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Carolyn Otto* (ottoa@uwec.edu) and **Sydney Dame** (damesg7254@uwec.edu). *Topological Theory of Virtual Knotting in Protein Folding*. Preliminary report.

Proteins are known to fold and form knots that can be studied using knot theory. We aim to devise an updated method of protein folding by reviewing the model proposed in Flapan et. al (2018) by incorporating virtual knotting. We will be looking at identifying nontrivial virtual knots that can be found using the modified Flapan theory. (Received September 15, 2020)