

To do. * A word about axial gauge ✓
 * Some decker set example w/ a triple point. ✓

Dror Bar-Natan: Talks: Vienna-1402:
<http://www.math.toronto.edu/~drorbn/Talks/Vienna-1402>

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 in highlight)

The BF Feynman Rules. For an edge e , let Φ_e be its direction, in S^3 or S^1 . Let ω_3 and ω_1 be volume forms on S^3 and S^1 . Then for a 2-link



Cattaneo

Rossi

$$Z = \sum_{\text{diagrams } D} D \int_{S^2} \cdots \int_{S^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} \cdots \int_{\mathbb{R}^4} \prod_{\text{red } e \in D} \Phi_e^* \omega_3 \prod_{\text{black } e \in D} \Phi_e^* \omega_1$$

is an invariant valued in cyclic words in $1, 2, \dots$

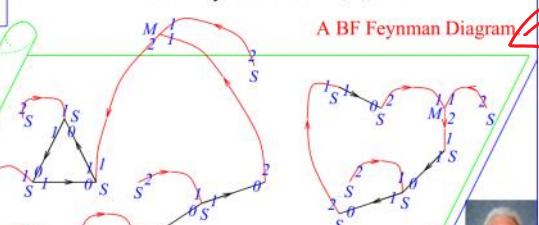
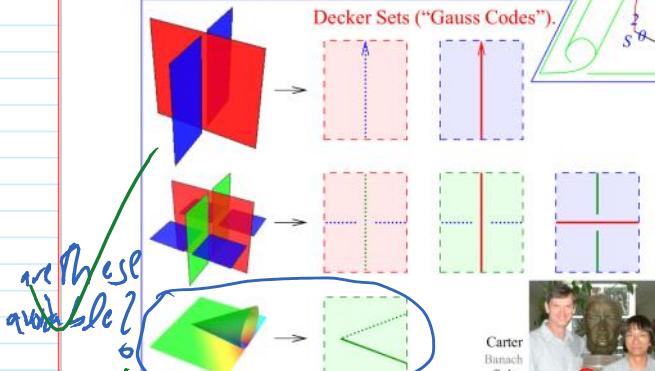
BF Following [CR]. $A \in \Omega^1(M = \mathbb{R}^4, g)$, $B \in \Omega^2(M, g^*)$,

$$S(A, B) := \int_M \langle B, F_A \rangle.$$

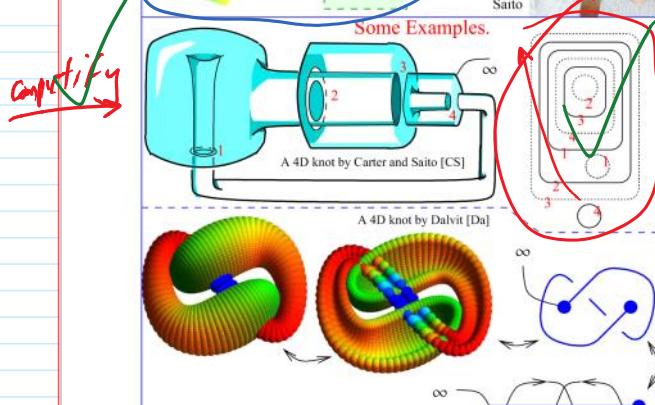
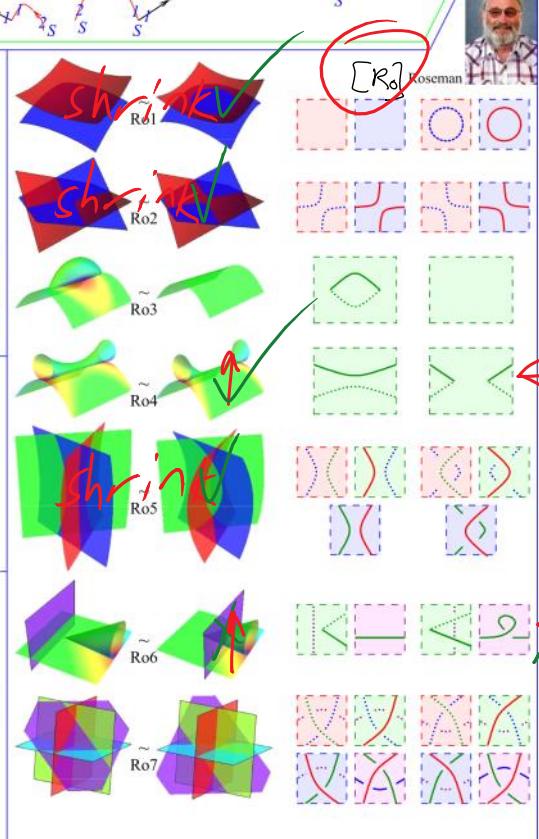
With $f: (S = \mathbb{R}^2) \rightarrow M$, $\xi \in \Omega^0(S, \mathfrak{g})$, $\beta \in \Omega^1(S, \mathfrak{g}^*)$, set

$$O(A, B, f) := \int D\xi D\beta \exp \left(\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_S \langle \xi, df_A \beta + f^* B \rangle \right).$$

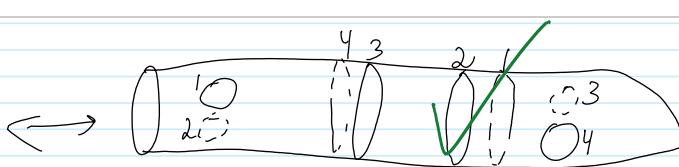
Decker Sets ("Gauss Codes").

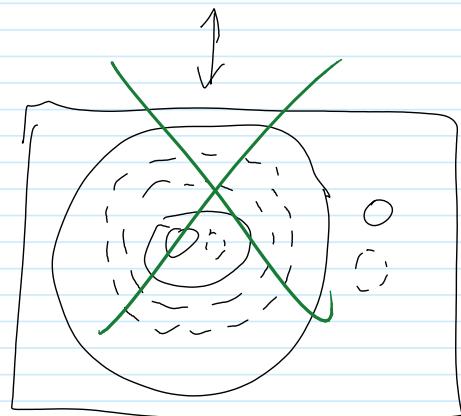


degree = # max tails
 make sure that all S's are black.



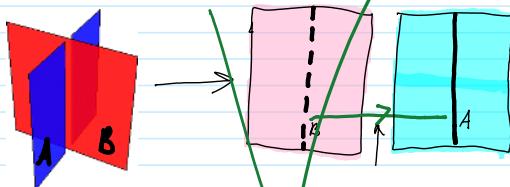
$\vee CP$ = "ribbon cigar presentation."





Axial gauge / ribbon knots:

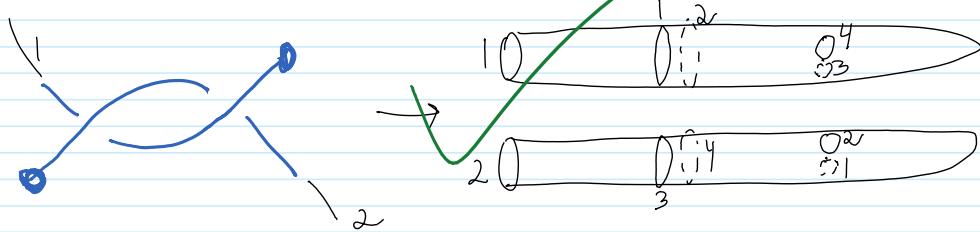
1. "drop down" red propagators:



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

is this justified?

2nd example:



Musings.

A

References.

- [CS] J. S. Carter and M. Saito, *Knotted surfaces and their diagrams*, Mathematical Surveys and Monographs **55**, American Mathematical Society, Providence 1998.
- [Da] E. Dalvit, <http://science.unitn.it/~dalvit/>.
- [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.



“God created the knots, all else in topology is the work of mortals.”
Leopold Kronecker (modified)

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A. (Musings.)

- * Is this all? The v-invariant.
- * Something about knots.
- * What are finite-type invariants? What are “chord diagrams”?
- * Bubble-wrap-Finite-type.
- * “Shielded 2-tangles” / foams;

make pictures of the 3D



&



is this related
to KV?

* Something about invariants of plane curves.

Decide on a booklet!

Even more-random musings ~
"Play a game of Snakes & ladders".

