1093-20-308Tim Susse* (tsusse@gc.cuny.edu), Department of Mathematics, The Graudate Center, CUNY,
365 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10016. Stable Commutator Length and Knot Complements.

Given a group G and an element g of it commutator subgroup the stable commutator length of g is the growth rate of the smallest number of commutators whose product is g^n . This quantity is closely related to the topology of surfaces with boundary in a topological space with fundamental group G.

When K is a torus knot and $G = \pi_1(S^3 \setminus K)$ (or, more generally, an amalgamated free product of two free abelian groups), I will describe a way to parameterize the surfaces with specified boundary as a finite-sided polyhedron. Consequently, stable commutator length is rational and computable in these groups, giving a topological solution to a conjecture of Calegari in this special case. (Received August 19, 2013)