1039-57-30 **Scott A. Taylor*** (staylor@math.ucsb.edu), 769 Cypress Walk Apt J, Goleta, CA 93117.

Boring split links and unknots.

Boring is an operation that converts a knot or 2–component link into another knot or 2–component link. It generalizes several well-known operations, including attaching a band or changing a crossing. Combinatorial sutured manifold theory can be effectively used to study knots or links obtained by boring split links and unknots. In explaining the kinds of results obtainable, I will focus on a partial solution to a conjecture of Scharlemann. (Received February 18, 2008)