SOME PROPERTIES OF ORDINARY SENSE SLICE 1-LINKS: SOME ANSWERS TO THE PROBLEM (26) OF FOX

Eiji Ogasa

Abstract. We prove that, for any ordinary sense slice 1-link L, we can define the Arf invariant and $\mathrm{Arf}(L)=0$. We prove that, for any m-component 1-link L_1, there exists a $3m$-component ordinary sense slice 1-link L_2 of which L_1 is a sublink.

1. INTRODUCTION AND MAIN RESULTS

In [3] Fox submitted the following problem about 1-links. Here, note that "slice link" in the following problem is now called "ordinary sense slice link," and "slice link in the strong sense" in the following problem is now called "slice link" by knot theorists.

Problem 26 of [3]. Find a necessary condition for L to be a slice link; a slice link in the strong sense.

Our purpose is to give some answers to the former part of this problem. The latter half is not discussed here. The latter half seems discussed much more often than the former half. See e.g. [2], [5] and [14].

We review the definition of ordinary sense slice links and that of slice links, which we now use.

We suppose m-component 1-links are oriented and ordered.

Let $L = (K_1, ..., K_m)$ be a m-component 1-link in $S^3 = \partial B^4$. L is called a *slice 1-link*, which is "a slice link in the strong sense" in the sense of Fox, if there exist 2-discs $D_i^2 (i = 1, ..., m)$ in B^4 such that $D_i^2 \cap \partial B^4 = \partial D_i^2$, $D_i^2 \cap D_j^2 = \phi (i \neq j)$, and $(\partial D_1^2, ..., \partial D_m^2)$ in ∂B^4 defines L.

Take a 1-link L in S^3. Take S^4 and regard S^4 as $(\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}) \cup \{\infty\}$. Regard the 3-sphere S^3 as $\mathbb{R}^3 \cup \{\infty\}$ in S^4. L is called an *ordinary sense slice 1-link*, which is "a slice link" in the sense of Fox, if there exists an embedding $f : S^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$ such that f is transverse

to $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\}$ and $f(S^2) \cap (\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\})$ in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\}$ defines L. Suppose f defines a 2-knot X. Then L is called a *cross-section* of the 2-knot X.

From now on we use the terms in the sense of the present.

Ordinary sense slice 1-links have the following properties.

Theorem 1.1. *Let L be an ordinary sense slice 1-link. Then the followings hold.*

(1) *L is a proper link.*
(2) *Arf(L)=0.*

Note. Although our proof proves (1) and (2) simultaneously, once (1) is known (2) follows easily from the known result that a proper link which is an ordinary sense slice link has trivial Arf invariant. See e.g. [4], [9], [16] and [19].

Theorem 1.2. *For any m-component 1-link L, there exists a $3m$-component ordinary sense slice 1-link L' of which L is a sublink.*

Note. When L is not slice and $m{=}1$, it is obvious that '$3m$' is best possible. When $m \geqq 2$, '$3m$' is not best possible even if no components of L are slice knots. See the example for Note 3.3 and Figure IV in §3.

Theorem 1.2 follows from Theorem 1.3 obviously.

Theorem 1.3. *For any m-component 1-link $L{=}(K_1, ..., K_m)$, there exists an embedding $f : S_1^2 \amalg ... \amalg S_m^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$ and a $3m$-component 1-link L' with the following properties.*

(1) *f is transverse to $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\}$ and $f(S_1^2 \amalg ... \amalg S_m^2) \cap (\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\})$ in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\}$ defines L'.*
(2) *L is a sublink of L'.*
(3) *$K_i \subset f(S_i^2)(i = 1, ..., m)$.*

This paper is organized as follows. In §2 we prove Theorem 1.1 by using a result of the author's [17]In §3 we review Suzuki-Terasaka diagrams of 1-links and the fact that any 1-link has a Suzuki-Terasaka diagram (Theorem 3.1). We use this diagram to show Theorem 1.3 and Theorem 3.2.

2. The proof of Theorem 1.1

In order to prove Theorem 1.1, we review a result of the author in [17].

Definition $T = (L_1, L_2, X_1, X_2)$ is called a *4-tuple of links* if the following conditions (1), (2) and (3) hold.

(1) $L_i = (K_{i1}, ..., K_{im_i})$ is an oriented ordered m_i-component 1-dimensional link ($i = 1, 2$).

(2) $m_1 = m_2$.

(3) X_i is an oriented 3-knot.

Definition A 4-tuple of links (L_1, L_2, X_1, X_2) is said to be *realizable* if there exists a smooth transverse immersion $f : S_1^3 \coprod S_2^3 \looparrowright S^5$ satisfying the following conditions (1) and (2).

(1) $f|S_i^3$ is a smooth embedding and defines the 3-knot $X_i(i = 1, 2)$ in S^5.

(2) For $C = f(S_1^3) \cap f(S_2^3)$, the inverse image $f^{-1}(C)$ in S_i^3 defines the 1-link $L_i(i = 1, 2)$. Here, the orientation of C is induced naturally from the preferred orientations of S_1^3, S_2^3, and S^5, and an arbitrary order is given to the components of C.

The following theorem characterizes the realizable 4-tuples of links.

Theorem 2.1. *A 4-tuple of links $T = (L_1, L_2, X_1, X_2)$ is realizable if and only if T satisfies one of the following conditions i) and ii).*

i) Both L_1 and L_2 are proper links, and

$$\mathrm{Arf}(L_1) = \mathrm{Arf}(L_2).$$

ii) Neither L_1 nor L_2 is proper, and

$$lk(K_{1j}, L_1 - K_{1j}) \equiv lk(K_{2j}, L_2 - K_{2j}) \quad \mathrm{mod} \ 2 \quad \text{for all} \ j.$$

Note. In [18], the author discussed high dimensional version of Theorem 2.1.

We begin the proof of Theorem 1.1.

Take $f : S^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$ such that L is a cross section of the 2-knot defined by f.

Regard $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$ as $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R} \times \{0\} \subset \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$. Make S^5 from $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ by the one point compactification. Here, the 4-sphere S^4 is $(\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R} \times \{0\} \cup \{\infty\}) \subset S^5 = (\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\})$. There exists a 3-knot X_1 in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ such that $X_1 \cap \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R} \times \{0\}$ coincides with $f(S^2)$ because all 2-knots are slice by a theorem of Kervaire in [10]. $(\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\} \times \{0\}) \cup \{\infty\}$ in S^5 is called a 3-knot X_2. An immersion $g : S_1^3 \coprod S_2^3 \looparrowright S^5$ such that $g(S_i^3)$ coincides with the above X_i ($i = 1, 2$) realizes a pair of 1-links $(X_1 \cap X_2$ in X_1, $X_1 \cap X_2$ in $X_2)$. Here, it is obvious that $X_1 \cap X_2$ in X_1 is the trivial 1-link and $X_1 \cap X_2$ in X_2 is L. Therefore, by Theorem 2.1, L is a proper link and $\mathrm{Arf}(L)=0$.

3. THE PROOF OF THEOREM 1.3

We first review the following canonical diagrams of 1-links.

Take a m-component 1-link L. The set X in $\mathbb{R}^3 = \{(x, y, z)\}$ ($\subset S^3$) defining L is called a *Suzuki-Terasaka (canonical) diagram of L* if X is made as follows. Let Y_i ($i = 1, ..., m$) be the boundary of $\{(x, y, z)| \ i \leqq x \leqq (i + 0.9), 0 \leqq y \leqq 1, z = 0\}$. Let P_{ij} ($j = 1, ..., \mu_i$) be the boundary of $\{(x, y, z)| \ x = \frac{j}{\mu_i + 1} + i, 0.9 \leqq y \leqq 1.1, -0.1 \leqq z \leqq 0.1\}$. (The orientation of P_{ij} is given appropriately. All are not same in general.) Let $A_{ij} = \{(x, y, z)| \ \frac{2j-1}{2\nu_i + 1} + i \leqq x \leqq \frac{2j}{2\nu_i + 1} + i, y = 0, z = 0\}$ ($j = 1, ..., \nu_i$). Let $\Sigma_i^m \mu_i = \Sigma_i^m \nu_i$, put λ equal to this number. Take bands B_l ($l = 1, ..., \lambda$) and make a band-sum of Y_i and P_{ij} by connecting P_{ij} and $A_{i'j'}$ by B_l. (Of course (i, j) does not necessarily coincides with (i', j') and the set of (i, j) coincides with the set of (i', j').) Then the band-sum is X.

Theorem 3.1. Any 1-link has a Suzuki-Terasaka canonical diagram.

The proof of Theorem 3.1 is elementary.

The usefulness of the above canonical diagram is firstly pointed out by Prof. Shin'ichi Suzuki and Prof. Hidetaka Terasaka. Suzuki-Terasaka canonical diagrams are used, for example, in [15], [23]and [25].

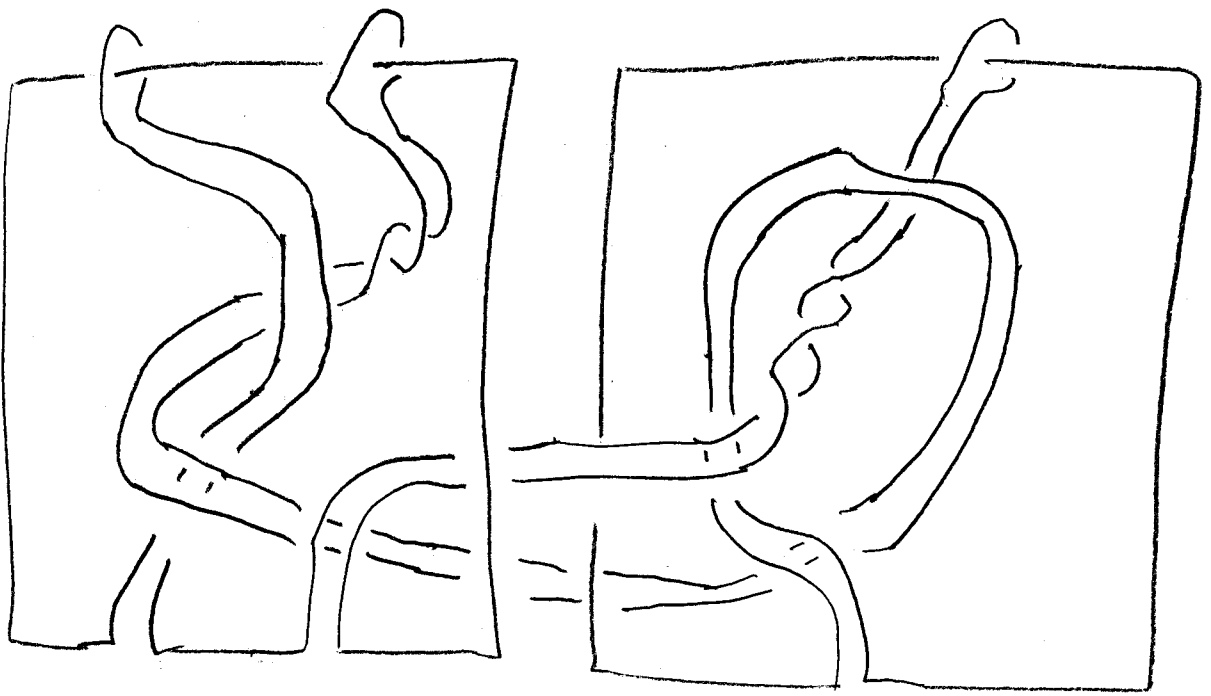In Figure I there is written an example of the canonical diagram.
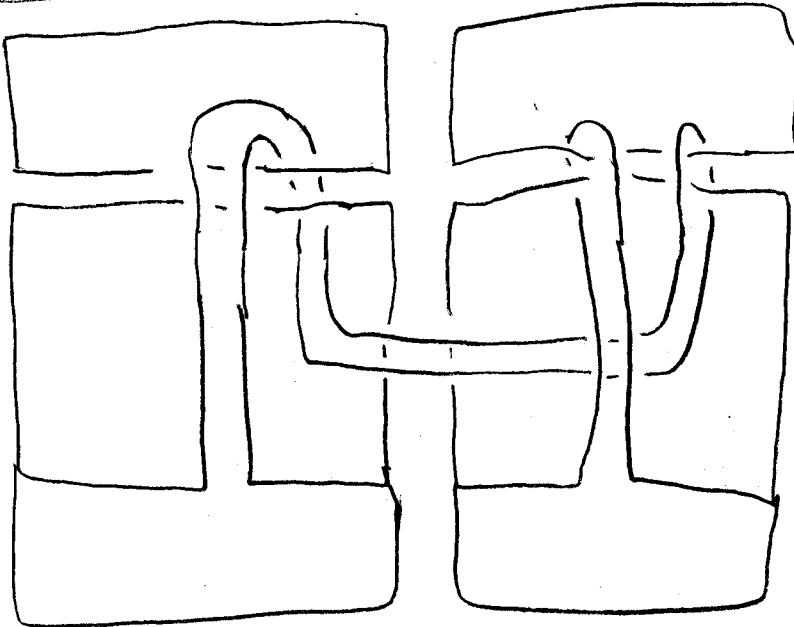
[FigureI]

Figure I

We begin the proof of Theorem 1.3.

Take a Suzuki-Terasaka canonical diagram of $L=(K_1, ..., K_m)$ in $\mathbb{R}^3=\{(x, y, z)\}$ ($\subset$ S^3). (See Figure II (1).) Take sets P_i to be $\{(x, y, z)|\ i \leqq x \leqq (i+0.9),\ 1.05 \leqq y \leqq 2,\ z=0\}$. Here, we can take P_i not to intersect with all the bands in the Suzuki-Terasaka canonical diagram. Take sets S_i to be $\{(x, y, z)|\ i \leqq x \leqq (i+0.9),\ -1 \leqq y \leqq 1,\ z=0\}$. Note that $K_i \cap S_i \neq \phi$. (See Figure II (2).) The arc in K_i whose boundary is the points $\{(i, 0, 0)\}$ and $\{(i+0.9, 0, 0)\}$ and which does not include the point $\{(i, 1, 0)\}$ is called l_i. Carry out the band-fusion on S_i by using the band $\widetilde{B_i}$ whose core is l_i. Then S_i splits to two pieces. The one including the point $\{(i, 1, 0)\}$ is called Q_i. The other is called R_i. Choose the band along l_i so that $lk(P_i, R_i)+lk(Q_i, R_i)=0$. Here P_i and S_i are oriented counterclockwise, and Q_i and R_i are given orientations induced from S_i. (See Figure II (3).) Here, note that $(Q_1, ..., Q_m)$ defines the 1-link L. Thus we obtain a $3m$-component 1-link L' defined by $(P_1, ..., P_m, Q_1, ..., Q_m, R_1, ..., R_m)$ such that L is a sublink of L'.
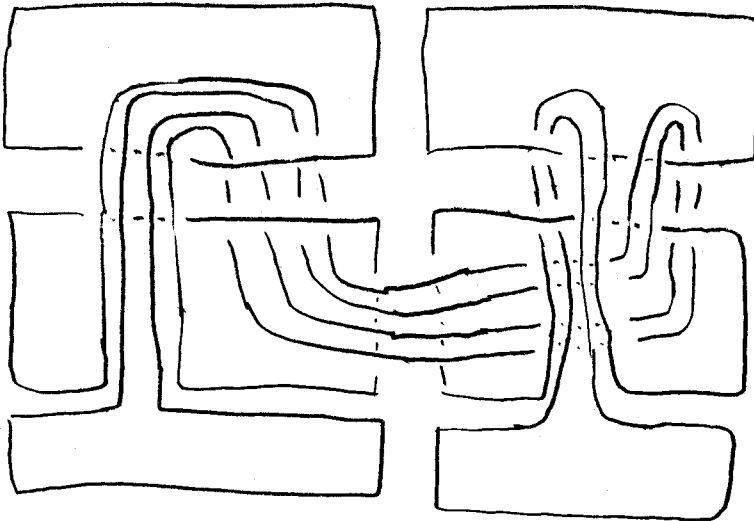
[FigureII]

(1)

(2)

(3)
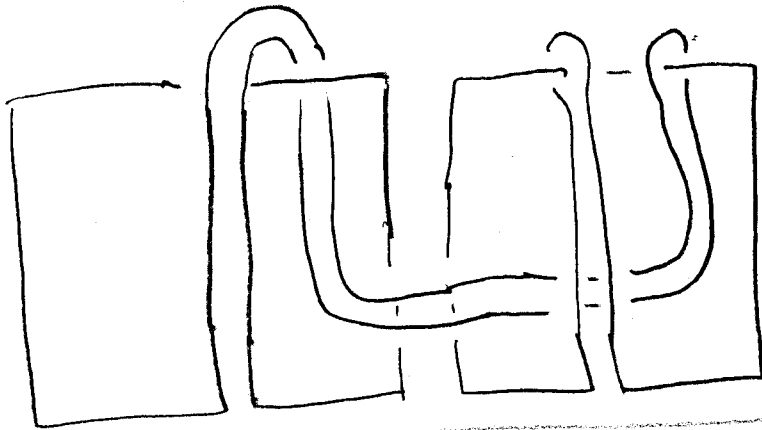
Figure Ⅱ

Claim. There exists $f : S_1^2 \amalg ... \amalg S_m^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$ such that f is transverse to $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\}$ and $f(S_1^2 \amalg ... \amalg S_m^2) \cap (\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\})$ in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\}$ defines the 1-link L'.

Proof. Put an embedding $f : S_1^2 \amalg ... \amalg S_m^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$ as follows. $f(S_i^2)$ in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$ has two minimum-discs, two saddle-bands and two maximum-discs. The minimum-discs are $h_{i1}^0 = \{(x, y, z)| \ i \leqq x \leqq (i + 0.9), -1 \leqq y \leqq 1, z = 0\} \times \{-2\}$ in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{-2\}$ and $h_{i2}^0 = \{(x, y, z)| \ i \leqq x \leqq (i + 0.9), 1.05 \leqq y \leqq 2, z = 0\} \times \{-2\}$ in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{-2\}$. The saddle-bands are $\widetilde{B_i} \times \{-1\}$ in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{-1\}$ and $\{(x, y, z)| \ i \leqq x \leqq (i + 0.9), 1 \leqq y \leqq 1.05, z = 0\} \times \{1\}$ in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{1\}$. The maximum-discs are $h_{i1}^2 = \{(x, y, z)| \ i \leqq x \leqq (i+0.9), -1 \leqq y \leqq -0.1, z = 0\} \times \{2\}$ in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{2\}$ and $h_{i2}^2 = \{(x, y, z)| \ i \leqq x \leqq (i + 0.9), 0.1 \leqq y \leqq 2, z = 0\} \times \{2\}$, in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{2\}$, where we suppose $\partial \widetilde{B_i} \cap S_i = \{(x, y, z)| \ x = i, (i + 0.9), -0.1 \leqq y \leqq 0.1, z = 0\}$. $f(S_i^2) \cap (\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{t\})$ ($-2 < t < -1$, $-1 < t < 1$, $1 < t < 2$) is an ordinary cross-section. Then $f(S_1^2 \amalg ... \amalg S_m^2) \cap (\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\})$ in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\}$ defines L'.

Therefore the proof of Theorem 1.3 complete.

Note. See §2 of [24] for the definitions of 'minimum-disc,' 'maximum-disc,' 'saddle-band' 'ordinary cross-section,' etc.

Note. The 1-link (Q_1, R_1) (or (P_1, Q_1)) is associated with a θ-graph. The diagram of (Q_1, R_1)(or (P_1, Q_1)) is what is used in Appendix of [15]. Dr. Akira Yasuhara made an alternative proof of [12]. and written in Appendix of [15]. [11] is a generalization of [12] and [6].

Figure III illustrates $f(S^2)$ and L' in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$ in the case where L is the trefoil knot. This method of drawing subset of $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$ is often used. See e.g. [1], [7], [9] and [24].
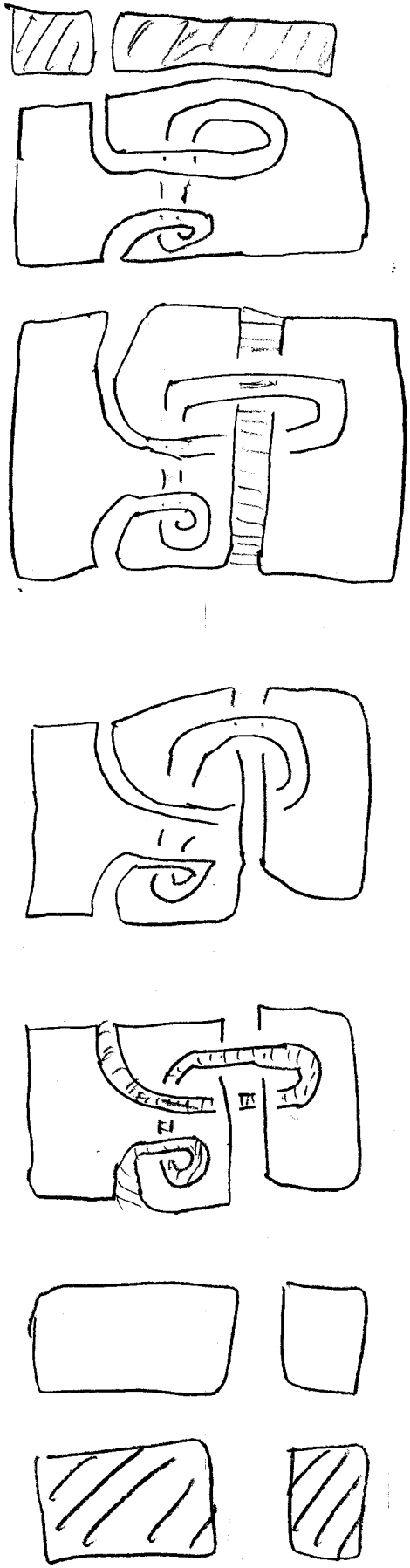
[FigureIII]

Figure IV

We next discuss ordinary sense slice 1-links in the case when we restrict the 2-knots of which the ordinary sense slice 1-links are cross-sections.

Theorem 3.2. *For any m-component 1-link $L = (K_1, ..., K_m)$, there exists an embedding $g : S_1^2 \amalg ... \amalg S_m^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$ and a $4m$-component 1-link L'' with the following properties.*

(1) *g defines the trivial 2-link.*
(2) *g is transverse to $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\}$ and $g(S_1^2 \amalg ... \amalg S_m^2) \cap (\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\})$ in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\}$ defines L''.*
(3) *L is a sublink of L''.*
(4) *$K_i \subset f(S_i^2)(i = 1, ..., m)$.*

Ordinary sense slice n-knots ($n \geqq 1$) which are cross-sections of the trivial $(n + 1)$-knots are discussed in [13], [20], [21], and [22].

We begin the proof of Theorem 3.2.

In order to define g, take the following 2-discs D_i^2 in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$. Take f in the proof of the above claim. $f(S_i^2) \cap \mathbb{R}^3 \times (-1, 2]$ are two components. Take the component of the two which includes h_{i1}^2, say E_i. $f(S_i^2) \cap \mathbb{R}^3 \times [-2, 1)$ are two components. Take the component of the two which includes h_{i1}^0, say E_i'. Then $\overline{E_i \cup E_i'}$ is a submanifold in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$ diffeomorphic to the 2-disc . We call it D_i^2.

Take $D_i^2 \times I$ in the tubular neighborhood of D_i^2 in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$. Take g so that $g(S_i^2)$ coincides with $\partial (D_i^2 \times I)$ and g is transverse to $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\}$. Then $g(S_1^2 \amalg ... \amalg S_m^2) \cap (\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\})$ in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \{0\}$ is a $4m$-component 1-link L'' and L is a sublink of L''.

This completes the proof of Theorem 3.2.

Figure IV illustrates $g(S^2)$ and L'' in $\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}$ in the case where L is the trefoil knot.

Note 3.3. We can regard Figure IV as the example we mentioned in Note under Theorem 1.2 if we think L being a union of K_1 and K_2 and L'' being a union of K_1, K_2, K_3 and K_4, where K_i are as in Figure IV.
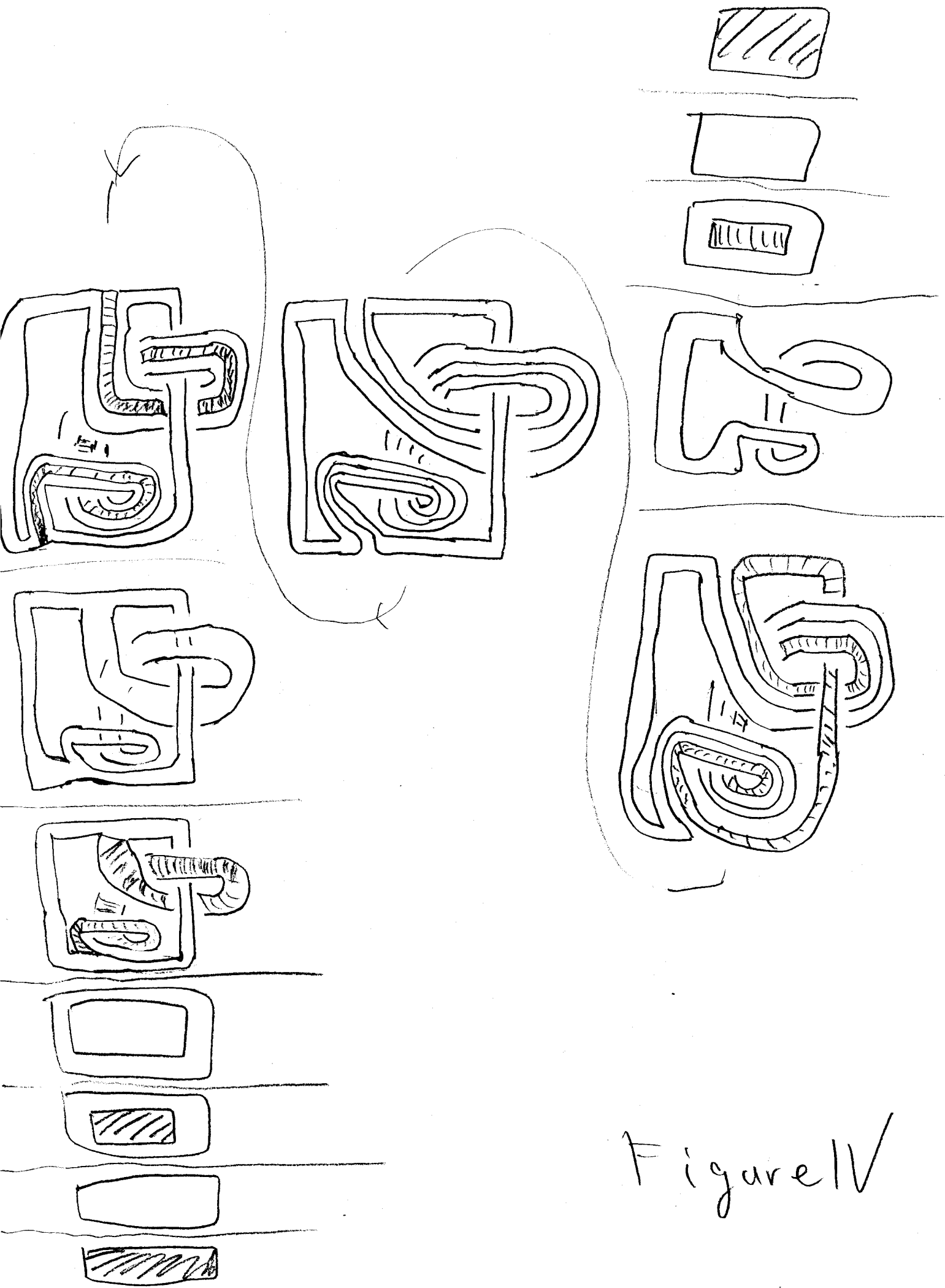
[FigureIV]

Figure IV

Comparing Theorem 1.3 with Theorem 3.2, it is natural to raise the following problem.

Problem. Let K be a non-slice knot. Does there exist a 3-component ordinary sense slice 1-link L such that K is a component of L and L is a cross-section of the trivial 2-knot?

Note 3.4. After Dr. S. Kamada received a manuscript of this paper, he solved this Problem and he obtained a refined version of Theorem 1.3 and 3.2.

References

[1] J. S. Carter and M. Saito, *Knotted surfaces, braid movies, and beyond*, Knots and quantum gravity, edited by J. C. Baez, Clarendon Press, Oxford (1994), 191-.

[2] T. D. Cochran and K. Orr, *Not all links are concordant to boundary links*, Ann. of Math. **138** (1993), 519–554.

[3] R.H.Fox, *Some problems in knot theory*, Top. 3-manifolds. Proc. 1961 Top. Inst. Georgia, 168-176.

[4] P. Gilmer, *Link cobordism in rational homology 3-spheres*, J. of knot theory, 285-320.

[5] P. Gilmer and C. Livingston, *The Casson-Gordon invariant and link concordance*, Topology **31** (1992), 475-492.

[6] O. G. Harrold and S. Kinoshita, *A theorem on θ-curves and its application to a problem of T.B.Rushing*, Bull.de L'Acad. Polon. des.Sci. **28** (1980), 631-634.

[7] S. Kamada, *A characterization of groups of closed orientable surfaces in 4-space*, Topology **33** (1994), 113-122.

[8] A. Kawauchi, *On the Robertello invariants of proper links*, Osaka J. Math. **21** (1984), 81-90.

[9] A. Kawauchi, T. Shibuya and S. Suzuki, *Descriptions on surfaces in four-space, I. Normal forms*, Math sem. notes Kobe univ. 10(1982)75-125 II. singularities and cross-sectional links Math sem. notes Kobe univ. 11(1983)31-69.

[10] M. Kervaire, *Les noeudes de dimensions supéreures*, Bull.Soc.Math.France **93** (1965), 225-271.

[11] S. Kinoshita, *On θ_n-curves in $\mathbb{R}^3$ and their constituent knots*, In:Topology and Computer sciences, Kinokuniya Co.Ltd (1987), 211-216.

[12] S. Kinoshita and H. Terasaka, *On union of knots*, Osaka J. Math **9** (1957), 131-153.

[13] J. Levine, *Doubly sliced knots and doubled disc knots*, Michigan Math J. **30** (1983), 249-256.

[14] J. Levine, *Link invariants via the eta-invariant*, Comment. Math. Helv. **69** (1994), 82-119.

[15] K. Miyazaki and A. Yasuhara, *Generalized $\sharp$-unknotting operations*, Japan Jour. Math **To appear**.

[16] K. Murasugi, *On a certain numerical invariant of link types*, TransAMS **117**, 387-422.

[17] E. Ogasa, *On the intersection of spheres in a sphere I*, University of Tokyo preprint (1995).

[18] E. Ogasa, *On the intersection of spheres in a sphere II:High dimensional case*, University of Tokyo preprint (1995).

[19] R.A. Robertello, *An invariant of knot cobordism*, Comm.Pure.Appl.Math **18** (1965), 543-555.

[20] D. Ruberman, *Doubly slice knots and the Casson-Gordon invariants*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **279** (1983), 569-588.

[21] D. Ruberman, *The Casson-Gordon invariants in high-dimensional knot theory*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **306** (1988), 579-595.

[22] D. W. Sumners, *Invertible knot cobordisms*, Comment. Math. Helv. **46** (1971), 240-256.

[23] S. Suzuki, *Local knots of 2-spheres in 4-manifolds*, Proc. Japan Acad. Ser. A.Math. Sci **45** (1969), 34-38.

[24] S. Suzuki, *Knotting problems of 2-spheres in the 4-sphere*, Math. Sem. Notes Kobe Univ. **4** (1976), 241-371.

[25] M. Yamamoto, *Knots in spatial embeddings of the complete graph on four vertices*, Topology Appl. **36** (1990), 291-298.