Unknotting with a single twist.

Ohyama showed that any knot can be unknotted by performing two full twists, each on a set of parallel strands. We consider the question of whether or not a given knot can be unknotted with a single full twist, and if so, what are the possible linking numbers associated to such a twist. It is observed that if a knot can be unknotted with a single twist, then some surgery on the knot bounds a rational homology ball. With this, a wider range of tools become available, including Casson-Gordon invariants and a set of obstructions that Aceto-Golla developed using Heegaard-Floer theory. Using these tools, if a knot $K$ can be unknotted with a single twist of linking number $l$, we give restrictions on the genus, signature function, Upsilon function, and $V$ and $\nu^+$ invariants of $K$ in terms of $l$ and the sign of the twist. This talk is based on joint work with Charles Livingston. (Received September 16, 2019)