ON REDUCIBLE BRAIDS: ERRATUM

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In proving the main results of [3], extensive and essential use was made of Theorem 2.7 of [1]. In the preceeding announcement [2], Birman has pointed out that this theorem is false, and has stated a corrected, weaker version of this result. This corrected version does not appear to be sufficient for the purposes of [3]. Thus Theorem A, Corollary B and Lemmas 24 through 28 of [3] must be regarded as not having been established.

REFERENCES

1. J. S. Birman, *Braids, links and mapping class groups*, Annals of Math. Studies *82* (Princeton Univ. Press, 1974).
2. ——— *On the conjugacy problem in the braid group, Errata*, Can. J. Math.
3. J. McCool, *On reducible braids*, in *Word Problem II* (North Holland, 1980), 261–296.

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