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Shelly Harvey* (shelly@rice.edu), Dept of Mathematics, Rice University, Houston, TX 77005, and **Tim Cochran** and **Constance Leidy**. *The (n) -Solvable Filtration of the Knot Concordance Group.*

In 1997, T. Cochran, K. Orr, and P. Teichner defined a filtration \mathcal{F}_n of the classical knot concordance group \mathcal{C} . The filtration is important because of its strong connection to the classification of topological 4-manifolds. Here we introduce new techniques for studying \mathcal{C} and use them to prove that, for each natural number n , the abelian group $\mathcal{F}_n/\mathcal{F}_{n.5}$ has infinite rank. We establish the same result for the corresponding filtration of the smooth concordance group. We also resolve a long-standing question as to whether certain natural families of knots, first considered by Casson-Gordon and Gilmer, contain slice knots. (Received February 05, 2008)