1077-AG-1741   **Francis Bonahon*** (`fbonahon@math.usc.edu`), Department of Mathematics, University of
Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089-2532. *Knot theory: past, present, future.*

As a branch of mathematics, knot theory began in the 1880s. We will present a very brief history of the subject. Compressing 130 years of mathematics into a 25 minute talk of course precludes any attempt at exhaustive coverage. We will distinguish several eras in the development of the field by focusing on ideas, concepts and techniques. (Received September 20, 2011)