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**John Burke\*** ([jburke@ric.edu](mailto:jburke@ric.edu)). *Operads and the space of string links.*

In this talk, we will discuss operads which encode the connected sum operation on the set of knots and the operation of infection on the set of string links. In addition, we will demonstrate how these operads aid in improving our understanding of the structure of the homotopy groups of the space of knots and the space of string links. (Received September 20, 2015)