

## **Analysis of Conway - Piccirillo Knot with Turing State Machine**

**Lisa Piccirillo - Solving the Conway Knot**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lisa\\_Piccirillo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lisa_Piccirillo)

**Matt Parker - Stand-Up Maths**

<http://standupmaths.com/>

Hypercube and Turing Machine Videos

**Moritz Firsching - Unfolding of the Hypercube**

<https://unfolding.appperceptual.com/>

**Pascal Michel - Busy Beaver Game (Explanation)**

<https://webusers.imj-prg.fr/~pascal.michel/>

The inspiration for this paper came from thinking about whether the same principle employed within the “Analysis of hypercube tree topology” could be applied to another scenario. Available at the below link.

<https://github.com/Sandcrawler/hypercube>

I thought about what else could be represented as a tree diagram, and thought knots are tree diagrams that are attached at both ends. We can break the end and halt it (as we do in the previous paper) and look to see what the pattern looks like.

To begin, I had to choose a knot. I had watched a documentary recently, with a section covering the Conway Knot and the solution that Lisa Piccirillo gave for it. This seemed a good place to start.

This paper covers representing the Piccirillo Knot as a  $\sigma(11,5)$  state machine.

## Version

Version	
v1	First draft
v2	Correction in combining the tracks in Figure 4.1, 5.1 and 6.3. Diagrams updated. Observation #8 added.

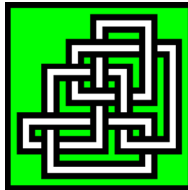
## The Knots

We have two knots. One that had been presented as being unsolvable and one that is a solution to the apparently unsolvable.

Let us take a look at how we can map these onto a state machine.

### **Conway Knot**

Consider the knot as having 11 intersections.



*Figure 1.1*

No state machine can be built to satisfy an 11-node tree.

Note: No state machine can be built for any prime number of node trees.



*Figure 1.2*

## Picirillo Knot

Consider the knot as having 55 intersections.

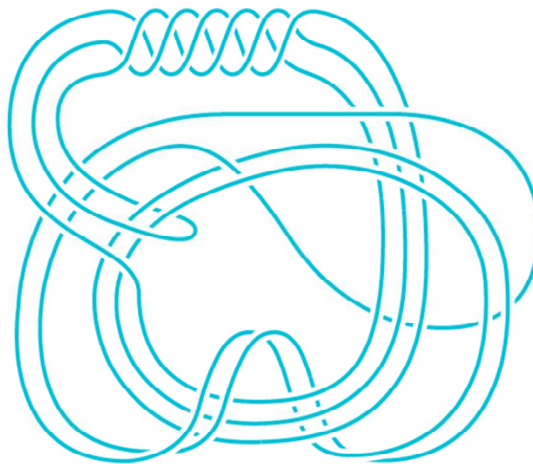


Figure 2.1

There is a state machine matrix available at 55-node that is symmetrical across both X and Y planes.

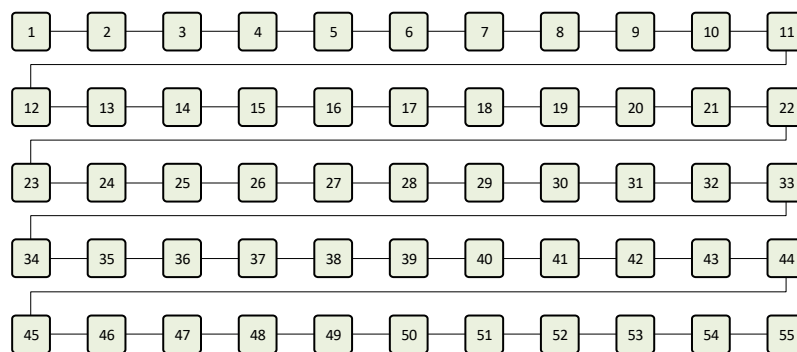


Figure 2.2

This is the symmetrical state machine:



Figure 2.3

In the previous paper “Analysis of a hypercube tree topology” we rotate the state machine around every iteration of the machine to demonstrate that there are only 2 potentials to use and why one of them is viable. In this paper we will look at just the symmetrical tree and why the 55 intersections works rather than the 11. Suggest reading the previous paper to understand the rationalisation of the tree.

The following diagram shows the path that the state machine must follow to achieve every node and pass through each only once within a symmetrical manner.

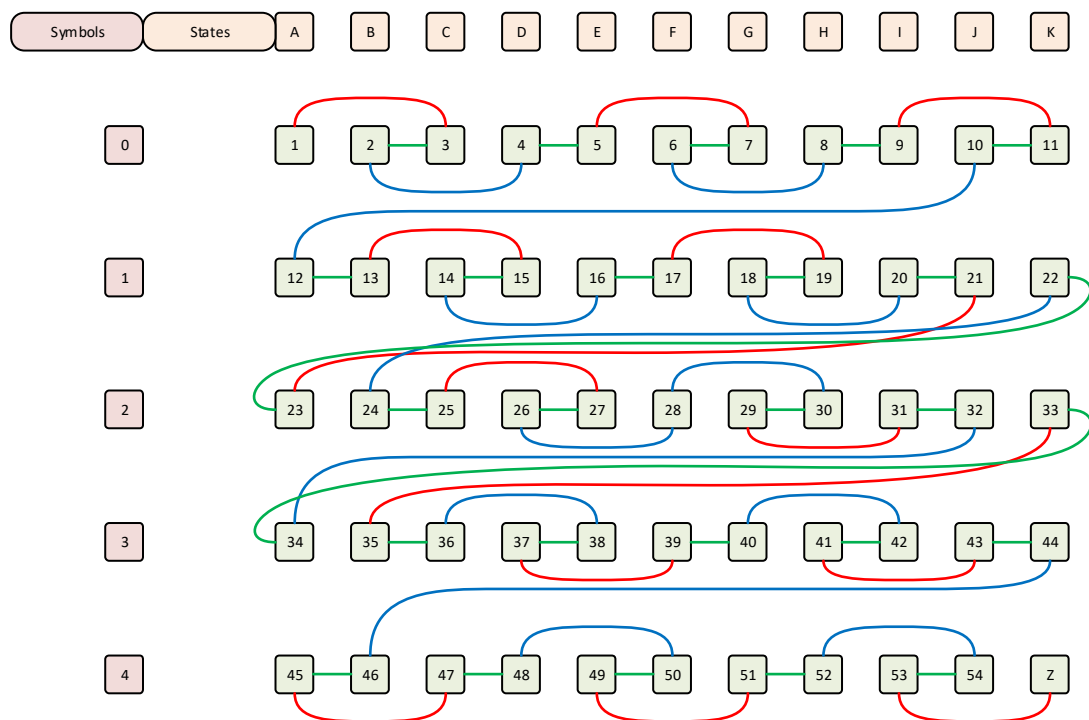


Figure 2.4

## Constructing a State Machine

One potential forward and inverse state machines of the Piccirillo Knot.

		Array Pointer			Array Pointer				
	OLA	0	0	0	0	0	0	ORA	
A0	OLC		0	0	0	0		ORC	A0
C0	ORB	0	0			0	0	OLB	C0
B0	OLD		0	0	0	0		ORD	B0
D0	ORE	0	0			0	0	OLE	D0
E0	OLG		0	0	0	0		ORG	E0
G0	ORF	0	0			0	0	OLF	G0
F0	OLH		0	0	0	0		ORH	F0
H0	ORI	0	0			0	0	OLI	H0
I0	OLK		0	0	0	0		ORK	I0
K0	1RJ	1	0			0	1	1LJ	K0
J0	1LA		1	1	1	1		1RA	J0
A1	1RB	1	1			1	1	1LB	A1
B1	1LD		1	1	1	1		1RD	B1
D1	1RC	1	1			1	1	1LC	D1
C1	1LE		1	1	1	1		1RE	C1
E1	1RF	1	1			1	1	1LF	E1
F1	1LH		1	1	1	1		1RH	F1
H1	1RG	1	1			1	1	1LG	H1
G1	1LI		1	1	1	1		1RI	G1
I1	2RJ	2	1			1	2	2LJ	I1
J1	1LA		2	2	2	2		2RA	J1
A2	2RK	2	2			2	2	2LK	A2
K1	2LB		2	2	2	2		2RB	K1
B2	2RC	2	2			2	2	2LC	B2
C2	2LE		2	2	2	2		2RE	C2
E2	2RD	2	2			2	2	2LD	E2
D2	2LF		2	2	2	2		2RF	D2
F2	2RH	2	2			2	2	2LH	F2
H2	2LG		2	2	2	2		2RG	H2
G2	2RI	2	2			2	2	2LI	G2
I2	3LI		2	2	2	2		3RJ	I2
J2	2RA	2	3			3	2	2LA	J2
A3	3LK		3	3	3	3		3RK	A3
K2	3RB	3	3			3	3	3LB	K2
B3	3LC		3	3	3	3		3RC	B3
C3	3RE	3	3			3	3	3LE	C3
E3	3LD		3	3	3	3		3RD	E3
D3	3RF	3	3			3	3	3LF	D3
F3	3LG		3	3	3	3		3RG	F3
G3	3RI	3	3			3	3	3LI	G3
I3	3LH		3	3	3	3		3RH	I3
H3	3RJ	3	3			3	3	3LJ	H3
J3	4LK		4	3	3	4		4RK	J3
K3	4RB	4	4			4	4	4LB	K3
B4	4LA		4	4	4	4		4RA	B4
A4	4RC	4	4			4	4	4LC	A4
C4	4LD		4	4	4	4		4RD	C4
D4	4RF	4	4			4	4	4LF	D4
F4	4LE		4	4	4	4		4RE	F4
E4	4RG	4	4			4	4	4LG	E4
G4	4LH		4	4	4	4		4RH	G4
H4	4RJ	4	4			4	4	4LJ	H4
J4	4LI		4	4	4	4		4RI	J4
I4	4RK	4	4			4	4	4LK	I4
K4 (Z)	4LZ		4	4	4	4		4RZ	K4 (Z)

Figure 3.1

Following the same logic as the previous paper this is the inverse of the above. We now have all 4 answers to the same state machine and we can follow the same pattern to merge them. Un-invert the inverted result and combine. The un-inverted result is shown on the right.

		Array Pointer			ArrayPointer				
	ORA	0	0	0	0	0	0	OLA	
A0	ORC	0	0			0	0	OLC	A0
C0	OLB		0	0	0	0		ORB	C0
B0	ORD	0	0			0	0	OLD	B0
D0	OLE		0	0	0	0		ORE	D0
E0	ORG	0	0			0	0	OLG	E0
G0	OLF		0	0	0	0		ORF	G0
F0	ORH	0	0			0	0	OLH	F0
H0	OLI		0	0	0	0		ORI	H0
I0	ORK	0	0			0	0	OLK	I0
K0	1LJ		0	1	1	0		1RJ	K0
J0	1RA	1	1			1	1	1LA	J0
A1	1LB		1	1	1	1		1RB	A1
B1	1RD	1	1			1	1	1LD	B1
D1	1LC		1	1	1	1		1RC	D1
C1	1RE	1	1			1	1	1LE	C1
E1	1LF		1	1	1	1		1RF	E1
F1	1RH	1	1			1	1	1LH	F1
H1	1LG		1	1	1	1		1RG	H1
G1	1RI	1	1			1	1	1LI	G1
I1	2LJ		1	2	2	1		2RJ	I1
J1	2RA	2	2			2	2	1LA	J1
A2	2LK		2	2	2	2		2RK	A2
K1	2RB	2	2			2	2	2LB	K1
B2	2LC		2	2	2	2		2RC	B2
C2	2RE	2	2			2	2	2LE	C2
E2	2LD		2	2	2	2		2RD	E2
D2	2RF	2	2			2	2	2LF	D2
F2	2LH		2	2	2	2		2RH	F2
H2	2RG	2	2			2	2	2LG	H2
G2	2RI		2	2	2	2		2LI	G2
I2	3RJ	2	2			2	2	3LJ	I2
J2	2LA		3	2	2	3		2RA	J2
A3	3RK	3	3			3	3	3LK	A3
K2	3LB		3	3	3	3		3RB	K2
B3	3RC	3	3			3	3	3LC	B3
C3	3LE		3	3	3	3		3RE	C3
E3	3RD	3	3			3	3	3LD	E3
D3	3LF		3	3	3	3		3RF	D3
F3	3RH	3	3			3	3	3LH	F3
G3	3LI		3	3	3	3		3RI	G3
I3	3RJ	3	3			3	3	3LJ	I3
H3	3LJ		3	3	3	3		3RJ	H3
J3	4RK	3	4			4	3	4LK	J3
K3	4LB		4	4	4	4		4RB	K3
B4	4RA	4	4			4	4	4LA	B4
A4	4LC		4	4	4	4		4RC	A4
C4	4RD	4	4			4	4	4LD	C4
D4	4LF		4	4	4	4		4RF	D4
F4	4RE	4	4			4	4	4LE	F4
E4	4LG		4	4	4	4		4RG	E4
G4	4RH	4	4			4	4	4LI	G4
H4	4LJ		4	4	4	4		4RJ	H4
J4	4RI	4	4			4	4	4LJ	J4
I4	4LK		4	4	4	4		4RK	I4
K4 (Z)	4RZ	4	4			4	4	4LZ	K4 (Z)

*Figure 3.2 and 3.3*

## Combining the Matrix

We take the result of the first and then the X and Y flip of the second to un-invert it. We then combine the matrix.

Forward + Un-Inverted = Resultant Matrix

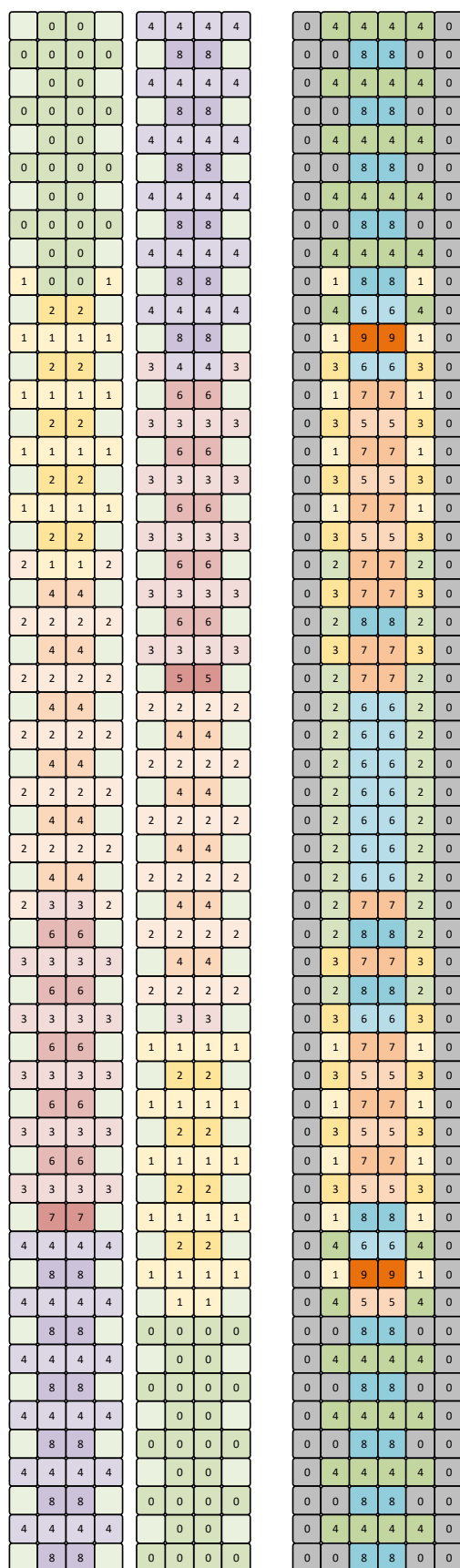


Figure 4.1



## Result

State Machine Instructions										State Machine Instructions									
OLA										ORA									
Entry	A0	OLC	0	4	4	4	4	0		ORC	A0	Exit							
	C0	ORB	0	0	8	8	0	0		OLB	C0								
	B0	OLD	0	4	4	4	4	0		ORD	B0								
	D0	ORE	0	0	8	8	0	0		OLE	D0								
	E0	OLG	0	4	4	4	4	0		ORG	E0								
	G0	ORF	0	0	8	8	0	0		OLF	G0								
	F0	OLH	0	4	4	4	4	0		ORH	F0								
	H0	ORI	0	0	8	8	0	0		OLI	H0								
	I0	OLK	0	4	4	4	4	0		ORK	I0								
	K0	1RJ	0	1	8	8	1	0		1LJ	K0								
	J0	1LA	0	4	6	6	4	0		1RA	J0								
	A1	1RB	0	1	9	9	1	0		1LB	A1								
	B1	1LD	0	3	6	6	3	0		1RD	B1								
	D1	1RC	0	1	7	7	1	0		1LC	D1								
	C1	1LE	0	3	5	5	3	0		1RE	C1								
	E1	1RF	0	1	7	7	1	0		1LF	E1								
	F1	1LH	0	3	5	5	3	0		1RH	F1								
	H1	1RG	0	1	7	7	1	0		1LG	H1								
	G1	1LI	0	3	5	5	3	0		1RI	G1								
	I1	2RJ	0	2	7	7	2	0		2LJ	I1								
	J1	1LA	0	3	7	7	3	0		2RA	J1								
	A2	2RK	0	2	8	8	2	0		2LK	A2								
	K1	2LB	0	3	7	7	3	0		2RB	K1								
	B2	2RC	0	2	7	7	2	0		2LC	B2								
	C2	2LE	0	2	6	6	2	0		2RE	C2								
	E2	2RD	0	2	6	6	2	0		2LD	E2								
	D2	2LF	0	2	6	6	2	0		2RF	D2								
	F2	2RH	0	2	6	6	2	0		2LH	F2								
	H2	2LG	0	2	6	6	2	0		2RG	H2								
	G2	2RI	0	2	6	6	2	0		2LI	G2								
	I2	3LJ	0	2	6	6	2	0		3RJ	I2								
	J2	2RA	0	2	7	7	2	0		2LA	J2								
	A3	3LK	0	2	8	8	2	0		3RK	A3								
	K2	3RB	0	3	7	7	3	0		3LB	K2								
	B3	3LC	0	2	8	8	2	0		3RC	B3								
	C3	3RE	0	3	6	6	3	0		3LE	C3								
	E3	3LD	0	1	7	7	1	0		3RD	E3								
	D3	3RF	0	3	5	5	3	0		3LF	D3								
	F3	3LG	0	1	7	7	1	0		3RG	F3								
	G3	3RI	0	3	5	5	3	0		3LI	G3								
	I3	3LH	0	1	7	7	1	0		3RH	I3								
	H3	3RJ	0	3	5	5	3	0		3LJ	H3								
	J3	4LK	0	1	8	8	1	0		4RK	J3								
	K3	4RB	0	4	6	6	4	0		4LB	K3								
	B4	4LA	0	1	9	9	1	0		4RA	B4								
	A4	4RC	0	4	5	5	4	0		4LC	A4								
	C4	4LD	0	0	8	8	0	0		4RD	C4								
	D4	4RF	0	4	4	4	4	0		4LF	D4								
	F4	4LE	0	0	8	8	0	0		4RE	F4								
	E4	4RG	0	4	4	4	4	0		4LG	E4								
	G4	4LH	0	0	8	8	0	0		4RH	G4								
	H4	4RJ	0	4	4	4	4	0		4LJ	H4								
	J4	4LI	0	0	8	8	0	0		4RI	J4								
	I4	4RK	0	4	4	4	4	0		4LK	I4								
Exit	K4 (Z)	OLZ	0	0	8	8	0	0		ORZ	K4 (Z)	Entry							

Figure 5.1

## **Observations**

There are a range of similar observations to make with the pattern produced by this tree represented as a state machine as in the previous paper.

Here we will limit the observations to the application of the knot topology to the state machine rather than the array shifts and the oscillation of array shifting. It is none the less interesting to observe the comparison.

### **Observation #1**

Conway Knot

This has prime number of intersections, 11, and cannot be represented as a symmetrical state machine (ie; there are not enough nodes to fill a matrix of instructions without adding an imaginary point). Where in previous paper we stated that a  $\sigma(3,3)$  state machine could be used and an imaginary added optionally, here we must add one to achieve a halting result.

### **Observation #2**

Picirillo Knot

The Picirillo Knot appears to have morphed into a symmetrical number, in that 55 can be represented as a symmetrical state machine through the 2 and F symbol and state axis (X and Y axis). This has the result of enabling a state machine to be developed for it that is perfectly symmetrical.

### **Observation #3**

Knots of prime number joined at the ends are all subject to this same issue. No prime numbered knot can be represented as an X and Y symmetrical state machine.

### **Observation #4**

Prime numbered knots may be able to be built into non-halting state machines.

An 11-node tree could be built into a state machine of  $\sigma(6,2)$  where it loops around 1-11 never going to halt at node 12.

### **Observation #5**

Choosing what to do at point of halt in machines with many symbols can cause different numbers at what would be the stitching row (see previous paper). In this paper we assume the last iteration is the same symbol as the previous, but it is possible the halting instruction could write a 0,1,2, 3, or 4 before halting altering the values and thus creating a different set of potential results when being reprocessed by the same set of state machine instructions.

It is assumed using symbol 4 in the halt, as if the pattern were to be built into a larger state machine the de facto trajectory of the numbering would, I suspect, be followed incrementally for this knot and state machine.

### **Observation #6**

Based on observation #6. It may be possible at the point of stitching if writing different values on the halt to stitch different shapes together. State machines having an altered value substituted at the stitch point would then work with different valued arrays being processed off the end of the stitch.

For example:

Last instruction set in machine: Read value, write value, follow to next instruction which is HALT and so stop immediately.

0, 1, 2, 3, 4 can be written as the final value just before the halt.

Last 4 instructions alternative:

H4	4RJ	4	4			4	4	4LJ	H4
J4	4LI		4	4	4	4		4RI	J4
I4	4RK	4	4			4	4	4LK	I4
K4 (Z)	OLZ		0	4	4	0		ORZ	K4 (Z)

Figure 6.1

The inverse:

H4	4LI		4	4	4	4		4RJ	H4
J4	4RI	4	4			4	4	4LI	J4
I4	4LK		4	4	4	4		4RK	I4
K4 (Z)	ORZ	4	0			0	4	OLZ	K4 (Z)

Figure 6.2

Combined result would end up as:

Note the 0 in the central pointer track at the last instruction.

This could result in being 0, 2, 4, 6, 8 depending on the last instruction write and would result in a stich going in different potential directions of array values.

	H4	4RJ	0	4	4	4	4	0	4LJ	H4	
	J4	4LI	0	0	8	8	0	0	4RI	J4	
	I4	4RK	0	4	4	4	4	0	4LK	I4	
Exit	K4 (Z)	OLZ	0	0	4	4	0	0	ORZ	K4 (Z)	Entry

Figure 6.3

### Observation #7

If the first 3 instructions were L L L instead of L R L it would yield a different pattern when combing the matrix. Answers with these different shifts at the start where the matrix is 0 would give adjacently running tracks, thus there are seemingly many answers to this particular state machine.

The tracks can be shifted apart by how far the 0 filling of the array will allow at the start.

### Observation #8

It would be possible to do Left all through 0, Right all through 1, Left all through 2, Right all through 3 and Left through 4.

This would create a helix like shape.