

Last time: Given a prime  $p \geq 3$ , we defined

$$C_p(K) = \text{vector space of } p\text{-colorings of a diagram of } K \text{ over } \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$$

$\dim C_p(K) \geq 1$  (trivial colorings — all the same value)

Define the mod  $p$  rank of  $K = \text{rank}_p(K) = \dim C_p(K) - 1$

Exercise I.7 # of nontrivial  $p$ -colorings of  $K = (\text{rank}_p(K) \cdot p - 1) \cdot p$

Also computed  $\text{rank}_p(K)$  from a matrix as follows

$D =$  diagram for  $K$  with  $k$  crossings



$$2x_k = x_i + x_j \pmod{p}$$

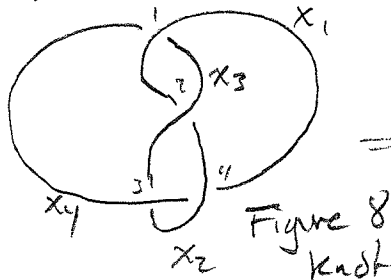


Figure 8 knot

$$M_D = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $M'_D$  be some  $(k-1) \times (k-1)$  minor (any will do) and

then  $\text{rank}_p(K) = \dim(\text{null}(M'_D))$

$$M'_D = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

thought of as a matrix with entries in  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ .

in particular  $\text{rank}_p(K) \neq 0$  iff  $p \mid \det(M'_D)$

$$\det(M'_D) = 2(3) - 1(1) = 6 - 1 = 5$$

In Figure 8,  $\text{rank}_p(K) = 0$  unless  $p = 5$ .

then, compute  $\text{rank}_5(K)$  using row reduction.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 & 3 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{mod } 5} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{mod } 5} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

so,  $\text{rank}_5(K) = 1$ .

Idea was; multiply certain rows by  $-1$ , according to black/white checkerboard colouring



then sum of rows = 1.

Exercise I.8: If  $A$  is a  $k \times k$  matrix and all rows and columns sum to 1, prove that every  $(k-1) \times (k-1)$  minor has the same determinant, up to sign.

Defn If  $D$  is a diagram for  $K$  w/  $k$  crossings, define determinant of  $D$  =  $\det(D)$  to be  $|\det(M_D)|$ , for any  $(k-1) \times (k-1)$  minor of  $M_D$  ( $\det$  of  $0 \times 0 \equiv 1$ ) by exercise, this is independent of the choice of minor.

By Cor. I.11, the prime divisors of  $\det(D)$  give an mult of  $K$ , and in fact we have

Proposition I.12 If  $D$  is a diagram of  $K$ , then  $\det(D)$  is an mult of  $K$ .

We write  $\det(D) =: \det(K)$ , call this the determinant of  $K$ .

Exercise I.9 Compute determinant and mod  $p$  rank for all knots up to 6 crossings (see tables online), and all prime  $p \geq 3$ .

Proof of Proposition: Need to check invariance by Reidemeister moves. [Convenient choice of numbering is helpful.]

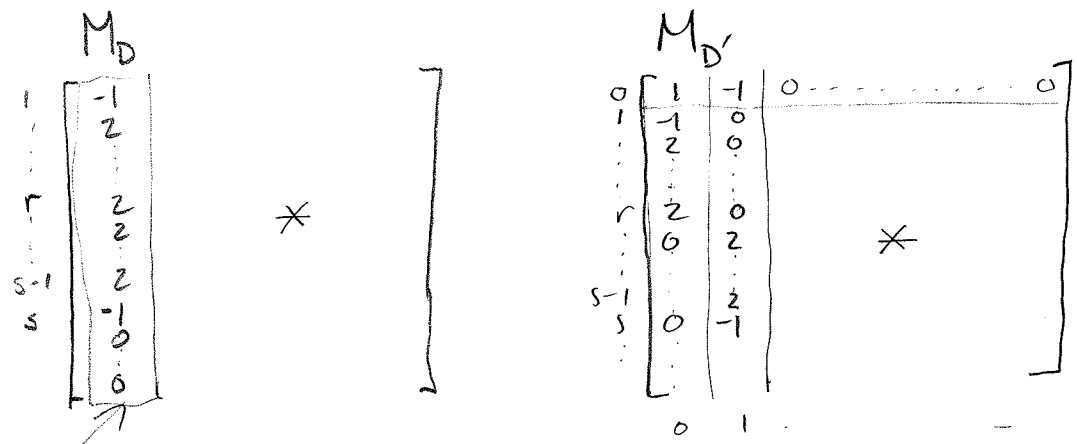
Exercise I.10 Prove that for knots, there are no nontrivial 2-colorings. I.11 Prove  $\det(K)$  is odd  $\forall$  knots  $K$ .



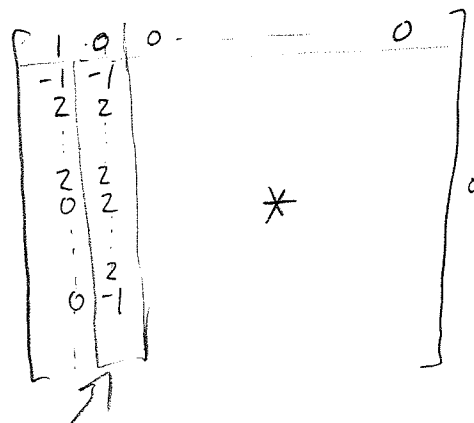
in  $D$  label arc involved  $x_1$ , let  $c_{11} \dots c_r c_{r+1} \dots c_s$  be crossings  $x_1$  passes through, in order  $r$ , so that  $c_{11} \dots c_r$  before  $\searrow$   $c_{r+1} \dots c_s$  after



in  $D'$   $x_1$  becomes  $x_0', x_1'$  and  $x_i = x_i' \forall i \geq 1$  [Recall diagrams agree outside]   
 $c_0 = \text{new crossing}, c_i = c_i' \quad (i \geq 1)$



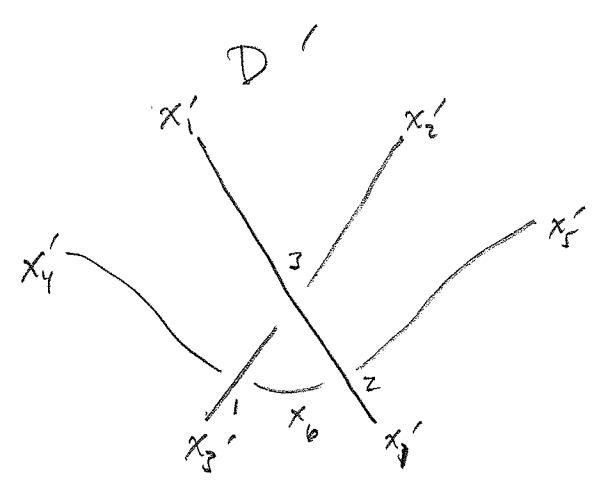
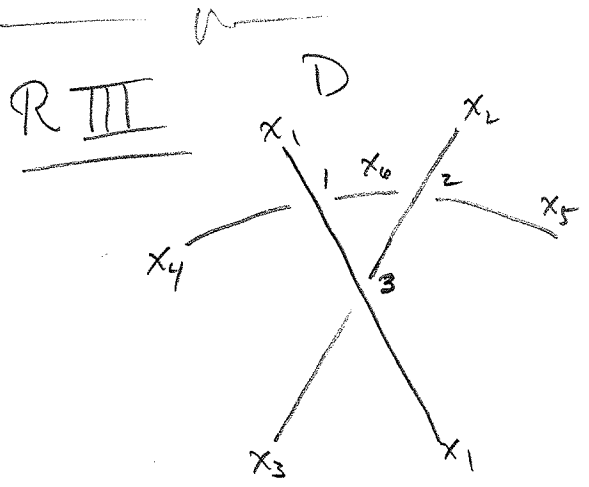
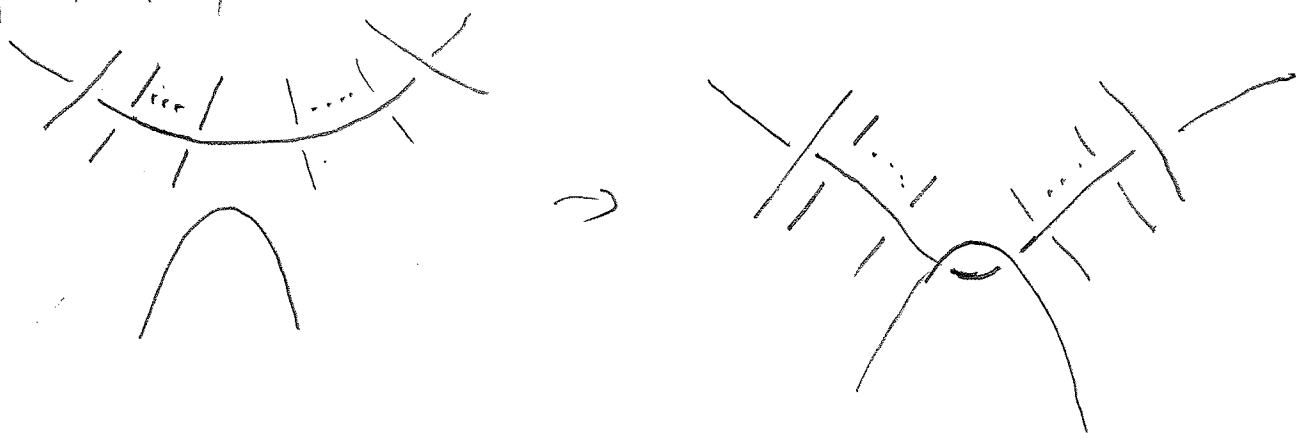
add column 0 to column 1 in  $M_{D'}$  (don't change det)



remove last row & column,  $\Rightarrow M_{D'}$   
 look at cofactor expansion of  $\det(M_{D'})$  along top row - all terms are zero except  $1 \cdot \det(M_D)$

[Need to be a little careful - could have  $c_s = c_j$ , some  $j$ : ]   
 $\Rightarrow$  similar argument, maybe this is all crossings  $s_{11} \dots$  special care with low crossing -  $\det(0 \times 0 \text{-matrix}) \equiv 1 \dots$

Exercise I.12 Check RII-invariance. (Assume, if you like, that picture is with 1<sup>st</sup> & last entry distinct.)



$c_i = c'_i$  &  $x'_i = x_i$  outside

$$M_D = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline & & & * & 1 & & & * \\ & & & & \vdots & & & \\ & & & & 0 & & & \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M_{D'} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 2 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline & & & * & 1 & & & * \\ & & & & \vdots & & & \\ & & & & 0 & & & \end{bmatrix}$$

Pick right minors, 1<sup>st</sup> row & column, expand along new 5<sup>th</sup> column using cofactor expansion. — same matrices.  $\square$   
 [special cases again ...