

To do. ↗ A word about axial gauge.

* decker set examples:

— some example with triple points



A Partial Reduction of BF Theory to Combinatorics

Abstract. I will describe a semi-rigorous reduction to computable combinatorics of perturbative BF theory (Cattaneo-Rossi [CR]), in the case of ribbon 2-links. Also, I will explain how and why my approach may or may not work in the non-ribbon case. Weak this result is, and at least partially already known (Watanabe [Wa]). Yet in the ribbon case, the resulting invariant is a universal finite type invariant, a gadget that significantly generalizes and clarifies the Alexander polynomial and that is closely related to the Kashiwara-Vergne problem. I cannot rule out the possibility that the corresponding gadget in the non-ribbon case will be as interesting. (good news highlighted)

BF Following [CR]. $A \in \Omega^1(M = \mathbb{R}^4, g)$, $B \in \Omega^2(M, g^*)$,
 $S(A, B) := \int_M \langle B, F_A \rangle$.

With $f: (S = \mathbb{R}^2) \rightarrow M$, $\xi \in \Omega^0(S, g)$, $\beta \in \Omega^1(S, g^*)$, set
 $O(A, B, f) := \int \mathcal{D}\xi \mathcal{D}\beta \exp\left(\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_S \langle \xi, d_{\gamma A} \beta + f^* B \rangle\right)$.

Decker Sets ("Gauss Codes").

A BF Feynman Diagram.

References.

- [CS] J. S. Carter and M. Saito, *Knotted surfaces and their diagrams*, Mathematical Surveys and Monographs **55**, American Mathematical Society, Providence 1998.
- [CR] A. S. Cattaneo and C. A. Rossi, *Wilson Surfaces and Higher Dimensional Knot Invariants*, Commun. in Math. Phys. **256**-3 (2005) 513–537, arXiv:math-ph/0210037.
- [Wa] T. Watanabe, *Configuration Space Integrals for Long n-Knots, the Alexander Polynomial and Knot Space Cohomology*, Alg. and Geom. Top. **7** (2007) 47-92, arXiv:math/0609742.

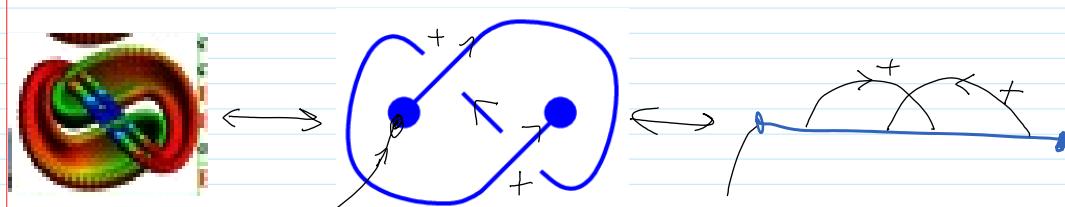
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Cattaneo Rossi

Roseman

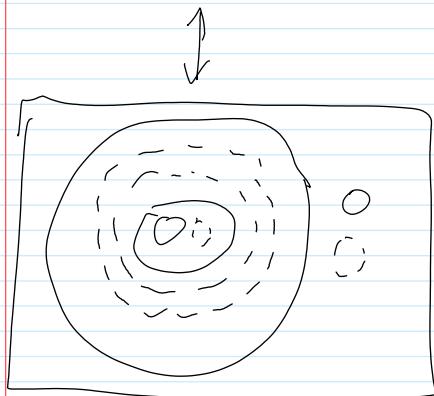
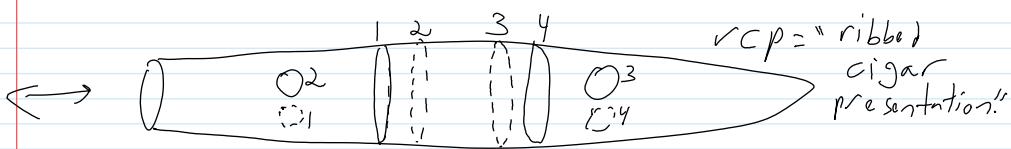
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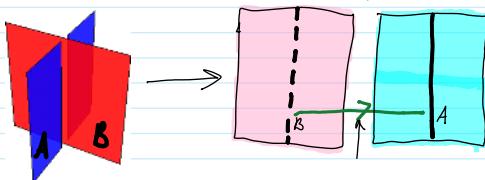


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Axial gauge / ribbon knots:

1. "drop down" red propagators:



2nd example:

2. No M-trivalent vertices
3. No need for "black cycles"

