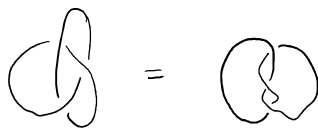


Regularity

$$i: S^1 \hookrightarrow S^3$$

$$i_0, i_1: S^1 \hookrightarrow S^3$$



$$i_t: S^1 \hookrightarrow S^3$$

Isotopy:  $I = [0, 1]$

\* level-preserving embedding  $\hat{f}: X \times I \rightarrow Y \times I$

\*  $\hat{f}(x, t) = (f(x, t), t)$ ,  $f: X \times I \rightarrow Y$

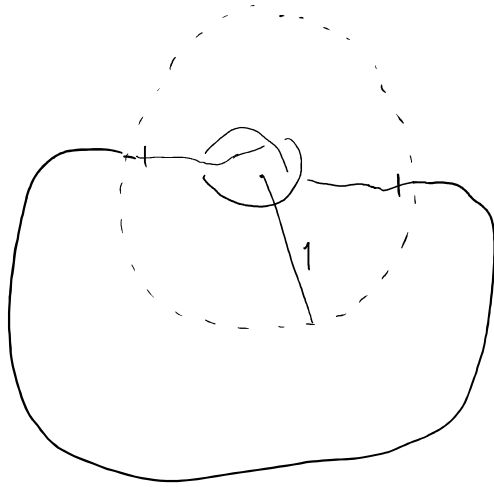
$(f \rightarrow \hat{f} \text{ trace})$

\*  $f_t(x) = f(x, t)$

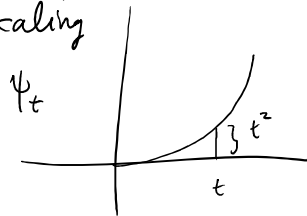
Def  $g, h: X \rightarrow Y$  are isotopic if  $\exists$  isotopy

$$f: X \times I \rightarrow Y \quad \text{s.t.} \quad f_0 = g, \quad f_1 = h.$$

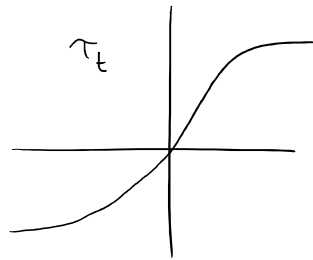
Lemma: many knots are isotopic.



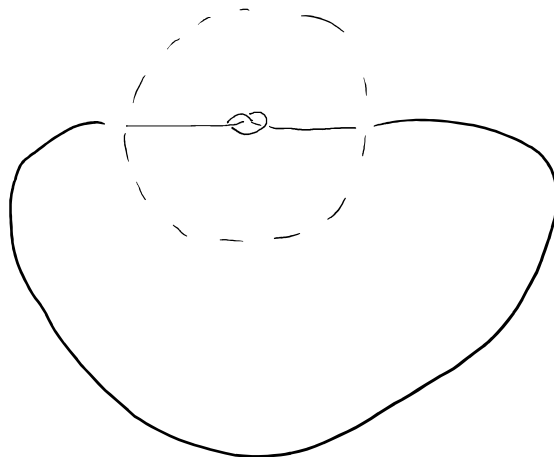
radial  
scaling



time scaling

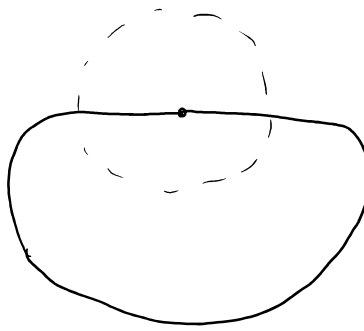


$t > 0$



$$i_t(\theta) = \psi_t(i(\tau_t(\theta)))$$

$t = 0 :$



$$i_t : S^1 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \quad \text{smooth map } \forall t$$

$i_0$  represents unknot,

$i_t = \text{trefoil } \forall t > 0.$

SO: regular isotopy is not good enough.

Def two embeddings  $f_0, f_1 : X \hookrightarrow Y$   
are ambient isotopic if there is an isotopy

$$\hat{\Phi} : Y \times I \longrightarrow Y \times I$$

s.t.  $\Phi_0 = \text{id}_Y$ ,  $\Phi_t = \text{homeomorphism } \forall t,$

$$\text{and } \begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f_0} & Y \xrightarrow{\Phi_1} Y \\ & \searrow & \uparrow \\ & & f_1 \end{array} \quad (f_1 = \Phi_1 \cdot f_0)$$

$$\Rightarrow f_t = \Phi_t \circ f_0 \quad \text{gives a regular isotopy.}$$

Def two knots are equivalent if they are ambient isotopic.

$$i_0, i_1: S' \hookrightarrow S^3, \quad K_i = i_i(S') \subset S^3$$

$$\text{this implies } \Phi_1: S^3 \rightarrow S^3$$

$$\text{s.t. } \Phi_1(K_0) = K_1$$

$$\Phi_1: S^3 \setminus K_0 \rightarrow S^3 \setminus K_1$$

also a homeomorphism.

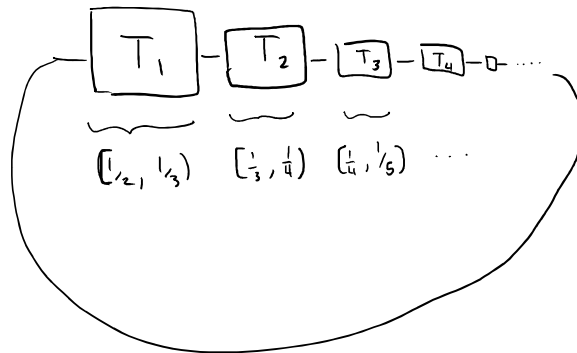
$\pi_1(S^3 \setminus K)$  is the knot group of  $K$ .

$$\Phi_1^*: \pi_1(S^3 \setminus K_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(S^3 \setminus K_1) \quad \text{is an isomorphism.}$$

$$\text{Eg } \pi_1(S^3 \setminus O) = \mathbb{Z}.$$

$$\text{---} \boxed{T} \text{---} = \text{eg. } \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$$

$T_1, T_2, \dots$



is a legit knot  
thus far.

Def piecewise-linear knot (PL) is

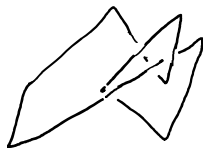
PL embedding of  $S^1 = [0, 1] / 0 \sim 1$   
into  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$$0 = s_0 < s_1 < \dots < s_n = 1$$

$$\gamma|_{[s_k, s_{k+1}]} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

is affine linear:

$$\vec{A}_k s + \vec{B}_k$$



Def call a knot "tame" if it is  
equivalent to a PL-knot.

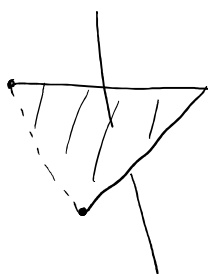
otherwise it's "wild".

$K$  : knot

$\text{stick}(K)$  = minimal # of sticks  
that can be used to make  
a PL-knot eq. to  $K$ .

$\text{stick}(K) \leq 5 \implies K \approx \text{unknot}$

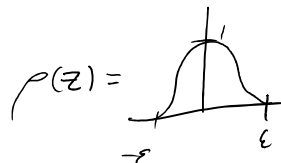
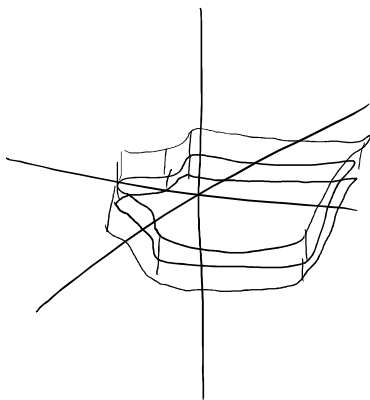
$\text{stick}(K) = 6 \implies K \approx \text{trefoil}$



only two more sticks  
to put in, has to  
be unknotted.

Lemma Suppose  $\hat{h} : \mathbb{R}^2 \times I \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \times I$  is an  
ambient isotopy supported in an open n.h.  $V \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ .  
Then  $\hat{h}$  extends to ambient isotopy supported  
in  $V \times (-\epsilon, \epsilon)$  given any  $\epsilon > 0$ .

$$\mathbb{R}^2 = \mathbb{R}^2 \times \{0\} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$$



$$H: \mathbb{R}^3 \times J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$H(\underbrace{(x, z)}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \mathbb{R}^2}}, s) = (h(\vec{x}, p(z)s), z)$$

## Regularity

Smooth embedding  $f: N \xrightarrow{C^\infty} M$

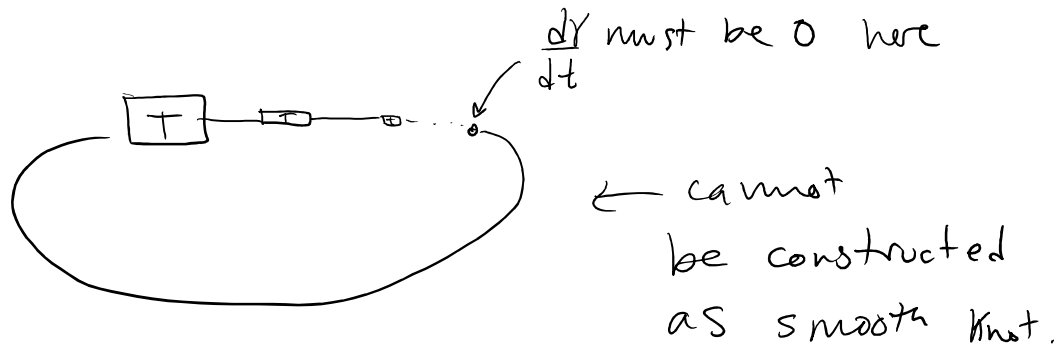
\* top. embedding

\* immersion. (that is,  $Df(x)$  = injective)

Def smooth knot is smooth embedding

$$\gamma: S^1 \hookrightarrow S^3$$

$$\left( \frac{d\gamma}{dt} = \text{nowhere zero} \right)$$



All PL-knots are ambient isotopic  
to smooth knots:

