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Fabiola Manjarrez-Gutiérrez* (fabiola@matem.unam.mx), **Víctor Núñez** and **Enrique Ramírez-Losada**. *Circular thin position for free genus one knots*. Preliminary report.

A circular handle decomposition for the exterior of a knot $E(K)$ is a structure: $E(K) = F \times I \cup N_1 \cup T_1 \dots \cup N_m \cup T_m$, where F is a Seifert surface for K , N_i is a collection of 1-handles and T_i is a collection of 2-handles. We can re-order the handles in such a way that the regular level surfaces are as simple as possible, giving rise to the definition of circular thin position of the knot exterior. A knot exterior in circular thin position has a sequence of Seifert surfaces which are alternately incompressible and weakly incompressible. In our context a fibered knot is a knot whose knot exterior has a circular thin position with one and only one incompressible surface and none weakly incompressible surface. An almost fibered knot is a knot whose exterior possesses a circular thin position in which there is one and only one weakly incompressible Seifert surface and one and only one incompressible Seifert surface. All non-fibered knots up to ten crossings are handle number one knots, in our context these knots are almost fibered. In this talk we show two families of free genus one knots which are almost fibered. The first family admits a single 1-handle and a single 2-handle in and the second one admits two 1-handles and two 2-handles. (Received January 25, 2011)