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Monodromies and visual primeness

Thursday, 25 September 2025 09:00 (1 hour)

If a knot decomposes as a connected sum, is this decomposition visible in a diagram of the knot? We will see that the answer is “yes”, for so-called alternative diagrams. This partially resolves a conjecture posed by Cromwell in 1991. The proof relies on a new criterion for the existence of fixed arcs of (partial) monodromies. No prior knowledge of monodromies or knot diagrams will be assumed. Joint work with Peter Feller and Miguel Orbegoza Rodriguez.

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