1 and L_2 are said to be *related*) if there is a locally flat proper surface F of genus zero in $R^3[a, b]$ with $F \cap R^3[a]=L_1$ and $F \cap R^3[b]=-L_2$, where $-L_2$ means the reflective inverse of L_2 .

The *Arf invariant* of a proper link L , denoted by $\varphi(L)$, is defined to that of a knot related to L which is well-defined by Theorem 2 in [4].

Let V^*, V be solid tori with longitudes λ^*, λ respectively and μ a meridian of ∂V in R^3 , where λ^* is a trivial knot, and f_m an orientation preserving onto homeomorphism of V^* onto V such that $f_m(\lambda^*)=\lambda+m\mu$ for an integer m . Especially f_0 is said to be *faithful*. For a link ℓ^* in V^* , $f_m(\ell^*)$ is called a link *T-congruent to* $\ell=f_0(\ell^*)$ (in V) and denoted by $\ell(m)$. The *winding number* of ℓ in V means the (algebraic) intersection number of ℓ and a meridian disk of V and is denoted by $w_V(\ell)$ or simply by $w(\ell)$.

Theorem 1. *Let $\ell, \ell(m)$ and $p=w(\ell)$ be those of the above. Suppose that p is odd or both p and m are even. Then ℓ is proper if and only if $\ell(m)$ is proper. Let ℓ be a proper link.*

(1) *Assume that p is odd. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\ell(m)) &= \varphi(\ell) && \text{if } m \text{ is even, or } m \text{ is odd and } p=8r \pm 1 \\ &\equiv \varphi(\ell)+1 \pmod{2} && \text{if } m \text{ is odd and } p=8r \pm 3. \end{aligned}$$

(2) *Assume that p and m are even. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\ell(m)) &= \varphi(\ell) && \text{if } p=4r \\ &\equiv \varphi(\ell)+1 \pmod{2} && \text{if } p=4r+2, \end{aligned}$$

for an integer r .

If p is even and m is odd in Theorem 1, $\iota(m)$ is not always proper even though ι is proper.

Let V_1^*, \dots, V_n^* be mutually disjoint solid tori in R^3 with cores c_1^*, \dots, c_n^* respectively such that $\Gamma^* = c_1^* \cup \dots \cup c_n^*$ is a trivial link. An orientation preserving homeomorphism f of $\mathcal{C}\mathcal{V}^* = V_1^* \cup \dots \cup V_n^*$ onto $\mathcal{C}\mathcal{V} = V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_n$ is said to be *faithful* if $f|_{V_i^*}: V_i^* \rightarrow V_i$ is faithful for $i=1, \dots, n$. For a link $\iota^* = \iota_1^* \cup \dots \cup \iota_n^*$ in $\mathcal{C}\mathcal{V}^*$, we write $f(\iota^*)$ (or $f(\iota_i^*)$) by ι (or ι_i), where ι_i^* is a link in V_i^* .

Theorem 2. *Let $\iota^*, \iota = \iota_1 \cup \dots \cup \iota_n$ and $\Gamma = f(\Gamma^*)$ be those of the above. Suppose that $w(\iota_i) \equiv w(\iota_j) (=p) \pmod{4}$ for $i, j=1, \dots, n$ and $q = \text{Link}(\Gamma)$. If ι^* and Γ are proper, then ι is also proper and*

- (1) $\varphi(\iota) \equiv \varphi(\iota^*) + \varphi(\Gamma) \pmod{2}$ if p is odd
- (2) $\varphi(\iota) = \varphi(\iota^*)$ if p and q are even, or q is odd and $p = 4m$
 $\equiv \varphi(\iota^*) + 1 \pmod{2}$ if q is odd and $p = 4m + 2$

for some integer m .

Corollary 1. *Let $\iota^*, \iota, \Gamma, p$ and q be those of Theorem 2. If q is even, then*

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\iota) &\equiv \varphi(\iota^*) + \varphi(\Gamma) \pmod{2} && \text{if } p \text{ is odd} \\ &= \varphi(\iota^*) && \text{if } p \text{ is even.} \end{aligned}$$

If $n=1$ in Theorem 2, namely Γ is a knot, we define that $\text{Link}(\Gamma) = 0$. Hence we obtain the following.

Corollary 2. *If Γ is a knot,*

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\iota) &\equiv \varphi(\iota^*) + \varphi(\Gamma) \pmod{2} && \text{if } p \text{ is odd} \\ &= \varphi(\iota^*) && \text{if } p \text{ is even.} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 3. *Let $\iota^*, \iota = \iota_1 \cup \dots \cup \iota_n$ be those of the above. Suppose that $w(\iota_i) \equiv w(\iota_j) (=p) \pmod{2}$ and $\text{Link}(c_i, \Gamma - c_i) \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ for $i=1, \dots, n$. If ι^* is proper, then ι is proper and*

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\iota) &\equiv \varphi(\iota^*) + \varphi(\Gamma) \pmod{2} && \text{if } p \text{ is odd} \\ &= \varphi(\iota^*) && \text{if } p \text{ is even.} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 4. *Let $\iota = \iota_1 \cup \dots \cup \iota_n$ and Γ be those of the above. If Γ is a boundary link and ι_i is proper for $i=1, \dots, n$, then $\varphi(\iota) \equiv \sum_{i=1}^n \varphi(\iota_i) \pmod{2}$.*

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Proof of Theorems.

Lemma 1 is easily obtained by Theorem 2 in [4].

Lemma 1. *If two proper links L_1 and L_2 are related, then $\varphi(L_1) = \varphi(L_2)$.*

For a knot K , \bar{K} means the knot orientation reversed to K . For a 2-component link $L_0=K_1 \cup K_2$, let $L'_0=\bar{K}_1 \cup K_2$ and $s=Link(K_1, K_2)$.

Lemma 2 ([2]). $V_{L'_0}(t)=t^{-3s} V_{L_0}(t)$ for Jones polynomials of L_0, L'_0 .

For a link L , a relation between Jones polynomial and the Arf invariant of L is known by [3].

Lemma 3 ([3]). For a n -component link L ,

$$V_L(\sqrt{-1}) = \begin{cases} (\sqrt{2})^{n-1} \times (-1)^{\varphi(L)} & \text{if } L \text{ is proper} \\ 0 & \text{if } L \text{ is non-proper.} \end{cases}$$

By using the above Lemmas, we prove Lemma 4 which is effective to prove Theorems 1, 2 and 3.

Let $L=L_1 \cup L_2$ be a link, where L_1, L_2 consist of m_1, m_2 knots $K_1, \dots, K_{m_1}, K_{m_1+1}, \dots, K_{m_1+m_2}$ respectively. The linking number of L_1 and L_2 , denoted by $Link(L_1, L_2)$, means $\sum_{i=1}^{m_1} \sum_{j=m_1+1}^{m_1+m_2} Link(K_i, K_j)$. For a link $L_1=K_1 \cup \dots \cup K_{m_1}$, we denote that $\bar{L}_1=\bar{K}_1 \cup \dots \cup \bar{K}_{m_1}$.

Lemma 4. Let $L=L_1 \cup L_2$ be a proper link and $L'=\bar{L}_1 \cup L_2$. Then L' is also proper and $Link(L_1, L_2)$ is even. Moreover

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(L') &= \varphi(L) && \text{if } Link(L_1, L_2) \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ &\equiv \varphi(L) + 1 \pmod{2} && \text{if } Link(L_1, L_2) \equiv 2 \pmod{4}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Let $L_1=K_1 \cup \dots \cup K_{m_1}$ and $L_2=K_{m_1+1} \cup \dots \cup K_{m_1+m_2}$. As L is proper, $Link(K_h, L-K_h)=2r_h$ for $K_h \subset L$ and some integer r_h . Then we see that $Link(\bar{K}_i, L'-\bar{K}_i)=2(r_i-Link(K_i, L_2))$ for $K_i \subset L_1$ and $Link(K_j, L'-K_j)=2(r_j-Link(K_j, L_1))$ for $K_j \subset L_2$ and that $Link(L_1, L_2)=2(r_1+\dots+r_{m_1}-Link(L_1))$. Hence L' is also proper and $Link(L_1, L_2)$ is even.

Let $L_0=\kappa_1 \cup \kappa_2$ be a 2-component link related to L such that κ_1, κ_2 are obtained by fusion (band sum) of L_1, L_2 respectively and let $L'_0=\bar{\kappa}_1 \cup \kappa_2$ which is related to L' . As $Link(\kappa_1, \kappa_2)=Link(L_1, L_2)$ ($=s$) is even, L_0 and L'_0 are proper. So by Lemma 1, $\varphi(L_0)=\varphi(L)$ and $\varphi(L'_0)=\varphi(L')$. As $Link(L_1, L_2)=Link(\kappa_1, \kappa_2)=s$, $V_{L'_0}(t)=t^{-3s} V_{L_0}(t)$ by Lemma 2 and hence $V_{L'_0}(\sqrt{-1})=(\sqrt{-1})^{-3s} V_{L_0}(\sqrt{-1})$. Therefore if $s \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$, then $\varphi(L')=\varphi(L'_0)=\varphi(L_0)=\varphi(L)$ and if $s \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$, then $\varphi(L')=\varphi(L'_0) \equiv \varphi(L_0) + 1 \equiv \varphi(L) + 1 \pmod{2}$.

For a link L in a solid torus V , the minimum of intersection of L and a meridian disk in V is called the order of L (in V) and denoted by $o_V(L)$ or simply by $o(L)$.

To prove Theorem 1, we prepare Lemma 5.

Lemma 5. Let $\mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{L}_2$ and $\mathcal{L}_3, \mathcal{L}_4$ be torus links of type $(8m \pm 1, 8m \pm 1), (8m \pm 3, 8m \pm 3)$ and $(4m, 8m), (4m + 2, 8m + 4)$ for some integer m respectively.

Then $\mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{L}_2$ and $\mathcal{L}_3, \mathcal{L}_4$ are proper. Furthermore if we orient \mathcal{L}_i so that $o(\mathcal{L}_i) = w(\mathcal{L}_i)$ for each i , then $\varphi(\mathcal{L}_1) = \varphi(\mathcal{L}_3) = 0$ and $\varphi(\mathcal{L}_2) = \varphi(\mathcal{L}_4) = 1$.

Proof. It is easily seen that \mathcal{L}_i is proper for $i=1, 2, 3, 4$.

Next suppose that $o(\mathcal{L}_i) = w(\mathcal{L}_i)$ for each i . \mathcal{L}_1 consists of $(8m \pm 1)$ -component. Let $\mathcal{L}_{11}, \mathcal{L}_{12}$ be disjoint sublinks of \mathcal{L}_1 with $4m, (4m \pm 1)$ -components respectively. Then $Link(\mathcal{L}_{11}, \mathcal{L}_{12}) = 4m(4m \pm 1)$. Hence $\varphi(\mathcal{L}_1) = \varphi(\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{11} \cup \mathcal{L}_{12})$ by Lemma 4. As $\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{11} \cup \mathcal{L}_{12}$ is related to a torus knot of type $(\pm 1, \pm 1)$, $\varphi(\mathcal{L}_1) = 0$. By the same way as above, we see that $\varphi(\mathcal{L}_2) = 1$, for the Arf invariant of torus link of type $(\pm 3, \pm 3)$ is 1.

\mathcal{L}_3 consists of $4m$ -component and let $\mathcal{L}_{31}, \mathcal{L}_{32}$ be disjoint sublinks of \mathcal{L}_3 with $2m, 2m$ -components. Then $Link(\mathcal{L}_{31}, \mathcal{L}_{32}) = 8m^2$. Hence $\varphi(\mathcal{L}_3) = \varphi(\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{31} \cup \mathcal{L}_{32})$ by Lemma 4. As $\bar{\mathcal{L}}_{31} \cup \mathcal{L}_{32}$ is related to a trivial knot, $\varphi(\mathcal{L}_3) = 0$. By the same way as above, we easily see that $\varphi(\mathcal{L}_4) = 1$.

Proof of Theorem 1. We easily see that, when p is odd or both p and m are even, ι is proper if and only if $\iota(m)$ is proper.

Let n be $o(\iota)$. Then $\iota(m)$ is obtained by a fusion of ι and a torus link \mathcal{L}_0 of type (n, mn) split from ι in V and hence $\iota(m)$ is related to $\iota \circ \mathcal{L}_0$, where \circ means that ι is split from \mathcal{L}_0 . By the way, $\iota \circ \mathcal{L}_0$ is related to $\iota \circ \mathcal{L}$, where \mathcal{L} is a torus link of type (p, mp) for $p = w(\mathcal{L})$. If ι and $\iota(m)$ are proper, $\mathcal{L}_0, \mathcal{L}$ are also proper and $\varphi(\iota(m)) = \varphi(\iota \circ \mathcal{L}_0) = \varphi(\iota \circ \mathcal{L})$ by Lemma 1. Hence we obtain Theorem 1 by Lemma 5.

Let $\mathcal{C}\mathcal{V} = V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_n$ be the union of mutually disjoint solid tori in R^3 and Γ that of Theorem 2. For a core c_i , take a p_i -component link, denoted by $p_i c_i$, in V_i , each of which is parallel and homologous to c_i and non-twisted, namely $p_i c_i$ is contained on a non-twisted annulus A_i in V_i with $\partial A_i \supset c_i$, in V_i for $i=1, \dots, n$. Especially if $p_i = p_j (= p)$, we denote $p c_1 \cup \dots \cup p c_n$ by $p\Gamma$.

In Lemma 6, we consider the case that $p=2$ which is used to prove Lemma 7.

Lemma 6.
$$\varphi(2\Gamma) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } q \text{ is even} \\ 1 & \text{if } q \text{ is odd, where } q = Link(\Gamma). \end{cases}$$

Proof. Let $2\Gamma = \Gamma \cup \Gamma'$. As $c_i \cup c'_i (\subset \Gamma \cup \Gamma')$ is non-twisted, $Link(\Gamma, \Gamma') = 2q$. Hence if q is even, $\varphi(2\Gamma) = \varphi(\bar{\Gamma} \cup \Gamma')$ and if q is odd, $\varphi(2\Gamma) \equiv \varphi(\bar{\Gamma} \cup \Gamma') + 1 \pmod{2}$ by Lemma 4. As $\bar{\Gamma} \cup \Gamma'$ is related to a trivial knot, we obtain Lemma 6 by Lemma 1.

Lemma 7. *If Γ is proper, $p\Gamma$ is also proper and*

- (1) $\varphi(p\Gamma) = \varphi(\Gamma)$ if p is odd
- (2) $\varphi(p\Gamma) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p \text{ and } q \text{ are even, or } q \text{ is odd and } p=4m \\ 1 & \text{if } q \text{ is odd and } p=4m+2 \end{cases}$

for some integer m and $q = \text{Link}(\Gamma)$. Hence if q is even,

$$\varphi(p\Gamma) = \begin{cases} \varphi(\Gamma) & \text{if } p \text{ is odd} \\ 0 & \text{if } p \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

Proof. As pc_i is non-twisted, we easily see that if Γ is proper, $p\Gamma$ is also proper.

Lemma 7 is clear if $p=0$. Hence we assume that $p>0$. Each pc_i consists of p components, say c_{i1}, \dots, c_{ip} . Let $L_1 = c_{11} \cup c_{21} \cup \dots \cup c_{m1}$ and $L_2 = p\Gamma - L_1$. Then we see that $\text{Link}(L_1, L_2) = 2(p-1)q$.

If p is odd or q is even, $\varphi(p\Gamma) = \varphi(L_1 \cup L_2)$ by Lemma 4. As $L_1 \cup L_2$ is related to $(p-2)\Gamma$, $\varphi(p\Gamma) = \varphi((p-2)\Gamma)$ by Lemma 1. By doing this successively, if p is odd, $\varphi(p\Gamma) = \varphi(\Gamma)$ and if both p and q are even, $\varphi(p\Gamma) = \varphi(\mathcal{O}) = 0$ for a trivial knot \mathcal{O} .

Next we consider the case that q is odd and p is even. Then,

$$\varphi(p\Gamma) \equiv \varphi((p-2)\Gamma) + 1 \equiv \varphi((p-4)\Gamma) \pmod{2}$$

by Lemma 4. Hence if $p=4m$, $\varphi(p\Gamma) = \varphi(\mathcal{O}) = 0$ and if $p=4m+2$, $\varphi(p\Gamma) = \varphi(2\Gamma) = 1$ by Lemma 6.

By the similar proof of Lemma 7, we obtain Lemma 8.

Lemma 8. Let $p_i \equiv p_j \pmod{4}$ and $p = \text{Min}\{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$. Then $\varphi(p\Gamma) = \varphi(p_1 c_1 \cup \dots \cup p_n c_n)$ for a proper link $\Gamma = c_1 \cup \dots \cup c_n$.

Let \mathcal{L}_i be a link in V_i with r_i components for some integer r_i such that \mathcal{L}_i is non-twisted and parallel to c_i and $w(\mathcal{L}_i) = p_i (\leq r_i)$ for $i=1, \dots, n$. Then as $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_1 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{L}_n$ is related to $p_1 c_1 \cup \dots \cup p_n c_n$, we obtain Lemma 9.

Lemma 9. If Γ is proper and $p_i \equiv p_j \pmod{2}$, \mathcal{L} is also proper and $\varphi(\mathcal{L}) = \varphi(p_1 c_1 \cup \dots \cup p_n c_n)$.

Proof of Theorem 2. Let $\mathcal{U} = U_1 \cup \dots \cup U_n$ be the union of mutually disjoint solid tori in R^3 with core $-\Gamma = (-c_1) \cup \dots \cup (-c_n)$, the reflective inverse of Γ , split from \mathcal{V} by a 2-sphere S^2 and symmetric with respect to S^2 . For $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_1 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{L}_n$ in \mathcal{V} , let $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_i$ be a link with $r_i (= o(\mathcal{L}_i))$ components in U_i such that $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_i$ is non-twisted and parallel to $-c_i$ and $w(\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_i) = p_i (= w(\mathcal{L}_i))$, $i=1, \dots, n$. Attach a 3-ball B_i^3 to $V_i \cup U_i$ such that $V_i \cup U_i \cup B_i^3$ is symmetric with respect to S^2 , Fig. 1(b) for each i . Let M_i, M'_i be meridian disks of V_i, U_i respectively such that $\#(\mathcal{L}_i \cap M_i) = \#(\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_i \cap M'_i) = p_i$ and $M_i \cap B_i = \partial M_i \cap \partial B_i (= \{\text{an arc } \alpha_i\})$, $M'_i \cap B_i = \partial M'_i \cap \partial B_i (= \{\text{an arc } \beta_i\})$, where $\#(X)$ means the number of points of X , see Fig. 1(a). Let D_i be a proper non-twisted disk in B_i with $\partial D_i \supset \alpha_i \cup \beta_i$ and $\Delta_i = M_i \cup M'_i \cup D_i$. For each i , perform the fusion of $\mathcal{L}_i \circ \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_i$ along Δ_i and we obtain a link L_i which is contained in a solid torus $W_i = \overline{V_i \cup U_i \cup B_i} - \Delta_i \times [-\varepsilon, \varepsilon]$

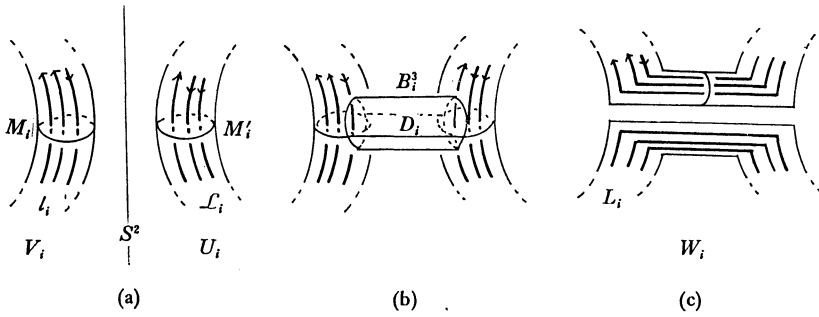


Fig. 1

for a small positive number ε , Fig. 1(c). Then $\mathcal{W} = W_1 \cup \dots \cup W_n$ is the union of disjoint solid tori which is symmetric with respect to S^2 by the construction. So the core of \mathcal{W} is cobordant to zero by [1] and hence $L = L_1 \cup \dots \cup L_n$ is cobordant to $L^* = L_1^* \cup \dots \cup L_n^*$ by [5], [6] for a faithful homeomorphism f_0 of \mathcal{W}^* onto \mathcal{W} , where $L = f_0(L^*)$. As $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_i$ is non-twisted, L^* is ambient isotopic to \mathcal{L}^* . As L is cobordant to \mathcal{L}^* and \mathcal{L}^* is proper, L is also proper. Moreover as Γ is proper, $\tilde{\mathcal{L}} = \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_1 \cup \dots \cup \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_n$ is proper. Hence we easily see that \mathcal{L} is also proper. As L and $\mathcal{L} \circ \tilde{\mathcal{L}}$ are related,

$$\varphi(\mathcal{L}) + \varphi(\tilde{\mathcal{L}}) \equiv \varphi(L) = \varphi(L^*) = \varphi(\mathcal{L}^*) \pmod{2}.$$

So we obtain Theorem 2 by Lemmas 7, 8 and 9.

REMARK 1. In Theorem 2, if we replace the condition “ $p_i \equiv p_j \pmod{4}$ ” by “ $p_i \equiv p_j \pmod{2}$ ”, the conclusion is not true. For example, we consider the links Γ, \mathcal{L} illustrated in Fig. 2. Then $\varphi(\Gamma) = 0$ and $\varphi(\mathcal{L}) = 1$, hence $\varphi(\mathcal{L}) \not\equiv \varphi(\mathcal{L}^*) + \varphi(\Gamma) \pmod{2}$.

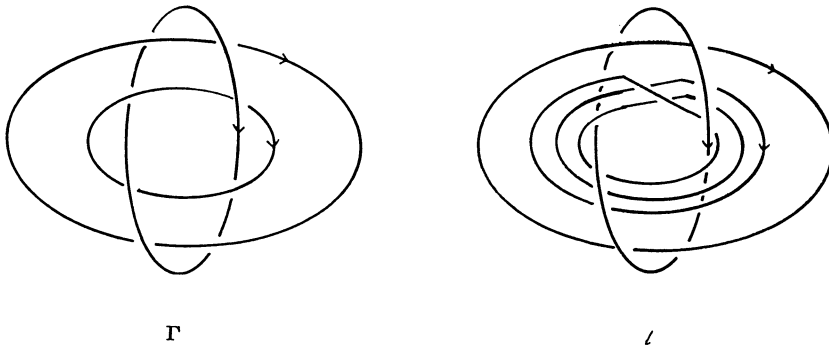


Fig. 2

Proof of Theorem 3. As $Link(c_i, \Gamma - c_i) \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$, $Link(c_i, \Gamma - c_i) = 4r_i$ for some integer r_i for each i . Then $2Link(\Gamma) = \sum_{i=1}^n Link(c_i, \Gamma - c_i) = 4(r_1 + \dots +$

r_n). Hence $Link(\Gamma)$ is even. Therefore we obtain Theorem 3 by Lemma 7 and the proof of Theorem 2.

REMARK 2. The link in Fig. 2 is an example that the conclusion of Theorem 3 is not true if we replace that " $Link(c_i, \Gamma - c_i) \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ " by " $Link(c_i, \Gamma - c_i) \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ ".

EXAMPLE 1. Let Γ, \mathcal{L} be links illustrated in Fig. 3. As $Link(\Gamma)=3$ and \mathcal{L}^* is a trivial link, $\varphi(\mathcal{L})=\varphi(\mathcal{L}^*)+1=1$ by Theorem 2.

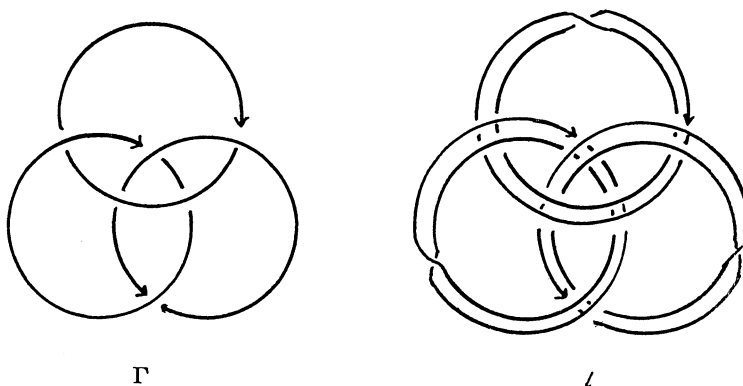


Fig. 3

EXAMPLE 2. Let \mathcal{L} be a link illustrated in Fig. 4. As Γ is the Whitehead link, $Link(\Gamma)=0$ and $\varphi(\Gamma)=1$ and \mathcal{L}^* is a trivial link. Hence $\varphi(\mathcal{L}) \equiv \varphi(\mathcal{L}^*) + \varphi(\Gamma) = 1$ by Theorem 3.

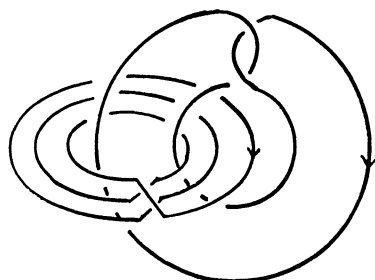


Fig. 4

Proof of Theorem 4. For a proper link \mathcal{L}_i in V_i , let k_i be a knot obtained by a fusion of \mathcal{L}_i in V_i for each i . As $\mathcal{L}_i, \mathcal{L}$ are related to $k_i, \mathcal{L}_0=k_1 \cup \dots \cup k_n$ respectively, $\varphi(\mathcal{L}_i)=\varphi(k_i)$ and $\varphi(\mathcal{L})=\varphi(\mathcal{L}_0)$ by Lemma 1. Furthermore as Γ is a boundary link, there are mutually disjoint surfaces $\mathcal{F}=F_1 \cup \dots \cup F_n$ with $\partial \mathcal{F}=\mathcal{L}_0$, $\partial F_i=k_i$. Then $\varphi(\mathcal{L}_0)=\sum_{i=1}^n \varphi(k_i) \pmod{2}$ by Theorem 3 in [4]. Hence we obtain that

$$\varphi(\ell) = \varphi(\ell_0) \equiv \sum_{i=1}^n \varphi(k_i) \equiv \sum_{i=1}^n \varphi(\ell_i) \pmod{2}.$$

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