

Meeting: 998, Houston, Texas, SS 7A, Special Session on Low Dimensional Topology

998-57-420 **Mario Eudave-Muñoz** (mario@math.unam.mx), Ciudad Universitaria, 04510 Mexico, D.F., Mexico, and **Max Neumann-Coto*** (max@math.unam.mx), Ciudad Universitaria, 04510 Mexico, D.F., Mexico. *Bounds for the genus and number of acylindrical surfaces in knot and link exteriors*. Preliminary report.

We give bounds for the genus of acylindrical surfaces in the exterior of a link (or knot) k in terms of the number of rational (or alternating) tangles in a projection of k . We show that the number of disjoint acylindrical and pairwise acylindrical surfaces in a link exterior is bounded in terms of its bridge number. (Received March 02, 2004)