

ENUMERATING THE PRIME KNOTS AND LINKS BY A CANONICAL ORDER

IKUO TAYAMA

(Joint work with Akio Kawauchi)

A well-order (called a *canonical order*) was introduced in the set of links by A. Kawauchi [K] (see also A. Kawauchi and I. Tayama [KT]). This well-order also naturally induces a well-order in the set of closed connected orientable 3-manifolds and suggests a method for enumerating the prime links and the 3-manifolds.

We assign to every link a lattice point whose length is equal to the minimal crossing number on closed braid forms of the link and we call the number the *length* of the link. We note that a link L is smaller than a link L' in the canonical order if the length of L is smaller than that of L' , and for any natural number n there are only finitely many links with lengths up to n .

In this talk, we give a way to enumerate the prime links by the canonical order and show a table of the prime links with lengths up to 10.

References

[K] A. Kawauchi, A tabulation of 3-manifolds via Dehn surgery, Boletín de la Sociedad Matemática Mexicana (to appear).

[KI] A. Kawauchi and I. Tayama, Enumerating the prime knots and links by a canonical order, Proc. 1st East Asian School of Knots, Links, and Related Topics, 2004 (to appear).

OSAKA CITY UNIVERSITY