

Bonded Knots, Graphs and Knotoids  
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(Joint work with Sofia Lambropoulou and  
Ioannis Diamantis)

I. Recall Topological Invariants of Graphs

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## **INVARIANTS OF GRAPHS IN THREE-SPACE**

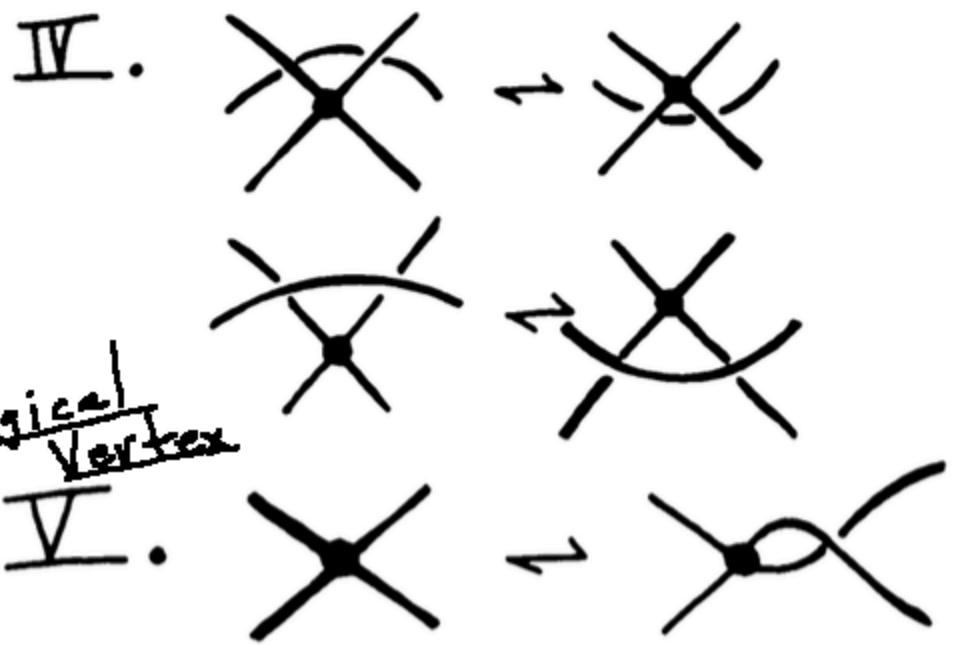
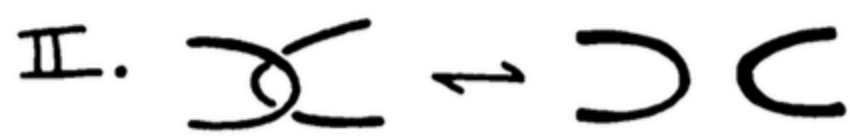
LOUIS H. KAUFFMAN

**ABSTRACT.** By associating a collection of knots and links to a graph in three-dimensional space, we obtain computable invariants of the embedding type of the graph. Two types of isotopy are considered: topological and rigid-vertex isotopy. Rigid-vertex graphs are a category mixing topological flexibility with mechanical rigidity. Both categories constitute steps toward models for chemical and biological networks. We discuss chirality in both rigid and topological contexts.

This talk is brought to you by the  
Banff Springs Hotel, its Celtic Knots  
and its hot chocolate.



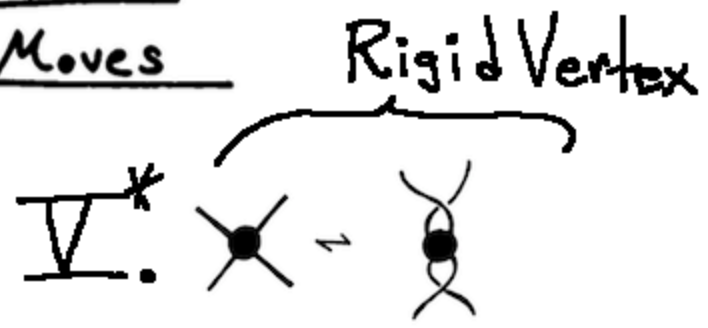
# Reidemeister Moves + Topological Vertex OR Rigid Vertex



Topological Vertex

Extra Vertex Moves

Think of a rigid vertex as a hard disk with attached strings.



Topological vertex graphs (TV)  
are more flexible than  
rigid vertex graphs (RV).

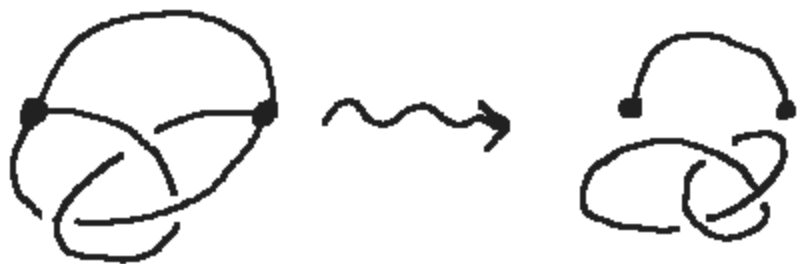
A topological vertex absorbs  
braiding:



We'll see shortly that  $G$  is knotted  
as an RV graph.

Topological Method : • Unplug vertices.  
• Examine knotting.

e.g.



} The knot inside  
will not go away  
under topological  
moves.

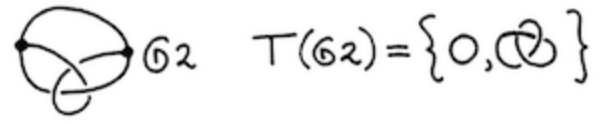
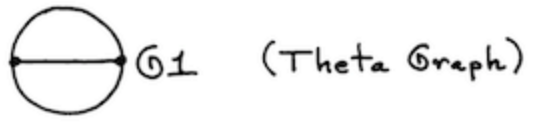
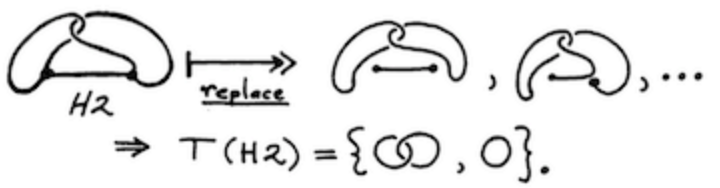
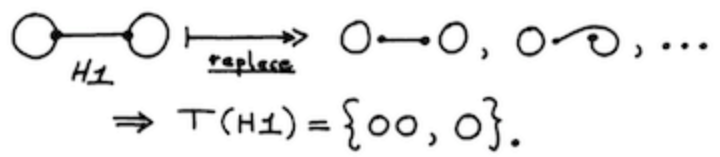
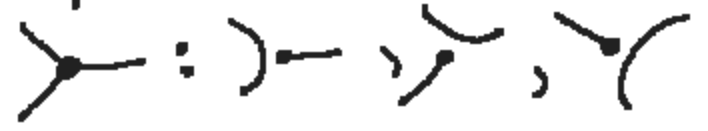


FIGURE 7. Braiding at a vertex permutes the replacements

Make all possible replacements.



The resulting collection of knots, links (throw away arcs) is a topological invariant of the graph with TV vertices.

In complex situations, you can apply topological invariants to the knots and links.

# Rigid Vertex Graphs

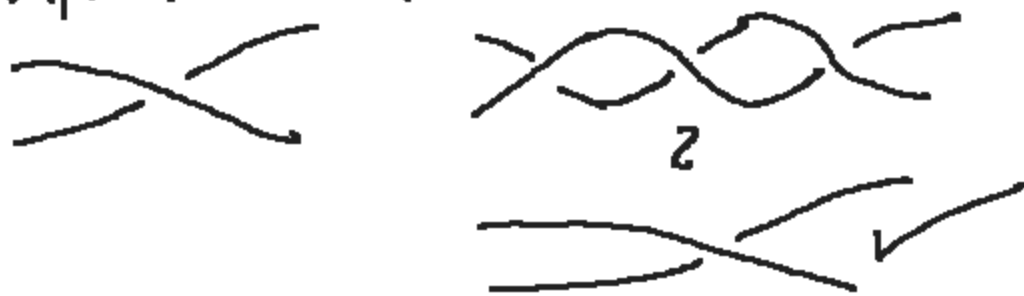


This operation corresponds to a  $180^\circ$  rotation in 3-space and therefore it will perform an ambient isotopy on any tangle that you insert into the black box!



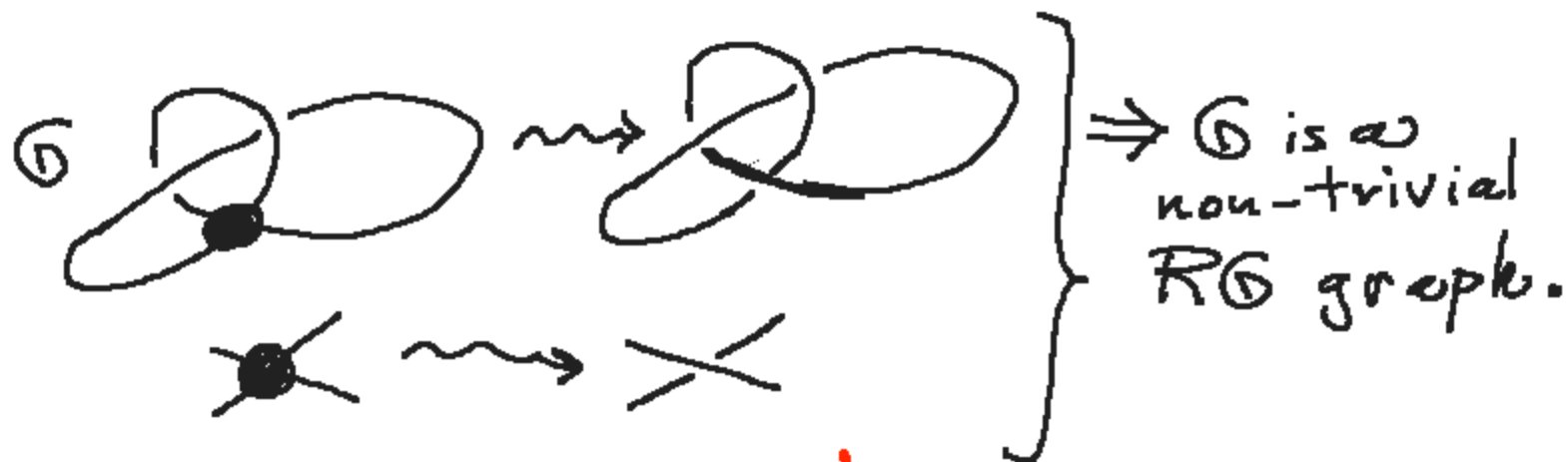
These are topologically equivalent, keeping endpoints fixed.

Simplest example:



# Rigid Vertex Graphs $\sim$


You can insert any tangle in the blackbox. The resulting knot or link is a topological invariant of the RV graph.



Note: This a good insertion.  
If insert  $\supset C$  or  $\times$ , get an unknot.

But   $\rightsquigarrow$    $\rightsquigarrow$   and this also shows  $G$  is non-trivial.

By using insertion we can create many invariants of RG graphs.

e.g.   $\rightarrow a \overline{\curvearrowright} + a \overline{\curvearrowleft} + b \overline{\curvearrowright} + b \overline{\curvearrowleft}$

Then any graph goes to a sum of nodes and links  $\Sigma(G)$  and you can apply any invariant  $I$  to  $\Sigma(G)$  to get  $I(\Sigma(G))$  an invariant of  $G$ .

We will come back to this.

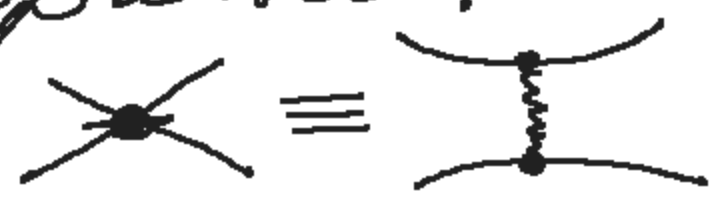
e.g. Bracket Poly  $\langle \overline{\curvearrowright} \overline{\curvearrowleft} \rangle = A \langle \overline{\curvearrowright} \rangle + A^{-1} \langle \overline{\curvearrowleft} \rangle$   
 $\langle OK \rangle = \delta \langle K \rangle, \delta = -A^2 - A^{-2}$

$f_K = (-A^3)^{-wr(K)} \langle K \rangle \rightsquigarrow$  models the Jones polynomial



# Bonds

We want to think of a vertex as a bond.



Then our graphs will have trivalent nodes and each with one bond-edge.

and local bonds



long bonds



even knotted bonds

Again we can have  
topological nodes  
where  $\langle \text{sum} \rangle \approx \langle \text{sum} \rangle_{\text{Top}}$

and we can have RV bonds  
where the vertices are rigid  
and  $\langle \text{sum} \rangle \sim \langle \text{sum} \rangle$   
is required.

In this talk we'll concentrate  
on RV bonds and include this  
restriction at long distance. Thus





With this restriction on rigidity  
insertion of tangles continues to hold  
 for RV-long bond graphs.

In fact

Theorem. Every RV long bond graph  
 is  $\sim_{RV}$  a graph with only local bonds.

Proof.



RED

Theorem. Every RV long bond graph  
 is  $\approx_{RV}$  a graph with only local bonds.

Proof.



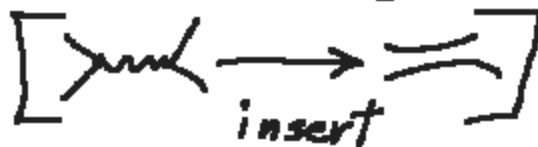
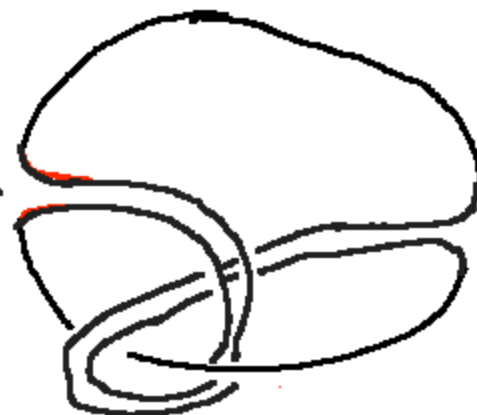
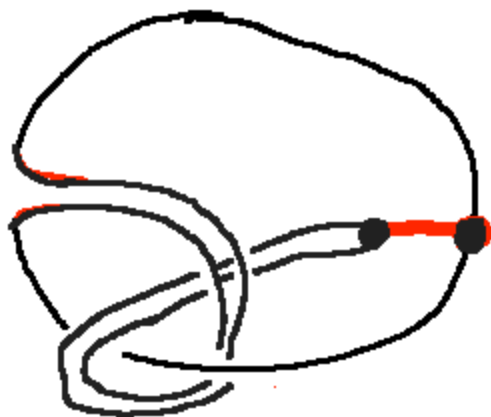
A link of an  
 unknotted circle  
 and a trefoil knot.



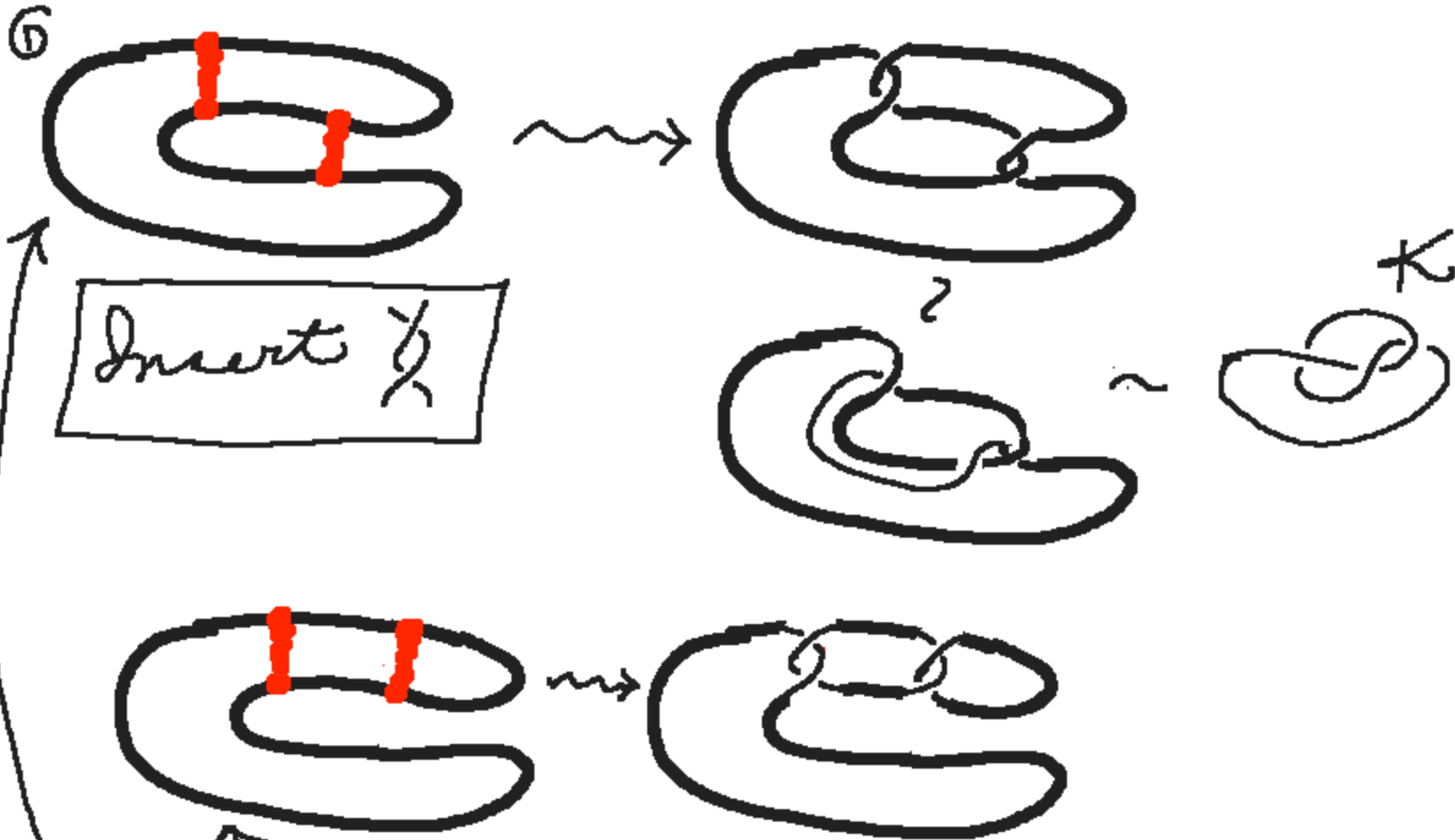
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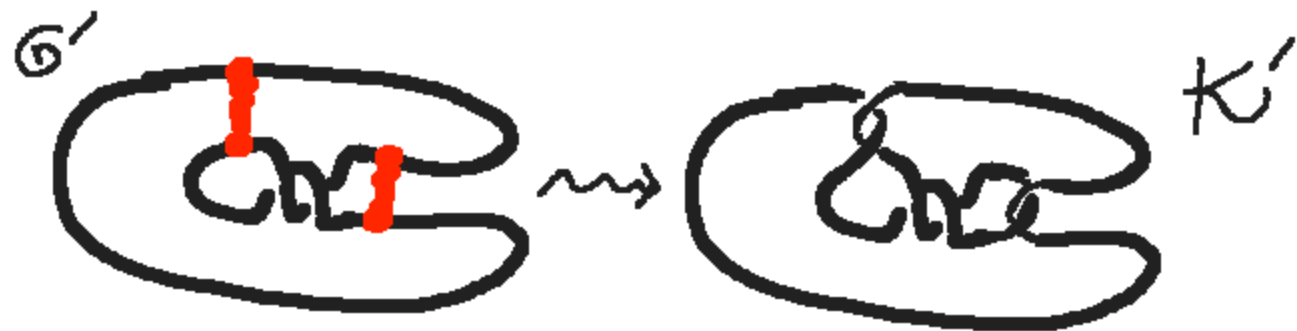


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# Some Examples (RV)





Insert  $\frac{1}{2}$

On previous page  $G \rightarrow K \approx \mathcal{D}$   
 Here  $K'$  is a twist knot distinct  
 from the trefoil. You can  
 calculate an invariant to  
 check this e.g. Alexander  
 bracket or ...

# Largo Question

Bonded RV Graphs  $\xrightarrow{CT}$  Knots & Links  
+ Chosen Tangles (CT)

Given RV bonded graphs  $G, G'$   
such that  $G \not\approx G'$ , does there exist  
a choice of tangle insertions  
such that  $CT(G)$  and  $CT(G')$  are  
topologically distinct links?  
Can this be done using only  
one tangle?

Notes: :  only  $\times$      only  $\times$     but  both  $\times, \times$

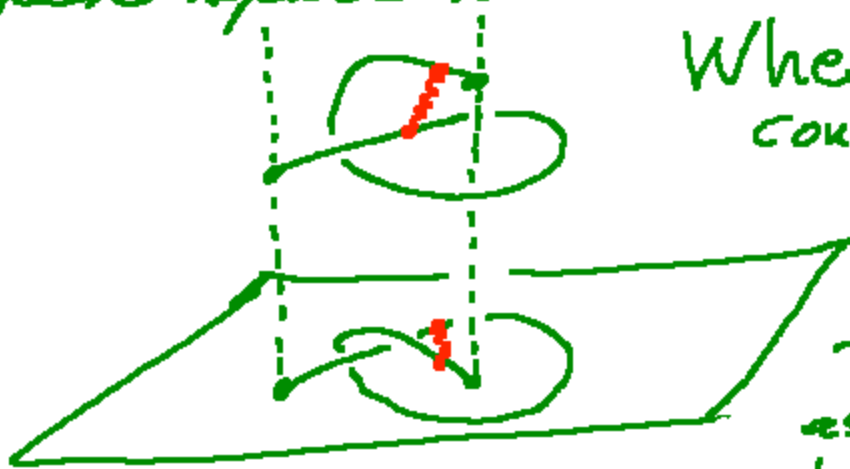
We generalize to bonded knotoids.

A knotoid is open-ended, with endpoints in (possibly) different regions.



(Forbidden to move like this:  $\left. \begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \circ \end{array} \right\} \rightsquigarrow \left. \begin{array}{c} \text{no!} \\ \sim \\ \rightarrow \end{array} \right\}$ ).




Knotoids can be projections of open space curves.



When the open curve is confined to keep its endpoints on the "rails", then the projection moves as a knotoid, or bonded knotoid.



# Topological models for open knotted protein chains using the concepts of knotoids and bonded knotoids

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**Abstract:** In this paper we introduce a method that offers a detailed overview of the entanglement of an open protein chain. Further, we present a purely topological model for classifying open protein chains by taking also into account any bridge involving the backbone. For these results we implemented the concepts of planar knotoids and bonded knotoids. We show that the planar knotoids technique provides more refined information regarding the knottedness of a protein when compared to established methods in the literature. Moreover, we demonstrate that our topological model for bonded proteins is robust enough to distinguish all types of lassos in proteins.

**Keywords:** Protein knots; Knot theory; Topology; Knotoids.

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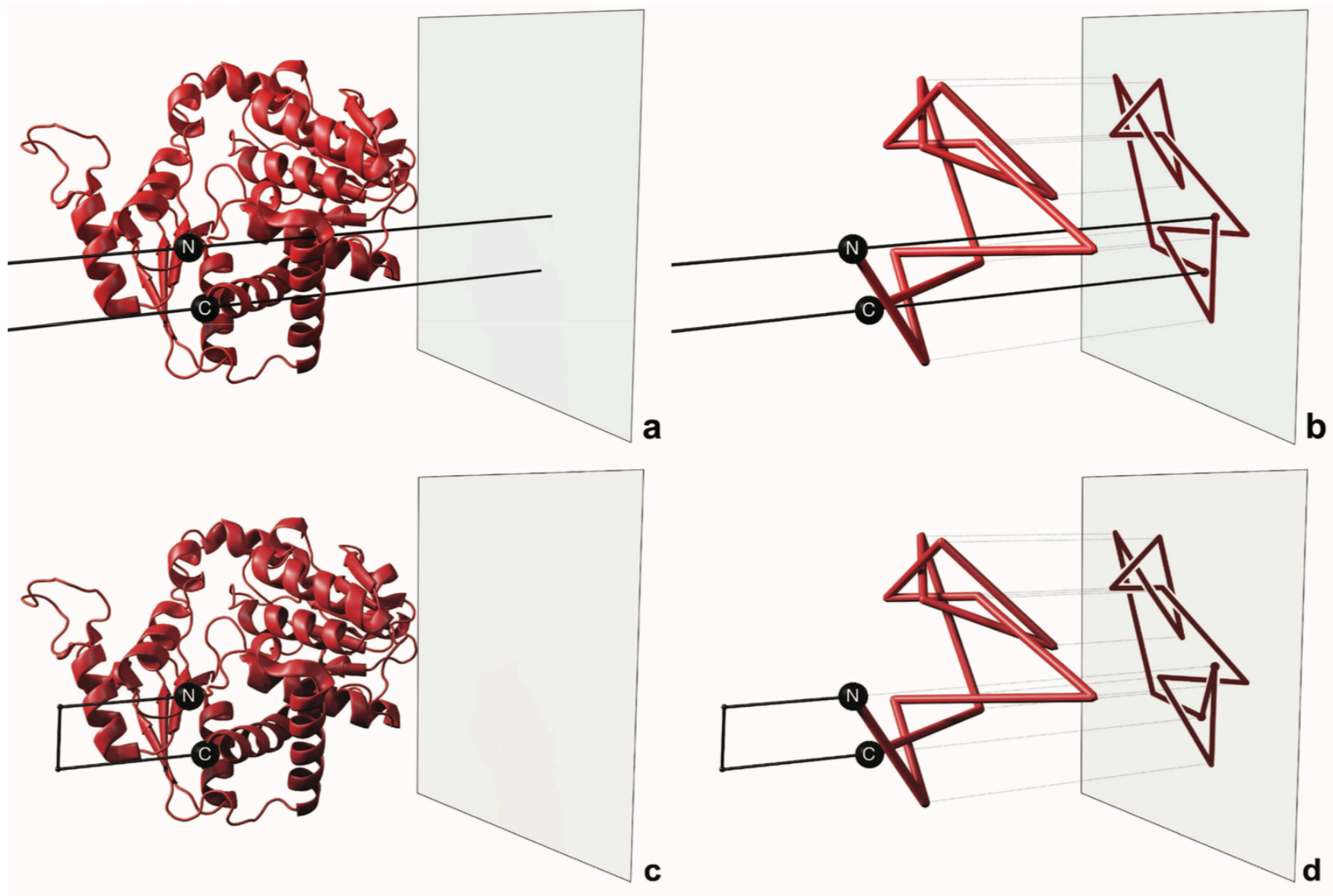
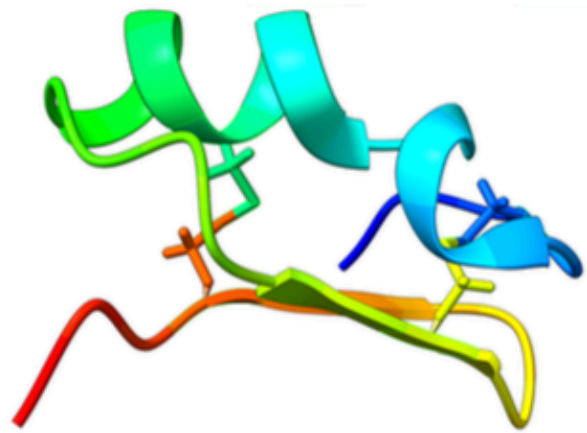


FIG. 5: Projection of a protein chain using two different techniques. Top Row: Knotoids technique. (a) The two black infinite lines pass through the N and C termini of the protein chain and are perpendicular to a chosen plane. (b) The two infinite lines pass through the N and C termini of the reduced protein backbone are perpendicular to a chosen plane. Bottom Row: Stochastic closure technique. (c) A choice of closing direction and the two rays extending from the termini towards that direction. The ends of the two rays are connected when they exit the sphere that contains the protein chain. (d) The resulting knot diagram.

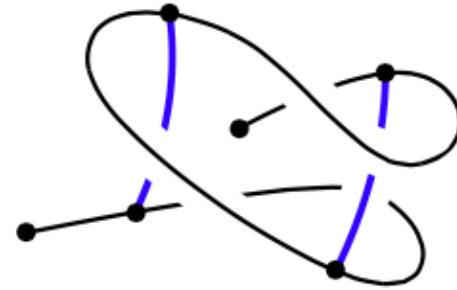
# INVARIANTS OF BONDED KNOTOIDS AND APPLICATIONS TO PROTEIN FOLDING

NESLIHAN GÜGÜMCÜ, BOSTJAN GABROVSEK, AND LOUIS H.KAUFFMAN

ABSTRACT. In this paper, we study knotoids with extra graphical structure (bonded knotoids) in the settings of rigid vertex and topological vertex graphs. We construct bonded knotoid invariants by applying tangle insertion and unplugging at bonding sites of a bonded knotoid. We demonstrate that our invariants can be used for the analysis of the topological structure of proteins.



(A) A Ribbon diagram.



(B) Simplified presentation as a bonded knotoid.

FIGURE 1. The PiTX-K $\beta$  Emperor scorpion toxin with two disulfide bonds (pdb 1c49).

In Figure 1a, we view the ribbon diagram of the protein PiTX-K $\beta$  with two disulphide bonds and the corresponding bonded knotoid diagram. We denote the corresponding bonded knotoid diagram by  $K$ , shown also in Figure 24..

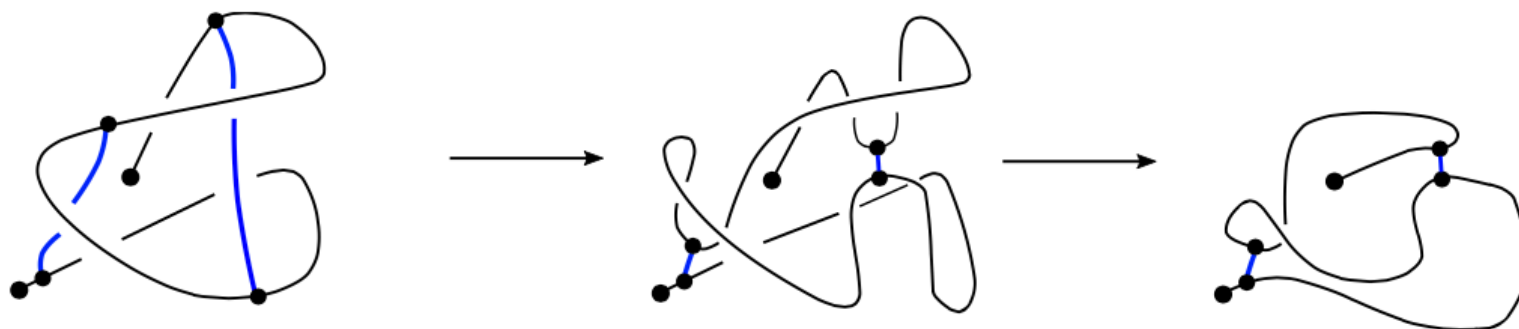


FIGURE 24. An equivalence transformation between bonded knotoid diagrams  $K, K', K''$ .

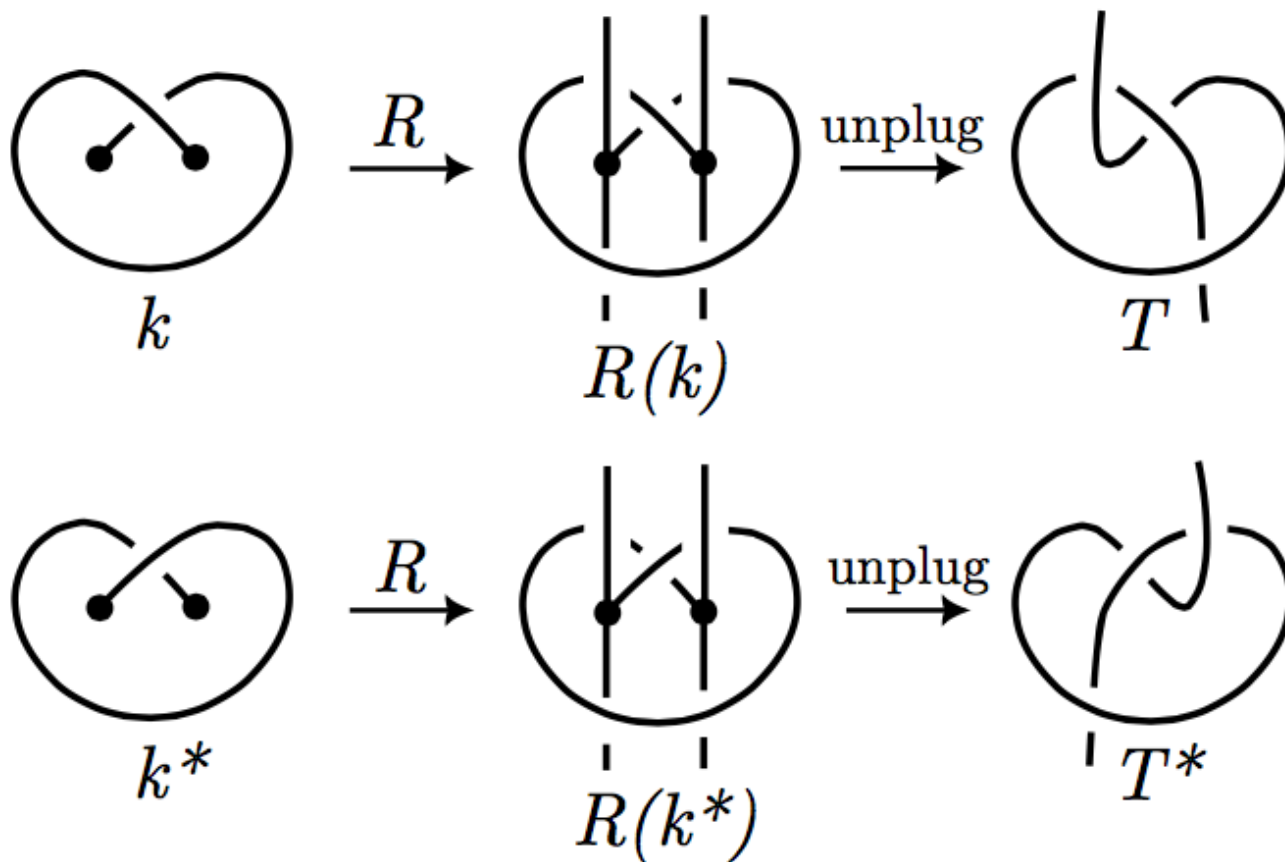


FIGURE 20. Two knotoids (left), their rail closure (middle) and their local replacements (right). Since  $T \not\cong T^*$  it follows  $k \not\cong k^*$

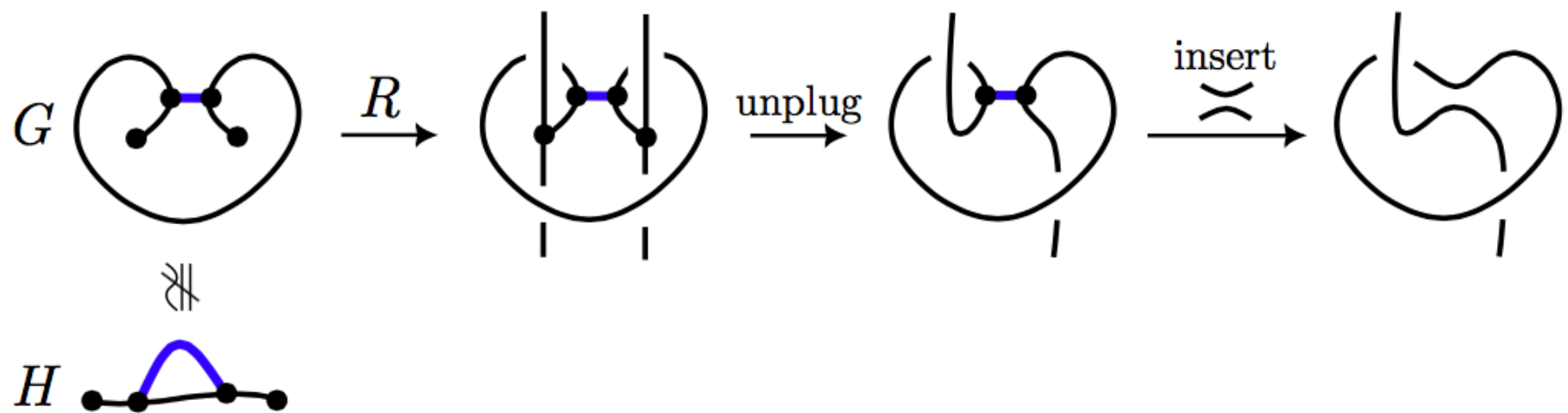


FIGURE 21. The bonded knotoid  $G$  is not equivalent to the trivial bonded knotoid  $H$ .

Thank you for your attention!

