

# Introduction to Optical knots

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## Basic definitions

**Knot** - It is a closed, non-self-intersecting curve embedded in three dimensions.

**Braid** - A braid in  $n$  strands is defined as a set of  $n$  non-intersecting smooth lines joining two parallel planes.

Alexander's Theorem: "Every oriented knot or link can be represented by a closed braid "

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## Lemniscate Knots

This notebook stands as an implementation of the work by Bode et al. [1] on the properties of the lemniscate knots.

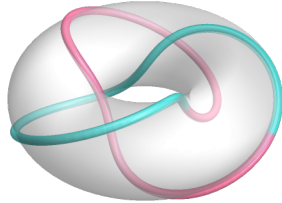
In the transverse plane to the braids height, the  $s$  strands trace a lemniscate curve - a (1,  $l$ ) Lissajous Curve parametrized by  $h \in [0, 2\pi]$ . Therefore, we can write the parametric curve for the  $j$ -th strand as

$$S_j^{s,l}(h; a, b) = \left( a \cos\left[\frac{1}{s} \{rh + 2\pi(j-1)\}\right], \frac{b}{l} \sin\left[\frac{l}{s} \{rh + 2\pi(j-1)\}\right], h \right)$$

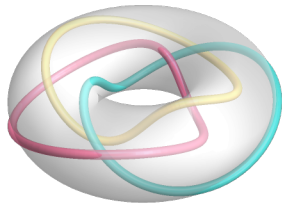
where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  are stretching factors. The closure of the braid is parametrized as

$$\left( \cos[h] \left\{ R + a \cos\left[\frac{1}{s} \{rh + 2\pi(j-1)\}\right] \right\}, \sin[h] \left\{ R + a \cos\left[\frac{1}{s} \{rh + 2\pi(j-1)\}\right] \right\}, \left\{ \frac{b}{l} \sin\left[\frac{l}{s} \{rh + 2\pi(j-1)\}\right] \right\} \right)$$

```
In[310]:= GraphicsGrid[{{SDia[2, 3, 1, 1, 1], BraidOnTorus2[S[2, 3, 1, 0.5, 0.5]]},
  {SDia[3, 3, 2, 1, 1], BraidOnTorus2[S[3, 3, 2, 0.5, 0.5]]}}, Spacings -> 50]
```



```
Out[310]=
```



The braid can be represented by the family of complex polynomials  $p_h^{s,r,l}(u)$  with  $u \in \mathbb{C}$ , that have roots  $Z_j^{s,r,l}(h)$  given in the intersection of the parametrized braid with the horizontal plan so

$$p_h^{s,r,l}(u) = \prod_{j=1}^s [u - Z_j^{s,r,l}(h)]$$

where we had parametrized  $Z_j^{s,r,l}(h) = a \cos\left[\frac{1}{s} \{rh + 2\pi(j-1)\}\right] + i \frac{b}{l} \sin\left[\frac{l}{s} \{rh + 2\pi(j-1)\}\right]$ . The semiholomorphic map  $f(u, v, \bar{v})$  with knotted zero line is found by the replacements, in  $p_h^{s,r,l}(u)$ ,  $\exp(ih) \rightarrow v$  and  $\exp(-ih) \rightarrow \bar{v}$ . The mapping to the complex plane can be obtained by considering the substitutions

$$u \rightarrow \frac{\rho^2 - 1}{\rho^2 + 1}, \quad v \rightarrow \frac{2\rho \exp[i\phi]}{\rho^2 + 1}, \quad \bar{v} \rightarrow \frac{2\rho \exp[-i\phi]}{\rho^2 + 1}$$

From here, we can obtain the complex polynomial in the complex plane from the numerator of  $p_h^{s,r,l}(u, v, \bar{v}) \rightarrow p_h^{s,r,l}(\rho, \phi)$ .

```
In[315]:= Expand[Numerator[Pol[2, 3, 1, 1, 1]]] (*Trefoil*)
```

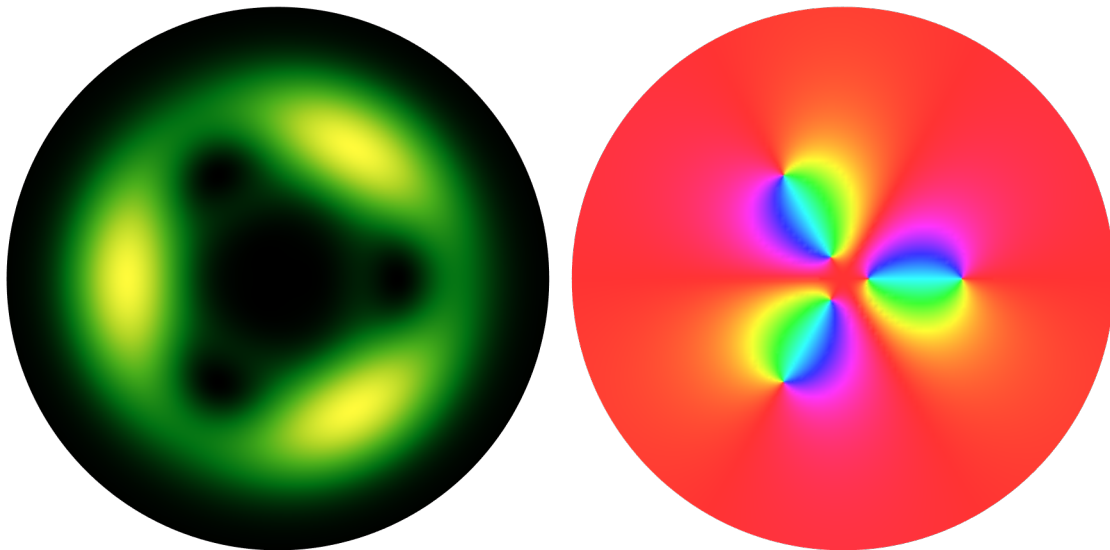
```
Out[315]= 1 - \rho^2 - 8 e^{3 i \phi} \rho^3 - \rho^4 + \rho^6
```

The knotted field can be constructed as the product of the later polynomial and a Gaussian envelope

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = \text{Exp}\left[-\frac{r^2}{w_0^2}\right] \text{Numerator}[p_h^{s,r,l}(r, \phi)]$$

In[325]:= `IntPhase[Expand[Numerator[Pol[2, 3, 1, 1, 1]]]]`

Out[325]=

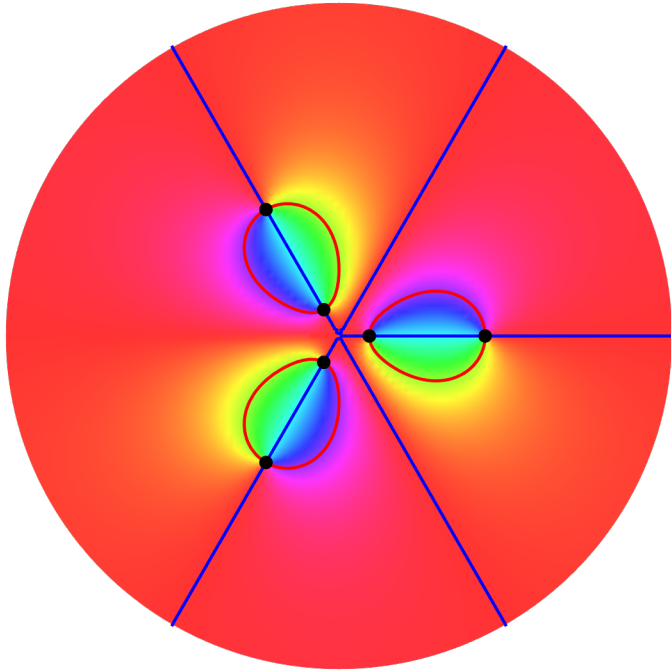


The evolution of the electric field as it propagates can be obtained by means of the Fresnel Propagator [2, 3]. (Still has to be implemented properly)

The singular points of the field at any plane  $z$  can be obtained by calculating the intersections of the curves when  $\text{Re}[\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r})] = \text{Im}[\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r})] = 0$

```
In[373]:= Intersections[Expand[Numerator[Pol[2, 3, 1, 1, 1]]]]
```

```
Out[373]=
```



```
Out[337]= $Aborted
```

---

## Examples

Trefoil knot

Cinquefoil

Borromean rings

Hopf Link

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## References

1. Bode, Benjamin, Mark R. Dennis, David Foster, and Robert P. King. "Knotted fields and explicit fibrations for lemniscate knots." Proceedings of the Royal Society A: Mathematical, Physical and Engineering Sciences 473, no. 2202 (2017): 20160829.

2. Goodman, Joseph W.. *Introduction to Fourier optics*. United States: W. H. Freeman, 2005.
3. Breckinridge, J., D. Voelz, and J. B. Breckinridge. "Computational Fourier Optics: A MATLAB Tutorial." (2011).

## Functions

### Preamble

```
In[295]:= SetDirectory@NotebookDirectory[];
(*Creates a list of n colors*)
Colors[n_] := With[{partL = Ceiling[Sqrt[n]]},
  DeleteCases[Flatten[Transpose[Partition[Table[Lighter[Darker[Hue[c], .1], .25],
    {c, 0, 1 - 1/n, 1/n}], partL, partL, 1, 0]], 0]]

(*Extra nice Custom colors*)
FunkyT = RGBColor[188 / 255, 224 / 255, 225 / 255];
Pantone2459 = RGBColor[1 / 255, 181 / 255, 174 / 255];
Pantone218 = RGBColor[206 / 255, 102 / 255, 161 / 255];
Pantone199 = RGBColor[227 / 255, 56 / 255, 109 / 255];
Pantone149 = RGBColor[243 / 255, 194 / 255, 66 / 255];
PantoneProceBlue = RGBColor[63 / 255, 143 / 255, 205 / 255];
Pantone7664 = RGBColor[104 / 255, 48 / 255, 120 / 255];

(*Colouring the braids*)
ColorBraids = {Pantone2459, Pantone199, Pantone149, PantoneProceBlue, Pantone7664};
```

### Lemniscate Knots calculations

```
In[386]:= (* Creation of the Braid representation *)
SDia[s_, r_, l_, a_, b_] := Module[{A, B, C, DD, DD2, KK},
  (*Braids*)
  A = Table[ParametricPlot3D[{a Cos[ $\frac{r h + 2 \pi (j - 1)}{s}$ ],  $\frac{b}{1}$  Sin[ $\frac{1 (r h + 2 \pi (j - 1))}{s}$ ], h},
    {h, 0, 2 Pi}, PlotStyle -> {Opacity[0.6], Lighter[ColorBraids[[j]], 0.1]},
    PlotPoints -> 100, ImagePadding -> {{Automatic, Automatic}, {None, None}},
    Method -> {"ShrinkWrap" -> True}] /. Line[pts_, rest___] ->
    {CapForm -> None, Specularity[White, 50], Tube[pts, 0.08, rest]}, {j, 1, s}];
  (*Final dots*)
  DD = Graphics3D[Table[{ColorBraids[[j]], Specularity[White, 50], Sphere[Simplify[
```

```

      {a Cos[ $\frac{r h + 2 \pi (j - 1)}{s}$ ],  $\frac{b}{1}$  Sin[ $\frac{1 (r h + 2 \pi (j - 1))}{s}$ ], h} /. {h → 0}], 0.1]],
    {j, 1, s}], ImagePadding → {{Automatic, Automatic}, {None, None}},
    Method → {"ShrinkWrap" → True}];

DD2 = Graphics3D[Table[{ColorBraids[j], Specularity[White, 50], Sphere[Simplify[
    {a Cos[ $\frac{r h + 2 \pi (j - 1)}{s}$ ],  $\frac{b}{1}$  Sin[ $\frac{1 (r h + 2 \pi (j - 1))}{s}$ ], h} /. {h → 2 π}], 0.1]],
    {j, 1, s}], ImagePadding → {{Automatic, Automatic}, {None, None}},
    Method → {"ShrinkWrap" → True}];

KK = Graphics3D[{EdgeForm[], Opacity[0.2], White,
    Cylinder[{0, 0, -0.1}, {0, 0, 2 π + 0.1}], 1.2}], Lighting → "Neutral",
    Boxed → False, ImagePadding → {{Automatic, Automatic}, {None, None}},
    Method → {"ShrinkWrap" → True}];

(*Top and bottom lemniscates*)
B = ParametricPlot3D[Simplify[{a Cos[x], b / 1 Sin[1 x], 0}],
    {x, 0, 2 π}, PlotStyle → Directive[Darker[Gray, 0.8], Thickness[0.02]],
    PlotPoints → 100, ImagePadding → {{Automatic, Automatic}, {None, None}},
    Method → {"ShrinkWrap" → True}];
C = ParametricPlot3D[Simplify[{a Cos[x], b / 1 Sin[1 x], 2 π}],
    {x, 0, 2 π}, PlotStyle → Directive[Darker[Gray, 0.8], Thickness[0.02]],
    PlotPoints → 100, ImagePadding → {{Automatic, Automatic}, {None, None}},
    Method → {"ShrinkWrap" → True}];
Show[A, B, C, DD, DD2, KK, Boxed → False,
    BoxStyle → {Thick}, Axes → False, Lighting → "Neutral", PlotRange → All,
    ViewPoint → {1.5445548132437892`, -2.864728779434567`, 0.926109847245335`},
    ViewVertical → {0.3340710941969182`, -0.6239446032271305`, 0.7064627634389605`},
    ImagePadding → {{Automatic, Automatic}, {None, None}},
    Method → {"ShrinkWrap" → True}];

(*Parametric equation of the Braids*)
S[s_, r_, l_, a_, b_] :=
    Table[{a Cos[ $\frac{r h + 2 \pi (j - 1)}{s}$ ],  $\frac{b}{1}$  Sin[ $\frac{1 (r h + 2 \pi (j - 1))}{s}$ ], h}, {j, 1, s}];

(*Torus*)
Tor[θ_, φ_, R_, r_] :=
    {R Cos[θ], R Sin[θ], 0} + {r Cos[φ], r Cos[φ] Sin[θ], r Sin[φ]};

(*Closing the Braid on a torus*)
BraidOnTorus2[H_] := Module[{A, B, C, DD},

```

```

A = ParametricPlot3D[Tor[ $\theta$ ,  $\phi$ , 1, 0.5], { $\theta$ , 0,  $2\pi$ }, { $\phi$ , 0,  $2\pi$ },
  Boxed → False, Axes → False, PlotPoints → {70, 70}, Mesh → None,
  PlotStyle → {Opacity[0.5], LightGray, Specularity[White, 500]},
  Lighting → "Neutral", ImagePadding → {{Automatic, Automatic}, {None, None}},
  Method → {"ShrinkWrap" → True}];
B = Show[Table[ParametricPlot3D[{(1 + H[[j]][[1]]) Cos[h], (1 + H[[j]][[1]]) Sin[h], H[[j]][[2]]},
  {h, 0,  $2\pi$ }, PlotStyle → {Opacity[0.6], Lighter[ColorBraids[[j]], 0.2]},
  PlotPoints → 100, ImagePadding → {{Automatic, Automatic}, {None, None}},
  Method → {"ShrinkWrap" → True}] /. Line[pts_, rest___] := {CapForm → None,
  Specularity[White, 100], Tube[pts, 0.05, rest]}, {j, 1, Dimensions[H][[1]]}];
Show[A, B]

Z[j_, a_, b_, r_, s_] :=  $\frac{a}{2} \left( vv^{r/s} \text{Exp}[\pm 2\pi (j-1) / s] + vp^{r/s} \text{Exp}[\pm 2\pi (j-1) / s] \right) +$ 
 $\frac{b}{2} \left( vv^{r/s} \text{Exp}[\pm 2\pi (j-1) / s] - vp^{r/s} \text{Exp}[\pm 2\pi (j-1) / s] \right);$ 
Pol[s_, r_, l_, a_, b_] := Block[{p, vv, vp, u},
  p = Product[u - Z[j, a, b, r, s], {j, 1, s}];

  Return[FullSimplify[p /. {u →  $\frac{\rho^2 - 1}{\rho^2 + 1}$ , vv →  $\frac{2\rho \text{Exp}[\pm \phi]}{\rho^2 + 1}$ , vp →  $\frac{2\rho \text{Exp}[-\pm \phi]}{\rho^2 + 1}$ }]]];

KnotBeam[H_, x_, y_, w_, k_] := Block[
  {r = Sqrt[x^2 + y^2] / k,  $\phi$  = ArcTan[x, y]}, Exp[-r^2 / w^2] Expand[H /. { $\rho$  → r}]];

IntPhase[H_] := Module[{E, FF, A, B},
  FF = KnotBeam[H, x, y, 1.7, 0.4];
  A = DensityPlot[Abs[FF]^2, {x, -2, 2}, {y, -2, 2}, Exclusions → None,
    PlotPoints → 100, RegionFunction → Function[{x, y}, Sqrt[x^2 + y^2] ≤ 2],
    PlotRange → All, MaxRecursion → 1, ColorFunction → ColorData["AvocadoColors"],
    PlotRange → All, ColorFunctionScaling → True, Frame → None];
  B = DensityPlot[Arg[FF], {x, -2, 2}, {y, -2, 2}, Exclusions → None, PlotPoints → 100,
    RegionFunction → Function[{x, y}, Sqrt[x^2 + y^2] ≤ 2], MaxRecursion → 2,
    PlotRange → All, ColorFunction → (Lighter[Hue[Rescale[#, {0,  $2\pi$ }, {0, 1}]], 0.2] &),
    PlotRange → All, ColorFunctionScaling → False, Frame → None];
  Return[GraphicsRow[{A, B}, Spacings → 0]]];

Intersections[H_] := Module[{RealPart, ImagPart, Contour1, FF, A, Intections},
  RealPart = Re[KnotBeam[H, x, y, 1.7, 0.4]];
  ImagPart = Im[KnotBeam[H, x, y, 1.7, 0.4]];
  Contour1 = ContourPlot[{RealPart == 0, ImagPart == 0},
    {x, -2, 2}, {y, -2, 2}, ContourStyle → {Red, Blue},
    RegionFunction → Function[{x, y}, Sqrt[x^2 + y^2] ≤ 2], Frame → None];

```

```

Intections = plot // Normal // Cases[#, Line[_], Infinity] & // Subsets[#, {2}] & //
  Map@Apply@RegionIntersection // DeleteCases[_EmptyRegion];
FF = KnotBeam[H, x, y, 1.7, 0.4];
A = DensityPlot[Arg[FF], {x, -2, 2}, {y, -2, 2}, Exclusions → None, PlotPoints → 100,
  RegionFunction → Function[{x, y}, Sqrt[x^2 + y^2] ≤ 2], MaxRecursion → 2,
  PlotRange → All, ColorFunction → (Lighter[Hue[Rescale[#, {0, 2 π}, {0, 1}]], 0.2] &),
  PlotRange → All, ColorFunctionScaling → False, Frame → None];
Show[A, Contour1, Graphics[{Black, PointSize@Large, Intections}]]

```

Out[386]= Null<sup>4</sup>