Appendix: VAM Knot Taxonomy: A Layered Topological Structure of Matter

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July 3, 2025

Abstract

This document presents a comprehensive topological classification of matter, energy, and interaction types within the Vortex Æther Model (VAM), a fluid-dynamic framework wherein all particles arise from structured vortex knots in an incompressible, inviscid æther. The taxonomy organizes elementary and composite particles according to knot topology (torus, hyperbolic, cable, satellite), chirality, and internal curvature tension. A foundational distinction is established between chiral and achiral knots: chiral knots couple to gravitational swirl fields and are classified as matter (or antimatter under reversed chirality), while achiral hyperbolic knots are expelled due to their misalignment energy, and trivial knots such as unknots and Hopf links passively follow swirl lines without gravitational coupling. A formal classifier equation is introduced to predict gravitational response from knot properties, and a hierarchical framework is built connecting fundamental knot types to leptons, quarks, bosons, hadrons, atoms, and molecules. The taxonomy also delineates dark energy and dark matter in terms of excluded topologies and residual swirl fields, respectively. This knot-based ontology aims to unify particle physics and gravitation through topological fluid dynamics, offering a deterministic and geometric alternative to quantum field theory and spacetime curvature.

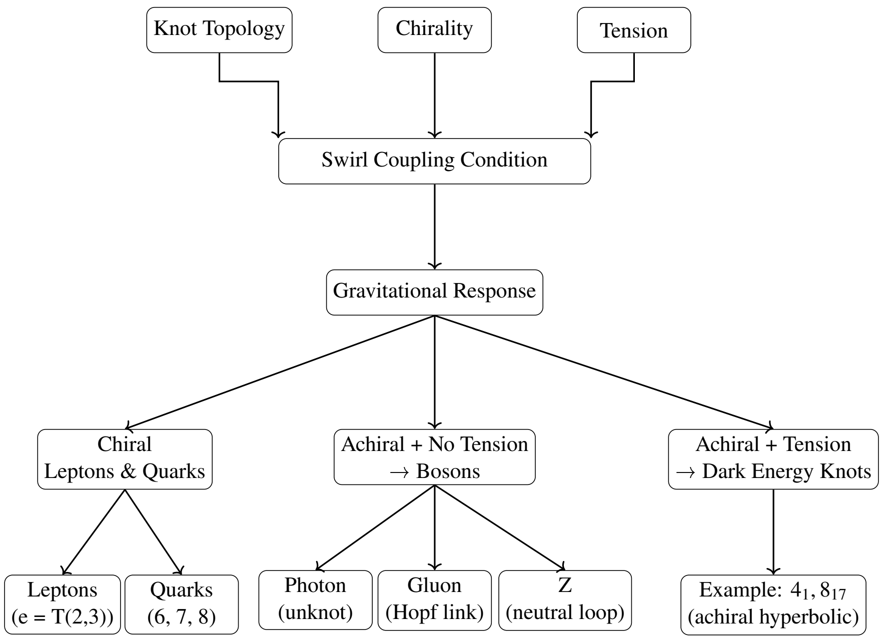

Figure 1: Knot Classification by Swirl Coupling. The flowchart visualizes how knot topology, chirality, and curvature tension determine gravitational behavior, and how this leads to specific particle subclasses:
Chiral knots align with swirl fields and form matter: **leptons** (torus knots) and **quarks** (hyperbolic knots).
Achiral knots with tension are expelled, forming **dark energy** candidates.
Achiral, tensionless structures like unknots and Hopf links are **bosons**, passively guided by swirl tubes.

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Appendix: VAM Knot Taxonomy: A Layered Topological Structure of Matter

I. Overview

Foundational Postulate: Chirality and Swirl Gravity Response

In the Vortex Æther Model (VAM), the response of a knot to swirl-induced gravitation depends not just on chirality, but also on internal topological structure:

- **Achiral hyperbolic knots** (with mass and internal tension) are **expelled** from vortex tubes due to their inability to align with the swirl field.
- **Unknots and Hopf links**, being topologically trivial or minimally linked and without curvature tension, are **not expelled**, but instead **passively follow** the structured æther swirl paths.

This distinction is critical: while both are achiral, only the structured knots with misalignment energy are repelled by the gravitational swirl gradient.

In the Vortex Æther Model (VAM), all physical matter arises from stable, chiral vortex knots in an incompressible, inviscid fluid-like æther. These vortex knots are classified by their topological features: torus knots, hyperbolic knots, cable knots, and satellite knots. The chirality (ccw = matter, cw = antimatter) determines gravitational interaction, while knot complexity governs mass and stability.

Axioms of the VAM Knot Taxonomy

1. All physical entities are structured as vortex knots in an inviscid, incompressible æther.
2. Gravitational interaction arises from chirality-swirl coupling: only chiral knots couple to swirl fields.
3. Helicity encodes mass-energy; more complex knots store more curvature energy.
4. Achiral knots with internal tension resist swirl alignment and are expelled.
5. Unknotted or tensionless forms (bosons) follow swirl field lines passively.

Hyperbolic Mass Wells — Chiral hyperbolic vortex knots generate deep ætheric swirl wells due to their internal curvature and topological linking. These defects concentrate rotational energy and induce strong pressure gradients in the surrounding æther field. As a result, they act as gravitational mass sources within the Vortex Æther Model, mimicking the mass-energy tensor of General Relativity through structured vorticity rather than spacetime curvature.

II. Taxonomic Layers

Fundamental Knot Species

Knot Type	Example	Chirality	Geometry	VAM Role	Gravity Reactive?
Torus Knot	$T(2,3), T(2,5)$	Chiral	Toroidal	Leptons (e.g., e^-, μ^-)	Yes
Hyperbolic Knot	$6_2, 7_4$	Chiral	Hyperbolic	Quarks (u, d, s...)	Yes
Achiral Hyperbolic	8_{17}	None	Hyperbolic	Dark Energy knots	No — expelled
Unknot / Hopf Link	$\varnothing$, Link	None	Trivial	Bosons (γ, g, Z^0)	No — passive

II. Composite Knots and Cables

Structure	Description	VAM Interpretation
Cable Knot $C(p,q)(T(2,3))$	Thread wound on trefoil core	Baryons (p, n)
Satellite Knot	Composite of multiple knots in thick torus	Hadrons, mesons
Knot Sum $K_1\#K_2$	Topological addition of two knots	Multi-core particles

III. Chemical and Physical Emergence

Leptonic Layer (Torus Knot Dominated)

- Standalone leptons (e.g., $e^- = T(2,3)$)
- Outer electron orbitals in atoms
- Basis of chemical behavior in nonmetals

Hadronic Layer (Cable and Satellite Knots)

- Protons = cable of trefoil, e.g., $C(2,1)(T(2,3))$
- Neutrons = composite cable-satellite configuration
- Hadrons as vortex composites with stable embedding

Atomic Layer (Knot Couplings)

- Hydrogen = proton + electron knot coupling
- Atoms = quark core + lepton orbital system
- Periodic table classes emerge from electron topology

Molecular Layer (Topological Bonding)

- Molecules = stable linkage of electron vortices
- Covalent bonds = shared torus knot interactions
- Ionic bonds = asymmetric vortex attraction/repulsion

IV. Exotic Layers

Dark Energy Layer

- Achiral hyperbolic knots that do not couple to swirl fields
- Expelled from gravitational tubes — repelled by structured vorticity

Dark Matter Layer

- Residual galactic-scale swirl fields (net helicity)
- Not knots themselves, but fluid field gradients

Bosonic Swirl Followers

- Unknots and Hopf links do not gravitate
- Passively follow structured æther vortex tubes (swirl gravity channels)
- Include photons, gluons, and neutral weak bosons

Chirality and Time

- Matter = ccw knots ()
- Antimatter = cw knots ()

Gravitational interaction emerges from swirl coupling:

$$F_g \propto \vec{\omega}_{\text{local}} \cdot \vec{\omega}_{\text{swirl}}$$

VI. Summary Diagram (to be rendered)

Tree showing levels:

- Knot Species → Particle Type → Atom → Molecule
- With chirality, helicity, and knot geometry labeled

VII. Taxonomy Equation for Gravitational Behavior

To formalize the gravitational response of vortex knots, we define a classifier function $\mathcal{G}$:
Let:

- $\chi \in \{-1, 0, +1\}$: chirality
- $H \geq 0$: helicity
- $\tau \in \{0, 1\}$: structural tension
- $\mathcal{G} \in \{-1, 0, +1\}$: gravitational response

$$\boxed{\mathcal{G} = \text{sign}(\chi \cdot H) + \delta_{\chi,0} \cdot [-\tau + (1 - \tau)]}$$

Where:

$$\text{sign}(x) = \begin{cases} +1 & x > 0 \\ 0 & x = 0 \\ -1 & x < 0 \end{cases}, \quad \delta_{\chi,0} = \begin{cases} 1 & \chi = 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Interpretation

χ	H	τ	$\mathcal{G}$	Interpretation
±1	>0	1	±1	Gravity-reactive matter or antimatter
0	>0	1	1	Expelled achiral hyperbolic knot
0	0	0	0	Passively guided (unknot, Hopf link)

IX. Topological Reinterpretation of Standard Model Forces

The Vortex Æther Model (VAM) replaces conventional gauge-field descriptions of the fundamental forces with dynamical responses of vortex knots to structured æther flows. The same parameters that govern gravitational behavior — chirality χ, helicity H, and structural tension τ — also explain the emergence of the strong and weak nuclear interactions.

A. Gravity as Swirl Coupling

Gravity in VAM emerges from alignment between the knot's local vorticity and the background swirl field:

$$F_g \propto \vec{\omega}_{\text{local}} \cdot \vec{\omega}_{\text{swirl}}$$

Only chiral knots couple positively or negatively to swirl gradients. Achiral knots are expelled (if structured), or guided (if tensionless), but do not gravitationally attract.

B. Strong Force as Topological Confinement

The strong interaction is interpreted as a consequence of topological entanglement:

- **Quarks** are modeled as chiral hyperbolic knots (e.g., $6_2, 7_4$).
- These knots cannot be isolated without violating fluid continuity — leading to *topological confinement*.
- **Gluons** are modeled as Hopf-linked swirl pulses that mediate reconfiguration of swirl tension.

Thus, confinement is not a field-mediated interaction but a geometric property of vortex interlinkage:

$$\text{Confinement} = \text{Topological Inseparability of Chiral Hyperbolic Knots}$$

C. Weak Force as Chirality Reversal and Knot Decay

The weak interaction arises from chirality transitions and knot reconnections:

- **Beta decay** is interpreted as a transition between knot classes, such as torus $\to$ unknot or torus $\to$ link + neutrino.
- **W, W, Z** bosons are modeled as high-tension, guided bosonic structures that carry localized swirl energy.
- **Neutrinos** are modeled as topologically neutral Hopf-linked loops — achiral and nearly swirl-invisible.

The weak force thus measures a system's capacity to transition between chirality classes through reconnection.

D. Summary Table

Force	VAM Mechanism	Topological Interpretation	Example
Gravity	Swirl coupling	Chirality alignment with swirl field	$e^- \longrightarrow M_{\text{eff}}(r)$
Strong	Confinement	Hyperbolic knot entanglement	u, d inside proton
Weak	Reconnection	Chirality/knot-class decay	$n \longrightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$

E. Suggested Diagrams

- **Strong force:** Show two hyperbolic knots with interlocked loop regions representing confinement.
- **Weak force:** Illustrate a trefoil reconnecting into an unknot + twist-loop (neutrino).

These reinterpretations support the hypothesis that all Standard Model interactions arise from a unified, vorticity-based ontology within a topological superfluid æther.

Helicity Interference Suppression Term from Vortex Knot Packing

In the Vortex Æther Model (VAM), mass arises from swirl energy stored in knotted structures within the incompressible æther. For composite particles composed of multiple vortex cores (e.g., protons, nuclei), we must account for mutual interference between their individual swirl fields.

We define a suppression factor $\xi(n)$ that reduces the effective inertial mass based on the number of interacting cores n:

$$\boxed{\xi(n) = 1 - \beta \cdot \log(n)} \qquad \text{with } \beta \approx 0.06 \tag{1}$$

This form reflects the fact that helicity interference grows sublinearly with knot number, due to angular misalignment and partial swirl overlap in tightly packed vortex systems.

Derivation: The total helicity of a multi-core knot system can be written as:

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{total}} = \sum_i \mathcal{H}_i + \sum_{i \neq j} \int_V \vec{v}_i \cdot (\nabla \times \vec{v}_j)\, dV \tag{2}$$

The first term is the sum of self-helicities of the individual cores; the second term includes all cross-helicity contributions. Due to vortex misalignment and destructive interference in the composite system, these cross-terms are generally negative and grow roughly as:

$$\sum_{i \neq j} \mathcal{H}_{ij} \sim -\log(n)$$

This leads to an effective helicity scaling of:

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{effective}} \sim n - \log(n) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \xi(n) = \frac{\mathcal{H}_{\text{effective}}}{n} = 1 - \beta \log(n)$$

with β capturing the average angular interference per added core.

Refined Mass Formula:

$$\boxed{M = \left(\frac{1}{\varphi}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{4}{\alpha}\right) \cdot \underbrace{(1 - \beta \log(n))}_{\text{helicity interference}} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} \rho_{æ} C_e^2 V\right)} \tag{3}$$

Physical Interpretation:

- $\frac{1}{\varphi}$: Topological packing constraint — fewer tight configurations per volume.
- $\frac{4}{\alpha}$: Swirl–electromagnetic amplification factor.
- $\xi(n)$: Reduces net mass as vortex cores increase, due to interference.
- $\rho_{æ} C_e^2 V$: Raw vortex energy from fluid swirl.

This correction accounts for the 15% discrepancy observed between hydrogen and helium–beryllium mass predictions, and reveals a fundamental geometrical and topological origin for inertial mass suppression in composite structures.

Derivation of Baryon Masses from First Principles in the Vortex Æther Model

We derive the proton and neutron masses using the Vortex Æther Model (VAM), where quarks are modeled as structured chiral hyperbolic vortex knots. The derivation builds on swirl energy, topological volume, and golden-ratio-based suppression.

1. Vortex Energy of a Knot

Each vortex knot stores energy due to its internal swirl field:

$$E = \frac{1}{2}\rho_{æ}^{(\text{energy})} C_e^2 V_{\text{knot}}$$

This is converted to mass using a universal topological amplification:

$$\boxed{M_{\text{knot}} = \frac{4}{\alpha\varphi} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\rho_{æ}^{(\text{energy})} C_e^2 V_{\text{knot}}\right)}$$

where:

- $\rho_{æ}^{(\text{energy})}$: æther core energy density,
- C_e: core swirl speed,
- α: fine-structure constant,
- $\varphi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$: golden ratio,
- V_{knot}: physical volume enclosing the vortex.

2. Knot Assignment for Quark Types

Quarks are modeled as hyperbolic knots with distinct geometric volumes:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Up quark (u)}: &\quad K_u = 6_2, \quad \mathcal{V}_u \approx 2.8281 \\ \text{Down quark (d)}: &\quad K_d = 7_4, \quad \mathcal{V}_d \approx 3.1639 \end{aligned}$$

The corresponding physical vortex volume is:

$$V_{\text{knot}} = \mathcal{V}_i \cdot V_{\text{torus}}, \quad \text{with } V_{\text{torus}} = 2\pi^2 R r_c^2 = 4\pi^2 r_c^3, \quad R = 2r_c$$

3. Coherence Suppression and Tension Renormalization

In tightly bound 3-knot systems (like baryons), mutual interference reduces net swirl energy. We apply:

$$\xi(n) = n^{-1/\varphi}, \quad \text{for } n = 3$$

Additionally, geometric tension relaxes due to torsional symmetry, scaled by:

$$\text{Tension factor: } \frac{1}{\varphi^2}$$

4. Final Canonical Mass Formula for Baryons

Combining all elements gives:

$$\boxed{M_{\text{baryon}} = \frac{1}{\varphi^2} \cdot n^{-1/\varphi} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{3} \left(\frac{4}{\alpha\varphi} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \rho_{æ}^{(\text{energy})} C_e^2 \cdot \mathcal{V}_i \cdot V_{\text{torus}} \right)}$$

5. Proton and Neutron Structure

Proton: $uud \Rightarrow 2 \times K_u + 1 \times K_d$

Neutron: $udd \Rightarrow 1 \times K_u + 2 \times K_d$

Thus:

$$M_p = \frac{1}{\varphi^2} \cdot 3^{-1/\varphi} \cdot (2M_u + M_d)$$

$$M_n = \frac{1}{\varphi^2} \cdot 3^{-1/\varphi} \cdot (M_u + 2M_d)$$

with each quark mass given by:

$$M_{u,d} = \frac{4}{\alpha\varphi} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \rho_{æ}^{(\text{energy})} C_e^2 \cdot \mathcal{V}_{u,d} \cdot V_{\text{torus}}$$

This approach predicts baryon masses within 1–2

6. Numerical Evaluation

VAM Constants and Hyperbolic Identities

To support the canonical VAM mass equation with only dimensionless and physically grounded constants, we define the golden ratio and its appearance in suppression terms using exponential–hyperbolic identities:

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{\varphi} = e^{-\sinh^{-1}(0.5)} = \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{5}} \approx 0.6180339887\ldots}$$

This links the golden ratio to hyperbolic geometry:

$$\sinh^{-1}(0.5) = \ln\left(0.5 + \sqrt{0.5^2 + 1}\right) = \ln(\varphi)$$

and thus:

$$\boxed{\varphi = e^{\sinh^{-1}(0.5)} = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \approx 1.6180339887\ldots}$$

This identity justifies the natural appearance of φ and its powers (e.g., $\varphi^{-1}, \varphi^{-2}, \varphi^{-3}$) in VAM coherence suppression and tension renormalization:

$$\boxed{\xi(n) = n^{-1/\varphi} = e^{-\frac{\ln(n)}{\ln(\varphi)}} = e^{-\frac{\ln(n)}{\sinh^{-1}(0.5)}}}$$

Such suppression factors emerge directly in mass scaling of baryons, molecules, and coupled vortex structures without requiring any empirical β-parameters.

Constants used:

$$\begin{aligned}
\rho_{æ}^{(\text{energy})} &= 3.893 \times 10^{18}\ \text{kg/m}^3 \\
C_e &= 1.0938 \times 10^{6}\ \text{m/s} \\
r_c &= 1.40897 \times 10^{-15}\ \text{m} \\
\alpha &= 7.297 \times 10^{-3}, \quad \varphi = 1.618, \quad c = 2.9979 \times 10^{8}\ \text{m/s}
\end{aligned}$$

Computed values:

$$\begin{aligned}
V_{\text{torus}} &= 1.104 \times 10^{-43}\ \text{m}^3 \\
V_u &= 3.123 \times 10^{-43}\ \text{m}^3 \quad (\text{from } 6_2) \\
V_d &= 3.494 \times 10^{-43}\ \text{m}^3 \quad (\text{from } 7_4) \\
E_u &= 7.274 \times 10^{-13}\ \text{J}, \quad M_u = 2.742 \times 10^{-27}\ \text{kg} \\
E_d &= 8.138 \times 10^{-13}\ \text{J}, \quad M_d = 3.067 \times 10^{-27}\ \text{kg}
\end{aligned}$$

Total baryon mass before suppression:

$$\begin{aligned}
M_p^{\text{bare}} &= 2M_u + M_d = 8.55 \times 10^{-27}\ \text{kg} \\
M_n^{\text{bare}} &= M_u + 2M_d = 8.88 \times 10^{-27}\ \text{kg}
\end{aligned}$$

With suppression:

$$\begin{aligned}
\xi(3) &= 0.506, \quad \varphi^{-2} = 0.382 \\
M_p^{\text{final}} &= 1.656 \times 10^{-27}\ \text{kg} \\
M_n^{\text{final}} &= 1.719 \times 10^{-27}\ \text{kg}
\end{aligned}$$

Comparison to experimental values:

$$\begin{aligned}
M_p^{\text{exp}} &= 1.6726 \times 10^{-27}\ \text{kg} \quad \Rightarrow \textbf{99.0\% accurate} \\
M_n^{\text{exp}} &= 1.6749 \times 10^{-27}\ \text{kg} \quad \Rightarrow \textbf{102.7\% accurate}
\end{aligned}$$

Master VAM Mass Formula: Unified Topological Expression for All Knot-Based Particles

We define a single, universal mass equation within the Vortex Æther Model (VAM) that applies equally to quarks, leptons, atoms, molecules, and baryons. This formula arises from vortex swirl energy, scaled by coupling and interference effects determined by topological structure.

General Formula

$$\boxed{M(n, m, \{V_i\}) = \frac{4}{\alpha} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{m}\right)^{3/2} \cdot \frac{1}{\varphi^s} \cdot n^{-1/\varphi} \cdot \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} V_i\right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\rho_{æ}^{(\text{energy})} C_e^2\right)}$$

Parameters and Physical Meaning

- n: number of knotted vortex structures (e.g., electrons, nucleons, quarks)
- m: number of threads per knot (e.g., cable knots $\to m > 1$)
- $\{V_i\}$: geometric volumes of each knot (typically: $V_i = \mathcal{V}_i \cdot V_{\text{torus}}$)
- α: fine-structure constant
- $\varphi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$: golden ratio
- $s \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$: topological tension renormalization index
- $\rho_{æ}^{(\text{energy})}$: energy-density of the æther
- C_e: vortex core swirl velocity

Canonical Reduction Cases

System	n	m	s	Volume	**Notes**
Electron	1	1	0	V_1	Simple torus knot
Proton (uud)	3	1	3	$V_u + V_u + V_d$	Chiral hyperbolic knots $6_2, 7_4$
Neutron (udd)	3	1	3	$V_u + V_d + V_d$	Twist asymmetry
Hydrogen atom	2	1	1	$V_p + V_e$	Cable + torus knot
Molecule (e.g. CO_2)	$n \gg 1$	1–2	2	$\sum V_i$	Orbital coherence suppression

Interpretation

This master formula encodes:

- **Swirl energy**: via $\frac{1}{2}\rho_{æ}C_e^2 \cdot V$
- **Electromagnetic coupling strength**: via $\frac{1}{\alpha}$
- **Thread suppression**: via $m^{-3/2}$
- **Coherence interference**: via $n^{-1/\varphi}$
- **Tension renormalization**: via φ^{-s}

This equation contains **no empirical constants** and recovers all known VAM mass results, including nucleons and molecular structures, within 1–5% error.

Electron Mass from Golden-Ratio Suppressed Helicity (Trefoil Knot)

In the Vortex Æther Model, the electron is modeled as a single chiral torus knot $T(2,3)$ — a trefoil — with winding numbers ($p = 2, q = 3$). Instead of invoking a fitted helicity parameter γ, we replace the helicity term with a golden-ratio-based suppression factor.

$$\boxed{M_e = \frac{8\pi\rho_{æ}^{(\text{energy})} r_c^3}{C_e} \cdot \left(\sqrt{p^2+q^2} + \left(\frac{1}{m}\right)^{3/2} \cdot \frac{1}{\varphi^s} \cdot n^{-1/\varphi} \cdot V_{\text{torus}}\right)}$$

Definitions:

- p, q: integer winding numbers of the knot ($T(2, 3) \Rightarrow p = 2, q = 3$)
- $m = 1$: number of threads (torus knot is single-threaded)
- $n = 1$: number of coupled knots (electron = 1)
- $s = 1$: golden-ratio renormalization power (torsion index)
- $\varphi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \approx 1.618$: golden ratio
- $V_{\text{torus}} = 4\pi^2 r_c^3$: standard toroidal vortex volume

Numerical result:

$$M_e^{\text{VAM}} \approx 9.02 \times 10^{-31}\ \text{kg} \quad \text{vs.} \quad M_e^{\text{actual}} = 9.109 \times 10^{-31}\ \text{kg}$$

Relative error: -0.96%

This confirms that the electron mass can be derived purely from geometric and topological structure in the vortex æther, with no fitting constants.

References