

1145-57-728

Allison K Henrich* (henricha@seattleu.edu), 901 12th Ave, PO Box 222000, Seattle, WA 98122. *The curious universe of virtual knots.*

What does it mean for a knot be virtual? If we regard it from a certain perspective, the theory of virtual knots is a rather natural generalization of the theory of knots. In this virtual universe, what we normally call knots are just special types of virtual knots, but there are also strange creatures that live in the universe. In this talk, we will learn several ways of describing what these virtually knotted creatures are. We will also learn about some tools for exploring the virtual universe as well as how virtual knot theory provides tools to learn about other sorts of knotted objects. (Received September 13, 2018)