

Topics in Computational Science Report

Knot Theory

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1. Suppose we have knot as shown in figure 1

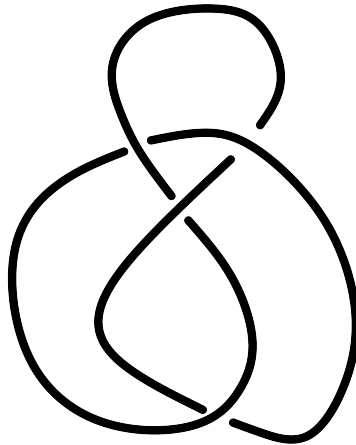


Figure 1: Figure-Eight Knot

Then we define knot invariants,

Definition 0.1. *Knot Invariants:*

- (a) *function f assigning to any knot diagram a number (a tuple of numbers, a polynomial, a rational function etc.*
- (b) *for any two diagrams of the same knot f assigns the same number.*
- (c) *Color the diagram into 3 colors. The coloring is correct if at each crossing, the three meeting arcs are either all of the same color, or all of the different colors.*
- (d) *Coloring invariant $col_3(D)$ is the number of correct colorings.*

we want to find every combination of coloring or numbering that satisfies 3-colorings or 3 "trivial" colorings from figure 1.

Answer.

The combination of coloring figure 1 is as follows:

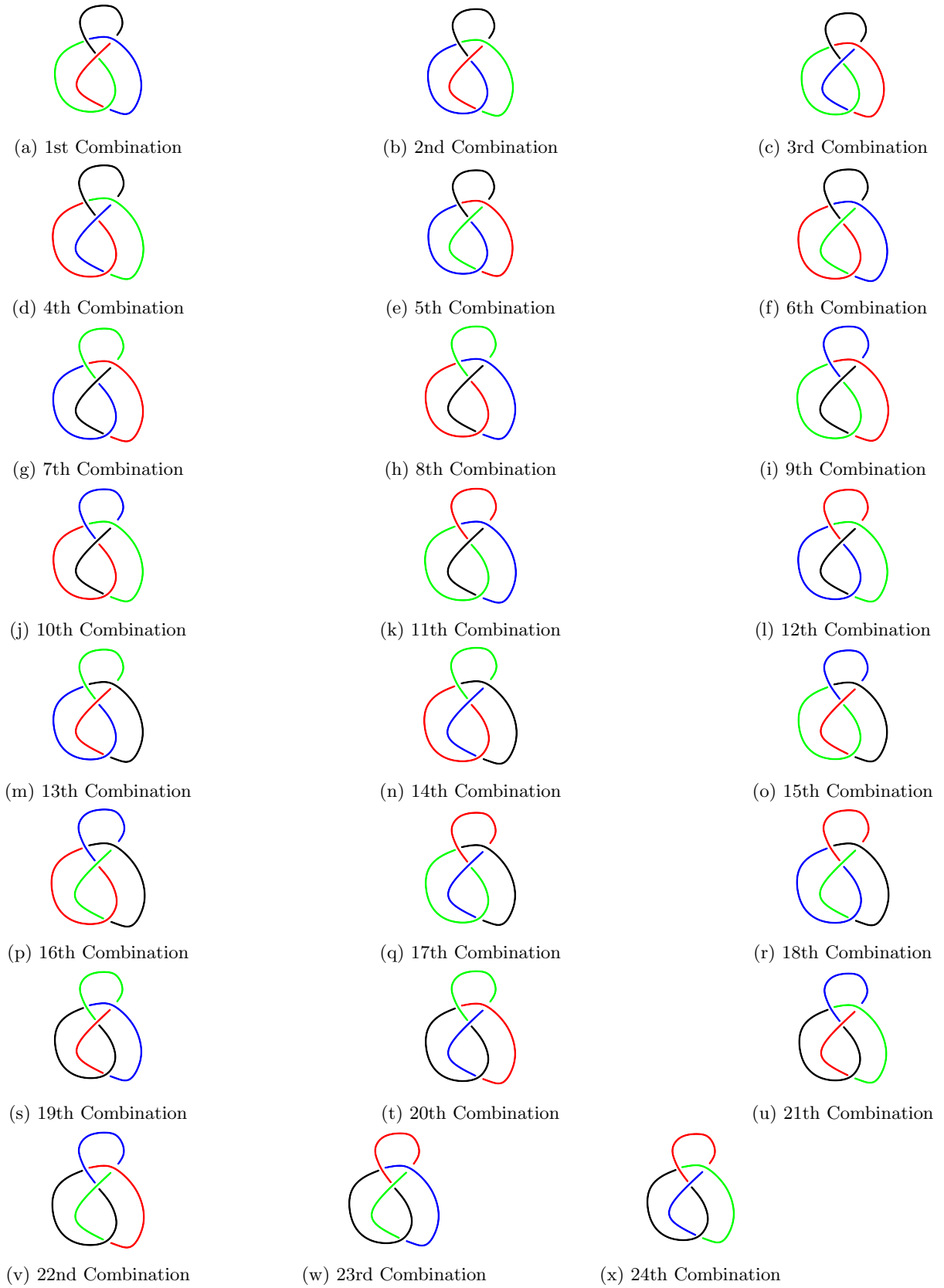
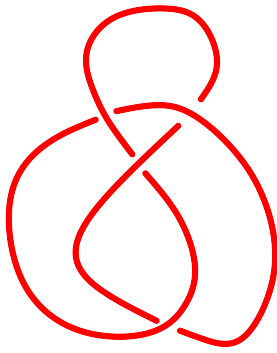
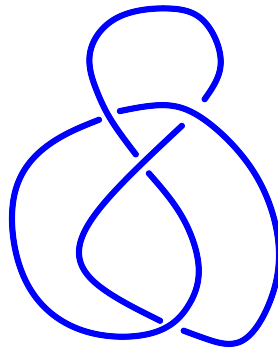


Figure 2: 3 Colorings Combination of Figure-Eight Knot

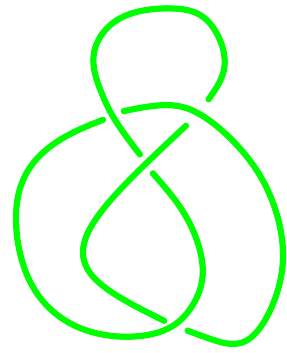
Now for trivial colorings, we've shown in figure 3 below:



(a) 25th Combination



(b) 26th Combination



(c) 27th Combination

Figure 3: Trivial Colorings Knot

It is clear from figure 2 and 3, the colorings that satisfies definition of knot invariants, is just the **trivial colorings**, therefore there is **no 3-colorings** in **Figure-Eight Knot**, in other word, Figure-Eight Knot is not tricolorable because it has 4 edges with each pair of edge meeting at some crossing. If three of the edge had the same color, then all edge would be forced to be the same color. Otherwise each of these four edge must have a distinct color.