

## A CLASS OF 3-BRIDGE KNOTS II

By

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For integers  $p$ ,  $q$ , and  $r$ , we defined a class of 3-bridge knots  $K(p, q; r)$  in [6]. We shall show that each  $K(p, 1; r)$  ( $q=1$ ) is a 3-braid knot. And we shall determine the Murasugi signature of  $K(p, 1; r)$  by its braid representation (section 1).

### Theorem 2.

$$\sigma(K(p, 1; r)) = \begin{cases} 2r - 2p + 2 & r \geq 0, p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \text{ or } r \geq -2, p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \\ 2r - 2p + 4 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let  $D(p, q; r)$  be the double branched covering space of  $S^3$  branched over  $K(p, q; r)$ . Then we shall show that for any pair of odd integers  $(p, q)$  with  $(p, q)=1$ , there exists an integer  $r$  such that  $D(p, q; r)$  and  $D(p, q; r+1)$  are homology 3-spheres (Theorem 3). In Theorem 4, we shall show that for any positive integer  $n$  and any integer  $r$ ,  $D(4n+1, 2n+1; r)$  and  $D(4n+3, 2n+1; r)$  are Seifert manifolds.

In [6], we announced that for  $p \leq 17$ , every knot  $K(p, q; r)$  is not a torus knot except the knots shown in Proposition 2 and 3 in [6], and the bridge index of each knot is three except the knots shown in Proposition 2 and 4 in [6] (Proposition 5). We shall prove these by the help of Theorems 2, 3, and 4.

In this paper we shall use the same notations as [6].

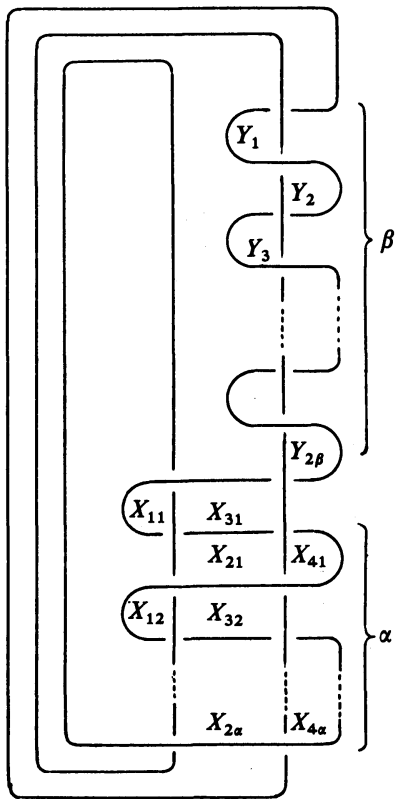
### §1. Signature of $K(p, 1; r)$

In this section we shall show that for a triplet  $(p, q, r)$  of integers,  $K(p, q; r)$  possesses the Alexander polynomial equal to that of a torus knot, but that  $K(p, q; r)$  is not a torus knot. This will be shown by the help of the Murasugi signature.

For a positive integer  $\alpha$  and an integer  $\beta$ , we define a 3-braid knot  $B(\alpha, \beta)$  as follows: If  $\beta \geq 0$ , let  $B(\alpha, \beta)$  be the knot as shown in Figure 1. The portion of Figure 1 which is included in the upper bracket consists of  $\beta$ -“full-twists”. If  $\beta < 0$  the knot diagram will be identical except that these particular crossings should be reversed.

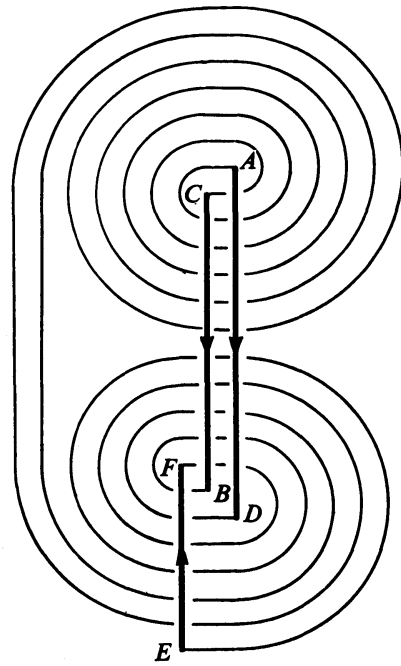
We can get  $B(m, r-m)$  by an isotopic transformation of  $K(2m+1, 1; r)$  as follows:

Rotate the overpass  $EF$  through  $180^\circ$  radian with respect to the line which is perpendicular to the plane  $R^2$  through the point  $F$  (Figure 2-1  $\rightarrow$  Figure 2-2). In Figure 2-2, the underpasses  $FA$  and  $DC$  satisfy the followings:



$B(\alpha, \beta)$

Figure 1.



$K(4n+1, 1; r) \quad n=1, r=3$

Figure 2-1.

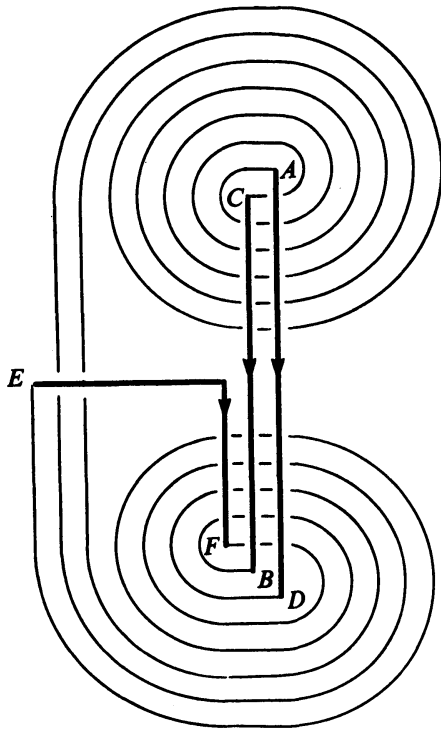


Figure 2-2.

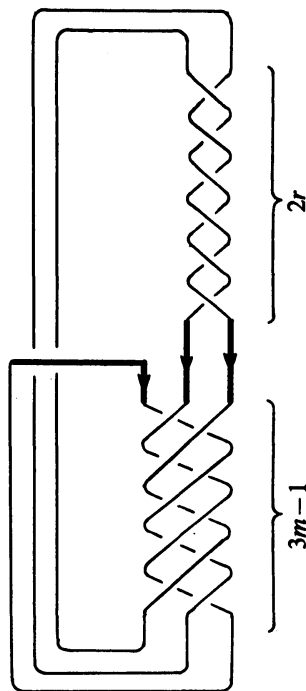


Figure 2-3.

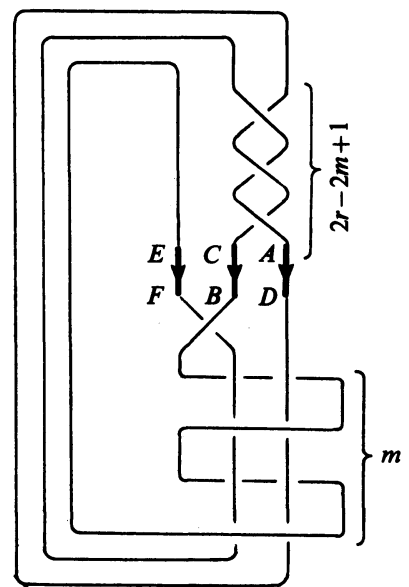


Figure 2-4.

- 1) each of them lies in  $R^2$ ,
- 2) each of them goes around the both points  $A$  and  $C$   $r$ -times,
- 3) they are parallel in  $R^2$ .

Put the portion into  $r$ -“full-twists” as shown in Figure 2-3. Similarly put the portion which is a neighborhood of the points  $F, B$  and  $D$  into  $m$ -“twists” as shown in Figure 2-3. The arcs  $FA$  and  $DC$  are right-hand-screw twisted  $(2m - 1)$ -times and left-hand-screw twisted  $2r$ -times. This may be reduced to  $(2r - 2m + 1)$  left-hand-screw twists as shown in Figure 2-4 if  $r \geq m$ , or  $(2m - 2r - 1)$  right-hand-screw twists if  $r < m$  (Figure 2-3  $\rightarrow$  Figure 2-4). Since the  $(2r - 2m + 1)$ -twists is decomposed into a twist and  $(r - m)$ -“full-twists”, Figure 2-4 shows  $B(m, r - m)$ .

The Murasugi matrix  $M_{\alpha\beta}$  of a 3-braid knot  $B(\alpha, \beta)$  has the form

$$M_{\alpha\beta} = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{ccccc} X_{11} & X_{21} & X_{31} & X_{41} & Y_1 \end{array} \\ \left( \begin{array}{ccccc} \begin{array}{ccc} -1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & -1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & & \\ 1 & \ddots & \\ & & 1 & 0 \end{array} & & & \\ \hline \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & 1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc} -1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & -1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc} -1 & 1 & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & 1 & -1 \end{array} & & \\ \hline & & \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & & \\ & -1 & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & -1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & & \\ 1 & \ddots & \\ & & 1 & 0 \end{array} & \\ \hline & & \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & 1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc} -1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & -1 \end{array} & \\ \hline & & & & \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & -1 & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & -1 & 1 \end{array} \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{l} \alpha \\ \alpha \\ \alpha \\ \alpha \\ 2\beta \end{array} \end{array}$$

If  $\beta < 0$ , replace the lower right  $2|\beta| \times 2|\beta|$  submatrix of  $M_{\alpha|\beta|}$  by the following matrix.

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc} -1 & 1 & \\ & -1 & 1 \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & -1 & 1 \\ & & & & 0 \end{array} \right) \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{ccc} -1 & 1 & \\ & -1 & 1 \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & -1 & 1 \\ & & & & 0 \end{array}} \right\} 2|\beta|$$

**Lemma 1.** For any positive integers  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , the signature of  $M_{\alpha\beta} + M_{\alpha\beta}^t$  is equal to  $2\beta - 2\alpha$ .

*Proof.* Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{where } a_{ij} = a_{ji}$$

and

$$P_{Ai} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ a_{i1} & a_{i2} & \cdots & 1 & \cdots & a_{in} \\ & & & & \ddots & \\ & a_{ii} & & & & a_{ii} \\ & & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $\text{Pivot}(i, A)$  denote the transformation  $A$  into  $P_{Ai}^t A P_{Ai}$ . In other words, as the result of applying the operation  $\text{Pivot}(i, A)$ , the matrix  $A$  is transformed into the matrix such that all the elements in row  $i$  or column  $i$  are zero except the  $(i, i)$  element. Let

$$Q_{ijk} = \begin{pmatrix} & & (j) & & \\ & 1 & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & & \\ (i) & \cdots & \cdots & k & \cdots \\ & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad R_{ik} = \begin{pmatrix} & & (i) & & \\ & 1 & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & k \\ & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

We denote the transformation  $A$  into  $Q_{ijk}^t A Q_{ijk}$  by  $\text{Add}(i, j, k, A)$ , and the transformation  $A$  into  $R_{ik}^t A R_{ik}$  by  $\text{Mult}(i, k, A)$ . We may write  $\text{Pivot}(i)$ ,  $\text{Add}(i, j, k)$ , and  $\text{Mult}(i, k)$  when  $A$  is understood.

Note that these transformations  $\text{Pivot}(i)$ ,  $\text{Add}(i, j, k)$  and  $\text{Mult}(i, k)$ , where  $k \neq 0$ , unchange the signature of matrices.

We prove the lemma in three steps (see Table 2).

Let  $A_0 = M_{\alpha\beta} + M_{\alpha\beta}^t$  (see Table 1).

*Step 1.* We repeat the following transformations (1) and (2) for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \alpha$ :

Table 1.

$A_0 =$

|                                 |           |           |           |           |           |            |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| -2                              |           | 1         |           |           |           | } $\alpha$ |
| .                               |           | 1         |           |           |           |            |
| . .                             | -2        | . .       | 1 1       |           |           | } $\alpha$ |
| . . .                           |           | . . .     | . . .     |           |           |            |
| . . . .                         | 1 1       | -2        | -1 1      |           |           | } $\alpha$ |
| . . . . .                       | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . |           |           |            |
| . . . . . .                     | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . | -1        |           | } $\alpha$ |
| . . . . . . .                   | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . |           |            |
| . . . . . . . .                 |           | -1        | 0         | 1         |           | } $\alpha$ |
| . . . . . . . . .               |           | 1         | -2        | 1         | -1        |            |
| . . . . . . . . . .             |           | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . | } $\alpha$ |
| . . . . . . . . . . .           |           | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . |            |
| . . . . . . . . . . . .         |           | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . | } $\alpha$ |
| . . . . . . . . . . . . .       |           | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . |            |
| . . . . . . . . . . . . . .     |           | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . | } $2\beta$ |
| . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .   |           | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . |            |
| . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . |           | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . | . . . . . |            |

$A_1 =$

|                                       |             |  |           |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|--|-----------|--|--|
| -2                                    |             |  |           |  |  |
| .                                     |             |  |           |  |  |
| . .                                   |             |  |           |  |  |
| . . .                                 | -2          |  |           |  |  |
| . . . .                               |             |  |           |  |  |
| . . . . .                             | -4 2        |  | -4 4      |  |  |
| . . . . . .                           | 2 . . . . . |  | . . . . . |  |  |
| . . . . . . .                         | . . . . .   |  | . . . . . |  |  |
| . . . . . . . .                       | . . . . .   |  | . . . . . |  |  |
| . . . . . . . . .                     | . . . . .   |  | . . . . . |  |  |
| . . . . . . . . . .                   | . . . . .   |  | . . . . . |  |  |
| . . . . . . . . . . .                 | . . . . .   |  | . . . . . |  |  |
| . . . . . . . . . . . .               |             |  |           |  |  |
| . . . . . . . . . . . . .             |             |  |           |  |  |
| . . . . . . . . . . . . . .           |             |  |           |  |  |
| . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .         |             |  |           |  |  |
| . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .       |             |  |           |  |  |
| . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .     |             |  |           |  |  |
| . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .   |             |  |           |  |  |
| . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . |             |  |           |  |  |



Table 1. (continued)

$$X = \left\| \begin{array}{cccc} 2 & -1 & & \\ -1 & & & \\ & & & -1 \\ & & & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right\| 2\beta$$

$$Y = \left\| \begin{array}{cccc} -2 & 1 & & \\ 1 & & & \\ & & & -2 & 1 \\ & & & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right\| 2|\beta|$$

$$A_7 = \left\| \begin{array}{cccc} 6 + \frac{2}{\alpha-1} & 2 & -4 & 2 \\ 2 & -6 & -4 & 0 \\ -4 & -4 & 2 & -2 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 & \frac{2\beta-1}{2\beta} \end{array} \right\|$$

$$A_8 = \left\| \begin{array}{cc} 4 + \frac{2}{\alpha} & 2 \\ 2 & 1 - \frac{1}{2\beta} \end{array} \right\|$$

- (1) Mult  $(\alpha+i, 2)$ ,
- (2) Pivot  $(i)$ .

And we repeat the transformations (3) and (4) for  $i = \alpha, \alpha-1, \dots, 1$ :

- (3) Mult  $(2\alpha+i, 2)$
- (4) Pivot  $(3\alpha+i)$ .

Performing the above transformations on the matrix  $A_0$  yields the matrix  $A_1$  as shown in Table 1.

*Step 2.* For each  $i$ , the operations (5), (6), (7), and (8) do not change elements of the matrix  $A_1$  except the elements of row and column  $\alpha+2i-2, \alpha+2i-1, \alpha+2i, 2\alpha+2i-1, 2\alpha+2i, 2\alpha+2i+1$ , and  $4\alpha+2\beta$ . And we have the followings:

- 1)  $(2\alpha+2i+1, 2\alpha+2i+1)$  element of the new matrix =  $(2\alpha+2i-1, 2\alpha+2i-1)$  element of the old matrix, and
- 2)  $(2\alpha+2i+2, 2\alpha+2i+2)$  element of the new matrix =  $(2\alpha+2i, 2\alpha+2i)$  element of the old matrix.

We repeat these four operations for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, [\alpha/2]$ , where  $[x]$  means the greatest integer which is not greater than  $x$ .

- (5) Pivot  $(\alpha+2i-1)$ ,
- (6) Add  $(2\alpha+2i, 2\alpha+2i-1, 1)$ ,
- (7) Pivot  $(2\alpha+2i)$ ,
- (8) Pivot  $(2\alpha+2i-1)$ .

Performing the above transformations on the matrix  $A_1$  yields the matrix  $A_2'$  (if  $\alpha$  is odd) or  $A_4'$  (if  $\alpha$  is even).

*Step 3.* There are two cases.

*Case 1:* The number  $\alpha$  is odd.

Let  $A_2$  be the matrix as shown in Table 1. Then  $\sigma(A_0) = -2\alpha - (\alpha-1)/2 + \sigma(A_2)$ .

We repeat the transformation (9) for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, (\alpha-3)/2$ :

- (9) Pivot  $(i)$ .

And then we repeat the transformation (10) for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2\beta-1$ :

Table 2.

```

procedure shrink (var sign : integer);
(* obtain submatrix and calculate signature *)
begin
  ...
end;

begin
  sign := 0;
  (* A0 → A1 *)
  for i := 1 to  $\alpha$  do begin
    Mult ( $\alpha + i$ , 2);
    Pivot (i);
  end;
  for i :=  $\alpha$  down to 1 do begin
    Mult ( $2 * \alpha + i$ , 2);
    Pivot ( $3 * \alpha + i$ );
  end;
  (* A1 → A2' or A4' *)
  for i := 1 to ( $\alpha \text{ div } 2$ ) do begin
    Pivot ( $\alpha + 2 * i$ );
    Add ( $2 * \alpha + 2 * i$ ,  $2 * \alpha + 2 * i - 1$ , 1);
    Pivot ( $2 * \alpha + 2 * i$ );
    Pivot ( $2 * \alpha + 2 * i - 1$ );
  end;
  (* A2' → A2 or A4' → A4 *)
  shrink (sign);
  if odd ( $\alpha$ ) then begin
    (* A2 → A3' *)
    for i := 1 to ( $\alpha - 3$ ) div 2 do
      Pivot (i);
    for i := 1 to  $2 * \beta - 1$  do
      Pivot ( $((\alpha + 3) \text{ div } 2) + i$ );
    shrink (sign);      (* A3' → A3 *)
    for i := 1 to 3 do  (* calculate  $\sigma(A3)$  *)
      Pivot (i);
    shrink (sign);
  end
  else begin
    (* A4 → A5' *)
    for i := 1 to ( $\alpha \text{ div } 2$ ) + 1 do
      Pivot (i);
    for i := 1 to  $2 * \beta - 1$  do
      Pivot ( $(\alpha \text{ div } 2) + i$ );
    shrink (sign);      (* A5' → A5 *)
    Pivot (1);          (* calculate  $\sigma(A5)$  *)
    shrink (sign);
  end;
end
end

```



(10) Pivot  $(i+(\alpha+3)/2)$ .

Performing the above transformations on  $A_2$  yields  $A_3'$ . Let  $A_3$  be the matrix as shown in Table 1. Then  $\sigma(A_2) = (\alpha-3)/2 + 2\beta - 1 + \sigma(A_3)$ . It is easy to see that  $\sigma(A_3) = 2$ . Therefore  $\sigma(A_0) = 2\beta - 2\alpha$ .

Case 2: The number  $\alpha$  is even.

Let  $A_4$  be the matrix as shown in Table 1. Then  $\sigma(A_0) = -2\alpha - \alpha/2 + \sigma(A_4)$ . We repeat the transformation (11) for  $i=1, 2, \dots, \alpha/2-1$  and we repeat the transformation (12) for  $i=1, 2, \dots, 2\beta-1$ :

(11) Pivot  $(i)$ ,

(12) Pivot  $(i+\alpha/2)$ .

Performing the above transformations on  $A_4$  yields  $A_5'$ . If we define  $A_5$  as in Table 1,  $\sigma(A_0) = -2\alpha + 2\beta - 2 + \sigma(A_5)$ . It is easy to see that  $\sigma(A_5) = 2$ . Therefore  $\sigma(A_0) = 2\beta - 2\alpha$ . The proof is completed.

**Lemma 2.** For integers  $\alpha > 0 > \beta$ ,

$$\sigma(M_{\alpha\beta} + M_{\alpha\beta}^t) = \begin{cases} 2\beta - 2\alpha & \alpha: \text{ odd, } \alpha + \beta + 2 \geq 0, \text{ or } \alpha: \text{ even, } \alpha + \beta \geq 0, \\ 2\beta - 2\alpha + 2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be the matrices as shown in Table 1. Then the matrix  $X$  is the lower right  $2|\beta| \times 2|\beta|$  submatrix of  $A_0$ . Thus  $M_{\alpha\beta} + M_{\alpha\beta}^t$  is the matrix obtained from  $A_0$  by replacing the submatrix  $X$  of  $A_0$  by  $Y$ . Set  $A_6 = M_{\alpha\beta} + M_{\alpha\beta}^t$ . If we define the matrices  $A_7$  and  $A_8$  as shown in Table 1, it is easy to see that:

$$\sigma(A_6) = \begin{cases} 2\beta - 2\alpha + \sigma(A_7) & \text{if } \alpha \text{ is odd,} \\ 2\beta - 2\alpha + \sigma(A_8) & \text{if } \alpha \text{ is even,} \end{cases}$$

$$\sigma(A_7) = 1 + \text{sign}(1/(2\alpha+5) + 1/2\beta) = \begin{cases} 0 & \alpha + 2 \geq -\beta, \\ 2 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$\sigma(A_8) = 1 + \text{sign}(1/(2\alpha+1) + 1/2\beta) = \begin{cases} 0 & \alpha \geq -\beta, \\ 2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Therefore

$$\sigma(A_6) = \begin{cases} 2\beta - 2\alpha & \alpha: \text{ odd, } \alpha + \beta + 2 \geq 0, \text{ or } \alpha: \text{ even, } \alpha + \beta \geq 0, \\ 2\beta - 2\alpha + 2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The proof is completed.

**Theorem 1.**

$$\sigma(B(\alpha, \beta)) = \begin{cases} 2\beta - 2\alpha & \alpha: \text{ odd, } \alpha + \beta + 2 \geq 0, \text{ or } \alpha: \text{ even, } \alpha + \beta \geq 0, \\ 2\beta - 2\alpha + 2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* The matrix  $M_{\alpha\beta}$  is the Murasugi matrix of the 3-braid knot  $B(\alpha, \beta)$  (see Figure 1 and [7]). The Murasugi signature of  $B(\alpha, \beta)$  is the signature of the matrix  $M_{\alpha\beta} + M'_{\alpha\beta}$ . By Lemmas 1 and 2, the signature of the above matrix is equal to  $2\beta - 2\alpha$  or  $2\beta - 2\alpha + 2$ . Therefore we have the result.

**Theorem 2.**

$$\sigma(K(p, 1; r)) = \begin{cases} 2r - 2p + 2 & r \geq 0, p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \text{ or } r \geq -2, p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \\ 2r - 2p + 4 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* We have shown that  $K(p, 1; r)$  and  $B((p-1)/2, r - (p-1)/2)$  have the same knot type. By Theorem 1, we have the result.

**Proposition 1.** *Given a positive integer  $n$ , the knot  $K(4n+1, 1; 3n)$  possesses the Alexander polynomial equal to the 2-bridge torus knot  $K(6n+1, 1)$ , and has bridge index 3. (Hence it is not a torus knot). Similarly  $K(4n+3, 1; 3n)$  does not have the same knot type as the 2-bridge torus knot  $K(6n+5, 1)$ .*

*Proof.* By the under presentation, the knot group  $\pi k$  of the knot  $K(4n+1, 1; 3n)$  can be represented by the generators  $a, b$ , and  $c$  corresponding to the underpasses  $BE, FA$ , and  $DC$  respectively (Figure 3), and the relators corresponding to the overpasses  $EF$  and  $CB$ . Let  $W$  be the word obtained by reading off the generators by going along the overpasses  $EF$  in the positive direction, and  $V$  the word along the overpass  $BC$  in the positive direction in the knot  $K(4n+1, 1; 0)$ , respectively, as shown in Figure 3. (We use the same notations as [6]). Then  $W = (bca)^{2n}$  and  $V = (cab)^{1-2n} b^{-1} a^{-1}$ . Thus  $\pi k = \langle a, b, c \mid aWb^{-1}W^{-1}, aV(bc)^{3n}c^{-1}(bc)^{-3n}V^{-1} \rangle$ . The Alexander polynomial of  $K(4n+1, 1; 3n)$  is equal to

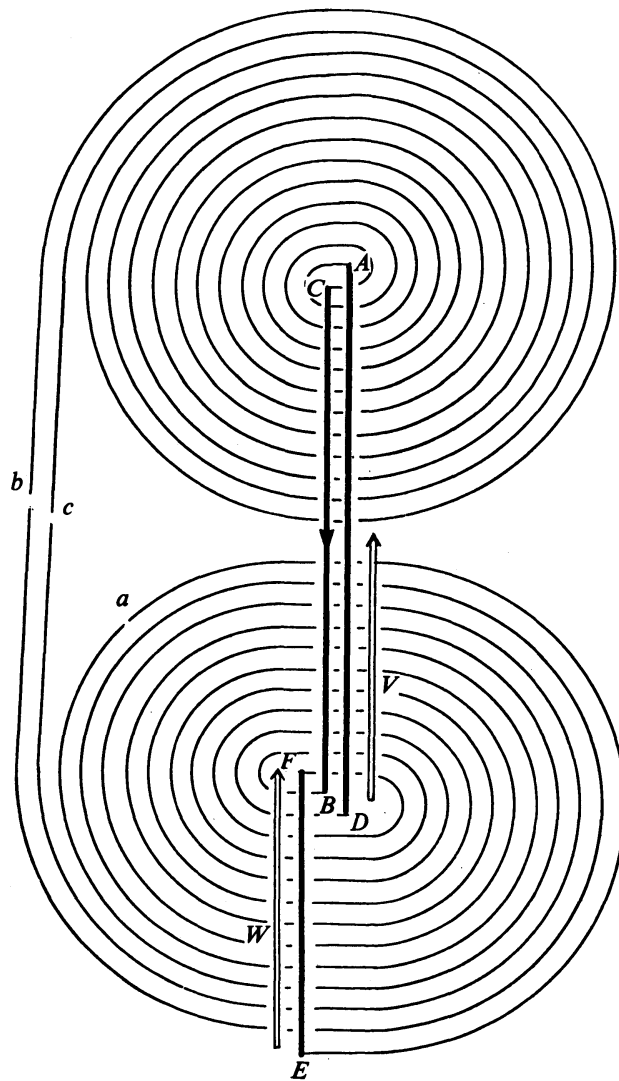
$$\Delta(x) = \frac{x^{6n+1} + 1}{x + 1}$$

It is well known that the polynomial is equal to the Alexander polynomial of the 2-bridge knot  $K(6n+1, 1)$ .

We shall use contradiction to prove our proposition. Suppose that  $K(4n+1, 1; 3n)$  is a 2-bridge knot. Since  $\Delta(x) = (x^{6n+1} + 1)/(x + 1)$ ,  $K(4n+1, 1; 3n)$  must have the same knot type as  $K(6n+1, \pm 1)$  [2], [8]. Since  $K(6n+1, \pm 1)$  is the torus knot of type  $(6n+1, \pm 2)$ , the signature  $\sigma(K(6n+1, \pm 1)) = \pm 6n$  [7]. On the other hand, by Theorem 2 the signature  $\sigma(K(4n+1, 1; 3n)) = -2n$ . This is contradiction. Then  $K(4n+1, 1; 3n)$  has bridge index 3.

Similarly suppose that  $K(4n+1, 1; 3n)$  is a torus knot. Then  $K(4n+1, 1; 3n)$  must have the same knot type as the torus knot  $T(6n+1, \pm 2)$ , since the Alexander polynomial  $\Delta(x) = (x^{6n+1} + 1)/(x + 1)$ . Thus  $K(4n+1, 1; 3n)$  must have bridge index 2, since  $T(6n+1, \pm 2)$  and  $K(6n+1, \pm 1)$  have the same knot type. This is contradiction. Therefore  $K(4n+1, 1; 3n)$  is not a torus knot.

We can show that the Alexander polynomial of  $K(4n+3, 1; 3n)$  is  $\Delta(x) = (x^{6n+5} + 1)/(x + 1)$ , and its signature is equal to  $-2n - 4$ . Suppose that  $K(4n+3, 1; 3n)$



$K(4n+1, 1; 3n) \quad (n=2)$

$$W = bcabcabcabca$$

$$V = b^{-1}a^{-1}c^{-1}b^{-1}a^{-1}c^{-1}b^{-1}a^{-1}c^{-1}b^{-1}a^{-1}$$

Figure 3.

is a 2-bridge knot or a torus knot. Then  $K(4n+3, 1; 3n)$  must have the same knot type as the 2-bridge torus knot  $K(6n+5, \pm 1)$ . Thus the signature of  $K(4n+3, 1; 3n)$  must be equal to  $\pm(6n+4)$ . This is contradiction. Therefore  $K(4n+3, 1; 3n)$  has bridge index 3 and is not a torus knot. The proof is completed.

**Proposition 2.** *Each of the following pairs of knots has the same Alexander polynomial. But we can distinguish them by the Murasugi signatures.*

(1)  $K(4n+1, 1; 3n+3k) \not\approx K(4k+1, 1; 3n+3k) \quad n > k \geq 1$ , where  $K_1 \approx K_2$  means that  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  have the same knot type.

- (2)  $K(4n-1, 1; 3n+3k-3) \approx K(4k-1, 1; 3n+3k-3) \quad n > k \geq 1,$   
 (3)  $K(4n+1, 1; 3n-3k) \approx K(4k-1, 1; -3n+3k-3) \quad n > k \geq 1, \text{ or } k > n \geq 1.$

*Proof.* (1) By the under presentation, the knot group  $\pi k$  of the knot  $K(2m+1, 1; r)$  has the following representation:

$\pi k = \langle a, b, c \mid aWb^{-1}W^{-1}, aV(bc)^r c^{-1}(bc)^{-r} V^{-1} \rangle$ , where  $W = (bca)^m$  and  $V = (cab)^{1-m} b^{-1} a^{-1}$ , as the proof of Proposition 1. Then we can show that  $K(4n+1, 1; 3n+3k)$  has the same Alexander polynomial as  $K(4k+1, 1; 3n+3k)$ . By Theorem 1,

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(K(4n+1, 1; 3n+3k)) &= 6k - 2n + 2 \neq 6n - 2k + 2 \\ &= \sigma(K(4k+1, 1; 3n+3k)). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $K(4n+1, 1; 3n+3k) \approx K(4k+1, 1; 3n+3k)$ .

We can show (2) and (3) by the similar way. The proof is completed.

*Remark.* When  $n=k$  in (3) of Proposition 2, we know that  $K(4n+1, 1; 0)$  and  $K(4n-1, 1; -3)$  have the same knot type.

## §2. Double branched covering of $S^3$

There is a knot  $K(p, q; r)$  with bridge index 3 whose Alexander polynomial that is equal to that of a 2-bridge knot. But we can distinguish it from the 2-bridge knot by examining that the 2-fold branched covering spaces of  $S^3$  are different from each other.

Let  $\rho: S^3 - \{\infty\} = R^3 \rightarrow R^2 \times 0 = R^2$  be a regular projection  $\rho(x, y, z) = (x, y, 0)$ . We may assume that the knot  $K(p, q; r)$  is the union of six arcs  $FA, AD, DC, CB, BE$  and  $EF$  such that

- 1) the arcs  $FA, DC$  and  $BE$ , which are called underpasses, are contained in  $R^2$ ,
- 2) the arcs  $AD, CB$  and  $EF$ , which are called overpasses, are contained in  $R_+^3 = \{(x, y, z) \mid z \geq 0\}$ .

Let  $D(p, q; r)$  be the double branched covering space of  $S^3$  branched over a knot  $K(p, q; r)$  and  $P: D(p, q; r) \rightarrow S^3$  the covering map.

**Proposition 3.** *Every manifold  $D(p, q; r)$  is a homology lens space.*

*Proof.* By Birman-Hilden [1] and Takahashi [12], the 3-manifold  $D(p, q; r)$  has a Heegaard diagram of genus 2. Let  $l_a, l_b, m_1, m_2$  and  $m_3$  be simple closed curves  $P^{-1}(BE), P^{-1}(FA), P^{-1}(\rho(EF)), P^{-1}(\rho(AD))$  and  $P^{-1}(\rho(CB))$  respectively. Then the union  $m_1 \cup m_2 \cup m_3$  is a complete meridian system of the Heegaard diagram of  $D(p, q; r)$ .

Let  $B_0 = P^{-1}(B), B_1, B_2, \dots, B_{2n-1}$  be all the points of the intersection of  $l_a$  with  $m_1 \cup m_2 \cup m_3$  in this order on  $l_a$ . Then  $P(B_n) = E$  and  $P(B_i) = P(B_{2n-i})$  for  $i=1, 2, \dots, n$ . If  $P(B_i)$  lies in  $\rho(EF)$  and  $i > 3$ , then  $P(B_{i-3})$  lies in  $\rho(EF)$ , by the definition of  $K(p, q; r)$ . Since  $P(B_1)$  lies in  $\rho(EF)$ , the arc  $P(B_{3i+1})$  lies in  $\rho(EF)$  for  $i=0, 1, \dots, (2n-2)/3$ . Thus  $B_{3i+1}$  lies in  $m_1 = P^{-1}(\rho(EF))$ .

Orient  $l_a, l_b, m_1, m_2$  and  $m_3$  as shown in Figure 4. For each  $j$ , at the point  $B_{2j}$ , the

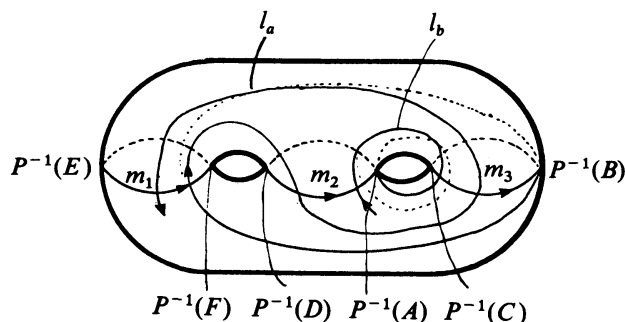


Figure 4.

intersection number of  $l_a$  and the complete meridian system  $\{m_1 \cup m_2 \cup m_3\}$  is equal to  $-1$ , and at  $B_{2j+1}$ , it is equal to  $+1$ . Then  $l_a$  crosses  $m_1$  at  $B_{6i+1}$  with intersection number  $+1$ , for  $i=0, 1, \dots, (n-1)/3$ . And  $l_a$  crosses  $m_1$  at  $B_{6i+4}$  with intersection number  $-1$  for  $i=0, 1, \dots, (n-4)/3$ . Therefore the intersection number  $m_1 \cdot l_a$  is equal to  $+1$ . Similarly  $m_1 \cdot l_b$  is equal to  $+1$  or  $-1$  if the intersection number at  $P^{-1}(E)$  is equal to  $+1$  or  $-1$  respectively. Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be the intersection numbers  $m_2 \cdot l_a$  and  $m_2 \cdot l_b$  of  $D(p, q; 0)$  respectively. Note that  $\alpha$  is even but  $\beta$  is odd because  $m_2 \cdot l_a$  has no branch points but  $m_2 \cdot l_b$  has a branch point  $P^{-1}(A)$ . Clearly, the intersection number  $m_2 \cdot l_a$  of  $D(p, q; r)$  is equal to  $\alpha$ , and  $m_2 \cdot l_b$  of  $D(p, q; r)$  is equal to  $\beta + 2r$ . Then the homology group of  $D(p, q; r)$  is

$$H(D(p, q; r)) = \begin{cases} \langle l_a, l_b \mid l_a + l_b = 0, \alpha l_a + (\beta + 2r) l_b = 0 \rangle & \text{if } m_1 \cdot l_a = m_1 \cdot l_b, \\ \langle l_a, l_b \mid l_a - l_b = 0, \alpha l_a + (\beta + 2r) l_b = 0 \rangle & \text{if } m_1 \cdot l_a = -m_1 \cdot l_b \end{cases}$$

Therefore the homology group is  $Z_{\alpha + (\beta + 2r)}$  if  $m_1 \cdot l_a = m_1 \cdot l_b$  or  $Z_{\alpha - (\beta + 2r)}$  if  $m_1 \cdot l_a = -m_1 \cdot l_b$ . This completes the proof of Proposition 3.

**Theorem 3.** For any pair of integers  $(p, q)$  which yields the 2-bridge knot  $K(p, q)$ , there exists an integer  $r$  such that  $D(p, q; r)$  and  $D(p, q; r + 1)$  are homology 3-spheres.

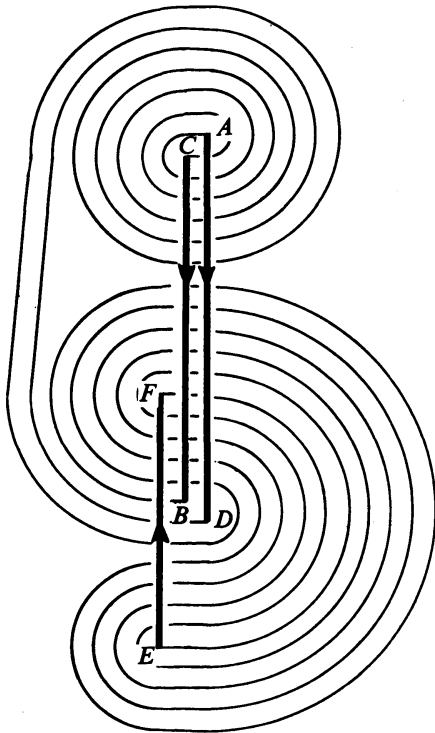
*Proof.* We have shown in the proof of Proposition 3 that  $\alpha$  is even and  $\beta$  is odd. Therefore we choose  $r = -(\alpha + \beta + 1)/2$  if  $m_1 \cdot l_a = m_1 \cdot l_b$  or  $r = (\alpha - \beta + 1)/2$  if  $m_1 \cdot l_a = -m_1 \cdot l_b$ . The proof is completed.

A portion of a knot which is a set of just two arcs embedded in 3-ball is called a *tangle*.

**Theorem 4.** For any positive integer  $n$  and any integer  $r$ ,  $D(4n + 1, 2n + 1; r)$  and  $D(4n + 3, 2n + 1; r)$  are Seifert manifolds.

*Proof.* We shall show that  $K(4n + 1, 2n + 1; r)$  and  $K(4n + 3, 2n + 1; r)$  belong to a class of knots studied by Montesinos in [5]. Note that the pair of integers  $(s, t)$  of each of these knots, which is defined in Lemma 1 in [6], is  $(2, 1)$ .

For  $K(4n + 3, 2n + 1; r)$ : By isotopic transformation of  $K(4n + 3, 2n + 1; r)$  we successively have Figures 5-2, 5-3, 5-4, and 5-5:



$K(11, 5; 3)$   
Figure 5-1.

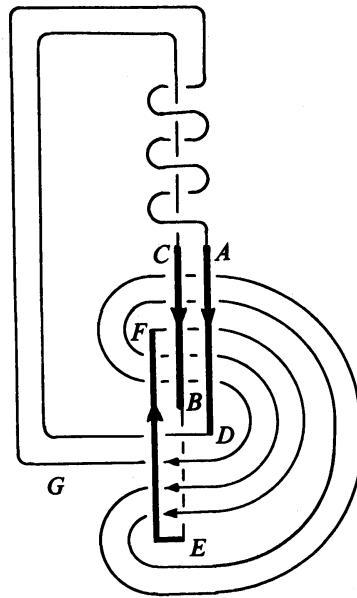


Figure 5-2.

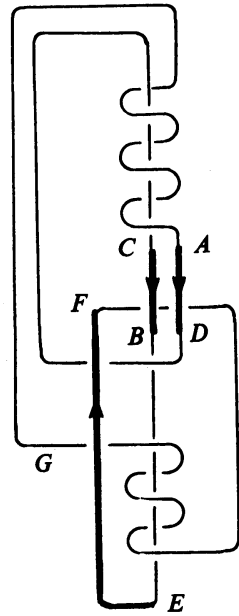


Figure 5-3.

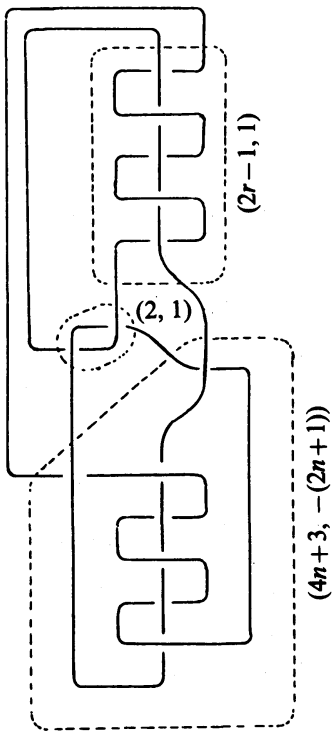


Figure 5-4.

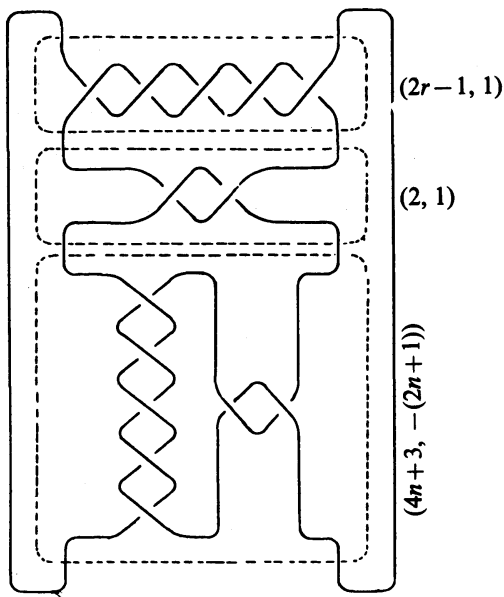


Figure 5-5.

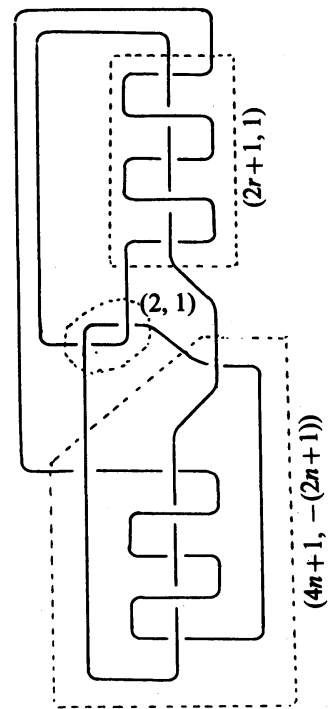


Figure 5-6.

The underpasses  $FA$  and  $DC$  satisfy the followings:

- 1) each of them lies in  $R^2$ ,
- 2) each of them goes around the both points  $A$  and  $C$   $r$ -times,
- 3) they are parallel in neighbourhood of the both points  $A$  and  $C$  in  $R^2$ .

Put the neighbourhood of  $A \cup C$  in 3) into  $r$ -“full twists” as shown in Figure 5-2. Push the underpass  $BE$  in  $R_-^3 = \{(x, y, z) | z \leq 0\}$ , and redraw it by a straight line (Figure 5-1  $\rightarrow$  Figure 5-2).

Let  $G$  be a point in the arc  $FA$  as shown in Figure 5-2. The arc  $FG$  over-crosses the straight line  $BE$  at  $(n+1)/2$  double points, and the other double points of  $FG$  are under-crossing points. Then redraw the arc  $FG$  and get the Figure 5-3.

Make the arc  $AD$  stride over across the arc  $CB$ . And redraw the diagram as shown in Figure 5-5. The portions of Figure 5-5 which are bounded by the dotted circles are tangles labelled  $(2r-1, 1)$ ,  $(2, 1)$  and  $(4n+3, -(2n+1))$  (see [5]). Since each  $D(4n+3, 2n+1; r)$  belongs to a class of manifolds studied by Montesinos [5], it is the Seifert fiber space  $(O \circ 0 | 0; (2r-1, 1), (2, 1), (4n+3, -(2n+1)))$  in the notation of [10].

For  $K(4n+1, 2n+1; r)$ : By the same manner of the previous case, we prove this case. By isotopic transformation we get Figure 5-6 from  $K(4n+1, 2n+1; r)$ . Therefore  $D(4n+1, 2n+1; r)$  is described by the symbol  $(O \circ 0 | 0; (2r+1, 1), (2, 1), (4n+1, -(2n+1)))$ . The proof is completed.

**Corollary 1.** For any positive integer  $n$  and any integers  $r$ ,

- (1)  $K(4n-1, 2n-1; r)$  has bridge index 3 iff  $r \neq 0$  or  $+1$ ,
- (2)  $K(4n+1, 2n+1; r)$  has bridge index 3 iff  $r \neq 0$  or  $-1$ .

*Proof.* In Proposition 4 of [6], we have shown that  $K(4n+1, 2n+1; 0)$ ,  $K(4n+1, 2n+1; -1)$ ,  $K(4n-1, 2n-1, 0)$  and  $K(4n-1, 2n-1; 1)$  have bridge index 2. The Seifert manifold  $(O \circ 0 | 0; (2r+1, 1), (2, 1), (4n+1, -(2n+1)))$  has three exceptional fibers if and only if  $2r+1 \neq \pm 1$ . Then for  $r$  with  $2r+1 \neq \pm 1$ ,  $D(4n+1, 2n+1; r)$  is not a lens space. On the other hand, the 2-fold branched covering space of  $S^3$  branched over a 2-bridge knot is a lens space. Therefore  $K(4n+1, 2n+1; r)$  has bridge index 3 if and only if  $r \neq 0$  or  $-1$ .

Similarly, since the Seifert manifold  $(O \circ 0 | 0; (2r-1, 1), (2, 1), (4n-1, -(2n-1)))$  is a lens space if and only if  $2r-1 \neq \pm 1$ ,  $K(4n-1, 2n-1; r)$  has bridge index 3 if and only if  $r \neq 0$  or  $1$ . The proof is completed.

**Proposition 4.** For any positive integer  $n$ ,  $K(4n+3, 4n+1; 1)$  has unknotting number 1.

*Proof.* Push the underpass  $BE$  slightly into  $R_-^3$  and redraw it by a straight line (Figure 6-1  $\rightarrow$  Figure 6-2). We apply the unknotting operation (see [4], [7]) at the crossing point in the portion of Figure 6-2 which is bounded by the dotted circle (Figure 6-2  $\rightarrow$  Figure 6-3).

Now we shall show that the resulting knot is unknotted. The arc  $FA$  into Figure 6-3 is an underpass. Then push  $FA$  into  $R_-^3$  and redraw it by an arc without double

points (Figure 6-4). Since the arc  $EFAD$  can be considered as an overpass, push it into  $R_+^3$  and redraw it by a straight line (Figure 6-5). Since the arc  $BEDC$  can be considered as an underpass, we get a 1-bridge knot, that is a trivial knot. Therefore  $K(4n+3, 4n+1; 1)$  has unknotting number 1 or 0. On the other hand, we can show that the Alexander polynomial of  $K(4n+3, 4n+1; 1)$  is equal to  $x^{n+1} - x^n + x - 1 + x^{-1} - x^{-n} + x^{-n-1}$ . Thus  $K(4n+3, 4n+1; 1)$  is not a trivial knot. Therefore the unknotting number of  $K(4n+3, 4n+1; 1)$  is equal to 1. The proof is completed.

The following Theorem 5 was proved in [6].

**Theorem 5.** For any pair of odd integers  $(p, q)$  with  $0 < |q| < p$  and  $(p, q) = 1$ , there exist integers  $\Gamma(p, q) = (r_0, r_1, n; \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$  such that

- 1)  $r_0 < r_1$ ,
- 2) for any  $r \geq r_1$ , the sequence of coefficients of the Alexander polynomial of  $K(p, q; r)$  is

$$\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n, \underline{1, -1, \dots, 1, -1, 1}, \alpha_n, \dots, \alpha_2, \alpha_1,$$

where the pair "1, -1" appears on the underlined part  $(r - r_1)$  times repeatedly,

- 3) for any  $r \leq r_0$ , the sequence of coefficients of the one of  $K(p, q; r)$  is

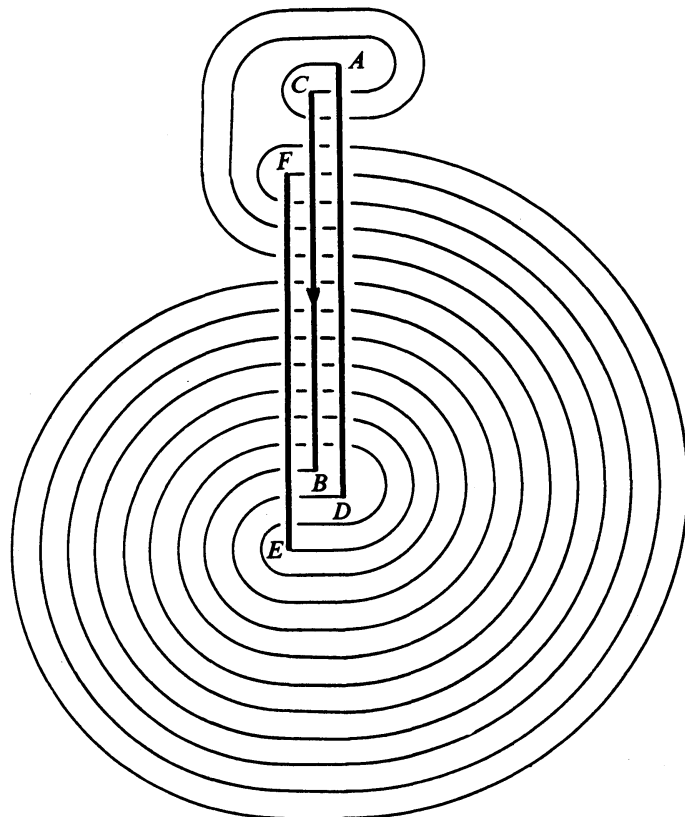


Figure 6-1.  $K(11, 9; 1)$



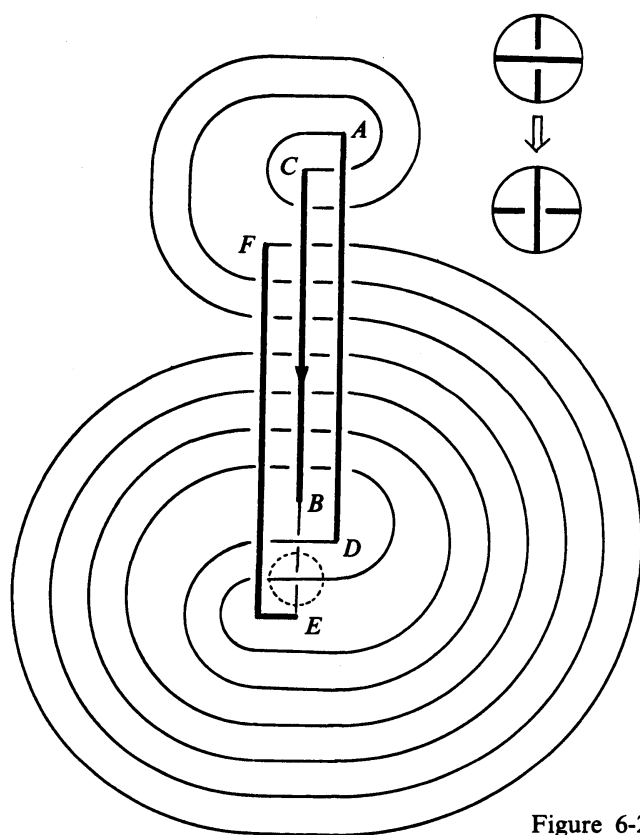


Figure 6-2.

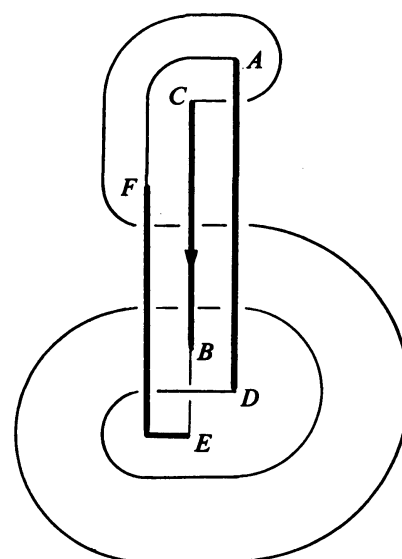


Figure 6-4.

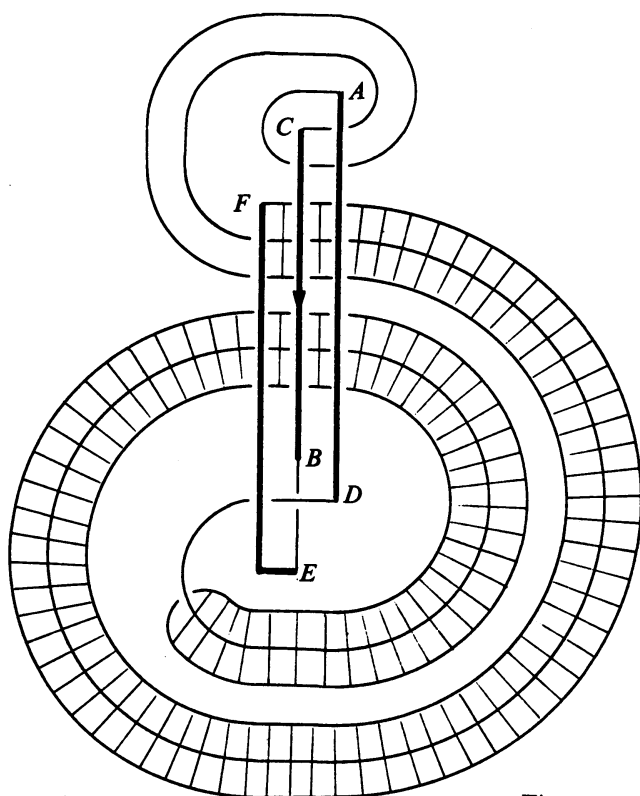
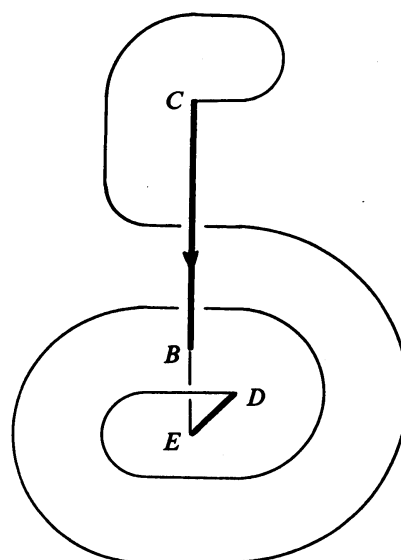


Figure 6-3.



trivial knot  
Figure 6-5.

$$\alpha_n + 1, \alpha_{n+1} - 1, \dots, \alpha_2 + 1, \alpha_1 - 1, \underline{1, -1, \dots, 1, -1, 1}, \alpha_1 - 1, \\ \alpha_2 + 1, \dots, \alpha_{n-1} - 1, \alpha_n + 1, \text{ if } n \text{ is even, or}$$

$$\alpha_n + 1, \alpha_{n+1} - 1, \dots, \alpha_2 - 1, \alpha_1 + 1, \underline{-1, 1, \dots, -1, 1, -1}, \alpha_1 + 1, \\ \alpha_2 - 1, \dots, \alpha_{n-1} - 1, \alpha_n + 1, \text{ if } n \text{ is odd}$$

where the pair "1, -1" appears on the underlined part  $(r_0 - r)$  times repeatedly.

We shall prove the following result announced in [6] by the help of Theorem 5, Proposition 1 and Corollary 1.

**Proposition 5.**

- 1)  $K(3, 1; 0) \approx K(5, 1) \approx T(5, 2)$
- 2)  $K(2n+1, 1; -1) \approx T(3n+1, 3)$  ( $n=1, 2, \dots$ )
- 3)  $K(2n+1, 1; -2) \approx T(3n+2, 3)$  ( $n=1, 2, \dots$ )
- 4)  $K(4n+1, 2n+1; 0) \approx K(8n+1, 6n+1)$  ( $n=1, 2, \dots$ )
- 5)  $K(4n+1, 2n+1; -1) \approx K(8n+3, 2n+1)$  ( $n=1, 2, \dots$ )
- 6)  $K(4n+3, 2n+1; 0) \approx K(8n+5, 2n+1)$  ( $n=0, 1, \dots$ )
- 7)  $K(4n+3, 2n+1; 1) \approx K(8n+7, 6n+5)$  ( $n=0, 1, \dots$ )
- 8) for  $p \leq 17$ ,  $K(p, q; r)$  is not a torus knot except the knots in 1), 2), and 3),
- 9) for  $p \leq 17$ ,  $K(p, q; r)$  has bridge index 3 except the knots in 1), 4), 5), 6) and 7).

*Proof.*

For 1): See Proposition 2 in [6].

For 2), 3): See Proposition 3 in [6].

For 4), 5), 6) and 7): See Proposition 4 in [6].

For 8): It is well known that the Alexander polynomial of a torus knot  $T(p, q)$  is  $\Delta(x) = (x^{pq} - 1)(x - 1)/(x^p - 1)(x^q - 1)$ , and  $T(p, q)$  has bridge index  $\min(p, q)$ . We shall use the same notation as the proof of Proposition 1, that is,  $a, b$  and  $c$  are generators of the knot group and  $W$  and  $V$  are words. In the case of  $K(3, 1; r)$ , the words  $W$  and  $V$  are written by  $bca$  and  $b^{-1}a^{-1}$  respectively. Then we have  $\Gamma(3, 1) = (-1, 4, 4; 1, -2, 2, -1)$ . Thus we have all the Alexander polynomials of  $K(3, 1; r)$  ( $r \leq -1, 4 \leq r$ ), by Theorem 5. For  $-1 < r < 4$ , the Alexander polynomial  $\Delta_r$  of  $K(3, 1; r)$  is:

$$\Delta_0(x) = x^2 - x + 1 - x^{-1} + x^{-2},$$

$$\Delta_1(x) = 2x - 3 - 2x^{-1},$$

$$\Delta_2(x) = x^2 - 2x + 3 - 2x^{-1} + x^{-2},$$

$$\Delta_3(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x - 1 + 2x^{-1} - 2x^{-2} + x^{-3}.$$

Thus for each  $r$  ( $r \neq 0, -1, -2$ ), the polynomial  $\Delta_r(x)$  is not an Alexander polynomial of a torus knot. Therefore  $K(3, 1; r)$  is not a torus knot except the knots in 1), 2) and 3).

For the other  $(p, q)$ , we can also calculate  $\Gamma(p, q) = (r_0, r_1, n; \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$  and

the Alexander polynomials of  $K(p, q; r)$  ( $r=r_0+1, r_0+2, \dots, r_1-1$ ). Thus we can obtain the following complete list of  $(p, q, r)$  such that

- (1)  $p \leq 17$ , and
- (2) there exists a torus knot  $T$  for which  $\Delta_{K(p, q; r)}(x) = \Delta_T(x)$ :

(3, 1, 0), (3, 1, -1), (3, 1, -2), (5, 1, 3), (5, 1, -1), (5, 1, -2), (7, 1, 3), (7, 1, -1), (7, 1, -2), (9, 1, 6), (9, 1, -1), (9, 1, -2), (11, 1, 6), (11, 1, -1), (11, 1, -2), (11, 9, 1), (13, 1, 9), (13, 1, -1), (13, 1, -2), (15, 1, 9), (15, 1, -1), (15, 1, -2), (15, 13, 1), (17, 1, 12), (17, 1, -1) and (17, 1, -2).

By Proposition 1, the knots  $K(5, 1; 3)$ ,  $K(7, 1; 3)$ ,  $K(9, 1; 6)$ ,  $K(11, 1; 6)$ ,  $K(13, 1; 9)$ ,  $K(15, 1; 9)$  and  $K(17, 1; 12)$  are not torus knots.

The knots  $K(11, 9; 1)$  and  $K(15, 13; 1)$  have the Alexander polynomials of the torus knots  $T(7, 2)$  and  $T(8, 3)$  respectively. By Proposition 4, the unknotting number of  $K(11, 9; 1)$  and  $K(15, 13; 1)$  are equal to 1. On the other hand, the unknotting number of  $T(7, 2)$  is equal to 3 ([7]). Thus  $K(11, 9; 1)$  is not a torus knot. The unknotting number of  $T(8, 3)$  is greater than 4 ([7]). Thus  $K(15, 13; 1)$  is not a torus knot.

Therefore for  $p \leq 17$ ,  $K(p, q; r)$  is not a torus knot except the knots in 1), 2) and 3).

For 9): Hartley proved in [2] the followings:

The Alexander polynomial  $\Delta(x)$  of a 2-bridge knot satisfies:

$$1) \quad \Delta(-x) = \sum_{i=-k}^k \beta_i x^i, \text{ and}$$

- 2) for some integer  $s$ ,

$$\beta_{-k} < \beta_{-k+1} < \dots < \beta_{-s} = \beta_{-s+1} = \dots = \beta_s > \beta_{s+1} > \dots > \beta_k.$$

Thus for each  $r$  ( $r \neq 0, 1, 2$ ),  $K(3, 1; r)$  has bridge index 3. By Corollary 1, the knot  $K(3, 1; 2)$  has bridge index 3. Therefore  $K(3, 1; r)$  has bridge index 3 except the knots in 6) and 7).

In this manner we have all the Alexander polynomials of  $K(p, q; r)$  ( $p \leq 17$ ) by finitely many calculations. So, we can obtain the following complete list of  $(p, q, r)$  such that

- (1)  $p \leq 17$ , and
- (2) the Alexander polynomial of  $K(p, q; r)$  satisfies Hartley's conditions:

(3, 1, 0), (3, 1, 1), (3, 1, 2), (5, 1, 3), (5, 3, -1), (5, 3, 0), (7, 1, 3), (7, 3, 0), (7, 3, 1), (7, 3, 2), (9, 1, 6), (9, 5, -1), (9, 5, 0), (11, 1, 6), (11, 5, 0), (11, 5, 1), (11, 5, 2), (11, 9, 1), (13, 1, 9), (13, 7, -1), (13, 7, 0), (15, 1, 9), (15, 7, 0), (15, 7, 1), (15, 7, 2), (17, 1, 12), (17, 9, -1) and (17, 9, 0).

By Proposition 1, each of the knots  $K(5, 1; 3)$ ,  $K(7, 1; 3)$ ,  $K(11, 1; 6)$ ,  $K(13, 1; 6)$ ,  $K(15, 1; 9)$  and  $K(17, 1; 12)$  has bridge index 3.

By Corollary 1, each of the knots  $K(7, 3; 2)$ ,  $K(11, 5; 2)$  and  $K(15, 7; 2)$  has bridge

index 3.

We have shown that  $K(11, 9; 1)$  has bridge index 3. Therefore for  $p \leq 17$ ,  $K(p, q; r)$  has bridge index 3 except the knots in 1), 4), 5), 6) and 7). The proof is completed.

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