

1072-57-181

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Double knot surgeries to S^4 and $S^2 \times S^2$.

It is known that S^4 is a union of two fishtails, and $S^2 \times S^2$ is a union of two cusps (glued along their boundaries). Here we prove that for any choice of knots $K, L \subset S^3$ performing knot surgery operations $S^4 \rightsquigarrow S^4_{K,L}$ and $S^2 \times S^2 \rightsquigarrow (S^2 \times S^2)_{K,L}$ along both of these fishtails and cusps, respectively, do not change the diffeomorphism type of these manifolds. A corollary of this is that the fishtail (an immersed S^2 with one self intersection) can exotically knot in S^4 infinitely many ways. We prove these results by giving a general sufficiency criterion when a knot surgery operation $X \rightsquigarrow X_K$ doesn't change the smooth structure of the underlying manifold X . Another application of this technique is that all "Scharlemann manifolds" $M(K)$ for all knots K are standard (previously this was only proven for the trefoil knot by S. Akbulut in Ann of Math, 149 (1999), 497-510. Recall $M(K) \simeq S^1 \times S^3 \# (S^2 \times S^2)$ is obtained by surgering the meridional circle $C \subset S^1 \times S^3_K$, where S^3_K be the 3-manifold obtained from S^3 by ± 1 surgery to K). (Received June 27, 2011)