

## A SURVEY OF KNOWN RESULTS ON 1-GENUS 1-BRIDGE KNOTS

日本女子大学 理学部 林忠一郎 CHUICHIRO HAYASHI  
FACULTY OF SCIENCE  
JAPAN WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY

We recall the definition of 1-genus 1-bridge knots. A properly imbedded arc  $t$  in a solid torus  $V$  is called *trivial* if it is boundary parallel, that is, there is a disc  $C$  imbedded in  $V$  such that  $t \subset \partial C$  and  $C \cap \partial V = \text{cl}(\partial C - t)$ . We call such a disc a *cancelling disc* of the trivial arc  $t$ . Let  $M$  be a closed connected orientable 3-manifold, and  $K$  a knot in  $M$ . The knot  $K$  is called a *1-genus 1-bridge knot* in  $M$  if  $M$  is a union of two solid tori  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  glued along their boundary tori  $\partial V_1$  and  $\partial V_2$  and if  $K$  intersects each solid torus  $V_i$  in a trivial arc  $t_i$  for  $i = 1$  and  $2$ . The splitting  $(M, K) = (V_1, t_1) \cup_H (V_2, t_2)$  is called a *1-genus 1-bridge splitting* of  $(M, K)$ , where  $H = V_1 \cap V_2 = \partial V_1 = \partial V_2$ , the torus. We call also the splitting torus  $H$  a *1-genus 1-bridge splitting*. We say  $(1, 1)$ -knots and  $(1, 1)$ -splitting for short.

1-genus 1-bridge knots are very important in light of Heegaard splittings and Dehn surgeries as shown in the theorems below.

**Theorem 0.1.** (T. Kobayashi [15]) *Let  $M$  be a closed orientable connected 3-manifold of genus 2. Suppose that  $M$  admits a non-trivial torus decomposition. Then either (i)  $M$  is a union of an exterior of a  $(1, 1)$ -knot and a Seifert fibered manifold over a disc with 2-exceptional fibers, or (ii)-(v), which we omit here.*

Let  $(M, K) = (V_1, t_1) \cup_H (V_2, t_2)$  be a  $(1, 1)$ -splitting. If there are an essential simple closed curve  $\ell$  in the torus  $H$  and cancelling discs  $C_i$  of  $t_i$  in  $V_i$  for  $i = 1$  and  $2$  such that  $C_i \cap \ell = \emptyset$ , then we say that the knot  $(M, K)$  has a *satellite diagram* on the  $(1, 1)$ -splitting torus  $H$ . At this time, the knot  $K$  has a 1-bridge diagram on an annulus in  $H$ . We say that the satellite diagram is of meridional (resp. longitudinal) slope if  $\ell$  is of meridional (resp. longitudinal) slope of  $V_1$  or  $V_2$ .

**Theorem 0.2.** (K. Morimoto and M. Sakuma [19]) *Let  $K$  be a satellite knot in the 3-sphere  $S^3$  of tunnel number one. Then  $K$  is a satellite  $(1, 1)$ -knot such that  $K$  has a satellite diagram of non-meridional and non-longitudinal slope on the  $(1, 1)$ -splitting torus.*

It is well-known that all the  $(1, 1)$ -knots are of tunnel number one.

**Theorem 0.3.** (D. Gabai [4]) *Let  $V$  be a solid torus, and  $K$  a knot in the interior of  $V$ . Suppose that a Dehn surgery on  $K$  yields a solid torus. Then  $K$  is a 1-bridge braid, that is, isotopic to a union of an arc  $\alpha$  on  $\partial V$  and a trivial arc in a meridian disc  $D$  of  $V$  such that all the intersection points of  $\alpha$  and  $\partial D$  are of the same sign.*

Note that  $K$  forms a  $(1, 1)$ -knot when we imbed the 1-bridge braid  $(V, K)$  in a standard manner in a 3-manifold of genus 1.

**Theorem 0.4.** (A. Thompson [27]) *Let  $M$  be a closed connected orientable 3-manifold, and  $M = W_1 \cup_H W_2$  a Heegaard splitting of genus 2. Suppose that this splitting has the disjoint curve property, that is, there are an essential simple closed curve  $\ell$  in  $H$  and essential discs  $D_i$  of the handlebody  $W_i$  such that  $\ell \cap (D_1 \cap D_2) = \emptyset$ . Then  $M$  is non-hyperbolic or a result of a Dehn surgery on a  $(1, 1)$ -knot.*

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These theorems show that  $(1, 1)$ -knots are important. There are many researches on  $(1, 1)$ -knots as below. In the following, we assume that  $M$  is not homeomorphic to  $S^2 \times S^1$  for simplicity.

Let  $V$  be a solid torus, and  $t$  a trivial arc in  $V$ . We call a disc  $D$  properly imbedded in  $V$  a  $t$ -compressing disc if  $D$  is disjoint from  $t$  and  $\partial D$  is essential in  $\partial V - \partial t$ .

Let  $(M, K) = (V_1, t_1) \cup_H (V_2, t_2)$  be a  $(1, 1)$ -splitting. The splitting is called  $K$ -reducible if there are  $t_i$ -compressing  $D_i$  in  $(V_i, t_i)$  for  $i = 1$  and  $2$  such that  $\partial D_1 = \partial D_2$  in  $H$ .

**Theorem 0.5.** (H. Doll [3]) *Let  $M$  be a closed connected orientable 3-manifold of genus 1, and  $(M, K)$  a  $(1, 1)$ -knot. Then the next three conditions are equivalent.*

- (1) *The knot  $K$  is split, that is, the exterior of  $K$  contains an essential 2-sphere.*
- (2) *The  $(1, 1)$ -splitting is  $K$ -reducible.*
- (3)  *$K$  is the trivial knot, that is, it bounds an imbedded disc in  $M$ .*

He has studied more general case of  $g$ -genus  $n$ -bridge knots.

**Theorem 0.6.** ([9]) *Let  $(S^3, K)$  be a  $(1, 1)$ -knot. Then  $K$  is a trivial knot if and only if the  $(1, 1)$ -splitting is  $K$ -reducible.*

**Theorem 0.7.** ([9], [13], [11]) *Let  $(M, K)$  be a  $(1, 1)$ -knot. Then  $K$  is a core knot, that is, the exterior is a solid torus if and only if for  $(i, j) = (1, 2)$  or  $(2, 1)$  there are a meridian disc  $D$  of  $V_i$  such that  $D \cap t_i = \emptyset$  and a cancelling disc  $C$  of  $t_j$  in  $V_j$  such that  $\partial C$  intersects  $\partial D$  transversely in a single point.*

Let  $V$  be a solid torus, and  $t$  a trivial arc in  $V$ . We call a meridian disc  $D$  of  $V$  a *meridionally compressing disc* if  $D$  intersects  $t$  transversely in a single point.

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Let  $(M, K) = (V_1, t_1) \cup_H (V_2, t_2)$  be a  $(1, 1)$ -splitting. The splitting is called *weakly  $K$ -reducible* if there are properly imbedded discs  $D_i$  in  $V_i$  for  $i = 1$  and  $2$  such that  $\partial D_1 \cap \partial D_2 = \emptyset$  in  $H$ .

**Lemma 0.8.** ([10]) *Let  $(M, K)$  be a  $(1, 1)$ -knot. Suppose that the  $(1, 1)$ -splitting is weakly  $K$ -reducible. Then either (1)  $K$  is a core knot in a lens space, (2)  $K$  is a (maybe trivial) 2-bridge knot in  $S^3$  or (3)  $K$  is a composite knot of a core knot and a 2-bridge knot.*

**Theorem 0.9.** (H. Doll [3]) *Let  $K$  be a  $(1, 1)$ -knot. If  $K$  is a composite knot, then the  $(1, 1)$ -splitting is weakly  $K$ -reducible.*

**Theorem 0.10.** (T. Kobayashi and O. Saeki [16]) *Let  $K$  be a 2-bridge knot in the 3-sphere  $S^3$ . Then any  $(1, 1)$ -splitting of  $K$  is weakly  $K$ -reducible.*

**Theorem 0.11.** (K. Morimoto [18]) *Let  $K$  be a non-trivial non-core torus knot, where “torus” knot means that  $K$  can be isotoped into a Heegaard splitting torus. Then any  $(1, 1)$ -splitting of  $K$  is cancellable, that is, there are cancelling discs  $C_i$  of  $t_i$  in  $V_i$  for  $i = 1$  and  $2$  such that  $\partial C_1 \cap \partial C_2 = \partial t_1 = \partial t_2$ .*

We can push  $K$  along the discs  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  into the splitting torus.

**Theorem 0.12.** ([9]) *Let  $(M, K)$  be a  $(1, 1)$ -knot. Suppose that  $K$  is a cabled knot, that is, there is a solid torus  $V$  in  $M$  such that  $K \subset \partial V$  and that any meridian disc of  $V$  intersects  $K$  in two or more points. Then either (1) the  $(1, 1)$ -splitting is  $K$ -reducible or weakly  $K$ -reducible, (2)  $K$  is a torus knot, or (3)  $K$  has a 1-bridge diagram on an annulus  $A$  in the splitting torus  $H$  such that each bridge is an essential arc in  $A$ .*

**Theorem 0.13.** ([10]) *Let  $(M, K)$  be a  $(1, 1)$ -knot. Note that  $M$  may be a lens space. If  $K$  is a satellite knot, then the  $(1, 1)$ -split admits a satellite diagram of a non-meridional non-longitudinal slope.*

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**Theorem 0.14.** (H. Matsuda [17]) *Let  $(S^3, K)$  be a non-trivial  $(1, 1)$ -knot. Suppose that  $K$  bounds a Seifert surface  $F$  of genus 1. Then either (1)  $K$  is a 2-bridge knot and  $F$  is a plumbing sum of two twisted unknotted annulus or (2)  $F$  is obtained from an essential annulus  $A$  in the  $(1, 1)$ -splitting torus  $H$  by adding a twisted band along an essential arc in  $H - \partial A$ .*

**Theorem 0.15.** (M. Hirasawa and C. Hayashi [12]) *Let  $(M, K) = (V_1, t_1) \cup_H (V_2, t_2)$  be a  $(1, 1)$ -splitting. Let  $F'$  be a closed connected orientable surface of genus 2 imbedded in  $M$  such that  $K$  is contained in  $F'$  and that  $F'$  intersects the knot exterior in an incompressible and boundary incompressible surface. Then  $F'$  can be isotoped to intersect each solid torus  $V_i$  in zero or some number of  $\partial$ -parallel annuli disjoint from  $K$  and one of the surfaces of four types (a)–(b) as below :*

- (a)  $\partial$ -parallel once punctured torus which contains the arc  $t_i$ ,
- (b) an annulus  $A$  which is parallel to an annulus  $A'$  in  $\partial V$ , contains the arc  $t_i$ , and added a non-twisted band  $B$  along an essential arc in  $A'$ , so that  $A \cup B$  forms a once punctured torus,
- (c) a pair of pants  $P$  such that  $P$  is  $\partial$ -parallel in  $\partial V_i$ , that  $P$  contains the arc  $t_i$ , that precisely two components of  $\partial P$  is essential in  $\partial V$ , and that  $\partial t_i$  is contained in the other component of  $\partial P$ ,
- (d) an annulus  $Z$  which is parallel to an annulus  $Z'$  in  $\partial V$ , contains the arc  $t_i$ , and added a non-twisted band  $C$  along an inessential arc in  $A'$ , so that  $Q = Z \cup C$  forms a pair of pants and that the inessential component of  $\partial Q$  contains  $\partial t_i$ .

These theorems are on  $(1, 1)$ -splittings of special  $(1, 1)$ -knots. How about  $(1, 1)$ -splittings of general  $(1, 1)$ -knots?

Following theorem helps study of  $(1, 1)$ -splittings. This is a generalization of a result by H. Rubinstein and M.Scharlemann [22].

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**Theorem 0.16.** (T. Kobayashi and O. Saeki [16]) *Let  $M$  be a closed connected orientable 3-manifold. Let  $L$  be a link in  $M$ . Suppose that  $M$  has a 2-fold branched covering with the branched set  $L$ . Let  $H_i$  be a  $(g_i, n_i)$ -splitting of  $(M, L)$  for  $i = 1$  and  $2$ . Suppose that the splittings are not weakly  $L$ -reducible. Then after an adequate isotopy  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  intersect each other transversely in a non-empty collection of  $L$ -essential loops, that is, none of the loops  $H_1 \cap H_2$  bounds a disc  $D$  in  $H_1$  or  $H_2$  such that  $D$  is disjoint from  $L$  or intersects  $L$  in a single point.*

There are some notes on the above theorem.

- (1) A  $(1, 1)$ -splitting is a special case of a  $(g, n)$ -splitting.
- (2) The condition “non-empty” is very important because we can isotope  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  to be disjoint from each other.
- (3) The projective space  $\mathbb{R}P^3$  does not have a branched covering with the branched set a core knot, for example.
- (4) The author expect that the above theorem holds when there is not such a branched covering.

**Theorem 0.17.** ([11]) *Let  $M$  be the 3-sphere  $S^3$  or a lens space. Let  $K$  be a knot in  $M$ . Let  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  be  $(1, 1)$ -splitting tori of  $(M, K)$ . Suppose that  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  intersect each other transversely in a non-empty collection of  $K$ -essential loops. Then after an adequate isotopy either*

- (1)  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  are isotopic to each other in  $(M, K)$ ,
- (2) one of the splittings  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  is weakly  $K$ -reducible,
- (3)  $K$  is a satellite knot, or
- (4)  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  intersect each other transversely in 1 or 2  $K$ -essential loops.

**Theorem 0.18.** ([11]) *In case (4) in the previous theorem, after an adequate isotopy at least one of the next four conditions (a)–(d) holds.*

- (a) One of (1)–(3) in the conclusion of the previous theorem holds.
- (b)  $(M, K)$  is a sum of two tangles  $(B, T)$  and  $(X, S)$  as below.  $(B, T)$

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is a trivial 2-string tangle.  $X$  is a once punctured lens space and  $S$  is a disjoint union of two arcs  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  properly imbedded in  $X$  such that  $E_i = \text{cl}(X - N(s_i))$  is a solid torus and that  $s_j$  is parallel to the boundary  $\partial E_i$  for  $(i, j) = (1, 2)$  or  $(2, 1)$ . The  $(1, 1)$ -splitting torus  $H_i$  is obtained from  $\partial X$  by applying a tubing operation along the arc  $s_i$  for  $i = 1$  and  $2$ .

(c) One of the splittings  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  admits a satellite diagram of a longitudinal slope.

(d) There is a solid torus  $V$  in  $M$  as below. The exterior of the solid torus is also a solid torus. The knot  $K$  intersects  $V$  in two arcs. There are disjoint union of two discs  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  in  $\partial V$  as below. There are disjoint union of two balls  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  such that  $B_i \cap V = D_i$ , that  $K \cap B_i$  is an arc, that  $K$  intersects the solid torus  $V \cup B_i$  in a trivial arc, and that  $H_i$  is isotopic to  $\partial V \cap B_i$  for  $i = 1$  and  $2$ .

In case (c), the knot  $K$  is obtained from a component  $L_1$  of a 2-bridge link  $L_1 \cup L_2$  by a Dehn surgery on the other component  $L_2$ .

The author is not satisfied with the conclusion (d).

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東京都文京区目白台 2 – 8 – 1

日本女子大学理学部数物科学科

林忠一郎

Chuichiro Hayashi:

Department of Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Faculty of Science,

Japan Women's University,

Mejiro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo, 171-8588, Japan.

e-mail : hayashic@fc.jwu.ac.jp