

Widths of Multi-Component Links

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Many invariants of links are defined by minimizing certain complexities over all embeddings of the link. A natural question that arises when studying multi-component links is whether it is more efficient to compute an invariant by minimizing the complexity of each component individually. Friedl et al. showed that for the unlinking number, this approach works for certain links. In this talk, we show that this is not a good strategy for computing the width.

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